

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Savannah Biographies

Special Collections at Lane Library (Armstrong)

5-1991

A Research Paper on George Ferguson Armstrong

Diana Guyette

Armstrong State University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/sav-bios-lane>

Recommended Citation

Guyette, Diana, "A Research Paper on George Ferguson Armstrong" (1991). *Savannah Biographies*. 9.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/sav-bios-lane/9>

This book is brought to you for free and open access by the Special Collections at Lane Library (Armstrong) at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Savannah Biographies by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

ARMSTRONG STATE COLLEGE

A RESEARCH PAPER

ON

GEORGE FERGUSON ARMSTRONG

FOR

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

PROFESSOR WARLICK'S CLASS

HISTORY 300

SUBMITTED BY

DIANA GUYETTE

SAVANNAH, GEORGIA

MAY 1991

[From: The Savannah Biographies, Volume 20.
Minis Room. Lane Library. Armstrong Atlantic
State University. Savannah GA USA 31419-1997]

ABSTRACT

George Ferguson Armstrong was the youngest of four children born to Benjamin Remington and Elizabeth Ferguson Armstrong. Apparently the most financially successful of his siblings, he climbed to the vice-presidency of Strachan and Company from the position of clerk. At thirty-seven years of age, he married a woman fifteen years his junior and this marriage produced one child, a daughter. At the time of his death on February 24, 1924 he was a prominent and popular member of the Savannah business community and of several prestigious clubs, one of which included the Oglethorpe Club.

George Ferguson Armstrong was born at Guyton, Effingham County, Georgia on September 25, 1868, a son of Benjamin Remington and Elizabeth (Ferguson) Armstrong. Benjamin Remington Armstrong was born in Jamestown, Rhode Island, the son of George and Sarah Armstrong who lived in Providence, Rhode Island, and later at Jamestown. The subject's paternal grandfather came to America from England and settled in Providence, Rhode Island, about 1750. Elizabeth (Ferguson) Armstrong, whose home was in Charleston, South Carolina, was a daughter of Hugh and Elizabeth (England) Ferguson. The subject's maternal grandmother was a daughter of a prominent business man of Charleston at the time of the War of 1812. The lineage of the Ferguson family traces back to staunch Scotch origin and the founder of the American branch located in Charleston about 1780. The father of the subject located in Savannah in 1836 and was a contracting mason by vocation. During the Civil War, he was conductor on the "Shoo Fly" train running between Savannah and Oliver. Prior to the war, he was captain of one of the old volunteer fire companies of Savannah. In 1884, he served as city tax assessor.¹ He held the high esteem of all who knew him until his death on April 17, 1901² at the age of 79; the funeral announcement invited relatives and friends to attend the funeral from the Central Railroad Depot at 8:45 a.m. Friday, April 19, 1901.³ Elizabeth Ferguson Armstrong died at the age of 77 on August 19, 1902.⁴ The obituary stated that Mrs. Eliza M. Armstrong, widow of the late B. R. Armstrong, died at her home in Guyton after an illness of two months from dropsy with a complication of other diseases.⁵ All other sources found referred to Mrs. Armstrong as Elizabeth, but upon visiting the family plot at the cemetery, her name is written on the headstone as Eliza M. Armstrong. She was born in May 1825 in Charleston, South Carolina.⁶ Her funeral took place from the Cathedral of

St. John the Baptist at 9:00 a.m. on August 20, 1902. The pallbearers were Messrs. William Boardley, D. Hoagan, George P. Walker, Edward F. Lovell, B. J. Cubbedge, George Rawls, James Neidlinger, and R. J. Davant.⁷ Both were buried in Laurel Grove Cemetery in Lot 1128.⁸

Leander G. Armstrong, the eldest of the Armstrong siblings, was born November 25, 1854⁹ in South Carolina¹⁰ and died February 11, 1927 at St. Joseph's hospital¹¹ in Savannah at the age of 72. Internment was in Laurel Grove Cemetery, lot 1128.¹² A sister, Marion, was born September 19, 1860¹² and married Donald H. Clark.¹³ She died on Wednesday, July 2, 1913. Funeral services were conducted at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist with Rev. Fathers Mitchel and Schadewtil conducting the funeral services. Pallbearers were Judge Paul E. Seabrook, F. M. Oliver, Gordon Saussy, R. M. Courtenay, E. G. McDonald, and R. W. Graves.¹⁴ The cemetery records indicate that she is buried in lot 1325 but there is no stone with her name at this location; there is one in lot 1128 where her daughter, her older brother, and her parents are buried. Her daughter, Kathleen, was born February 25, 1895¹⁵ and married G. W. T. Doyle. She died on her twenty-first birthday in 1916.¹⁶ She left an infant child, John Godfrey Doyle and a sister, Sarah E. Clark.¹⁷ Internment is in Laurel Grove cemetery, lot 1128.¹⁸ Another sister of the subject of this research, Florence, was born February 14, 1864,¹⁹ she married William Albert Davis who was born September 11, 1862 and died March 6, 1936.²⁰ They had four boys: W. A. Davis, Jr., Cecil, George Lee and Albert Davis.²¹ Florence died in Ocala, Florida on November 21, 1945²² at the age of 81. Her body was transported to Savannah by the Railway Express Agency on November 22, 1945²³ and was interned beside her husband in lot 1304 of Laurel Grove Cemetery.²⁴ All arrangements were made by the Hiers Funeral Home of Ocala and the Irvine Henderson Funeral Home of Savannah.²⁵ The

Armstrong family plot, number 1128 at Laurel Grove, also includes a small gravestone on which is inscribed "Little Remmey" with no other information. The family plot has a waist-high red brick enclosure with a wrought iron gate inscribed with the name B. R. Armstrong. Two evergreen trees grow catty-corner from each other and the grave of Leander is covered by a bush.

The Armstrong family moved to Savannah in 1871.²⁶ George attended and graduated from Chatham Academy, a boy's High School. Mr. H. F. Train served as principal at the time.²⁷ He began his career as a clerk with Blodgett, Moore and Company (oil merchants) in 1886. In August 1886, he went with Strachan and Company, ship brokers, founded by Captain George P. Walker and the late Captain F. G. Strachan. The company's name was later changed to Strachan Shipping Company.²⁸ In 1888, George enlisted as a private in the Chatham Artillery of the Georgia National Guard, with which he was still identified at the time of the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. He was then commissioned second-lieutenant of his company which was mustered into the volunteer service of the United States at Griffin, Georgia as Battery B. First Georgia Light Artillery. The battery was sent to the reserve camp at Chickamauga where it remained until the cessation of hostilities. It then returned to Griffin where it was mustered out of the United States service.²⁹ He became the bookkeeper/clerk at the Strachan Co. in approximately 1889 and manager in approximately 1901.³⁰ This upward movement indicates a driving force to excel at what he did.

George married Miss Lucy May Camp of Ocala, Florida at 10:30 a.m. on January 4, 1905.³¹ He was thirty-six years old at the time. This late marriage implies a need to be established before committing himself to raising a family. Lucy May Camp was the daughter of William N. and Texana (Gray) Camp, who were at that time residents of Suffolk, Virginia but lived

in Ocala.³² The wedding was one of the most brilliant and largely attended ever seen in the city of Ocala. The bridal couple left that morning for a trip to Cuba. The newspaper stated that the couple would be at home to their friends at the DeSoto Hotel in Savannah after February 1.³³ A daughter was born to George and Lucy May on September 21, 1905,³⁴ but the birth certificate was not followed by the affidavit stating the child's name as was the custom of the day. The girl was named Lucy Camp. The George Armstrong family was listed on the birth certificate as residing at 31st and Lincoln at this time. In 1905 the Savannah City Directory has Mr. Armstrong residing as a boarder at 15 Perry West and in 1906 as residing at 220 31st Street East until 1911. He and his wife were then listed as residents at 45th and Reynolds or 701 East 45th until 1918 at which time their residence was listed as 117 34th Street East. In 1919 the City Directory listed the Armstrong family residence at 441-449 Bull which, in 1920 and thereafter, was changed to 447 Bull.

