
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2009

Revised: 7/2021



Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

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Introduction

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI)

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the National Park System. Landscapes that are listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources and in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire, legal interest are included in the inventory. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, and condition. Cultural landscapes have approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS-CL) database. In addition, for landscapes not currently listed on the National Register and/or without adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, or the Keeper of the National Register.

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is compiled from primary and secondary sources and through on-site surveys of the landscape. The level of investigation is dependent upon scoping the need for information. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's integrity and an assessment of the landscape's condition. The CLI also includes historic maps, drawings, and images; photographs of existing conditions; and a site plan that indicates major features. The CLI documents the existing condition of park landscape resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to stabilize condition. This information can be used to develop strategies for improved stewardship. Unlike a Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), the CLI does not provide management recommendations or treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape, but it may identify stabilization measures.

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS)

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. Cultural Resources Inventory System (CRIS) replaces three legacy inventory systems: ASMIS (archeology), CLI (cultural landscapes), and LCS (historic structures); and it reinstates the former ERI (ethnographic resources). This Cultural Landscape Inventory document reflects the information in a corresponding CRIS Cultural Landscape record.

Statutory and Regulatory Foundation

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directives for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are:

- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)) Sec. 110
- Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3 (a and c)
- Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs
- Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Std. 2
- Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22; issued pursuant to Director's Order #28 (DO-28)

The NHPA requires the identification, evaluation, and nomination of historic properties to the National Register of Historic Places and the maintenance and expansion of an inventory of cultural resources. DO-28 requires a cyclic assessment of the current condition of cultural landscapes based on an assessment interval, with a default of six years.

Use

Beyond fulfilling legal and policy requirements, park staff can use the Cultural Landscape Inventory in the following ways:

- To learn about park cultural landscapes (all staff)
- To inform management decisions (park managers)
- To inform project planning and development (park managers, facility managers, project managers, compliance specialists)
- To monitor the condition of the cultural landscape and take measures to protect its significance and integrity (cultural resource managers, facility managers)
- To recognize the stabilization and treatment needs of landscape features and plan work within cultural landscapes to address the needs (facility managers, cultural resource managers)
- To understand the cultural value of natural systems in a cultural landscape (natural resource managers)
- To create programming and educational materials based on site history (interpretation and education specialists)
- To recognize impacts within cultural landscapes and enforce protection measures (visitor and resources protection staff)

General Information

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name: Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Resource Classification: Cultural Landscape

CLI Identification Number: 500583

Parent Landscape: 500583

Inventory Status: Complete

Park Information

Park Name: Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Alpha Code: LIBO

Park Organization Code: 6400

Park District: LIBO

Region: Midwest

Restricted: No

Landscape Description:

Located in south central Indiana, the total area of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial is approximately 200 acres while the area of the commemorative landscape encompasses approximately 100 acres. The commemoration was initially designed to recognize Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln who died when Lincoln was a boy. Commemoration began most fervently after Lincoln's death and passed through several iterations over time as ownership and availability of funding changed. Impromptu memorials continued to mark the site until "a more formal design was commissioned in 1927 by the Indiana Lincoln Union, an organization of both public and private community leaders. The preliminary design was completed by noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr...Prior to designation as a unit of the National Park System, the commemorative landscape, then called the "Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial" was part of a larger Lincoln State Park" (CLR 2001, 5). The coexisting landscapes provided for a diversity use with the State Park offering opportunities for reflection and active recreation.

The conceptual plan by Olmsted provided a primary vista in the form of an allée and used the old state highway to create a cross-axis. This cruciform arrangement organized the site and established patterns of circulation within the memorial for pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The north/south axis runs between the memorial building and the pioneer cemetery and emphasizes the contemplative processional nature of the site. The simplicity and strength of the design was reinforced by the use of local materials that connected Lincoln to his pioneer past and to geographic part of Indiana. Gravel trails continue beyond cemetery, through the restored forest and to the cabin site memorial. The landscape was constructed with state and local designers contributing to the evolution of the site. Despite the multiple sources of input, the design remained true to Olmsted's initial concept of simplicity and solemnity.

The restored forest was proposed as part of the Olmsted concept. Prior to the formal memorial, the site was located in the village of Lincoln City surrounded by land that had been denuded and devoted to agriculture. The intention of the design was to restore the forest to create a symbolic "pioneer forest" that would frame the cemetery and represent the conditions under which the pioneers struggled. The forest was planned as mixed hardwoods of oak and hickory but now is variable in species content with predominance of honeysuckle and sugar maple. There is an ongoing effort to improve the composition of the forest (CLR 2001, 58).

The period of significance begins in 1927 with the initial conceptual design by Olmsted and extends through 1945 to the completion of construction of the memorial building. The cultural landscape currently has medium to high integrity with some loss occurring after administration by the National Park Service. The most significant losses occurred in the 1960s when the memorial building was enclosed to create the visitor center. Also, relocation of the highway diminished the impact of the axial organization and altered circulation patterns. Beyond the boundaries, the park is bordered on three sides by developed agricultural land but buffered to the south by forested state park land.

Overall, the commemorative landscape at Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial retains the features of the designed landscape associated with the period of significance. The overall spatial organization, the significant structures, and the associated forest continue to provide visitors an opportunity to move through the landscape and contemplate the pioneer contributions of the Lincoln family in Indiana.

Landscape Hierarchy Description:

Landscape Type:

Historic Designed Landscape

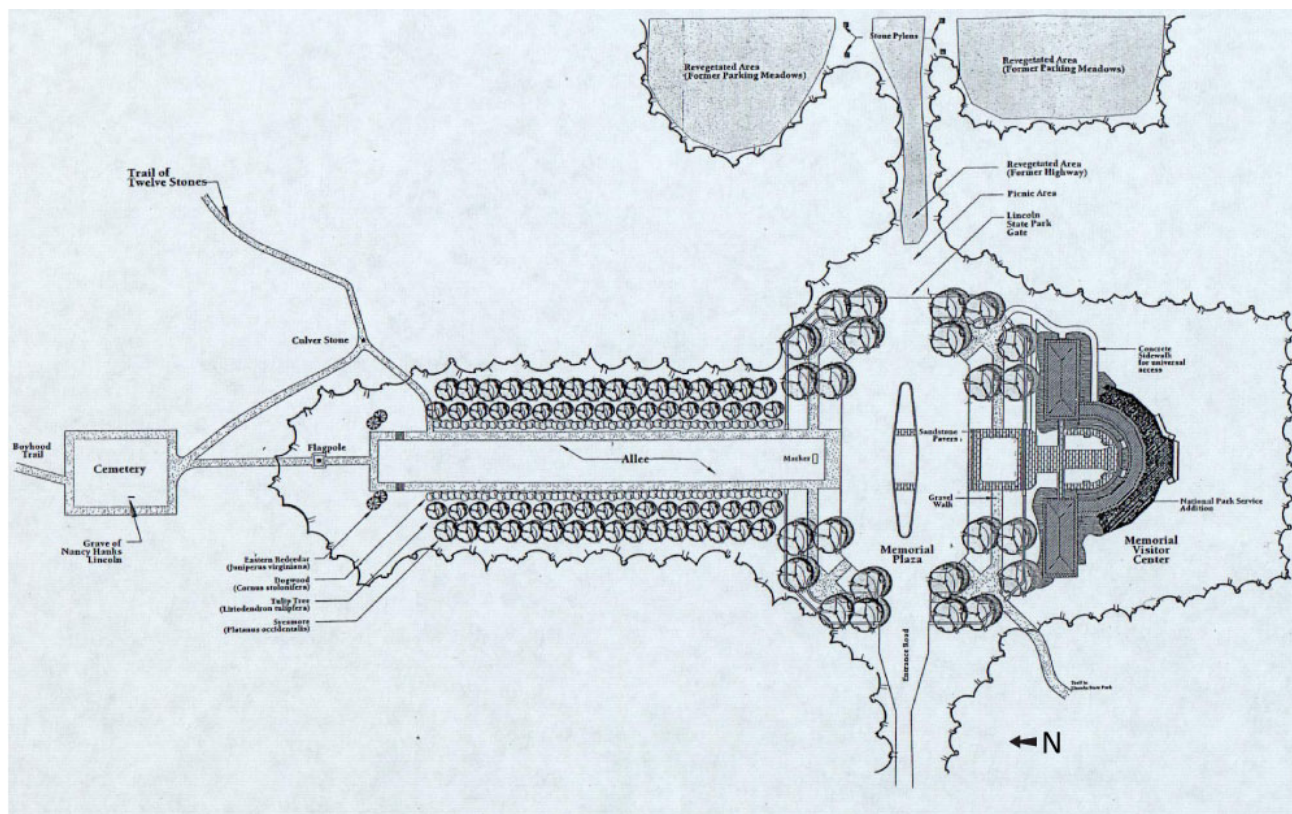
Other Names:

Other Name:	Lincoln Boyhood Home	Other Name Type:	Historic
Other Name:	Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial	Other Name Type:	Both Current And Historic
Other Name:	Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial	Other Name Type:	Historic

Site Plan



Park Map



Allee and Plaza site plan, existing conditions (CLR 2001).

Concurrence Information

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

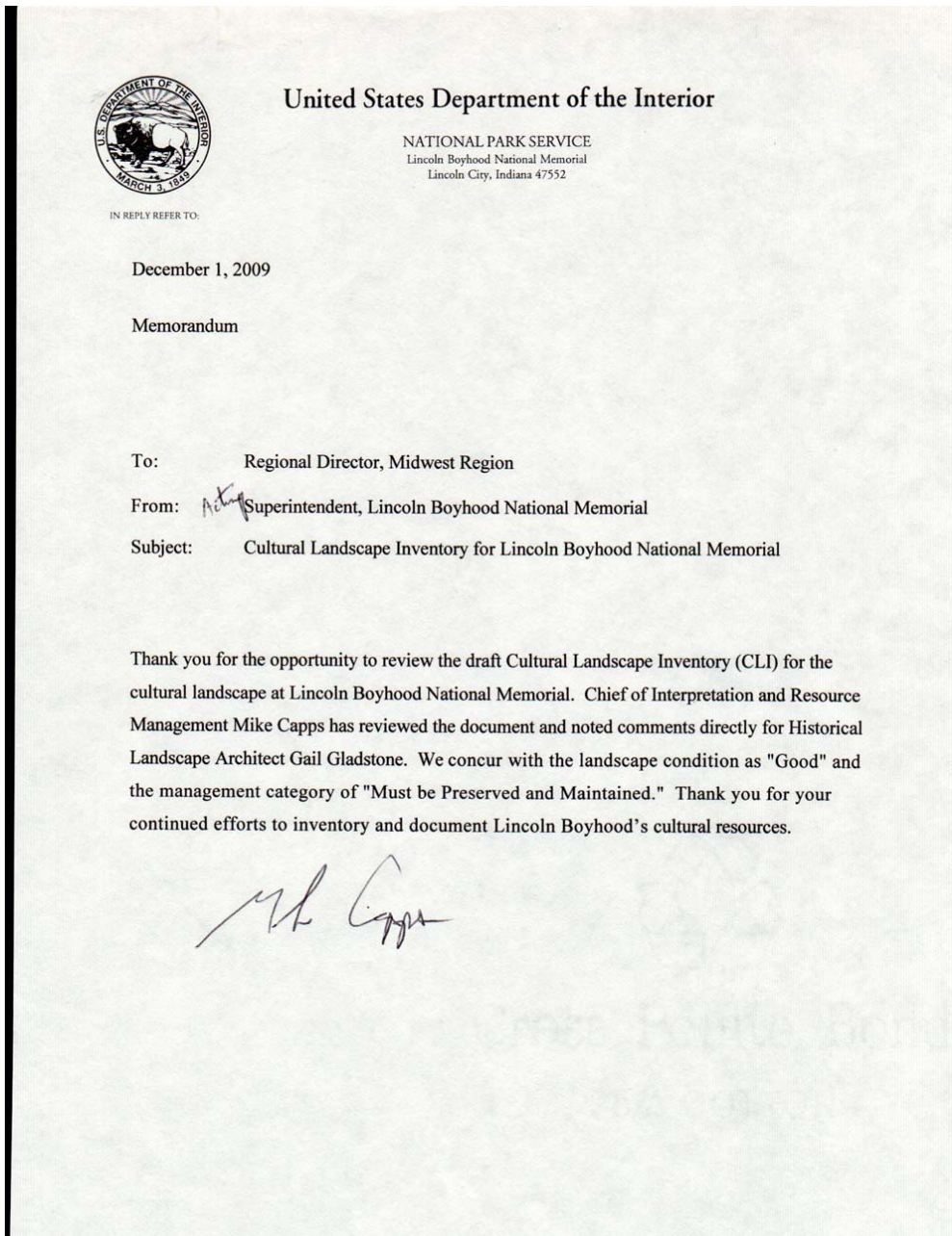
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 12/01/2009

