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APR 19 1994

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Akin, C. V., House

other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street & number On the south side of Clarion St., approx. 1/4 mile east of State Hwy. 45 n/a  not for publication

city or town DeSoto n/a  vicinity

state Mississippi code MS county Clarke code 023 zip code 39360

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant  nationally  statewide  locally. ( See continuation sheet for additional comments.)  
Kenneth A. P. Paul APRIL 14, 1994  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer  
State of 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 certifying official/Title Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper Edron H. Beall Entered in the National Register Date of Action 5.20.94

Akin, C. V. House  
Name of Property

Clarke County, MS  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many boxes as apply)

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one box)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
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**

Historic Resources in Clarke County, MS

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Work in Progress

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

foundation Brick

walls weatherboard

roof Wood: shingles

other wcoden porch

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

\* PLEASE SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
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.
Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1898-1899

Significant Dates

1898-1899

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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:

- [X] State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of repository:

Akin, C. V. House  
Name of Property

Clarke County, MS  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreege of Property** 1.4 acres

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

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

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

**Boundary Justification**

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Susan M. Enzweiler/Private Consultant

organization N/A date 15 August 1993

street & number 448 Julia St., Apt. 308 telephone (504) 523-0558

city or town New Orleans state LA zip code 70130

**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**

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Gilbert E. & Carolyn Dean W. Carmichael

street & number 2211 Highway 45 N telephone unknown

city or town Meridian state MS zip code 39301

**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 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 Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

INTERAGENCY RESOURCES DIVISION  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Clarke County, Mississippi  
Multiple Property Submission

Section number 7 Page 1

C. V. Akin House

The C. V. Akin House in DeSoto illustrates the Spindlework mode of the Queen Anne style of architecture. Asymmetrical in design and of frame construction, it is one story tall and three bays wide and rests on brick piers. Its steep hip roof is clad in new wood shingles and is punctuated by four gables, two on the front and one on each side elevation. Each of these gables is accented by pierced bargeboard in its peak. The front facade features a gabled wing displaying pierced bargeboard in its gable peak. Below the gable is a paired 2/2 double hung sash window. In the ell created by this wing is a wraparound porch with a wood deck, turned posts and a balustrade. This balustrade is a recent alteration to replace the missing original one. In the porch area are a single-leaf door capped by a transom and a paired 2/2 double hung sash window. Located in the porch area, on the east (side) elevation where the porch wraps around, is a 2/2 double hung sash window. On the west elevation are three 2/2 double hung sash windows. The rear elevation has a screened in porch and a rear wing.

The interior features beaded board walls and ceilings in its rooms. The central hall and one room also display wainscoting. Most of the mantels are original.

The only outbuilding associated with the house is a reconstruction of the original outhouse. It is counted as a noncontributing element.

The C. V. Akin House is located in DeSoto. A prosperous agricultural transfer point until at least the early twentieth century, DeSoto is now a small, quiet community with a couple dozen buildings scattered between Highway 45 and the old M & O Railroad line. The C. V. Akin House is situated on a small rise overlooking the eastern end of Clarion Street. A picket fence delineates its front property line. The houses nearby it are either less than fifty years old or possess no architectural or historical significance.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clarke County, Mississippi  
Multiple Property Submission  
C. V. Akin House

Section number 8 Page 1

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The C. V. Akin House, built 1898-1899, is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. Within the local context of Clarke County, it is a significant example of the Spindework mode of the Queen Anne style of architecture. It is the only articulation of the style that remains extant in DeSoto, a small community that once had several Queen Anne houses. The C. V. Akin House enjoys a high degree of architectural integrity.

Queen Anne architecture is best understood as a "movement containing several related but divergent stylistic modes" rather than a distinct style. The major shared attributes of Victorian Queen Anne architecture are:

- an informal, asymmetrical plan
- a steeply pitched roof with elaborately designed chimneys, often displaying a tower or cupola
- wall surfaces with a variety of textures
- an eclectic variety of design details (excluding Gothic or Italianate). The character of the design elements is the chief differentiation between the five modes of the style (Cawthon 1991:3).

