

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 Odd Fellows-Rebekah Hall

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number High Street N/A not for publication

city, town Cornish, N/A vicinity of ~~congressional district~~

state Maine code 23 county York code 031

## 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" 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	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: None

## 4. Owner of Property

name Town of Cornish

street & number

city, town Cornish, N/A vicinity of state Maine 04020

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. York County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Alfred, state Maine

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/A has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

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

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Odd Fellows-Rebekah Hall is a large rectangular structure that is two-and-one half stories high and has a steeply pitched hipped roof. Constructed of wood, the building is sheathed with clapboard siding. On the north corner is a four story bell tower. The upper section of the tower has lancet arched windows set beneath a pedimented cornice and is capped by a hipped roof with a finial.

In the center of the principal (northwest) elevation is a pedimented pavilion containing simple Palladian windows on the second and third levels, and double doors on the ground level. Above the door is the badge of the Ossipee Valley Lodge. Fashioned in wood, this unusual decorative sign contains a variety of colorful symbols employed by the Odd Fellows brotherhood.

The interior of the large hall is also intact and includes tongue and groove wainscot and molded architrave trim. The pressed metal ceiling is patterned with classical details that are highlighted with the original paint scheme. At one end of the lodge room is a podium with Gothic chairs behind a lecturn used for fraternal meetings.

As a vernacular design, the building displays little in the way of stylistic features. The Palladian windows illustrate a Colonial Revival impulse while the lancet windows are Gothic. As an important local landmark, the Odd Fellows-Rebekah Hall provides a distinctive testimony to the work of resident craftsmen.

# 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 1902 Builder/Architect Unknown

**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

The Odd Fellows-Rebekah Hall, built in 1902, is a remarkable statement in highly vernacular architecture. As a result it stands out in what is otherwise a fairly ordinary rural Maine community. It is also the most dramatic and ornate rural lodge hall in the state and as such recalls an era when fraternal organizations were at the very core of community life.

Built by local craftsmen, the building, with its ornate interior, contains a large clock by George M. Stevens of Boston and a bell made by Henry R. Hooper Company also of Boston.

Actively used by the Odd Fellows until the 1940's, it continued to be employed as a meeting place for the Rebekahs until the 1960's when it was sold to the town. Since that time it has seen occasional use for public suppers, rummage sales and the like. There is at present a serious effort on the part of a number of residents to preserve this unique structure for use as a community hall.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Ellis, Leola C. and Millard, Kera C., Early Cornish (1666-1916), Portland, 1964.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property  $\frac{1}{4}$

Quadrangle name Cornish

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A 

1	9	3	5	4	9	3	5	4	8	5	1	4	5	1	5
Zone			Easting					Northing							

B 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

C 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

D 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

E 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

F 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

G 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

H 

Zone			Easting					Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map U3, Lot 43

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

state code county code

state code county code

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Frank A. Beard, Historian/Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Me. Historic Preservation Commission date October, 1983

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine 04333

## 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 *Lucas S. [Signature]*

title S.H.P.O. date 11/18/83

For NPS use only

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

*[Signature]*  
Entered in the  
National Register

date 12/29/83

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration