



# 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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name John E. Reagan House  
Other names/site number DO09:0142-060  
Name of related multiple property listing N/A  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

## 2. Location

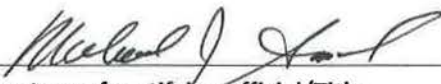
Street & Number 2102 Pinkney Street  
City or town Omaha State Nebraska County Douglas  
Not for publication  Vicinity

## 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 at the following level(s) of significance:  national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

 SHPO/Director 03-18-2014  
Signature of certifying official/Title: Date  
Nebraska State Historical Society  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government


In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Commenting Official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

 5-5-2014  
Signature of Keeper Date of Action

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

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**County and State**

**5. Classification**

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

- Private
- Public-local
- Public-state
- Public-federal

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

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Buildings
<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	Sites
<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	Structures
<u>        </u>	<u>        </u>	Objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register** 0

**6. Function or Use**

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

DOMESTIC/Single Dwelling: Residence  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling: Vacant  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

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

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival: Neo-Classical Revival  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: WOOD

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**Name of Property****County and State****Description**

**Summary Paragraph** (Briefly describe the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The John E. Reagan House, constructed in 1908-1909, is located on the northwest corner of North 21<sup>st</sup> and Pinkney Streets in Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska. The prominent two-story home was designed in the Neo-Classical Revival style and is of frame construction. The home is situated directly to the west of Kountze Park and on the former site of the 1898 Trans-Mississippi Exposition. The immediate neighborhood is comprised of early twentieth century one to two-story homes, many of which have lost integrity and others that simply do not possess the grand style of the Reagan House. While in need of general maintenance and repair (painting, roof repair, etc.), the home possesses significant physical integrity.

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

Setting

The Reagan House is sited on the flat northwestern corner lot of North 21<sup>st</sup> and Pinkney Streets, across from the southwestern corner of Kountze Park. The property faces Pinkney Street to the south and is accessed from Pinkney Street by an historic concrete sidewalk leading to the central steps, with a smaller sidewalk leading east around the house to the back door. Early Sanborn Fire Insurance maps include a one-stall garage on the northern side of the home; however, the only evidence for a garage is a concrete pad in the general vicinity of where it is believed to have been historically located. Mature trees and shrubs are located on the lot and throughout the surrounding neighborhood. The building stock of the immediate neighborhood consists of mostly Foursquare and bungalow form frame houses dating to the first few decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, with only three other Revival Style houses within a block of the Reagan House.

Exterior

This two-story Neo-Classical Revival home is clad in original wood siding and has a hipped roof with slight flares at each of its four corners and a moderate eave with a boxed overhang. A brick chimney punctuates the roof on the rear of the home. The reveal of the siding, around the entire house, increases after reaching the second story. A full basement and attic remain unfinished. Each of the home's windows, unless otherwise noted below, is one-over-one double-hung wood sash. The foundation is mainly brick painted white.

Front (south façade):

The main façade of the home is symmetrically balanced with a full-width porch and full-height entry porch, which is enclosed on the second story to provide for additional living space. Three concrete steps lead up to the porch. The porch consists of a wooden clapboard wall, a painted wooden floor, and a roof supported by simple square posts, one at each corner and one flanking each side of the porch stairs. The main entry door has been replaced with a modern single panel wooden door and basic metal storm door. One large window flanks either side of the door. These windows are a single pane with a plain glass transom above, and each has been covered with decorative metal scrollwork bars. The projecting bay of the second floor is comprised of a series of three ribbon windows on each of the three sides, all of which are currently covered in plywood. A diamond-shaped panel with the address rests below the middle window on the southern ribbon. One window flanks each side of the bay on the second story. The full-height porch has a pediment front that is supported by two sets of three Tuscan columns, which rest on brick piers that have been painted white.

