

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED NATIONAL REGISTER/GEORGIA REGISTER NOMINATION

1. Name: Harris-Murrow-Trowell House.
2. Location: 473 Old Louisville Road, Oliver, Screven County, Georgia. *USGS Quadrangle: Oliver, GA.*
- 3a. Description: The Harris-Murrow-Trowell House is located in the town of Oliver. Built c.1888-1889, the house is a balloon-frame, T-shaped building with a gabled wing cottage floor plan. The house features a moderately pitched standing seam gable roof with boxed eaves and gable end return, brick ridgeline chimney, clapboard exterior, six-over-six wood windows, brick pier foundation, and partial width hip porch. The porch, which features square, vernacular Doric columns and a simple, vernacular balustrade, appears to be either a historic replacement or the remnant of an original wrap-around porch. Evidence that the windows in the façade gable end were once floor-length, double-hung windows supports this theory. The main entrance to the house features a door surround with three-light sidelights and square vernacular Doric pilasters flanking a heavy paneled door. The interior of the T-shaped house retains much original material including beadboard walls and ceilings, baseboards, crown molding, paneled wood doors, and wood door and window surrounds. An addition in the form of a small, wood side-gable building was attached to the back of the house sometime in the first half of the 20th century. This portion of the house may have been a tenant house. Original beadboard walls and ceilings remain intact in this portion of the house.
- 3b. Dates of Development: c.1888-1889.
- 3c. Acreage: One acre.
- 3d. Boundary Explanation: The boundary includes land historically associated with the house and its historic setting.
- 4a. National Register Criteria: Criterion C.
- 4b. National Register Areas of Significance: Architecture.
- 4c. Statement of Significance: Three years after the village of Oliver was established in 1885, John T. Harris built a house on his lot in Oliver. He sold it the following year to Julia Murrow. An increase in the sale price of the property indicates that the house was built sometime between when Harris purchased the property in 1888 and when he sold it in 1889. Julia Murrow, a widow, lived in the house until her death in 1918. After a series of owners, Ivey Trowell purchased the house in 1927 for use as rental property. Trowell also bought two other homes on Old Louisville Road, including one at 314 Old Louisville Road for her personal use. The attached tenant house likely came from somewhere on the property which she owned.

The Harris-Murrow-Trowell House is significant in the area of architecture as a good example of an 1888-1889 gabled wing cottage type house with an attached tenant house on the rear elevation. According to *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*, gabled wing cottages were built throughout Georgia between 1875 and 1915 on farms and in Georgia's towns and cities. The gabled wing cottage is either T-or L-shaped and usually has a gabled roof. Other than the rear addition, the house retains its historic exterior and interior finishes and materials and has changed little since its construction.
- 4d. Suggested level of Significance: The Harris-Murrow-Trowell House is being nominated at the local level of significance as a good intact example of a late 19th-century gabled wing cottage, which retains its original historic materials and floor plan.
- 4e. National Register Status: The property received certification for the State Property Tax Abatement program from HPD on May 22, 2008.
5. Sponsor: The nomination is sponsored by the property owner and a consultant prepared the nomination materials.