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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions 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 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

Historic name MASONIC HALL - Port Orchard
Other names/site number Sidney Art Gallery, Sidney Museum

2. Location

street & number 202 Sidney Avenue not for publication
city or town Port Orchard vicinity
State Washington code WA county Kitsap code 035 zip code 98366

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Allen M 3-23-10
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

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

Edson H. Beall 5-10-10
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Documentation

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.)

- X 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.
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.
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.)

Property is:

- 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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Social History

Period of Significance

1908 - 1950

Significant Dates

1908

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.) SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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 Engineering Record#

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
x Other

Name of repository:

Masonic Hall - Port Orchard

5. Classification

Documentation

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not incl. previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Non-Contributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing:

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

none

6. Functions or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Museum

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & Early 20th Century American

Movements: Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Wood

walls Wood

Weatherboard

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property.)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET



Documentation

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM References on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>10</u> Zone	<u>5</u> <u>27</u> <u>445</u> Easting	<u>52</u> <u>65</u> <u>147</u> Northing	3	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Northing
2	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Northing	4	<u> </u> Zone	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Easting	<u> </u> <u> </u> <u> </u> Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property.) See continuation sheet.

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected.) See continuation sheet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Pamela Heinrich - Facilities Chairperson

organization Sidney Museum and Arts Association date 7-10-2009

street & number 3418 Balsam Blvd SE telephone 360-876-3881

city or town Port Orchard state WA zip code 98366

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 or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Sidney Museum and Arts Association

street & number 202 Sidney Ave. telephone 360-876-3693

city or town Port Orchard state WA zip code 98366

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MASONIC HALL – PORT ORCHARD
KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON

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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION

The Port Orchard Masonic Hall, built in 1908, stands on an irregular shaped lot on the southwest corner of Prospect Street and Sidney Avenue. The building faces east, towards Sidney Avenue with a lot frontage of 40 feet. The lot slopes down to the north and is devoid of large trees and shrubbery. The building sits approximately 8 feet from the sidewalk.

Exterior

The Port Orchard Masonic Hall is a two-story wood-frame building. It is rectangular in plan, measuring approximately 30' x 60'. The foundation is composed of a wooden post and pier system. The siding is 1" x 6" beveled tongue and groove fir with 4" exposure. The hip roof with exposed rafter tails is highlighted by two hipped roof dormer vents on the south and north slopes. In the late 1940's a composition roof replaced the original wood shingle roof.

The main entry is highlighted by a projecting second story bay, capped by a hip roof. This extension, approximately 3'6" deep, shelters double half-light entry doors. The extension also serves as home to two original pendant style light fixtures. Flanking the entry doors are sets of one-over-one double hung wood windows.

The exterior was originally painted a light off-white color with a battleship grey trim as evidenced by paint scrapings during subsequent upkeep. In 2009, the exterior body was painted in off-white with a grey/blue trim.

On the northeast corner of the building a fire escape was installed in the 1970s to comply with code and use of the second floor space as a museum. All of the windows are original to the building and all are wood one-over-one double hung. The north side of the building on the first floor has an 18" x 24" non-opening window on the northwest end and a transom window over the rear exit door. During the time the building was occupied by the FOEE, signage was placed in this transom window with the Eagles emblem – and remains in that place today. On the second floor there are three rod operated 18" x 24" transom vent windows. There is also a 3' x 4' window at the northwest end. Two double hung 6' x 3' windows on the first floor were removed in 1972. The spaces were filled with siding to match original siding.

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On the south side of the first floor there are three double hung windows 6' x 3'. Two of the windows have been boarded over on the inside, but are still evident on the outside. On the second floor there are three rod operated 18" x 24" transom vent windows.

On the second floor there is a two-panel beaded glass window with two panels of leaded glass on either side over the grand master chairs.

The first floor on the west side of the building has a 4' x 3' non-opening window. On the second floor there is a small 18" x 24" window and a 6' x 3' double hung window. There is also a non-operating exterior door.

The rear exit door on the north side is four foot in width and original. The fire escape door on the second floor, east end, is three foot and original fir. A masonry brick chimney on the south wall is used to vent heating and is original to the building.

Interior

The interior spatial configuration, features and finishes of the building remain intact and reflect the original construction and use of the building. The first floor contains an entry hall at the northwest end of the building with a stairwell and landing leading to the second floor lodge hall level. There are two restrooms at the end of this entry hall, with a storage room over one restroom. A large open retail area (30' x 43') runs the length of the rest of the first floor. There is a small kitchen area to the back of the entry and restrooms. The entire ground floor level exhibits original fir floors, five-panel doors, and beaded tongue-and-groove wainscotting with original lath and plaster walls.

The second floor contains a vestibule, cloak rooms, anterooms, and storage areas on the west end. Beyond is the large 30' 49' formal meeting room/ lodge space. The second floor has original fir floors and carpeting, five panel doors and beaded tongue and groove wainscotting with lath and plaster walls. The formal meeting room exhibits a three-step raised dais on the east end, a two-step dais on the west end and a one step dais on the north and south sides. The north and south walls are lined with the original lodge bench seating. The original velvet upholstery remains in good condition.

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The original light fixtures hang from 12 foot ceilings.

