

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

56-1269

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.

### 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge, No. 524

Other names/site number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of related multiple property listing:

N/A

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)



### 2. Location

Street & number: 3301 Price Avenue

City or town: Cincinnati State: Ohio County: Hamilton

Not For Publication:  N/A Vicinity:  N/A

### 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 X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A \_\_\_ B \_\_\_ C \_\_\_ D

Barbara Power, DSHPO for Inventory & Registration May 9, 2017  
Signature of certifying official/Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date  
State Historic Preservation Office, Ohio History Connection 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

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**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:)

*Joe Edson H. Beall*  
Signature of the Keeper

*7.3.17*  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

(Check only one box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings
_____	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Vacant-Not in Use

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals:

Italian Renaissance Revival

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**Materials:** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK, STONE: Limestone

### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

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### Summary Paragraph

Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge, No. 524 is located on the southwest corner of Price Avenue and Purcell Avenue in East Price Hill, a suburb of Cincinnati. The Masonic Temple is built within the Incline District of East Price Hill which was developed around the late 1800s. As the oldest neighborhood located on the western hilltop, the landscape has a diverse collection of architectural styles.

The Masonic Temple is one of four architecturally and historically significant secular public buildings in the Incline District, each of distinctive design. These include the District #3 Police Station (HAM-1848-20); the Price Hill Branch Library (HAM-07392-20); and the Price Hill Firehouse. The police station, a Renaissance Revival brick edifice designed by Harry Hake (1871-1952), is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of a thematic nomination of police patrol stations in the city. Set well back from the street on a deep green with semicircular drive, the library is a one-story Renaissance Revival brick edifice funded by Andrew Carnegie. Located opposite the police station, the firehouse is a brick Romanesque

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Revival structure built in the late 1880s. The library and firehouse were recommended as eligible for National Register listing by the Cincinnati Historic Inventory in 2003.

The Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge, No. 524 is a large (19,844 gross sq. ft.), four-story, rectangular and stately structure in East Price Hill. The property is located on a corner lot that enjoys great visibility and is a focal point for the East Price Hill Incline District. It is noteworthy for fine detailing in brick and stone, including Masonic emblems and monumental arches.

The exterior of the building is a combination of stone and brick. The building sits upon a rusticated limestone foundation and features cream colored brick in running bond on the upper floors. The front façade faces Purcell Avenue, is symmetrical in style and features stone belt courses, wood windows with Roman lattice mullions, stone window sills, blind arches, a deep bracketed copper cornice, parapet roof, and a brick pediment. These details are common characteristics of the Italian Renaissance Revival style. Many of these features continue on the north elevation while the south and west elevations have minimal detailing.

The Price Hill Masonic Temple has many architectural elements that contribute to the historic integrity of the building. Historic elements on the exterior of the Temple that retain integrity are windows, doors, ornamental brickwork, carved Masonic symbols, stone window sills, and architectural detailing such as arches, pilasters, parapet walls, stone string courses, and keystones. The interior also has historic integrity, and features many intact materials such as plaster walls and ceilings, wood moulding, and doors. In addition, room layouts have not changed since it was first built.

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## **Narrative Description**

### **SETTING**

The area around Price Hill Masonic Temple has been predominantly residential since the late 1800s. Escaping the factory soot and congestion of the downtown basin, residents took advantage of the cleaner environment. The Sanborn Map of 1891 indicates there was a combination of large estates, modest two-story homes, and row houses within the blocks surrounding the site of the Masonic Temple. Many of these homes are still standing today and according to Ohio Historic Inventory reports, these homes vary in style from Queen Anne, Italianate, Classical Revival, Victorian, and Renaissance Revival. Also indicated on the 1891 Sanborn Map, are a number of different churches including, Price Hill Methodist Church, Church of the Nativity, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Church of the Holy Family, and Mount Saint Mary Catholic Theology Seminary. The area is pedestrian friendly with sidewalks leading to and from the residential neighborhoods into the commercial district. Warsaw and Glenway Avenues are wide streets with lots of commercial activity and heavy traffic. The side streets leading into the residential area, such as Purcell and Considine Avenues, are narrow and are lightly traveled. Price Hill was developed to discourage car traffic from the area. This was an area that would act as a sanctuary from noisy city traffic and pollution. It was rare to find a

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residence with a driveway. The Masonic Temple does not have onsite parking and many residents park on street.

Just one block north of the Temple is Warsaw Avenue which is the central commercial district of East Price Hill dating back to 1880s. The other large commercial district is off of Glenway Avenue located two blocks north of the Temple. To the east of the Temple is Holy Family Church, the first Roman Catholic Church of the area dating back to 1884. Beyond the Church is the original Price Hill House site dating back to 1874, redeveloped in 1963. Located to the northeast of Price Hill Masonic Temple is the historic Hubbard Park where the Price Hill Branch Public Library and Third District Police Station are located. South of the building along Purcell Avenue are grand estates built during the late 1800s. These estates were built for the first well-to-do residents of Price Hill and today a number of them are being restored.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps illustrate the development of the Price Hill neighborhood in the early twentieth century. The 1904 Sanborn Map publication shows an increase in row house structures between West Eighth Street and Price Avenue and larger single family estates south of West Eighth Street. The Sanborn Map indicates that development was happening just to the south and east of the future Price Hill Masonic Temple location (Figure 1). During this time period it appears that residential construction was the leading focus. There do not appear to be any structures related to commercial or social development in the neighborhood.

By the 1930s the landscape of East Price Hill changed drastically. The 1934-1937 Sanborn Map shows numerous commercial and public buildings including the Price Hill Branch Public Library, the Third District Police Station and Firehouse, public schools, and storefronts along Price Avenue. It is evident that the growth of public services attracted residents. The 1934-1937 Sanborn Map shows a home or row house on nearly every lot (Figure 2). Thirty years earlier, less than fifty-percent of each block had been developed. The construction of the centrally-located Masonic Temple predates the housing boom suggesting the Freemasons anticipated growth within the neighborhood and were able to offer their services to new community members.

Between the 1930s and 1950, East Price Hill flourished with the help of successful commercial districts and new residents. By 1950 the housing market began to decline and residents looked to the west for more rural settings. The once spacious and walkable neighborhood became overcrowded and dominated by commercial traffic. These social changes altered the feeling of the historic neighborhood that lead to the decline of the community. Today, the area remains underpopulated and the remaining infrastructure is in various states of disrepair. Despite these challenges, East Price Hill is a tight-knit community that believes in investing in their neighborhood and recently has made an effort to restore a number of historic buildings.

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## EXTERIOR

The Price Hill Masonic Temple is a large four-story, rectangular building in East Price Hill. It is located on a corner lot and the structure site/lot size has not changed since it was originally built. It is a yellow/buff glazed brick structure, with ornamental brickwork, a limestone foundation, and original windows intact (Photos 1-4). The structure was built to Masonic principles with every direction, East, North, South and West properly placed in the architectural design of the building. The booklet, *Price Hill Lodge, No. 524, 100th Anniversary – 1882-1982*, states, “The new Temple was beautiful to Behold.” Based on Masonic standards, the cornerstone for the new temple was laid in the northeast corner at Price and Purcell Avenues on July 15, 1911.

Certain identifying features, such as a rectangular structure, overhanging eaves with decorative brackets beneath, narrow windows combined with arched windows, describes the Italian Renaissance Revival architectural style. All the architectural features are symmetrical in their placement. Above the front entrance is a grouping of three stilted arches that would normally appear as openings for windows. In the front façade, however, the arches are blind: an architectural design feature that was popular among Masonic Temple designs. Conversely, on the side of the building, similar arches revert to being real window openings. Another typical design feature of the Masonic Temple is the placement of globe light fixtures on the low wing walls of the exterior staircase on the front façade. These two tall light fixtures represent the two bronze columns that were prominent architectural features of King Solomon's Temple. These columns represent strength and establishment.

The larger narrow, double-hung rectangular windows, on the first and third levels, recall the Italian Renaissance Revival style. The brick lintel with a keystone above is characteristic of Classical detailing which this particular style is based on. The windows on the second, third, and fourth floor have distinctive Roman lattice mullions. Another noteworthy feature is a decorative belt course, delineating the upper level of the building. The top of the building crowns the full façade and side elevations with a parapet wall. Beneath is an overhanging eave with a copper cornice and brackets. Today, the majority of that decorative, copper cladding feature is missing.

On three sides of the building, five carved, inset, limestone panels bear Masonic emblems. There are two styles of limestone panels. The first carved panel is the most recognizable icon of Freemasons. The carved "G" in stone represents geometry and God. Surrounding the "G" is a square and a compass. Both the square and the compass are architect's tools used in Masonic rituals. The square is an emblem of innocence and sacrifices and a sign that one needs to square their actions. The compass signifies the importance of living in moderation. The space between the two points of the compass represents friendship, mortality, and brotherly love. The rays projecting out from the "G" alludes to sun rays or the all Seeing Eye. These emblems are similar in meaning and remind one that God is the architect of the universe and He has the ability to see everything we do and say. The sun emblem can also be a reminder to lodge members that the sun obeys God and to govern the lodge with regularity.

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The second limestone panel found on the façade consists of a Triple Tau, a triangle, a circle, and protruding rays. The Triple Tau is an emblem from the Royal Arch Chapter associated with the York Rite from York, England. The emblem looks like three "T's" linked together to form a cross. The linked letters signify the Temple of Jerusalem and represent the Trinity of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The circle and the triangle represent an endless symbol of divinity.

## INTERIOR

Today, the interior of the building has sustained some damage from water incursion and lack of a heat source. Most of the woodwork and plasterwork is intact and there has been little interior modification. The one exception is the northeast staircase, which had suffered considerable water damage and was replaced with a temporary wood staircase. All other staircases, auditorium/banquet hall, third floor lodge room, and second and fourth floor spaces remain intact.

There are three entrance doors on the east façade that lead into a foyer. The northeast staircase within the foyer leads down to the basement and up to a projection room above the foyer. The basement is partially below grade and held billiards, poolrooms and a bowling alley according to a *Cincinnati Enquirer* article published after construction.<sup>1</sup> Today the space is empty except for modern mechanical equipment.

Back upstairs to the first floor, the foyer opens into a banquet hall/auditorium (Photo 5). Historically this room was built to accommodate six hundred people, an indication that the Temple was built to serve the surrounding community. The two-story space has many historic features still intact. These historic details include plaster walls and ceiling, wood floors, wood windows with hopper lights, chair rails, picture rails, projector doors on the second floor, door trim, baseboards, brass ceiling light fixtures, and a coffered ceiling (Photos 6-9). At the west end of the auditorium is a large curved stage. The stage is simple in design and has a Neo-Classical surround. The stage flooring has been removed and the finished wall of the apron facing the acting area has been removed. On either side of the stage are historic doors leading to the anterooms. The anteroom on the south side of the stage has original wood trim, picture rail, and egress door. During a previous renovation the wood floor was covered with vinyl flooring and a bathroom was installed in the northwest corner of the room.

Through the wide cased opening of the southern anteroom lies the kitchen. The kitchen space is original to the building. The appliances, plumbing fixtures, cabinets, and ceiling fan are a later addition. The wood floor has been covered up with a contemporary material and the original vents associated with the passive ventilation system have been covered up with plywood. Historic materials that are intact are the wood flooring (under the vinyl tiles), plaster walls and ceiling, wood trim, and wood windows and doors (Photo 10).

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<sup>1</sup> "Corner Stone of New Masonic Temple." *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, 9 July 1911.



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The stair hall and an entrance off of Price Avenue is located to the north of the kitchen. The same historic detailing continues through the space (Photo 11). The stair is also historic and has original balusters, treads, finish string, railing, newel drop, and newel post with cap. The vestibule along the north wall is missing the original wood doors but the transom with four dividing lights is intact (Photo 12). The flooring within this space is composed of one inch by one inch tiles with a Greek key pattern border. The last room on the first floor is the second anteroom. With similar historic detailing to the southern anteroom, this room also has a small bathroom and updated flooring. The historic window on the north wall is also intact.

The stair on the west side of the building leads to the upper floors. The second floor held an office, a reception room, and a recreation room according to a description written in the *Cincinnati Enquirer* in 1912. These rooms have many historic features including wood baseboards, wood doors with trim, historic windows, deep cased openings, plaster walls and ceilings, and a historic railing with balustrades in the stair hall (Photos 13-15). Over the years modifications were made to the spaces. Modifications include contemporary carpet, updated lighting fixtures, and ceiling fans.

The third floor holds the lodge room, additional office spaces, committee rooms, and historic smoking room. The office spaces are constructed with similar materials and are in the same condition as the second floor offices (Photos 16-18). The two offices on the south side of the building have had minor alterations. During a previous renovation (date unknown) an existing opening was infilled and wood baseboard matching the historic trim was installed over the patched wall. In the stair hall just outside of the two offices, a historic opening was covered with drywall on the stair hall side only. This alteration left the original materials intact including the trim work in the cased opening. A new opening was built a few feet north of the original stair hall opening and it appears a wall was removed to the east of the opening just underneath the stairs leading to the mezzanine level (Photo 19). The hall outside the lodge room has historic wood floors, a chair rail, base molding, door trim, wood doors, plaster walls and ceilings, and horizontal wood trim along the lodge room wall.

At the time of construction the lodge room was one of the largest in the state measuring forty-two feet by sixty-one feet. The room does not have any windows except for three stained glass skylights, which have been covered up at the roof level (Photo 20). The three skylights symbolize the duty of a Mason to himself, neighbor, and God. There are four remaining Masonic symbols etched into the stain glass. One symbol has the "G," square, and compass emblems within a circle, another is the Triple Tau within a square inside a circle, the third is a five-point star, and the last is a cipher. The five-pointed star, with two-points up, is the symbol for the female lodge called Order of the Eastern Star. The cipher is a series of letters arranged in a circle. The letters are K.S.H.T.W.S.S.T. and match the letters found on the floor of Solomon's Temple leading to a keystone which reveals the secret name of God, Jahbulon. The letters stand for Hiram Tyrian, Widow's Son, sent to King Solomon.

At the east end of the room, representing the beginning of the day according to Masons, there is a stage with three steps leading to a platform where the worship master would sit (Photo 21). At

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the west side of the room there are two steps where the senior warden would sit (Photo 22). Along the perimeter of the room there is a one-step platform where the lodge members would sit (Photo 23). The lodge room has minimal ornamentation. There is a wood chair rail that wraps around the room, plaster ceiling beams with a coved edge with Classical detailing, and painted flush wall panels with trim. There is also a balcony at the west end of the room that was built for vocalists and musicians.<sup>2</sup> To the south of the stage is a dressing or robing room with historic wood trim, wood flooring, baseboards, plaster walls and ceiling, and historic windows.

On the north side of the stage there is access to the northeast staircase leading down a long hallway to the projector room that runs along the backside of the lodge room. This hallway has three large windows which look onto Price Avenue and has a double-height space that maximizes the natural daylight. Within the hallway there is historic trim work, baseboards, ceiling light fixtures, wood doors, wood flooring, windows, and horizontal trim with coat hooks (Photos 24). At the west end of the hallway is a restroom with historic trim, a wood door, and original window.

The projector room is a long narrow room located under the lodge room stage. The space has historic wood trim, plaster walls and ceiling, wood doors, and wood windows (Photo 25). There is a small bathroom located to the south of the room with a historic window and tiled flooring. Modifications to the projector room include carpeting over the wood flooring and contemporary lighting fixtures.

The fourth floor contains the balcony for the lodge room, an organ room, and two additional rooms. The balcony projects approximately two feet into the lodge room with Classical detailing. Inside the balcony area the railing is made of stained beadboard and a wood top rail. The floor has carpet over wood flooring (Photo 26). The organ room and the two additional rooms have similar historic features. These features include baseboards, wood trim, windows, wood doors, plaster walls and ceilings, and wood floors (Photos 27). There are minimal alterations on the fourth floor. These include a beadboard wall infill in the southwest room, carpeting in the balcony area, vinyl composition tile on the north end, updated lighting, and severe water damage in the northwest corner.

## HISTORIC INTEGRITY

The Price Hill Temple Masonic Lodge, No. 524, retains much of its original appearance, including windows and doors locations, ornamental brickwork and low-pitched roof. Its massing and façade symmetry are unchanged and no additions have been made to the structure.

Over the years, glass has been damaged in a limited number of window openings and doors. Plywood has been installed over the broken glass to prevent further deterioration. All entrance doors have plywood installed over top of the existing doors for security purposes.

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<sup>2</sup> "Corner Stone of New Masonic Temple." *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, 9 July 1911.

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The interior of the building is largely intact and the room arrangement unchanged. The primary meeting spaces—auditorium/banquet hall, lodge room, second, third, and fourth floor meeting rooms—are unaltered. Most finishes and details also remain intact, including plaster walls, millwork and doors. While the northeast staircase has collapsed due to water damage, other stairs remain intact.

The building's setting, on a quiet residential street, has remained unchanged. In summary, it still retains the dignity and gravity of its original design, and historic images look much like present-day views (Figures 3, 4). Therefore, the building retains integrity under all its aspects: design, workmanship, materials, location, setting, feeling and association.

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## 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.)

- 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

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**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

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**Period of Significance**

1912-1966

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**Significant Dates**

1912

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**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

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**Cultural Affiliation**

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**Architect/Builder**

Samuel Hannaford & Sons

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Price Hill Temple Masonic Lodge, No. 524, is significant at the local level of significance under Criteria A for its significance in the social history of the neighborhood for its long association with a fraternal organization that played an important role in the social development of the community during an era when such organizations had a large presence in American cities.

The largest fraternal organization in the neighborhood in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Lodge No. 524 was founded in 1882 and grew along with the new community, relocating to their new temple in 1912. The Price Hill Masonic brethren supported community causes including flood relief efforts, participating in cornerstone ceremonies of local churches, marching in parades, honoring Lodge brethren who served in the armed forces, and many other causes. They also hosted concerts in the temple auditorium.

The Masons called their Price Avenue Temple home for 77 years, by far the longest tenure of their three successive halls. Of the three, it was the only one under their ownership. Therefore it is the building that best represents their importance to the community. The Masons' choice of a high-profile architect—Samuel Hannaford & Sons--and the building's high-visibility site at the intersection of fashionable Purcell Avenue and the Price Avenue business district, demonstrate their pride in their new building.

The justification for the period of significance, 1912-1966, is based on when the building was constructed and its continued use and significance to the community up to the fifty-year requirement for National Register significance. The Price Hill Masonic Lodge continued to play an active role in the community long after 1966. Active into the 1980s, the Lodge abandoned the Temple in 1989 and merged with North Bend Lodge, No. 346 due to decline in membership.

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**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

## HISTORY OF EAST PRICE HILL

Price Hill Temple Masonic Lodge, No. 524, is located in today's East Price Hill. To better understand the setting in which Price Hill Temple exists, it is helpful to understand how the neighborhood developed, and how the Temple in turn serves as a record of those developments. The history of this area's settlement and development began in 1791, when the first settler, William Terry, established his home on Bold Face Hill, Price Hill's original name. During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries the area was used mostly for agriculture. In the 1860s upper-income families settled into the area including the Price family who helped developed lower Price Hill. Due to its steep incline, Price Hill was secluded and isolated. This was desirable for families looking to escape the busy city life. Improvement to the transportation at the base of the hill and eventually up the hill lead to the residential boom of Price Hill.

Transportation started to improve significantly during the later 1800s. In 1870, the horse car line was extended to the foot of the incline along Eighth Street. Fifteen years later the tracks were laid directly on the hillside. Two electric streetcar lines were installed along Elberon and Warsaw Avenues in 1894. These are the main thoroughfares running north and south in East Price Hill. The Masonic Temple is located near both streets creating an ideal location for travelers.

Another appeal of the newly developed neighborhood was the Price Hill House built in 1874 by William Price. As life in the basin became confining and overpopulated, entrepreneurs and developers looked to the hilltops for opportunities. Opportunity came in the form of entertainment. Five hilltops surrounding Cincinnati invested in entertainment halls that attracted visitors from the basin. William Price was not interested in residential development within East Price Hill, rather he was interested in making a profit. Price built an incline plane with two cable railways that brought consumers from Eighth Street to the Price Hill House which was situated next to the incline plane. As previously mentioned, the Masonic Temple was constructed just a few blocks to the west of the incline plane which signified the Masons commitment to find a location that was visible and accessible. The Price Hill House was the only entertainment hall that did not serve alcoholic beverages. Instead the House had many attractions such as a dancing pavilion, music hall, art gallery, observation deck, and picnic grounds. Once visitors witnessed the serene environment of East Price Hill, the housing market exploded from 1890 to 1920.

The 25,000 residents of East Price Hill in 1920 included Irish and German Catholics. It became a middle-class community who lived and worked in the area. Residential development also continued west of Price Hill as the housing market became saturated. The higher income families moved west into areas such as Delhi. As mentioned, residents of East Price Hill also worked in the area. Residents took employment as office workers, clerks, and salesmen to name a few. The

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community focused on their neighborhood and their institutions. The Masonic Temple was a great example of a neighborhood institution that resembled stability and progression. As a community that is family based, the Masonic Temple helped bring people closer together through events and social attractions. The Temple was dedicated to bettering the community through their moral character and generosity which helped shaped the East Price Hill community.

Today, East Price Hill is in the midst of trying to rebuild their community and attract new residents. In the 1950s, as residents began to move west, new residents with lower-incomes settled into the area. The average income levels dropped in the 1960s and by 1970 poverty pockets scattered the area. Despite the housing decline, the community remained stable and was able to retain their strong business district.

The Price Hill Masonic Temple served the community of East Price Hill until 1989. A decline in membership and the change in neighborhood dynamics forced the Lodge to relocate. It then merged with North Bend Lodge, No. 346, which remains active today. Since that time, the property has been vacant and neglected. It is not inhabited nor is it used for any purpose.

## FREEMASONS

### **Growth of Freemasonry**

When discussing Price Hill Masonic Temple it is also helpful to understand the history of Freemasons and how they help shape communities. The history of Freemasonry began in 1717 in England; while its origins are unclear, it may have grown out of the remnants of the medieval Stone Masons Guild. Masonry was established in the United States in 1733 with the founding of a provincial grand lodge in Boston. Many of the Founding Fathers were Masons: the fraternity helped to spread and popularize the Enlightenment ideals of the country's founding, as well as the importance of public education.

During the 1800s and early 1900s, Freemasonry grew dramatically through urbanization and westward expansion, as well as the Masons' social concerns. "At that time, the government had provided no social 'safety net'. The Masonic tradition of founding orphanages, homes for widows, and homes for the aged provided the only security many people knew" (Masonic Service Association of North America, "History of Freemasonry," <http://www.msana.com/historyfm.asp>).

Organized Freemasonry was established in Ohio in 1790 in Marietta. A year later, a charter was filed for Cincinnati's first Masonic organization, Nova Ceasarea Lodge, No. 2; the new group was officially organized three years later. The first Grand Lodge—serving the entire state—was created in 1808 in Chillicothe, then the state capital. It was formed from six lodges in various parts of the state, including one in Cincinnati.



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The National Register nomination for the Columbus Masonic Temple, which became the state's new Grand Lodge, provides useful context for the development of Masonry in the Buckeye State.

The period from 1885 to 1915 was a time of rapid expansion and progress in Ohio. Urban population increased 100 percent, and by 1915 cities accounted for 61 percent of the state's population. Membership growth in Columbus Lodge #30 was equally impressive, rising to over 700 Masons by 1915. Ohio had over 86,000 Masons in 1913. (Jeff Darbee and Kathy Mast Kane, "Columbus Masonic Temple," National Register of Historic Places nomination. 1997).

Cincinnati's first Masonic temple, located in the central business district, was built in 1819. It was replaced in 1846, again in 1859, and finally by the present building in 1928. As of 1894, Cincinnati's Masonic fraternity included Lafayette Lodge No. 81, formed in 1825, and a chapter of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Order, established in 1853.

As Cincinnati expanded in size and population during the late 19th century, Masonic lodges formed in growing neighborhoods and hilltop communities such as Price Hill, Westwood, Clifton Heights, Cumminsville, Oakley and Pleasant Ridge. During their formative years, these groups often occupied space in former churches, commercial buildings or town halls. By 1920, there were 37 Masonic lodges in Greater Cincinnati, as well as nine chapters of the Royal Arch Masons, a Council of the Royal and Select Masters, two Commanders of the Knights Templars, one Scottish Rite chapter, and three Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

### **Growth of Freemasonry in America**

Secret fraternal societies were very popular in late-19th- and early-20th-century America. These included the International Order of Odd Fellows, which catered to men newly arrived in town, without local ties; the Knights of Pythias; the Junior Order of American Mechanics, and lesser-known groups such as the Order of Red Men. The International Order of Foresters catered to Catholics, who looked on secret societies with suspicion. Of all these fraternal organizations, the Masons were the largest and best-known. Segregated by race and gender, as was typical of the era, the Freemasons embraced different branches of lodges such as Prince Hall and women's auxiliaries. Prince Hall, historically known as African Lodge #459, was founded in 1784 in Boston by a fellow Mason, Prince Hall. Enrollment was predominantly African Americans who were drawn in by the fraternity's ideology of liberty, equality, and peace.

Nelson's history lists 27 primary secret societies with lodges, halls or camps in Cincinnati. These in turn were part of a vast web of organizations and affinity groups, many of which were devoted to mutual aid or civic betterment.

Besides those enumerated there are over one thousand public societies, associations, clubs, casinos and leagues established and in working order all over the city devoted to at least two hundred and fifty objects, such as mutual aid, art, cycling, smoking, fishing, singing, boating, gymnastic, politics, etc., and in addition there are also in active operation, ninety trades unions and 351

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building and loan associations. From this it will be seen that few cities of the size of Cincinnati have more secret societies, benevolent organizations, and organizations instituted for the protection, culture and advancement of their members. (S.B. Nelson, Publishers, *History of Cincinnati and Hamilton County*, 1894, p.82)

## MASONIC BUILDINGS

During the 19th century, lodge buildings were anchors of commercial districts in Ohio cities, towns and neighborhoods. Smaller fraternal groups typically rented space in multi-story commercial buildings. Multi-story, mixed-use structures with first-floor storefronts, were among the most imposing and architecturally distinctive structures in business districts. In addition to local businesses, many included government offices or post offices. Lodge rooms typically were housed on upper floors where truss-supported roofs created clear spans with ample open space for meetings and events. The “telltale” tall windows of top floors attest to their high ceilings and hint at their function.

The second home of the Price Hill Masonic Lodge, No 524, at Mt. Hope Avenue and West Eighth Street, is a noteworthy example of a late Victorian-era mixed-use building with lodge rooms. A soaring, four-story Commercial Queen Anne edifice with conical turret, it was recommended for National Register listing by the Cincinnati Historic Inventory, Phase 2. An excellent example in a neighborhood business district is the Hoffner Lodge in Northside, designed by Samuel Hannaford. Located at Hamilton Avenue and Moline Court, the Commercial Queen Anne-style brick building is part of the Hoffner Historic District, which was listed in the National Register in 1978, as well as the locally designated Northside NBD Historic District.

Because of the proliferation of fraternal organizations in Over-the-Rhine, many associated with the German-American community, many of the neighborhood’s 10 larger commercial buildings included upper-story lodge rooms. Examples include Goodfellows Hall on Main Street, 1826 Race Street near Findlay Market, and 400 and 404 Reading Road near Broadway.

### **Lodges to Temples**

In contrast to a lodge hall, which traditionally shares space and ownership with another entity under a common roof, a temple is devoted exclusively to Masonic functions. As local Masonic lodges such as No. 524 grew and expanded, some established their own temples in the first two decades of the 20th century. These were monumental, purpose-built, single-function structures, typically found on the perimeters of neighborhood business districts. Several Masonic Temples were built in Cincinnati neighborhoods from 1899 through 1915. All were two-story brick buildings of symmetrical design in variations of the Neo-Classical and Renaissance Revival styles.

Cincinnati architect Samuel Hannaford and his two sons, Harvey and Charles, are credited with the design of six Masonic Temples in the Cincinnati area, including Price Hill Masonic Temple.

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Samuel Hannaford & Sons was a prominent architecture firm in Cincinnati during the 19<sup>th</sup> century who were known for designing in a variety of styles and building types. The six Masonic Temples designed by Samuel Hannaford & Sons were monumental, distinctive, built to serve the Masonic functions, and central landmarks within neighborhood communities.

The first Masonic Temple designed by Samuel Hannaford was for the Hoffner Lodge (1885) located in Northside which is just northwest of the Cincinnati basin. The building is within the Hoffner Historic District (National Register 1978, NR #78002077). The Masonic Temple is a three-story Italianate building designed for businesses on the ground floor and lodge space on the upper two floors. Today the building has been restored with businesses on the first and upper floors and a preserved lodge room which serves as a rental space for events. At the turn of the century three more temples were constructed.

Avon Masonic Lodge (c.1900) is located in Avondale just north of Cincinnati (HAM\_01458\_01). The structure was designed in the Neo-Classical Revival style with a full height porch, brick quoins, a dentil cornice, and an entablature in the Greek order. The building is currently occupied but in need of repairs.

Just a few miles north of the Price Hill Masonic Temple is the Cheviot Masonic Temple (c.1910). The two-story structure has minimal ornamentation and has references of the Renaissance Revival period. Renaissance details consist of single-light sashes, a wide eave with large brackets, quoins at the entry, an arched entryway, and an arched transom over the entrance door. Today the building is in use by a different organization and has undergone significant alterations.

Completed just a few years before the Cheviot and Price Hill Masonic Temples is the Yeatman Temple, 1904, located in Columbia-Tusculum, which is east of downtown Cincinnati along the Ohio River. The building is designed in the Second Renaissance Revival style with Classical details, a round arch entrance, a small pediment at the entry, brick quoins, a stone string course, and a clay tile roof. With the exception of minimal alterations, the exterior of the temple looks as it did at time of completion.

At the time of construction Price Hill Temple was the most modern Masonic Temple. The design was different from its predecessors. The blind arches, Roman lattice mullions, Italian Renaissance Revival style windows, and copper cornice were unique to this temple. The Price Hill Temple had a grand presence in the neighborhood through these unique design features. The Temple was built for the purpose and function of having a proper building owned by the Masonic brethren, to be used for meetings and gatherings. Distinctive elements that appealed to the Lodge and benefitted the community were a large banquet hall, an inviting entryway that accommodated large crowds, a second hall that was secluded for lodge members, and a grand presence symbolizing the growth of the Freemasons and ultimately Price Hill. The building became a central landmark within the community.

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The Norwood Masonic Temple (c.1920) is the final temple designed by Hannaford & Sons. It was designed in the Neo-Classical style with monumental street presence. It was also three-stories with Neo-Classical Revival detailing, a rough stone foundation, a two-story porch, a stone water table, stone string courses, wing walls supporting globe light fixtures, and Masonic symbols incorporated in the architecture. At an unknown date the Norwood Temple was demolished and a new temple was built for the Norwood Lodge.

After years of focusing on neighborhood temples, a new Masonic temple serving the entire city was built in downtown Cincinnati in 1928. Designed by Harry Hake, who also was responsible for the exuberant Tempelder Hanselman Temple on Clifton Avenue in 1914, the building's stately Neo-Classical Revival design in ashlar limestone is characteristic of Masonic temples across the state. The temples in Zanesville, Youngstown, Canton, Dayton and Hamilton are all designed in Neo-Classical or Second Renaissance Revival styles (ibid.).

As noted previously, the new Price Hill Masonic Temple is a dignified and restrained Italian Renaissance Revival edifice, with blind arches at the main façade, Roman lattice mullions, overhanging eaves with copper cornice and brackets, and carved Masonic limestone panels and brick parapets. The building was considered "architecturally correct," having been designed in harmony with the tenets of the Masonic order. The building was located adjacent to a small but thriving neighborhood business district along Price Avenue. Cincinnati city directories of the 1920s to 1940s indicate that this district was home to small, locally owned shops catering to daily needs such as groceries, bakeries, confectioneries, delicatessens, bait shops and the like.

#### PRICE HILL MASONIC LODGE, NO. 524

The history of the Price Hill Masons and the necessity of building the Price Hill Masonic Lodge, No. 524, begins in 1882. A group of Price Hill Men formed the Masonic Lodge of Master Masons. This lodge was one of a number of secret societies in Price Hill, which included Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, the Young Men's Institute and the National Union. These various organizations were the site of pleasant gatherings at least one night a week. New residents of Price Hill, who belonged to one of these societies, became welcomed members of the local lodge.

The first Price Hill Masons met at the Price Hill Incline House, an entertainment venue at the top of the Price Hill Inclined Plane. The inclined plane made travel up the steep hill faster and easier and was a major asset to development of the neighborhood. Over time the popularity of the House increased, and traffic on the incline grew. In the 1890s, the incline carried several hundred thousand passengers annually. A booklet entitled, "The Price Hill Inclined Plane Railroad" states that between 1889 and 1893 the number of passengers soared to over a million.

As the community grew and prospered, so did the Price Hill Masons, who outgrew the Incline House. In 1888 the lodge moved to the third floor of a newly constructed building at W. Eighth Street and Mt. Hope Avenue, which still stands today. The Masons rented the lodge rooms from landlord Harry Manss. The promotional brochure *1894, Price Hill, Its Beauties and Advantages*

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*As a Place of Residence* states the following: "The Price Hill Lodge F. and A.M., No. 524, meets in the Manss Building at the corner of Eighth Street and Mt. Hope Avenue every Tuesday night. This lodge was instituted October 18th, 1882, with twelve charter members and the membership is now 107, making it the oldest and largest secret organization of the suburb." This book also states that George E. Jackson was the current master (in 1894). Past masters were John R. Blackmore, Peter De Tamble, William Taft, Dr. B. F. Lyle, and Dr. Frank Hendley.

In 1907 the Lodge had a dispute with the building owner about a rent increase in a request for a lease agreement. The Masons then organized a building committee and raised the money to purchase land for a new building to be under their ownership. After 30 years in rented quarters, the lodge moved into their own building in 1912 with a membership of 380.<sup>3</sup>

The Price Hill Masons had freely chosen their permanent property location on the corner of Price and Purcell avenues. The choice of this particular site, among imposing residences, helped to anchor the community. As already stated, they employed a prominent architectural firm, Samuel Hannaford & Sons, to design a structure that was a grand building and built to Masonic principles. This venture demonstrated commitment and investment in the community.

The new Temple cost \$50,000 to construct and was the most modern Masonic Temple in the area.<sup>4</sup> They broke ground on October 14, 1910, and the first corner stone was laid July 15, 1911. It was estimated that 5,000 attended the laying of the corner stone including 150 local Sunday School children who planned on rendering national anthems.<sup>5</sup> People came from all over Hamilton County and towns across the Ohio River in Kentucky.

In their new Temple, the Price Hill Masons contributed to the community's bustling spirit by participating in parades, contributing in many flood relief causes, honoring the many Lodge brethren who served in the armed forces, participating in the cornerstone ceremonies of Price Hill Baptist Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Western Hill Church of Christ and involvement with many other community events.

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<sup>3</sup> "New Temple: Is Dedicated by Masons. Grand Officers of Ohio Conduct." *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, 1 December 1912.

<sup>4</sup> "Masonic Temple: On Price Hill To Be Dedicated Next Month With Ceremonies." *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, 17 October 1912.

<sup>5</sup> "Corner Stone: Of New Masonic Temple on Price Hill Will Be Laid With." *The Cincinnati Enquirer*, 9 July 1911.

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Name of Property

Hamilton County, Ohio  
County and State

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### Interview

Terry Meyers, Secretary of North Bend Masonic Lodge, No. 365 and former Mason at the Price Hill Masonic Lodge, No. 524. Interview by Valda Moore, 2012.

Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge, No. 524  
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**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):** N/A



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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreege of Property** 0.194

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

### Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: \_\_\_\_\_

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- |                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 39.10692 | Longitude: -84.56479 |
| 2. Latitude:          | Longitude:           |
| 3. Latitude:          | Longitude:           |
| 4. Latitude:          | Longitude:           |

**Or**

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

- |             |                 |                   |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Zone: 16 | Easting: 710565 | Northing: 4331250 |
| 2. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 3. Zone:    | Easting:        | Northing:         |
| 4. Zone:    | Easting :       | Northing:         |

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

The Price Hill Masonic Temple is located in parcel number 175-0017-0094-00. The boundary is described as the following: the beginning point starts at the northwest corner of parcel number 175-0017-0094-00 and continues 106 feet east along the curb side of Price Avenue; then travels 79.60 feet southerly along the curb side of Purcell Avenue; continue 106 feet west and finally travel 79.6 feet north ending at the point of origin.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary description contains all land historically associated with the Masonic Temple and documented in the 1934 Sanborn Map. (Figure 2)

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title: Deanna Heil  
organization: City Studios Architecture  
street & number: 1148 Main Street, Floor 2  
city or town: Cincinnati state: Ohio zip code: 45202  
e-mail dheil@citystudiosarch.com  
telephone: 513.621.0750  
date: 01-13-2017

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge, No. 524  
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### **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: Masonic Temple Lodge 524

City or Vicinity: Cincinnati

County: Hamilton

State: Ohio

Photographer: Madeline Williams

Date Photographed: June 16, 2016

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

1. East elevation, looking west from Purcell Avenue
2. North elevation, looking south from Price Avenue
3. West elevation, looking southeast from Price Avenue
4. South elevation, looking northwest from Purcell Avenue
5. Basement, looking west
6. Basement, looking northeast
7. First floor foyer, looking west
8. First floor auditorium, looking southwest
9. First floor auditorium, looking west
10. First floor auditorium, looking north
11. First floor auditorium, looking east
12. First floor kitchen, looking north
13. First floor stair hall, looking north
14. First floor vestibule, looking north
15. Second floor stair hall, looking south
16. Typical second floor office space, looking south
17. Typical second floor office space, looking south
18. Typical third floor office space, looking south
19. Typical third floor office space, looking south
20. Third floor hall, looking north

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21. Third floor lodge room, looking up at ceiling
22. Third floor lodge room, looking east
23. Third floor lodge room, looking west
24. Third floor lodge room, looking south
25. Third floor north hallway, looking east
26. Second floor projector room, looking south
27. Fourth floor balcony, looking north

Figures:

1. Sanborn Map 1891, The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
2. Sanborn Map 1934-1937, The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County
3. Image of Price Hill Masonic Temple under construction. (Donald Crews. *Cincinnati's Freemasons*. Charleston, SC: 2014.)
4. Photograph taken in 1916, Cincinnati History Library and Archives

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications 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.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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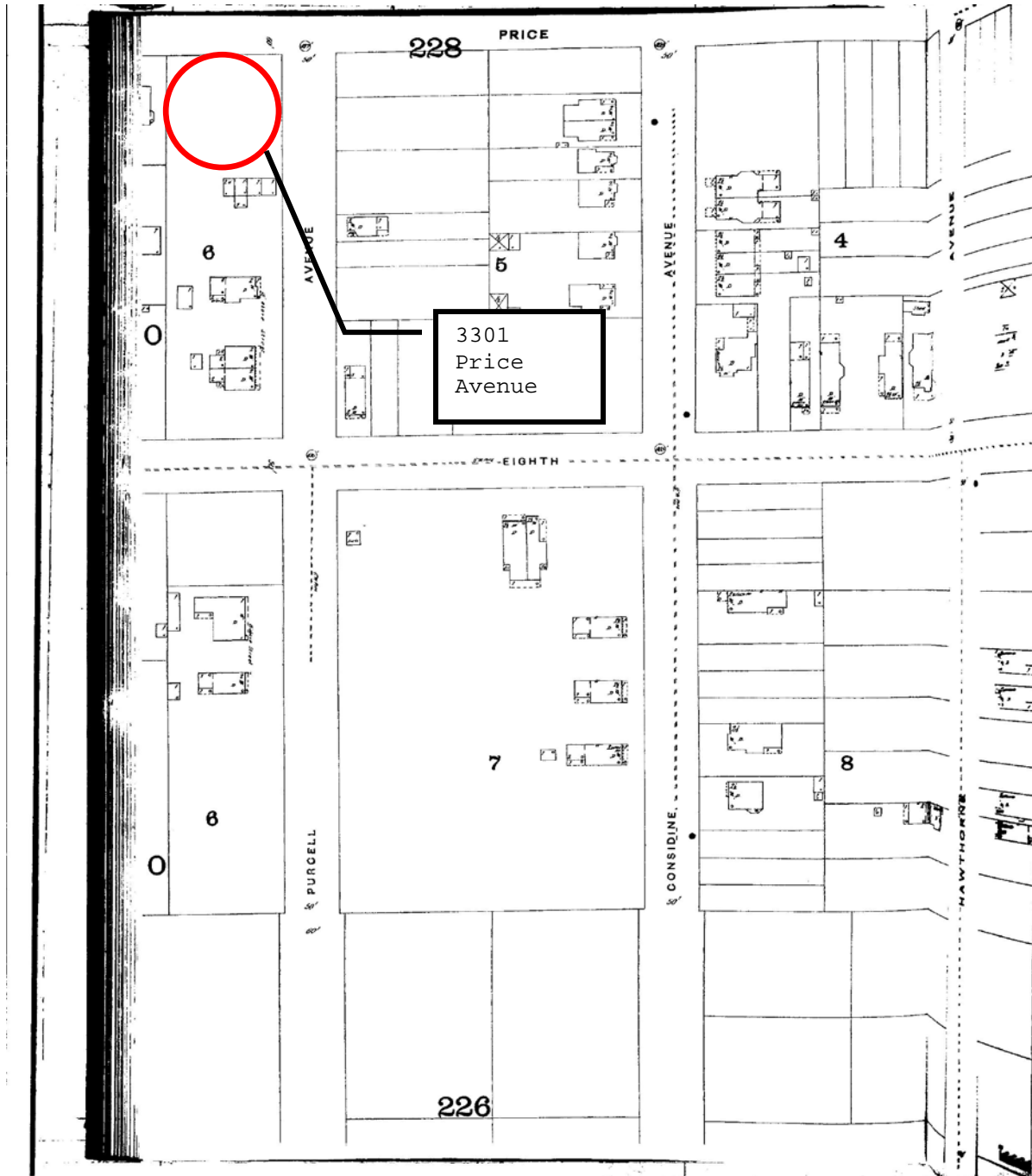


Figure 1: Sanborn Map of 1891 Volume 5 Sheet 227

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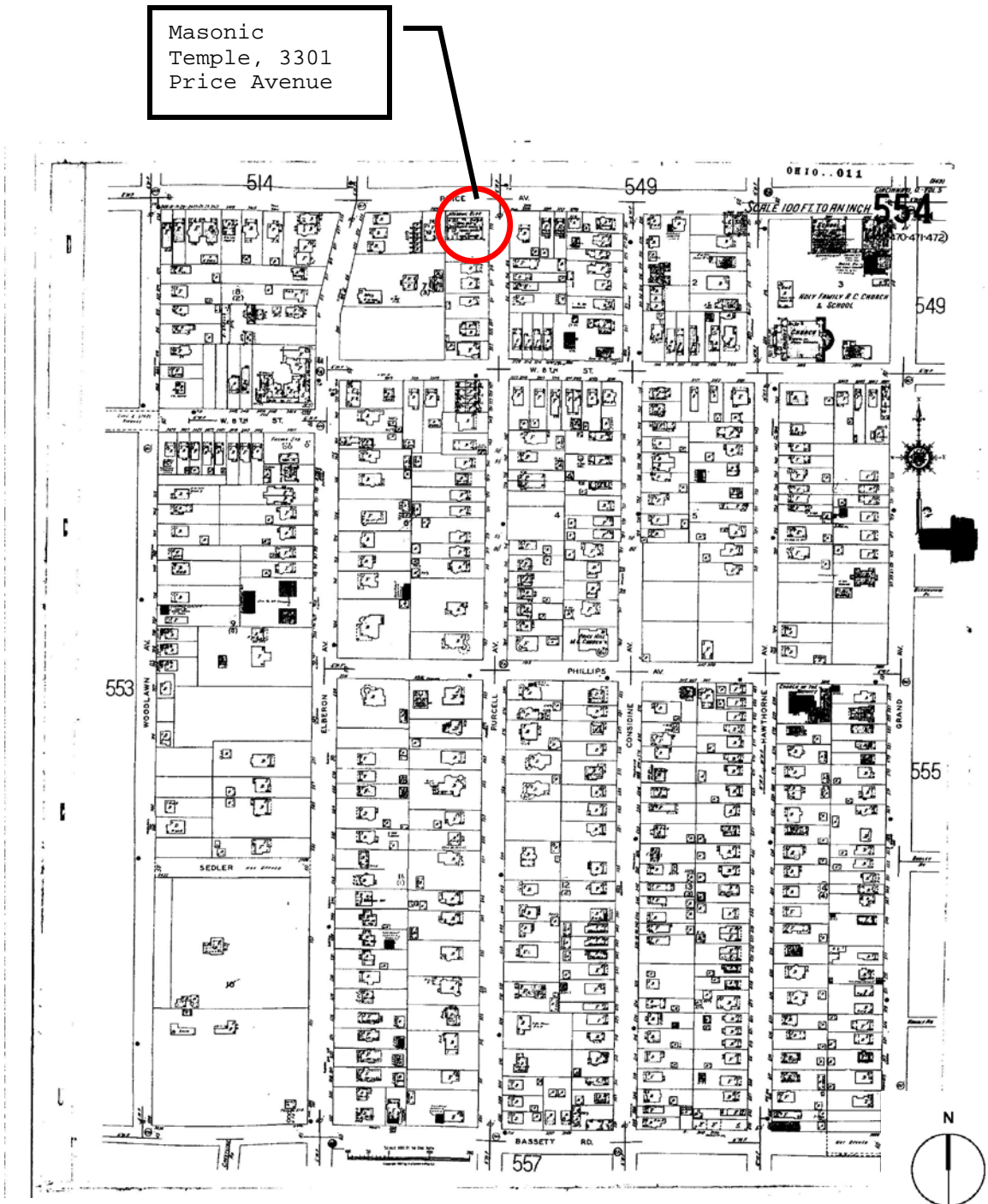


Figure 2: Sanborn Map 1934-1937 Volume 5 Sheet 554

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Figure 3: Image of Price Hill Masonic Temple under construction.  
(Donald Crews. *Cincinnati's Freemasons*. Charleston, SC: 2014.)

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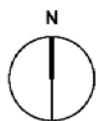


Figure 4: Photograph taken in 1916, Cincinnati History Library and Archive



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Name of Property

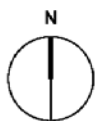
Hamilton County, Ohio  
County and State



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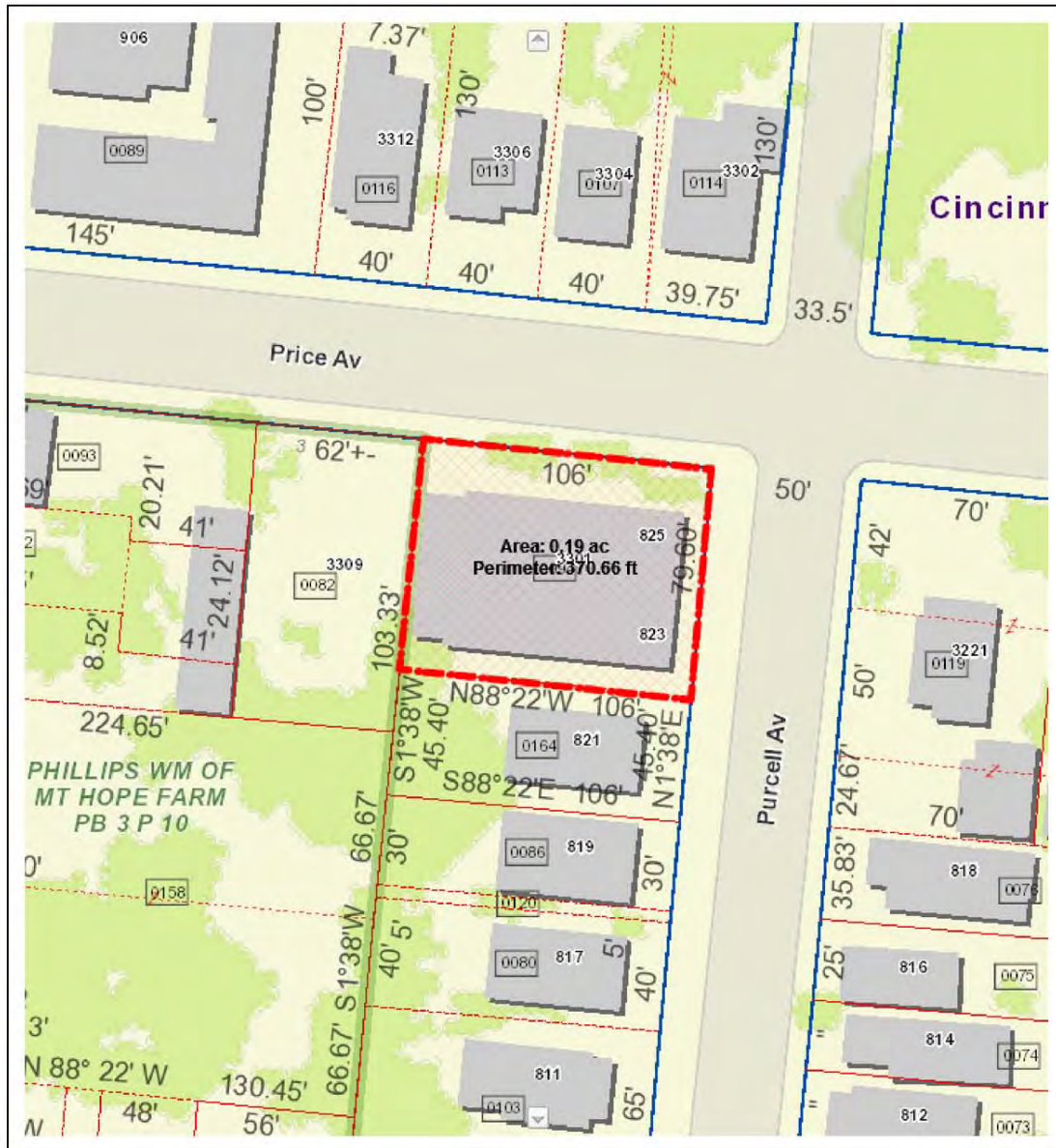
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County and State



Price Hill Masonic Temple, 3301 Price Avenue, Cincinnati 45205  
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### CAGIS Online Map

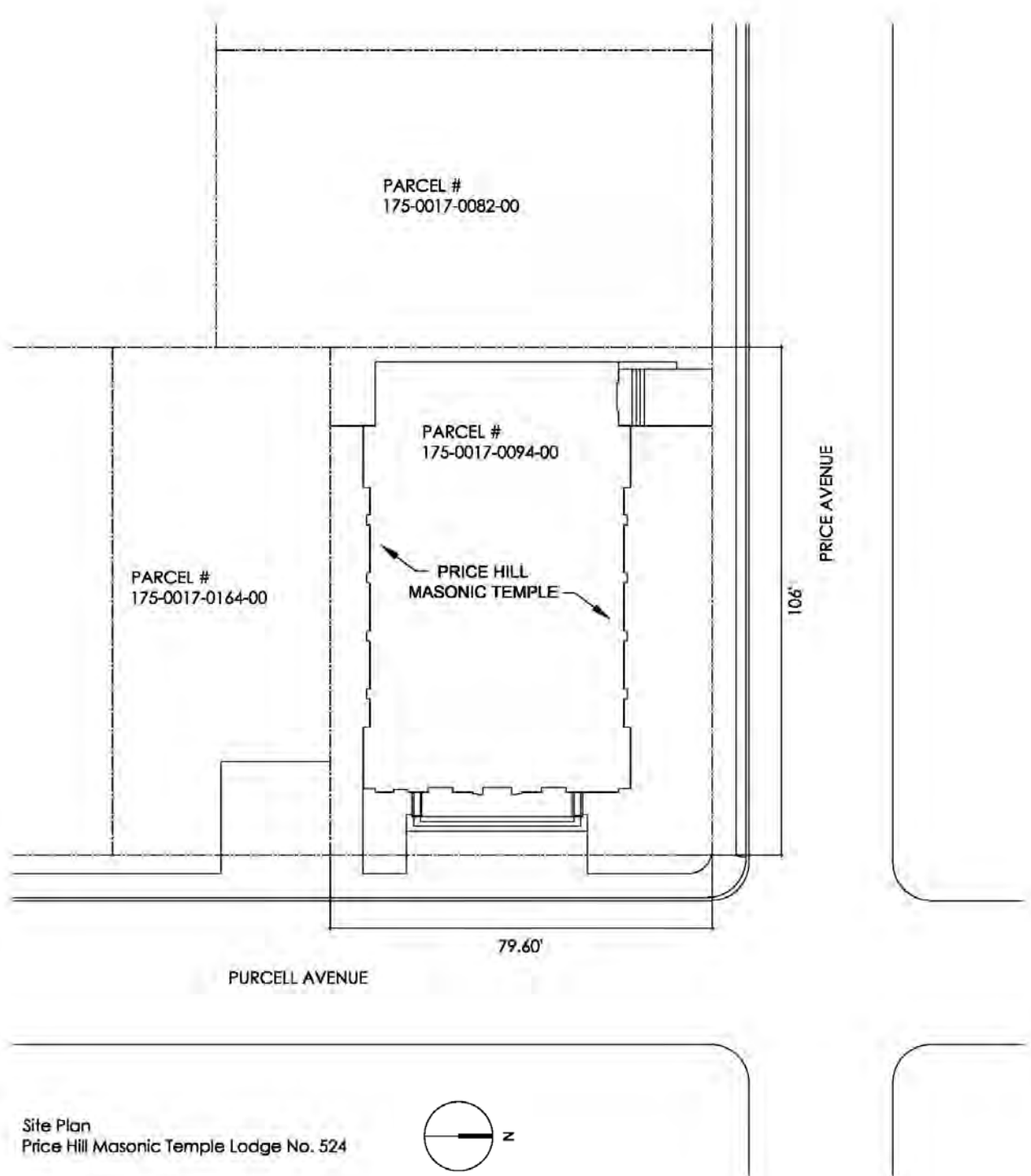


Hamilton County  Ohio

Printed: Jul 11, 2016 ©CAGIS

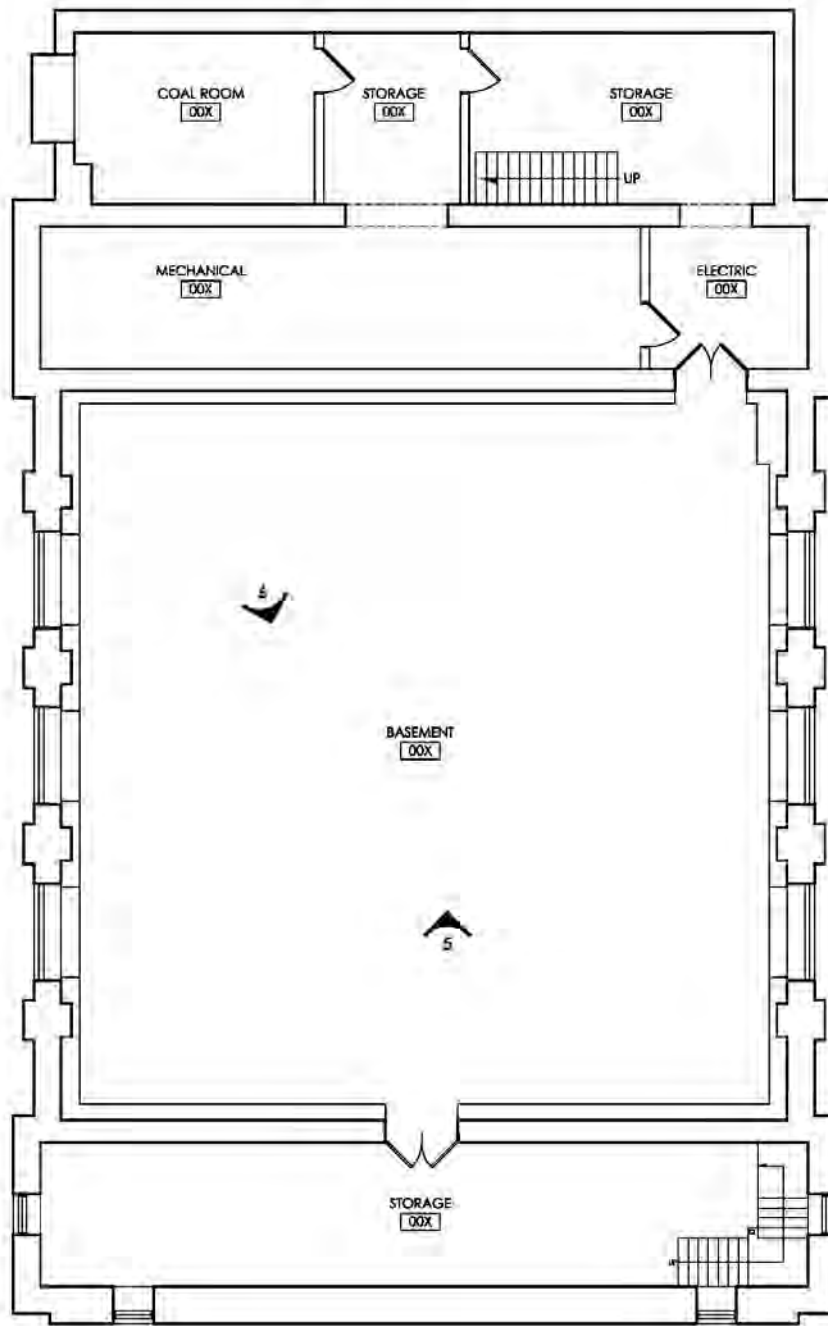
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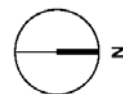


