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The Sculptured Plaques of the Cadet Life Garden

James O. Sweeny
_Clemson University_

Col. Talbert I. Martin
_Clemson University_

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The Sculptured Plaques of the Cadet Life Garden in the South Carolina Botanical Garden at Clemson
The Plaques in

The Cadet Life Garden

in the

South Carolina Botanical Garden at Clemson

Compiled and Written by
James O. Sweeny '39

With help from
Col. Talbert I. Martin '37

A. D. 2000
In the years from 1893 to 1956, during all of which Clemson was an all-military college, Clemson students, like students elsewhere, had rich campus experiences, quite aside from their classroom activities. There were the tea dances and the big-band balls, the inter- and intra-mural sports, the YMCA activities, social and honor clubs, church events, and a host of other experiences. None of these, however, was unique to Clemson students, nor to the fact that they were cadets.

The purpose of the Cadet Life Garden in the Heritage Gardens at Clemson is to tell of those experiences and events that were unique to the life of Clemson students as Cadets. The plaques in the Cadet Life Garden illustrate that story, and this little book is the record of the plaques themselves.
The story of Cadet Life is told by means of twenty large sculpted bronze plaques that portray various scenes from cadet life, and an associated twenty plaques that explain, in words, the portrayed scenes. The scenic plaques were modeled from pictures selected by the Cadet Life Garden Steering Committee (see page 55) as best demonstrating cadet life. They were obtained from a variety of sources by a sub-committee, headed by Col. Talbert I. Martin '37, and were finally chosen by the full committee, under the chairmanship of James O. Sweeney '39.

All of the plaques are 24" high. The word plaques are 18" wide, but the scenic plaques are of varying widths as befit the portrayed scenes. They were made from sand molds in the foundry of the W&E Baum Company of Brooklyn, NY. The molds were first modeled in clay by a talented young sculptor, Mr. Chris Martin of Bakerstown, PA, who in the summer of 1998 had visited at Clemson with members of the committee to discuss the pictures, learn about cadet life, and become knowledgeable about the campus.

On the following pages, the plaques on the central Bell Structure are described, after which the plaques are presented in the order they appear on the wall of the Cadet Life Garden, starting at the foot of the Grand Entrance steps and going clockwise around the wall.
The Guardroom Bell Structure
The Guardroom Bell

Although the No. 1 Barracks was completed in 1892 just prior to the arrival of the first students in 1893, the bell structure atop the barracks was not constructed until the summer of 1899. The guardroom bell was manufactured by the McShane Bell Foundry of Baltimore in 1899 and was hung in its intended position in the roofed bell structure high above the guardroom that year.

It was continuously in use from 1899 until the No. 1 Barracks was razed in 1954 to be replaced by a new dormitory known as Johnstone Hall (named for Mr. Alan Johnstone (President of the Board of Trustees from 1907 to 1928), grandfather of Alan McC. Johnstone ’32, Thomas K. Johnstone ’38, and Ellerbe P. Johnstone ’39).

When No. 1 Barracks was demolished, the bell was relegated to a pile of scrap metal on campus until discovered by James H. Crawford of the Horticultural Department. He and Dr. Taze L. Senn, president of the Class of 1939, salvaged the bell and its frame and stored them at "the farm," a campus storage area.

In 1974 Dr. Senn caused a wooden structure (copied from the bell’s original structure atop No. 1 Barracks) to be built near the caboose, and the bell was installed therein and dedicated at a reunion of the Class of ’39 in 1975. It remained there until 1994 when it was moved to a storage site while preparations were underway for the Heritage Gardens. The Class of 1939 donated the bell for use as the centerpiece of the Cadet Life Garden.

The Class of ’55 graciously agreed to fund a final resting place for the bell in the center of the Cadet Life Garden. Ground was broken for the new structure on March 18, 1997, and actual construction began in April that year. The bell was mounted on its present base in June of 1997. At the dedication of the Cadet Life Garden in June of 1999, the bell structure was presented to the University by the Class of ’55.

We know for whom the bell tolls - for all cadets on Clemson’s rolls.
Although the No. 1 Branch was completed in 1892, the hall structure atop the parapets was not finished until 1910, when the school had been in operation for 30 years. The Hall Structure was completed in 1910, and the hall was inaugurated in 1912.

