

Pieces of History



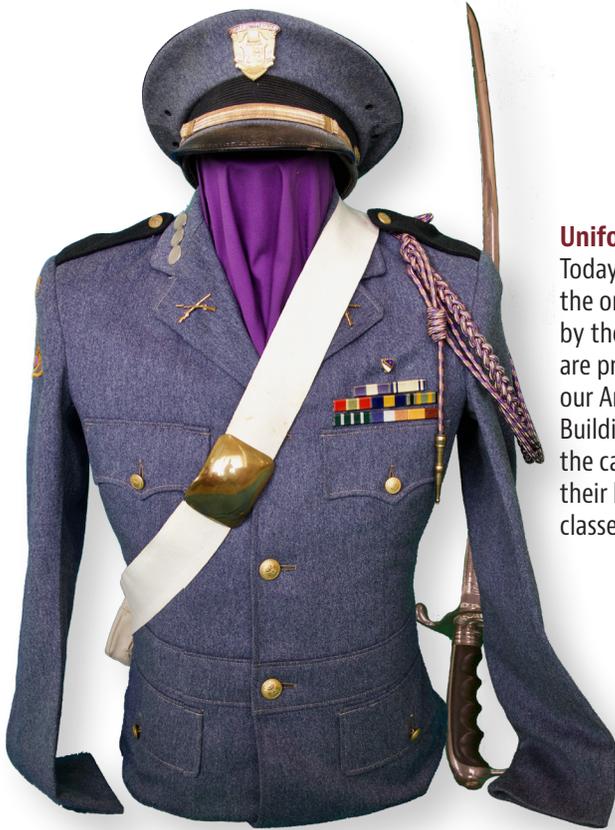
School Spirit

Porter Military Academy had a full athletic program which included football, basketball, baseball, track, swimming, and tennis. Over the years, its farm-boy boarding students consistently won football championships year after year. At the time of the merger in 1964, the school adopted the colors of garnet and grey.



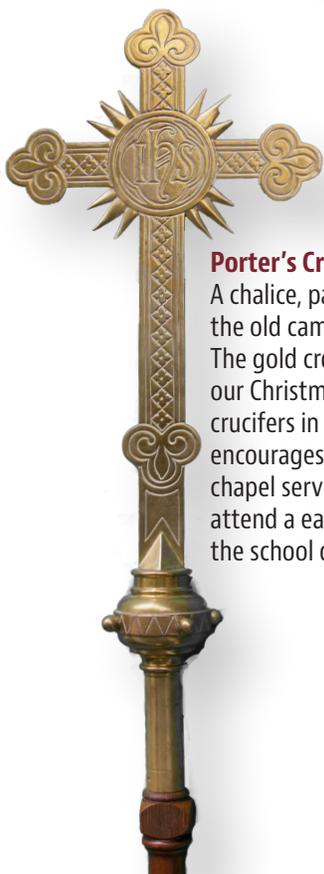
Uniform / sword

Today's dress code is a far cry from the original all-wool uniforms worn by the cadets. These parade uniforms are preserved and on display in both our Archives Room and Upper School Building. The swords would accompany the cadets on parade, as they practiced their lessons from their Military Science classes.



Prussian Helmet

From one cadet school to another. The legend goes that the family of a former head of school was traveling through Prussia in the 1880s when a Prussian cadet gave them this cap to bring back home. Likely from the reign of Kaiser Frederick III, the predecessor of Kaiser Wilhelm II who reigned during World War I. This helmet is a favorite among World History teachers to liven up discussions of Europe's march to war.



Porter's Cross

A chalice, paten, and cruet used in St. Timothy's Chapel on the old campus are still used in the weekly Eucharist service. The gold cross held aloft at the head of the procession at our Christmas service of Lessons and Carols was carried by crucifers in the nineteenth century. The school nurtures and encourages the faith of its students. Each division has regular chapel services, and older students, as well as faculty, may attend a early-morning weekly Eucharist, reminiscent of how the school day began during in Dr. Porter's time.



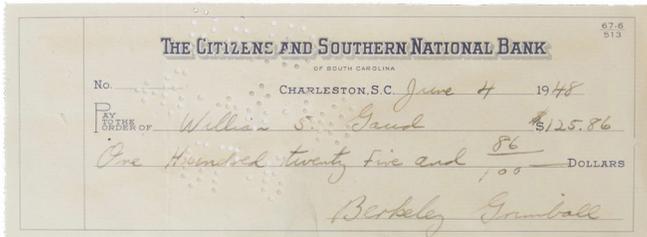
Organ Pipe / Hurricane Hugo

On September 21, 1989, the old St. Timothy's Chapel was severely damaged by Hurricane Hugo; the roof collapsed, the organ was ruined beyond repair and the stained glass windows crashed into the streets. The day after the hurricane passed, Dr. James B. Edwards, then president of MUSC, decided to save the chapel, rather than clear the site. Dr. Edwards gave Porter-Gaud School one of the pipes from the historic organ in memory of Dr. Anthony Toomer Porter.



