Painting of Uncle Sam Plantation On Display at Dominican College

A special showing of the painting of one of Louisiana's most famous plantations, Uncle Sam, is being held at the John P. Loy Library on the campus of St. Mary's Dominican College, through Sunday.

Brother J. B. Rivet, S.J., artist who completed the painting, will be at the exhibit to discuss it with interested persons. The public is invited to attend.

The painting, a 2-by-4-foot piece, depicts Uncle Sam plantation as it existed in its heyday. Built in 1840 at Convent, La., it consisted of six outbuildings clustering around a central house which served as a manor. Of pleasing architectural design (Greek Revival, interpreted in a Louisiana manner), the main house was square, two-storied and had its roof supported on all four sides by 28 Doric columns.

Two of the outbuildings were "garconnières" (boys' houses), one was a kitchen, another the plantation office and the last two "pigeon-houses," hexagonal towers used to house pigeons.

WELL KNOWN for a century to all travelers of the River Road, Uncle Sam fell victim to the shifting waters and shifting channel of the Mississippi River. In the spring of 1940, the entire complex was demolished during a setback of the protection levee.

Brother Rivet is a native of New Orleans and currently is on the Spring Hill College art faculty. He has had an interest in the plantation for more than 30 years, and spent a year completing the painting.

Also on exhibit are photographs of the plantation taken by Brother Rivet before it was demolished. The painting may be seen from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today through Saturday and from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday.