

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD**

**NRIS Reference Number:** 97001090

**Date Listed:** 9/4/97

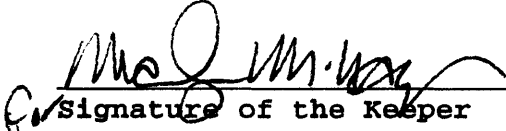
Dawson Historic District  
**Property Name**

Terrell  
**County**

GEORGIA  
**State**

N/A  
**Multiple Name**

-----  
**This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of the Keeper**

9/15/97  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date of Action**

=====  
**Amended Items in Nomination:**

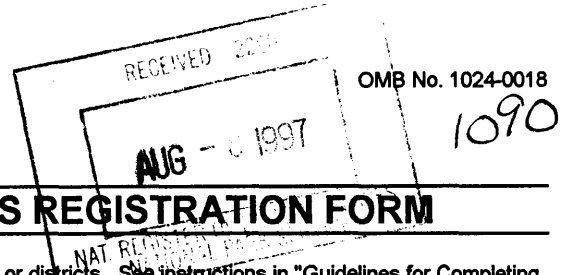
Section No. 3

This nomination is amended to reclassify Cedar Hill Cemetery from a contributing building to a contributing site.

This change was confirmed with the Georgia SHPO.

**DISTRIBUTION:**

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)



# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

## 1. Name of Property

historic name Dawson Historic District  
other names/site number n/a

## 2. Location

street & number Dawson  
city, town Dawson (n/a) vicinity of  
county Terrell code GA 273  
state Georgia code GA zip code 31742

(n/a) not for publication

## 3. Classification

### Ownership of Property:

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-federal

### Category of Property:

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property:	<u>Contributing</u>	<u>Noncontributing</u>
buildings	505	223
sites	0	0
structures	2	0
objects	0	0
total	507	223

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 2

Name of previous listing: Terrell County Courthouse  
Dawson Women's Clubhouse

Name of related multiple property listing: n/a

**4. State/Federal Agency Certification**

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Mark R. Edwards 7-25-97  
Signature of certifying official Date

Mark R. Edwards  
State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property ( ) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency or bureau

**5. National Park Service Certification**

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register MAJ M. W. [Signature] 9/4/97
  - determined eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
  - determined not eligible for the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
  - removed from the National Register \_\_\_\_\_
  - other, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
  - see continuation sheet
- [Signature] Keeper of the National Register Date

---

## 6. Function or Use

---

### Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling	GOVERNMENT: correctional facility
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling	GOVERNMENT: post office
COMMERCE: business	GOVERNMENT: county courthouse
COMMERCE: department store	GOVERNMENT: firehouse
COMMERCE: financial institution	EDUCATION: school
COMMERCE: specialty store	EDUCATION: library
COMMERCE: restaurant	RELIGION: religious facility
COMMERCE: warehouse	FUNERARY: cemetery
SOCIAL: clubhouse	AGRICULTURE: processing
TRANSPORTATION: road-related	AGRICULTURE: storage
TRANSPORTATION: rail-related	HEALTH CARE: medical business
GOVERNMENT: city hall	HEALTH CARE: clinic

### Current Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling	GOVERNMENT: correctional facility
DOMESTIC: multiple dwelling	GOVERNMENT: post office
COMMERCE: business	GOVERNMENT: county courthouse
COMMERCE: department store	GOVERNMENT: firehouse
COMMERCE: financial institution	EDUCATION: school
COMMERCE: specialty store	EDUCATION: library
COMMERCE: restaurant	RELIGION: religious facility
COMMERCE: warehouse	FUNERARY: cemetery
SOCIAL: clubhouse	AGRICULTURE: processing
TRANSPORTATION: road-related	AGRICULTURE: storage
TRANSPORTATION: rail-related	HEALTH CARE: medical business
GOVERNMENT: city hall	HEALTH CARE: clinic

---

## 7. Description

---

### Architectural Classification:

LATE VICTORIAN/Italianate  
LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne  
LATE VICTORIAN/Romanesque  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Colonial Revival  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Classical Revival  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/Tudor Revival  
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman  
OTHER: Folk Victorian  
OTHER: Commercial Vernacular Victorian  
OTHER: 20th Century Commercial  
OTHER: Stripped Classical

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

#### Materials:

**foundation** brick/concrete  
**walls** brick/wood/stone  
**roof** asphalt/slate/metal  
**other** terra cotta/metal/stone

#### Description of present and historic physical appearance:

##### Overview Description

The Dawson Historic District consists of the commercial, residential, industrial, community landmark, and transportation-related buildings in downtown Dawson, constructed from the late 1800s to the mid- 1900s.

The commercial buildings include one-to-four-story attached brick buildings with flat parapet roofs, brick detailing, display windows, and some cast-iron storefronts. Styles reflected in the commercial district are Italianate, Commercial Vernacular Victorian, Neoclassical Revival and 20th-Century Commercial. Notable commercial buildings include the vault-type First State Bank, the four-story Baldwin Block, and the Dawson Pharmacy. There are also several freestanding, one-story commercial buildings within the district including several corner stores and businesses within the African-American neighborhoods.

The residential area is to the south and east of the commercial area and includes a variety of styles and types of houses ranging from the modest to the high style and constructed mostly of wood. House types include the shotgun, saddlebag, central hall, Queen Anne, New South, gabled ell, bungalow, pyramidal, and Georgian cottages and the Georgian house. Styles include Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, Craftsman, and English Vernacular Revival.

Industrial buildings are the 1901 Ice Plant, warehouses, and agriculture-related industry buildings, all located adjacent to the railroad tracks with little or no stylistic details.

There are many community landmark buildings within the district. Some of these include the already-listed in the National Register Terrell County Courthouse and log Women's Clubhouse (1914), and the Terrell County Jail, Carnegie Library (1914), Dawson Fire Station (1905), Carver High School (1936), Dawson High School (1938), Dawson United Methodist Church (1892), St. James C.M.E. Church (1919), First Baptist Church, Mt. Zion Church, United States Post Office (1923), and Dawson Presbyterian Church (1896).

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

The transportation-related buildings include the freight depot, the Colonial Revival-style Dawson Motor Company, the Pure Oil Station with the steep roof of the 1920s standardized English cottage design, and brick livery building with arched openings.

The Cedar Hill Cemetery is located in the southern portion of the district. It was established in the early 1850s and has graves dating from the mid-19th century until the present. The cemetery has a mixture of simple markers to the more elaborate marble mausoleums and statuary. The cemetery appears to have only marked graves of white citizens. The African-American cemetery is outside of the district boundaries.

Landscaping within the district varies from the swept yards and informality of the two African-American neighborhoods to the more formal, larger lawns with mature trees and shrubs associated with the high-style houses.

**NOTE:** The following physical description of Dawson was prepared by Douglas A. Barnes, "Dawson Historic District," Historic Property Information Form, November 1995 (with some editing). On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

The Dawson Historic District encompasses nearly the entire town of Dawson, Georgia. The district is centrally located extending outward in all directions from the courthouse square and includes: the commercial downtown, residential, and historic industrial areas. The Dawson Historic District is located in the center of Terrell County, in the Southwest region of Georgia.

There are several principal streets associated with the district. Main, Lee, Stonewall, and Johnson Streets are the original avenues around which the town developed. They form the center of the Dawson Historic District. These are the major east/west and north/south thoroughfares within the district. Another important route, U.S. Highway 82 extends south to Albany and north to Columbus and marks the western border of the district. There are no major geographic features within the district boundaries. Outside of the district, the landscape quickly becomes level fields and wooded areas.

### Commercial

Beginning at the southern boundary line of the district at the intersection of Main Street and 3rd Avenue, the historic commercial area extends north along Main Street. The majority of the structures in this area are typical late-nineteenth and early twentieth century brick commercial buildings, built between 1890-1915. Most are two stories with varying types of Victorian-style detailing. Among the more common detailing includes: bracketed (Italianate) roof-wall junctions, projected cornices,

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

rounded upper story windows, recessed doorways, large display windows, flat roofs, square roof towers (Italianate or Queen Anne), pediments and lintels, and generally symmetrical rectangular facades.

The historic downtown covers approximately four square blocks and includes parts of Johnson, Lee, Stonewall, and 6th Avenues. These principal streets including Main were the first areas of development near the courthouse (ca.1892) which now stands on the south corner of Lee Street and Stonewall. The Terrell County Courthouse is the most prominent structure downtown. Built in the Gothic Revival style, it has pointed window openings, clock tower, Gothic spires, brick construction. The Baldwin Block which is located on the southwest corner of Lee and Main was completed in 1905, and named after the original landowner of the site of Dawson. Originally built to house a barber shop, hardware store, and furniture store, it now houses City Hall and the Chamber of Commerce. This building features paired Italianate-styled windows and remnants of the original square towers.

The commercial building opposite the Baldwin Block on the southeast corner of Main and Lee was built about the same time (ca.1890s) and shows similar styling. It originally housed doctors, a dentist office, and a funeral parlor. On the northeast corner of 7th and Main stands the fire station. Built around the turner of the century, it features a bell tower, rounded windows, and mid-level cornice. Next to the fire station stands the 1914 Carnegie Library, now the Kinchfoenee Regional Library, which is a Colonial Revival-style brick building with a central entrance portico.

