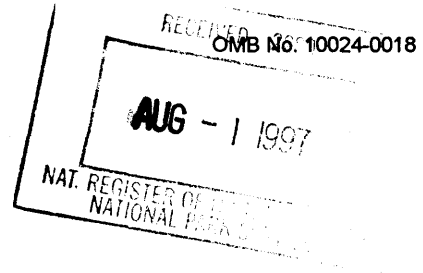


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



961

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 an 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 Temple of Des Moines

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1011 Locust Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Des Moines [N/A] vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Polk code 153 zip code 50309

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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).

Patricia G. Williams 7-29-97
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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 the 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 R. Beall 8/29/97
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Name of Property

Polk County, Iowa
County and State

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing Noncontributing
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.)

"The Architectural Legacy of Proudfoot and Bird in Iowa"

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: meeting hall

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

COMMERCE/TRADE: business

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: meeting hall

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store

COMMERCE/TRADE: business

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Beaux Arts

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE

walls BRICK

STONE

roof GRAVEL

other GLASS

MARBLE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1913

Significant Dates

1913

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

Proudfoot Bird & Rawson

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

City of Des Moines

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Name of Property

Polk County, Iowa
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 115 447500 4603780
Zone Easting Northing

2 [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
Zone Easting Northing

3 [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

4 [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
[] See continuation sheet

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/title Patricia Eckhardt, Ph. D.

organization Eckhardt Research date May 25, 1996

street & number 514 N. Linn Street telephone (319) 338-3386

city or town Iowa City state Iowa zip code 52245

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the complete 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 SHPO or FPO.)

name Masonic Temple Association of Des Moines

street & number 1011 Locust Street telephone (515) 244-6011

city or town Des Moines state Iowa zip code 50309

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. 470 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, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION AND ANALYSIS

Summary Statement

The Masonic Temple of Des Moines, Iowa is a five-story steel frame structure with brick and stone facades. It was designed to blend into its urban environment, and it looks like a five-story commercial building. But its interior design is quite complex in that it accommodates two lodge rooms, a banqueting room as well as commercial and office space. The interiors of the two lodge rooms on fourth floor are exceptional in design and workmanship and in original condition. The Masonic Temple was designed by Iowa's foremost architectural firm in the early 20th century, Proudfoot, Bird and Rawson. Construction was completed in 1913.

Detailed Description

Exterior

The Masonic Temple of Des Moines is a five-storied red brick building constructed which looks at home in downtown Des Moines. It appears to be a commercial building in the Chicago School tradition, and like other buildings of this type, employs the steel post and beam system of construction. It has the usual store fronts with wide expanses of glass at street level and regular fenestration of paired, rectangular windows on most of the floors above. The first two floors are connected by giant pilasters which carry a heavy cornice at the top of the second floor, and a string course divides the third floor from the fourth floor, a usual format for a commercial structure. Similar treatments for tall buildings in Des Moines can be found on the Fleming Building and the Hippee Building, to cite only two of many. But the complexity of the interior and the multiple purposes of the interior spaces can be seen on the exterior to some extent.

The East facade, facing 10th street, appears to be an ordinary business block. The floors above the two-story base have regular fenestration, and are nearly identical. The south facade is the main one and contains the entrance. This facade follows the commercial format up to the base of the fourth floor where the regular commercial fenestration pattern is abandoned. At this level, each of the five central bays has a tall arched window surrounded with rectangular and circular motifs which refer vaguely to Masonic symbolism. The whole composition was once topped with a heavy, protruding cornice, now missing.

The skillful use of brick and marble gives the building a coloristic effect. The lower section is light, topped with the red brick, or darker section. Originally the light cornice would have closed the composition.

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Section number 7 Page 2

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

The main entrance is in the second bay from the west. It has a double door with transom and side lights which fill most of the bay. A projecting roof extending out over the sidewalk and suspended on cables serves as a canopy of sorts. On the piers on each side of the entrance are decorative motifs including rams heads. Animal and human heads serve to decorate a great number of Proudfoot and Bird buildings beginning with one of their first, the Wichita City hall, 1891, and continuing through Schaeffer and McBride Halls on the University of Iowa Campus to the Polk County Courthouse.

Interior

Every floor has a different function and a different plan. See the plans on following pages. The interior is conceived as a three story core surrounded with five stories sections on the east, south and west. One has to admire the planning skill of Proudfoot Bird and Rawson in designing a building which had to provide for so many different functions. They are famous for their functional and convenient interiors.

