

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JUN 26 1979

DATE ENTERED

AUG 21 1979

**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 Lynn Masonic Hall
HISTORIC Lynn Young Men's Christian Association

AND/OR COMMON

Lynn Masonic Hall (preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

64-68 Market Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Lynn

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

Sixth

CODE

025

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

OCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

BUILDING(S)

PRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

YES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Lynn Masonic Temple Association

STREET & NUMBER

68 Market Street

CITY, TOWN

Lynn

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Essex County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Salem

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #453

DATE

1978

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

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 former Lynn Y.M.C.A. Building, now Masonic Hall, is a four-story brick block of Victorian Gothic design with facades facing Market and Liberty Streets of three bays and eight bays, respectively. These two facades are connected at the building's southwest corner, above the first story, by a narrow corner bay set at a 45 degree angle to each facade. The roof of the building's southern half is nearly flat, while that of the northern half is a high, slate-covered hip-on-hip roof which encloses an auditorium. The building's facades are constructed of pressed brick with buff-colored sandstone trim (i.e., sills, lintels, springers, keystones, mouldings and some voussoirs). Rear walls (north & east) are built of common brick without sandstone trim.

FIRST STORY - (SOUTH) MARKET STREET FACADE: The Market Street facade originally contained the building's major entrance in its easternmost bay and a store front in its western two bays. While this arrangement remains, the original wooden entry has been replaced with aluminum and glass doors (ca. 1970) and the original pressed metal and plate-glass store front has been replaced by a modern store front of plate glass surrounded by plastic panels.

FIRST STORY - (WEST) LIBERTY STREET FACADE: The Liberty Street facade contains eight bays, the southernmost of which contains the same modern store front which covers the Market Street facade. Moving from south to north, the second, third, fourth and eighth bays are framed by brick piers which rise from dressed granite bases to moulded capitals and, finally, to a pressed metal cornice, at the base of the second story. The fifth, sixth, and seventh bays are framed by panelled posts. The eighth bay contains an unused entry of double wooden doors which once led to the upper floors. All bays, excepting the eighth, have had their original windows removed and are now blocked by wood and brick partitions.

UPPER STORIES - GENERAL: The upper stories are divided into regular bays by piers which rise from the base of the second story to pointed arches at the top of the third story, and by a second set of piers which rise from the base of the fourth story through a corbelled cornice to become posts at the roof. Contained within each bay are paired windows with 1/1 sash as both second and third stories. Each pair is divided at the center by a wooden column. At the fourth story of each bay are two windows with 1/1 sash set in separate frames with sandstone lintels set on console blocks. The window sills of the upper three floors and the window lintels of the second story are connected to continuous bands of sandstone, which form courses around the building. Each pointed arch is made up of brick voussoirs separated by sandstone voussoirs, keystone and springers. Two courses of decorative brickwork extend around the building, passing through the pointed arches.

UPPER STORIES - (SOUTH) MARKET STREET FACADE: The south facade is made up of three bays and has a metal name placque containing the words "MASONIC HALL" in its center bay between the first and second story windows. At the roof, the center bay rises to a stepped parapet which bears a date placque marked "1880". Flanking the parapet and on top of it are decorative cast-iron railings.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

UPPER STORIES - (WEST) LIBERTY STREET FACADE: The west facade is made up of eight bays, the northernmost four having slightly taller second story windows than those of other facade bays. At the roof, the southern four bays have a decorative cast-iron railing set between brick piers; the northern four bays' piers are partially concealed by the roof and have no railing. An added fire escape covers part of the second and third stories of the building's northern four bays.

UPPER STORIES - CORNER BAY (SOUTHWEST CORNER): Set at a 45 degree angle to both facades, this narrow bay contains single windows with 1/1 sash at the second and third stories with a narrow pointed arch framing a Greek cross above the third story window. At the fourth story is a single window with 1/1 sash over which is a corbelled cornice and, at the roof, a cast-iron railing.

