

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic Fletcher Henderson House

and/or common Henderson-Burroughs House

2. Location

street & number 1016 Andrew Street N/A not for publication

city, town Cuthbert N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~ N/A

state Georgia code 013 county Randolph code 243

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Ozie Theresa Henderson Burroughs

street & number 5131 South Ellis Avenue

city, town Chicago N/A vicinity of state Illinois 60615

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Randolph County Courthouse

city, town Cuthbert state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date federal state county local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fletcher Henderson House is a one-story Victorian dwelling built in 1888. The balloon frame, weatherboard structure has a tin covered gabled roof with a plain cornice and eave returns. The foundation is of stuccoed stone piers infilled with cinder blocks. The chimneys, one exterior and one interior, are of stuccoed brick. A cinder block and brick exterior chimney on the rear provided a flue for the original wood stove.

The front facade of the house is five bays wide and is protected by a shed porch which runs the length of the building. The centrally located doorway has a two-light transom. The entrance is flanked on either side by two floor-length 6/6 double hung sash windows with shutters. Around the doorway and windows is beaded tongue and groove siding. The porch has been altered in that it has a poured concrete foundation and metal porch columns.

Originally the house was L-shaped, with three rooms (two front, one rear) and a central hall. Around 1895 an ell wing was added to the southeast side of the house, which converted it into a four square, central hall building. In 1920 a kitchen was added to the northeast corner, along with a screened-in porch, and in 1925 a bathroom was added to the southeast corner. The house is now square in shape.

The interior of the house reflects the simple life style of Professor Henderson, its original owner. The pine floors are 6" wide, and the original rooms have plaster walls and plank ceilings. The ceiling in the central hall is paneled with pineboards.

The dining room and hallway added c. 1895 have tongue and groove paneling. Coal burning fireplaces have mantel pieces of pine. The interior has only been altered to adapt to these additions.

The approximately one acre lot has several pecan trees, and is covered by grass. Two outbuildings on the lot, one a tin garage (c. 1940) and the other a shiplap shed (c. 1950), are the only other structures on the lot.

The Henderson home is situated on a flat lot. It is in a residential area with a house of similar type to the south, and c. 1970 ranch houses on the north and west. A screen of vegetation blocks properties to the east of the house.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in November, 1980 still represent the character and appearance of the property. No significant changes have been made since that date.

8. Significance

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

Specific dates 1888 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Fletcher Henderson House, built in 1888, is historically significant in the areas of local education as the home of Professor Fletcher Hamilton Henderson, the leading black educator in Cuthbert for 64 years. It is also significant in the history of music as the boyhood home of Fletcher H. Henderson, Jr. (born December 18, 1897) and his brother Horace W. Henderson (born November 23, 1903), the former being one of the great jazz musicians in America. These areas of significance support the property's eligibility under National Register Criteria A and B.

In local educational history, the Fletcher Henderson House is known as the home of Professor Fletcher Hamilton Henderson (1857–1943). Moving to Cuthbert in 1880, he served as principal of the Howard Normal School (later called the Randolph County Training School) until 1942, making him the leading black educator there for 64 years. The school was the foundation of black education in Cuthbert. Henderson had received most of his schooling at Newberry College, Newberry, South Carolina before transferring to Atlanta University in 1877. The Howard Normal School was owned and operated by the American Missionary Association which fostered black education in the decades following the Civil War.

While principal, Henderson sought to hire qualified teachers to better the education of black children and worked to enlarge the school building so that it might better serve the growing black population. He was responsible for the building of a new school in 1923 as well as the purchases of 10 acres of land behind the school to be used for recreation.

In 1883, Henderson married Ozie Lena Chapman of Cuthbert, who also became a teacher. He continued to live in this house until his death in 1943. The house then passed to his daughter, Irma Henderson Jacob, who lived there until her death in 1976. At that time it passed to her brother Horace, who gave it to the present owner, his daughter.

In music history, the house is significant as the boyhood home of the Henderson brothers, Fletcher, Jr. and Horace, who both made major contributions to American music in the 20th Century.

Both boys attended Howard School in Cuthbert, where a classical education was stressed. There, because of their parents' interest in music, both began music and piano lessons at an early age. By 1914, Fletcher, Jr. had completed his work at Howard School, and his parents enrolled him in the college preparatory division of Atlanta University, where his father and most of his fellow teachers had been trained.

Finishing college there in 1920, Fletcher "Smack" Henderson moved to New York City, becoming musical director of the highly successful black-owned music publishing house, Pace and Handy, in 1921. He also began playing with the Harlem Symphony at this time. Later, he led a band that toured with blues singer Ethel Waters. The group's road trips were very successful, and among the achievements of Fletcher's band was the first known jazz radio broadcast, in New Orleans, in 1922. (CONTINUED)

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Attached Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately one acre

Quadrangle name Cuthbert

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A	<u>16</u>	<u>708800</u>	<u>3516160</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing

B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

C			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

D			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

E			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

F			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

G			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

H			
	Zone	Easting	Northing

Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the enclosed Sketch Map and is all that is owned by the current owner at that location

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

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Nancy A. Alexander, Preservation Planner
Cate Hamilton, Student Assistant Lower Chattahoochee APDC, Columbus, GA

c/o organization Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr. Historian HPS contact
Historic Preservation Section GA DNR date March 19, 1982

street & number 270 Washington Street telephone (404) 656-2840

city or town Atlanta state Georgia

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

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

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

title State Historic Preservation Officer date 4/21/82

For NPS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Melvin Byers</u>	Entered in the National Register date <u>6/17/82</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest:	date
Chief of Registration	

**United States Department of the Interior
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date entered

Continuation sheet

Significance

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Fletcher Henderson became the top choice among the most famous blues singers in New York, as their accompanist. He established his reputation at the Plantation Club and Club Alabam in New York, later taking over the bands at Roseland Ballroom with the first of the large jazz dance orchestras. Fletcher Henderson was probably the first Negro to orchestrate jazz for the full-sized orchestra. He remained as leader of the house orchestra at Roseland for many years, and other musicians flocked there to hear his "spirited and ingenious arrangements".

Instrumentalists who joined the Fletcher Henderson orchestra in the 1920's included Don Redman, Coleman Hawkins, Charlie Green, Kaiser Marshall and Buster Bailey. In addition, there were Louis Armstrong, Charlie Dixon, Ralph Escudero, Joe Smith, Rex Stewart and Bennie Morton. Fats Waller also made several recordings with the group. Outstanding members of the orchestra at this time were Tommy Ladnier, Jimmy Harrison, June Cole and Russell Smith.

It was during the mid-1920's that Fletcher's popularity was at its highest point, and in addition to playing at the prestigious Roseland, he also made appearances in Harlem. During this time road tours took the orchestra back and forth across the eastern half of the United States. Fletcher Henderson's musical superiority at this time was unchallenged. He was acknowledged as a superb artist, and was known for his composing, arranging, directing, and performing at the keyboard.

In 1928, Fletcher was critically injured in an automobile accident, and his career slowed down. He sold his old arrangements to Benny Goodman in the mid-1930's, and was largely responsible for Goodman becoming an "overnight sensation". Henderson's orchestra was already playing, in the 1920's, the type of music that later came to be known as "swing". Later, he gave his entire repertoire of arrangements to Count Basie. During the late 1930's he worked for Benny Goodman as an arranger and pianist. He was named "Arranger of the Year" by Downbeat in 1938 and 1940, principally for his work with Goodman's orchestra.

Fletcher's brother Horace, six years his junior, attended Wilberforce University in Ohio. While Fletcher was breaking into the jazz world in New York, Horace formed a band at Wilberforce known as "The Collegians". This band was popular not only at the university, but at many night spots in southern Ohio, and soon "The Collegians" began to be well-received in the larger jazz-world where Fletcher was so prominent.

Horace spent several engagements with the Fletcher Henderson orchestra, but he also firmly established his own ensemble. Based in Ohio, such expert artist as Ben Webster, Benny Carter, and Rex Stewart played with Horace's band, as well as Jonah Jones, Joe Thomas, Sandy Williams, and Freddie Jenkins (who later earned fame with the Duke Ellington band). During the mid-1920's his band, known for its progressive music, excelled.