Rear (north façade):

The second floor of the rear of the home features two symmetrically placed windows, while the main floor has two windows side by side set off-center. A small projection with a hipped roof, which contains part of the kitchen, is placed on the western end. This projection rests on a foundation of cast concrete and may be a later addition, dating to no later than 1935<sup>1</sup>. Trim and siding match the main home, but the foundation differs. One window is present on the northern side of

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The projection is present on the 1935 Sanborn Fire Insurance map. The home was not yet constructed in 1901,

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the projection while a door to access the kitchen is on the eastern side. This door is a modern single panel wood door with basic metal screen door. Stairs leading to the door are of poured concrete. Access to the basement/cellar is present on the rear of the home as well. It consists of a stone foundation/entry covered by a wooden board. An enclosed porch with a flat roof, which is likely original to the home, but may be an addition prior to 1935, is located on the eastern end of the rear façade. A set of five modern wooden stairs leads to a modern metal and glass storm door, which allows access to the porch. The remainder of the northern side of the porch is made up of two window openings with modern metal storms.

**Side (east façade):**

The enclosed porch, with access on the rear of the home, sits prominently on the eastern façade as well. The eastern side features three window openings with modern metal storms, which are currently covered with a plywood panel. The north side of the porch has two identical openings, also covered in plywood. Simple square columns support the porch in each corner. The porch floor, walls, and ceiling are wood. The southern side of the eastern façade features a two-story projecting bay. A single one-over-one double-hung window covered in plywood is located on each side and story of the bay. The front of the bay differs with a leaded glass window on the main floor and a small, single light horizontal window on the second floor. Another single one-over-one double-hung window is located above the porch. The roofline of this façade is interrupted by a hipped-roof dormer with a single window opening, which is currently open to the elements.

**Side (west façade):**

The southern side of the western facade of the home contains a set of two windows, covered in decorative metal scrollwork, that project slightly and are covered with a hipped roof. The northern side has a set of paired windows covered with plywood. The second story of the home features one window set just off-center.

**Interior****Finishes:**

The majority of the home retains its original lathe and plaster walls and ceiling. Where it is not extant, walls consist of just lathe (plaster has been removed) or modern drywall/ceiling tiles. Floors consist of wood planks, some of which are covered with black and white linoleum tiles and other linoleum coverings. The majority of the original doors with original hardware, along with baseboards and door/window trim, remain. Many of the passageways retain historic decorative arches. Original metal heating grates remain throughout the home as well.

**Main Floor:**

The 766 square foot main floor consists of five rooms: kitchen, dining room, living room/parlor, bedroom and bathroom. Access to the basement is also located on the main floor. The kitchen was updated in the 1940s/1950s and is currently in a deteriorated state, although it retains its original size and placement. A small hallway with a pointed arch leads from the living area to the basement door, stairway leading upstairs, bathroom, and bedroom. The bedroom contains a closet and has doors to both the hallway and to the entry foyer and dining room. The passageway between the dining room and living room/parlor also has a shallow Tudor arch, while the passage into the foyer has an arch that takes on a hipped appearance.

**Second Floor:**

Accessed by a set of painted wood steps, the 786 square foot second floor consists of five rooms: a bathroom, two bedrooms, a kitchenette, and a living area, all arranged off of a circular hall area. One of the bedrooms and the living area are situated in the projecting bays on the south and east facades, which creates rather unique spaces. The bedroom on the western side of the home has two doors, one leading to the central hall, the other leading to the living area. Access to the attic is located on the second floor as well.

**Integrity**

While the home suffers from neglect and is in need of general maintenance and repair, it retains a very high level of integrity. The location and setting of the residence have changed very little since its construction. It is still located within a neighborhood of homes built at roughly the same time and adjacent to Kountze Park. The design of the home remains true to its original plan, with only minor alterations that occurred, more than fifty years ago, to make it feasible as a rental unit.

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when the previous map was created.

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The majority of original doors, hardware, woodwork, flooring, windows, and siding remain, while the feeling and association are still present in the home as well. Although the residence is in a deteriorated state, it still evokes the grand presence it did upon its construction. It is truly an imposing home that commands attention within its immediate neighborhood.

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**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.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- 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.
- D** 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:

- A** Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** Removed from its original location.
- C** A birthplace or a grave.
- D** A cemetery.  
A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- E** A commemorative property.
- F** 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**

1908-1909

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

James B. Mason

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The John E. Reagan House is locally significant under Criterion C as a prime example of the Neo-Classical Revival Style. Located in Kountze Place, the Reagan House exemplifies the grand homes that were constructed in this neighborhood at the turn of the century, while serving as an example of the change in style that took place after 1900. The period of significance is limited to 1908-1909, the years in which construction of the home occurred.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

**Background/History**

Constructed in 1908-1909 for the family of John E. Reagan, the home at 2102 Pinkney Street sits as an excellent example of high style architecture in the Kountze Place neighborhood. First developed in the 1880s, Kountze Place proved as the exception to the rule of Omaha's elite settling towards the West. Unlike other period Omaha neighborhoods such as Happy Hollow, Park Avenue, and the West Farnam-Cathedral areas, Kountze Place developed north of Omaha's city center. Herman Kountze, "an early settler who helped build Omaha from a prairie village into a city," owned the land of Kountze Place and began selling lots to Omaha's upper middle class in the 1880s. This was made feasible due to the construction of streetcar lines that enabled those working downtown a means to commute. Located between 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Streets and Locust to Pratt Streets, the Kountze Place neighborhood saw the majority of homes first constructed on Binney and Wirt Streets. Pinkney and Emmet also saw many of these early homes.<sup>2</sup>

While many of Omaha's businessmen, including lawyers, doctors, real estate men, and architects were building homes in Kountze Place, the depression of the 1890s nearly halted construction for a number of years. However, construction started up again after the 1898 Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition was held on land within the neighborhood. The current Kountze Park (across the street to the east from the Reagan House), was the site of a grand lagoon that surrounded the "White City." The attention drawn by the Exposition greatly encouraged a resurgence of home building in Kountze Place, and by 1902, the neighborhood again saw the pace of development seen before the depression.<sup>3</sup> A March 1907 Omaha Sunday Bee advertisement highly promotes Kountze Place:

MAKE YOUR HOME  
IN KOUNTZE PLACE

Where you will find more homes of Omaha's best business men than in any other addition in the city. This alone is one of the best reasons why you should live in this beautiful addition. PAVED STREETS, PERMANENT WALKS, WATER, SEWER and GAS. NO HILLS, NO HOLLOWES, GOOD SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, SHADED STREETS, GOOD NEIGHBORHOOD. Within 10 or 15 MINUTES' DRIVE or street car ride of the RETAIL and WHOLESAL DISTRICT, reached by 3 car lines, the Dodge, North 24<sup>th</sup> and Sherman Ave. The Florence Boulevard runs through the center of the Addition AND THE PRICES only about one-half what they are asking for no better lots in the Western or Southwestern part of the City.<sup>4</sup>

Another advertisement of 1907 promotes Kountze Place as "the very choicest, high class residence property on the north side," and declares that "the wise business man who knows the value of a dollar, is buying in Kountze Place...."<sup>5</sup>

Aside from encouraging development, the Exposition also influenced the style of homes being built in Kountze Place. During its first building boom in the 1880s, the majority of homes were Victorian in style. The Exposition, with its buildings reminiscent of the Greek and Roman influences, led to an interest in Classical Revival styles. Also influencing the style of homes in Kountze Place were its residents; after 1900, the demographic of the neighborhood began to shift from less of the upper middle class toward more salesmen, small business owners, and a few blue collar workers. This meant that bungalows began to appear alongside the grand Victorians of the 1880s. However, high style homes continued to be built in the neighborhood until about 1910. By 1925, the neighborhood was fully-developed.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Omaha City Planning Department, Landmarks Heritage Preservation Commission, Patterns on the Landscape: Heritage Conservation in North Omaha (1984), 11.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Omaha Sunday Bee, 24 March 1907, 5.

<sup>5</sup> Sunday World-Herald, 10 November 1907, E-9.

<sup>6</sup> Omaha City Planning Department, 11-13.

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Along with the change in style came a change in use; many homes in Kountze Place began to be utilized as rentals. Newspaper ads as early as the 1910s indicate that there were several rentals available, from individual rooms to entire homes. By the 1920s, more and more rental ads appeared, such as for the home at 2102 Pinkney, which became a rental immediately after Reagan and his family moved out in 1920. A May 1921 ad in the Omaha World Herald lists the Reagan House for sale:

Beautiful 8-room modern house at 2102 Pinkney. Screen porch. Sunroom, living room, dining room and den. Finished in mahogany, on the first floor: three rooms and bath and beautiful sunroom on second floor. Please do not disturb the tenant. Price \$7,500....<sup>7</sup>

