

NORTH CAROLINA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
Office of Archives and History
Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Dr. Neil M. and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House

Whiteville, Columbus County, CB0130, Listed 1/5/2016
Nomination by Jennifer Martin
Photographs by Jennifer Martin, October 2014



Façade view



Rear view

**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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Culbreth, Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth, House
other names/site number The Oaks

2. Location

street & number 251 Washington Street n/a not for publication
city or town Whiteville n/a vicinity
state North Carolina code NC county Columbus code 047 zip code 28472

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set for in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See Continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

	Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
I hereby certify that the property is:		
<input type="checkbox"/> entered in the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined eligible for the National Register. <input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> determined not eligible for the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> removed from the National Register.	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> other, explain: _____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

Number of Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

n/a

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC/single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/business

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Italianate

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood: weatherboards

roof Asphalt
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

Property is:

- 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

Ca. 1874

Significant Dates

Ca. 1874

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

n/a

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Culbreth Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth, House
Name of Property

Columbus County, North Carolina
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.46 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 17 710890 3801880
Zone Easting Northing
2 _____

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing
4 _____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Cynthia de Miranda and Jennifer Martin
organization MdM Historical Consultants Inc. date August 26, 2015
street & number Post Office Box 1399 telephone 919/368-1602
city or town Durham state NC zip code 27702

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name M. Wade Greene LLC
street & number PO Box 160 telephone 910.207.6564
city or town Whiteville state NC zip code 28472

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 listing. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P. O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20303.

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Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House
Columbus County, North Carolina

Description

The Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House is located at 251 Washington Street in Whiteville, the seat of Columbus County, North Carolina. The Italianate-style house stands on the southwest corner of James Street and Washington Street, which is also designated as U. S. Business Highway 74. The dwelling is in a mostly commercial area, although a few houses stand just to the north on the north side of U. S. 74. The Columbus County courthouse is two-tenths of a mile due east of the house. The two parcels are mostly cleared except for several substantial hardwood trees that shade the Culbreth House. On the rear (south) elevation, a brick and concrete walkway and handicap ramp lead to the southeast porch. Brick and concrete steps have been installed forward of the door that leads to the screened porch on the dwelling's southwest (rear) corner.

Exterior

The ca. 1874 two-story, balloon-framed, weatherboard-sided house with a bracketed cornice and cornerboards with caps is nearly square in form and is two rooms deep with a one-story circa 1940 addition on the rear. The dwelling's brick pier foundation has recently been infilled with recessed masonry walls to provide extra support. Low, hipped, asphalt-shingled roofs top the main block and the one-story addition. Brick chimneys rise from the from the east and west roof slopes to provide heat to all rooms in the two-story block. A brick stack formerly connected to a cooking stove rises from the one-story rear addition.

A prominent two-story, front-gabled portico with a bracketed cornice and supported by full-height faceted columns with faceted and molded capitals resting on brick plinths with concrete caps is centered on the facade. The portico is of an unusual arrangement found in several nineteenth-century dwellings located in counties near or along the South Carolina border. Like those houses, the columns on the Culbreth House rest on individual brick piers forward of and separate from the porch. The portico shelters a second-floor wire-suspended balcony with a balustrade composed of slender turned balusters spanning simple square posts with caps. The portico, which displays a round louvered vent in its tympanum, fronts the centered first- and second-floor double-leaf wood doors. Each doorway is topped by a two-light etched-glass transom and flanked by two-light etched-glass sidelights with lower wood panels. Each tall narrow door features upper and lower molded panels and heavily molded and elaborate door hardware consisting of a brass knob and escutcheon with floral and geometric designs. The first floor porch lacks a balustrade and its floor and steps has been rebuilt recently because of deterioration.

Windows on the main block are original and primarily composed of two-over-two, double-hung sash with arched upper sashes. The windows surrounds are plain. All arched-sash windows are single, except on the west elevation where paired windows, likely a more recent modification, pierce the south side of the west elevation on the first floor. A group of three double-hung windows with square sash are located on the west end of the upper level of the rear (south) elevation.

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Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House
Columbus County, North Carolina

The circa 1940 one-story rear (south) elevation addition rests on a new brick foundation that replaced the original brick piers. A slender interior brick flue rises from the west side. All windows and doors on the addition are original. On the southeast corner, an inset porch shelters a half-glazed, three-panel wood door and two double-hung sash windows. Two square posts with caps grace the east side of this porch. The addition's south elevation includes a full-size, double-hung-sash window and a pair of smaller double-hung-sash windows. An inset screened porch with a knee wall and a corner post with a cap occupies the addition's southwest corner. The porch knee wall, the wall above the screening, and the interior walls of the porch are sheathed in German siding that was likely added in the early twentieth century. This smaller screened porch shelters a three-panel wood door on the west elevation of the addition. A small one-over-one window is on the west elevation of the weatherboard-sheathed section of the addition, just north of the corner screened porch.

Interior

The Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House follows a central-passage plan with center hallways on the first and second floors. Four rooms of equal size and similar finishes occupy both levels. The hallways are of equal size and finished with identical moldings. All floors are original hardwood.

The first floor center hall, also known as a central passage, features the prominent open string floor-to-floor staircase. A substantial turned newel anchors the stair, which displays turned balusters supporting a handrail that is peaked at its center. A small closet with a four-panel door facing south is located under the stair. Original bead board wainscot remains in the central passage below modern sheetrock walls. Original tongue and groove ceilings remain in the central passage. At the south end of the passage is a doorway identical to the one at the entrance. This was originally the rear (south) entrance to the house but it became an interior doorway after the rear addition was built.

All finishes on the first floor are original except the sheetrock walls. Each first floor room features corner blocks with incised rosettes, reeded doorway moldings, tall baseboards, tongue and groove ceilings, and tall crown molding. Doors in each room are original four-panel types. Mantels, which occupy each of the dwelling's eight rooms, are variations on the post and lintel Greek Revival form following a general pattern of squared pilasters supporting a mantelshelf. The only variation is in the mantel found in the northwest room—the parlor—where turned posts flank the firebox and five round incised floral elements are set in a band of reeding in the frieze just below the bracketed mantel shelf. Doors on the east side of the fireplaces connect north and south rooms. The doors on the west side of the fireplaces open into a small closet with the exception of the northeast room. The northeastern and southeastern rooms also have a small, narrow closet adjacent to the east side of the mantel. A five-panel door with a plain surround on the south wall of the southeastern room connects to the one-story rear addition. A similar door once connected the southwest room to the bathroom in the one-story addition, but it has been removed and the opening filled in.

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Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House
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The upper floor contains four roughly square rooms of equal size with two rooms on each side of the central passage. Like the lower level, on the east side of the house access between rooms is through passageways east of each fireplace and the doors west of the fireplace provide access to closets, however, there is no access between the rooms on the west side; both flanking doors lead to small closets. Sometime in the mid-twentieth century, a small bathroom was installed at the south end of the central passage. Recently, beaded wainscot was installed in this room. Upstairs finishes are similar to those on the first floor: corner blocks with an incised rosette design, reeded doorway moldings, tongue and groove ceilings, tall crown molding, tall baseboards, four-panel doors, and post-and-lintel mantels.

The circa 1940 one-story addition contains the kitchen, a bathroom, and an east-west running passage. Access to the addition is through the former rear exterior doorway and a five-panel door on the south wall of the southeast room, both of which lead to the hallway. A half-glazed, three-panel door on the east end of the hallway allows access to the east screened porch. The kitchen is the southernmost room and is separated from the hallway by a five-panel door. A half-glazed, three-panel door in the southwest corner of the kitchen leads to the smaller southwest screened porch. A bathroom with beaded wainscot and crown molding occupies the west end of the one-story addition.

The Site

Although outbuildings most certainly occupied the parcel historically, none remain now. The last outbuilding to stand on the site was a kitchen destroyed sometime prior to Hurricane Hazel, which made landfall in the county in 1954.

