



# Studying the State's Historic Built Environment: Resources of the South Carolina Historical Society

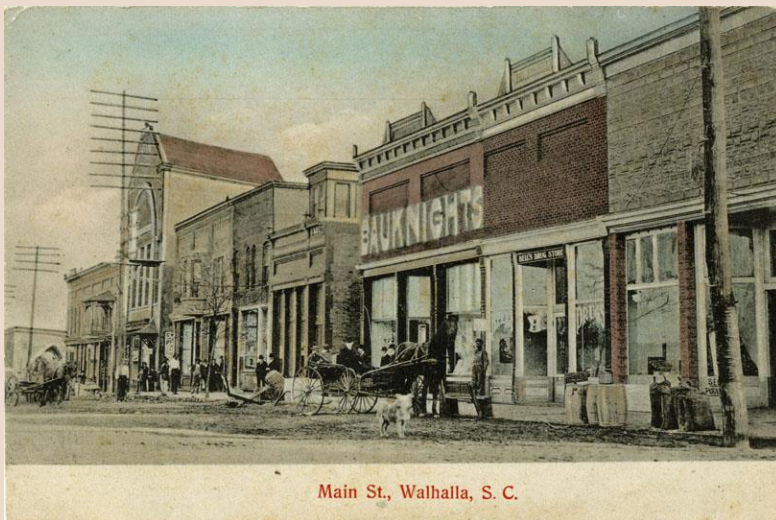
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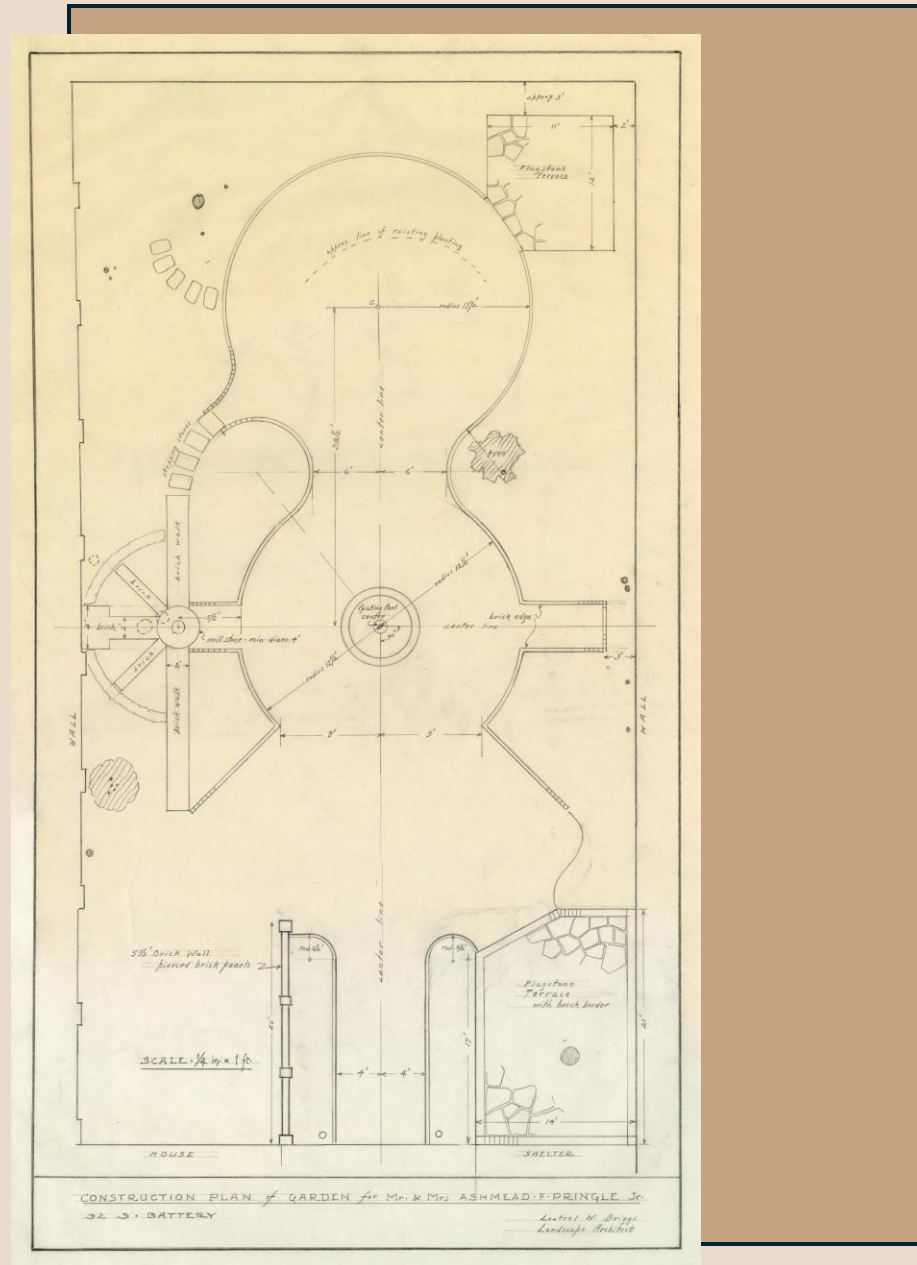


# Today's Agenda

- What is the SCHS
- What we collect
- How to research and access collections
- Collections for property research
- Collection highlights
- Digitization projects



Main St., Walhalla, S. C.



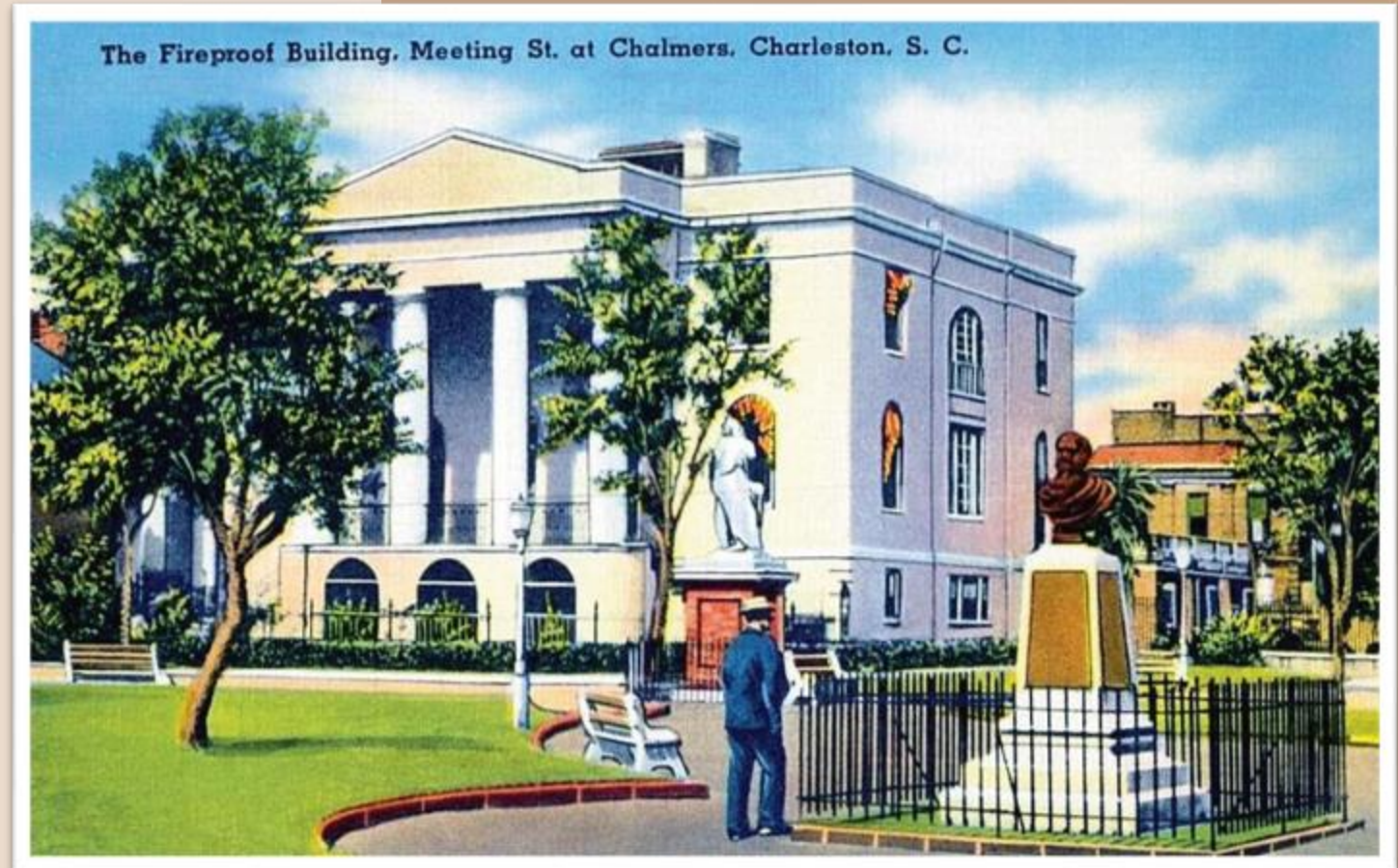
Drawing of 32 S. Battery, Charleston, SC, from the Loutrel Briggs Landscape Designs collection, SCHS # 42-300

The South Carolina Historical Society, established in 1855, is the state's oldest historical society, dedicated to preserving and promoting the history of South Carolina.

