

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCERS use only
received **OCT 28 1980**
date entered **NOV 28 1980**

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

1. Name

historic Brandeis-Millard House (D009-15:3)

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 500 South 38th Street not for publication

city, town Omaha vicinity of congressional district Second

state Nebraska code 31 county Douglas code 055

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Max B. Kiltz

street & number 500 South 38th Street

city, town Omaha vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Omaha/Douglas County Civic Center

street & number 1819 Farnam Street

city, town Omaha state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Preservation in Nebraska has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1971 federal state county local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The 1904 Brandeis-Millard House is a substantial Jacobethan Revival residence at the southwest corner of South 38th Street and Dewey Avenue. The situation is within a section of Omaha known as the "Gold Coast," formerly a very fashionable residential neighborhood. Newer construction is interspersed throughout the section now, and the area has converted to mixed use.

The walls of this two-and-one-half-story house are of brick construction; stone trim is in the forms of coping, fenestral surrounds, window mullions and transom bars, lintels above and below gable-end attic windows, and triangular buttress blocks. Also, there is a gabled and protruding second-story section of stuccoed-frame construction with imitation half-timbering on the north wall and a similarly treated two-story section with a bowed end on the south wall.

The gabled roof sections are covered with French tiles, as are roofs of two shingle-clad dormers on the east (main facade), a hipped porte-cochere on the north, and a hipped one-story porch at the southeast.

The main entrance is an elliptical-arched opening that has a stone frontispiece treated with sculpted foliage in recessed spandrel panels. Centered over the entrance is stonework that incorporates a cartouche amidst foliage within a tabernacle. A thin stone molding runs above the heads of the main facade's first-floor openings, and there is a two-story bay window on the protruding gabled wall near the southeast.

A low, stone-coped wall surrounds a terrace that spans the one-story corner porch and the two southern bays of the front facade.

The interior of the Brandeis-Millard House is furnished with a wide array of fittings: oak and mahogany wainscoting, leaded-glass cabinets, stenciled and painted-cloth-covered wall sections, plaster moldings, marble-sheathed bathroom walls, and stone and tiled fireplaces. Material richness extends to the solarium behind the main staircase on the first floor; the flooring in this space is green marble and two walls and the ceiling are fitted with stained glass.

Despite a change in use from a residence to a commercial operation, the Brandeis-Millard House's exterior and interior remain essentially unchanged.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1904; 1909–22 **Builder/Architect** Albert Kahn

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Brandeis-Millard House, designed by the renowned architect Albert Kahn, is of commercial and political significance to Nebraska for its association with Senator Joseph H. Millard, a pioneer Omahan who held prominent business and political positions. Architecturally, the house is an early and fine product of the Jacobethan Revival in Nebraska, and it serves as an emphatic statement of Kahn's conventional views on domestic architecture: internationally famous for his modern industrial designs, Kahn nevertheless adhered to those Period Revival forms in residential architecture that were gaining popularity when his career began.

Built in 1904 for Arthur and Zerlina Brandeis, members of an established Omaha mercantile family, the house on the southwest corner of South 38th Street and Dewey Avenue was purchased in 1909 by Jessie H. Millard as a residence for herself and for her father, Senator Joseph H. Millard.

Joseph H. Millard (1836–1922), born in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, arrived in Omaha as a young man two years after the community's founding. He became involved with a land company that proved successful enough to transfer its interests to banking. Financial acumen led to Millard's presidency of the Omaha National Bank and to involvement in other business and social concerns: he was an incorporator of the Omaha and Northwest Railroad and of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Omaha Railroad; served as treasurer for a deaf institution which grew into a large state-owned facility; was a member of a capitalist syndicate that erected the Millard Hotel; was an organizer of the Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway and Bridge Company; organized and incorporated the South Omaha National Bank, serving as president for a number of years; and was a Director of the Union Pacific Railroad for fifteen years (Morton, Watkins, and Miller, pp. 305–06).

Politically, Millard was Mayor of Omaha for a brief period between 1871–72, and he was a member of the United States Senate between 1901–07. In the Senate his most important service was as Chairman of the Inter-Ocean Committee: "It was largely due to his [Millard's] and the then Secretary Taft that the lock-level type of canal building was decided upon for the Panama Canal" (Obituary of Millard ([Omaha] Morning World-Herald, Jan. 14, 1922, p. 1). While in the Senate, Millard was also instrumental

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

UTM NOT VERIFIED
ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property Less than one

Quadrangle name Omaha North

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	5	2	5	1	1	9	0	4	5	7	1	2	4	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing						

C

Zone			Easting				Northing						

D

Zone			Easting				Northing						

E

Zone			Easting				Northing						

F

Zone			Easting				Northing						

G

Zone			Easting				Northing						

H

Zone			Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lots 9 and 10, Block 20, Smith's Addition, Omaha, Nebraska

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

state code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date October, 1980

street & number 1500 "R" Street telephone 402/471-3270

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Marvin D. Knott 10/7/80

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date

For HCRS use only	
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register	
<u>Paula Jane Dangel</u>	date <u>11/28/80</u>
Keeper of the National Register	
Attest: <u>Paula Stone Reel</u>	date <u>11/28/80</u>
Chief of Registration	

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in securing a \$400,000 appropriation for the rebuilding of Fort Omaha and the establishment there of the chief training station for the Army Signal Corps (for additional information see the Fort Omaha Historic District, Douglas County, Nebraska, listed in the National Register, March 27, 1974).

With his daughter Jessie, Millard resided in the house at 500 South 38th Street for the last thirteen years of his life. The two political interludes were behind him and he quietly pursued business interests during this period, suffering a fatal stroke in 1922 while attending a board meeting of the Nebraska Power Company. The period of residency on South 38th Street was the Senator's time of ultimate prominence and respectability, and the Jacobethan Revival house, despite a change in use, remains in a virtually unaltered state, conveying a feeling of the period of its association with Senator Millard.

The house's designer, Albert Kahn (1869-1942), was an "internationally famed industrial architect. . . , and for many years was the foremost designer of automotive plants in the United States" (Withey and Withey, p. 329). Kahn's non-residential buildings combined utility and beauty in an innovative manner, but his residences are rather unsurprising "Period Houses," reviving Georgian, Jacobethan, and French forms and details.

The Brandeis-Millard House is readily identifiable as a Jacobethan Revival house, having such perfunctory elements as brick walls with stone trim, parapeted gables, a two-story bay window, pseudo-half-timbered sections, chimneys with multiple flues, and stone mullions and transom bars.

The twenty years between 1910-30 are generally regarded as the era of the "Period House" (Lane, "The Period House in the Nineteen-Twenties," p. 169). The Brandeis-Millard House, however, precedes that span by several years. Although of limited appeal and success at first, the revival of historic styles such as the Jacobethan actually began in the 1890s, the decade during which Kahn's career began. The architect evidently found Period Revival forms to possess propriety: "The charm of the Tudor style appealed to Kahn so much that in 1928 he added a large Tudor gallery to his own house in Detroit" (The Legacy of Albert Kahn, p. 22). Like other period houses constructed before World War I, the Brandeis-Millard House was built for a well-to-do family and it reflects a new character that suburban houses were achieving: treatment as a country residence on a small lot, rather than as a modified city dwelling (Lane, pp. 170-71).

The Brandeis-Millard House is the only building in Nebraska designed by Albert Kahn, and it is among the few residences outside Michigan for which he was responsible.

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The Legacy of Albert Kahn. Detroit: The Detroit Institute of Arts, 1970.

Morton, J. Sterling; Watkins, Albert; and Miller, George L. Illustrated History of Nebraska, Vol. II. Lincoln: Jacob North and Co., 1906.

"Senator J. H. Millard Dies Suddenly While Attending Business Conference." Morning World-Herald. Omaha. January 14, 1922, pp. 1 and 2.

Withey, Elsie R., and Withey, Henry F. Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased). Los Angeles: Hennessey and Ingalls, Inc., 1970.