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GEORGIA HISTORY | TODAY

THE GHS
RESEARCH CENTER:

*A Foundation
for History*

Lawson

A DUTY TO THE PAST, A COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE

by *W. Todd Groce, Ph.D.*

Five million. That is the number of manuscripts, photographs, books, maps, architectural drawings, and artifacts held by the Georgia Historical Society. From the seed planted in 1840 when Charles Rinaldo Floyd donated a Revolutionary War drum, the GHS collection has grown into the oldest and one of the largest collections of Georgia history in the nation.

These primary sources form the building blocks upon which all historical research and history educational programming is founded. As such, they are crucial to our nation's future.

The reason why this priceless documentary legacy exists and continues to grow is because for nearly a century and a half there has been a proper place for it to be housed and accessed—and because someone valued the material enough to ensure its preservation.

Since the completion of Hodgson Hall in 1876, the GHS Research Center has stood like a mighty fortress at the corner of Gaston and Whitaker streets in Savannah, beckoning people from around the world. Each year over 60,000 researchers use the GHS collection to write books and articles, prepare classroom curriculum, do homework, create documentary films, craft legislation, and forge an understanding of the past that informs the present and prepares us for the future.

But a research center is only as good as the material it houses and the services it offers.

Over the years, generations of Georgians and others have entrusted GHS with their personal, professional, and family history. From letters and diaries to photo albums, military records, maps, and financial documents, the Research Center is bursting with Georgia's documentary heritage, collected from every corner of the state and representing all time-periods, races, creeds, and walks of life.

Other material has been saved because GHS has had the resources to obtain it. Through the annual Book Sale and

financial contributions to the endowment, GHS acquires material that otherwise would leave the state or be lost to private collectors, severely limiting access to important windows on our past.

Occasionally a generous donor will directly purchase a collection and donate it to GHS.

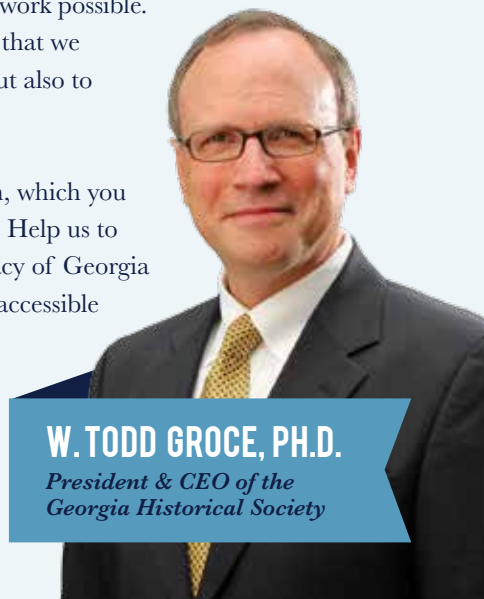
Regardless of how it arrives, it is crucial that this history continues to be collected, preserved, and made accessible. Over the years I have heard too many horror stories about family heirlooms sold on eBay, thrown out when someone died, or lost to fire or flood.

It is equally important that these resources for history are processed and opened for research. Far too many institutions feverishly acquire material, but do little to make it accessible. These places end up with a massive backlog of unprocessed (and thus unused) collections that never see the light of day.

GHS is currently engaged in a campaign to enlarge, improve, and endow its Research Center. When the \$15 million *Next Century Initiative* is completed, GHS and the people of Georgia will have an expanded and upgraded facility to house tens of thousands of cubic feet of existing and new material, ensuring that there will always be a place for Georgia's history.

Longer than any other institution in the South—nearly 180 years—the Georgia Historical Society has been a good steward of and a safe home for *your* history. Continuing that commitment now requires all of us to invest in the facilities and endowment that make our noble work possible. It is a duty we owe, an obligation that we must fulfill, not only to the past but also to the future.

So please join us in this campaign, which you will read more about in this issue. Help us to ensure that the documentary legacy of Georgia and its people will be secure and accessible for generations to come.



W. TODD GROCE, PH.D.
*President & CEO of the
Georgia Historical Society*

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ON THE COVER

The Reading Room of Hodgson Hall, 1876, the year it opened.



The Reading Room, 1930

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THE GHS RESEARCH CENTER:

A Foundation for History

— by —
Stan Deaton, Ph.D.

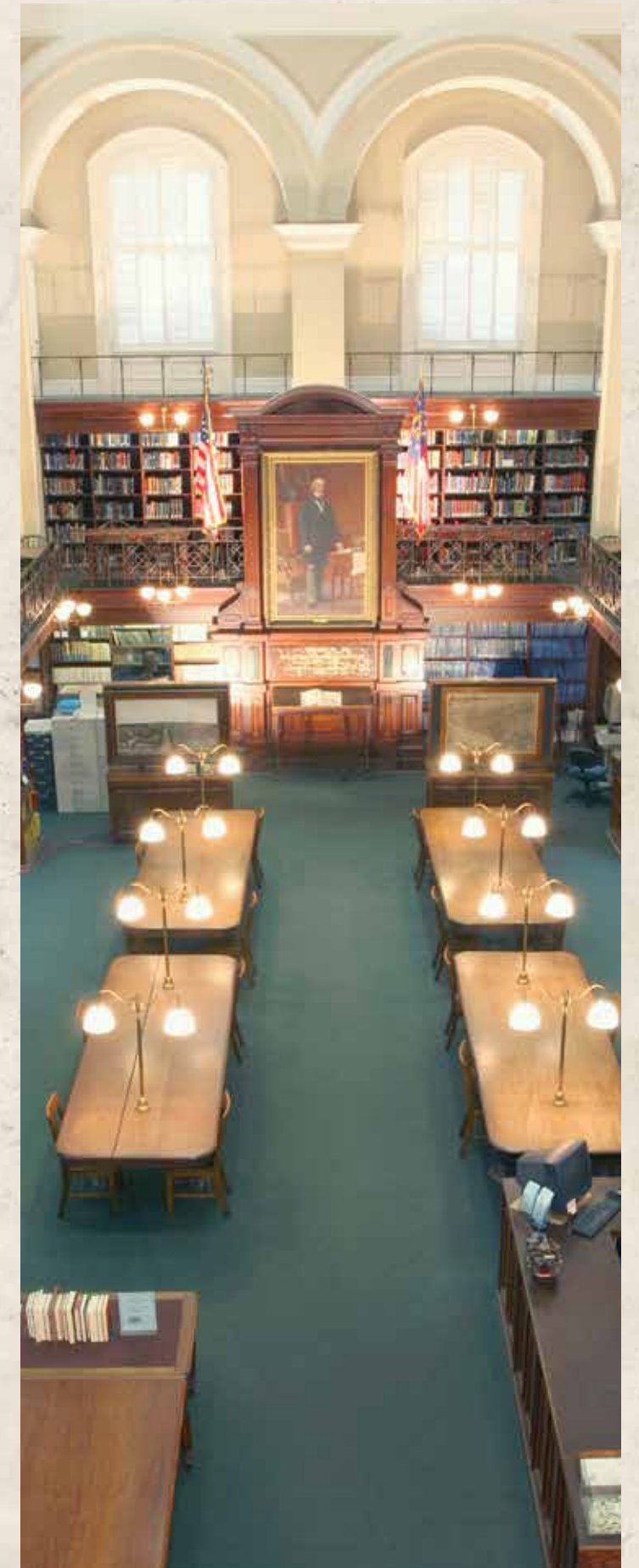


For many people, the Georgia Historical Society's Research Center isn't just part of the GHS headquarters in Savannah—for them it *is* the Georgia Historical Society. Even though the GHS is a statewide institution, and a nationally recognized leader among public history organizations, the GHS Research Center remains for many the heart of the Society, a revered and beloved landmark on the southwest corner of Whitaker and Gaston streets.

For nearly a century and a half, this architectural jewel in Savannah's Historic Landmark District has housed one of the most unique and oldest collections of Georgia history in the nation. Comprised of historic Hodgson Hall (1876) and the attached Abrahams Archival Annex (1970), the GHS Research Center preserves an unparalleled collection of Georgia and American history, the oldest in the nation, including more than 5 million manuscripts, 100,000 photographs, 30,000 architectural drawings, 15,000 rare and non-rare books, and thousands of maps, portraits, and artifacts, representing the sweep of Georgia history from the founding to the present.

Among the nationally significant materials is an original draft copy of the United States Constitution, one of only 12 in existence; correspondence from Governors, U.S. Supreme Court Justices, and U.S. Presidents from Thomas Jefferson to Bill Clinton; the records of the Council of Safety that governed Georgia during the Revolutionary War; important documents related to the Cherokee and Creek Indians, including the papers of federal Indian agent Benjamin Hawkins, a Cherokee syllabary and newspapers, and records kept by federal commissioners during the Cherokee Removal; documents on African-American history, such as slave records, Gullah-Geechee photographs, music, and oral histories, a growing collection of Civil Rights Movement records; the collection of Girl Scout founder Juliette Gordon Low; the papers of U.S. Attorneys General John Macpherson Berrien and Griffin Bell; and the collection of environmental activist and sustainability pioneer Ray C. Anderson.

In the Vince Dooley Collection, you can see every letter that Coach Vince Dooley wrote and received during his long coaching career at UGA, along with his busy calendars that track recruiting visits, like the one in January 1980 to Wrightsville to visit a high school senior named Herschel Walker.



The manuscript collection includes family papers, military records of every Georgia war, the papers of Georgia's major political leaders, colonial account books, diaries, plantation records, papers of social and cultural organizations, and business records ranging from the 18th through the 21st centuries.

The periodical collection dates from the 18th and 19th centuries, and the visual material collection makes up an impressive collection of photographs and other images including portraits of many of Georgia's most prominent leaders.

Hodgson Hall itself is a treasure of the Georgia Historical Society's collection, a true architectural masterpiece. One of the oldest library buildings in the United States, Hodgson Hall was designed and built in 1876 as a library and headquarters for GHS by American Institute of Architects founder Detlef Lienau and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The building was a gift of Margaret Telfair Hodgson and Mary Telfair as a memorial to William B. Hodgson, Margaret's husband and a prominent Savannah citizen, American diplomat, and oriental scholar, who died in 1871.

In 1970, needing more archival storage space, GHS built the adjacent two-story Abrahams Annex. Named in memory of Edmund H. Abrahams, lawyer-historian of Savannah, this addition—the first physical expansion in over 90 years—provided a state-of-the-art archival facility for housing GHS's growing collection of priceless materials. The Abrahams Annex is arched to blend in with the original building.

The reaction for those who climb the 15 steep steps and walk through the Research Center's massive mahogany front doors is almost universally the same: an audible gasp. The interior is one of the most unique and beautiful library buildings in the American South. Its graceful arches and high vaulted ceiling are evocative of the Boston Athenaeum and the Trinity College library in Dublin, Ireland.

The main floor of Hodgson Hall, reaching 36 feet with its three-story-high ceilings and two balconies, houses the GHS library. The striking feature of this room in particular is its vaulted arched windows that were designed to provide maximum light and ventilation in the days when there was little artificial light and no air conditioning. In the days before air conditioning, the windows located on the third story were essential to relieving the oppressive summer heat and provided maximum daylight for the reading room in the main hall.



As you glance down the length of the room you'll see the portrait of the building's namesake, William B. Hodgson, by Carl Ludwig Brandt, located at the end of the hall. It's been there since 1876 and is enclosed in a mantle of carved wood and Georgian marble.

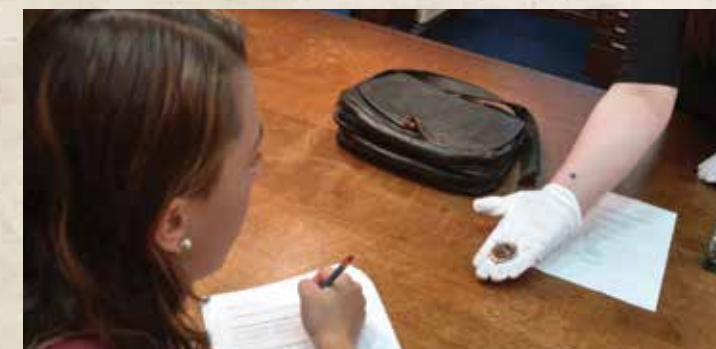
The interior doors to the Reading Room still operate on their original decorative, brass hinges. The bronze railings along the mezzanine and staircases are also original to the building. The four large tables in the reading room, made of slabs of solid walnut

supported by cast iron bases, date to the opening in 1876. The outside entrance is a broad brownstone stairway with heavy curving metal balustrades leading to a two-columned portico. The property is surrounded on two sides by an ornamental iron fence with gates.

