

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:  
**Nebraska**

COUNTY:  
**Douglas**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE  
**AUG 14 1973**

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
**Heafey & Heafey Mortuary**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**Guy C. Barton Residence** *PL 00-16.1*

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**3522 Farnam Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Omaha**

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
**First**

STATE: **Nebraska** CODE: **31** COUNTY: **Douglas** CODE: **055**

**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"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Bath	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input checked="" 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"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	Comments
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
**Heafey & Heafey Inc.**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**3522 Farnam Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Omaha**

STATE:  
**Nebraska**

CODE:  
**31**

**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**Register of Deeds, Douglas County Courthouse**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**18th & Farnam Streets**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Omaha**

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**

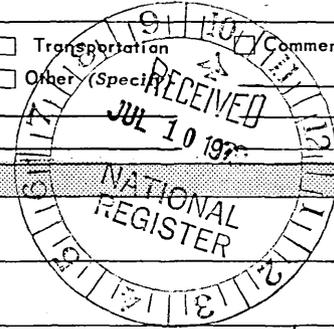
STREET AND NUMBER:  
**1500 "R" Street**

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Lincoln**

STATE:  
**Nebraska**

CODE:  
**31**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: **Nebraska**

COUNTY: **Douglas**

ENTRY NUMBER: **1 A 23**

DATE: **AUG 14 1973**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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 type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Guy C. Barton residence is a perfect example of Victorian elegance at its highest. The architectural style is a romantic adaptation of Victorian and Romanesque. Constructed in 1899, the building cost \$250,000 at that time. Mr. Guy Conger Barton, president of the Omaha and Grant Smelting Company (American Smelting and Refining Company) and later president of the Omaha and Council Bluffs Street Railway and the South Omaha National Bank, commissioned the nationally recognized architect Henry Ives Cobb from Chicago for the design of the mansion.

The property occupies a half-block on the north side of Farnam Street. The mansion is located on the southwest corner of the estate with spacious lawn encompassing. A huge carriage house, now used as a garage, is located on the north at the rear of the house.

Of red-brick construction, the three-story house has an irregular plan. The main entrance, facing the south, is sided by a three-story Victorian tower on the west. The highly decorative cast-iron double doors cost \$7,000 when they were first installed. The entrance hall is of solid mahogany wall panels and stanchions that are draped and tapestried in two-tone velours.

On the left of the entrance hall is the music room or "Gold Room" which is decorated in Louis XV style. The walls are tapestried in silk and the ceiling is hand-painted canvas, decorated with cherubs afloat in the firmament. A large mirror in a gold frame which hung above a gold table is now in a saloon in Butte, Montana. The original crystal chandelier is gone as well. The rectangular-shaped room opens to a circular space at one corner, which is the base of the three-story tower.

The right side of the entrance hall opens to the drawing room which is now used as a chapel. Mahogany ceiling beams arranged into patterns of square and octagon break up the monotony of the long space.

Adjoining the drawing room is the dining room which opens to the back porch. With master-crafted wood paneling around and wood ceiling beams above, the dining room presents a cozy and homey atmosphere.

At the end of the entrance hall is the stairwell. It has a stained-glass window of a sunset scene which, facing the west, looks most elegant at sunset.

The second floor consists of bedrooms of silk-tapestried walls and Tiffany light fixtures. The bathroom fixtures are all of marble and the wall is glazed tile. There are more bedrooms on the third floor, as well as a large ballroom and lounges. The ballroom, accessed through an arched doorway, is now used as a casket display room.

In the basement there is a wine cellar of 1,250 receptacles in which individual bottles of wine rested properly on their sides. There was a heavy inner door and a burglar alarm connected with the master bedroom. From the laundry room there is an underground passage that connects to the stables.

In the rear is the carriage house with the stables below. The stables were finished in solid oak with oak beams and ceilings. There was extensive use of marble and glazed tile. The horses had a shower room and a ventilator shaft for maximum comfort. Living quarters for the coachman and a trophy room were above. Adjoining was special quarters for the family cow which was kept there as late as 1915, when H. S. Clarke, the banker, owned the property.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. 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) **Completed in 1899**

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 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

Mr. Guy C. Barton was born into a poor farm family in Carlisle, Lorain County, Ohio, July 1, 1839. During his early boyhood, Guy C. Barton acquired a common school education in the preparatory department at Oberlin College, but was obliged to forego further schooling at the age of sixteen to relieve his father of the burden of his support and education. He had no business or professional training other than that which comes from experience, reading, and close application. After many long years of struggle, he moved to North Platte, Nebraska, in 1869, and purchased a controlling interest in the Omaha Smelting and Refining Company in April, 1886, when he moved to Omaha. Under his guidance a consolidation was effected with the Grant Smelting Company of Denver. Mr. Barton was also one of the incorporators of the Omaha and Council Bluffs Railway and Bridge Company, which in 1888 completed the Douglas Street bridge across the Missouri River at a cost of \$750,000, connecting the cities of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Omaha. In 1888 he was a director in the incorporation of the Omaha Loan and Trust Company Savings Bank, and was one of the incorporators of the Sperry Electric Light Company, organized in 1883. He was married November 22, 1860, at St. Joseph, Missouri, to Sophia H. DeWolfe. They had three children: Frankie, wife of W. B. Millard; Jessie, wife of George A. C. Christiancy; and Charles. All were born in St. Joseph. Mr. Barton's grandson, W. B. Millard, Jr., was president of the Omaha National Bank.

Mr. Barton was a leading philanthropist during the Victorian era of Omaha. Besides the Farnam Street mansion, he also owned the Walnut Lodge, his rural "villa" three miles south of South Omaha at the site of the former Gilmore Station, on Gilmore Road in Sarpy County. Both grand mansions, before and after the turn of the century, were the scene of many gala social affairs in the Victorian manner.

The famous architect, Henry Ives Cobb, was commissioned from Chicago, as was the case for those who could afford a non-resident architect of notoriety. Mr. Cobb (1859-1931) partnered with Frost and practiced architecture in Chicago and Boston. When Henry Hobson Richardson, the great American architect, died in 1886, there were three main currents in American architecture. One was represented by the development leading towards the Chicago skyscrapers of the 1890's and was more in the hands of technicians than of architects. Another current, and for the next few years the most expansive, was what can already be called the Academic Reaction. This was parallel to yet already pushing well ahead of Shaw's somewhat coy approach to a programmatic revival of 18th century forms, and McKim, Mead & White was the acknowledged leading firm. The third current

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Sylvester, B. F. West Farnam Story (1964)  
 Heafey & Heafey Inc., The Heafey & Heafey New Residential Mortuary  
 J. Sterling Morton. Illustrated History of Nebraska.  
 Marcus Whiffen. American Architecture Since 1780.  
 Henry Russell Hitchcock. Architecture: 19th and 20th Century.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

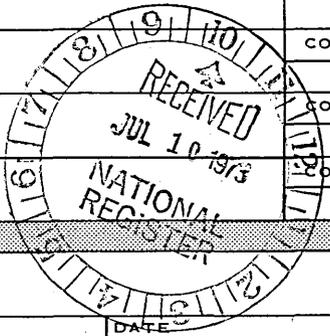
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 . "	0 . "		95° 57' 53"	41° 15' 29"	
NE	0 . "	0 . "				
SE	0 . "	0 . "				
SW	0 . "	0 . "				

UTM  
 15/251630  
 4571410  
 CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approx. 1/4 acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Persijs Kolberg, Curator of Historic Sites  
 ORGANIZATION: Nebraska State Historical Society  
 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 Martin O. Kinnitt

Title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society

Date June 1, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert M. Utsey  
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 8/14/73

ATTEST:  
Com [Signature]  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date 7 30 73

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Nebraska	
COUNTY Douglas	
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	AUG 14 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance (cont'd)

was the Richardsonian. This was practiced with some success by various Boston firms such as Peabody & Sterns and Van Brunt & Howe. It had been carried to the Midwest and Henry Ives Cobb & Frost in Chicago developed it with some originality. It was practiced most extensively in their design of the Newberry Library in 1892. Mr. Cobb also designed the grand mansion at the southwest corner of 37th and Howard Streets for Edward A. Cudahy, president of the Cudahy Packing Company.

The Guy C. Barton residence, interior and exterior, is well cared for by the mortuary authority, which has made every effort to preserve and restore it to its original grandeur and elegance. It portrays a past era unique not only in architectural movements but also in the socio-economic development of capitalism of America.

