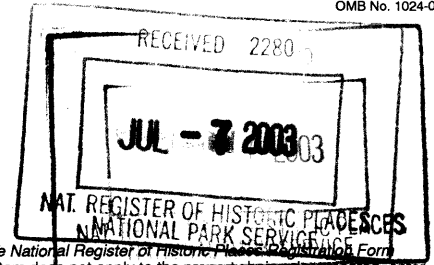


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 F.J. Kirchman House

Other names/site number NeHBS #SD16-085

2. Location

Street & number 957 Beech St.

Not for publication

City or town Wahoo

Vicinity

State Nebraska Code NE County Saunders Code 155 Zip code 68066

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.)

Wanda Sommer
Signature of certifying official

6/30/03
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. Beall 8/21/03

[Signature]
Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- X Private
Public-local
Public-state
Public-federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- X Building(s)
District
Site
Structure
Object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for Buildings, Sites, Structures, Objects, Total. Values: 2, 2.

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/ single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/ QUEEN ANNE

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation Limestone

Walls Wood clapboard, wood shingle

Roof Wood shingle

Other

Narrative Description

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

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.
X 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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1903

Significant Dates

1903

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Jacob Ort, Architect

Johnson Crawford, Builder

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:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local Government
University
Other
Name of repository:

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than one

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

Table with 7 columns: Zone, Easting, Northing, Zone, Easting, Northing. Includes rows 1, 2, 3, 4 and a note: [] 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 Jennifer Brockmeier, NSHS volunteer
organization State Historic Preservation Office
street & number 1500 R Street
city or town Lincoln
date 12 March, 2003
telephone (402) 471-4773
state NE zip code 68508

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 Rob and Rachelle Hall
street & number 957 N. Beech St
city or town Wahoo
telephone
state NE zip code 68066

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

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

The F.J. Kirchman house is located in Wahoo, Saunders County, Nebraska. Wahoo is located about 40 miles due west of Omaha, and has a population of about 4,000 people (2000 census). The house was built in 1903 and is an example of the Queen Anne Style of the Late Victorian period. Covering three lots, the cross-gabled house stands prominently at the corner of 10th and Beech streets. The house, located at 957 N. Beech, is situated in a small neighborhood with wide tree lined streets.

The house is an irregularly shaped two and a half story wood frame structure. The clapboard siding, found only on the first floor, is replaced by wood shingles on the second and attic stories. The main entrance, on the east façade, has a one story asymmetrical porch, which wraps half way around the north elevation. The porch, supported by fluted Doric columns, contains a small pediment over the entryway. There is also a porch balustrade featuring spindlework ornamentation. This spindlework is continued above the entryway in a second story recessed balustrade. The gable of the main façade has a small overhang, above which are three small attic windows with diamond shaped panes, placed in a horizontal fashion.

A polygonal tower stands in the northeast corner of the house. Placed within the tower on the first floor are two double hung windows and one single pane window, all with diamond panes. The three tower windows in the second floor are also double hung with diamond panes. The tower's roof is a patterned wood shingle.

The north elevation has a full-height bay. The thick cut stone foundation is visible. The second story has a small recessed porch with a decorative balustrade that echoes the first story wraparound porch. The windows on the first and second stories are a mixture of one-over-one double hung, four-over-four double hung and a single paned window with diamond shaped muntins. The gabled end has the same fenestration as that of the primary façade- three small windows with diamond shaped panes. The rear elevation (west) is very simple with few windows. The three small attic windows do continue over to the rear elevation's gabled end.

The south elevation has a single door with a small overhang at the southwest corner. There is also a central bay the entire height of the house topped by an attic gable which has two diamond paned windows. The rest of the windows on the south side are a mixture of four-over-four, double hung and diamond paned.

The interior of the Kirchman house retains a high level of historic integrity. The oak wood floors are still intact throughout the house. A large wooden staircase with a prominent decorative newel post dominates the entryway. To the left of the entryway, on the south side of the house, is the parlor. The room, entered through double doors with beveled glass panes, has a large fireplace at the far end with the original fireplace surround of green tile. Several decorative leaded windows are original to the room. There are three beveled glass window lights, each with a different decorative pattern. The moldings, door frames and window frames are of a delicate egg-and-dart pattern. The doorframes on both the first and second stories have simple rosettes. Beyond the parlor is a small dining area and kitchen. The white and blue octagonal tiles of the kitchen floor are original. Oak was used in the front public areas, whereas pine, a softer wood, was used in the rear rooms.

