



T.R.R. COBB HOUSE

PRE-VISIT PACKET

WELCOME!

Thank you for considering a visit to the T.R.R. Cobb House.

The trip is free and we provide grants to cover the expense of the buses and substitute teachers if needed as chaperones (a bus/sub grant form is included). We can accommodate approximately 60 students per day, Tuesdays-Fridays, and schools are welcome to book as many days as needed to accommodate all students. There must be one adult chaperone for every ten students. If the class lacks enough parent volunteers to meet this requirement, we will reim-

burse the school district for the cost of a substitute or substitutes. (See page 6 for the form).

A typical field trip consists of three centers of learning based on your grade level and theme chosen. **These programs do last up to four hours, with time built in to picnic on the grounds.** In case of inclement weather, an indoor location may be available. Some outdoor program components may also be moved indoors as weather requires.

In case of any special needs, there is an elevator available for students, teachers, or chaperones that may require one.

Please let us know in advance so that we can open the back door for your group.

Special programs may be arranged depending on the season and partnerships with other organizations, so please feel free to ask if any special programs are available when you would like to visit.

Please call or email to schedule a field trip or if you have any questions. Trips are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

We look forward to seeing you at the Cobb House!

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HISTORY OF THE T.R.R. COBB HOUSE

The home of Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb is of Greek Revival style. The original part of the house was a four over four "Plantation Plain" built in the early 1830s. The house was a wedding gift in 1844 from Joseph Henry Lumpkin, the first Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, to his daughter Marion and T.R.R. Cobb.

With success at the bar, T.R.R. Cobb grew in influence and wealth. In the late 1840s, Cobb enlarged his relatively modest home to include additional rooms. By 1852, he added the signature octagonal

wings and the front porch with Doric columns, consistent with the construction of other stately Greek revival mansions that defined the architecture of antebellum Athens. The house also featured an outdoor kitchen and 8 slave cabins, which housed 28 enslaved people.

Following Cobb's death in 1862, Marion continued to live in the house until 1873 when she sold it. The house was next used as rental property, fraternity house, and boarding house, until purchased in 1962 by the Archdiocese of Atlanta for the use of

St. Joseph's Catholic Church. In the 1980s, the house was threatened with demolition when St. Joseph's began pursuing expansion plans. The Stone Mountain Memorial Association stepped forward and moved the structure to Stone Mountain Memorial Park near Atlanta in 1985.

Due to budgetary constraints, however, the house was never restored at Stone Mountain and instead was mothballed for later use. For nearly 20 years the house sat on the same cinder blocks it had originally been placed when it arrived at the Park.

With assistance from Stone Mountain Memorial Association, the house was moved back to Athens in the spring of 2005. The Watson-Brown Foundation managed and funded a painstaking restoration that returned Cobb's home to its 1850 appearance. In 2008, the Georgia Trust awarded the T.R.R. Cobb House its Preservation Award for excellence in restoration.

The restored T.R.R. Cobb House, operated by Watson-Brown Foundation, Inc., opened in 2007 as a historic house museum.

KINDERGARTEN – 2ND GRADE: PAST AND PRESENT

Program Description:

Students will complete three centers as part of the program. One center will be a tour with the curator, and then two other centers will be of the teacher(s)' choosing:

-1. *House Puzzle*— Students will hear how the house has changed through time, from a Federal style 4 over 4 to a Greek revival mansion with the addition of the octagons and columns in 1852. They will get to recreate the blueprint of the house at each stage using manipulables, and then can create other designs using the same manipulables.

-2. *Garden*— Students will tour the parterre garden and discuss the shapes that they see. They then will get to create their own parterre gardens using geometric shapes on paper.

-3. *Fans*— Students will see Mary Ann Cobb's fan, and then learn how fans have been used throughout time, including a special language involving fans.

4. *Mystery Box*— What's in the box? Students will have a chance to touch artifacts and try to figure out what is held in each mystery box and how it was used then, and how we use similar objects today.

5. *Toys and Games*— Students will learn about what kids did for fun in the 1800's. They will be introduced to some of the toys and games children played. They will also have an opportunity to learn to play some of the traditional games.

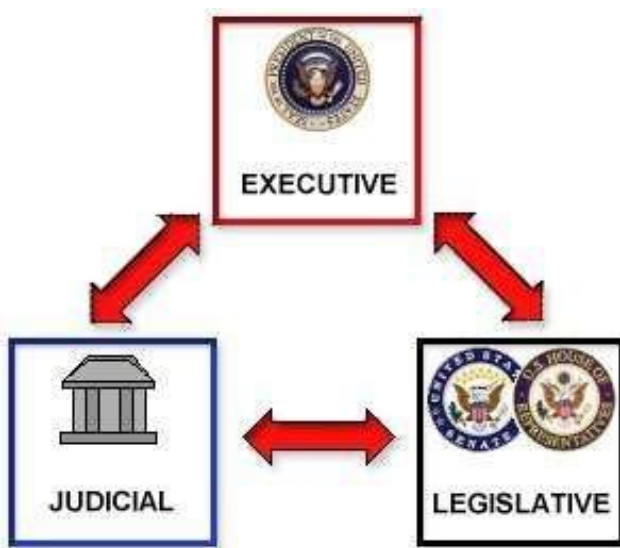
6. *Quilts*— Students will learn the history of quilts and their designs. They then will attempt to recreate specific

quilt designs using geometric shapes. If time allows, they will be allowed to create their own quilt design.

