

T-765
Star of Bellevue Masonic Lodge
Bellevue
Private

c. 1890

The Star of Bellevue Masonic Lodge #86 is a prominent two-story frame building that stands in the center of the waterfront community of Bellevue. Reported to have been erected by Nicholas B. Gardner for entertainment purposes, the building was converted to a general store. The local chapter of masons now uses the building for formal meetings as well as social gatherings.

Reported by local residents to date to the late nineteenth century, the structure is believed to have been built for Nicholas B. Gardner for village entertainment. Later the building was known as the Gardner general store, one of several stores that operated in the village during the early twentieth century.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: STAR OF BELLEVUE MASONIC LODGE

MHT Inventory Number: T-765

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

- 1) Historic Period Theme(s): *ARCHITECTURE*
SOCIAL
- 2) Geographic Orientation: *EASTERN SHORE*
- 3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s): *INDUSTRIAL-URBAN DOMINANCE*
1870-1930
- 4) Resource Type(s): *FRATERNAL LODGE*

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic STAR OF BELLEVUE MASONIC LODGE #86

and/or common NICHOLAS B. GARDNER STORE

2. Location

street & number Poplar Lane ___ not for publication

city, town Bellevue ___ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Talbot

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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: lodge

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Star of Bellevue Masonic Lodge #86

street & number telephone no.:

city, town Bellevue state and zip code MD

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Talbot County Clerk of Court liber

street & number Talbot County Courthouse folio

city, town Easton state Md 21601

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ___ federal ___ state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

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

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Star of Bellevue Masonic Lodge #86 stands on the north side of Poplar Lane in the center of Bellevue, Talbot County, Maryland. The two-story, two-bay gable-front frame lodge building faces southeast with the gable roof oriented on a southeast/northwest axis.

Built around 1890, the two-story rectangular lodge building is supported by a low brick foundation, and it is sheathed with a layer of asphalt siding. The medium pitched roof is covered with tin.

The southeast (main) elevation is an asymmetrical facade with an off-center front entrance as well as a side entrance flanked by small replacement windows. The second floor, on the other hand, is marked by two evenly spaced single-pane sash windows. The eaves to the roof are slightly extended with short returns at the base.

The southwest side elevation is marked by a relatively even fenestration of single pane sash windows on each floor. An interior side brick stack pierces the roof line, while an exterior block chimney rises between the fifth and sixth bays. The northeast side is defined by an irregular placement of single-pane sash windows. The back side of the building is partially covered by a shed roof addition.

The interior has been moderately reworked to suit the needs of a lodge hall. The first floor is distinguished by beaded board walls. A stair, rising against the northeast wall, allows access to a large meeting room fitted with a stage in the north end. Narrow beaded board trims the stage which is flanked on each side by small enclosed rooms. Beaded board wainscoting trims the perimeter of the room.

8. Significance

Survey No. T-765

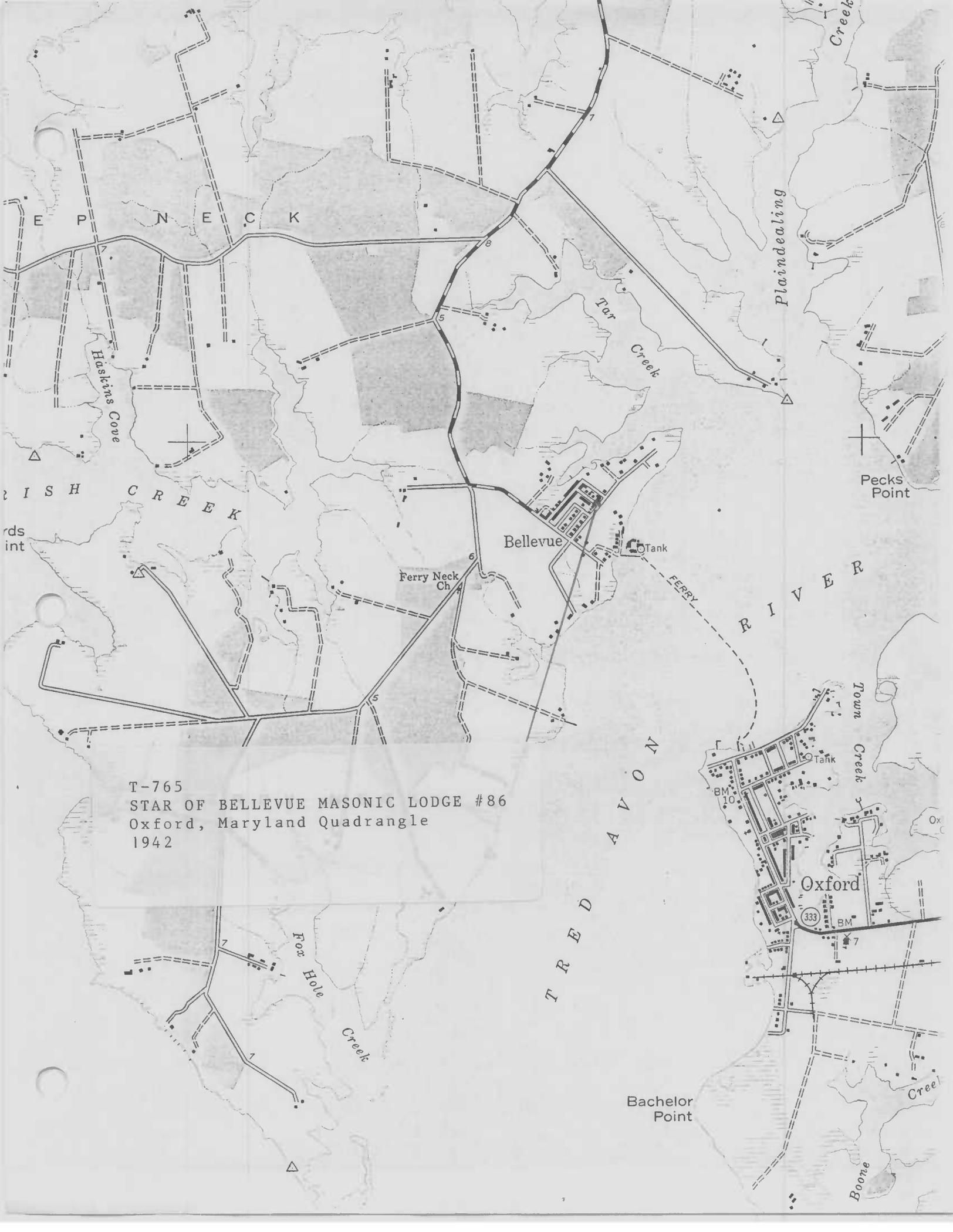
Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<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 type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates **Builder/Architect**

check: Applicable Criteria: A B C D
and/or
Applicable Exception: A B C D E F G
Level of Significance: national state local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

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T-765
STAR OF BELLEVUE MASONIC LODGE #86
Oxford, Maryland Quadrangle
1942



T-765

STAR OF BELLEVUE MASONIC LODGE #86

Bellevue, Talbot County, Maryland

Southeast elevation

4/90, Paul Touart, photographer

Negative/MD Historical Trust