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7.	DESCRIPTION		
	CONDITION		
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	INTEGRITY	Altered 🕅 Unaltered 🗍 Moved 🗌 Original Site 🗶	
		RESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE	
		riginally, was a groom clapboard house, built in 18 vick Pierce, and was bought by William Waters Garra	
	where he had marbl and incor less expe Dr. Pierc story sec each end	rd is reported to have gone to Italy between 1850-18 saw an Italian villa he admired and wanted copied. e mantles, statues and stained glass sent to America porated Dr. Pierce's farmhouse into an Italian villa nsively than building a new house. The front door of e's house became Mr. Garrard's back door, for the tw tion with its projecting central bay and bay windows were added in 1855 with the two smaller projecting lk and bath) added to the backs.	He a, a, of WO
	built in brought a	rd's slaves lived and cooked in a brick kitchen he the back yard away from the house. The food was cross to the butler's pantry before serving the fami rge dining room.	ily m
		's house, barn, privy, and smoke house were also in , but are not gone.	~
	from the block des Bickersta	. Bickerstaff restored the house in 1936, ascertain foundation that the Garrard section was stuccoed in ign like Italian houses and painted pink. When the ff's bought the house it was clapboarded, although n be established when that took place.	
	Plaster c	house is white frame with the green original shutte ornices, medallions, as well as its large ceilings a to the comfort and charm of the house.	
	the house	nal water system can still be found on each side of • Gutters from the £ oof carried the water to a very er and drained into cisterns about 12 feet deep.	
	An accomp	enying floer plan shows the dimensions of the rooms.	•

	Pre-Columbian		16th Centu	у 🗆	18th Centu	у 🗋	20th Century
	15th Century		17th Centu	ry 🗋	19th Centu	y II	
PECIFI	C DATE(S) (If A	pplicab	le and Known)	1	1843		······································
REAS	F SIGNIFICANC	E (Che	eck One or More as	Appropr	iate)		
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Nhen	Columbus	s was		in 1	1828, one o		early citizens, of land, one of
							South Carolina.

Dr. Pierce, who was educated in medicine in Philadelphia, became a Methodist minister and Bishop. In 1843 his home was completed as a simple, but comfortable four room house about three miles from the tiny trading post on the road to Macon, Georgia. An avenue of cedar trees off Macon Road in front of the Christian Church led up to the front of his house. With the incorporation of its extensive grounds, Dr. Pierce's home comprised a city block.

Dr. Pierce remained in Columbus until 1859, but lived in the house only until 1855 when William Waters Garrard of Savannah bought the house. Mr. Garrard's wife, Mary Urquhart of Scottish descent, was the sister of Dr. John A. Urquhart, one of Columbus' early citizens who moved from Augusta to Columbus in 1833. Dr. Urquhart had moved to the city to help minister to the cholera victims. He became a great friend of Chilly McIntosh, the famous Chieftan whose father had been murdered. McIntosh, half Indian and half Scottish, stood with Urquhart, a full Scotsman, at the Battle of Hitchity in 1836. The battle is commemorated by a marker on Lumpkin Road at Fort Benning, Georgia.

John Urquhart was born in Augusta, the eldest son of David Urquhart of Cromarty, Scotland, and the lovely Catherine MacGenee of Prince Edward County, Virginia. When David Urquhart and his wife moved to Charleston in 1796, they owned a plantation on the Savannah River they called "Hilton", for the homes of the Urquharts in Cromarty. Of their ten children, five made Columbus their home before 1850, and one christened his home "Hilton."

Consequently, William Garrard's wife, Mary, lived her married life in the home where she also spent her girlhood.

Mr. Garrard, who was in the cotton business, had also lived in a home called "Hilton;" his was located on the Savannah River at Hilton Head Island - so he and his wife both had ties

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STATE GEORGIA

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

Muscogee

FOR NPS USE ONLY

JAN 20 972

(Number all entries)

HILTON - Statement of Significance - page 2

with homes called "Hilton" before the home they shared in Columbus. The Garrard family lived in the house until 1887, when the John Flournoy Realty Company bought the house. The house changed hands many times, and was rented to city families in the summer so that they could get away to a cool spot.

A. Howard Bickerstaff bought the house in 1919, for he had grown to love it during his summer visits. His three children, A. Howard Bickerstaff, Jr., Mary Preer Bickerstaff (now Mrs. Brennan Dobbs of Atlanta, and Nora Walton Bickerstaff (now Mrs. Robert Eakle) grew up in the house. Mrs. Eakle was born and later married at Hilton.

Mrs. Eakle, her husband and two children, Nora and Grandin, are the present occupants. All talented musicians, "Hilton" is the scene of frequent concerts and Orpheus Club meetings.

"Hilton" has a special place in history, for some of the last shots of the War Between the States were fired from the front porch in April, 1865, at General Wilson's Army. The soldiers had tortured Mr. Garrard's slaves to show them where the family silver was buried, but the master had secretly moved it to another hiding place. Fortunately, the Northern raiders did not harm "Hilton" before leaving it to join General Sherman.

One of the house's most recent use was in 1967 when John Wayne made the movie "The Green Berets" at Fort Benning, Georgia. "Hilton" was used extensively throughout the movie.

A prominent residental section of Columbus takes it name from this "Great House."

Deeds Recorded:

State of Georgia to Walter H. Weems, 1837 (State B 247 Archives) Walter H. Weems to Lovic Pierce, 6 acres, 1840. \$400. Southeast corner of Lot 76 on which "Hilton" was built in 1840. F 43 Lovic Pierce to Raphael Moses, Lot 93 (minus parts, etc) plus 6 acres bought from Walter H. Weems. Seaborn Jones to Lovic Pearce 1838 pt. lot 93 Coweta B 273 Reserve - north of road leading from Columbus to Fitts Nills, 50 acres more or less with spurtenances, \$1300. Lovic Pierce to Raphael Moses, executor of Deborah F 43 Moses, lot 93 (minus parts sold to Aaron Fergusson 1852 and Daniel Harris) \$2400. (continued...)

STATE GEORGIA

Muscogee

FOR NPS USE ONLY

COUNTY

NATIONAL REGISTER	OF HISTORIC PLACES
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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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As stated, one of the most prominent residental sections of Columbus has taken its name from this house. The house and grounds are located on a major United States highway (U.S. 80). Because of the current land value, some partition of this property will most probably be proposed shortly. It is, therefore, essential that this house be afforded protection in the National Register as soon as possible. Hilton is of extreme importance to the community from both a historic and a cultural standpoint.

According to a recently passed Columbus zoning ordinance, any house accepted by the National Register will be given a "Landmark Status" locally. This means that all alterations, improvements, partial demolitions, et cetra, will be subject to review by the local Board of Historic and Architectural Review.