

Spring 20 22

# The LEGACY

A Publication of Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc.

*Keeping*  
IT  
**100**  
ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

**GARDEN  
PARTY**

GOODRUM HOUSE

*Never*  
**FORGET**

CELEBRATING CLEO





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## OUR MISSION

The Watson-Brown Foundation, through creativity, diligence and financial support, labors to improve education in the American South by funding its schools and students, preserving its history, encouraging responsible scholarship and promoting the memory and values of our spiritual founders.

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# CAMPUS NOTES

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## Watson-Brown Scholars in Action

**Sebastian Ionita**, Senior, University of South Carolina - Columbia: My junior year at University of South Carolina was filled with challenges, growth, and accomplishments. By working in several labs and taking mostly electrical engineering courses, my knowledge of my major grew immensely. Two highlights of my year were working in a research lab and building a self-driving RC car in my major-related lab. In my research lab, I developed a custom 3D printer that had additional sensors with the purpose of creating a real-time analysis of the print and detecting print-strength-related defects. This experience was filled with challenges and growth. I did this project mostly by myself which greatly developed my problem-solving and creativity skills and my ability to find information. The picture I have attached is of me working on the 3D printer. The self-driving RC car project was easily the most challenging project I have ever been part of. This is a semester-long team project that involved building the hardware and software of the steering and driving systems of this car. Being part of the sub-team that built the steering system of this car, I greatly increased my knowledge of the hardware and software related to this project. The most challenging aspect of this project was troubleshooting, figuring out how to properly implement our designs and fixing our systems when they stopped working took up the majority of the time spent on this project.



SEBASTIAN IONITA

Outside of schoolwork, I joined the club rugby team. This experience has brought me a lot of new friendships, enjoyable moments, and a new exciting way to exercise.

This summer I have an internship at Michelin. I will be a quality engineering intern in a consumer tire factory in Lexington, S.C. I am very excited for this opportunity because I will get a lot of hands-on engineering experience and I will gain a better understanding what I want to do in my career. I also will plan to spend time this summer narrowing down what I want to do after I get my undergraduate degree and what I want to do in my career. I am considering getting a master's degree in electrical engineering and, in terms of career options, the ideas I have right now are working in the renewable energy industry, manufacturing, or developing electronics.

I would like to thank the Watson-Brown Foundation for helping fund my undergraduate degree. I am immensely grateful for these funds I have received over the past three school years, and I plan to make a positive impact on the world with my degree.



**Nina Vu**, Senior, University of Georgia: Spring 2021 semester at the University of Georgia was no different than what it has been since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. I got used to our new normal. I learned how to study for my online classes. I started to become more comfortable cold-calling healthcare places to volunteer since I can't go there in person. Because of the extra time I had from not transporting to and from school/classes, I became more involved in clubs and even got elected as an



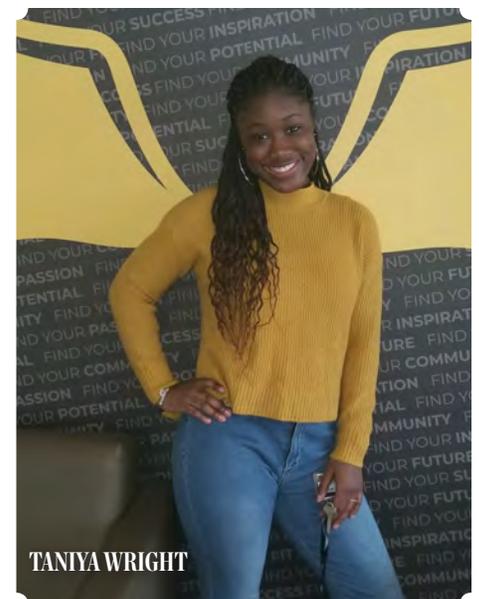
executive board member of an organization (Vietnamese Student Association). I also had time to read a lot more. I started to branch out and tried new things. One surprising accomplishment I achieved this semester was competing in CAPSIM, a multimillion-dollar business stimulation, with a group of friends and winning third place out of over thirty teams! This spring, I also started regularly volunteering as a physical therapy aide at a local clinic. This helped me tremendously with my communication skills. As the vaccine is being issued out more frequently, I found myself driving to the Duluth/Atlanta area to serve as a Vietnamese translator for BPSOS, who holds COVID vaccine clinics every weekend. I also finished up my New Media Certificate this semester with our Capstone project. My group and I were paired with the Georgia River Network to create a fully functional River Trails App that helps river goers get up-to-date dynamic information of the river trails in Georgia. This entire project was so fun! I am glad I pursued this certificate last year. Now that this semester has ended, I plan to continue working as a physical therapy aide and volunteering with BPSOS over the summer. I will also be taking a medical terminology course and a medical anatomy course where we get to dissect cadavers.

