

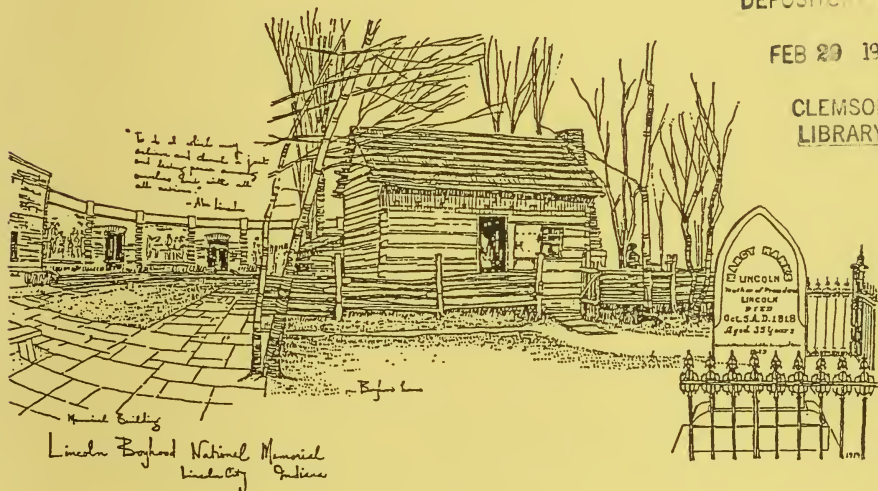
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# "THERE I GREW UP..."

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## A History of the Administration of Abraham Lincoln's Boyhood Home

by  
Jill York O'Bright

National Park Service  
1987



"THERE I GREW UP..."

A History of the Administration of  
Abraham Lincoln's Boyhood Home

by

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to those who assisted me in preparing this account of the public memorialization of Abraham Lincoln's boyhood home. I am particularly grateful to those who shared their recollections and insights with me: Don Adams; Charlotte Baird; Patsy Bates; Albert Banton, Jr.; Warren Beach; Robert Burns; George Hartzog, Jr.; Norman Hellmers; William Koch; George Palmer; Jerry Sanders; Elmer Stein; Hilda Taylor and Terri Thompson. Without their help, an accurate history of Lincoln's boyhood home would have been impossible.

I would also like to thank those earlier participants in the story with whom I could not speak. I came to know and understand Paul Brown; Richard Bishop; Roy Combs; Elmer Daniels; J. I. Holcomb; Donald Johnston; Richard Lieber; Edson Nott; and Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., through the documents they left behind. May they rest in peace, knowing their work and dreams continue to inspire countless visitors to the Indiana Lincoln memorial.

--Jill York O'Bright



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## PROLOGUE<sup>1</sup>

It was autumn 1816. For the third time since moving to Kentucky fourteen years earlier, a frustrated Thomas Lincoln found himself a victim of the state's chaotic land laws; defective titles cost Lincoln land or money in each of the three cases. Thomas Lincoln struggled eighteen miles into the Indiana wilderness and chose a site for his new home. In Indiana, he could purchase land directly from the government; his title to the land would be clear. After marking his claim, Thomas returned to Kentucky to gather his wife, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and their children, nine-year-old Sarah and seven-year-old Abraham. By December, the Lincolns were settled in a half-faced camp on the Indiana property. The winter passed and the family survived on game and the food they brought with them from Kentucky.

As early as possible in the spring, the Lincolns built the log cabin which served as their residence, prepared the land and planted the first year's crops. The initial hardships of establishing the new farm were just over when "milk sickness" ravaged the small but growing Pigeon Creek community in September and October 1818. Several died, including Thomas and Betsy Sparrow, Nancy Brooner, and Nancy

Lincoln. They were buried in a new cemetery on a wooded knoll one-quarter mile south of the Lincoln cabin.

The year following Nancy's death was trying for all her family. Thirteen-year-old Sarah assumed management of the household, and somehow the family got by. In December 1819, Thomas returned to Kentucky to marry widow Sarah Bush Johnston. Before long, Thomas' new wife and her three children moved into the Lincoln cabin. The combined family grew to maturity on Thomas Lincoln's Indiana homestead.

Formal education was an occasional instance for young Abraham, as it was for most pioneer children. His first teacher was Andrew Crawford, who operated an A-B-C school in the area for one year. Crawford introduced his students to "reading, writing, arithmentic, and the meaning of birch rods."<sup>2</sup> At age fourteen, Abraham was taught by James Swaney. Swaney stressed reading and writing skills, and Lincoln was quoted as saying that, under Sweeney's tutelage, "he had read every book within fifty miles\* of his home."<sup>3</sup> Perhaps his best teacher was Azel Dorsey, a local office-holder who probably encouraged Lincoln's interest in politics and math.

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\*Another source cites the radius of Lincoln's reading sources as thirty miles. Note, Jerry Sanders to author, May 5, 1987.

The bulk of Lincoln's education was acquired outside the classroom, however. As a boy, he traveled to all the surrounding communities, enjoying the story-telling and social life. For a time, he operated a ferry boat crossing Anderson Creek. In 1828, James Gentry hired Abraham as a bow-hand on a flatboat trip to New Orleans. What Abraham didn't learn from experience, he learned from books. Young Abraham loved to read, and was familiar with Aesop's Fables, histories, adventures like Robinson Crusoe, the Revised Laws of Indiana, Benjamin Franklin's autobiography, and Parson Weems' Life of Washington. In sum, Abraham Lincoln's education was as good or better than that of the average pioneer boy.

The Lincoln family remained in Spencer County, Indiana, until March 1830. In the interim, Sarah Bush Johnston Lincoln's daughters, Elizabeth and Matilda, married and started families of their own. Prompted by reports of productive farmland in Illinois, Dennis and Elizabeth Hanks and Squire and Matilda Hall decided to relocate with their children. In order to preserve the extended family, Thomas, Sarah, and Abraham determined to move with the Hanks and Halls to Illinois.

Abraham was twenty-one when he moved from Indiana. There he had known his first great sorrows. There he matured into an intelligent and compassionate man.

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1. The background information is repeated in a variety of sources, and may be considered general knowledge. The account presented here was taken largely from three sources: Charles E. Shedd, Jr., Historic Sites Survey: Lincoln State Park and Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial, Spencer County, Indiana (National Park Service, 1959), 18-29 passim; Indiana Department of Conservation, Division of State Parks, Lands, and Waters, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial (n.p., 1959); and Note, Jerry Sanders to author, May 5, 1987.

2. Shedd, 3-4.

3. Ibid., 4.



## CHAPTER 1

### Early Efforts to Memorialize Nancy Hanks Lincoln

When "milk sickness" ravaged the Pigeon Creek community in 1818, there was no church nor formal cemetery in the new settlement. Thomas and Betsy Sparrow, Nancy Hanks Lincoln's uncle and aunt, were among the first to die from the epidemic. A few days later, Nancy Hanks Lincoln died and was buried near the Sparrows on a knoll overlooking the Indiana home she dearly loved. As others in the community died, they were placed beside the Sparrows and Nancy Lincoln in the informal graveyard. Eight years later, in December 1825, the Pigeon Creek Primitive Baptist Church set aside some of its land one mile to the south of the graveyard for a formal cemetery. Coincidentally, Abraham's sister, Sarah, and her stillborn child were among the first buried in the church graveyard; Sarah Lincoln Grigsby died in childbirth in January 1828.<sup>1</sup>

Thomas Lincoln moved his family to Illinois two years later. The land changed ownership several times in the decades following the Lincolns' emigration, and the small graveyard on the privately owned land was neglected. Over the years, whatever "monuments" once marked the graves disappeared. Little note was made of the humble graves of ordinary pioneers who lost their lives settling the land. If

not for her son's infamous assassination and subsequent memorialization, Nancy Hanks Lincoln's gravesite might have remained lost to posterity.

Until Abraham Lincoln became President, there were probably few who paid much heed to the Lincolns' fourteen years in southern Indiana. Thomas Lincoln's family was typical among pioneer families; Thomas was no richer nor poorer than most in the Pigeon Creek community. Although Thomas Lincoln's carpentry skills were known and respected throughout the community, the family did not stand out from their neighbors. Even Abraham Lincoln's election to the presidency in 1860 failed to draw visitors to the land where Abe grew up.

Lincoln's assassination changed the situation somewhat, as a smattering of curiosity seekers and true admirers of the president sought Lincoln's Indiana home and his mother's grave. In April 1865, some residents of the nearby town of Elizabeth (later Dale) went to the Lincoln farm area and posed for pictures taken in front of the 1830 cabin started by Thomas and Abraham Lincoln.\* Two sepia prints of that

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\*Although Thomas and Abraham prepared logs and began construction on a new cabin, it was finished by subsequent residents after the Lincolns moved to Illinois. The Lincolns never resided in the later cabin.

showing Mr. [?] Kelsey; Mr. George Medcalf; Mr. [?] Sanders, the schoolteacher; Mrs. Clara Kelsey Ball; [Mrs.] Evelyn "Siss" Miller, and Mrs. [?] Kelsey seated before the cabin (see Figure 1-1); and one showing the men in the party pretending to split logs in front of the structure.<sup>2</sup> Artist John Rowbotham visited the farm in 1865, and commented that the grave was unmarked, but named several people in town who could direct visitors to it. Lincoln's Springfield, Illinois, law partner, William Herndon, visited the farmsite in September 1865 and talked with local residents about the Lincolns.<sup>3</sup> Rowbotham followed his visit with a drawing of the Lincoln cabin (Figure 1-2); Herndon wrote some observations on the Indiana homestead.

Three years later, a Civil War veteran named William Q. Corbin visited the boyhood home of his former commander-in-chief. Corbin was disgusted with the unkempt appearance of the gravesite, and wrote a poem on the subject. His poem, published in the Rockport Journal in November 1868, was among the first known public account of the grave's condition.

On December 24, 1869, some Gentryville businessmen met to discuss erecting a suitable marker; in attendance were J. W. Wartman, Dr. M. E. Lawrence, T. P. Littlepage, James



Figure 1-1. Photograph of Dale, Indiana, residents posing in front of the 1829 cabin shortly after Lincoln's assassination, 1865. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photo files, negative no. 448, photographer unknown.



Figure 1-2. Copy of John Rowbothom's drawing of the Lincoln cabin as it appeared in 1865. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photo files, negative no. 446, photographer unknown.

Hammond, J. W. Lamar, N. Grigsby, James Gentry, J. H. Houghland, and J. M. Grigsby. No results of this meeting are recorded, but the creation of "Mrs. Lincoln's Monument Fund Committee" in Rockport in the early 1870s indicates the grave was still unmarked. The Rockport committee solicited funds, but received few. They dropped the project and disbanded.<sup>6</sup> In the meantime, Henry Lewis, John Shillito, Robert Mitchell, and Charles West, all of Cincinnati, bought a large parcel of land from James Gentry. Originally called Kercheval, the Cincinnati developers intended to use the property which encompassed Thomas Lincoln's farmstead to create a new town. Due to the efforts of Indiana Congressman James Hemenway, the town became known as Lincoln City in 1881.<sup>7</sup>

W. W. Webb ran an article in the June 2, 1874, Rockport Journal commenting on the poor condition of Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave.<sup>8</sup> A month later, a meeting of "old settlers" was called to arrange for a marker, but again, no action was taken.<sup>9</sup> Thoroughly disgusted, Rockport businessman Joseph D. Armstrong erected a two-foot tall marker inscribed simply with the deceased's name, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Some other Rockport businessmen may have contributed to the purchase.<sup>10</sup>

When a newspaper reporter sought the gravesite five years later, however, he found it unmarked, overgrown with

vegetation, and almost inaccessible. The reporter's article deplored the gravesite's condition, and gained the attention of Peter E. Studebaker, second vice president of the Studebaker Company, Carriage Makers, of South Bend, Indiana. Studebaker contacted Rockport Postmaster L. S. Gilkey with instructions to buy the best tombstone available for \$50.00 and have it anonymously placed on the gravesite. R. T. Kercheval contacted Henry Lewis, the trustee for the Cincinnati firm developing Lincoln City, and the firm donated the half-acre surrounding Mrs. Lincoln's grave to Spencer County. On November 27, 1879, when the tombstone was laid, Civil War Major General John Veatch of Rockport collected another \$50.00 (one dollar from each of 50 area residents) to erect a fence around the grave.<sup>11</sup> (See Figure 1-3.) The following June, a commission including Joseph Armstrong, Nathaniel Grigsby, R. T. Kercheval, James C. Veatch, Joseph Gentry, John W. Lamar, L. S. Gilkey, I. L. Milner, Henry C. Branham, and David Turnham was formed to care for the gravesite.<sup>12</sup> Finally, it seemed, the grave would receive proper care.

For a time, it did. Then in the late 1890s, reports of the gravesite's unkempt appearance circulated again. Studebaker believed the reports were exaggerated, but decided to have one of his employees investigate.<sup>13</sup> Meanwhile,





Figure 1-3. The Studebaker gravestone and ornamental fence erected at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln gravesite in 1879. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photo files, negative no. 6, photographer unknown.



Benjamin B. Dale, a Cincinnati attorney hired by the former owners of the gravesite property, visited the site and was shocked by the lack of maintenance. Spencer County citizens asked Senator Charles W. Fairbanks of Indiana to seek Federal funds to provide for the maintenance of the gravesite, but Governor James E. Mount objected, saying care of the gravesite was a state responsibility. There was some talk of moving Mrs. Lincoln's body to Indianapolis, but Spencer County residents' objections ended that proposal. On June 30, 1897, Governor Mount called a meeting of several state patriotic agencies which resulted in the formation of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association, for the purposes of soliciting funds for maintenance of the gravesite and promoting an Indiana memorial to the Lincolns. Unfortunately, after three years, the Memorial Association had collected only \$56.52.<sup>14</sup>

That situation improved in 1900, when United States Senator J. A. Hemenway donated \$100 to the fund and Robert Todd Lincoln gave \$1000 for the care of his grandmother's grave. This stimulated the appropriation of \$800 to enable the commissioners of Spencer County to purchase sixteen acres surrounding the gravesite from Robert L. Ferguson and his wife, Carrie. A few months later, Spencer County transferred the deed to the Indiana Lincoln Memorial Association, and

charged the Association with maintenance of the gravesite. The property would revert to the county if not properly attended.<sup>15</sup>

In 1902, following the completion of an elaborate monument at President Lincoln's grave in Springfield, Illinois, J. S. Culver resculpted a discarded stone from Abraham's original monument and vault as a monument to Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Governor Winfield T. Durbin, president of the Memorial Association, accepted the massive stone and had it placed in front of the Studebaker marker. (See Figure 1-4.) The so-called "Culver stone" was dedicated in a graveside ceremony on October 1, 1902.<sup>16</sup>

Once again, it seemed the gravesite would receive proper care. Once again, it was not so. By 1906, the small park was in a deplorable state of disrepair, and Governor J. Frank Hanley called on the organization to explain its inactivity. Hanley's attempt to revitalize the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association was unsuccessful.<sup>17</sup> The Spencer County commissioners deferred their option to repossess the acreage they had donated to the Association until the state legislature reconvened the following spring. In 1907, the Indiana assembly dissolved the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial

Association, transferred its funds,\* records, and property to a newly established Board of Commissioners, and appropriated \$5000 for the erection of an ornamental fence around Mrs. Lincoln's grave and other improvements. The Board consisted of the Secretary of State on the Board of Forestry and two individuals appointed by the governor, at least one of whom had to be from Spencer County.<sup>18</sup> The Board of Commissioners hired landscape architect J. C. Meyenburg of Tell City, Indiana, to prepare design documents for site improvements. In 1909, utilizing those plans, the state cleared the sixteen-and-one-half-acre park of dead trees; erected an iron fence around the property, including an elaborate entry gate, and built a macadamized road from the highway to the gravesite. The entryway featured life-size lions at the highway entrance, with eagles perched on columns south of the lions, closer to the gravesite. (See Figure 1-4.) Large stone urns dotted the roadway to the cemetery.<sup>19</sup>

Indiana celebrated its centennial in December 1916, and Spencer County's hundredth anniversary was 1918.\*\* Among

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\*The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association transferred \$925.37 of the total \$115552 it collected to the Board of Commissioners. The association had spent \$231.15 to drill a well. Notes on Hanley meeting, Box 1, Folder 1.

\*\*When Thomas Lincoln staked his claim near Pigeon Creek, the land was in Warrick County. The county lines were redrawn in 1818.



Figure 1-4. The "lions and eagles" gate, circa 1929.  
Department of Conservation photo, Nancy Hanks Lincoln  
Memorial Papers, Indiana Department of Natural  
Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana.

the centennial programs was a thrust to identify locations important to the state's history. In 1917, John J. Brown and John Chewning, members of Spencer County's centennial commission, formed a committee to obtain the assistance of older residents of the county in determining the exact location of Thomas Lincoln's cabin. Twenty such residents assembled on the historic Lincoln property on March 12. The site was identified by Davis Enlow, Joseph Gentry, and "the Lamars." This group pointed to the site they believed to be correct, and the first shovelful of dirt revealed cobbles and crockery. A marker was erected on the site on April 28, 1917, stating: "Spencer County Memorial to Abraham Lincoln, Who Lived on this Spot from 1816-1830."<sup>20</sup>

Shortly after the cabin site was identified, interest in the historic Lincoln property escalated. Historian William Barton made an editorial plea for the state to assume control of the Thomas Lincoln farmstead in 1921,<sup>21</sup> and Claude Bowers built on the idea with his editorial, "Where Indiana Fails," the following year.<sup>22</sup> The failure of Indiana to memorialize Abraham Lincoln became a major theme of subsequent campaigns to erect a state memorial honoring the Lincolns.

Colonel Richard Lieber, director of the Indiana Department of Conservation, was sympathetic to this issue.

The state park movement was very strong in the 1920s, and Lieber hoped to develop a constellation of scenically beautiful and historically significant parks.<sup>23</sup> A Lincoln memorial fit perfectly into his plan. Lieber first addressed the issue publicly in a 1922 speech before the Ft. Wayne First Presbyterian Church Men's Club.<sup>24</sup> His support proved a vital factor in the eventual establishment of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial and Lincoln State Park.

In 1924, southern Indiana residents formed the Boonville Press Club, which kept the memory of Nancy Hanks Lincoln alive by having well-publicized picnics at the park annually. In its first year, the club had just a handful of members; a decade later, membership was approximately 16,000. The club claims its publicity was instrumental in the establishment of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial.<sup>25</sup>

In response to the increased attention to an Indiana Lincoln memorial, the state assembly passed an act creating the Lincoln Memorial Commission on March 3, 1923. The commission, which replaced former governor Hanley's 1907 Board of Commissioners, comprised nine members appointed by

the governor for three-year terms.\* All properties previously owned by and powers once granted to the disbanded Board of Commissioners were transferred to the new commission. Further, the act authorized the Lincoln Memorial Commission to purchase land and build structures, as needed, and "to prepare and execute plans for erecting a suitable memorial to the memory of Abraham Lincoln at or near his residence in the state."<sup>26</sup> Responsibility for the care of the gravesite was transferred to the Indiana Department of Conservation.<sup>27</sup>

The commission's first attempt to acquire land for the state, the forty-six-acre Patmore farm near Lincoln City, raised a sticky issue: The sixteen-and-one-half-acre park formerly managed by the Board of Commissioners was not owned by the state. The land had reverted to Spencer County in 1907 when the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Association failed to maintain the gravesite properly. The Fergusons filled out a form deeding the land to the state in 1907, but it was no longer theirs to give; it belonged to the county. Apparently no one realized the state had been managing county-owned land

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\*Applications for appointments to the commission are located in the park files. See Park files, Lincoln Related Organizations: Commissioners of Nancy Hanks Lincoln Burial Ground, 1907-1925, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.



for almost two decades. When the problem came to light in 1925, Spencer County quickly but quietly transferred ownership to the state, and purchase of the Patmore property was completed. The Lincoln Memorial Commission then operated a 60-acre park.<sup>28</sup>

Department of Conservation Director Richard Lieber accepted responsibility for the care of the the Nancy Hanks Lincoln gravesite enthusiastically. Lieber met informally with Marcus Sonntag and Will Hays on July 19, 1926, to discuss the idea of a Lincoln "shrine." The three went to Governor Ed Jackson that evening to seek support for the concept. Jackson did not disappoint them.<sup>29</sup> The following December, Jackson invited 125 Indianans to form the Indiana Lincoln Union (ILU) so "that the people of [the] state in mighty unison [could] rear a national shrine" honoring the Lincolns.<sup>30</sup>

Within days, C. G. Sauer requested a proposal for the memorial park's development from the noted landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.<sup>31</sup> On January 24, 1927, the state hired the Olmsted Brothers firm to prepare preliminary designs for the memorial. Olmsted did not delegate the project to one of his subordinates; instead, he visited Spencer County the following March, then returned to



his office in Brookline, Massachusetts, to commence designing.

When Olmsted made his initial visit to Lincoln City in March 1927, he was pleased to discover the countryside had not been altered irretrievably from the land where young Abraham Lincoln lived. There were, of course, elements which intruded on the historic scene. C. G. Sauer had warned Olmsted of these when he first contacted the landscape architect the previous December.<sup>32</sup> There were several buildings on the site of the Thomas Lincoln farm. A railroad crossed the land between the cabin site and Nancy Lincoln's grave. A highway traversed the area, too, and a large ornamental iron gate marked this current (i.e., 1927) entrance to the gravesite. Exotic vegetation had been introduced, compromising the historic southern Indiana forest. Still, Olmsted was confident in Sauer's prediction that these intrusions could be removed and the "sacred land" could be restored to its appearance of one century before.<sup>33</sup>

Olmsted's preliminary sketches were accompanied by voluminous notes explaining his concept of the memorial, a monument of strength and simplicity, sentiment and reason. He wanted the memorial to remain simple, so as not to overwhelm the "familiar associations" of the area with the

Lincolns. On the other hand, Olmsted was not satisfied to restore the area to its natural condition. Olmsted realized some sort of monumental expression was needed. That "frankly and obviously monumental" landscape was his proposed allee, extending from the plaza toward the gravesite. (See Figure 1-5.) Olmsted returned to Lincoln City to present his preliminary concept on May 7, 1927. The delegation embraced his ideas enthusiastically.<sup>34</sup>

The May 7 meeting was also the occasion of the ILU's first splashy attention-getting event. It was artfully scheduled for just before Mother's Day, and began at 11:00 a.m. when the ILU met with its guests in an open field south of the gravesite. As they gathered, a plane flew overhead and dropped a message which the governor read at 11:15 a.m., after Mrs. Anne Studebaker Carlisle placed a wreath on Nancy Hanks Lincoln's grave. Governor Jackson's speech was followed by an address in which Colonel Lieber reminded those present (including the press) that Olmsted's plans were secret. (This statement may have been made to encourage, rather than discourage, press interest in the story.) Olmsted then presented his design to the ILU's executive committee, and, following a 2:00 p.m. luncheon in Dale, the group dispersed.<sup>35</sup>

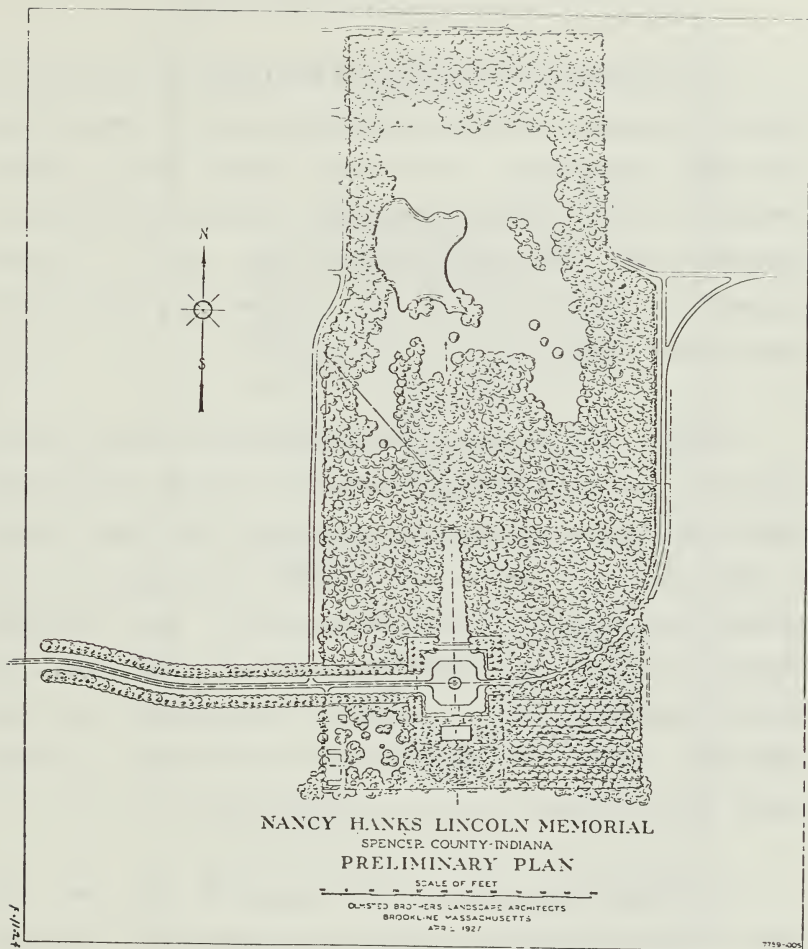


Figure 1-5. Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. Preliminary Plan, Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Spencer County, Indiana, April 1927. Frederick Law Olmsted Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress.

Soon thereafter, the Indiana Lincoln Union initiated its campaign to raise funds for the memorial park. Theirs was a three-part plan aimed at raising support via a massive newspaper advertisement and publicity campaign; enlistment of schoolchildren (and their parents) by way of a speech contest; and solicitation of funds by seeking pledges and by door-to-door canvassing.

Frank C. Ball of Muncie was named state chairman for the campaign. Marcus Sonntag of Evansville chaired fund-raising activities in the southernmost portion of the state; Arthur F. Hall and Henry Leslie were Sonntag's counterparts in the northern and central regions, respectively. Anne Studebaker Carlisle chaired the school contest and promotions. The closing statement on a handbill announcing the ILU's committees stated the organization's philosophy: "Indiana Should Do It; Indiana Can Do It; Indiana Will Do It."<sup>36</sup>

The ILU hired George E. Lundy of the New York advertising firm Hedrick, Marts, and Lundy, Inc. to promote its cause.<sup>37</sup> Lundy deluged Indiana newspapers of all sizes with advertisements.<sup>38</sup> The campaign focused on a series of six ads to be featured on consecutive days. (See Figure 1-6.) Lundy also enclosed news spots to be featured as space was available over a two-week period. The ILU later ran two

# Lincoln—the Hoosier

(Number 2 of a Series)



*The Hoosier cabin home of Abraham Lincoln from a drawing made in 1860 while the cabin was still standing.*

IN this cabin, which stood for many years near the site of Lincoln City, Spencer County, Indiana, Abraham Lincoln lived as a boy. He helped his father build this cabin in the winter of 1816-17. From it he buried his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. The site of Lincoln's Indiana home is marked by a simple stone.

*Fourteen States—30 Cities in the United States—have Lincoln Memorials—Indiana has none. . . .*

## What Will Indiana Do?

Figure 1-6. One of the six advertisements designed by Hedrick, Marts, and Lundy, Inc. to promote an Indiana Lincoln Memorial. Indiana Lincoln Union Papers, Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis, Indiana.

additional announcements, measuring five columns in width by seventeen inches. Each advertisement concluded with the theme: "Fourteen states--30 Cities in the United States--have Lincoln Memorials--Indiana has none..... What Will Indiana Do?"<sup>39</sup>

The Indiana Lincoln Union supplemented the advertisement campaign with a massive mailing program. The ILU sent more than 200,000 letters to Indiana citizens and institutions soliciting support for the memorial.<sup>40</sup> Among the organizations targeted were a variety of travel-oriented groups, such as the Hoosier State Automobile Association and the Good Roads Board.<sup>41</sup> The letterhead used for these mailings proudly boasted: "Lincoln was a Hoosier."<sup>42</sup> In addition, the ILU published a sixteen-page booklet in 1927 entitled "Lincoln Memorials." The document described other memorials to Abraham Lincoln, and showed Frederick Law Olmsted's preliminary design for the memorial, as well as a structure designed by architect Thomas Hibben.<sup>43</sup> The advertisements, mailings, and pamphlets saturated the state with the memorial concept.

Further support for the memorial was engendered via an oratory contest. The ILU held competitions in each of the three districts, and awarded prizes to the boy and girl in

each district who most convincingly stated the need for an Indiana Lincoln memorial. The city of Gary donated plaques for the district winners, local businesses gave clothing, and each district winner received a gold watch. The contest culminated in a tournament featuring the six district winners; the state champions each won a trip to the nation's capital.<sup>44</sup>

A vital aspect of the Indiana Lincoln Union's campaign was fund-raising. The ILU solicited funds based on a quota; each county was expected to contribute 0.00028 of its December 1926 net value.<sup>45</sup> Canvassers sought funds door-to-door. Those making pledges were expected to pay one-fifth of the amount promised every six months over a two-and-one-half year period.<sup>46</sup> ILU Treasurer Thomas Taggart sent reminders if payments were late.<sup>47</sup>

Unfortunately, the onset of this nation's greatest economic depression, which had a firm grip on agricultural states by the late 1920s, made it impossible for many to meet their pledges. When the ILU sent one gentleman a letter stating, "[We believed] you were sincere in your voluntary pledge to this enterprise, and therefore proceeded with the execution of the memorial plans[,] " the gentleman responded, somewhat bitterly:



I was sincere [emphasis his] when I made this pledge. Though we were promised this unprecedented wave of prosperity would continue, sometimes I did not believe it--hence the pledge. But just as soon as this period of prosperity abates--I will evoke my remittance.[sic]"<sup>48</sup>

Many pledges made during a time of prosperity could not be met when the economy turned sour. Nevertheless, the ILU's fundraising campaign was phenomenally successful.

While seeking public support for the memorial, the Indiana Lincoln Union worked toward meeting the needs of the proposed park. The ILU recognized the need for more information on the Lincolns' years in Indiana, and in 1928 the Union appointed the Historical Research and Reference Committee to conduct research into the subject.<sup>49</sup> The appointment of the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society's Bess V. Ehrmann as chair of the committee raised some controversy. Apparently Dr. Louis Warren, an expert on the subject of the Lincolns in Indiana, discredited the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society as a group of "unreliable . . . interpreters."<sup>50</sup> An irate letter from John E. Iglehart to ILU Executive Secretary Paul V. Brown complained about Warren's statement; Brown's response spoke of the Union's high hopes for the research committee, but diplomatically avoided the Warren issue.<sup>51</sup>



All of this activity represented continuing progress in the establishment of an Indiana Lincoln memorial. Heartened by popular enthusiasm for the concept, and based on the pledges of financial support made, the state purchased several additional acres in the Lincoln City area in the late 1920s.

The park project received a major boost in 1929, when Frank C. Ball of Muncie, Indiana, purchased approximately twenty-nine acres\* of the historic Thomas Lincoln farm for \$32,000, then donated the land to the state. On June 6, 1929, Governor Harry G. Leslie gathered many of the state's leading dignitaries to a ceremony at which he formally accepted Ball's donation. In keeping with the Indiana Lincoln Union's policy of recognizing such generous donations, the ceremony received full press coverage. Stories accompanied by photographs of Ball handing the deed to Leslie appeared in newspapers throughout the state.<sup>52</sup> With Ball's donation, the Indiana Lincoln Memorial was well on its way.

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\*Correspondence refers to twenty-nine or thirty acres donated by Ball, but a 1937 report prepared by Virgil M. Simmons, then Director of the Department of Conservation, cites the Ball donation as totalling 22.5 acres. See Simmons, Cost and Acreage Report, May 1937. Park files, Land Records, State Land Acquisition, 1920s, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.

## CHAPTER 1 NOTES

1. Charles E. Shedd, Jr., "Historic Sites Survey, Lincoln State Park and Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial, Spencer County, Indiana." (U. S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Philadelphia, 1959, Typescript), 18-25, passim.
2. John E. Santosuosso, A Survey of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial and Lincoln City (Lincoln City: National Park Service, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, 1970), 22; Bess V. Ehrmann, The Missing Chapter in the Life of Abraham Lincoln (Chicago: Walter M. Hill, Publisher, 1938), 82-83; and Edward McM. Larrabee, "Preliminary Excavations at the Cabin Site, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana" (U. S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Lincoln, Nebraska, 1967, Typescript), 24. In a letter from Lincoln State Park Superintendent Joe Wiebe to Paul V. Brown dated December 31, 1931, Wiebe reported the "tin types" [sic] were in the possession of the "Elliott sisters" of Dale, Indiana. See Larrabee, p. 72.
3. Santosuosso, 86.
4. Ibid., 83.
5. Ibid., 86.
6. Ibid., 87.
7. Ibid., 116; Charlotte N. Baird, "The Making of a Memorial," Rockport-Spencer County Sesquicentennial (n.p., n.d.); and Park files, Cemetery History, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.
8. Park files, Cemetery History.
9. Santosuosso, 88.
10. Joseph D. Armstrong, "The Lincolns in Spencer County (n.p., n.d.), 60-61; Baird, "Making of a Memorial"; and Richard Lieber/Indiana Lincoln Union Papers, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Indianapolis (hereafter cited as Lieber/ILU Papers). Note that these sources contradict the 1870 date contained in the Indiana Lincoln Union report, The Indiana Lincoln Memorial (Indianapolis: Indiana Lincoln Union, 1935), which was quoted in Jill York, Friendly Trees, Hallowed Ground: An Expression of Sentiment and Reason (Omaha: National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office, 1984), 2.

