S Form 10-900 /ct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service





National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

Name of Property			County and State	
5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)		Resources within Prepriete Previously listed resources	
□ private□ public-local□ public-State□ public-Federal	⋈ building(s)☐ district☐ site☐ structure☐ object	Contribut11	ing Noncon	buildings sites structures objects Total
Name of related multiple (Enter "N/A" if property is not par N/A	property listing t of a multiple property listing.)	Number of in the Natio	Contributing resources on al Register	
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instruction	ns)	Current Fu (Enter categor	nctions ies from instructions)	
DOMESTIC: Single Dwell	ing	DOMESTIC	: Single Dwelling	
7. Description				
Architectural Classificati (Enter categories from instruction Craftsman/Bungalow		Materials (Enter categorials) (Foundation)	ies from instructions) STONE	
Oransinan/bungalow		walls	BRICK	
		roof	CLAY TILE	
		other	WOOD, GLASS, STO	ONE

Cocke County, TN

Cureton, Walter C. House

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Cureton, Walter C. House	Cocke County, TN			
Name of Property	County and State			
8. Statement of Significance				
Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)			
☐ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE			
☐ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.				
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity who's components lack individual distinction.	Period of Significance 1926			
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.				
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.) N/A Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	N/A			
☐ B removed from its original location.	Significant Person (complete if Criterion B is marked) N/A			
□ C moved from its original location.□ D a cemetery.	Cultural Affiliation N/A			
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.				
☐ F a commemorative property	Architect/Builder			
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	Ailey, O.P.			
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sho	eets.)			
9. Major Bibliographical References				
Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form of	on one or more continuation sheets.)			
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	Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal Agency Local Government University Other Name of repository: East Tennessee Development District			

Cureton, Walter C. House	Cocke County, IN
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre	_ Newport 173NW
UTM References (place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
1 17 303520 3981740	3
Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing
2	See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Amanda L. Wild, Historic Preservation Planner	
organization East Tennessee Development District	date June 6, 2001
street & number 5616 Kingston Pike, Post Office Box 1980	06 telephone 865-584-8553
city or town Knoxville	state Tennessee zip code 37939
Additional Documentation	
ubmit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps A USGS map (7.5 0r 15 minute series) indicating the page 15 minutes are 15 minutes.	property's location
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties have	ring large acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the	e property.
Additional items	e property.
Additional items Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items Property Owner	property.
Additional items Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items Property Owner	property.
Additional items Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items Property Owner Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	property.
Representative black and white photographs of the Additional items Check with the SHPO) or FPO for any additional items Property Owner Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) name Bill and Beverly Chambers street & number 202 Lincoln Avenue	telephone 423-623-8231

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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VII. Architectural Description

The Walter C. Cureton House is located on the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Second Street in a residential neighborhood of Newport, Cocke County, Tennessee. The home is situated on a slight slope and is landscaped with trees and bushes. The home displays excellent craftsmanship, and is a fine example of the Craftsman bungalow architectural style. A low pitched clay tile roof, a wide unenclosed eave overhang, a large porch supported by brick piers, and interior built-in features are some of the elements that highlight the house's Craftsman bungalow style.

Built in 1926 by O.P. Ailey, a local contractor and builder in Cocke County, the home retains both its exterior and interior architectural integrity because of few alterations. The Cureton Home is a 1 ½ -story, red-brick bungalow with a brick foundation, a low-pitched side gable roof with a wide eave overhang, a porch with a low-pitched front gabled roof, and two interior brick chimneys. The roof is composed of clay tiles. The brick pattern is a running stretcher bond. A large porch with a low-pitched front gable roof with cross beams and exposed rafters emphasizes the horizontal massing of the house. A horizontal belt course of soldier brick, located just above the exposed basement windows, surrounds the perimeter of the home.

A concrete sidewalk and a series of five stone steps lead up to the main entrance of the Cureton House. Brick cheek walls with stone coping flanks these stairs. Emphasizing the front elevation is a large porch with a low-pitch roof and horizontal beams. Four concrete steps lead to the porch. The porch floor has been replaced with a pebble stone floor, and is the only alteration to the building's exterior. Supporting the porch roof are three large square brick piers with stone cap trims. The piers are located at either end of the porch, which allows for an unobstructed view of the front windows. Brick corbelling decorates the top edge of the piers. The porch encompasses the entire front elevation and wraps around one-third of the west elevation. Scuppers are located along the base of the porch wall.