**Amanda Schreiner**, Junior, Tufts University: Despite the challenges put forth by the pandemic, I had the opportunity to create a research project and apply to Laidlaw Scholars, an international leadership and research organization. It was quite competitive, and I was proud that I was accepted. Part of the application was a

project proposal, which was quite challenging to write. This was my first time creating something of that caliber and with that type of academic language. However, with guidance from my principal investigator, Dr. Laura Corlin, it was a success.

Now that the summer has begun, I've also begun my research. I am performing an observational study on the association of daily new cases of COVID-19 and daily hours of sunlight mediated by ground-level ozone and health policies in the United States. It will be challenging but also rewarding. I've already met so many amazing and ambitious students through this project and feel even more at home at Tufts University. I'm excited to become a leader on campus with all of these amazing individuals. As chief operations officer of Kappa Alpha Theta, treasurer of the Maternal Advocacy and Research in Community Health club, and team mom of the women's rugby team, I will have numerous opportunities to both grow as leader and as an individual. This coming year will be challenging but rewarding. I can already tell that four years won't be long enough, but I'll make the best of them!

**Taniya Wright**, Junior, Kennesaw State University: My sophomore year at Kennesaw State University has been an emotional rollercoaster. Online classes are brutal as is, but in my opinion, it is even more intense for STEM majors. As a biology (pre-med) major, it has been difficult to grasp hard science/math topics from behind a computer screen. I never quite appreciated the distraction-free classroom environment until now, nor did I realize how quick my attention span can be taken away when I am not in a normal



lecture hall. Looking back on it all, saying that it was brutal is an understatement. But I prevailed! This experience has allowed me to be a more adaptable and resilient individual. It was an experience that demanded that I look inward into why I am pursuing this degree. I had to really dial in to what motivated me the most during these times. My dream of being a physician is what pushed me forward. My dream being the first person in my family to get a college degree is what pushed me forward. I learned that failing is not something that resides in a grade, it's something that lives in your mentality. Success is created by never giving up and always pushing forward, and I am proud to say that I was successful this year.

On top of academics, this year I also stepped into a new role as a residential assistant through the housing department at KSU. As an assistant, I am in charge of building a sense of community within the hall, planning floor events, and resolving conflicts. This experience has given me the opportunity to grow as a leader. On top of this, I am continuing to be an active member in the Phi Eta, the science national honor society here at KSU. We recently were able to help a nearby organization donate and ship books to children in need. I have also been selected to be a research assistant on campus for the Fall 2021 year. The research will be studying postoperative delirium in patients. This basically means that I will be doing research regarding the state of confusion that patients are in after surgery. Prolonged delirium, or confusion, can cause the death of brain cells. I am honored to have been chosen to do this research, and I am extremely excited to be working with the professor in the fall.

Overall, I am grateful to have been able to attend Kennesaw State University. I feel like I can really thrive here, and there are so many opportunities available for me. This amazing college experience has only been possible through scholarships such as this. Being a part of the Watson-Brown family has put me one step closer to pursuing my dreams.

**Olivia James**, Senior, Furman University: This year has been rewarding for me in many ways, even though my opportunities to participate in activities outside of the classroom were limited due to the pandemic. This year I was able to begin focusing more on my classes for my majors and enjoyed being able to double up on my math and Spanish classes. I also had the chance to present my research from last summer at Furman Engaged. I gave a talk on Geometric Group Theory and hope to publish a paper with my research advisor this summer. I also had the opportunity to do some small-scale research for two of my higher-level math classes and became more comfortable writing academic papers.



OLIVIA JAMES

This summer, I am excited to be taking a teaching assistant position and spending time preparing for my Senior year at Furman. I hope that next semester things will be closer to normal, because my activity in our campus chapter of Alpha Phi Omega was limited to mostly virtual events. This year, I definitely missed volunteering and participating in leadership workshops in person, but I'm thankful that our chapter still found ways to do service and further our leadership skills. I look forward to next semester and my Senior year!

**Benjamin Godfrey**, Senior, Clemson University: This semester was simultaneously one of the most challenging and rewarding semesters



BENJAMIN GODFREY

of my college career thus far. All of my coursework was still online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which meant that I had to work harder to learn the material. With four classes on my schedule being in my major, there was always something to do.

At the same time, my involvement with student organizations increased tenfold. Last year, I was a Senator for my community's division of the RHA, but this year I returned as a Governor. My new position came with additional responsibilities, such as directing meetings, disseminating agendas, and coordinating event planning. Outside of RHA, I also attended a handful of seminars as a member of the ACM.

The most remarkable accomplishment this semester for me would have to be getting the COVID-19 vaccine. When we entered this pandemic in March of last year, I thought it would take much longer for science to find an effective vaccine. However, just a little over a year later, I am protected against the virus that shut down the world. With that, I am looking forward to a fall semester with more traditional activities.

**Abigayle Kelley**, Senior, Belmont Abbey College: This past year has definitely been the most crazy and challenging year that I have had in college yet. Walking into Junior year, I had no idea what to expect because of Covid. Were we actually going to stay the whole semester or be sent home again? How different would things be this year? What was our new normal going to look like?

First semester of Junior year was actually very mild. We did not have any athletic competitions going on except a few intrasquad scrimmages. I cheer for my college and work in my school's athletic department. The only thing that I really had going on in the first semester were classes and practice because we had no games to cheer or events to work at. None of the clubs that I am involved in met either. The only thing that I had going on outside of school was



ABIGAYLE KELLEY

volunteering at church, but even then, that was only a few times because they were shut down for most of the first semester.

Then, the second semester hit! During the second semester my college was back in full swing. On top of classes, I now had to cheer for five teams and practice every day for our national competition that was coming up. I was also able to finally work again because our athletic department was now hosting events for every team on campus. I am also involved in Rotaract and SAAC (Student Athletic Advisory Committee), which now were meeting, hosting events, and volunteering at events again. I also started putting together a Sport Management Club together for my school and volunteering at my church twice a week.

Even though the second semester was very busy and chaotic, it was also very rewarding. It was by far my best semester yet academically. My cheer team placed first at our national competition and second for Helper Helper community service hours. As far as SAAC, we were runner-up for the NCAA Award of Excellence and we finished second in the country for community services hours through Helper Helper. On top of that, next year I will be the SAAC president. Out of all of that, my favorite part of Junior year was volunteering at cheer.

I have been volunteering at Elevation Church-Gaston since freshman year and I have been leading a group of high school girls

since Sophomore year. My group had slowly been dying out because a lot of my girls graduated and went to college. Then Covid hit and my group got extremely small. During Junior year of college, I started co-leading with my friend Ashley and we have been able to see our group grow over this past year from roughly three girls to twenty-two. Seeing my girls is also my favorite part of the week! I have been able to see them grow so much in their love for Christ.

Now that I am home for the summer, I will be interning at the Chamber of Commerce in Warrenton as their Tourism Project Intern. I will still continue to lead my group of girls in Charlotte from home while also volunteering with the youth and kids at Warren Baptist Church.

### Victoria Everett, Senior, Augusta

University: This year was very challenging yet rewarding. I grew very close to one of my criminal justice professors, a retired U.S. Marshal, and I was the first student in his ten years of teaching to achieve perfect scores on everything in his classes for the semester. I took one of his courses in the Fall semester and two of his courses in the Spring semester, the latter of which I achieved the perfect scores. I was also nominated for the Department of Psychological Sciences 2020/2021 Outstanding Undergraduate Senior Psychology Award by faculty, which is an accomplishment that I am incredibly proud of. Navigating online and hybrid instruction, as a result of the pandemic, was difficult but it allowed me to refine my time-management and self-motivation skills. I also started working a part-time job during the Spring semester, so balancing that with seventeen credit hours was stressful but I still maintained my 4.0 institutional GPA and never lost my passion for studying psychology and criminal justice. After this school year I feel even more focused and motivated to finish strong and graduate in the Fall.



VICTORIA EVERETT



JAYLON BROOKS

### Jaylon Brooks, Junior, Georgia College &

State University: Thanks to Covid, most of my classes were online and we had to deal with Covid precautions outside of classes as well. I also heard from upperclassmen that the first year at my school was normally very different from what I experienced, and that I missed out on events, festivals, and the like. Ultimately, I enjoyed my college experience, though I do feel like I missed out a bit. My greatest accomplishment was the rising star award that I earned for maintaining an A in Spanish; my exams went great, I enjoyed the independence, and I'd say I took pretty well to college.

