Thomas R. R. Cobb House shortly before the move to Stone Mountain Memorial Park.

a misguided refurbisher had sealed all the air vents in the foundation of the building. Within three years of repainting, the house would begin to look moldy and neglected again.

When the church needed to expand their day school program, it became apparent that the land on which the T. R. R. Cobb House sat was the most desirable site for the new building. Though many members of the parish were honestly conflicted about maintaining a monument to a man so prominent in the defense of the institution of slavery, Father Richard Kieran did not want to see another lost historic structure. In 1984, to the alarm of many Athenians, St. Joseph's announced the house could be purchased for $1 and removal from the corner of Pulaski Street and Prince Avenue. The local media debated dozens of "possibilities" for saving the house, and the Laura Cobb Rutherford Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy mounted a fund raising campaign. However, at the time, there were many historic structures in Athens in need of saving, and despite working with the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, no local relocation plan was developed for the unusal house that had been somewhat hidden at the the back of St. Joseph's property for so many years. In late August 1985, the Stone Mountain Memorial Association purchased and relocated the house to Stone Mountain Memorial Park outside of Atlanta.

Though many Athenians had been relieved the house would not be destroyed, according to Milton Leathers, experienced preservationists such as Jeanne Downs and Professor John Waters of the University of Georgia were disappointed and dismayed. Waters remarked, "Stone Mountain? Why not all the way to Disneyland?"

In order to move the house to Stone Mountain, the interior was stripped of its plaster, decorative interior woodwork, and chimneys. The house was dismantled by cutting the exterior walls of the upper floor into separate sections, while the first floor was cut into four segments