# National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

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

# 1. Name

historic	Dundee Woman's	Club Hall	Numl	ber of contributi	ng properties: 1
and/or common	Dundee Communi	ty Hall	Number (	of non-contributi	ng properties: O
2. Loca	ation				
street & number	Highway 99W (P	acific Highw	ay)		N/A_ not for publication
city, town	Dundee	N/ <u>A</u> _ vic	inity of	First Congression	al District
state	Oregon co	o <b>de</b> 41	county	Yamhill	<b>code</b> 071
3. Clas	sification				
Category district X building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _X_ private both Public Acquisition N/Ain process _N/A being considered	Status unoccu work in Accessible yes: res yes: un no	pied progress stricted	Present Use agriculture commercial X. educational y. entertainment government industrial military	museum park private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prope	erty			
name	Dundee W	oman's Club (	c/o Kate N	Niederberger	
street & number	PO Box 1	5			
city, town	Dundee	N/A_ vici	nity of	state	Oregon 97115
5. Loca	ntion of Leg	gal Desc	riptio	n	
courthouse, regis	stry of deeds, etc.	Ya	<u>amhill Cou</u>	inty Courthouse	
street & number		51	th and Eva	ans	
city, town		Mo	<u>Minnville</u>	e state	Oregon 97128
6. Repr	resentation	in Exis	ting S	Surveys	
	ide Inventory of ic Properties	ŀ	as this prop	erty been determined e	ligible? yesX no
<b>date</b> 1985				federal _X sta	ate county local
depository for su	rvey records State	Historic Pre	eservatior	Office, 525 Trad	de St. SE
city, town	Slaem	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		state	<u> Oregon 97310</u>

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# 7. Description

Condition        excellent      deteriorated        fair      unexposed	Check one unaltered X altered	Check one X_ original site moved dateN/A
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#### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The design of the Dundee Woman's Club Hall built in 1915, has been attributed to James Bryson Moore, a Portland architect/contractor. A vernacular version of the Craftsman style, it is typical of buildings erected by community organizations throughout rural Oregon, except in its size, which is exceptional. The one and one-half story building has a ground plan of 47 x 67 feet. It has served continuously over 70 years as a major social and recreational facility in Dundee. For many years it was the only facility of its kind in the small farming community.

The Woman's Club building is located on the west side of Highway 99W (Pacific Highway) in the town of Dundee in Yamhill County. The Dundee Post Office, built in 1970, is located just to the north. The Dundee Methodist Church, to the south, was built by the Quakers in 1891 and sold to Methodists in 1898, when the Quakers decided to move to Newberg and build a larger church there. To the west of the Dundee Woman's Club is the site of the cabin of Dundee's first settler, Jacob Shuck, on whose donation land claim the city of Dundee was platted. Across the street from the club hall, at the northeast corner of the intersection of 10th Street and Pacific Highway is a tavern which occupies the site of the first grocery store and post office in Dundee. The latter was built in 1881 by William and Samuel Parrett.

The Dundee Woman's Club Hall is a one and one-half story building, with a low double pitched roof covered with composition shingles. It has broadly overhanging eaves with exposed rafter ends and triangular knee braces and barge boards at the gable ends. The building is oriented longitudinally on its site, with the long axis perpendicular to the Pacific Highway. As a result of street widening, there is now a set-back from the public right-of-way.

Windows are six-light, fixed sash with simple wood sills. The facade, or east end, is formally organized into five bays with two doors in the outermost bays, each with a small stoop. Both doors are glazed with ten-lights each and have a transom light. Window and door frames are plain but have a distinctive "eared," or beveled architrave. Exterior walls are clad with shiplap siding.

The north elevation is adjacent to a large graveled parking lot. There are two entries to this elevation: One five-paneled wood door with simple wood stoop and balustrade; to the east, flush-faced double doors replace the originals.

A one-story shed-roofed addition to the west elevation replaced the original gabled wing which housed the stage prior to a fire in 1964. The existing addition is constructed of concrete blocks. With the exception of this addition, there have been no major alterations to the outside of the building. Minor changes include the addition of a flush-faced door on the north elevation and replacement of the original wood stoops and balustrades with concrete steps and pipe railings.

On the interior, there are wood panel floors, running east and west. A false ceiling, installed after the 1964 fire when other repairs were made, obscures the roof trusses of the main hall, but the trusses are intact. Original beaded wainscoting remains on the north and south wall, but has been replaced on the east wall of the assembly hall.

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A dog-leg stairway in the northeast corner leads to the second story meeting room measuring  $24 \times 30$  feet. It has plywood walls and ceiling,  $2 \ 1/2$ " flooring running north and south, and six-inch baseboards with crown molding all stained. Overhead and in the floor are apertures, now boarded over, which indicated where the chimney passed through the meeting room from the kitchen below and upward through the roof.

