

# **WHY NOTT TALK**

What Have We Built Presentation

## CONFRONTING SLAVERY'S LEGACY



- Second president of the University of Alabama, 1837-1855
- Major Slaveholder
- Staunch defender of slavery and secession
- Chaplain at Alabama Secession Convention and first chaplain of the Confederate States of America
- Prayer at Jefferson Davis Inauguration
- What is the legacy of the enslaved people whose lives were transformed by his tenure?

# STUDENTS REFLECT

AFAM/AMS 201, Spring 2017

Word cloud containing names of students who reflected on their experience at AFAM/AMS 201, Spring 2017. The most prominent names are William, Arthur, Tom, Ned, Jack, Sam, Moses, and Isaac.

## ASSIGNMENT



Students read chapter 3 of Brophy's *University, Court, and Slave* (2016).

Students assigned a slave record contained in UA ACUMEN.

- Explain WHO/WHAT/WHEN,
- Contextualize document with Brophy reading and lecture,
- Suggest how UA can better commemorate the enslaved individual(s) in the text.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR UA

56 out of 57 students felt that the University could do more to better commemorate/promote the history of slavery and the lives of the enslaved people on campus. Their suggestions, ranked in order, are as follows:

- Tell the story (update current tour; incorporate it during Bama Bound, and/or add required course in the curriculum).
- Add new monuments, markers, museum, etc. to the commemorative landscape and place in centralized locales if not the Quad.
- Rename buildings after enslaved people and/or African American pioneers (students, faculty, staff, and administration).
- Encourage fundraising campaigns (buy a brick in honor of enslaved individuals, scholarships, etc.)

## STUDENTS' COMMITMENTS

For this assignment, students had the opportunity to obtain extra-credit for providing how they would personally commemorate the enslaved person(s) mentioned in their respective document.

Their responses appear in the following slides.

Note: These are the words of the students without any editing on my part. Any grammatical errors reflects nothing more than inadequate proofreading and haste. I have removed their names.

## UNKNOWN, 1838

“Personally, I plan to remember this individual by keeping him in mind every time I think about quitting or slacking in aspects of my life. To me, it is important to honor these individuals by doing our very best in life and honoring everything that they have done for our culture.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95932>

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To Mr. Owen

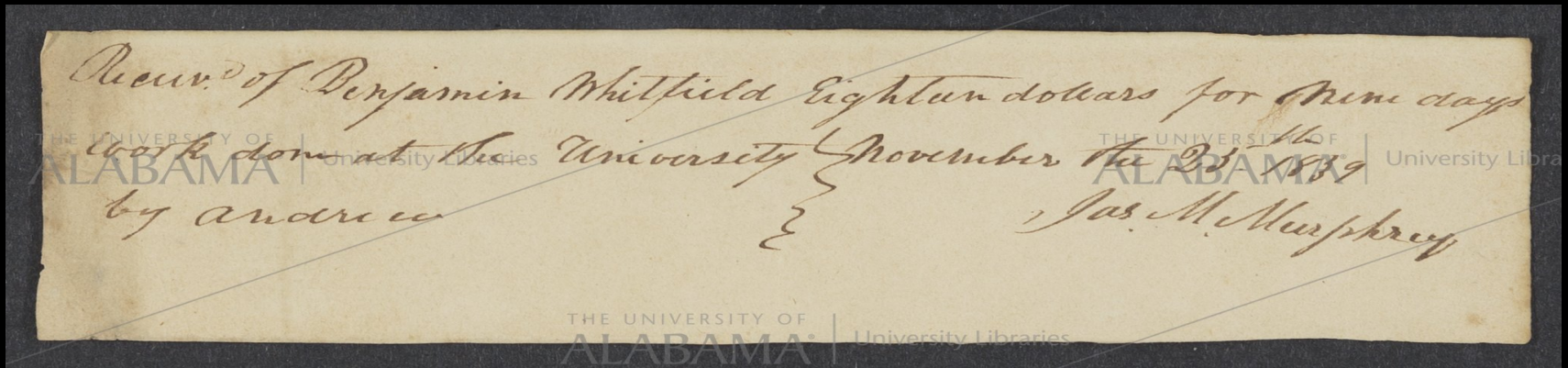
To Mr. Owen's work done on professors' premises & forations in the fall of 1838 at 1.00 per day \$34.00

Above, I have stated the account heretofore presented more specifically, but as Mr. Owen is not here, I cannot get his certificate, which I presume will make no difference, as the account may be considered as applying to the above, being the same art.

The whole work I am informed was done by my boy & one belonging to Terrill & Whitfield, and I have no witness to prove the account but Mr. Owen, who I presume is competent. Mr. Terrill informs me that he knew my boy worked there, that some kind of a stable which Mr. Owen had put up, and which I learned the trustees refused to pay for, was put up long before my boy was employed. I have no further evidence except the statement of the boy himself who says all his work was done as above stated, but this cannot be regarded.

Respectfully, Thos. Owen

ANDERSON, 1839



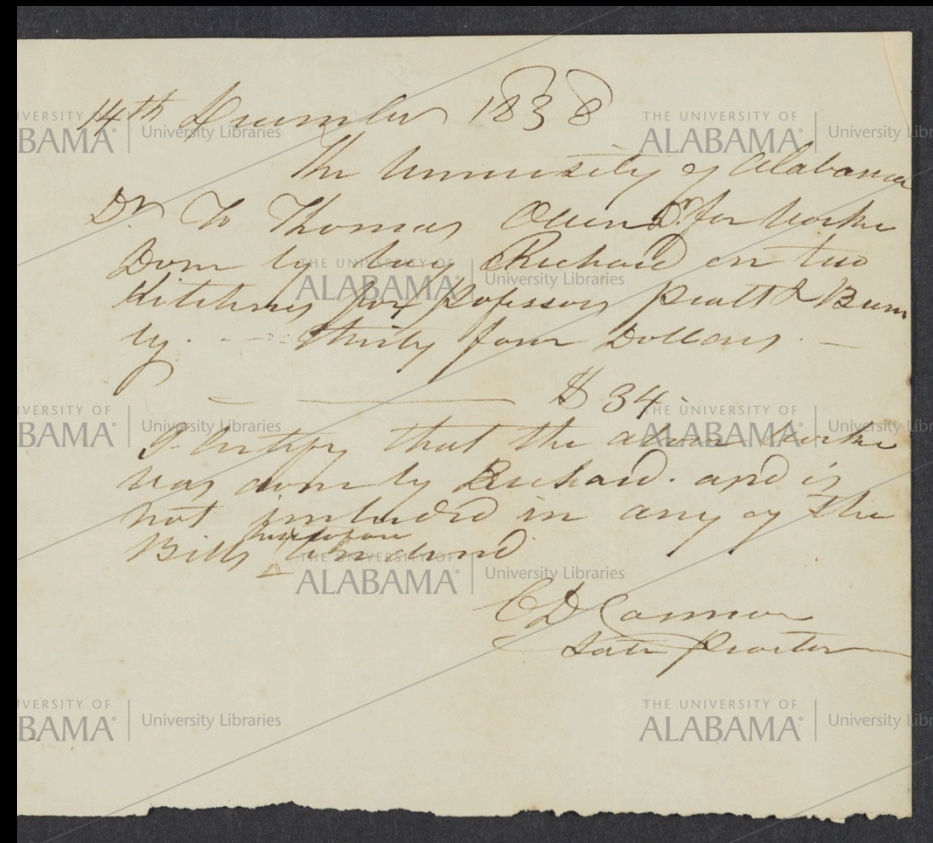
“I personally plan on remembering this particular slave off the fact that the receipt is date around the time of Thanksgiving. This is a day that was so giving to the particular person. While families enjoy one another, I will definitely remember those who couldn't.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95933>

## RICHARD, 1838

"I personally plan to remember the individuals highlighted in my assignment by looking at myself as a black man trying to honor those that paved the way to my freedom. Each is a day that we evolve in our individual biases. Therefore, I will strive to keep mine in perspective and treat people the way I would want to be treated. My ancestors were not treated humane in the practice and acceptance of slavery. So in honoring and remembering Richard the slave in my assignment, and others like him, I will live each day trying not to take my life and freedom for granted."

