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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name Oft-Gordon House

Other names/site number D009: 1388-002

2. Location

Street & number 11523 156th Street

Not for publication ☐

City or town Bennington

Vicinity ☐

State Nebraska Code NE County Douglas Code 055 Zip code 68007

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael J. Ford
Signature of certifying official

Feb 2, 2010
Date

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

☒ entered in the National Register.

☐ see continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register.

☐ see continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.

☐ removed from the National Register.

☐ other, (explain): _____

Edson H. Beal

3-17-10

for
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

Oft-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

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>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Buildings
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Sites
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Structures
<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	Objects
<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

AGRICULTURE: Animal Facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Queen Anne

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation CONCRETE: Concrete Block

Walls Wood: Cedar Clapboard

Roof ASPHALT: Asphalt Shingles

Other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Oft-Gordon House

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The property is located on the southeast corner of 156th Street and Bennington Road (old Highway 36), just one block from Bennington's business district. Bennington (2000 population 937) is an incorporated village in Douglas County located approximately ten miles northwest of Omaha, the county seat and Nebraska's largest metropolitan area. While suburbanization has affected Bennington's western half, the area east of 156th Street retains its small town character. Bennington is located along Big Papillion Creek and the surrounding landscape is characterized by rolling hills and farmland, broken occasionally by suburban development.

The Oft-Gordon House consists of two city lots with the house on the northern lot and the carriage house on the southern lot. Both lots are surrounded by five large sycamore trees; one measuring more than five feet in diameter and a pin-oak which was designated a Nebraska Champion State Tree in 1981. These trees were planted shortly after the house was built by Eggert and Rosa Oft. The property also contains a lily pond which is believed to have been built shortly after the house was constructed. An unpaved driveway off of 156th Street enters the property south of the house and leads to the carriage house. The alley marks the property's eastern boundary.

The Oft-Gordon House is a two-story, frame, free-classical Queen Anne residence built in 1910. Typical of the style variation, the façade is asymmetrical, the roofline is varied and decorative details are classically-inspired. The foundation and basement are of concrete block construction. The basement is accessed by a stairway from the kitchen and a double door entrance located on the southern side of the house. The house is clad in its original 3 ½ inch cedar siding.

The steep hipped roof has lower cross gables on the east façade and the side elevations, all of which have wide overhanging eaves. All gable ends have returning eaves creating the appearance of a pediment sitting on an entablature. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has its original lightning rod system with four copper spiral rods and glass lightning rod balls. The chimney has been removed. The house has thirty-four double sash windows with crown casings above, except for windows located directly under the cornice mold. Most windows are one-over-one light and all are covered by original wood storm windows. Twenty-nine windows have their original glass; windows in one bedroom, bathroom and pantry have been replaced. Upstairs windows are arranged in pairs providing each bedroom a minimum of two windows. Five windows have leaded/beveled glass panes or transom inserts.

The façade faces west and can be divided into two bays: a flat recessed bay to the north containing the main entrance and a slightly rounded bay with a gable end to the south. The façade is dominated by a full wrap-around porch that extends to the south elevation. The front concrete stairs are approximately ten feet wide and are bordered by red brick walls that support four of the nine wooden porch columns. The porch also includes its original rail and balustrade. A pediment highlighting the main entrance protrudes outward from the porch roofline over the steps.

The entrance contains its original wood door with a large rectangular light, but a modern metal screen door has been installed. A small rectangular window with decorative leaded glass is located north of the main entrance providing light to the main interior stair. To the south of the main entrance are three bay windows. The window opening by the front door contains an 1925 stained glass window the Oft family donated to the first church built in Bennington. It was returned in 1970 when the congregation moved and the original church was torn down. The original window opening, trim and storm have been retained. A balcony was built into the porch's roof shortly after construction (pre-1930) on the southern side of the house and is accessed from two upstairs bedrooms. Above the porch, the fenestration pattern is similar to that on the first story of the façade. An elongated window is centered above the pediment in the northern bay and bay windows are found to the south. A vent with its original pediment surround is located in the gable end.

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The cross gable section of the south elevation features bay windows on both stories. On the main floor, the bay windows indicate the living room, with the parlor located to the west and the dining room to the east. In contrast, the north elevation has a protruding rectilinear bay under its gable end. Here there are fewer windows, which is indicative of the more private spaces on this side of the house. Bedrooms and bathrooms are located on the second story and a bedroom and the kitchen are found on the main level. The main interior stair is lighted by a horizontal fixed window with decorative leaded glass on this elevation. Both gable ends include an original vent similar to the one on the façade. The east end of both side elevations consists of a one-story rear portion of the house.

The rear of the house faces east and has an enclosed back porch. It contains a laundry room and the porch, which was enclosed in the 1930s. The entrance to the basement was replaced with a metal door in the early 1960s, and is flanked by paired windows. A single window is centered in the gable end of the rear elevation.

Interior

Approximately ninety percent of all interior walls are original plaster and lathe construction. First story walls have been recently wallpapered, in some cases using similar designs found in early layers. The foyer, parlor and living rooms have their original oak floors, other rooms have straight grain fir, and the kitchen and pantry have their original blue and white hexagon tile floors. The home has its original five panel doors, and both the doors and windows have crown headers featuring dart and egg molding. All doors have their original hardware and knobs.

The foyer leads to the formal parlor and staircase. It is trimmed in white oak with a spindle and carved oak stairway leading upstairs. A recessed bench seat is found below the stair. A wood colonnade separates the parlor from the foyer. The parlor has its original four-light brass light fixture which highlights several large canvases painted by Nancy Oft, a daughter of Eggert and Rosa. Her collection also includes two farm scenes depicting her grandparent's farms in Germany, where the family visited in 1913.

Pocket doors with glass lights open from the parlor into the living room area. The wall between the living room and the dining room has been removed. All the rooms have picture railings. Pocket doors separate the living room and downstairs bedroom. The downstairs bedroom has been modified by furring out the west interior wall to create space for built-in cabinets. The dining room contains its original recessed leaded glass china cabinet and embossed wainscoting. It also contains two "pass throughs" which allowed food to be passed to the dining room from the kitchen and pantry.

The upstairs saw little use during the past 100 years. It includes four bedrooms, again in much of their original condition. All the woodwork is original oak or yellow pine and approximately eighty percent is untouched and maintains its original shellac finish. A window in the southwest bedroom has been converted into a door for access to the balcony. All rooms, with the exception of two new upstairs bathrooms have their original wood or tile floors. One new bathroom occupies a room originally designed for a bathroom and the other was built in a closet. Period tile was used for the floors, and features include a claw foot tub and a pull-chain, wall-tank, toilet.

Lighting was originally a combination of electric and gas. Eight of the nine upstairs light fixtures and/or their glass globes are original. One includes a gas ceiling light that has been converted to electricity. Portions of the house have been rewired; however, all new switches are period push-button units.

The Carriage House was built at the same time as the house (1910). It is rectangular and of frame construction and has an asphalt-shingled gable roof with a cross gable centered in its west-facing facade. It has nine, common, four-light barn windows. The downstairs was converted to a garage. The barn door was enlarged and modified to accommodate two

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garage doors. The upstairs loft is unchanged and the downstairs has two rooms for tack and a grain room. The carriage house is considered a contributing building.

Landscape Features also contribute to the overall historic feeling of the Oft-Gordon House. The first of these is a lily pond built shortly after the house was constructed for Rosa Oft, who loved goldfish. The lily pond was created with poured concrete and given an irregular or organic shape. It is approximately three feet deep, eight feet wide and eighteen feet long and sits between the house and the driveway toward the front of the property. Water for the pond is supplied by runoff from the roof. The front (west) and north side of the property originally had a wrought iron fence; the portion along Bennington Road remains but the front was taken out in the 1950s for road construction. It was saved with the intention of reinstalling it, which will be done when the town finishes a planned roundabout at the intersection.

The trees found on the property provide a unique and charming setting for this home and were planted by Eggert and Rosa Oft. Family photographs show that shortly after construction the Ofts planted six sycamore trees along Bennington Road and five along the western boundary that parallels 156th Street. They also planted a sycamore in the back yard and a pin-oak between the house and driveway on the south. The trees along Bennington Road were removed in the 1950s for a power line. Four of the five planted on the west remain; one was lost in a storm in the 1980s. The remaining four are magnificent mature examples of the species. The sycamore in the backyard has twin crown branches that spit the main trunk about fifteen feet from the ground. A storm in the 1930s caused one to crack, splitting the primary trunk. The family repaired the split with a long threaded rod that pulled the trunk back together and allowed it to heal. One sycamore trunk measures more than seventeen feet in diameter. The pin-oak is even more impressive towering more than seventy-five feet. In 1981 it received state recognition as being the largest pin-oak in Nebraska. Today, the tree's canopy shades the entire backyard and much of the house.

Integrity

Most major modifications to the house occurred during the period of significance. These include the upstairs balcony which was added sometime before 1930, and the removal of the wall between the dining and living room in the 1950s. The former is a relatively common mid-20th century modification as homeowners opened-up older homes in an attempt to keep up with modern ideas about how to organize domestic space.

Alterations that occurred after the period of significance include the removal of the chimney and the updating of mechanical systems. The house was heated with coal stoves, but a boiler and hot water cast-iron radiators were later installed. The coal boiler was later converted to fuel oil and a thermostat was added. A new heating and air conditioning system was installed in 2008; however, the radiators and piping were left in hopes of installing a small boiler system in the future. Two bathrooms have also been added upstairs, and the west wall of the downstairs bedroom was altered to accommodate built-in dressers.

Overall, the Oft-Gordon House retains sufficient historic integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting, location, association and feeling to be architecturally significant as Bennington's best example of the free-classical variant of the Queen Anne style as applied to a residence. Moreover, through its location, setting, and scale, this property also readily conveys its association with two significant contributors to Bennington's commercial and agricultural development, Eggert Oft and Roy Gordon. The Oft-Gordon House is currently owned by Gordon Muller, Roy Gordon's grandson, and his wife Linda Mueller. They plan to open it as a bed and breakfast in the spring of 2010. Through old photographs and paint scrapings it was learned that the home's color was originally a yellow cream with white trim. The house has recently been painted those colors. The couple plans to maintain the historical integrity of the house.

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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.
- ☐ **E** A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** A commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Agriculture

Commerce

Period of Significance

1910-1931

1943-1960

Significant Dates

1910

1913

1943

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

Eggert Oft; Roy Gordon

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Primary location for additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local Government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other
- Name of repository: Private Family Collection

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The Oft-Gordon House is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criteria B and C. Constructed by Eggert and Rosa Oft in 1910, this property is the finest example of the free-classical variant of a Queen Anne residence in Bennington. The Oft-Gordon house is also significant for its association with Eggert Oft, a leader in Bennington's early commercial development and continued sustainability. His son-in-law, Roy Gordon, continued Oft's commercial pursuits, but was also significant in the area of agriculture for his leadership and innovations in the mink ranching industry.

The first period of significance for the Oft Gordon House begins in 1910 with the construction of the residence and carriage house and lasts until Eggert Oft's death in 1931. A second period of significance begins in 1943, the year Roy Gordon began raising mink in the back yard of the Oft Gordon House, and extends through 1960, fifty years from the present. During these periods the Oft-Gordon House was the residence and center of operations for two individuals that made important contributions to commerce and agriculture in Bennington and beyond.

Criterion B: Eggert Oft (1848 – 1931)

Eggert Oft is significant at the local level in the area of commerce as a major contributor to the settlement and development of the Bennington farming and commercial community. Eggert, his brother Claus and their parents Claus and Anna Oft left Haupen, Germany and immigrated to Davenport, Iowa in 1869. They eventually settled in the Bennington area in 1877. Eggert bought a farm in 1880 located just one-half mile west of Bennington. Two years later he married Rosa Lage and they had five children; Katy, Meta, Minnie, Hans and Nancy. The farm prospered and the Ofts expanded their business ventures in the small community that would become Bennington.

In the meantime, The Fremont, Elkhorn and Missouri Valley Railroad began buying land in the Papio Valley for a railroad corridor between Omaha and Fremont, Nebraska. Land was set aside by the railroad for the development of a new town, which was platted by the Pioneer Town Site Company in 1887. A subsidiary of the Chicago and North Western Railroad, the Pioneer Town Site Company platted at least seventy towns in Nebraska in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries, half of which were completed in 1886 or 1887.¹ Because he was already an established businessman and farmer in the Bennington area, Eggert Oft had the wherewithal to take advantage of the inevitable real estate opportunities that comes with the platting of a new town.

The Pioneer Town Site Company started selling Bennington lots in 1888. Eggert Oft purchased nine lots² in the center of town, and soon after began the construction of a commercial building that would be known as Oft's Hotel. The building served as an important business and social center for travelers and residents and contained a hotel, saloon and opera house.³ A livery stable and mercantile store owned and operated by Eggert Oft soon followed.

Bennington grew rapidly with the arrival of the railroad in 1889 and was incorporated as a town in 1892. Upon incorporation, Eggert Oft was elected to Bennington's first Board of Trustees. In addition to his civic service and businesses in town, Oft continued to farm several hundred acres outside of Bennington. On Eggert and Rosa Oft's 25th wedding anniversary in 1907 at least 113 people from the surrounding area showed up at the Oft Farm to help them celebrate.⁴ The large attendance suggests the prominent position of the couple in Bennington social and business circles.

¹ *A History of the Origin of the Place Names Connected with The Chicago & North Western and Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Railways*, Chicago, 1908. Accessed online, 25 January 2010.

² Oft purchased lots 1-6 and lot 10 in block 11 and lots 13 and 14 in Block 10, Original Town. Oft-Gordon Family Collection.

³ Mangold, Gretchen. "Bennington, Douglas County," University of Nebraska-Lincoln, *Virtual Nebraska*, Website accessed online 26 January 2010.

⁴ This number comes from a group photograph held by Gordon Mueller in the Oft-Gordon Family Collection (private).

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It is particularly impressive considering that Bennington's population was exaggerated by including transient railroad workers to reach the 100 residents needed for incorporation.⁵ In 1910 the Oft family moved to town after building their dream home at the northeast corner of Bennington Road and 156th Street. The move meant Eggert Oft could keep a closer watch on his thriving businesses in town, while he and his family also enjoyed the comforts their new home.

In 1911, Oft sold one of his town lots on the south side of 2nd Street to the Bennington State Bank Corporation for the construction of a bank. He served as a member of the board during its operation from 1911 to 1928. The bank was forced to close due to an agricultural depression in 1928 at which time Oft regained ownership of the property. The property remained in the family until it was sold in the 1970s. The property is also known as the 'Luchsinger Building' and in 2006 it was listed in the National Register (#06000998) for its banking contribution to the community from 1911 to 1928.

A fire started in the Oft Hotel saloon in 1913 resulting in the destruction of several downtown businesses, including all of those operated by Eggert Oft. He would build again, but the fire gave Oft a chance to rethink his commercial activities. While livery stables and hotels were essential components in any new town, by 1913 the commercial climate in Bennington was beginning to change. Automobiles were on the horizon and the town had enough hotels. Instead of simply replacing his previous businesses, Oft decided to focus on what Bennington did not already have.

According to the town's centennial history:

In the early 1900s, the town boasted three general merchandise stores, two butcher shops, two banks, several restaurants, four hotels, a mill, two implement dealerships, a hardware store, a newspaper and print shop, a cement block factory, a pharmacy, a lumber yard, and a cigar factory.⁶

By 1913, Bennington was clearly a well established community, but there were still commercial opportunities. Not yet found along Main Street was a recreation hall or a grocery. Specialty stores were slow to replace general stores in small towns north of Omaha, despite their virtual disappearance in southeastern Nebraska by 1910.⁷ When Oft built a grocery store at the corner of 2nd and Stark Streets in 1914, it was truly something new for the small community. This store was owned and operated by Eggert Oft until his death, when it was passed on to his son-in-law Roy Gordon. While no longer owned by the Oft-Gordon family, the store is still in business and is currently known as the Clover Leaf Grocery Store.

Oft also constructed Oft's Hall after the fire, which served as a community recreation center from 1914 until it was sold by the family in the late 1970s.⁸ The hall featured local bands, dancing and food and was rented by local couples to celebrate their weddings, anniversaries and other special occasions. According to articles in the *Bennington Herald*, the facility also hosted fund raisers for local charities and other causes. Oft was able to make a profit through the rental of his property, while at the same time providing the town with much needed space for social gatherings. With the establishment of Oft's Hall and Bennington's first grocery in 1914, Eggert Oft was able to successfully rebound from the disastrous 1913 fire while also contributing to the evolution of Bennington from a fledgling town to an established community.

Eggert Oft contributed heavily to the initial commercial development of Bennington through the purchase and sale of commercial lots. More significantly, he established and maintained businesses in the various buildings he constructed in

⁵ Oft-Gordon Family Collection and "Bennington, Douglas County," *Virtual Nebraska*.

⁶ Bennington Centennial Book Committee. *Bennington, Nebraska, 1892-1992*, 136; Marceline, MO: Walsworth Publishing, 1992, 9.

⁷ Miller, Greg. "Retail Commerce: Villages In Northeast Nebraska," Historic Context Report 12.02.02.02, Nebraska State Historical Society, 1990, 4.

⁸ Oft Hall and the Clover Leaf Grocery Store are still extant and sit on lots 3-4 of Block 11 and lot 1-2 of Block 11, respectively. Unfortunately neither building currently meets the National Register criteria for historic integrity. (See Supplementary Materials).

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1888 and 1914. During his association with the Offt-Gordon House between 1910 and 1931, he successfully ran at least four businesses (a hotel, a livery stable, a recreational hall, and a grocery), constructed two commercial buildings and played a significant role in the establishment of the town's first bank. Eggert Offt died on March 1, 1931 after nearly fifty years of contributing to Bennington's commercial growth and sustainability.

Eggert Offt's Contemporaries in Commerce

Eggert Offt's closest contemporaries at the local level in the area of commerce during his lifetime were Peter Bunz II and Peter Mangold. Among the various German settlers who populated this portion of the Papio Valley during the period leading up to the incorporation of Bennington, Bunz and the Offt brothers (Claus and Eggert) are the most commonly mentioned businessmen in the limited historical literature about Bennington. Along with two others, Bunz and Claus Offt sold land to the Pioneer Town Site Company that would later be platted as the town of Bennington in 1887. In fact, Bennington was originally called "Bunz Town."⁹

Claus Offt dammed Papio Creek and started a grist mill during Bennington's earliest period, but his commercial activities do not appear to extent past this contribution. Bunz's potential significance, on the other hand, was more contemporaneous with Eggert Offt. In addition to his contributions to the settlement of Bennington, Bunz was also president of Bennington State Bank from its creation in 1911 until his death in 1916.¹⁰ While Bunz could certainly be considered significant to Bennington's history in the areas of settlement and commerce, his contributions came in different fields of commerce than those of Eggert Offt. During the period of significance (1910-1931) Bunz concentrated on banking, while Offt was heavily involved in the retail and service sectors of commerce in Bennington.

Peter Mangold was another early settler in the Bennington area that played an important role in the community's commercial development. Mangold started the town's first elevator and first agricultural merchandise store, and organized the Mangold and Glandt Bank. He was also president of Farmers State Bank in Gretna, Nebraska.¹¹ Along with Bennington State Bank, the Mangold and Glandt Bank was forced to close in 1928 due to the onset of an agricultural depression preceding the Great Depression in Nebraska. It is unclear how long Mangold's other business ventures in Bennington lasted, but a subscription history published in 1917 suggests they were abandoned prior to the establishment of the bank.¹² This means that during the period of Eggert Offt's significance (1910-1931), Mangold's commercial activities, much like those of Peter Bunz II, were limited to banking.

Commercial opportunities abound with the birth of a new town, and thousands of men and woman became overnight entrepreneurs during Nebraska's settlement period. However, relatively few enjoyed lasting significance. By the time the histories of smaller towns were being written, significant contributors to early commercial development had narrowed considerably to a handful of individuals. Bennington is no exception. In the early 1900s, Bennington's commercial district was thriving, but by 1930s the variety of businesses had begun to erode.¹³ At the time of his death in 1931, Eggert Offt was one of the few commercial pioneers still in business. Peter Bunz II provided land, financing and the town's first name, and Peter Mangold is mentioned in the subscription histories, but the "E. Offt, 1914" on Offt's Hall continues to speak volumes about Eggert Offt's commercial significance in Bennington. (See Supplementary Material, Photo 1).

⁹ *Bennington, Nebraska, 1892-1992*, 9; "Bennington, Douglas County," *Virtual Nebraska*.

¹⁰ Luchsinger, Brad. "National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Bennington State Bank (NPS #06000998)," 2006.

¹¹ Wakeley, Arthur Cooper. *Omaha: The Gate City and Douglas County: A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement*, Chicago: The S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1917, 823. Accessed online 27 January 2010.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ *Bennington, Nebraska, 1892-1992*, 9.

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Other properties associated with Eggert Oft

Other properties associated with Eggert Oft in Bennington and the surrounding area lack historic integrity and/or do not sufficiently convey the breadth of his commercial significance. Oft Hall and the Clover Leaf Grocery Store, construed in 1914, are still extant but the interiors and exteriors of both buildings have been extensively altered. (See Section 10, Supplementary Materials, Photos 3-4). The Luchsinger Building, which sits on land originally owned by Eggert is on the National Register of Historic Places for its role in community banking. Oft and others contributed to the bank but are not recognized individually.

The Oft Farm, located just outside of Bennington, is also extant and still owned by the decedents of the Oft family. The original farm consisted of the farmhouse and approximately fifteen out buildings that sheltered crops and livestock. The house built in the 1880s still stands but is in poor structural condition and is uninhabitable. Only one of the original out buildings remains, a small brick barn which is believed to have been built in the 1920's. (See Section 10, Supplementary Materials, Photos 1-2).

Furthermore, none of the other properties associated with Eggert Oft sufficiently convey the breadth of his contributions to Bennington's commercial history. The farm, for instance, only represents his role in agribusiness, while the bank points solely to his significance in local finance, Oft's Hall to the service branch and the grocery to the retail sector. Eggert Oft's contributions were vital to almost every aspect of Bennington's commercial development and sustainability. Only his Queen Anne residence constructed at a prominent intersection fully conveys his significance. The Oft-Gordon House was built to display Eggert Oft's success and to serve as his legacy.

Criterion B: Roy Gordon (1893 – 1969)

Roy Forest Gordon was born in Fairfield, Iowa to Alex and Lucy Gordon. When he was twelve years old his parents and family moved to Central City, Nebraska. Four years later his family moved to Bennington, Nebraska. He married Nancy, the Oft's youngest daughter in 1919. The couple helped with the family businesses, and in the late 1920s moved into the Oft-Gordon House to take care of the aging Eggert and Rosa Oft. The Gordons remained in the Oft-Gordon House and struggled through the Great Depression maintaining the family businesses into the 1960s.

Roy expanded his father-in-law's grocery into a meat and freezer plant where they rented freezer lockers to individuals. These provided residents with nearly two hundred freezer boxes before private freezers became practical. Freezer boxes were rented monthly and renters had their own key for access; similar to a large post office box. The store also cut and sold substantial amounts of beef. Until the late 1950s beef was sold in half carcasses, which could weigh a couple hundred pounds apiece. Generally, they were carried over the shoulder and hung in walk-in coolers. With the help of his son-in-law, Enno Mueller, Roy designed, built and sold meat carts to other butcher shops that allowed anyone to transfer beef halves without the need of carrying them. Their invention, involved a lifting mechanism mounted on a wheeled cart. Their manufacturing endeavors expanded to include the development of some of the first electric garage door openers in the 1940s. Miniature working models of these still exist.