The Guardians Hall Structure
- The form and function of the bell
- The role of the bell in Chinese culture

Greeting you on the Chinese New Year
The Plaques

on the

Guardroom Bell Structure
Purpose of the Cadet Life Garden

THE CADET LIFE GARDEN

The Cadet Life Garden is dedicated to a special period in Clemson’s history. From its founding until 1956, Clemson was an all-military college, one of seven in the nation. The student body was organized as a Corps of Cadets under a regular army Commandant. All students wore uniforms, attended military classes, practiced military drills, lived in barracks, marched to meals in a common mess hall, and most attended a military summer camp at a US Army post - all the while working toward a college degree in their chosen fields. Most were commissioned as officers in the US Army Reserve Corps on graduation, and many saw active duty with the military in foreign wars. During those sixty years, 12,314 students graduated, nearly 10,000 became Reserve Officers, about 5,600 saw active military service, and 335 died or were missing in action while fighting for their country.

Life as a cadet was far different from that of present-day students at Clemson. The purpose of this garden is to portray and explain the customs and traditions that were unique to cadet life.
The No. 1 Barracks


Date of Photo: About 1912.

Clemson’s first residence hall, called the No. 1 Barracks or First Barracks, was completed in 1892, in time to accommodate the over 300 freshmen who entered Clemson in 1893 (of whom 32 graduated in December 1896) in its original two floors. A third floor was added a few years later.

First Barracks was built with convict labor, using timber cut on the Fort Hill site, and bricks that were made in a facility purchased by the trustees. The cost of the building was minimal; even the food for the convict labor force was grown on site by the Experiment Station.

The top floors had all the dormitory rooms, with several common bathrooms on each floor. Unsanitary conditions in the bathrooms probably contributed to an outbreak of typhoid and malaria among cadets in 1897. In 1898 a system of ventilating pipes was added to improve sanitation. The basement included the necessary kitchen facilities and a mess hall sufficiently large to accommodate all cadets at a single seating.

The main entrance to the dormitory was over a bridge at the front left corner of No. 1 Barracks. A window alongside the bridge opened into the guardroom. On the roof can be seen the Guardroom Bell (its rope extending down into the guardroom), and the chimney for the potbellied stove that heated the guardroom in winter. The entry bridge collapsed in 1893, and a new and considerably stronger bridge replaced it.

That first barracks continued in use until 1954, when it was razed and replaced by Johnstone Hall.
The Guardroom

**Picture Source:** CU Archives - Photographs - Cadets - Folder 1.

**Date of Photo:** About 1917.

**Persons in Scene:** (Unidentified) from left, the Corporal of the Guard (Class of 1919), two freshmen orderlies ('20), Officer of the Day ('17), Officer of the Guard ('17).

**The Scene:** This is the guardroom that looked much the same from 1893 to when the building was razed in 1954. The two senior officers are armed with sabers. The rifles of the freshmen orderlies are in the window and leaning against the table. On the wall behind the Corporal of the Guard is the only barracks telephone. A fire extinguisher hangs between the two front windows. At top left is a calendar, and in the corner, warming the Officer of the Guard, is an old coal-fired stove. The box on the wall at right has not been identified. The window at right opens onto the walkway bridge, and the windows at left look toward Tillman Hall and the small parade ground.

**Plaque Size:** 24" high by 40" wide.

**Descriptive Plaque Wording:**

THE GUARDROOM AND GUARDROOM BELL

Atop old No. 1 Barracks, high above the Guardroom three floors below, the Guardroom Bell was at the very center of cadet life. The Guardroom was always manned by cadets assigned by the top cadet officers: two "rats" (freshmen) for running errands, the Corporal of the Guard (a sophomore) the Officer of the Guard and Officer of the Day (seniors). Their duties were to answer the only barracks telephone and to relay messages to cadets, to provide visitors with information and help, to maintain order, to ensure that the bugler sounded his calls on time, and to ring the Guardroom Bell for all formations and for the first class of the day.

All campus life marched to the tune of the Guardroom Bell, the same bell you see here. It was first rung in 1893 when the No. 1 Barracks was completed, and was deactivated in 1954 when No. 1 Barracks was razed to make room for modern new dormitories.
The Wall Plaques

of the

Cadet Life Garden
The Cadet Life Garden
Plaque No. 1

REGISTRATION

Photo Source: Clemson Archives. This photo was used in the 1937 TAPS - see photo #6 on page 214.

Scene location: Left (south) side of Tillman Hall (which was built in 1893, burned in 1894, and was immediately rebuilt).

Date of depicted event: September 9 or 10, 1936 (Registration extended over a two day period in 1936).

Persons in scene: New and returning students of the class years 1937 to 1940. In 1936 a total of 592 freshmen and 997 upperclassmen matriculated on the above two dates.

The scene: On the first days of the school year, newly arrived freshmen and returning upperclassmen queue up outside Tillman Hall, just off the quadrangle, to register for classes.

