

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

LISTED 19990325
99000389

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "NA" for "not applicable". For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lindsley House

other names/site number NeHBS # PW08-037

2. Location

street & number 706 Luzerne Street not for publication []

city or town Table Rock vicinity []

state Nebraska code NE county Pawnee code 133 zip code 68420

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. () See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Michael S. ...
Signature of certifying official

2/18/99
Date

Director, Nebraska State Historical Society
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. () See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.

See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public-local
- public-state
- public-Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> | buildings |
| | | sites |
| | | structures |
| | | objects |
| <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> | Total |

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instruction)

DOMESTIC:hotel

DOMESTIC:residence

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

foundation STONE:limestone

walls STONE:limestone

roof Asphalt

other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or a grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Commerce

Period of Significance

1872-1897

Significant Dates

1872

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location for Additional Data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References (place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet).

| | Zone | Easting | Northing | | Zone | Easting | Northing |
|----|------|---------|----------|----|------|---------|----------|
| 1. | 14 | 747170 | 4451370 | 3. | | | |
| 2. | | | | 4. | | | |

See continuation sheet.

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Carol Ahlgren, Architectural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society

date December 1998

street & number 1500 R Street

telephone 402 471.4773

city or town Lincoln

state NE

zip code 68501

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name/title JoAnn Kalina

street & number 706 Luzerne Street

telephone 402 839.2023

city or town Table Rock

state NE

zip code 68447

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Lindsley House

Name of Property

Pawnee County, Nebraska

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

Description

The Lindsley House is located in Table Rock, a small town in Pawnee County, Nebraska. Originally built as a hotel in 1872, the two-story limestone building is located approximately one block west of the commercial area and public square. The nomination consists of one contributing building, the hotel, and a non-contributing c.1970 garage.

The Lindsley House, a two-story limestone building, is located in Table Rock, a small Pawnee County town in southeastern Nebraska (1990 population: 308). The former hotel fronts Luzerne Street which forms the southern boundary of the Public Square Historic District (NRHP 1994). The district is comprised of late 19th and early 20th century businesses, residences, and a church that surround a full block public square.

Constructed in 1872, the Lindsley House operated as a hotel until 1897, and represents the oldest remaining commercial building in the community. The two-story limestone building with a gable roof has a raised basement and walls that are 18 inches thick. A basement level door is located on the east side of the building; on the rear (south) facade, the land falls sharply away to the Big Nemaha River valley and Nebraska Highway 4.

Built of area limestone, the building features random ashlar exterior walls. Exterior ornamentation is limited to simple stone lintels and quoins. The house has a latitudinal orientation on Luzerne Street; the main entrance is accessed by wide concrete steps leading to an open two-story porch. The two-story porch was added in c1912 and features rounded concrete columns and a crude balustrade. The second floor exterior also features a doorway located above the main entrance. Partial height concrete posts punctuate the second story balustrade which is further defined by wooden running boards from model T automobiles. According to a Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey form, these running boards are a later addition (NeHBS, 1996).

The second floor is accessed through the main entrance which features the central staircase flanked by rooms to the east and west of a narrow entryway. Although changes in original room configurations which occurred after the building's conversion to a residence in 1912 have not been determined, the house retains much of its original woodwork and deep window sills.

The *Pawnee Republican* referred to Mrs. Lindsley contemplating expanding the hotel in 1883. The newspaper reported that it hoped the community would support her endeavor

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Lindsley House

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(*Pawnee Republican* 12-13-1883). According to available information, however, Mrs. Lindsley would sell the building in 1897 for use as a private residence. (*Table Rock Argus* 12-24-1897). The first known interior changes occurred when it was purchased by a Dr. Hylton in 1912. It was reported that the doctor, having purchased "one of Table Rocks' historic buildings," would remodel it for use as a residence (*Argus* 2-8-1912).

Although the former hotel functioned primarily as a residence following its cessation as a hotel in 1897, it reportedly later housed a beauty shop (NeHBS form 1996). Most recently, in 1989, it was purchased by the current owner who operated it for several years as a bed and breakfast establishment.

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Lindsley House

Name of Property

Pawnee County, Nebraska

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Statement of Significance

The Lindsley House, located in Table Rock, Pawnee County, Nebraska, is being nominated to the National Register at the local level of significance in the area of commerce. The two story limestone building was constructed in 1872 and served as a hotel until 1897. Located one block west of the Table Rock public square historic district, the former hotel is the community's oldest extant commercial building. The period of significance, 1872-1897, includes its date of construction through the years it operated as a hotel.