7. *Georgia Geography* (2nd grade)— Students will learn about cardinal and intermediate directions, and learn about the various parts of a map and what information they can provide. Students will also look at an early 1800s map of Georgia to determine how the state has changed over time.



THIRD GRADE: GOVERNMENT AND DEMOCRACY



Program Description:

In addition to a tour of the house that focuses on the Cobb family's ties to government, students will participate in two activities that focus on government and democracy.

In one activity, students will learn about the three branches of government, and how different Cobb family members and relatives fit into the different branches. We also will look at Georgia's current governor, and Jimmy Carter and the different branches of government that led

them to higher offices.

In the other activity, students will practice the ancient Greek system of direct democracy and the American system of representative democracy. At the end, students will discuss the pros and cons of each type.

FOURTH GRADE: CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION

Program Descriptions:

(Please pick 2)

1. *History's Pockets*— Students will examine Library of Congress photographs of objects in Lincoln's pockets upon his assassination and write down what they see, infer, hypothesize. They will not know what the objects are or how they are related to one another (Shhh! Don't tell!). By analyzing pieces of history they will learn to think more deeply about historic events and the people who were there. This activity incorporates inquiry-based learning to encourage questioning and critical thinking. Once they have analyzed the objects, the mystery will be revealed and the story of Lincoln's assassination told.

2. *Spies of the Civil War*—Students will learn about the practice of espionage during the Civil War, includ-

ing the use of unconventional spies— women and enslaved people. They will read short biographies of spies. Finally, they will try to decipher codes through various methods.

3. *Homefront Experiences*— (NOTE: Limited to groups ≤ 40 due to set up and supply requirements) Students will learn about life on the homefront during the war, and then have an opportunity to make a sewing kit called a "housewife" as many men had to make before heading to war.

4. *The Game of Secession*— Students will become pieces in a life-sized game board to learn more about the Civil War through trivia questions.

5. *Pink and Say*— Students will hear the story of *Pink and Say* (based on oral histories) and create a tableau of important moments from the story.

8. *Through a Child's Eyes*— Students will hear and learn how the Civil War

affected children and teenagers through primary sources.

All fourth grade field trips will include a tour of the T.R.R. Cobb House.



Image from History's Pockets.

FIFTH GRADE: CIVIL RIGHTS IN ATHENS

Program Description:

Fifth grade activities will take 4 hours and include time at the UGA Special Collections Library and lunch at one of the sites.

At the Cobb House, emphasis will be made to discuss the long Civil Rights Movement, to explain that it didn't start in the 1960s.

Between visiting the Cobb House and the UGA Special Collections Library, buses will be routed through Hot Corner in downtown Athens, which is

where many African American-owned businesses were located during the Civil Rights Movement. Information will be provided for teachers to discuss the businesses that were located there (some are still there, such as the Morton Theatre). A post-visit activity will also be provided to further discuss Civil Rights in Athens.

While at the T.R.R. Cobb House, students will discuss the various voting rights acts and various Cobb family involvement.

At the UGA Special Collections Library, students will see collections items related to civil rights and voting rights and see all current exhibits on display.

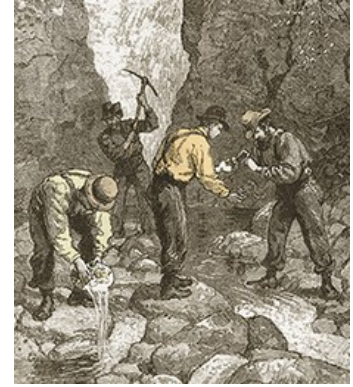
SPECIAL THEMED AND DOUBLE FIELD TRIPS

Throughout the year, we try to offer special field trip opportunities based on limited-time partnerships with other sites. Please ask if you are interested in learning more about these, or check our social media accounts to see if we have any happening during your visit time.

We often partner with the Special Collections Library at UGA to see their current exhibits.

If you would like to visit another site in or near Athens on the same day as your field trip here, let us know and we will work with that site to try to make it work!

These field trips will also be covered by the Watson-Brown Foundation bus grant.



Dahlonega Gold Rush.