As seen by the listing price of \$7,500, the home, and presumably the neighborhood, still held good value. However, by this time, the demographic of the neighborhood was quickly shifting to that of the working class. By 1945, the home was listed for sale at only \$5,000, with the advertisement encouraging its continued use as apartments.<sup>8</sup>

### John E. Reagan

The first residents of the home at 2102 Pinkney were John E. Reagan and his family (a wife and three children), along with a household servant. At the time of purchase, Reagan was a lawyer with specialties in handling estates and land values.<sup>9</sup> He also owned a significant amount of real estate. Newspaper notices of the time indicate several properties, many within the Kountze Place neighborhood, which he rented out or had listed for sale. He took out at least one other building permit for home construction the same year as that for his residence at 2102 Pinkney Street.<sup>10</sup>

Reagan, born in St. Louis, Missouri of Irish heritage, moved to Omaha in 1889.<sup>11</sup> He began to practice law in 1896 and married Margaret Cannon in 1902.<sup>12</sup> Margaret was a grand niece of Edward and John A. Creighton<sup>13</sup>, namesakes, founders, and financial benefactors of Creighton University in Omaha.

In 1910, at the age of 42, Reagan was elected as a democratic state senator for the Sixth Senatorial District. Serving during the 32<sup>nd</sup> session in 1911<sup>14</sup>, he authored the "proposed constitutional amendment to allow cities of 5,000 and over to make their own charters." He also served as the "chairman of the committees on public lands and buildings and miscellaneous subjects, and a member of the committees on apportionments, constitutional amendments and federal relations, judiciary, labor, library, manufacturing and commerce, privileges and elections and public charities."<sup>15</sup>

Before, during, and after his senate term, Reagan was heavily involved in local politics and community issues. He was included in the publication "Nebraskans" 1854 to 1904, which was compiled by the Omaha Bee as a "fair representation of the foremost men, who have helped to make Nebraska what it is, and without whom, no history of Nebraska could be written."<sup>16</sup> He was a member of the Catholic Church, the Improved Order of Red Men, the Friendly Sons of Ireland, and the

<sup>7</sup> Omaha World-Herald, 27 May 1921, 19.

<sup>8</sup> Sunday World-Herald, 13 May 1945, 5-D.

<sup>9</sup> Omaha: The Gate City and Douglas County Nebraska, Volume II, A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement (Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1917), 274-275.

<sup>10</sup> Omaha World-Herald, 1 January 1909, 18

<sup>11</sup> Julius Sterling Morton and Albert Walkins, Illustrated History of Nebraska, Volume III (Lincoln, NE: Western Publishing and Engraving Company, 1913), 541.

<sup>12</sup> Omaha: The Gate City and Douglas County Nebraska, Volume II, A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement, 274-275.

<sup>13</sup> Morton and Walkins, 541.

<sup>14</sup> Members of the Senate. Nebraska Legislature, Thirty-Second Session, 1911, undated publication listing photos and brief bios of each senator, available at: [nlcs.nlc.state.ne.us/statepubsonline/pubs/legisbios/leg1911.pdf](http://nlcs.nlc.state.ne.us/statepubsonline/pubs/legisbios/leg1911.pdf), last accessed 22 October 2013, 5 & 26.

<sup>15</sup> Morton and Walkins, 541.

<sup>16</sup> Omaha Bee, "Nebraskans" 1854-1904 (Omaha: The Bee Publishing Company, 1904), preface.



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Moose. He served as the secretary and chairman of the Douglas County Democratic Central Committee<sup>17</sup>, and was supported quite strongly by the "Dahlman Democracy," a group named for and led by the mayor of Omaha from 1906-1918 and 1921-1930, James C. Dahlman.

Reagan purchased the site for the home at 2102 Pinkney Street in March of 1908 and began construction almost immediately.<sup>18</sup> Official city building permit records are no longer available, but newspaper notices list the home's price between \$3,000<sup>19</sup> and \$5,000,<sup>20</sup> and a July 22, 1908 "Building Permits" entry in the Omaha World Herald, evening edition, notes that Reagan took out a building permit for a \$2,500 frame dwelling.<sup>21</sup> Reagan continued to live in the home until 1920. After this time, the property became a rental property, with two separate apartments, one on the first floor, and another on the second.

