

ALABAMA

Although there are many people living on campus and in the surrounding community who fervently believe the legend of Abigail Burns, the facts of the story do not stand up to close scrutiny. While it is true that an opera singer did perform at what was then known as the Music Hall in 1914, the performer was a male named **Enrico Aresoni**. The announcement of the dedication of the new music hall in the *Alabama Courier* of October 21, 1914, made no mention of Abigail Burns. In addition, a state death certificate search conducted by Forest E. Ludden, state registrar, turned up no record of the death of Abigail Burns between 1908 and 1922. No newspapers from that time period have been found that carried either an announcement of a performance by Abigail Burns or her obituary.