NORTH ELEVATION: Facing parking lots created by the demolition of neighboring structures, the north elevation is three bays wide, and largely undecorated. Fenestration is irregular, consisting of two windows flanking a narrower center window, all of which are blocked by metal fire shutters, at the first story. These windows have sandstone sills and arched brick heads. At the second story, the wall is divided into three bays by four brick piers which frame a narrow center window and two wider windows in the outer bays, all of which are blocked by wooden partitions. The third story has a small window at its center and a slightly larger window in its eastern bay. At the fourth story, two doors occupy the outer bays; the doors open onto an iron platform which connects to the fire escape on the building's west facade.

EAST ELEVATION: At the first two stories, the east elevation is a party-wall with the neighboring building. Above, the wall is built of common brick with only one window opening visible, at the north end of the third story.

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 checked="" 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 1880

BUILDER/ARCHITECT H. J. Preston

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lynn Masonic Hall (known as the YMCA before 1922) retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association and is a major local example of Victorian Gothic architecture. Although the Victorian Gothic style was popular in the city's Central Business District during the 1870's and early 1880's, all other examples of the style (excepting a small row building at 38-40 Market Street) have been destroyed by the Fire of 1889 and by demolitions resulting from the area's decline in the 1960's and 1970's. With the exception of a modern store front and modern doors on its Market Street facade, the former YMCA Building remains in original condition. Prominent elements of the building's design are its pointed-arch wall panels, buff sandstone voussoirs and string courses, decorative brick panels and cast-iron railing above the cornice.

The Lynn YMCA was organized in 1856 as a social club for "the moral improvement of young men." Until the outbreak of the Civil War, the organization rented rooms from the Lynn Natural History Society, where meetings were held and a library kept. Suspended during the war, the Lynn YMCA was reorganized in 1868 and incorporated in 1870. Rapid growth of the membership (rising to 440 by 1873), led the group to form a building committee in 1871 and to purchase a lot at 64-68 Market Street. Although it had been intended to proceed with construction, a business depression slowed the collection of donation pledges and caused postponement of building plans until 1879 when a design competition was held. Several proposals are known to have been submitted to this competition; however, only those of George Wetherell (Boston) and H. J. Preston (Boston) have been identified. Having selected Preston's design, the YMCA began construction in the spring of 1880 on what was to be "the first YMCA Building built for that purpose in Massachusetts."

By January 1881, the building had been completed at a cost of \$57,390, of which \$29,000 represents actual construction costs. At the time of its dedication, the building contained rental space at the ground floor, which was occupied in 1880 by the New England Clothing Company; upper floors contained meeting rooms, offices and two halls, one of which was rented by the Masonic Lodge. The continuous growth of the Lynn YMCA during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries resulted in the construction of a new headquarters on the south side of Market Street (demolished) in 1907 and the sale of 64-68 Market Street to its present owner, Lynn Masonic Temple Association, in 1922.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Founding of the Y.M.C.A. Lynn, Mass. Nichols Press 193
 American Architect & Building News. Vol. VI, August, 30, 1879, p. viii
 (building notice); Vol. VII, June 5, 1880 (illustrations- Wetherall plan).
 Lynn Reporter. April 9, 1880, p. 2; September 17, 1880, p. 4; January 21, 1881,
 p. 3.
 Lynn Scrapbooks. (unpublished collection at the Lynn Public Library). Vol. 35, p. 22;
 Vol. 38, p. 5; Vol. 67, p. 35.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5,753 sq. ft.