On the north side of Johnson street stands a ca.1920 filling station. This station was originally a Pure Oil Station designed in the English Cottage plan with a steeply pitched roof and canopy which was a standardized design used in stations throughout the country. The First State Bank building located on the west side of Main Street was constructed in 1905. This vault-type bank contains a Georgia marble facade, triangle pediment with cornice, and Neoclassical detailing.

Intersecting streets form square blocks and the land encompassing this part of the district is divided into fairly regularly sized rectangular lots. Building density is very high with most structures sharing common walls. Stonewall Street on the east and U.S. Highway 82 on the west him in the commercial area. There are no major geographic features within this area which is characterized by the building dominated streetscapes. Ornamental trees line most of the downtown area with small flower pots also in evidence.

Most commercial buildings in the area are placed with small amount of setback. Roof lines are generally irregular creating an interesting sense of rhythm. Alternating heights of roof lines combined with symmetrical individual facades, and varying degrees of ornamentation, gives a pleasing effect to the entire commercial area. These commercial structures relate well to each other and the district as a whole in that they exhibit historic development, and fit the surroundings. this

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

part of the district is flanked on most sides by residential development. Historic commercial buildings permit an easy transition into the historic residential areas. For the most part the commercial structures are all similar in style and materials with differing scales and proportions.

#### **Industrial**

Two railroad lines intersect in the northern part of the Dawson Historic District. These lines are known as the Central of Georgia (currently owned by Norfolk Southern) running from Macon, Georgia to Dawson to Eufaula, Alabama, and the Seaboard Railroad (currently owned by CSX) running from Albany, Georgia through Dawson, Georgia to Columbus, Georgia. The majority of the buildings present today near the railway lines are not historic in nature. Located just south of the Central of Georgia line on the west side of Main Street is a ca.1915 freight depot. Unfortunately, the historic passenger train depot was demolished in the early 1950s leaving behind an open space just across the street from the freight depot. Located just south of the intersection of the rail lines on the east corner of 12th street and Orange is the lot where the former Confederate Gun shop was located. Just north of the Central of Georgia line on the east side of Main street lies the lot where the Confederate exile camp was located. Today the Central of Georgia road is still in use, however the Seaboard line was closed in 1995.

The historic industrial area in the northern section of town features irregular lot patterns, with open space between various types of warehouses, mills, towers, and other manufacturing operations. Those structures which are historic exhibit typical functional styles usually associated with industrial area. Most of the structures which could be deemed historic are late nineteenth and early twentieth century warehouses. These warehouses were used to store products of agriculture, especially cotton.

The Central of Georgia and the Seaboard Rail lines intersect in the industrial area creating a natural shipping point. The cold storage warehouse and the cotton warehouse are two major industrial resources which date to the early 1900s.

#### **Community Landmark Buildings**

Located on the southeast corner of Church and Orange Streets, the First Baptist Church was built in 1892. In 1893 the church hosted the Georgia Baptist Convention. In 1946, an annex was built. The Dawson United Methodist Church was built in 1892 at the corner of Stonewall and 7th Avenue. In 1909, a brick annex was built to house the Sunday School classes. The Dawson Presbyterian Church was built in 1896 and is located at the corner of 6th Avenue and Stonewall Street.



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

The Dawson Fire Hall, located on the east side of Main Street, approximately two blocks north of the courthouse, was built in 1905. It features a bell tower, rounded windows, and a mid-level exterior cornice.

The Dawson Woman's Club building is a log building which has housed the Dawson Woman's Club, the Women's Garden Club, and currently serves a meeting place for the Terrell County Restoration Society. It was built in 1913 and placed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 17, 1982.

The historic log clubhouse is exemplary of early twentieth century design interest in rustic and vernacular architecture, commonly associated with park, recreation, and public service facilities of the period. In addition, the clubhouse was built using locally available raw materials including local timber. It sits on a primitive pier foundation composed of locally collected fieldstone.

The Carnegie Library building which currently houses the Kinchafoonee Regional library was constructed in 1914 and became the responsibility of the City of Dawson in 1924. In 1950 the Dawson Library became the Kinchafoonee Regional Library system taking the name of the river which runs through several of the member counties. An annex to the original Carnegie Library was completed in 1959 to house more books. Another modernization was completed in 1977 making the main entrance on ground level.

The United States Post Office was constructed in 1923 as a Colonial Revival-style building with a symmetrical facade, pedimented entrance with engaged fluted columns, simple cornice and flat roof. Federal architect James A. Wetmore was the acting supervising architect and J. M. Lundberg was the contractor.

### **Residential**

Directly adjacent and east of the industrial area lies the first section of historic residential properties and is one of two African-American neighborhoods within the district. Herein lies a variety of folk housing types originally occupied by the mill workers who ran the manufacturing operations in Dawson. Developed between 1890 and 1925, the mill village contained all the necessities needed by workers and their families. Grocery and general merchandise stores were built to supply the mill workers. The majority of the housing was owned by the businessmen controlling the manufacturing operations. In this case the Dawson Variety Works, Dawson Compress and Storage, and the Dawson Cotton Seed Oil and Fertilizer Company were the largest employers.

The houses and yards appear to be suffering from neglect due to their status as rental property. The natural terrain is flat with no prominent geographic features or landmarks. Generally the land is

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

subdivided into small, equal lots along grid street patterns. The main streets in this area are Thirteenth, Twelfth, Ash, Center, and Flint.

The buildings are usually placed close together with high density development. Repetitious building types give the area a sense of continuity, signifying the original usage as worker housing.

There are many recurring building types of traditional folk styling often giving the appearance of row housing. The gable-front, shotgun, and pyramidal cottage types are found in this part of the district. These are one-room wide single-family dwellings. Saddlebag-type houses and front-gabled bungalows are also prevalent. The houses in this area are generally wood-frame construction with tin roofs and front porches. The landscaping is informal with some swept yards.

The area east of the commercial district and south of the industrial area features the larger and more stylistic residential and church-related buildings. Within this area are numerous examples of the Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, Craftsman, and English Vernacular Revival styles. This area has wide tree-lined streets and more formal landscaping. The period of major development between 1890-1930 in Dawson is witnessed by the high majority of houses built during this period. Most of the residences in this area were occupied by local doctors, lawyers, land owners, factory owners, bankers, and prominent businessmen.

Johnson, Lee, Sixth, Seventh, and Church Streets are the major east/west residential thoroughfares, while Stonewall, Orange, and Nelson intersect these streets forming the north/south thoroughfares. The natural terrain is flat with a variety of large deciduous and evergreen trees.

Streets generally form a grid pattern with irregularly subdivided land lots. Many lots are large with houses set back a distance from the street. Ornamental shrubs and trees, local and exotic flower varieties dominate the landscaping. Many of the large residences have back yards containing original outbuildings used for storage or servant's quarters (outbuildings were counted in the contributing and noncontributing resource counts).

A street-by-street analysis is the easiest way to show the different styles and where they are located within the district. On South Stonewall Street is the Mercer-Norton House (ca.1897) which is a Neoclassical Revival-style house featuring a full-height entry porch with Ionic columns, pedimented gable, rounded bay window, English stained-glass windows, and interior features such as 12 fireplaces, Mahogany woodwork, and inlaid flooring.

Just north of the Mercer-Norton House is the Davidson-Bowman-Pigg House (ca.1905) which is another example of Neoclassical Revival architecture featuring a roofline balustrade, scamozzi capitals, and full-facade porch. Also on Stonewall Street is the McDowall-Graham-Shumate House

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

(ca.1907), this house features Corinthian columns, full-height porch, and wrap-around side porch. Other Neoclassical Revival-style structures are the Wooten-Lee-Giovingo House (ca.1890s) on Church Street and the Marlin-Bennett House (ca.1910) on Lee Street.

The dominate architectural style in this area of the district is the Queen Anne Style. These houses exhibit a variety of differing features including: porches, towers, spindle work, cross gables, complex, irregular, and steeply pitched roofs and often elaborate ornamentation. The Laing-Jennings-O'Kelley House (ca.1904) on Church Street has dual front gables, nearly symmetrical facade, and little ornamentation. Located on Church Street, Baldwin-Dozier House (ca.1890s) has ornate mill and spindlework. All of the mill work on the house was manufactured at the Dawson Variety Works. At 359 Church Street, the Dozier-Flowers-Byrd House (ca.1880s) features cross gables, a central tower, and wrap-around porch. A variety of textures and shapes dominate the Paschal-Rakel (ca.1890s) house on Church Street which also has a prominent front tower, cross gables, and spindle work. Directly across the street is another Queen Anne-style house dating from the 1890s. In addition to the Queen Anne style houses, there are examples of Folk Victorian-style houses within the district which feature elaborate mill work on more simple house types. On Lee Street there is an excellent example of a Georgian Cottage with Folk Victorian detailing on the porch which includes turned posts and spindlework.

The Griggs-Duskin House on Church Street features classical elements such as a one-story wrap-around front porch with Doric columns and roof balustrade. This house is just one of many houses within the district which have classically influenced features but cannot be identified with any particular style.

