

# An update on the renovations in McLarty-Goodson Hall

By Julie Carter  
Opinion Editor

As the 2018-2019 school year began, many members of the campus community noticed that renovations in McLarty-Goodson Hall, commonly referred to as MG, are still underway. Now, more than a month into the semester, these renovations are still happening.

Some parts of the renovations have already been completed over the course of the end of last term and the summer break such as new flooring, updates to the bathrooms and new technology. However, access to the building through the front doors has been blocked due to construction.

Several pieces are still waiting to be delivered and installed such as more furniture for the atrium, which has caused some frustration in the campus community.

“Every time that it’s a little bit inconvenient it’s because the end result is great,” said Juan Mascaro, Vice President of Strategy and Operations.

“Patience: that’s all we can ask for,” Vice President of Academic Affairs Scott Sheffield said. However, the community can take peace in knowing that most of the renovations are slated to be completed by the end of the semester as it becomes a more updated learning environment.

“It is a building that supports the mission of the college which is experiential learning, [we are] trying to make that a building that supports that mission and trying to change some of the classrooms, so it supports more of a collaborative learning environment,” said Juan Mascaro.

In the midst of these renovations, the dedication of the building’s atrium was held on Sat. Sept. 22 at 10:30 a.m. The foyer was dedicated as The Rev. C. Edward and Grace Jackson Munro Roy Atrium.

The latter was able to attend the ceremony on Sat. “She was here for a long time and her husband was a former dean, and she has been a member of the college community for over 50 years, and is well-respected and well-loved,” revered Scott Sheffield.

## Student Reflection

# Field Trip to Smith-McDowell House

## *Chapin’s class embraces Experiential Ed.*

By Chloe McGee  
Contributor

Brevard College professor of art history Dr. Anne Chapin applied experiential learning to her class’s curriculum and the results are notable.

Earlier this semester, Chapin and our class travelled to Asheville to visit the Smith-McDowell House Museum. The objective for the students was to understand social and historical context of the Impressionism movement—an era of art history our class is studying.

After interviewing a couple members of the class, it’s apparent that my peers also enjoyed having class outside of the classroom.

“I love that I am attending a college where experiential learning is part of the mission statement because no matter the class you’re in, you’ll get to physically do or see something that aids to the topics you’re learning,” said Whitney Ward, an art major with a concentration in graphic design.

Our trip to the Smith-McDowell House gave “a better understanding of historical context during the Impressionism movement,” Ward added.

Built in 1840, the Smith-McDowell House stands as a testament of historical progression in the South. Though the mansion has experienced its fair share of renovation, the eclectic structure has maintained a sense of originality. It was like stepping into a multi-generational

time capsule.

Our group toured several rooms designed to replicate the period-style of varying decades; each presenting décor, furniture, and architecture appropriate and unique to its time, including items authentic of the families that once lived there.

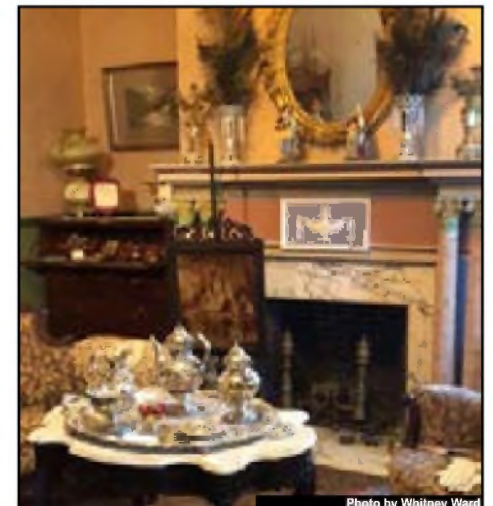
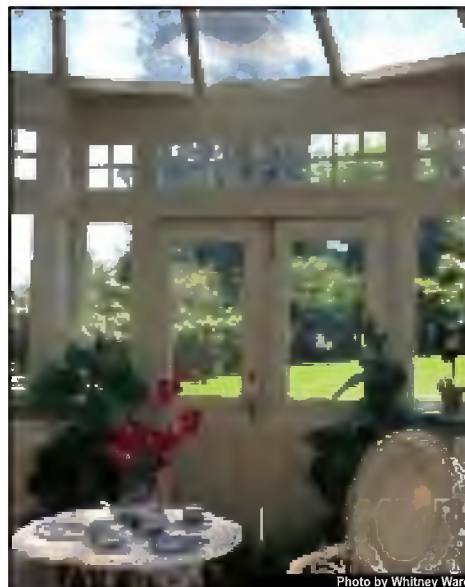
Because of the ornate architecture and expensive furnishings, it’s apparent that this house was once home to members of the upper-class community—a lifestyle fortunate enough to be educated and cultured, and indulge in luxuries such as art.

While much of the South was stricken by poverty, economically-stable families like the Smiths and McDowell were able to support the art community.

Our class was assigned a paper to describe their personal experience and reflect on social and economic trends during the Impressionism movement. The students had much to say.

“It showed the changes of style through the era of art we studied... and narrowed down who the movement was targeted to,” said Kristen Martinet, an art major with a concentration in painting.

It seems the Smith-McDowell house is a visual representation of art’s perseverance, transcending time and culture. Our trip exemplified how art reflects culture and vice versa, providing myself and my peers with a new and compelling perspective.



Students are able to take a glimpse into the past at the Smith-McDowell House Museum in Asheville, NC. An orchid flourishes in a sunroom (left). A silver tea set gleams in front of an ornate hearth (above).