Supplementary Listing Record

NRIS Reference Number: RS100003107	Date Listed:		
Property Name: Easterwood House			
County: Colbert	State: AL		
This Property is listed in the National Register of Histonomination documentation subject to the following ex notwithstanding the National Park Service certification	ceptions, exclusions, or amendments,		
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action		
Amended Items in Nomination: The period of significance is 1912, the year the house	e was constructed.		
The ALABAMA SHPO was notified of this ame	ndment.		
DISTRIBUTION: National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination a	attachment)		

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

MADE RECORDED BY THE PARTY OF T 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any 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.

OMB No. 1024-0018

1. Name of Property	
Historic Name: Easterwood Ho	ouse
Other names/ site number: Harris Home	
Name of related multiple property listing:	N/A
(Enter N/A if property is not part of a multiple property li	isting)
2. Location	
Street & number: 200 Easterwood Street	
City/Town: Cherokee	State: AL County: Colbert
Not for Publication: Vicinity:	
request determination of eligibility mee Historic Places and meets the procedural and pro x meets does not meet the National Reg I recommend this property be considered signific	
National Statewide _x Local Applicable National Register Criteria: A	B <u>_x</u> C D
Signature of certifying official/Title Alabama Historical Commission	/Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer 12/11/18 Date
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Govern	
In my opinion, the propertymeetsdoes	not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official	Date
Title	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
4. National Park Service Certification I hereby certify that this property is:	1/21/19
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

Easterwood House Colbert, AL Name of Property County and State 5. Classification / Ownership of Property: (check as many boxes as apply) Public-Local Public-State Public-Federal Category of Property: (check only one box) x Building(s) District Site Structure Object Number of Resources Within Property: (do not include previously listed resources in the count) Contributing Non-Contributing **Buildings** 2 1 Sites Structures Objects **TOTAL** Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0 **6. Function or Use / Historic Functions:** (enter categories from instructions) Domestic / Single-dwelling **Current Functions:** (enter categories from instructions) Domestic / Single-dwelling 7. Architectural Classification: (enter categories from instructions) Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals / Colonial Revival / Neo-Classical **Materials:** (enter categories from instructions) Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation: stone; Walls: wood / weatherboard / vinyl siding; Roof: asphalt shingles

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Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Easterwood House is a two-story, Colonial Revival-style house in the town of Cherokee, Alabama. It is set far back from Easterwood Street at the end of Second Street in a park-like setting. The house sits on a limestone block foundation and is made of wood, now covered in vinyl siding. The house has a side-gabled gambrel roof with a prominent front facing Neo-Classical portico, with four massive lonic columns, and large block modillions and dentil molding in the pediment. The front of the house features two dormers and a balcony integrated into the portico. Two separate shed roofs flank the portico and cover the porch. Thirteen concrete steps lead up to the porch. The house combines a Dutch Colonial Revival form with Neo-Classical features and stands as one of the most impressive houses in the town. The combination of the Neo-Classical portico and the gambrel roof make the house a unique example of Colonial Revival-style architecture. The architecture of the house has more in common with Colonial Revival architecture in Memphis, Tennessee than it does to the few examples found in the Shoals tri-city area of Florence, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia. The interior of the house retains much of the original woodworking—moldings, doors, and floors, and the original spatial arrangement has not been altered. The house retains integrity with regards to design, location, setting, workmanship and feeling. The original design of the house—as a large, two-story Colonial Revival house—remains largely unchanged. The location and setting—at the end of 2nd street on a plot of land that resembles a park—are unchanged from the original construction of the house. Much of the original woodworking on the interior of the house is intact, allowing the structure to retain its integrity in the area of workmanship. The house retains its integrity in the area of feeling because it is remains a large, visually imposing structure that sits at the edge of the town of Cherokee.

Narrative Description

Easterwood House sits along Easterwood Street in the town of Cherokee, Alabama. Cherokee is south of the Tennessee River in Colbert County, Alabama, in the northwest corner of the state. The house sits at the eastern end of Second Street and is bordered on the south by First Street and the Norfolk Southern Railroad (Photo 19). The front façade of the house faces west, and overlooks a park-like front yard (Photo 5). The entrance to the house is guarded by a stone gate and white wooden fence (Photo 15). Second Street ends at this gate, and the approach to the house traveling east on Second Street gives the house a larger-than-life appearance (Photos 16 and 17).

The property is bordered on the west by Easterwood Street. 1st Street, which runs parallel to the railroad several feet below its embankment, forms the southern property boundary. The eastern border runs north to Triplett Street, which forms the northern boundary of the property. The large yard of the Easterwood House is dotted with magnolia, oak, and cedar trees (Photo 18). A paved concrete drive winds to the north side of the house from the stone gate entrance, and a brick walkway leads to the front entrance on the west façade of the house (Photo 4). On the north side of the home, a non-contributing two bay garage sits just to the rear of the house (Photo 21). A one-story contributing workshop sits north of the house (Photo 20). The workshop is built of wood, with vinyl siding and a hip roof of asphalt shingles. A hip roof dormer with one three-lite window is centered on the south side of the workshop. A 15-lite door is flanked by two 4/4 wood windows. While the exact date of construction of the workshop is not known, it was built before the house was sold to John Harris in 1920 and thus is contributing. Two sheds, one on the east façade and one on the west façade, are built in to the sides of the workshop. Beyond the open yard bordering the west and south west side of the house, forested land envelops the rest of the property.

Easterwood is a two-story, Colonial Revival-style house with a side-gabled gambrel roof covered with gray asphalt shingles. There are three brick chimneys: one along the north façade of the house, one above the northeast addition (kitchen area) and one situated at the ridge several feet from the south wall of the house. On the west façade of the house (Photo 6), two small shed-roof dormers flank a massive, Neo-Classical portico (Photo 11). The portico has a front facing gable roof that extends back to the ridge of the main roof. The pediment is made of horizontal wood siding and is framed by large block modillions and dentil molding (Photo 12). Underneath the pediment, the same pattern of block modillions and dentil molding is replicated along the top of the entablature (Photos 13 and 14). Four lonic columns support the portico, two on each side along the front that sit on wide wooden blocks.

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Behind the portico is a second-floor balcony with a window that was converted from a doorway. The balcony is twelve feet wide by four feet deep and is surrounded by a Chippendale-style wood balustrade. A large 1/1 wood window is flanked by two 1/1 narrow sidelights. The landing is surrounded by a low white wood fence, and supported from below by two wooden braces.

Underneath each dormer, a shed roof extends out over the porch. Each roof is supported by four Doric columns and one Doric pilaster. The columns sit atop poured concrete that forms the top of the cut limestone foundation. The main entrance door is wood with a transom, flanked on each side by sidelights with their own transoms (Photo 7). The entry system is flanked by fluted squared columns that terminate at the braces for the balcony. Two large wood windows with transoms flank the main entry door. The front facade measures forty-eight feet in length and is covered by white vinyl siding. White fluted trim is found at both front corners (Photo 8).

Thirteen concrete steps lead up to the porch, flanked by cut limestone walls that are topped with poured concrete tops and painted iron railings. The porch floor is wood, and the limestone foundation forms the low wall that surrounds the porch. On the front of the foundation there are arched openings in the stone on either side of the steps. The stone foundation is capped by poured concrete that is painted blue.

The north façade has wood shingles in the roof peak with a rounded louvered vent (Photos 1 and 2). Block modillions separate the wood shingles from the vinyl siding below it. Two 1/1 windows are situated in the center of the facade below the line of modillions. A large bay window with three 1/1 windows and an asphalt shingle hip roof protrudes from the east side of the facade, near the rear kitchen addition. Two additional windows are located on the first floor of the north facade. The rear kitchen addition has two 1/1 windows and a hip roof that leads to a second story addition with a low-pitched hip roof. The second story addition has a group of three 1/1 windows. The western eave culminates in a level return (Photo 3), while the eastern disappears into the rear addition.

The south façade also has wood shingles in the roof peak and a rounded louvered vent (Photos 9 and 10). Block modillions separate the wood shingles from the vinyl siding, and below this line are two 1/1 windows on the second story of the house. On the first story, two 1/1 windows and a bay window with three 1/1 windows and a hip roof are in the same position as on the north façade. The south façade has an additional window and door with steps leading down from the house. The western eave culminates in a level return, and the eastern eave does as well, several feet lower than the western eave.

The interior of the house retains its original spatial arrangement. Upon entering the front door of Easterwood, a large hallway divides the house in half lengthwise (Photo 22). This hallway features two large, seven-paneled double pocket doors situated opposite each other on either side of the hall (Photo 24). The hallway is separated widthwise by a header that is supported by two wooden lonic columns (Photo 25). Beyond this header a staircase leads up to the second floor; the hallway continues back to the kitchen addition. Simple, Craftsman-style door and window trim (Photo 28) is found throughout the entire first floor, as are wide baseboards (Photo 23). All the trim is stained darker than the oak flooring in the hallway; in the first story north-side rooms, it is painted white.

The front room on the north side (Photo 27) of the house features a fireplace (Photos 29 and 31) on the north wall with a carved wooden mantelpiece and surround (Photo 30), flanked by two large windows. The trim in this room has been painted white. Two large seven-paneled pocket doors separate this room from the dining room located behind it (Photos 33 and 43). The doors have the original brass locks intact (Photo 32).

The dining room has a large bay window on the north side (Photo 34), and an oak shelf (Photo 36) that extends partially around the room that appears to be an extension of the mantle. The shelf is roughly five feet from the floor. The fireplace in the dining room features a wood mantelpiece and surround in the Doric order (Photos 37, 38, 39). A door with a large, stained-glass transom leads from this room into the hallway (Photo 40). This door has a unique brass, pinecone-shaped doorknob (Photo 35). The trim in this room has been painted white. A door leads back into a storage room with a built-in storage cabinet (Photo 41). A door leads from the storage room to the kitchen addition behind it (Photo 42).

On the south side of the house, two large rooms are separated by a wall that meets the hallway where the header and columns are visible. The front room has a fireplace on the west wall. This fireplace features the same mantelpiece and surround as the front room on the north side of the house (Photo 52). There is a small closet on the west wall, with a fivepanel wood door (Photo 53). All the trim in this room is stained and replicates the color of the trim throughout the hallway.

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The staircase leads up to the second-floor landing from the right side of the rear hallway room (Photo 44). It makes a ninety-degree turn to the left halfway along its course. The staircase is wood, stained the same color as the trim throughout the hallway, and has a prominent newel post anchoring the rail. This newel post (Photo 45) has a light switch built into its front panel that connected to a light fixed atop the newel post at the staircase turn (Photo 51). The staircase is splayed outwards towards the hallway very slightly.

The second-floor landing is separated by the central hallway on the east side, and the second-floor addition on the right. A hanging stained-glass window is placed between the landing and the addition (Photos 46 and 47). The hallway (Photo 48) features five doors that each lead to a bedroom. The doors are all five-panel wood doors with Craftsman-style trim (Photo 49), and each has a decorative nameplate attached to the second topmost rail (Photo 50).

The house retains integrity in the area of design because the front façade has remained as originally intended. The design of the building is a large, Colonial Revival-style house with a gambrel roof and prominent Greek Revival portico, a unique combination of the two styles. The location of house has not been altered, nor has the setting. The house sits in the same, park-like setting overlooking Second Street, as it did when it was built, and retains the same feeling. The workmanship displayed on the interior of the house allows the building to retain integrity in that area. The integrity of the materials on the exterior has been altered by the addition of vinyl siding; the owner has expressed interest in restoring the house to its original wood siding.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Easterwood House Colbert, AL 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) A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. 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 whose components lack individual distinction. D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. **Criteria Considerations:** (mark "x" in all the boxes that apply) A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes B. Removed from its original location C. A birthplace or grave D. A cemetery E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure F. A commemorative property G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years Areas of Significance: (enter categories from instructions) ARCHITECTURE **Period of Significance:** 1910-1930 **Significant Dates:** 1912 Significant Person: (complete only if Criterion B is marked above) **Cultural Affiliation:** Architect / Builder:

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph: (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

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The Easterwood House is significant under Criterion C at the local level because it is an excellent example of Colonial Revival architecture, demonstrating an interesting combination of Dutch Revival and Greek Revival styles. The house was built prior to the height of the popularity of Colonial Revival, and appears to have been influenced by houses in Memphis rather than in the nearby Shoals tri-city region. The massive, Greek Revival-style portico is reminiscent of antebellum houses in middle Tennessee, while the side-gabled gambrel roof establishes a Dutch Colonial Revival element to the house. The craftsmanship and massing of the house establish it as important middle-class expression of wealth and status in early twentieth century Cherokee, Alabama.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion C: Architecture

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The Easterwood House was built in 1912 as the most significant Colonial Revival-style house in the town of Cherokee. The builder drew on the national popularity of Colonial Revival-style as well as the style's regional interpretation in the southern United States (characterized by Greek Revival elements from the region's antebellum past) for its inspiration, and produced a local architectural landmark. Built before the 1920's and the age of increasing historically accurate Colonial Revival architecture, the Easterwood House combines a decidedly Dutch Colonial Revival feature (a side-gabled gambrel roof) with the regionally typical Neoclassical portico, and stands out as an excellent example of a localized interpretation of a regionally distinct understanding of a national architectural movement.

Colonial Revival architecture was the physical manifestation of a rebirth of interest in early American houses--specifically those located on the Atlantic seaboard--spurred by the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial. In 1877, the architecture firm of McKim, Mead, White, and Bigelow toured New England to study original Georgian and Federal-style buildings. By 1886, the firm had designed and constructed two houses in New England in the Colonial Revival style. The style gained popularity through the 1890s and into the early part of the twentieth century, where it became an extremely popular domestic building style. McAlester has estimated that forty percent of the houses built during this period (1900-1930) were in the Colonial Revival style.¹

Early Colonial Revival houses rarely exhibit historically correct architectural details. According to former Alabama architectural historian Robert Gamble, "architectural styles, as we think of them today were...little understood by the average architect, much less by his client." In Gamble's estimation, this explains the incoherent combination of stylistic features present on the same structure.

While Colonial Revival architecture captured many features of Colonial-era buildings, different regions claimed preference for specific types. Dutch Colonial Revival houses were popular in northern areas, while the state of Alabama showed a strong preference for neoclassical features. According to Gamble, "white pillars could readily be identified with the state's own, increasingly romanticized antebellum past." Greek Revival architecture swept through the nation in the 1830s through the 1860s, and in Alabama it encompassed two most common forms: a pedimented central portico projecting from a main block, or a wide, hipped-roof without a pediment, that incorporated a front façade colonnade. The former was the inspiration for the Neo-Classicist elements found on Easterwood. This regional feature of a national architectural movement helps to explain why the architect of Easterwood designed a structure with both a Dutch Colonial revival style form and Neo-Classical features.

During the early 1920s, the style began to shift towards an historically accurate interpretation of early American houses, aided by magazines and books that published photographs and measurements of these early houses. As a result, houses built between 1920 and 1930 more closely resembled Federal and Georgian style houses than ones built before and after

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¹ Virginia Savage McAlester, Field Guide to American Houses, (New York: Alfred Knopf, 2015), 432.

² Robert Gamble, Historic Architecture in Alabama (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1990), 134.

³ Gamble, 134.

⁴ Gamble, 61.

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this decade. The restoration of Historic Williamsburg helped to maintain an interest in Colonial Revival architecture, and the style was adapted to different forms after World War II. Interpretations of the style continue today.⁵

The architectural features of the Easterwood house place it comfortably within the first iteration of Colonial Revival houses which often exhibited a combination of stylistically-distinct architectural features. The use of both Neo-Classical and Dutch Colonial Revival elements fit with the national trend of combining elements considered to be important early-American features into the same design. The modillion and dentil combination surrounding the pediment and the eaves of the portico are elements of Neo-Classicism that were accentuated on the Easterwood house. The dentil, a classical element often found under the corona in Ionic or Corinthian orders, is an ornamental piece meant intended to alter the appearance of light, shade, and shadow along a building's eave, and is featured prominently on the portico at Easterwood.⁶

The incoherence of a uniform design is evident throughout Easterwood. Ionic columns and entablature clash with Doric columns on the front porch, mere feet away from each other. The Dutch Colonial roof clashes with the prominent Neo-Classical façade. Inside, Craftsman-style trim surrounds Victorian-style door transoms with decorative, stained glass. A Doric fireplace surround with complete entablature are found in the same room. In this way, Easterwood follows national trends of combining different elements of architecturally significant styles into one structure.

Throughout the southern United States, the Colonial Revival movement took on a decidedly Neo-Classical feeling. Southern architects and homeowners sought a return to antebellum status and power and incorporated elements of Neo-Classical architecture into their work. Oftentimes, this meant the inclusion of large, central porticos with pronounced pediments and classical columns.

At Easterwood, the four Ionic columns supporting the front portico are an example of a classical feature that became a mainstay of southern Neo-Classicism. While examples dating from the same period (1900-1915) throughout the state of Alabama feature wider, heavier porticos --the Colonel O.R. Hood House, Gadsden (1904), NR#86001000; the Alabama Governor's Mansion, Montgomery (1907), NR# 72000172; the Oates House, Abbeville (1910), NR# 89000164; the J. Bruce Hain House, Sardis (1913), NR# 01001295; the J.D. Holman House, Ozark, (1913), NR# 82002007—the central portico at the Easterwood house is much slenderer. This likely represents a local variation of a regional architectural theme.

While Colonial Revival throughout Alabama exhibited decidedly Neo-Classical features, other areas saw a blending of different styles on the same structure. In Memphis Tennessee, one hundred and thirty miles to the west of Cherokee, there are examples of Colonial Revival architecture that feature a blending of different styles. Architect W.J. Dodd of Louisville, with the assistance of the local firm of Jones and Furbringer, designed the first Colonial Revival-style residence in Memphis. Greenwood, also known as Beverly Hall, was built between 1904 and 1906. Paisley Hall, built between 1908 and 1910, represents another early example of Memphis' Colonial Revival architecture on a grand scale. These houses were the beginning of a phase in Memphis' architectural history, and represent a willful blending of Neo-Classical elements into a broader Colonial Revival style. A key similarity is the use of fanlights on both houses—a Federal element—combined with Classical columns. This type of blending was widespread in Memphis.

While the above examples represent very large mansions, there are other homes in Memphis that were built on a scale like Easterwood. The Rhea P. Cary House at 1649 Central Ave in the Central Gardens Historic District features architectural details on the scale of those found on Easterwood. Built in 1905 by the architecture firm of Jones and Furbringer, the Cary house features a two-story portico supported by four Ionic columns. The large modillions, combined with the dentil molding, evoke a Neo-Classical embellishment to an otherwise Colonial Revival style house. This blending of styles—specifically the embellished Greek Revival façade—is also seen on Easterwood. The Rhea Cary House's architectural features are similar in scale to those found on Easterwood—specifically, the modillions and dentil molding on the pediment of each house are nearly exact.

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⁵ McAlester, 432.

⁶ Russell Sturgis, A Dictionary of Architecture and Building Vol. 1 (London: McMillan and Co., 1905), 767.

⁷ Kay Benton, "Greenwood," National Register of Historic Places, 1979.

⁸ Sheila Lape, "Paisley Hall," National Register of Historic Places, 1980.

⁹ Central Gardens Newsletter, Summer 2012, p 3.

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Memphis is significant in the history of the house for another reason. The architect, who remains unknown, is said to have been from Memphis. Furthermore, the man who commissioned the construction of the house, Herbert C. Harris, had business connections and would often go to Memphis to shop, establishing this city as a sphere of influence on the design of the house.¹⁰

While Memphis seems to be an important sphere of influence for the design of the Easterwood House, other elements closely resemble features found outside of the city. The balustrade on Easterwood appears to have been influenced by houses elsewhere in Tennessee. The Chippendale balustrade is like the balustrade found on the Martian Cheairs House (NRHP #76001787) and on White Hall (NRHP #84003661) in Spring Hill, Tennessee, one hundred miles northeast of Cherokee. And the raised basement is strikingly like one of the most iconic houses in the Shoals region of northwest Alabama.

While Cherokee is technically within the Shoals geographic area, it has much less in common with the Colonial Revival-style examples from this locale. In the nearby tri-cities of Florence, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia just to the east of Cherokee, the Colonial Revival style emerges after 1915 and few representations of the style remain. Examples such as the Kennedy Douglass house (NRHP # 79000390), built in 1918 in Florence, are on a much smaller scale than the examples from Memphis. Furthermore, the massive Neo-Classical portico is absent from many of the Colonial Revival-style houses found in the tri-cities, where one-story porticoes are much more common. Finally, because the style emerges later than many of the examples in Memphis and the Easterwood House, the Shoals-area Colonial Revival houses feature less stylistic eclecticism.

However, Easterwood has one feature in common with Florence's most recognizable Greek Revival structure, Courtview or Rogers Hall on the University of North Alabama's campus (NRHP # 74000415). Both buildings feature a full-story raised basement, which gives both structures an enhanced visual presence. The raised basement serves to emphasize the verticality of Easterwood; its utilitarian function is unknown. The raised basement is a rare feature for a house so far from either the Atlantic or Gulf of Mexico coastlines. Locally, this feature makes Easterwood an extremely rare example of Colonial Revival architecture.

While Easterwood follows a nationwide incoherence of styles around the early years of the twentieth century, it appears to be influenced by two unique local architectural features: the blending of Neoclassical and Colonial Revival in nearby Memphis, and the raised basement of the massive Courtview in Florence. This sphere of influence for the design of the house is significant because of the location of Cherokee. Positioned just twenty or so miles to the east of the tri-cities, the Shoals area would have been a source of wealth for Mr. Harris, who sold implements and ginned cotton for local farmers. But Harris often visited Memphis, which was one of the largest cotton markets in the nation, and it has been claimed that the architect hailed from this city. The architecture of both Memphis and the Shoals is important to understanding the significance of the Easterwood House, which drew on regional features from both cities for its magnificent design.

The Easterwood House stands out on a local level as one of the finest examples of a Colonial Revival-style house with Neo-Classical features. The combination of gambrel roof and this portico make Easterwood an incredibly rare and unique structure for any region. The largest house in the town of Cherokee, the Easterwood house is significant at the local level because of its sheer size, location, setting, and style.

Property History

The land on which Easterwood is situated was originally deeded by the United States government to James Brown, who served as a negotiator for the Chickasaw tribe. Much of the land that became the town of Cherokee was owned by Brown, who was half white and half Chickasaw.¹¹ Benjamin Harris later purchased the property. Harris was a negotiator for the United States government and bought many acres of land in Franklin and Lawrence Counties in the 1830s.¹² Harris' daughter, Mary Anne Francis Cross, inherited the land along with her husband, Dr. William Cordwell Cross in 1850.¹³ Dr.

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¹⁰ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

¹¹ The History of Tennessee, (Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Co, 1886), accessed October 30, 2017: https://books.google.com/books?id=eiVEAQAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false, 103.

¹² Daily, 153.

¹³ Colbert County Record Book P, p. 349.

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Cross was a surgeon in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and his house (south of the current Easterwood House) was burned during the war and rebuilt after the conflict. William Cross' daughter, Amanda Rebecca Cross Lile, inherited the land from her father. Ms. Lile was the widow of Thomas Lile, and in 1910 she sold a thirteen-acre parcel of her estate to her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. Herbert C. Harris and Amanda Elizabeth Lile Harris. On this thirteen-acre parcel, Herbert Harris built Easterwood.

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Herbert C. Harris was born in Allsboro, Alabama, the son of William W. Harris, in 1885. W.W. Harris owned a store in luka, Mississippi and one in Cherokee, Alabama. The W.W. Harris store at 127 Fulton Street in luka is listed on the National Register as part of the Central luka Historic District. Herbert Harris married Amanda Lile in May of 1905. Newspaper accounts described Herbert as "one of the most successful young business men, junior member of the firm W.W. Harris & Son." In 1906, the Harris Supply Company was formed in Cherokee, and Herbert continued to operate the store in Cherokee until 1920.

Herbert Harris prospered as a businessman in Cherokee. Newspaper advertisements show that he was a farm implement dealer, and sold John Deere, Moline, and Oliver plows, along with more common farm implements.¹⁷ Harris also owned a cotton gin, and likely derived most of his wealth from this. In 1915, Harris built a 50-by-100-foot galvanized iron warehouse with a capacity for holding 800 bales of cotton.¹⁸ After the construction of the warehouse, Harris charged customers \$0.35 per month (including insurance) to store their cotton at his facility.¹⁹ Harris' warehouse was the scene of several large gatherings, including a school production of the play, "the Princess Kiku," and a large Methodist church revival.²⁰

By 1916, Harris was also selling automobiles. According to several newspaper advertisements, Hebert Harris was a Chevrolet dealer in west Colbert County.²¹ According to his grandson, the train that runs by Easterwood would stop for local citizens traveling to points east and west of Cherokee. Mr. Harris would flag down the train when he needed to travel to Memphis. The train also delivered Mr. Harris' car.²² Harris' uncle J.F. Harris was also a prominent member of the city, serving as mayor and head of the Cherokee Telephone Company.²³

The house was designed by an architect from Memphis. Easterwood was the first home in Cherokee to have indoor plumbing, which was pumped into the house from a nearby Sulphur spring. The rock forming the foundation of the house was quarried from T.L. Fossick's Rockwood Quarry.²⁴ In 1916, rock from that same quarry was used to construct the gate on the west side of the house. In that same year, several of the rooms in the house were papered and painted.²⁵

Herbert sold the house in 1920 and moved to Florence, Alabama, where he built another house at 755 Wood Ave. Herbert sold his house in Cherokee to his uncle John Harris for \$12,000.²⁶

Historical Background

The area that is now Cherokee was disputed by both the Cherokee and Chickasaw tribes before both tribes signed treaties in 1816 that ceded much of their lands in north Alabama to the United States. In 1816, the Chickasaw signed a treaty that ceded their lands west of Cane Creek.²⁷ In the 1820s and 30s, the Tennessee Valley became a major cotton producing

¹⁴ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

¹⁵ Richard Cawthon, "Central luka Historic District," National Register of Historic Places, September 1991.

