

P H0038822

DATA SHEET

Form 10-300  
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Florida
COUNTY:	Lake
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	APR 4 1975

#### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Clifford House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Clifford-Taylor House

#### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
536 North Bay Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Eustis

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
Fourth

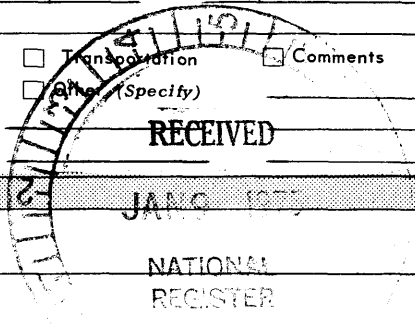
STATE: Florida      CODE: 012      COUNTY: Lake      CODE: 069

#### 3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		



#### 4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
Lottie Clifford Taylor

STREET AND NUMBER:  
536 North Bay Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Eustis

STATE: Florida      CODE: 012

#### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Lake County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Tavares

STATE: Florida      CODE: 012

#### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
N/A

DATE OF SURVEY:       Federal       State       County       Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:      STATE:      CODE:      DATE:      ENTRY NUMBER:      FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

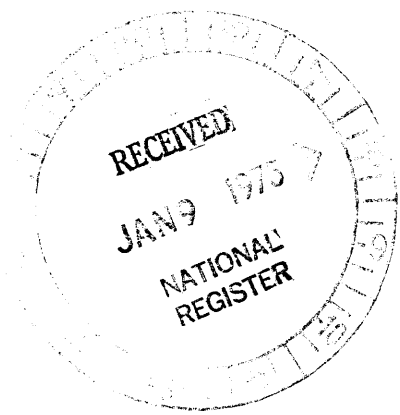
STATE: Florida  
COUNTY: Lake  
DATE: APR 4 1975  
ENTRY NUMBER: 815  
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Clifford-Taylor House is an excellent example of Neo-classical architecture in Central Florida. The condition of the exterior fabric is good and the house has not been altered since construction with the exception of exterior balustrades removed by tropical storms. The house is two-and-a-half stories in height and symmetrical in design. The overall dimensions are 50 by 80 feet with the main facade oriented to the north. The main roof is hipped and the house is fronted by a two-story, pedimented portico with Doric columns. The foundation is concrete blocks, molded to resemble quarry stones. Exterior wood is cypress, milled in Palatka, and originally painted white. There is a one-story porch which extends the full width of the main facade and returns down the east side of the building to include an auxilliary entrance. On the second level, a balcony set within the portico completes the two-story frontispiece. All porches are supported by Doric columns of varying heights. Balustrade patterns are consistent throughout. There are three chimneys, two near the crest of the roof and one located at the rear. The main entrance is classically treated with double doors, and bevelled glass sidelights. All exterior doors have glazed panels and a decorated coffer panel. Screen doors are also original. All windows are double-hung sash with side-hinged screens. The roof which has a cross gable on each side is covered with asbestos shingles.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1910**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

The land on which the Clifford House is located was originally owned by business partners, G. D. Clifford and C. T. Smith. When the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Clifford took all the land south of Bates Avenue (in present Eustis) including the land on which the house now sits. Completed in 1911, Mr. Clifford died in 1919 and the house passed to his wife Unity, for whom he had built it. Upon her death, the house was deeded to their daughter, Lottie B. Taylor, who at the age of 102, still holds title to and lives in the structure.

The house was designed by a New York architectural firm 16 years prior to its actual date of construction. The delay was due to the financial setbacks caused by the disastrous freezes of 1894 and 1895. Upon completion of the house, the plans were given to a close friend, Mr. William Igou, who built an identical structure on the corner of Lemon and Bay Streets. This structure has since been demolished.

All building materials used in the house were purchased by Mr. Clifford, who at the time of construction, operated a building supply and hardware business on Lake Eustis. The cypress used on the exterior was milled and shipped from Palatka via the St. Johns River and in 1910, Mr. L.N. Herrick was commissioned to construct the house. The footing and foundation blocks were all mixed and poured on the site. The house has stood since its construction as a landmark in Eustis and Lake County.

Guilford David Clifford was one of the pioneers of Lake County. In 1875, he arrived at Eustis and took up a homestead on the west side of Lake Woodward. Here he built a house, opened a small store and became the first merchant in what was to become the town of Eustis. He continued to operate this store until 1881 when he built a new one on the corner of MacDonald and Bay Streets which he operated until his death. (This building was just demolished in March, 1974; the oldest commercial structure in Eustis.) Besides the erection of a dock and warehouse at the foot of MacDonald Street for his own use, Clifford served on the building committees for the  
(con't.)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

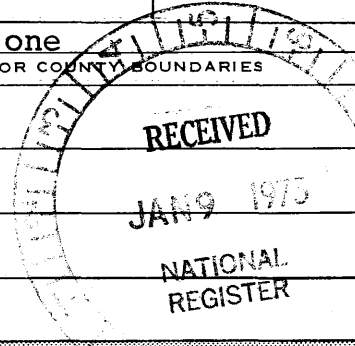
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N28° 51' 28"	W81° 41' 11"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

17/433060  
3192260  
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one

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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Diane D. Greer, Historic Sites Specialist**

ORGANIZATION: **Div. of Archives, History & Records Management** DATE: **10-14-74**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Department of State, The Capitol**

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **012**

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: *Robert Williams*  
Robert Williams  
Title: State Historic Preservation Officer

Date: December 16, 1974

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

*A. B. Mortenson*  
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/4/75

ATTEST:  
*W. Muntz*  
Keeper of The National Register

Date: APR 3 1975

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

(Continuation Sheet)

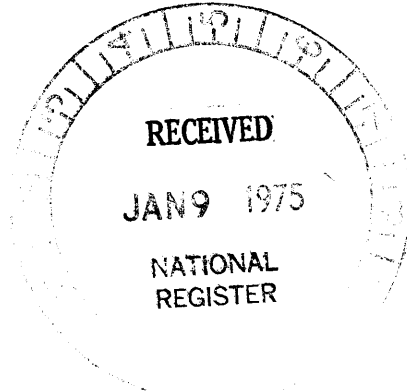
STATE	Florida	
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(Number all entries) 8. Significance

APR 1975  
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first three churches to be erected in Eustis. He served both on the town council and as a school trustee for many years.

Many volumes credit Clifford with the founding of the city of Eustis. He certainly was one of the pioneers in the area and both his house and store have long served as landmarks in the area, having significance historically, architecturally, economically and commercially. In a town which had many fine examples of the various styles which dominated turn-of-the-century architecture, the Clifford House survives as one of the few which is totally unchanged on its original site on the shore of Lake Eustis.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Lake	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE APR 4 1975

(Number all entries) 9. Major Bibliographical References

-2-

Eustis Lake Region, November 16, 1922. (Brief statement about Clifford as one of the founders of the town written post-humously.) Original in the Eustis Memorial Library, Eustis, Florida.

Kennedy, William T. History of Lake County. St. Augustine: The Record Company, 1929.

Lake County Courthouse, Tavares, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Lake County Records. (Subgroup: 1888 Plat Map of Eustis.)

Original Photograph of the Clifford House taken in 1911 in the possession of Mrs. Lottie Taylor. Copies in possession of the Division of Archives, History and Records Management, Department of State, The Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida.

Taylor, Mrs. Lottie Clifford. Personal interview (by Diane D. Greer), March, 1974, Eustis, Florida. (Mrs. Taylor is the 102 year old daughter of G. D. Clifford.)

