

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Nebraska
COUNTY: Jefferson
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE DEC 3 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Worral C. Smith Lime Kiln and Limestone House

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Two miles northwest of Fairbury

CITY OR TOWN:
Vicinity of Fairbury

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
First

STATE: **Nebraska** CODE: **31** COUNTY: **Jefferson** CODE: **095**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Jefferson County Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Fairbury

STATE:
Nebraska

CODE:
31

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
County Clerk

STREET AND NUMBER:
Jefferson County Courthouse

CITY OR TOWN:
Fairbury

STATE:
Nebraska

CODE:
31

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic Preservation in Nebraska

DATE OF SURVEY: **1971** Federal State County Local

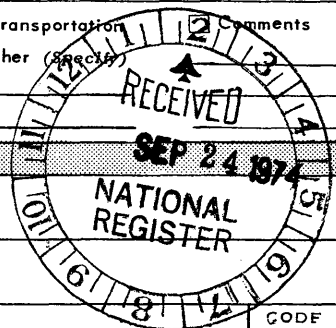
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Nebraska State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 "R" Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Lincoln

STATE:
Nebraska

CODE:
31



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Nebraska**

COUNTY: **Jefferson**

ENTRY NUMBER: **DEC 3 1974**

DATE: **1974**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

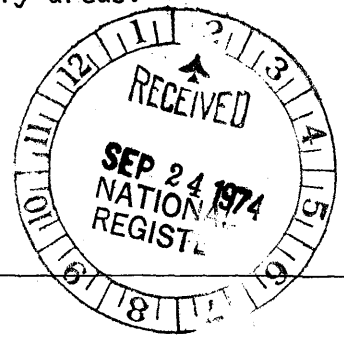
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Woral C. Smith Lime Kiln and House are located two miles northwest of Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska. The house and kiln are situated on the north side of the Little Blue River. The kiln, which was built in 1874, is comparable to a large chimney into which large pieces of limestone were stacked. Under this stacked limestone was located a fire hearth and the limestone was fired, removing the impurities and reducing the stone to a softer substance until it "crumbled as easily as dirt."

Smith, showing a new prosperity and the reliability and strength of his products, built a large story-and-a-half residence nearby for himself and his family in 1876. The residence is constructed of local limestone and lime. The interior is of frame construction, as is the roof. The architecture is quite typical of the 1870's with gabled roof creating an attic space as insulator from the heat and cold. Absent from the house is a fireplace. The rooms on the second story were heated by a stone pipe drum from the stove on the first floor. When the east portion was added (the date of this addition in unknown), it had a stove on the second floor also. The roofing was of wood shingles. The house is in fair condition but rebuilding of roof and floors and stabilizing of the walls is required.

Smith continued to live in the house until his death in August of 1906. The house and lime kiln, for many years vacant, were donated to the Jefferson County Historical Society in 1964. The Historical Society now gives guided tours through the area of the house, lime kiln and quarry areas.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1874-1880's**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Woral C. Smith Lime Kiln and House are located two miles northwest of Fairbury, Jefferson County, Nebraska on the north side of the Little Blue River.

In 1873, Woral C. Smith, a native of New York, settled on the Little Blue River six miles northwest of Fairbury.

In 1874, Smith built a kiln for the purpose of converting limestone into lime for whitewash and mortar. According to local traditions, the U.S. Army began quarrying limestone for building materials as early as 1848 for the construction of Fort Kearny in present-day Kearney County, Nebraska. During the 1870's the limestone industry flourished in Jefferson County. Many buildings were constructed using this native rock, as timber was scarce even along the river valleys. In 1876 Smith built a large story-and-a-half home completely of limestone. Much of the quarried limestone was used locally. After the railroads built a siding to the kiln and quarries, much of the stone and lime products were shipped throughout the region.

Limestone is still commercially quarried in several regions of Nebraska and the Smith Lime Kiln is one of the few remaining early examples of this important pioneer industry.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fairbury Gazette; August 6th, 1906
 Fairbury Daily News; September 15, 1964
 Omaha World Herald; September 24, 1964
 Lincoln State Journal; January 23, 1938
 Fairbury Daily News; December 30, 1969

NW 1/4/650840
 4450930
 NE 1/4/651380/4451300
 SE 1/4/651720/4450800
 SW 1/4/651200/4450430

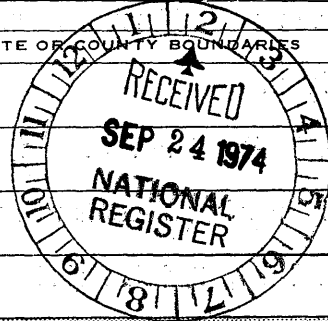
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	40° 12' 01"	97° 13' 40"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	40° 12' 01"	97° 13' 03"				
SE	40° 11' 33"	97° 13' 03"				
SW	40° 11' 33"	97° 13' 40"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 90 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Ronald L. Kivett, Curator of Historic Sites
 ORGANIZATION: Nebraska State Historical Society DATE: _____
 STREET AND NUMBER:
1500 "R" Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Lincoln STATE: Nebraska CODE: 31

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Morrin T. Kivett
 Title: Director, Nebraska State Historical Society
 Date: September 18, 1974

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

RR Winters
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 12/3/74

ATTEST:
George Emery
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: Nov. 27, 1974

ACREAGE JUSTIFICATION

An area large enough to include the original limestone quarries and provides protection to the house, kiln and quarries from encroachment.

