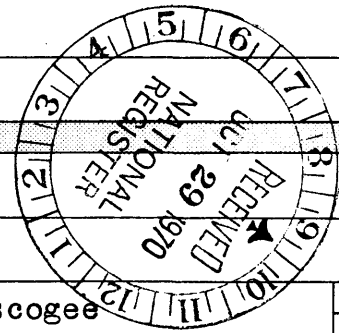


NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Muscogee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71413.0003	DATE 4/7/71



1. NAME

COMMON: **St. Elmo**

AND/OR HISTORIC: **St. Elmo**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: **2810 St. Elmo Drive**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus**

STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13** COUNTY: **Muscogee** CODE: **215**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>		

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME: **Philip T. Schley, M. D.**

STREET AND NUMBER: **2810 St. Elmo Drive**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus,** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Muscogee County Court House Deed Book**

STREET AND NUMBER: **Court House Square**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **approximately 2 acres**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: **Historic Columbus Building Inventory *(see below)**

DATE OF SURVEY: **June 1, 1967** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: **Columbus Museum, Building Inspector's Office, Columbus & Muscogee Co. Planning Commission Office, Historic Columbus Foundation Headquarters**

STREET AND NUMBER: **716 Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **GEORGIA**
COUNTY: **Muscogee**
ENTRY NUMBER: **71413.0003**
DATE: **4/7/71**

*Also in the Historic American Buildings Survey of 1934 & 1936, listed as Garrard-Slade House

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

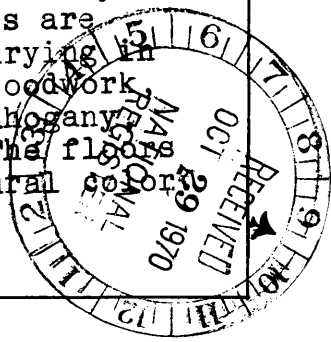
Architectural Data:

In Medora F. Perkerson's book White Columns of Georgia, a perfect description of the exterior of the house is given. "Of Greek Revival architecture, this beautiful old house is distinctly individual. Delicately elaborate details build up a superb unity of effect, enhanced by the fine architectural balance of a massive facade of twelve Doric columns forty feet high and which extend across the front and around two sides. These columns are crowned by a balustrade similar to the one that links them together at the floor level on the wide portico. A hanging iron balcony in medallion design highlights the entrance with its identical first and second floor doors, which have graceful fan and side lights. The house is built of handmade brick smoothed over with plaster and painted white stucco shaded by trees planted when pioneer predecessors occupied the place."

Colonel Seaborn Jones, the builder of the house, spared no expense to make "Eldorado" the most elegant and luxurious house in the vicinity. The massive columns - three feet thick and forty feet high - and the 18" thick walls of the house were built with great pieces of brick dug from a strata found on the property. Slaves dug the clay, molded the bricks, and left them to dry in the sun. The house has two separate roofs: one is shingle and covers the house proper only; the other roof stands five feet above the shingle roof and extends over the side and front porches to the columns. Of the original outbuildings, only the brick building with dove-cote above and smokehouse below, remains. This building stands just at the back door of the house, and its many small ventilation holes give it the appearance of a fortress.

There are three stories: the first opens on the ground level, the second begins just above head height, and the third stands above it in regular fashion. The basement houses the kitchen at the front of the house. There are four rooms on the second and third floors. On each floor the two front rooms measure 20' x 20' and the back rooms, 20' x 16'. These rooms are separated by a central hall, twelve feet wide, which runs the length of the house. The ceilings on the main floor and fourteen feet high and twelve feet on the third floor. These two floors are joined by a beautiful winding staircase. The shuttered windows are large and numerous, the number of panes in each varying in the front and on the sides. All of the interior woodwork, except the doors and the stairways which are of mahogany, is of heavy oak and cedar felled on the estate. The floors are wide pine boards still preserved in their natural color.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



(See Continuation Sheet)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Built between 1828 - 1833**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

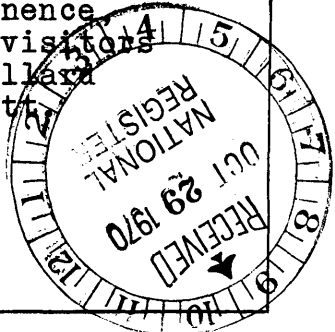
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Historic Data:

