

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 92001828

Date Listed: 2/3/93

Greene, Ernest Edward, House
Property Name

Cullman
County

ALABAMA
State

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.



Signature of the Keeper

2/3/93

Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Section No. 8

This nomination is amended to change the period of significance to 1913-1931. This change was made to include the date of construction of the contributing garage.

This change was confirmed by phone with the Alabama SHPO (2/3/93).

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

1828

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REGISTRATION FORM

1. Name of Property

historic name: Greene, Ernest Edward, House

other name/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 105 6th Avenue S.E.

not for publication: N/A

city/town: Cullman

vicinity: N/A

state: AL County: Cullman

code: 043

zip code: 35055

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: private

Category of Property: building

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

[Handwritten Signature]

12-14-92

Signature of certifying official

Date

Alabama Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office)
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
 See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register
- See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain):

[Handwritten Signature] 2/3/93

[Handwritten Signature] Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic: <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Current : <u>DOMESTIC</u>	Sub: <u>single dwelling</u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>
<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

Neoclassical

Other Description: N/A

Materials: foundation stone roof shingle
walls weatherboard other wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance. X See continuation sheet.

3. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties: local

Applicable National Register Criteria: C

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) : N/A

Areas of Significance: Architecture

Period(s) of Significance: 1913-1922

Significant Dates: 1913

Significant Person(s): N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder: Greene, Ernest Edward

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

X See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

X See continuation sheet.

Previous documentation on file (NPS): N/A

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- X State historic preservation office
- Other state agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other -- Specify Repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

A	<u>16</u>	<u>514960</u>	<u>3781840</u>	B	___	_____	_____
C	___	_____	_____	D	___	_____	_____

___ See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description: ___ See continuation sheet.

Commencing at a point on the West side of 6th Avenue East, 100 feet South of the intersection of the Southerly line of First Street with the Westerly line of 6th Avenue East, said point of beginning being at the Southeast corner of lot formerly owned and known as Deed`s Lot and running thence West 135 feet; thence at right angles South parallel with 6th Avenue East, 100 feet; thence East 135 feet to the Westerly line of 6th Avenue East; thence North along the Westerly line of 6th Avenue East 100 feet to point of beginning.

Boundary Justification: ___ See continuation sheet.

The boundaries of this lot are recorded as such in the Cullman County Deed Record 81.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: Chloe S. Mercer/National Register Intern; Melanie Betz/AHC Reviewer

Organization: Alabama Historical Commission Date: August 18, 1992

Street & Number: 725 Monroe Street Telephone: (205)242-3184

City or Town: Montgomery State: AL ZIP: 36130

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Description Greene House Page #1

The Greene House, in Cullman County, is centrally located on a residential block in the city of Cullman. Situated on a 100`x 135` lot facing northeast and 6th Avenue S.E., the 1913 residence was erected in the Neoclassical style. Despite its many owners, the Greene House has undergone few changes.

The two-story, rectangular Neoclassical frame house rests on a stone foundation and is sheathed in white weatherboard (original color yellow). The side-oriented gable roof and projecting portico with pedimented gable are covered with asphalt shingles. A small, rectangular addition of the same period is on the right rear of the house and has a brick foundation. The facade is divided into three bays which articulate the interior spaces. Two interior brick chimneys pierce the ridge of the steep gable roof.

A two-story central projecting portico is the dominant feature on the facade and was not added until after the Greenes moved in. Its massive roof is supported by two fluted Ionic columns. The front gable has a small, semicircular window in the center. An unadorned frieze wraps around the entire house as do brackets under the boxed cornice. Beneath the portico is a one-story, hip-roofed porch that wraps around half of the side elevations. The portico shelters a central second-story deck that has a balustrade with radiating wood members. The porch is supported by ten Tuscan columns that break a plain balustrade. The underside of the porch roofs has beaded board.

The front door has a wood frame and large single pane of glass. The transom and sidelights have a lead coming design which holds thick beveled glass. All the doors, including the front door, feature an ornate lock plate and door handle. The two windows on the first floor facade have 40/1 sashes; the two windows on the second floor facade have 35/1 sashes. The side elevations have 25/1 sashes, and the rear elevation has 20/1 and 10/1 sashes. The small addition has 15/1 sashes and newer replacements. The attic story gable ends have 25/1 rounded window sashes. The four corners feature corner boards with Ionic capitals, and the chimneys have decorative corbeled caps. The gutters are original.

The floor plan is a basic central hall plan with a dining room, living room, kitchen, and study flanking the hall. The rear addition holds a pantry and bath. The second level also has a central hall flanked by three bedrooms and a sitting room. The attic is unfinished. A bath was installed in one of the bedrooms ca. 1931. A door similar to the entry door leads from the hall to the second story deck. The interior has original pine floors on the second level, and oak floors were installed on the first level at some point between 1927 and 1934. The walls are plaster, and the molding around the doorways and the baseboards are painted wood. The dining room has wood panel doors that slide into the wall cavity, and the living room entrance features Ionic columns extending above a partial wall. One cabinet mantel with two-tiered Tuscan columns is still intact. The other three fireplaces were bricked in, and a hot water radiator system was installed ca. 1931. The only contributing outbuilding, a two-car garage, was built during this same time, and a portion of it was converted into servant`s quarters by ca. 1944. A "sucker-rod" pump operated the well that was installed by Mr. Greene; however, the pump is no longer operable or manufactured. The Greene House has retained its integrity as an early 20th-century Neoclassical residence.

