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NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS FORM 10-900 (Rev. 8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018 [SD-SHPO # ECA-OH-597-1/89] [use paper with at least 25% cotton rag content, use NLQ or LQ printer]

United States Department of the Interior -- National Park Service NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES -- REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering "NA" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Flandreau Masonic Temple
other name/ site number: Old Moody County Courthouse

2. Location

street & number: 300 East Second Avenue /NA/ not for publication
city, town: Flandreau /NA/ vicinity
state: SOUTH DAKOTA code: SD county: Moody code: SD 101 zip code: 57028

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Category of Property Number of Resources within Property:
Contributing Noncontributing
/XX/ private /XX/ building(s) 1 buildings
/ / public-local / / district sites
/ / public-state / / site structures
/ / public-federal / / structure objects
/ / object 1 0 Total
Name of related multiple property listing: Number of contributing resources
previously listed in the National
NA Register: 0

11. Form Prepared by

name/title: Gordon Jones & Jim Gerlach, members; w/tech. assist. by J. Rau, SHPO staff
organization: Mason Lodge No. 11, A.F. & A.M. date: July 26, 1989
street & number: P. O. Box 263 telephone: 605-997-2212
city or town: Flandreau state: SOUTH DAKOTA zip code: 57028

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property name

, Moody  
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA  
state

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

[Signature] Signature of certifying official      9/11/89 Date

S. H. Holt SHPO  
State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria.  
 See continuation sheet.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting or other official      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
 see continuation sheet  
determined eligible for the  
National Register  
 see continuation sheet  
determined not eligible for  
the National Register  
 removed from the National  
Register  
 other, (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
National Register

[Signature] \_\_\_\_\_ 10/19/89

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper      Date

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property name

, Moody  
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA  
state

6. Function or Use (enter categories from instructions)

Historic functions:  
SOCIAL/Meeting Hall  
GOVERNMENT/Courthouse

Current Functions:  
SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

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7. Description

Architectural Classification:  
(enter categories from instructions)  
Colonial Revival

Materials:  
(enter categories from instructions)  
foundation Concrete  
walls Stucco

roof Wood Shingle  
other Wood

Describe present and historic physical appearance: /XX/ see continuation sheet

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8. Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in  
relation to other properties: / / / / /XX/  
nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria /XX/ A / /B / /C / /D

Criteria Considerations / /A / /B / /C / /D / /E / /F / /G

Areas of Significance (enter from instructions)

Social History

Period of Significance  
1916-1939

Significant Dates  
1880  
1882  
1916  
1919

Significant Person  
NA

Cultural Affiliation  
NA

Architect/Builder  
Simpson, M. B.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations,  
and periods of significance noted above /XX/ see continuation sheet

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National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet**

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Situated on a corner lot in the heart of the city of Flandreau, the Flandreau Masonic Temple (Old Moody County Courthouse) is a massive two-story rectangular Colonial Revival building. Rising from a poured concrete foundation, the wood frame walls are covered with stucco and encircled by a three foot high brick watertable. The temple is capped by a hipped roof covered with wood shingles. A tall brick chimney rises from the northwest (front) corner. Projecting from the center of the west (front) facade is a huge pediment supported by four Ionic columns. Fenestration is generally balanced consisting mostly of paired rectangular windows with one-over-one lights. A small open portico projects on the south gable end facing Second Street. A shed roofed kitchen annex juts out from the north facade. Interior space is divided into several large rooms to accommodate social functions and lodge meetings. Much of the original interior oak woodwork remains intact.

When originally constructed in 1882 to serve as the county courthouse, the building was designed in a late-Victorian vernacular style. At that time the imposing rectangular building sported a gable roof with a large gabled dormer projecting from the center of each axial facade. The gables were decorated with bargeboard. The Masonic lodge purchased the building in 1916. In 1919, a fire damaged part of the building forcing major remodeling. The Colonial Revival treatments apparently were added at that time.

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Under Criterion A of the National Register Criteria, the Flandreau Masonic Temple is significant in the area of social history, because for over seventy years it has served the small farming community as a center of social activity. Originally constructed as the first Moody County Courthouse, the building was restyled by the Masonic lodge shortly after acquiring the property in 1916. It has been a landmark for several generations of local residents. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the property relates to the historic context labeled: V. Depression and Rebuilding, D. Social Organization.

As early as 1862, Freemasonry played a role in the life of Dakota Territory. In that year the first lodge of the order of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was organized at Ft. Randall. However, the members failed to secure a charter and the lodge disbanded. Soon thereafter the first Masonic charter in Dakota was granted to St. John's Lodge at Yankton. The order spread fairly rapidly throughout the territory. By the time of statehood in 1889, there were 73 lodges with over 3,000 members in South Dakota. North Dakota had 32 lodges with some 1,300 members.

Flandreau was first settled in 1857 by a few White speculators operating under a Dakota Land Company charter; however, they soon abandoned the townsite due to threat of Indian attack. In 1859, 25 families of Sioux Indians took up residence there. A decade later, they were joined by another contingent of White settlers. The town was officially founded in 1872. Moody County was organized the next year. Flandreau continues to host a federal Indian school and to support a significant Indian population.

Lodge No. 11 in Flandreau received its charter on June 9, 1880. At first meetings were held at various buildings throughout the town. In 1890, the lodge built the second story of a local bank building. By 1916, membership had increased dramatically and, the old facilities were no longer adequate. At that time, the lodge purchased the old county courthouse, which had been replaced in 1914. The old building, constructed in 1882 by local contractor M. B. Simpson, was a two-story wood frame vernacular Victorian edifice. On March 20, 1919 a fire swept through the masonic temple causing considerable damage. With insurance funds and volunteer labor from lodge members, the building was restored and remodeled. It was restyled with a hipped roof and pedimented porticoes giving the building a Neo-Colonial appearance. It has served as the lodge temple ever since. The initial debt for purchase and renovation was retired in the mid-1940s. Since the founding of the lodge, masons have engaged in a wide variety of community service throughout Flandreau and many of the lodge members have risen to high offices within the Masonic order.

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Until construction of a public auditorium in the mid 1970s, the Masonic Temple was the only large meeting place in the city. Thus, in addition to housing lodge functions, the temple has been the setting for a multitude of other local affairs including high school proms and National Honor Society banquets. It continues to be an indispensable part of the community's social organization. Generations of citizens, whether or not they are members of the lodge, have fond remembrances of activities at the temple.

The period of significance of the nominated property extends from the beginning of its use as a masonic temple in 1916 to 1939, the established 50-year cut-off date for the National Register.

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property name

, Moody  
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA  
state

9. Major Bibliographical References

/XX/ see continuation sheet

Previous documentation by 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 # \_\_\_\_\_

Primary location of additional data:

- /XX/ State historic preservation office
- / / Other State agency
- / / Federal agency
- / / Local government
- / / University
- / / Other

Specify repository:

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property: Less than one acre

UTM References:

A = /14/	/693-000/	/4880-000/	B = / /	/ /	/ /
C = / /	/ /	/ /	D = / /	/ /	/ /
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

Quad: Flandreau

Scale: 1:24000

/ / see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is bounded by the legal description as recorded in the Moody County Register of Deeds Office: West 75 feet of Lots 4, 5, and 6, of Block 8, Original plat of the City of Flandreau, Moody County, South Dakota.

/ / see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of the nominated property are based on legally recorded lot lines of the parcel historically associated with the property.

/ / see continuation sheet

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Atlas of Moody County, South Dakota. Fergus Falls, MN: Thomas O. Nelson Co., 1965.

"Courthouse Proposition." Moody County Enterprise. September 12, 1912. Reprinted in 1977 centennial edition.

"Cornerstone-- Impressive Ceremonies at New Courthouse Grounds." Moody County Enterprise. July 23, 1914. Reprinted in 1977 centennial edition.

"Masons to Hold Bond-Fire Next Wednesday Night." Moody County Enterprise. 1945 (?).

Robinson, Doane. Encyclopedia of South Dakota. Pierre, SD: privately printed at Sioux Falls, SD, 1925. pp.265-267.

Schell, Herbert S. History of South Dakota. 3rd ed., rev.: Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1975. pp. 73, 76.



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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

1.

Flandreau Masonic Temple

Flandreau, Moody County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

West (front) and north facades, camera facing south-southeast

Photo No. 1

2.

Flandreau Masonic Temple

Flandreau, Moody County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

West and south facades, camera facing northeast

Photo No. 2

3.

Flandreau Masonic Temple

Flandreau, Moody County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

Interior of second story lodge chamber, camera facing north

Photo No. 3