

A woman, a house and a legacy.



If these walls could talk...

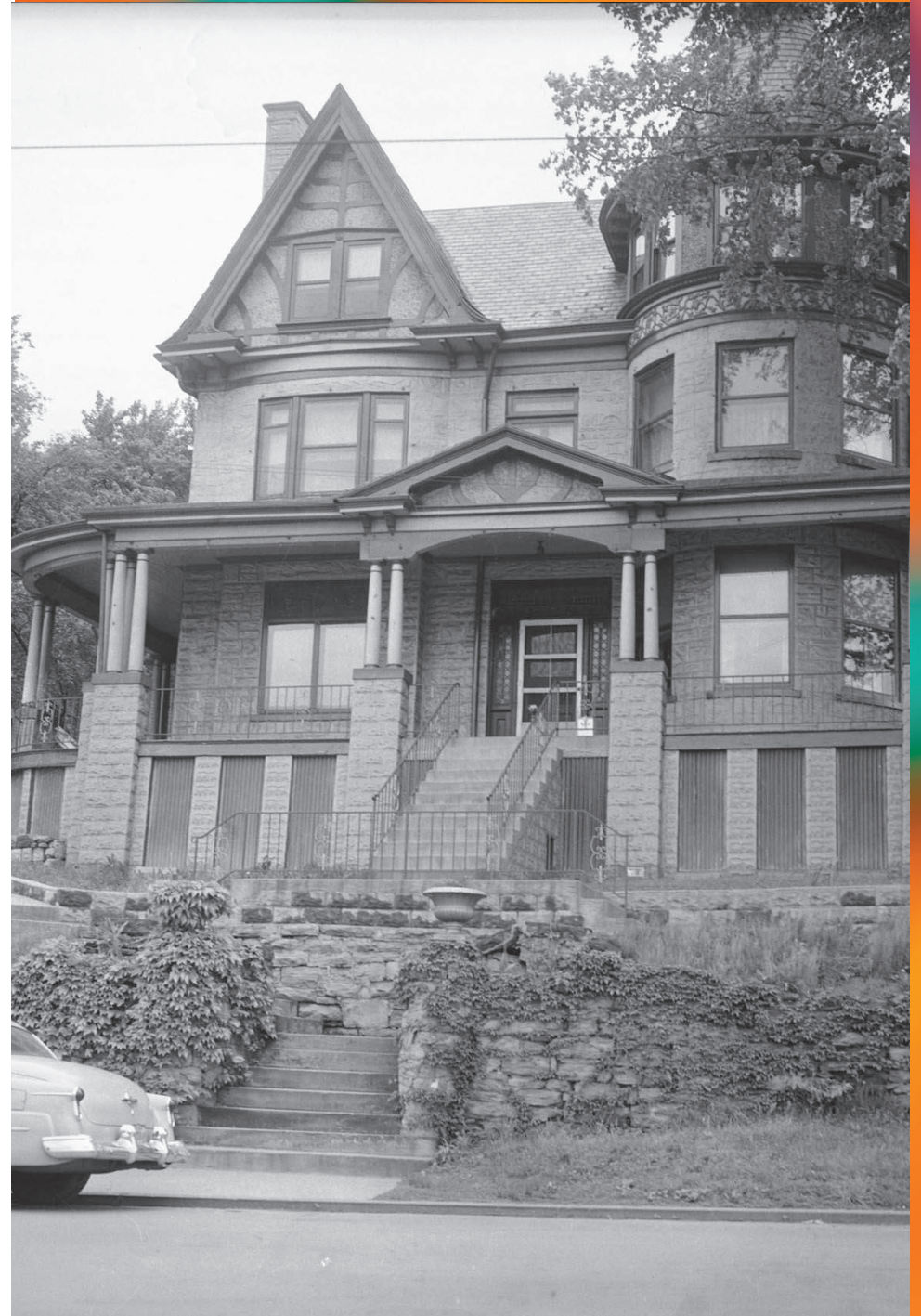
THE STORY.

There is no doubt that truly spectacular individuals have walked this planet, achieved their seemingly impossible dreams and then utterly disappeared into the dust of the past. The heaviness of that reality exists all around us. Stories go untold. Songs go unheard. Words go unspoken.

However, the astounding thing about being a human is that we are infinitely curious. We are natural seekers! So when we find a crumb of a story from the past, we want to know more.

This story from the past is about the one time headquarters of the National Negro Opera Company, Queen Ann style House in Pittsburgh also known as mystery Manor. The home, has fallen completely into disrepair and has been essentially forgotten.

However, this story is also about this people that lived and created within the walls of this house. It is also about Mary Dawson, and what a story her life tells.



THE WOMAN.

Mary was born in 1894 in Madison North Carolina and became a Woman's History hero, African American History Icon, and a Civil Rights activist—via the arts. Keep in mind, she did all of this at a time when women had to fight to be heard let alone noticed.

As a women of color, her battles doubled. But she was driven and nothing would keep this woman from the goals she had in her heart. Mary found a way to be seen in spite of all the challenges surrounding her and she was barely 5' tall in heels.

However, the story also involves twists and turns with the history of the house and the incredible creativity that took place within its very walls. Even the man “William Woogie Harris” who owned this house on 7101 Apple Street and ran numbers, fills this story with more drama and speculation.



