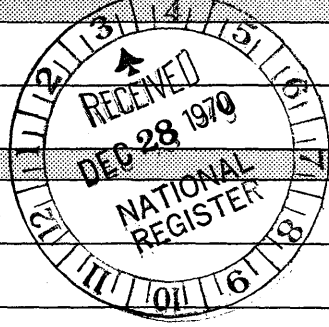


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Nebraska	
COUNTY: Lancaster	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 71.2.31.0001	DATE 2/18/71



1. NAME

COMMON:
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Lewis-Syford House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
700 North 16th Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Lincoln

STATE: Nebraska CODE: 31 COUNTY: Lancaster CODE: 109

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation

STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 "R" Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln STATE: Nebraska CODE: 31

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register of Deeds, County-City Building

STREET AND NUMBER:
555 South 10th Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln STATE: Nebraska CODE: 31

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Preservation in Nebraska-Preliminary Plan

DATE OF SURVEY: October 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Nebraska State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 "R" Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln STATE: Nebraska CODE: 31

STATE: Nebraska
COUNTY: Lancaster
ENTRY NUMBER: 71.2.31.0001
DATE: 2/18/71
FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

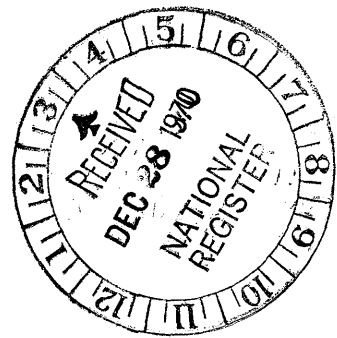
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Facing west, this dwelling was erected ca. 1878 as a modest, story and a half frame structure with a partial basement and central fireplace. The roof is a somewhat low, shingled, mansard with dormer windows, decorative eave brackets, and a continuous curb around the top of the visible slopes. A continuous line of ornamental, cast-iron cresting crowns the roof. The facade is faced with clapboards and includes a veranda adjoining the main entrance on the west, and a porch at the side entrance on the north, both supported with square, wooden columns. Severely designed, high, rectangular windows predominate the main floor elevations. A small, barn-like, frame structure with a modified gable roof and vertical board-and-batten siding is located to the rear (or east) of the house, purportedly built at the same time as the main structure, ca. 1878. This out-building originally served as a carriage house and stable. Over the years a concrete floor slab and wider entrance doors were added to accomodate automobiles.

The building was designed in the French Second Empire style, as revealed by the mansard roof, iron cresting, dormer windows, and the general three-dimensional effect in the overall design.

The Syford family owned and occupied the house as a private residence from ca. 1904 to May 1965. Very few alterations, interior or exterior, have been made over the years, other than those additions reflecting changing technology, such as electric lights and heating and water pipes. The dwelling and the carriage house are well preserved and located in the W₂ of the J and K subdivisions of lot 1 in S.W. Little's Subdivision of the W₂ of the SW₄ of Section 24, Township 10 North and Range 6 East.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) ca. 1878

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

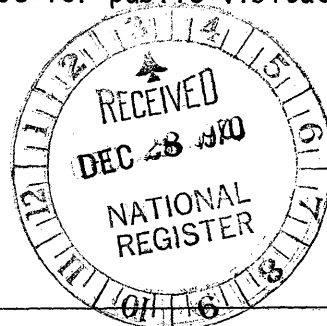
The Syford House is well worth preserving for architectural as well as historical reasons. Although modest in scale, the structure reveals fine proportions and stands as Lincoln's best example (and one of Nebraska's last remaining examples) of the French Second Empire style of architecture, popular during Lincoln's early years. This style, popular in America beginning about 1865, was based on a mid-nineteenth century French revival of the French Renaissance architecture of the seventeenth century. The Syford House style handsomely illustrates two of the most distinguishing features of the American version of the Second Empire style: elaborate cast-iron cresting and the mansard roof. The Syford House is especially worthy of preservation because both interior and exterior ~~has~~ ^{have} been altered very little over the years.

Our research to date has not allowed us to pinpoint precisely when the Syford House was begun and finished. However, 1878 would seem to be the most likely year in which the house was built, and it appears certain the house was erected sometime between 1877 and 1880 for the Rev. Elisha M. Lewis, a "home missionary" of the Presbyterian Church.

Recent years have seen the destruction of virtually all early building on the University of Nebraska main campus. The Syford House, now near the center of the campus, is the oldest remaining landmark on the University campus, and in spite of all the flurry of change, the Syford house still stands linking the past to the present.

