

PH0024309

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

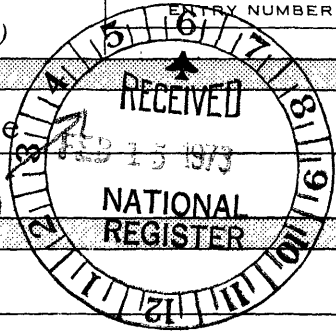
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Kentucky
COUNTY:	Hardin
FOR NPS USE ONLY	

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAR 26 1973



1. NAME	
COMMON:	Lincoln Heritage House
AND/OR HISTORIC:	(Hardin Thomas House)

2. LOCATION	
STREET AND NUMBER: W of Elizabethtown, Freeman Lake	
CITY OR TOWN: Elizabethtown	
STATE:	Kentucky
CODE:	21
COUNTY:	Hardin
CODE:	093

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) tourist attraction

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME:	City of Elizabethtown
STREET AND NUMBER:	Elizabethtown City Hall
CITY OR TOWN:	Elizabethtown
STATE:	Kentucky
CODE:	21

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:	Hardin County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:	Public Square
CITY OR TOWN:	Elizabethtown
STATE:	Kentucky
CODE:	21

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY:	Survey Of Historic Sites In Kentucky
DATE OF SURVEY:	1971 <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:	Kentucky Heritage Commission
STREET AND NUMBER:	401 Wapping Street
CITY OR TOWN:	Frankfort
STATE:	Kentucky
CODE:	21

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

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MAR 26 1973	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input 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 Lincoln Heritage House as it now appears, is a two separate cabin structure approximately four feet apart, believed to be as it was originally. The smaller cabin having been built first, around 1789, and the second cabin added about 1805-1808, were at this time, joined together and a second story added. It was at this time that Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham Lincoln, did the joiners work on the interior of the cabins and no doubt other work in the carpentry line.

Each unit is constructed of handhewn logs, most of which are original and roofed with the shake-type shingles; a field stone chimney at opposite ends of each cabin, a part of which also were the original stones. Each cabin has the original stairway leading to the upper story. The smaller cabin has an entrance door on the east facing Freeman Lake and one window on the west side; a door on the north end through which you may enter the larger cabin; a stairway leading to the second story and a fireplace on the south end.

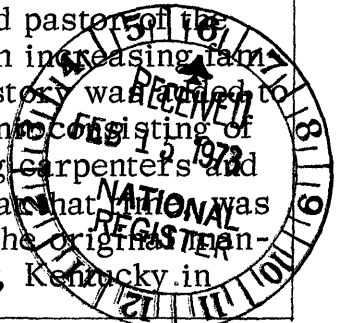
The second and larger cabin has an entrance door and two windows facing Freeman Lake on the east. A door and window facing west, a window and fireplace on the north end, a door on the south end through which you may enter the smaller cabin; and a stairway leading to the second story where there are two windows facing both east and west.

The restoration was completed November 1, 1972. A split rail fence surrounds the cabin, a number of very old trees are still standing and landscaping will be done in keeping with the period in which the cabin was used as a pioneer home.

The hewn logs with the in-between chinkings form the interior walls. The poplar rafters supporting the second story, which are original, the flooring of wide poplar boards and the wood trim, most of which is also original has the simple line bead which is typical of other finishing work related to Thomas Lincoln.

Researchers, architects and dismantling carpenters are of the opinion that the smaller cabin, which was very primitive, was built when Hardin Thomas and his wife came into possession of the land, which was inherited from Mrs. Thomas' father, Elder John Gerrard, first ordained pastor of the Severns Valley Baptist Church. A few years later with an increasing family the second cabin was added, at which time the second story was added to the first cabin, and the two cabins were enclosed as one unit consisting of five rooms. Thomas Lincoln, who was one of the leading carpenters and cabinet makers of the period, and was living in the area at that time, was a carpenter helper doing especially the interior work of the original mantles was removed and sold for officers club at Fort Knox, Kentucky in (see continuation sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

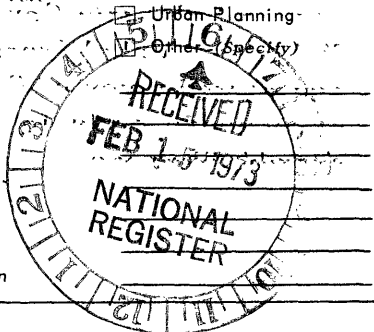
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" 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) **1789; remodeled & added to 1806**

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 type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	
<input checked="" 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 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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

A log cabin home of pioneer Hardin Thomas and his wife, Mahetabel Gerrard Thomas, was erected about 1789 on land inherited by Mrs. Thomas from her father, Elder John Gerrard, ordained first pastor of the Severns Valley Baptist Church, constituted June 17, 1781 near Hynes Station, later Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

Located on an old "shun"ppike, the cabin was crudely built of hewn logs and consisted of one room and a loft as most early log cabins did. The logs in the cabin were not fitted together well and some of the notches were so wide that much chinking, of flat field stones, had to be used. The roof was of board, shingles, laid on with handmade wooden dowels or pins. There was one door and window and a large fireplace of field stone built on the east side of the cabin. The first child born in it was Jack Thomas, February 7, 1790. Five more children were born to Hardin Thomas and his wife in rapid succession and it became necessary to enlarge their home.

Sometime during the years from about 1800 to 1805 another larger log cabin, two rooms downstairs and two rooms upstairs, was erected adjoining the first cabin with only the width of the large chimney of the first cabin separating the two structures. At the same time the loft of the one room cabin was raised to make the height of both buildings the same. A second large chimney made of field stones was added at the far end of the second cabin at the eastern end of the building. Handmade nails were used in construction of the second cabin. It has been authentically established that Thomas Lincoln, father of Abraham Lincoln, sixteenth President of the United States, and the carpenters and joiners work on the second cabin, and the remodeling of the first one.

The City of Elizabethtown purchased the farm which had passed through several owners hands, to establish the Freeman Lake Watershed and a city park. Permission to restore the Hardin Thomas Family Cemetery, only a very short distance from the Hardin Thomas House, was also given to the Lincoln Heritage group.

About fifty years ago Mrs. R. W. Gates of Elizabethtown made an exhaustive (see continuation sheet)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

"A History Of Elizabethtown, Kentucky & Its Surroundings" 1889-72, Re-printed Hardin County Historical Society, 1960.
 "Lincoln Lore," Oct 1969 #1580, 1512 and 1456.
 Letter to Louisville Democrat, July 9, 1865 by Haycraft.
 Records in Hardin County Courthouse re: Thomas Lincoln & Hardin Thomas.
 Affidavit of Mabel Stone, great granddaughter of Hardin Thomas.
 Documented study of Old Houses In Hardin County by Mrs. R. W. Cates, ca. 1925
 Correspondence from Allen P. Cabbage-Grayscon County attorney, relative of Hardin Thomas

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	0 0 0	0 0 0	37 43 09	85 52 21		
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

UTM
16/599 340,
4175030

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



CD
SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Mrs. E. I. Richerson, Member
 ORGANIZATION: Hardin County Historical Society & Representative
 Kentucky Heritage Commission DATE: 10-12-72
 STREET AND NUMBER: 209 Elizabeth Street
 CITY OR TOWN: Elizabethtown, STATE: Kentucky CODE: 21

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: Mrs. L. Inez Willis
 Title: State Liaison Officer
 Date: February 9, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
 Robert W. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: 3/26/73
 ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 3/21/73

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(Continuation Sheet)

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#7 - DESCRIPTION

1919 where it is still located. Not being able to regain it, it has been skillfully copied and will be placed in the larger cabin from which it was removed. Most of the interior trim is original and one can readily see Thomas Lincoln's skillful craftsmanship.

The Thomas Family Cemetery is located a short distance from the cabin where Hardin Thomas, his wife and some of his children are buried.

There are plans for other historic buildings, such as a one room school and a blacksmith shop to be restored and moved to the park area in the near future and will add to tourist attractions.

The cabin will be furnished relative to the period of the house.



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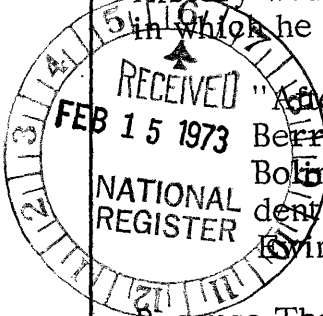
(Number all entries)

#8 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE #1

study of the oldest houses in Elizabethtown and Hardin County, driving in many instances in a horse and buggy to locations in out-of-the way places, to see and describe the oldest house still standing in Hardin County. The following information is taken from her papers:

"Next comes the house built by Hardin Thomas in 1805 on the farm just off the North Dixie Highway now operated by Heady Jenkins. The carpenter work was done by Thomas Lincoln and this year (1919) the mantel from this house has been installed in the library of the Officers Mess at Fort Knox. The father of Mrs. Sally Smith (Mrs. J.F. Albert's mother) now more than 90 years old, was born there. This is now a frame house, log within."

There is documentary proof that Thomas Lincoln followed the carpenter's trade in Elizabethtown. This is revealed in the details of the Geoghegan-Lincoln suit. Lincoln, not long after his marriage to Nancy Hanks in 1806, made a contract to hew enough logs to erect a mill. Lincoln fulfilled his part of the contract, but Geoghegan claimed the work was ^{not} done according to specifications. Lincoln brought the suit against Geoghegan in a magistrate's court on March 25, 1807. Lincoln won the suit. The judgment was for four pounds and six pence plus the cost of the appeal. Another entry in Haycraft's History would indicate that the father of the President constructed the house in which he lived in Elizabethtown:



"After this time similar buildings were erected by George Berry, Jacob Bruner, Samuel Patton, Mrs. Jane Ewing, Mrs. Boling, Mrs. Lewellen, Thomas Lincoln (father of the President), James Crutcher, Asa Coombs, Thomas Davis, Henry Ewing, James Love and David Vance."

Because Thomas Lincoln was a skilled cabinet maker, as evidenced by the many fine pieces of furniture, corner cupboards, chests, tables and other pieces, it is thus established that he was a cabinet-maker, joiner and carpenter.

The names of Hardin Thomas and Thomas Lincoln are linked together in Hardin County Court documents. One such document is a petition (signed by 43 people) for a "road from the River Ohio to the Courthouse... that the road begin a quarter of a mile below the mouth of Flippins Run...."

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#8 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE #2

Another document is a petition for a road from Elizabethtown, to Flippins Run. The route of the proposed road was to run through the land of Benjamin Helm, Hardin Thomas, Alexander Ashley...etc." The above documents are to be found in a bundle marked "Road Petitions before 1805," in the Hardin County Court records. Only a man of some wealth could have posted bond for public officials in the sum of \$500.00 as he did.

Besides court and family records for Hardin Thomas and Thomas Lincoln we have eye witness records of them and other historical characters as set out in the History of Elizabethtown by Samuel Haycraft, Jr., written in 1869.