In 1906, the Hibernia Bank was organized and George Armstrong was listed as one of its directors until it was liquidated in 1921.³⁵ In 1910, Mr. Armstrong was made commissioner of pilotage in Savannah. He was listed as one of the commissioners of Pilotage from 1917 to 1923.³⁶ The City Directory of 1910 indicated his employment as the President of the Mutual Mining Company, extensive miners and shippers of Florida phosphate. In 1913, he was listed as Director of Hibernia Bank and in 1914, he is also listed as Director of Hibernia Bak and president of the Savannah Baseball Club. He was appointed port representative of the United States Shipping board for 1917, 1918, and 1919.³⁷

The Savannah Press featured Mr. Armstrong in the "Men of Affairs in Savannah" on April 14, 1923. The article began with this statement: "If

credit is given to the men who have worked for the development of the port of Savannah, which has made it one of the main shipping points south of New York, Mr. Armstrong must be given his share." It continues by saying: "He has been connected with practically every plan having as its aim the enlargement of the port, and during the unprecedented flow of wartime business, his counsel was always sought by those looking to expeditious shipping." and that "His appointment as comptroller of Savannah and Charleston shipping, as well as a member of the shipping control committee, showed the governmental recognition of Mr. Armstrong's ability." This same article ended with these comments:

Mr. Armstrong is prominent in all public matters. He has aided handsomely and liberally in all commercial and church movements. He is emphatically a builder and his friends and the deserving enterprises of Savannah have shared from his generous sympathy. He is a member of the different clubs and organizations in Savannah and his associates welcomed him when he returned to Savannah fully restored after his recent illness.

This last paragraph alluded to several special concerns of Mr. Armstrong. First, his interest in public matters: In his will, he donated monies to the Union Society of Savannah to benefit the Bethesda Orphanage, to the Savannah Female Orphanage, and to the Little Sisters of the Poor. Second, his willingness to aid commercial and church movements in Savannah and Georgia: In the estate inventory, it is noted that Mr. Armstrong held stock in many Savannah and Georgia businesses, such as, Savannah Creosoting Co., Savannah Wholesale and Comp. Co., Augusta and Savannah R. R., Savannah Cotton Exchange Co., Strachan Shipping Co., Southland Steamship Co., Georgia Stevedoring Co., Savannah's Industrial Corp., Glynn Ice Co.,

Savannah Fair Inc., Savannah Oil and Gas Corp., and the Savannah Board of Trade. Though some of these stocks were of great value, several of them, such as those for Glynn Ice Co., Savannah Fair Co., Savannah Oil and Gas Corp. Co, and Savannah Board of Trade had no monetary value at the time of his death which might indicate his willingness to invest in hometown businesses without an assurance of monetary gain. He held bonds from the Oglethorpe Club and the Greater Savannah Co. further demonstrating his willingness to invest in businesses and civic organizations of Savannah and Georgia. He subscribed to the Georgia Anti-Saloon League, the Union Society, the First Baptist Church, the Young Men's Christian Association, and the Agnes Scott College.³⁹ He utilized the services of Savannah businesses for most of his needs as is seen in the listing of his debts at the time of his death: Wachtel's Physician's Supply Co. and Solomons Co. Druggist are two cases in point.⁴⁰ As a builder, he used the services of residents of Savannah as much as possible. A good example of this was his magnificent home built on Bull Street. In an article in the Savannah Morning Press dated January 18, 1919, Mr. E. Lynn Drummond, wrote:

Of course, it was necessary to send to the art centers for much of the fine craftsman work but it was possible to have a great deal of it done by or through local people and wherever this was possible it was done. Certainly no better work exists in the building than the beautiful ornamental plaster ceilings, cornices, panels and friezes, wonderful in refinement of detail, executed by Mr. Thomas Forshaw of this city. The same praise can be given to all the interior finish, furnishings and decorations throughout, done by or through the Lindsay and Morgan Company.

Savannah Does Work.

Savannahians will be pleased to know local concerns are fully equipped to do work of this character and to compete with the large houses in the country. All the work was by Savannah concerns.⁴¹

As a further demonstration of his civic involvement, Mr. Armstrong was actively connected with the Chatham Artillery which he joined as a private member in 1887 and of which he was an honorary member until his death.⁴² The officers and men of this organization met at 11:45 a.m. at his residence to pay their last respects on the day of his funeral.⁴³ He was director of the Savannah Board of Trade for several months, his failing health compelling him to resign.⁴⁴ On the death certificate, it was noted that he suffered from carcinoma of the lung for a period of two years and that the contributory factor to his death was a general metastasis over a period of one year.⁴⁵ This would explain the last line of the article in "Men of Affairs in Savannah" which stated that "his associates welcomed him when he returned to Savannah fully restored after his recent illness."⁴⁶ Little did they know, or indicate they knew, that Mr. Armstrong would never be "fully restored" to health. This also suggests that he was out of town for a period of time.

