

HOUSE FOR
THOMAS TAYLOR JR ESQ
COLUMBIA · SO. CAROLINA

ANDREWS · JARVIS & RANTOUL ARCHITECTS
BOSTON · MASS

history DETECTIVES

Uncovering the Past



HISTORIC
COLUMBIA

BOUDREAUX
inspired design



TYPES OF RESOURCES

- **Archival Sources - Digital**
 - **Maps (Sanborn Fire Insurance and others with building footprints; Birdseye views; property maps – always check against Google Earth!)**
 - **Government records (building permits, plumbing inspection, photographs)**
 - **Contemporary newspapers**
 - **City directories (some digital)**
 - **Oral histories and other first-hand accounts (some digital)**
- **Archival Sources – Repositories**
 - **Business records (architects, builders) – South Caroliniana Library, Richland Library**
 - **Personal papers and manuscripts (some digital or published)**
 - **Vertical files (some digital) – Historic Columbia, City of Columbia Planning/Preservation**
 - **Register of Deeds**
- **Other Sources**
 - **Snooping around the attic...**
 - **What does the building say?**

Modjeska Simkins Dependency

Constructed between 1895-1897



Simkins, circa 1946.

*Courtesy South Caroliniana Library,
University of South Carolina*



Modjeska Simkins House

Constructed between 1890-1895

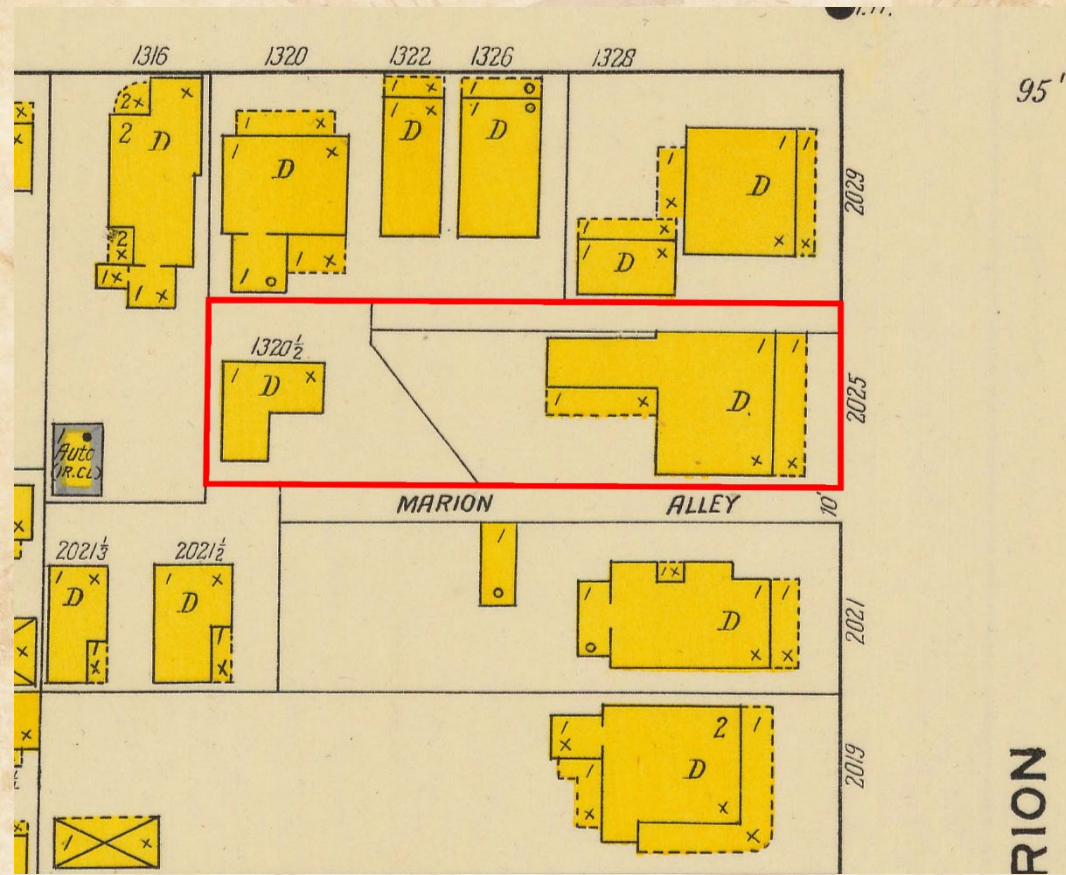


Uncovering the Past
Modjeska Simkins Stories



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95'

2010 Dependency Findings:

- No Porch, appears north facing
- Address associated with 1320 Elmwood, not 2025 Marion



1919 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

Courtesy South Caroliniana Library,
University of South Carolina

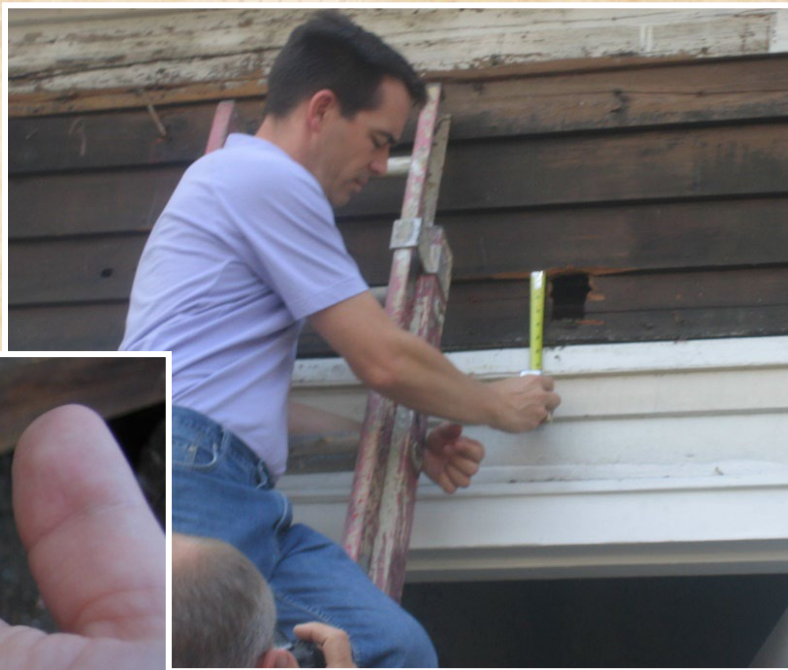


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Modjeska Simkins Stories



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Historic Columbia
FOUNDATION

REHABILITATION OF THE
MODJESKA SIMKINS HOUSE
DEPENDENCY



www.HISTORICCOLUMBIA.ORG

Architect
info@boudreauxgroup.com
803.799.0247

General Contractor
www.willmconstruction.com
803.256.3755



The Boudreaux Group
Interdisciplinary Design Architecture Interiors Planning

South Carolina

SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES

Rehabilitation of the Modjeska Simkins House Dependency is being supported in part by a Save America's Treasures grant administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

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Joseph Winter collection,
Columbia Rehabilitation
Commission.