When the hall was built in 1915, Charlie Parrett requested permission to use part of the kitchen for a barber shop and confectionery store. The barber chair was placed on the north side. His barber pole hung outside the door on the northeast corner, facing 99W. His sweets were in cabinets along the windows on the east. He did maintenance work on the hall for his rent and his duties included being a sergeant-at-arms.

The library room downstairs was used for small meetings in a library atmosphere. Books were obtained from a traveling library and 250 books were donated by local people. Library services were free to all. There were book shelves around the room with a cloak room and a closet between the library and the kitchen.

After a few years, Charlie Parrett decided to move the barber shop and confectionery store to his home, and a door was cut through between the library and the kitchen. It was voted not to have another business in the hall in the future.

The roof trusses in the main hall were used to support basketball hoops for the Dundee High School team games. A swivel was fastened to the bottom chord so that the hoops could be swung up out of the way when not in use, to avoid conflict with stage presentations. Basketball games were held at the hall until the mid-1930s, when a gymnasium was built at the Dundee School. The polished floor in the main hall was maintained by hauling a bale of hay back and forth across it. Cold-water showers were installed in the boys' rest room near the stage area for the basketball players.

In the original stage area, there was a canvas painting measuring  $8 \times 20$  feet, depicting Mt. Hood. It was used for a backdrop, filling the entire back wall of the stage. It was partially destroyed by fire in 1964 which destroyed the stage and rest rooms, but since the center part of the painting was redeemable, it was decided to clean it up and put it up high on the south wall of the main hall in a new frame. It remains there today. Following the fire, it was voted not to rebuild the stage. Since plays were not as popular as they had been 50 years ago, a removable  $8 \times 10$ -foot stage was secured for speakers and small bands for dances. A small concrete block lean-to addition for rest rooms and storage for 150-250 folding chairs and tables was built on the east, or old stage end of the hall.

The first heat for the hall was a pot-bellied stove which stood in the northwest corner of the assembly room, near a door which led to a wood-shed outside. Each

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hostess for a meeting was charged with chopping enough wood to supply heat for the duration. The wood stove was replaced by a wood-burning funrace in the same position in 1921. It, in turn, was replaced by an oil furnace plus another furnace in the southeast corner of the same room. There was a wood-burning range in the kitchen which also supplied heat to the library. A small heating stove upstairs supplied heat when needed, both stoves were vented by the east chimney. The west chimney became the home of a bird's nest which caused the fire in 1964. Gas furnaces were installed after the fire.

The false ceiling was put up in the main hall following the 1964 fire, since by that time the school gymnasium had been built and basketball games were no longer played at the hall.

# 8. Significance

1500–1599 1600–1699 1700–1799 _X_ 1800–1899	Areas of Significance—C archeology-prehistoric archeology-historic agriculture architecture art commerce communications	community planning	military music t philosophy	<ul> <li>religion</li> <li>science</li> <li>sculpture</li> <li>social/</li> <li>humanitarian</li> <li>theater</li> <li>transportation</li> <li>other (specify)</li> </ul>
Specific dates	1915-1935	Builder/Architect	James Bryson Moore	

#### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Woman's Club building on Main Street (Pacific Highway, 99W) in the Yamhill County farming community of Dundee, was built in 1915. James B. Moore, a Portland contractor, oversaw construction. A story and a half building of balloon-frame construction measuring  $44 \times 67$  feet, it has a gable roof, the ridge of which runs in the direction of the long axis. A well-preserved example of vernacular architecture in the Craftsman style, the clubhouse is distinguished by its size and its wide overhanging eaves carried by exposed rafters on side elevations and out-sized triangular knee braces at the gable ends. Window and door openings are symmetrically arranged on the street facade and are characterized by multiple lights in fixed wood sash. Externally, the major alteration consists of replacement of small wood porch decks with railings by concrete stoops with pipe railings at the front entrance. The interior contains a large, clear-span meeting space with kitchen and library at the front end. A chimney fire in 1964 resulted in removal of a stage bay at the west end and construction of a lean-to addition of concrete block for restrooms and storage. At this time, also, a false ceiling was added, and the roof trusses are concealed as a consequence. A staircase in the northeast (front) corner gives access to a half-story auxiliary meeting space directly above the kitchen and library.