Upon research in the General Index to Real Estate, Grantee, 1911-1926, it was found that George Armstrong had been active in buying various properties during a period of twelve years. In 1911, three properties were purchased by deed, of which the South portion, Lot 13, Cuyler Farms, Co. Sub-Division was one, purchased from George W. Haight on January 14. This property is in the Historical Map section at the County Courthouse; it can be found in Historical Map 2, page 269. It was surveyed in 1863 and it consists of several plots on Waters-Dale. Another property, acquired by

Mr. Armstrong and others by Quit-Deed from James F. Butler, is also in the Historical Map 2 section; it can be found on page 50; this property is located at Bull and Whitaker. In the years between 1911 and 1923 over twenty properties were bought and sold by Mr. Armstrong or Mr. Armstrong and others.⁴⁷

The one property for which he is best known is the one of Bull Street on which he had his famous house built. As described in The Savannah Press on Saturday, January 18, 1919, it is "Savannah's Newest and Most Beautiful Home." The heading and sub-headings to the article are as follows:

HANDSOME HOME IS
NEARLY COMPLETED
AFTER MANY MONTHS

Mr. George F. Armstrong
has beautiful mansion
Bull and Gaston

Attractive In Design;
Lavish In Lay-Out

The extensive article written by Mr. E. Lynn Drummond continues:

Seldom does the average person think at the same time of a mansion and a home, yet the residence of Mr. George F. Armstrong, Gaston and Bull streets, wonderful in artistic merit, complete in its appointments, comfortable, livable, can certainly be called both in every sense. The building occupying a commanding corner in the city, just at the entrance of Forsyth park, has already

attracted a great deal of attention, and when it has been fully completed and its lines softened and enriched with the planting, an essential part of the design, Savannah will be able to boast of a city residence that ranks with the foremost. Indeed, this building, though not as large as many, is conceded in New York circles to be, foot for foot, the equal of anything in the country.

Mr. Henrik Wallin is the architect and Mr. Olaf Otto the contracting engineer for this beautiful addition to Savannah homes.

The article describes the "Prize-Winning Front Door."

The entrance doorway is in antique bronze. In design and execution it is so exquisite and delicate that it may well be ranked with the finest jewelry. The door itself is an ornamental twisted spindle grille design over plate glass, flanked by delicate arabesques and pilasters with a crowning feature composed of a flower basket and bird motive tied in with acanthus scrolls. A portion of it was on display at the recent annual exhibit of the Architectural League at the Fine Arts building in New York city and won honorable mention, which was the highest award given to any exhibit. The work was executed by the John Bolachek Bronze and Iron Company of New York. It is said in New York of this doorway and of the porte cochere doorway and the bronze balustrade on the main stairs, that is a pleasure to know that work of this character was being done, not "in the South" or "in this section," but "in this country."

Under the sub-heading "Very Costly Structure," the writer states:

The cost has not been made public. Many are too prone to judge artistic merit by money value. It is sufficient to say if the building had been erected in New York just as it stands, the cost would have been far greater and the results no better. ⁴⁸

In 1935, a Junior College Committee began a search for a suitable place to house a Junior College in Savannah. "The Mayor, Mr. Lowe and others inspected the McAlpin House, the Waring House, the White House, and the upper floors of the Georgia State Savings Bank. It was hoped that one of these buildings could be rented for the purpose." ⁴⁹

The article continues to say:

Early in the search for a home for the college, Mayor Gamble had asked Robert W. Groves, a former business associate of George Ferguson Armstrong, to discuss with Mrs. Lucy M. C. Moltz, the former Mrs. Armstrong, the possibility of acquiring her Savannah home as the site for a junior college. Mrs. Moltz was on a tour of the world at the time, but was reached on May 25 and announced that she and her daughter, Mrs. W. R. Johnson, would give the building to the city. A delighted Mayor informed the city on the next day, Sunday, that Savannah would have the Armstrong Memorial Junior College housed in one of the most impressive buildings in the Southeast.