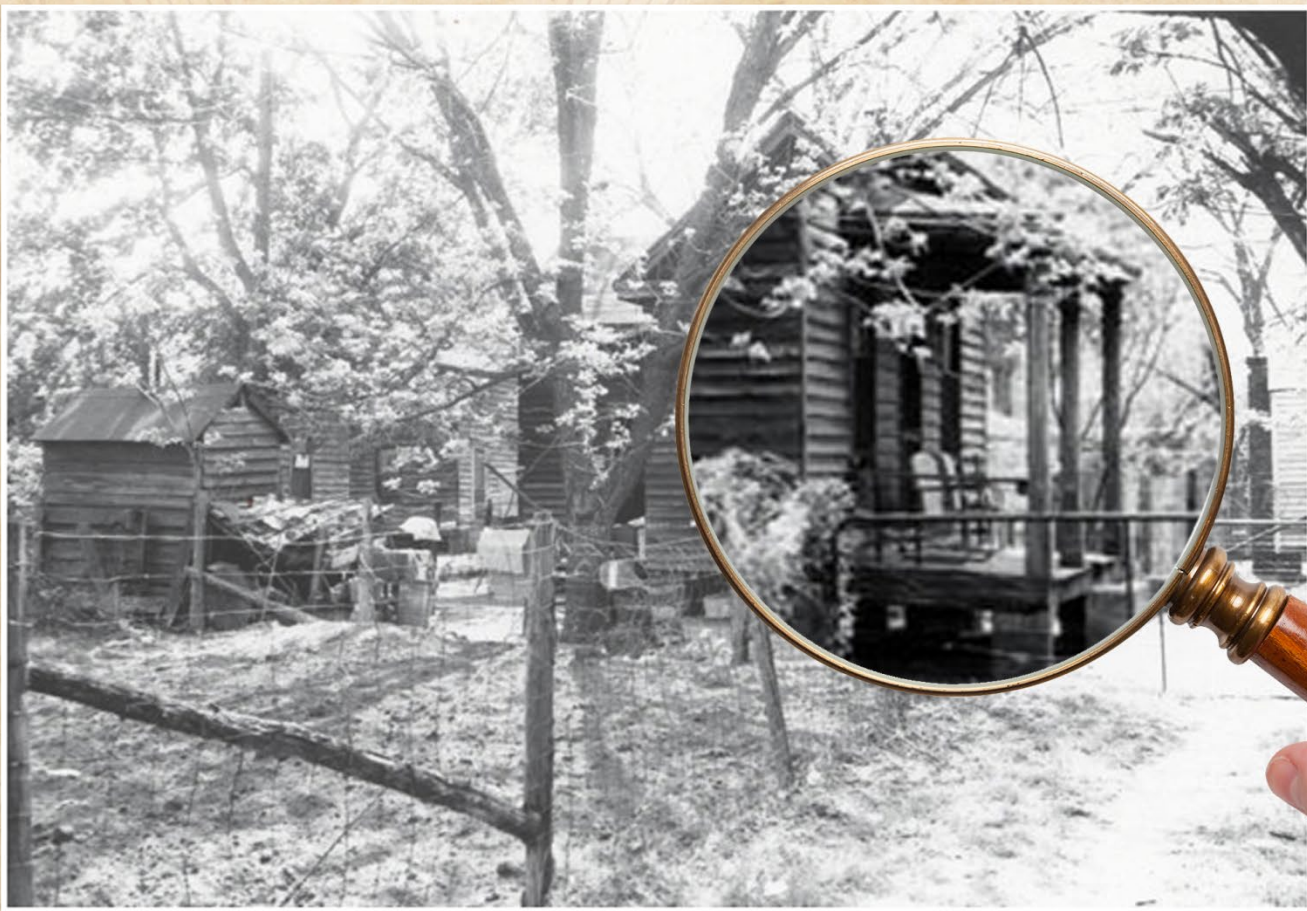
*Courtesy South Caroliniana Library,
University of South Carolina*

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Modjeska Simkins Stories



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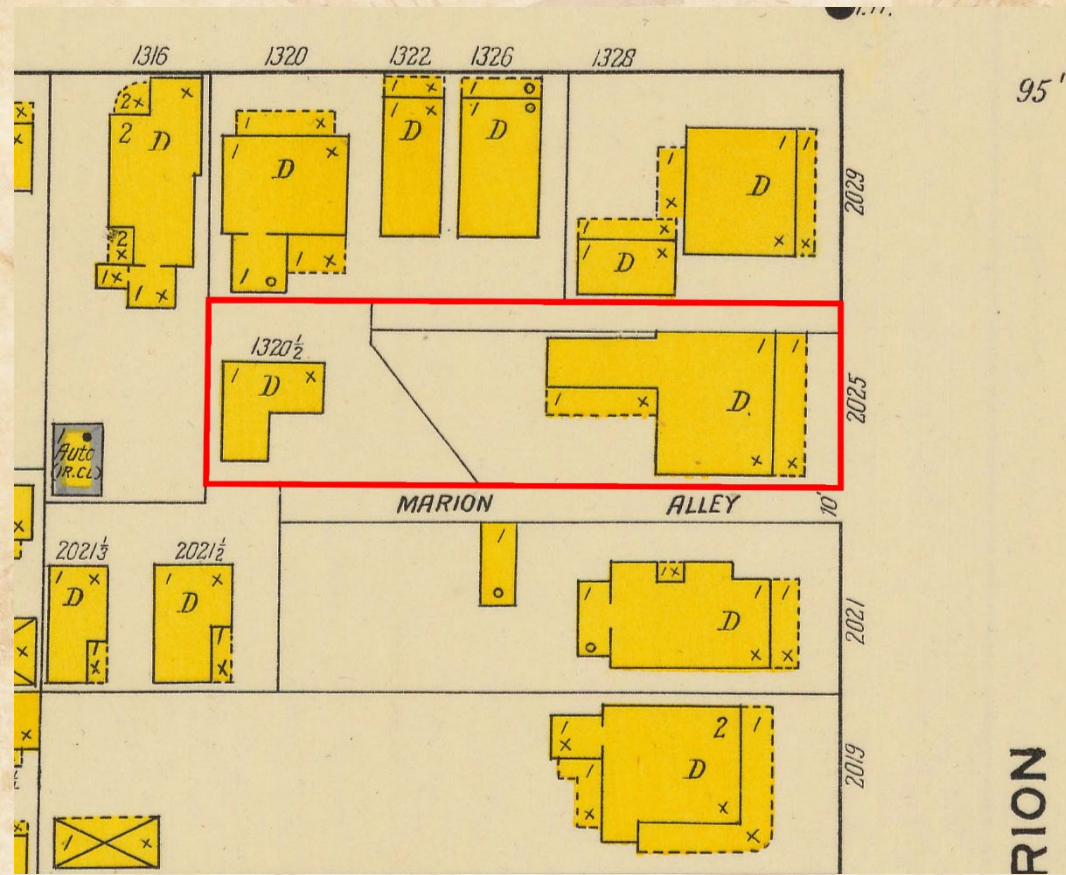


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Modjeska Simkins Stories



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2020 Findings

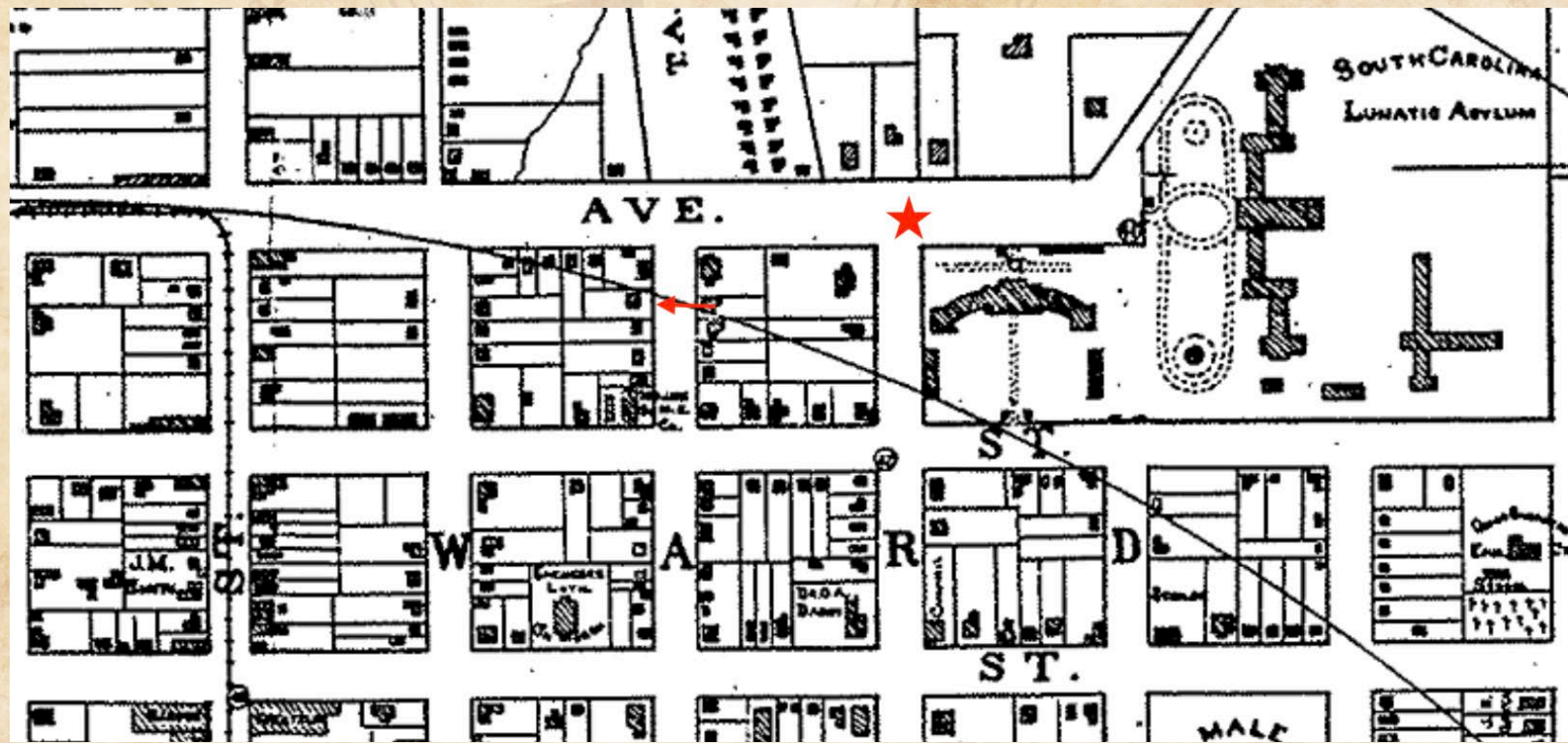
Deed transfers

- Oct 1890 \$462.50
- Jan 1895 \$462.50 (family)
- 1913 \$3,500 (w/ improvements)

1919 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

- Footprints are correct but address not.
- Deeds show property depth maintained at 165 feet since at least 1879

Courtesy South Caroliniana Library,
University of South Carolina



Map of Columbia, SC & Its Suburbs, 1895,
by Niernsee and Lamotte

MARION ST.—Cont'd.
NW cor Lumber—Marion
St M. E.Church,South
2006—Vacant.
2007—Rev.Preston L.Kirton
2010—Wm. H. Tutt.
2011—Algernon G.Bookman
2014—John Hopson (c).
2018—Napoleon Parker (c).
2019—Wm. Ruth (c).
2021—D. George W.Jamison
2022—Jervey J. Smith.
2025—Wm. R. Watts.
2028—Mrs. Ellen Pearson.
2029—Cicero Weathers (c).
Elmwood Ave Intersects.
McCREERY'S AL—First w

Watts, Alice, wid George, res 722 Lincoln.
Watts, Edmunds H., clk State Dispry, res 2025 Marion.
Watts, Elizabeth, wid Wm. R., res 2025 Marion.
Watts, Fannie, Miss, res Oak, Shandon.
Watts, Fleming B. (Mrs. Henrietta), carp, res r 731 College.
Watts, James M., wks State Dispry, res 2025 Marion.
Watts, J. Calvin, wks S. C. C. O. Co, res 615 Main.
WATTS, JOHN GARY, ADJT INSPR GEN, RMS 1221 PLAIN
Watts, S. Caroline, wid John, res 615 Main.
Watts, Wm. R. (W. R. Watts & Co), res 2025 Marion.
Watts, W. R. & Co (W. R. Watts, D. E. Perry), genl mdse
712 Main.

McCants, Minnie, Miss, res 1209 Gervais.
McCants, Robert C. (Mrs. Minnie J.), mchst State Dispry, res
2025 Marion.
McCants, Sarah, wid James J, res 1528 Gervais

Johnson, Wade (c), wks Tozer Engine Wks, res 15
Johnson, Wm. (c), painter, res r 2025 Marion.
Johnson, Wm. (c), wks Col Stm Ldrv, res 1404 T

1897-1898 Columbia City Directory

*Courtesy South Caroliniana Library,
University of South Carolina*

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Modjeska Simkins Stories



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2029	86			no one at home	See sheet 92 line 24														23						
2025	87	no	no	Simkins, Andrew W.	Head	neg	M	63	mar.	S.C.				mk				60	Proprietor liquor store	Retail Liquor Store	O	290	688	3	24
				Modjeska M.	Wife	neg	F	50	mar.	S.C.				dt	no	no	yes		seller liquor	Retail Liquor Store	NP	490	688	4	25
2025	88	no	no	Boynton, Kane D.	Head	neg	M	44	mar.	Georgia	58			mk				36	Laborer	Construction Company	P	970	246	1	26
				Pearlene	Wife	neg	F	38	mar.	S.C.				mk				30	Domestic	Private Home	P	120	826	1	27

																										23
mk																			60	Proprietor liquor store	Retail Liquor Store	O	290	688	3	24
dt	no	no	yes																	seller liquor	Retail Liquor Store	NP	490	688	4	25
mk																			36	Laborer	Construction Company	P	970	246	1	26
mk																			30	Domestic	Private Home	P	120	826	1	27

1950 Census for 2025 Marion Street

1943 Columbia City Directory

Courtesy Ancestry.com

Boykins Creed (Deana; 1) lab h rear
1240 (2) Barnwell
" Daisy D Indry wkr S C Baptist Hosp
r rear 1240 (2) Barnwell
" Willie lab Sou Products Co
Boynton K. David (Pearlene) emp Cola
Mills h rear 2025 Marion
Brabham Lizzie maid h528 Short Leaf
" York B (Martha) lab h8 Braytons al



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Horry-Guignard House & Dependency

Constructed circa 1813



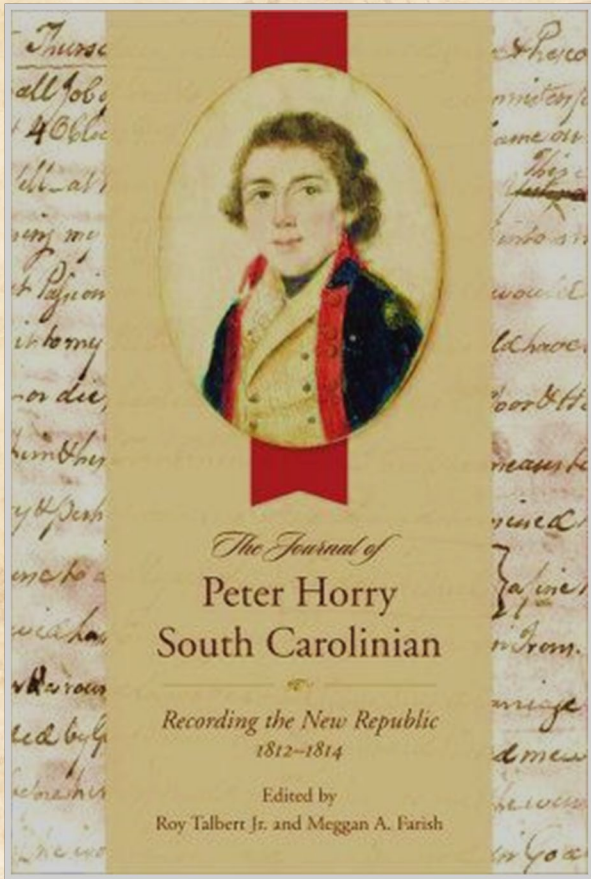
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THE SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

VOL. XXXVIII

APRIL, 1937

No. 2

JOURNAL OF GENERAL PETER HORRY

Edited by A. S. SALLEY

Peter Horry, who played a conspicuous part in the history of South Carolina during the Revolution and for over thirty years subsequent thereto, was born in South Carolina about 1747.

Initially compiled and published by
A.S. Salley between 1937 and 1947.

Complete set of journals published in 2012

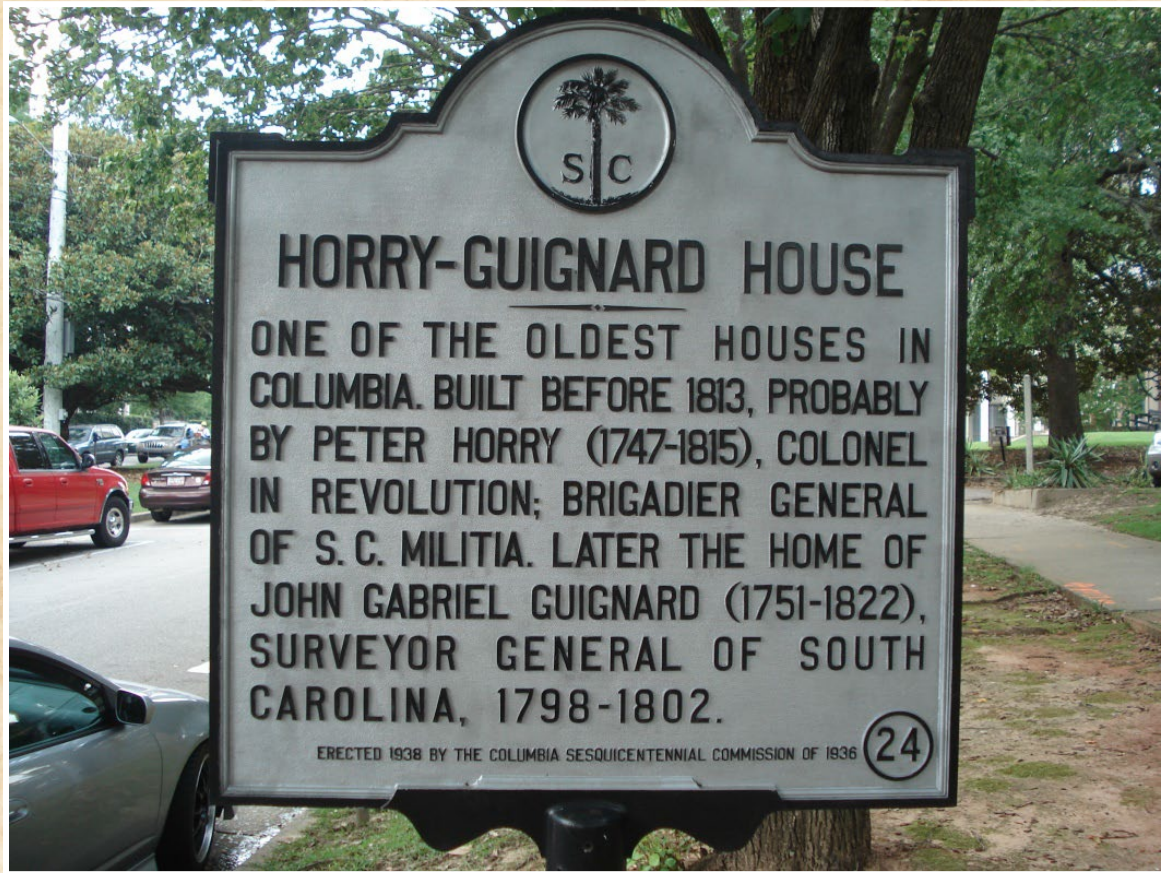
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Horry-Guignard Stories



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The Guignard-Horry Residence.
A very old house stands of the northwest corner of Senate and Pickens street. It was owned by Surveyor-General John Gabriel Guignard, who moved to Columbia from Stateburg shortly after his appointment in 1789. Just how soon he occupied this house is not known. But we do know that he was living there in 1813, because the Guignard family have an insurance policy on this house bearing that date. Gen. Peter Horry, who married Mr. Guignard's sister, Frances, also lived there. This house is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Taylor.

Columbia's Oldest Homes," Elizabeth Rucker Norris. *The State*, November 18, 1931

Initial marker text published in *The State* did not mention Horry

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Horry-Guignard Stories



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1960



1971



1987

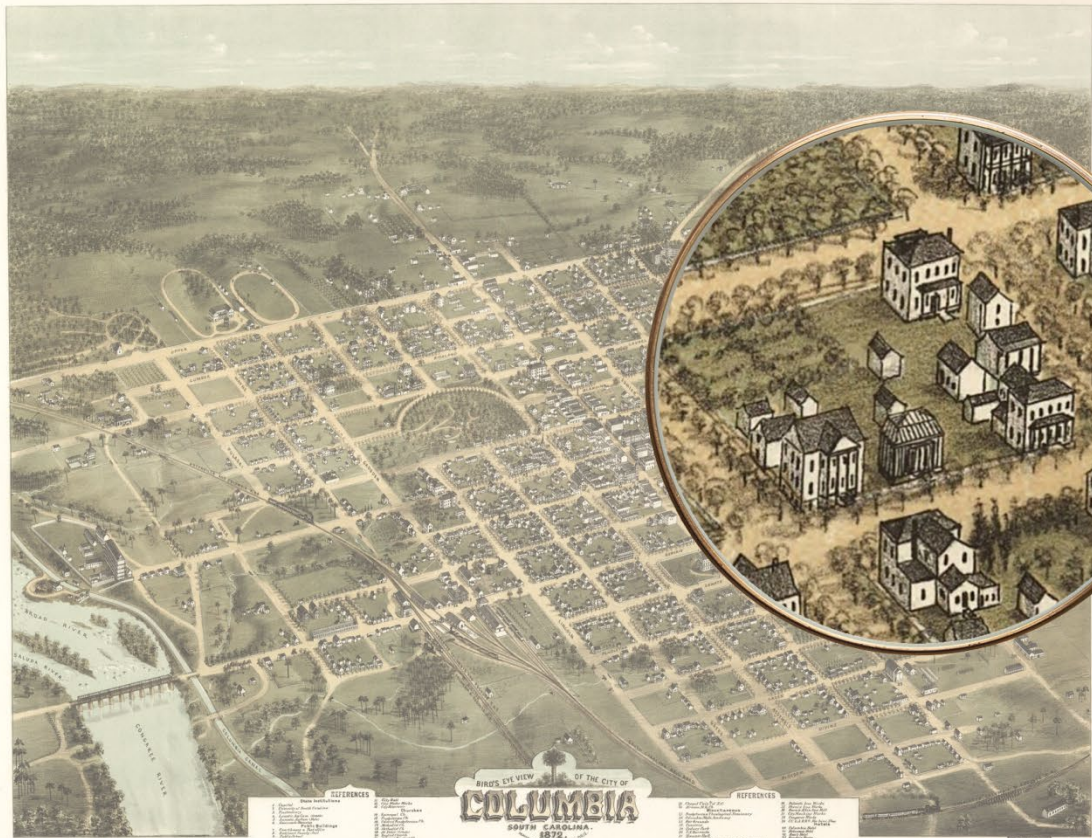
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Horry Guignard Stories



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Birdseye View of
Columbia, 1872
by C. Drie



REFERENCES

1. Public Buildings	2. Public Buildings
3. Public Buildings	4. Public Buildings
5. Public Buildings	6. Public Buildings
7. Public Buildings	8. Public Buildings
9. Public Buildings	10. Public Buildings
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41. Public Buildings	42. Public Buildings
43. Public Buildings	44. Public Buildings
45. Public Buildings	46. Public Buildings
47. Public Buildings	48. Public Buildings
49. Public Buildings	50. Public Buildings

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THE CITY OF
COLUMBIA
SOUTH CAROLINA.
1872.

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1. Public Buildings	2. Public Buildings
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43. Public Buildings	44. Public Buildings
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47. Public Buildings	48. Public Buildings
49. Public Buildings	50. Public Buildings

Given
copy
1872
Do

Courtesy Library of Congress

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Horry Guignard Stories

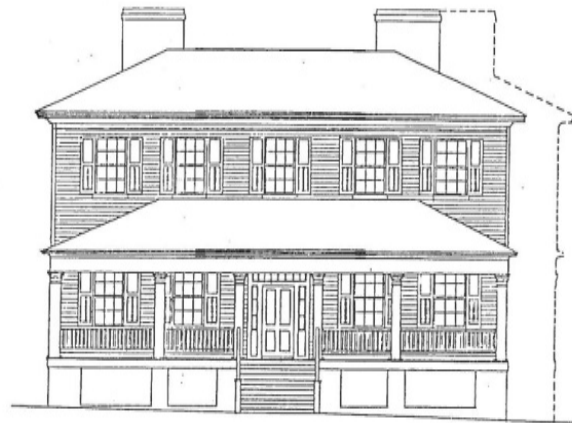


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RESTORATION AND ADAPTIVE REUSE
HORRY-GUIGNARD HOUSE
COLUMBIA MUSEUMS OF ART AND SCIENCES



THE TRIAD ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATES
November 1982
Draft Copy

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Taylor House

Constructed circa 1908



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Taylor House Stories



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2013

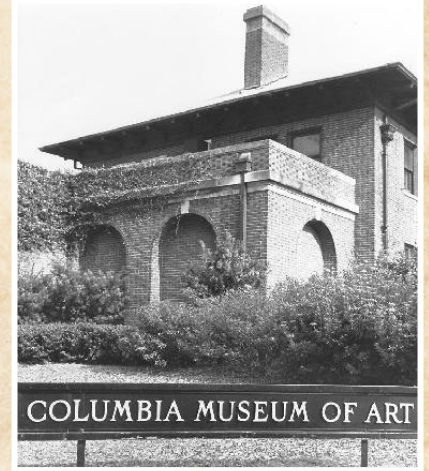


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Taylor House Stories



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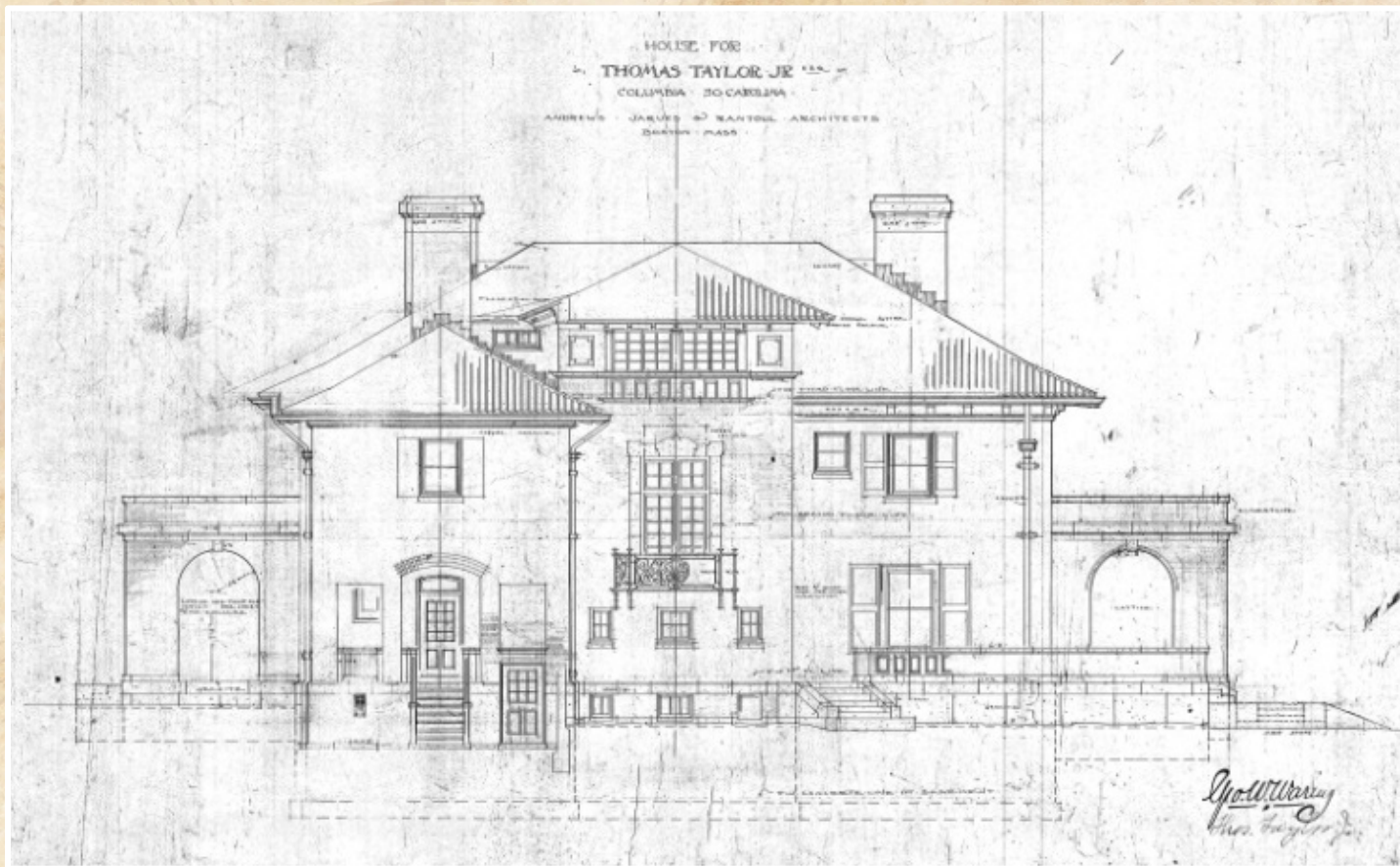


