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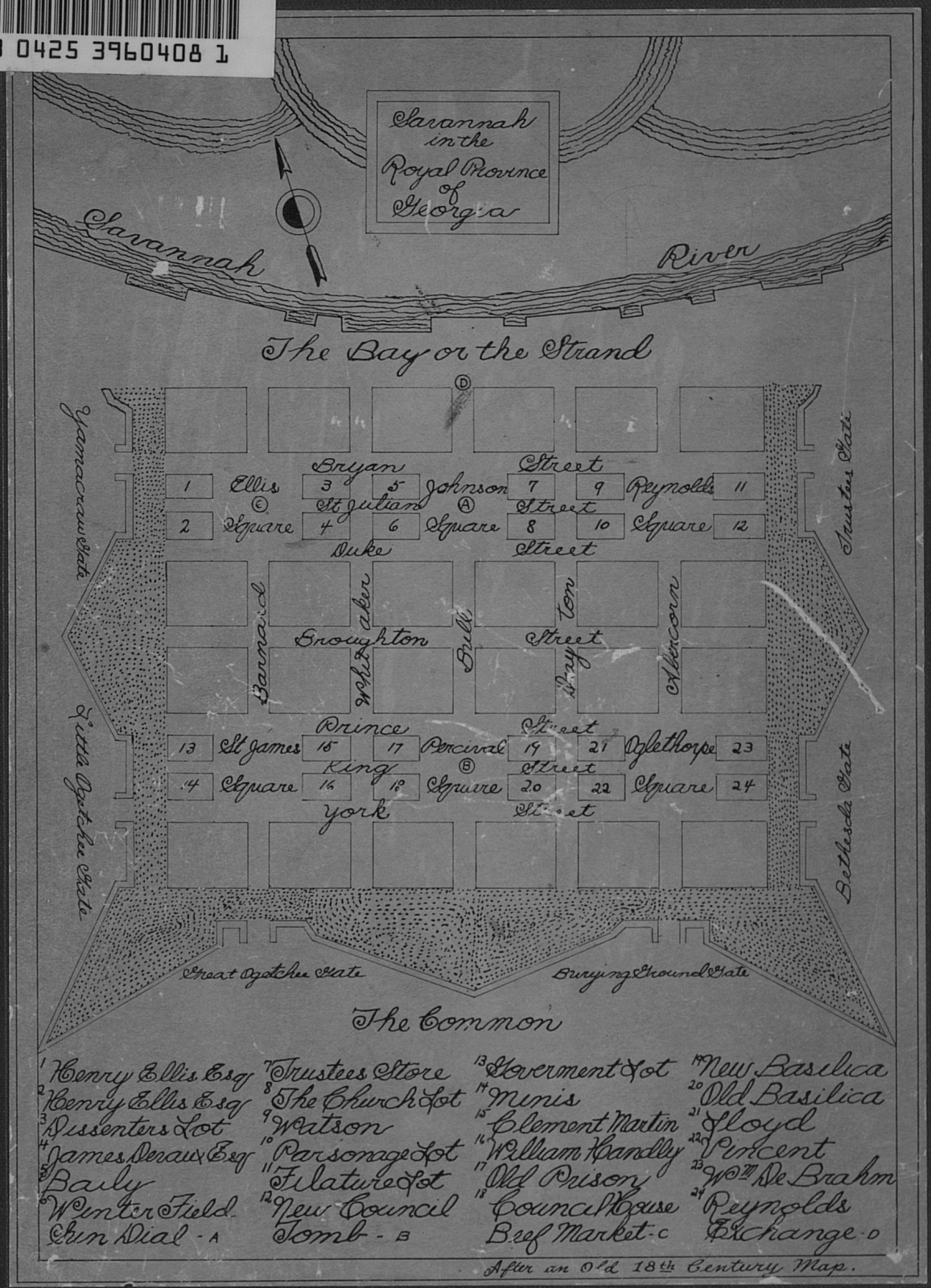

After an Old 18th Century Map.



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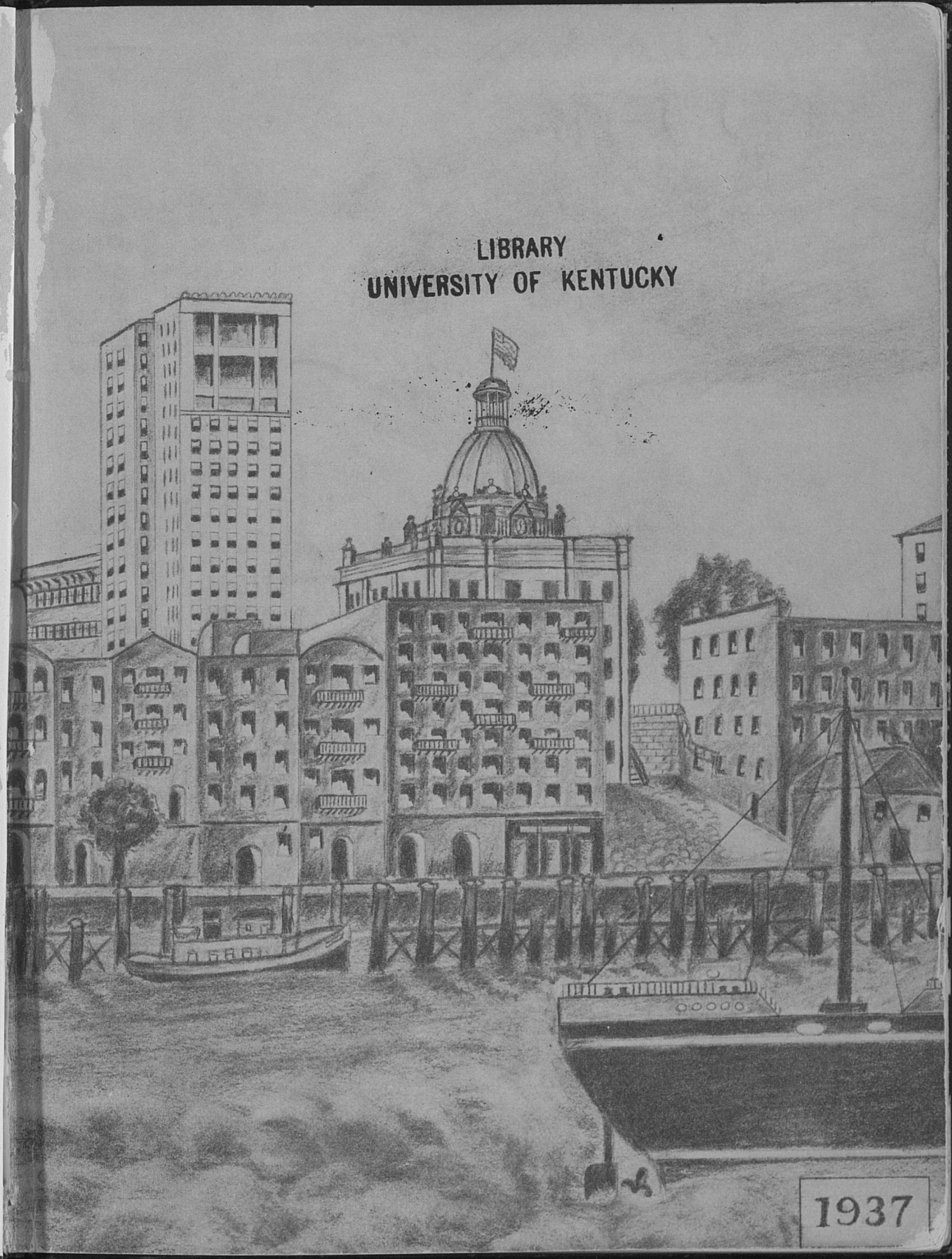

1937

AMERICAN GUIDE SERIES

SAVANNAH

Compiled and Written by

SAVANNAH UNIT

FEDERAL WRITERS' PROJECT IN GEORGIA

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

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FOREWORD

Savannah is one of America's cities which has a very distinct individuality. Many writers have written glowingly of its charms. William Dean Howells, one of its admirers and a frequent visitor in the last years of his life, wrote of "that noble sequence of wooded and gardened squares which form the glory of the city." Its romance appealed to him, as it has appealed to countless others.

Here the past and the present meet in a happy combination. Streets and squares and monuments and buildings recall two centuries of American history in which the city has played a not inglorious part. From this heroic past has come inspiration for the progressive Savannah of today. The walks and the drives that are outlined in this book will bring the tourist in contact with many spots made memorable by deeds of patriotic valor, or associations with men whose vision and services contributed notably to our country's development. Scenes of rare beauty will also be revealed to those fortunate enough to use this book as a companion, and a new comprehension will come to them of the significance of this city and section in the story of the South and of the Nation.

The authors of this book have caught the spirit of Savannah, and the reader will glean from its pages an understanding of that intangible hold which she has on her people, which makes them think of her with longing affection even after years of enforced absence, and brings within her doors time after time visitors who have once come under the spell of her charm.

The easy, informal style of the volume differentiates it from the usual guide book. While its primary purpose is to introduce the visitor to the points of special attraction, it will prove of interest also to the armchair traveler who has no immediate prospect of seeing Savannah for himself.

To those who conceived the idea of a national guide book and its sub-division into local guides, and to those who compiled and edited and made possible the publication of this especial volume, the citizens of this section and the grateful tourists, into whose hands it will come, must acknowledge their debt of obligation.

THOMAS GAMBLE.

PREFACE

The Federal Writers' Project of the Works Progress Administration District No. 3 of Georgia consists of 17 counties with offices in Brunswick and Waycross in addition to the head office in Savannah. The project has been functioning since November 1935. The first year of this period was spent in compiling material for the Savannah section of the *American Guide*, a compendium of informative detail to serve as a comprehensive guide to the United States. A State Guide, a State Encyclopedia, a Civil Government Survey, and radio playlets, initiated as subsidiary projects, are in process of completion. In addition for the past four months the writers have been occupied in building up source material for a guide on Savannah.

Savannah, the book that has evolved from this work, is both a history and a guide. First-hand information from recognized historians, original documents, standard histories, diaries, and letters have been the sources from which it has been written. Beyond these recognized aids thanks are due to a number of organizations and citizens who have given time and cooperation to this undertaking. Special acknowledgment should be made to Dolores B. Floyd and to Thomas Gamble for their critical advice; to Ola M. Wyeth and the staff of the Savannah Public Library and the Library Staff of the *Morning News* for their assistance; to Cletus Bergen for checking architectural material; to Thomas Gamble, Alfred Jones, George R. Foltz and the United States National Park Service for the use of photographs from which some of the drawings were made; to the City Engineer's office for its cooperation and help with old maps; and to the office of the East Georgia Planning Council, NRC, for maps which it has drawn especially for the Guide.

It is through the progressive attitude of the Savannah Chamber of Commerce in sponsoring this book that its publication has been made possible; and all workers connected with the local Writers' Project are very appreciative of this fact.

Many of our writers have had professional experience, while others, through their work in historic research, compilation of data and arrangement of material have learned much in the year's experience. All of the drawings used in this book, other than maps, have been done on the project. Any discovery is an exciting experience, and the compilation of this material has been pleasurable as well as profitable, since we believe that one or two facts have been unearthed that have not been generally known. Careful verification of all data in this guide has been made and we feel that as far as is possible, the information it contains is accurate.

SAVANNAH

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NOTATIONS

In order that the tourist may have no difficulty in finding any point of interest in Savannah and vicinity, or on the longer tours, five maps have been included in the material, and a comprehensive system of cross-references has been devised. The maps include a Transportation Map, a Recreation Map, a Guide Map to Foot Tours, the Savannah and Vicinity Map and a WPA District No. 3 Map.

(1) The Recreation Map indicates all recreation centers in and around Savannah, including tennis courts, golf courses, various resorts where swimming and boating may be enjoyed and Savannah Beach where surf bathing is popular.

(2) The Transportation Map indicates two railroad stations, bus stations, U. S. and State Highways, the airport and the docks from which passenger steamers depart for New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Jacksonville.

(3) The Guide Map to Foot Tours indicates points of interest shown by numbers which correspond with the numbers in Foot Tours Nos. 1, 2 and 3; parks and squares shown by Roman numbers; and historic sites shown by letters.

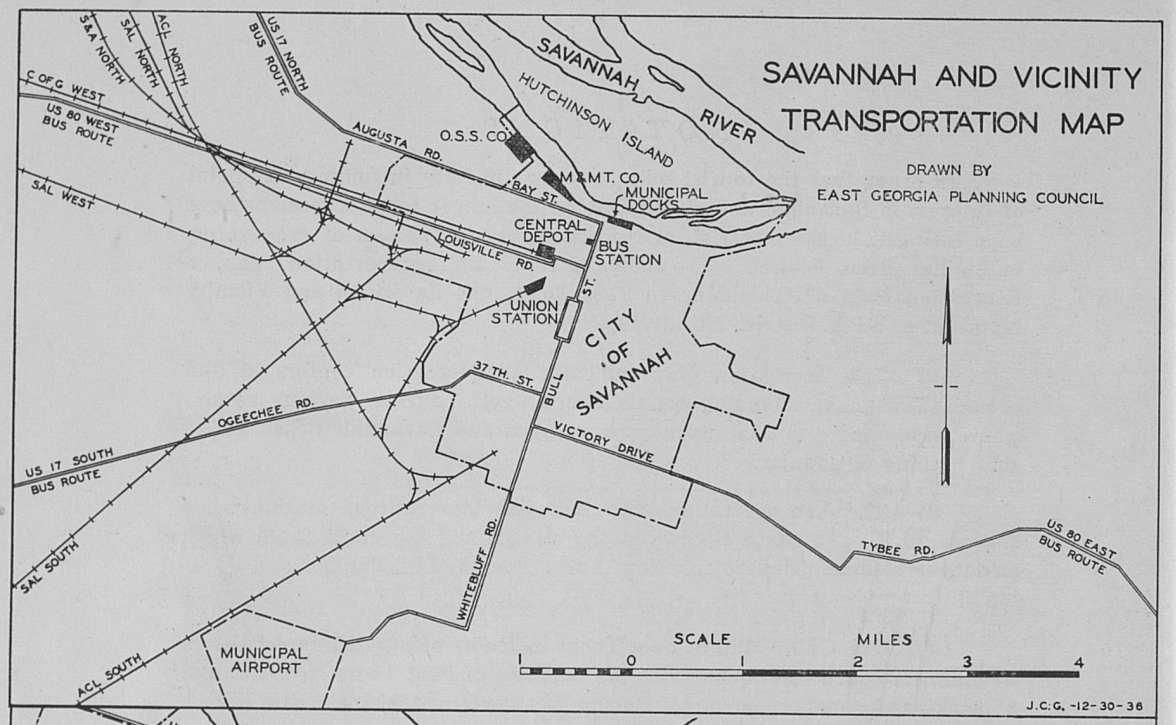
(4) The Savannah and Vicinity Map indicates the points of interest numbered according to the list accompanying the map; these numbers appear in directions for short tours of Savannah and Vicinity.

(5) A WPA District No. 3 Map indicates long tours leading out of Savannah following U. S. and State Highways.

When a point of interest appears in an article, the correct number of that point and the name of the map on which it appears are placed in a parenthesis by that point of interest.

A glossary of local words not in common usage has been attached.

A suggestive bibliography provides further leads for those interested in more intensive study.


SAVANNAH AND VICINITY
TRANSPORTATION MAP
DRAWN BY
EAST GEORGIA PLANNING COUNCIL
SAVANNAH RIVER
HUTCHINSON ISLAND
S&A NORTH
SAL NORTH
ACL NORTH
US 17 NORTH BUS ROUTE
C OF G WEST
US 80 WEST BUS ROUTE
SAL WEST
AUGUSTA RD.
O.S.S. CO.
M.E.M.T. CO.
MUNICIPAL DOCKS
BAY ST.
CENTRAL DEPOT
BUS STATION
LOUISVILLE RD.
UNION STATION
ST.
CITY OF SAVANNAH
37TH. ST.
BULL
OGEECHEE RD.
US 17 SOUTH BUS ROUTE
VICTORY DRIVE
SAL SOUTH
WHITEBLUFF RD.
TYBEE RD.
US 80 EAST BUS ROUTE
ACL SOUTH
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
SCALE
MILES
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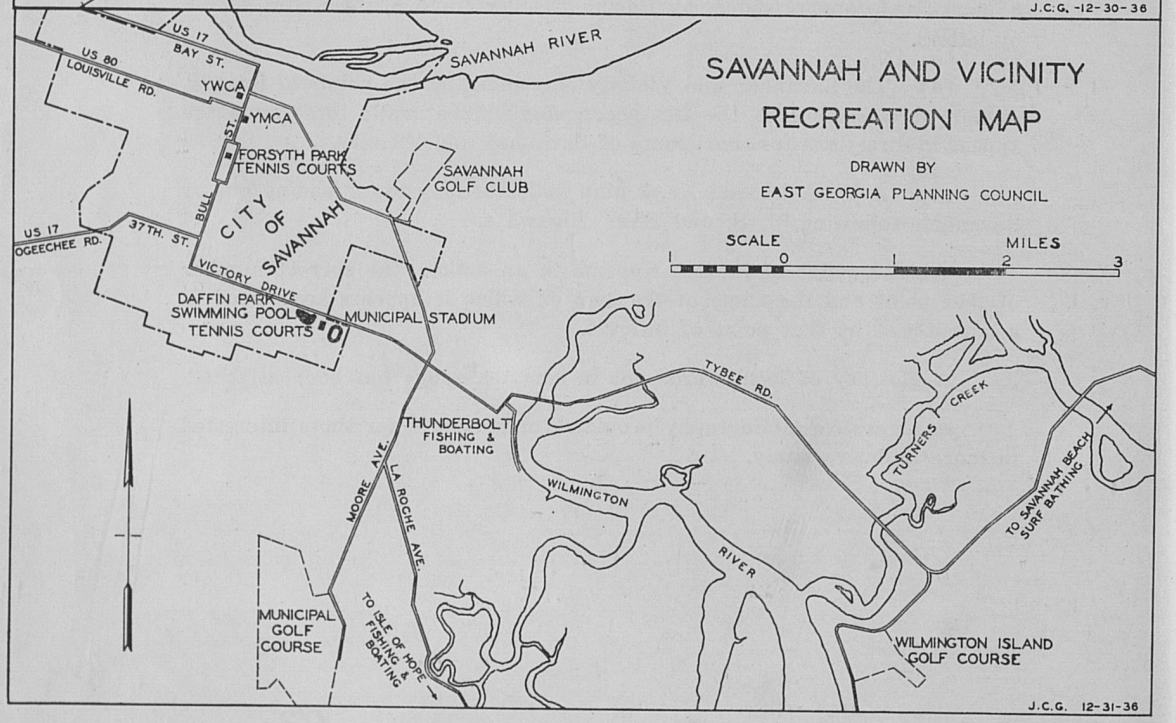
SAVANNAH AND VICINITY
RECREATION MAP
DRAWN BY
EAST GEORGIA PLANNING COUNCIL
SAVANNAH RIVER
US 17
US 80
BAY ST.
LOUISVILLE RD.
YWCA
ST.
FORSYTH PARK TENNIS COURTS
SAVANNAH GOLF CLUB
BULL
CITY OF SAVANNAH
US 17
OGEECHEE RD.
37TH. ST.
VICTORY DRIVE
DAFFIN PARK SWIMMING POOL TENNIS COURTS
MUNICIPAL STADIUM
SCALE
MILES
0 1 2 3
TYBEE RD.
THUNDERBOLT FISHING & BOATING
MOORE AVE.
LA ROCHE AVE.
WILMINGTON
RIVER
TURNERS CREEK
TO SAVANNAH BEACH SURF BATHING
MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE
TO ISLE OF HOPE FISHING & BOATING
WILMINGTON ISLAND GOLF COURSE
J.C.G. 12-31-36

GENERAL INFORMATION

RAILROADS: Central of Georgia Ry. Co.: Central of Georgia Station, 301 W. Broad St. Daily service S. and W. Atlantic Coast Line Ry., Seaboard Air Line Ry., Southern Ry. System: Union Station, 419 W. Broad St. Daily service N. and S. and W. Savannah & Atlanta Ry.: Savannah Georgia Terminal, Cohen St. Daily service to Waynesboro, Ga.

STEAMSHIPS: Ocean Steamship Co. Passenger and freight service between Savannah and New York and Boston. Ticket office, 301 W. Broad St., main office and piers, berths 12 and 13, Central of Georgia Docks. Five ships weekly to New York. Adequate shipping facilities for automobiles. Coastwise line. Merchant & Miners Transportation Co. Passenger and freight service between Boston, Providence, Philadelphia and Baltimore, Norfolk and Newport News and Savannah, Jacksonville, West Palm Beach and Miami. Main office, foot of Fahm St., berths 1, 2 and 3. Nine ships weekly N. and S. Adequate shipping facilities for automobiles. Coastwise line. Augusta & Savannah Line. Passenger and freight service between Savannah and Augusta. Docks at foot of Whitaker St. Beaufort & Savannah Line. Passenger and freight service between Savannah and Beaufort. Docks at foot of Abercorn St. Freight lines: ships leave Savannah for all foreign ports with accommodations for a few passengers.

AIRPORTS: Atlantic and Gulf Coast Air Line, Inc. Daily service, Savannah to Mobile via Jacksonville, Tallahassee and Pensacola. Eastern Air Lines. Daily service, New York and Miami. Strachan Skyways, Inc. Arrangements may be made for private planes. Hunter Field, Savannah Airport. Emmett Wilson Blvd. 5 m. on White Bluff Rd. Taxi to airport $1.

BUS LINES: Glennville & Savannah Bus Line, 417 Berrien St. Savannah to Glennville. Greyhound Lines, 111 Bull St. New York to Miami. Savannah Beach Bus Line, 111 Bull St. Savannah to Tybee. Pan-American Bus Lines, 336 Drayton St. New York to Miami.

TAXICABS: Rates (present time, per person), and Zones: 10c, Bay St. to Victory Drive; 20c, Bay St. to City Limits; 10c, Florence St. to Ogeechee Rd.; 10c, additional to the river. Private car, double zone rate, plus 10c for each additional person. Car by hour, $2.50. Long distance trips 12c per m. Daily sight seeing bus tour of the city and environs leaves Hotel Savannah at 10 a. m., Hotel De Soto 10:15 a. m. Occasional afternoon tours leave Hotel De Soto 2:45 p. m., Hotel Savannah, 3 p. m. Many points of interest covered in this book may be seen on these tours.

STREETCARS: Main junction, Broughton and Whitaker Sts. Fare 8c (4 tokens for 25c). Outlying service such as to Port Wentworth,

Thunderbolt, Isle of Hope; additional fare according to zone. Busses have largely replaced streetcars in the city; fare same for either.

TRAFFIC REGULATIONS: No parking in or on any driveway, viaduct, underpass or overpass; no parking in any lane except to load or unload merchandise or other commodities. Time limits noted by signs, parking spaces marked by yellow line, so tourist should have no difficulty in parking correctly. No U turn on Broughton St. between Habersham and W. Broad Sts. All traffic may make an R turn on red light. In general Savannah traffic regulations are like those of other cities.

ACCOMMODATIONS: Eight hotels in the downtown area with rates from $1 to $2.50 per day for single room in smaller commercial hotels and $1.50 to $3.50 per day in larger ones. Other rates accordingly. All hotels are operated on European plan; tourist homes are dotted throughout the city, most numerous in vicinity of Whitaker and 37th Sts.

SERVICE CLUBS: Exchange Club meets every Monday, Hotel Savannah, 2:15 p. m. Kiwanis Club meets every Wednesday, Hotel Savannah, 2 p. m. Lions Club meets every Tuesday, Hotel Savannah, 2 p. m. Pilot Club meets second and fourth Tuesday of month, Hotel Savannah, 6:30 p. m. Propeller Club meets second Thursday of month, Hotel Savannah, 7 p. m. (Founded in Savannah, it is now a national organization.) Rotary Club meets every Tuesday, Hotel De Soto, 2:15 p. m. Savannah Business and Professional Women's Club meets third Monday of month, Hotel De Soto, 6:15 p. m. Savannah Motor Club (AAA) meets first Monday of month, Hotel De Soto.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATIONS: Alee Temple, 429 Bull St. Eagles' Home, 110 E. Perry St. Elks' Home, 12 W. Oglethorpe Ave. Independent Order of Odd Fellows, 206 W. State St. Junior Order of American Mechanics, 314 Whitaker St. Knights of Columbus, 3 W. Liberty St. Knights of Pythias, 123 W. York St. Loyal Order of Moose, 19 W. Congress St. Masonic Lodge Rooms, 108 W. Liberty St.

AMUSEMENT CENTERS: Savannah Beach, 18 m. E. of the city, surf bathing, fishing, boating and variety of outdoor sports.

GOLF COURSES: Municipal Golf Links, Isle of Hope Rd. Two 18 hole courses and a clubhouse. Green fee 50c. Caddy fee 50c. Savannah Golf Course, Moore Ave., 3 m. SE. of Savannah. Eighteen-hole course with old Confederate breast-works now used for bunkers and traps. Cards for non-members may be procured at the leading hotels for $1.50. Only caddy fees charged for additional rounds. Wilmington Island Course, adjacent to General Oglethorpe Hotel. 18-hole Donald Ross Golf Course. Green fee 50c. Caddy fee 50c.

GYMNASIUMS: Y. M. C. A., 308 Bull St. Y. W. C. A., 105 W. Oglethorpe Ave. Jewish Educational Alliance, 328 Barnard St.

POLO: Savannah Polo Field, Waters Ave. Ext.

RIDING ACADEMIES: (Privately Owned.)

RIFLE RANGES: Savannah Rifle Association: Office, Factor's Walk, foot of Price St. Rifle Range at Wilmington Island.

STADIUM: Municipal Stadium, Daffin Park, Victory Drive and Bee Rd.

SWIMMING: Daffin Park, large artificial lake. Savannah Beach, surf bathing. Y. M. C. A., indoor swimming pool. Y. W. C. A., indoor swimming pool.

TENNIS COURTS: Daffin Park, municipal courts. Forsyth Park, municipal courts.

THEATRES: Six motion picture theatres in downtown area, two of which feature first-run pictures. The Municipal Auditorium is available for performances of theatricals, musicals and concerts. Other halls for public use are Armstrong Junior College Auditorium, Jewish Educational Alliance Hall, Lawton Memorial, St. Paul's Episcopal Parish Hall, St. Paul's Lutheran Parish Hall.

RADIO STATION: W. T. O. C. in Hotel De Soto, connected with the Columbia Broadcasting System.

LIBRARIES: Main Library, 2002 Bull St. Weekdays: 9 a. m. to 9:30 p. m. Sundays: 4 p. m. to 7 p. m. Downtown Branch, 110 E. Congress St. Weekdays: 9 a. m. to 6 p. m. (Not open Sundays.) Hodgson Hall, 501 Whitaker St. Daily: 2 p. m. to 9 p. m. Carnegie Library (Negro), 537 E. Henry St. Weekdays: 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Sundays: 4 p. m. to 5 p. m.

HUNTING AND FISHING: Hunting and fishing are year-round sports. Fishing facilities at Isle of Hope, Thunderbolt, Coffee Bluff, Montgomery, White Bluff, Vernon View, Savannah Beach, Ogeechee River and Savannah River. April and May are usually closed season for fresh-water fishing. Hunting season for marsh hen opens about Sept. 1. Squirrel hunting is the popular October sport. Nov. 20 to March 1 is the open season for quail, dove, turkey, deer, bear, raccoon, mink, rabbit, otter and opossum. State hunting licenses may be obtained at any of the larger hardware stores. County license $1, State license $3.25. Extra Government tax on duck shooting $1.

SHOPPING: Broughton St. forms the nucleus of Savannah's shopping district. Prices reasonable for all types of merchandise. Savannah known as a good place to shop for clothes, shoes, hats, notions and specialties of all sorts, including antiques, marine supplies, hunting equipment, old books and gifts. Out of town newspapers on sale at news stands on Bull St. or Whitaker St.

ANNUAL EVENTS: January 1, Emancipation Day parade and celebration (Negro). February 12, Georgia Day. March 17, St. Patrick's Day celebration. April (No fixed date), Huckster Contest, Forsyth Park; Annual Dog Show, auditorium. April 26, Southern Memorial Day parade. May 1, Chatham Artillery anniversary. May 15 or 30, Annual Beauty Contest, Savannah Beach. May 22, Maritime Day. July (second Thursday), Annual Interstate Sailboat Regatta, Wilmington Island. November (Thanksgiving), High School-Benedictine Football Game, stadium.

CLIMATE: Mean temperature 68°. Humidity readings 58-62. Moderate climate. Few extremes in clothing needed. During the unusually long, semi-tropical summers, light-weight apparel practical. January and February, heavy coat useful. Winter usually mild.

INFORMATION SERVICE: Savannah Chamber of Commerce, 3 E. Bay St. Automobile Association, Hotel De Soto. Travelers Aid, Union Station, 419 W. Broad St.

PART I

THE CITY



PINK HOUSE PORTICO

CHRONOLOGY OF SAVANNAH

1733 Colony of Georgia founded by Oglethorpe at Savannah.
1736 Arrival of John and Charles Wesley.
1740 Bethesda founded by George Whitefield.
1742 Battle of Bloody Marsh.
1748 First Indian uprising.
1754 Georgia becomes a Royal Province.
1755 Meeting of First General Assembly of Georgia.
1763 *Georgia Gazette*—first newspaper in the Colony.
1775 First Provincial Congress held in Savannah.
1776 First encounter with British on Savannah River.
1777 First Constitution of the State of Georgia adopted.
1778 British capture Savannah—British rule re-established.
1779 Siege of Savannah.
1782 British evacuate Savannah.
1788 Chatham Academy incorporated.
1789 Savannah incorporated as a city.
1791 George Washington visits Savannah.
1793 Eli Whitney invents cotton gin.
1804 Georgia Medical Society incorporated.
1810 Public library established.
1818 Present Savannah Theatre opened.
1819 *Steamship Savannah,* first steamboat to cross Atlantic, sails from Savannah.
1825 General Lafayette visits Savannah.
1832 Georgia Infirmary for Negroes incorporated.
1839 Founding of the Georgia Historical Society.
1839 Central of Georgia Railway incorporated.
1861 Company of Volunteer Guards occupies Fort Pulaski.
1862 Surrender of Fort Pulaski to Federal forces.
1864 Federal forces under Sherman occupy Savannah.
1885 Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences opened.
1885 Telfair Hospital opened.
1908 Grand Prix Automobile Races held.
1913 Establishment of juvenile court—one of the first in the United States.
1924 Fort Pulaski proclaimed a National Monument.
1924 Opening of Coastal Highway.
1927 Central of Georgia Hospital opened.
1933 Bicentennial Celebration—visit of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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SIGNIFICANT FACTS

Savannah, in 1733, had a form of government in which land was distributed equally among the colonists, and laws were passed preventing the indolent from selling their acres and the acquisitive from purchasing them. *(See English Colonization.)*

Savannah is distinctive for the geometric precision of its definite plan of streets at right angles intersected by parks and squares at regular intervals. This modern set-up recommended by people interested in city planning was decided before the colonists boarded the ship that was to bring them to the New World in 1733. Subsequent additions to the city conformed to this plan for more than one hundred years. *(See English Colonization.)*

The Georgia Hussars is the second oldest cavalry troop in continuous existence in this country. It was organized Feb. 13, 1736 as the Oglethorpe Rangers, and recently celebrated its two hundredth Anniversary. *(See Civil and Military Development.)*

Solomons Lodge No. 1, chartered in 1736 in Savannah, is said to rank as third in the country among the lodges of Free Masonry.

John Wesley established a Sunday School in Savannah in 1736, which antedated by nearly fifty years the system of Sunday Schools started by Robert Raikes in Gloucester, England. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)*

John Wesley, founder of Methodism, came to Savannah in 1736 as a minister of the Church of England. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)*

John Wesley wrote a book of hymns in Savannah in 1736, which was printed in Charles Town in 1737. This was the first hymnal published for use in the Church of England.

The first horse race in the State was held in Savannah in 1740.

Bethesda Orphanage, established here in 1740 by George Whitefield, is the oldest existing orphanage in the United States. *(See Bethesda.)*

The Battle of Bloody Marsh on St. Simons Island established English dominance on the southern frontier. In this battle Oglethorpe by strategy routed a superior Spanish force, and put an end to the Spanish menace. *(See English Colonization.)*

An early public Filature, for the storage of silk, was built in Savannah in 1751. Georgia at that time was intended for a silk Colony and was famous for the vast acres of mulberry trees all around Savannah. *(See English Colonization and Industry.)*

The first newspaper in the Colony, *The Georgia Gazette,* was issued in Savannah on Apr. 7, 1763. The *Gazette* was one of the first newspapers in the Colonies, although Georgia was the last Colony to be founded. *(See Newspapers.)*

The Chatham Artillery is one of the oldest artillery organizations in this country. It was established May 1, 1786. *(See Civil and Military Development.)*

Mulberry Grove near Savannah was the birthplace of the cotton gin invented by Eli Whitney in 1793. This little machine revolutionized the cotton industry, not only in the South but throughout the world. *(See Industry.)*

The first steamship to cross the Atlantic Ocean was financed by Savannah merchants, was named for the city of Savannah, and sailed from the port of Savannah. This event fixed the eyes of the world on Georgia's first city and is commemorated by National Maritime Day, founded in 1935 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. *(See Transportation.)*

The *John Randolph,* first iron steamship in American waters, was riveted together and launched in 1834 from Savannah. This event again emphasized the city's importance as a maritime center. *(See Transportation.)*

Savannah initiative built one of the earliest railroads in the State, the Central of Georgia, from Savannah to Macon. The charter was granted in 1835, and by 1843 the 190 miles of rail between the two cities was the longest track in the world owned by one company. *(See Transportation.)*

In 1839 an internationally renowned library, whose rare volumes attracted eminent scholars from abroad, was owned in Savannah by Alexander Smets. *(See Foot Tour 1, and Georgia Historical Society.)*

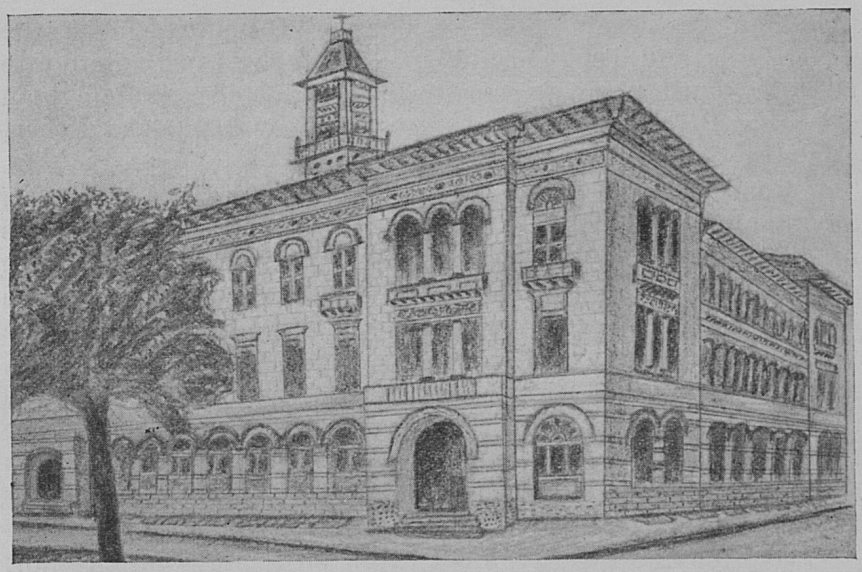
In 1839 I. K. Tefft was so famous as an autograph collector that he was visited by the learned of his day. Mr. Tefft's collection of signatures included the world celebrities of generations. *(See Foot Tour 1, and Georgia Historical Society.)*

The young lieutenant who assisted in the work of surveying Fort Pulaski near Savannah was Robert E. Lee, who had just graduated from West Point and who afterwards became commander-in-chief of the Confederate forces in the War Between the States. *(See Fort Pulaski.)*

General Sherman paid rent for his headquarters in Savannah, since the house he selected belonged to a British subject. *(See Foot Tour 1.)*

Savannah is the primary naval stores port of the world. Its volume of resin and turpentine exports is unrivaled. *(See Industry.)*

The Savannah Chamber of Commerce was the first organization in the United States to form trade and business councils within its membership. Other chambers of commerce have followed this example with gratifying results.



THE POST OFFICE

CONTEMPORARY SCENE

Savannah, dignified and conservative, closely resembles those towns its founders left in England in order to build for themselves a place in the New World. Just as New Orleans shows evidence of its Spanish-French origin, and Salem retains something of the prim atmosphere of its Puritan days, Savannah suggests those quieter English towns whose ways are fixed and steadfast. Known as the "Forest City" for its background of dark old live oaks, Savannah has preserved an old-world charm which more aggressive centers do not possess.

Unlike many American towns grown around some central common or spreading from a main street, Savannah is the planned result of a definite design. The broad streets lined with trees, the squares planted with evergreens and brilliant foliage and the grass plots dividing the double avenues combine to give actuality to that spaciousness implied in the name, Savannah. This pleasing precision of outline, the city owes

to a man who wrote books he never sold, planned houses he never built, and designed a city he never saw; for Oglethorpe in laying out the town seems to have followed a sketch in an old book, *Villas of the Ancients,* written by his friend Robert Castell who died in a debtors' prison.

Conforming to this precise outline, and accentuating Savannah's regularity of design are the rows of old houses of substantial English type whose gardens to the rear are enclosed within high brick walls. An occasional single house of simple style breaks the monotony without destroying the uniformity of the general scheme. Small entrance stoops, recessed doorways arched and with fan transoms, delicate iron handrails and well-proportioned dormer windows are the distinguishing characteristics of these old homes. The greatest number of them are found near the river and along the older streets of the city. *(See Styles in Building.)*

Overlooking the Savannah River is the high-walled bluff, built from the ballast stones of early vessels, where Oglethorpe pitched his tent and spent his first night on Georgia soil. A few blocks to the west, a crowded Negro section occupies the site of the old Indian village of Yamacraw. Here lived the half-breed woman, Mary Musgrove, who became Oglethorpe's interpreter, and the Indian chief, Tomochichi, who befriended the colonists in their early struggles. From the water level on River Street cobblestone ramps lead up to Bay Street called locally "the Bay," which extends the length of the bluff. Beyond its eastern terminus, a public service corporation crowds against a once-proud fort built on the site of the historic Trustees' Garden, where flowered for a few brief years the mulberry trees and exotic plants that were to make Georgia a silk, wine and drug Colony. Today this street is lined on one side by prosperous wholesale business houses, and on the river side by great cotton and commodity warehouses connected by iron bridges with a broad strand. This strand paralleling Bay Street widens at the eastern end into Emmett Park.

Along many miles of the river front, great industries have sprung up, possibly on some hidden site where the pirate Flint

buried a part of his treasure. Ocean freighters, replacing great-masted sailing vessels of early days, load in the river harbor for the ports of the world; while the busy warehouses of the Seaboard Airline Railroad on Hutchinson's Island have changed the peaceful pasture lands of the Trustees' cattle into a scene of modern activity.

Two blocks south of the Bay, and separated from it by Savannah's financial district, is Broughton Street, a thoroughfare of retail shops and department stores. Modern, progressive and courteously managed, these stores offer selected merchandise at moderate prices. In this part of the city are several excellent motion picture theatres where first-run films are shown at current Savannah rates. Even the Savannah Theatre, the oldest theatre in continuous operation in the country, has followed the trend of the times and is now given over to celluloid flickers. *(See The Stage in Early Savannah.)*

In this downtown neighborhood several hotels carry on Savannah's tradition of hospitality, established in 1734 by the Colony's first hostelry, the House for Strangers. Most of the older hotels have long since been replaced by the more metropolitan type, but the old Pulaski, with its long dark room extending underneath the entire length of the building, still remains. From this cellar the finest vintages were taken to the commodious rooms above where the planters of the day made wagers on the next day's races or lost an estate on the turn of a card. While the modern hotels of the city have, perhaps, less of that charm characteristic of the older hostelries, they are undoubtedly more comfortable, for central heating, well-furnished rooms, a selected cuisine and excellent service are the modern rule; and a fine courtesy, the heritage of years, still prevails.

In every part of the city historic churches vie in beauty of outline with the handsome modern churches of all denominations. Religious tolerance and a respect for all creeds have long been Savannah's attitude, and it is no unusual sight to see a Catholic priest playing golf with a Jewish rabbi, or a Baptist minister discussing theology with a High Church ritualist. Scattered throughout the Negro sections of the town

are numbers of small churches, the names of which lead to interesting speculation. Usually these churches, which include *The Fire Baptized of the Church of God of the Americas, The First Born of the Living God, Ark of Noah* and *Triumph the Church of God in Christ,* make up in religious fervor what they lack in material equipment. *(See Negro Life and History.)*

The substantial buildings of the public school system, many of them architecturally interesting, are logically placed in various parts of the city. This system was organized in 1865 and was preceded by the old Chatham Academy, incorporated in 1788, which provided the community with educational facilities for many years. In the first days of the Colony, Benjamin Ingham, with the help of the Moravians, established a mission for instructing Indians, while Charles Delamotte and John Wesley conducted a school for the children of the Colony. Seven years after Savannah was settled, George Whitefield founded Bethesda, a school for orphans, which today has the distinction of being the oldest orphanage in continuous operation in the United States. Today the public school system has expanded to twenty-three elementary schools, two Junior High Schools, and one Senior High School, as well as the county schools. In addition to these, the Catholics of the city support a number of parochial schools, as well as Benedictine College. Armstrong Junior College with its School of Finance and Commerce eliminates the gap between high school and the third year in a standard university. A few private schools, an opportunity school, special training schools and business colleges complete the provisions for the educational needs of the city.

In this connection, mention should be made of the excellent work being done for the education of Negro youth. The public schools for Negro children have the same scholastic standing as the schools for the white population. The Georgia Industrial College, a branch of the University of Georgia, offers regular college courses for Negroes. Negro educators of high character are in charge of this work, and the success of the enterprise is shown by the numbers of Negro citizens,

recipients of its benefits, who have contributed to the civic improvement of the sections in which they live. *(See Negro Life and History.)*

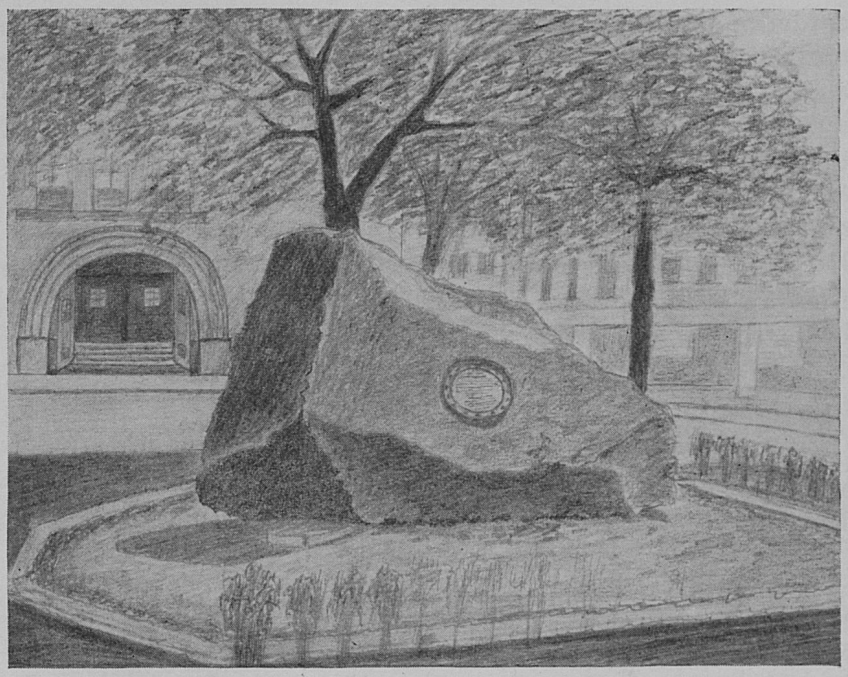
Throughout the year outdoor life around Savannah provides interest and amusement for both citizens and visitors. Since the coast near the town is a network of small estuaries and tidewater streams, motorboating and fishing are popular sports. Excellent roads lead to several salt water resorts that may be reached in an hour or less. Wild turkey, quail, dove and marsh hen, which provide hunters with excellent sport, are plentiful along the rivers and in the nearby interior. Bridle paths on the outskirts of the city offer diversion while two municipal golf courses and several private courses are open the year round. Surf bathing in the ocean, 18 miles east of the city, and swimming in the fresh water lake at Daffin Park may be enjoyed for many months in the year.

Intellectual enjoyment is provided for those of more studious habits by the public library and by the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences *(see Telfair Academy)*, where a creditable collection of paintings, etchings, sculpture and museum furniture is on display. Hodgson Hall, the home of the Georgia Historical Society, with its fine collection of old books and documents, will prove a refuge to the bibliophile; and the private collection of Georgiana and other data at Wormsloe will be an unending delight to students of history. These cultural assets are as much a part of the life of Savannah as the old buildings and moss-hung oaks and have been its heritage since the leisure days of the plantation era when gentlemen thought highly of intellectual pursuits and could afford to develop their cultural tastes. Modern Savannah has remained steadily interested in literature, the theatre and other arts, as well as in history, and has produced writers whose books have been widely read. The Poetry Society, founded in 1923 by a group interested in the writing and reading of poetry, has spread its membership throughout the State, and encourages its aims by awarding prizes for poems which are sent from all parts of the world. Poems by its members have been published in various magazines. An art

club numbers many talented painters among its group, some of whom have shown pictures in national exhibitions. A music club has been active for many years in providing for lovers of music programs for their enjoyment. The persistence of these intellectual interests has been continuous and has made its mark on the community.

