

# DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0698083

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED FEB 20 1978	
DATE ENTERED	17

## 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

Nowlan-Dietrich House

(AD04-102)

AND/OR COMMON

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

1105 North Kansas Avenue

\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Hastings

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Third

STATE

Nebraska

\_\_ VICINITY OF

CODE

031

COUNTY

Adams

CODE

001

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

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

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Harold C. and Maurine T. Butterfield ✓

STREET & NUMBER

1105 N. Kansas Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Hastings

\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE

Nebraska

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds, Adams County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

500 West 4th Street

CITY, TOWN

Hastings

STATE

Nebraska

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Survey of Historic Adams County Architecture

DATE

1978

\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_ STATE  COUNTY \_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Adams County Historical Society, 14th & Burlington

CITY, TOWN

Hastings

STATE

Nebraska

## 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		

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nowlan-Dietrich House is located in a residential area of northern Hastings (1970 pop. 23,580) on the northwest corner of 11th Street and N. Kansas Avenue, a neighborhood of large, spacious lots platted in 1884.

A. J. Nowlan, a Hastings grocer, built the two-story house in 1886-7 at a cost of \$4000. No photographs or sketches of the house from this period have been found; however a floorplan sketch indicates the house had a tower on the northeast corner and large bay windows in the center of the north and south sides.

The house derives its historical significance from its association with Charles H. Dietrich, who purchased the property from the Nowlans in 1909 and immediately undertook extensive alterations which eliminated almost all references of an 1880's house and created a period house of current fashion. The exterior changes included the addition of a tile roof, brick front porch, Palladian windows, and columned balcony. The corner tower and bay windows were removed; however there are square projections on the south and north sides topped by a pediment on the third floor. Additions to the house were a two-story extension off the north bay and at the rear across the width of the structure (see photo #4).

The interior was also considerably changed. Different first floor woodwork, fireplaces, and stairway were installed. The previous fireplaces and chimneys were removed. A new dining room was designed with a beamed ceiling and a fireplace mantle decorated with inlaid wood. Leaded glass transoms highlight the large windows in the living room and library. The original woodwork remains on the second floor.

The owners since the Dietrichs have enclosed part of the front porch (see photo #2) and the former back porch on the northwest corner of the house and have added the second floor on that porch (see photo #4). During the 1930's or '40's the rear half of the house was formed into a separate apartment. The floorplan, however, appears to have remained the same since the Dietrich era. The current owners reside in the front (east) part of the house and the residence retains the appearance of a single-family dwelling.

The original property associated with the house was Lots 5 and 8, one-quarter of Block 4, Hillside Addition. Hastings residents recall the Dietrichs' formal gardens north of the house (Hal Lainson letter, 12 April 1978) in the 1920's. Mrs. Dietrich sold part of the garden land (north 119' of lot 5) in 1925 and a house was erected shortly thereafter. Today the property associated with the house remains lot 8 and part of lot 5, the majority of the original land, and retains the prominent corner location. The brick garage, built by the Dietrichs, is extant in the northwest corner of the property.

## 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES      1886-87; 1909-1927      BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Unknown

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The historical significance of this house is derived from its association with Charles Henry Dietrich, Governor of Nebraska, U.S. Senator, and Hastings banker; and its association with his wife, Margretta Shaw Stewart Dietrich, prominent in the state suffragette movement and in a number of campaigns and organizations for women's and children's rights. The house was their home throughout their marriage; he purchased and remodeled it for his bride in 1909 and they resided there until his death in 1924. The residence's exterior retains with few exceptions the appearance and elements of the Dietrich period of occupation.

C. H. Dietrich (1853-1924) was born in Aurora, Illinois, to German immigrant parents who fled the country because of his father's socialist opinions. In the adventurous spirit he was to continue all his life, Dietrich ran away from home at the age of ten, returning after a year to complete a final year of school before leaving again to support himself at various jobs in Chicago, St. Louis, Memphis, San Antonio, St. Joseph, and the Black Hills. In 1878 he married Elizabeth Slaker of Aurora, Illinois, and moved permanently to Hastings where he was a partner in a general merchandising store and then a hardware store before organizing the very successful loan and insurance office of Dietrich & Slaker in 1881. He assisted in establishing the German National Bank in 1887 and served as its president until 1905. Dietrich was active in the commercial and agricultural development of Hastings and Adams County as president of the Board of Trade and promoter for the Northwestern and Missouri Pacific railroads to build through the town. He was one of the first to experiment with the growing of timothy, clover, alfalfa and sugar beets in the county.

A personal tragedy occurred in 1887 with the death of his young wife and baby. His daughter, Gertrude, was educated in European boarding schools and at Bryn Mawr College. He consequently lived in hotels and lodgings and there is no known residence associated with him from the early period of his life.

Dietrich's political career, although brief and turbulent, was not without its effect on Nebraskans. His first candidacy was the bitterly-contested governor's race of 1900, in which he defeated the incumbent by 861 votes. In the shortest governorship in Nebraska history (Jan. 3 - May 1, 1901), he resigned after being appointed by the Nebraska Senate to fill an unexpired term in the U.S. Senate. His achievements there included support of the famous Kinkaid Act (see Moses P. Kinkaid Building, O'Neill, NRHP); the sponsorship of the Newland Reclamation Act for irrigation projects; and promotion of the American sugar beet industry. A well-timed smear campaign cost him the nomination of his party for re-election and he returned to Hastings.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one

QUADRANGLE NAME Hastings West

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24000

UTM REFERENCES

A 14 551960 4493860  
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
 ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C         

D         

E         

F         

G         

H         

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot 8 and part of lot 5, Hillside Addition, City of Hastings Plat,  
 Adams County, Nebraska

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Penelope Chatfield, Preservation Historian

ORGANIZATION

Nebraska State Historical Society

DATE

February, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

1500 R Street

TELEPHONE

402/471-3270

CITY OR TOWN

Lincoln,

STATE

Nebraska

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE X

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

Marvin E. Knell

2/15/79

TITLE

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4/17/79

ATTEST:

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION

DATE

4/17/79

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CONTINUATION SHEET Significance      ITEM NUMBER 8      PAGE 2

On October 27, 1909, Dietrich married Margretta Shaw Stewart, a college friend of his daughter. He purchased and remodeled this house to welcome her from her previous home in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Dietrich, well-educated and active in charity work in Philadelphia, became a suffragette and a leader for the rights of women, children and the elderly in Hastings and across the state. An early officer in the Adams County Suffragette Association, she was president of the Nebraska association at the time the 19th Amendment was ratified. The association immediately changed its name to the League of Women Voters for which she was the first state president and a regional director. Active in the campaign to establish the Sunnyside Home for the Aged and Dependent at Hastings, she later became a director of the home, an alternative to the County Poor Farm. During World War I when many suffragettes were active in the war effort, she spoke across the state on food conservation. She was a prominent lobbyist for the unsuccessful passage of the Child Labor Amendment. After Mr. Dietrich's death in 1924, she moved to Lincoln briefly to devote more time to her position as president of the Nebraska League of Women Voters. In 1927 she sold the house and moved to New Mexico where she continued her many activities, including the presidency of the New Mexico Association on Indian Affairs for 20 years.

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- Dietrich, Margretta S. "Senator Charles H. Dietrich", Publications of the Nebraska State Historical Society (Lincoln, 1930), XXI, pp. 135-174.
- Dietrich, Gov. Charles H., Papers, on deposit at the State Archives, Nebr. State Historical Society.
- "Ex-Senator Dietrich Is Wed," Hastings Daily Republican, Oct. 27, 1909.
- "Simple Rites for C. H. Dietrich", Hastings Daily Tribune, April 14, 1924.
- "Improvements: Residences" Hastings Gazette-Journal, Imperial Edition, March 1, 1887.
- "Mrs. Dietrich Dies" Lincoln Star, Jan. 14, 1961.
- Dietrich House file, Adams County Historical Society, prepared by Michael and Dorothy Shonsey, including fire maps, sketch maps, city directory listings, abstract of title, correspondence and biographical information.