The ground floor is mostly devoted to commercial space. Each bay with the exception of the entrance bay holds the entrance to a shop or store with varying depths. The east facade has only one store entrance toward the rear or north. Inside the main building entrance is a vestibule which opens into an "L"-shaped lobby with elevators and stairs at the west end. It is sizable enough to hold the crowd of people who might attend a banquet or session of the lodge. Today the commercial space on the west intrudes into part of the original lobby.

The second and third floors house a two-story great hall or banqueting room centered on the north wall. The natural light for this room comes from windows on the north. The third floor surrounds the upper portion of the banqueting hall on three sides. The west portion of the third floor holds a kitchen and cafeteria which open out to the upper part of the banqueting room. It served as an orchestra gallery originally. The East and South portions of the second and third floor contain offices.

The fourth and mezzanine floors are devoted to Masonic Temple activities. Every detail of these spaces are intact and of excellent quality from the quarter-sawn oak woodwork to the brass door knobs with Masonic insignias. Nothing has been forgotten from cloak rooms to rest rooms. This elaborate detail is characteristic of Proudfoot and Bird, et al. interiors.

The plan of the fourth floor has been carefully developed to provide for smooth traffic flow, but controlled access. The stairs and elevator open to a long hall running north and south off of which are offices, rest rooms, a cloak room and library/club room. From this hall one enters the

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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Large Hall and passageways surrounding the Large Hall. To enter the Small Hall, one must enter a separate lobby or vestibule from this main hall.. A comfortable club room and library fills the two bays in the west corner of the south facade at the end of the entrance hall.. The Small Lodge Hall is arranged along the south facade, making use of three of the five arched windows. The interiors of the two lodge halls on the fourth floor are extremely fine and architecturally important. Usually, only churches provide us with such grand and ornamental interior spaces.

At the East end of the two lodge halls and accessible only through long hallways are a committee room and an armory. The two-story "armory" provides storage for furniture, robes, and various props used for Masonic practices and other items. The mezzanine floor consists of storage rooms and galleries for the Large Lodge hall.

Large Lodge Hall

The main lodge hall or Large Hall occupies the area above the banqueting hall, and like it, this columned hall is two stories tall. The narrow hallways surrounding the Large Hall support galleries on the mezzanine floor which open into the hall on the North, South and West. It is rectangular in plan, surrounded with two-story-high Doric columns which support a triglyph and metope frieze. The column capitols are of the Tuscan type with rosettes every 90 degrees. Platforms on the East and West ends of the hall are backed by semi-domed niches under pediments supported by columns. The major thrones are placed on these platforms. The ceiling has deep, ornamental coffers of a rectangular shape. Five in the center of the room contain skylights which provide the only natural light to the space which has no access to the outside walls as is traditional for Masonic lodge halls. The skylights are basically rectangular with circular forms attached at each end. Glass colors are in the gold to green range.

Access to this room is controlled. Only from the lobby on this floor can one progress into the meeting hall or into the surrounding hallways and rooms. Even the galleries can not be entered except from the stairs in the main hall, inner hallways, or the armory.

Small Lodge Hall

The Small Hall or York Rite Room appears more delicate and colorful than the Large Hall, but it too has powerful architecture. Three of the five arched windows of the south facade are in this hall. The windows hold colored glass of the Tiffany style. The central panels of the glass have landscape scenes. There is a wainscoting of marble and again, two impressive thrones on platforms, one at the East and one at West ends. Seating is along the north side of the room. The ceiling is deeply coffered. There are three oval coffers or sections, very ornately detailed.