### Ivana Ramirez, Freshman, Yale University:

Deciding to take the year off because of the pandemic was not easy, in theory or in practice. Feeling left behind from all of my other classmates, I often grappled with feelings of insecurity or restlessness surrounding college. However, once my gap year got into full swing, I truly began to appreciate the qualities and experiences that time off from school could elicit. During my gap year, I interned at the United Nations Foundation (UNF) and in the largest law firm in South Carolina. Going into school now, I feel more assured of the direction that I want to pursue in my studies and my career. For example, the work that I do at UNF is focused on data statistics and analysis, which has piqued my interest in that area for school. Without my gap year, and Watson-Brown's incredible flexibility in postponing

IVANA RAMIREZ



my scholarship, I would feel much more scatterbrained in the months leading up to my Freshman year.

**William Rich**, Junior, University of Michigan: Being a music major, the pandemic was definitely a large obstacle throughout this year. Instead of playing in large ensembles like band or orchestra, we had to spread out twelve feet (since I play trumpet, which requires me to play without a mask, the recommended distance was further than the typical six feet) and play in smaller groups. I also had private lessons through Zoom, which sometimes presented a number of technological issues. However, despite the circumstances, I continued to work hard and I think that I had a very productive and educational year. I am excited for things to hopefully look a little bit closer to normal as we move into the fall and vaccines become more available.

One highlight of my year was playing in brass quintet. Since larger ensembles were not taking place, I was happy to have this group of just five of us to perform with. We decided that because there was a lack of other performance opportunities, we would work hard together and put on a recital of our own. It was very much a success and I am so appreciative of the opportunity to continue to form with some of my friends. The picture I've attached is from that concert, with me on the far right.

WILLIAM RICH



# LEAH HERZWURM



## Alumni Spotlight

BY SHANNON FRIEDMANN HATCH  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY KIMBERLY ROMANO



Seven years ago, you would have thought Leah Herzworm was living her dream: Twenty-one years old, wedding ring gleaming on her left hand and ink still drying on her University of Georgia diploma, she was beginning her first job at an advertising agency overlooking the bay in downtown Tampa.

But you'd be wrong.

"I hated it!" she said. "I've always been able to find joy and have faith, and from the outside looking in, I had everything." Recently

married to her high school sweetheart, she followed him to Florida, but she said, "I had no friends, no family. It was hard."

Finding a church and starting to build a social circle helped, but she still found herself praying each workday for five o'clock. She found the work brain-numbing: "I was just copying and pasting in Excel, and sitting behind a desk. I was miserable."

Her husband suggested she try real estate. So, she got to work, studying nights and weekends for five months until she earned her license. Leah laughed when she remembered how the deck was stacked against her, "I had to use Google Maps to get anywhere other



than the gym or Target. I wasn't a homeowner, had no sphere of influence, and there were already tons of agents in the area. Who was going to trust me?"

Fast-forward to the present. She leads Herzwurm Homes with a team of three buyer's agents and is in the top one percent of realtors in her area with over 100 million in sales volume in the past five years. How did she do it? A look back at her family home and upbringing offers hints to her success.

"I came from very humble beginnings," Leah said, who grew up in Augusta, Georgia. Her parents—"the most amazing people I ever met"—married young, and her dad worked more than one job to support Leah and her two older siblings. "He always made a point to eat dinner with the family, but then he'd go out again to make extra money doing deer processing work in season or cutting grass."

Needless to say, his strong work ethic was passed along to his daughter. While her friend's parents gave their kids credit cards, Leah got her first job at 15. In college, she juggled earning her public relations and advertising degree from UGA's Grady College with part-time work managing the social media account of a children's boutique and office work in the apartment complex where she lived.

Still, with all her drive, she didn't graduate with a clear picture of what she wanted to do long-term. "I knew I loved people, I loved to talk, and I loved helping others," she said. "But I never saw myself having a career, but God had bigger plans for us than I ever imagined."

In the beginning of her real estate career, she said she did "all the not so fun things" like open houses every weekend and knocking on doors in the Florida heat to build her business. It paid off: She sold twenty-four homes in the first twelve months and won Rookie of the Year at her agency.

She credits a big part of her success to the advice of a broker in that first year. Her colleague knew the toll that long hours and slammed phones and doors can take. "She told me I had to have a 'why,'" Leah recalled. "My parents had been married for forty-two years and had never been on vacation, and I thought that's it!" Knowing that they had talked about going to Alaska, Leah called a travel agent and got the exact cost of the trip. It took her a year and a half to save the money. "I had a puzzle made and surprised them with the news. It was one of the best moments of my life."

