Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

STATE: Iowa	·		
COUNTY:			
Dick	inson		
FOR NE	'S USE O	NLY	
ENTRY NUM	BER	DA	TE
	APR	3 1	3

	(Type all entri	ies – complete ap	oplicable se	ections)	-	ENTRY NUMB	APR 3	DATE
1.	NAME							
		Lake Massacre	Log Cab	in and	Museun	1 12	M	2
	AND/OR HISTORIC: Ga		REC	ENERIO	· Col			
2.	LOCATION					- 6- 6	્રહ	
	STREET AND NUMBER: Pillsbury CITY OR TOWN:	Point	Callery	his Pa	26 00 45	00.	ATIONA REGIST	自治
	Arnolds P	'ark					REGIS	/9/
	state Iowa			4 cou	Dicki	nson 3	TITT	059
3.	CLASSIFICATION							
	CATEGORY (Check One)		OWNERSHII	P		STATUS	1	CESSIBLE HE PUBLIC
	☐ District	Public Private Both		quisition: n Process Being Cons	idered	Occupied Unoccupied Preservation w	vork U	es: estricted nrestricted o
	PRESENT USE (Check One of	r More as Appropriate	;)					
	☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☒ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments ☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify) ☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious ☐ Entertainment ☒ Museum ☐ Scientific							
14	OWNER OF PROPERTY							
4.	OWNER'S NAME:							
4.	OWNER'S NAME: Stati	e Historical	Society	of Iow	<i>v</i> a			
4.	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER:		Society	of Iow	va			
4.	State Street and number: 402	Iowa Avenue	Society	of Iow	STATE:			CODE
	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 I CITY OR TOWN: IOWA	Iowa Avenue City	Society	of Iow	STATE:	Iowa		CODE 14
	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 I CITY OR TOWN: IOWA LOCATION OF LEGAL DES	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS, ETC:			STATE:	Iowa		
	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 CITY OR TOWN: IOWA LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dicki	Towa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS. ETC: inson County			STATE:	Iowa		
	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 CITY OR TOWN: TOWA LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dick: STREET AND NUMBER: Spiri	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS, ETC:			STATE:	Iowa		14
5.	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 CITY OR TOWN: TOWA LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dick: STREET AND NUMBER: Spiri	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS. ETC: inson County it Lake it Lake			STATE:	Iowa		14
5.	State State Street and number: 402 CITY OR TOWN: LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dicki STREET AND NUMBER: Spiri CITY OR TOWN: Spiri REPRESENTATION IN EXIS	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS. ETC: inson County it Lake it Lake		Duse	STATE:	Iowa County	Local	14 CODE
5.	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 I CITY OR TOWN: TOWA LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dicki STREET AND NUMBER: Spiri CITY OR TOWN: Spiri REPRESENTATION IN EXIST TITLE OF SURVEY: DATE OF SURVEY: DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY F	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS. ETC: inson County it Lake it Lake STING SURVEYS	Court Ho	Duse	STATE: STATE TOWA		Loco	14 CODE
5.	OWNER'S NAME: State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 I CITY OR TOWN: TOWA LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dicki STREET AND NUMBER: Spiri CITY OR TOWN: Spiri REPRESENTATION IN EXIST TITLE OF SURVEY: DATE OF SURVEY: DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY F	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS. ETC: inson County it Lake it Lake STING SURVEYS	Court Ho	Duse	STATE: STATE TOWA		Loca	14 CODE
5.	State State STREET AND NUMBER: 402 I CITY OR TOWN: LOCATION OF LEGAL DES COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF Dicki STREET AND NUMBER: Spiri CITY OR TOWN: Spiri REPRESENTATION IN EXIS TITLE OF SURVEY: DATE OF SURVEY: DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY FOR	Iowa Avenue City SCRIPTION F DEEDS. ETC: inson County it Lake it Lake STING SURVEYS	Court Ho	Duse eral [STATE: STATE TOWA		Loca	14 CODE

				(Check One)		
CONDITION	X Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	Deteriorated	Ruins	Unexposed
		(Check O	ne)		(Che	eck One)
	☐ Alter	red	X Unaltered	1	Moved	🖾 Original Site

