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Sunday will be super for history buffs

The Georgia Historical Society has set up a wide range of free-admission attractions for annual celebration

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Colonial re-enactors demonstrate the firing of a field mortar during the Georgia Heritage Celebration Colonial Faire and Muster at Wormsloe Historic Site Saturday. -- Scott Bryant

By Chuck Mobley

More than 40 museums, historic houses, national forts, state historic sites and other cultural attractions throughout Savannah and coastal Georgia will feature free admission during Super Museum Sunday, continuing a tradition that stretches back more than 20 years.

The first Super Museum Sunday was held in 1989. Organized by the Coastal Museum Association, it had some 25 attractions, and their attendance reports were glowing.

Visitors "came in droves. It was the best Sunday we've ever had," said a spokesman for the Spirit of the South Museum, in the March 6, 1989, edition of the Savannah Morning News.

"It was more like the 4th of July," said a spokesman for Old Fort Jackson.

Much has changed since then, including the name of the Spirit of the South Museum - it's now the Savannah History Museum - but another big turnout is expected.

"This is an excellent means for Georgians and visitors alike to access the plentiful history of this area," said W. Todd Groce, president and CEO of

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the Georgia Historical Society.

The GHS now organizes Super Museum Sunday. It's one of the components of the Georgia History Festival, a two-week stretch of events and celebrations that commemorate the founding of the colony of Georgia on Feb. 12, 1733.

This year's version includes the Savannah History Museum, along with a wealth of additional attractions in Savannah and other coastal communities.

"Through Super Museum Sunday," said Groce, "We hope to promote the use of Georgia's historic and cultural sites."

Georgia History Festival Super Museum Sunday participants

All sites will be open noon-4 p.m. on Sunday, unless otherwise noted, and entry will be free and open to the public.

Andrew Low House Museum; 329 Abercorn St., Savannah; 912-233-6854.

Battlefield Memorial Park; corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard and Louisville Road, Savannah.

Beach Institute African American Cultural Center; 502 E. Harris St., Savannah; 912-234-8000; open 3 p.m.-6 p.m.

Bonaventure Cemetery; 330 Bonaventure Road, Savannah; 912-247-8173; tours 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Congregation Mickve Israel; Gordon at Bull streets, on Monterey Square, Savannah; 912-233-1547; tours 2 p.m.-4 p.m.

Historic Dorchester Academy; 8787 E. Oglethorpe Highway, Midway; 912-884-2347.

Historic Effingham Society Museum and Living History Site; 1002 Pine St., Springfield; 912-754-2170.

First African Baptist Church; 23 Montgomery St., Savannah; 912-233-6597; open 1:30 p.m.-4 p.m.

Flannery O'Connor Childhood Home; 207 E. Charlton St., Savannah; 912-233-6014; open 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Fort King George; 1600 Wayne St., Darien; 912-437-4770.

Fort McAllister Historic Park; 3894 Fort McAllister Road, Richmond Hill; 912-727-2339.

Fort Morris Historic Site; 2559 Fort Morris Road, Midway; 912-884-5999.

Fort Pulaski National Monument; U.S. Highway 80 East, entrance on Queen's Island; 912-786-5787.

Fort Stewart Museum; Building T904, 2022 Frank Cochran Drive, Fort Stewart; 912-767-7885.

Geechee Kunda Cultural Arts Center and Museum; Ways Temple Road, Riceboro; take U.S. Highway 17 through Riceboro, travel 4.6 miles and turn left onto Ways Temple Road, Geechee Kunda is then .2 miles on the right; 912-844-4440.

Georgia Historical Society; 501 Whitaker St. Savannah; 912-651-2125.

Georgia Salzburger Society; 2980 Ebenezer Road, Rincon; 912-754-7001.

Georgia Southern University Museum; Rosenwald Building, Southern Drive, GSU, Statesboro; 912-681-5444; open 2 p.m.-5 p.m.

Girl Scout First Headquarters Museum and Program Center; 330 Drayton St., behind the Andrew Low House, Savannah; 912-232-8200.

Harper Fowkes House; 230 Barnard St., Savannah; 912-234-2180; open 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Isaiah Davenport House Museum; 324 E. State St., Savannah; 912-236-8097.

Telfair's Jepson Center for the Arts; 207 W. York St., Savannah; 912-790-8860.

Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace; 10 E. Oglethorpe Ave., Savannah; 912-233-4502.

LeConte-Woodmanston Rice Plantation and Botanical Gardens; Off Barrington Ferry Road near Riceboro; 912-884-6500.

Massie Heritage Center; 207 E. Gordon St.; 912-201-5070.

Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum; 175 Bourne Ave., Pooler; 912-748-8888.

Oatland Island Wildlife Center; 711 Sandtown Road, Savannah; 912-395-1500.

Old Fort Jackson; 1 Fort Jackson Road, Savannah; 912-232-3945.

Telfair's Owens-Thomas House; 124 Abercorn St., Savannah; 912-790-8880.

Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum; 460 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Savannah; 912-231-8900.

Richmond Hill Historical Society; 11460 Ford Ave., Richmond Hill; 912-756-2676; open 11 a.m.-4 p.m..

Roundhouse Railroad Museum; 601 W. Harris St., Savannah; 912-651-6823.

Savannah History Museum; 303 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Savannah; 912-651-6825.

Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Museum; 681 Fort Argyle Road, Savannah; 912-748-8068; open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

SCAD Museum of Art; 227 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Savannah; 912-525-7191.

Ships of the Sea Museum; 41 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Savannah; 912-232-1511.

Telfair Academy; 121 Barnard St., Telfair Square, Savannah; 912-790-8800.

Thunderbolt Historical Society; 2702 Mechanics Ave., Thunderbolt; 912-351-0836; open 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Tybee Island Lightstation and Museum; 30 Meddin Drive, Tybee Island; 912-786-5801.

Tybee Island Marine Science Center; 1510 Strand, Tybee Island; 912-786-5917; open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Wormsloe Historic Site; 7601 Skidaway Road, Savannah; 912-353-3023.

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