11. P. E. Studebaker to Gov. James E. Mount, June 11, 1897, Lieber/ILU Papers; Notes on meeting with Gov. J. Frank Hanley, n.d., Lieber/ILU Papers; Santosuosso, 94-95; York, 2; and Clem Studebaker to Gov. James E. Mount, June 10, 1897, Lieber/ILU Papers.

12. Santosuosso, 95.

13. P. E. Studebaker to Gov. James E. Mount, June 11, 1897, Lieber/ILU Papers; Notes on Hanley meeting, Lieber/ILU Papers; and York, 2.

14. York, 2-3; Santosuosso, 100; Constitution of the Indiana Lincoln Memorial Association, Park files, Park Related Organizations, Indiana Lincoln Memorial Association, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City; Chronological Outline of Significant Events and Dates Relating to the Development of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Presently Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Park files, Material on the Creation of Lincoln Boyhood, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City; Notes on Hanley meeting; and Fairbanks Manuscripts, Manuscripts Department, Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington.

15. Notes on Hanley meeting; Indianapolis News, September 8, 1925; York, 3; and Santosuosso, 101.

16. "Dedication of the Monument in Memory of Nancy Hanks Lincoln" (Indiana Lincoln Union, Indianapolis, 1902, Program); Evansville Courier-Journal, September 28, 1902; and Lincoln Lore, June 12, 1933, Park files, Cemetery History.

17. Press Release, June 11, 1931, Park files, Clippings, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City.

18. Notes on Hanley Meeting; Santosuosso, 101; and York, 3.

19. Rockport Journal, February 12, 1909; and Santosuosso, 101-102.

20. Notes on John J. Brown's recollections of identifying the cabin site, circa 1930, Park files, Cabin Site, 1917 Spencer County Monument, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City; Notes on Hanley meeting; Park files, Clippings; Santosuosso, 49-50; and York, 3-4.

21. Springfield [Illinois] Journal, February 13, 1921, Park files, Clippings.

22. Robert Allen Frederick, "Colonel Richard Lieber, Conservationist and Park Builder: The Indiana Years." (Doctoral dissertation, Indiana University, 1960), 248.
23. Ibid., 275-277.
24. Ibid., 248.
25. Boonville Standard, October 15, 1970, Park files, Lincoln Related Organizations: Boonville Press Club.
26. Notes on Hanley meeting.
27. Ibid.
28. Indianapolis News, September 8, 1925, Richard Lieber Papers, Lilly Library, Manuscripts Department, Indiana University, Bloomington.
29. Frederick, 251-252; Press Release, June 11, 1931, Park files, Clippings; and York, 4.
30. Press Release, June 11, 1931; Indianapolis News, May 9, 1941, Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Indianapolis.
31. C. G. Sauer to Frederick Law Olmsted [Jr.], December 9, 1926, Frederick Law Olmsted Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.
32. Ibid.
33. York, 8. Much of this section is excerpted from the author's earlier study, Friendly Trees, Hallowed Ground. Because the author is the same, quotations were not used even where the wording was the same as that used in the earlier study.
34. York, 4-5, 8-9.
35. Handbill, September 9, 1927, Indiana Lincoln Union Papers, Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis.
36. Ibid., and New York Times, May 8, 1927, Park files, Lincoln Related Organizations, Indiana Lincoln Union.
37. P. V. Brown to Bayard M. Hedrick, April 6, 1927; and G. E. Lundy to Paul V. Brown, April 13, 1927, Lieber Lincoln Memorial, Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis.

38. See Indiana Lincoln Union Papers, Indiana State Archives.

39. P. V. Brown to W. O. Feudner, Editor, Rushville [Indiana] Republican, n.d., Indiana Lincoln Union Papers.

40. Press Release, June 11, 1931, Park files, Clippings.

41. Indiana Lincoln Union to Jonesville Times, April 5, 1928, Indiana Lincoln Union Papers.

42. Ibid., and Park files, Indiana Lincoln Union.

43. Indiana Lincoln Union, "Lincoln Memorials" (Indiana Lincoln Union, Indianapolis, 1927, Pamphlet).

44. Indiana Lincoln Union Papers.

45. Ibid.

46. Evansville Courier and Journal, October 16, 1927, Park files, Indiana Lincoln Union.

47. Thomas Taggart to Dr. B. F. Zimmerman, March 1, 1928, Indiana Lincoln Union Papers.

48. J. W. Action to Indiana Lincoln Union, May 1930, Park files, Indiana Lincoln Union.

49. Park files, Indiana Lincoln Union.

50. John E. Iglehart to Paul V. Brown, October 3, 1927, State Parks-State Memorials Files, Indiana State Archives.

51. Paul V. Brown to John E. Iglehart, October 4, 1927, State Parks-State Memorials files.

52. J. I. Holcomb to Ken R. Cougill, February 9, 1956, Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Memorial Drinking Fountain, 1956.



## CHAPTER 2

### The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Phase I

The land acquired, the state began its initial phase of construction. Upon accepting Frederick Law Olmsted's preliminary concept, the Department of Conservation assigned one of its staff landscape architects, Donald B. Johnston, the task of developing Olmsted's concept into a working design. Johnston enthusiastically accepted responsibility for the first phase of landscaping. Johnston's working design was fundamentally based on Olmsted's concept, although Johnston changed the shapes of the plaza and the allee. (See Figure 2-1.)

Extending roughly from 1927 to 1938, the first stage involved the removal of several structures from the site of the Thomas Lincoln farm, reforestation of that area, relocation of state Highway 162, grading, construction of the plaza and parking lot, installation of a drainage system and a water reservoir, and the initial planting of the plaza and allee.<sup>1</sup>

Among the Lincoln City structures removed were a restaurant, a garage, a hotel, a school, a church, eleven houses, seven barns, and twenty outbuildings. The ILU bought



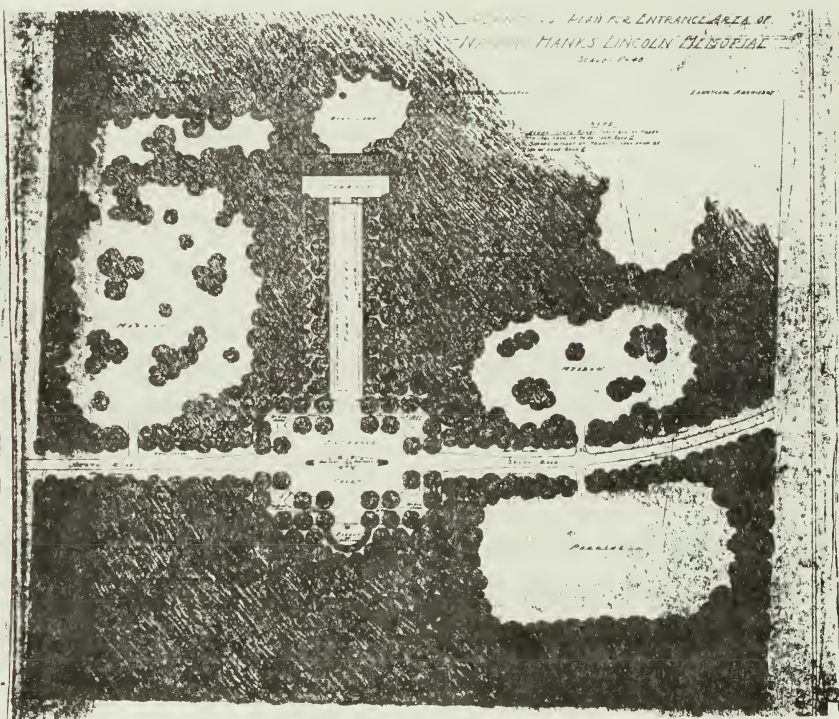


Figure 2-1. Donald B. Johnston. Planting Plan for Entrance Area of Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial [1927]. Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Papers. Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana.



two acres elsewhere in town which it donated for the construction of a new school building, and financed the construction of the new church.<sup>2</sup>

After removing the structures from the memorial land, the state fenced the memorial park's boundaries, regraded the streets and alleys and the old entrance road, and planted 22,441 native trees and 15,218 native shrubs with the assistance of Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) labor.\* (See Figure 2-2.) The "lions and eagles gate" was removed. The gate itself is presently located at the east end of the plaza; the lions, now headless, rest in nearby Lincoln (Buckhorn) Lake, and the fate of the gilded plaster eagles is unknown.<sup>3</sup> The state erected a service building and rehabilitated a remaining house for the park custodian. A small flower garden was planted near the service area (out of public view) to provide flowers for Mrs. Lincoln's grave.<sup>4</sup> Clusters of sycamores, sugar maples, red oaks, tulip poplars, and lindens were planted along the relocated state road, which was routed through the plaza. Red oaks graced the plaza interior, and six hawthorns lined each of the plaza's southern diagonal walls. A semicircle of red cedars lining

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\*George R. Wilson of the Southwestern [Indiana] Historical Society conducted research to determine what species should be planted. Evansville Courier-Journal, February 2, 1930. Park files, Cemetery History.



Figure 2-2. Groundbreaking the plaza area, 1930. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 7, photographer unknown.

a curved stone wall (the excedra) marked the center of the southern plaza wall. (The State removed the excedra in 1940 when construction of the memorial building began.) A towering 120-foot tall flagstaff was placed in an island in the center of the plaza. (See Figure 2-3.) Governor Harry G. Leslie presided over the flagstaff's dedication ceremony at the Boonville Press Club's annual picnic on July 12, 1931.

Johnston's allee featured a central lawn flanked by gravel walks, their exterior sides each lined with ninety dogwood shrubs spaced four feet apart. Two rows of trees also lined the allee: an inner row of tulip poplars, ten trees per row, spaced thirty feet apart and measuring seventeen feet from the outer edge of the walks; and an outer row of sycamores spaced thirty feet away from the walks, and measuring thirty feet between each tree. Each sycamore was planted at the halfway point between the tulip poplars. Additional sycamores were planted outside the formal rows, making a transition from the formal allee to the restored forest.<sup>5</sup>

By 1932, the Department of Conservation had completed its demolition program and accomplished most of the formal planting. In 1933, the Department budgeted \$34,000 for the installation of a water supply system, fabrication of a



Figure 2-3. The flagpole and plaza shortly after their construction, 1932. Department of Conservation photo, Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial Papers, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indianapolis, Indiana.

bronze memorial to be placed at the historic cabin site, and construction of a walking "Trail of Twelve Stones" commemorating various aspects of Abraham Lincoln's life.<sup>6</sup>

The Indiana Lincoln Union began planning the memorial trail in 1931. They intended

. . . to memorialize important episodes in Lincoln's life by the placing of some memento, preferably a stone, along a certain trail where one will be led to appreciate the "stepping stones" in Lincoln's career.<sup>7</sup>

The ILU identified several possible sources for memorial stones, and began collecting them. The stones eventually placed along the one-mile winding trail included (1) a rock from a spring near Abraham Lincoln's birthplace at Hodgenville, Kentucky; (2) a monument erected years earlier by Spencer County to mark the Indiana cabin site; (3) a rock from the Jones store at Jonesboro, Indiana, where Lincoln worked as a clerk; (4) a slab from the foundation of the Western Sun and Commercial Advertiser in Vincennes, Indiana, where Lincoln, on his way to Illinois, first saw a printing press; (5) a foundation stone from the Berry-Lincoln store at New Salem, Illinois, (6) four bricks from Mary Todd Lincoln's Lexington, Kentucky, home; (7) a stone from the White House in Washington, D.C.; (8) a stone from the Anderson cottage at the National Soldiers' Home in Washington, D.C., where Lincoln wrote the Emancipation Proclamation; (9) a boulder

from the Gettysburg battlefield; (10) a stone from the old capitol building in Washington, D.C., where Lincoln gave his second inaugural address; (11) a portion of a red sandstone column taken from the porch at the house where Lincoln died; and (12) the Culver stone (discussed earlier), salvaged from the construction of the Lincoln tomb in Springfield, Illinois, and placed at his mother's grave in 1902. Boonville Press Club picnickers were the first to walk the Trail of Twelve Stones in late August 1933. The following year, at the suggestion of Lincoln historian Louis Warren, the Indiana Lincoln Union added descriptive bronze plaques near each of the twelve stones.<sup>8</sup>

Also in 1933, the Department utilized CCC labor to plant 57,000 trees and 3,200 shrubs.<sup>9\*</sup> Additionally, CCC labor developed a campground and picnic area, parking, shelters, a caretaker's cottage, roads and trails work, erosion control, and landscaping around the cabin site memorial. (Much of this work was accomplished in what is now Lincoln State

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\*Civilian Conservation Corps Camp No. 1543 was stationed at Lincoln City from July 1933 to June 1934. (See Figure 2-4.)



Figure 2-4. Civilian Conservation Corps camp at Lincoln City, 1933. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 465, photographer unknown.



Park.) The busy CCC crew also accomplished a boundary survey and a topographical survey of the state lands.<sup>8\*</sup>

Of all the projects undertaken by the Indiana Lincoln Union, the fabrication of the bronze cabin site memorial was fraught with the most problems. Believing it would be inappropriate to construct a replica of the Lincoln cabin, the state hired architect Thomas Hibben, a native of Indiana then working in New York city, to design an appropriate monument to mark the site. The state planned a bronze casting in the shape of the historic cabin sill and hearth, to be surrounded by a stone wall. The area was to be formally landscaped.<sup>11\*\*</sup>

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\*Also in 1933, the park's first superintendent, Joe Wiebe, was replaced by W. R. Ritchie, and Department of Conservation Director Richard Lieber was demoted, although he retained control of his state parks. State park positions in Indiana were subject to the governor's approval, and changes in the controlling political party frequently resulted in mass firings and replacements of state park personnel. Such was the case in 1933, when Democratic Governor Paul McNutt replaced Republican Harry G. Leslie. On July 5, 1933, frustrated by the firing of park superintendents statewide and by his own demotion, Col. Lieber notified Governor McNutt he would retire ten days later. His diary entry for that date stated simply, "Tired." Letter, Joe E. Wiebe to Dr. Louis Warren, Lincoln National Life Foundation, May 8, 1933, State Parks-State Memorials Files, Indiana State Archives, Indianapolis. See also Park files, Clippings.

\*\*As stated above, the landscaping was begun in 1933.



The Department of Conservation awarded the bronze casting project to C. W. Hatcher of Indianapolis for \$4200; Hatcher subcontracted the project to the International Art Foundries of New York, New York. International Art Foundries, in turn, subcontracted the project to Priessman, Bauer, and Company in Munich, Germany.<sup>12</sup>

In May 1933, the CCC crew located the historic hearthstones, which were situated in a T-configuration and comprised three layers of stones measuring roughly eighteen inches square and five to six inches deep. (See Figure 2-5.) The crew, under the supervision of Horace Weber, excavated the 300 hearthstones without the assistance of heavy equipment in order to protect the stones. The crew then constructed the stone wall around the site and landscaped the grounds (Figure 2-6); this phase of the project was completed by June 1934.<sup>13</sup> The area was ready for the bronze monument. Unfortunately, the bronze monument was not yet cast.

For some reason never made clear to the Department of Conservation, Priessman, Bauer, and Company suffered a series of delays in completing the project. In addition to the frustration--plans to dedicate the bronze memorial in the summer of 1934 had to be cancelled because the monument was not ready when expected--the delays caused increased expenses



Figure 2-5. Horace Weber, supervisor of the Civilian Conservation Corps crew working at Lincoln City, kneeling over the historic Lincoln cabin hearthstones. The bronze cabin site memorial was placed on the location of the historic stones. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 13, photographed by O. V. Brown.



Figure 2-6. Construction of the wall surrounding the cabin site memorial, 1934. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 31, photographed by Horace Weber.

due to devaluation of the dollar. By enlisting the aid of the German consulate and agreeing to extend the initial due date, the Department of Conservation lessened the amount of the added costs.<sup>14</sup> The Department was patient for two years, corresponding with the numerous parties involved, and changing its plans to meet the ever-changing schedule. The situation finally came to a head in May 1935, when the International Art Foundries tried to get more money from the State of Indiana to settle a dispute with the Foundries' subcontractor, Priessman, Bauer and Company. The state responded firmly that there would be no more money for the project, and that the bronze casting was to be delivered to Lincoln City no later than June 15, 1935, or the contract would be terminated, and no additional payments made.<sup>15</sup> The monument was delivered by that date, and was laid in place in July.<sup>16\*</sup> Although Indiana Lincoln Union Executive Committee

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\*In 1955, Robert D. Starrett of the Department of Conservation authorized the expenditure of \$70 for a bronze tablet to replace one which was stolen from the site in 1950. The text read:

LINCOLN CABIN SITE

A symbol of the exact size of the Lincoln cabin and the original hearthstones--where as a boy Abraham Lincoln studied by the light of the burning logs.

Indiana Lincoln Union

On the purchase order, Starrett substituted the name of the Indiana Lincoln Union in place of the Indiana Department of Conservation. Statement of account, George J. Mayer Company of Indianapolis, November 16, 1955.

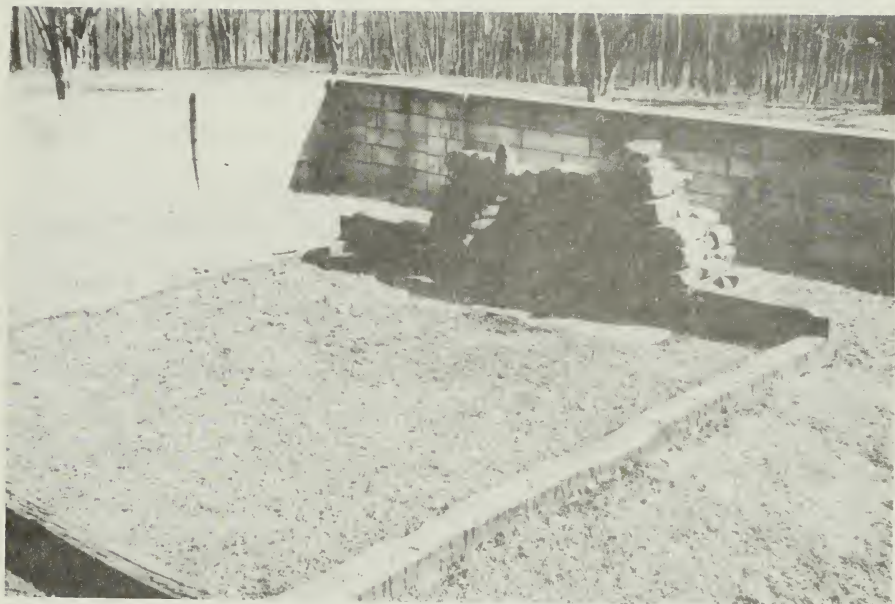


Figure 2-7. The bronze cabin site memorial. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 3, photographed by Albert W. Banton, Jr., circa 1968.

member J. I. Holcomb had advised Governor Paul McNutt to contact President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's office to invite him to dedicate the memorial and view the CCC work in the park,<sup>17</sup> McNutt apparently never acted on Holcomb's suggestion. The final cost of the bronze marker was \$5,797.40 in American currency.<sup>18</sup>

Activity continued in 1937 and 1938. The state purchased the James F. Holstein farm and developed the intersection at Gentryville in accordance with Frederick Law Olmsted's preliminary plan; surveyed and marked the Eli Grigsby farm, and replanted trees which failed to survive the 1937 floods. The state erected signs which had been made by the National Park Service, which supervised the CCC crew at Lincoln State Park. The Indiana Lincoln Union continued to seek funds for the construction of a memorial building.<sup>19</sup>

Paul V. Brown accepted a position with the National Park Service, apparently in 1935, as an administrator of Civilian Conservation Corps programs. At first he worked in Indianapolis, later in Omaha, Nebraska. Brown continued as executive secretary of the ILU, even after he left Indiana. The Lincoln park was close to his heart, and his trips "home" frequently included meetings with his friends at the Department of Conservation and sometimes jaunts to the

Lincoln park.<sup>20</sup> At Lieber's request, Brown accepted a leave of absence from his National Park Service duties from May 10-31, 1937, so he could write a brief history of the Lincoln park.<sup>21</sup> Noting that Brown's history, while excellent, failed to acknowledge Brown's personal contributions to the effort, Lieber asked the NPS Region II Historian Philip Auchampaugh to review the document. On Lieber's suggestion, Auchampaugh transmitted the draft study to Dr. Louis Warren of the Lincoln National Life Foundation, a noted Lincoln scholar, to revise the study to include a better reflection of Brown's efforts.<sup>22</sup> The ILU published Brown's history, The Indiana Lincoln Memorial in Spencer County, Indiana, in 1938. It contains an excellent summary of the Union's activities in promoting and developing the park through 1937.<sup>23</sup>

Although retired from state government since 1933, Richard Lieber remained active in matters related to the management of state parks and continued to hold a particular interest in the Indiana Lincoln Memorial. He was president of the National Conference on State Parks in 1936; also on its board of directors were C. G. Sauer, who had been involved in the initial planning for the Lincoln park, Conrad Wirth of the National Park Service, and former NPS director Horace Albright. Acting NPS Director Arthur Demaray



authorized Service funds to cover Lieber's travel expenses for the 1936 Regional Conference on State Parks.<sup>24</sup>

In 1937 Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes appointed Lieber to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments.<sup>25</sup> In a letter congratulating Lieber on the appointment, Paul Brown observed Lieber's unique opportunity to seek national recognition for the site.<sup>26</sup> "Despite a [National] Park Service opinion that [Abraham] Lincoln was amply represented by the Federal government, and [fear] that a national recognition would lead to similar proposals for sites related to the mothers of other great men," Lieber "led the Board to find the memorial nationally significant in 1939."<sup>27</sup>



## CHAPTER 2 NOTES

1. Jill M. York, Friendly Trees, Hallowed Ground: An Expression of Sentiment and Reason (Omaha: National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office, 1984), 6; and Press Release, June 11, 1931, Park files, Clippings, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.
2. Press Release, June 11, 1931, Park files, Clippings. Note that an Evansville Courier-Journal report on September 30, 1934, that the two acres was for a new church was incorrect.
3. Press Release, June 11, 1931.
4. York, 25.
5. John E. Santosuosso, A Survey of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial and Lincoln City (Lincoln City, Indiana: National Park Service, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, 1970), 102.
6. Park files, Lincoln Related Organizations: Indiana Lincoln Union.
7. [Indiana Lincoln Union,] "Indiana Lincoln Reservation" (Typescript, May 4, 1933), Park Files, Grounds, Trail of Twelve Stones.
8. Ibid.; Richard Simons, "The Lincoln Story Told in Stone" (n.p., February 12, 1950); and Evansville Courier-Journal September 1, 1933; all in Park Files, Grounds, Trail of Twelve Stones.
9. Joe Wiebe to J. I. Holcomb, April 13, 1933, Hilda Taylor Photographs, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City.
10. P. V. Brown to Richard Lieber, January 31, 1940, Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City; and Santosuosso, 57, 64.
11. [Paul V. Brown,] The Indiana Lincoln Memorial, Guarding the Grave of Nancy Hanks Lincoln and the Site of the Cabin that was Abraham Lincoln's Hoosier Home from his Seventh to his Twenty-First Year (Indianapolis: Indiana Lincoln Union, 1938), 35.

12. Paul V. Brown to Ed Pearson, February 1, 1933; and Indiana Lincoln Union to International Art Foundries, May 23, 1935, Park files, Cabin Site Memorial, Copies of Correspondence on Bronze Log and Hearthstone Memorial, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City.

13. Horace Weber, interview by Bill Bartelt, May 9, 1970, transcript, Park files, Oral History Interviews, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City; and Albert W. Banton to Horace Weber, November 25, 1969, Park files, Cabin Site Memorial, Horace Weber, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City.

14. Miscellaneous correspondence between Ed Pearson and Paul Brown, October 1933-January 1934, Park file, Cabin Site Memorial, Copies of Correspondence on Bronze Log and Hearthstone Memorial.

15. Indiana Lincoln Union to International Art Foundries, May 28, 1935, Park files, Cabin Site Memorial, Copies of Correspondence on Bronze Log and Hearthstone Memorial.

16. Horace Weber to Al Banton, n.d. [circa October 30-November 25, 1969], Park files, Cabin Site Memorial, Horace Weber; and Weber interview.

17. J. I. Holcomb to Gov. Paul McNutt, May 8, 1955, Lieber/ILU Papers.

18. Invoice of Merchandise, April 29, 1935, Park files, Cabin Site Memorial, Copies of Correspondence on Bronze Log and Hearthstone Memorial.

19. "Report of the Building and Plans Committee of the Indiana Lincoln Union" (Indiana Lincoln Union, Indianapolis, n.d.[1936], Typescript), Park files, Lincoln Related Organizations, Indiana Lincoln Union.

20. Mention of these visits occurs frequently in correspondence between Brown and Holcomb, sometimes on National Park Service letterhead. See Paul Brown to J. I. Holcomb, February 13, 1937, Lieber/ILU Papers.

21. Paul Brown to Mrs. Richard Coons, March 29, 1937, Lieber/ILU Papers.

22. Richard Lieber to [Philip] Auchampaugh, n.d.; and Auchampaugh to [Louis] Warren, June 8, 1937, Lieber/ILU Papers.

23. See [Brown,] The Indiana Lincoln Memorial.
24. Richard Lieber to Paul Brown, January 15, 1937, Paul V. Brown Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Manuscripts Division; and A. E. Demaray to Richard Lieber, August 18, 1936, Brown Manuscripts.
25. Richard Lieber to Paul Brown, January 15, 1937, Brown Manuscripts.
26. Paul Brown to Richard Lieber, January 29, 1937, Brown Manuscripts.
27. Note, Barry Mackintosh to author, June 4, 1985.



## CHAPTER 3

### The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Phase II

The recognition of the site's national significance coincided with the transition from the first phase of the memorial's construction, as detailed in Donald B. Johnston's landscaping plans, to the second phase, involving the erection of a memorial building/ visitor center and attendant modifications to the landscape.

The Department of Conservation debated over two possible sites for the memorial building for a decade. Donald Johnston's sketches sometimes showed a building at the north end of the allee near the gravesite, and sometimes it was pictured south of the plaza.<sup>1</sup> Finally, in 1938, the Department decided to place the structure south of the plaza, away from the gravesite, so it would not detract from that significant location.

Thomas Hibben, the New York-based architect who designed the bronze cabin site memorial, also prepared preliminary designs for a memorial building under the terms of the original agreement with the Indiana Lincoln Union.<sup>2</sup> In 1930, the ILU issued a second contract for further development of the ideas presented in Hibben's preliminary plans.<sup>3</sup> Hibben's proposed structure included four square courts totalling 200

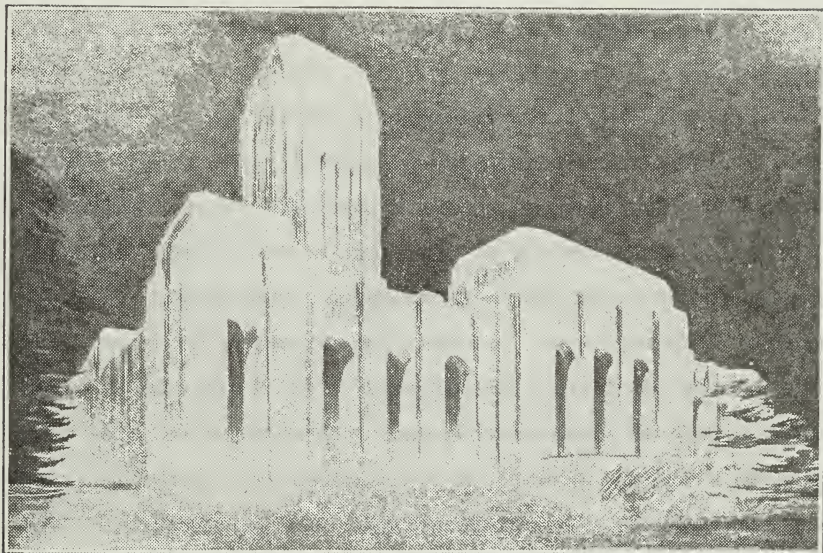
square feet surrounding a 150-foot tall tower housing a large pipe organ. The courts were to be connected with cloisters decorated with frescoes and sculptures; the tower would be painted with murals. Hibben's design provided for restrooms and even a small restaurant for the convenience of visitors.<sup>4</sup> Newspaper articles about the memorial park frequently included pictures of Hibben's proposal (See Figure 3-1), and it seemed to be well received by the public.

Nevertheless, some members of the Department of Conservation and the Indiana Lincoln Union were uncomfortable with Hibben's design, and correspondence between Colonel Lieber, then chairman of the ILU's Executive Committee, and ILU president J. L. Holcomb, often discussed possible alternatives to Hibben's proposal.<sup>5</sup> This position was most eloquently stated by Lieber, who feared the structure would pose a "monumental imposition"<sup>6</sup> on the humble gravesite. In a letter to Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., he expressed his concerns:

One thing has become clear. The original plan is out. . . . Beautiful as it is, . . . [Hibben's design] still appears much too elaborate and therefore[,] to some of us[,] not at all in harmony with the spiritus loci.<sup>7</sup>

Lieber asked Olmsted to comment on the Hibben plans when they met in Lincoln City to review the first phase of landscaping, which was finally completed. Olmsted agreed with Lieber, and

## LINCOLN WAS A "HOOSIER"



LINCOLN MEMORIAL  
TO BE INDIANA'S TRIBUTE

Figure 3-1. Sketch of Thomas Hibben's Proposed Lincoln Memorial. Park Files, Memorial Visitor Center, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.



the ILU rejected the Hibben design and ended their contract with him on May 1, 1939.<sup>8</sup>

Ready to commence the second phase of development, the ILU found itself with neither a design for its central element nor an architect to prepare such plans.

Because of his dissatisfaction with the Hibben proposal, Colonel Lieber had contacted a professional acquaintance, National Park Service architect Richard E. "Louie" Bishop in 1937, requesting Bishop's thoughts on a proper memorial expression for the Lincoln memorial. Bishop's response largely reflected the preliminary concept for the park developed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., a decade earlier, and included the observation that "no towering or otherwise imposing buildings should be introduced."<sup>9</sup> Lieber had his own concept of an appropriate visitor center, and communicated it to Bishop in 1938. At Lieber's request, Bishop prepared an esquisse based on Lieber's description. Bishop sketched a structure showing two square buildings joined by a semicircular cloister, much like the structure which was eventually built, except that the square buildings were set at an angle.<sup>10</sup> This was probably the sketch Lieber included in his July 26, 1938, letter to Olmsted.<sup>11</sup>



Lieber did not contact Bishop again until a year and one-half later. In December 1939, the ILU asked Bishop for suggestions on how to locate an architect for the project. Bishop suggested a competition, but the ILU rejected the idea because of the extra costs and time involved.<sup>12</sup> In a personal letter to Lieber dated December 14, 1939, Bishop asked to be considered for the job.<sup>13</sup> The following day, Paul Brown wrote Lieber and Holcomb a letter commenting on the excellent work Bishop had done for the Park Service, and recommending him for the Lincoln park job.<sup>14</sup> The ILU needed no further persuasion; the Union hired Bishop on January 12, 1940.<sup>15</sup> Citing the opportunity for further cooperation between the Indiana Department of Conservation and the National Park Service, Lieber requested that Region II grant Bishop a six-month leave of absence to work on the project. Lieber hoped the Service would continue to pay Bishop's salary, but agreed the ILU would pay it if the NPS could not.<sup>16</sup> Regional Director Thomas J. Allen, Jr., granted Bishop a six-month leave of absence (subsequently extended an additional fourteen months) without salary to work on the project.<sup>17</sup>

Bishop clearly understood the qualities Lieber desired in the memorial building. Describing his thoughts on the subject, Bishop wrote:

There should be no false construction or fake design. Materials should be native and largely hand worked. Design should be suggested by the best practice of the days when Nancy Hanks was a young woman. Not a design suggestive of the log cabins she lived in, but of a type of structure that might have been built by one of the best builders of the period, [sic] to commemorate an illustrious pioneer.<sup>18</sup>

Further, Bishop felt his work should "be carefully related to work done previously in an attempt to provide a unified result."<sup>19\*</sup>

In an effort to keep the structure simple, Bishop analyzed the functional requirements and identified three basic needs: a central memorial feature, a small hall suitable for public meetings, and a large room with simple facilities for the comfort of visitors. He translated these needs into the three architectural units of the building: the central memorial court, the Abraham Lincoln Hall (suitable for formal gatherings) and the less formal Nancy Hanks Lincoln Hall, which included restroom facilities.<sup>20</sup>

As originally conceived, the Memorial Court was to include a semicircular wall supporting sculptured panels.

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\*Bishop's project notes are located in the Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Lieber Papers, Box 2, Folders 2-4. These would be particularly useful to future research on the Historic Structure Report for the memorial building.

Bishop was dissatisfied with this concept because he wanted all aspects of the memorial building to be useful as well as decorative. He developed the idea further, and finally decided to make the wall a covered passageway between the two halls (see Figure 3-2), which would prove useful in inclement weather. He designed the cloister to bear five sculptured panels, separated by four large openings. He used straight line segments for these nine elements (five panels and four entryways) rather than a true semicircle, because it was more functional and seemed more appropriate to the rugged pioneer theme. The panels would represent Lincoln's life in Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, and Washington, with the fifth panel representing the deceased president's significance to all Americans. Above the panels and the doorways, passages from Lincoln's speeches would be carved in stone.

The design for the court itself featured a brick walkway surrounding an oval bed of turf. Three stone steps led from the plaza to the walkway; five additional steps led from the walkway into the cloister. Bishop included the steps to ensure the sculptured panels' visibility from the plaza and alley.

Bishop designed the memorial to be made as completely as possible of Indiana materials which would have been available



Figure 3-2. The cloister joining the Nancy Hanks Lincoln and Abraham Lincoln halls, 1960. Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial photograph files, negative no. 32, photographer unknown.

in the early nineteenth century. The exterior walls were to be handcut Indiana limestone, with windows of a size appropriate to the historic period. The roof would be of sheet copper.

Bishop planned the Abraham Lincoln hall (which he also called "the chapel") to measure thirty by sixty feet and hold about 250 people. Entrances to the small vestibule were from the memorial court and the cloister. The interior walls were to be of St. Meinrad sandstone with a cherry wainscot, except in the rear of the room, where the paneling extended to the ceiling. He designed a rostrum at one end of the room and a balcony at the other; these and the pew-type seats were to be fabricated of native yellow poplar and black cherry. The finished wooden ceiling would leave structural members exposed. Hardware was to be appropriate for the early nineteenth century. (Figure 3-3 shows the Abraham Lincoln hall, as constructed.)

The Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall, also with a small vestibule, featured a thirty by forty-five foot room with a large stone-arched fireplace. The walls would also be of St. Meinrad sandstone; the heavy wood beam ceilings would be plastered. A rear entrance would lead to the restroom facilities and the parking area. (See Figure 3-4.)

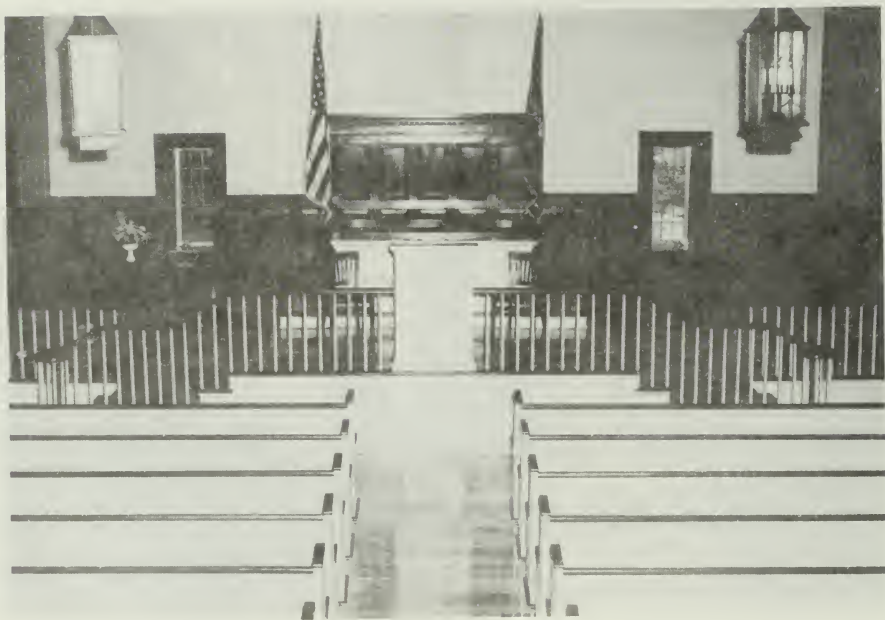


Figure 3-3. The Abraham Lincoln hall, 1965. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph files, negative no. 2, photographer unknown.



Figure 3-4. The Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall, 1964. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph files, negative no. 10, photographed by Robert L. Burns.



Bishop started work on the design on February 15, 1940. The Indiana Lincoln Union hired Claude Coyne from the Department of Conservation to assist Bishop with the project. Coyne's assistance and the close cooperation of the Department of Conservation, particularly Assistant State Engineer Denzil Doggett and State Parks Director Charles DeTurk, who provided mechanical and structural engineering services for the project, made it possible for Bishop to work quickly. At a meeting attended by Governor Clifford Townsend and several representatives of the ILU and the Department of Conservation, preliminary plans for the building and a model of the sculptured panels were approved without change less than five months after Bishop reported for duty. The ILU approved the construction drawings on October 7, 1940.<sup>21</sup>

The ILU opened the bids for the construction contract on October 30. It awarded the general contract to W. A. Armstrong of Terre Haute and the plumbing and heating contract to Tri-State Plumbing and Heating of Evansville on November 18, 1940. Armstrong's firm broke ground the following December 10. Claude Coyne served as onsite construction supervisor for the project. Bishop visited the project frequently.<sup>22</sup>

Sare Hoadley Stone Company of Bloomington, Indiana, prepared the handcut stone for the structure. The Department of Conservation furnished the native timbers and finish lumber. On his own time and at personal expense, park custodian Walter Ritchie personally scoured southern Indiana to locate timber for the project. The remainder was supplied under a contract with Carnahan Lumber Company of Loogootee, Indiana. Adams Westlake Company of Elkhart, Indiana, custom-made the aluminum sash windows for the structure. William Hermann and Son of Indianapolis custom-made the cherry table, chairs and benches and the chapel pews.

The Pierson-Lewis Hardware Company of Indianapolis furnished the hardware, including the custom-designed brass locks for the entrance doors. Leonard Kord of Indianapolis fabricated the bronze grilles and light fixtures, using molds prepared at the State Reformatory at Pendleton, Indiana. The large bronze exterior lanterns were redesigned and rebuilt from fixtures originally designed for use at George Rogers Clark [State] Memorial in Vincennes, Indiana. These exterior fixtures had already been shipped when the War Production Board halted production of the bronze interior lanterns. The Board rejected the state's requests for permission to proceed with the fabrication of the bronze lights, and Kord could not work on them for several months. Frustrated, but not

overcome, Bishop studied alternatives for the lanterns and eventually developed a design replacing the bronze frame with cherry wood. Kord completed the interior fixtures according to the revised design.

Using materials supplied by the Seymour, Indiana, Woolen Mills, the Richmond State Hospital at Easthaven, Indiana, fabricated the braided rugs. Seymour Woolen Mills held the United States Government contract for white Navy blankets, and cut excess blankets into two-and-one-half-inch strips, which they then dyed according to specifications for the rugs. Department of Conservation architect Ernest Jackson designed the rugs, the largest measuring twenty-one feet in diameter, two smaller rugs measuring five by eight feet, and four bench pads measuring two feet by seven and one-half feet, under Bishop's supervision.<sup>23</sup>

Integral features of the memorial building were the sculpted panels facing the memorial court. The ILU had hired Indiana sculptor Elmer H. "Dan" Daniels to prepare a model of Bishop's plans for the building to be presented with the drawings at a meeting of the Union. As reported above, the ILU and the Department of Conservation accepted Bishop's design and the sculpted panels concept on June 11, 1940, but the panels had not been designed nor a sculptor

selected at that time. The ILU may have chosen Daniels to prepare the model on the strength of a bust of Abraham Lincoln Daniels sculpted in 1939, which the ILU purchased for display in the memorial building.<sup>24</sup> After the ILU approved Bishop's design, Daniels prepared sketch proposals for the five panels, although he was not under contract to do so. Bishop's report on the memorial's construction stated the ILU received the proposals favorably,<sup>25</sup> but correspondence shows at least one significant person, ILU President J. I. Holcomb, did not like Daniels' work and hoped the ILU would hire a nationally-known sculptor for the panels.<sup>26</sup> Lieber disagreed with Holcomb's advice to find a well-known artist for the job, and indicated it would be a perfect project for a talented young artist to make a name for himself.<sup>27</sup> Apparently not wishing to be at odds with Lieber, Holcomb sent a hand-written note to the colonel, inferring his secretary had added the statement criticizing Daniels, and saying he would agree with Lieber's analysis of Daniels' competence.<sup>28</sup> In May 1941 the ILU sought the professional opinion of nationally-known artist Lee Lawrie, who reviewed Daniels' proposals and some samples of his work, and informed the ILU Daniels was quite able to tackle the project.<sup>29</sup> Still, the ILU delayed hiring a sculptor. Bishop's final report on the memorial states a lack of available funds and the unwillingness of any single person to accept

responsibility for such an important decision as the probable causes for the added delay.

As time passed, the delay in hiring a sculptor became more and more uncomfortable. Although funding was still not available, by the spring of 1941 the building was growing daily, and several ILU members feared that if the sculpture was not begun soon, that aspect of the memorial might be delayed indefinitely. They worried the sculpture might be finished by someone at a later date who was not sympathetic to the ILU's fifteen-year plans for the memorial, or, worse yet, perhaps it would never be finished.

About this time, Frank N. Wallace replaced Virgil Simmons as acting commissioner of State Parks. Wallace was deeply concerned that the failure to begin work on the sculpture would result in an unfinished memorial. Wallace enlisted Governor Henry F. Schricker's aid, and the governor called for a review of the Department of Conservation's 1940-41 budget. In light of other Conservation projects postponed because of low funding levels, the governor agreed to commit \$30,000 acquired from park fees to pay for the sculpture. On the ILU's recommendation, the Department of Conservation hired Elmer H. Daniels as project sculptor at a salary of \$12,000 per year for two years.<sup>30</sup> The Department

also purchased a \$5000 life insurance policy on Daniels from Lincoln National Life Insurance Company at a cost of \$46.45 per year.<sup>31</sup> At Holcomb's request, the Department of Conservation also hired Lee Lawrie as a consultant.<sup>32</sup>

Daniels set up a studio in Jasper, Indiana, in September 1941. His first step in designing the panels was the preparation of detailed pencil sketches. The terms of his contract required that Daniels' work receive frequent review by a committee composed of Governor Schricker, consultant Lee Lawrie, and several representatives of the Department of Conservation and the Indiana Lincoln Union. Lieber obtained permission from National Park Service Director Newton Drury to submit samples of Daniels' work to Ned Burns, Chief of the Service's Museum Division, for comment. At Lawrie's suggestion, Daniels prepared "definitive sketches" --actually sixteen by twenty-seven-inch clay models (see Figure 3-5)--of each panel. The sculpture committee discussed these clay models until they reached agreement on the final appearance of the panels. Then Daniels prepared half-scale clay models of each panel, from which plaster casts were made. The Department of Conservation hired stone carvers to work from the plaster casts; the Department of Conservation subtracted their \$65 per week salaries from Daniels' contract. The committee approved the half-scale models in May 1941, and the



Figure 3-5. Sculptor Elmer H. Daniels posing with his clay model of the Kentucky panel, 1941. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph files, negative no. 4, photographer unknown.



ten-ton, eight-foot tall by thirteen and one-half-foot wide Indiana limestone panels were completed one year later.<sup>33</sup>

The committee exercised great care in ensuring the details in the panels were appropriate. For example, they researched carefully and consulted a variety of sources before selecting types of foliage used in the panels.<sup>34</sup> Daniels apparently became frustrated with the committee's watchfulness over minute details which delayed installment payments on his contract. To the Department of Conservation's embarrassment, the artist expressed his frustration to members of the press in January 1942. The following day, Daniels received orders to conduct no further interviews without prior permission from the Department.<sup>35</sup>

Richard Bishop decided early in the design process that the spaces above the panels and cloister entryways must not compete for attention against the sculptured panels. To achieve this goal, and in keeping with his desire to design a simple but elegant memorial structure, he determined that carved quotations, excerpted from Lincoln's addresses, were suitable for this portion of the cloister. Certainly there was a wealth of Lincoln sayings from which to choose. The problem, Bishop discovered, was the selection of nine sayings of approximately equal length to fit in the space available.



Figure 3-6. E. H. Daniels selecting limestone panels at the quarry near Bedford, Indiana. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph files, negative no. 43, photographer unknown.

Assisted by Indiana State Library Chief Cataloguer Nellie Coats, Bishop compiled a list of potential quotations, all expressing Lincoln's fundamental belief in democratic principles and morality. Colonel Lieber sent copies of the list to Dr. Louis Warren of the Lincoln National Life Foundation and Paul Angle of the Illinois State Library. After a second consultation with Warren and Angle, the ILU selected nine quotations. Bishop then prepared full scale drawings of the quotations which Sare Hoadley used in carving the stone.<sup>36</sup>

Some time later, the National Park Service prepared sheets explaining the panels and summarizing the inscriptions. That information is repeated below:

KENTUCKY PANEL: 1809-1816. The Childhood Years of Lincoln.

The Kentucky panel illustrates the years of Lincoln's life spent on the Sinking Spring and Knob Creek farms. On the far left dressed in the style of the frontier is Jesse LaFollette, grandfather of Wisconsin Senator Robert M. LaFollette and neighbor of the Lincolns at Knob Creek. Beside him stands Thomas Lincoln, father of the President. Seated is Dr. Christopher Columbus Graham, doctor, scientist, and visitor at the Lincoln home. His stories fascinated Abe, who is pictured here at the age of seven. Behind the boy is his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln. Sarah, his only sister, stands at the churn. On the far right is Caleb Hazel, Lincoln's second schoolteacher.

INDIANA PANEL: 1816-1830. The Boyhood Days of Lincoln.

This panel depicts Lincoln as a youth, but fully grown and capable of doing a man's job. At the extreme left is James Gentry, wealthy farmer and merchant. Abe was a frequent visitor in his home. Next to him is Josiah Crawford. Lincoln worked for him three days to pay for a book he borrowed which was damaged by rain. Behind Abe, "The Railsplitter," holding a hewn log are Aaron Grigsby, husband of Lincoln's sister, and Dennis Hanks, his mother's cousin. To the right is James Gentry's son, Allen, who was Lincoln's companion on a trip down the Mississippi River to New Orleans. Beside him is Thomas Lincoln's second wife, Sarah Bush Lincoln.

ILLINOIS PANEL: 1830-1861. The Years of Political Ascendancy.

Here Lincoln is shown receiving congratulations from his friends and associates on his election to the United States House of Representatives in 1846. John Stuart, his first law partner, is on the left. Next is Stephen T. Logan, a later law partner. Grasping Lincoln's hand is his close friend, Joshua Speed, the merchant. Between Lincoln and Speed is William Herndon. To the right and behind the beardless Lincoln sits editor Simon Francis. The woman behind him is Mary Todd Lincoln, and the last figure is Lincoln's friend, Orville H. Browning, who served as United States Senator and in the cabinet of Andrew Johnson as Secretary of the Interior.

WASHINGTON PANEL: 1861-1865. The Years of Command.

In the Washington panel the sculptor has chosen Lincoln's career as Civil War President for his subject. The President is pictured with General Ulysses S. Grant at Grant's headquarters in Petersburg, Virginia, near the close of the war. The other figures are soldiers symbolic of the many brave men who made victory possible.



Figure 3-7. The Indiana panel, memorial building.  
Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph  
files, negative no. 1, photographer and date  
unknown.

CENTRAL PANEL: "And Now He Belongs to the Ages."

These historic words of the President's Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton, are a reminder of the heritage left to the men and women of all time to come. The figures in the panel represent some of the people to whom Lincoln will forever belong--the farmer, the laborer, the family, the freedman. At the right of Lincoln stands Cleo, Muse of History, holding a scroll on which the deeds of the Emancipator are recorded. Beside her is Columbia offering the wreath of laurel, tribute of a nation to its leader. In the background a cabin and the White House serve as symbols of American opportunity.

[The inscriptions:]

No. 1. A SUPREME BEING

And having thus chosen our course, without guile, and with pure purpose, let us renew our trust in God.

Message to Congress, July 4, 1861.

No. 2. PEACE

To do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.

Second Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865.

No. 3. LABOR

Labor is the great source from which nearly all, if not all, human comforts and necessities are drawn.

Cincinnati Address, September 17, 1859.

No. 4. LIBERTY

Surely each man has as strong a motive now, to preserve our liberties, as each had then, to establish them.

Message to Congress, July 4, 1861.

No. 5. DEMOCRACY

And that government of the people, by the people,  
and for the people, shall not perish from the  
earth.

Gettysburg Address, November 19, 1863.

No. 6. FRIENDSHIP

We must not be enemies. Though passion may have  
strained, it must not break our bonds of affection.

First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1861.

No. 7. LAW AND ORDER

It will then have been proved that among free men  
there can be no successful appeal from the ballot  
to the bullet.

Letter to James C. Conkling, August 26, 1863.

No. 8. RIGHT AND DUTY

Have faith that right makes might, and in that  
faith, let us to the end, dare to do our duty as we  
understand it.

Cooper Institute Address, February 27, 1860.

No. 9. THE UNION

I hold that, in contemplation of universal law and  
of the Constitution, the Union of these States is  
perpetual.

First Inaugural Address, March 4, 1861.<sup>37</sup>

Plans for the landscaping of the area south of the  
plaza, including some modifications to the allee and plaza,  
were accomplished almost simultaneously with the preparation  
of designs for the memorial building. The Department of  
Conservation assigned landscape architect Edson L. Nott to



the task of preparing this second phase of landscape design for the park. Study of the Nott drawings is somewhat disconcerting, because an analysis of historic photographs and existing conditions verifies only one certainty: no single Nott design (or at least no design uncovered during the course of this research) was fully implemented. Rather, it seems the State of Indiana never selected a single Nott plan for the entire area south of the plaza. Nott proposed a circular walk to surround the flagstaff, which was to be relocated to the hill at the top of the allee; the flagstaff was moved in 1944 (see Figure 3-8),\* but the circular walk never was constructed. Nott's designs resulted in the removal of the red cedar excedra, taken out to prepare the area south of the plaza for the court and building; and removal of four large oaks from the plaza, which were cleared to provide an unobstructed view of the building from the allee and plaza. The Department of Conservation moved the stone benches from the cabin site memorial to the corners of the plaza.<sup>38</sup> In accordance with Nott's designs, some of the sugar maples Johnston placed south of the plaza were removed to create an open grassy area behind the cloister, but the

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\*The flagstaff was moved up the allee on sets of wheeled axles, as shown in this sketch. Owen Taylor to Don Adams, 1985.

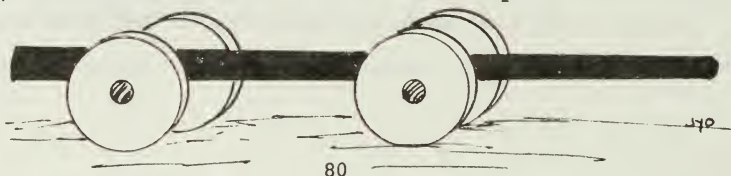




Figure 3-8. The flagstaff and allee, 1973. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph files, negative no. 2, photographed by Richard Frear.

remaining trees were Johnston's sugar maples, not the even mix of sugar and red maples Nott proposed. The southern plaza diagonal walls were cut as Nott showed, but existing conditions demonstrate that two hawthorns remained on either side of the cuts, not one on each side as Nott designed.

In the memorial court, Nott's detail planting plan was more carefully followed. The state planted the central oval with grass, and the beds near the cloister with periwinkle. Euonymous flanked the doors of the Nancy Hanks and Abraham Lincoln halls. Historic photographs and the memory of retired maintenance worker Elmer Stein indicate the area immediately in front of the memorial building was once lushly planted, probably in accordance with Nott's detail.<sup>39</sup>

By 1943, the end of construction was in sight. Daniels and his stone carvers completed their work on the panels. The building was nearly finished, as was the landscaping. When the Department of Conservation began construction of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial's final phase in 1940, they planned to dedicate the memorial building as soon as it was completed.<sup>40</sup> On January 24, 1944, however, Department of Conservation Director Hugh Barnhart issued a press release announcing the dedication would be postponed until after the end of the Second World War.<sup>41</sup> There is, however, no record that a dedication ceremony ever took place.

### CHAPTER 3 NOTES

1. See Jill M. York, Friendly Trees, Hallowed Ground: An Expression of Sentiment and Reason (Omaha: National Park Service, Midwest Regional Office, 1984), 19-20.
2. Paul Brown to Thomas Hibben, September 10, 1927, State Parks-State Memorials Files, Indiana State Archives.
3. Paul Brown to Thomas Hibben, February 1, 1930, State Parks-State Memorials Files.
4. Indianapolis Star, n.d. [circa 1937.]
5. J. I. Holcomb to Richard Lieber, January 29, 1939, Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s.
6. Richard Lieber to Frederick Law Olmstead, June 13, 1938. Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s.
7. Ibid.
8. J. I. Holcomb to Richard Lieber, May 23, 1939. Lieber/ILU Papers, Indiana.
9. [Richard E. Bishop,] "Architect's Report to the Indiana Lincoln Union, Executive Committee" (Indianapolis, Indiana Lincoln Union, January 21, 1941, Typescript), 1-2.
10. Ibid., 2.
11. Richard Lieber to Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., July 26, 1938, Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s.
12. "Architect's Report", 2-3.
13. Richard E. Bishop to Richard Lieber, December 14, 1939. Lieber/ILU Papers.
14. Paul Brown to Richard Lieber and J. I. Holcomb, December 15, 1939. Lieber/ILU Papers.
15. "Architect's Report," 3.
16. Richard Lieber to Thomas J. Allen, Jr., January 16, 1940. Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s.

17. Thomas J. Allen, Jr., to Richard Lieber, January 22, 1940. Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s.
18. "Architect's Report," 3.
19. Ibid., 5.
20. Ibid., 6-7.
21. Ibid., 7-8.
22. Richard E. Bishop to Richard Lieber, August 20, 1947, Lieber/ILU Papers; Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Abraham Lincoln, 1930-1939, Indiana State Library; and [Bishop,] handwritten note, n.d., Lieber/ILU Papers.
23. Handwritten note, Lieber/ILU Papers; "Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting, Indiana Lincoln Union and Indiana Department of Public Works, November 16, 1940, Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s; Richard E. Bishop to Richard Lieber, March 5, 1941; and Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial (Indianapolis, Indiana Lincoln Union, 1944).
24. [Paul V. Brown,] "Secretary's Report" (Indiana Lincoln Union, Indianapolis, January 5, 1942, Typescript), Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center Sculptured Panels, Panel and Bust Sculpting.
25. Ibid.; and Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, 54.
26. J. I. Holcomb to Richard Lieber, October 29, 1938, Lieber/ILU Papers.
27. Richard Lieber to J. I. Holcomb, January 5, 1939, Lieber/ILU Papers.
28. J. I. Holcomb to Richard Lieber, January 3, 1959, Lieber/ILU Papers.
29. "Secretary's Report; and Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, 54-55.
30. Employment agreement, Department of Conservation, August 4, 1941, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Sculptured Panels, Panel and Bust Sculpting. Records of payments show Daniels ultimately received \$25,000 for

the project. See Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Sculptured Panels, Panel and Bust Sculpting.

31. Invoice/Voucher, State of Indiana, February 16, 1942. Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Sculptured Panels, Panel and Bust Sculpting.

32. "Secretary's Report;" and Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, 57.

33. Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, 57; and E. H. Daniels to Hugh Barnhart, January 14, 1943; and Hugh Barnhart to E. H. Daniels, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Sculptured Panels, Panel and Bust Sculpting.

34. Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, 55-59.

35. Richard E. Bishop, "Minutes of the Sculpture Committee" (Indiana Lincoln Union, Indianapolis, January 7, 1942, Typescript); and Hugh Barnhart to E. H. Daniels, January 8, 1942, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Sculptured Panels.

36. Bishop, The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, 31-39.

37. U. S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, "The Sculptured Panels of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial" (n.p., n.d., Flier).

38. Richard E. Bishop to Milton Matter, March 13, 1946, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, State Maintenance of Memorial.

39. See York, Friendly Trees, Hallowed Ground for a full discussion of the Nott plantings.

40. Indianapolis Star, February 12, 1942, Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Abraham Lincoln, 1940-1949, Indiana State Library.

41. Hugh Barnhart, press release, January 24, 1944, Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, Indiana State Library.





## CHAPTER 4

### State Management of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial

The Department of Conservation's management of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial was fairly simple. The memorial was managed by a custodian who reported to the superintendent of Lincoln State Park.\* Architect Richard E. Bishop and Robert D. Starrett, Supervisor of Memorials and Museum Curator for the Department of Conservation, summarized the custodian's duties in a one-page note:

#### DUTIES

1. Day-to-day janitor work.
2. Cleanup courtyard and cloister.
3. Polishing brass.
4. Keep rest rooms clean.
5. Scrubbing limestone floors in lobbies (2 - chapel & hall).
6. Guide service for public.
7. Sell:

Bird Books	10c	Turn money &
Tree Books	20c	record over to
Memorial Booklet	25c	<u>Superintendent</u>
Post Cards	5c each	each week during
Photo Packet	25c	summer.
Map	\$1.00	
8. Cut grass - Courtyard & in front of memorial.

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\*The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, consisting of the memorial building, the formally landscaped areas, the cabin site memorial, and the land between the cabin site and the allee, was managed as a subunit of the Lincoln State Park.

9. Look after shrubbery as directed by landscape men from central office. Keep limbs and trash out of graveyard.
10. Keep personal appearance good. Uniform is required.
11. Ask Kennedy questions and write down information which you could use later.
12. Call on Superintendent for assistance.
13. Work Sunday but you get a day off during week in lieu of Sunday. Select day to suit you and Supt. 2 weeks vacation with pay during year. Advise this office a month in advance. Work it out with Supt. Vacation must be taken in calendar year.

VACATION LEAVE IS NOT ACCUMULATIVE.[sic]<sup>1</sup>

Bishop transmitted these directions with some maintenance instructions he had prepared to guide the care of the memorial structure. The guideline addressed care of the building's floor, the various floor surfaces, woodwork, brass and aluminum elements, and other building elements. It also provided instructions for the maintenance of the plumbing and heating systems.<sup>2</sup> A copy of Bishop's maintenance guide is contained in Appendix B.

Grounds maintenance consisted simply of mowing the lawn around the building, allee, and cemetery about once every two weeks. In 1961, the park superintendent instructed the memorial maintenance man to remove the scattered footstones in the small cemetery because they interfered with the

mowers.<sup>3</sup> Whether from lack of direction regarding care of plant materials or from lack of time and staff to control the trees and shrubs, by the late 1950s the vegetation in front of the memorial building obscured the main facade of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln and Abraham Lincoln halls.

While funds for maintenance activities were never abundant and the park had to make do with its limited staff, the Department of Conservation accomplished at least one project under contract: the painting of flagstaffs. Tri-State Structural Painting Company of Evansville, Indiana, painted all of the state's flagstaffs in 1953 for a total of \$119.70, \$70 of which was for materials (probably paint and new ropes).<sup>4</sup> In 1955, contractor K. L. Bains agreed to paint all the Indiana park flagstaffs "for the sum of [\$]15.00 Apiece Except the one at Lincoln State Park at Lincoln, Indiana, and that one will be (\$45.00) as it is to far away and it's about 125 ft. high [sic]."<sup>5</sup>

Shortly thereafter, Starrett issued a note to Department of Conservation files specifying the use of nylon flags measuring 12- by 18-feet or larger at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial; he hoped these would whip less in the wind, and thus last longer. Shortly thereafter, Ken R. Cougill, Director of State Parks, notified Bob Starrett that the large

flag at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial was disheveled, and wondered if they should "ask N.P.S. to replace?"<sup>6</sup> (Apparently they frequently made such small requests of the National Park Service.) Several months later, Starrett noted that the National Park Service had sent eight wool flags, and asked Lincoln State Park Superintendent Horace Weber and laborer Elmer Stein to let him know in a year if the wool flags wore better than the nylon.<sup>7</sup>

Although development ceased, for the most part, when the building was completed in 1944, a few changes in furnishings occurred in the decade that followed. In 1945 the park placed Clifton Wheeler's painting of the Ohio River above the fireplace in the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Hall; the Indiana Lincoln Union had commissioned the painting for that purpose.<sup>8</sup> This quiet action gave little indication of the controversy which preceded the ILU's decision to hire Wheeler.

Frank Ball, whose donation of \$32,000-worth of land "kicked off" the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial's land acquisition program in 1928, wanted a memorial to his donation placed in the park. ILU President J. I. Holcomb had promised to recognize generous contributions, and Ball hoped to commission a painting of himself presenting the deed for

the donated land to Governor Leslie. Ball wanted the painting placed above the fireplace in the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Hall. Holcomb believed his photographic and press coverage of the event had adequately recognized the Ball Brothers' contribution.<sup>9</sup> In a letter to Ball, Holcomb responded:

What we are undertaking at Lincoln City is to be a monument to Abraham Lincoln and his mother. It is not going to be a monument to any other individual, be it architect, sculptor, Governor, or donor. . . .<sup>10</sup>

In November 1942, Frances F. Brown, Vice President of the Muncie Art Association, contacted Colonel Lieber to inform him that her organization wanted to donate a mural or painting of Ball presenting the deed to Leslie. Mrs. Brown's letter indicated an artist, Hill Sharp, had already been selected for the job. Bishop and Lieber objected vehemently, and Holcomb concurred. (Sculptor Elmer Daniels supported the idea, and was severely reprimanded for speaking out in contradiction to the "official" opinion of the Indiana Lincoln Union.) On December 30, 1942, Colonel Lieber informed Mrs. Brown of the Indiana Lincoln Union's decision to reject her association's offer. A week later, Ball contacted Lieber, informed him of his disappointment in the ILU's decision, and requested a meeting with the colonel. A series of letters between the two followed, in which each

politely argued his position. At one point, Lieber suggested the installation of a drinking fountain, with a plaque dedicating it in thanks to all those who generously donated to the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial. Lieber subsequently dropped this idea. Apparently Lieber never met with Ball to discuss the issue.<sup>11</sup>

Another addition to the furnishings was the acquisition of an organ for the Abraham Lincoln Hall in 1956. This purchase may have been precipitated by a Mrs. Warner's offer to sell her Hammond electric organ, valued at \$600, for one-tenth that amount. After careful consideration, the ILU decided to reject Mrs. Warner's offer because the organ was too large for the small hall; it was rather old (built in 1937); it required at least \$100 in repairs; and it was not as easy to play as a spinet model. In sum, the ILU felt it was not a good buy.<sup>12</sup>

In the ensuing years, however, they researched various types and brands of organs, and in 1955, they purchased a Hammond church model organ for \$2293. The organ was installed on January 27, 1956, and was dedicated in the Lincoln Day ceremony on February 12th. The organ was graced with a plaque stating:

This Organ is a Gift from the Indiana Lincoln Union, who, together with the Conservation Department of the State of Indiana, developed and built the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Sanctuary as a permanent Memorial to Abraham Lincoln and his Mother.<sup>13</sup>

In a handwritten note to Ken Cougill, Bob Starrett inquired as to who would be allowed to take the free lessons which came with the organ purchase; the answer is not recorded. Starrett's note directed that the organ be made available to qualified organists on a "by request" basis, and that students be allowed to use the organ to practice, provided they had a note from their instructors, and the superintendent's permission.<sup>14</sup>

In spite of a February 1952 article featuring "Lincoln Land" in National Geographic,<sup>15</sup> life at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial remained relatively serene. Use of the Abraham Lincoln hall for formal ceremonies, and use of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall for group meetings were the primary functions of the memorial building during the two decades the state managed it. The only recorded attempt at regular interpretation of the Lincolns' life in Indiana occurred in 1959, when the Indiana Lincoln Foundation employed Mrs. Thalia S. Woods, president of the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana, to present lectures in the Abraham Lincoln hall. For an indefinite period, Mrs. Woods gave four fifteen-minute



lectures each Monday through Friday between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The State also provided her with office space within the building, where she could study and prepare her talks.<sup>16</sup> Mrs. Woods' lectures were apparently the first regular interpretive program at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial.

Visitor use of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial was, then, generally limited to quiet walks, reflection, and occasional use of the building for meetings or assemblies. There were Lincoln Day activities, usually held in the Abraham Lincoln hall, every year around the twelfth of February, and various historical societies sponsored services at Nancy Hanks Lincoln's gravesite, usually around Mother's Day. More active recreation was pursued in the state park, where fishing, camping, hiking, and other pursuits were common throughout the visitor season. On at least one occasion, however, Lincoln State Park sponsored an activity so large that its overflow onto the usually solemn memorial grounds was inevitable.

In mid-May, 1959, the Spencer County Sesquicentennial Commission, the Indiana Lincoln Sesquicentennial Commission, and the Indiana Lincoln Foundation sponsored a statewide Boy Scout camporall as part of the state's 150th anniversary



Figure 4-1. Four thousand boy scouts on the allee during the Boy Scout camporall, May 16, 1959. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, photograph files, negative no. 151, photographer unknown.

celebration. In spite of rainy weather, daytime attendance swelled to more than fifty thousand. The two-day event began on Saturday, May 16, with camper registration scheduled from 8:00 a.m. until noon. At 1:30 p.m., visitors joined or watched the Rockport-Lincoln parade, which ended at the Lincoln Pioneer Village, a collection of Lincoln cabin replicas in Rockport, Indiana. Governor Harold W. Handley gave an address at the Pioneer Village at 2:20 p.m., and "distinguished guests" stayed in Rockport for a banquet at 6:00 p.m., while the campers and others returned to Lincoln State Park. The day's events culminated in a campfire program for the scouts and other guests; the program, held on the shore of Lake Lincoln, featured a pageant on the life of the Lincolns in Indiana as well as more traditional campfire entertainment.

