

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

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Historic name | <u>Marceline Masonic Lodge #481</u> |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|

Other names/site number Marceline Masonic Temple #481

Name of related Multiple Property Listing N/A

2. Location

| | | | |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----|---------------------|
| Street & number | 201 N. Main Street USA | N/A | not for publication |
|-----------------|------------------------|-----|---------------------|

| | | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----|----------|
| City or town | Marceline | N/A | vicinity |
|--------------|-----------|-----|----------|

| | | | | | | | |
|-------|----|------|-----|--------|------|----------|-------|
| State | MO | Code | 115 | County | Linn | Zip Code | 64658 |
|-------|----|------|-----|--------|------|----------|-------|

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 X 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

Applicable National Register Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Dan Scott

February 3, 2025

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date _____

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

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

Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Name of Property

Linn, Missouri

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | private |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Local |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public - Federal |

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | building(s) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | object |

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 1 | 0 | Total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Civic

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Civic

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

BEAUX-ARTS

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: Brick and Concrete

walls: Brick

STONE: Limestone

roof: METAL: Steel

other:

☒

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION ON CONTINUATION PAGES

Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Name of Property

Linn, Missouri

County and State

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.

☒ **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE ON CONTINUATION PAGES**

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)

☐ previously listed in the National Register

☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register

☐ designated a National Historic Landmark

☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☒ State Historic Preservation Office

☐ Other State agency

☐ Federal agency

☐ Local government

☐ University

☐ Other. Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): LI-AS-001-052 Architectural Survey of Marceline (April 2018)

Areas of Significance

Architecture

Period of Significance

1923-1924

Significant Dates

1923-1924

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hulse, W.E. (Architect)

John Scott & Sons (General Contractor)

Marceline Masonic Lodge #481
Name of Property

Linn, Missouri
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than 1 acre

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1 39.715600 -92.950639 3 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

2 _____ 4 _____
Latitude: Longitude: Latitude: Longitude:

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

_____ NAD 1927 or _____ NAD 1983

1 _____
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (On continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification (On continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ed Comber

organization Midwest Preservation Group, LLC date 21 November 2023

street & number 6605 N. Brenda Ln telephone 765.212.5200

city or town Muncie state IN zip code 47304

e-mail midwestpreservationgroup@gmail.com

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**
- **Photographs**
- **Owner Name and Contact Information**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for nominations 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.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Linn, Missouri

Name of Property

County and State

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for each response using this form is estimated to be between the Tier 1 and Tier 4 levels with the estimate of the time for each tier as follows:

Tier 1 – 60-100 hours

Tier 2 – 120 hours

Tier 3 – 230 hours

Tier 4 – 280 hours

The above estimates include time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and preparing and transmitting nominations. Send comments regarding these estimates or any other aspect of the requirement(s) to the Service Information Collection Clearance Officer, National Park Service, 1201 Oakridge Drive Fort Collins, CO 80525.

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log:

Name of Property: **Marceline Masonic Lodge #481**

City or Vicinity: **Marceline**

County: **Linn** State: **Missouri**

Photographer: **Ed Comber**

Date

Photographed: **5 January 2023; 17 August 2023**

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

PHOTO LOG

- 1 of 35: East Primary Façade, facing west
- 2 of 35: South Secondary Façade, full view, facing north
- 3 of 35: Close up view of South Elevation
- 4 of 35: West Elevation, facing east
- 5 of 35: North Elevation, facing southeast
- 6 of 35: Foyer with view of lobby, first floor, facing west
- 7 of 35: Stairs to second floor, facing east
- 8 of 35: Dining Hall, first floor, facing west
- 9 of 35: Kitchen, first floor, facing north, showing historic cabinets and prep table, facing southwest
- 10 of 35: Women's Restroom/Eastern Star Meeting Room, second floor, facing northeast
- 11 of 35: Tilers Room, second floor, facing west
- 12 of 35: Smoking Room, second floor, facing southeast
- 13 of 35: Red Cross Room, second floor, facing south
- 14 of 35: Lodge Room/Grand Hall, second floor, facing west
- 15 of 35: Lodge Room/Grand Hall, second floor, facing east
- 16 of 35: Lodge Room/Grand Hall, second floor, facing north
- 17 of 35: Lodge Room/Grand Hall, second floor, facing south
- 18 of 35: Lodge Room/Grand Hall, second floor, facing north, closeup
- 19 of 35: Coat Room, second floor, facing west
- 20 of 35: Alcove, first floor, facing north

Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Linn, Missouri

Name of Property

County and State

- 21 of 35: Organization Meeting Sign, facing north
- 22 of 35: Cornerstone, facing west
- 23 of 35: Cornerstone, facing north
- 24 of 35: Historic Dining Room Flooring
- 25 of 35: Coal Room entrance, basement, facing southwest
- 26 of 35: Coal room (now used for storage), basement, showing bricks from original lodge building, facing west
- 27 of 35: Basement showing stairs to foyer (now sealed off), facing east
- 28 of 35: Southeast Reception Room, first floor, facing southeast
- 29 of 35: Women's Bathroom, Second Floor, facing northwest
- 30 of 35: Wall covering historic stairs leading to basement.
- 31 of 35: Janitor's closet, former men's room, first floor, facing south
- 32 of 35: Updated men's bathrooms, first floor, facing east
- 33 of 35: Updated women's bathrooms, first floor, facing east
- 34 of 35: Storage Room, basement, facing west, with view of historic stairs and door
- 35 of 35: Hallway, first floor, facing south

Figure Log:

Include figures on continuation pages at the end of the nomination.

- 1 of 24: Context Map
- 2 of 24: Site Map
- 3 of 24: Location Map
- 4 of 24: Original Blueprints, First Floor
- 5 of 24: Original Blueprints, Second Floor
- 6 of 24: Original Blueprints, East Elevation Façade
- 7 of 24: Original Blueprints, South Elevation
- 8 of 24: Original Blueprints, West and East Elevations
- 9 of 24: Original Blueprints, Basement
- 10 of 24: Current Layout and Photo Key, First Floor
- 11 of 24: Current Layout and Photo Key, Second Floor
- 12 of 24: Current Layout and Photo Key, Basement
- 13 of 24: Zurcher/Knights of Pythias Building
- 14 of 24: Magnolia/ IOOF Building
- 15 of 24: 1923 Contract, Reused Material
- 16 of 24: Partial view of 1903 Masonic Building in 1914
- 17 of 24: Close-up of Second Floor penciled-in alterations on original 1923 blueprints showing dogleg wall addition (East/left side marking to the west/right of "Lobby")
- 18 of 24: Built in Cabinet, Tilers Room
- 19 of 24: Lodge Charter
- 20 of 24: Historic Coat Room Door, second floor, facing north
- 21 of 24: Boiler Room wall showing recycled bricks, basement, facing west
- 22 of 24: Original Blueprints, North Elevation
- 23 of 24: Masonic Lodge, undated but prior to 1963.
- 24 of 24: Photo of historic windows in basement, facing south.

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Name of Property

Linn, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

SUMMARY

Designed by the Hutchinson, Kansas architecture firm of W.E. Hulse & Co., erected between 1923-1924, and dedicated in 1924, the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 at 201 N. Main St. U.S.A. (N. Kansas Ave.) in Marceline, Linn County, Missouri is located on a prominent corner in Marceline's downtown commercial district and its size, style, design and color all combine to make it stand out from the other buildings in the area. This rectangular, two-story structure was built to accommodate Marceline's Masonic brotherhood and its chapters and allied organizations. The lodge stands on the northwest corner of N. Main St. U.S.A. (N. Kansas Ave.) and West Ritchie Avenue immediately west of Ripley Park, located across the street on N. Main Street U.S.A. Measuring 50 feet x 100 feet, the building is divided vertically into three bays at its east elevation (façade) and nine bays at its south elevation, both of which are faced with buff brick the west elevation is a smooth, parged wall with red brick, while the north elevation abuts the one-part commercial block building and shows common red brick on the exposed second floor. The lodge's primary and secondary façades (the east or N. Main Street U.S.A. façade and the south facing Ritchie Ave façade) with limestone highlights, and emphasizes a symmetrical, linear composition. The east façade features a central entrance flanked by stacked limestone cavetto moldings. Masonic symbols are placed over the main entrance and embedded in the stepped parapet with a stone capping at the top of the building; the west elevation is parged. In contrast to the stylized decoration on its primary façades, the building's interior is functional and conservatively decorated with mostly classical historic detailing.

The 2018 *Marceline Survey* assessed the Lodge as “generally characteristic of” Beaux-Arts.¹

The historical integrity of Masonic Lodge #481 is largely intact. The external limestone and brick remain unaltered for 100 years. Each elevation maintains the historical material used to build the nominated property. Most changes occurred because of storm damage and changes in laws and regulations (such as ADA requirements) but have not significantly altered the general layout of the property. Both the interior and exterior maintain their historical integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

While the building has undergone no structural changes it has been updated with new electrical, lighting, and custom-made energy efficient windows that fit the original window openings and have a similar look and feel to the historical windows (Figure 23).² Several minor alterations, such as boarded up basement windows (Figure 24 shows an internal view of the historic windows), new entry door, the majority of original plaster on both floors replaced with drywall, the combining of two rooms on the first floor to create a bathroom in order to comply with ADA regulations, and the sealing off of a staircase leading from the first-floor entrance to the basement, have been made.

¹ “Architectural/Historic Inventory Form.” *Marceline Survey*. Commissioned by Missouri Department of Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Office. Masonic Temple. April 2018. Survey No. LI-AS-001-037, pages 232-233. [Marked “Individually Eligible”].

² The original design of the windows can be seen in Figure 6. When compared to Figure 23 and Photo 1 it is evident the Lodge attempted to maintain historical looking windows since the Lodge was erected.

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Continuation Sheet

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|--|
| Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 |
| Name of Property Linn, Missouri |
| County and State N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

While there have been alterations between 1923 and the present day, “the overall sense of past time and place is evident.”³ Given its style and maintained historical integrity, the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 is locally significant and eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: ARCHITECTURE as an excellent example of BEAUX-ARTS style in Marceline.

SETTING

The Marceline Masonic Temple covers most of two lots, approximately 5000 square feet, at the intersection of N. Main St. U.S.A. (N. Kansas Ave.) and W. Ritchie Avenue in Marceline’s downtown commercial district that extends five blocks, running north and south along Kansas Avenue (locally known as Main Street U.S.A.). The downtown district is mostly intact, with a mix of non-historic and historic buildings ranging from a now-closed historic hotel to one- and two-part commercial block buildings and an historic theatre. Only three lots do not contain permanent structures; two are urban parks and one contains a patio area for a social organization. Most properties are at least 50 years old, with some being at least 100 years old.

ELABORATION

Figures 1-3, 7, 14, 16, 22-23; Photos 1-5, 21-23

Setting

The previous two-part commercial block building that housed the Masonic Lodge located at this corner burned down in 1903. The new building built in its place that covers the original corner lot and includes the building on the lot to the north to replace the 1903 building was also a two-part commercial block building. Figure 16 indicates it was a two-part commercial block. The 1903 building later burned down in 1923 and was replaced by the current building.⁴ Figures 1-3 show the setting.

During the construction of the current building, the grade was maintained. When viewed from the south elevation facing north, a 5-to-10-degree slope exposing more of the building as it slopes down toward the west elevation (Photo 2) is obvious. Figure 7 shows the gradual slope was planned in the building’s construction.

Landscaping is minimal; the building is slightly obstructed by one small tree when looking west from across the street toward the east façade (Photo 1). The Masonic Lodge, located in the northernmost end of the downtown commercial district, constitutes a significant architectural presence along Main St. U.S.A. (Kansas Ave.). The Lodge shares its block with a one-part commercial block building directly to its north, the brick, three story, two-part commercial block IOOF/Magnolia Building two doors down (Figures 14 and 23), a brick one-part commercial

³ *National Register Bulletin: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*. U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service, Cultural Resources. 1997.

⁴ These buildings were all two-part commercial block properties as indicated by the ‘2’ in the upper north corner of the property on the 1903 and 1911 Sanborn Maps.

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|--|
| Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 |
| Name of Property Linn, Missouri |
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block building, a modern, steel paneled Knights of Columbus Hall, a lot with a patio next to the Knights of Columbus building, and a non-historic building with metal siding and a front façade of non-historic plaster. Ripley Park is directly across from the Lodge.

A small green space exists at the west elevation extending from the west façade to the alley making up the west boundary of the property (Photo 3).

The north façade abuts the one-part commercial block building to its north (Photo 5).

All terms used in the follow sections and subsections use the terminology found in the original blueprints. Some of these terms may differ from those used today for similar structures, but to ensure accuracy to the original plans, those are the terms being used.

Exterior of the Marceline Masonic Lodge

Because of its height, mass, buff brick color, and position on a corner lot and the near absence of trees in its landscaping, the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 dominates the intersection of N. Main Street U.S.A. and W. Ritch Avenue. It is rectangular and measures “approximately 50’ 0” wide; 100’ 0” long and two stories high.”⁵ The main entrance door is centered in the main façade of the east elevation (Photo 1) and two sealed non-historic maintenance doors are located at the north and south sides of the west elevation (Photo 5).

On the east (primary) and south (secondary) façades of the building, courses of blond brick in an alternating Flemish bond face all floors (Photos 1-3), as specified in the original contract which states, “Every seventh course of brick will be laid in a Flemish bond course with alternate brick being laid as headers and stretchers (Photos 1-2). The headers extending full length into the brick backing.”⁶ Cut standard gray Indiana Oolitic limestone is also used for the embellishments at various divisions on the south and east façades.⁷ A metal sign with incandescent lighting that illuminates a pane with the Masonic orders that meet in the building hangs from the south bay of the primary façade (Photo 21). The other two façades (north and west) are of red brick laid in common bond, with parging with a thin layer of mortar over at the west elevation (Photos 3-4). The second-floor wall is the only part of the north elevation wall that is externally visible. It towers above the area where the Masonic Lodge meets the one-story one-part commercial block building to its north. Historic wooden window and door frames on the south and east elevations hold non-historic windows and the main entry. The top of the building's basement wall, which holds six boarded up basement windows, are visible along the south elevation as the grade slopes downward toward the west from the east elevation.

⁵ “Specifications of All Labor and Materials Included in the General and Mechanical Equipment Contracts for A Masonic Temple Building at Marceline, MO.” 1923, Marceline Masonic Temple Association archives, p. 1. These specifications are confirmed in “Temple Directors Meet Architect, To-Day.” *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 30 March 1923.

⁶ Ibid, p. 28.

⁷ Ibid, p. 26.

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Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Name of Property
Linn, Missouri

County and State
N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The southeast corner of the building contains the limestone cornerstone (Figures 6-7).

The roof is non-historic sheet metal. All windows and doors are non-historic unless otherwise noted. These alterations took place at various times and are discussed in more depth in the “Alterations” subsection below.

East Elevation (Primary Façade)

The east façade consists of three bays organized into three vertical units and five horizontal sections as indicated by four limestone divisions (Photo 1; Figures 6 and 8). The lowest horizontal section encompasses the basement area. Moving up, the second section is the first floor, the second floor, followed by a thin strip of brick topped by a parapet and capped with limestone (Figures 6 and 8).

The walls are covered with buff brick. The cornerstone is embedded in the southeast corner of the building with one side visible on the east elevation and another side is visible on the south elevation; it is of Corinthian stone. Clearly visible on the eastern side of the elevation is an inscription reading: “Aug. 14, 1923 A.L. 6923 Bert S. Lee, Grand Master” (Photo 6). The southern side inscription is: “Marceline Lodge No. 481 A.F. & A.M.” with the Masonic “G” symbol centered between “No. 481” and “A.F. & A.M.” (Photos 22-23). The buff brick wythe is over a common brick wythe of number one grade hard burned shale brick and include the 35,200 old bricks saved from the original building.⁸ A non-historic metal neon sign hangs out about three feet from the wall of the southernmost bay of this elevation (Photo 21).

