OMB No. 10024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

AUG 2 4 2005

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instruction in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

 Name of Propert 	ty				
historic name	Palestine Lodge				
other names/site nu	mber			·	4.4-
2. Location					
	6401 S.E. Foster Road			_ □ not fo	r publication
city or town	Portland				vicinity
state <u>Oregon</u>	code OR	county <u>Multnomah</u>	code <u>051</u>	zip code _	97206
3. State/Federal A	gency Certification				
	ng official/Title - Deputy SHPO toric Preservation Office	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Date	.05	·
4. National Park S	ervice Certification			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	t the property is: the National Register	Signature of	the Keeper)	Date of
determined	d eligible for the National Register nuation sheet.				
determined	I not eligible for the National Registe	r	West and the second		
	om the National Register				
other (expl	lain):				

Multnomah, Oregon County and State
Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count)
Contributing Noncontributing 1 buildings sites structures objects 1 Total
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
VACANT/NOT IN USE
Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation: <u>CONCRETE</u> walls: <u>BRICK</u>
CONCRETE roof:

See continuation sheets.

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

Summary

The Palestine Lodge is located at 6401 SE Foster Road in the Arleta neighborhood of Portland. The building is a two-story, red brick, Beaux-Arts-style building with Egyptian Revival-style details. It is rectangular in plan, and has a flat, wood truss roof with a parapet. The primary elevation faces west toward a small park. The surrounding area is residential to the north, commercial to the south.

The primary elevation features a central entrance surmounted by two stories of sash windows covered with a decorative wood screen, all within a three-story cast-stone arch. The entrance is flanked by two-story, free-standing, concrete Egyptian Revival-style columns, which originally held globe lights. The interior of the building is typical for Masonic temples, with large, open spaces on each floor, consisting of a banquet room in the basement, a ballroom on the main level, and a lodge room with a mezzanine on the top floor.

The Palestine Lodge has sustained water damage and deterioration from years of vacancy and neglect, but it retains a high degree of integrity and is an excellent candidate for restoration and adaptive reuse.

Setting

The Palestine Lodge is located on 1/3 acre in a small business district of an urban neighborhood in southeast Portland. The main elevation of the building faces west towards a small, unnamed triangular park at the intersection of Foster Road and Holgate Boulevard. The entire parcel, along with a parking lot to the south, is enclosed by a wrought-iron fence. The park provides a lush and attractive setback for the building, with mature plantings of deciduous and evergreen trees and shrubs. This foliage does mask the main entrance to the building, which is behind a gate obscured by shrubbery.

The lot on which the Palestine Lodge sits is flat, as is the surrounding neighborhood. To the south, Foster Road is a major thoroughfare, which cuts through the street grid on a diagonal from southeast to northwest. The neighborhood is commercial in character, consisting of small shops and cafes as well as some larger commercial and light industrial enterprises. Holgate Boulevard, to the north of the Palestine Lodge, is a narrow street with lighter traffic. To the immediate north of Holgate is a residential area consisting of modest homes on narrow streets.

Exterior

The Palestine Lodge rises from a concrete foundation as a two-story, unreinforced, red-brick masonry building with a flat wood-truss roof. It has a rectangular, 60' by 90' footprint, with its main facade facing west toward a small park. The building faces west, despite the fact that this elevation does not face a street, because that is the

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traditional orientation for a Masonic Lodge. The red brick walls are laid in a running bond pattern and are in good condition. The north, south and west sides have a cast-stone cornice.

The concrete foundation is exposed on all sides approximately three feet. Three-light horizontal hinged windows punctuate the foundation on all sides. Many of those on the north and east sides are boarded over, but those on the south side appear to be in original condition. A basement door is located in the easternmost bay of the north elevation.

The primary elevation of the building faces west. It is symmetrical, with a monumental three-story, cast-stone arch marking the center entrance. Wide concrete stairs access four eight-panel wood doors, surmounted by large 1/1 double-hung sash set in banks of four on the second and third stories. These windows are covered by a decorative wood lattice grille. A cast-stone frieze over the doors depicts a sun disk (eye of Horus), cobra heads, and outspread vulture wings, a symbol of protection. This panel originally held a light fixture. The central panel is flanked by panels of festoons and medallions depicting the Masonic symbols of the trowel and gavel. At the top of the arch is a cartouche with the Masonic symbol of a G (representing geometry and God) within a square and compass.

The center arch is flanked by slightly recessed brick panels containing paired, double-hung, 2/2 wood sash windows, the lower two stories with transoms, the balcony (third) level without. The building is topped by a cast-stone cornice and a brick parapet. The central portion of the cornice on the main elevation is slightly raised and has a cast-stone cap.

Flanking the entrance on either side of the steps are free-standing, cast-stone columns approximately 20 feet high. Each plain column is topped by an Ionic-style capital with volutes, above which is a stylized lotus flower which originally held a glass globe light. These columns, called Jachin and Boaz, are an important and character-defining element for the building.

The north and south elevations of the building are identical. They consist of four bays, each containing a slightly recessed brick panel. The westernmost bays, where the interior staircase is, contain three 3/3, doublehung wood sash windows with three-light fixed transoms on each landing level and 3/3 sash without transoms on the mezzanine level. All windows have cast-stone sills. The remaining three bays each contain two windows on the first story and two on the second. The first-story windows are 5/5 double-hung wood sash with five-light fixed transoms, while the second-story windows are 10/10 double-hung wood sash with five-light fixed transoms. All the larger windows were composed of golden yellow glass, much of which has been replaced with clear glass. All of the second-story windows on the north side of the building and one on the south side of the building have been infilled with concrete blocks covered in stucco.

The rear, or east elevation faces a narrow unpaved alley. It is composed of lighter red brick with no adornment. It is punctuated by only a few small windows and one door in the southernmost bay. It has no cornice or caststone accents.

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Interior

The interior of the Palestine Lodge is laid out much like other Masonic lodge buildings, with large open meeting spaces on each floor. The main entrance leads into a lobby with a large split staircase constructed of wood, with simple square balusters. Water damage necessitated the removal of much of the plaster in this area, but an original light fixture still hangs from the ceiling. Straight ahead, double doors lead into the ballroom, a large open space with a stage at the eastern end flanked by dressing rooms. An enclosed secondary stair is located in the southeast corner. The ballroom has ten-foot ceilings with two large, boxed girders spanning the entire space from north to south. There are no support columns interrupting the space. The room retains much of its original trim, but not its wood floor, which sustained water damage while the building was vacant. Built-in wood benches, which are not original, line the north, west and east walls of this room.

To the north and south of the lobby are separate cloak rooms, lounges and bathrooms for men and women. These rooms have been gutted down to the studs because of water infiltration, but will retain their original dimensions when rehabilitated.

On the second floor is the Lodge Room, another large, open space with 18-foot-high ceilings. This room is also largely intact. Originally, it could only be entered through anterooms, which adjoin lounges and restrooms in the northwest and southwest corners of this floor. The men's rooms are located in the southwest corner, while the ladies rooms are located in the northwest corner. A set of double-doors has been cut into the center of the west wall leading directly to the lodge room from the stair landing. A passage or hall runs along the south wall of the building, leading from the men's anteroom to the secondary staircase and a secondary door into the southeast corner of the Lodge Room. In the Lodge Room, there is an 8-foot-wide platform or stage on the east end, as well as stepped platforms or risers along the north and south walls of the room. Stairs to the balcony level are located in the southwest corner of the room. The windows on the north wall of the room have been infilled with concrete. The windows on the south side of the building open into the narrow hallway along the south side of the lodge room. As a result, there is very little natural light in this room.

