NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in "Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms" (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

RECEIVED 2280
MAR 2 6 2009
NAT. P... PLACES

historic name Gilleland, Boyd and Sallie, House
other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number 3 Shepard's Lane
city, town Dawsonville ( ) **vicinity of**
county Dawson **code** GA 085
state Georgia **code** GA **zip code** 30534

( ) **not for publication**

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:

(X) **private**
( ) **public-local**
( ) **public-state**
( ) **public-federal**

Category of Property:

(X) **building(s)**
( ) **district**
( ) **site**
( ) **structure**
( ) **object**

Number of Resources within Property:	Contributing	Noncontributing
buildings	1	0
sites	0	0
structures	0	0
objects	0	0
total	1	0

Contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: N/A
Name of previous listing: N/A
Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Richard Carver — 3.19.09

Signature of certifying official — Date

for W. Ray Luce
Historic Preservation Division Director
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property ( ) meets ( ) does not meet the National Register criteria. ( ) See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official — Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

(✓) entered in the National Register — Edson N. Beall — 5-6-09

( ) determined eligible for the National Register

( ) determined not eligible for the National Register

( ) removed from the National Register

( ) other, explain:

( ) see continuation sheet

Keeper of the National Register — Date

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:

DOMESTIC: single dwelling
AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: processing

Current Functions:

OTHER: special events facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification:

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials:

foundation CONCRETE
walls WOOD: weatherboard
roof ASPHALT
other BRICK

Description of present and historic physical appearance:

The Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House is located off of Georgia Highway 9 south of downtown Dawsonville, the county seat of Dawson County, in the foothills of the northeast Georgia mountains. Georgia Highway 9 is a main thoroughfare that runs from Lumpkin County through Dawson County and south to Atlanta in Fulton County. Highway 9 was a main road from northeast Georgia to Atlanta before the construction of Georgia 400.

Built in 1929, the Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House is a one-and-one-half-story, frame, Craftsman bungalow (photographs 1 and 2). The house is a side-gable bungalow type with a projecting front-gable roof over the porch and a front-gable dormer (photograph 3). The original weatherboard siding covers the house and the house rests on a poured-concrete foundation (photographs 6 and 7). There is one external chimney on the right (north) side of the house and two internal chimneys at the rear of the house. Historic lightning rods remain on the roof. Craftsman-style details on the exterior of the house include wide, overhanging eaves, knee braces, and exposed rafters (photographs 4 and 7). Paired Craftsman-style windows and wood-and-glass doors are also significant stylistic features of the house (photographs 5, 8, and 10).

The house has a full-width porch, which extends into a porte cochere (photographs 3 and 9). The porch has a large projecting front-gable roof, knee braces, and a tripartite gable window. The porch is supported by thick brick piers that are topped by marble caps (photographs 10 and 11). The front dormer also has exposed rafters, wide eaves, knee braces, and a tripartite window.

The interior of the house retains its original open floor plan that is typical of the bungalow house type. Original wood floors and ceilings, wood window and door surrounds, and wood-paneled doors remain in the house (photographs 13 and 16). Modern carpet covers some of the wood floors. The primary rooms have plaster walls, while the rear rooms and half-story rooms have wood walls. Fireplaces in the house have decorative brickwork and simple mantels (photographs 13, 19, and 21). The front door opens into the large front room (living room), which has French doors leading into the dining room (photograph 13) and a door with a transom above leading into the small hallway (photograph 14). The dining room has low wainscoting and a chair rail (photograph 15). The hall and rear rooms have wood walls and ceilings (photographs 17-21). The kitchen has a modern tile floor and updated appliances and fixtures (photographs 19 and 20). The wood staircase rises to the half-story from the rear of the hall and has thin, square, triple balusters on each step and a decorative newel post (photograph 18).