¹⁶ Robin Sterling, Newspaper Clippings from Colbert County, Alabama Leighton News, 1904-1907 (Self-published, 2017), 139.

¹⁷ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), June 4, 1915.

¹⁸ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), July 9, 1915.

¹⁹ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), October 29, 1915.

²⁰ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), July 28, 1916 and Jack Daniel, My Recollections of Cherokee, Alabama (Memphis: Grandmother Earth Creations, 1998), 41.

²¹ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), May 5, 1916.

²² Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

²³ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), June 4, 1915.

²⁴ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017. ²⁵ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), June 2, 1916.

²⁶ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

²⁷ Charles J. Kappler, TREATY WITH THE CHICKASAW, 1816, (Washington: 1904), accessed October 27, 2017: http://digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/vol2/treaties/chi0135.htm

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Easterwood House
Name of Property

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region for the state of Alabama. As planters flocked west in search of land to grow cotton, the Tennessee River proved a productive destination. The valley soil was fertile enough to support the crop, and the Tennessee River provided a means of shipping cotton to major port cities such as New Orleans.²⁸ These productive cotton-producing lands were held by the Chickasaw until the Treaty of Pontotoc in 1832, where the tribe sold their land east of the Mississippi and agreed to remove to land in what is now Oklahoma. By 1832 white settlers were moving into the land that is now western Colbert County. In 1834 the United States government divided up the land on a private ownership system, and the Chickasaw could sell the title to these lands to settlers or speculators. By 1837 the process of Indian removal of the Chickasaw from Alabama was underway. Lands formerly possessed by the Chickasaw were sold at public auction.²⁹

The first white settlement in the area that is now Cherokee was a stand along the Natchez Trace called Buzzard Roost. The Natchez Trace was a wagon road that led from Nashville, Tennessee to New Orleans, Louisiana. Buzzard Roost (originally called Buzzard Sleep) was located on Buzzard Roost Creek, almost nine miles south of Colbert's Ferry on the Tennessee River. The stand was operated by Levi Colbert, a Chickasaw chief and brother of George Colbert. The Colbert brothers operated both the stand and ferry. The inn was the site of store that housed the area's post office and was the original impetus for settlement in western Franklin County.³⁰

In 1845, the Southwestern Railroad Convention was held in Memphis, Tennessee and helped to promote the idea of linking the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean via railway. In 1846, the Memphis and Charleston Railroad Company was incorporated and combined parts of other railroads and by 1857, the railroad offered regular service from Memphis to Stevenson, Alabama.³¹ The Memphis and Charleston Railroad designated what would become Cherokee, Alabama as a stop and built a wooden ticket and freight office depot in there 1857.³² Several spur railroads were built to quarries both east and west of Cherokee.³³

Early settlers originally planned to name the town "Chickasaw" but the name was taken by a settlement nearby. The post office relocated from a nearby Chickasaw Indian Agency to the area in 1856, and the U.S. Postal Service named the location Cherokee. Taking advantage of these improvements, William Cordwell Cross and John Watson Rutland surveyed the town and divided it into lots, with the north-south running Main Street marking the dividing line between the Cross and Rutland plantations. The town was incorporated in 1862 after residents officially adopted the name of the post office. Cherokee experienced a building boom shortly after the construction of the railroad depot, but was a strategic target of the Union Army during the Civil War and was occupied several times. Cherokee recovered after Reconstruction and began to expand economically in the late 1890's.

The construction of the Colbert Shoals Canal and the Riverton Lock around the Colbert Shoals on the Tennessee River brought new residents to Cherokee. The Colbert Shoals were a stretch of shallows made of sand, gravel, and rocks where the river fell twenty feet over the course of eight miles.³⁷ Not a major impediment, the Colbert Shoals were more of a low-water hazard, but a canal enabled larger boats to navigate the river to Florence.³⁸ In August and September of 1890, George Washington Goethals ordered a survey of the shoals, and work began the following year.³⁹

The Colbert Shoals Canal was intended to be a lateral canal built along the south bank of the river. As work commenced, the contract for construction of the lock was awarded to the lowest bidder over the objections of Goethals. After the

²⁸ Michael Bailey, "Tuscumbia Historic District," National Register of Historic Places, May 23, 1985.

²⁹ Greg O'Brien, "Chickasaws in Alabama," in Encyclopedia of Alabama, updated January 20, 2017, accessed October 27, 2017: http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1487

³⁰ William E. Cox, "Buzzard Roost," National Register of Historic Places, added 1976, NR #76000157, accessed November 15, 2017: https://npgallery.nps.gov/GetAsset/8f14ba83-6cbc-4faf-8433-82444e99f083/

³¹ David Bradford, "The Memphis & Charleston Railroad 1851-1865," The Scottsboro Depot Museum,

http://www.scottsborodepotmuseum.com/history/m&c_history_prewar.html

³² Catherine K. Gilliam, "M&C Stations and Stops," *The Historic Huntsville Quarterly* Vol 7, No 3 (Spring, 1981), 11.

³³ Jack Daniel, Southern Railway: From Stevenson to Memphis (Germantown, TN: Grandmother Earth Creations, 1996), 303.

³⁴ Freda Daily, A Heritage to Treasure, 2004, 86.

³⁵ Claire M. Wilson, "Cherokee," in Encyclopedia of Alabama, updated November 6, 2012, accessed October 24, 2017.

³⁶ Wilson

³⁷ Rory M. McGovern, "THE SCHOOL OF EXPERIENCE: GEORGE W. GOETHALS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND REFORM IN THE U.S. ARMY, 1876-1907," Thesis, University of North Carolina: January 2014, 58.

³⁸ McGovern, 79.

³⁹ McGovern, 79.

Easterwood House Name of Property

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contractor, Terre A. Clark excavated a portion of the canal that soon collapsed, the contract was voided. Goethals appointed Sydney B. Williamson to oversee the project, and used day labor as the primary workforce.⁴⁰

The stone for the construction of the lock came from the Southern Granite Company of Lithonia, Georgia, and the T.L. Fossick Company in Rockwood, Alabama. The army corps of engineers built a railroad from Fossick's quarry to the Riverton Lock site.⁴¹ The remainder of the stone (primarily sandstone) was cut from the quarry operated by the Army just west of Cherokee.⁴²

The Colbert Shoals Canal took nearly eighteen years to complete, but offered employment for local citizens while the construction dragged on. The town benefitted from having a large workforce close by. In 1900, Cherokee had an eight-room hotel, three saloons, a gristmill, two steam cotton gins, eight general stores, a blacksmith, and three doctors. In 1905, the town drilled a sulphur well on the northwest corner of Main and 1st Streets. In 1908, a fire destroyed much of the downtown block between 1st and 2nd Streets, and College and Main Streets. These businesses had been made of wood and were rebuilt with red brick structures. The canal was finally completed in 1911. The first telephone in the town was installed in the lobby of the hotel in 1914, and electricity came to the downtown area in 1920. In 1923, Herbert C. Harris donated twenty acres of land for the town to build a school.

Cotton farming was the major source of income well into the twentieth century, and is still an important source of income today. During World War I, a cotton boom spurred production throughout the south. England purchased a large share of American cotton, in hopes of keeping it out of enemy hands. This in turn produced artificially inflated prices and a short boom in American cotton production. In 1915, cotton sold for 11.2 cents per pound. By 1919, cotton sold for 35.3 cents per pound. By 1919, the United States produced a cotton crop valued at \$2 billion. This short period of prosperity represented some of the greatest prosperity southern farmers had known. The boom, however, was short-lived. In 1920, prices for cotton began to fall, and by December of that year, 13 cents per pound was all that was paid. Cotton production decreased into the Great Depression, and continued to decline for much of the twentieth century.

Growth in the town of Cherokee slowed after the 1920s as the cities of Florence, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia drew workers from across the region to work on Wilson Dam, the Nitrate facilities, and later at Tennessee Valley Authority facilities.

⁴⁰ Johnson, 138.

⁴¹ Freda Daily And This Too!, 2006, 59.

⁴² Report of Captain Kingman, 1939

⁴³ Daily, 142.

⁴⁴ Daily, 131.

⁴⁵ Freda Daily, "Cherokee, Colbert County, Alabama," Journal of Muscle Shoals History Vol VI (1978), 127.

⁴⁶ Eddie Wayne Shell, Evolution of the Alabama Agroecosystem: Always Keeping Up, but Never Catching Up (Montgomery: New South Books, 2013), 477, AND Kenneth E. Phillips and Janet Roberts, "Cotton," in Encyclopedia of Alabama, January 28, 2016, accessed November 21, 2017.

Easterwood House	Colbert, AL
Name of Property	County and State

9. Major Bibliographic References

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OMB No. 1024-0018

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"Report of Captain Kingman." *Report of the Secretary of War*. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1896. Accessed July 6 2017:

https://books.google.com/books?id=dilHAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA1935&lpg=PA1935&dq=colbert+shoals+canal+strike&source=bl&ots=Q_iSCgdVor&sig=MvqFDwybu5ZArDPEIMzL6fKVk4U&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwih6tr5hfXUAhUIwj4KHROXCmQQ6AEIQDAH#v=onepage&q=colbert%20shoals%20canal%20strike&f=true

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United States Department of the Interior				
National Park Service / National Register of Historic	Places Registration Form		OMP N 4004 0040	
NPS Form 10-900			OMB No. 1024-0018	
Easterwood House Name of Property			Colbert, AL County and State	
Wilson, Claire M. "Cherokee," in <i>Encycle</i> http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/ar		Ipdated Novembe	er 6, 2012. Accessed Oct	ober 24, 2017:
Previous documentation of file (NPS):				
preliminary determination of individual previously listed in the National Regist previously determined eligible by the designated a National Historic Landmarecorded by Historic American Building recorded by Historic American Engineer recorded by Historic American Lands	ster National Register nark ngs Survey #eering Record #	· 	d	
Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:				
Historic Resources Survey Number (i	f assigned):			
10. Geographical Data				
Acreage of Property _13				
Use either the UTM system or latitude	e/longitude coordinate	3		
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (de Datum if other than WGS84: Enter coordinates to 6 decimal places 1. Latitude: 34.75453 2. Latitude: 34.75408 3. Latitude: 34.75705 4. Latitude: 34.75704		Longitude: -8	37.96454 37.96248 37.96239 37.96381	
OR UTM References Datum (indicated on USGS map):		·		
NAD 1927 or	983			
1. Zone:	Easting:	Nort	hing:	
2. Zone: 3. Zone:	Easting: Easting:	Nort	hing: hing:	
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Easting:

4. Zone:

Northing:

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900	OMB No. 1024-0018
Easterwood House	Colbert, AL
Name of Property	County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

United States Department of the Interior

Southeast ¼ of Section 35, Township 3 South, Range 14 West, Colbert County Alabama.

"Beginning near the Sulphur well at the corner of railroad right of way and Tuscumbia Pike Road, and running north along east side of Pike and the Street, which runs on east side of Lot 22 of Scruggs survey, 980 feet to the quarter section line, then east along quarter section line 462 feet to quarter section corner, then south along section line 1120 feet to railroad right of way, then west along right of way 650 feet."

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The boundary selected reflects the historic parcel associated with the Easterwood House property and the associated landscape around it.

