

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

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

For NPS use only

received SEP 12 1985

date entered OCT 10 1985

1. Name

historic Odd Fellows Hall

and/or common

2. Location

street & number Troy Mills Road _____ not for publication

city, town Troy Mills _____ vicinity of

state Iowa code 019 county Linn code 113

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: fraternal

4. Owner of Property

name Unadella I.O.O.F. Lodge #299

street & number 5825 Troy Mills Road

city, town Walker _____ vicinity of state Iowa 52352

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Clerk's Office

street & number Linn County Courthouse

city, town Cedar Rapids state Iowa 52401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? _____ yes _____ no

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" 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

The Odd Fellows Hall (1900) is a well preserved two story frame commercial structure with rectangular plan. The building exhibits a _____ simulated stone tin cladding and retains its original hall interiors on two floors. The hall faces east onto the main business street in Troy Mills.

This two story frame meeting hall measures 26 by 62 feet. The building is front gabled with a full second floor beneath its eavesline. The pedimented stepped gable rises above the false front and forms a pediment. A south side rear entrance with stoop enters beneath the corner interior dogleg stair.

Fenestration is generally symmetrical in its distribution, with a storefront level formed of large plate glass, transoms, and a recessed central entryway. Four square cast iron fluted pilasters with squared capitals frame the storefront and entrance. A dentillated band course with end brackets marks the presence of a structural beam between the two floor levels. Eight windows (double hung, 1/1) windows are arranged in two rows of four, on each side wall (on the south wall a rear door is placed in lieu of large window, and a half window lights the stair landing), and are vertically alligned. Rear fenestration consists of single centered windows on each floor. Of special interest are the cast iron window hoodmolds and sills. The hoods consist of side brackets and a molded drip mold.

The cornice treatment is distinctive, consisting of an unenclosed pediment with inscribed dates "1874" and "1900" and the letters "I.O.O.F." Side brackets frame the central pediment and define the ends of the cornice line. Intervening brackets break up the cornice line on either side. A lower curved sill line supports the cornice brackets above. The entire cornice is of pressed metal. Originally decorative rounded finials marked each bracket point, one of which survives.

The entire building exterior is clad with sheets (measuring two by four feet) of tin which simulate coursed ashlar stone. The exterior is presently painted a homogeneous white, including the storefront, and cornice areas.

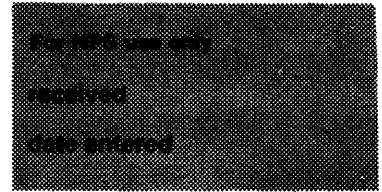
The building has a full basement and a foundation of rubble limestone. Basement windows are found on both sides and a basement door and window are located in the rear.

The interior first floor plan is completely open, with a rear stage and a dogleg stairway in the southeast rear corner. On the second floor the stairway leads into a nearly square cloakroom. An adjoining ante-room shares the same interior end wall and these chambers fill the rear twelve feet of the upstairs. The remainder of the floor is open. Two small rectangular podiums are centered on each end of the rectangular main hall.

The lower floor retains its four feet tall wainscoting, plaster walls, and woodwork. Upstairs wainscoting, woodwork, furnishings, a metal wood stove (the sole source of heat, connecting by piping to a brick interior chimney located in the northwest corner), and original light fixtures remain. An elaborate coved and coffered embossed metal ceiling is also well preserved.

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Continuation sheet Physical Description

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Alterations have been minimal since construction. The white exterior paint color, apparently applied originally, has recently been restored. The storefront area has been temporarily sealed. West end windows have similarly been temporarily sealed due to threats of vandalism. Inside, linoleum floors replaced carpeting in 1941. Florescent lights now light the second floor area. Aluminum storm windows have replaced original wooden ones.

The Odd Fellows Hall is sited on the west side of Troy Mill's main business street, just north of the Wapsipinicon River, the latter water body bisects the town's small commercial core. At its zenith Troy Mills boasted a string of frame single and two story false front commercial buildings which were centered at the intersection of Linn and then Main Street. The hall anchored the south end of this string which was primarily along the west side of Main Street. The Wapsipinicon River flows southward just behind the hall. The ground level drops towards the river and exposes the basement in the rear of the subject building as it descends.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1900 **Builder/Architect** Unknown architect, no single builder.

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Odd Fellows Hall (1900) in Troy Mills is a rather late example of "boomtown" construction dressed up in Italianate styling. It shows how the availability of materials like metal cornice, columns, etc. caused particular architectural styles or treatments to continue well past their heyday.

The hall is remarkably well preserved with the exception of the reversible temporary infilling of the storefront windows. The interior, including many original furnishings are very well preserved.

Troy Mills was platted in 1870, marking the association of a major flour mill, a river crossing, and a mail-stage route. An 1887 triple span bridge spurred town growth. A broad range of services and commercial firms developed a well focused though relatively underdeveloped business core. Community organizations appeared early, among these being the Unadella International Order of Odd Fellows Lodge No. 299, founded in 1874.

The subject property is at least the second building to house the lodge. Constructed in late 1900, lodge records reveal costs and individuals involved. Charles Thompson did the foundation excavation, and mason Tilghman Diltz laid the stone. H. Pugh Hardware was paid \$583. probably to pay for either the tin cornice, the tin ceiling or perhaps both. The total bill came to \$2,725.11 including \$125. for the lot. The building was dedicated on February 22, 1901.

The lodge and its auxiliary, Rebekah Lodge No. 398 used the upstairs hall. The downstairs appears to have served a broader community function and probably also at least partially supported hall operation and maintenance costs. Uses ranged from annual cemetery association dinners, movies, polling place, to sports activities including a roller rink. The downstairs is now used for storage.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Troy Mills

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A

1	5	6	0	8	6	3	0	4	6	8	2	4	9	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 Beg. at a point 167'2" south of NE corner of NW one quarter of the SE one quarter of Sec. 5, T-86N, R-7W (of 5th P.M.), thence west 165', south 7', thence west to the Wapsipinicon River, thence south 14' East 31'8" along the bank of the river to a point thence east 272', thence north 38' to place of beginning.

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 James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa HPO, Iowa State Historical Dept. date August 26, 1985

street & number E. 12th & Grand Ave. telephone 515-281-4137

city or town Des Moines state Iowa 50319

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.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature *Powell J. Soike*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date August 26, 1985

For NPS use only

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

Entered in the National Register

date 10-10-85

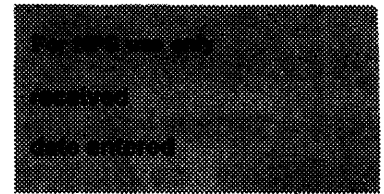
Albion Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____

Chief of Registration

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Continuation sheet

Bibliography

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Sanborn Insurance Map, Troy Mills, August 1933.

Dell Mills, "Troy Mills founded in 1853 along the Wapsi." Linn News-Letter, 10 June 1981, p. 10.

The History of Linn County Iowa. Chicago: Western Historical Company, 18___, pp. 601-2.

Unadella I.O.O.F. Lodge #299 Secretary's Notes, February 3-August 4, 1900. Provided by Mr. Charles Webster, R.R.#1, Walker, Iowa 52352.

Interviews, Nan Wolverton with Mr. Charles Webster, November 26, 1983, January 18, 1985.

Interview, Nan Wolverton with Mrs. Isabel Diltz, November 25, 1983.