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In the mid-1930's, following Fletcher's accident, Horace led his own ten-man orchestra at Dunbar's Palace in New York and later joined the Fletcher Henderson orchestra on tour. He also arranged and played piano with Fletcher's Roseland Ballroom orchestra. Later Horace worked with Fletcher, and Jimmy Mundy as an arranger for the Goodman orchestra.

In 1938, Horace did arrangements for the Glenn Miller orchestra. He continued to play with Fletcher's band until 1943, and in 1944 he signed to play with Lena Horne, who was enjoying her highest success at this point. After the war, Horace played with his own ensemble once again.

Fletcher's success continued up until his death December 29, 1952. Horace played with small combos during the 1950's and 1960's, and continued to perform into the 1970's. He always played a subordinate to Fletcher's fame, having emerged from college into the world of professional music, by the time Fletcher had already become a well-established musician.

Fletcher Henderson has been called by Benny Goodman perhaps "one of the great jazz musicians of all time in America". He is believed to have participated during his lifetime in more exceptional jazz performances than any other man in the history of jazz. According to Goodman, Fletcher had one of the first great jazz swing bands in America and influenced any number of musicians in America. His arrangements are "classics" and are still being played, and his approach remains the foundation of Big Bands and Jazz. "Jazz would not exist in its form today were it not for the many innovations, creativity, and contributions of Fletcher Henderson," Downbeat June 3, 1965.

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

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Chase, Gilbert, America's Music, New York. McGraw-Hill, 1955.

Dews, Margery P., Remembering: The Remarkable Henderson Family. Chicago. Adams Press, 1978.

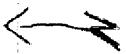
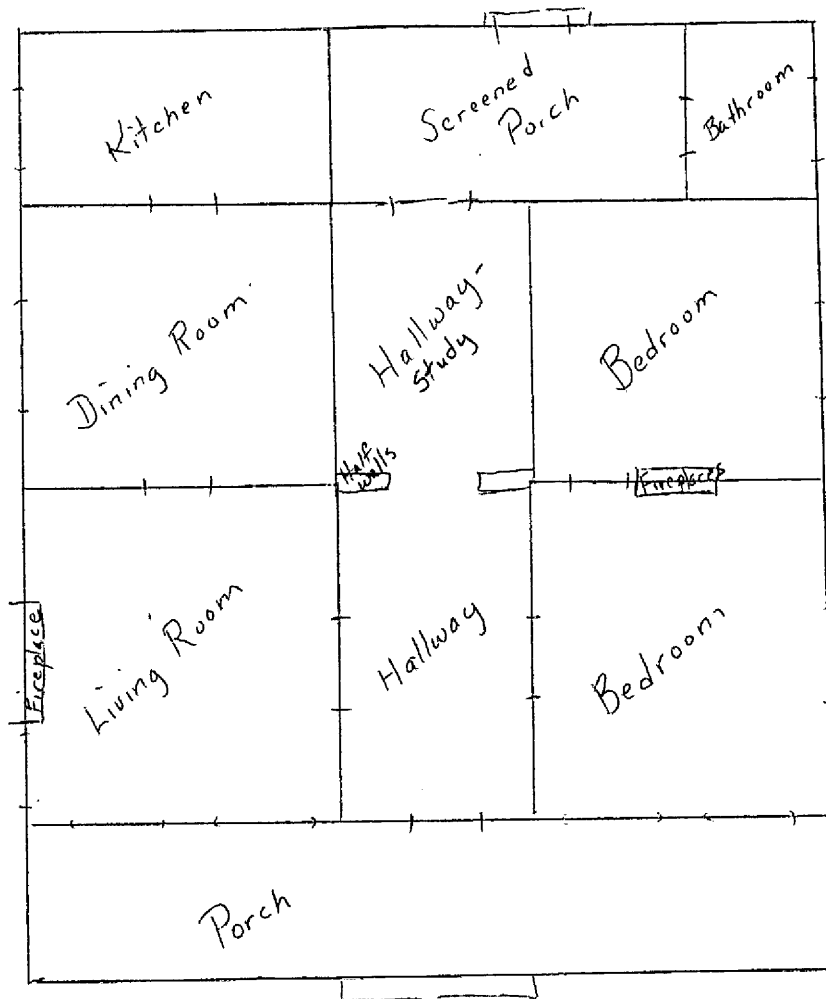
Dews, Margery P. "F. H. Henderson and Howard Normal School," Georgia Historical Quarterly LXIII (Summer, 1979), 252ff.