With over 350 years of state history encapsulated in its vast collection of manuscripts, rare books, maps, and artifacts, the Society offers an unparalleled glimpse into the cultural, political, and social history of the region.

Over the decades, the South Carolina Historical Society has expanded its mission beyond preservation, actively engaging the public through educational programs, exhibitions, and publications.

# SCHS HISTORY







## ARCHIVES

The South Carolina Historical Society Archive, located in the Reading Room on the third floor of the College of Charleston's Addlestone Library, houses a diverse collection of materials that document the state's history. The archive includes manuscripts, letters, journals, maps, drawings, photographs, and artifacts, each shedding light on the people, places, and events that have shaped the history of the state and nation.

The SCHS publishes material from the collections and related to the collections in our South Carolina Historical Magazine and the Carologue.



## MUSEUM

The South Carolina Historical Society Museum, located in the Historic Fireproof Building in downtown Charleston, showcases the state's history through engaging exhibits and artifacts.

The museum features a variety of displays, including items related to South Carolina's colonial past, the American Revolution, the Charleston Renaissance, and beyond. Visitors can explore the stories of the people, places, and events that have shaped the state, offering a deeper understanding of South Carolina culture and its historical significance.

# "THESE WALLS TALK"

## FIREPROOF BUILDING ARCHITECTURAL TOUR



FRIDAYS AT 2PM

100 MEETING STREET



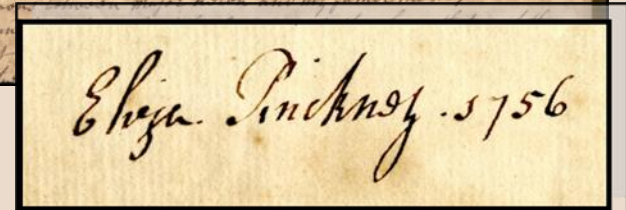
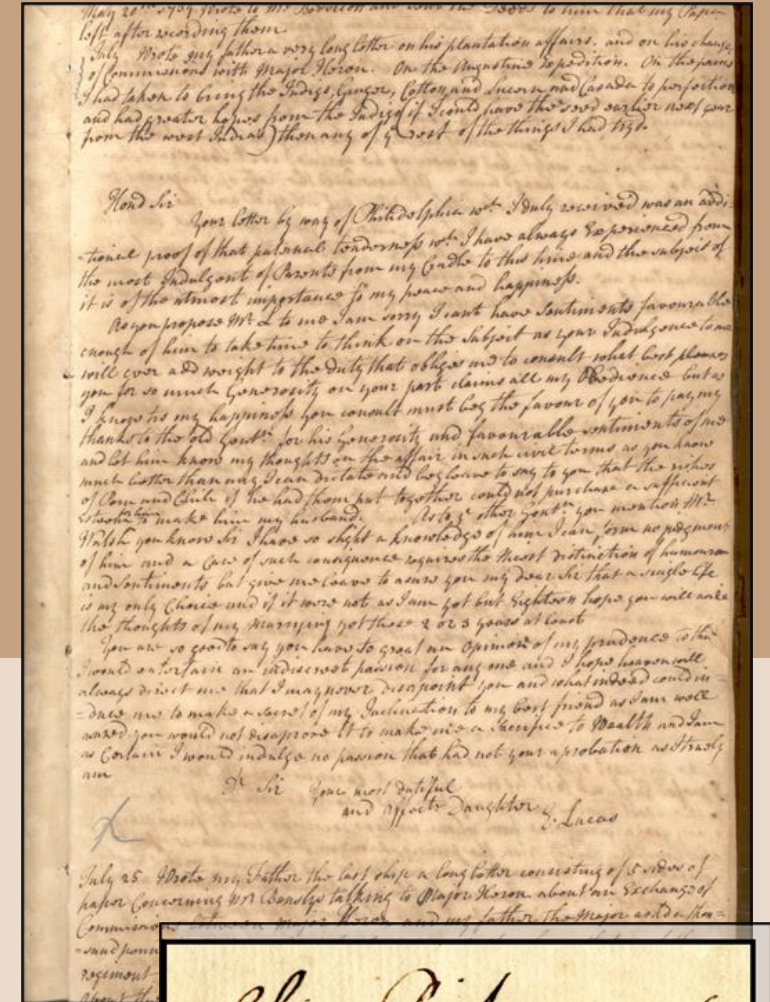
Join SCHS's Education Coordinator,  
Melina Testin, on **Friday**  
**afternoons at 2pm** for a special 45-  
minute guided tour of the historic  
Fireproof Building!

Tickets for this tour are \$5/person  
and are available for purchase in-  
person. Check in at the museum desk;  
the tour will begin promptly at 2pm  
from the front courtyard.



# What is in the archive?

- c. 3,500 manuscript collections, or 2+ million documents
- c. 18,000 maps, plats, architectural drawings, etc.
- c. 90,000 published materials
- c. 50,000 items in visual materials
- c. 6,500 vertical files
- assorted artifacts



# How do we preserve the items in our archive?



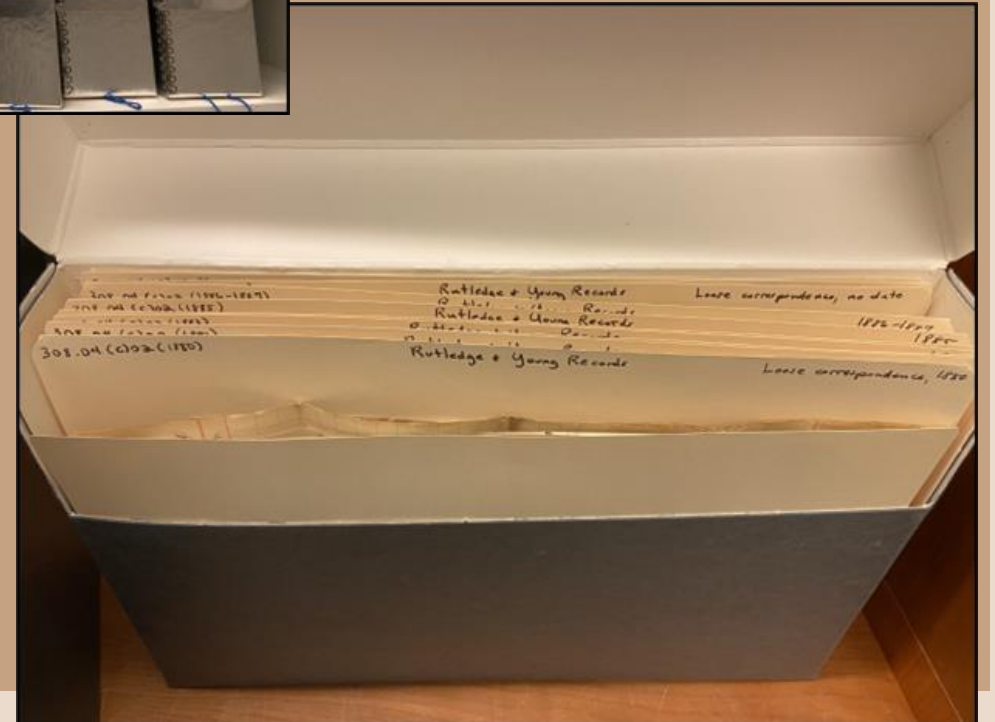
Processing  
n. preparing archival materials  
for use

Cataloging  
v. The process of providing  
access to materials by creating  
formal descriptions to represent  
the materials and then  
organizing those descriptions  
through headings that will  
connect user queries with  
relevant materials.