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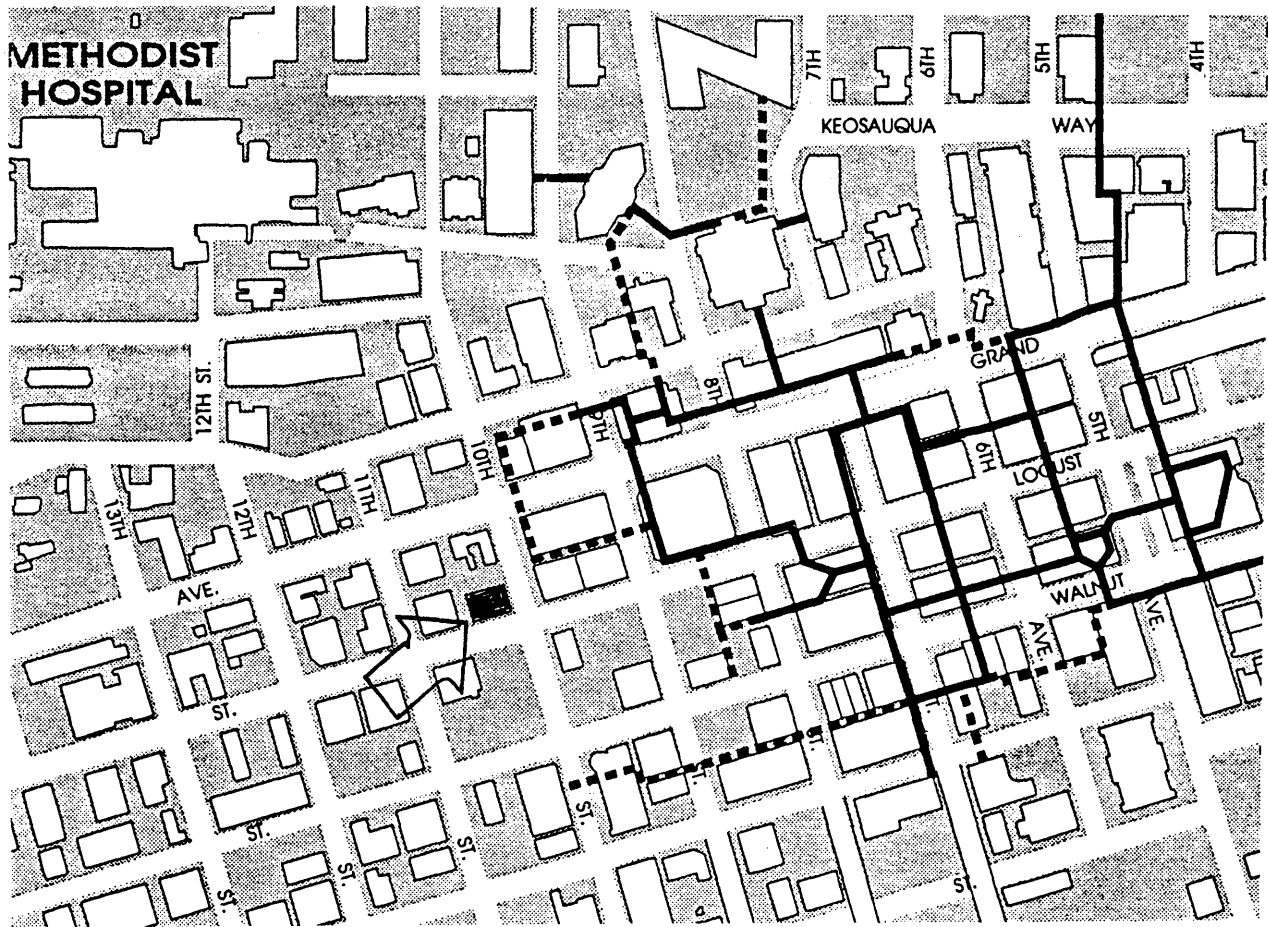
Section number 7 Page 4

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Integrity

This building is endangered. It is located in a block the City of Des Moines wants to clear to make a seven block-long park. This block might be spared, however. This building is sound and in generally good condition. The store fronts are in poor condition, but this is due primarily to lack of maintenance and quality tenants. There is some encroachment into the first floor lobby today for additional office space, but the original pilasters are undisturbed. There is some intrusion in the Banqueting hall in the form of a partially dropped ceiling. The fourth floor seems completely in original condition.

