

**United States Department of the Interior  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form**



See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

AUG 29 1983

**1. Name**

OHP

historic Odd Fellows Temple

and/or common Odd Fellows Temple

**2. Location**

street & number 175 North Los Robles Ave. N/A not for publication

city, town Pasadena N/A vicinity of congressional district 22nd

state California code 06 county Los Angeles code 037

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: fraternal

**4. Owner of Property**

name Crown City Lodge No. 395- I.O.O.F.

street & number 175 North Los Robles Avenue

city, town Pasadena N/A vicinity of state CA 91101

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the Assessor, County of Los Angeles

street & number 300 Walnut Street

city, town Pasadena state California

**6. Representation in Existing Surveys**

title Pasadena's Architectural and Historical Inventory

has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

date 1979  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records Urban Conservation Department of Housing and Community Development

city, town City of Pasadena state California

## 7. Description

<b>Condition</b>		<b>Check one</b>	<b>Check one</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	date <u>      N/A      </u>
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

### Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Odd Fellows Temple is a two-story, T-shaped structure in the Spanish Colonial Revival style. The building consists of tiled gable roofs with exposed, notched rafter ends and smooth stucco walls with symmetrically placed casement windows. It is positioned above street level, with a retaining wall several feet high surrounding the small front lawn and steps leading to the lawn and again to the building. A one-story shed-roofed loggia extending the width of the facade comprises the entrance area. Three central arches flanked by rectangular openings face the street, while each side has one arch. This pattern of geometry repeats in the facade, the section of the building forming the bridge of the "T". On the first floor, three sets of wooden double doors with raised field panelling and glass panes are surmounted by semi-circular fanlights, the whole then outlined in a narrow band of glass creating sidelights and a fanlight border. At each end of the facade are rectangular windows. The second story of the facade, above the loggia, contains two central round-headed windows with paired rectangular windows on both sides. A round-headed opening leads to a balcony on the second floor side elevation (north). Loggia and facade detailing includes impost molding on all arches, suggesting a pier and arch design. Ornate wrought iron is used extensively: lampposts flanking walk at front of retaining wall; loggia sconces and lanterns; lattice design of loggia railing and window grilles; quatrefoil design of sidelight grilles; balcony railing; and gates to the south walkway and north driveway of the property. Massive carved wooden benches and tables enhance the ambience of the loggia.

The "stem" section of the building, with its gable roof perpendicular to the street, intersects the bridge portion of the "T" forming a small pediment in the facade center. The north and south faces of the "stem" are identical, with an even placement of windows the length of the building. First floor window sills are separate, while those on the second story join to create a stringcourse. Lacking an elevated position like the facade, the basement is above ground level. Outside staircases begin at the center of the building, leading to doorways at each end of the second floor level. Toward the rear, these stairs turn the corner on to the west elevation and are supported on large ornate brackets. A one-story stuccoed caretaker's house is situated across the rear of the property.

The interior also remains unaltered. The main assembly room (upstairs) contains five king post trussed spanning 50 feet, with elaborate chamfering and wrought iron bolts and straps. Original wood and leather chairs remain in place against wainscot surrounding the room. Second assembly room (downstairs) has two rows of piers supporting blind arches with ocular clerestory windows.

## 8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1933 Builder/Architect Kenneth Gordon

### Statement of Significance (In one paragraph)

The Odd Fellows Temple serves as Pasadena's only fraternal example of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture. Designed to blend with the architecture of the nearby Civic Center Historic District (listed on the National Register), the Odd Fellows Temple is an articulate expression of Spanish Colonial Revival and Mediterranean form applied to a medium sized building. Fraternal halls within Pasadena have traditionally been high quality designs of popular architectural styles, and as one of the last such buildings to be constructed, the Odd Fellows Temple continued this trend. Due to parking lots on the south and west, the Odd Fellows Temple is somewhat isolated which increases its visibility to passing traffic. In addition to its role as the Pasadena headquarters of an important fraternal organization, the Odd Fellows Temple fulfills an important civic function closely allied to the original intent of the Civic Center Complex.