Roy Gordon was more than just a successor to the Oft family businesses. In 1943, he began raising mink in the backyard of the Oft-Gordon House and went on to become a leader in this rare and largely overlooked branch of Nebraska agriculture. His herd expanded and he eventually moved his mink operation to the family farm. Fur production was never a large component of Nebraska agriculture, but between 1940 and 1950, the number of farms reporting fur animals in

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Off-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

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Section 8 Page 8

captivity rose from 49 to 103. The dramatic increase in Nebraska is consistent with national trends that saw a 100% increase of farms raising mink, fox and other fur bearing animals.¹⁴ (See also Section 10, Supplementary Materials).

Douglas County lead the way in Nebraska with seven farms in 1950, with three counties having between four and six farms, thirty-five counties reporting between one and three farms, and the remaining counties reported no farms with captive fur animals.¹⁵ (See also Section 10, Supplementary Materials). Mink were being raised near Omaha well before Gordon started his ranch. In 1929, the *Omaha World Herald* featured an article about a mink ranch near Omaha owned by a Dr. Warta with approximately 400 animals on just one acre of land.¹⁶ The ability of ranchers to raise a multitude of animals in a small area is consistent with Gordon's early ranching activities at the Off-Gordon House in Bennington. While entrepreneurs like Warta preceded Roy Gordon, the former's scientific approach, success in breeding shows and contributions to organizing mink ranchers in Nebraska establish his significance in the area of agriculture.

Roy kept meticulous breeding records and detected color variations in his animals. He genetically isolated through breeding a new fur color and is credited with developing the Lavender strain of mink.¹⁷ In the mid-1950s, he sold Lavender breeding stock world-wide to markets in Europe, Russia and Japan. The mink herd reached 5,000 animals at the peak of operation in the 1960s. Each animal had its own cage which prevented fighting and fur damage. The operation consisted of thirty-three buildings. Mink were fed a mixture of frozen fish, fish flour, cereals and packing plant meat by-products bought in Omaha. Nearly a ton of feed was required each day. The development of the canned pet food industry in the 1970s drove up the cost of food, making the industry unprofitable by the late 1970s.

Roy helped organize the state's first mink show in 1957 and the creation of the Nebraska Mink Breeders Association. Roy began showing his mink at these events starting in 1958 where he won his first blue ribbon. Over the years his mink won dozens of awards in Iowa and Nebraska. Gordon's work during the period of significance led to further success and recognition after 1960. (See Supplementary Materials). He entered the International Mink Show in Milwaukee, Wisconsin in 1961 where he won four first place trophies, the most for any single rancher up to that time. He was elected president of the Nebraska Mink Breeders Association in 1960 and served until his death in 1969. He also served on the National Board of Fur Farm Organizations from 1960 to 1969. The Nebraska Mink Breeders Association presented Roy and Nancy a beautiful chime clock at their 1968 Annual Meeting for his contribution to the State's fur industry.¹⁸ Following his death in 1969, the Association created the Roy F. Gordon Memorial Trophy that was passed among annual winners of 'top mink' category at the Nebraska Mink Show.

Local Contemporaries of Roy Gordon

Roy Gordon has no documented contemporaries at the local level in mink ranching, and only a select few were likely as influential in this relative rare agricultural sector at the statewide level. However, no context yet exists to compare individual contributions to the fur industry across Nebraska during the period of significance (1943-1960). Moreover, the apex of mink ranching was not reached until the 1960s. Further historical research and perspective could reveal a higher level of significance for Roy Gordon's contributions to Nebraska agriculture in the future.

¹⁴ USDA, U.S. Agriculture Census, 1950. Available at http://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Publications/Historical_Publications/index.asp. Data was compiled from each state's "Statistics for the State." Nationally the number of farms increased from 5,070 to 10,317. Out of 47 states (there was no census available for Tennessee), only Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Vermont, Massachusetts and New Hampshire saw a drop in farms with fur bearing animals between 1940 and 1950.

¹⁵ USDA, US Agricultural Census, 1950. Data was only available for 77 of 93 counties. Merrick County (5), Holt County (4), and Thayer County (4), followed Douglas County in number of farms reporting fur bearing animals in 1950.

¹⁶ Omaha World Herald. "Big Mink Ranch Close to Omaha," 27 January 1929.

¹⁷ American Fur Breeder, October Issue, Duluth, MN: A Harbrace Publication, 1969.

¹⁸ National Fur News: The Mink Rancher's Own Magazine. December Issue, Denver, CO: The Fur News Corporation, 1968.

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Continuation Sheet

Oft-Gordon House

Name of Property

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Other Properties Associated with Roy Gordon

Other properties associated with Roy Gordon in Bennington and the surrounding area lack historic integrity. The sheds and cages where the mink were raised are gone and the only building remaining is a wooden structure where they prepared the mink feed. That building is not structurally sound. Only the Oft-Gordon residence fully conveys his significance and that of Eggert Oft. Roy Gordon began raising mink in the backyard of the and he and his wife Nancy raised their daughter and lived their entire adult lives in the Oft-Gordon House.

Criterion C: Free-classical Queen Anne

The Oft-Gordon House is also eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C in the area of architecture as a locally significant example of the free classical variant of the Queen Anne style. The house is one of the largest and most stylish in Bennington, as evidenced by its prominent place in Bennington's centennial publication.¹⁹ This property is an outstanding example of its type and period of construction in the small town of Bennington. Only one other Bennington property equals the Oft-Gordon House in its ability to express the Queen Anne style. However, its construction precedes the Oft-Gordon House by twenty years and its integrity of setting and design has been compromised by the loss of the carriage house and addition of an attached garage.²⁰

The free classical variant of the Queen Anne Style became popular during the 1880s as American tastes in residential architecture shifted from the opulence and eclecticism of the Victorian Era to more restrained Classical and Colonial forms. The free classical variant, therefore, has been interpreted as a transitional movement from Queen Anne to Colonial Revival.²¹ Essentially, it stretches classical motifs (entablatures, pediments, columns, Palladian windows) over the asymmetrical form of the Queen Anne house. This chronological development corresponds well with the 1910 construction date of the Oft-Gordon House, which is very late for the Queen Anne style.