First Floor

All windows and doors are non-historic unless otherwise noted. Two short straight-run steps lead to the main entrance’s central bay. The non-historic double door is framed by stacked limestone cavetto molding. Stacked stone flush on the left and right sides of the door and soldier flush course above it, adding more depth to the entrance. The doors are mostly glass with a metal frame and one each horizontal handle that extends across the front of the glass and another along the same internal space. Immediately above the entrance door is a non-historic transom with twelve (12) panels. Over the window is a floral embellishment with the Masonic interlocked compass and square around the “G” symbol centered in it (Figures 6 and 8, Photo 1).⁹ A rowlock of brick extends from the north to the south of the building breaking only at the central entryway.

The center bay extends out 6” according to the blueprint specifications (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1), making the south and north sides recessed and creating advancing and receding planes; the measurement is accurate today. All corners are highlighted by stacked buff bricks in running bond with a soldier course recessed 3/4th of an inch (Figure 6).

⁸ Ibid, p. 35.

⁹ In the Masonic tradition, the compass and square are tools of the Master Mason and represent reason and faith. The tradition also states the “G” stands for God and geometry. “Learn About Freemasonry: What does the G Stand For?”, Museum of Freemasonry. Accessed 13 November 2023.
<https://museumfreemasonry.org.uk/blog/learn-about-freemasonry-what-does-g-stand>.

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Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Name of Property

Linn, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

The rectangular windows on the first floor contain 24-panes each; these windows are close facsimiles to the planned historic windows (compare Photo 1 with Figures 6 and 8). The original planned windows appear to have two rectangular sashes that allowed the windows to open; aside from minor other details, that is the only major difference between the original windows shown in the blueprints and the current windows. These changes are elaborated in the “Alterations” section below. Each window measures 6’ 6” by 6’ 2” (Figure 6, Photo 1) and framed by stacked and soldiered buff bricks that are flush with the windows (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1) on three sides, with the left and right sides being stacked brick and the top being a flush soldier course. The two courses blend in the upper corners (Figure 6, Photo 1).

The brick pattern of the lowest region of the first-floor façade face is in running bond course interspersed with a Flemish bond course every 6-7 courses giving depth to the façade and the appearance of masonry rustication. This pattern extends up about five feet to a rowlock course topped with a limestone water table division (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1).

The first floor continues to the water table. At this point, the dividing line between the first and second floors is the belt course extending north to the architrave, located between the first and second floors as seen in Figure 6 of the original blueprints. From the water table, the upper section of the first floor is comprised of running bond course with a Flemish bond course after four (4) courses. This pattern switches to soldiering, then to five running bond courses with the middle course being Flemish bond (Figure 6; Photo 1).

Each soldier course is recessed approximately 3/4th of an inch (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1). This pattern is repeated two more times. The final soldier course (the fourth in the series) is flush with the soldiering at the top of the rectangular windows in each of the north and south bays. Above this are six more courses—five running bond and one Flemish. This section of the first-floor façade ends at the above the running bond (Figure 6).

The same patterns repeat throughout the north and south recessed bays of the east façade.

Second Floor (East Façade)

All windows and doors are non-historic unless otherwise noted. Above the belt course and up to the entablature (Figures 6 and 8) the vertical aspects seen in all three bays of the second floor include pilasters, the window fenestrations, limestone plinths, arched windows with panels framed by buff brick and accented with voussoirs, imposts, and limestone keystones. The lintels of the north and south bays are formed by an arched soldiering of the buff brick used throughout the facades while the central bay is topped with a limestone arch and stone spandrels with no evident keystone.

Unless stated otherwise, the second floor is in buff brick in a running bond course from the water table to the architrave (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1).

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Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Name of Property

Linn, Missouri

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

All three of the second story windows and accompanying arches are flanked by two pairs of pilasters which mimic Doric or Tuscan designs (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1). There are a total of six pairs of pilasters for a total of 12 pilasters. The pilasters project out four (4) inches (Figure 6). The north and south non-historic windows are the same style and measurements as the first-floor windows; the window has a non-historic fan light. It's unknown how these differ precisely from the historic windows since there is no record of what they ended up looking like; the same holds true for the central bay window described below. The south and north windows set atop a buff brick design that has 6 rows of standard running bond surrounded by buff brick soldiers (top and bottom of running bond) and stretchers (left and right/south and north). The standard running bond is recessed 3/4 of an inch project 3/4 of an inch (Figure 6, Photo 1). The central bay's window is larger than the other four windows on this façade. It is three sections over three sections. The north and south sections each contain eight panes in a 2 x 4 pattern. The central section of the window is 12 over 12 with a 3x4 pattern flanked by two sidelights.

The southernmost pilaster has approximately a 6-inch recess to the left of it that blends into the south elevation. The northern most pilaster has the same detail.

A sign showing the Masonic-related orders that met at the Temple hangs at the south edge of the east façade (Photo 21).¹⁰ It is black metal all around. In the center on both sides sit pieces of glass with the logos/symbols of each order that met there. They are lit up by internal lighting. One piece of glass is faded beyond recognition on the south side of the sign.

Entablature and Parapet

There are three bays on this level. It is just below the cornice and extends up to the top of the property. The north and south bays have no embellishments at all. The central bay below the cornice is limestone. In the limestone extending across the central bay is the phrase "MASONIC TEMPLE" (Figures 6 and 8, Photo 1).¹¹

Above the cornice (as described in the original blueprints, see Figure 6 which includes terminology the architect used to describe each aspect of the façade) in the central bay are two protrusions of buff brick. These are located directly above the pilasters below them. They are not pilasters but do occupy the same width as the pilasters. Limestone squares are centered between these raised brick areas.

As seen in Figures 6 and 8 and Photo 1, there is a running course, above which is another stone course, then an additional standard course, and a rowlock with a 3/4th inch projection. On the north and south bays, above the rowlock course are 11 rows of running bond that have one Flemish bond interspersed in them. Closers end each course. (Photo 1). The central bay of the building is topped with a stepped parapet with limestone running as the cap to the entire façade. The central area includes the same brick pattern seen throughout this horizontal space. The

¹⁰ It is unknown if this sign is original to the building because there are no records stating when it was installed. However, the electrical set up for it indicates it could be historic.

¹¹ This section is using those terms used on the original blueprints and that are evident in the finished product.

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center portion holds three metal plaques. From left to right they are “19”, the Masonic interlocked compass and square around the letter “G” symbol,¹² and the number “23”, denoting the year the building was erected (Figures 6 and 8; Photo 1).

South Elevation (Secondary Façade)

This elevation exhibits most of the elements and arrangement patterns from the east façade with the notable exception being the window fenestration at the basement level and the number and alignment of windows. The elevation has two protruding sections at the east and west corners respectively and one long middle section (Photo 2). The elevation is divided into nine bays. The east and west sides of this central bay hold one bay each. The central section contains bays containing seven windows and is recessed by 6 inches from the east and west sections (Figure 7, Photo 2).

The same buff brick and courses are found on both the first and second floors with the same divisions as the east façade. The first floor continues the same patterns and contains the same type of windows as the first floor of the east façade’s first and third bays, while the second floor has the same pattern-- including pilasters that flank the same arched windows—as seen on the east façade’s first and third bays. The pilasters are laid out thusly: The east and west sections are flanked by paired pilasters; along the seven bays in the long, recessed central section of this façade a pair of pilasters that are one-and-a-half pilasters (a half pilaster is in the recessed corner of the central section next to a full pilaster), flank the center section. Each of the seven bays are divided by one pilaster, for a total of six. There are a total of eight (8) complete pilasters and two (2) half pilasters in this central section (Figure 7; Photo 2).

The basement level is exposed due to a downward slope toward the west elevation. These windows are smaller than the other windows, square and boarded over. They align with the fenestrations of the first and second floor windows. Otherwise, the courses and recesses are identical to the east façade (compare Figures 6 and 7 and Photos 1 and 2). There are no windows behind this infill. Further research is required to determine when the glass of the windows was removed.

The second, exposed side of the Lodge's corner stone lies at the southern end of this elevation and is inscribed: "Marceline Lodge No. 481 A.F. & A.M." with the Masonic “G” symbol centered between the “No. 481” and “A.F. & A.M.” (Photo 2 and 7, Figures 7-8).

North Elevation

All windows and door are non-historic unless otherwise noted. Only the second level of this elevation is exposed, with the first level abutting against the one-part commercial block building to the north. The exposed elevation is common red brick. The upper one-third of the wall was repaired and re-pointed resulting in the color variation of the mortar. Modern ventilation pipes jut out from the wall toward the west elevation. A section of the wall that meets with the west

¹² See Section 8 for a discussion about the “G” symbolism within Free Masonry.

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elevation wall at the parapet is covered in steel siding material and the roof is capped with metal flashing (Photo 4). The steel siding material and metal flashing was installed to cover the wall damage caused by the removal of the chimney.

The reason for the variance in the brick color on the exposed wall of this elevation is unknown.¹³

West Elevation

This elevation constitutes the rear of the building. It faces a small green space that ends at an unpaved alley. The roof edge is lined with non-historic metal gutter material and flashing. The wall meets the south elevation at which a wythe of historic buff brick blends around to the south elevation corner. The red brick wall is parged; some of mortar has worn off to expose the brick. It contains ten historic openings (one is infilled). Moving from the north to the south at the basement level (all materials within the historic openings are non-historic) there is a single door followed by a drainpipe, an electric meter, three A/C units with wiring going into the building, the infilled coal chute, another gas meter, a vent pipe, a boarded over double door, another drainpipe, a boarded over window, and two utility service boxes. On the main level, four of the six window openings of similar size are fitted with windows and two are utilized to accommodate kitchen ventilation equipment. These are spaced out as follows, moving north to south: one window approximately six feet above ground level and nearly flush with the northwest corner then a window (now kitchen ventilation) about 4-5 feet to the south (right), then two centered windows (approximately 6 feet from window to the north. This pattern repeats to the south with a window located approximately 6 feet to the south, and ending with a window that is nearly flush with the southwest corner of the building.

The fenestration of the elevation is different from the blueprints (Figure 8). Changes, minor in this case, made during the construction, as opposed to after it was built, dealing mostly with the number and location of openings on the basement and first floor levels, are not recorded on the blueprints.

Interior of the Marceline Masonic Lodge

All aspects are historic, unless otherwise noted. Non-historic ceiling tiles exist throughout the first and second floors.

Basement

Figures 9, 12, 21 and 24; Photos 25-27, 34

The only entrance to the basement is through the northwest stairs leading to them from the kitchen (Figures 9 and 12). The basement is comprised of some all reused/recycled material from

¹³ There are at least two possible reasons for this: The mortar used during repair work to the area after the chimney work damaged the area gives the appearance of a different color or the bricks may have been cleaned when the repair work was completed. However, the true reason for the variance is unknown.

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the building that previous occupied this space. The type of walls and foundation depends on the area of the basement (Figure 21; Photos 25-27).

These stairs lead down to the original boiler room (Photo 32); it is not named as such on the blueprints (nor are any other rooms in the basement). Approximately three-quarters south on the west wall of the boiler room is an opening leading to the historical coal storage room (Figures 21; Photos 25-27, 34).

The south door of the boiler room leads to a storage room (Figures 9 and 12; Photos 15-27). This room has stairs in an east/west orientation leading to the west wall and double exterior access doors. The original blueprints have these stairs traveling north/south (Figure 9). When the stairs were changed to an east/west orientation rather than how they are shown on the blueprints is unknown. The opening was originally wider to allow the boiler to be installed (Photo 32). The walls use the brick from the previous Lodge building (Figure 21).

A large general basement with a dirt floor occupies the length of the building not occupied by the boiler, coal and storage rooms. This area is separated by a masonry wall from the above rooms. Twelve (12) support posts hold up the building. Two are non-historic metal beams and ten (10) are wood. The beams are historic and original to the 1923 erection of the Lodge (Figure 9 and 12, Photo 27); however, the bases of the metal posts have been replaced with non-historic concrete. Stairs led to the east side of the building. These have been sealed in, but originally led to the east elevation foyer (Photo 30). The stairs are aligned the same way as the original blueprints show.

Most of the boarded up windows are historic (Photo 24).

First Floor

Figures 4, 10; Photos 6-9, 20, 24, 28, 30-33, 35

A small foyer greets guests when they enter through the main doors (Photos 6-7, 30). To the south when facing west, is a wall that covers the basement stairs (See "Basement" section above; Photo 30). The walls are non-historic drywall (Photos 6-7, 30). Five steps lead up to a hallway. This hallway leads to the bathrooms (Photo 35) and a reception room to the left/south (Photo 28), a reception room with a non-historic door and janitorial closet (Photo 31) to the left/south, and the dining hall straight ahead (west). The janitorial closet was originally the men's bathroom and coat closet.

The dining hall (accessed through double doors) and kitchen take up the majority of the first floor (Photos 8-9). It is a blending of historic and non-historic features, which includes original historic pass-through windows between the dining hall and kitchen (Photos 8-9). The historic hardwood floor (Photo 24), doors, milk glass lights, and some features in the kitchen (Photo 9), like the counter and built-in cabinets. Non-historic features include updates to the ventilation system, the non-historic lowered ceiling grid, modern lighting, the addition of fans, and all

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appliances in the kitchen. The non-historic rectangular windows seen externally while facing north toward the south elevation line the dining room. Two non-historic metal beams faced with wood are spaced equidistance in the dining hall.¹⁴ The kitchen has all its historical cabinets as well as the historic kitchen prep area (Photo 9).

Facing east from the dining hall entrance, a historic wood stairwell leads to the second floor (Photo 7). Hanging above the landing located halfway between the first and second floors is a non-historic chandelier.

To the north down an alcove (Photo 20) are non-historic bathroom facilities (Photos 32-33). Originally, this area held an alcove, coat room and toilet and reception room (Compare Figures 4 and 10). The alcove was extended to incorporate the toilet and coat room, while the reception room were altered to install ADA-compliant restrooms (see "Alterations" for known dates). Otherwise, the layout of the first floor remains largely the same as that seen in Figure 4.

Penciled-in changes can be seen on the original blueprints (Figure 4) for the first floor. For example, the original plan was to have three entrances into the dining hall. The change took place during the erection of the Lodge.

Kitchen Area

The kitchen area (Photo 9) maintains the same footprint as see in Figure 4 with one exception: the orientation of the steps and platform in the storage room at the southwest corner of the first floor have changes. According to the original blueprints, they had a north/south orientation and led to the coal room in the basement. Now it has an east/west orientation that leads to the south bay's window seen in Figure 3. The orientation was changed at some unknown time and for an unknown reason.

Second Floor

Figures 5, 11, 17-18, 20; Photos 10-19, 29

The second floor remains largely the same layout seen in Figure 5. Facing west, a landing leads to the Tilers Room (Photo 11) and which leads to the main lodge room where meetings are held (Photos 14-18). While in the landing facing the Tilers Room (Figures 5 and 11), to the south (left) is a former smoking room (Photo 12) that is being remodeled. To the north (right) is a room labeled "Ladies Rest R'm" on the original blueprints (Figure 5; Photo 10). It was never used as a restroom, but instead as the meeting room for the Eastern Star (the women's branch of the

¹⁴ Fred Lewis, member and historian of the Lodge, during a November 2023 Missouri SHPO visit, said: "the metal beams are original to the building and that they extend to the second floor. They are not part of any repair, only that the concrete surrounding the base of the beams had been increased to encapsulate the base an additional height to reduce lateral movement. The two columns in the dining room are the beams continuing to the second level and have a covering to conceal the fact of the metal beams. The floor on the second level has two areas that correspond with the support beams and those areas have not settled to the extent that the rest of the second level floor has."

