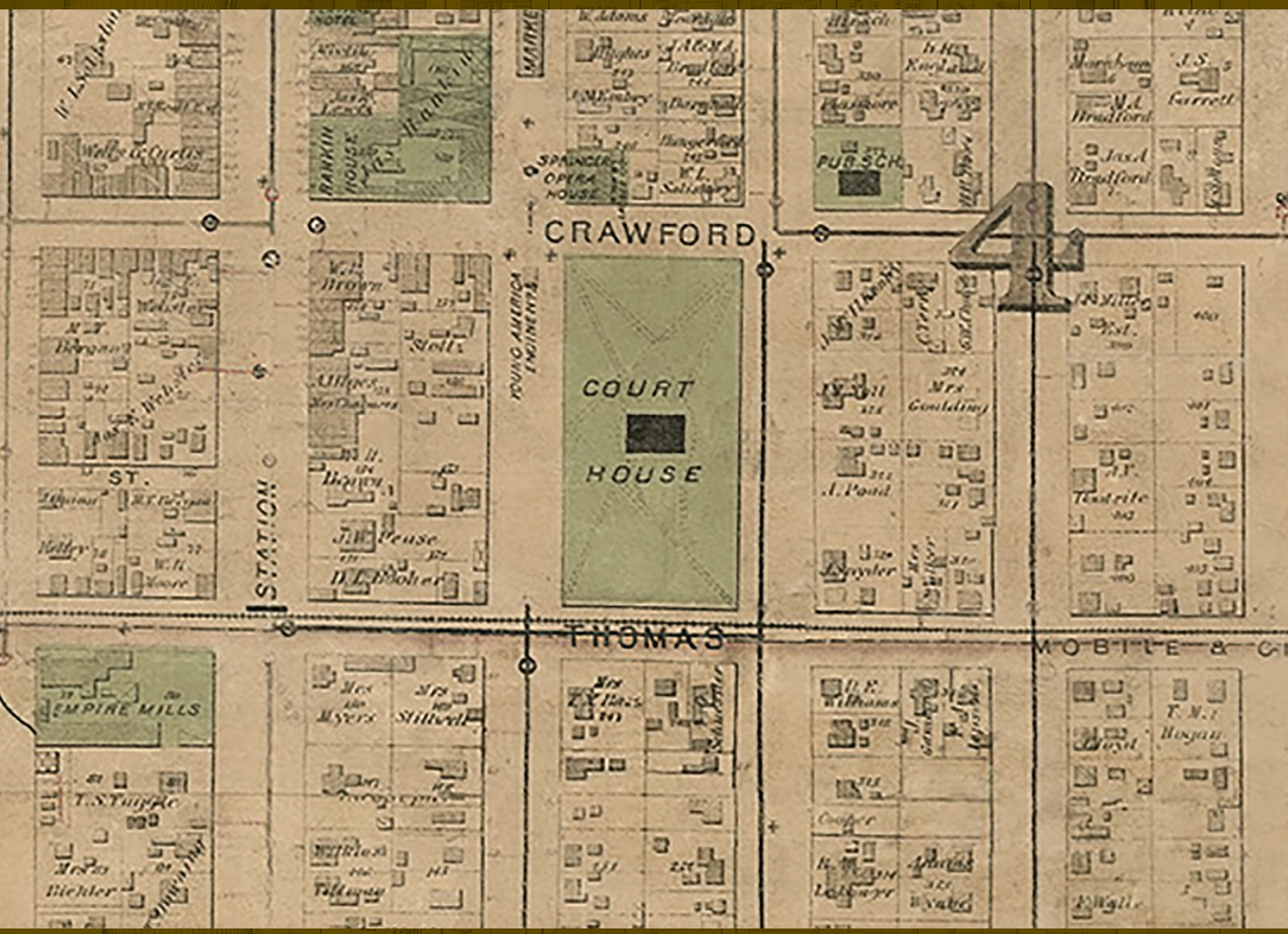




WINTER 2021
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY HISTORIC COLUMBUS

Currents



DEAR HCF MEMBERS,

I hope you and your families are staying safe and well! Historic Columbus continues to thrive because of your confidence in us. HCF is fulfilling the mission you all set forth 55 years ago, and we hope you will be proud of the work you see this year.



