UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

SURVEY RECORDS

Oklahoma Historical Society

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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INVENTORY	NOMINATION I	FORM DATE	SEP 3 0	1976		
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NAME						
HISTORIC	•					
	ln Terrace Historic D	istrict				
AND/OR COMMON	1011460 111500.10	2002 200				
2: LOCATION	ing patter 1	box did do				
STREET & NUMBER	love for free free	-1	the second	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *		
600-700 blocks	s NE 14-23 Streets (c	f. map)	NOT FOR PUBLICATION	•		
CITY, TOWN				CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT		
Oklahoma City		VICINITY OF	No. 5			
STATE Oklahoma		40	county Oklahoma	CODE ? 09		
3) CLASSIFICA	ATION		OR I e HOMA	<u> </u>		
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE			
<b>X</b> DISTRICT	PUBLIC	XOCCUPIED	AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM		
_BUILDING(S)	& PRIVATE primarily	UNOCCUPIED	COMMERCIAL	PARK		
STRUCTURE	вотн	_WORK IN PROGRESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDENC		
SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS		
_OBJECT	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTED	GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC		
	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRICTED	INDUSTRIAL	_TRANSPORTATION		
		_NO .	MILITARY	OTHER:		
OWNER OF	PROPERTY					
NAME						
District inclu	des 153 homes. All	are privately owner	d except for the Go	overnor's		
STREET & NUMBER Ma	insion and 19 propert	ies owned by the U	niversity of Oklah	oma (state).		
State Capitol	(for state-owned pro	perties)	STATE			
•			•••••			
Oklahoma City LOCATION	OF LEGAL DESCR		Oklahom	1		
COURTHOUSE. REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ET	r <b>c</b>					
STREET & NUMBER	Office of the Cou	nty Clerk				
Oklahoma Count	ty Courthouse	V-10	STATE			
Oklahoma City			Oklahoma			
	TATION IN EXIST	NG SURVEYS	Vişadiri Vild			
TITLE						
Special Capito	ol-Lincoln Terrace His	storic District Sw	rvey			
DATE		FEDERAL X	STATE _COUNTY _LOCAL			
1975 DEPOSITORY FOR			TOUCAL LUCAL			

### **DESCRIPTION**

#### CONDITION

**CHECK ONE** 

**CHECK ONE** 

\_EXCELLENT
XGOOD for the
\_FAIR most part

\_\_DETERIORATED

\_\_UNEXPOSED

\_\_RUINS

XUNALTERED essentially

XORIGINAL SITES

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Inis preservation district embraces 153 residences built almost exclusively in the 1920s and 1930s in architectural styles ranging from Spanish to some of the best examples of Tudor and Georgian Colonial in the city. All structures of brick but the Governor's Mansion, which is of stone. Most are on medium-sized lots and well, if not elaborately, landscaped.

The district is rich in the handcrafted workmanship popular in the early decades of this century. This includes superior brickwork, cut stone, intricate wrought ironwork, and fine glass and woodwork. Except for a few cases of neglect, all of the ho ses have been maintained in sound, near-original condition. All are in their original locations.

As indicated in No. 8, the Capitol-Lincoln Terrace district represents architecturally a unified, original, and well-preserved visual reminder of the free-wheeling lifestyles and tastes of the enterprising young pioneers who settled and built Cklahoma City.

### 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW					
—PREHISTORIC —1400-1499 —1500-1599 —1600-1699 —1700-1799 —1800-1899 —1900-	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  AGRICULTURE  XARCHITECTURE  ART  X COMMERCE  COMMUNICATIONS	COMMUNITY PLANNING CONSERVATION ECONOMICS EDUCATION ENGINEERING EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT INDUSTRY INVENTION	LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LAW LITERATURE MILITARY MUSIC PHILOSOPHY POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	-RELIGION -SCIENCE -SCULPTURE **SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN -THEATER -TRANSPORTATION -OTHER (SPECIFY)		

SPECIFIC DATES c. 1920 to the present

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In fact as well as in popular fancy, Oklahoma and oil are one ... a new state and a new industry grown up together. And the Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historic Preservation District -- a compact collection of 153 fine residences standing virtually within the shadow of the state capitol itself -- is an eminently fitting symbol of this unique relationship.

Oklahoma became the 46th state of the Union in 1907. Three years later, in 1910, the capital was moved to Oklahoma City from Guthrie and plans were soon under way to provide a suitable Capitol. That massive classic structure was completed in 1917 ... with Oklahoma City itself lying a mile to the south, connected by a dirt road leading across an unbroken pastureland.

Into the breech moved John J. Culbertson, who had donated part of the land on which the Capitol was built. Within a year he had opened up to homebuilders a section southeast of the Capitol that was to become Lincoln Terrace. Before 1918 had ended the first two homes had been constructed. Some 75 were built in the 1920s. Most of the others in the preservation district were erected in the 1930s.

Initial impetus for development came, of course, from the political sector. But oil was a strong contributing factor. In 1920 Oklahoma ranked first in oil production in the United States. Lincoln Terrace soon became the place to live for political leaders, newly rich oilmen, and other notables -- real and would-be -- in the young state. When the ITIO-Foster No. 1 blew in on Dec. 4, 1928 -- some five miles to the south -- Oklahoma City changed from capital city of an oil producing state to an oil capital in its own right. The Oklahoma City Field -- with single wells capable of producing up to 60,000 barrels a day -- was one of the nation's significant discoveries. Before long the procession of drilling rigs marched north and west to engulf the city's east side and the Capitol complex itself. When the city council refused to include state-owned land within authorized drilling zones, then Gov. E. W. Marland, himself an oilman, placed the area under martial law and issued drilling permits in defiance of the city government. Oil derricks, tanks, and miscellaneous drilling equipment soon dotted the state property ... including one rig in the garden of the Governor's Mansion.

This frenzied activity left an indelible stamp on the Capitol-Lincoln Terrace district. Not only was the Lincoln Boulevard esplanade along the west edge of the district an actual working oil field (it contains several producing wells to this

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# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

PAGE 1

#### Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historia District

day), but the preservation district itself soon acquired a disproportionate number of homeowners who were petroleum industry leaders. A recently compiled list shows at least 32 important Oklahoma oilmen who had or still have homes in Lincoln Terrace. Included are three former state governors: Roy J. Turner, Johnston Murray, and Robert S. Kerr. Other prominent figures to live in the area include General W. S. Key, commander of the 45th Infantry Division in World War II; Orel Busby, justice of the State Supreme Court; George Shirk, former Oklahoma City mayor and long-time president of the Oklahoma Historical Society; Moss Patterson, aviation pioneer; Bishop Thomas Casady, early-day Episcopalian leader; and Leslie Fain, for whose wife globe-circling aviator Wiley Post named his "Winnie Mae" airplane.

But significance of the Lincoln Terrace district today lies not only in the importance of those state figures who developed it. The district also represents an era. "This was the heyday of the 'Roaring Twenties' and the oil boom in Oklahoma and many of the residences reflect the taste of the period," according to historian Kenny A. Franks. Newly rich oilmen and political leaders flocked to the area, he says, "and their lifestyles were indicative of the entrepreneur era in American history. It was a short-lived period of financial wheeling and dealing during the oil boom in which millionaires were made overnight. However, it came to a sudden halt for many during the depression of the 1930s. Nonetheless, the Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historical Preservation Area remains as a prime example of the great influx of wealth brought about by the growth of the oil industry in the new state. Very few residential sections still exist to reflect this era as well as the Capitol-Lincoln Terrace area."

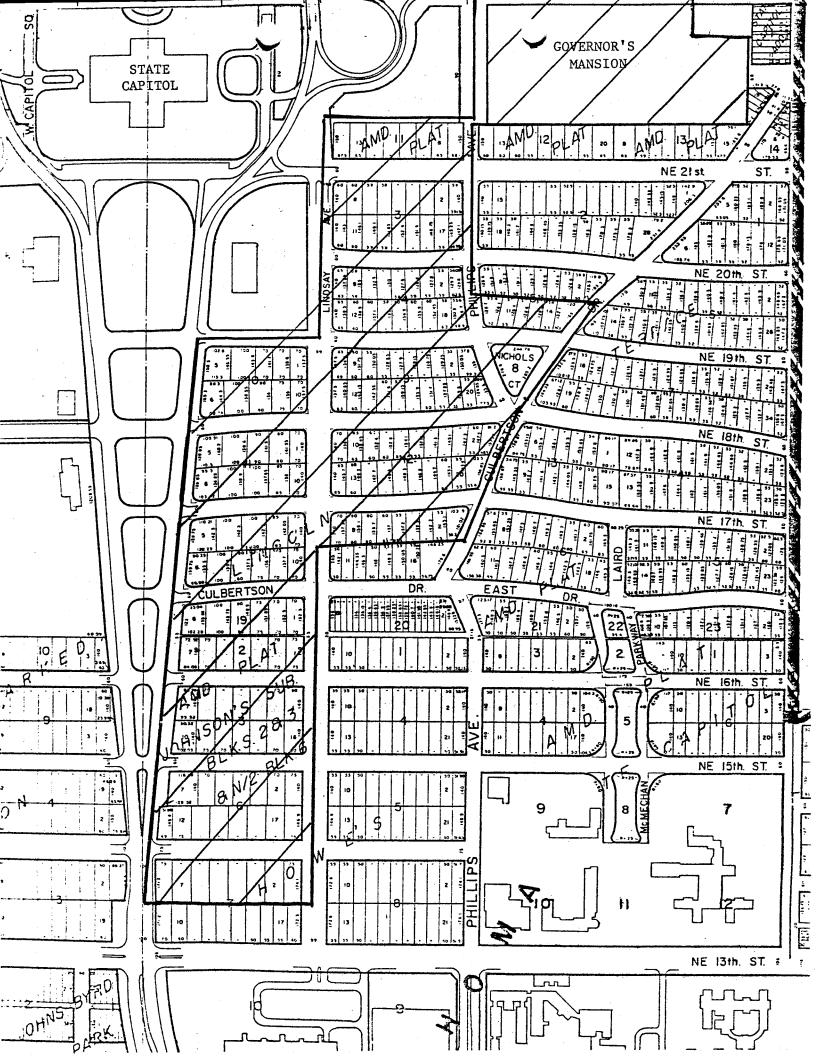
A secondary factor in preserving the district is the continuing influence of the city's growing medical complex immediately to the south. University Hospital, teaching facility of the University of Oklahoma Medical School, was dedicated in 1919. From the first many of the state's best known physicians were residents of the historic district. As the complex grew into the present Health Sciences Center, more doctors, medical personnel, and Center agencies have moved into the district's fine houses, 19 of which are now owned by the University of Oklahoma.

The Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historical Preservation District includes a variety of architectural styles. But it remains, to quote Franks again, "a prime example of the great influx of wealth brought about by the growth of the oil industry in the new state." And it is primarily for this reason that National Register status for it is sought.

## MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

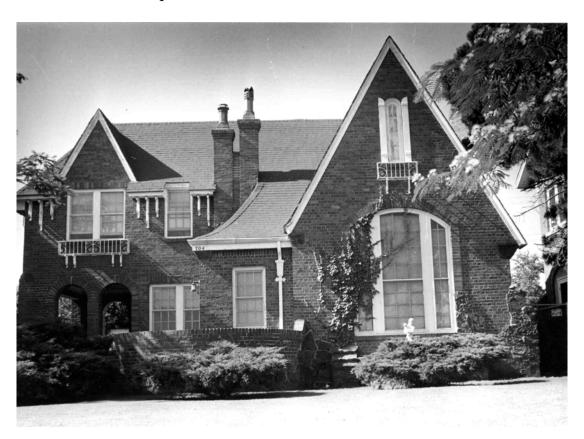
Franks, Kenny A., "An Historical Evaluation of the Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historical Preservation Area," Oklahoma City, July 1974

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ORGANIZATION			DATE	
Oklahoma Historical So	ciety	•	March 1976	
STREET & NUMBER			TELEPHONE	
Historical Building			405/884-5456	
CITY OR TOWN			STATE	
Oklahoma City	<u> </u>		Oklahoma	
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cinteria and procedures set forth by th	e National Park Service.		0	
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Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historic District





Capitol-Lincoln Terrace Historic District