A General Statement Regarding Archaeological Potential

The Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House is closely related to its surrounding environment. Archaeological remains such as trash pits, privies, wells, and other structural remains that might be present, can provide information valuable to the understanding and interpretation of the contributing building. Information concerning land-use patterns, social standing, and social mobility, as well as structural details, is often only evident in the archaeological record. Therefore, archaeological remains may well be an important component of the significance of the building. At this time no investigation has been done to discover these remains, but it is likely that they exist, and this should be considered in any development of the property.

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Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House
Columbus County, North Carolina

Summary

The Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House is locally significant and meets Criterion C in the area of architecture as an intact example of a dwelling that melds the vernacular Italianate style with classical elements, most notable the monumental Greek Revival style portico and post-and-lintel mantels. The house, built by wealthy Whiteville merchant Thomas S. Memory for his daughter and her husband, retains its original form and massing as well as interior and exterior materials and decorative elements, including bracketed cornices, faceted columns and capitals, round-arched-head double-hung sash, highly ornate door hardware, and a turned stair newel. The Culbreth House relates to several nineteenth-century dwellings located in southeastern North Carolina in which the columns on its classical portico rest on individual brick piers separate from the porch floor. In this case, the portico shelters not only a porch, but also a suspended balcony. The period of significance is ca. 1874, the approximate year of construction. No other examples of the Italianate style have been identified in Columbus County, although it was a moderately popular style in towns across eastern North Carolina in the late nineteenth century.

Historical Background

Local tradition holds that the ca. 1874 Culbreth House was a wedding gift from local merchant Thomas S. Memory to his daughter Nancy Elizabeth Memory Culbreth (1857-1921), known familiarly as Lizzie. Lizzie married Dr. Neil Monroe Culbreth (1850-1913), a dentist, in 1874. By 1880, they were a family of five. They called their new home “The Oaks.”¹

Whiteville was, at that time, a small crossroads village and a county seat. The courthouse stood in a square at the crossing of two highways, and shops—including Thomas Memory’s Memory Company—lined the blocks facing the seat of the county’s government. About a mile south of the courthouse stood Whiteville’s train depot, so removed from town because residents did not want the noise of the trains bothering their livestock. Madison Street ran north-south through town and connected the courthouse to the depot.²

¹ “Whiteville landmark being restored,” (*Whiteville*) *News Reporter*, June 26, 2014; Ancestry.com. *North Carolina, Marriage Index, 1741-2004* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007; Ancestry.com and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. *1880 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2010, viewed online on March 4, 2015.

² James A. Rogers, Ed, *Columbus County North Carolina: A review of Columbus County from an historical, agricultural, commercial, industrial, municipal, and photographic standpoint* (Whiteville, NC: The News Reporter, 1946), 23; Mary Anne Lee and Joe Mobley, “Courthouses in North Carolina,” National Register of Historic Places Nomination, 1978, viewed online March 4, 2015, at www.hpo.ncdcr.gov; Ann Courtney Ward Little, *Columbus County North Carolina: Recollections and Records* (Whiteville: Columbus County Commissioners and Columbus County Public Library, 1980), 16.

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Col. Thomas Stephen Memory (1817-1895) was a prominent citizen in Whiteville. Born in Bladen County, he married Rachel Baldwin in 1849 and the couple had eleven children.³ After working in a store in Fayetteville as a young man, he came to Whiteville in 1847, opened a general store, amassed much wealth, and acquired many acres in Columbus County from 1844 through the 1870s, including the parcel where the Culbreth House stands. His venture suffered during the Civil War, but Memory himself remained well-known and successful. He was a Confederate colonel and tax collector, and he managed to rebuild his ruined business after the war with loans and debt relief. He eventually paid back all loans and debts. The impressive home he built for his daughter is a reflection of his prominence and success.⁴

The Culbreths lived at The Oaks for nearly two decades before moving to Wilmington around 1898. Dr. Culbreth established a dental practice in the city.⁵ In 1903, the Culbreths sold their Whiteville house to Ada Powell Williamson. In 1909, Williamson sold it to Lucy Culbreth Grady and her husband, general-practice attorney Leonidas Valentine Grady. Lucy was a daughter of Nancy Elizabeth and Neil Culbreth, and the house was her childhood home.⁶ By 1910, Nancy Elizabeth and Dr. Neil Culbreth were living in Raleigh, where he had a dental office in the Masonic Building.⁷

The house changed hands a few more times before it was acquired by the Columbus County Board of Education. The county is said to have used it as a teacherage. In 1925, G. O. and Ethel Council Rogers bought the house from the county for \$5,400.00 in a private sale after an auction failed to secure a fair price. The Rogers family lived in the house until 1983. In May 2014, Wade Greene bought the unoccupied house and has renovated it for office use; the parcel at the southeast corner of the nominated area, which was originally part of the land historically associated with the house, was purchased in February 2015.⁸

³ Ancestry.com. Colonel Thomas Memory Page [on-line], Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc.

⁴ Little, 19.

⁵ *J. L. Hill's Printing Co.'s Directory of Wilmington, N. C., 1900* (Richmond: J. L. Hill's Printing Co., 1900), 230.

⁶ Ancestry.com. *1900 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2004; Ancestry.com. *1910 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2006; Neil M. Culbreth and wife to Ada Powell Williamson, Deed Book A1, page 244, December 28, 1903; D.T. Williamson and wife to L.V. Grady, Deed Book T1, page 533, January 4, 1909, viewed online February 27, 2015, at www.search.columbusdeeds.com.

⁷ Ancestry.com. *1910 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA. Hill's City Directory, 1909-1910 (Richmond: Hill Directory Company, 1910), 170.

⁸ Columbus County Board of Education to G. O and Ethel Council Rogers, Deed Book 126, page 544, viewed online February 27, 2015, at www.search.columbusdeeds.com; Nancy Wayne Crabtree et al to M. Wade Greene, L.L.C, Deed Book 1085, page 464, and Dixie W. Rogers to M. Wade Greene, L. L. C., Deed Book 1102, page 560, both viewed online August 26, 2015, at www.mangomap.com/maps/16952/Columbus-County-Land-Records#; "Whiteville landmark."

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Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House
Columbus County, North Carolina

Architecture Context: Italianate-style Dwellings

Across North Carolina in the mid-nineteenth century, the picturesque style of architecture found popularity among those who saw the revival of medieval and romantic forms as a positive influence on society. The style developed alongside of the neoclassical forms, especially the Greek Revival style, that had been in vogue throughout the antebellum period. Plan books of the period popularized applied ornament in endless variations and focused on the picturesque movement, an idiom espoused in great part by Andrew Jackson Downing's *Cottage Residents*, which was published in 1842, and his *Architecture of Country Houses* from 1850. The Italianate style flowed from the picturesque movement and greatly influenced architecture in the state's major cities and towns in the period before the Civil War. Even as the Greek Revival style endured in popularity during the middle decades of the nineteenth century, northern architects and builders introduced the Italianate style to North Carolina's more sophisticated urban centers, such as Wilmington, where the style found favor among the merchant class. In the port city, an array of decorative features appeared on dwellings of the period, including brackets along friezeboards, wide eaves with rafter tails, and porches that carried lavish iron work.⁹

From Wilmington, the popularity of the Italianate style spread to towns and counties in southeastern North Carolina, especially those with access to the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad, a line established in the 1830s. The Magnolia Male Academy in Magnolia is Duplin County's most outstanding example of the Italianate style. Facing the tracks of the former Wilmington and Weldon line, the two-story, frame building begun in 1858 features a bracketed cornice and narrow arched windows on the second-floor façade. An entrance with sidelights and a transom reveals the influence of the Greek Revival style. In nearby Kenansville, Duplin's county seat, the Chauncey Graham House from 1855 displays a low-hipped roof with a bracketed cornice and crossetted architraves crowning each of the dwelling's bays. The railroad town of Faison contains Italianate- and transitional Greek Revival-Italianate-style dwellings built by the town's most prominent families. Built for a merchant in the 1880s, the two-story, double-pile Walter Livingston Hicks House carries both Greek Revival and Italianate features in its bracketed and dentiled cornice and three-part Greek Revival-style entrance with sidelights and a transom. Farther afield, the grand cruciform-hall-plan Buckner Hill House constructed in the mid-nineteenth century near Bowdens displays Greek Revival and Italianate features in its bracketed cornice and bold Doric posts and pilasters.