A mezzanine level above the second floor contains a balcony with risers for chairs, overlooking the Lodge Room, as well as offices and storage rooms in the northwest and southwest corners.

The basement level of the building contains a Banquet Room, with a kitchen and utility rooms along the east wall. A library and storage rooms are also located along the south and west periphery of this level. The Banquet Room has boxed wood columns supporting an 8-foot ceiling.

Alterations

The building has had few alterations over the years, but has suffered from deferred maintenance, which has resulted in damage. The main rooms and spaces retain most of their original layout and features. The small

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anterooms have been stripped to the study because of water infiltration and damage. Likewise, some plaster and the wood floors have been water damaged and will be replaced. The doors to the Lodge Room have been altered, with large doors leading directly to the stair hall being added in addition to the entrances from the anterooms.

In 1971, the Lodge purchased the land to the rear of the temple owned by the Odd Fellows for a parking lot. In 1978, the parking lot was fenced. The lot was paved and lighted in 1979.

In 1981, the ballroom floor was repaired and the kitchen was remodeled. The windows on the north side of the Lodge Room were infilled with concrete block.

Security screens were added to the first floor windows on the south side of the building in 1982, and to all the rest of the windows the following year.

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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).	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ARCHITECTURE
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
X 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.	Period of Significance 1926
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates
Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)	1926
Property is: A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes	Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
B removed from its original location	Cultural Affiliation
C a birthplace or grave	
D a cemetery	
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure F a commemorative property	Architect/Builder
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance Within the past 50 years	Hossack, Orlo R.W.
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)	
9. Major Bibliographical References	
Bibliography (Cite books, articles, and other sources used in preparing the form on on	e or more continuation sheets) See continuation sheets
preliminary determination of individual listing (36CFR67) 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 X	on of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University _Other sitory: Grand Lodge of Oregon, Forest Grove, OR

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10. Geographical Data				
Acreage of Propertyless than one acre				
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)				
1 10 531634 5037274	3			
Zone Easting Northing 2	Zone East	-	Northing	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)				
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)				
11. Form Prepared By				
name/titleAmy McFeeters-Krone, architectural historian	······································			
organization Building History, Inc.	date	February	2005	
street & number <u>1831 N.E. Thompson Street</u>	_ telephone	503-493-	0477	
city or town Portland state	Oregon	zip code	97212	
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation sheets				
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 o		ources.		
Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of the property.				
Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)				
Property Owner				
name Service Employees International Union Local 503, Chuck Mende	nhall, represer	ntative		
street & number POB 12159	_ telephone _	503-581-	1505	
city or town Salem state	OR zip o	ode <u>97309</u>)	

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 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Summary

The Palestine Lodge is significant under Criterion C, as an excellent representation of the Masonic Lodge form, reflecting the ideals of Freemasonry in its construction. It is unique as a building with Egyptian Revival detailing, which is reflective of the importance of Egyptian symbols in the Masonic doctrine. It is also important as a tangible part of a fraternal order that is losing popularity and could become extinct. Although no longer used as a Masonic Lodge, the building retains many of the important symbols that identify it as a Masonic structure. The period of significance is 1926, the year the building was constructed. It was used as a Masonic Lodge for the entire historic period and beyond.

The History of Freemasonry

Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal order in the world. It originated in the organized guilds or unions of stone masons who constructed the cathedrals and other large structures in Europe during the Middle Ages. Their skill and moral values were universally recognized, and unlike most people, masons were permitted to travel freely to practice their trade, thus the term freemason.

Early in the 17th century, as membership in the stone mason guilds declined, they began to accept prominent men who were not masons by trade. These men became known as "accepted masons". By the end of the 17th century, accepted masons predominated, and the lodges began to teach moral philosophy rather than technical trade skills.

Modern Freemasonry is based on the philosophical application of the educational process through which skilled masons were trained. It is not a religion, but the rites of freemasonry can be directly traced to both Old and New Testament stories, and Freemasons are expected to have a belief in God.

Freemasonry, along with most fraternal organizations, has been losing popularity for many decades. The membership of most lodges reflect this, with the average age of members in Oregon lodges at over 70 years. As the membership ages, and younger members fail to materialize, lodges unable to maintain their buildings sell them and move into other lodges. Thus, Masonic lodge buildings are being lost as the Masonic movement loses momentum.

Freemasonry In Oregon

Freemasonry first came to Oregon in 1846, when three Masons, Joseph Hull, Peter G. Stewart and William Dougherty put an ad in a local paper calling for other Masons to join them in Oregon City to discuss the formation of a lodge. Seven Master Masons responded, and a petition was hand carried to the Grand Lodge of

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Missouri requesting a charter for Multnomah Lodge #84, to be located in Oregon City. The charter was granted, and carried back to Oregon. It was two years, seven months and six days after the first Masonic notice that the charter arrived. On September 11, 1848, the first meeting was held by the lodge, the same day the charter was delivered.

Four years later, in May of 1850, three Master Masons, Benjamin Stark, Berryman Jennings, and S.H. Tryon, made a similar call to all Masons living in Portland to consider formation of a lodge. Fifteen Master Masons signed a petition and sent it to the Grand Master of California, who signed the dispensation on July 5, 1850, just eleven days after the signing of the petition. Thus, Willamette Lodge No. 11 became the first Masonic lodge in Portland.

A third lodge was formed in 1850 in Lafayette Oregon. Once there were three lodges, steps were taken to establish a Grand Lodge of Oregon. A Convention of Free and Accepted Masons met in September of 1851, and the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Territory of Oregon was formed in Oregon City. Thereafter the lodges were numbered according to the dates of their original charters, making Multnomah Lodge #1, Willamette Lodge #2, and Lafayette Lodge #3. All subsequent lodges were similarly sequentially numbered.

History of Palestine Lodge

The formation of a new lodge in Southeast Portland was first considered in 1908. The Arleta neighborhood was rapidly developing, but Masons from the area had to travel to downtown Portland by streetcar for meetings. This was especially inconvenient as streetcar service ended before the meetings adjourned, so Masons from the east side had to leave early (Denson).

Sheldon F. Ball of the Arleta neighborhood collected seventeen other Master Masons who signed a petition to establish a new lodge to be called Palestine. They met at various locations around the neighborhood to practice the rituals needed to establish a lodge. The men came from different places where the details of the rituals varied, so they had to become proficient in a standard of rituals.

They were required to exemplify their ritual work before a chartered lodge, and did so before Sellwood Lodge #130. On June 24, 1909, the Grand Lodge of Oregon granted the dispensation and the Palestine Lodge was formed. The charter organizing Palestine as the 141st Oregon Lodge was issued by the Grand Lodge on June 17, 1910. The group met in the Woodworkers of the World Hall in Arleta (Denson).