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 9	3 3 9 7 0 0	4 7 0 2 8 5 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please refer to the attached assessor's map on which the boundaries are delineated.
 Lot #1 of block #652 on sheet # 21.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Brian Pfeiffer, Consultant
 City of Lynn

Candace Jenkins, National Register Coordinator with

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Massachusetts Historical Commission

April 1979

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

294 Washington Street

(617) 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Boston

Massachusetts

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

Patricia L. Weslowski

DATE

6/11/79

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Carel Shull

DATE

8-21-79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: *Ann Marie Dwyer*
 KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

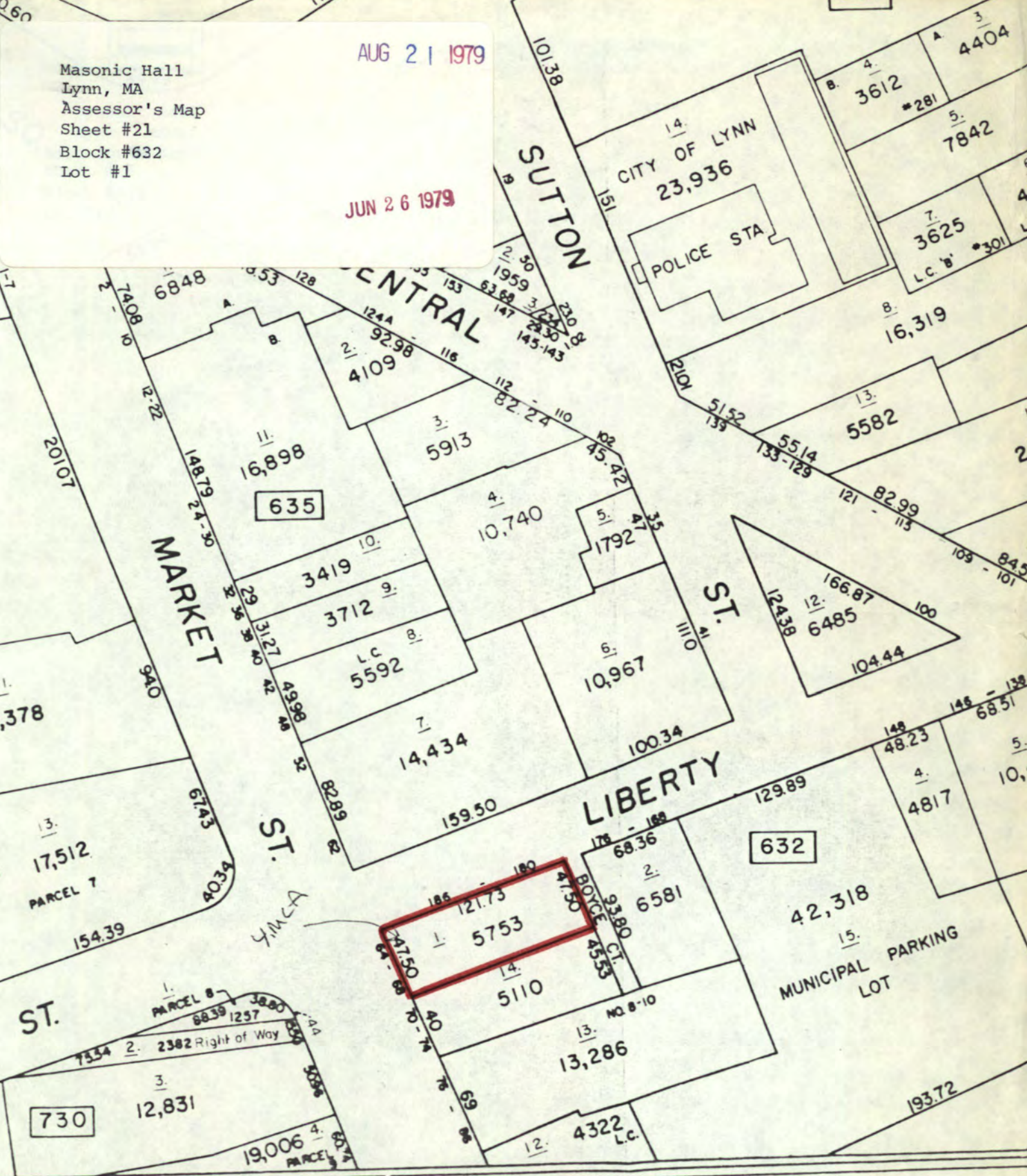
DATE

8/29/79

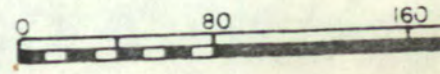
Masonic Hall
Lynn, MA
Assessor's Map
Sheet #21
Block #632
Lot #1

