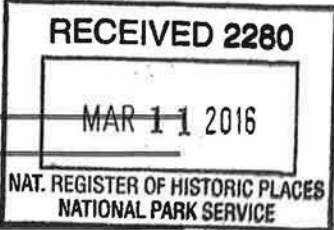


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Israel Building
Other names/site number: Lodge/P.O.S.A. Hall
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 601 Main Street
City or town: Lykens State: PA County: Dauphin
Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

	<u>2/12/2016</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
<u>Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission - State Historic Preservation Office</u>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Patrick Andrus
Signature of the Keeper

4/25/2016
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late Victorian

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Cast Iron, Concrete, Stone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Israel Building is a three-story, red brick, commercial building at the northeast corner of Main Street (S.R. 209) and Market Street in Lykens Borough, Dauphin County. Begun in 1902 and completed in 1904, the Israel Building is a Late Victorian era building sited at the heart of Lykens' downtown area. The building has two primary facades, the south along Main Street and the west along Market Street. The exterior of the building is characterized on the first floor by cast iron storefronts and on the upper floors by brick walls with regular bays on one-over-one double hung wood windows. On the interior, the building's plan reflects its historic function as a two-part commercial building, with retail on the first floor, second floor offices, and a ceremonial lodge space for fraternal organizations on the third floor. The building has been vacant since 2009 and survives in fair condition with all seven aspects of integrity.

Narrative Description

The building's rectangular footprint occupies the entire .1-acre tax parcel, which is defined by Main Street to the south, Market Street to the west, an unnamed alley to the north, and an adjacent commercial property to the east. The tax parcel is the recommended property boundary. The building has two primary facades: the south along Main Street (Photo 2) and the west along Market Street. (Photo 3)The rear (north) façade (Photo 4) faces the alley and lower scale commercial and residential buildings to the

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north and the secondary (east) façade is not visible above the party wall shared with the adjacent construction.

The exterior of the building is straightforward in its design and follows the form of the traditional two-story commercial block.¹ The entire building is constructed of red brick set on a concrete and brick foundation and capped with a flat asphalt roof. Along the prominent south (Main Street) and west (Market Street) facades, cast iron storefronts line the first floor level. Above, the brick walls terminate with a corbelled brick cornice and feature a short parapet wall along the south façade and the five southernmost bays of the west façade. The north and east facades are brick. The cornices on the north and east facades are pressed metal. There are two sets of modern metal fire stairs, one on the west façade at the second floor and the second on the north façade at the third floor. A partially finished basement, clad in modern materials, is located below the retail floor and is accessible only from a below grade exterior entrance.

On the exterior, the first floor is defined by two cast iron storefronts along Main Street (south) and two small storefronts at the north end of the Market Street façade. (Photos 7 & 8) The storefront system along the Main Street (south) façade includes two recessed entrances (Photos 5 & 6) and many large storefront windows, the largest of which wraps around the corner of the building. They are identical in their design and detailing and consist of large plate glass windows separated by cast iron frames that feature decorative pilasters and window casings from C.L. Mesker & Co. of Evansville, IN. (Photo 9) Typical for late 19th and early 20th century retail storefronts, the entrances are recessed and retain the original paired wood doors and glass doors; the transoms have been covered with an opaque film.

The storefronts along Market Street are located at the north end of the building and separated from those of the Main Street facades by a section brick wall that was originally used for painted signage. These storefronts are slightly different from the retail storefronts along Main Street, and were used by professionals seeking a street presence and small office space.² These storefronts are two bays wide, one bay being a recessed entrance and the other the storefront window. The cast iron system used along Main Street is replicated on these Market Street facades. The original doors, which survive in the southern storefront (Photo 7), were paired wood and plate glass doors with a panel design. The north storefront on Market Street has been modified with vertical wood bead board over the entire storefront system and the original doors replaced with a single aluminum glass door. (Photo 8) A set of large paired wood and glass doors with a glass transom separate the two Market Street storefronts and provide access to the second and third floors.

On the upper floors, the south, west, and north facades are defined by the rhythmic bays of narrow, double-hung, one-over-one wood windows: six window bays along the south wall, ten bays along the west wall, and five bays along the north wall; there are no windows on the east façade. At the second floor, these windows are set within tall rectangular openings with stone sills and wide ashlar-faced stone headers. On the third floor, the windows are also set within tall narrow openings with stone sills and arched headers highlighted by stone keystones. The windows that correspond to the third floor meeting room, which are all six bays on the north façade and the southern six bays on the west façade, also have a narrow transom above the top sash.

A prominent turret is positioned at the southwest corner of the building at the second and third floors. Built of wood frame and clad with pressed metal, it features five windows at each floor and a pressed metal cornice and conical roof. Remnants of the original pressed tin sheathing with its faux brick finish

¹ Richard Longstreth, *The Buildings of Main Street*, (Walnut Creek, CA: Alta Mira Press, 2000), 24.

² Sally Reiner, Interview with Shelby Weaver Splain, February 4 2014.

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are visible above and below the bands of windows. A similarly designed bay window is located in the northernmost bay of the west façade and features double-hung, one-over-one wood windows, wood frame construction, and faux brick pressed metal sheathing.

On the interior, the building's plan reflects its historic function as a two-part commercial building and varies per floor based on the building's historic function of first floor retail, second floor office, and third floor meeting spaces. A full basement extends the length of the building and was originally used for a bar, storage, and as a bar again in the 1970s and 1980s. It is utilitarian in character and features brick and plaster walls, a concrete floor, and an acoustical tile ceiling.

The first floor includes a large retail space along the south side of the building (Photos 10 & 11), two to three smaller secondary retail spaces along Market Street (Photos 13-16), and a stair near the center of the building. (Photo 17). Originally, the plan included space for one or two retailers along Main Street, two street-facing offices or small shops along Market Street, and space below the main stair. The main retail space along Main Street, which originally belonged to the building's "anchor" store, is defined by cast iron columns, open storefronts, original entrance doors, wood and carpeted floors, a secondary frame and drywall room, and a dropped acoustical tile ceiling. (Photos 10 & 11) The southern retail space along Market is located to the rear of the main retail space and is characterized by wood floors, wood ceilings, plaster walls, late 20th century kitchen and cabinetry, and wood trim. (Photo 12, 13, 16) A large central heating system was installed in this space in the 1990's. The northernmost retail space along Market Street was renovated in the late 20th century and is defined by wood and carpeted floors, dropped acoustical tile ceiling, and drywall construction. (Photo 14 & 15)

The building has one internal stair (Photo 17), located near the north end of the building, which was originally only accessible from Market Street but can now be accessed internally through the middle retail space. The wide, steep stair serves as the only access to the second and third floors. It is defined by wide, deep wood steps, wood wainscot, wallpapered plaster walls and plaster ceilings. From the first to second floors, the stair is enclosed between two walls. An open landing at the second floor facilitates access to the second floor corridor. (Photo 18) From the second to third floors, the stair was originally open to the east and the second floor; a modern wall has been constructed behind the turned wood baluster to create a separate unit. Approaching the third floor, the stair turns at a shallow landing and ends at a small vestibule-like space with doors leading to rooms to the north, west, and south. A large mural, installed in 1976, is hung on the east wall of the third floor landing.³ A skylight is located above this landing, providing daylight to the top portion of the staircase. (Photo 28)

The second floor was originally used as professional offices. By 1972, it had been converted to apartment use but retains many original spaces and finishes. A single apartment is located to the north of the stair (Photos 19-23) while the area to the south is organized around the double-loaded corridor that extends southward from the stair for access to approximately ten rooms. (Photos 24-26) The corridor is narrow and defined by carpeted wood floors, plaster walls, a plaster ceiling above dropped acoustical tiles, wood wainscot, and wood doors with associated wood trim. (Photo 18) Most of the rooms at the west side of the building are internally connected, while those along the east side generally are not. All of the rooms share the same general characteristics of wood floors, plaster ceilings and dropped tile ceilings, plaster walls, and wood wall, window, corner, and door trim. In transitioning from office to apartment use, some of the rooms have late 20th century kitchens, dropped ceilings, and drywall partitions (particularly in the east side rooms).

³ Reiner.

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The third floor was originally used as the meeting space for local fraternal organizations, first the Free and Accepted Masons, then the Patriotic Order of Sons of America, and later the Order of Eastern Star. The floor plan is arranged with open ceremonial space at the front of the building, to the north of the staircase. (Photo 34-37) To the west and north, smaller individual rooms are interconnected, with a kitchen in the northeast corner of the building. (Photos 30-33) At the stair vestibule, doors to the north and west lead to small, interconnected rooms and the kitchen, while the southern door leads to a reception room used for admitting members to their fraternal lodge meeting. A separate door leads into the actual meeting space. The ceremonial lodge space is defined by plaster walls, a high plaster ceiling, carpeted wood floor, and wood wall, window and door trim. (Photo 35) A small, raised stage is located near the center of the south wall. (Photo 34) The stage is likely original to the building and a main feature related to the use of the space by the organizations that met there. A raised, carpeted platform runs along the perimeter of the room. Tall windows line the north and west walls of the ceremonial space. All the windows retain their original wood privacy shutters. Transoms are located above each window, which would have illuminated the room while the shutters were closed during meetings. A wood plate rail runs along the perimeter walls, intersecting the transom heads. Two modern, wood paneled partitions were constructed in the northwest corner of the room during the 1970s or 1980s, partially subdividing the ceremony space. (Photo 37) The remainder of the third floor consists of the smaller, interconnected rooms to the west and north. (Photos 30-33) These rooms are similar to the converted apartments on the second floor, with wood or carpeted floors, plaster ceilings above contemporary drop acoustical ceilings, and wood wall, window, corner and door trim.

The Israel Building survives in fair condition and with integrity. Alterations to the exterior of the building since its construction are limited. The most obvious alteration is the infilling of the northern storefront along Market Street with wood in the late 20th century. (Photo 8) In addition, the original painted advertising between the storefronts on Market Street has been removed. (Photo 3 & 38) The transoms on the first floor storefronts have been covered to conceal the drop ceiling which was installed on the interior. (Photos 5 & 6) Alterations to the interior of the building occurred throughout the second half of the 20th century and include the insertion of frame and drywall walls to create new rooms and/or subdivide others, the installation of modern ceilings and carpets on each floor, and new finishes, bathrooms, and kitchens in some areas, to accommodate the conversion to apartments. Vacant since 2009, the Israel Building suffers from deferred maintenance with localized areas of deterioration, particularly on the second floor in the southwest corner, where missing window glazing has exposed several of the interior rooms to the elements. Despite this, the Israel Building retains all seven aspects of integrity. The conversion to apartments in the 1950s and 1970s repurposed several rooms but did not alter character defining features such as plaster walls, and wood wall, window, corner, and door trim. In addition, the relationship of the rooms to the main corridor were preserved. The meeting room on the third floor is largely intact and retains character defining features such as the raised platform, privacy shutters, wood window, wall, door, corner and plate rail trim. Despite the addition of drywall partitions in the northwest corner, the original expanse of the room is discernable and did not alter the integrity of the space. The Israel building remains a strong example of an early 20th century two-part commercial building, which provided community meeting space for a small town at the heart of a rural Pennsylvania county.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

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Period of Significance

1904-1950

Significant Dates

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Israel Building is a Late Victorian era commercial building in downtown Lykens, Dauphin County. Completed in 1904 as a traditional two-part commercial building, the Israel Building originally included retail stores on the first floor, professional offices on the second floor, and fraternal organization meeting space on the third floor. Throughout the 20th century, the building was home to multiple fraternal organizations, including the Free and Accepted Masons, the Patriotic Order Sons of America, and the Order of the Eastern Star. In 1972, the property was sold to a private owner who maintained the property as commercial space and rental apartments until 2005, when it was again sold. The building has been vacant since 2009. The Israel Building is locally significant under Criterion A, in social history, as a traditional Main Street building that provided commercial services and fellowship space for the local community. The period of significance for the Israel Building is 1902-1950, corresponding with the years the building was home to active fraternal organizations.