The classical and Victorian styles dominated the earlier houses built within the district; however, beginning in the 1910s and continuing through the 1930s, the Craftsman and English Vernacular Revival styles became popular with the Colonial Revival style remaining popular. Most of the Craftsman-style houses were built in the 1910s and 1920s as more modest houses than those associated with the Queen Anne or Neoclassical Revival styles. The Craftsman-style houses, mostly bungalows, were built on the edges of the earlier development side by side and on open lots between earlier houses. Most of the Craftsman bungalows have common features such as low-pitched roofs, exposed roof rafters, false beams, and short columned porches. All four types of bungalows exist within the district: front gable, side gable, hipped, and cross gabled.

The English Vernacular Revival, also referred to as Tudor, style is well represented in the district. Like the Craftsman-style, the English Vernacular Revival style is seen on the edges of the Victorian-era development as well as scattered in between. Built in the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s, the Tudor style is most commonly seen in more modest homes. Dominant variants and details included parapeted or overlapping gables, patterned brick work, tall prominent chimneys, half timbering, and

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 7--Description

---

Renaissance detailing. There are three good examples of the English Vernacular Revival style on Johnson Street. Each features a prominent chimney with detailing, steeply pitched front gables, and brick construction.

The last section of the district is a working class residential neighborhoods with a majority of African American residents. This southernmost area of the district has similar house styles and types and landscaping to the northern mill area. Rows of shotgun houses, saddlebags, pyramidal cottages, and front gabled bungalows are prevalent. There is a third African-American neighborhood in Dawson; however, unfortunately, U.S. Highway 82 (Vine Street) separates this western most area of Dawson from the historic district, therefore, this African American community is outside the boundaries of the district.

### Cemetery

The Cedar Hill Cemetery is located is the southern portion of the district. It was established in the early 1850s and has graves dating from the mid-19th century until the present. The cemetery has a mixture of simple markers to the more elaborate marble mausoleums and statuary.

---

## 8. Statement of Significance

---

**Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:**

nationally       statewide       locally

**Applicable National Register Criteria:**

A       B       C       D

**Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):**  N/A

A    B    C    D    E    F    G

**Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):**

Architecture	Commerce
Agriculture	Industry
Transportation	Community Planning and Development
Politics and Government	Ethnic Heritage: Black

**Period of Significance:**

1857-1947

**Significant Dates:**

1857 - Incorporation of Dawson  
1858 - Coming of the Southwestern Railroad  
ca.1890 - Coming of the Columbus Southern Railroad

**Significant Person(s):**

n/a

**Cultural Affiliation:**

n/a

**Architect(s)/Builder(s):**

W.H. Parkins of Atlanta and Dawson, George Upshaw, Bruce and Morgan architects of Atlanta, and W.H. Turner are architects who worked within the district.

D. Reynolds, William P. Newberry, Andrew Leveritt, William F. Stephen, J.B. Sample, Dawson Variety Works, and R.J. Edgerly are builders who worked within the district.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

#### **Narrative statement of significance (areas of significance)**

The Dawson Historic District consists of the intact and contiguous historic development of the city of Dawson, which includes most of the Dawson. The district is significant in architecture, commerce, agriculture, industry, transportation, community development and planning, politics and government and ethnic heritage: black. Incorporated in 1857 after the formation of Terrell County from Randolph and Lee Counties in 1856, Dawson began to develop with the 1858 coming of the Southwestern Railroad which was purchased by the Central of Georgia Railroad in 1869. The Seaboard Railroad, formerly the Columbus Southern, arrived in ca.1890. The coming of the railroads allowed Dawson to become the center of agricultural and industrial activity in the area. During the late-19th and early 20th centuries, Dawson depended on cotton and its by-products and later, after the arrival of the boll weevil, crop diversification, peanuts and their manufacturing, as well as grains, vegetables, and timber, became the mainstay. It was during the early years of the 20th century that Dawson experienced its greatest growth.

The Dawson Historic District is significant in architecture for its large variety of good and intact examples of commercial, residential, industrial, community landmark, and transportation-related buildings, as well as for the prominent Georgia architects which designed many of the residential and community landmark buildings in the district, such as W.H. Parkins of Atlanta and Dawson who designed the Terrell County Courthouse. Such an excellent, intact, and large collection of architecture is unparalleled in South Georgia.

The district is significant in architecture for its good, intact examples of community landmark and commercial buildings. Community landmark buildings include the institutional, religious, and educational buildings in a community. Usually freestanding, these buildings, when built, were the most elaborate and modern in the town and reflected the architectural trends of the period, such as Romanesque Revival, Colonial Revival, and Gothic Revival. As centerpieces for public gatherings, they provide a sense of place and cohesiveness for the citizens and symbolize the permanence, stability, and strength of a community. These buildings are classified by their function and reflect the development of Dawson into a well-established, small Georgia town.

The Dawson Historic District is also significant in architecture for its good examples of late-19th- to early 20th-century, residential styles, including Italianate, Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, Italian Renaissance Revival, Craftsman, English Vernacular Revival (Tudor Revival) and Minimal Traditional and for its good examples of a variety of house types including the gabled-ell cottage and house, saddlebag, shotgun, New South Cottage, Georgian Cottage, pyramidal cottage, Queen Anne Cottage, bungalow, central-hall cottage and Georgian House. All of the above have been identified as important Georgia styles and types in Georgia's Living Places: Historical Houses in their Landscaped Setting.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

Dawson has an excellent collection of Late Victorian residential architecture. The turn-of-the-century houses in the district reflect the Italianate, Queen Anne, and Folk Victorian styles that were fashionable during the second half of the 19th century. Brackets, turned-balusters, bargeboard, and asymmetrical massing are common features of these styles. Balloon framing and other technological advances of the 19th century made the construction of these houses possible and popular.

The Dawson Historic District demonstrates the continued popularity of classically inspired architecture in Georgia. Throughout the district and spanning the historic period, there are many houses which are Neoclassical Revival style, Colonial Revival style, or just have a classical influence. These houses, both grand and modest, have classical detailing such as symmetrical facades, columns, pilasters, and pedimented porticos.

Widespread throughout Georgia from 1900 to the 1930s, the bungalow is the common house type within the district. The majority of these bungalows are built in the Craftsman style with low-pitched roofs, overhanging eaves, exposed rafters, and an emphasis on the horizontal. The four types of bungalows identified in Georgia's Living Places: Historical Houses in their Landscaped Setting are present in the district--the front-gable, side-gable, cross-gable, and hipped-roof forms.

The district is also significant architecture for its concentration of an important commercial historic building type--the commercial row building--characteristic of late 19th- and early 20th-century commercial development in Georgia and across the nation. These buildings are brick, one- to four-story buildings, share party walls, and have uniform setback. The non-freestanding buildings that line Main Street are good examples of commercial row buildings.

The district is also significant for its representation of important historical commercial architectural styles including Italianate, Commercial Vernacular Victorian, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, Stripped Classical, and the 20th-Century Commercial style. Constructed from the turn-of-the-century to the 1940s, these buildings and their architectural influences are typical of those found in small towns in the late-19th and early 20th centuries.

The Dawson Historic District provides a good illustration of how architectural influences developed from the late 1800s to the mid-1900s. Reflecting the late Victorian influence, the turn-of-the-century buildings have decorative brick corbeling and stone arched lintels or window moldings. With their columns, pilasters, keystones, and symmetrical facade, the buildings built in the early 1900s reflect the classical influences of the Neoclassical Revival and Colonial Revival style.

The later Stripped Classical style buildings, with their brick suggestion of pilasters and their simple cornices, have understated classical detailing underlying an otherwise unadorned building. These buildings represent a transition between classical influenced architecture with pediments and pilasters and modern architecture which is characterized by plain wall surfaces and no stylistic

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

detailing. The even more modest 20th-Century Commercial style buildings have little or no detailing, a shoebox shape, and one- to two-stories. Adjacent to the railroad tracks, the warehouses with no stylistic influences represent functional architecture and were built for utilitarian purposes.

The First State Bank building is an excellent example of a vault type building as described by Richard Longstreth in The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture. The vault building which emphasized massiveness and enclosure was most often used for banks. It is usually a two- to three-story, large, rectangular building with a tall and comparatively narrow opening on the front facade.

The Dawson Historic District is also significant in the area of commerce. Dawson has always served as the commercial hub of the county. Its function was that of a service center for the surrounding community. Once the railroad reached Dawson, the town's area of influence grew significantly. By the first years of the 20th century, Dawson was a thriving commercial center of regional importance. The development of the cotton, peanut, and lumber industries during this period kept the town prospering.

As the county seat of Terrell County, Dawson provided a variety of retail, professional, banking, freight, and warehousing services to the area. This activity is represented by the remaining historic commercial structures in the district. The extant stores, specialty shop and office buildings, bank, gas stations, warehouses, pharmacy, and professional offices all symbolize the commercial development that Dawson experienced subsequent to the coming of the railroad. Most of the historic downtown buildings date from Dawson's boom period of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The commercial district is largely intact and still conveys a sense of Dawson's importance as a historic commercial center. The corner stores and businesses within the residential areas also represent the commercial significance of the district.

Dawson's commercial growth and the development of Dawson can be attributed to the presence of the railroad. Dawson became the agricultural shipping, packaging, and distribution center of the region. The warehouses adjacent to the tracts symbolize the railroads impact on Dawson's economy.

The district is significant in agriculture and industry because of Dawson being the center of harvesting, processing, and storage of agricultural products for the area. Representing the agricultural and industrial significance of the district are the warehouses, railroad track, industrial area, freight depot, and processing plants. All of which are still a thriving part of the region's economy. The Dawson Historic District has played an important role in agriculture. The City of Dawson was founded as an agricultural settlement. From its founding until the present, agricultural production has been the mainstay of the local economy. Significant innovations have been made in agricultural technology by citizens of Dawson. In 1886, George Geise invented a new form of stock



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

feed using cotton seed hulls and cotton seed meal. In 1919, H.E. Suggs invented the peanut stoner to remove rocks and other debris from the harvested peanuts.

Historically, the district is significant in the area of agriculture because Dawson served as an agricultural hub for the region. Agriculture was crucial to the development of the city and to the region's economic structure. Agricultural products from the outlying countryside including cotton, vegetables, grains, lumber, and later peanuts, were brought to Dawson for storage, processing, and shipping. From Dawson, the raw materials of agricultural production, such as compressed cotton, made their way to Georgia's distribution points and eventually to national and international markets. Cotton, vegetables, grains, lumber, and peanuts have all historically been part of the regional agricultural production.

In terms of industry, Dawson has produced many forms of manufactured goods throughout its existence. Perhaps the most important were the manufacturing operations related to agricultural production. By-products of agriculture were and continue to be manufactured in the industrial section of the district. Cotton seed oil, compressed cotton, livestock feed, fertilizer, peanut butter, and peanut oil all have been and are important manufactured products. In addition to agricultural manufacturing, forestry has played a major role in the city's history. Wood products were manufactured at saw mills as building materials, window frames, doors, and trim work found on many of Dawson's buildings. Other manufacturing operations included machine shops producing farm implements, cotton gins, and other metal products.

The district is significant in community planning and development and transportation due to the influence of the railroad in the founding and development of Dawson and the intact grid plan of the streets with the railroad tracks coming through the north side of town. The district is also significant in transportation due to the extant transportation-related resources such as the freight depot, railroad tracks, livery, automobile dealership, and gasoline station which represent the progression from horse, to train, to automobile.

In terms of politics and government, the district is significant for the courthouse, post office, Fire Hall, the FEAPW Dawson High School and the WPA Carver School representing both the local and federal governments influence on the built environment in Dawson.

Dawson has been the center for county governmental activity since 1857 when Dawson became the county seat of Terrell County. In Georgia and throughout the South, county government has traditionally been the strongest form of local government. The present courthouse is the second courthouse in Terrell County's history and the longest-used one since it was built in 1892. The city government is represented by the Dawson Fire Hall constructed in 1905.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

The schools represent the federal government's efforts to provide employment and assist communities during the Depression as a part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's economic stimulus programs and a major Depression-era public works project for Dawson. The two Federal programs which funded the construction of the schools are discussed below:

The Federal Emergency Administration of Public Works (FEAPW), commonly referred to as the Public Works Administration (PWA), was established June 16, 1933 under Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes. The purpose of the FEAPW was to disburse money to both federal and non-federal agencies for construction of projects for the public's benefit. These projects included public buildings and roads. State and local governments applied for funds of up to forty-five percent of the project's cost and for loans of up to seventy percent of the cost. Federal agencies could get up to one-hundred percent funding for a project. FEAPW's name was officially changed in 1939 to the Public Works Administration (PWA). It functioned under FEAPW or PWA until 1943 when it became a part of the Federal Works Agency (FWA), which lasted until 1949.

WPA funds built the 1936 Carver School which served the African-American Community. The Works Progress Administration (WPA) began February 15, 1934 as the Civil Works Emergency Relief Act and then became the WPA in 1935. After July 1, 1939 it became the Works Projects Administration and then it was transferred to the Federal Works Agency (FWA) and lasted there until 1942. This program was by far the most well-known and controversial. It gave work to almost eight million people including construction workers, architects, artists, and writers. The WPA spent over eleven million dollars and completed 250,000 projects. Seventy-five percent of its projects were construction and 40,000 buildings were built. The projects were sponsored by local, state, or federal agencies who contributed ten to thirty percent of the cost of the project. The WPA was criticized as a waste of taxpayers' money; however, others defended the program because it provided people with income which stimulated the economy, and gave people a sense of pride and hope.

The Dawson Historic District is significant in terms of ethnic heritage: black for the two African-American neighborhoods included within the boundaries. These neighborhoods reflect a distinctly different development pattern than the larger white residential neighborhood. On the outskirts of the district, the houses are closer together with smaller lots. The landscaping is informal with some swept yards. The house types (shotgun, central hall, pyramidal, and saddlebag) within these two neighborhoods are commonly associated with African-American communities throughout Georgia. These neighborhoods and their landscapes and housing stock fit the patterns of development as described in Carole Merritt's Historic Black Resources: A Handbook For the Identification, Documentation, and Evaluation of Historic African-American Properties in Georgia. Also similar to other African-American neighborhoods, such as the Bethlehem Historic District in Augusta, the northern district is adjacent to the railroad tracks and the industrial area where many of the black residents would have worked. Within the area in the southern part of the district, Carver High

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

School, St. James C.M.E. Church, and small businesses are located to serve the needs of the surrounding community.

#### **National Register Criteria**

The Dawson Historic District is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A for its significance in the agricultural, commercial, industrial, developmental, governmental, and transportation history of Dawson and Terrell County. The district is significant under Criterion C for its variety of good and intact examples of architectural styles and types of commercial, residential, transportation-related, and community landmark buildings.

#### **Criteria Considerations (if applicable)**

n/a

#### **Period of significance (justification)**

Dawson was incorporated in 1857 following the creation of Terrell County and 1947 represents the end of the historic period. No more specific date demonstrates the end of the historic period and the historical significance of the district and the physical development continue through the 1940s; therefore, following the guidelines of *National Register Bulletin 16A*, the fifty-year cutoff date of 1947 was chosen as the end of the period of significance.

#### **Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)**

The contributing resources within the Dawson Historic District maintain their historic integrity and were built within the period of significance. The two contributing structures are the Central of Georgia and the Seaboard Railroad tracks. The noncontributing resources have either been altered and have lost their historic integrity or were constructed outside the period of significance. Within the two African-American neighborhoods in the Dawson Historic District, there is a higher majority of noncontributing buildings than found in the rest of the district. A large majority of these noncontributing buildings are just outside the period of significance, being built from 1948 to ca. 1951 in response to a shortage in housing common to many cities in Georgia during the post-World War II years. However, these buildings, although nonhistoric, conform to the general setback, landscaping, and massing and form of the surrounding historic houses.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

#### Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following history of Dawson was prepared by Douglas A. Barnes, "Dawson Historic District," Historic Property Information Form, November 1995 (with some editing). On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

#### Dawson's Early Beginnings

Terrell County, and subsequently the town of Dawson, was created from Randolph and Lee counties by an Act of the Georgia Legislature in 1856. This county located in the coastal plain/plantation belt region of Southwest Georgia is named after Dr. William Terrell who was a prominent statesman and Georgia legislator. Terrell was also known to have been a keen supporter of Georgia agriculture, establishing the chair of agriculture at the University of Georgia. The county which bears Terrell's name has proved to be an agricultural center from the day it was established until the present.

On August 11, 1856, shortly after the formation of Terrell County, a 100 acre parcel of land located within the geographic center for the new county was deeded to Moses Haywood Baldwin, a pioneer to the area. Baldwin began the process of establishing a town in the county, by allowing the construction of a two-story, wooden-frame, courthouse. The land owned by Baldwin, surrounding the courthouse, became known as the town of Dawson. Dawson is named after William Crosby Dawson, a native of Georgia: lawyer, soldier, and statesman who died earlier in 1856. Town lots were advertised for sale in the *Sumter Republican* newspaper from Americus, and the *Columbus Times* and *Sentinel* newspapers from Columbus (Raines, p.11).

The town of Dawson developed as a pioneer farm community, around the courthouse along four principal streets. These four streets bear the present names of Main, Stonewall, Lee, and Johnson. In the same year, Baldwin built the first residence in Dawson. The structure no longer stand, but according to an artist's drawing, it was probably an example of a one-story, Greek Revival-style dwelling. On October 7, 1858, a guard house on the corner of what is now Orange and Sixth Avenues was constructed.

Between 1856-1871, the town of Dawson developed slowly as a transportation, agriculture, and supply center for Terrell County. Initially, Dawson was a stage coach crossroads with at least six stage routes coming through town. The various stage routes which extended through Dawson provided mail service, and early forms of public transportation. Most routes followed Creek Indian paths directly to Dawson making the town a natural center for Terrell County transportation.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

Agricultural products, most notably cotton, dominated the economy of Terrell County. Most of the agricultural products grown on the plantations and predominately on the small farms in the rich land of the county were gathered for shipment in Dawson after the arrival of the railroad. From storage in Dawson, the products would eventually find their way to state, national and international raw material markets. This early period also marked the development of Dawson's business district. In 1856, Dr. C.A. Cheatham opened the first general mercantile enterprise in the vicinity of present-day commercial downtown.

