

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received JUL 27 1982
date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Lynn Bank Block

and/or common Essex Trust/Lynn Institution for Savings (formerly)

2. Location

street & number 21-29 Exchange Street N/A not for publication

city, town Lynn N/A vicinity of ~~Congressional district~~ Sixth

state Massachusetts code 025 county Essex code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mallory Realty Trust Hugh Quinn, Trustee

street & number 10 Bourbon Street

city, town Peabody N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts 01960

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Essex County Registry of Deeds

street & number 32 Federal Street

city, town Salem state Massachusetts 01970

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #443
has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date May, 1977 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 294 Washington Street, Boston state Massachusetts 02108

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date <u>N/A</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Lynn Bank Block stands on the south side of Exchange Street between Union and Spring Streets, immediately east of the elevated railroad crossing of the Boston and Maine Railroad. Built to be part of a row of commercial buildings, the block is attached to a neighboring structure on its east elevation; however, its western party wall is now exposed due to the demolition of abutting buildings.

The Bank Block has a rectangular plan consisting of a three-storey front section (north) and a one-storey rear wing (south) which was added in 1931. Both sections are enclosed by flat tar-and-gravel roofs and are built of masonry with wood and steel framing. The symmetrical facade (north) is faced with dressed limestone set on a granite plinth. Limestone finishes vary from heavy rustication on piers at the first storey to rusticated ashlar on upper floors and a band of dressed ashlar with four wreaths carved in low relief between the second and third stories. These wreaths bear various inscriptions, i.e., "1814" (date of the bank's incorporation), "1891" (date of the block's construction), "FNB" (First National Bank) and "IFS" (Institution for Savings). The facade's first storey is dominated by an arched entry (doors replaced ca. 1956) surmounted by a damaged keystone, a course of carved fleur-de-lis and a cornice decorated with carved lion's heads. Flanking the entry are two sets of store fronts, each of which is framed by panelled iron pilasters into three bays; at the first storey each of these bays contains a transom and a single fixed light set over a panelled base. At the basement, most bays contain single fixed lights (two have been altered to accommodate air conditioners) except for the eastern-most bay which contains a below-grade entry with granite steps, a panelled lobby and glazed doors with iron grilles. An identical entry existed in the western-most bay until 1956. The facade's second storey contains a central Palladian window framed by Ionic columns. Flanking this central window are six windows (1/1) arranged in groups of three; the center window of each group is framed by a stone architrave, moulded cap and carved wreath. The third storey contains eight windows (1/1) arranged symmetrically about a carving in low relief that consists of a shield framed by a crown, scrolls and swags; the shield itself is oval in shape and bears three swords and three bell flowers. At the top of the third storey is a pressed metal cornice with modillions. Originally a pressed metal balustrade formed a parapet across the facade; however, this detail was removed in the mid-twentieth century.

The east elevation consists of a blank three-storey party wall (north), a one-storey wall of red brick (south) with four blocked window openings and a partially collapsed blank brick wall (1931) at the south end of the elevation. This wall as well as the interior behind it were damaged by smoke and water in 1981 when the neighboring building burned.

The south elevation is built of red brick set on a concrete foundation. Fenestration of the basement and first storeys is irregular consisting of four blocked windows (basement), five windows of varying size, and two doors (first storey). The second and third stories each have eight windows, symmetrically arranged. Sash is mostly 2/2 set in rectangular surrounds with sandstone lintels and sills.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1891, 1931 **Builder/Architect** James T. Kelley, Architect (1891)

Thomas M. James Co. (1931)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Lynn Bank Block possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship, as well as historical association with the reconstruction of Lynn's commercial district after the Fire of 1889 and the development of the City's important shoe industry throughout the nineteenth century. Additionally, it was the first building constructed in downtown Lynn after the devastating fire to employ a classical design vocabulary. Thus, the building meets criteria A & C of the NRHP.

Between 1891 and the early 1970s, the Bank Block served as the main offices of the Lynn Institution for Savings (chartered as a savings bank in 1826) and the Lynn First National Bank (chartered as a commercial bank in 1814 as the Mechanics' Bank; re-incorporated as the Essex Trust Company in 1904). Founded by local shoemakers, these two institutions, especially the former Mechanics' Bank, played an essential role in the development of the shoe industry in Lynn by discounting the notes of credit with which Southern and Western buyers paid local manufacturers for boots and shoes. As early as 1804, such notes amounted to \$500,000 annually and proved a severe hindrance to shoemakers who needed cash to purchase raw materials. With the founding of the Mechanics' Bank, this credit problem was solved and a continuing relationship was established between the bank and the local shoe manufacturers, a relationship that was reflected in the large number of shoe manufacturers who served on the bank's Board of Directors throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Before 1889, the two banks had jointly occupied a succession of different buildings on the Lynn Common and Broad Street; however, the reconstruction of Lynn's business district after the Fire of 1889 provided them with the opportunity to establish their headquarters in a location which was more central to the business district that had grown around Central Square after the opening of the railroad in the 1830s. In 1891, the Exchange Street site, which had previously contained two shoe factories, was purchased by the banks, and architectural plans by James Kelley of Boston were published for the burned district's first Classical Revival style block. Praised by a local newspaper as "one of the most thoroughly built blocks in the City," the Bank Block also enjoyed the distinction of being the most finely decorated building in the district. Its facade of Indiana limestone, low-relief carvings, Palladian window, modillioned cornice and other decorative details are of extremely high quality and are characteristic of a taste for fine details which is evident in other major local buildings designed by Kelley, most notably in the Elihu Thomson House at Swampscot (1889), the Charles Porter House at Lynn (1889) and the nearby Lynn Gas & Electric Company Block on Exchange Street (1896). Exterior details, as well as interior features such as panelled wainscots, ornamental plasterwork and carved railings remain mostly intact. Actual construction of the Block was carried out by James E. Manning, mason, and Joseph Breed & Son, carpenters, of Lynn.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Burrill, E.M. Essex Trust Company: An Historical Sketch... Lynn: 1914

Lynn City Item May 1, 1891, p.6

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 15,204 square feet

Quadrangle name Lynn, Mass.

Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UMT References

A

1	9	3	4	0	0	8	0	4	7	0	2	8	5	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property includes only the lot on which the block stands, shown on Lynn Assessors' Sheet 19 as Lot #20 of Block #595, which is attached.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Candace Jenkins, Registration Director by B. R. Pfeiffer, ACT for Massachusetts

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May, 1982

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts 02108

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

Acting
State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie Ann Talmage

title Acting Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission date July 20, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 8/26/82

Allouez Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Lynn Bank Block

Item number 8

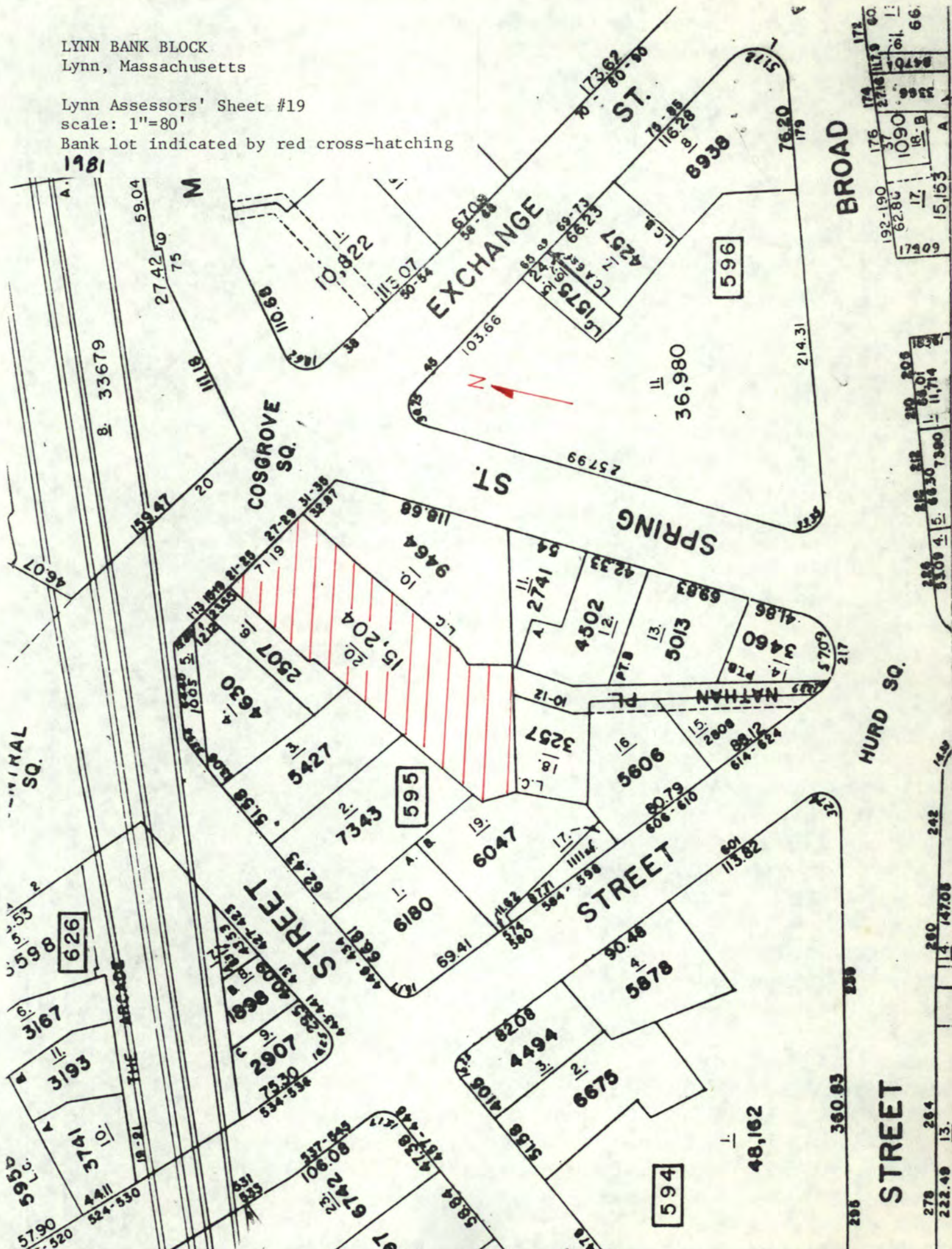
Page 2

In 1931, the Block was enlarged by the construction of a one-storey brick addition to the south elevation. Built to enlarge the banking halls, this addition was not originally visible from the street. Its exterior is undecorated, although its interior contained Colonial Revival style woodwork, most of which has been damaged as the result of the collapse of a neighboring structure onto this wing in 1981. Other alterations to the Block include the installation of an elevator in the well of the main staircase (1941) and the addition of oak panelling, suspended ceilings and aluminum-trimmed glass doors to the entry lobby (1956).

LYNN BANK BLOCK
Lynn, Massachusetts

Lynn Assessors' Sheet #19
scale: 1"=80'

Bank lot indicated by red cross-hatching
1981



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

82004964

Lynn Bank Block,
Essex County,
MASSACHUSETTS,

Working No. 7/27/82-2076

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83

Date Due: 8-20-82/9-10-82

Action: ACCEPT 8/20/82

Entered in the RETURN
National Register REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom. / Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is
_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



MASS. SCHOOL OF BARBERING & HAIRSTYLING OF LYNN, INC.

NEXT ENROLLMENT MARCH 2ND

25 EXCHANGE ST.

LYNN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

LYNN MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION

1915

HART ALARM

Lynn Bank Block
21-29 Exchange Street
Lynn, Massachusetts

Brian Pfeiffer, photographer - February 1982

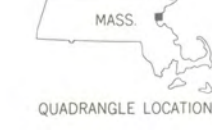
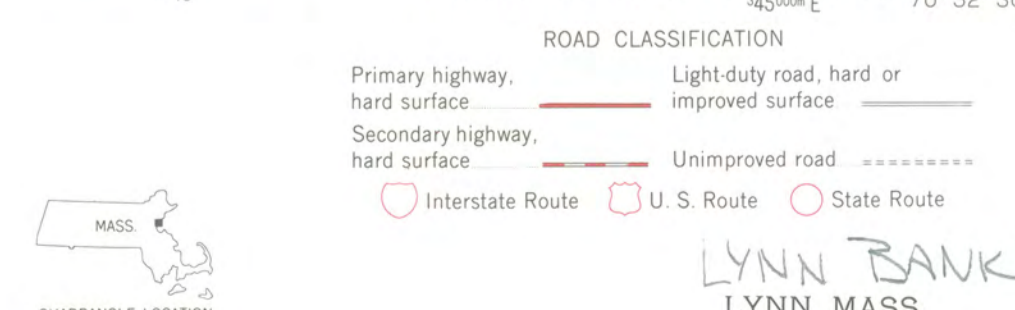
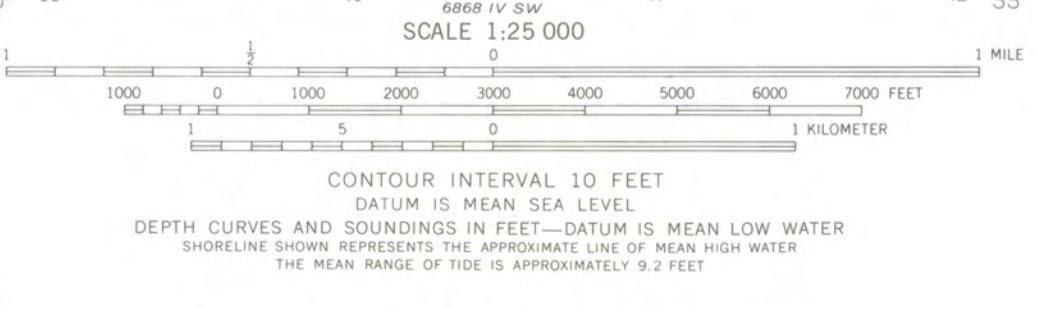
negative at: ACT for Massachusetts
45 School Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

View of the facade (north elevation) taken from a
position facing southwest.

Lynn Bank Block
Lynn
Essex Co., MA
UTM Reference
19/340080/4702850



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1939. Topography by planetable surveys 1943. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240(1970), 246 and 248 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes.
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 19
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information supplied by Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



LYNN BANK BLOCK
LYNN, MASS.
N4222.5—W7052.5/7.5

1970
AMS 6868 IV NW—SERIES V814



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

July 20, 1982

Ms. Carol Shull, Acting Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Shull,

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

✓ Lynn: Lynn Bank Block (local)
Monterey: Reverend Adonijah Bidwell House and First Meetinghouse Site (local)
Newburyport: E.P. Dodge Building (local)
Sandisfield: Philemon Sage House (local)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

