

From: John Temple Ligon
Sent: 3/30/2016 10:41:57 PM
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Cc:
Subject: South Carolinians Suitable for Sculpture

Two Statues

Facing the front of the new law school building should be a life-sized bronze statue of John Locke, the origin of "Every man has a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," or words to that effect, according to Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson also declared the three greatest men in the history of the world were Isaac Newton, Francis Bacon, and John Locke. Locke collaborated with Anthony Ashley Cooper, his boss, to write the Fundamental Constitutions of Carolina just before Carolina and what became Charleston were founded in 1670. Also just before Charleston began was the beginning of London's Carolina Coffee House on #25 Birching Lane, not even a block from the Royal Exchange, which today is across the street from the Bank of England and the London Stock Exchange. Hard to find a more prestigious address than #25 Birchin Lane, formerly Birching. USC's law school might want to install its coffee shop under the name #25 Birching Lane, which was where Locke and Lord Ashley and other members of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina met with prospective families who wanted to hear all about it.

OK, that's one statue. The second should be a few hundred feet down the median on Senate Street in front of the department of art where Jasper Johns had three semesters of formal higher education, just about all he ever had. Johns left USC at the urging of his professors to take courses in art in New York City at Hunter College. Turned out Hunter was strictly female, and the branch campus for boys was too far away in The Bronx. During the Korean War Johns was drafted into the army, after which he returned to New York, and in 1955 he painted the most important American painting for the 20C, Flag. His first one-man show at the Castelli Gallery in early 1958 was a triumph, selling three paintings to the Museum of Modern Art for their permanent collection. The fourth, the Flag, was bought by architect Philip Johnson and given to the museum on permanent loan. More recently his painting False Start sold for \$80 million, a record for a living painter. Point being, Johns needs to be memorialized on the Senate Street median. Maybe we can convince him where he should locate a home for his permanent collection, not only works he never sold but paintings by other famous artists. Johns is particularly proud of his Cezannes.

Now that we've located Locke and Johns, we can consider these listed people for placement along the Senate Street median anywhere from Sumter Street to Gregg Street. I try to stay away from elected officials. They fit better on the capitol grounds. The military types have to have four stars or the Medal of Honor. Sports heroes made it big in the professional ranks or won major

championships. The hall of fame in Myrtle Beach needs to have different criteria, for the most part. We'll try to recognize arts and letters, science, commerce... One or two might come across as just too much trouble, too controversial, such as Dr. L. Marion Sims, who experimented surgery on his slaves.

Study the list and get back to me, please, with recommendations for deletions and additions. Life-sized bronze sculpture can get expensive. You might want to help with that, too. In no particular order:

Anthony Ashley Cooper – head of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina; a k a Lord Ashley and 1st Earl of Shaftesbury - London

Julia Peterkin – Pulitzer Prize in 1928 for Scarlet Sister Mary – Ft. Motte

Charles Townes – Nobel Prize in physics for laser - Greenville

Althea Gibson – French Open in 1956, Wimbledon and U. S. Open in 1957 and 1958 – Silver, New York City

Oscar Brice – retired as four-star general; head of Marine Aviation, WWII – Winnsboro

James Dozier – Medal of Honor, WWI – Columbia

Charles Murray – Medal of Honor, WWII - Columbia

Larry Doby – first African-American in the American League, 1947 - Camden

Robert Mills – America's first full-time professional architect; designed the Washington Monument – Charleston

Bernard Baruch – financier, advisor to FDR – Camden

Andrew Jackson – president of the U. S.; born in Waxhaw on the N. C./S. C. line

Peter Manigault – richest person in the American colonies upon his death, 1773 – Charleston

Hernando de Soto – explored what became S. C., mid-1500s – Spain

Henry Timrod – poet laureate of the Confederacy; buried at Trinity Cathedral – Florence

Mary Chestnut – author, Mary Chestnut's Civil War, edited by C. Vann Woodward; 1982 Pulitzer Prize for History

Henry Laurens – president of the Continental Congress, 1777-1778 - Charleston