Crucial to the development of Dawson was the extension of the Central of Georgia railway line from Macon. On December 22, 1857 with authorization from the Georgia General Assembly, members of the Inferior Court of Terrell County issued bonds for the purpose of financing a railway project. In addition, land lots were also put up for sale and advertised in the *Sumter Republican*, *The Southwestern News*, and *Macon Telegraph* newspapers. City officials in Dawson meant to attract settlers into the area in order to improve economic conditions and help finance the railroad (Raines, p.101).

On July 17, 1858, the rail line was open to traffic from Macon to Dawson and on to Eufaula, Alabama. This rail line, located approximately half a mile north of the courthouse, exhibited a significant advancement in the development of Dawson turning the town into a natural center of commerce.

Notable advancements in the building materials and technology closely followed the railroad into Dawson. Like other towns around the Eastern part of the country at this time, the railroad meant increasing availability of sawmill lumber, and new balloon or braced framing building techniques replaced traditional folk construction (McAlester and McAlester, p.89). Many for the earliest houses in Dawson were built following traditional Folk House patterns, but using new materials and techniques.

Lighter frame construction using sawmill lumber meant a decline in the use of traditional heavy hewn lumber houses. Most of the styled houses present in Dawson were not constructed until much later in the town's developmental history. As a railway junction, Dawson developed its own sawmill operation and lumberyard to supply new construction materials and mill work.

During the early developmental period from 1856 until the end of the Civil War, many of the necessities needed for everyday life continued to be produced on the larger plantations of the county. Despite this, several forms of industry and business developed in Dawson associated with shipment, storage, and manufacturing of the region's agricultural products. All of the structures built in Dawson during this period were of wooden frame construction. There is no evidence of any brick structures in town until after 1868. Examples of early businesses are Uriah Powell's chair factory (1857), W.W. Lee's Tanyard, which would supply Confederate armies with leather shoes, several

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

cabinet makers, steam and saw mills, grist mills, and a wheelwright shop (Raines, p.186). Generally speaking, the industry in Dawson was located in the northern section of the developing town near the rail line. A few places of business prospered near the courthouse square, in the middle of town featuring general merchandisers.

Private business and industrial growth in Dawson before the Civil War, tapered off considerably during the War years, 1861-1865. Coastal blockades caused a scarcity of salt and other necessities, heavy taxes were levied on citizens, and cotton production was curtailed in order to produce grains to feed Confederate armies. Most of the men who would have started businesses joined the Confederate Army. Very few new structures were built, and toward the end for the war, Dawson housed a refugee camp comprised of North Georgians fleeing the wrath of the Union Armies.

With the exception of manufacturing operations pertinent to supply of the Confederate Army, no new business ventures opened in Dawson until after the war. Three notable manufacturing operations appeared in or near Dawson during the war to supply Confederate ordinance. Evans Potash Mill (1861-1862) produced gun powder, Whaley Grist Mill (1861-1863) produced flour from local grains, and the Confederate Gun Shop established on March 1, 1864, repaired and manufactured firearms (Raines, p.157).

The Confederate Gun Shop operated by Dickson, Nelson, and Company was moved to Dawson in 1864, in order to escape advancing Federal troops, from its previous locations in Andersonville and Rome. The shop which was located on North Orange Street is memorialized on the grounds of the Terrell County Courthouse. None of the structures listed above remain today, and in most cases new buildings have been placed on the old sites. During the war and shortly thereafter, Terrell County, the town of Dawson, and most of the South faced hardship due to the restructuring of the economy.

In Dawson, the period of early Reconstruction following the Civil War, showed marked, steady, improvement, and a slightly improved business outlook after 1869. On the site of the Confederate Gun Shop's armory, the Dawson Manufacturing Company opened for business in 1866. This company manufactured railroad cars, machinery, agricultural implements, sugar mills, corn shellers, mill fixtures, wheat thrashers, and cotton presses. Dawson Manufacturing Company would continue to expand and operate for many years producing much of the wooden trim work for interior and exterior detailing on Dawson residences, seen most exuberantly in the Queen Anne-style houses built just before the turn of the century.

In 1866, Dawson's first newspaper, *The Dawson Journal*, began publishing. In 1868, W.W. Lee erected the first brick building in Dawson, on the west side of Main Street, housing a carriage works.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

Also in 1868, B.H. Hood opened a cypress barrel factory, and A.J. Baldwin opened a general mercantile operation on Main Street (Raines, pp.353-359).

After 1868, the slow process of rural to urban migration began to take place in Terrell County. In Terrell County, like most areas of the state during Reconstruction, towns started becoming the center of politics, government, business, religion, transportation, and housing. Large land owners began conducting their business from town rather than the farm. Over the next thirty years, Dawson would develop into an economically viable center of commerce, while significantly increasing the town population, and the development of institutions accompanying the shift from a rural to urban society.

#### **Center of Government, Business, and Transportation**

The shift from rural to urban society can best be described as a slow process fostered by increased manufacturing presence, more opportunity for service oriented professions, and a shifting focus of wealthy land owners away from the plantation and into town. Often, successful planters supplemented their agricultural incomes with general stores, cotton gins, law offices, and other enterprises. Successful town merchants and businessmen also acquired plantations (Bartley, p.103).

Between 1871-1886, large land owners who formerly focused all attention on raising staple crops on the plantation began to diversify their interests. The new economic system based upon staple crop agriculture harvested by tenant farmers meant the plantation farm needed less overall supervision. Some plantation owners moved their families into town where they became small business professionals supplementing their agricultural income. They provided services to other townsmen and other citizens of the county. Townsmen built businesses around a central location, usually near the courthouse, while new manufacturing operations were constructed farther from the center of town. Nice residences, along wide avenues and well-landscaped yards, also blossomed to house the influx of people from the outlying county.

Dawson developed similarly to many small Georgia towns of the period especially becoming the county seat of Terrell County. Most business was built around, and to the west, of the Courthouse Square on four principal streets. The residential area spread north and east of the courthouse. The industrial and manufacturing center developed north of town near the railroad tracks which provided easy access to northern markets. From here the agricultural products of the county were gathered, processed, and shipped to the new transportation hub in Atlanta. Eventually the regions' agricultural products would find their way from Atlanta into northern sections of the country where they became manufactured products for sale. Other manufactured and perishable goods arrived in Dawson from the north via the railway. These goods headed to general store shelves, and eventually to consumers throughout the country.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

Since it was the county seat, Dawson became the center of county law, government, and political activity. Terrell County courts constantly brought citizens from the rural areas to do business. County government was housed in Dawson, providing the center of political activity. The county planter-merchant-banker-lawyer-doctor elite was the fundamental locus of political authority in Georgia at this time. Population as well as the political center of gravity changed from the countryside to the county seat between 1870 and 1890, and remains there today (Bartley, p.105).

Dawson served as an intermediary between the regions; plantation agriculture, and northern enterprise which utilized the products of Terrell County farms. The town provided one of many links to the economy of Georgia which saw relative advances in manufacturing, but remained steeped in the cotton producing agricultural system of the old South.

Industrialization in Dawson focused on processing the county's output of agriculture. Agricultural production remained high, while plantation labor costs remained very low. Thus the economic foundation was set for a period of growth in Dawson resulting in construction of most of the structures, both commercial and residential, which still appear today.

Dawson's central business district which developed along Lee, Main, Stonewall, and Johnson streets, flanking the courthouse, exhibited slight increases in growth between 1871-1886. An economic depression in the 1870s stunted growth which picked up again in the 1880s. A scattering of wooden frame structures gave way to more dense development during this period. Since wooden frame structures dominated this district, and building density increased, the commercial center of town became susceptible to fire damage.

Between 1871 and 1886 several fires destroyed entire blocks of the downtown business area. In 1871, the entire block on West Main Street where the larger businesses operated was completely destroyed. The following business houses were destroyed: hotel, operated by B.F. Collins, ten stores, post office barber shop, two blacksmiths shops, and A.J. Baldwin, Jr., Farnum, Sharpe, and Company. Upon recovering from this initial blaze new structures were built to fill the block. In September of 1871, another fire destroyed eight stores, a carriage shop, and warehouse. On this block on South Main, brick buildings were then erected. On January 21, 1875, two entire blocks of buildings in the district were consumed by fire including twelve stores, four law offices, livery stable, Nelson's Hall, hall of the Odd Fellows, and United Friends of Temperance (Raines, p.187). Many merchants were completely burned out of their business establishments. Despite disastrous fires that burned most of downtown Dawson's businesses, and the depression of the 1870s, commerce continued to develop. Two more fires in the 1880s consumed some businesses in the district contributing to the new construction of mostly brick buildings thereafter.

As the business district of Dawson became the center of professional activity, the industrial sector in the north part of town also developed during this period. Much of the new manufacturing operations



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

developed after 1880. Planing operations and sawmills put out building supplies, and material to fuel expanding residential areas.

