

Telling Difficult Stories about Your Institution and Your Community

20
23

Institute for Chief Academic Officers with Chief Advancement
and Chief Communication and Marketing Officers
November 4–7, 2023 » Tampa Marriott Water Street Hotel



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Presenters

Dean A. Pribbenow, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Faculty, *Elmhurst University*

Brandi Simpson Miller, Assistant Director, Center for Social and Racial Equity, *Wesleyan College (GA)*

Woody Register, Director, Roberson Project on Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation, *Sewanee: University of the South*

Chair

Christon Arthur, Provost, *Andrews University*

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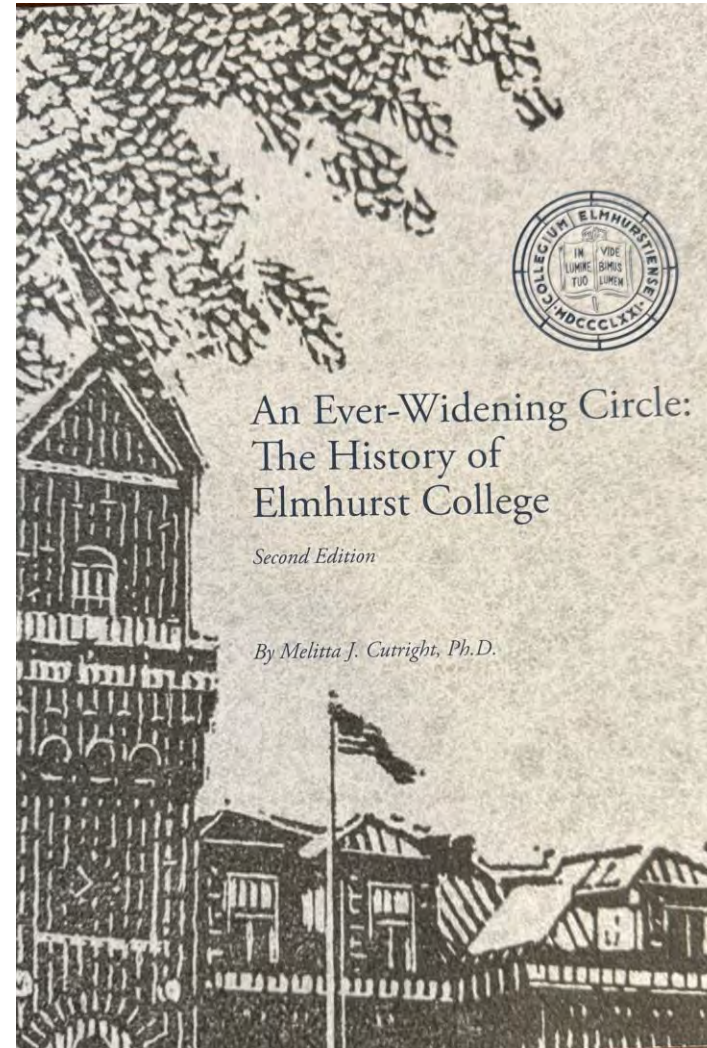
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This presentation includes images from campus-based exhibits. Some of these historical materials may be offensive or harmful. These archival records are evidence of the time in which they were created and often contain language and images that are racist, or otherwise derogatory and insensitive. This content does not reflect the values of the Council of Independent Colleges, the respective institutions, or the contributors to this project.



*The most urgent need of the
present generation is light
and warmth, the light of
knowledge and the warmth
of high idealism.*

H. Richard Niebuhr
Elmhurst College 6th President



About Elmhurst University...

Bucking the headwinds...(for now)

- Affiliated with the United Church of Christ (Church of Firsts)
- Stated values of community, social responsibility, and faith, meaning, and purpose
- 3652 FTE Enrollment (3093 UG; 768 Grad; 45 ELSA headcount)
 - 42.7% students of color (last two classes of new students have been majority minority)
 - Over 50% first-generation
 - Launched first doctoral program (DNP) in Fall 2023
- Designated as Hispanic-Serving Institution in January 2022; hired inaugural VP for Equity and Inclusion; received \$3.4M Title V D-HSI grant
- Recently completed \$55.3M campaign
- Broke ground on a ~\$30M health sciences building

[Home](#) — [150](#) — [Calling All Voices Podcast](#)

Calling All Voices

Calling All Voices is a podcast that explores the stories of our Elmhurst University community.