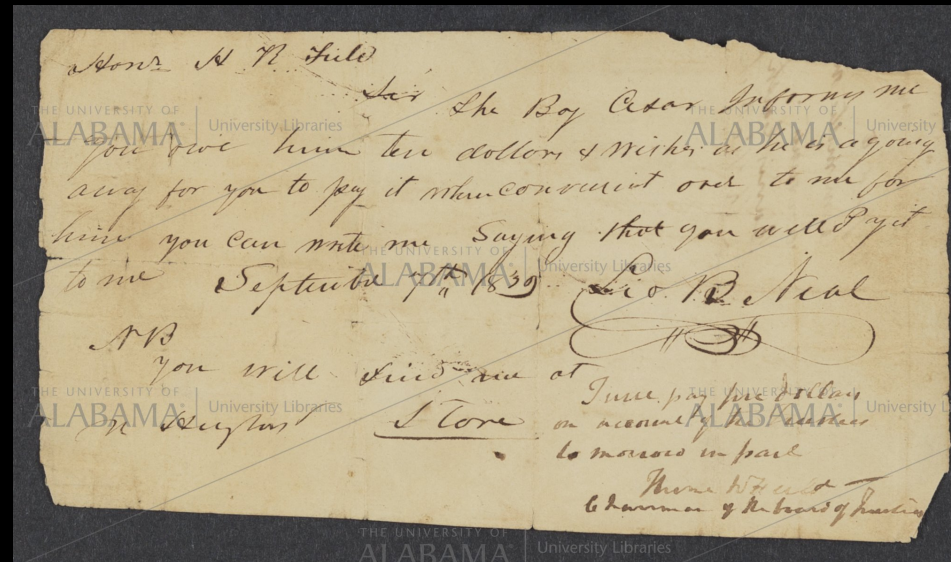
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## CESAR, 1839

“I believe that they should make an exhibit dedicated to the men, women, and children who built this University ground up. I think it should be filled with many of the artifacts that are saved. That includes documents, pictures, clothing, or anything from that time. I think that the University should dedicate an entire month (NOT black history month) to recognize the people who dedicated their lives to the University. I also feel as if the University should tell the truth when they are doing tours about the campus. We need plaques at the school of all of the names of the individuals who built this University. Last but not least we need some buildings named after the ones who were vital to this University.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95942>



ARTHUR, 1839

\$40.<sup>00</sup>  
Received of Geo Beazley Brocton  
of Univ. of Alabama Forty dollars (\$40.<sup>00</sup>)  
for hire of Arthur for quarter ending  
1<sup>st</sup> January 1839  
W. P. Lewis's acct  
for L. M. Minor

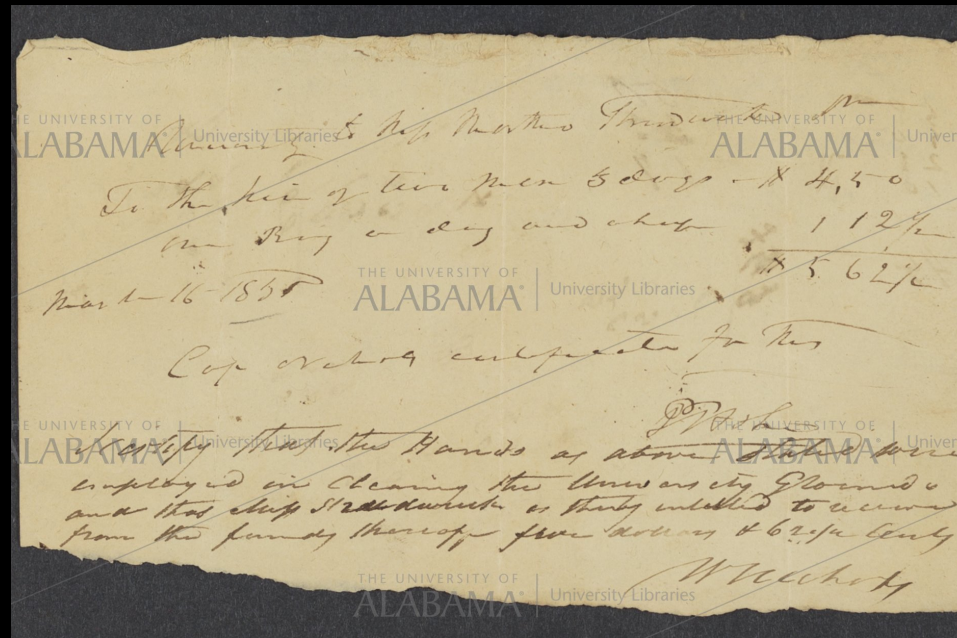
“I personally plan to remember the slaves by visiting all of the historical sites on campus in which slaves were known to live and work for faculty and students. By visiting these sites, it will help me remember all of the horrible and inhumane things slaves constantly had to go through for the benefit of others.”

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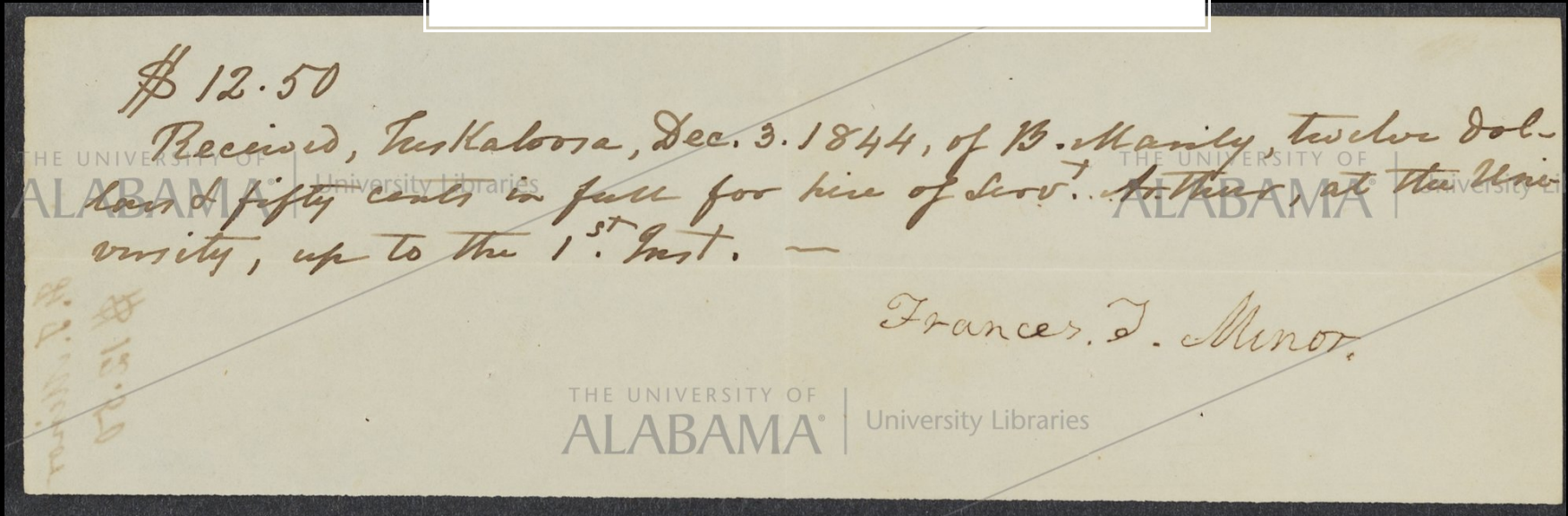
## UNKNOWN, 1830

“I plan on remembering the slaves in my acumen document by appreciating the University of Alabama, but now in a new way. When I think about the fact that it was slaves who built the first buildings and shaped the campus in order for it to be what it is now, it makes me sad but also proud. Like, “Yeah, my ancestors (possibly) built this place. It didn’t happen how it should have but, there is an untold primary black legacy here.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95948>



ARTHUR, 1844



“One way that I would personally remember these memorable individuals is by telling my friends about what I learned. Every time I walk pass the guard house near the Gorgas Library, I think of Neil, Gabe, and Crawford. Majority of the time I’m walking with a friend so I tell him/ her a little bit of the history of the University of Alabama.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95956>

ARTHUR, 1844

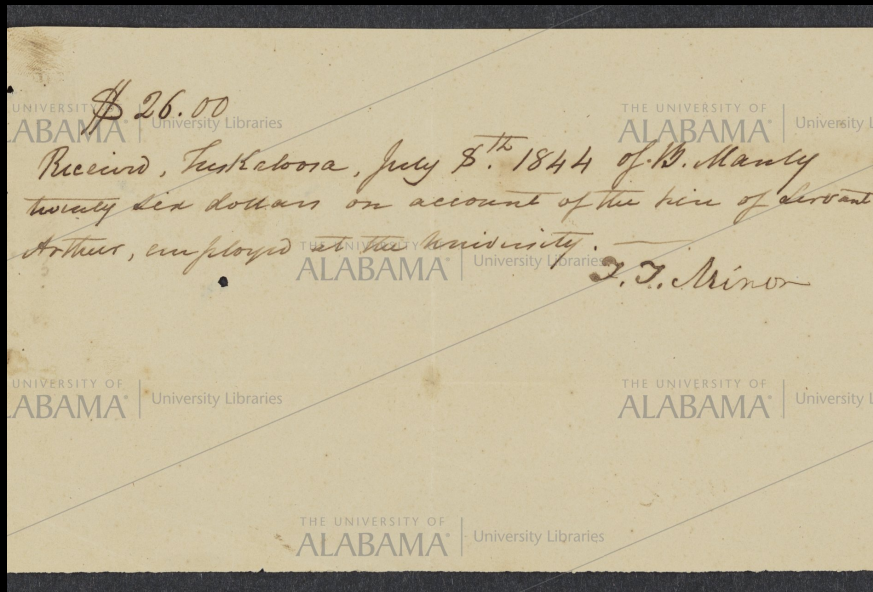
\$ 36.50  
Received, Tallahassee October 2<sup>d</sup> 1844, of 15 Manly thirty six  
dollars and fifty cents in full for the hire of servant  
Arthur, employed at the University, up to the first Inst.  
Frances T. Minor

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“I think the most they can do to honor slaves is to acknowledge the impact they had on this campus and the work they did for this campus.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95957>

## ARTHUR, 1844



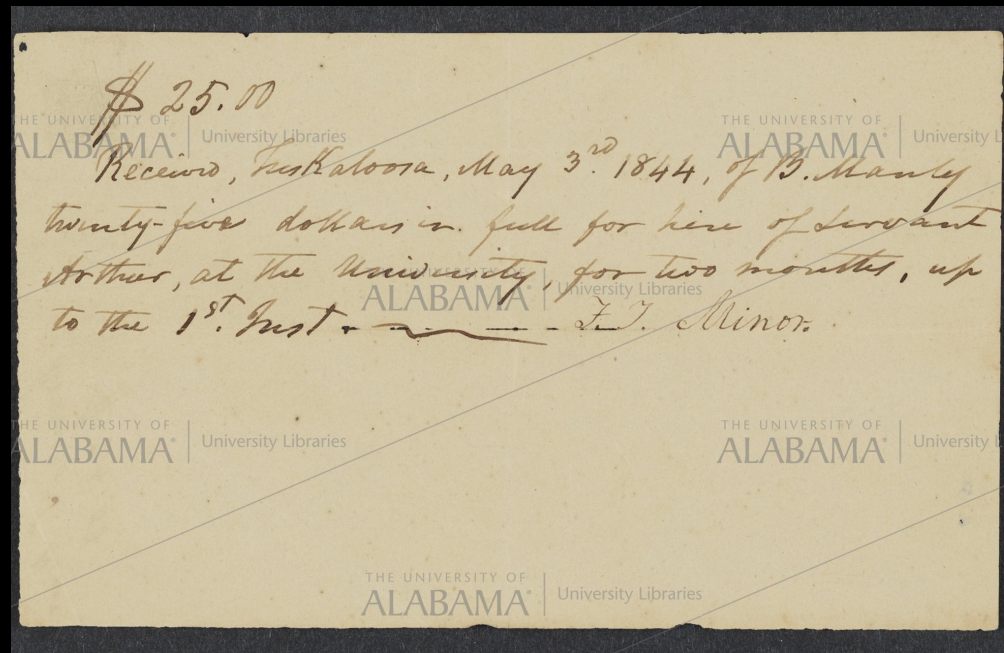
“I plan to honor the life of Arthur by researching and trying to gather more information about his life and his contributions to the University. I also want to create a group of students at this University that want to research the undocumented slaves that were held here.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95958>

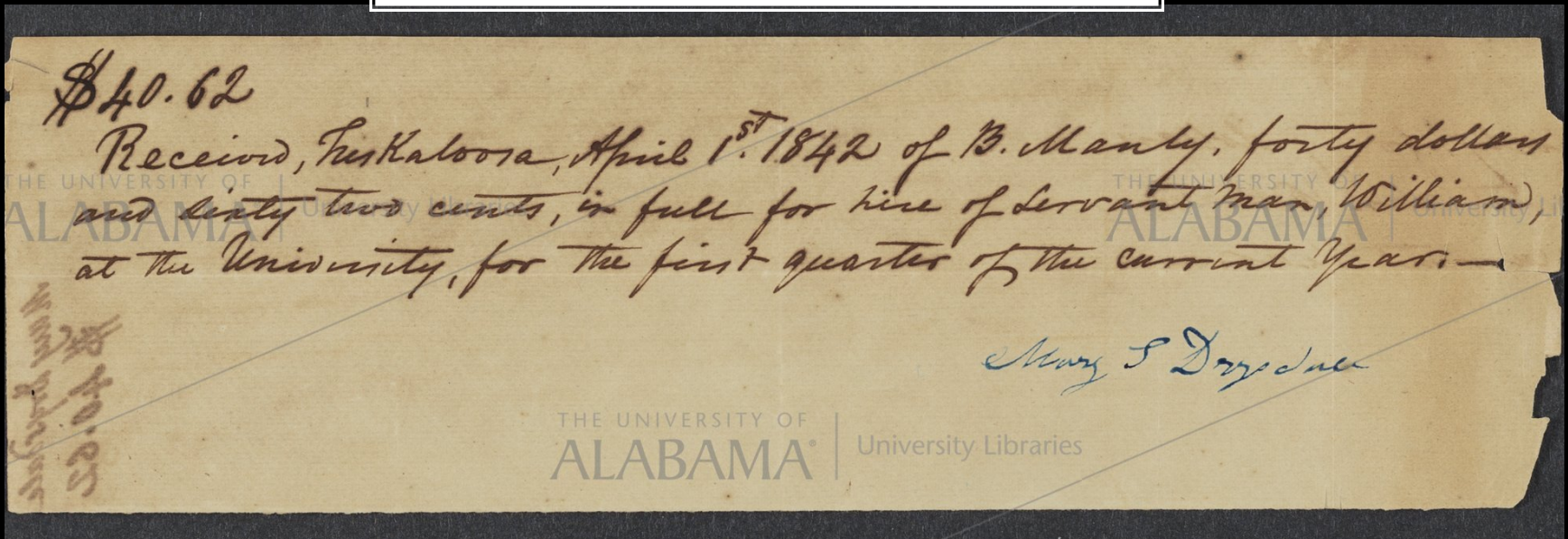
## ARTHUR, 1844

“Personally I plan on remembering these slaves by taking advantage of every opportunity I have. I will walk this campus with pride knowing that it couldn’t have been what it is today without my ancestors/people.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95959>



WILLIAM, 1842



“From a personal stance, I would honor the works of Carpenter Williams by researching his contributes to campus construction, visits those areas of production, and explain thus work and purpose to others. I believe that words spread. One lesson to one person progresses for the knowledge of others.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95961>

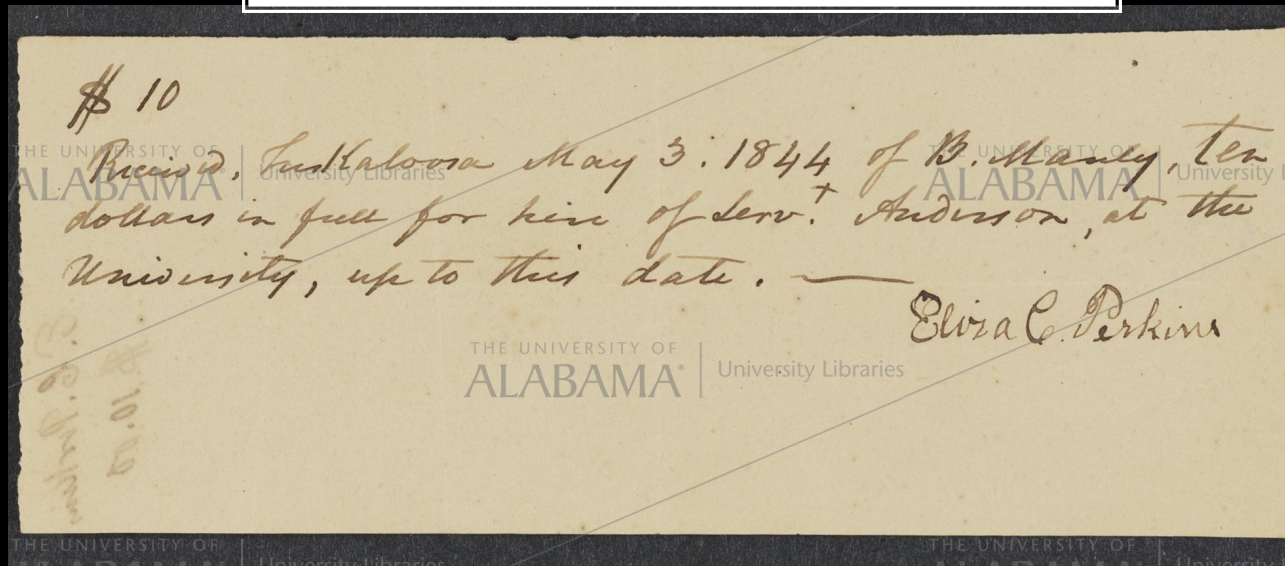
## WILLIS, 1846

\$ 30.00  
Received, Tuscaloosa, Oct. 10. 1846 of W. Mann of  
thirty dollars, in full for hire of Carpenter Willis  
to 25<sup>th</sup> of August last. — John Owen.

“I plan to remember Willis when sitting in the classes. I plan to admire the hard work of my ancestors and remember how much was endured for me to sit in this seat today.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95965>

## ANDERSON, 1844



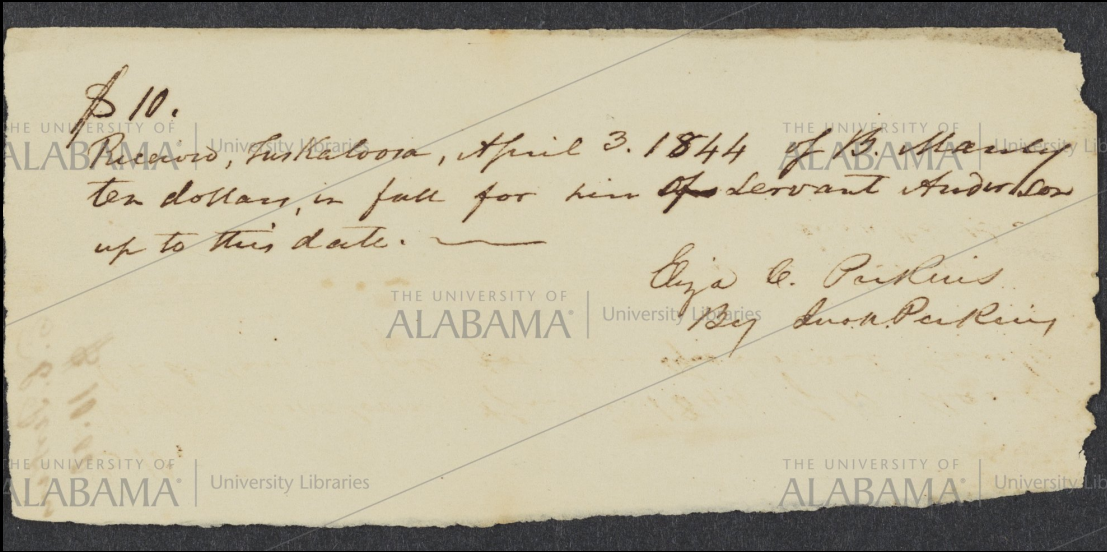
“It’s not that I was totally blind to the history and foundation of this university (I took the freshman tour) but I certainly didn’t know the details and the details are where the lives and memories of the people that created this campus are. The details are these slips of paper.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95967>