The Gardner Cabin remains basically unaltered on its original site. It is a small two-story log cabin, with a basement which is now sealed. The loft is empty and now unused. The structure was erected in July of 1856 by Rowland Gardner one of the earliest settlers in Dickinson County in the Okoboji Lakes region. The cabin passed to J.S. Prescott by premption in 1858 following the massacre of the Gardner family (excepting Abagail), and was used as a residence. 1891 Abagail Gardner Sharp (Rowland's daughter) purchased the property and operated the cabin as a museum until her death in 1921. Due to its continuous use as a home and museum the cabin has remained intact and relatively well preserved. The windows, chinking, and shingle roof are in reasonable repair, although the foundation is weak in places. The site was acquired by the State of Iowa in 1942 and passed to the State Historical Society in 1959. Since that time a protective overhang roof of pole-type construction has been placed over the cabin. All traces of Mrs. Sharp's museum have been removed and the interior of the cabin has been restored with pre-1857 furnishings including a bedstead. trundle bed, spinning wheel, churn, implements, table, and chairs. Adjacent to the cabin are the Spirit Lake Massacre Museum built in 1961-2 and a memorial monument commissioned by the State of Iowa in 1891.



	SIGNIFICANCE			
	PERIOD (Check One or More as A	Appropriate)		
	Pre-Columbian	16th Century	☐ 18th Century	20th Century
	☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
	SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	e and Known)	March 8, 1857	
	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Approp	oriate)	
	Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
	☐ Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	Religion/Phi	Other (Specify)
	X Historic	Industry	losophy	
i	☐ Agriculture	☐ Invention `	Science	
	Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	SWED COL
	☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	RECEIVE
	☐ Commerce	∑ Literature	itarian	W 8 13"
	☐ Communications	Military	☐ Theater	CI ONA
	Conservation	☐ Music	☐ Transportation	NATION TEN
	STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE			No.

The Gardner Cabin was the scene of a major incident between Indian and white settlers in the Upper Midwest. On March 8, 1857 a small band of Sioux under the leadership of Inkpaduta ("Scarlet Point") killed twenty white settlers and captured a young white girl, (Abagail Gardner). The following day the band attacked and killed twelve more settlers and captured three additional women. The incident has been generally referred to as the Spirit Lake Massacre.

The Indians involved were a band of brigands alienated from their tribal structure (Wahpekuta Sioux) and outlawed by every hahd. They were responsible for a series of depredations on settlers and Indians alike over a thirty year period. Particularly vicious, they found easy prey in the three groups of settlers who had moved into the Okoboji Lakes region in 1856. The settlers lead by Rowland Gardner were relatively inexperienced in frontier life, although living on the fringe of an agricultural settlement. Through a series of rapid moves westward they found themselves isolated in the Spring of 1857 from other settlements and unaware of rising difficulties with the Sioux (especially Inkpaduta's band). The 1856-7 winter had been particularly hard for whites and Indian alike and dissension over recent land cession treaties had strained relationships.

While the killing actually began at another cabin, the Gardner residence received the most notoriety because Abagail Gardner (later Sharp) survived her captivity and was ransomed to authorities by the Yankton Sioux. Her published account of the massacre and her captivity stirred interest which has continued until today. She later regained possession of the cabin where her family was murdered and operated a museum on the premises. The Gardner Cabin also served as part of the setting for McKinley Kantor's novel, Spirit Lake. The incident itself hastened government attempts to remove the remaining Sioux from Minnesota and Iowa and served to deter white settlement for some time. Thus the site commemorates an unpleasant but important part of Iowa history.