Leah also said that the Golden Rule is a key part of her strategy. "You just treat people how you want to be treated," she said. For her, that means brownies to her clients on the anniversary of buying their home and monthly postcards that "add value" like featuring local contractors and home resources. "It's showing up in their lives past the sale," she said.

But she doesn't sugarcoat the time and effort she expends. "I haven't really had a day off since I started my career." Leah even shared that she believes stress contributed to a three-year struggle with infertility (she's now pregnant and expecting her first child in a few months). Now that she's achieved her goals and more, success is starting to look a little different than number of homes sold. "It's about having balance, more family time. I'm learning to leverage my team and give them more opportunities."

The young newlywed who spent late nights in a tiny apartment studying for her real estate license now lives in a new home in a neighborhood filled with families, eagerly looking forward to becoming a mom herself.

Now, if you think Leah is living her dream, you'd be right.







Serpentine garden view toward the pavilion; photo by Tebbs & Knell, May 1931



# MIMOSA GARDEN CLUB



## Goodrum House

BY BARBARA HYDE

**W**ith spring underway, plans for the gardens at Goodrum House are starting to take shape and unfold, just as they might have under the watchful eye of May Patterson Goodrum. In fact, throughout her twenty-eight years living in the home, she was deeply involved in all things gardening, as evidenced by her extensive involvement in the Mimosa Garden Club and her duties as an accredited floral arrangement judge for local shows in Atlanta. And while we cannot pinpoint the beginnings of her love of plants, we can certainly ascertain her passion for plants through her activities.

It might have begun when Philip Trammell Shutze rolled out the blueprints for his design of the site at 320 West Paces Ferry Road. Shutze had fallen in love with the gardens he experienced during his sojourn in Italy at the latter part of the 1910s. He travelled extensively throughout Europe in 1911 and returned in 1915 to study art and

architecture at the American Academy in Rome. For the next five years he immersed himself in all things Italian, and one of the art forms which made an impression on him was the Italian garden with all its splendor of green textures and water features. The Calhoun mansion, designed a few years prior by Shutze, had extensive gardens drawn straight from precedents he'd seen in Italy — rocked grotto walls, washed stucco, and large fountains with basins were artfully placed throughout the homesite.

But Shutze recognized his need to adapt the gardens to fit the English Regency-styled home he'd designed for May Goodrum. For the perennial garden, he drew inspiration from Thomas Jefferson's serpentine walls at the University of Virginia. The walled garden not only undulated visually but physically as well. The center of the garden is the highest point, eventually displaying an astrolabe globe on a pedestal, with the north and south axis bookended by an Asian/Chippendale-inspired pavilion and the garage façade styled more as



Serpentine garden

a small English cottage complete with Gothick windows and leaded roof portico.

On the east side of the home, a sunken koi pond provides the restful sound of running water spouting from a merman whilst trumpeting from his shell horn. Beyond this to the east, Shutze designed an Italian theatre garden of boxwood and willows, not meant to be a performance area, per se, but more as a screen of greenery to disguise the overlook to Habersham Road. From the south side of the koi pond, one could walk under an archway of flowering dogwood blanketed with a carpet of lilies of the valley down to a glass greenhouse, where the two full-time gardeners tended May's collection of camellias, begun with twenty plants from Mr. Shutze himself, and continuously planting seedlings to be used on the property. Shutze was deeply proud of the home and gardens, applying for various recognitions and magazine articles. Featured in two magazine articles in the early 1930s and published in *Garden History of Georgia: 1733-1933*, the gardens and home became one of the crowing jewels of Atlanta, a must-see stop for any visiting dignitary, socialite, scholar or author. And May loved to open the gardens for public tours throughout the spring to benefit the hospital.

As an early member of the Mimosa Garden Club, May was an active participant. The club's main function was to create and maintain a garden for the children and families who were patients at the Scottish Rite Hospital for Crippled Children (eventually renamed Egleston Hospital and now part of Children's Healthcare of Atlanta). But they also championed numerous other concerns such as deforestation, beautifying the highways, and conservation and care of wildflowers, fauna, and fowl. Monthly lectures by professors of biology regarding plant genetics, landscape design, and best garden practices were well attended. The club also sponsored an exhibition at the High Museum of the work of Freshman and Sophomore students in landscape architecture at the University of Georgia. A variety of committees were established: programs, conservation, publicity, plant exchange, flower show, beautification of highways, and maintenance of the

Scottish Rites Garden to name a few, and May headed numerous committees throughout her time as an active member. She entered various flower shows each year with full displays and arrangements, of which all the plant material had to be grown by the exhibitor, and she won several first- and second-place ribbons for her efforts.