FIELD TRIP POLICIES & DROP-OFF INFORMATION

- Please limit your cell phone/ tablet usage during the field trip.
- Lunch is taken outside on the lawn (weather permitting) and teachers supervise this activity. Please advise students to bring bag lunches or have the school provide lunches for them. Food and beverages are not available on site. You may wish to bring blankets or towels to sit on.
- Due to staffing and classroom space considerations no more than 70 students are allowed per day. If you have a larger group, please discuss your specific needs with our Education Coordinator.
- Field trips are rain or shine. Indoor space is available for lunch in cold or inclement weather.
- Photographs are permitted. We would love to see your photos of field trips! Email aoatts@trrcobhouse.org with your favorite visit photos.
- Touching the objects on display is not allowed.
- Buses are welcome to park wherever they would like, whether it be in the parking lot behind the house or on a side street where there is space. Parking is **not allowed** by the Old Jail.
- One chaperone is required for every ten students visiting.
- Students should be dropped off either in the parking lot or in front of the house. If the bus driver drops off behind the house, please walk your students up to the front. If you have anyone in the group with special accommodations needed (such as a wheelchair), please let us know in advance. There is an elevator available for all 3 floors. We will also allow anyone requiring the elevator to enter through our back basement-

HISTORY OF T.R.R. COBB

Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb is considered one of Athens' "First Citizens." Lawyer, author, educator, politician, and military leader, Tom Cobb contributed much to the history of Athens, to Georgia, and to the South during a brief career in the mid-1800s.

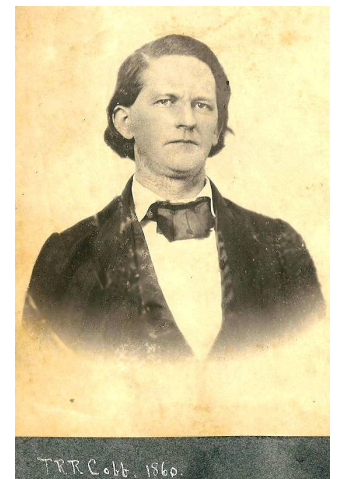
Cobb was also responsible for raising the money for the Lucy Cobb Institute, the first female high school in the

South, named for his favorite daughter who had just passed away from scarlet fever. He also co-founded the Lumpkin Law School, which was named for his father-in-law, Joseph Henry Lumpkin who served as a state supreme court justice at the time.

Cobb also wrote the only legal defense of slavery, which was used to discuss property law for decades

after emancipation. Cobb had as many as 28 enslaved people at one time.

Cobb was the chief author of the Confederate Constitution. He formed a regiment known as Cobb's Legion and was eventually promoted to brigadier general before his death at the Battle of Fredericksburg in Virginia in 1862. His body was returned to the house before his burial at Oconee Hill Cemetery.





Dear Chaperone,

Thank you for agreeing to attend a visit to the T.R.R. Cobb House. In order to have the best possible field trip, we need your active participation to ensure students are acting in a respectful and safe manner. Please remain with your assigned students at all times and do not let them run ahead or go exploring on their own.

Please encourage students to ask questions of the staff and volunteers. Between activities, please talk with them about what they are learning. Please assist the staff and volunteers by minimizing other discussions amongst the students and other chaperones while staff and volunteers are talking.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Sincerely,

Ashleigh Oatts
Education Coordinator

My Group of Students:

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

Teacher's emergency phone: _____

Schedule:

Time we depart from school: _____

Time scheduled to arrive at T.R.R. Cobb House: _____

Time we leave T.R.R. Cobb House: _____

Teacher's educational goals for this field trip: _____

Other notes:

WATSON BROWN

F O U N D A T I O N

Watson-Brown Foundation

Bus Grant Request Form

2022-2023

General Information

These are grants issued by the Watson-Brown Foundation to schools and school districts in Northeast Georgia to bring their students to the T.R.R. Cobb House in Athens, GA for academic field trips. These grants cover the cost of a school bus, a driver, fuel, and if necessary, a substitute teacher. **This form should be submitted within 30 days following the field trip, or may not be eligible for grant funding. Please fill out the form in its entirety.**

Name of teacher leading the trip: _____

Date(s) of the trip: _____

School name and mailing address: _____

Number of students on field trip: _____ Number of buses required: _____

Please provide the cost, as stated and set by your school district, of using these buses for the trip noted above. If the cost breakdown is not known, please provide the total cost:

Cost of bus \$ _____

Cost of driver \$ _____

Cost of gas \$ _____

Cost of substitute teacher/s (if necessary)* \$ _____

**Please note, we require one chaperone for every ten students.*

TOTAL amount requested for grant \$ _____

The following signatures are required for approval:

Lead teacher: _____

Date: _____

-AND-

Busing Secretary: _____

Date: _____

-OR-

Assistant Principal: _____

Date: _____

Please return the completed form to: T.R.R. Cobb House / 175 Hill Street / Athens, GA, 30601. Faxed forms are also acceptable: (706) 354-1054.