Palestine Lodge expanded steadily, and in 1919 had a membership of 97. They had outgrown their rented space, and moved from the W.O.W. Hall to Ames Hall at SE 55th Avenue and Foster Road. The membership of the lodge continued to grow, and the members felt it was time for the lodge to have its own building. For the next five years, the building committee worked hard to raise money for a temple. In 1925, they were given approval

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to construct a building, and on February 9, 1926, the Building Corporation purchased lots 7,8, and 9 of block 9, Arleta Park (Denson).

The membership was divided as to what type of building to build. Some wanted a lodge with first floor commercial space that could be rented out to offset expenses, while others wanted a lodge devoted to Masonic purposes only. In the end a dedicated temple building was chosen. All members were to donate their time and labor to the construction of the temple according to their abilities, with only the most difficult work being contracted out (Denson).

On May 1, 1926, ground was broken, and on June 24, the ceremonial laying of the cornerstone occurred. As the construction progressed, a number of extra features were added which increased the cost, and the lodge had difficulty paying the contractors. Twice, work had to be halted due to lack of finds, while the membership scrambled to obtain loans. The temple was finally completed and dedicated on October 30, 1926. The final cost was \$55,000. The lodge had a mortgage of \$30,000 (Denson).

For the next few years, various fundraisers were held to pay the mortgage, with varying degrees of success. By 1929, membership had decreased, and the Lodge was having difficulty paying just the interest on the loan. Further fundraising efforts failed as the Great Depression began, and the lodge lost its building to foreclosure. However, they were able to convince the bank to sell the building back to the lodge for \$20,000, and accept a mortgage with no interest for ten years (Denson).

After the Depression, Palestine Lodge thrived. In 1950, it had over 500 members. It continued its routine Masonic duties. In 1971, the Palestine Lodge purchased property to the south and east of the temple to be used for parking. The cost of this land was \$12,500. In 1977, a house directly behind the temple was offered for sale, but the lodge declined to purchase it (McClurg).

Finances were always an issue for Palestine Lodge. By 1978, the custodial service was terminated, and several members made donations to cover bills. Some Masons made provisions for the lodge in their wills, allowing some improvements to occur, such as paving the parking lot, installing a water fountain and replacing shrubbery (McClurg).

In 1980, the temple was broken into and vandalized several times. Security screens were installed on all the windows in 1982 and 1983. The windows on the north side of the second floor, which were badly deteriorated, were removed and infilled with concrete block in 1981 (McClurg). Maintenance on the aging building became more costly as membership declined and the average age of the lodge members rose. Palestine Lodge met in this building until 1997, when the building was sold and the lodge moved to the Sellwood Masonic Hall on Milwaukie Avenue, where they still meet today.

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Egyptian Architecture in Freemasonry

Freemasons revere Egypt as the source of knowledge of building and all wisdom. The craft of masonry is supposedly traced to Egypt, where the Israelites in captivity learned the trade from Egyptian masons. Despite the longstanding belief that Egypt was the source of all knowledge, Egyptian motifs in architecture and Masonic rituals did not emerge until about 1750 in Europe (Curl).

Masonic rites referring to Egypt spread like wildfire in Europe in the 19th century following Napoleon's Egyptian campaign of 1798-1799. Masonic architecture reflected this fascination with Egypt. This is especially true of the lodges of the Grand Orient of Belgium, constructed between 1870 and 1914. These lodges were 'clothed' in Egyptian garb inside and out. Neo-Egyptian architecture consequently became equated to a certain extent with Freemasonry.

Egyptian Revival Style

The Egyptian Revival style has had two main periods of popularity, one in the early 19th century and another in the 1920s. The first revival came after Napoleon's Egyptian campaign (1798-1799), during which the Rosetta Stone was discovered. This led to a flurry of Egyptian inspired buildings in Europe and the United States. The second revival followed the discovery of King Tut's tomb in 1922. The majority of Egyptian Revival buildings are public buildings. It is not a common style for residential or commercial buildings.

In the Portland Historic Resource Inventory, only five buildings are identified as Egyptian Revival. These include three apartment buildings: the Moreland Apartments, 1530 NE Tenth Avenue; the Blackstone Apartments, 1831 SW Park Avenue; and the Manhattan Apartments, 2209 NW Everett Street; The Kenton Lodge Building, 8134 N Denver Street; and the Egyptian Theater at 2511 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. The Blackstone and the Manhattan Apartments are identical buildings constructed in 1930. They were designed by Elmer E. Feig, a prolific apartment building designer. They each feature cast stone pharaohs and a cavetto cornice. The Moreland Apartments were also designed by Elmer Feig in 1931, and features cast stone pharaohs. The Egyptian Theater, designed in 1925 by E.A. Miller and one of the best local examples of Egyptian Revival architecture, has lost all historic integrity, having been encased in stucco as a part of a church.

Masonic lodges were possibly one of the more commonly constructed buildings in the Egyptian Revival style, as Egypt held a special place in Masonic lore. In Portland, three Masonic buildings, the Kenton Lodge (8134 N. Denver St), the Mt. Hood Lodge (5308 N Commercial St.), and the Palestine Lodge, have Egyptian Revival features.

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Masonic Symbols at the Palestine Lodge

Although it is no longer used as a Masonic Lodge, the Palestine Lodge building still retains many Masonic symbols which are integral to its historic integrity and it importance. The current owner intends to retain these Masonic symbols.

Temple of Solomon

Masonic Temples or Lodges are the physical entity establishing the presence of Freemasons in the community. The Temple of Solomon was the prototype for the Masonic temple or lodge. The first Temple of Solomon was built thousands of years before Christ, and then rebuilt twice, before being destroyed in AD 70. It was built through divine guidance, and was considered to be the perfect building. The temple is revered as a symbol of what has been lost, an ideal, and inspiration of what might be reconstructed (Curl).

The ideal lodge is isolated from other buildings, rectangular, with the longer sides on the north and south, shorter sides east and west. The building should face east, as all the important temples of the world faced the place of light. Regardless of the orientation of the building, a lodge is always symbolically situated due east, with the Master's seat at the east end.

The Palestine Lodge is oriented east-west, with the main elevation on the west.

Pillars of the Porch

The Pillars of the Porch refer to two pillars, not supporting any structure, which flank the front door of the lodge. At Palestine Lodge, these pillars are a significant part of the architectural integrity of the building. They carry on the Egyptian motif. They consist of a plain column with an Ionic capital topped with stylized palm leaves. According to Masonic legend, the pillars were set up outside the Temple of Solomon, and were hollow to hold the Masonic archives. Biblical sources state that the capitals had "lily-work," suggesting a similarity to Egyptian capitals featuring lotus, papyrus or palm motifs. The left pillar is named Jachin, which is a name associated with foundations and means God established. The right pillar is named Boaz meaning in strength (Curl). Between the Pillars, the Fellow Craft (second degree of Craft Masonry) are encouraged to seek and acquire knowledge.

Globes

The globes atop the columns represent the celestial and terrestrial universes. They also are an emblem of power and enlightenment, and indicate the universality of the Craft, and the widespread need for charity (Curl). In some Masonic Temples they are actual depictions of the earth and the universe. At the Palestine Lodge, the globes are stylized on the Pillars of the Porch, as globe shaped light fixtures. They are no longer extant but will be restored according to the original drawings.

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Winged Disk with Uraei

In Ancient Egypt the winged disk was a combined emblem of the Sun, a double-headed cobra (uraei) and vulture wings. It is similar to the Egyptian hieroglyph for "temple." The cobra and the vulture represent celestial Egypt and terrestrial Egypt. The combined emblem represents the sun passing through the center of the winged disk, the sacred gateway. It is a symbol of protection and sanctuary. On the Palestine Lodge, there is a winged disk with uraei centered over the main entrance.

Trowel

The trowel is used by masons to spread mortar between stones to unite them into a common mass. In Freemasonry, it is a tool of the master's degree, symbolic of the binding together of the members in brotherhood and fellowship (Lightfoot). On the Palestine Lodge, there is a cast-stone trowel with a festoon to one side of the winged disk with uraei.

Gavel

The gavel is a mason's tool for breaking off rough and superfluous corners of stone to make them fit the building. In Freemasonry, it symbolizes the divesting of the mind of all the vices and distractions of life (Lightfoot). On the Palestine Lodge, there is a cast-stone gavel with a festoon to one side of the winged disk with uraei.

Compass and Square with "G"

The compass draws a circle that keeps the Mason within its bounds, uniting him with other Masons and with all mankind. It represents "The Craft," or the general membership of the Masons, and is one of the components of the Furniture of the Lodge (Macoy).

The square is one of the Immovable Jewels of the Lodge, and one of the items constituting the Furniture of the Lodge. The square represents the Worshipful Master of the Temple, and symbolizes morality (Macoy). It is the right angle contained in the square, and not the instrument itself, which is considered the "Jewel." It represents the innumerable triads found in Masonic symbolism (Lightfoot). In architecture, all corners of a building are proved with the square, and all lines drawn with it. Without accurate squaring, a building would be weak.

"G" is symbolic of the sacred name of God, and of Geometry. Geometry is considered the "noblest of sciences" by Masons, the foundation of Masonry. Geometry is of fundamental importance in astronomy, surveying and architecture.

In Masonry, the compass and square with a "G" are seldom seen apart, and have come to symbolize a Master Mason. On the Palestine Lodge, this symbol is located on a cartouche at the top of the arch centered on the main, or west, elevation.

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Lodge interior

The interior of the Palestine Lodge is set up in the traditional manner for lodges. The first floor houses a ballroom used for social functions. The Palestine Lodge Room is on the second floor, as lodge rooms must always be on an upper story. The Lodge Room is oriented east-west, with the entrances on the west end marked by pillars. There is a stage, or platform, at the east end where the Master sat, symbolizing enlightenment. Three stepped platforms run along the north and south sides of the room, where the chairs for the membership were arranged. A small platform centered along the west wall is where the Senior and Junior Wardens sat. Other officers had specific positions on the front or rear platforms. In the center of the room was the altar on the checkered floor (no longer existing). The checkered floor symbolized the uncertainty of life (Macoy)

Other Historic Masonic Buildings

There are many historic Masonic lodges throughout the country, but due to declining membership and the expense of maintaining them, the Masons are rapidly selling their surplus property. Many of these buildings are being rehabilitated for alternative uses, but many also stand vacant and deteriorating. The decline of the Masonic movement means many of these buildings could be lost in the near future. According to the Portland Historic Resource Inventory, there are fifteen historic Masonic temples or lodges in the city. Of those, only five are still used as Masonic lodges. Most of these buildings house more than one Masonic lodge. Those that are no longer used by the Masons are used for retail or institutional purposes, or are vacant.

There are four Masonic buildings listed on the National Register in Oregon. None are located in Multnomah County. They are the Ashland Masonic Lodge Building in Jackson County, built in 1879; the Umatilla Masonic Temple in Pendleton, Umatilla County, built in 1887; The Umatilla Masonic Lodge Hall in Echo, Umatilla County, built in 1864, and the Masonic Cemetery and Hope Mausoleum in Eugene, Lane County, dating to 1859. There are no representations of Masonic lodges constructed in the twentieth century.

Comparative Analysis

A Masonic lodge is meant to be modeled after the great Temple of Solomon. The ideal lodge is isolated from other buildings, rectangular, with the longer sides on the north and south, shorter sides east and west. The building should face east, as all the important temples of the world faced the place of light. Regardless of the orientation of the building, a lodge is always symbolically situated due east, with the Master's seat at the east end.

Due to the constraints of space and money, many Masonic lodge buildings do not meet all of the criteria of an ideal lodge. Finances dictate the size of a building and whether it is to be used solely for Masonic purposes or will have space for commercial or retail purposes. The availability and cost of land can determine whether the building will be set apart from other buildings and in what direction it will be oriented. For the most part, Masonic lodges attempt to meet as many of the criteria of an ideal lodge as possible. The one criterion that

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seems nearly universal is the location of the lodge room on an upper floor. The first floor may be a banquet or ballroom, or it may be retail storefronts or rented office space.

The architectural style, construction materials, size and shape of a Masonic lodge building can be diverse, yet Masonic lodges are usually identifiable. The fifteen lodges listed in the Portland Historic Resource Inventory fall into two major categories: those that were historically dedicated to Masonic use only, and those that historically had commercial or retail uses on the first floor and perhaps some upper floors. Those used for Masonic purposes only include the Mt. Hood Lodge (5308 N. Commercial Ave.), Friendship Lodge (5626 NE Alameda St.), Sunnyside Lodge (3862 SE Hawthorne St.), Sellwood Lodge (7162 SE Milwaukie Ave.), and the grand Masonic Temple at 1119 SW Park Avenue. Palestine Lodge also falls in this category.

Lodges with commercial or retail uses on the first and perhaps some upper floors include the Kenton Lodge (8134 N Denver Ave.), Washington Masonic Lodge (17 SE Eighth Ave.), Lents Lodge (5811 SE 92nd Avenue), and the lodges at 902 SW Yamhill Street and 7900 SW 35th Avenue.

The Masonic lodges in Portland are in several architectural styles. By far the largest number of lodge buildings display the classical styles popular in the twentieth century. These include the Mt. Hood Lodge (5308 N. Commercial Ave.), the Sunnyside Lodge (3862 SE Hawthorne St.), the Washington Lodge (17 SE Eighth Ave.), the Waverly Lodge (3536 SE 26th Ave.), the Masonic Temple at 1119 SW Ninth Avenue, the Masonic Annex at 1525 SW Yamhill Street, and the Palestine Lodge.

More unusual is the Byzantine style of the Sellwood Lodge, the Craftsman-style Friendship Lodge (5626 NE Alameda St.), and the castellated former Orehoma Lodge at 7675 SW Capitol Highway. The Kenton Lodge is Egyptian Revival. The Mt. Hood Lodge and the Palestine Lodge, while more classical, also have Egyptian Revival detailing.

Nearly all of the lodge buildings are constructed of brick or cast stone, appropriate for buildings housing the Masons. The Friendship Lodge building is the only one constructed of wood. Most of the lodges have exterior detailing of Masonic symbols. The Palestine Lodge is the only lodge in the city with free-standing symbolic Pillars of the Porch.

Orlo R.W. Hossack

Orlo R. W. Hossack, who designed the Palestine Lodge, was a draftsman and architect in Portland for over 30 years. He was first listed in the Portland City Directories in 1910, when he was just seventeen, as a draftsman for the architectural firm of Bennes, Hendricks and Thompson. He worked at that firm for two years, and then for several other firms, including Willard F. Tobey, Tobey & Mills, the Ready Built House, Co., the Oregon-Washington Railway and Navigation Company, and Houghtaling & Dougan. He was in the service in World War I (Kadas). He became a licensed architect in 1922, gaining his license through experience. In 1923 he

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established his own office, first located in the Worcester Building and later in the Terminal Sales Building, sharing an office with Herbert A. Angell. In 1936 Hossack joined the Civilian Conservation Corps and was stationed in Boise, Idaho. It was here that he contracted pneumonia and died on January 31, 1937 at the age of 45. He was survived by a wife and daughter (Ritz).

Hossack designed numerous buildings, including the Seventh Day Adventist Church at 527 Se 43rd Avenue (1920), the San Mateo Court Apartments, 4408 SE Hawthorne Blvd. (1927), the addition to the Washington County Courthouse in Hillsboro, and the Kenton Masonic Lodge in Portland (Ritz). A house he designed in the Prairie Style, the Spies-Robinson House in Irvington, is listed in the National Register (Kadas).

Arleta Neighborhood

The Palestine Lodge is located in the Southeast Portland neighborhood of Arleta, which is bound by 62nd Avenue on the west, 67th Avenue on the East, Raymond Street on the south and Holgate Boulevard on the north. It was named by developer T.B. Potter for his daughter Arleta. The neighborhood was platted in 1903 by Ralph Hoyt and Louisa Hoyt Cook, siblings who inherited the land from their parents, Henry and Mary Hoyt, who purchased the property in 1871. The lots were 40 feet by 100 feet, smaller than the 50 by 100 foot lots that were standard in Portland at the time. In 1904, Hoyt and Cook sold about three quarters of the lots to the Arleta Land Company, incorporated by T.B. Potter, F.L. Potter, H. L. Chapin and I.M. Chapin, developers who also built the ill-fated Bayocean resort on the Oregon coast. The price was \$7500, or about \$45 a lot (Paulson). The development of a streetcar line along Foster Road spurred development of the Arleta neighborhood, which soon filled with modest, working-class homes and a neighborhood business district.

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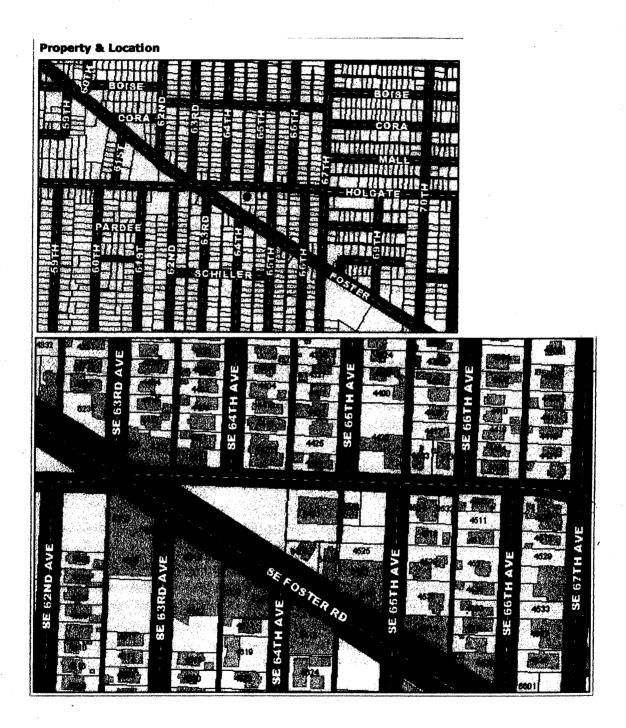
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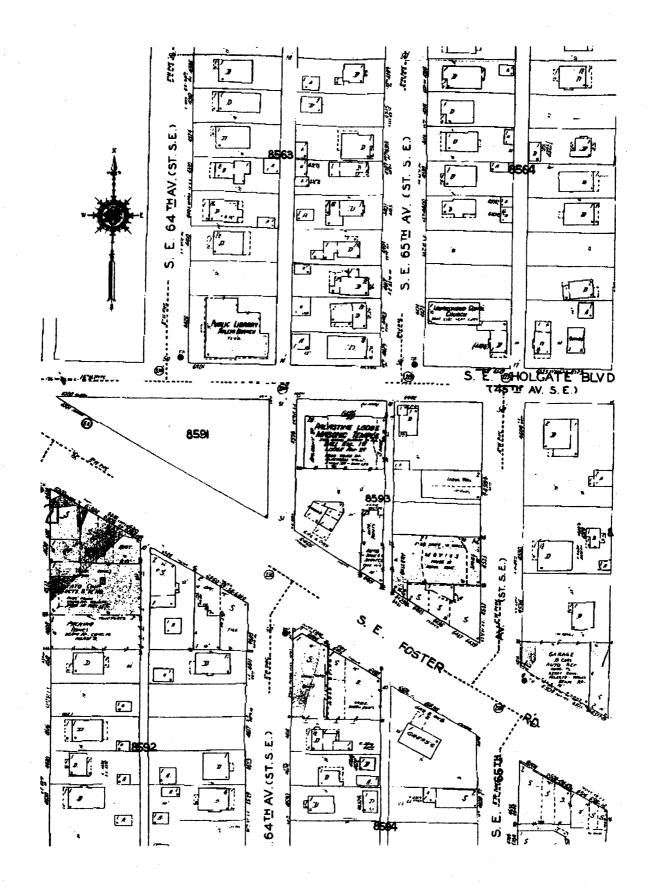
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Palestine Lodge is located on block 9, lots 7-9, Arleta Park 3, Multnomah County, Oregon.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the urban tax lots for Palestine Lodge historically associated with the nominated parcel.





PALESTINE LODGE, MULTNOMAH CO., OREGON PHOTO RECORD

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Amy McFeeters-Krone

NEGATIVES HELD BY:

Building History, Inc. 1831 NE Thompson St. Portland, OR 97212

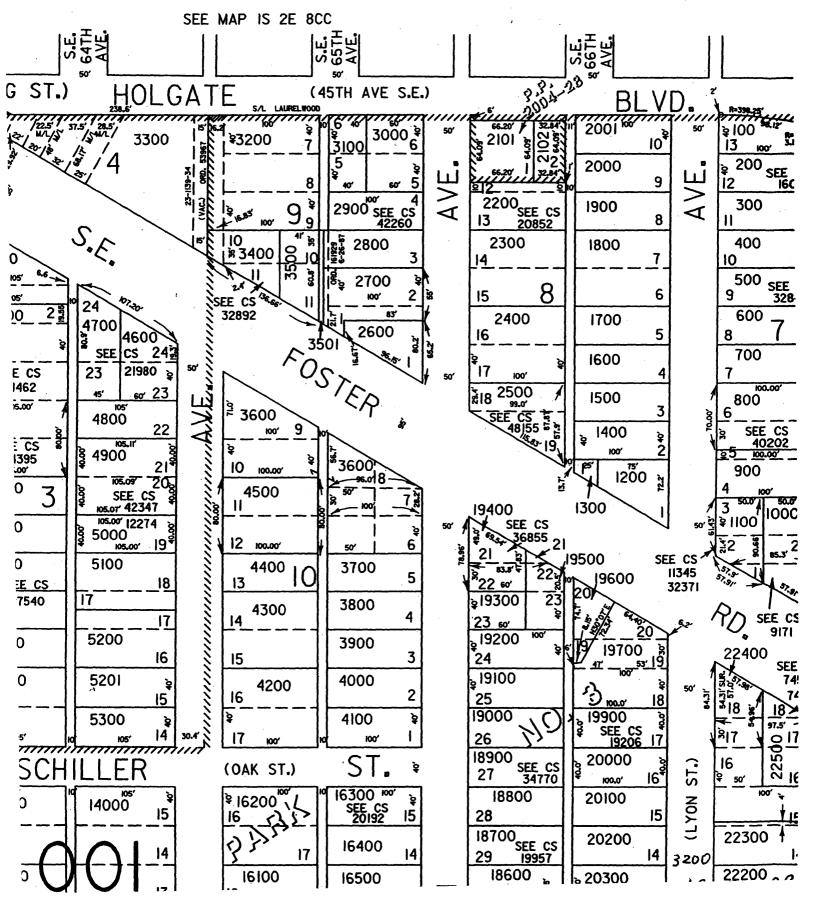
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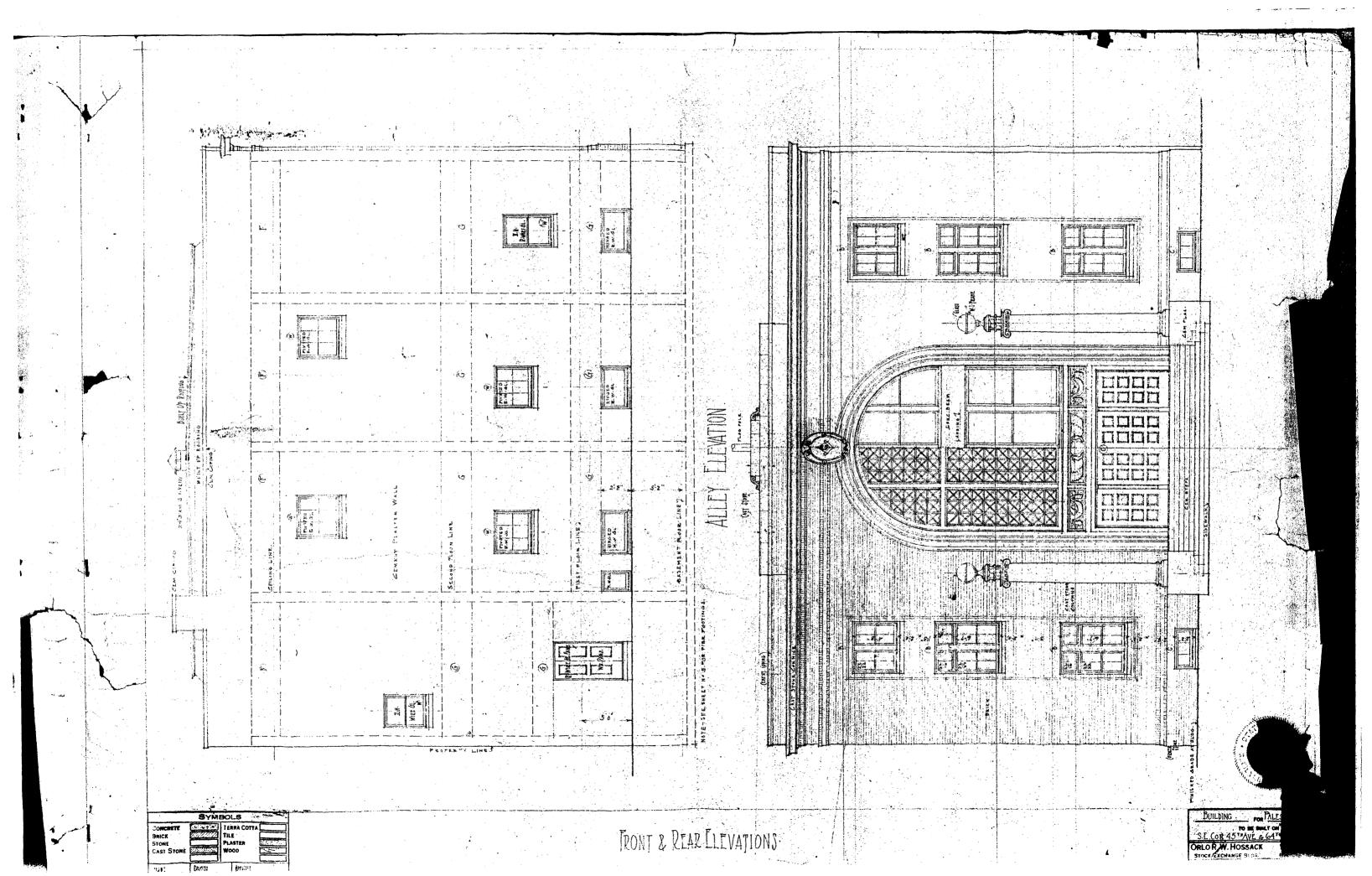
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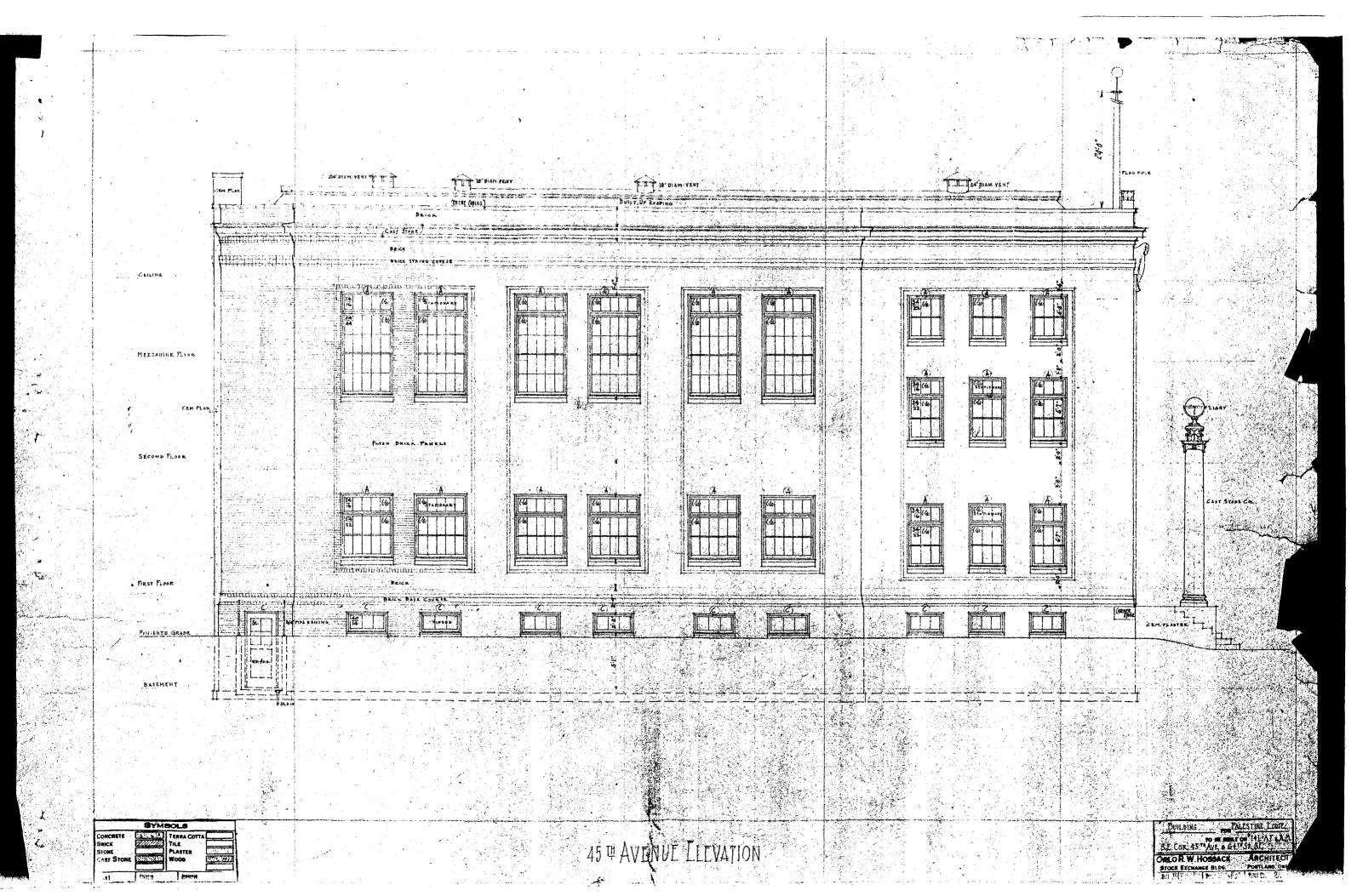
- 1. main (west) elevation, facing E
- 2. north elevation facing SW
- 3. south elevation, facing NE
- 4. east elevation facing SW
- 5. main entrance, west elevation
- 6. walkway in front of Palestine Lodge, facing S
- 7. detail of Egyptian revival motifs over main entrance
- 8. detail of Masonic symbol on cartouche over main entrance
- 9. detail of column outside main entrance
- 10. NW corner of building showing windows
- 11. cornerstone
- 12. first floor lobby and staircase, facing SW
- 13. detail of original light fixture in lobby
- 14. ballroom, first floor, facing SE
- 15. ballroom, first floor, facing SW
- 16. lodge room, second floor, facing W toward balcony
- 17. lodge room, second floor, facing NE
- 18. lodge room, second floor facing SW
- 19. banquet room, basement, facing SE
- 20. kitchen, basement, facing SE
- 21. door and window detail
- 22. window detail
- 23. window detail