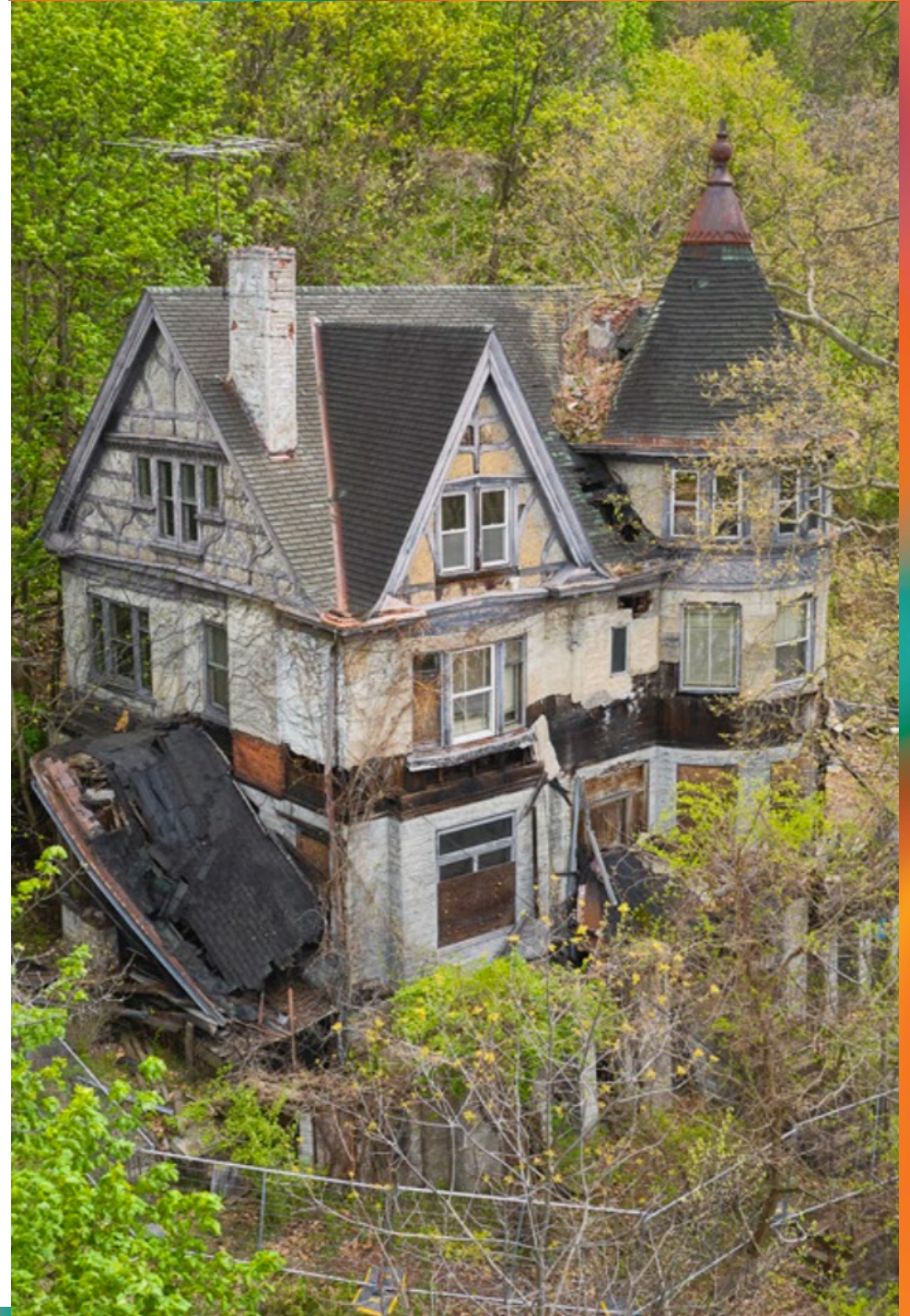
THE MISSION.

This house called to Dawn Carroll like nothing she had ever experienced before. As an award winning Boston-based designer, Carroll spends the majority of her time working within beautiful homes around the world, but this house was different. This house will die without major intervention and Carroll just can't let that happen.

Along with the house, it became very clear that Mary Dawson and her spirit needed to be revived. Dawson was an unsung black cultural hero whose name and work seem to have been forgotten. Many had never heard of her including Carroll's partner, Grammy award winning singer Patti Austin.

Now that we understand what her life represented and who she was as a person, our mission to save this home became a conviction.

The mission is tell their story in vivid details chronically every detail while we save the house and restore it to the grandeur of the past.



YOUR HELP.

If you are interested in all of the details of Mary Dawson's incredible life and her immutable spirit, as well as the project of restoring the house, please join us. We are seeking committed, spirited, creative souls to work with us while we work to restore Mary Dawson's dream and legacy.

We are actively seeking partners for funding, production work during the restoration and storytelling Mary's incredible legacy.

To speak with Dawn directly,
call 617-510-2620, or
email: songsformary@gmail.com



Dawn Carroll, Stone- Design- Mentoring & Writing Dawn's passion for "Designing the Next Generation" has driven her to draw on all her resources to create the dynamic

media-driven non-profit organization called Over My Shoulder Foundation with Grammy Award Winner Patti Austin.

The organization exists to further the concept and application of mentoring. Dawn has carved out OMSF's niche in the mentoring world while managing an award worthy design career at CUMAR Marble & Granite which is currently in its 8th generation of leadership in stone sourcing and fabrication in Everett, MA.

www.dawnmcarroll.com

www.overmyshoulderfoundation.org