

## SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER/GEORGIA REGISTER NOMINATION

Name: Ash Farmhouse

Location: 8603 Old Louisville Road, Newington, Effingham County

Description: The Ash Farmhouse is a two-story, wood frame, Folk Victorian style side hall house with a front facing gable roof. It features a two-story porch on the front façade and a one-story wing along the north and west façades. The front porch features jigsawn brackets, wood columns, and turned balusters making it the most stylistic architectural feature of the building. The house sits on brick piers and walls are clad in wood lap siding. The main gable roof, as well as the one-story wing and porches, are covered with pressed tin shingles. Two brick chimneys rise through the interior of the roof line with no ornamentation. Wood windows and doors are independent and reflect the interior room configuration featuring a side hall plan with two main parlors and secondary spaces in the western wing and rear. Interior architectural features of the Folk Victorian style residence showcase the use of local wood materials in the walls, ceilings, floors, mantelpieces, stair railings, and trim. The house stands as a Victorian-era landmark in a rural area surrounded by farmland. It is currently situated on a 615-acre parcel with three other structures/ruins constructed from c.1900 through c.1960

Acres & Boundary Explanation: 6154 acres. The National Register boundary is comprised of the legal property boundary which contains the majority of the historic land associated with the house.

Period of Significance: 1891

NR Criterion & Area of Significance: Criterion C, Architecture

Statement of Significance: The Ash Farmhouse, constructed in 1891, is significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of Architecture as a unique example of a Folk Victorian style side hallway house in a rural setting. The Ash Farmhouse was built by John H. Ash, II on his family homestead. The building incorporates the side hallway building type more commonly found in densely developed urban areas. Originally from Savannah and having travelled through Guyton, Ash used his knowledge of residential architecture from the city and applied this form to the rural setting using local materials in a contemporary stylistic expression. Belonging to a family of master builders in Savannah, he would have been most familiar with the side hallway type and well equipped to adapt building types to popular stylistic trends in any setting. The one-story wing, more common in late 19<sup>th</sup> century examples of the type, creates additional space along the hall side of the building's interior while retaining the side-hall form on the exterior. Wood was the dominant material used for Folk Victorian style architecture and suited the Ash Farmhouse which was embellished with decorative wood jigsawn cut brackets, ornately turned wooden balusters and newelposts, and large wood columns. The building is an important landmark as one of the best examples of a Folk Victorian style residence in rural Effingham County.

Suggested Level of Significance: Local

Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by property owner Gerald Brinson Ash, Jr. and nomination materials were prepared by Ward Architecture + Preservation