Map of Downtown Des Moines showing location of the Masonic Temple



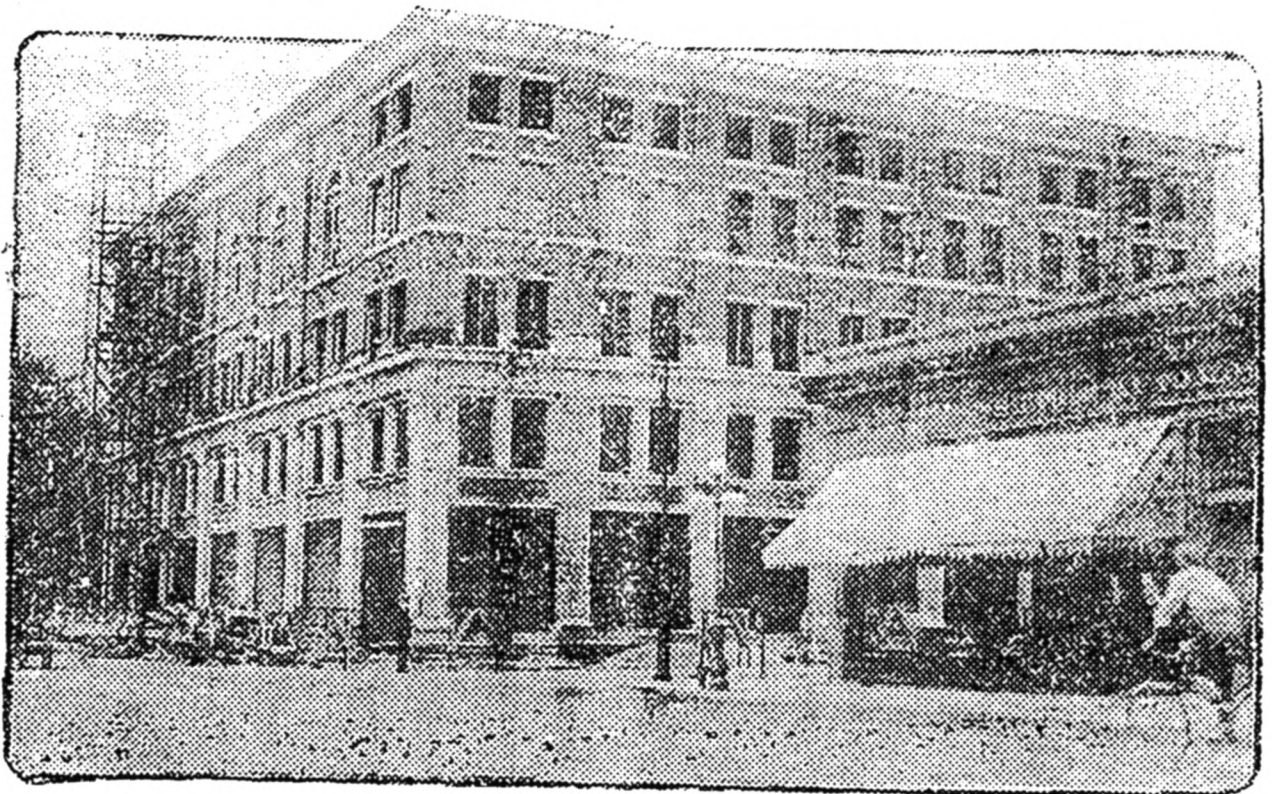
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

**Photograph of the Masonic Temple nearing completion
Published in the Des Moines News, August, 4, 1912.**



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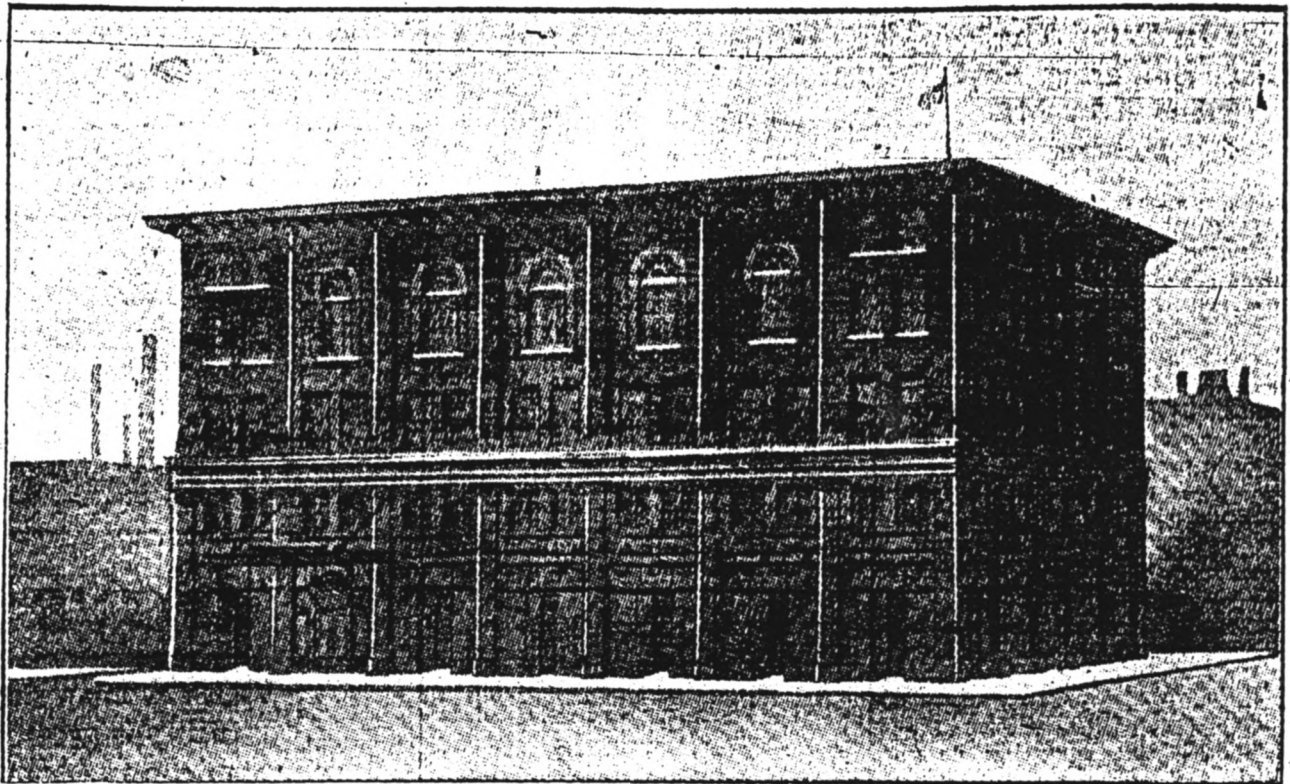
Section number 7 Page 6

