

Bill Pierce Discovered Location For Mystery Farm Home No. 73 While Riding Down Newly-Opened Highway

Mystery Farm Home Number 73 came into being after years of searching for a house site, when Bill Pierce was driving down new Highway 12 toward Hub shortly after it was opened to travel.

Mrs. Pierce said they had been looking for several years for a place they could buy and build a house. Then, one day he came home and said he had found a place that looked good to him and had a "for sale" sign hanging on it.

The next step was a visit to see Robert Prine and the Bill Pierces soon had a deed to 201 acres of land about seven and a half miles south of Columbia.

Contrary to the most often expressed choice of many people who said they would like to build in the open field, the Pierces picked a spot across the road and set back in the trees.

Now, the house they designed themselves is completed and the pond between the house and the road is a favorite spot for the ducks at Mystery Farm Number 73.

It was in 1952 that the Pierces bought this place. October, 1953, found them moving into their new home.

Mrs. Pierce, the former Pearl Sutton, and Bill were married June 1, 1935. Their two children are Harold and Peggy Ann. Peggy Ann is three years of age. She helps her mother with the house work and tends to her dolls.

Harold is finishing high school and his first year of college at the same time. When the Pierces moved to their new home it brought on tuition fees if Harold stayed in Columbia High School, so when he had an offer to get a scholarship at Cepiah-Lincoln Junior College in the music department, he took it.

In addition to being in the college band and orchestra, he is in a seven-piece orchestra, the glee club, dramatics club and an organization on the campus that is very similar to BTU.

Majoring in music, Harold has ambitions of being a band director a couple of years or so and then opening a music store.

Harold's hobbies of model airplanes and horses and dancing have not kept him from doing good work

in his studies. It takes thirty quality points to advance each year, and his mother says he made 29 of the 90 the first semester. He is graduating this year with the high school class but will have a year of college work finished because he needed only one credit to finish high school.

Mrs. Pierce likes sewing and working in her flowers. She must like gardening, too, because she seemed to have just about everything planted that can be in a garden at this time of the year.

She says she believes it is cheaper to stay at home than it is to work because she had to have some one with Peggy Ann while she was away, there were more transportation and general expenses, and who

ham'n heard of income tax?

Bill Pierce is a salesman at Forbes' Buick Company, but who in Marion county doesn't know Bill?

Mrs. Pierce says Bill and W. J., his brother, are running rabbits now, as a pastime. You see, they have some Beagle hounds, and if secrets aren't being let out of the bag, Mrs. Pierce says she and Peggy Ann turn the dogs out occasionally so they can hear them run sometimes.

In addition to the Beagle hounds, Bill likes his bird dogs and is especially fond of farm life. There is so much to do at home that he doesn't do as much fishing as he used to before he had the forty-odd head of cattle on his improved pas-

tures.

Some of the timber has been selectively cut, but some of the best is being saved for Peggy Ann, according to her mother. No forest fires are wanted on this property.

There are two stock ponds on the farm that are complete with fish, in addition to the springheads and the creek.

Several acres of vegetables are being planted for market by L. E. Stamford, including okra, tomatoes, cucumbers, butter beans, watermelons, squash, and just about anything that grows well.

The Pierces are members of the First Baptist Church in Columbia. Bill belongs to the Jaycees and the Wildlife club and is active in other civic organizations.

