

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Nebraska	
COUNTY: Lancaster	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 69-04-26-0005	DATE 4/16/69

1. NAME

COMMON:
Nebraska Statehood Memorial

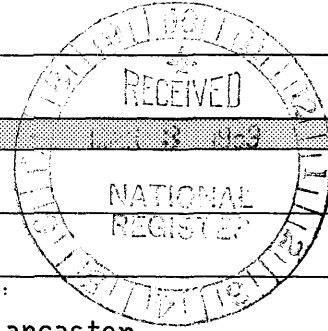
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Kennard (Thomas P.) House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1627 "H" Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Lincoln

STATE: **Nebraska** CODE: **26** COUNTY: **Lancaster** CODE: **109**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>	
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>	

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
State of Nebraska

STREET AND NUMBER:
1445 "K" Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Lincoln** STATE: **Nebraska** CODE: **26**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
County Clerk, Lancaster County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
525 S. 10th Street

CITY OR TOWN: **Lincoln** STATE: **Nebraska** CODE: **26**

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **one acre**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1934** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN: **Washington** STATE: **D.C.** CODE: **08**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Nebraska**
COUNTY: **Lancaster**
ENTRY NUMBER: **69-04-26-0005**
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)	
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original Kennard property, encompassed about 1869 by a picket fence, comprised the north half of Block 153 in Lincoln. The house was built near the center of this property in 1869 as the residence of Thomas P. Kennard (1828-1920). In 1887 Kennard sold the house and moved into the second house built on Kennard property, a frame dwelling erected by him that year on the northeast corner of Block 153 and demolished in 1962. Our nomination of the 1869 Kennard House to the National Register includes our nomination of the entire north half of Block 153, owned since 1961 by the State of Nebraska.

In 1965 the State Legislature designated the Kennard House as the "Nebraska Statehood Memorial" and directed the Nebraska State Historical Society to restore and refurnish it. This work was carried out in 1967-68. Administered by the Historical Society, the house is now open to the public, although additional restoration work remains to be done. The house has been refurbished to represent the home of a moderately affluent Nebraska family in the late 1870's. Many furnishings associated with leading State officials have been used. The restoration has been designed as a memorial to statehood, rather than to a specific city or individual. In 1968 an official Nebraska Historical Marker was erected north of the house.

Many alterations have been made over the years. The house was originally built as a 2½ story brick dwelling crowned by a frame cupola. A low, two story brick wing was originally appended to the rear of the asymmetrical main block of the house. The brownstone of the entire foundation was quarried locally. The original Italianate styling of the exterior incorporated Renaissance and Gothic ornament, much of which had been removed and replaced with neo-Colonial ornament. Most of the original ornament has now been reconstructed. The cupola and the original north porch, both removed about 1900, have also been reconstructed. Fortunately, the three original bay windows remain intact. However, all exterior balustrades had been removed by 1923. These too have been reconstructed. Still to be rebuilt is the rear wing, razed in 1923. Intentionally left unrestored and uncovered is the cap above the north portal. This cap is formed of a composition material patented in 1868 as "Frear Stone," a pioneering form of modern concrete. All window caps and sills are formed of this material, installed in 1869 and covered about 1878 with the present molded sheets of galvanized iron. Interior door openings, partitions, fireplaces, and stairways have been added and subtracted over the years, necessitating additional restoration work. Fortunately, the fine principal interior staircase with its walnut balustrade has seen remarkably little change or damage since 1869. The entire restoration has been guided primarily by early photographs and careful examination of the structure itself.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1869**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Landscape <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

One of the first problems facing the State of Nebraska when established in 1867 was the selection of a state capital location. Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska's territorial capital (1854-1867), the State Legislature picked three men to make the decision: Governor David Butler, Secretary of the State, Thomas Perkins Kennard, and State Auditor John Gillespie. This Capital Commission, largely through Kennard's persuasion, selected the present site of Lincoln on July 29, 1867.

A few modest dwellings were soon built, but whether Lincoln would continue to exist as a settlement, let alone as Nebraska's capital, remained uncertain until after the depression years of the 1870's. In 1869 architect John Keys Winchell of Chicago designed three similar masonry dwellings in Lincoln, one for each of the Capital Commissioners. The construction of these three showplaces by Nebraska's first state officers did much to instill confidence in the future of Lincoln and to insure its continued existence.

Of these three structures, only the Kennard House stands today, 100 years later. It is believed to be the oldest house within the original 1867 plat of Lincoln and is perhaps the best of the few remaining Nebraska examples of Italianate domestic architecture, the leading American style from the mid-1850's to the mid-1870's, Nebraska's pioneer period. The house is the last remaining Lincoln structure linking the present to the important events of Nebraska's early Statehood period, events with which the house was intimately associated. The house stands today as a symbol of the confidence early Nebraskans had in their state.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Information taken primarily on early newspapers and archival records.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"
				N 40° 48' 24"	W 96° 41' 49"	

NO
UTM
CD

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: John Q. Magie, Curator of History

ORGANIZATION: Nebraska State Historical Society DATE: 2-21-69

STREET AND NUMBER: 1500 "R" Street

CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln STATE: Nebraska CODE: 26

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name Martin O. Kvett

Title Director, Nebraska State Hist Soc.

Date Feb 27, 1969

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest Allen Cunnally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

APR 16 1969

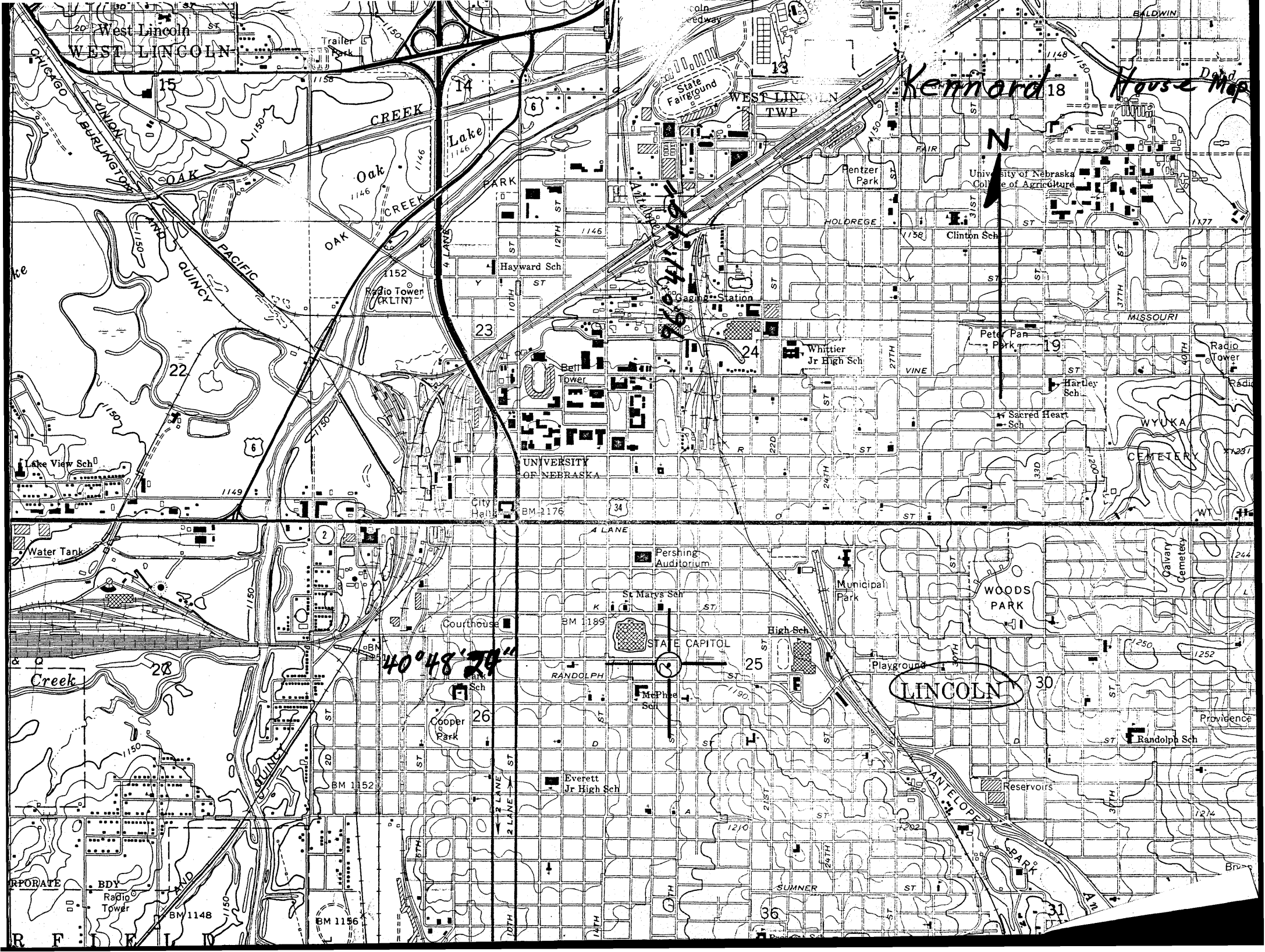
Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Smutagh
Keeper of The National Register

Date APR 16 1969

Kennard House Map



40° 48' 29\"/>

LINCOLN

26° 41' 49\"/>

WEST LINCOLN

18

House Map

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA

STATE CAPITOL

WOODS PARK

CHICAGO AND BURLINGTON

PACIFIC QUINCY

CREEK

Lake

WEST LINCOLN TWP

University of Nebraska
College of Agriculture

Clinton Sch

Peter Pan
Park

Whittier
Jr High Sch

19

Hartley Sch

Sacred Heart
Sch

WYUKA
CEMETERY

CITY HALL

Courthouse

Pershing
Auditorium

Municipal
Park

WOODS
PARK

RANDOLPH

High Sch

Playground

WOODS
PARK

Cooper
Park

Everett
Jr High Sch

LINCOLN

Providence
Sch

Randolph Sch

Reservoirs

VAN TIELOPE

PARK

SUMNER

BDY
Radio
Tower

BM 1148

BM 1156

R F D

Form 10-301
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Nebraska	
COUNTY Lancaster	
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ENTRY NUMBER 69-04-26-0005	DATE 4/16/69

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON:		Nebraska Statehood Memorial	
AND/OR HISTORIC:		Kennard (Thomas P.) House	
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 1627 "H" Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln			
STATE: Nebraska	CODE 26	COUNTY: Lancaster	CODE 109
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7½, quadrangle Lincoln			
SCALE: 1: 24,000			
DATE: 1964			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.		Note: Property nominated includes the north half of the city block on which the building is located	
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