AUG 21 1979

JUN 26 1979



SCALE -



Property

Lynn Masonic Hall

State

Mass. (E sep)

Working Number

6.26.79.1548

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

CONTROL

OK 6.29.79
pl

HISTORIAN

BRIEF BUT WELL WRITTEN NOMINATION. THE BUILDING IS SIGNIFIKANT AS ONE OF THE LAST SURVIVING EXAMPLES OF ~~RECENT~~ HIGH VICTORIAN GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE IN LYNN AND IS ALSO SIGNIFICANT FOR ITS ASSOCIATION WITH THE YMCA (SAID TO BE FIRST IN THE STATE) AND THE MASONIC ORDER.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
MR DOUGAN
8/20/79

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

ACCEPT
MR DOUGAN
8/20/79

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered AUG 21 1979

Federal Register Entry

OCT 2 1979

Re-submit

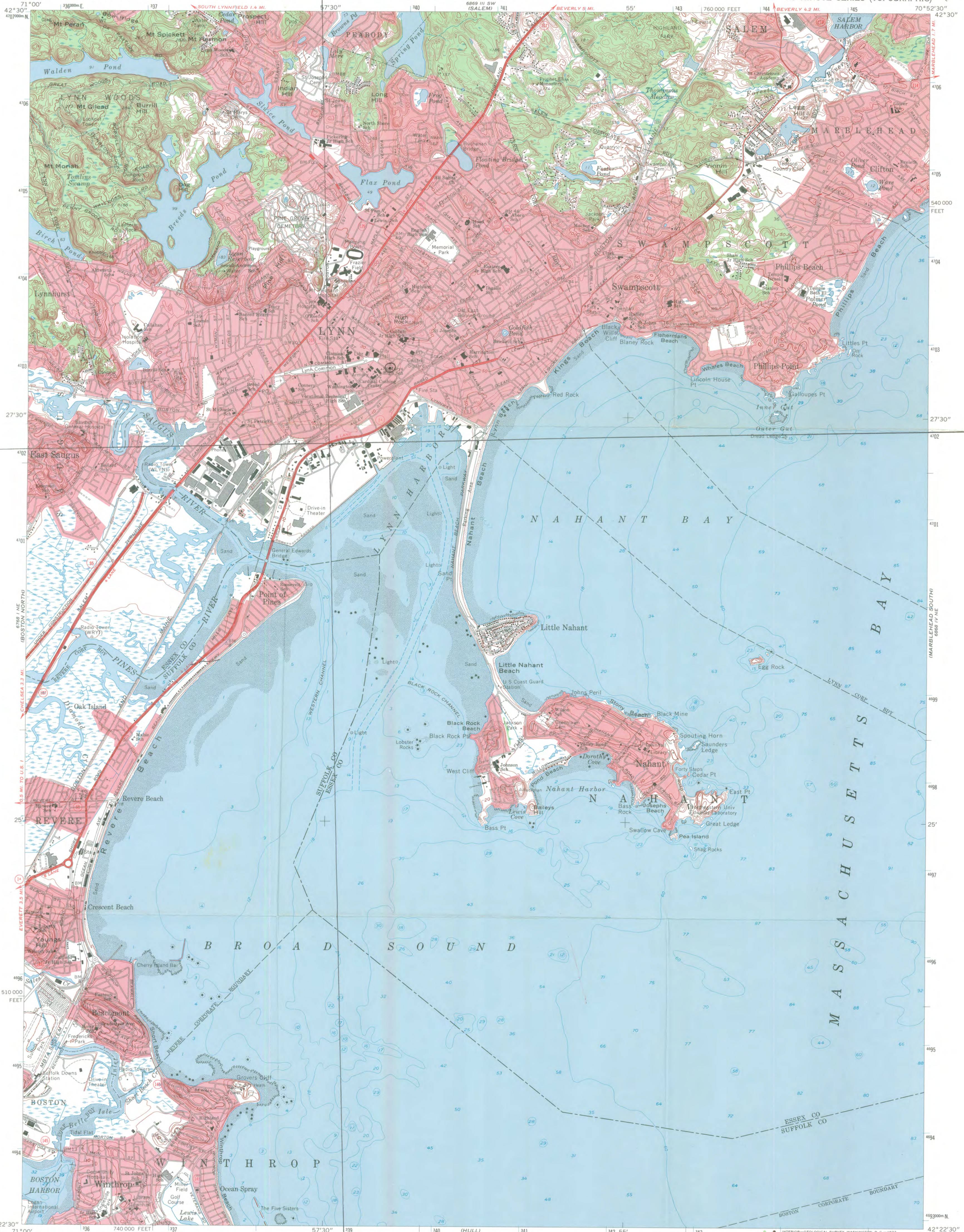


Lynn Masonic Hall
Lynn, Mass., *Essex County, Massachusetts*
Brian Pfeiffer 1979
147 Brattle St., Cambridge

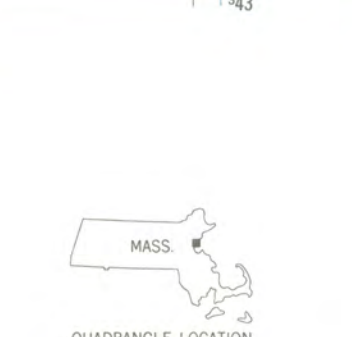
