

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Lincoln Tomb

AND/OR COMMON

Lincoln Tomb

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Oak Ridge Cemetery

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

— VICINITY OF

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

20

STATE

Illinois

CODE

17

COUNTY

Sangamon

CODE

167

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Tomb

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

Memorial

NAME Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of Parks
and Memorials

STREET & NUMBER

100 State Office Building

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Illinois 62706

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Registry of Deeds, ETC. Sangamon County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Springfield

STATE

Illinois

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE None

DATE

—FEDERAL —STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Lincoln Tomb in Springfield, Illinois, is a large marble monument designed by Larkin G. Mead, Jr. Construction was begun in 1869, four years after Lincoln's assassination, and was completed in 1874.

The tomb's exterior design consists of an obelisk 117 feet high, resting on a simple square building. On the corners of the spire are four heroic bronze groups representing the infantry, cavalry, artillery, and navy of the Civil War. On the south side of the shaft above the entrance to the tomb is a ten-foot statue of Lincoln. In front of the tomb is a bronze reproduction of Gutzon Borgrum's massive Lincoln bust. The entrance leads to a foyer where is displayed a reduced copy of the Daniel Chester French statue in the Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C. A circular corridor leads to the burial chamber and circles back to the foyer. In niches along the corridor are four-foot statues representing various phases of Lincoln's life, and four bronze tablets contain the Farewell Address to Springfield, The Gettysburg Address, a portion of the Second Inaugural Address and a biographical sketch.

The original cost of the Lincoln Tomb was \$180,000. In 1895 the State assumed control of the Tomb, and in 1901 and 1931, reconstructions of the interior were completed.

Since 1869, the grounds at Lincoln Tomb have been somewhat altered. There is a custodian's residence less than 50 yards due west of the Tomb, and a parking area immediately west of that. Rest rooms, a garage, and an incinerator border the western parking area line. Roads in the area run differently than in 1869, though none disturb the quiet essential to the integrity of the site.

In January 1975 vandals spray-painted graffiti on the tomb exterior, front and rear. There was no alternative to sandblasting, which affected the stone permanently.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1809-1865

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Larkin G. Meade, Jr.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lincoln Tomb is a memorial to Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth President of the United States. In it are buried Lincoln, his wife, and three of his four sons.

Immediately after Lincoln's death on April 15, 1865, citizens of Springfield organized the National Lincoln Monument Association to spearhead the drive to erect a tomb and memorial. Work was begun in 1869, and in 1871 Lincoln's body was removed from a temporary vault and placed in the crypt. The tomb was dedicated in 1874, and in 1895 the Monument Association gave control of the site to the State of Illinois.

In 1876 an attempt was foiled to kidnap and ransom Lincoln's body. In 1901 the casket was moved for the last time, when it was placed in a cement vault ten feet below the floor. The Tomb is open daily to the public on an unlimited basis.

Biography

Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865) was the son of a poor pioneer and squatter, Thomas Lincoln. Through self-education he was able to leave rail-splitting and flatboating to practice law in 1836. He was eminently successful, and in 1846 was elected to Congress. His opposition to the Mexican War led to his defeat two years later.

The emerging crisis over slavery gave Lincoln his opportunity to reassert himself and rise to statesmanship. In 1856 he became a Republican and two years later ran against Stephen A. Douglas for the U.S. Senate, maintaining that Congress must exclude slavery from the territories, though not abolish it. Lincoln lost the election, but gained national recognition. In 1860 he won the Republican nomination for President on the third ballot. With four candidates in the field, Lincoln was able to win a decisive victory in the Electoral College despite winning a plurality of less than 40 percent of the popular vote. This was completely unacceptable to many Southerners, and in January, 1861, South Carolina seceded. By March, seven Southern States had united to form the Confederate States of America.

On April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter was fired upon. Lincoln called upon the State governors for troops, whereupon four more States joined the Confederacy.

For the next four years, Lincoln ran the Federal war effort with almost absolute authority. His actions were hampered by a bickering, deceitful Cabinet, incompetent military commanders, and the tenuous nature of his own position as a minority President serving a four year term. Despite these obstacles, Lincoln successfully

(Continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Newcomb, Rexford, In the Lincoln Country: Journeys to the Lincoln Shrines of Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois and Other States (1928).
 Redway, Maurine, and Dorothy Braeken, Marks of Lincoln On Our Land (1957).
 Shedd, Charles E., Jr., "Lincoln Tomb," Historic Sites Survey record, 1959.
 State of Illinois Department of Conservation, Division of Parks and Memorials, "The Lincoln Tomb," informational publication.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 12.4

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	27,28,6,0	4,41,14,5,0	B	1,6	27,28,5,0	4,41,09,2,0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,6	27,22,5,0	4,41,14,8,0	D			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See Continuation Sheet.

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

Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Survey Project

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

April 4, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street NW.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Washington

STATE

D.C. 20240

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 set forth by the National Park Service.

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/24/78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

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directed the invasion and conquest of the South. Despite half-a-dozen crushing defeats, Federal armies in the East successfully carried out a four-year holding action which kept the best Southern troops and commanders pinned down in Virginia throughout the war. This permitted the enormous successes won by Grant and Sherman in the West, which split the Confederacy first along the Mississippi and then along the Chatanooga-Atlanta-Savannah axis. This, with an increasingly effective naval blockade, reduced the Confederacy to subjugation in what now seems the surprisingly short period of four years. By the 1864 Presidential election, a second Lincoln victory, once in great doubt, was assured. Lincoln's plans for reconstruction were still in a formative stage when he was shot and killed, April 14, 1865, by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theatre, Washington.

Among American heroes, Lincoln continues to have a unique appeal. It derives from his remarkable life story--his rise from humble origins and his dramatic death--and from his distinctively humane personality. His historical role as saviour of the Union and emancipator of the slaves is enhanced by his eloquence as a spokesman for democracy, an eloquence which culminated with his Emancipation Proclamation (1862), the Gettysburg Address (1863), and the Second Inaugural Address (1865). Lincoln's remains were carried by train to Springfield, Illinois where he lay in a temporary vault until 1871, when he was interred in the Lincoln Tomb.

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Geographical Data (Verbal Boundary Description):

The boundaries for Lincoln Tomb include all that property surrounding the tomb owned and cared for by the Illinois Department of Conservation. This 12.4 acre plot preserves the peaceful setting which made President and Mrs. Lincoln decide to be buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery. Modern additions, though relatively well-screened, do not contribute to the significance of the landmark. These include the custodian's residence, parking lot, rest rooms and appurtenant features.

As described by the red line on the accompanying map B, labelled "Topographic Map, Lincoln Tomb Area," and dated Oct. 14, 1968, from a point on the eastern curb of Logan Drive, at the intersection of Logan and Springfield Avenue; proceed southeast about 750 feet along the east curb of Logan Drive; thence about 500 feet easterly along the north curb of New Salem Place; thence about 200 feet southeast across Monument Avenue and along the north curb of New Salem Place; thence east about 150 feet to the west curb of Grant Drive; thence northwest about 850 along Grant Drive; thence about 900 feet westerly along the south curb of Springfield Avenue to the point of beginning.

The black line on map B describes the original 1866 extent of the Lincoln Tomb area.