Over the years, the original knob and tube lighting system was supplemented by gas lighting, which was later replaced by newer electrical. In 2003, all the wiring was replaced to meet current code requirements.

The lodge room remains an open area infilled only by temporary display partitions which reach only 8' high.

The original heat plant was a coal fired boiler with steam radiators; the cement pad for the boiler is still in the southwest corner of the building. The steam heating system was removed in the early 1980's and replaced with overhead gas heaters, one on each floor.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Masonic Hall in Port Orchard, Washington is historically significant under criterion A for its direct tie to the broad patterns of social history within the Kitsap County region. Completed in 1908, the two-story Masonic Hall is also significant under criterion C as a property that embodies the distinctive characteristics of its type, and period of construction. The simple design is reflective of many small town fraternal halls across Washington State. The period of significance for the Masonic Hall begins in 1908, the date of construction, and ends in 1950, the year the Masons moved to a new building.

Many of the original members of the lodge were city officials and the founding leaders of the community. Built for the Masons of Port Orchard Lodge #98, the building is currently used as a museum and art gallery and retains many of its original character defining features, such as interior doors and trim, raised seating areas and high ceilings.

The town that was to become Port Orchard was originally platted in 1886 by Frederick Stevens. Stevens had initially come to the area on a family visit and immediately saw an investment potential. With plans to build a city, he bought an 88½ acre parcel of land for \$900 and named the new location after his father, Sidney. Growth quickly followed and the town of Sidney was incorporated September 15, 1890. It was the first community in Kitsap County to be both platted and incorporated. Shortly thereafter, the U.S. Navy sought a suitable location for a Naval installation on the west coast to help support operations in the Pacific Ocean. They chose an area across the bay from Sidney which brought an immediate influx of people to the community. By 1900 the population of Sidney had grown to 682 people.

With hopes high towards the future of the area centered around the naval base, the Kitsap County seat was moved from Port Madison to Sidney after a popular vote by county citizens in 1892. The next year the residents of Sidney petitioned both the state legislature and the U.S. Post Office to rename the city to "Port Orchard." However the legislature refused, as the community of Charleston (now West Bremerton) had also requested that same name. The U.S. Postal Service, however, went through with the name change, creating two Port Orchard post offices, one in

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Sidney, the other in Charleston. Confusing the matter though was that Commander Morong at the Naval shipyard, had requested the Navy yard's mail be routed and stamped through the "Port Orchard" post office at Charleston.

The duplicate post offices remained for ten years until Will Thompson, then editor of local newspaper, the Sidney Independent, became a State legislator (1902-03) and succeeded in restoring the Charleston post office to Charleston and the Port Orchard post office to Port Orchard. That same year, in 1903, the legislature changed the official name of Sidney to Port Orchard.

Early industry in Sidney centered around loggers and military men who frequented the nine saloons in town. The town included two steam sawmills (one at the foot of Grant and one on Bay Street), two shingle mills (one powered by steam and one by water on Black Jack Creek), and a pottery and terra cotta plant (located at the foot of Pottery Hill). As times changed, most of these businesses disappeared. Many had manufactured supplies for building the shipyard and then later supplied the yard with its labor force.

Despite the moving of the county seat to Sidney and its late founding date, the community remained fairly undeveloped and under serviced by many modern amenities. In 1890, the town had no finished streets. It was divided into three sections by Pottery Creek and Black Jack Creek. Bay Street was flooded by the incoming tide twice a day. Since the town had no funds, a tax was put on saloons, polling and other privileges. Eventually Sidney Hill was graded; its dirt used for fill on part of Bay Street. A small trolley railroad was constructed from Rockwell Avenue over a salt marsh to the east side of Black Jack Creek. Later Rockwell Avenue was cut down and its sand used to fill the marsh. Small western false front buildings dotted the main streets. In 1894 a large fire consumed all buildings on both sides of the Bay between the community of Sidney and Frederick.

However, the town was determined to survive and rebuild. The city installed their first water system on Black Jack Creek in 1911. Electric lights arrived in 1912. The rate maximum was \$1 a month for each 16 candle power of light and by 1915 Port Orchard had 266 telephones. Residents of Port Orchard had dug into their personal cash reserves to buy land and donate it to the State for use as a Veterans Home. In 1908 the legislature appropriated the monies for the home.

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It was during this early boomtime period that the Port Orchard Lodge #98 was chartered (1898) as part of District 12. Local businessman John Anslow, served as the first worshiped master. At the time, District 12 of the Grand Lodge of True and Accepted Masons of Washington had five lodges: Franklin #5 at Port Gamble, Kane #8 at Port Madison, Mt. Moriah #11 at Shelton, Union City #27 on Hood Canal, and Renton #29 at Port Blakely. All of these except the Union City Lodge, were in mill towns, which was typical of many fraternal halls.

At first the Masons met in various locations between Bremerton and Port Orchard. In 1908 they decided to erect a lodge on a prominent corner, just a few blocks from the wharf. The trustees of the Lodge; Samuel Whitney, J.G. Carlisle, and J.D. Davis; took out a loan from the Washington National Building Loan & Investment Association of Seattle (now Washington Mutual) to construct the building. In order to capitalize on their investment, a building was designed to house commercial uses on the first floor, while the second floor was dedicated to lodge functions. Architect for the simple vernacular building is unknown, but the building is reflective of many early 20th century fraternal buildings.

The wide open spaces on the second floor gave flexibility to the proceedings of the lodge and the raised dias on the sides and ends of the room, visually separated the various levels of Masons during their ceremonies. Ample storage was provided by rooms on the back of the building, and a large foyer separated the lodge room waiting patrons whom were not official members of the lodge.

Early first floor tenants included a print shop, and the local commercial club. Between 1920 and 1924, the first floor was rented to the local newspaper, the Port Orchard Independent. Upstairs, the meeting hall was shared by other societies beside the Masonic Order. In 1931 the Independent Order Odd Fellows Olympic View began meeting in the hall as well as the Port Orchard Chapter #44 of the Order of Eastern Star and in 1938, the Rainbow Girls began meeting there. These fraternal societies met in the building until June 1950 when Lodge #98 sold the building to the Port Orchard Aerie No. 2338, Fraternal Order of Eagles. The Masons had built a larger meeting hall further up Sidney Avenue. The Fraternal Order of Eagles owned the building and met there until November 1956 when it was sold to the Olympic View Lodge No. 254, Independent Order Odd Fellows.

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In 1972, the building was sold into private ownership. Then in March 1972 the Sidney Museum and Arts Association (SMAA) purchased the building. Currently, SMAA operates as a non-profit 501(c)3 with an art gallery on the first floor and museum on the second floor.

The fraternity of Freemasonry is the oldest, largest and most widely known fraternity in the world. It dates back hundreds of years to the time when stonemasons and other craftsmen gathered in shelter houses or lodges. Over the years, formal Masonic lodges emerged, with members bound together not by trade, but by their own desire to be fraternal brothers. The basic unit of Masonry is the Blue Lodge, where members earn the first three Masonic Degrees known as the Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.

After an individual becomes a Master Mason, he can belong to many other organizations which have their roots in Masonry and which have Blue Lodge Masonry as a prerequisite. Only when a man has achieved the status of Master Mason can he petition to become affiliated with another Masonic organization such as the Shriners, the Scottish Rite or the York Rite.

While the numbers of the Masons at the Port Orchard Lodge have fluctuated over the years, the group is still active in the community.

The Masonic Hall contributes significantly to the visual character of Port Orchard. A highly intact example of vernacular architecture, the straightforward simplicity of its design is a reflection of the era, its geographic location, and the men and materials that built it. The building stands prominently within the downtown commercial core on the main road leading to the county courthouse. Its vertical form, size and scale make it a highly visible part of the community.

Furthermore, the building is one of a dwindling number of relatively unaltered, late 19th century, small town fraternal halls in Kitsap County. Its floor plan, building form and fenestration are clearly expressive of its function as a community and fraternal meeting place. The intact interior further reflects the traditional and symbolic uses of these spaces, from public entryway, community social hall and kitchen on the ground floor to the anterooms and "secret" meeting hall on the second floor.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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History of Port Orchard Chapter #44 – Kitsap County Historical Society – 8/9/1967

History of the Sidney Museum & Arts Association – Its First Five Years. 1976.

Mahon, Barry. Sidney Prospect. February 1972

Polk Directory, Bremerton & Kitsap County, 1920 – 1969

Port Orchard Independent. July 11, 1973., June 25, 1975.

"Purchase of Old Masonic Temple Building by Sidney Museum & Arts Association"
Port Orchard Independent. March 1972.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Map – Port Orchard, July 1914, 1924.

District 3-12 Masonic Lodge History.

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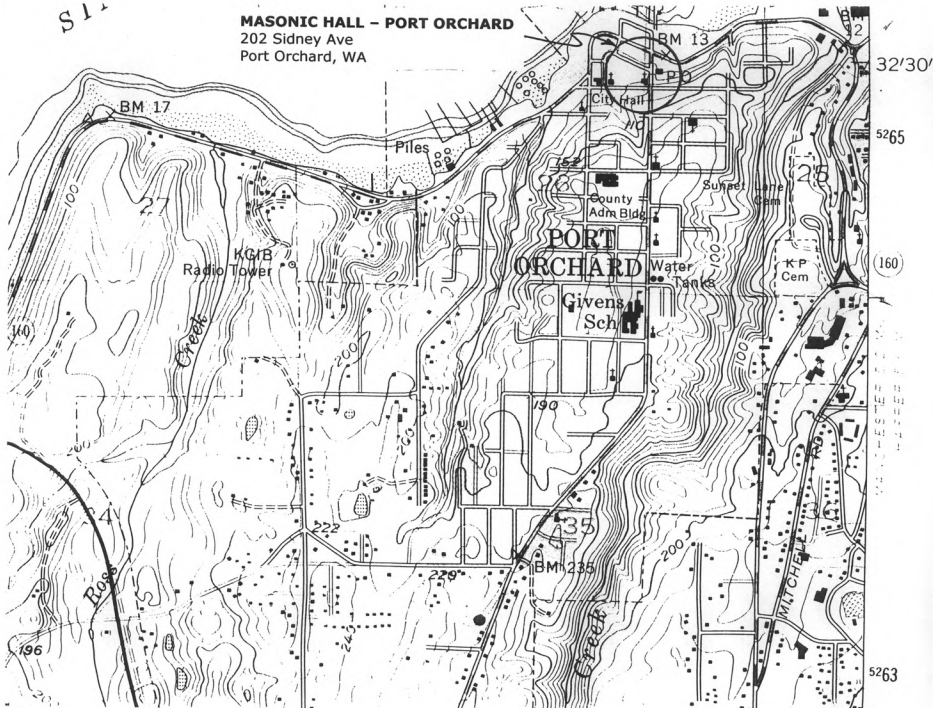
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is located at 202 Sidney Ave., Port Orchard, WA 98366 and encompasses the entire parcel as described in Tax Parcel 4650-015-013-0206.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The nominated property encompasses the entire urban tax lot occupied by the nominated building, the Masonic Hall.

MASONIC HALL - PORT ORCHARD
202 Sidney Ave
Port Orchard, WA



S 1

32°30'

5265

(160)

5263

Send To Printer

Back To TerraServer

Change to 11x17 Print Size

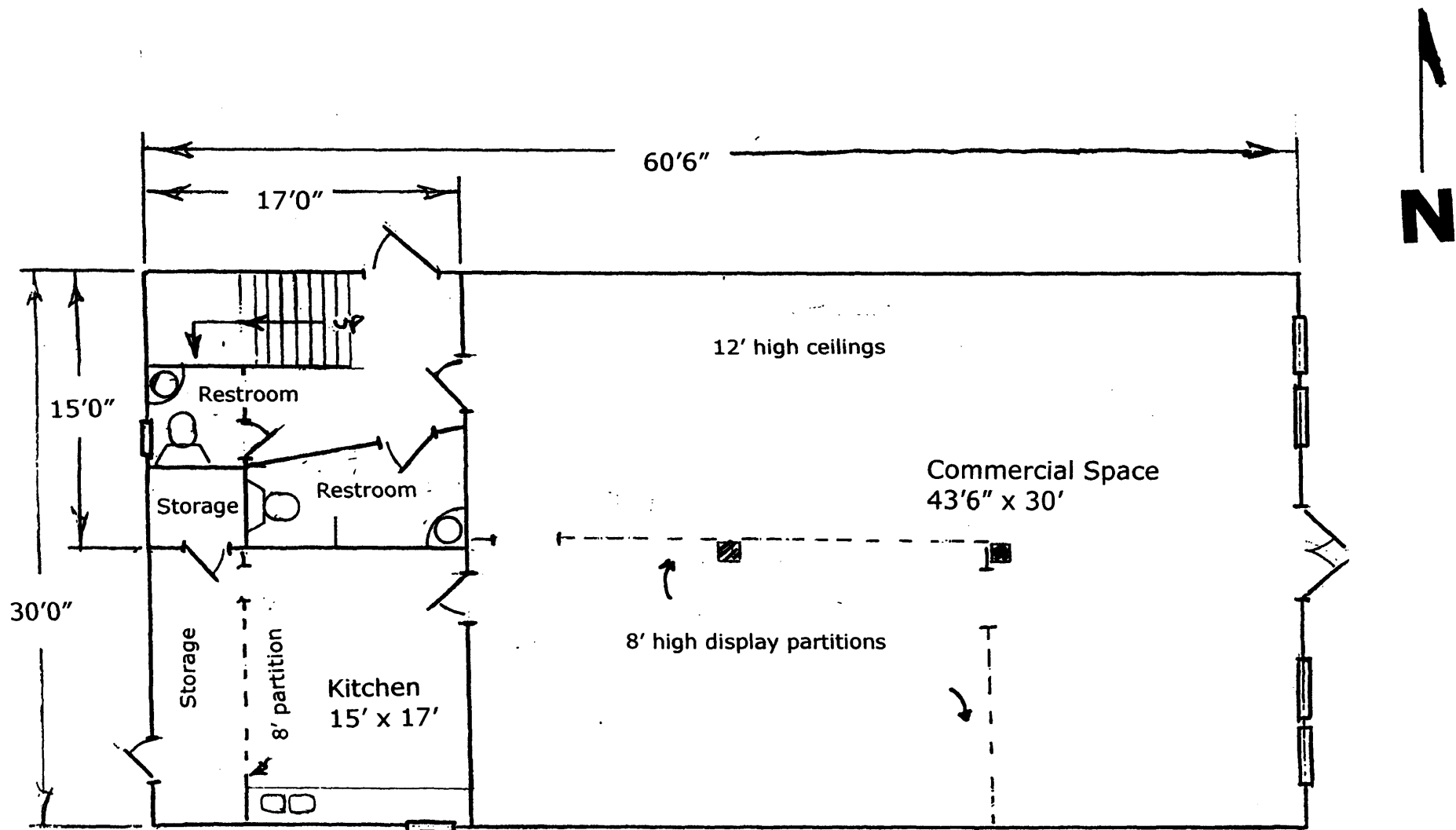
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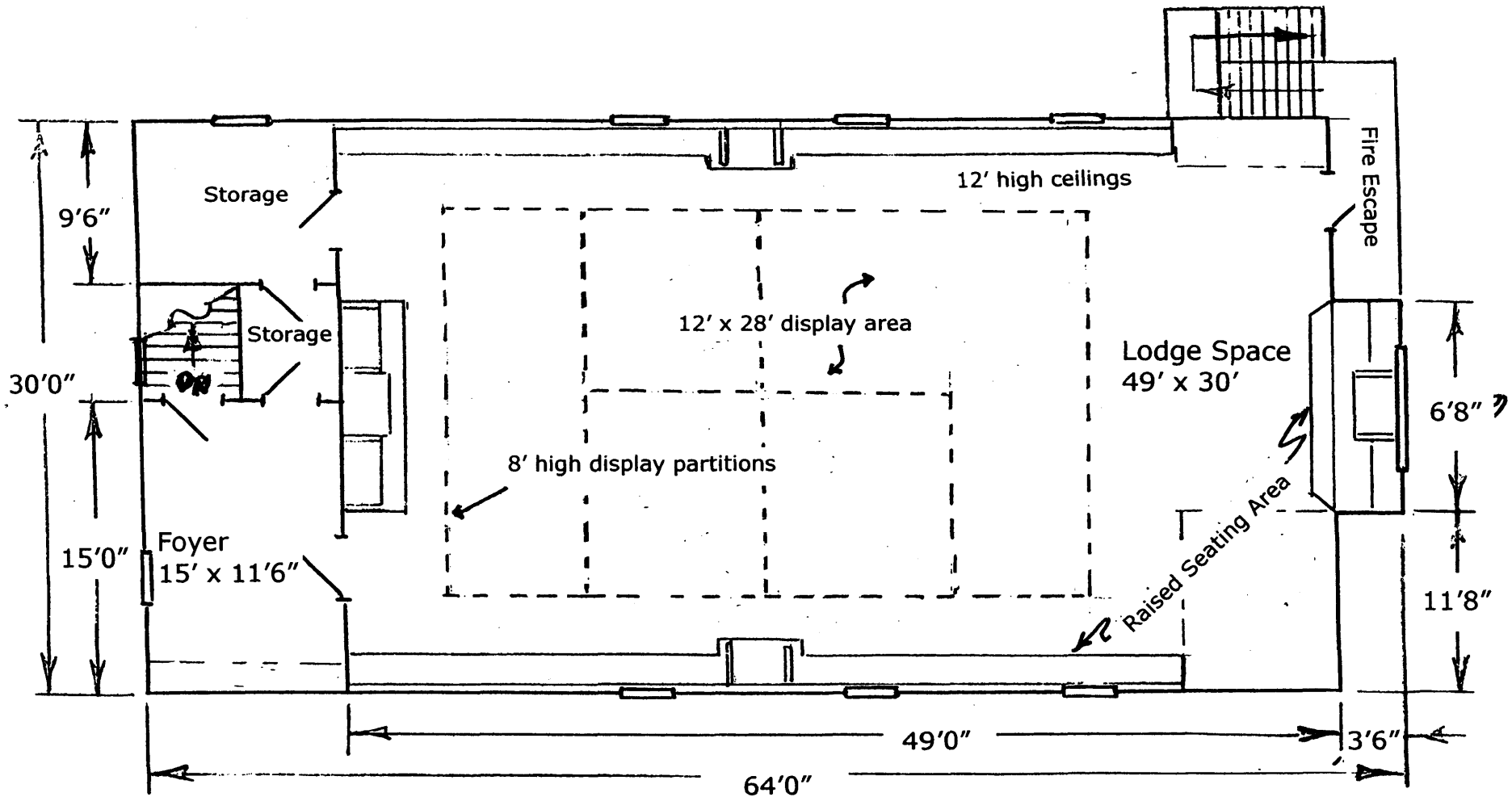
■ **USSS Bremerton, Washington, United States** 07 Jul 1994



