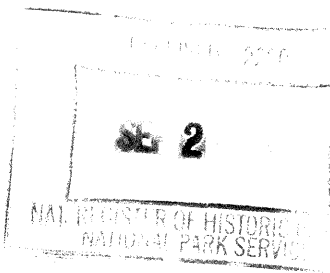


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 William E. Gordon House

Other names/site number SY02-070

2. Location

Street & number 711 Bellevue Blvd South

Not for publication

City or town Bellevue

Vicinity

State Nebraska Code NE County Sarpy Code 153 Zip code 68005

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.)

Michele J. Hall  
Signature of certifying official

September 26, 2006  
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 K. Beall 11-8-06

[Signature]  
Signature of Keeper

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

William E. Gordon House

Name of Property

Sarpy 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: Buildings (1, 0), Sites, Structures, Objects, Total (1, 0).

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 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS/Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Foundation Stone

Walls Stone

Roof Wood

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

1936

Significant Dates

1936

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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:

William E. Gordon House

Name of Property

Sarpy County, Nebraska

County and State

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## 10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of property Less than one

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
1.	15	256721	4559667	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.)

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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name/title Stacy Stupka-Burda / National Register Coordinator  
organization Nebraska State Historical Society date July 19, 2006  
street & number 1500 R Street, PO Box 82554 telephone 402-471-4770  
city or town Lincoln state NE zip code 68501-2554

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## Additional Documentation

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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.)

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## Property Owner

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

name/title Colonel Grant Everett (USAF Ret.) and Sunny Everett  
street & number 711 Bellevue Blvd S. telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
city or town Bellevue state NE zip code 68005

**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

**William E. Gordon House**

Name of Property

**Sarpy County, Nebraska**

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

The William E. Gordon House is located in Bellevue, Nebraska, a community of 44,382 (US Census, 2000) located approximately 56 miles northeast of Lincoln, the state capital. One of the oldest communities in Nebraska, Bellevue was incorporated in 1855. Bellevue saw an influx of people with the establishment of the Martin Bomber Plant at Offutt Field (later renamed Offutt Air Force Base) during World War II. Constructed in 1936, the William E. Gordon is a Craftsman style house built just prior to the explosive growth Bellevue experienced during World War II.

The William E. Gordon House is a 1 ½ story Craftsman style house with a full height basement that is exposed on three sides. Constructed in a subdivision named Jewell Place, the subdivision is characterized by curvilinear streets and large irregularly sized lots. A large ravine runs throughout the subdivision and directly behind the Gordon house. Situated on a .9 acre corner lot which features native oak trees, this house is set back from each street, creating a large expansive yard.

The house has gable ends with large triangular braced decorative supports positioned under wide eaves. The gable ends feature extra stickwork. The roof is covered with wood shingles and a single large stone chimney pierces the ridgeline. The house is clad with multi-hued gray limestone veneer and the foundation is concrete block.

A curving concrete sidewalk leads to the front entry. The front door is situated under a moderately pitched, projecting gable roof centered on the main façade that creates a small covered porch. The front door is made of large wooden planks and features heavy iron strap hinges, a heavy iron knocker and a small square leaded glass window with an inset diamond pattern. Small rectangular leaded glass windows are cut into the limestone veneer on either side of the front door. The leaded glass of these small windows has diamond shaped latticework. A decorative pewter porch light is centered atop each small side window. Mimicking the larger gable ends, the gable end of the front porch also features extra stickwork. Paired six over one windows are positioned immediately to either side of the porch and help lend symmetry to the main façade.

Each secondary façade of the William E. Gordon House is slightly different. Each features a bank of four casement windows containing eight divided lights topped by four, fixed pane four light windows. To permit cool breezes, the lower windows swing inward. Four six over one windows, two of which are paired complete the fenestration of the first floor on the southeast façade. Paired six over one windows are centered under the gable ends of the upper stories on each side. The northwest façade has a set of paired windows on the first floor, as well as an exterior door. This door was added to provide access to a large wooden deck on the rear façade. The basement level of the northwest façade contains a built in two car tandem garage and four casement windows at ground level. A large full width deck completes the rear façade.