11. Form prepared by:				
Name/Title:	Brian Murphy and Seth Armstron	ng		
Organization:	UNA Public History Program Mu	scle Shoals National Her	itage Area	
Street & number:	468 N. Court Street			
City/Town:	Florence	State: AL	Zip Code:	35630
Email: Bmurphy3	3@una.edu		Phone:	716.570.5613
Date: July 13, 2	018			

Additional Documentation

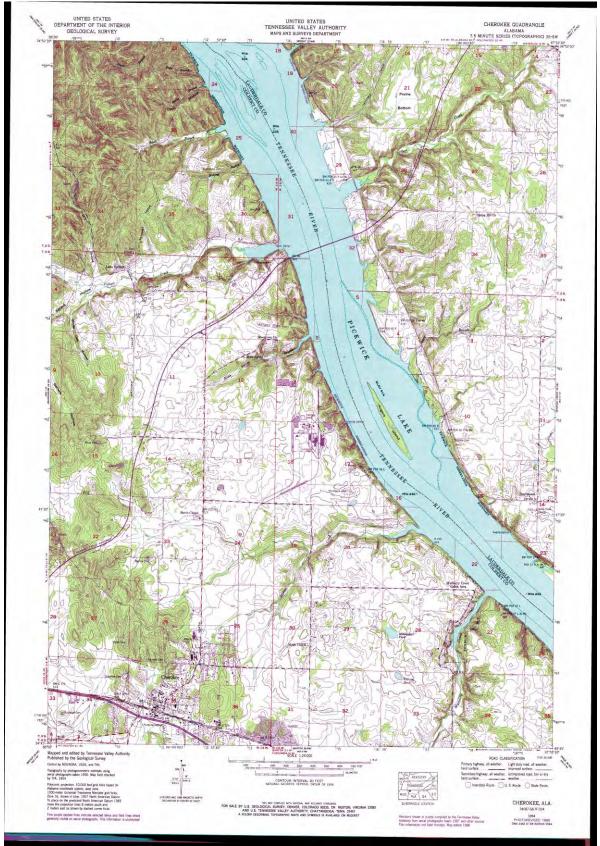
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15-minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- Additional items: Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.

Easterwood House
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Colbert, AL

County and State



Easterwood House

Name of Property

Colbert, AL County and State



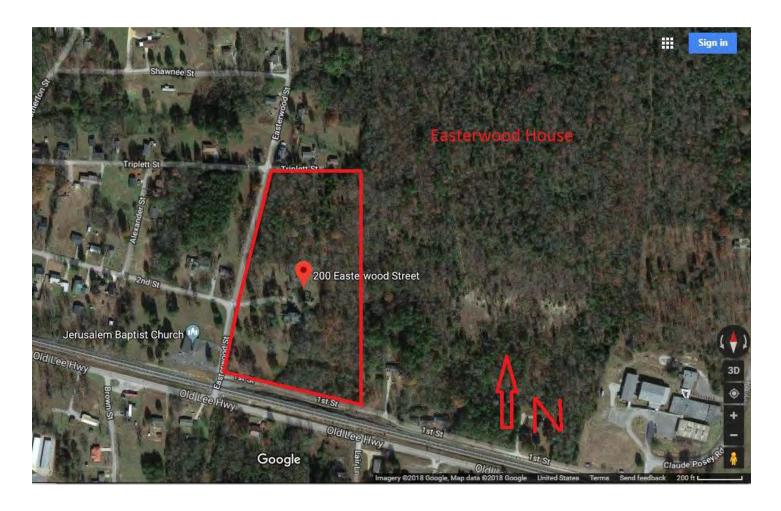
Easterwood House

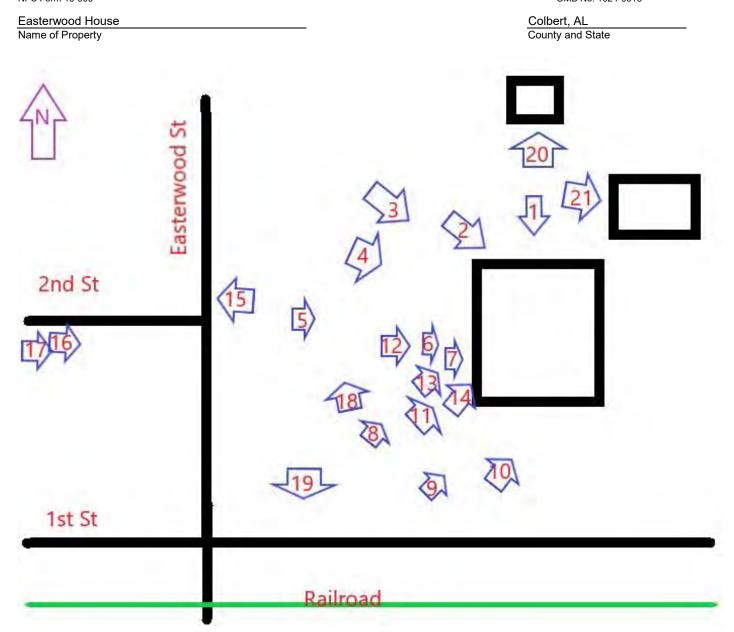
Name of Property

OMB No. 1024-0018

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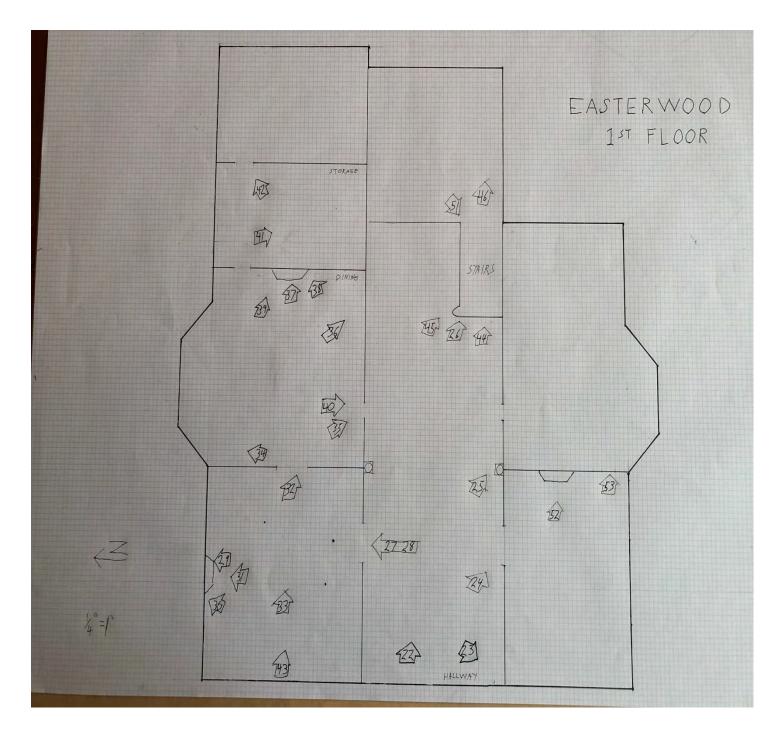




Easterwood House

Name of Property

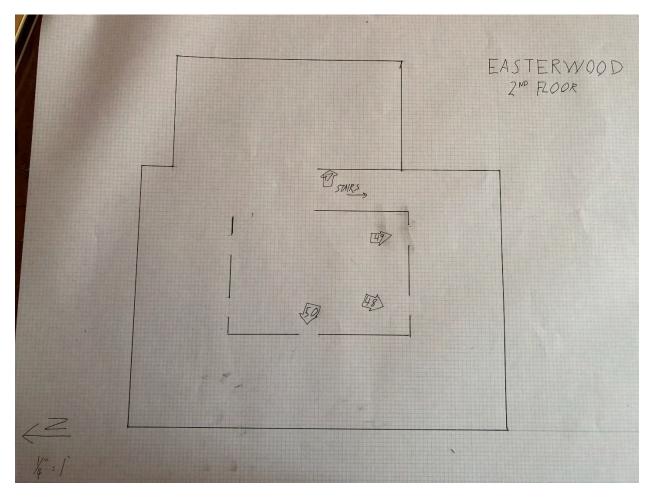
Colbert, AL County and State



Easterwood House

Name of Property

Colbert, AL
County and State



Easterwood House Colbert, AL

Name of Property

County and State

OMB No. 1024-0018

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name or Property: Easterwood House

City or Vicinity: Cherokee
County: Colbert State: AL

Photographer: Brian Murphy (exterior) / Seth Armstrong (interior)

Date Photographed: October 1, 2017 (exterior) / June 18, 2018 (interior)

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 53. North façade. Camera facing south.
- 2 of 53. North façade. Camera facing southeast.
- 3 of 53. Northwest corner. Camera facing southeast.
- 4 of 53. West façade. Camera facing east.
- 5 of 53. West façade. Camera facing east.
- 6 of 53. West façade. Camera facing east.
- 7 of 53. Front entry, west façade. Camera facing east.
- 8 of 53. West façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 9 of 53. South façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 10 of 53. South façade. Camera facing north.
- 11 of 53. Portico, west façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 12 of 53. Pediment, west façade portico. Camera facing east.
- 13 of 53. Modillions and dentil molding, pediment and portico. Camera facing east.
- 14 of 53. Ionic entablature, portico, west façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 15 of 53. Entrance gate. Camera facing west.
- 16 of 53. House and entrance. Camera facing east.
- 17 of 53. House and entrance. Camera facing east.
- 18 of 53. Front yard of house. Camera facing northwest.
- 19 of 53. Yard with 1st Street and railroad tracks. Camera facing southwest.
- 20 of 53. Workshop. Camera facing north.
- 21 of 53. Garage. Camera facing southeast.
- 22 of 53. Hallway. Camera facing east
- 23 of 53. Baseboard in hallway. Camera facing southwest.
- 24 of 53. Double pocket doors, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 25 of 53. Ionic Column, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 26 of 53. Newel post, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 27 of 53. Doorway into north side front room. Camera facing north.
- 28 of 53. Door trim. Camera facing east.
- 29 of 53. Fireplace mantle, north side front room. Camera facing north.
- 30 of 53. Scroll work on fireplace surround, north side front room. Camera facing northeast.
- 31 of 53. Fireplace mantle, north side front room. Camera facing north.
- 32 of 53. Brass lock plate, north side front room. Camera facing east.
- 33 of 53. Double pocket doors, north side front room. Camera facing east.
- 34 of 53. Dining room. Camera facing northeast.
- 35 of 53. Doorknob, dining room. Camera facing south.
- 36 of 53. Shelf, dining room. Camera facing southeast.
- 37 of 53. Fireplace, dining room. Camera facing northeast.
- 38 of 53. Doric capital, dining room fireplace. Camera facing northeast.

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- 39 of 53. Fireplace tile, dining room. Camera facing east.
- 40 of 53. Transom, dining room. Camera facing south.
- 41 of 53. Cabinet, storage room. Camera facing southeast.
- 42 of 53. Storage room. Camera facing southeast.
- 43 of 53. Dining room entry. Camera facing east.
- 44 of 53. Staircase, hallway. Camera facing east.
- 45 of 53. Newel post, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 46 of 53. Window, second floor landing. Camera facing east.
- 47 of 53. Window, second floor landing. Camera facing east.
- 48 of 53. Hallway, second floor. Camera facing southwest.
- 49 of 53. Door, second floor. Camera facing south.
- 50 of 53. Nameplate on door, second floor. Camera facing west.
- 51 of 53. Light fixture on newel post, staircase. Camera facing west.
- 52 of 53. Fireplace, south side front room. Camera facing southeast.
- 53 of 53. Closet door, south side front room. Camera facing southeast.

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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.











































































































National Register of Historic Places Memo to File

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Resubmission			
Property Name:	Easterwood House			
Multiple Name:				
State & County:	ALABAMA, Colbert			
Date Rece 12/17/20		g List: Date of 16th Day:	Date of 45th Day: 1/31/2019	Date of Weekly List:
Reference number:	RS100003107			
Nominator:	SHPO			
Reason For Review	r.			
X Accept	Return _	Reject <u>1/3</u>	31/2019 Date	
Abstract/Summary Comments:	AOS: Architecture; POS	S: 1912; LOS: local		
Recommendation/ Criteria	NR Criterion C.			
Reviewer Lisa D	eline	Discipline	Historian	
Telephone (202)3	54-2239	Date	1/31/19	-
DOCUMENTATION	see attached comme	ents : No see attached S	SLR; No year	

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



ALABAMA STATE SENATE ALABAMA STATE HOUSE 11 SOUTH UNION STREET, SUITE 735 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-4600

SEP 2 6 2018

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

FINANCE & TAXATION GENERAL FUND

FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HEALTH

JUDICIARY

LARRY C. STUTTS SENATOR DISTRICT 6 MONTGOMERY 334-242-7862 LARRY.STUTTS@ALSENATE.GOV

September 20, 2018



Alabama Historical Commission Attn: Lee Anne Wofford 468 S. Perry Street Montgomery, AL 36130-0900

Consideration of the Easterwood House, Cherokee, Colbert County, Alabama for Re: nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Dear Ms. Wofford,

I write to you today regarding the Easterwood House located in Cherokee, Colbert County, Alabama, which is being considered by the Alabama National Register Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on September 27, 2018. I am very familiar with the Easterwood House as it is located in my hometown of Cherokee, and has been a landmark for generations. I went to high school with Billy Easterwood who previously lived in the Easterwood House, and I also know the current owner, James Kaye, and admire his vision to preserve the historical significance for future generations. The Easterwood House continues to be a major point of interest and landmark for the entire area, and I support this nomination to the National Register of Historic Places one hundred percent.

