

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY

UTM:19 A 402460/4883260 B _____
C _____ D _____

IDENTIFICATION

1. Common name: _____
2. Historic name: Union Block
3. Street or rural address: 21-29 Lisbon Street
City Lewiston Zip 04240 County Androscoggin
4. Parcel number: Map 23 B Lot 21-29
5. Present Owner: See below Address: _____
City _____ Zip 04240 Ownership is: Public _____ Private X
6. Present Use: Commercial Original use: Commercial

DESCRIPTION

- 7a. Architectural style: Italianate
- 7b. Briefly describe the site or structure and describe any major alterations from its original condition:

Three story brick building, nine bays wide, decorative brick paneling around second and third story windows, wooden cornice supported on brackets and consoles, third story windows with two over two double hung sash, second story windows with one over one double hung sash, granite lintels and sills. Storefront has original granite piers and lintels, but otherwise altered with modern signage, glass, metal and wood.

Attach Photo(s) Here

8. Construction date:
Estimated _____ Factual 1870
9. Architect unknown
10. Builder _____
11. Approx. property size (in feet)
Frontage _____ Depth _____
or approx. acreage $\frac{1}{4}$ acre
12. Date(s) of enclosed photograph(s)
April, 1985

No. 21-23 Ernest Sannders Heirs, 370 Main St., Lewiston
No. 25 Ralph Precopio Realty, 25 Lisbon Street, Lewiston
No. 29-31 Guildo and Dorita Poliquinn, P.O. Box 263, Lewiston

13. Condition: Excellent ___ Good Fair ___ Deteriorated ___ No longer in existence ___
14. Alterations: See Number 76
15. Surroundings: (Check more than one if necessary) Open land ___ Scattered buildings ___ Densely built-up
 Residential ___ Industrial ___ Commercial Other: _____
16. Threats to site: None known Private development ___ Zoning ___ Vandalism ___
 Public Works project ___ Other: _____
17. Is the structure: On its original site? Moved? ___ Unknown? ___
18. Related features: _____

SIGNIFICANCE

19. Briefly state historical and/or architectural importance (include dates, events, and persons associated with the site.)

The building is architecturally significant as a distinguished example of Italianate style commercial design built during one of Lewiston's most important periods of development. John Y. Scranton, the builder, was a prominent clothing merchant who rented the third floor hall to the Knights of Pythias, the Odd Fellows, and the Kora Temple.

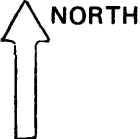
20. Main theme of the historic resource: (If more than one is checked, number in order of importance.)
 Architecture Arts & Leisure _____
 Economic/Industrial ___ Exploration/Settlement _____
 Government ___ Military _____
 Religion ___ Social/Education
 Other (describe) _____

21. Sources (List books, documents, surveys, personal interviews and their dates).

Lewiston Journal, Aug. 2, 1870, Sept. 10, 1870
Registry of Deeds, Androscoggin County
 Courthouse

22. Date form prepared 12/85
 By (name) R. Reed
 Organization MHPC
 Address: _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Phone: _____

Locational sketch map (draw and label site and surrounding streets, roads, and prominent landmarks):



HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

Lewiston Historical Commission - Dingley Building
36 Oak Street, Lewiston, Maine 04240

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. Building Name(s): Union Block Historic Union Block
- 2. Principal Street Address: 21-29 Lisbon Street
- 3. Other Street Address: _____
- 4. Present Owner's Name: Ernest Saunders Heirs 5. Ownership: public private
- 6. Owner's Address: 370 Main St., Lewiston Lewiston
- 7. ~~Original~~ Owner: 29-31 - Guildo and Dorita Poliquin, P. O. Box 263, Lewiston
- 8. Use: original Commercial/Meeting Hall 9. Accessibility to public:
 present Commercial/Offices exterior visible from public road
 interior accessible: (explain) Yes, public
 access to street level store fronts.

Surveyor's Name: L. Chatterton Date: August, 1984
 Address: Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14850 Telephone: _____
 Position: volunteer professional consultant intern
 other, (explain) _____

DESCRIPTION

- 10. Number of Stories 3 Bays 9 Attic _____ Basement
- 11. Structural wood frame, interlocking joints: _____ wood frame, light members: _____
 System: masonry load bearing: metal, (explain): _____
- 12. Photo _____ 13. Map _____

Average - 1/4

DESCRIPTION

14. Building Roof: asphalt shingle___ wood shingle___ slate___ concrete___
Material: composition x metal___ tile___ other___
Walls: wood___ stone___ cast iron___ brick x stucco___
other Granite trim___
Foundation: Brick

15. Present excellent___ good x fair___ poor___ deteriorated___
Condition: explain fair or poor condition___

16. Integrity: original site: yes x no___ if moved, when___
list major alterations, dates and designers (if known):

Successive store front alterations employ a disparate variety of treatments and materials, including

- . rigid plastic panels
- . corrugated aluminum sheathing
- ."carraraglass" panels
- . "weathered" board and batten siding
- . vinyl siding

Six original wood sash windows on the north side of the second story and three on the north side of the third story have been replaced with aluminum sash combination windows. Several original doors have also been replaced.

17. Threats to ^x none___ zoning___ roads___ developers___ deterioration___
Building: other___

18. Related barn___ carriage house___ garage___ privy___ shed___ shop___
Outbuildings: landscape features___
other___

19. Surroundings: can check more than one, open land___ woodland___ industrial___
densely built-up x commercial x scattered buildings___
residential___ other___

20. Interrelationship of Buildings and Surroundings: The Union Block is a visually prominent structure occupying three building lots near the termination of Lisbon Street at Main. Although successive remodeling impairs facade rhythm at the street level, the upper stories introduce a nineteenth century character consistent with other buildings along the street. All entrances are elevated by a single granite step.

DESCRIPTION

21. Other Notable Features of Building and Site, include Interior Features if known: This large, red brick, flat roofed, commercial block retains many features depicting the transitional period between the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. Straight headed, rectangular window openings with substantial flush, dressed, granite lintels and sills are set into depressed shoulder, flat arched recesses. Compound rectangular recessed panels surmount each bay. The projecting wood cornice rests on large reverse curve, wood brackets, featuring flat drop pendants between bays, with smaller brackets in between. An inset, granite panel at the south end of the facade, between the second and third stories, with deep-relief, block lettering depicts the name "UNION BLOCK." Segments of original, granite, post and lintel construction of store fronts are visible at street level.

SIGNIFICANCE

22. Date of Initial Construction: 1870

23. Architect: _____ Address: _____

24. Builder: _____ Address: _____

25. Historical and Architectural Importance: The Union Block retains many original architectural features, contributing to the depiction of early commercial development on Lisbon Street. The structure is shown on early maps as the Scruton Block. Research indicates that John Scruton is responsible for erection of the block, which remained in the family until 1918. Prominent Lewiston businessman J. Y. Scruton was proprietor of a longstanding, tailor and clothier store, established in 1857. The Golden Cross Hall, also called Pythias Hall, located on the third floor, was used as a meeting room by several local societies including various IOOF chapters, the Knights of Pythias and the Kora Temple.

26. Sources:

Lewiston Journal, August 2, 1870, September 10, 1870

Deed research, Registry of Deeds, Androscoggin County Building, Auburn

"Lewiston of Today," "The Maine Magazine," Vol. 1, 1907