MAJOR EVENTS OF 1988

JANUARY

JACKSON
NATIONAL TRACTOR PULL, Coliseum

JACKSON
ARTS & CRAFTS DEMONSTRATIONS, Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum

MERIDIAN
MISSISSIPPI JUNIOR MISS PAGEANT, Temple Theatre

NATCHEZ
MARDI GRAS, Downtown and Convention Center

FEBRUARY

JACKSON
DIXIE NATIONAL LIVESTROCK SHOW, Largest livestock show east of the Mississippi, Fairgrounds

JACKSON
DIXIE NATIONAL RODEO, Coliseum

JACKSON
DIXIE NATIONAL WESTERN FESTIVAL, Featuring blue grass music, clogging, barbecue, crafts and games in conjunction with the Rodeo, Mississippi Trademart

TUPELO
ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR, Tupelo Mall

JACKSON
MISSISSIPPI GEM & MINERAL SHOW, A&I Building, Fairgrounds

BILOXI
MARDI GRAS, Floats and marching bands travel through downtown Biloxi, beach area and Highway 90, in morning and afternoon

MARCH

NATCHEZ
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tours of 30 antebellum homes

VICKSBURG
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tours of 12 antebellum homes

GULF COAST
GULF COAST SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Diamondhead in Bay St. Louis, Hancock County, Pass Christian, Gulfport, Biloxi, Ocean Springs, Gulf Hills, Long Beach

COLUMBUS
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tours of 15 antebellum homes

BILOXI
IRISH HERITAGE WEEK and ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

APRIL

MERIDIAN
LIVELY ARTS FESTIVAL, Featuring big name entertainers, Temple Theatre

BELZONI
CATFISH FESTIVAL, Arts and crafts, 10K race, tours of catfish ponds, coronation of Catfish Queen, entertainment, catfish eating contest and catfish dinner, Around Courthouse

GREENWOOD
ARTS FESTIVAL, Featuring professional entertainment, arts and crafts, food and Jazz in the Park, Civic Center and Florewood River Plantation State Park

AMORY
RAILROAD FESTIVAL, A celebration of town's railroad heritage includes train rides, arts and crafts, live entertainment, Frisco Park

PORT GIBSON
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tours of antebellum homes and churches

HATTIESBURG
DGB GOLF CLASSIC, Draws top names in golf, Hattiesburg Country Club

ABERDEEN
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tour of antebellum and Victorian homes

KOSCIUSKO
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tours of Victorian homes and Kosciusko Museum

CLINTON
BRICK STREET FESTIVAL, Featuring arts, crafts, entertainment, Jefferson Street, Olde Towne

OCEAN SPRINGS
LANDING OF D'IBERVILLE, Reenactment of the 1699 landing of d'Iberville, parade, street fair, historical ball and pageant, live entertainment, flea market and handicraft exhibit, Downtown

KOSCIUSKO
NATCHEZ TRACE FESTIVAL, Arts, crafts, food, entertainment, 10K run, bake off and fiddler's contest, Court Square

HOLLY SPRINGS
SPRING PILGRIMAGE, Tours of antebellum homes

MAY

CANTON
FLEA MARKET AND ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW, Courthouse Square, Old Jail Museum and on the ground of Grace Episcopal Church

EDWARDS
COMMEMORATIVE BATTLE OF CHAMPION HILL, Follow signs off I-20, Edwards Exit

MONTICELLO
ATWOOD MUSIC FESTIVAL, Featuring regional bands and Nashville artists, arts and crafts, Atwood Water Park

CLEVELAND
CROSSTIE ARTS FESTIVAL, Courthouse grounds

MERIDIAN
JIMMIE RODGERS MEMORIAL FESTIVAL, Honoring the late Jimmie Rodgers, known as the "Father of Country Music," Temple Theatre and City Park

JUNE

BILOXI
BLESSING OF THE FLEET, SHRIMP FESTIVAL AND FAIS DO DO, Gaily decorated boats are blessed by a priest, fresh seafood, street dance

DENNIS
BEAR CREEK FESTIVAL

BATESVILLE
ART MART, Juried art show and arts and crafts sale, food, entertainment, Pecan Grove

RALEIGH
NATIONAL TOBACCO SPITTING CONTEST, Crumpton Farm West of Raleigh

JULY

GULFPORT
DEEP SEA FISHING RODEO, Robert L. Rice Pavilion

PHILADELPHIA
CHOCTAW INDIAN FAIR, The Choctaw Indians present cultural programs, demonstrating native arts, crafts, foods and games

MIZE
WATERMELON FESTIVAL, Featuring watermelon eating contest, selection of queen, arts and crafts, Sullivan's Hollow

PHILADELPHIA
NESHOBA COUNTY FAIR, Only remaining permanent campground fair in U.S., crafts, harness racing, music and political speaking

AUGUST

BROOKHAVEN
OLE BROOK FESTIVAL, Whitworth College

GREENWOOD
CROP DAY, Arts and crafts, tour of cotton row and barbecue, Cotton Row

SMITHFIELD
ROD BRASFIELD FESTIVAL, Festival honors the Grand Ole Opry Star each year on his birthday, with music, entertainment, arts and crafts

SEPTEMBER

WEST POINT
PRAIRIE ARTS FESTIVAL, Arts and crafts, Sallie Kate Winter Park

PASCAGOULA
FLAGSHIP FESTIVAL, Featuring "anything that floats but a boat race," Riverfront Park

INDIANOLA
INDIAN BAYOU ARTS AND CRAFTS FESTIVAL, Downtown

GREENVILLE
DELTA BLUES FESTIVAL, Featuring blues artist

WASHINGTON
COPPER MAGNOLIA FESTIVAL, Features native craft demonstrations, square dancing, carriage rides, food and entertainment, Jefferson College grounds

OCTOBER

JACKSON
MISSISSIPPI STATE FAIR, Featuring nightly entertainment, livestock show, domestic art exhibits and midway, Fairgrounds

NATCHEZ
FALL PILGRIMAGE, Tour of antebellum homes

CANTON
FLEA MARKET, Courthouse Square

JACKSON
MISTLETOE MARKET, Featuring Christmas bazaar novelties from many shops in surrounding area, tearoom with gourmet food, Trademart

NOVEMBER

STARKVILLE
OCTOC, Featuring country store, an old-fashioned bazaar with handcrafted items, homebaked goods and Brunswick Stew

NATCHEZ
ANTIQUE FORUM, Features antique experts who hold seminars on decorative art

BILOXI
SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES FESTIVAL, Featuring authentic Scottish games, food and entertainment, Hiller Park

DECEMBER

NATCHEZ
CHRISTMAS IN NATCHEZ, Throughout the month the city is decorated and will be celebrating the Christmas season in the old southern tradition. Antebellum mansions will be decorated and tours to these homes available every day except Dec. 25. Carolers perform each day at noon downtown.