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Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

History of Lykens

The Borough of Lykens is located in upper Dauphin County at the southern tip of the anthracite coalfields that extend from the Wyoming to Lykens-Williams Valleys. Coal, particularly the red ash coal, was discovered on nearby Short Mountain in 1825 and spurred settlement at the base of the mountain almost immediately. The Ferree family were the principal developers of the area and named the growing village Lykenstown in honor of Andrew Lycans, the valley's first settler in the mid-eighteenth century. Coal had been successfully mined from Short Mountain since 1831, and by 1834, the Lykens Valley Railroad and Coal Company was completed to distribute coal throughout the Commonwealth.⁴

The 1840 and 1850s were boom years for Lykens as the "center of the coal trade for the Upper End."⁵ The coal from Short Mountain provided the town with a sound economic base. The Lykens Breaker was built in 1845-47 and employed most, if not all, of the men and boys in Lykens. In 1848, engineer Daniel Hoffman redrew and laid out the town in the arrangement of streets and land parcels used today. By the end of the 1850s, Lykens would have several taverns, a rail station, newspaper, post office, a brewery, and two fraternal organizations, the American Mechanics (a nativist organization) and the Sons of Temperance. Lykens was incorporated as a borough in 1871.⁶ By the turn of the twentieth century, Lykens was a well-developed small town community like many across rural Pennsylvania. Located on Route 209, Lykens was the largest borough between Pottsville and Harrisburg in size, population, stores, and services. Lykens had a diverse and successful three block Main Street with thriving commercial and retail businesses, banks, hotels, service by two major rail lines, and industries like a paper mill, box making, a brewery, and the manufacture of charcoal briquettes.⁷ It also had a regional trolley, paved roads, recreational facilities and other amenities that were quickly becoming expected parts of everyday life. The amenities and services Lykens provided drew people from throughout the region for shopping, services, and entertainment.

Israel Building History

On December 6, 1900, a fire in downtown Lykens destroyed buildings in the Brubaker Block, which was located in the center of Lykens at the northeast corner of Main and Market Streets. The fire destroyed a two-story frame building on the lot that the Israel Building now occupies. Shortly after the fire, real estate developer Daniel Israel, along with his son Frank and his wife Clara, purchased the land. A Welsh-born Jewish American Civil War veteran, Daniel Israel was very active in his hometown of Wiconisco (a few miles northeast of Lykens) and worked as a laborer, miner, and shoe salesman before moving into the profession of landlord. By the fall of 1902, a new brick building, the Israel Building, was under construction on the former Brubaker Block.⁸ Daniel Israel died before the building was completed, leaving his son Frank to finish the landmark building in the heart of Lykens.⁹

⁴ *Bi-Centennial History, Lykens-Williams Valley Historical and Pictorial Review*, (Harrisburg, PA: The Telegraph Printing Company, 1922) 29, 101-105.

⁵ *Bi-Centennial History*, 103.

⁶ *Bi-Centennial History*, 114-115.

⁷ Bob Fromme, Jr. *The Rattling Creek Encourager*, Spring 2008, accessed August 24, 2011, <http://www.lykenspa.com/RCE%20spring%2008.pdf>.

⁸ See 1902 Sanborn map and "From Miner to Merchant," *Men's Wear* Volume 20 (March 7, 1906): 119.

⁹ Files of the Lykens-Wiconisco Historical Society (LWHS), in the possession of Sally Reiner, Lykens, PA.

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When it opened in the spring of 1904, the Israel Building reflected the vernacular Late Victorian style in its stylistic details, such as the cast iron storefronts, pressed metal ornamentation and prominent corner turret. The new building, designed as a traditional two-part commercial block, provided space for retail on the ground floor, and professional offices and a meeting space for social organizations on the second and third floors. It is unknown if Daniel Israel was a member of any social organizations himself, but as a Civil War veteran he may have been associated with the Lykens Grand Army of the Republic and his name appears on the GAR monument in Lykens. In addition, Israel was a founding member of the International Mutual Aid Association of Wiconisco, a corporative insurance agency modeled after the financial welfare benefits of fraternal organizations. Israel likely saw an opportunity with multiple fraternal organizations operating in the Lykens Valley, and provided meeting space on the third floor of the Israel Building to accommodate them.

From the start, the Israel Building was seen by the community as an anchor and local gathering place. By virtue of its location and occupants, the Israel Building played an important role within Lykens. It housed prominent retail, professional services, and meeting space. It was located at the center of the community, which led the Lykens School principal to donate a large marble drinking fountain, for man and horse, to be located at the center of the Israel Building's Market Street façade.¹⁰ (Figure 5.0)

The building's first anchor tenant was T.A. Hensel's clothing store.¹¹ Hensel moved his business into the new Israel Building on the highly trafficked Main Street and Market Street intersection as soon as the building opened in 1904. He continued his reputation as a high-end men's clothier, carrying elite and expensive suits and employing an on-site tailor for alterations, repairs, and custom-made clothing. He eventually expanded into women's and children's clothing.

An article and advertisement in the March 13, 1908 edition of the *Lykens Standard*, reprinted again in 1909 periodical *From Miner to Merchant*, provide almost the same stories about Hensel's; both articles provide this description of Hensel's new store in the Israel Building:

When in March, 1904 he moved into his present quarters in the Israel Building, at the corner of Main and Market streets, then just completed, he had and still has the largest and finest clothing house in either Dauphin or Schuylkill counties. It has nine show windows, in which the Frink patent window lighting is used, over a hundred electric lights, and floor space of 3,200 square feet.¹²

In addition to a prominent retailer on the first floor, the second floor offices of the Israel Building were occupied by vital professional services for the growing town of Lykens. When the building first opened, the Office of the Inspector of Mines and a medical practitioner rented office space on the second floor along Main Street.¹³

The third floor of the Israel Building was designed as a meeting space for fraternal organizations within the Lykens community. It housed three different fraternal organizations, beginning with the Free and Accepted Masons (1904 to 1924) the Patriotic Order Sons of America (1913 to 1972) and the Order of the Eastern Star (1929- late 1960's). The meeting room included architectural features that were common to

¹⁰ Files of the LWHS.

¹¹ *Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of Dauphin County, Chambersburg, PA* (Chambersburg, PA: J.M. Runk and Company, 1896).

¹² "From Miner to Merchant", files LWHS.

¹³ Files of the LWHS.

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many secret and/or fraternal society spaces, including a stage at the center of the room, a raised platform along the perimeter, privacy shutters, and window transoms for additional light while maintaining secrecy. The ambiguous room design was meant to appeal to a wide variety of community groups, fraternal or otherwise.

The Ashlar Lodge, No. 570 of the Free and Accepted Masons (F. & A. M.) was the first of three fraternal organization that would occupy the third floor of the Israel Building. Like Hensel's, Ashlar Lodge No. 570 moved into the Israel Building when it opened in 1904. The Lodge history recalls that "After the clouds of ignorant oppression had cleared away and the members of the Fraternity residing in Lykens Borough were ambitious to again have the Lodge relocated to Lykens, due to many adverse situations being encountered, thus a movement was started to move the Lodge to Lykens."¹⁴ In addition to the proximity to home, the Lodge members were also attracted to the Israel Building for its brick "fireproof" construction and prominent location at the intersection of the two major roads in the area. Ashlar Lodge No. 570 held their first meeting at the Israel Building on June 21, 1904.

In 1913, Frank and Clara Israel sold the Israel Building to the Patriotic Order Son of America, (P.O.S. of A.) Washington Camp No. 238, another local fraternal organization. The Ashlar Lodge continued to meet at the Israel Building, but now shared the space with Washington Camp No. 238. The Ashlar Lodge members were troubled by sharing their meeting space with another fraternal society. The mission and activities of the nativist P.O.S. of A. were often at odds with those of the F. & A.M, whose principles were not based in patriotism. Almost immediately, the Masonic lodge began a campaign to build a new headquarters solely for their use. On April 22, 1924, the Ashlar Lodge No. 570 moved from the third floor of the Israel Building into their current building at 410 North Market Street.¹⁵ While the difference in core missions was likely the genesis for the Ashlar Lodge's departure from the Israel Building, it was not uncommon for fraternal organizations to build their own, dedicated buildings once their membership grew.

The P.O.S. of A. owned and occupied the Israel Building for the majority of its history, from 1913 to 1972. The organization was so tied to the building, in fact, that the name changed from the Israel Building to P.O.S. of A Hall, likely after 1920. When the group moved to the Israel Building, they met weekly on Monday evenings. The P.O.S. of A. was one of the most active social organizations in Lykens, including 9% of the borough's population at its peak. The Israel Building's visibility and central location made it the ideal location for the growing organization. The P.O.S of A. organized patriotic parades which organized and departed outside the Israel Building. The square and the Israel Building were regularly decorated with flags and patriotic regalia for patriotic holidays (Figure 5.4). Meanwhile, supplemental income from the retail spaces and professional offices on the lower floors meant that the P.O.S. of A. could continue their mission without being burdened by the financial obligations of building ownership. This allowed the organization to flourish in Lykens even after the borough's population began to decline.

While serving as the headquarters for the Lykens P.O.S. of A, the Israel Building continued to house other fraternal organization. By 1929, the P.O.S. of A. shared the third floor with the Order of Eastern Star (O.E.S.), The Glen Chapter No. 425. The O.E.S., often referred to as the "Female Masonry" was a fraternal organization for women. The O.E.S. organized in Lykens in 1927, with 60 members.¹⁶

¹⁴ "Ashlar Lodge No. 570 Lodge History," accessed August 21, 2011, www.pagrandlodge.org/district60/570/ashlarmain9.

¹⁵ "Ashlar Lodge No. 570 Lodge History."

¹⁶ "Thirty-Fifth Session" Pennsylvania Grand Chapter, accessed September 5, 2011, <http://www.paeasternstar.org/18945117142.htm>.

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The Lykens community suffered through a disastrous series of events in the late 1920s through mid-1930s, including the Great Depression, the closing of the coalmines in 1933, and a large flood in 1936. On the first floor, Hensel's clothing store closed by 1940. Hensel's space was divided and occupied by Hawks' Discount Drugstore in the larger Main Street storefront to the west, and Anna Ralph's Five & Dime Store occupied the smaller eastern Main Street storefront.¹⁷ With the mines closing in 1933, the Office of Mine Inspection, located on the second floor, closed as well. The second floor continued to house a doctor's office. The remainder of the second floor was converted to residential apartments. The third floor functioned as P.O.S. of A. Hall and meeting space for the O.E.S..

Most fraternal organizations in Lykens slowly became obsolete after their heydays in the 1920's. As the mines closed in the 1930s, and the community experienced economic hardship, the membership in these social organizations dwindled. As time went on, the baby boomer generation simply did not join fraternal organizations in the numbers that previous generations had. However, the P.O.S. of A. remained active in Lykens through the mid-twentieth century, with newspapers reporting membership drives, campaigns, and fundraisers through 1948. Though the membership in the P.O.S. of A. dwindled, the group retained ownership of the Israel Building until 1972.¹⁸ Other community groups continued to use the third floor of the Israel Building as meeting space, including the local Republican club. On the first floor, Anna Ralph's Five & Dime closed in the 1950s, after which Hawks' Drugstore removed the internal wall between the retail spaces and expanded to the entire Main Street storefront. The second floor was converted solely to apartments.