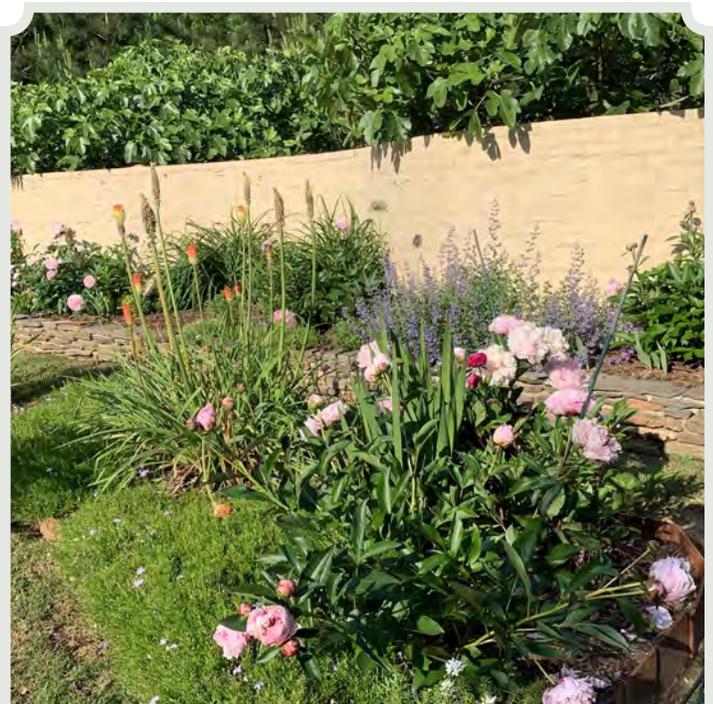
By 1934, May decided to enclose the property with a yellow brick wall and open ironwork. It was at this time that Shutze designed her a monogram garden, using a Gothic script to work out the initials in English boxwood. Never reaching higher than hip height, the boxwood were surrounded by nine raised beds trimmed in roofing tile and filled with roses, one of May's favorite flowers for which she'd won accolades from her fellow garden club colleagues. She continued to open the gardens to benefit various charities over the next fifteen years, but by the mid-1950s, her life had moved on to her home on Sea Island and caring for her young son, Peter. But her love of gardens continued there as well, albeit on a smaller scale. In 1972, a tea was held to honor the remaining founders who had taken on the project of the playground at the Atlanta Speech School. May attended with six of her colleagues; twenty-four were no longer in life but honored all the same. At the passing of a colleague almost forty years earlier, Mrs. William P. Shallenberger, first president of the Mimosa Garden Club, had written a poignant memorial poem titled "Heavenly Poem in Memory of Mrs. Cooper" which could be said of each garden club member...

"Give her the hues of a rainbow,  
A cloud that is floating by,  
Some rose from out of a sunset,  
Larkspur blue from the sky.

"Then give her room for a garden,  
(Oh, just a little space!)  
And she will make Your Heaven,  
An even lovelier place."



Monogram garden site plan; drawing by James Means,  
February 5, 1934



Serpentine garden in April



T.R.R. COBB HOUSE



# A TALE OF TWO COUSINS



## T.R.R. Cobb House

BY SAMUEL N. THOMAS

**T**he new year brought two ladies back to the T.R.R. Cobb House. One used to live here while the other visited on occasion. The two were cousins and will now grace our halls on a permanent basis.

The two Athens ladies are Sally Addison Cobb, born in 1846 to Thomas R.R. Cobb and Marion McHenry Lumpkin, and Mildred Lewis Rutherford, born five years after Sally to Laura Battaile Cobb, Tom's older sister, and Williams Rutherford. That makes the two first cousins. Sally was Tom and Marion's second child while Mildred, whom the family called "Millie," was Laura and Williams' fifth.

We don't know a lot about either young lady's childhood. Although, we have a tremendous amount of T.R.R. Cobb's letters transcribed, the pages of his writings are filled with information on events going on about him, concerns of religious matters, and inquiries as to how things are going along with his family. Unfortunately, aside from sicknesses, we know very little of Sally's childhood other than she was well versed, writing her father in Virginia in 1861 and 1862. Through a letter Tom penned to Marion from "Camp Sally Cobb" while on the Peninsula in 1862 with Cobb's Legion Infantry, Tom mentions how well Sally's French was becoming. She was 16 at the time.

