

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

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **JUN 27 1985**

date entered **JUL 25 1985**

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

1. Name

historic Agnes Lee Chapter House of the United Daughters of the Confederacy

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number 120 Avery Street

N/A not for publication

city, town Decatur

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia

code 013

county DeKalb

code 089

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	<u>N/A</u> 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: club house

4. Owner of Property

name Mrs. Otis L. Baskette, President, Agnes Lee Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy

street & number P.O. Box 114

city, town Tucker

N/A vicinity of

state Georgia 30084

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Superior Court

street & number DeKalb County Courthouse

city, town Decatur

state Georgia

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Historic Structures Field Survey:

title DeKalb County, Georgia

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1975

federal state county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Section, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources

city, town Atlanta

state Georgia

7. Description

Condition excellent good fair deteriorated ruins unexposed**Check one** unaltered altered**Check one** original site moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Agnes Lee Chapter House of the United Daughters of the Confederacy is a one-story, frame, Colonial Revival building that resembles the residences in its neighborhood. It has painted weatherboard siding, rests on brick piers, and has an unusual front portico/entrance with a curved or wavy roof. On the rear is an enclosed screened porch with an open area underneath. On the interior, one enters from the front door directly into a large meeting room with a fireplace and a Federal-style mantel on the north end. The rest of the main floor contains a kitchen, powder room, and reception room which opens through French doors onto the screened porch. The walls are painted plaster and there are built-in bookshelves on either side of the fireplace. There are no outbuildings, and the grounds have a minimum of landscaping and a magnolia tree. The house sits in an early 20th-century residential neighborhood adjacent to an industrial zone and a block from a major thoroughfare. There are no known changes to the building.

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 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 1916

Builder/Architect Wilson A. Gosnell, architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Agnes Lee Chapter House is significant in architecture as a good example of the use of the Colonial Revival style for a functionally designed meeting house that also is in keeping with its surrounding residential neighborhood. Elements of the Colonial Revival style include the accentuated front door with elaborate pediment/porch supported by slender columns and a symmetrically balanced facade with balanced windows and a centered doorway. Its design also embodies the historic character of the group for which it was built, and the grounds include a magnolia tree, symbolic of the "Old South". The house is also important as an early work of Wilson A. Gosnell, architect, who worked for several prominent architects in Atlanta and later practiced out of state. The house is also significant in social/humanitarian history for being the meeting place for a local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, a membership club, whose goals are to commemorate history, help educate, provide patriotic and commemorative services, and especially to honor those who served the Confederate States of America. The organization also sought to preserve the memories of the role of women in the War Between the States and its aftermath. The UDC statewide, as well as each local chapter, has for many decades had a major influence in activities related to "The War."

These areas of significance support property eligibility under National Register Criteria A and C.

See Continuation Sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet.

10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property ~~less than one acre~~

Quadrangle name Northeast Atlanta, Ga.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	6	7	5	0	9	6	0	3	7	3	9	8	5	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 nominated property is all that is owned by the current owners and all that has ever been associated with this chapter house. It is marked on the enclosed Tax Map #15-234D, Parcel 41.

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 Kenneth H. Thomas, Jr, Historian
Historic Preservation Section

organization Georgia Department of Natural Resources date 6-7-85

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

city or town Atlanta state Georgia 30334

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 Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date 6/11/85

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

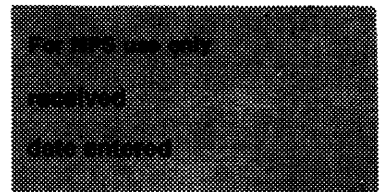
for Helene Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 7-25-85

Attest: Chief of Registration date

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Continuation sheet Significance

Item number 8

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Historical Narrative

The United Daughters of the Confederacy was formed in 1894 as a woman's organization dedicated to preserving the memory of the Confederate States of America, honoring Civil War veterans both living and dead, and other patriotic endeavors.

In January, 1901, a group of ladies gathered in Decatur, Georgia to form a U.D.C. chapter there, primarily to facilitate the local veterans who did not want to have to travel into Atlanta to attend Confederate memorial services and other patriotic events. The name "Agnes Lee" was selected to honor the youngest daughter of Confederate General Robert E. Lee who had died in early childhood. One of the group's first official acts was to present U.D.C. Crosses of Honor to the veterans that attended on Lee's birthday, January 19, 1901 at the DeKalb County Courthouse. Confederate Memorial Day, April 26, was another big day in the UDC year. The chapter was given a room in the basement of the county courthouse as a meeting space.

During 1902, when the chapter had 40 members, they organized a Children of the Confederacy Chapter. The Agnes Lee Chapter raised money for various Confederate memorials or causes including the Winnie Davis Memorial at the State Normal School in Athens and the Confederate Soldiers' Home in Atlanta. At each place the chapter furnished a room. They also provided scholarships.

In July, 1914 Mrs. Thomas N. Fulton announced that her husband would donate a lot, 50 x 75 feet, on which to build a chapter house. The chapter immediately went to work to raise the necessary money in a variety of ways. It was built at a cost of \$2,500. The architect, Wilson A. Gosnell, was working then in the office of Walter T. Downing of Atlanta, a well-known architect of the day. Gosnell later moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee to practice.

In June, 1916 the chapter house was opened with a chapter membership of 117. Various interior furnishings were given by members or friends. Other Confederate-oriented groups put valuable memorabilia on permanent loan to the chapter to be kept in the Chapter House.

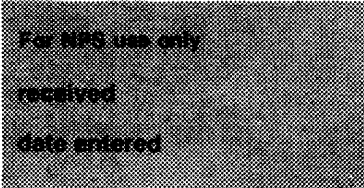
One of the projects the chapter supported during the early years after the house was completed was the Stone Mountain Memorial Carving. They also assisted the World War I war efforts by forming the Camp Gordon Ward No. 2 Auxilliary through which they supplied refreshments and other needed items to troops stationed at Camp Gordon northeast of Atlanta in Chamblee. Similar efforts were provided at Fort McPherson. They entertained recuperating soldiers in the chapter house in July, 1918. In 1922, they were hostess to the State UDC convention which included a reception for all attendees at the chapter house.

During the Depression and pre-World War II years the chapter continued to donate to various funds despite the financial emergencies of the day. Many of these honored Confederate heroes; others were educational funds. Each of the regular chapter meetings included a talk on a historical or patriotic subject or a vital issue of the day, a cause to pursue. Chapter members participated in Memorial Day services in the local schools and held picnics for the veterans, whose ranks dwindled with the passing years. Many times their guests were important figures, such as the 1933 visit of Moina Michael, the Poppy Lady.

Since its hey-day of the 1920s and 1930s, the UDC and the Agnes Lee Chapter

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have continued to carry on the mission of the organization: "The objectives of the United Daughters of the Confederacy are historical, educational, benevolent, memorial and patriotic to honor the memory of those who served and those who fell in the service of the Confederate States of America . . . to mark places made historic by Confederate valor . . . to preserve material for a truthful history of the War Between the States". They also were commissioned to honor the role of women in the War and afterwards, to assist the survivors and their dependents, and to assist in the education of the descendants. The Agnes Lee Chapter still meets 10 times a year and devotes 12 days a year for special memorial efforts.

The National Headquarters of the UDC is in Richmond, Virginia, with each state being a "Division". Within the Georgia Division there are 65 surviving chapters. Nationally, there are approximately 800 chapters. This chapter house is the only one known to have been built specifically by and for a UDC chapter on land donated for that exclusive purpose.

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Continuation sheet Major Bibliographical Reference item number 9

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Burgess, Becky. "Chapter House—Agnes Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy." Historic Property Information Form. September 7, 1984. On file at the Historic Preservation Section, Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia. This application included a large amount of supportive material including a history of the chapter by Mrs. Katie Kerr.

Poppenheim, Mary B., et al. The History of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, 2 volumes published as one. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1956.

Business

100'



hedge



fence

60'

hedge



hardwood

100'



hardwood

HOUSE

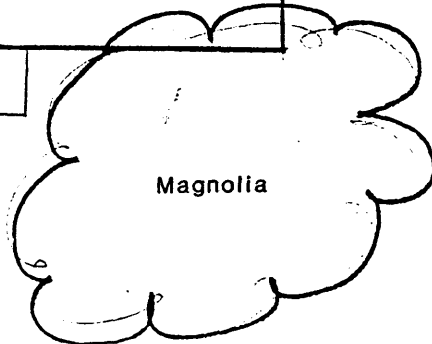
Sketch Map

Agnes Lee Chapter House of the United
 Daughters of the Confederacy
 Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia
 Scale: 1" = 10' approximately
 Source: Drawn for the nomination
 Date: 1984

Key: as marked on the map. Measurements
 from Tax Map No. 15-234D where this
 property is Parcel 41.

100'

Private Residence



Magnolia



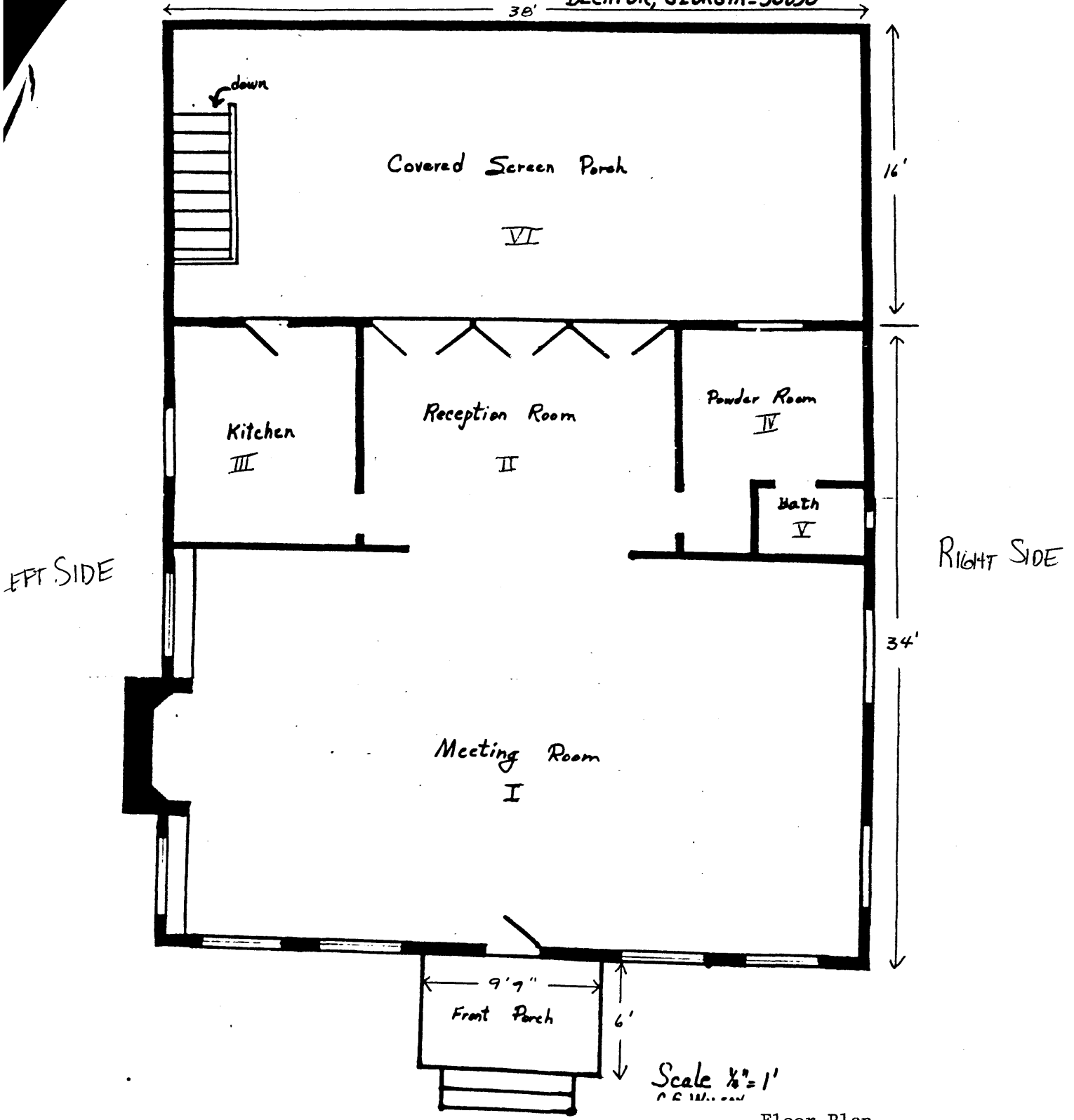
hardwood

60'

60'

Avery Street

AGNES LEE CHAPTER HOUSE, U. D. C., 120 AVERY STREET
 DECATUR, GEORGIA - 30030



Floor Plan

Agnes Lee Chapter House of the United
 Daughters of the Confederacy
 Decatur, DeKalb County, Georgia
 Scale: not to scale
 Source: Drawn by Carolyn G. Wilson
 Date: 1984
 Key: as marked on the plan