

PH0023205

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Hall	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 14 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Bowman-Pirkle House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *W E of Buford, U.S. 23 on*
Friendship Road, *REFD.*

CITY OR TOWN:
Buford *vic.*

STATE Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Hall	CODE 139
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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 type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" 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: 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 type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Proposed Historical Society meeting place and museum.</u>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Hall County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Gainesville

STATE:
Georgia

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Hall County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Gainesville

STATE:
Georgia

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
None

DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State County Local

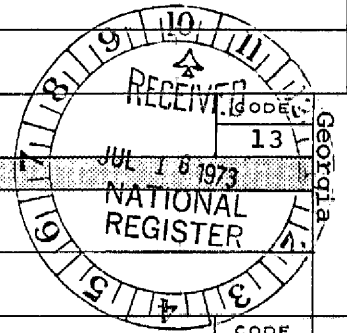
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE:



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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <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

The Bowman-Pirkle House was built in 1818 on the Pirkle Ferry Road, now known as Friendship Road, near Flowery Branch, Georgia, in the southern portion of Hall County. It is basically a plantation plain type house with a double verandah and a later two-room, one story "cottage" addition with porch. The original main house was constructed of logs but has since been weatherboarded.

This three bay, weatherboarded house, elevated on flat bedrock, has a trabeated doorway with side lights. Its double verandah has square posts with flat bannisters that still remain on the upper porch. Around the gable edges is also a flat, scalloped wood trim. Originally there were no glazed windows, only shutters. Off the central hall, with its set of narrow stairs, are two larger rooms. The room on the right has a simple, delicately designed mantel on the rear wall; horizontal panelling boards in this room average about a foot in width. The room on the left does not have the original panelling, but a heavy mantel with the curved inset is an early mantel style. Upstairs, there apparently was only one finished room, the other area of which has no flooring or windows, and apparently was never used.

Probably a later addition of about 1870 is the one story, three bay "cottage" adjoined on the rear; its square columned porch with plain bannisters faces east. To the rear of this two room addition and to that of the main portion of the house is a continuous L-shaped shed porch. Part of the shed porch has been converted into a room on the rear of the main house portion.

One stone chimney, original to the 1818 house, is on the west side of the house; another later chimney on the rear wall of the right room was probably added at the same time as the "cottage" portion.

A well house, several barns and a grape arbor are also on the property. Originally there was a covered oak-boarded walkway to the rear of the house, where the grape arbor is now, that led to a building that housed a kitchen, dining room and an upstairs bunkroom for the boys.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c.1818

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Architecture</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>History</u> |
| <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 type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | _____ |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |

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

The Bowman-Pirkle House, a two story log plantation plain type house, is significantly known to have been built by John Bowman with the help of Cherokee Indians in 1818 during a transition period when this area was being ceded to the U.S. government by the Cherokees. Important persons, including Andrew Jackson and Major Ridge, a Chief of the Cherokee Nation, visited in this house during Bowman's ownership and that of its later owner, Noah Pirkle. The house with few changes remained in the Pirkle family until 1969, at which time it was given to the Hall County Historical Society.

John Bowman, the builder of the Bowman-Pirkle House came to North Georgia when he was a volunteer courier for General Andrew Jackson's staff. In 1818 General Jackson rested his troops at the old "Young Tavern" above Flowery Branch, Georgia, enroute to the Seminole Campaign. While here John Bowman visited Major Ridge, one of the Chiefs of the Cherokees who was holding an encampment nearby. At the end of this visit, Major Ridge gave John Bowman a sizable tract of land. Bowman detached himself from the General's staff and with the aid of Cherokee braves, built the two story log house in which he resided from 1818 to 1890. In about 1822, Bowman married Mary Smith of North Carolina, the same state in which he was born April 17, 1798. The title of "Doctor", Bowman earned by learning from the Indians herbal medicine; he planted these herbs by a stream about a mile from his house which came to be called "medicine hollow." He treated both Indians and whites and was well respected in this field. During his lifetime, Dr. Bowman also developed a large and practically self-sufficient plantation.

Bowman's daughter, Amanda, married Noah Pirkle in 1867. Noah Pirkle served in the Confederate Army, Co. "A", 11th Georgia Regiment under Captain Bedell. When Sherman burned Atlanta, General John B. Gordon sent some men to defend Athens. Their efforts kept the Federal troops from burning Athens. For three days the Federal troops attempted to cross the East Branch of the Oconee River. They suffered heavy casualties and decided to retreat. Noah Pirkle was one of the defending Confederate soldiers. They surrounded a large group of Federal troops, marched them for three days and then rested at the old John Bowman place. They placed the prisoners in the horse lot there. Seventeen men, including Pirkle, were drawn to do sentiel duty. Early the next mroning Bowman invited these men in for breakfast. At the end of the meal, Pirkle looked at Amanda Pirkle who was helping to serve the table and said, "You are beautiful, if I am still alive when the War is over, I am going to come back and marry you." He kept his promise.

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, personal inspection, January 31, 1973.
 William L. Norton, Jr.; correspondence on file at Georgia Historical Commission.
 Golden A. Pirkle; correspondence on file at Georgia Historical Commission.
 William R. Mitchell, Jr., Historic Sites Survey, Consultant, 1972-1973.

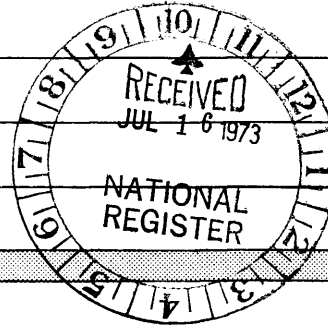
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	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
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	34	08	34
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	83	57	10
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"			
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

UTM
 17/227566
 3781700
 CD

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Elizabeth Z. Macgregor, Historic Sites Survey

ORGANIZATION: Georgia Historical Commission

DATE: June 25, 1973

STREET AND NUMBER:
 116 Mitchell St., S.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta

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 Hist Pres Officer

Date July 12, 1973

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

Robert M. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/14/73

ATTEST:
Wm. M. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 7 20 73

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Hall	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 14 1973

(Number all entries)

Significance

At John Bowman's death in 1890, Pirkle purchased a portion of the plantation which included the house. The house was passed through the Pirkle family until 1969.

The Bowman-Pirkle House is a fine example of the architecture of the early settlement of Indian lands. This area of Hall County was ceded by the Cherokees officially July 8, 1817, resulting in Bowman having to buy back 1818 land grants issued by Gov. Troup. (Three of these land grants 250 acre tracts, selling for twelve to eighteen dollars each, are still among the Pirkle family papers.) Thus, this house is probably one of the earliest structures built and occupied by whites in this Indian territory.

Presently the house is located on Friendship Road; but now owned by the Hall County Historical Society. It will be moved to a location inside the city limits of Gainesville on Queen City Parkway just off of Hwy. 360, Exit 5 and replaced in a farm setting adjacent to a state-approved welcome center. As directed by the State Review Board, the Bowman-Pirkle House is being nominated based on its present appearance and siting. After the structure's removal and restoration, the Board will reconsider the structure in the light of changes which may affect its qualifications as a National Register property.