Richard J. Cawthon, chief architectural historian with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, identified five modes of the Queen Anne style that were constructed in the United States. In Mississippi, the most popular modes were the Rectilinear mode, the Spindework mode and the Free Classical mode. The C. V. Akin House is a locally significant articulation of the Spindework mode. According to Cawthon, "The Spindework mode began to become widespread by about 1890 for both brick and wood buildings, but is more commonly seen in wood. It is distinguished by extensive use of lathe-turned ornament, particularly evident in balustrades and open friezes trimming broad verandas. The Spindework mode often has round or curved features, including turrets and gazebo-like extensions of the veranda . . . ." (Cawthon 1991:3-4).

In Mississippi the majority of Queen Anne buildings are single-family residences and generally appear in one of two basic plans. The first is a large house of two or two-and-one-half stories with asymmetrical massing. The second is a smaller, one-story cottage with a central block from which a gabled wing extends asymmetrically from one side of the front facade and a porch spans the rest of the

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Multiple Property SubmissionSection number 8 Page 2

C. V. Akin House

elevation. Its design elements are often less ornate and its floor plan simpler than those of the larger houses (Cawthon 1991:5-6).

The Queen Anne style dominated residential architecture in this country from circa 1885 to 1905. Its era of popularity roughly corresponded to the period 1880 to 1914 when political and economic leadership in Mississippi was in the hands of a newly empowered urban elite. The power of the state's antebellum planter class was usurped in the late nineteenth century by an educated upper middle class that was town-based. This change occurred as Mississippi's economy became more industrialized. Members of this class often chose the Queen Anne style when constructing their new homes. Thus, a Queen Anne house came to symbolize the wealth and power of the new elite. Because the state's newfound prosperity was town-based, most Queen Anne houses are found in the towns rather than in the rural areas (Cawthon 1991:1, 8; Federal Writers Project 1938:150-152 & Bettersworth II 1973:632).

Clarke County experienced steady growth and increased prosperity during the period 1880 to 1914 because of the lumber and the textile industries plus the construction of the New Orleans and Northeastern Railroad. These industries and the railroad had a great impact on community development in the county. The textile industry spawned a whole new town known as Stonewall which grew steadily during the late 1800s. Enterprise and Quitman grew in population and prestige because of their lumber mills. The railroad's route along the west bank of the Chickasawhay River revitalized West Enterprise.

DeSoto was never as prominent a community as those cited above. However, the town's location on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad made it a significant agricultural transfer point for the surrounding countryside. The modest prosperity the community enjoyed around the turn of the century was expressed through the Queen Anne cottages which lined the eastern end of Clarion Street. Only the C. V. Akin House, located 1/4 mile east of Highway 45 on Clarion Street, remains to illustrate the prosperity and progress enjoyed by the people of DeSoto circa 1900. The C. V. Akin House is a notable local example of the Spindlegirl mode because it features such design elements as a wraparound porch with turned posts and corner brackets and a hip roof displaying gables marked by pierced bargeboard in their peaks (Sue Horton interview, 30 July 1993).

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clarke County, Mississippi  
Multiple Property Submission

Section number 8 Page 3

C. V. Akin House

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In conclusion, the C. V. Akin House is a locally significant articulation of the Spindlework mode of the Queen Anne style of architecture. The house retains a high degree of architectural integrity. Its significance is further enhanced because it is the only Queen Anne residential resource left standing in DeSoto. The house illustrates how the social and economic changes sweeping Clarke County at the turn of the century impacted the community of DeSoto.



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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clarke County, Mississippi  
Multiple Property Submission  
C. V. Akin House

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### BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bettsworth, John K. "The Reawakening of Society and Cultural Life." In A History of Mississippi (2 vols.), I:622-639. Edited by Richard Aubrey McLemore. Hattiesburg: University and College Press of Mississippi, 1973. *Cited as Bettsworth II 1973.*

Cawthon, Richard J. "Victorian Queen Anne Architecture in Mississippi." Jackson, 1991. (Computer printed.)

Federal Writers Project of the Works Progress Administration. Mississippi: The WPA Guide to the Magnolia State. New York: Viking Press, 1938; reprint ed., Jackson, Ms.: University Press of Mississippi, 1988.

Horton, Sue. Sister of Present Owner, Quitman, Clarke County, Mississippi. Interview, 30 July 1993.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Clarke County, Mississippi  
Multiple Property Submission  
C. V. Akin House

Section number 10 Page 1

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION: Map 139 - Section 36 - Parcel 59

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION: These are the boundaries associated with the property at the present time. The specific historic boundaries are not known.