

P 110012246

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
Florida

COUNTY:  
Jackson

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE  
JUN 5 1974

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Erwin House

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Syfrett House

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Located on Fort Road (no #) immediately east of main intersection E FL 71

CITY OR TOWN:  
Greenwood

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
First

STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Jackson CODE: 063

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

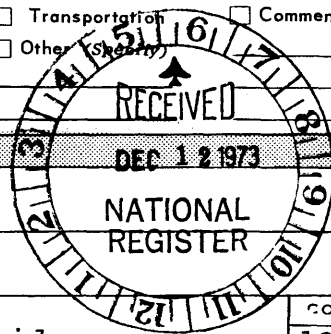
**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
Miss Lucy Erwin

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Box 22

CITY OR TOWN:  
Greenwood

STATE: Florida CODE: 12



**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

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

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
Marianna

STATE: Florida CODE: 12

**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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Jackson

ENTRY NUMBER: 110012246

DATE: JUN 5 1974

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7. DESCRIPTION

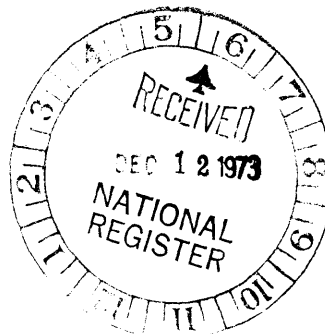
CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Erwin House located in the tiny rural community of Greenwood is a type of building which rarely occurs in Florida or has failed to survive to any degree. That is the transitional Colonial plan of central hall, one room deep and two stories in height. The house is braced frame construction with the large timbers tenoned together. External walls are of studs, in this case clapboards applied over heavy sheathing board with lath and plaster on the inside. The house has a pitched roof with exterior brick chimneys. Fenestration is regular throughout, with all windows being double-hung sash with exterior louvered shutters and a classic doorway with transom and sidelights. Early photographs of the house reveal it to have had a two-story veranda running the full width of the main facade. The veranda had square, thick supporting posts and was balustraded at the upper level only. Subsequent modification of the veranda has reduced it to a small front porch with flat roof. Four of the original posts have been retained in place and sections of the balustrade are in use. What was originally an open porch forming a T at the rear of the house is now enclosed to provide three additional rooms. The only other alterations to the structure have been minor changes on the interior such as wood panelling and downstairs hallway and replacing sections of flooring.

There were several dependencies associated with the main house, none of which are in existence today. Only the well is still in evidence. Originally there was a carriage house, smoke house, barn, slave house and office. The most visible reminder of the former existence and placement of the out-buildings is the paths and walkways which once led to them, and still remain. Grave markers in the Syfrett Family Cemetery immediately to the north of the house were destroyed recently by a hurricane. The main house is in fair condition today with the interior in the most urgent need of repair.

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**SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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

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The Syfrett family may have been "squatters" on this property as early as 1837, when the third son, George W. Syfrett, was born at Greenwood, Florida. Deed records show that John A. Syfrett purchased 150 acres of land, including this site, on January 5, 1839. The presence of the Syfrett family cemetery close by suggests that this was the actual homesite, and internal architectural evidence indicates that the house was built during the tenure of Syfrett's ownership, which lasted until 1851. The plan of the house, as well as the materials, methods, and details of construction support this conclusion. The deed transferring the property to Mary Roberts in 1851 makes reference to the "appurtenances" thereon, although the dwelling is not specifically mentioned until the title passed from Henry Bryan to Dr. Franklin Hart in 1855. The property was purchased by M. F. Erwin in 1861, and has been owned by his descendants since that time.

The Erwin House represents a style of architecture common among the small planter and yeoman farmer residential structures of the mid-nineteenth century, but now rarely found in Florida. Moreover, the Erwin House has survived in a rural agricultural village environment relatively unchanged by twentieth century development.



**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Jackson County Courthouse, Marianna, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Jackson County Records. (Subgroup: deeds; U.S. to Syfrett, Syfrett to Roberts, Roberts to Bryan, Bryan to Hart, Hart to Erwin).  
 Jackson County Courthouse, Marianna, Florida. County Judge's Office. Jackson County Records. (Subgroup: deeds; Declaration for Pension by George W. Syfrett. Syfrett Estate Papers).  
 Trustees of Internal Improvement, Land Records, Receipt for purchase of land from U.S. by John A. Syfrett, 1-5-1839.

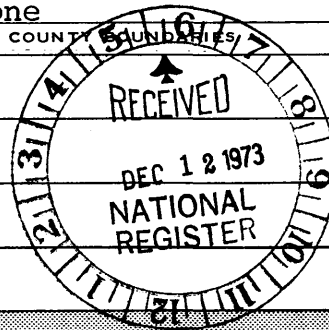
**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		N30° 52' 12"	W85° 09' 43"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

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



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

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

ORGANIZATION: **Div. of Archives, History & Records Mgt.** DATE: **February, 1973**

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

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

**12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

<p>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:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name: <u><i>Diane D. Greer</i></u></p> <p>Title: <u>Historic Preservation Officer</u></p> <p>Date: <u>12-5-73</u></p>	<p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>Ernest A. Connolly</i></u>                  Associate Director, Professional Services                  Date: <u>JUN 5 1974</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>Charles A. ...</i></u>                  Keeper of The National Register                  Date: <u>5-3-74</u></p>
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