

ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - DATE ADDED:

1. NAME

Historic: Masonic Hall
and/or Common: _____

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: 125 Water St.
City, Town: Blountsville ---Vicinity of: _____
State: AL County: Blount Zip: 35031-

3. CLASSIFICATION

| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District | <input type="checkbox"/> Public | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private | <input 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 | Public Acquisition | Accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Object | <input type="checkbox"/> In process | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: restricted | <input type="checkbox"/> Government | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Being considered | <input 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: lodge | |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name: _____ Telephone: () - _____
Street & Number: _____
City or Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Email Address: _____

5. FLOOR PLAN & SITE PLAN

(Attach sketched floor plan and/or site plan.)

6. DESCRIPTION

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the description.)

CONDITION

- Excellent Deteriorated
 Good Ruins
 Fair Unexposed

CHECK ONE CHECK ONE

- Unaltered Original Site
 Altered Moved Date Moved

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

The Masonic Hall is a rectangular two-story brick veneer lodge building with a hipped composition shingle roof. The building faces east and is three bays wide and five bays deep. An entrance with double leaf doors and a twelve-light transom is centered at the façade beneath a hipped hood. The doors are wood with six lights over three panels and the transom is an aluminum replacement. A modern wood handicapped ramp extends from the entrance over simple set of masonry steps. The entrance is flanked to either side by double aluminum twelve-over-twelve light replacement windows. Similar windows correspond at the second floor level. There is no opening at the upper level above the entrance and a tall sign at that location reads: "Fraternity/145/O.E.S./389." The exterior wall is faced with brick veneer with corner pilasters and a low concrete foundation is exposed. A simple boxed cornice has been clad with aluminum. A datestone at the southern pilaster reads: "Fraternity Lodge/No. 145/Free and Accepted Masons/of Alabama/Chartered 1853/A.L. 5962 – A.D. 1962/Arllis R. Fant Grand Master/April 21, 1962."

The south elevation is similar in design to the façade and has a similar single entrance at its fourth bay (from the east) with a brick and concrete stoop and stairs. The three eastern bays of the first and second floor levels have windows similar to those at the façade. The western bay has a smaller six-over-six window at each level. A sign, similar to the one at the façade but smaller, is set above the entrance. The west elevation is similar in design to the other elevations. A former entrance, now bricked in, at the center bay retains a simple hipped hood. The entrance is flanked to the north by two single window openings and to the south by a single window opening, all of which have been bricked in.

entrance bay hipped door hood; central entrance at facade with double leaf doors and transom flanked by double aluminum 9/9 double hung sash windows, similar double 6/6 windows at upper level, similar windows at side elevations; exposed brick veneer exterior elevations; concrete slab foundation. Two single windows similar to those at the south elevation are evenly spaced at the second floor level. The north elevation is similar to the south elevation except that it has no entrance.

The interior has a dining hall and kitchen at its first floor and a meeting hall at its second floor. The first floor originally had a stage at its west end. The rectangular proscenium has been walled off and a kitchen constructed in the former stage area. The dining hall to the east retains an exposed beaded board ceiling. Modern plywood paneling covers all four walls and the floor has been covered with vinyl. Finishes within the kitchen are modern. A staircase rises at the southwest corner within a narrow hallway to the south of the kitchen. Rising along the west to the second floor, the stair leads to an anteroom that is roughly the same width as the stage/kitchen below. The anteroom has a textured sheetrock ceiling, plywood paneled walls over historic beaded board wainscoting, and carpet floor finishes. The large lodge hall to the east has similar finishes.

The building retains its overall historic design and appearance despite modifications that included the replacement of exterior windows (circa 1980), the reworking of the stage/kitchen area, and the application of modern interior finishes. The building is in generally good condition.

7. SIGNIFICANCE

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the significance.)

PERIOD

- Prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE-CHECK AND EXPLAIN BELOW

- archeology-prehistoric
- archeology-historic
- agriculture
- architecture
- art
- commerce
- communications

- community planning
- conservation
- education
- engineering
- exploration/settlement
- funerary art
- humanitarian

- industry
- landscape architecture
- law
- literature
- military
- music
- politics/government

- religion
- scientific
- sculpture
- social history
- theater
- other

SPECIFIC DATES: 1933

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Blountsville Masonic Hall is historically significant for its role as a fraternal lodge hall from 1933 through the present and for having served as the town's city hall from 1933 until the mid-1950s. The building has served as one of the centers of community activity since the time of its construction. Although altered, the overall historic appearance of the building retains integrity. The period of significance for the resource is from 1933, the date of its construction, through circa 1955, when city hall moved to another location.

