

## ARKANSAS HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM

*Wash. Co.  
Canehill*HISTORIC RESOURCES OF CANEHILL  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSASSurvey Number CH-13Owner Joe Robinson✓ Property Name Earle House (C.M.R.A.)Address Canehill, AR 72717✓ Location ~~East of Highway 45~~ AR 45Construction Date 1859

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Sited on a densely planted raised site with stone retaining walls defining its east and west boundaries, the Earle House is visually secluded from the nearby highway. The one-story woodframe weatherboard-faced single-pile structure raised above grade on its stone foundation retains its nineteenth-century integrity virtually unaltered. A medium-pitched gable roof which breaks into a shed at the rear (east) shelters the building. The house's symmetrical front (west) elevation features a fine vernacular interpretation of a Greek Revival portico, here articulated as a central one-story gable-roofed element. The portico features boxed columns with capitals articulated in a triglyph-like design, and finely proportioned frieze and shallow box cornice and raking cornice which together create a distinct pediment in the gable end. A box cornice with cornice moulding caps the entire structure and brick chimneys terminate the north and south gable ends. Simple rectangular windows comprise the building's symmetrical fenestration and a multi-light transom and sidelights articulate its entrance. The house was designed on a traditional central hall plan. A root cellar was constructed under half of the structure. Of particular note are the outbuildings, possibly of pre-Civil War construction, that survive on the Earle House site, including a springhouse, a barn and the ruins of a chimney that may have been part of an early detached kitchen.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Earle House is of great significance to the Canehill community as an outstanding example of the architecture of the pre-Civil War era and as the home of Dr. Fountain R. Earle, president of Canehill College from the time of his arrival in Canehill in 1858 until the institution closed in 1891. During his long tenure, Dr. Earle was responsible for the reopening of the school after the Civil War and oversaw the merging of the Canehill College with the Canehill Female Academy. With an extraordinary degree of original fabric, including related outbuildings, surviving the property also offers a great deal of information about the mid-nineteenth-century domestic order. Its Greek Revival-derived details and proportions, especially as displayed in the central portico, are extremely fine and accurate, particularly in the context of a vernacular example. They contribute substantially to the building's significance as the best surviving Greek Revival style structure in Canehill.

Verbal Boundary Description Block 2, Original Plat, Part of Lot 12Acreage less than one acreQuadrangle Name Lincoln, Ark. Quadrangle Scale 1:24000

UTM Reference

Zone 15 Easting 374 030 Northing 3974 120

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 2

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Canehill Multiple Resource Area  
State Arkansas

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Earle House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

11/17/82 Silvana Byers

Attest

12. Carroll, A. R., Building

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

11/17/82 Silvana Byers

Attest

13. Pyeatte Mill Site

Substantive Review

Keeper

11/17/82 Bruce Van Driel

Attest

11/16/82 Patrick Andrews

14. Pyeatte, Henry, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

11/17/82 Silvana Byers

Attest

15. United Presbyterian Church  
of Canehill

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

11/17/82 Silvana Byers

Attest

16.

Keeper

Attest

17.

Keeper

Attest

18.

Keeper

Attest

19.

Keeper

Attest

20.

Keeper

Attest

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Earle House (Canehill MRA)  
Washington County  
ARKANSAS

Working No. 105/82-2739

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83

Date Due: 11/4/82 - 11/4/82

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11/17/82

Entered in the ☐ RETURN  
National Register ☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_

Discipline \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: ☐ technical corrections cited below  
☐ substantive reasons discussed below

### 1. Name

### 2. Location

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

### 4. Owner of Property

### 5. Location of Legal Description

### 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

### 7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- \_\_\_\_\_ summary paragraph
- \_\_\_\_\_ completeness
- \_\_\_\_\_ clarity
- \_\_\_\_\_ applicable criteria
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of areas checked
- \_\_\_\_\_ relating significance to the resource
- \_\_\_\_\_ context
- \_\_\_\_\_ relationship of integrity to significance
- \_\_\_\_\_ justification of exception
- \_\_\_\_\_ other

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Average of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

USGS References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

## 11. Form Prepared By

## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## 13. Other

- \_\_\_\_\_ Maps
- \_\_\_\_\_ Photographs
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



CH-13  
Earle House  
Historic Resources of Canehill  
Canehill, AR  
Bob Dunn, photographer  
Negative at Ark. Historic Preservation  
Program  
View from the West  
No. 16 of 20

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000023