In 1972, the last two surviving members of P.O.S. of A. Washington Camp No. 238 sold the building to Sally and Gary Reiner, thereby closing Washington Camp No. 238. When the Reiner's purchased the property, a new drugstore, Deibler's Drugstore took over the former Hawk's Discount Drugstore and a lawyer occupied at least one of the Market Street storefronts. The second floor continued to be rented as apartments, and the Reiner family occupied the third floor. Most of the changes to the interior of the building were made by the Reiner's as they updated the building. Alterations included the conversion of the basement to a bar, installation of a mural on the third floor stair landing, modern finishes including carpet and acoustical tile ceilings, construction of modern bathrooms and kitchens for the conversion to apartments, and insertion of wood paneled partitions in the third floor meeting room. These changes reflect the changing function of the building, but did not alter character-defining details such as plaster walls, and wood wall, window, corner, and door trim. In addition, the relationship of the second floor rooms to the main corridor were preserved. The third floor meeting room was used as an apartment living room but retains its original features and materials.

In the same year, 1972, many of Lykens' buildings, particularly along Main and Market Streets, were lost to the floods of Hurricane Agnes. Throughout the end of the 20th century and the beginning of the 21st century, modern development has encroached on what remains of the historic three-block Main Street. The Israel Building is one of a handful of buildings that survive from the borough's heyday from the mid-19th century to the 1930s after the mine closed. In 2005, the Reiner's sold the property. It was later lost to foreclosure and has been vacant since 2009.

Fraternal Organizations in Lykens

Fraternal organizations in America originated as early as 1733, when the first official Freemason lodge opened in Boston. The secretive, elite membership of Masonic societies was popularized during the American Revolution, as many key patriotic leaders, such as George Washington, John Hancock and Paul

¹⁷ Reiner, Files of the LWHS.

¹⁸ Reiner, files of the LWHS.

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Revere, were members.¹⁹ While masonic organizations grew steadily after the Revolution, “friendly societies”, those that were not secret in nature and generally comprised of wage earners and artisans, saw rapid growth during the nineteenth century.²⁰ Fraternal societies, both secretive and “friendly,” gave Americans a way to provide social services to each other on a voluntary, members-only basis. Each organization focused on providing fellowship and mutual aid for like-minded individuals who agreed upon a set of shared values or affiliations. David Beito writes in *From Mutual to Welfare State: Fraternal Societies and Social Services*, that membership “was a means to enhance older and more stable forms of mutual aid based on blood ties, geography, and religion.”²¹ Fraternal societies continued in popularity through the nineteenth century, becoming ubiquitous parts of everyday life across the country by the turn of the century.

Fraternal organizations flourished first in urban areas.²² Just south of Lykens, Harrisburg had a wide variety of fraternal organizations by 1904, including the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the Freemasons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) the Patriotic Order Sons of America (P.O.S. of A), the Order of the Red Men (O.A.R.), the Knights of the Golden Eagle, The Knights of Maccabees, the Knights of Malta, and the Knights of Pythias.²³ While urban areas had the largest number of organizations, rural towns like Lykens also strived to provide social security nets and comradery through fraternal societies. Though smaller in number, fraternal societies in Lykens included the International Order of Odd Fellows, Sons of Temperance, Modern Woodsmen of America, Brotherhood Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias, Loyal Order of Moose, Free and Accepted Masons, Order of the Eastern Star and the Patriotic Order Sons of America. Throughout its lifetime, the Israel Building housed three of the nine major fraternal organizations in Lykens.

The Free and Accepted Masons are considered to be the foundation for most, if not all, fraternal organizations that developed in America over the nineteenth century. Membership was open to men that shared deep moral and spiritual beliefs that formed the basis of how they conducted their lives: it was founded on “A system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated in symbols.”²⁴ Begun in Britain and Europe several centuries ago, Freemasonry was brought to major cities in United States in the 18th century and rapidly expanded in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.²⁵ The F. & A. M. Ashlar Lodge was the first masonic lodge in the Lykens-Williams Valley. Ashlar Lodge was founded by twenty-two Lykens and Wiconisco residents on June 20, 1887. Their first meeting space was a small wood frame building in Wiconisco.²⁶ By the turn of the century, most of the Ashlar Lodge membership lived in Lykens. The lodge looked toward the new Israel Building as a logical and prestigious address. They hoped to move from Wiconisco to Lykens for convenience, and the Israel Building’s prominence in the Lykens community and fireproof construction made it attractive to the lodge members. As a secretive organization, the F.A. & M. did not publically advertise their lodge activities. They likely provided social

¹⁹ David Beito, *From Mutual Aid to the Welfare State: Fraternal Societies and Social Services*, (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1992), 5.

²⁰ Beito, 7.

²¹ Beito, 8.

²² Beito, 8.

²³ “Polks Greater Harrisburg City Directory” (Harrisburg, PA: W.H. Boyd Co., 1904), accessed July 28, 2015, https://books.google.com/books?id=g9zUAAAAMAAJ&source=gbs_navlinks_s

²⁴ Halsey Institute of Contemporary Art at the College of Charleston. “Oft Unseen: Art from the Lodge and Other Secret Societies,” exhibit, Spring 2004, http://halsey.cofc.edu/oftunseen/oft_flash_pge.htm.

²⁵ “Rituals and Symbolism,” PA Grand Lodge, accessed August 10, 2015, <http://www.pagrandlodge.org/programs/masedu/qa/51-67.html>.

²⁶ “Ashlar Lodge No. 570 Lodge History,” accessed August 24, 2011 from www.pagrandlodge.org/district60/570/.

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and welfare benefits to their members, as well as participating in fundraisers, parades, and other local events.

Many fraternal organizations grew out of the F. & A. M. model. The Order of the Eastern Star was founded in 1850 and open to Freemasons and their female relatives. Their motto is "Charity, Truth, and Loving Kindness."²⁷ The O.E.S. came to Pennsylvania in 1888 in Pittson. The Order spread slowly throughout the state, apparently discouraged by F. & A. M. lodges, who were not open to women joining their ranks.²⁸ It was typical for O.E.S. chapters to be associated, or to share meeting space, with F. & A. M. lodges, which is likely why The Glen Chapter took up residence in the Israel Building after the Ashlar Lodge vacated the space in 1924. Like the F. & A. M., the O.E.S. were secretive and did not actively promote themselves in the Lykens community. The Glen Chapter likely offered women in Lykens the same social and welfare benefits as the F. & A. M.. They also sponsored fundraisers and organized parties at veteran's hospitals.

The P.O.S. of A. was also based in masonic tradition, but differed greatly from the F. & A. M. in their mission and beliefs. The P.O.S. of A. was a nativist organization initially founded in Philadelphia in 1847 by Dr. Reynell Coates and reorganized after the Civil War into the nativist, pro-America fraternal (but not necessarily secret) organization that it is today. Based on the organization and ritual of the Masonic lodge system, the P.O.S. of A. structure is arranged as local or regional "camps"; in Pennsylvania, these groups are labeled "Washington Camp No." in recognition of George Washington.²⁹ The platform of the P.O.S. of A. is patriotism and the defense of America and its flag, property, and culture. They espouse the restriction of immigration, support and defend the public school system, and advocate solid programs for American security and defense.³⁰ Their membership was at its highest in the years between 1870 and 1910; it was during this time that they worked to save the Betsey Ross House and Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge. This organization was extremely popular throughout Pennsylvania with other camps located along the East Coast and into the central states. Most active between the mid-19th and early 20th century, their pro-American and anti-immigration stance is part of the story of massive immigration to the United States by people from all over Great Britain and Europe looking for work as a result of railroad expansion and the Industrial Revolution or to escape famine, war, and oppression in their own countries. P.O.S. of A. Washington Camp No. 238 started in Lykens around the turn of the 20th century and was one of almost 900 P.O.S. of A. camps found throughout Pennsylvania. The Lykens' Washington Camp No. 238 had approximately 240 members in 1902, which was approximately 9% of the borough's total population of 2,762.³¹

The Masonic, P.O.S. of A., and O.E.S. lodges were a large part of the broad commercial, fraternal, and social community in Lykens. Membership numbers alone show that fraternal organizations were a prominent part of daily life in Lykens. However, widespread membership was not the only significant role fraternal organizations played in Lykens. Before the advent of governmental social services, these fraternal societies served as the social safety nets for their members and the community. As Lykens

²⁷ Charlotte O. Steber, *A Brief History of the Order of the Eastern Star*, (Utica, NY: The Eastern Star Dial, 1917), 63.

²⁸ Jean M'Kee Kenaston, comp. *History of the Order of the Eastern Star*, (Cedar Rapids, Iowa: The Torch Press, 1917), 395.

²⁹ "Origin of the Order" accessed September 5, 2011, <http://www.phoenixmasonry.org/masonicmuseum/fraternalism/posa.htm>,

³⁰ "Patriotic Order Sons of America" accessed September 5, 2011, <http://www.posofa.org/General%20Information.htm>.

³¹ "Transcripts from the March 28, 1902 Lykens Standard Newspaper" accessed September 5, 2011 <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/PADAUPHI/2008-07/1215007925>.

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weathered the closure of the mines and the Great Depression, the Israel Building and the fraternal organizations it housed would become particularly important for the community. The Ashlar Lodge, Washington Camp 238 and O.E.S. The Glen Chapter provided charitable and social services for families in need. Formalized assistance like life insurance, funeral benefits, sick pay and charity funds were supplemented with more personal forms of aid like clothing for children, temporary housing, and one time “gifts” to get families through rough periods.³²

The P.O.S. of A., in particular, was very active in the Lykens community. The group was likely at its peak when it purchased the Israel Building in 1913, and ownership of the building indicates that the group was the strongest of the three which met there. The P.O.S of A band marched in community and regional parades and the general membership prayed before the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 1913 for the passage of a bill to install a memorial at the Lykens public school on 2nd Street. They distributed flags, organized “pro-America” rallies and meetings, maintained a cemetery within the borough, and decorated the Israel Building for patriotic holidays in addition to their charitable activities.³³ During times of war, the P.O.S. of A. held tributes and rallies for those serving overseas. The social events and parades the P.O.S. of A. organized and supported gave Lykens’ residents strong social ties in an otherwise struggling community.

The flexible meeting space and retail functions provided by the Israel Building allowed the P.O.S of A, the F. & A. M. and the O.E.S. to continue serving Lykens through difficult economic times. Many organizations who had financed the construction of buildings dedicated solely for their use lost those buildings in the face of declining membership and economic hardship. However, because the Israel Building was supported by multiple fraternal organizations and supplemented by residential and retail functions on the first and second floors, it was able to weather difficult economic times while still serving the community as a social and retail anchor. When compared with the six other fraternal organizations present in Lykens at the turn of the century, those housed in the Israel Building had very active membership and sustained an involvement in the community even after the population began to decline with the closure of the mines. The P.O.S. of A. continued to host entertainment and social activities through mid-century, and the F. & A.M. and the O.E.S. remain active in Lykens to this day. Most other fraternal organizations in Lykens, including the Loyal Order of the Moose, International Order of the Odd Fellows, Brotherhood Protective Order of Elks, and Knights of Pythias struggled as the population in Lykens declined, becoming obsolete by mid-century.

Comparisons

Other fraternal and social organization buildings existed in Lykens, in addition to the Israel Building. However, aside from the 1924 Ashlar Lodge #570, the Israel Building/P.O.S.A. Hall, and the American Legion building, no other known fraternal buildings survive in the Lykens area. Other buildings, such as the Mechanic’s Hall, the Knights of Pythias Lodge and the I.O.O.F. Hall, were destroyed by floods or demolished.

The most comparable fraternal building to the Israel Building in Lykens is the original Moose Hall, now the American Legion Building, at 450 Main Street (Figure 6.1). The three-story building was constructed

³² Beito, 19.

³³ Files of the LWHS, *Bicentennial History*.

