United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register Listed
4-15-2011

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

1. Name of Property

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>historic name</th>
<th>Inman I.O.O.F Hall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>other names/site number</td>
<td>Inman City Library, 113-2690-00001</td>
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2. Location

<table>
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<th>street &amp; number</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>city or town</td>
<td>Inman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>code</td>
<td>KS</td>
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<tr>
<td>county</td>
<td>McPherson</td>
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<tr>
<td>code</td>
<td>113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zip code</td>
<td>67546</td>
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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this _x_ nomination _ _ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property _ _ meets _ _ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

_ _ national  _ _ statewide  _ _ local

SEE FILE
Signature of certifying official
______________________________
Date
Title
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property _ _ meets _ _ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official
______________________________
Date
Title
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

_ _ entered in the National Register  _ _ determined eligible for the National Register

_ _ determined not eligible for the National Register  _ _ removed from the National Register

_ _ other (explain:)

______________________________
Signature of the Keeper
Date of Action
5. Classification

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<td>(Check only one box)</td>
<td>(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)</td>
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<td>□ building(s)</td>
<td>□ contributing buildings</td>
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6. Function or Use

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<td>Commerce/Trade: restaurant</td>
<td>Education: library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Commerce/Trade: financial institution</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social: meeting hall</td>
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7. Description

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<td>foundation: Stone: Limestone</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>walls: Stone: Limestone</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>roof: Asphalt</td>
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<tr>
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<td>other:</td>
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</table>
Inman I.O.O.F. Hall  
McPherson County, Kansas

Name of Property                   County and State

Summary

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I. O. O. F.) Hall is located at 100 North Main at the northeast corner of Main and Center streets in downtown Inman, McPherson County, Kansas (population 1,194). The two-story limestone building was built in 1893 and measures 25 feet north to south and 75 feet east to west. The west elevation faces Main Street and includes the primary storefront and entrance. There is a second storefront and entrance located on the south (side) elevation facing Center Street. The Inman City Library currently occupies the building’s first floor.

Downtown Inman contains several buildings erected in the late 1800s. Over the years, many of these limestone buildings were faced with aluminum siding and awnings, typical exterior décor employed in the 1960s and 1970s. It is one of only a few buildings extant in the city that have maintained their historic integrity, and is the best example of late 19th century commercial architecture on Main Street. It is the only two-story building in the downtown.

Elaboration

Exterior

The native limestone structure was constructed in the popular late Victoria-era Italianate style. Bids were let on July 5, 1893 with stonework completed on October 20 of the same year. “The Odd Fellows Building Association have received the building from the hands of the contractor J. D. McKinzie and so far as we know they are well pleased with the same.” Masonry is cut in large blocks of varying sizes separated by deep joints, used to give a bold, exaggerated look to the exterior wall, and to frame the upper story windows. Atop the west-facing elevation is a pediment containing the International Order of Odd Fellows emblem (IOOF) – three interlocking rings. The pediment sits atop a decorative cornice that stretches along the west and south street-facing elevations. The west cornice features six equally spaced brackets with half-circle sunflower emblems between each bracket. There is a finial at each corner on the west elevation. The cornice along the south elevation features six equally spaced paired brackets – a trait typical of Italianate architecture.

The west façade includes a typical late-19th century storefront with a recessed central entrance. The iron storefront columns are present. A modern canvas awning spans the length of the west elevation and covers the first floor storefront entrance and transom windows. The second story of the west elevation includes three evenly spaced round-arch windows. The tall windows are typical of commercial Italianate architecture and are each topped by a round stone arch with a keystone.

The south façade includes six bays. The first story includes four nearly square windows that are evenly spaced along the elevation. The fixed windows include wood framing and a single pane of clear glass. The stone sills are approximately 5-6 feet off the ground. The second story includes windows identical to those on the second story of the west elevation. There are six tall round-arch windows each topped by a round stone arch with a keystone. The easternmost bay is stepped down in height and includes a second storefront entrance that provides access to the second floor hall. A modern canvas awning spans the width of the first floor of this easternmost bay. The storefront is modified from the original and includes two single-door entrances and two modern windows. The east entrance retains its original iron threshold with the stamp that

\[1\] The Inman Review, July 1893.
\[2\] The Inman Review, October 1893.
\[3\] J. D. McKinzie was a McPherson County resident and Civil War veteran. The 1900 U. S. Census lists McKinzie as a 53-year-old “building contractor” living in McPherson.
\[4\] The Inman Review, December 15, 1893.
reads “The Capital Iron Works Topeka Kansas.”5 There is slightly smaller round-arch window topped by a round stone arch with a keystone on the second story of this east bay.

The east façade is the rear of the building and faces an alleyway/parking lot. This elevation is less decorative than the two street-facing elevations. At least two window openings have been filled in with matching limestone. A windowsill is evident on the second story at the northwest corner, and a header is located directly below on the first story at the northwest corner. Today, there are no window or door openings on this elevation.