Plaque sizes: 24" high x 36.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

REGISTRATION

They came from far and near, and on arriving at Clemson for the first time, new students queued up, here at Tillman Hall, with returning cadets ("old boys") to register and themselves officially become Clemson Cadets. Clothing worn in the communities from which they came would soon be replaced by the cadet uniform. Their various hair styles would also be modified to something more fitting to their new status as lowly freshmen "rats" or "new boys."
Photograph from Clemson archives

Photo of completed plaque in place on wall
Plaque No. 2

SHEARING

Source: Clemson Library Special Collections - Visions Collection - MSS-127, Box 7, Photo negative #658. An almost identical picture appeared in the Charleston News & Courier in Oct.1938, with the following inscription: “Freshman Andrew Carter of Charleston doesn’t object to losing his hair for “Dear ole’ Clemson and its tradition,” and Senior Ellerbe Johnstone enjoys his role of barber. The picture below, was taken during freshman matriculation some weeks ago. By now stubble has grown on the 800 freshmen bald heads, and traditionally every freshman must have his hair parted tonight (state fair eve) or lose it completely again.”

Scene Date & Location: Sept. 14, 1938, by a back corner of Tillman Hall.

Persons in Scene: The “barber” is Ellerbe P. (Bye) Johnstone ’39 (now Charlotte, NC), and the person being shorn is LTC C. Andrew (Andy) Carter ’42 (now Oak Ridge, TN).

The Scene: On his very first day at Clemson, and while still in civilian clothes, the new freshman had his hair cut by a returning upperclassman - to impress on the newly-arrived freshmen that there were no distinctions between freshmen, and that they were in a completely subservient position as far as their relations with upperclassmen were concerned. This bald condition did not last beyond the time it took for their hair to grow back to a respectable level - usually by the time of the “Big Thursday” game with South Carolina at Thanksgiving time.

Plaque Sizes: 24" high by 18.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

THE SHEARING

A tradition since 1923, at registration time upperclassmen (especially sophomores) gleefully - and for a fee - helped freshmen get rid of their hair. In many cases the aid of a professional barber was then needed to repair the damage and give new students that clean shaved look required of all freshmen. This uniformly bald condition lasted only until a new crop of hair was grown - but even then, as with all cadets, only conservative hair styles were allowed.
Plaque No. 3

UNIFORMS

Photo Source: Clemson Library Special Collections. The CU photo archives: See Index - Organizations - ROTC (1) #2612-23. The photo appears on page 168 of the book *Old Clemson College, It was a Hell of a Place* by Frank M. Mellette ’36.

Scene Location: Quartermaster Stock Room in ground level at rear of No. 2 Barracks.

Date of event: September 7, 1949.

Persons in scene: Being fitted is Edward A. (Ted) Hoover ’54. The civilian tailor is an employee of the uniform company.

Description of event: Having registered for classes, the next step for the cadet was to line up outside the Stock Room awaiting his turn to enter and receive uniform items including shirts, trousers and jackets. Most students could be fitted “off the shelf” but some had to have tailoring done, which in earlier years was up to the cadet to initiate - usually at Doc Keller’s in downtown Clemson. In later years, as here, a tailor was on hand in the Stock Room for that purpose. The tailor was an employee of the William C. Rowland Co., 1024 Race Street, Philadelphia, which supplied the uniforms in the later years.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 22.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

UNIFORMS

Supply room personnel issued regulation uniforms to all cadets. Careful measurements were taken and the necessary alterations were made by an in-house tailor. Cadets had to pay for their uniforms, but the cost was included as part of the tuition fee. The uniform, which underwent several changes through the years, would become their normal wear and serve as a means of identification of Clemson men throughout their college years - especially as they “thumbed” their way on weekend leave.
Plaque No. 4

TRAINING

Picture Source: CU Photo Collection

Scene Location: Quadrangle - small parade ground opposite 2nd Barracks.

Date of Event: A weekday morning in 1943-1944.

Persons in Scene: Members of the ASTP (Army Specialized Training Program), identified as ASTP students by their uniform caps, which were never part of the cadet uniform. They are regular army recruits assigned to Clemson for training only during World War II.

Description of Event: This scene is representative of new cadets undergoing training early in their freshmen year. These cadets are learning the intricacies of "passing in review" - a march formation that they will take part in many times while at Clemson.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 38.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

Because the military played such a dominant role in the life of Clemson cadets, the training of freshmen began soon after registration. For several weeks, very intensive instruction in military posture, proper dress, commands, movements, and the manual of arms was given to all new cadets in small groups of usually eight-man squads. The training was conducted by upperclassmen under the close supervision of senior officers, shown here on the quadrangle with Tillman Hall at right.