The half-story has two bedrooms with closets. The front right bedroom has a small fireplace with decorative brickwork (photograph 22). Inside the closet in the right bedroom there is a secret passageway into a hidden room with no exterior windows or doors where Boyd Gilleland had a moonshine still (photograph 23). The original walls are covered with modern sheetrock but the original wood floor remains in this room. The chimney used in the kitchen below rises through this room and was used for ventilation for the still (photograph 24). An additional opening for a stovepipe is seen near the top of the chimney. There is also a removable wall panel in the secret room that leads into the attic space, reputedly as an escape door (photograph 26). There are additional hidden storage spaces and passageways in the half story (photograph 25 and 28). Local legend says the moonshine recipe was removed from the wall of the secret room when the house was sold out of the family.

In 1983, bathrooms and the kitchen were updated. In 1990, a small closet was converted into a half bath and closets were added to a bedroom (photograph 17). In 2005-2006, the house was rehabilitated for use as a special events facility called Peach Brandy Cottage. The laundry room was converted into a handicap-accessible bathroom and a rear porch and steps were added.

The landscaping around the house is mature hardwood trees and ornamental plantings. There is a modern wide, circular drive, landscaped planting beds, wood slat fences, and small rear deck that were added to the property for its current use as a special events facility (photographs 1, 2, 5, and 7). The National Register boundary is approximately 0.4 acres, directly around the house, and does not include a large modern barn and outdoor special events area (photographs 29 and 30).

The rehabilitation of the Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House was approved by the Historic Preservation Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the state preferential property tax assessment program on December 20, 2007.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

( ) **nationally** ( ) **statewide** (X) **locally**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

(X) **A** ( ) **B** (X) **C** ( ) **D**

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): (X) **N/A**

( ) **A** ( ) **B** ( ) **C** ( ) **D** ( ) **E** ( ) **F** ( ) **G**

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions):

ARCHITECTURE
COMMERCE

Period of Significance:

1929-1959

Significant Dates:

1929—construction date of the house

Significant Person(s):

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect(s)/Builder(s):

N/A

Statement of significance (areas of significance)

The Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House was built in 1929-1930 for Boyd Gilleland (1891-1960), his wife Sallie Orr Gilleland (1893-1977), and their five children. Boyd Gilleland had various jobs over the years, primarily carpentry and farming. As a young man, Gilleland worked at a sawmill and did some gold mining. To further supplement his income during the 1930s, Boyd Gilleland made moonshine. Rather than maintaining a still deep in the woods, Gilleland built a secret attic room in the Gilleland house for his still. The location of the house on Georgia Highway 9 in Dawsonville, a highway that goes straight to Atlanta and turns into Peachtree Street, enabled easy transportation and commerce of moonshine to customers and clubs in Atlanta. The success of his moonshine enterprise allowed Boyd Gilleland to develop several businesses in Dawsonville for his children later in life including a service station, hardware store, and Amicalola Lodge. Boyd Gilleland was one of the founders of Dawson County Bank, and in his later years, served as a tax commissioner for Dawson County. After her husband's death in 1960, Sallie Gilleland continued to live in the house until her death in 1977. The house was purchased by the current owners in 1983.

The Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House is significant in the area of architecture as a good and intact example of an early 20th-century Craftsman bungalow in Dawson County. According to *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*, Craftsman-style bungalows were very popular throughout the state and were built from the 1910s through the 1930s. In an analysis of Georgia's Historic Resources Survey (available online at https://www.itos.uga.edu/nahrgis), the bungalow is by far the most common house type in Georgia comprising 26% of surveyed houses, and half of the surveyed bungalows have Craftsman-style features. In general, bungalows are concentrated in larger towns and cities in Georgia, particularly in early 20th-century suburbs. In rural areas of the state, Craftsman bungalows are generally located in the upper Piedmont region in a line from LaGrange to Elberton and in a cluster in extreme northwest Georgia. There are far fewer Craftsman bungalows in the southern edge of the Georgia mountain region, which includes Dawson County. The Gilleland house is a relatively rare example of a Craftsman-style bungalow in this part of Georgia. The Gilleland house is also significant as an excellent example of a side-gable bungalow that retains its open bungalow floor plan and exterior and interior character-defining features. Craftsman-style character-defining exterior details include wide, overhanging eaves, exposed knee braces, and Craftsman-style doors and paired windows. The house also retains its original interior character-defining features such as wood door and window surrounds, wood doors, decorative brick fireplaces, and wood floors and ceilings.

The Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House is significant in the area of commerce for its direct association with the production of moonshine in north Georgia during Prohibition. Moonshine production was a popular enterprise in north Georgia counties during Prohibition and into the 1940s (Georgia outlawed the manufacture and consumption of alcohol in 1907 before the Volstead Act of 1920). In Dawson County, millions of gallons of illicit whiskey were brought into Atlanta, often in specially designed "tanker cars" outfitted with secret storage compartments to evade federal revenuers. Locally, it is well known that Boyd Gilleland made moonshine in his house during Prohibition. The house is located on Georgia Highway 9, which provided direct access to clubs and speakeasies in

Atlanta. Architecturally, the house has a secret room that is only accessed through a hidden panel in a closet. The chimney in this room has an extra round vent for a stovepipe, and there is another secret panel leading into a hidden passageway inside the attic space. The manufacture and sale of moonshine allowed north Georgia farmers to supplement their income, particularly during and after the Great Depression. By evading federal taxes on the sale of alcohol, moonshiners were always under the threat of arrest by federal revenue agents--either by stills being found or by being caught transporting moonshine. Stills were often hidden deep in the north Georgia mountains, under camouflage, or within barns. In the case of the Gilleland house, the still was hidden within the house, and reportedly moonshine was made upstairs while Sallie Gilleland cooked dinner downstairs to mask the smoke and odor of distilling alcohol.

National Register Criteria

The Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House meets National Register Criterion A in the area of commerce for its direct association with the production and sale of moonshine in Dawson County by Boyd Gilleland. The house meets National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture as a good, intact example of an early 20th-century Craftsman-style bungalow in Georgia, especially in Dawson County.

Criteria Considerations (if applicable)

N/A

Period of significance (justification)

The period of significance begins with 1929, the year construction began on the house and ends with 1959, the end of the historic period, because Boyd and Sallie Gilleland continued to live in the house until her death in June 1977. Due to the illicit nature of his moonshine operation, it is uncertain when Boyd Gilleland ceased making moonshine at the house. Family tradition is that moonshine was only made in the house during Prohibition. The period of significance ends in 1959 to account for the existence of the secret room throughout the Gillelands ownership of the house.

Contributing/Noncontributing Resources (explanation, if necessary)

The historic, contributing house is the only resource within the National Register boundary.

Developmental history/historic context (if appropriate)

NOTE: The following developmental history was prepared by Caroline Christie, property owner, and with additional research by Gretchen Brock, National Register Coordinator, Historic Preservation Division, Historic Preservation, Inc., "Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House," *Historic Property Information Form*, January 10, 2007. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Dawson County was named for Judge William Crosby Dawson, who was a Georgia state representative from 1836 to 1841, and served in the U.S. Senate from 1849 to 1856. The county seat, Dawsonville, was incorporated in 1859. Dawson County's economy was based on agriculture with some small-scale gold mining in the early 1800s. Throughout the early 20th-century, during Prohibition, and into the 1940s, Dawson County was also well known for the manufacture of moonshine, apple brandy, and peach brandy. Dawsonville is known as one of the birthplaces of NASCAR with many local men with ties to bootlegging, such as Raymond Parks, Roy Hall, and Lloyd Seay, having successful careers early in the history of the sport. Today, Dawsonville is famous for its NASCAR drivers, the local Dawsonville Pool Room with its collection of NASCAR memorabilia, and its annual Mountain Moonshine Festival in October.

Boyd Nathaniel Gilleland was born on April 9, 1891. He married Sallie E. Orr on October 10, 1910. In the 1920 U.S. Census, Boyd Gilleland is listed as a farmer. His obituary mentions that he was known in the community as a farmer and a fine carpenter. The Gillelands lived in the Emma community of Dawson County with their five children until 1929 when Boyd moved his family into their new house off of Georgia Highway 9 in Dawsonville in Dawson County. The Gillelands owned 100 acres of land at their new house site and Boyd was listed as a farmer in the 1930 U.S. Census.

A number of north Georgia farms started making and selling moonshine with the start of Prohibition in 1920. The typical method was to site the still in an isolated area, but the fire and odor of the distilling mash often resulted in the arrest of the moonshiner. Boyd Gilleland decided to build an indoor moonshine still.

The Craftsman-style house he built has an attic area over this kitchen, with the kitchen chimney going through the attic to the roof. Boyd made some small modifications to the house plans, including a secret passageway from an upstairs bedroom closet. The secret passageway went behind the hall closet and the upstairs bathroom into a secret attic room, which had no windows or doors. He also added another secret passageway behind and beside the small upstairs bedroom, which gave him an opportunity to escape from the secret room should lawmen get into the house and discover the secret room.

The Gilleland children were unaware of their family enterprise. Pete Gilleland says that he was nine years old when he first learned of the existence of the secret room. He was taking a nap and his father carried him into the room. When Pete woke up, he did not know where he was. According to Pete, the family only made moonshine for a few years.

Dawsonville is well known for its connection to moonshine. Millions of gallons of illicit whiskey made in Dawson County were brought into Atlanta, often in specially designed "tanker cars" outfitted with secret storage compartments to evade federal revenuers. By evading federal taxes on the sale of alcohol, moonshiners were always under the threat of arrest by federal revenue agents either by stills being found or by being caught transporting moonshine. Stills were often hidden deep in the north Georgia mountains, under camouflage, or within barns. Transporting illegal liquor from the mountains to larger cities had its own set of dangers. Mountain roads were often poorly maintained with treacherous curves, and moonshine "runners" often had to outrun "revenuers" in their cars. North Georgia moonshiners became famous (or infamous) for their fast cars, often 1940 Fords, that were "souped up" by mechanics to go over 100 miles per hour to outrun revenue agents and local law enforcement. The cars were further modified with heavy-duty suspensions, rear and passenger seats were removed for extra storage space, and metal plates were installed in front of radiators to prevent police from shooting holes in them. On the weekends, runners or bootleggers would gather together to determine who had the fastest car or who was the best driver. These impromptu races became popular spectator events in mountain communities of Georgia, Tennessee, and the Carolinas. By the late 1940s, the north Georgia tradition of running moonshine and outrunning revenuers in fast, powerful cars grew into the popular sport of stock car racing (NASCAR--National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing). Many of NASCAR's legendary drivers, such as Bill Elliott (a.k.a. Awesome Bill from Dawsonville), grew up in Dawson and neighboring Georgia counties.

Boyd Gilleland used his success in the moonshine business to start legal businesses for his children. He built Amicalola Lodge for his son Pete, the Dawsonville Service Station for his son Gene, and the Dawsonville Hardware for his son Carlton. In addition, Boyd was one of the five founders of the Dawson County Bank and was elected tax commissioner for Dawson County. In 1952, Dawsonville received local telephone service and Boyd Gilleland was among Standard Telephone Company's first 25 customers to subscribe. According to his obituary, Boyd was a respected and well-loved resident of Dawsonville. He died on March 2, 1960. Sallie Gilleland continued to live in the house until her death on June 25, 1977.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Christie, Caroline. "Boyd and Sallie Gilleland House," *Historic Property Information Form*, January 10, 2007. On file at the Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Atlanta, Georgia.

Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Division. *Georgia's Living Places: Historic Houses in Their Landscaped Settings*. Atlanta: 1991.

Pierce, Dan. "NASCAR." *New Georgia Encyclopedia.* April 29, 2008. Accessed March 2, 2009 <http://www.newgeorgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-2054&hl=y>

Stewart, Bruce E. "Moonshine." *New Georgia Encyclopedia.* April 6, 2005. Accessed January 25, 2007 < http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Article.jsp?id=h-2580&hl=y>

Thompson, Neal. *Driving with the Devil: Southern Moonshine, Detroit Wheels, and the Birth of NASCAR.* New York: Crown Publishing Group, 2006.

Wilson, Bret M. "Running Moonshine: The NASCAR Connection." *Mountain Times.* Autumn 2004. Accessed August 10, 2007 <http://mountaintimes.com/autumn/ex_stockcar.php3>

Previous documentation on file (NPS): (X) **N/A**

( ) **preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested**
( ) **preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been issued**
date issued:
( ) **previously listed in the National Register**
( ) **previously determined eligible by the National Register**
( ) **designated a National Historic Landmark**
( ) **recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #**
( ) **recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #**

Primary location of additional data:

(X) **State historic preservation office**
( ) **Other State Agency**
( ) **Federal agency**
( ) **Local government**
( ) **University**
( ) **Other, Specify Repository:**

Georgia Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre.

UTM References

A) Zone 16 Easting 764757 Northing 3811839

Verbal Boundary Description

The National Register boundary is indicated on the attached plat map drawn to scale with a heavy, black line.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property consists of a rectangular tract of land measuring approximately 160 feet east-west and 115 north-south.

The northern boundary runs along the northern legal boundary of the property for approximately 160 feet from Georgia Highway 9 on the east to a wooden fence at the back of the lawn on the west.

The western boundary runs approximately 110 feet along a wooden fence at the west edge of the back lawn separating the yard from a parking area further west.

The southern boundary runs for approximately 160 feet along the northern edge of a dirt driveway nearly adjacent to the house.

The eastern boundary follows the western edge of the right-of-way Georgia Highway 9 except for a small incursion into the right of way at the northeastern corner of the nominated property to include a small grassed area and a historic tree.

11. Form Prepared By

State Historic Preservation Office

name/title Gretchen A. Brock/National Register Coordinator
organization Historic Preservation Division, Georgia Department of Natural Resources
mailing address 34 Peachtree Street, NW, Suite 1600
city or town Atlanta **state** Georgia **zip code** 30303
telephone (404) 656-2840 **date** March 12, 2009
e-mail gretchen.brock@dnr.state.ga.us

Consulting Services/Technical Assistance (if applicable) ( ) not applicable

name/title Caroline Christie
organization N/A
mailing address 3 Shepard's Lane
city or town Dawsonville **state** Georgia **zip code** 30534
telephone (678) 982-1120
e-mail caroline@peachbrandycottage.com

(X) **property owner**
( ) **consultant**
( ) **regional development center preservation planner**
( ) **other:**

Property Owner or Contact Information

name (property owner or contact person) Caroline Christie
organization (if applicable) N/A
mailing address 3 Shepard's Lane
city or town Dawsonville **state** Georgia **zip code** 30534
e-mail (optional) caroline@peachbrandycottage.com

Name of Property: Gilleland, Boyd and Sallie, House
City or Vicinity: Dawsonville
County: Dawson
State: Georgia
Photographer: James R. Lockhart
Negative Filed: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
Date Photographed: August 2007

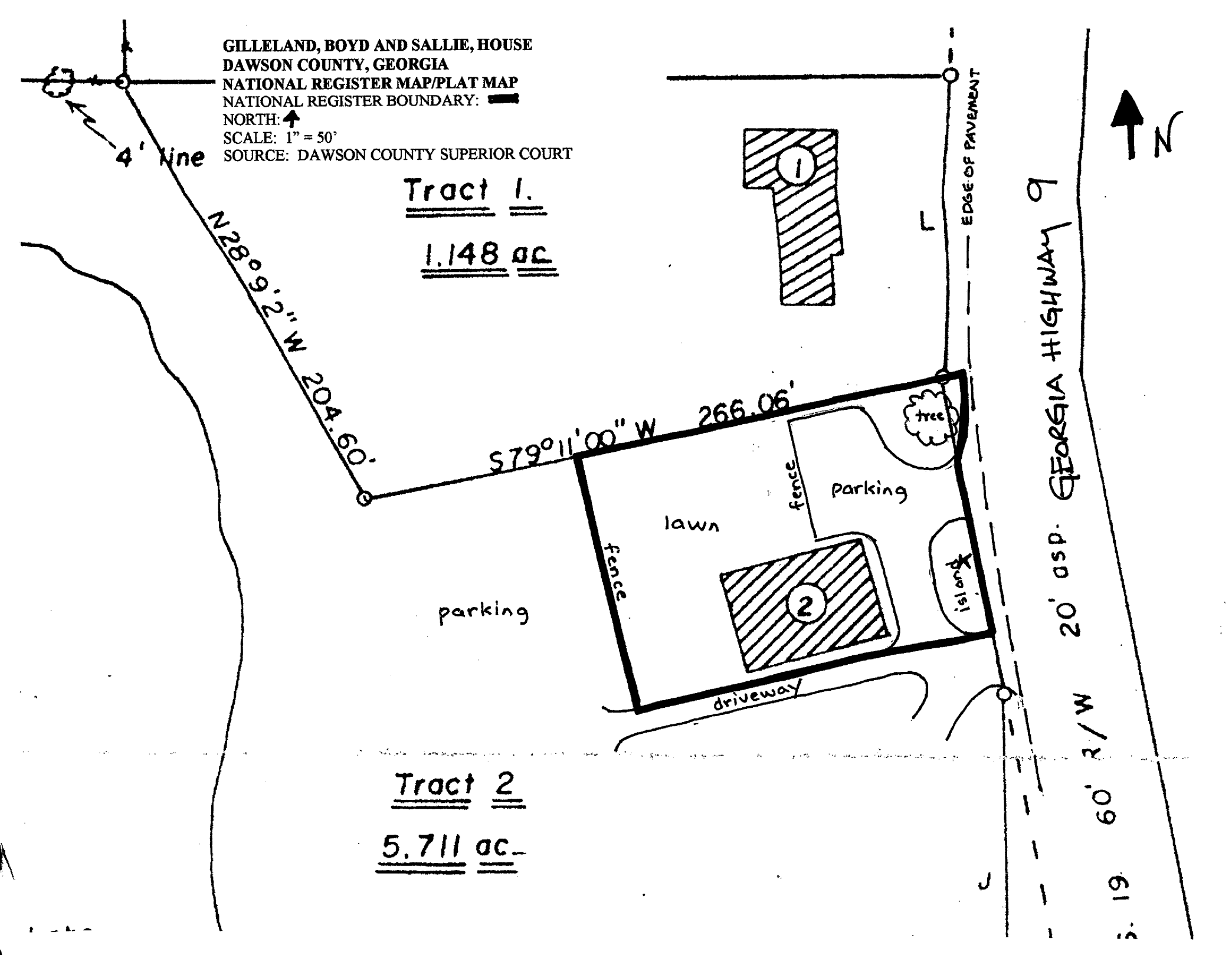
Description of Photograph(s):

Number of photographs: 32

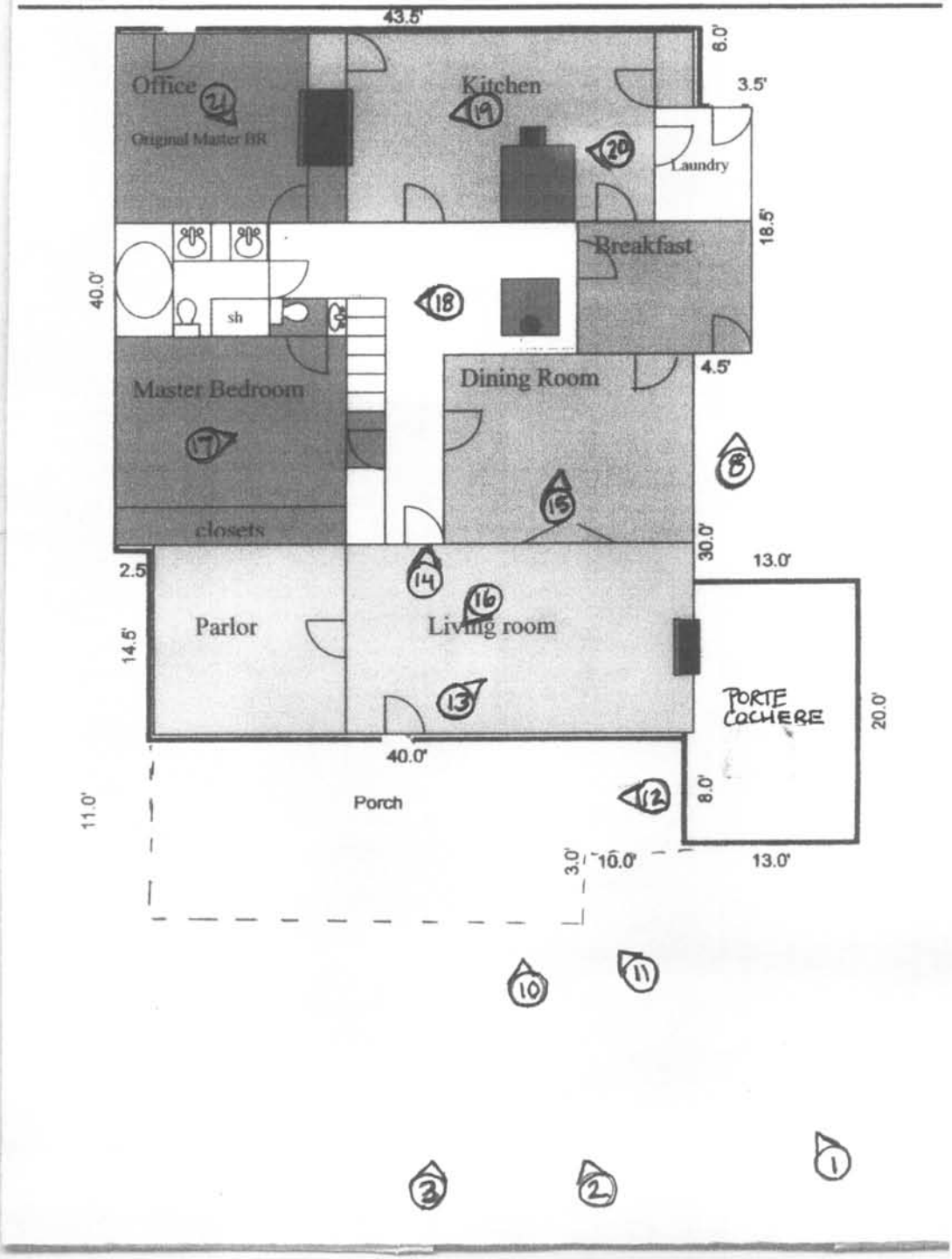
1. Front façade and setting; photographer facing southwest.
2. Front façade; photographer facing southwest.
3. Front façade; photographer facing west.
4. Front and south facades; photographer facing northwest.
5. South façade; photographer facing north.
6. Rear (west) and north facades; photographer facing southeast.
7. North façade; photographer facing south.
8. Detail of side door on north façade; photographer facing west.
9. North façade; photographer facing southwest.
10. Detail of front façade; photographer facing west.
11. Detail of porch post; photographer facing southwest.
12. Detail of porch; photographer south.
13. Interior, living room; photographer facing northwest.
14. Interior, detail of doorway into the hall; photographer facing west.
15. Interior, dining room; photographer facing west.
16. Interior, detail of front door; photographer facing southeast.

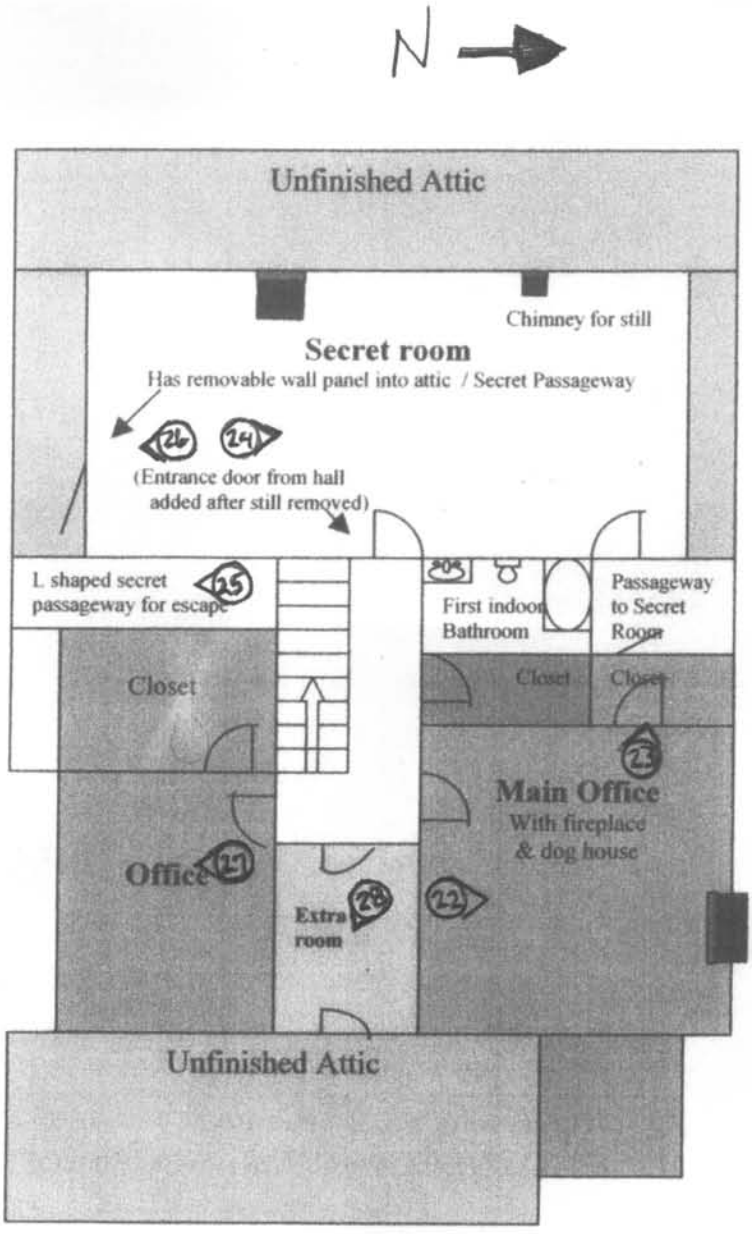
17. Interior, detail of bedroom; photographer facing north.
18. Interior, detail of staircase; photographer facing south.
19. Interior, kitchen; photographer facing south.
20. Interior, kitchen; photographer facing south.
21. Interior, back left room (office); photographer facing northeast.
22. Interior, second floor, front right bedroom (main office); photographer facing north.
23. Interior, second floor, looking through closet into secret room; photographer facing west.
24. Interior, second floor, secret room; photographer facing north.
25. Interior, second floor, secret passageway; photographer facing south.
26. Interior, second floor, secret panel into attic space; photographer facing south.
27. Interior, second floor, front left bedroom (office); photographer facing south.
28. Interior, second floor, front middle room; photographer facing east.
29. View outside of National Register boundary towards modern barn; photographer facing southwest.
30. View outside of National Register boundary toward backyard; photographer facing west.
31. View of setting from across Georgia Highway 9; photographer facing west.
32. View of setting from across Georgia Highway 9; photographer facing southwest.

(HPD WORD form version 11-03-01)


GILLELAND, BOYD AND SALLIE, HOUSE
DAWSON COUNTY, GEORGIA
NATIONAL REGISTER MAP/PLAT MAP
NATIONAL REGISTER BOUNDARY:
NORTH:
SCALE: 1" = 50'
SOURCE: DAWSON COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
4' line
N28°9'2"W 204.60'
Tract 1.
1.148 ac
1
EDGE OF PAVEMENT
S79°11'00" W 266.06'
tree
fence
parking
lawn
fence
island
2
parking
driveway
Tract 2
5.711 ac.
GEORGIA HIGHWAY 9
20' asp.
60' R/W
N

GILLELAND, BOYD AND SALLIE, HOUSE
DAWSON COUNTY, GEORGIA
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: (1)
NORTH: →
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE
SOURCE: PROPERTY OWNER





GILLELAND, BOYD AND SALLIE, HOUSE
DAWSON COUNTY, GEORGIA
SECOND (HALF-STORY) FLOOR PLAN
PHOTOGRAPH/DIRECTION OF VIEW: 1
NORTH: →
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE
SOURCE: PROPERTY OWNER

We Stand
United

Peach Brandy
Cottage

VICKERY
RESERVED

COMEDY WRITING SECRETS