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Masons). A door to the toilet and “retiring room” are centered in the middle of the west wall (Photo 29). The layout remains relatively unchanged (compare Figures 5 and 11). The current layout (Figure 11) shows the toilet has been moved from the original toilet area, installed in the “retiring room”, and the toilet room is used as a storage room.

Facing west, a centralized door leads from the landing to a room before leading to the main lodge meeting room. This room between the meeting room and landing is identified as “Tilers Rm” on Figure 5 and seen in Photo 11. The Tilers Room is a small area with a historic door, lighting, and built-in cabinet (Figure 18). To the north (right) of the room is the coat room (now a general storage area) with historic doors (Figure 20) and the men’s toilet (which still exists) (Photo 19); the adjoining coat rooms measure 3 ft. by 3 ft. All doors in this area are historic (Figure 20). The former coat room connects to the former locker room that runs most of the north elevation wall (Figures 5 and 11). No lockers appear to have been part of this area.

To the south (left) of the Tilers Room is an historic door to The Red Cross Room (Figure 5, Photo 13). This room is currently used as a reception room. The original blueprints show a penciled-in area that shows the plans for this room were modified. According to the revision on the original blueprints (Figures 5 and 17) the Red Cross Room (which contains its original wood flooring and doors) was combined with an unidentified room directly to its north (directly south of the Tilers Room).

A 45-degree dogleg/chamfered corner was added to the east side of the room when the untitled and Red Cross rooms were combined, and the east wall of the unnamed room extended east to align with the Red Cross Room’s east wall (Figures 5, 11 and 17).¹⁵

These alterations are recorded in the minutes¹⁶ and penciled-in changes can be seen on the original blueprints for the second floor. While faint, the marks clearly indicate the dogleg of the wall was a late revision in the plans; the plans do not show the combining of the untitled room and the Red Cross Room. The walls seen dividing the unnamed room between the Tilers Room and Red Cross rooms were taken out prior to building. These changes are not reflected in the blueprints, but the 5 June 1923 minutes allude to “changes in the partitions” of these rooms.¹⁷

Both Comm Rooms and the Prep Room (Figures 5 and 11) remain as they are seen in Figure 5. All retain their original, historic flooring and doors.

¹⁵ There is some debate as to when and why this chamfered (“dogleg”) corner was created. It is clear from the etchings on the original blueprints that this was discussed during construction and that at least three variations of the wall were considered. The dogleg corner was the option that was used. See Figures 5, 11 and 17.

¹⁶ These alterations are all discussed in more depth in Section 8 in the section about the construction of the building, which indicate these changes were part of the original plans and not later alterations.

¹⁷ “Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association.” Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 5 June 1923, Marceline, MO.

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The rectangular main meeting room (Figures 5 and 11, Photos 14-18) is accessed through either a door in the Tilers Room, through the Prep Room or through the door from the storage area in the far northwest corner of the second floor (Figure 5). This room occupies the majority of the second floor. It occupies 50% of the east to west area of the floor and ends with the platform (Figure 5 and 11, Photo 14) and covers about ninety percent of the north to south space ending at the locker room (north central part of second floor) and storage area (northwest corner). The meeting room is adorned with historic sconces and lighting and ceremonial features (Photos 14-16, 18). It also has platforms against each wall; these platforms represent the different levels of Masonry based on the number of steps needed to reach the top of the platform: one step, Entered Apprentice, or general brotherhood (these are on the north and south walls), two steps are for Fellow Craft (east wall) and three steps of the Master Mason (west wall) (Photos 14-18).

ALTERATIONS

Several alterations have taken place over the 100-year history of the property.

The most significant change to the property was a result of the poorly designed 1923 roof's failure, which led to sufficient drainage into the building.¹⁸ The issues started in June 1924 when a wind and rainstorm damaged the Lodge allowing "water [to pour] in upon the ceiling above the second floor" and leading to a floor partly covered in water, the red lodge room carpet soaked, and plaster falling from the ceiling near the kitchen.¹⁹ There are no records of this roof being repaired or replaced at that time. In 1990 a new metal roof was laid over the old roof. The replacement roof lasted twenty (20) years until a windstorm ripped it off on 27 June 2011. During the three months it took to replace the roof, the Masons were again hosted by the Odd Fellows. The damage to the roof was so extensive that the trusses also had to be replaced. The project cost the Lodge \$208,000.²⁰

Most alterations with dates ranging between 2011-2012 were a result of repairing damage caused by the 27 June 2011 storm.

The known changes with any known dates are as follows:

- Bathrooms to north on first floor were installed to make them ADA compliant: Dec 2011 through March 2012.²¹
- South reception room, first floor: December 2011-March 2012: Updated utilities
- Eastern Star room (north corner of second floor) had bathroom altered (toilet moved from one room to another: 2013.
- Locker room is now a mechanical room: January 2012.
- Historic lights on 2nd floor were changed out for non-historic school globes and side lights in the meeting hall: February 2013.

¹⁸ See Section 8 discussion.

¹⁹ "Wind and Rainstorm Hits Marceline." *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 13 June 1924.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Compare Figures 4 and 10 for alterations.

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- Main meeting hall oscillating fans removed and replaced with non-historic fans: February 2013.
- Non-historic windows replaced original external windows (as mentioned above, the windows were custom made to fit the existing size and shape of the historic windows); compare Figures 6-8, 28 and Photos 1-3, October 2011 thru March 2012.
- Non-historic doors added at various times to outside: Non-historic front entry door; compare Figure 8, 28 and Photo 1, unknown. Rear entry door, February 2023.
- Boarding off the coal chute in the lower right corner of the west elevation Unknown, believed in mid to late 1950's.
- Sealing off the eastern stairwell from the foyer to the basement: December 2011 thru March 2012.
- New roof: October 2011; original 1923 roof was patched with tar several times.
- Chimney removal due to damage to it when north wall was being repaired: August 2011 (see above).
- First floor bathroom (southwest side) turned into janitor's closet: December 2011 through March 2012.
- Drywall: While much of the building has been covered in drywall, there are several areas where the historic plaster remains: The Locker Room (now the mechanical room on the north wall of the second floor), the second-floor coat room north of the second floor Tilers Room, each of the 5 closets in the locker room to the north of the Tilers Room; all of these have the original plaster, except on the ceiling). The other areas of historic plaster include the three rooms to the west of the second floor Red Cross Room (the prep room and comm rooms); these all have the historic plaster on the walls and ceiling. Historic plaster also exists in small patches next to the stairwell to the basement as well as in the basement. All other areas that have drywall were replaced at one or more of the following times: December 2011 through February 2012 on first floor, second floor November 2012 through May 2013.
- Addition of modern utilities internally and externally: January 21, 2012.
- Trim: According to Lewis (Lodge historian), "The base trim in the dining room and restroom are not original to the building. The entry foyer and staircase trim [is historic and] was painted over. The trim on the second floor is original to the building [;] there are areas that the original trim has not been painted and where trim is missing...the original trim is stored in the mechanical room to be reattached once the hardwood floors are refinished and roof leak repair is completed."²²
- Sealing off three entry points to the basement (at east elevation foyer stairs, west elevation double doors, and coal chute) as discussed earlier: Foyer stairs closed off (January 2012), west elevation door (unknown), coal chute closure unknown but believed to be mid to late 1950's.
- Alterations to various aspects of west elevation: West wall has a thin layer of mortar applied to it believed to be done in mid 1970's. HVAC upgrades were installed January 2012.

²² Lewis, 2 February 2024.

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- Ceilings (2012):
 - Dining room ceiling lowered about 12 inches using suspended tile.
 - Kitchen ceiling lowered by using 5/8-inch sheet rock by about 2 feet.
 - The first-floor restroom area has also been lowered approximately 2 feet.
 - The ceilings on the second floor are all at original height but replaced with 5/8 sheet rock due to the roof damage from storm.
- The uppermost portion (approximately one-third) of the exposed north elevation wall (Photo 4) has been repointed. The parapet has been replaced with metal sided wood framing near the northwest corner because of damage to the wall when the chimney was removed. These are non-historic alterations. Done at same time as chimney removal: August 2011.

Otherwise, the external walls are original, and most of the interior footprint remains.²³

These changes have been confirmed by several Lodge Brothers and by comparing Hulse's original blueprints (Figures 4-9) to the current footprint of the Lodge (Figures 10-12).²⁴

INTEGRITY

The historic integrity of Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 is largely intact. Despite the alterations, most of which were required to bring the property up to code, "the overall sense of past time and place is evident" in the look and feel of the Lodge.²⁵

The external limestone and brick remain unaltered for 100 years. Each elevation maintains the historic material used to build the nominated property.

While updates have occurred as noted above, these alterations do not significantly impact the overall integrity of the building.

Internally, as noted above, most of the doors and flooring are original, and very little remodeling has been done (a room was changed on the second floor and new bathrooms were installed on the first floor), and a first-floor bathroom was changed into a janitor's closet.

Some of the alterations are a result of laws and regulation changes, but they have not significantly altered the general layout of the property. The only major changes that altered the footprint of the property after the date of construction was the conversion of the northeast reception room into ADA-compliant restrooms; otherwise, every room maintains the same dimensions it did when it was erected. Additionally, the Lodge has attempted to approximate the original look by installing near-period replicas of lighting and very similar looking windows,

²³ Figures 4-10 show that the internal layout remains largely the same.

²⁴ See Figures 4-12.

²⁵ *National Register Bulletin: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*. U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service, Cultural Resources. 1997.

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though they function differently. Thus, both the interior and exterior largely maintain their historical integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The *location* of the building remains precisely where it was erected in 1923. The exterior design has been left largely unaltered (some windows and doors have been boarded over for various reasons, the chimney removed, a new roof, and flashing added to the upper portion of the northwest area of the roof). Internally, there are alterations, however, except for the new ADA-compliant bathrooms on the first floor that replaced the north reception room, the alterations have been largely aesthetic (windows, doors, ceilings, etc.) and altered to align with building code updates, help preserve the integrity of the building, or to repair damage from leaking roofs. Likewise, the *setting* remains the same with the exception of new pavement on Ritchie Ave. and the trees planned by the city at an unknown date; no new buildings surround it, thus the area appears much as it did at the time it was erected. The original *design* is largely maintained. It still functions as a Masonic Lodge, and externally has the same scale, color, texture and fenestrations as the original blueprint show; internally, the design is largely intact with the exception of the alterations noted earlier. The external *materials* used in the construction of the property—the bricks from the previous building in that location (see Section 8 for more on this) were used for part of the foundation, the limestone, buff brick, wood flooring, and more—all remain after 100 years with the exception of the modern steel sheeting over the northwest parapet placed there as discussed above, the non-historic windows, and the non-historic doors. The material used inside the building remains largely intact, except for the above-mentioned alterations. Built in cabinets and all internal doors remain. *Workmanship* is evident throughout the property, particularly externally with the use of subdued Beaux-Arts features (discussed in Section 8); the workmanship is evident in several places internally, too, such as the dining room floors and the original woodwork in the coat and locker rooms. Finally, the *association* of the property remains the same as it was when the lodge was built in 1923 and remains an operating Masonic lodge.

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SUMMARY

Since its erection in 1923 and opening in 1924, the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 at 201 N. Main St. U.S.A. (N. Kansas Ave.) Street, in Marceline, Linn County, Missouri has provided space for the public and local groups to hold ceremonial meetings, gather for fellowship and festivities, and organize their charitable activities. The building's design, the massing and decorative details on the two primary façades—one facing Main Street U.S.A. and the other facing W. Ritchie Avenue—make the Masonic Temple a noteworthy instance of its genre—a monumental Masonic lodge. This building is locally significant under Criterion C:

ARCHITECTURE for the following reasons: 1) It is an exceptional example of the Beaux-Arts style popular during the 1880s through 1930s. In fact, it is northeast and north central Missouri's best and purest expression of a Beaux-Arts style building designed for a Masonic lodge; 2) This stately building demonstrates the translation of subdued European styles to rural areas in Missouri and the conservative yet sophisticated design present in Marceline and Masonic Temples in the region shortly before the Great Depression; and 3) this Masonic Temple preserves its prime historical features. The main south and east elevations of the Masonic Temple are virtually unaltered in appearance since the building's construction by a local contractor almost 100 years ago. The period of significance is 1923-1924, the start and finish dates of construction.

EARLY HISTORY OF MARCELINE

Located about 200 miles northwest of St. Louis, Marceline was originally an agricultural area. It was chartered as a city in 1888 as a direct result of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad laying a line between Kansas City and Chicago and choosing to place a subdivision point where Marceline now exists.²⁶ Marceline was incorporated and founded later that same year as settlers flooded the area to take advantage of the opportunities for work the railroad would bring. Within a decade coal was discovered in the area, which saw the city's population grow to around 4000 residents at its peak. Once the coal mines closed over the course of two decades, the population dropped as well.

ELABORATION

The History of Freemasonry in Missouri and the Start of the Marceline Lodge

The Order of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons or Freemasonry represents the oldest fraternity in existence. Freemasonry descends from medieval guilds and as far back as the Temple of King Solomon.²⁷ This is common knowledge among Freemason Brothers and numerous sources verify this sentiment.²⁸

²⁶ "Our History!" *City of Marceline*. <http://marcelinemo.us/home/history.html>. Accessed 1 May 2023.

²⁷ "Freemasonry: The First Masonic Grand Lodge." *The History Press*.

<https://www.thehistorypress.co.uk/articles/freemasonry-the-first-masonic-grand-lodge/>.

Accessed 29 April 2023.

²⁸ Lewis, Fred. Personal Interview. 1 February 2023.

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All the earliest Lodges in what is now the State of Missouri were chartered by the Grand Lodges of other states, particularly the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania, Indiana and Tennessee.²⁹ In Missouri, the Masonic organization started in 1808 in Ste. Genevieve, a lodge warranted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.³⁰ The Grand Lodge of Missouri, located in St. Louis, was established on 21 April 1821, five months before Missouri was granted statehood.³¹ Missouri Freemasonry was officially founded on 17 February 1843, when the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient Masons of the State of Missouri was incorporated 22 years after Missouri was awarded Statehood.³²

Freemasonry spread rapidly throughout the state as settlers organized new counties.³³ The pace of new lodges forming was incredibly fast and soon there were several allied organizations both locally and nationally; these organizations included auxiliary organizations that were related to the central Lodge: the York and Scottish Rites; Shrine; Order of the Eastern Star (the male members female relatives; Order of DeMolay youth group for members' male children); and Bethels of Job's Daughters.³⁴ The Marceline Lodge is no exception. Three of these same organizations met within the walls of the lodge: Eastern Star, Order of DeMolay, and Shrine (Photo 21).

The Marceline lodge was and still is one of three Masonic Lodges in Linn County, Missouri. Brookfield #86 in Brookfield, Linn County, Missouri was chartered on 2 June 1866. The other lodge, Jackson Lodge #82 in Linneus, Linn County, Missouri, is the oldest lodge in the county; it was chartered on 15 October 1846. The current Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 was the last Masonic Temple in Linn County to be built. It was chartered on 17 October 1889, with the worshipful Master as Milton Helwig as the first Worshipful Master of the Lodge (Figure 19).³⁵ All three lodges still exist.³⁶

The previous one-part commercial block building that housed the Masonic Temple located at this corner burned down in 1903; a two-part commercial block building was built in its place and covered the original corner lot and the lot to the north of it. The 1903 building later burned down in 1923 and was replaced by the current Beaux-Arts style building.

²⁹ "Grand Lodge of the Month for June 2017." *The George Washington Masonic National Memorial*.

<https://gwmemorial.org/blogs/gl-of-the-month/the-grand-lodge-of-missouri#:~:text=From%20these%20Lodges%20the%20Grand,four%2Dyear%20liberal%20arts%20college.2017%20June%2001>. Accessed 2 May 2023.

³⁰ Ibid.

³¹ Ibid.

