

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

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 Gay, C. E., House

other names/site number N/A

### 2. Location

street & number 110 East Gillespie Street

N/A

not for publication

city, town Starkville

N/A

vicinity

state Mississippi

code MS

county Oktibbeha

code 105

zip code 39759

### 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>
<u>1 (garden)</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>0</u>
	<u>0</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>0</u>

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.

Kenneth H. P. Pool  
Signature of certifying official

Nov. 29, 1990  
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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
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:)

Allen Beyer  
Signature of the Keeper

entered in the  
National Register

1/3/91  
Date of Action

fu  
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)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Queen Anne

foundation brick

walls wood: weatherboard

roof asphalt shingles

other \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Gay House is a roughly square (with rear ell and porch and miscellaneous modest additions), freestanding, two-story, wood-frame structure facing north on a wooded, hilltop, corner site. In plan (See attached scaled plan drawing.) the building consists of two rooms to each side of a central hall on both the first and second floors and includes projecting bays facing north from the northeast corner room and east from the southeast corner room. The house sits atop brick piers infilled with wooden lattice. Outside walls are covered with weatherboards. Windows are one-over-one, double-hung sash throughout. The roof is covered with composition shingles and consists of both steeply sloping gables and hip configurations. Two plain brick chimneys with corbel caps rise about the roof. A one-story porch supported by chamfered wood columns extends the full width of the front (north side) and right side elevation. This porch returns across two bays of the left side elevation. A smaller porch is attached to the east side of the rear ell. The porch roof is ornamented by jig-sawn brackets and displays spindle and jig-sawn wood elements in the gable about the front entry. The front entry steps are not original. Jig-sawn verge boards also appear in the north and east-facing gables as do imbricated shingles. A central feature of the woodwork in the north-facing gable has been lost (See c.1905 photograph.). A one-and-a-half story ell extends south from the southeast corner of the house and includes a kitchen, storage, and a bathroom. A two-story addition rises from the south side of the southwest room and contains bathrooms on both floors.

The front entry consists of a glazed and recess paneled door with transom and sidelights. All millwork, including door casings, is of oak. Glazing includes small panes used as borders at both the door and sidelights. The entry hall contains a double-run stair and landing leading to the second floor. The stair treads, risers, handrail, balusters and newwell are all of oak. A ceiling-mounted oak screen displaying spindles and jig-sawn details hands above the base of the stair. The floors throughout the house consist of matched, five-inch pine boards. Walls are covered with beaded board with chair rail and wainscot or plaster, and ceilings are plastered. Door and window casings are plain except for a series of beaded moldings around the outside edges. Significant interior features include the oak mantles and overmantles in the downstairs parlors which feature spindle and jig-sawn details. The double-pile plan on both the first and second floors includes the north-facing projecting bays at the northeast corner parlor and upstairs bedroom and east-facing projecting bay at the southeast corner parlor and upstairs bedroom. The latter bay also has a wooden arched opening separating the main space of the parlor from the projecting space.

**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)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	1895	1895

Cultural Affiliation
NA

Significant Person	Architect/Builder
NA	Unknown

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

The Gay Home with its Queen Anne Style of architecture is significant as it illustrates a transitional period in the development of Starkville, Mississippi and Oktibbeha County from a rural to a more urban emphasis (Carroll, Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County, 157-184).

Only a few Queen Anne Style residences remain in the community. Six stand in the Greensboro Road Historic District. Individually listed are the Magruder-Newsom House and the Lampkin-Owens-Kraker House. Of the later, Ken P-Pool of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History has written that it is a "rare example of well-preserved, late-nineteenth century architecture in the community" and that "during the 1950s, 60s, and 70s Starkville experienced rapid growth, and most older sections of the city suffered greatly from new construction and commercial development. . . ." (L.-O.-K. House, National Register Nomination). The Queen Anne Style is varied and decoratively rich. Its asymmetrical compositions include a variety of textures, materials, and colors. Major features include towers, tall chimneys, projecting bays, steep roofs, encircling verandas, verge boards, small decorative glass panes, and lathe-turned and jig-sawn wooden ornamentation (Blumenson, Identifying American Architecture, 63). Significant Queen Anne features of the Gay Home include its two, large projecting bays, steep gables with jig-sawn verge boards, verandas with jig-sawn details, decorative glass at the front entry, and spindle work at the front entry gable and inside the central hall and at mantles and overmantles.

