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## 7 DESCRIPTION

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

This Second Empire Style house was built in 1885 by Seward banker John Cattle, Jr. Situated on the crest of a hill in west Seward, this two story house has a curbed mansard roof penetrated by eight pedimented dormer windows. Brackets support a built-in gutter system which drains by pipes running down the side walls.

The majority of the windows of the house exhibit Italianate influences. Those set in pairs are capped with stilted, segmental arches and elaborate architrave moldings.

In typical Second Empire fashion, a payilion projects from the front of the house and forms an entrance tower which is topped by a separate mansard roof. This payilion added to the basically tall proportions of the house give it a decided three-dimensional effect.

Other decorative features of the house include, a bay window on the east facade crowned with a railing, and two Victorian ground-level porches.

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hughes became the third owners of the house in 1940 after it had been left vacant for several years. They did make one rather major alteration, that being the addition of a four foot projection on the west facade which enlarged the kitchen. (see photos #4, #5) At this same time they added a brick angular shaped garage and used the window and door frames from the remodeled west facade in this garage in an attempt to provide continuity. Also during this same time period the front porch was enclosed with screening. A walk-out platform from the second story pavilion windows which originally was surrounded by a spindlework railing was never replaced.

The interior of the house is a basic four rooms over four plan with a central stainhall. The rooms have been tastefully redone in period furnishings.

The grounds surrounding the Cattle-Hughes house are nicely landscaped with trees and shrubs.



PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	IECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	X_ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	X_ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
<u>X_1800-1899</u>	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	-PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY INVENTION	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)
SPECIFIC DAT	ES 1885	BUILDER/ARCH	HITECT	

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cattle-Hughes House in Seward was built in 1885 by John Cattle, Jr. (1849-1902) a native of Skipton, England. He married Blanche E. Lloyd in 1874 in Wales, and that same year emigrated to America, settling in Seward County, Nebraska. During the next two years, his brother Walter and father John Sr. also came from England to settle in Seward County. They all pursued farming careers until 1881 when they purchased and incorporated the State Bank of Nebraska. The officers were as follows: John Cattle, Sr., president; John Cattle, Jr., first vice president; Walter Cattle, second vice president; and C. W. Barkley, John Cattle, Jr. continued his farming interests until 1886 when cashier. he moved into his new home in the town of Seward to give his fulltime attention to the bank. In 1888, after his mother died, his father John Sr. went back to England leaving John Jr. as acting president of the bank. He served in this capacity until his sudden death in 1902. John, Sr. died in England in 1905 leaving his son Walter presiding over bank affairs. Under Walter Cattle the bank was nationalized in 1930 and became the Cattle National Bank. This bank, long known for its conservative management, remains in operation today still under the direction of the Cattle family. In their 97 year banking history, the Cattle family has done much for the community's financial strength.

Besides presiding over banking matters, John Cattle Jr. owned much commercial and farming property in Seward County. He was also a large stockholder in the Seward Cereal Mills, a company which manufactured oatmeal.

The Second Empire Style enjoyed short lived popularity in Nebraska, probably due to the relatively late settlement of our state. Very few buildings of this architectural style can be found in Nebraska. This Seward landmark can be compared with the Joel Cornish house in Omaha (see NRHP, Douglas County) and the Lewis-Syford house in Lincoln (see NRHP, Lancaster County) as a fine example of the Second Empire Style.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(See continuation sheet)

UTM REFERENCES	OPERTY less than 3 ac	res /	
A 1.14 6 5.19 7.13 ZONE EASTING C 1 L L L		B ZONE EASTING	
Tax Lot #36, City o	of Seward		
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## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

1

PAGE 2

First National Bank and Trust, Trustee 13th & M Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

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CONTINUATION SHEET Bibliography ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

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