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	1. NAME			·		1 1 1974		
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	AND/OR HISTORIC:	<u>ka State Bank</u>	Durrung					
	Moses Kinka 2. LOCATION	aid Building						
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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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	CONDITION	Excellent	🕅 Good	🗌 Fair	🗌 Det	eriorated	🗌 Ruins	Unexposed	
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The Nebraska State Bank building was built in 1882-83 and was probably the first brick structure in O'Neill. Moses P. Kinkaid was probably instrumental in the construction and design of the building. He is listed as a vice-president in the new bank's articles of incorporation and is recognized as part owner of the building.

The bank occupied the ground floor and Kinkaid used all three rooms of the second floor for his law offices. He continued to maintain these offices until his death in 1922. It is interesting to note that Kinkaid designed the offices on the second floor himself with double doors in every room - probably to keep noise outside the rooms and conversation private.

Kinkaid held various offices in the bank; in 1884 he is listed as attorney for the bank. In 1885 he took over the position of president of the bank, holding it concurrently with an attorney for the firm until April of 1886. After this date Kinkaid was dropped from the list of officers. In successive years three banks have occupied the building. Currently three businesses occupy the former bank on ground level. The top floor has remained vacant.

The two-story, red brick and sandstone bank building remains today much as it was in the early 1900's. Two partitions have been placed in the lower level or first floor, and the bank fixtures removed. The rooms on the second floor, Kinkaid's office from 1882 to 1922, remain as they were. The second level has not been used since the 1930's.

Some time during the 1960's the building suffered major exterior alteration. The original sandstone trim above the roofline was removed and replaced by a solid brick wall, which is stepped on two sides. With the removal of this trim, the original integrity of the exterior has been modified.

E E INSTRUCTIONS

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

(Number all entries)

7.

Description (cont'd)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

STATE <u>Nebraska</u> county <u>Holt</u> FOR NPS USE ONLY ENTRY NUMBER DATE

1974

(Continuation Sheet)

INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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It would be difficult, if not impossible, to restore the building to its original appearance.

The Holt County Historical Society has undertaken a fund drive to purchase the building. The Society plans to restore Kinkaid law offices on the second floor to their original condition. Many of Kinkaid's personal items are still available in the community and will be placed on display in his law office. The ground floor would be used as a county museum.

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PERIOD (Check One or More as A	Appropriate)	s	
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Moses Pierce Kinkaid moved to O'Neill in 1881. From 1887 to 1900 he served as a district judge, and in 1902 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. He served until 1922, dying shortly before the expiration of his tenth term of office. No other Nebraska representative has equalled his length of service in the House, and only three United States Senators from Nebraska have served longer in Congress.

Kinkaid's congressional district contained most of the region known as the Nebraska Sandhills. At the time of his election, the homestead laws limited a settler to a 160-acre claim. In the sandy, arid regions, such as the Sandhills, this was too little land for either farming or cattle raising. Upon election, Moses P. Kinkaid initiated legislation to enlarge the size of a homestead, though such legislation had been defeated regularly in previous sessions of Congress.

Kinkaid, however, succeeded in getting his legislation passed, and, on April 28, 1904, President Theodore Roosevelt signed the Kinkaid Land Act into law. Immigration into the Sandhills rapidly increased. In the first year, following the law's enactment, homestead entries in Nebraska increased from 491,000 acres to 1,310,000 acres. Within ten years most of the remaining government land in Nebraska was settled by "Kinkaiders"-settlers who took the name of their benefactor.

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