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

An Early Version Of The Masonic Temple Without
The Cornice Between The Third And Fourth Floors,
Published In The Des Moines Capital, May 21, 1912

THE DES MOINES CAPITAL.

CORNER STONE OF NEW MASONIC
TEMPLE WILL BE LAID TOMORROW



New Masonic Temple as it will look when completed

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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

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South Facade Drawing



- SOUTH - ELEVATION -
SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"

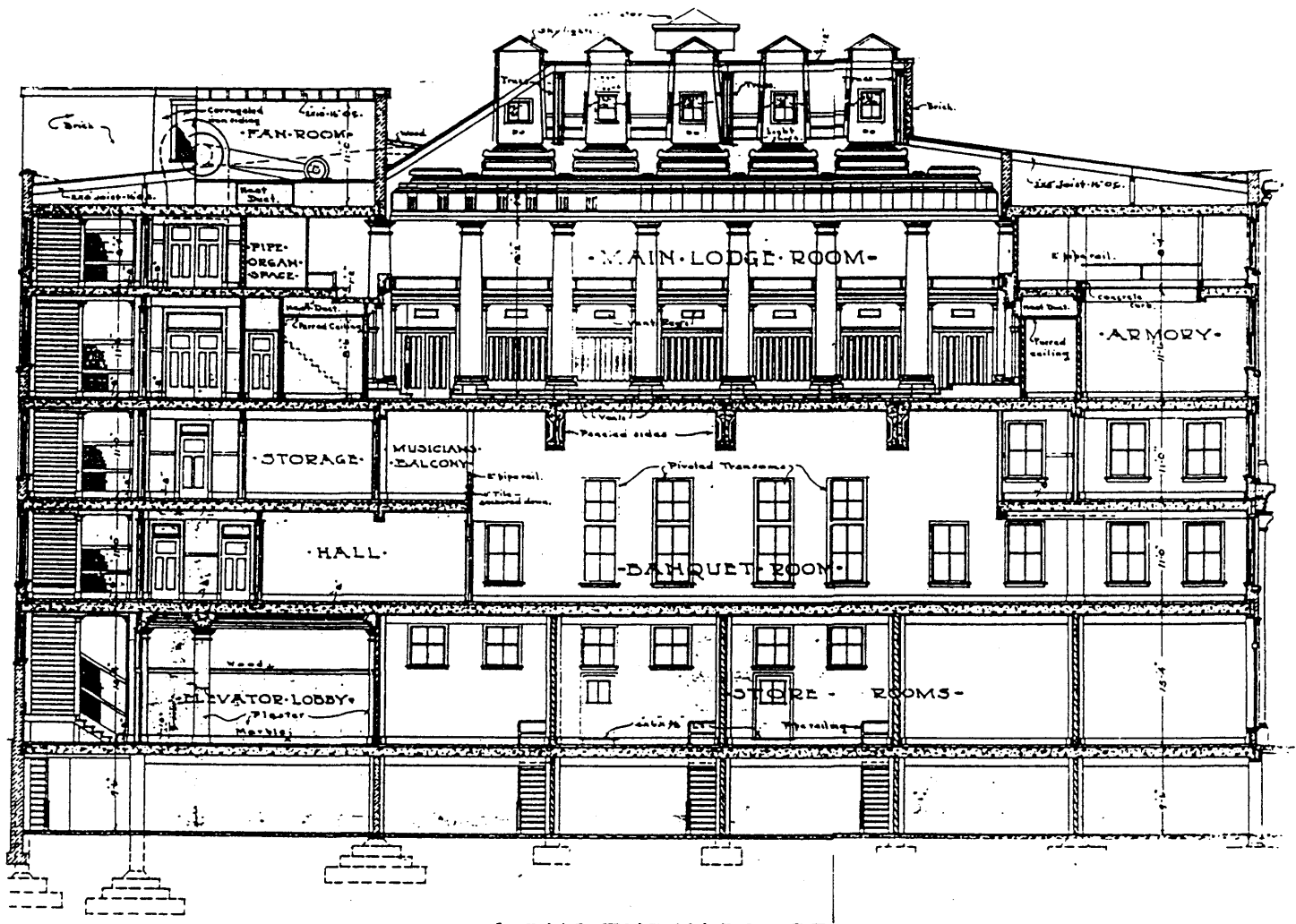
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