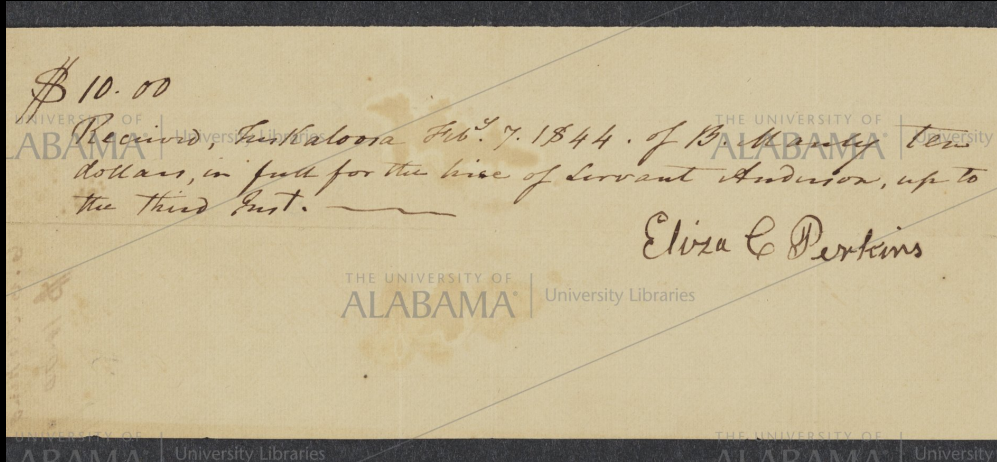
# ANDERSON, 1844

“I am not a hateful person, but after reading the article and following up with my own research really saddens me and I can’t wait until I do the hallowed grounds tour in order to get a better perspective of how they walked the grounds there.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95969>



## ANDERSON, 1844



“In order to honor the slave mentioned in my assigned document, the University of Alabama could rename buildings named after people with ties to slavery and racism. This act will let people know that the University of Alabama does not celebrate its dark past. It would also show that the University is sensitive to it’s black and minority students, and that they are welcomed as well. The University could also establish a memorial on the quad for all the slaves that lost their lives and are buried on the campus. This act forces people to face the fact that slavery existed here, and that it is not something to be hidden, but something to learn from.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95970>

ANDERSON, 1844

\$50.00

Received, Tuscaloosa, October 4<sup>th</sup> 1844, of B. Manly, fifty dollars  
in full for the hire of servant Anderson, employed at the  
University, up to the third of October Inst. —

Eliza C Perkins

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ALABAMA University Libraries

“By writing this journal, I became more interested in the background of everyone involved on the receipt. I found plenty of information on B. Manly, hardly any information on Eliza Perkins, and unfortunately, absolutely no information on the slave. I could hardly distinguish the letters in his name on the receipt. In order to remember his name, I will continue to tell the story about the transaction. Student of UA deserve to know what happened and who deserves recognition.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95972>

## MOSES, 1846

University of Ala. To W.P. Barnett Dr.  
1846  
Oct. 15. To hire of mowers from July 25 to Oct. 5  
at \$10 a month \$23.00  
Rec<sup>d</sup>. payment of B. Manly, Oct. 15. 1846  
W.P. Barnett

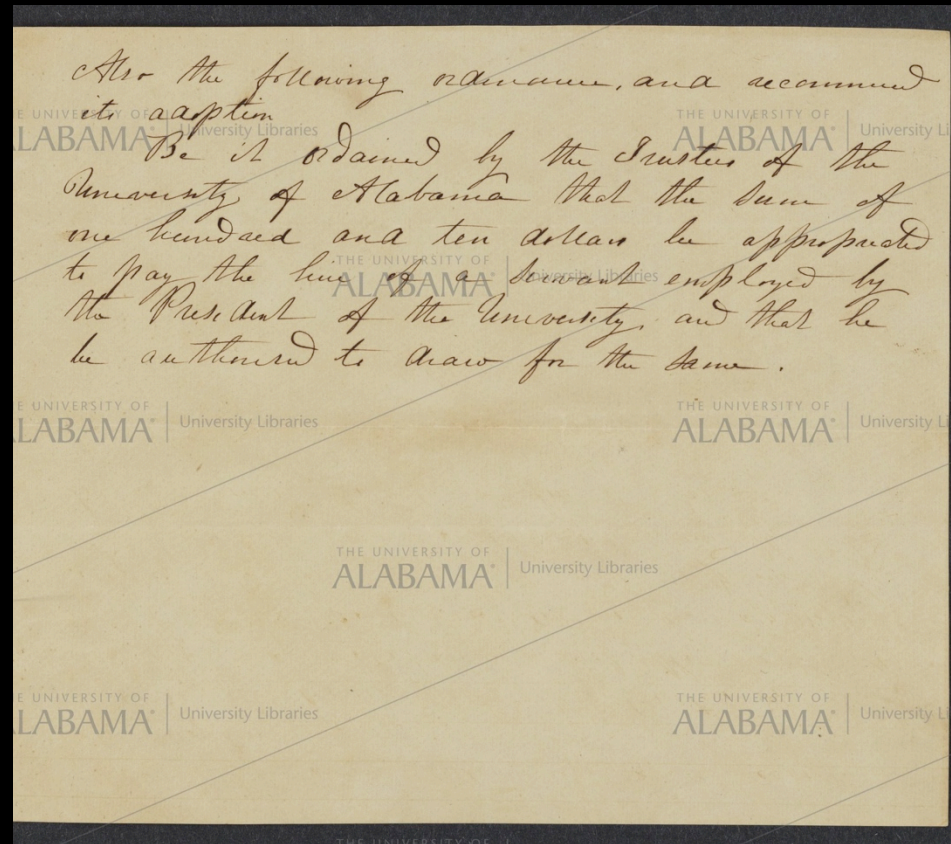
“Personally, the way I would remember every person in my document, is Manly, acted as a journalist. He was recording everything that went on with Barnard in his journal. Barnard will be remembered as the guy who was on the fence about slavery. He didn’t seem to know what he believed in truly. Moses, was one of the many slaves that were beaten by students even after the faculty made a rule that only they could beat the slaves. “University, Court, and Slave”, was an eye opener on the University of Alabama’s treatment of slavery and how so they’ve come so far, but still have a long way to go with the healing process.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95974>

## UNKNOWN, 1842

“Personally I plan to remember the individuals highlighted by never failing to forget their names. Every time I walk past a remnant of the Civil War I make sure to tell someone who or what was associated with its existence. By telling others about the contribution of African American slaves and simply spreading history to others, I will ensure that the Black History of UA never dies.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95980>



## WILLIAM, 1842

University of Ala.  
 To L. H. Stafford Jr.  
 To cash paid Carpenters William  
 putting in 80 panes of glass  $\frac{1}{4}$  5.20  
 To Cash paid to Pierce for repairing  
 a gate 3.50  
 To cash paid to Snow for 1 box  
 of glass 4.50  
 To cash paid last year for making  
 a window sash 1.00  
 Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> 1842  
 Received payment  
 L. H. Stafford

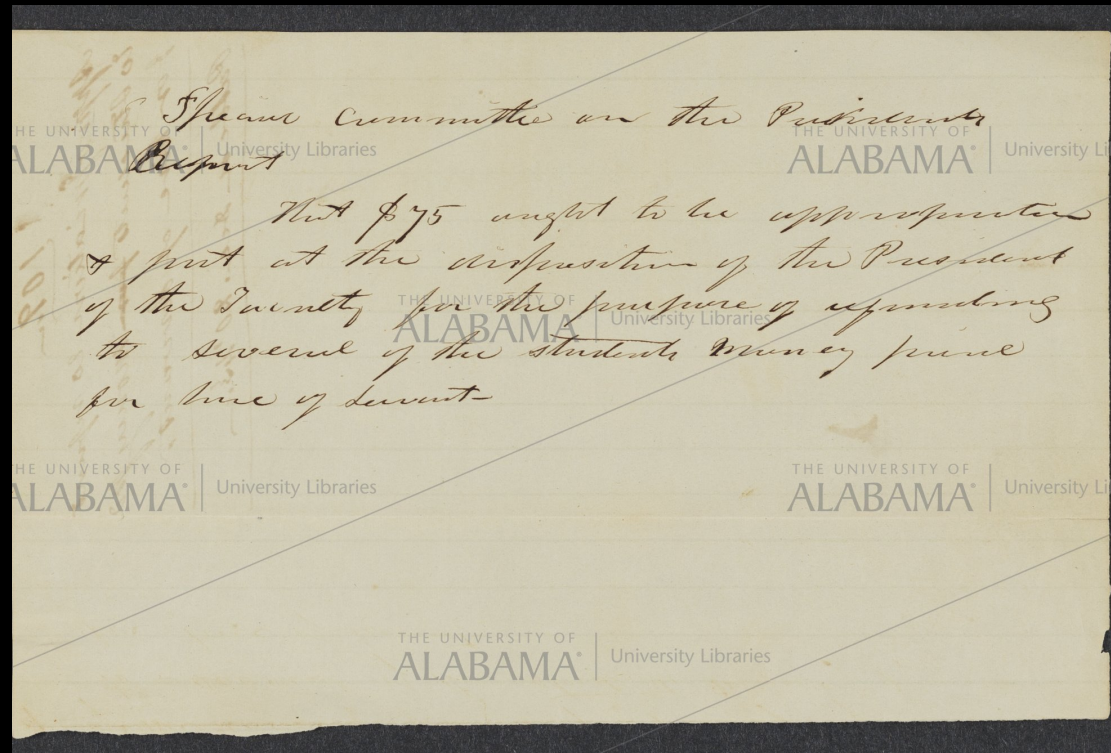
“I personally plan on remembering and honoring William and Pierce by exceling in my academics and everyday life. They built this university and I’m going to honor them by showing every one that I belong here.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95983>

## UNKNOWN, 1843

“I think everyone should be aware of the full history of the University, rather than just the spotlighted aspects.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95984>



**MOSES, SAM, ARTHUR, 1848**

\$144.00  
Paid, Tuscaloosa July 18. 1848 of Henry A. Snow Treasurer  
of the University, one hundred & forty four dollars, being the  
amount of the appropriation by the Trustees for the board  
of college servants, Moses, Sam, Arthur, for a year. —  
B. Manly. es

“I plan on remembering Moses, Sam, and Arthur by specifically finding out what their jobs were on campus. These three men were clearly good enough workers to be purchased for an entire year. I also wonder if they were buried on campus, or what ended up happening to them. Because of the surprising history that I have learned, I am constantly informing my roommates. I think we can all agree that we never expected the amount of events that have occurred in the history of African Americans in the University of Alabama. The more research and information that is given, must be used to inform and give awareness.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95988>

## WILLIAM AND EDWARD, 1849

\$105.55  
Received, Tuscaloosa, August 6. 1849 of B. Manly one hundred & five dollars and fifty-five cents, in full for work of carpenters William & Edward, rendered at intervals between the 19th of March and the thirty-first of July 1849. -  
Isabel A. Pratt

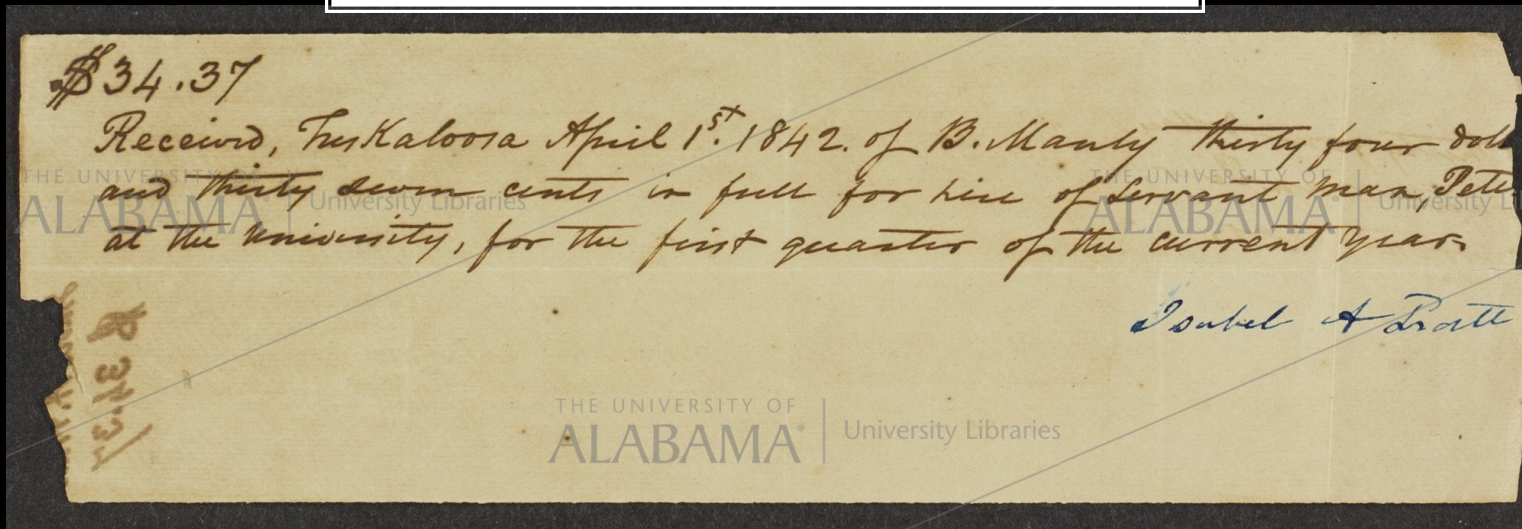
Ms. A. 9. 2. 2  
Ms. A. 9. 2. 2

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“I personally plan to remember the individuals that are highlighted by talking about it. I plan to inform people of this slaves and things they contributed to this campus. Most importantly I will continue to say their name in hopes that more and more people will remember them and actually acknowledge that they have a name and were people and not just slaves.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95989>

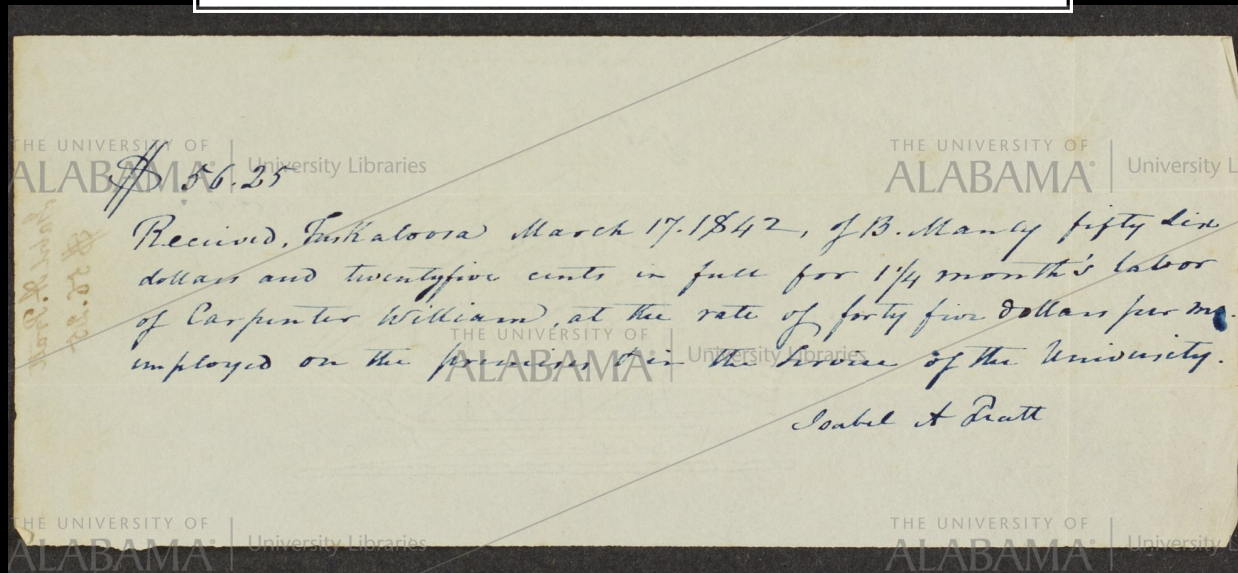
PETER, 1842



“I try to think of it as a blessing in disguise because I am forever grateful of the real lessons in history I have learned here and I will be passing everything I know on to whoever will listen to me. This university should honor Pete by saying his name and telling his story. The services that he performed to keep this university operational should be remember forever.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95995>