Wood and agricultural products provided the primary sources of income for those who owned the means to manufacture or grow these products. A relatively small group of planters and professionals owned these operations which were run by mill workers or tenant farmers. In February of 1884, the Dawson Cotton Seed Oil Mill was established on the northeast side of Stonewall Street. In November of 1885, the Dawson Manufacturing Company became the Dawson Variety Works, specializing in the construction of cabinets, doors, windows, and turned mill work, much of which can be seen in Dawson residences today. Later in 1886, George Geise discovered that cottonseed hulls produced as waste from the oil mill could be used in feed to fatten cattle. Cotton seed hulls and cotton meal from then on were manufactured as stock feed, Dawson was known as the first place where cotton seed meal was used in this capacity (Raines, pp.370-374).

Also in 1886, the Seaboard Railroad began construction to extend its line through Dawson from Albany and on to Columbus. The Seaboard Railroad intersected the Central of Georgia railway in north Dawson. Thereby increasing the ability of Dawson's manufacturers and farmers to get their products to market. Following the construction of this new route, Dawson's role as transportation hub, agricultural, business, religious, and government center greatly increased. From 1886 until the early 1900s Dawson saw its period of greatest growth. Many of the structures built during this period remain today as perfect representations of late-nineteenth- and early twentieth-century architectural styles, such as the Queen Anne, Folk Victorian, Neoclassical Revival, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman to name a few.

### The Height of Development

Between 1886 and 1901 was a period of substantial growth for Dawson as the county seat of Terrell County. Dawson's role as government, business, and transportation center realized its full potential during this time, and into the 1920s. This boom period signified the height of rural to urban migration with many new structures built each year. Numerous public improvements were made during this period including: public schools (1890), electric street lights (1890), water works system and pumping station (1891), telephone exchange (1892), erection of the new courthouse (1892), construction of the new Methodist and Baptist churches (1890-1892), and a new electric light plant (1896) (Raines, pp.191-192). All of these modern improvements meant the town of Dawson had much to offer those wishing to move from the countryside into town. "Urban life increasingly included the availability of electric lights, indoor plumbing, public transportation, and daily mail service" (Bartley, pp.108).

Dawson's commercial downtown area thrived during this period with almost all wooden frame structures being replaced with brick buildings. The greater majority of the commercial brick buildings

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

were built during the 1890s and early 1900s. The downtown district housed professional offices like doctors, lawyers, barber shops, general merchandise, banks (State Bank of Dawson, 1887, and Dawson National Bank, 1889), entertainment facilities, drug stores, hardware stores, grocery stores, newspaper, cotton gins, grist mills, boarding houses, and livery stables. New business and modern forms of convenience were added yearly as Dawson grew and prospered.

North Dawson improved its manufacturing presence by expanding existing operations, and adding new ones. The new Seaboard Rail Line opened in 1890. Also in 1890, the Dawson Cotton Compress and Storage Company was incorporated to gin, compress, store cotton, and manufacture fertilizer. Other operations in existence during this period were the Dawson Lumber and Machine Company, Dawson Grocery Company, Carriage Works, Dawson Variety Manufacturing Company, Dawson Crate and Box Works, and the Dawson Cotton Oil Company. In 1901, an ice plant was erected by A.J. Baldwin and Company north of the Central of Georgia Railroad, to provide ice to the residents of Dawson. The ice plant is still standing.

At the turn of the century, Dawson was a thriving commercial, residential, and industrial center serving Terrell County and the Southwest Georgia region. Large numbers of professionals, including doctors and lawyers, lived and worked in town. By providing modern conveniences and goods, the town of Dawson became a weekly destination for people in the outlying countryside. Many opted to move from the small communities around the county into Dawson for easier access to modern conveniences, social, and business opportunities. Mills and manufacturing operations provided lower income families employment, so mill towns comprised of common, folk housing developed near these factories. Business and land owners built large Victorian-style houses along beautifully landscaped, wide avenues.

From the turn of the century until the 1920s, Dawson continued to be prosperous. Introduction of the automobile, crop diversification, modernization, moving picture shows, soda fountains, and new construction contributed to Dawson's advancement. As the Great Depression hit, the area's development slowed considerably and declined into the 1950s.

The early 1900s marked a transitional period for Dawson. Large new homes continued to be built, the Baldwin Block, where present-day City Hall is located, was built in 1905, and by 1920 most of the downtown blocks were filled with two-story, brick commercial buildings. This period marks the absolute height of prosperity in Dawson. Dawson continued to be the business, government, and financial center of Terrell County. In 1902, the City National Bank was organized to complement the various other financial institutions.

The Dawson Fire Hall located on the east side of Main Street, approximately two blocks north of the courthouse, was built in 1905. It features a bell tower, rounded windows, and a mid-level exterior cornice. It still operates as the fire station and is owned by the city.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

The Dawson Woman's Club building is a log building which has housed the Dawson Woman's Club, the Women's Garden Club, and currently serves a meeting place for the Terrell County Restoration Society. It was built in 1913 and placed in the National Register of Historic Places on June 17, 1982.

The historic log clubhouse is exemplary of early twentieth century design interest in rustic and vernacular architecture, commonly associated with park, recreation, and public service facilities of the period. In addition, the clubhouse was built using locally available raw materials including local timber. It sits on a primitive pier foundation composed of locally collected fieldstone.

Located on the southeast corner of Church and Orange Streets, the First Baptist Church was built in 1892. In 1893 the church hosted the Georgia Baptist Convention in 1893. In 1946, an annex was built. The Dawson United Methodist Church was built in 1892 at the corner of Stonewall and 7th Avenue. In 1909, a brick annex was built to house the Sunday School classes. The Dawson Presbyterian Church was built in 1896 and is located at the corner of 6th Avenue and Stonewall Street.

The Carnegie Library building which currently houses the Kinchafoonee Regional library was constructed in 1914 and became the responsibility of the City in 1924. Like other Carnegie Libraries around the country, this library building was funded through a grant by Andrew Carnegie with the City of Dawson providing the funds for the staff and operating budget. In 1950, the Dawson Library became the Kinchafoonee Regional Library system taking the name of the river which runs through several of the member counties. An annex to the original Carnegie building was completed in 1959 to house more books. Another modernization was completed in 1977 making the main entrance on ground level (Raines, p.253).

Agricultural production continued to fuel the local and regional economy. The majority of manufacturing operations keyed upon agricultural production, while banks and professional offices provided services. In 1903, Farmers Oil and Fertilizer Company was formed to process cotton seed produced from local gins providing a local supply of fertilizer. New crops began to be introduced as crop diversification gained popularity. Introduction of the peanut in the early 1900s proved to be an important advancement in regional agriculture. By 1915, the peanut was becoming the region's biggest cash crop, replacing cotton which would suffer lowering prices due to the 1920s outbreak of the Boll Weevil. Machinery and operations associated with processing and gathering peanuts became prevalent. H.E. Suggs' peanut stoner, a machine developed in 1919, was manufactured to remove rocks and other debris from harvested peanuts (Raines, p.361).

From the initial introduction of the peanut in the 1900s, until the present day, this crop has dominated the region's economy. In 1935, Ed Stevens organized a peanut shelling operation in Dawson's manufacturing area. Continued expansion of operations included two shelling plants a peanut butter manufacturing facility, and peanut oil production facility. Stevens Industries now owns the majority of

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

structures in the northern industrial section of Dawson, including: peanut butter manufacturing facilities, cotton gins, and fertilizer plants.

Various other improvements took place in Dawson during the 1910s and 1920s, including the organization of the Woman's Garden Club, and the Women's Christian Temperance movement in 1906. After the introduction of the automobile, an automobile company on Main Street was constructed in 1914. Filling and service stations also developed at this time. The Dawson Motor Company on Main Street, and the Pure Oil Station on Johnson Street from this era still remain today.

### **African-American History**

From 1870 until the early 1900s, the African-American population within the Dawson Historic District increased slightly. There are three main areas in Dawson which could be considered historic to the African-American community. Just east of the Seaboard Railroad along Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth Avenues lies an area of the district in which black industry workers and tradesman lived. The majority of the dwellings in this area are turn of the century folk styles usually associated with working class districts. There are rows of shotgun houses, and most predominately saddle bag style houses. All house lots in this area are approximately the same size with little variation in housing style, landscape, or set back.

This village is directly adjacent to the rail lines and the historic manufacturing area. The historic manufacturing area lies just south of the intersection of the two rail lines. During the period between 1870 and the early 1925, small segments of the African-American population began to slowly move from the farm lands in the country into this district. The majority of the houses in this part of the district were constructed as worker housing to house industry workers and tradesman. Among the industries established during this time and operating in this part of the district were Dawson Compress and Storage, Dawson Cotton Oil Mill, Dawson Variety Works, Dawson Ice Plant, and Stevens Industries. There were also several cotton gins in the area which employed African-American workers.

The second area within the district considered historic in the African-American community is the south east part along first, second, and third avenues. This area developed about the same time as the first area between the early 1900s and 1925. This area was the center of education and church activity for the African-American community during this time. The Mount Zion Church is in this area, as well as the site of the Old Carver High School near the Cedar Hill Cemetery. Carver High School was built by Federal WPA grant money during the Great Depression. The majority of housing in this area is similar in style to that of the previous district featuring folk styles including: saddle bag, shotgun, and some more modest two story Victorian styles. There is more variety in housing type in this part of the district including some later brick ranch style houses. Historically, African-American tradesman lived in this part of the district.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

The last area considered historic to the African-American community is in the extreme western part of the City of Dawson along third, Lee, Sixth, and Seventh Streets. Unfortunately, this area is separated from the district by U.S. Highway 82. This area also developed mainly between 1900 and 1940; however, there are many examples of earlier development from around the turn of the century. Housing style here is similar to the previously mentioned parts of the district representing mainly folk-style housing. Many of the occupants of this part of the district also migrated from the farms into Dawson seeking jobs as skilled tradesman.