The process of providing such  
access, plus additional work to  
prepare the materials for use,  
such as labeling, marking, and  
maintenance of authority files.  
([dictionary.archivists.org](http://dictionary.archivists.org))



# How do we preserve the items in our archive?



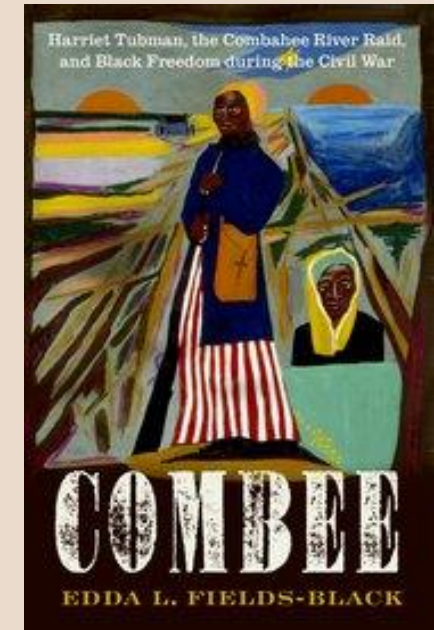
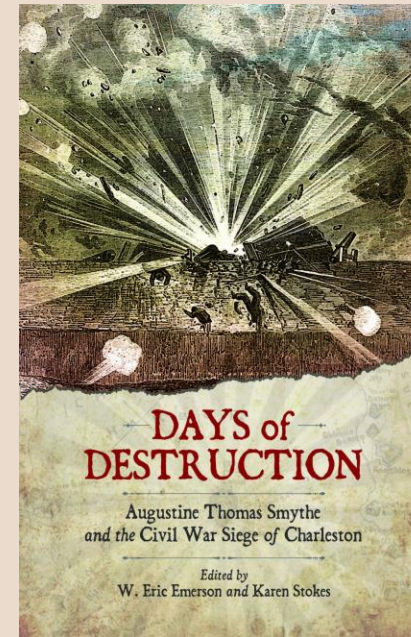
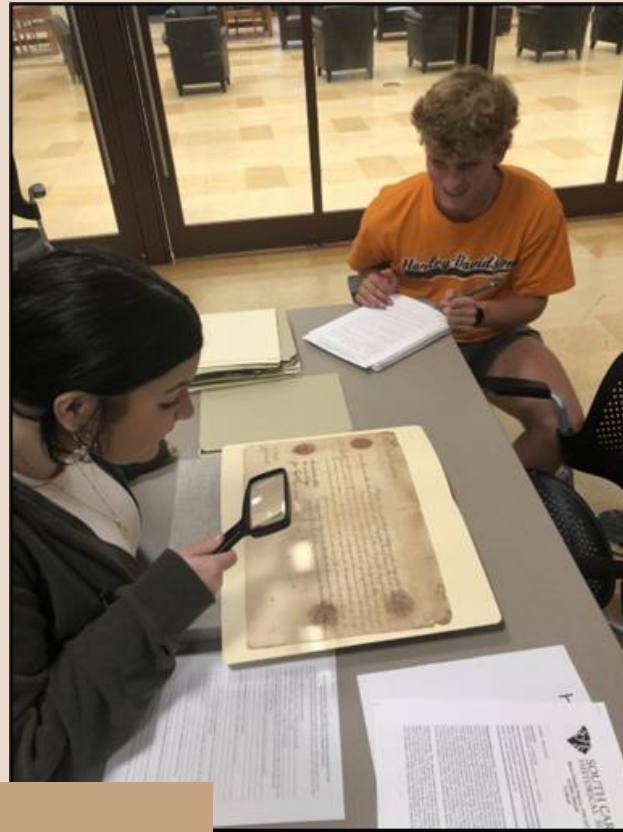
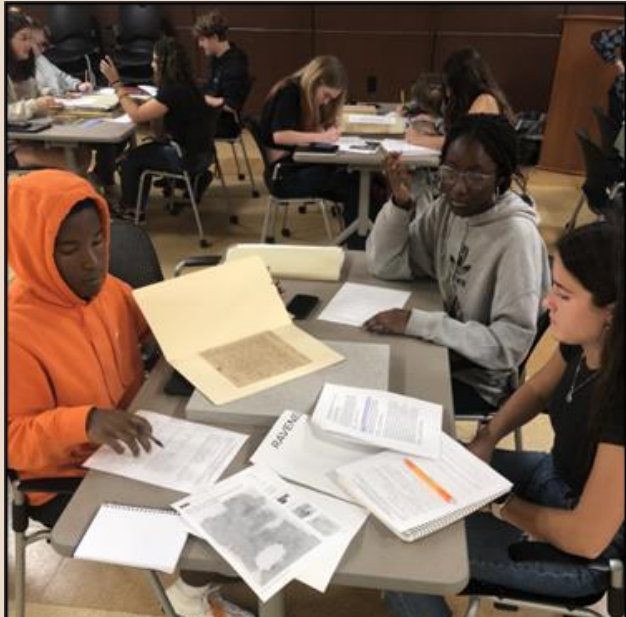


# How do we preserve the items in our archive?



## Facilities:

- Climate-controlled
- Secure
- Disaster Plan
- Clean
- Organized



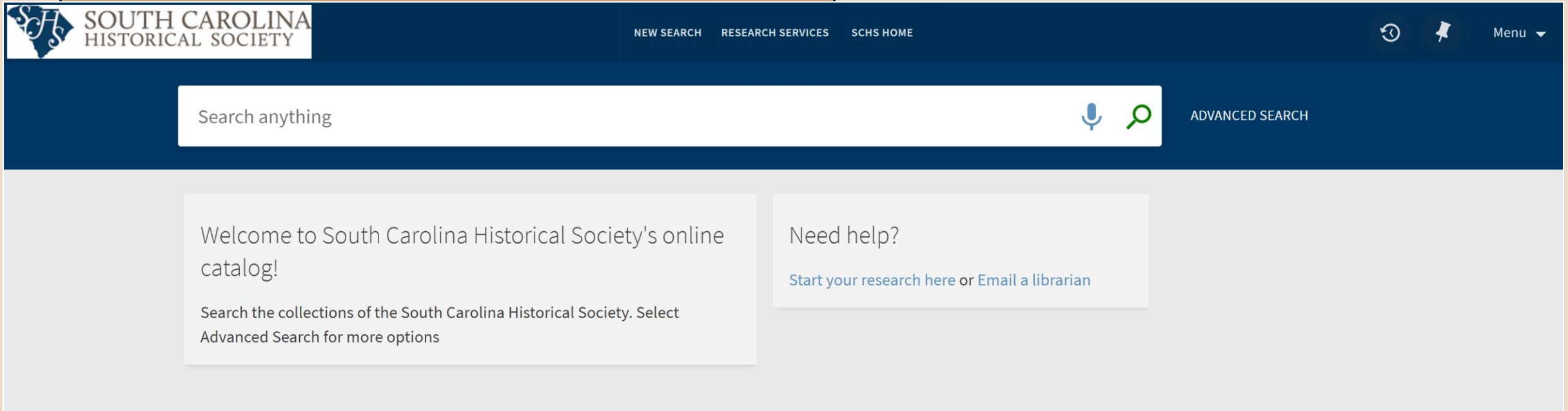
# Who visits the archives?

- Historians
- Genealogists
- Lawyers
- Architects & Designers
- Businesses
- Students
- Journalists, authors, film makers.





# How do researchers search SCHS collections?



The screenshot shows the homepage of the South Carolina Historical Society's online catalog. The header is dark blue with the SCHS logo and name on the left, and navigation links for 'NEW SEARCH', 'RESEARCH SERVICES', and 'SCHS HOME' in the center. On the right of the header are icons for a refresh button, a pushpin, and a 'Menu' dropdown. Below the header is a large white search bar with the placeholder text 'Search anything'. To the right of the search bar are a microphone icon and a magnifying glass icon. Further right is a link to 'ADVANCED SEARCH'. Below the search bar, there are two white boxes on a light gray background. The left box contains the text 'Welcome to South Carolina Historical Society's online catalog!' followed by 'Search the collections of the South Carolina Historical Society. Select Advanced Search for more options'. The right box contains the text 'Need help?' followed by a link 'Start your research here or Email a librarian'.