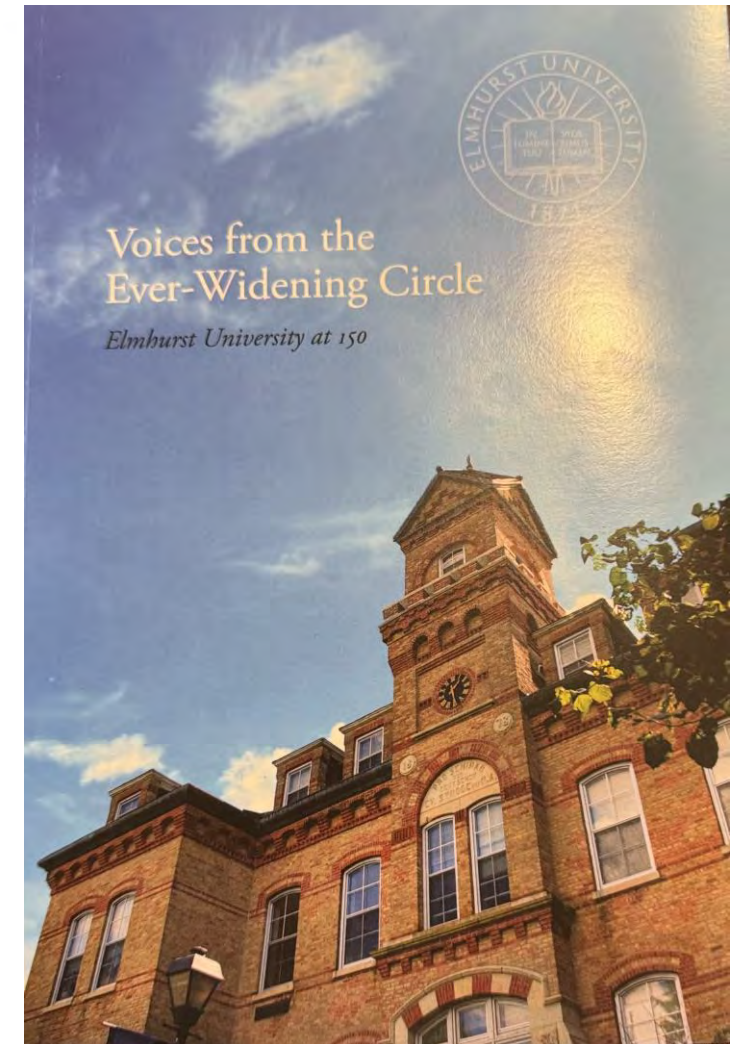
Who gets to tell the story of a college or university? We believe that we all hold a piece of the truth when it comes to telling our history, and this podcast expands the kaleidoscope of voices that have made Elmhurst University what it is today.

Our journey of “becoming” Elmhurst University has been a saga of true transformation; we seek to provide new and innovative ways to give space and voice to the narratives that have been underrepresented in telling the story. How do all members of our institutions experience our mission? What voices are shaping the purposes and directions of our institution?

In this section

[About Elmhurst's Sesquicentennial Anniversary](#)[Elmhurst Voices: Sesquicentennial Stories](#)[Calling All Voices Podcast](#)[Founders Day Celebration](#)[Signature Events](#)

NetVUE “Reframing the Institutional Saga” Grant – *Our Ever-Widening Circle: Being and Becoming Elmhurst University*