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

Initial research was conducted by seasonals Kathleen Fitzgerald and Richard Radford during FY99 to determine that the numbers of landscapes for the park are correct. Cultural Landscapes Program Leader Sherda Williams and Historical Landscape Architect Marla McEnaney reviewed the landscape hierarchy. A site visit was conducted in 2009 to evaluate existing conditions. Site assessment and updates to the database were completed by Historical Landscape Architect Gail Gladstone. Data entry will continue for the inventory unit as scheduled by the CLI Program.

Concurrence Graphic Information:

Attachment File Path




Park Superintendent concurrence dated 12/01/2009.

DEC 28 REC'D

DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.state.in.us


Historic Preservation
and Archaeology

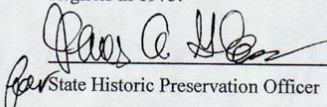
December 21, 2009

Kendell Thompson, Superintendent
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial
National Park Service
Lincoln City, Indiana 47552

Name of Property: Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, IN

Dear Superintendent Kendell:

The State Historic Preservation Officer or appointed designee concurs that the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial is a cultural landscape for section 110 purposes of the National Historic Preservation Act as amended. The character defining features associated with the cultural landscape as documented in the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial Cultural Landscape Inventory (2009) contribute to the body of knowledge and overall significance of the site which was determined eligible for the National Register in 1975.


Paul A. Jones
State Historic Preservation Officer

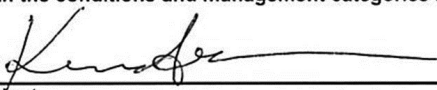
12/18/2009
Date

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SHPO concurrence dated 12/21/2009.

Lincoln Boyhod 2015 Cultural Landscapes Inventory Summary Sheet						
Cultural Landsacpe Inventory Name	CLI NO.	Management Category	Latest Year Assessed	Latest Condition	Condition 2015 (Status quo)	Park Changes
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial	500583	Must be preserved and maintained	2009	Good	Good	

I concur with the conditions and management categories for the Cultural Landscapes listed above as noted/ammended.


Superintendent

9/15/15
Date

2015 Park Concurrence

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Park Code	Resource Type/CL or HS #	CRS ID	Resource Name	Management Category	Condition Last Reported	Condition Last Reported Date	Assessment Interval	Assessment Due FY	Condition Current	Assessment Interval	Next Assessment Due FY
UBO	CL	500583	Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	9/14/2015	6	2021	condition unchanged	6	2027
UBO	HS-12J	5065	Anderson Cottage Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12D	5059	Berry-Lincoln Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12A	5056	Birchgrove Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26H	776035	Bronner, Nancy/Rusher Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-02	862	Cabin Site Memorial and Wall	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26	5067	Cemetery Iron Fence	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-33	5040	Cemetery Road Gates	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01AB	776210	Culvert by parking meadow	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01AC	776245	Culverts in memorial area	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01A	70170	East and west culverts near railroad	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12H	5063	Gettysburg Rock and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26B	70175	Hicks, Son of George and Nancy Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26C	70176	Huff, Sally Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12B	5057	Jones Stone Rock and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12E	5060	Lexington Kentucky Bricks and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-27	5068	Lincoln Boyhood Memorial Flagpole	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-32	5073	Lincoln Spring Marker and Plaque	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-25	863	Lincoln, Nancy Hanks Commemorative Stone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26A	70174	Lincoln, Nancy Hanks Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01	12946	Lincoln, Nancy Hanks Memorial Visitor Center	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26D	70177	Ludwig, Bertha Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-28	5069	Memorial Alley - East/West - Walks and Steps	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-29	5070	Memorial Orientation Plaque	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-30A	70181	Memorial Plaza	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-34	70182	Memorial Powerhouse Chimney	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-31A	5072	Memorial Stone Benches- Cabin Site	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-31B	776341	Memorial Stone Benches- Plaza	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-31C	776409	Memorial Stone Benches- Trail of Twelve Stones	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01C	70172	Memorial Stone Pillars at entrance	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01B	776306	Memorial Stone Pillars on old S.R. 162	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-01B	70171	Memorial Water System Access Structure	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26E	70178	Morris, Josephus Headstone and	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027

I concur with each condition and management category for the buildings and structures listed above as noted/amended.

Superintendent or Acting

Date

Park Code	Resource Type/CL or HS #	CRS ID	Resource Name	Management Category	Condition Last Reported	Condition Last Reported Date	Assessment Interval	Assessment Due FY	Condition Current	Assessment Interval	Next Assessment Due FY
UBO	HS-26F	70179	Morris, Susanna Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12U	5062	Old Capitol Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-38	70185	Old Lincoln Trace	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-26G	70180	Rhodes, Mary L. Headstone	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12	5055	Spencer County Memorial Monument	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-36	70183	State Highway Right of Way Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-39	70186	State Road Culvert	Should be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12L	70173	Trail of Twelve Stones	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12C	5058	Vincennes Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12K	5066	Washington D.C. Peterson House Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-12I	5064	White House Stone and Marker	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Fair	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027
UBO	HS-30	5071	WPA Memorial Plaza Stone Walls	Must be Preserved and Maintained	Good	12/31/2014	6	2021		6	2027

I concur with each condition and management category for the buildings and structures listed above as noted/amended.

Superintendent or Acting

Date

RHONDA SCHIER Digitally signed by RHONDA SCHIER
Date: 2021.07.22 16:08:50 -05'00'

2021 Park Concurrence

Revision:

Revised By	Type of Revision	Revision Date	Revision Narrative
S. Nelson	Other		2016 - CLI-FMSS crosswalk data added
R.Young	Change in Condition	09/15/2015	Condition and management category verification only. Location data not verified 2015.
RYoung	Other	07/22/2021	2021 CRIS data alignment effort so CL and HS data is on the same 6-year interval.

Geographic Information

State and County:

State	County
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Size (Acres): 199.65

Land Tract Number(s)

01-101 - 01-159

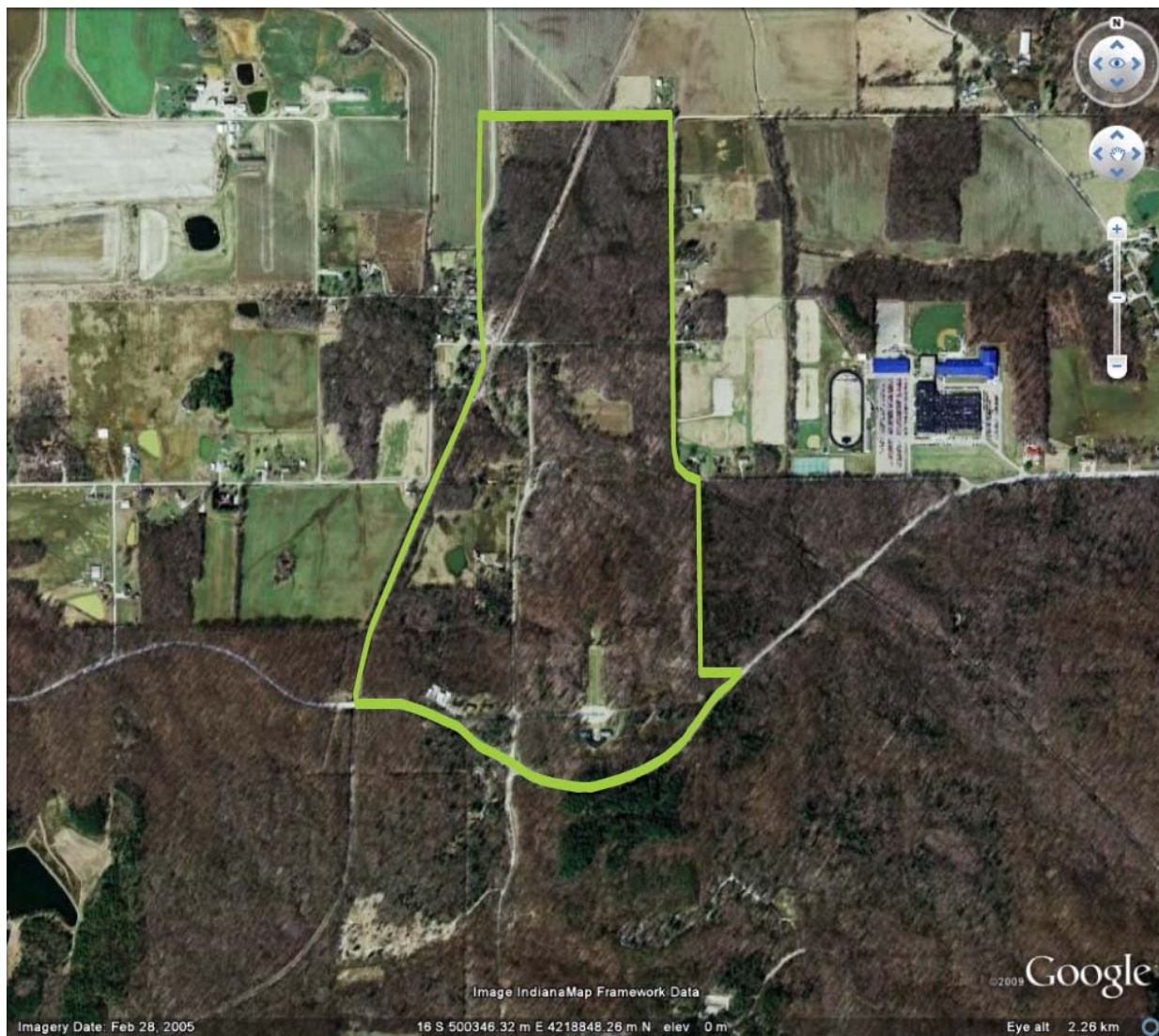
Boundary Description:

Beginning at the intersection of the Southern Railroad right-of-way and County Road 300E in Lincoln City, the Park boundary follows State Highway 345 north about 2020 feet, when it turns and runs due east about 1480 feet, then turns and follows Harrison Street due south about 2530 feet, then runs southeast about 200 feet, then runs due south about 1400 feet, then due east about 300 feet to its intersection with State Highway 162, which it follows in a curve west about 300 feet to its intersection with the Southern Railroad, which it follows north-northeast about 1520 feet to the point of beginning.