According to family descendants, the Oft-Gordon house was likely designed and constructed by local builder William Glandt. Despite the absence of a known architect in its design, the Oft-Gordon House displays most of the character-defining features of a free classical Queen Anne residence. This is likely because by 1910 the style and its variants were well established allowing for their application by any talented builder. While the Oft-Gordon House lacks some of the more elaborate features of the free classical Queen Anne (e.g. a turret or Palladian windows) it still successfully represents the style and period of construction, particularly in comparison to the rest of Bennington's historic housing stock.

The house has an asymmetrical façade and hipped roof with cross gables, a common roof shape for Queen Anne houses. The wrap-around porch with a pediment at the main entry is one feature of the Oft-Gordon House that is a hallmark of the style. As with most free classical Queen Ann houses, the decorative features are arranged to evoke classical architecture. This includes the porch columns, the door and first-story window surrounds which mimic entablatures, and the returning eaves that accentuate the pediment above the porch and at each roof gable. The combination of Victorian and Classical features extends to the interior of the house as well, particularly in the carved woodwork of the main stair and the classical colonnade separating the foyer and parlor.

¹⁹ Bennington, Nebraska, 1892 to 1992.

²⁰ Informal Nebraska SHPO staff survey, 10/13/2009 and "Valuation Lookup," Douglas County Assessor Website at <http://douglasne.mapping-online.com/DouglasCoNe/static/valuation.jsp>, accessed 11/25/2009. Bennington is one of the few towns that have not been formally surveyed as part of the Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey. As a town in Douglas County that has not been annexed by Omaha, Bennington unfortunately falls somewhere between Nebraska SHPO and Omaha CLG survey jurisdiction.

²¹ Poppeliers, John C. and Allen Chambers, Jr. *What Style Is It?.* [Revised Addition], John Wiley and Sons: Hoboken, NJ, 2003, 74; McAllaster, Virginia and Lee McAllaster, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, 2006 [1984], 268.

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Continuation Sheet**

Of-Gordon House

Name of Property

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Conclusion

Eggert Oft and Roy Gordon were major contributors to the agricultural and commercial development of the Bennington area. Eggert's foresight in the building of Oft's Hotel and other business ventures provided services critical in the development, incorporation and commercial growth of Bennington. Roy Gordon continued and expanded his father-in-law's significant commercial enterprises, while also making a name for himself in Nebraska's agricultural history. Furthermore, the house constructed for Eggert and Rosa Oft in 1910 remains Bennington's finest example of a Queen Anne residence. The Oft-Gordon House retains excellent historic integrity and continues to convey its association with two of the area's most significant residents, in addition to possessing architectural significance.

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Continuation Sheet

Bibliography

Of-Gordon House

Name of Property

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Oft-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than 1 acre

UTM References (place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet).

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1.	14	737704	458311	3.			
2.				4.			

[] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gordon Mueller / Property Owner and Jessie Nunn / National Register Coordinatororganization Nebraska State Historical Societydate November 2009street & number 1500 "R" Street, PO Box 82554telephone 402-471-4775city or town Lincolnstate NEzip code 68501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets**Maps**A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.**Photographs**Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.**Additional items**

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name/title Gordon and Linda Muellerstreet & number 11523 N. 156th Street, P.O. Box 79telephone 402-614-7509city or town Benningtonstate NEzip code 68007

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determined 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, (15 USC 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Geographical Data

Section 10 **Page** 12

Oft-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

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Boundary Description

Lots 10 and 11, Block 5, Town of Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska

Boundary Justification

The nominated property contains the entire parcel of land historically associated with the Oft-Gordon House.

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National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Photographs

Of-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

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Photo 01 of 11. West façade, facing east.

Photo 02 of 11. West façade and south elevation, facing northeast.

Photo 03 of 11. East (rear) elevation, facing west.

Photo 04 of 11. East (rear) and north elevation, facing southwest.

Photo 05 of 11. Foyer, main stairway and built-in bench, facing north.

Photo 06 of 11. Parlor, foyer and colonnade, facing northeast.

Photo 07 of 11. Pocket doors leading to first-floor bedroom, facing north.

Photo 08 of 11. Dining room including buffet, pass through, wainscoting, kitchen tile and rear entrance, facing east.

Photo 09 of 11. Upstairs bedroom looking into hall, facing south.

Photo 10 of 11. West façade of Carriage House, facing east.

Photo 11 of 11. North and east elevations of Carriage House, facing southwest.

All photographs taken by Jessie Nunn, Nebraska State Historical Society on October 13, 2009.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Supplementary Material

Section 10 Page 14

Offt-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

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Photo 1: Eggert Offt Farmhouse and Last Outbuilding
Photo Credit, Gordon Mueller, November 2009



Photo 2: Eggert Offt Farmhouse, Side Elevation
Photo Credit, Gordon Mueller, November 2009

Photo 3: Offt Hall (1914)
Photo Credit, Gordon Mueller, November 2009



Photo 4: Clover Leaf Grocery (1914), Offt Hall (1914,
Bennington State Bank (1912) Photo Credit, Gordon Mueller,
November 2009



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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Supplementary Material

Section 10 Page 15

Of Gordon House


Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

Purina Feeder
Roy Gordon
Sweeps Sioux City Show


After the Sioux City Mink Show, Roy Gordon needs to enlarge his trophy case. Here he examines his "high point winner" prize.



When Purina Mink Chow feeders achieve new heights and win outstanding awards, Purina considers it a privilege to tell others about their accomplishments. Now Purina proudly salutes Roy Gordon, Bennington, Nebraska, for his impressive sweep of the Sioux City Mink Show November 11-12, 1961. Racking up 18,624 total points . . . 10,556 points more than his nearest rival . . . Gordon took Best Mink in the Show besides being high point winner. Considering the keen competition from 34 ranchers from five states who entered 394 mink, Gordon's record stands out even more. A mink rancher since 1943, Roy Gordon has fed Purina Mink Chow for nearly four years. Listed below are the two basic rations Mr. Gordon feeds.