Along with its cultural development, Savannah has attracted an ever increasing commercial and industrial population. Following the first group of one hundred and twenty English settlers, migrations from various nations as well as from other states have contributed to the city's growth. Today, with its equable climate, fine transportation facilities and new industries, Savannah has grown into a wealthy, progressive commercial center. Yet through the activity of modern life an undertone of serenity survives, and quaint customs persist, contributing a quality of charm which is remembered long after the beauty of its parks and great trees and the interesting examples of architecture have been forgotten.

Loyal to tradition yet alert to the advantages of progress, Savannah pursues a balanced course. Here old neighborhoods survive in renovated surroundings, historic sites crowd against thriving industries and the oldest brick house in the State looks down disdainfully upon a psuedo-Spanish filling station. A modern city set in a historic frame—that is Savannah today.



TOMOCHICHI BOULDER

FIRST AMERICANS AND EARLY EXPLORERS

Savannah's recorded history, as investigations penetrate the past, reaches back through the years from English settlement beyond Spanish and Indian occupation to the prehistoric days when the mammoth, the bones of which were found recently near the city, stalked the wide savannas. Archeological research is pushing step by step into this dim unknown age. The first inhabitants of Savannah of whom there is any record are the Indians whose mounds occur in almost every part of southeast Georgia. Investigations seem to indicate that these Indians succeeded a much earlier race, probably of Mongoloid origin.

Indian mounds appear more frequently along the coast and in greatest numbers upon the sea islands. They seem clearly indicative of a developed community life and are

evidence that the pre-Columbian inhabitants considered the natural advantages and resources of the locality in selecting a site for their settlement. On Colonel's Island, opposite Sunbury in Liberty County *(see Long Tour 1),* are numbers of mounds whose artifacts show a varying antiquity. One historian in 1859 stated that thirty or forty mounds, many quite prominent, with sharply defined outlines, were easily recognized; others, due to the action of the elements, and the furrows of the plough through the years, were declared to be scarcely perceptible.

The prevailing type of mound in this section is that of the earth or sepulchral tumulus which is of two types: the family or tribal mound, containing many dead, and the chieftain or single mound which usually contained only one skeleton. In many instances traces of fire adjacent to these mounds indicate that some purification rite for the dead had been observed. The shell mounds, so called because covered with varied shells, are smaller than the tribal mounds and show no trace of fire. Extensive scientific research is being undertaken by the government in this type of mound on St. Simons Island *(see Long Tour 1 and Golden Isles),* and a similar program is being contemplated in connection with the mound on Pipemakers' Creek, five miles north of Savannah.

Artifacts from excavations of the mounds near Savannah by semi-scientific workers are on display at Hodgson Hall, Savannah. These include stone sinkers for fish nets, flint implements, potsherds, polished clay beads, and a complete vessel modeled in the shape of a short-legged pig-like animal, the rather small head forming the handle of the utensil. A few skeletons with associated artifacts are also in Hodgson Hall. *(26 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1 and Georgia Historical Society.)* Though the birchbark canoe was not common to southern Indians, a boat unearthed on a rice plantation a few miles from Savannah showed that the earlier inhabitants of this section were boat builders. Found at a depth of three and a half feet below the surface of the swamp, this boat gives evidence of undetermined age. It is shaped like a perigua,

11 feet long and 30 inches wide with tapering edges and fitted crosspieces, and is a dugout produced by scraping and burning.

Many important mounds have been located recently in this vicinity through the efforts of a Savannah historian, and it is hoped that negotiations with the Smithsonian Institution or a defined WPA program for this purpose may result in archeological investigations. Until such time the locations of these mounds will not be made public, since it might result in further desecration by inexperienced relic hunters, who have already disturbed many records that might have proved of scientific value.

The southeastern Indians at the time of European discovery were of Muskhogean stock and were an agricultural people highly skilled in the various crafts associated with a settled existence. In addition to the construction of tumuli, fortifications, fish preserves, temples and public and private houses, these Indians also excelled in the manufacture of pottery and gourd-shaped drinking vessels. In their large decorated cooking vessels and jars for the preservation of fruits and oils, as well as burial vases, both skill and art were displayed. They also made the implements necessary to the various phases of their existence: spearheads and arrow points; axes, grooved and ungrooved; bowls and pestles for grinding grain; chisels, awls, knives and a variety of other tools.

In their social life, governmental affairs and religion, the southern Indians displayed a high degree of civilization and culture. They lived in separate communities, each village with its individual customs. The "great house" and council house occupied a central position in the village. The former surrounded a court in which public meetings, feasts and festivals were held, while the latter was the assembly room of the Mico or ruler of the village and his council. A definite form of government was followed. The Mico or head of the local community held office for life and spoke for the people. The best warrior in the tribe was his war chief, while the council was composed of the Mico, the war chief and the warriors

with the best fighting records. In religion these Indians were pantheistic, the sun being their chief object of worship. Symbolism and superstition played an important part in their daily activities. Medicine men, regarded as priests, drove away devils and cured diseases with incantations and the application of medicinal herbs. In planting and harvesting the changes of the seasons and the phases of the sun and moon were strictly regarded.

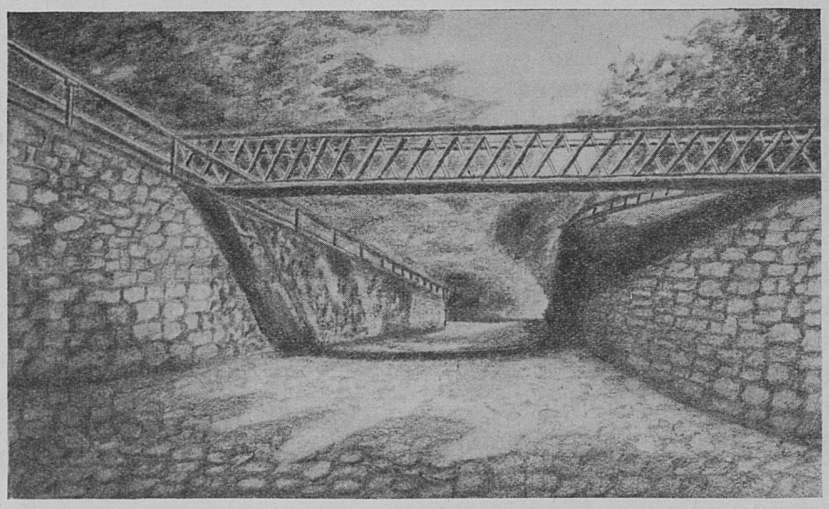
These then were the people whom the Spaniards found when they first entered the Georgia scene, and their presence acted as an incentive rather than a deterrent for further effort in the New World. To convert a heathen people and at the same time satisfy an insatiate desire for gold was an opportunity not to be overlooked, and the Spaniards, first on the scene, considered themselves the chosen instrument for accomplishing both purposes. Ponce de Leon, in discovering Florida in 1512, extended his investigations toward Georgia, and twenty-eight years later, DeSoto trailed across the State in a determined effort to find the riches which he firmly believed to be here.

The French, indifferent at first to the grasping activities of the Spaniards, soon awoke to the possibilities of riches in the southern part of the New World and sent over an expedition under Jean Ribault in 1562. Except for cruising along the Georgia coast and giving the rivers and inlets French names, he accomplished nothing permanent. However, when two years later another French expedition under Rene de Laudonierre landed at the mouth of St. John's River and founded Fort Caroline, Spanish ire was roused. Menendez de Aviles with a large force was sent over by Philip of Spain in 1565 to wipe out all French occupation and to plant permanent settlements, Spanish fashion, the presidio with the mission. *(See Golden Isles.)*

The glitter of Spanish standards and the symoblic rites of the new religion, so zealously displayed by the somber-robed friars, at first charmed the Indians, but the ensuing cruelties of the soldiers in their futile search for gold and a superstitious fear of new gods frightened them. In a few

years the Indians banded themselves together and drove out the missionaries and murdered many of the soldiers. But Spain, not easily discouraged, continued through the years to send over other expeditions, so that by the end of the seventeenth century, numbers of Spanish missions had been established on the coast of Georgia, and the Bishop of Cuba had confirmed more than a thousand Indians.

England, meanwhile, basing her claims to lands in the New World on the explorations of Sebastian Cabot, had planted Colonies as far down the coast as Charleston. Eventually, this English encroachment and plundering by both Indians and pirates compelled the Spaniards to withdraw beyond the St. John's River, and Georgia lay fallow for a number of years awaiting a new claimant.



STONE UNDERPASS

ENGLISH COLONIZATION

The founding of Savannah, February 12, 1733, by James Edward Oglethorpe, was a practical philanthropy, a military necessity and an agricultural experiment. The increase in the masses of unemployed in England, the numbers of unfortunates ruined by the debtor's laws and the constant fear on the part of the Carolinians of Spanish invasion were the factors that the Trustees of this project stressed in petitioning for lands in the New World. Thus Savannah became a military outpost, as well as an economic and philanthropic experiment which put to work those unable to maintain themselves in England.

With a selected group whose needs and special qualifications made them eligible, a works program mapped out and a land allotment scheme decided, Oglethorpe and the first one hundred and twenty English colonists set up a communal type of life many years in advance of the times. The industries selected were such as would provide work for every man, woman and child who embarked and would in time reim-

burse England for its philanthropic experiment. These were silk culture and the production of wines and drugs. Almost immediately upon landing, everyone composing this first group was assigned tasks. The work of cultivating the garden in which the agricultural experiments were to be made was given to the older settlers and to the women and children. To the younger men was given the labor of clearing the forests, laying out the town, building the houses and forming a military unit for the protection of the new settlement and its Carolina neighbor.

Peter Gordon's map of March 29, 1734 gives an interesting picture of the town's first year's growth. This map showed at that time ninety-one houses, a public mill for grinding the corn and making flour, a public store, a public oven for making all the bread that was needed and a public well for the community supply. In a corner of one of the squares stood the sundial that recorded time for the settlers, while east of the town was the Trustees' Garden, which was the public nursery from which the planters could secure mulberry trees and other plants for their own plots. The land was divided among the settlers in small portions which were entailed. By this means the less efficient were unable to dispose of their property, and the more grasping were thwarted in acquiring additional acreage. Thus each man in the new community had an equal chance to prosper.

In addition to the communal plan of the settlement, certain stringent laws were promulgated for the protection of the inhabitants: no brandies or distilled liquors were allowed in the community; slavery was prohibited; and no alehousekeeper was permitted to give credit. These were felt to be wise laws for the infant Colony, because it was through unwise drinking and accumulative debts that these early settlers had experienced their economic downfall in the Old World; and by permitting slaves to a people who were already a public charge would defeat the object of the experiment. Despite the gratitude most early settlers felt for the care given them, the results of this paternalistic government under which they lived were not satisfactory to all. As under

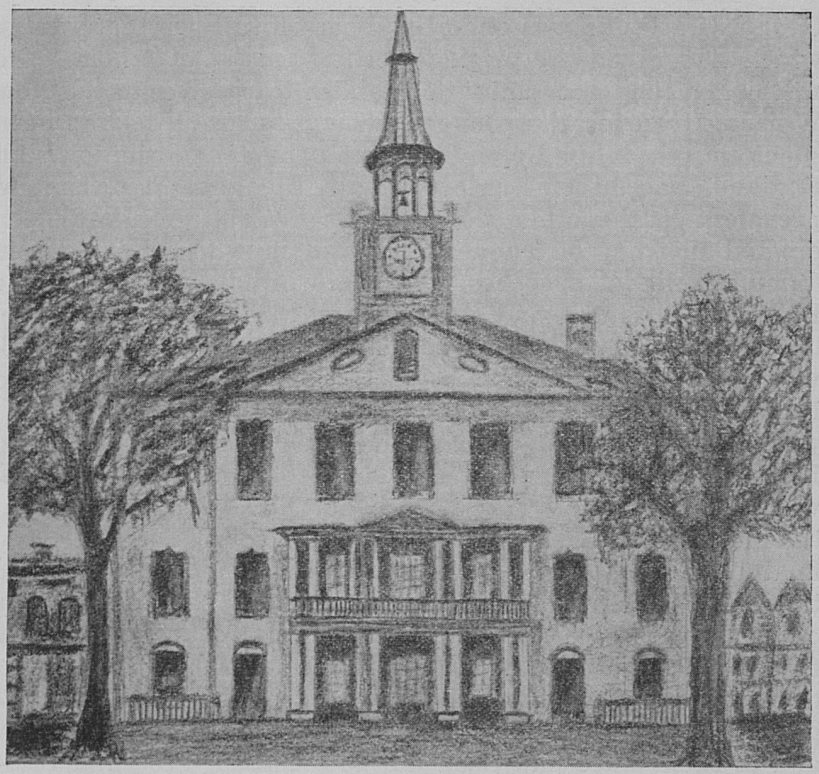
all idealistic forms of government, there were malcontents who objected in flaming speeches at home and in acid letters abroad to the restrictions of the planned life which prevented their commercial expansion. However, it was through this dissatisfied group of men that the rigid limitations of producing only silk, wine and drugs were abandoned, and a freer agricultural scope was allowed the colonists.

During these early years, Oglethorpe had established certain administrative policies which advanced the prospects of the new Colony: the conciliation of the Indians, the regulation of Continental immigration and the establishment of military outposts as defensive measures. Placing of the Scotch Highlanders at Darien in 1735, and building Fort Frederica and a smaller outpost a year later resulted in the ultimate defeat of the Spaniards at Bloody Marsh in 1742, and the permanent establishment of English dominance in America. Five years later, the wisdom of Oglethorpe's Indian policy enabled the colonists to meet an Indian uprising with successful diplomacy and without bloodshed.

With the expiration of the Trustees' Charter in 1754, the Colony of Georgia became a Royal Province. The administration of the first two Royal Governors, John Reynolds and Henry Ellis, passed without particular incident, although their plan of removing the capital from Savannah to Hardwick *(see Dead Towns)*, at the mouth of the Ogeechee River, caused considerable local agitation. The inhabitants fearing that their town was soon to be deserted neglected their gardens, public buildings and homes, and commerce was at a standstill. Savannah, however, was retained as the capital. Later in the same year, Governor Ellis redeemed himself in the eyes of Savannahians by negotiating a successful treaty with the Creek Indians. The Creeks had been stirred against the English by French intrigue, and this treaty cemented the amity that had existed through the years between the Indians and the Colony of Georgia.

During the administration of Sir James Wright, the last Royal Governor, a tension was beginning between England and the other Colonies, though it was little felt in Savannah.

Georgia's attitude was one of stubborn loyalty to the country which had given the original settlers, many of whom were still living, the opportunity to establish themselves in the New World. However, the younger element, whose lives had been spent entirely in the Colony, with no personal association with England, had become infected with the general discontent prevalent in the other Colonies. A Liberty Pole had been erected in front of Tondee's Tavern, in whose Long Room flaming political speeches were daily events. News of the Battle of Lexington had strengthened the cause of liberty in the town. A battalion of Georgia troops had been organized, with Lachlan McIntosh as colonel. The Royal Governor had been arrested and later had escaped to a waiting British vessel. A Provincial Congress had convened and Archibald Bulloch had been elected President. A British war vessel with a large quantity of gunpowder had been captured at the mouth of the Savannah River by a Georgia schooner, and finally the news of the Declaration of Independence reached the city. Under the cedar trees of the old Trustees' Garden celebrations were held and toasts were drunk to a new freedom. The United Colonies had receded into the past with the withered grapevines and neglected mulberry trees of the garden so hopefully started by a handful of British subjects, and in their place had risen the new United, Free and Independent States of America, joyfully welcomed by a sturdy group of American patriots.



THE OLD CITY EXCHANGE

CIVIL AND MILITARY DEVELOPMENT

When Georgia's first Constitutional Convention met in 1777, the regular Constitution of the State was drawn up, and the State, hitherto divided into parishes, was divided into counties. Archibald Bulloch continued in office, but at his death about a year later, he was succeeded by Button Gwinnett, one of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. When two months later Gwinnett was defeated in his campaign for governor, John Adam Treutlen became the first Governor of the State under Georgia's first Constitution. A few days later, Gwinnett died from a mortal wound received

in a duel with Lachlan McIntosh, thus ending the career of one of the State's foremost patriots.

Georgia's position at this time was a precarious one. Tories and Indians who had found refuge at St. Augustine planned to join British forces from the north and make a combined attack on the Colony. The forces from Florida, however, were opposed at Midway by Georgia troops under General Screven, who was killed in the engagement *(see Long Tour 1)*, and the Georgians, retreating as far as the Ogeechee, fortified themselves there. In the latter part of December 1778 the attack on Savannah began. Although the town was surrounded by marshes, making it difficult of entrance, General Howe of the American forces had failed to guard certain hidden routes, and the British captured the city. Sir James Wright, Royal Governor, returned and British rule was again established. Howe, courtmartialed for inefficiency, never regained his military prestige.

Revolutionary activities now centered on retaking Savannah, and after French forces under Count d'Estaing had arrived and joined the American forces under General Lincoln, the famous Siege of Savannah took place. The Americans were repulsed in one of the fiercest battles of the Revolution, in which more than one thousand were killed or wounded, including such heroes as Count Pulaski and Sgt. William Jasper.

When some time later American victories had forced the British to leave the Augusta district, and the British in Savannah had been besieged, the coast city was evacuated. But it was not until nine months after the surrender of Cornwallis that the seat of government was returned to Savannah. During this period, Savannahians were making heroic efforts to efface the ravages of war. Buildings were repaired, the streets and squares were cleaned and replanted. When the town in December 1789 was incorporated as a city by act of legislature, the old look of order had returned.

On May 1, 1786, the Chatham Artillery, one of the oldest military units in the country, was organized. A month later it paid tribute to the memory of Gen. Nathanael Greene, who

had won fame in the southern campaigns of the Revolution. Succumbing to an attack of the sun, General Greene died on June 19 and his remains were interred in the old Colonial Cemetery with military honors. A few years later this organization celebrated a happier event, when Gen. George Washington visited Savannah. Tradition says the President soon after his visit sent two brass six pound cannon as a present to the Chatham Artillery which were used by the company until the War Between the States.

Savannah now entered upon a period of prosperity. Increasing population, the growth of nearby plantations and the disposal of Indian lands were all contributing factors to the general expansion. With the new prosperity, speculation became rife, and four land companies were organized for the purpose of purchasing from Georgia a part of a disputed tract near the Yazoo River. This first sale failed to materialize, but four years later the Yazoo land project was again revived. Upon proof that the four new companies had been promoted by corrupt speculators, who had bribed the legislature, this fraudulent land scheme was settled by a decision of the United States Supreme Court. The Treaty of Paris between England and America had renewed a feeling of amity for the Old Country, and the Treaty of Galphinton, defining the boundary between the Indian lands and Georgia, had settled Indian affairs for a while. A series of disastrous storms and fires had resulted in more substantial construction; and when a city ordinance changed the names of King, Prince and Duke Streets to President, State and Congress Streets, respectively, Savannah took its place with other American towns.

Although Savannah was not attacked during the War of 1812, its proximity to the sea kept the city constantly on the alert. Fort Wayne was still fortified. *(31 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 2.)* Another fort was erected two miles below the city and named Fort Jackson for Gov. James Jackson. A line of defenses was thrown up from the marshes east of the city to the west side of LaFayette Square. From there it extended down Liberty Street Lane to Spring Hill, and, following the

old Ogeechee Canal, terminated at Fahm Street. The old volunteer companies, the Chatham Artillery, Savannah Volunteer Guards, Republican Blues, Georgia Hussars and other companies were organized for war duty. In May 1814 the *Epervier,* a British man-of-war, having on board $10,000 in specie, was brought into port by the United States sloop-of-war *Peacock,* and the money confiscated and distributed.

In 1846 hostilities between the United States and Mexico commenced, and a call was made upon Georgia for a regiment to be sent to the seat of war. The Irish Jasper Greens were selected as one company and, under Captain, later Col. Henry R. Jackson, rendered effective service.

When in December 1860 announcement of the secession of South Carolina was received in Savannah, the news was hailed with delight. A secession flag, with a large rattlesnake and the motto "Don't Tread on Me," was unfurled from the top of Greene Mounment in Johnson Square. Patriotic speeches were made and the volunteer companies again made ready for duty. Governor Brown ordered a local company to occupy Fort Pulaski *(7 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 1 and Fort Pulaski),* at the mouth of the Savannah River, as an act of safety. The adoption of the Ordinance of Secession at Milledgeville was celebrated, and Fort Jackson and Oglethorpe Barracks were seized and occupied by Savannah soldiers. The State convention assembled in March 1861 and adopted a new Constitution, after which the flag of the Confederate States of America was raised over the custom house by Maj. W. J. McIntosh, and a salute of seven guns, one for each Confederate State, was fired. Capt. Francis S. Bartow of the Oglethorpe Light Infantry petitioned Governor Brown to be allowed to go to Virginia. On the Governor's refusal, he offered his company's services to the President, who accepted them. The rejoicing of Savannah's citizens when the gallant captain and his company departed for the seat of war changed to mourning two months later when news was brought to the city of the death of General Bartow and a number of his company who had fallen in the thick of the

Battle of Manassas. After the fall of Fort Pulaski, April 1862, numerous naval engagements in the rivers around Savannah ensued.

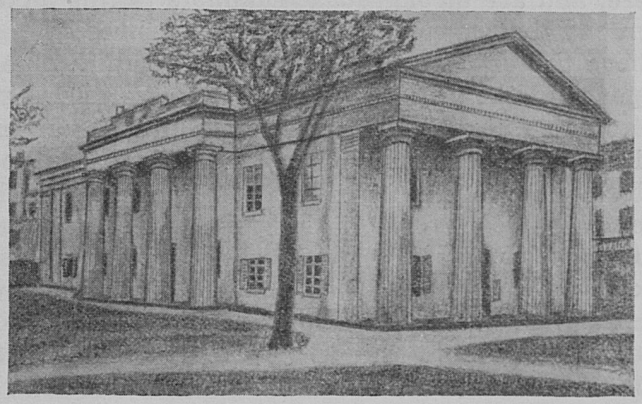
Nothing unusual occurred around Savannah after the fall of the fort except a few petty skirmishes until news reached the city, December 11, 1864, that Sherman's Army had reached the southern and western lines of defense. Awaiting a chance to establish communication with these Federal forces was a large fleet of the enemy's ironclads and other war vessels outside the harbor. Gen. William J. Hardee, in command of the Confederate forces in Savannah, watched the movements of the enemy closely and put the city in the best possible state of defense. A line of breastworks, which are still standing, was constructed along the river front, and many citizens volunteered their services in defense of the city. The extreme right line was guarded by Fort McAllister on the Ogeechee River which had successfully repelled attacks in 1862 and 1863. So spectacular had been that fort's action in the latter engagement that General Beauregard ordered that the colors of all troops be inscribed "Fort McAllister, 3rd March, 1863." The capture of this fort, then, seemed to Federal forces to be of paramount importance in the final subjection of Savannah. General Hazen of the Federal Army was sent in December with nine regiments to take the fort which was commanded by Maj. George W. Anderson of the Confederate forces. The spirited and stubborn resistance of Fort McAllister against this Federal attack, the cool bravery of its gallant defenders and its final forced surrender are highlights in southern history. With the fall of Fort McAllister, the fate of Savannah was sealed; and when on December 19, a powerful force of the enemy was placed on the South Carolina shore, General Hardee deemed it wise to evacuate the city and save his command. On December 25, 1864, General Sherman occupied the city, which he presented in a telegram as a Christmas gift to President Lincoln. *(16 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1.)*

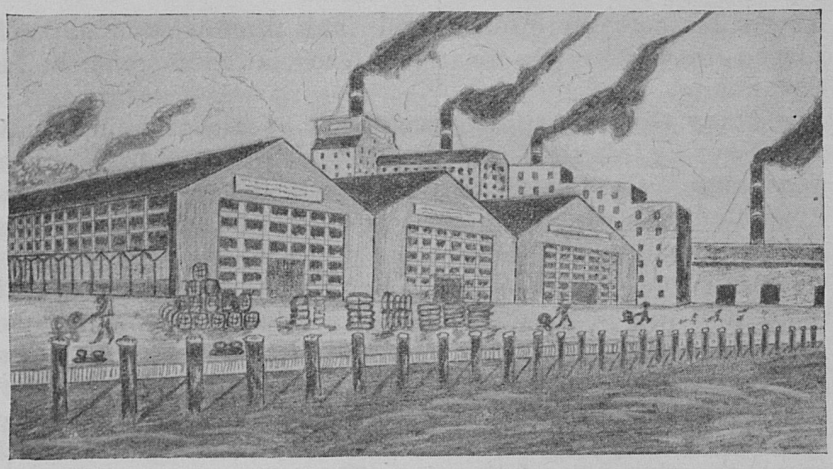
Three thousand soldiers from Georgia answered the call to arms on April 3, 1898, when war was declared on Spain.

The volunteers were organized into three regiments and placed in camps near various Georgia cities, one being Savannah.

Many Georgians filled prominent positions in the Army and Navy at this time; among them was Brig. Gen. William Washington Gordon of Savannah, who after the war was appointed on a commission by President McKinley to arrange for the evacuation of Porto Rico.

On April 17, 1917, the United States entered the World War, and the same old volunteer companies which had so valiantly responded to the call of duty in previous wars made ready to enter the new conflict. That they upheld the military traditions of Savannah, whose record had been an honorable one, is evidenced by the rolls of honor so proudly cherished in all the churches of the city. The impressive monuments to the heroes of the past that are the focal points of the squares of the city, as well as the marker in honor of the World War dead at the head of Victory Drive, are silent reminders of Savannah's heroes, who through their sacrifice still live.





INDUSTRIAL SECTION

INDUSTRY

From the shores of the Savannah River vast billows of smoke clouding the gray tops of ancient oaks swirl skyward, fanned by the busy commercial wheel of Savannah. Often the odors of oil, turpentine and fertilizer permeate the atmosphere, and are incongruous reminders to this picturesque southern city that its commercial wheel revolves.

Above the echoes of giant drums pounding pine blocks into paper pulp, the thin scream of a tugboat propelling barges loaded to the waterline with cotton sounds a warning to a languid Negro leisurely fishing in its path. Songs, loud and lusty, float out over the river, as glistening Negroes pile bales of cotton or barrels of spirits along the wharves or feed into the hole of a waiting ship cargoes of finished products manufactured along Savannah's riverfront. Many miles on the city side of the river are lined with progressive industries whose activities contribute to the wealth of the city and whose products reach the ports of the world.

One of the three major reasons for the founding of Savannah was to establish an agricultural experiment that would provide work for the unemployed of England. Economists,

rebelling against the high annual taxes paid to other nations on silks, wines and drugs, chose Savannah with its equable climate as a suitable place for producing these commodities, and chose those without other means of maintenance as colonists to accomplish this purpose. Ten acres to the east of the city were cleared in which were planted white mulberry trees and varied exotic plants from the nations of the earth. This garden, the nursery for the entire Province, was Georgia's first agricultural experiment station and was named the Trustees' Garden for that group of philanthropists who sponsored the project. *(31 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 2 and English Colonization.)*

While awaiting the results of their year's planting, the early settlers sent to England the first cargo of products from the New World. This shipment consisted of "23 skins, 3 bottles of bear's oyl, and several parcels of Sea Root, Snake Root, Rattlesnake Root, Sassafras, Cenna Root, Shumack and Contrayerva." Thus Savannah's commerce began.

In 1735 the silk growers of the Colony sent to England 8 pounds of raw Savannah silk which Queen Caroline had woven into a dress to wear at a court levee. With this shipment of silk a small amount of rice was sent to show the possibilities of varied planting. While neither work nor expense were spared in promoting the silk industry, private journals of that time give depressing accounts of the difficulties which beset the venture at every turn. Labor troubles, inadequate machinery and a general indifference on the part of a majority of the colonists, who sensed opportunities for quicker financial returns on other products, combined to make silk growing an unsatisfactory enterprise. The wine and drug industries were even shorter-lived; an unsuitable soil and climate ended the dream of making Georgia a wine and drug Colony, and the beautiful Trustees' Garden was in time claimed by the encroaching jungle.

In 1744 Francis Harris and James Habersham established the first commercial house in the town and a lively trade sprang up between the new Colony and the Old World. Substantial profits were immediately realized upon lumber, hogs,

deerskins and other products which were shipped to England. So satisfactory was the result of the first venture into general commerce that the colonists begged that they be allowed to abandon the exclusive production of silk and wine and be permitted a freer hand with other commodities.

With the introduction of slave labor, rice, indigo and lumber successfully supplanted the first unprofitable efforts, and as the years passed the cultivation of rice became the principal source of wealth for Savannah. The profits from this culture were so lucrative that all lowlands adjacent to the town, up to the doorsills of the houses, were planted in rice. To counteract any disadvantages of wet lands in too close proximity to Savannah, the culture of rice within a radius of a mile from the city's limits was prohibited, and $40 per acre was paid for land in this area that was taken out of rice cultivation.

During this early period of development, cotton played an insignificant part in the commercial growth of the town. About the same time that there were exported through the port of Savannah 12,498½ pounds of indigo and 420 barrels of rice, only eight small bags of cotton were sent to the Old World.

Adequate transportation facilities were early recognized as a commercial necessity. Shortly after the town was settled, roads were built inland connecting later communities with Savannah, while the river on which the town was situated furnished natural transportation with coastal settlements. As Savannah grew and ships began to arrive in numbers, wharves and warehouses were built to receive imports and to provide storage facilities for plantation products. Retail stores and auction centers were established to dispose of imported goods in the town, while in the surrounding territory plantations increased in size and production. Late in 1768 Savannah merchants, cooperating with merchants of other Colonies, met and passed resolutions not to import any article that could be manufactured at home. This "buy at home" movement resulted in the building of many forges, brick kilns and breweries in the town and its nearby communities, and Savannah, with

its home industries and the constant influx of agricultural commodities from surrounding plantations, began to be recognized as one of the leading ports of America.

During the Revolutionary War and for a few years after, Savannah's commerce was at a standstill, but in 1793 an event of momentous importance occurred, which began for Savannah a prosperity lasting until the War Between the States. Eli Whitney, a law student tutoring the children of Mrs. Nathanael Greene at Mulberry Grove near Savannah, invented a machine that would successfully separate lint cotton from the seed. With the invention of Whitney's cotton gin, cotton prices sprang from 14 cents per pound to 37 cents, land prices climbed to unheard-of heights and plantations prospered. A potent factor in sustaining a high price level was the commodity exchange in Savannah, through which the trading of the State was carried on. Although there were other active ports along the coast, cotton was brought from all outlying districts to the Savannah market, where the best prices could be secured, and cotton remained above 20 cents per pound until 1810.

At this time, in addition to cotton, increasing quantities of tobacco from South Carolina and Georgia were shipped through the port of Savannah. A steady stream of river boats handled cotton, corn and rice from Augusta to Savannah, with a return cargo of foreign products; thus Savannah at the beginning of the nineteenth century became one of the foremost commercial exchanges in the South.

During the War of 1812, with a cessation of shipping, cotton and commodity prices lagged. With foreign markets temporarily unavailable, planting was limited to home demands. This static condition, however, resulted in the adoption of a diversified farm program, which ultimately caused an agricultural improvement throughout the section.

Following the War of 1812 increased transportation facilities produced a steady growth in every line of commerce and industry. The launching of the first steamship, the construction of many railroads and the increased transportation facilities by river and canal brought varied products and in-

creasing wealth, and Savannah entered its Golden Age which lasted until the fatal eighteen-sixties.

During the tragic days of Reconstruction with slavery abolished, plantations laid waste, money worthless and banks closed, commerce and industry were practically dead. The prosperity of Savannah had depended upon the products of the vast plantation system which had brought to all parts of the South wealth, ease and culture. Unused to labor and with no means of hiring any, the owners of the great plantations produced on the once fertile acres only enough for their individual needs; or, crushed by the futility of any commercial efforts on the lands, they gradually drifted into towns and started a new existence in various small businesses. With a cessation of all planting, Savannah, which had grown into a metropolis through its shipping and agricultural activities, stood static for some years following this debacle.

However, the pine forests in surrounding sections brought new life into the city by becoming the nucleus of two prosperous industries, naval stores and lumber. These, giving employment to many who had been ruined by the war and attracting people from other parts of the country, began a slow recuperation in the city's commercial life.

When cotton production reached pre-war level about 1878, and the founding of the Naval Stores Exchange in 1882 established Savannah's rank as the first naval stores port, a period of successful advancement ensued. The gay nineties of the world's social development became the prosperous nineties in Savannah's commercial progress. The lumber industry steadily expanded; tremendous crops of cotton and tobacco were shipped; and naval stores, reaching the peak of expansion in 1896-97, when 1,500,000 barrels handled at this port attracted world attention. *(See Industrial Section, Vicinity Map.)* Savannah seemed in a fair way of becoming once more a metropolis. However, various conditions prevented. For example, the city, long dependent on a varied agriculture, was loath to change to other enterprises; and, recognizing its natural advantages as a shipping and agricultural center, it had paid but slight attention to industries and manufactories.

Other towns, with but few natural resources and forging ahead through a diversity of manufacturing interests, had far outstripped it in size.

When at the beginning of the twentieth century there came a slight decline in the production of cotton and naval stores, Savannah turned its attention to the small industries which were then beginning to spring up. A large cottonseed oil company that had built its plant in 1887 was beginning to expand and bring wealth to the community. The head of its chemical department had just perfected a new process of purifying the oil which established it as one of the purest on the market. Today this refinery, one of the largest in the country, sends products to every part of the world. In the first years of the new century, a large sugar refinery was established in the city. Today, with a melting capacity of 2,500,000 pounds of raw sugar daily, furnishing employment to five hundred whose salaries aggregate $15,000 weekly, and paying the government a daily import duty of $24,000 on raw sugar, this plant sends its famous "Dixie Crystals" to every part of the United States. *(See Industrial Section, Vicinity Map.)*

When the World War was declared, trading activities reached a new speed. The prices of naval stores began to climb; cotton soared to the unheard-of height of 42 cents a pound; shipyards were hastily erected along the waterfront; railroads and factories put on double shifts, and Savannah's commercial wheel whirled at a new and dizzier speed.

During the last days of the War the bollweevil made its disastrous descent upon Georgia's cotton fields. The cultivation of sea island cotton ceased altogether, and only a small amount of short staple cotton was grown. Prices of commodities reached a low level, factories slowed down and shipping was negligible. However, this condition was only temporary, and the period 1925-26-27 brought brighter prospects. The bollweevil blight was in some measure controlled, and the planting of a diversity of crops brought an upward trend to all business. Savannah again began to expand; many of the closed factories were put into operation and new industries

were started. This commercial revival continued until the years of depression slowed down the tempo of all industrial activity. Savannah, however, suffered less at this time than many other commercial centers. It was in these years that its conservative attitude in business affairs stood the city in good stead. Not influenced by the wild speculative ventures which threw most of the country into a frenzy of quick money-making, not expanding its industries beyond reasonable demands, Savannah weathered the years of depression and laid the foundation for continued growth and expansion.

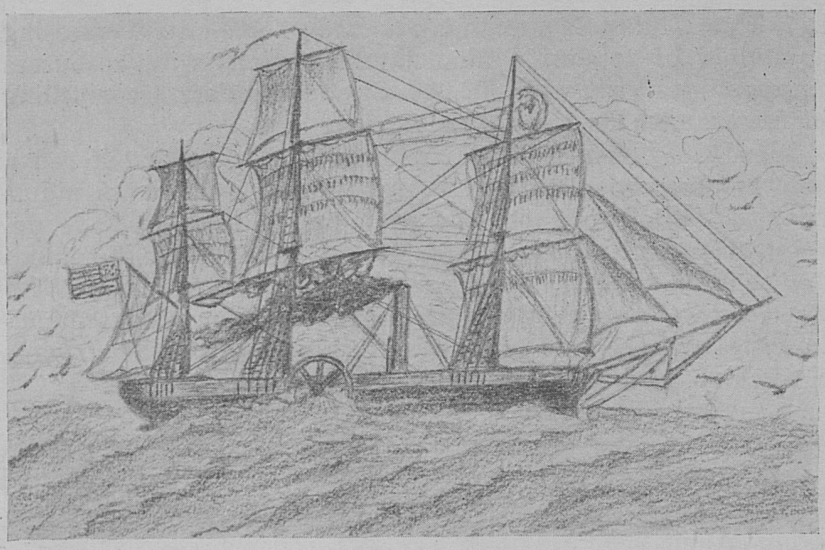
It is significant that in the lean years just passed, as in the years following the Reconstruction Era, the pine forests again became the vitalizing force in a commercial revival. Through a pulp and paper laboratory located here recent investigations of the possibilities of slash pine in making paper pulp have led to one of the newest additions to Savannah's industries. A paper and bag mill costing $9,000,000 employs more than a thousand persons and manufactures twelve million bags daily. These are among the two hundred industries which have kept Savannah's commercial wheel steadily revolving. In addition to these, there are twelve fertilizer plants, nineteen lumber and woodworking companies, a cigar factory and an extensive seafood plant with subsidiaries in other towns. Also numbers of lesser manufactories produce a diversity of articles which are shipped throughout the country and abroad. *(See Industrial Section, Vicinity Map.)*

Shipping, steadily on the increase, carried from the port in 1935 cargoes exceeding $24,936,716 in value; of this amount $4,479,000 was in tobacco, while the balance represented cotton, naval stores, corn, sugar, lumber and other local products. In this same period of time, 896,806 tons of petroleum products were received here by the great petroleum companies, and the many fertilizer companies imported thousands of tons of fertilizer materials. *(See Industrial Section, Vicinity Map.)*

In describing the steady growth of Savannah's industrial life, mention should be made of the backbone of all commercial and industrial expansion, ample banking facilities.

In this particular, Savannah is extremely fortunate. Possessing a number of reputable financial institutions with resources aggregating nearly $125,000,000, Savannah offers a compelling inducement for new industries to locate here.

In 1935, on this sound foundation, Savannah entered a new commercial era. The struggles that marked its industrial survival throughout the period of depression have developed a spirit of cooperation which, at the birth of today's industrial recovery, augurs well for continued growth. With great natural resources, an excellent climate, increasing manufactories and the new friendly spirit working together toward a common goal, Savannah's future is predicated.



STEAMSHIP SAVANNAH

TRANSPORTATION

The site of Savannah was selected by Oglethorpe because of its natural advantages. For years the Indian village of Yamacraw had occupied this site and here John Musgrove had established a trading post which carried on a lively traffic with Carolina and England. With this basic means of transportation, navigable water, Savannah began its career of trade and shipping. Shortly after the city had been established, Oglethorpe placed inland settlements at strategic points and began laying out roads between these places and Savannah, making the latter the port for the Colony as a whole. In addition to these inland towns, other communities were established at the heads of navigation so that the cheaper river transportation could be used. Thus it was not long before these early settlements were crudely connected for the transport of necessary commodities. Soon, with the planting of large crops such as indigo, rice and later cotton for commercial purposes, the necessity for good transportation steadily increased.

Augusta sent its commodities directly to Savannah by river; from Macon and Milledgeville they went to Darien and thence to Savannah. The return trip with products from the port required hard toil, however, for the boats had to be forced slowly upstream by poles. Gangs of slaves were employed, and about ten miles per day were covered by a crew of fifteen men. To reach one of the inland towns by road was equally difficult. Merchants used great canvas-covered wagons in which were carried provisions, cooking utensils and blankets, and neighbors who had to make such journeys traveled together in long wagon trains.

By the early part of the nineteenth century Georgia had a creditable system of roads connecting the principal towns, and regular stagecoach schedules were published in the newspapers. As late as 1840 advertisements of the New Southern Line, featuring stagecoach transportation between New York and New Orleans, appeared in the *Charleston Courier* and catered to the Savannah-Charleston trade.

The clearing and building of these early roads were let at public outcry to the lowest bidder, and the residents of the section through which the road passed had either to maintain it by their own labor or by slave labor. Public inns were dotted along the road where the weary traveler might refresh himself and his horse. A house, believed to have been one of these old inns, is still standing on the old Post Road, originally an Indian trail that ran from St. Augustine, Florida, northward through South Georgia to Savannah, Louisville and Milledgeville.

Stretches of road and often bridges were built by private individuals or companies that bought franchises from the State. These monopolies provided a lucrative business, since coaches, farm wagons and other conveyances had to draw rein and pay toll many times before they reached their destination. For example, in outlining the amount of toll to be paid on a privately owned bridge, an old Georgia law book states that the toll shall be as follows, "to wit: for a loaded wagon and team 37½ cents; for an empty wagon and team 25 cents; for a four wheeled pleasure carriage, 25 cents;

for a cart and one horse, 12½ cents; for a cart and two horses, 18¾ cents; for a led horse, 6¼ cents; for each head of hogs, sheep or goats, 2 cents."

Canoes and bateaux, also important means of transportation, were soon followed by larger boats or "cotton boxes" which were used to float bales of cotton to market. These rafts, however, had the disadvantage of moving only with the current, and at the end of the journey they were broken up and sold as lumber.

At this period novel inventions in transportation became commonplace. In 1788 the State issued a patent on a steam engine to William Longstreet, who used the engine, two years later, to propel a boat up the Savannah River at the rate of five miles an hour. A steamboat monopoly was granted to Samuel Howard in 1814, at which time he sent his *Enterprise* to Augusta. In April 1816 the *Savannah Republican* contained the following news item on the opening of steamboat transportation on the Savannah River: ". . . the steamboat *Enterprise* with a numerous concourse of citizens on board started from Howard's wharf yesterday morning at twelve o'clock on a party of pleasure. She moved beautifully through the water, and was certainly an interesting curiosity to those who had not seen steam vessels elsewhere. To behold a large and apparently unwieldy machine, without bars or sails propelled through the elements by an invisible agency at a rate of four miles an hour, is indeed a novel spectacle." Ten years after the invention of the steamboat by Robert Fulton (1807), this form of transportation was in use on the Savannah River.

Made important by the novel development of steam power, canals became a source of great interest, and in 1818 three canals were chartered. In 1820 a boat powered by nineteen horses went up the river to Augusta. The horses moved around the deck on a pulley-belt attached to a propelling shaft in the center of the boat. Inventive genius was not lacking, and beginning with such oddities as these, the citizens of Savannah advanced to a creditable place in the development of the steamboat.

Doubt as to the practical feasibility of rail transportation by steam was expressed in the first effective charter obtained for a line to Macon. The Central Railroad & Canal Co. was chartered in 1833 with the right to construct either a railway or a canal as might be found more expedient. Two years later the charter was altered by the elimination of the word *canal,* the addition of banking privileges and the change of the name to The Central Railroad & Banking Co. of Georgia.

The interest of Savannah followed not only the inland water channels, but also steam ocean navigation; and in 1808 plans for steam navigation were made and finally materialized. A group of Savannah merchants, outstanding among whom was William Scarborough, conceived and carried into execution the first plan for equipping ocean-going vessels with steam engines. Although the idea was far in advance of the time, a company was formed and incorporated as the Savannah Steamship Co., December 19, 1818. This was the first transoceanic steamship company in the world. As a result the *Steamship Savannah* was built at Corlear's Hook, N. Y., by the firm of Crocker & Pickett. This vessel, equipped with adjustable paddlewheels and with a burden of about 380 tons, was launched with the customary ceremonies early in the spring of 1819. Commanded by Capt. Moses Rogers, an engineer of experience, the ship reached Savannah on March 28, 1819, where on her arrival she was enthusiastically received by hundreds of citizens who had assembled on the wharves to welcome her.

President James Monroe visited the city for this event, and among the many entertainments in his honor was a round trip to Tybee on the new ship. The President was so impressed with the advantages of the steam vessel over the old sailing vessel that he advised Mr. Scarborough to bring her to Washington after her initial trip across the Atlantic, because he felt that the Government might purchase her for use as a cruiser on the coast of China.

1819 On May 20, ~~1918~~, with Captain Rogers in command the *Steamship Savannah* sailed for Liverpool. Since careful preparations had been made for provisions and fuel, the success

of the venture was assured. A month later on her arrival off the coast of England, she presented a terrifying sight to the inhabitants. Enveloped in smoke and with sparks of fire shooting heavenward, the craft seemed headed for destruction. However, to the admiration and awe of all onlookers who had crowded the banks of the Mersey to view the phenomenon, this vessel steamed up the river with flags flying, as "proud as any princess going to her coronation."

After a month's stay in Liverpool, where the new type of ship was visited by thousands of persons, the trip was continued to St. Petersburg, Russia, where Captain Rogers and his unique craft received much attention. In November of the same year the return trip to Savannah was completed without accident of any kind. As a new venture the trip was a success, but economically it was a failure, since the cost of the engines and the inadequate fuel storage capacity made the voyage an expensive one. For these reasons the engines were removed and the *Steamship Savannah* was converted into a sailing vessel, after which she plied the coast between New York and Savannah and was finally lost off the shore of Long Island in November 1822.

All that remains today of this first trans-Atlantic steamship are the old log book and a cylinder which are preserved in the National Museum in Washington. In commemoration of the successful voyage of the *Steamship Savannah,* President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935 set aside May 22 as National Maritime Day.

In 1834 Gazaway B. Lamar, a local banker and cotton merchant, had John Laird of Birkenhead, England, manufacture for him iron plates which were riveted together in Savannah into the first iron vessel ever seen in American waters. This vessel was called the *John Randolph.*

Parallel developments which were hailed with delight by Georgians were taking place in railway construction and transportation. One of the earliest steam railroads in the State was the Central of Georgia, and one of the earliest railroads in America was a crude horse-drawn railroad built and operated by Henry McAlpin at his plantation home, the

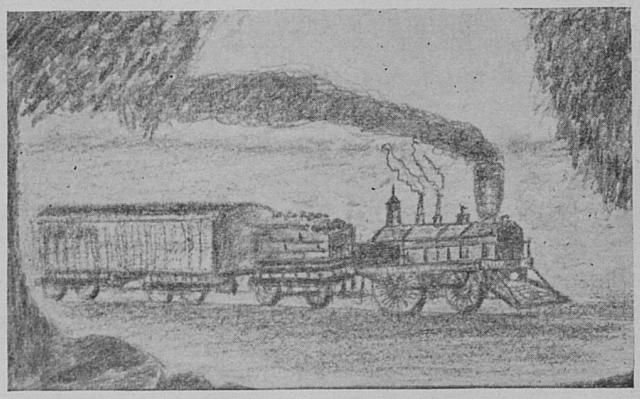
Hermitage *(19 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 3)*, near Savannah. This primitive conveyance, built six years before the railroad at Quincy, Mass., was set on flanged rails and was operated at Mr. McAlpin's brick factory, where it was kept in operation for forty-seven years. The charter of the Central of Georgia & Banking Co. was granted in 1835, and 67 miles of track had been completed by May 1836. In 1843 the 190 miles to Macon were completed at a cost of $2,500,000.

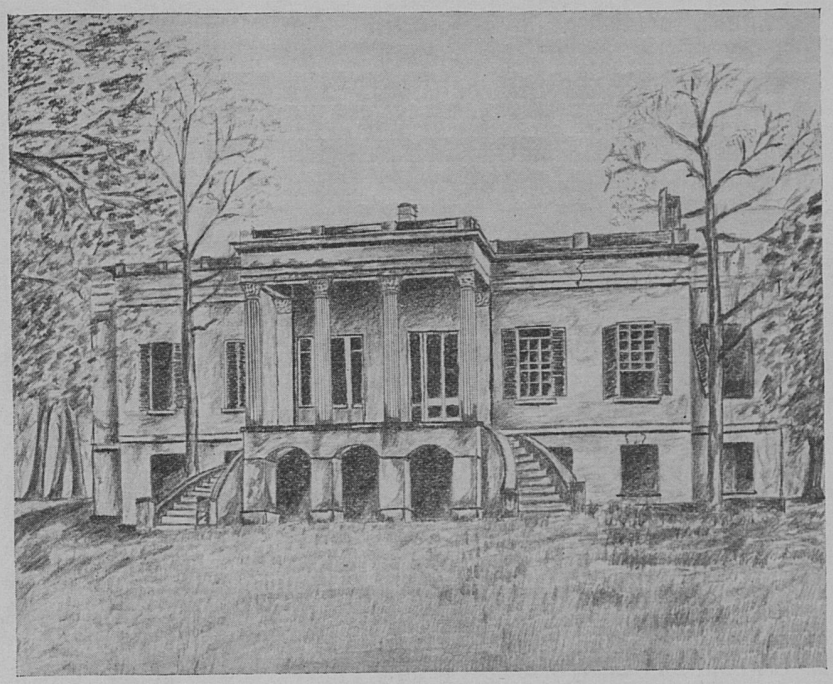
Savannah through its interest in racing also contributed a large share to the advancement and development of the automobile. In 1908, 1910 and 1911 the International Grand Prix Race and the Vanderbilt Cup Race were held in Savannah, which gave the city international prestige in the automobile world. In 1911 a contemporary account stated: "The Savannah automobile course is now the cynosure of the eyes of the entire world, because on this course November 27-30, 1911, the Vanderbilt Cup Race and International Grand Prix Race will be run, the greatest combination automobile event in the history of the world." These races, like the Ascot and the Kentucky Derby in another field, drew society from all parts of the country, and Savannah was attired in holiday dress for the occasion.

As a result good roads have been constructed. The Atlantic Coastal Highway (U. S. No. 17) between Maine and Florida, one of the most beautiful scenic highways in the country, was cut through Savannah in 1924. This part of the coast, particularly low and marshy, was ill adapted to the easy construction of roads; but the difficult sections were spanned and the gigantic task was accomplished.

Today Savannah has a fine airport, ample facilities for motorists, railroad terminals and steamship passenger and frieght service to all parts of the world. Eleven lines of railroad enter the city; coast steamers ply between Savannah and all of the important Atlantic ports; river steamers connect Savannah with points on the Inland Waterway; forty-one lines of internationally known companies operate ocean freighters between Savannah and the ports of the world, which in addition to being freight carriers have comfortable

quarters for passengers. Thus Savannah, with its strategic position on the Atlantic, its comprehensive system of highways and its railroads, bus and air lines extending north, south and west, is a transportation hub.





THE HERMITAGE

THE OLD SOUTH

Oglethorpe and the other Trustees, sitting in conference in England, visioned the wide savannas and forested tracts of Georgia and saw prosperity coming to the colonists on the leaves of the mulberry tree and the trailing vines of grapes. The Trustees planned that the Colony to be founded should manufacture drugs for the world and that its sweeping plains should be devoted to silk and wine industries.

This decision was the beginning of the Georgia plantations, that in time were to form part of that vast agricultural network of the South, the backbone of southern industry. For extremely low sums the Trustees leased large tracts of land to colonists who were ambitious to own farms or to establish silk plantations or grape vineyards. Early in the spring of 1733 men were riding through the woods around

Savannah marking off boundaries and cutting paths from the log cabins of the settlement to the banks of the inland rivers. Many of the old roads still remain today to recall the time when pioneer Georgians galloped over them on horseback. Most of the settlers who cultivated large areas were subsequently granted their lands by the Trustees or by the King himself.

Very soon hundreds of mulberry trees were sprouting leaves and vineyards were struggling to gain a foothold in the low river country. The colonists, living in small dwellings built roughly of hewn logs, nursed sickly worms and coaxed grapevines to grow; and at first it seemed that perhaps their endeavors would succeed. The Queen of England on the King's birthday wore a dress made of 8 pounds of raw Georgia silk that Oglethorpe had presented to her; and in the Colony enough wine was being pressed to satisfy the wants of the settlement. After a few brief years, however, it became apparent that Georgia was not a land suitable for the production of silk and wine and, reluctantly, the Trustees abandoned these two industries. A few mulberry trees and several old names, Wormsloe, Mulberry Grove, Silk Hope *(11, 22, 25 Vicinity Map)*, still remind Georgia that once it aspired to be a silk Colony.

Soon the plantations, with nature selecting the crops best suited to the climate, began to take on a semblance of the grandeur that reached its zenith in the Golden Age of the pre-war era. Rice fields stretched for acres along the marshy shores, and cotton began to appear in endless tracts. Finer homes replaced little wooden structures; some of these, built of English brick and planed logs, are still standing under the trees as of old. They were furnished lavishly with all the comforts and luxuries of homes in England. To this scene was added the Negro, who toiled in the fields and was the economic support of the culture and wealth of the ante-bellum South.

As prosperity under the agrarian system became a reality, the plantations grew to be almost like small kingdoms sufficient unto themselves. The master in his palatial mansion was

the king and his white tenants and Negro slaves were his subjects. Almost everything the family needed could be grown or manufactured on the efficiently run plantation. "Missus" had her imported silk frocks but she also had dresses of fine cotton grown on her husband's lands. The visitor who knew the hospitality of her home went away praising the abundant variety of savory food that loaded the table: cured meats, preserves, fresh vegetables and brandy, all products of the plantation. Farm products shipped in enormous quantities to the North and to foreign ports kept wealth rolling into the coffers of the landowners, and the southern city reached a stage of incredible prosperity.

A glimpse of a rice plantation may be had through the eyes of a northern traveler who spent a day in 1853 inspecting one of these estates. He approached the owner's house through "the proverbial avenue of live oaks draped with moss and found the household economy carried on in a style appropriate to a wealthy and cultured gentleman's home." The slave quarters formed a "street of framed, boarded, whitewashed cabins," plastered inside, with front and back doors, windows and closets, and housing an average of five persons. He found the interiors dirty and disorderly and humorously remarked that "it was a pleasant indication that their home life was not interfered with." He saw the slaves themselves, under the supervision of a "gentlemanly mulatto," engaged in various activities about the farm: working in the rice mill, draining ditches, planting and threshing crops and preparing shipments. All the slaves, he said, seemed "light and cheerful" and went about their duties in a leisurely, docile fashion.

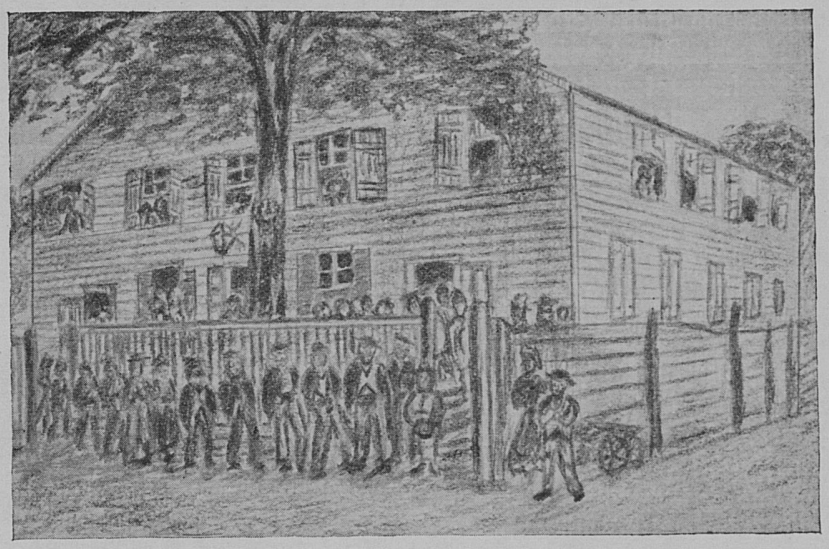
The War Between the States completely obliterated this picture of the southern plantation. After the war families returned to desolate, charred fields to find in the ashes of their proud homes the symbol of a dead prosperity, and many left the scene of their misfortunes never to return. Brambles and trees reclaimed the land as a wilderness, and today the spectator drives for miles past acres of untenanted woods and weedy fields to come upon a plaque stating that this was once the country seat of a famous soldier or statesman of post-

Revolutionary or ante-bellum times. In some cases the deserted lands have been taken over by industries; on others a few brave, undaunted souls set to work to retrieve what had been lost, and by these few families homes were rebuilt.

The South in the seventy years since the war has centered its economic activities largely in the cities and towns. Owners left the cotton and rice fields to become small business executives, white-collar workers or laborers in industrial towns. The southern city of Savannah began to spread out in all directions, throwing up the smoke-stacks of mills, developing the innumerable harsh noises of a busy manufacturing center. All this time, the poverty of the planter class stalked grimly beside the new industrial prosperity, and rich acres of river-land lay idle. There was the small farmer, to be sure, but he found the market such as to return him barely the cost of his product. Agriculture in the agricultural South struggled desperately without assistance or hope.

Of late, however, wealthy capitalists have purchased historic lands and demonstrated that they can be restored to a productive basis. In the past half decade the aid offered the planter by the Federal government has fostered a slow return to the soil. Under the guidance of the new progressive economic ideal, the South can look forward to the time when every inch of this low country will produce bread, employment and security for every one of its millions of inhabitants.





FIRST BRYAN BAPTIST CHURCH

NEGRO LIFE AND HISTORY

Note: This Article was written by the Negro workers on the Writers' Project.

The history of Savannah with its handsome skyline, its beautiful buildings and its thriving commerce could not be written without mention of the Negro. He was here when the trees were cut to lay out the beautiful city; for there is an old legend among the early Negroes that a ship of black men from San Domingo came up the Savannah River and conquered the Spanish on the coast long before Oglethorpe planned a Colony on the new continent.

Slavery began in Georgia in the year 1749. When silk culture declined, rice and cotton were planted in its place, and the Negro was brought from Africa and the West Indies for work in these fields. As these industries grew the slave trade flourished, and Savannah became one of the largest slave-trading cities of the South. The planter lived luxuriously in the "big house" while the slaves lived a few yards away in

the quarters. These one-room huts made of shell and lime were built in two rows facing each other, and in each lived a whole family.

Good times prevailed in the quarters when there was a celebration, especially on the day Aunt Julie and Uncle Isaac "jump de broom stick." All the slaves of the neighboring plantations came, for there would be a wedding feast and young massa had given a hog for a barbecue. Merriment and dancing would abound until early morning when the fiddlers would still be playing:

"De Jawbone walk, de Jawbone talk,
And de Jawbone eat wid a knife and fork.
I left mah Jawbone on de fence,
And I ain't seed mah Jawbone sence."

But one merrymaker is slipping from the crowd as the sun comes up, for the "patrol" will be on watch for anybody who has no pass to leave his plantation, and as he goes along he sings:

"Oh, Mister watchman, don't ketch me;
Ketch dat nigger behind dat tree."

Plantation life is not all laughter, for death has come among the slaves and taken a beloved comrade. The carpenter with the strings of his width and length sorrowfully drives the nails for the board coffin; the body is wrapped in a homespun sheet and placed in the rough box. The slaves with pine torches gather in the twilight after the day's work making a weird and sorrowful procession as they march to the tune of a mournful chant down to the bottom of the field to the slaves' burying ground. There they lay the dead man to rest, hoping that he will be given those "golden slippers" in that heaven which the Negro preacher, George Leile, has told them about. When the last earth is placed on the grave, they trudge sadly singing:

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot,
Comin' for to carry me home."

The slave worked in the field from sun up to sun down, but the carpenter, blacksmith, coppersmith, dressmaker, weaver or dyer had to complete his task before the day was over. The coachman, the butler, the housegirl served the master and mistress loyally and diligently; no better cook could be found than "Mammy Chloe" with her bright turban. She made delicious "ashcake" and reigned majestically over the skillet, dutchoven and kettle hanging above the large fireplace.

The plantation Negro's religion was like the white master's. He had heard about it from the balcony of the white churches but somehow it did not satisfy his African desires. So he found consolation in his own type of religion in the old houses known as "praise houses" where he shouted and sang, making songs to a strange God in a strange land: *I'm so glad Trouble Don't Last Always* and *Bye and Bye Trouble Don't Last Always.*

In 1788 to one of these meetings came Abraham Marshall and baptized forty-five converts. He ordained Andrew Bryan, a black preacher baptized by George Leile before the latter went to the West Indies. The Reverend Marshall organized the flock into a church and made "Black Andrew" its pastor. This was the first African Baptist Church in America. The members worshiped for a long period in the old barn on Brampton Plantation owned by Jonathan Bryan. *(20 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 3.)* Joyous in the privilege allowed them and with much pride they gathered on the Lord's Day singing the songs of Zion and making melody in their hearts. Andrew Bryan worked incessantly and, though persecuted and whipped, his efforts were crowned with success. He purchased his freedom and finally bought land in the Yamacraw village *(59 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 3),* where his congregation built a wooden structure on the spot where now stands the First Bryan Baptist Church.

Not all the early Negro Christians were Baptists. The Rev. D. W. Kennerly organized St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Habersham and Harris Streets, in 1856 with fifty-five members. The edifice was remodeled from the building of the old

Unitarian Church. This is the oldest Negro Episcopal Church in Georgia and the second oldest in the South.

Like the Children of Israel the Negro slave went through a period of bondage and in most instances he was docile, loyal and carefree, but that he hoped for a better day was shown in his song for delivery. The only attempt he made for physical freedom was in the insurrection of 1768, and this failed due to some misunderstanding. Though no other group ever again made such an attempt, in 1840 there were about five hundred free Negroes living in Savannah, interested in the African colonization idea. In this year a group left for Liberia. A second colonization attempt was made in 1894 through Bishop Turner of the A.M.E. Church when one hundred and ninety-seven Negroes left for Liberia singing *I'm Bound For The Promise Land.* After the importation of slaves had been prohibited, smugglers took up the trade; but at the height of this traffic the war and finally emancipation ended the slave's bondage forever.

There were Negroes in both the Union and Confederate Armies. Some ran away and joined the Union Army but many were loyal to the South. Among these Alexander Harris and William Waters served as drummers with the Republican Blues, while J. H. Deveaux served heroically in the Mosquito Fleet, these men serving under the Confederate flag. Many went as cooks, teamsters and bodyguards. George Carter, an ex-slave of Dr. Richard Arnold, tells how he was sent as body guard to Captain Potter. He reached Charleston, but hearing guns firing, he ran away; he came in contact with the rear of Wheeler's cavalry and was crossing the pontoon bridge when some of the soldiers pulled the bridge and threw him in the water. He swam to safety, got by the pickets and reached his master once again.

News of the Emancipation Proclamation reached Savannah a few days following its issuance and there was great rejoicing among the Negroes. In 1865 the Amendment was added to the Constitution and the Savannah Negro displayed supreme ecstasy and sublime joy. The streets were crowded with Negroes marching up and down rejoicing, for now they

could forever blend their voices majestically heavenward singing, "Tang God I'm free at last."

As always the church continues to play a large part in the life of the Negro. New types of religion come into being each day, among which are Father Divine's Peace Mission, Fire Baptizer The Church, Triumph the Church of Christ, Sanctification and the House of Prayer. Largest of these is the House of Prayer, under Bishop Grace who claims the power to heal the sick, restore the blind and make the lame walk; for this he sells a consecrated handkerchief and magazine. The music in the services arouses the crowd to an emotional frenzy in which they dance, shout and murmur inarticulate words. In connection with his religion the Negro has developed his folksong and music. *Heaven Bound* resulted from his wonderful store of spirituals. It rivals *Green Pastures* in its picture of heaven and has been used over and over by the Savannah Negro churches.

The Negro has developed to a greater extent in education than in anything else he has attempted. Except for an early effort made in secret by the Rev. James M. Sims on Berrien Street, the first school for Negroes was opened by the American Missionary Association. This was Beach Institute founded in 1867 on Harris and Price Streets. In 1878 the Board of Education established its first public school for Negroes, and through Mr. DeRenne* the old Scarborough Mansion was secured. *(64 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 3.)* It is located in Yamacraw, the most thickly populated Negro residential section of Savannah. The Negro of Savannah has a great educational opportunity at his door, fine public schools, the parochial schools of the Catholic Church and college education at the Georgia Industrial College.

The Georgia Industrial College, established by an act of legislature in 1891 for the education of Negro youth, is under the leadership of one of the outstanding educators of the Negro race, Pres. Benjamin F. Hubert, a man of broad vision and vast experience. *(See Contemporary Scene.)* The college is at Thunderbolt, a suburb of Savannah, and offers

* Wymberley Jones DeRenne.

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normal and college work with trades and agriculture. It fits the youth for a useful life in his community. Besides the college library, the Carnegie Library provides five thousand volumes for the use of Negro citizens.

Health, a most essential factor in the development of a people, is one that has had much to do with the advancement of the Savannah Negro. The Georgia Infirmary, 1909 Lincoln Street, opened in 1832, is the oldest hospital for Negroes in the United States. It came into being through the generosity of Thomas Williams, a merchant of Savannah. It has all modern equipment and a school for nurses. Negroes themselves played an important part in improving health conditions when the McKane Hospital was founded by Dr. McKane in 1893. This hospital later became the Charity Hospital, 644 36th Street W., which is one of the best equipped hospitals for Negroes in Georgia. It is a brick building with all modern conveniences.

Closely related to health is recreation, and in the modern Negro community this has been provided through public playgrounds. There are seven playgrounds and playleaders. Through the WPA, the recreational program has been broadened and intensive interest has been shown in the results. The City and Federal Governments have provided a beautiful recreation center and swimming pool with supervised leadership. The Boy Scouts' activities have been enlarged through Rev. Gustave Caution. Summer camps have been instituted for the training of boys in the field of recreation.

The Negro brought with him from Africa to America very little of his native culture to transmit and perpetuate on American soil, but despite the fact that he brought so little intellectual baggage with him, he has exhibited a rather marked individuality in the use and interpretation of the cultural materials to which he has had access here. The Negro gave evidence of his love of the study of music when the first music club was organized in 1817 under the leadership of the Rev. John Deveaux and named the Old Hundred. This is the oldest musical organization among Negroes in the United States. Prior to the War Between the States the Negroes had

a splendid band known as the Washington Cornet Band. When the Savannah Volunteer Guards set out for duty in the War Between the States, a Negro band accompanied them. Many bands developed among the Negroes, the Savannah Volunteer Band, Middleton's Band and the Elks' Band. It was the highest ambition a few years back for a brass band to lead a Negro's funeral procession to the grave. Savannah has had a few Negro concert singers who have gained recognition over a wide radius of the United States; among these are Ernest Hemby and Ione Monroe Trice. Mention must be made of one of the oldest of Savannah's musicians, Charles Waters, who was a cornetist with few equals and a vocalist of the first order. He composed *Dark Side of Love, A Mother's Request* and *Suffer the Children.* There are in the city several choruses of fifty to one hundred voices that have begun a study of spirituals, and they have rendered very interesting programs. Among them are the St. Philip's Choral Society; the choir of St. John the Baptist; the First Bryan Baptist Church Chorus; and the FERA Chorus. The Springtime Activities Committee has arranged programs to interest tourists passing through Savannah.

The work-song must not be forgotten. With it the longshoreman charms his listeners, and it is with a great deal of pleasure he sings this song to help him with his work. It is also an economic advantage to the employer as it speeds up the work. It is this song with its happy lilt that the plantation owner insisted upon rather than the plaintive melody of the religious song. And so today as the Negro works, he sings that song of by-gone days:

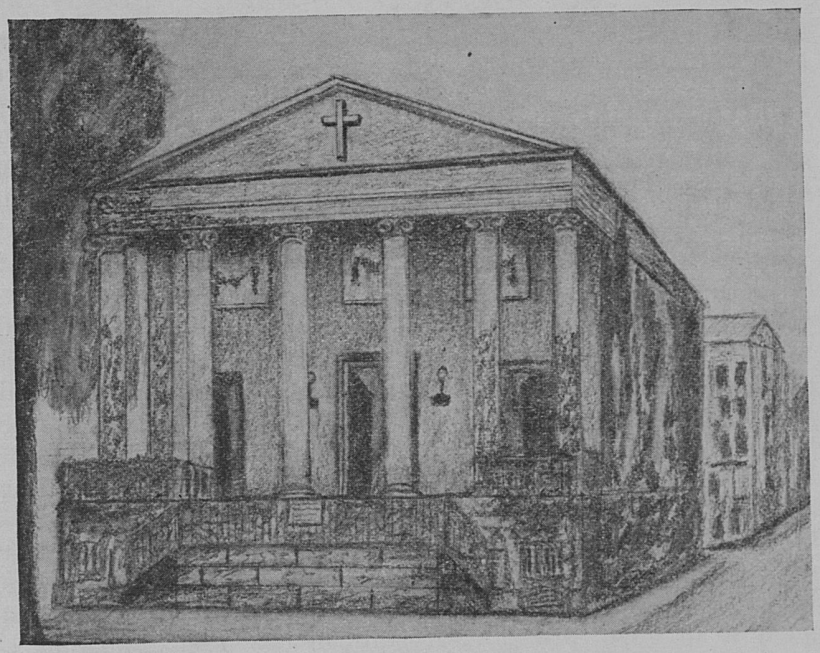
"Rollin' John, O Rollin' John
Rollin' John come roll me over
Sally O Gal."

The modern Negro's cultural interests are a natural continuation of his early ones; and in the more practical aspects of life he has followed the same trends. Building upon the foundation made during slavery, the Negro soon developed into one of the most constructive elements in the economic

system. He had no capital so he used the trade to which he was trained during slavery to start his climb in the conomic world. Today the public schools are filled with well-prepared Negro teachers; there are Negro lawyers to plead the Negro's cause before the court; and Negro physicians and dentists are numerous in the city. From those in professions to the huckster who sells his wares as he sings his song,

"Mama, get your pan,
Here comes the shorty man,"

the Negro has made for himself a place in the economic world, until today his taxable property has reached the two-million-dollar mark.



CHRIST CHURCH

CHURCH ORIGINS AND INFLUENCES

Savannah, founded as a Church of England settlement with Christ Church *(3 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)*, its first church, has stood on the middle ground between the extremes of liberalism and conservatism. Behind the Georgia movement were men of wealth, political influence and social position. In presenting their petition for lands in the New World where a new type of Colony was to be set up, they offered a definite plan of colonization which caught popular fancy. Only a certain type of settler would be accepted; the kind of work by which he would maintain himself had been determined; the site for the new settlement had been decided upon; and the Church of England was to be established as the church of the new Colony.

It was this careful planning that made Georgia unique among the British Colonies in America. Other Colonies had

been settled by English subjects, but the idea of emigration had originated with them. Hence, in the type of life they were to live in the New World, they were allowed some latitude. They chose their own religion, established their own customs and followed the kind of work most suitable to their training and to the climate they had chosen. The colonists of Georgia, on the other hand, were to follow a planned destiny. It was natural, therefore, that the habits, customs and religion of Savannah, the first settlement in the new Colony, were a reflection of that group of worldly men of wealth who had originated the scheme.

With the initial group of pioneers came Oglethorpe and his friend, the Reverend Henry Herbert, descendant of the illustrious Lord Herbert of Cherbury, philosopher and man of fashion. It would be interesting if, on the long trip over, some Boswell had written for posterity the conversations of these two—the soldier with the churchman. Each had left a similar background of wealth, ease and influence to share with others pioneer hardships. Each came with a definite purpose in view, the one to establish the new Colony as a military bulwark, the other to plant the Church of England as the religious bulwark of the new Colonial outpost.

So firmly were the seed of Anglicism rooted in the new Colony, despite the various sects introduced by the different nationalistic additions to the population, that when Georgia became a Royal Province one of the early legislative acts of the new Government was the division of the district into eight parishes, Christ Church, St. Matthew's, St. George's, St. Paul's, St. Philip's, St. John's, St. Andrew's and St. James'. These parishes continued to be the district divisions of the Colony until 1777, when Georgia adopted its first Constitution as a Sovereign State, and the parishes were converted into counties. *(See English Colonization.)*

The liberal interpretation of doctrine which marked the ministry of Henry Herbert suffered reversal under the narrow concepts of his successor, Samuel Quincy. Having been in turn Dissenter, Presbyterian, Independent and Anglican, Quincy made himself obnoxious to his congregation, and after

a short pastorate was compelled to leave. High Church ritualism, which was introduced by his successor, the famous John Wesley, was equally disliked in this frontier outpost where there were, in addition to Anglicans, other Protestants, Nonconformists and Jews. *(See Fort Pulaski.)* In 1736 the two Wesleys, John and Charles, had accompanied Oglethorpe to America on the latter's second voyage to this country, John Wesley to be minister to the colonists, and Charles Wesley to act as secretary for Indian affairs, as well as Oglethorpe's private secretary. Although their presence in the Colony was but a brief episode in its history, their place in church history is of paramount importance. Their insistence on open confessions of faith and their zeal in matters of constant church attendance are supposed to have resulted in the rise of Methodism, a form of worship attributed to the Wesleys, though both John and Charles died members of the Anglican Church.

When John Wesley left the Colony and returned to England, the Trustees appointed Rev. George Whitefield as minister to Savannah. Whitefield came to the Colony but, not having been ordained, found it necessary to return to England for that purpose, and the Trustees appointed Rev. William Norris to serve the colonists. He continued in this capacity until Whitefield resumed his duties in Savannah early in 1740, when Norris was transferred to Frederica. The memory of Whitefield, probably the most eloquent pulpit orator of his day, is perpetuated in Savannah's history by Bethesda, the "House of Mercy" orphanage, founded by Whitefield, and largely sustained by the money raised by him in continuous tours through the northern Colonies and in Great Britain. *(12 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 2 and Bethesda.)* Whitefield's understanding attitude toward human frailties revived that spirit of tolerance upon which Christ Church was founded and, unaffected by the intrigues of the rascally Bosomworth, his successor, has continued until the present time.

Through the years following, numbers of people from various nations arrived, bringing with them their customs and their religions, and the Colony grew and spread. The

various sects established by these additions to the Colony's population grew rapidly. Shortly after the first English group, forty Hebrews arrived and brought with them the Scroll of Law, and the Ark, its repository. These first Jews were the nucleus of the present Temple Mickve Israel, on Monterey Square *(21 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)*, and the original Scroll of Laws is used in their services today.

Persecuted Protestants from Salzburg, in Bavaria, came over shortly after and established the Lutheran Church. Although they settled at Ebenezer *(see Short Tour 3 and Dead Towns)*, some few must have remained in Savannah, for in 1744 a Lutheran congregation was organized. The present Lutheran Church of the Ascension on Wright Square *(5 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)*, is the outgrowth of that first pious group of Salzburgers who arrived with a Bible in one hand and an ax in the other.

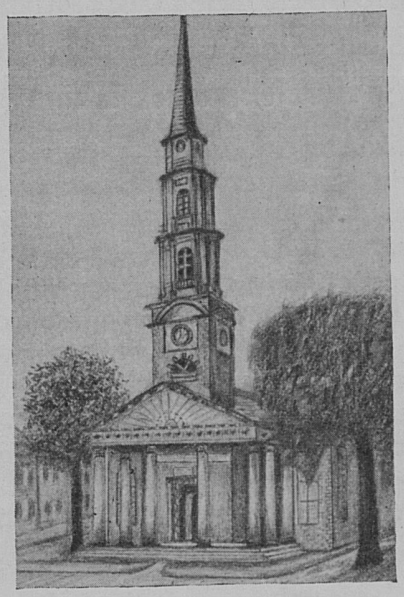
Scotsmen coming to Savannah brought the Presbyterian religion to the Colony. Later another group settling at Darien *(see Long Tour 1)*, and establishing prosperous plantations, spread Presbyterianism to a wider field. On the Dissenting-Meeting Lot *(B Guide Map)*, shown on an old map of 1770, they built their first church. The ruling body of the present Independent Presbyterian Church facing on Bull Street *(9 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)*, one of the most outstanding examples of Georgian architecture in the city, still holds itself aloof from the rulings of the General Presbytery of this country.

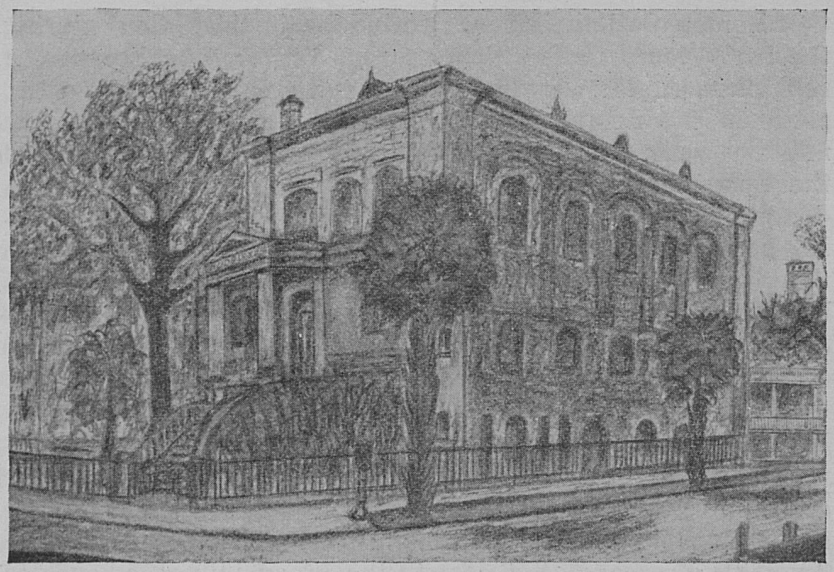
Methodism came to Savannah with the Reverend Beverley Allen about 1785. Today many handsome buildings testify to the growth of this popular sect.

About 1795 a Baptist house of worship was erected on Franklin Square. This was a small wooden building next to the old Franklin Square Theatre, which incited the eloquent Henry Holcombe to write to his brother thunderous diatribes against his Satanic Majesty's forces, the stage players. The present handsome building on Chippewa Square *(11 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)*, designed after the Parthenon in Athens, is evidence of the foothold this religion has in the community.

Roman Catholicism was forbidden in the Colony during the early years for political reasons rather than because of religious scruples. It was feared that were Papists allowed to settle in the new town they would betray the settlement's military weakness to the enemies most feared, the French and the Spaniards. However, when small groups of Irish Redemptionists and French Royalists became a part of the growing population, Roman Catholicism made a small beginning in the town. Although the Catholic faith was the last to be established in Savannah, its strong following is evident today from the Sacred Heart and St. Patrick's Churches, and from the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Abercorn and Harris Streets *(50 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 2)*, said to be the largest and most beautiful between New York and New Orleans.

These are but a few of the many handsome churches scattered throughout the city. Mentioned for their historic significance, they represent a varied architecture and a diversity of creeds. Yet despite the broad influences exerted by their cosmopolitan congregations, the tradition of the Anglican Church is still a potent force in the community.





HODGSON HALL

THE GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Almost a hundred years ago a little group of Savannah men became the founders of a movement to preserve the rich history of their State and of their Country. Out of the mutual pleasure of these congenial minds and their interest in rare old volumes and historic research arose the Georgia Historical Society. It was founded in 1839 as a State-wide institution "to collect, preserve, and diffuse information in relation to the history of the State of Georgia and American history generally, and to create an historical library for the use of its members and others." The society adopted as its motto, "Non sibi sed aliis," "Not for ourselves but others."

The five pioneers of the organization were Israel K. Tefft, famed as a man of letters; Alexander Smets, whose valuable library was known throughout the cultured Western Hemisphere; William B. Stevens and Richard D. Arnold, outstanding citizens; and William B. Hodgson, student of

several languages and of their literature. Tefft in particular was the impetus behind the movement, for, in the words of a historian of the past century, "his literary taste, his rare autograph collection, the work of years of patient research from early boyhood days, together with valuable documents in his possession pertaining to the Colonial and Revolutionary history of Georgia, aroused the literati of Savannah to the importance of a historical society's being formed for the benefit of posterity." The first meeting of the society was held on Friday night, May 24, 1839, with twenty-five distinguished citizens present, and later in the same year the society was incorporated. Many of its members were associated with the Library Society and in 1847 the two organizations were consolidated.

Within a decade its library began to expand and the society's influence began to spread. An interest in letters and a fine appreciation of a wide field of collectors' items were shown by its members. The printing of early unpublished historical letters and manuscripts was a frequent undertaking of the society. Among its valuable contributions to history were the publication of Stephen's Journal and Egmont's Diary in the Colonial Records Series; these give interesting sidelights on the Colony's history. Surviving the material poverty of Reconstruction years, the society's intellectual resources steadily increased so that by 1876, when the organization came into possession of its present commodious quarters, Hodgson Hall, 501 Whitaker Street *(26 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)*, it was already a valuable addition to the city. The new building was a gift from Mrs. Margaret Telfair Hodgson, the daughter of Gov. Edward Telfair, to the Georgia Historical Society as a memorial to her scholarly husband. Begun in 1873, it is a two-story, vine-clad building facing the green vista of Forsyth Park. On one side it overlooks a long garden, where wisteria vines droop from the boughs of tall trees and evergreen shrubs lean from dim recesses.

The treasures of the interior, however, are the magnets that draw students and historians. From the few hundred books of the society's first years, the library has grown to fifty thousand volumes, besides which the archives of the

building guard valuable historic material in old maps, manuscripts and documents. For many years Hodgson Hall has furnished much of the material from which Georgia histories have been compiled, and the recorder of tomorrow must depend more and more on its carefully preserved annals of past generations. Here also is a valuable file of newspapers of Savannah's early years, from the *Georgia Gazette* to the modern *Savannah Press. (See Newspapers.) The Collections of the Georgia Historical Society,* an open series containing the contributions of the society's members to written history, is also available. In these volumes the name of Charles C. Jones, foremost Georgia historian, frequently appears.

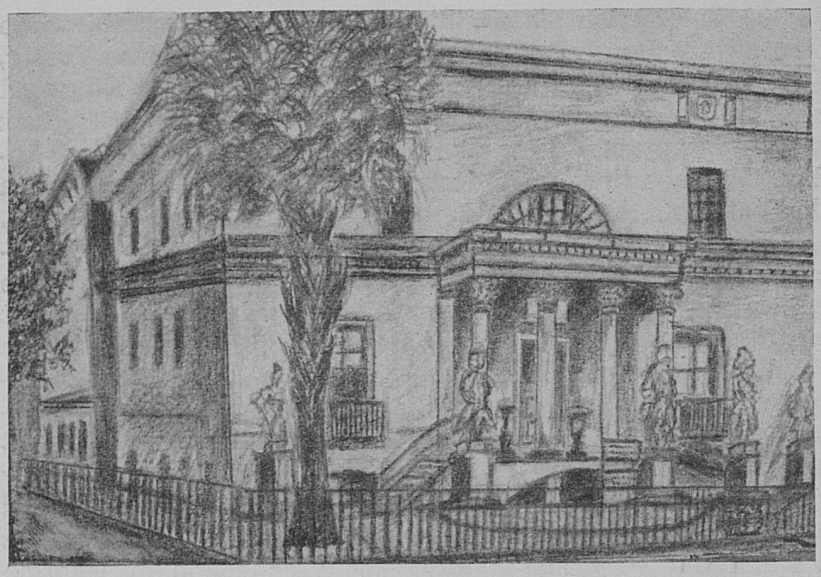
Besides these written treasures, Hodgson Hall has a fine collection of objects gathered through the past two hundred years. On the walls hang paintings of men and women famous in the story of the State, among them Selina, Countess of Huntingdon *(see Bethesda),* and William Hodgson. In a glass case is a drum the tatoo of which echoed through the forest, as Americans slain in the battles of Eutaw, Saratoga and Cowpens were laid to rest. Near the drum is the grapeshot taken from the body of Count Casimir Pulaski who fell at the Battle of Spring Hill Redoubt in the Siege of Savannah in 1779. *(See Civil and Military Development.)* Another glass case displays archeological finds from Indian mounds around Savannah. *(See Golden Isles.)* An iron bench presented by the Emperor of Russia in 1819 to Moses Rogers, captain of the *Steamship Savannah,* is placed in the main corridor. *(See Transportation.)*

Many of the rare books owned by the first members of the Georgia Historical Society are irrevocably lost to Savannah. Among these are the collections of Tefft, including the autographs which gained for him world renown, and the library of Smets, with rare volumes of twelfth century missals, original edition of Hogarth books and other works. John James Audubon visited Savannah in 1831 and while here solicited subscriptions to his great series, *Birds of America,* now recognized as one of the most valuable and beautiful ornithologies in the world. The first to subscribe to this

$1,000 publication was William Gaston of Savannah, while others were James Potter, Alexander Telfair, Thomas Young, John David Mongin, Daniel Blake, Thomas Butler King and Thomas Metcalf. It seems strange that none of these editions appear in any of Savannah's public or private collections today. Perhaps they were destroyed during the War Between the States; no one knows why or where they have disappeared.

Some of the private collections of modern Savannah include the Wymberley Jones DeRenne Library at Wormsloe which has a collection of Georgiana conceded to be the most complete private collection in the world. *(See Wormsloe.)* Keith Read's large private library, specializing in literature pertaining to the War Between the States and containing rare Confederate imprints, is considered the best collection of its kind south of Richmond. Leonard Mackall, an internationally known bibliophile, has a very good collection, more or less catholic as to subject matter. Elfrida DeRenne Barrow has a small but very fine heterogeneous collection of Georgia history.

In the past few years a new organization has been formed known as the *Savannah Historical Research Association,* its object being to gather and preserve historic data. It is through the efforts of this association that a WPA project has been set up to index the newspapers and Colonial records housed in Hodgson Hall. Through these faded pages and manuscripts, it is almost as simple to trace the activities of the early citizens of Savannah as it is to look up a name in a modern newspaper.



THE TELFAIR ACADEMY

TELFAIR ACADEMY

Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences, 121 Barnard Street *(75 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 3)*, once the residence of a well known Georgia family, still retains the graceful air of a cultured home of the early nineteenth century. Through the pillared portico, the visitor enters the wide hall with its beautifully furnished rooms on either side and feels almost as if he had stepped out of the present into the past. This feeling is accounted for by the fact that the front rooms of the Academy are preserved almost as they were when the Telfair family lived there a century ago.

A brief historic background of the Academy begins with the erection of the building about 1818, designed, tradition says, by William Jay for Alexander, the son of Gov. Edward Telfair. Mary Telfair, Alexander's sister and sole survivor of the name who died on June 2, 1875 at an advanced age, bequeathed the residence together with all books, papers, documents, furniture, pictures and works of art to the Georgia

Historical Society with instructions that the building was to be used as a library or academy of arts and sciences. A trust fund was included in the bequest for maintaining the establishment and adding to the collection.

The Academy was first opened to the public on February 12, 1885. In 1920 the Georgia Historical Society gave over the trust it had administered for thirty-five years to the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences, chartered on September 14, 1920, for the purpose of handling the highly specialized work of running the Academy. A rigidly enforced rule, that nothing shall be displayed that is not accepted on the expert advice of a connoisseur, maintains the standard of artistic excellence in the constantly increasing collection.

The antique furnishings of the two main rooms have brought many a student of period decoration from other cities to look on the artistry of the great cabinet makers of the past. With the exception of a few pieces, the furniture is the same as that used in the Telfair residence. The dining room contains curtains, paintings and ornaments selected perhaps by Mary Telfair herself. A circular dining table with revolving center and a small breakfast table, both with matching chairs, occupy the center floor space. These are unusually fine pieces in white mahogany, and white mahogany is also the wood of the greatly admired Sheraton sideboard. Around the walls mellow paintings, some of members of the Telfair family, hang above cabinets and tables of superb workmanship. Several French prints of the eighteenth century and some old Chinese vases give delicate color to the somber atmosphere. For somber it is, indeed, with its aged costly draperies always drawn and the dark marble of the carved mantels blending into the shadows.

The drawing room has curtains of dull blue brocade held back by carved, gilded clasps to let the soft light play over the antique chairs and sofas. An early Empire sofa covered in the same blue, a Sheraton sofa in golden yellow, a Louis XVI table and numerous small tables and chairs are among the valuable pieces placed in home like groupings around the room. Exceedingly graceful is a small Queen Anne table with

slim round feet and exquisite patina. A few large oils from the gallery's permanent collection are hung on the walls.

Antique lovers have been known to spend hours studying the Colonial Kitchens in the basement. The two rooms were restored in recent years by Elizabeth M. Bullard and furnished with much of their present equipment. Valuable contributions have also been made by other donors. Except for a built-in china cabinet, the kitchens are unchanged architecturally from the original plan. The same doors, oddly designed with little latched windows opening inward, swing at the end of the first kitchen; the same huge fireplaces, one with Dutch ovens, stand surrounded by pieces of kitchen furniture used in the time of the Telfairs. Culinary articles, over a hundred years old, hang on the walls or lie on massive kitchen tables; pruning hooks, a coffee roaster, three legged iron pots, pots of shining copper and various bottles of green, blue or white glass fill the shelves. A painted china dog sits on the mantel; a clock with a worn face ticks away the years on the wall; a baby's crudely built high chair looks as if it were waiting for the youngest member of the family to be brought in by Mammy Judy, Telfair servant years before the War Between the States; and several spinning wheels sit idle in corners. A characteristic note is a flint-lock gun hanging on the chimney with a powder horn nearby.

After viewing Telfair Academy as an old home, the visitor turns to the various collections of paintings, sculpture, textiles and art objects which have been gathered painstakingly from all corners of the world and which have made the Academy one of the finest small galleries in the South.

The Hilton Collection of Textiles was presented by Ida Hilton Seymour as a memorial to her father, Josiah Hilton. Examples of old embroidery from England, Greece, Turkey, Persia and China are shown on head bands, waistcoats or yellowing handkerchiefs. Lace woven in Venice a century ago, French and Spanish brocades, Indian weaving of a lost era display handwork artistry. This collection also includes an old Thibetan manuscript on parchment taken from a monastery in Thibet.

The sculpture collection contains a figure carved in wood by Alex Miller, bronzes by Mohonri and other sculptors, and a collection of Greek and Roman casts made through the courtesy of European museums. Among these are a relief of *The Parthenon Frieze,* which decorates the entrance hall, *Boy Extracting Thorn, Mercury in Repose* and seventy-two other casts.

The collection of paintings includes water colors, oils, and several murals which form a decorative background for the sculpture room and for the main picture gallery. Savannah is particularly fortunate in owning originals from the brushes of such notable artists as Edmond Aman-Jean, Gifford Beal, Gaston La Touche, Ernest Lawson, Jonas Lie, Winceles Szymonowski and George Bellows. Gari Melchers, whose wife was a Savannahian and who was for a time officially connected with Telfair Academy, is represented by three canvasses, the envy of larger galleries throughout the country. Among the water color artists represented is Charles H. Woodbury. A pencil drawing by F. Luis Mora and an original painting by Gerolamo Romanino (1485-1566) are recent valuable additions to the collection. The Romanino painting, *Madonna and Child,* was the gift of Samuel H. Kress from his famous collection of Italian masterpieces.

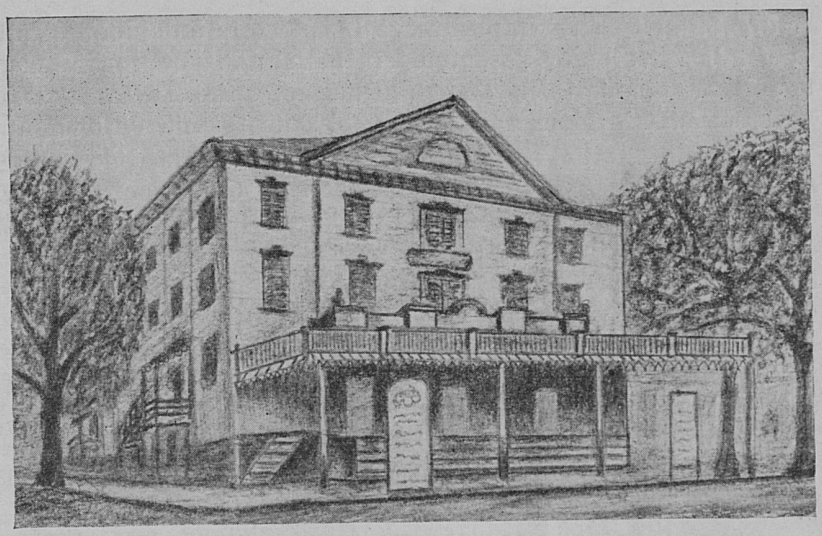
A number of smaller art objects delight the visitor. Chinese chessmen whose minute figures are intricately carved; several Neapolitan wood and terra cotta statuettes in colorful costumes dated about the middle of the eighteenth century; an ivory box from medieval Japan; a fan of two hundred years ago; these are only a few items among the carefully selected treasures of Telfair Academy. Another display of unusual interest is a peep show of Donatello's Studio by Lorado Taft, which gives a remarkable glimpse of the great sculptor at work with his pupils.

The visitor will not wish to leave the Academy without a glance into the Costume Room, where two show cases display articles of apparel worn by ancestors of today's Savannahians. This exhibition was begun by Eliza Schley Seiler, who in 1929 presented to the Academy costumes of three generations of

the nineteenth century. Similar gifts have greatly increased the collection but only a few pieces are shown at a time; perhaps a lace cap of the Victorian era and a spider-waisted dress; perhaps a few delicate lace handkerchiefs, an embroidered collar and a tiny cape.

The progressive policy of the directors of the Academy furnishes a constant round of activity for art lovers in Savannah during the fall, winter and spring. Free loan exhibitions, local, regional and national, follow each other in a splendid procession of paintings, textiles and other art objects. Lecturers and critics, eminent in their fields, expound the perfection of classical art or point out the limitless possibilities of the modern school. In the past decade Telfair Academy has engaged several artists of distinction to lead classes through the intricacies of brush and palette; and these little student groups, whose membership often includes Savannah artists of wide reputation, have greatly assisted in fostering Savannah as a center of art activity.

Mary Telfair had a vision in mind when she gave her house and its treasures to be an academy of arts and sciences. If that vision was to place objects of enduring beauty where they might be viewed by generation after generation of appreciative spectators, her wish is realized. The wide rooms of her old home receive hundreds of visitors year in and year out, who come to look on the collections of the Academy.



THE ORIGINAL SAVANNAH THEATRE

THE STAGE IN EARLY SAVANNAH

Savannah had been in existence seventeen years when in 1750 rumors were circulated regarding groups of strolling players who were going about the country presenting current dramatic offerings. These actors did not include Savannah in their itinerary, but news of their activities must have been of interest to the Colony.

Cultural pursuits had probably been neglected in those first rigorous years when the Colony of Georgia was being settled. The struggle for existence had left no time for the frivolous, lighter things of life. But during this time many a thought of days past must have visited the colonists, for deep within them was the Shakesperean heritage from their English ancestors. As the town developed and life gradually assumed a more civilized aspect, various cultural needs must have asserted themselves.

In 1765, under the supervision of David Douglas, a popular producer of this time, professional companies appeared regularly in the nearby city of Charleston, a dramatic

center of increasing importance. Old letters and diaries tell of gay parties being assembled in Savannah and journeying in festive spirits to Charleston, remaining there for days at a time, absorbing much in the way of culture and enjoyment.

The first actual reference to this frivolous pastime of the stage in Savannah is found in the *Georgia Gazette* of October 1783 which carried a notice that on Thursday, October 9, a "Set of Gentlemen" would hold a performance at the Filature for the benefit of the poor. The program was quite in the style and up to the standard of the day, a double bill offering a tragedy, *The Fair Penitent,* and a farce, *Miss in Her Teens.* Patrons were advised that the doors would open at half past five and that the performance would start promptly at seven o'clock. Tickets were to be purchased in advance and gentlemen were warned that under no pretence would they be allowed behind the scenes!

Several points are evident from this modest notice. Savannahians were, at least to some extent, used to stage entertainments in Savannah, and must have had trouble both with the last minute rush for tickets and with obstreperous gentlemen behind the scenes. Even more significant than these, though the production was headed by Messrs. Godwin and Kidd of professional Charleston fame, the cast was made up of that "Set of Gentlemen" which contemporary newspaper clippings make clear were a group of amateurs. This surely indicates that these gentlemen had enjoyed some experience, for it is hardly possible that Godwin and Kidd would have ventured forth with a double bill supported by totally inexperienced players. Apparently these Filature performances were kindly received and the plays well attended, for Messrs. Godwin and Kidd remained in the city for the season of 1783-84, producing plays with the assistance of the amateur gentlemen.

Godwin and Kidd seem to have felt Savannah a good field for dramatic returns; in 1785 they built the city's first playhouse. The exact location of this theatre is not stated in contemporary accounts, but according to an old map of the city drawn by Col. Mossman Houstoun about 1802, there was

a theatre in existence at this time on Franklin Square. *(A Guide Map.)* Old newspapers make frequent references, from 1785 on, regarding a playhouse being renovated or rebuilt, but no mention can be found of another theatre being erected. Messrs. Godwin and Kidd's Theatre was officially opened on August 24, 1785, with the production of *Cato* and *Catherine and Petruchio.* At the same time Mr. Godwin established a dancing academy where "young ladies and gentlemen might receive expert tuition in the polite and necessary accomplishment of dancing." They also continued to serve in the capacity of directors for a later group, known as The Charitable Organization.

Interest in the drama quickened. The little theatre seemed the last word in perfection. In 1786 improvements were made and boxes introduced for the first time. Parties were urged to reserve them in advance for the performances. Lack of scenery, mechanical devices and rich upholstery were more than compensated for by the evident sincerity of the actors and the keen appreciation of the audience. In rapid succession, other popular attractions of the day were presented, meeting each time with the approval of the theatregoers. In the years that followed, the theatre was visited by a number of road and stock companies. The theatrical season of 1794 was an active one, for during that year John Bignall, known as the best actor on the continent, and Thomas Ward West, accompanied by their Virginia Comedians, included the city in their southern itinerary. Periodically other companies appeared here, among them being the famous Covent Garden Players and a company headed by Alex Placide.

The September 18, 1794 *Gazette* advertises a "Last Night" at "The Theatre, Savannah," *(A Guide Map),* and one week later the September 25 *Gazette* carries the notice that "The New Theatre will open in a few days." This again raises the question of the theatre's location. However, on October 9 a benefit for Mrs. Edgar is advertised in the *Gazette* at "The Theatre" without any mention of new; and on this same date is an accompanying item which reads: "Mrs. Edgar's benefit we find is announced for tomorrow when we have no doubt that she will reap the harvest of her exertions during the late

Theatrical campaign in a crowded house. Strong parties we learn are already made, and the Theatre is erected anew in a much more commodious and neat manner." This reference, "the Theatre is erected anew," certainly again makes plain that the old Godwin and Kidd Theatre is still in use with a new "dressing." After this renovation of 1794, notices are carried reading "Theatre" or "New Theatre" apparently at the whim of the writer. A few years later, in 1802, when the Reverend Mr. Holcombe refers definitely to the Franklin Square Theatre, it is of a new group of players and not of a new theatre that he writes.

The question of building a larger and adequately equipped playhouse had long been under discussion. After several unsuccessful attempts, the plans were finally perfected. A trust lot on Chippewa Square was granted by the city, a corporation formed and shares of stock marketed in order to finance the venture. Citizens responded eagerly and before long the necessary amount was obtained. The services of William Jay, the young English architect, were secured and work on the structure started. *(10 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1.)*

Readers of the *Gazette* were informed on December 3, 1818, of the long awaited opening of the theatre on December 4, and of the arrival of a popular road company headed by Mr. Phillips, an English singer and actor of note. The first production was *The Soldier's Daughter,* written by Andrew Cherry, an actor who had achieved a measure of success on the London stage. The crowds who turned out to inspect the theatre resembled in many respects the first-nighters of the present day. The critic on the *Gazette* complained of the fact that the elaborate hairdresses of the women interfered with the view of those seated in back of them.

This new theatre called the Savannah Theatre was unsurpassed. Contemporary accounts are enthusiastic and state that the interior was a harmonious blending of crimson, white and gold. Sixteen fluted, cast iron columns supported two rows of boxes. The panels of the lower tier were decorated with golden eagles and green wreaths on a background of white. The second tier had for ornamentation bas-reliefs

painted by Mr. Etty of London. The item which excited paramount interest was the drop curtain, a magnificent affair painted in New York City, which depicted a combination of mythology and drama. The elaborate and elegant detail of the theatre is evident from these carefully worded contemporary accounts and it must have provided a fitting background for that brilliant society of the early nineteenth century which had yet to feel the sobering hand of war and its hardships.

The repertoire of this time included such classics as *The Rivals* and many of Shakespeare's dramas. Thomas Althorpe Cooper, celebrated tragedian, appeared during the first season. Mrs. Gilbert, wife of the first manager and an actress of stellar variety, interpreted a wide range of characters, including Lady Teazle, Juliet and Lady Macbeth.

The critics of the day reviewed the productions severely. Woe betide the unfortunate actor who was at all sensitive and who could not appreciate "constructive criticism." Upon announcing the coming presentation of *Macbeth,* Mr. Gilbert, the manager, was told if it were not well done, it would be accompanied by the "dulcet harmony of groans and hisses." An amusing item from a critic's pen appears about this time in which he writes a list of instructions for an audience:

> Theatre Accomplishments.
>
> Take a seat in a box where you have no right.
>
> Persist in remaining there, despite all efforts to remove you.
>
> Talk loudly during the more interesting scenes of the play.
>
> Applaud loudly, using your cane or both feet, if necessary.
>
> As proof of your breeding, hiss or titter throughout the performance.
>
> If sitting in a front seat, keep on your hat in deference to the ladies.
>
> When quitting a box, slam the door loudly, unless it is cold weather, when you leave it open, so those inside may enjoy the cool breeze.

This entertaining bit of advice gives a certain sophisticated picture of those early audiences on Chippewa Square.

Many of the world's most celebrated actors have appeared on the boards of the Savannah Theatre, among them Edwin Booth, Fanny Davenport, Charlotte Cushman, Eliza Logan and Edwin Forrest. The early managers were, for the most part, skilled actors as well, who usually maintained a permanent stock company at the theatre and supported visiting stars from time to time. In the middle of the nineteenth century the renowned Joseph Jefferson acted as stage manager. He was later to become one of the leading actors of the American stage. At the beginning of the season 1853-54, William H. Crisp became manager and lessee of the Savannah Theatre. Mr. and Mrs. Crisp were accomplished artists who delighted the audiences with their versatility in portraying widely diversified characters.

During the period of the War Between the States, the traveling dramatic companies were forced to discontinue their activities and the community was obliged to rely for the most part on the efforts of its ambitious amateurs. Now and then, however, the city was visited by a company consisting almost entirely of members of one family, the Waldrons, known professionally as the Queen Sisters or the Thespian Family.

A few decades later the Ford Dramatic Association, a semi-professional group, came into existence and entertained the public with frequent performances of an excellent quality.

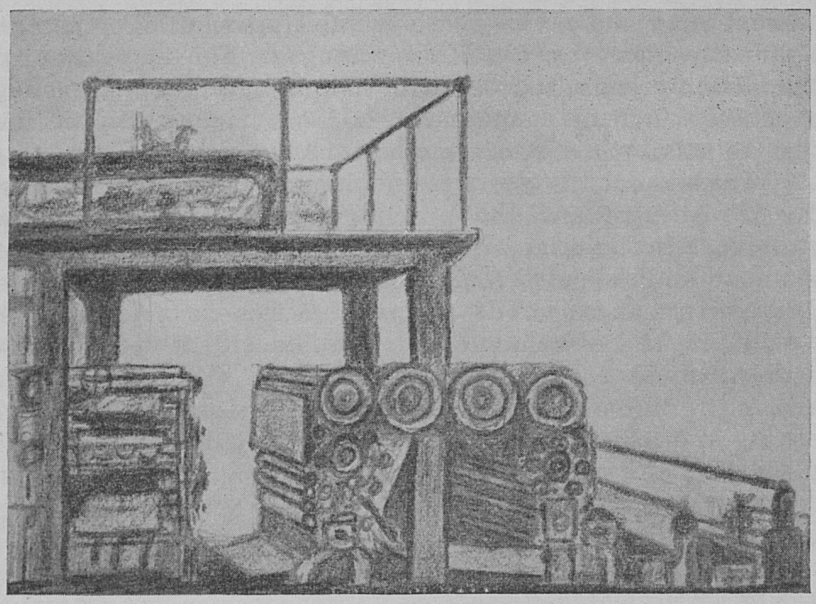
Charles Coburn, well known character actor and make-up artist, started his career about a half century ago at the age of twelve as program boy at the Savannah Theatre. For the ensuing five years, he served the theatre in the various capacities of usher, doorkeeper and treasurer, finally becoming theatre manager at seventeen.

At this time amusements held an important place in the community and the theatre was in its heyday. The productions staged during this period were lavish in the extreme, unequaled in grandeur or perfection. The brilliant theatrical season was usually opened by the annual visit of a nationally famous minstrel troupe, after which would be featured the appearances of the greatest living actors and actresses.

Throughout the early part of the twentieth century the

current road companies continued to appear at the theatre. Gradually, however, conditions changed. The innovation of the motion picture, coupled with increasingly heavy traveling expenses, made the continuance of tours impractical and the theatre was turned into a motion picture house.

Throughout the years many changes have been made in the old theatre and the present structure bears little resemblance to the original. It has, however, retained its air of glamour and romance and about it linger the memories of past performances, of days when the famous actors of the world played before a delighted audience. It would be a fitting tribute to the historic building, exemplifying the ancient traditions of its art, if it could be restored to its former beauty and more graceful mode of architecture. It bears the distinction of being the oldest theatre in the United States in continued operation.



THE NEWS PRESS

NEWSPAPERS

It was the evening of April 7, 1763, in the thirty-year-old, half-wooden, half-brick town of Savannah. An undercurrent of excitement ran through the populace, causing the housewife to burn her scones in the chimney oven and her husband to sup in unmannerly haste before dashing out of the house.

On that spring evening the *Georgia Gazette,* first newspaper of the Colony of Georgia, was to make its appearance; and by this progressive move, the young city of Oglethorpe's founding was to astonish its century old sisters sleeping along the coast. At that time less than ten small newspapers were being printed in the Thirteen Colonies of His Majesty, George III.

James Johnston was the printer and publisher of the *Georgia Gazette,* and the site of his little shop has been located

by Dolores B. Floyd at 111 Broughton Street E., *(F Guide Map.)* He must have been a proud citizen on that April day when the first copies of the paper were seized by the eager crowd at his door. To modern eyes the small folded sheet, 12 x 8 inches, consisting of four closely printed pages, two columns to the page, seems laughably meager; but the Savannah citizens of 1763 must have perused it with news-hungry eyes, exclaiming over the first brief item already over four months old; "Moscow: Nov. 15. The Empress keeps her apartments, not through illness but precaution." Colonists of fashion must have delighted to read that the Duke of Buckingham had been lavishly entertained at a foreign capital three months past; political minded citizens must have gravely discussed the French situation on learning through "advices from Amsterdam" that "six of our vessels have been sunk near the isle of France; but it is hoped this will all prove Dutch news."

For nearly three years the quaint little semi-weekly sheet continued to serve Savannah. Like the newspapers of the present it featured advertising, and though the advertisements seem delightfully odd today, they in all probability sold the merchant's goods quite as readily as their sophisticated modern descendants. For instance, on September 19, 1765, appeared a list of goods: "Just Imported to be sold on the most reasonable terms by Button Gwinnett at the store lately occupied by Messrs. Johnson and Wylly. The following goods viz: Rhubarb — Turlington's balzam of life — Dr. James powders for fevers — slake mann — Glouber salts — Florence oil — mustard — tinware — iron mongery — plain silver and gold laced hats — breeches pieces — silk and thread hose — jewelry — pickley — cutlery — saddling — earthern and delf ware — mould candles — fine beer glass — shoes — sheeting — canvass — oznaburgs — Irish linen — cheques — paint — cheese — butter — nails — cyder — Scots barley — English manufactured tobacco — vinegar — bed furniture and many other articles too tedious to insert."

Not all the contents of the paper were advertisements and mild news, however. In its pages one caught faint but ominous warnings of the coming Revolution, although the word "scoop" was an unborn expression hidden two centuries in the future. For instance, the Stamp Act was listed among the many activities of Parliament merely as "Bill for laying a stamp duty on the British Colonies in America." The following week saw the act published in its entirety with the brief comment that it had been passed by the committee of the House, 245-49.

During the Revolution when the British occupied Savannah, the *Georgia Gazette* became the *Royal Georgia Gazette,* an intensely counter-Revolutionary sheet, with Johnston still its publisher. On July 5, 1781, appeared the announcement of a meeting in Philadelphia of the "Rebel Congress, . . . that truly whimsical body of despicable wretches who pass under the assumed designation of the United States of America and who are responsible for the present horrid rebellion." The Tory journalist further exclaims that this Congress has "issued such edicts as would put the Vatican of Rome or the Courts of the General Inquisitors of Spain and Portugal out of countenance." It is amusing today to read news stories so eloquent, to see the names of George Washington and Cornwallis frequently mentioned by one of their contemporaries, and to have Paul Jones referred to as an "infamous piratical rover."

After the war a flock of papers appeared, sometimes simultaneously as friendly rivals, sometimes as sole media of local journalism. They were larger than the *Gazette* but still had only four pages. A file of these early papers, either in photostat or original, is carefully preserved by the Georgia Historical Society at Hodgson Hall; and there the interested may read their picturesque names: *Columbian Museum and Savannah Advertiser,* first daily paper; *Georgia Republican; Recorder; Southern Patriot; Georgia Journal and Independent Federal Register; Public Intelligencer; American Patriot; Savannah Federal Republican Advocate; Savannah Georgian.* If

one publication found itself on the rocks, another immediately sprang up to take its place; for the little coast town of Savannah, thoroughly cosmopolitan in taste and looked upon as a metropolis along with historic Boston, fast growing Philadelphia and prosperous Charleston, found it impossible to exist without foreign news. Sometimes the editor's source of information might have been a stranger stopping for a night to rest his coach horses, or perhaps the official letter carrier riding from town to town; often the facts were gathered from sailing vessels that were constantly coming and going in the harbor. But no matter where the news came from, Savannahians were eager for gossip from the rest of the world, and the long succession of newspapers did its utmost to satisfy this desire.

The yellowed pages of the earlier periodicals, filled with the records of other years in the antique phraseology of the times, give intimate glimpses of Savannah between the birth of the United States and the War Between the States. In a booklet of *Various Items* compiled from the advertising columns of the *Savannah Georgian* of 1829 by Elfrida DeRenne Barrow, one reads of mysterious "Cosmetic Wash Balls" and a medicinal concoction, "The Angelic Syrup of Salsa, effectual in a great number of puzzling cases," and one sees where N. Turnbull in the Lost and Found column is offering a liberal reward for the return of "a bay horse, about 16 hands high. Went off in company with an old sorrel mare, neither of which has been heard of since."

From the founding of the *Gazette* to 1882, forty newspapers tried to establish a foothold in Savannah. One by one they faded into oblivion, leaving the *Savannah Morning News*, 5 Whitaker Street *(57 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 3)*, launched in 1850, a leader in its field. The year 1870 was important historically in the growth of the paper, for it saw the assistant editorial desk taken over by Joel Chandler Harris, author of the beloved Uncle Remus stories. Sitting in a chair that is now the valued possession of the *News*, Harris kept the columns

of the paper buzzing and placed his name foremost among those of southern editors. In 1875 he moved with his family to Atlanta to escape an epidemic of yellow fever and became an editor of the *Atlanta Constitution.* Savannahians, who as children and young people used to stop for a chat in his office, still recall his personal charm which emanated from a large, kind heart and an irrepressible, fun-loving disposition.

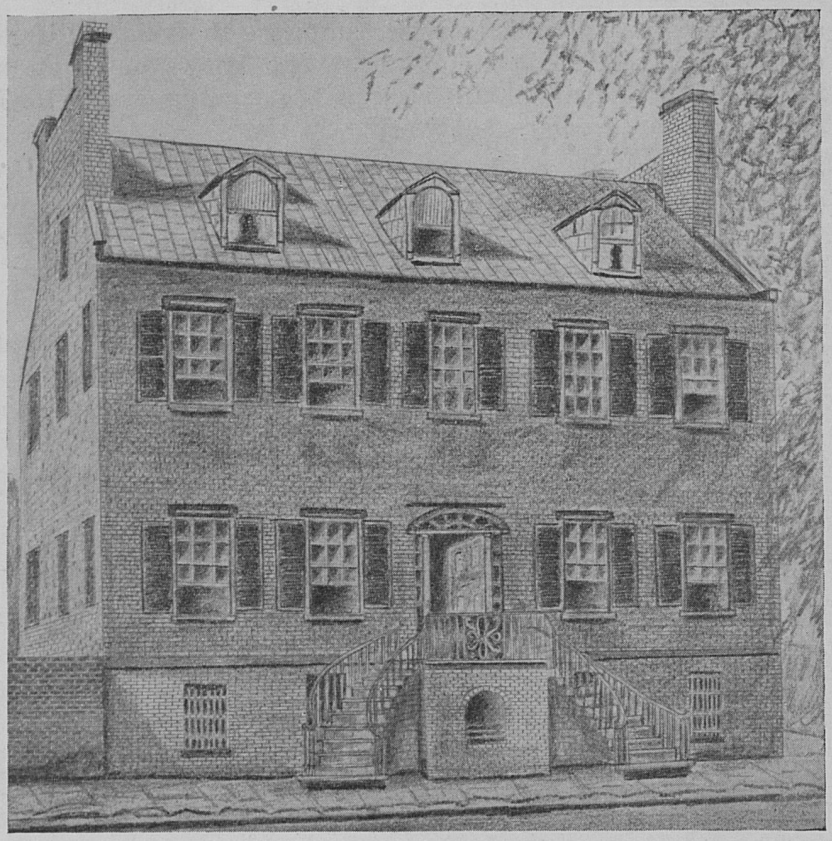
The *Savannah Evening Press,* 5 Whitaker Street *(57 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 3),* was founded in 1891 by Pleasant Alexander Stovall, well known newspaper man, author, diplomat and legislator. Mr. Stovall held the important office of Minister to Switzerland during President Wilson's eight years of administration. After the World War he continued to operate the *Press* until 1931, when it became affiliated with the *Morning News.*

A second evening paper, the *Savannah Daily Times,* 302 Bryan Street E., appeared on April 6, 1936. This publication started out as *Public Opinion,* a weekly, in 1935.

Today the immense building, the rows of linotype men setting up stories with incredible speed, and the giant wheels turning out hundreds of folded and finished papers a minute would surely bring forth a gasp of appreciation from that Colonial publisher, James Johnston, who toiled long, weary hours with his apprentice boy to set the fine type of the early *Gazette.* Though perhaps, the greatest wonder to him, who had to print on May 5 that on the previous January 1 the Prince of Wales had been indisposed, would be the teletype, clicking off inches of news every moment from the far corners of the earth.

To read all the newspapers Savannah has on file would be to span with a pageant of facts the years between the present and the past. Newspapers record the details of history in the making; and an almost unbroken line of papers across a century and a half is the precious heritage this proud city bestows on its children. Savannahians today scan the little *Georgia Gazette* with amusement, remarking, "How quaint our

ancestors were," yet all the while admiring the valor and uprightness of those first Georgians. Who knows but that in the year 2037 Savannahians reading the newspapers of 1937 will say, "How barbaric the world was then!"



THE DAVENPORT HOUSE

STYLES IN BUILDING

Savannah's architecture, through two centuries of changing periods of building, reflects the habits, customs and culture of the earlier English colonists. Despite the addition of other nationalistic groups whose native standards brought to the architecture of the town slight modifications, the preponderance of building was and is reminiscent of England during the Georgian period and the century following.

The first crude log houses of the pioneer period, hastily erected as immediate places of shelter, were replaced in a

few years by buildings of a more finished type. As early as 1736, a visitor from England writing of the little settlement said: "The town of Savannah is built of wood; all the houses of the first forty freeholders are of the same size as that Mr. Oglethorpe lives in, but there are a great number built since, —I believe one hundred and fifty; many of these are much larger; some two or three stories high, the boards planed and painted." Rapid and faulty construction of these houses resulted in swift deterioration, and when John Reynolds arrived in 1752 as the first Royal Governor of the Province, Savannah's architecture was the theme of his first letter to the Board of Trade in London: "Savannah is well situated and contains about one hundred and fifty houses, *all wooden ones*, very small and mostly old. The biggest was used for the meeting of the President of the Council and Assistants, and where I sat in council for a few days, one fell down whilst we were all there."

About 1759 the first great fire occurred which resulted in a legislative act prohibiting the repairing or building of wooden chimneys. Certain stringent fire regulations also were adopted which taxed all householders in proportion to the number of hearths in their houses. With an inherent dislike of taxes, the citizens logically turned their attention to more substantial construction, and brick began to be sustituted as a building material.

As the primitive settlement under increasing wealth expanded into an established community, a varied architecture expressive of widening tastes characterized the growing town. The Giles Becu (Montmollin) house, a small wooden dwelling of stark simplicity, and the Davenport house (circa 1790), combining the best architectural motifs of the Georgian era, vividly portray changing conditions and civic development. The former, set back from the street, is only slightly larger than the pioneer huts, 16 by 22 feet; while the extreme of elegance achieved in the Davenport house reached a standard of perfection in building that has not been surpassed in modern times. During this period, master craftsmen were flourishing in England, and the residences of this era followed the type

of construction then in vogue under the Georges or in the older and more prosperous towns of the Colonies. The owners of these homes, cultured and traveled gentlemen, with means to express their artistic tastes, used English builders or Colonial craftsmen to reproduce on Savannah soil the best architectural ideas of the times. As wood construction was abandoned for the more permanent brick, larger rooms, loftier ceilings and decorative details replaced the plain small rooms of the earlier dwellings. Wide fireplaces, with mantels delicately carved in wood, were the focal points of the rooms of these earlier houses.

Characteristic also of this Georgian era were the rows of brick tenements built flush with the pavement which lined the new streets of Savannah like the older streets of London. Designed with thought to economy and stability, these houses, on a basement devoted to offices, dining room and service rooms, were usually three or four stories high. The second floor comprised the drawing-room and other reception rooms, while the floors above were used as bedrooms. A stairway of eight or ten steps, ornamented with a wrought iron handrail, led from the pavement to the front door, arched and with fan transom, while well proportioned dormers broke the monotony of the roof line. Although these tenements had less of the decorative details than were found in the larger single residences, such as the Davenport house or the Pink House (1771), a delicacy of ornamentation was not unusual. One feature they had in common, the kitchen, usually the back room of the basement floor, which was equipped with a brick fireplace with oven built into the chimney. When at a later time kitchens occupied a separate smaller building to the rear of the house, these basement rooms lost their former prestige. Although many of the older houses today have the great open fireplaces and ovens, the art of hearth cookery is lost.

The public buildings of this period also followed the Georgian style, and old Christ Church (circa 1797) as well as the old City Exchange (1799) were excellent examples of the time. The church of red brick, with white wooden cupola, was similar in design to those smaller churches found in many

villages of England and New England. The old Exchange, preserved in picture, lingers in the memories of older citizens for its dignity and simplicity of architectural design.

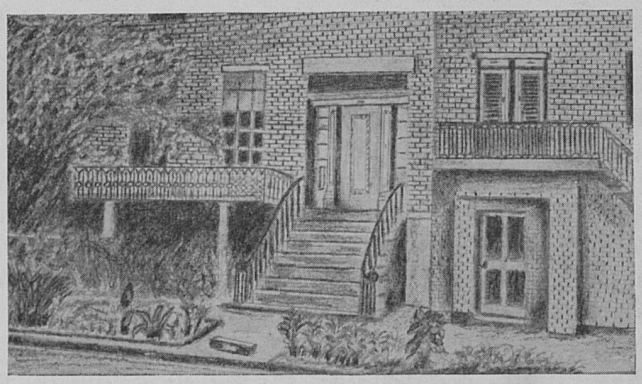
The brick used in Savannah's oldest buildings were very often imported, sometimes being brought over in great sailing vessels as ballast. Although clay suitable for baking into brick was available, brick kilns did not flourish in any number until a later period. The more prosperous citizens, however, were in direct contact with England, and the extensive shipping sometimes enabled the prospective home builder to request a ship's master to bring as ballast the brick he needed. This, to a certain extent, accounts for the irregularity in the size and color of the brick in the old residences and the frequent use of stucco as a covering.

The sense of proportion and the standard of taste set by the early Georgian builders were followed in the ensuing Regency period. During this time a great revival in building occurred, due perhaps to the wealth that flowed into the city from the vast surrounding plantations. The owners of these feudal estates, in addition to their plantation homes, usually had more formal residences in town. While dwellings of this period increased in size and aspired to a still higher standard of elegance, restraint and discretion were exercised in their construction. Thus these early nineteenth century houses seem the natural successors to those of the Georgian days. Well proportioned rooms, sometimes oval in shape, high ceilings and exquisite carving in the moldings and the stately arches of the wide halls were the characteristics of many of these handsome residences. Carved marble mantels replaced the more delicate wooden mantels of earlier houses, but the substitution was in keeping with the more elaborate style in vogue.

At this time a direct link between the architecture of England with that of Savannah was forged by the arrival in the town of young William Jay, the son of a minister of Bath. Unknown as a builder in his own country, but with inherent good taste and with an obvious knowledge of good workmanship, Jay set a standard of substantial construction combined with a delicacy of detail that seems almost fragile. The

finest survivals of his work in Savannah today are the Owens house (1816-19), the Scarborough house (1818-1819), and possibly the Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences (circa 1820). The Savannah Theatre (1818), the oldest theatre in continuous operation in the country, is also his handiwork; but little save the walls remains of the original building. Pictures of the old theatre show a simple dignified structure with delicate detail. The Habersham house, razed in 1916 to make way for the present Municipal Auditorium, was one of the most admired of the Jay houses, and the Savannah Branch of the United States Bank was a dignified building from the same master hand. Effort has been made to connect Jay with the construction of the Independent Presbyterian Church (1817-1819), a perfect example of the Christopher Wren School which has won unstinted praise from visiting architects and artists. Beyond being engaged in some supervisory capacity while the church was in process of building, Jay appears not to have been connected with the designing of this masterpiece.

The builders of this time used brick, or brick and stucco. Occasionally tabby, a mixture of lime and oyster shells, was



used for the foundation or for some small outhouse or carriage house; but brick was the standard material for the more elaborate dwellings and public buildings, since tabby with its rough surface gave an unfinished appearance and an uncertain

outline. A thriving brick kiln was established at this time by Henry McAlpin on his plantation, the Hermitage, three miles north of the town. Here were manufactured the celebrated old "Savannah Grey" brick, known for their distinctive color, which are still to be seen in many houses today.

So harmoniously did the Regency period of building merge with the succeeding Greek Revival era that the architecture of the town continued to seem of a single progressive pattern. Typical of this transition are the Gordon House *(7 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)* and the Barrow House *(12 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1);* but with the widening Greek Revival influence, small pillared porticoes grew into large colonnaded entrances, graceful stairways grew in size, fine detail was enriched and ornamentation was extensively used. At this time Savannah had reached a zenith of prosperity, and interest in all the cultural arts was at its height. This expansive era was naturally typified by over elaborate private dwellings, but the massive public buildings were well suited to the style. Heavy brick and stucco mansions and impressive colonnaded public buildings appeared. The McAlpin House (1835), stuccoed over brick from the McAlpin kilns, is an example of this type of private dwelling, while Christ Church (1838—rebuilt 1897) *(3 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)* with its simple dignity of outline is a perfect example of an early Greek public building.

The following Victorian era brought a medley of construction which might have disturbed the architectural quality of the town had the builders been less conservative. As it was, the buildings of this period blend satisfactorily with those of earlier times. Large somber rooms divided by heavy sliding doors, ornamental gilt mirrors, crystal chandeliers and heavy arched marble mantels are indicative of that ponderous style of living prevalent in those days. As in the Georgian era, rows of brick tenements were built. Except for the distinct Victorianism of the somber color and the heavier entrances, they follow closely their predecessors. The stoops were higher, the delicate iron handrails of the older houses were replaced by wooden banisters or sandstone copings, while the perfectly

proportioned doorways of a past era gave way to bulky front doors, square or heavily arched, with frosted glass insets, side lights and transoms. These changes robbed the newer tenements of that appearance of fine craftsmanship, but in solidity of construction they were unequaled.

The Meldrim house (circa 1845) *(16 Guide Map, see Foot Tour 1)* is a sporadic example of the period. The oriel windows and the battlemented roof line suggest that era's idea of Gothic, while the intricate iron work on gallery and surrounding fence is a French modification, probably from New Orleans or the West Indies; but in spite of this mixture of architectural styles, the effect is pleasing. St. John's Church, of brick and gray stucco, with tall wooden spire is another example of modified Gothic of Victorian years.

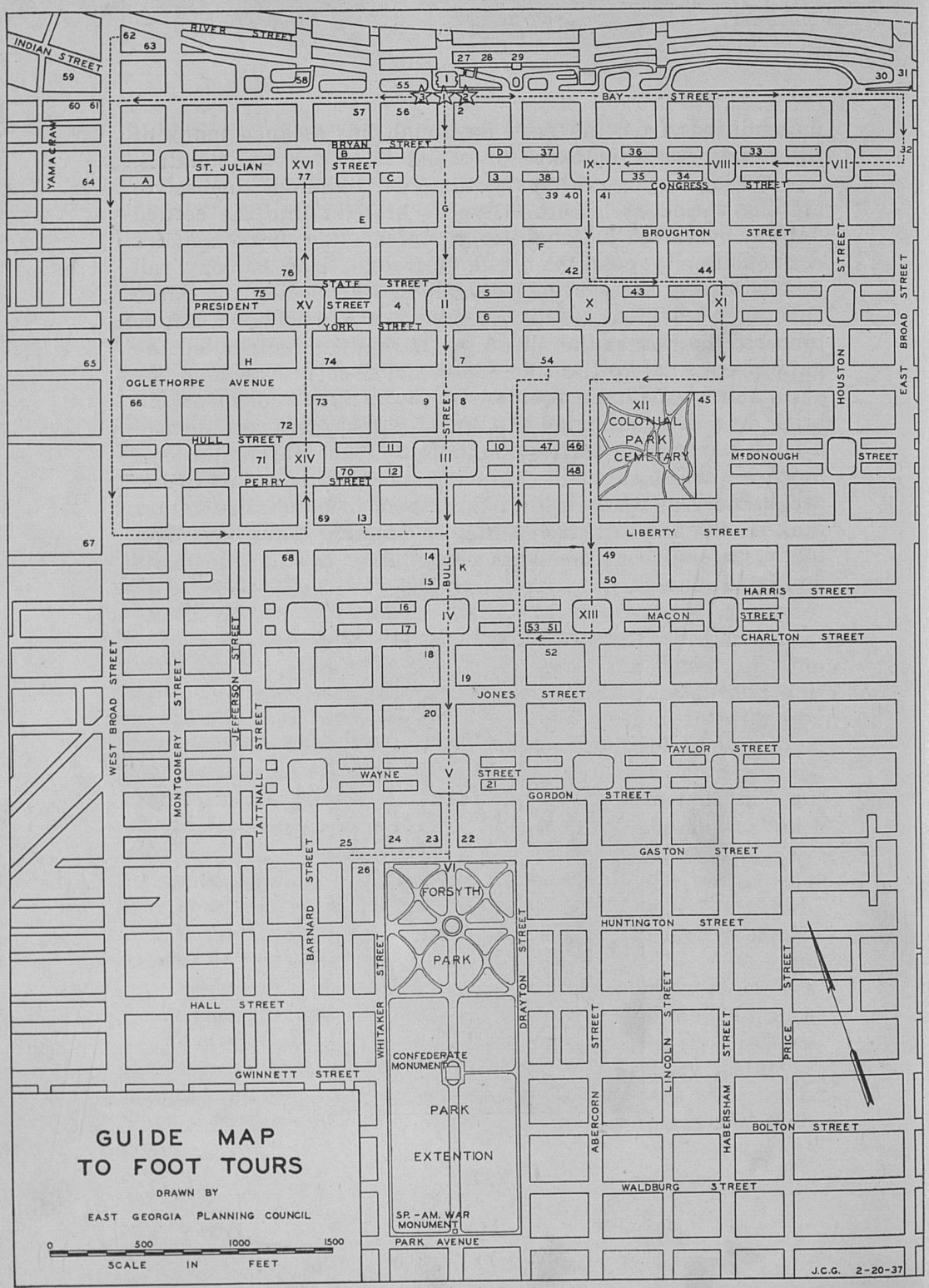
Fortunate it was for Savannah that in the tragic days of Reconstruction following the War Between the States the citizens were kept busy preserving the houses that were already built rather than building new ones. Thus it was that the city was spared many architectural errors of a period marked by bad taste and shoddy building. Embellishments, formerly the careful work of trained craftsmen of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, were turned out by mills in mass and designed by men who had little knowledge of this work. The small amount of building that was done during those years, usually frame structures with gingerbread ornamentations, typified the period. Toward the end of the century when Henry Hobson Richardson was employed in the designing of many public buildings, a new influence leaning towards the Romanesque was introduced into construction. The Cotton Exchange, the present Courthouse, the Guards Hall and the De Soto Hotel are good examples of this style.

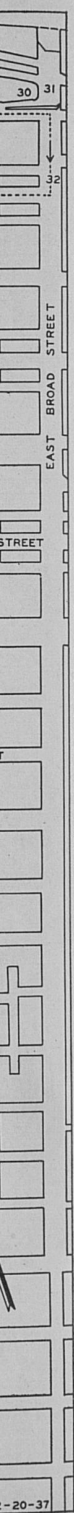
Savannah's architects today have returned more or less to the Georgian type of house as most suitable to the traditions of the city. Carefully copying the best examples of the Georgian houses that still remain, they have in many instances used the identical plans from which these houses were built. Thus with the older part of the city largely intact and with

its traditions from the past, Savannah has escaped many of the architectural mistakes prevalent in newer communities.

As interesting perhaps as the older buildings themselves are the varied architectural motifs brought into the settled pattern by varied nationalistic groups making up Savannah's cosmopolitan population. A fine wrought iron balcony rail recalls vividly those French Royalists, who fleeing the Santo Domingo Rebellions, settled in the town and added a native touch to the houses they lived in. Barbadoes contributed the gallery entrance to the side of the house so prevalent in the architecture of Charleston. A sharply peaked roof or an old brick oven brings to mind the thrifty Salzburgers who formed a great part of the earlier population. These differentiations, however, are so slight in character and so little a part of the architecture as a whole that they seem to emphasize rather than modify the established English pattern. Thus Savannah today, through two centuries of building, is still true to its first traditions.




GUIDE MAP
TO FOOT TOURS
DRAWN BY
EAST GEORGIA PLANNING COUNCIL
0 500 1000 1500
SCALE IN FEET
J.C.G. 2-20-37
RIVER STREET
INDIAN STREET
YAMACRAW
BAY STREET
BRYAN STREET
ST. JULIAN
CONGRESS STREET
BROUGHTON STREET
STATE STREET
PRESIDENT STREET
YORK STREET
OGLETHORPE AVENUE
HULL STREET
PERRY STREET
LIBERTY STREET
McDONOUGH STREET
HARRIS STREET
MACON STREET
CHARLTON STREET
JONES STREET
TAYLOR STREET
WAYNE STREET
GORDON STREET
GASTON STREET
HUNTINGTON STREET
HALL STREET
GWINNETT STREET
BOLTON STREET
WALDBURG STREET
PARK AVENUE
WEST BROAD STREET
EAST BROAD STREET
BULL STREET
HOUSTON STREET
JEFFERSON STREET
MONTGOMERY STREET
TATTNALL STREET
BARNARD STREET
WHITAKER STREET
DRAYTON STREET
LINCOLN STREET
ABERCORN STREET
HABERSHAM STREET
PRICE STREET
COLONIAL PARK CEMETARY
FORSYTH PARK
PARK EXTENTION
CONFEDERATE MONUMENT
SP.-AM. WAR MONUMENT
I
II
III
IV
V
VI
VII
VIII
IX
X
XI
XII
XIII
XIV
XV
XVI



POINTS OF INTEREST

(See Guide Map to Foot Tours)

1. The City Hall
2. The United States Customs House
3. Christ Church
4. The United States Post Office
5. The Lutheran Church of the Ascension
6. The Chatham County Court House
7. The Gordon House
8. Chatham Academy
9. The Independent Presbyterian Church
10. The Savannah Theatre
11. The First Baptist Church
12. The Barrow House
13. The Masonic Temple
14. The Knights of Columbus Hall
15. The Weed House
16. The Meldrim House
17. St. John's Episcopal Church
18. The Scottish Rite Temple
19. The Smets House
20. The Tefft House
21. The Temple Mickve Israel
22. The Oglethorpe Club
23. Armstrong Junior College
24. The J. Florance Minis House
25. Row of Houses
26. Hodgson Hall
27. Factors Row
28. The Chamber of Commerce
29. The Cotton Exchange
30. The Old Harbor Light
31. Fort Wayne
32. The Flint House
33. The Woodbridge House
34. Seamen's Bethel
35. The Dennis House
36. Cassell's Row
37. The Pink House
38. The Roberts House
39. The Burroughs House
40. The Site of the Hunter House
41. The Lucas Theatre
42. The Arnold House
43. The Owens House
44. The Davenport House
45. The City Police Barracks
46. The W. W. Owens House
47. The Ravenel House
48. The Abercorn Street School
49. St. Vincent's Academy
50. Cathedral of St. John the Baptist
51. The Low House
52. The Randolph Anderson House
53. Savannah Headquarters of the Girl Scouts of America
54. The McIntosh House
55. The Marble Bench
56. The Old City Hotel
57. The Savannah Morning News and Evening Press
58. Old Cobblestone Roadway
59. Yamacraw
60. The Site of the Fremont House
61. The Site of the Gibbons House
62. A Public Service Company
63. The Pulp and Paper Laboratory of Dr. Charles H. Herty
64. The Scarborough House
65. The Marshall House
66. The Wetter House
67. The Central of Georgia Railway Station
68. The Shivers House
69. The Dent House
70. The McAlpin House
71. The City Auditorium
72. The Minis House
73. The Waring House
74. The Giles Becu House
75. The Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences
76. Odd Fellows Hall
77. The City Market

PARKS AND SQUARES

I	Johnson Square	(1733)
II	Wright Square	(1733)
III	Chippewa Square	(1813)
IV	Madison Square	(1839)
V	Monterey Square	(1848)
VI	Forsyth Park	(1851)
VII	Washington Square	(1799)
VIII	Warren Square	(1799)
IX	Reynolds Square	(1733)
X	Oglethorpe Square	(1733)
XI	Columbia Square	(1799)
XII	Colonial Cemetery	(1762)
XIII	Lafayette Square	(1839)
XIV	Orleans Square	(1815)
XV	Telfair Square	(1733)
XVI	Ellis Square	(1733)

HISTORIC SITES

A. The Franklin Square Theatre.
B. The Dissenters' Meeting House.
C. The first Bake Oven.
D. The first Public Store.
E. Tondee's Tavern.
F. The first newspaper in Georgia printed here.
G. The first Public Draw Well.
H. Old Eppinger's Inn.
I. House with cannon ball hole from Siege of 1779.
J. One of the earliest forts of the Colony.
K. The old United States Barracks.

HISTORIC SITES

(Indicated on Foot Tours)

31. The Trustees' Garden.
36. The Filature.
41. The first council chamber building.
67. Fortifications during the Revolution.
75. Government House
76. Tavern visited by George Washington in 1791.

MARKERS AND MONUMENTS IN THE CITY

MARBLE BENCH, Bay St., foot of Whitaker St.
Here Oglethorpe pitched his tent when he first landed on Georgia soil, February 12, 1733.

BRONZE MARKER, Bay St., foot of Whitaker St.
Yamacraw Bluff where Colony of Georgia was founded, February 12, 1733. Voted the most historic spot in Georgia by the Georgia Daughters of the American Revolution.

OGLETHORPE MONUMENT, Chippewa Square
Erected in honor of the founder of the Colony.

SUN DIAL, Johnson Square
In commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the founding of Georgia.

BRONZE TABLET, Johnson Square
First square of the city.

MARBLE MARKER, Christ Church, Johnson Square
First church established in the Colony.

BRONZE TABLET, T. P. A. Garage, 21 Bull St.
Site of the first Public Mill.

BRONZE TABLET, John G. Butler Building, 24 Congress St. W.
Site of the first Public Oven.

BRONZE MARKER, Citizens and Southern National Bank, 22 Bull St.
Site of the first Public Store.

BRONZE TABLET, Wright Square
Now named in honor of Sir James Wright, the last of the Royal Governors. This square, probably the second square to be laid out, was first known as Upper Square, then as Court House Square and still later as Percival Square.

TABLET, Madison Square
Two cannon commemorate the first roads to Augusta and Darien, 1735.

MORAVIAN MONUMENT, Oglethorpe Square
In memory of the Moravian colonists in Savannah, 1735-1740.

BRONZE TABLET, United States Customs House
Here stood Mrs. Overend's house where Oglethorpe lived when in Savannah. This is also the site of the first public building erected in Georgia. Here John Wesley, in 1736, preached his first sermon in Savannah.

BRONZE TABLET, Christ Church, Johnson Square.
In memory of John Wesley, minister of Christ Church Parish, 1736-37. Founder of the Sunday School of this church.

TABLET, John Wesley Hotel, 29 Abercorn St.
Here lived John Wesley, 1736-37.

TABLET, United States Post Office, Wright Square
John Wesley preached from May 9, 1736 to November 27, 1737 in the Court House erected by Oglethorpe on this lot.

BRONZE TABLET, Christ Church, Johnson Square
In memory of George Whitefield, minister of Christ Church Parish, 1738-41 and founder of Bethesda Orphan Home.

TOMOCHICHI BOULDER, Wright Square
In memory of Tomochichi, Mico of the Yamacraws and friend of the colonists.

BRONZE TABLET, Chatham Academy, 208 Bull St.
In memory of Toonahowi, nephew and adopted son of Tomochichi.

BRONZE TABLET, Gilbert Hotel, 111 Broughton St. E.
Site where the first newspaper in Georgia was printed, April 7, 1763.

WOODEN MARKER, Entrance of Pink House, 23 Abercorn St.
House erected in 1771 as the home of the Habersham family, later occupied as the Planters Bank.

MARKER, Telfair Academy of Arts and Sciences, Telfair Square
Site of Government House, home of Royal Governor, Sir James Wright, where in 1776 by authority of the Council of Safety he was arrested by Joseph Habersham.

BRONZE TABLET, Lucas Theatre, 32 Abercorn St.
Site of the home of Sir John Houston, first Governor of Georgia.

JASPER MONUMENT, Madison Square
Erected in honor of Sgt. William Jasper who fell at the Siege of Savannah, October 9, 1779.

ARCH, Entrance of Colonial Cemetery
In memory of patriots of the American Revolution buried in the Cemetery.

BRONZE TABLET, Colonial Cemetery
At grave of Denis L. Cottineau De Kerloguen, who aided John Paul Jones in the Battle between the *Bon Homme Richard* and the *Serapis*, September 23, 1779.

PULASKI MONUMENT, Monterey Square
In memory of Count Casimir Pulaski who was killed during the Siege of Savannah, October 9, 1779.

GRANITE MARKER, Madison Square
Through this square ran the southern line of defenses of the British who held Savannah from December 29, 1778, to July 11, 1782.

GREENE MONUMENT, Johnson Square
Erected to the memory of Gen. Nathanael Greene of Revolutionary fame.

BRONZE TABLET, Chatham Academy, 208 Bull St.
First academy in Savannah, second oldest in Georgia, opened January 5, 1818.

TABLET, McIntosh House, 110 Oglethorpe Ave. E.
Home of Gen. Lachlan McIntosh. First Session of Georgia Legislature held here after evacuation of the city in 1782. Washington visited here in 1791.

BRONZE TABLET, NW. corner of Barnard and State Sts.
Here stood an Inn at which George Washington stayed while on his tour of the South in 1791.

BRONZE TABLET, Chippewa Square
Commemorating American valor in the Battle of Chippewa, Canada, 1813.

BRONZE TABLET, Savannah Theatre, 222 Bull St.
The oldest theatre in active use in the United States, opened December 4, 1818.

BRONZE TABLET, City Hall, Bay St., foot of Bull St.
Commemorating the sailing in 1819 of the *Steamship Savannah*, the first steamship to cross the Atlantic Ocean.

BRONZE TABLET, City Hall, Bay St., foot of Bull St.
Commemorating the *John Randolph*, the first iron-clad vessel in American waters, launched in 1834.

BRONZE TABLET, Madison Square
In memory of James Madison, fourth President of the United States, 1809-1817.

GORDON MONUMENT, Wright Square
Erected to the memory of William W. Gordon, first President of the Central Railroad and Banking Company of Georgia (died 1842).

BRONZE TABLET, Monterey Square
In memory of the capture of Monterey, Mexico, by the American Army under Gen. Zachary Taylor, May 24, 1846.

BRONZE TABLET, Juliette Low House, 329 Abercorn St.
From 1886 to 1927 the home of Juliette Low, founder of the Girl Scouts in the United States, organized in Savannah, March 1912. Among the distinguished guests who visited here were William Makepeace Thackeray in 1853 and 1856 and Gen. Robert E. Lee in 1870. Now headquarters of Georgia Society of Colonial Dames of America.

CONFEDERATE MONUMENT, Forsyth Park Extension
In memory of the Confederate soldiers who fell during the War Between the States.

BARTOW MONUMENT, Forsyth Park Extension
Erected to Brig. Gen. Francis S. Bartow, killed at the Battle of Manassas.

McLAWS MONUMENT, Forsyth Park Extension
Erected to Gen. Lafayette McLaws, Confederate hero.

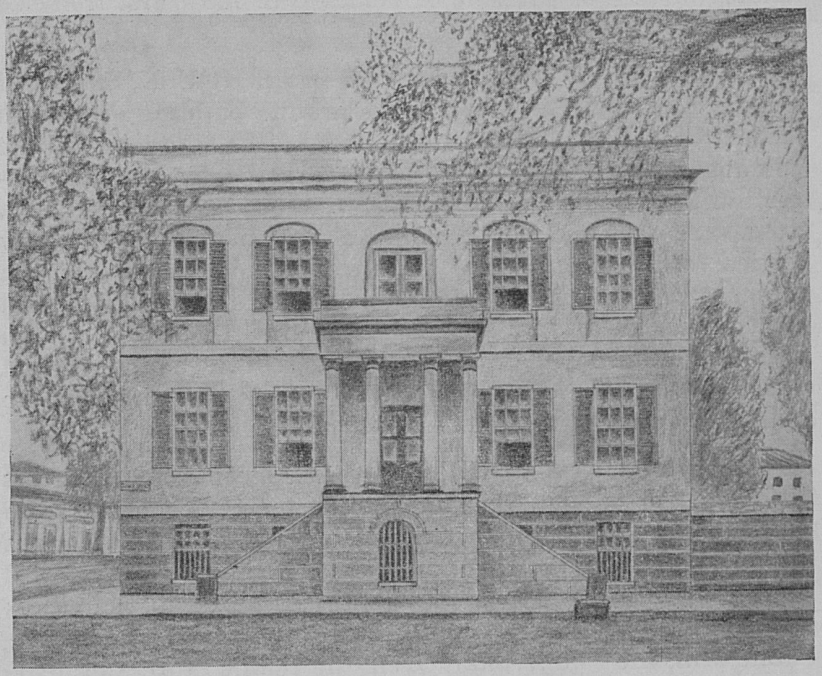
AXSON MEMORIAL, Independent Presbyterian Church, Bull St. and Oglethorpe Ave.
Here Woodrow Wilson and Ellen Louise Axson were united in marriage, June 24, 1885.

SPANISH WAR VETERANS' MOUNMENT, Forsyth Park Extension
In memory of the men who fought in the Spanish American War.

BRONZE TABLET, Chatham Academy, 208 Bull St.
In commemoration of former pupils of the Savannah Public Schools who fought in the World War.

BRONZE TABLET, United States Post Office, Wright Square
In memory of the officers and men of the Second Division who sacrificed their lives during the World War.

GRANITE MARKER, Victory Drive at Waters Ave.
Erected in honor of the World War dead of Chatham County



THE GORDON HOUSE

SAVANNAH FOOT TOUR 1

S. from Bay St. Bluff on Bull St.

Bull Street from the Bluff is seen as a green aisle broadened at intervals by the precise and charming little parks planned by the founders of the Georgia Colony.

1. CITY HALL, on the N. side of Bay St., facing Bull St., a large granite structure topped by a domed cupola, was built in 1905 to replace a dignified building that had been determined inadequate for modern needs. Tablets on either side of the entrance commemorate Savannah's role in mari-

time history, one to the sailing in 1819 of the *Steamship Savannah,* first steamship to cross the Atlantic, the other to the building of the *John Randolph,* launched in 1834, first iron-clad in American waters. *(See Transportation.)*

2. THE UNITED STATES CUSTOMS HOUSE, S. side of Bay St., L. of Bull St., is a massive granite building erected in 1850 in the style of the Greek Revival. The large monolithic columns, the capitals of which are carved tobacco leaves instead of the usual acanthus leaves, were quarried near Quincy, Mass., and are unusually fine. The wide pediment and lofty portico form an impressive entrance to the interior where a double granite stairway with iron banisters leads up from a handsome hallway. On this same site stood the little house in which Oglethorpe lived at intervals. To the rear of the lot stood the first public building in the Colony of Georgia where John Wesley preached his first sermon in Savannah.

I. JOHNSON SQUARE, between Bryan and Congress Sts., was laid out in 1733 and named for Governor Johnson of South Carolina, friend of the Georgia colonists. This was the first square of the town and has had a busy and colorful history. For years it was the center of Colonial activities; surrounding it were the church, the House for Strangers, the Public Mill, the Public Bake Oven, the Public Store and nearby the Public Well. In the square was the Sundial from which colonists used to read the time of day. To replace the old Sundial, a new one with a base of fine mosiac has been erected by the Sons of Colonial Wars.

Several illustrious names are connected with this square, among them that of Gen. Nathanael Greene, who is buried under the imposing monument in the center. For over a century the resting place of this soldier of the Revolution was a mystery. From time to time interested historians and citizens had endeavored to find where General Greene had been buried; but none of these efforts met with success until the State of Rhode Island, becoming interested in the remains of its distinguished son, provided funds for an investigation. Finally a vault in Colonial Cemetery was opened

and in it were discovered the coffin plate and the bones of General Greene and his son. The remains of both were re-interred under the monument in Johnson Square.

Here President Monroe was given an outdoor reception during his visit to Savannah in 1819. *(See Transportation.)* A marquee was erected for this occasion, and the little plot of green resounded with great festivity as Savannah citizens did honor to the leader of the nation. Here Daniel Webster was given a public reception when he visited the city in 1847, and here in 1861 with patriotic fervor, the Confederate flag was first raised.

3. CHRIST CHURCH, on Bull St., facing Johnson Square (L), is a vine-covered copy of a Greek temple. The impressive columned entrance of the portico leads to a dignified interior with small columns supporting a graceful balcony which extends around three sides of the building. This church was the first established in the Colony and numbers among its ministers many well known clergymen, including John Wesley and George Whitefield. The present structure, the third on the site, reproduces an earlier church built in 1838 and destroyed by fire in 1897. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)*

S. of Johnson Square, Bull St. intersects Broughton St., the main shopping thoroughfare of the city.

II. WRIGHT SQUARE, lying between York and State Sts., was laid out in 1733. When the Colony was established this square was one of the original six. Due to its important location in the center of the little town it was the scene of much activity and was probably second in importance to Johnson Square. It was first called Upper Square and later Court House Square, both names being place names. As the town developed and the dignity of the square increased, it was named Percival in honor of Lord Percival, Earl of Egmont and first President of the Trust. Later when Georgia became a Royal Colony the name was changed to Wright in honor of Sir James Wright, Royal Governor. In the square stand a striking monument to W. W. Gordon, first president

of the Central Railroad, and a large granite boulder in memory of the Indian chief Tomochichi who befriended the early settlers. It was largely due to Tomochichi's amicable relationship with Oglethorpe that the colonists were so free of the usual danger from the Indians. In 1734 this old chief, his wife and nephew, accompanied Oglethorpe to England where they were received by the King and the Archbishop of Canterbury.

4. THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE, facing Wright square (R), is an arresting example of modern architecture executed in white marble. It is of Renaissance style with Venetian influence. The fine carved decorations, the small pillared balconies and graceful campanile are noteworthy. The building was enlarged and remodeled in 1931.

5. THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, facing Wright Square (L), was built in 1843 upon the site of the first wooden church erected in 1756. The present stone building shows Gothic influence. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)*

6. CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, facing Wright Square (L), of Romanesque design, was built in 1889-91 to replace an earlier courthouse which was a magnificent building of the Greek Revival style.

7. THE GORDON HOUSE, NE. corner Bull St. and Oglethorpe Ave., of brick and stucco, was the home of W. W. Gordon. Completed in 1829, it was one of the best examples of Regency houses beginning to show Greek Revival influence. The work on the building was begun in 1824 for Judge J. M. Wayne who sold it before completion to his nephew-in-law, W. W. Gordon. To the original building, a third story and side veranda have been added but the well proportioned entrance and pillared facade are unchanged. The interior is noted for its wealth of detail in ornamentation. Mantels of black African marble frame the fireplaces. Above windows and doorways are vines, blossoms and delicate faces carved in wood. *(See Styles in Building.)* Among the distinguished guests of the

house have been Alexander Stephens, Admiral W. S. Schley, Admiral George Dewey, President William McKinley and President William Howard Taft. Juliette Low, born Juliette Gordon, founder of the Girl Scouts of America, spent her childhood here. *(Building is not open.)*

8. THE CHATHAM ACADEMY, 208 Bull St., was chartered in 1788 by the Georgia Legislature. The large brick building, part of which was erected in 1812, has undergone many changes and is now one of the public schools. *(See Bethesda.)*

9. THE INDEPENDENT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, on the SW. corner of Oglethorpe Ave. and Bull St., is a stately white structure belonging to the Christopher Wren School and suggestive of St. Martins-in-the-Field of London. It is a reproduction of the church built 1815-19 which occupied this site prior to its destruction by fire in 1889. The graceful proportions of the building are enhanced by the well-designed portico with classic shell pediment and the fine spacing of the arched windows. The delicate outline of the tall spire, which rises above the series of carefully molded cornices and fluted columns of the entablature, is unforgettable. The high pulpit backed by a beautifully designed Georgian window, the large gallery and the perfect arc of the shallow domed ceiling with its classic ornamentation are distinguishing marks of the interior. The modern addition in the rear, designed by Ralph Adams Cram, has replaced the manse where in 1885 Ellen Axson, grand-daughter of the pastor, was married to Woodrow Wilson.

III. CHIPPEWA SQUARE, between Hull and Perry Sts., laid out in 1813, is distinguished by the James Edward Oglethorpe Monument erected by the State of Georgia to its founder. The handsome bronze statue is the work of Daniel Chester French and the base is from a design by Henry Bacon, both artists being noted for the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D. C.

10. THE SAVANNAH THEATRE, 222 Bull St., facing Chippewa Square (L), a theatrical landmark, is the oldest theatre in continuous use in the United States. The playhouse was designed by William Jay in 1818, and although the style of the front is a product of the 1890's, the interior arrangement of boxes and galleries is still largely intact. *(See The Stage in Early Savannah.)*

11. THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, facing Chippewa Square (R), is modeled after the Greek Parthenon; portions of the building were constructed in 1832, but the congregation was organized in 1795.

12. THE BARROW HOUSE, 17 McDonough St. W., R. of Bull St., is a fine old residence of classic design. Originally a two-story stucco building, the house has been heightened by the addition of a third story. Beautiful marble mantels and crystal chandeliers give distinction to the spacious rooms. *(Building is not open.) (See Styles in Building.)*

R. from Bull St. on Liberty St.

13. THE MASONIC TEMPLE, NW. corner of Liberty and Whitaker Sts., is owned by Solomons Lodge No. 1, the charter of which is said to have been the third granted in the United States. Among the memorabilia in its possession is a Bible presented by Oglethorpe.

Return on Liberty St.

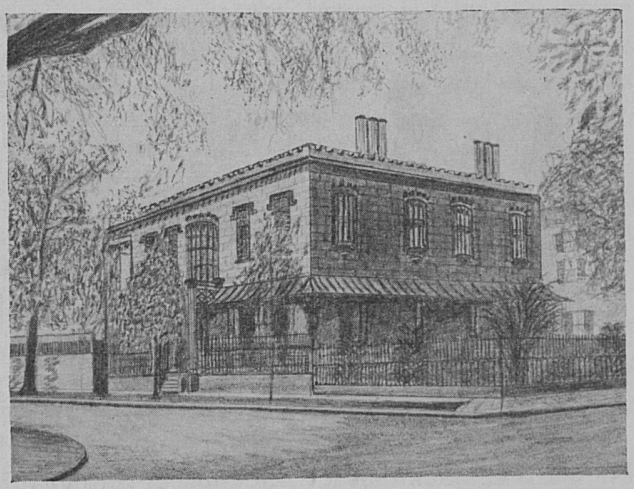
14. THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL, 3 Liberty St. W., R. of Bull St., was formerly the home of the DeRennes of Wormsloe and later headquarters of the Georgia Hussars, a cavalry troop organized in 1736 as the Oglethorpe Rangers. It was purchased in 1923 by the Knights of Columbus with the aid of the Catholic societies of Savannah.

R. from Liberty St. on Bull St.

IV. MADISON SQUARE, between Charlton and Harris Sts., laid out in 1839, was named for President Madison. Here stands a monument to Sgt. William Jasper, Revolutionary

hero who was mortally wounded in the Siege of Savannah. The first two roads in Georgia, to Augusta and Darien, are commemorated by two old cannon at the south end of the square.

15. THE WEED HOUSE, 6 Harris St., NW. facing Madison Square, is a charming residence built about 1840 for the Sorrel family. While in general outline the house shows Georgian influence, the detail is suggestive of the simpler type of Mediterranean villa. For many years it belonged to the Weed family but it is now occupied by an antique shop.



16. THE MELDRIM HOUSE, 14 Macon St. W., R of Bull St., was selected by General Sherman as his headquarters during his occupancy of the city in 1864. At that time it belonged to Charles Green, a British subject, and for this reason the United States Government paid rent for Sherman's use of the premises. An example of Victorian Gothic, it is constructed largely of building materials brought from England by Green who was the grandfather of Julian and Anne Green, the present day expatriate novelists. The solid masonry construction, the battlemented roof line and the oriel windows suggest the Gothic revival, while the intricate iron work on

balcony and fence shows French influence. *(Building is not open.) (See Civil and Military Development, and Styles in Building.)*

17. ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 25 Macon St. W., facing Madison Square, is another example of Victorian Gothic design in stuccoed brick with tall wooden spire. The cornerstone of the present building was laid March 1852, the first service taking place one year later. During the military occupation of the city, the chimes were saved from confiscation by a special plea to President Lincoln.

18. THE SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE, R. and SW. of Madison Square, of yellow brick with decorative details of inlaid tiles, is the headquarters for four Masonic lodges.

19. THE SMETS HOUSE, 4 Jones St. E., L. of Bull St., is a large square red brick Victorian structure, with upper balcony decorated with heavy iron railings. It was the former home of Alexander Smets, a leading figure in Savannah's literary life of a century ago and a founder of the Georgia Historical Society. It is now the Harmonie Club. *(See Georgia Historical Society.)*

20. THE TEFFT HOUSE, 1 Jones St. W., R. of Bull St., is a three-story commodious brick building, typical of the Victorian era. It was formerly the residence of I. K. Tefft, who was widely known for his extensive collection of autographs. Mr. Tefft was active also in the founding of the Georgia Historical Society. *(See Georgia Historical Society.)*

V. MONTEREY SQUARE, between Gordon and Taylor Sts., was named in 1848 in honor of the capture of Monterey by the American forces two years earlier. Here stands a monument to Count Casimir Pulaski, a hero of the Revolution, who was killed during the Siege of Savannah in 1779.

21. THE TEMPLE MICKVE ISRAEL, 20 Gordon St. E., facing Monterey Square (L), of modified Gothic design, was founded by a distinguished group of Jews who came to Sa-

vannah in 1733. The Scroll of Laws which they brought with them is still a treasured possession. In their old cemetery, just north of the Union Station, are many tombstones of the early colonists. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)*

22. THE OGLETHORPE CLUB, 450 Bull St., on the NE. corner of the intersection with Gaston St., is an example of massive Victorian style. It was once the residence of Gen. Henry R. Jackson, minister to Austria and Mexico and author of the well known poem *The Red Old Hills of Georgia.* It is now an exclusive men's club. *(See Civil and Military Development.)*

23. ARMSTRONG JUNIOR COLLEGE, 447 Bull St., was given its main building in 1935 by Mrs. Moltz, the widow of the late George F. Armstrong of Savannah. A large building containing auditorium and classrooms was added by the city. The adjacent building, occupied by the School of Finance and Commerce, was given to the college in 1936 by Mills B. Lane.

R. from Bull St. on Gaston St.

24. THE MINIS HOUSE, 24 Gaston St., W., on the NE. corner of Whitaker St., a handsome brick and painted stucco residence of the Victorian period has been remodeled in the manner of an Italian villa. *(Building is not open.)*

25. THE ROW OF HOUSES at 104, 106 and 108 Gaston St. W., beginning at NW. corner of Gaston and Whitaker Sts., is typical of the late Victorian period. These are all substantial residences set well back from an unusually wide pavement and fronted with iron-railed small formal gardens. The corner house (No. 104) is a double, two-story dwelling with simple lines and attractive entrance. *(Buildings are not open.)*

26. HODGSON HALL, 501 Whitaker St., on the SW. corner of Gaston and Whitaker Sts., is the home of the Georgia Historical Society. On the library shelves are many books that have been in the possession of the Georgia Historical Society

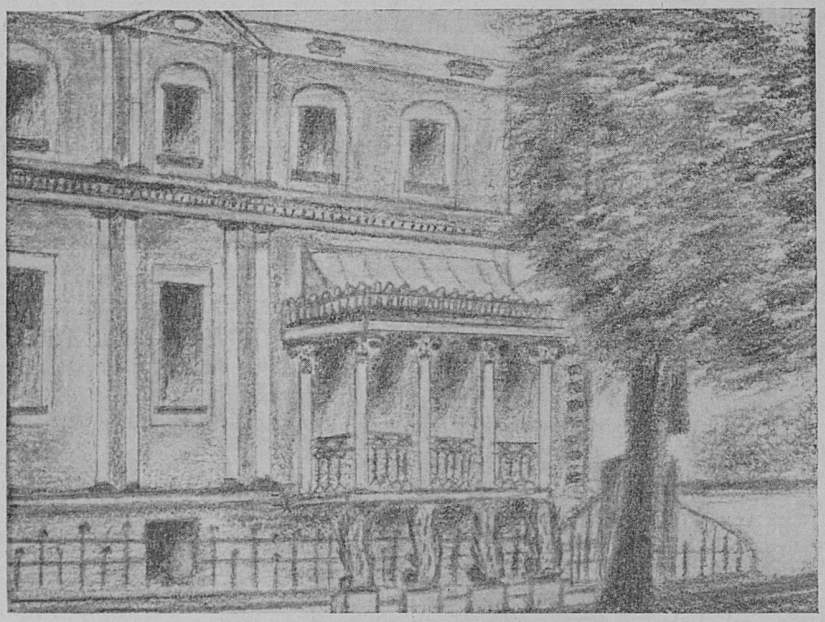
since 1839. On the wall hangs a portrait of the Countess of Huntingdon. *(See Bethesda, and Georgia Historical Society.)*

VI. FORSYTH PARK, extending from Gaston St. to Park Ave., a distance of seven city blocks, consists of 20 acres laid out in 1851 by act of City Council and named for John Forsyth, brilliant statesman, minister to Spain, and Governor of Georgia. Within its wide spaces grow many varieties of trees and shrubs. Here are found the sycamore, the magnolia, the camphor, the Japanese mimosa and dense bushes of ilex. In spring azaleas, wisteria and dogwood, flowering in great masses, turn the park into a garden; squirrels scamper unafraid across the grass to take nuts from passersby; and pigeons strut about the walks waiting to be fed. The graceful white fountain in the center is supposed to resemble one in the Place de la Concorde in Paris, but the resemblance is faint. As the plan of the park was designed by William Bischoff, a Bavarian landscape gardener, it seems likely that German influence played its part in the design of the fountain as well as of the grounds.

Beyond the original outline of the park the main promenade cuts through the parade ground of Savannah's militia. This section also contains playgrounds, tennis courts, and practice fields. Known as the Park Extension, it is marked by two monuments on the central walk, one to the Confederate dead and one to the Spanish-American war veterans. The Confederate Monument is a lofty pyramid construction of sandstone on whose pinnacle is mounted a bronze soldier. The original cast, a delicate female figure symbolizing death, is now in the Confederate lot in Laurel Grove Cemetery. Within the iron-railed enclosure of the monument are memorial busts of two Confederate heroes, Gen. Lafayette McLaws and Brig. Gen. Francis S. Bartow. The Spanish-American memorial is a heroic bronze cast of a soldier in the uniform of the period. Facing south, it is an arresting figure looking out the long avenue beyond the park, and is an impressive tribute to those who served in that war.

During the spring and summer Forsyth Park is the favorite recreation spot of Savannah. In these warm months, particularly on Sunday afternoons, it resembles a continental park, when hundreds of citizens, old and young, clad in holiday array, promenade its curving paths or stop near the band stand to listen to the music resounding through the long green arcades.





BALCONY OF THE OWENS HOUSE

SAVANNAH FOOT TOUR 2.

E. from Bull St. on Bay St.

The rickety house where an infamous pirate died, the fort where blue-coated patriots guarded Savannah's bluff, occasional glimpses of a yellow river behind a giant wall of office buildings, fine old residences built during Savannah's golden period—these are the high points of this tour, which begins at Bay St., E. of the City Hall.

27. FACTORS ROW, river front between River and Bay Sts., consists of buildings rising four or more stories above river level. Iron bridges cross the cobblestone runways that slope down to River St. and the busy docks. Prior to the turn of the present century nearly all of the industrial and commercial activities of the city centered about this colorful section, which derived its name from the active cotton factors of that time.

28. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, 34 Bay St. E. Here in one of the city's most historic business sections, the Savannah Chamber of Commerce has its headquarters, where the visitor may obtain any information that he desires about the city, its accommodations and its business possibilities. Folders and leaflets containing data condensed for the reader's convenience are supplied, and everyone, resident or visitor, is assured of courteous assistance. This body, made up of Savannah's leading business men and women, was organized in 1883. It is believed to be the first Chamber of Commerce to take in associate members and has associates from about one hundred counties in its trade area. Its records show that convention visitors and tourists spend about $5,000,000 a year in the city.

29. THE COTTON EXCHANGE, Bay St., at the foot of Drayton St., is an imposing brick and terra cotta structure built in 1886 by William Gibbons, Boston architect. In front of the building a terra cotta lion rears its shaggy head above an ornamental pool. The exchange itself was established in the late eighteenth century and, functioning as a commodity exchange, has played an important role in the economic history of Savannah. *(See Industry.)*

30. THE OLD HARBOR LIGHT, at the foot of Emmett Park, is a picturesque beacon erected in 1852 to direct ships coming into the harbor.

R. from Bay St. on E. Broad St.

31. FORT WAYNE (L.) on the site of the Trustees' Garden, set back from the SE. intersection of E. Broad and Bay Sts., was first built in 1762 and later named for Gen. Anthony Wayne. Time-blackened guns still point seaward from the massive brick walls erected for the defense of the city about 1812. *(See Civil and Military Development.)* The site is now occupied by a public service company.

32. THE FLINT HOUSE, 26 E. Broad St., is a small old dwelling where according to tradition the blue-faced pirate Flint of *Treasure Island* died, shouting "Fetch aft the rum,

Darby." The lower story is of brick, with a small dilapidated wooden stoop, while the upper story is of wood.

R. from E. Broad St. on St. Julian St. E.

VII. WASHINGTON SQUARE, between Congress and Bryan Sts., laid out in 1799 and named in honor of Gen. George Washington, is one block W. of E. Broad St.

VIII. WARREN SQUARE, between Congress and Bryan Sts., laid out in 1799, was named for Gen. Joseph Warren who fell at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

33. THE WOODBRIDGE HOUSE, 22 Habersham St., NE. of Warren Square, is a small two-story wooden house, built about 1800, and is marked by a brick addition and a quaint servants' house.

34. SEAMEN'S BETHEL, 307 St. Julian St. E., one block W. of Warren Square, is a charitable institution for sailors in this port.

35. THE DENNIS HOUSE, 27-29 Lincoln St., L. of St. Julian St., is an early home of I. K. Tefft. Erected in 1800, it is an interesting example of tenements of that period. The unusual stoop and dormers are worthy of note. *(See Georgia Historical Society.)*

IX. REYNOLDS SQUARE, between Congress and Bryan Sts., was laid out in 1733 and named in honor of John Reynolds, first Royal Governor of the Colony.

36. CASSELLS ROW, NE. of Reynolds Square on St. Julian St., is a group of small brick houses with high stoops and fine iron banisters. Two centuries ago, the Filature stood on this site. Originally headquarters of the silk industry, this interesting old building was used as an assembly and dance hall until it was destroyed by fire in 1839. *(See Industry.)*

37. THE PINK HOUSE, 23 Abercorn St., NW. of Reynolds Square, was built in 1771 for James Habersham, jr. In 1812 after a wing was added and ornamental window lintels applied, it was used to house the Planters Bank. In more recent

times it has been converted into a tearoom. Architecturally it is of Georgian design with low-stooped pillared portico. It is built of brick covered with a pinkish stucco, a material that adds to the decorative quality of the ornamentation around the windows and cornice. *(See Styles in Building.)*

L. from St. Julian St. E. on Abercorn St.

38. THE ROBERTS HOUSE, 27 Abercorn St., SW. of Reynolds Square, was commandeered by Federal officers at the time of Sherman's occupation of Savannah. The officers used the first two floors, relegating the family to the third floor. Built in 1840, it is greatly admired for its wrought iron stair rail, fanlighted doorway and other architectural details. The octagonal room in the rear, originally the finest room in the house, has a handsome marble mantel and ornamental moldings.

39. THE BURROUGHS HOUSE, 121 Congress St. E., on the S. side of the street, is now Christ Church Parish House.

40. SITE OF THE HUNTER HOUSE, 125 Congress St. E., is on Reynolds Square. This house was distinguished by its fine exterior and interior details. The doorway, with Palladian window and iron balcony above, and the arches and woodwork of the hallway and rooms were noteworthy. Built of wood, this double Georgian mansion was constructed in the latter part of the eighteenth century on a lot granted in 1757 to Hugh Ross. It was later occupied by the MacKays, whose friend, the famous miniature painter, Edward Malbone, died there.

41. THE LUCAS THEATRE, 32 Abercorn St., between Congress and Broughton Sts., stands on the site of the first council chamber building. It was here that the Royal Council first met in 1754. Afterwards, John Houstoun, twice Governor of Georgia and Mayor of Savannah, erected on the same site the Houstoun-Johnston House, which in later years became the residence of the Screven family.

X. OGLETHORPE SQUARE, between York and State Sts., laid out in 1733, was named for James Edward Oglethorpe, founder of the Colony.

42. THE ARNOLD HOUSE, 128 State St. E., NW. of Oglethorpe Square, is marked by interesting gable ends. It was built about 1790, and was the residence of Dr. R. D. Arnold, a leader in Savannah's civic, medical and social affairs. Dr. Arnold is remembered not only for his part in founding the Georgia Historical Society, but also for his heroism during the yellow fever epidemic of 1854.

43. THE OWENS HOUSE, 124 Abercorn St., facing Oglethorpe Square (L), was built for Frances Bolton, sister of Robert Bolton, on her marriage to Richard Richardson. It is regarded as the most perfect example of the English Regency in Savannah, and is constructed of masonry and stucco. The entrance portico with graceful columns is reached by a winding double stairway. A wrought iron balcony with carved stone supports on the southern side of the building is considered by many architects to be one of the fine decorative features in the city. The interior is distinguished by Grecian details throughout. The fret of the drawing room and the two Corinthian columns in front of the grand stairway are particularly fine. The house is considered to be the first and best example of the stately work of the English architect, William Jay. Jay's story is of particular interest to Savannah, because nowhere else does his talent seem to have flourished. He came here from England in 1817, at the age of twenty-three. The son of the noted nonconformist, the Reverend William Jay, he was the brother of Anne, wife of Robert Bolton of Savannah. His Savannah connections, together with his wit and gayety, made him a much sought after young visitor, and after he had shown his skill and taste in his first house, he seems to have been in much demand as an architect. The few examples of his work which remain today are unforgettable for their grace and beauty, and are much admired by visiting artists and architects. Jay left Savannah in 1825, and died on

the island of Mauritius. Lafayette was a guest in this house in 1825. *(Building is not open.) (See Styles in Building.)*

L. from Abercorn St. on State St. E.

XI. COLUMBIA SQUARE, between York and State Sts., was laid out in 1799.

44. THE DAVENPORT HOUSE, 324 State St. E., NW. of Columbia Square, is of pure Georgian architecture. It was constructed of English brick before 1800 for Isaiah Davenport, son of the famous English potter. Designed by an unknown architect this building of distinctive beauty has been pictured in national publications. Set high above the worn flagstones, the fanlighted entrance is approached by a curved double stairway of great elegance, a feature that is characteristic of fine Savannah residences. Two sets of chimneys and three dormers break the regularity of the A-shaped roof. The interior detail is marked by a fine stairway and ornamental ceilings. The beautiful marble mantels have been removed. *(See Styles in Building.)*

R. from State St. E. on Habersham St.; R. from Habersham St. on Oglethorpe Ave.

45. THE CITY POLICE BARRACKS, 323 Oglethorpe Ave. E., is on the SW. corner of the intersection of the avenue with Habersham St. This was the first large building erected in Savannah after the War Between the States, when the tragic and disorganized city felt the necessity for greater police protection. The brick arcaded sally port, inscribed with the architect's and builder's names, is a picturesque feature with its iron grilled gate.

XII. COLONIAL CEMETERY (Colonial Park), on Oglethorpe Ave., W. of the Barracks, was laid out as a burial ground twenty years after the Colony was founded. Here are buried some of the early settlers, many patriots of Revolutionary days and heroes of the Mexican War, as well as eminent divines, merchants, and civilians who in days past laid the foundation of the future city. Formerly surrounded

by a high brick wall, Church Cemetery, as it was originally called, was for a number of years the only public burying ground of the parish. In later years as it became more generally used it was known as Old Brick Cemetery. Its position in the midst of the fast-growing town and its crowded state led to the establishment in 1852 of Laurel Grove Cemetery. Many distinguished dead were moved there and no interment has been made in Colonial Cemetery since 1861. For thirty-five years the cemetery was neglected, and in addition to the natural devastation from the elements much damage was done the old burying ground during Sherman's occupation of Savannah when the cemetery was used as a stabling ground by Federal troops. Permanent records of the dead were confused by the defacing of many old inscriptions



on the tombstones. However, in 1896 the cemetery was taken over by the city as a park. Walks were laid out, trees and flowers were planted and grass sown, until today old Colonial Cemetery is one of the picturesque sights of the city.

Among the famous dead who have been left undisturbed in the old resting place is Denis L. Cottineau de Kerloguen who lent invaluable assistance to John Paul Jones during the dramatic engagement between the *Serapis* and the *Bon Homme Richard.* A horizontal brown slab marks the grave of Hugh McCall, the historian, and a simple headstone recalls the brief but colorful life of Edward Green Malbone, the miniature

painter who died while on a visit to his friends, the MacKays. Old brick vaults bearing proud names of the past and flat table gravestones preserve a look of antiquity in the present park setting.

L. from Oglethorpe Ave. on Abercorn St. to McDonough St. E.; R. on McDonough St. E.

46. THE W. W. OWENS HOUSE, 124 McDonough St. E., was originally known as the Haywood residence. The house is a picturesque example of an old Savannah brick structure ornamented with iron balconies and is one of the earlier houses showing French influence. *(Building is not open.)*

47. THE RAVENEL HOUSE, 116 McDonough St. E., was built about 1827 by Matthew Lufburrow, architect. This two-story brick house is typical of Savannah architecture because of its high basement and hipped roof. *(Building is not open.)*

Return on McDonough St. E. to Abercorn St.; R on Abercorn St.

48. THE ABERCORN STREET SCHOOL, Abercorn and Perry Sts., one of the old elementary schools, is built of pinkish plaster over brick, a type of material used in earlier days.

49. ST. VINCENT'S ACADEMY, 207 Liberty St. E., SE. corner of the intersection with Abercorn St., is comprised of three gray stone buildings, the chapel, the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy and the Roman Catholic High School for Girls. Attractive features of this group of buildings are the cloister and the formal garden at the rear.

50. THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, NE. corner of Harris and Abercorn Sts., is one of the largest Roman Catholic cathedrals in this section of the country. It is a handsome building showing Gothic influence. In the rear is the Bishop's residence. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)*

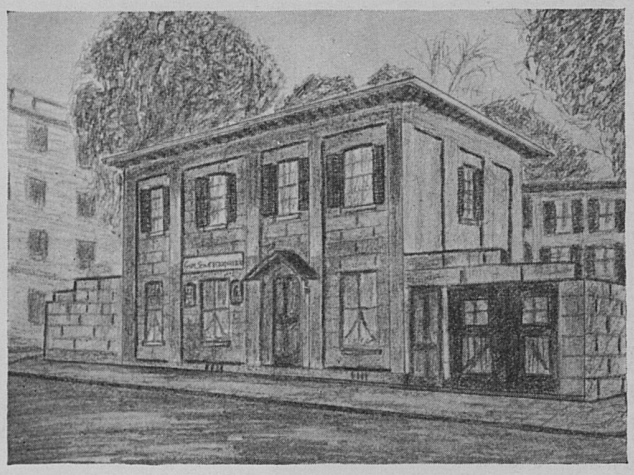
XIII. LAFAYETTE SQUARE, between Harris and Charlton Sts., was named for the famous French general who visited Savannah in 1825. Surrounding this square are many dignified brick houses typical of the later Victorian era.

51. THE LOW HOUSE, 329 Abercorn St., facing Lafayette Square (R), was built about 1840 for Andrew Low. It was once the home of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts of America. In March 1912 Mrs. Low, in the drawing room of this house, founded the first troop of Girl Scouts. It is now State headquarters for the Georgia Society of the Colonial Dames of America. In 1856 Thackeray, on the Feast of St. Valentine, sat at a desk that may still be seen in the drawing room, and in a letter described Savannah as "a tranquil old city, wide-streeted and tree-planted." Robert E. Lee was also a guest in this house in 1870. *(Building is not open.)*

R. from Abercorn St. on Charlton St. E.

52. THE RANDOLPH ANDERSON HOUSE, 119 Charlton St. E., is another attractive old dwelling, distinguished by a high brick garden wall and a side gallery entrance in the style used in the Barbadoes. It was built about 1849 by William Battersby, an English cotton merchant. The walled garden which lies to the east has the distinction of being the oldest surviving Savannah garden retaining its original plan and planting. *(Building is not open.)*

R. from Charlton St. E. on Drayton St.



53. SAVANNAH HEADQUARTERS OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA, 330 Drayton St., on the NE. corner of Charlton and Drayton Sts., is a two-story building which was formerly the carriage house of the Low residence. This was bequeathed by Mrs. Low to the Girl Scouts, and has since been used as their local headquarters.

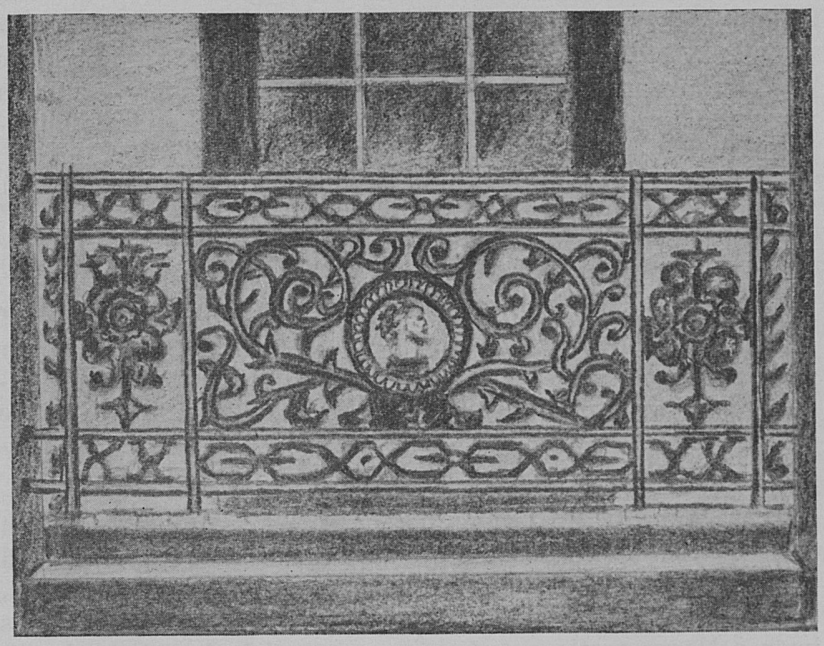
R. from Drayton St. on Oglethorpe Ave. E.

54. THE McINTOSH HOUSE, 110 Oglethorpe Ave. E., is reputed to be the oldest brick house in the State of Georgia. In any event it is rich in history, having been in its day a well-known inn, as well as the home of one of Georgia's most prominent citizens. No record has ever been found of the designer of this house or of the exact date of its construction, but it is probably older than the Pink House, believed to have been built in 1771. In simplicity of style, it reflects the Georgian era, though it lacks the finer architectural details of that time. Inconspicious now beside a huge filling station and tire company, this house has witnessed many stormy events.

As Eppinger's Inn, it was the scene of festivities, social, political and religious. The Long Room where meetings were held often resounded with the booming voices of men who were to play a large part in the history of the country. At the beginning of the Revolution it was seized by the patriots as enemy property because of Eppinger's Tory leanings, but was probably reopened during the British occupation of the town. It was here after the British evacuated Savannah that the first session of the Georgia Legislature was held about August 1, 1782.

Its later history is connected with Lachlan McIntosh who, in a duel fought over a political difference, mortally wounded Button Gwinnett, President of Georgia and Signer of the Declaration of Independence. For a few years McIntosh lived under a dark cloud of censure from this event but within a short time emerged as a ranking officer in the Revolutionary forces. By what means he obtained this house has never been clearly understood, but it is an established fact that he lived here for a number of years. Having served as a cadet under

Oglethorpe in his early days, McIntosh was associated with Georgia history from the time of the arrival of the Highlanders in 1735 until his death. Soldier, politician and adventurer, this tempestuous Scotsman, just contriving to escape his creditors, was always able to present a bold front and during his life time remained an important figure in the affairs of Georgia. *(Building is not open.)*



IRON BALCONY

SAVANNAH FOOT TOUR 3.

W. from Bull St. on Bay St.

The western section of the city, once a fashionable residential district, gives a view of modest dwellings and small stores side by side with former mansions of the wealthy, now shabby and neglected.

55. THE MARBLE BENCH, in the small park on the N. side of Bay St., commemorates the site on Yamacraw bluff where Oglethorpe pitched his tent when he first landed on Georgia soil. This bench was erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

56. THE OLD CITY HOTEL, 23 Bay St. W., was a popular hostelry and a favorite rendezvous over a century ago for the

planters and gallants of that time. Some came to settle business affairs and others to settle affairs of honor. The story goes that on many a misty morning coffee and pistols for two were ordered behind these hospitable old walls. The building is now a warehouse.

57. THE SAVANNAH MORNING NEWS AND EVENING PRESS, 5 Whitaker St., at the SW. intersection of Bay St., publish the two leading dailies of the city. *(See Newspapers.)*

58. THE OLD COBBLESTONE ROADWAY, corner of Barnard and Bay Sts., presents a scene of old-world flavor reminiscent of the seaport towns of northern Europe. Silhouetted against the skyline are century old buildings of stone and brick masonry, connected by iron bridges to the embankment.

59. YAMACRAW, which begins at the corner of W. Broad and Bay Sts., is the site of the old Indian village where lived Oglethorpe's interpreter, Mary Musgrove, and Tomochichi, the friend of the early colonists. For the last century this has been a Negro section of the city, where life forms a colorful shifting pattern. *(See Negro Life and History.)*

60. THE SITE OF THE FREMONT HOUSE, 563-565 Bay St. W., is now occupied by a filling station. Formerly a house of Savannah grey brick stood on this spot where lived the parents of the famous explorer and soldier, John C. Fremont, who was born in Savannah in 1813. His activities in driving the Cherokees from Georgia, and his explorations through the West are prominent phases of his colorful career. He was the first presidential nominee of the Republican party in 1856.

61. THE SITE OF THE GIBBONS HOUSE, SW. corner of W. Broad and Bay Sts., is now occupied by a filling station. When the building was torn down some years ago, the front door, an exquisite piece of handiwork, was taken to New York City where it may be seen in the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum.

R. from Bay St. on W. Broad St. to River St.

62. A COBBLESTONE RAMP leads to the large plant of a public service company which is on the waterfront. An interesting view of the river is afforded here.

63. THE PULP AND PAPER LABORATORY OF DR. CHARLES H. HERTY, 510 River St. W., is an interesting experimental plant. The laboratory was established to demonstrate the feasibility of using Georgia slash pine for paper pulp suitable to the needs of newsprint. The research of the laboratory is for the benefit of the public. The newsprint produced from Georgia pine by the Herty plant has been pronounced by experts as the equal of any. Experiments for making finer papers from black gum, sweet gum and tupelo have been successfully executed, as well as experiments in the making of rayon. Thus, this experimental plant of Dr. Herty's has greatly increased the use of pine pulp in the manufacture of paper, and has demonstrated many additional uses of pulp from a variety of trees. The project has been made possible through the cooperation of the Industrial Committee of Savannah, Inc., the Chemical Foundation of New York and the State of Georgia.

Return on W. Broad St.

64. THE SCARBOROUGH HOUSE, 111 W. Broad St., stripped of many of its fine details, is now a school for Negro children. It was erected about 1818 for William Scarborough, wealthy merchant and leader in civic affairs, and is thought to have been designed by William Jay. Typical of the Regency period, it is a massive brick and stucco building with Doric portico and lofty entrance hall. Particularly fine is the iron work of the south portico and rear facade. In its earlier years an arched carriage entrance added dignity to the house. Today all that remains of the elegance of the old mansion are a delicately carved mantel, a fine Palladian window, the arched windows of the drawing room and the hall columns.

Among the many distinguished visitors entertained by William Scarborough was President Monroe, who came to the city to inspect the new *Steamship Savannah,* financed through

the initiative of his host and other Savannah merchants. A trip on the new type of ocean vessel down the Savannah River to Tybee was one of the entertainments given for the President during his visit.

In 1878 through the generosity of Wymberley Jones DeRenne, this building became the first public school for Negroes in Savannah. *(See Styles in Building, Transportation, and Negro Life and History.)*

65. THE MARSHALL HOUSE, 153 W. Broad St., is an imposing residence of by-gone days; but with the passing of the years its dignity has been diminished.

66. THE WETTER HOUSE, 423 Oglethorpe Ave. W., SE. corner of the intersection of Oglethorpe Ave. and W. Broad St., was a distinguished ante-bellum home, believed to have been built about 1840 for Capt. Augustus Wetter who married one of the Telfair heiresses. It was probably planned on the most elaborate scale of any house in Savannah at that time. The grandeur of the interior is enhanced by the heavily carved marble mantels, and the windows rising to the ceiling to meet ornate decorations of plaster cornices. Interesting exterior details are the cast iron balconies featuring medallions of statesmen, authors and poets, and the formal garden which is surrounded by a high stone wall topped with iron grille work. In 1875 this house became the Savannah Female Orphanage. *(See Styles in Building.)*

67. THE CENTRAL OF GEORGIA RAILWAY STATION, 227 W. Broad St., occupies a group of buildings, among which is a handsome gray structure with columned portico and an interesting long arcade on the western side. *(See Transportation.)*

L. from W. Broad St. on Liberty St.

68. THE SHIVERS HOUSE, 203 Liberty St. W., SW. corner of Liberty and Barnard Sts., was used as headquarters for members of Sherman's staff during the days of Savannah's occupation by Federal troops.

69. THE DENT HOUSE, 128 Liberty St. W., possesses a now fading beauty still visible in its fanlighted front door and well proportioned dormers.

Return on Liberty St. to Barnard St.; R. on Barnard St.

XIV. ORLEANS SQUARE, between Hull and Perry Sts., was laid out in 1815 and commemorates the victory of Andrew Jackson at New Orleans.

70. THE McALPIN HOUSE, 230 Barnard St., facing Orleans Square (R), was erected in 1835 for Aaron Champion, banker. Of the Greek Revival type, this house was designed by Henry McAlpin, whose skill also produced the Hermitage and whose kilns produced the bricks for this house. Massive columns and a double stairway give dignity to the entrance while the interior is typical of the elaborate style of the period. Champion's daughter became the bride of McAlpin's son, and descendants of this couple reside in the house today. *(19 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 3, and Styles in Building.)*

71. THE CITY AUDITORIUM, 221 Barnard St., facing Orleans Square (L), built in 1917, seats three thousand people. It occupies the site of the stately Habersham house, which was built for Archibald Bulloch by William Jay, which differed from the usual Jay houses in its two-storied portico and heavier columns, but possessed the usual pediment and double entrance stairway. The interior was outstanding for its decorative detail and magnificent banquet hall.

72. THE MINIS HOUSE, 204 Hull St. W., NW. of the square, was built about 1830 and is a graceful brick and stucco building showing Georgian influence. It has a well designed doorway, pleasing iron balconies and double iron railed staircase.

73. THE WARING HOUSE, 127 Oglethorpe Ave. W., SE. intersection of Barnard St. and Oglethorpe Ave., was built in the early part of the nineteenth century for Dr. William Waring, one time Mayor of the city and one of the organizers of the Savannah Poor House and Hospital. The simple lines

of the house show Georgian influence while the fanlighted doorway and unusual brickwork are characteristic details of the period.

Beyond the Waring House are many attractive early Victorian houses and still farther along, the handsome Y. W. C. A. building of modern Georgian architecture.

R. from Barnard St. on Oglethorpe Ave.



74. THE GILES BECU HOUSE, (Montmollin House), 120 Oglethorpe Ave. W., is a small wooden house only slightly larger than the pioneer huts. In 1775 Becu received a grant of one town lot in Heathcote Ward and a five acre lot, for which he paid $5. The little two story house that he built sometime between that year and 1800 and the original grant and seal have stayed in his family to the sixth generation. Later a Mrs. Montmollin rented the place from the Becu family, and in 1802 her uncle Aaron Burr, Vice-President of the United States, visited her here. The subsequent history of the Montmollin family is a long story winding through the intrigues of the Spanish nobility to the throne of Spain. The tale goes that Mrs. Montmollin became the grandmother of

Don Carlos, that rapier-minded gallant, who placed his grandson on the Castilian throne.

Return on Oglethorpe Ave. to Barnard St.; R. on Barnard St.

XV. TELFAIR SQUARE, between York and State Sts., was laid out in 1733. Since the Royal Government House faced this square, it was first named St. James in honor of the palace of St. James in London, but after the Revolution the name was changed to Telfair in recognition of the services of the Telfair family to the city.

75. THE TELFAIR ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES, 121 Barnard St., facing Telfair Square (L), occupies the old Telfair residence, built for Alexander Telfair, son of the prominent Colonial and Revolutionary figure, Edward Telfair. The house was bequeathed by Mary Telfair to the Georgia Historical Society to be used as an academy of arts and sciences. Today it ranks as one of the finest small art galleries in the country. Architecturally this stuccoed brick building is of the Regency period and is believed to have been designed by William Jay. It has the characteristic Jay portico, with Palladian window above, but lacks the familiar pediment of other Jay houses. The facade has been little changed, but to the small formal garden have been added statues of famous painters and sculptors. The long oval drawing room with its exquisitely carved mantels is a room of great dignity and beauty, while the wide hallway leads to a fine double stairway with bronze railings. This site was once occupied by the Royal Government House. *(See Telfair Academy, and Styles in Building.)*

76. ODD FELLOWS HALL, NW. corner of the square, has been erected on the site of a tavern in which George Washington stayed while on his famous tour of the South in 1791.

XVI. ELLIS SQUARE, between Congress and Bryan Sts., was laid out in 1733, and was named for Henry Ellis, second Royal Governor of the Province.

77. THE CITY MARKET, Barnard St., on Ellis Square, is a familiar reminder of antiquated customs. In most places since the advent of the corner grocery, the chain store and the fast delivery truck, the habit of "going to market" has been more or less abandoned. But here in quiet Savannah, people still take their market baskets to the old market on Ellis Square as often as the larder needs replenishing.

In the childhood days of the older generation the trip to market was an event. It was made by horse car, a fascinating conveyance that ran on a track, drawn by a fine pair of big horses. This vehicle not only went to the market, it went into the market itself so that the buyer could almost shop from the car window. It was more interesting, however, to get out and walk about. Pink, a very fat, old colored woman, sat beside her stall, shelling butterbeans into a big flat reed-basket. She always had a "Morning, Honey" and a wide smile for her favorites. Benné-seed and cocoanut patties were for sale; and a delectable treat was the rolled or paper thin wafers, which the Negroes cooked in old-fashioned long handled wafer irons. Lovely flowers and bright potted plants had stalls all to themselves. Glittering silver fish mixed with the coral of shrimp made a picture that compensated for the unpleasant odor. Meats of all kinds were displayed, and fat chickens, ducks and turkeys added their squawking to the general buzz of the market.

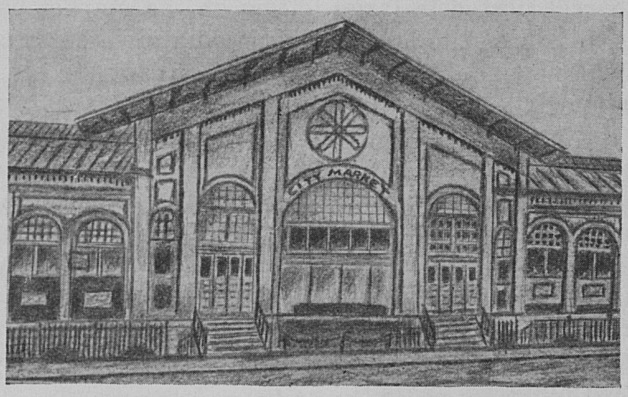
The first record of an actual market is that of a beef market on Ellis Square, marked on a map of Savannah drawn by William de Brahm in 1757. The next mention of the market is in 1763, when it was moved from Wright to Ellis Square. The 1757 Ellis Square Market was probably a slaughter house, and it is likely that after 1763 the Wright Square market combined with the beef market to provide the citizens with a central commodity exchange.

In 1787 the Ellis Square Market was destroyed by fire and temporary headquarters were set up on River Street, west of the public dock. This was known as the Newell and Bolton Market and lasted just a year when it, too, was burned. Between 1802 and 1811 a market house was conducted on

Warren Square in the district now known as the Old Fort. The building is described as being 40 feet long and 30 feet wide. It boasted a steeple and was built by William Worthington at the then enormous cost of $953. In 1811 a new market was again erected on Ellis Square, but was burned in the fire of 1820 along with most of the other buildings in this section. To quote in part from Adelaide Wilson's *Historic and Picturesque Savannah:* "The destruction by fire of the market buildings enabled the City Fathers to make a change in the market site. An ordinance was passed authorizing the erection of a Public Market on the green of S. Broad Street (now Oglethorpe Avenue), the center of which to be opposite Barnard Street extending east and west of S. Broad. So important was this change that the name of the street became Market Street posted in large letters on the market building, and other parts of the streets." Immediately, the citizens in favor of the new site and those holding out for the old waged a hot warfare; records were searched; arguments were advanced for and against, with the result: a return to Ellis Square. In the December 1, 1821 issue of *The Georgian* the following advertisement occurs: "To Epicures, the Market in Ellis Square, the old spot, will be opened on Monday morning next, third of December with good beef, veal, mutton, pork, fowls, fish and vegetables. The Butchers." Thus the attachment of those citizens to this familiar, time-honored spot has preserved for us today a market site that has served for nearly two hundred years.

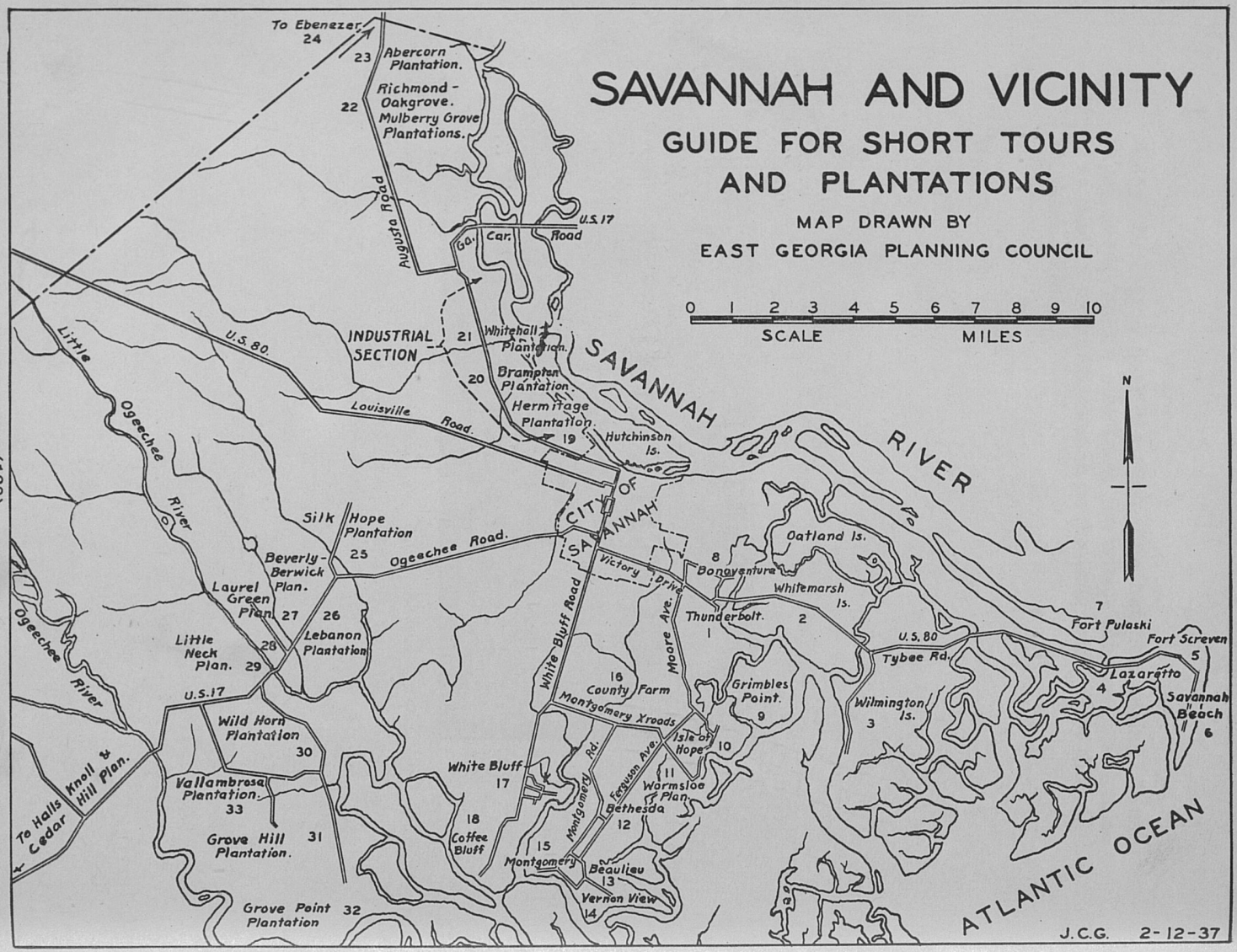
The present building was erected in 1870 and is a dignified old market house of brick painted white built along the lines of the original. Large windows provide plenty of light for the interior, and entrances on four sides make it convenient for the marketer. In former days Negroes behind their stalls on the outside of the building kept the square ringing with their chatter, but today business is conducted on the inside only and with more decorum. However, not all of the colorful atmosphere is lost. Perhaps it is Pink's granddaughter shelling the butterbeans into her reed-basket, dozing as she works or chanting in her soft tongue, "I got butterbeans

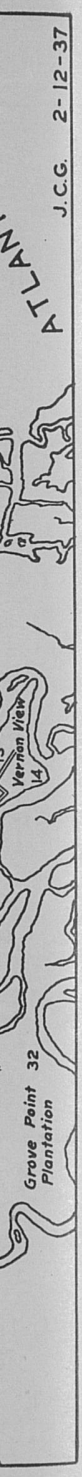
today, 20 cent a quat''; or Sam, the butcher, saying, "Yes m'am, what 'bout a nice fryer for missus' dinner?" All this is as much a part of Savannah as the tangy salt air of this old southern seaport.



PART II

VICINITY MAP


SAVANNAH AND VICINITY
GUIDE FOR SHORT TOURS
AND PLANTATIONS
MAP DRAWN BY
EAST GEORGIA PLANNING COUNCIL
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
SCALE MILES
N
To Ebenezer
24
23
Abercorn Plantation.
22
Richmond - Oakgrove. Mulberry Grove Plantations.
Augusta Road
U.S.17
Ga. Car. Road
U.S. 80.
Little Ogeechee River
INDUSTRIAL SECTION
21
Whitehall Plantation.
20
Brampton Plantation.
Hermitage Plantation.
19
Hutchinson Is.
Louisville Road.
SAVANNAH RIVER
CITY OF SAVANNAH
Silk Hope Plantation
Ogeechee Road.
Beverly Berwick Plan.
25
Laurel Green Plan.
27
26
Lebanon Plantation
Little Neck Plan.
28
29
Ogeechee River
U.S.17
Wild Horn Plantation
30
Knoll & Hill Plan.
To Halls Cedar
Vallambrosa Plantation.
33
Grove Hill Plantation.
31
Grove Point Plantation
32
White Bluff Road
Victory Drive
Moore Ave.
8
Bonaventure
Oatland Is.
Whitemarsh Is.
Thunderbolt.
2
1
16
County Farm
Montgomery Xroads
White Bluff
17
18
Coffee Bluff
15
Montgomery
Montgomery Rd.
Ferguson Ave.
Isle of Hope
10
9
Grimbles Point.
11
Wormsloe Plan.
Bethesda
12
Beaulieu
13
Vernon View
14
U.S. 80
Tybee Rd.
7
Fort Pulaski
Fort Screven
5
Lazaretto
4
Savannah Beach
6
Wilmington Is.
3
ATLANTIC OCEAN
J.C.G. 2-12-37



POINTS OF INTEREST
FOR
SAVANNAH AND VICINITY MAP

1. Thunderbolt
2. Whitemarsh
3. Wilmington Island
4. Lazaretto
5. Fort Screven
6. Savannah Beach
7. Fort Pulaski
8. Bonaventure
9. Grimbles Point
10. Isle of Hope
11. Wormsloe
12. Bethesda
13. Beaulieu
14. Vernon View
15. Montgomery
16. Chatham County Farm
17. White Bluff
18. Coffee Bluff
19. Hermitage Plantation
20. Brampton Plantation
21. Whitehall Plantation
22. Mulberry Grove Plantation / Richmond Oakgrove Plantation
23. Abercorn
24. Ebenezer
25. Silk Hope Plantation
26. Lebanon Plantation
27. Beverly-Berwick Plantation
28. Laurel Green Plantation
29. Little Neck Plantation
30. Wild Horn Plantation
31. Grove Hill Plantation
32. Grove Point Plantation
33. Vallambrosa Plantation

MOTOR TOURS



BEACH AT TYBEE

SHORT TOURS

TOUR No. 1 . . . . Savannah — Thunderbolt — (Bonaventure) — Whitemarsh — Wilmington — Lazaretto — (Fort Pulaski) — Fort Screven — Savannah Beach — Savannah. U. S. Highway 80 . . . 44 miles.

Lunch rooms and tea rooms along the route. Hotels at Wilmington and Savannah Beach *(open in summer)*.

From Savannah the road leads E. out Victory Drive through the principal residential sections of the city. It passes one of the leading city parks, the municipal stadium and the Georgia Hussars' Headquarters (R) continuing along a fine double drive.

THUNDERBOLT, *5 m. (1 Vicinity Map)*, originally an Indian village, is said to have derived its name from an old tradition which tells of a bolt of lightning striking here and causing a spring of clear water to gush forth. A picturesque setting is formed by the quaint harbor with its fishing boats, yachts and other small craft.

From Thunderbolt a shell road leads L.

BONAVENTURE, *1. 5 m. (8 Vicinity Map)*, is one of Savannah's most beautiful spots where moss-hung oaks interspersed with japonica and azalea bushes make a garden setting for many ancient tombs. *(See Bonaventure.)*

From the Bonaventure gates, the shell road continues R. to the newer part of the cemetery.

GREENWICH, *2 m.* was, during the days of the Revolution, a thriving plantation belonging to Samuel Bowen. Here French officers had taken up their quarters previous to the Siege of Savannah, and here the wounded Count Pulaski was brought after the siege. One apparently well substantiated tale tells that from here brother officers carried him to a French warship waiting nearby and that after a few hours Count Pulaski died and was buried at sea. Another tale claims that he died at Greenwich and that the French officers assisted by the plantation servants buried him in a nearby orchard. A palmetto and a holly mark the supposed grave of this hero. During the early part of the twentieth century, Greenwich became the property of the late Spencer P. Shotter, who spent much time and money in making it one of the most beautiful show places around Savannah. *(See Fort Pulaski.)*

WHITEMARSH, *9 m. (2 Vicinity Map)*, is a heavily wooded island where the Girl Scout Camp, Walleila, is maintained. At one time, however, the thick underbrush and rugged trees of the island furnished an ideal background for many desperate conflicts during the War Between the States. The Federals desired it because it opened the path to the southern plantations and communities from which they hoped to gather supplies. In March 1862 a group of Federals anchored a barge at the island and proceeded inland. They were immediately attacked by a detachment of the 13th Georgia Infantry. Three of the Federals were killed, eighteen captured and the barge confiscated by the Confederates. In April of the same year another skirmish between seven companies of the 8th Michigan Infantry and the 13th Georgia Infantry re-

sulted in many fatalities to both sides. After the famous battle of Olustee, Florida, a number of Federals again landed on Whitemarsh but were forced back to their ships by the 57th Georgia Infantry under Captain Turner and one section of Maxwell's Battery under Lieutenant Richardson.

At *9.5 m.* a dirt road leads L.

CONDUCTORS' HOME, *1.8 m.*, is a large well equipped building maintained by the National Order of Railway Conductors for the use of its members upon retirement from active service.

WILMINGTON, *11 m. (3 Vicinity Map)*, a beautiful island with a particularly high bluff, has today many private estates, two golf courses and the modern well appointed General Oglethorpe Hotel *(closed)*. However, during the War Between the States, when Wilmington was divided into small plantations, it was probably the scene of almost as many skirmishes as Whitemarsh.

LAZARETTO, *17 m. (4 Vicinity Map)*, a small community, was established in Colonial days as a quarantine station. Among its other facilities was a slave hospital where incoming traders left the slaves who had become ill during the voyage. Those who recovered were sent to the slave market in Savannah, while those who died were buried in unmarked graves nearby.

From here a boat service to Fort Pulaski is operated free of charge by the Government. Boats leave Lazaretto about once every hour.

FORT PULAKSI *(7 Vicinity Map)* is a National Monument. *(See Fort Pulaski.)*

FORT SCREVEN, *18 m. (5 Vicinity Map)*, is an active Army post on Tybee Island, the entrance to which is L. of the highway. Here the smartly kept quarters with sweeping lawns and neat parade grounds are well worth a visit. The tall Government lighthouse at the north end stands as a beacon for all incoming and outgoing vessels.

SAVANNAH BEACH, *22 m. (6 Vicinity Map)*, is the popular playground and summer resort of Savannah, where swimming, fishing, boating and a number of outdoor sports are enjoyed. Tybee Island on which this beach is situated is supposed to have belonged to Jonathan Bryan. The island was known to the Spaniards long before the English settled Georgia, and Tybee Roads was known to them as the Bay of Shoals. During the War Between the States, in preparing for the Siege of Fort Pulaski, the Federals secretly landed their cannon on the south end of the island. After many days spent in dragging the cannon through the salt water of the marshes, they successfully entrenched themselves opposite Pulaski and proceeded to open disastrous fire on the fort. *(See Fort Pulaski.)*

From Tybee the tour returns to Savannah by the same route.



RIVER AND MARSH

TOUR No. 2 . . . . Savannah — Grimbles Point — Isle of Hope — Wormsloe — Bethesda — Beaulieu — Vernon View — Montgomery — Chatham County Farm — White Bluff — Coffee Bluff . . . 43 miles.

Lunch rooms and tea rooms along the route.

From Savannah the road follows Victory Drive to Moore Ave., turns R. and follows Moore Ave. for 8 m. then turns L.

GRIMBLES POINT, *9 m. (9 Vicinity Map)*, is a group of private homes, several of which are surrounded by beautiful gardens of azaleas and oaks.

ISLE OF HOPE, *10 m. (10 Vicinity Map)*, is a small village on a high shell bluff. Its oak lined avenue is one of the county's noted drives. On the bluff are built many attractive homes as well as Barbee's Pavilion, and Barbee's Terrapin Farm, one of the few such places in the country. Canned terrapin is shipped from here to all parts of the United States.

From Isle of Hope the shell road leads R.

WORMSLOE PLANTATION, *11 m. (11 Vicinity Map, open from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. Admission $1). (See Wormsloe.)*

Beyond Wormsloe the road turns L. at the first cross road.

BETHESDA, *15 m. (12 Vicinity Map)*, is an interesting old orphanage for boys established in 1740. *(See Bethesda.)*

From Bethesda the road turns L. on Ferguson Ave.

BEAULIEU, *17 m. (13 Vicinity Map)*, a summer resort, and once the plantation home of William Stephens, retains the beauty of its former estate. Stephens leased these many acres in 1737 and lived there for some time. This tract lies south of Savannah on the green banks of the Vernon River. It was on this bluff that Count d'Estaing landed his forces when he gallantly came to assist Savannah in 1779. Today, past the bluff up which the French troops marched nearly two hundred years ago, the river serenely glides, as though events of history had never disturbed its grassy shores.

From Beaulieu the road leads L.

VERNON VIEW, *18 m. (14 Vicinity Map)*, is a charming little community on a high bluff commanding an excellent view of Green Island Sound.

From Vernon View the road returns to Beaulieu and turns L. at the first cross roads.

MONTGOMERY, *21 m. (15 Vicinity Map)*, is another attractive resort overlooking the Vernon River. The landscape is dominated by ancient oak trees, the most outstanding of these being the Oglethorpe Oak under which General Oglethorpe is supposed to have breakfasted.

The Montgomery Road leads to the Montgomery Cross Road.

CHATHAM COUNTY FARM, *26 m. (16 Vicinity Map)*, is a large tract of land known locally as the Brown Farm where petty offenders are sentenced for short periods of time. A grove of pecan trees, acres of well kept vegetable gardens and a grist mill are features of this institution.

R. from the farm Montgomery Cross Road leads to White Bluff Road. The tour turns L. on White Bluff Road and after about 2 m. turns L. on a shell road.

WHITE BLUFF, *29 m. (17 Vicinity Map)*, on the Vernon River, is the site of the town of Vernonburg settled in 1742 by a number of German-Swiss who engaged in the art of silk culture.

From White Bluff the road turns L. into the highway.

COFFEE BLUFF, *33 m. (18 Vicinity Map)*, is an ideal picnic ground, occupying a wooded bluff overlooking the Forrest River. It is a part of the Rose Dhu tract and was formerly laid out as a park.

From here the road returns to the city on the White Bluff Road.



THE SAVANNAH RIVER

TOUR No. 3 . . . . Savannah — Port Wentworth — Monteith — Rincon — (Ebenezer) — Savannah. U. S. Highway 17 to Port Wentworth. State Highway 21 to Rincon. (Dirt road to Ebenezer.) . . . 46 miles.

Tourist accommodations available at short intervals.

From Savannah the road leads from the west end of Bay Street through Yamacraw, a former Indian village, and crosses the viaduct, continuing to one of the leading outlying industrial sections. A short distance beyond the viaduct, the road leads past an open space in which is Jasper Spring, named for Sgt. William Jasper of Revolutionary fame.

HERMITAGE PLANTATION, *3 m. (19 Vicinity Map)*, a magnificent plantation before the War Between the States, was the home of Henry McAlpin who is remembered for his brick manufactory where the famous "Savannah Grey" bricks were made. It was also in connection with his kilns that one of the first railroads in America was operated, a primitive flat car on flanged rails drawn by horses. *(See Transportation.)* The stately white mansion house, a fine example of Regency architecture, rose above the Savannah River bluff in a natural setting of moss hung oaks. This house and the slave huts

were sold in 1934 to Henry Ford, who is reproducing one of the slave huts at Dearborn. The site is now occupied by a large bag plant. *(See Industry.)*

INDUSTRIAL CITY GARDENS, *4.3 m.*, is a modern subdivision in which are many attractive homes surrounded by trim lawns. This small settlement, however, was once the site of that historically significant estate known as BRAMPTON PLANTATION *(20 Vicinity Map)*, the country seat of the renowned patriot Jonathan Bryan. It became the inspirational center from which arose the first Negro Baptist Church in America; for in an old barn behind the great house, Andrew Bryan, slave and preacher, so eloquently expounded his faith to large gatherings of other slaves that in three years he was able to erect a church in Yamacraw. *(See Negro Life and History.)*

WHITEHALL PLANTATION, *6 m. (21 Vicinity Map)*, is now the home of Lathrop Hopkins, descendant of the wealthy merchant, Thomas Gibbons, who lived here in Oglethorpe's day. The lands lie along the Savannah River, and an enormous grove of live oaks borders the bluff.

PORT WENTWORTH, *8 m.*, is an interesting industrial village, where many of the employees of the large sugar refinery make their homes.

The roads turns L. on to State Highway 21, originally the old Augusta Road.

MONTEITH, *11.5 m.*, is a small hamlet whose residents are employed principally in truck farming.

MULBERRY GROVE PLANTATION, *12 m. (22 Vicinity Map)*, was once part of the site of the short-lived settlement, Joseph's Town, that disappeared almost as quickly as it was founded to make way for the Colonial silk plantation of the Royalist, Lieutenant-Governor Graham. Here lived the patriot General Greene, who after the Revolution was presented with Graham's confiscated estate valued at £50,000, as

a reward for his services in the Revolutionary War; and here he died of sunstroke in 1786. Here came General Washington in 1792 as the guest of Mrs. Greene; and here Eli Whitney gained immortality in 1793 when, during hours spared from tutoring the Greene children, he invented the cotton gin. Sherman's soldiers in 1864 burned the old mansion and devastated the mulberry groves and broad fields. Today nothing remains of the historic plantation but acres of weeds and wild young trees. *(See Industry.)*

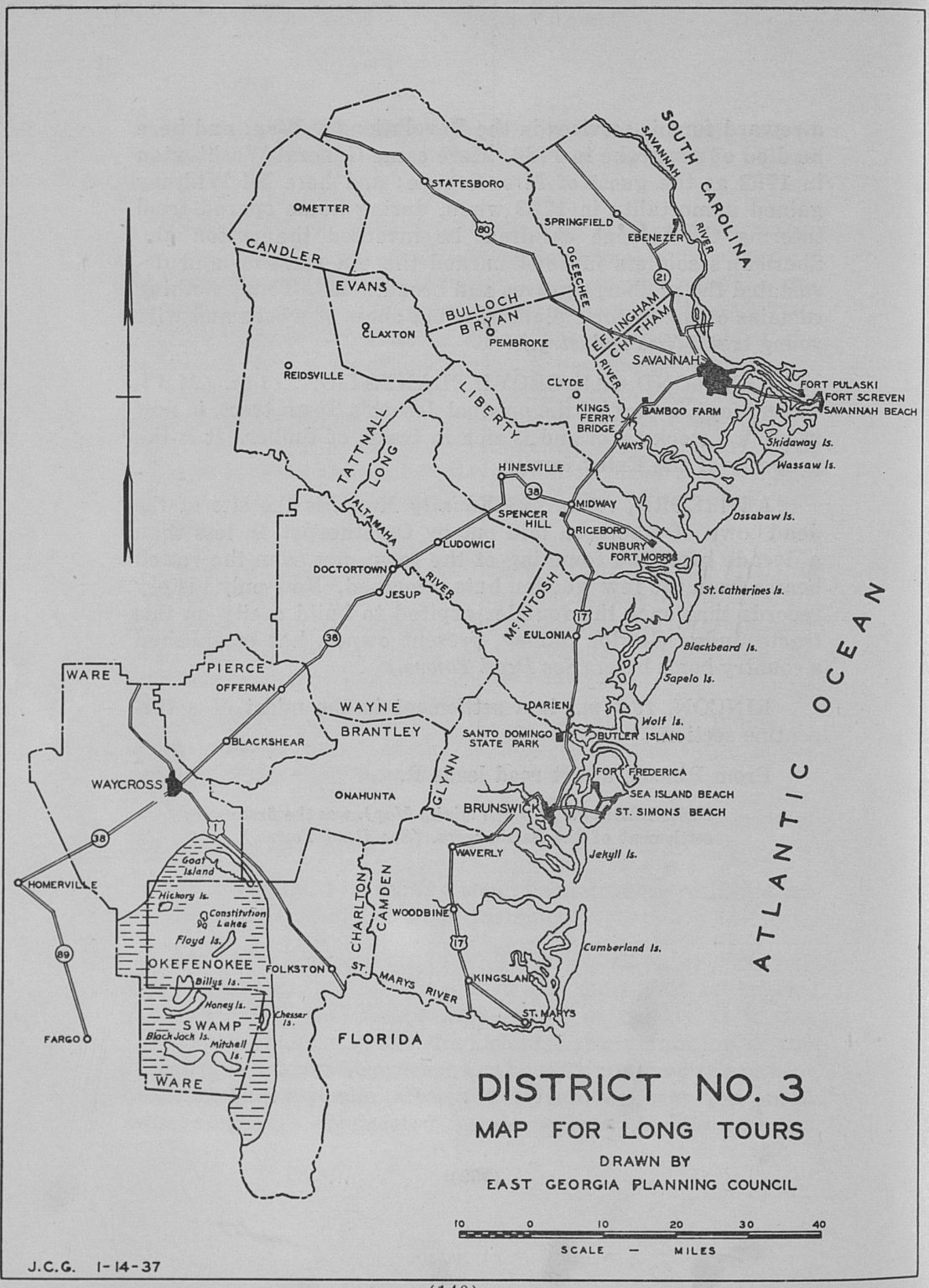
RICHMOND OAK GROVE PLANTATION, *13 m. (22 Vicinity Map)*, a part of the original Joseph's Town tract, is now used as a stock farm and is rich in tracts of timber. It is the property of the Exley family.

ABERCORN, *15 m. (23 Vicinity Map)*, is the site of the dead town of Abercorn laid out by Oglethorpe. In less than a decade after the founding of the town, not even the rotted beams from the few wooden huts remained. Now only history records that once the founder aspired to build a city on this tract. Judge Gordon Saussy, present owner, has established a country home here. *(See Dead Towns.)*

RINCON, *16.5 m.*, is a settlement in the midst of a turpentine section.

From Rincon, a dirt road leads R.

EBENEZER, *6.5 m. (24 Vicinity Map)*, was the first settlement of the Salzburgers. *(See Dead Towns.)*


SOUTH CAROLINA
SAVANNAH RIVER
ATLANTIC OCEAN
FLORIDA
STATESBORO
OMETTER
CANDLER
EVANS
BULLOCH
BRYAN
LAXTON
PEMBROKE
REIDSVILLE
SPRINGFIELD
EBENEZER
OGEECHEE RIVER
EFFINGHAM
CHATHAM
SAVANNAH
FORT PULASKI
FORT SCREVEN
SAVANNAH BEACH
CLYDE
KINGS FERRY BRIDGE
BAMBOO FARM
WAYS
Skidaway Is.
Wassaw Is.
LIBERTY
TATTNALL
LONG
ALTAMAHA
HINESVILLE
MIDWAY
SPENCER HILL
RICEBORO
SUNBURY
FORT MORRIS
Ossabaw Is.
LUDOWICI
DOCTORTOWN
JESUP
RIVER
McINTOSH
St. Catherines Is.
EULONIA
Blackbeard Is.
Sapelo Is.
WARE
PIERCE
OFFERMAN
WAYNE
BRANTLEY
DARIEN
Wolf Is.
BUTLER ISLAND
SANTO DOMINGO STATE PARK
BLACKSHEAR
WAYCROSS
ONAHUNTA
GLYNN
FORT FREDERICA
SEA ISLAND BEACH
BRUNSWICK
ST. SIMONS BEACH
WAVERLY
Jekyll Is.
Goat Island
HOMERVILLE
Hickory Is.
Constitution Lakes
Floyd Is.
WOODBINE
CHARLTON
CAMDEN
Cumberland Is.
OKEFENOKEE
FOLKSTON
ST. MARYS RIVER
KINGSLAND
Billys Is.
Honey Is.
Chesser Is.
SWAMP
ST. MARYS
Black Jack Is.
Mitchell Is.
FARGO
WARE
DISTRICT NO. 3
MAP FOR LONG TOURS
DRAWN BY
EAST GEORGIA PLANNING COUNCIL
10 0 10 20 30 40
SCALE — MILES
J.C.G. 1-14-37



MIDWAY CHURCH

LONG TOURS

TOUR No. 1 . . . . Savannah — Midway — Brunswick — (St. Marys).
U. S. Highway 17 . . . 132.4 miles.
Tourist accommodations at regular intervals along the road. Hotels in cities.

Highway 17 leads out 37th Street for a short distance through one of Savannah's residential sections. Until the highway reaches Kings Ferry Bridge, it is known as the Ogeechee Road.

THE POWDER MAGAZINE, *4.7 m. (L)*, an old brick building owned by the city of Savannah, is used for the storage of combustibles. The road continues past many sites of former plantations.

SILK HOPE PLANTATION, *5 m. (R) (25 Vicinity Map)*, was originally the home of James Habersham, wealthy merchant, planter, and politician of Colonial times. Habersham

was granted the 500 acres of the tract in 1756, the same year in which Wormsloe, Wild Horn, and other large plantations were presented to their lessees by George II. The mulberry trees he planted covered vast fields; the gardens he laid out under the direction of an English horticulturist were noted throughout the South. Silk Hope was a leading plantation until the War Between the States, after which its devastated acres became a wild stretch of uncultivated earth. It is today divided into small suburban lots. Joseph Habersham, son of the owner of Silk Hope, was Postmaster General under President Washington, and a member of the famous patriot group, Sons of Liberty. He owned a large tract which today is divided into three estates.

BEVERLY-BERWICK PLANTATION, *9 m. (R) (27 Vicinity Map)*, the first of these, is now owned by the Kaminsky brothers. The next, LAUREL GREEN PLANTATION, *9.5 m. (R) (28 Vicinity Map)*, is now the property of R. L. Cooper. The third LEBANON PLANTATION, *10 m. (L) (26 Vicinity Map)*, largest of the three plantations which made up the tract, is now a model farm which principally produces the Satsuma orange. The old house, carefully remodeled, has kept its early dignity and charm, and the surrounding gardens form a beautiful setting for its simple lines. The property is now owned by Mills B. Lane.

LITTLE NECK PLANTATION, *11 m. (R) (29 Vicinity Map)*, is owned by J. L. Budreau. This 700 acre tract, formerly part of the Paul T. Haskell estate, is said to produce the greatest yield of Irish potatoes along the Atlantic Coast. Three hundred and twenty-five of its acres form a cleared strip of more than 2,000 feet along the Ogeechee River, while a section along the road is left heavily wooded for the protection of birds. Fine artesian wells and a few houses almost a century old add both to the practical and historic value of the property.

At *11 m.* a *(private)* dirt road leads L. to the following plantations:

WILD HORN PLANTATION, *3 m. (30 Vicinity Map)*, granted by the King to Francis Harris, consisted of 650 acres. At the end of the entrance avenue is standing the old home built more than a century ago of hewn logs and bricks brought from England. Until recently the grant was held by descendants of Francis Harris. Shelby Myrick who purchased the property from Mrs. Anna McLeod Hull, fifth generation descendant of the Colonial planter, has added repairs and improvements.

At the widening of the river SE. of the highway lie GROVE HILL PLANTATION, *4.5 m. (31 Vicinity Map)*, and GROVE POINT PLANTATION, *6 m. (32 Vicinity Map)*. Grove Hill was owned by a member of the Habersham family, and it is said that the first tobacco grown in Georgia was on this plantation. The 2,000 acres of the tract later became rice fields stretching as far as the eye could see. John J. Bouhan, present owner, has built a modern home here to replace the old mansion which burned down in 1914. Grove Point, still has its century-old brick house looking out over 2,200 acres of former rice fields.

Thomas Young, reputedly the wealthiest Tory in Georgia, owned VALLAMBROSA, *5 m. (33 Vicinity Map)*. J. L. Budreau, who purchased the plantation from the ante-bellum owners, the Heyward family, successfully established a truck farm here. His acres of pecans, pears, grapes and oranges and his horticultural experiments were noted in this State. Henry Ford, owner since 1930, has preserved the old houses of the plantation and cultivated a fine garden. Today the hundred year old buildings and rich stretches of land along the Ogeechee waters retain the prosperous atmosphere of the Golden Age.

BAMBOO FARM, *12 m. (R)*, is a Government maintained horticultural experiment station, where the first bamboo in the State was grown.

KINGS FERRY BRIDGE, *15 m.*, spans the Ogeechee River which forms the dividing line between Chatham and Bryan Counties. R. of the road at the bridge is a marker commemo-

rating the fact that nearby Col. John F. White and six patriots forced the surrender of three British regulars and five armed vessels, October 1, 1779.

WAYS, *18 m. (L)*, a small and popular community center is in the midst of what may now be called the Ford holdings in Georgia. Many historic plantations in this vicinity have been purchased by Henry Ford and are being restored to their former beauty through his interest. R. From Ways, are the State Fish Hatcheries.

MARBLE MARKER, *29.1 m. (R)*, indicates an unpaved road which leads to the site of Hall's Knoll.

> HALL'S KNOLL, *1.5 m.*, was the Colonial plantation of Dr. Lyman Hall, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

MIDWAY, *30.1 m.*, a small community, was settled about 1752 by a group of Puritans from Dorchester, S. C., who originally came from Dorchester, Mass. It is famous for its old church of simple architecture containing a large slave gallery, a high pulpit and plain unadorned pews. The first meeting house at Midway was built in 1754 and was burned by the British in 1778, and the present church was built in 1792. In 1864 Sherman's Army camped in this historic building for six weeks which resulted in the usual plunder and terror. In fact it is said that so great was the people's alarm that ladies, not knowing at what hour their homes might be invaded, did not undress during the entire stay of the Federal Army. Across the highway from the church is the graveyard shadowed by magnificent live oaks. Of particular interest are the old inscriptions on many of the gravestones. The great marble shaft in the center of the plot was erected by the Government in honor of Gen. Daniel Stewart and Gen. James Screven of Revolutionary fame. General Stewart was the grandfather of Martha Bulloch who married Theodore Roosevelt and became the mother of President Theodore Roosevelt and the grandmother of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt. The old church is not used for regular services today. It is only

on special occasions and anniversaries that services are held and then the ancient rafters echo with the melody of the old hymns which have been sung for generations under this same roof.

From Midway, a dirt road leads L.

SUNBURY, *10 m.*, is the site of a once thriving seaport of Colonial days and FORT MORRIS, *10 m.*, was an active fort in Revolutionary times. *(See Dead Towns.)*

SPENCER HILL BATTLEGROUND, *31.6 m. (R)*, is the site of a spirited engagement between British forces and Georgia troops. Here on November 22, 1778, Gen. James Screven was mortally wounded. *(See Civil and Military Development.)*

CEDAR HILL, *34.6 m. (R)*, is the site of the Colonial plantation of Gen. Daniel Stewart.

RICEBORO, *35.5 m.*, is a marketing center for a number of plantations lying along the rivers.

EULONIA, *50.7 m.*, is a small village of old fashioned houses with great oaks spanning the highway.

DARIEN, *62.7 m.*, a quiet little community, originally called New Inverness, was settled by the Scotch Highlanders in 1735. A beautiful marker, L. of the highway entering the town, was dedicated a few years ago as a memorial to those early Scotsmen. Done by R. Tait McKenzie, it is appropriate in every detail. Close by this memorial is a huge old live oak unusually symmetrical and of extraordinary spread which is said to have sheltered an entire company of Oglethorpe's soldiers. Today still green, it stands as a living memorial to the sturdy courage of the generations who have enjoyed its shade and beauty. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)* In ante-bellum days the town was a shipping point for rice and sea island cotton, and later, when the lumber industry succeeded agricultural activity, quantities of cypress and yellow pine were shipped from here to all parts of the world. With the waning of the lumber industry toward the close of the last

century, Darien lost its position of prominence, but fortunately it lost nothing of its charm nor its heritage of Scotch thrift and determination. Today Darien still depends on its water front activities; shrimp and oyster canning plants, a few docks, and a saw mill now take the place of the busy lumber wharves of the past when Darien could have counted as many ocean going vessels as it has shrimp boats today. At a short distance from Walton Street, the main street of Darien, is a quiet oak shaded park with the box like tower of St. Andrews Episcopal Church glimpsed beyond. There are other churches in the town: Methodist, Baptist and, from the earliest days, Presybterian; for the Scotch settlers brought their minister and their religion with them to this new land, and planted Presbyterianism in the Colony before they planted their first crop.

Leaving Darien the branches of the Altamaha River split the delta lowlands into Butler, General and Champney Islands.

BUTLER ISLAND, *64.7 m.*, the property of Colonel Huston, former owner of the New York Yankees, has a model dairy which is electrically operated and is open for inspection to visitors. At the northern end of the island is Colonel Huston's home and nearby is a modest dwelling said to have been occupied by Fanny Kemble, English actress and wife of the former owner of the plantation, Pierce Butler. L. of the highway on Butler Island, there is a State Coastal Experimental Station on land which Colonel Huston has donated for the study of rice culture.

A MARKER, *57.4 m.*, indicates a shell road which leads R.

SANTO DOMINGO PARK, *5 m.*, a beautiful tract of land, was given to the State of Georgia by Cator Woolford for use as a park. It consists of 300 acres densely wooded in laurels, cedars and many flowering dogwood. This is the site of old Elizafield Plantation, owned by Hugh Frazer Grant. Tradition says that this was once the site of an Indian village. The picturesque tabby ruins are of interest to the visitor. It is claimed by some that these ruins were once Spanish Missions, but recent

evidence seems to indicate that they were early nineteenth century sugar houses. The Administration Building is an attractive one-story structure of Spanish design, with a pool in front, and a patio and cloisters in the rear. From this building, a road leads to the picnic grounds, conveniently supplied with tables, barbecue pits and an out door grill, with a generous supply of wood, cut and ready for use nearby. Behind the Administration Building, adequate parking spaces have been arranged. (Park is open, admission, 20 cents.)

LANIER'S OAK, *79.6 m.*, a venerable tree, bears a tablet which relates that under its shade Sidney Lanier received the inspiration for his poem, *The Marshes of Glynn.*

BRUNSWICK VISITORS CLUB, *81.5 m. (L)*, furnishes desired information regarding Brunswick at the Information Bureau which the Chamber of Commerce maintains in the Visitors Club. The building, a one story stucco construction with prevailing Spanish influence, is surrounded by palmetto trees and shrubbery. On display are numerous interesting relics of Colonial days and of Indian occupation of the adjoining islands.