- 24 -
KEEPING FIT

Photo Source: CU Photo Collection, Series 100, ASTP folder.

Scene Location: On the grassy lawn between the Class of ’89 sidewalk and the Calhoun mansion. Note mansion in background.

Date of Depicted Event: A weekday morning in 1943-45.

Persons in Scene: ASTP students, assigned by the army to Clemson for specialized training.

Description of Event: This scene is representative of the physical exercises that were a part of cadet life at Clemson.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 32.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

KEEPING FIT

Calisthenics was part of the routine for all cadets. The first formation of the day, Reveille, was held outdoors whenever the weather permitted. At Reveille, cadets answered roll call, stood at attention as the flag was raised, and then often formed up for a regimen of calisthenics led by junior or senior cadet officers. After exercise, they returned to barracks to clean up and prepare for the breakfast formation and after-breakfast classes.
Photo from Clemson Archives

Photo of completed plaque in place on wall
PLAQUE NO. 6

DISCIPLINE

PICTURE SOURCE: Loaned by Cecil Robinson ’41, 1671 Canady Road, Wilmington, NC 28405. Photo taken by Joseph E. Payne ’40 (deceased).

SCENE LOCATION: Barracks room in No. 2 Barracks, 1st floor, back side.

DATE OF EVENT: Spring 1937.

PERSONS IN SCENE: Right (in the position) - Carlyle H. Triplett ’40 (dec.); Left (with broom) - Cecil Robinson ’41.

DESCRIPTION OF SCENE: This picture was posed to suggest an upperclassman disciplining a freshman for some infraction, such as not adequately cleaning the upperclassman’s room and thereby causing him to receive demerits, not answering the call “Newboy” quickly enough, evincing disrespect for an upperclassman, or any of a wide variety of real or imagined offenses. The drafting table at lower right is the type made by freshman engineers as a class project in the woodshop.

PLAQUE SIZE: 24” high by 32.0” wide.

DESCRIPTIVE PLAQUE WORDING:

DISCIPLINE

Freshmen were assigned to upperclassmen to serve as orderlies throughout their first year. This daily service included cleaning rooms, making beds, and running errands of all kinds. Inadequate attention to these duties resulted in discipline - usually, as here, administered with a broom or paddle. Occasionally all the “rats” on a company hall would undergo mass discipline - events called “pep meetings” - by upperclassmen armed with paddles, coat hangers and those dreaded long-handled brooms.
Original Photo from Donor

Completed plaque in place on wall
Plaque No. 7

MESS HALL

Picture Source: Vision Coll. MSS 127 Box 7, Photo 372. See also CU Photos - Buildings - Mess Hall (old), which has notation on back “Thanksgiving early 1900s”. This photo appeared in The Clemson Agricultural College Bulletin (Book of Views) Vols. VII - 4 (Oct. 1911 ), and VIII - 3 (July 1912). Call No. LD1073.C6P.

Scene Location: Mess Hall in bottom (ground) floor of No. 1 Barracks, seating (at the time) 800 cadets.

Date of Event: Noon, November 24th, 1910 (based on uniforms and issue date).

Persons in Scene: The entire cadet corps, including the classes of 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914.

The Scene: Three times a day throughout the school year, the entire corps assembled on the small parade ground at the sound of the bugler’s Mess Call. They then marched into the Mess Hall for their breakfasts, dinners and suppers. On this day, Thanksgiving of 1910, the scene is much less formal than was normally the case - slouching at meals was not usually tolerated.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 38.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

MESS HALL

For many years the huge mess hall on the bottom floor of 1st Barracks accommodated the entire Cadet Corps at a single seating. Cadets marched to meals and took their assigned seats by Companies. The table arrangement usually involved a senior cadet officer at the head, a junior officer at the foot, and four cadets on each of the two sides. It was only after the orders of the day were read and the meal was blessed that paid cadet waiters served the food family style.
Photograph from Visions Collection

Photo of completed plaque in place on wall
Plaque No. 8

ICE CREAM HOAX


Photo by: Robert G. Hufford '43

Scene Location: Rear of old Dairy Building (built in 1911, razed in 1961) where now stands Martin Hall (part of the math complex).

Date of Scene: October 22, 1939

Persons in Scene: Freshmen of the class of 1943, et al.