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between 1922-1923 by the Lykens Loyal Order of the Moose (L.O.O.M.) No. 1176.³⁴ The Lykens L.O.O.M. originally occupied a home on 2nd Street.³⁵ Like the Ashlar Lodge, as their membership grew the L.O.O.M. decided to construct their own building. Moose Hall included a lodge room, lounge, organizational offices, a banquet hall, and an auditorium with a stage for performances. The building was claimed to be “the largest and most complete building of its kind between Harrisburg and Pottstown.”³⁶ The L.O.O.M. were less secretive than the F. & A. M. or the O.E.S., and regularly opened their doors to the public for dances, rallies, contests, card games, and performances. Boxing matches, school plays, and high school basketball games took place in the auditorium, which was called “Moose Hall Arena”. However, its grandeur was quickly tarnished by the L.O.O.M.’s inability to pay for the building due to decreasing membership caused by the closure of the mines and the Great Depression. The building was sold at a sheriff’s sale in 1933.³⁷ The interior of the Moose Hall was extensively altered in the 1990’s, and today houses the Lykens chapter of the American Legion. Like the Israel Building, Moose Hall is a three-story brick building, with large windows lighting the meeting space, banquet hall and auditorium.

Another social organization building in Lykens is the GAR Building (Figure 6.0). Originally constructed as a church in 1852, the GAR building was home to the Heilner Post #232 of the Grand Army of the Republic Department of Pennsylvania from 1898 to 1926. The GAR mission was to provide human services for Civil War veterans. They shared the GAR Building with the Heiler Women’s Relief Corps #101, a women’s organization who advocated for the reverence and memory of departed and ill veterans. The GAR building was not built specifically to house these organizations. It was originally constructed as a church, and later used as an armory and a residence before being converted into the GAR headquarters. When the GAR disbanded in 1926, the building became a meeting space for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other civic groups. The GAR Building is a two-story stone building. It contains two large meeting spaces on the first and second floor with finishes such as wainscoting and plate rails. The architectural style and details of the GAR Building are more closely related to its original use as a church and are not necessarily associated with its use as fraternal meeting space. The GAR Building was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1986.

A final comparable building to the Israel Building is the F. & A. M. lodge building (Figure 6.2). As their membership grew, the Ashlar Lodge constructed their own meeting building in Lykens, which allowed them to leave the Israel Building in 1924. The building was constructed only a block from the Israel Building, at 422 Market Street. The ca. 1924 Masonic Lodge is a modest two-story masonry building, with administrative spaces on the first floor and a meeting hall on the second floor. Like the Israel Building, the windows included transoms and privacy blinds to protect the secretive nature of the organization. The second floor windows are also obscured by stained glass. The Ashlar Lodge is designed as a traditional Masonic lodge and included masonic elements the Israel Building did not, such specific building orientation and alters. However, the meeting room is configured much like the third floor meeting space in the Israel Building, with a raised platform along the perimeter of the room, where members sit, with a raised stage in the center of the east wall. After its construction in 1924, Ashlar Lodge No. 570 moved from the Israel Building to make the Ashlar Lodge its permanent home. The Glen Chapter 475 of the O.E.S. joined the Ashlar Lodge there several years later. Today, the Ashlar Lodge continues to

³⁴ “Rushing Work on New Moose Home at Lykens,” *The Evening News*, Harrisburg, PA, Tuesday, December 5, 1922. Accessed August 5, 2015
<http://www.newspapers.com/image/57869581/?terms=Moose%2Bhome%2Blykens>

³⁵ Sally Rainer, interview with Author, August 10, 2015.

³⁶ “Rushing Work on New Moose Home at Lykens”

³⁷ “Bids \$40,000 for Moose Hall, Then Can’t Pay” *The Evening News*, Harrisburg, PA, January 6, 1933. Accessed August 10, 2015
<http://www.newspapers.com/image/41507450/?terms=%22Moose%2BHall%22%2Blykens>

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house the local chapters of the F. & A. M. and the O.E.S. The Ashlar Lodge is different from the Israel Building in that its sole purpose was to provide meeting space for the F. & A. M. It did not include meeting space or commercial space to serve the community at large. The secretive nature of the F. & A. M. did not allow other organizations to use the meeting space within the lodge. The building is not meant to be a prominent landmark and is located away from the main Lykens intersection where the Israel Building stands.

Significance of the Israel Building

The Israel Building was a community anchor and social meeting space from its construction onward. It is locally significant under Criterion A, in social history, as a traditional two-part commercial block that housed retail, office, residential, and fraternal meeting space. Its prominent location in the heart of Lykens and importance of the social organizations it housed makes it a significant local structure.

As early as 1904, the community highlighted the Israel Building as a physical and social anchor. When the school principal donated a communal fountain to be located on the building's Market Street façade, it signaled the community's recognition of the Israel Building as a social gathering place and physical town center. The stores and offices that occupied the Israel Building were prominent retailers and professionals in the community, particularly when the building was first constructed. As a town largely dependent on the local coal mines, the Office of the Inspector of Mines would have been vital to the continued employment and safety of most Lykens residents. The largest clothing retailer in the vicinity, Hensel's, made the Israel Building a retail destination until mid-century. Several clothiers were located in the borough but none matched the specialty of the Hensel's. Most importantly, the Israel Building housed multiple social and fraternal organizations that provided charity, fellowship, and service to the Lykens community. When compared with the six other fraternal organizations present in Lykens at the turn of the century, those housed in the Israel Building had very active membership and sustained an involvement in the community even after the population began to decline with the closure of the mines. Due to declining population and flooding, there are few buildings in Lykens today which match the Israel Building's architectural and historic distinction. The period of significance for the Israel Building is 1904-1950, corresponding to the years it was home to active fraternal organizations. After the 1950's, membership and activities in the P.O.S. of A rapidly declined, and the Israel Building was converted mainly to residential and retail use.

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<http://www.newspapers.com/image/57869581/?terms=Moose%2Bhome%2Blykens>

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University

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Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property .1 acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 40.567257 | Longitude: -76.700333 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Please see attached map. The suggested boundary is the tax parcel.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This boundary includes the original parcel on which the building was constructed in 1902-04.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Becky Zeller - Preservation Specialist
organization: LSC Design
street & number: 320 North George St
city or town: York state: PA zip code: 17401
e-mail bzeller@lscdesign.com
telephone: 717-815-8513
date: 02/04/2016

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

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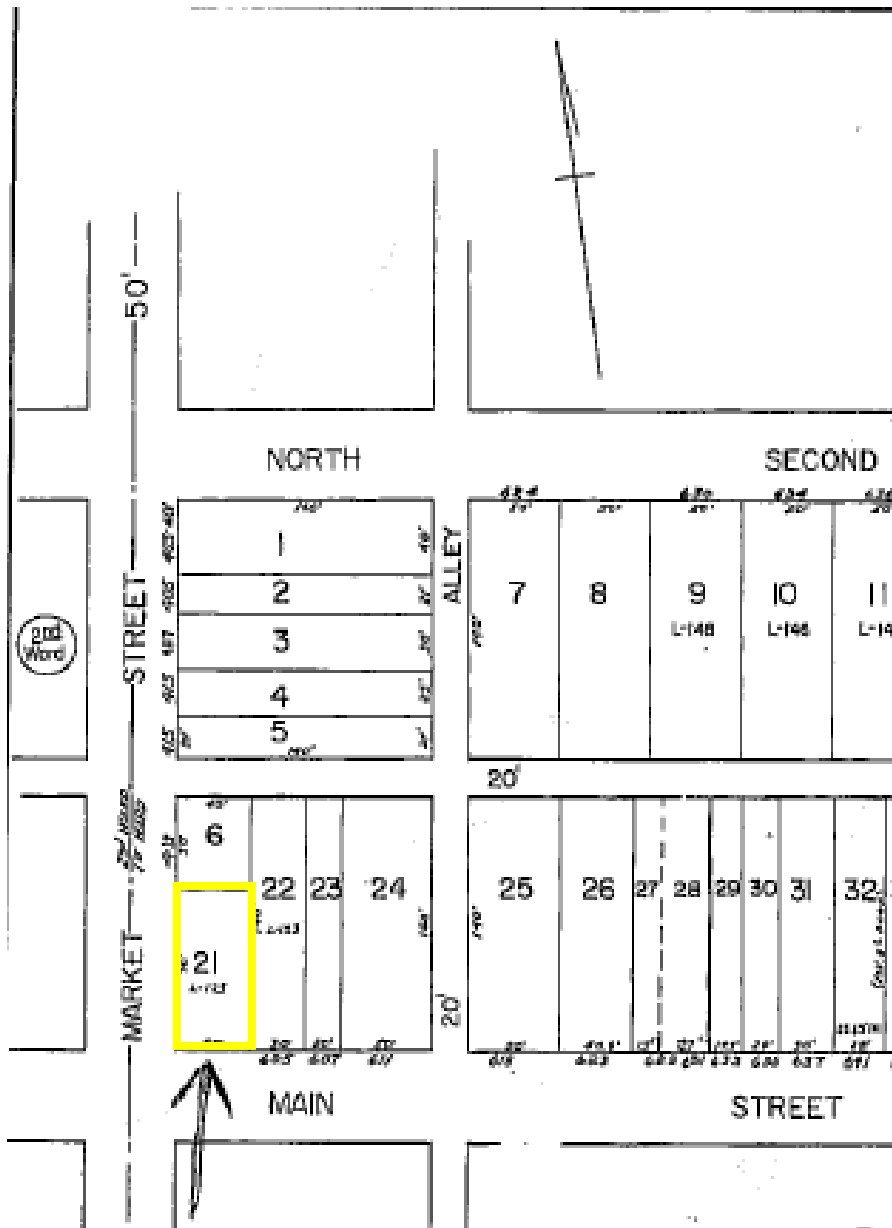
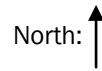
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Figure 1. Site Plan: Tax Map

The proposed boundary is the current tax parcel.

Scale: 1" = 200'

Property boundary outlined in yellow



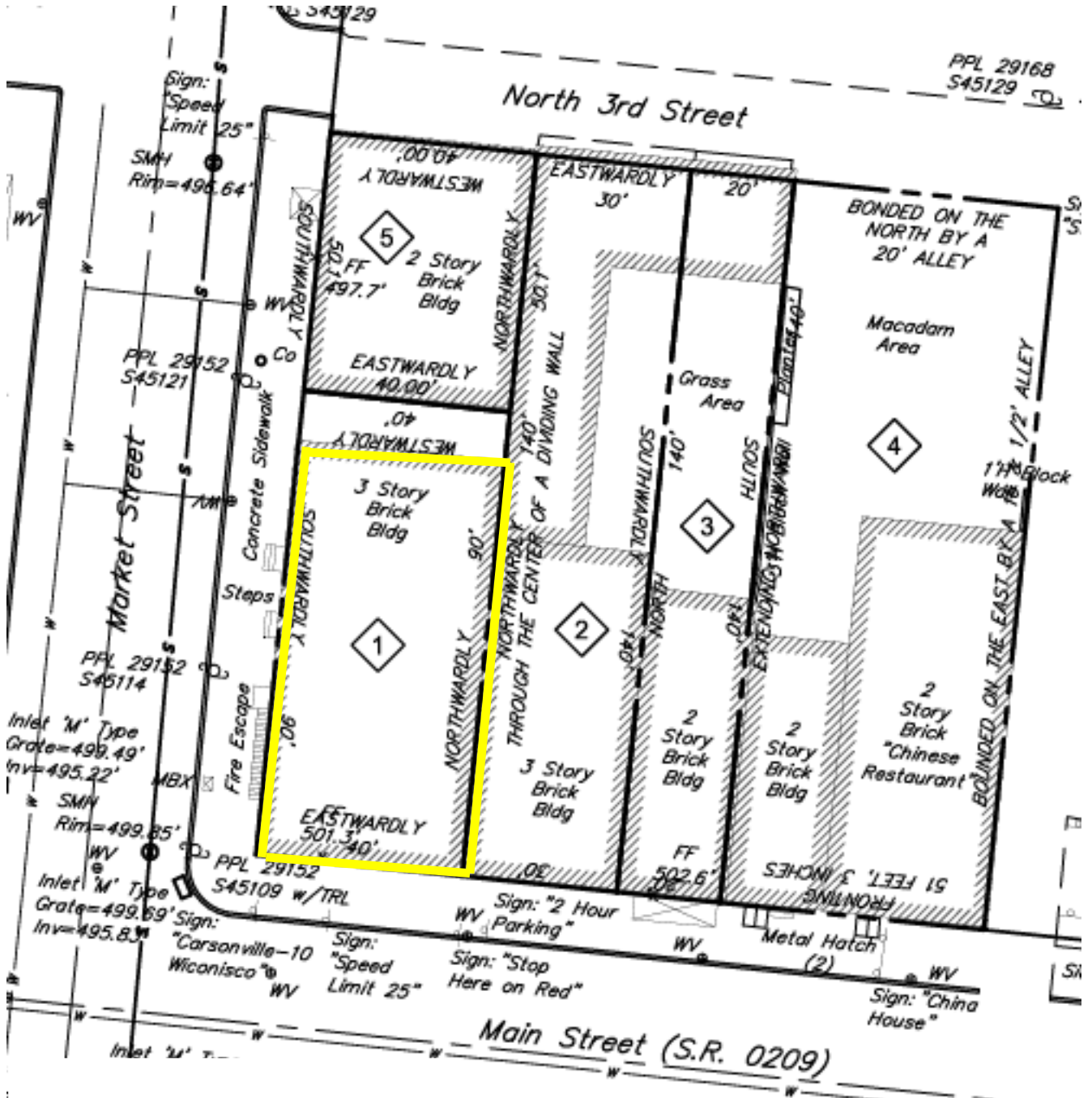
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Figure 1.1 Site Plan: Civil Drawings
Property Highlighted in Yellow

↑ North Not to Scale

Building measures 40' wide at the south (along Main Street) and north (rear) facades and 90' long along Market Street side and along party wall.

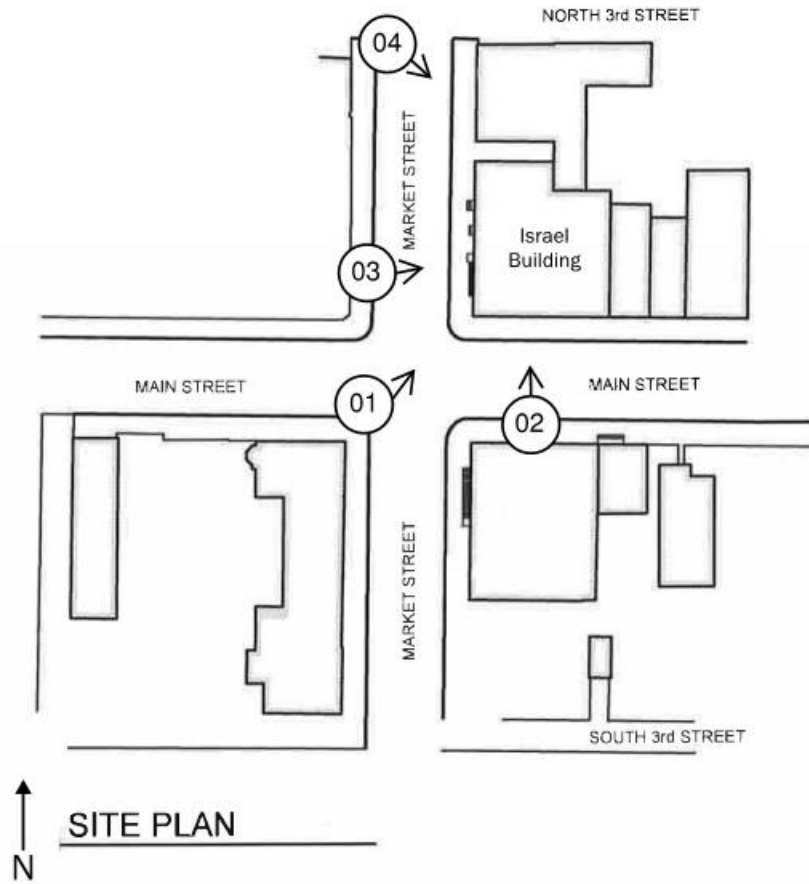


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Figure 2.0 Sketch Floor Plans/Photo Keys

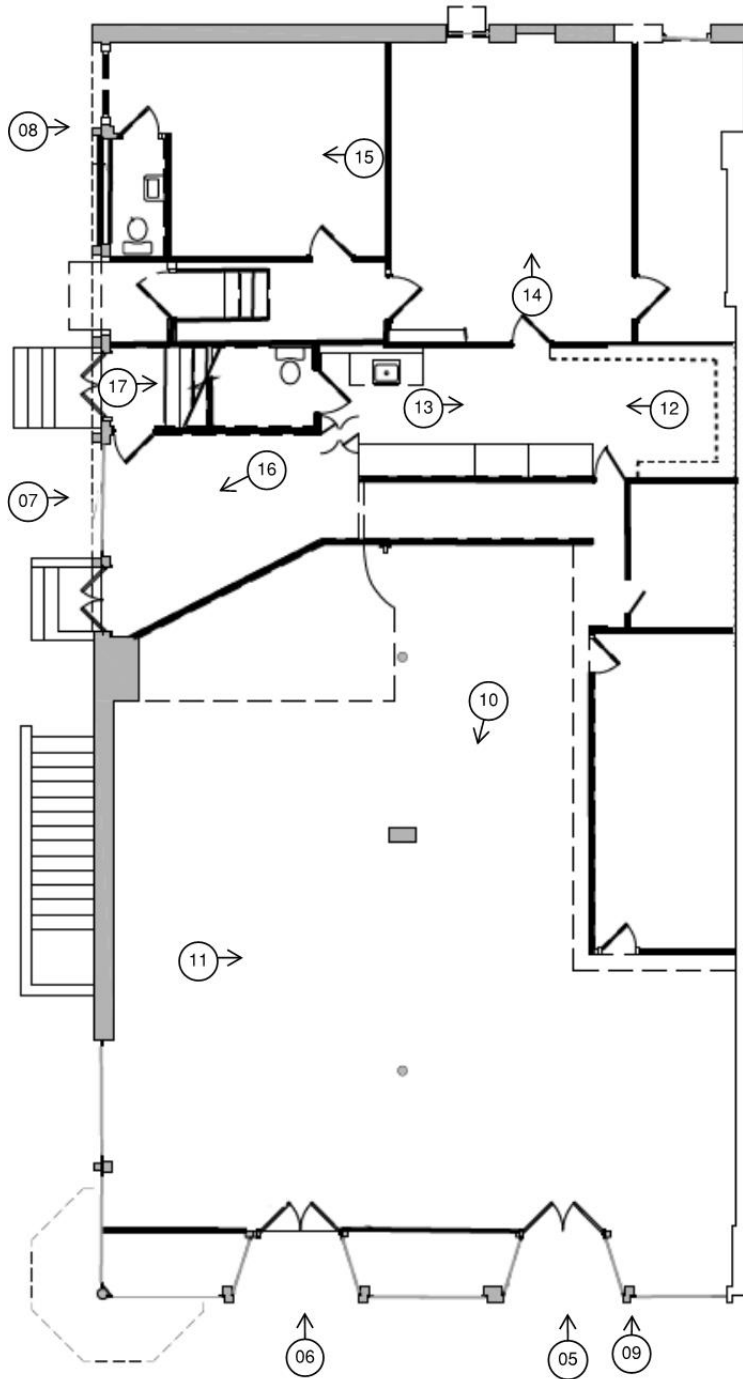
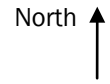
Site
Not to Scale.



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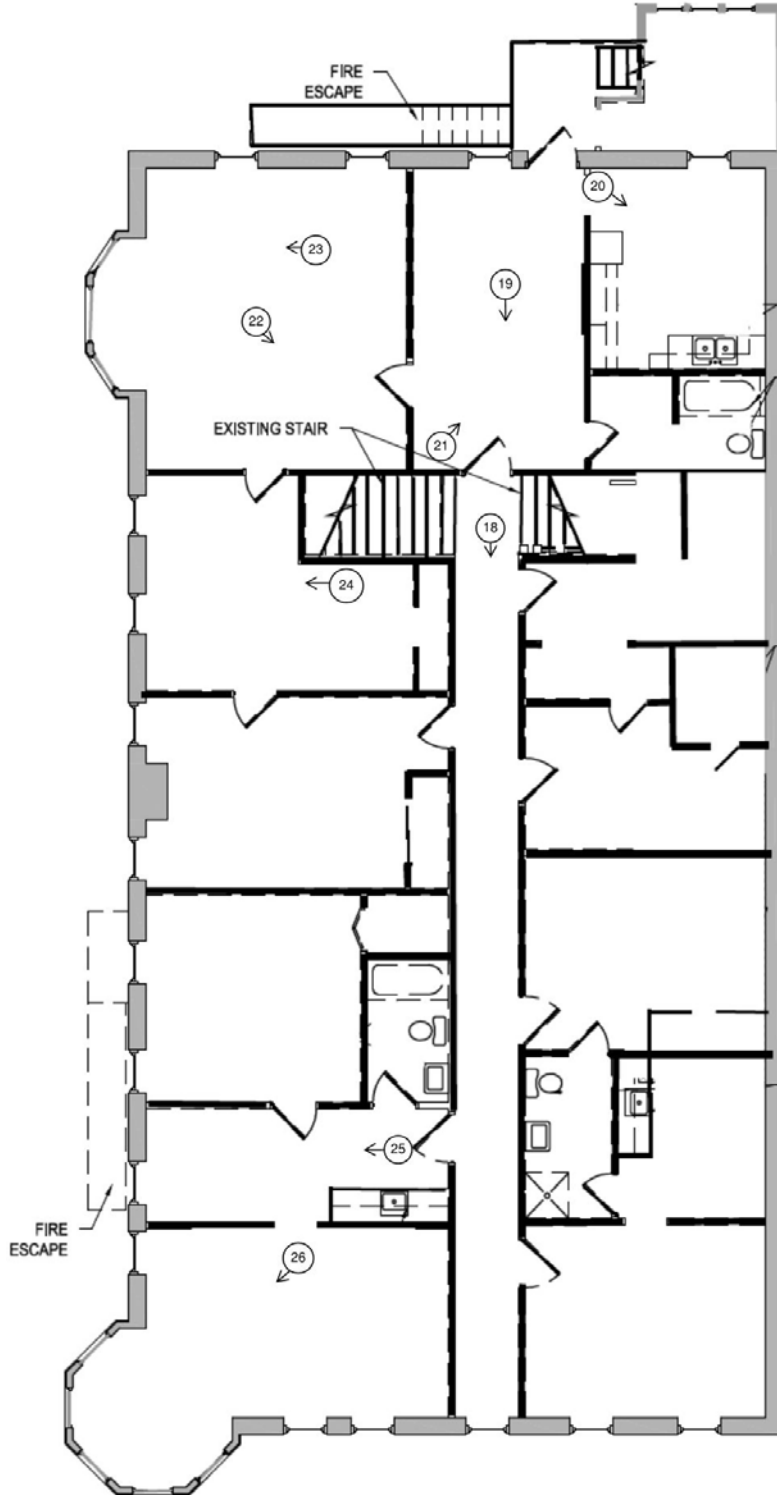
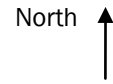
First Floor Plan
Not to Scale; length along south façade is 40', length along west façade is 90'



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Second Floor Plan
Not to Scale; length along south façade is 40', length along west façade is 90'

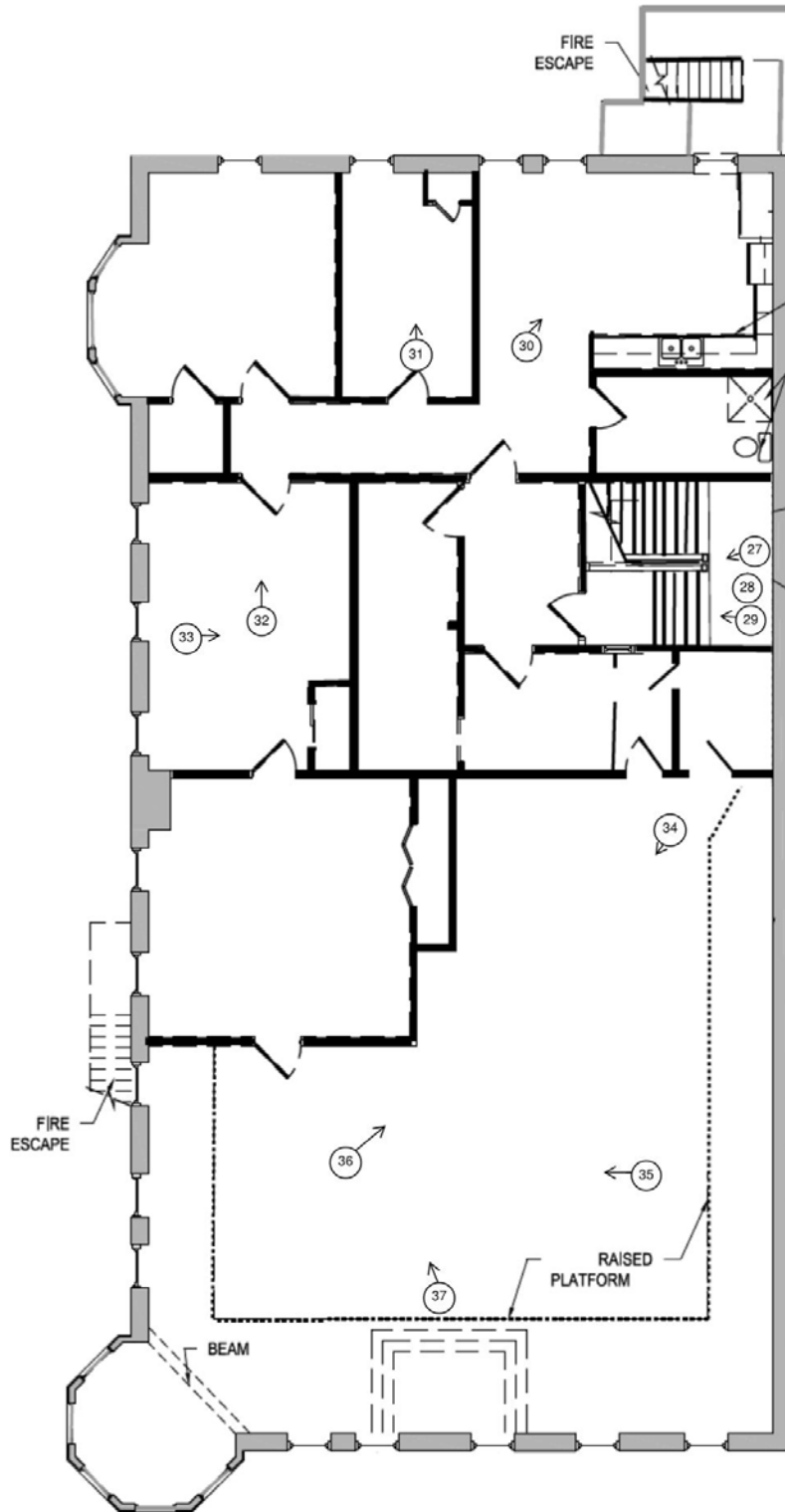
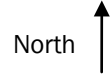


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Third Floor Plan

Not to Scale; length along south façade is 40', length along west façade is 90'

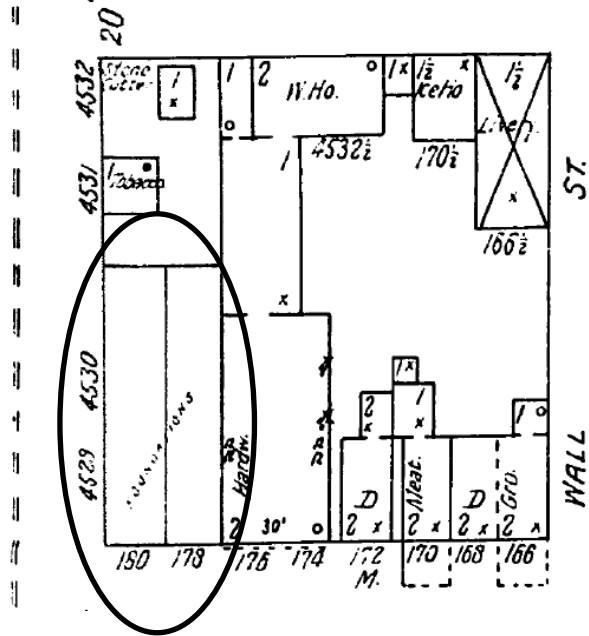


Israel Building
 Name of Property

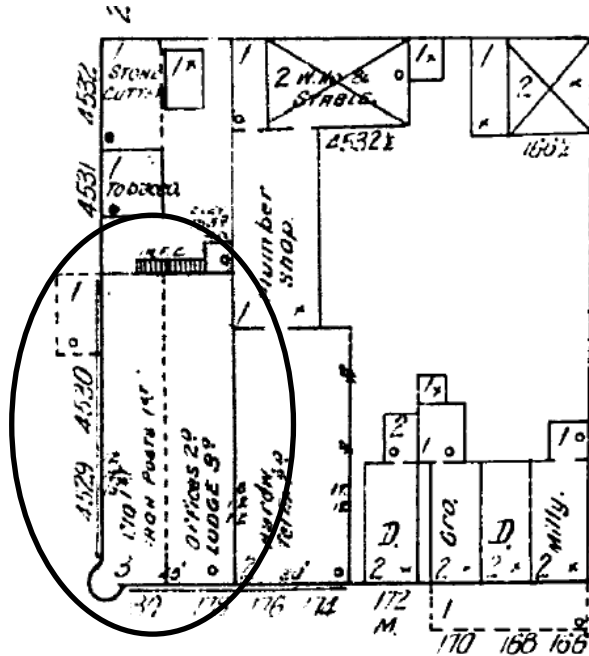
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Figure 3.0 Sanborn Maps

1902: This map was drawn shortly after construction of the Israel Building began and notes the foundations in place at the time of survey. Site indicated by circle.



1911: This map shows the three historic functions served by the building: clothing store, offices, and lodge. Site indicated by circle.

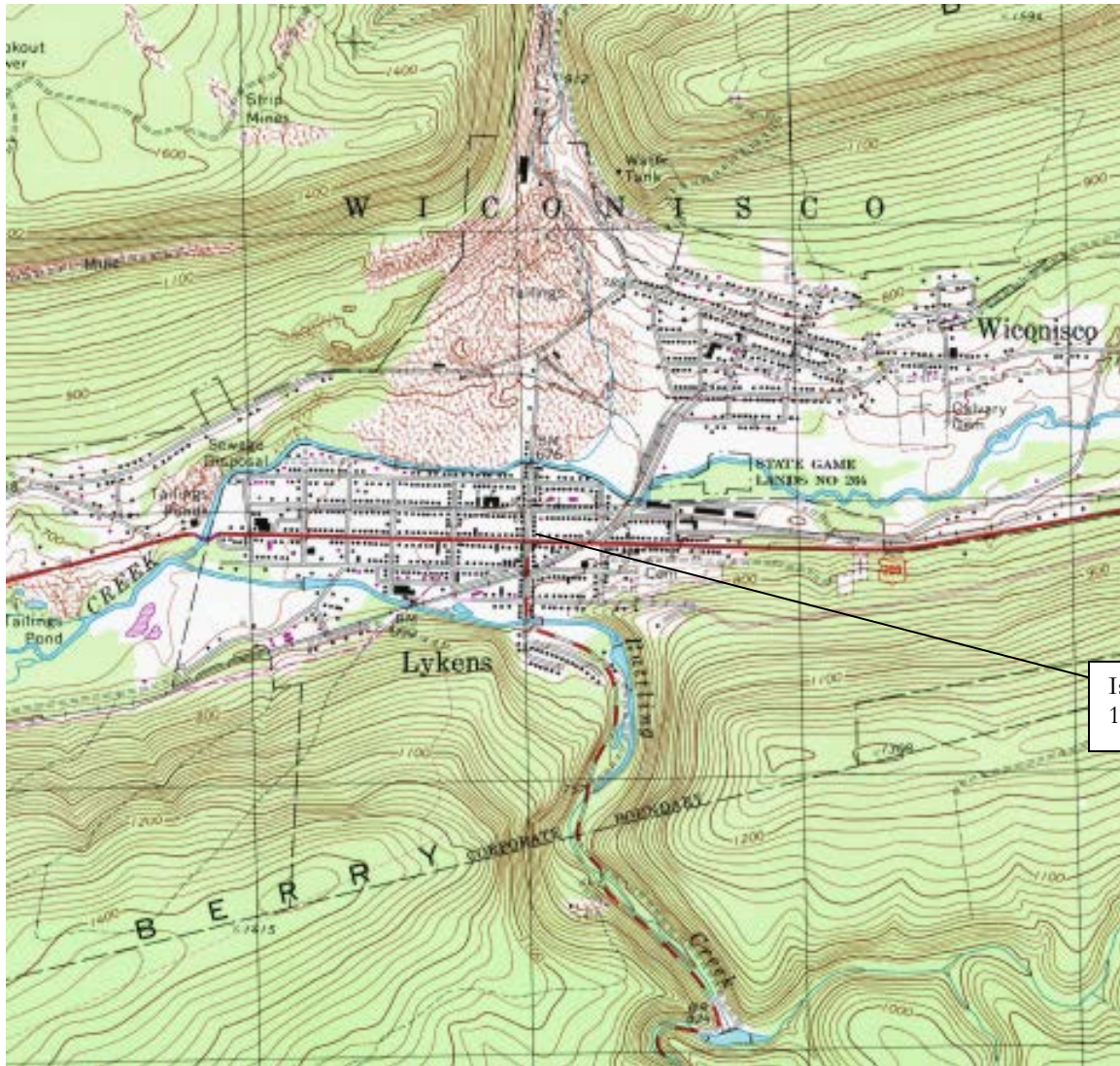


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Figure 4.0 USGS Map (cropped)
Downloaded as .pdf on August 31, 2011 from store.usgs.gov
Lykens, PA Quad

Not to Scale

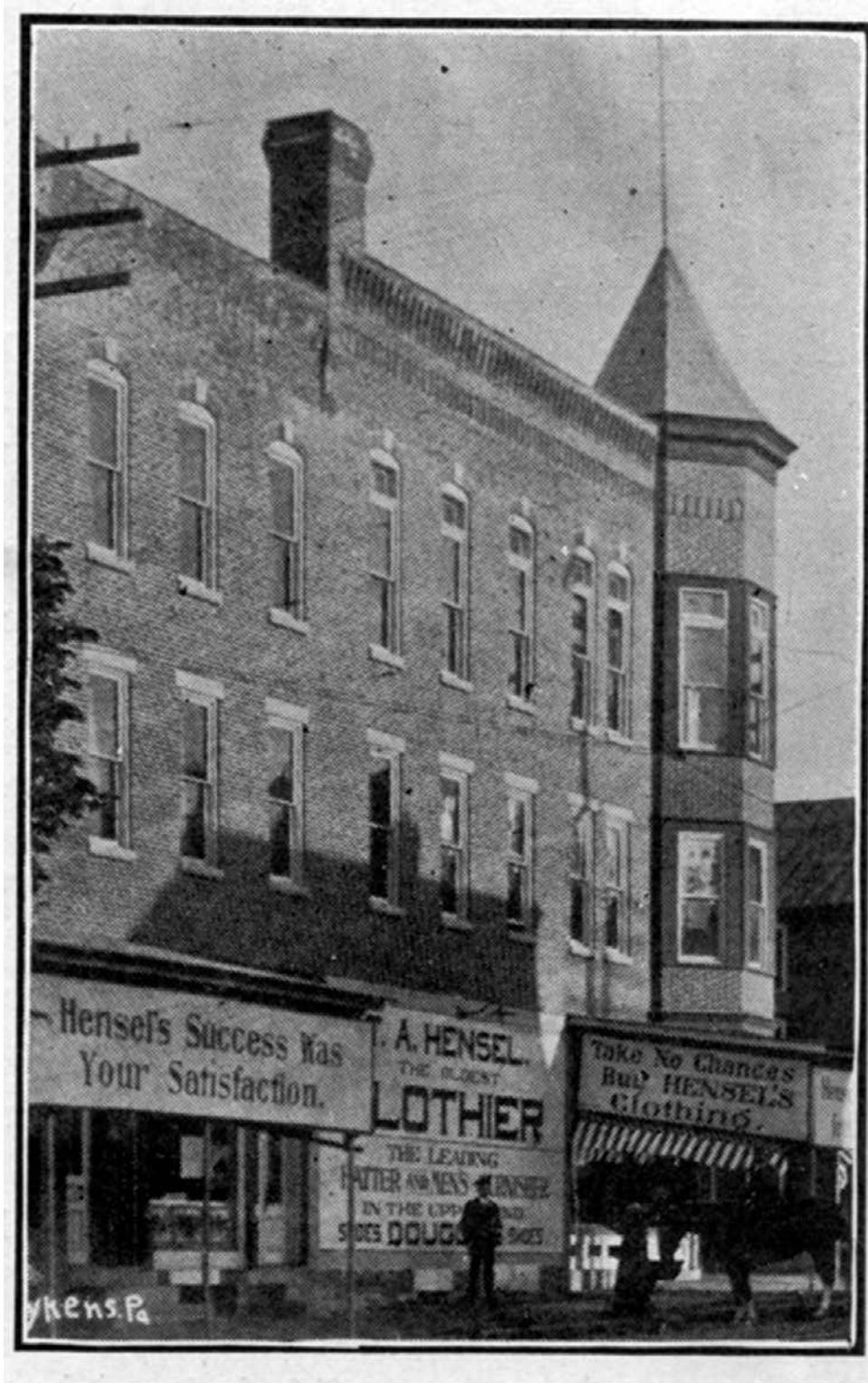


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18 356063 4492104

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Figure 5.0 Historic Photograph, n.d. Looking south along Market St at west façade. Horse is drinking from the community fountain located in the bottom right corner of the photo.



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Figure 5.1 Historic Photograph, ca. 1910. Looking northeast at corner of Israel Building from the SW corner of the Main and Market St intersection.



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Figure 5.2 Historic Photograph, ca. 1910. Looking north at the Main and Market St facades and turret.



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County and State

Figure 5.3 Historic Photograph, ca. 1905. Detail of Hensel's Clothing signage and advertising on the first floor of the Israel Building.



Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 5.4 Historic Photograph, 1913. Looking north along Market St at intersection with Main St. Israel Building visible at right.



LYKENS SQUARE LOOKING NORTH (1913)

Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 5.5 Historic Photograph, n.d. Looking at the Main and Market St facades.



Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 5.6 Historic Photograph, 1912. Hensel's store window in the first floor storefront of the Israel Building.



Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 5.7 Historic Photograph, n.d. Looking east along Main St toward Israel Building. Building in foreground (with mansard roof) demolished in ca. 1950 for a bank.



Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 6. 0 Grand Army of the Republic Building, Lykens. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1896.



Photograph from National Register of Historic Places, Grand Army of the Republic Building, Lykens, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, National Register # 86003453, https://www.dot7.state.pa.us/CRGIS_Attachments/SiteResource/H079180_01B.jpg.

Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 6.1 Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge, now the American Legion Building, on Main Street in Lykens.



Photo taken October 7, 2015.

Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Figure 6.2 Free and Accepted Masons Ashlar Lodge No. 570, Lykens.



Photograph from Google Maps, <https://www.google.com/maps/@40.567636,-76.7004872,3a,75y,276.64h,92.45t/data=!3m6!1e1!3m4!1sFOYONsidhwrJ95z3UJTMsw!2e0!7i13312!8i6656!6m1!1e1>
1

Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Israel Building

City or Vicinity: Lykens

County: Dauphin County

State: PA

Photographer: Becky Zeller

Date Photographed: June 18, 2015

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo #1 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0001
Looking northeast at the Main and Market Street facades.

Photo #2 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0002
The south (Main St) façade.

Photo #3 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0003
The west (Market St) façade.

Photo #4 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0004
Looking southeast at the north and west facades.

Photo #5 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0005
Detail, east entrance on the south (Main St) façade.

Photo #6 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0006
Detail, west entrance on the south (Main St) façade.

Photo #7 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0007
Detail, storefronts and entrance (marked 6010 to the upper floors on west façade.

Photo #8 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0008
Detail, looking east ad northernmost storefront on west façade.

Photo #9 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0009
Detail, cast iron storefront condition on the south (Main St) façade.

Photo #10 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0010

Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

First Floor: Looking south toward Main St in primary retail space, along Main St.

Photo #11 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0011

First Floor: Looking east in primary retail space.

Photo #12 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0012

First Floor: Looking west in the secondary retail space, subdivided from the primary retail space along Main St in the 1970's.

Photo #13 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0013

First Floor: Looking east in the secondary retail space.

Photo #14 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0014

First Floor: Looking north in the rear retail space, along Market St.

Photo #15 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0015

First Floor: Looking west in the rear retail space, along Market St.

Photo #16 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0016

First Floor: Looking west toward Market St in the secondary retail space, subdivided from the primary retail space in the 1970's.

Photo #17 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0017

Looking east at the stair from the first floor. Second floor corridor extends to the south (right of the photograph) and stair terminates at the third floor lodge (at mural).

Photo #18 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0018

Second Floor: Looking south along the corridor from the second floor stair landing.

Photo #19 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0019

Second Floor: Looking south in center room at north end of the building.

Photo #20 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0020

Second Floor: Looking south in late 20th century kitchen at north end of the building.

Photo #21 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0021

Second Floor: Looking northeast in the center room at the north end of the building.

Photo #22 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0022

Second Floor: Looking southeast in the north end of the building: typical second floor room.

Photo #23 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0023

Second Floor: Looking west at bay window on north end of the building, along Market St: typical second floor room.

Photo #24 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0024

Second Floor: Second Floor: Looking west in the center of the building.

Israel Building
Name of Property

Dauphin County, PA
County and State

Photo #25 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0025

Second Floor: Looking west in late 20th century kitchen at south end of the building.

Photo #26 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0026

Second Floor: Looking south toward Main St at turret interior.

Photo #27 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0027

Detail, newel post in stair at 3rd floor landing.

Photo #28 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0028

Detail, skylight at 3rd floor landing.

Photo #29 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0029

Detail, balusters, rail, and wainscoting at 3rd floor entrance to the meeting room.

Photo #30 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0030

Third Floor: Looking northeast at late 20th century kitchen in north end of the building.

Photo #31 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0031

Third Floor: Small third floor room in north end of the building, looking north, with drywall partitions added in the 1970s.

Photo #32 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0032

Third Floor: Looking north in third floor room subdivided from the meeting room in the 1970's.

Photo #33 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0033

Third Floor: Looking east in the room subdivided from the meeting room in the 1970's.

Photo #34 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0034

Third Floor: Looking southwest in meeting room toward the turret.

Photo #35 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0035

Third Floor: Looking west in meeting room.

Photo #36 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0036

Third Floor: Looking northeast in the meeting room.

Photo #37 PA_DauphinCounty_IsraelBuilding_0037

Third Floor: Looking northwest in the meeting room at the drywall partitions added in the 1970's.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



NO
TURN
ON RED

←
→

Dairy
Queen



NO
TURN
ON RED

← ELIZABETHVILLE 7
WILLIAMSTOWN 5 →
TOWER CITY 8 →

FOR RENT
CALL [phone number]



