

THOMPSON FAMILY

Major John Barkley and his wife Margaret Grey came to South Carolina from Bally Mooney , County Antrim, Ireland in 1760

Major Barkley was born in 1743 and died in Winnsboro 1820. He was a Major in the United States Army

Major Barkley had 3 sons:

Hugh Barkley
James Barkley
Robert Barkley (our ancestor)

Robert Barkley b.1764 d.1828 married Mary Patten
their son-

Hugh Barkley b.1787 d.1836 married Jane Barber b.1798 M 1873
their daughter-

Eliza Ann Barkley b.1831 d.1865 married OSMOND R. THOMPSON
b.1826 d.1883

Osmond R. Thompson married 3 times

1: Martha Laughlin

Issue: Robert Charles b.1851

2: Eliza Ann Barkley (our grandmother)

Issue: Mary Grey 1856

Walter Lowry 1859

Margaret 1862

Nancy Stevenson 1864

3: Margaret E. Crow McMaster in 1866

Issue: John McMaster

Rachel Buchanan
Osmond

Fitzwilliam

George Riley

Walter Lowry Thompson b.1859 d. 1926 married, ¹⁸⁸⁹ Wilhemina Reichenbach
b. 1868

Issue: Catherine Reichenbach 1890 married C. Kenneth Bell

Walter Lowry b.1892 D.1949 married Adah Hildebrand

Issue: Walter Lowry LII

Donald Hildebrand

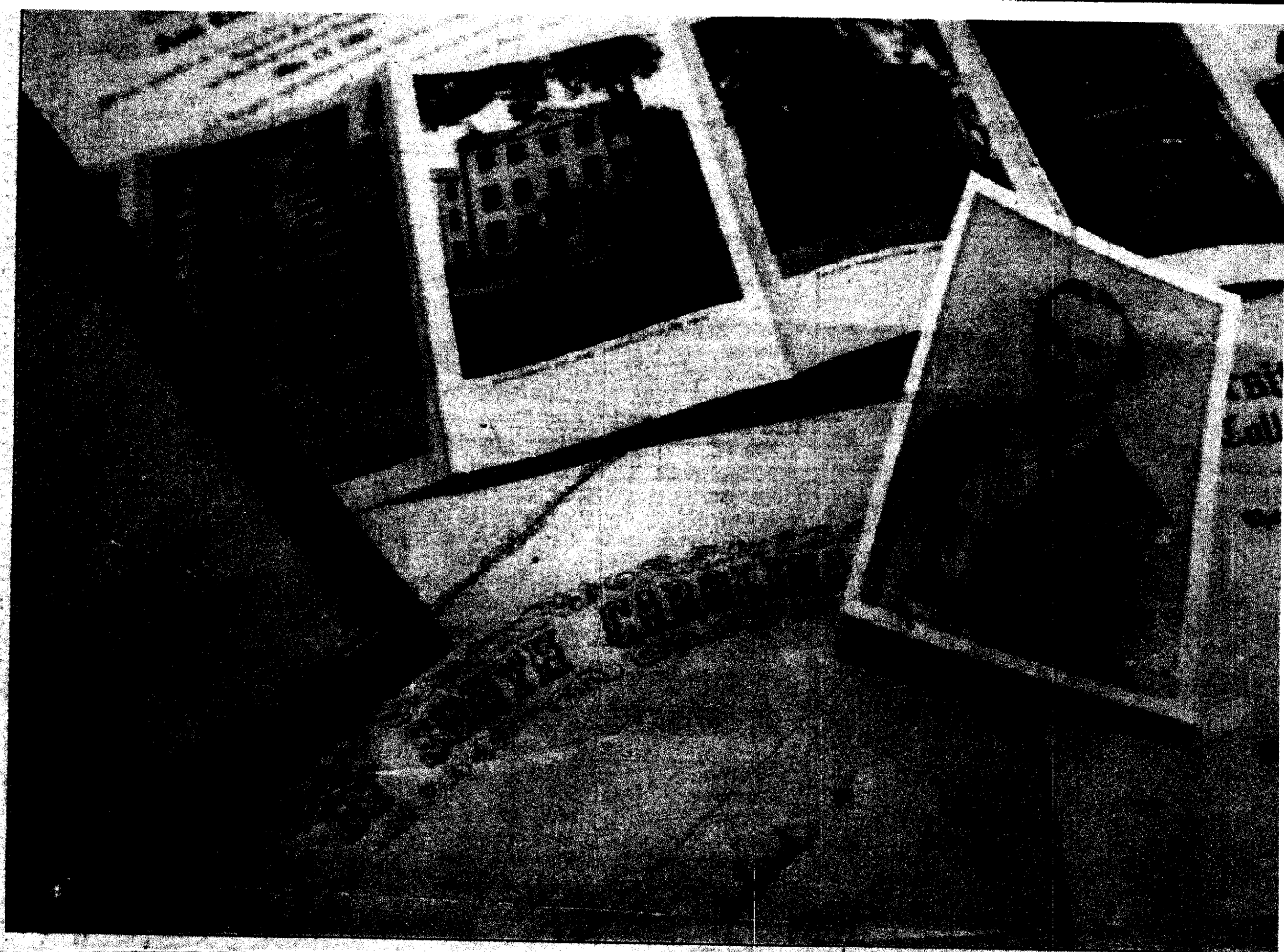
Margaret Grey b.1892 married Alfred D. Beeken, Jr.