The Scene (as described in The Tiger): Some day that damn machinery is going to break down, some four hundred freshmen who made the annual dash to the creamery to get the three hundred gallons of free ice cream, which is never there, said last week. Said Professor Goodale, “It is surprising but every year it is the same story. The trick always works. More than four hundred students charged the plant this year. There were a lot of freshmen, a few upperclassmen, and a lot of Bo Rats [transfers from other schools] among the suckers.”

Plaque Size: 24" high x 37.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

ICE CREAM HOAX

At a noon meal early in the school year, it would be announced over the mess hall loudspeaker that the ice cream machinery had broken down and free ice cream was available to early arrivals at the old Dairy Building. Freshmen (urged by upperclassmen) left the mess hall in mass with every kind of container imaginable, and arrived to learn that it was all nothing but a hoax. Sometimes they returned to find and “pool” whomever had made the announcement. The hoax worked year after year. Even the occasional sophomore joined the rush to the dairy.
Photo from *The Tiger*
Plaque No. 9

ROOM INSPECTION

Picture Source: The TAPS, 1953 - Page 176

Scene Location: A barracks room of No.2 Barracks.

Date of Event: A Saturday morning in 1953.


The Event:

This scene depicts an actual Saturday morning room inspection. Here, Captain Combs, of the Army ROTC staff, inspects a typical barracks room. He is accompanied by cadet Morgan, who became the 1st Sergeant of Company C2 (the company to which the freshmen occupants are assigned) at the beginning of the second semester in 1953. Capt. Combs checks to see if the transom is free of dust, but the inspection will include a check of the entire room, as well as the dress and cleanliness of the occupants. 1st Sgt. Morgan makes notes of any infractions found by Capt. Combs.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 30.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

ROOM INSPECTION

Each Saturday morning cadet officers, occasionally accompanied by members of the permanent military staff, thoroughly inspected each barracks room. They checked for cleanliness, properly made beds, clean rifles, orderly footlockers, and also that cadets themselves were neat, clean and properly attired. Infractions resulted in demerits - enough of which could lead to loss of privileges or even expulsion from college. If an upperclassman received demerits, woe to his freshman orderly.
Photograph from The TAPS

Photo of completed plaque on wall

- 35 -
MAIL CALL

Picture Source: The TAPS, 1939, page 260

Scene Location: In front of No. 2 Barracks

Date of Event: About 1:15 p.m. on the afternoon of a weekday in the Spring of 1938.

Picture taken by: J.B. Lee ’40 (?)

Persons in Scene: On ground level: Some freshmen of the year 1941 and some on-looking upperclassmen; on balcony: upperclassmen.

The Event: On the balcony at top center, assigned upperclassmen, having previously received a mail pouch from the post office, are calling out the names of recipients and dropping the letters and packages to those freshmen in the group below who have been detailed by their company sergeants to pick up the mail for the company. A few upperclassmen, perhaps expecting packages, are seen in the left foreground.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 27.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

MAIL CALL

The limited number of boxes in the campus post office could not accommodate the entire student body, and so a daily “mail call” took place - seen here in 1938 from the balcony of 2nd Barracks. Freshmen were sent to pick up mail for the upperclassmen to whom they were assigned, as well as for themselves. In later years “rats” were sent to the new campus post office, sometimes several times a day, for the mail. This was one of the many services freshmen were required to perform in their “rat” year.
Completed plaque in place on wall
FORMATIONS

Picture Source: CU archives, Photographs, Buildings, Barracks (old), Folder 1. On page 263 of the 1915 TAPS. See on page 264 a poem by W.J. Hunter ’15 that accompanies the photo in TAPS.

Scene Location: Quadrangle in front of No. 2 Barracks (built in 1902 {porches and columns added in summer of 1911}, razed in 1954).

Date of Event: About 6 p.m. of a winter day in 1914-15.

Persons in Scene: The entire Cadet Corps, in 1914-15 numbering 819 cadets.

The Event: This was the Retreat formation, held at the close of day just before the evening meal. Responding to the guardroom bell (atop 1st Barracks at right center) and the bugle call “Assembly”, the cadet corps formed in front of 2nd barracks facing the quadrangle (small parade ground). While the cadet corps stood “at ease”, the bugler blew “Retreat.” Then the corps came to “attention” as the colors were lowered to the sound of the national anthem, followed by the firing of a cannon. Then the corps marched into the mess hall for supper.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 33.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

FORMATIONS

The cadet’s day began with Reveille at 6:30 a.m., and ended with Taps at 11 p.m. Each event was signaled by a bugle call, the guardroom bell, or a public address system announcement. The last outdoor formation of the day, Retreat (seen here in front of 2nd Barracks), preceded the evening meal and featured the retirement of the colors. At 8:30 p.m. all cadets except seniors formed in their barracks’ halls for “Long Roll” - to assure that all were present or accounted for.
Plaque No. 12

WEEKEND LEAVE


Scene Location: In front of the then Library (now Sikes Hall; built in 1905 as the Agricultural Building and Library). At the time this photo was taken, the main highway from Seneca to Anderson and Greenville passed through the campus alongside Bowman Field and the old library, so this site in front of the library was the location of choice by cadets for thumbing rides to anywhere east and south of Clemson. The building at top right was the old Textile building, now Godfrey Hall housing Graphic Communications.

Date of Event: The winter of 1952-53. The shadows would suggest this to be early Saturday morning.

Picture taken by: Unknown

Persons in Scene: Six unidentified cadets, probably of the classes of 1953, 1954, and/or 1955.

The Event: Upperclassmen thumbing rides home (or elsewhere) for the weekend. They face the oncoming traffic heading in the direction they wish to go, and are lined up strictly in the order in which they arrived on site, without regard to rank or class. They are dressed in the winter uniform of dark blue wool outer coat, gray jacket and trousers, white shirt, black tie, and uniform cap.

Plaque Size: 24" high by 16½" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

WEEKEND LEAVE

Though freshmen had few weekends off, upperclassmen could leave the campus most weekends unless certain class or demerit restrictions. There were few personal cars, but “thumbing” provided the means of transit. A usual Saturday scene was an orderly queue of cadets, shown here in front of Sikes Hall (then the library), with thumbs extended. It was understood that all lined up in the order of their arrival - first to get there, first to get a ride.
Photo from TAPS

Completed plaque on wall
SUMMER CAMP

Picture Source: From a scrapbook identified as MSS150 in the CU archives. The scrapbook was compiled by Fletcher W. Cannon ’32 (son of Harry L. Cannon ’01), who attended Camp McClellan in the summer of 1930. The picture exists as a color postcard (No. A-65175) made by the Southern Postcard Co. of Asheville, NC.

Scene Location: Fort McClellan (then Camp McClellan), Anniston, Alabama.

Date of Event: June-July 1932.

Description of Event: At Fort McClellan (then Camp McClellan) near Anniston, Alabama, cadets are standing in a company street lined with pyramidal tents. They are airing their bedding and equipment - a daily ritual in this high humidity area. Once a week the tents would be furled around their center poles and the entire tent platform would be similarly aired. The cadets are clad in army uniforms issued for their use during the six week encampment.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 39.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

SUMMER CAMP

Military training, both in class-room and on the drill field, was compulsory for all cadets. At the end of their junior year, qualified cadets attended a six-week summer camp at a regular U.S. Army post for field instruction under U.S. Army personnel. This was a requirement for receiving a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Reserves. Fort McClellan (seen here), located near Anniston, Alabama, was one of the summer training sites.
PARADES

Picture Source: Visions Collection

Scene Location: Bowman Field, the large parade ground, dominated at top by Tillman Hall, then functioning as the Administration Building.

Date of Event: May 13, 1934 at 12:30 p.m.

Persons in Scene: The entire Clemson Corps of Cadets and sundry visitors. The corps was a regiment at that time, consisting of three battalions, each having four companies of two platoons. These are the classes of 1934 through 1937.

The Event: This was the 2nd annual Military Day parade. The cadets are dressed in white trousers, gray dress jackets, white cross-belts and white cap covers. They have marched onto Bowman Field and are standing at Parade Rest, preparatory to passing in review in columns of platoons. The regimental commander, Col. Frank Schirmer ’34, and his Regimental Executive Officer, Lt. Col. Theodore C. Bigger ’34 (deceased), along with the others being honored by the parade, stand at right center facing the assembled cadets.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 32.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

PARADES

Several times during the year, the entire Corps of Cadets assembled on the quadrangles and marched to Bowman Field for a formal full-dress parade and/or inspection. Favorites were the Mother’s Day parade near Easter, and the traditional moonlight parade later in the school year. On occasion the Corps was reviewed by visiting dignitaries, such as congressmen, governors and sometimes even presidents. Large crowds often gathered on the grounds across the highway to view these ceremonies.
Plaque No. 15

SENIOR PLATOON

Picture source: J. Drake Watson '39 provided the newspaper clipping from the Knoxville Journal of 10-2-38.

Scene location & Date: Univ. of Tenn. Stadium in Knoxville at half-time in the Clemson-UT football game on 10-1-38.