The facade is symmetrical and contains three bays. A central door is flanked by a set of triple casement windows. The front door consists of an aluminum storm door as well as the original wood paneled door, which contains six lights in the upper portion of the door. A brick soldier arch caps the door. The casement windows each have fifteen lights, as well as wood sash, stone sills, and brick soldier arches. A shed dormer with a band of seven casement windows is located in the second story. Each window contains nine lights. The shed roof of the dormer is covered with clay tiles and accented with knee braces and exposed rafter tails.

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The gabled west elevation contains a one-story projecting bay with a low-pitched gable roof. This roof is accented by knee braces and has exposed rafters. A window opening containing a pair of nine-over-one, double-hung, wood sash is centrally located in this projection. The window is adorned with a soldier arch and a stone sill. Basement single pane windows are exposed along the elevation. The brick belt course that surrounds the perimeter of the home forms the soldier arches over the basement windows. North of the projecting wall are a pair of window openings containing nine-over-nine, double-hung, wood sash. South of the projecting wall there are one small six-over-one, double-hung, wood sash window and a band of three casement windows with wood sash containing twelve lights. There are four symmetrically placed windows in the half story. The centermost windows each contain nine-over-one, double-hung, wood sash, with brick lintels and stone sills. The outermost windows are casement windows with nine lights, wood sash, brick lintels, and stone sills. Wood attic vents are located in the gable field.

The south elevation contains a carport and a rear entrance into the home. Attached to the exterior wall, the porte cochere is supported by two brick columns, and is capped with a tile deck hipped roof with exposed rafters. This elevation is gabled and the first story contains three bays. The westernmost bay consists of a band of four, twelve-light wood sash casement windows. The center bay contains a door approached by brick steps. The easternmost bay consists of two small window openings with nine-light casement wood sash each. A brick chimney is located east of these windows. The windows in the half story gable field are centrally placed. A band of five, nine light wood casement windows is centrally placed between two small, four-light windows. All of the windows have stone sills and brick lintels. Wood attic vents are located in the gable.

The east elevation is similar to the west elevation, but contains a slightly different window arrangement and reveals a portion of the porch. The porch wraps around about one-third the length of the east elevation. Pebble stone steps lead to the porch. There is a one-story projecting bay with a low-pitched gable roof ornamented by triangular knee braces, and highlighted with exposed rafters. A band of four, fifteen-light wood sash casement windows is centrally placed in the projecting wall. Located south of the projecting bay are two sets of windows. The southern-most set contains three, nine light wood casement windows. The other set contains two, nine light wood casement windows. Located north of the projecting wall is a pair of nine light wood casement windows. The half story contains four symmetrically placed windows. The outermost window openings contain wood casement sash containing six lights. The innermost windows contain six-over-one, double-hung, wood sash. All of the windows are adorned with stone sills and brick lintels. Wood attic vents are located in the gable.

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The interior of the home is characteristic of the bungalow architectural style with large open spaces, wood trim, original wood doors and hardware, radiators, hardwood floors, and built-in features. The front door opens into a large living room, which is adorned with wood beams, a brick fireplace, built-in wood cabinets, and wood trim along the floor and ceiling. The living room opens into a parlor on the west, a central hallway on the northwest wall, and a formal dining room on the northeast wall. Original French doors open into the parlor and dining rooms.

A doorway in the north wall of the dining room leads to small breakfast nook and butler's pantry. This nook contains a built-in table with benches as well as built-in cabinets. Another doorway on the opposite wall leads into the kitchen. The kitchen is being remodeled and updated. Only one original cabinet remains.

A door in the west wall of the kitchen leads into the downstairs hallway. Across from the kitchen is a laundry room, with brick walls that originally may have functioned as a sunroom. This room also contains features including a built-in ironing board and a cabinet. A bedroom is located across from the dining room.

