



*The President at his desk about mid-way his administration*

## Agnes Scott Salutes President Wallace McPherson Alston

The Agnes Scott of 1973 is in a very real sense the creation of President Wallace McPherson Alston. From his predecessors he received a firm foundation on which to build, but the remarkable way in which he has personally molded every facet of the College is truly phenomenal. The facts speak for themselves.

Of the trustees, other than President Alston himself, 78% have been elected during his administration, and he has participated in the selection of each one. All the major administrative officers of the College were selected for and installed in their positions by President Alston. Every secretary and every clerical person at Agnes Scott was employed by him. Of the present faculty 84% were chosen and employed during his administration.

When Wallace Alston became the President of Agnes Scott, the faculty numbered fifty-seven. For the 1972-1973 year, there are over eighty-five faculty members. The endowment (book value) in 1972-1973 is more than twelve times greater than it was in 1951, the year of President Alston's inauguration. The value of buildings,

equipment, and land has increased by almost \$7,000,000 under his leadership. The size of the campus has virtually doubled. This year's student body is approximately 35% larger than the number enrolled in 1951.

It has been estimated that during Dr. Alston's years at Agnes Scott at least 5,000 different students have been enrolled. Furthermore, of all the students who have ever attended Agnes Scott throughout its entire existence, approximately 90% have been alumnae during his time at the College.

Ralph Waldo Emerson in his essay "Self-Reliance" made the following observation: "An institution is the lengthened shadow of one man." Today's Agnes Scott is indeed the "lengthened shadow" of Wallace McPherson Alston. For him the College has become a way of life. Now, as he retires from the presidency, the whole Agnes Scott constituency — trustees, alumnae, administration, faculty, students, parents, friends — salutes him for the great person that he is.

# The Alston



The Alston family in 1948, the year Dr. Alston came to Agnes Scott as Vice President and President-elect



President Alston and President Emeritus James Ross McCain on Inauguration Day, October 23, 1951



1954: With Mr. Robert Frost. The poet was President and Mrs. Alston's house guest on ten different occasions.

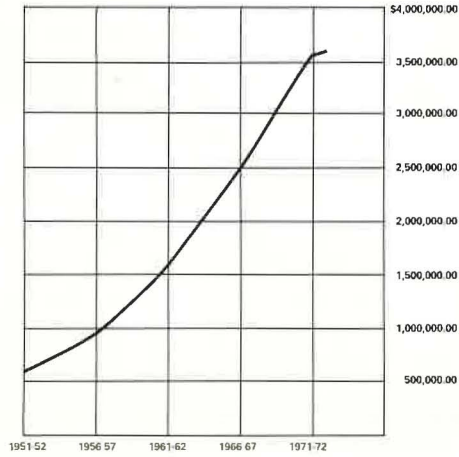


1959: With Hai L. Smith, Chairman of the Board of Trustees

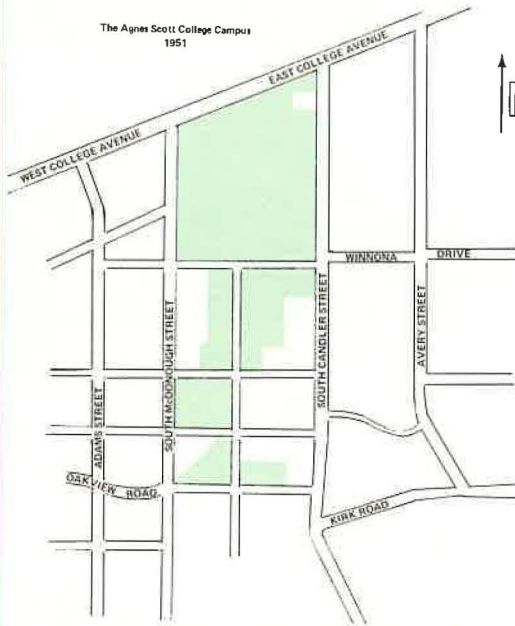


Mr. Alex P. Gaines, grandson of the first president of the College, President Alston, and President Emeritus McCain cut the seventy-fifth anniversary birthday cake on Founder's Day, 1964.