The Event: The senior platoon ends a series of precise close-order drills with its final movement, the Queen Anne Salute, in a special “T” formation honoring UT. Note: The first Senior Platoon was organized in 1932.

Newspaper description:

INTERMISSION

The fifteen minutes between the halves was divided between the Clemson crack drill team, and the Tennessee band. First the Cadets took the field and went through maneuvers you couldn’t describe orally, much less on a typewriter. They did everything but march on Japan.

Plaque size: 24" high x 37.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

SENIOR PLATOON

The fancy drill platoons began in the freshman year and carried through to the senior year. Tryouts began early in the school year. The best drilled cadets were chosen for the platoons. Participation was optional, but competition for a position in the platoons was very keen, especially for the Senior Platoon. The Senior Platoon, featuring precision drilling, often put on exhibitions between the halves at football games as seen here, and at other special events throughout the country.
Retouched Newspaper Photo

Completed plaque in place on wall
Plaque No. 16

HONORARY CADET COLONEL

Picture Source: Visions Photo Collections MS127, Box 6 (of 7), Folder 183 - Women: Honorary Corps Commanders, Photo # 832. Also Visions Box 7, Book 3, Negative 832.

Scene Location: Riggs Field (Clemson’s main football field from 1916 to 1940).

Date of Event: May 10, 1942.

Persons in Scene: Front row from left: Honorary Cadet Colonel Miss Wylene Pool (now Mrs. Hal Hugh Dial, Huntington, WV), Cadet Colonel Kennon S. Breazeale (Brigade Commander.), S.C. Governor Richard M. Jefferies, and Clemson President Dr. R.F. Poole. Back row from left: Cadets: Julian D. Dusenbury (Brigade Executive), W.L. Brunson (Brigade Adjutant), and T. Ed Garrison (Brigade Chaplin).

The Event: Following a routine that began in 1934, Miss Pool et al review the troops at a parade on Visitors Day honoring Clemson mothers, having previously done so at the traditional (since 4/19/1934) Moonlight Parade on April 17, 1942. The Honorary Cadet Colonel was selected at the Military Ball in Dec. 1941 from a group of twenty ladies escorted by Scabbard & Blade members. The selection committee consisted of Col. H.M. Pool (Commandant), Capt. W.F. Gaffney (Asst. PMS&T) and Dr. J.C. Green (English faculty). Their selection was Miss Angeline Towill (Winthrop College), who was escorted by Lt. Col. Miles R. Hunter. Miss Towill resigned in January due to an upcoming marriage, and was replaced by Miss Pool, daughter of Col. Pool, who had been escorted to the Military Ball by J.R. Sosnowski, but who removed herself from competition because of her father being one of the judges. On Miss Towell’s resignation, Miss Pool was unanimously selected on Jan. 14, 1942 by Scabbard & Blade for the honor. This was the only year with two Honorary Cadet Colonels.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 32.5"wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

Sponsored by Scabbard & Blade, an honorary military fraternity, the annual Military Ball featured the naming of a young lady as the Corps’ Honorary Cadet Colonel, and highlighted the military social life. The ball was among the most popular of the Central Dance Association’s monthly big band dances. Later in the year the Honorary Cadet Colonel, clad in her resplendent white uniform, reviewed the Cadet Corps at a parade on Bowman Field or sometimes, as here, on Riggs Field.
Photo from Archives

Photo of completed plaque on wall
COMMISSIONING

Picture Source: Clemson Archives - shown in the 1937 TAPS - see page 39.

Scene Location: Bowman Field

Date of Event: June 1, 1936.

Persons in Scene: Seniors of the Class of 1936. The commissions are being presented by James F. Daniel, Jr., Commander (1935-36) of the American Legion of South Carolina, and brother of Charles Daniel, Clemson trustee. First in line is Roy W. Cureton (deceased), then James R. Davis (Tarboro, NC), Jefferson I. Davis, Jr. (deceased), John H. Dawson (Sumter, SC), etc. (in alphabetical order) of the graduating class.

The Event: Eligible seniors of the Class of 1936, in formal dress uniforms, are lined up in single file on Bowman field, where their commissions as 2nd Lieutenants in the U.S. Army Reserve are being given to them individually as they pass by the VIP table.

Plaque Size: 24" high x 41.0" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

COMMISSIONING

After four years of disciplined cadet life, intensive military training, summer camp at a U.S. Army military reservation, and successful completion of all academic requirements for graduation, eligible cadets were commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants in the U.S. Armed Forces Reserve Corps. Until World War II, this final ritual took place at the time of the academic graduation exercises, and usually included a great majority of the senior class.
Photo from Clemson Archives

Completed plaque in place on wall
Plaque No. 18

CLEMSON SPIRIT

Picture Source: This composite picture was computer generated by Andrew Long '97 (Department of Graphic Communications - courtesy of Mr. Patrick G. Rose) using period photos from the CU photo archives as indicated below. It shows the principal uniforms used during the military years.

