

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAR 21 1977
DATE ENTERED	NOV 7 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS HALL

AND/OR COMMON I.O.O.F. Hall

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 41 Post Office Place

CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City VICINITY OF

STATE Utah CODE 049 COUNTY Salt Lake CODE 035

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 02

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input checked="" 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 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 Mr. Phil Hanson and Mr. Frank Granato

STREET & NUMBER 250 East Broadway

CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City VICINITY OF STATE Utah

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Salt Lake County Recorders Office

STREET & NUMBER Salt Lake City and County Building

CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City STATE Utah

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Utah State Register of Historic Sites

DATE March 17, 1976 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Utah State Historical Society, Preservation Office

CITY, TOWN Salt Lake City STATE Utah

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- DETERIORATED
- GOOD
- RUINS
- FAIR
- UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

- UNALTERED
- ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE *Belovids*
 MOVED DATE 5.77

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The I.O.O.F. Hall was built in 1891 of brick and stone and is three stories high. The rectangular plan features tall, large assembly rooms on each floor at the south end of the building, while the north or front areas contain stairways, offices, and other smaller rooms. The structure utilizes samples of post and beam construction with a single line of load-bearing cast-iron columns running the length of the structure at midspan. The roof is basically flat, sloping slightly to the south. At present, the hall is free-standing and is surrounded by parking lots. To the east is the old Post Office and across the street to the north is the New York Hotel (Utah State Register), recently restored.

Of most architectural interest is the Richardsonian Romanesque front facade of the I.O.O.F. Hall. The symmetrical facade is three bays wide on each level and features square and Roman-arched bays which consistently alternate throughout the entire composition. The bottom level has a large arched entry, flanked by square openings and square window bays. On the second level are large Roman-arched window bays flanking a single square bay. The third level has a central Roman-arched window flanked by square bays.

The center section of bays is separated from the side bays by brick and stone pilasters. The same kind of pilasters are also situated at the corners of the facade. This vertical emphasis is balanced by horizontal bands of stone, metal and corbeled brick. Although rusticated stone is used sparingly, the facade has a textural quality, albeit the relief is shallow. The parapet wall features brick and stone in checkerboard patterns and, in the elevated central portion, "I.O.O.F." and "1891." At the cornice level is decorative metalwork in the form of columns and pinnacles. Other decorative metal work exists along the first story cornice and composite capitals on the cast iron columns. At the base of the entry arch is stonework carved in foliated patterns. The only symbolic artwork representative of Oddfellow doctrine is an all-seeing eye carved in stone over the main entry. Also interesting are the side facades which feature irregular arrangements of square and Roman-arched window bays.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—RELIGION
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE
—1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	—EDUCATION	—MILITARY	XSOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
—1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER
X1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—OTHER (SPECIFY)
		—INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1891-1892

BUILDER/ARCHITECT George F. Costersian

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Independent Order of Oddfellows is a secret benevolent and social society that had its origins in early 18th Century England. Similar to and imitative of the rites and organization of freemasonry, Oddfellows organized in the United States in 1819 in Maryland under the authorization of the Manchester (England) Unity, I.O.O.F. The Oddfellows experienced rapid growth, both territorially and in membership, which reflected the increasing popularity of fraternal organizations in 19th Century American society. In Utah the development of these societies coincided with the growth in the territory's non-Mormon population. The quasi-religious nature of the ritual and philosophy of fraternal organizations generally meant that Mormons and Catholics were excluded either through policy or custom, or because personal commitment to Mormonism or Catholicism made membership unattractive. The Knights of Pythias were the first major fraternal organization to be organized by the citizens of the territory in February 1864. The Independent Order of Oddfellows followed on May 4, 1865, with the most prestigious group, the Masons, not assembling for their initial meeting until November 11, 1865. (A Masonic Lodge comprising principally of military men at Camp Floyd had been in operation from 1859 to 1861.)