BREEDER RATION		DEVELOPING RATION	
Mink Breeder	20%	Mink Developer	25%
Rabbit	25%	Turkey Heads	20%
Fish	25%	Chicken Trimmings	10%
Liver	10%	Slunk	20%
Tripe	10%	Tripe	15%
Chicken	10%	Liver	10%

SWITCH TO PURINA MINK FEEDING PROGRAM
The Purina Mink Program is research-proven and followed by hundreds of mink ranchers from coast to coast. Now is the time to switch to Purina. Call or see your Purina Salesman or Dealer soon. He can book your Purina Mink Chow needs through November 1962, and save you money.



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United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Supplementary Material

Oft-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

County and State

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State	1940	1950	State	1940	1950
New England	529	385	West South Central	5	798
Maine	116	76	Arkansas	--	137
New Hampshire	71	51	Louisiana	--	100
Vermont	152	68	Oklahoma	--	125
Massachusetts	153	116	Texas	5	436
Rhode Island	6	9	Mountain	629	1032
Connecticut	31	65	Montana	96	60
Middle Atlantic	546	862	Idaho	181	126
New York	375	414	Wyoming	--	369
New Jersey	24	87	Colorado	161	167
Pennsylvania	147	361	Utah	175	231
East North Central	1706	2742	Nevada	--	9
Ohio	119	357	New Mexico	11	45
Indiana	93	240	Arizona	5	25
Illinois	93	332	Pacific	824	1084
Michigan	425	615	Washington	350	340
Wisconsin	974	1198	Oregon	373	289
West North Central	782	1552	California	101	455
Minnesota	425	594			
Iowa	151	328	TOTAL	5070	10317
Missouri	34	301			
North Dakota	65	41			
South Dakota	38	59			
Nebraska	49	103			
Kansas	20	126			
South Atlantic	59	1215			
Delaware	--	18			
Maryland & D.C.	3	77			
Virginia	17	200			
West Virginia	13	127			
North Carolina	22	290			
South Carolina	2	174			
Georgia	2	276			
Florida	--	53			
East South Central	8	860			
Kentucky	5	219			
Tennessee	NA	NA			
Alabama	1	337			
Mississippi	2	304			

**Farms Reporting Captive Fur Bearing
Animals by State, 1940 and 1950**Compiled from USDA Agricultural Census,
1950. Regions based on USDA geographical
divisions.

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National Park Service

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Supplementary Material

Section 10 Page 17

Off-Gordon House

Name of Property

Douglas County, Nebraska

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Region / County	Number of Farms
Southeast	11
Cass	2
Gage	3
Johnson	1
Lancaster	3
Nemaha	0
Otoe	2
Pawnee	0
Richardson	
Saunders	
Northeast	25
Burt	0
Cedar	1
Colfax	3
Cuming	3
Dakota	2
Dixon	2
Dodge	2
Douglas	7
Pierce	
Sarpy	
Stanton	
Thurston	3
Washington	1
Wayne	1
Lower Niobrara	7
Antelope	0
Boyd	0
Brown	0
Holt	4
Keya Paha	1
Knox	2
Rock	
Loess Hills	20
Boone	3
Buffalo	1
Custer	2
Dawson	1
Greeley	0
Hall	1
Howard	3
Madison	1

Merrick	5
Nance	0
Platte	
Sherman	
Valley	3
Central Plains	9
Adams	3
Butler	0
Clay	0
Fillmore	1
Hamilton	2
Jefferson	2
Kearney	1
Phelps	
Polk	
Saline	
Seward	
York	0
Republican Valley	5
Franklin	0
Frontier	0
Furnas	0
Gosper	0
Hayes	0
Harlan	0
Hitchcock	0
Nuckolls	1
Red Willow	
Thayer	4
Webster	0
High Plains	6
Chase	0
Cheyenne	3
Deuel	0
Dundy	0
Keith	2
Kimball	0
Lincoln	0
Perkins	1
Sandhills	3
Arthur	1
Blaine	0
Cherry	1

Garden	0
Garfield	1
Grant	0
Hooker	0
Logan	0
Loup	0
McPherson	0
Sheridan	
Thomas	0
Wheeler	0
Pine Ridge	1
Box Butte	0
Dawes	1
Sioux	
Scotts Bluff	1
Banner	0
Morrill	1
Scotts Bluff	

Farms Reporting Captive Fur Bearing Animals in Nebraska by County, 1950

Compiled by from USDA Agricultural Census, 1950. Regions based on Nebraska SHPO Survey Manual.

Note: Page 79, which contains data for 16 counties, was not available online.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Oft-Gordon House
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEBRASKA, Douglas

DATE RECEIVED: 2/05/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/24/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/11/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/22/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000080

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3.17.10 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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



Photo 1 of 11

NE-DouglasCounty-Of+GordonHouse-0001

Of+Gordon House

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 2 of 11
Oft-Gordon House

NE-Douglas County-Oft-Gordon House-0002

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 3 of 11
Oft-Gordon House

NE-Douglas County-Oft-Gordon House-0003

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 4 of 11
Oft-Gordon House
Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska

NE-DouglasCounty-Oft-GordonHouse-0004



Photo 3 of 11

NE-Douglas County-Off-Gordon House-0005

off-Gordon House

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 6 of 11

Off-Gordon House

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska

NE-Douglas County-Off Gordon House-0006



Photo 7 of 11 NE-Douglas County -
Oft-Gordon House - 0007

Oft-Gordon House
Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 8 of 11

NE - Douglas County - Off-Gordon House - 0008

Off-Gordon House

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 9 of 11 NE-Douglas County -
Oft-Gordon House - 0009

Oft-Gordon House
Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Photo 10 of 11