A single flight, open string stairway is located on the west wall of the hallway. The stairs are wood with a newel post, turned balusters, and scalloped brackets.

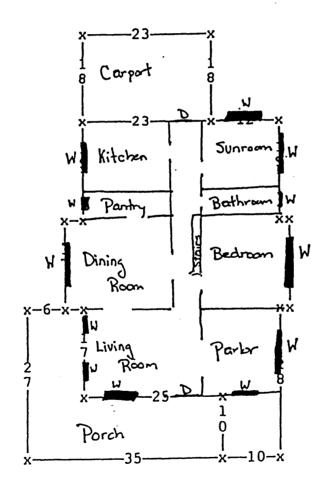
The upstairs contains four rooms, a bathroom, and a large cedar closet. The floors on the second story are also of hardwood. The bathtub in the upstairs bathroom is original, but the other fixtures have been replaced.

The Walter C. Cureton House retains both its exterior and interior architectural integrity with very few alterations.

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First Floor Plan

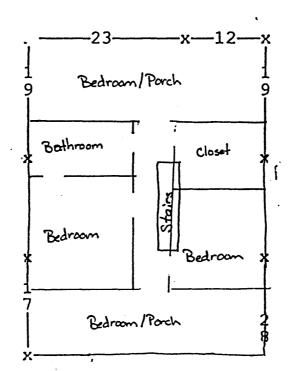




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Second Floor Plan





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III. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Walter C. Cureton House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C as an excellent local example of the Craftsman bungalow architectural style. The home displays excellent craftsmanship, with a low pitched clay tile roof, wide eave overhang, large porch supported by brick piers, grouped windows, and interior features including built-in cabinetry, solid wood doors, hardwood floors, and wood beams in the living room.

The Cureton House is situated at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Second Street in the town of Newport (2000 population of 7,242), the county seat of Cocke County. Cocke County is in East Tennessee and located less than twenty miles north of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Cocke County was established in 1797. The first settlement was located along the French Broad River and was called New Port. It was not until after the Civil War, however, that the city of Newport was platted and developed. The growth and development of the town is largely attributed to the addition of the Cincinnati, Cumberland Gap, and Charleston Railroad line through the city in the late 1800s. Historian Carroll Van West finds that the railroad line through Newport created "an entirely new town plan of the plateau overlooking the river – it's day as a small, agrarian county seat and trade center were numbered." As in other mountain communities, capitalists were attracted to the town by cheap labor and land.

In the mid-1880s, the Scottish-Carolina Timber and Land Company, Ltd., under the general management of A.A. Arthur, came into the county and purchased vast tracks of virgin timber. The timber was cut and then floated down the Big Pigeon River to Newport, sawed into lumber and shipped to markets in the east. The venture brought an infusion of new money, new people, and new ideas into the community.

Arthur constructed a private residence, known as the Scottish Mansion as a showcase of the company's offerings with each room paneled in a different wood. The present Cureton home stood in sight of the mansion. In addition, Arthur developed the surrounding neighborhood, planning streets with picturesque names. West states, "the new town would represent the latest in Victorian urban planning, in jarring contrast to the first New Port, which had developed in a vernacular way

¹ Carroll Van West, *Tennessee's Historic Landscape: A Travelers Guide* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee, 1995), 141.

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without formal plans along the riverbanks." In addition, West finds that, "At first, Arthur's company reshaped Newport as it desired; in 1884, for example, the county seat was moved from the older New Port to the new, industrial town." The Scottish Company's stay in Newport, however, was short-lived. The Great Flood of 1886 damaged the company's stock of timber and lumber. Late in 1886, the company left Newport.

Community leaders soon realized the void that the exit of the Scottish Company created. Seeking to fill the void, the Newport Development Company was formed in 1890. Efforts were made to lure investors and industries, many of them from the North. Much of the property held by the Scottish Company was subdivided for business and residential purposes. On April 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 1891, a great sale of this property was held in Newport. The Cureton property is comprised on Lots 9-12 in Block 19 of the sale.

