

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received AUG 16 1985

date entered SEP 12 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Richard R. Kiddle House (SA04-35)

and/or common N/A

2. Location

street & number 819 8th Street N/A not for publication

city, town Friend N/A vicinity of

state Nebraska code 031 county Saline code 151

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	N/A in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. and Mrs. Eugene R. Martin

street & number 819 8th Street

city, town Friend N/A vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Saline County Courthouse, Register of Deeds

street & number N/A

city, town Wilber state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date On-going  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

# 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

## Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Richard R. Kiddle house is a large wood frame dwelling, symmetrical in plan with projecting porches, and covered with a high mansard roof. The textured mansard roof, decorative dormers and cornices, elaborately carved porches, and a bay window capped with a balcony enhance the design of the house. Stylistically the house exemplifies the Victorian Second Empire style of architecture. The house, according to a town newspaper, was built in 1886 by Richard R. Kiddle, a carpenter in Friend, Nebraska. The property also includes a carriage barn, located southwest of the house. Structural and historical integrity has been preserved except for minor alterations made to the porches and interior modifications occurring in past years.

The Richard R. Kiddle house is a two story frame home with a third story tower. It is of the Victorian French Second Empire style and is basically rectangular in plan with frontal and side porches. The house sits on a brick and limestone foundation. The mansard roof has a straight silhouette and is finished with fish scale siding. The dormer windows are pedimented and flanked by chamfered columns. Carved medallions and panels decorate corner moldings, pediments, and cornices. The tower is capped with a hipped roof and also has decorative dormer windows and fish scale siding. The house displays a frontal porch on the north (main) facade. Another porch on the west provides additional access to the house. Both porches feature elaborate cornice, column, and rail work. Fenestration throughout the house includes one-over-one double hung sash openings. Window surrounds are made of engraved pilasters of panels and medallions and have decoratively carved straight window hoods.

The eaves are supported by curvilinear brackets which are placed against a decorative frieze of panels with centered medallions and scallop work above. Railwork, consisting of decorative wheel motifs, was moved from the side porch to the front (north) porch which originally displayed an elaborate balustrade (no longer extant).

The property includes a wood frame carriage barn (C. 1880's) located immediately southwest of the house. The two story board and batten structure has a hipped roof with cupola and shows a shed extension on the west facade.

Distinctive interior features include the decorative open oak staircase in the front foyer and the oak arched open walkway between the living room and dining room. All woodwork is oak except for the bedrooms on the second floor which utilize pine. Doorways and stairs are decorated with carved medallions similar to those found on the exterior of the house. Narrow plank oak floors are found throughout the house.

The house was built by Richard R. Kiddle, a local carpenter, in 1886.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

**Specific dates** 1886 **Builder/Architect** Richard R. Kiddle

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Richard R. Kiddle house is architecturally significant on the state level as an example of the Victorian French Second Empire style which gained popularity in northeastern and midwestern states in the 1860's-1880's. The house, built in 1886 by Kiddle, a local carpenter, is an excellent example of the style in Nebraska and is remarkably intact. The period of significance is derived from the construction date of the house. The property also includes a carriage barn which is an integral feature in the house environs and is significant for its associations with the dwelling.

The Richard R. Kiddle house attains architectural significance on the state level as a representation of the Victorian French Second Empire style which played an important part in the development of domestic architecture in Nebraska during the 1860's-1880's. The style is characterized by its distinctive mansard roof with dormer windows and decorative patterns of color and texture in the roofing material. Molded cornices, decorative brackets and elaborately carved porches are also found on French Second Empire dwellings. The boxy roof line was considered functional because it was an upper story that was usable for attic space. All of these style characteristics can be found on the Kiddle house.

Only a limited number of dwellings designed in the French Second Empire style have been recorded thus far in the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey. Some examples include: the John Cattle Jr. House in Seward (NRHP, Seward County), the Lewis-Syford House in Lincoln (NRHP, Lancaster County) and the Joel N. Cornish Residence in Omaha (NRHP, Douglas County).

The Kiddle house remains as a significant and well preserved example of the style in the state showing few alterations on both the exterior and interior.

Richard R. Kiddle, builder, was a local carpenter and was believed to have constructed other buildings in the area.

The carriage barn (late 1880's) is significant as a well preserved example of the "carriage house" and is important for its association with the dwelling. Many property owners constructed these buildings during the late 19th century to provide shelter for their "horse and buggy."

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Friend, Nebraska

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A 

1	4	6	4	5	2	2	0	4	5	0	0	8	5	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

B 

Zone		Easting				Northing								

C 

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D 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is described as Lots 48, 49, 50, 51 and the east 10' of Lot 52, L.E. Southwicks 1st Addition, Friend, Saline County, Nebraska, including all historically associated real estate.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Jenifer R. Sheary, Student Intern

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date April, 1985

street & number 1500 "R" Street telephone

city or town Lincoln state Nebraska

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *James H. Hanson*

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date 8-12-85

For NPS use only

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

*Allores Byer*  
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the  
National Register

date 9-12-85

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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Continuation sheet Bibliography

Item number 9

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Whiffen, Marcus, American Architecture Since 1780, 1969.