

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Southeastern Holiness Institute/Chason's Hospital

and/or common Donalsonville Hospital

2. Location

street & number 102 Hospital Circle west of North Wiley Avenue at Bresee Street N/A not for publication

city, town Donalsonville N/A vicinity of congressional district Second - Mathis

state Georgia code 013 county Seminole code 253

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: <u>Hospital</u>

4. Owner of Property

name Charlotte Klemph, chairperson of the board
Donalsonville Hospital, Inc.

street & number P.O. Box 677

city, town Donalsonville N/A vicinity of state Georgia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Seminole County Courthouse

city, town Donalsonville state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records None

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

General Description

The Southeastern Holiness Institute/Chason's Hospital, built in 1914, is a long, narrow, three-story brick building with a hip roof. It was designed in the Georgian Revival style. Each facade is symmetrically arranged and incorporates period details. The ground floor, for example, features a central front doorway in a Palladian motif and round-arched windows with contrasting keystones; the second floor features flat-arched windows with contrasting stuccoed trim; and the third floor features window lintels integral with the wide modillioned cornice. The corners of the building are treated with brick quoins, and a brick beltcourse runs between the second and third floors. The most prominent period feature is the two-story front portico with its four monumental Ionic columns. A single chimney is incorporated into the exterior wall at each end of the building. Metal fire escapes have been attached to each end of the building, and a small concrete-block storage shed has been added to the west end of the building. A few window openings have been infilled with brick.

The interior of the building originally consisted of a central lobby and stairway, longitudinal corridors with small rooms on either side, and small lobbies at the ends of the corridors at each floor level. The ground floor has been extensively remodeled and modernized; the upper floors remain relatively intact. Interior finishes are simple: wood floors and plastered walls and ceilings.

The building is constructed of thick load-bearing brickmasonry walls and an interior timber framework of heavy posts and beams. Exterior brick walls are veneered with a hard-finish brick laid in stretcher bond. Interior walls are plastered. The roof is covered with standing-seam sheetmetal.

Attached to the rear (north) of the building is a sprawling, one-story contemporary health-care facility. This modern structure is connected to the rear of the historic building by a low, narrow brick corridor. The addition was constructed in 1979.

The grounds around the building were originally landscaped with trees, shrubbery and lawn. Also located around the building were several houses, although they have long since been destroyed and their exact locations are unknown. Currently, the front (south) and west yards are largely covered by an asphalt parking lot. East and north of the building are sandy soil and scrub grasses and a few large hardwood trees. The surface of the ground is virtually flat.

The property is located in generally open, level land at the northern edge of the city of Donalsonville. Immediately south is a small complex of modern medical

[continued]

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Medicine

Specific dates 1914, 1918 **Builder/Architect** Peter E. Dennis

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Southeastern Holiness Institute/Chason's Hospital is significant in terms of the history of religion, education, philanthropy, medicine, and architecture in Georgia. The property has a dual historic importance: it was originally built in 1914 as a privately endowed religious educational institution, and then in 1918 it was converted into a private regional hospital.

In terms of religion and education, the building is historically significant as the main facility of the Southeastern Holiness Institute (1914-1917), the earlier of two early-twentieth-century schools affiliated with the Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene in the Southeastern United States. Within four years of its founding, however, the school was merged with Trevecca College, the other Southeastern school affiliated with the Nazarene Church, in Nashville, Tennessee. During the time the school was located in Donalsonville, it provided religious-oriented liberal-arts educational opportunities from kindergarten through college levels. Being one of only two Nazarene colleges in the Southeast, it drew students to Donalsonville from the entire region. The Nazarene Church soon found it could not support two educational institutions in the Southeast, however, and after considerable debate the schools were consolidated in Nashville. In this way, the Southeastern Holiness Institute contributed to the success of present-day Trevecca College.

In terms of philanthropy, the building is historically significant for its association with T.J. and Leona Rich Shingler. Leona Rich Singler, a fervent evangelist, helped organize an Independent Holiness Church in Donalsonville in 1901. This church later united with the Holiness Church of Christ, which became part of the Church of the Nazarene. In 1910, members of the Nazarene Church in Donalsonville felt the need for a church school, and Leona's husband, T.J. Shingler, a prominent Donalsonville businessman, donated land and money for the institution. This financial support, coupled with the Shinglers' personal support for the school, led to the establishment of the institution in Donalsonville in 1914. During 1916-1917, the school was known as the "Shingler Holiness University" in honor of its chief benefactors.

