

MINNESOTA HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

HISTORIC NAME: Masonic Temple/Delta Lodge No. 119 COUNTY: Lyon
 CURRENT NAME: CITY/TWP.: Marshall
 LEGAL DESC.: Lots 5 & 6, Block 4, Original Plat ADDRESS: 325 W. Main
 Marshall, MN 56258

CLASSIFICATION:	CONDITION:	SIGNIFICANCE:	THEME/S:
Building <u> x </u>	Excellent <u> x </u>	Local <u> x </u>	Primary <u> Architecture </u>
Structure <u> </u>	Good <u> </u>	State <u> </u>	Secondary <u> </u>
Object <u> </u>	Fair <u> </u>	National <u> </u>	Others <u> </u>
District <u> </u>	Deteriorated <u> </u>		

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: Yes x No Restricted x PRESENT USE: 2nd floor Masonic Temple
 VISIBLE FROM THE ROAD: Yes x No meeting room - 1st floor commercial
 OCCUPIED: Yes x No

DATE CONSTRUCTED: 1917 ORIGINAL USE: same as above
 ORIGINAL OWNER: Delta Lodge No. 119 Builder: E.M. Johnson
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Architect: F.H. Ellerbe

OWNER'S NAME AND ADDRESS: Delta Lodge No. 119 325 W. Main St. Marshall, MN 56258 ATTN: Tom Bjerke	ACREAGE: Less than one acre <u> x </u>
	UTM REFERENCE: Marshall Quad. 15/278030/4925210

LOCAL CONTACT/ORG.: Lyon County Historical Society
 Courthouse, Marshall, MN 56258
 FORM PREPARED BY: Susan Roth
 DATE: December 1980

DESCRIPTION:
 The Masonic Temple/Delta Lodge No. 119 is located on West Main Street at the terminus of North Third Street in the heart of Marshall's business district. The two story rectangular building is a facade-oriented structure constructed of cast concrete and brick with battered edges. The appearance of the facade resembles a pylon and is strongly characteristic of the Second Egyptian Revival Style. Ornamentation includes tapered concrete window and door enframements, a gorge and roll cornice, and a centrally positioned vulture-and-sun-disk symbol with the Masonic emblem in a central cartouche. Second story fenestration includes two tapered windows at each side and a grouping of five windows enframed by a brick soldier course and separated by tapered concrete columns. Interior Egyptian Revival characteristics include tapered door panels. Since its construction in 1917, the building has provided fraternal and commercial space. In the 1940s siding was placed over a small portion of the street facade, but the original recessed entry was retained and the alterations are reversible.

SIGNIFICANCE:
 The Masonic Temple/Delta Lodge No. 119 is significant as one of the more complete representations of the Second Egyptian Revival Style found in Minnesota. Delta Lodge was organized in 1874, two years after the city of Marshall was platted. The lodge occupied a series of buildings until 1916 when Minneapolis architect F.H. Ellerbe was retained to design a new lodge facility. Ellerbe is noted for designing numerous buildings throughout Minnesota, among them several buildings at the Mayo Clinic. Newspaper articles of the time state that the Masons considered several plans for the facade, deciding that they wanted "something that will be an ornament for years to come."¹ The group chose a Egyptian Revival design at a time when the style was enjoying a resurgence based on the decorative potential of concrete. The battered edges, tapered second floor window openings and concrete street level window and door enframements, gorge-and-roll cornice, stylized papyrus columns, and vulture-and-sun-disk symbol constitute as significant collections of the style's features. The building stands in marked contrast to the other Italianate and Queen Anne commercial buildings (mostly remodeled) located along Marshall's Main Street. The strength of Ellerbe's design and the building's location in the heart of Marshall's business district make it a notable example of the type and a locally significant building.

¹ Lyon County Reporter, 24 January 1917.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lyon County Reporter, 24 January 1917.

"Begin New Masonic Hall Here Soon," Lyon County Reporter, 28 January 1917.

Bjerke, Cheryl, History of Delta Lodge No. 119 A.F. & A.M. Marshall, Minnesota.
Marshall (?): Delta Lodge Centennial Committee, 1976.

"Cornerstone Ceremony," Marshall News Messenger, 20 July 1917, p. 1

"Masonic Contract Let," Marshall News Messenger, 30 March 1917, p. 1