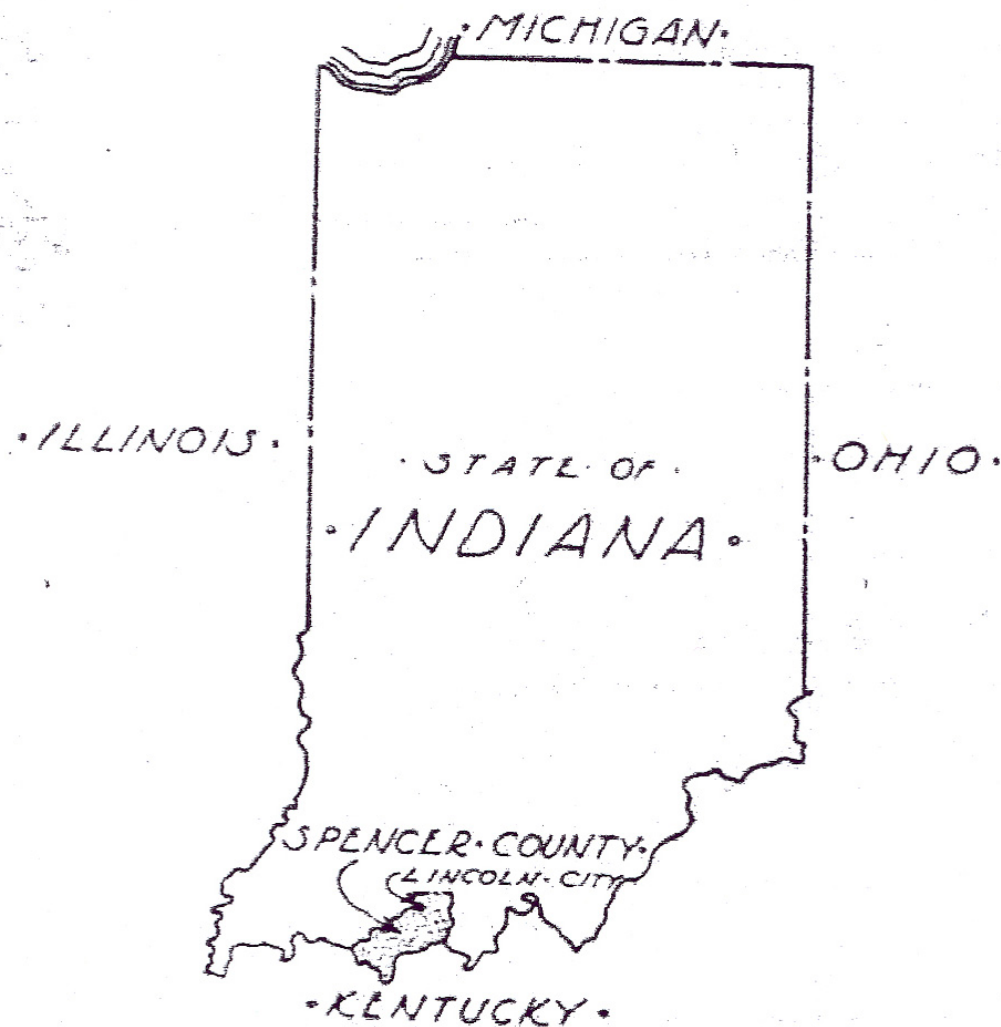
Boundary Coordinates

Source	Type of Point	Latitude	Longitude	Narrative
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	38.1181704862149	-86.99924597589	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	38.1235781142399	-86.9992458917464	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	38.1235779812828	-86.9946822345132	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	38.1113206230745	-86.9935424643703	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	38.1091576786942	-86.99582404615	
USGS Map 1:24,000	Point	38.1109602911395	-87.0026682420799	

Location Map:



Aerial showing park boundary to demonstrate context of the surrounding landscape (Google Earth, 2009).



Location map for Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial (CLR 2001)

Regional Landscape Contexts:

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial is located in Clay and Carter Townships in Spencer County, Indiana. The park is situated off Indiana Highway 162, eight miles south of Interstate 64. The park is located two miles east of Gentryville, and four miles west of Santa. Lincoln Boyhood is in the Ninth Congressional District of Indiana.

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial has no Congressionally authorized boundary; rather the boundary has been administratively determined. The park is located in the Midwest region of the National Park Service (LBNM Statement for Management, 1)

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The Lincoln Boyhood Memorial was developed as a formal design at a time of expansion in the state park system across the country. America's interest in the scenic and historic was developing as more people had access to automobiles and more leisure time to spend. In the time period between World War I and World War II, Americans visited state and national parks taking advantage of the increased accessibility and growing popularity of outdoor recreation.

Using the manipulation of landscape as a means of expressing patriotic pride and for the enacting of symbolic ritual was a uniquely American expression in the years following World War I. These characteristics are found in the somber processional landscape that evolved at Indiana's Lincoln Memorial. This memorial diverged slightly from the patriotic tradition in that it "specifically commemorated a more personal ritual of loss: Lincoln's loss of his mother and our nation's loss of a revered leader" (CLR 2001, 42).

The state park system in Indiana was one of the best in the nation during the 1920s due largely in part to Colonel Richard Lieber, a businessman who used his influence and connections to conserve natural resources across the state. This passion for public places coincided in the 1930s with Roosevelt's New Deal efforts and work programs in state parks.

State park programs utilized CCC labor to develop recreation amenities. CCC planning was coordinated through the National Park Service and by 1938 the NPS had 245 CCC camps in state parks (CLR 2001, 43). Interventions by the NPS and CCC strove to maximize the naturalness of the site while creating new recreational opportunities. The Indiana Lincoln Memorial is unique in this case as a more formally designed landscape with more finished masonry than was typical in CCC construction (CLR 2001, 44).

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 12/19/1960

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The inventory unit is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark Criteria.

Management Agreements:

Legal Interests:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Narrative:

Located in managed wilderness?: No

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Narrative:

Undetermined: the adjacent lands around the monument consist of a state park primarily used for recreational purposes

National Register Information

National Register of Historic Places

Documentation Status: Entered Inadequately Documented

Documentation Narrative Description:

The cultural landscape is not adequately documented in the National Register nomination. The nomination also mentions the structures of the "Living History" farm which are not considered contributing to the landscape at this time.

Eligibility: Eligible -- Keeper

Concurrence Eligibility Date: 05/03/1976

Concurrence Narrative:

Significance Level: National

Contributing: Individual

Classification: Site

Statement of Significance for National Register of Historic Places:

The period of significance for the memorial, 1927 to 1945, spans the years of construction for both the designed landscape and the Memorial building. The site is significant under Criteria C in that it embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values for the initial conceptual design and continued consultation with Frederick L. Olmsted Jr. The design and construction process carried out across the period of significance at the Memorial brought together some of the more significant figures in state park development, including Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. and Richard Lieber, and the result exemplifies a true integration of building and landscape design. The landscape is also significant under Criteria B for its association with the early life of Abraham Lincoln and for Criteria Exception C for Nancy Hanks Lincoln gravesite. The site is also significant as an exemplification of cooperative projects completed under the auspices of federal Depression era works programs carried out as part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal Programs.

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial is significant as both a commemorative landscape and a historic site. It is the site where Abraham Lincoln spent 14 formative years of his life from age 7 to 21. During the period, Lincoln grew physically and intellectually into a man. The site contains the farm of Thomas Lincoln, Abraham's father, and the marked gravesite of Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. "It represents an attempt by local and state individuals and agencies to recognize Abraham Lincoln's formative years in Indiana, to honor the resting place of his mother, bolster tourism and celebrate Hoosier pride through the artistic use of native building materials and landscaping plants" (CLR 2001, 6). The purpose of the park is to preserve the cultural and natural resources associated with the boyhood and family of Abraham Lincoln in a manner which will permit both public use and enjoyment as well as the perpetuation of those resources for future generations (Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial Resource Management Plan, 1).

National Register Significance Criteria:

- B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
- C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

National Register Criteria Consideration:

C -- A birthplace or grave

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes):

Time Period: CE 1927 - CE 1945

Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet	Other Facet
Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	Parks Produce A New Profession	

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Landscape Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

Area of Significance Category: Politics - Government

Area of Significance Subcategory:

Explanatory Narrative:

NRIS Information:

State Register Documentation:

National Historic Landmarks:

National Historic Landmark? Yes

Theme:

Contributing:

NHL ID:

NHL URL:

Date:

Statement of Significance for National Historic Landmark:

World Heritage Site:

World Heritage Site? No

Category:

WHS ID:

WHS URL:

Date:

Is Resource within a designated National Natural Landscape: No

Chronology and Physical History

Chronology:

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1816	Established	Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and their two children, Sarah, 9, and Abraham, 7, move from Kentucky to southwestern Indiana in December 1816. Thomas Lincoln claims 160 acres which becomes the farm where Abraham spends his childhood.
CE 1817	Built	Thomas Lincoln builds a rustic log structure for their home.
CE 1818	Established	Nancy Hanks dies (October) and is buried in a small pioneer cemetery on a hill about one-quarter mile from their home.
CE 1830	Moved	The Lincoln family moves to Illinois, ending their fourteen year habitation of the farm.
CE 1865	Exploited	Abraham Lincoln was assassinated and local residents take a revived interest in Lincoln's childhood home. Locals disassemble what they thought to be the Lincoln's last cabin, taking the logs as mementos of the fallen president.
CE 1869	Neglected	Area newspapers begin carrying repeated accounts of the neglect of Nancy Hank Lincoln's grave. The grave becomes the focus of local commemoration efforts.
CE 1879	Memorialized	The first permanent gravestone, donated by Peter Studebaker of South Bend, Indiana, is placed on Nancy Lincoln's grave.
CE 1897	Established	Indiana Governor James Mount helps found the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association in response to another report of the gravesite's poor condition.
CE 1900	Purchased/Sold	Spencer County Commissioners purchase sixteen acres surrounding the grave site. They transfer the deed to the Memorial Association, who construct a large picnic shelter and drill a well at the site.
CE 1902	Memorialized	J.S. Culver donates a marker carved from stone left over from the Lincoln tomb in Springfield, Illinois. It is placed in front of the Studebaker stone, and a decorative cast iron fence is erected immediately around the gravesite.
CE 1907	Preserved	Local residents actively develop the area surrounding the cemetery into a park. The Legislature had recently created a Board of Commissioners to care for the grounds.
CE 1907	Designed	Landscape architect J.C. Meyenberg of Tell City, Indiana prepares design plans for improving the site.
CE 1910 - 1920	Altered	Dead trees are cleared and the site features an ornate iron gate at the entry, eagle and lion statuary, a picnic shelter/pavilion, and extensive ornamental plantings.
CE 1917	Memorialized	Local residents of Lincoln City attempt to locate the site of the Lincoln cabin. The county places a stone marker on the site that the group unearths.
CE 1923	Established	State officials create the Lincoln Memorial Commission to replace the Board of Commissioners. They authorize the Memorial Commission to purchase land around the grave and cabin site and start to plan a memorial.

