

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received NOV 21 1984  
date entered DEC 20 1984

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

1. Name

historic Samuel D. Kilpatrick House (GA03-166)  
and/or common "The Kilpatrick Mansion"

2. Location

street & number 701 North 7th Street na not for publication  
city, town Beatrice NA vicinity of  
state Nebraska code 031 county Gage code 067

3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>	
<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	NA 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 Steven G. and Pamela S. Higgins  
street & number 701 No. 7th Street  
city, town Beatrice NA vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds, Gage County Courthouse  
street & number northeast corner 6th and Grant Streets  
city, town Beatrice 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	NA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

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

The Samuel Davenport Kilpatrick House is located in Beatrice (1983 pop: 12,891), Nebraska, the county seat of Gage county. The two-and-one-half story brick house exemplifies the Renaissance Revival style of architecture. Built in 1904-05 by Mr. Kilpatrick, the house retains its historical and structural integrity.

The Samuel Davenport Kilpatrick House is a two-and-one-half story Renaissance Revival dwelling, constructed in 1904-05 at a cost of \$40,000. The house is square-shaped in plan with a raised basement and hipped roof, penetrated by hipped roof dormers. All roof surfaces are covered with clay tiles. The massive projecting porch features a segmentally arched arcade supported by brick piers and displays an entry pavilion with a broken pediment and ornamental urn. The arch faces are trimmed with stone and rest upon stone impostes. Other decorative features of the porch include dentilling, keystone ornaments and bas-relief carvings. The pavilion leads to a raised entry set in a segmentally arched opening and shows sidelights, a fanlight with beveled glass, and fluted colonettes with ionic capitals. (see photo #6) The dwelling features a porte-cochere on the north facade. A stone water table encircles the main portion of the house. The front (east) facade shows a prominent Palladian window displaying brick pilasters with ionic capitals visually supporting a pronounced entablature with a sunburst motif above, crowned by a round arch and keystone ornament, and flanked by two bas-relief carvings. Fenestration for the most part consists of rectangular-shaped openings of double-hung sash with one-over-one pane arrangement. Lugsills are of concrete. A bay window is found on the east facade. Other window openings consist of fixed lower panes with transoms above, some incorporating leaded and beveled glass. The south facade shows the enclosed sun porch with strip windows set in segmentally arched openings and divided by brick piers, continuing the arched theme of the porch arcade. French doors, leading out from the sun porch, provide access to the east or west. (see photo #7) A one-story frame rear addition on the west facade provides entry to the kitchen. An additional entry is found on the north facade.

The interior floor plan includes on the first level: a foyer, living, dining and music rooms, parlor, kitchen, bath and butler's pantry; with bedrooms, baths and a dressing room on second. The first and second floors each contain 2,750 square feet. Distinctive interior features include 11 foot ceilings, an octagonal-shaped dining room, colonades, French doors leading to the music room, oak and walnut woodwork, parlor stoves with mosaic Italian tile, beamed ceilings, an ornate open stairway, leaded and beveled glass, and a marble and oak sink in the butler's pantry.

The Samuel D. Kilpatrick House was constructed on the original site of the John David Kilpatrick home. The frame dwelling was torn down after J. D. Kilpatrick's death for the erection of S. D. Kilpatrick's new brick home, which was completed in 1905.

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

Specific dates 1904-05 Builder/Architect Richard W. Grant

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Architecturally significant, the Samuel D. Kilpatrick house represents a grand example of the Renaissance Revival style, which gained popularity in Nebraska around the turn of the century. As a member of the Kilpatrick Brothers Business Firm Associates, Samuel D. was one of four brothers who established a railroad contracting business which played an active and important role in the transportation systems and later the settlement of Nebraska and other surrounding states. The Kilpatrick brothers were also pioneers in the farming and cattle industry of the plains, establishing ranches and farm lands in several states including Nebraska and Idaho.

The Samuel D. Kilpatrick house, built in 1904-05, exemplifies the Renaissance Revival style of architecture which gained popularity in Nebraska around the turn of the century. The Renaissance style developed in reaction to the Victorian Picturesque styles of the late 19th century, calling once again for "classicism" in architectural design. Characteristic features of the Renaissance Revival style include formalism in plans, raised basements, low hipped roof lines covered with clay tiles, cornices, pilasters and urns, all of which are found in the design of the Kilpatrick house. The house stands as a landmark in the neighborhood due to its massive scale and substantial building material, as well as its prominent corner location on the city block.

