

**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 Sevierville Masonic Lodge

and/or common John Sevier Savings and Loan

2. Location

street & number 119 Main Street _____ not for publication

city, town Sevierville _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district First

state Tennessee code 047 county Sevier code 155

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 type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" 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 John Sevier Savings and Loan Association of Sevierville, Inc.

street & number 119 Main Street

city, town Sevierville _____ vicinity of _____ state Tennessee 37862

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registrar's Office, Sevier County Courthouse

street & number Court Avenue

city, town Sevierville _____ state Tennessee 37862

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Tennessee Historical Architectural has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date June, 1973 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Tennessee Historical Commission

city, town 4721 Trousdale Drive Nashville _____ state Tennessee 37219

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 _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sevierville Masonic Lodge is located on Main Street in Sevierville. It is the second oldest surviving building in the downtown district of the Tennessee River Valley community.

The vernacular, rectangular building rests on a brick foundation. Two-story common bond, brick walls support a flat built up roof.

The facade, or north elevation consists of five bays separated by brick pilasters. The main entrance located in the center bay, is surrounded by side lights and a transom which is capped by a decorative lintel. A two over two window is located in the second floor of the center bay. The other four bays of the front elevation present an identical appearance, with a smaller two over two window on each floor. All of the windows on the north, east, and west elevations have the decorative lintels. Circular radiating metal symbols are located at each of the four covers of the original building. A stepped and corbelled brick frieze and a bracketed pressed metal cornice surround the north, east and west elevations. An addition was built on the south, or rear elevation, covering three bays of the original back wall. The addition is a simple rectangular, two-story structure made of bricks, with a rear entrance in the center. The entrance, with side lights and transom, was designed to resemble the front entrance. The east and west elevations are similar, consisting of two bays separated by a brick pilaster and containing one window on both the first and second floors. The first floor of the interior has been remodeled in an appropriate style to allow for the transacting of bank business. A portrait of John Sevier, first governor of Tennessee for whom the city and county are named, hangs in the bank, and is thought by the owners to be an original painting. The second story meeting room remains unaltered.

It is believed by local historians that the masonry and carpentry work for the Masonic Building may have been done by members of the McMahan and Buckner families, blacks who were highly skilled in their trades.

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 type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1893 **Builder/Architect** W.C. Murphy, J.R. Garland

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In October of 1850, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee granted a charter to Mountain Star Lodge No. 197, F. & A.M. of Sevierville. The lodge organized and met in Nancy Academy for three years.

In 1853, the lodge financially contributed to the building of the Southern Methodist Church in Sevierville and met there for the next forty years. In 1890, the lodge sold a plot of property to the Methodist Episcopal Church for the purpose of establishing Murphy College. The college was named in honor of Brother James C. Murphy.

In 1893, the lodge built the present Sevierville Masonic Lodge on East Main Street. Brothers W.C. Murphy and J.R. Garland were the architects and the work was done by local craftsmen. For many years the lodge shared the second story meeting quarters with the Royal Arch Masons and Sevierville Chapter #138 Order of Eastern Star. During 1928–1968, the Sevierville Public Library used the first floor free of charge.

In 1973, the lodge sold the building at public auction to the John Sevier Savings and Loan Company and built new meeting quarters at the edge of town. An addition was made to the rear of the building to provide needed space for the bank. The old second story meeting room is now known as the Nancy Rogers Community Room. In 1974, the rear entry foyer was added.

Mountain Star Lodge No. 197, F. & A.M., has significantly contributed to the educational, spiritual, and cultural welfare of the people of Sevier County since 1850. The Sevierville Masonic Lodge, the second oldest building in downtown Sevierville, served as the center of their social humanitarian effort during the years 1893–1973. By adapting the building to accommodate their needs, the John Sevier Savings and Loan Association has preserved an important part of the town's heritage. The structure continues to serve the public well.



UNITED AERIAL MAPPING
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

PROPERTY MAP PREPARED BY
SABRE SYSTEMS & SERVICE
100 MEADOWS MANOR
CANTON, OHIO 45459

5 PARCEL NUMBER
6 PARCEL HOOR
7 INTERIOR TRACT LINE
8 DISTRICT LINE
9 SUB LOT #
10 PARCEL OUTLINE
11 TOTAL ACRES
12 SECTION CORNERS

13 PARCEL & CONTROLLING MAP #
14 IMPROVEMENT
15 FENCE
16 CEMETERY
17 CHURCH
18 SCHOOL
19 WOODED AREA
20 POND

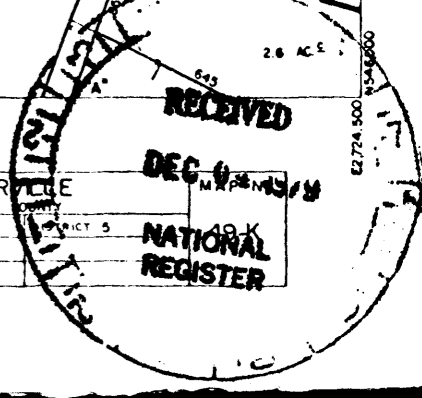
21 CREEK
22 STATE LINE
23 CO. LINE
24 COUNTY LIMITS
25 TRANSMISSION LINE
26 ROAD
27 RAILROAD
28 RIDGE LINE

49-G	49-F
49-J	49-K
49-O	49-N 49-M

— REVISIONS —

1	6	11
2	7	12
3	8	13
4	9	14
5	10	15

SEVIERVILLE
SEVIER COUNTY
DISTRICT 5
SCALE: 1" = 100'
DATE OF FLYING: DEC. 1968
DATE COMPILED: DEC. 1967



FEB 7 1980