
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory



Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

The Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home is located in LaRue County, Kentucky, seven miles from Hodgenville. The cultural landscape includes the National Register district designed historic tourist area and the adjacent agricultural fields and woodlands. The 228-acre site is a flat valley along Knob Creek with several knobs, or hills, rising steeply nearby. The landscape also includes two historic buildings and a picnic area along the old Bardstown-Green River Turnpike, currently US 31E.

The Lincoln Tavern, constructed in 1933, is a one-and-a-half story log building on a concrete foundation. The five-bay tavern faces US Highway 31 and has a limestone chimney on the west façade and an original wing in the rear. The tavern was built to serve motorists stopping by the site and to exhibit Lincoln memorabilia. A single-pen log cabin, reconstructed in 1931-33 (from ca. 1800 logs used in the Gollaher family cabin) replicates Lincoln's boyhood home and is oriented to the highway. The structure has a log and mud chimney on the east façade and a single door and window on the south façade. The logs have half-dovetailed notching and mud chinking. The cabin once held domestic and agricultural artifacts and is currently being stabilized by the National Park Service.

The entrance directs visitors to the tavern and adjacent log cabin clustered along Highway 31 to the east. The paved drive is semi-circular with parking in front of the tavern and to the southwest. A wood worm rail fence lines the drive with plantings of Sugar Maples to the south and a row of Dogwoods and Box Elders to the north. Another wood worm rail fence encloses the cabin, with yet another protecting the chimney. Mature pines are planted in front of the cabin. There is a temporary ranger station located directly between the tavern and cabin with a wooden porch and handicap ramp. The NPS installed all the wood fences at the site in 2001.

Presently, an island is formed in front of the tavern by the semi-circular drive. This island will soon be replaced by a new parking area. A large stone NPS entrance sign is located at the northern entrance. The sign at the southern entrance was destroyed in an traffic accident. New signs will be designed by the A & E firm that is completing the new site plan. A flagpole is located in the island as well as a highway historical marker.

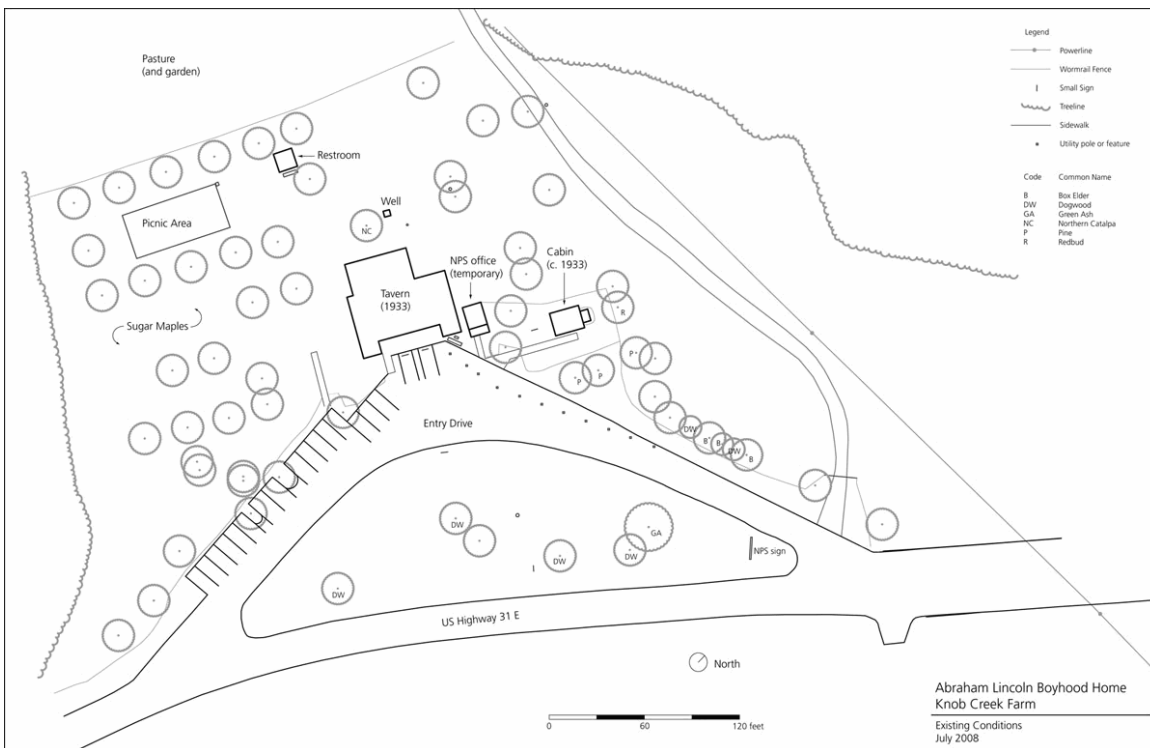
To the southwest of the tavern, near the parking area, a pathway leads visitors past the building to a picnic area. Rows of Maple trees (approximately 30 years old) surround a large concrete slab, which once supported a picnic pavilion but now has only picnic tables and trashcans. A small log outbuilding to the north of the picnic area provides restroom facilities. Another wood worm rail fence delineates the edge of the tourist area near the picnic tables from a pasture extending north. The fence is open at the northeast end near Knob Creek to allow access to the field and hiking trails. The view of the pasture and rising knobs from the tavern and picnic area contributes to the setting once viewed by young Abraham Lincoln.

