



Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
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The Elizabethtown-Lincoln Cabin Site

Editor's Note: In 1938 the editor prepared a series of articles for The Enterprise Press of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, to be incorporated into a book bearing the title, "A Series of Monographs Concerning The Lincolns and Hardin County, Kentucky." One chapter was entitled, "The Elizabethtown-Lincoln Cabin Site." Because the book is now out of print, and because it had only a limited circulation at the time of its initial sale, it is thought appropriate to reprint the article in *Lincoln Lore*, incorporating some slight changes that should add to its accuracy and interest. The article is reprinted with the permission of Seymour Goodman, Editor of the *Hardin County Enterprise* Elizabethtown, Kentucky.

The reader may also wish to review the article on page 3 of *Lincoln Lore*, Number 1426, December, 1956, entitled, "Thomas Lincoln's Elizabethtown Cabin," for additional information on the subject.

R. G. M.

From an historical standpoint, one of the most important undiscovered Lincoln sites in the Kentucky-Lincoln country is the location of the cabin home of Thomas Lincoln in Elizabethtown. It was at this cabin home that Abraham Lincoln's parents resided immediately after their marriage in the year 1806. It was at this location that the Lincolns' first child, Sarah Lincoln, was born February 10, 1807, and it was while living in Elizabethtown that Nancy Hanks Lincoln experienced a second premonition of motherhood which resulted in the birth of Abraham Lincoln on February 12, 1809.

The President's own words regarding the pioneer Elizabethtown home are important and interesting. In a letter dated May 28, 1860 to Samuel Haycraft, Jr., the early historian of the town, Lincoln made the following statement:

"I was not born at Elizabethtown, but my mother's first child, a daughter, two years

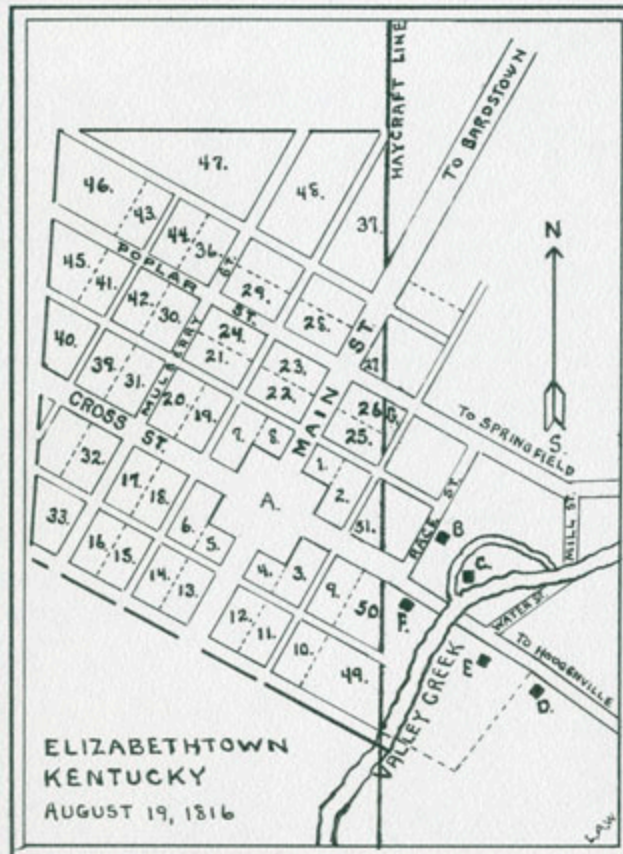
older than myself, and now long since deceased, was."

Lincoln biographers have been searching for the location of this cabin home since the days of Lincoln's first presidential campaign in the year 1860. Traditions regarding the location have proven to be unfounded and fictitious. So many conflicting stories have been handed down from generation to generation concerning the site of the Lincoln home that all are necessarily discarded. All biographers who have attempted to follow Elizabethtown traditions concerning the site of this cabin home have erred most grievously.

Several reasons may be given for the many conflicting Elizabethtown traditions, one of them being that Thomas Lincoln was a carpenter, and helped to construct other homes in the community which were later confused with the one he owned and occupied as a residence. Thomas Lincoln's home has also been confused with the Sarah Bush Johnston (Abraham Lincoln's step-mother) cabin, which was moved to three different sites on the land originally owned by Samuel Haycraft, Sr., an early settler in the community. Traditions have also been current in Hardin County that Abraham Lincoln was born in Elizabethtown. Such claims are unfounded and not considered at this late date.

As tradition has failed to locate this important site, so necessary from the Lincoln student's point of view, it is necessary to approach the study from an entirely different angle. Such an approach requires an exhaustive study of documentary evidence found in the Hardin County court records, the Elizabethtown Trustees' books and other source material. The intensive study of these records, however, will likely fail to produce satisfactory results, and the exact location of the home will probably never be known.

The community of Elizabethtown



Map of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, August 19, 1816, drawn by Dr. Louis A. Warren, former director of the Lincoln National Life Foundation. All of the lots to the west of the Haycraft Line were originally the property of Andrew Hynes, while all of the property east of the Haycraft Line was originally the property of Samuel Haycraft, Sr.

LEGEND

- A. Elizabethtown Court House Square.
- B. Site where the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin stood, after being moved from lot G.
- C. Site of mill which Thomas Lincoln helped to construct in 1797.
- D. Site of the old Severn's Valley Baptist Church, the oldest organization of that faith extant west of the Allegheny Mountains.
- E. Home of Benjamin Ogden, the first Methodist preacher in the western country.
- F. An early Elizabethtown tannery.
- G. The lot on which the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin was originally erected, containing one and one-quarter acres of ground, the property of Sarah Bush Johnston. Deed Book G, page 213 — Deed Book L, page 219.
- Lot 25 — The lot on which the Samuel Patton house stood, where Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Johnston were married.

On the north side of (Severn's) Valley Creek is shown the mill race that Thomas Lincoln was employed to help construct by Samuel Haycraft, Sr. This map shows fifty-one separate lots; however, lot numbers 34, 35 and 38 are not indicated.

town was first settled in the late fall of 1779, and the winter of 1780, by the Helm, Haycraft and Hynes families. In 1793 Andrew Hynes had the settlement surveyed into town lots and streets, but the town was not established until the year 1797. Elizabethtown is located in a valley named for John Severn who was probably the first pioneer to penetrate this rugged wilderness. Claims had been staked out by the early settlers, and the three families owning considerable property in the vicinity of the future town were the Hynes, Haycrafts and Helms.

According to an act of the Kentucky Assembly entitled "An Act for Establishing Towns" passed the 19th of December, 1796, provisions were made for the pioneer towns to become incorporated groups, controlled by a Board of Trustees who were empowered not only to establish the town, but to pass the laws thereof and enforce orderly rules of government.

Pursuant to this act and in conformity to an order of the court for the said county, made on motion of Andrew Hynes, Esquire, a Board of Trustees established the village of Elizabethtown on July 4, 1797. This site selected for the town, where many of the pioneers had already constructed their homes with no thought as to surveyed plats, was located on land originally the property of Andrew Hynes and near Severn's Valley Creek.

No evidence has been discovered to show that Andrew Hynes received any remuneration for the plat of ground on which a part of Elizabethtown is located. There is a possibility, however, that some agreement existed between the county, the Board of Trustees, and the persons owning cabins on the site, before the town's establishment.

At the first meeting of the town trustees on July 4, 1797, it was ordered that the boundaries of the town be ascertained and plainly marked. Benjamin Helm was commissioned to make the survey and to make a report of his work to the Board of Trustees. The Clerk, Isaac Morrison, was to advertise the sale of lots in the town, agreeable to law, and Armstead Churchill was elected to superintend the sale of said lots for the Board of Trustees.

The first lot to be sold was Number 2, which was purchased by Ichabod Radley. Several lot sales were conducted and Andrew Hynes, the original owner of the land purchased lots from the trustees. All deeds were executed by the Board of Trustees and recorded upon their minute book. This method of recording appears inaccurate and the minute book contains numerous entries of money paid for lots. The election of new board members also appears to have caused much misunderstanding and confusion as evidenced by the numerous corrections in the original trustees' book.

Benjamin Helm laid off the surveyed plat into lots, streets, and alleys. Fifty-one lots were surveyed, each containing one-half acre, with the exception of the corner lots on the Public Square, which contained one quarter of an acre each. The most desirable lots naturally were sold first and brought the highest sums.

Immediately adjacent to the east of the original Hynes property was located the property of Samuel Haycraft, Sr. The property of Haycraft was not included in the Benjamin Helm survey, resulting in the establishment of a very significant property line running north and south near the center of the surveyed plat and called the Haycraft Line. Benjamin Helm showed remarkable foresight as he visioned the growth of the town to be centered around the Court House Square and Severn's Valley Creek, and to the west of the Haycraft Line. At this early date there was likely no agreement made between the county or the town trustees with Haycraft, regarding the establishment of a town on his property. Such expansion on this property of Haycraft became necessary as the town increased in size.

Numerous lot sales were held by the town trustees in order to dispose of the fifty-one surveyed lots. The following compilation shows the recorded sales from the year 1798 to 1808 inclusive, taken from the minute book of the town trustees and Hardin County court records. The years are shown in which it would have been possible for Thomas Lincoln while in Elizabethtown, to have purchased lots from either the town trustees or from individual lot owners who possessed deeds to their lots executed by the town board.

1798 — 1808

1. James Crutcher, Bleakley & Montgomery and Benjamin Helm; 2. Ichabod Radley and Bleakley & Mont-



A J. C. Buttre engraving of the so-called early Elizabethtown, Kentucky, home of Abraham Lincoln, published in New York City in 1860. A caption erroneously states that "His father built this cabin and moved into it when Abraham was an infant, and resided there till he was Seven Years of age, when he removed to Indiana." This engraving may have been made from a photograph taken by S. Alschuler of Chicago.

gomery; 3. No sale recorded; 4. Joseph Chaffin; 5. James Crutcher (Lots number 48, 39, 40 and 5 sold for \$116.50) and James Crutcher.

6. Charles Helm and Bleakley & Montgomery; 7. Benjamin Helm; 8. Benjamin Helm; 9. Asa Coombes; 10. Andrew Hynes (Lot number 10 sold for Lbs. 6,0,0.).

11. Andrew Hynes, (Lot number 11 sold for Lbs. 6,0,0.); George Helm, (Lots number 11, 14, 36 sold for \$44.50), (Lot number 11 sold for \$28.00; 12. No sale recorded.

13. Andrew Hynes, (Lot number 13 sold for Lbs. 11,0,0.) David Vance, (Lot number 13 sold for \$22.00); 14. George Helm, (Lots 11, 14, 36 sold for \$44.50), County Court of Hardin; 15. Samuel Bush, (Lots number 35, 37, 15 sold for \$58.00).

16. Daniel Waide, (Lot number 6 sold for \$16.00), Samuel Bush; 17. No sale recorded; 18. James Crutcher, (James) Perciful; 19. Benjamin Helm; 20. William McMullen; 21. Morris Miles; 22. James Rawlings, Samuel C. Patton; 26. Aaron Rawlings, Samuel C. Patton.

27. Aaron Rawlings; 28. Christopher Bush, (Lot number 29 sold for Lbs. 6,4,0.); 30. Andrew Hynes, (Lot number 30 sold for Lbs. 7,0,0.), James Perciful, (Lot number 30 sold for \$15.50); 31. Christopher Bush, (Lot number 31 sold for Lbs. 10,11,0), John Ferguson.

32. Andrew Hynes, (Lot number 32 sold for Lbs. 11,0,0.), John Sneed; 33. Christopher Bush, (Lot number 33 sold for \$11.00); 34. Andrew Hynes, (Lot number 34

sold for Lbs. 9,0,0.), Asa Coombes, (Asa Coombes purchased a part of lot number 34; Garrard Bowlin, (On April 6, 1807 Samuel Haycraft gave his note for \$16.00 in place of Garrard Bowlin for the purchase of lot number 34), James Crutcher.

35. Andrew Hynes, (Lot number 35 sold for Lbs. 10,0,0.), George Howard, Samuel Bush. (Lots number 35, 37, 15 sold for \$58.00); 36. George Helm, (Lots number 36, 14, 11 sold for \$44.50; 37. Samuel Bush, (Lots number 35, 37 15 sold for \$58.00), James Crutcher.

38. Isaac Bush, (Lot number 38 was sold to Isaac Bush for \$1.00 which lot was sold at twelve months credit bond and security taken to the trustees for the benefit of the heirs of Andrew Hynes, Dec.); 39. James Crutcher, (Lots number 48, 39, 40, 5 sold for \$116.50, Daniel Linder.

40. James Crutcher, (Lots number 48, 39, 40, 5 sold for \$116.50), Daniel Linder; 41. Benjamin Helm, (Lots number 45, 41, 42 sold for \$19.00); 42. Benjamin Helm, (Lots number 45, 41, 42 sold for \$19.00); 43. Bleakley & Montgomery, (Lots number 47, 46, 43, 44 sold for \$38.50); 44. Bleakley & Montgomery, (Lots number 47, 46, 43, 44 sold for \$38.50); 45. Benjamin Helm, (Lots number 45, 41, 42 sold for \$19.00).

46. Bleakley & Montgomery, (Lots number 47, 46, 43, 44 sold for \$38.50); 47. Bleakley & Montgomery, (Lots number 47, 46, 43, 44 sold for \$38.50; 48. James Crutcher, (Lots number 48, 39, 40, 5 sold for \$116.50; 49. Asa Coombes, (Lot number 49 sold for \$31.00, William Stone); 50. Samuel Stout; 51. Robert Houston.

The commissioner's tax book enumerating the taxable property of Hardin County residents, lists under the years 1807 and 1808 house lots as belonging to Thomas Lincoln. The following compilation taken from the commissioner's tax book during the period of Thomas Lincoln's residence in Hardin County and Elizabethtown, prove conclusively that he paid taxes on Elizabethtown property.

COMMISSIONER'S TAX BOOK

- 1797 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable (White Male Above 21) Entered August 27, 1797.
- 1798 (No Lincoln Entry)
- 1799 (No Lincoln Entry)
- 1800 (No Lincoln Entry)
- 1801 (No Lincoln Entry)
- 1802 (No Lincoln Entry)
- 1803 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable
200 Acres Mill Creek.
- 1804 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable 1 Horse.
- 1805 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable 1 Horse.
- 1806 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable
- 1807 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable 1 Horse
Value Town Lot \$10.00.
- 1808 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable 1 Horse 2 Lots
in Elizabethtown from Hynes \$40.00.
- 1809 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable 2 Horse
200 Acres Mill Creek.
- 1810 Linkhorn, Thomas 1 Tithable 2 Horse
200 Acres Mill Creek.
- 1811 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable 1 Horse
200 Acres Mill Creek.
- 1812 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable 3 Horse
200 Acres Mill Creek.
- 1813 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable 2 Horse
200 Acres Mill Creek.
- 1814 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable 3 Horse
200 Acres Mill Creek of Salt River.
- 1815 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable 4 Horse (1 Stallion)
30 Acres (K) Nob Creek.
- 1816 Lincoln, Thomas 1 Tithable 4 Horse
- 1817 (No Lincoln Entry)
- 1818 (No Lincoln Entry)

NOTE: The name Lincoln was erroneously spelled Linkhorn by the early Hardin County officials.

The total value of property of each individual property owner was not listed in the commissioner's tax book until the year 1814. In this year among ninety-eight Hardin County residents listed in the same book with the father of the President, only fifteen persons are shown to have possessed property of greater value than that of Thomas Lincoln.

Worthwhile leads may be taken from the commissioner's tax books; namely that the two Elizabethtown Lincoln lots were originally the property of Andrew Hynes and were valued at \$40.00. Due to the fact that Andrew

Hynes purchased lots from the town trustees, his original deeds would be granted by that body. That Hynes originally owned the site of the entire incorporated town must not be confused in this case with his ownership of other Elizabethtown property.

The town lots in the possession of Andrew Hynes at one time or another were numbers 10, 11, 13, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35 and possibly 38. This narrows down from fifty-one lots a possible chance that Thomas Lincoln may have owned during the years 1807 and 1808, two of the nine lots purchased by Hynes. Lot number 38 is recorded by the trustees as in the possession of Isaac Bush with the note stating that "Lot number 38 was sold to Isaac Bush for \$1.00 which lot was sold at twelve months credit bond and security taken to the trustees for the benefit of the heirs of Andrew Hynes, deceased." This sale of Isaac Bush was recorded under the date of April 13, 1805. If Andrew Hynes' death occurred before April 13, 1805, and that date is the first mention of the demise of the founder of Elizabethtown, it is puzzling to know why the purchase of lots by Thomas Lincoln was not recorded in the minutes of the Trustees' Book before the death of Andrew Hynes. Owing to the fact that Thomas Lincoln owned lots purchased from Andrew Hynes, he necessarily would have to make the transaction before the date of April 13, 1805, yet his lists show purchases made in the years 1807 and 1808.

As the possibility is very evident that Thomas Lincoln owned two of the nine town lots which were formerly the property of Andrew Hynes, it is necessary to establish the values of the individual lots in order to determine just what two lots would likely be valued in tax assessment lists in the years 1807 and 1808 at \$40.00. This valuation of course implies that a cabin was erected upon one of the lots.

The following compilation of the lots with their values in English pounds, shillings, and pence is given in order to arrive at the value of the Hynes lots:

Lot No. 10.	Lbs. 6. 0. 0.
Lot No. 11.	Lbs. 6. 0. 0.
Lot No. 13.	Lbs. 11. 0. 0.
Lot No. 29.	Lbs. 6. 4. 0.
Lot No. 30.	Lbs. 7. 0. 0.
Lot No. 32.	Lbs. 11. 0. 0.
Lot No. 34.	Lbs. 9. 0. 0.
Lot No. 35.	Lbs. 10. 0. 0.
Lot No. 38.	(\$1.00—Twelve Months Credit Bond)

During the period of Thomas Lincoln's residence in Kentucky, both that state and Virginia used a particular sterling of their own, and their shilling was worth 16 2/3 cents. Verification of this may be found in T. S. Berry's "Western Prices Before 1861," page 364. Quite often, however, tax books and account books of mercantile firms during this period used both the American and English monetary systems. However, the assessment valuation of the Hynes properties does not furnish a clue to the lots which Lincoln owned.

Samuel Haycraft, Jr., in his history of Elizabethtown, Kentucky, written in 1869, said that Thomas Lincoln erected a dwelling in Elizabethtown which was then still standing. There is a tradition that Thomas Lincoln built a cabin just over the Haycraft Line, outside the city limits, on a lot originally owned by Samuel Haycraft, Senior, but then most likely owned by Robert Houston. The site is 300 feet north of the Dixie Highway over Severn's Valley Creek, near the Louisville and Nashville railroad bridge, which is situated near the depot. An old poplar tree stood near the site until a few years ago.

Under the date of the September Term of Court in the year 1812, Samuel Haycraft, Jr., in his history mentions a "doggerly (grocery) in the present Jones house above the Eagle House (Pusey Building site) (as) the only log house now standing of that ancient date (probably referring to round-log construction), except the old cabin that the father of President Lincoln lived in." This cabin undoubtedly was not within the city limits of the original town, but across the Haycraft Line, and was probably the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin which has been described in so many instances as the home of Thomas Lincoln.

Haycraft in his delineation of the town in the year 1801, states that "buildings were erected by George Berry, Jacob Bruner, Samuel Patton, Mrs. Jane Ewin,

(Continued on Page 4)

CUMULATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY — 1964-1965

Selections approved by a Bibliography Committee consisting of the following members: Arnold Gates, 289 New Hyde Park Road, Garden City, New York; Carl Haverlin, 8619 Louis Avenue, Northridge, California; E. B. Long, 708 North Kenilworth Ave., Oak Park, Ill.; Ralph G. Newman, 18 E. Chestnut Street, Chicago, Ill.; Kenneth A. Bernard, Boston University, 725 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.; Clyde C. Walton, Jr. Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, Ill.; Judge Warren L. Jones, U. S. Court of Appeals, Jacksonville, Fla.; Hon. Fred Schwengel, 636 Union Arcade, Davenport, Iowa. New items available for consideration may be sent to the above addresses or to the Lincoln National Life Foundation.

— 1964 —

BISHOP, JIM 1964-50

The Day/Lincoln/Was Shot/Jim Bishop/(device)/ Perennial Library/Harper & Row, Publishers, New York and Evanston; (Copyright 1955 by Jim Bishop).

Paperback, flexible boards, 7½" x 4¾", vii p., 312 pp., price \$85

LINCOLN MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY 1964-51

Lincoln Memorial University Press/Winter, 1964/Vol. 66, No. 4/Lincoln Herald/A Magazine devoted to historical research in the field of Lincolniana and/the Civil War, and to the promotion of Lincoln Ideals in American/Education . . . published by Lincoln Memorial University Press, Harrogate, Tennessee.

Pamphlet, flexible boards, 10" x 7", pp. 161-192, illus., price \$1.00 single copy.

(MEXICO NATIONAL BORDER PROGRAM 1964-52

(Cut of Lincoln) Monumento /A/Abraham/Lincoln/ Ciudad Juarez,/Chih. (Cover title)

Pamphlet, 5½" x 8½", (20) pp., illus., printed in both Spanish and English.

— 1965 —

THE ASSASSINATION AND HISTORY

OF THE CONSPIRACY 1965-9 [Monaghan #378]

"The Assassination and/History of the Conspiracy"/ A one-hundred year old chronicle of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln/ . . . with a new foreword/ By/Roy B. Basler/Republished by/Hobbs, Dorman & Company, Inc./New York, Buenos Aires.

Book, flexible boards, 8" x 5¼", fr., xix p., 189 pp., illus., price \$2.95. (Republished in original format with addition of Foreword.)

BALLARD, COLIN R. 1965-10 [M2832(4)]

The Military Genius of/Abraham Lincoln/An Essay by Brigadier-General Colin R./Ballard, C.B., C.M.G. — with a preface by/Fletcher Pratt—photographs from the/Meserve collection/(device)/Cleveland and New York/ The World Publishing Company. [First edition reprinted for the Lincoln Centennial Library 1965].

Book, fabrikoid, 8¼" x 5½", fr., viii p., 246 pp., illus., price \$4.00.

BETTS, WILLIAM W., JR. 1965-11

Lincoln/and the Poets/An Anthology Edited and with a Commentary by/William W. Betts, Jr./University of Pittsburg Press.

Book, cloth, 9¼" x 4¾", 15 p., 140 pp., price \$2.50.

BISHOP, JIM 1965-12

The Day/Lincoln/Was Shot/By Jim Bishop/Harper & Row, Publishers / New York and Evanston / (device). [Copyright 1955 by Jim Bishop] Centennial Edition.

Book, black cloth, 8½" x 6", 308 pp., illus., price \$4.95.

BROOKS, GWENDOLYN 1965-13

In the Time of Detachment,/in the Time of Cold/1965/ By Gwendolyn Brooks. [Copyright 1965] (Cover title).

Folder, 10" x 6½", No. 629. Printed for guests at banquet of Final Assembly of the United States Civil War Centennial Commission, Springfield, Illinois, May 1, 1965, by The Civil War Centennial Commission of Illinois.

HEATH, CAROLINE R. 1965-14

Four Days in May/Lincoln Returns to Springfield/ Compiled and edited by/Caroline R. Heath/Published by the Sangamon County Historical Society/and the Illinois State Historical Society/Springfield, Illinois, 1965.

6¾" x 10", pamphlet, flexible boards, 27 pp., illus.

HERNDON, WILLIAM H. 1965-15 [M1053(8)]

Herndon's/Life of Lincoln/The History and Personal Recollections of/Abraham Lincoln as Originally Written by/William H. Herndon and Jesse W. Weik/with Introduction and Notes by Paul M. Angle/Illustrated/ . . . The World Publishing Company/Cleveland and New York. (Reprinted for the Lincoln Centennial Library 1965).

Book, fabrikoid, 8¼" x 5½", fr., xlvi p., 511 pp., price \$4.50

HICKEY, JAMES T. 1965-16

Abraham Lincoln Chronology/By James T. Hickey/ Curator of the Lincoln Collection/Illinois State Historical Library/(Lincoln portrait in color)/Abraham Lincoln/

Life Portrait, by/George H. Story/ . . . [Published by The Illinois State Historical Library, Springfield, 1965]. Pamphlet, 8¾" x 5¾", 19 pp., illus.

HORGAN, PAUL 1965-17

Songs/After/Lincoln/by Paul Horgan/New York/Farrar, Straus and Giroux. (Copyright 1960, 1965).

Brochure, cloth, 8¾" x 4¾", x p., 74 pp., price \$3.95.

HUNTER, JOHN PATRICK & E. B. LONG 1965-18

Wisconsin Responds To President Lincoln:/Treasures From The State Archives/By John Patrick Hunter/Madison, Wisconsin/(device)/ Abraham Lincoln:/ Who Was He? Who Is He?/By E. B. Long/Oak Park, Illinois/Addresses at Annual Meetings/Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin/Madison/1963 and 1964/Historical Bulletin No. 22/1965. (Cover title).

Pamphlet, flexible boards, 10" x 7½", 22 pp.

KEMPF, EDWARD JOHN 1965-19

Abraham Lincoln's/Philosophy/of Common Sense/An Analytical Biography of a Great Mind/Part I, II and III. [New York, New York Academy of Sciences, 1965].

Book, fabrikoid, boxed, 9¼" x 6¼", 3 Vol., xxiv p., 1443 pp., illus., price \$30.00.

Lincoln Cabin Site

(Continued from Page 3)

Mrs. Boling, Mrs. Llewellyn, Thomas Lincoln (father of the President), James Crutcher, Asa Coombs, Thomas Davis, Henry Ewin, James Love, and David Vance." In describing these buildings, Haycraft said that hewed log houses were gradually replacing round-log houses, and that these buildings had shingled roofs fastened with poplar pegs, plank floors, and windows with sash and glass or greased paper instead of glass. From this account it is evident that the cabin homes in Elizabethtown were comfortable and suitable for pioneer needs.

The alley on which the traditional Lincoln cabin stood was not within the town limits until the year 1820, and was not subject to town tax. This alley so often referred to by Lincoln biographers was either Haycraft alley or Race street. The cabin mentioned by early biographers stood on Haycraft's land, while the tax lists show Lincoln's holdings to have been on land originally owned by Hynes within the town boundaries.

A cabin of which a picture has been published by G. A. Carpenter, once a resident of Elizabethtown, and copyrighted by S. W. Hayward in 1908 as the early home of Abraham Lincoln, and thought by some to be the Elizabethtown Lincoln cabin has confused the Sarah Bush Johnston cabin with that of Thomas Lincoln.

It is probable that Thomas Lincoln lived in only one cabin in Elizabethtown, and the cabin of his second wife had no connection with the Lincoln family until the year 1819 when Thomas Lincoln married Mrs. Johnston. The picture post-card of the Elizabethtown cabin should never be confused with the Thomas Lincoln cabin, and it is to be hoped that when the picture is hereafter used, it will be correctly called the home of Abraham Lincoln's step-mother.

The Kentucky real estate of Thomas Lincoln appears to have always been encumbered with improper titles. None of the farms belonging to him while he resided in Kentucky had clear titles. This condition was due to very lax land laws, and the lack of government land surveys. There is a slight possibility that his titles to Elizabethtown lots may have also been under controversy, as the sale of the lots by Hynes to Lincoln were unrecorded by the trustees.

Undoubtedly the Elizabethtown cabin resembled the birthplace cabin in construction and the fact that the structure is no longer extant deprives Elizabethtown of an historic shrine. Up to the present time numerous court records and early manuscripts have failed to determine the location of the cabin home in which Thomas Lincoln and his family lived. It is reasonable to assume, however, that he probably owned two of the nine lots which were at one time the property of Andrew Hynes. It is to be hoped that additional data will eventually be discovered which will determine without a doubt, the location of this important Lincoln site. The discovery of the Elizabethtown-Lincoln lots would be quite an asset to the historic town.