Year	Event	Major Event Narrative
CE 1925	Land Transfer	The legislature dissolves the Commission and transfers responsibility to the Department of Conservation under Colonel Richard Lieber.
CE 1926	Developed	Direct responsibility for developing the memorial is given to the Indiana Lincoln Union.
CE 1927	Designed	ILU hires the Olmsted Brothers architectural firm to prepare a preliminary design for the memorial.
CE 1929	Planned	Following extensive correspondence, Olmsted's plan is accepted and the ILU hires landscape architect Donald Johnston to refine the conceptual plan and supervise construction activities.
CE 1930	Built	Groundbreaking ceremony is held for the memorial and over the course of the year, crews worked on removing most traces of Lincoln City. The crews also construct a boundary fence, "modern service building" and undertake a massive reforestation process.
CE 1931	Planned	Plaza wall and exedra are finished, and the flagpole is raised on the island at the center of the intersection.
CE 1933	Established	A Civilian Conservation Corps is established at Lincoln City.
CE 1934	Excavated	The CCC excavates the Lincoln cabin site.
CE 1934	Built	The "Trail of Twelve Stones" is completed.
CE 1935	Developed	A bronze memorial arrives and is put into place by the CCC crew, directed by Horace Weber.
CE 1937	Planned	Edson Nott completes a planting list and plan for the cabin site memorial.
CE 1939	Designed	Olmsted submits his report on what the formal composition of the memorial should be.
CE 1939 - 1945	Built	The memorial building project continues under National Park Service architect Richard Bishop.
CE 1960 - 1970	Altered	The state highway is relocated and the memorial building is adapted for use as a memorial center.
CE 1962	Established	President Kennedy signs P.L. 87-407, 76 Stat. 9, the act authorizing the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial.
CE 1963	Established	The National Park Service establishes a presence at the memorial.
CE 1965 - 1966	Built	The NPS encloses the cloister's front (north) wall and adds a wing to its south side to create an interpretative and administrative facility.
CE 1988	Rehabilitated	The allee plantings are completely replaced and the planting beds around the memorial building are rehabilitated.
CE 1993	Altered	The park obliterates the road bed of Old Highway 162 and revegetates the corridor parking area.

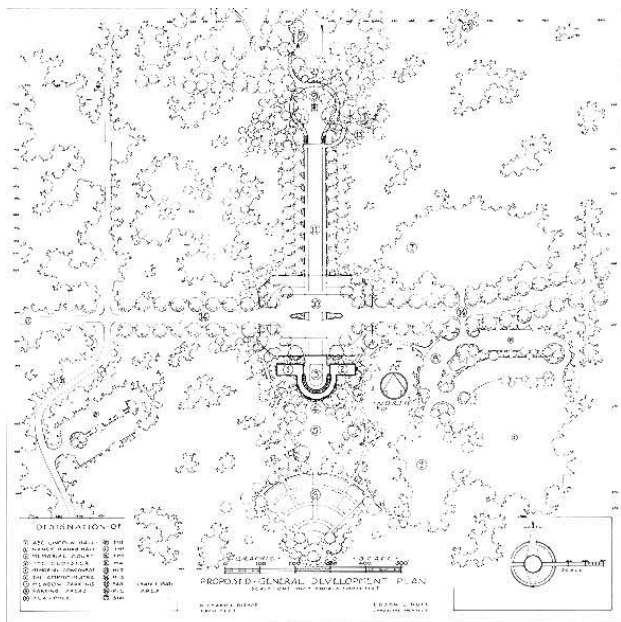
Physical History:

1805

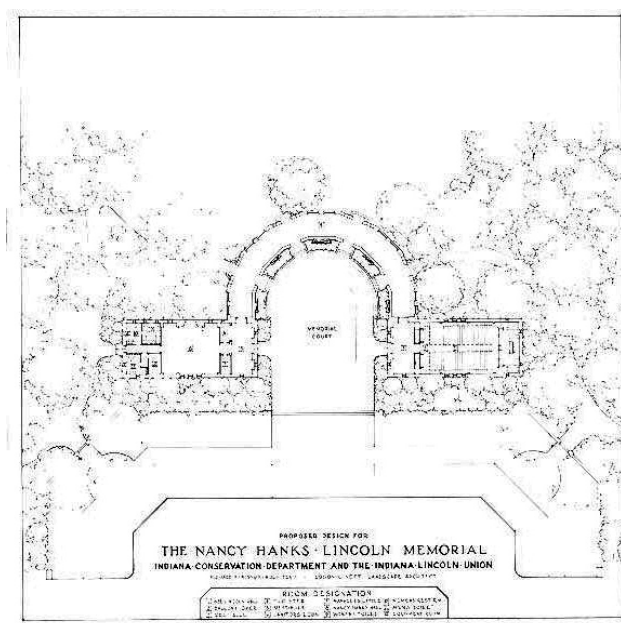
The land containing the Lincoln Boyhood Memorial is first surveyed. According to the surveyors, the trees growing in the vicinity of the farm includes beech, cherry, crabapple, flowering dogwood, elm, gum, hickory, ironwood, locust, maple, several oak varieties, poplar, pawpaw, redbud, sassafras, sycamore, spicewood, and walnut.

1816-1818

Thomas and Nancy Hanks Lincoln and their two children, Sarah, 9, and Abraham, 7, moved from Kentucky to southwestern Indiana in December 1816. They claimed 160 acres and built a rustic log structure that was finished by the following spring. In October 1818, Nancy became sick and died from drinking milk from infected cows. She was buried in a small pioneer cemetery about one-quarter mile from their home.



Proposed general development by Bishop and Nott, 1943 (LIBO #1219).



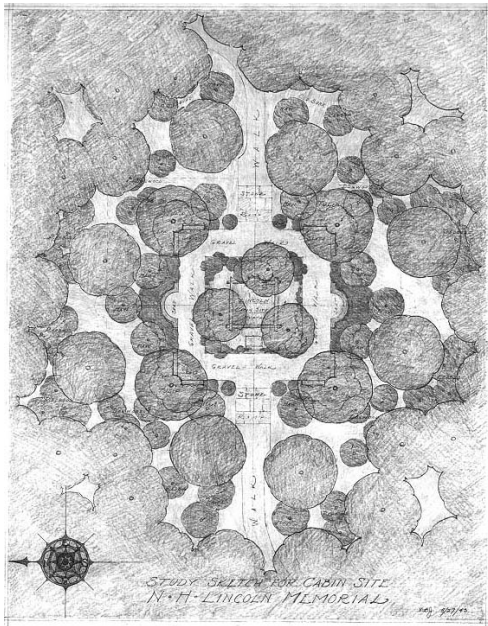
Plans for the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial by Bishop and Nott, 1943 (LIBO #1201).



Neighbors in front of what was believed to be the Lincoln's cabin in 1865 (LIBO #628).



Stuebaker stone with early iron fence (LIBO #606).



Study sketch for the Cabin Site Memorial by Johnson, 1943 (LIBO #1207).



Studebaker and Culver stone at Nancy Hanks Lincoln grave site (LIBO #472).

1819-1830

Thomas married Sarah Bush Johnston and moved her and her three children from Kentucky to his farm in Indiana. Over the next decade, the family continued to clear the land and expand their farm. They raised a variety of crops and some livestock. Sarah, who had married, and lived nearby, died in 1828 due to complications during childbirth. The remaining family members moved to Illinois in 1830.

1865-1869

Abraham Lincoln is assassinated by John Wilkes Booth in 1865. Local residents gathered to have their pictures taken in front of the structure reputed to be the Lincoln's last cabin, and several artists attempted to depict the modest structure in the paintings. Locals disassembled the cabin soon after the assassination to retain the logs as mementos of the fallen president. Once the cabin was gone, Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave became the focus of local commemoration efforts. Oral tradition holds that in 1869, reporters started writing about the grave's poor condition.

1879

The first permanent gravestone was placed at the site. Although it was anonymously donated, it was discovered that Peter Studebaker, second vice president of the Studebaker Company Carriage Makers of South Bend, Indiana had paid for the stone.

1897-1902

Efforts to protect Nancy Hanks Lincolns' gravesite increased with the turn of the century. Indiana Governor James Mount helped found the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association in response to another report of the gravesite's poor condition in 1897. A major step in protecting the site occurred in 1900 when the Spencer County Commissioners purchased sixteen acres surrounding the grave site. They transferred the deed to the Memorial Association, who constructed a large picnic shelter and drilled a well at the site. In 1902, J. S. Culver donated a marker that was carved from stone left over from the Lincoln tomb in Springfield, Illinois. It was placed in front of the Studebaker stone, and a decorative cast iron fence was erected immediately around the gravesite.

1907-1918

By 1907, local residents were actively developing the area surrounding the cemetery into a park. The Legislature had recently created a Board of Commissioners to care for the grounds. The Board was given the funds, record, and property formerly belonging to the Memorial Association. They were directed to improve and maintain the grounds: to "erect a substantial and ornamental fence around said burial grounds and premises and beautify the same." Landscape architect J. C. Meyenberg of Tell City, Indiana prepared design plans for improving the site. Dead trees were cleared as the site was prepared for the improvements. It eventually featured an ornate iron gate at the entry, eagle and lion statuary, a picnic shelter/pavilion, and extensive ornamental plantings. In 1917, local residents attempted to locate the site of the Lincoln cabin. After unearthing a few hearthstones and some pottery bits, they determined that the remains of the cabin site had been found. This cabin site was located on a knoll then in the heart of Lincoln City, approximately one-quarter mile north from the top of the hill on which is located the grave of Nancy Hanks. The county placed stone marker on the site as part of the celebration of the 1916 Indiana centennial, and the 1918 Spencer County centennial. Despite the fact that Nancy Hanks Lincoln's gravesite was being more actively and appropriately maintained, visitors frequently drove their cars into the park on a road that actually covered part of the cemetery. Complaints arose about people walking on the gravesites and leaving litter from their picnics.



Lion's gate, old entrance from the north, 1920 (LIBO #2).

1923-1926

During the early 1920's, the responsibility of the memorial traded hands several times. State officials became involved in 1923 when the State Assembly created the Lincoln Memorial Commission to replace the Board of Commissioners. They authorized the Memorial Commission to purchase land around the grave and cabin site and to "prepare and execute plans for erecting a suitable memorial to the memory of Abraham at or near his residence." In 1925, the legislature acted again by dissolving the Commission and transferring responsibility for the Lincoln site to the Department of Conservation under the direction of Colonel Richard Lieber. After viewing the site, "Director Lieber and associates determined to commit themselves and the Department to the task of ending forever Indiana's neglect of these sacred sites." Not long after the transfer, another parcel was acquired bringing the total size of the memorial to sixty acres. Direct responsibility for developing the memorial was given to the Indiana Lincoln Union in 1926. The ILU was a committee of local and state business leaders and state employees. Mrs. Anne Studebaker Carlisle, President, and Colonel Lieber, Executive Committee Chairman, led the ILU in the early years of the memorial development.

1927

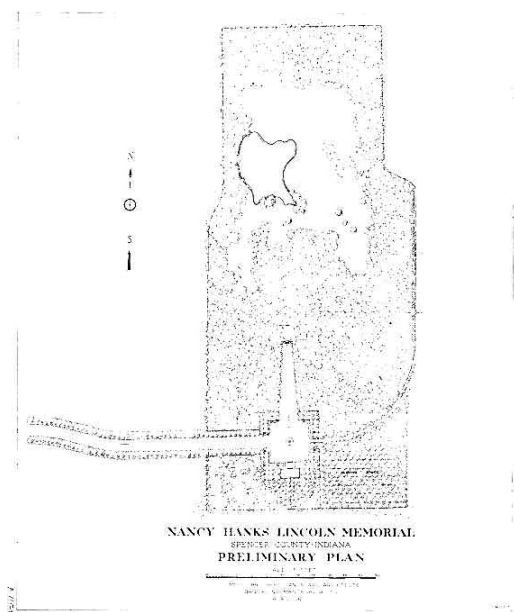
At one of its initial meetings in 1927, the ILU decided to hire Olmsted Brothers, a well-known landscape architecture firm from Brookline, Massachusetts to prepare a preliminary design for the memorial. The contract between the state and Olmsted Brothers called for the firm to prepare a general sketch or preliminary plan that "would indicate quite clearly and definitely the general lines of character of the development". Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. found the request interesting enough to tackle the job himself rather than assign one of the junior employees to the task. He visited the Lincoln site in March, and in May presented a conceptual plan to the ILU. Olmsted's assessment of the existing commemorative landscape was not very favorable, though he acknowledged the significance of the site and recognized that simplicity was the key to creating a distinguished memorial.

As a first step to improving the site, Olmsted attempted to set guidelines for simplifying the area surrounding the grave and cabin sites. He termed these areas "the Sanctuary," and felt that they should be similarly treated. The immediate Sanctuary "should be freed of every petty, distracting, alien, self-asserting object." This called for removing all traces of Lincoln City, as well as the ornamental shrubs and other plants that had been planted at the grave. He directed that the state highway and railroad bed be rerouted from between the grave and cabin site so that no vehicles or other intrusions would distract from visitor's contemplative experience. He did acknowledge, however, that parking was necessary and should be accommodated at the site. Interestingly, he directed that the parking areas should be somewhat removed from the core of the memorial, so that visitors could proceed "on foot into the Sanctuary under conditions favorable for producing the right impression."

While Olmsted felt the design should focus "upon the problem of making it easy and natural for other people . . . to be stimulated to their own inspiring thoughts and emotions about Lincoln," he also recognized that the more mundane visitor amenities had to be accommodated if the memorial was to be successful. He called for a design that would allow outdoor assemblies of varying size, and provide restroom, food, and gas facilities so that visitors would be comfortable and better able to enjoy the experience to be gained at the site. Because the site itself did not possess physical qualities that would render it to a visitor's memory, Olmsted also knew that his design would have to overcome the rather ordinary character of its surroundings. Such a feature would not only focus attention on the Sanctuary; it would also function as a organizing element for moving visitors through the site and provide a visual transition between the highway and the grave. Individuals as well as groups could progress from a parking area to the grave. Olmsted did not address how to include the cabin site in the conceptual plan.

Olmsted's conceptual plan combined the primary vista—the alley—with the relocated highway bed to create a cross-axis. This cruciform arrangement provided an organizational element for circulation within the memorial: vehicular traffic was concentrated in an east-west corridor, with pedestrians travelling from the south to the north. A parking plaza and large flagpole at the intersection of the highway and alley anchored the two axes, and the flagpole provided a focal point for the south end of the alley. This arrangement established a strong spiritual imagery and a solemn atmosphere for presenting the story of the Lincoln's experiences in Indiana.

The bold formality of the Olmsted plan made evident the ILU's intention to commemorate the Lincolns and celebrate their Indiana roots without recreating their pioneer farm. Led by Lieber, who felt that such an approach was inappropriate, the ILU strove instead to reflect "Hoosier" values through straightforward design using familiar construction methods and native plants and materials. The simplicity of this design was a reaction to the Classical revival style of the other Lincoln monuments. While Olmsted agreed that it was impossible to accurately reconstruct the Lincoln's farm, he did propose restoring part of the native forested landscape to form the backdrop for the formal design. A recreated forest would symbolize the primeval conditions that the pioneers struggled against, and was "the only one of now vanished features of the place characteristic of Lincoln's time which can be reproduced without sham or falsehood."



Early plan drawn by Olmsted Jr. (LIBO #1203).

1929-1932

By 1929, following extensive correspondence, Olmsted's plan was accepted and the ILU had hired landscape architect Donald Johnston to refine the conceptual plan and supervise construction activities. An energetic statewide fund raising program brought in close to \$230,000, which included pledges from over 40,000 Indiana schoolchildren of twenty-five cents or less. The state began acquiring properties on which the memorial was to be developed. A ground-breaking ceremony was held in 1930, and over the next year, crews hired by the Department of Conservation worked on removing most traces of Lincoln City.

Under Johnston's supervision, the workers completely regraded existing topography between the grave and the proposed location for the relocated state highway. By the time the allee, the plaza, and highway grading was complete, over 17,000 yards of earth had been moved. State crews then constructed the stone walls around the perimeter of the plaza and pylons along the highway. The design, as implemented by Johnston and the state crews, closely followed Olmsted's plan, with slight changes to the shape of the plaza, and omission of masonry features along the allee.

Other site work completed during 1930 included constructing a boundary fence and "modern service building," making repairs to the custodian's cottage, and undertaking massive reforestation of surrounding agricultural land by planting almost 40,000 native trees and shrubs. The reforestation, recommended in Olmsted's report, took place after he consulted Department of Conservation foresters. The ILU hired George R. Wilson, a former Dubois county surveyor, to gather notes describing native vegetation from the 1805 general land survey. By 1931, the plaza wall and exedra were finished, and the flagpole was raised on the island at the center of the intersection. Planting crews continued the reforestation effort, and began working on the plantings within and around the plaza. In total, 36 red oaks, 40 cedars, and over 400 "special nursery stock trees" were installed.

Planting continued into 1932, moving to the allee, which was lined with symmetrical rows of shrubs and trees to focus attention on the Sanctuary. Walkways at the outer edges of the allee were lined first with dogwood shrubs, followed by a row of Tulip poplars, with an outer edge of Sycamore. By using shrubs and trees native to Indiana forests, the formal planting would then blend into the naturalistic surroundings.



Breaking ground at flagpole south of Nancy Hanks Lincoln Grave, 1930 (LIBO #508).



Construction of plaza and allee, 1932 (LIBO, #478)

1931-1934

In 1931, J.I. Holcomb, President of the Indiana Lincoln Union, suggested another major design feature for the commemorative landscape. He thought it would be of “interest to have a collection of stones from the various points of Lincoln interest” along a wooded trail to interpret Lincoln’s life. The trail would also include stone benches and tablets describing the stone’s origins. ILU members and other interested parties began acquiring stones immediately, though it is unclear when the trail construction actually began. By the time it was completed in 1934, the trail had received quite a bit of publicity in local newspapers.

While the Trail of Twelve Stones was not part of Olmsted’s plan, it provided a significant physical and allegorical link between the cabin and gravesite. By connecting Lincoln’s childhood home to his mother’s grave, Johnston continued the theme of pilgrimage. The trail symbolized the visitor’s journey during which they could learn about and reflect upon the different stages of Lincoln’s life, and also represented the sad story of his childhood: the passage from innocence into maturity upon the death of his mother and his eventual sacrifice for the nation.

1933-1934

The Civilian Conservation Corps camp #1543 was established at Lincoln City. Most of the camp's efforts were focused on the Lincoln State Park site, as the allee was almost complete. The CCC focused on providing recreational amenities. Their initial projects included building a dam to create a large reservoir, building a pumphouse, clearing a fire line and route for an electric line, and initiating a topographic survey for the north end of the memorial near the cabin site. By 1934, workers had completed the installation of the an irrigation system at the allee, and planted a total of 8000 native trees to screen State Road 162.



CCC members in front of barracks, 1939 (LIBO #1017).

1934-1935

The cabin site memorial was the final component of the initial landscape development. The memorial was located on the approximate site of the original Lincoln cabin, which at that point was marked by the 1917 Spencer County marker on the playground of the Lincoln City School (the marker served as home base for softball games). It was connected to the cemetery by the "Boyhood Trail" which was built as part of the state's plan. The ILU had already acquired the land and demolished the school and other surrounding structures when architect Thomas Hibben was hired to design an appropriate marker. ILU officials decided that a cabin reconstruction was inappropriate, so Hibben proposed that a bronze formation of sill logs with a fireplace and hearthstones be placed on the exact location and approximate grade level of the original Lincoln cabin. The design also incorporated masonry retaining walls, stone benches and flagstone walkways.

When the cabin site was excavated in 1934, hearthstones were uncovered about eighteen inches below grade, substantiating the belief that it was indeed the location of the Lincoln cabin. The stones were photographed and stored while Hibben personally selected typical worn sill logs, reconstructed a typical pioneer fireplace, and supervised the taking of the plaster casts in preparation for construction of the cabin memorial. The original hearthstones were displayed in a steel and glass case that was sunk into the ground at the end of the sill logs within the walled memorial.

The cabin site memorial was the one component of the designed landscape where the CCC played a major role. The crews coordinated the excavation, located and documented the approximately 150 hearthstones, and completed the memorial according to Hibben's specifications. According to Horace Weber, the supervisory engineer, the stone walls, excavation, grading and filling were completed by June 1934. It was not until the following summer, however, that the bronze logs were in place. Problems getting the project contract approved and the complexities of dealing with the contractor in Germany contributed to this delay. While they were waiting for the memorial to be completed, the CCC crews continued on other aspects of the design, including the formal arrangement of gravel and the flagstone walks. The stone for the wall and walkways was sandstone quarried at St. Meinrad, ten miles from the memorial. The wall had a smooth finish, while the paving was more textured. According to the CCC superintendent's monthly report, all the stone was laid by the same mason.



Spencer County marker at the Lincoln Cabin site, 1927 (LIBO #588b).



Cabin hearthstones as found at the site, 1934 (LIBO #589).



Celebration in plaza, 1934. Exedra at right side of plaza (LIBO, #1089)

1935

When the bronzed memorial finally arrived in the summer of 1935, it was transported to Lincoln City by boxcar in wooden crates. The CCC crew moved it to the site and put it in place under Weber's direction. Like the allee and Trail of Twelve Stones, the cabin site memorial received much publicity when it was completed. There was still work to be done on landscaping the immediate area and reforesting the surrounding landscape. According to Weber, "the whole area there, which is just opposite the small town of Lincoln City lying to the east, the whole area was devoid of trees and covered with grass. It looked like a pasture field." Edson Nott completed a planting list and plan for the cabin site memorial in 1937 that incorporated curvilinear beds at each corner of the upper terrace. The beds were to include lush plantings of native trees, shrubs and flowers, including tulip poplar, shrubby St. John's wort, honey locust, brook euonymus, thicket hawthorne, eastern wahoo (euonymus shrub), prairie crab, meadow rose, wild sweet crab, prairie rose, pfitzer juniper, snowberry, black chokeberry, blackhaw viburnum, purple chokeberry, fragrant sumac, pagoda dogwood, American redbud, silky dogwood, and prostrate juniper. By 1938, state park superintendent Walter Ritchie reported that "the planting around the cabin site of native plants is about 50% completed. . . The state is furnishing everything for the cabin site planting." Although his account does not specify, he appears to be describing the surrounding reforestation effort, rather than the formal planting. Because no photographs or correspondence have been found as documentation, it is not known if the formal planting plan for the cabin site memorial was ever installed.

1938-1945

The second major construction phase at the Lincoln Memorial began in 1938 and continued until 1945. Although they were pleased with the commemorative landscape, the ILU members realized that a facility was needed to anchor visitor activities and accommodate large groups. Thomas Hibben had completed a conceptual design for such a building during the early 1930s, but by the time the ILU was ready to undertake construction, members decided that his design was not appropriate for the site. Colonel Lieber decided to once again approach Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. for guidance on the issue. Lieber wrote to Olmsted in the summer of 1938 to ask him to visit the site and provide a report to the ILU. He explained that Olmsted's input was needed because "that which has been done up to date is perfect in its simplicity and quiet impressiveness. [He acknowledged] the fear that we may intrude with magnificence and interfere with the spirit of the place." In the same letter, he enclosed a rough sketch indicating his ideas on where the structure should be located. Lieber followed up with a second letter to Olmsted after just a few days. At this point in the discussions, the ILU had not determined where the memorial building should be sited. The early intention was to place it at the north end of the allee, near the grave. Lieber was concerned about this location disturbing the hallowed ground of the gravesite.

While Lieber's decision solved the location dilemma, it raised the issue of whether to remove or retain the exedra and how the strong axial symmetry created by the allee and highway would be addressed by the building design. While these issues were being resolved, Lieber and other ILU officials continued to wait for Olmsted's written report, which had been delayed by his illness. He was finally able to complete and submit the report in February 1939. In the report, Olmsted had agreed that the "formal composition" was incomplete, and thought a building would provide an important anchor for the memorial. He discussed a number of alternatives, including

- a) placing a single monumental structure surrounding the grave, creating a "Cloister" to protect the grave (this was the first time such a concept was considered for the design),
- b) placing a single monumental structure just south of the grave on the terrace,
- c) placing a single monumental structure at the southern end of the allee near the highway, or
- d) placing a pair of smaller structures somewhere along the allee north of the highway.

Olmsted then proceeded to reject these options, because he thought they would either overwhelm the simple cemetery or would interfere with the straightforward symmetry that had been established by the allee—it would "seem ill-related to the composition as a whole, restless and 'unanchored'." By May, Lieber notified Olmsted that the Building and Plans Committee of the ILU had convened and accepted his report. The committee adopted his fifth recommendation—to place a set of buildings flanking the allee at the south end of the allee on the opposite side of the highway. This approach required removing the existing exedra while incorporating its semi-circular shape to create a "court of honor" between two wings. The semi-circular wall would feature five sculpted panels depicting the significant phases of Lincoln's life.

Olmsted's proposal to divide the memorial building into two wings or halls represented a second prolonged debate almost equaling the concern over the building's location. Both Lieber and Olmsted recognized early that placing a structure on or near the allee complicated the strong linear relationship between the cemetery, allee, and flagpole. He felt "any single axial structure of comparable bulk [would] interrupt the continuity of the line of movement toward the grave." A matched pair of structures on either side of the allee would create a portal through which visitors could pass to begin their journey up to the grave. Olmsted had initially suggested a bi-symmetrical layout in 1927, during the first construction phase. To do so would "divide the main building into two masses between which the vista to the inner gate would open. There would be two advantages to such a rearrangement. It would concentrate the monumental interest on that side of the line of travel. . . and it would present the sunlit south side of the memorial building to the highway and the plaza, instead of its north side." Olmsted revisited the impact of natural lighting patterns in the 1939 report, explaining that because the building and sculpted panels would face the allee to the north, they would always be shadowed. Recognizing the subtle qualities of sun on the exedra, he proposed a curved wall concept for the memorial building.

While the shape of the exedra inspired Olmsted to suggest that a curving wall attach the two wings, he acknowledged that adaptations to the original would have to be made. In comparison with the allee and flagpole, the exedra walls were inadequately scaled. He suggested that the two wings be spaced widely enough so as to create a "court of honor" that echoed the width of the allee, and that the court be raised up several steps from the plaza to create a formal spatial hierarchy. The curving wall would create a southern terminus for the court, with the sculpted panels acting as a focal point within the court. He debated whether it should be a simple wall feature, or have sufficient depth so that it became a central unit connecting the two halls. The arrangement had a strongly horizontal emphasis, and relied on textured masonry and sculpted panels to capture visitor's interest.

The sequence of events during the second construction phase followed a pattern similar to that of the landscape development. Again, Lieber and the other supporters accepted the Olmsted proposal, then hired a local designer, in this case, National Park Service architect Richard Bishop, to finalize the design, complete the construction drawings, and supervise the on-site work. Lieber had actually conferred with Bishop prior to his appointment, asking the architect's opinion on the overall landscape treatment as well as Olmsted's conceptual suggestions for the memorial building. On January 12, 1940, Lieber, J.I. Holcomb, and Charles DeTurk, Director of the Indiana State Parks, met with Bishop to offer him the position.

Bishop agreed with the ILU's approach taken at the site, and set about bringing the conceptual plan to fruition. He continued the use of native Indiana materials and relied on local craftsmen for detail wood and stone work. The goal was to create a building that suggested the best design and construction practices of Lincoln's day, and "express[ed] the qualities of simplicity, strength and dignity which are invariably associated with Lincoln's character." In an effort to maintain simplicity, Bishop felt it was important that all elements of the building have a utilitarian purpose. While this had already been achieved with the two halls, the decorative curved wall that held the sculptural panels still posed a challenge.

Bishop and Edson Nott created a hierarchy of spaces along the progression from the plaza, through the court and into the halls and cloister. As visitors moved from their cars into the building, each subsequent area was slightly elevated: the court's brick walkway was raised three steps above the plaza to the north, and the cloister floor was then five steps higher than the floor of the memorial court. Curving stone steps around the south side of the court accommodated this transition, which raised the sculptured wall panels so that they were visible from throughout the southern part of the memorial.

The memorial building project continued under Bishop's supervision until 1945. The Department of Conservation was responsible for funding the construction and hiring crews to complete the job. The state was unable to utilize any of the federal work programs still underway, as the projected budget exceeded the limit for their projects.

The second construction phase called for more landscaping projects. Bishop worked with Edson Nott on the plans, though by the time they were completed, money for installation was limited. Nott had designed an extensive planting scheme for the memorial using native shrubs and perennials. His plans expressed a level of detail missing from either Olmsted, Jr. or Johnston's plans, including installing walkways around the memorial buildings, planting beds at the cabin site memorial, and following removal of the exedra, redesigning the walkways and plantings within the memorial court.

According to Bishop's 1944 report, Nott's plantings had been installed around the memorial building. In his submittal the following year, he reported that crews had created openings in the corners of the stone wall around the perimeter of the plaza, moved the stone benches from the cabin site to the corners of the plaza, and completed the gravel walks from the plaza to the back of the building. The lawn and plantings around the memorial building were still in need of some work, and the court's brick walkways were almost complete. The remaining projects included replacing several trees on the allee, relocating the gravel walks around the recently relocated flagpole, and repairing or replacing the stone steps to the flagpole terrace. Although exhaustively searched, archives and park files contain very little documentation of changes that were made following the building's completion.

through the acquisition by the National Park Service. It appears that Nott's designs for the cabin site memorial was only partially completed, and that only his ideas for the memorial building plantings were realized. The amphitheater at the southern end of the memorial was never built. Interestingly, park staff recall ornamental plantings behind the memorial building, but there are no photographs or written records illustrating that this area was ever elaborately landscaped.

1959-1962

In 1959, the National Park Service initiated the new area study to determine whether Indiana's Lincoln Memorial merited inclusion into the National Park system. The study was complete by the following year. While it recognized the memorial's significance, the report recommended that the site remain under state ownership and administration. Over the next two years, Indiana's legislators in Washington tried to get a bill passed to create the park and on February 19, 1962, President Kennedy signed P.L. 87-407, 76 Stat. 9, the act authorizing the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. To implement P.L. 87-407, the state conducted a boundary survey of lands to be transferred to the federal government. The survey had to be approved by Indiana's Governor and the Secretary of the Interior prior to the transfer. The master planning for the memorial began in 1959 and continued on into the 1960's.



Cloister connecting the two memorial halls circa 1960 (LIBO #130).



Memorial and Plaza, 1959 (LIBO #143).

1960's

The second major change instituted by the NPS was the construction of the Living History Farm. It was built as part of a system-wide historical interpretative program in partnership with the Department of Agriculture and the Smithsonian Institution. According to Lincoln Boyhood's Administrative History, initial conversations between the park and the regional office weighed two alternatives: "a living historical farm 'oriented to the bronze foundation' as a symbol of the 1817 foundation or a 'period' farm". A small controversy developed between the park and regional officials and historic preservation personnel over the "historic" farm; as the latter raised issues related to compliance with the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act. A concern was also raised that the farm might distract visitors from the memorial's primary resources. Although stipulations were put in place to limit the impact of the farm on the cabin site memorial, six of the stones along the Trail of Twelve Stones were relocated during the farm's construction.

The Living History Farm was built using agricultural structures from around Indiana. Workers disassembled buildings following their purchase, moved them to the park, where they were put back together. The NPS hired individuals from the surrounding communities to complete this task, which took only two and one half months. The Living History Farm continues to be a popular interpretive program at the Memorial.

1963

Once the NPS established a presence at the memorial in 1963, it set about making changes to the site. The plan processed many changes that were never implemented, such as adding parking areas, closing the plaza to vehicular traffic, paving the allee and walks on the terrace and through the woods. Those that were undertaken included, first relocating the state highway from between the allee and memorial building. The second, and more extensive, undertaking was adapting the memorial building for use as a visitor center. The decision to alter the existing building was made after an extended debate, during which NPS officials at the park, as well as the central and regional offices revisited many of the issues raised during the late 1930s and 1940s. Some felt that a new, separate structure should be erected near the north end of the allee. Others looked back at Olmsted's arguments and decided that it would not merge with his original vision for the memorial.

1965-1966

Eventually, the NPS decided to enclose the cloister's front (north) wall and add a wing to its south side to create an interpretative and administrative facility. Deig Brothers Lumber and Construction Co. of Evansville were awarded the contract on June 24, 1965. The total award was \$244, 774. Enclosing the building necessitated adding a central walkway to the court, and replacing plantings that were removed or damaged during construction. By 1966, the NPS had completed the building and altered the court landscape to accommodate the building changes. Other improvements made to the park during the mid-1960s included adding a maintenance complex and employee housing at the west edge of the park.



Plaza as parking lot, 1967 (LIBO #743).



Visitor Center, 1973 (LIBO #753).

1988

The NPS has undertaken at least two extensive projects that impacted the memorial landscape in recent years. In 1988, the allee plantings were completely replaced and the planting beds around the memorial building rehabilitated. Keith Kreuger, Regional Landscape Architect in the Midwest Regional Office completed a Landscape Maintenance Guide, and the subsequent work was completed under contract. The Maintenance Guide's planning plan utilized species suggested by Nott in his 1937 plan. Nott's plan called for extensive, dense plantings, photographs from the 1950s show that shrubs in front of the building were massive and tended to overwhelm its scale. Because no "as-built" drawings of the original landscaping around the memorial building have been located, it is difficult to determine how closely the plants now in place replicate the historic appearance.

1993

The 1960s relocation of State Highway 162 resulted in the abandonment of the east arm of the cross-axial design. For almost twenty-five years the roadbed and former overflow parking areas were intact. The iron gate that marked the entrance to the park in the 1920's was installed at the east end of the plaza in 1986 to block the old highway. In 1993, the park received a grant from the Drackett Corporation to obliterate the roadbed and revegetate the corridor and parking areas. Concerns over the impact of this action on the historic designed landscape were mitigated by an agreement to maintain some semblance of the former corridor by retaining several yards of open space immediately east of the plaza and preserving the stone pylons at the entrance to the parking areas. The remaining corridor and former parking areas were replanted with native trees, including oaks, dogwood, and black walnut. Several picnic tables have been placed in the open space immediately behind the gate (CLR 2001, 7-35).

Uses

Functions and Uses:

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic	Current	Primary
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Formal Garden	No	Yes	Yes
Landscape	Plaza/Public Space (Square)	Formal Garden	Yes	No	Yes

Public Access:

Public Access: Unrestricted

Public Access Narrative:

Associated Ethnographic Group

Ethnographic Group: Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria, California

Current: No

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Group: Sandy Flat Baptist Church Congregation

Current: No

Historic Yes

Ethnographic Study Status: No Survey Conducted

Ethnographic Narrative:

The Delaware and Peoria tribes have potential affiliations with the area known as the Lincoln Boyhood Memorial. An ethnographic survey would have to be conducted for further information.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Located in south central Indiana, the total area of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial is approximately 200 acres while the area of the original designed landscape encompasses approximately 100 acres. The commemorative nature of the design was intended to recognize Abraham Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln who died when Lincoln was a boy. Commemoration began most fervently after Lincoln's death and passed through several iterations over time as ownership and availability of funding changed. Impromptu memorials continued to mark the site until "a more formal design was commissioned in 1927 by the Indiana Lincoln Union, an organization of both public and private community leaders. The preliminary design was completed by noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. Prior to designation as a unit of the National Park System, the commemorative landscape, then called the "Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial" was part of a larger Lincoln State Park" (CLR 2001, 5). The state park and commemorative landscape coexisted and provided for a diversity use offering opportunities for both reflection and active recreation.

The conceptual plan by Olmsted provided a primary vista in the form of an allee and used the old state highway to create a cross-axis. This cruciform arrangement organized the site and established patterns of circulation within the memorial separating pedestrian and vehicular traffic. The north/south axis runs between the memorial building and the pioneer cemetery and emphasizes the contemplative processional nature of the site. The simplicity and strength of the design was reinforced by the use of local materials that connected Lincoln to his pioneer past and to this geographic part of Indiana. Gravel trails, which continue beyond cemetery, through the restored forest and to the Cabin Site Memorial, were not part of the original conceptual plan but were added by the ILU. The Cabin Site Memorial was also added later in the design process. The completed landscape was constructed with state and local designers contributing to the evolution of the site. Despite the multiple sources of input, the design remained true to Olmsted's initial concept of simplicity and solemnity.

The restored forest was proposed as part of the Olmsted concept. Prior to the formal memorial, the site was located in the village of Lincoln City surrounded by land that had been denuded and devoted to agriculture. The intention of the design was to restore the forest to create a symbolic "pioneer forest" that would frame the cemetery and represent the conditions under which the pioneers struggled. The forest was planned as mixed hardwoods of oak and hickory but now is variable in species content with predominance of honeysuckle and sugar maple. There is an ongoing effort to improve the composition of the forest (CLR 2001, 58).

The period of significance begins in 1927 with the initial conceptual design by Olmsted and extends through 1945 to the completion of construction of the memorial building. The cultural landscape currently has medium to high integrity with some loss occurring after administration by the National Park Service. The most significant losses occurred in the 1960s when the memorial building was enclosed to create the visitor center. Also, relocation of the highway diminished the impact of the axial organization and altered circulation patterns. Beyond the boundaries, the park is bordered on three sides by developed agricultural land but buffered to the south by forested state park land.

Overall, the commemorative landscape at Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial retains the features of the designed landscape associated with the period of significance. The overall spatial organization, the significant structures, and the associated forest continue to provide visitors an opportunity to move through the landscape and contemplate the pioneer contributions of the Lincoln family in Indiana.

Landscape Characteristic: Archeological Sites

In the 2000 Intensive Archeological Resource Inventory of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, NPS archeologists reviewed documentation from prior excavations and determined that most, if not all, archeological resources at the Memorial were severely disturbed by the grading that occurred during the 1930s, and later during the construction of the Living History Farm. Some scattered 19th century artifacts have been found during excavations in preparation for a number of park developments (CLR 2001, 68).

Landscape Characteristic: Buildings and Structures

Even though the designed landscape and Memorial Building were constructed during two different periods, the landscape architects and architect consistently integrated these site elements and materials to create a unified composition. Olmsted's conceptual plan called for strong vistas interspersed with masonry, a notion that was addressed during construction by Johnston, Nott and Bishop. The Memorial Building, pylons, plaza wall, benches, and cabin site memorial reflect consistent use and treatment of native Indiana limestone.

In addition to the structures of the Memorial, several other structures on site contribute to the function and administration of the design. Built in 1940, the power house provided heat for the memorial building and was a functional element of the memorial. It is located on a rise at the south end of the former parking area. Presently, the chimney is all that remains. The chimney is a 20 foot tall coursed stone, and roughly tooled that rises above ground. The actual powerhouse foundation has been filled in with dirt.

Later, the NPS incorporated limestone when developing the Memorial's housing and maintenance buildings. Although these structures are not considered historic at this time, their character and siting complement the Memorial and should be appropriately evaluated in the future. The remaining buildings and structures within the park, including the exhibit shelter, living history farm, and split rail fences, do not conform with the design style established by the Department of Conservation and should be considered non-historic interpretive resources (CLR, 67-68).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Memorial Powerhouse Chimney	140538	Contributing	70182		Location	110123	Yes
Memorial Plaza	140534	Contributing	70181		Location	89778	No
Memorial Building	140532	Contributing	12946		Location	72920	Yes
Cabin Site Memorial and Wall	104459	Contributing	862		Asset	41047	No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Building (NPS, 2009).



Cabin Site Memorial and Wall (NPS, 2009).

Landscape Characteristic: Circulation

The internal circulation system of the memorial has primary importance to the landscape character. It establishes the symbolic notion of a pilgrimage as an essential part of the visitor experience, while also providing a necessary function. The pedestrian corridors prepare visitors for reflecting about Lincoln and his experiences at this place. Walkways and trails provide transitions between focal areas (the "nodes"), and route visitors in an appropriate manner to make the most of their experience.

The present circulation system has been negatively impacted by changes that were initially made by the NPS in the 1960s and continued in the 1980s. Although these changes affected only a small portion of the memorial, they introduced a nonhistoric approach to the site by forcing visitors to only arrive from one direction, and turned the highway/plaza from a corridor to a cul-de-sac. Movement to and within the Memorial building was also disturbed when it was enclosed to create the visitor center. Bishop's original design brought people around the perimeter of the court, into the ends of the building at either of the halls. They were then able to move between the two via the cloister, which was semi-enclosed, but allowed for broad views of the landscape. The altered court/building brings visitors into the middle of the cloister along the dominant north-south axis. Because the breaks in the cloister were not directly in line with this axis, however, the entrance door is slightly off-center to the west. These changes, though minor, have changed how the building functions and how visitors experience the cloister.

A system of universally accessible sidewalks was added at the east end of the plaza and Memorial building. While the path does not replicate the geometry of the other walkways in the plaza area, it is placed inconspicuously and does not interfere with the historic circulation routes (CLR 2001, 66).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Trail of Twelve Stones	140518	Contributing	70173		Location	73195	Yes
Old Lincoln Trace	140520	Contributing	70185		Location	73463	Yes
North/South Axis (Allee)	140522	Contributing			Location	73636	No
East/West Axis (Old Highway 162)	140524	Contributing			Location	73402	No
Boyhood Nature Trail	140526	Noncontributing – Compatible			Location	73210	Yes
Lincoln Boyhood Trail	104460	Contributing			Location	73203	Yes

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Trail of Twelve Stones trail (NPS, 2009).



Entrance road looking east to plaza (NPS, 2009).

Landscape Characteristic: Cluster Arrangement

The overall designed landscape for the Memorial utilizes a system of dispersed development nodes. The "Sanctuary", within which Olmsted included the grave and cabin site, was the historic focus of the visitor experience. Because of the physical distance between the sites, however, they actually function as two of three nodes—the Memorial Building and Court comprises the third. Two separate transition spaces, which function as pedestrian corridors, connect the nodes. The allee, which connects the Memorial Building and Court and gravesite is a formal transition space, while the Trail of Twelve Stones, which links the grave and cabin site, is a more informal, natural environment. This organizational system creates a visitor experience focused on visual and physical movement and procession through the landscape, with the ultimate goal of educating visitors about Lincoln's ties to the site (CLR 2001, 68).

Landscape Characteristic: Cultural Traditions

The use of native plant species and building materials at the Memorial was an expression of Hoosier pride. Colonel Lieber's goal was to avoid creating a Lincoln monument similar to those in Washington D.C. or Hogenville, Kentucky. Instead, he and Bishop hoped to "design all parts of the work in a spirit suggestive of 1816 to 1830 when the Lincolns lived in southern Indiana. We wanted the finished job to appear to belong to this earlier historic period and also to express the qualities of simplicity, strength, and dignity which are invariably associated with Lincoln's character." Their approach relied on familiar materials and local craftsmanship to pay homage to the Lincoln's and keep association between the family and the state alive. The Lincoln Day procession to the Cemetery remains a popular event attended by local residents. Throughout the site development, state officials described the importance of pilgrimage to the gravesite and the sacred nature of the cemetery and cabin site (CLR 2001, 65).

Landscape Characteristic: Land Use

Since the 1920s, the area encompassing the historic Lincoln property has served to commemorate the family's pioneer experiences, the death of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and Abraham Lincoln's political successes, and his transformation into a national icon. Through the efforts of the Indiana Department of Conservation, the landscape of Lincoln City and its surroundings transformed village, pasture, and cultivated fields into a formally designed memorial and recreation area. The commemorative/recreational split between Nancy Hanks Memorial and Lincoln State Park has remained consistent through the transfer of the memorial from the State of Indiana to the National Park Service, subsequent interpretative changes shifting the focus from memorializing Abraham and Nancy Hanks Lincoln to conveying a more literal tale of Abraham Lincoln and his pioneer experiences have evolved under the NPS administration (CLR 2001, 61).

Landscape Characteristic: Natural Systems and Features

Rolling hills and small, deep valleys dominate the southwestern corner of Indiana. Numerous streams and minor flowages carry water to the Ohio River. The 1805 General Land Office survey described Thomas Lincoln's land as "middling, timber-oak, and hickory...flat, bushy, briery, wet, oak-timbered soil." A century later, the area was largely cleared for cultivation. By the time the state initiated the memorial's construction, only the small woodlots that protected the hilltop cemetery, where Nancy Hanks Lincoln was buried, remained (CLR 2001, 61-62).

The area is dominated by Wellston-Zanesville soil series. Wellston soils are typically found in uplands and are associated with mixed hardwood forests. These soils are moderately permeable and have low fertility: "most areas of Wellston soils are in pasture and in woodland." Both Zanesville and Wellston soils are silty clay loams, with low permeability and fertility. Zanesville soils may support crops, but like Wellston, are more often pasture and woodlands. Due to the extensive cultivation and grading that took place prior to state/federal acquisition, it is difficult to determine the completeness of the native soil horizon.

When Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. visited the site in 1927, he felt that the site's historic importance was obvious, though not evident in its physical appearance. He stated that "the site is by nature a not unpleasant but a very commonplace fragment of the prevailing present-day landscape of southern Indiana," and extensive alterations were needed to draw people to the grave and cabin site (the "Sanctuary"). Later, this development approach was expanded to include building a large reservoir and other recreational amenities using CCC and WPA labor to satisfy the growing tourist market.

The earliest efforts of state and later the CCC/WPA crews included grading and reforestation. Olmsted, Jr. described the topography south of the grave site as "a jumble of small rolling hills and hollows...that appears to call for bold and radical regarding of the surface."

Olmsted, Jr. and the ILU gathered information on native vegetation in preparation for the reforestation effort. According to the findings, the immediate area originally featured an oak-hickory forest. According to a 1989 vegetation study of the Memorial, the replanting efforts in the 1930s were only partially successful in recreating a pioneer forest. By comparing pre-settlement vegetation (based on the 1805 GLO Survey) with current vegetation, the study determined that more work is needed to completely obliterate the traces of agricultural use and grazing. The most obvious challenge to a true restoration of the pioneer forest was the low number of oaks, hickories, and spring ephemerals. This is due to the dominance of Japanese honeysuckle, sugar maples, and tulip trees, and the persistence of non-native perennial grasses at old homesites. The study also provided recommendations for improving efforts to restore the forest. It is useful to point out that any improvement in the condition of the forested areas at Lincoln Boyhood has a positive impact on the designed landscape. The forests were intended by Olmsted to function as part of the design, and should be considered equal in importance to the allee, cabin site memorial or Trail of Twelve Stones.

Landscape Characteristic: Spatial Organization

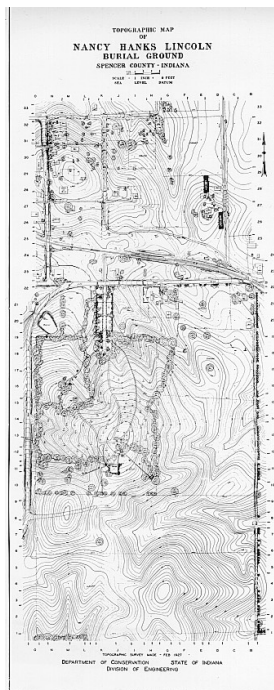
The core of the designed landscape consists of three major development nodes: first, the memorial building, courtyard and plaza; second, the cemetery; and third, the cabin site memorial. The allee and Trail of Twelve Stones provide transition space between the nodes as visitors move throughout the Memorial. These links allow visitors to mentally prepare for the next node: orderly, reflective procession permits an appropriate experience throughout the sequence of physical spaces. To keep visitors focused on what lie ahead, Olmsted framed the entire composition with restored forest. This allowed an alternating sequence of enclosed and open spaces. A varied overhead plane and "walls" of vegetation characterize the private areas such as the Cemetery and Trail of Twelve Stones. In contrast, gathering spaces—the Memorial Court, Plaza, Allee, and Cabin Site Memorial—are open to the sky. The forest keeps these areas visually separate, and also provides a buffer between the memorial and the surrounding agricultural landscape.

Historically, the highway corridor intersected with the Allee at the Plaza. This established another organizational element utilizing a cruciform arrangement. The straightforward symmetry enabled visitors to easily comprehend the spatial sequence; they traveled to the site via the highway, converged at the plaza, and then dispersed either to the Memorial Building or up the allee to the cemetery and beyond. The restored forest tightly controlled views and vistas around the "cross." The long views between the Memorial Court and north end of the Allee and along the highway encouraged visitor movement; both were anchored by a focal point (the Memorial Building and flagpole, respectively) and were enhanced by topography and vegetation. This organizational element was severely impacted with the obliteration of the east arm of Highway 162 (CLR 2001, 62-64).

Landscape Characteristic: Topography

Following Olmsted's assessment that the existing topography around Lincoln City was inadequate, state crews began completely re-grading the landscape surrounding the gravesite. Most of the work focused on the area south of the gravesite to create the Allee. Today, the vertical transitions help create a spatial hierarchy between the Memorial Building, Allee, flagpole terrace, and cemetery. The allee acts as a transition as it gently rises to the north. The dramatic slope up to the terrace places the focus on the flagpole. The terrace is level, and acts as a queuing space for the cemetery. Visitors then travel from the cemetery through the rolling forest along gravel trails (CLR 2001, 65).

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Historic topographic map of the Nancy Graves Memorial (LIBO #1217)

Landscape Characteristic: Vegetation

As part of the 1930s replanting efforts, the memorial was almost completely forested with mixed hardwood species. Today, a strong contrast remains between the wooded areas and the formal plantings of the allee and memorial court. Both the "natural" and designed areas should be treated as compositions, or elements in the overall design. The use of native vegetation throughout the memorial fulfilled an important symbolic design theme—the expression of state pride and recognition of the Lincoln family's Indiana roots.

The state and CCC crews both took part in the reforestation. Trees were collected from local woodlands in Spencer and Perry counties. Functionally, both the wooded and formal areas create spaces and views integral to the commemorative experience. The shrubs and trees along the allee reinforce the linearity and focus attention on the flagpole terrace and lead people into the landscape. The forest reinforces these spaces and provides a sheltered environment for reflection, most particularly when visiting the cemetery.

The use of native plants has remained consistent throughout the history of the memorial landscape. The forest's species composition has varied over time and continues to evolve. The formal plantings have required frequent maintenance and occasional replacement, but have remained true to Johnston and Nott's planting plans. The plaza and memorial court have undergone the most frequent disturbance, due primarily to changes to the Memorial Building in the 1960s and ongoing maintenance to keep plantings vital and attractive.

The plaza plantings are primarily geometric and symmetrical in character, and complement the structural elements of the stone walls, walkways, and curbing. The arrangement of oak trees dates to Johnston's design. His plan also called for junipers at either end of the parking plaza, and at the four corners of the flagpole base. This arrangement was altered when the flagpole was moved to the terrace in the 1940s. Nott's 1942 plan also included the junipers, and installed sidewalks across the island that lined up with the allee walkways. When the highway passed through the memorial, the island was a focal point along the east-west corridor, and the junipers accentuated its presence in the middle of the road. The junipers disappeared from the island sometime after 1950, reappeared in the early 1970s, and remained until 1999.

The Memorial Building and court plantings extend the symmetry of the plaza, though they are less formal. These plantings were almost completely replaced in 1988, using Nott's 1942 plan as a guide. Nott's planting list contained dozens of native species. The contemporary plan, however, is limited to only a few species. This simplification in plant palette and maintenance is in marked contrast to the appearance of this area in the 1950s when the state allowed the spaces between the stone walls and Memorial Building to become almost completely overgrown (CLR 2001, 65-66).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Allee	140528	Contributing	5069		Location	73636	No
Plaza Plantings	140530	Contributing			Location	73631	No
Restored Forest	104466	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



West side of the allee looking north (NPS, 2009).



Plaza planting in front of the Memorial Building (NPS, 2009).



The Restored Forest along the Trail of Twelve Stones (NPS, 2009).

Landscape Characteristic: Views and Vistas

Long controlled vistas with terminal focal points are important features of the Memorial design. Both Olmsted and Bishop wrote extensively on the significance of these views, and how they were essential to the visitor experience. Olmsted, in 1927, described using "large and well-proportioned vistas" to "arrest the attention of those who approach the sanctuary deliberately and even those who approach it casually in passing, as to make them aware of its importance and its nature." The primary vistas created along the cross-axes were shaped by masses of vegetation and enhanced by topography.

By the time Bishop was hired to design the building, Johnston had brought Olmsted's conceptual landscape plan to fruition. Bishop realized that an integrated building and landscape were necessary to adequately impress upon visitors the memorial's significance. His critical analysis of the important views was used to establish guidelines for the Memorial Building. He described three major points "from where most visitors will first view the memorial structures and grounds and receive their first impressions of the general ensemble." He felt that the view of the plaza along the highway corridor was significant to those who were passing through the memorial without stopping. The view north from the plaza was especially important. He was not pleased with the appearance of the terrace from this point, and suggested that it be regraded to look more like a naturally occurring hill rather than a terrace. There is no record of change at the terrace, and it remains today with a steep slope to the south and its top is level, rather than rounded.

Bishop described the view south from the terrace to the plaza as equal in importance to the one facing north. He evaluated the existing grade to determine whether the plaza and court were adequately visible from the north end of the alley. This ensured that the Memorial Building was sited so that it provided a flattering backdrop for the sculptured panels (CLR 2001, 66-67).

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
View south towards Memorial Building	140540	Contributing					No
View north towards cemetery	104467	Contributing					No

Landscape Characteristic: Small Scale Features

Small scale features of the site provide a continuity of elements and materials that help to create a unified composition. Many of the small scale features are contributing elements to the original design and were constructed by the CCC during the later construction period such as the stone walls and benches. In addition, small scale features contribute to the function and administration of the Memorial such as the culverts and the Memorial water system access structure.

The pioneer cemetery is a focal point of the initial design and contains the grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln as well as those of several other pioneer families in the area. The cemetery is enclosed by an iron fence that dates to the period of significance.

Features from the Living History Farm are considered noncontributing. These features are non-historic and used as interpretive resources.

Landscape Features:

Feature Name	CLI Feature ID	Feature Contribution	CRIS-HS Resource ID	Associated CRIS-AR ID	FMSS Record Type	FMSS Record Number	FMSS Exact Match
Cemetery Iron Fence	140542	Contributing	5067		Asset	40975	Yes
Cemetery Road Gates	140544	Contributing	5040		Asset	41003	Yes
State highway right-of-way marker	140546	Contributing	70183		Asset	1028590	Yes
Memorial water system access structure	140548	Contributing	70171		Asset	1028654	Yes
Stone Benches	140554	Contributing			Asset	40974	No
Stone Pillars	140556	Contributing			Asset	389127	Yes
Monuments and Markers	140558	Contributing			Location	73195	No
Flagpole	140562	Contributing	5068		Asset	1310817	Yes
Stone walls	140570	Contributing			Asset	40996	Yes
Culverts	140572	Contributing			Asset	176574	No

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Nancy Hanks Lincoln Commemorative Stone (NPS, 2009).



These gates once marked the old entrance to the cemetery. Gates were moved in 1986 to their current location east of the plaza (NPS, 2009).



Culvert located by the railroad tracks (NPS, 2009).



Plaza stone walls (NPS, 2009).



Stone benches located in the plaza area (NPS, 2009).



Stone pillars by the overflow parking area (NPS, 2009).

Condition

Assessment Interval (Years): 6

Next Assessment Due Date: 07/22/2027

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 07/22/2021

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

2021 CRIS data alignment effort so CL and HS data is on the same 6-year interval.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/15/2015

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Landscape is maintained in good.

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 07/27/2009

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

Based on the information gathered from historic sources and during site visits, the designed landscape a Lincoln Boyhood appears to be in good condition due to the high quality of and close attention paid to its maintenance (CLR 2001, 59)

Treatment

Stabilization Measures

Treatment Documents

Treatment Type: Preservation

Treatment Completed: Yes

Document Type: Cultural Landscape Report

Document Date: 2001-02-01

Title: A Noble Avenue: Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Cultural Landscape Report

IRMA Link: <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/Reference/Profile/2186248>

Narrative:

The preferred overall approach is preservation- no major change to the landscape north of the plaza is needed, except updating surface materials on the alley. However, because the repairs are needed to accurately portray the original design envisioned by Olmsted and implemented by Johnson and Nott, a portion of the landscape will receive either restoration or rehabilitation (CLR 2001, 73).

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Narrative:

Preservation and rehabilitation at the site is ongoing through routine and cyclic maintenance.

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography:

Citation Author	Citation Title	Year of Publication	Citation Publisher	Citation Type	Citation Location	Citation Number
Marla McEnaney	A Noble Avenue: Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial Cultural Landscape Report	2001		Both Graphic And Narrative	Various, indicated within individual citations.	

Supplemental Information:

Supplemental Information Title: National Register Nomination Form for Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. May 4th, 1975.

Supplemental Information Narrative:

Landscape Documents:

File Name	Date	Attachment Type
CL-FMSS_crosswalk-LIBO_NatMem-CLlupload.xlsx		Other Report

Source