In terms of medical history, the building is significant as Chason's Hospital (1918-1939), a private hospital established by local physician Dr. Thomas Chason shortly after the Nazarene College vacated the building and moved to Nashville. Chason's Hospital was the first and, for nearly a quarter of a century, the only major hospital serving extreme southwest Georgia, southeast Alabama, and parts of

[continued]

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property app. 4.25 acres

Quadrangle name Donalsonville West, Ga.-Ala.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References (centered on building)

A	<u>1</u> <u>1</u> <u>6</u>	<u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>2</u> <u>2</u> <u>4</u> <u>0</u>	<u>3</u> <u>4</u> <u>3</u> <u>6</u> <u>9</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
---	--	--	--

D			
---	--	--	--

E			
---	--	--	--

F			
---	--	--	--

G			
---	--	--	--

H			
---	--	--	--

Verbal boundary description and justification

Boundary is described by a heavy black line on the attached "property/sketch" map and is justified in Section 7 of this form.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Richard Clones, Architectural Historian

organization Historic Preservation Section
Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

date December 18, 1980

street & number 270 Washington Street, S.W.

telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta

state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Elizabeth A. Lyon
Elizabeth A. Lyon

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date 4/21/82

For HCERS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>William H. Brastrom</u>	date <u>6-21-82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

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Continuation sheet

Description

Item number 7

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offices and a nursing home. Further south and to the east are twentieth-century, single-family residences. To the north and west lies agricultural land.

Boundaries

The nominated property consists of a nearly square tract of land that constitutes approximately the southern half of the currently owned parcel of land. This tract has always been associated with the historic structure and is believed to encompass at least some of the original landscaped grounds. The northern half of the currently owned property, not included in this nomination, has no apparent historical significance or archaeological potential with regard to the Southeastern Holiness Institute/Chason's Hospital.

Photographs

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in July, 1980 still provide an accurate view of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

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Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number 8

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north Florida. It often provided charitable medical care for financially destitute patients. In an ad hoc way, the hospital served as a regional medical school by training doctors and nurses and giving some of them their first on-the-job experience. In these ways, Chason's Hospital met the medical needs of a part of rural southwest Georgia in the early-twentieth century. With the exception of a temporary closing during World War II, the hospital has remained in operation as a private medical facility up to the present day. A modern addition to the rear of the property in 1979 allowed the hospital to provide up-to-date medical facilities and services while retaining the integrity of the historic structure.

In terms of architectural history, the building is significant as a relatively large and provincially designed Georgian Revival structure. Pertinent period features include red brick with contrasting trim, quoined corners, modillioned cornice, front portico, and overall symmetry. Execution is typical of contractor designed and built structures throughout the rural parts of the state, although the building was designed by Peter E. Dennis, a Macon, Georgia, architect. Locally, this was the largest and most impressive building in town; regionally, it was rivaled in terms of size, style, and quality only by county courthouses, churches, and an occasional city hall. The building is unusual in that it was built according to the precepts of late-nineteenth-century "slow burning" factory construction so that if the Nazarene school had failed to materialize, the building could have been converted into a cotton mill. Recent additions to the rear of the building have not compromised its architectural integrity.

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

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Benson, John T. The Trevecca Story. Nashville: Trevecca Press, 1976.

Dennis, Peter F. Original plans for the Southeastern Holiness Institute building; on file at the office of Dennis and Dennis, architects, Macon, Georgia.

Montgomery, Erick. "National Register Nomination Information Form and Supplemental Drafts," June 5, 1980; on file at the Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Roberts, Marion B. Interviewed by Erick Montgomery, May, 1980.

Shingler Holiness University. 1916-1917 Catalogue.