The Dundee Woman's Club Hall is significant under National Register criterion "a" as a local landmark in the women's movement and for its major role in the social and cultural life of the community to the present day. Organized as the "Neighborhood Circle" in 1913, the group had primarily public service goals: those of providing a library and assembly hall and gymnasium for school children. The Woman's Club, as it became known in 1914, became an affiliate of the State Federation of Womens Clubs in 1918 and remained so affiliated until 1975. When, in due course, a gymansium was provided in local public schools, the building continued its use as a community hall and social outlet for working men and women. It remains today the only large meeting space in Dundee excepting public schools, and it continues under the ownership and management of the club. Its size and situation on the main street have given it exceptional presence in the community and long made the hall a local landmark in the true sense of the word.

Some of the pioneer women who settled with their families in the Dundee area in the 1890s and helped to establish and develop the widely known prune and filbert orchards were the same women who planned and raised funds for construction of the Dudnee Woman's Club Hall in 1915.

Under the chosen name of "Neighborhood Circle" the founders established in 1913 the purposes of helping to improve conditions for the Dundee schoolchildren, whose school lacked a library, assembly hall and gymnasium, and bringing together hard-working men and women in a hall large enough to accommodate various social and educational needs.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

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List all stat state	es and countie	code	rlapping state or cou county	code
state	N/A	code	county	code
11. Fo	orm Pre	epared By		
name/title	Marion Bru	ımback		
organization	Dundee Won	nan's Club	date	July 11, 1985
street & num!	berPO Box 402	2	tele;	ohone (503) 538-5415
				0
	Newberg		state	• Oregon 97132
city or town		storic Pres		fficer Certification
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In 1914 the women changes the name of their group to "Dundee Woman's Club," the

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title reflecting that each woman was considered important individually.

When plans were announced for a large community hll, bids were received and funds were raised by popular subscription. Mr. and Mrs. Bland Herring of Dundee donated Lots 5 & 6 in Block 70 on 99W for the site of the hall. James Bryson Moore, architect and contractor of Portland, Oregon, was awarded the contract to build the hall for the Dundee Woman's Club. He donated his services as supervisor of construction. Head carpenter, Bob Jensen, was paid 35¢ per hour and all other workers received 25¢ per hour. Many people donated their time as needed. Lumber for the hall cost \$972.75, delivered to the site.

The Dundee Woman's Club was formally incorporated on April 21, 1915 according to records of the Yamhill County Recorder, which document the transfer of property from the Herrings to the Dundee Woman's Club.

The new Dundee Woman;s Club Hall was dedicated and opened for use on July 28, 1915. A hundred chairs were purchased from Meier & Frank Company of Portland at \$9.00 per dozen with one year to pay. Tables and benches were made and painted or stained; some of them still remain at the hall.

After the building was finished, the Dundee Woman's Club still owed \$1,000 so the ladies set to work serving public dinners and leasing the hall for various occasions to retire the debt.

In the early days of the Dundee Woman's Club Hall, other clubs held their meetings upstairs in the meeting room, over the library and kitchen. Such clubs were the Woodsmen of the World, Neighbors of Woodcraft, Dundee Commercial Club, and Dundee Men's Booster Club. The latter were responsible for bringing running water to Dundee from wells in the Red Hills using a ram-pumping system which allocated a specified amount of water to each user. In addition, the men's Athletic Club and the Boy Scouts have gathered in the hall.

In 1936, the Dundee Volunteer Firemen earned money to purchase their first fire truck by holding public dinners, pancake breakfasts and dances at the hall. They still hold regular pancake breakfasts there and use the hall for weekend training courses. The Dundee Police Department traditionally has public information meetings in the building, as there is no other hall of sufficient size to accommodate 250 people comfortably.

In wartime the Woman's Club made clothing to send overseas, worked for the Red Cross, and donated blood. It has been used for a voting place since 1915, when it was built.

The aims of the Dundee Woman's Club were approximately those of "The Association of Womens Clubs of Yamhill County," fomred in 1916. The name was changed to "Federation of Womens Clubs of Yamhill County" in 1917. Member clubs were the Carlton Civic Club, Dayton Reading Club, Sheridan Study Club, and half a dozen other, including the Dundee Woman's Club.

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The virtue of the Federation of Womens Clubs of Yamhill County was that it provided unified program guidance for nine different clubs which were pledged to promote: educational and literary activities, civic improvement and social betterment.

The Federation of Womens Clubs of Yamhill County joined the State Federation in 1918. Yearly meetings of the county federation rotated between the club buildings of the nine memeber organizations. Each club reported its progress in carrying out the Federation's programs, including humanitarian efforts during the First and Second World Wars Red Cross activities, and so on.

By the late 1970s, most of Yamhill County's Womens Clubs dissolved, owing to dwindling membership, and the Federation of Womens Clubs of Yamhill County dissolved for lack of officers. The Dundee Woman's Club is among the few organizations of its type in Yamhill County to have remained active to the present day.

NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

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

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