601

Garage B



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601



601

421



J. H. BERRY
& CO.
EVANSVILLE
IND.





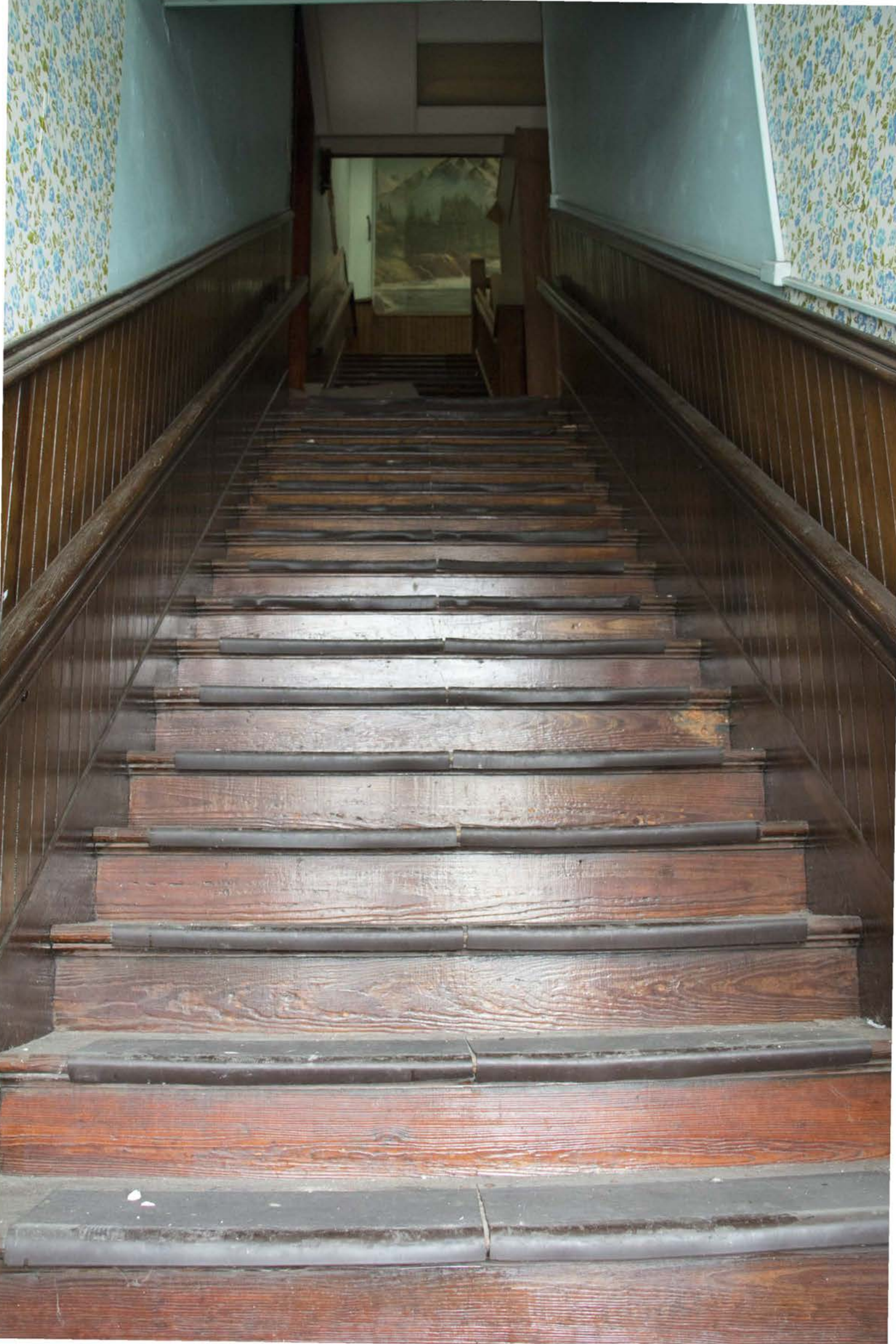






















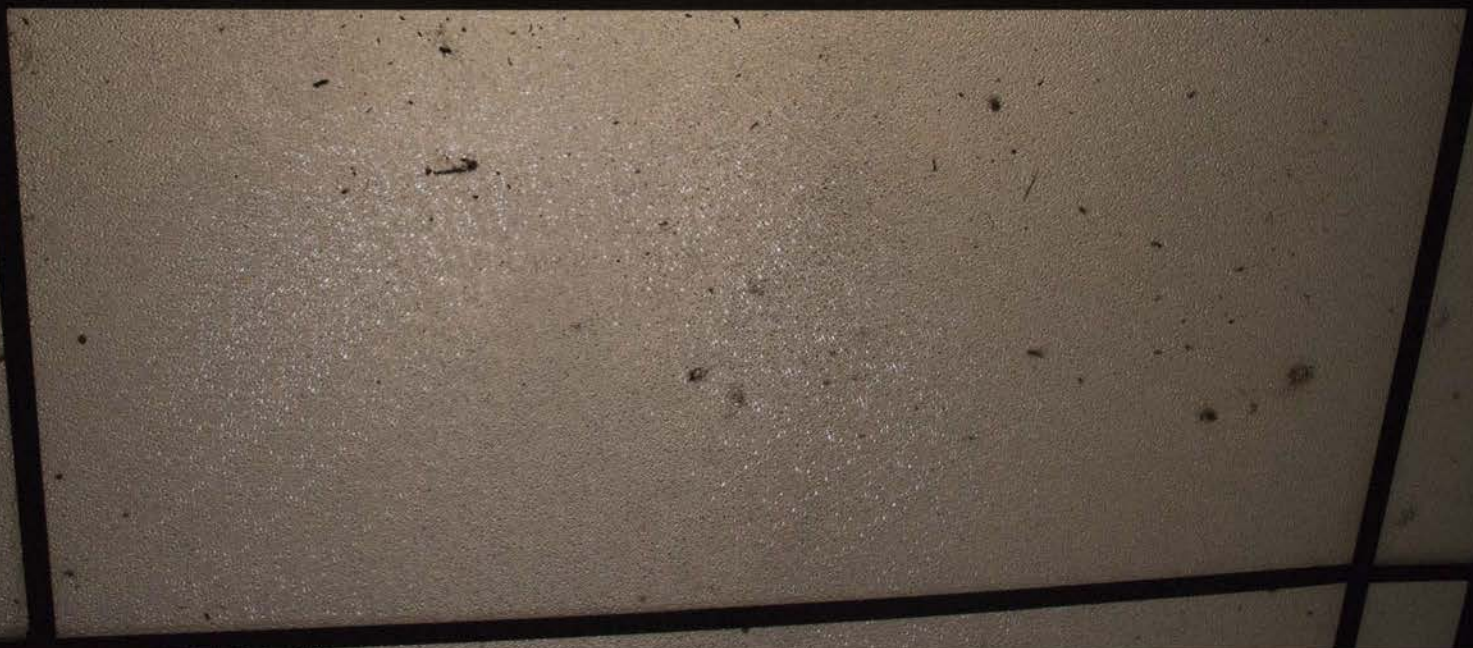














5

















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Israel Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: PENNSYLVANIA, Dauphin

DATE RECEIVED: 3/11/2016
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 04/21/2016
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

DATE OF PENDING LIST: 04/06/2016
DATE OF 45TH DAY: 04/26/2016

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000204

Appeal: N Data Problem: N Landscape: N Less than 50 Years: N
Other: N PDIL: N Period: N Program Unapproved: N
Request: N Sample: N SLR Draft: N National: N

Comment Waiver: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 4/25/2016 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER Patrick Andrus Discipline Historian

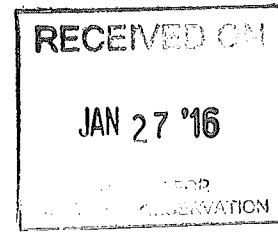
DATE 4/25/2016

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS



DAUPHIN COUNTY
P E N N S Y L V A N I A
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY



January 20, 2016

Andrea MacDonald
Acting Director
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Hotel Lykens and Israel Building National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. MacDonald:

We understand that the Hotel Lykens and the Israel Building, located in Lykens Borough, Dauphin County, are being individually nominated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Board of County Commissioners is writing to express Dauphin County's strong support for these nominations.

The Hotel Lykens and the Israel Building are significant historic buildings within upper Dauphin County. The Hotel Lykens is a unique community hotel, financed through community shares and support, a method known as the Hockenbury System. The Israel Building, located directly across Main Street from the Hotel, is an example of a two-part commercial building which functioned as commercial space on the first two floors and a fraternal lodge on the third floor. Throughout its history, the Israel Building was a primary retail location in Lykens, as well as an incubator space for social organizations.

The Hotel Lykens and the Israel Building are also important parts of Lykens' current revitalization. The buildings are two of only a handful of historic buildings which remain in Lykens. Lykens has no eligible historic district and only one other building listed on the National Register. As such, the Hotel and Israel Building are a source of pride for local citizens. In recent years, the buildings have suffered from prolonged vacancy. Much like the surrounding community, they have become the victims of trying economic times. Lykens' citizens have invested untold amounts of time and resources into promoting and protecting these historic buildings. They have organized clean-ups and beautification projects while waiting for the buildings to be returned to their former glory. The importance of these buildings to the local community cannot be overstated. The listing of these buildings to the National Register would provide formal recognition of this importance, and ensure that these buildings can be valued in Dauphin County for years to come.

Sincerely,

George Connor
Deputy Director
Dauphin County Community & Economic Dev.

**Office of Mayor
Lykens Borough
Lykens, Pennsylvania**

15 January, 2016

Andrea MacDonald
Acting Director
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

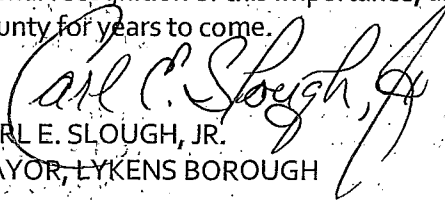
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CARL E. SLOUGH, JR.
MAYOR, LYKENS BOROUGH

628 North Second Street
P.O. Box 62
Lykens, PA 17048
January 19, 2016

Andrea MacDonald, Acting Director
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120



Dear Ms. MacDonald,

I understand the Lykens Hotel and the Israel Building in Lykens have been nominated for acceptance to the State Historic Preservation National Register. As president of the Lykens and Wiconisco Historical Society, I am writing in support of this action for these two buildings. These two buildings on the town square represent the very essence of this small town. I have been documenting the history of these buildings for many years.

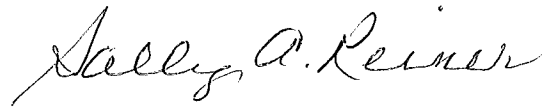
The Israel building, built after a wood frame building on the site burned down in 1901, was a building of splendor representing the growth of Lykens after the discovery of coal in the mountain to the north. Mr. Israel rented the top floor to the Patriotic Order of the Sons of America, who later purchased the building. They remained owners of the building until 1971 when their last two surviving members sold it. There was always a business or two on the first floor, apartments and offices on the second floor, and occasionally a business in the basement. This building was a vital part of the community of Lykens for over one hundred years. In fact, in 1985 during the celebration of the 200th anniversary of Dauphin County, a quilt was made containing a patch representing each municipality of Dauphin County, and the patch representing Lykens has an applied picture of the Israel building on it. This quilt now hangs in the Court House in Harrisburg.

The Lykens Hotel although younger than the Israel building also played an important part in the history of our town. The business people of town got together to build a magnificent hotel that was suitable for the rapid growth of the town and the many people who were in and out of Lykens over the coal and train businesses that were booming. They sold stock to build it and accomplished their goal. Once built, they held a contest to name the building, and each week the new names suggested were printed in the local newspaper. It was an exciting time for everyone. Finally "The Lykens" was chosen, the marquee went up giving it a look of elegance, and "Lykens" hung on the front of the marquee in opaque glass, making the citizens of the town proud. It was a high class hotel for the time. Along with the hotel lobby and rooms it had a coffee shop on the ground level

and businesses in the basement. A bank once occupied the front corner, and later that section was the home of the Pennsylvania Liquor Store in Lykens for many years. And I am proud to tell you that Les Brown, leader of the Band of Renown, ate in the dining room of the Lykens Hotel.

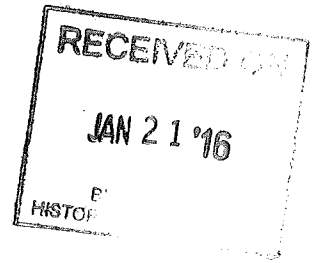
I am writing to tell you of the importance of these two buildings to Lykens. Much of our town was torn down after the 1972 flood. Please help us to preserve the glorious past of Lykens with the preservation of these two buildings.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sally A. Reiner". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Sally A. Reiner

Pres., L&W Historical Society



January 18, 2016

Andrea MacDonald
Acting Director
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Hotel Lykens and Israel Building National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. MacDonald:

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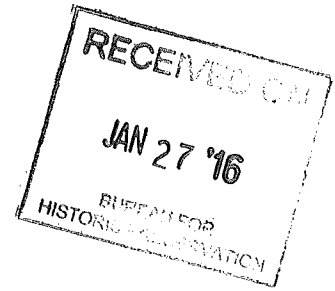
Sincerely,

 Colleen J. Sauer, Lykens PA

717-453-1002



David A. Norris
134 Reiners School Rd.
Tower City, PA 17980



January 18, 2016

Andrea MacDonald
Acting Director
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

RE: Hotel Lykens and Israel Building National Register Nominations

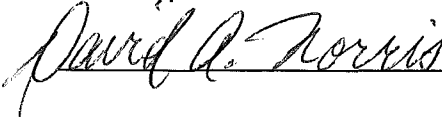
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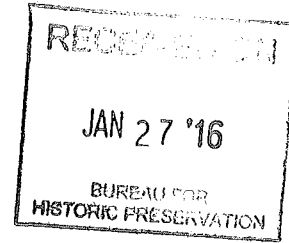
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Sincerely,

 Lykens, PA

January 18, 2016



Andrea MacDonald
Acting Director
State Historic Preservation Office
400 North Street
Harrisburg, PA 17120

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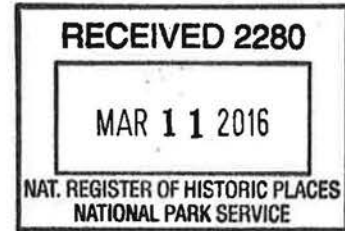
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Sincerely,

 _____ Lykens, PA



March 1, 2016

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief
National Register and National Historic Landmark Program
National Register of Historic Places
U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: NR nomination discs

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following nomination forms are being submitted electronically per the "Guidance on How to Submit a Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places on Disk Summary (5/06/2013)":

Israel Building, Dauphin County
Hotel Lykens, Dauphin County

The enclosed discs contain the true and correct copy of the nominations for the Israel Building, and the Hotel Lykens. The proposed action is listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions regarding the nominations please contact David Maher at 717-783-9918

Sincerely,

David Maher
National Register section
Preservation Services