Prior to 1880 the economy of Oktibbeha County had been dominated by agriculture at various scales from plantations to small landholdings. The period between 1880 and 1914 saw rural population in the county begin to imigrate to towns (Carroll, 165). Starkville increased in population and in available capital from local banks and from outside investment (Carroll, 158 and 164). The year 1880 also witnessed the opening of Mississippi A&M College (now Mississippi State University) in the vicinity of Starkville. Together, these economic forces enabled the building of large residential structures in town, of which the Gay Home is an excellent remaining example.

The house was originally owned by Mr. and Mrs. C.E.Gay and is now owned by their granddaughter, Cornelia Rush.

N/A  See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

Blumenson, John J.-G. Identifying American Architecture. New York: W.W. Norton, 1985.  
Carroll, Thomas Battle. Historical Sketches of Oktibbeha County. Gulfport, Mississippi: The Dixie Press, 1931.  
P'Pool, Ken. National Register Nomination for the Lampkin-Owens-Kraker House. September, 1980.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_

NA  See continuation sheet

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Specify repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 2.4 acres

**UTM References**

A 

1	16
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3	3	12	18	0
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3	7	03	3	20
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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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B 

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Zone Easting Northing

D 

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NA  See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

Lot #1, Block #41. City of Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi. Township 18 North. Range 14 East. Survey of 16 August 1973. Chancery Clerk's Office, Starkville, MS.

NA  See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

The boundary includes the entire lot that has <sup>been</sup> associated historically with the property.

NA  See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Michael Fazio  
organization Architectural historian date 24 March 1990  
street & number P.O. Box 2870 telephone (601) 323-3451  
city or town Miss. State, MS state MS zip code 39759

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Gay, C. E., House, Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi  
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Describe present and historic physical appearance

The windows were originally outfitted with louvered shutters. The roof was covered with wooden shingles. The body of the house, during the Victorian Period, was painted in a light hue and trim and painted in a darker hue (See c.1905 photograph). The house originally had no gutters and downspouts.

On the east side of the house there is a formal garden, laid out in parterre form soon after the house was completed. The original part of the garden has been carefully maintained its original configuration since that time (according to the present owner, granddaughter of the original owners) although some newer beds have been added along the periphery. The garden contains several large crape myrtle trees. A four-foot diameter oak stands adjacent to the garden; a four-foot oak and two-foot diameter pine stand in front of the house as the dominant trees on the site. The garden is considered a contributing element of the property.

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

Gay, C. E., House, Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_ PHOTOGRAPHS

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Photographs

The following information is the same for all photographs:

1. Gay House
2. Starkville, Oktibbeha County, Mississippi
3. Michael Fazio
4. February, 1990
5. Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Photo 1--(6) Left Side (East) Elevation from the WEST