Between 1865 and 1872 the I.O.O.F. and the Masons shared a meeting hall on East Temple Street known as Oddfellows Hall. These small and dingy quarters, described as "anything but inviting" were obviously unsuitable as a center for the growing social importance of the Oddfellows. Like most of the other fraternal organizations, the Oddfellows participated in "fraternal insurance" programs that offered members and their families some security in a society in which the financial and social consequences of illness or bereavement were often disastrous. For the Protestants and Jews who comprised the bulk of I.O.O.F. membership, their participation in a benevolent and social group of this nature was an important survival mechanism in the midst of the tightly organized Mormon culture which extended these same benefits and "social security" only to the adherents of the Mormon religion.

Sociologists have noted the possibility of the need for ritual as explaining part of the enormous popularity of fraternal organizations. Most fraternalists appear to belong to the "non-ritualistic" denominations of Protestantism, which makes their participation in a group devoted to sacred clothing, special grips in greeting, secret oaths, heirarchal organization, and elaborately choreographed ceremonies, all the more thought-provoking. The expression of ritualism extended generally to the meeting places, and once a lodge had acquired permanence and stability the members soon provided for an appropriately dignified edifice to be constructed. By 1885 Utah had eight I.O.O.F. "working" lodges, several auxiliary organizations, and a Grand Lodge of Utah had been established with a prominent Jewish merchant, Frederick Auerbach, as the first Grand Master. With their permanence established, the Utah Oddfellows in 1891 brought into being the Oddfellows Building Association, capitalized at \$40,000 and subscribed to through 4,000 shares at \$100 each. Architect George F.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Tullidge, Edward. History of Salt Lake City, CC88, Salt Lake City; Star Printing, 1886.
 I.O.O.F., Rocky Mountain Regiment, 3rd Battalion. Record Book, 1891-1893.
 Goodwin, S. H. Freemasonry in Utah, Salt Lake City, 1932.
 Clarence Bock, Interview, November 12, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1, 2	4, 2, 4, 7, 4, 0	4, 5, 1, 2, 4, 5, 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Allen D. Roberts, Architectural Historian/John S.H. Smith, Pres. Planning Specialist

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Utah State Historical Society

February 18, 1977

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

603 East South Temple

(801) 533-5755

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Salt Lake City

Utah

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

Michael T. Miller

TITLE

Michael T. Miller,
State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

February 22, 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]

DATE

11/5/77

DATE

2-2-77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8

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Costersian was employed to design, and contractor J. H. Bowman to build the present structure at Post Office Place that would enable the Oddfellows to "fraternize the world, comfort and relieve the distressed, nurse and care for the sick, bury the dead and educate the orphan." The interior of the building boasted a magnificent library donated by Grand Master Frederick Auerbach, as well as providing for lavish ceremonial rooms that were the heart of the lodge's fraternal meaning.

The decline in membership of fraternal organizations did not really become noticeable until after World War II, although the social advantages of membership had already begun to erode during the Depression period--partially as a result of the growth of the state responsibility for welfare and security that became significant following the creation of the various innovative New Deal programs. The Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall in Salt Lake City has mirrored the decline of its organizations' displacement as an important and worthwhile social mechanism. However, the structure itself is a largely unspoiled example of a fraternal meeting place, its decoration a celebration of the exuberant bourgeois taste of the 1890's, and an entirely fascinating reminder of the importance of ritual and ceremonial in American society.

HISTORY

The I.O.O.F. Hall is valuable as an unaltered example of commercial Richardsonian Romanesque architecture. Excepting the addition of a small metal fire escape and minor mullion changes in the upper windows, the exterior of the hall has never been altered. Even the bottom level of the facade is untouched and includes original doors, hardware, glass, etc. Unfortunately, the building has not been maintained either, and the fabric, particularly the sandstone, is badly deteriorated. Although not distinguished architecturally, the interior is also intact with respect to original floor plan and fabric. Rich in texture, color, variety of materials and generous fenestration, the front facade of the I.O.O.F. Hall is its most important feature.

The architect, George F. Costersian, appears to have immigrated to Salt Lake City during the building boom (1889-1893) and remained only a few years, leaving the I.O.O.F. Hall as his most noteworthy achievement. John H. Bowman, a prominent Utah masonry contractor, executed the ambitious masonry design. Of the many Richardsonian Romanesque commercial buildings erected during the "Boom," few remain in Salt Lake City and most that exist have been modified. The recently abandoned hall has good restoration potential and has been purchased by private developers who intend to at least partially restore the structure.