Financially, we are on sound footing to brace the challenges 2021 may bring. Our fiscal year ended September 30, 2020 with income over expenses of over \$60,000. The end-of-the-year campaign (Annual Fund Drive) raised over \$55,000 for the General Fund and over \$22,000 for the Janice P. Biggers Revolving-Redevelopment Fund. This is also in addition to the over \$45,000 raised to fund both the Howard Scholarship and Peebles Grant for the next four years. Please know all of our financial information is available to you at any time.

You will see our weekly History Spotlights continue this year. We will also keep an open line to all of our members so that we can answer any questions or address any concerns you might have with the projects and activities of the organization. We will continue to focus on our online resources and virtual programming for school age children to learn more about the history of their town. Due to COVID-19, there will be no in-school programs or school trips.

Not being able to hold an in-person Board Retreat last year allowed for discussions on preservation priorities with each Board member. HCF's current five priority areas include: High Uptown, the Mill District, Heritage Park and the Chattahoochee Promenade, Waverly Terrace, and Midtown. Here are two updates for High Uptown and the Mill District.

HIGH UPTOWN PLAN: Historic Columbus hired Hecht Burdeshaw Architects to develop a master planning document to assist the HCF Board and potential developers when looking at the area for the next opportunity. It includes the current projects underway, zoning, property uses, property owners, and opportunity sites.

2901 FIRST AVENUE (BRADLEY CIRCLE): On February 24th, Historic Columbus purchased a property at the entrance to Bradley Circle. It is an historic duplex that is at risk, visible, and speaks loudly to the potential of this neighborhood's needed revitalization. We will keep you posted on this property and our continued investment in Bradley Circle and The Mill District.



Through your "likes" on our social media, reading our weekly emails, your generous contributions, and renewing your memberships, YOU have made it possible for Historic Columbus to not only be standing but flourishing. If you have any questions, thoughts, or concerns, please email or call anytime (706-322-0756 or elizabeth@historiccolumbus.com). Thank you all again for everything you do to make our community a better place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth B. Walden".

Elizabeth B. Walden
Executive Director

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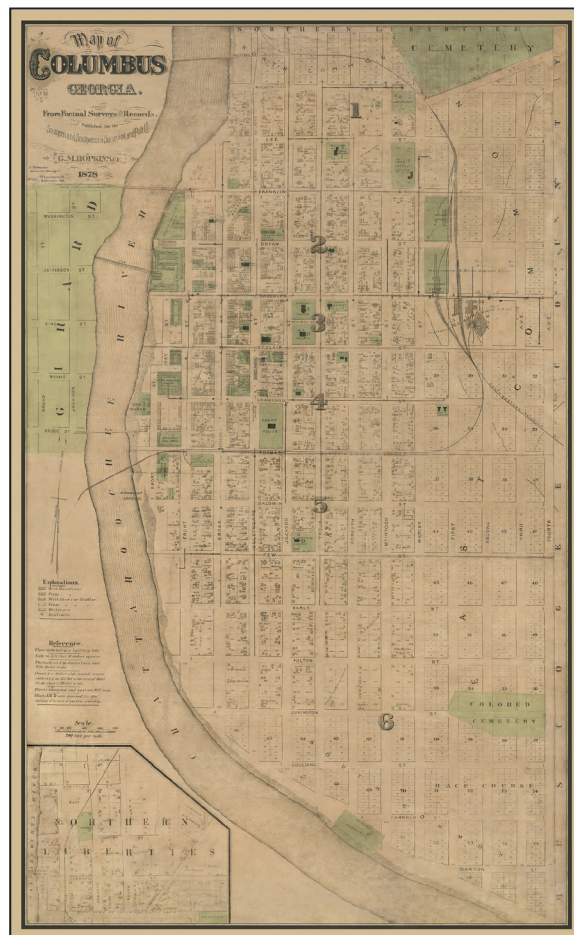
4-5 CATALYST FOR NEW INVESTMENT

6-7 MEMBERSHIP AND DONATIONS

8 IN MEMORIAM

ON THE COVER...

1878 MAP OF COLUMBUS



Reproductions are available for purchase - \$150.00 unframed. Please contact HCF Headquarters for interest in purchasing. The professionally made copies measure 34" w x 50" h. The original was given to Historic Columbus in 1968 by C. Dexter Jordan, Sr. It is hanging at the Rankin House.

