

PH0023248

1st Congressional District  
G. Elliott Hagan

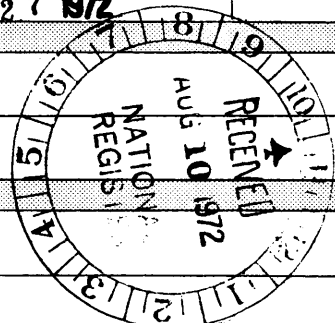
Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Georgia
COUNTY:	McIntosh
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
SEP 27 1972	



#### 1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Barrington ~~Club~~

AND/OR HISTORIC: Fort Barrington

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Old Barrington Road, at the Altamaha River

CITY OR TOWN: about 5 miles from Cox

STATE: Georgia	CODE: 13	COUNTY: McIntosh	CODE: 191
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#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

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

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comments Since 1909, sportsman's reserve
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: Fort Barrington Club

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Darien

STATE: Georgia

CODE: 13

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Clerk, Superior Court of McIntosh County

STREET AND NUMBER: McIntosh County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN: Darien

STATE: Georgia

CODE: 13

#### 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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Georgia

COUNTY: McIntosh

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

SEP 27 1972

7 DESCRIPTION

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

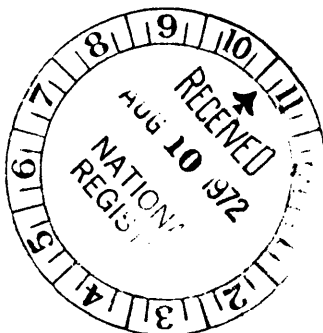
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Barrington, a mid-18th century frontier fort that was later garrisoned and modified during the American Revolution, is extant as a series of low ridges or embankments at the tip of a narrow peninsula on the north side of the Altamaha River about 12 miles above Darien. The site is currently held as part of a hunting and fishing reserve by the Fort Barrington Club. A major portion of the original site has been destroyed by river action. However, no archaeological work other than ground reconnaissance has been done and the extent of damage done by the river and 20th century use is hard to assess.

Today one enters the Fort Barrington Club compound down narrow, sandy Fort Barrington Road and sees a club house, some small structures, moss-draped trees, a sandy beach and wooden dock. Some evidence of the old fort survives. Sand breastworks and two bastions can be made out on the left of the road.

The Colonial Records state that in 1762 the site was occupied by "a square fort about 75 feet each way with a Caponiere in it and Barracks. These works are not yet finished, the money taken by the province not being sufficient. What is done is in good condition, and is garrisoned by 25 of the rangers." Sherwood's Gazetteer, 1827, indicates that an earlier structure may have been in the immediate area. John Bartram, Travels in Georgia and Florida, 1773-1774, indicates that the fort was in ruins. "The ancient ramparts of a fort are still visible on the NE and SE sides of the quadrangle, also Bastions at Eastern and Southern corners, the latter being at river edge. The ramparts are in the form of a low ridge or embankment extending in a straight line for 150-160 yards between bastions." A very fine plan of Fort Barrington with an accompanying map showing "The Environs of Fort Barrington" is contained in DeBrahm's Report. DeBrahm's illustrates a stockaded structure with a large central blockhouse, a well, store-room, magazine and barracks. At the onset of the Revolution the fort was reoccupied and renamed Fort Howe. During the following years the fort saw a good deal of action but was apparently never burned and was occupied by American troops as late as May 1778.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

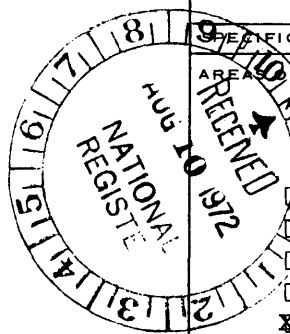
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1760

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site of Fort Barrington was for well over two centuries a vital transportation and communications center with major military and political significance. Any overland coastal traffic in order to avoid crossing the four major rivers and swamps comprising the Altamaha River delta was forced to the "pass" just below the site of Fort Barrington. The "sand hills" of Barrington as they were called after 1750 had been a major Indian trail for centuries and provided the major coastal route from Savannah to St. Augustine. This pass just above the "Forks" of the delta was continuously occupied in prehistoric, protohistoric and historic times on both sides of the river, according to both Dr. Lewis Larson and Mr. Gordon Midgette. Directly across from the Barrington site is another archaeological site of major importance and is the presumed site of Mary Matthew's Mount Venture. The Augustine Trail later known as the Old Post Road was improved by General Oglethorpe as early as 1736. Famous personages traveling this early road included John Wesley and the Bartrams. It was in the vicinity of Fort Barrington that John and William Bartram found the Franklinia Altamaha, Georgia's lost flower. The first colonial mail service between the colonies of Carolina, Georgia and Florida was down this road and the pass was a key point during the Anglo-Spanish struggles on the Georgia coast in 1742.

The fortification was built in 1760 by Lt. Robert Baillie and named Barrington in honor of Josiah Barrington, a friend of Oglethorpe's. The fort was allowed to deteriorate until the Revolution during which time as Fort Howe it served as the military headquarters for the southern department of operation. The fort was also a strategic location during the War of 1812 and the Civil War.

