1. NAME

Common: Eyre Hall
And/or Historic: Eyre Hall

2. LOCATION

Street and Number: 1 mi. N of Eyre Hall 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.

State: Virginia
Code: 45
County: Northampton
Code: 131

3. CLASSIFICATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category (Check One)</th>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Accessible to the Public</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>District</td>
<td>Public</td>
<td>Occupied</td>
<td>Yes: Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site</td>
<td>Private</td>
<td>In Process</td>
<td>Unoccupied</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>Both</td>
<td>Being Considered</td>
<td>Preservation work in progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Object</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No: Unrestricted</td>
</tr>
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</table>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural
Commercial
Educational
Entertainment
Public
Private
Religious
Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Owners Name: Mr. H. Furlong Baldwin and Miss Mary Eyre Baldwin

Street and Number: 4668 Adwick Road

City or Town: Baltimore

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

State: Maryland
Code: 19

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Street and Number:

City or Town: Eastville

State: Virginia
Code: 45

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 298.86 acres

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITe OF SURVEY: Historic American Buildings Survey Inventory

DATE OF SURVEY: 1958

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:

City or Town: Washington

State: District of Columbia
Code: 08
7: DESCRIPTION

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<th>CONDITION</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
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<th>Fair</th>
<th>Deteriorated</th>
<th>Ruins</th>
<th>Unexposed</th>
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<tr>
<td>INTEGRITY</td>
<td>(Check One)</td>
<td>Altered</td>
<td>Unaltered</td>
<td>(Check One)</td>
<td>Moved</td>
<td>Original Site</td>
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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.
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.
9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES


10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>SW</td>
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<td>75° 59' 17&quot;</td>
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LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CODE</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATE</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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 [x]
- Local [ ]

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

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

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

ATTEST:

[Signature]

Date: __________

Keeper of The National Register

Date: __________
### 6. Virginia Historic Landmarks Commission Report #65-8

- **State:** Virginia
- **County:** Northampton
- **Address:** Room 1116, Ninth Street State Office Building, Richmond, Virginia 23219
- **Code:** 45