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Taylor House Stories



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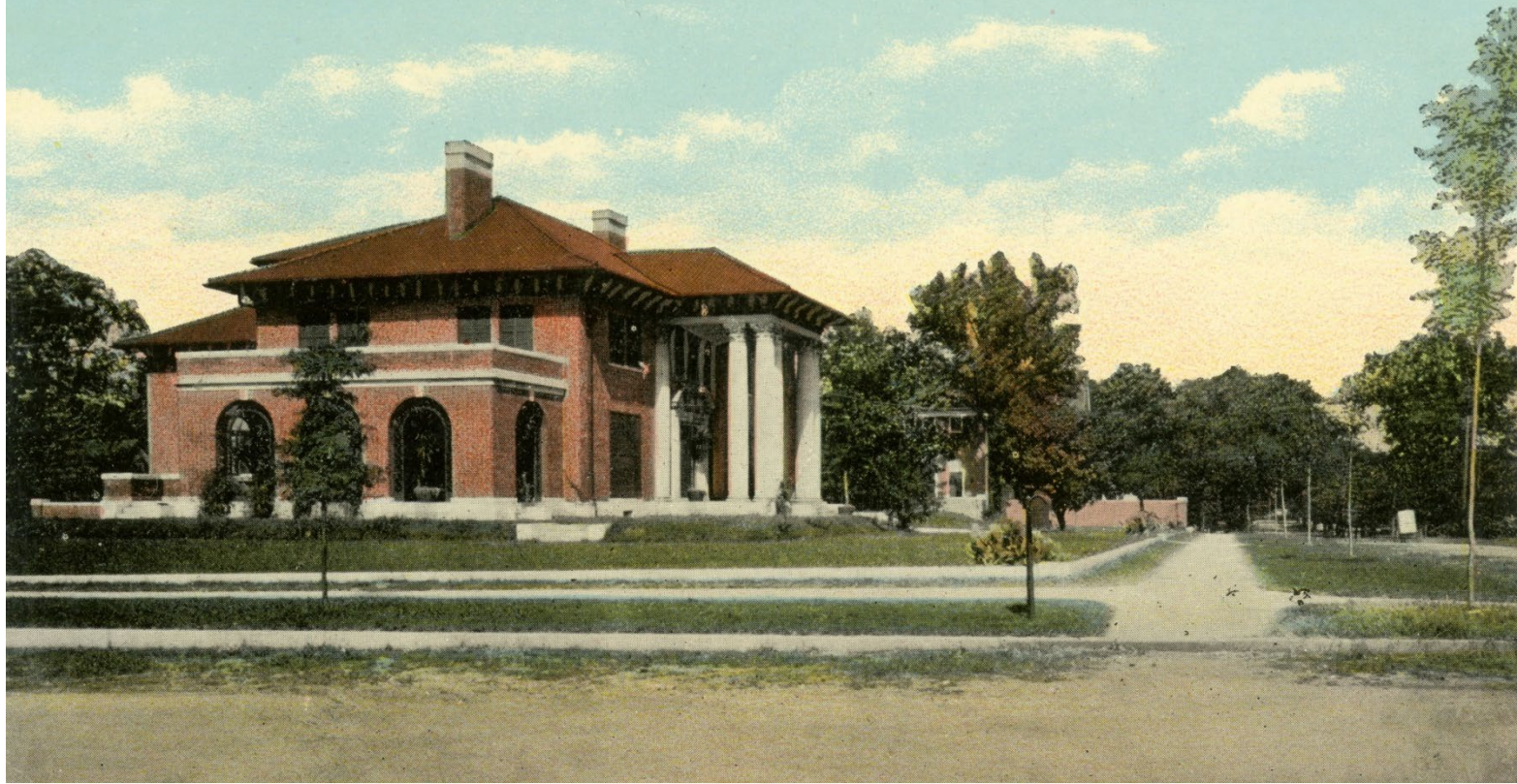
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“Residences on
Senate Street, Columbia, SC,”
[1910].

*Courtesy Midlands Postcard
Collection, Richland Library*

Fine Colonial Residence, Pendleton Street, Columbia, S. C.



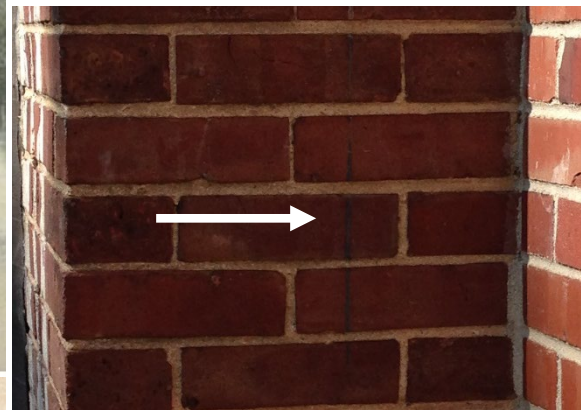
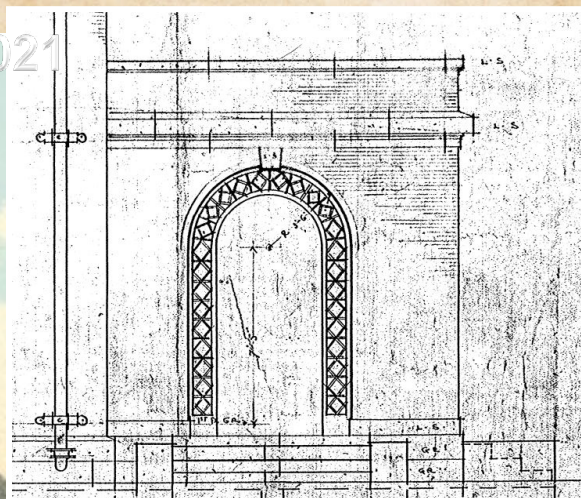
“Fine Colonial
Residence,
Pendleton
Street,
Columbia, SC”
[1911]. – NOT!

*Courtesy Midlands
Postcard
Collection,
Richland Library*

Fine Colonial Residence, Pendleton Street, Columbia, S. C.



2021



Fine Colonial Residence, Pendleton Street, Columbia, S. C.



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Fine Columbia, S. C.

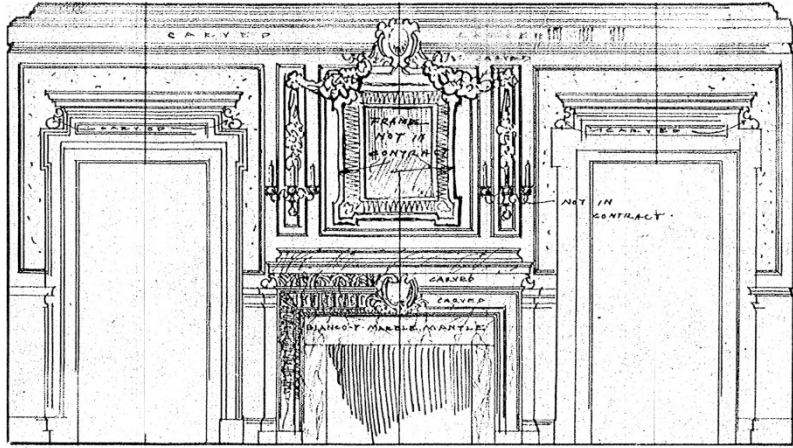
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Taylor House Stories

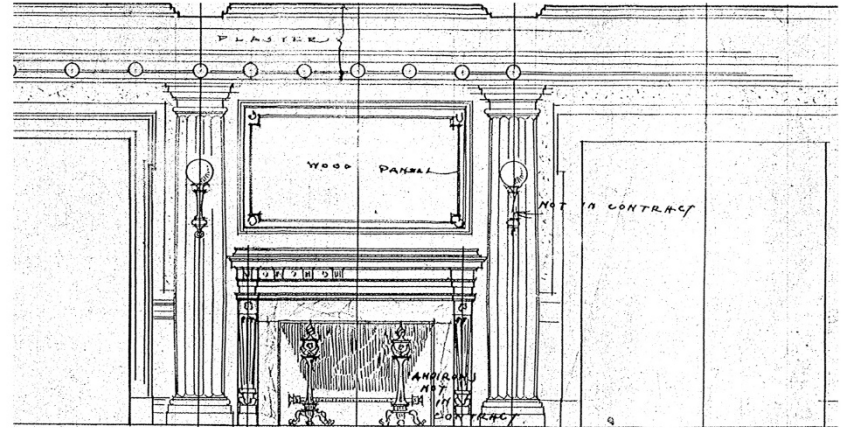


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ELEVATION OF FIRE PLACE SIDE OF LIBRARY