A one-story building sits against the building’s north façade and extends the full length of the lot. The second story of this elevation is exposed and includes two tall rectangular windows. These windows do not feature the round arch found in the building’s other second story windows. The openings are currently covered. Like the east facade, this elevation is less decorative than the two street-facing elevations.

**Interior**

*First Floor*
The building’s primary storefront entrance on the west elevation provides access to the library. The first floor is made of one open space with no modern partitions. The finishes are largely modern and include a dropped ceiling, carpeted floor, and sheetrocked walls. There are bookshelves run the length of the building. There is a doorway on the north wall connecting the first-floor interior to the interior of the neighboring building.

*Second Floor*
Historically, the I.O.O.F. Hall occupied the entire second floor space. The space is accessed separately from the first-floor space through a single-door entrance at the building’s southeast corner. Inside the door, an interior wood staircase leads up to the second floor. At the top of the staircase is a pair of wood panel doors (with an operable transom) that provide access to a vestibule, which leads to a kitchen and the social hall. The second floor retains a very high degree of historic integrity. The large open hall retains its decorative tin ceiling, wood window and door trim and baseboards, wood floor, and plaster walls. The upper floor wood window sashes have been replaced with aluminum sashes, but the wood window framing and trim is extant. The two windows on the north side of the building have been filled in (with bookcases; the trim is extant and denotes their locations.

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5 The Company was established in 1876 by Cyrus K. Holliday, the founder of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroad.
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

- Social History
- Architecture

Period of Significance
1893-1960

Significant Dates
1893

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
McKinzie, J. D. (builder)

Period of Significance (justification)
The period of significance begins with the construction of the building in 1893 and, because the building still functioned as a community building for many years, extends to 1960.
Narrative Statement of Significance

Summary

Inman’s Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I. O. O. F.) Hall is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its social history associated with the local fraternal organization and under Criterion C as a good local example of late 19th century Italianate-style commercial architecture. The period of significance begins with the construction of the building in 1893 and extends to 1960.

Elaboration

Inman is located in south-central McPherson County along Kansas Highway 61 between McPherson to the northeast and Hutchinson to the southwest. The highway runs parallel with the railroad tracks, which have provided area farmers access to distant markets since the late 1800s. The Rock Island Railroad laid track through the town in 1887. Originally named Aiken, the town was platted in 1886 and developed into a small farming community by the early 1900s. Frank Blackmar’s 1912 history of Kansas described Inman as “one of the newer towns of the county” that included “a bank, a weekly newspaper (the Inman Review), telegraph and express offices, and an international money order post office with four rural routes.” The local chapter of the I. O. O. F. organized in 1890 and began planning for the construction of a permanent meeting place.

Fraternal and social organizations such as the Odd Fellows, Rebeccas, Knights of Pythias, and Woodmen served an important and practical function in small developing towns like Inman. They provided a safety net for members in times of sickness, distress or death and cared for dependents when a family’s funds were depleted. They looked after widows and children and saw that orphaned children were educated. In The Three Link Fraternity: Odd Fellowship in California, authors Don Smith and Wayne Roberts add, “Lodges commonly provided all kinds of assistance to members who were in need, such as a box of groceries, a cord of wood for a member, visiting nurse for a seriously ill member at home…” To meet the needs of the young and growing farming community, the local Odd Fellows organization erected a two-story stone building in the downtown to serve two primary functions: the first floor provided commercial space for local business and the second floor provided a place to gather for social events.

Upon the building’s completion The Inman Review announced, “Inman Lodge No. 379, I.O.O.F. will give a grand ball and supper in their new building Thursday night December 14, 1893. A general invitation is extended to all lovers of the terpsichorean art whether Odd Fellows or not.” Thus began the story of the Odd Fellows Hall as an “ornament to the city.”

Local newspaper research suggests that one reason for the construction of the building involved restrictions on the community’s use of the local school building. The hall offered better meeting facilities that seemed to take care of a definite need. It provided a place for the popular local brass band to rehearse and perform and hosted other community events including graduation ceremonies, oyster suppers, bazaars, home talent plays, and traveling shows.

The original tenant of the street level portion of the building was the Bank of Inman. A fire had forced the bank to seek a temporary storefront. By the turn of the century, the A. J. Myer Hardware Company occupied the

6 Inman Review, 16 Dec 1910.
9 The Inman Review, December 1, 1893.
10 The Inman Review, October 6, 1893.
11 The Inman Review July 9, 1937.
building’s first floor and was followed by Charlie Power’s pool hall and checkers parlor from 1910 until the 1920s when it was renovated for use as a restaurant by Ray Davenport. In the 1940s, Levi Wiens opened the Snack Shop in the building. The last retail enterprise to occupy this building was Curt Wiens’ appliance store, which remained through the 1980s. For many years, Continental Trailways used the location as a bus stop. In more recent years, Dr. Harold A. Knackstedt operated his naturopath practice in the rear of the building.

