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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# 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

historic name Dinsmore House

other names/site number NA

### 2. Location

street & number 210 South Elm St.

N/A not for publication

city, town Carlisle

N/A vicinity

state Kentucky

code KY

county Nicholas

code 181

zip code 40013

### 3. Classification

#### Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

#### Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

#### Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>-0-</u>	buildings
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	sites
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	structures
<u>    </u>	<u>    </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>-0-</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register -0-

### 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  request for determination of eligibility 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  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

David L. Morgan  
Signature of certifying official David L. Morgan, State Historic Preservation Officer Date 8-25-89  
Kentucky Heritage Council

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

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 and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Patrick Andrews \_\_\_\_\_ 10/11/89

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

## 6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

(Mid-19th Century)  
Gothic Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone  
walls Wood/weatherboard  
\_\_\_\_\_  
roof Asphalt  
other \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Dinsmore House rests at a northeast angle on a lot high above Carlisle, facing the road known variously as South Elm Street and Upper Jackstown Road. The clock tower of the Nicholas County Court house and the tops of the buildings in town are visible from the front porch of the house. Directly north of the house down a steep incline, railroad tracks running east-west, separate the house and its accompanying land from the town below.

The house is fitted with paired gables on the main facade and the east facade. The gables on the main facade are assymetrical, and the east side gables are identical. Decorative vergeboards grace the gables, and the entire roofline. The vergeboard pattern is similar to a bicycle chain in design. Two interior chinneys puncture the roof at the ridge.

The front facade's central door is flanked by two-over-two double hung sash windows with louvered shutters. A one-story hipped roof porch with prominent stone foundation and closed rails extends across the front of the main facade. Two-over-two double hung sash gothic head windows with louvered shutters are centrally placed in each gable.

The east facade closely resembles the main facade, with a central door flanked by two-over-two double hung sash windows with louvered shutters. A gabled wood overhang with wood brackets was added over the doorway at a later date. Two-over-two gothic head windows with louvered shutters are centrally placed in each gable.

The west facade of the house also contains a gabled roof. A two-over-two double-hung sash window with louvered shutters is centrally placed on the first story. A two-over-two double-hung sash gothic head window with louvered shutters is centrally placed in the gable peak. A small double-hung sash window in the rear frame addition is visible. Two evenly spaced windows rest in the stone foundation of the house, directly below the first story window.

**8. Statement of Significance**

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

nationally     statewide     locally

Applicable National Register Criteria     A     B     C     D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)     A     B     C     D     E     F     G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Period of Significance

circa 1831-1863  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

c. 1831-63  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_

Architect/Builder

Unknown  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Dinsmore House at 210 South Elm Street is eligible for National Register listing under Criteria C, as Carlisle's best example of Gothic Revival style architecture. This house is an excellent example of Gothic Revival ornament on a center passage house. Gothic decoration graces many houses in the city, but this house possesses the boldest treatment of the style.

There are several levels of Carpenter's Gothic architecture in Carlisle. Interpretations of the style include decorative vergeboards, ornate porches, and centered gables on otherwise unadorned vernacular houses. Seven other houses in the town, also frame, and one stone church have varying degrees of Gothic Revival styling. The outlying areas of Nicholas County have not been surveyed, but it is not expected that better examples are to be found outside of Carlisle.

This Carpenter's Gothic house at 210 South Elm Street was built for William Dinsmore I, circa 1831-1863. Dinsmore purchased the land on the southwest side of the city limits of Carlisle in 1831. Henry Dinsmore subsequently owned the land, and in 1863 the house was purchased by William Dinsmore, II. The relationships between the first and second William Dinsmores, and Henry Dinsmore is unknown.

No historical information could be located about William I or Henry Dinsmore. William Dinsmore II was a furniture merchant and undertaker in Carlisle. He joined the firm of Howard, Dinsmore and Company in 1900, at the age of 75. The company owned a building on the central commercial block of Main Street that is now occupied by Hopkins Drugs Store.1 William Dinsmore II lived in the house until his death in 1912.2

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

The Carlisle Mercury, 31 May 1900.

Kentucky. Nicholas County Deed Books.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

**Specify repository:**

Kentucky Heritage Council

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property Less than one acre

**UTM References**

A 

1	6	7	5	9	4	8	0	4	2	4	4	3	2	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

Carlisle, KY. Quad

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Refer to Map for the boundary description.

The nominated area includes the property the house sits on along with a ten foot perimeter surrounding the building.

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The nominated area includes the property the house sits on, plus a ten-foot perimeter. The house at one time sat on a farm of several hundred acres. However, the land was sold several times as one tract of land in larger land purchases. Thus it has lost its identity as a farmhouse, and is now regarded as a town residence. No contributing outbuildings are associated with the property. This boundary eliminates the two non-contributing outbuildings from the nominated area.

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Donna M. Neary, Historical Consultant date May 1, 1989  
organization \_\_\_\_\_ telephone (502) 635-1659  
street & number 1500 S. Fifth St. Apt. 124 city or town Louisville state Kentucky zip code 40208

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The south, rear facade of the house is composed of two bays. An entrance with louvered shutters is situated on the first story. Directly above, a two-over-two double hung sash window with louvered shutters rests in the gable. A one story frame addition, circa 1970, occupies the ell of the "L-shaped" house. Two bays in the addition are composed of an entrance and paired double hung sash windows with louvered shutters. A wood frame deck with frame balustrade projects from the back of the house.

Project budget and deadlines precluded interior investigation of the property.

The Dinsmore House maintains a high level of integrity. The ornament of the building is intact, and the window and door openings remain unchanged. The frame addition to the rear of the house and the frame overhang on the east facade are easily reversible. The original wood siding remains. The light green asphalt shingled roof appears to be approximately ten years old.

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George Fishback bought the house from the Dinsmore estate in 1912. Other owners of the house have been Mason Hamilton and John T. Jackson. Earl Hardwick purchased the house in 1961. It was conveyed to Elaine Hardwick in 1977 as part of her parents estate.<sup>3</sup> None of these people are known to have special significance in Carlisle or Nicholas County history.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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1  
The Carlisle Mercury, 31 May 1900.

2  
Nicholas County Deed Book 28, p. 540.

3  
Nicholas County Deed Book 71, p. 237.





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PHOTOGRAPHS

1. Dinsmore House
2. Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky
3. Photographer, Donna M. Neary
4. Date: March 1989
5. Negatives on file with the Kentucky Heritage Council, Frankfort, Kentucky

(The above information is the same for all three photographs submitted with the nomination. Below is a numbered list of the photographs.)

1. Dinsmore House; photographer facing southwest.
2. Dinsmore House; photographer facing west.
3. Dinsmore House; photographer facing north.