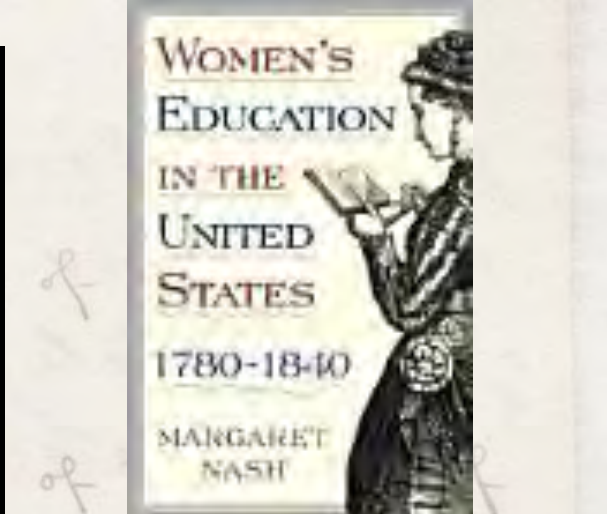
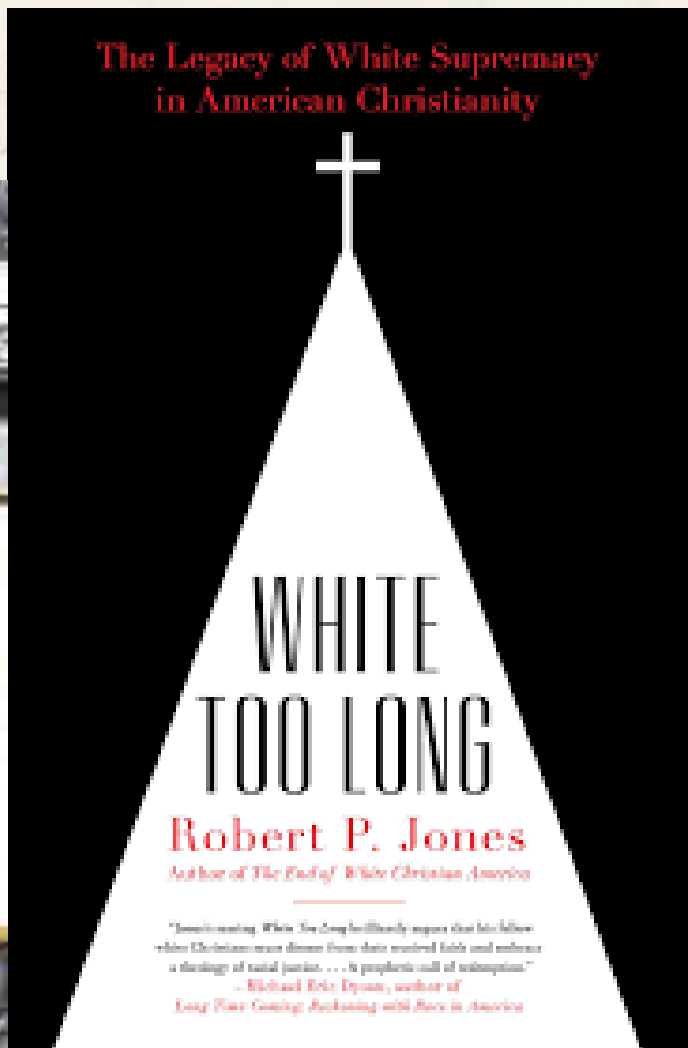
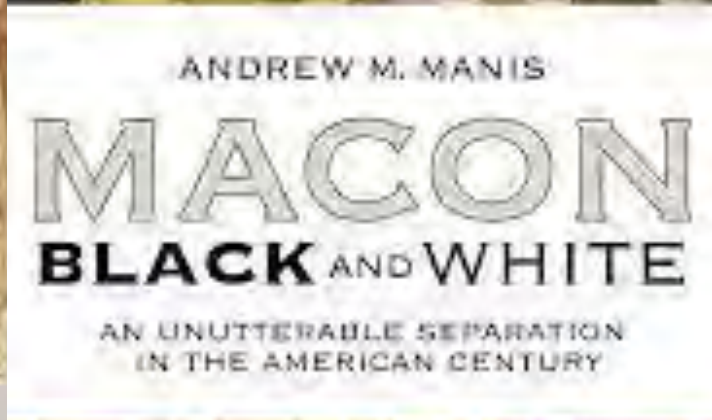
The Ties that Bind us: The White Sisterhood Traditions of Wesleyan College



Portrait of Lucinda Hunt known to the students as “Aunt Cindy”



Photograph of Thornton Johnson known to the students as “Uncle Johnson”



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Alexander Stephens

of thing; for some of the girls had their hair shingled like boys. They could have their hair cut in this style only if they had their parents' permission.

From her sophomore year on my grandmother left her mother's apartment to take a room with the college girls. There were four girls in a room. Her tales of secret feasts in the rooms sound typical of college girls. They would take cheese from the dining room at Sunday supper and slip it to their rooms. They invited some of their friends to come in for the feast which took place between supper and the evening church service. The guests were asked to bring their own pieces of cheese and crackers. A rocking chair in their room was a special inducement for the girls to visit them. They put cheese on paper in a shovel to toast it over the fire. Her roommates sometimes received from home big boxes with some uncooked food, such as sausage and chicken. My grandmother's Mammy who lived in a brick house on the campus and did her own cooking would cook the food and slip it in to them. Mammy Harriet had always belonged to the family and had come with them from Madison and remained with them as long as she lived. Often on Saturday nights the girls cooked candy over the grate and poured it in their wash bowls to pull it.