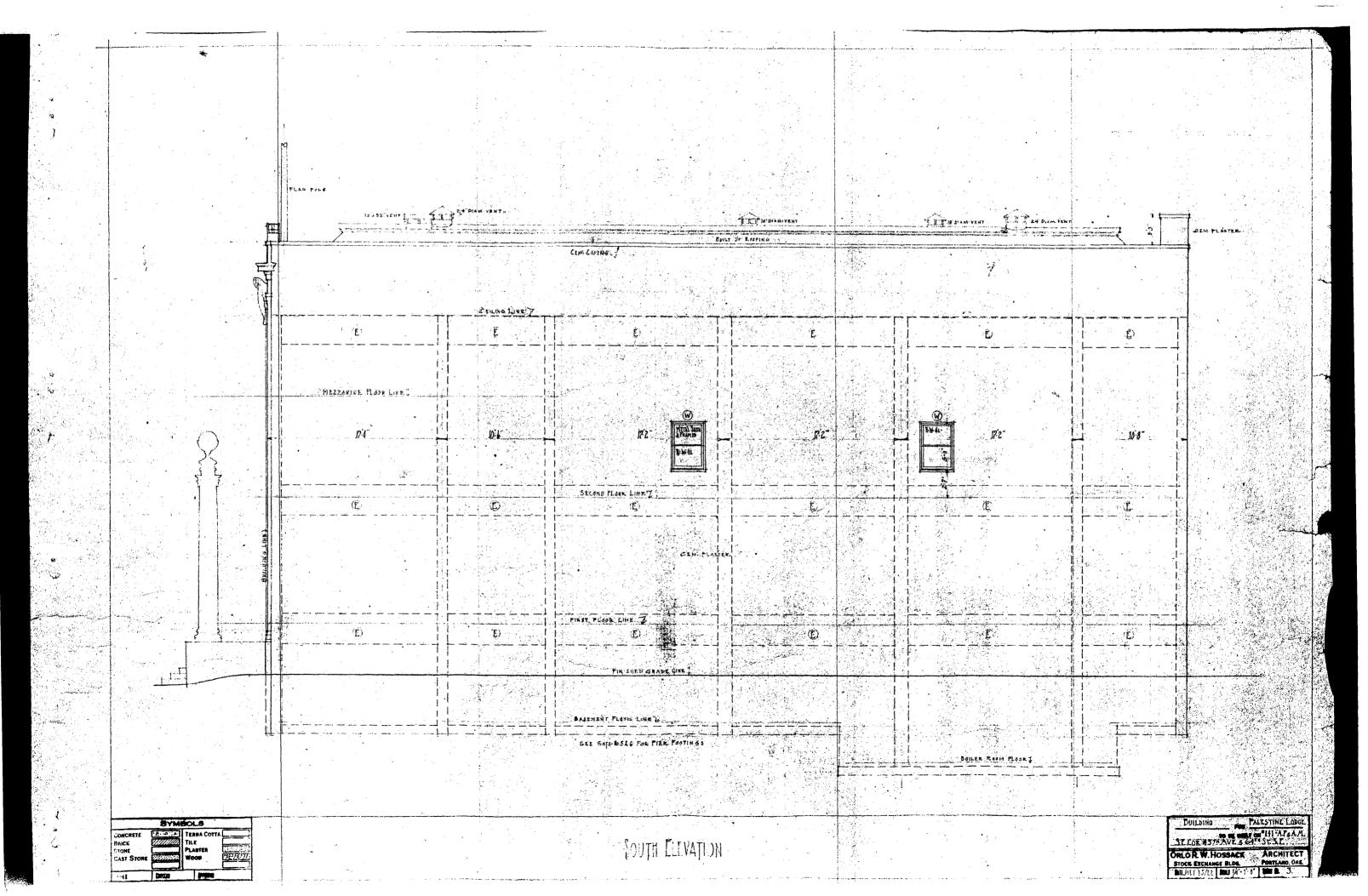
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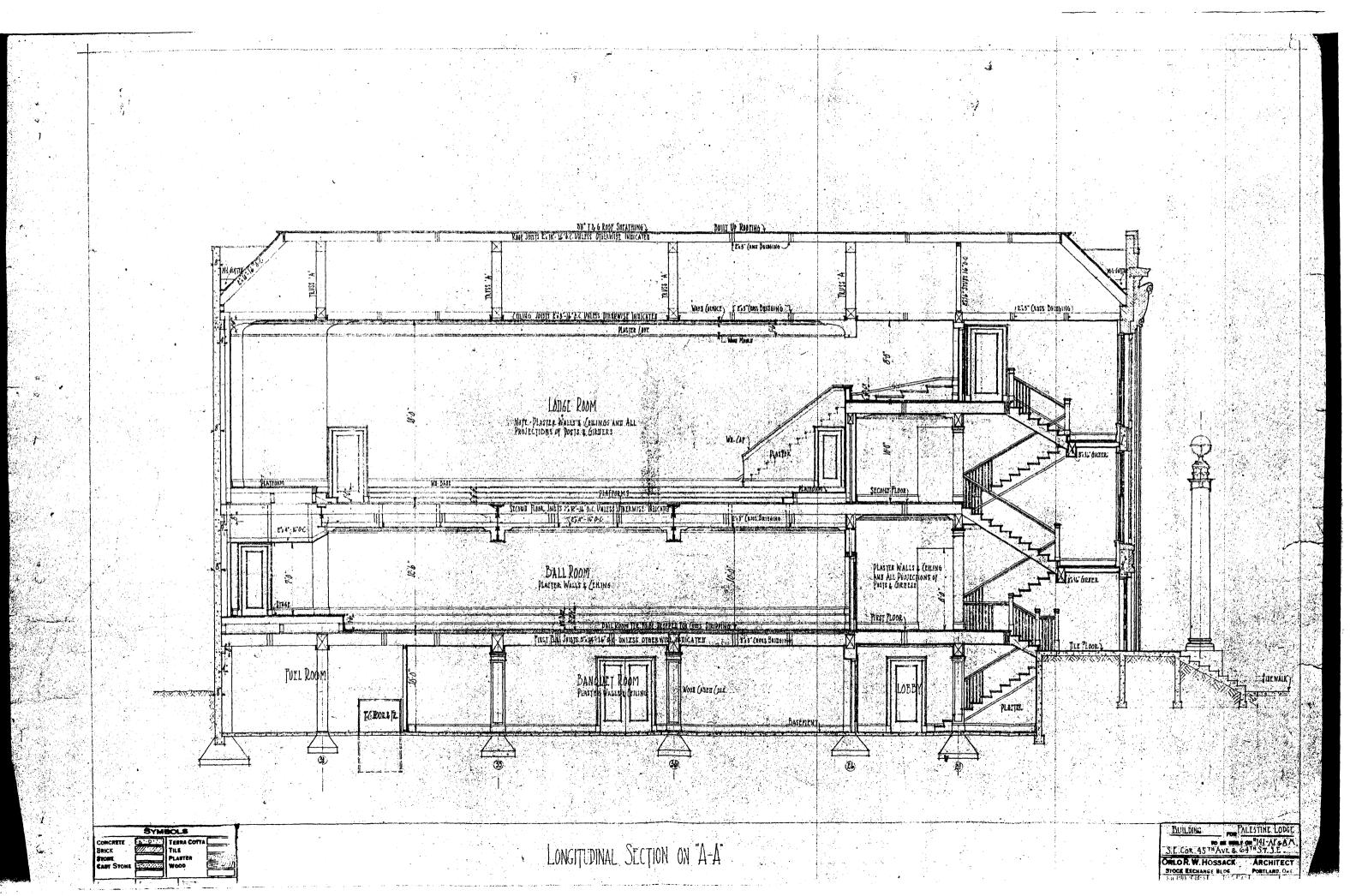
1" = 100"

