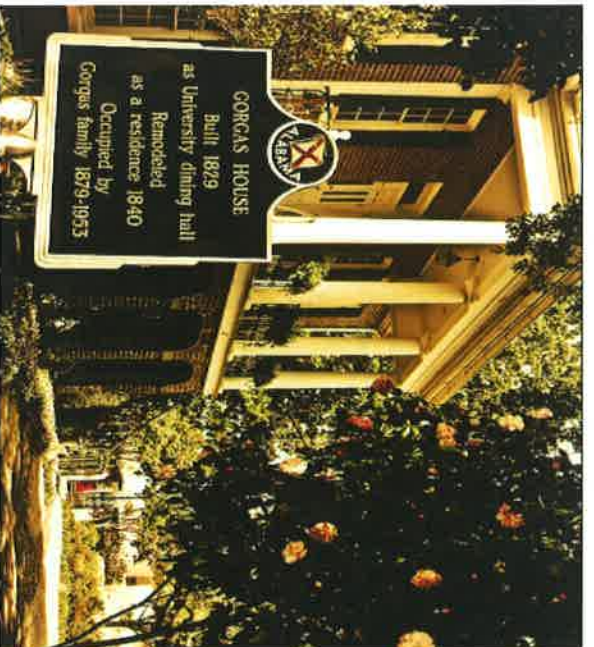


CAMPUS HISTORY

The University of Alabama opened in 1831, making this university the oldest in the state of Alabama. Tuscaloosa was chosen for the location because from 1826-1846 this city was the state capital of Alabama. The original campus had seven buildings, and was modeled after the University of Virginia. The first year the university was opened, there were 52 students (all male) enrolled. The university was a military school from 1860 until 1903. The first women were enrolled in the university in 1893, but it was not until 1963 that the first African-American students were enrolled.



University of Alabama c. 1859.



THE GORGAS HOUSE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
MONDAY – FRIDAY 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
AND 1:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Physical Address:
810 Capstone Drive
Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
Mailing Address:
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Tuscaloosa, AL 35487
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This brochure is dedicated to the life and
memory of Marion Pearson

“1945-2010”

THE GORGAS HOUSE



FUN FACTS AND IMPORTANT
INFORMATION

The University of Alabama

HISTORY OF THE GORGAS HOUSE



Oldest known photograph of the Gorgas House.



The Gorgas House after the front of the house is remodeled by Robert Hardaway.



Students dropping off mail at the Gorgas House.

1829	The Gorgas House is built in preparation for the opening of the campus in 1831.	1913	Amelia Gorgas passes away, but the university allows her daughters to reside in the Gorgas House. Students recall seeing the daughters on the front porch of the Gorgas House, and were sometimes offered cookies.
1831	The Gorgas House is used as a dining hall for all 52 students, and is also used as hotel for guest of the university.	1953	The last daughter of Amelia Gorgas passes away leaving the Gorgas House vacant.
1840	The Gorgas House is remodeled as a residence for faculty members.	1954	The Gorgas House becomes a campus landmark and museum.
1865	The campus is burned down by Union troops. Only seven buildings were spared (of those seven buildings only four remain to this day). The Gorgas House was one of the buildings spared and it is said that John Wood Pratt (who was living in the house at the time) was teaching a class while this was all taking place.	Present Day	The Gorgas House remains a museum, and hosts events for students, alumni, and the general public.
1879	Josiah Gorgas, the 7th President of the University of Alabama resigns from his position as president and becomes campus librarian. At this time he and his family move into the Gorgas House.	Amelia Gorgas	
1882	Robert Hardaway the University of Alabama's first fulltime civil engineer professor moves into the Gorgas House with the Gorgas family. It is said that he remodeled the front of the house so Amelia Gorgas could have a proper southern front porch.	Josiah Gorgas	
1883	Josiah Gorgas passes away, officially making Amelia Gorgas the campus librarian.		
1886	Amelia Gorgas is named postmistress of the University of Alabama that she ran out of the Gorgas House.		