St. Elmo was begun in 1828 and completed in 1833 and is said to be "One of the most exquisite examples of classic houses in America. A bona fide Greek temple for a home." The house was built by Colonel Seaborn Jones on the Stage Coack Road on a large piece of property which extended to "Wildwood" on the east, and to the Shepherd land on the south. The house was originally named "Eldorado", but in 1875 the name was changed to "St. Elmo" after Augusta Jane Evans Wilson's novel, St. Elmo. Mrs. Wilson was a niece of Mrs. Jones, and this novel, the first Victorian "best seller", dealt with impressions gathered on visits to this home.

Colonel Jones, the son of Lt. Abraham Jones of the Revolutionary Army, was a prominent Georgia lawyer and served as a member of Congress for three terms, 1835, 1845, and 1847. His only daughter, Mary, grew up to marry Henry Lewis Benning. Mr. Benning was destined to become the famous Confederate general "Old Rock"; in 1918 Fort Benning was named for him. After the War Between the States, General Benning and his family moved from "Eldorado" to the Benning home on upper Broad Street. For ten years the mansion remained unoccupied. The title was then conveyed to L. F. Garrard. In 1875 it was purchased by Captain and Mrs. James J. Slade, who changed the name to "St. Elmo". Captain Slade created a girls school in the old house and this prospered until 1906. After his death, his daughter Florence Slade inherited the mansion and opened it to the public in 1933. In 1946 "St. Elmo" was purchased by S. Douglass Mobley for his wife and two daughters. The house was acquired by Dr. Philip T. Schley in April, 1966. During its many years of prominence "St. Elmo" entertained some very distinguished visitors including President James K. Polk, President Millard Fillmore, Henry Clay, and General Wingfield Scott.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic Am. Building Survey, 1934, 36
Worsley, Etta Blanchard, Columbus on the Chattahoochee
 pp. 245-49

A History of Columbus, Georgia - pp 346-48
White Columns in Georgia pp 311-12
Columbus Ledger-Enquirer Magazine, April 26, 1959
January 18, 1966

Columbus Ledger, April 26, 1965
Sunday Ledger-Enquirer, April 12, 1964, March 16, 1941
Nicholl, F. W., Early Architecture of Georgia -pp 118, 132

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

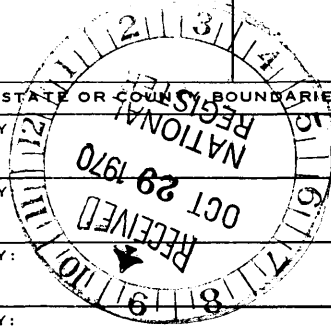
180-181

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	32° 29' 17"N	84° 57' 54"W				
NE	32° 29' 16"N	84° 57' 51"W				
SE	32° 29' 14"N	84° 57' 52"W				
SW	32° 29' 14"N	84° 57' 54"W				

NOV 1971

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mrs. James J. W. Biggers, Jr., Executive Vice-President

ORGANIZATION: **Historic Columbus Foundation** DATE: **10-6-70**

STREET AND NUMBER:
716 Broadway

CITY OR TOWN: **Columbus** STATE: **Georgia** CODE: **13**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Mary Gregory Jewett
 Title State Liaison Officer
 Date Oct 27, 1970

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
APR 7 1971

Date _____
 ATTEST:
William J. Stewart
 Keeper of The National Register
MAR 8 1971

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Muscogee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.413.0003	DATE 4/7/71

(Number all entries)

Physical appearance - continued

There are many interesting notes on the uses of the ground floor. In addition to the kitchen and dining room, there were also storerooms, a wine cellar, and rooms for the servants. In one of these rooms there is a fireplace and oven which is a replica of the one in Shakespeare's Stratford-on-Avon home. Hot embers were put in the oven to heat it, then raked out before the food was put in for baking.

Originally there was a conservatory in the yard 50' x 25' in which rare and tropical plants were grown - lemon, orange, and banana trees. Fountains played and artificial heat made this one of the most perfect and complete conservatories in the country.