A paved road leads L. to ST. SIMONS ISLAND and SEA ISLAND. *(See Golden Isles.)*

ST. SIMONS, *4.4 m. (at about 1 m. is a toll bridge)*, is a beautiful heavily wooded island rich in history from the time of the Spaniards through Colonial days. Oglethorpe's outpost, Frederica, lay at the north end *(see Golden Isles and Dead Towns)*; on the south shore is a modern, well equipped resort settlement where the usual sea side amusements are available. SEA ISLAND, *8.5 m.*, a small oak and palm grown island, is a popular and well known resort for winter and summer beach lovers. There are many beautiful small estates dotted about the north end of the island while to the south are a number of charming and comfortable beach cottages. There is a large excellent hotel with every possible comfort provided. All sports and many amusements are available. *(See Golden Isles.)*

BRUNSWICK, *83 m.*, is a modern, progressive city with a colorful background. In 1771, by Act of the Council of the Royal Province of Georgia, Brunswick was founded and named in honor of George III of England of the Royal House of Brunswick. The original plan was that of a typical English town. A number of parks and squares throughout the city were named for prominent Englishmen and settlers in the new community; but it was not until after the War Between the States that any systematic building took place. The more modern residences and public buildings reflect both Spanish and English architectural influences, and residential subdivisions feature the Spanish mission type of house and the English cottage. Public structures today include the Glynn County Courthouse with beautifully landscaped grounds; the Federal Building, which is a modern structure showing Italian Renaissance influence, housing the Post Office, Engineering offices, etc.; and St. Mark's Episcopal Church, of Gothic design. Brunswick's position on the coast makes it a logical seaport, and its harbor is crowded daily with freighters laden with cargoes to be carried to the leading ports of the world. The city forms the commercial center for the group of sea islands in the vicinity. This section, principally Sea Island, popular winter playground, is a favorite haunt of tourists. First class accommodations are available and excellent transportation facilities are offered by rail, motor, plane and private craft. While there are no direct steamship lines connecting with Brunswick, a number of tramp steamers visit the port and connections are made at Savannah or Jacksonville with coastwise steamers. A powder company in the northeastern section of the city ranks as one of the largest turpentine and resin extracting plants in the country. Other leading industries include creosoting plants, oil plants, and a veneer and package company. Quantities of shrimp are shipped to all parts of the United States and to European ports. Lumber and truck farm produce, naval stores, cotton and cane are chief exports and important sources of revenue. A comprehensive system of schools and churches has gradually developed. Interest in the allied arts and the increased scenic beauty of the city

have strengthened its position as a cultural center. Many writers and artists of note have their homes in Brunswick and on Sea Island.

Leaving Brunswick at the northern end of Norwich Street, the highway crosses Turtle River, a tide water of the Atlantic Ocean. From the bridge over this river there is a splendid view of the Brunswick water front with the faint outline of Jekyll and St. Simons Islands in the distance.

WAVERLY, *101.6 m.*, is on the site of the old Waverly Plantation named for the Waverly Novels of the famous author, Sir Walter Scott.

WOODBINE, *110.3 m.*, a small community, is the county seat of Camden County. Of particular interest is the Episcopal Church built of old English cobblestones (L), from the ballast piles of the Satilla River where in sailing days, ships threw ballast on the low marsh islands at the river month.

KINGSLAND, *122 m.* From here a shell road leads L.

ST. MARYS, *10 m.* Three miles before reaching St. Marys, a side road to the north leads through the woods to the site of the John Houstoun MacIntosh plantation where are many picturesque tabby ruins. In this old town, it is hard to believe that those plantation days are over, for St. Marys has retained that priceless heritage of the descendants of the old South, the ability to enjoy life leisurely, serenely and fully. Nestling along the northern shore of the St. Marys River as it winds through Camden County, and with broad stretches of water dividing it from Florida on the south, St. Marys pursues its quiet existence. Early records give no indication of its being deliberately settled as a community; it probably came into being along with the plantations which were established throughout this district. Scattered here and there throughout the town are old buildings. Orange Hall, a lofty dwelling of two stories on a high basement, has a front veranda porticoed with massive columns. This old house is one of the best examples of this type of residence to be seen in southeast Georgia. It was built about

1840 by Rev. Nathaniel Pratt, at that time Presbyterian minister at St. Marys. The interior of the mansion is distinguished by ornate mantels and elaborate wood work. In the basement the original kitchen with immense fire-place fitted with cranes and built-in ovens has been converted into an informal dining room. Just across the street from Orange Hall is a square timbered home, built about the same time by Maj. Archibald Clark, one time collector of customs for the port of St. Marys. His home was once the center of much gay social life. Here Aaron Burr was entertained and here also Gen. Winfield Scott was a guest upon his return from his conquest in Florida. Another interesting spot is the St. Marys Cemetery which dates almost from the time of the first settlement and contains a number of old markers and monuments. Among the many former residents who rest here are a number of Acadians who found refuge at St. Marys after their banishment from Nova Scotia. St. Marys was at one time a very prosperous little seaport but prosperity waned with the decline of the lumber industry, and today an air of gentle quiet pervades the town.



PINE FORESTS

TOUR No. 2 . . . . Savannah — Waycross — (Okefenokee.) U. S. Highway 17 — State Highway 38 — U. S. Highway 1 . . . 108 miles.

The usual accommodations for tourists are available at frequent intervals.

The road follows the U. S. Highway 17 from Savannah to Midway. *(See Long Tour 1.)* From Midway State Highway 38 leads R.

LIBERTY TROOP HALL, *41 m. (L)*, is the headquarters for Liberty County's National Guard, organized in 1791. The building is now used for political meetings and public entertainments.

HINESVILLE, *42 m.*, a quiet village, is the county seat of Liberty County. The Courthouse in the center of the town contains many old records in the original handwriting.

LUDOWICI, *56 m.*, is a little town which had at one time a thriving brick and tile industry that was closed in 1930 and the results proved disastrous to the community. Happily, however, tobacco had been introduced into this section and has proved a successful replacement.

DOCTORTOWN, *63 m.*, a town of only minor importance today, was at one time a thriving center of commerce.

JESUP, *69 m.*, the county seat of Wayne County, is a rather new town having been incorporated in 1870. It is an agricultural and naval stores center.

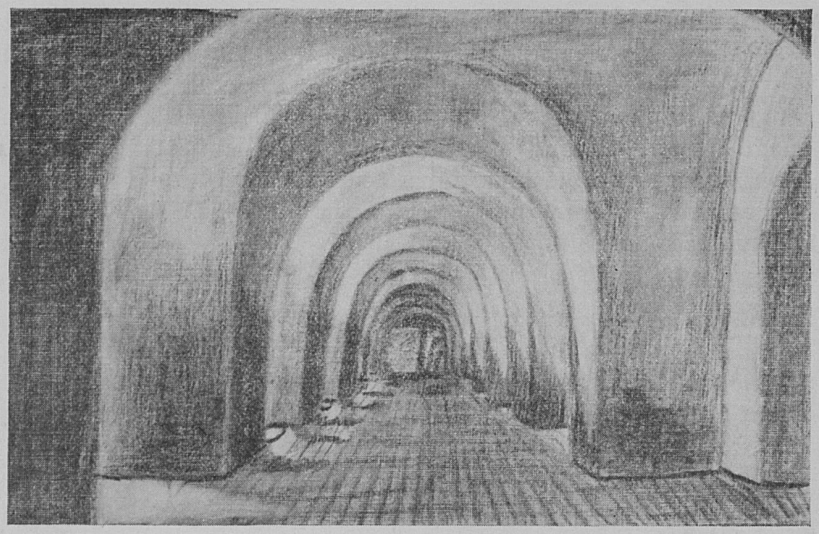
OFFERMAN, *89 m.*, once a prosperous saw mill town, is now merely a flag stop on the Atlanta Birmingham Coast and Sea Board Air Line Railroads.

BLACKSHEAR, *99 m.*, the county seat of Pierce County, traces its history back to 1813 when General Blackshear encamped with five hundred captive Indians. It has nearly two thousand residents and due to its tobacco market is one of the most thriving towns in this section of Georgia.

WAYCROSS, *108 m.*, is the modern descendant of an early frontier settlement founded in 1818 by home seekers from Appling and Irwin Counties. These pioneers built block houses and fortified places called "stands" for protection against the Indians. This settlement was originally called Tebeauville or No. 9. In 1870 it had fifty inhabitants with a few scattered houses. As the community gradually became a converging point for railroads the name of Waycross was given it. Today Waycross has eighteen thousand residents, with the largest railroad shop on the Atlantic Coast Line which in normal times has two thousand employes. It also has one of the largest apiaries in the United States which ships honey to all parts of the country. In 1936 a shoe factory was established in the town which has given incentive to manufacturing interests. Carefully laid out parks planted with trees and shrubs native to the region, well planned public buildings many of which were designed by prominent architects, add beauty to this city which is a product of nineteenth century development.

Inquiry may be made at the Waycross Chamber of Commerce about trips into the OKEFENOKEE SWAMP. The swamp is entered either at Fargo or Folkston, and at either of these towns further arrangements may be made. A one day trip is feasible if the visitor starts early in the morning

from either Fargo or Folkston but if the night is spent at Waycross it is advisable to plan to spend a day or two in the swamp. An extra day should be allowed to make arrangements for guides, boats and camping facilities. From Fargo a well marked dirt road leads to Lem Griffis' Camp. *10 m.*, where average rates for a bed are $1 and for a meal 50c. Guides with small motor boats may be obtained from $3 to $5 a day. *(See Trembling Earth.)*



ARCADES AT THE FORT

FORT PULASKI

FORT PULASKI *(7 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 2)*, on the southern end of Cockspur Island, stands a mighty sentinel guarding the approach to the lovely old city of Savannah. With the turbid waters of the Savannah River on the north and the wide placid expanse of the channel on the south, its isolation from the mainland is complete; it is at rest, sleeping peacefully at its post; while in the nearby restless waters is buried that gallant Pole, Count Casimir Pulaski, for whom the fort was named.

From an easterly direction the aging brick ramparts of Pulaski rise dark and impressive. Jagged splotches break the smoothness of these faded rose colored walls giving them a strange, mottled appearance. Embedded in the comparative freshness of these splotches are rusty old cannon balls, reposing silently within their battered setting.

Sweeping northward from the walls of the rear parapet is a dense grove of sweet myrtle, cassena, palmetto and prick-

ly pear, all dwarfed in the presence of this giant fortress. During the winter months the prickly pear fades from green to a deep purple, the cassena retains its shining green leaves and its little ruby red berries shimmer in the frosty breezes. Demi-lunes, long since overgrown with shrubbery, give this grove an unreal appearance.

Entering Fort Pulaski brings back memories of yesteryears, stories of knights and old castles and of things medieval and far removed from the modern. There are towering walls, a large drawbridge and two moats, wide and deep—all a part of this picture of the past.

Within the mighty enclosure one is struck with the outstanding character of the architecture, the strength and condition of the walls. No wonder General Lee thought it impregnable! Huge brick arches, complete ovals below and above, are like the entrance to a mountain tunnel. Within these tunnel-like grooves guns were fired through embrasures in the five foot outer walls. Supported by these arches is the terreplein on which were stationed the heavy cannon that fired over the parapet. Now the terreplein is green with grass, and the parapet is ragged and torn as if it had been attacked by some vengeful hand. The parade ground within the enclosure is level and green, its smoothness broken only by a giant fig tree whose towering branches nearly equal in height the wall itself. This fig tree, which some say is over a century old, stands in front of the quarters once furnished for the commanding officer.

Long before the mellow notes of an army field-bugle floated out over the parapets of the forts that have stood here, this island was hallowed by the prayers of John Wesley. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)* Amid the ilex-cassena, the sea myrtle and the spreading palms, Wesley faced the depths of distance between himself and his homeland and delivered here his first sermon on American soil.

In 1761 Georgia colonists became alarmed because of the great number of privateers and pirates who were then ravaging and plundering the Atlantic Coast; and to protect Savannah, Fort George was built near the present site of

Pulaski. Fort George was a small block-house surrounded by palisades built of palmetto logs. A few years after it was built, it was partially destroyed by a storm, and in 1776 the cannon were removed to Fort Halifax in Savannah. Fort Greene, named in honor of Gen. Nathanael Greene, the second fort erected on this site, was built by the Federal Government in 1794 and was used for the most part as a quarantine station and to enforce custom laws. During the existence of Fort Greene many slave vessels anchored here for inspection. The slaves were driven ashore and were made to bathe in the cool waters of the river in preparation for the immense slave market in Savannah. Fort Greene was similiar in its construction to Fort George and was garrisoned during the fall of 1799. When the news of the death of General Washington reached Savannah, the flag at Fort Greene was lowered to half-mast and the guns from its parapets drowned the tranquil drone of the waves in a roaring farewell to the departed chief.

The existence of Fort Greene was short and its ending tragic, for at 9 A. M., September 8, 1804, a strong wind began to blow across the sound and huge waves lashed the northeastern edge of Cockspur Island. By 3 P. M. the wind was sweeping straight up the pathway formed by the Savannah River channel, pushing mountains of waves before it. These waves struck Fort Greene with all their might and fury; boats anchored at the fort were snatched from their moorings and hurled through the raging waters to the distant marshes and islands. By 9 o'clock of that same evening, the wind subsided and the waters receded. The garrison was drowned and Fort Greene was no more.

In 1821 Gen. Simon Bernard, who had at one time been chief engineer to Napoleon, was employed by the Government to inspect the Atlantic Coast to ascertain the most strategic points for coastal defense. Upon viewing Cockspur Island, Bernard immediately recommended this site as the practical point for the defense of Savannah and subsequently submitted preliminary plans for the present Fort Pulaski.

In 1829 Lieut. J. K. F. Mansfield was assigned to Cockspur Island and the work on Fort Pulaski began. Among the able

officers who were directing the building of the fort was a young engineer who had just graduated from West Point; it was his first assignment. This young engineer, Robert E. Lee, was destined to lead the Confederate Army in one of the greatest wars of American history. About the middle of the 1840 decade Fort Pulaski was finally completed. Twenty years were spent in its building, and the costs of the materials for its erection exceeded a million dollars. The fort remained ungarrisoned until Governor Brown ordered its seizure and occupation by Confederate troops. This order was received in Savannah, January 2, 1861, and preparations to occupy the fort were immediately instituted.

On the morning of January 3, Col. A. R. Lawton marched his men to the wharf to embark for Pulaski. Bands played and a frenzied populace shouted as the men, encumbered with much unnecessary baggage, embarked on the small steamboat *Ida.* Presently the little steamboat began to plow her way into the open channel, slowly, determinedly. A mighty shout arose from those who lined the wharves and ended only when the boat disappeared beyond the sweeping curve down the river. Savannah's first act of war was consummated. The little steamboat bore her brave passengers into an impasse from which there was no return. *(See Civil and Military Development.)*

War! War! The states shuddered under the awful significance of it, but the little garrison at Fort Pulaski was content. Officers and soldiers had brought a full supply of home comforts with them, and were constantly being supplied with more. They lived in the luxury they had always enjoyed. They had their servants; duty was light; friends and relatives visited them frequently, and often parties of gaily dressed men and women visited the fort to entertain the officers and men. Many times the breezes of a midnight tide wafted music across the distant marshes. There was no danger. This was a happy place, this the Fort Invincible.

Early on the morning of April 10, 1862, a sentry, with bayonet glistening in the sunlight, was making his accustomed rounds high up on the terreplein. Presently, he paused and

reported a small boat with a white ensign approaching Pulaski. The commanding officer soon learned that the visitors were Federal soldiers; they came to demand the surrender of the fort to the Federal forces which were now entrenched just across the river. Colonel Olmstead replied to the Federal officer, "I am here to defend the fort, not to surrender it."

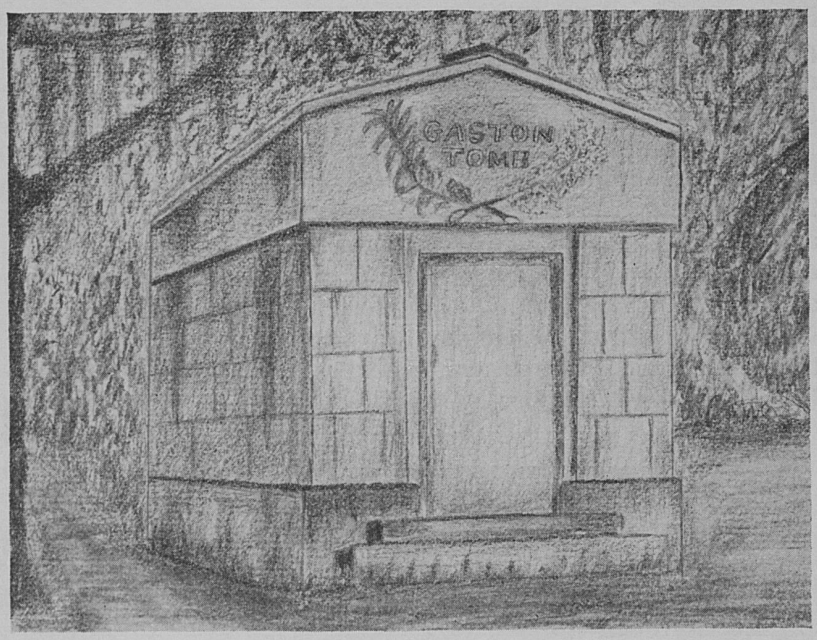
General Gillmore received the message and ordered his batteries into action. Immediately thirty-six heavy guns and ten heavy rifle-cannon belched forth the initial wave of destruction. For hours the Federal bombardment continued. The guns at Fort Pulaski answered steadily, but the enemy had a new type of gun, the deadly, heavy rifle-cannon. The projectiles of these guns pierced the walls with deadly accuracy. Finally the whole eastern wall was riddled; the moats were filled with bricks; the eastern parapet fell under the terrible onslaught of the Federal fire. Presently the mighty rifle-cannon leveled the thick outer wall of the powder magazine, and only a thin section of brick lay between Pulaski and its complete destruction. Colonel Olmstead, realizing the inevitable and feeling it his duty to prevent needless loss of life, surrendered three hundred and sixty-five men and twenty-five officers. Pulaski, the Impregnable, the Fort Invincible, had fallen, conquered by the advanced science of warfare.

Under the Federal Government Fort Pulaski was partially restored and was converted into a military and political prison. Cruelties, privations and the heartless treatment of prisoners form a dark page in its military history. The steel bars of the prison are still there, and the grim shell-torn walls tell the tale of a forgotten hell.

Fort Pulaski was proclaimed a National Monument by Presidential Proclamation on October 15, 1924. The monument area embraces approximately 724 acres. Under the supervision of Government historians, landscape engineers and Civilian Conservation workers, much preservation work has already been accomplished. The moats have been cleared and the proper water circulation in them has been completed; the thick undergrowth of brush and briars has been cut away;

ditches and embankments have been constructed to insure proper drainage; landing piers have been built along the river; and a museum containing many interesting objects found here has been established.

At present, visitors wishing to view Fort Pulaski may leave their automobiles at Lazaretto, a small settlement on the Tybee River, 17 miles from Savannah on the Tybee Road, and obtain excellent boat service to the fort free of charge. A causeway and bridge connecting Pulaski with the mainland are under construction. At the fort intelligent guides direct visitors through the grounds and the fortification, explaining the interesting features and giving information pertinent to Fort Pulaski's history.



GASTON TOMB

BONAVENTURE

The very name BONAVENTURE *(8 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 1)* recalls the vivid and colorful history of this wide tract of wooded land on the banks of the Wilmington River. Nearly two hundred years have bent the branches of the live oaks planted before the Revolution, and the past century has made of a busy plantation a shadowy burial ground. But in the days when the Colony of Georgia was young, adventure and romance lived here, the one with a hand at the sword, the other with an armful of flowers.

Col. John Mulryne, English gentleman, left Charleston in or about 1760, built a home on a site three miles from Savannah overlooking the Wilmington River, and called his wilderness Bonaventure. The house was constructed of sturdy

English brick, and soon landscape gardeners had surrounded it with a garden that was to be famous for its splendor. A central path swept from the house to the edge of the bluff where terraces led to the river level, and flowers and shrubbery were planted in profusion about the grounds. Tradition maintains that in 1761 when the Colonel's only child, Mary, was married to Josiah Tattnall of Charleston, avenues of oaks and other trees were planted to form the initials M and T. The less hardy trees have long since fallen, but the patriachal oaks still cling to the earth, though battered by the winds of centuries. The couple settled down at Bonaventure to a pleasant existence, and here their two sons, John and Josiah, were born.

In this beautiful setting, surrounded by friends, they knew no tragedy until sudden fire swept away their home. The story goes that fire broke out on the roof of the house while guests were seated at dinner, and that the host, when the flames were discovered to be beyond control, had the table removed to the garden. There, with the red glare of the fire dancing on lifted wine glasses, he and his guests continued their dinner. No incident is more typical of the attitude of the Southern aristocrat of this period than this of the master of Bonaventure bowing to the inevitable and fulfilling his duties as host in the face of disaster.

At the time of the Revolution the family gave up the estates rather than bear arms against the King. Colonel Mulryne went to Nassau where he died. Josiah Tattnall with his sons departed for England; and Georgia, declaring Josiah Tattnall and John Mulryne banished forever, confiscated Bonaventure. Young Josiah, however, defied his father and escaped to America, where he joined General Greene's army on the eve of the recapture of Savannah. His ardent patriotism was rewarded after the Revolution when the State restored to him a part of his father's lands including his beloved home, Bonaventure. At that time the mossy groves of the plantation were already headed towards their ultimate development as a cemetery; for when the French were defeated in their at-

tempt to recover Savannah from the British, they stopped at Bonaventure to bury those gallant Frenchmen who had died for the cause of American liberty. *(8 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 1.)*

Josiah Tattnall, junior, happy to recover his beautiful home, lived here eighteen years, giving loyal service to the State as a distinguished soldier, as a member of the Legislature and of Congress, and finally as Governor of Georgia. Here he built a house almost on the same site as the one his grandfather had constructed, but it, too, was destined to be destroyed by fire after his death; here he brought his bride; and here he buried four of his children who died in infancy.

His adventurous youth, State cares, and the sorrow of losing his wife, all contributed to a serious breakdown in the health of Josiah Tattnall after he became Governor. Leaving the reins of government in other hands, he went in 1804 to the West Indies to rest and recover, but died in a few months miles from home. His body was brought back to Savannah and laid in the same grave with that of his wife in a quiet corner of Bonaventure near the spot where his children were buried. A horizontal slab marks the resting place of these two early ancestors of the Tattnall family. Two sons who grew up to be famous are also buried here.

The destruction of the second house seems to have caused the Tattnalls to desert their ancestral plantation; at any rate, little more is heard of Bonaventure after 1804 until its purchase in 1847 by Captain Peter Wiltberger, who had long desired to convert the fine old tract into a cemetery for Savannah. After Captain Wiltberger's death this wish was executed by his son, with the forming in 1869 of the Evergreen Cemetery Company of Bonaventure. Gradually a city of the dead grew up around the Tattnall tombs, many of the grave stones bearing the proudest names in Georgia history. Some of the dead now interred in the cemetery were transferred from Colonial Cemetery and other burial grounds.

The first vault at the entrance was removed to Bonaventure from Colonial Cemtery and is a memorial to the famed

hospitality of William Gaston. It is said that never a stranger came to Savannah but that Gaston generously offered his home and his larder for the comfort of the visitor. He was noted in Savannah for his friendliness and benevolence in this respect. When he died in the North and was buried far from the home he loved, Savannahians decided that the most fitting tribute they could pay to his memory would be the erection of a stranger's tomb or receiving vault. Here any stranger who died in Savannah could be placed until other arrangements could be made. Thus the empty Gaston vault at the entrance of Bonaventure stands today ready to show courtesy to the dead, as in life Gaston showed it to the living.

Under a massive ivy-mantled stone lies the dust of Noble Jones of Wormsloe, pioneer statesman and soldier. This grave and that of Noble Jones' son, Dr. Noble Wimberly Jones, both face the open marshes looking towards the family home, Wormsloe, on the Isle of Hope. *(See Wormsloe.)* The tomb of Edward Telfair, governor and philanthropist, is marked by an eight-foot tall block of stone. His son-in-law William B. Hodgson, for whom Hodgson Hall was named, also has a stone to his memory on the Telfair plot. *(See The Georgia Historical Society.)* Sir Patrick Houstoun and Lady Houstoun lie under a monument of granite surmounted by an urn. An urn also adorns the brown marble column above the grave of Brig. Gen. Henry R. Jackson, poet, jurist and diplomat as well as soldier. *(See Civil and Military Development.)* A mammoth vault of granite, cubical in shape and inscribed only with the word Clinch, arrests the attention of all who walk among the solemn graves of Bonaventure. This proud mausoleum is the tomb of Brig. Gen. Duncan L. Clinch, famous soldier and statesman, who gained his spurs in the second war with England. Under an arch of marble, sculptured in Florence by Romanelli, lie the bodies of Brig. Gen. Alexander R. Lawton, diplomat and soldier, and his wife. General Lawton commanded the seizure of Fort Pulaski on the eve of the War Between the States and was in later years United States minister to Austria.

At Bonaventure lie soldiers who belonged to Savannah's heroic age, statesmen, citizens of lofty character, and their wives and families. As the years pass the graves of other Savannahians, eminent and humble alike, take their place beside those of the illustrious early citizens. The aged trees, wisely left alone by man, trail their mosses over the tombs creating shadows rarely penetrated by the sun.



WORMSLOE GARDEN

WORMSLOE

(The gardens are open, 9 A. M.—6 P. M. Admission $1.)

WORMSLOE *(11 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 2)* is the only plantation of all those near Savannah to remain in continued possession of the family to whom it was granted. Its history begins almost with the day Tomochichi greeted a little band of colonists sailing up the Savannah River; for in the group of homeseekers was Noble Jones, who leased Wormsloe from the Trustees in 1735 and received it by Royal grant in 1756. That brave and hardy pioneer and lieutenant of Oglethorpe, if he should return today, would find the sixth generation of his descendants living on his original acres. He would see a red-haired boy fishing in the river up which hostile Spaniards used to creep in small boats; he would see a

little red-haired girl balancing herself on the crumbled wall of his fort and wondering how many oysters her great-great-great-grandfather had to eat before he could build its tabby sides. His brambly woods he would find turned into a vast garden, and here and there he would place his hand on a bent oak and say, "Are you still living, old tree?"

Noble Jones' plan when he leased 500 acres on the Isle of Hope was to establish a silk plantation, hence the name Wormsloe. When the crown granted him this river land, it also presented 500 adjoining acres to his elder son, Noble Wimberly Jones; and 300 acres of this Wimberly tract still form a part of Wormsloe, giving the estate a total of 800 acres. A small island called Long Island, between Skidaway and Wormsloe, was given to the second son, Inigo Jones, and is also retained by the family.

Invaluable to the young Colony were the rows of mulberry trees and Fort Wimberly, the wooden fort constructed by Jones at the extreme end of the estate to command the inland passage from the Vernon River to the Wilmington River. One year the silkworm crop was short "because Captain Noble Jones' daughter, Mary, had suffered her worms to issue from the cocoons without sorting them." Fort Wimberly was of the utmost importance in defending the Colony from hostile ships that slipped through Skidaway Narrows. Rebuilt of tabby and fitted in 1741 with a four pound cannon, for years the fort kept back invasions of Indians, Spaniards and plundering pirates. Mary Jones herself carved her name in the Georgia Hall of Fame, when during her father's absence she successfully defended the stronghold from a sudden attack of Spaniards and red men. The Colony's marine headquarters under Captain Jones were established in huts at Wormsloe near Fort Wimberly to watch the inlets. Almost any morning the marines might have been seen scouting the country on horseback and slipping down the river in bateaux, to guard the waterway as far as Skidaway Narrows.

Noble Jones was a true pioneer, fearless, tireless and devoted to the Colony. As one of Oglethorpe's lieutenants and later as first captain of the first Georgia Regiment, he was on

constant duty directing his marines and safeguarding the weak little Colony. He accompanied Captain Demere on river cruises to intercept trading vessels and at one time captured a schooner in "Ussybaw Sound." Besides fulfilling these duties, he served the King's Council twenty-one years, sometimes as president, and through the years found time to improve his lands and extend his mulberry groves. A description in a London newspaper of 1743 gives a realistic picture of Wormsloe at that time: "Wormsloe is one of the most agreeable spots I ever saw, and the improvements of that ingenious man are very extraordinary. He commands a company of Marines, who are quartered in Huts near his House; which is also a tolerable defensive Place with small Arms. From the House there is a Vista of a new three miles cut through the woods to Mr. Whitefield's Orphan House, which has a very fine effect on the Sight."

Revolution was a storm on the near horizon when Captain Jones, a staunch royalist, died in 1775. In his last illness he was attended by his son, Dr. Noble Wimberly Jones, the ardent patriot, who was kept from the First Continental Congress only by his parent's dying wish. Dr. Jones, who became known as the Morning Star of Liberty, had assisted in organizing the Sons of Liberty when they met at Tondee's Tavern in Savannah on a night in 1774. It was at his home after his father's death that the patriots assembled to break open a royal magazine of 600 pounds of powder, a portion of which was used later at Bunker Hill. After the war Dr. Jones followed his profession and became the first president of the Georgia Medical Society.

Wormsloe has carried on its traditions from generation to generation down to the twentieth century. As it had aided in the Revolution, the Jones plantation assisted in the War Between the States, making use of the old fort to guard the river. For many months a Confederate battalion stationed at the Point successfully prevented Federal ships from using the inland water route. The descendants of the pioneer soldier who wrested his home out of the wilds of the New World have also maintained their traditions of service and culture.

George Jones, son of Dr. Jones, was a physician and a judge. George W. Jones, who added DeRenne to his name from his mother's family, collected and published early Georgia manuscripts. Wymberley Jones DeRenne, father of the present owner, developed the natural beauty of the plantation and founded a library dedicated to his great-great grandfather, "Noble Jones, owner of Wormsloe from 1733-1775."

This classic marble library building contains the most complete private collection of Georgiana in the world. Old maps, rare documents and manuscripts, first editions of famous books and valuable engravings have been gathered from all parts of the world. Here may be seen a letter from George Washington to his nephew, a letter from Benjamin Franklin to Dr. Noble W. Jones, Sherman's dispatch to Grant announcing the capture of Savannah, Lee's correspondence with Jefferson Davis. The original Confederate Constitution is one of the library's most important possessions. A first edition of *Uncle Remus* and some original color drawings of the renowned botanist Le Conte are other valuable items. From the walls look down the portraits of the descendants of the first Noble Jones, the last portrait painted being that of Wymberley Jones DeRenne by the brush of Gari Melchers. Numerous students of history and book lovers have spent long hours among the treasures of Wormsloe Library.

It is not certain when Noble Jones' little house down by the fort was abandoned and the present building constructed. No record remains to tell whether that first home was destroyed by fire or simply fell into dust after its desertion, but not a trace of its foundations is left to mark where it stood. From the present home, built before the War Between the States, faithful servants at the approach of Sherman's Army hurried to the marsh to bury the family silver and other household treasures; here plundering soldiers tramped heavy booted through the drawing rooms, to leave their destructive touch on the marble mantels carved in Europe.

The present day house is an old gray frame building looking as if its rambling lines had emerged from some mystery tale. Through the years changes of wings, little porches,

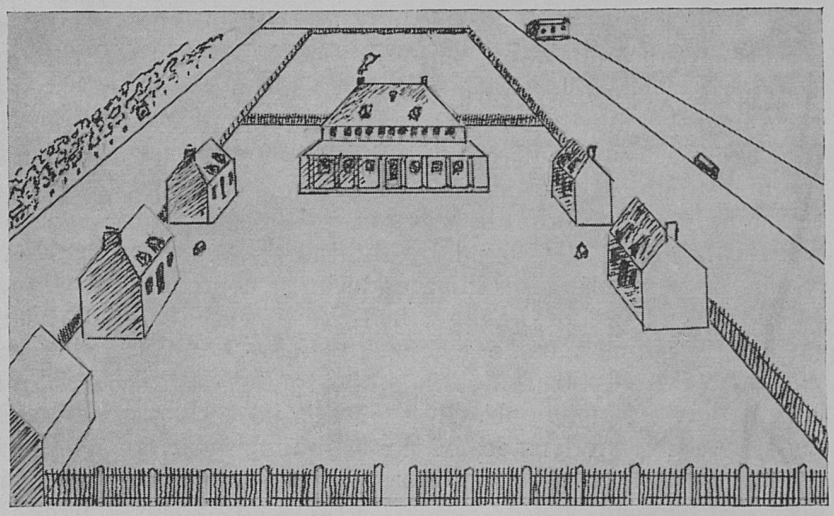
chimneys and other details have almost obliterated the original house. Forty rooms, some closed and dusty, look through vari-sized windows out on the ivied walks and trees. The best view of the estate is perhaps from the roof which is reached by a tortuous stair. From the quaintly railed top of the house is seen the wide stretch of woods and gardens bordered by the Vernon River. A glimpse may be had of gulls as they skim over the water and river grass, adding a final touch to the island landscape.

The broad acres gain in magnificence from year to year. A mile long drive shadowed by the boughs of moss hung live oaks leads to the three story mansion and the gardens. These oak trees were planted upon the birth of the present Wymberley Wormsloe DeRenne, and on his twenty-first birthday with great festivity a stone entrance was unveiled in his honor. Throughout the gardens, shrubs, azaleas tall as trees, and every variety of semi-tropical flower follow each other, season after season. Pools and streams flow through the vast park and are splashed with color, as flowering peach, dogwood and wisteria reach full bloom. The camellia trees are unequaled anywhere in the South, and the fame of their splendor brings hundreds of visitors to Wormsloe each year to view the countless blossoms shading from snowy white and rosy pink to deep crimson. Modern horticulturists have described these camellia trees as the chief glory of Wormsloe.

In recent years several walled gardens have been laid out at the rear of the house. One encloses a lily-pond, in the center of which stands a striking figure of a heron; another has a collection of graceful bronzes by Lucy Currie Richards and Louise Allen; while in still another, stone gnomes peep mischievously out from grassy corners. The gardens seem to form a series of rooms, with their high, brick walls, ivy-covered and inset with weather-stained iron grille work.

Beyond the gardens and through the woods, a narrow twisting road passes a slave cabin and a slave burial ground to Fort Wimberly, now in ruins; here the spectator recalls those pioneer Georgians whose voices once rang through this

quiet. He sees Noble Jones crashing through the underbrush and Mary Jones cocking her rifle through a fort embrasure; he sees Oglethorpe riding up the path to inspect the marines. Time at Wormsloe becomes a long avenue, down which moves the early history of Georgia.



THE ORIGINAL PLAN OF BETHESDA

BETHESDA

BETHESDA *(12 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 2)* was founded in 1740 by the Rev. George Whitefield, distinguished divine of the eighteenth century. Since Whitefield's guidance it has had a varied career under several different sponsors; nevertheless, it has survived and today stands as the oldest existing orphanage in America: a monument to those early zealots who believed so sincerely in this new settlement and its humane aims.

Soon after the Colony was established, George Whitefield secured from the Trustees of Georgia a tract of land near Savannah for the purpose of erecting an asylum for needy boys and girls. In 1740 the building of the "Orphan House" was begun under the supervision of James Habersham who came with Whitefield for the purpose of aiding him. When the building was completed Whitefield named it Bethesda, meaning "House of Mercy," and from its beginning Bethesda has upheld the promise of its name.

At Whitefield's death in 1770, it was found that he had willed Bethesda to Selina, Countess of Huntingdon. This great

lady across the sea was much interested in the charitable works of Whitefield and had given her time and money as well as her good will to him in all his undertakings. After receiving her friend's bequest, she did all in her power to improve Bethesda and carry out Whitefield's ambitions for the institution. However, she was destined to disappointment, for shortly after Bethesda was put in her care, the buildings were completely destroyed by lightning. From her private means Lady Huntingdon then made large contributions to the rebuilding of the orphanage, but the new school had been open only a short while when she died. Among the many gifts which Lady Huntingdon made to Bethesda was a full length portrait of herself. In 1851 this portrait was restored and placed by the trustees of the orphanage in Hodgson Hall as part of the Georgia Historical Society collection, where it may still be seen.

At the death of Lady Huntingdon in 1791, the school was discontinued and the property claimed by the State Government. The Government in turn committed the management to the care of a board of trustees, but no active steps were taken to reopen the school until 1801. It was then reorganized and rebuilt. Due to the fact that the Savannah Female Orphanage was established in this year (1801) for the care of orphaned girls, only boys were readmitted to Bethesda. In 1805 the school was again destroyed by fire and hurricane. Being unable to rebuild at this time, the board advised the Legislature to dispose of the property and distribute the proceeds among the benevolent institutions of Savannah, which was done in 1809. However, eight of the thirteen trustees appointed by the State were officers and members of the Union Society, so it is likely that this society, active in this same type of philanthropic work, took charge of the Bethesda boys.

The Union Society deserves much credit for its untiring labor in behalf of its wards. This society when it was organized was known as the St. George's Society and was founded by five men, only three of whose names are recorded: Benjamin Sheftall, a Jew, Peter Tondee, a Catholic, and Richard

Milledge, of the Church of England. Either because of political sentiment against England or the desire to express its belief in the union of creeds, the name of the society was changed about 1773 to the Union Society. Because of British destruction in 1782 few records remain of the early workings of the society. It is known, however, that in 1786 by an Act of Legislature it became the Union Society organized for the purpose of educating and caring for orphan children in indigent circumstances.

During the Revolution an interesting experience befell this society which is a commentary on its zeal. In 1778 four of its members, Mordecai Sheftall, John Martin, John Stirk and Joshua Powell, were taken prisoners of war and sent to Sunbury, where, exiled for three years, they held their meetings under an oak tree. At one of their meetings they adopted the following resolution:

> "By the unhappy fate of war the members of the Union Society are some made captive, others driven from the State and by one of the rules of said Society it is ordered and resolved that so long as three members shall be together, the Union Society shall exist and there now being four members present, who being desirous as much as in them lies notwithstanding they are captives to continue so laudable an institution have come to the following resolve to wit: to nominate and appoint officers for the year, as near and as agreeable to the rules of the Society as they can be recollected, the rules being lost or mislaid."

Thus, intent on their purpose and faithful to their duty, these four members preserved the society which has meant so much to the people of Savannah.

During the years between 1805 and 1854 the Union Society took care of orphan boys in Savannah, placing them under private instruction. In 1817 under John Carr who had previously instructed them, they were housed in that part of the Chatham Academy which belonged to the Union Society. The Chatham Academy building accordingly became the first permanent home of the society and remained in that capacity

for some years. On May 12, 1819 the Home, for such it might now be called, was visited by President Monroe. In 1831 the boys were removed to Springfield in Effingham County, then the site of a well known academy and a location recognized for its healthfulness. They were returned to Savannah in 1837, boarded with John Haupt and were instructed at the Savannah Academy under the Rev. George White.

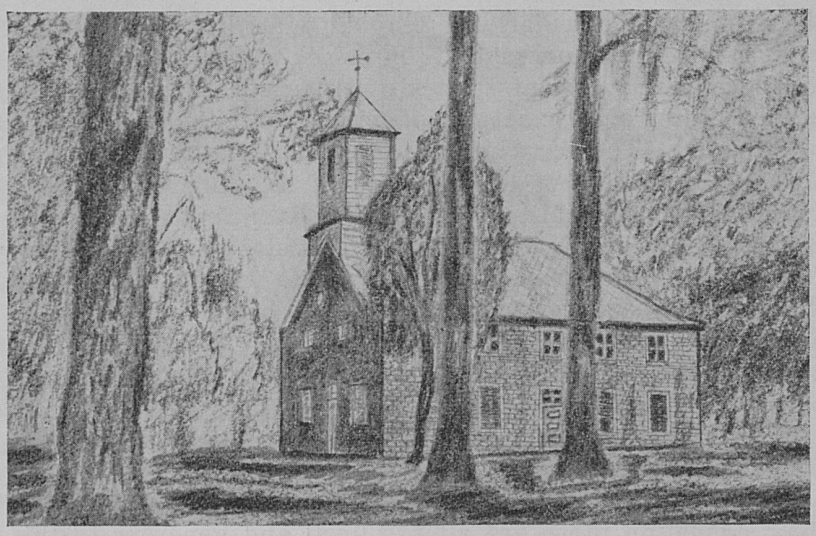
In 1855 all of the eleven boys were removed to Bethesda which had been purchased and rebuilt by the Union Society. The old name was retained as being peculiarly appropriate. The War Between the States proved to be another interruption. In 1862 the boys were removed to Jefferson County that the school building might be used as a military hospital. At the end of the War freedmen took possession of it; but it was restored to the society in 1867, and the work for orphan boys has continued uninterrupted to this day.

Formal instruction at Bethesda is carried through the eighth grade. The boys are taken to good plays and to hear good music, and they are encouraged to give plays in their theatre. Volunteer teachers of singing and piano instruct them. Prizes are offered for good behavior. Wholesome food at regular intervals, healthful outdoor work in shifts of not over three hours and ample time for play make a curriculum under which the boys thrive. An opportunity is also given them for earning a little money by milking, farm work, dining room service and similar duties. Older boys are sent to the Savannah High School. Promising students are sent to college, while others are financed in business courses by the Rotary Club. The Bethesda boys have a reputation for being well mannered, well trained and honest, and little trouble is experienced in finding places for them in business.

With the help of the boys, the grounds of Bethesda are well kept and present a pleasant picture. What was originally described as a "sandy bluff near the sea shore" is actually a fine sweep of land skirted by the Back River, a tidal stream which it seems hard to believe could have been confused with the "sea." The landscape plan originated by the Trustees' Garden Club has preserved the natural beauty of

the grounds. Particularly in keeping with the atmosphere is the Whitefield Chapel given to Bethesda in 1924 by the Georgia Society of Colonial Dames of America. This small fine brick building is an exact reproduction of Whitefield's Church in England. The fanwindows are especially lovely, and a stained glass window directly back of the chancel has been placed as a memorial to James Habersham, first president of Bethesda. A Greek outdoor theatre provides a suitable setting for pageants and theatricals of various kinds. Maintained through dues, donations and bequests, Bethesda now possesses a splendid group of buildings, which are well kept and are adequate for housing one hundred boys under the supervision of ten staff members.

Savannahians are proud of Bethesda, for it has contributed men of fine character and ability to this community as well as to others throughout the nation. Men who received their education there are always loyal and generous to this "House of Mercy," which will soon celebrate its Bicentennial.



OLD JERUSALEM CHURCH

DEAD TOWNS

In their present state of wilderness the historic dead towns of Georgia, FREDERICA, ABERCORN, SUNBURY and HARDWICK give no picture of the dream and hopes that went into the building of them two centuries ago.

At Frederica *(see Long Tour 1, English Colonization, and Golden Isles)* was the only home James Edward Oglethorpe ever had in the Colony of Georgia, but the little island settlement was deserted before the Revolution.

Abercorn *(23 Vicinity Map, see Short Tour 3)* was founded in 1733 and was already sinking into nothingness by 1737, doomed from the beginning by its unhealthy location. It was laid out by Oglethorpe on a branch of the Savannah River about 15 miles above Savannah. Malarial fevers and swamp illnesses brought disappointment to all who tried to settle within the sickly neighborhood. The ten families who moved with such high hopes to Abercorn at its founding had all

left in four years, driven away by fear of disease. A map of Georgia in 1780 does not even indicate the location of the town.

Sunbury *(see Long Tour 1, and English Colonization)*, established in 1756, was "beautifully situated on the main between Midway and Newport Rivers about fifteen miles south of Great Ogeechee." Its great, sunny bluff high above the surrounding marsh country soon made it a favorite health resort, and its deep harbor rapidly increased its importance as a port of entry. This little metropolis attracted settlers from remote points, some from Savannah, some from Charleston, and some from far off Bermuda. Two noted signers of the Declaration of Independence came from this district: Dr. Lyman Hall, who led his parish into the struggle for liberty before the Province at large had espoused the cause; and Button Gwinnett, who, while residing on nearby St. Catherines Island, spent most of his time at Sunbury. Here, too, in 1788 was founded Sunbury Academy, one of the pioneer schools of learning in the Colony. During the early days of the Revolution Col. John McIntosh was in command of a small group of Continentals guarding Fort Morris, sole defense of Sunbury. When called on to surrender the fort to a British force greatly outnumbering his little band, he retorted: "Receive this laconic reply: COME AND GET IT." In spite of a gallant stand, Sunbury with other coast towns fell into British hands. The destruction of property and the cruelties inflicted on enemies of the king shortly reduced the prosperous port to a depopulated center for British troops. Sunbury never recovered from the ravages of war, and in a few years not even a house was visible on the bold bluff. The ruins of the fort are today overgrown with wild myrtle and cedar; the cemetery is lost; Sunbury has vanished.

Hardwick *(see English Colonization)* was much like Sunbury in that it had a charming location on a bluff overlooking a winding river. At one time it rivaled Savannah in importance as a port but fell into decay in less than three quarters of a century after its founding. It was established in 1755 by Governor Reynolds, who attempted to remove the govern-

mental seat of the Province from Savannah to the little new town. During the fevered rush of the effort to accomplish this purpose Savannah was neglected and its growth was seriously retarded. The failure of the Home Government to provide funds for the removal of the capital caused the project to be abandoned and Hardwick to be deserted. In 1824 Hardwick was simply "a cluster of houses in Bryan" with only one resident.

Particularly desolate among Georgia's dead towns is Ebenezer *(see Short Tour 3)*, whose sole link, to its years as a thriving town is lonely Jerusalem Church overlooking wild stretches of tree grown country. Today the antiquated building is still occasionally used as a place of worship by the descendants of the Salzburgers who erected it. For a brief hour its humble walls resound with the music of hymns that were perhaps sung here by the exiled Germans and their children; then silence closes in again, and the sacred house is alone with crowding memories. At the other end of the townsite an unwary woodsman might stumble through thick jungle weeds upon a group of decaying tombstones. These are the lost and forgotten graves of the early Salzburgers.