#### James B. Mason – Architect

The architect of the Reagan House was Scottish born James Bayne Mason. Emigrating from Scotland with his parents in 1850, Mason grew up in Whiteside County, Illinois. Little is known regarding Mason's early career, but he appears to have entered the field of architecture working in Illinois as a carpenter and superintendent of construction. In the early 1880s Mason arrived in Omaha and worked as the manager of several large lumber mill companies from 1886 to 1891. Mason began his formal training in architecture as a draughtsman in 1891 and by 1893 was calling himself an architect. During his career Mason primarily focused his attention on residential architectural work, with the period from 1900 to 1910 being his most active. From 1902 to 1905, his office was located in the Brown Block (office #508) at 16<sup>th</sup> and Douglas Streets. John Reagan also had his office in the Brown Block (office #509) from 1902 to 1910. It is not certain, but is likely that Reagan chose Mason to be the architect for his home due their familiarity with one another as a result of the close proximity of their offices. Additionally, the majority of Mason's architectural work was centered in the developing suburbs to the north and west of downtown Omaha. Reagan was heavily involved in real estate and may have used Mason as his architect for earlier projects as well.<sup>22</sup>

#### Criterion C – The Neo-Classical Revival Style

The John E. Reagan House is a prime example of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The home exhibits classic features of the style including a full-height porch supported by columns, which dominates the symmetrical façade. The home fits the subtype Full-Height Entry Porch with Lower Full-Width Porch, as identified by the McAlesters in their A Field Guide to American Houses. With most examples built between 1895 and 1915, this subtype is not as common as the Full-Height Entry Porch. Typical of both subtypes, the full-height entry of the Reagan House has a classical pediment with a gabled roof. Other features of the Reagan House that are typical of the style include its moderate overhang with boxed eaves and its double-hung rectangular windows and paired or tripled windows.<sup>23</sup>

Spurred by the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893, and more locally, the 1898 Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition held in Omaha, the Neo-Classical Revival style became popular for public, commercial, and residential buildings for several decades. The style borrows many elements from the earlier Greek Revival style, most notably, dominant columns topped by a pediment. While the style is less popular for residences than the more prevalent Colonial Revival style, it is seen in homes throughout the country from c. 1895-1950.<sup>24 25</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Omaha: The Gate City and Douglas County Nebraska, Volume II, A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement, 274-275.

<sup>18</sup> Evening World-Herald, 27 March 1908, 1.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Sunday World-Herald, 21 June 1908, 14.

<sup>21</sup> Evening World-Herald, 22 July 1908, 3.

<sup>22</sup> Omaha City Directories and US Census Records

<sup>23</sup> Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2003) 343.

<sup>24</sup> Ibid., 346.

<sup>25</sup> Classical Revival Style 1895-1950, Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, available at [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/late\\_19th\\_early\\_20th\\_century\\_revival\\_period/2390/classical\\_revival\\_style/294771](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/late_19th_early_20th_century_revival_period/2390/classical_revival_style/294771), last accessed 22 October 2013.

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While there are other examples of Neo-Classical Revival single-family residences built at the turn of the century in Omaha, only one is individually listed on the National Register: The George H. Kelly House (DO09:140-009) at 1924 Binney Street (listed 1983). Two Neo-Classical apartment buildings have been listed: The Sherman (DO09:137-004) at 2501 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street (listed 1986), and the Apartments at 2514 North 16<sup>th</sup> Street (DO09:138-005, listed 2010). Within the Gold Coast District (listed 1997), five contributing homes are classified as Neo-Classical, with several others possessing Neo-Classical elements.

Located within the Kountze Place neighborhood as well, the George H. Kelly House serves as a good comparison property for the John E. Reagan House. The Kelly House, while in the more high-style, Victorian area of Kountze Place, is also of frame construction and was built in 1904, just a few years prior to the Reagan House. Both Kelly and Reagan were well-to-do men of their era and regarded well by their community. Kelly, like Reagan, was included in the Omaha Bee’s publication of noteworthy men up to 1904. Both resided in the Kountze Place neighborhood until the 1920s (Reagan – 1920, Kelly – 1925). While both homes are of the Neo-Classical Revival style, the Kelly House is considered to be somewhat transitional in style. Its wrap-around porch, asymmetry, and shallow bays reflect the Queen Anne style more so than the Neo-Classical style. While the Kelly House is still a good example, the Reagan House can be argued as being much more representative of the Neo-Classical Revival style as applied to a residential structure. Its massing, form, and applied ornament all adhere much more clearly to the typical features of the style. Also in contrast, the Kelly House lost the majority of its interior integrity when it was divided into apartments in 1955 and then rehabilitated into “five modern dwelling units” in 1982.<sup>26</sup> The Reagan House retains much of its interior integrity, even after being used as apartment housing for the majority of its life.