Growth in Operating Budgets  
1951 - 1973



The Agnes Scott College Campus  
1951



GROWTH IN FIXED ASSETS  
1951 - 1973



## Prayer of R

At the Thanksgiving 1964 inaugurated the ob seventy-fifth anniversary prayer of rededication Alston:

*Almighty God, our H Inspiration of our labors, and purposes -*

*We rejoice in the kn live, and move, and have created us for Thyself, s less until they find rest light we may see life cl find our freedom and Th*

*We offer up to Thee that Thou has loved and sacred stewardship - a v tended and nourished b since the day of small be*

*We humbly and delibe lege to Thy glory and to the name and spirit of renew the vows of comm assumed by those who h work of this institution. full measure of devotio ship, to integrity of life classroom, and to freedo in every aspect of our Grant to us the courage Thou dost expect of us. be afraid of that which difficult. Keep us from j ments and from self-sati in present responsibilities. tinue to be dissatisfied tawdry or shoddy, with and compromises that re sult in mediocrity.*

*Help us to live a con face new issues and to d fast that which is good c fully conserving and intu timeless truth and values our obligation to Thee giance, no matter whethu lar or unpopular. May it to sustain and strengthen tual life so that our wi clear and strong.*

*Accept our gratitude past and present. Accep that we are, and conse college to Thee that in torch of light and a me Thy hands for all the tor Through Jesus Christ*

# on Years

## Rededication

Convocation which in service of Agnes Scott's the high point was the offered by President

ather, Source of our life, and Goal of all our hopes

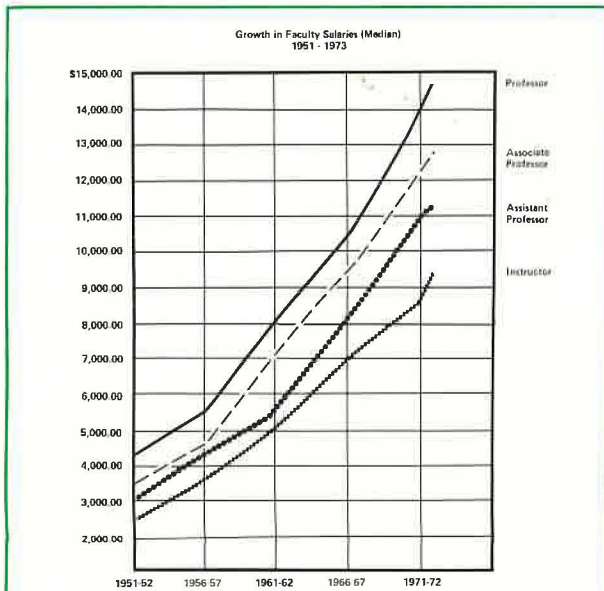
nowledge that in Thee we our being; that Thou hast that our hearts are rest- in Thee; and that in Thy early, and in Thy service purpose for us.

in this moment something hast committed to us in ne of Thine own planting, y Thy providential care imings.

ately rededicate this col- the service of mankind in Jesus Christ. We gladly itment to truth, solemnly ave gone before us in the Grant to us, we pray, a to excellence in scholar- both in and out of the m of the mind and spirit experience as a college. e to be and to do what Forbid that we shall ever is high, or distinctive, or else pride in past achieve- fication and complacency . Grant that we may con- with everything that is premature arrangements duce tensions but that re-

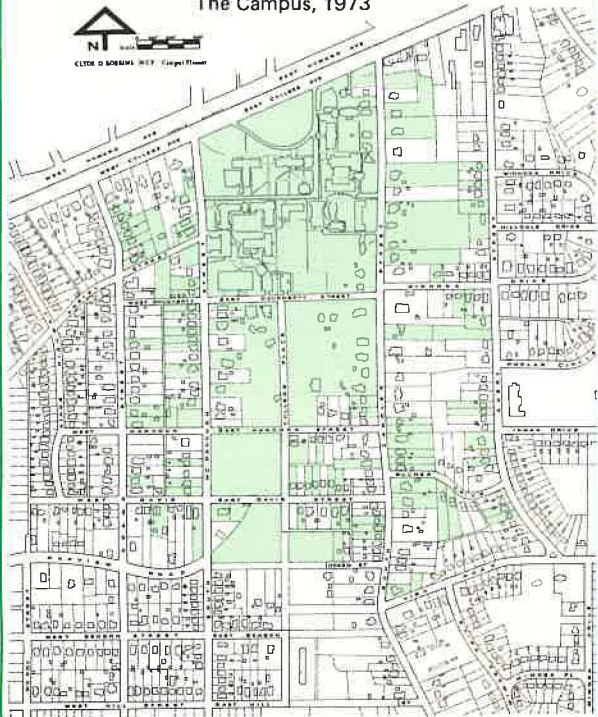
temporary life, willing to discover new truth, holding out of the past, and faith- rpreting to young people Grant that we may place above every other alle- r this appears to be popu- please Thee, Our Father, our intellectual and spiri- nness to the truth may be

for every mercy of the t all that we have and all erate our offering of this may be acceptable as a ns of blessing and hope in orrows. our Lord—Amen.