A near tragedy has been repeated to us many times by request. With a meaningful look at us modern Wesleyanians, my grandmother says, "We had rules in those days. Dr. Bonnell had lights put out at ten o'clock." Cindy went around to see that all the lights were out. One night two lights were turned on after Cindy passed. The gas was turned out during the night. When it was turned on again the two jets were not lighted. The next morning two girls were near death from asphyxiation. A holiday from classes was declared. The girls were put on either end of the porch. All the doctors in town were called. The other students who were barred from the porch peeped through the windows at the two victims. This incident had a happy ending, for both girls recovered.

In the winter of 1873 smallpox made its appearance at the College. Classes were suspended for six weeks. Most of the girls were sent home. The faculty families and one or two girls who lived at a distance remained at the College, quarantined for the six weeks. One boarding girl had the disease. She said that the first thing she was going to do when she got to heaven was to ask the Lord why she was chosen to be the one girl to have smallpox.

Back of the main College buildings were store rooms, the Smoke House,



MINNIE BASS
As a Girl

and a brick building in of the servants lived. Aunt ett, the chief dining room there with her sons who the dining room. One of the characters at the College who lived in a room in this her room she had a store. kinds of things, such as cakes, candy, ground-peas, crackers. She kept her wa her room under her bed at other places. My grandmother she could never remember t Cindy was not there. Cindy eral charge of the servants. rible storm she worked in basement bailing out water oped rheumatism and was having to walk after that for which she used an old Cindy knew more about w on than all the newspaper the city. After Dr. Bass bec Cindy would say to the gir know about that? I'm gwin the light."

To this day my grandmother memories of her professors, "giants" in her day.

Under her father she st science. He was very careful partial to her. She said t knew in class that she had was always, "Next."

Dr. Myers, then president tal and Moral Philosophy. M ophy, she says, is something ogy "only much better and ble."

Under Dr. Cosby Smith her sums." Dr. Smith, acco grandmother, was one of

men that ever lived and was a natural-born wit. He had a nickname for every girl and called the roll by them. She was "Minne-ha-ha." Leila Burke, being Burke, L., was "Buckle." Dr. Smith was in charge of ringing the bell to dismiss classes. The bell, which is in the tower now, was in a belfry on a platform in front of the college. He would send Leila Burke to ring the bell by saying, "Let tongue and buckle meet. Release your fellow sufferers."

All the girls were required to take class-singing under Mr. Whitney, who was professor of music. Her father had great ambitions for Minnie Bass' musical education. He was not satisfied with the class instruction only. One day he took her to the voice teacher and said, "Madame Seymour, I want my daughter to take vocal lessons from you. Her mother is noted for her beautiful voice, and I have no

DOLLY BLOUNT LAMAR



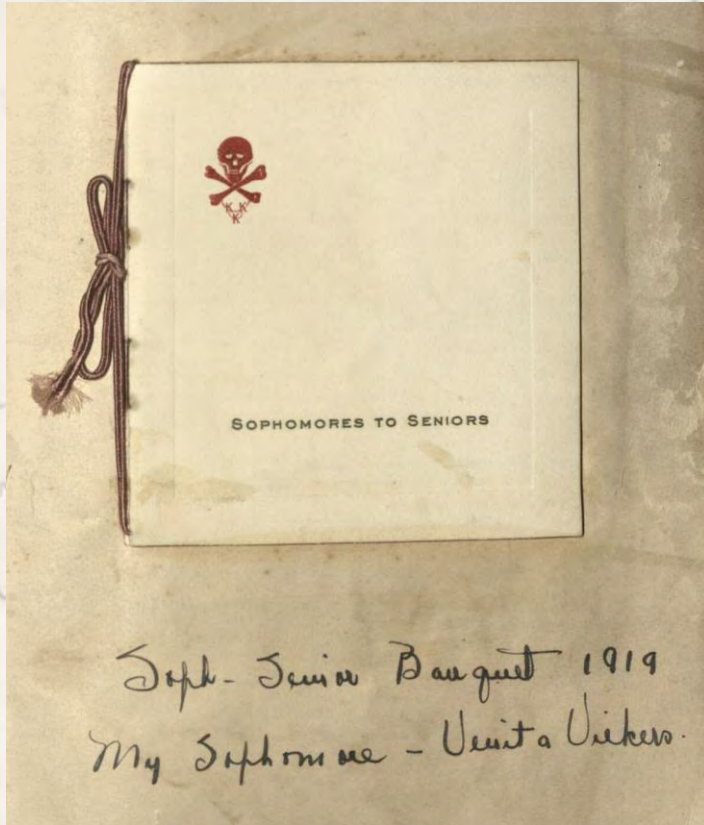
WHEN ALL IS SAID AND DONE



Cover of 1913 Ku Klux



Page from 1910 Zig Zag



1919 Sophomore/Senior Banquet Program & Menu

Scrapbook of Linda K. Anderson



Items used in RAT traditions:

Class Drums
Noose & Links
Rat Cap





At the University of the South,
the stories that once comforted us
now trouble us.

That is why we need to tell them.

Sewanee's Vice-Chancellor Alexander Guerry joined with the United Daughters of the Confederacy in 1940 to dedicate a memorial to Confederate Gen. Edmund Kirby Smith, a longtime member of its faculty after the Civil War, at the heart of the campus.

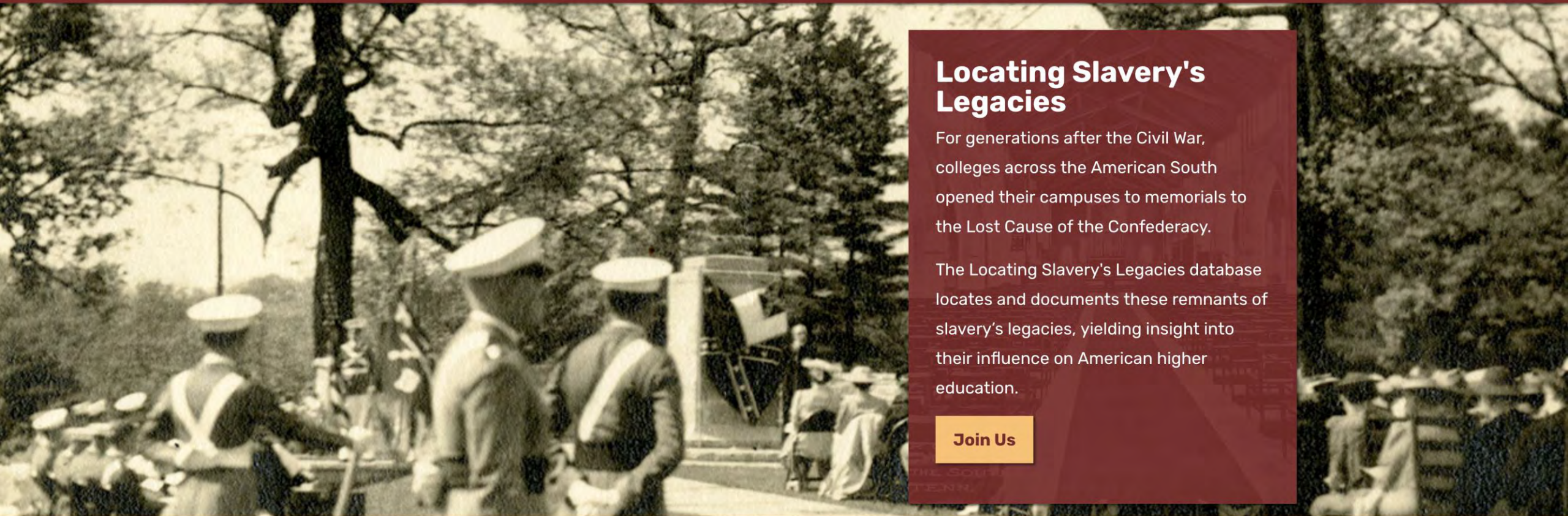


THE ROBERSON PROJECT

On Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation

Launched July 2017

Some of Sewanee's most illustrious and beloved faculty celebrate Confederate Veterans Day, ca. 1904.



Locating Slavery's Legacies

For generations after the Civil War, colleges across the American South opened their campuses to memorials to the Lost Cause of the Confederacy.

The Locating Slavery's Legacies database locates and documents these remnants of slavery's legacies, yielding insight into their influence on American higher education.

[Join Us](#)

Remembering and Re-Telling Our Stories:

The Locating Slavery's Legacies database launched on October 4, 2023, funded by a Legacies of American Slavery grant from the Council of Independent Colleges.



LOCATING
SLAVERY'S
LEGACIES

Questions and Open Discussion



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Thank you
for attending
this session!



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