9.	MAJOR	BIBLIOGRAI	PHICAL RE	FERENCES								
				Co	ntempor	arj	7 Accou	ints	2000			
		_			Во	ool	ζS					
	Charles E. Flandrau, The Ink-Pa-Du-Ta Massacre of 1857 (St. Paul: H.N. Smyth, 1895).											
	Ab	agail Gar	rdner, <u>H</u>	History o	of the Sp	oir	it Lak	e Mass	acre			
	т.	(Des 1	Moines:	Iowa Pr	inting,	18	385) [eight	other e	eds.].		
	Го	renzo P.	Lee, <u>Hi</u>	story of	the Spi	Lri	it Lake	Massa	<u>cre</u>			
		(New 1	Britain,	Conn.:	L.P. Le	е,	, 1857)	rep	rinted	by		
		State	Histori	cal Soci	ety of]	Ov	ла , 197	1].				
							1		<u> 1 : </u>			
10.	GEOGI	RAPHICAL D	ATA				,					
		LATITUDE AN IING A RECTA				0				GITUDE CO POINT OF		
-				T		R				AN TEN AC		
ŀ	CORNER			LONGI		1		LATITUDE		 	ONGITUDI	
	NW	Degrees Minut	es Seconds	Degrees Minu	utes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes 22 ,	Seconds	Degrees 95 o	Minutes	Seconds 28"
	NE		, "	-	, , ,	1						_0
	SE	0	, ,	0	, . ,					~ .	*,	
	SW	ō			, , , , ,	1	•				n, e ze	
	APPROXI	IMATE ACREA	GE OF NOM	INATED PRO	PERTY:	2.	97					
[1	LIST ALL	STATES AND	COUNTIES	FOR PROPE	RTIES OVER	RLA	PPING ST	ATE OR	1075	UNDARIES	i è	
	STATE:				CODE	┙'	COUNTY		11-11	(3)	1.00	CODE
L						_	/		10		● D	
	STATE:				CODE	1	COUNTY		√ <i>Ø</i> ,	[A]	r	CODE
L		<u> </u>				\perp		SON OF	19 6	6 H		
1	STATE:				CODE	╣	COUNTY	1		(V) [51		CODE
L						- {	\ \ =	1 0°	4,92			
						\dashv						
	STATE:	•			CODE	1	COUNTY		4	67		CODE
			nv.		CODE		COUNTY					CODE
11.	FORM	PREPARED	ву		CODE		COUNTY	OII	8111			CODE
11.	FORM	PREPARED	**************************************	Harstad,]	COUNTY	0//	8111			CODE
	FORM	PREPARED	eter T.	1 7	Directo	or 		To The	8111	JDATE:		
	FORM	PREPARED	eter T.	Harstad,	Directo	or 			8111	PATE	0-10-72	
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ	PREPARED TO TITLE: PE ZATION St AND NUMBER	eter T. Late His	torical	Directo	or 		COLUMN TO THE PARTY OF THE PART	8111	PATE	0-10-72	
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ	PREPARED TO TITLE: PE ZATION St AND NUMBER	eter T. Late His	torical	Directo	or 			8111	PATE	0-10-72	
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ	PREPARED PETTINE PETTINE AND NUMBER LOWN:	eter T. Late His : D2 Iowa	torical (Directo	or of	` Iowa		8111	PATE	0-10-72	CODE
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET	PREPARED PETTITLE: PETTION St AND NUMBER LICE TOWN:	eter T. Late His D2 Iowa Dwa City	torical Avenue	Directo Society	or of	`Iowa		8111	DATE(0-10-72	2
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET	PREPARED PETTINE PETTINE AND NUMBER LOWN:	eter T. Late His D2 Iowa Dwa City	torical Avenue	Directo Society	or of	· Iowa	a		DATE (CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET	PREPARED PETTITLE: PETTION St AND NUMBER LICE TOWN:	eter T. Late His D2 Iowa Dwa City	torical Avenue	Directo Society	or of	· Iowa	a				CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR	PREPARED PETTITLE: PETTION St AND NUMBER LICE TOWN:	eter T. Late His D2 Iowa Owa City FICER C	torical Avenue	Director Society:	or of	· Iowa	a IATIONAL	REGIST	ER VERIF	CATION	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the	PREPARED PETATION ST AND NUMBER LICE TOWN: ICE	eter T. Late His 22 Iowa Dwa City FICER Ci	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer fo	Director Society	or of	I hereby	a ATIONAL	REGIST		CATION	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional	PREPARED PETATION St AND NUMBER LICE TOWN: IC	eter T. Late His D2 Iowa Dwa City FICER Ci State Liais Servation A	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer fo	Director Society	or of	I hereby	a IATIONAL	REGIST	ER VERIF	CATION	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665	PREPARED PETER PET	eter T. Late His 2 Iowa Dwa City FICER Ci State Liais servation A cominate thi	Avenue ERTIFICALL on Officer for act of 1966 (Figure 1966) is property for a control of the co	Directo Society ON or the Na- Public Law or inclusion	or of	I hereby	a ATIONAL	REGIST	ER VERIF	CATION	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the	PREPARED PETATION ST AND NUMBER TOWN: IC ELIAISON OF edesignated S Historic Press S), I hereby no	eter T. Late His 2 Iowa Owa City FICER Ci State Liais servation A ominate thi gister and c	Avenue ERTIFICALL on Officer for the control of 1966 (For sproperty for certify that it	Director Society ON The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been	or	I hereby	a ATIONAL	REGIST	ER VERIF	CATION	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evalua	PREPARED PE ZATION St AND NUMBER LIAISON OF designated S Historic Pres National Reg	cater T. Cate His Cate H	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Directors Society ON or the Na- Public Law or inclusion has been occdures set	or	I TOWA TATE TOW N I hereby Nationa	a IATIONAL Certify to 1 Register	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluate forth by	PREPARED PRE	eter T. Late His 22 Iowa DWA City FICER Ci State Liais servation A cominate thi gister and ci gister and ci gister and ci gister ark Ser	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	ON or the Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended	or	I TOWA TATE TOW N I hereby Nationa	a IATIONAL Certify to 1 Register	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PRE	eter T. Late His 22 Iowa DWA City FICER Ci State Liais servation A cominate thi gister and ci gister and ci gister and ci gister ark Ser	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	ON or the Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended	or	I TOWA TATE TOW N I hereby Nationa	a IATIONAL Certify to 1 Register	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PRE	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa	a IATIONAL Certify to 1 Register	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I TOWA TATE TOW N I hereby Nationa	a IATIONAL Certify to 1 Register	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa	a ATIONAL Certify the second of the second	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa Chief, C	a ATIONAL Certify the second of the second	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa Chief, C	a ATIONAL Certify the second of the second	REGIST	ER VERIF	ICATION included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa Chief, C	a certify the last of the last	REGIST nat this production of the color of	ER VERIF	included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa Chief, C	a ATIONAL Certify the second of the second	REGIST nat this production of the color of	ER VERIF	included	CODE 14
	FORM NAME AN ORGANIZ STREET CITY OR STATE As the tional 89-665 in the evaluation the level of t	PREPARED PE AND NUMBER LATION TOWN: Compared to the designated according to the National point of significant to the designational point to the national point to the nat	cate T. Cate His Cate Hi	Avenue ERTIFICALI on Officer for act of 1966 (For a property for	Director Society The Na- Public Law or inclusion has been becommended commended :	or	I hereby Nationa Chief, C	a certify the last of the last	REGIST nat this production of the color of	ER VERIF	included	CODE 14

Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

IOWA
COUNTY
Dickinson
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Historical Studies Books

Thomas Teakle, The Spirit Lake Massacre (Iowa City: State Historical Society of Iowa, 1918).

Periodicals

Cyrus Carpenter, "The Spirit Lake Expedition", Annals of Iowa (third series) Vol. 3 (October 1898), 481-553.

, "The Spirit Lake Massacre," Midland Monthly, Vol. 4 (July, 1895), 17-31.

Dan E. Clark, "Frontier Defense in Iowa," <u>Iowa Journal</u> of <u>History</u>, Vol. 6 (May, 1918), 315-389.

The Palimpsest, Vol. XLIII, no. 10 (October, 1962), 433-496 (entire issue devoted to massacre).

<u>Fiction</u>

MacKinlay Kantor, Spirit Lake (Cleveland: World, 1961).





Woodbury County Courthouse, Woodbury County, Sioux City, George Lindblade

Spirit Lake Massacre Log Cabin (historic photograph), Dickinson County, Arnolds Park, HABS (Library of Congress)





Bowman Livery Stable, Muscatine County, Muscatine Michael D. Bendle