NE-Douglas County-Off Gordon House-0010

Off-Gordon House

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska

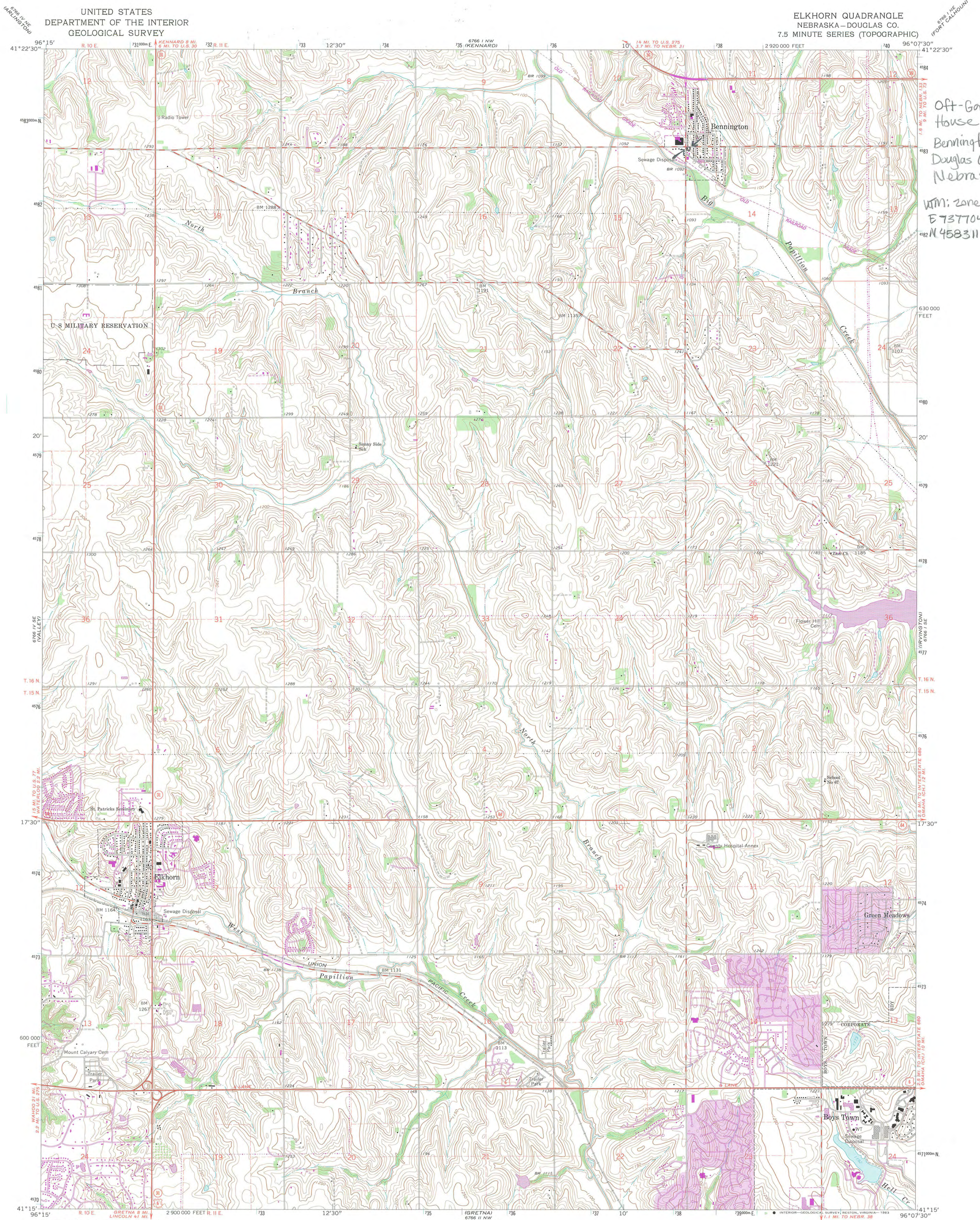


Photo 11 of 11

NE-Douglas County - Off-Gordon House - 0011

Off-Gordon House

Bennington, Douglas County, Nebraska



Off-Gordon House
Bennington,
Douglas County,
Nebraska

UTM: zone 14
E737704
N4583111

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey as part of the Department of the Interior program for the development of the Missouri River Basin.

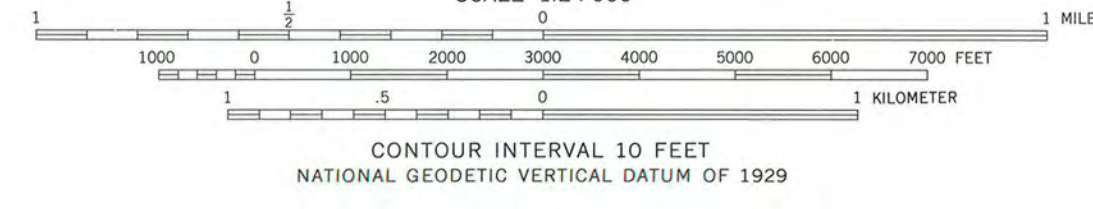
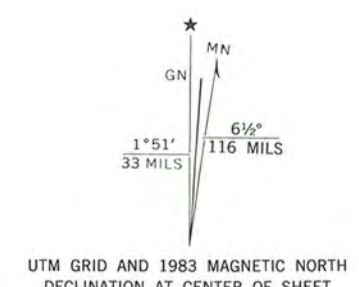
Control by USGS and USC&GS

Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1968

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum 10,000-foot grid based on Nebraska coordinate system, south zone 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 14, shown in blue

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 4 meters north and 24 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather
U. S. Route	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs taken 1981 and other sources. This information not field checked. Map edited 1983

Purple tint indicates extension of urban area

ELKHORN, NEBR.
N4115—W9607.5/7.5

1968
PHOTOREVISED 1983
DMA 6766 1 SW—SERIES V875

The logo for the Nebraska State Historical Society, featuring the word "Nebraska" in a stylized script font.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

February 3, 2010



J. Paul Loether
National Register—National Historic Landmarks Programs
National Park Service
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Oft-Gordon House
Bennington, Douglas Co., Nebraska

Dear Mr. Loether:

Please find enclosed the National Register of Historic Places nomination form for the above resource. This form has met all notification and other requirements as established in 36 CFR 60.

If you have any questions concerning this nomination, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "L. Robert Puschendorf".

L. Robert Puschendorf
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

1500 R Street
PO Box 82554
Lincoln, NE 68501-2554
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