ELEVATION OF RECEPT HALL TOWARDS FIRE PLACE



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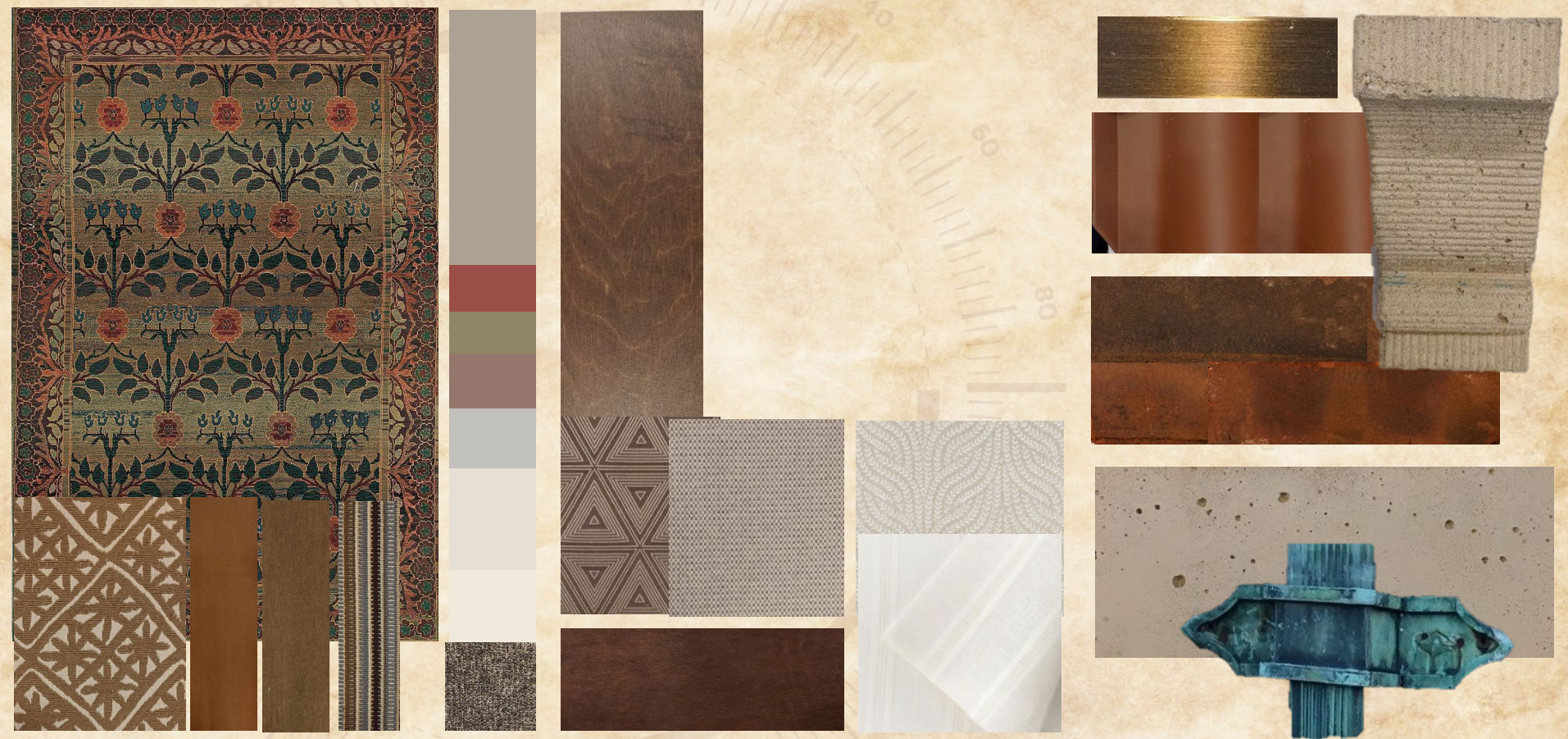


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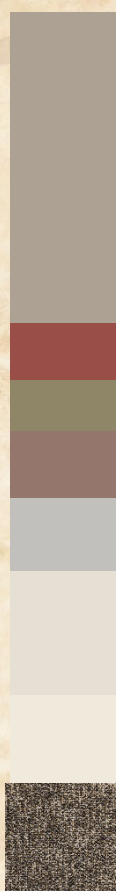


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2013



2019



2021



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2022

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MOVING OLD RESIDENCE TO MAKE ROOM FOR NEW

**Historic Old Place at the Corner of
Bull and Senate Streets Removed
a Half Mile.**

To move a house over three-fourths of a century old for nearly a half a mile is no light task, especially when that house is two stories and a half high and is constructed of the old fashioned heavy material for which contractors in those days were famous. That is the task, however, undertaken by Contractor Colson of Spartanburg, who is moving the house at the north-east corner of Bull and Senate streets down Bull street for nearly five blocks. The house is now in the middle of the street and electric light poles, telegraph poles and all other obstructions are moved to one side temporarily while the great frame building is being pushed down the street. Contractor Colson expects to have it on the lot set aside for its use in about a week.

The house is the property of Mr. Thomas Taylor, as is the lot upon which the house will soon stand. On the lot at the corner of Bull and Senate street will be erected one of the handsomest dwellings in the city. Mr. Taylor, however, did not wish to tear down this splendidly built old house and accordingly he contracted to have it moved intact and with all of the severe strain to which it has been subjected not a crack has shown in the walls.

The house was erected about 1825 and was originally one story in height, the additions being made later. It was sold in 1839 by James S. Guignard to his daughter, Frances Ann Margaret Rorry Myrant, who in turn sold it to W. M. Burr many years later. Afterwards Dr. R. W. Gibbes purchased it and he sold it to Mr. Taylor. The basements of the house were constructed almost entirely of mud and brick and the heavy timbers supporting it were rough hewn and not dressed. Attempts to saw some of the timber resulted in several saws being ruined and the timbers are as sound today as when they were first placed in position.

The State, May 5, 1906.

House moved was built by James S. Guignard for daughter, later moved next to namesake house of Gibbes Green. Demolished in 1964 for UofSC expansion.

COMMISSION GAVE NO SUCH ORDER

Did Not Condemn the Elm on
Senate Street.

WAS THE LAW THEN VIOLATED?

Prof. Andrew C. Moore, One of the
Members of the Commission,
Decries the Act.

By the special request of a gentleman who takes a deep interest in whatever concerns the welfare of the city the writer will explain why the trees were taken down in front and on the side of Mr. Taylor's new residence. The question of removing them received the most earnest and careful attention on the part of the commission, in fact being held in abeyance for several months, and after viewing the situation from every possible standpoint it was thought best for them to be removed. A few of them were in fairly good condition, but there was no possibility of their ever making fine trees, and this being the case it was deemed best for the future beauty of the street for them to be removed, making it possible thereby to put young trees in their place. In addition to this it was thought necessary to lower the sidewalk, it being very high just on that part of the street and this could not, of course, be done while the trees were standing.

The State, July 6, 1907.

“new residence” implies completion but does not confirm it.

LINKS TO LOCAL RESOURCES

South Caroliniana Digital Library:

https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_libraries/browse/digital_collections/index.php

The screenshot shows the 'DIGITAL COLLECTIONS' page of the University of South Carolina Libraries. The page features a dark header with navigation links: HOME, COLLECTIONS (with a dropdown arrow), EXHIBITS, BLOG, and BROWSE (with a dropdown arrow). Below the header is a grid of historical images. A search bar is prominently displayed in the center, with a red 'Search' button. Text below the search bar reads: 'With continuous digital preservation, our team ensures UofSC research and teaching collections are available around the globe, wherever you are.' Below this is another search bar with a red 'Search' button and the SCDL logo. At the bottom of the page, there are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, and the text 'University Libraries Special Collections'.