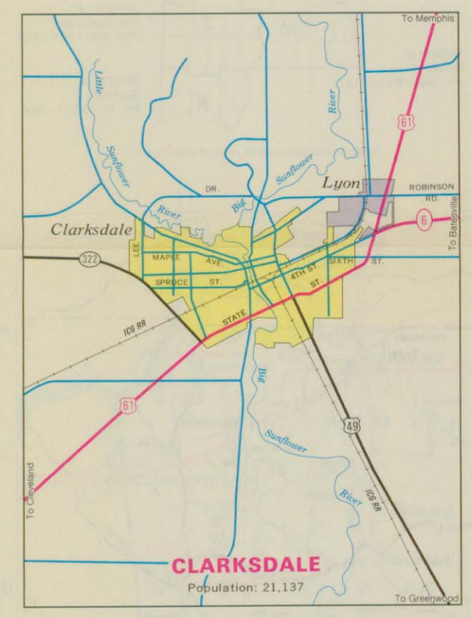
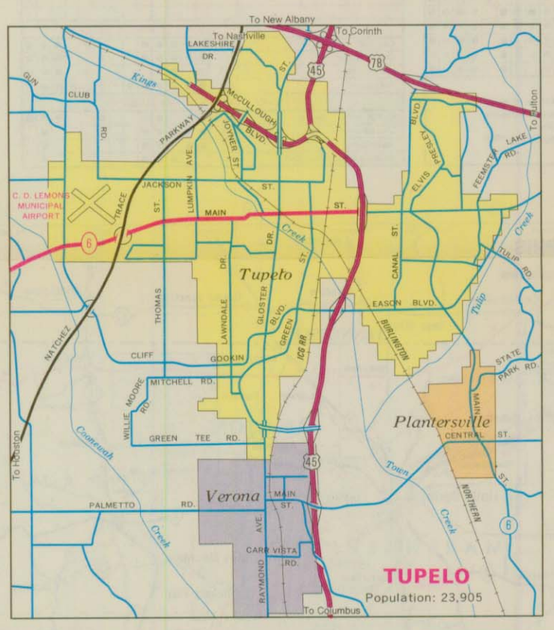
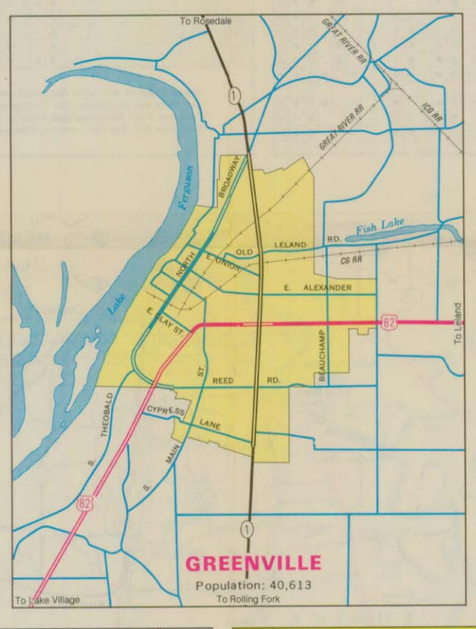
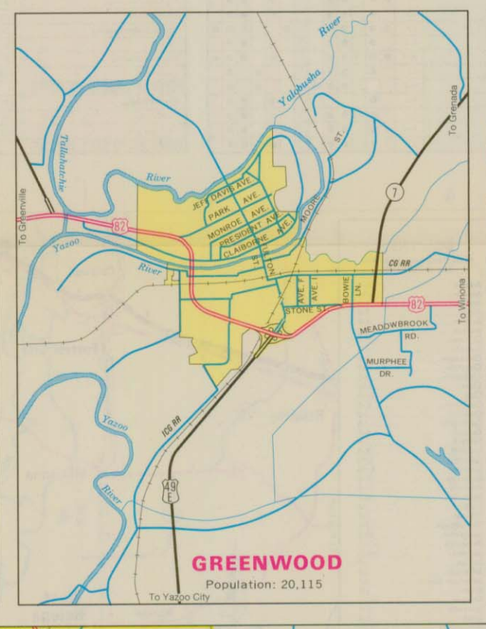
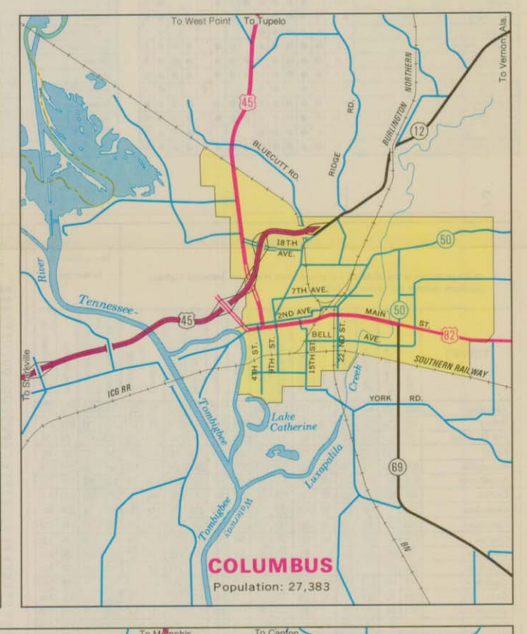
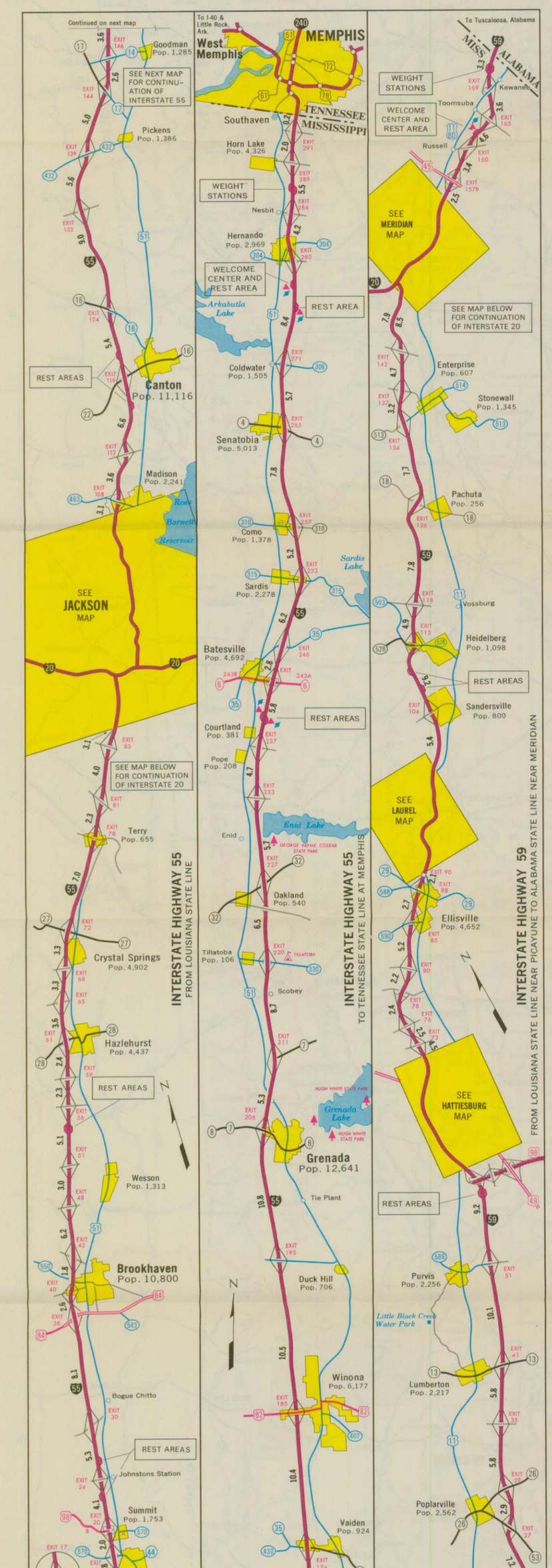
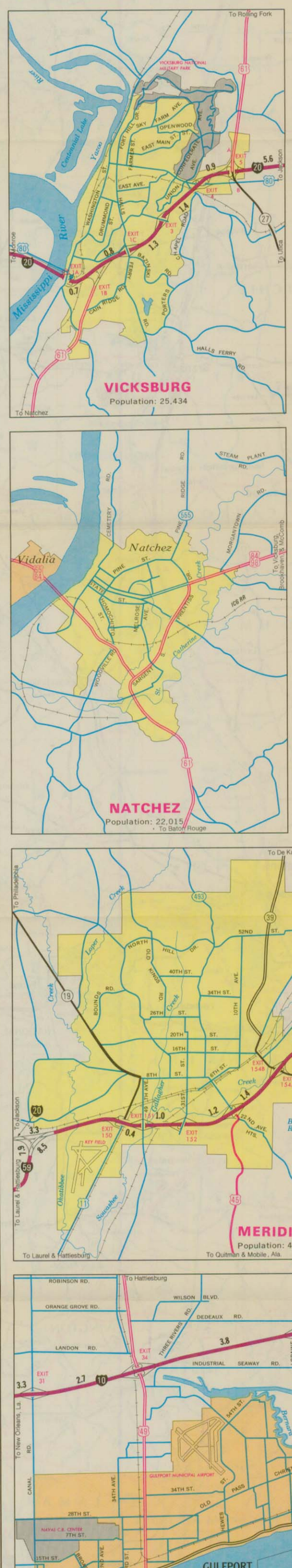