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

NEW SEARCH RESEARCH SERVICES SCHS HOME

Menu ▾

Search anything

ADVANCED SEARCH

Welcome to South Carolina Historical Society's online catalog!

Search the collections of the South Carolina Historical Society. Select Advanced Search for more options

Need help?

[Start your research here](#) or [Email a librarian](#)

<https://schistory.org/archives/start-research/>  
Finding aids for manuscript collections linked in online catalog record

# How do researchers search SCHS collections?

Research Guides are intended to help you get started doing research on a particular topic. Start with a selection of frequently requested subjects.

[Research Guide: Selected Genealogical Resources at the South Carolina Historical Society](#)

[Research Guide: Resources on South Carolina in the American Revolution](#)

[Research Guide: African American History](#)

[Research Guide: Native American Resources](#)

[Research Guide: Historic Preservation and Properties](#)

[Research Guide: LGBTQ History](#)

[Research Guide: South Carolina Women](#)

[Exploring Family History](#): A series of *Carologue* articles on genealogical research by Patricia Kruger



## Lucas family papers, 1780-1915 SCHS 447.00

**Creator:** Lucas family.

**Description:** 1.75 linear ft.

**Scope and content:** This collection chiefly relating to Jonathan Lucas (1754-1821), correspondence, business, financial, property. Principal persons represented include Jonathan Lucas (1789-1878), and William's sons Robert (1838-1914). Correspondents include Charles Lucas (1847-1916), William Washington (1802-1874), and Lizzie Doar (Mrs. Alexander Doar). The collection includes the Wedge Plantation and Harrietta Plantation, where he moved in the 1880s. Some of the 1880s pertains to Lucas family history and includes letters he wrote during Confederate service as an officer on the staff of General Sherman.

**Preferred citation:** Lucas family. Lucas family papers, 1780-1915. South Carolina Historical Society.

### Search terms:

Baring, Charles, 1774-1865.  
Cordes, Anna Camilla, 1802-1878.  
Lucas, Alexander Hume, 1838-1914.  
Lucas, Elizabeth Ann Doar, 1842-1916.  
Lucas, Jonathan, 1754-1821.  
Lucas, Jonathan, 1775-1832.  
Lucas, Robert Hume, 1825-1915.  
Lucas, William, 1789-1878.  
Trapier, James Heyward, 1813-1878.  
Weston, Plowden, 1739-1827.  
Doar family.  
Lucas family.  
Confederate States of America.  
Mills and mill-work -- South Carolina.

Rice -- South Carolina -- Milling.  
Slaves -- South Carolina.  
Harrietta Plantation (Charleston County, S.C.)  
Wedge Plantation (St. James Santee Parish, S.C.)

### Container list:

**Note:** This collection was originally organized in ten ring binders. It has been removed from the binders, but kept in original order, and the pages (sheets) have been numbered consecutively. Any original documents were removed and placed in separate folders.

### BOX 1

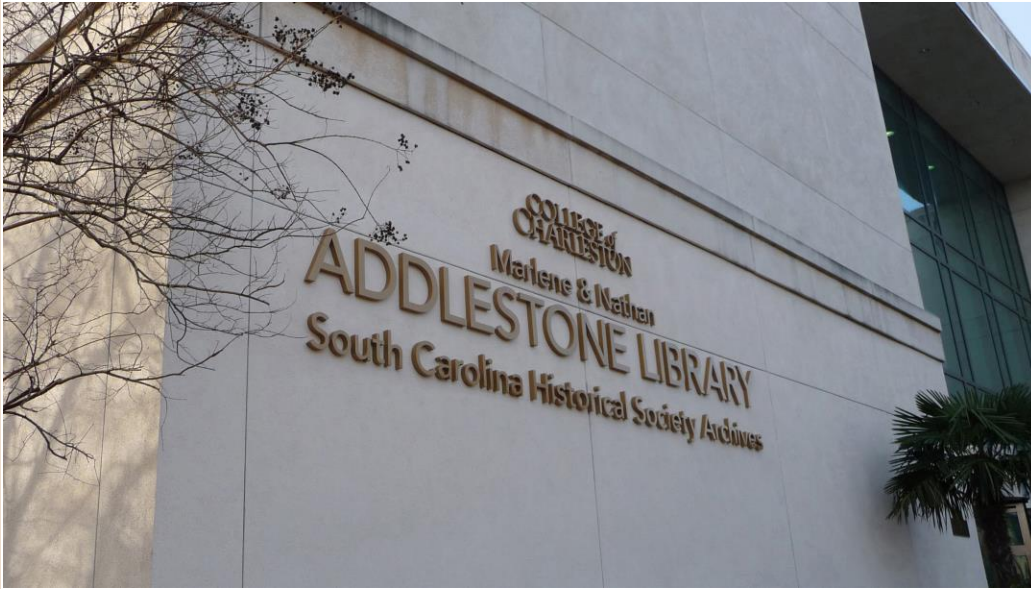
(Box/Folder)

- 1/1 Mostly copies of documents dating from the 1780s to 1821. Includes correspondence of Jonathan Lucas, Sr. with rice planters concerning rice mills and equipment.
- 1/2 Documents dating 1802-1821. Includes a patent on Jonathan Lucas, Sr.'s "machine for cleaning rice" (1808), slave records, and letters of Charles Baring.
- 1/3 Some documents dating 1820-1821, but mostly correspondence of Robert H. Lucas (1825-1915) writing from California in 1892.
- 1/4 Correspondence of Robert Hume Lucas, 1892-1894. Correspondence concerns his financial struggles, his wife's health problems, family matters, property in South Carolina, etc.
- 1/4a Two manuscript letters removed from 1/4.
- 1/5 Mostly correspondence of Robert H. Lucas, 1892-1899, writing from San Rafael and San Francisco. Also some papers of Alexander H. Lucas (1838-1914) and Thomas Grange Simons Lucas (1847-1916).
- 1/6 Papers of Thomas G. S. Lucas, 1899-1915; some undated items; and correspondence, 1902-1903, of Alexander Hume Lucas (Oley, or Olie), Robert Hume Lucas, and members of the Doar family of Harrietta Plantation.
- 1/6a Original documents removed from 1/6.
- 1/7 Papers and correspondence of Jonathan Lucas, Sr., 1792-1821. Correspondents include Plowden Weston, John Hume, and Gen. William Washington. Also included are slave records and papers of William Lucas (1789-1878).
- 1/8 Mostly papers and correspondence of William Lucas (1789-1878) dating 1821-1831.

### BOX 2

- 2/1 Papers and correspondence of William Lucas, continued, dating 1830-1857.
- 2/2 Papers and correspondence of William Lucas, continued, dating 1823-1828.
- 2/3 Papers and correspondence of William Lucas, continued, dating 1825-1828. Includes a bill of sale, 1828, for a slave named Diana and her child, sold by Harriott Horry to William Lucas, with an accompanying note by Frederick Rutledge stating that Diana "has permission to choose a master."
- 2/3a Original mss removed from 2/3 and 2/4. Includes slave bill of sale, 1828.
- 2/4 Papers and correspondence of William Lucas, continued, dating 1828-1831.
- 2/5 Papers and correspondence of William Lucas, continued, dating 1831-1853.
- 2/6 Mostly papers and correspondence of William Lucas, 1853-1860s.





# Using the Archives

- Visiting us in person:
  - Monday-Friday, 9am-12pm and 1pm-4pm
  - No appointment needed
  - Search through catalog, fill out call slips to request items to view

- Research Services: For a pre-paid fee, a skilled staff researcher will investigate your research request using sources available in our library and archival collections. There are two types of research services available at the South Carolina Historical Society: general and genealogical.
- Visual Materials: The SCHS holds tens of thousands of images documenting a wide variety of people, places, and activities in South Carolina history. We offer copies of many of these images for a fee.
- Reproduction Services: We are glad to reproduce items for your research use if you are unable to make it to visit the South Carolina Historical Society. We offer photocopies and low-resolution scans. Please keep in mind that we can only reproduce 25% of each manuscript collection, but there are no limits on the reproduction of published materials such as books, pamphlets, and maps. Orders may take up to six weeks to complete.

