

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic William F. Pierce House

and/or common n/a

2. Location

street & number 309 Womack Avenue n/a not for publication

city, town Eutaw n/a vicinity of congressional district

state Alabama code 01 county Greene code 063

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<u>n/a</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Kurt R. Fehlmann

street & number 309 Womack Avenue

city, town Eutaw n/a vicinity of state Alabama

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Greene County Courthouse

street & number Courthouse Square

city, town Eutaw state Alabama

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Alabama Inventory has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1970-present federal state county local

depository for survey records Alabama Historical Commission

city, town Montgomery, state Alabama

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>n/a</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

This is a raised cottage (c. 1840-45) with a brick ground floor, stuccoed and scored, and a frame upper floor. A shallow front gallery (less than 7' deep) has flat paneled supports, brackets at the top and cut-out railings between. A plain wood parapet rises above the flat roof. A central flight of stairs leads from the front walk to the upper floor of the gallery. The configuration of the stairs had been altered in the 1940s and was returned to resemble its original appearance in 1977.

The trim for the full length windows and the door of the facade, the louvered lozenge panels above them, and the gallery date from a late 19th c. (c. 1880) remodeling.

The house is two rooms deep. Two rooms, 19' x 21', flank the 10' wide entrance hall, and two 17' x 18' rooms are located to either side of the 17' wide rear hall. This hall is not as deep as the rooms it bisects, allowing a small recessed space on the rear gallery. Ceilings are 14'9" tall. Interior changes that date after 1900 include the removal of partitions between the two parts of the hall, the altering of the stair (which originally continued straight) to the basement, the addition of a sunroom (c.1910) and some interior details. The current owner renovated the house in 1977 and replaced the c. 1880 cast iron mantels in the front rooms, added some new moldings, and created a kitchen and bath (see attached plan with notes).

The house has one of the best collections of 19th century outbuildings in Eutaw. They are probably post Civil War, dating from the period of the remodelings. A pair of small matching square storehouses is at the rear of the residence. A large similar storehouse and a little hexagonal well shelter are to the south side of the house. The well pavillion has arched openings in the latticework to each facade. The others are clap-boarded below. The large example has slats of two sizes above, separated by a horizontal band with serrated lower edge. All have bracketed cornices and hipped roofs with spires at the apex. A two-room servants house is also on the property.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates c. 1840-45; c. 1880 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

ARCHITECTURE: The Pierce House is locally significant as one of two raised cottages in Eutaw which were developed from prototypes on the Carolina seaboard and transplanted into the Black Belt of Alabama. In spite of detail changes, the form of the building remains intact and reflects the strong preference of the original owner to duplicate the houses in the area he came from. The house also reflects the rare occurrence in the area of applied Italianate detailing. Although houses in the larger towns were updated with Italianate details in the decade just prior to the Civil War, few such structures exist in Greene County. The detailing is of very high quality and workmanship. Additionally, the house has one of the best collections of 19th century outbuildings in Eutaw.

* * * * *

William F. Pierce purchased the lot on which this house was constructed for \$750 from Asa White on May 25, 1839. He was listed in the city directory of 1855 as a planter and a lawyer and is presumed to have constructed the house prior to 1845. In 1879 his heirs sold the property to John T. Brodnax. It was most likely Brodnax who had the Italianate detailing applied. The house was sold again, in 1900, to Marguerite P. Meredith.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lancaster, Clay. Eutaw: The Builders and Architecture of an Antebellum Southern Town. Jostens, Clarksville, Tennessee, 1979.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 2.58 acres

Quadrangle name Eutaw

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

Latitude <u>32° 50' 29"</u>			Longitude <u>87° 53' 46"</u>		
A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Zone	Northing
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Verbal boundary description and justification

See attached plat. Measuring 484.4' on Womack, 451.7' Eatman

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>n/a</u>	code	county	code
state		code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ellen L. Mertins and Bob Gamble

organization Alabama Historical Commission date October 12, 1983

street & number 725 Monroe Street telephone 832-6621

city or town Montgomery, state Alabama

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

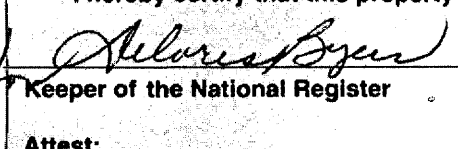
The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature 

title State Historic Preservation Officer date October 12, 1983

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
	<u>Entered on the National Register</u> date <u>11/17/83</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

STREET

WOMACK

Eatman 951



12

WELL

484

MAGNOLIA DRIVE

~~U.S.A. Seaboard~~
developed from Carolina raised cottage
styles. archi center form.

1 of 2 in raised cottage

stylistically - it represents
the application of Italian C
detail in the

In beam count one of four
and

remaining example in Italian
styling