Sunday's activities began with nondenominational church services at 9:30 a.m. The "city" of tents was opened for public inspection, allowing visitors to see how well the campers arranged their sites and to watch them prepare their breakfasts. At 11:30 a.m. sponsors invited some of the guests to a banquet at Santa Claus, Indiana. Two hours later, a parade of floats and marching groups traveled from east of Lincoln State Park to a reviewing stand in front of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial. Following the parade,

various speakers addressed the gathering. Thereafter, the camporall disbanded.<sup>17</sup>

The sesquicentennial stimulated proposals for changes to the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial. One result was the placement of stone markers at the four corners of the eighty acres Thomas Lincoln owned when he left Indiana in 1830.<sup>18</sup> The state moved an old thirty-foot square auditorium, composed of steel posts on concrete pillars with benches and a roof, once located about forty feet west of the flagstaff (post-1944 position), to the other side of State Highway 162 sometime during the 1950s.<sup>19</sup>

The biggest of the sesquicentennial proposals was the Department of Conservation's plan to build a museum at the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial. The museum would fill a need for exhibit space and would include a library and research room. The Department of Conservation had considered adapting the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall for this purpose in 1957; that proposal would have placed forty-eight-inch wide cabinets around the perimeter of the room and three table cases in the center. The department scrapped the idea of altering the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall, however, for lack of the \$5000 needed to purchase the cases.<sup>20</sup>

Those who made the decision not to adapt the existing room in 1957 were certainly cognizant that a strong opportunity existed to push for a museum addition as a sesquicentennial project two years later. Indeed, sesquicentennial project planning was already underway throughout the state when the adaptation concept was rejected. The Indiana Lincoln Foundation and the Department of Conservation used the sesquicentennial "fever" to promote the concept of a thirty-six-foot, six-inch by seventy-eight-foot, six-inch structure to be centered on the south side of the cloister.<sup>21</sup> (See Figure 4-1.)

The Foundation prepared preliminary sketches of the proposed museum, which they initially hoped could be constructed for \$150,000. The Indiana Lincoln Foundation hired architect Edward D. Pierre of Indianapolis to design the museum addition. By that time the estimated cost had risen to more than one-half million dollars.<sup>22</sup> State Auditor Roy T. Combs hoped the project could be funded via schoolchildren's contributions, and issued an open memo "To the Educational Leaders of the State of Indiana" soliciting educators' help in raising funds for the project.<sup>23</sup> The state approved a permit for the project on March 24, 1959; the Conservation Department hoped work could begin later the same year.<sup>24</sup>

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2. FILE LINCOLN, N.H. SESQUICENT

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# Lincoln Fund Solicitations Are Approved

Solicitation of \$1 bills from  
Indiana's 985,000 school chil-  
dren for use in construction  
of a Lincoln Memorial was  
approved yesterday by the  
State Board of Education.

The plan was advanced by  
Roy T. Combs, chairman of  
the Lincoln Sesquicentennial  
Commission and Indiana Lin-  
coln Foundation, and William  
E. Wilson, state superintend-  
ent of public instruction.

Starting next fall, pupils in  
public, parochial and private  
schools will be asked to earn  
\$1 each to be contributed to-  
ward the memorial at Lincoln  
City in Spencer County.

For lower cost results rely on  
STAR and NEWS Quick-Action  
WANT ADS—MEIrose 8-2411.

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Figure 4-1. Handwritten note from Robert D. Starrett (RDS) to Ken Cougill (KRC) concerning the proposed museum addition. Starrett suggested the building "be attached to the cloister for control and maint[enance] reasons." Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Museum onto the Memorial Building, 1959, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.

It did not. For reasons not explained in the Department of Conservation's records, the project which seemed so certain in March of 1959 was abandoned less than three months later. Apparently some of the parties involved in the project were equally confused; on June 11, 1959, Department of Conservation Engineer Henry Prange wrote Bob Starrett asking, "What is to be done about this project?????????"<sup>25</sup> The following day, Starrett wrote Ken Cougill, recommending that the project be abandoned "in view of the silence 'received' from some quarters."<sup>26</sup>

In fact, the handwriting was on the wall weeks before the state's March 24 approval of the addition's building permit. On February 11, 1959, United States Senator Vance Hartke (a Democrat from Evansville, Indiana, who began his first term on January 3, 1959) announced his plans to introduce a bill the following day requiring the Secretary of the Interior to investigate and report to Congress concerning the feasibility of establishing a national monument at Lincoln City. Stating that "the Indiana monument is not an adequate tribute to the Great Emancipator[,]" Hartke introduced S. 1024 on Abraham Lincoln's birthday, as promised, then announced the action at a sesquicentennial celebration.<sup>27</sup> Two weeks later, the Indianapolis Star reported Vice President Richard Nixon and House Speaker Sam



Rayburn had been invited to speak at Lincoln State Park,<sup>28</sup> but neither came. On the very day the state approved the building permit for the proposed museum addition, the Evansville Courier ran an editorial favoring national recognition for the Lincoln park. The Courier editorial heralded a flurry of similar articles statewide promoting the concept of national park status for their Lincoln memorial. The editorials cited the appropriateness of national recognition and forecast benefits to state tourism as the reasons all Indianans should support the cause.<sup>29</sup>

If Department of Conservation Engineer Henry Prange and others were surprised by the decision not to spend additional state funds developing Lincoln State Park and its subunit, the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, they should not have been. Bob Starrett knew the future of state management of the memorial was in question. Starrett's vague reference to others in state government indicates that those in power were prepared to wait and see what results Hartke's study would produce.

## CHAPTER 4 NOTES

1. Intra-Departmental Memorandum, Richard E. Bishop to A. V. Bailey, November 11, 1942, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, State Maintenance of Memorial.
2. Ibid.
3. O. V. Brown Collection, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Manuscripts Division, Indianapolis. Some of the footstones are now in the Lincoln Boyhood museum collection. They will be returned to the cemetery.
4. Invoice, Tri-State Structural Painting Co. to Indiana State Parks, Land and Waters, January 19, 1953, Park files, Grounds, Flagstaff.
5. K. L. Bain to Indiana State Parks, July 2, 1953, Park files, Grounds, Flagstaff.
6. Robert D. Starrett to files, April 17, 1957; and handwritten note, K. R. Cougill to R. D. Starrett, October 1, 1961; Park files, Grounds, Exhibit Shelter.
7. Robert D. Starrett to files, September 7, 1962; and K. R. Cougill to Horace Weber and Elmer Stien [sic], October 10, 1962, Park files, Grounds, Flagstaff.
8. Richard E. Bishop to Milton Matter, March 13, 1946, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, State Maintenance of Memorial.
9. J. I. Holcomb to K. R. Cougill, February 9, 1956, Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Memorial Drinking Fountain, 1956.
10. J. I. Holcomb to Frank C. Ball, January 24, 1940, Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Planning in 1930s and 1940s.
11. Richard E. Bishop to Richard Lieber, November 24, 1945; Richard Lieber to Virgil Simmons, November 15, 1942; E. H. Daniels to Richard Lieber, November 15, 1942; Richard Lieber to E. H. Daniels, November 17, 1942; Richard Lieber to Frances Brown, December 30, 1942; and Frank C. Ball to Richard Lieber, January 7, 1943; all in Lieber/ILU Papers; Richard E. Bishop to Richard Lieber, November 24, 1942, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, State Maintenance of Memorial; and J. I. Holcomb to K. R. Cougill, January 18,

1956, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Abraham Lincoln Hall Organ.

12. Handwritten note, J. I. Holcomb, June 14, 1951; K. R. Cougill to J. I. Holcomb, July 12, 1951; and handwritten note R. D. Starrett to K. R. Cougill, n.d., all in Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Abraham Lincoln Hall Organ.

13. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett, n.d.; and copy of Hammond Catalog and order form, in Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Abraham Lincoln Hall Organ.

14. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to K. R. Cougill, January 21, 1956, Park files, Memorial Building Visitor Center, Abraham Lincoln Hall Organ.

15. National Geographic CI No. 2 (February 1952).

16. K. R. Cougill to Eugene Ayer, August 5, 1959, Park files, Lincoln Related Organizations: Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana.

17. Preliminary program, Lincoln Memorial Program, n.d., Park files, Special Events, Lincoln Sesquicentennial.

18. K. R. Cougill to Henry Prange, November 4, 1957, Park files, Grounds, 1959 Marking of Lincoln Farm Corners. The action was proposed in 1957, but not accomplished until 1959.

19. John Varner, interview by John Santosuosso, June 18, 1970, Park files, Oral History Interviews.

20. E. K. Marlin to Roy T. Combs, August 29, 1957; and K. R. Cougill to Roy T. Combs, November 4, 1957; Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Museum onto the Memorial Building.

21. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett, May 11, 1959; and Henry C. Prange to Colonel Marlin, November 21, 1957, Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Museum onto the Memorial Building.

22. Indianapolis Star, August 7, 1958, Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Abraham Lincoln, 1950-1959, Indiana State Library.

23. See [Roy T. Combs], "Open Memo to the Educational Leaders of the State of Indiana," (Indiana Lincoln Foundation, Indianapolis, n.d., Typescript), and Indianapolis

Star, May 9, 1959, Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Museum onto the Memorial Building.

24. Interdepartmental Memo, Henry C. Prange to R. D. Starrett, June 11, 1959, Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Parking Area by the Cabin Site.

25. Ibid.

26. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to K. R. Coughill, June 2, 1959, Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Museum onto the Memorial Building.

27. Indianapolis Times, February 11, 1959, Goshen, Indiana, News-Democrat, February 12, 1959; and Evansville Press, February 29, 1959, all in Indiana Lincoln Foundation Scrapbooks, Indiana State Library.

28. Indianapolis Star, February 28, 1959, Indiana Lincoln Foundation Scrapbooks, Indiana State Library.

29. Evansville Courier, March 24, 1959; and Tell City News, March 27, 1959, Indiana Lincoln Foundation Scrapbooks, Indiana State Library.

## CHAPTER 5

### The Establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Senator Vance Hartke's Lincoln day bill (S. 1024) providing for a new area study to determine whether Lincoln State Park and the Nancy Hanks Lincoln State Memorial were nationally significant and thereby suitable for inclusion in the National Park System became law on April 22, 1959. The National Park Service (NPS) assigned Charles Shedd, Jr., Historic Sites Historian for the Service's Region Five headquartered in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to do the study as part of the nationwide Historic Sites Survey.

Shedd's study contained a critical analysis of the site, a historical narrative about the Thomas Lincoln farm, several maps and photographs, and other data.<sup>1</sup> Shedd expressed his concerns that the locations of both the gravesite and the cabinsite were based on "human memory which, although in accordance with probability, cannot be considered as final and conclusive proof."<sup>2</sup> Although Shedd's report contained no specific recommendation concerning the park's addition to the National Park System, it observed that the state managed the area well (" . . . and there is every reason to believe that present high standards will be maintained"<sup>3</sup>); that most visitors were from southern Indiana; and that there were

already more units in the National Park System associated with Abraham Lincoln than with any other individual. Although Shedd's study failed to specifically recommend against the inclusion of all or part of Lincoln State Park to the System, it certainly did not promote the addition.

Local entrepreneur William Koch, however, did promote the concept; in fact, it was his idea. Koch's father had built an amusement park centered around a Christmas theme only five miles from Lincoln State Park in the first quarter of the twentieth century, and Bill Koch assumed management of Santa Claus Land (now Holiday World) following his service in the Second World War. Koch grew up in southern Indiana, and had a sincere desire to preserve Lincoln history in the area. A competent and influential businessman, Koch also recognized the potential boon to tourist trade in southern Indiana which national park status would bring, and asked Eighth District\* Congressman Winfield K. Denton to introduce legislation proposing the establishment of a National Park Service unit at Lincoln City.<sup>6</sup>

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\*Indiana's Eighth District encompasses both Lincoln State Park/Lincoln City and Santa Claus Land/Santa Claus.

Congressman Denton embraced the plan with enthusiasm. He agreed with Koch's evaluation that national park status would increase tourist traffic in southern Indiana, and was eager to do what he could to improve his district's sagging economy. What's more, Denton, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, wanted some of the Department of the Interior funds spent in his state.<sup>7</sup>

In March 1960, Denton expressed his dissatisfaction with the Shedd report to National Park Service Director Conrad Wirth. Denton was successful in gaining Wirth's attention, for the director met with Bill Koch in Lincoln City to discuss the advantages of NPS presence in the area later that month. In May, two Service representatives from the Philadelphia office visited Lincoln State Park, apparently to conduct a preliminary investigation of the site. The following month, NPS Assistant Regional Director George A. Palmer\* notified Indiana State Parks Director Ken Cougill that he was sending Frank Barnes and Andrew Feil of the Philadelphia office and Herbert Kahler from Washington to study the park further, and asked if someone could show them around. One week later, Cougill informed park Superintendent

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\* Because George Palmer was from Indiana, he was the regional office's "lead man" for matters concerning Lincoln Boyhood and Indiana Dunes. George A. Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.



Eugene Ayer of the impending visit and instructed him to assist the NPS personnel, as needed.<sup>8</sup>

On September 8, 1960, as a result of these studies (which may well have been influenced by Denton's position on the powerful Appropriations Committee), Region Five Regional Director Ronald Lee recommended to Director Wirth that a park in southern Indiana be included in the System, but under the Advance of the Frontier theme rather than the Civil War theme. (Shedd's study had analyzed Lincoln State Park in the Civil War perspective.)<sup>9</sup> Having won Wirth's support, Denton introduced H.R. 2470 proposing the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial on January 11, 1961. Denton's bill proposed the transfer of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial to the National Park Service.

About the same time, Senator Vance Hartke introduced legislation to transfer the entire Lincoln State Park to Federal management. The State of Indiana supported Denton's proposal, but wanted to keep the recreational portion of the park under state control. Denton's bill received the most attention in the press, including a series of editorials in the Evansville Courier promoting the Federal park. Most area residents, indeed, most Indianans, supported the transfer of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial. There were a

few exceptions; some employees of the Department of Conservation felt the park was, and should continue to be, Indiana's tribute to her most noted resident.<sup>10</sup>

One Conservation Department employee firmly opposed to the transfer was Robert D. Starrett, Supervisor of Memorials. In a handwritten note notifying Ken Cougill of the visit by two unnamed Park Service employees in May 1960, Starrett exclaimed: "Someone keeps 'stirring this \* pot'! I don't imagine Indiana will surrender this memorial without a fight. It's a lot of tommyrot! \* [sic]"<sup>11</sup> Starrett could not have been more mistaken. Indiana Governor Harold Handley favored the transfer of the memorial,\*\* and apparently made it clear he wanted no opposition to the proposal voiced.<sup>12</sup>

There was no dearth of voices favoring Denton's bill. State newspaper editorials resoundingly promoted the bill on the basis of its presumed economic benefits and its

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\*Starrett's notes included printed asterisks, apparently intended to replace expletives.

\*\*While Governor Handley favored the transfer of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial to Federal management, he was simultaneously fighting a proposed transfer of a portion of Indiana Dunes State Park to the National Park Service. Newspaper editorials from across the state referenced the state's different attitudes concerning the two proposals. For example, see the Bicknell [Indiana] News, 1 April 1960.

appropriateness in recognizing the significance of Lincoln's Indiana boyhood. They pointed out the cost (one million dollars) was small when spread over the several years it would take to establish and develop the park. The Indiana Lincoln Foundation's campaign to raise funds for an international education center they hoped to construct near Lincoln State Park also benefited the National Park proposal.\* Bill Koch and State Auditor Roy T. Combs conducted a vigorous campaign for passage of Denton's bill; their correspondence and personal visits with key people in the state government and in Congress ensured steady progress toward the bill's passage.<sup>13</sup>

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\*Although the Indiana Lincoln Foundation (ILF) claimed credit for coordinating support for the Lincoln Boyhood bill, their papers, housed in the Indiana State Library in Indianapolis, demonstrate that their primary concern was the education center, not the Lincoln Boyhood proposal. Indiana Lincoln Union Scrapbooks, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Indianapolis.

George Palmer of the National Park Service met with representatives of the Indiana Lincoln Foundation and Indiana State Parks on three occasions to discuss possible Foundation involvement at the proposed memorial. At the first meeting, the ILF offered to operate the memorial from a structure to be located onsite. At the second meeting, the Service informed the ILF of its intention to operate the memorial itself, but offered to cooperate with the Foundation if they located their headquarters in the Lincoln City area. At the final meeting, the ILF acknowledged the poor prospects of raising funds to construct the education center/headquarters building, and decided to drop the matter. This was the last formal communication between the ILF and the National Park Service. George A. Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.

In fact, the passage of Denton's bill was really never in danger. The proposed Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial was noncontroversial. The handful of Indianans opposed to the concept deferred to the governor's wishes. Koch's and Combs' activities were effective in keeping the proposal in the public eye and kept the proposal moving steadily through the hearings and debates. Their work enabled the complex series of events required to accomplish the transfer of the Nancy Hanks part of the Lincoln Memorial to the Department of Interior to be accomplished smoothly and in relatively short time.

The spirit of cooperation was set in the State of Indiana's March 6, 1961, Joint Resolution (H.C.R. 11) affirming the State would work with the Federal government to accomplish a smooth transition. Two days later, the assembly passed H. 85 authorizing the conveyance of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial to the Federal government. A provision limiting the amount of land which could be transferred to 200 acres reflected the State's desire to transfer only the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, not the entire Lincoln Park.<sup>14</sup>

On April 27, 1961, Assistant Secretary of the Interior John M. Kelley informed Congressman Wayne N. Aspinall,

Chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, of the Department of Interior's support for H.R. 2470.<sup>15</sup>

The House passed H.R. 2470 on August 22, 1961, with only one dissenting vote.<sup>16\*</sup> By this time, Senator Hartke's S. 376 proposing the transfer of the entire Lincoln State Park to the National Park Service was dropped. The Senate passed an amended version of Denton's bill on February 8, 1962; the Senate version established funding limits and required the transfer of state lands by donation, while the House bill had no funding limits and would have permitted transfer by purchase. The Conference Committee retained the funding ceiling and replaced the donation requirement with a limit on the amount which could be spent for land acquisition. President John F. Kennedy signed the act authorizing the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial (P.L. 87-407, 76 Stat. 9) on February 19, 1962.<sup>17</sup>

Echoing the restrictions of Indiana's March 8, 1961, law permitting the transfer of land, P.L. 87-407 limited the size

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\*Representative H. R. Gross of Iowa claimed a memorial to the taxpayers would be more appropriate, since they would have to foot the bills. Gross wanted the Federal budget balanced before any new expenditures were assumed.

of Lincoln Boyhood to 200 acres;\* established a funding ceiling of \$1,000,000 (with a limit of \$75,000 to be spent on land acquisition);\*\* and stated the memorial would be established when an "administrable unit" was acquired; and such was announced in the Federal Register.<sup>18</sup>

Implementation of P.L. 87-407 required several steps. First the State of Indiana conducted a boundary survey of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, which the newly elected governor, Matthew E. Welsh, approved. Then the Department of the Interior designated boundaries for the newly authorized

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\*As stated earlier, the major differences between Denton's and Hartke's bills was in the amount of land to be transferred to the National Park Service; Denton wanted only the property associated with Thomas Lincoln's farm, Nancy Hanks Lincoln's gravesite, and the memorial buildings to become a unit of the National Park System. Since Denton's bill reflected Governor Handley's wishes, and met the needs of Bill Koch and others hoping to increase tourist traffic, it was the only proposal seriously considered by the Congress. The 200-acre limit specified in P.L. 87-407 was included to ensure that Lincoln Boyhood remain only large enough to protect and preserve the land associated with the Lincolns' farm and the state's tribute to Abraham and his mother. The present size of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, 197 acres, includes only half of the land Thomas Lincoln once owned. If the National Park Service is to preserve "the original Thomas Lincoln farm, the nearby gravesite of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and such adjoining land as [the Secretary of the Interior] deems necessary. . . , "as intended by the authorizing act, it may be necessary to increase the acreage limitation.

\*\*P. L. 92-743 subsequently raised the funding ceiling from \$1,000,000 to \$1,320,000, and the land acquisition ceiling from \$75,000 to \$395,000.

Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, and Secretary of the Interior Stuart Udall approved them. On June 11, 1963, Governor Welsh and Department of Conservation Director Donald Foltz signed the deed transmitting 114.49 acres to the United States of America. The deed was verified by the Department of Justice, and transmitted to the Attorney General with preliminary title insurance on the twenty-fourth of June. On August 9, Udall signed the Notice of Establishment; the Department of the Interior filed Doc. 63-8731 with the Federal Register on August 14, 1963, and the Register published the notice the following day. The Federal Register notice completed the requirements for establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial.<sup>19</sup>

The National Park Service did not wait for the national memorial's establishment to announce its presence in Indiana's first authorized unit of the System. On March 26-28, 1962, Supervisory Park Landscape Architect Hodge Hanson and National Park System Planning Chief Andrew Feil of the Washington Office, and Assistant Northeast Regional Director George Palmer visited the Memorial with Bob Starrett\* to begin the boundary study and initiate plans for

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\*In spite of his earlier opposition to National Park Service operation of the former Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Starrett was very cordial and cooperative at this meeting. George A. Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.



a dedication ceremony. At this meeting, the parties also determined they would relocate Highway 162 south of the memorial building.<sup>20</sup>

Bill Koch of nearby Santa Claus Land and Roy Combs, State Auditor and Indiana Lincoln Foundation President, planned the dedication ceremony. The National Park Service sent George Palmer to Lincoln City a few days before the ceremony to see that satisfactory arrangements had been made. The National Park Service promised to reimburse the State of Indiana for any costs it incurred in planning and execution of the dedication ceremony, and in planning for the road relocation. (Congress' \$75,000 appropriation for Lincoln Boyhood was for fiscal year 1963, which began July 1, 1962. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial would have no budget until then.)<sup>21</sup> Senator Vance Hartke asked President Kennedy to speak at the dedication, but the schedule could not be worked out.<sup>22</sup> The dedication ceremony took place in front of the memorial building on July 10, 1962. Interior Secretary Stuart Udall presided over the ceremonies, which featured Governor Matthew Welsh's formal presentation of the land deed\* to Secretary Udall, and brief talks by Senator Hartke

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\*The governor did not present Udall the actual deed. Rather, he presented the Secretary of the Interior a blank sheet of paper tied with a red ribbon, furnished for the ceremony by George Palmer. George A. Palmer to Ron Cockrell, May 28, 1987.

(also Master of Ceremonies for the event) and Congressman Winfield Denton. The program for the dedication ceremony listed poet Carl Sandburg as Honorary Chairman of the dedication committee, but there is no evidence of Sandburg's involvement in the planning, nor did he attend the ceremony.<sup>23</sup>

While working together on passage and implementation of the authorizing act and on the dedication ceremony, the State of Indiana and the National Park Service reached several cooperative agreements. In addition to agreeing to relocate Highway 162 south of the memorial building, the Service promised to replace the Lincoln State Park entrance with a "unified entrance treatment,"<sup>24</sup> and to build a gatehouse at the new state park entrance. The state, in turn, fabricated entrance signs for Lincoln Boyhood (which the Department of Conservation charged against Lincoln State Park's account).<sup>25</sup> Lincoln Boyhood's first superintendent, Robert L. (Bob) Burns, worked closely with state park superintendent Charles Weber, setting a pattern for cooperation between the two parks which continues to the present.

## CHAPTER 5 NOTES

1. See Charles E. Shedd, Jr., "Historic Sites Survey: Lincoln State Park and Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Spencer County, Indiana" (Philadelphia: National Park Service, 1959).
2. Ibid., 12, 17.
3. Ibid., 36-37.
4. Ibid., 35-38.
5. William Koch, interview with author, July 10, 1985, Santa Claus, Indiana.
6. Ibid.
7. Indianapolis Star, March 24, 1963, Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Abraham Lincoln, 1960-1969, Indiana State Library; and note, Barry Mackintosh to author, June 4, 1985.
8. Fort Wayne, Indiana, News-Sentinel, March 31, 1960, Indiana Lincoln Foundation Scrapbooks, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Indianapolis; and handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to K. R. Cougill, [May 1960]; Assistant Regional Director George A. Palmer, Region 5 to K. R. Cougill, June 8, 1960; and K. R. Cougill to Eugene Ayer, June 15, 1960, both in Park files, Material on the Creation of Lincoln Boyhood, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.
9. Regional Director [Ronald F. Lee], Region 5 to National Park Service Director Conrad Wirth, September 8, 1960, Park files, Material on the Creation of Lincoln Boyhood.
10. Superintendent Al Banton to Joseph Blatt, May 17, 1967, Park files, Legislative History; Charlotte N. Baird, interview with author, July 11, 1985, Lincoln City; and unidentified news clipping, January 11, 1961, O. V. Brown Collection, Indiana State Library, Indiana Division, Indianapolis.
11. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to K. R. Cougill, May 16, 1960; Park files, Material on the Creation of Lincoln Boyhood.

12. Bicknell [Indiana] News, April 1, 1960, Indiana Lincoln Foundation Scrapbooks, Indiana State Library.

13. See the Evansville Courier, August 6, 1961, O. V. Brown Collection, Indiana State Library; and Indianapolis News, July 6, 1962; Indianapolis Times, July 10, 1962, and Indiana Teacher, November 1962, all in Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Abraham Lincoln, 1960-1969, Indiana State Library.

14. H.C.R. 11, Ch. 35, Acts of 1961 of the Indiana General Assembly; and H. 85, Ch. 189, Acts of 1961 of the Indiana General Assembly, both in [Albert W. Banton, Jr.,] "Lincoln Living Historical Farm" (Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, National Park Service, 1969, Typescript); and Park files, Legislative History.

15. Assistant Secretary John M. Kelley to Hon. Wayne N. Aspinall, Chairman, Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, April 27, 1961, Park files, Legislative history.

16. Albert W. Banton, Jr., interview with author, September 19, 1985, Indianapolis; and Indianapolis Times, August 23, 1961, Clippings files, Indiana Biography, Abraham Lincoln, 1960-69, Indiana State Library.

17. Al Banton to Joseph Blatt, Director of [Indiana] State Parks, May 17, 1967; and Report from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, House of Representatives, September 11, 1961, both in Park files, Legislative History.

18. P.L. 87-407, 76 Stat. 9, "An Act to Provide for the Establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in the State of Indiana, and for Other Purposes, approved February 16, 1962."

19. Al Banton to Joseph Blatt, May 17, 1967; Acting Superintendent Warren D. Beach to [National Park Service] Assistant Director, Cooperative Programs [Ben Butterfield], Northeast Region, January 17, 1973; and Secretary of Interior Stuart Udall to Sen. Birch Bayh, August 9, 1963, all in Park files, Legislative History.

20. Director [Conrad Wirth] to Acting Regional Director [George Palmer], Region 5, April 19, 1962, Park files, State Memorial Inventory and Transfer of Property; and telephone conversation, George A. Palmer to Ron Cockrell, May 28, 1987.

21. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to Henry C. Prange, [1962], Park files, State Memorial Inventory and Transfer of Property.

22. Handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to K. R. Cougill, April 16, 1962, Park files, State Memorial Inventory and Transfer of Property.

23. Indianapolis Times, July 10, 1962; Indianapolis Star, July 11, 1962; , program for dedication ceremony, and miscellaneous correspondence, all in Park files, Dedication of Lincoln Boyhood.

24. George Palmer to K. R. Cougill, April 19, 1962, Park files, Dedication of Lincoln Boyhood.

25. Ibid., handwritten note, R. D. Starrett to Bob Burns, September 19, 1963; and Dale, Indiana, News, March 6, 1964, all in Park files, Dedication of Lincoln Boyhood.



## CHAPTER 6

### Administration and Staffing

Bob Burns was superintendent at Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial when he agreed to come to Lincoln City to assist with preparations for the dedication ceremony. That job done, he returned to Perry's Victory after the ceremony. Months later, he accepted the position of first superintendent at Lincoln Boyhood; he entered on duty there on August 27, 1963.

Among his first duties was hiring a staff for the fledgling national memorial. The Department of Conservation had agreed to pay a maintenance worker, Elmer Stein, until the end of the month. Burns liked Stein's work, and asked him to stay on as a National Park Service employee\* when his state employment terminated.<sup>1</sup> Charlotte Baird entered on duty as a clerk-stenographer (GS-4) in October; she continued as the administrative technician for Lincoln Boyhood until her retirement in 1983.<sup>2</sup> Burns' hiring of John Santosuosso as park historian (GS-9) in November 1963 completed Lincoln Boyhood's original permanent staff. Seasonal rangers and laborers were added during the summer months.<sup>3</sup>

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\*The caretaker position at Lincoln Boyhood was not graded.



Burns' major goals during his superintendency were to acquaint Indianans with the National Park Service and the newly established Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, and to acquire the privately-owned land within the Memorial's authorized boundaries. Another significant accomplishment was the selection of a design and a location for the visitor center.

Identification as a unit of the National Park System was a significant problem for the new park. Area residents were accustomed to frequent changes in the Lincoln State Park superintendency; those positions were political, and changed each time control of the state government changed parties. Most failed to distinguish between the Department of Conservation and the National Park Service. When Burns first set foot in Dale, Indiana (about five miles from the park), in his National Park Service uniform, residents mistook him for a "revenuer." Burns set out immediately to educate the public concerning the Park Service and its presence in southern Indiana.<sup>4</sup>

Bob Burns' golden opportunity arrived a few months later. In February 1964, he was invited to appear on an Indianapolis talk show commemorating Lincoln's birthday. Burns contacted the Southwestern Indiana Historical Society

in Evansville, which allowed him to borrow a wooden box Lincoln made during his years in Indiana and a casting of Lincoln's hands. Burns took these with him to the June Ford Show, and with them he initiated his message to a broad regional audience. After the show, Ms. Ford suggested that Superintendent Burns contact Bish Thompson, an editorialist for the Evansville Press. She knew Mr. Thompson supported the National Park Service, and believed he would be happy to help Burns advertise the Service's role in southern Indiana.<sup>5</sup> Thompson wrote a good article on the newly established Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, and followed up with positive editorials on the memorial and the Park Service for years to follow.

Equally important, Bish Thompson referred Superintendent Burns to Bob Edelman at WTVW, an Evansville television station. Thompson was aware of Edelman's involvement in a locally-broadcast half-hour public interest show, and believed Edelman would provide Burns with another opportunity to reach the area's television viewers. Burns contacted Edelman, who agreed to feature the superintendent and Lincoln Boyhood historian John Santosuosso on one show. It went so well, Burns and Santosuosso were invited to do shows on a weekly basis for two years. Edelman invited them to continue the programs for a third year, but Burns transferred and

Santosuosso resigned before the third year was negotiated.<sup>6</sup> Newly appointed Superintendent Albert W. Banton, Jr., chose not to renew the programs.

The television programs were successful in introducing the National Park Service and Lincoln Boyhood to the region. Burns invited guests such as Lincoln State Park superintendent Charlie Weber and employees of Hoosier National Forest; these programs helped viewers learn the differences between the National Park Service, the state Department of Conservation, and the U. S. Forest Service. Burns usually conducted the first half of each show on the Service in general, Lincoln Boyhood, or other National Park Service areas; during the remaining fifteen minutes Santosuosso presented information on Abraham Lincoln, usually focusing on Lincoln's life in Indiana.<sup>7</sup>

Publicity was only one of Superintendent Burns' accomplishments. He also worked closely with lands officers from the regional office to acquire privately-owned lands within the park's boundaries. Burns accompanied the lands officer when he contacted the property-owners, handled other legwork (delivered checks, had deeds recorded, saw that the needed stamps were bought and affixed to documents), and assisted elderly sellers with various needs. Burns recalled

that the sellers generally supported the Park Service's presence at Lincoln Boyhood, and the relationships between the sellers and the Service were good.<sup>8</sup>

Another need, recognized immediately upon assuming management of the memorial, was additional space for administrative functions and visitor contacts. Although construction was accomplished during Al Banton's tenure as superintendent, selection of a site and design for the visitor center was Bob Burns' concern.

The Eastern Office of Design and Construction (EODC) resurrected the idea of a building near the gravesite (although there is no indication the EODC was aware of the Indiana Lincoln Union's and Department of Conservation's decade-long debate and ultimate rejection of the gravesite area when they were choosing a site for the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial building during the 1920s and 1930s). Whether consciously or coincidentally, Burns opposed the construction of a visitor center near the gravesite for the same reasons the Indiana Lincoln Union had rejected it decades before; he argued that the building would be an intrusion on the humble gravesite the Service was charged to protect, and that clearing the area of vegetation would alter the natural setting and thus destroy the atmosphere of the

area. According to Burns:

The Washington Office and the Regional Office in Philadelphia and the Eastern Office of Design and Construction and I went round and round about that location. I finally wrote a letter to the Regional Director and said that the only basis upon which I would accept that location was for him to call me directly and tell me to back down--that the EODC selection was the right one. Well, within 24 hours there was a letter in the mail to me saying that the Regional Office would not, under any circumstances, accept that location.<sup>9</sup>

The interested parties discussed several other proposals and finally agreed to wrap the visitor center around the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial building.<sup>10</sup> Hoping to "test the waters" locally on the idea, Burns contacted his landlady, a local reporter by the name of Grace Brown. The superintendent told Ms. Brown the Park Service needed space for administrative needs and interpretive exhibits, and was considering adding to the existing building. He asked her to mention the idea in one of her weekly columns, so he could see whether area residents supported the concept.