Issue: Alfred D. Beeken III

Warren Lazell

Elizabeth b.1897 d.1901

Jane Barkley b. 1907 married Andrew Carnduff Ritchie



The Neil family of Columbia has amassed diplomas, photos and books of eight generations that have attended

Family tree grows on the Horseshoe

Loyal USC family traces its roots to the first members to enroll in the university

By CHRISTINE SCHWEICKERT
Staff Writer

Mildred Neil's family has loved USC since it was a baby.

Brothers Sam and Hugh Barkley were the first to enroll. The two attended then-South Carolina College during the early 1800s, starting approximately 1806, rising early with their colleagues for morning devotionals, drawing their water from wells on the Horseshoe and mastering Virgil in its original Latin.

Then, their sister married Osmond R. Thompson, another USC student, establishing the first link of a family chain to attend USC. Last fall, that chain added Charles John Neil Jr., freshman engineering student, would-be physician and Mildred Neil's grandson.

INSIDE

USC Bicentennial at USC at 200, a special section kicking off the celebration of the university's 200th birthday.

"We've had two lawyers and a doctor, and just a lot of ordinary people" attend USC, says Mildred Neil, whose Shandon home is the repository for the family history.

Neil's prizes include four of Sam and Hugh's first battered textbooks — math, English grammar, a Greek dictionary and the copy of Virgil — and an assortment of diplomas and portraits made sepia-colored by time.

The history is one that Neil says she finds fascinating, but not her family, especially the younger ones. However, she hopes that all of the hoopla surrounding USC's bicentennial ceremonies, which begin Wednesday and extend throughout 2001, will spark an



Mildred Neil is the matriarch of her family's USC.

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He's an eighth-generation Gamecock

"As far as moving in, it was definitely the biggest transition that I've made in my life."

— Freshman John Neil, who was considering a small, private school before entering USC

John Neil represents the eighth generation of his family to attend USC. At first, he thought he might break ranks to attend a private church-supported school. But he changed his mind — largely on the strength of the experiences he hoped to have as part of USC's South Carolina Honors College.

The State asked Neil to reflect on his choice and the experiences he has had during his first semester.

LIFE AT A BIG SCHOOL

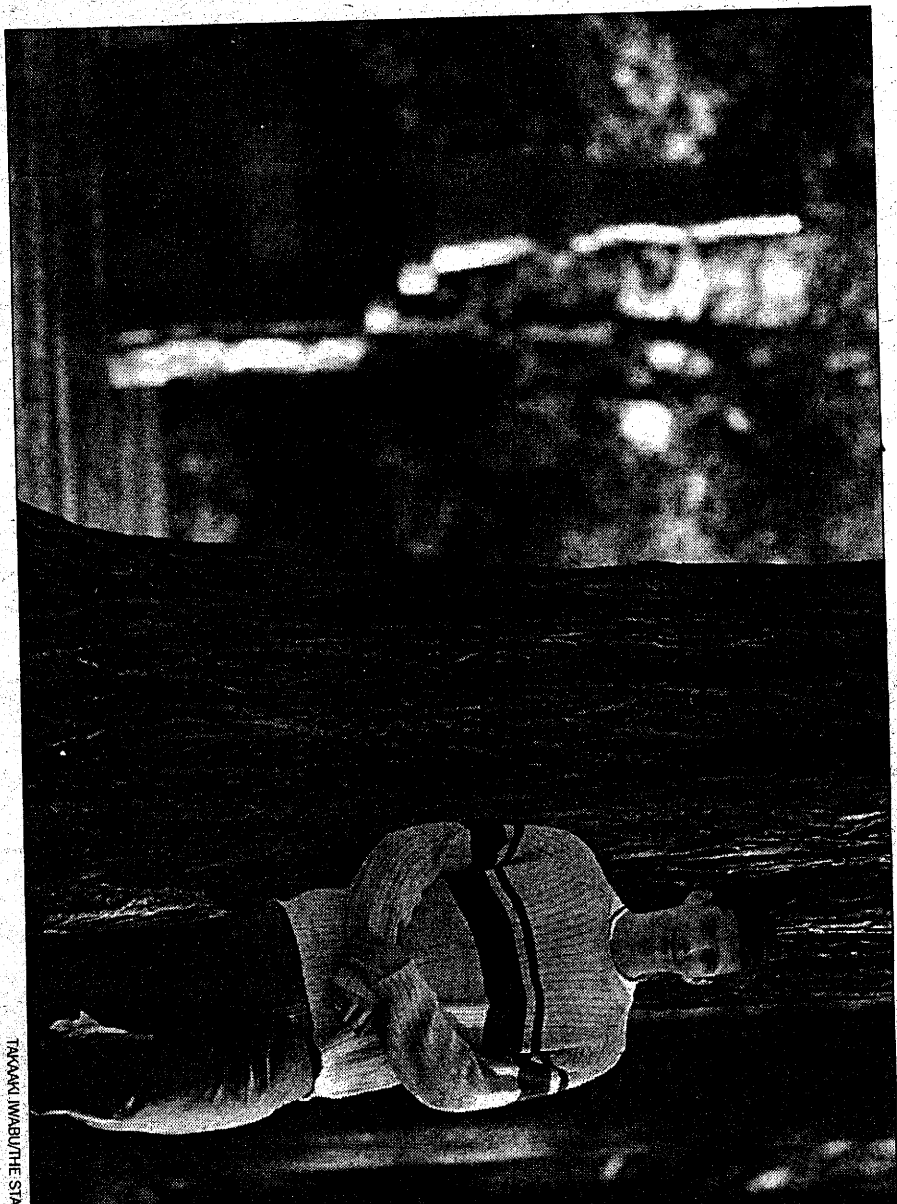
"My experiences here thus far have been nothing but positive. My initial fears of attending a large school — I guess 26,000 counts as large — were mainly of basically being lost within the masses of people. I guess that is true to an extent. It seems like everywhere I go, someone asks me if I know someone also attending USC, who is a freshman, and of course I never do.

"However, from my first day on campus, I began carving a niche for myself in different areas. The entire adjustment process basically consisted of narrowing myself down to a smaller family of people that I hang out with on a daily basis. Whether it was getting to know the girls up the hall and going to the cafeteria to avoid eating alone, or attending a student organization meeting... the whole point was to narrow myself down to a smaller group of people that I could relate to.

"Now, as the weeks pass, I find myself really feeling at home. There are activities for me everywhere. The only time I really spend by myself would be my early-morning breakfasts or my afternoon/weekend epic bike rides."

WHY CHOOSE USC?

"My main reason for picking USC... was the 'opportunities' factor...."



John Neil of Columbia, 19, is a freshman at USC.

THANK YOU/WABU/THE STATE

Here at USC, not only did I have access to a much larger research-based science department, but I also had the opportunity to pursue another of my great interests: engineering. So now, as engineering pre-med, I've got the engineering college, the college of science and math, and the honors college supporting me.

"Another reason was that as competitive as med schools are... I know

that I'd have a higher chance of being accepted as an honors graduate... On top of that, I'm now an engineering major. Engineering majors have higher acceptance rates into med school than do single-science majors."

LIFE ON THE HORSESHOE

"I do like the USC campus. Living in the Horseshoe is great. Living in Maxcy is really great."

"The Horseshoe is really peaceful. It's like this barrier of peace and silence that separates our dorm from the rest of the campus — except for the... squirrels, of course.

"It's almost like they are a different breed than the squirrels back home. I think the story of USC can be summed up by the... squirrels that rule the Horseshoe. And the leader of the squirrels is a vegetarian. They

plant cabbage in the flower beds in front of the President's House, so that the ruler squirrel will have something to eat.

"It never fails: Every morning, I see the leader squirrel sitting up in the same tree, with a big old leaf of cabbage. Apparently he's too good for nuts, or maybe he's watching his weight."

ENGINEERS GET MORE EXERCISE

"The only part I hate is that as an engineering student, I have this walk down to the engineering buildings (on South Main Street). Also, since my engineering class is at 8, I have to leave way early to get there on time. It's not an incredibly big deal, but it gives all of the engineering junkies something to complain about, since we walk more than any other major in this dorm.

"The only thing that makes it worse, is when it rains... Then I (show up) cold, wet and tired... I guess that's the joy of college life.

"I do like campus, and I do like the big aspect. It's like each area of campus has its own personality. From the liberal arts area, to the Horseshoe, to the women's quad, right down to the science block and engineering, it's all unique."

GETTING ACCLIMATED

"As far as moving in, it was definitely the biggest transition that I've made in my life.

"For about the first week, I was the most stressed person I knew. Some of the people I met that week must have thought that I was a lunatic because I was really uptight about a number of things. From the roommate, to my family and making friends, none of it came naturally. It took a few days to realize that it was supposed to be way different, and to just let go of any expectations that I had.

"I'll never forget the first day of class. It was a Thursday, so I had to be in the engineering building at 8 o'clock. My alarm was set for 6:50, but it didn't go off because I had set it — new alarm clock — for 6:50 at night. I rolled over by the grace of God at 7:48, and realized where I was and where I had to be. I put on clothes, brushed my teeth and hair, got my running shoes on, and ran to class. I made it, with two minutes to spare. Sat there, surrounded by sophomores (Engineering 200) in my class, my first class of my college career, incredibly stressed and about to pass out the whole time because I couldn't stop breathing heavy from my morning run.

"Luckily, things have gotten much better."