³² "Grand Lodge of Missouri." Wikiwand. https://www.wikiwand.com/en/Grand_Lodge_of_Missouri. Accessed 12 February 2023.

³³ "Freemasonry's First 150 Years in Missouri", *Kansas City Star*, 26 September 1971, Star Magazine Section, 25.

³⁴ "Grand Lodge."

³⁵ Information is a synthesis of various pages on the Grand Lodge of Missouri website: <https://momason.org/>.

Also, see Figure 19 for Lodge Charter.

³⁶ Confirmed by Brother Fred Lewis.

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HISTORY OF THE MARCELINE LODGE #481

According to the archival records of Marceline Masonic Lodge #481, the original building where the Masonic temple now exists was built in 1889, a year after Marceline was officially incorporated as a city. It existed on the same location as the current building's southern half. The building can be seen on the 1894 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map indicates what appears to be a two-part commercial block building housing a bank in the front and a post office in the rear; there is no indication of what is on the second story.³⁷ No building existed on the plot where the north portion of the current building stands.³⁸ The Marceline Masonic Association purchased the property in 1900 for \$2500 from the Bank of Marceline.³⁹

Prior to the period of significance (1923-1924), the Masons met in various locations around the city. Between 1889-1898 there are no known records of the organization's activities. Further research may turn up meeting minutes or other source material from this time. Meeting minutes between 1899 and 1901 indicate the Masons did not meet often in the original two-part commercial block building seen in the 1894 Sanborn map and situated on the corner of Kansas and Ritchie Avenues. Existing Masonic Lodge meeting minutes indicate the lodge met periodically in various places around the city, and only occasionally in the buildings seen in the 1902 and 1911 Sanborn maps. Other places include the Miner's Hall (two blocks south, extant), the Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) Magnolia Lodge (two buildings north of the current lodge, extant) (Figure 14), Cater Opera House (one block south, non-extant), and various backrooms and offices.

By 1902, the building seen in the 1894 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map still existed with what appears to be an identical footprint.⁴⁰ Any differences could be a matter of the person drawing the map. By this time, the post office had moved to the front of the property and a printing shop occupied the rear of the building.

A 1903 fire significantly damaged the original building owned by the lodge. Minutes indicate the damage was severe enough to warrant the building of a two-part commercial block building. This assessment is supported by a receipt dated January or June 10, 1903,⁴¹ showing the sale of the north wall. Further research is needed to determine the reason the north wall was sold. As a result of the fire, the Masons decided to build two buildings to replace the damaged building that spanned the corner lot at Kansas and Ritchie and the plot immediately to its north.⁴² The 1911

³⁷ Sanborn Map, 1894.

³⁸ Sanborn Map, 1894.

³⁹ This information comes from a bond notice confirmed in "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 17 January 1901, Marceline, MO.

⁴⁰ Sanborn Map, 1902.

⁴¹ The minutes are incomplete at this time and not as detailed as later minutes, so this information is relying heavily on lodge interviews and extrapolation from the archived minutes.

⁴² See Figure 16 for partial view of the building. The north portion of what is a two two-part commercial block building. The 1911 Sanborn map shows it as two two-part buildings. This is most likely correct because Masonic minutes discuss what to do with the building located on the northern lot.

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Sanborn Map indicates two storefronts were present on those lots. Figure 16 shows them as two-part commercial block buildings with two stories on the same lots on which the current lodge sits. It contained a grocery store and “Printing & Gasol.Eng” on the second floor (Photo 16).⁴³

In 1920, the Masons debated over the efficacy of replacing the old 1911 building. They determined, after speaking with “the Architect, J. R. Hogg, and well-known contractors [they concluded] that now was a very inopportune time to build. Estimates of the costs of the proposed building reached \$25,000, which amount was felt to be excessive.”⁴⁴ About two years later that building burned down and it was replaced by the current building.⁴⁵

The Debate About What to Do with the Burned Down Building and Property

As early as 1916, the Masons were already considering a new Lodge on the lot where the current building rests. A 1919 *Marceline Journal-Mirror* article, indicates that “James F. Hogg, a Kansas City architect, is busy submitting sketches for the proposed new Masonic temple. Three years ago a sinking fund was started for the edifice, but the war has had the effect of delaying the construction.”⁴⁶ The article goes on to describe the proposed building as having a “structural arrangement of the lodge rooms and connecting galleries, crypts, etc., will aid in the exemplification of the teaching of the early craft masters” and have the meeting room and cloak rooms on the second floor.

In February of 1923, the Lodge members voted to raze “both buildings” occupying the location of the current 1923-1924 Lodge building. They contracted with Fred Newman (Figure 15), a Marceline-based general contractor to do the job for \$40,000. They stipulated Mr. Newman had to remove all “plate glass from the [old buildings’] windows”, that he had to tear down the buildings carefully and “all bricks that are full size bricks [are] to be cleaned and stacked” to be used in the building.⁴⁷ After this, they debated about what to do with that property.

At their 13 March 1923 meeting, the Lodge debated what to do with the now vacant lots and “to ascertain if an option could be secured upon a suitable location for the erection of a Masonic Temple.” The meeting included mention of the possibility of selling the lots to the Standard Oil Company for \$10,000, the Lodge members decided to build the new Masonic Temple on the same lots occupied by “the present Masonic location Lots No. 1 & 2 Block No. 156.” The meeting concluded with a motion that passed stating the “entire basement for the Masonic Temple be excavated.”⁴⁸

⁴³ Sanborn Map, 1911.

⁴⁴ “Masonic Temple Will Be Built Later.” *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 5 May 1920.

⁴⁵ Nearly a year of minutes discuss the debate about the 1923-1924 building. See “The Debate About What to Do with the Burned Down Building and Property” below for more detail.

⁴⁶ “Plans for the New Masonic Temple.” *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 1919. The “Masonic Temple Will Be Built Later.” *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 5 May 1920 article has similar information.

⁴⁷ Fred Newman Contract. 15 February 1923. Marceline Masonic Temple Association archives. This information is verified in “Down Comes the Old Masonic Hall.” *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 23 February 1923 and “Tearing Down Masonic Building.” *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 2 March 1923.

⁴⁸ “Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association.” Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 13 March

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A week later, on 19 March 1923, they reconvened. During this meeting, a letter from the architect firm of W.E. Hulse & Co. in Hutchinson, Kansas was read, and the Lodge members agreed that the President would contact W.E. Hulse to set a date to meet with the Temple Association to go over the building plans and specifications.⁴⁹

During their 29 March 1923 meeting, the lodge members met with architect W.E. Hulse and went over the plans for the new Temple. During that meeting “the plans for the Masonic Temple were examined, from the basement to garret, by the member [sic] of the Board, making several minor [sic] changes and corrections, after which... the plans for the MASONIC TEMPLE, as corrected, presented by Architect W. E. Hulse be approved. Motion unanimously carried and plans approved.”⁵⁰

At their 11 April 1923 meeting, they officially hired Hulse, and work began on finding a general contractor, plumber, electrician, and others.

The contract the Lodge signed with Hulse required heavy recycling of material from the old buildings. The material recovered and kept included using 72 yards of Native rock and 35,200 common bricks (Figure 19). Thus, several of the circa 1911 bricks have been incorporated into the current structure.

W. E. Hulse & Company, the Masons considered construction related “bids for erection of a Masonic Temple” by Hulse. Bids and plans were then read in the presence of the contractors and others in attendance. During this session the Brothers tabled a motion to make the cornerstone out of “Carthallite [sic] stone” and that the front entry doors should “be covered on the outer side with copper as per the specifications”, that maple flooring would be installed, and floor insulation eliminated. No records indicate the entry door specifications were changed; however, no copper is currently present at this or any other location on the outside of the building. Further research is required to determine if copper was part of the original entryway from or removed later with a non-historic entryway was installed.

Two weeks later, during the 26 April 1923 meeting, the Lodge members hired the work crews: John Scott and Son of Memphis, Missouri was awarded the General Contractor contract for the sum of \$32,715.00, Nathan DeYoung was hired to do the electric work for \$493.53, and G.W. Bigger Heating and Plumbing Co. of Marceline got the heating and plumbing contract with a bid of \$4080.00. Finally, the motion to make the “FACE BRICK be of the No. C.P. Shade No. 123, as made by the RELIANCE BRICK CO. of Kansas City, Mo.” carried.⁵¹

1923, Marceline, MO.

⁴⁹ “Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association.” Marceline Masonic Temple Assoc., 19 Mar. 1923.

⁵⁰ “Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association.” Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 29 March 1923, Marceline, MO.

⁵¹ “Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association.” Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 26 April 1923, Marceline, MO.

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During the 15 May 1923 meeting, the Brothers agreed to have a Carthage Stone or Granite cornerstone. Carthage won out (Photos 1-2, 6-7).⁵²

The minutes of 5 June 1923 discuss changes in the partitions of rooms as indicated on a pencil sketch presented by E.W. Taylor.⁵³ These changes were to be made and the same be referred to the Architect and Contractor. Specifically mentioned is that The Red Cross Room was to become one room with an angular wall [referred to as a dogleg in Section 7's discussion of this room] at the northeast corner of the new room. This change also effected the wall of the Lobby on second floor when the wall was moved east to match the location of The Red Cross Room's east wall, thus the dogleg angle. The floor in the Red Cross room indicates that change was implemented *prior* to construction of room, no indication of a wall ever constructed. Figure 21 shows there was a penciled in alteration of this area.

The foundation was completed by August 1923. On 3 August it was reported that the brickwork had started after a delay caused by waiting on the bricks to arrive.⁵⁴

The cornerstone was laid 14 August 1923 with the east elevation cornerstone inscription reading "Aug. 14, 1923, A.L. 5923, Bert S. Lee Grand Master" and the south elevation cornerstone inscription reading: "Marceline Lodge No. 481 A.F. & A.M. with the Masonic symbol centered between "481" and the "A.F." line (Photos 1-2, 6-7).⁵⁵

As the erection of the current building ensued, the members of the lodge discussed all the details of the new lodge, including the types of windows,⁵⁶ decided on the cornerstone inscriptions, which cornerstone inscription would face which direction (south or east), dealt with defective face brick, and then, on August 14, 1923, they laid the cornerstone.⁵⁷ The box sealed within the cornerstone contains a number of objects, ranging from minutes, by-laws of each chapter in the building (Knights Templar, DeMolay, etc.), lists of officers, one copy each of the *Marceline Journal-Mirror* and *Herald*, among other items.⁵⁸

Once these "housekeeping" issues were completed, the Masons focused on such tasks as the basement, voting to have it include "concrete bases 12" x 12" and 18" high with an iron clad

⁵² "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 15 May 1923, Marceline, MO.

⁵³ "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 5 June 1923, Marceline, MO.

⁵⁴ "Brickwork Started on Masonic Temple." *The Marceline News*. 3 August 1923. See Photos 25-27 and 36 show the original bricks used in the construction of the lodge.

⁵⁵ "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, August 14 1923, Marceline, MO.

⁵⁶ These windows, as noted in Section 7, were replaced October 2011 through March 2012.

⁵⁷ These decisions and actions took place between the Masons' 5 June 1923 and 17 August 1923 meetings.

⁵⁸ "Corner Stone of New Masonic Temple." *The Marceline Journal-Mirror*. 17 August 1923.

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plate on the top placed until the Ten (10) 12" x 12"⁵⁹ wood posts" and to lower the ceiling of the property room, toilets and other rooms as the Committee [sic] deems advisable."⁶⁰

A letter from Joseph S. McIntyre, Grand Master of the St. Louis Grand Lodge, dated "January 24th, 1924," indicates that the new Masonic Temple would be dedicated on 22 February 1924.⁶¹ During the 8 February 1924 meeting, it "was mutually decided that ... the Contractor, John Scott and Son, and the Architect, W. E. Hulse and Co., that the Marceline Masonic Temple Association" be paid off immediately.⁶²

On 27 February 1924, Marceline Masonic Temple #481 held a public open house.⁶³ One article gushed about everyone seeing "a building stately to the eye,"⁶⁴ while the following week's *Herald* article about the dedication stated that 650 people were in attendance to look at the new building and enjoy the dedication festivities.⁶⁵

Architecture of the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481

Many architects who designed Masonic lodges during the early twentieth century in Missouri conceived of these buildings as Classical temples, not as styles like Beaux-Arts and Art Deco that seemed to not mesh with the Masonic Ideals. This focus on Classical architecture resulted in Greco-Roman styled Masonic Temples across the country.

In 1923, when construction began on the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 there were over 655 lodges and 104,084 Masons in Missouri.⁶⁶ Such growth required larger and newer lodges in several parts of the state, including Marceline. The Marceline lodge was created out of necessity for a new building, but like so many other lodges they required one that would be able to house a large membership and give the impression of a temple, reflecting some of the basic aspects of King Solomon's Temple. Thus, members would have sought architectural styles that would be appropriate for their elevated social status and uniqueness. It is unknown if the architect W.E. Hulse gave various options or if the Lodge members requested this style. While Freemasonry is rooted in Egyptian ceremonial practices⁶⁷ as numerous sources agree and as confirmed by

⁵⁹ "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Assoc., 7 Sep. 1923.

⁶⁰ "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 28 September 1923, Marceline, MO. These posts can be found in Figure 9. In that blueprint, there are two additional round posts shown; those posts are the current historic metal supports shown in Photo 27. When this change occurred is unknown. Further research may turn up information. See Section 7 for descriptions of the support beams.

⁶¹ McIntyre, Joseph S., Letter to W.E. Parks. 24 January 1924. Marceline Masonic Temple #481 Archives.

⁶² "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 24 February 1924, Marceline, MO.

⁶³ "Minutes of the Marceline Masonic Temple Association." Marceline Masonic Temple Association, 11 February 1923, Marceline, MO.

⁶⁴ "Masonic Temple Pride of City." *The Marceline Herald*. 22 February 1924, XI.28.

⁶⁵ "Hospitality Personified." *The Marceline Herald*. 29 February 1924, XI.29.

⁶⁶ "1923 Proceedings – Grand Lodge of Missouri, Volume 2- Appendixes." *ISSUU*.
https://issuu.com/momason/docs/gl_proceedings_1923_02. p. 7.

⁶⁷ See "Grand Lodge" and "Freemasonry".

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Lewis,⁶⁸ the Masonic tradition has not overwhelmingly selected Egyptian architectural styles, as was mentioned earlier. The Marceline Lodge is an example of this lack of one-style-fits-all.

The Marceline survey indicates the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 is the only example of Beaux-Arts architecture in Marceline's downtown business district and the only such style in the survey's list of properties identified as individually eligible that is in this style in the city.⁶⁹

Houston's 1926 *Architectural Forum* article summarized twentieth-century Masonic design as having "established a certain adherence to the use of the architectural styles of the ancient peoples, notably those of the Egyptians and the Greeks."⁷⁰ While there is no other Masonic lodge in Marceline to compare to it, Houston's assertion appears to be accurate when looking at lodges in the vicinity and at several in the state that were built within the decade before and after the Marceline lodge was erected (1923-1924). The Marceline Lodge is locally because it is the sole example of Beaux-Arts architecture in Marceline.⁷¹

Beaux-Arts Features

Whiffen notes the principal characteristics that appear in Beaux-Arts buildings: "Coupled columns are among the commonest features of Beaux-Arts Classicism; their presence amounts to presumptive evidence that a building is of this style." Additional characteristics might include "monumental flights of steps, arched and lintel openings, often set between columns or pilasters [and] may appear together in the same elevation", and figure sculptures. He also asserts that Beaux-Arts buildings will consist of a 5-part composition.⁷² McAlester adds that these buildings tend to have a flat or low-pitched hipped roof or a Mansard roof.⁷³ It is also cited as a style, like its namesake French school, Ecole des Beaux-Arts, has "always favored reason and correctness and discouraged eccentricity[,] stressed the working plan of a building [,and] paid little attention to transitory fashions in decoration."⁷⁴

There is an argument to be made for the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 being a restrained treatment of the Beaux-Arts style. However, it lacks several characteristics as described by McAlister and Whiffen, including, but not limited the necessary five-part composition of the building.