- Virtual Services:
  - Can request through our website – research and reproductions



## Basics of Archival Care

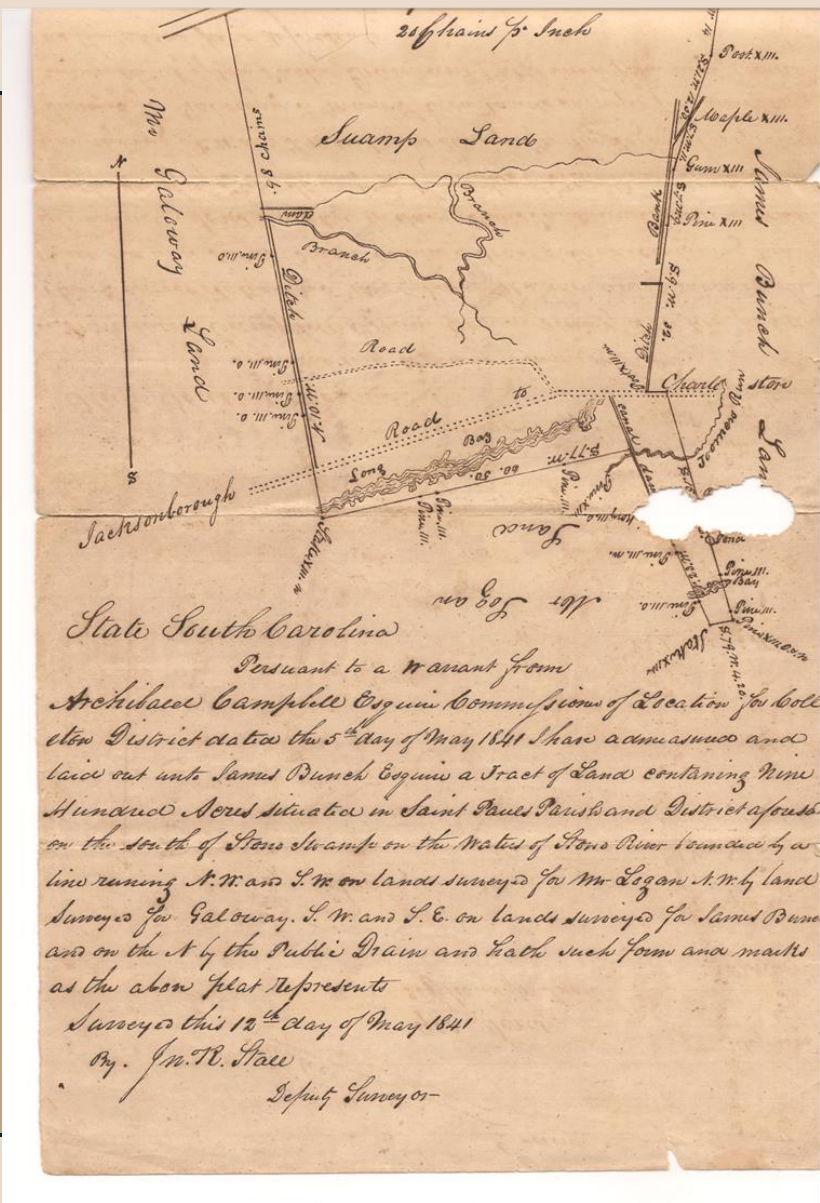
- **Pencils only**
- **Do not lean on materials**
- **Wash your hands first**
- **Please ask us if you are concerned about an item.**
- **No food or drink.**
- **Take one folder at a time to research area.**
- **Treat the item with respect. It may be one-of-a-kind!**



## Helpful Sources for Property Research at the SCHS



- Architectural vertical files
- Plats
- Architectural drawings
- City directories
- Title abstracts



- Search for individually cataloged plats in catalog using street names or other geographic names (rivers, parish location, etc.)

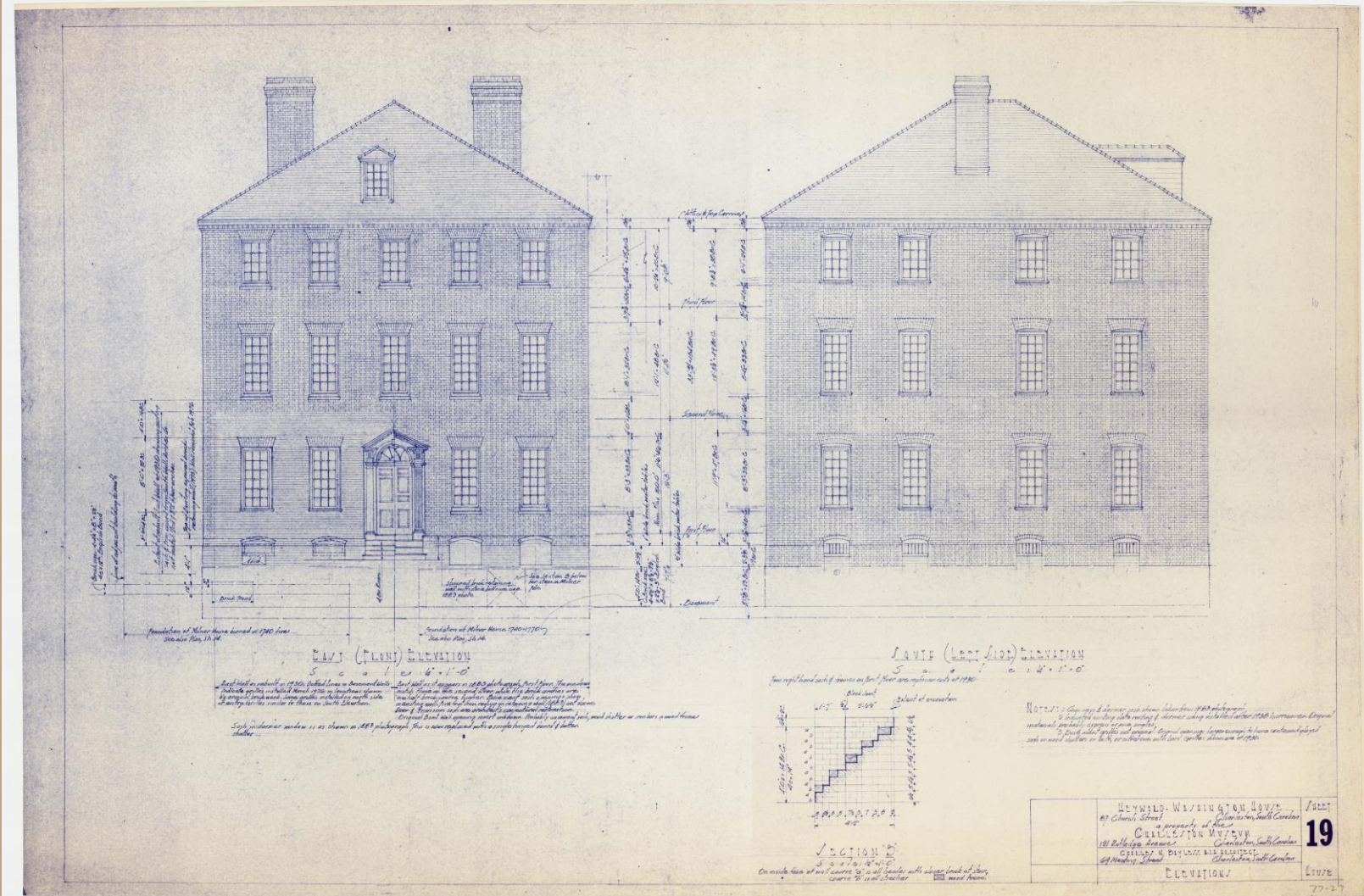
- Joseph D. Taylor papers
- McCrady Plat collection
- Gaillard Plat collection
- Westvaco plat collection
- Henry A.M. Smith Collection

900 acres - “laid out unto James Bunch in St. Paul’s Parish,  
south side of Stono Swamp, 1841”