Desk

Desk used by students at the Watt School in the 1940s. The Watt School (grades 1-3) was founded in 1931. Classes took place first in Mrs. Watt's dining room, and later in a small schoolhouse in her backyard at 170 Broad Street.



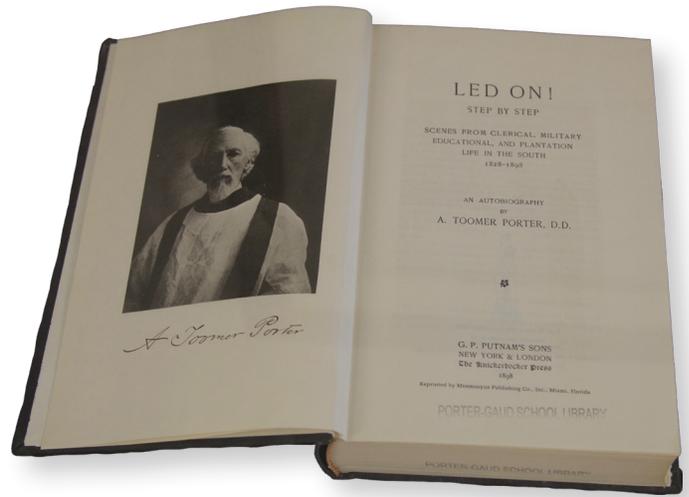
Check for \$125

Today, Porter-Gaud is the combination of four different schools: Porter Military Academy, Gaud School for Boys, Watt School, and The O'Quinn Schools of Porter-Gaud on James Island and Mount Pleasant. In 1948, William Steen Gaud sold Gaud School for a sum of \$125.86. Since then, The Gaud School's humanities curriculum was combined with the science and engineering capacity of PMA, creating a rigorous curriculum with the creation of Porter-Gaud School in 1964.



"The Rev" Statue

Back in the 1990's, Tom Ilderton '57, a charter member of the Porter Military Academy Alumni Association, had the idea to create a bust of Dr. Porter. The intent was to keep PMA's history and founder ever-present on campus. The idea of a bust became a full statue, which triggered almost two decades worth of fundraising and planning. The PMAAA commissioned a statue of Dr. Porter by Charleston sculptor, Scott Penegar, and designed a 6,000 pound pedestal engraved with the school's history. Over 20 years later, our campus is blessed to have this gift from the Porter Military Academy Alumni Association and PMA alumni, which represents the four schools that make up Porter-Gaud and honors our founder, Dr. Anthony Toomer Porter.



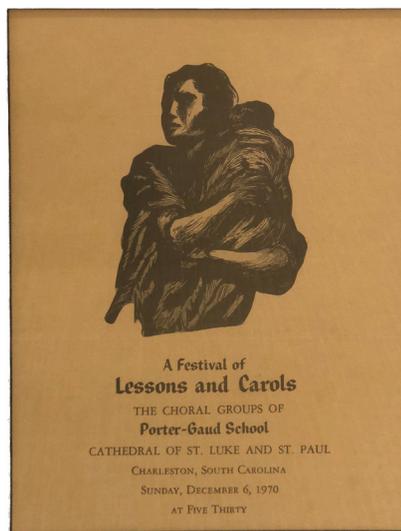
Led On!

The Rev. Dr. Anthony Toomer Porter's memoir. Published just four years before his death in 1902, the book covers his life, pursuits, and educational philosophy, between 1828 and 1898. Porter was born to a wealthy plantation family, left it behind to become an Episcopal priest, served as a chaplain during the Civil War, founded an orphanage for free blacks after the war, and founded the Holy Communion Church Institute, the forerunner of Porter Military Academy and today's Porter-Gaud School. We have a number of First Editions in our new Archive Room on campus.



WATCH Magazine

Launched in 1914, WATCH was the student literary magazine. More than 100 years later, the publication features the best student work from around the campus and includes news stories, interviews, editorials, reflections, short stories, poems, and submissions from the visual arts. Available in both print and digital formats, the periodical is issued twice a year (one each semester) in a regular magazine format, and once a year as a literary journal, the WatchWords (published in mid-Spring) with winning entries from the school's annual poetry and short fiction contest.



Lessons and Carols

In 1968, Ben Hutto organized a boys' glee club, which sang for the first time in what has become part of Porter-Gaud's Christmas tradition, a service of Lessons and Carols modeled after the yearly service at King's College, Cambridge.