

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**



**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 Colonial Hall and Masonic Lodge #30 ^{No.}
and/or common Colonial Hall and Masonic Lodge #30

2. Location

street & number 1900 Third Avenue South ___ not for publication
city, town Anoka ___ vicinity of congressional district 8th
state Minnesota code 22 county Anoka code 003

3. Classification

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

name Masonic Lodge #30
street & number 1900 Third Avenue South
city, town Anoka ___ vicinity of state Minnesota

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Anoka County Courthouse
street & number _____
city, town Anoka state Minnesota

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Statewide Survey of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes ___ no
date 1978, 1979 ___ federal state ___ county ___ local
depository for survey records Minnesota Historical Society - 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House
city, town St. Paul state Minnesota

7. Description

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

Colonial Hall, a seventeen-room building originally built to serve as a house and medical office, was designed in 1904 by Frederick Marsh. The design and architectural features of this three story frame building, which is constructed on a stone foundation, are all characteristic of the then-popular Georgian Revival style.

The symmetrical three-bay front facade of Colonial Hall is dominated by a semi-circular portico. The portico consists of four two story free-standing Corinthian columns. The recessed entry, which is shadowed by the portico, is embellished with a two-tiered porch. The balustraded second story of the porch is supported by one story Corinthian columns. The corners of Colonial Hall are decorated with fluted pilaster strips which are capped with Corinthian capitols. Diminutive pilaster strips with Corinthian capitols flank each of the building's double hung rectangular windows. The high pitched hipped roof, which makes the interior attic space usable, is broken by two tall brick chimneys. The dentillated eaves appear as a classical cornice.

The interior of Colonial Hall has been preserved by the Anoka County Historical Society. The suite of three rooms on the north side of the first floor, which were originally used as a waiting room, consultation and electrical room, and an operating room, have been converted for use as offices by the county society. The remainder of the first floor, composed of a parlor, dining room, kitchen, bathroom, and pantry, is furnished in period pieces and serves as a museum and library. The basement is used for displays of agricultural and educational artifacts. The second floor is composed of bedrooms which have been furnished in turn of the century style. The most outstanding features of the interior, an oak spiral staircase, as well as the woodwork throughout the house, were manufactured by Reed and Sherwood, a prominent Anoka lumberyard.

In 1922 a two story brick Masonic Hall was constructed to the northeast of Colonial Hall. The simple Greek Revival design of the hall complements the design of Colonial Hall.

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Medicine
	<input type="checkbox"/> invention			

Specific dates 1904; 1922 **Builder/Architect** Frederick Marsh

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Colonial Hall, planned and built by Drs. Alanson and Flora Aldrich in 1904, is a significant historic and architectural building in Anoka. Historically this building is significant due to its association with the medical practice and the civic contributions of the Drs. Aldrich. Architecturally Colonial Hall represents the only well-preserved Anoka example of a Frederick Marsh designed Georgian Revival house. As the office and museum of the Anoka County Historical Society and the Anoka County Geneological Society, Colonial Hall continues to make a historical contribution to the county.

Dr. Flora Aldrich, a descendant of the Hudson Valley Knickerbockers, and Dr. Alanson Aldrich, a native of Massachusetts, moved from New York to Anoka in 1883. Prior to 1883 they had studied and practiced medicine together in Baltimore, Chicago, New York, London, Paris, and Vienna. Their Anoka practice was devoted to the treatment of eye, ear, nose, and throat ailments.

Dr. Flora Aldrich, civically active throughout her residence in Anoka, served in 1890 as the first president of the Philolectian Society, a women's social club. She also served as Vice-President of Anoka's first library board. As a noted author, Dr. Flora Aldrich contributed to various medical journals. In addition, she wrote My Child and I, a turn-of-the-century child rearing guide for mothers. Throughout her life she was a devoted member of both the Minnesota Medical Society and the American Medical Association.

Dr. Alanson Aldrich, who had established reknown in his field in Europe and on the east coast before moving to Anoka, maintained a medical practice for thrity-three years in both Anoka and Minneapolis. Through his contribution to opthmology journals, Dr. Alanson Aldrich maintained a national reputation as an innovator in his field. He was a member of the Hennepin County Medical Society, the Minnesota Medical Society, and the American Medical Association.

In 1922, after the death of the Drs. Aldrich, Colonial Hall and its contents were sold to the Anoka Masonic Lodge. Soon after, the Masons constructed a two story Masonic Hall to the northeast of Colonial Hall. In 1971 Colonial Hall was leased to the Anoka County Historical Society. The Masons retain ownership and continued to meet in the hall.

PLEASE NOTE: The manuscript for this nomination was prepared before the one paragraph limit for significance statements was stipulated.

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property less than 1

Quadrangle name Anoka

Quadrangle scale 7.5

UMT References

A

1	5	4	6	9	6	4	0	5	0	0	4	6	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

Auditors Subdivision #68
Lot 9

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Lynne VanBrocklin Spaeth

organization Minnesota Historical Society

date May 1979

contact Dennis Gimmetad

street & number 240 Summit Avenue-Hill House

telephone (612) 296-9545

city or town St. Paul

state Minnesota

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Russell W. Fridley

title State Historic Preservation Officer

date

11/1/79

For HCRS use only

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

Carol O. Schul

date

12-31-79

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

Kristin T. O'Connell

date

12/26/79

Chief of Registration