

Summer 7-1-2019

The Andrew Low House

Melinda F. Matthews

University of Louisiana at Monroe Library

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

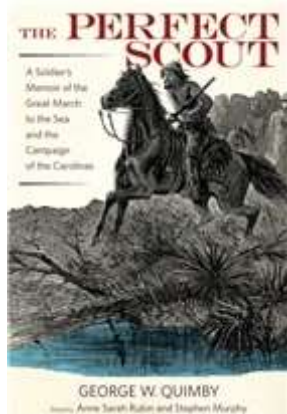
Recommended Citation

Matthews, Melinda F. (2019) "The Andrew Low House," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 67 : Iss. 2 , Article 15.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol67/iss2/15>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Southeastern Librarian by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu.

The Perfect Scout: A Soldier's Memoir of the Great March to the Sea and the Campaign of the Carolinas: George W. Quimby. Edited by Anne Sarah Rubin and Stephen Murphy. Tuscaloosa: The University of Alabama Press, 2018. ISBN 978-0-8173-1971-7. \$29.95. 224 p.



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.

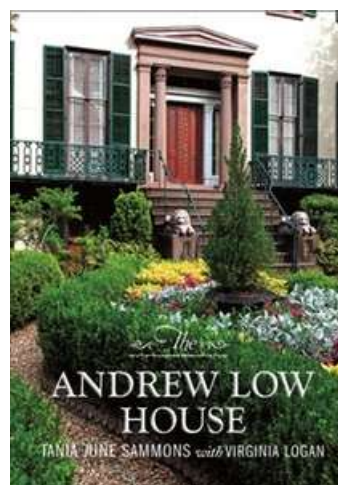
These memoirs accomplish two objectives: informed knowledge of the life and work of a “Scout” and a deeper perspective on the last months of the Civil War under the command of Union soldiers in the March to the Sea and the Campaign of the Carolinas.

“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

The Andrew Low House. Tania June Sammons with Virginia Connerat Logan. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2018. ISBN 978-0-8203-5398-2 (hardcover: alk. paper). \$19.95. 96 p.



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.

The writing style is easy-to-understand, lively, animated, and eloquent. The contents include Foreword by Joy Daniels Schwartz, The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Georgia President from 2016-2019, Introduction, The People: Andrew Low and Family, Free and Enslaved Servants, John Norris, Architect, Juliette “Daisy” Gordon Low, The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Georgia, The House: Exterior, Garden, Interior: Entrance Hall, Double Parlor, Library, Butler’s Pantry, Dining Room, Upper Floor, Basement Reading, and Suggested Reading. Eleven excellent quality photographs are of the people associated with the Andrew Low House. Forty-eight vividly colored photographs share the beauty of

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.

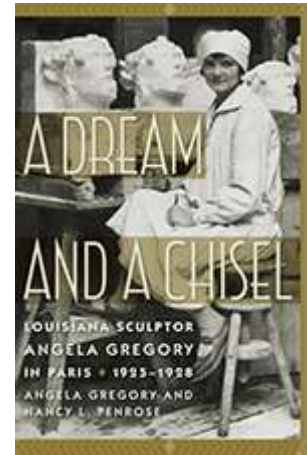
Pre-Civil War antiques are in the house. Fascinatingly, amethyst gems of Marie Louise Duchess of Parma a wife to Napoleon are there. Delightfully, the Brussels rugs in the parlors are Devonshire and similar to some in Metropolitan Museum of Art. Gorgeous bright vivid paintings of the family adorn the 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. Two well-known visitors were Robert E. Lee and the writer William Makepeace Thackeray.

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.

Melinda F. Matthews
University of Louisiana at Monroe Library

A Dream and a Chisel: Louisiana Sculptor Angela Gregory in Paris: 1925-1928. Angela Gregory and Nancy L. Penrose. Columbia: The University of South Carolina Press, 2019. ISBN 978-1-61117-977-4 (Hard). \$39.99. 248 p.



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.

Recommended for public and academic libraries. Many illustrations throughout and a section of Notes, a Bibliography and an Index for research. Also a good listing of all of Angela’s sculptures. Also highly recommended for art libraries.

Carol Walker Jordan
Librarian and Consultant