The front staircase leads to a landing, five bedrooms and the bathroom. The bedrooms have the original plain wood moldings. At the head of the hallway is some carved fretwork with delicate spindles. The bathroom has the original fixtures installed by Kirchman in the 1920s.

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

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

There is a one-story wood frame garage located in the southwest corner of the lot. The three-bay garage has a small gable over the central bay, mimicking the gable found over the front door of the house. This garage is considered to be a contributing building.

The only changes to the exterior of the house were initiated by the original owner, F.J. Kirchman. The front steps were originally cement, but Kirchman had them rebuilt of stone. He had a new roof put on the house in the mid 1920s. Overall, however, the F.J. Kirchman house retains a high level of historic architectural integrity and well represents the Queen Anne style.

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

F.J Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 1



Fr. J. Kirchman

The F.J. Kirchman house is locally significant under Criterion C as a well-preserved example of Queen Anne architecture, a style popular from approximately 1890 to 1910 in Nebraska. The house, always a single family home, exemplifies typical Queen Anne characteristics such as irregular wall planes achieved by architectural elements like bays, projections, insets, overhanging gables and a variety of wall materials. The building's significance is exhibited in its formulaic approach to the Queen Anne style, as well as its high level of historic integrity.

In 1903, F.J. Kirchman bought three lots in Wahoo, Saunders County, for \$2000 from W.W. Alt. The *Wahoo Wasp*, a local newspaper, noted that it was in a "very desirable location, and we understand that Mr. Kirchman will soon commence the erection of a modern house."¹ In April 1903, "work on the foundation of F.J. Kirchman's new house was commenced Tuesday. The plans were prepared by Jacob Ort, architect."² Ort, who worked regionally, designed the St. Vitus church in Touhy. By August the foundation was completed and the builders started

erecting the house. The *Wahoo Wasp* listed Johnson Crawford as the contractor, and went on to note that "when completed Mr. Kirchman will have one of the model residences of the city."³ In 1913, Kirchman's house was featured in the *Wasp* as one of the attractive and modern homes of Wahoo.⁴

Kirchman, a prominent banker, was a partner in half a dozen Saunders County banks, as well as a few in South Dakota. Kirchman and his banks prospered until 1930 when the Depression hit the Midwest. Townspeople rushed the banks to collect their savings and soon discovered money missing. In May 1930, at the age of 64, F.J. Kirchman was found responsible for the missing money. He was arrested at his home and sentenced to a 60-year penitentiary term and fined \$11,000.⁵

At this time, Kirchman sold his house to Ernest and Jacqueline Schiefelbein. In a 1932 letter from Kirchman to Mr. Schiefelbein, written while in the state penitentiary, the former owner explained some alterations he made.⁶ The only bathroom in the house was remodeled in 1921, and the following year the downstairs rooms were remodeled, too. A few years before 1930, Kirchman put a new roof on the house for around \$650. The Schiefelbeins made no significant remodeling, keeping changes to only an addition of a shower and washbasin in the basement. The Schiefelbeins

¹ *Wahoo Wasp*: March 1903.

² *Wahoo Wasp*: April 1903.

³ *Wahoo Wasp*: August 1903.

⁴ *Wahoo Wasp*: August 1903.

⁵ *Wahoo Wasp*: May 1930.

⁶ Letter on file at the Nebraska SHPO.

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National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

F.J Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 8 Page 2

occupied the house until 1957 when they sold it to Bob Sullivan. In 1972 the house changed owners again, this time bought by Charles Ferguson. The current owners, Rob and Rachelle Hall, purchased the home in 1989.

In Saunders County, 17 Queen Anne houses have been surveyed, six of which are found in Wahoo⁷. Of the 17 Queen Anne houses, the F.J. Kirchman house is the most complete in terms of original Queen Anne architectural characteristics. For example, the house still has an asymmetrical porch with ornate spindlework, a combination of wall materials and a front facing gable. Also, there is a tower, a steeply pitched roof, bay windows and an overall irregular shape. These are all architectural features that identify it as a Late Victorian Queen Anne house.

The Queen Anne style was developed in the 1860s by Englishman Richard Norman Shaw. The term "Queen Anne" is a bit of a misnomer. The style was mainly influenced by late medieval architecture of the Queen Elizabeth era. In America, Henry Hobson Richardson made the style popular in the 1870s. A decade later, the Queen Anne style was featured in pattern books and the first architectural magazine, *The American Architect and Building News*. Queen Anne architecture quickly spread throughout the nation due to the ability to transport pre-cut architectural elements via the railways. However, popular architectural styles became dominant in Nebraska roughly a decade later than the rest of the country⁸.