The article ends by saying: "Chairman Adams announced that registration for the Freshman class would begin on June 25 in the Armstrong Building and that Dean Lowe would be in charge. The college was no longer the dream of the Mayor, but a reality." ⁵⁰

I am certain that Mr. Armstrong would have been delighted at the prospect of his home being used for the furtherance of education. My

impression of him has been of a man who believed in pushing forward in life and I'm sure he would agree that a well- educated person has a better chance of climbing the corporate ladder. It appears that the former Mrs. Armstrong and her daughter did not occupy the house at 447 Bull Street from 1928 on for the City Directory listed the house as vacant.^{5p}

George Armstrong died February 24, 1924 of lung cancer of which he had suffered for two years. The carcinoma had metastasised the last year of his life. His physician's name was John K. Train of 1107 Bull Street.^{5p} It is noteworthy that he studied under a Professor H. F. Train. It would be interesting to research whether these two men were related in any way. Mr. Armstrong was most generous to his family members and some friends as indicated in his last will and testament drawn the 12th day of January, 1924, 43 days before his death. He bequeathed "the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) in trust to be invested" by the Trustees "so as to yield not less than four per cent (4%) per annum on the investment, and to pay the income thereof to my sister, Florence Armstrong Davis, during her life, and from and after her death to turn over the said investment to her husband and children, or to such of them as may be then in life." George also directed that any indebtedness that may be due him by Florence be cancelled and that her stock in The Mutual Mining Company pledged to him be returned to her or to her estate upon her death. In Item Third, he bequeathed "the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) in trust, to invest the same and to use the income therefrom for the benefit of John Godfrey Doyle, the son of my niece, Kathleen Clark Doyle", (who was deceased), "until he shall reach the age of twenty-five (25) years, and then to pay hime the principal or corpus." The same amount was bequeathed to his niece, Sarah Elizabeth Clark with the same provisos. If either his

nephew or niece should die without issue before the age of twenty-five (25) years, then the principal, or corpus, shall be payable to Mr. Armstrong's estate. If they should die before reaching 25 years of age and leave issue their heirs would receive the principal of the trust fund. His brother, Leander G. Armstrong received the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00) under the same proviso as Florence except that if he should die the remainder as to the principal or corpus be given to George's daughter, Lucy Camp Armstrong. He gave the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) each to F. N. Helmly and J. M. Extrowich provided they be an employee of good standing in some corporation or partnership in which George was interested. He then directed that the sum of "Two Hundred Thousand Dollars be invested and held for the benefit of my daughter, Lucy Camp Armstrong, the income to be used for her, until she is twenty-five (25) years, then the principal, or corpus, is to be paid to her. If my said daughter shall die without issue her surviving before she reaches the age of twenty-five (25) years, then the principal or corpus of the said trust fund shall be paid to my wife." He then directed that "as much as Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) be paid to my wife, Lucy May Camp Armstrong, as her absolute property, either in cash or investments of this value." He then bequeathed the balance of his residuary estate one-third to his daughter and two-thirds to his wife. The one-third given to his daughter was to be held until she is twenty-one (21) to be paid to her mother; the income thereafter, until she is twenty-five (25), to be paid to her. If his daughter were to die before she is twenty-five (25), then all bequests to her would go to his wife. He appointed his wife and two friends, Frank D. M. Strachan and Robert W. Groves to be the ^{si} executors and trustees of his will.

END NOTES

1. Candler and Evans, Cyclopedia Of Georgia, Ref F284 C3 1972, Volume 1 A-E, Armstrong State College, Savannah, Georgia, 75.
2. Candler and Evans, Cyclopedia Of Georgia, Ref F284 C3 1972, Volume 1 A-E, Armstrong State College, Savannah, Georgia, 75.
3. The Morning News, April 19, 1901, column 1, page 2.
4. The Morning News, August 20, 1902, column 1, page 2.
5. The Morning News, August 20, 1902, column 5, page 5.
6. The Morning News, August 20, 1902, column 5, page 5.
7. The Morning News, August 20, 1902, Column 5, page 5.
8. General Index to Keepers' Record Books: Laurel Grove Cemetery, 1853-1938, Volume 1, RG 929.5.
9. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.
10. Census: 1880, Volume 4, E.D. 30, Sheet 18, Line 24, Chatham County Library, Savannah.
11. Savannah Morning News, February 13, 1927, Column 1, page 2.
12. General Index to Keepers' Record Books: Laurel Grove Cemetery, 1853-1938, Volume 1, RG 929.5.
13. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.
14. Savannah Morning Press, July 3, 1913, Column 4, page 9.
15. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.
16. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.
17. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.
18. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.
19. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1304, Savannah, Georgia.
20. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1304, Savannah, Georgia.
21. Last Will and Testament: Folio 281, Chatham County Courthouse, Savannah, Georgia.
22. Chatham County Health Department, Savannah, Georgia, Volume 100.5, Index 954.
23. Chatham County Health Department, Savannah, Georgia, Volume 100.5,