Scene Location: Steps of the chapel of Tillman Hall.

Identification of Cadets:

1. CU Archives photographs, Cadets, Folder 7: 1893 - Levi E. Gable (1873-1952). Handwritten on back of photo: “The first student to enter the barracks at Clemson July 7th 1893...” Mr. Gable left Clemson after one year, returning to Antreville SC to operate a store. He died in 1952, leaving six daughters and six sons. His grandson is Paul K. Gable, Jr. '63 (Ret. Prof. Emeritus - Clemson Extension Services).

2. CU Archives photographs, Cadets, Folder 6, Photo Accession No.89-247, given by Mrs. Edith Chapin, niece of Walter A. Bigby ’15 (Col., Regular Army - Gen. Patton’s Chief of Staff in WWI - died a bachelor in Williamston SC 11-20-73). Photo taken on campus.


5. From 1919 TAPS page 203: Not identified.


Plaque Size: 24" high x 20.5" wide.

Descriptive Plaque Wording:

THE CLEMSON SPIRIT

Though the cadet uniform went through many changes, one constant has been that very real Clemson Spirit. It was born in and nurtured by Clemson’s military years, and has flourished through the great changes that have since taken place. The Clemson Spirit is a feeling among alumni of being connected by invisible bonds to classmates, to other alumni, and to their alma mater. It expresses itself in an instinctive camaraderie toward other Clemson folk, in a sense of pride in the school, and in a never-ending desire to make Clemson a better place for those who follow in their footsteps. May it ever be thus.
Plaque No. 13

Width: 4.75" Height: 6.00"

Identification of Cause

1. CU Archive photographs
2. CU Archive photographs
3. From 1915 TAPA, page 321. "Clemson is doing the work of the community and the state to prepare men for leadership."
4. From 1915 TAPA, page 321. "Clemson is doing the work of the community and the state to prepare men for leadership."
5. From 1912 TAPA, page 322. "Clemson is doing the work of the community and the state to prepare men for leadership."
6. From 1912 TAPA, page 322. "Clemson is doing the work of the community and the state to prepare men for leadership."

Description of Plaque

Though the casket makes the final step in the evolution of a man, it is the final step in the mental and spiritual evolution of the community. The casket, therefore, should be the symbol of the community's spirit of devotion to the memory of the man who has passed to the next world. It should be a constant reminder of the man's place in the community and the community's place in his life. Clemsons, a better place for than no other place in the world.
The Cadet Life Garden

STEERING COMMITTEE

Mr. James H. "Jim" Barton '42
Mr. John E. Beatty '45
Mr. George U. Bennett '55
Mr. Thomas C. Breazeale, Jr. '42 (Co-Chairman - 1998-1999)
Mr. R. Phil Corker '48
Dr. Walter T. Cox '39
Dr. W. Cecil Godley '43
Mr. S. F. Horton, '32
Mr. J.C. Mike Hubbard, '42
Mr. Alan McC. Johnstone, '32
Mr. Walter K. Lewis, '37
Mr. James B. "Duck" Lindsay '40
Col Talbert I. Martin '37
Dr. Taze L. Senn '39 (Co-Chairman - 1999)
Dr. George M. Smith '33
Mr. James O. Sweeny '39 (Chairman - 1996-1998)
Mr. Kenneth N. Vickery '38

Design Architect: Prof. Lolly Tai, College of Architecture, Clemson
Construction Architect: Mr. Richard Campbell '54
Advisors: Dr. John W. Kelly, Director, SCBГ
Mrs. Ann B. Smith, Director of Annual Giving

The Class of 1955

GUARDROOM BELL COMMITTEE

Mr. Richard S. Quattlebaum
LTC Chauncey D. Smith, Jr.
Dr. Byron K. Webb
Mr. George U. Bennett, Chairman
Mr. W. Frampton Harper, Ex Officio
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GUARDROOM BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Mr. Kenneth A. Midez
Mr. James E. Schwab
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Ms. Dorothy E. Churchill
The Class of 1939

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Mr. William A. Carlisle
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Mr. Elliott M. Loyless, Jr.
Col. Frank W. O’Neal
Mr. Elton W. Shepherd, Sr.
Dr. Taze L. Senn
Mr. James O. Sweeny, Chairman
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