The conversation took place in February 1965, and the Dale News was looking for a Lincoln-related topic to coincide with the President's birthday celebration. The publisher decided to add a picture of the Memorial Building and an attention-grabbing headline: "LINCOLN BOYHOOD PLANS REVEALED." Burns was surprised by the headlines and attention, and sent a copy of the article to the regional and

Washington offices with an explanation of what had taken place. He wanted both offices to be informed in case there were any inquiries on the article. In spite of his concern, the article did not generate any questions--at least not immediately.

Months later, shortly before Burns transferred to Nez Perce National Historical Park, Idaho, he received a frantic call from Washington asking about "'a picture in some paper about some building.'"11 Senator Vance Hartke ran across the article while researching another issue in the Dale News. Hartke assumed from the article that plans for the visitor center had been released to the public without prior notification of the congressional delegation. Ordinarily, the delegation is notified first so they can announce such a plan, and receive credit for the project. The unidentified staff person, apparently confused, denied there were such plans. According to Superintendent Burns, Hartke, impatient and upset, sent his copy of the article to the Washington office asking "'If there isn't, what in the Hell is this?'"12 Before long, the situation was unraveled and explained to Senator Hartke. Expecting to be reprimanded for the incident, Burns reminded Assistant Regional Director George Palmer that he had furnished the Region and Washington with copies of the article when it was published. No reprimand was issued.13

Shortly thereafter, in August 1965, Bob Burns accepted the superintendencey of Nez Perce. He and his small staff had set the stage. It was up to the next superintendent to oversee the development of facilities and programs.

Albert W. Banton, Jr., left his position as supervisory park ranger at Vicksburg National Military Park, Mississippi, to become Lincoln Boyhood's second superintendent on October 10, 1965.\* He left there seven years later, on October 29, 1972.

On July 23, 1966, with the establishment of George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, Indiana, Banton became supervisor of an entity known as the Southern Indiana Group. During this period, he lived at Lincoln City

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An acting superintendent, Gettysburg historian Milton Thompson, served at Lincoln Boyhood in the interim between Burns' departure and Banton's arrival. Lincoln Boyhood historian John Santosuosso had only worked for the Service for two years, and had little administrative experience. In contrast, regional officials considered Thompson to be excellently suited for park management. Acting Regional Director [J. Carlisle Crouch], Northeast Region to Director [George B. Hartzog, Jr.], National Park Service, August 12, 1965. See also Regional Director [Ronald F. Lee], Northeast Region, to Regional Director [Edward A. Hummel], Western Region, August 6, 1965, and George A. Palmer to author, May 2, 1987.



but traveled each Thursday to Vincennes to oversee operations there. Beginning September 10, 1967, Robert L. (Bob) Lagemann was appointed management assistant for George Rogers Clark; Lagemann oversaw day-to-day events in Vincennes, while reporting to Superintendent Banton. Lincoln Home National Historic Site, Illinois, was authorized in August 1971; the following December, the cluster was renamed the Indiana-Illinois Group, with Banton as superintendent.<sup>14</sup>

During the 1960s and 1970s, clustering of administrative duties was fairly common for small cultural parks in geographic proximity. Banton recalled the arrangement as highly successful. It was convenient; one superintendent was able to represent the Indiana-Illinois Group at meetings with the regional office or with other agencies. It also enabled the superintendent to spend more time on major problems such as budgeting and development, and not get bogged down in the day-to-day problems such as scheduling staff. As stated above, Banton traveled to Vincennes one day each week. When Lincoln Home was added to his duties, he traveled to Springfield, Illinois, on overnight trips as needed.<sup>15</sup> Lincoln Boyhood's Charlotte Baird did the purchasing and most other paperwork for the three Indiana-Illinois Group areas, although George Rogers Clark had a typist, too.<sup>16</sup>

This arrangement ended abruptly in November 1972. Director George Hartzog ordered Banton to Springfield, and appointed him superintendent of Lincoln Home.\* A new superintendent, John C. W. (Bill) Riddle, was selected for the Southern Indiana Group; Bob Lagemann continued as management assistant at George Rogers Clark.<sup>17</sup>

Banton's major accomplishments at Lincoln Boyhood were the completion of major construction projects (the visitor center, two houses, and a maintenance area), and development of the living historical farm. These are discussed in greater detail in the sections of this report covering development and interpretation.

The staff at Lincoln Boyhood grew slowly but steadily during Banton's tenure, primarily through the addition of seasonal interpreters and laborers. The staff was generally

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\*Al Banton believed the transfer resulted from pressure placed on the Director by the Illinois congressional delegation. Assistant Northeast Regional Director George Palmer did not recall any undue pressure from Congress, nor did he consider the decision sudden. The lack of a full-time superintendent in Springfield resulted in the need for Palmer to travel there frequently. Palmer believes Regional Director Lemuel Garrison and Director George Hartzog had discussed the transfer of Superintendent Banton to Springfield for several months, and simply waited to inform Banton of the decision until the Lincoln Home National Historic Site dedication in October. See Albert W. Banton, Jr., Interview with Author, September 19, 1985; and George Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.

adequate, although the superintendent was sometimes frustrated by his inability to accomplish research or initiate programs because of staffing limitations.<sup>18</sup>

John C. W. "Bill" Riddle left the superintendency of Hopewell Village National Historic Site, Pennsylvania, to succeed Banton as superintendent of Lincoln Boyhood on November 12, 1972. Riddle retired from the position on October 21, 1978.

Bill Riddle completed the first phase of land acquisition at Lincoln Boyhood, but the bulk of his energies were spent at George Rogers Clark. In 1972, he oversaw an extensive rehabilitation of the Clark Memorial.<sup>19</sup> He subsequently turned his attentions to the development of a visitor center and preparation of management plans for George Rogers Clark.<sup>20</sup>

Staff additions at Lincoln Boyhood included Donald Breo's transfer from the U. S. Forest Service to become general facilities and equipment maintenance foreman in 1973, and Geneva Van Winkle's addition to the maintenance staff the same year.<sup>21</sup>

On January 6, 1974, Indiana became part of the Midwest Region, headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska. Midwest Regional Office visitors to Lincoln Boyhood that year included Deputy Regional Director Merrill D. "Dave" Beal; Assistant Director for Cooperative Activities Bill Dean; operations evaluation team members Pat Miller and Tom Weeks; regional law enforcement team members Phil Turner and Denny Sarah; Ralph Dierks, Dave Clary, Vance Kaminski, and Dan Wilson of the office of Planning and Resource Preservation; Safety Officer Stan Broman; and Jim Schaack, Ben Miller, and Mike Conen of the office of interpretation.<sup>22</sup> The influx of regional visitors was quite a change from the traditional relationship between Lincoln Boyhood and the Philadelphia office; contacts with the Northeast Region were generally limited to telephone conversations and an occasional trip by the superintendent to Pennsylvania.<sup>23</sup>

Nineteen seventy-four was also the first year in which the superintendent reported National Historic Landmarks inspections among his duties.<sup>24</sup> Whether the assumption of this responsibility was related to the shift in regional lines or was coincidental is not clear.

Gasoline shortages forced the closing of area gasoline stations following the 1973 oil embargo, and Lincoln

Boyhood's interpretive programs were closed on Sundays and Mondays from January 6, until April 1, 1974, in response to the lower visitation levels. Office staff continued to work their regular Monday through Friday schedules.<sup>25</sup>

Bill Riddle handled the demands of managing Lincoln Boyhood and George Rogers Clark well. He continued established programs at Lincoln Boyhood, enlarged the staff slightly to meet ever increasing maintenance and interpretive needs, and he was heavily involved in the development of facilities at George Rogers Clark. It was a fitting culmination of thirty-two years of service, and Riddle appeared content when he announced his plans to retire in September 1978.<sup>26</sup>

Warren D. "Denny" Beach first served Lincoln Boyhood as its interpretive specialist from July 1972 until July 1973. He left to become management assistant at Edison National Historic Site, New Jersey, and subsequently became superintendent at El Morro National Monument in New Mexico. He returned to Lincoln City as superintendent on October 22, 1978, and remained until August 23, 1981, when he assumed the superintendency of Morristown National Historical Park, New Jersey.

When Beach became superintendent of Lincoln Boyhood, the maintenance and interpretive programs were well in place, and development was complete. He "finalized" the Master Plan, and completed the acquisition of land, bringing the park to its present boundaries. Beach also worked out an agreement with the United States Postal Service to locate the Lincoln City post office in the visitor center.

The need for a location for a post office to serve the area resulted from the Service's acquisition of the old Lincoln City post office location in the late 1970s. The Postal Service intended to eliminate the Lincoln City postmark, and arrange for another nearby office to assume service to the Lincoln City area. In 1979, Superintendent Beach arranged an agreement by which the Lincoln City post office continues to operate out of a small space in the visitor center.<sup>27</sup>

The staff had grown slowly with the small park. By 1980, Lincoln Boyhood had a superintendent (GS-11); a supervisory park ranger (GS-9); four park technicians (one GS-6 and three GS-4's); three WG-6 demonstration farmers; a maintenance worker foreman (WS-5); and a janitor (WG-2) on the permanent staff. Nevertheless, Superintendent Beach was frustrated by his inability to hire more interpreters for the

spring and fall. This would have allowed his interpretive staff to spend more time doing research, and Beach saw this as the best way to improve the park's interpretive programs.<sup>28</sup>

Norman D. Hellmers was promoted to the superintendency at Lincoln Boyhood in 1981, following his service as chief of interpretation (with frequent duties as acting superintendent) at Grand Portage National Monument, Minnesota. His primary emphasis has been on improving interpretation and resources management at Lincoln Boyhood by upgrading the quality of programs, working with the Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association for the development and advancement of a play portraying Lincoln's life in Indiana, accomplishing research, and restoring the historic structures and grounds to their historic appearance. These topics are discussed in detail in the appropriate chapters, below.<sup>29</sup>

During Hellmers' tenure at Lincoln Boyhood, the staff size has remained fairly constant: the park had 13.8 FTE\* when he arrived in 1981, and has 14.2 FTE as of December 1986. The allocation of staff members by division has remained constant, with 3.0 FTE assigned to administration

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\*FTE, or "Full-Time Equivalency" is the authority to hire the equivalent of one person for one year.



(including the superintendent), 6.2 in operations (interpretation and resources management), and the remaining 5.0 in maintenance.

There have, however, been some significant changes in grades and the nature of several positions. These changes included the promotion of several positions to higher grades (superintendent from GS-11 to GS-12; secretary from GS-4 to GS-5; administrative technician from GS-6 to GS-7; park ranger, interpretation, from GS-6 to GS-9; park ranger, protection from GS-5 to GS-7; maintenance worker from WG-6 to WG-8; and seasonal ranger-historian from GS-4 to GS-5). The promotions reflect Hellmers' conscious effort to increase the professionalism of the staff and to better define each position.

Another important change was the creation of two positions, a chief of operations and a resources management specialist, by dividing the duties formerly assigned to the chief of interpretation. Until 1985, the chief of interpretation was responsible for all matters relating to information, interpretation, visitor services, protection, and cultural and natural resources management. Those duties are now split so that the chief of operations is in charge of interpretation and information, visitor services, and law

enforcement,\* and the resources management specialist is responsible for activities related to cultural and natural resources management.

Like his predecessors, Superintendent Hellmers has been frustrated by staffing levels insufficient to his needs, particularly in the fields of maintenance and interpretation. While existing interpretive staff levels allow for staffing of the desk in the visitor center and at the living historical farm, he is unable to provide traditional interpretive "basics" such as guided tours. Interpreters in permanent positions are required to spend considerable time in day-to-day visitor activities, and have little time to develop new programs and exhibits or accomplish research. Neither permanent nor seasonal interpreters have much time for special activities. Similarly, the involvement of the permanent maintenance staff in care of the public areas (which are maintained to a commendable level) has precluded their ability to provide adequate care to the non-public facilities, such as park residences and utilities, and to adequately document the work accomplished on the park's cultural and natural resources.<sup>30</sup>

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None of the superintendents of Lincoln Boyhood reported law enforcement as a problem.

Hellmers has shared the previous superintendents' frustration over insufficient funding, also. Lack of money has prevented several desired projects, including the relocation of the roads bisecting the park, the relocation of the parking area near the living historical farm, construction of comfort facilities near the farm, undergrounding of power lines, and relocation of the visitor center parking area. In Hellmers' view, even the relocation or removal of the railroads traversing the park "is ultimately a matter of insufficient funding."<sup>31</sup>

## CHAPTER 6 NOTES

1. Robert L. Burns to author, January 1986; and Elmer F. Stein, interview with author, July 9, 1985, Lincoln City.
2. Charlotte N. Baird, interview with author, July 11, 1985, Lincoln City, Indiana; and Burns to author, January 1986.
3. Burns to author, January 1986.
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. Ibid. See also Park files, Publications and Interpretive Services, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana.
7. Burns to author, January 1986. See Appendix B for a list of the first season's television program topics.
8. Burns to author, January 1986; and Park files, Land Records.
9. Burns to author, January 1986.
10. United States Department of the Interior. "Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial: The Design and Development." Typescript, Briefing statement, n.d.
11. Burns to author, January 1986.
12. Ibid.
13. Ibid.
14. Acting Superintendent [Warren D. Beach], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director, Cooperative Programs [Ben Butterfield], January 19, 1973, in Park files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
15. Albert W. Banton, Jr., interview with author, September 19, 1985, Indianapolis; and Acting Superintendent [Warren D. Beach] to Assistant Director, Cooperative Programs [Ben Butterfield], January 19, 1973.
16. Baird interview.

17. Acting Superintendent [Warren D. Beach], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director, Cooperative Programs [Ben Butterfield], January 19, 1973; and Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director [George A. Palmer], Northeast Region, February 8, 1974, both in Park files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
18. Banton interview; and Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director [George A. Palmer], Northeast Region, February 8, 1974.
19. Acting Superintendent [Warren D. Beach], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director, Cooperative Programs [Ben Butterfield], January 19, 1973.
20. Baird interview.
21. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director [George A. Palmer], Northeast Region, February 8, 1974.
22. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director [George A. Palmer], Mid-Atlantic Region, February 3, 1975.
23. Banton interview. Assistant Regional Director George A. Palmer recalled that Northeast (later called Mid-Atlantic) Regional staff involvement was greater than Banton remembered. Palmer took frequent trips to various parks in the Region, particularly those in Indiana, his native state.
24. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle], Lincoln Boyhood, to Assistant Director [George A. Palmer], Mid-Atlantic Region, February 3, 1975.
25. Ibid.
26. Baird interview.
27. Evansville Journal, February 21, 1980; and Banton interview.
28. Warren D. Beach, letter to author, December 1985.
29. Norman D. Hellmers, letter to author, December 5, 1986.
30. Ibid.
31. Ibid.

## CHAPTER 7

### Developing the National Memorial

The transfer of 114.49 acres from the State of Indiana to the United States government in June 1963 effected the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. The land donated by the state was the largest parcel acquired by the National Park Service, and formed the core of the new national memorial. Nevertheless, the National Park Service must acquire several privately-owned tracts in the immediate vicinity and remove the improvements on those tracts to achieve the desired atmosphere at Lincoln Boyhood.

By the time Superintendent Bob Burns transferred to Nez Perce in 1965, the National Park Service owned an additional 14.2 acres. Still, of the total 128.69 acres composing Lincoln Boyhood at that time, only 25 were part of the historic Thomas Lincoln farm.<sup>1</sup> Unfortunately, Burns' purchases utilized most of the \$75,000 for land acquisition authorized by the park's authorizing act. While the act permitted a total of 200 acres, the National Park Service could not purchase the remaining authorized 71.85 acres unless Congress raised the land acquisition ceiling.<sup>2</sup> On December 8, 1966, the National Park Service initiated action to obtain the needed increase. One month later, support data

for the request was submitted to the Assistant Director for Cooperating Activities, Theodor R. Swem. Finally on April 11, 1972, Congress granted the National Park Service permission to spend an additional \$319,286 for land acquisition.

The National Park Service acquired sixteen parcels totalling 10.6 acres in 1973, most of which was needed for development of the living historical farm.<sup>3</sup> By the close of 1976, the National Park Service's holdings in Spencer County were very near the authorized limit of 200 acres. The Service cleared the land of improvements and had a tree planting crew temporarily assigned to the memorial in 1977. By the end of that year, the area finally achieved the predominantly natural atmosphere the Park Service desired.<sup>4</sup>

Although some individuals had problems over the sale of their land as detailed in the Summary of Land Acquisition (see Appendix C), land acquisition at Lincoln Boyhood generally went smoothly. Superintendent Al Banton felt that some landowners demanded more than their land was worth,<sup>5</sup> but records indicate the National Park Service obtained most properties at slightly below their appraised values.<sup>6</sup> Land acquisition at Lincoln Boyhood did not create widespread antagonism toward the National Park Service, as it has in



other areas. Most of those whose homes the Service purchased moved to other locations within Carter Township.<sup>7</sup> The community graciously accepted the Park Service's presence in its midst.

Most of the physical development of Lincoln Boyhood occurred under the supervision of the first two superintendents, Bob Burns and Al Banton. In addition to his involvement with the first phase of land acquisition, Burns oversaw the relocation of State Highway 162, the construction of water and sewage systems, and the selection of a location and design for the memorial's visitor center. Banton supervised the construction of the visitor center, two residences, and the maintenance facility, and developed one of the park's most popular interpretive facilities, the living historical farm.

During the decades the Indiana Department of Conservation managed the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial, Highway 162 routed traffic directly into and through the plaza immediately north of the memorial building. Although there is no record of major problems resulting from this arrangement, by around 1960 the state identified the situation as a potential hazard to pedestrians leaving their cars parked in the plaza lot.<sup>8</sup> As part of the discussion of the transfer of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial to the



Figure 7-1. An aerial photograph of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, circa 1962. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 9, photographer unknown.

National Park Service, the Service agreed to finance the relocation of Highway 162 to a location north of the memorial building, where Lincoln Boyhood and Lincoln State Park met. The work was accomplished at a cost of \$142,214 in 1964.<sup>9</sup> To screen the road from the rear of the memorial building, Burns planted red buds, dogwoods, and tulip poplars along its length.<sup>10</sup>

Burns also oversaw the construction of a residential road and a utilities and a water/sewage system in 1964, and construction of a water reservoir in the state park providing water for both Lincoln State Park and Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in 1965. The total cost of these projects was \$56,300.<sup>11</sup>

Bob Burns' proudest accomplishment was the selection of the site and design of the visitor center. The issue was one of few really controversial decisions in the memorial's history, and continued a debate which originated in the 1920s, when the State of Indiana selected its site for the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial building. As discussed earlier, designs for the state memorial wavered between a gravesite location and the selected location immediately south of the plaza. The debate recurred in 1964 when, in agreement with the Lincoln Boyhood draft Master Plan, the National Park

Service's Eastern Office of Design and Construction (EODC) proposed a separate visitor center facility to be built near the Nancy Hanks Lincoln grave. Burns aggressively opposed the EODC proposal, arguing that Thomas Lincoln had buried his wife in the wilderness, and that the wilderness setting should be preserved. He pointed out that the change was an unnecessary contradiction to the Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., plan for the area. He also feared the separate visitor center facility would compete with the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial building for attention, and would stretch his tiny staff beyond its capabilities to serve the public. Northeast Regional Director Lemuel A. Garrison agreed with Burns' assessment of the situation (which was largely reflective of the arguments used in the selection of the site for the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial decades earlier).<sup>12</sup>

The National Park Service decided to adapt the existing memorial building to meet the needs (100-seat auditorium, lobby, exhibit space, and restrooms) identified in the Lincoln Boyhood draft Master Plan. The addition would be "complimentary [sic] to the unique workmanship of the original structure" and "leave the basic appearance of the original Memorial Building unaltered."<sup>13</sup> To accomplish these objectives, the Service designed an addition which enclosed the cloister into a lobby area with a visitor contact desk

and sales area and some interpretive space. The design showed an auditorium, office space, a library, and storage room added to the rear of the cloister. Additional restrooms and a public telephone were added for the convenience of visitors. A new central heating and air conditioning unit completed the changes to the building. Materials would match those used in the original structure.<sup>14</sup>

The construction package included two residences, a utility building and service area, an exhibit shelter close to the historic farmsite, a small parking lot near the exhibit shelter, and temporary entrance and site location signs.<sup>15</sup> The initial bids for the package came in considerably over the amount available, and the Service considered frame construction for the residences rather than stone houses (as designed) to match the memorial building. Congressman Winfield Denton, member of the House Appropriations committee, instructed the National Park Service to build them with St. Meinrad sandstone, and promised the money would be available.<sup>16</sup> Denton was as good as his word. Rev. Peter Behrman, O.S.B., and Rev. Tobias Colgan, O.S.B. later informed the park that they bid extremely low on the cost of the stone because they were determined that the addition and other structures be built of the local stone.<sup>17</sup>

One of the ideas Burns proposed in his discussions of the visitor center addition design was the replacement of the brick walks in the memorial court (immediately in front of the building) with stone walks to match the building itself. Freeze/thaw action caused the bricks to split and crack, making the walks unsightly and unsafe. Burns contacted Richard Bishop, architect of the original Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial building; Bishop fully supported the change.<sup>18</sup> The Eastern Office of Design and Construction rejected Burns suggestion, but later implemented it. The visitor center, when finished, looked largely as Burns proposed it should.

Superintendent Albert Banton oversaw the implementation of Burns' visitor center vision. Deig Brothers construction company was general contractor for the work; Chester Deutsch and Julian Cornwall supervised the construction of the visitor center addition.<sup>19</sup> Construction went smoothly, and the Deig Brothers firm completed the project on schedule. The addition was dedicated in 1966.<sup>20</sup> (See Figure 7-2.)

On August 8, 1966, Morrell-Felin Co. of Philadelphia loaned a series of twelve Lincoln paintings done by Isa Barnett to Lincoln Boyhood for the dedication ceremony. Apparently, there was some misunderstanding over the term of the loan, for the National Park Service failed to return them



Figure 7-2. The ribbon-cutting ceremony at the dedication of the visitor center addition, August 21, 1966. Standing left to right are Northeast Regional Director Lemuel Garrison, Congressman Winfield Denton, Senator Vance Hartke, Birch Bayh, Sr., Lincoln Boyhood Superintendent Albert Banton, Jr., and National Park Service Director George Hartzog, Jr. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 20, photographer unknown.



until 1970. Copies were made for permanent exhibit in the visitor center lobby.<sup>21</sup> In 1970, Banton ordered rugs from Richmond State Hospital in Richmond, Indiana; the original five- by eight-foot handwoven rugs made in 1943 were extremely worn and ready for replacement.<sup>22</sup>

The National Park Service hoped to obtain the extensive collection of Lincoln materials from a local collector, O. V. ("Orrie") Brown, but was unable to negotiate an agreement for the donation of the entire collection because Brown wanted the collection to be exhibited in his home township, Carter Township. In fact, at a meeting at his home, Brown suggested to Superintendent Banton and Assistant Regional Director Palmer that the National Park Service acquire his home and display the collection there intact. Because the Brown home was outside the park boundary, such action would have required an Act of Congress, and was not seriously considered.<sup>23</sup>

Only a portion of the memorial is located in Carter Township: the cabin site memorial and the actual Lincoln farm. To meet Brown's request without changing the park boundary and purchasing the residence would have required the removal of the bronze cabin site memorial and construction of an exhibit facility on the approximate location of the

historic Lincoln farmstead. The National Park Service was unwilling to take such action.

In 1965 Brown donated part of his collection to Lincoln Boyhood (see Figure 7-3); the Service acquired a few other objects after his death shortly thereafter.<sup>24</sup> Although the National Park Service was unfortunate in its inability to obtain the entire O. V. Brown collection, the portion the Service acquired formed the heart of its museum collection during the early years.

The decision to provide for visitors' needs by adding to the existing Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial included the construction of an exhibit shelter (Figure 7-4) near the historic farmsite. When commenting on the initial design for the shelter, Superintendent Banton noted he liked the layout, but was concerned it would not provide enough light to enable visitors to enjoy the exhibits. In response, the design was revised to include skylights, which proved quite effective in eliminating the potential problem Banton anticipated.<sup>18</sup> In 1966, Washington office historian Roy E. Appleman visited the park, and observed that the exhibits there did little to help visitors understand the Lincolns' life in Indiana. Superintendent Banton ordered two new panels for the shelter, one with a portrayal of virgin Indiana forest, and one



Figure 7-3. O. V. Brown and National Park Service historian John Santosuosso looking over a Lincoln. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 41, photographer unknown.

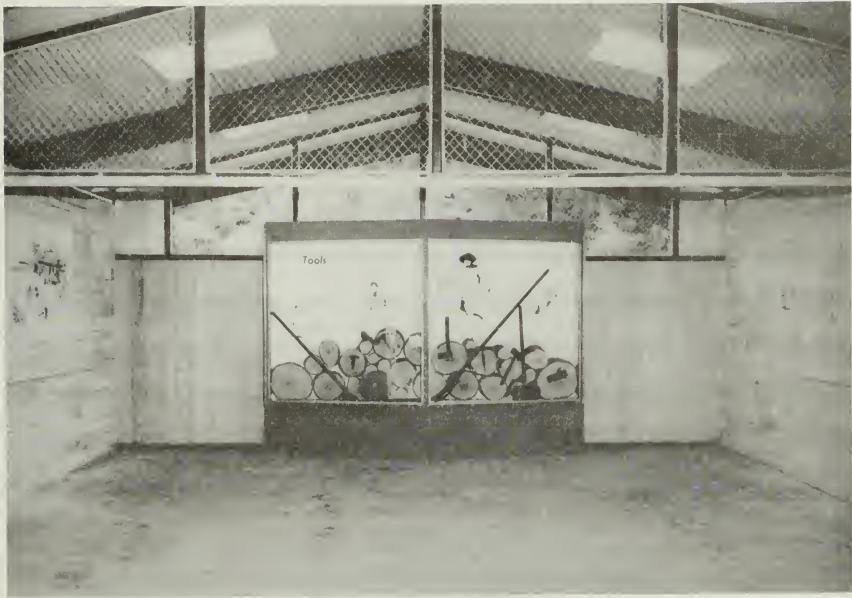


Figure 7-4. The exhibit shelter, circa 1966. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 4, photographer unknown.

showing the Lincolns clearing the land.<sup>26</sup> The shelter exhibits were revised again in 1970, when an artist used Historian Edwin C. Bearss' Historical Base Map as the basis for a presentation of the Pigeon Creek community.<sup>27</sup>

While Al Banton very effectively oversaw the fulfillment of development designed during Burns' tenure as superintendent, his favorite project was the creation of Lincoln Boyhood's living historical farm. Historian Roy Appleman informed Superintendent Banton of Marion Clawson's (Foundation Resources for the Future) concept of a nationwide series of living historical farms representing a variety of regions and time periods. National Park Service Director George Hartzog liked the idea, and had ordered Appleman to investigate the suitability of living historical farms at Lincoln Boyhood and at George Washington Birthplace, Virginia.<sup>28</sup> Represented by Historian Appleman, the Service was working with the Department of Agriculture and the Smithsonian Institution in a joint venture to establish a system of farms in accordance with Clawson's concept.<sup>29</sup> Banton wanted to build a cabin near the historic farmsite to give visitors something to see when they walked the trail past the cemetery toward the historic farm, and was no doubt very pleased that his longtime friend, Hartzog, shared his enthusiasm. In November of 1966, Hartzog's office instructed

Banton to take action "as soon as possible to plan a development . . . of that part of the Park which incorporates the original Thomas Lincoln farm as a period farm of the 1816-1830[s]." <sup>30</sup> When Director Hartzog, Regional Director Lemuel Garrison, and Associate Regional Director George Palmer visited Lincoln Boyhood in 1967, Banton suggested building a living historical farm near the location of Lincoln's farmstead. He estimated the cost of the project at \$10,000. <sup>31</sup> Although Hartzog made no commitment during his visit,\* Banton's timing was right. By this time, Director Hartzog was hoping to develop living historical farms in National Park Service areas before the Smithsonian Institution could initiate a similar program; he feared the Smithsonian would take the lead in historical environmental education. <sup>32</sup> In 1967, Hartzog actively supported living history developments at George Washington Birthplace and Booker T. Washington National Monument, Virginia, and Hartzog had no problem promoting a living historical farm at Lincoln Boyhood.

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\*While Director Hartzog made no commitment to Superintendent Banton during the visit, while en route to the airport at Evansville he informed Regional Director Garrison and Assistant Regional Director Palmer that he would see that his office approved the project. Palmer recalled no opposition to the living historical farm on the regional level; he said the resistance to the concept was in the Washington office. See George A. Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.

Banton continued to discuss the idea with staff of the Northeast Regional Office. Apparently, the regional office considered two options: a living historical farm "oriented to the bronze foundation" as a symbol of the 1817 foundation; or a "period" farm based on the report Historian Ed Bearss prepared at Hartzog's request.<sup>33</sup> House Appropriations Committee member Winfield Denton supported a living historical farm for Lincoln Boyhood, believing it would attract tourism. Finally, in early 1968, Banton got his long-awaited call from Associate Regional Director Palmer. "'You've got the money,'" Palmer told Banton. "'Go!!'"<sup>34\*</sup>

Robert (Bob) Utley, Assistant Director for Park Historic Preservation, noted some restrictions on the project based on Park Service policies. He observed that the demolition of the wall surrounding the cabin site memorial and the relocation of the Trail of Twelve Stones would have a negative impact on Lincoln Boyhood's historic resources, and could not be undertaken. He also warned against the reconstruction of the springhouse, which would violate policies governing reconstructions. He admonished that the

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\*For additional information about living history in the National Park Service, see Barry Mackintosh, Interpretation in the National Park Service: A Historical Perspective (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, History Division, 1986), 54-67.



farm must be considered an "interpretive development" and reminded those involved that the memorial's primary resources remained the site and the memorial structures.<sup>35</sup> Regional Director Lemuel Garrison agreed to limit the project to the portion of the historic farm north of Highway 345, and not to remove the cabin site memorial.<sup>36</sup> Generally, Banton had no problem with these restrictions.\* He intended the farm as a device through which farms like Thomas Lincoln's (and not Lincoln's, specifically) would be interpreted.<sup>37</sup>

The site of the living historical farm was tested for archeological material, but no remnants of the historic farm were located. This was not surprising, since four feet of grading occurred when the state installed the bronze memorial.<sup>38</sup> Ground clearing for the farm began on February 25, 1968, and the buildings and fences were standing on the site by the end of April.<sup>39</sup>

In a discussion with Superintendent Banton and Director Hartzog about appropriate materials for the farm's

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\*There was one restriction Banton ignored. Believing six of the stones in the Trail of Twelve Stones interfered with the farm, Banton ordered them moved from the north to the south side of the railroad tracks in 1967. Superintendent Norm Hellmers had them moved back to their historic locations in 1986. See note to files, Don F. Adams, Interview with Elmer Stein, March 22, 1985.

construction, Assistant Regional Director George Palmer insisted that local logs be used. Elsewhere in Northeast Region parks, "period" log cabins built of new logs had been constructed, and Palmer found these unsatisfactory because they did not look historic. Banton agreed; in fact, he wanted only aged logs for the farm.<sup>40</sup> Maintenance Worker Elmer Stein searched the area for old farm buildings, and purchased the old Bryant house near Gentryville and a barn from the Reiss Family near Chrisney, Indiana. He went to Hodgenville, Kentucky, to study the appropriate construction techniques, and hired Oatis Tribbie and Abner Crews to lead the work crews. The park hired eight others,\* all unemployed local residents, to disassemble the structures and rebuild them on the farmsite.

Generally, it took one day to knock down a structure, another day to move it, and approximately two weeks to rebuild it on site. When completed, the complex included a hewn log cabin (see Figure 7-5), hewn log barn with shed, a smokehouse, a corncrib, a chicken house (added later), and a

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\*The crew members were Fred Smith, Robert Longabaugh, Thomas Richards, Russel Frickes, Orville J. Day, Mason W. Bryant, Wayne Byers, and Donald Byers. Crews, Tribbie, Smith, and Longabaugh were rehired to work at the farm in 1969.



Figure 7-5. The reconstructed cabin at the living historical farm, 1973. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 1, photographed by Richard Frear.

workshop, all enclosed by split rail fences. The project cost \$9,597.28.<sup>41</sup>

Ed Bearss' report and Ida Tarbell's The Life of Abraham Lincoln, Volume 1, provided the information needed for the selection of appropriate crops.<sup>42</sup> The farm featured oats, corn, flax, and cotton, cabbage, tobacco, peppers, corn, pumpkins, kidney beans, radishes, tomatoes, beets, rutabagas, cucumbers, potatoes, muskmelons, watermelons, and gourds.<sup>43</sup> Banton purchased open-pollinated yellow dent corn advertised in the Prairie Farmer magazine from Gordon Neal of Mount Vernon, Iowa.<sup>44</sup>\* Northrup, King, and Co. of Minneapolis furnished the flax,<sup>45</sup> and the New York State Historical Association provided guidance in "growing flax based on nineteenth century practices."<sup>46</sup> Banton contracted with the Smithsonian Institution to study appropriate furnishings for the living historical farm in 1969,<sup>47</sup> and in 1977, Superintendent Bill Riddle contracted with Hank Waltmann of Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana, to study period livestock and poultry.<sup>48</sup> Mia Feightner of Iowa State

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\*When a corn blight attacked southern Indiana in 1970, all the farmers' fields turned brown within three days, except Lincoln Boyhood's yellow dent corn. Banton enjoyed teasing the local farmers by displaying some of his healthy corn in the rear window of his car. Albert W. Banton, Jr., Interview with author, Indianapolis, Indiana, September 19, 1985.

University, Ames, Iowa, did a thesis on "Clothing and Accessories Available to Pioneers of Southern Indiana, 1816-1830" and a "Handbook for Contemporary Reproduction of Pioneer Indiana Dress" complete with patterns in that same year.<sup>49</sup>

Banton used the information gathered by the Smithsonian to guide his maintenance staff in the construction of appropriate reproduction furnishings during the winter. Most were in place by the 1969 visitor season.<sup>50</sup> (See Figure 7-6.)

In 1982, a visitor brought to the attention of the Lincoln Boyhood staff the existence of a log cabin displayed at Chicago's Century of Progress Exposition in 1933-34. The cabin, billed as "Lincoln's Indiana home," was purchased by Charles Garfield King. In 1945, King moved the cabin to Lake Forest, Illinois. The National Park Service has not been able to verify the cabin's authenticity.<sup>51</sup> Coincidentally, the Indiana Lincoln Union had considered the purchase of the Century of Progress cabin in 1935, but rejected the idea believing it would be better to construct a representative period structure than place one of questionable significance on the site.<sup>52</sup> That reasoning is still valid.



Figure 7-6. Some of the cabin furnishings, 1967. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 32, photographed by Albert W. Banton, Jr.

Interestingly, many of the issues discussed prior to construction of the living historical farm and other development rose again when the Denver Service Center prepared a second draft Master Plan for Lincoln Boyhood in 1973-74.<sup>53</sup> The second draft also contained some new ideas. Among the alternatives proposed by the Service Center were the relocation of the bronze cabin site memorial outside of Lincoln Boyhood; partial demolition of the cabin site memorial; relocation of the Trail of Twelve Stones and placement of the stones around the plaza wall; utilization of wagon carts to transport visitors from the visitor center to the farm; and adaptation of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall as a museum on Pigeon Creek life, including recordings of "Dennis Hanks" recalling life in the small community. Other issues included the possible relocation of the railroad traversing the park; relocation of County Road A west of the memorial, and closure of County Road B through the park. The Service Center dropped the alternative proposing adaptation of the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall, and cost factors eliminated the wagon ride proposal.<sup>54</sup> Compliance and policy review restated the conclusions reached almost a decade earlier regarding the cabin site memorial and the Trail of Twelve



Stones;\* that is, they must remain in place.<sup>55</sup> Historian Roy Appleman's summary of the position merits quotation:

[At issue is] the ethical question of what liberty the Service may have in treating in the future the already developed memorial areas in the park as inherited from the State of Indiana. In general, . . . the Service should respect previously planned and executed memorial developments in an area, unless it can be demonstrate[d] beyond any doubt that a major error of information is involved. A previous generation, in these instances, has spent its money, energy, time, and veneration and love in these works, and they should not lightly be tampered with. [sic] Especially, they should not be bothered if only a difference in artistic taste is involved.<sup>56</sup>

The policy review also addressed the presence of the living historical farm. The Assistant Director for Park Historic Preservation, Robert M. Utley, and Midwest Regional Director Merrill Beal shared the concern that the farm detracted from the park's primary resources. Nevertheless, they felt it was acceptable as long as an appropriate level of attention was paid to the various resource types. As Utley stated:

If the living farm, in its present form, can continue to be operated in a way that does not detract from the park's legislated purpose as a memorial and does not jeopardize existing historic resources, its continuation may be justified. But to the extent that the farm's enhancement has now become the park's primary purpose and is being undertaken at the expense of historic structures [such as the proposal to move the stones and the

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\*Apparently the regional office, Washington office, and Denver Service Center were unaware that park staff moved six of the stones several years before.

cabin site memorial] and legislated theme, we recommend that a new planning effort be undertaken based on existing policies and actual park resources.<sup>57</sup>

Utley's position, with which Midwest Regional Director Merrill Beal concurred, forced a major revision of the draft plan. Proposals to relocate or remove resources put in place by the Indiana Department of Conservation were dropped. In response to Utley's remarks, the Denver Service Center planning team considered adding an alternative proposing the elimination of the farm, but decided it was not feasible.<sup>58</sup>

The major remaining issues focused on the closure and/or removal of roads and the railroad tracks. The early proposal concerning the railway recommended relocating the tracks so they would parallel the north/south boundary of the park. Further study showed that, while this would accomplish physical removal of the tracks from the park proper, it would not eliminate the visual and audible impacts of the railway. Further, the location of Heritage Hills High School 0.3 miles east of Lincoln Boyhood's eastern boundary precluded the safe relocation of the Cannelton spur to the proposed location paralleling the north/south boundary of the national memorial. Finally, the likelihood of the National Park Service obtaining sufficient funding to accomplish the relocation was extremely poor.

The Park Service's initial proposals concerning roads within the memorial boundary included the relocation of County Road A outside the west boundary of the park and the closure and obliteration of County Road B. Spencer County recommended that County Road A remain the same from the memorial's north boundary to Lincoln City, and that it follow an existing right-of-way within town. A third proposal suggested closing Road A from its intersection with County Road B to parking lot near the living historical farm.<sup>52</sup>

These issues drew considerable discussion at public meetings held in the visitor center on January 16, 1980. Public objections to the proposals centered around the safety issue and on potential interference with bus traffic to Heritage Hills High School. As a result of public comment, the National Park Service worked with Spencer County officials to develop the approved course of action. The General Management Plan provides for the relocation of County Road B to a site at the north end of the park-owned portion of the historic Lincoln farm; closure was deemed unfeasible because the road provided access to nearby Heritage Hills High School. Relocation of the railroad spur was determined equally unfeasible. The road leading from the visitor center to the interpretive shelter will remain, as will the existing

entrance road.<sup>60</sup> Approval of the General Management Plan in 1981 ended discussion of major development issues at Lincoln Boyhood.

Within the first decade of its establishment, Superintendents Bob Burns and Al Banton accomplished all the major physical development planned for Lincoln Boyhood. The job that remains is the management and maintenance of the park's physical resources, and its interpretation of the Indiana Lincoln story.

## CHAPTER 7 NOTES

1. Superintendent [Robert Burns] to [Regional] Director [Henry G. Schmidt], Northeast Region, March 1, 1971, Park files, Legislative History.
2. See 92nd Congress, 1st Session, House of Representatives, Report No. 92-743, December 10, 1971, pp. 9-10.
3. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Assistant Director [Ben Butterfield], Cooperative Programs, February 8, 1974.
4. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beall], Midwest Region, February 22, 1977; and Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beall], May 26, 1977, Park files, Grounds, Olmsted Report.
5. Albert W. Banton, Jr., interview with author, September 19, 1985, Indianapolis.
6. See Park files, Land Acquisition files.
7. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Programs Officer, Midwest Region, April 10, 1974.
8. E. Kenneth Marlin to John Peters, n.d., Park files, Relocation of Highway 162.
9. Dale News, April 10, 1964; Park files, Clippings.
10. Robert L. Burns, letter to author, January 1986.
11. Unidentified document, 1965, Park files, Legislative History.
12. Albert W. Banton, Jr., interview with author, September 19, 1985, Indianapolis; U. S. Department of Interior, "Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial: The Design and Development" (National Park Service, ca. 1965, Briefing statement); Burns, letter to author, January 1986; and Regional Director [Lemuel Garrison], Northeast Region to Chief [Robert G. Hall], Eastern Office of Design and Compliance, August 27, 1964, Park files, National Park Service Planning of the Visitor Center.
13. U.S.D.I., "Lincoln Boyhood: Design and Development."
14. Ibid.

15. Park files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
16. Banton interview.
17. Note to files, Charlotte N. Baird, Park files, Clippings.
18. Elmer F. Stein, interview with author, July 9, 1985, Lincoln City; Burns, letter to author, January 1986; and Superintendent [Robert Burns] to Richard E. Bishop, May 18, 1964; and Richard E. Bishop to Robert L. Burns, June 11, 1964, both in Park files, Park Proposals: Proposal to Build a Museum onto the Memorial Building.
19. Charlotte N. Baird, interview with author, July 10, 1985, Lincoln City.
20. Evansville Courier and Press, Park files, Yearly Activities, 1966.
21. Superintendent Al Banton to Mrs. William M. Dickson, September 23, 1966; D. F. Blackburn to Superintendent Al Banton, August 9, 1966; and Ralph H. Lewis to Morton H. Broffman, March 2, 1970, all in Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Morrell Prints.
22. Note to files, Supervisory Park Ranger Don Adams, November 9, 1983, Park files, Memorial Visitor Center, Construction, 1941.
23. George A. Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.
24. Burns to author; Baird interview; and Park files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
25. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Chief, Eastern Museum Laboratory, March 4, 1966; and Shelter Exhibit Plan, 1966, both in Park files, Grounds, Exhibit Shelter.
26. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Regional Director [Fred C. Fagergren], Midwest Region, August 21, 1966, Park files, Grounds, Exhibit Shelter.
27. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Chief, Branch of Exhibit Production, n.d., Park files, Grounds, Exhibit Shelter.

28. Roy Appleman to Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.], August 12, 1966, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
29. Report, Roy E. Appleman, October 10, 1966, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
30. Acting Assistant Director, Operations [Harthon L. Bill] to Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.], November 4, 1966; Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
31. Banton interview.
32. Palmer to author, May 22, 1987.
33. Frank Barnes to Al Banton, December 18, 1867, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related; and telephone conversation, Ed Bearss to author, July 5, 1985.
34. Banton interview; and Barry Mackintosh, Interpretation in the National Park Service: A Historical Perspective (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, History Division, 1986), 58.
35. Telephone conversation, Ed Bearss to author, July 5, 1985; and Barry Mackintosh to author, June 4, 1985.
36. Regional Director [Lemuel Garrison], Northeast Region to Director [George Hartzog], February 2, 1968, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Planning.
37. Banton interview.
38. Ibid.; Edward McM. Larrabee, "Preliminary Excavations at the Cabin Site, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana (National Park Service, Midwest Archeological Center, 1967, Typescript), 1; and Appleman Report.
39. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Director [George Hartzog], January 30, 1969, Park files, Publications and Interpretive Services.
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42. Banton interview.
43. Ibid.
44. Ibid.; and Albert W. Banton, Jr. to Gordon Neal, March 11, 1969, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
45. Albert W. Banton, Jr. to Northrup, King, and Co., April 25, 1969, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
46. See Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
47. Mrs. Frederick R. Walters to Superintendent Albert W. Banton, Jr., March 4, 1969, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
48. Hank Waltmann to James Schaack, February 26, 1977, Park files, Living Historical Farm, Farm and Related.
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50. Park files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
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Region [1976]; Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal] to Manager [John W. Henneberger], Denver Service Center, October 1, 1976; and Assistant Director [Robert Utley], Park Historic Preservation to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal], Midwest Region, June 1976, all in Midwest Region files, Programs and Budget.

56. Roy Appleman to Chief, Interpretation and Visitor Services, October 10, 1966, Midwest Region files, Programs and Budget.

57. Policy Review, Robert Utley [June 1976].

58. Programs Analyst Jim Hooyboer to Central Files, December 20, 1977, Midwest Region files, Programs and Budget.

59. General Management Plan (Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1981), 8-11.

60. Trip report, Associate Regional Director [John Kawamoto], Planning and Resource Preservation, Midwest Region to Regional Director [J. L. Dunning], Midwest Region, January 23, 1980; Superintendent [Warren D. Beach] to Regional Director [J. L. Dunning], Midwest Region, November 1, 1979; Regional Director [J. L. Dunning], Midwest Region to Manager [Denis P. Galvin], Denver Service Center, June 5, 1981; and Superintendent [Warren D. Beach] to Associate Regional Director [John Kawamoto], Planning and Resource Preservation, Midwest Region, April 21, 1980, all in Midwest Region files, Programs and Budget.

## CHAPTER 8

### Maintaining the Memorial

During the early years, Elmer Stein comprised the entire permanent maintenance staff at Lincoln Boyhood. Stein was an employee of the Department of Conservation who became a permanent National Park Service employee shortly after Superintendent Bob Burns entered on duty at Lincoln Boyhood.

Even in those early days, Lincoln Boyhood sometimes augmented the permanent staff with temporary help. When Clerk-Stenographer Charlotte Baird joined the staff in October of 1963, she assisted the superintendent in hiring 67 men. The National Park Service employed the men from mid-October through mid-January to do grounds work, primarily the clearing of underbrush in the forested parts of the park. Elmer Stein supervised the crew.<sup>1</sup>

More often, Stein worked alone, or with the assistance of one or two seasonal laborers. In addition to grounds maintenance, Stein cleared a fire line on the park's eastern boundary in 1964. He and Superintendent Burns refinished the floors and pews in the Abraham Lincoln hall that same year. Stein sanded the floor, Burns lay down on the pews, and slid along applying varnish as he went. Unfortunately, the

varnish fumes caused Burns a terrible headache, and Stein was left to finish the job alone. Burns hired a woman to come to the park two days each week to clean the memorial building.<sup>2</sup>

The staff grew slightly during the Banton years, but the needs increased simultaneously with the completion of the visitor center addition and the two park residences. The construction of the living historical farm in 1968 further complicated the maintenance operation at Lincoln Boyhood. Maintenance at the farm involves costumed workers raising crops and caring for livestock using historical methods (see Figure 8-1). Al Banton hired separate crews for the farm and the more traditional maintenance duties, and Denny Beach continued the practice, although some crossover of duties existed.<sup>3</sup> The current superintendent, Norm Hellmers, uses some laborers primarily at the farm and others primarily for traditional maintenance work, but encourages the utilization of his maintenance staff for all duties.<sup>4</sup>

Over the years, the maintenance staff accomplished several major projects in addition to day-to-day care of the grounds and buildings. Although records for each year are not available, a selected review of projects undertaken at Lincoln Boyhood documents the resurfacing of trails; the installation of a water line servicing the visitor center;



Figure 8-1. Farmers John Varner and Clyde Bench working in the corn field, 1968. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 376, photographed by Albert W. Banton, Jr.

and resurfacing the visitor center parking lot, and the residential/utility road in 1971. The National Park Service hired a professional tree service to remove damaged trees that same year.<sup>5</sup>

The first reports of leaks in the memorial visitor center's roof appeared in Lincoln Boyhood's 1972 annual report.<sup>6</sup> The problem recurred over the years, and several attempts to correct the problem proved unsuccessful. Finally, in 1985, the roof was replaced in kind at a cost of \$50,000. Among the other projects undertaken by the National Park Service was the 1977 establishment of an environmental study area in a portion of the historic Thomas Lincoln farm never used for crop production; the park replanted the area and allowed the area north of the living historical farm structures to reforest. In 1980, a concrete walk leading from the plaza parking lot around the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall to a rear entrance was added, and restrooms were adapted for handicapped accessibility. Safety handrailings along the steps of the courtyard were constructed in 1984 to provide safer access for visitors. In 1985, the park repainted the exterior of the water tank.<sup>7</sup>

The introduction of Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) crews in 1978 greatly expanded the park's ability to

undertake special projects. In Fiscal Year 1978, YACC crews cleaned and repaired picnic tables in Lincoln State Park, installed new signs, constructed barbed wire fences along the boundary, picked up trash, sanded benches, stacked logs, constructed new trails (see Figure 8-2), built a new trailer-port for the park's trailer-housing, maintained drainage ditches, and assisted in the renovation of the maintenance facility.<sup>8</sup> Young Adult Conservation Corps projects in Fiscal Year 1979 included re-sodding worn areas near the cabin, cleaning ox and cattle pens, washing and waxing park vehicles, cleaning windows and floors, trimming trees, painting equipment, posting boundary signs, improving the allee trails, rust-proofing and painting metal fences, unloading and stacking hay, running a water line to the drinking fountain, and painting curbs and parking stripes.<sup>9</sup> A similar variety of projects were recorded for YACC crews until 1981, when the program disbanded. In 1983, Lincoln Boyhood utilized the Comprehensive Education Training Act (CETA) program to hire youths to rehabilitate trails, and clean the grounds and visitor center; in subsequent years, Student Youth Employment Program (SYEP) crews were hired for similar projects.<sup>10</sup>

On one occasion, a maintenance project at Lincoln Boyhood was used to train maintenance workers from other





Figure 8-2. Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) crew building a new trail, 1977. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 435, photographer unknown.

Midwest Region parks. When the visitor center required repointing in 1977, Midwest Region restoration specialist Ray Kunkel conducted a training course in tuckpointing which was attended by two members of Lincoln Boyhood's maintenance staff, one from Lincoln Home, Illinois, two from Sleeping Bear Dunes, Michigan, and one from Apostle Islands, Wisconsin. (See Figure 8-3.) The week-long course received considerable attention in area newspapers.<sup>11</sup>

In spite of the frustration mentioned by several superintendents concerning funding and staffing levels for maintenance, the program at Lincoln Boyhood has run smoothly. When resources were limited, most superintendents made the public areas their first priority; non-public facilities such as park residences and maintenance buildings have taken a back seat. Overall, the grounds and facilities have consistently been well-maintained.



Figure 8-3. Participants of a 1977 training course repointing the memorial visitor center. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 444, photographer unknown.

## CHAPTER 8 NOTES

1. Charlotte N. Baird, interview with author, July 10, 1985, Lincoln City.
2. Robert L. Burns, letter to author, January 1986.
3. Warren D. Beach, letter to author, December 1985.
4. Telephone conversation, Superintendent Norman Hellmers with author, November 14, 1986.
5. See Park files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
6. Annual report, 1972.
7. Midwest Region files, Cultural Resources Management project files.
8. Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) Project Plans, November 30, 1977, Park files, Young Adult Conservation Corps.
9. Ibid., August 15, 1978.
10. Press release, July 29, 1983, Park files, Yearly Activities, 1983.
11. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal], Midwest Region, February 29, 1983; Dale News, May 20, 1977; and Jasper Herald, May 21, 1977, in Park files, Yearly Activities, 1977.



## CHAPTER 9

### Interpretation

When Lincoln Boyhood's first superintendent, Bob Burns, arrived at Lincoln City in mid-1963, he faced the tremendous tasks of defining the role of the national memorial in the community and establishing its interpretive programs. Burns made the two tasks one. His stated objectives for the park's first year of operation were to inform the public concerning the National Park Service, its programs, and its services; to publicize Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial; and to inform the public about Abraham Lincoln's boyhood years (a shift from the prior decades, which focused on Nancy Hanks Lincoln's death and gravesite).<sup>1</sup> Burns' first major step was the initiation of a series of television programs on station WTVW (channel 7), an Evansville station, as discussed in Chapter 6, above. Sponsored by the Southwestern Indiana Educational Television Council, the programs continued for two years. A partial listing of the subjects of those programs is contained in Appendix D.

The television programs were remarkably successful in acquainting the public with the National Park Service and the differences between the Service and the state park system. The programs brought the park's interpretive programs to a

wide audience and created public support for the new area. While residents of southern Indiana were well aware of the western "jewels" of the National Park System, Burns' television programs made them equally familiar with the "gem" close to home.<sup>2</sup>

Superintendent Burns enjoyed firm and friendly working relationships with area newspapers, resulting in frequent articles and positive editorials on events at Lincoln Boyhood. Burns often wrote the articles published in the nearby Dale, Indiana, News. In addition to spreading the word about Lincoln Boyhood and the National Park Service, Burns used the television and newspaper contacts to request donations of Lincoln-related materials.<sup>4</sup>

In 1964, he initiated evening programs at Lincoln State Park to supplement the interpretive programs at the national memorial. He also began permanent staffing of the visitor contact desk that year.<sup>5</sup> Burns also worked toward the development of a quality brochure, and persuaded the Washington Office to allow him to order a more sedate and appropriate cover for the folder than the conventional blue and yellow lightning bolts used on most park folders in the early 1960s.<sup>6</sup>



Both Bob and Vivian Burns were active in the Lincoln Hills Arts and Crafts Association, a local arts and crafts organization which chose Mrs. Burns as its first president. Mr. and Mrs. Burns learned to spin with a 125-year old spinning wheel, and gave demonstrations at Lincoln Boyhood and elsewhere in the area. Bill Koch hired Vivian Burns to demonstrate her skills seasonally at Santa Claus Land (now Holiday World) using a second great wheel Bob purchased and rebuilt. The superintendent also gave demonstrations, including an eight-hour presentation at the 1965 Golden Rain Tree Festival in New Harmony, Indiana. When the Burns family transferred to Nez Perce in 1965, Koch sought their aid in finding another wheel to continue the demonstrations at Santa Claus.<sup>7</sup>

In two short years, Bob Burns made great strides in developing the park's interpretive program and building public support for the National Park Service. His successor, Al Banton, built on the foundation Burns had laid. Adding some programs and eliminating others, Banton's program was different, but still focused on Lincoln's boyhood years in Indiana.

Among the programs Banton eliminated were the weekly television broadcasts. Banton wanted to spend more time

buiding the onsite interpretive program and felt he could not do both well, so he discontinued the weekly telecasts.<sup>8</sup>

A major addition to onsite interpretive program was the completion of a film, "Here I Grew Up." Narrated by Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois, the film interprets young Abraham Lincoln's days in southern Indiana. Filmed at New Salem, Illinois, it featured several local residents and park staff members and their families, who volunteered to participate.<sup>9</sup> "Here I Grew Up" debuted in Washington, D. C., in a Lincoln Day celebration on February 11, 1968,<sup>10</sup> and is still shown daily in the visitor center at Lincoln Boyhood.

The film's longevity is more interesting because Superintendent Banton tried to scuttle it before it was released in 1968. Shortly before its completion, Banton saw a light-and-sound presentation at another park, and felt it was a fresher, more modern interpretive show. He hoped to replace the unveiled film with a similar light-and-sound show for Lincoln Boyhood. Banton failed to stop the film's release, however,<sup>11</sup> and although somewhat dated, visitors continue to enjoy its simple story.

Banton's most popular impact on Lincoln Boyhood's interpretive program was the establishment of the living

historical farm. Construction began March 5, 1968, and the major structures were in place two months later. Banton had some seasonals on duty that summer, all men. They cleared fields, planted crops, and split rails and firewood. Perhaps the biggest problem for the first summer's laborers was locating appropriate historic tools to use in the work.<sup>12</sup>

The farm was still under construction when Democratic Senator Robert F. Kennedy and his family visited the park while in the area during the 1968 presidential primary campaign. Kennedy ate food prepared by the farmers and placed a bouquet on Mrs. Lincoln's grave.<sup>13</sup> A few weeks later, Kennedy was assassinated in Los Angeles.

In 1969, the living historical farm opened for its first full interpretive season. (See Figure 9-1.) Banton hired several seasonal interpreters to work solely at the farm. Most came with special skills; others learned while on the job from the experts such as Mary Conen. A few came with some skills, like knitting, and learned others, such as spinning.<sup>14</sup> Each kept a daily log of the tasks performed at the farm. During that first summer, Banton had at least one man and one woman doing costumed interpretation every day. The men worked in the fields, cared for the animals, and demonstrated rail splitting, wood-chopping, shingle-riving,



Figure 9-1. Interpreters Ruthanne Heriot, Judy Schum, and Mary Carlisle working at the living historical farm, 1973. National Park Service photograph files, negative no. 3, photographed by Richard Frear.

horseback riding, smoking meats, and (beginning in 1970) firing the flintlock rifle. The women gave demonstrations in candlemaking, soapmaking, herb-gathering, dye-making, gardening, and spinning.<sup>15</sup>

In 1970, added funds permitted an increase in the interpretive staff, and the living history season stretched from April through October. Visitors loved the program. To preserve the demonstrations done by some of the older crafters, the park obtained a video tape recorder and taped the demonstrations. The tapes were used to teach the skills to subsequent interpreters, and for shows during the off-season.<sup>16</sup> Although the visitor center closed on Mondays and Tuesdays from November 1, 1971, through April 1, 1972, the farm remained open year round. Winter farm life became part of Lincoln Boyhood's interpretive story.<sup>17</sup>

In spite of the living historical farm's popularity, Superintendent Banton recognized its shortcomings. Banton fully understood that the farm could not recreate the survival atmosphere which must have surrounded the struggling Lincoln farm, particularly during the first few years. He knew the living history demonstrations lacked the context of the Pigeon Creek community. He knew the park could utilize only a small portion of the land once farmed by the Lincoln

family. He recognized that modern visitors often failed to realize that historically, the cabin was used primarily for sleeping, eating, and a few other activities. Almost everything else was done outdoors. Nevertheless, Banton resolved to do the best interpretation of an early-nineteenth century southern Indiana farm possible.<sup>18</sup> He determined to use historical farming methods when visitors were present, but to save time and money by utilizing modern techniques when they were not.<sup>19</sup> He tried to bring the Indiana Lincoln story alive.

Among Banton's favorite ways to do that was reaching children. The Service's initiation of a National Environmental Education Development (NEED) program in 1968 provided a wonderful opportunity to do just that. In cooperation with Educational Consulting Service Director Mario Menesini, the National Park Service developed a program to encourage environmental awareness in school and park interpretive programs; materials were developed for use in schools, and many parks established National Environmental Study Areas for children's onsite learning. Banton initiated an environmental awareness program at Lincoln Boyhood that same year; Director George Hartzog announced the program at a dinner held in the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall. As discussed in the chapter on development, Banton returned a portion of

the historic Lincoln farm never used for crop production to its early-nineteenth century natural state. In cooperation with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (formerly the Department of Conservation) and Lincoln State Park, Banton then started a program in which schoolchildren camped in the state park, and participated in activities there and at the living historical farm.<sup>20</sup>

Under the National Environmental Education Development program, students in fourth through sixth grades churned butter, planted corn, split shakes, carved wood, learned to spin, and made gravestone rubbings.<sup>21</sup> In 1971, three schools from Rockport and Muncie, Indiana, signed up for the program, and the Dale Girl Scouts helped with the spring planting. The following year, the camp served four schools, including one from Evansville, Indiana.<sup>22</sup>

Superintendent Bill Riddle cultivated the NEED program, and in 1974 the camp served five schools, or approximately 400 children grades four through six.<sup>23</sup> The number of schools involved in the NEED program continued throughout the Seventies.

Undoubtedly, the living historical farm was, from its inception, an extremely popular program. It still is. It



must be noted, however, that the farm interpretive program is not without controversy. Some within the National Park Service are concerned that the farm places emphasis on "material aspects of farm life rather than the subject that the area was intended to commemorate."<sup>24</sup> Proponents of the farm argue that it is the farm which brings many visitors to the national memorial, where they then discover the significance of the park. Although the debate may continue indefinitely, so likely will the program, as long as it retains the support of Lincoln Boyhood's superintendents. To date, Superintendents Banton, Riddle, Beach, and Hellmers all enthusiastically embraced the living historical farm.

Some changes in the living history program occurred over time. Banton originally hired interpreters for the farm or the visitor center, and rarely used them for other than their intended duties. By 1969, however, superintendents allowed some crossover of duties, and actively scheduled interpreters at alternating jobs to give them a fuller understanding of the entire memorial.<sup>25</sup> Over the years, too, the interpretive demonstrations at the farm have become more refined and better organized. The farm is undeniably a vital part of the park's interpretive program.

Other interpretive projects also grew and developed. Park staff gave offsite demonstrations at various schools and for groups like the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana. Various clubs used the Nancy Hanks Lincoln hall for their regular meetings. Sunday services and occasional weddings took place in the Abraham Lincoln hall (sometimes called the chapel).

In 1976, Superintendent Riddle, Park Technician Gerald (Jerry) Sanders, and others participated in weekly radio shows called "Along the Lincoln Trail" on Jasper, Indiana, station WITZ. Riddle also joined Lincoln State Park Superintendent Bill Carlisle and Lincoln Boyhood Park Technician Mary Carlisle on an Indianapolis television show, and an Evansville station did a program on the living historical farm.<sup>26</sup>

To celebrate the bicentennial of the nation's independence, Lincoln Boyhood initiated a summer film festival in 1976<sup>27</sup> and hosted a special play commemorating the bicentennial. Franklin S. Roberts Associates, Inc., of Philadelphia toured the nation with a special outdoor program called "We've Come Back for a Little Look Around." Jointly sponsored by Franklin S. Roberts Associates and Temple University, the six actors portrayed some of our founding

fathers who returned to take a look at the United States after its first two centuries. (See Figure 9-2.) The park held three showings on July 24, 1975; attendance at the shows totalled more than 600 visitors.<sup>28</sup> The park also staffed bicentennial celebration booths at the Indiana State Fair and the Spencer County Fair in 1975.<sup>29</sup>

Riddle's successor, Warren D. Beach, continued to improve the authenticity of the farm interpretation, and expanded off-site visits to schools, nursing homes, and elsewhere.<sup>30</sup> Over the 1980 Memorial Day holiday, Beach ran three films based on Carl Sandburg's biography of Lincoln and starring Hal Holbrook. On the Fourth of July holiday weekend, Lincoln Boyhood sponsored another film festival featuring the full series of films based on Sandburg's biography.<sup>31</sup> The series was well-received, and Beach repeated the showings on the Labor Day weekend. Labor Day celebrations in 1980 also included a candlelit walk from the visitor center to the gravesite and on to the farm.<sup>32</sup> Lincoln Boyhood held another film festival on October 4-5, 1981. This time, they showed "A New Birth of Freedom," a biographical sketch filmed at related National Park Service sites, and "Lincoln: The Kentucky Years."<sup>33</sup>



Figure 9-2: A special bicentennial program, "We've Come Back for a Little Look Around," was featured in the courtyard in front of the visitor center on July 24, 1976. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial photograph files, negative no. 551, photographer unknown.

The October 1981 festival coincided with Superintendent Norman Hellmers' arrival at Lincoln Boyhood. Apparently Hellmers liked the public's response, for film festivals continued to be special features of Lincoln Boyhood's interpretive program. In 1982, Hellmers showed "The Assassination of Lincoln" on Memorial Day weekend<sup>34</sup> and repeated "New Birth of Freedom" over the Fourth of July.<sup>35</sup> The following year Lincoln Boyhood ran films intermittently throughout the summer.<sup>36</sup>

Hellmers introduced other special programs in 1983. An Arbor Day program featured songs, poems, and talks about trees.<sup>37</sup> There was a special touch-and-feel exhibit in the visitor center May 15-21.<sup>38</sup> June 19-25, Lincoln Boyhood sponsored "Mary Conen's Pioneer Kids Corner" for which children were invited to dress up like pioneers and bring a camera to have their pictures taken at the farm. In July and August, three-year-old horses Babe and Maude and colt Lottie demonstrated "Lincoln's Horsepower" to visitors.<sup>39</sup> Park Technician Jerry Sanders' "Abraham Lincoln Fact Book and Teacher's Guide," published by Eastern National Park & Monument Association (ENP&MA)\* in 1982, became a standard

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\*The Association uses the ampersand symbol (&) rather than spelling out the word "and" in their name, and includes the ampersand in their acronym.

sales item in the visitor center.<sup>40</sup> Sanders' publication drew national attention when it was featured in the ENP&MA newsletter in the spring of 1983.<sup>41</sup>

Affiliation with the Eastern National Park & Monument Association has proved a great boon to Lincoln Boyhood's interpretive program since the park's inception. Membership allows park areas to purchase sales items (books, postcards, and slides) on consignment or at wholesale costs, then resell them to visitors for a profit. The Association also provides "grants" for small research projects, and helps buy equipment for interpretive programs. At Lincoln Boyhood, ENP&MA even purchased livestock for the living historical farm. In recent years, ENP&MA returned a "percentage donation" of funds to each member park based on that park's sales for the previous year. These funds are used for a variety of interpretive programs at Lincoln Boyhood, including the printing of free brochures and similar materials. The quantity of sales generated by Lincoln Boyhood made it possible for the park to hire sales personnel paid with Eastern funds. For several years, one position was thus funded; now the park hires two salespersons each year with ENP&MA funds.

The Eastern coordinator keeps books for the operation and places orders. At Lincoln Boyhood, the coordinator traditionally has been the historian or park technician; the exception was Superintendent Al Banton, who chose to do the coordinator's duties himself.<sup>42</sup>

Lincoln Boyhood's interpretive operation has benefitted from other programs as well. A Christian Ministry in the National Parks (ACMNP) is a national organization formed in 1966. The program recruits ministry students to work in areas where church services may not be available locally. The student minister gives interdenominational services on Sundays and is usually employed elsewhere in the park or nearby community during the summer season. Lincoln Boyhood has frequently utilized the program to provide Protestant worship services during the summer season; Catholic services were provided by priests from the St. Meinrad Archabbey. Through a cooperative agreement with Lincoln State Park, the priest and student minister gave services in both places each Sunday. Generally, the ACMNP students worked seasonally at Lincoln Boyhood as either interpreters or on the maintenance staff, although some worked elsewhere in the Spencer County area. Participation in ACMNP has benefitted both the parks and their visitors.<sup>43</sup> Appendix E contains a list of ACMNP



ministers in the Lincoln City area over the twenty years since the program's inception.

Lincoln Boyhood's longstanding relationship with the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana has also benefitted the memorial's interpretive programs.\* Organized in the Gentryville, Indiana, home of Mrs. Abner Crews, the Club became state and nationally federated that same year through the efforts of Mrs. Oscar Briggins and Mrs. Benson J. Woods. The club's purpose is to gather information about Lincoln, to preserve and extend Lincoln's heritage in southern Indiana, and to improve the historic Lincoln community.<sup>44</sup>

Over the years, Lincoln Boyhood profited from several Lincoln Club activities. In the 1960s, the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana sponsored a statewide campaign to acquire books on Lincoln and other subjects for the park library. The club donated some 500 volumes in the Sixties. Further, the Lincoln Club has worked with the National Park Service to sponsor Lincoln Day activities at the national memorial since

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\*In fact, the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana was a friend to Lincoln Boyhood before the park existed. The club actively campaigned for the park's authorization. In recognition of their efforts, the Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs granted the Lincoln Club the first place award for community improvement in 1963.

the park's inception. The programs traditionally feature a speaker in the Abraham Lincoln hall followed by a gravesite service presented by a Lincoln Club member or community member descended from Spencer County's pioneer families. Lincoln Club members frequently serve as volunteers in the park's interpretive and resources management programs.<sup>45</sup>

In 1973, the Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana began promoting an outdoor drama to present Lincoln's boyhood story to the public. The Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association (LBDA) was formed in 1977, and Mrs. Freda Schroder of the Lincoln Club was the association's first president. The Lincoln Club president continues to hold a seat on the LBDA board of directors. Lincoln Boyhood's superintendent also holds an ex-officio seat on the board. Almost all of the Lincoln Club's fundraising activities since 1977 have served to raise funds for the Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association.<sup>46</sup>

The Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association formed for the purpose of telling:

. . . the story of Abraham Lincoln's boyhood years, and at the same time, to convey the meaning of these events, both to the remainder of Lincoln's life as well as to the larger, long-term view of American history.<sup>47</sup>

The Association solicited memberships at \$25 each, and raised the funds to hire playwright Billy Edd Wheeler to prepare a

play focusing on young Lincoln's qualities, on the factors that influenced him, and on correcting some misconceptions concerning the Lincoln family's financial status, Abraham's parents, and their life in Indiana.<sup>48</sup>

Although the park does not have a formal relationship with the LBDA, Superintendent Norman Hellmers is on the Association's board of directors and has served on two committees. In a memorandum to Regional Director Charles Odeggaard on April 23, 1985, Hellmers stated his intention to form an agreement between the memorial and the LBDA to review the script for historical accuracy, and to promote the play.<sup>49</sup> Hellmers anticipated the production could eventually increase visitation at Lincoln Boyhood by some 40-50,000 per year.<sup>47</sup>

In 1985, the State of Indiana appropriated \$3.35 million for the construction of an amphitheater at Lincoln State Park. Construction was completed in June 1987.<sup>50</sup> The play, "Young Abe Lincoln," provided another major boon to Lincoln Boyhood's interpretive program beginning in the 1987 summer season.

The outdoor drama is a welcome complement to the variety of interpretive offerings at Lincoln Boyhood National

Memorial. Each superintendent has made strong contributions to the park's interpretive program. The result is a well-rounded strategy for bringing the Lincoln story to the public.

## CHAPTER 9 NOTES

1. Superintendent [Robert Burns] to Director [George Hartzog], January 29, 1964, Park Files, Publications and Interpretive Services; and Evansville Press, undated clipping, ca. 1963-64, Park Files, Clippings.
2. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Staff, Lincoln Boyhood, June 27, 1965, Park Files, Publications and Interpretive Services.
3. See Park Files, Clippings.
4. Dale News, July 31, 1964, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1964.
5. Superintendent [Robert Burns] to Director [George Hartzog], January 30, 1965, Park Files, Publications and Interpretive Services.
6. Robert Burns, letter to author, January 1986.
7. Ibid.; and unidentified news clipping, Park Files, Clippings.
8. Albert W. Banton, Jr., interview with author, September 19, 1985, Indianapolis.
9. Charlotte N. Baird, interview with author, July 10, 1985, Lincoln City.
10. Washington Star, February 11, 1968, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1968.
11. Baird interview.
12. Acting Superintendent to Regional Director [Lemuel Garrison], Northeast Region, September 11, 1968, Park Files, Living Historical Farm, Construction and Staff.
13. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Regional Director [Lemuel Garrison], Northeast Region, April 30, 1968, Park Files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.
14. Banton interview; and Baird interview.

15. Superintendent [Albert W. Banton, Jr.] to Assistant to the Regional Director, Cooperative Activities and Public Affairs, Northeast Region, September 2, 1969, Park Files, Chronological Reports, Reports to Region; and [Albert W. Banton, Jr., ] "Lincoln Living Historical Farm" (Lincoln City, 1969, Typescript).

16. See Park Files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.

17. Ibid.

18. "Lincoln Living Historical Farm."

19. Ibid.

20. Barry Mackintosh, Interpretation in the National Park Service: A Historical Perspective (Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, History Division, 1986), 68; and Park Files, Chronological Reports: Reports to Region.

21. Banton interview; Baird interview; and Operations Evaluation Report, July 18, 1972, Park Files, Park Evaluations.

22. Acting Superintendent to Assistant Director, Cooperative Activities, January 19, 1973, Midwest Region files, Central Files.

23. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Assistant Director, Cooperative Activities, February 8, 1974, Midwest Region Files, Central Files.

24. The words quoted are those of Bureau Historian Barry Mackintosh, in a note to the author, June 4, 1985. The opinion is shared by others within the National Park Service.

25. Telephone conversation, Superintendent Norman Hellmers with author, November 14, 1986.

26. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal], January 23, 1976, Midwest Region files, Central Files.

27. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal], Midwest Region, February 22, 1986, Midwest Region files, Central Files.

28. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Assistant to the Director for the Bicentennial, July 29, 1975; Franklin S.

Roberts and Wendy Appleton to [Acting Superintendent] Jim Burnett, n.d.; and press release, n.d., all in Park files, Unites States Bicentennial.

29. Superintendent [John C. W. Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal], Midwest Region, March 7, 1975, Park files, United States Bicentennial.

30. Warren D. Beach, letter to author, December 1985.

31. Press release, n.d.; and Jasper Herald, June 28, 1980, both in Park files, Yearly Activities, 1980.

32. Press release, n.d., Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1980.

33. Rockport Journal-Democrat, September 24, 1981, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1981.

34. Rockport Journal-Democrat, May 20, 1982, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1982.

35. Press release, June 17, 1982, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1982.

36. "Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial Special Summer Events Program" (National Park Service, n.d., Flier), Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1983.

37. "Arbor Day" (National Park Service, April 8, 1983, Program), Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1983.

38. Dubois County [Indiana] Herald, May 5, 1983, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1983.

39. Rockport Journal-Democrat, July 28, 1983, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1983.

40. Rockport Journal-Democrat, March 10, 1982, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1982.

41. Eastern National Park & Monument Association Newsletter, (Spring/Summer 1983), Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1983.

42. Banton interview; Beach, letter to author, December 1985; and Norman D. Hellmers to author, December 5, 1986.

43. Burns, letter to author, January 1986; Banton interview; Dale News, August 22, 1980, Park Files, Yearly Activities,



1980; Santa's Country, July 6, 1977, Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1977; and Park Files, Yearly Activities, 1983.

44. Memorandum, Park Ranger [Don F. Adams] to Superintendent, November 21, 1986.

45. Interview, Mrs. Glenn (Freda) Schroder with Don F. Adams, Lincoln City, November 20, 1986.

46. Ibid.

47. Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, Quality of Play and Production Committee, Statement of Purpose and Guidelines, (Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, [1985,] Draft), 2.

48. Superintendent [Norman Hellmers] to Regional Director [Charles H. Odegaard], Midwest Region, April 23, 1985, Midwest Region files, Central Files; Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, "Quality of Play and Production Committee, Statement of Purpose and Guidelines" (Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association, [1985,] Draft). Specifically, the Lincoln Boyhood Drama Association hoped to show that Abraham Lincoln's life was not overly tragic, his family was not poor, Thomas Lincoln was a responsible father, Nancy Hanks Lincoln was not illegitimate, and that the boy was called Abraham in his pre-law years.

49. Ibid.

50. Superintendent [Norman Hellmers] to Regional Director [Charles Odegaard], Midwest Region, April 23, 1985, Midwest Region files, Central Files.

## APPENDIX A

### Act Authorizing Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

#### 9. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial

Establishment authorized-----Act of February 19, 1962 Page  
383

An Act To provide for the establishment of the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial in the State of Indiana, and for other purposes, approved February 19, 1962 (76 Stat. 9)

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That in order to preserve the site in the State of Indiana associated with the boyhood and family of Abraham Lincoln, the Secretary of the Interior shall designate the original Tom Lincoln farm, the nearby gravesite of Nancy Hanks Lincoln, and such adjoining lands as he deems necessary for establishment as the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial. However, the area designated for establishment shall not exceed two hundred acres.

Lincoln Boy-  
hood National  
Memorial, Ind.  
Establishment.

SEC. 2. The Secretary is authorized to acquire by donation or purchase with donated or appropriated funds, land and interest in land within the designated area. When land has been acquired in sufficient quantity to afford an initially administrable unit of the national park system, he shall establish the Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial by publication of notice thereof in the Federal Register.

Publication  
in F.R.

SEC. 3. The Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior as a part of the national park system in accordance with provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes", approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented.

16 U.S.C. 1-43  
possim.

SEC. 4. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, but not more than \$1,000,000, of which not more than \$75,000 shall be expended for the acquisition of lands or interests in land.

Appropriation.



## APPENDIX B

Maintenance Guide for the Lincoln Memorial  
Prepared by Architect Richard E. Bishop  
November 1942

Origin of handwritten notes is unknown; some appear to be the writing of Robert D. Starrett, Supervisor of Memorials and Museum Curator for the Indiana Department of Conservation.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION  
STATE OF INDIANA

INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT LINCOLN MEMORIAL

DATE Nov. 11-42

A. V. BAILEY

FROM

RICHARD E. BISHOP

MAINTENANCE

The following notes were given -(long hand) to Mr. Jack Ritchie last week. He intends to start some of the cleaning as soon as possible -but the floor waxing and stone floors will probably not be done before you again visit the job.

Notes as given to Ritchie:-

Stone floors

1. Scrub (using concrete cleaner as per directions - take care to keep off of adjoining woodwork-work around the wood by hand. (Rinse with clear water).
2. Dry thoroughly.
3. Apply floor seal (1 coat only as per directions)
4. Let dry thoroughly before using

Brick Floors.

1. Scrub (using concrete cleaner, same as on stone floors). Scrape off spots of lime, etc., before scrubbing
2. Wax and polish when thoroughly dry.

Wood Floors

1. Sweep and dust thoroughly
2. Clean (do not scrub) all wood floors with (a minimum) of water and washing powder as per directions. This cleaning to be done by hand, using damp cloth (wring almost dry).
3. Wipe off the cleaning solution with cloth dampened (almost) dry in clear water only. Keep cleaning and wiping rags clean by frequent rinsing.
4. Dry immediately with dry cloths.
5. Wax and polish, using wax applicator and electric polisher. Wood floors to receive 3 coats wax-polished after each coat.

"LIGNOL  
Floorlife  
Cloth"

Very truly yours,  
(Signed) R. E. Bishop  
Architect.

REB/fd

DIRECTIONS FOR REGULAR MAINTENANCE WORK  
NANCY HANKS LINCOLN MEMORIAL BUILDING  
LINCOLN STATE PARK  
LINCOLN CITY, IND.

CLEANING STONE AND BRICK FLOORS

1. Stone Vestibul Floors--Clean of all spots and scrub with white laundry soap and water using a fibre scrubbing brush. The amount of soap required is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  bars of soap to the bucket of water or a sufficient quantity of soap powder to make a similar good soapy solution. The soap should be dissolved by being boiled, preferably in soft water. It is an advantage to add about 5 tablespoons of ammonia to a bucket of water. This helps cut the grease. After scrubbing, rinse thoroughly with clear water.
2. INTERIOR BRICK-FLOORS-- Clean with soap and water as described for stone floors. Finish with floor wax, same as used for wood floors and polish.
3. EXTERIOR BRICK FLOORS-- Clean with soap and water.

PAINTING AND WAXING (WOODWORK AND WOOD FLOORS)

1. All enameled woodwork (Yellow Poplar)

This woodwork (off-white in color) should be kept clean with a cleaning agent, especially prepared and recommended for cleaning fine enameled woodwork. When repainting is necessary, use Devco and Reynolds semi-gloss enamel, Color No. 837. For cleaning use, "Soilax" or if any other cleaning agent is used, the approval of the State Engineer's office must be obtained.

2. All oiled and Waxed Woodwork (All walnut and cherry and y-poplar beams and trusses).

All of this type of woodwork was given 2 coats of quick drying "Minwax".  $\frac{1}{16}$  part of Devco and Reynolds, brown mahogany, oil stain, was added for the cherry wood only. When dry, all walnut and cherry woodwork was waxed and polished.

Rewaxing should be done at least once a year and oftener if necessary. Use only the best grade of "carnauba" wax.

3. Dusting. All wood rails, sills, ledges, etc. should be kept free from dust at all times. This also applies to wood beams and truss members that are so placed as to catch dust. Trusses, roof beams, etc. should be dusted at least once each year.

4. Waxed Wood Floors. These oak floors were originally finished with liquid "Minwax" and then waxed and polished similar to the wood work. Floors should be rewaxed as necessary to keep them clean and polished. Before waxing, remove all dust and dirt. When stone dust or grit has been tracked into the floors, clean before waxing, using No. 1 steel wool with mild soap suds. Use only a minimum of water. The steel wool should be only

QUICK DRYING FLAT FINISH, NATURAL #209-S  
FOLLOW UP (MAINTAIN) WITH LIQUID FINISHING  
WAX AND PASTE WAX (FOR LIGHT FINISH)

damp. Wipe off the soapy water immediately.

#### 5. Painted Metal Work.

Iron railings and grilles and any other ornamental iron or exposed iron work should be kept free from rust and painted with dull black exterior paint. Iron work should be inspected at least once each year.

#### 6. Exterior Wood Doors and Frames.

All of these are finished with best grade spar varnish. Whenever the finish shows any signs of wear, the finish should be renewed. Before varnishing, clean with fine sandpaper or steel wool. Apply one or two coats of best grade spar varnish and when dry rub gently with fine steel wool to produce a "rubbed" dull polished surface. Tops and bottoms outside doors should be well protected with exterior paint.

#### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

##### 1. Cleaning Brass.

Keep all ornamental brass clean and polished at all times. Use a thoroughly reliable metal polish. This applies to all finish hardware, light fixtures, and irons or other miscellaneous brass work.

##### 2. Aluminum Sash and Windows.

Keep glass and rails, muntins, etc. clean at all times. Clean the aluminum by rubbing with fine steel wool.

3. Sliding Door Tracks. Keep these tracks well greased to reduce wear and noise.

4. Pipe Tunnels. Inspect the tunnels frequently to detect leaks. Tunnels should be dry and free from water at all times

5. Caulking. This applies to the caulking around wood frames and other wood-work where wood joints stonework. It also applies to caulked stone joints, in the wall coping and other stone work with exposed top joints. As soon as the present caulking gets hard and cracks, the joints should be recaulked with new caulking compound. Best results will be obtained by using a good gun-grade caulking compound of a color to closely match the stone work. The caulking compound used was "Arco" made by the Arco Co. of Cleveland, Ohio. Any new caulking should be the same or equal in color and quality as approved by the State Engineer's Office.

ROOF INSPECTION. The tar and gravel roofs should be inspected carefully every spring and every fall for leaks, slips or failure of any kind. Any serious defects should be immediately reported to the State Engineer's Office at the Conservation Department, Indianapolis. A similar inspection of all metal roofs should be made at the same time and any defects reported



#### WOOD TRUSSES IN ABE LINCOLN HALL.

If there is any indication of sagging in the bottom chords of the large wood trusses in Abe Lincoln Hall, the State Engineer should be notified at once. These trusses should be inspected for alignment and for any excessive checking or cracking once every year.

#### STONE AND BRICK MORTAR-POINTING.

Every year, preferably in the spring, the stone mortar joints should be inspected. All loose or cracked mortar should be removed and replaced with new mortar. New mortar should match the original mortar which was made from "Rich Mortar" in proportion of 1 part cement to 2½ parts sand.

#### RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.

The custodian of the buildings will be required to keep a record and make a report of maintenance work and inspection or forms provided for that purpose.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PLUMBING AND HEATING EQUIPMENT  
NANCY HANKS LINCOLN MEMORIAL.

PLUMBING

LAVATORIES:

All lavatories should be cleaned once each day and more often if found necessary. The lavatories can be cleaned with any good scouring compound. All rust stains should be completely removed and lavatories kept free of all stains.

URINALS:

The urinals should also be kept free of all rust and other stains. A good scouring compound can also be used for removing stains from the urinals. Urinals should be cleaned daily or as often as found necessary to keep them in good appearance at all times.

WATER CLOSETS:

Water closets should also be kept clean and free of stains. Scouring compound can be used for the removal of stains. If the stains cannot be removed with scouring compound, sani-flush may be used for this purpose. In using sani-flush, it is best to allow this to stand in the bowl over night and then the bowl should be washed down with this solution. Bowls should be cleaned as frequently as is necessary to keep them in a clean condition. The toilet seats should be washed once each day with a weak chlorine solution. This solution can be made from purex or chlorox which can be purchased at a local grocery store.

LADIES AND MEN'S WASH ROOMS:

Ladies and Men's Wash Rooms shall be kept clean and free of all waste paper and foreign matter at all times. These rooms should be inspected at least twice each day and more often if necessary

FAUCETS:

All faucets, flushometers and closet tank floats should be checked at

least one each week for leaks. If any of the fixtures are found to be leaking they should be repaired at once.

#### WATER LINES:

The water lines in the tunnel should be checked once each month for leaks and if any leaks are found they should be repaired at once.

#### HOT WATER HEATER:

The hot water heater should be flushed twice each year in order to remove any sediment or rust which may be deposited in the heater. The electric switch which controls this heater should be turned off when flushing the tank and should never be turned on until the heater is full of water.

### HEATING

#### BOILER ROOM:

The operation of the boiler is automatic as long as it is being fired with fuel oil, but the boiler room should be visited at least twice each day to make sure that everything is operating properly. The boiler tubes should be cleaned out with a flue brush at least once each week during the operating season. The blow-off valve on both the water column and the water level controller should be opened once each week in order to eliminate any sediment which has accumulated in these two units. The boiler should be blown down once each month. By blowing down is meant that the valve in the rear of the boiler should be opened for a sufficient length of time to discharge all mud which may have accumulated in the lower section of the boiler. At the end of each season, the boiler should be completely drained and refilled with clean water and allowed to stand in this condition during the summer months.

If for any reason it is necessary to fire the boiler with coal, the switch on the oil burner should first be turned off before a fire is built in the boiler. At some future date it may be decided to use a boiler compound in

the boiler, and if this is the case, complete instructions will be furnished for the use of the compound at the time it is decided to use it.

The boiler should operate between approximately 2 and 7 pounds pressure. The pressuretrol is now set for this range, but should this range change for any reason, the pressuretrol can be adjusted by means of the small set screw on the side of this unit. The pressuretrol is mounted at the top of the boiler.

Printed instructions on the operation and care of the boiler and oil burner are posted with these instructions. Read them carefully and be thoroughly familiar with them.

Check the fuel tank frequently to make sure that sufficient oil is on hand at all times. A gauge table is included with these instructions so that the amount of oil in the storage tank can easily be determined by measuring the depth of oil in the tank.

Keep the outside of the boiler and all pipes wiped off with a damp cloth so that no dust or dirt will accumulate on them. Also, keep all brass valves and brass trim polished at all times. Keep the boiler room neat and tidy and free of all dirt and foreign matter.

#### EQUIPMENT ROOM:

The motor on the vacuum pump and the blower should be kept oiled. If these motors are lubricated with grease, the grease cups should be filled about twice each year. If the motors are oil lubricated the oil cups should be inspected once each month and filled as needed. The motors should be thoroughly wiped off once each week and kept free of all dust and dirt. Particular care should be taken to wipe outside of oil cups clean and dry after filling them.

The vacuum pump should normally be operated on vacuum control.

The pump should pull a vacuum of at least 4" to 6". If the vacuum should become much less than this, it would indicate a leak somewhere in the supply or return lines, and an inspection should be made to locate the leak. During mild weather, or at night, the vacuum pump may be operated on float control if it is found desirable to do so.

All equipment, pipes, ventilating ducts, etc. should be wiped off once each week with a damp cloth. All brass valves and brass trim should be kept well polished. The room should be kept free of all dirt and debris and kept tidy at all times. Any rust spots which may form on any metal surfaces should be immediately painted.

The heating coil in the ventilating system should be shut off except when in use. The heating coil and the inside of the ventilating ducts, as well as the plenum chamber, should be thoroughly cleaned twice each year. The outside screen on the intake of the ventilating system should also be cleaned at least twice a year or more often if found necessary.

#### GENERAL--

If trouble develops in any of the electric control valves, thermostats, steam traps, vacuum pump, oil burner or special controls and regulators, these should not be tampered with and the Indianapolis Office should be immediately notified of any such trouble. In case of an emergency, a qualified mechanic can be called in to service the units which are giving trouble.

A chart has been furnished giving the location and function of each valve in the plumbing and heating system and this chart should be consulted before opening or closing any valve.

Painting of piping, boiler, boiler room and equipment will be necessary to maintain the good appearance but the Indianapolis Office should be consulted before such work is done.

# CUSTODIAN'S DUTIES

## DUTIES

1. Day-to-day janitor work.
2. Cleanup courtyard and cloister.
3. Polishing brass.
4. Keep rest rooms clean.
5. Scrubbing limestone floors in lobbies (2 - chapel & hall)
6. Guide Service for Public.
7. Sell: Bird Books 10¢  
Tree Books 20¢  
Memorial Booklet 25¢  
Post Cards 5¢ each  
Photo ~~Packet~~ 25¢  
MAP \$1.00
- Turn money & record over to Superintendent each ~~month~~ <sup>week</sup> during summer. In winter only when you have \$10.00
8. Cut grass - Courtyard & in front of memorial.
9. Look after shrubbery as directed by landscape men from central office. Keep limbs & trash out of graveyard.
10. Keep <sup>personal</sup> appearance good. Uniform is required.
11. Ask Kennedy questions and write down information which you can use later.
12. Call on Superintendent for assistance.
13. Work Sunday but you get a day off during week in lieu of Sunday. Select day to suit you and ~~SUPT.~~ 2 weeks vacation with pay during year. Advise this office a month in advance. Work it out with ~~SUPT.~~ Vacation must be taken in calendar year.

VACATION LEAVE IS NOT ACCUMULATIVE.

## APPENDIX C

### Summary of Land Acquisition at Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial



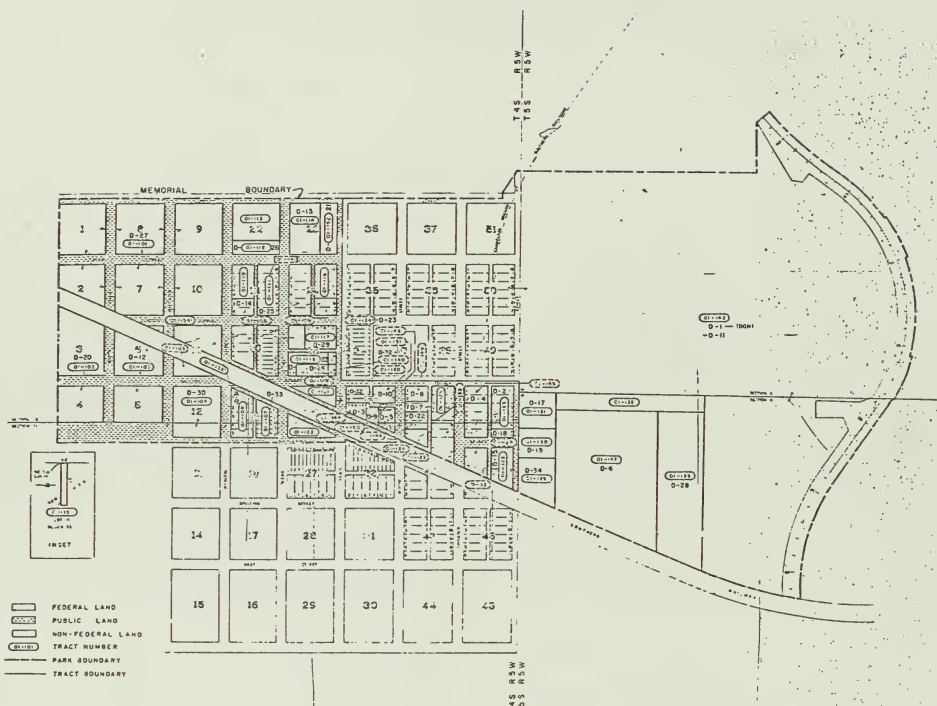


Figure C-1: Land acquisition plat map, showing tract numbers of land parcels referenced in the following chart.

# SUMMARY OF LAND ACQUISITION AT LINCOLN BOYHOOD NATIONAL MEMORIAL

TRACT/ ACRES	SELLER	DATE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION
01-101 10.73	Ormal O. Willison and Edna R. Willison	6/27/74	15,000	Blocks 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Warranty Deed No. 27. Park files, Land Acquisition File. Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City.

Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0011 listed the value of the house at \$100, the garage at \$50, the privy at \$5, and the barn at \$100. All but the privy were useable, with repairs. The condition of the garage and barn was fair, the house and privy were in poor condition. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0011. Cletus Hohl of Lincoln City won the contract for their removal. SF-114, n.d. Land Acquisition File.

01-102 3.57	Richard L. Betz and Loretta L. Betz	2/26/74	27,045*	Blocks 3 and 4. Warranty Deed No. 20.
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\*Life estate plus 1 year. Warranty Deed No. 20.

The act authorizing the establishment of Lincoln Boyhood did not authorize less than fee acquisition. Superintendent Bill Riddle did not want to allow Betz use and occupancy rights. See Memorandum, Superintendent John C. W. Riddle to Regional Director [Chester L. Brooks], Northeast Region, January 30, 1973. Land Acquisition File. Riddle was overruled, however, and the use and occupancy granted. See Attorney General to Secretary of Interior Rogers C. B. Morton, May 16, 1974. Land Acquisition File.

Betz inquired as to his eligibility for relocation benefits (government reimbursement for cost of relocating his mobile home), but was informed he was not eligible because he was not moving. CNB [Charlotte N. Baird] to Richard [Betz], October 23, 1973. Land Acquisition File.

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01-103 2.9	Margaret J. Lemmons and Floyd N. Lemmons	10/30/73	4,150	Blocks 5 and 6, a 280- by 500 foot tract less the railroad right-of-way and unimproved street. Appraisal Report, February 12, 1973; and Warranty Deed, Lincoln Boyhood No. 12. Land Acquisition File.
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01-104 1.94	Ruby G. Stanton (widow), Max Edgar Stanton, and Sheral Stanton (his wife)	6/27/74	5,502*	Block 12. Warranty Deed No. 30. June 27, 1974. Land Acquisition File.
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\*With one year use and occupancy.

Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0012 gave the house's value as \$50, and the garage as \$20. Both were in poor condition, but useable for other than their intended purpose. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0012, July 29, 1975. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-105 0.31	Cincinnati, Rockport, and South Western Railway Co.	Not acquired by National Park Service. See Memorandum, Realty Specialist [Chandler E. Simpson], Indiana Dunes to Superintendent [Norm Hellmers], Lincoln Boyhood,
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February 4,  
1983. Land  
Acquisition  
File.

01-121 Cincinnati, Rockport, and  
0.47\* South Western Railway

Part of Block 26  
lying south and  
east of the  
right-of-way.

and

01-122 Cincinnati, Rockport, and  
South Western Railway

Block 26 north  
and west of the  
right-of-way.

01-136 Cincinnati, Rockport, and  
4.77\*\* South Western Railway

01-137 Cincinnati, Rockport, and  
South Western Railway

\*Total acreage of tracts 01-121 and 01-122.

\*\*Total acreage of tracts 01-136 and 01-137.

National Park Service did not acquire; still belongs to railroad.

01-106 James Roy Hevron and  
0.79 Barbara Hevron

10/9/75 5,000

Lots 9, 10, 11,  
and 12, Block  
24. Warranty  
Deed No. 31  
(01-106 and  
01-116).

and

01-116 Helen Hevron and Benjamin  
Hevron, Joe Woods and

Lots 5, 8, 9,  
and 12, Block  
25.

Wilma Woods, John Woods  
and Hilda Woods, Thelma  
Medcalf and Theodore  
Medcalf, Dalia Bracken and  
Horace C. Bracken, and  
George Woods

Barbara Jones

1/14/77 1,500

On March 28, 1975, the National Park Service made Mr. and Mrs. Hevron a final offer of \$3,250 for tract 01-106. On May 2, 1975, the Service notified the Hevrans they would condemn the property if the offer was not accepted within 10 days. See Land Acquisition Officer [F. L. Myers] to Mr. and Mrs. James R. Hevron, May 2, 1975.

Land Acquisition File. During the court proceedings over the two tracts, 01-106 and 01-116, it became clear that Wayne Jones, Jr., and Barbara Jones, co-owners of the properties, had not been informed of the property's impending sale. The court awarded the tracts to the U. S. government for payment of \$5,000 to the Hevrans, et al. Barbara Jones (apparently widowed) was paid \$1,500 for her share of the properties. See U. S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana; U. S. A. v. Hevron, et al. owners, February 18, 1977; and letter, F. Meyer to Mrs. Barbara Jones, May 16, 1975. Land Acquisition File.

On February 18, 1977, the court awarded the National Park Service tracts 01-106 and 01-116. Land Acquisition File.

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01-107	Lyle Schaefer and	1/30/76	5,000	Lots 6, 7, 8, 9,
0.58	Glenda Schaefer			10, 11, 12,
				Block 19.
				Warranty Deed
				No. 76-85. Land
				Acquisition
				File.

The National Park Service made a final offer of \$4,740 on March 28, 1975, and threatened to condemn the property on May 2, 1975. The transaction was apparently completed without court action on January 10, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-108	Helen Hevron	1/14/76	7,890	Lots 1-16, Block
4.7				20; Lots 1-8,
				Block 24; Lots 1
				and 4, Block 25;
				and Block 11
				south and east
				of the railroad
				right-of-way
				(4.7 acres
				total).

The government took Mrs. Hevron to court over these properties, also. The final offer of \$5,950 was made March 28, 1975; court action threatened on May 2. The court awarded the property to the United States on January 14, 1976. U. S. A. v. Helen Hevron, January 14, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-109	Robert Lee Thompson and	12/10/73	2,400	Lots 5 and 6,
0.9	Gloria Jane Thompson			Block 21.
				Warranty Deed
				Lincoln
				Boyhood No. 14.
				Land Acquisition
				File.

A house and three sheds were removed from this tract. The Report of Survey gave the value of the house as \$50 (in poor condition, but useable); two sheds were estimated at \$5 each (poor condition, useable only as scrap); the third shed was estimated at a value of \$25 (in poor condition, but possibly useable for other than its intended purpose). Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0010, July 29, 1975. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-110	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L.	1/9/76	5,000
0.6	Polen		

and

01-123	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L.
0.24	Polen

The Service offered Mr. and Mrs. Polen \$2,450 for tract 01-110 and \$225 for tract 01-123 on March 28, 1975. On May 5, Polen asked \$7,000 for 01-110 and \$1,200 for 01-123. Land Acquisition Officer F. L. Myers rejected the offer on May 19, stating the Polen's asking price was too far over the appraised value of the properties to be accepted. Polen asked Senators Birch Bayh and Vance Hartke and National Park Service Director Gary Everhardt to intercede on his behalf. The letters stirred some action. In a letter to the Associate Director for Park Systems Management [John E. Cook], Midwest Regional Director Merrill D. Beal pointed out that courts had been awarding up to 500 percent of appraised values, and the Service would have to pay court costs, as well (Regional Director to Associate Director, December 17, 1975; Land Acquisition File. On January 9, 1976, The Land Officer was instructed to accept Polen's current offer of \$7,000 for the two tracts. Chief, Division of Lands, Midwest Region, to Land Acquisition Officer, Indiana Dunes, January 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-111 0.9	Tell City Federal Savings and Loan Assn., Regina Suhrheinrich and David Suhrheinrich	6/27/74	2,380	Lots 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12, Block 21. Warranty Deed, Lincoln Boyhood No. 25. Land Acquisition File.
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Sheds valued at \$50 and \$20 respectively were removed before August 13, 1976. Both were identified as useable for other than their intended purpose, but in poor condition. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-112 0.51	Wayne Alva Jones and Jeanne T. Jones	6/27/74	4,200	West 80 feet of Block 22. Warranty Deed No. 26. Land Acquisition File.
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A \$200-house, \$5-shed, and a \$5-privy were removed. The house was identified as useable with repairs, but in poor condition; the other structures were listed as useable for other than their intended purpose, but in poor condition. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0008. William A. Birchler won the contract for their removal. SF-114, November 8, 1975. Land Acquisition File.

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01-113 1.41	Marguerite K. Newman	1/7/76	4,000	Warranty Deed No. 37. Land Acquisition File.
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On March 28, 1975, the National Park Service made Mrs. Newman a "final offer" of \$2, 950 for tract 01-113. Apparently Mrs. Newman passed away before the matter could be settled. The administrator of her estate asked \$4,000 for the property. Regional Director Merrill D. Beal asked the Associate Director, Park System Management John E. Cook for permission to accept the offer and stay out of court. See Regional Director, Midwest Region to Associate Director, Park System Management, August 13, 1975. Land Acquisition File. Although no record was located, Cook apparently refused Beal permission, and the case went to court on February 18, 1977. No



one representing Mrs. Newman's estate attended to contest the declaration of taking, and the court awarded the land to the United States in turn for payment of \$4,000 to the Newman estate. United States of America v. Marguerite Klink Newman estate and unknown others, U. S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana, February 18, 1977. Land Acquisition File.

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01-114 1.24	Geneva I. Suhrheinrich	10/26/73	5,000	Block 23 except for the south 100 feet. Warranty Deed Lincoln Boyhood No. 13. Land Acquisition File.
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Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0007 gave the house a value of \$100. It said the structure was useable, with repairs, but in poor condition. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0007, n. d. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-117 0.6	Victor Smith and Florence E. Smith	7/26/74	25,000	Lots 5, 8, 9, and 12, Block 25. The Smiths moved their house to another location. Warranty Deed No. 29. Land Acquisition File.
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01-118 0.45	Daniel W. Walters and Kathleen F. Walters	3/27/74	9,500	All of Lots 2 and 3 and the east 70 feet of Lots 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, and 16 in Block 25.
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and		
01-134	Daniel W. Walters and	East 70 feet of
0.07	Kathleen F. Walters	Lots 17 and 18,
		Block 25.
		Warranty Deed
		No. 74-949.
		Land Acquisition
		File.

Mr. and Mrs. Walters appealed the amount of the relocation allowance offered them by the National Park Service. Relocation costs are to be made on the basis of "comparable value" of the property in question to similar properties in the area. The Walters objected that National Park Service appraiser Finis T. Rayburn made his analysis without entering the houses being studied. A hearing was conducted at the park on December 3, 1975; its proceedings are summarized in a memorandum from Superintendent Bill Riddle to Regional Director Merrill Beal dated January 23, 1976. The report recommended relocation assistance for the Walters totalling \$6,833.33. The files fail to indicate whether the Walters received the recommended amount. See United State Department of Interior. "Appeal Hearing for Relocation Assistance, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel W. Walters" (National Park Service, Summary Typescript, 1975).

The house, valued at \$500, was removed from tract 01-118 before August 13, 1976, by Bill Watson of Dale. Watson was a subcontractor for Baker Construction Co. of Chandler, Indiana. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File. The house was listed as useable, with repairs, and in good condition. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0005. Land Acquisition File.

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01-119	Lincoln Memorial United	4/25/74	11,999	West 70 feet of
0.3	Methodist Church			Lots 6, 7, 10,
				11, 13, 14, 15,
				and 16 in Block
				25. Warranty
				Deed No. 74-
				1379. Land
				Acquisition
				File.

Superintendent Al Banton initiated conversations between the National Park Service and Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church over the sale of tract 01-119 in 1966. On June 15 of that year he reported to Land Acquisition office that he believed the church would sell the property if the government agreed to also pay relocation costs. He estimated the cost of the agreement at

\$20,000. Federal Outdoor Recreation Land Acquisition Program Tract Acquisition Proposal, June 15, 1966. Land Acquisition File.

The National Park Service took no further action until late 1973, when Thomas Kirn of the Duluth, Minnesota, Land Acquisition Office contacted Reverend Harry Allemang requesting that the church provide estimates of its moving costs so that the sale could proceed. On January 22, 1974, Reverend Allemang furnished a detailed estimate of the costs. Letter, Reverend Harry Allemang, Minister, to Duluth Land Acquisition Field Office, January 22, 1974. Land Acquisition File. Six days later, the Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church Board of Trustees submitted a formal offer to sell the church and property for \$21,600, that the National Park Service return the church structure as a salvage property for the cost of one dollar to the trustees, and that the two parties negotiate an agreeable time schedule for the transfer of properties. Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church Board of Trustees to Duluth Land Acquisition Field Office, January 28, 1974. On February 22, 1974, Kirn confirmed his the offer, stating the check for \$11,999 (\$12,000 for the church structure less the one dollar salvage cost) had been ordered, and that actual moving expenses up to \$9,601 would be paid in full. Thomas M. Kirn to Reverend Harry Allemang, February 22, 1974. Land Acquisition File.

On March 21, 1974, Kirn informed Reverend Allemang of a reorganization within the National Park Service which transferred responsibility to Lincoln Boyhood land acquisition to the Indiana Dunes Land Acquisition Office in Michigan City, Indiana. Kirn informed them their case would be handled by Frank Uzman of the Indiana Dunes office. Shortly thereafter, the National Park Service informed Reverend Allemang that Kirn had made his agreement with the church without prior authorization from his supervisor, and that the Service would not be able to pay the full relocation costs Allemang and Kirn had discussed. On May 6, Reverend Allemang contacted Basil Lorch, Jr., the church's attorney, outlining the problem and summarizing the three options he was willing to consider: 1) "... they can come up with the \$21,000. as agreed by both us and them [sic]"; 2) the sale could be cancelled; or 3) the government could attempt to sue the church for the property, in which case the church would counter-sue for the full \$21,600 and damages. Harry H. Allemang, Minister, to Basil H. Lorch, Jr., May 6, 1974. Land Acquisition File.

Frank Uzman and Superintendent Bill Riddle met with Attorney Lorch at Lorch's office in New Albany, Indiana, on May 21, 1974. Uzman explained that Kirn had misinterpreted allowable benefits under P. L. 91-646, and that the government was not authorized to complete the agreement discussed by Reverend Allemang and Kirn. Uzman informed Lorch that the church trustees, Charles E. Ludwig, C. R. Walker, Victor Smith, and Walter Van Winkle, had already signed the

deed transferring the property to the United States, and the deed had been recorded. Warranty Deed No. 74-1379, recorded April 25, 1974. Ucman then presented two options for Lorch and his clients to consider: 1) the church could sue the government to have the deed set aside; or 2) the church could accept a new offer by the National Park Service which would allow them to continue to use the church in its current location for 5-12 years under a special use permit. This would allow them to gather interest on the \$11,999 they had been paid for the building. When the interest was enough to cover the relocation costs, the Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church would move the church and the special use permit would be terminated. At Lorch's request, Ucman prepared a special use permit for Lorch to present to the Board of Trustees. Memorandum to File, Frank A. Ucman, May 22, 1974. The Lincoln Memorial United Methodist Church elected to accept the Park Service's offer. Although the special use permit allowed them to use the church until February 1978, the congregation chose to cease services at that location on September 5, 1976. Superintendent [Bill Riddle] to Regional Director [Merrill D. Beal], Midwest Region, February 22, 1977. Land Acquisition File.

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01-120 0.30	Glen Schroder and Freda Schroder	10/9/75	1,100	Lots 1, 2, and 3, Block 33. Warranty Deed No. 32. Land Acquisition File. (01-120 and 01-140)
and 01-140 0.07	Glen Schroder and Freda Schroder	10/9/75		West 70 feet of Lots 17 and 18, Block 25. Land Acquisition File.
and 01-151 (GG) 0.30	Glen Schroder and Freda Schroder	4/19/75	13,700	Lots 7 and 8, Block 33. Warranty Deed No. 10. Land Acquisition File.

The Schroder properties, which included a one story 29- by 50-foot concrete building (the former grocery/gasoline station/restaurant) and a 1-1/2-story frame residence, were sold as a package for \$13,700. Warranty Deed 65-900, September 25, 1975. Land Acquisition File.

The coal houses were removed. Estimated value of structures given as \$1020; condition poor, no value except as scrap. See Report of Survey RS-LIBO-1. Contract for removal of Woods (tract FF) and Schroder (tract GG) coal houses awarded to Edward K. Thompson of Lincoln City. SF-114, February 24, 1966. Structures removed in spring of 1966. Land Acquisition File.

The Schroder house was also removed. The Report of Survey estimated its value at \$1,080; and gave their condition as fair, with no value except as scrap. James Rout of Lincoln City won the contract for its removal. SF-114, February 24, 1966. Land Acquisition file.

The store, valued at \$1,910, was also removed. Its condition was good, and the Report of Survey suggested it might be of further use for other than its original purpose. Report of Survey RS-LIBO-7, February 21, 1966. Frank J. Trinkel, Rockport, won the contract for its removal. SF-114, April 20, 1966. Land Acquisition File.

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01-123	Thomas L. Polen and	5/19/76	2,000	Lot 6, Block 41,
0.24	Edith M. Polen			and land
				immediately west
				of Lot 6 (former
				Covington
				Street).
				Warranty Deed,
				unnumbered.
				Land Acquisition
				File.

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01-124	Blanche Schnuck	5/27/74	6,650*	Lots 4 and 5,
0.30				Block 41.
				Warranty Deed
				No. 74-963.

\*Granted use and occupancy for five years from date of closing. Warranty Deed No. 74-963, May 27, 1974.

In 1979, Mrs. Schnuck requested relocation costs. In similar previous requests, court decisions clearly stated relocation expenses would not be granted in such circumstances. See Regional Solicitor to Richard A. Wetherill (Mrs. Schnuck's attorney), January 8, 1980. Land Acquisition File.

Regis Lee Porter of Santa Claus purchased the building for \$200, and moved it to another location. See memorandum, Regional Contracting Officer [H. L. Garland] to Regional Financial Manager, Midwest Region. n.d. Land Acquisition File.

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01-125	Fred T. Crews and	3/20/74	6,425	Part of Lots 9
0.52	Patricia Ann Crews			and 10 lying
				northeast of a
				line running
				parallel to and
				50 feet north of
				the Cannelton
				Branch of the
				Southern
				Railroad.
				Warranty Deed
				Lincoln Boyhood
				No. 16. Land
				Acquisition
				File.

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01-126 Southern Railway Co.

Unacquired; still belongs to Southern Railway Co. Land Acquisition File.

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01-127	Daniel W. Carver and	11/13/73	3,275*	Lot 7, Block 48.
0.15	Diana L. Carver			Warranty Deed
				No. 18. Land
				Acquisition
				File.

Included use and occupancy for seven months after closing. Warranty Deed Lincoln Boyhood No. 18. Land Acquisition File.

This property included a house, valued at \$50, a garage, valued at \$25, a \$10-shed, and a \$5 privy. All were in poor condition but the shed, listed as fair. Only the privy was useable for other than scrap. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0003, July 29, 1975. Claude Springstun of Dale won the contract for the structures' removal. SF-114, November 13, 1975. Land Acquisition File.

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01-128	Elmer D. Clement and	1/11/74	2,250	Lot 3, Block 47.
0.65	Jean R. Clement			Warranty Deed
				No. 15. Land
				Acquisition
				File.

The house, valued at \$30, was listed as useable for other than its intended purpose, but in poor condition. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0004. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.

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01-129 1.38	Clarence Cleaves and Bea Cleaves	3/24/76	1,000	Unimproved land. Warranty Deed No. 34. Land Acquisition File.
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01-130 0.86	Junious G. Sanders and Florence L. Sanders.	3/28/74	1,280	West 174 feet of East 388.50 feet of the North 214.50 feet of the Northeast quarter, Township 5 South, Range 5 West, 2nd Principal Meridian, Spencer County. Warranty Deed, Lincoln Boyhood No. 19. Land Acquisition File.
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and 01-131 1.06	Junious G. Sanders and Florence L. Sanders	3/18/74	23,000	East 214.50 feet of the north 214.50 feet of the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 6, Township 5 South, Range 5 West, 2nd Principal Meridian, Spencer County. Warranty Deed Lincoln
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Boyhood No. 17.  
Land Acquisition  
File.

The former tavern and home on tract 01-131, valued at \$1,000, was in good condition and useable for other than its intended purpose, according to Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0002, July 29, 1975. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1974. Land Acquisition File.

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01-132 2.0	Angeline Hopkins (deceased) et al., and unknown owners	4/14/77	1,000	Warranty Deed No. 36. Land Acquisition File.
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Unable to locate the property-owner, the National Park Service went to court on February 18, 1977. No one appeared to represent the Hopkins estate. The court awarded the land to the United States for court fees. See United States of America v. Angeline Hopkins (deceased) et al, and unknown owners, February 18, 1977. Land Acquisition File.

The \$10-cabin, \$15-pumphouse, and \$5-shed were in poor condition, but useable for other than their intended purpose. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0001, 729/75. Superintendent Riddle noted the structures had been removed by August 13, 1975; the contractor is unknown. Land Acquisition File.

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01-133 5.5	[?] Houston	6/27/74	14,000	Warranty Deed Land Acquisition File.
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01-135 0.01	[?] Oskin	4/14/77	50	Warranty Deed No. 36. Land Acquisition File.
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01-138 .002	[?] Lewis	4/14/77	200	Warranty Deed No. 36. Land Acquisition File.
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01-141 [?] Hendrickson  
0.98

unacquired

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01-142 State of Indiana  
114.49

6/11/63

gift

Warranty Deed  
No. 1. Land  
Acquisition  
File.

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01-143 John Litkenhus and  
(OO) Gertrude Litkenhus  
0.75

5/14/65

8,500

Lots 8, 9, 10,  
11, and 12,  
Block 48.  
Included frame  
house and  
garage.  
Warranty Deed  
No. 65-1237.  
Land Acquisition  
File.

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House disposed of per RS-LIBO-6, November 2, 1965. Land Acquisition File.

John Litkenhus, age 80, apparently felt the Service was not moving fast enough in completing its purchase of his property. On April 21, 1965, he wrote a letter to Senator Vance Hartke asking Hartke to speed things up. Hartke forwarded to letter to NPS 4/26/65. J. H. Litkenhus to Sen. Vance Hartke, April 21, 1965. Land Acquisition File. There is no indication of what caused the delay.

The National Park Service removed the Litkenhus house and garage. Report of Survey RS-LIBO-6 estimated the structures' value at \$3,510; it gave the condition as good, and said they might be useful for something other than their intended purpose. Report of Survey RS-LIBO-6, November 2, 1965. James Rout of Lincoln City won the contract for their removal. SF-114, February 24, 1966. Land Acquisition File.

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01-144 John Allen Poellein and  
(CC) Carol Jean Poellein  
0.20

6/2/65

10,000

Lots 4, 5, 6, 9,  
and 10, Block  
33. Deed 3,  
Lincoln Boyhood.  
Warranty Deed  
No. 65-1404.  
Land Acquisition  
File.

When Mr. Poellein's father-in-law became ill, the park granted an extension to his deadline for removal of personal property, even though the park planned to use the house as quarters. Acting Superintendent Milton E. Thompson to John Poellein, September 27, 1965. Land Acquisition File.

House removed 1966. RS-LIBO-8, March 16, 1966, estimated its value at \$2,100. It said the house was in good condition and could continue in its intended use with repairs. Tom Polen of Gentryville won the contract for its removal, for which he was paid \$500. Mrs. James Rout had submitted a bid in her husband's name for \$400, but Mr. Rout came to the office to withdraw the bid on January 23, 1967. Superintendent Albert Banton and Clerk Charlotte Baird witnessed the action. See copy of bid, in Land Acquisition File.

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01-145 0.3	Violet Mercer Anderson	6/16/65	2,250	Lots 1 and 2, Block 48. Land Ownership Record, Deed Book 109, p. 64, June 1966. Land Acquisition File.
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01-146 (FF) 0.29	Clarence Woods and Mary Woods	8/16/65	3,000	Lots 15, 16, 17, and 14 except 3-1/2 feet on the northwest corner of Lot 14. Land Ownership record, Deed Book 109, p. 190. August 16, - 1965. Land Acquisition File.
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Burns allowed Mrs. Woods to remove windows from the structure "as a public relations gimmick to keep the residents of Lincoln City in a fairly good mood-- which they seem to be in at present." Handwritten note, signed "R. Burns," August 4, 1965." Land Acquisition File.

Coal houses removed. Value of Woods structures estimated at \$1020; condition poor, no value except as scrap. See Report of Survey RS-LIBO-1, November 2, 1965. Land Acquisition File. Contract for removal of Woods (tract FF) and Schroder (tract GG) structures

awarded to Edward K. Thompson of Lincoln City. SF-114, February 2, 1966. Structures removed in spring of 1966. Land Acquisition File.

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01-147 (VV) 9.7	Wayne Gale and Helen S. Gale	8/16/65	14,000	Beginning 13 rods south and 100 feet west from the northeast quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 6, Township 5 South, Range 5 West, south to point 100 feet west and 820.7 feet south of north corner of quarter quarter section. 10 acres, including house. United States Department of Interior Land Ownership Record. Tract VV, Deed No. 6. August 1966; and Warranty Deed, August 16, 1965. Land Acquisition File.
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01-148 (JJ) 0.19	Pearl Shelton and Ella Shelton	8/19/65	6,000	Lot 3, Block 41, and 12 feet on west side of Lot 2, Block 41. Warranty Deed No. 65-2105. Land Acquisition File.
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The house and garage were removed. The Report of Survey estimated the structures' value at \$3,330; it gave their condition as good, but assumed no value except as scrap. James Morris of Lincoln City

won the contract for their removal. SF-114, February 24, 1966. Land Acquisition File.

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01-149 (KK) 0.26	Oatis Tribbie and Grace Tribbie	9/9/65	1,000	Lot 1 and Lot 2 except the western 12 feet of Lot 2, Block 41. Warranty Deed No. 65- 2300. Land Acquisition File.
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01-150 (EE) 0.16	Ines Elsa Walker	4/24/65	1	Lots 11, 12, and 13, Block 33. Warranty Deed 65-2306. Land Acquisition File.
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Two store buildings damaged by fire prior to purchase removed in 1965. RS-LIBO-83, November 2, 1965. Land Acquisition File.

Both structures were removed. The Report of Survey gave no estimated value for the structures; it gave their condition as poor, no value except as scrap. See Report of Survey RS-LIBO-3. Abner Crews of Gentryville won the contract for their removal. SF-114, February 24, 1966. Land Acquisition File.

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01-152 0.68	Clyde M. Bunch	2/28/74	2,900*	South 300 feet of Block 23. Warranty Deed, Lincoln Boyhood No. 21, Febru- ary 28, 1974, and Affidavit, January 30, 1974. Land Acquisition File.
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The National Park Service paid Mr. Bunch \$2,900 for his property, granted a one-year use and occupancy, and paid him \$7,700 relocation costs. Affidavit, January 30, 1974. Land Acquisition File.

Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0006 valued the house at \$100, the garage at \$25, and the privy at \$5. The house and garage were in poor condition, but useable with repairs. The privy was useable for other than its intended purpose, but in poor condition. Report of Survey RS-6400-6-0006, July 29, 1975. Baker Construction Company of Chandler, Indiana, was awarded the contract for removal; he subcontracted the project to Mill Watson of Dale, who removed the structures. SF-33, Solicitation No. 6400-6-0002, n.d., and SF-18, March 9, 1976. Land Acquisition File.





#### APPENDIX D

Subjects of In-Sight Television Programs  
Presented by  
Superintendent Robert L. Burns and Historian John Santosuosso

September 17, 1964	Establishment of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial.
September 24, 1964	Visitor use of Lincoln Boyhood and Lincoln State Park.
October 1, 1964	The National Park story.
October 8, 1964	The place of the National Park Service in the Federal government.
October 15, 1964	Special guest.
October 29, 1964	National Park Service areas between Indiana and Florida.
November 5, 1964	National Park Service areas between Indiana and the New York World's Fair.
November 12, 1964	National Park Service areas open in winter.
November 19, 1964	Winter use in the National Parks.
December 3, 1964	Special guest.
December 10, 1964	Unusual wildlife in the National Parks.
December 17, 1964	National Park Service training schools.
January 7, 1965	Abraham Lincoln's Kentucky years.
January 14, 1965	Seasonal employment in the National Park Service.
January 21, 1965	Permanent employment in the National Park Service.
January 28, 1965	Crossing the Ohio--Lincoln's first real journey.

February 4, 1965	Abraham Lincoln's education in Indiana.
February 11, 1965	Special program, Lincoln's birthday.
February 18, 1965	Lincoln's family, friends, and neighbors.
February 25, 1965	Abe's unusual boyhood adventures.
March 4, 1965	Special guest, U. S. Forest Service.
March 11, 1965	The skills and talents of Abraham Lincoln.
March 18, 1965	National Park Service areas of the Southwest.
March 25, 1965	The United States of America during Lincoln's boyhood.
April 1, 1965	Special guest, U. S. Forest Service.
April 8, 1965	A Trip to Yellowstone.
April 22, 1965	The Lincoln family's journey to Illinois.
April 29, 1965	Special guest, superintendent of Lincoln State Park.
May 6, 1965	Old Faithful, a geyser.
May 13, 1965	The importance and influence of Lincoln's boyhood years.

From Park files, Publications and Interpretive Services, Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial, Lincoln City, Indiana. Information on the remaining television programs is not available.

# APPENDIX E

## Ministers in the A Christian Ministry in the National Parks Program at Lincoln Boyhood National Monument

<u>Year</u>	<u>Minister</u>	<u>Secular Employer</u>
1966	Alfred L. Perkins, Jr.	National Park Service
1967		
April-June	Alfred L. Perkins, Jr.	National Park Service
July-August	Myrl Moore	National Park Service
1968	Myrl Moore*	National Park Service
1969	Myrl Moore	National Park Service
1970	Gary R. Weaver	National Park Service
1971	Jim Verser	National Park Service
1972	Chester Okopski*	National Park Service
1973	Chester Okopski	National Park Service
1974	Jim Dobbins	National Park Service
1975	Byron R. Dixon	National Park Service
1976	Stan Drenth	National Park Service
1977	Mark Fletcher Johnson	National Park Service
1978	Mark Fletcher Johnson	National Park Service
1979	Jeffrey Stratton	National Park Service
1980	Faith B. Fuller	Santa Claus Land
1981	Timothy Adams	Snowflake Restaurant
1982	Patricia Edgar and Jeffrey Hancock	Windells Restaurant and National Park Service
1983	Nels Nilsen	Santa Claus Camp
1984	Nels Nilsen	Santa Claus Camp
1985	Beth A. Doerring	Santa Claus Camp
1986	Beth A. Doerring	Santa Claus Camp
1987	Katherine Penick	Holiday World

\*Hearsay, no documentation to verify.



APPENDIX F  
Lincoln Day Speakers

Year	Speaker	Profession
1926- 1932	No record	
1933	Dr. Christopher Coleman	Indianapolis Historical Society
1934- 1942	No record	
1943	Henry Schricker	Governor of Indiana
1946	Richard T. James	Lt. Governor of Indiana
1947	Dr. Ross Lockridge	Historian, Indiana University
1948	Edward A. Mitchell	Eighth District Congressman
1949	Ralph Harvey	Tenth District Congressman
1950	Dean Walker	Indiana Superintendent of Public Institutions
1951	Homer Capehart	United States Senator from Indiana
1952	George S. Jones	Vice President of Servel, Inc.
1953	D. Bailey Merrill	Eighth District Congressman
1954	No record	
1955	Charles A. Halleck	Second District Congressman
1956	Crawford Picker	Indiana Secretary of State
1957	Curtis Shake	Vincennes Judge
1958	Louis A. Warren	Lincoln Historian, Lincoln Library
1959	No record	
1960	Roy T. Combs and William Koch	President, Indiana Lincoln Foundation Owner, Santa Claus Land

1961	William F. Dudine	Circuit Court Judge
1962	Arthur C. Nordhoff	Dubois County Historian
1963	William Koch	Owner, Santa Claus Land
1964	Robert Mills	Mayor of Boonville
1965	Curtis Shake	Vincennes Judge
1966	Arthur York	Lincoln Heritage Trail Commission
1967	Robert Cummings	Cannelton News Editor
1968	George B. Hartzog, Jr.	National Park Service, Director
1969	James Morlock	University of Evansville Professor
1970	John Lair	Author, <u>Songs Lincoln Loved</u>
1971	Don M. Newman	Osceola, Indiana, Toastmaster
1972	Howard W. Ellis	Methodist Minister
1973	Thomas D. Brumett	Superintendent, North Spencer County Schools
1974	Elmer Pruess	Spencer County Teacher
1975	Robert F. Pollack	Methodist Minister
1976	"Nancy's Neighbors" (A short play)	
1977	Otis R. Bowen	Governor of Indiana
1978	James T. Burnett	Lincoln Boyhood Staff Member
1979	Wallace B. Graves	University of Evansville President
1980	Fr. Gavin Barnes, OSB	Priest
1981	Ross Holland	National Park Service Assistant Director
1982	Charlotte Baird	Lincoln Boyhood Staff Member
1983	Mark E. Neely, Jr.	Lincoln Historian, Lincoln Library

1984	Robert Orr	Governor of Indiana
1985	Peter Harstad	Director, Indiana Historical Society
1986	Donald F. Carmony	Professor Emeritus of History, Indiana University
1987	Ewel Cornett	Director, "Young Abe Lincoln" (play)

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#### Profession of Speakers

<u>Profession</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Total</u>
Historian	1933, 1947, 1958, 1962, 1983, 1985, 1986	7
Politician	1943, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1964, 1977, 1984	11
Judge	1957, 1961, 1965	3
Businessman	1952, 1960, 1963	3
Educator	1950, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1979	5
Clergyman	1972, 1975, 1980	3
Author	1970	1
National Park Service	1968, 1978, 1981, 1982	4
Other	1966, 1971, 1976, 1987	4

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#### Sponsors of Lincoln Day Activities

Until 1953	Boonville Press Club, Indiana Department of Conservation, and the Indiana Lincoln Union
1955-1958	Santa Claus Chamber of Commerce
1960-Present	Lincoln Club of Southern Indiana





# APPENDIX G

## Permanent Employees of Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial Listed by Year\*

Year	Position	Employee
1963	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Maintenance	Robert L. Burns Charlotte N. Baird John Santosuosso Elmer Stein
1964	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Maintenance	Robert L. Burns Charlotte N. Baird John Santosuosso Elmer Stein
1965	Superintendent (until 8/29) Superintendent (after 10/10) Administrative Technician Historian Maintenance	Robert L. Burns Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird Don Standiford Elmer Stein
1966	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Maintenance	Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird Bob Rheinisch Elmer Stein
1967	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Maintenance	Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird Bob Rheinisch Elmer Stein
1968	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Maintenance Farmer	Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird John M. Tiff Elmer Stein Fred M. Smith

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\*When more than one person served in a position during the course of the year, the name listed is the person in the position for the majority of that year, with the exception of superintendents.

1969	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Farmer	Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird John M. Tiff Gerald Sanders Elmer Stein Fred M. Smith
1970	Superintendent Administrative Technician Clerk-Typist Historian Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Farmer	Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird Ellen Hagedorn John M. Tiff Gerald Sanders Elmer Stein Fred M. Smith
1971	Superintendent Administrative Technician Clerk-Typist Historian Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Farmer	Albert W. Banton, Jr. Charlotte N. Baird Ellen Hagedorn Warren D. Beach Gerald Sanders Elmer Stein Fred M. Smith
1972	Superintendent (until 10/29) Superintendent (after 11/12) Administrative Technician Secretary Historian Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Farmer	Albert W. Banton, Jr. John C. W. Riddle Charlotte N. Baird Ellen Hagedorn Warren D. Beach Gerald Sanders Elmer Stein Fred M. Smith
1973	Superintendent Administrative Technician Historian Historian Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Farmer Custodian	John C. W. Riddle Charlotte N. Baird Warren D. Beach Ronald Wilson Gerald Sanders Don Breo Elmer Stein Fred M. Smith Geneva Van Winkle
1974	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Historian Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Farmer Custodian	John C. W. Riddle Charlotte N. Baird LaVon Michel Ronald Wilson Gerald Sanders Donald Breo Elmer Stein Richard Betz Geneva Van Winkle

1975	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Farmer Farmer Custodian Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Director	John C. W. Riddle Charlotte N. Baird LaVon Michel Jim Burnett Gerald Sanders Donald Breo Elmer Stein Richard Betz Claude Springstun Geneva Van Winkle James C. Merchand
1976	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Farmer Farmer Farmer Custodian	John C. W. Riddle Charlotte N. Baird LaVon Michel Jim Burnett Gerald Sanders Donald Breo Elmer Stein Bernard Porter Richard Betz Claude Springstun Geneva Van Winkle
1977	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Farmer Farmer Farmer Custodian YCC Director	John C. W. Riddle Charlotte N. Baird LaVon Michel Jim Burnett Gerald Sanders Donald Breo Elmer Stein Bernard Porter Richard Betz Claude Springstun Geneva Van Winkle David L. Allen
1978	Superintendent (until 10/21) Superintendent (after 10/22) Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Farmer Farmer Farmer Custodian	John C. W. Riddle Warren D. Beach Charlotte N. Baird LaVon Michel Don F. Adams Gerald Sanders Donald Breo Elmer Stein Bernard Porter Richard Betz Claude Springstun Geneva Van Winkle

1979	<p>Superintendent  Administrative Technician  Secretary  Chief Ranger  Ranger-Interpretation  Maintenance Foreman  Maintenance  Farmer  Farmer  Farmer  Custodian</p>	<p>Warren D. Beach  Charlotte N. Baird  Patricia Wilkerson  Don F. Adams  Gerald Sanders  Donald Breo  Elmer Stein  Bernard Porter  Richard Betz  Claude Springstun  Geneva Van Winkle</p>
1980	<p>Superintendent  Administrative Technician  Secretary  Chief Ranger  Ranger-Interpretation  Maintenance Foreman  Maintenance  Farmer  Farmer  Farmer  Custodian</p>	<p>Warren D. Beach  Charlotte N. Baird  Patricia Wilkerson  Don F. Adams  Gerald Sanders  Donald Breo  Elmer Stein  Bernard Porter  Richard Betz  Claude Springstun  Geneva Van Winkle</p>
1981	<p>Superintendent (until 8/23)  Superintendent (after 10/4)  Administrative Technician  Secretary  Chief Ranger  Ranger-Interpretation  Maintenance Foreman  Maintenance  Farmer  Farmer  Farmer  Custodian  Law Enforcement Ranger</p>	<p>Warren D. Beach  Norman D. Hellmers  Charlotte N. Baird  Marcia Kay Koenig  Don F. Adams  Gerald Sanders  Donald Breo  Elmer Stein  Bernard Porter  Richard Betz  Claude Springstun  Geneva Van Winkle  John R. Whitlock</p>
1982	<p>Superintendent  Administrative Technician  Secretary  Chief Ranger  Ranger-Interpretation  Maintenance Foreman  Maintenance  Maintenance  Farmer  Farmer  Custodian  Law Enforcement Ranger</p>	<p>Norman D. Hellmers  Charlotte N. Baird  Teresa A. Thompson  Don F. Adams  Gerald Sanders  Donald Breo  Elmer Stein  Richard Betz  Bernard Porter  Claude Springstun  Geneva Van Winkle  John R. Whitlock</p>

1983	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Maintenance Farmer Farmer Custodian Law Enforcement Ranger	Norman D. Hellmers Gail Menard Teresa A. Thompson Don F. Adams Gerald Sanders Patsy A. Bates Donald Breo Elmer Stein Richard Betz Melvin Albertz Claude Springstun Geneva Van Winkle John R. Whitlock
1984	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Maintenance Farmer Farmer Custodian Law Enforcement Ranger	Norman D. Hellmers Gail Menard Teresa A. Thompson Don F. Adams Gerald Sanders Patsy A. Bates James E. Hauver Elmer Stein Richard Betz Melvin Albertz Claude Springstun Geneva Van Winkle Martin J. Walsh
1985	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief Ranger Ranger-Interpretation Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Maintenance Farmer Law Enforcement Ranger	Norman D. Hellmers Lee U. Jewell Teresa A. Thompson Don F. Adams Gerald Sanders Patsy A. Bates James E. Hauver Melvin Albertz Richard Betz Claude Springstun Martin J. Walsh
1986	Superintendent Administrative Technician Secretary Chief of Operations Resources Management Specialist Ranger-Interpretation Maintenance Foreman Maintenance Maintenance Farmer Law Enforcement Ranger	Norman D. Hellmers Lee U. Jewell Teresa A. Thompson Gerald Sanders  Don F. Adams Patsy A. Bates W. Thomas Hoots, Jr. Richard Betz Melvin Albertz Claude Springstun Martin J. Walsh

1987	Superintendent	Norman D. Hellmers
	Administrative Technician	Lee U. Jewell
	Secretary	Teresa A. Thompson
	Chief of Operations	Gerald Sanders
	Resources Management	
	Specialist	Don F. Adams
	Ranger-Interpretation	Patsy A. Bates
	Maintenance Foreman	W. Thomas Hoots, Jr.
	Maintenance	Richard Betz
	Maintenance	Melvin Albertz
	Law Enforcement Ranger	Martin J. Walsh

## APPENDIX H

### Managers of the Indiana Lincoln Park\*

Year(s)	Manager**	Title
1925-27	Noah Spurlock	Custodian
1928-31	Joseph D. Wiebe	Custodian
1932-40	Walter R. Ritchie	Custodian
1941-44	Walter R. Ritchie	Superintendent
1945-46	Roland E. Stroud	Superintendent
1947-48	unknown	
1949-51	Claude H. Bates	Superintendent
1952-55	Russell A. Laird	Superintendent
1956-59	Eugene Ayer	Superintendent
1960-67	Charles E. Weber	Superintendent
1968	Jay Goodwin	Superintendent
1969-71	Charles Conner	Property Manager
1972-77	Billy Carlisle	Property Manager
1978-present	Steve Lemen	Property Manager

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\*The name of the park changed several times. From 1925 until 1930, it was called the Nancy Hanks Lincoln Burial Ground. In 1931, the park, including the gravesite and formal areas as well as the recreational park, became known as Lincoln State Park. The Nancy Hanks Lincoln Memorial name was applied to the commemorative subunit of Lincoln State Park from 1937 until 1962, when it became a unit of the National Park System known as Lincoln Boyhood National Memorial.

\*\*When more than one manager served during the course of a given year, the manager named is the one who served the majority of that year.





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