The Masonic Hall was constructed in 1933 for the lodge No. 145 of the Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama. The lodge was chartered in 1858. From 1933 through the mid 1950s, the building also served as Blountsville's City Hall. The cornerstone for the building was installed in 1962 with R. Fant then serving as Grand Master.

8. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Davis, Jr., Robert Scott. A Blountsville Picture Book. Blountsville, AL: Blountsville Historical Society. 1999.
- Heritage of Blount County. Oneonta, AL: Blount County Historical Society. 1989.
- Heritage of Blount County Alabama. Clanton, Alabama: Heritage Publishing Consultants, Inc., 1999
- Powell, George. Blount County. Glimpses of the Past. Oneonta, AL: Junior Blount County Historical Society. 1981.
- Rogers, William Warren, et. al. Alabama: The History of a Deep South State. Tuscaloosa, AL: University of Alabama Press, 1994.
- Stillson, Henry Leonard, ed. History of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons, and Concordant Orders. Boston & New York: The Fraternity Publishing Co., 1892.

9. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of nominated property: <1

Quadrangle name: Blountsville

Enclose map showing location of property. (city or county map, state highway department map, or USGS map)

10. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/title: David B. Schneider (assited by members of the Blountsville Historical Commission)

Organization: Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC Date: August 5, 2007

Street & Number: 411 East 6th Street Telephone: (256) 310-6320

City or Town: Anniston State: AL Zip: 36207-

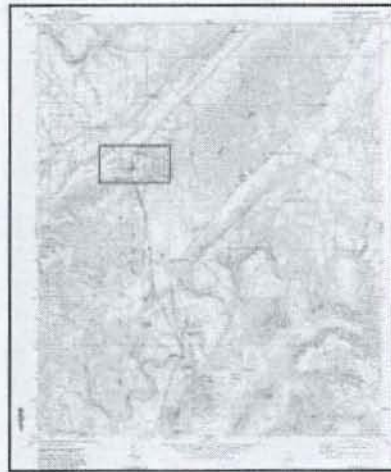
Email Address: dbschneider@bellsouth.net

11. PLEASE SUBMIT COLOR IMAGES OF THE PROPERTY WITH THIS FORM:

Images are essential to the review process. They can be 4x6 color prints or digital images on a CD. Please see the "**Instructions for Completing an AR Form**" for more details on images or contact the AHC at 334.230.2687.

Topo Map

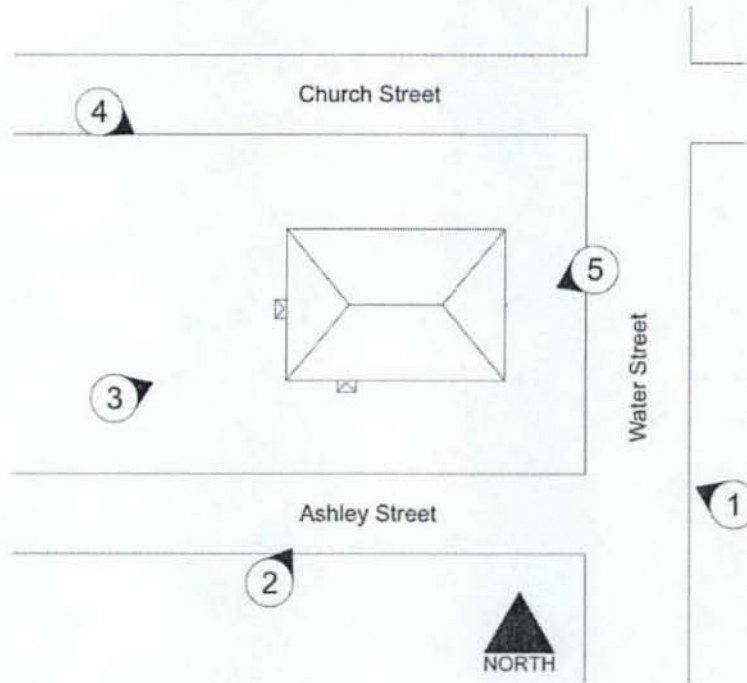
General Location Maps



Blountsville Quadrangle
16 / 537640 E / 3770969 N
Created 1969, Revised 1986

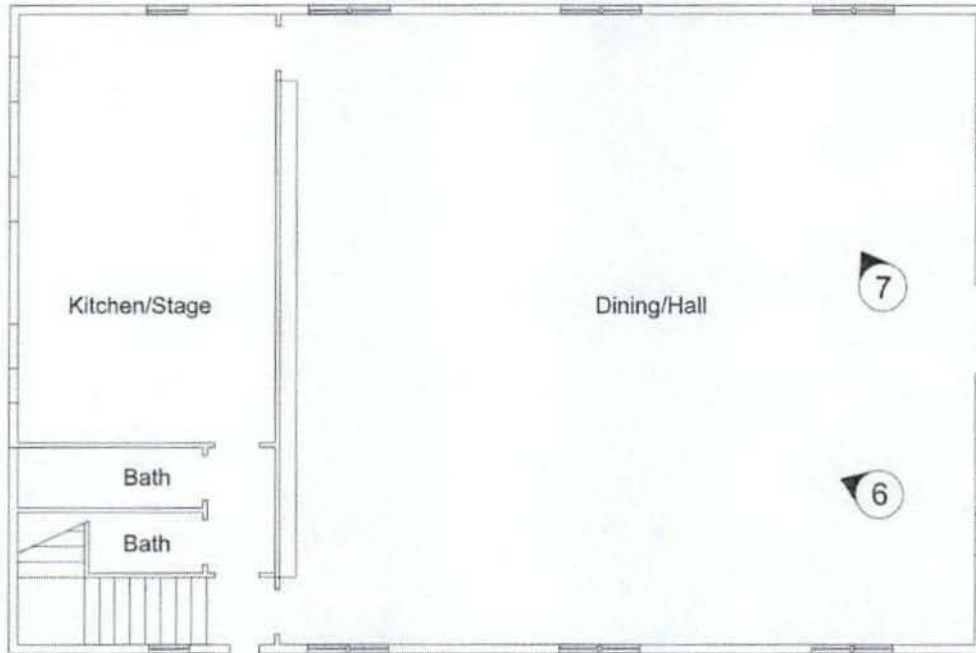


Siteplan
(Not to Scale)

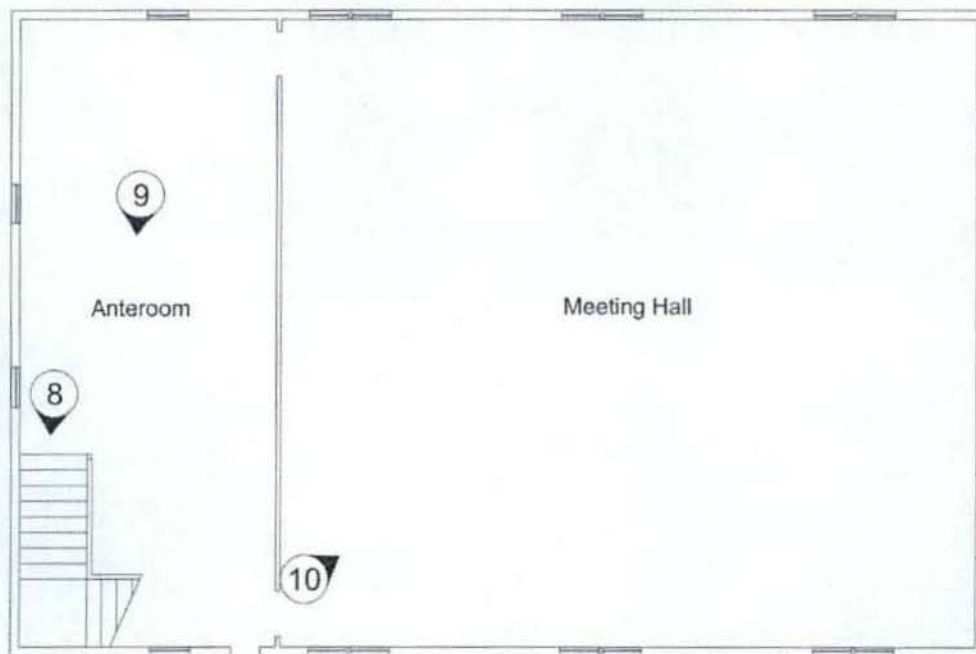


Floorplan Sketch
(Not to Scale)

FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



Photographs:

1. Masonic Hall
2. Blountsville, Blount County, AL
3. David B. Schneider, Schneider Historic Preservation, LLC
4. July 2007
5. 411 E. 6th St., Anniston AL 36207
6. Exterior, East façade (right) and south elevation, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #01