Photo 2--(6) Front (North) Elevation from the Northwest

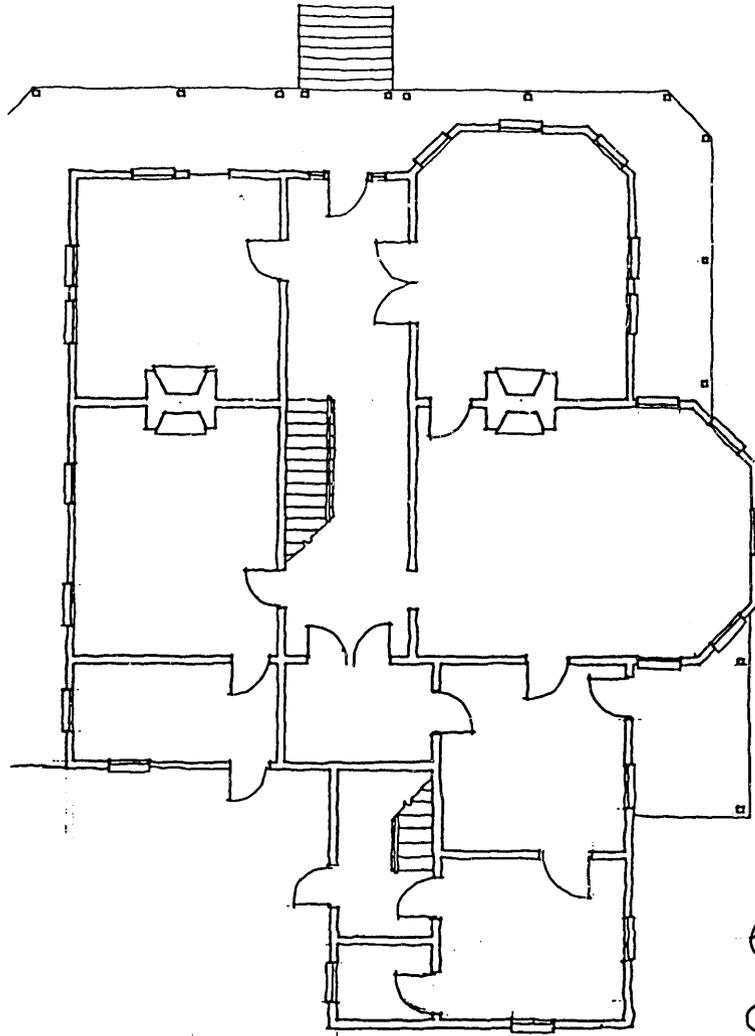
Photo 3--(6) Right Side (West) Elevation from the WEST

Photo 4--(6) Stairhall, view to south

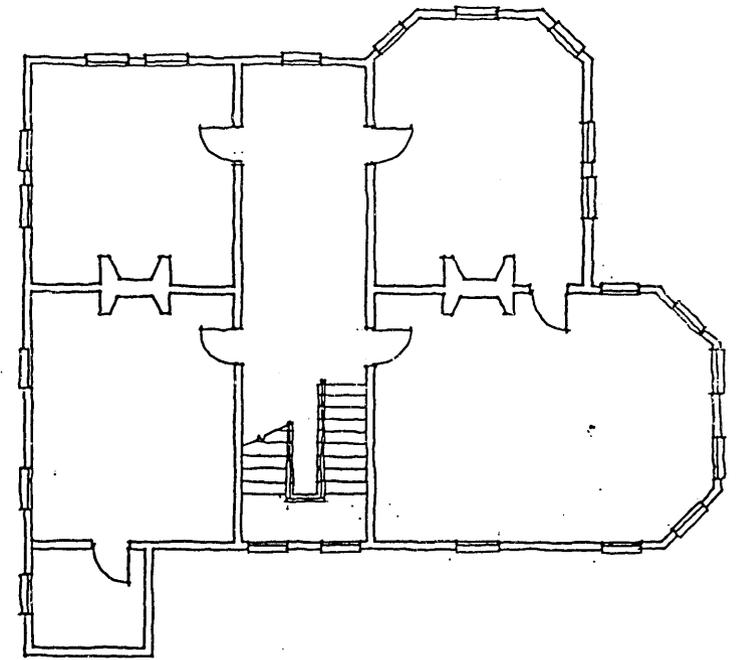
Photo 5--(6) Mantle in Southeast Parlor, view to north

Photo 6--(6) Southeast Parlor, View to the East

Photo 7--(3) Photographer unknown  
(4) c.1905  
(6) Front (North) Elevation



FIRST FLR. PLAN



SECOND FLR. PLAN



GAY HOME . STARKVILLE, MS.