Index 954.

24. Laurel Grove Cemetery: Lot 1128, Savannah, Georgia.

25. Chatham County Health Department, Savannah, Georgia, Volume 100.5,
Index 954.

26. City Directory: Savannah, Chatham County Library, 1871.

27. City Directory: Savannah, Chatham County Library, 1877.

28. Savannah Morning News, February 2, 1924, column 1, page 2.

29. Candler and Evans, Cyclopedia Of Georgia, Ref F284 C3 1972, Volume
1, A-E, 75-76.

30. City Directory: Savannah, Chatham County Library, 1889 and 1901.

31. Candler and Evans, Cyclopedia Of Georgia, Ref F284 C3 1972, Volume
1, A-E, 76.

32. Candler and Evans, Cyclopedia Of Georgia, Ref F284 C3 1972, Volume
1, A-E, 76.

33. Savannah Morning News, January 4, 1905, column 4, page 6.

34. Chatham County Health Department, Savannah, Georgia.

35. City Directory: Savannah, Chatham County Library, 1906-1921.

36. City Directory: Savannah, Chatham County Library, 1917-1923.

37. Savannah Morning News, February 25, 1924, column 1, page 2.

38. The Savannah Press: Biography, April 14, 1923,

39. Last Will and Testament: Folio 281, Estate of George F. Armstrong
Inventory, page 401.

40. Last Will and Testament: Folio 281, Estate of George F. Armstrong
Inventory, page 400.

41. The Savannah Press, Saturday, January 18, 1919.

42. Savannah Morning News, February 25, 1924, column 1, page 2.

43. Savannah Morning News, February 27, 1924, column 3, page 14.

44. Savannah Morning News, February 25, 1924, column 1, page 2.

45. Chatham County Health Department: Death Certificate, Volume 22,
Index 349.

46. The Savannah Press: Biography, April 14, 1923.

47. General Index to Real Estate: A-B, Grantee 1911-1926, Chatham County Courthouse, Savannah, Georgia.

48. The Savannah Press, January 18, 1919.

49. W. Orson Beecher, Professor Emeritus of History, Armstrong State College: 1935 to 1985, Savannah, Georgia, Special Collection LD248 A25 B43 1985, chapter 1, page 3.

50. W. Orson Beecher, Professor Emeritus of History, Armstrong State College: 1935 to 1985, Savannah, Georgia, Sepcial Collection LD248 A25 B43 1985, chapter 1, page 4.

51. City Directory: Savannah, Chatham County Library, 1928-1932.

52. Chatham County Health Department:Death Certificate, Savannah, Georgia, Volume 22, Index 349.

53. Last Will and Testament: Folio 281, George F. Armstrong, item 10, pages 382-83.

54. Bonaventure Cemetery: Lots 360-361, Savannah, Georgia.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Armstrong, George Ferguson. Last Will and Testament: Folio 281. 377-423.

Armstrong State College: 1935-1985. Beecher, W. Orson, Professor Emeritus of History. Special Collection LD248 A25 B43 1985. Minnis Room, Armstrong State College Library.

Bonaventure Cemetery. Lots 360-361. Savannah, Georgia

Bonaventure Cemetery: General Index to Keepers' Records Book. Volume 1, RG 929.5, 1850-1938. Chatham County Library, Savannah, Georgia.

Census, Federal, United States Government. Chatham County Library, Savannah, Georgia.

Chatham County Health Department. Savannah, Georgia. Birth Records. Death Records.

City Directory: Savannah. 1871-1932. Chatham County Library, Savannah, Georgia.

