

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM**

1. Name of Property

historic name: Holmes, William Frederick, House
other names/site number: "Theosa"

2. Location

street & number: 302 Third Street
city or town: McComb
state: Mississippi code: MS county: Pike code: 113 zip code: 39648

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X 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 X meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ___ nationally ___ statewide X locally. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Kenneth H. P. Paul
Signature of certifying official

FEBRUARY 9, 2004
Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. 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): _____

for
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edsa W. Beall 3/22/04

5. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Private	Number of Resources within Property:		
Category of Property:	Building	<i>Contributing</i>	<i>Noncontributing</i>	
		1	1	buildings
				sites
				structures
				objects
		1	1	Total
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)		Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register		
N/A		N/A		

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions:
Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions:
Domestic: single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification(s):
Queen Anne

Materials:
 foundation: Brick
 roof: Shingle
 walls: Wood
 other

Narrative Description:
 See Continuation Sheets

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance

c. 1894

Significant Dates

c. 1894

Criteria Considerations:

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person(s)

Cultural Affiliation(s)

Architect/Builder
unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance: See continuation sheets.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography See continuation sheet.

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

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References:	Zone	Easting	Northing
	15	742390	3459000

Verbal Boundary Description See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification: See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title:	Sharon Burke, owner	date:	February 2003
street & number:	P. O. Box 21	telephone:	601-250-0806
city or town:	Chatawa	state:	MS
		zip code:	39632

Revised by Richard J. Cawthon, Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History, September 2003

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner(s)

name:	Sharon Burke	telephone:	601-250-0806
street & number:	P. O. Box 21	state:	MS
city or town:	Chatawa	zip code:	39632

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Park Service**

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Holmes, William Frederick, House
McComb, Pike County, Mississippi

Narrative Description

The William Frederick Holmes House, built in 1894, is a two-and-a-half-story Victorian Queen Anne style residence, located at the western corner of Third Street and Nebraska Avenue at the edge of downtown McComb, Mississippi, about two blocks southwest of the City Hall. The house is a locally notable example of the "Free Classical" mode of the Queen Anne Style, characterized by the picturesque, asymmetrical massing of the Queen Anne style combined with Classical Revival detailing.

The house, which faces southeastward on a corner lot, is asymmetrically composed, consisting of a roughly cubical hip-roofed center mass, from which a front-gabled block projects forward on the southern half of the front façade. On the eastern corner of the front façade is a three-story corner tower with a conical roof. A one-story veranda extends across the eastern half of the front façade, wraps around the corner tower, and extends about half-way back on the northeastern side wall. The veranda roof is supported by eight Roman Ionic columns and two matching half-columns. At the center of the front façade, the veranda steps forward slightly to form a projecting portico, surmounted by a pediment containing plaster ornamentation. The front door is set into an alcove with paneled walls matching the interior paneling, and a mosaic tile floor.

The windows have a variety of different forms. Most of them are one-over-one double-hung sash windows, but there are also two diamond-mullioned decorative fixed windows, a decorative-mullioned lozenge window on the 2nd story on the northeast side, a double-hung window with decorative mullions on the first story of the gabled projecting block, and two stained glass windows on the stair landing between the 1st and 2nd stories. There is also a leaded, beveled glass transom above the front entrance door. On the roof are two dormers. The one facing toward the front has a curved top and a pair of small four-over-four double hung sash windows. A second dormer, on the northeast side, has a hipped roof and a pair of small four-over-four double hung sash windows.

The interior of the house retains a high degree of integrity and contains most of its original hardwood flooring and millwork, including paneled wainscoting and several fine Colonial Revival mantelpieces.

There are 3 sets of pocket doors, each of which is 11 feet in height. Two of the pocket doors are 5 feet wide and are hung as a single leaf and the third is 6 feet in width with two sliding leaves. From the main parlor, there is another door, also 11 feet in height, that opens onto the stair hall. This is a double-leaf hinged door, rather than a sliding door, but the leaves are paneled to match the pocket doors.

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Holmes, William Frederick, House
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The front door opens from the tiled alcove off the veranda into a main parlor which is dominated by an ornate Colonial Revival mantel, with glazed tile facing and a mirror over the mantel shelf, framed by a pair of slender columns. Another noteworthy feature of the main parlor is the round alcove, eight feet in diameter, that forms the lowest story of the corner tower. The opening into the alcove is flanked by pilasters supporting a dentillated cornice. On the far (northwest) side of the main parlor is the double-leaf door that opens to the stair hall. On the right-hand (southwest) side of the front parlor are sliding pocket doors opening into the front (south) parlor and the dining room.

The south parlor contains another ornate Colonial Revival mantel, with glazed tile facing and a mirror over the mantel shelf, framed by a pair of slender columns of a different design than the mantel in the main parlor. In the northwest wall of the front parlor is a sliding pocket door opening into the dining room.

All four walls of the dining room are finished in five-foot-high paneled wainscoting with a bracketed plate rail. This room, too, contains a Colonial Revival mantelpiece. To the rear of the dining room is a room that was apparently formerly a butler's pantry (now used as a dining area), which connects to an adjacent bathroom. Beyond the butler's pantry is the kitchen, which has been modernized.

From the butler's pantry a door opens to the stair hall, which also connects to the main parlor through the tall double-leaf door, as previously mentioned. The stair features a paneled square newel and turned balusters. It rises in two runs to the second story. The intermediate landing, situated in a rectangular bay that projects outward from the northeast side wall of the house, has windows on three sides.

The second story contains three bedrooms, two of which have Colonial Revival mantelpieces. Also on the second story is a wainscoted bathroom with an original seven-foot-long clawfoot bathtub.

Behind the house, to the northwest, is a three-car garage with an apartment above, built in the 1940s. Because this building is much later than the house and unrelated to its architectural significance, it is considered to be non-contributing.

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Holmes, William Frederick, House
McComb, Pike County, Mississippi

Significance

The William Frederick Homes House is locally significant under Criterion C in the area of Architecture, as one of the most important surviving examples of Queen Anne Style residential architecture in McComb and one of the more notable examples in Pike County. The house was built about 1894 for William Frederick Holmes and his wife, Katie Jones Holmes. The identity of the designer and builder is not known.

W.F. Holmes was co-owner of Holmes Brothers Department Store, with his brother Hilborn B. Holmes. The Holmes family was significant to the history of McComb, being among the earliest residents and entrepreneurs of the city. Several of McComb's most architecturally distinguished houses were built for members of the Holmes family. (The H. B. Holmes residence, later known as "Brentwood" or the Holmes-Brent House, a Neoclassical house built in 1912, was listed on the National Register in 1989.)

The Victorian Queen Anne style had wide popularity as the most fashionable style of residential architecture in Mississippi between about 1890 and about 1905, when it began to be overtaken in popularity by the Colonial Revival and Neoclassical Revival styles. The style was most popular among the upper middle-class residents of the cities and small towns – not only doctors and lawyers, but also the merchants, bankers, railroad men, and lumbermen who came to prominence in the changing Mississippi economy of the 1880s and 90s. The Queen Anne style is an indicator of the rising influence of the urban and small-town upper middle class and their values in late nineteenth-century Mississippi.¹

Queen Anne Style residences in Mississippi were most typically built of wood, and generally exhibited the characteristics of one of two dominant modes of the style. The "Spindlework Mode," characterized by lathe-turned and Eastlake ornamentation, was the more popular from the late 1880s to about 1895. The "Free Classical Mode," characterized by the free use of Classical Revival detailing, was the more popular from about 1895 to about 1905.

The W.F. Holmes House is one of the largest and most prominent examples of Victorian Queen Anne residential architecture in McComb, and is one of several noteworthy examples in Pike County. As an example of a two-and-a-half-story, turreted house in the Free Classical mode, it is comparable to such other houses in Mississippi as the Heath House at 350 South Main Street in Grenada (in the South Main Street Historic District, which was listed on the National Register in 1988), and the Dunn House at 102 Short Bay Street in Hattiesburg (in the Hattiesburg Historic Neighborhood District, which was listed on the National Register in 1980).

¹ Richard J. Cawthon, "Victorian Queen Anne Architecture in Mississippi" (unpublished report, Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, 1991, revised in 1997 and 2003).

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Major Bibliographical References

Cawthon, Richard J. "Victorian Queen Anne Architecture in Mississippi." Unpublished report, Historic Preservation Division, Mississippi Department of Archives and History, 1991, revised in 1997 and 2003.