6. Exterior, west (left) and south (right) elevations, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #02

6. Exterior, west elevation, camera facing east
7. Photo #03

6. Exterior, north (left) and west (right) elevations, camera facing southeast
7. Photo #04

6. Exterior, east façade, detail of entrance, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #05

6. Interior, 1st floor, Dining Room, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #06

6. Interior, 1st floor, Dining Room, detail of ceiling
7. Photo #07

6. Interior, 2nd floor, stair, camera facing south
7. Photo #08

6. Interior, 2nd floor, Anteroom, camera facing south
7. Photo #09

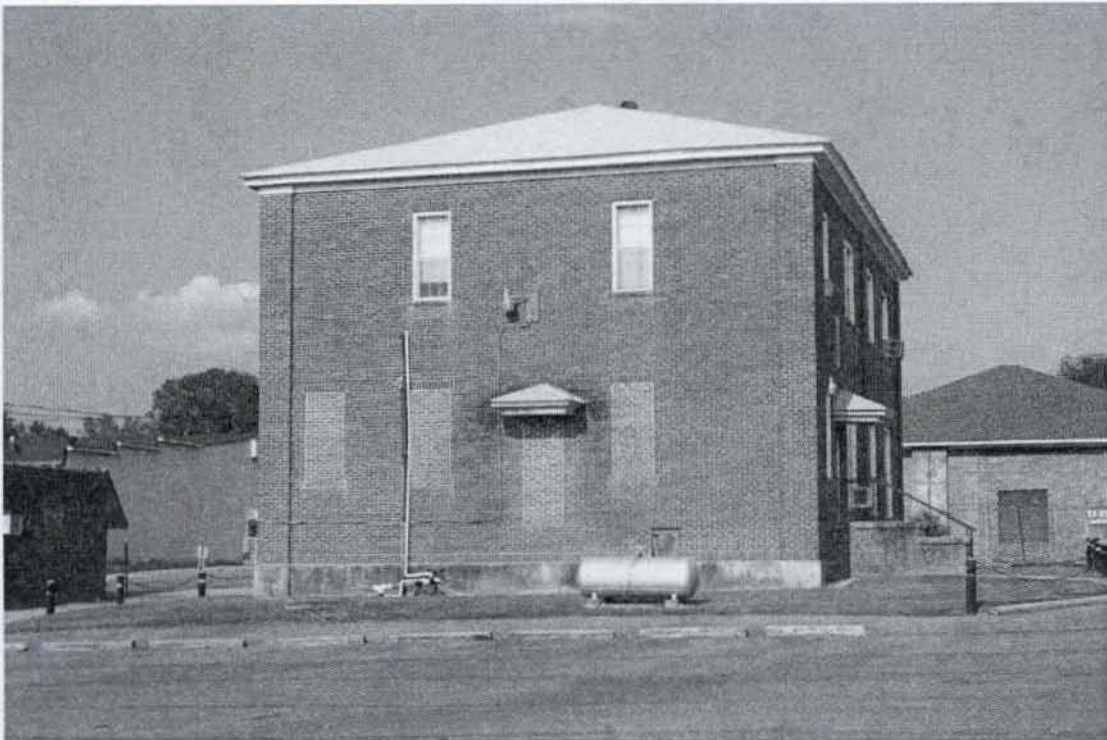
6. Interior, 2nd floor, lodge hall, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #10



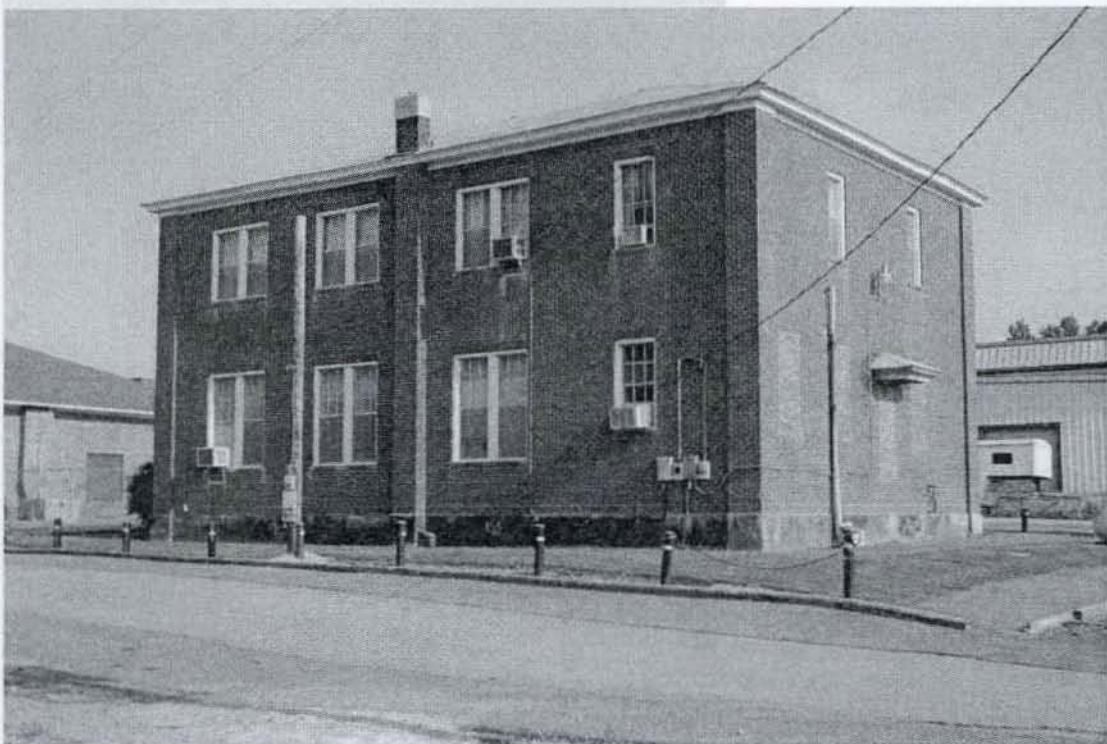
6. Exterior, East façade (right) and south elevation, camera facing northwest
7. Photo #01



