The Andrew Low House

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My attraction to the book, “The Perfect Scout”, edited by Anne Sarah Rubin and Stephen Murphy, was the cover photo of George W. Quimby riding his horse and leaping over a fallen tree with a stream below. Yes, I love horses and I admire the relationship between a soldier and his horse. Seeing the title of the book, “A Soldier’s Memoir of the Great March to the Sea and the Campaign of the Carolinas” deepened my desire to learn more.

Upon George Quimby’s death in 1990, Rubin and Murphy were appointed to settle the family estate. In their examination of the papers, documents, and other items in the home in Seattle, they found 3 legal sized folders of neatly typed memoirs. George W. Quimby was a Union soldier who served as a scout for Generals in the Union army. His challenge was to go ahead of a General and his troops and return with information of general reconnaissance.

Rubin and Murphy read the memoirs with great interest and decided a book that informs readers of General Sherman’s march from Atlanta to Savannah and from Savannah to Goldsboro through the eyes of a Scout was a missing piece of history.

These memoirs accomplish two objectives: informed knowledge of the life and work of a “Scout” and a deeper perspective on the last months of the Civil War under the command of Union soldiers in the March to the Sea and the Campaign of the Carolinas.

“The Perfect Scout” is beautifully written as a story that highlights pain, agony, mystery, death, tragedy, irony, and all those factors that war can highlight. To learn anew or for the first time, the struggles of Union and Confederate soldiers, Generals, and Scouts as well as families, children and citizens in the wake of the Marches toward an end of a tragic war is etched in the reflections of George W. Quimby.

Recommended for public and academic libraries. May be a great addition to an historical collection of Civil War resources. Maps are available and the text includes a Preface, Introduction, and a George W. Quimby’s Introduction. There is a Conclusion, Notes, Bibliography, and Index. Pages 165-191.

Carol Walker Jordan
Librarian and Consultant


This work is about beautiful Andrew Low House in Savannah, Georgia. Author Tania June Sammons was the administrative head of Savannah Georgie Telfair Museums landmarks and ornate arts. Tania June Sammons wrote The Story of Silver in Savannah: Creating and Collecting since the 18th Century and The Owen-Thomas House, a beautiful house also in Savannah. Virginia Connerat Logan is a Georgia National Society of the Colonial Dames of America member and was librarian at Andrew Low House. Ms. Logan wrote Andrew Low’s Legacy and was an archivist for Georgia.


Volume 67, Number 2, Summer 2019
Andrew Low House. Two excellent quality pictures show designs for the Andrew Low House.

The house was the residence of Andrew Low who moved from Scotland to Savannah in 1829 and became wealthy because of cotton and textiles. The Andrew Low House came into existence in 1845. William Low inherited the house and gave it to his wife Juliette “Daisy” Gordon. Daisy founded the United States Girl Scouts. The Girl Scouts convened in the Andrew Low House Carriage House. The State of Georgia National Society of the Colonial Dames of America is the owner of the Andrew Low House since 1928. The Andrew Low House allows tourists daily for a fee. Intriguingly, the front doors appear like doors to Rome’s Temple of Romulus AD 309. Two front columns are like columns from an Athens Tower of the Winds created purportedly around 50 and 100 BC. Lovely iron balconies the shade of green are at the entry. Two impressive statues of lions are on both sides of the outdoor stairs to the splendid front door.

Pre-Civil War antiques are in the house. Fascinatingly, amethyst gems of Marie Louise Duchess of Parma a wife to Napoleon are there. Delightfully, the Brussels rugs in the parlors are Devonshire and similar to some in Metropolitan Museum of Art. Gorgeous bright vivid paintings of the family adorn the mansion. Beautiful Brussels Lorenzo rugs are in the dining room and library. The beautiful dining room table exhibits lovely Dihl et Guerhard china from the dawn of the 1800s. The parlor has beautiful red and gold silk sofas of Boston from the mid nineteenth century. An 1810 John Broadwood & Sons England rosewood pianoforte is enchanting. Remarkably, a New York A & W Geib pianoforte from the commencement of the 1800s in the second parlor is playable. The lovely ceilings in the parlors display two gorgeous crystal chandeliers. Other decorations include a desk for inscribing composed of rosewood, a mahogany bed from Jamaica, Argand Lamps, Parian ware busts and greyhounds, Chinese porcelain vases, a unique stand for washing, a bathtub of copper, a mahogany wardrobe, a transom, two gilded pier mirrors, and a gold and white satin settee of Sheraton design.

The masterpiece in great detail narrates the history of the occupants of the Andrew Low House. What’s more, beautiful pictures enhance the lively description of the bright and beautiful landscape. The house has a dry moat.

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This collection of interviews and significant research documents surrounding the life of Angela Gregory provides the reader an opportunity to see and hear a southern woman artist reveal her life as she lived it. We are able to see a rarely opened window into southern society before, during and after the American Civil War and into the twentieth century” (Preface). Of most interest to me is the revelations of life in New Orleans and the French-dominated culture that surrounded Angela Gregory.

The reader will find it fascinating to follow Angela as she struggles with her artistic enthusiasms and her choices to follow the opportunities she finds to become a sculptor or a painter—both of which she has amazing talents and family support that can lead to accomplishments. Especially of interest is the story that is woven of Angela’s childhood, teenaged years, travels to France, internships, fellowships and study under a world famous sculptor.

The interviews that Angela provides to Nancy Penrose are vivid and entrancing. Compliments to both of them for this entrancing and delightful book. If you love art, French culture, and family stories, you will love getting to know Angela Gregory.

The recommendation for audience are researchers and individuals interested in beautiful residences and their histories. This work is a must for academic and public libraries. It is an excellent and entertaining story of the Andrew Low House and any interested tourists to Savannah will be much more knowledgeable of the Andrew Low House open for visiting.

Carol Walker Jordan
Librarian and Consultant