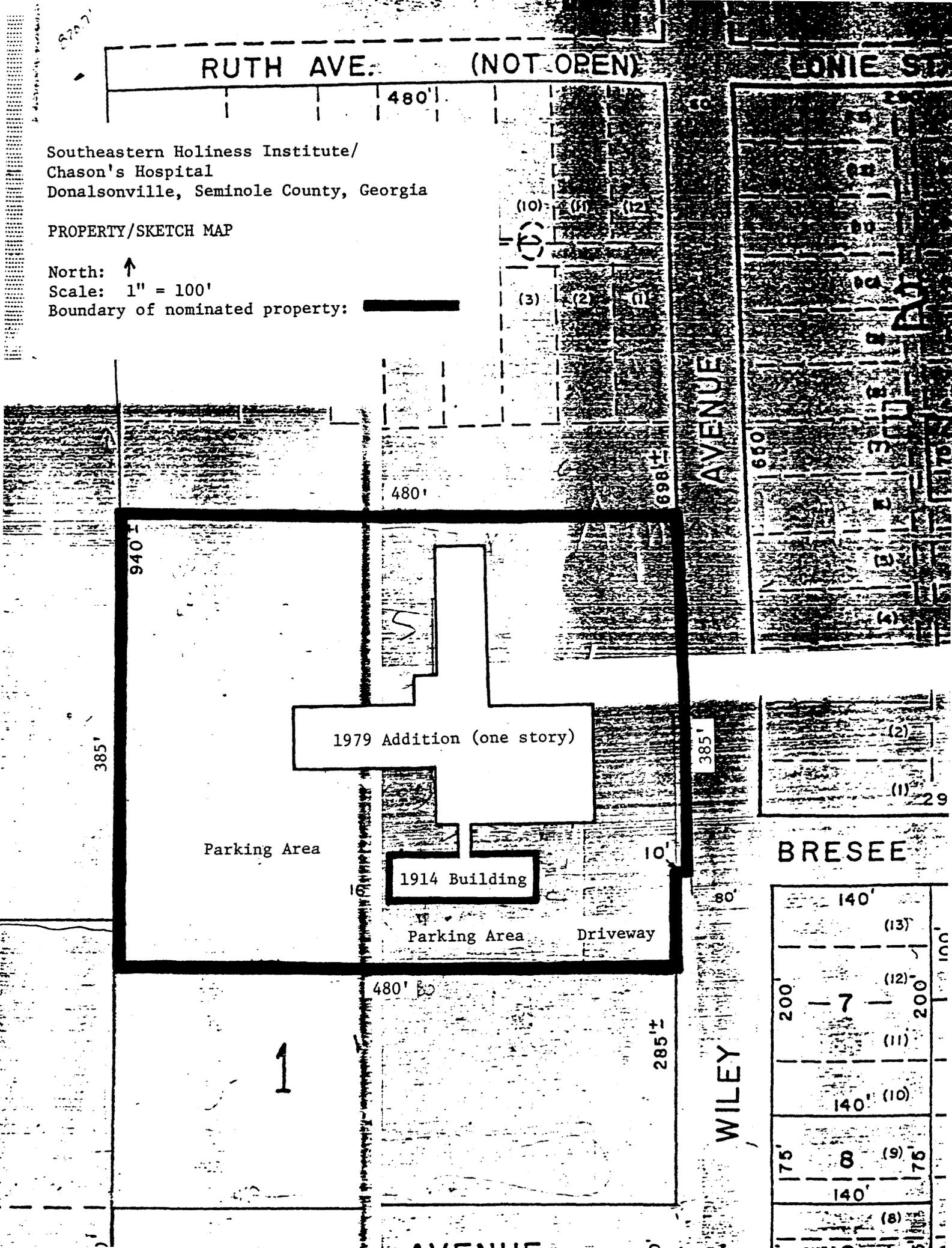
RUTH AVE. (NOT OPEN)

LEONIE ST

Southeastern Holiness Institute/
Chason's Hospital
Donalsonville, Seminole County, Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

North: ↑
Scale: 1" = 100'
Boundary of nominated property: 



480'

60

(10) (11) (12)

(3) (2) (1)

480'

698'±

WILEY AVENUE

690

940

385'

1979 Addition (one story)

385'

Parking Area

1914 Building

(2)

(1)

29

BRESEE

Parking Area

Driveway

80'

140'

(13)

(12)

(11)

140'

(10)

200'

140'

(9)

(8)

75'

75'

285'±

WILEY

1

480'

5'