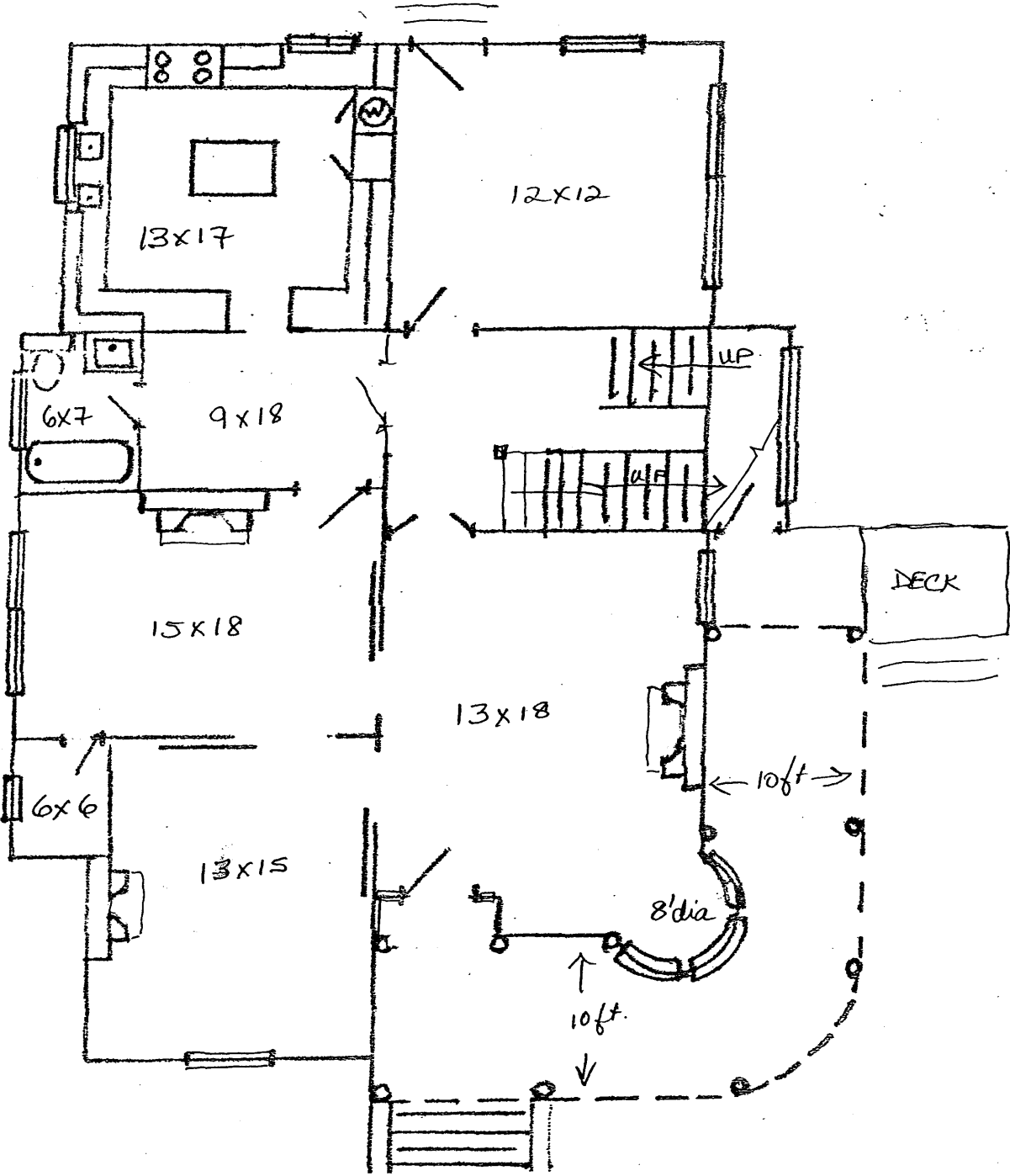
Verbal Boundary Description

Commencing at the Northeast corner of Square 46, West McComb, McComb City, Pike County, Mississippi, and run thence Southwesterly along the West boundary line of Third Street a distance of 70.0 feet, thence run Northwesterly, parallel with Nebraska Avenue, a distance of 127.0 feet, thence run Northeasterly parallel with Third Street, a distance of 70.0 feet along said boundary line of Nebraska Avenue; thence Southeasterly along said boundary line a distance of 127.0 feet to the point of beginning, containing 0.204 acres, more or less, and being situated in Lots One (1) and Two(2) of Square 46, West McComb, McComb City, Pike County, Mississippi.