The F.J. Kirchman house retains a high degree of its original fabric, which dates to 1903. Virtually intact, the house still exhibits its original Queen Anne style and identifying features, such as varying wall planes, a mixture of materials and an assortment of architectural components. The high level of historic integrity of the F.J. Kirchman house, as well as its established Queen Anne style, makes it eligible for listing under Criterion C in the National Register of Historic Places.

⁷ Mead and Hunt, Saunders County Nebraska Historic Buildings survey, 2002-2003.

⁸ Whiffen, M. *American Architecture Since 1780: A Guide to the Styles*. Massachusetts: M.I.T. Press, 1969.

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Continuation Sheet

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 9 Page 1

Harris, Cyril M. *American Architecture: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1998.

Kirchman, Frank J. to Ernest Schiefelbein, 5 January 1932. Transcript in the hand of Frank J. Kirchman. Site files, Nebraska State Historic Preservation Office, Lincoln, Nebraska.

McAlester, Virginia, and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1997.

Mead and Hunt, Saunders County Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey, 2002-2003.

NEGen Web Project, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~neethnic/czechs/images/images.html>, 21 March 2003.

Wahoo Wasp: March 1903, April 1903, August 1903.

Whiffen, M. *American Architecture Since 1780: A guide to the Styles*. Massachusetts: M.I.T. Press, 1969.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

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Section 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of the F.J. Kirchman house includes all of lots 1,2, and 3 in block 116 in the county addition to the city of Wahoo.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary includes all of the lots historically associated with the F.J. Kirchman house.

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Continuation Sheet

F.J. Kirchman House

Name of Property

Saunders County, Nebraska

County and State

Section Photo Page 1

The following information pertains to all photographs:

F.J. Kirchman House
Wahoo, Saunders County, Nebraska
Photographer: Stacy Stupka-Burda, 4 February 2003
Negatives: Nebraska State Historical Society

Photograph 1 of 13:
F.J. Kirchman House general view. View looking west.

Photograph 2 of 13:
F.J. Kirchman House general view. View looking southwest.

Photograph 3 of 13:
F.J. Kirchman House general view. View looking south.

Photograph 4 of 13:
F.J. Kirchman House general view. View looking northwest.

Photograph 5 of 13:
F.J. Kirchman House front porch. View looking south.