It was the dream of these local developers to move Newport's town center from its current location to the area now know as "Eastport," away from the dirt and grime of the railroad and the threat of flooding. Present Second Street, which borders the Cureton property to the north, was to be the main street, hence its exceptional width. The lots immediately across Lincoln Avenue were reserved for a hotel, which was built in 1895. Other lots in the neighborhood were designed for businesses, churches, and a school.

The desire to make this area the center of the town never materialized; rather the area was used for residential and religious purposes. The original hotel only remained in business until 1899, when the building was sold to Dr. J.M. Masters for a tuberculosis sanatorium. After the sanatorium closed, the building was used for brief periods as a clinic, a boardinghouse, an apartment house, and finally again as a hotel until it burned in 1926, the same year that the Cureton home was built.⁴

Walter C. Cureton was born on May 4, 1876 as a descendant of a long time Cocke County family. In 1905, he married Lora Blanche McNabb, who was a daughter of Campbell McNabb and Amanda Tennessee McNabb, also early settlers of Cocke County.

² West, *Historic Landscapes*, 142.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Research regarding the Newport Development Company is by E.R. Walker, a Newport resident and history teacher. This information is adapted from a paper he prepared to assist in the National Register nomination of the Cureton home (May 2001).

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Mr. Cureton was employed as a salesman for McMillan-Hazen Shoe Company of Knoxville and he traveled to stores throughout the county. Due to these travels, he developed numerous contacts, and when he desired to enter politics, these contacts worked to his advantage. Mr. Cureton served as the Clerk of Cocke County Court from 1926-1930. In addition to these two vocations, he had farming and real estate interests. He and his wife were also the parents of five children.

The Cureton's resided on Newport's Lincoln Avenue for many years. Their first home was on the southeast corner of Lincoln Avenue and Third Street, which is now the site of a parking lot for the Lincoln Avenue Baptist Church. In 1926, the family moved to their new home a block north on the southeast corner of Lincoln Avenue and Second Street.

The contractor of the home was O.P. Ailey. Ailey was a Cocke County native and was born in the Wilsonville community on September 13, 1875. He was an architect and contractor in Cocke County, Blount County, and in Florida. Many residences and businesses in Cocke County were built under his construction including the Taylor Grocery Company, Newport Laundry, several schools, the Dr. McGaha home; Swan home, as well as the remodeling of the Alf Taylor home. Ailey originally intended the home for himself and his family, but after Mr. Cureton expressed his interest in the residence, Ailey instead built the home for Cureton's family.

Architecturally, the home is an excellent local example of the Craftsman bungalow style. This architectural style has its roots in California with the designs of two brothers, Charles and Henry Green, in 1903. The style spread rapidly across the country due largely to the publication of these designs in magazines including *Western Architect*, *The Architect*, *House Beautiful*, *Good Housekeeping*, *Architectural Record*, *Country Life in America*, and the *Ladies' Home Journal*. Architectural historians, Lee and Virginia McAlester explain, "As a result, a flood of pattern books appeared, offering plans for Craftsman bungalows; some even offered completely pre-cut packages of lumber and detailing to be assembled by local labor. Through these vehicles, the one-story Craftsman house quickly became the most popular and fashionable smaller house in the county." This architectural style was popular from 1905 through the 1920s.

The brick construction makes the Cureton House distinctive, as brick Craftsman houses were less common than wood.⁶ The home contains many of the prominent features associated with this

⁵ Lee and Virginia McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984), 454.

⁶ Ibid., 458.

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architectural style. According to Carol Rifkind, "Typically, the Bungalow has widely overhanging gables forming a porch, supported by heavy battered piers." John Poppeliers further explains that the interior of a bungalow home was often direct and functional. He states, "Front doors opened directly into living rooms, which were often, in turn, directly connected to the dining room or dining area. Ceilings were often beamed, at least in the major rooms, and all wooden surfaces were finished in a natural stain. But if the hearth was the center of the home in winter, in summer the bungalow stretched to the out-of-doors." The Cureton House, too, exhibits these features with a beamed living room ceiling and a brick fireplace, as well as an expansive front porch.

