

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER/GEORGIA REGISTER NOMINATION

Name: Euharlee Elementary School

Location: 120 Gordon Street; Rockmart, Polk County

Description: Euharlee Elementary School is in Northwest Georgia near the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The one-story, wood-frame and brick-vener school building was constructed as a consolidated public school in 1943 and with its 1957 cafeteria kitchen addition forms an overall L-shape. The Colonial Revival-style building has a gabled, telescoping roof with asphalt shingles. Its recessed central entrance is topped by a pediment and trimmed with cast stone. All doors and most of the large multi-light windows have been covered with plywood for protection, the majority of the windows retain their muntins and mullions. Much of the interior fabric remains intact, including plaster walls, blackboards, storage closets, trim, and wood flooring. Transoms top the interior doorways and awning windows are positioned in the corridor walls. Situated diagonally on its original 4.04-acre lot with its front entry facing southwest, the building is surrounded by residential development. At the rear, the grounds served as recreation space and at the front, a smaller, minimally landscaped lawn is overlaid with historic concrete walkways. The building continues to remain the only edifice on its original parcel with its form and materials clearly conveying its design and purpose as school building.

Acreage & Boundary Explanation: 4.04 acres, following the current and historic legal boundary for the property

Period of Significance: 1943-1968

NR Criterion & Areas of Significance: Criterion A, Education and Criterion C, Architecture

Statement of Significance: Euharlee Elementary School is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of education for its association with the education of the white elementary age students of Rockmart as the only publicly funded purpose-built elementary school in the city for white children during the historic period. The addition of the cafeteria and kitchen in 1957 demonstrates the continuum of investment in the education of the students and the importance of the building to the community. The school is also significant under Criterion C in the area of architecture as an important example of a consolidated public-school type as defined in *Public Schools in Georgia, 1868-1971, A Statewide Context*. The building retains the character defining features of the type, including its use of the Colonial Revival style, its letter "L"-shaped plan as well as the presence of administration offices and multiple classrooms flanking a double loaded corridor. The period of significance corresponds with the school's opening in 1943 and ends in 1968, with the racial integration of all Polk County public schools.

Suggested Level of Significance: Local

Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by the Northwest Georgia Housing Authority. Nomination materials were prepared by Ray, Ellis & LaBrie Consulting, LLC.

