

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
	43

Roll 19:3A

Town Stoneham

Address Central Square

Historic Name Oddfellows Building ✓

Present Owner: Mary Snider Trust

Original Owner: Isaac Hersam

Use: Present Mixed retail

Original Retail stores and fraternal hall

DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1868

Source map research, town histories

Style Second Empire

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric stucco

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) Addition

at rear, date unknown; clapboarding

stuccoed over.

Moved No Date N/A

Approx. acreage 15,700 square feet

Setting Central Square; main commercial district

UTM: Boston North Quad
19 327360 4704880

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Carole Zellie; ed. by Sarah Zimmerman

Organization Landscape Research

Date May, 1979

Assessor's Map #13-506

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

The Odd Fellows Building is one of three important 19th century buildings in Stoneham's Central Square. Comparing favorably to the Chase (42, 1874) and Dow (46, 1864) Blocks, but unfortunately stuccoed-over, the Odd Fellows Building follows the mansard-roof tradition of other important local buildings of the period. The third-story dormers are the best conserved feature, each with a triangular pedimented lintel, and small brackets. A patterned slate roof and bracketed cornice are also intact original features. The central dormer is embellished with jig-sawed trim indicating the date of purchase from Isaac Hersam, 1878. The Odd Fellows Building is one of the architectural cornerstones of Central Square.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The Odd Fellows Hall is significant as one of three major mid-late 19th-century commercial buildings at the town center. All three date from the 1860s and early 1870s, a time of considerable prosperity in the shoe industry. It is also significant as a good example of Second Empire style commercial architecture and as a manifestation of the importance of fraternal associations in Stoneham's economic development. The Odd Fellows Hall possesses integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship and association. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

The Odd Fellows of Stoneham comprised several fraternal orders, including the Columbian Lodge, Columbian Encampment, Daughters of Rebekah, and Canton Fells. The Odd Fellows Hall Association was incorporated in 1872, and included several prominent businessmen among its members. This building was purchased from Isaac Hersam for meeting use in 1878. Many businesses have occupied the first level, including William Walker's Grocery (ca. 1869-) and the Charles Currier Drugstore (ca. 1895-).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Stevens, History of Stoneham.

Photographs in the Stoneham Historical Society Collection.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 2/26/84
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 6 of 7

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Stoneham Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Metropolitan District Commission
Pumping House

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

52. Millard-Souther-Green House

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

53. Oddfellows Building

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

54. Old Burying Ground

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

55. Shoe Shop-Doucette Ten
Footer

Substantive Review

Keeper

Paula Ann Dwyer 4/13/84

Attest

56. Steele, John, House

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

57. South School

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

58. Stoneham Firestation

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

59. Stoneham Public Library

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

60. Tay, Jesse, House

Entered in the
National Register

for
Keeper

Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Oddfellows Building (Stoneham MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. FEB/28 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85
Date Due: 3-29-84 - 4-13-84
Action: ACCEPT 4-13-84
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the _____
National Register _____
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Odd Fellows Building
Storham WPA, Ma

8130



6769 II SW
(WILMINGTON)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



COMMONWEALTH OF
DEPARTMENT OF

6769 II
(READ)

71° 07' 30"
42° 30'

3270000m E

328

329

330

5'

329

330

UTM correction 1/7/08
#43 odd&fellows Building
19/327416/4705101



Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: _____ 64000295