On December 30, 1885, Pasadena's Odd Fellow Lodge No. 324, was instituted. The first meeting of the Lodge was held in a small private room in the historic roller skating rink, where the Doty Block at the northwest corner of Fair Oaks Avenue and Dayton Street now stands. In 1887, the Lodge moved its quarters into the Kinney Kendall Building on North Raymond Avenue, where the twenty-three pioneer members met until 1902, when they again moved to the hall on West Colorado Boulevard, just west of Fair Oaks, where they met until 1917.

Dr. Samuel P. Swearngen, a member of Buford Lodge, No. 600 of Buford, Ohio, transferred his membership to Pasadena Lodge No. 324 in 1887. In 1909 he conceived the idea of erecting an Odd Fellows Temple in Pasadena. On March 3, 1909 a Temple Association was formed which later became a corporation and stock was issued. Brother Swearngen was elected President, in which office he served until his death, May 12, 1927.<sup>1</sup>

The first Odd Fellows Temple erected in Pasadena was built at Garfield and Union Streets in December, 1917. The Lodge thrived in the years between its opening and 1932, when the Temple was sold and the present home of the Odd Fellows was built at 175 North Los Robles. The temple on Los Robles was designed by Kenneth Gordon, a member of a group of Pasadena architects thought to be leaders of the 1920's design profession. Gordon, who was a Bungalow Period Junior Draftsman for Joseph Blick from 1912 to 1914, later went to work for J.H. Woodworth & Son as the chief architect and construction supervisor. In 1924, Gordon was granted an architectural license and from that time until present he and his son Robert managed a successful practice. Noted for his early Californian style homes, Gordon also designed the Egyptian Theater

<sup>1</sup>Pasadena Lodge No. 324 Golden Jubilee Program, December 30, 1935.

# 9. Major Bibliographical References

Building Permits. City of Pasadena.  
Pasadena Star-News. "Odd Fellows Plan Rites." 3 November, 1933. part II, pg.1.  
Pasadena's Architectural and Historical Inventory. File: 175 N. Los Robles Ave. Urban Conservation Section of the Dept. of Housing and Community Development.

# 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 0.4  
Quadrangle name Pasadena, CA Quadrangle scale 1: 24,000

### UMT References

A	<u>1</u> <u>1</u>	<u>3</u> <u>9</u> <u>4</u> <u>8</u> <u>2</u> <u>0</u>	<u>3</u> <u>7</u> <u>7</u> <u>9</u> <u>0</u> <u>7</u> <u>0</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification Beginning at the northeast corner of the property known as 175 No. Los Robles Ave., procede 195 feet west, then 82 feet south, then 195 feet east, then 82 feet north to point of origin.  
Assessors book 5723/page 17 parcel 16

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code
state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	<u>N/A</u>	code

# 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marget E. Long and Richard J. Sicha Research Assistants

organization Pasadena Heritage date 9 August 1983

street & number 54 West Colorado Boulevard telephone 213/793-0617

city or town Pasadena state California 91105

# 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Kathryn Guatteri

title State Historic Preservation Officer date June 21, 1985

### For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for [Signature] Keoper of the National Register

Entered in the National Register date 8-1-85

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief of [unclear]

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET

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in Pasadena. His residential work was also highly praised in the 1924 issue of Pasadena Picturesque, as well as on the 1952 AIA Tour of Pasadena homes.

A straightforward style and precise detail work make the Odd Fellows Temple an outstanding representation on the Mediterranean style. In terms of its function, the temple also serves as an integral part of one of Pasadena's most important fraternal organizations. In these respects, both historical and architectural, the Odd Fellows Temple is worthy of listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

ODD FELLOWS TEMPLE  
175 North Los Robles Ave.  
Pasadena  
California

1 inch=50 feet



WALNUT STREET

NORTH LOS ROBLES AVENUE

175

