

PH 0509761

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 5 1977
DATE ENTERED APR 16 1978

**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

SCHOOLHOUSE, DENTON

AND/OR COMMON

Woman's Club of Denton, Inc.

LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

104 South Second Street

__ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Denton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

First

STATE

Maryland

CODE

24

COUNTY

Caroline

CODE

011

CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

__DISTRICT

__PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

__AGRICULTURE

__MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

__UNOCCUPIED

__COMMERCIAL

__PARK

__STRUCTURE

__BOTH

__WORK IN PROGRESS

__EDUCATIONAL

__PRIVATE RESIDENCE

__SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

__ENTERTAINMENT

__RELIGIOUS

__OBJECT

__IN PROCESS

__YES: RESTRICTED

__GOVERNMENT

__SCIENTIFIC

__BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

__INDUSTRIAL

__TRANSPORTATION

__NO

__MILITARY

OTHER meetings &

OWNER OF PROPERTY

social functions

NAME Mrs. K. Thomas Everngam, Director
Woman's Club of Denton, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

104 South Second Street

CITY, TOWN

Denton

STATE

__ VICINITY OF

Maryland 21629

LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Caroline County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

Court House Square, Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Denton

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

Located at 104 South Second Street in Denton, Caroline County, Maryland, the Schoolhouse is a small building, domestic in scale, with a Latin cross plan. The longer arms, each three bays, are parallel to Second Street. The main entrance, which opens from a hall onto the street, is in the northeast arm as is the kitchen; the southwest arm is now a meeting room. A large clubroom extends the entire length of the shorter arms of the cross. Two other entrances are situated in the rear wall of the northeast arm, opening into the kitchen, and the street side of the southwest room, opening into the meeting room.

Although the building has been covered with aluminum siding and an asphalt shingle roof, it still retains architectural details of its Gothic Revival style. The pointed arch windows have four-over-four Gothic sash and shutter blinds with louvered sections over raised panel ones. A few of the window sash have been replaced with ordinary four-over-four sash. The exterior doors have four raised panels each bordered by applied mouldings. "Open work," typical of the period, exists in three of the four gable peaks. Affixed to the roof ridge of the longer sections is an octagonal cupola with a belfry of alternating louvered and plain drop-arched panels. At the top of the cupola is an elaborately cut wooden spire.

The interior of the school is very plain and appears to have not been altered greatly in appearance. The window and door frames are simple four-inch moldings throughout the building and the interior doors are identical to the exterior ones. Each of the rooms contains stock tongue and groove wainscoting topped with a plain chair rail. At each gable end stove chimneys are present, but the stoves have been removed and the pipe holes plastered over. The original pressed tin ceilings in the rooms have been covered with modern suspended ceilings, which could easily be removed.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1883

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at 104 South Second Street in Denton, Caroline County, the old Schoolhouse is a sizeable, one-story frame building that today serves as a facility for meetings and social gatherings. It was built during the last quarter of the 19th century on a cruciform plan, and incorporates several features of the Gothic Revival style, including windows with pointed arches and decorative work in the gable ends. This use of a plan and style most often found in church architecture gives this schoolhouse an unusual character. The building has played a number of roles in the life of the community since its erection, and although no longer used as a school, it today continues to serve the needs of the residents of Denton.

The Schoolhouse stands on a half-acre lot, part of Square No. 7 of the town, which was conveyed on October 1, 1875, to James E. Douglass, William S. Ridgely and Henry O. Comegys, Commissioners for Caroline County, by Philip W. Downes, Joshua W. Bryant and their wives. This lot stood only a few feet from the site of an earlier frame school building, reputed to be the oldest in the county. According to the records of the Caroline County School Board, the present structure was ready for use by October 15, 1883.

As Denton's population increased after the turn of the century, the educational needs of the town could no longer be met by the frame Schoolhouse. New schools were built and, in 1926, the building on South Second Street was sold by the Board of Education to the Denton Community Club, Inc. Aside from using the Schoolhouse as their headquarters, the Community Club maintained a library in the south room of the building between 1935 and 1962, when the present Caroline County Public Library was built on Market Street in Denton. The Denton Community Club is now known as the Woman's Club of Denton, but the organization continues to occupy the old Schoolhouse, maintaining the building and grounds with great care.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Caroline County Land Records, Courthouse, Denton Maryland.
 Cochrane, L.C., et.al. History of Caroline County. Federalsburg, Maryland:
 J.W. Stowell Printing Company, 1920.
 Minutes, Caroline County School Board, 1883.
 Records of the Denton Community Club, Inc. (now the Woman's Club of Denton, Inc).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	4,2,7,6,8,0	4,3,0,4,1,7,0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

James M. Kilvington, Archivist; Randolph M. Cornell, Summer Intern

pmj

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

DATE

September 1976

STREET & NUMBER

21 State Circle

TELEPHONE

(301) 269-2438

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL XXX

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

John N. Pearce 11/30/77
 SHPO

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. M. [Signature]

DATE

4/19/78

NUMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST

W. M. [Signature]

DATE

4.12.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER