

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received NOV 15 1983

date entered DEC 15 1983

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Isaac Newton Clark House (CY12-1)

and/or common Isaac Newton Clark House

2. Location

street & number 468 Cedar Street NA not for publication

city, town Sutton NA vicinity of

state Nebraska code 31 county Clay code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Kathryn L. Buck

street & number 1205 Forest, Apt. 1

city, town Crete NA vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Clay County Courthouse

city, town Clay Center state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date On-going federal state county local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> moved	date 1916
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Isaac N. Clark House is a one and one-half story frame vernacular Gothic Revival structure built ca. 1877 in Sutton, Nebraska. Though slightly altered by a rear addition and new foundation, historic decorative features such as a square bay window, Gothic arched windows and a 1916 Neo-Classical Revival porch remain.

The Isaac N. Clark house constructed ca. 1877, is situated on a large neatly landscaped lot in Sutton, Nebraska, (1980 population 1,416). The house is a one and one-half story frame vernacular Gothic Revival structure with a wood shingle roof and a new (1978) concrete block foundation. The original Gothic windows remain on second floor of the structure and the old exterior shutters from these windows were rebuilt many years ago to make screens. The first floor windows are also original and retain their 1870's shutters.

Decorative features include a square bay window with bracketed cornice which supports a small second story balcony, and dormer window which penetrates the roof line. The Neo-Classical Revival porch was added in 1916 replacing a small corner stoop.

The house was originally situated several yards north of its present site in the center of the block. It was moved closer to Cedar Street in 1916 coinciding with the remodeling of the porch.

In 1978, the house was raised and placed on a new foundation. A new, full basement was also constructed. A sensitively designed addition to the rear of the house was completed in 1980 to provide more floor space.

The interior of the Clark House displays basically a four over four room plan with these spaces corresponding to the four arms of the cross gable roof line. While the basic floor plan remains unchanged, some modernization has taken place on first floor, but it does not detract from the structure's historical integrity. A plaster ceiling medallion was recently restored in the back parlor (see photo #7). A closed stairway located in the center of the house leads from this parlor up to four bedrooms on second floor.

The present owner plans to continue restoration work on the house and surrounding grounds.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1877 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Isaac N. Clark House is significant in the areas of settlement and transportation in that Clark platted much of Sutton's townsite, was a member of the village board and was the driving force behind the Burlington Railroad's decision not to remove its line through Sutton. The house is significant in the area of commerce due to Clark's involvement and support of Sutton's business district. Architecturally the Clark house is significant as a good example of a vernacular Gothic Revival residence, a relatively rare residential building type in this State.

Isaac Newton Clark was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio in 1836. He attended school at Brooklyn Academy, Baldwin College and Hiram College in his native state and in 1857 received his teaching certificate. He spent the years 1857-61 teaching and farming in Illinois and then enlisted with the Illinois volunteers during the Civil War. After being discharged in 1863, Clark returned to Ohio and married Mary Miner. Mr. and Mrs. Clark returned to central Illinois where they remained until moving to Sutton, Nebraska in January, 1872.

In October 1871, Isaac Clark and his brother Dr. Martin Clark made an inspection trip west to choose a location for a mercantile business. They chose the settlement of five month old Sutton as the site of their future home as it was then the end of the line for the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad in Nebraska and it was expected that the line would continue westward. The Clark brothers purchased the unsold portion of the townsite from the original homesteader and replatted the land into town lots and a park, "Clark Square", which consisted of twelve acres along a bend in School Creek. The brothers brought their families to Sutton in January 1872 and by February they had built a store building to house an inventory of hardware and drugs. This was the first establishment of its kind in Clay county and the earliest on the Burlington line west of Crete (50 miles to the east). Isaac Clark and company dealt in hardware and Martin Clark and Company operated the drug store.

Soon after the Clark brothers purchased a portion of the Sutton townsite, a "war" began with the railroad. The Burlington and Missouri had laid rails on the townsite in August of 1871 and the settlers were promised a depot to replace an old freight car used as a station house. In December 1871, the railroad company moved the station east eight miles to Grafton. Isaac Clark became very involved in the fight to get the station returned to Sutton. He personally met with D. N. Smith of the B & M River railroad townsite company with no results. The dispute continued and in July 1872, I. N. Clark & Company shipped a carload of heavy hardware to Edgar, another Clay county station about 18 miles south of Sutton. Edgar was on the St. Joseph and Denver City Railroad, a rival line to the B & M River Railroad. Clark then sent

9. Major Bibliographical References

See continuation sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Sutton, Nebr.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	4	5	9	6	0	9	0	4	4	9	5	8	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is located on lots 4-5, Block 3, Clark's sub-division to the city of Sutton and includes all of the historically associated property.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county code

state NA code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet Jeffries Spencer, Cultural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date July 1983

street & number 1500 R Street, P. O. Box 82554 telephone (402) 471-3270

city or town Lincoln state Nebraska

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Marion D. Knott 11/4/83

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

date

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I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Melores Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date

12/15/83

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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teams and wagons to have his inventory transported on to Sutton. Soon other merchants were doing the same. Sutton residents still had no results in getting the Burlington to reconsider building through town. In April 1873, after two years of dispute, a delegation led by Isaac Clark made one last effort to convince the Burlington to change their plans. The party went to Lincoln and Plattsmouth at their own expense to meet with company officials. By this time some of the officers of the townsite company had changed and the Sutton delegation was able to convince them that it would benefit the railroad company economically to continue the rails through Sutton. By the fall of 1873 a depot had been built and Sutton was assured of their railroad.

Isaac N. Clark was always actively involved in community affairs. From the beginning of his residency in Sutton, he served on the village Board of Trustees and when Sutton was incorporated in 1876, Clark became the town's first mayor. He served two terms in this capacity. At this same time he was serving as a trustee on the Methodist Episcopal Church board. In 1876, when the congregation was erecting a church building, Clark personally went to Lincoln and secured donations of stone for trim and then, meeting the community's need for more accessible building materials, he established the Sutton Brick Company who supplied brick for the church building and continued to be a successful enterprise for many years.

The Isaac N. Clark house is significant in the area of settlement and transportation as the home of Clark, one of Sutton's founders. He owned and platted much of the townsite, served on the village board of trustees and as first mayor of Sutton. Clark is considered to have been the driving force behind getting the Burlington and Missouri River Railroad to re-examine their decision to remove their line from Sutton. With the return of the railroad, Sutton was able to grow and prosper as a business and trade and population center in this agricultural area.

The property is significant in the area of commerce due to Clark's involvement and support of the business district in Sutton. He opened the first hardware store in the county and by securing rail transportation to the town, made it possible for others to engage in commercial enterprise. When a need for construction materials in the fledgling community became apparent, Clark founded the Sutton Brick Company, a highly successful and necessary venture.

Architecturally the Clark House stands as a good example of a vernacular version of the Gothic Revival style of architecture. This style enjoyed short-lived popularity in Nebraska as this state was settled during the period when the Gothic style was coming out of vogue in domestic architecture in the United States. With the exception of churches, Nebraska has very few Gothic Revival structures.

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Andreas, A. T., History of Nebraska, Chicago, Western Historical Company, 1882.

Burr, George L., Ed. History of Hamilton and Clay Counties, Nebraska, Chicago, S. J. Clark Pub., 1921.

Sutton Register, July 13, 1916, June 9, 1927.