

HISTORIC RESOURCES OF COLUMBUS, MUSCOGEE COUNTY, GEORGIA
 GEORGIA ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES SURVEY-INVENTORY FORM

NO. 431

I. IDENTIFICATION

PROPERTY NAME: The John Spencer Roberts House
 HISTORIC NAME: Same
 STREET ADDRESS: 927 5th Avenue
 CITY: Columbus COUNTY: Muscogee
 PRESENT OWNER: Charles E. Huff, Sr., and Malinda Huff
 MAILING ADDRESS: 4304 Moline Avenue
 CITY: Columbus STATE: Georgia ZIP CODE: 31907
 CURRENT USE: Private dwelling ACREAGE: Less than one acre
 U.S.G.S. QUADRANGLE: Columbus, GA-AL U.T.M. REFERENCE: 16-689240-3593440
 V.B.D. OR TAX MAP NUMBER: 19/14/4

II. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND PRESENT CONDITION: Greek Revival; one story, rectangular plan, truncated hipped roof, two interior chimneys with corbelled stacks, front portico over central front entrance; weatherboard frame construction, brick pier foundation infilled with brick, asphalt shingle roof; front facade details include portico with paired Doric columns, ashlar block paneling under portico, front door has multi-lighted sidelights and transom, entablature runs all around house; seven room house with various additions to rear (see enclosed floor plan); situated in residential area with Greek Revival and Victorian houses around it; landscaping consists of randomly planted shrubs, grass, surrounded by low chain link fence; good condition.

III. HISTORY

ORIGINAL OWNER: Probably John Spencer Roberts ORIGINAL USE: Private dwelling
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: HISTORIC ACREAGE:
 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: ca. 1850 DATE(S) OF ALTERATIONS:
 HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (FROM ORIGINS TO PRESENT): This house is apparently the one represented at this address on the Sanborn (Insurance) Maps of 1889 and 1895. It was, reputedly, built for John Spencer Roberts, who was founder of Georgia Webbing and Tape Co. By 1896, Joseph Hecht is here. In the city directory of 1898-1899, he's listed (with his wife, Adele) and is associated with "R.J. Cohen's" (a Broad Street saloon). In 1900, Hecht is again listed at this address, but he's now manager of "Hecht Candy Co." (wholesale manufacturers of candy on Broad Street). In the 1902 directory, Hecht is at another address.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE

N.R. AREA(S) OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local History, Architecture LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: Local
 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL): Local History: This house is significant as it was the home of John Spencer Roberts, who was founder of Georgia Webbing and Tape Co. It is also significant as it was the home of Joseph Hecht, who lived here during the late 1890's and became manager of what appears to be his own candy business. Architecture: This Greek Revival house is the only house in Columbus to use ashlar block rather than flush paneling under the portico. It has unusually fine proportioning and the interior woodwork and plastering are exceptionally fine.

V. SOURCES

FORM PREPARED BY: a) Nancy Alexander ORGANIZATION: a) Lower Chattahoochee APDC
 Roger Harris b) Historic Columbus Foundation
 b) Janice P. Biggers
 ADDRESS: a) P. O. Box 1908, Cols, GA 31994 TELEPHONE NUMBER: a) (404)324-4221
 b) 700 Broadway, Cols, GA 31901 b) (404)322-0756
 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS: Historic Structures Field Survey: Columbus-Muscogee County, Georgia. 1976 state survey, Historic Preservation Section, DNR, Atlanta, Georgia.
 SOURCES OF INFORMATION: Columbus City Directories (1896-1902).

"Sanborn (Insurance) Map of Columbus, Ga.," March 1889, Sanborn Map and Publishing Co., N.Y., N.Y., (a copy of which is located in the Columbus



PHOTOGRAPHER: F. Clason Kyle

DATE: 11 July 1978

ROLL NO. 7 FRAME NO. 21A NEGATIVES FILED: Historic Columbus Foundation
700 Broadway

DIRECTION PHOTOGRAPHER FACING: West

Columbus, Georgia 31901

USE SPACE BELOW FOR CONTINUATION FROM FRONT, SKETCH PLANS OR MAPS, ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, ETC.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION: College Archives, Columbus, Ga.).

"Sanborn (Insurance) Map of Columbus, Ga.," Sept. 1895, Sanborn-Perris Map Co., N.Y., N.Y., (a copy of which is located in the Columbus College Archives, Columbus, Ga.).

Information on John Spencer Roberts from Architectural Survey Form prepared by William R. Mitchell, Jr. Dec. 1977.

JUL 9 1980

SEP 29 1980