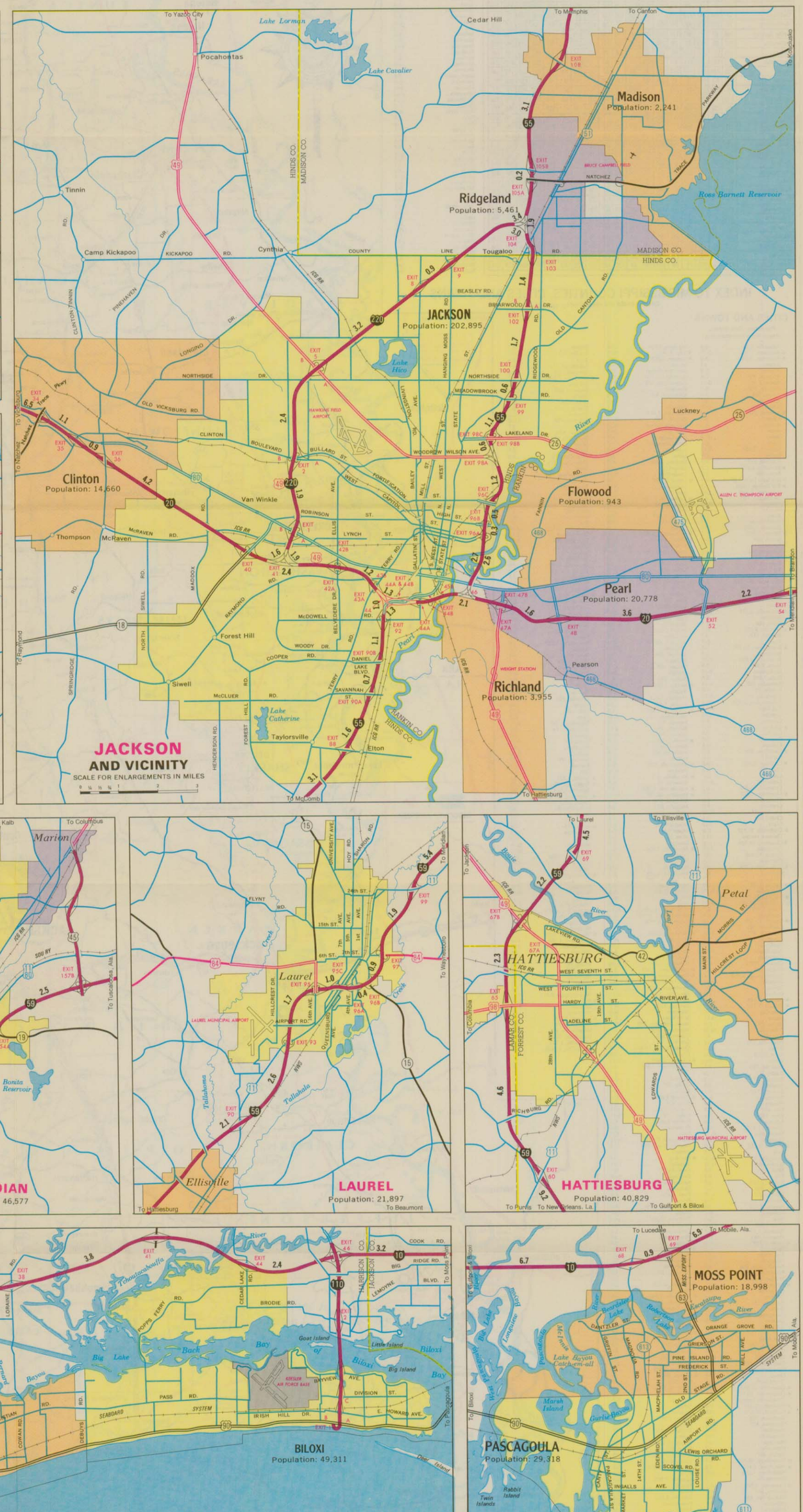
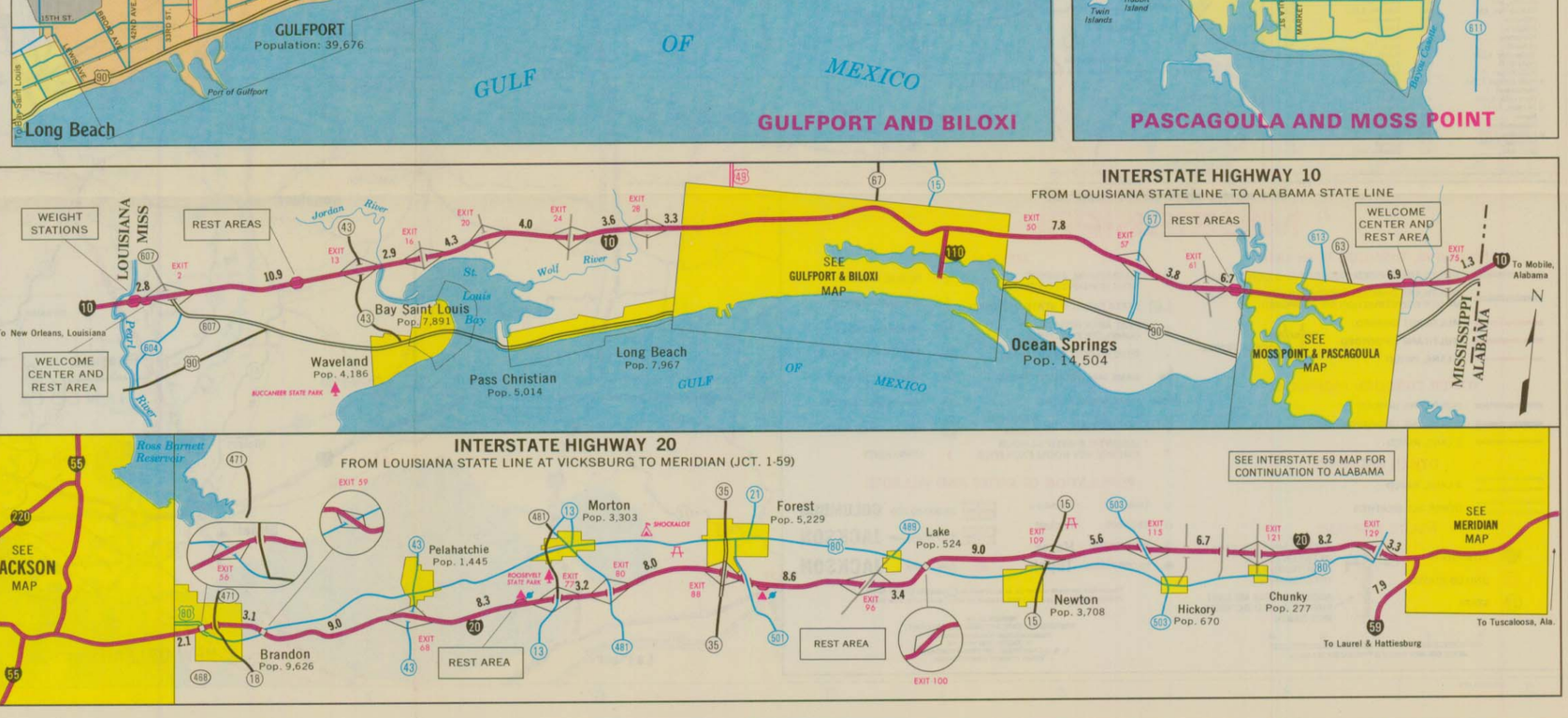
JACKSON
CHIMNEYVILLE CRAFTS FESTIVAL, Visual and performing arts are displayed at the Trademart.

MERIDIAN
TREES OF CHRISTMAS, Merrehope and the Williams home are decorated for Christmas. In each room are trees decorated in different themes of other countries.

GREENWOOD
DELTA BAND FESTIVAL, Bands from Delta area compete, event is highlighted with a winter carnival parade

JACKSON
SINGING CHRISTMAS TREE, Belhaven College Bowl

JACKSON
CHRISTMAS AT THE OLD CAPITOL, Concerts, puppet shows, films, display of antique toys, period Christmas trees, huge decorated tree in the rotunda

LELAND
CHRISTMAS ON DEER CREEK, Decorated floats and trees travel along the creek bringing Santa to officially open the Christmas Season, Deer Creek

INVERNESS
LUMINARIA ON THE BAYOU, Spectacular display of over 2000 candles placed along Lake Bradley, Memorial Park