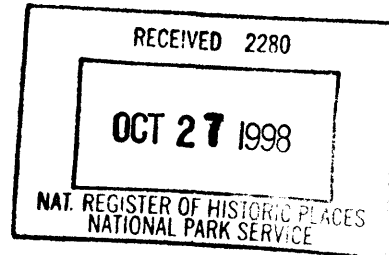


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



1423

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 any 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 Dunn House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 9403 Greenwood Road NA not for publication
city or town Greenwood NA vicinity
state Louisiana code LA county Caddo code 017 zip code 71033

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 forth 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.)

Jonathan Fricker 10/21/98
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO, Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism Date

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

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined eligible for the
National Register
___ See continuation sheet.
- ___ determined not eligible for the
National Register
- ___ removed from the National
Register
- ___ other (explain):

Jonathan Fricker Signature of Keeper Date of Action 12/2/98

Dunn House

Name of property

Caddo Parish, LA

County and State

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 the count.)

| Contributing | | Noncontributing | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | buildings |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | sites |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | structures |
| <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u> </u> | <u>0</u> | <u> </u> | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat. Domestic

Sub. Single Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Cat. Recreation and Culture

Sub. Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Other: log dogtrot

Greek Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete

walls Weatherboard

roof Metal

other _____

Narrative Description

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

Dunn House

Name of property

Caddo Parish, LA

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" next to 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.
X 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" next to all that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
X B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or a 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

Art

Period of Significance

c. 1850 (original log house)

c. 1860 ("improvements")

c. 1880 (decorative paintwork)

Significant Dates

c. 1850, c. 1860, c. 1880

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

NA

- 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:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Dunn House
Name of property

Caddo Parish, LA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than an acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing

1 15 408300 3589750

2 _____

3 _____

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 National Register Staff

organization Division of Historic Preservation date August 1998

street & number P.O. Box 44247 telephone (225) 342-8160

city or town Baton Rouge state LA zip code 70804

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 the SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Greenwood

street & number P. O. Box 195 telephone (318) 938-7261

city or town Greenwood state LA zip code 71033

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 listings. 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 the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 1

The Dunn House is a c. 1850 single story log dogtrot sheathed on the exterior with weatherboards and on the interior with flushboards. It is impossible to determine from the visible architectural evidence if the sheathing and the house's simple Greek Revival woodwork are original or if the house was "updated" a few years after construction. The latter scenario is often the case, and, in this instance, is supported by oral tradition (see historical note). In the late nineteenth century one of the rooms received decorative paintwork and a few other modifications were made. To prevent it from destruction, the house was moved in 1996 from a location on the edge of the rural hamlet of Greenwood to its present site in the heart of the community. Despite the replacement of some of its materials, other alterations and the move, the house retains its National Register eligibility.

The Dunn House has two log rooms with a wide corridor between which was originally open. Deep galleries are on the front and rear. (The latter is a reconstruction.) A wedding announcement indicates that the house was constructed and in place by 1853. It is well crafted with logs fitting fairly tightly together. The house's simple Greek Revival features are found in the parlor and include door and window surrounds with pediment shaped tops and an aedicule style mantel with a decorative *faux marbre* treatment in the entablature. (The latter was discovered recently under layers of paint.) Notably, the house features floor-length (non-slip head) windows in both rooms. Walls and ceilings are sheathed in wide tongue and groove boards (except for one wall of the west room, where sheetrock has been installed). The exterior is sheathed in clapboards.

At some point later on in the nineteenth century the ceiling in the parlor was raised about two feet, as can be determined by a set of now empty beam notches at the lower level in the log walls. It was probably at this time that the parlor received its decorative paint treatment. Discovered after the move when sheetrock was removed, the paintwork has a folk, handcrafted look and should probably be viewed within the context of the Italianate taste. The predominant colors are a medium green (walls) and brown (ceiling), with dark green and a reddish brown used for accents. Tiny flecks of paint on the walls create a stippled effect (possibly intended to resemble granite). A wide entablature (green and then brown as it nears the ceiling) is treated with a draped vine with pink and white flowers, blue tassels and dark green leaves sparingly placed. The ceiling is predominantly brown with darker, reddish brown decorative bands outlining the edges. Each corner is defined by a decorative section featuring a cream background with a floral motif at its center. At the center of the ceiling is a large,

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National Park Service****NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**Section 7 Page 2

similarly styled painted medallion with a cream background and a prominent dark green wreath with flowers. Both the ceiling medallion and corner sections are accented with sinuous reddish brown bands.

Also, at some point in the nineteenth century a staircase was added in the old bedroom and the attic was finished with tongue and groove boards. This created three upstairs rooms. The fact that this attic work was a later renovation is evidenced by empty notches atop the log walls that show where two beams were removed from the ceiling of the bedroom to accommodate the staircase.

Other changes include:

- 1) the replacement of the gallery columns.
- 2) the replacement of the old tin roof with a standing seam metal roof. The roof had been reworked in the bungalow period, as can be seen in the present exposed rafter ends.
- 3) the glazing in of the dogtrot with wide French doors and sidelights.
- 4) the loss of the pilasters on the parlor mantel (suitable substitutes will be added) and the loss of the mantel in the bedroom (plans are underway to produce a copy of the parlor mantel).
- 5) the rebuilding of the chimneys and the resheathing of the present western side elevation. (The wall is covered with sheetrock on the interior.) This now window-less elevation had been added onto, a door had been cut on each side, and serious damage had been caused by a fallen tree.
- 6) the reconstruction of the rear gallery. The original rear gallery had been enclosed and added onto and was severely deteriorated. Volunteers from the Greenwood Historical Foundation built the present gallery based upon the previous evidence of its depth and copied the columns from the front gallery. Also, at this time a platform was built on the rear gallery where the attic staircase is located.
- 7) the use of rusticated concrete blocks as a foundation in the new location.

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CONTINUATION SHEET**Section 7 Page 3 **THE MOVE**

As previously mentioned, in 1996 the house was moved approximately one mile on U. S. Highway 80 (Greenwood Road) from the outskirts of Greenwood to the village center. It remains on the Greenwood Road, but now faces north rather than south. Across the street to the west side is a small one story town hall. Looking north from the front porch one sees a fenced park and early twentieth century residences. Looking to the east one sees two or three small, one-story commercial buildings. In its original location the house was about fifty feet back from the road with more recent buildings and a junk yard within close proximity. So, while today's setting within the small town is not the same as the house's original setting, it should be emphasized that the old setting had changed and was certainly less than bucolic. Very importantly, there is no question that the move was necessary in order to save the house. It was seriously deteriorated and endangered in its former location, and the owner had no interest in it remaining on the property. According to locals, there were rumors that the house would be burned down. The Greenwood Historical Foundation and the Town of Greenwood worked with the owner to secure its donation to the town. Since that time, the house has been moved and restored. It is now open for tours by appointment and on special occasions. As noted previously, the parlor's painted walls and ceiling were discovered when sheetrock was removed.

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The Dunn House is significant in the area of art at the state level because its parlor is one of only a handful of decoratively painted nineteenth century interiors in Louisiana. It is significant at the local level in the area of architecture, both as an example of Caddo Parish's earliest architectural heritage and as one of a limited number of log buildings surviving in the parish.

Decorative paintwork was quite popular in nineteenth century America, especially for parlors and grander rooms. It is not known how many decoratively painted interiors once existed in Louisiana, but surviving examples are quite rare, especially outside New Orleans. Indeed, the historic preservation staff is aware of only seven, which places the Dunn house among a very select group of surviving works of domestic decorative art.

Like most parishes in northern Louisiana, Caddo, created in 1838, was settled by persons of Scots-Irish heritage who brought with them their significant tradition of log construction. Indeed, this was the only American pioneer group to consider a log house the norm for a permanent dwelling. Although no survey exists for the parish, it is certain that very few log structures remain (probably less than a half dozen). The loss of early buildings in Caddo is due largely to successive waves of prosperity which caused the built environment to change dramatically -- most notably, a major oil boom in the early twentieth century which literally changed the face of the parish. The tremendous prosperity and explosive growth of greater Shreveport during this time, historically Louisiana's second largest city, meant the loss of its earlier heritage. And in the countryside, new oil boom communities sprang up seemingly overnight. As a result of the oil boom and other factors, today's Caddo Parish building stock is largely twentieth century. Only a small percentage of buildings pre-date the Colonial Revival and extremely few are antebellum (probably less than fifteen). Against this background, the Dunn House, with its log construction and Greek Revival parlor details, is indeed of immense importance as a rare survivor to represent the parish's earliest architectural heritage.

Historical Note:

The original land patent for the Dunn House was issued to William Littlejohn and assignees on July 3, 1839. In 1840 Littlejohn sold the property to Alfred Flournoy for \$1,000. Dr. Flournoy sold it to David Hooks in 1844, also for \$1,000, with the property description referencing only land. One presumes that Hooks, a North Carolina native,

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CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 8 Page 2
9 1

built the house. The first record of a house existing on the property is a notification of marriage, to be held at the residence of David Hooks on May 28, 1853 (as published in the *Caddo Gazette*). In 1859, David Hooks sold his 800 acres of land to Alonzo Flournoy for \$8,000, and according to family tradition, it is Flournoy who "improved" what was then a log house. The source is his son, James Flournoy, writing in 1931 at an advanced age. He wrote: "People began the use of plank (for houses) about 1850, but very few, as there were no saw mills in those days. My father improved this house; it is a six room hewn log house now, sealed inside, and weather boarded outside." (One presumes that he is referring to the three upstairs rooms, the two rooms downstairs, and what was by then an enclosed dogtrot.)

The house is known locally as the Dunn house, taking its name from John Dunn, who acquired the property in 1881.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Cole, Nita K. "The History of the Dunn House, Greenwood, Louisiana, c.1839-1881." Graduate student research paper based upon primary sources prepared for history class at LSU, Shreveport, December, 1995. Copy in Register file, Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation.

Dunn House

Name of property

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

Caddo Parish, LA

County and State

OMB No. 1024-0018

**United States Department of the Interior
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 10 Page 1

Boundary Description:

The Dunn House occupies a rectangular parcel of land located at the southeast corner of Greenwood Road (Louisiana Hwy. 80) and Nixon Street. The lot is 132 feet deep (along Nixon Street) and 80 feet wide (along Greenwood Road).

Boundary Justification:

Because this is a moved building, there is no historic setting to recognize. The current property lines discretely encompass the nominated resource and hence are being used for the boundaries.