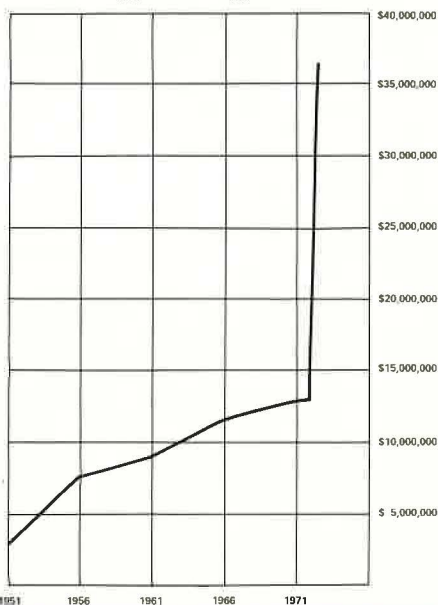


## AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE DECATUR

The Campus, 1973



GROWTH IN ENDOWMENT BOOK VALUE 1951 1973



1967: The President with Miss Bertie Bond '53, his administrative assistant



President Alston talks in his office with students.



1970: With granddaughter, Mary Elizabeth Parrish



President and Mrs. Alston at the reception given in their honor by the Alumnae, April 13, 1973.



Woodhill, the new home which President and Mrs. Alston have built at Norris Lake near Lithonia, Georgia

# The Agnes Scott Community Comments on President Alston

**Trustee:** In the person of Dr. Alston, all those qualities of excellence and sensitivity exist which seem almost too unreal to be the possession of one individual. One great word — strength — comes to mind when I think of him — strength of character, strength of integrity, and strength of purpose and faith.

**Alumna:** In life we come to know, if we are fortunate, one or more of those rare people who can inspire and influence us beyond our ordinary capacity. Dr. Wallace Alston is one of those to his Agnes Scott daughters.

**Faculty Member:** President Alston, a scholar, an administrator, and a man of deep Christian faith, has unceasingly confronted the Agnes Scott College community with excellence in education.

**Alumna:** To Dr. Alston it matters — whether it's your birthday, whether your mother is ill, whether you made Mortar Board, whether you have a date or don't — to Dr. Alston it matters.

**Administrative Officer:** President Alston epitomizes all that is high, noble, strong, courageous, and honest. He is incapable of littleness, meanness, or selfishness. His whole personality is cast in a large mold.

**Faculty Member:** Dr. Alston is two things to me: a person whose life is as close to applied Christianity as I have experienced; a president who makes teaching here a way of life rather than a job.

**Student:** As a student I find Dr. Alston to be an accessible and open friend. His warmth and concern for me, not only as a student but as an individual, exemplify his Christian commitment. His dedication to high intellectual achievement and to individual growth has stimulated my development at Agnes Scott.

**Faculty Member:** Dr. Alston has given outstanding leadership to the Agnes Scott faculty and campus community for many years. His outgoing personality, his sincere personal concern for everyone connected with the college, and his steadfast support of the founding principles of the college will leave his imprint on Agnes Scott for many years.

**Student:** It is hard to believe that one man can generate so much love and have an intellect to match his heart. No where is there a finer Christian gentleman.

**Professor Emeritus:** Many will acclaim President Alston as a scholar

who nurtured Agnes Scott as a place of learning, or as a deeply religious person who strengthened the spiritual element in all phases of college life. But to me his strength was and is as a rare human being whose sympathetic understanding is a resource to be counted upon always.

**Alumna:** Dr. Wallace Alston has shown a high quality of leadership during his presidency of Agnes Scott College. His ability to get along with people, his judgment, and his patience have served him in solving the difficult problems posed by the changing ideas of students of today. During the 60's his kindness, firmness, and fortitude helped him face the demands of the students of a new era. His understanding and quiet questioning gave him the capacity of listening instead of lecturing. His aim has always been to help students find the right way. He is blessed with a subtle sense of humor that is priceless. His choice of words for expressing worthwhile thoughts is most distinguished. Never has he failed to express his commitment to a firm Christian faith, nor has he ever failed to show his love of God.

**Student:** The Dr. Alston I know honestly speaks his mind and also listens to opinions. He is unafraid to engage openly in a time of prayer. He also enjoys jelly beans, Hershey kisses, and cook-outs.

**Professor Emeritus:** Through his high regard for learning, Wallace Alston has fostered academic freedom among the faculty, has stirred ambition in students, and has provided the leadership by which Agnes Scott College has set goals and has reached their attainment.

**Trustee:** President Alston — scholar, educator, churchman, able administrator — has carried Agnes Scott College forward in every sphere of activity, preserving worthwhile traditions of the past while at the same time adjusting these traditions to meet the needs of the present. He also in the midst of very busy days has always found time to maintain close and meaningful relationships with students.

**Student:** Visitors to Agnes Scott ask, "Do students know the President?" The answer is "Yes!" He is our fellow, our friend — one who has time enough to care.

**Administrative Officer:** President Alston is a warm and sensitive person with a delightful sense of humor. His own inspiring Christian commitment, coupled with his genuine concern for all those individuals with whom and for whom he makes decisions daily, marks him a giant among men. It is a rare privilege to work with one in whose wisdom and integrity I have placed absolute trust.

## AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE

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