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Section number 8 Significance Greene House Page #1

CRITERION C (ARCHITECTURE):

The Greene House in Cullman is a fine and intact example of the Neoclassical style which was the prevailing style from 1900 to 1940. Built in 1913, the house features Ionic colossal columns supporting a projecting portico, multi-pane sashes, and symmetrical facade and central hall plan. Fine details including transom and sidelights with lead coming and beveled glass, bracketed eaves, and corner boards with Ionic capitals remain intact.

HISTORICAL SUMMARY:

Ernest Edward Greene moved to Cullman, Alabama, ca. 1905 as Superintendent of the Southern Cotton Oil Company.(1) By the next year he married Emma Adkins, and in 1913 he built his residence at 105 6th Avenue S.E. in Cullman.(2) The Greenes had three daughters, and Mr. Greene had a son from a previous marriage. Ernest Edward Greene was a prominent member of the community because of his position with the oil mill, the community's single most important employer at that time.

The Greenes were members of the First Methodist Church of Cullman, and both were active in religious and social functions.(3) Ernest Edward Greene became ill with influenza in early 1922, and his recovery was very slow. Ernest Edward Greene died in the house by his own hand in July of 1922 and is buried in Cullman City cemetery.(4) None of the Greene children remain in the Cullman area.

The house passed on to several more owners who were also prominent members of the Cullman community. In fact, the Greene House is most associated with John George Luyben, Sr. and his family because they lived there 34 years--longer than any of the previous owners.(5) Today, the Greene House is one of the most distinct examples of Neoclassical Revival in Cullman, Alabama.

THE COLONIAL REVIVAL STYLE:

The Greene House is a good representation of the Neoclassical style that was the dominant domestic style in this country during the first half of the 20th century. The awakened interest in classical forms probably began at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago 1893. Photographers and reporters documented the architects' classical designs, and these Neoclassical forms became the popular style throughout the country. The truest phase of the Neoclassical style occurred before 1925; after this time, the less elaborate details distinguished the early examples from the later ones. Use of the Neoclassical style slowly diminished ca. 1930 when it was overshadowed by the other eclectic styles.(6)

The term Neoclassical refers to architecture characterized by symmetry of plan and facade, a pedimented portico supported by colossal columns, and use of Ionic or Corinthian capitals.(7) The houses of this revival era frequently have boxed eaves and wide, heavy frieze bands. Windows usually have a multi-pane upper sash and a single-pane lower sash. This house has one characteristic that is relatively uncommon, which is a full-height entry porch with a full-width porch on the lower level.(8)

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Section number 8 Historical Summary Greene House Page #2

Examples of Neoclassical structures are found in Cullman and throughout the state of Alabama. Because the style reminded people of antebellum mansions, it easily gained popularity in the South. There are two homes in Cullman that are very similar to this style. Located at 306 7th Street S.E., the Perry Warren House is another fine example of the Neoclassical style and was built just a few years before the Greene House. It, too, has a pedimented portico supported by fluted, Ionic colossal columns. The Hawkins House of 702 2nd Street S.E. is another example of a Neoclassical design in town. Other examples of the Neoclassical style appear in Alabama; however, a comprehensive survey of this type is not complete. Houses like these that appear in Alabama and across the United States stand as evidence of the influence of classical architectural forms.

1

The Cullman Democrat, July 13, 1922.
The Cullman Tribune, July 13, 1922.

2

Cullman County Marriage Book 6, pp. 386.
The Cullman Democrat, February 1913.
The Cullman Tribune, April 23, 1914.

3

The Cullman Tribune, April 23, 1914.
Historical Information compiled by James and Patricia Owens, pp. 15-16.

4

The Cullman Tribune, July 13, 1922.

5

Cullman County Deed Book, 1984.

6

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984, pp. 344-346.

7

Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary. Lakewood, Colorado: American Source Books, 1989, pp. 113-114.

8

McAlester, pp. 343-344.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Bibliographical References Greene House Page #1

Cullman County Deed Book, 1984.

Cullman County Marriage Book 6.

The Cullman Democrat, February 1913 and July 13, 1922.

The Cullman Tribune, April 23, 1914 and July 13, 1922.

Historical Information compiled by James and Patricia Owens.

McAlester, Virginia and Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984.

Phillips, Steven J. Old House Dictionary. Lakewood, Colorado: American Source Books, 1989.

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Section number Photographs Greene House Page #1

Greene, Ernest Edward, House
105 6th Avenue S.E.
Cullman, AL
Cullman County
Melanie Betz (AHC), Patricia Owens, Photographers
August 1992
Negatives at Alabama Historical Commission

- 1) Front facade, looking southwest.
- 2) Left elevation, looking northwest.
- 3) Right elevation, looking southeast.
- 4) Rear elevation, looking northeast.
- 5) Front door with lead coming and beveled glass.
- 6) Detail of front door handle and lock.
- 7) Central hall and stairwell on lower level.
- 8) Living room at left of front entrance.
- 9) Dining room at right of front entrance.
- 10) Two-tiered mantel in front, left bedroom of upper level.
- 11) Garage/Maid`s Room outbuilding.