The house, owned and occupied for nearly sixty years by the Syford family, became the property of the Nebraska State Historical Society Foundation upon the death of Constance Syford in May, 1965. At the present time only a limited amount of restoration has been possible, although future plans call for an intensified program of restoration and the possible future development of the house for public visitation.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Files, Nebraska State Historical Society

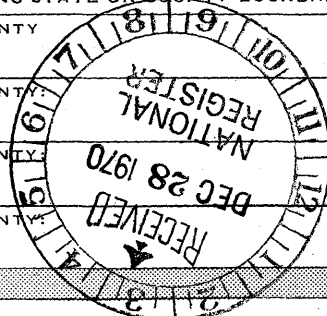
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 : "	0 : "		96° 41' 52"	40° 49' 09"	
NE	0 : "	0 : "				
SE	0 : "	0 : "				
SW	0 : "	0 : "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Less than ten**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



NO
LITM
C

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Persijs Kolberg, Assistant Curator of Historic Sites

ORGANIZATION: **Nebraska State Historical Society** DATE: **October 22, 1970**

STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 "R" Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Lincoln,** STATE: **Nebraska** CODE: **31**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name *Marvin D. Knelt*

Title *Director, N. S. H. S.*

Date *Oct. 22, 1970*

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connelly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

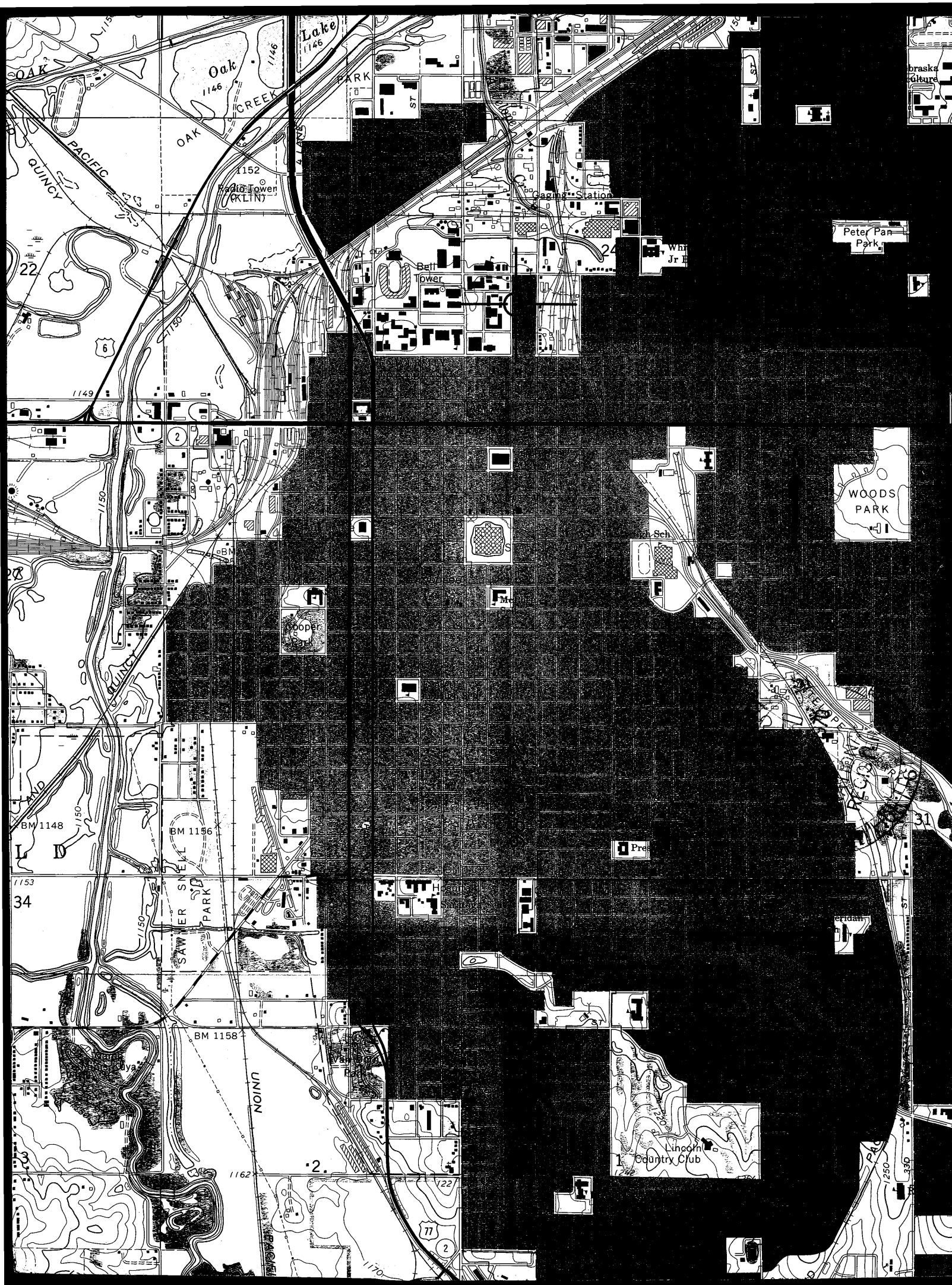
FEB 18 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Stantegh
Keeper of The National Register

Date **JAN 21 1971**



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Nebraska	
COUNTY Lancaster	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 712.31.0001	DATE 2/18/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Lewis-Syford House			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 700 North 16th Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln			
STATE: Nebraska	CODE 31	COUNTY: Lancaster	CODE 109
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7½', Lincoln quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1964			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

