

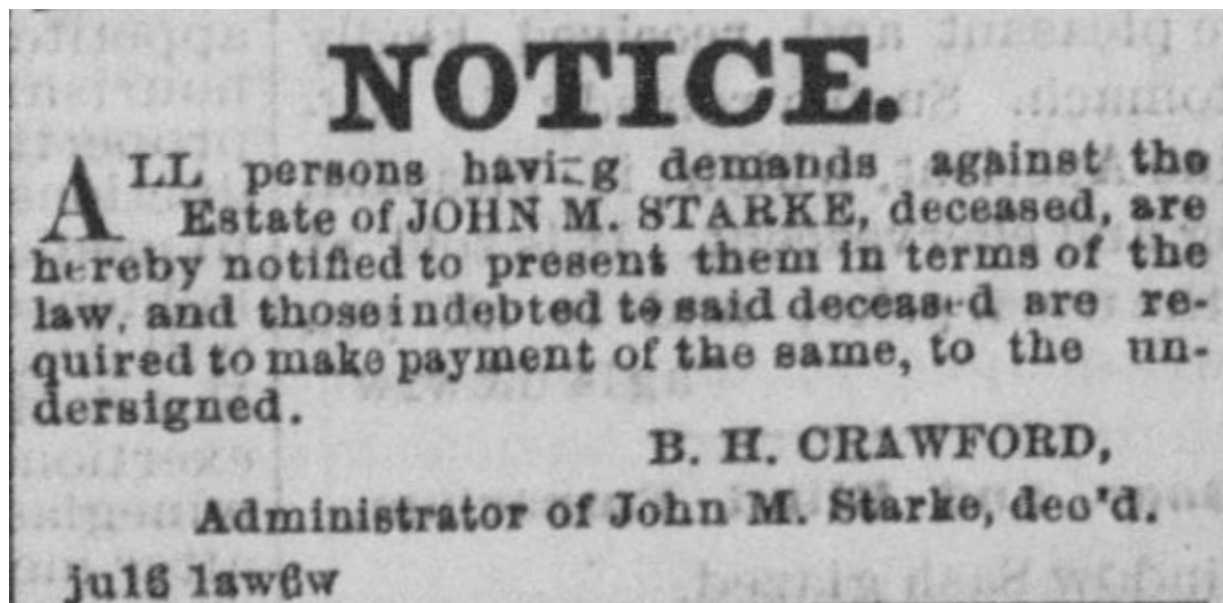
Today in Columbus History: On August 18, 1877 a legal notice appeared in the *Columbus Daily Times* regarding the estate of John M. Starke, deceased. Born in 1823, in Barbour Co. AL, John was the second youngest of Samuel Carr Starke and Ann Mickle Starke's seven children. In 1853 he married Mary Grier, the daughter of wealthy Stewart County planter James Grier, who died a couple of years later. Mary, as an only child, inherited her father's estate; John profited as well: in the 1860 census John's total estate was valued at \$300,000. Then came the Civil War...John enlisted in 1863 but served only for one day; he hired a substitute to take his place. The Starkes moved to Columbus in 1865, buying land and a house (currently located at 1410 Starke Ave.) in Wynnton. There the Starkes raised their 2 children, Sally and John T. John M. died in 1877; his wife Mary, in 1882. They are both buried in Linwood Cemetery. Shortly after Mary's death. The house on Starke Ave. sold to H.H. Epping. By 1913 it was the property of Rhodes Browne.

Compiled by Callie McGinnis, Muscogee Genealogical Society

*Our snippets of Columbus history are usually based on a few days-worth of searching through the most popular sources for Muscogee County history. Meant to inspire readers to explore more about Columbus history, they are not exhaustive dissertations on the topic and may contain mistakes. If you have corrections or additional information, feel free to share them with the group.*

Clipping from Georgia Historic Newspapers (GALILEO).

<https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>





This photograph, taken in 1913 (according to a handwritten note on the verso), shows the house that still stands at 1410 Starke Avenue before the ambitious remodeling undertaken in the 1920s by Nina Young Browne (Mrs. Rhodes Browne) and Columbus architect T. Firth Lockwood. Nina and Rhodes Browne, along with their daughter, Marjorie, occupied the house as early as the fall of 1913. Marjorie Browne Hunt, who married her first husband, Weymar Suther, in the house in 1914, owned the property until her death in 1937. According to a grid drawn for the Muscogee Real Estate Company in 1911, the house was originally situated (at least partially) in the middle of what is now Starke Avenue—a matter of some 25 or 30 yards from the structure's present location. Evidently, the structure was moved to its present location between 1911 (date of the grid) and 1913 (year that the Brownes took occupancy).

Courtesy of the Rhodes Browne Collection, Columbus State University

Columbus genealogist Roger Harris has written a very detailed, well documented 2-part history of the Starke family. This photo was included in the second part. The articles were published in Muscogiana:

<https://csuepress.columbusstate.edu/muscogiana/17/>

<https://csuepress.columbusstate.edu/muscogiana/18/>



The front of the Starke house as it appears today. See Roger Harris's part-2 history of the family for more info on the house. It was actually moved to its present location (from a nearby spot). Yes, Starke Ave. was named for this Starke family. Photo from [realtor.com](https://www.realtor.com)