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West to East Section Drawing



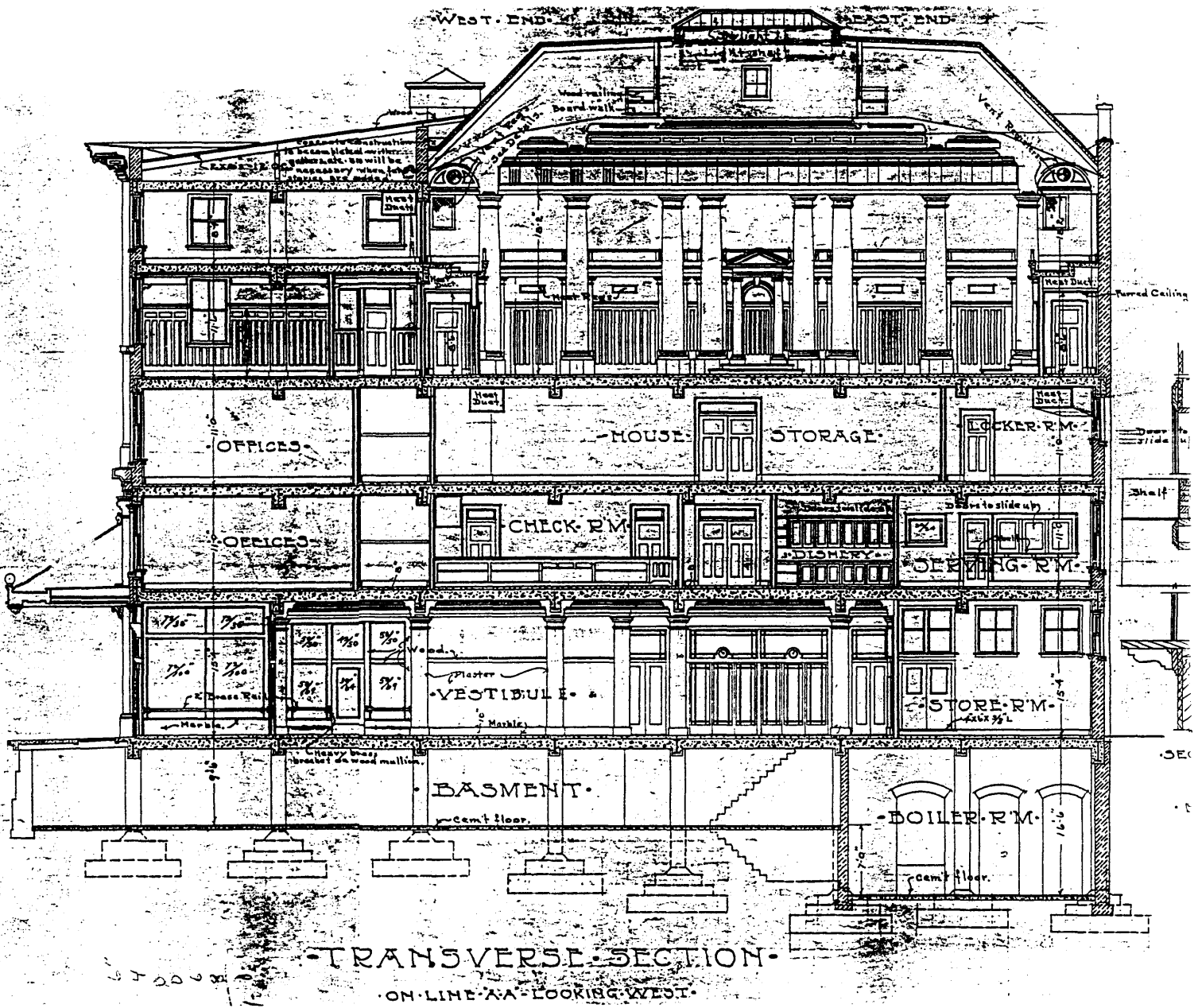
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