PHOTOGRAPHY: Historic Columbus Staff

EDITOR: Elizabeth B. Walden • **LAYOUT:** Betsy Bishop

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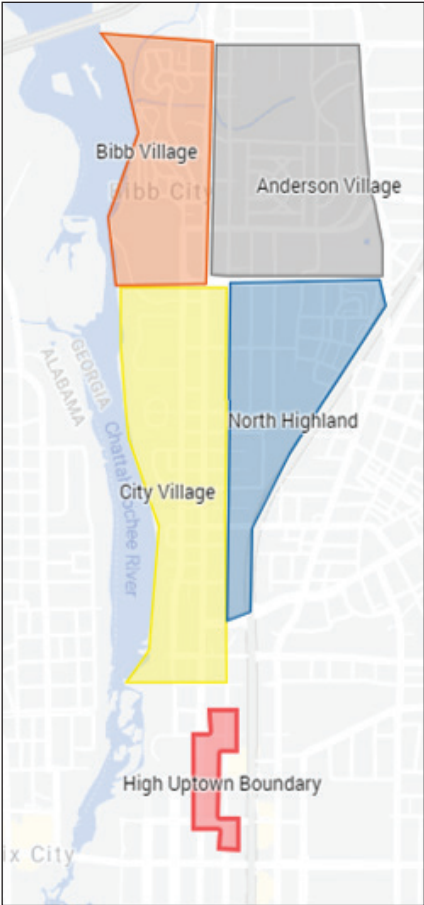
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HIGH UPTOWN Catalyst for \$100 Million in New Investment

For the last 55 years, Historic Columbus – thanks to the continued support and confidence of our members – has served the Columbus community in a variety of ways through the advocacy and efforts of preserving and telling the stories of important places and history. Although that work has evolved over the last half century, more often than not it translates to Historic Columbus putting its money where its mouth is and purchasing a historic building to stand in the gap between imminent demolition and stabilization.

In most cases, there is a strategy larger than simply the preservation of the singular building. It begins with the building, but also includes

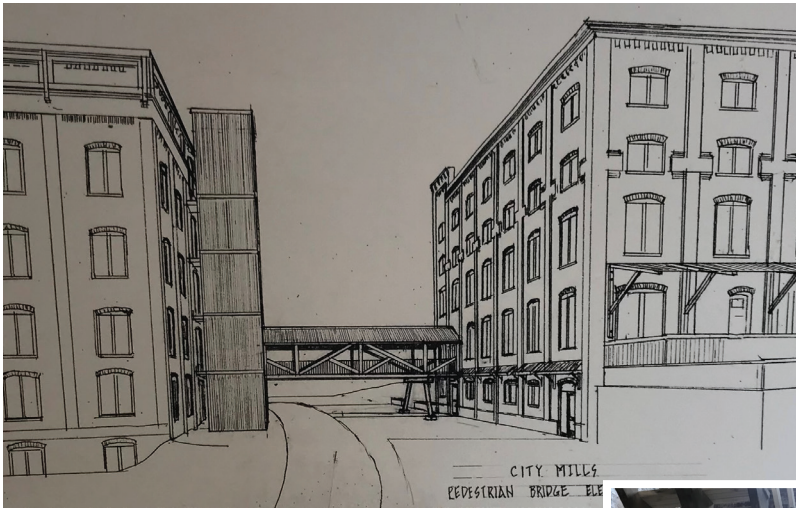


support for the surrounding properties and providing stability that will hopefully encourage new investment and interest.

That was the exact strategy deployed in the purchase of City Mills in 2015 with partner Ken Henson Jr. HCF recognized the deteriorating condition of the mill, the vibrancy of Uptown, and the potential for The Mill District neighborhoods (City Village, Bibb Village, Anderson Village, and North Highland).

City Mills was the first investment, the pioneering step. And now, six years and a global pandemic later, the \$34 million Mercer University School of Medicine is under construction, City Mills is being developed into a hotel/restaurant/yoga studio, Chase Homes is being completely

The donors of the 50th Anniversary Capital Campaign and all of YOU saved City Mills. What is even more exciting is that the \$1.2 Million used to stabilize the two buildings will be paid back to HCF from City Mills Properties, LLC partners Ken Henson and Pezold Management. These funds will return to our Janice P. Biggers Revolving-Redevelopment Fund in the coming months and go to work again. We expect even more catalytic investment in the near future thanks to all of our donors!



Some progress photos from the City Mills construction site. A small hotel, yoga studio, and restaurant are to come.

reconstructed, 70 new apartments are under construction across from the TSYS campus, along with other projects in the planning stages.

In total, nearly \$100 million in new investment is coming out of the ground along 2nd Avenue between 13th Street and 29th Street. Maybe it was a coincidence, maybe not, but what all that new investment does tell, is a compelling story in how its possible for a run-down vacant and abandoned mill building to give developers, investors, community advocates, and residents a reason to think about an area differently. Historic Columbus is excited about everything happening in High Uptown and the Mill District. We look forward to continuing to work with these incredible partners to return quality of life to this important entrance into our town.



Adjacent to City Mills, the Mercer University School of Medicine building is under construction. The project will be complete in 12-18 months.

NEW AND RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS

September 16, 2020 - January 31, 2021

In order to conserve publication costs, we are only printing new and renewal memberships made between September 16, 2020 and January 31, 2021.

If you see an error or omission, please contact the office (706) 322-0756.

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JOAN DAVIDSON MIZE HOLDER - 2010 HONORED LADY (1934 - 2020)



Joan Mize Holder was born in Columbus, Georgia to Joseph Quentin and Maude Adams Davidson. She was a dedicated mother and a committed volunteer in our community. Her family has lived in Columbus for many generations. Her father was a prominent local attorney and civic leader, who was instrumental in the founding of then, Columbus College.

She attended Wynnton School and Columbus High, and later graduated from Auburn University. In 1956, she married George Wright Mize and together they had four sons. Following George's death in 1971, Joan married John Henry Holder, Jr. in 1974 and she became the proud mother of three stepdaughters. She often said that her greatest treasure was her family.

Another of her passions was working to preserve historic

properties for the enjoyment of present and future generations. In the late 1960s, she served as the chairman of the committee to inventory potential structures and neighborhoods in Columbus that would be considered historic. This group was responsible for letting the officials of the City of Columbus know that Historic Columbus was going to become a driving force in the economic growth and preservation of Columbus.

She was also very involved in her church, St. Luke UMC. She served as a director of the Girls Club of Columbus; President of the Junior League of Columbus, member of Mayor J.R. Allen's Committee for Governmental Efficiency and Improvement; a member of the Board of Trustees of Historic Columbus since its inception; and a Director of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

Joan was an incredible lady. Historic Columbus owes her a great deal for all that she has done to ensure the future of preservation in Columbus. She is deeply missed.

SARAH HARDAWAY HUGHSTON - 2005 HONORED LADY (1922 - 2021)



Sarah Hughston was a fifth-generation resident of Columbus. Her great, great grandfathers were pioneer settlers of our town, arriving here in early 1833. Her maternal great grandparents, grandmother, and mother all lived on the 700 block of Broadway in the Columbus Historic District. As a child, she lived in her paternal grandparents' home on Third Avenue. Mrs. Hughston

grew up in Columbus, GA and Hardaway, FL.

She attended the Sixteenth Street School in Columbus for the first through seventh grade, then Columbus High School, and Ogontz Finishing School and Junior College in Pennsylvania. She lived with her parents at Hardaway Hall until her marriage to medical student Jack Hughston on June 13, 1942.

Mrs. Hughston played an instrumental role in Dr. Hughston's success within his profession of sports medicine, including the founding of his own clinic in 1949 and the Hughston Sports Medicine Hospital in 1984. Mrs. Hughston acted as a mentor and gracious hostess to the many doctors and their families who came to Columbus from around the world to train with Dr. Hughston.

Reflecting her wide variety of interests, she was a board member of the Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home, a member of the US Pony Club and the National Society of the Colonial Dames in America, and an emeritus member of the Junior League of Columbus.

She was also a member of Historic Columbus since 1972, where her loyal support continued until her death. Mrs. Hughston was a treasured friend to Historic Columbus and to this community. Our hearts are with her family.

IN MEMORIAM

SEPTEMBER 16, 2020 - FEBRUARY 17, 2021

Robert Stephen Poydasheff, Sr.

September 24, 2020

Thomas Edwin Adams

September 29, 2020

Joan Davidson Mize Holder

November 17, 2020

James W. "Billy" Key

December 29, 2020

Sarah Hardaway Hughston

February 17, 2021

Historic Columbus extends its deepest sympathies to the families of our members. If a member was not included, please contact the Historic Columbus office (706)322-0756 and the correction will be made in the following newsletter.