**Conclusion**

While currently in need of general maintenance and repair, the John E. Reagan House at 2102 Pinkney Street continues to embody the distinctive characteristics of the Neo-Classical Revival style. The Reagan House remains as one of the few homes in its immediate vicinity that retains architectural integrity; the majority of its neighbors have undergone significant changes. Even during its transition into use as apartments, the house has retained its grand appearance. A real estate notice from 1954 lists the property as such:

IMPOSING EXTERIOR

Every one who has passed (the) southwest corner of Kountze Park will remember the handsome home with big Colonial pillars at 2102 Pinkney St. now converted into 2 entirely separate apartments. Income and nice place to live....

The integrity of the home remains mostly intact throughout the interior as well as the exterior. Even after the conversion into an upper and ground floor apartment, finishings, layout, and architectural details remain. The exterior of the home, while in a rough condition, continues to evoke a sense of grandeur with its imposing porch with full-height columns and pediment. For these reasons, the John E. Reagan House is locally significant under Criterion C as an excellent example of the Neo-Classical Revival style.

<sup>26</sup> Lynn Meyer, George H. Kelly House, National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form, (written April 1983, listed July 1983).

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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

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**Bibliography** (Insert bibliography here – cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Classical Revival Style 1895-1950. Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Available at [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/late\\_19th\\_\\_early\\_20th\\_century\\_revival\\_period/2390/classical\\_revival\\_style/294771](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/late_19th__early_20th_century_revival_period/2390/classical_revival_style/294771). Last accessed 22 October 2013.

Douglas County Assessor and Deed Records.

Fire Insurance Map. The Sanborn Map Co. 1935

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Meyer, Lynn. George H. Kelly House. National Register of Historic Places Inventory-Nomination Form. Written April 1983, listed July 1983.

Morton, Julius Sterling and Albert Walkins. Illustrated History of Nebraska, Volume III. Lincoln, NE: Western Publishing and Engraving Company, 1913.

"No Irish Babies Born in Nebraska in 1912." Nebraska State Historical Society. Available at [www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/timeline/no\\_irish\\_babies.htm](http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/timeline/no_irish_babies.htm). Last accessed 17 July 2013.

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Omaha: The Gate City and Douglas County Nebraska, Volume II, A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement. Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1917.

US Census Records, accessed through Ancestry.com: 1880-1930

**Newspapers:**

Omaha Daily Bee:

April 7, 1901, page 24

August 24, 1906, page 2

John E. Reagan House

Douglas County, Nebraska

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

October 19, 1906, page 5  
August 7, 1908, page 10  
June 15, 1909, page 8  
September 15, 1909, page 5  
August 9, 1910, page 7  
August 2, 1911, page 10  
October 12, 1911, page 5  
November 27, 1912, page 5  
July 11, 1913, pages 1-2  
Omaha Sunday Bee:  
March 24, 1907. Page 5

Omaha World-Herald:  
October 2, 1905, page 6  
December 30, 1905, page 8  
December 4, 1907, page 3  
January 1, 1909, page 18  
June 12, 1909, page 15  
December 2, 1909, page 9  
September 3, 1920, page 5  
May 27, 1921, page 19  
June 27, 1954, page 40  
August 7, 1955, page 8-D

Omaha World-Herald, Morning Edition:  
March 19, 1907, page 5  
March 5, 1909, page 10  
October 30, 1909, page 1  
October 8, 1924, page 19

Omaha World-Herald, Evening Edition:  
October 25, 1905, page 3  
March 27, 1908, page 1  
June 5, 1908, page 15  
July 22, 1908, page 3  
July 23, 1908, page 5  
August 31, 1908, page 4  
April 20, 1909, page 4  
November 16, 1909, page 10  
September 7, 1926, page 18