⁶⁸ Lewis emphasizes the importance of King Solomon's Temple in the Masonic Tradition and asserts that any source that discusses the Masonic tradition will have the same information on Masonic history, symbolism, and traditions.

⁶⁹ "Architectural/Historic Inventory Form."

⁷⁰ Houston, R. R. "The Interior Architecture of Fraternal Buildings," *Architectural Forum*, September 1926, 130.

⁷¹ This is based on the lack of descriptions of other properties prior to the erection of the Lodge.

⁷² Whiffen, Marcus. *American Architecture from 1780: A Guide to the Styles, Revised Edition*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT, 1996, p. 149.

⁷³ McAlester, Virginia and Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York City: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984, pp. 477-481.

⁷⁴ Whiffen, Marcus and Frederick Koeper. *American Architecture, Volume 2: 1860-1976*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT, 1987, p. 11.

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As discussed previously, despite the apparent connections with Egypt and the Temple of King Solomon, fewer regional Masonic Temples than might be expected reflect Egyptian influence; instead, most are Greek- hybrids, Art Deco, Classical Revival, or Neoclassical as evidenced by the region's lodges listed below in the COMPARISONS section. As seen below, nearly all the other regional Masonic lodges lend themselves to these other styles and not exclusively to a recognizable Beaux-Arts influence, with only a handful of exceptions.

Examples of Beaux-Arts influence in Masonic Temples do exist in the Midwest. In Missouri, for example, the Scottish Rite Temple in Joplin (280 miles south-southwest of Marceline)⁷⁵ is a more audacious, towering version of Beaux-Arts in Masonic Temples. The Marceline lodge does not have these same characteristics.

These examples show that a climate ready to absorb anything interesting that wasn't necessarily from Egypt existed even in rural Missouri, making the Marceline Masonic Temple #481, even more unique in the region. It is indicative of the broad spread of this style during the 1920s. In the absence of documentation, none of the minutes discuss why Beaux-Arts was chosen for this Temple, it is not known precisely why W.E. Hulse & Company or the Brothers of Marceline Masonic Temple #481 adopted Beaux-Arts. However, to a Linn County Mason, the building's details tied him to Masonic ideals through the paired pilasters and other Beaux-Arts characteristics. The temple in Linn County exemplifies a structure whose scale was consistent with contemporary Masonic taste for larger buildings. It's buff brick, one of only two buildings in town with such a façade—the other being the Uptown Theatre about a block south—creates an earthy sense and blends in well with the surrounding buildings.

The Masonic Temple and W. E. Hulse & Co.

W.E. Hulse & Co., out of Hutchinson, Kansas was predominantly the architect of courthouses in the region. The firm's claim to fame are seven courthouses in the Midwest and Plains states. Hulse focused on designing Neo-classical and Beaux-Arts buildings around the Midwest. "He designed seven courthouses in Kiowa, Wallace, Sedgwick, Barton and Pawnee counties erected between 1913 and 1919, as well as the courthouses in Osage and Brown counties erected in 1922-1923 and 1925-1926, respectively. All reflect Hulse's use of classical design idioms. The Reno County Courthouse built in 1931 departs from this tradition and is one of the state's few Art Deco county courthouses."⁷⁶ Among the courthouses he designed in the Beaux-Arts style are Pennington Courthouse in Rapid City, South Dakota⁷⁷ (Figure 22) and Osage County Courthouse in Lyndon, Kansas.⁷⁸ His specialization explains why he went with the choice of Beaux-Arts architecture for Marceline Masonic Temple #481. It would have been the most prominent

⁷⁵ "History of the Building." *Valley of Joplin Masonic Temple*. <https://www.valleyofjoplin.com/our-cathedral-history>. Accessed 2 May 2023.

⁷⁶ Schwenk, Sally F. *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for Historic Courthouses of Kansas*. Section E, p. 30. March 2002.

⁷⁷ Gerloff, Scott. *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for Pennington County Courthouse in Rapid City, South Dakota*, May 1975.

⁷⁸ Unknown. *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for Osage County Courthouse, Lyndon, Kansas*, September 2007.

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building in Marceline's downtown commercial district at the time, being matched only by the Uptown Theatre in 1930, which has a façade that mimics the blonde buff brick of the lodge. Discussions with Hulse's old firm in Hutchinson, Kansas turned up only courthouse documents and no other designs, not even ones for the Marceline lodge. Thus, it may be that the Masonic Temple is the only such building he designed.

Because of Hulse's specialization in courthouses, the general layout of the building, according to the Lodge's historical documentation, has a courthouse shell with interior windows to suit the Masons' needs.

COMPARISONS

Neither of two buildings that housed other fraternal organizations are of the style. In fact, the Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 is the only example of Beaux-Arts architecture in the City of Marceline.

The two other fraternal order buildings, the Knights of Pythias (known locally as the Zurcher Building) and the Magnolia/I.O.O.F., are of different architectural styles.

The Knights of Pythias building sits south of the Lodge directly across the street from the lodge on the southwest corner of Ritchie Avenue and Kansas Avenue. This building has undergone so many revisions that one style doesn't stand out (Figure 13). The building is no longer used for meetings and now houses an apartment and a clothing store.⁷⁹

The other fraternal order building, the Romanesque-style I.O.O.F. Building, sits two lot north of the Lodge on Kansas Avenue; its façade faces east toward Ripley Park (Figure 14).⁸⁰

The Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 and W. E. Hulse & Co.

W.E. Hulse & Co., a regional architecture firm out of Hutchinson, Kansas, appears to have worked mostly on the creation of courthouses. Seven of the courthouses in the Midwest and Plains states are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Discussions with and research done by the firm Hulse started in Hutchinson, Kansas turned up no additional information about the lodge or other projects of Hulse's. In fact, they had no record of his involvement with the Marceline lodge. Thus, based solely on these courthouse styles, Hulse appears to have specialized in Neoclassical and Beaux-Arts buildings with an occasional Art Deco design.

CONCLUSION

The Masonic Temple in Marceline, Linn County, Missouri is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as locally significant under Criterion C: Architecture. The construction of new Masonic lodges throughout the early-twentieth century resulted in landmark

⁷⁹ "Architectural Survey of Marceline (MO.): Final Report." p. 19.

⁸⁰ "Architectural/Historic Inventory Form." p. 239-240.

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buildings and symbols of tangible progress in each city in which they were erected. Masonic rites and their architectural forms and lodge designs are seen in not only urban areas, but in suburban and rural areas like Marceline. The Marceline Masonic Temple #481 is an excellent embodiment of the Beaux-Arts style, a distinctive type of architecture that is not closely associated with typical aspects of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Order of Freemasonry, its ceremonies and associated symbolism.

The Marceline Masonic Temple is a unique local and regional example of an early-twentieth century rural Masonic lodge. It is also the only building in Marceline in the Beaux-Arts style. It demonstrates a simple composition yet stands out from the other buildings in Marceline's downtown commercial district while blending in well to its surroundings. It manifests dignity and simplicity while standing as statuesque reminder of a building Renaissance in Marceline. W. E. Hulse and Company's design exhibits a form like the stately courthouses in the Midwest, some of which Hulse designed, making it more unique when compared with other rural Temples in the region. The building's scale, materials, and organization highlight quality workmanship that went into the façades (despite the later issues with the original roof) and are indicative of a solid architectural unit.

The lodge provides a tangible local link to a period when several fraternal lodges were constructed across Missouri and is reminiscent of the period of significance, 1923-1924. For 99 years it has been the meeting hall for various Masonic bodies and during that time the Marceline Lodge has remained a focus of the city's social and philanthropic community. Furthermore, this building is noteworthy as the best and purest example of Beaux-Arts architecture in Masonic lodges in northern rural Missouri. The location, design, size, workmanship, and integrity of the Marceline Masonic Temple #481 clearly demonstrate its unique, local architectural significance.

The building's historical integrity remains largely intact as discussed in Section 7.

The feature that helps it stand out is its buff brick, one of only two buildings in town with such a façade (the other being the Uptown Theatre⁸¹ about a block south). This brick style also helps to create a unique property while producing an earthy atmosphere that allows it to blend in well with the surrounding buildings.⁸²

As noted in the "Comparisons" section, the lodge provides a tangible local link to a period when several fraternal lodges were constructed across Missouri at around the same time. For nearly 100 years it has been the meeting hall for the organization's various sub-groups (The Masons, Eastern Star, Order DeMornay, and Shrine). The location, design, size, workmanship, and integrity of the Marceline Masonic Temple #481 clearly demonstrate its unique, local architectural significance as the only example of Beaux-Arts style in Marceline, Missouri.

⁸¹ Comber, E. Russell, *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form for Uptown Theatre, Marceline, Missouri*, April 2023.

⁸² Ibid.

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| Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 |
| Name of Property |
| Linn, Missouri |
| County and State |
| N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

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| Marceline Masonic Lodge #481 |
| Name of Property Linn, Missouri |
| County and State N/A |
| Name of multiple listing (if applicable) |

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Name of Property

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The south boundary of parcel 20-09-32-002-012-010.00 runs 130 feet from the corner of S. Kansas Ave. (N. Main Street USA) and Ritchie Avenue along a paved parking lot that is not part of the property to an alley that runs perpendicular to Ritch Ave. The west boundary turns north for 50 feet until it reaches the border with the north boundary. The north boundary abuts a one-part commercial block building and runs to the east for 130 feet stopping at a public sidewalk. The east boundary runs north and south 50 feet along that sidewalk between the north and south boundaries.

Boundary Justification

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the building.

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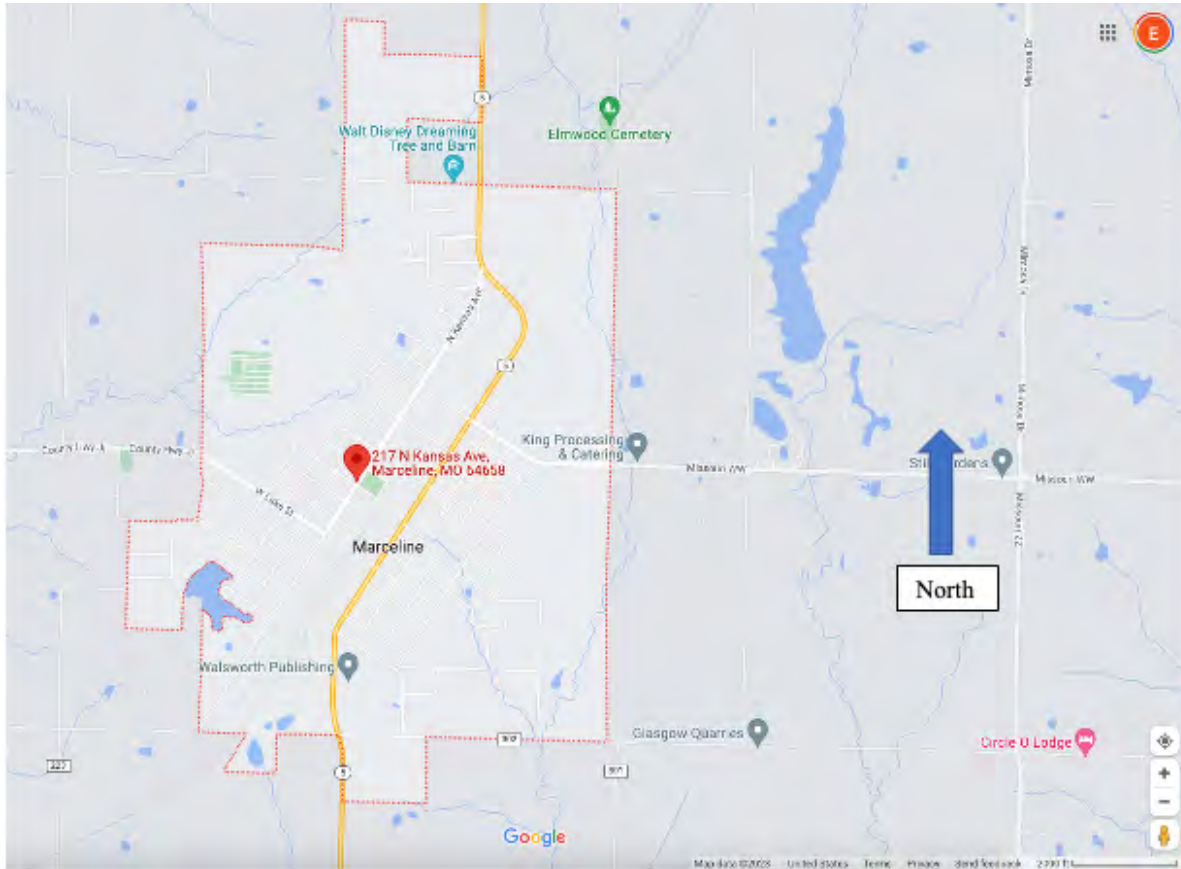


Figure 1: Context Map (SCALE: 1 in. = 2000 ft.)

Source: Google Maps, accessed 1 February 2023

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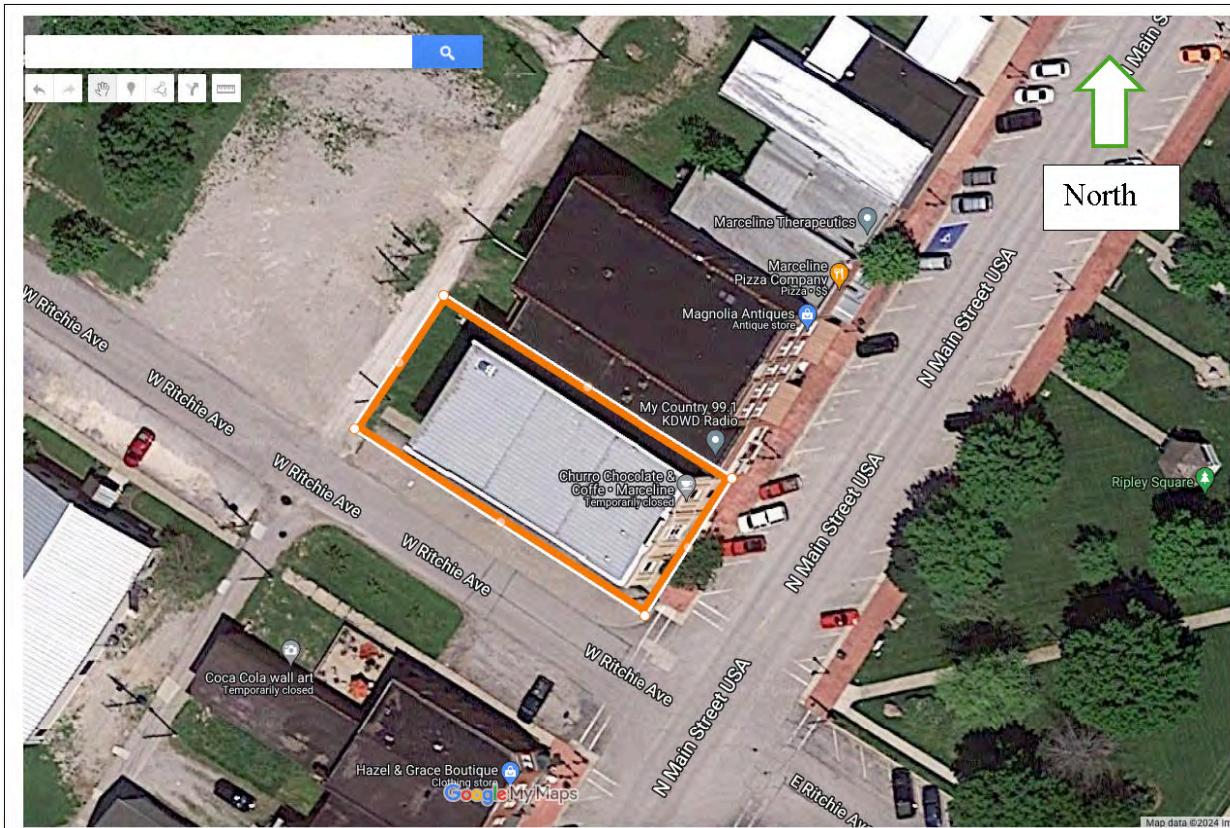


Figure 2: Site Map – Scale 1 in = 150feet
Longitude/Latitude: 39.715600, -92.950639
Orange boundary denotes subject property.
Source: Google Maps, accessed 2 February 2023

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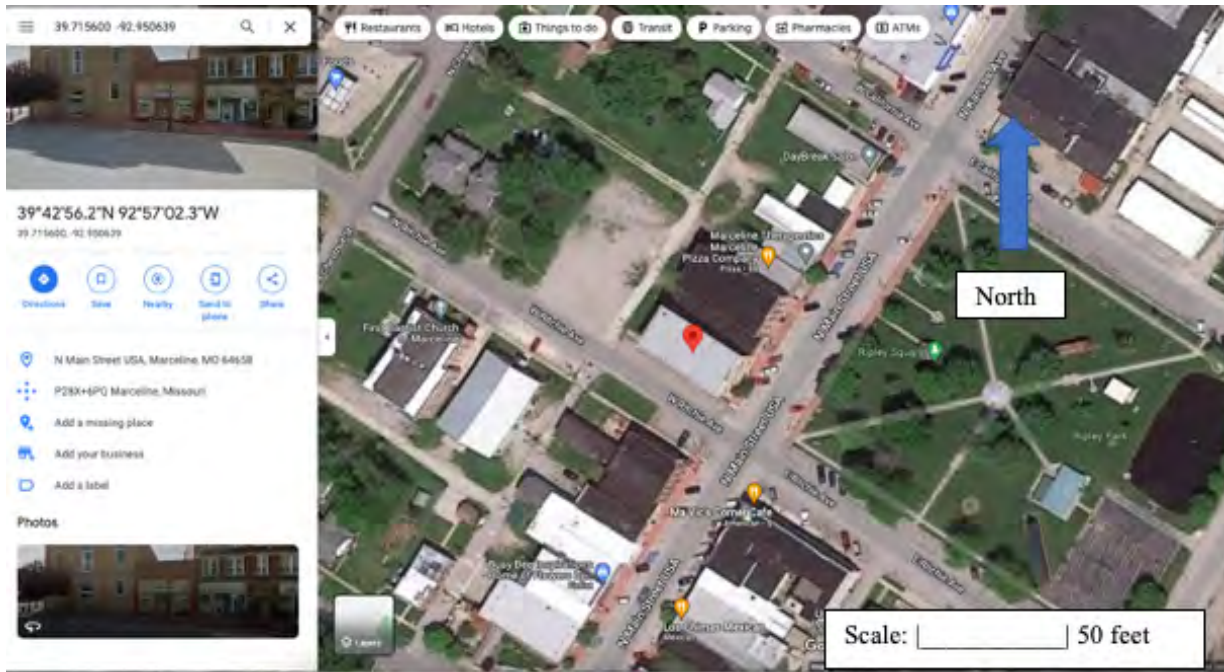


Figure 3: Locational Map (Scale 1 in. = 50 feet)
Longitude/Latitude: 39.715600, -92.950639
Source: Google Maps, accessed 2 February 2023

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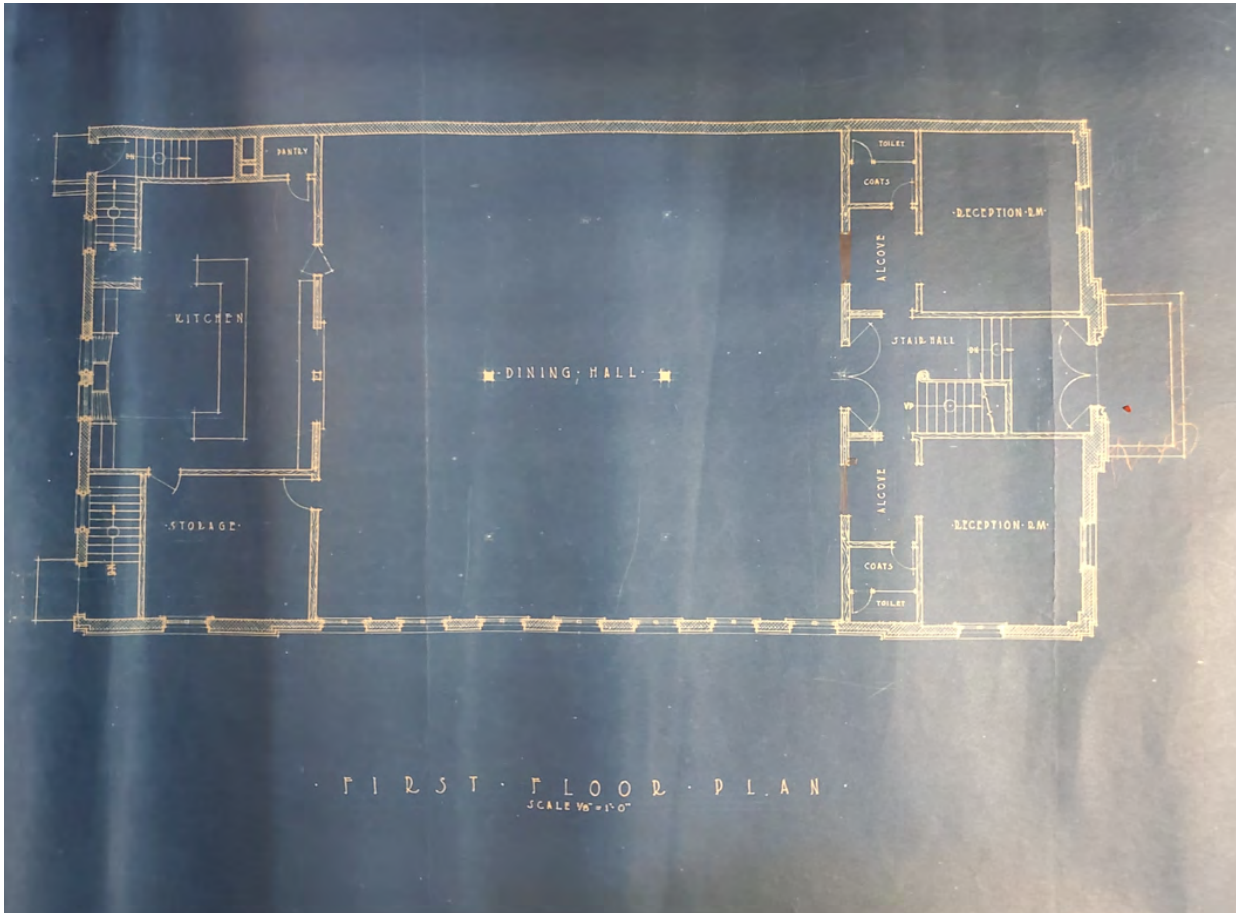


Figure 4: Historic blueprints, First floor with penciled-in changes.
SOURCE: Masonic Lodge Archives.

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Figure 5: Historic blueprints, Second floor with penciled-in changes. SOURCE: Masonic Lodge Archives.

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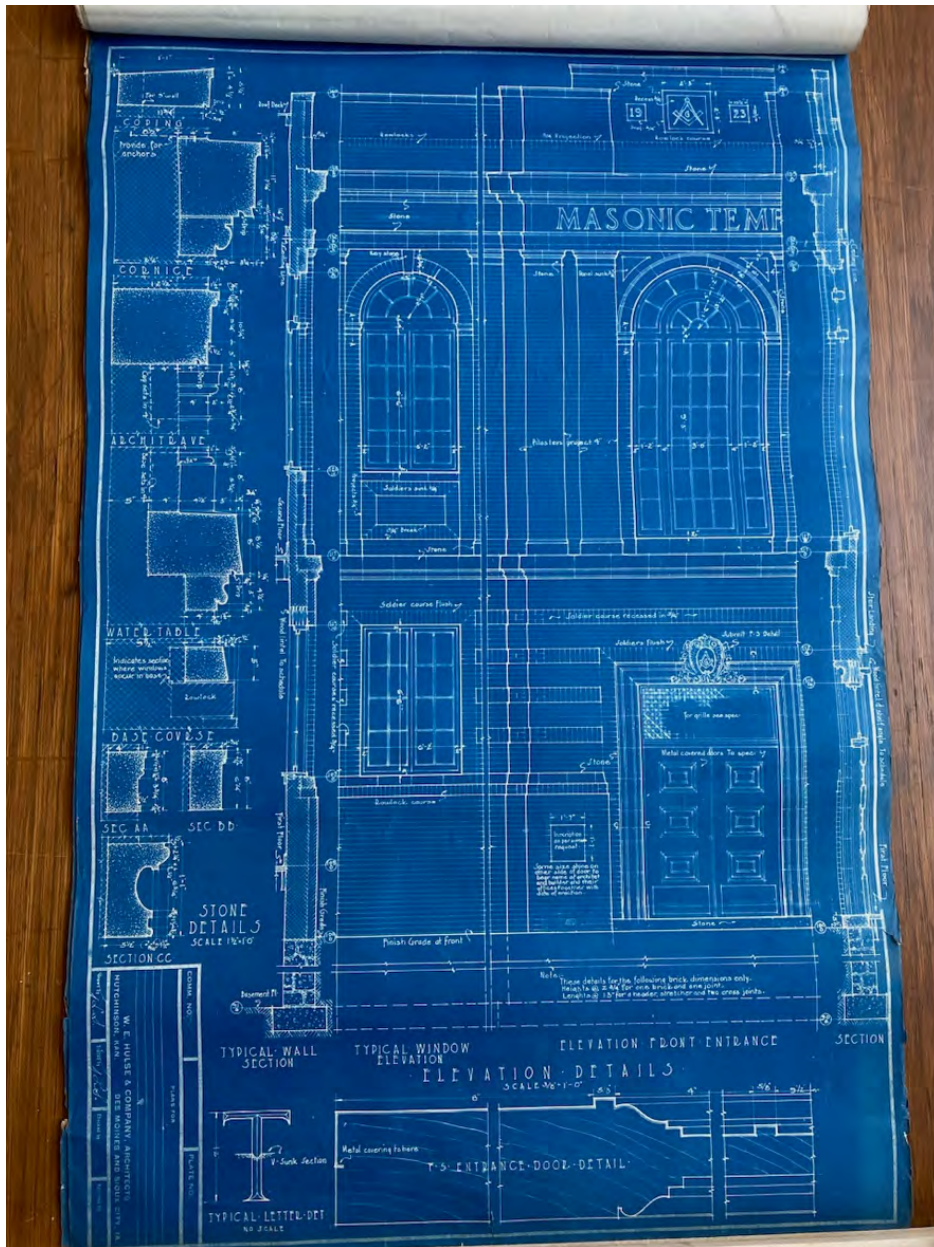


Figure 6: Historic blueprints, East Elevation Façade.
SOURCE: Masonic Lodge Archives.

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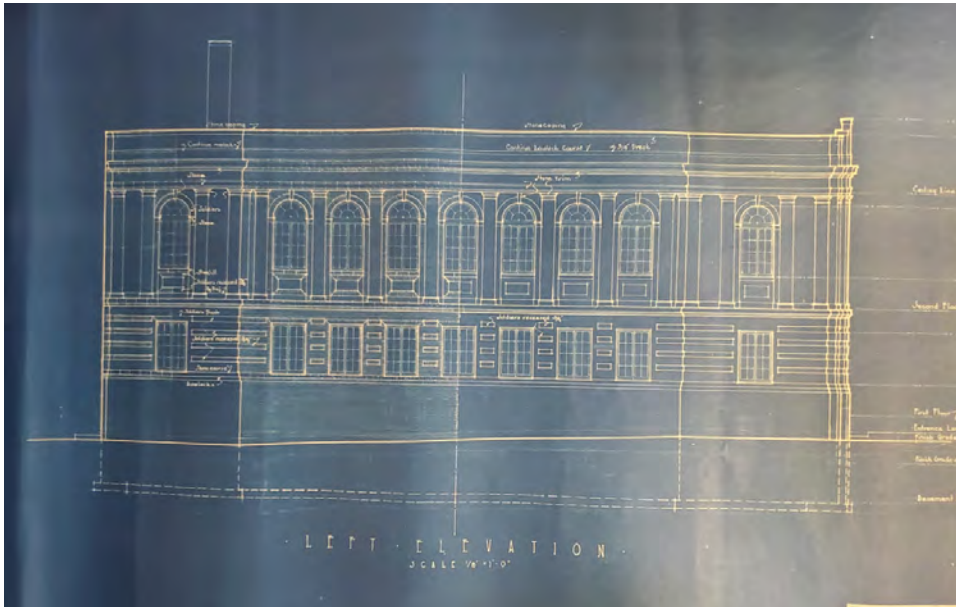


Figure 7: Historic blueprints, South Elevation. SOURCE: Masonic Lodge Archives.



Figure 8: Historic blueprints, West and East Elevations SOURCE: Masonic Lodge Archives.

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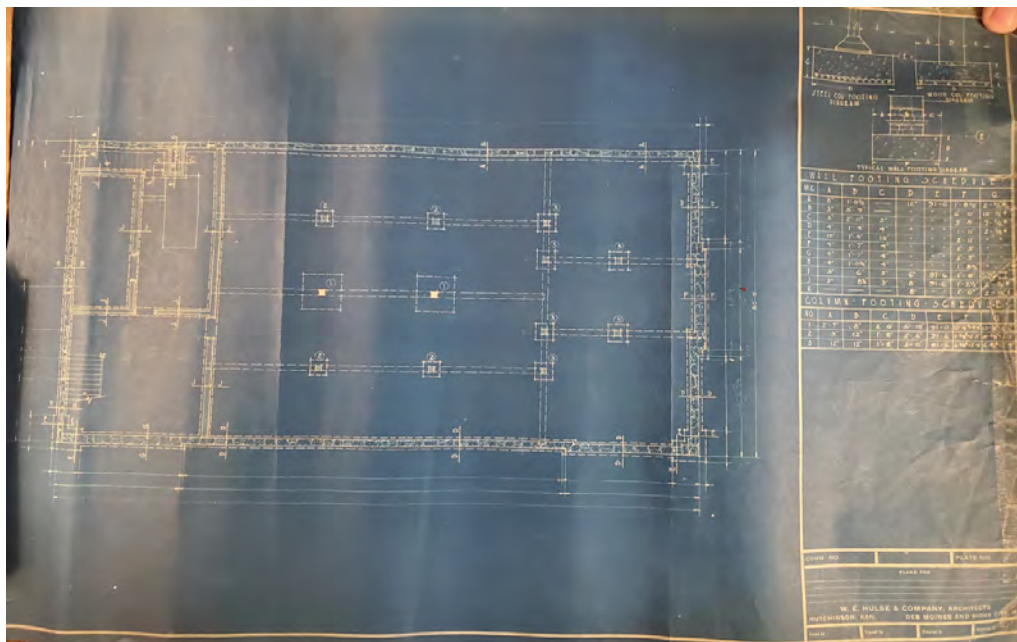


Figure 9: Blueprints, Basement.
SOURCE: Masonic Lodge Archives.

