UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

RECEIVED JUL 2 4 1978

Nebraska

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state Nebraska	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	O31	Douglas	055
CLASSIFICA	TION			
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CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRE	SENT USE
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	X_OCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
X_BUILDING(S)	XPRIVATE	_UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK
STRUCTURE	_BOTH	WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X_PRIVATE RESIDENCE
SITEOBJECT	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMEN	
065201	IN PROCESSBEING CONSIDERED	X_YES: RESTRICTEDYES: UNRESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL	SCIENTIFIC
	BEING CONSIDERED	_NO	MILITARY	TRANSPORTATION
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OWNER OF	PROPERTY			
NAME				
See cont:	inuation sheet			<del></del>
STREET & NUMBER				
CITY, TOWN			STATE	
		VICINITY OF		:
LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR	RIPTION		
Section 1				
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REPRESENT	TATION IN EXIST	ING SURVEYS		
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	Architecture			
DATE	Architecture			
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#### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

\_EXCELLENT

\_FAIR

\_\_DETERIORATED
\_\_RUINS
\_\_UNEXPOSED

X\_UNALTERED

\_\_ALTERED

X\_ORIGINAL SITE
\_\_MOVED DATE\_\_\_\_\_

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Edgar Zabriskie House is a flamboyant version of the Queen Anne style. Built in 1889, the house is one of the few extant examples in Omaha of the style.

Typical of the Queen Anne style, the house has a profusion of projections from the multi-gabled roof, Eastlake style porches, balconies, details and variations in the wall surface. A round corner tower stands three stories tall on the southwest corner of the house. The original bell-shaped roof has been removed. The large single-paned window on the first floor of the tower is striking because of the curve in the glass. Large gables project from the third floor on the south, east, and west sides and are highlighted with fish-scale shingles and carved wood panels with pendants. The multi-gabled roof originally had cresting and finials, probably of metal, along the ridge and small deck on the southeast corner, which have been removed. The tall chimney has the original fancy brickwork. A band of shingles, which are flared from the wall surface, divide the first and second story and are also along the third story of the tower.

The Eastlake porches and balconies are the most striking features of the exterior. The front (south) porch and east porch opening off the back parlor/sitting room have identical detailing. The original intricate spindles and latticework exist in the porch frieze, balustrade and porch base. The balcony above the front porch is roofed by a pediment decorated with spindles and lattice—work and topped with a finial. Small carved wood panels are located in each of the pediments and small pediment over the front porch entrance. The original front door is extant. The covered balcony on the east side is detailed differently than the other porches or balcony. The only major alterations to the porches are the replacement of the bottom half of wooden posts on the front porch with brick piers and the replacement of the wooden railing on the front steps with brick.

The interior, like the exterior, remains relatively unchanged from the original. The first floor has the original mantelpieces, wainscotting, parquet flooring, and gas and electric chandeliers. The impressive vestibule, which includes the space in the tower, has an open staircase with grille-work (see photo #3). A small washroom off the vestibule has a painted wash-bowl. Sliding doors open from the vestibule into the front and back parlors. The mantelpiece in the front parlor is an elaborate combination of small shelves and spindles around the mirror and low-relief figured tile around the fire opening. The other fireplace is in the dining room (see photo #2). The library, pantry, and kitchen are also on first floor. A hand pump is still located next to the sink in the kitchen.

There are five bedrooms and two bathrooms on second floor. The one bathroom has a water closet, probably the original, and a claw-foot bathtub. Gas wall sconces are in each bedroom and a gas chandelier is in the hallway. The third floor has a round room in the tower and three large rooms and attic. The basement has a laundry room with hand water pump, furnace room, east room and an outside entrance under the east porch.

134 651

Form No. 10-300a (Rev. 10-74)

## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY  RECEIVED  JUL 2 4 1978  DATE ENTERED NOV 2 6 1979	FOR NPS	SIISE	MIY	14 X (**)			
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CONTINUATION SHEET Description

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 2

The two-story carriage house has many of the same exterior elements as the house-projecting gables, flared second story, and shingles on upper floor. The Zabriskies adapted the carriage house into a dwelling many years ago, and it now serves as a residence under separate ownership.