# Architectural Drawings

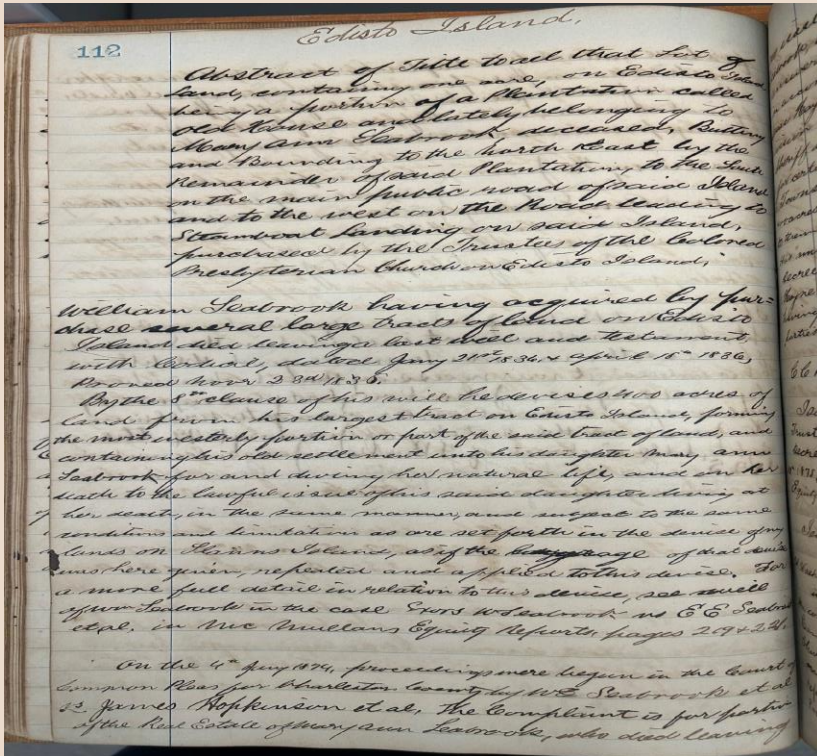
- Simons and Lapham Architects Records
- Loutrell Briggs Landscape Designs
- Glenn Keyes Architects Records
- Dargan Landscape Architects Records
- A.E. Constantine papers





# Title Abstracts

- Mitchell & Smith property records
- Buist, Moore, Smythe, and McGee title abstract and plat books
- Simons, Siegling, & Cappelman



Buist, Moore, Smythe, and McGee title abstract and plat books, ca. 1854-1960

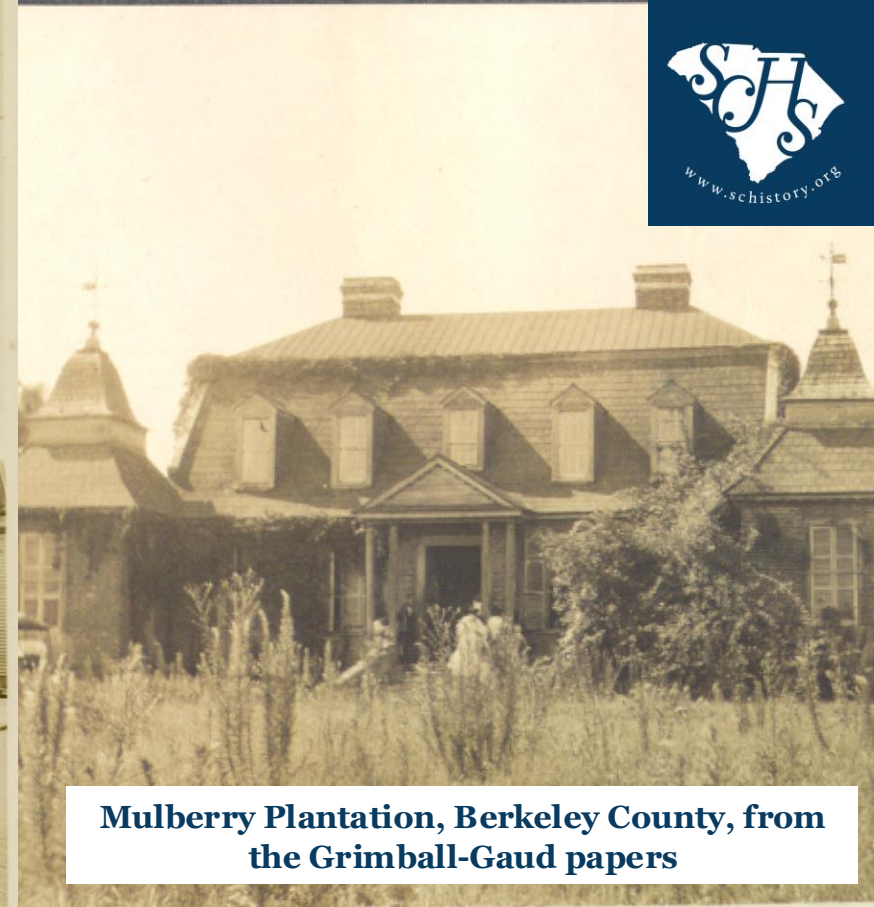
“Abstract of title to all that lot of land, containing one acre, on Edisto Island, being a portion of a plantation called Old House and lately belonging to Mary Ann Seabrook...conveys to William Washington Campbell and others, Trustees of the Colored Presbyterian Church, the property described at the beginning on this abstract, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of February 1877...”





247 Rutledge Ave, 1930, from the Thomas P. Stoney Papers

## Visual Materials



**Mulberry Plantation, Berkeley County, from the Grimball-Gaud papers**



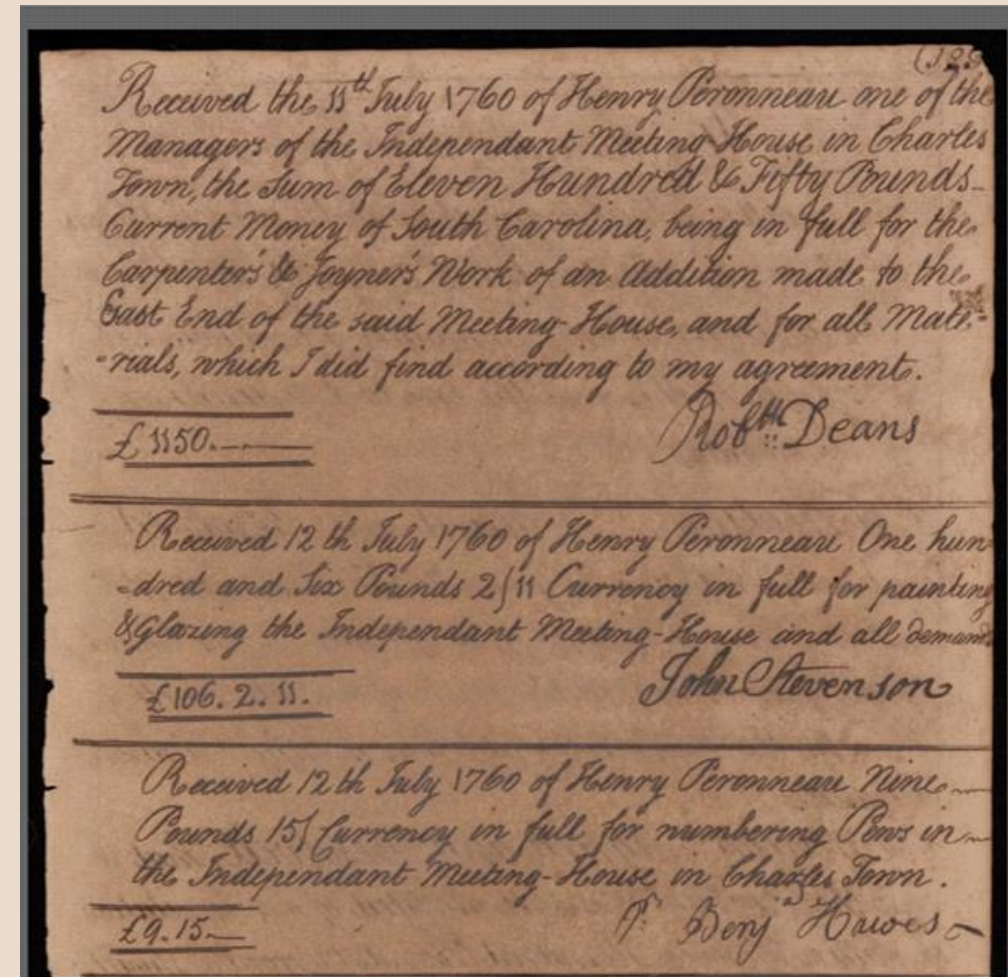
**Somerset Plantation, Berkeley County, from**



# Manuscript Collections

- Papers of families, individuals, organizations who owned the property (may contain renovation plans, inventories of furnishings, photographs, deeds and titles, etc.)
- Records of law firms handling estates
  - Simons & Simons records
  - Michell & Smith records

Image of Archdale Hall after 1886 Earthquake, found in the Baker Family papers, SCHS # 1138.00



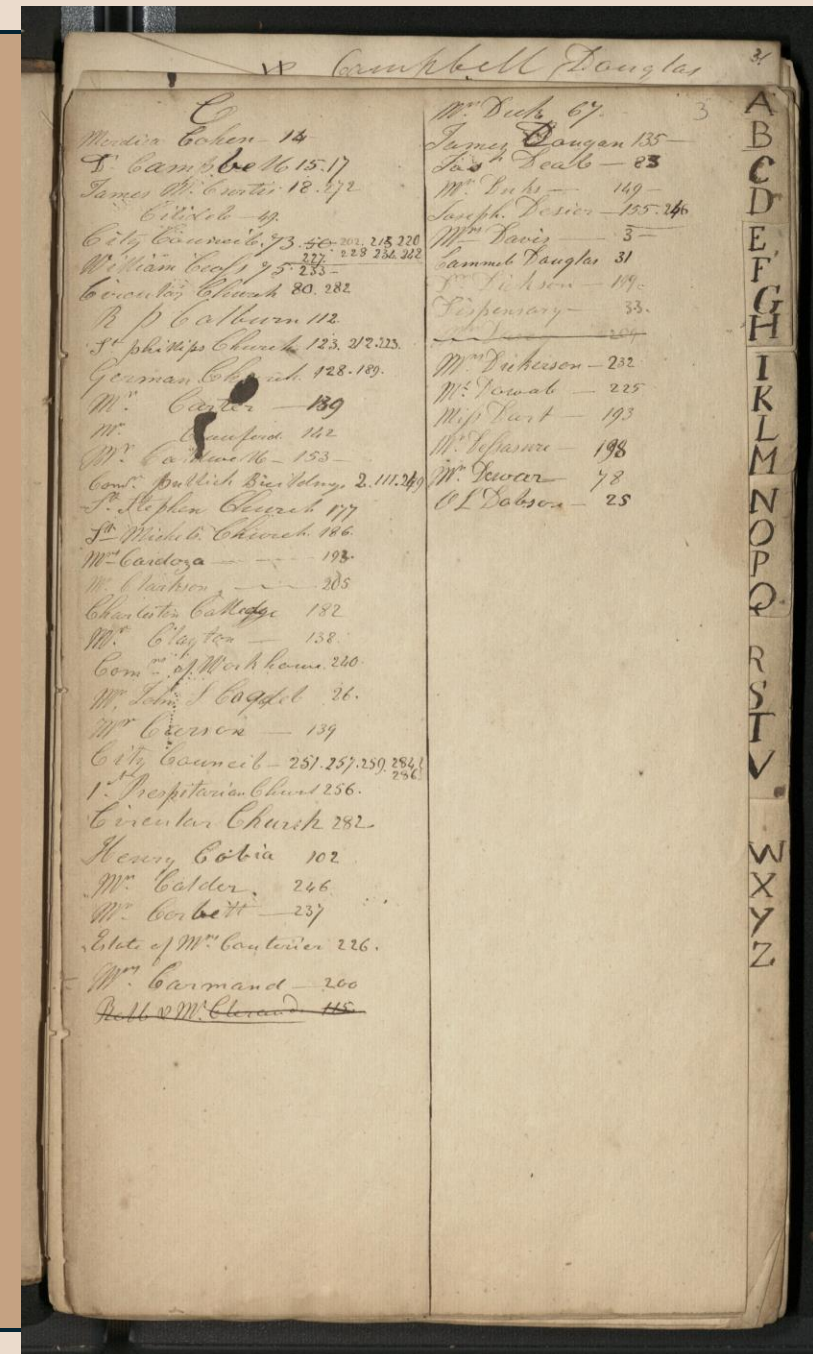
July 1760 church register entry related to expansion of Congregational Church in Charleston, from the Circular Congregational Church records, SCHS # 1302.00



# Horlbeck Brothers records (SCHS 179.00)

Included in these records are day books and other volumes which list chronologically the work done for private, commercial, municipal, religious and institutional clients, noting client's name and/or street address, type of remodeling, repair or construction done, and number of workers (enslaved and freed men and women) and types of materials used

The original members of this Charleston (S.C.) building and architectural business were John Horlbeck, Jr. (1771-1846) and Henry Horlbeck (1776-1837), but subsequent members of the firm often cited as "H. Horlbeck and Brothers" included Henry (1800-1872), Daniel, Edward (1809-1893), and John Horlbeck (1817-1892).



# Manigault Family papers (SCHS 1068.00)



Undated image of the dining room in the Joseph Manigault House, from the Manigault Family papers, SCHS #1068.00.

**11/278B/1-6 Manigault house, ca. 1920-1971**  
**Papers, 1920-1971. Approx 150 items**

Charleston museum house built by Gabriel Manigault for his brother Joseph in 1803. Correspondence, writings, notes, photographs, and clippings regarding efforts of Mrs. Ernest (Nellie) Pringle, Susan P. Frost, D. Huger Bacot, and others to preserve the Meeting St. House that was acquired by the Charleston Museum (1933).



# William Henry Johnson scrapbooks, 1920-1933 (SCHS 34/293-295)

3 volumes contain photos and descriptive notes on cemeteries, churches, plantations, historic buildings, ruins, landscapes, and the interiors of buildings.



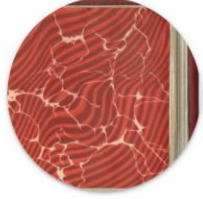
*The circular (Hall) Stairs in "Sea Cloud" on Edisto Is*



*Interior of peculiar brick building probably connected with the silk worm industry*



Authorized June 6, 1775, the Second South Carolina Regiment organized at Charleston, South Carolina during the summer of 1775. The Regiment consisted of ten companies from eastern South Carolina. Adopted into the Continental Army in November 1775, the Regiment was assigned to the Southern Department in February 1776. The Regiment was assigned to the 2nd [ ]



The 2nd South Carolina Regiment Paybook, 1775, is a bound volume that was kept for the 2nd South Carolina Regiment. The paybook primarily consists of receipts that recorded the wages paid to the regiment's officers. The paybook was kept by the regiment's paymaster, Thomas Evance, from July to October of 1775, and most of the [.]



The 2nd South Carolina Regiment Records Book, 1778-1779, is a bound volume written for the 2nd South Carolina Regiment of the Continental Army. The volume consists of four pages (with writing on the insides of the front and back covers) and contains "Roll of Non Commissioned Officers, and Soldiers in Capt. Blake's Company 8th March [.]



**Account Books of**  
The Account Books of B  
Perry for John Allen Mile

Plat from Mouzon Plat Book,  
SCHS #34/0177



# Listening to Silences

Title:

Letter from Hyde Park Plantation Overseer Jesse Coward to John Ball, October 11, 1833

Description:

A letter from Hyde Park plantation overseer Jesse Coward to John Ball in Charleston discussing the corn crop, the mill pond, sickness on the plantation, the enslaved man August under Dr. Edward's care who believes August is suffering from consumption, the enslaved women and children gathering peas, and Lucy confined for giving birth to a boy.