The only other tidbit we can glean from his letters is that both Sally and her younger sister, Callie, enjoyed their father's stories about haunted houses. Little did they know that just twenty years later their own house would be known around town as one of those haunted houses. A newspaper account from the 1880s states that folks in town crossed over to the opposite side of the street to walk in front of the

house because they all believed it was haunted.

At the age of 21, Sally married her second cousin, Henry R. Jackson, Jr., in 1867 in the parlor of the T.R.R. Cobb House. The couple had seven children and, although they lived most of their lives as a family in Atlanta, they were both buried in Oconee Hill Cemetery in Athens.

Millie also attended the Lucy Cobb Institute, but aside from that we know even less of her childhood than of her cousins. Millie lived for a while on a plantation near Monroe, Georgia, before her father obtained a teaching position at the University of Georgia.

Millie never married and lived her entire life in Athens.

Affectionately known as "Miss Millie" by all of those who knew her, which was the entire town, Mildred Rutherford took over the running of the Lucy Cobb Institute in 1880. In 1895, Miss Millie stepped down as Director, turning the reins over to Mrs. M. A. Lipscomb. Miss Millie, however, continued as one of the school's teachers. For more than forty years, she served Lucy Cobb as teacher, principal, and president of the Institute.

Following in her mother's footsteps, Miss Millie was selected to serve as the second president of the Ladies' Memorial Association (LMA) in 1888, becoming the first president of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) chapter in Athens, named for her mother, the Laura Rutherford Chapter. It was a position she held for forty years. Following relinquishing the reins as Director of Lucy Cobb, Miss Millie was elected Historian of the Georgia Division of the UDC, and following a five-year stint as the Division Historian, Miss Millie served as the national Historian General of the UDC until her death in 1928.

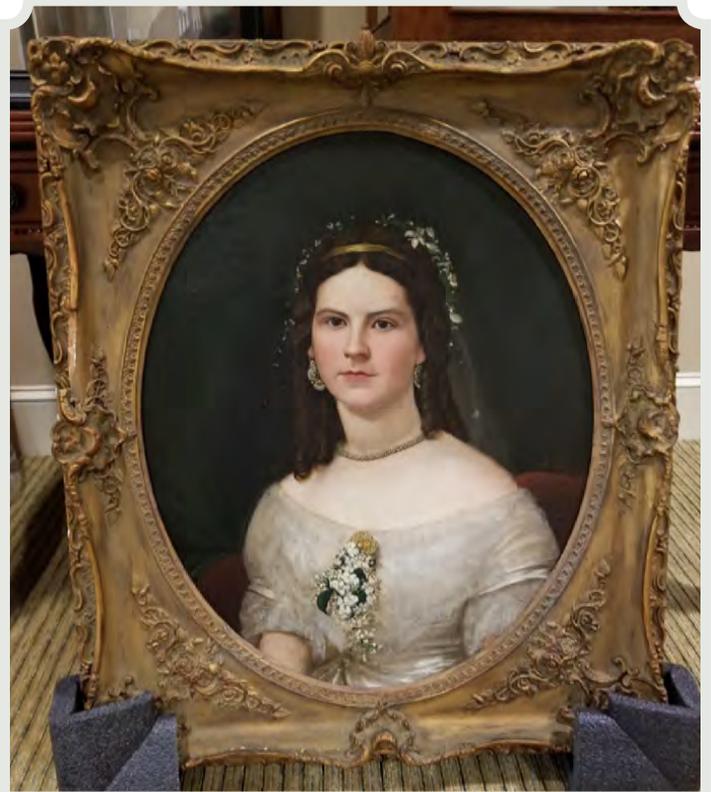
She, too, is buried in Oconee Hill Cemetery.

She was a woman after her time, one who seemed to fit better in the 1840s or 1850s instead of the early twentieth century. Like many women of her time, Miss Millie was truly an unreconstructed Rebel, expounding her cause through writings that embodied a lost-cause narrative. She taught throughout her life, both in the classroom and through the written word. From 1923 to 1927, Miss Millie published many of her talks, as well as a series, *Miss Millie's Scrap Book: Valuable Information About the South*. *The Atlanta Constitution* wrote that her "life's interest was the Southern cause, which she defended with tongue and pen with unsurpassed eloquence."

So well did the young ladies of Lucy Cobb Institute love Miss Millie that when they entered the State Normal School, they formed the Millie Rutherford Society. "With the faculty as our helpers; it is left to us, Millies, to make our society the very best at State Normal School."