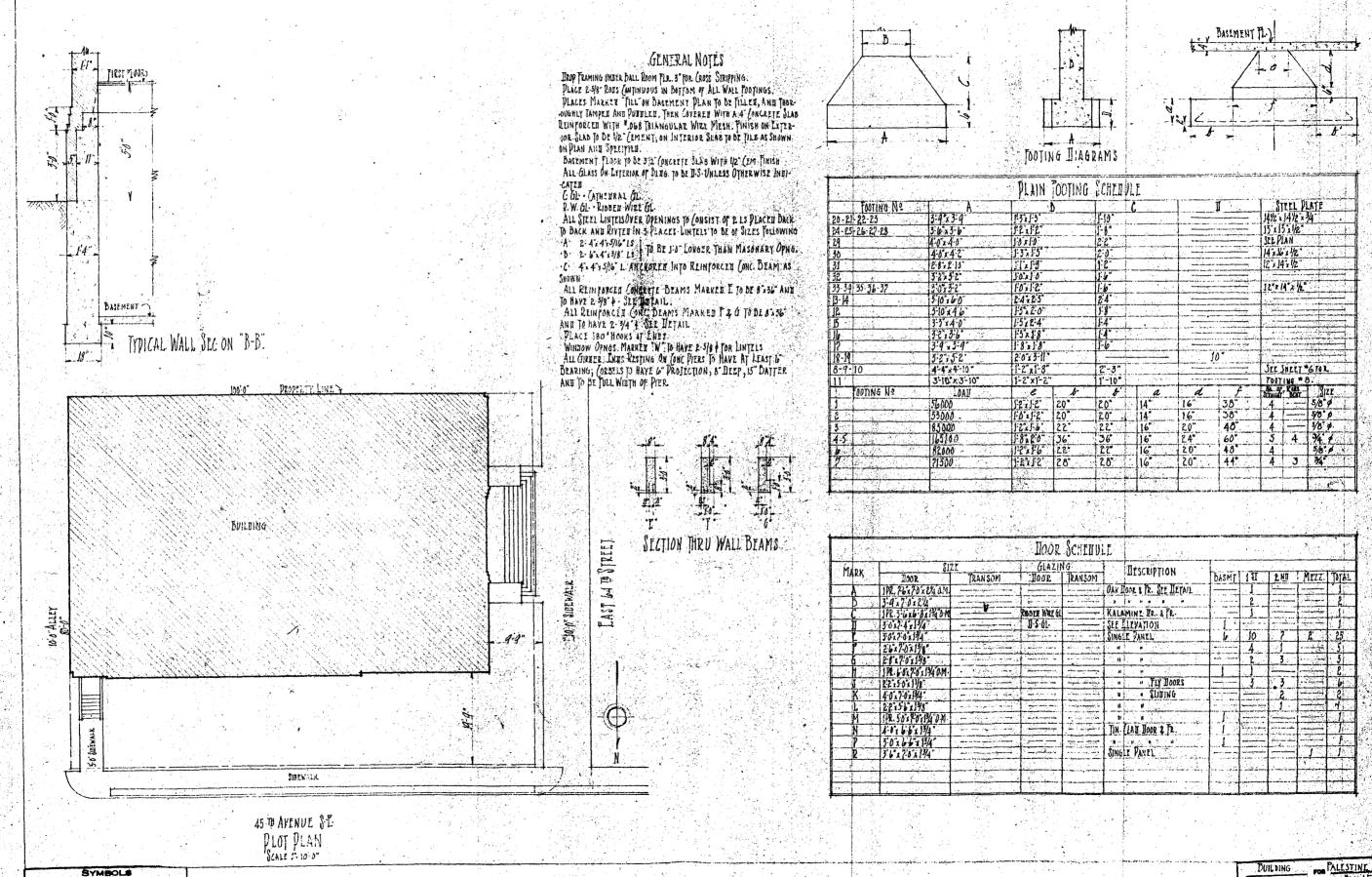












LOCATION PLAN AND DETAILS

TERRA COT

PLASTER WOOD DUILDING FOR PALESTINE LOBGE
TO BE SMALT ON 141AF.A.M.
S.E.COR. 45TMAVE 8.64TM ST.S.E.

ORLOR. W. HOSSAGR. ARCHITECT.
FORE EXCHANCE BLOS. PONTAMO. ORE.

