



Malone Neighborhood History

Along with the Near South district, the Malone neighborhood was one of the first developments outside the 1867 boundaries of Lincoln. While the Kennard and Gillespie mansions seemed to attract residents to the south and east of the Capitol, the construction of Nebraska Wesleyan University in the village of University Place and the growing influence of Burlington railroad in the village of Havelock drew Lincoln residents to the northeast. **(1)**

Similar to the Near South neighborhood in its early development, Malone was originally home to wealthier businessmen who built large, Victorian homes here in the late 1880s. A few examples include:



Ambrose Eddy, a real estate agent, who bought a large piece of land in the area and in 1891 built the home pictured above. The house is located at 435 North 25th and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Eddys were also founding members of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church. **(2)**

The Eddy house was later purchased by a man named William George Langworthy Taylor, a professor of law and economics educated at Harvard who came to teach at UNL. **(3)**

According to one study, "the close proximity to downtown, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and employment resulted in the construction of many homes that were quite substantial...because of their workmanship, materials, architectural style, or the individuals who built or lived in them." **(4)**

This trend of wealthy citizens building large homes in the neighborhood began to shift around the turn of the century. Many of them moved into still larger homes in the Near South district. Some of the homes in the

Malone area were then converted into boarding houses for the growing student population of the city campus. Charles Lindbergh actually roomed at one of these houses, located at 2618 P Street, while attending the Lincoln Airplane and Flying School in 1922. **(5)**

The Malone neighborhood's proximity to the UNL campus continued to shape its development. Especially at the western end of the area, which is adjacent to the campus, many of the single family homes that once existed there have been demolished. Large apartment complexes have been erected in their place, again to provide housing for students.

Also, one of the first additions to the original plat of Lincoln was Kinney's East O Street Addition, which extended from 17th to 20th and O to R streets. One of the major changes to the neighborhood since its formation is the transformation of this addition from residential to commercial. Unfortunately, most of the original homes from this area were also supplanted by the influx of businesses.

Today, the western end of the Malone neighborhood is home to a number of students attending UNL, while the eastern portion still retains some of the original homes built around the turn of the century.

Sources

1. Historic and Architectural Site Survey of Malone, Near South and South Salt Creek Neighborhoods, Lincoln Nebraska. (Lincoln: College of Architecture, 1974), 55.
2. Ibid., 56.
3. Ibid., 58.
4. City of Lincoln, Department of Urban Development. Focus Area Plan-Malone. 1998.
5. Historic and Architectural Site Survey, 58.