New York Herald Tribune, December 31, 1952.

Stearns, Marshall W., Downbeat, September, 1937.

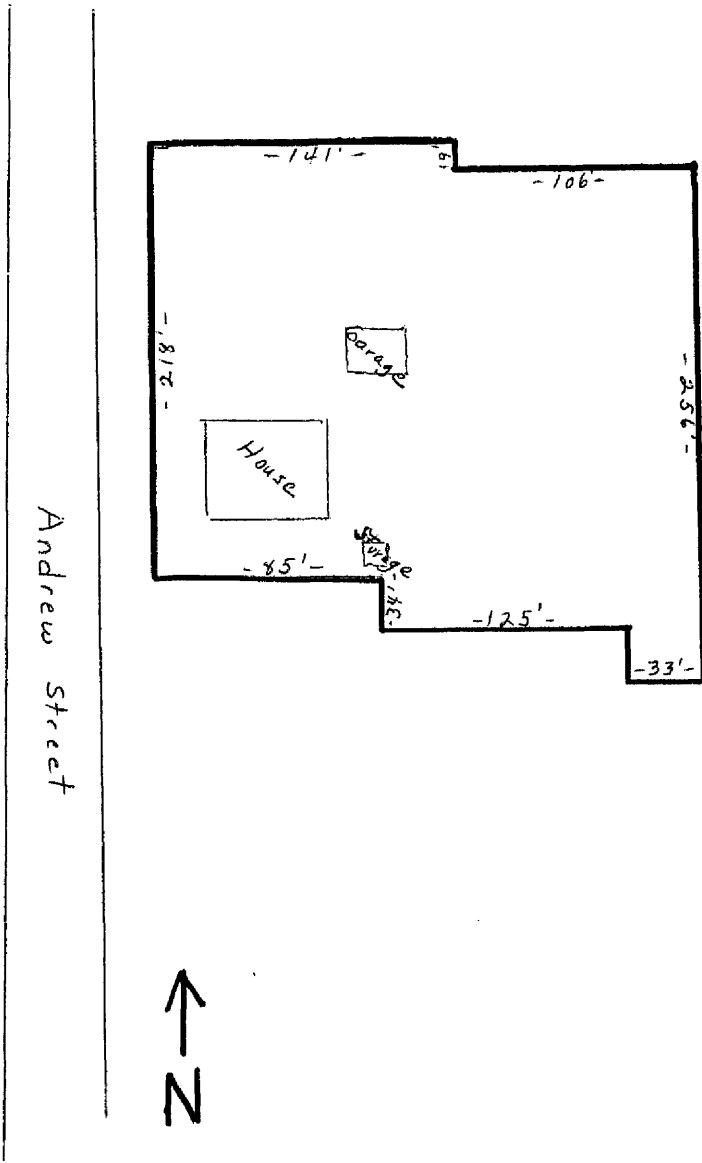
Stewart, Rex, Downbeat, June 3, 1965.

Letter from Benny Goodman to Margery Dews, September 12, 1979.



FLETCHER HENDERSON HOUSE
 Cuthbert, Randolph County, Georgia
 Scale: unknown
 Source: Drawn by Margery P. Dews
 Date: 1980
 Key: Map shows layout of interior of the house only.

M P Dews



FLETCHER HENDERSON HOUSE
 Cuthbert, Randolph County, Georgia

SKETCH MAP

Scale: Not to scale

Source: Randolph Co., Ga. Tax Map Cu-10, Lot 58

Date: 1980

Key: The nominated property is marked by a heavy black line.

M.P. Deane