The interior of the Gordon House is warm and inviting. The vestibule opens into a large room featuring exposed wooden beams and random width oak pegged floors. The dining area is situated to the right, and the living room is to the left. A doorway centered on the far wall of the dining area provides access to the master bathroom. The interior walls are plaster over lathe and are finished with a heavily textured swirl pattern.

A focal point of the room is a large stone fireplace with a wooden mantel. The stonework of the chimney was laid in courses that slant slightly in from the exterior margins of the chimney ending at the outside of a stone arch that is flush with the chimney. The hearth is made from broken glazed tiles in several colors. French doors provide access to a library situated to the right of the fireplace. A second fireplace that shares the chimney of the first fireplace was positioned diagonally across one corner of the library. This chimney is constructed of stone and features a stone mantle. The opening of the firebox is framed with a stone arch complete with keystone. The next layer of stone is smaller and is rubble-like in appearance. Once again, the hearth is formed using broken ceramic tiles.

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

**William E. Gordon House**

Name of Property

**Sarpy County, Nebraska**

County and State

Section 7 Page 2

Returning to the living and dining area, a central hallway provides access to a bathroom, the master bedroom, a staircase and ultimately the kitchen. The kitchen has been modernized in a manner that is sensitive to the historic nature of the home.

The staircase to the upper floor opens into a large central hall with a ½ bath on one end. Two bedrooms are located on either side of the large landing. The walls of this upper story are knotty pine, and floors are pine as well.

Additional living space is located in the basement family room, and the third stone fireplace is located in this room. Sharing the same chimney once again, the basement fireplace has a stone mantle and a firebox framed with a stone arch. Once more, the hearth is formed using broken glazed ceramic tiles. The remainder of the basement contains storage rooms, a laundry room, a ½ bathroom and the furnace room.

The integrity of the William E. Gordon House is excellent. While the kitchen has been modernized, and a full width deck was added to the rear, very little else has changed. Those architectural details that are emblematic of the Craftsman period are intact. All seven aspects of integrity; location, setting, feeling, association, materials, design, and workmanship are well represented by the William E. Gordon House.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

**William E. Gordon House**

Name of Property

**Sarpy County, Nebraska**

County and State

Section 8 Page 1

The William E. Gordon House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion C in the area of architecture. Constructed in 1936, this house is an excellent example of the Craftsman style.

William E. Gordon and his wife Jane constructed the William E. Gordon House in 1936. The Gordon house was built in the Jewell Place subdivision, an area of Bellevue that was platted in 1908.

### Craftsman style

The Craftsman style of architecture became popular in the United States beginning around 1905 and ended around 1930.<sup>1</sup> The Craftsman movement was strongly influenced by the Arts and Crafts movement that had begun in England and emphasized simplicity of design and integrity of materials.<sup>2</sup>

In 1901, a furniture designer named Gustav Stickley began publishing a popular magazine called *The Craftsman*.<sup>3</sup> While Stickley's primary intent was to advertise his company's line of furniture, he also hoped to spread the ideals of the Arts and Crafts movement. When the Arts and Crafts movement began in England, it was in direct protest to the Victorian era.<sup>4</sup> Unlike the busy designs of the Victorian age, Arts and Crafts emphasized clean, simple lines and the use of natural materials. Houses designed in this Progressive Era movement emphasized the relationship of the house to its environs. "A house should have an organic relationship to its site...it should fit in with the surroundings."<sup>5</sup> Houses designed in the Craftsman style emphasized simplicity and openness on interior as well, encouraging rooms that were open and inviting as well as useful.

While the Arts and Craft movement began in Britain, the manner in which these ideals were applied in the United States varied considerably. "In Britain, professional Arts and Crafts architects catered to a small, upper-class clientele. In the United States, However, Arts and Crafts architecture was a widespread and highly successful response to middle class demand for affordable, efficient and attractive suburban homes".<sup>6</sup> The success of this style for affordable, yet attractive homes can be traced in large part to the growing popularity of magazines and pattern books. Two Californian architects, the Greene brothers, are usually cited as the most influential designers of the Craftsman style. According to McAlester, in the United States, Craftsman style houses were "inspired primarily by the work of two California brothers, Charles Sumner Greene and Henry Mather Greene who practiced together in Pasadena from 1893 to 1914."<sup>7</sup> Around 1903, they began to

<sup>1</sup> McAlester, Virginia and Lee, *A Field Guide to American Houses*.

<sup>2</sup> Clark, Clifford Edward Jr., *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*.

<sup>3</sup> Massey, James C. and Shirley Maxwell, *House Styles in America The Old-House Journal Guide to the Architecture of American Homes*.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Clifford Edward Clark, Jr., *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*.

<sup>6</sup> Massey, James C. and Shirley Maxwell, *House Styles in America The Old-House Journal Guide to the Architecture of American Homes*.

<sup>7</sup> McAlester, Virginia and Lee, *A Field Guide to American Houses*.

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

**William E. Gordon House**

Name of Property

**Sarpy County, Nebraska**

County and State

**Section 8 Page 2**

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design simple bungalows, elaborating their style by 1909 after creating several landmark examples that became widely publicized in magazines such as *Good Housekeeping*, *House Beautiful*, *The Architect* and the *Ladies Home Journal*. The Craftsman style spread throughout the United States, and numerous pattern books began offering plans for Craftsman inspired homes. The furniture maker Gustav Stickley included house designs created by the Greene brothers in his popular magazine. The wide dissemination of these simple, yet beautiful plans helped to make the Craftsman style one of the most popular for middle class Americans throughout the end of the teens and into the decade of the 1920's.

The William E. Gordon House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion C in the area of architecture. Constructed in 1936, this house is an excellent example of the Craftsman style. The placement of this house at the edge of a ravine near the back of the lot insures that this house appears to rise out of the natural world; solidifying the organic relationship of the house with its environment. The use of rich, natural materials throughout continues and strengthens the tie that this house enjoys with its environment. These attributes taken together, define this property as Craftsman. The overall physical integrity enables this property to convey its significance in the area of architecture as a Craftsman style house.



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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

**William E. Gordon**

Name of Property

**Sarpy County, Nebraska**

County and State

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Bibliography

- 1986 Clark, Clifford Edward Jr., *The American Family Home, 1800-1960*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.
- 1996 Massey, James C. and Shirley Maxwell, *House Styles in America The Old-House Journal Guide to the Architecture of American Homes*. Dovetale Publishers.
- 2000 McAlester, Virginia and Lee, *A Field Guide to American Houses*. Alfred A. Knopf, New York.

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**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

**William E. Gordon House**

Name of Property

**Sarpy County, Nebraska**

County and State

Section 10, 11 Page 1

**Verbal Boundary Description:**

That part of Lot 5, Jewell Place, a subdivision of Section 25, T14N, R13W, described as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of said Lot 5, thence southerly along the western borderline of said lot at a distance of 134 feet; then in an easterly direction exactly parallel to the southern borderline of said Lot 5, to the eastern borderline of said Lot 5; thence along the eastern borderline of said Lot 5 in a northerly direction to the northern borderline of said Lot 5, thence along the northern borderline of said Lot in a westerly direction to the place of beginning.

**Boundary Justification:**

The boundaries as described above include that property historically associated with the William E. Gordon House.

**Photographs:**

The following information pertains to the following 10 photographs:

William E. Gordon House  
Sarpy County, Nebraska  
Photographer: Bill Callahan, NeSHPO  
April 2005

Negatives in collection of the NeSHPO

**Photographs**

Photograph	Description of Photograph	View
1 of 10	View of front or primary façade.	E-NE
2 of 10	View of southeast façade.	NE
3 of 10	View of front façade and northwest façade.	SE
4 of 10	View of northwest facade	S-SW
5 of 10	Interior view of dining area.	
6 of 10	Interior view of windows in the large living/dining room.	
7 of 10	Interior view of central hallway on first floor.	
8 of 10	View of stone fireplace in library.	
9 of 10	View of central hall on the upper floor.	
10 of 10	View of stone fireplace in basement family room.	