

VLR-9/9/69 NRHP-11/12/69

STATE: Virginia	
COUNTY: Northampton	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Eyre Hall

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Eyre Hall

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER: .1 mi. N of Eyrehall Creek, 1.2 mi. W of intersection of Rt. 13 and Rt. 636, 1.6 mi. N of intersection of Rt. 13 and Rt. 680.

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE: Virginia CODE: 45 COUNTY: Northampton CODE: 131

**3. CLASSIFICATION**

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

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNERS NAME:  
Mr. H. Furlong Baldwin and ~~Miss Mary Eyre Baldwin~~

STREET AND NUMBER:  
~~4408 Adwick Road~~ Eyre Hall 4-14-87

CITY OR TOWN: Baltimore Cheriton, VA. 23316 STATE: Maryland CODE: 19

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:  
Northampton County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Eastville STATE: Virginia CODE: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 298.86 acres

**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958 Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 08

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The earliest portion of Eyre Hall was a story-and-a-half four-room frame house with end chimneys, built in the mid-eighteenth century. This house became attached as a wing to the late-eighteenth century gambrel roof structure around 1796 and was raised to two full stories several years later. The frame, circa 1796, gambrel roof portion of Eyre Hall features a pair of interior end chimneys, modillion cornice, hipped roof dormers, one-story entrance porch, two-level side porch, and a side hall plan.

The hall itself is notable for the thick elliptical central arch which divides the space into an entrance hall and stair hall. The entrance hall section is fully panelled, having Doric pilasters on pedestals, supporting a full entablature with modillion cornice and pulvinated frieze. The stair hall is half panelled but features French scenic paper, "Les Rives de Bosphore," produced circa 1816 by Dufour. The staircase balustrade has a molded handrail and especially fine turned baluster. In the drawing room the panelling is also set off by Doric pilasters on pedestals, and the chimney breast displays an academic but finely executed Adam mantelpiece. The remaining woodwork throughout the house is typical of its respective period. A modern structure was built on the foundations of the early kitchen around 1930 and attached to the wing of the main house by a one-story passageway.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

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

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric	Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Historic	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	losophy	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Agriculture	Invention	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Art	Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Commerce	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Human-		_____	
Communications	Literature	<input type="checkbox"/>	itarian	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
Conservation	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Theater	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	
	Music	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

The land on which Eyre Hall stands was first patented by Captain Phillip Taylor in 1637. In 1664 it was sold to William Kendall, who in 1685 gave it and adjacent lands totalling about 700 acres to his daughter Mary and her husband, Hancock Lee. Shortly afterwards the Lees moved across the bay to Northumberland County where they built the first house at Ditchley. In 1754 their daughter Anna, who was married to William Armistead, broke the entail on the property and sold it to Littleton Eyre.

It has been assumed that the earliest portion of Eyre Hall was built by Littleton Eyre soon after he acquired the property. This was apparently a story-and-a-half structure which between 1796 and 1800 was enlarged to two stories and made a wing of the main portion of the present house. The house and its lands were inherited in 1773 by Littleton Eyre's son, Severn Eyre, a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses from 1766 to 1773. The large gambrel roof portion of Eyre Hall was built circa 1796 by Severn Eyre's son John. Little changed since John Eyre's addition, Eyre Hall remains the property of his descendants today.

Architecturally, Eyre Hall ranks as one of the major eighteenth-century plantation houses on Virginia's Eastern Shore. The main body of the house is rare for having three floor levels beneath a gambrel roof. Typical of Eastern Shore frame houses, the present picturesque form of Eyre Hall was achieved through an evolutionary process, rather than as a single design concept. The entire complex, including the house and its furnishings, the outbuildings, the cemetery and gardens, is a remarkably complete survival, demonstrating the sophistication of plantation life on the Eastern Shore.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Whitelaw, Ralph T., Virginia's Eastern Shore: A History of Northampton and Accomack Counties.  
Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia, pp. 387-389.  
 Robertson, John William, On Land and Sea; A Pictorial Review of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, pp. 21-23.

**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES... DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	37° 19' 09"	75° 59' 17"				
NE	37° 19' 09"	75° 57' 41"				
SE	37° 17' 59"	75° 57' 41"				
SW	37° 17' 59"	75° 59' 17"				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE:  
 Staff, Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission, James W. Moody, Jr., Director

ORGANIZATION: Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

DATE: July 31, 1969

STREET AND NUMBER:  
 Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building

CITY OR TOWN: Richmond

STATE: Virginia

CODE: 45

**12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, Chairman  
 Title Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
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(Number all entries)

6. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #65-8  
1968 State  
Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission  
Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building  
Richmond, Virginia 23219 Code: 45