#### **Railroad**

In February of 1857, the Inferior Court of Terrell County decided to buy stock in the South Western Railroad at Macon in order to prompt the railroad to extend the line through Dawson. In December of the same year the Inferior Court began to issue bonds not exceeding \$10,000 in order to pay for construction of the line. The bond money was raised by selling land lots in Dawson. These lots were advertised for sale in the *Sumter Republican*, *The Southwestern News*, *The Macon Telegraph*, and *The Messenger*. On July 17, 1858, the road was opened for traffic. In 1869, the Southwestern Railroad was purchased by the Central of Georgia Railroad. Today the Central of Georgia tracks are still in use servicing local agricultural industry by shipping both raw and finished products.

The Seaboard Railroad, formerly known as the Columbus Southern, was constructed between 1889 and 1890. This short line served Albany, Dawson, Sasser, Parrot and on the Columbus. The Seaboard rail line closed in 1995.

#### **History of Dawson 1910-1939**

During the period between 1910 and 1939, the City of Dawson went through many changes. The majority of these changes were closely associated with far reaching national events which permanently changed the landscape of America. The first World War plunged the nation; however, briefly into international conflict which was felt in all towns across America including Dawson. World War I exhibited an uneasiness in the international theater and would portend an even more costly conflict to come.

While World War I stirred fears of international conflicts, for the time being a more daunting national problem was on the horizon. The "roaring 20s" gave way to a complete collapse of the economic institutions which were tenuously holding America together. An underlying current of poverty had been overlooked for so long that the downfall of the national economy seemed imminent. Terrell County and the town of Dawson felt the effects as did every other town in America. In retrospect, the period between 1910 and 1939 proved to be very turbulent years for Dawson. Events during this period generally revolved around the uncertainty of international conflict and of the failing local and national economies.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

In 1917 when the United States declared war on Germany the citizens of Dawson responded by setting up a civilian draft board for army recruitment. The civilian draft board was comprised of W.J. Dozier, Dr. Guy Chappell, J. Z. Turner, Dr. J.G. Dean, J.A. Laing, and Lee C. Hoyl. As part of the war effort four Dawson banks, the Bank of Dawson, City National, Dawson National, and the First State promoted liberty loan bonds sales and war savings stamps. A Dawson Red Cross Chapter was also established to contribute to the war effort.

Various town improvements made during the early 1900s carried over into the years of World War I. In 1906, the city of Dawson purchased the water works system and moved it to a spot near the Seaboard Rail Line in the northern part of the district. This water works system was continuously improved until 1920. Between 1900 and 1908, the first telephone exchange was constructed at the intersection of Main and Lee Streets connecting only a handful of homes and businesses. In 1908 the exchange was moved to the 2nd floor of the fire department on the northeast corner of Stonewall and Lee Street. At this time the Dawson Telephone Company formed and service was expanded throughout the 1910s, 1920s, and 1930s.

A milestone in entertainment arrived in Dawson in 1907. Tony Lavelly introduced the first moving picture show in the upper story of the Sales-Davis drug store on the northwest corner of Lee and Stonewall streets. Then in 1909 a second moving picture show opened in the middle block on East Main between Railway Express and 6th Avenue. In 1917, Lavelly had an open air theater opposite the jail near the courthouse with a seating capacity of 1000. In 1917 Birth of a Nation was presented at the New Opera House called the Palace. By 1930, the Palace Opera House had talking machines installed. The Palace Opera House was located on the southeast corner of Stonewall and Johnson and no longer exists.

After World War I, the automobile started to become the dominant form of transportation in Dawson. County farmers still used mules and wagons until the 1930s. After World War II (1941-1945), farming as well as transportation was completely mechanized.

Housing construction and commercial building construction continued at a steady pace in Dawson from the turn of the century until the mid 1920s. Nearly all of the development in Dawson was complete by 1925. Throughout the Great Depression era and World War II housing and commercial development stopped altogether.

The era of the Great Depression is still remembered very vividly by some citizens of Dawson still alive today. As in other parts of the country, the banks of Dawson failed. With the downfall of the money based economy many turned to forms of barter for goods and services. This was especially evident in the country side around the town.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

Relief measures sponsored by President Roosevelt began in 1933. Initiated by the Georgia Relief Administration in Atlanta a relief committee was established in Dawson to administer local funds. All funds disbursed on the local level for the purposes of relief were administered according to rules by the Georgia Relief Administration. Under the local relief administration, various work projects were submitted and approved. Among these works projects were malaria suppression on water shed ponds, drainage, and construction projects.

There were many notable construction projects completed in Dawson during the Depression. In 1936, the Palace Opera House was renovated. Also in 1936 Carver High School located in the southeast part of the district was completed for African-American students. In January of 1936, the Terrell County Health Department opened in the basement of the courthouse. Among the first programs undertaken by the Health Department was to suppress the incidence of malaria typhus, and typhoid fever. This was done by spraying malaria infested ponds, spraying homes with DDT, and poisoning rodents.

In 1938, the new Dawson High School building was completed funded partially by federal funds and partially by local bond funds. Also in 1938, a municipal club house was constructed under W.P.A. funding. Dawson Municipal Airport was completed in 1939, and the court house clock was repaired. The Works Progress Administration funded the paving of two streets around the Terrell County Courthouse in 1939, and provided a grant to build a new county jail also in 1939. During the years 1935-1938, the South Eastern Peanut Festival was held in Dawson during October and November. This celebration of the Peanut as an important cash crop featured pageants and parades.

During the Great Depression, agricultural production continued at high levels throughout the county, although poor prices and the dreaded boll weevil virtually wiped out cotton production. Devastation caused by the boll weevil began in the mid 1920s and peaked during the 1930s. During this time a new crop took the place of cotton in and around Dawson. Much of the land which historically raised cotton now raised peanuts. The peanut had been introduced to Terrell County around 1915 and by the 1930s it had become the dominant crop. The rise of the peanut coincided with the downfall of cotton crops due to the boll weevil.

Most of the agriculture produced in the county was brought into Dawson for processing and shipment. Since 1915 when crop diversification became popular farms in Terrell County saw increased production in crops such as corn, oats, and peanuts as well as rye, peas, beans, sugar cane, Irish and sweet potatoes, hay, peaches, pecans, melons, asparagus, and onions.

The period between 1910 and 1939 was a time of international, national, and local uncertainty. World War I was a time for citizens of Dawson to come together with the national under a common purpose. The Great Depression era was a time of great economic uncertainty, interrupted by relief projects which put people to work and made much needed improvements in Dawson. Agricultural

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Section 8--Statement of Significance

---

production remained nearly constant throughout the whole period, with the mighty peanut replacing cotton as the crop of choice.

#### **From the Great Depression to the Present**

The Depression Era of the 1930s marked the decline of new construction in Dawson. Relief work in Dawson began in 1933, and public improvement projects such as street paving and courthouse renovation lasted throughout the 1930s. Very few new houses or commercial buildings were built during this period. Little new construction occurred until after World War II. After the War, business in Dawson remained fairly stable, and a limited number of new structures were built. The economy relied on peanuts, cotton, pecans, and wood production for stability.

From the 1950s until the present, Dawson has seen a period of slow decline. Many of the houses and commercial buildings remain intact from the period of prosperity in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. For the most part, these structures are in good repair; but several houses are deteriorating rapidly. Some downtown shops are now vacant, the business economy seems sluggish; however, some new businesses are considering Dawson as a place to relocate.

From 1856 until the present, Dawson has developed its unique character marked by many original structures signifying the past. Although modern facilities and development threaten parts of town, most of the contiguous area of historical development including commercial, residential, and industrial area remain intact. Dawson has a long history of advancement. The era of substantial growth in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries is well represented by the built environment as a tribute to Dawson's developmental history.



---

## 9. Major Bibliographic References

---

Barnes, Douglas A. "Dawson Historic District," Historic Property Information Form, November 1995. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Bartley, Numan V. The Creation of Modern Georgia. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1983.

Census Population Schedules for Georgia, Terrell County, 1860-1920.

"Centennial Edition," The Dawson News, Dawson, Georgia (April 12, 1956, Vol. 73, No. 37, Sections 1-5).

City of Dawson Tax Records. Tax Maintenance Office, Terrell County, Dawson, Georgia.

City of Dawson Tax Maps. Tax Maintenance Office, Terrell County, Dawson, Georgia.

City of Dawson Tax Digests. Tax Maintenance Office, Terrell County, Dawson, Georgia.

City of Dawson Water Works and Sewer Maps, 1953. City of Dawson, Georgia.

City of Dawson Composite Maps, 1970. City of Dawson, Georgia.

Eaddy, Mary Ann and Carole Moore, eds. Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Setting. Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, 1991.

McAlester, Lee and Virginia. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York: Knopf Publishing Co., 1984.