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LINKS TO LOCAL RESOURCES

Historic Columbia Foundation Website (other local museums, etc.):

<https://www.historiccolumbia.org>



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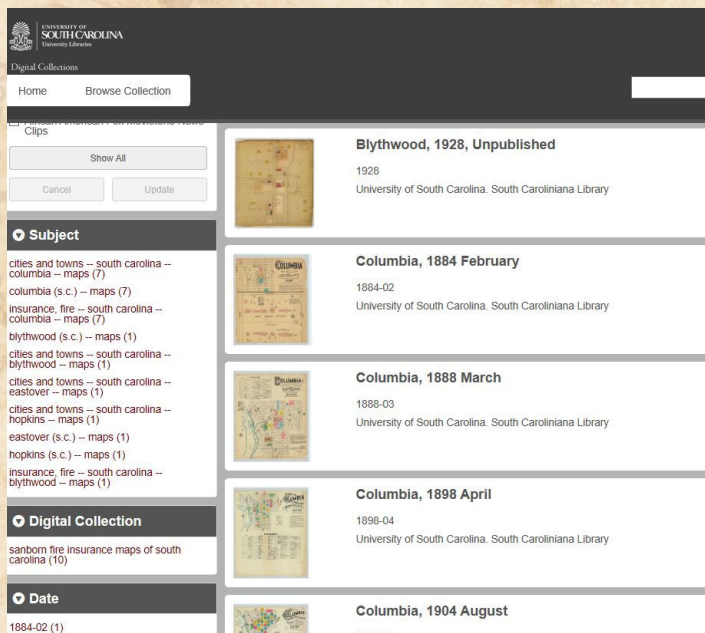
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LINKS TO LOCAL RESOURCES

Sanborn Fire Maps of South Carolina (also Library of Congress):

<https://digital.library.sc.edu/collections/sanborn-fire-insurance-maps-of-south-carolina/>



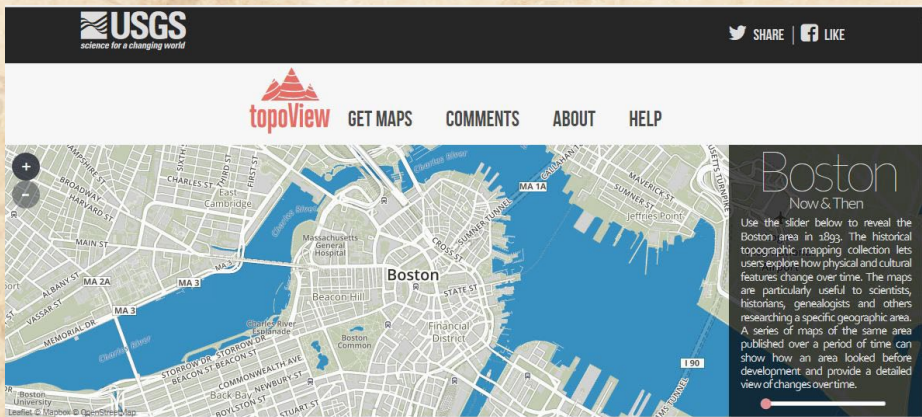
The screenshot displays the University of South Carolina Digital Collections interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home' and 'Browse Collection'. Below this, there are filters for 'Clips' (with 'Show All', 'Cancel', and 'Update' buttons) and 'Subject'. The 'Subject' filter is expanded, showing categories like 'cities and towns -- south carolina -- columbia -- maps (7)', 'insurance, fire -- south carolina -- columbia -- maps (7)', and 'sanborn fire insurance maps of south carolina (10)'. The 'Date' filter is also visible, showing '1884-02 (1)'. The main content area lists five map entries, each with a thumbnail and a title:

- Blythwood, 1928, Unpublished**
1928
University of South Carolina. South Caroliniana Library
- Columbia, 1884 February**
1884-02
University of South Carolina. South Caroliniana Library
- Columbia, 1888 March**
1888-03
University of South Carolina. South Caroliniana Library
- Columbia, 1898 April**
1898-04
University of South Carolina. South Caroliniana Library
- Columbia, 1904 August**
1904-08
University of South Carolina. South Caroliniana Library

LINKS TO LOCAL RESOURCES

US Geological Historical Maps (1884-2006):

<https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/topoview/>



The screenshot shows the USGS TopoView website. At the top is the USGS logo with the tagline 'science for a changing world' and social media icons for Twitter and Facebook. Below the logo is the 'topoView' logo and navigation links: 'GET MAPS', 'COMMENTS', 'ABOUT', and 'HELP'. The main content area features a map of Boston with a 'Boston Now & Then' slider. The slider is currently set to 'Now' (modern map) and has a text box explaining that users can use the slider to reveal the Boston area in 1893, exploring how physical and cultural features change over time. Below the map, there is a section titled 'Accessing USGS Topographic Maps Has Never Been Easier' which describes the history of USGS topographic mapping and provides links to 'View and Download maps now' and 'Learn more about the NGMDB project'.

Accessing USGS Topographic Maps Has Never Been Easier

TopoView highlights one of the USGS's most important and useful products, the **topographic map**. In 1879, the USGS began to map the Nation's topography. This mapping was done at different levels of detail, to support various land use and other purposes. As the years passed, the USGS produced new map versions of each area. TopoView shows the many and varied topographic maps of each of these areas through history. This can be particularly useful for historical purposes, such as finding the names of natural and cultural features that have changed over time.

This interface was created by the **National Geologic Map Database project** (NGMDB), in support of topographic mapping program managed by the **National Geospatial Program** (NGP). Geologic mapping and topographic mapping at the USGS have a long tradition together (see **1888 report**). The NGMDB project is proud to assist the NGP in bringing these maps to the Web.

Packed With New Features And Downloadable File Formats

[View and Download maps now](#)

[Learn more about the NGMDB project](#)

Uncovering the Past



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LINKS TO LOCAL RESOURCES

Richland Library Walker History Center (local library):

<https://www.richlandlibrary.com/local-history>



The screenshot shows the Richland Library website interface. At the top left is the Richland Library logo with the tagline "access freely." To the right is a search bar with a dropdown menu for "Collection" and a search icon. Further right are links for "LOG IN / SIGN UP". Below the search bar are three columns of navigation links: "Events" and "Research & Learn" on the left; "Books, Movies & Music" and "Services" in the middle; and "Locations" and "Ask Us" on the right. The main content area features a large image of a hand holding a historical photograph of two men in suits. Below the image is the text "Walker Local and Family History Center". At the bottom, there is a contact and hours section.

RICHLAND LIBRARY
access freely.®

Collection Search the Collection  LOG IN / SIGN UP

Events Books, Movies & Music Locations
Research & Learn Services Ask Us

Walker Local and Family History Center

Contact us: 1431 Assembly St.
Columbia, SC 29201
First Level

Hours

Today's Hours: 9:00 am-6:00 pm
Sun: 2:00 pm-6:00 pm
Mon-Thu: 9:00 am-7:00 pm
Fri-Sat: 9:00 am-6:00 pm

Features

Collection Highlights:

Genealogical and Historical Research Collection
Columbia City Directories
Genealogy Databases
Family Search Affiliate
Local Newspapers and Magazines
[Local History & Obituary Index](#)
[Request an Obituary](#)

Digital Collections:

The State Newspaper Photograph Archive
Russell Maxey Photograph Collection
Yearbooks of Columbia Area Schools
Postcards of the Midlands
Maps of Columbia and Richland County
Oral Histories from Richland Library
Midlands Memoires
[View All](#)

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