Wherever examples of the Italianate style were found in North Carolina, they typically shared certain characteristics, including an overall verticality expressed chiefly in tall windows, upright massing, and detailing that reinforces the long line. Roofs are generally low-pitched with broad eaves adorned with brackets or modillions. Molded window

⁹ Catherine W. Bishir, *North Carolina Architecture* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1990), 223-224, 228-229; David Black, "North Blount Street Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination (unsubmitted), 1977, viewed July 22, 2013, at the Raleigh Historic Districts Commission website at www.rhdc.org.

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hoods and architraves highlight fenestration often elongated by segmental- or round-arched tops. Single-story Italianate-style dwellings are rare, as two- and three-story houses better present the typically lofty Italianate stature. Italianate-style buildings sometimes feature a boxy cupola or a slender squared tower to increase height.¹⁰

The Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House, built around 1874 in a town first reached by the railroad in 1853, is a vernacular Italianate-style dwelling that embodies the merging of Greek Revival classicism with the picturesque mode. Its hipped roof with deep bracketed eaves is set on a symmetrical, two-story, double-pile form marked by a two-tier classical pedimented portico sheltering a three-part entrance composed of sidelights and a transom containing etched glass. The split-leaf wooden doors at the façade and at the former rear entry feature narrow, vertical, Italianate-style elements, reinforced by paneling enframed with rounded molding. Exterior doors feature highly elaborate brass door-and-escutcheon sets with contrasting floral and geometric designs typical of the late nineteenth century. The two-pane glazing of the double-hung sash creates vertical elements within the otherwise plain weatherboarded elevations, but the windows lack the elaborate framing or hooding often seen in more academic examples of the Italianate style. The interior continues the melding of classicism and the picturesque in its turned stair balusters, exaggerated turned newel, and curving stair rail. Interior doors have four raised vertical panels, the upper pair elongated in keeping with the style. A combination of porcelain and brass hardware is found on interior doors, which are framed by ornate reeded moldings with incised rosettes in their cornerblocks.

The centered front gabled porch is an unusual form consisting of the free-standing two-story portico, which shelters the first-story porch and second-story suspended balcony. The portico's columns rest on individual brick stacks not attached to the porch's brick foundation. A variant of this portico-porch arrangement appears in North Carolina, but generally in counties located along the state's border with South Carolina. The ca. 1830 Williams-Powell House (NR 1984) in Robeson County, a two-story weatherboarded frame plantation house in the transitional Federal-Greek Revival style has a free-standing two-story portico on its front elevation that shelters the first- and second-story porches. Like the Culbreth House, its columns rest on individual brick stacks unattached to the porch's present brick foundation, which replaced an original brick pier arrangement.¹¹ The one-story Richardson House near Jackson in Union County dates to the 1860s and features a porch with posts that stand in front of the balustraded porch.¹²

¹⁰ Virginia Savage McAlester, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, rev. ed. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2013), 283-287.

¹¹ Davyd Foard Hood and Jerry L. Cross, Williams-Powell House National Register Nomination, September 1, 1983, viewed online August 25, 2015 at the North Carolina SHPO website at <http://www.hpo.ncdcr.gov>.

¹² Catherine W. Bishir and Michael T. Southern, *A Guide to the Historic Architecture of Piedmont North Carolina* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2003), 308.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House is shown by a heavy line on the accompanying survey map drawn at a scale of 1"=40'. The parcel numbers for the property are 0281.04-84-4334 and 0281.04-84-4270.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the 1.46-acre parcel historically associated with the Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth House.

FLOOR PLANS

Dr. Neil and Nancy Elizabeth Culbreth Ho
251 Washington Street, Whiteville,
Columbus County, NC
NO SCALE



