

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY 30 1985

date entered JUN 27 1985

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

1. Name

historic Odd Fellows Hall

and or common

2. Location

street & number 203 West First St. not for publication

city, town Monticello vicinity of

state Iowa code 019 county Jones code 105

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 checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<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 type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Mr. C. J. Matthiessen

street & number 203 W. First St.

city, town Monticello vicinity of state Iowa 52310

5. Location of Legal Description

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

street & number Jones County Courthouse

city, town Anamosa state Iowa 52205

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

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>
<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 (c. 1871) is a well preserved example of a late 19th century commercial Italianate building. It constitutes the best preserved of a small number of surviving buildings of its type from this period.

This two story brick building with narrow rectangular plan, measures 20' by 65'. The small scale facade presents a fairly elaborate combination of red soft brick on the upper floor, and soft yellow dolomite limestone (Stone City stone) below. The storefront consists of two open glassed display windows, and a left hand side double door side entrance. Fluted wooden pilasters cover structural cast iron columns, and separate the bays. Stone sidewall pilasters executed in quoins visually define the two sidewalls. A transom area tops the entrance and the glassed display areas originally were carried up to the same level, but are now covered down to the level of a lower ceiling. A stone sill caps the front foundation level and a stone step leads to the entrance. A single basement window survives on the front.

The second floor fenestration consists of three symmetrically spaced Italianate windows (4/4 double hung sash), which are topped with segmental brick arches. The brick archwork with drip mold projects beyond the wall plane. Stone keystones are centered within each arch and stone sills form the base of the windows. The main facade brick work is coursed in stretcher bond, and is a veneer over a load-bearing wall. Italic metal letters "I.O.O.F" are evenly spaced above the second floor windows, in line with the four main brackets which support the pressed tin cornice above. This cornice features a dentillated frieze, and regularly spaced modillions support the actual cornice. The large scrolled brackets break up the cornice into a centered partial bay and two even sized flanking bays.

Native dolomite limestone laid in coursed rubble fashion forms the basement sidewalls. This foundation is topped by a two inch wooden plate which bears the 2" x 11 1/2" joists. The floor joists are set into the brick sidewalls. The original building was constructed as a free standing building with a brick veneer on its front and sides. Its sidewalls stand within the twenty foot lot width. The front wall measures some 12" deep and is apparently three brick widths thick. The original building measured 41.5' deep, and terminated in a rear brick wall with stone foundation. The latter remains in the basement, but the rear wall itself was eliminated when a 23' rear addition was placed on the building c. 1894. This addition is 8" narrower than is the front of the building. Ceilings in the building measured 12' on each level. The roof is a raked flat roof, and was metal as late 1937.

The first floor interior plan allowed for a side hall and stairway, and an open storefront area. Upstairs, a small bath was added at the head of the stairs, and a side entrance led into a nearly square fellowship room in the front. An interior wall with two entrances led to the lodge room behind. Transoms in these doors retain the clasped hands symbol of the Odd Fellows. Floors upstairs are hardwood.

Alterations to the building are difficult to specify and date. The rear addition is dated to 1894. The interior walls were papered on both levels. Bathrooms were added to the basement and second floor early in the 20th Century. The front stonework was painted at some point. An undated fire burned a hole in the northeast corner floor some four feet behind the front of the building. This was removed during the 1983-4 renovation. This work replaced the existing plate glass, covered the transom area and brought the existing dropped ceiling forward to the front wall plane. The transom above the entrance was also reduced in size. A suite of offices was added on the first floor. The facade was cleaned, and probably stripped of paint, and repointed.

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Continuation sheet Physical Description

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west of the railroad which separates the area from the central business district. The immediate area was a mixed light industrial and commercial zone throughout most of its history. A low density pattern of development resulted in free standing buildings, mostly executed in frame. A Presbyterian church filled the North end of the block by 1905 and later absorbed two nearby lots into its yard. The existing adjoining building to the south was extant by 1914, that to the north by 1935. The building thought to be the earliest surviving and best preserved example of its type and period in the city.

## 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input 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** 1871 **Builder/Architect** Unknown.

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Odd Fellows Hall (c. 1871) is a well preserved example of a late 19th century commercial Italianate building. It constitutes the best preserved of a small number of surviving buildings of its type from this period.

Monticello Lodge No. 117 IOOF organized on 16 March 1858. The Odd Fellows suffered a \$200 loss to fire in their quarters on 1st Street, (shared with Good Templar's). It is perhaps due to this loss that the organization sought its own building, and indeed chose an uncongested lot upon which to build.

The lot was platted in 1864, and sold for \$500 in 1871 to two local bankers. The 1872 "Bird's Eye View of Monticello, Jones County, Iowa" indicates that this building was extant, being two stories high with a decorative cornice. It is therefore probable that Carpenter and Cavell built the building in early 1871.

By 1888 the building housed a meat store, and had a rear stair. A photo shop, blacksmith, broom factory and paint shop filled early buildings. 1894 Sanborns list the building as a dwelling but this is probably an error. In 1897 a mortgage on the property apparently financed the rear addition. The addition is present in the 1905 Sanborn Map, and the building is again termed a dwelling. Indoor plumbing was added about this time. The 1914 Sanborn finally indicates its use as a hall, and in fact notes that the 1st floor was the hall. In 1921 the building was used for a billiards hall on the main floor. By 1935 the building housed a printing shop. An undated fire (4' back) damaged the northeast corner of the floor in the front of the building but this apparently was restricted to its damage. Other building uses over time included a creamery, a dray (Tobias Hanken) service, a hatchery (Harry Starks), farm equipment store, and the present day office use. An early high school, Monticello Academy also occupied the 1st floor in 1880's.

At its high point the IOOF numbered 121 members. In 1879 a German Speaking ancillary lodge, William Tell #391 was organized with some 25 members. The organization became defunct in the early 1920's, the hall passing to the present owner, the son of the last surviving member in 1979.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Refer to Continuation Sheet 9-2

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Monticello

Quadrangle scale 1/24,000

UTM References

A 

1	5
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6	4	9	2	8	10
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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

The west twenty feet of the east thirty feet of Lot 2, Bradstreet's Addition, City of Monticello.

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

state	code	county	code
N/A			

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title James E. Jacobsen, National Register Coordinator

organization Iowa Office of Historic Preservation date 29 April 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 *Rowell J. Salke*

title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date May 9, 1985

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

*John A. Lovreath*  
Keeper of the National Register

*Rowell J. Salke*  
date 6-27-85

Attest:

Chief of Registration

date

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Continuation sheet

Bibliography

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- Constitution and Bylaws, 100F Lodge 117
- Corbit, R.M. History of Jones County Past and Present. Chicago: S. J. Clarke Pub. Co. 1910, pp. 440.
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