In closing, I feel it is important to recognize and preserve unique small town history throughout our state, and would appreciate your serious consideration of my comments.

Sincerely,

Larry C. Stutts

Alabama State Senator

District 6



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

468 South Perry Street P.O. Box 300900. Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900 334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477 Lisa D. Jones Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer

October 1, 2018

Ms. Joy Beasley National Park Service 1849 C Street NW Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240



Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed please find the nomination and supporting documentation to be considered for listing the following Alabama resource in the National Register of Historic Places:

Easterwood House Cherokee, Colbert County, Alabama

Your consideration of the enclosed National Register of Historic Places nomination is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Wofford

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/nw

Enclosures

56.3107

RECEIVED 2280

NPS Form 10-900

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 National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any 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.

	asterwood House
Other names/ site number:	farris Home
Name of related multiple property	
Enter N/A if property is not part of a mu	Iltiple property listing)
2. Location Street & number: 200 Easte	rwood Street
City/Town: Cherokee	State: AL County: Colbert
Not for Publication:	Vicinity:
request determination of distoric Places and meets the process.	· VA
Alabama Historical Commission State or Federal agency/bureau or n my opinion, the propertym	Tribal Government eetsdoes not meet the National Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official	Date
	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
Title	
Γitle	

Easterwood House Colbert, AL Name of Property County and State 5. Classification / Ownership of Property: (check as many boxes as apply) Public-Local Public-State Public-Federal Category of Property: (check only one box) x Building(s) District Site Structure Object Number of Resources Within Property: (do not include previously listed resources in the count) Contributing Non-Contributing Buildings 2 1 Sites Structures Objects **TOTAL** Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0 6. Function or Use / Historic Functions: (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic / Single-dwelling

Current Functions: (enter categories from instructions) **Current Functions:** (enter categories from instructions) Domestic / Single-dwelling 7. Architectural Classification: (enter categories from instructions) Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals / Colonial Revival / Neo-Classical **Materials:** (enter categories from instructions) Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation: stone; Walls: wood / weatherboard / vinyl siding; Roof: asphalt shingles

OMB No. 1024-0018

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NPS Form 10-900

National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Easterwood House
Name of Property

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County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Easterwood House is a two-story, Colonial Revival-style house in the town of Cherokee, Alabama. It is set far back from Easterwood Street at the end of Second Street in a park-like setting. The house sits on a limestone block foundation and is made of wood, now covered in vinyl siding. The house has a side-gabled gambrel roof with a prominent front facing Neo-Classical portico, with four massive lonic columns, and large block modillions and dentil molding in the pediment. The front of the house features two dormers and a balcony integrated into the portico. Two separate shed roofs flank the portico and cover the porch. Thirteen concrete steps lead up to the porch. The house combines a Dutch Colonial Revival form with Neo-Classical features and stands as one of the most impressive houses in the town. The combination of the Neo-Classical portico and the gambrel roof make the house a unique example of Colonial Revival-style architecture. The architecture of the house has more in common with Colonial Revival architecture in Memphis, Tennessee than it does to the few examples found in the Shoals tri-city area of Florence, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia. The interior of the house retains much of the original woodworking—moldings, doors, and floors, and the original spatial arrangement has not been altered. The house retains integrity with regards to design, location, setting, workmanship and feeling. The original design of the house—as a large, two-story Colonial Revival house—remains largely unchanged. The location and setting—at the end of 2nd street on a plot of land that resembles a park—are unchanged from the original construction of the house. Much of the original woodworking on the interior of the house is intact, allowing the structure to retain its integrity in the area of workmanship. The house retains its integrity in the area of feeling because it is remains a large, visually imposing structure that sits at the edge of the town of Cherokee.

Narrative Description

Easterwood House sits along Easterwood Street in the town of Charkee, Alabama. Cherokee is south of the Tennessee River in Colbert County, Alabama, in the northwest corner of the state. The house sits at the eastern end of Second Street and is bordered on the south by First Street and the Norfolk Southern Railroad (Photo 19). The front façade of the house faces west, and overlooks a park-like front yard (Photo 5). The entrance to the house is guarded by a stone gate and white wooden fence (Photo 15). Second Street ends at this gate, and the approach to the house traveling east on Second Street gives the house a larger-than-life appearance (Photos 16 and 17).

The property is bordered on the west by Easterwood Street. 1st Street, which runs parallel to the railroad several feet below its embankment, forms the southern property boundary. The eastern border runs north to Triplett Street, which forms the northern boundary of the property. The large yard of the Easterwood House is dotted with magnolia, oak, and cedar trees (Photo 18). A paved concrete drive winds to the north side of the house from the stone gate entrance, and a brick walkway leads to the front entrance on the west façade of the house (Photo 4). On the north side of the home, a non-contributing two bay garage sits just to the rear of the house (Photo 21). A one-story contributing workshop sits north of the house (Photo 20). The workshop is built of wood, with vinyl siding and a hip roof of asphalt shingles. A hip roof dormer with one three-lite window is centered on the south side of the workshop. A 15-lite door is flanked by two 4/4 wood windows. While the exact date of construction of the workshop is not known, it was built before the house was sold to John Harris in 1920 and thus is contributing. Two sheds, one on the east façade and one on the west façade, are built in to the sides of the workshop. Beyond the open yard bordering the west and south west side of the house, forested land envelops the rest of the property.

Easterwood is a two-story, Colonial Revival-style house with a side-gabled gambrel roof covered with gray asphalt shingles. There are three brick chimneys: one along the north façade of the house, one above the northeast addition (kitchen area) and one situated at the ridge several feet from the south wall of the house. On the west façade of the house (Photo 6), two small shed-roof dormers flank a massive, Neo-Classical portico (Photo 11). The portico has a front facing gable roof that extends back to the ridge of the main roof. The pediment is made of horizontal wood siding and is framed by large block modillions and dentil molding (Photo 12). Underneath the pediment, the same pattern of block modillions and dentil molding is replicated along the top of the entablature (Photos 13 and 14). Four lonic columns support the portico, two on each side along the front that sit on wide wooden blocks.

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Behind the portico is a second-floor balcony with a window that was converted from a doorway. The balcony is twelve feet wide by four feet deep and is surrounded by a Chippendale-style wood balustrade. A large 1/1 wood window is flanked by two 1/1 narrow sidelights. The landing is surrounded by a low white wood fence, and supported from below by two wooden braces.

Underneath each dormer, a shed roof extends out over the porch. Each roof is supported by four Doric columns and one Doric pilaster. The columns sit atop poured concrete that forms the top of the cut limestone foundation. The main entrance door is wood with a transom, flanked on each side by sidelights with their own transoms (Photo 7). The entry system is flanked by fluted squared columns that terminate at the braces for the balcony. Two large wood windows with transoms flank the main entry door. The front façade measures forty-eight feet in length and is covered by white vinyl siding. White fluted trim is found at both front corners (Photo 8).

Thirteen concrete steps lead up to the porch, flanked by cut limestone walls that are topped with poured concrete tops and painted iron railings. The porch floor is wood, and the limestone foundation forms the low wall that surrounds the porch. On the front of the foundation there are arched openings in the stone on either side of the steps. The stone foundation is capped by poured concrete that is painted blue.

The north façade has wood shingles in the roof peak with a rounded louvered vent (Photos 1 and 2). Block modillions separate the wood shingles from the vinyl siding below it. Two 1/1 windows are situated in the center of the façade below the line of modillions. A large bay window with three 1/1 windows and an asphalt shingle hip roof protrudes from the east side of the façade, near the rear kitchen addition. Two additional windows are located on the first floor of the north façade. The rear kitchen addition has two 1/1 windows and an asphalt shingle hip roof protrudes from the east role and the first floor of the north façade. The rear kitchen addition has two 1/1 windows and an asphalt shingle hip roof protrudes from the east role and the first floor of the north façade. The rear kitchen addition has two 1/1 windows and an asphalt shingle hip roof protrudes from the east role and the first floor of the north façade. The rear kitchen addition has a group of three 1/1 windows. The western eave culminates in a level return (Photo 3), while the eastern disappears into the rear addition.

The south façade also has wood shingles in the roof peak and a rounded louvered vent (Photos 9 and 10). Block modillions separate the wood shingles from the vinyl siding, and below this the are two 1/1 windows on the second story of the house. On the first story, two 1/1 windows and a bay window with three 1/1 windows and a hip roof are in the same position as on the north façade. The south façade has an additional window and observith steps leading down from the house. The western eave culminates in a level return, and the eastern eave does as well, set a feet lower than the western eave.

The interior of the house retains its original spatial arrangement. Upon entering the front door of Easterwood, a large hallway divides the house in half lengthwise (Photo 22). This hallway features two large, seven-paneled double pocket doors situated opposite each other on either side of the hall (Photo 24). The hallway is separated widthwise by a header that is supported by two wooden lonic columns (Photo 25). Beyond this header a staircase leads up to the second floor; the hallway continues back to the kitchen addition. Simple, Craftsman-style door and window trim (Photo 28) is found throughout the entire first floor, as are wide baseboards (Photo 23). All the trim is stained darker than the oak flooring in the hallway; in the first story north-side rooms, it is painted white.

The front room on the north side (Photo 27) of the house features a fireplace (Photos 29 and 31) on the north wall with a carved wooden mantelpiece and surround (Photo 30), flanked by two large windows. The trim in this room has been painted white. Two large seven-paneled pocket doors separate this room from the dining room located behind it (Photos 33 and 43). The doors have the original brass locks intact (Photo 32).

The dining room has a large bay window on the north side (Photo 34), and an oak shelf (Photo 36) that extends partially around the room that appears to be an extension of the mantle. The shelf is roughly five feet from the floor. The fireplace in the dining room features a wood mantelpiece and surround in the Doric order (Photos 37, 38, 39). A door with a large, stained-glass transom leads from this room into the hallway (Photo 40). This door has a unique brass, pinecone-shaped doorknob (Photo 35). The trim in this room has been painted white. A door leads back into a storage room with a built-in storage cabinet (Photo 41). A door leads from the storage room to the kitchen addition behind it (Photo 42).

On the south side of the house, two large rooms are separated by a wall that meets the hallway where the header and columns are visible. The front room has a fireplace on the west wall. This fireplace features the same mantelpiece and surround as the front room on the north side of the house (Photo 52). There is a small closet on the west wall, with a five-panel wood door (Photo 53). All the trim in this room is stained and replicates the color of the trim throughout the hallway.

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The staircase leads up to the second-floor landing from the right side of the rear hallway room (Photo 44). It makes a ninety-degree turn to the left halfway along its course. The staircase is wood, stained the same color as the trim throughout the hallway, and has a prominent newel post anchoring the rail. This newel post (Photo 45) has a light switch built into its front panel that connected to a light fixed atop the newel post at the staircase turn (Photo 51). The staircase is splayed outwards towards the hallway very slightly.

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The second-floor landing is separated by the central hallway on the east side, and the second-floor addition on the right. A hanging stained-glass window is placed between the landing and the addition (Photos 46 and 47). The hallway (Photo 48) features five doors that each lead to a bedroom. The doors are all five-panel wood doors with Craftsman-style trim (Photo 49), and each has a decorative nameplate attached to the second topmost rail (Photo 50).

The house retains integrity in the area of design because the front façade has remained as originally intended. The design of the building is a large, Colonial Revival-style house with a gambrel roof and prominent Greek Revival portico, a unique combination of the two styles. The location of house has not been altered, nor has the setting. The house sits in the same, park-like setting overlooking Second Street, as it did when it was built, and retains the same feeling. The workmanship displayed on the interior of the house allows the building to retain integrity in that area. The integrity of the materials on the exterior has been altered by the addition of vinyl siding; the owner has expressed interest in restoring the house to its original wood siding.



United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 **Easterwood House** Colbert, AL 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) A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. 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 whose components lack individual distinction. D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. **Criteria Considerations:** (mark "x" in all the boxes that apply) A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes B. Removed from its original location C. A birthplace or grave D. A cemetery E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure F. A commemorative property the past 50 years G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance Areas of Significance: (enter categories from instructions) ARCHITECTURE **Period of Significance:** 1910-1930 **Significant Dates:** 1912 **Significant Person:** (complete only if Criterion B is marked above) **Cultural Affiliation:**

Architect / Builder:

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph: (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

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The Easterwood House is significant under Criterion C at the local level because it is an excellent example of Colonial Revival architecture, demonstrating an interesting combination of Dutch Revival and Greek Revival styles. The house was built prior to the height of the popularity of Colonial Revival, and appears to have been influenced by houses in Memphis rather than in the nearby Shoals tri-city region. The massive, Greek Revival-style portico is reminiscent of antebellum houses in middle Tennessee, while the side-gabled gambrel roof establishes a Dutch Colonial Revival element to the house. The craftsmanship and massing of the house establish it as important middle-class expression of wealth and status in early twentieth century Cherokee, Alabama.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion C: Architecture

The Easterwood House was built in 1912 as the most significant Colonial Revival-style house in the town of Cherokee. The builder drew on the national popularity of Colonial Revival-style as well as the style's regional interpretation in the southern United States (characterized by Greek Revival elements from the region's antebellum past) for its inspiration, and produced a local architectural landmark. Built before the 1920's and the age of increasing historically accurate Colonial Revival architecture, the Easterwood House combines a decidedly Dutch Colonial Revival feature (a side-gabled gambrel roof) with the regionally typical Neoclassical portico, and stands but as an excellent example of a localized interpretation of a regionally distinct understanding of a national architectural movement.

Colonial Revival architecture was the physical manifest tion of a rebirth of interest in early American houses--specifically those located on the Atlantic seaboard--spurred by the 1876 Philadelphia Centennial. In 1877, the architecture firm of McKim, Mead, White, and Bigelow toured New England to study original Georgian and Federal-style buildings. By 1886, the firm had designed and constructed two houses in New England in the Colonial Revival style. The style gained popularity through the 1890s and into the early part of the twentieth century, where it became an extremely popular domestic building style. McAlester has estimated that forty percent of the houses built during this period (1900-1930) were in the Colonial Revival style.1

Early Colonial Revival houses rarely exhibit historically correct architectural details. According to former Alabama architectural historian Robert Gamble, "architectural styles, as we think of them today were...little understood by the average architect, much less by his client." In Gamble's estimation, this explains the incoherent combination of stylistic features present on the same structure.

While Colonial Revival architecture captured many features of Colonial-era buildings, different regions claimed preference for specific types. Dutch Colonial Revival houses were popular in northern areas, while the state of Alabama showed a strong preference for neoclassical features. According to Gamble, "white pillars could readily be identified with the state's own, increasingly romanticized antebellum past." Greek Revival architecture swept through the nation in the 1830s through the 1860s, and in Alabama it encompassed two most common forms: a pedimented central portico projecting from a main block, or a wide, hipped-roof without a pediment, that incorporated a front facade colonnade. The former was the inspiration for the Neo-Classicist elements found on Easterwood. This regional feature of a national architectural movement helps to explain why the architect of Easterwood designed a structure with both a Dutch Colonial revival style form and Neo-Classical features.

During the early 1920s, the style began to shift towards an historically accurate interpretation of early American houses, aided by magazines and books that published photographs and measurements of these early houses. As a result, houses built between 1920 and 1930 more closely resembled Federal and Georgian style houses than ones built before and after

¹ Virginia Savage McAlester, Field Guide to American Houses, (New York: Alfred Knopf, 2015), 432.

² Robert Gamble, Historic Architecture in Alabama (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1990), 134.

³ Gamble, 134.

⁴ Gamble, 61.

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this decade. The restoration of Historic Williamsburg helped to maintain an interest in Colonial Revival architecture, and the style was adapted to different forms after World War II. Interpretations of the style continue today.⁵

The architectural features of the Easterwood house place it comfortably within the first iteration of Colonial Revival houses which often exhibited a combination of stylistically-distinct architectural features. The use of both Neo-Classical and Dutch Colonial Revival elements fit with the national trend of combining elements considered to be important early-American features into the same design. The modillion and dentil combination surrounding the pediment and the eaves of the portico are elements of Neo-Classicism that were accentuated on the Easterwood house. The dentil, a classical element often found under the corona in Ionic or Corinthian orders, is an ornamental piece meant intended to alter the appearance of light, shade, and shadow along a building's eave, and is featured prominently on the portico at Easterwood.⁶

The incoherence of a uniform design is evident throughout Easterwood. Ionic columns and entablature clash with Doric columns on the front porch, mere feet away from each other. The Dutch Colonial roof clashes with the prominent Neo-Classical façade. Inside, Craftsman-style trim surrounds Victorian-style door transoms with decorative, stained glass. A Doric fireplace surround with complete entablature are found in the same room. In this way, Easterwood follows national trends of combining different elements of architecturally significant styles into one structure.

Throughout the southern United States, the Colonial Revival movement took on a decidedly Neo-Classical feeling. Southern architects and homeowners sought a return to antebellum status and power and incorporated elements of Neo-Classical architecture into their work. Oftentimes, this meant the inclusion of large, central porticos with pronounced pediments and classical columns.

At Easterwood, the four Ionic columns supporting the front portico are an example of a classical feature that became a mainstay of southern Neo-Classicism. While examples deting from the same period (1900-1915) throughout the state of Alabama feature wider, heavier porticos --the Colonel Ø.E. Hood House, Gadsden (1904), NR#86001000; the Alabama Governor's Mansion, Montgomery (1907), NR# 72000172 (the Qates House, Abbeville (1910), NR# 89000164; the J. Bruce Hain House, Sardis (1913), NR# 01001295; the J.D. Holman House, Ozark, (1913), NR# 82002007—the central portico at the Easterwood house is much slenderer. This likely represents a local variation of a regional architectural theme.

While Colonial Revival throughout Alabama exhibited decidedly Net-Olassical features, other areas saw a blending of different styles on the same structure. In Memphis Tennessee, one hundred and thirty miles to the west of Cherokee, there are examples of Colonial Revival architecture that feature a blending of different styles. Architect W.J. Dodd of Louisville, with the assistance of the local firm of Jones and Furbringer, designed the first Colonial Revival-style residence in Memphis. Greenwood, also known as Beverly Hall, was built between 1904 and 1906. Paisley Hall, built between 1908 and 1910, represents another early example of Memphis' Colonial Revival architecture on a grand scale. These houses were the beginning of a phase in Memphis' architectural history, and represent a willful blending of Neo-Classical elements into a broader Colonial Revival style. A key similarity is the use of fanlights on both houses—a Federal element—combined with Classical columns. This type of blending was widespread in Memphis.

While the above examples represent very large mansions, there are other homes in Memphis that were built on a scale like Easterwood. The Rhea P. Cary House at 1649 Central Ave in the Central Gardens Historic District features architectural details on the scale of those found on Easterwood. Built in 1905 by the architecture firm of Jones and Furbringer, the Cary house features a two-story portico supported by four Ionic columns. The large modillions, combined with the dentil molding, evoke a Neo-Classical embellishment to an otherwise Colonial Revival style house. This blending of styles—specifically the embellished Greek Revival façade—is also seen on Easterwood. The Rhea Cary House's architectural features are similar in scale to those found on Easterwood—specifically, the modillions and dentil molding on the pediment of each house are nearly exact.

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⁵ McAlester, 432.

⁶ Russell Sturgis, A Dictionary of Architecture and Building Vol. 1 (London: McMillan and Co., 1905), 767.

⁷ Kay Benton, "Greenwood," National Register of Historic Places, 1979.

⁸ Sheila Lape, "Paisley Hall," National Register of Historic Places, 1980.

⁹ Central Gardens Newsletter, Summer 2012, p 3.

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Memphis is significant in the history of the house for another reason. The architect, who remains unknown, is said to have been from Memphis. Furthermore, the man who commissioned the construction of the house, Herbert C. Harris, had business connections and would often go to Memphis to shop, establishing this city as a sphere of influence on the design of the house.¹⁰

While Memphis seems to be an important sphere of influence for the design of the Easterwood House, other elements closely resemble features found outside of the city. The balustrade on Easterwood appears to have been influenced by houses elsewhere in Tennessee. The Chippendale balustrade is like the balustrade found on the Martian Cheairs House (NRHP #76001787) and on White Hall (NRHP #84003661) in Spring Hill, Tennessee, one hundred miles northeast of Cherokee. And the raised basement is strikingly like one of the most iconic houses in the Shoals region of northwest Alabama.

While Cherokee is technically within the Shoals geographic area, it has much less in common with the Colonial Revival-style examples from this locale. In the nearby tri-cities of Florence, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia just to the east of Cherokee, the Colonial Revival style emerges after 1915 and few representations of the style remain. Examples such as the Kennedy Douglass house (NRHP # 79000390), built in 1918 in Florence, are on a much smaller scale than the examples from Memphis. Furthermore, the massive Neo-Classical portico is absent from many of the Colonial Revival-style houses found in the tri-cities, where one-story porticoes are much more common. Finally, because the style emerges later than many of the examples in Memphis and the Easterwood House, the Shoals-area Colonial Revival houses feature less stylistic eclecticism.

However, Easterwood has one feature in common with Florence's most recognizable Greek Revival structure, Courtview or Rogers Hall on the University of North Alabama's campus (NRHP # 74000415). Both buildings feature a full-story raised basement, which gives both structures an enhanced isual presence. The raised basement serves to emphasize the verticality of Easterwood; its utilitarian function is unknown. The raised basement is a rare feature for a house so far from either the Atlantic or Gulf of Mexico coastlines. Locally, this feature makes Easterwood an extremely rare example of Colonial Revival architecture.

While Easterwood follows a nationwide incoherence of styles around the early years of the twentieth century, it appears to be influenced by two unique local architectural features: the blending of Neoclassical and Colonial Revival in nearby Memphis, and the raised basement of the massive Courtview in Florence. This sphere of influence for the design of the house is significant because of the location of Cherokee. Positioned just twenty or so miles to the east of the tri-cities, the Shoals area would have been a source of wealth for Mr. Harris, who sold implements and ginned cotton for local farmers. But Harris often visited Memphis, which was one of the largest cotton markets in the nation, and it has been claimed that the architect hailed from this city. The architecture of both Memphis and the Shoals is important to understanding the significance of the Easterwood House, which drew on regional features from both cities for its magnificent design.

The Easterwood House stands out on a local level as one of the finest examples of a Colonial Revival-style house with Neo-Classical features. The combination of gambrel roof and this portico make Easterwood an incredibly rare and unique structure for any region. The largest house in the town of Cherokee, the Easterwood house is significant at the local level because of its sheer size, location, setting, and style.

Property History

The land on which Easterwood is situated was originally deeded by the United States government to James Brown, who served as a negotiator for the Chickasaw tribe. Much of the land that became the town of Cherokee was owned by Brown, who was half white and half Chickasaw.¹¹ Benjamin Harris later purchased the property. Harris was a negotiator for the United States government and bought many acres of land in Franklin and Lawrence Counties in the 1830s.¹² Harris' daughter, Mary Anne Francis Cross, inherited the land along with her husband, Dr. William Cordwell Cross in 1850.¹³ Dr.

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¹⁰ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

¹¹ The History of Tennessee, (Nashville: The Goodspeed Publishing Co, 1886), accessed October 30, 2017: https://books.google.com/books?id=eiVEAQAAMAAJ&printsec=frontcover#v=onepage&q&f=false, 103.

¹² Daily, 153.

¹³ Colbert County Record Book P, p. 349.

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Cross was a surgeon in the Confederate Army during the Civil War, and his house (south of the current Easterwood House) was burned during the war and rebuilt after the conflict. William Cross' daughter, Amanda Rebecca Cross Lile, inherited the land from her father. Ms. Lile was the widow of Thomas Lile, and in 1910 she sold a thirteen-acre parcel of her estate to her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. Herbert C. Harris and Amanda Elizabeth Lile Harris. On this thirteen-acre parcel, Herbert Harris built Easterwood.

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Herbert C. Harris was born in Allsboro, Alabama, the son of William W. Harris, in 1885. W.W. Harris owned a store in luka, Mississippi and one in Cherokee, Alabama. The W.W. Harris store at 127 Fulton Street in luka is listed on the National Register as part of the Central luka Historic District. Herbert Harris married Amanda Lile in May of 1905. Newspaper accounts described Herbert as "one of the most successful young business men, junior member of the firm W.W. Harris & Son." In 1906, the Harris Supply Company was formed in Cherokee, and Herbert continued to operate the store in Cherokee until 1920.

Herbert Harris prospered as a businessman in Cherokee. Newspaper advertisements show that he was a farm implement dealer, and sold John Deere, Moline, and Oliver plows, along with more common farm implements. Harris also owned a cotton gin, and likely derived most of his wealth from this. In 1915, Harris built a 50-by-100-foot galvanized iron warehouse with a capacity for holding 800 bales of cotton. After the construction of the warehouse, Harris charged customers \$0.35 per month (including insurance) to store their cotton at his facility. Harris' warehouse was the scene of several large gatherings, including a school production of the play, "the Princess Kiku," and a large Methodist church revival.

By 1916, Harris was also selling automobiles. According to several newspaper advertisements, Hebert Harris was a Chevrolet dealer in west Colbert County. According to his grandson, the train that runs by Easterwood would stop for local citizens traveling to points east and west of Cherokee Mr. Harris would flag down the train when he needed to travel to Memphis. The train also delivered Mr. Harris' car. (Aprils' uncle J.F. Harris was also a prominent member of the city, serving as mayor and head of the Cherokee Telephone of papary. (2)

The house was designed by an architect from Memphis. Zasterwood was the first home in Cherokee to have indoor plumbing, which was pumped into the house from a nearby Sulptur spring. The rock forming the foundation of the house was quarried from T.L. Fossick's Rockwood Quarry.²⁴ In 1916, rock from that same quarry was used to construct the gate on the west side of the house. In that same year, several of the rooms in the house were papered and painted.²⁵

Herbert sold the house in 1920 and moved to Florence, Alabama, where he built another house at 755 Wood Ave. Herbert sold his house in Cherokee to his uncle John Harris for \$12,000.²⁶

Historical Background

The area that is now Cherokee was disputed by both the Cherokee and Chickasaw tribes before both tribes signed treaties in 1816 that ceded much of their lands in north Alabama to the United States. In 1816, the Chickasaw signed a treaty that ceded their lands west of Cane Creek.²⁷ In the 1820s and 30s, the Tennessee Valley became a major cotton producing

¹⁴ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

¹⁵ Richard Cawthon, "Central luka Historic District," National Register of Historic Places, September 1991.

¹⁶ Robin Sterling, Newspaper Clippings from Colbert County, Alabama Leighton News, 1904-1907 (Self-published, 2017), 139.

¹⁷ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), June 4, 1915.

¹⁸ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), July 9, 1915.

¹⁹ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), October 29, 1915.

²⁰ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), July 28, 1916 and Jack Daniel, My Recollections of Cherokee, Alabama (Memphis: Grandmother Earth Creations, 1998), 41.

²¹ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), May 5, 1916.

²² Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

²³ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), June 4, 1915.

²⁴ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

²⁵ Colbert County Reporter, (Cherokee, AL), June 2, 1916.

²⁶ Interview with Herbert C. Harris III, September 27, 2017.

²⁷ Charles J. Kappler, TREATY WITH THE CHICKASAW, 1816, (Washington: 1904), accessed October 27, 2017: http://digital.library.okstate.edu/kappler/vol2/treaties/chi0135.htm

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region for the state of Alabama. As planters flocked west in search of land to grow cotton, the Tennessee River proved a productive destination. The valley soil was fertile enough to support the crop, and the Tennessee River provided a means of shipping cotton to major port cities such as New Orleans.²⁸ These productive cotton-producing lands were held by the Chickasaw until the Treaty of Pontotoc in 1832, where the tribe sold their land east of the Mississippi and agreed to remove to land in what is now Oklahoma. By 1832 white settlers were moving into the land that is now western Colbert County. In 1834 the United States government divided up the land on a private ownership system, and the Chickasaw could sell the title to these lands to settlers or speculators. By 1837 the process of Indian removal of the Chickasaw from Alabama was underway. Lands formerly possessed by the Chickasaw were sold at public auction.²⁹

The first white settlement in the area that is now Cherokee was a stand along the Natchez Trace called Buzzard Roost. The Natchez Trace was a wagon road that led from Nashville, Tennessee to New Orleans, Louisiana. Buzzard Roost (originally called Buzzard Sleep) was located on Buzzard Roost Creek, almost nine miles south of Colbert's Ferry on the Tennessee River. The stand was operated by Levi Colbert, a Chickasaw chief and brother of George Colbert. The Colbert brothers operated both the stand and ferry. The inn was the site of store that housed the area's post office and was the original impetus for settlement in western Franklin County.³⁰

In 1845, the Southwestern Railroad Convention was held in Memphis, Tennessee and helped to promote the idea of linking the Mississippi River to the Atlantic Ocean via railway. In 1846, the Memphis and Charleston Railroad Company was incorporated and combined parts of other railroads and by 1857, the railroad offered regular service from Memphis to Stevenson, Alabama.³¹ The Memphis and Charleston Railroad designated what would become Cherokee, Alabama as a stop and built a wooden ticket and freight office depot in there 1857.³² Several spur railroads were built to quarries both east and west of Cherokee.³³

Early settlers originally planned to name the town "On Lazaw" but the name was taken by a settlement nearby. The post office relocated from a nearby Chickasaw Indian Agency to the area in 1856, and the U.S. Postal Service named the location Cherokee. Taking advantage of these improvements, William Cordwell Cross and John Watson Rutland surveyed the town and divided it into lots, with the north-south running Main Street marking the dividing line between the Cross and Rutland plantations. The town was incorporated in 1862 after residents officially adopted the name of the post office. The Cherokee experienced a building boom shortly after the construction of the rathed depot, but was a strategic target of the Union Army during the Civil War and was occupied several times. Cherokee ratio after Reconstruction and began to expand economically in the late 1890's. The same transfer of the Union Army during the Civil War and was occupied several times.

The construction of the Colbert Shoals Canal and the Riverton Lock around the Colbert Shoals on the Tennessee River brought new residents to Cherokee. The Colbert Shoals were a stretch of shallows made of sand, gravel, and rocks where the river fell twenty feet over the course of eight miles.³⁷ Not a major impediment, the Colbert Shoals were more of a low-water hazard, but a canal enabled larger boats to navigate the river to Florence.³⁸ In August and September of 1890, George Washington Goethals ordered a survey of the shoals, and work began the following year.³⁹

The Colbert Shoals Canal was intended to be a lateral canal built along the south bank of the river. As work commenced, the contract for construction of the lock was awarded to the lowest bidder over the objections of Goethals. After the

²⁸ Michael Bailey, "Tuscumbia Historic District," National Register of Historic Places, May 23, 1985.

²⁹ Greg O'Brien, "Chickasaws in Alabama," in Encyclopedia of Alabama, updated January 20, 2017, accessed October 27, 2017: http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article/h-1487

³⁰ William E. Cox, "Buzzard Roost," National Register of Historic Places, added 1976, NR #76000157, accessed November 15, 2017: https://npgallery.nps.gov/GetAsset/8f14ba83-6cbc-4faf-8433-82444e99f083/

³¹ David Bradford, "The Memphis & Charleston Railroad 1851-1865," The Scottsboro Depot Museum, http://www.scottsborodepotmuseum.com/history/m&c_history_prewar.html

³² Catherine K. Gilliam, "M&C Stations and Stops," The Historic Huntsville Quarterly Vol 7, No 3 (Spring, 1981), 11.

³³ Jack Daniel, Southern Railway: From Stevenson to Memphis (Germantown, TN: Grandmother Earth Creations, 1996), 303.

³⁴ Freda Daily, A Heritage to Treasure, 2004, 86.

³⁵ Claire M. Wilson, "Cherokee," in Encyclopedia of Alabama, updated November 6, 2012, accessed October 24, 2017.

³⁶ Wilson

³⁷ Rory M. McGovern, "THE SCHOOL OF EXPERIENCE: GEORGE W. GOETHALS, PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, AND REFORM IN THE U.S. ARMY, 1876-1907," Thesis, University of North Carolina: January 2014, 58.

³⁸ McGovern, 79.

³⁹ McGovern, 79.

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contractor, Terre A. Clark excavated a portion of the canal that soon collapsed, the contract was voided. Goethals appointed Sydney B. Williamson to oversee the project, and used day labor as the primary workforce.⁴⁰

The stone for the construction of the lock came from the Southern Granite Company of Lithonia, Georgia, and the T.L. Fossick Company in Rockwood, Alabama. The army corps of engineers built a railroad from Fossick's quarry to the Riverton Lock site.⁴¹ The remainder of the stone (primarily sandstone) was cut from the quarry operated by the Army just west of Cherokee.⁴²

The Colbert Shoals Canal took nearly eighteen years to complete, but offered employment for local citizens while the construction dragged on. The town benefitted from having a large workforce close by. In 1900, Cherokee had an eight-room hotel, three saloons, a gristmill, two steam cotton gins, eight general stores, a blacksmith, and three doctors. In 1905, the town drilled a sulphur well on the northwest corner of Main and 1st Streets. In 1908, a fire destroyed much of the downtown block between 1st and 2nd Streets, and College and Main Streets. These businesses had been made of wood and were rebuilt with red brick structures. The canal was finally completed in 1911. The first telephone in the town was installed in the lobby of the hotel in 1914, and electricity came to the downtown area in 1920. In 1923, Herbert C. Harris donated twenty acres of land for the town to build a school.

Cotton farming was the major source of income well into the twentieth century, and is still an important source of income today. During World War I, a cotton boom spurred production throughout the south. England purchased a large share of American cotton, in hopes of keeping it out of enemy hands. This in turn produced artificially inflated prices and a short boom in American cotton production. In 1915, cotton sold for 11.2 cents per pound. By 1919, cotton sold for 35.3 cents per pound. By 1919, the United States produced a cotton crop valued at \$2 billion. This short period of prosperity represented some of the greatest prosperity southern farmers had known. The boom, however, was short-lived. In 1920, prices for cotton began to fall, and by December of that year, 13 cents per pound was all that was paid. Cotton production decreased into the Great Depression, and continued to decline for much of the twentieth century.

Growth in the town of Cherokee slowed after the 1920s as the cities of Florence, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia drew workers from across the region to work on Wilson Dam, the Nitrate facilities, and later at Tennessee Valley Authority facilities.

⁴⁰ Johnson, 138.

⁴¹ Freda Daily And This Too!, 2006, 59.

⁴² Report of Captain Kingman, 1939

⁴³ Daily, 142.

⁴⁴ Daily, 131.

⁴⁵ Freda Daily, "Cherokee, Colbert County, Alabama," Journal of Muscle Shoals History Vol VI (1978), 127.

⁴⁶ Eddie Wayne Shell, Evolution of the Alabama Agroecosystem: Always Keeping Up, but Never Catching Up (Montgomery: New South Books, 2013), 477, AND Kenneth E. Phillips and Janet Roberts, "Cotton," in Encyclopedia of Alabama, January 28, 2016, accessed November 21, 2017.

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Name of Property	

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Colbert, AL

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9. Major Bibliographic References

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"Report of Captain Kingman." *Report of the Secretary of War.* Washington: Government Printing Office, 1896. Accessed July 6 2017:

https://books.google.com/books?id=dilHAQAAIAAJ&pg=PA1935&lpg=PA1935&dq=colbert+shoals+canal+strike&source=bl&ots=Q_iSCgdVor&sig=MvqFDwybu5ZArDPEIMzL6fKVk4U&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwih6tr5hfXUAhUIwj4KHROXCmQQ6AEIQDAH#v=onepage&q=colbert%20shoals%20canal%20strike&f=true

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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Pla NPS Form 10-900	ces Registration Form	OMB No. 1024-0018
Easterwood House		Colbert, AL
Name of Property		County and State
Wilson, Claire M. "Cherokee," in <i>Encyclope</i> http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org/article		ember 6, 2012. Accessed October 24, 2017:
Previous documentation of file (NPS):		
preliminary determination of individual list previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings recorded by Historic American Engineerican recorded by Historic American Landscape	tional Register Survey # ing Record #	uested
Primary location of additional data:		
State Historic Preservation Office		
Other State agency		
Federal agency	•	
Local government	\sim	
University		
Other Name of repository:	Cyx	
Historic Resources Survey Number (if as	ssigned):	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of Property 13	<u> </u>	
Use either the UTM system or latitude/lo	ngitude coordinates	
Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (deci	mal degrees)	
Datum if other than WGS84:		
Enter coordinates to 6 decimal places.		
1. Latitude: 34.755159	Longitude:	-87.963502
2. Latitude: 3. Latitude:	Longitude: Longitude:	
4. Latitude:	Longitude:	
OR		
UTM References		
Datum (indicated on USGS map):		
NAD 1927 or	;	
1. Zone: E	asting:	Northing:
	asting: asting:	Northing:
	asting:	Northing:
	asting:	Northing:

Easterwood House Colbert, AL
Name of Property County and State

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

Southeast ¼ of Section 35, Township 3 South, Range 14 West, Colbert County Alabama.

"Beginning near the Sulphur well at the corner of railroad right of way and Tuscumbia Pike Road, and running north along east side of Pike and the Street, which runs on east side of Lot 22 of Scruggs survey, 980 feet to the quarter section line, then east along quarter section line 462 feet to quarter section corner, then south along section line 1120 feet to railroad right of way, then west along right of way 650 feet."