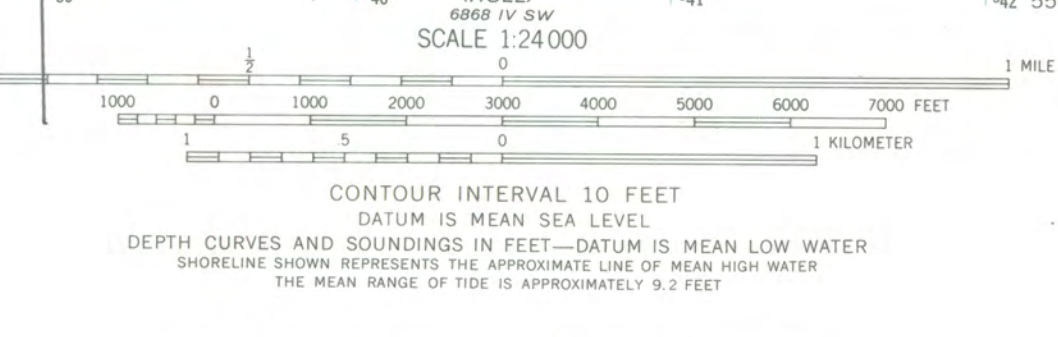
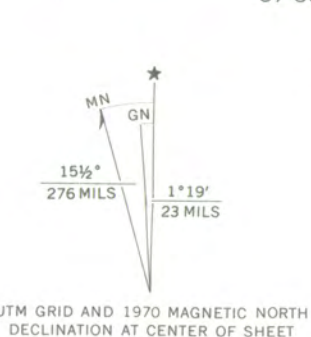
Photo # 141
View facing northeast

JUN 26 1979

DOE
AUG, 21, 1979



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1943. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240(1970), 246
and 248 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information supplied by
Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LYNN, MASS.
N4222.5—W7052.5/7.5
1970
AMS 6868 IV NW—SERIES V814



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered AUG 21 1979

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Bedford Building	Boston Suffolk County
Lynn Masonic Hall	Lynn Essex County
Lynn Public Library	Lynn Essex County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul G. Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable John J. Moakley
Honorable Nicholas Mavroules

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR Byers/bjr 8/22/79