In 1909 the site was purchased as an outing and sportsman's club which took the historic name of the site as its own. No doubt this very quiet, private club has helped to protect the remains of the old fort and any changes in the site are those made to convert the area into the club compound.

Listing on the National Register would help insure the preservation and conservation of one of Georgia's most historic river-oriented sites, located on the banks of one of our most historic rivers.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

\_\_\_\_\_, Colonial Records of the State of Georgia, Vol. VIII, p. 374; Vol. XIV, p. 40; Vol. XXXVII, pp. 167-169.  
 DeVorse, Louis Jr., DeBrahm's Report of the General Survey in the Southern District of North America. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1971).  
 Forts Committee, Georgia Department of Archives and History, "Fort Barrington," Georgia Magazine, March 1971.  
 Harper, Frances, The Travels of William Bartram, Naturalists Edition, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1958).  
 Dr. Lewis H. Larson, Personal Interview, April and July, 1972.  
 Mr. Gordon M. Midgette, 1st Draft of nomination form, January 27, 1972.

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

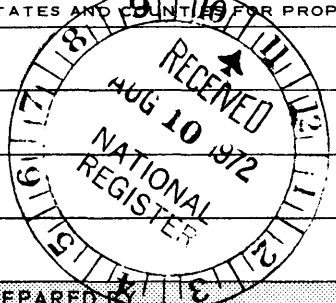
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	31	28	49
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	81	37	00
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"			

NO UTM  
CX

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: c. 10 acres

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:  
**William R. Mitchell, Jr., Director, Georgia Historic Sites Survey**

ORGANIZATION: **Georgia Historical Commission**      DATE: **August 2, 1972**

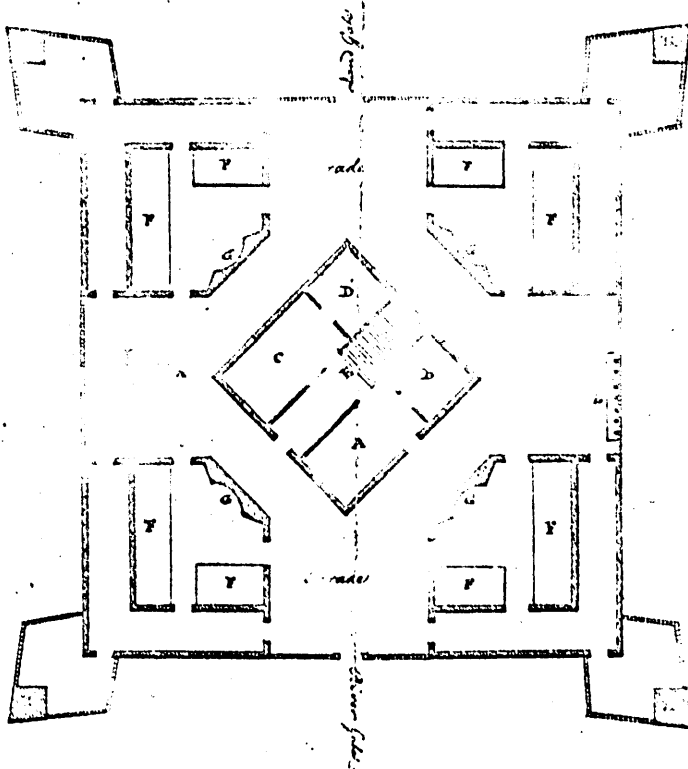
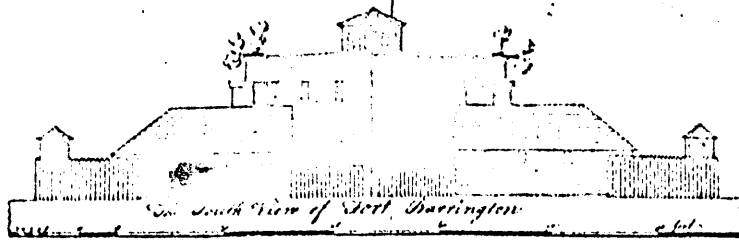
STREET AND NUMBER:  
**116 Mitchell St., S.W.**

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

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION      NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u>Mary Gregory Givitt</u></p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>August 3, 1972</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u>Robert W. Utley</u>                  Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>9/27/72</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u>William Mitchell</u>                  Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>9-26-72</u></p>
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*View and Plan of Fort Barrington  
consisting of a wooden Tower (Bastion),  
and four wooden Caponiers, all built of shewn Timber.*



**EXPLANATION**

The wooden Tower Bastion is the Center, and for the use of the Lodging, Store and Magazine.  
 A. the Hall. B. Bed Chamber. C. Store Room. D. Magazine.  
 The wooden Caponiers are in the four Corners, and are for the use of private Men's Lodging.  
 E. are Walls for 12 Men in each Caponier. G. Store Room. The 4 Battery Doors H. are joined  
 to the Caponiers, with fane and plan. I. the Wall. K. Baking Oven.  
 L. Newbery Houses.

