

ARIZONA STATE HISTORIC PROPERTY INVENTORY

IDENTIFICATION

SURVEY AREA NAME: Kingman Historic Resources
 HISTORIC NAME: Survey
Masonic Temple
 ADDRESS/LOCATION: 212 N. 4th
 CITY/TOWN: Kingman
 TAX PARCEL NUMBER: 303-08-105
 OWNER: Masonic Lodge
 OWNER ADDRESS: Box 430
Kingman, AZ 86402
 HISTORIC USE: fraternal lodge
 PRESENT USE: fraternal lodge and offices
 BUILDING TYPE: commercial/public
 STYLE: Federal Moderne (WPA Moderne)
 CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1939
 ARCHITECT/BUILDER: unknown
 INTEGRITY: original site/unaltered
 CONDITION: good/well-maintained

DESCRIPTION

STORIES: 2 DIMENSIONS: (l) 130 (w) 50
 STRUCTURAL MATERIAL: concrete
 FOUNDATION MATERIAL: concrete
 WALL SHEATHING: none
 APPLIED ORNAMENT: concrete hoods over windows
on front false pilasters at entry

SKETCH MAP:

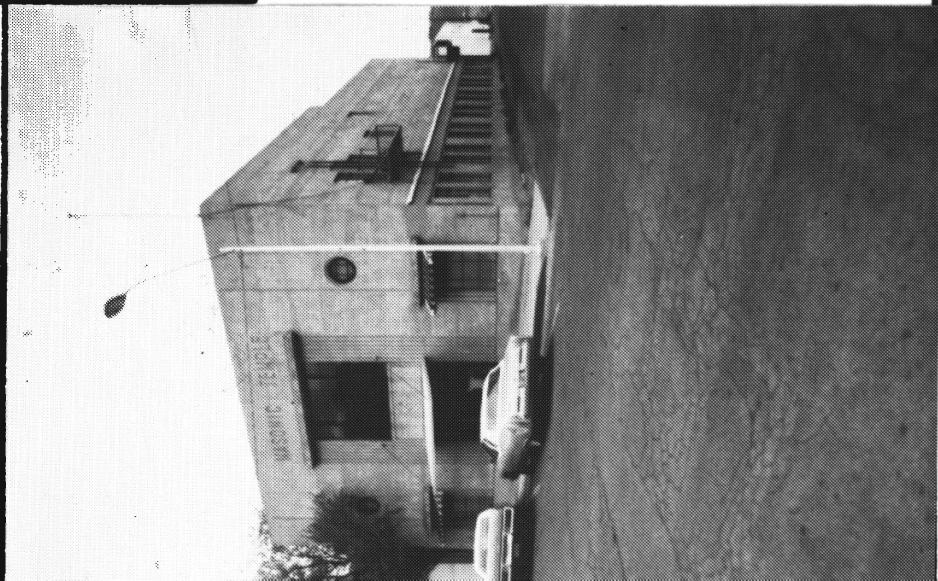
COUNTY: Mohave SURVEY SITE: 5-22
 USGS QUAD: Kingman Quadrangle
 T 21N R 17W S 24 / SW $\frac{1}{4}$ OF THE $\frac{1}{4}$
 UTM Zone 11, E-768450, N-3897915

Description (contd.)

ROOF TYPE: flat
 ROOF SHEATHING: built up
 EAVES TREATMENT: flat parapet
 WINDOWS: steel casement 4 lite in row with
2 lite over steel casement 4 lite sides-
5/9 steel frame fixed front-multi-lite av
 ENTRY: over entry
recessed double new doors center, single
each side
 PORCHES: circular windows at 2nd story
over 1st story at front
 STOREFRONTS: _____
 NOTABLE INTERIOR: carved door frames - 3
lite over 1 panel wood doors, 2 interior
to upstairs and central hall
 OUTBUILDINGS: none
 ALTERATIONS: new flooring interior,
new doors exterior

PHOTOGRAPH

PHOTOGRAPHER: J. Garrison
 DATE: 4/84 VIEW: Northeast



ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION/ANALYSIS (annotated form):

SIGNIFICANCE:

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: COMMERCE___ COMMUNITY PLANNING___ ECONOMICS___
 EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT___ GOVERNMENTAL___ MILITARY___ RELIGION___ SCIENCE___
 THEATRE___ TRANSPORTATION___ TOURISM___ OTHER(specify) social/cultural organization

HISTORIC ASSOCIATIONS (be concise):

PROMINENT OCCUPANT/HISTORIC ASSOCIATION(S) _____

RELATIONSHIP TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT Built as expression of growth of fraternal organization in Kingman. Symbolizes solidity of town's social structure.

CULTURAL AFFILIATIONS _____

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE One of only two examples of Federal (or WPA) Moderne in Kingman.

MAJOR ARCH. FORM/MATERIAL _____

ENGINEERING/STRUCTURAL _____

DISTRICT/STREETScape CONTRIBUTION Built adjacent to 1935 Post Office near County Courthouse, Elks Lodge, Little Red School. Enhances public and monumental aspects of area.

DISCUSSION AS REQUIRED:

Exemplary. Typifies Federal Moderne influence on public buildings throughout the Southwest in 1930s. Of exceptional significance as the largest and best example of the Federal (WPA) Moderne style in Kingman.

Simple styling, unadorned concrete reflect emphasis on functionalism and simplicity of 1930s. See attached sheet for a more complete discussion.

CONTEXT: ISOLATED/RURAL___ RESIDENTIAL STREET___ COMMERCIAL X CENTRAL SQUARE___

CBD:___ OTHER:_____

BIBLIOGRAPHY/SOURCES:

Mohave County Recorder's Office

LISTING IN OTHER SURVEYS: _____

NATIONAL REGISTER STATUS: _____

LISTED___ DETERMINED ELIGIBLE___ DETERMINED NOT ELIGIBLE___ NOT EVALUATED___

COMMENTS/DEVELOPMENT PLANS/THREATS:

Ref: Kingman MRA
 Item 7, p. 7
 Item 8, p. 20

SURVEYOR Garrison/Myers SURVEY DATE April 1984 DATE FORM COMPLETED July 25, 1984

KINGMAN MASONIC TEMPLE

The Kingman Masonic Temple, constructed in 1939, is of exceptional significance on the local level under criterion C. The building makes a very strong statement of the Moderne style, and is only three years away from being 50 years old.

A considerable amount of scholarly research on Moderne architecture has resulted in sufficient understanding for the evaluation of the style itself, and for the evaluation of the Kingman Masonic Temple as an example which embodies the distinctive characteristics of the Moderne style. As used in public buildings, the Moderne style, also known as the Federal Moderne or WPA Moderne, had its roots in the Art-Deco movement of the 1920s with the introduction of stylized forms in place of classical detailing. During the Depression, public buildings evolved to a starker style with less ornamentation, a "starved classicism, gaunt and underfed," in the words of Lois Craig, The Federal Presence: Architecture, Politics, and Symbols in U. S. Governmental Building (Cambridge: MIT Press, 1979) , p. 282. By the time of the WPA, the Moderne movement in architecture was well-established, and later buildings tended to merge Moderne forms with stylized classical detailing and motifs. Lois Craig, Director of the Federal Architecture Project for the National Endowment for the Arts, notes that the U. S. Government building

programs of the 1930s led to a proliferation of the Moderne style in private construction. The Kingman Masonic Temple is an excellent example of this trend.

The simple styling and upward emphasis, highlighted by the vertical fluted panels flanking the entry, and the large expanse of concrete broken only by small hoods over entries and windows, enable the Kingman Masonic Temple to make a strong statement of Moderne design. Although three other buildings in Kingman show some Moderne design motifs, the Masonic Temple is exceptional as the best treatment of the style in Kingman and the only example with a clear expression of all Moderne elements.