Hodgson Hall was memorably dedicated on Valentines Day, 1876, and has been, from that day to this, a place where people come from all over the globe to research history and from which all of GHS's educational programs, publications, and teacher trainings emanate.

On any given day during that long stretch of 142 years, one could walk into the Reading Room and see historians, authors, genealogists, students, attorneys, filmmakers, architects, poets, artists, and perhaps actors researching something that interested them and that would find its way into their work.

Many prominent scholars and writers have researched here, across many fields and disciplines. In the early years you might have seen William Bacon Stevens and Charles Colcock Jones, while the 20th century brought nearly every historian who wrote and taught about Georgia and American history, including such luminaries as U.B. Phillips, C. Mildred Thompson, E. Merton Coulter, Kenneth Coleman, Phinizy Spalding, Betty Wood, Ed Cashin, David Hackett Fischer, William S. McFeely, Numan Bartley, John Inscoc, Lee Ann Caldwell, and Malcolm Bell, Jr.



There have been thousands of other distinguished visitors, as well, including Ted Turner, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer, CBS News veteran Bob Schieffer, "This Old House" host Steve Thomas, journalist Steve Oney, novelist John Berendt, Coach Vince Dooley, Civil Rights Leader W.W. Law, Lord Chief Justice of the UK Nick Phillips, Chick Fil-A CEO Dan Cathy, to name just a few. The entire Georgia Supreme Court held a session in the Reading Room in June 1999.

All of those who have come to research here have asked questions of the sources, and their answers have found their way into books, biographies, novels, articles, essays, newspaper articles, podcasts, class syllabi, lectures, genealogies, legal briefs, editorials, films, family histories, documentaries, class projects, speeches, legislation, television shows, radio programs, legal decisions, short stories, and more.

The questions asked of the materials varies with each person and each historical era but the result—knowledge that is created and disseminated to a wide and vast audience—has remained a constant since Hodgson Hall opened in 1876 and is at the core of the Society's mission that dates to its founding in 1839.

The Research Center is a literal, physical legacy of those who created GHS and all those who have followed, who believe in its ongoing mission to make the materials of the past accessible to those who study history and who strive to make it relevant in an ever-changing world.

As it has since 1876, the GHS Research Center will continue to be a beacon and a destination for all those who seek a greater understanding of our shared past.

Stan Deaton is The Dr. Elaine B. Andrews Distinguished Historian at the Georgia Historical Society. He can be reached at sdeaton@georgiahistory.com.

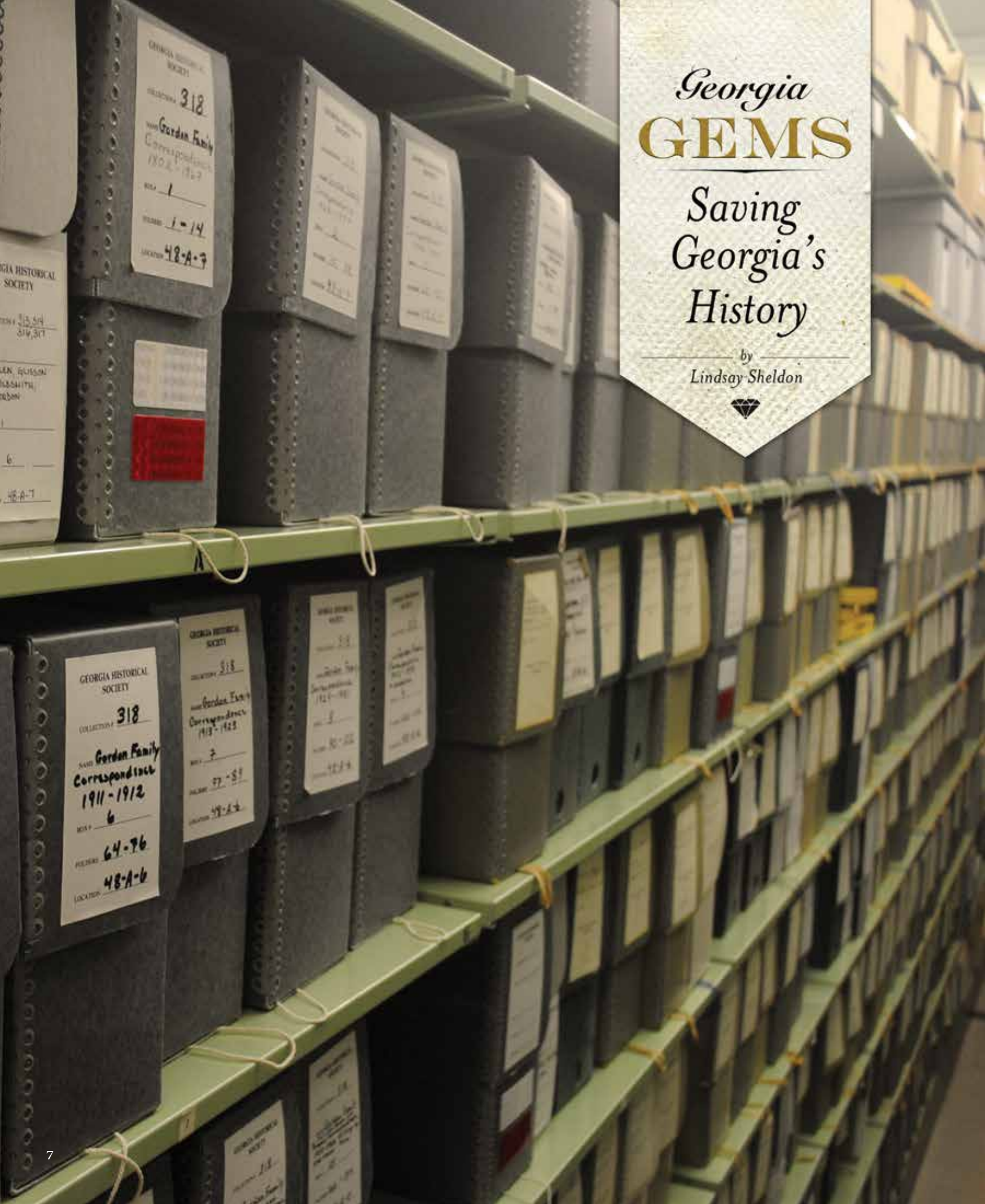
Image descriptions (in order of appearance):

The Reading Room of Hodgson Hall, 1876 (top) and 2014 (bottom)

The Reading Room, 2006 (photo by Russ Bryant)

Exterior views of the GHS Research Center, 2007 (top) and 2006 (bottom)

Educational programming at the Research Center (photos by Jim Holmes, top, and Sheila Boone, bottom)



Georgia GEMS

Saving Georgia's History

by
Lindsay Sheldon



The first experience for those visiting the Georgia Historical Society Research Center is entering through the massive wooden doors of Hodgson Hall; the sight is impressive and oftentimes, breathtaking.

While researchers get to sit at the original tables from 1876 under lights that have been converted from gas to electricity, the real gems of the Georgia Historical Society are stored away in the climate-controlled stacks housed in the Abrahams Annex, built in 1970.

On shelves in archival boxes live thousands of manuscript collections, maps, rare books, pamphlets, and artifacts comprising approximately 1.5 miles of linear feet (pictured left). These materials have been organized and housed by trained professional archivists so they are easily accessible to researchers from around the globe, in person and online.

The GHS collections are not a stagnant entity but are constantly growing and being updated. New materials are added, and scholars and students of history bring fresh eyes and new questions to existing material.

Collection materials come to archives in various ways and those at GHS are no exception. Provenance is usually a term heard in museums, but it is just as important to an archive. Knowing the history of an item, whose hands it may have passed through, helps us to better understand its significance to Georgia history and helps to establish its authenticity.

Over the years documenting the ways in which collections have come to us has evolved. One of our early donations is a musket (pictured below) taken from the HMS *Serapis* by



John Paul Jones and presented to Benjamin Franklin—so say the records of the Society's minutes. A more complete story was found in the New Orleans *Time-Picayune* on January 18, 1840.

In addition to donations, GHS will sometimes purchase items of significance, such as the Jay Dearborn Edwards photographs album. Dearborn took forty-six photographs of Atlanta in 1890, including one of the earliest images of Jacobs' Pharmacy, where Coca-Cola was first served (pictured below).

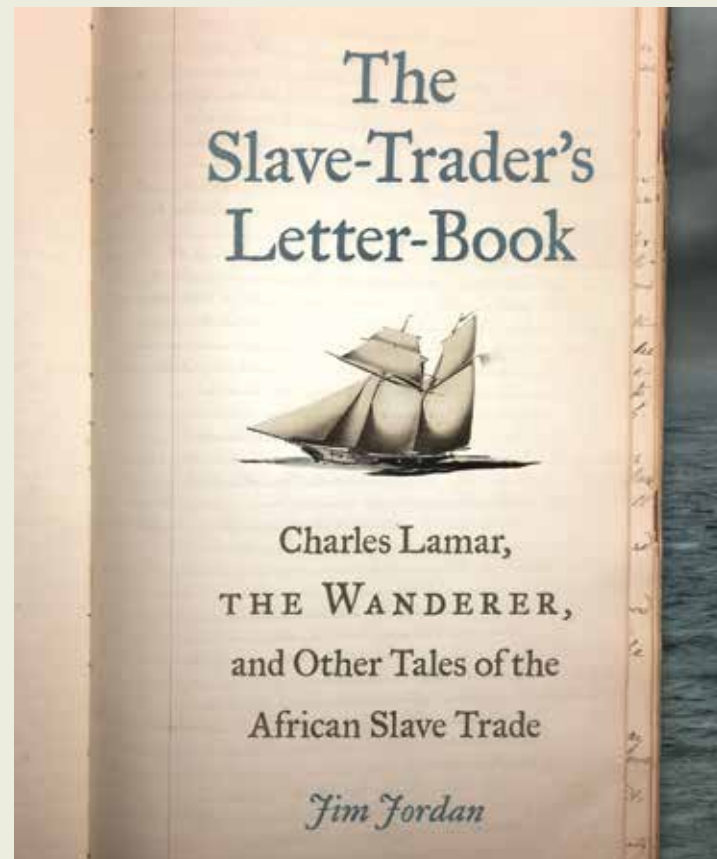


Often, when another institution holds materials that fall outside its collecting mission it will seek an appropriate repository that is a better fit. GHS was fortunate to receive the Collier family papers in this way. Originally given to a county archive (an institution set up to house records created by the county government), this collection of over 100 cubic feet of family and business materials related to clothing manufacturing in Georgia was transferred to GHS.

Occasionally collections are rescued and brought in: items forgotten in attics and discovered by new owners, found at estate sales, or even pulled from the trash. Many people bring items in convinced that the material is worthless when it really holds important research value. An individual need not be famous for their papers to be important. Letters and other written accounts from people of all social and economic ranks give us valuable insight into the past. It can be difficult to look at boxes of old papers and letter books with spines that are falling apart and see how significant they can be.



GHS was very fortunate that Jim Jordan, a local author and regular researcher at GHS, understood this as well. Jim contacted a woman in New Jersey about several steamer trunks of papers she found in her attic. The trunks contained the papers of Gazaway Lamar and told the story of Lamar's business in the slave trade of antebellum Georgia (pictured left). Through Jim's tireless efforts and financial support, the collection was saved from the dumpster or the auction house and instead was acquired, processed, and is now open for research at the Georgia Historical Society. *The Slave Trader's Letter-Book* was recently published by the University of Georgia Press.



All of these materials tell the important story of our collective past. Who knows what may be in your attic? If you have something you'd like to donate to the Georgia Historical Society—or questions about potential donations—please contact us. The material we save today could provide answers to questions we have not yet even thought to ask.

Ms. Sheldon is Archivist at the Georgia Historical Society. She can be reached at lsheldon@georgiahistory.com.



PROFILES



Shell and Wyck Knox: John Macpherson Berrien Award Winners: “We Have Always Tried to Give Back”

By Stan Deaton, Ph.D.

Shell Hardman Knox and Wyck Knox are the recipients of the 2018 John Macpherson Berrien Award from GHS that recognizes lifetime achievement in Georgia history. For Shell and Wyck, love of Georgia and its history runs deep in their veins.

Shell's given and middle names belonged to her grandfathers: Dr. Henry Hilliard Shell was a Baptist minister for much of his life in Bainbridge, Georgia, while her paternal grandfather was Dr. Lamartine Hardman, Georgia's governor from 1927 to 1931. Shell's mother and father—Dorothy Bolton Shell Hardman and Lamartine Hardman, Jr.—instilled a strong sense of the importance of history and of giving back to the community: “We grew up with the philosophy that if you can help, you do.”

Shell spent summers at her grandparents' farm in the Nacoochee Valley in north Georgia, which Dr. Hardman purchased in 1902. Shell graduated from UGA with a degree in special education and taught in Atlanta. She married Wyckliffe Austin Knox, Jr., in 1967.

Wyck was born in Augusta and grew up in Thomson. After earning bachelors and law degrees from the University of Georgia, Wyck began a distinguished career in law that culminated with him receiving the UGA School of Law's Distinguished Service Scroll Award. It is the law school's highest award, given for distinguished and lifetime service to the school.

Shell and Wyck have four children—Wyck III, daughter Shell, and twin sons Hardman and Davis—and twelve grandchildren, ranging in age from 16 to almost 1.

Neither Shell nor Wyck likes to talk about themselves, but their accomplishments are many. Their commitment to Georgia is reflected not only in their philanthropy but in their service on other boards. They unflinchingly give generously of their time

and resources, and their love of Georgia and its history is on full display. As Shell put it, public service is a tradition in their family: “We have always tried to give back.”

Wyck has served for 18 years as a director of AGL Resources, Inc., as a trustee of Young Harris College, the Ida Cason Callaway Foundation, and as a founding trustee of the Richard B. Russell Foundation. He has served on the Board of Visitors of Augusta University, the UGA School of Law, and as a director of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

Among her many other accomplishments, Shell was one of the first women to serve on the University of Georgia Foundation in the 1980s, and the first woman to serve as its chair from 1994 to 1996. She says that she has been “extremely fortunate to work with some amazing people to accomplish many important things in the fields of education, the arts, historic preservation, and conservation,” for which she has a special passion.

Shell spearheaded the effort that resulted in the Hardman family donating 174 acres of her grandparents' Farm—including the farmhouse, 22 outbuildings, and the Nacoochee Valley Indian Mound—to the state in 1999. Shell and her family were determined to preserve the farm and the valley for all the people of Georgia to learn from and enjoy. Wyck called the preservation of the Hardman Farm “Shell's greatest contribution to the state of Georgia.”

Both Shell and Wyck have served on the GHS Board of Curators, and they gave the lead gift for the recently announced Vincent J. Dooley Distinguished Fellows Program at GHS, a research and teaching fellowship that secures Coach Dooley's lifelong commitment to history.

Wyck served on the Board of UGA's Athletic Association when Dooley was both UGA football coach and Athletic Director: “We became good friends and I have great admiration and respect for him. He is unique, not only a great football coach but in my opinion an even better athletic director, and a world-class historian. He's not too shabby as a gardener either!”

“I can't think of two more deserving people for the Berrien Award than Wyck and Shell,” said GHS President W. Todd Groce. “Through their generosity and vision, they have helped GHS and other institutions use the power of history to make the world a better place. We are deeply grateful to them for their leadership and friendship.”

Shell and Wyck Knox are both honored to receive the Berrien Award. “The history of our state is just so rich,” Shell says, “and to be honored with the Berrien Award is humbling. We are very grateful.”

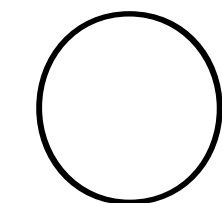
Non sibi sed aliis

Stan Deaton is The Dr. Elaine B. Andrews Distinguished Historian at GHS. He can be reached at sdeaton@georgiahistory.com.

