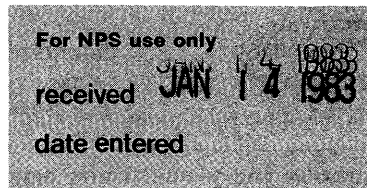


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form



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

1. Name

historic Fraternal Hall (KM04-6)

and/or common Fraternal Hall

2. Location

street & number Southwest corner of 2nd and Chestnut Streets NA not for publication

city, town Kimball NA vicinity of

state Nebraska code 031 county Kimball code 105

3. Classification

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

4. Owner of Property

name Plains Historical Society, c/o Salma Hammond

street & number Box 67

city, town Bushnell NA vicinity of state Nebraska

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Kimball County Courthouse

city, town Kimball state Nebraska

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date On-going federal state county local

depository for survey records Nebraska State Historical Society

city, town Lincoln state Nebraska

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
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date <u>NA</u>

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fraternal Hall in Kimball, Nebraska is a two story frame Neo-Classical Revival structure built in 1904. The 30 x 80 foot hall features a prominent gabled front repleat with Neo-Classical Revival details. The building provided for a public meeting place on first floor and for fraternal lodge functions on second floor. The building is presently owned by the Plains Historical Society who use it as a museum.

The Fraternal Hall in Kimball (1980 population 3113) is located in the business district at the southwest corner of Second and Chestnut Streets. The building was constructed in 1904 and is an excellent vernacular interpretation of the Neo-Classical Revival style of architecture.

The structure is a two story frame building with a limestone foundation and an asphalt roof which replaced the original wooden shingles. The main entrance is located in the gable end of the structure and is marked with a pediment and engaged columns. Many years ago (no date available), the corner doorway was made and the display window was added for a business establishment renting the lower level. At this time an oval keystone-ornamented window set in symmetry with the existing one was removed. These windows were once glazed with colored glass. Decorative features include the dentils under the eaves of the frontal gable and molded corner pilasters with dentiled capitals. The local newspaper, Western Nebraska Observer, Kimball, reported on December 8, 1904 that ". . . some of the material for the new hall which was ordered from Philadelphia, and on which the workmen have been waiting arrived Tuesday. The fancy windows have been put in, the front of the building is being finished up and the metal ceiling will be put in place as soon as the plastering is done. . ."

The hall measures 30 x 80 feet. The second floor was used exclusively for lodge functions and the first floor as a public hall, complete with stage.

Presently, the first floor serves as a museum for the Plains Historical Society, while the second floor is used infrequently by the lodges who have become less active in recent years. The building is virtually unaltered on the interior and is being maintained in this original condition by the Plains Historical Society.

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

Specific dates 1903-04 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Fraternal Hall in Kimball is significant in the areas of architecture and social/humanitarianism. The Neo-Classical Revival building was constructed in 1904, and is the only prototype of an academic architectural style in Kimball County. Socially, the hall is significant as the home of three fraternal lodges which provide social interaction within the community. The building of this hall served to further unite the community in working toward common goals.

On March 3, 1904, members of the Knights of Pythias, Woodmen, and Royal Neighbors held a meeting to discuss the possibility of erecting a lodge hall. The lease had expired on the location they were using and the rent was to be raised. The group approved the idea of a new building and by the end of the month another meeting was held for planning purposes. It was decided to erect a frame building 30 x 80 feet with the first floor to be used as a public hall and the second floor exclusively for lodge purposes. Shares were issued to raise much of the estimated \$2500.00 needed and the rest was borrowed. The building was to be jointly owned by the lodges.

The cornerstone was laid August 7, 1904 and construction continued quite rapidly. During these months of construction, money-raising events such as dances, home talent plays, ice cream socials, dinners, etc. were held to help with the debt.

On March 3, 1905, exactly one year after the first meeting, the new building, named Fraternal Hall, was dedicated with a ceremony and Grand Ball.

The Fraternal Hall is significant socially, as the building of this structure served to unify the community in working toward a common goal. The three lodge organizations themselves provide a feeling of kinship for members and promote social interaction and personal growth. During the construction of the hall, community spirit was raised and the end result was community pride in their accomplishment.

Architecturally, the Fraternal Hall serves as an excellent vernacular interpretation of the Neo-Classical Revival style of architecture and is the only prototype of an academic architectural style in Kimball County. Utilization of this style, which was the most popular of the turn-of-the-century styles in Nebraska, indicates its widespread popularity as few remnants of the more academic styles were built on the western High Plains.

9. Major Bibliographical References

- Harris, Cyril M., Ed., Historic Architecture Sourcebook, New York, McGraw-Hill Book Co., 1977.
- The Fraternal Hall, Kimball, Nebraska, unpublished mss. on file at the Plains Historical Society, n.d.
- Luella Mockett, informant, Kimball, Nebraska, July, 1982.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Kimball, Nebr.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A	<u>1</u> <u>3</u>	<u>6</u> <u>1</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u> <u>6</u> <u>0</u>	<u>4</u> <u>5</u> <u>6</u> <u>5</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	B	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	D	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>
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G	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	H	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

The property is located on lots one and two, block 2, Burg's Addition to Kimball, including all of the historically associated property.

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

state	code	county	code
NA			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Janet Jeffries Spencer, Cultural Historian

organization Nebraska State Historical Society date September, 1982

street & number 1500 "R" Street telephone 402/471-3850

city or town Lincoln state Nebraska

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 Murray O. Zuehl date 12/13/82

title Director, Nebraska State Historical Society date

For NPS use only

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

Komer Mar Doyce

date 2/23/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: Patrick Andrews
Chief of Registration

date 2/25/83