The Walter Cureton House possesses these characteristics as well as other features including built-in furnishings and hardwood floors. There are several other bungalows in Newport, but few, if any, possess the craftsmanship of the Walter C. Cureton home. The home remains an impressive structure as well as a landmark in the city of Newport.

⁷ Carole Rifkind, A Field Guide to American Architecture (New York: Penguin Group, 1980), 100.

⁸ John Poppeliers, S. Allen Chambers, and Nancy Schwartz, What Style Is It?: A Guide to American Architecture (Washington, D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1983), 77.

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IX. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Poppeliers, John, S. Allen Chambers, and Nancy Schwartz. What Style Is It?: A Guide to American Architecture. Washington D.C.: National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1983.
- Rifkind, Carole. A Field Guide to American Architecture. New York: Penguin Group, 1980.
- Walker, E.R. III. Research and paper for the National Register nomination of the Walter C. Cureton Home, May 2001.
- West, Carroll Van. *Tennessee's Historic Landscapes: A Traveler's Guide*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 1995.

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X. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The Walter C. Cureton House sits on less than one acre of land on the corner of Lincoln Aveune and Second Street, and is located in Section C on Parcel 4 on the Newport, Cocke County Tax Map No. 56-C.

Boundary Justification

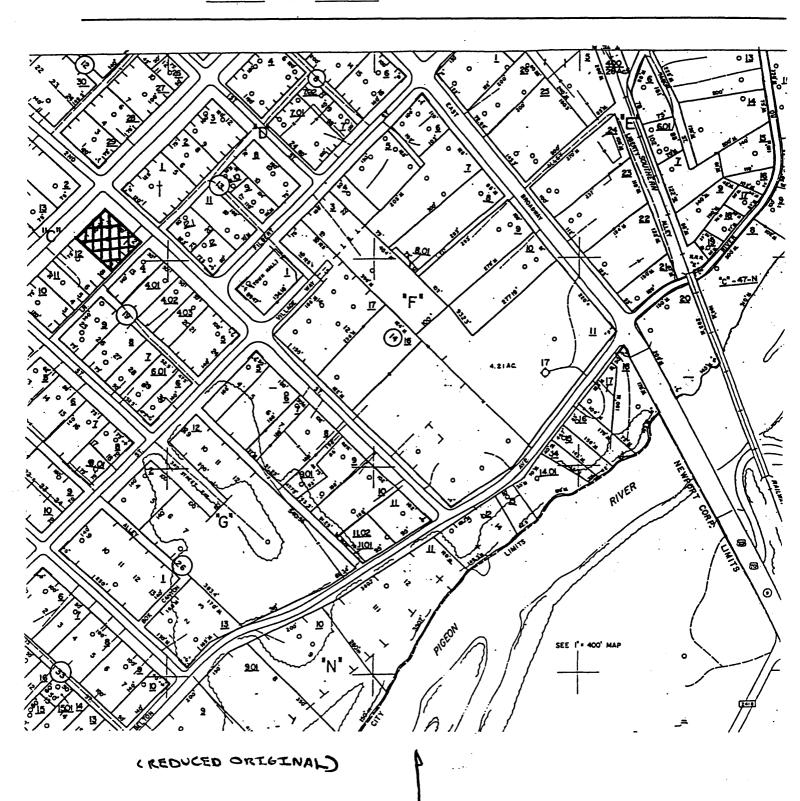
The nominated boundary includes the parcel of land historically associated with the Walter Cureton House.

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Cureton, Walter C., House Cocke County, TN

PHOTOGRAPHS

Walter Cureton House Newport, Cocke County

Photos By: Amanda Wild

East Tennessee Development District

P.O. Box 19806 Knoxville, TN 37939

Date:

May 2001

Negatives: Tennessee Historical Commission

2941 Lebanon Road Nashville, TN 37243

North (front elevation)

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North (front elevation)

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North elevation, porch

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Northwest elevation, porch wall with scupper.

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Northeast elevation, brick porch piers

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East elevation

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East elevation

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United States Department of the InteriorNational Park Service

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Hallway and stairs

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Detail of stairs

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Staircase

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Upstairs hallway

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Upstairs bedroom

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Upstairs bathroom

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First floor closet underneath main stair

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