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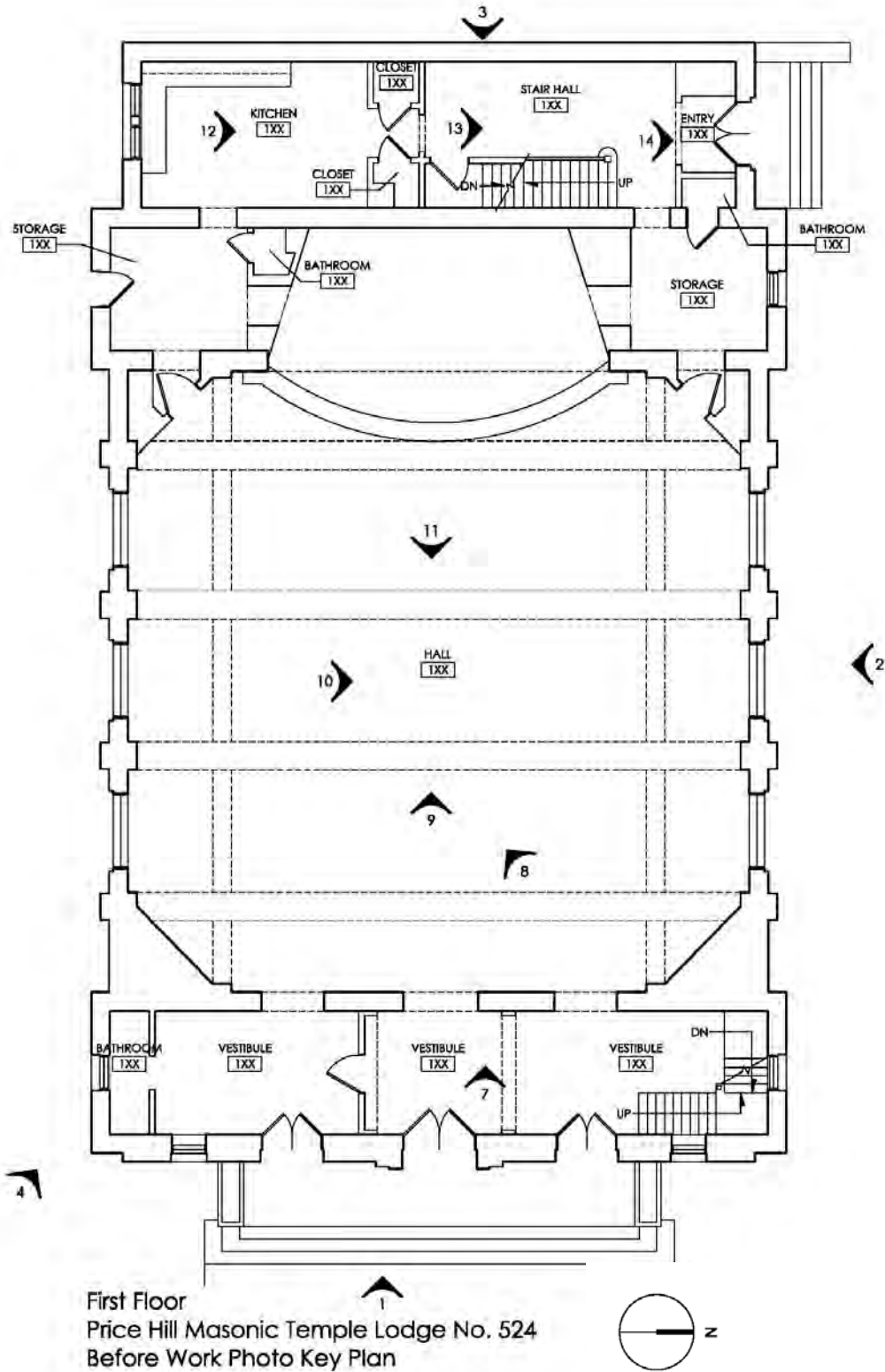


Basement  
Price Hill Masonic Temple Lodge No. 524  
Before Work Photo Key Plan



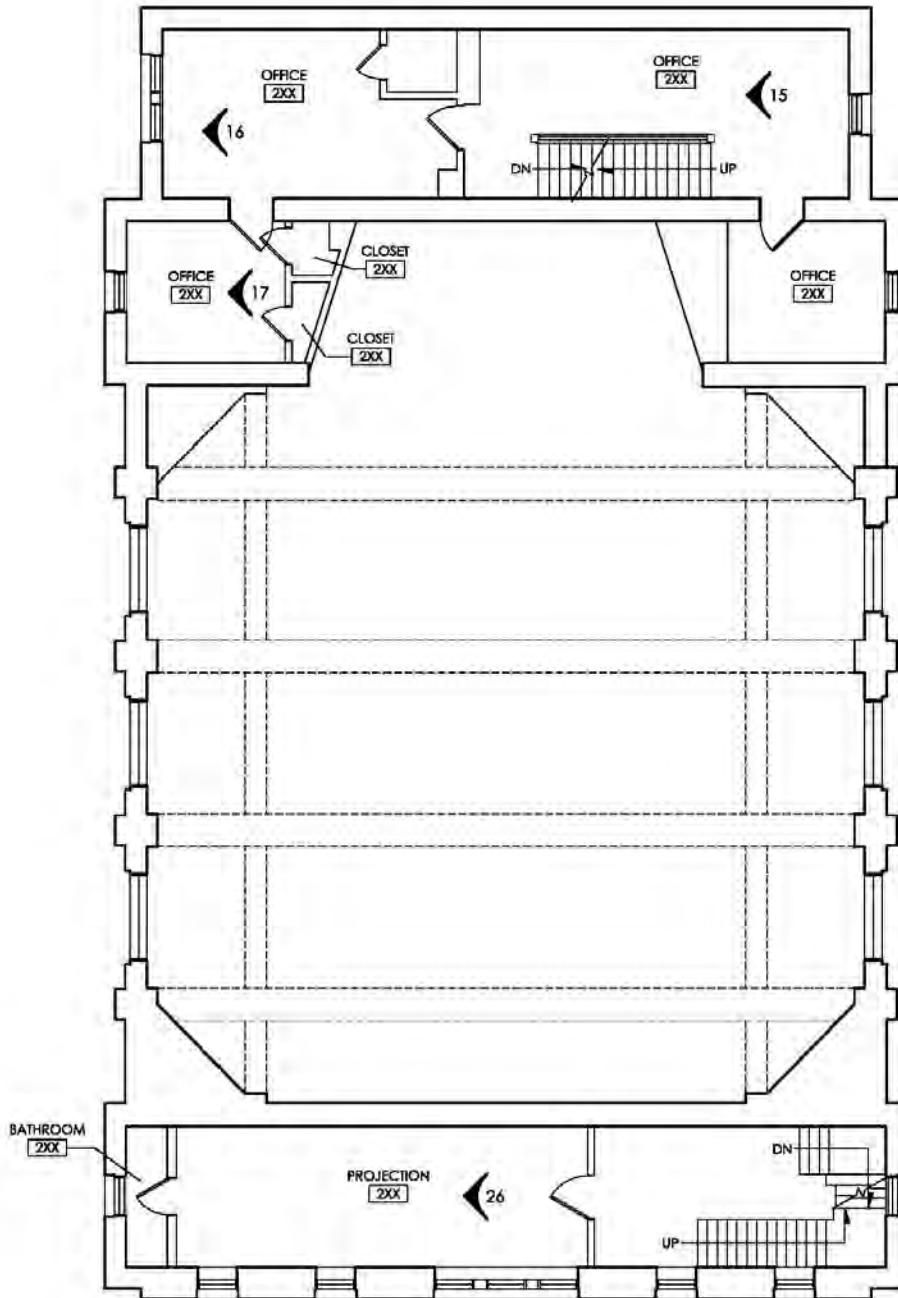
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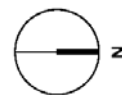


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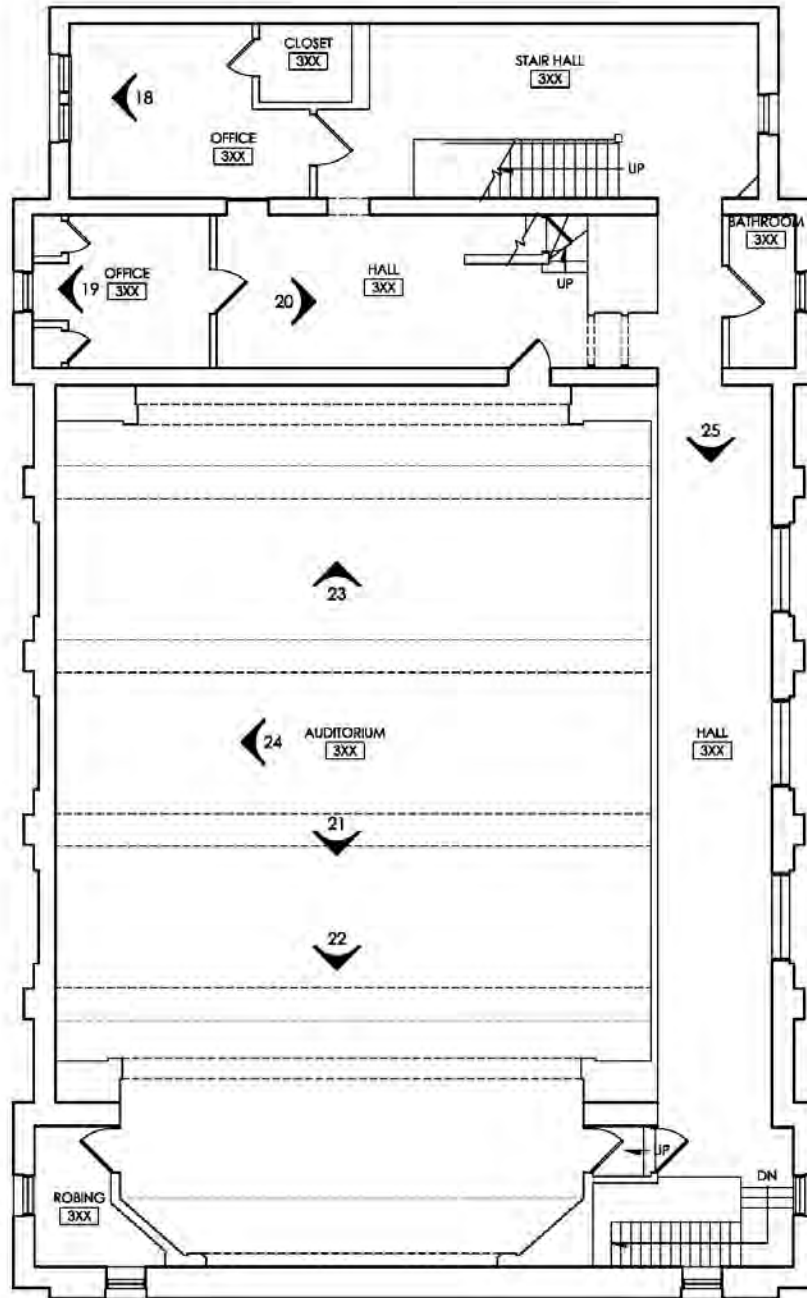


Second Floor  
Price Hill Masonic Temple Lodge No. 524  
Before Work Photo Key Plan

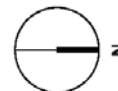


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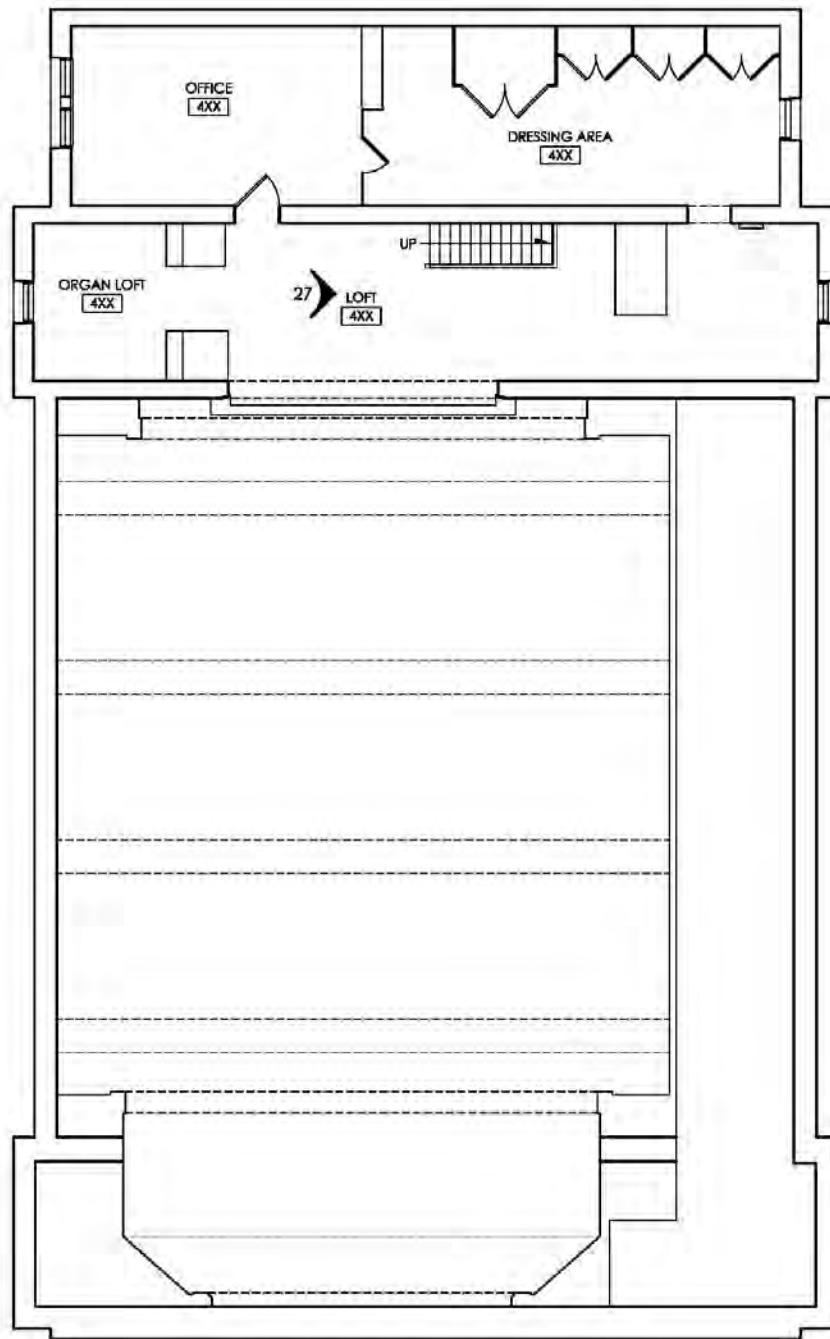
Third Floor  
Price Hill Masonic Temple Lodge No. 524  
Before Work Photo Key Plan



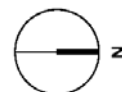


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Fourth Floor  
Price Hill Masonic Temple Lodge No. 524  
Before Work Photo Key Plan







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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 5/19/2017      Date of Pending List: 6/28/2017      Date of 16th Day: 7/13/2017      Date of 45th Day: 7/3/2017      Date of Weekly List: 7/6/2017

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

- |                                       |  |   |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PDIL | <input type="checkbox"/> Text/Data Issue    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SHPO Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape       | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Waiver       | <input type="checkbox"/> National        | <input type="checkbox"/> Map/Boundary       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Resubmission | <input type="checkbox"/> Mobile Resource | <input type="checkbox"/> Period             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other        | <input type="checkbox"/> TCP             | <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 50 years |
|                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> CLG             |   |

Accept       Return       Reject      7/3/2017 Date

Abstract/Summary Comments:

Recommendation/ Criteria

Reviewer Edson Beall      Discipline Historian

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.

# Louis W. Blessing, III

State Representative  
29<sup>th</sup> House District



**COMMITTEES:**  
Government Accountability & Oversight,  
Chair  
Rules and Reference  
Ways and Means  
Finance

February 6, 2017

Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board  
800 E. 17th Ave.  
Columbus, Ohio 43211

RE: Support Letter for Nomination of the Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge, No. 524 to the National Register of Historic Places

Dear Members of the Ohio Historic Site Preservation Advisory Board,

As State Representative of the 29<sup>th</sup> Ohio House District, I support the efforts to nominate the Masonic Temple Prince Hill Lodge, No. 524 to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination would ensure that this historic site would receive proper recognition and preservation.

Again, my office looks forward to the opportunity to work with the Ohio History Connection on such a worthwhile project. Please feel free to contact my office if you would like to further discuss our support. Best wishes for the success of this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Louis W. Blessing III". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Louis W. Blessing III  
State Representative  
District 29

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
NPS TRANSMITTAL CHECK LIST

OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
800 E. 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43211  
(614)-298-2000

The following materials are submitted on May 12, 2017  
For nomination of the Masonic Temple, Price to the National Register of  
Historic Places: Hill Lodge No. 524  
Hamilton Co OH

- Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form  
\_\_\_ Paper  PDF
- \_\_\_ Multiple Property Nomination Cover Document  
\_\_\_ Paper \_\_\_ PDF
- \_\_\_ Multiple Property Nomination form  
\_\_\_ Paper \_\_\_ PDF
- Photographs  
\_\_\_ Prints  TIFFs
- CD with electronic images
- Original USGS map(s)  
\_\_\_ Paper  Digital
- Sketch map(s)/Photograph view map(s)/Floor plan(s)  
\_\_\_ Paper  PDF
- Piece(s) of correspondence  
\_\_\_ Paper  PDF
- \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

- \_\_\_ Please provide a substantive review of this nomination
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- \_\_\_ The enclosed owner objection(s) do \_\_\_\_\_ do not \_\_\_\_\_  
Constitute a majority of property owners
- \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_



May 11, 2017

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief, National Register  
and National Historic Landmark Programs  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
Mail Stop 7228  
1849 C St, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find five (5) new National Register nominations for Ohio. All appropriate notification procedures have been followed for the new nominations submission.

NEW NOMINATION

Lagonda National Bank  
Yuster Building  
Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge No. 524  
Traction Company Building  
East Liberty School District No. 11

COUNTY

Clark  
Franklin  
Hamilton  
Hamilton  
Summit

The enclosed disks contain the true and correct copies of the nominations to the National Register of Historic Places for the following: Yuster Building, Franklin County; Masonic Temple Price Hill Lodge No. 524, Hamilton; Traction Company Building, Hamilton County; and East Liberty School District No. 11, Summit County.

If you have questions or comments about these documents, please contact the National Register staff in the Ohio Historic Preservation Office at (614) 298-2000.

Sincerely,

*for Barbara Pave*

Lox A. Logan, Jr.  
Executive Director and CEO2000  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Ohio History Connection

Enclosures