The flat, shady lawn behind the tavern has a Northern Catalpa and several Maples planted as well as modern features. Immediately behind the tavern wing is a small overgrown flagstone terrace. A well is covered with a large concrete block and a small gas pipe projects from the ground next to a wooden post. Several scattered maples provide shade in this area.

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
 Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

Knob Creek, lending its name to the farm, borders the north boundary of the site. An access road leading from US 31E to the pasture parallels the creek north of the log cabin. Much of this area is maintained as open field, but a large garden is located in the first field. The tourist area clustered along US 31E is a 1.1 acre National Register historic district, although the NPS owns the pasture behind the tavern and several adjacent hills, totaling 228 acres. The knobs are preserved as woodlands. The cultural landscape includes all portions of the NPS site.

Site Plan



Site plan for Lincoln Boyhood Home, 2008.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

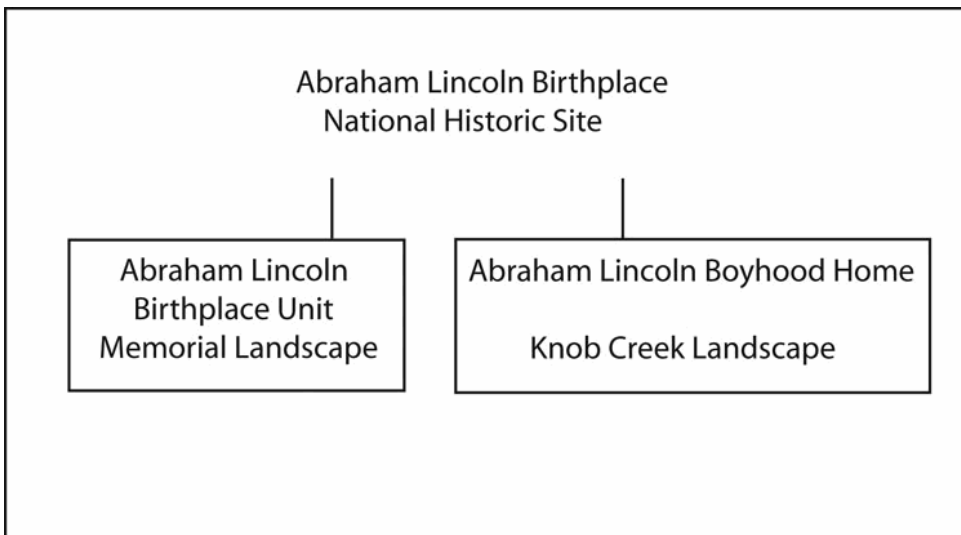
Inventory Unit Name: Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Property Level: Landscape
CLI Identification Number: 975192

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site
-ABLI
Park Organization Code: 5540
Park Administrative Unit: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

CLI Hierarchy Description

The park includes two landscapes, the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial Landscape and the Boyhood Home Landscape. The Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home is a significant landscape located along Knob Creek approximately ten miles northeast of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site. The farmstead is one of the first places Abraham Lincoln remembered as part of his childhood (1811-1816). The current Boyhood home landscape includes a 1930s roadside tavern, a reconstructed log cabin, and a fenced pasture adjacent to Knob Creek.



CLI Hierarchy, ABLI landscapes, 2008.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

The boyhood home of Abraham Lincoln was acquired by the park in 2001 as a separate tract from the ABLI Birthplace unit. In December 2005, David Hasty and Beth Wheeler visited the site and mapped the area. Additional research at the park archives contributed to the information gathered at SERO. Sandy Brue is the park contact.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	07/22/2008
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Date of Concurrence Determination:	07/31/2008

Concurrence Graphic Information:



United States Department of the Interior



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

IN REPLY REFER TO:
H22 (SERO-CRD)

11 July 2008

Roger Stapleton
Kentucky Heritage Council/State Historic Preservation Office
300 Washington Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

Dear Mr. Stapleton:

Enclosed please find a copy of two Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLIs) for Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site, located in Larue County, Kentucky.

The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or that contribute to an existing historic property. In order for CLI data to become certified, National Park Service regulations require concurrence from the SHPO on the eligibility of these properties. We are requesting your review of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial Landscape and the Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home CLIs and ask that you sign and return the enclosed concurrence form.

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site was administratively listed on the National Register in 1966, with additional documentation provided in 1977. Based on our research, we suggest that the nomination be expanded to include the years 1909-1935. These years will encompass significant cultural landscape features, including the terraced stairway, allee, hedges and memorial plaza, as well as War Department and National Park Service improvements during those years. The Lincoln Boyhood Home should also be expanded to include Lincoln's years at the site, as well as cultural landscape features that contribute to the feeling and setting of the property.



Letter to the SHPO

With concurrence from your office, the findings become certified in the CLI database. Your concurrence also gives us justification to submit proper additional documentation to you at a future date. If you have any questions about these documents, please contact David Hasty, CLI Coordinator, Southeast Region (SER), at (404) 562-3117 extension 630 or by e-mail at david_hasty@nps.gov. The concurrence form can be returned by fax at (404) 562-3202, or mailed to the address above.

We greatly appreciate your office's assistance with the project.

Sincerely,

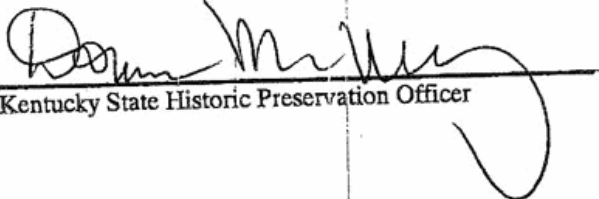


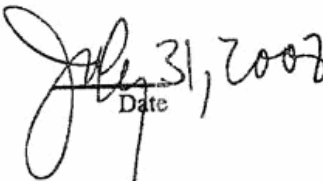
Dan Scheidt
Chief, Cultural Resource Division
Southeast Region

Enclosures

Letter to SHPO

We have reviewed the submitted documentation that identifies cultural landscape features at Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site in Larue County, Kentucky. We concur with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory, and understand that these features have the potential to contribute to the existing National Register of Historic Places nomination for Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site and Lincoln Boyhood Home.



Kentucky State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

SHPO Signature of Concurrence

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site



United States Department of the Interior


NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303



H22(SERO-CRD)

11 July 2008

Memorandum

To: Superintendent, Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site
From: Chief, Cultural Resource Division, Southeast Region 
Subject: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS Cultural Landscape Inventories

We are pleased to transmit to you the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial Landscape and Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home Cultural Landscape Inventories (CLI). The CLI is an evaluated list of landscape properties in the National Park System eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NR) or that contribute to an existing historic property. These CLI's were produced using data from the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Cultural Landscape Report (CLR), a site visit to the park in December 2005, and archival research at the Southeast Regional Office and the park.

In order for the CLIs to be certified and counted in PMDS under ABLI's goal Ia7 and the systemwide goal Ib2B, the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Office (Kentucky Heritage Council) needs to concur on the eligibility of the identified contributing cultural landscape features to the existing nomination. Abraham Lincoln Birthplace and Lincoln Boyhood Home are listed on the National Register, but the cultural landscape features are inadequately documented. David Hasty, CLI Coordinator for the Southeast Region, will send a request to the Kentucky Heritage Council for concurrence on the CLI findings.

Approval by the park superintendent is also needed for certification. If the findings of the CLIs are agreed upon – especially regarding condition assessment and management category – please sign the attached approval form and return it to our office to the attention of David Hasty.

Enclosures



Letter to Superintendent

**CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY
CONDITION ASSESSMENT CONCURRENCE SHEET – 11 July 2008**

Park Information

Park: Abraham Lincoln National Historic Site
State: Kentucky
Counties: Larue

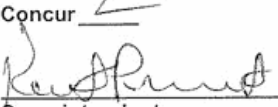
Cultural Landscape Condition

Inventory Name	CLI Id #	Condition
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial Landscape	550132	Good
Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home	975192	Good

Cultural Landscape Management Category

Should Be Preserved and Maintained 11 July 2008

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Concur Do Not Concur
 07/23/08

Superintendent Date

Superintendent Signature of Concurrence

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The landscape is bounded by Knob Creek to the north and highway U.S. 31E to the east. The Knob Creek Farm is located in a flat valley adjacent to the creek, surrounded by steep, wooded knobs, or hills on the remaining boundaries. The NPS property includes a roughly triangular track of pastureland with the developed tourist area along the highway.

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

State and County:

State: KY

County: Larue County

Size (Acres): 228.00

Boundary UTMS:

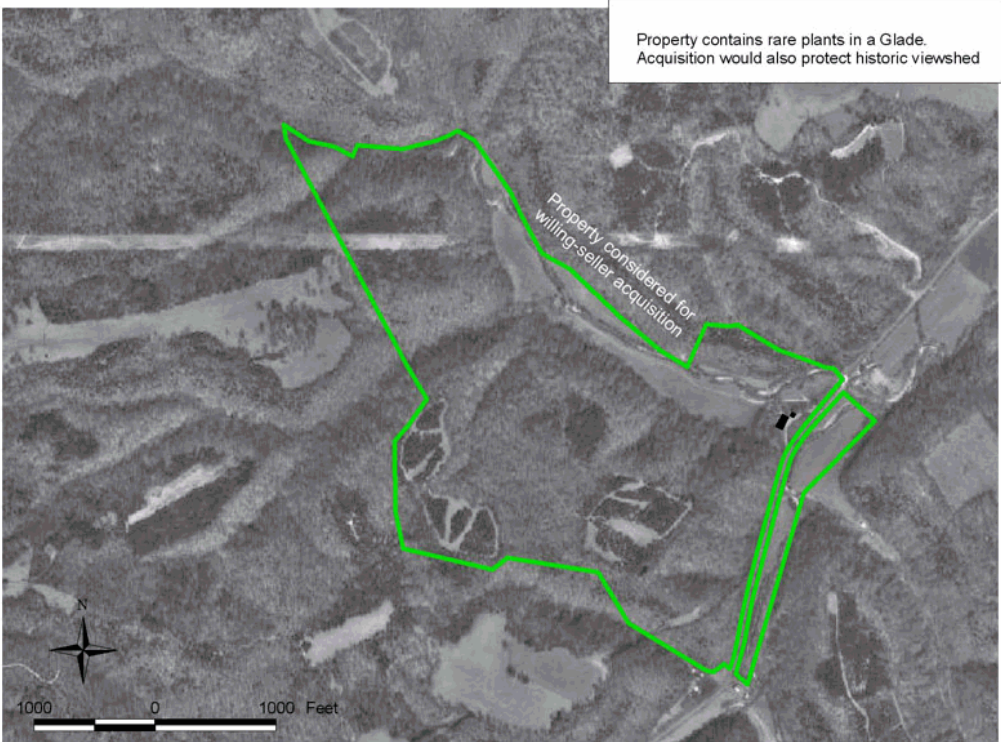
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UTM Easting:	619,434
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Location Map:

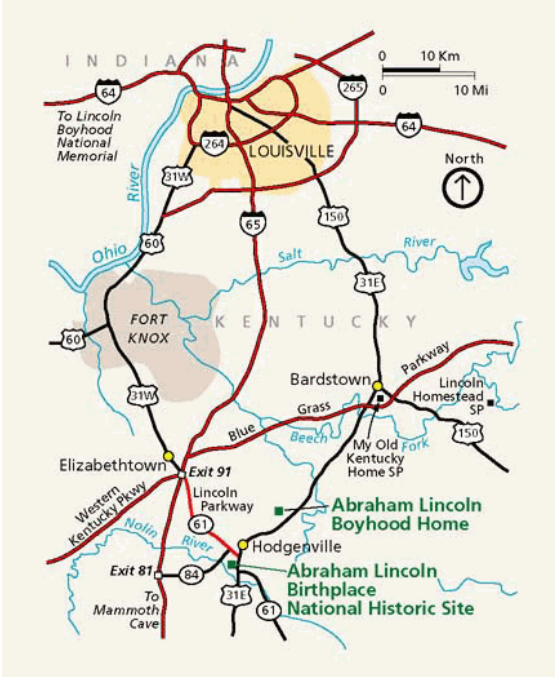


Location Map



Tract map of ABLI Boyhood Home

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site



Regional Location Map

Regional Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Description:

The area was settled in the late 1700s while still part of Virginia and used agriculturally until the tavern was erected and the site became a tourist destination. The Lincoln family farmed 30 acres along Knob Creek from 1811-1816. The commemorative landscape is currently a historic site honoring Abraham Lincoln owned by the National Park Service.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Description:

The park lies in the extreme eastern portion of Pennyrile, a physiographic region in west-central Kentucky. Pennyrile is part of the Highland Rim section of the Interior Low Plateau with gently rolling topography. The area is a karst region produced by the dissolution of limestone by water and characterized by underground streams, caves, sinkholes, small ponds and long valleys.

Type of Context: Political

Description:

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site is located in LaRue County, Kentucky near the town of Hodgenville. The park is located in the Second U.S. Congressional District of Kentucky.

Management Unit: ABLI

Tract Numbers: 02-101

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 07/11/2008

Agreements, Legal Interest, and Access

Management Agreement:

Type of Agreement: Special Use Permit

Expiration Date: 01/04/09

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

The permit allows continued use and maintenance of water and sewer lines (in park parallel to Keith Road) to Edwin Cox. The permits also allows use of the "front entrance" on Keith Road to gain access to Cox property.

Type of Agreement: Memorandum of Understanding

Other Agreement: Woody Biomass Utilization and Fuel Treatments

Expiration Date: N/A

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Description:

The land bordering the Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home is undeveloped. The property was used for agriculture during and after Lincoln's tenure, until the tourist site was developed in the 1930s. The views from the Knob Creek farm were historically important to the setting of the Lincoln Boyhood Home.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Lincoln Boyhood home was nominated to the National Register for the significant local history associated with LaRue County tourism and Abraham Lincoln. The existing National Register nomination form does not include potentially significant landscape features or a nineteenth-century period of significance. The cultural landscape qualifies for expansion and additional documentation under Criterion A and B. The nomination should be updated to reflect the cultural landscape, expanded to match the current National Park Service boundaries, and articulated include the flat pastureland in the rear of the tavern and the adjacent knobs. See statement of significance.

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site
NRIS Number:	66000066
Other Names:	Knob Creek Farm
Primary Certification:	Listed in the National Register
Primary Certification Date:	10/04/1988

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	District
Significance Level:	Local
Significance Criteria:	A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history
Significance Criteria:	B - Associated with lives of persons significant in our past
Criteria Considerations:	F -- A commemorative property

Period of Significance:

Time Period:	AD 1925 - 1941
Historic Context Theme:	Creating Social Institutions and Movements
Subtheme:	Recreation
Facet:	Tourism
Time Period:	AD 1811 - 1816
Historic Context Theme:	Peopling Places
Subtheme:	Westward Expansion of the Colonies and the United States, 1763-1898
Facet:	The Farmers' Frontier

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category:	Architecture
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Statement of Significance:

The Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home on Knob Creek is locally significant for its role in LaRue County tourism (Criteria A). The site is eligible under Criterion Consideration F as a property commemorating the iconography of Abraham Lincoln. The landscape has features that contribute to the historic tourist site (1933-1938) already listed on the National Register and has further significance (Criteria B) as the setting of Abraham Lincoln's formative years (1811-1816). Although the original cabin does not exist, the landscape maintains good integrity for the period Abraham Lincoln lived at Knob Creek as well as the commemoration of his early rural life.

The commemorative Lincoln landscape conveys the history of the tourism in LaRue County and includes not only the contributing tavern and single-pen log cabin, but additional landscape features. The orientation of the buildings to the highway and the semi-circular entrance drive accommodate motorists and highlight the iconography associated with Lincoln. The tavern and cabin face the main road and the drive provides simple, direct access to visitors. The spatial organization of the tavern, cabin, and entrance area conveys the feeling and association of the historic tourist stop. The semi-circle entrance drive also retains integrity of location and design from the 1930s period. The designed landscape (tavern, cabin and semi-circular drive) and the spatial relationship between the buildings and the road contribute to the Criteria A period of significance.

The context of Lincoln's early childhood helped to shape the site in the 1930s, but many aspects of the landscape still exist from the time Lincoln lived at Knob Creek. Natural landscape features contribute to the setting that Lincoln once looked out on as a young boy. Knob Creek, the flat valley farmland, and the steep knobs still communicate the feeling and sense of place that Lincoln first experienced. Young Abe Lincoln noted, "The place Knob Creek, I remember well— but I was not born there... My earliest recollection, however, is of the Knob Creek place." (letter to Samuel Haycraft, 1860). The

rural setting and natural features still convey the character of Knob Creek Lincoln remembered. The road, now US highway 31, is also a contributing historic feature that shaped his worldview. The Bardstown-Green River Turnpike was a major route of transportation and Lincoln likely experienced locals and travelers passing by. The association with Lincoln (Criteria B) is significant to the site and has integrity of location, feeling and association in the landscape. The landscape of the Boyhood Home conveys the setting and context in which young Lincoln spent his early, formative years and the later commemoration of the site as a tourist destination.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Designed
 Vernacular

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function:	Small Residential Landscape
Primary Current Use:	Museum (Exhibition Hall)-Other
Other Use/Function	Other Type of Use or Function
Agricultural Field	Historic
Recreation/Culture-Other	Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Knob Creek Farm	Both Current And Historic
Lincoln Boyhood Home	Both Current And Historic
Lincoln Farm	Historic
Sugar Camp Hollow	Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1808	Moved	Thomas Lincoln and wife, Nancy Hanks, move to Sinking Spring Farm near Hodgenville, Kentucky

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

AD 1811 - 1816	Moved	Lincoln family leaves Sinking Spring Farm and leases 30 acres at Knob Creek Farm from George Lindsey
AD 1816 - 1837	Farmed/Harvested	Various owners farmed soybeans and winter wheat
AD 1871	Demolished	Lincoln family cabin at Knob Creek razed after serving as a corn crib for local farmers
AD 1931	Land Transfer	Mr. Chester and Hattie Howard purchase Knob Creek farm
AD 1933	Reconstructed	Log cabin representing Lincoln's Boyhood Home. Logs may have come from the cabin of Austin Gollaher. (See Hudson report)
	Built	Roadside Tavern constructed for motorists visiting the Boyhood Home of Abraham Lincoln
AD 1933 - 1999	Memorialized	Tavern and cabin open to public with exhibits of period agricultural tools, domestic items, and Abraham Lincoln memorabilia.
AD 1960 - 1965	Planted	Sugar maples planted at Boyhood Home near picnic area
AD 1986 - 1988	Built	Log restrooms and a picnic pavillion were constructed by Lincoln Boyhood Home, Inc.
AD 2001	Land Transfer	National Park Service acquires Lincoln Boyhood Home
AD 2004 - 2008	Explored	Ground-penetrating radar survey undertaken at the Boyhood Home site - completed Phase I and Phase II in 2008.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The landscape characteristics that contribute to the history of the Boyhood Home include buildings and structures, natural systems, spatial organization, and topography. The natural landscape has not changed dramatically since the nineteenth-century and the historic 1930s tourist site retains good integrity. The location of Knob Creek and the adjacent knobs convey the setting that Abraham Lincoln knew, while the development of the roadside complex commemorates the location of Lincoln's early home. The 1930s spatial organization, orientation to the highway, and 2 contributing historic buildings have integrity of design, location, and association. The Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home landscape also retains good integrity of location, feeling, and setting from the nineteenth-century.

Aspects of Integrity:	Location
	Design
	Setting
	Feeling
	Association

Landscape Characteristic:

Buildings and Structures

The historic buildings at the Boyhood Home are the focal point of the commemorative landscape. The log cabin replicating the childhood home of Abraham Lincoln and the roadside tavern serving visitors convey the significance of LaRue County tourism in the 1930s. The buildings retain integrity of location, design, setting, feeling, and association.

The Lincoln tavern (1933) was constructed in the rustic style to accommodate visitors following the route of Lincoln through Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois and stopping at his childhood farm. The one-and-a-half story rustic log building housed a restaurant, dance hall, and apartment for the site manager. In the 1950s, the building was used as a gift shop. The rustic tavern displayed Lincoln memorabilia and Kentucky crafts as a roadside attraction. The tavern contributes to the popularity and destination tourism Lincoln inspired.

The Lincoln cabin was constructed as a replica (1930-1933) to approximate the one-room structure used by the Lincoln family while farming Knob Creek. The cabin, oriented east, was constructed from historic logs taken from the Gollaher cabin (a childhood friend of Abraham Lincoln) with a stone fireplace and chimney on the north façade. The limestone fireplace was added to the cabin in 1950. The cabin used twentieth-century building techniques, despite nineteenth-century materials, to recreate the simple rural inhabitation Lincoln experienced. The cabin is significant for its 1930s interpretation of Lincoln's life. Historic Structure Reports on both the tavern and cabin were completed in 2006 and rehabilitation work is scheduled to

coincide with the bicentennial celebration.

In 1988, log restrooms were added to the rear of the tavern at the time of other site improvements. The modern outbuilding is non-contributing.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Log Cabin

Feature Identification Number: 114934

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 473358

LCS Structure Name: Lincoln Boyhood Home Replica

LCS Structure Number: ABLI-08

Feature: Roadside tavern

Feature Identification Number: 114936

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 473357

LCS Structure Name: Lincoln Tavern

LCS Structure Number: ABLI-07

Feature: Restroom

Feature Identification Number: 128021

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Roadside tavern, existing condition, December 2005.



Log Cabin

Natural Systems and Features

The creek is a major feature defining the original Lincoln childhood landscape and lending its name to the historic farm. The integrity of the creek remains good and it conveys the setting and location of the Boyhood Home. Knob Creek retains its original course and remains in a natural environment with its upstream tributaries undisturbed.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Knob Creek
Feature Identification Number: 128023
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Knob Creek

Spatial Organization

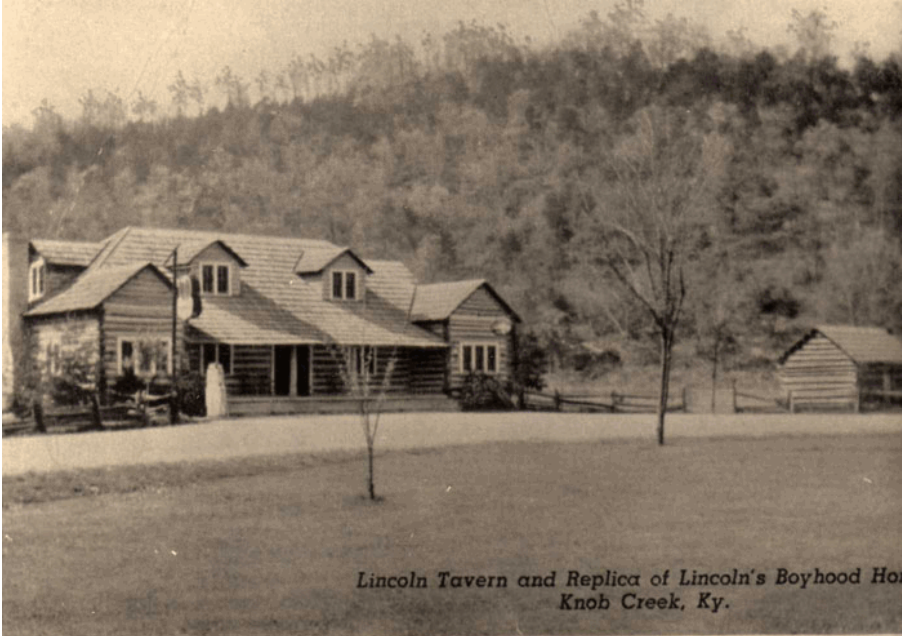
The spatial organization of the 1811-1816 Knob Creek farm is unknown; however, other than the c. 1950s limestone fireplace, the replicated cabin has not been altered since 1933. The period of significance associated with LaRue County tourism (1925-1941) retains excellent integrity of layout, spatial organization, and design. The semi-circular entrance drive continues to direct tourists to the tavern and cabin. Buildings are oriented toward the highway, while the remainder of the site is used for passive recreation.

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site



Entrance, south towards bridge



Postcard

Topography

The steep knobs rising on either side of Knob Creek contribute to the landscape that Abraham Lincoln remembered. The exaggerated topography and flat valley floor are unchanged despite the 1930s development at the site. The knobs and fields contribute to the feeling and setting of the historic farm. A picnic area and parking lot occupy the level area near the roadside, though a portion of the valley floor is preserved behind a wooden snake fence to the rear of the tavern. The open field and wooded knobs behind the tavern convey the historic setting and association.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Flat fields behind tavern

Feature Identification Number: 128025

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Knobs

Feature Identification Number: 128027

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Picnic Area and Field

Small Scale Features

The small-scale features at the Lincoln Boyhood home are primarily modern additions. The Howard family added utilities to improve visitor amenities, though little information exists to distinguish modern features from historic improvements. In 2001, the NPS acquired the site and added new worm rail fences and park signage. Bollards were added to restrict parking.

Worm rail fences are evident in undated, historic photographs and remain a feature undetermined as contributing. The fences limit visitor access near the cabin, but may have replicated or embellished on from historic fencing at the site.

The NPS added park signs to the entry island that do not contribute to the historic landscape. Other historic roadside markers and highway signs are also non-contributing features.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Worm rail fences
Feature Identification Number:	128029
Type of Feature Contribution:	Undetermined
Feature:	NPS signage
Feature Identification Number:	128031
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing
Feature:	Bollards
Feature Identification Number:	128033
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing
Feature:	Road signs
Feature Identification Number:	128035
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing

Vegetation

The vegetation at the Lincoln Boyhood home contributes to the designed landscape near the tourist tavern and cabin and to the overall setting of the Knob Creek farm. Dogwoods, box elder, redbuds, and gray ash are planted near the entry drive, on the grassy island, and clustered around the cabin. The remainder of the property has open pastures (the easternmost with a garden) and forested knobs. The historic fields and sloped topography convey the setting and feeling of the historic Lincoln farm. The Lincoln family farmed thirty acres of the flat field adjacent to the creek.

Abraham Lincoln Boyhood Home

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site

In the 1960s, sugar maples were planted near the picnic area to the west of the tavern. These modern plantings do not contribute to the cultural landscape.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 07/11/2008

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

The Lincoln Boyhood Home landscape retains significant features and is well-maintained. The spatial organization of the roadside tavern and reconstructed cabin has integrity of location, association, design, and setting. The buildings are listed on the National Register for their local significance to LaRue County tourism and are in the process of being preserved.

Impacts

Type of Impact: Structural Deterioration

Other Impact: The log walls in the tavern suffer from some structural deterioration (HSR, 2006). The cabin and its chimney have similar, and more severe issues. (HSR, 2006). The park is undergoing preservation of both buildings.

External or Internal: Internal

Stabilization Costs

Landscape Stabilization Cost: 183,578.00

Level of Estimate: B - Preliminary Plans/HSR-CLR

Landscape Stabilization Cost Explanatory Description:

Based on the draft Historic Structures Assessment Report for the Lincoln Boyhood Home Replica (June 2008 - NPS, Historic Preservation Training Center, Frederick, MD). These draft figures are for the cabin only.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography

- Citation Author:** Gloria Peterson
Citation Title: An Administrative History
Year of Publication: 1968
Citation Publisher: NPS
Citation Type: Narrative
Citation Location: SERO
- Citation Author:** Robert W. Blythe, Maureen Carroll, and Steven H. Moffson
Citation Title: Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHS Historic Resource Study
Year of Publication: 2001
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: SERO
- Citation Author:** Stephen B. Oates
Citation Title: With Malice Towards None: The Life of Abraham Lincoln
Year of Publication: 1984
Citation Publisher: Harper & Row
- Citation Author:** Lucy Lawliss and Susan Hitchcock
Citation Title: ABLI Cultural Landscape Report
Year of Publication: 2004
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: SERO, ABLI

Citation Author: Kent Masterson Brown
Citation Title: Report on the Title of Thomas Lincoln to, and the History of, the Lincoln Boyhood Home Along Knob Creek in LaRue County, Kentucky
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: ABLI

Citation Author: Karen E. Hudson, Ph.D.
Citation Title: Architectural Evaluation, Lincoln Boyhood Home, Knob Creek Farm, LaRue County, Kentucky
Year of Publication: 1997
Citation Publisher: Historic Resource Management Consulting
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: ABLI

Citation Author: Robert K. Nickel
Citation Title: A Ground-Penetrating Radar Survey at the Knob Creek Farm unit, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site, Kentucky
Year of Publication: 2005
Citation Publisher: SEAC
Citation Type: Both Graphic and Narrative
Citation Location: SERO, ABLI

Citation Author: Tommy Jones, Joseph Oppermann
Citation Title: Lincoln Cabin Historic Structure Report, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Site
Year of Publication: 2005
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Location: SERO, ABLI

Citation Author: Tommy Jones, Joseph Oppermann
Citation Title: Lincoln Tavern Historic Structure Report, Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Site
Year of Publication: 2005
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: CRBIB
Citation Location: SERO

Citation Author: National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center, Frederick, MD
Citation Title: Historic Structure Assessment Report
Lincoln Boyhood Home Replica
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Site
Year of Publication: 2008
Citation Publisher: NPS
Source Name: Other