

STATE: GEORGIA	
COUNTY: Muscogee	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 20 1972

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
HILTON

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Hilton

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
2505 Macon Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbus,

STATE Georgia	CODE 13	COUNTY: Muscogee	CODE 215
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3. CLASSIFICATION

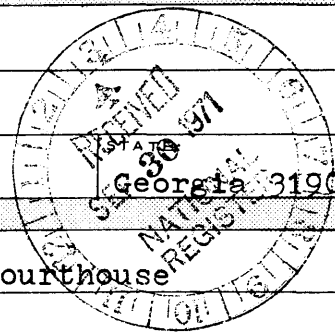
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Mrs. Robert Eakle

STREET AND NUMBER:
2505 Macon Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbus,



5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Deed Books - Muscogee County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Courthouse Square

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbus,

STATE:
Georgia 31901

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Columbus Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 6-1-67 Federal State County Local

DEPT. OR AGENCY RECORDS:
Historic Columbus Foundation - 716 Broadway, Columbus, Ga.
Building Inspector's Office, City of Columbus, Ga.
Columbus Museum of Arts & Crafts, Columbus, Ga.
Community Development Division, City of Columbus, Ga.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Columbus

CITY OR TOWN:
Columbus

STATE:
Georgia

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

Hilton, originally, was a 4 room clapboard house, built in 1838 by Dr. Lovick Pierce, and was bought by William Waters Garrard in 1855.

Mr. Garrard is reported to have gone to Italy between 1850-1855 where he saw an Italian villa he admired and wanted copied. He had marble mantles, statues and stained glass sent to America, and incorporated Dr. Pierce's farmhouse into an Italian villa, less expensively than building a new house. The front door of Dr. Pierce's house became Mr. Garrard's back door, for the two story section with its projecting central bay and bay windows at each end were added in 1855 with the two smaller projecting rooms (milk and bath) added to the backs.

Mr. Garrard's slaves lived and cooked in a brick kitchen he built in the back yard away from the house. The food was brought across to the butler's pantry before serving the family in the large dining room.

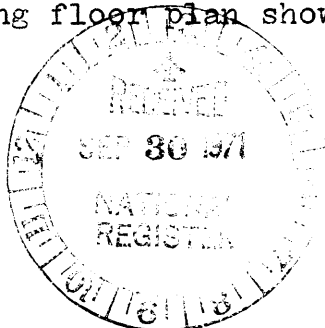
A servant's house, barn, privy, and smoke house were also in the back yard, but are now gone.

Mrs. A. H. Bickerstaff restored the house in 1936, ascertaining from the foundation that the Garrard section was stuccoed in block design like Italian houses and painted pink. When the Bickerstaff's bought the house it was clapboarded, although no date can be established when that took place.

Today the house is white frame with the green original shutters. Plaster cornices, medallions, as well as its large ceilings and rooms add to the comfort and charm of the house.

The original water system can still be found on each side of the house. Gutters from the roof carried the water to a very deep filter and drained into cisterns about 12 feet deep.

An accompanying floor plan shows the dimensions of the rooms.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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) 1843

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Historic	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	losophy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>History</u>	
Agriculture	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>Architecture</u>	
Art	Landscape		Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Commerce	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-		_____	
Communications	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	itarian	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Conservation	Military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

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

When Columbus was founded in 1828, one of its early citizens, Seaborn Jones, secured deeds to large blocks of land, one of which he sold in 1838 to Dr. Lovick Pierce 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 MacGehee 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

(continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Clearwater Sun, October 31, 1967
 Columbus Enquirer, April 18, 1964, Feb. 12, 1965, April 8, 1965,
 Oct. 6, 1967, Oct. 7, 1967, Dec. 23, 1967, June 1, 1968,
 Aug. 28, 1968
 Columbus Ledger, April 17, 1966, Oct. 7, 1967, April 16, 1969
 Sunday Ledger-Enquirer Magazine, "Green Berets", Oct. 15, 1967;
 "Just a Year Ago", Aug. 11, 1968, Nov. 29, 1964
 Sunday Columbus Ledger-Enquirer April 12, 1964, Mar. 14, 1965,
 June 2, 1968
 Worsley, Etta B., Columbus on the Chattahoochee, 1951, pgs 110-
 113, 234-237, 293-298

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	32° 28' 22" N	84° 57' 14" W		°	'	"
NE	32° 28' 22" N	84° 57' 06" W		°	'	"
SE	32° 28' 27" S	84° 57' 11" W		°	'	"
SW	32° 28' 27" S	84° 57' 14" W		°	'	"

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

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Mrs. James J. W. Biggers, Jr., Executive Vice President

ORGANIZATION: Historic Columbus Foundation, Inc. DATE: 3-23-71

STREET AND NUMBER:
716 Broadway

CITY OR TOWN: Columbus, STATE: Georgia 31901 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 Liaison Officer
 Date September 13, 1971

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

Conrad A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 JAN 20 1972

Date _____
 ATTEST:
W. Bradford
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date January 14, 1972

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(Continuation Sheet)

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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 residential section of Columbus takes its name from this "Great House."

Deeds Recorded:

- B 247 State of Georgia to Walter H. Weems, 1837 (State 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.
- B 273 Seaborn Jones to Lovic Pearce 1838 pt. lot 93 Coweta Reserve - north of road leading from Columbus to Pitts Mills, 50 acres more or less with appurtenances, \$1300.
- F 43 Lovic Pierce to Raphael Moses, executor of Deborah Moses, lot 93 (minus parts sold to Aaron Fergusson 1852 and Daniel Harris) \$2400.

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HILTON - Statement of Significance - page 3

- F 220 Raphael Moses, executor of Deborah Moses to Henry Epping, 25 acres pt lot CR 93, 1852. \$3500.
- F 290 Henry Epping to Reuben Shorter, 1852, 25 acres pt. lot CR 93 plus 6 acres. \$4,000.
- G 439 Reuben Shorter to Wm. W. Garrard 1855, 22 acres pt. lot 93 (lately residence of Epping, Moses, and Dr. Lovick Pierce).

Frances Isabelle Garrard, wife of Wm. W. Garrard, Sr. to Wm. W. Garrard, Jr. and L. F. Garrard, 1879.

- BB 575 L. F. and Wm. W. Garrard, Jr. to Muscogee Real Estate Co. 1887, 22 acres, pt lot 93 CR plus 6 acres lot 76, \$24,000.
- 23-135 Muscogee Real Estate Co. to Flournoy Real Estate Co. 1887
- 25-205 Flournoy Real Estate Co. to Annie K. Small, 1917, 5 acres including Mansion House, \$8,500. (Copied from deed book).
- 28-460 A. K. Small to Nora W. Bickerstaff, 1919, 5 acres, pt lot 93 CR plus 6 acres of lot 76, \$20,000.

Property now owned by Nora W. Bickerstaff's children (1916).

As stated, one of the most prominent residential 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.