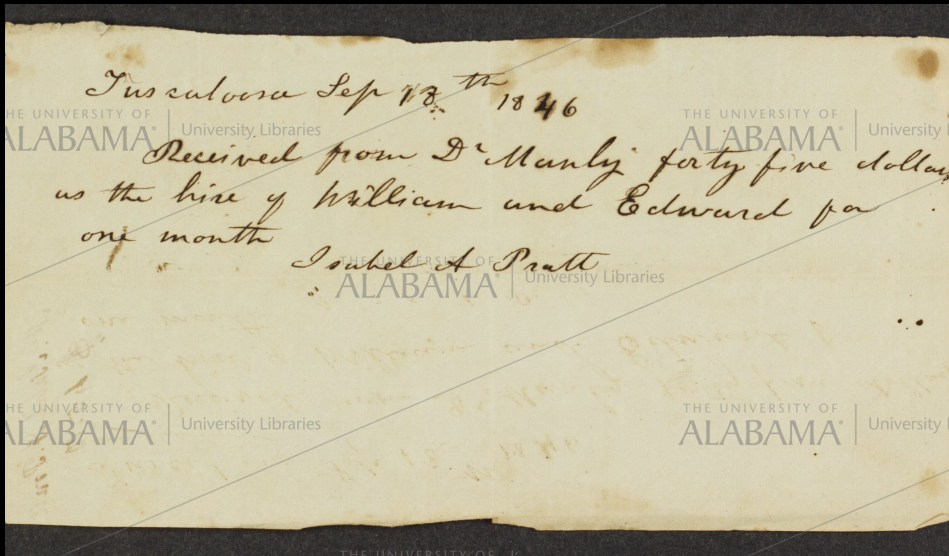
## WILLIAM, 1842



“Personally, I plan to honor Carpenter’s legacy by aiding in any efforts to make the lost enslaved people of The University of Alabama visible. I also want to keep his life in mind when I’m going to class or in the library. Less than 200 years ago they walked this campus. Now, US is integrated with African American students seeking higher education. We are accomplishing what some enslaved people dreamed of. We can work to honor them with our degrees.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95996>

## WILLIAM AND EDWARD, 1846



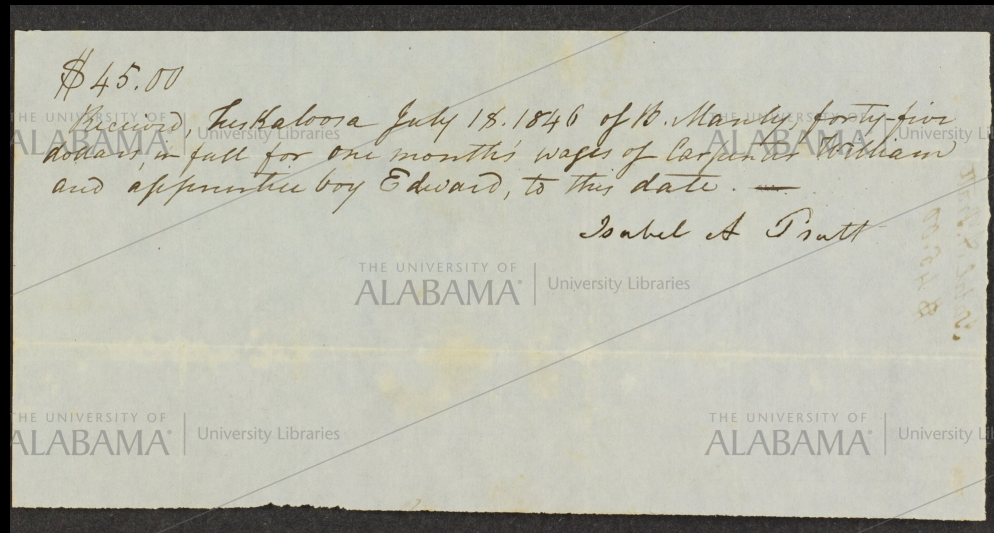
“One way I plan to personally remember the individuals highlighted above is by seeing how strong they were during the year of 1846. Being sold to people you knew nothing about and having to do whatever they told you, is definitely not something easy. From being in a state where the American war was going on and being a slave is not something I would wish on anybody. I love my country, but slavery was one thing I hate they ever brought about.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95997>

## EDWARD, 1846

“One way that I would personally remember these memorable individuals is by telling my friends about what I learned. Every time I walk pass the guard house near the Gorgas Library, I think of Neil, Gabe, and Crawford. Majority of the time I’m walking with a friend so I tell him/ her a little bit of the history of the University of Alabama.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96000>



WILLIS, 1846


\$10.00

Record, University of Ala. July 25. 1846 of B. Handy  
ten dollars, in full, for board of carpenter work, for two  
months, employed at the university. J. P. Barnett

“It is also time for the student body to also play their part. One of the ways I plan to do that is to be more informed. To learn as much as I can, as well as share what I have learned to people who may not know. To show students where the slave grave is and to tell them the stories of how they cooked in Morgan hall and served in the Gorgas house. It is our job to not only be educated but to educate others.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96001>

UNKNOWN, 1858


 RECEIVED of 8.25 University of Alabama, Octo. 23<sup>d</sup> 1858  
 University of Alabama, *Geo. Benazh* Director of the  
 for  $5\frac{1}{2}$  days work at the Univ. *Eight* 25 Dollars,  
 No. *Moses M. Guire*

“To personally remember this person, I plan to research the McGuire-Stickland House, and see if any of the original slave quarters are still there. Since it is the oldest wood frame structure in Tuscaloosa, I’m sure they have tried to preserve the majority of the area as it is. Once I have the information I need maybe one day I can actually visit this site to get a better feel for the environment.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96005>

## ARTHUR, 1853

green lty Ala July 17. 1853

Please pay to Nathaniel Friend  
the sum of thirty dollars, amount  
due, for hire of cartage, up to first  
of July. Yours &c  
To Rev B. Manly } L. Fayette M. Minor