Image courtesy of the U.S. Geological Survey
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MASONIC HALL - PORT ORCHARD
 First Floor
 Not to Scale



MASONIC HALL - PORT ORCHARD
Second Floor
Not to Scale

PROSPECT STREET

71'

30'

60'

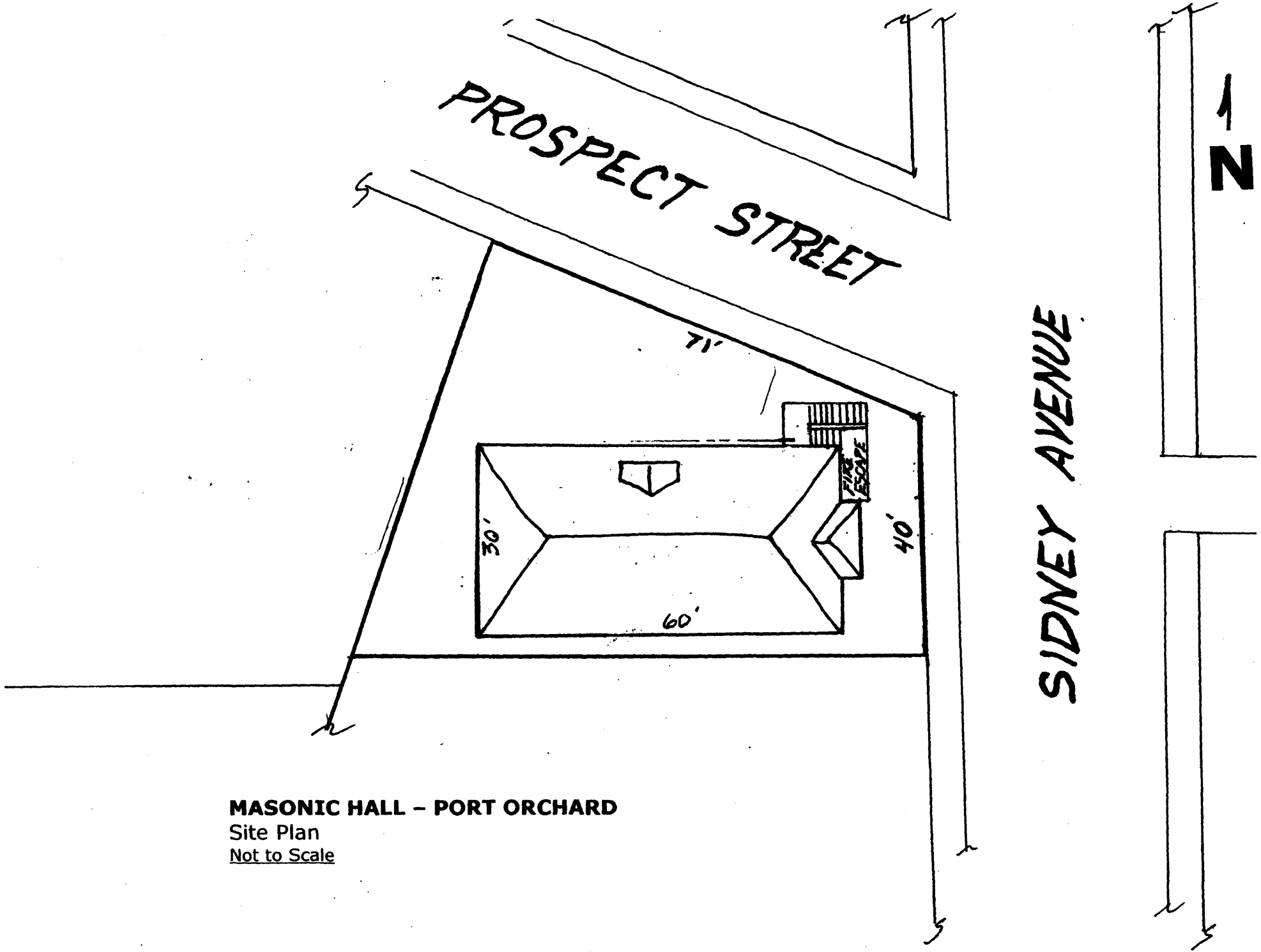
40'

FIRE ESCAPE

SIDNEY AVENUE

N

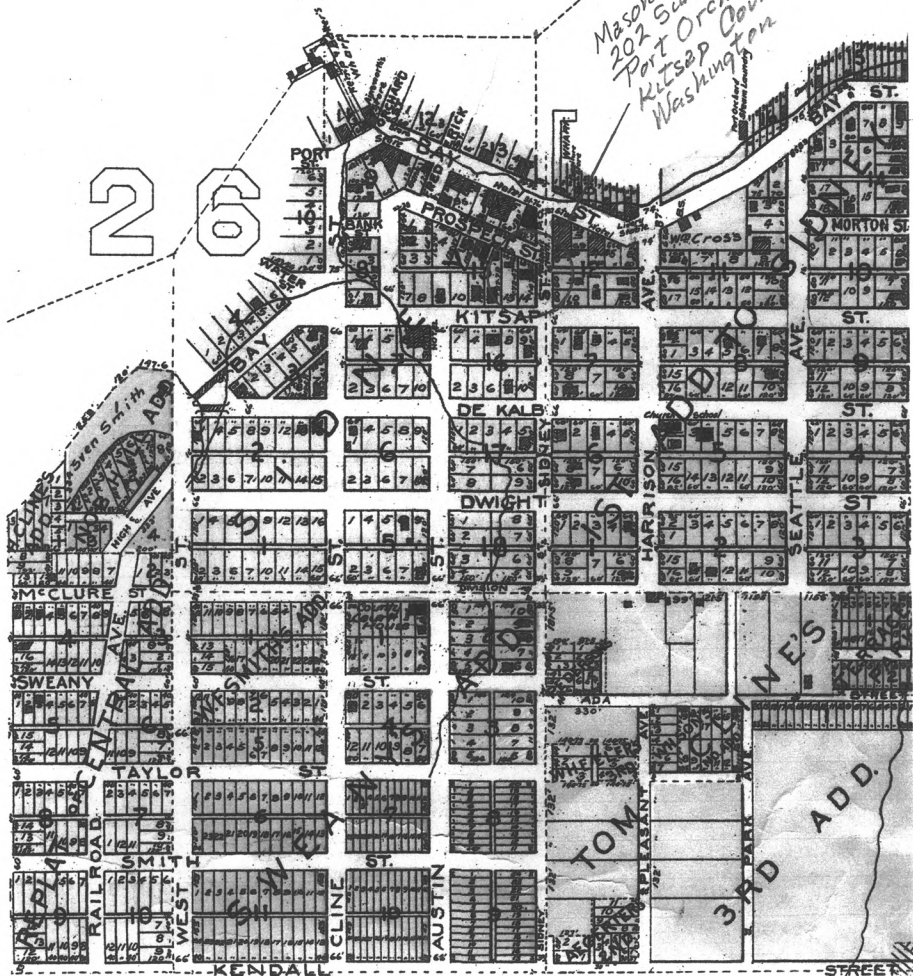
MASONIC HALL - PORT ORCHARD
Site Plan
Not to Scale