The portrait we received from a Cobb descendant was painted by the Atlanta portraitist John Maier (1819-1877). Known throughout Georgia, Maier was born in Germany and immigrated to the United States in 1840, living in Troup County, Georgia in 1844 before settling in Atlanta by 1850. He was among Georgia's first professionally trained portraitists. During his time, he painted several prominent politicians, including Alexander Stephens and Sally's uncle, Howell Cobb. The Capital Museum holds the Howell Cobb portrait, painted in 1870, as well as one of Governor James Jackson (1859) and Governor George Troup (1858).

"Miss Millie's Head" arrived a few days later in the form of a framed mold or Itaglio (Italian meaning 'engrave'). This was a practice popular during the nineteenth century, but the image of Miss Millie seems to be from the early twentieth century. Many questions and much work remains to be done on Miss Millie. Perhaps her head will speak to us in the future.



Sallie Cobb's Wedding Portrait



Miss Millie



Sallie & Callie



# CELEBRATING CLEO



## Sticks & Stones

BY FRANKE SMITH

Recently we began the careful work of digitizing the scrapbooks and photo albums of Agnes Watson, Senator Thomas E. Watson's daughter. Agnes was a fan of the cyanotype, an early form of blue-tinged photography. In the midst of one of the albums, which was full of family portraits — images of friends, favorite pets, and the Watsons' home — we came across something rather unexpected: a cyanotype of an elephant. On closer inspection, the image was labeled "'Clio' — Grant's Park — April 26, 19[00-02]." But who was Clio? How did she come to be so important as to take pride of place in a family photo album?

Further investigation revealed that Clio was a celebrity at the turn of the twentieth century. She had the noble distinction of being the first elephant to inhabit the Gress Zoo at Grant Park, now Zoo Atlanta. That fact alone is not what made her so famous. It was the newspapermen that made Clio a household name in Georgia beginning in 1890.

According to Joel Chandler Harris, then writing for *The Atlanta Constitution*, the idea that Atlanta's children needed an elephant was the rather far-fetched plan of the eccentric Miles Turpin, once a

newspaperman himself. Turpin decided that the children of Atlanta needed an elephant, and if they all contributed a quarter, it could be done. Thus began *The Constitution's* "Elephant Fund," and children in Atlanta and across the state fully embraced the challenge. Between May and August of 1890, *The Constitution* reported that 108 children had sent money to the fund, with a young man named Herman Haas contributing the most at \$42.85. By summer's end an elephant had been purchased from the famed animal dealer Carl Hagenbeck of Germany. Since it would take some time for the elephant to arrive from Germany, *The Constitution* kept interest in the pachyderm alive by announcing an elephant naming contest, and Nemo was soon renamed Clio.

Clio was highly trained and had actually visited Atlanta before as a part of Barnum & Bailey's Circus. The Asian elephant was welcomed back to the city with a large parade and "Midsummer Festival," necessitated by the fact that no rail line traveled to Grant Park at the time and she would have to walk to her new home from Piedmont Park, where the special train car she had traveled in was offloaded. Her arrival, the festival, and the parade were covered in a full front-



page spread in the August 15, 1890 edition of *The Constitution*.

By the newspapers' accounts, Clio was quite the character. She was not infrequently mentioned in the pages of *The Constitution*, and after her death in 1902, *The Atlanta Journal* reported that "for twelve years, Atlanta's children have gone to the park with sweets and peanuts for Clio, and she has rewarded them by standing on her head, playing ball, pretending to be dead, saying her prayers, shaking hands, and performing her other wonderful tricks." One of the longer pieces describing her exploits centered on her enjoyment of Lake Abana, which was situated in Grant Park. It was decided that Clio should periodically be permitted to bathe in the lake, as she would in the wild, and on her first visit, Clio spent an entire day splashing and lounging

in the pond, refusing to go back to her enclosure until darkness fell over the park. On one occasion, Clio even made the newspapers in New York City. *The Sun* reported on the arrest of a gentleman, who, being rather inebriated, had tried to share his bottle with Clio, which resulted in the elephant "getting rather festive." News of Clio's death, after a short illness in 1902, was reported in papers across the state, a testament to her reign as a favored attraction in Atlanta.

Given the famed status of Clio, it is little wonder that Agnes Watson, on visiting the state capitol, would have made a pilgrimage to Grant Park to see the grand elephant for herself, bringing a photo back home to share with friends and family.



Photograph of an elephant in Grant Park, published in 1903. This could be Clio or her successor Maude, who were both Asian elephants.



Agnes' cyanotype of Clio



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