Cyclopedia Of Georgia. Ref F284 C3 1972: Volume 1, A-E. Armstrong State College Library.

Gamble Collection. Chatham County Library, Savannah, Georgia.

Georgia Historical Society. Savannah, Georgia.

Grantee, General Index to Real Estate: A-B 1911-1926. Chatham County Courthouse, Savannah, Georgia.

Laurel Grove Cemetery. Lots 1128 and 1304. Savannah, Georgia.

Laurel Grove Cemetery: General Index to Keepers' Record Books. Volume 1, RG 929.5: 1853-1938.

Savannah Morning News. 1905, 1924, 1927

Savannah Morning Press. 1913.

The Morning News. 1901, 1902.

The Savannah Press. 1919, 1923.

EPILOGUE

It would be interesting to research where the Davis, Doyle and Clark family members are. The marriage certificate of George F. Armstrong and Lucy May Camp is in Ocala, Florida. Other places I wish I had time to check out are: 447 Bull Street, his residence; First Baptist Church Records, he was a member of this church; Charleston, South Carolina to check out Eliza Ferguson's parentage (it would also be interesting to find out why her name was written Elizabeth in so many official records, such as City Directory and Census Records); Jamestown, Rhode Island to trace Benjamin Remington Armstrong's parentage. I could not find any information about the "Shoo Fly" train; being a Canadian by birth, I have no idea where the term comes from and what it describes. The military record of George Armstrong would be interesting to find as well as his work record from Strachan and Company. The most interesting information I had no way to find was how George and Lucy met; his company, the Mutual Mining Company dealt with Florida phosphate. What happened to this company? In the folio containing his will a notation was made that this company was in financial straits at the time of his death. A persistent rumor is that Mr. Armstrong built his home on that particular corner because the Oglethorpe Club refused his application; he was a member of this club at the time of his death. The second marriage of Lucy May Camp Armstrong and the marriage of her daughter, Lucy Camp, would be interesting to research. Did Lucy have any children? Why did she not get married until she was in her late twenties? I found, then lost, some information on a bequest to an individual by George Armstrong on the condition that the recipient not smoke nor drink.???

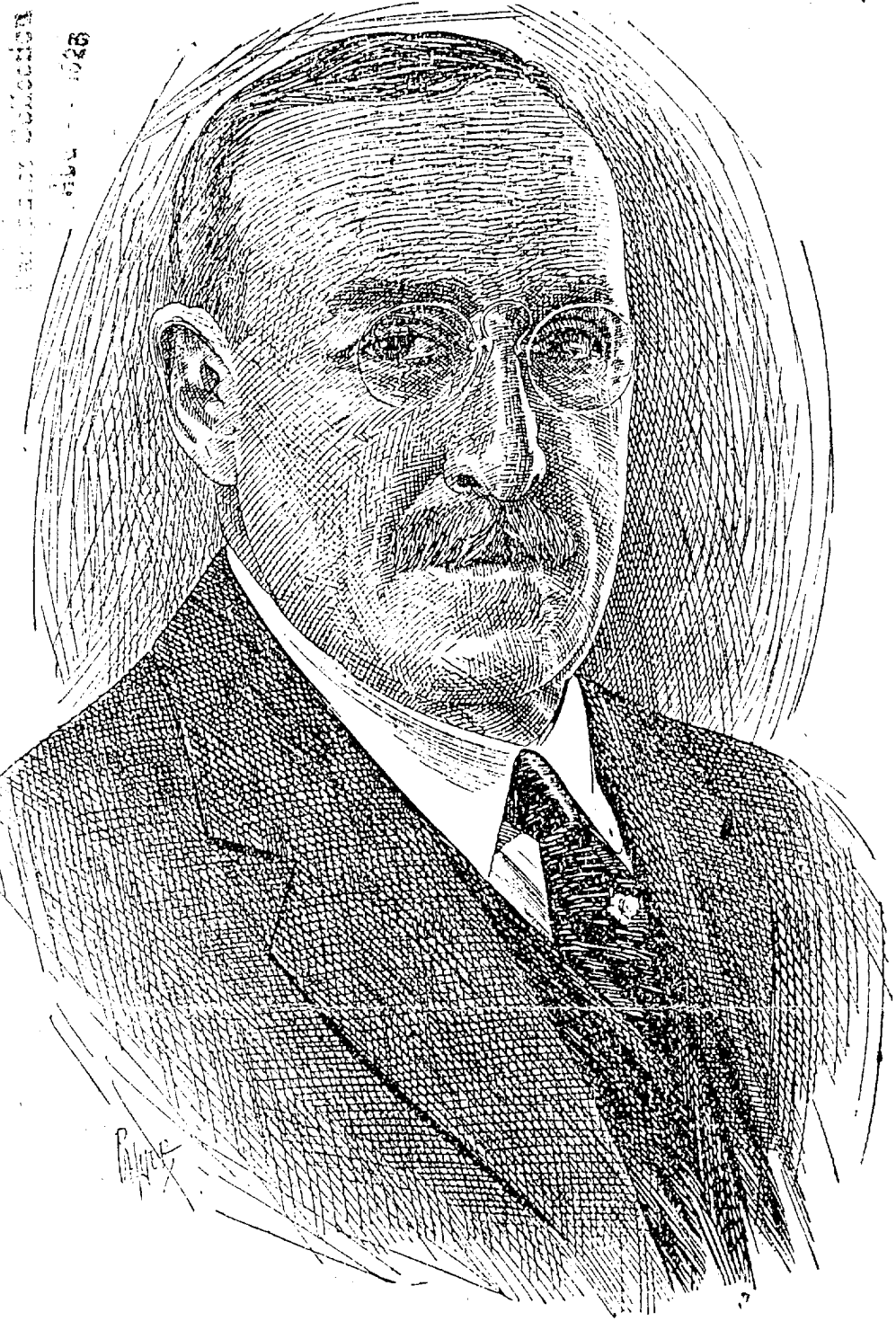
George F. Armstrong
younger age



Men of Affairs in Savannah 1914 p 203

Pen and ink sketch by Harry Palmer from photo. by (Laudley & Studio.)

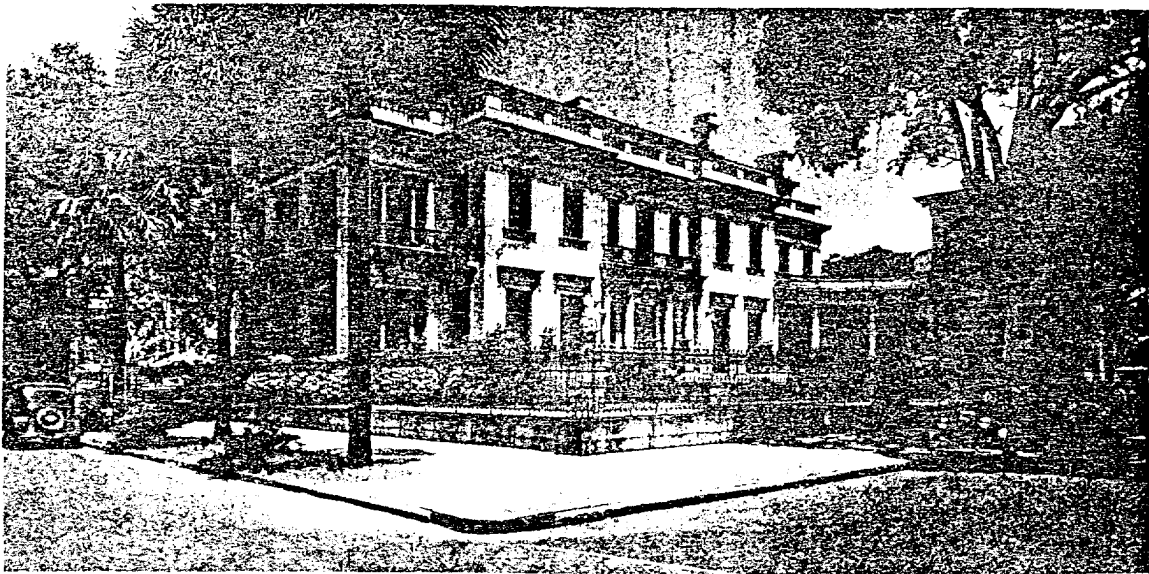
Savannah - Biography - Armstrong Biography



GEORGE FERGUSON ARMSTRONG

ARMSTRONG COLLECTION

1914 - 1926



The Armstrong Building



Mrs. Lucy M. C. Moltz