

HB 2410 N 40 5000

Form 10-300
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Hon. Peter N. Kyros

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Maine	
COUNTY: Waldo	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	APR 26 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Masonic Temple

AND/OR HISTORIC:



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street (U.S. Route 1)

CITY OR TOWN:
Belfast

STATE: Maine CODE: 23 COUNTY: Waldo CODE: 027

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Masonic Order

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Masonic Temple Association of Belfast

STREET AND NUMBER:
High Street

CITY OR TOWN: Belfast STATE: Maine CODE: 23

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Waldo County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Belfast STATE: Maine CODE: 23

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
H.A.B.S. (ME-104)

DATE OF SURVEY: 1962 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Office of Archeology & Historic Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:
801 19th Street N.W.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington STATE: District of Columbia CODE: 11

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Belfast Masonic Hall is a three and a half story brick building with mansard roof and a four story tower at the northwest corner. The building is set on a granite foundation and measures 83½' on High Street and 54' on Main Street. The walls of the building are brick with free-stone trim.

The windows are double hung on the upper floors. The mansard roof and the steep pitched roof of the tower are covered with asphalt shingles. The top of the tower has battlemented cresting. Dormers in the mansard roof have single or paired windows and are double hung.

There are shops and a bank on the first floor and the building has been altered at this level for the convenience of these businesses. Other than these changes there have been no alterations to the exterior of the building. The second floor of the building is used for office space. The third and fourth floor of the building are the Masonic Lodge rooms and Hall.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

4. SIGNIFICANCE

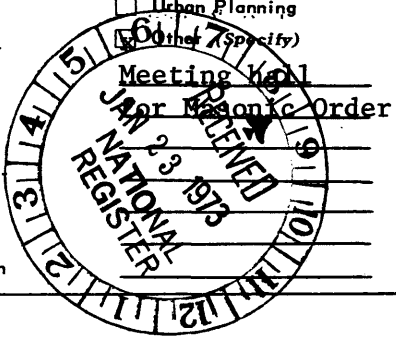
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1877-1878

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Military		
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation		



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

By the year 1875 there were four Lodges of Masons in Belfast, the oldest having been founded in 1817 as Phoenix Lodge #24. All of these Lodges met in the Masonic Hall which at that time was the third story of the High School on Church Street. Fire destroyed the Hall on May 24, 1875, so during the year 1876 the Masonic Temple Association of Belfast was incorporated for the purpose of procuring a lot and erecting a new Masonic Hall.

The lot was procured in 1877 for \$7,500. and the building was completed in 1878 at a total cost of \$35,000. including the land. The architect was George M. Harding of Boston. Israel Wood Parker was the builder and Charles Henry Bray was the master of brickwork.

The building that the Masons erected was a lovely structure designed to serve several purposes, and herein lies its significance.

This is one of the largest and more elaborately decorated buildings in Belfast. It was decorated in this fashion to serve as the focal point for Masonic activity in Belfast, but was at the same time built as a functional entity to serve the commercial needs of the City of Belfast. This fine building is now at the hub of the commercial district in Belfast. It is the only building of its type in Belfast and (See Continuation Sheet)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

H.A.B.S. Survey (ME-104)

Williamson, Joseph & Johnson, Alfred. History of the City of Belfast in the State of Maine, Vol. II, (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1913) pp. 254-255

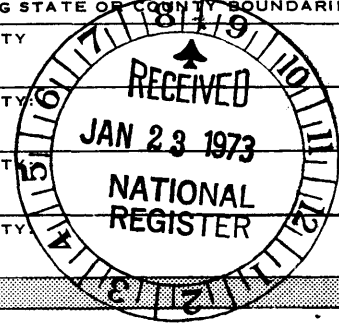
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		44° 25' 34"	69° 00' 25"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: *less than 1 a.*

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Richard D. Kelly, Jr.

ORGANIZATION: Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE: Oct., 1972

STREET AND NUMBER: 31 Western Avenue

CITY OR TOWN: Augusta STATE: Maine CODE: 23

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name James H. Mundy

Title State Liaison Officer

Date January 15, 1973

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 4/26/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date 4 12 1973

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(Number all entries)

8. SIGNIFICANCE

one of the few elaborately decorated commercial buildings in the State of Maine. It stands out as a fine example of a late 19th century commercial architecture, and yet remains as a memorial to those Masons who have lived and worked in Belfast since 1817.