Miller, Pat, Terrell County Archivist and Historian. Interview by Douglas A. Barnes (Dawson, Georgia, September-October 1995).

Mosely, H.D. ed. Terrell County's Centennial Panorama, 1856-1956. Dawson: The Dawson News, 1956.

Raines, Augusta Griggs and Ella Christie Melton. History of Terrell County, Georgia. Roswell: W.H. Wolfe and Associates, 1980.

Reap, James, K. "Social Circle Historic District," National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form, December 1979. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps (1885-1930).

Terrell County Deed Records (1856-1930). On file in the County Clerk's Office at the Terrell County Courthouse, Dawson, Georgia.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**Section 9--Major Bibliographic References**

---

**Previous documentation on file (NPS): ( ) N/A**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued  
date issued:**
- previously listed in the National Register**      Terrell County Courthouse  
   Dawson Women's Clubhouse
- 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:**

- State historic preservation office**
- Other State Agency**
- Federal agency**
- Local government**
- University**
- Other, Specify Repository:**

**Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): n/a**

---

**10. Geographical Data**

---

**Acreage of Property**                      Approximately 410 acres

**UTM References**

- A)    Zone 16 Easting 741660 Northing 3519130
- B)    Zone 16 Easting 743160 Northing 3519180
- C)    Zone 16 Easting 743190 Northing 3516890
- D)    Zone 16 Easting 741680 Northing 3516890

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The boundary of the Dawson Historic District is described on the attached map with a heavy black line, drawn to scale.

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary of the Dawson Historic District contains the historic, contiguous, and intact resources in the City of Dawson, east of U.S. Highway 82. U.S. Highway 82 is a four lane highway which separates two small residential areas from the rest of Dawson and serves as the western boundary for the district.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

---

**State Historic Preservation Office**

**name/title** Leslie N. Sharp, National Register Coordinator  
**organization** Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**street & number** 500 The Healey Building, 57 Forsyth Street  
**city or town** Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303  
**telephone** (404) 656-2840 **date** July 25, 1997

**Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable)**                      ( ) not applicable

**name/title** Douglas A Barnes, Consultant  
**organization** Terrell County Restoration Society  
**street and number** 2336 Springdale Court, #G15  
**city or town** Albany **state** GA **zip code** 31707  
**telephone** unknown

- (X) **consultant**
- ( ) **regional development center preservation planner**
- ( ) **other:**

(HPD form version 02-24-97)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

---

**Name of Property:** Dawson Historic District  
**City or Vicinity:** Dawson  
**County:** Terrell  
**State:** Georgia  
**Photographer:** James R. Lockhart  
**Negative Filed:** Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
**Date Photographed:** July 1997

**Description of Photograph(s):**

- 1 of 76: Cedar Hill Cemetery; Photographer looking northwest.
- 2 of 76: Cedar Hill Cemetery; Photographer looking northeast.
- 3 of 76: Cedar Hill Cemetery; Photographer looking southeast .
- 4 of 76: Nonhistoric Shiloh Baptist Church (1956); Photographer looking north-northeast.
- 5 of 76: East side of Oak Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 6 of 76: Carver School (1936); Photographer looking southeast.
- 7 of 76: St. James C.M.E. Church (1919); Photographer looking southeast.
- 8 of 76: Northwest corner of Beech Street and Second Avenue; Photographer looking northwest.
- 9 of 76: North side of Johnson Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 10 of 76: Southwest corner of Oak Street and Third Avenue; Photographer looking south-southeast.
- 11 of 76: Corner of Second Avenue and Orange Street; Photographer looking southeast.
- 12 of 76: North side of Johnson Street at Maple; Photographer looking north.
- 13 of 76: South side of Johnson Street, east of Crawford; Photographer looking southwest.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Photographs

---

- 14 of 76: Southwest corner of Lee and Pecan Streets; Photographer looking southwest.
- 15 of 76: Southwest corner of Crawford and Lee Streets; Photographer looking southwest.
- 16 of 76: South side of Lee Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 17 of 76: South side of Lee Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 18 of 76: South side of Lee Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 19 of 76: North side of Lee Street; Photographer looking northwest.
- 20 of 76: Northeast corner of Elm and Lee Streets; Photographer looking north.
- 21 of 76: North side of Sixth Avenue at Elm Street; Photographer looking west.
- 22 of 76: Southwest corner of Sixth Avenue and Poplar Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 23 of 76: Dawson Women's Clubhouse, north side of Sixth Avenue; Photographer looking northeast.
- 24 of 76: North side of Sixth Avenue at Nelson Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 25 of 76: North side of Sixth Avenue, west of Green Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 26 of 76: North side of Sixth Avenue, east of Green Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 27 of 76: Southeast corner of Elm Street and Seventh Avenue; Photographer looking southeast.
- 28 of 76: Seventh Avenue, east of Green Street; Photographer looking east.
- 29 of 76: Seventh Avenue, east of Nelson Street; Photographer looking east.
- 30 of 76: Southeast corner of Seventh Avenue and Nelson Street; Photographer looking southeast.
- 31 of 76: Northeast corner of Church and Orange Streets; Photographer looking northeast.
- 32 of 76: First Baptist Church, southeast corner of Church and Orange Streets; Photographer looking southeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Photographs

---

- 33 of 76: North side of Church Street, east of Nelson Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 34 of 76: Northeast corner of Church and Nelson Streets; Photographer looking northeast.
- 35 of 76: South side of Church Street, east of Crawford Street; Photographer looking southeast.
- 36 of 76: Dawson High School (1938), east side of Crawford Street; Photographer looking east.
- 37 of 76: Northwest corner of Ninth Avenue and Orange Street; Photographer looking northwest.
- 38 of 76: Corner of Ninth Avenue and Nelson Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 39 of 76: North side of College Avenue; Photographer looking northeast.
- 40 of 76: Intersection of railroad tracks and College Avenue; Photographer looking east.
- 41 of 76: Eleventh Avenue, west of Crawford Street; Photographer looking southeast.
- 42 of 76: Commercial warehouse, Eleventh Avenue and railroad tracks; Photographer looking east.
- 43 of 76: Industrial building, Eleventh Avenue and Nelson Street; Photographer looking northwest.
- 44 of 76: East side of Lemon Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 45 of 76: Agricultural processing plant, north of railroad tracks; Photographer looking north.
- 46 of 76: Corner store on Railroad Street; Photographer looking north.
- 47 of 76: Twelfth Avenue, west of Center; Photographer looking east.
- 48 of 76: Ash Street, north of Twelfth Avenue; Photographer looking north.
- 49 of 76: Twelfth Avenue, east of Crawford Street; Photographer looking east.
- 50 of 76: Southeast corner of Flint Street and Thirteenth Avenue; Photographer looking northeast.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Photographs

---

- 51 of 76: Peanut processing plant, office, and historical marker for the Confederate Gun Shop, corner of Twelfth Avenue and Orange Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 52 of 76: Peanut processing plant, southeast corner of Stonewall Street and Twelfth Avenue; Photographer looking northeast.
- 53 of 76: Peanut processing plant, northeast corner of Stonewall Street and Twelfth Avenue; Photographer looking southeast.
- 54 of 76: Freight Depot, south side of Central of Georgia tracks; Photographer looking southwest.
- 55 of 76: Intersection of Central of Georgia tracks, Main Street, and Twelfth Avenue; Photographer looking southwest.
- 56 of 76: East side of Stonewall Street at Ninth Avenue; Photographer looking southeast.
- 57 of 76: Northeast corner of Church and Stonewall Streets; Photographer looking northeast.
- 58 of 76: Southeast corner of Church Street and stonewall Street; Photographer looking southeast.
- 59 of 76: Dawson First United Methodist Church, northeast corner of Seventh Avenue and Stonewall Street; Photographer looking northeast.
- 60 of 76: Dawson Presbyterian church, Corner of Sixth Avenue and Stonewall Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 61 of 76: Southeast corner of Sixth Avenue and Stonewall Street; Photographer looking east.
- 62 of 76: Southeast corner of Stonewall Street and Third Avenue; Photographer looking southeast.
- 63 of 76: Johnson Street at Stonewall Street; Photographer looking west.
- 64 of 76: United States Post Office (1923), Stonewall Street; Photographer looking east.
- 65 of 76: South side of Lee Street, looking toward Terrell County Courthouse; Photographer looking east.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

### Photographs

---

- 66 of 76: Dawson Pharmacy, southeast corner of Main and Lee Streets; Photographer looking southeast.
- 67 of 76: Main Street, south of Lee Street; Photographer looking south.
- 68 of 76: Main Street, north of Lee Street; Photographer looking north.
- 69 of 76: Lee Street; Photographer looking east.
- 70 of 76: First State Bank (1905), Main Street and Fifth Avenue; Photographer looking southwest.
- 71 of 76: Commercial block, northeast corner of Third Avenue and Main Street ; Photographer looking northeast.
- 72 of 76: Main Street, south of Sixth Avenue; Photographer looking south.
- 73 of 76: Dawson Motor Company, Main Street; Photographer looking southwest.
- 74 of 76: Dawson Fire Hall, Main Street; Photographer looking southeast.
- 75 of 76: Carnegie Library, Main Street; Photographer looking east.
- 76 of 76: East side of Main Street, south of Ninth Avenue; Photographer looking southeast.