

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	31D-149

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Northampton
24-28 Center St.

Common Name IOOF Block

Original Use commercial and IOOF Hall

Present Use commercial, residential &

Ownership: Private individual office
 Private organization

Public

Original owner International Order of
Odd Fellows

Construction Date 1911

Source S.D.R.

Style _____

Architect Karl Putnam

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings _____

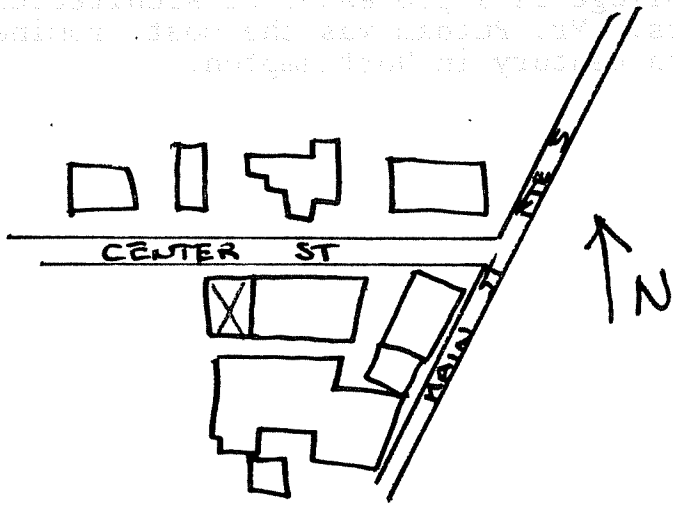
Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage one acre or less

Setting _____

cross streets and other buildings
 or geographical features.
 Indicate north.



Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date April 1980

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The three-story block has a central entrance on the first floor with a store on either side. Composite stone is used for trim and the block is finished off with a bracketed cornice with frieze of eyebrow windows, and capped by a brick parapet.

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 Block was built in 1911 at a cost of \$30,000. There were two stores on the first floor and the IO.O.F. used the two upper floors. The architect, Karl Scott Putnam, was the son of Roswell F. Putnam, a well-known architect of the turn of the century period, and was just beginning his career at this time. After graduation from school he had interned for two years in the New York office of Edward Tilton and then returned to Northampton to join his father's firm. The elder Mr. Putnam died soon afterwards and Karl continued the practice. In the early 1920's he joined Smith College as a professor of Architecture, a position he held for over forty years. Mr. Putnam was the most prominent architect of the first half of the 20th century in Northampton.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1895 and 1915 Atlases.
- Springfiled Daily Republican Jan. 1, 1912.
- Northampton Directory: 1922, 1930, and 1965.
- Smith College Archives.