Omaha World-Herald, Sunday Edition:  
August 31, 1902, page 6  
September 3, 1905, page 37  
January 21, 1906, page 5  
October 13, 1907, page 36  
October 20, 1907, page 4-W  
November 10, 1907, page E-9  
June 21, 1908, page 14  
August 16, 1908, page E-3  
March 20, 1910, page 2-W  
May 28, 1911, page 9

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**

May 13, 1945, page 5-D  
May 20, 1945, page 5-D

The Red Cloud Chief:  
June 3, 1904, page 2

Valentine Democrat:  
March 2, 1911, page 3

**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 #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other (Name of repository)

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): DO09:0142-060

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreeage of property less than one USGS Quadrangle Omaha North Quadrangle

**Latitude/Longitude Coordinates**

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

- |    |          |                  |           |                   |
|----|----------|------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| 1. | Latitude | <u>41.290768</u> | Longitude | <u>-95.943990</u> |
| 2. | Latitude | _____            | Longitude | _____             |
| 3. | Latitude | _____            | Longitude | _____             |
| 4. | Latitude | _____            | Longitude | _____             |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Kountze Place, Lot 16, Block 41, south 80 feet 47 x 80

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the property consists of the footprint of the home and the yard immediately surrounding the home. This was the area historically associated with the property.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Audrey Mohr, National Register and CLG Coordinator

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date October 2013

street & number 1500 R Street telephone 402-471-4775

city or town Lincoln state NE zip code 68501

email audrey.mohr@nebraska.gov

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO for any additional items.)

### Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

### Photo Log

Name of Property John E. Reagan House  
City or Vicinity Omaha County Douglas State Nebraska  
Photographer Patrick Haynes Date Photographed September 27, 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera.

Photo 1 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_001  
West and south facades. Camera facing northeast.

Photo 2 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_002  
South (main) façade. Camera facing north.

Photo 3 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_003  
Detail of full-height porch. Camera facing northeast.

Photo 4 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_004  
South and east facades. Camera facing northwest.

Photo 5 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_005  
East and north facades. Camera facing southwest.

Photo 6 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_006  
West façade. Camera facing east.

Photo 7 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_007  
Interior of side/rear porch. Camera facing southeast.

Photo 8 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_008  
Living room looking into kitchen, hall, and dining room. Camera facing west.

Photo 9 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_009  
Detail of wood floors in living room.

Photo 10 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_010

John E. Reagan House

Douglas County, Nebraska

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

Heating grate in living room. Camera facing south.

Photo 11 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_011  
Hallway to basement, bedroom, bathroom, and stairs. Camera facing west.

Photo 12 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_012  
Dining room. Camera facing east.

Photo 13 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_013  
Detail of door hardware.

Photo 14 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_014  
Second floor living space. Camera facing south.

Photo 15 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_015  
Second floor bedroom. Camera facing east.

Photo 16 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_016  
Looking into kitchenette from second floor bedroom. Camera facing west.

Photo 17 of 17. NE\_DouglasCounty\_JohnEReaganHouse\_017  
Looking into kitchenette and hall from second floor bedroom. Camera facing southwest.

