

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED OCT 6 1980

DATE ENTERED DEC 1 1980

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

Thomas Dawson House

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

S of Cadiz

CITY, TOWN Roaring Springs

Cadiz vic.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

X VICINITY OF

STATE Kentucky

CODE 021

COUNTY Trigg

CODE 221

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Charles Dawson

STREET & NUMBER

Route 1

CITY, TOWN

Herndon

STATE

VICINITY OF

Kentucky 42236

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Trigg County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Cadiz

STATE

Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 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

Located in rural, southeast Trigg County, the Thomas Dawson house lies along Casey Creek one mile southeast of the small community of Roaring Springs near the Trigg-Christian county line. The house lies approximately fifteen miles southwest of Hopkinsville and twelve miles south of Cadiz, the county seat.

Facing southward, the 1½-story brick structure built ca. 1816-17 embodies a hall-parlor plan (see photos 1 and 2). The asymmetrical three-bay facade is laid in common bond with the entrance being slightly to the left of center, giving access to the west hall. Smaller pane window sash have been replaced with 2/2 sash set in the original casings; a rectangular transom surmounts the nine-panel front door. Jack arches cap all the openings. In the east and west elevations, gable end windows flank the interior chimneys. A door is located in the east elevation south of the chimney. A ca. 1910 frame addition extends from the northeast (rear) wall (see photo 3). On the interior, substantial portions of the original woodwork remain including simple beaded baseboards, chairrail, built-in cupboards flanking the fireplaces in both rooms, and Federal mantels. Enclosed stairs are situated in the southwest corner of the east parlor. A window in the north (rear) wall was lengthened to a door to give access to the ca. 1910 frame addition. Vacant for many years, the house had fallen into disrepair. Currently, it is being renovated, an addition is being made to the rear adjoining the frame section, and the house will again be used as a private residence.

The house is situated on a large farm; thus the nomination consists of approximately three acres including only the house and a nineteenth century family cemetery located four hundred feet south of the house just east of the dirt farm road.

# 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 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 checked="" 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 ca. 1816-17

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Thomas Dawson house is a well-preserved example of a late eighteenth century house form and is among the earliest known brick structures in Trigg County. Because the only alteration occurs in the form of a frame addition to the rear, the house remains as an especially clear illustration of the late eighteenth century hall-parlor plan, retaining most of the original woodwork. In addition, the house is one of the few remaining known to have been associated with the early settlement of the southeast section of Trigg County.

Trigg County was formed in 1820 from portions of Christian and Caldwell counties. Four years previously, Thomas and John Dawson of Bourbon County purchased a 4,000-acre tract of land along the Little River and Casey Creek and about 1817 established their homes in the vicinity of Roaring Springs. Thomas Dawson (1759-1829), the more prosperous of the two brothers, appears to have been the patriarch of the family, and his eldest son Richard figured prominently in the early history of the county. Known as "Squire Dick," Richard P. Dawson (1791-1866) was appointed one of the original nine justices of the peace for the new county in 1820, served on the commission to let bids for the first county courthouse, and was the presiding justice of the county court until 1831.

Tradition states that five houses were built by the first Dawson settlers in the vicinity of Roaring Springs. However, of the two brothers, only Thomas Dawson's house survives; John Dawson's house, located on what is now the Fort Campbell property, has been destroyed. Further research should indicate whether the three remaining early nineteenth century houses in the vicinity of Roaring Springs are related to the Dawson settlement.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Please see continuation sheet.

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**  
**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY approximately three acres

QUADRANGLE NAME Roaring Springs QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES			QUADRANGLE SCALE		
A	1 6	4 3 8 7 4 0	4 0 6 3 9 4 0	B	
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C				D	
E				F	
G				H	

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see continuation sheet.

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

Charlotte Schneider, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

September 1980

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

## 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

Donna C. Hopkins

DATE

Acting State Historic Preservation Officer 9-24-80

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Linda Hunt McClelland  
CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE 12-1-80

DATE 12-1-80

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Goodwin, Lora. Goodwin-Dawson Families Family File. Kentucky Historical Society.  
Historical Record Commemorating 150th Anniversary of Trigg County, 1820-1970.
- Neel, Eurie Pearl Wilford. The Statistical Handbook of Trigg County Kentucky.  
Nashville: Rich Printing Company, 1961.
- Pearce, John Ed. "Trigg County" The Courier-Journal Magazine, 13 July 1980.
- Perrin, Wm. Henry, Ed. Counties of Christian and Trigg, Kentucky. Chicago and  
Louisville: F. A. Battey Publishing Co., 1884.
- Article Reprinted from the Cadiz Record, 3 April 1902.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at a point on the east side of the dirt farm road approximately 50' from the northwest corner of the house, east 200', south 600' parallel to and 200' east of the farm road, west 200' to the east side of the farm road, north along the east side of said road to the point of origin.