The upper story of the Odd Fellows hall served the community for decades as a meeting place for local social groups and lodges. Groups known to have met in the upstairs hall included the Ancient Order of United Workmen who hosted Saturday evening oyster suppers; The Grand Army of the Republic Post 414; the Fraternal Aid Association; the Anti-Horse Thief Association; the Rebecca’s; the Phi delis Club; The Degree of Honor; the Modern Woodmen of America; the Macabees; and the Lions Club, which met there until the 1960s. Other community activities took place in the building including band concerts, graduation ceremonies, school plays, oyster suppers, church dinners, and traveling shows.

The Inman Odd Fellows Hall stands as a symbol of the initiative and vision of the people of Inman and is now the local symbol of a bygone era. As the members of the social and fraternal groups grew older, accessing the second floor hall became difficult and the need for a lodge hall lessened. Today, the second floor hall sits empty waiting for a new use. The first floor still serves the community as a meeting place and houses the Inman City Library.

Architecture

The Odd Fellows Building maintains a high degree of architectural integrity as an example of a two-part Italianate-style commercial block. The two-story limestone building stands as an anchoring structure to other buildings along Inman’s Main Street. In his book The Buildings of Main Street: A Guide to American Commercial Architecture, Richard Longstreth defines the two-part commercial block as

the most common type of composition used for small and moderate sized commercial buildings throughout the country. Generally limited to structures of two to four stories, this type is characterized by a horizontal division into two distinct zones. These zones may be similar while clearly separated from one another; they may be harmonious, but quite different in character; or they may have little visual relationship. The two-part division reflects difference in the use inside. The single-story lower zone, at street level, indicates public spaces such as retail stores, a banking room, insurance or hotel lobby. The upper zone suggests more private spaces, including offices, hotel rooms or a meeting hall. The type has been used to accommodate a wide range of functions and is readily found in almost all forms of commercial development, dominating the core of small cities and towns as well as many neighborhood commercial areas.

This two-story building exhibits characteristics of the popular late 19th century Italianate style. Character-defining features of commercial examples of the style include the following features found on the IOOF Hall: masonry construction, symmetrical massing, tall narrow window openings with round-arch tops; and a decorative cornice with eave brackets.

12 The Inman Review, December 8, 1893.
13 A 1937 50th anniversary edition of the Inman Ledger notes the following: “Two sleeping cars busses each way, with all modern conveniences, pass through Inman every night, operating from coast to coast.” Continental Trailways was a member of the National Trailways Bus System founded in 1936 by independent operators. Continental Trailways was acquired by Greyhound Lines in 1987.
14 Kent Sallee, personal interview with Adeline Bartells (who’s grandfather was an early resident of Inman), Inman, Kansas, May 12, 2007.
15 The Inman Review, July 9, 1937.
Summary

Inman’s Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I. O. O. F.) Hall is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for its social history associated with the local fraternal organization and under Criterion C as a good local example of late 19th century Italianate-style commercial architecture.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bartells, Adeline (who’s grandfather was an early resident of Inman). Personal interview with Kent Sallee. Inman, Kansas, May 12, 2007.


Inman, City of. “Homepage” Inman, Kansas: A Place People Choose to Call Home, http://www.inmanks.org/


10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  Less than one
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

**UTM References**
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

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**Verbal Boundary Description** (describe the boundaries of the property)

The nomination includes the I.O.O.F building at 100 N Main in Inman, Kansas, which is located on Lot (11), Block (5), Town of Inman, McPherson County, KS.

**Boundary Justification** (explain why the boundaries were selected)

The nominated property includes the parcel historically associated with the I.O.O.F. Hall.

11. Form Prepared By

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>name/title</th>
<th>Kent Sallee</th>
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<tr>
<td>organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>date</td>
<td>December 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>street &amp; number</td>
<td>109 E Gordon Box 592</td>
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**Additional Documentation**
Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

  A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**

- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

**Photographs:**
Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger.
Name of Property: Inman I.O.O.F. Hall  
City or Vicinity: Inman  
County/State: McPherson County, Kansas  
Photographer: Sarah Martin  
Date of Photos: December 9, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of 11 East side of Main Street showing I.O.O.F. Hall at far left, facing NE  
2 of 11 West (front) and south (side) elevations, facing E  
3 of 11 West (front) elevation, facing E  
4 of 11 Second story detail above entrance on south elevation, facing N  
5 of 11 Storefront on west elevation, facing N  
6 of 11 East (rear) and north (side) elevation, facing W  
7 of 11 First floor interior, facing W  
8 of 11 Staircase leading to second floor, facing N  
9 of 11 Second floor vestibule (left) and kitchen (right), facing E  
10 of 11 Second floor hall space, facing W  
11 of 11 Second floor hall space, facing E

Property Owner:  
(name)

City of Inman  
street & number 104 N Main  
telephone 620-585-2122

city or town Inman  
state KS  
zip code 67546

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.
Late 19th and early 20th century photographs – Courtesy of Inman Museum & Kent Sallee.