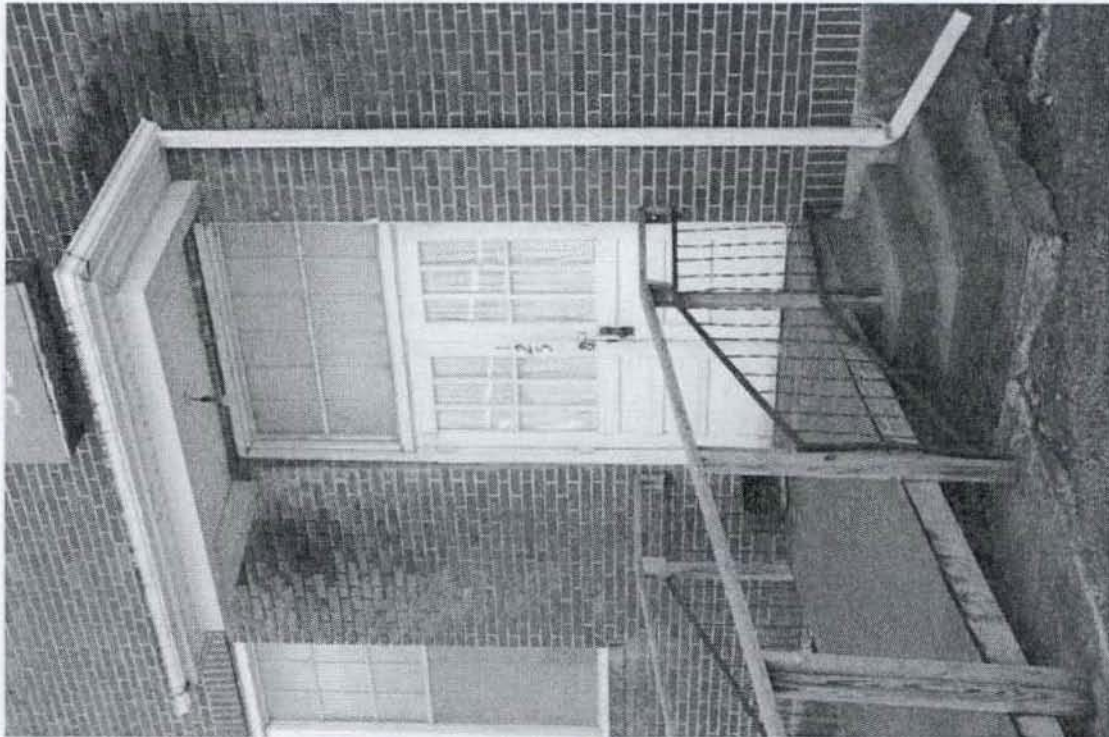
6. Exterior, west (left) and south (right) elevations, camera facing northeast
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6. Exterior, west elevation, camera facing east
7. Photo #03



6. Exterior, north (left) and west (right) elevations, camera facing southeast
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6. Exterior, east façade, detail of entrance, camera facing southwest
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6. Interior, 1st floor, Dining Room, camera facing northwest
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6. Interior, 2nd floor, stair, camera facing south
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7. Photo #09



6. Interior, 2nd floor, lodge hall, camera facing northeast
7. Photo #10