Photo by W. Todd Groce

The Research Center Capital Campaign

By Laura García-Culler and Christy Crisp



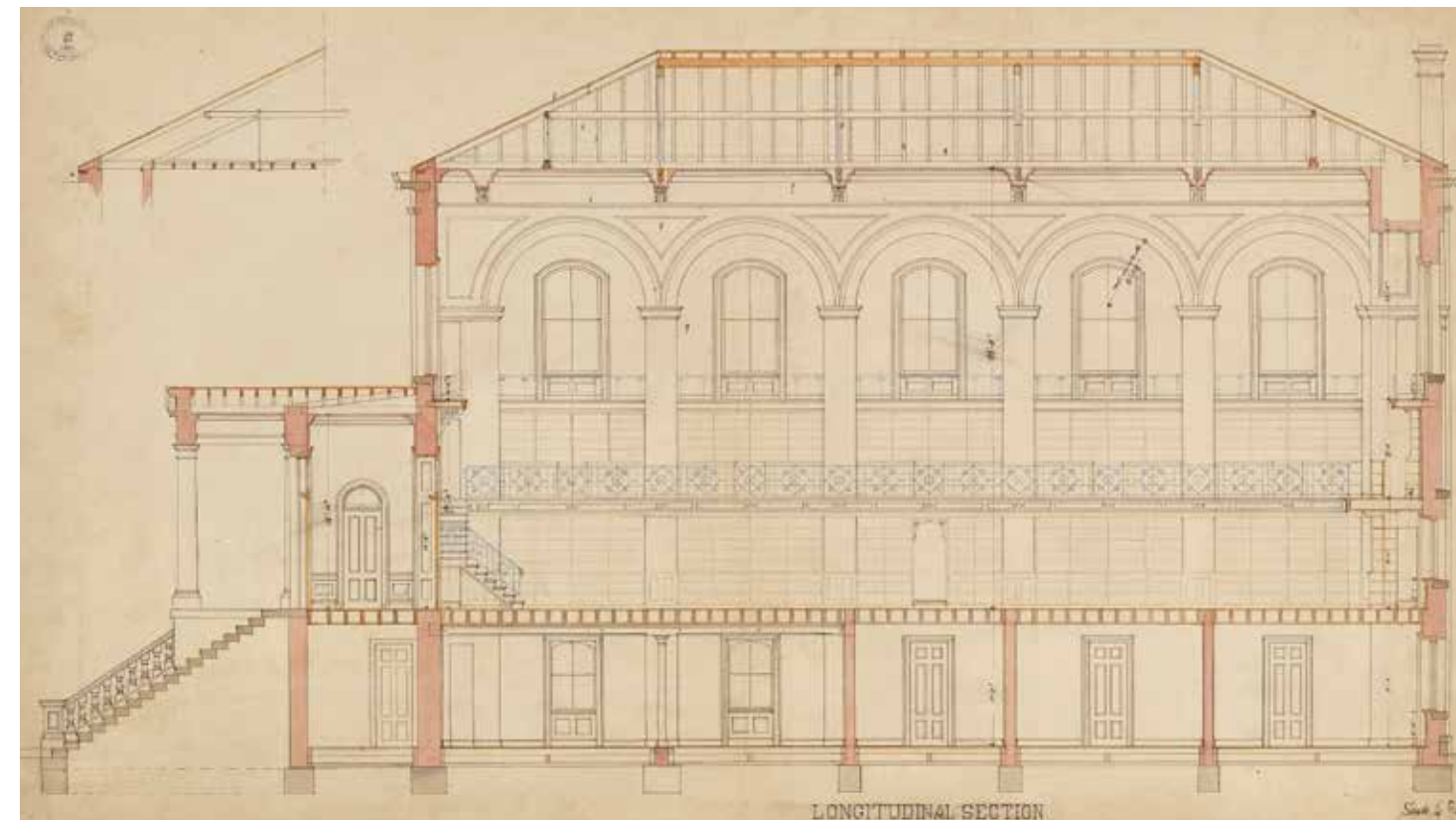
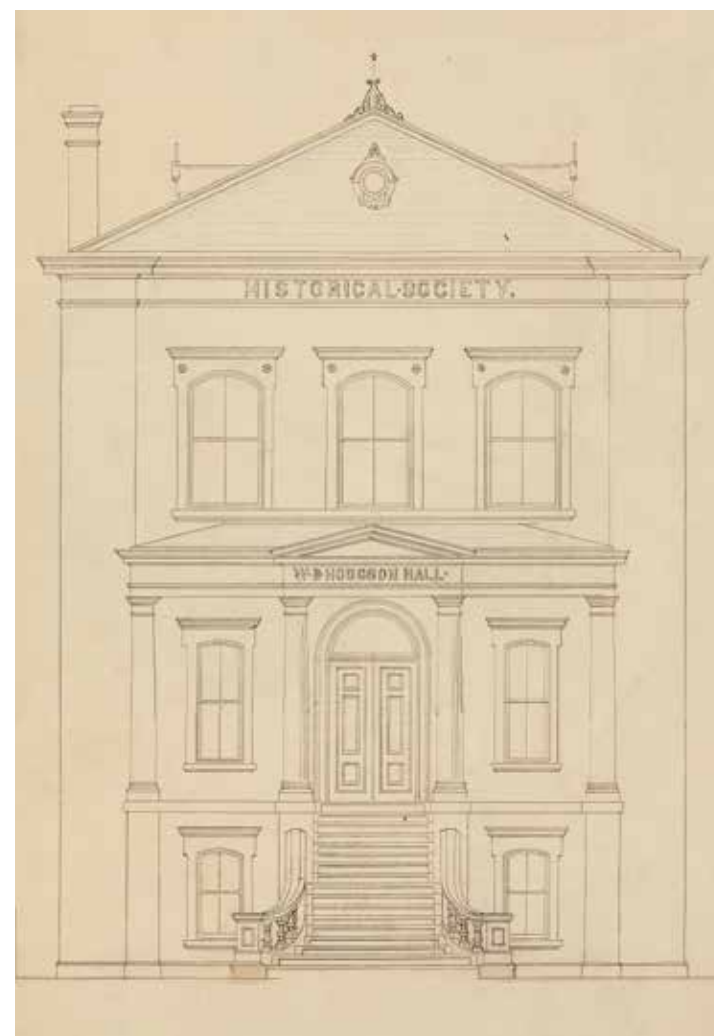
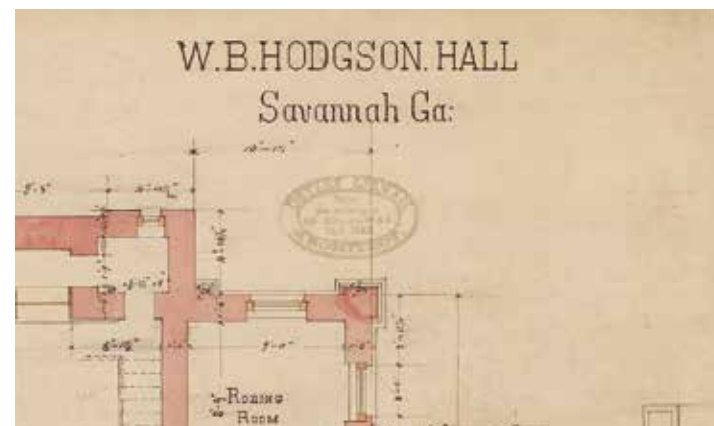
On April 26, 2018, during its Annual Meeting, the Georgia Historical Society Board of Curators unanimously voted to move forward with an updated plan to renovate the GHS Research Center's existing structure and expand its storage capacity.

This capital project is a key component of GHS's current fundraising campaign: *The Next Century Initiative*, a \$15 million endowment and capital campaign that will allow GHS to secure its commitment to serving the people of Georgia and the nation in the 21st century and beyond.

The \$3.5 million renovation and expansion of the GHS Research Center will provide more space for storage and processing of archival materials; ensure the conservation, usefulness, and accessibility of GHS's extraordinary archival and library collections; and maintain the historically significant structure itself, one of the oldest purpose-built library buildings in the United States, in which these collections are housed and used by the public.

The campaign will greatly enhance the way GHS fulfills its mission to collect, examine, and teach Georgia and American history by improving the institution's ability to collect, preserve, and make accessible the documents, photographs, artifacts, and other primary source material that form the building blocks of all scholarly research and study,

The Research Center capital campaign will address the need to upgrade or replace the following systems to ensure the safety of collections, patrons, and staff and to achieve efficiency for long-term cost-savings: HVAC and humidity control, plumbing, electrical, fire suppression, lighting, and alarm systems. Plans will address these critical needs as well as provide an expanded, dedicated



receiving area and more functional processing space; extensive and necessary interior and exterior maintenance; window replacement and a secured building envelope; increased system efficiency to reduce building energy consumption; more functional office space to improve staff productivity; and the addition of archival space to nearly double current storage capacity.

Over the past two decades, the Georgia Historical Society has grown into a nationally-recognized educational and research institution. Through its expanded programs and services, GHS is promoting a better understanding of our state and nation's past.

But we cannot fulfill this mission, this duty to the future, without properly renovated and updated facilities in which to preserve and make accessible the primary sources that allow us to teach and study the past. We also have an unparalleled archival collection of Georgia and American history and a magnificent facility in which to house, preserve, and make it accessible for study—but one that needs renovation and expansion.

We invite you to be a part of this vital campaign to ensure the future for both the unique historic library building and the priceless collection upon which all the programs and services of the Georgia Historical Society are based. The impact of your investment will reverberate far beyond the walls of the capital building for decades to come. Please join us in giving the gift of history to future generations!

Ms. Garcia-Culler is Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at GHS. She may be reached at lgculler@georgiahistory.com. Ms. Crisp is the Marilyn Memory McMullan Director of Programs at GHS. She may be reached at crcrisp@georgiahistory.com.

Image description:

Detlef Lienau's original architectural drawings of Hodgson Hall, 1872 and 1873, from the Detlef Lienau Architectural Drawings and Papers, ca. 1835-1886, Columbia University Libraries.

EXTRAORDINARY GALES: *Fort Pulaski's Experience with Natural Disasters*

By Laura Waller

Fort Pulaski, completed on Cockspur Island in 1847, sat un-garrisoned in the 1850s, waiting to defend Savannah. Though the navies of Europe never arrived, the small staff in charge of maintaining Fort Pulaski and its village faced threats of another kind.

In 1854, Captain J.F. Gilmer reported that the carpenter shop "with all its contents – benches, boxes, tools, etc." floated off its foundations, completely leaving Cockspur Island during the "gale" of September 8. The storm's surge reached "13'6" above ordinary low water" and caused damage to dikes and embankments, in addition to destroying many outbuildings.

The Coastal Hurricane of 1854 is but one example of the severe weather that has affected Cockspur Island in recent history. The 1804 Antigua-Charleston Hurricane remains the most severe to hit Georgia since 1752. It destroyed Fort Greene, Fort Pulaski's predecessor on Cockspur, and drowned thirteen of its inhabitants. The 1881 Georgia Hurricane killed over 300 people and destroyed Cockspur Island's village. In 1893, Cockspur Island's residents were able to seek shelter in Fort Pulaski's stairwell to avoid drowning in the Sea Islands Hurricane, the United States' fourth deadliest to date.

Despite their historical frequency and severity, hurricanes had been out of recent memory in Savannah until the past two years. It was not uncommon to hear residents comment that Savannah was geographically lucky because its position on the coastline prevented storms from directly impacting the area. After Hurricane Irma (September 2017), Federal Emergency Management Agency administrator Brock Long noted, "I think Georgia is a ticking time bomb. I think you've got a complacent citizenry. I don't think they realize the Georgia coast got hit fourteen times from 1850 to 1900."

After seeing little storm activity for decades, Cockspur Island, now part of Fort Pulaski National Monument, experienced three significant storms during the 2017 fiscal

year. On October 8, 2016, Hurricane Matthew skirted coastal Georgia, flooding the park and downing hundreds of trees. Assessment teams estimated over \$2 million in damages to park infrastructure. While the fort itself was largely intact, nineteenth century wooden floors floated and swelled, requiring costly repairs by historic preservation professionals.

On May 23, 2017, just as recovery was under way, an EF-2 tornado struck the Monument. The tornado ripped the roof from the restroom building, collapsed the ceiling in the visitor center, and totaled two vehicles. Staff evacuated museum collections exhibited in the visitor center using rolling scaffolding as protection from the collapsing plaster above.

Hurricane Irma brought a near-record storm surge onto Cockspur Island on September 11, 2017, again impacting Fort Pulaski National Monument. Though the damage was less severe than during Matthew, teams assessed similar impacts from flooding and high winds throughout the Monument. Improved planning and preparation, along with staff experience and lower storm surge levels helped lessen the impacts of Irma. Still, damage estimates were around \$500,000. Combined, these three storms caused over \$3.5 million in less than one year.

Fort Pulaski National Monument's recent experiences should be a reminder that all cultural institutions on the Georgia coast should be prepared for impacts from hurricanes. As history has shown, major storm events have and can cause serious devastation. Library, archival, museum, and archaeological collections, and historic structures and landscapes throughout Georgia are at risk not just from hurricanes, but also from other natural disasters such as wildfire, and emergencies such as a leaking roof or power failure. These can happen anywhere.

As Fort Pulaski's experience shows, creating and updating a written disaster plan is essential to mitigating potential damage or loss of Georgia's cultural heritage. Resources for disaster planning abound; to get started, visit <http://www.dplan.org>.

Ms. Waller is Cultural Resources Specialist at Fort Pulaski National Monument. She may be reached at laura_waller@nps.gov.

MILESTONES

Deriso Elected Board Chairman

At its Annual Meeting on April 26 the GHS Board of Curators elected Walter M. "Sonny" Deriso, Jr., as the



new Chairman of the Board starting July 1, 2018. Mr. Deriso has served on the GHS Board since 2013. He will succeed Vince Dooley, who finishes a two-year term as Chairman at the end of June.

Mr. Deriso is the Chairman and a Director of Atlantic Capital Bancshares, Inc. and Atlantic

Capital Bank in Atlanta, a position he has held since their founding in October 2006. Atlantic Capital Bank opened in May 2007 with capital in excess of \$125 million, the largest capital raise for a de novo bank in U.S. history.

From 1997 to February 2005, Mr. Deriso served as Vice Chairman of Synovus Financial Corp., a diversified financial services company, in Columbus, Georgia, where he was responsible for Synovus Financial Management Services. From 1997 to 2005, he served as a member of the board of directors of Synovus Financial Corp, as Chairman of the board of Synovus Trust Company, as Chairman of Synovus Insurance Services, Inc. of Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina, and as Chairman of the Synovus Leadership Institute.

From 1997 to 2006, Mr. Deriso served as Chairman of the Board of Security Bank and Trust Company of Albany, a Synovus bank. From 1991 to 1997, he served as President and CEO of Security Bank and he was a Director of Security Bank from 1980 until 2006.

He is a graduate of Emory College and Emory Law School. He practiced law in Albany, Georgia, from 1972 to January

1991, when he left his law practice to become the President and CEO of Security Bank.

Mr. Deriso's board experience is extensive. He is currently an emeritus member of the Board of Trustees of Emory University, where he has served as a Trustee since 2002. He is a past Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Center for Ethics at Emory. He was the Chairman of Campaign Emory from 2005 to 2012, which succeeded in raising \$1.697 billion, the largest capital campaign at that time in Georgia's history. In 2013 he received the Emory Medal, and in 2017 he was recognized by Emory Law School in its centennial celebration as one of the Emory Law 100.

Mr. Deriso was an original board member in 1999 of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority and has served as its Chairman since 2001. He was a founding member of the Rotary Club of Dougherty County in 1987, serving as its President in 1988-1989. In 2008 he became a member of the Rotary Club of Atlanta and served as its President from 2015-2016. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and a past Chairman of the Board of the Georgia Bankers Association.

For 45 years he has been active in the United Methodist Church, holding various Annual Conference offices and serving as a delegate to three General Conferences and three Jurisdictional Conferences. He has served on the Board of Trustees of Andrew College, the Board of the Foundation of Albany State University, and as chairman of the Board of Trustees of Deerfield-Windsor School in Albany.

In 2011 he was listed in the *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 100 Most Influential Atlantans. He was recognized as a Most Admired CEO by *Atlanta Business Chronicle* in 2017.

For 51 years, he has been married to the former Judy Holman of Albany. They have three sons and ten grandchildren. The Derisos maintain homes in Albany and Atlanta.

MILESTONES

New Board Officers

THOMAS M. HOLDER, Vice-Chairman

DOUG HERTZ, Secretary

H. JEROME RUSSELL, Treasurer



» Tommy Holder, Doug Hertz, Jerome Russell

New Members of the Board of Curators



ALSTON D. "PETE" CORRELL

A.D. "Pete" Correll is a native of Brunswick, Georgia, and for 13 years was CEO of Georgia-Pacific. He has served as Chairman of the board of Grady Memorial Hospital Corporation and on the boards of the Georgia Aquarium, the Carter Center, the Georgia and

Metro Atlanta chambers, the Nature Conservancy, the UGA Foundation, and the Mother Nature Network. In 2006 *Georgia Trend* magazine named Pete as Georgia's Most Respected Business Leader. He is also the recipient of the Catalyst Award, which recognizes corporate efforts to build inclusive environments and expand opportunities for women at work.



KESSEL D. STELLING, JR.

Kessel Stelling is Chairman and CEO of Synovus. Under his leadership, the company has been named one of *American Banker's* most reputable banks for four consecutive years, including 2017, when it ranked number one. Stelling is a member of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia and served as Chairman in 2016. He is on the boards of directors of Georgia Power, the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, and the REACH Georgia Foundation, which oversees the State of Georgia's first needs-based mentorship and college scholarship program. Stelling also serves as Treasurer and executive committee member of the Financial Services Roundtable. Stelling earned a degree in banking and finance from the University of Georgia and is a graduate of the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University.

Board Members Re-elected

Dolly Chisholm

Erroll B. Davis, Jr.

Reed Dulany III

Mark V. Smith

Don L. Waters

New Georgia Trustees

On February 17, 2018 the Georgia Historical Society and Governor Nathan Deal inducted Ed Bastian, CEO of Delta Air Lines, and W. Paul Bowers, Chairman, President, and CEO of Georgia Power, as the newest Georgia Trustees, the highest honor the state of Georgia can confer.

"A Royal Intent" was the theme for the 10th Anniversary Trustees Gala inspired by King George II's Royal Charter to the Trustees for Establishing the Colony of Georgia in America. The ballroom was transformed into a Royal Salon where portraits of previous Georgia Trustees adorned the walls. Nearly 500 guests from across the state attended the

MILESTONES

event, which once again raised over \$1 million for history education and research.



» W. Paul Bowers, Ed Bastian, Gov. Nathan Deal, and GHS President Todd Groce at the 2018 Trustees Gala. Photo by John McKinnon.

Charity Navigator

In January GHS received its eighth consecutive 4-star rating by Charity Navigator for demonstrating strong financial health and commitment to accountability and transparency.

Since 2002, using objective analysis, Charity Navigator has awarded only the most fiscally responsible organizations a 4-star rating.

"Astute donors are yearning for greater accountability, transparency, and for concrete results," said Michael Thatcher, President and CEO of Charity Navigator. "Attaining an eighth 4-star rating indicates that the Georgia Historical Society adheres to sector best practices and executes its mission in a financially efficient way."



Newly Erected Historical Markers

Carswell Grove Baptist Church

Jenkins County, April 7, 2018

Edward Vason Jones

Dougherty County, April 24, 2018

Freedom Alley and City Hall

Dougherty County, April 25, 2018

Genuine Parts

Fulton County, April 26, 2018



» CNN Marker Dedication, Atlanta. Photo by CNN

CNN

Fulton County, May 24, 2018

Louis B. Toomer

Chatham County, June 7, 2018

SOMETIMES, OUR HIGHEST HEIGHTS HAPPEN

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Left Brain Right

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