Section 26 Tp 24N, Rge. 1E, W.M. (Willamette Meridian)
Sidney (Port Orchard WA.)

26

Masonic Hall
202 Sidney Ave.
Port Orchard
Kitsap County
Washington



FOIL ORANGE 1971

S. M. STEVENS' TOWN PLAT
OF
SIDNEY
Kitsap County, Wash.



N
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 Sidney Art Gallery - Masque Temple
 202 Sidney Ave. - Port Orchard
 Sidney Museum



Photo courtesy of Kitsap County Museum.

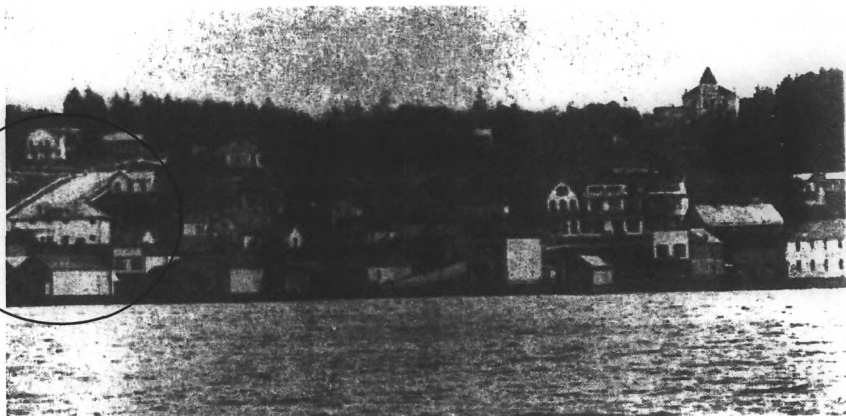
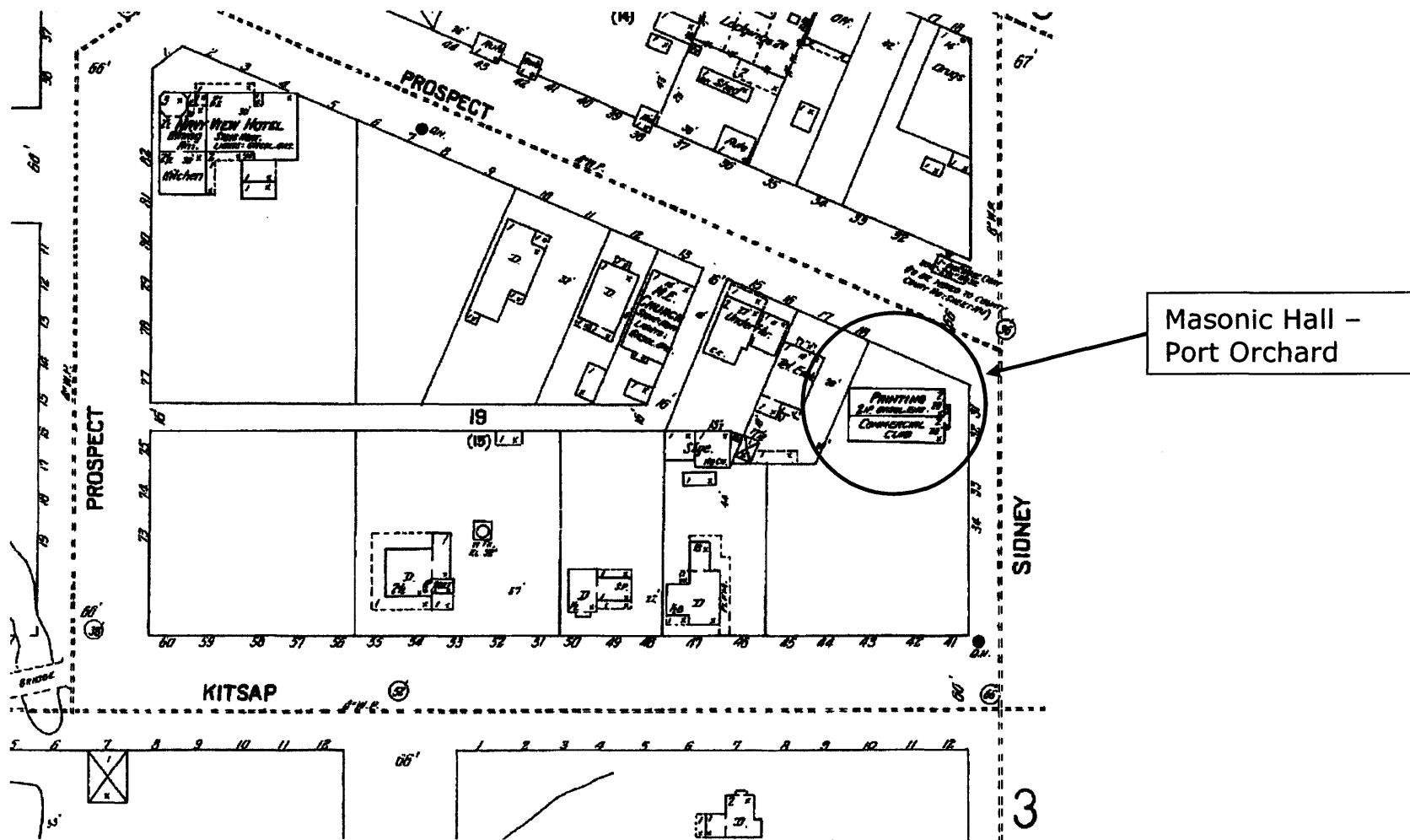
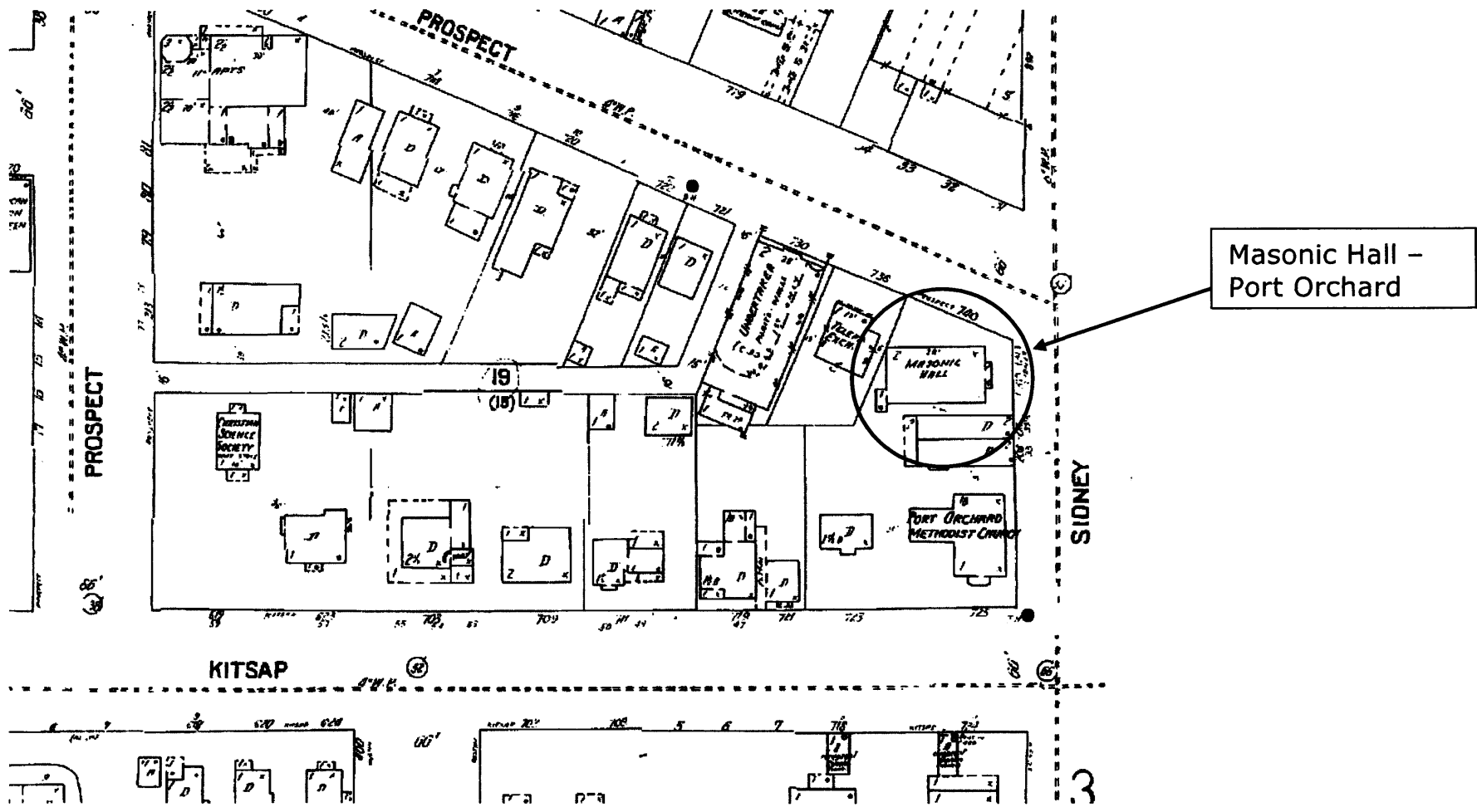


Photo courtesy of Norman Coffy.

C. 1910 Images showing the prominent location of the Masonic Hall, Port Orchard.



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map - Port Orchard
 July 1914, Sheet 2



Sanborn Fire Insurance Map - Port Orchard
 July 1914 - modified to Feb 1924, Sheet 2