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**



Photo 1 of 17



Photo 2 of 17



Photo 3 of 17



John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**



Photo 4 of 17



Photo 5 of 17



Photo 6 of 17

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**



Photo 7 of 17



Photo 8 of 17



Photo 9 of 17

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**



Photo 10 of 17



Photo 11 of 17



Photo 12 of 17



John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**



Photo 13 of 17



Photo 14 of 17



Photo 15 of 17

John E. Reagan House  
**Name of Property**

Douglas County, Nebraska  
**County and State**

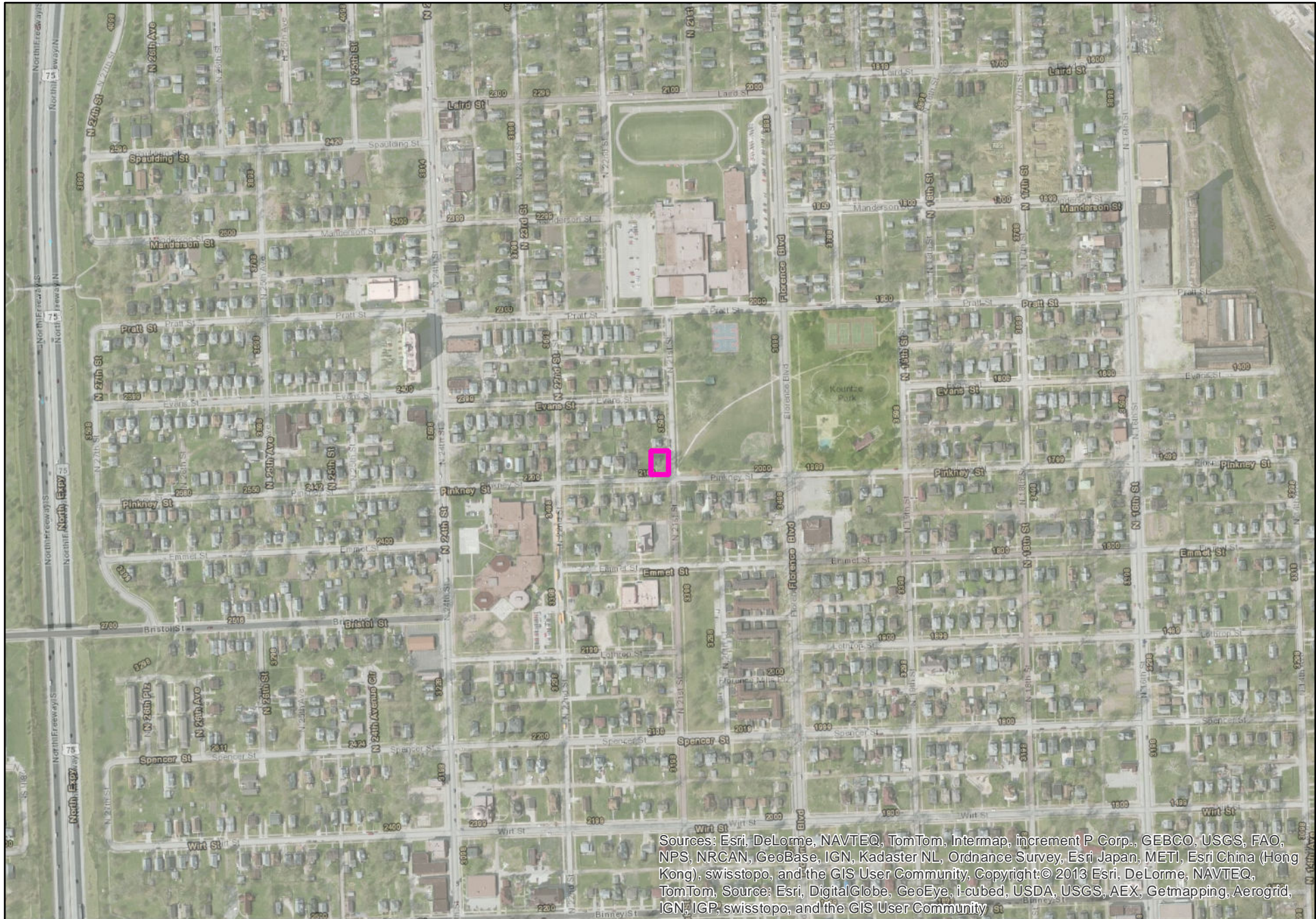


Photo 16 of 17

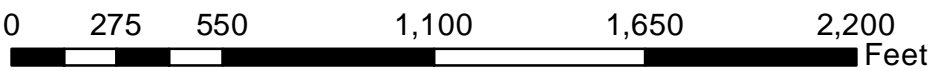


Photo 17 of 17





John E. Reagan House  
 2102 Pinkney St.  
 Omaha, Douglas County, Nebraska  
 41.290768, -95.943990



1:6,000  
 Datum: WGS84



**Legend**

 Property Boundaries































































UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Reagan, John E., House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEBRASKA, Douglas

DATE RECEIVED: 3/24/14      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/17/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/02/14      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/10/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000201

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT     RETURN     REJECT    5-5-2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Although in Rough shape, the House exhibits the elements of Classical Revival that was popular in the first decade of the Century.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C

REVIEWER J. Gabbard DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N Y see attached SLR Y/N N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.