A local man, Richard W. Grant, served as the architect in the construction of the Kilpatrick home. Mr. Grant was born in Illinois in January of 1862. At the age of eight years, his family established their home on a farm in Gage County. Attending public schools in Beatrice he later pursued his studies at the University of Illinois. Grant established a practice in Beatrice in 1889 and in his career designed many public buildings, including schools in Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, and South Dakota (Dobbs, 1918, p. 579), as well as numerous churches, businesses, and residences.

Samuel Davenport Kilpatrick (1859-1925) was born near Vinton, Benton County, Iowa. One of ten children of Samuel M. and Rachael (Thompson) Kilpatrick, the family was of Scotch-Irish descent. They came to Nebraska in 1859, settling on a farm northwest of Beatrice in Gage County. In 1862, Samuel M. established, by actual settlement, pre-emption rights to the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$  of NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , Section 31, Township 4 North, Range 5 East in Blakely Township, consisting of a total of 102 56/100 acres. On January 1, 1863 at Brownville, Nebraska, entry was made of this tract of land under the new homestead law of Congress which went into effect that day, with Samuel filing Homestead #2 after Daniel Freeman, who was the first to file for homestead rights (see Homestead National Monument of America, entered National Register of Historic Places 10/15/66). Samuel D. Kilpatrick worked on his father's farm until 1879 when he joined three of his brothers, John D., William H., and Robert J., in the railroad construction business, under the name of Kilpatrick Brothers Business Firm Associates. By 1886, the firm had

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than 1 acre

Quadrangle name Beatrice East, Nebr.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

### UTM References

A 

1	4	6	9	1	7	0	0	4	4	6	0	2	7	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

The property is located on lots 3, 4, 5, 6, Block 7, Cropsey's Addition, in Beatrice, Gage County, Nebraska, including all historically associated real estate.

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

state NA code county code

state NA code county code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Joni Gilkerson, Preservation Associate

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date October, 1984

street & number 1500 "R" Street, P.O. Box 82554 telephone (402) 471-4767

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

*M. Knott* 10/31/84

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

date

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the  
National Register

date

12-20-84

*J. Helms*  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior  
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graded approximately 632 miles of railroad lines located in Texas, Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Wisconsin, Minnesota, South Dakota, Kansas and Illinois (Dobbs, 1918, p. 602). That same year the Kilpatrick brothers formed a co-partnership with capitalist C. W. Collins of Brooklyn, New York, continuing work in railroad construction.

During the years from the late 1870's to 1917, the brothers were involved in railroad building in more than a dozen states, constructing more than 5,000 miles of track for numerous lines, including the Union Pacific; Burlington; Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe; Chicago and Northwestern; Missouri Pacific; Southern Pacific; Western Pacific, and Denver Rio Grande (Beatrice Daily Sun, 1957). The firm also expanded its business to pipelines and irrigation reservoirs for private companies, as well as being instrumental in the development of the coal industry in the state of Wyoming, resulting in the establishment of the towns of Newcastle and Cambria (Dobbs, 1918, p. 602).

The Kilpatrick brothers owned vast acres of land in Nebraska, Kansas, South Dakota, Idaho, Oregon and Texas, utilizing it for horse and cattle ranching, sheep grazing and farming (Dobbs, 1918, p. 602).

Following the year 1917, the brothers devoted their attention to the farming and stock raising interests, performing their last railroad construction work in 1916, in which they served as general contractors in the building of a second Union Pacific main line track.

On a local level, the Kilpatrick brothers served as civic leaders in the Beatrice community, owning several business properties and actively participating in the commercial interests of the town. In 1886, the Kilpatrick volunteer Fire Department was organized, consisting of 28 members.

Samuel D. Kilpatrick was affiliated with numerous associations, including the Beatrice Lodge #619 and #29, A.F. and A.M., and B.P.O.E. Mr. Kilpatrick was married to Mary Bradt (1870-1951) of Beatrice on September 28, 1898. They had one child, an adopted daughter named Rosana. Mrs. Kilpatrick was also a prominent figure in the community, being active in social and political affairs, including Daughters of the American Revolution, Cosgrove Club, and P.E.O. The Kilpatricks were avid travelers making trips abroad to European countries and the Middle East.

The Kilpatrick family name gained an enviable reputation in Beatrice and Gage County for the empire they created in the railroad contracting and land business. The Samuel D. Kilpatrick house stands as a reminder to the legacy of these four Kilpatrick brothers and the important role they played in Nebraska's past.

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In the History of Gage County, Hugh F. Dobbs states:

It will be readily conceded by all who are familiar with their history that Kilpatrick brothers have made for themselves a large place in the world of work as well as in the world of finance. No other family or organization of Gage County, or perhaps in the state of Nebraska, has a more enviable record of usefulness and of things achieved. They have performed vast labors and acquired large possessions by methods which will bear the closest scrutiny.

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