Subject (Topical):

Slave records  
Tuberculosis  
Plantations--South Carolina  
Slavery--South Carolina  
Physicians  
Letters  
Corn  
Ponds  
Crops  
Plantation overseers  
Birth  
Sick  
Letter writing  
Enslaved women  
Enslaved persons  
Enslaved children

Hyd. Park Oct 11<sup>th</sup> 1833

Mr Ball

Sir your letter by Sepia has been duly recd with the article mentioned for plantations sup-- the corn crop is <sup>as far as</sup> through 64 ocar cant food, as the Colanien in in it mill pond I think we had better hoe off the stubble this year and let the ducks have it through the winter and so turn it in the spring - I have had more sick up this week on the plantation than has been this year. (from into pain in the head and I am all over there yesterday winter 6 & 8 p.m. hand was sick in the house) I have had to put August under Dr Edwards he has been some time spitting blood and when given any thing to check it it would stop for 2 or 3 days and he then would throw it up in quantity the Dr thinks it consumption and that he will hardly recover - I have been picking

Letter from plantation overseer, 1833, Ball Family papers SCHS #1134.00

49

Sam Sauter born on North Santee. All my people been here till my ole Boss dead Ole Colonel Wm Dubose. I kin tell you de spot I born <sup>in</sup> de plantation of Ole Colonel Dubose place. Blueford. After de death of the ole man Mr. Beecher State Society for four years de plantation was broke up. Deu all de Porcher come together and share de sugars. Ole Mrs. Tom Porcher is de propriety of the hole place. (propos)

Mass Sam Dubose, he become de second Boss on Blueford Plantation. dey was friends dey had so much family to share de colored people. Mrs. Louisa Gaillard had a share on Blueford Plantation too. and dey <sup>the negroes</sup> all in divide up among the family. Miss Jane Dubose, had a share among de sugars. Jas Stoney Porcher, he had a share in here too. Mrs. Anna Maria Stoney she had a share. Had no sugars. Mrs. Betsey Robert is de youngest girl. I kin, belongs to her and my mother Esther. Mrs. Betsey Roberts was the most blessed woman dat ever born. I had leave deu after de death of her.

After my mistress dead, Mr. Roberts been treat me rough. He was a preacher too I walk off an leave him. I leave him three years before the war started and aint been back since. He died now. I been a nurse for deu childen James Mattie when I leave. But de whole breed of de Stoney. I know every one. Mrs. Anna Maria Stoney is de mother of every one. I kin call every one by name. Dey grow up since I left. I come down over dis end of the country and do nothing, Travelin' boat. (as you know) Jas Stoney is de eldest of Miss Anna Maria children. As for as I kin remember, I was freekey on North Santee

Recollection from formerly enslaved person, recorded by Leonarda Aimar in 1926, Agatha Aimar Simmons papers, SCHS #1284.00

"Stories Collected from Slaves" by Leonarda J. Aimar, Page 50

Description:

A recollection of growing up as an enslaved person by a former enslaved man named Sam. The account includes that he was born on Blueford Plantation, the death of his master Colonel William Dubose, and how enslaved people became property of the state until the Porcher family bought the slaves. He ends the account writing that him and his mother Esther were bought by Miss Betsey Roberts, the "most blessed woman." Following her death, his new master Mr. Roberts treated him roughly, so Sam ran away and became a nurse for the Stoney family.

Subject (Topical):

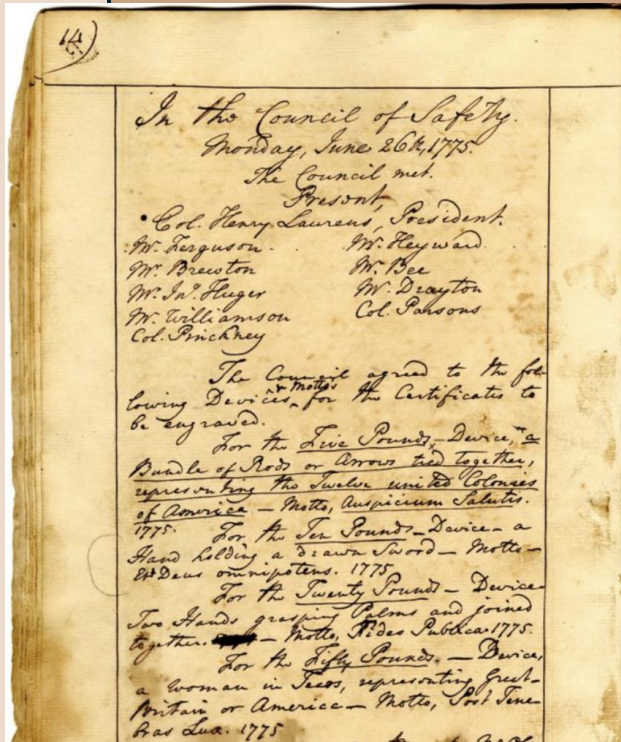
Slavery  
Slaveholders  
Accounts  
Fugitive slaves  
Death  
Plantations  
Memory  
Freed persons--United States  
Enslaved persons

Admin ID:

26g666



# Digitizing the Revolution



Above: Council of Safety Journal, Henry Laurens papers, SCHS #037/28  
Right: Safe Conduct Pass for Mrs. Horry, SCHS #43/0910

Title:

Page 20

Description:

Meeting minutes from a meeting of the SC Council of Safety. They list attendees and discuss designs and mottos for currency, including five pound certificates, ten pound certificates, twenty pound certificates, and fifty pound certificates. They mention delivering the directions to James Oliphant for engraving and printing. They also discuss provisions for provincial troops.

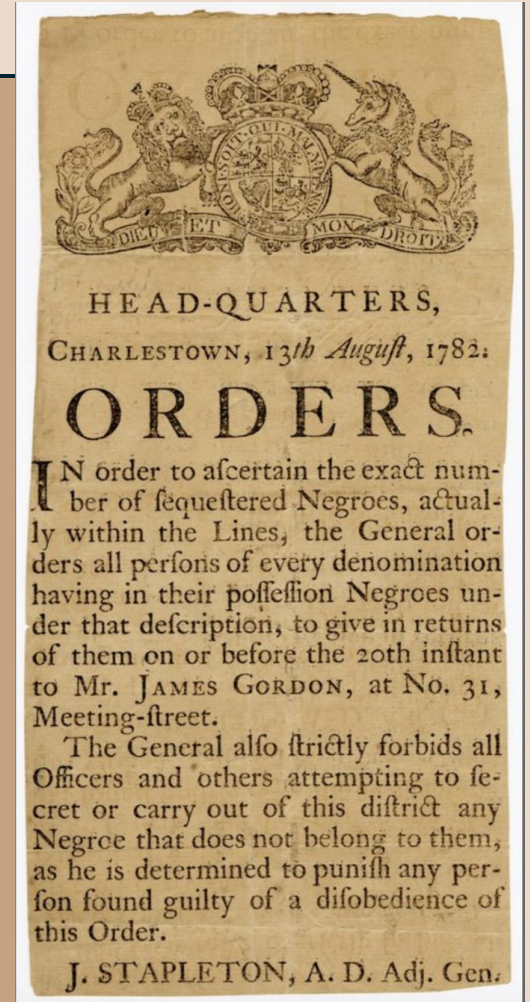
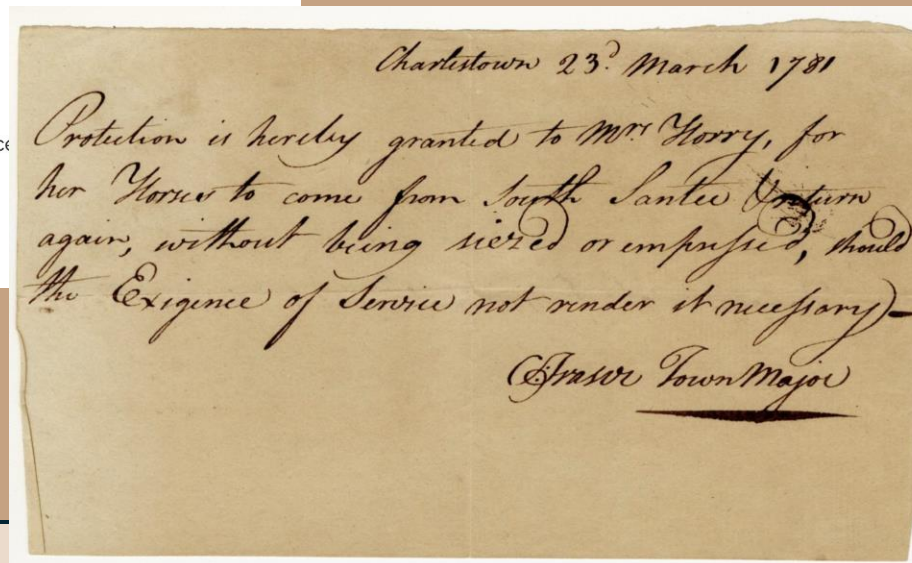
Subject (Topical):

Committees  
Meetings  
Military pay  
Money  
Parliamentary practice

Admin ID:

300316

Right: Great Britain Army Order, 1782,  
SCHS #43/0914





# THANK YOU!



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