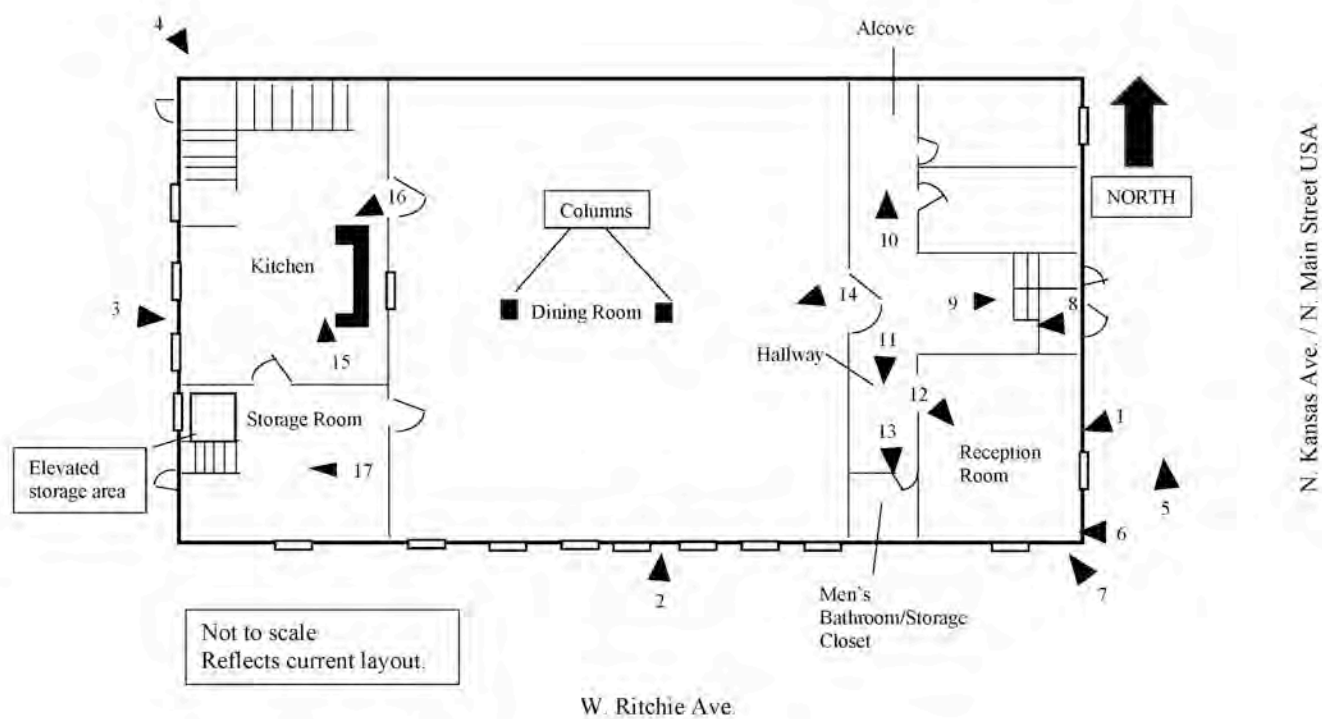


Figure 10: Photo Key, First Floor

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Name of Property

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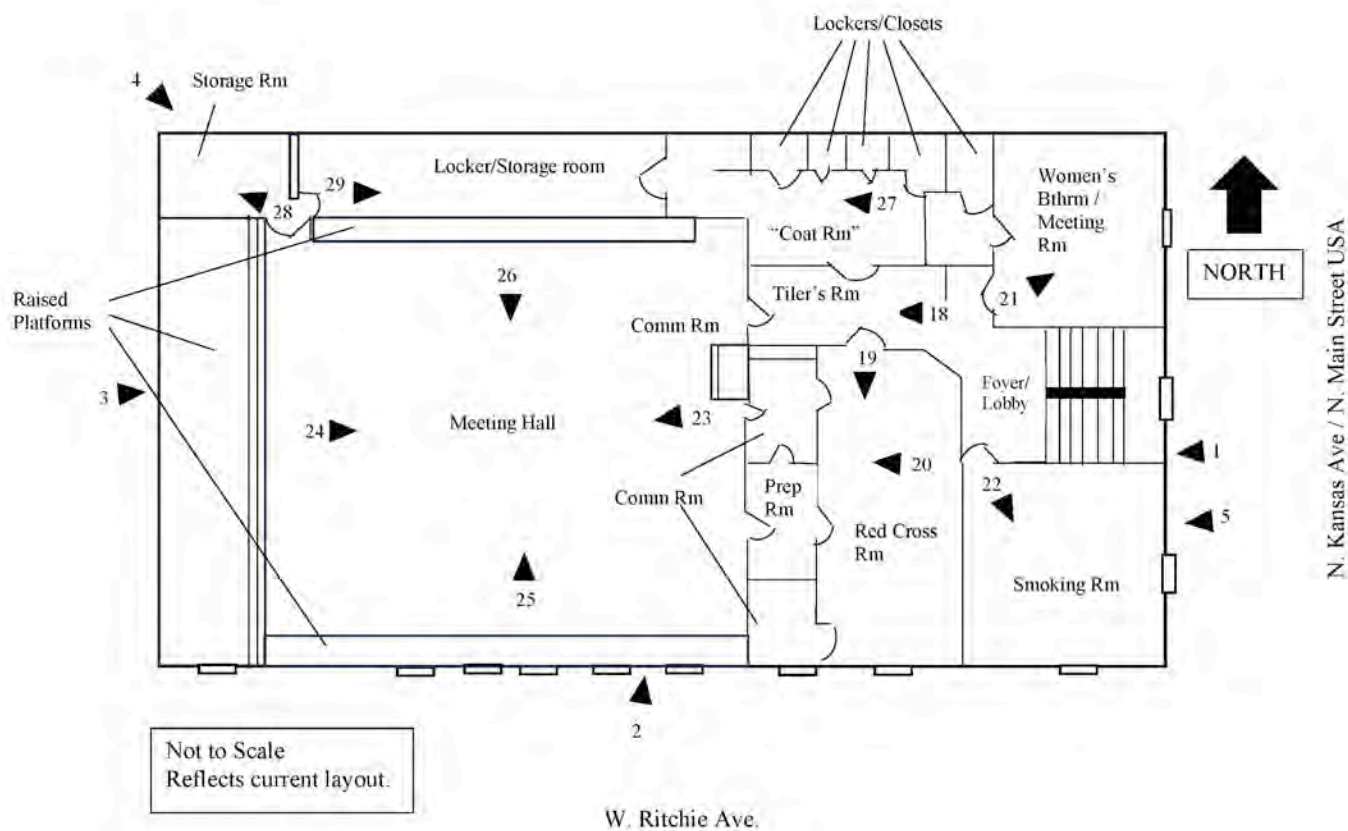


Figure 11: Photo Key, Second Floor

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Name of Property

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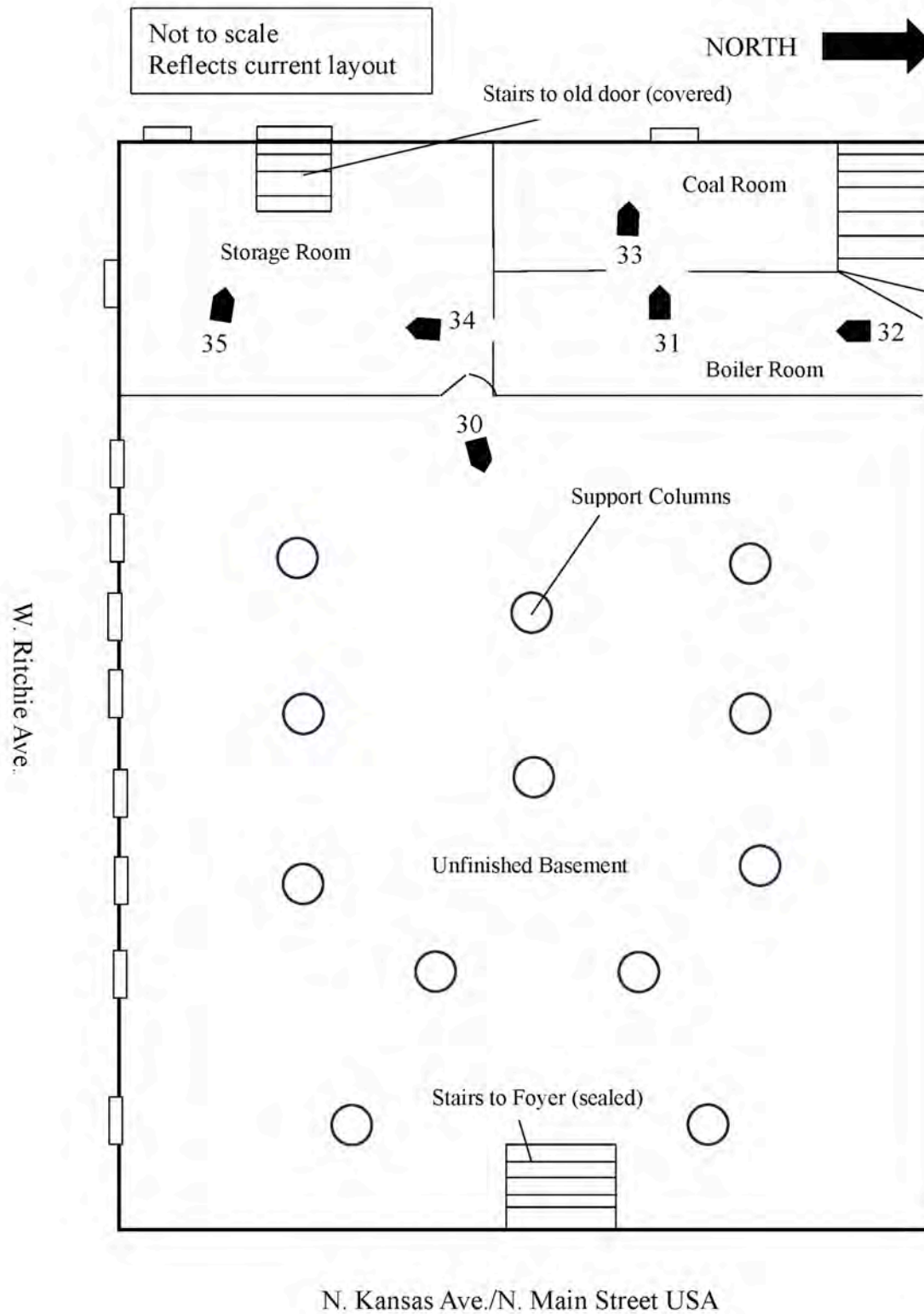


Figure 12: Photo Key, Basement

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Figure 13: Zurcher/Knights of Pythias Building.
Source: Ed Comber, taken 20 July 2023

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Figure 14: Magnolia/IOOF Building
Source: Ed Comber, taken 20 July 2023

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SCHEDULE OF MATERIALS FROM OLD BUILDINGS
— 72 yards Native rock (portions of same will have to be cleaned and broken before placing in forms)
35200 common brick (now cleaned and piled)
90 pieces 2 X 10 14'0"
114 " 2 X 12 12'0"
10 " 2 X 12 20'0"
80 " 2 X 12 24'0"
15 " 2 X 12 random lengths 18 to 22 feet
97 " 2 X 8 25'0"
10 " 2 X 8" 16'0"
51 " 2 X 6 25'0"
20 " 2 X 6 16'0"
100 " 2 X 4 " average 9 feet in length
2 " 6 X 8 14'0"
1 " 6 X 8 12'0"
6 " 2 X 6 10'0"
9000 White Pine Lath
4200 Feet 1 X 6 to 1 X 12 random length sheathing
6000 feet 1 X 4 yellow pine flooring
2 stairways 3'3" wide 20'0" long (stringers may be used for new stairs if same fit properly.)

Figure 15: Floyd Newman Contract, 1923, listing reused material. Masonic Temple Archives



Figure 16: Partial View of 1903 Masonic Building in 1914
SOURCE: DowntownMarceline.com. Accessed 8 May 2023.

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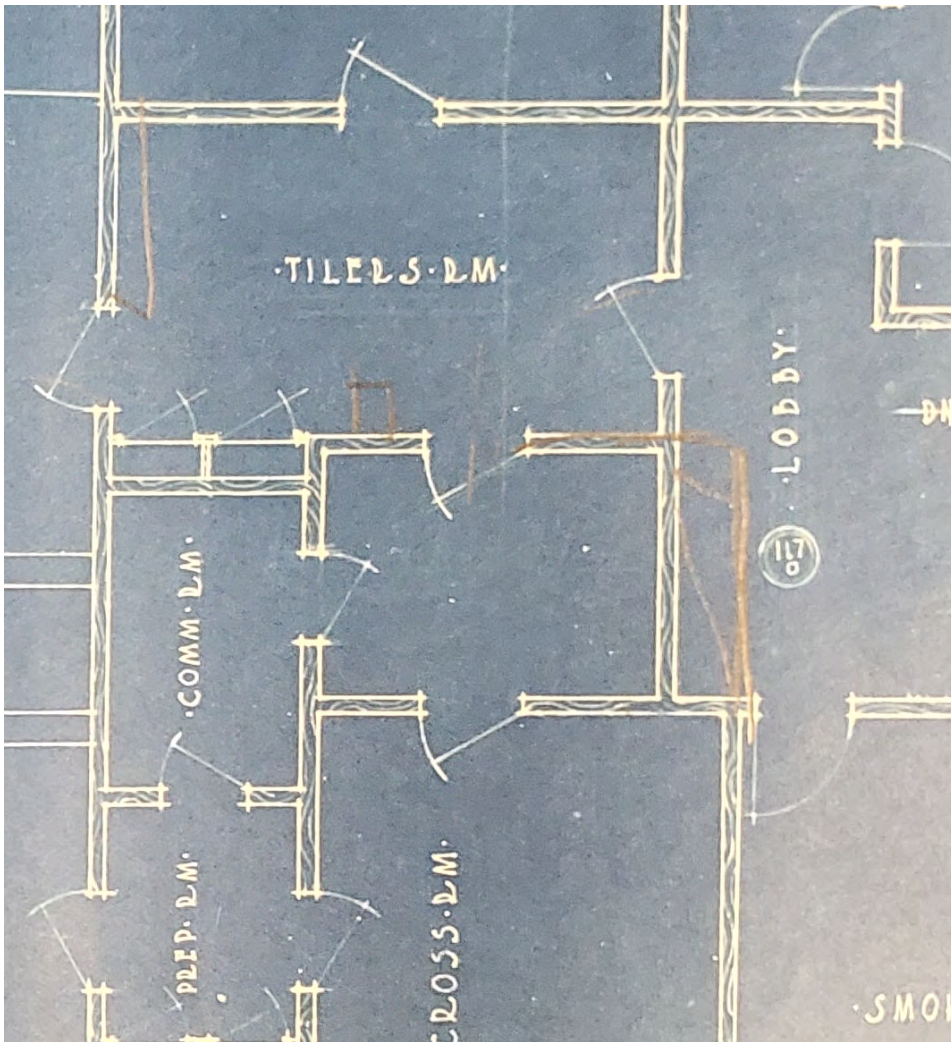


Figure 17: Close-up of Second Floor penciled-in alterations on original 1923 blueprints showing dogleg wall addition (East/left side marking to the west/right of “Lobby”).

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Figure 18: Built-in Cabinet, Tilers Room

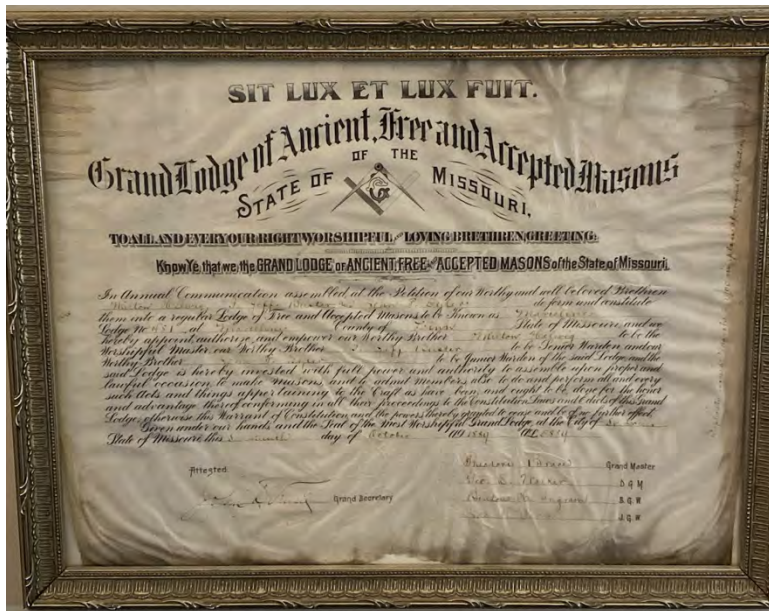


Figure19: Lodge Charter

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Figure 20: Historic Coat Room Door, second floor, facing north

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Figure 21: Boiler Room wall showing recycled bricks, basement, facing west

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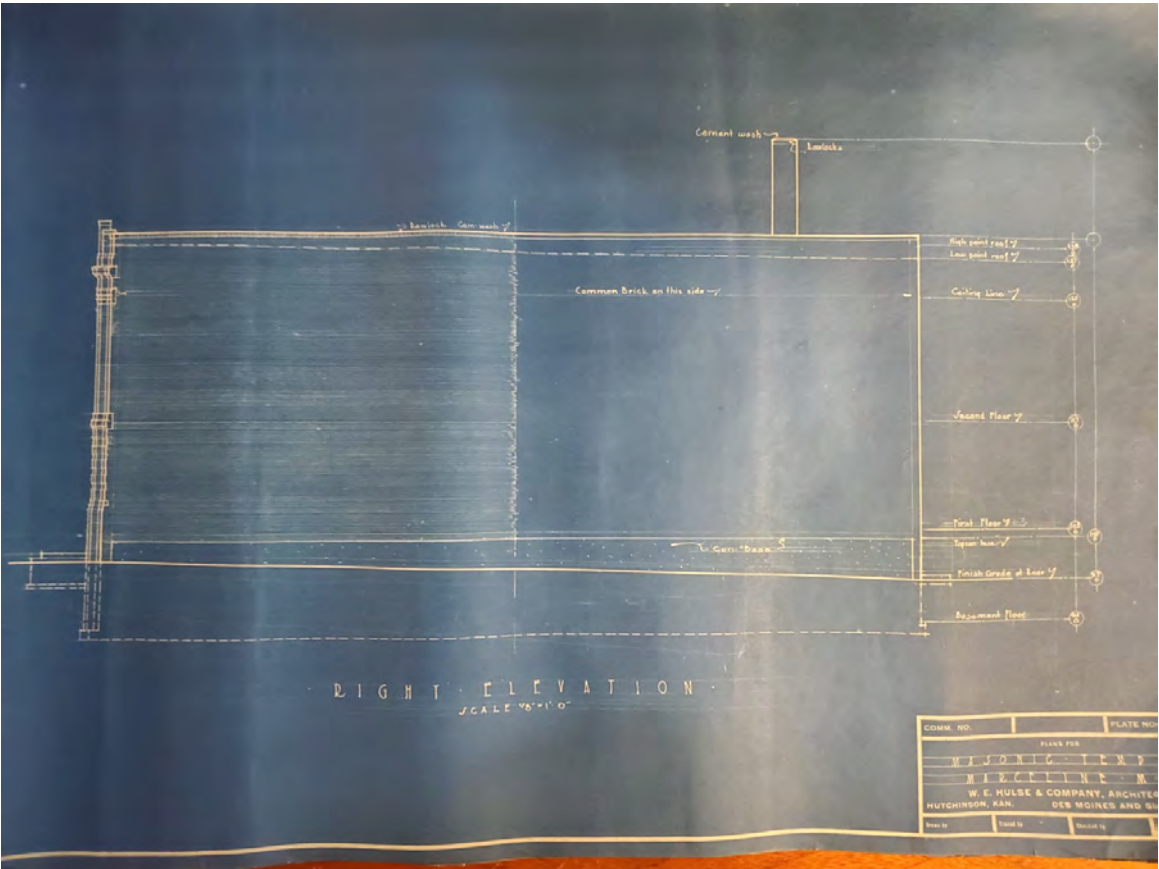


Figure 22: Original Blueprints, North Elevation

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Masonic Hall

Figure 23: Masonic Lodge, undated but prior to 1963.

Source: *Marceline: The Magic City: Centennial Edition, Marceline, Missouri*. City of Marceline. 1988.

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Figure 24: Photo of historic windows in basement, facing south

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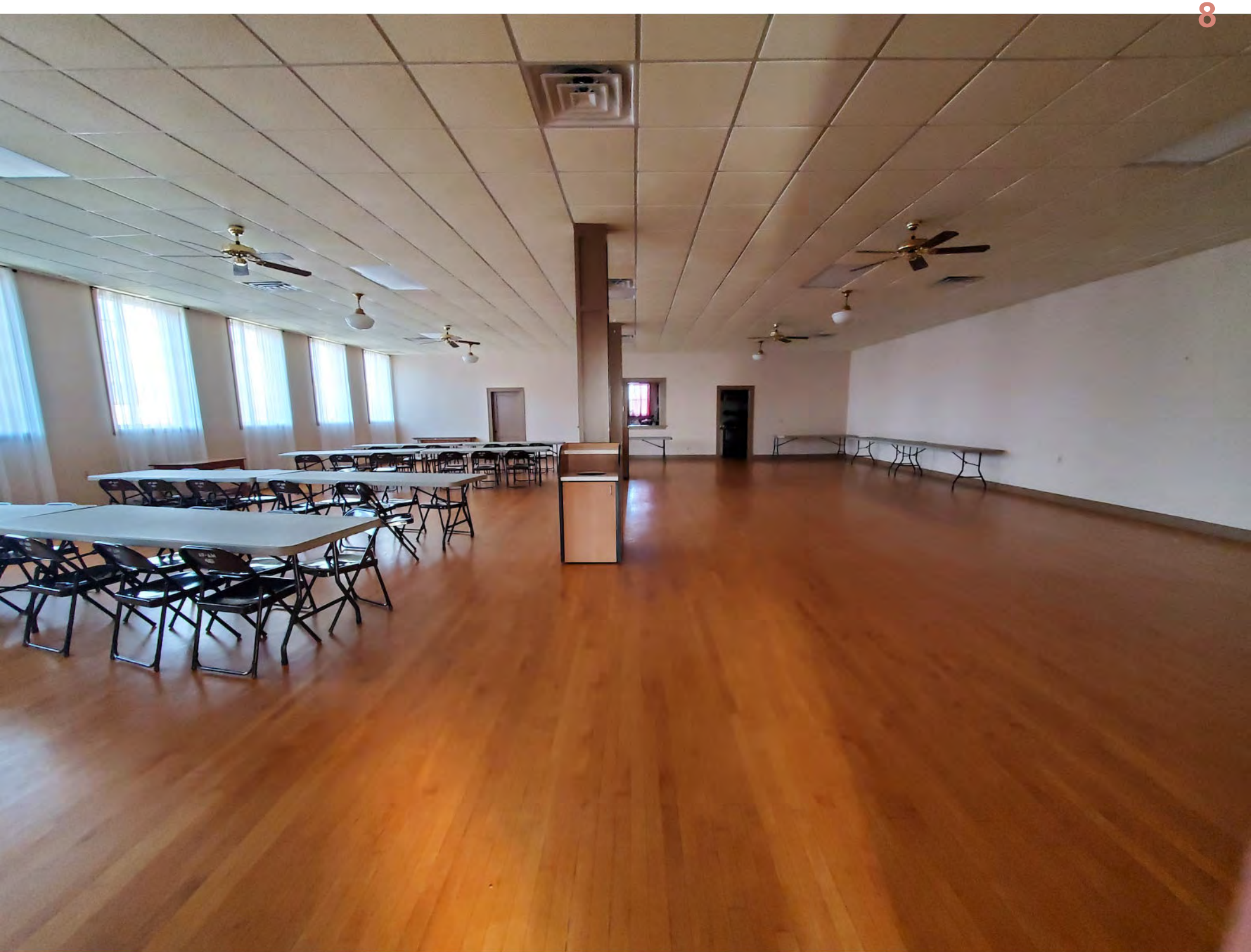




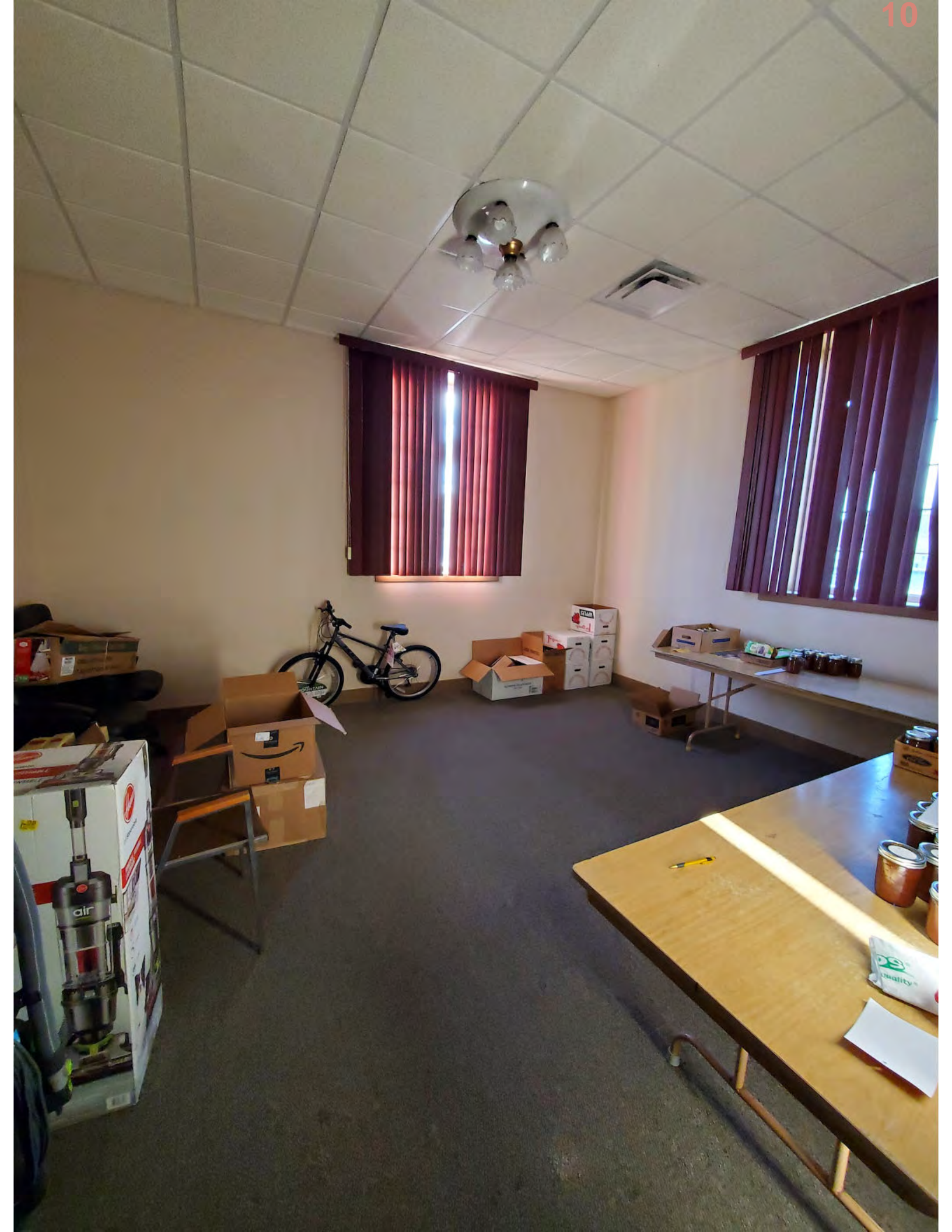




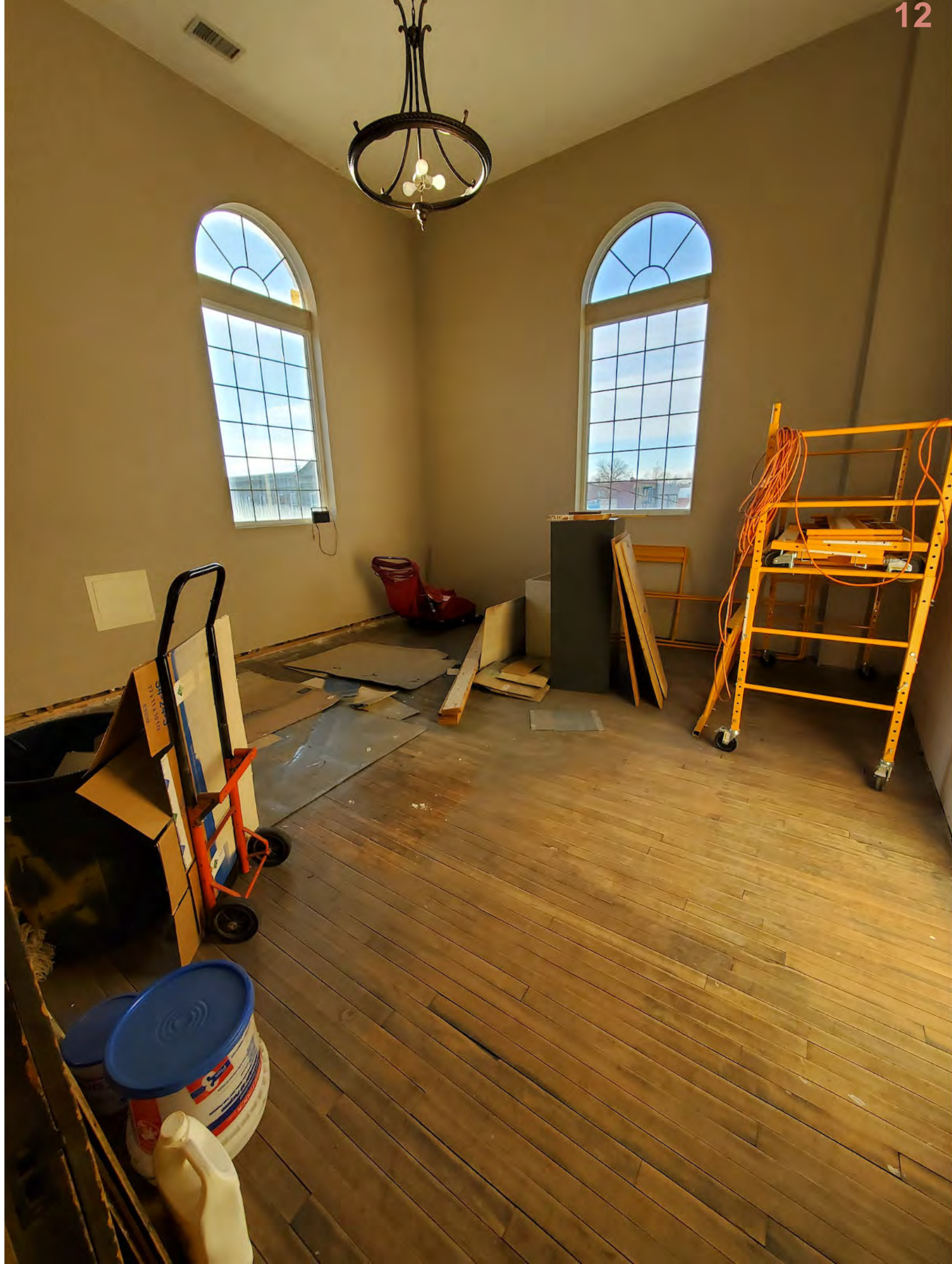






























AUG. 14, 1823

A.L. 5923

BERT S. LEE

GRAND

MASTER