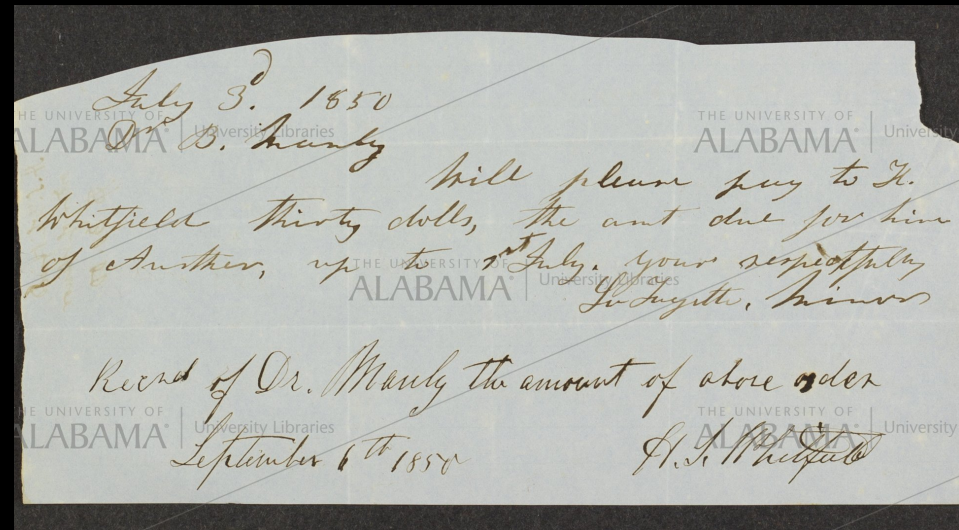
“The way I will personally plan to remember Arthur is by continuing to educate myself on the history of this University. By going to different lectures and reading more about it at the library, I feel at the end of this process I will be highly educated on the topic of slavery at the University of Alabama. This institution has several hidden secrets and I am pleased to say I am excited to finally know the truth that has been kept from all of us.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96008>

## ARTHUR, 1850

“I will remember Arthur whenever there is construction on campus. In order to build new structures on campus, as we do constantly now, we should remember and be thankful for the first. Arthur and other slaves helped create the first establishments on campus and was directly responsible for their maintenance, their existence today. Without their hands, the foundation of this campus loses the richness to its history. Their quarters may be removed from the blueprint of a specific time but not the blueprint of history.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96009>



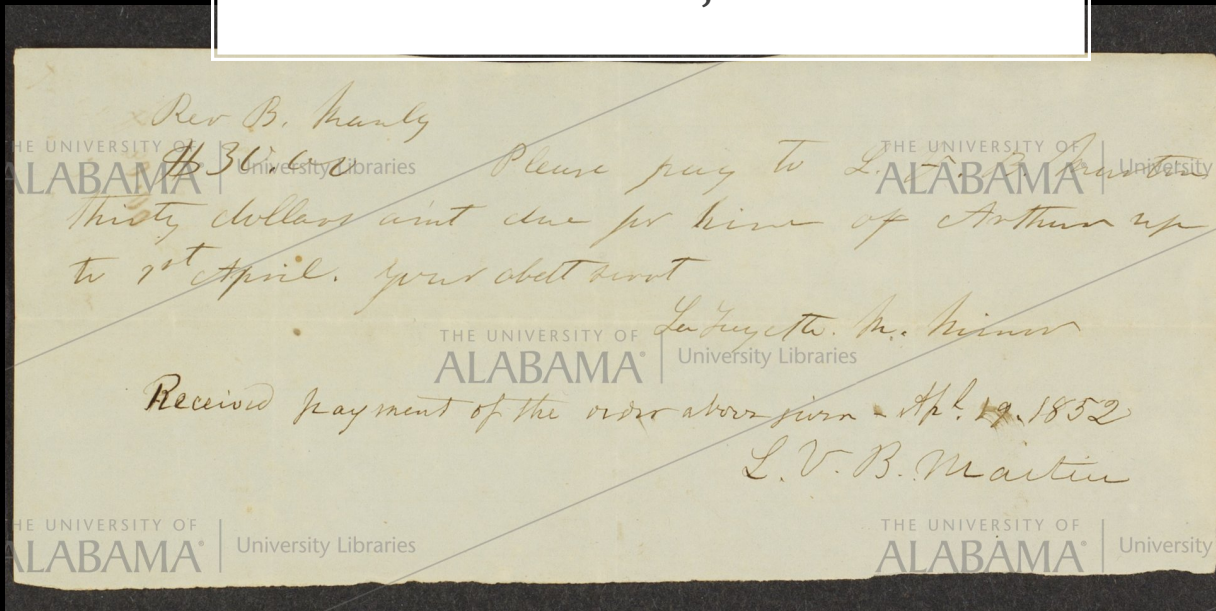
## ARTHUR, 1851

Received of Dr. Mavly thirty dollars  
the last quarter's pay for the hire of Negro boy  
Arthur belonging to Lea Hayette Minor Esq.  
H. S. Whitfield  
Jan 1st 1851

“Although there is regrettably little information about the man named Arthur referenced in my document, I try to remember as I walk around campus the men and women who built it from the ground up, but who were silenced by history. I make it a priority to point out places around campus which hold specific importance to the institution of slavery as it existed here. Passing on the information that I’ve learned to my friends, who in turn view campus in a different light, is to me the most important thing I can do to preserve the memory of the slaves who worked here.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96010>

## ARTHUR, 1852



“One way that I will remember Arthur is by telling his life. All my friends will know that a man by the name of Arthur was constantly hired out to work on The University of Alabama’s campus. When someone speaks on slavery, I will mention his name, Arthur. If popular campus men who sponsored and put money into this campus, I will bring up is name, Arthur. We will talk about him till the day him, and others get real recognition and not just any random slave apology marker.”

## UNKNOWN, 1839

University of Alabama  
To H. A. G. Barnard  
For services of 1 negro man from  
Jan 1. till Mar 11. 2 1/2 months at \$16  
pr. month, as pr. agreement with the  
Faculty, — — — — — \$ 37.33  
Received Payment,  
Barnard, Dec. 11, 1839.

“My document did not give the name of the slave. However I will still remember him and his hard walk every time I walk through the quad or past the Gorgas house, or president’s mansion because slaves built and worked this whole campus and I will never forget that.”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/95940>

## MOSES, ARTHUR, AND SAM, 1845

For the board of college servants, the following appropriations  
are wanted - viz;

Moses,	five dollars a month for 12 months	\$ 60
Arthur	3 dolls a month for 9 mo - & 5 dolls for 3 months	42
Sam	" " " "	42
		<hr/> \$ 144

“In lieu of black history month I have decided to share one random black history fact per day on my social media accounts. In conjunction with this assignment I will take a few days to educate my followers on the institution of slavery at the university. I will be sure to share my invoice written for Moses, Arthur, and [Sam].”

Document: <http://purl.lib.ua.edu/96002>

## UNKNOWN, 1841

Aug the 14. 1841  
Mr. Howell please to pay the  
bearer four dollars and fifty cts  
for two days work on the university  
And this shall be your receipt  
for the same  
James. Howell

“After reading my document as well as hearing the lectures in class, I began to think of ways I could remember the names of those who helped build this campus. Although it seems small and insignificant I try to say thank you to all the bus drivers when I reach my stop, make a conscious effort to clean up after myself in the dining hall, these employees are not my parents and are not here to clean up after me. I also speak to them with respect and gratitude when receiving my food or placing my order. They are people too and deserve to be treated as such. So many people working on this campus who are older were denied acceptance here and many other schools, I feel like the least I can do is be appreciative and respectful to them. It really aggravates me when I see people of any race treating staff as their servants. It’s like I’m witnessing what happened to my ancestors right in front of me.”



**THANK YOU**

Hilary N Green, Ph.D.