



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 Dawson Woman's Clubhouse

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 311^{6th} Sixth Avenue N/A not for publication

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

state Georgia code 013 county Terrell code 273

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Dawson Woman's Garden Club, Mrs Marion Gaines, President

street & number 342 East Seventh Avenue

city, town Dawson N/A vicinity of state Georgia 31742

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number Terrell County Courthouse

city, town Dawson state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title None has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date N/A federal state county local

depository for survey records None

city, town state

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Dawson Woman's Clubhouse, built in 1913, is a rustic, one-story gable-roofed log cabin with a recessed front corner porch and a board and batten rear ell. It is located on a small city lot in an historic residential area of Dawson, Terrell County, Georgia.

The log cabin is constructed of round, saddle-notched, unchinked logs that rest on a primitive pier foundation composed of stacked fieldstones. Gable ends are finished with rough-cut weatherboards. The house is square in plan with a square recessed porch in the southwest corner of the front facade. Porch posts are fashioned from rough tree trunks. Two porch entrances have rustic double doors made of diagonal tongue and groove boards. Windows vary in size and shape, but those on the front facade are twenty-five-over-one double hung sash. All have simple wood surrounds. A rustic exterior chimney of local fieldstone is located on the east side. The gable-roofed rear ell, added in 1928, has board and batten siding.

The interior consists of one large L-shaped room, with a dining area in one leg of the ell and an assembly area in the other. The rear addition, which leads off the dining area, contains a kitchen and restroom. The walls and ceiling are finished with pine boards laid in board and batten fashion; floors are of pine. The fireplace, located in the assembly area, has a simple wood mantel. The building contains its original wiring and plumbing systems, although they are in need of repair and maintenance. Gas was added in the 1960's.

The Clubhouse is located on a small city lot between two houses in an historic residential neighborhood dating from the early years of this century. The level lot is modestly landscaped with trees, shrubs and flowers. The property has no out-buildings.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The Historic Preservation Section has determined that the photographs taken in February, 1981 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1913 **Builder/Architect** Builder or contractor: Shields and Geise

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Dawson Woman's Clubhouse, built in 1913, is historically significant in the areas of architecture, education, landscape architecture and social/humanitarian history. These areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register criteria A and C.

Architecturally, the clubhouse is significant as a good example of a log cabin-type structure built in the early twentieth century for public use. Many similar buildings are associated with parks, recreation and public service facilities of this period. Such structures reflect an early twentieth century design interest in rustic and vernacular architecture. The women's selection of the log cabin form for their clubhouse and the use of rather crude, locally available materials in its construction suggests the new awareness of and interest in conservation prevalent in the early 20th century. It is the only women's clubhouse in the county.

In terms of education, the clubhouse is historically significant as the setting for a variety of "continuing education"-type programs for adults and children sponsored by the Dawson Woman's Club. Classes were offered in arts and crafts and various areas related to home economics and the domestic arts.

In terms of landscape architecture, the clubhouse is historically significant for its informally landscaped grounds, which reflect early twentieth century landscaping principles and practices. The modest grounds, with trees, bushes and flowers scattered throughout the grassy lot, are typically casual and low key. More importantly, the Dawson Woman's Club and its successor, the Dawson Woman's Garden Club, were involved with various landscaping projects around Dawson. These include landscaping Cedar Hill Cemetery, establishing gardens at the Georgia Power Company and at the library, landscaping the grounds around the Terrell County Hospital and planting trees throughout the city.

In terms of social/humanitarian history the clubhouse is significant as the headquarters of a local women's club, an important women's institution of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Women's clubs in Georgia caught on rapidly after the formation of the first women's club in the state in Atlanta in 1895 and the formation of the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs a year later. The Dawson Club, founded in 1905 as the Wednesday Afternoon Club, became a member of the Georgia Federation in 1907. By then there were already over fifty member groups. Their purpose was primarily public service; through federation they hoped

(continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

UN NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

See Attached Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Approximately one-quarter acre

Quadrangle name Dawson, Georgia

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	6	7	4	2	1	7	5	3	5	1	8	1	2	0
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 legal boundary of the nominated property is described in the property deed. This coincides with the property historically associated with the clubhouse. See sketch map

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

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title A) Erick D. Montgomery
B) Carolyn Brooks, National Register Researcher

organization A) Southwest Georgia, APDC
B) Historic Preservation Section, GA DNR date February 25, 1982

street & number A) P.O. Box 346
B) 270 Washington Street SW telephone A) 912 336-5616
B) 404 656 2840

city or town A) Camilla
B) 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 4/30/82

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

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service****National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Significance

Item number

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"to become a unit of power in all necessary reforms and high humanitarian work" in the state. The Dawson Women's Club, as the group became known in 1912, was no exception. From the beginning it was active in community improvement, building a children's playground, founding a Library Association and helping to introduce a home economics department in the local school, among other projects. Since 1950, when the inactive club was reorganized as the Dawson Woman's Garden Club, community improvement has continued to be a goal, although limited to the area of city beautification. The clubhouse has been lent out on many occasions to other local groups such as the PTA, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis Club. increasing its use as a center for groups with a social/humanitarian focus.

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

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Continuation sheet

Bibliography

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Atlanta Constitution. September 21, 1913, p. 2f, Col. 3.

Dawson News. May 9, 1913; May 16, 1913; July 27, 1913; September 16, 1913.

Melton, Ella Christie and Augusta Griggs Raines, History of Terrell County. (Roswell, Georgia: Wolfe Associates, 1980), pp. 386-390.

Minutes of the Dawson Woman's Garden Club. 1950.

DAWSON WOMAN'S CLUBHOUSE
Dawson, Terrell County, Georgia

PROPERTY/SKETCH MAP

Date: 8/22/79

Scale: 1" : 20'

North: ↑

Property Boundary: _____