Boundary Justification

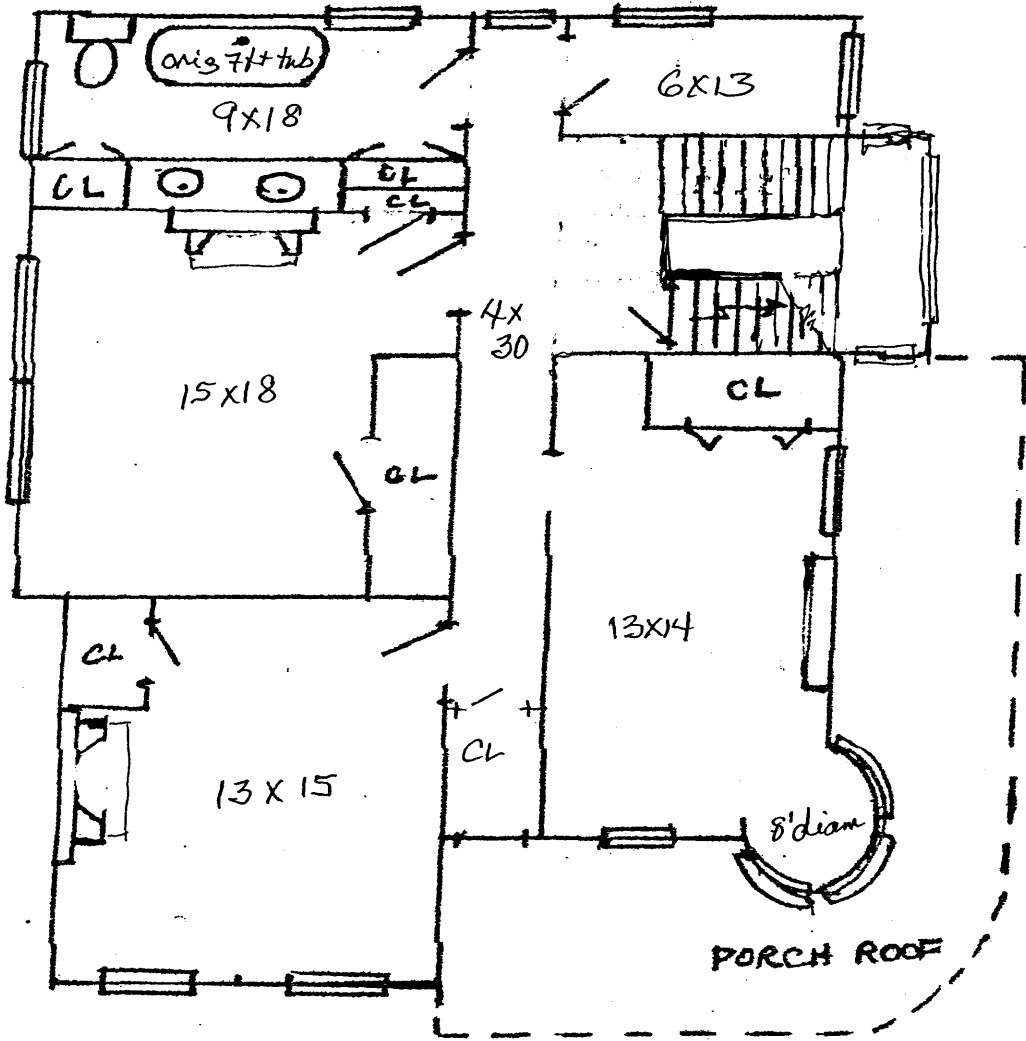
The described property consists of the parcel of land historically associated with the house.

Holmes, William Frederick, House
McComb, Pike County, Mississippi



First story

Holmes, William Frederick, House
McComb, Pike County, Mississippi



Second story