Photograph 6 of 13:
Foyer

Photograph 7 of 13:
Newel post

Photograph 8 of 13:
Front door

Photograph 9 of 13:
Beveled glass parlor doors

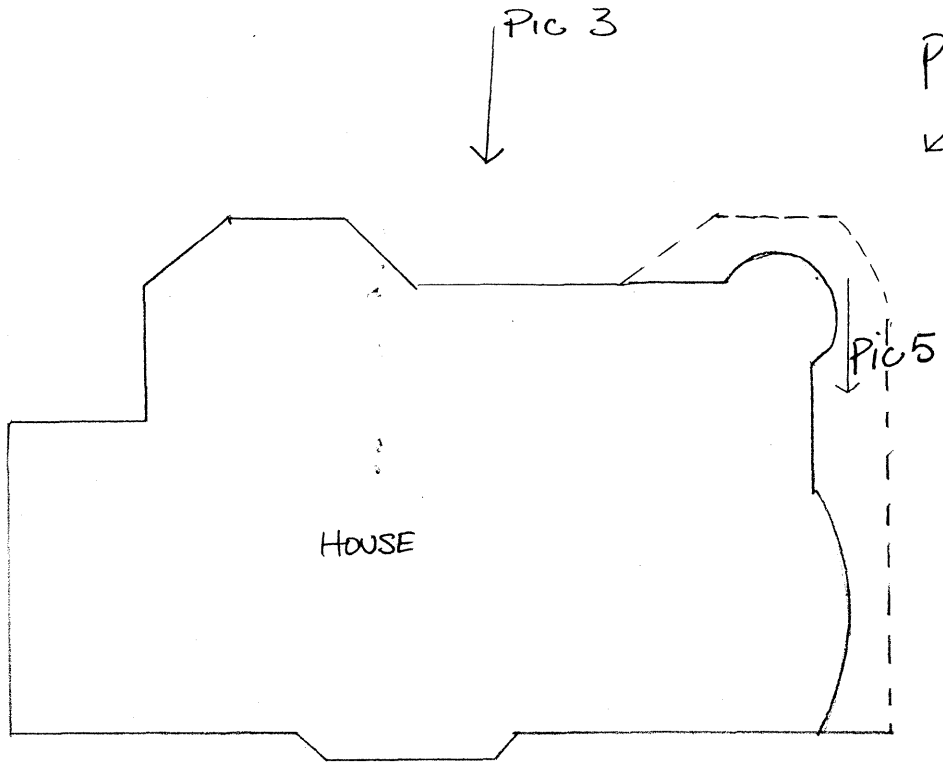
Photograph 10 of 13:
Fireplace

Photograph 11 of 13:
Fireplace

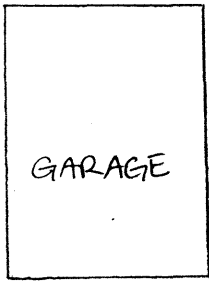
Photograph 12 of 13:
Dining room

Photograph 13 of 13:
Fretwork

10TH ST.

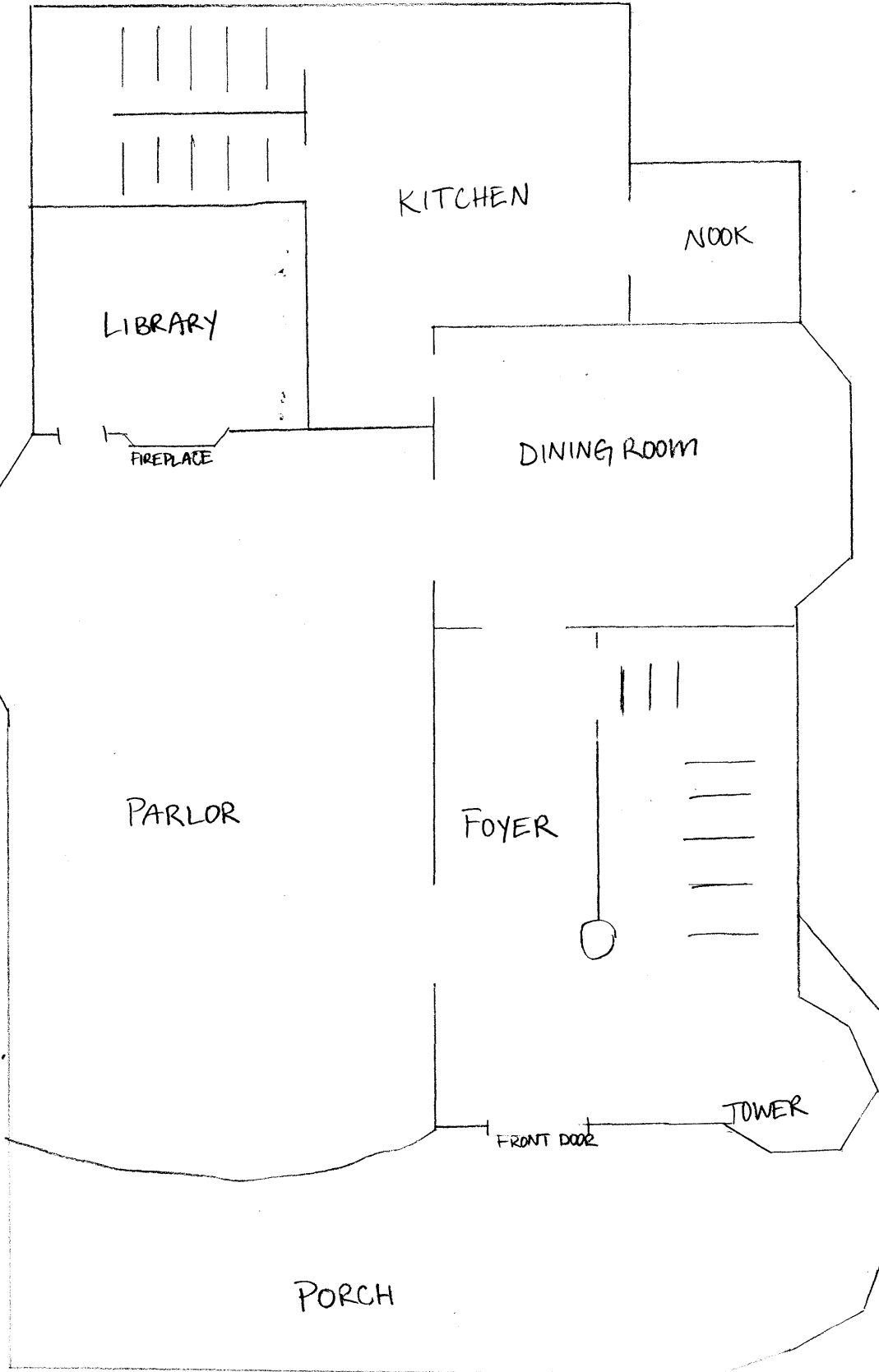
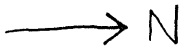


REFLECT ST



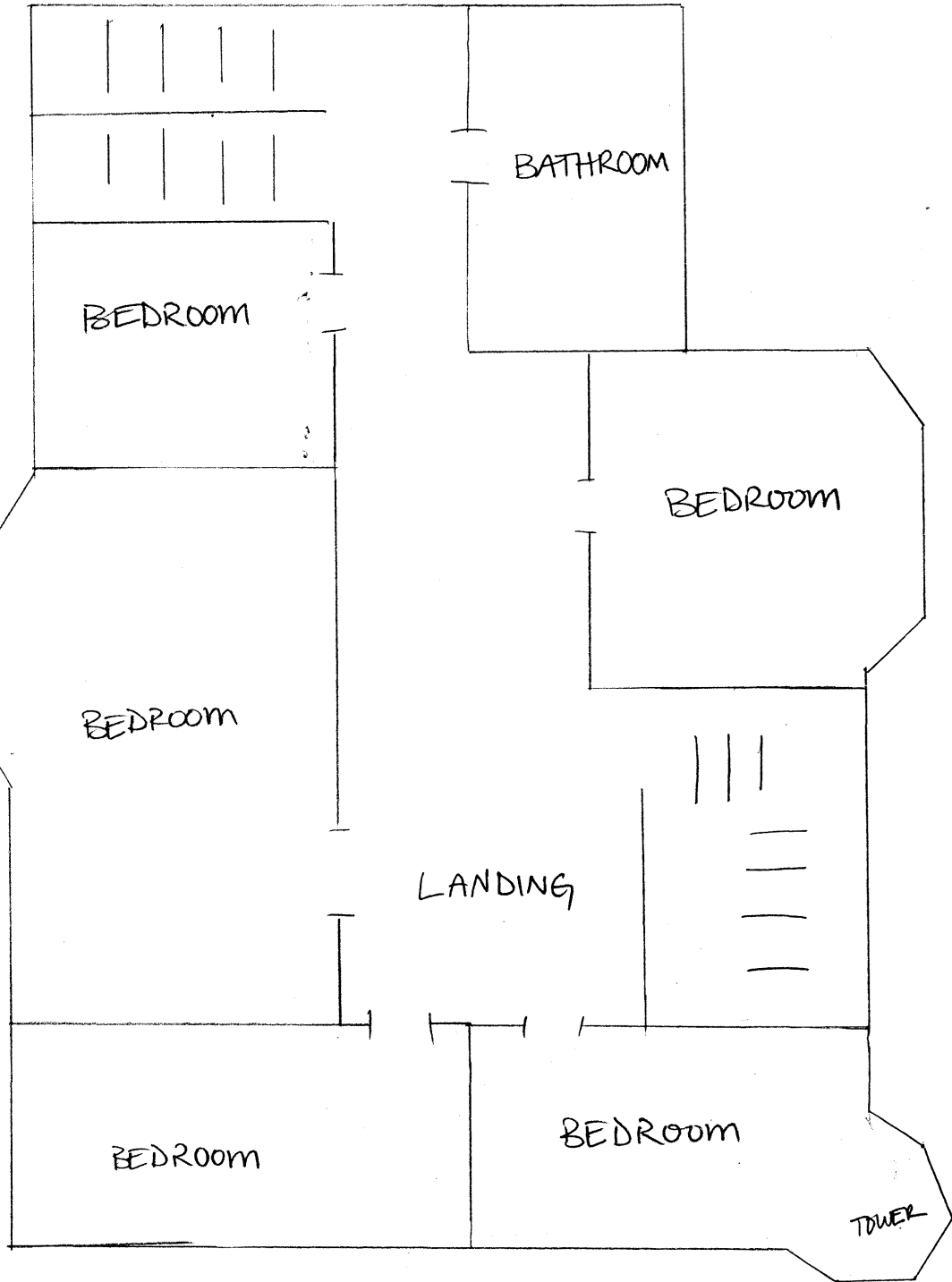
F. J. KIRCHMAN HOUSE
SAUNDERS CO.
NEBRASKA
1 inch = 12 feet approx.

ALLEY



F. J. Kirchman House
1ST FLOOR PLAN
1 inch = 6 feet approx.
SAUNDERS Co.
NEBRASKA

→ N



F. J. KIRCHMAN HOUSE
2ND FLOOR PLAN
1 inch = 6 feet approx.
SAUNDERS Co.
NEBRASKA