

From: Emerson, W. Eric <EEmerson@scdah.sc.gov>  
To: Danny VaratDannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov  
CC: Dorsey, WadeWDorsey@scdah.sc.gov  
Date: 8/8/2018 5:19:10 PM  
Subject: RE: Statehouse picture

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Hi Danny,

Regrettably, we have found nothing else in the Salley papers or the Commission records regarding the repair of the Washington statue. Let me know if there is anything else that you need.

Best,  
Eric

W. Eric Emerson, Ph.D.  
Director and State Historic Preservation Officer  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
8301 Parklane Road  
Columbia, SC 29223  
803-896-6185  
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**From:** Danny Varat [mailto: DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 08, 2018 9:24 AM  
**To:** Emerson, W. Eric  
**Cc:** Dorsey, Wade  
**Subject:** Re: Statehouse picture

Thanks very much. I appreciate it.

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**From:** Emerson, W. Eric <EEmerson@scdah.sc.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 4:50 PM  
**To:** Danny Varat  
**Cc:** Dorsey, Wade  
**Subject:** RE: Statehouse picture

Danny,

We are looking through the Salley correspondence and the Archives and History Commission records to see if we can find anything else. We probably should have an update for you tomorrow.

Best,  
Eric

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**From:** Danny Varat [<mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2018 4:21 PM

**To:** Emerson, W. Eric <[EEmerson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EEmerson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Cc:** Dorsey, Wade <[WDorsey@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:WDorsey@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Statehouse picture

Eric, thanks a lot for this information. I'll arrange to come out and see that file. I also have emailed Allen, just to go see the cane, but I haven't yet heard back. I'll call South Caroliniana for their help. Have y'all been through the Salley archive for any pertinent documents? I often have wondered if, since he wrote that letter to the State, he made any notes or kept any invoices. I appreciate y'all's help

Danny

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**From:** Emerson, W. Eric <[EEmerson@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EEmerson@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 7, 2018 4:08 PM

**To:** Danny Varat

**Cc:** Dorsey, Wade

**Subject:** RE: Statehouse picture

Hi Danny,

Thanks for your message. A number of staff members looked into this a few years ago, and you are more than welcome to look at the research file that they compiled. From the records, we believe that A.S. Salley repaired the statue in FY 1908-09. If we go with the assumption that Gov. Blease damaged it again, then it probably would have happened when he was Governor from 1911 to 1915, since he was out of the General Assembly by the time that it was repaired. It may not have been Blease, but that is the most widely accepted theory. The piece of the cane that supposedly was shot away is at the Confederate Relic Room, but SCDAH staff took it to the statue years ago to see if it fit, and it was not an exact match. This adds another layer to the mystery.

Regarding images of the statue from between 1908 and 1915, we have not been able to locate any. I would try the South Caroliniana Library at USC. We have images from 1895 showing the statue without the lower part of the cane, and we have images of the statue post 1915. Let me know if we can be of assistance or if you would like to see the file.

Best,  
Eric

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**From:** Danny Varat [<mailto:DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2018 2:27 PM

**To:** Emerson, W. Eric <[EEmerison@scdah.sc.gov](mailto:EEmerison@scdah.sc.gov)>

**Subject:** Statehouse picture

Eric, I hope that all is well and you're having a great summer. I'd like to find a photo of the north side of Statehouse and dated sometime from 1880-1912 that shows the Washington statue with the cane fully intact. I'm doing a little research into the story that A. S. Salley replaced it in the 80s or 90s and that Cole Blease shot it off while he was governor. Do you think that's something y'all have and could find without too much trouble? Thanks

Danny Varat