	RCE NICATIONS	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENTINDUSTRYINVENTION	PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	TRANSPORTATIONOTHER (SPECIFY)
	-	EDUCATION ENGINEERING	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Zabriskie House is significant to the architectural heritage of the Omaha area. It is one of the two best Eastlake influenced houses in the city and one of the few remaining Queen Anne houses. The Queen Anne style was popular in Nebraska during the 1880's, a time of economic prosperity, and many were built until the 1890's in eastern Nebraska and until the turn of the century in the western part of the state. Many of Omaha's Queen Anne houses have been destroyed or have lost their Queen Anne or Eastlake porches to the classical versions around the turn of the century. The house has many characteristics of the Queen Anne style discussed by Whiffen (1969, page 115) including different wall surfaces, high multiple roof, round turret, straight and round-arched windows, and prominent gables and chimneys. In Nebraska it appears that the classical details, described by Whiffen, occur mostly around the turn of the century (see Andrew M. Hargis House, Grand Island, Nebraska NRHP nomination) and are not usually evident in houses of this period. The form of the Zabriskie House, an articulated square with prominent corner tower, is representative of a popular type of Queen Anne house in Nebraska.

Edgar Zabriskie (1840-1908) led an adventurous life as a ship officer, Civil War veteran, Union Pacific general agent and accountant. Born in New York City in 1840, Zabriskie was of Polish descent; Soborewski was the ancestral spelling of his surname. At the age of fifteen, he went to sea working as an apprentice, then office and paymaster, of the Pacific Mail Steamship company. During the Civil War, he enlisted and served with the Eighth New York Artillery. He first came to Omaha in 1869 staying briefly before working for the Union Pacific Railway Co. in various places for about ten years. In 1885-86 Zabriskie located permanently in Omaha working as a self-employed accountant and also managed various properties in receivership. Zabriskie was one of the first purchasers of a lot in Bemis Park, a new residential suburb planned by George P. Bemis in the late 1880's. The development did not succeed during the 1890's but boomed after the turn of the century. After the death of Zabriskie, his son lived in the house until his death so the house remained in the family until 1968. The son, Edgar B. Zabriskie, had a law practice for nearly fifty years. Today the house remains a single-family dwelling.

### 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL D ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPER UTM REFERENCES				
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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCR	IPTION			
House: Block 4, Lo	t 4 except north 4	1 feet in Bemis	s Park, City of Oma	aha.
Carriage house: Blo	ock 4, Lot 4, nort	h 41 feet in Be	emis Park, City of	Omaha.
LIST ALL STATES AND	COUNTIES FOR PROPERT	IES OVERLAPPING S	TATE OR COUNTY BOUNI	DARIES
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY		CODE
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Lincoln			Nebraska	
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CONTINUATION SHEET

Owner of Property

**ITEM NUMBER** 

PAGE 2

DATE ENTERED

Zabriskie House: James M. Bechtel 3524 Hawthorne Ave. Omaha, Nebraska

Carriage house: -Diane L. Bauer 1111 N. 36 Street Omaha, Nebraska

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PAOTO: D. MURPHY, LINCOLI CDGOR ZOBRISKE HOUSE, D. Photo #1 **JUL 24 1978**Edgar Zabriskie House, Omaha, Nebraska.
April, 1976. D. Murphy, 1937 F Street,
Lincoln, Nebraska (DM7604E-3A)
View to the northwest.



### NOV 2 8 1978

PHOTO: D. MURPHY, LINCOLN, NEBR 6068R ZBBRISKE HOUSE, OMAHA (5 Photo #2
Edgar Zabriskie House, Omaha, Nebraska.
April, 1976. D. Murphy, 1937 F Street,
Lincoln, Nebraska (DM7604E-6A)
View to the northeast.

JUL 24 1978