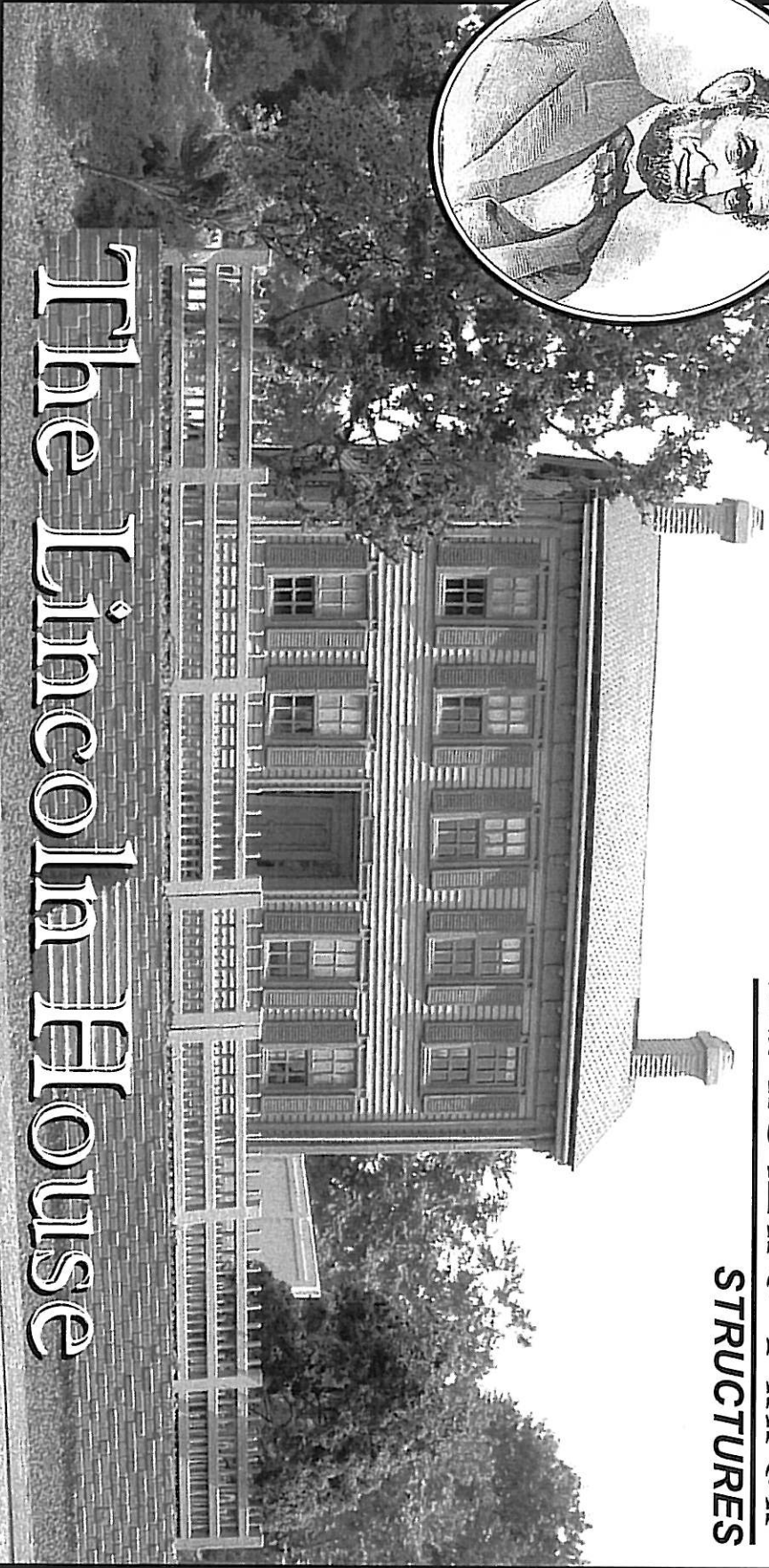




LASIER = ART STRUCTURES



The Lincoln House

History:

This kit is based on the Lincoln Home in Springfield, Illinois – the only house that Abe Lincoln ever owned.

In May of 1844, Abraham Lincoln, his wife Mary and his son Robert moved into a one-and-a-half-story cottage in Springfield, Illinois. They would live in this house for seventeen years. During that time the family expanded the house to the two story, twelve room configuration that we see today. It was from this house that Lincoln would leave for the White House. He never sold the home, instead deciding to rent it while he was in Washington with hopes to retire to it afterwards. This was not to be.

After Lincoln's assassination Mary could not bear to move back into the home. Instead, the family continued to rent the property until 1887 when Robert donated the home to the state of Illinois. In 1972 ownership of the house was transferred to the National Park Service. In 1987 the home went through an extensive restoration to return it to the appearance it had when Lincoln and his family lived there. This would include recreating the rather elaborate lightning rod system that Abe had installed to calm Mary's fear of lightning.

Today the home is open for tours, and the National Park Service has a rather extensive web site at <http://www.nps.gov/lhoo/> that includes the history of the house and images of the home through the years.