The history of Ebenezer began with the arrival in Georgia of seventy-eight of the many Salzburgers fleeing the fierce persecutions of Leopold Anton. The Georgia Salzburgers were invited to the Colony by the Trustees, who paid the expenses of the journey to America and allotted each family 50 acres of land with provisions for maintenance until the soil could produce their needs. Arriving in March 1734, the Salzburgers selected a site for their town, 4 miles below the present town of Springfield in Effingham County. It was a sterile and unattractive place, isolated at the mouth of a serpentine creek that was both uncertain in volume and difficult of navigation. To the weary exiles, however, the spot was home. They called their town Ebenezer or Stone of Help, "in Remembrance that God has brought us hither." In less than two years the settlement became a deserted village. In spite of the industry and zeal of the Salzburgers and the

arrival of more than one hundred and fifty refugees, the town knew no prosperity. The soil proved a bitter disappointment; sickness and isolation caused great depression of spirits. On a high ridge near the Savannah River, in 1736 the Salzburgers selected a new site called Red Bluff from the color of the earth. They set about migrating to this seemingly ideal location, which unfortunately for permanent prosperity was closed in on three sides by low, unhealthy swamp lands. The new town was called New Ebenezer. Old Ebenezer by June 1738 was only a cow pen where "the Trust's Cattle" were taken care of.

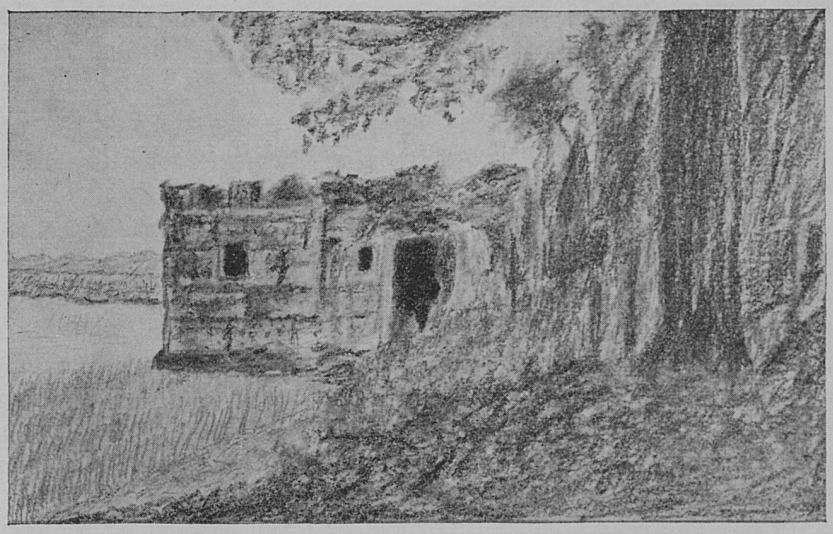
Meantime the Moravians had arrived on Georgia soil, left their mark and moved on. In 1735 this religious group, kinsmen of the Salzburgers, settled between the Salzburger colony and Savannah. They worked with zeal in subduing the forest and building homes, and their missionary activities among the Indians were markedly successful, culminating in the establishment of a mission at Spring Place. They also assisted in building the Indian school, Irene, near Tomochichi's village. *(See English Colonization.)* However, when they refused to bear arms against the Spaniards, because of religious scruples, they were no longer welcome in the Colony of Georgia. Abandoning their settlement, they moved to North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

New Ebenezer prospered and thrived and in the culture of silk became the pride of the Trustees. The population grew rapidly as other exiles from the Salza valley found their way here. By 1738 a "House for the Reception of Orphans" was built, and in 1744 two substantial houses for public worship were completed and dedicated. One of these, Jerusalem Church, was rebuilt of brick between 1767 and 1769 and is the only Colonial public building left standing in Georgia.

Early in the Revolution Ebenezer was seized by the British and from its central position became a thoroughfare for troops passing between Savannah and Augusta. Many of the best citizens of Ebenezer, devoted to the cause of liberty and suffering indignities at the hands of the British, were forced

to leave their homes. With the destruction of property and the devastation of farm lands began the journey of New Ebenezer toward its ultimate decay.

New Ebenezer was scarcely more than a century old when it took its place among the dead towns of Georgia. A description in 1855 shows how obliterated were all traces of a busy community even at that early date: "Only two residences are remaining and one of these is untenanted. The old church, however, stands in bold relief upon an open lawn. Except upon the Sabbath when the descendants of the Salzburgers go up to their temple to worship the God of their fathers, the stillness is unbroken, save by the warbling of birds, the occasional transit of a steamer, or the murmurs of the Savannah River. Here where generation after generation grew up and flourished, scarcely anything is to be seen except the sad evidences of decay and death."



FORT FREDERICA

THE GOLDEN ISLES OF GEORGIA

GOLDEN ISLES *(see Long Tour 1)* is a fanciful title but is applicable in more ways than one to the chain of low-lying sea islands stretching along the coast of Georgia. These islands serve as a barrier against the Atlantic and form the portals of the landlocked harbors of Darien, Brunswick and St. Marys. They are Golden Isles because on each one are seen the results of fortunes spent in reclamation and development—Golden Isles because they are rich in legends and memories of former glories and golden with potential opportunities for even further development in the years ahead—Golden Isles because they were once the haunts of Blackbeard and other notorious pirates, and vivid imagination can easily picture a chest of "pieces of eight" at the foot of every giant live oak or dark magnolia.

All of these are valid claims to the title of Golden Isles, but the name was given the islands two hundred years before the founding of Georgia, when the Spaniards came with priest and soldier to plant the cross and the sword. Old

maps of America show the islands as part of the Spanish Main and the poetic designation, Golden Isles, has persisted to the present day.

From 1562 to 1565 the French, in defiance of Spain, attempted to gain a foothold on the southern coast, sending expeditions under Ribault and Laudonniere to explore the islands. In 1565 Menendez de Aviles, founder of St. Augustine, came up the coast with a large fleet and wiped out French expeditions. He then landed on St. Catherines Island and established the first white settlement in Georgia. Menendez gave to all this coast section, including a province of Florida, the name of Guale for an old Indian chief who was ruling on St. Catherines at that time. Golden Isles of Guale is a name recurrent in history throughout four centuries. *(See First Americans and Early Explorers.)*

In 1568 Jesuits under the Spanish flag failed to convert the savages, and in 1573 Franciscan missionaries took their place. The story of these Little Brothers is one of patience, devotion and martyrdom. They established a number of missions along the coast and were unwavering in their zeal, even when the Indians rose against the cruelty of the gold-seeking Spanish soldiers. In 1605 by order of Philip III of Spain the Bishop of Cuba visited the Guale missions and gave the rites of confirmation to approximately a thousand Indians.

When the Spaniards discovered the islands, they found the Creek Indians using the rivers and thick forests as fishing and hunting grounds. Later the Indians watched while the colors of Spain trembled, fell, and were supplanted by the flag of Britain. For a short time they knew peace under the friendly spirit of the Great White Father, Oglethorpe. Then they found themselves forced slowly back from favorite haunts to the mainland, and from the coast of the mainland westward.

Originally the Golden Isles consisted of large, sea-encircled territories known today as OSSABAW, ST. CATHERINES, SAPELO, ST. SIMONS, JEKYLL and CUMBERLAND,

but later years have added SEA ISLAND and BLACKBEARD to the number. Each of these is accessible by boat or causeway from the mainland.

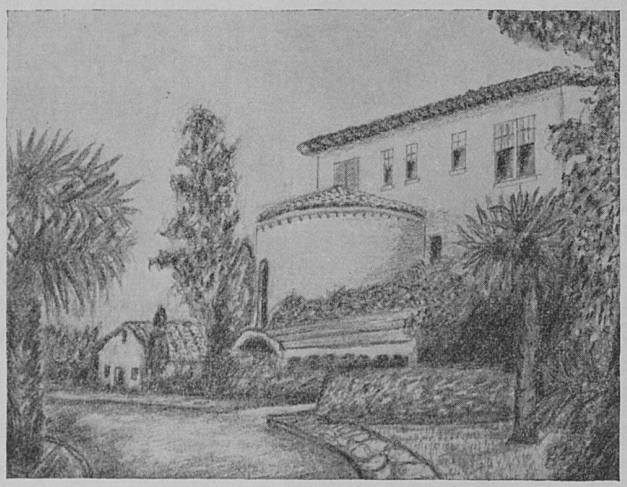
From the north first in the chain is Ossabaw which in Colonial times with St. Catherines and Sapelo constituted a part of the holdings of a wealthy Londoner. A century later Ossabaw became a hunting preserve for a group of northern business men and was later owned by the Strachan and Armstrong families of Savannah. Today it is owned by Dr. H. N. Torrey who has a winter home there.

Across St. Catherines Sound is the wooded northern part of St. Catherines Island, where the first Spanish mission in Georgia was founded in 1568 by the Jesuit brothers, Domingo Augustin and Pedro Ruiz. Later the island was given by the Trustees of Georgia to Mary Musgrove, half-breed Indian woman, who was invaluable to Oglethorpe as an interpreter. It was sold by Mary to Button Gwinnett, one of the Georgia Signers of the Declaration of Independence and later President of Georgia. Here Gwinnett erected a typical plantation house and cultivated vast acres of fertile soil. Subsequently the island was owned for many years by the Rauers family of Savannah and at the present time is the winter home of a wealthy northern family. The present residence is built around what is supposed to be the old Gwinnett house and preserves to a great extent the lines of the original. The house with wide wings, servants quarters and kitchen, and with slave quarters still in their original location, presents today a most realistic picture of the ante-bellum scene. The island glories in a profusion of varied trees and shrubs. To the north the fields are covered with virgin pine and live oak tracts inhabited by deer, wild turkeys and other game. The entire eastern length is bounded by a wide, smooth beach. At the south end of the island lies Sapelo Sound and just beyond is the next link in this golden chain, Blackbeard.

The beach at the northern end of Blackbeard's Island is a romantic spot, recalling scenes of *Treasure Island* and other pirate tales and legends. This island, really a part of Sapelo

but separated by a narrow creek and salt marsh, is now a Government Bird Reserve. However, among its giant oaks and tangled vines, it is easy to forget the present and vision pirate hordes landing with illicit cargoes or burying treasure among the roots of the trees.

Across the little stream Sapelo Island stretches its warm sands. This is the only one of the southern group of Georgia islands which has preserved its original name, though the spelling is somewhat changed. The Indians called it Zapala. Here no imaginative genius is needed to dream of treasure; it is all around, for a small fortune has been spent on this lovely spot. In ante-bellum days it was the location of one of the most extensive plantations along the coast. The owner, Thomas Spalding, erected a large mansion of tabby, the walls of which have withstood the years and are now incorporated in the present dwelling. Fifteen years ago the island was purchased by Howard E. Coffin and the old mansion was recovered from its tangle of wild vines and underbrush. The house stands behind a stretch of sunken garden, and a pool



in front of the main entrance mirrors the magnificent, semi-tropical setting. All the island activities center around the

"Big House" where modern inventions and mechanical genius blend with the traditions and manners of by-gone days. Recently the island was sold to Richard J. Reynolds, and extensive changes and further improvements are now in process. On Sapelo are numerous families of Negroes, descendants of slaves, still using the ox cart or wagon and still adhering to the "fo de War" customs and clinging to the peculiar dialect of the older sea coast Negroes.

Beyond small Wolf Island and Altamaha Sound is St. Simons Island, a well known public watering place. *(See Long Tour 1, and English Colonization.)* On this island and on adjoining Sea Island throngs of people find recreation throughout both winter and summer. Sea Island is a lovely little land of palms, containing about 750 acres of high ground and about twice that acreage of hard salt marsh. With its delightful hotel, Roman pool, bathing beach, and its residential avenue lined with attractive homes, it is fast becoming a nationally known resort. Somewhere among the Sea Island trees behind the thick walls of Casa Genotta, his Spanish villa, Eugene O'Neill, the playright used to seclude himself from a curious public. Ben Ames Williams, whose book *Great Oaks* deals with this section of the coast, also has a home on the island.

For the student of history St. Simons possesses deep interest. Here are the remains of Fort Frederica, erected by Oglethorpe in 1736 and said by many historians to be the costliest and most important fortification constructed by the British in North America. Beyond is the site of the dead town of Frederica, and close to a little church built in 1873 stands an oak which designates the site on which Charles Wesley preached to the colonists and Indians. *(See Church Origins and Influences.)* Here also are traces of the foundations of the only home Oglethorpe ever owned in the Colony. It was a small tabby cottage, about 16 by 32 feet, and adjacent to it was a garden of orange trees, figs and grapes. Oglethorpe's Farm contained only 50 acres, though his colonists built up great plantations on either side of him. Frederica was established as a military outpost to guard the southern frontier

of the Province against Spanish invasion. For slightly less than a decade the little town flourished under the tireless leadership of Oglethorpe, who routed the Spaniards at the decisive battle of Bloody Marsh and crushed the Castilian menace to the southern English Colonies. The memory of Frederica's defense of St. Simons is one of the proudest in Georgia history. By Oglethorpe's strategy, about seven hundred colonists with only a few vessels put to rout a large Spanish force and a powerful fleet. *(See English Colonization.)* With its mission as defender over, Frederica began to decline. Oglethorpe returned to England; most of his troops withdrew with their families, and the town was left with only a few inhabitants until the English destroyed it during the Revolution. In 1839 Fanny Kemble wrote her impressions of the deserted spot: "Mrs. A's and the other houses are the only dwellings that remain in this curious wilderness of dismantled crumbling gray walls compassionately cloaked with a thousand profuse and graceful creepers."

Today the island is dotted with several small colonies and has a yacht club, a golf course and a large airport, near which recent archeological discoveries have been made. Early in 1936 when work was commenced on the airport, trees were dug up, and at the roots of an old oak a human skeleton was found. Soon another skeleton was unearthed, then another! Fragments of broken clay pots and other utensils were found, and local historians quickly became interested. Some of the finds were sent to the Smithsonian Institution, as a result of which experts were sent down to make further investigation.

Following the preliminary study, a WPA grant was secured, and under the direction of Preston Holder, an expert in shell mound archeology, a survey was commenced. It took only a short time to determine that these finds were not just chance burials but were part of an Indian burial ground; nor was Mr. Holder long in persuading St. Simons that its civilization instead of being a patriarch of five centuries, was a veritable Methuselah of at least seven centuries. The finds unearthed are those of the Hichiti Indians, a tribe which inhabited this section several hundred years before the Guales

and Creeks were known. This interesting work of exploration covers an area of approximately 200 by 500 feet. The finds consist of fragments of pots and bone awls which were sharpened to a fine point and used to pierce animal skins for the making of garments. Occasionally some shell or bone ornament is found, but the red letter day is when a burial is discovered. Then the archeologist and his assistants "dig in," slowly, carefully, brushing aside the loose earth, removing roots and trash, until finally the remains are fully exposed. The layman sees only another human frame or a bundle of bones, but the expert hails it as another page in the history of a hitherto unknown people, from which his trained mind may translate further facts and valuable information.

On December 1, Mr. Holder had unearthed sixty burials, three clay floor remnants, bone awls and shell ornaments, three thousand post moulds and twenty thousand potsherds, all of which he hopes to see some day fitted into their proper places. These fragments, most of them gray, blue or brown and etched with traced designs, are parts of a variety of households utensils. Many were broken accidentally, others broken or "killed" at the death of the owner, in order that the soul of the pot might go with the owner's soul to the Happy Hunting Ground.

The result of the work so far, in addition to the actual remains unearthed, has been to establish certain definite facts regarding these early dwellers. Different methods of burial indicate a succession of cultures. The lower or earlier strata of burials are of the "bundle" or "second" burial type; that is, the dead were first exposed to the elements and birds of prey, and later the bones, possibly of several people, were bundled together and buried. The upper or later burials are of the prone type; the bodies are stretched at full length and buried face down. Whether this means that the island was inhabited by a number of different peoples or that the finds represent the evolution of the culture of one people, it is impossible to say at this time.

The fragments of pots disclose no European or other foreign influence, either in shape or etched design, and in-

dicate a period prior to any foreign settlements. Further explorations on the island are expected to show a complete culture sequence over a period of several centuries. *(See First Americans and Early Explorers.)*

At the southern end of the island the Government lighthouse, near the site of Oglethorpe's south fortification, looks out over the rolling waters of St. Simons Sound. This sound runs westward, terminating in Oglethorpe's Bay and Turtle River, and forms the spacious deep water harbor that has made the city of Brunswick a natural seaport.

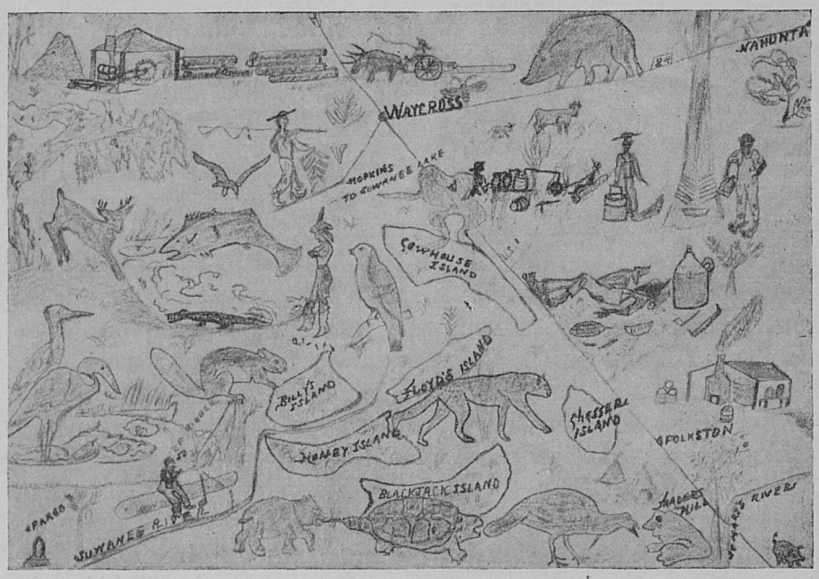
The wooded shores of Jekyll Island, privately owned luxurious winter club resort are visible far across the sound. Fifty years ago a group of financial and social leaders of New York, Boston and Philadelphia organized a winter club at Jekyll Island. The club colony is built along the river front on the western side, extending north and south for almost a mile. The winter cottages are elaborate and distinctive in their semi-tropical setting. All land on the island is the property of the club, and membership is through inheritance only. Just back of the club house is a quaint little chapel reminiscent of the village churches of rural England. Near the chapel and bearing mute evidence of ante-bellum plantation life, stands a large iron mesa kettle, said to have been used in the preparation of food for slaves when the island was the home of the duBignon family. It was on Jekyll beach that the last group of slaves in Georgia was landed, and the kettle is reputedly the one used on the slave ship *Wanderer* at the time she brought this last cargo of human freight to American soil.

At the south end of Jekyll across the broad waters of St. Andrews Sound is a blue line of trees marking the shore of Cumberland Island, the southernmost one of the Golden Isles. The abandoned lighthouse at the northern tip of the island is a lonely relic of the days when this was one of the most popular beach resorts of the Georgia coast. For many years Cumberland was a favored watering place, but being difficult of access it gave way to St. Simons and Tybee in Georgia and Amelia Beach in Florida.

Dungeness, an estate on the island, became after the Revolution the property of Nathanael Greene. After his death his widow took up her residence there. She later married again, and the property was handed down to her descendants, the Nightingale family. About 1885 it was purchased by Thomas Carnegie, brother of Andrew Carnegie. The old plantation house had been burned, but on its site and around the remains of its tabby walls the Carnegie family built a new Dungeness. This was a massive stone and brick mansion from which the entire southern section of the island was visible and from which coastwise ships might be seen plying the waters of the Atlantic. Gardens were planted in fruits and flowers, terraced lawns were laid out and winding drives were constructed connecting the house with other plantation homes on the island. Other estates on this island are Grayfield, Stafford Place, and Plum Orchard, properties of Carnegie's descendants. In the little burying ground on the island are the graves of members of the Greene and Nightingale families. Here for many years reposed the ashes of Gen. "Light Horse Harry" Lee, who died at Dungeness while visiting the family of his close friend, General Greene. About 1905 his remains were removed to Lexington to rest beside those of his illustrious son, Robert E. Lee.

These are the Golden Isles, rich in tradition and steeped in historic lore. Passing their colorful shores at sunrise or sunset and looking back for a last glimpse of the glittering foliage and shining sands, many a yachtsman understands why the Spanish explorers, lifting sea weary eyes to the golden scene, gave them the name, Golden Isles.

NOTE: To reach the private islands, the traveler must go by chartered boat. Only two, St. Simons and Sea Island, are open to the public. *(See Long Tour 1.)*



THE SWAMP

TREMBLING EARTH

This land of trembling earth, the OKEFENOKEE SWAMP *(see Long Tour 2)*, is marvelous in its vastness, awful in its solitude and rich in primeval grandeur. Hundreds of islands are embraced within its area, which supports countless numbers of tall trees whose crowns, ragged and gray with moss, tower high above a tangled, jungle-like undergrowth below. There are islands hidden within this Georgia jungle where man has seldom set foot, unless perhaps, a half-clad warrior of some forgotten age.

Prairies, separating the islands and streams, often cover hundreds of acres, forming a green sea of waving grasses. These are not prairies like those of the western plains, but muck, deep and treacherous, with only a shallow covering of water to support the water grasses. Sometimes the monotony of these vast seas of green is broken by a clump of old trees, deformed and stunted because the muck is too unstable to hold their roots.

Cutting through the prairies and islands and often swirling around the bodies of giant trees are streams, hundreds of them. They form an intricate network spreading in every direction, until finally their sluggish waters are borne away by the Suwanee River. Some of these streams are not more than eight to ten feet wide and their waters appear black and lifeless as they flow beneath low-hanging canopies of draped vines. A journey down one of these streams, enclosed as they are by walls of unyielding forests, with only a few rays of sunlight filtering through the dense foilage, recalls the mythological tale of Theseus and the Labyrinth in which he was imprisoned. The sandy bottoms of these streams and lakes are remnants of the original bottom of the old Okefenokee Sound.

The Suwanee River splits the Okefenokee from north to south, and even though the swamp has very little fall, its waters are sometimes exceedingly swift. The Suwanee forms a sweeping curve as it leaves the swamp; it rushes past Fargo, where a monument stands to Stephen Foster who preserved its name in song. From here the river continues deep into Florida.

Oft times when the camp fire flickers weirdly on the lean faces of hunters camped deep within the swamp, conversations drift to the creation of the Okefenokee wonders, drift back to the Pleistocene Age over twenty-five thousand years ago. It was at this time, when Trail Ridge on the east began to peep above the rolling waves of the Atlantic cutting off the supply of water from the Okefenokee Sound, that the ocean receded southward and left the Okefenokee, great in its vastness and superb in natural phenomona.

Blue hyacinths, snow white water lilies and golden heart lilies grow in profusion along the lakes and open waters. Among them are often found the beautiful yellow bonnets nestled among a setting of huge emerald leaves, their little petaled flowers drooping modestly. Blue flowered pickerelweed and small purple blossoms of water-shield color the shady water recesses and eddy places. Often in the open

lakes may be found the floating heart, its dainty whiteness reflecting gaily from the depths.

Early in the morning, unearthly cries float over this vast cradle of slumbering nature. Peculiar to the Okefenokee, they have been handed down from generation to generation, having first been the triumphant cries of the red man as he gloated over his early morning kill. Now these weird blood curdling sounds are the cries of the Okefenokee hunters yelling to their dogs. Sometimes the chase is short-lived, especially if the dogs are trailing an opossum, a raccoon, or a skunk; but if the trail is made by one of the great brown bears, a sly red fox, or a spotted panther, it may last for hours, maybe even a day or more. The hunter always keeps near the dogs encouraging them occasionally, always with the same peculiar cry. But when the trail grows hot or the game is sighted by the dogs, these cries break into a bedlam of demoniacal screams—then silence, complete and unbelievable.

The surface of Okefenokee's lakes is often disturbed and broken as a big trout strikes with uncanny swiftness at the little black-banded sunfish or the green killy. Jackfish, perch and mud-fish add to this disturbance in their search for food. Huge turtles clamber upon logs and instantly tumble into the water when the silence is broken. The rule of the Okefenokee native is to give the fisherman all the fish he wants if he fails to get them from the lakes.

Perhaps the best entrance to this mighty amphitheatre of nature is the point by Suwanee Lake, owned by Hamp Mizell, son of old Josiah Mizell, who moved here many years ago by ox-team from Florida. Josiah Mizell settled within a mile of the swamp just before the War Between the States and during the war served faithfully as a soldier of the Confederacy. After the war he returned to his swampland home where he spent the rest of his life.

Along Billy's Lake and Suwanee Lake are many relics, camping grounds and mounds left by the Indian hunters and fishermen of long ago. Billy's Lake like Billy's Island was

named in honor of "Billy Bowlegs," famous Seminole chief whose tribe was forced to depart from the Okefenokee islands in 1838. In 1853 Dan Lee and his bride entered the swamp, took possession of the beautiful islands, and for many years were left undisturbed. The Lee family lived here until 1889 at which time the State of Georgia sold the entire Okefenokee to the Suwanee Canal Company at 12½ cents per acre.

Just south of Waycross the Government has established a 35,000 acre hunting preserve. The boundaries dip into the northeastern part of the Okefenokee far enough to include a portion of Cowhouse Island. On the island adequate camp sites, fishing and hunting facilities may be had and guides obtained. Cowhouse Island received its name during the War Between the States. When Federal soldiers were reported approaching this district, the neighboring stock owners drove their cattle to the island until the Federals departed; thus it became known as the Cowhouse or Cowhouse Island. This island, the largest island of the Okefenokee, is owned by Mrs. Lydia A. Stone who was born near the great swamp and has spent her entire life within sight of this spot.

Floyd's Island was named in honor of Gen. Charles Floyd who had been commissioned to drive the Indians from the Okefenokee in 1838. General Floyd was one of the first to realize the wonders of the Okefenokee, especially the birds. Nearly two hundred species of birds are found here. The prothonotary warbler and the Carolina wren are the chief song birds, and often the vibrant song of the Acadian flycatcher is heard in the shady depths. Sometimes a flock of snow white cranes swoop through the sky and light on the ragged limb of a bald cypress, crowding one another until the tree is transformed into a grotesque, mis-shapen thing. Sometimes the cranes and herons deploy over the prairies in great flocks and, settling among the undulating fields of green, form a picture impressive and unforgettable.

Chesser Island just west of Folkston derives its name from the families living on it. All the inhabitants of Chesser Island are descendants of old W. T. Chesser who moved here from Tattnall County in 1858.

For generations these sturdy, self-sufficient people of the Okefenokee have led an isolated and primitive existence, some of them on the islands and others along its borders. They represent some of the purest Anglo-Saxon stock left in our country.

The picturesque regional vernacular contains various elements representing survivals from the Elizabethan age that have dropped out of general American usage. To hear such words as fixment, passel, rookus, scoggin, gemmet, mistress, gower, progue, flinder, hassel, holp, betwixt, fitified, pyert employed naturally in every day speech is a delightful experience. With a general scarcity of printed literature in old time Okefenokee homes, story-telling became a highly developed art, and wondrous tales are still heard around the firesides and camps, especially from the older hunters. Ballad singing is another pastime that still survives in this region. Such traditional ballads as *Barbara Allen* and *Little Mohea* are sung in many a home.

The quietness and mystery of the Okefenokee create a spell over those who experience its solitude. It was the story of this enchantment that brought the fathers of these men to the swamp long, long ago.

Of all great lands of the coast, the Okefenokee was one of the last to be torn from the grasp of the red man. He loved it, loved its beautiful islands, its lakes, its green prairies. He, too, was under its spell. With the onrush of the white man's tide, he fled and hid himself deep within its circle. There he was safe; safe until the great white eagle sighted his painted canoe gliding serenely over the shimmering waters of Lake Suwanee, saw the blue smoke from his wigwam curling towards the heavens; safe until he heard the voice of the white man walking in the garden. Then he fled to a great unknown West, leaving as the only record of his life in the Okefenokee crumbling burial mounds along the river's edge.

GLOSSARY

ashcake - - - - - - cake made of cornmeal baked in ashes.

benné seed - - - - - seed of the benné plant.

betwixt - - - - - - between.

filature - - - - - - establishment for the silk industry.

fitified - - - - - - temperamental—"full of fits."

fixment - - - - - - furnishings.

flinder - - - - - - to break into small pieces or flinders.

gannet - - - - - - summer duck.

gower - - - - - - clumsy, slow.

hassel - - - - - - to pant or breathe heavily and audibly.

holp - - - - - - help.

"jump de broomstick" - slave marriage.

mistress - - - - - Mrs.

naval stores - - - - turpentine and rosin industry.

passel - - - - - - parcel, bundle.

perigua - - - - - - solid log boat of dugout construction.

progue - - - - - - to probe, to sound depths.

pyert - - - - - - smart, quick.

rookus - - - - - - disturbance.

scoggin - - - - - - white crane.

tabby - - - - - - mixture of lime and shells used in building, from Spanish, *tapia.*

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Bulletin of the Garden Club of America
January 1930 No. 7 (4th ser.)

Savannah's Old Plantations

The site selected for the first settlement in the Colony of Georgia in 1733, was a plain on a bluff rising forty feet above the Savannah river. The town was named for the river and was laid out like a military camp with open spaces, or squares at regular intervals into which the settlers could retreat, with their families and cattle, in case of attack by the Indians. As Savannah grew this design was continued and these squares became in time little parks which now add great beauty to the city. In this plan there was little space for gardens, so that it is on the rice and cotton plantations which flourished in the district bordering the coast and lying between the fresh-water rivers, the Savannah and the Ogeechee, that we find the old gardens.

The persistent hope that Georgia would become a silk, oil and wine-growing colony caused the "Trustees for establishing the Colony of Georgia" to offer large bounties to those who would engage in the cultivation of silk, and was the inspiration for creating the first Public Garden, which Francis Moore in his *Voyage to Georgia*, written about 1736, describes as follows:

"There is near the Town, to the East, a Garden belonging to the Trustees consisting of ten acres. The Situation is delightful, one half of it is upon the Top of a hill the Foot of which the River Savannah washes, and from it you see the Woody Islands in the Sea. The Remainder of the Garden is the Side and some plain low ground at the Foot of the Hill, where several fine Springs break out. In the Garden is variety of soils; the Top is Sandy and dry, the Sides of the Hill are clay and the Bottom is a black, rich Garden Mould, well watered. On the North part of the Garden is left standing a Grove of Part of the old Wood as it was before the arrival of the Colony there. The Trees in the Grove are mostly Bay, Sassafras, Evergreen Oak, Pellitory, Hickory, American Ash and the Laurel Tulip. This last is looked upon as one of the most beautiful Trees in the World; it grows straight bodied to forty or fifty Foot high; the Bark is smooth and whitish, the Top spreads regular like an Orange tree in English gardens, only larger;— The Leaf is like that of a common Laurel, but bigger, and the under-side of a Greenish Brown. It blooms about the Month of June; the Flowers are white, fragrant like the Orange and perfume all the Air around it; the Flower is round, eight or ten inches diameter, thick like the Orange flower and a little yellow near the Heart—As the Flowers drop, the Fruit, which is a Cone with red Berries, succeeds them. There are also some Bay-trees that have Flowers like the Laurel, only less. The Garden is laid out with Cross walks planted with Orange trees. In the Squares, between the Walks were vast Quantities of Mulberry trees, this being a Nursery for all the Province, and every Planter that desires it, has young Trees given him gratis from this Nursery. These white Mulberry-trees were planted in order to raise silk. Besides the Mulberry trees there are in some of the Quarters in the coldest part of the garden all kinds of Fruit trees usual in England. In another quarter are Olives, Figs, Vines, Pomegranates and such Fruits as are natural to the warmest Parts of

Europe. At the bottom of the Hill, well sheltered from the North-wind, and in the warmest part of the Garden, there was a Collection of West India Plants and Trees, some Coffee, some Cocoa-Nuts, Cotton, Palma-Christi and several West Indian physical Plants. There is a Plant of Bamboo Cane brought from the East Indies which thrives well. There was also some Tea-Seeds which came from the same place, but the latter, though Great Care was taken, did not grow.''

Large grants of land, or plantations, were given on condition that the grantee, or landed proprietor, bring with him ten able-bodied white men, over twenty-one years of age, to cultivate his mulberry trees, the food for the silk worm. These plantations were situated anywhere from six to fifteen miles from Savannah. With the failure of the silk culture, cotton was planted on the high lands bordering the salt rivers, and rice on the fresh water banks. Some of the lovely old gardens which surrounded the plantation homes still remain to charm us with their atmosphere of the past.

Foremost among these is ''Wormsloe'' on the Isle of Hope, not only because it was one of the first plantations in the province —a royal grant from King George II to Colonel Noble Jones in 1733, and still in the possession of his descendant, Wymberley De Renne—but because year by year the natural beauty of the grounds has been enhanced by the addition of native shrubs and trees.

The approach from the road is by a mile-long avenue of live oaks draped with grey Spanish moss, that air plant which grows so luxuriantly near the coast. As we turn into the driveway leading to the house, it is like entering an enchanted wood—a dim greenwood, where the sunlight filters through low branching moss-draped live oaks whose trunks are mantled with the Algerian ivy which covers the ground throughout the garden. Against the house are masses of evergreen shrubs, the silvery green leaves and ruby berries of the eleagnus against the darker green of pittosporum, tea olive, cape jessamine, euonymus, oleander, banana shrubs and many others.

Winding walks bordered with handsome camellia trees, which bloom in endless variety from November to April, lead to the banks of the river, commanding a view of green marshes and distant woods. Glorious masses of azalea indica, in lovely shades make an exquisite picture in the spring, their colors reflected in shallow pools. Yellow jessamine and white and purple wistaria festoon the ancient trees and shed their petals on banks of snowy spiræa. In addition to all this beauty unfolded beneath the natural growth of pines, live oaks, magnolia, cedar and palmettoes, Mrs. De Renne has recently made a very interesting formal garden where old-fashioned flowers glow against the subdued tones of ancient brick walls inset with wrought iron grilles from old houses. Flag paved pathways, old marble columns, bronze

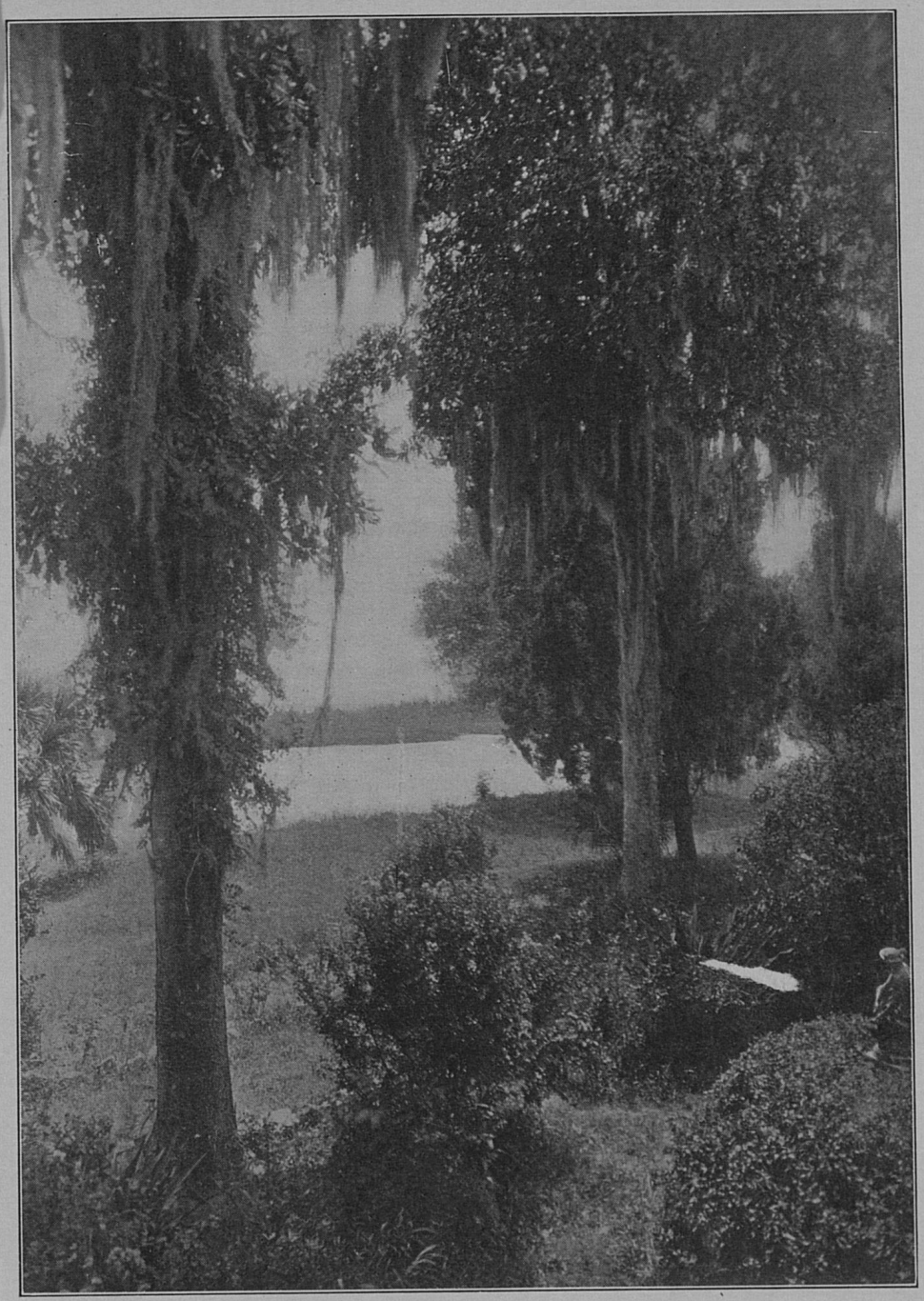
figures, many varieties of cacti and pools of lotus flowers add charm and beauty to this formal garden.

The estate comprises eight hundred acres and is situated on a peninsula where one can wander through primeval woods, always glimpsing the blue river in the distance. Ancient mulberry trees, and the ruins of an old fort (built of blocks of "tabby"), erected on the southernmost point to command the Florida passage and protect the colony against attacks of Indians and Spaniards, call up visions of the past and remind one of the origin of this fascinating plantation.

Another Colonial estate famous for its garden and trees was "Bonaventure," situated a few miles from Savannah. Its first owner was Colonel John Mulryne (1762), whose daughter Mary married Josiah Tattnall. The avenues of live oaks were planted at the time of this marriage in the form of the letters M and T the initials of the families Mulryne and Tattnall. The house faced the garden which extended in terraces from the plateau to the river, the terraces being supported by blocks of tabby. Mulryne and Tattnall, ardent loyalists, were banished at the time of the Revolution, and Bonaventure was confiscated. In 1869 the estate was converted into a cemetery, where masses of azaleas and camellias under the grand old oaks now make a beautiful picture in this city of the dead.

While many plantations on the Ogeechee have been abandoned since the cultivation of rice has been discontinued, a few remain with traces of their original gardens to carry us back in imagination to their days of glory. Lebanon Plantation, an original grant of five hundred acres, dating from 1756, developed by George Anderson as a cotton plantation in 1804, is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Mills B. Lane who have transformed the picturesque plantation house into a charming country home, retaining all that was beautiful of the old garden which surrounded the house and adding many plants, trees and shrubs. Immense Michelia trees (the fragrant banana shrub), ancient camellias, and giant rose bushes stand close to the house on a lawn which sweeps away to the Ogeechee river in the distance. On one side a line of orange trees, laden with golden fruit, gives a decorative touch to the landscape. A formal garden, surrounded by a pierced brick wall has recently been added by Mrs. Lane and lies between the house and the river. Flowering shrubs and climbing roses bank the walls inside, and bright flowers border the grassy beds. The central point is a circle where garden seats invite repose. Beyond the walled garden is a rose garden.

The garden at Grove Plantation, near Lebanon, was very beautiful until, a few years ago, it was swept by a fire which destroyed the house in the absence of the owner. Splendid live oaks stood between the house and the river. The garden was



A Coast Garden

planted about 1856 by Stephen Habersham who imported beautiful varieties of camellia japonica from France. Hedges of cassena surrounded the garden and bordered the walks. Flowering shrubs and evergreens grew in profusion here.

One of the oldest of the Ogeechee plantations is "Wildhorn," which was a royal grant to Francis Harris in 1752 and is now owned by Mrs. Robert Hull, a descendant. The original house, built by Francis Harris, still stands, but the garden has disappeared. "Silk Hope," "Berwick," "Cottonvale," "Saranac," and "Vallombrosa" all had gardens, but scarcely a trace is left of their former beauty.

Of the numerous plantations which bordered on the Savannah river, "Whitehall," famous for its magnificent grove of live oaks and its holly hedge, is the only one which is still in the possession of the family to whom it was granted. The owner, Mr. Lathrop Hopkins, has added azaleas and roses to the grounds where handsome evergreens and camellia trees still stand in the old garden.

"The Hermitage," also on the Savannah river, belonging to the McAlpin family, and dating back to 1819, is now deserted and the garden gone, but the mansion which was built in 1830 of bricks made on the plantation, still remains, a charming type of a Southern plantation home. On either side of an avenue of magnificent live oaks the slave huts stand in picturesque decay. The garden which surrounded the house was beautiful in its day with roses, oranges and flowering shrubs.

One of the most beautiful and unique plantation gardens was Captain Joe Manigault's rose garden on Pennyworth Island in the Savannah river. This rice planter was a picturesque reminder of the old days as he walked through the streets of Savannah with his black attendant holding an umbrella over his head. An invitation to visit his garden was always joyfully accepted, for it meant a golden afternoon, from the moment one stepped into the host's long rowboat on the Savannah shore, until the return at dusk, laden with baskets full of the choicest roses. Captain Manigault was generosity itself with his flowers, giving permission to his numerous guests to cut as many roses as they wished.

The trip was made in rowboats each manned by two powerful black oarsmen. After crossing the river the boats entered a narrow canal cut through an island where the marshy banks were bright with delicate white spider lilies, blue water hyacinths and the yellow-tipped spikes of wampee blossoms. Emerging from this cut, the wide back waters of the Savannah river were crossed and the boats landed at a picturesque little dock on the low banks of Pennyworth Island.

A short walk led to the typical plantation house, one story on a high basement, the long sloping roof shading the wide verandas and set amongst magnificent magnolia grandiflora trees. From the high veranda the rose garden of five acres extended to the river banks—a most glorious sight. The heavy clay soil rose beds were intersected by little canals which in time of drought admitted the water from the river. These canals were crossed by rustic bridges, their arches and railings mantled with climbing roses, wistaria and flowering vines which gave a fairy-like appearance to the garden.

The famous French Rosarian, Pierre Guillot, had a standing order from Captain Manigault to send him yearly every new variety of rose, and the diagram which he kept of his planting showed at one time five hundred varieties. He experimented by mixing the sharp sand from the river bed with the heavy clay soil which was brought down by the waters of the Savannah river. He made cuttings from the successful varieties with which he replaced those that did not thrive in the rice-field clay. The greatest favorites were the *Captain Christy, Paul Neyron, Jacqueminot, Marie Henriette, Perle des Jardins, Lamarque, Malmaison, Duchesse de Brabant, Marie Van Houtte* and *La France.* Some of these rose bushes were more than forty years old, with trunks measuring four inches in diameter. This wonderful garden has gone the way of so many beautiful things where modern conditions have changed the manner of life in the South. After the death of the owner it was purchased and operated as an amusement park for a short time, but is now deserted and forlorn.

From the earliest times plantations and summer homes were established on the high wooded bluffs bordering the wide salt rivers which penetrate the land in the vicinity of Savannah. There is a wonderful charm about these coast gardens which lie between the sparkling rivers and the spacious country homes, with their view over winding creeks in the salt marshes to green islands and distant hazy wooded shores—with often a straight sweep down to the sea. Here in winter in these evergreen gardens, under the glory of live oaks and ancient cedars, bloom wonderful camellia trees often eighteen feet in height. Some handsome specimens of these trees are in the Wylly garden on the Isle of Hope, surrounding a charming old white house which is a replica of the Jefferson Davis home in Mississippi. It was built about 1851 and the slave quarters are still in existence. Three beautiful magnolia trees brought from the West Indies, stand around the house and the ivy on the trees is from Princeton, from the class of 1879.

In the old Habersham garden at White Bluff, bordering the Vernon river, there are twenty-one varieties of camellia trees

which were imported from France and planted at the same time as those at Grovo Plantation on the Ogeechee, in 1856, though the house and garden are much older. The garden is now owned by Mr. Habersham's grand-daughters who are adding new varieties of camellias to the old garden.

At "Beaulieu" and "Montgomery" there are some very beautiful old camellia trees. Hedges of glossy green cassena with bright red berries, cherry laurel, dark green pittosporum with fragrant waxy flowers, pomegranates, Japan plum trees,—with ivory colored blossoms on thick russet stems giving forth an indescribably sweet perfume in October, to be followed in April by bright orange plums,—fragrant tea olive and little fluffy golden blossoms of the opopanax tree with its delicate fern-like foliage, are all favorites in these gardens. In early spring azaleas of every hue glow against the green background while mimosa, oleanders, crepe myrtle and altheas carry the color through the summer.

These gardens of the past seem to carry out the poet's description of an ideal setting for a garden:

"A piece of land, not very large,
Whereon there shall a garden be
A pure stream, flowing ceaselessly,
And where, to crown the whole
There should a patch be found of
living wood."

MARY SAVAGE ANDERSON.

Trustees' Garden Club, Savannah, Georgia.

—This was his Georgia, this his share
Of pine and river and sleepy air,
Of summer thunder and winter rain
That spills bright tears on the window-pane
With the slight, fierce passion of young men's grief,
Of the mockingbird and the mulberry leaf.
For, wherever the winds of Georgia run,
It smells of peaches long in the sun,
And the white wolf-winter, hungry and frore,
Can prowl the North by a frozen door
But here we have fed him on bacon-fat
And he sleeps by the stove like a lazy cat.
Here Christmas stops at everyone's house
With a jug of molasses and green, young boughs,
And the little New Year, the weakling one,
Can lie outdoors in the noonday sun,
Blowing the fluff from a turkey-wing
At skies already haunted with Spring—

STEPHEN VINCENT BENET.

John Brown's Body.