The Lindsley House, constructed in 1872 for a Mrs. E.V. Lindsley, is a two story limestone building which served as a hotel in the small southeastern Nebraska town of Table Rock until 1897 (1990 population: 308). The former hotel is located one block west of the Table Rock Public Square Historic District (NRHP 1994). The district, which surrounds a full block public square is bounded by exceptionally wide streets. The public square is located on a high point of land above the Big Nemaha River Valley. The square is surrounded by a mix of late 19th and early 20th century commercial buildings, houses, and a church.

Table Rock was initially platted in 1855; settlement did not occur until 1858 however, when the Nebraska Land Company encouraged immigrants from Pennsylvania to settle the area. According to available historic information, the community developed both on the high ground around the current square, and in the lowlands of the Big Nemaha River Valley, south of the square. In 1871-1872, the Atchison and Nebraska Railroad extended through the river valley and a railroad addition was platted to the original town. During the next decade development occurred in both the upper and lower commercial areas despite recurrent flooding in the lower town. The Lindsley House, built in 1872 in the upper town was one of the community's first commercial buildings.

The Lindsley House appears to be the first private commercial development in Table Rock. However, with the advent of the railroad, the railroad company would finance their own commercial speculation which included another hotel, the Abell House. Although no construction date is known for this hotel, it is estimated that it was completed in the late 1880's or 1890's. It is not known if this building is extant, but it historically served the lowland of Table Rock and its construction indicates the unfilled promise that was anticipated for the community.

During the next decade businesses and residences would relocate to the area surrounding the public square. Substantial buildings such as the prominent two story brick bank at the

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northwest corner of Luzerne and Houston streets would be constructed. The depot (non-extant) however, remained in its original location and the Abell House was in operation until at least 1883. The May 5, 1883 edition of the *Table Rock Argus* carried adjacent ads for the Abell House and the Lindsley House. The Lindsley House, according to the advertisement, offered both weekly and daily rates and had "good sample rooms for commercial travelers". The hotel also had a dining room; on New Years' Eve, of the same year, a dance was held at the Odd Fellows hall a block east of the hotel; couples could dine at the Lindsley House for 75 cents (*Argus* 12-20-1883).

The Lindsley House continued operation through the 1880's; and early 1890's. Although available records are few, the newspaper reported that Mrs. Lindsley contemplated expanding her businesses in 1883 to better serve the needs of the town. Table Rock, however, would reach its peak population of 852 in 1900. Meanwhile, three years earlier, in 1897, the Lindsley House had ceased operation as a hotel and was being used as a private residence (*Argus* 12-24-1897). The first evidence of related changes to the building's interior however, did not occur until 1912. At that time, the *Argus* reported that Dr. Hylton had purchased the former hotel and would remodel it for use as a residence. Under the heading "Old House New Home" the *Argus* referred to the former hotel as "one of Table Rocks' historic buildings." (*Argus* 2-8-1912)

The population of Table Rock gradually declined during the next two decades. In 1917, however, a three story brick hotel and theater complex was built at the southeast corner of Luzerne and Nebraska streets, two blocks east of the Lindsley House. Three years later a devastating fire destroyed almost all of the commercial buildings on the block. The hotel and two brick buildings at the west end of the street survived. A few buildings were immediately rebuilt but vacant lots remain to the present (Table Rock Public Square Historic District nomination, 1994).

In the decades following the fire Table Rocks' population continued to decline to its present day total of 308 residents. The large public square, surrounded by its mix of residential and commercial buildings remains as the focal point of the community. Today little evidence remains of the lower town. The Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey (NeHBS) recorded limestone ruins of a possible commercial building (PW08-095). A two story, simple brick abandoned commercial building was also recorded (PW08-050). Further research is needed, however, to determine if this building was the Abell House hotel. The Lindsley House, therefore, with its simple vernacular design, limestone construction and location one block from the public square remains as a rare surviving remnant of Table Rocks' early commercial development.

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Lindsley House

Name of Property

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Bibliography

Andreas, A.T. *History of the State of Nebraska*. Vol. II. Chicago: The Western Historical Company, 1882.

Dickson, Lonnie, et. al "Table Rock Public Square Historic District," National Register of Historic Places nomination form, 1994. On file, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, NE.

Nebraska State Historic Buildings Survey, files, Nebraska State Historical Society, Lincoln, NE.

Wolfe's Nebraska State Gazetteer 1882-1883

Newspapers:

Pawnee Republican, 1879-1884

Table Rock Argus, 1883-1912

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is described as Lot 3 and the east half of Lot 4, Block 37, Original Town plat, Table Rock, Pawnee County, Nebraska.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nomination includes the tract of land historically associated with the former hotel.



Photo 1 of 4 – view looking SW showing main façade
Photo by Carol Ahlgren, NSHS, Nov 1996 (9611/23:17)



Photo 2 of 4 – view looking SE
Photo by Carol Ahlgren, NSHS, Nov 1996 (9611/23:3)

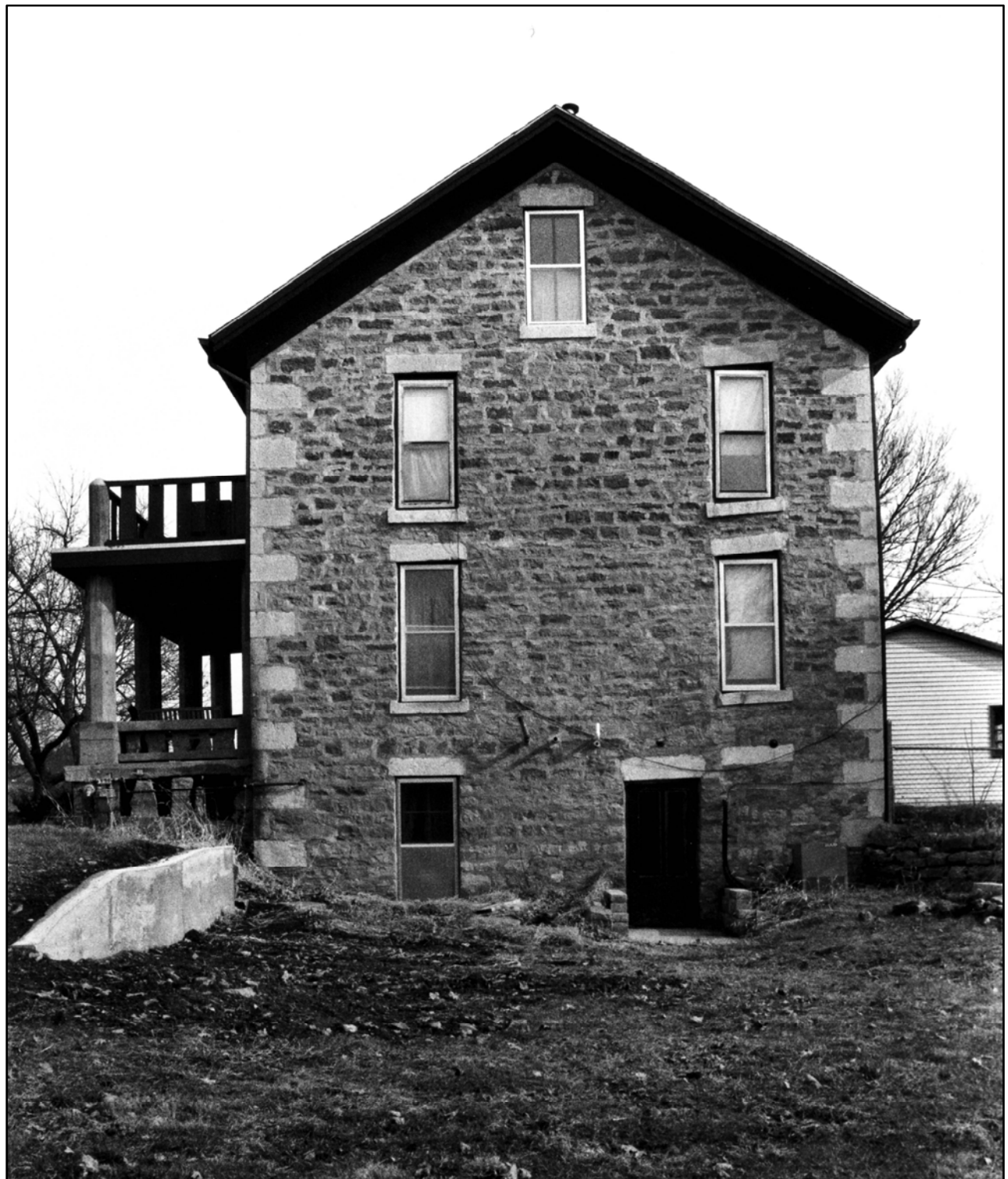


Photo 3 of 4 – view looking E showing W façade & basement level entrance
Photo by Carol Ahlgren, NSHS, Nov 1996 (9611/23:5)



Photo 4 of 4 – view looking NE showing quoins, porch detail
Photo by Carol Ahlgren, NSHS, Nov 1996 (9611/23:6)