OMB No. 1024-0018

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

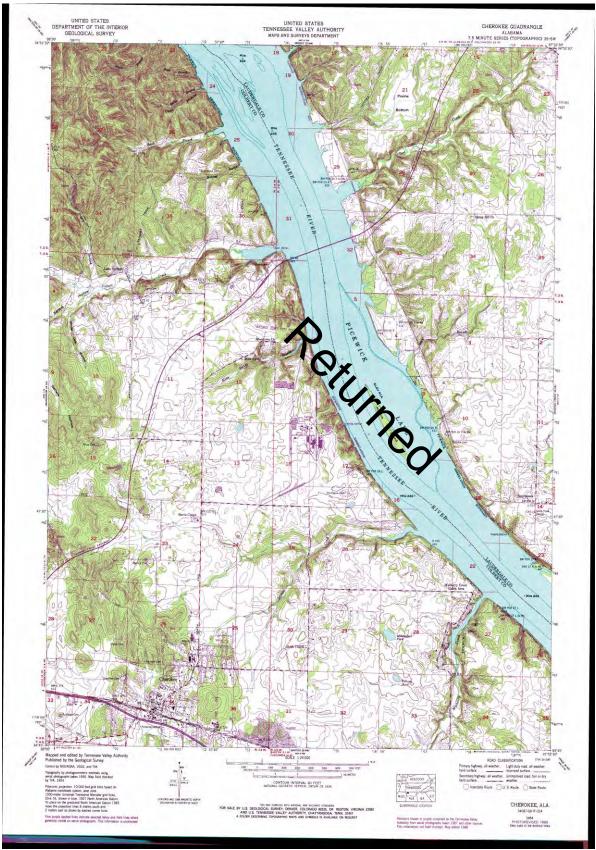
Name/Title:	Brian Murphy and Seth Armstrong				
Organization:	UNA Public History Program Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area				
Street & number:	468 N. Court Street				
City/Town:	Florence	State: AL	Zip Code: <u>35630</u>		
Email: Bmurph	y3@una.edu		Phone: 716.570.5613		
Date: July 13,	2018	<i>₹</i> 2			
		'Qx			

- Submit the following items with the completed form:
 - Maps: A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15-minute series) and cating the property's location.
 - **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
 - Additional items: Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.

Easterwood House Name of Property

Colbert, AL

County and State

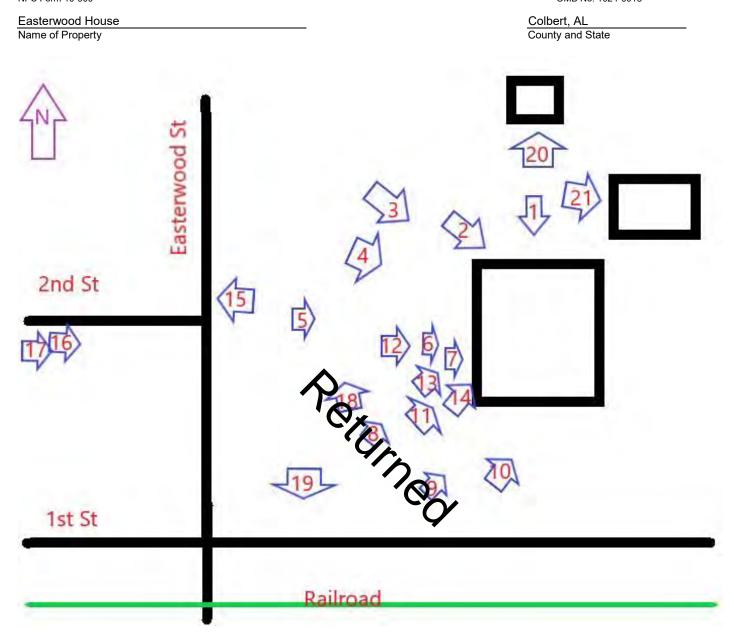


Easterwood House

Name of Property

Colbert, AL County and State



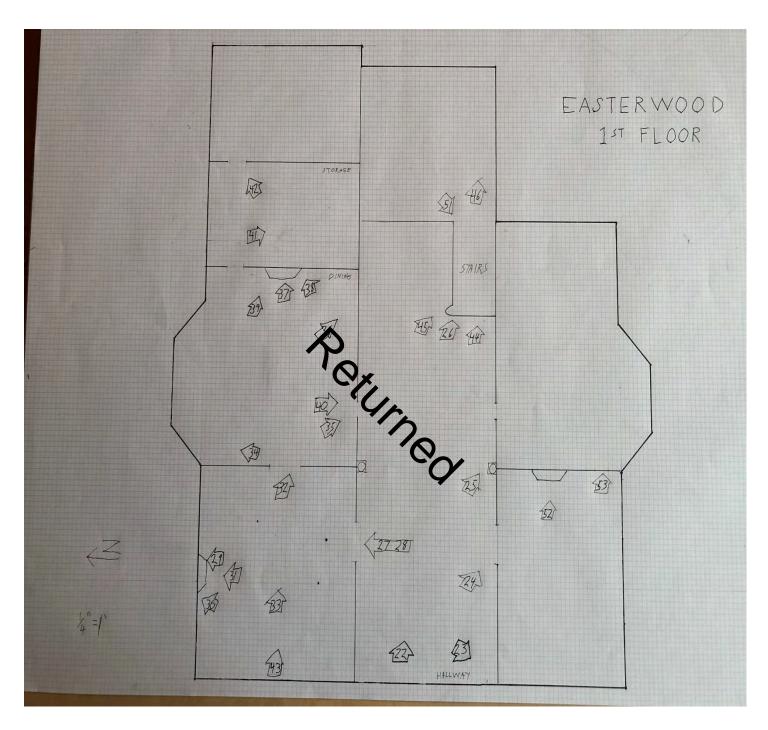


Colbert, AL

Easterwood House

Name of Property

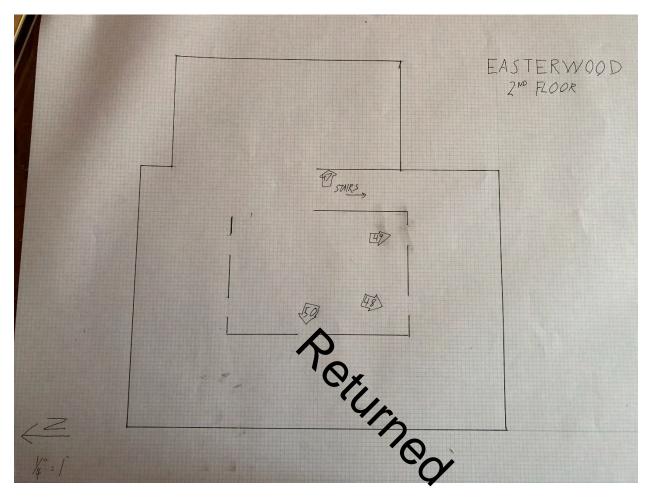
County and State



Easterwood House

Name of Property

Colbert, AL County and State



Easterwood House

Colbert, AL Name of Property County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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Photo Log

Easterwood House Name or Property:

Cherokee City or Vicinity: County: Colbert State: AL

Brian Murphy (exterior) / Seth Armstrong (interior) Photographer: October 1, 2017 (exterior) / June 18, 2018 (interior) Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 53. North facade. Camera facing south.
- 2 of 53. North façade. Camera facing southeast.
- 3 of 53. Northwest corner. Camera facing southeast.
- 4 of 53. West façade. Camera facing east.
- 5 of 53. West façade. Camera facing east.
- 6 of 53. West façade. Camera facing east.
- 7 of 53. Front entry, west façade. Camera facing e
- 8 of 53. West façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 9 of 53. South façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 10 of 53. South façade. Camera facing north.
- 11 of 53. Portico, west façade. Camera facing northeast.
- 12 of 53. Pediment, west façade portico. Camera facing east.
- 13 of 53. Modillions and dentil molding, pediment and portico. Can ing east.
- 14 of 53. Ionic entablature, portico, west façade. Camera facing north
- 15 of 53. Entrance gate. Camera facing west.
- 16 of 53. House and entrance. Camera facing east.
- 17 of 53. House and entrance. Camera facing east.
- 18 of 53. Front yard of house. Camera facing northwest.
- 19 of 53. Yard with 1st Street and railroad tracks. Camera facing southwest.
- 20 of 53. Workshop. Camera facing north.
- 21 of 53. Garage. Camera facing southeast.
- 22 of 53. Hallway. Camera facing east
- 23 of 53. Baseboard in hallway. Camera facing southwest.
- 24 of 53. Double pocket doors, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 25 of 53. Ionic Column, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 26 of 53. Newel post, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 27 of 53. Doorway into north side front room. Camera facing north.
- 28 of 53. Door trim. Camera facing east.
- 29 of 53. Fireplace mantle, north side front room. Camera facing north.
- 30 of 53. Scroll work on fireplace surround, north side front room. Camera facing northeast.
- 31 of 53. Fireplace mantle, north side front room. Camera facing north.
- 32 of 53. Brass lock plate, north side front room. Camera facing east.
- 33 of 53. Double pocket doors, north side front room. Camera facing east.
- 34 of 53. Dining room. Camera facing northeast.
- 35 of 53. Doorknob, dining room. Camera facing south.
- 36 of 53. Shelf, dining room. Camera facing southeast.
- 37 of 53. Fireplace, dining room. Camera facing northeast.
- 38 of 53. Doric capital, dining room fireplace. Camera facing northeast.

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Easterwood House	Colbert, AL
Name of Property	County and State

- 39 of 53. Fireplace tile, dining room. Camera facing east.
- 40 of 53. Transom, dining room. Camera facing south.
- 41 of 53. Cabinet, storage room. Camera facing southeast.
- 42 of 53. Storage room. Camera facing southeast.
- 43 of 53. Dining room entry. Camera facing east.
- 44 of 53. Staircase, hallway. Camera facing east.
- 45 of 53. Newel post, hallway. Camera facing southeast.
- 46 of 53. Window, second floor landing. Camera facing east.
- 47 of 53. Window, second floor landing. Camera facing east.
- 48 of 53. Hallway, second floor. Camera facing southwest.
- 49 of 53. Door, second floor. Camera facing south.
- 50 of 53. Nameplate on door, second floor. Camera facing west.
- 51 of 53. Light fixture on newel post, staircase. Camera facing west.
- 52 of 53. Fireplace, south side front room. Camera facing southeast.
- 53 of 53. Closet door, south side front room. Camera facing southeast.

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 listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing any reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, J.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:	Nomination				
Property Name:	Easterwood House				
Multiple Name:					
State & County:	ALABAMA, Colbert				
Date Recei 10/3/201		st: Date of 16th Day: Date of 4 11/9/2018 11/19/	5th Day: Date of Weekly List: 2018		
Reference number:	SG100003107				
Nominator:	State	The second secon			
Reason For Review:					
Appeal	<u> </u>	PDIL	Text/Data Issue		
SHPO	Request	Landscape	X Photo		
Waiver	<u> </u>	National	X Map/Boundary		
Resub	mission	Mobile Resource	Period		
Other		TCP	Less than 50 years		
	i	CLG			
Accept	X Return	_Reject	_ Date		
Abstract/Summary Comments:	Return - interior photos, propneeded.	erty plat map, boundary justificati	on, and map coordinates		
Recommendation/ Criteria			•		
Reviewer Lisa De	eline	Discipline Histor	an		
Telephone (202)354-2239		Date	1/19/2016		
DOCUMENTATION	l: see attached comments	see attached SLR : No			

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places

Comments Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name:

Easterwood House

Property Location:

Colbert Co., Alabama

Reference Number:

SG-3107

Date of Return:

12/04/2018

Reason for Return:

The nomination is being returned for additional photos and for geographical data information.

<u>Section 7.</u> The narrative description references interior photos; however, an interior photo disk was not included with the nomination.

<u>Section 10</u>. Maps. For properties of 10 or more acres, enter three or more latitude/longitude coordinates. The 13-acre parcel shows only one.

Parcel map. Please provide a parcel map showing the boundaries of the Easterwood property.

Please provide a boundary justification. This section was left blank on the nomination form.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at (202) 354-2239 or e-mail at <u>Lisa_Deline@nps.gov</u>.

Lisa Deline, Historian National Register of Historic Places



ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

RS100003107

468 South Perry Street P.O. Box 300900 Montgomery, Alabama 36130-0900 334-242-3184 / Fax: 334-240-3477 Lisa D. Jones Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer

MAT REGISTER OF HE OF

December 12, 2018

Ms. Joy Beasley National Park Service 1849 C Street NW Mail Stop 7228 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Beasley:

Enclosed please find a revised nomination as requested by Lisa Deline for the:

Easterwood House Cherokee, Colbert County, Alabama Reference No.: SG-3107

The original nomination was sent to the National Park Service on October 1, 2018. It was returned to and received by our office on December 4, 2018 with a request additional photos and geographical data information. We believe the nomination is now in order. Your consideration of this revised nomination is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Wofford

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

LAW/nw

Enclosure