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North to South Transverse Section



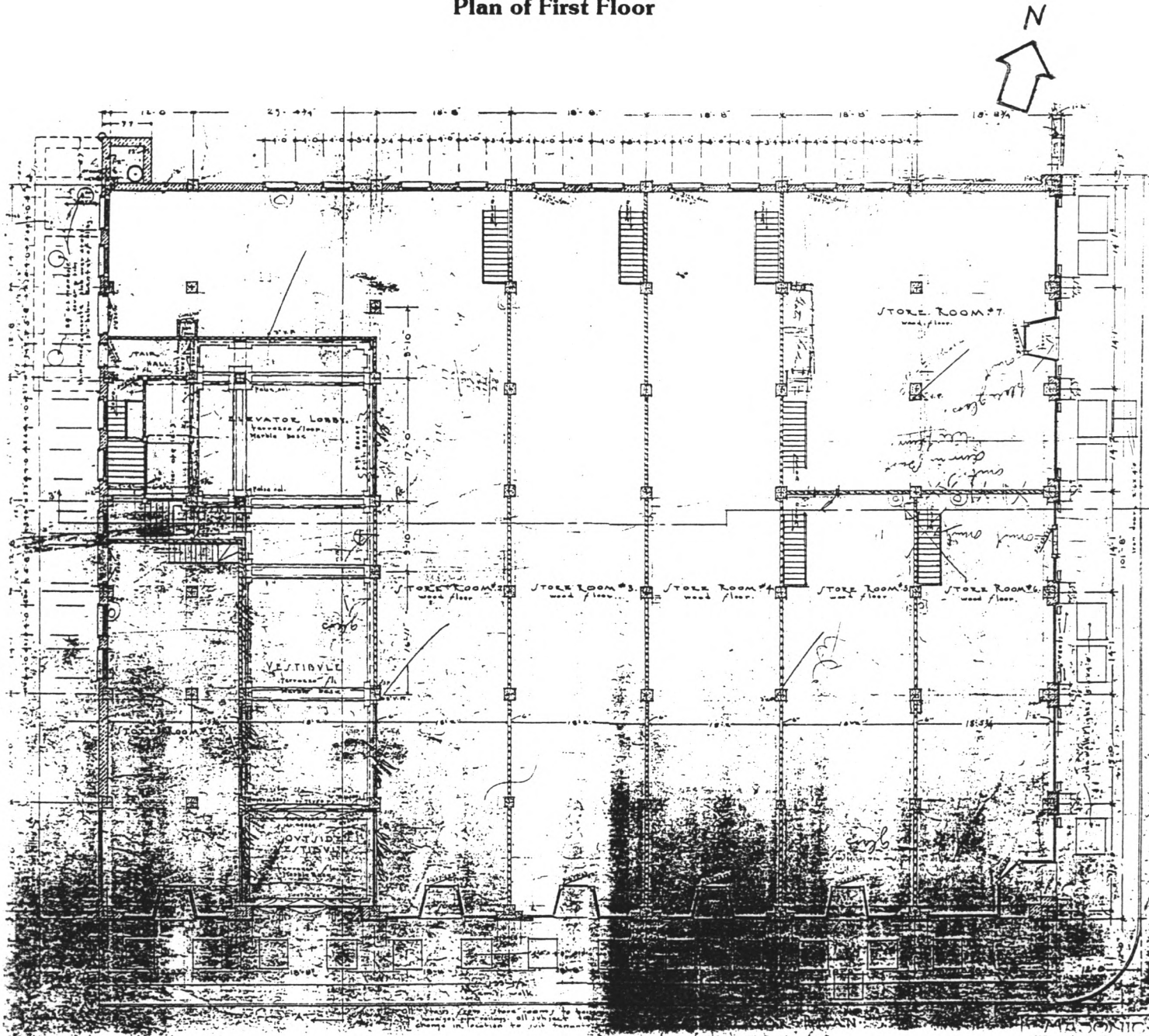
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Section number 7 Page 10

Plan of First Floor



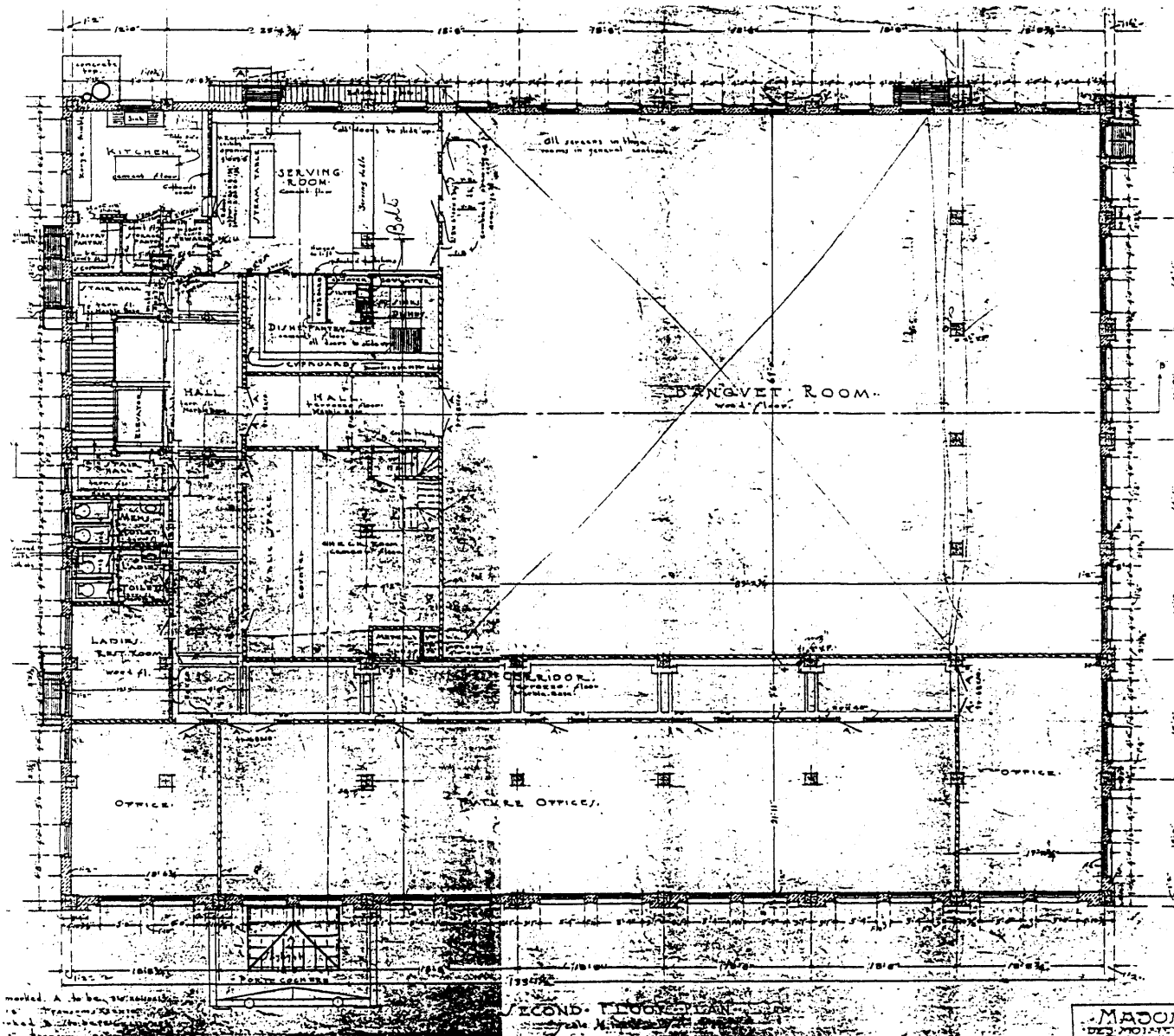
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Plan of Second Floor



MASON
DES MOINES

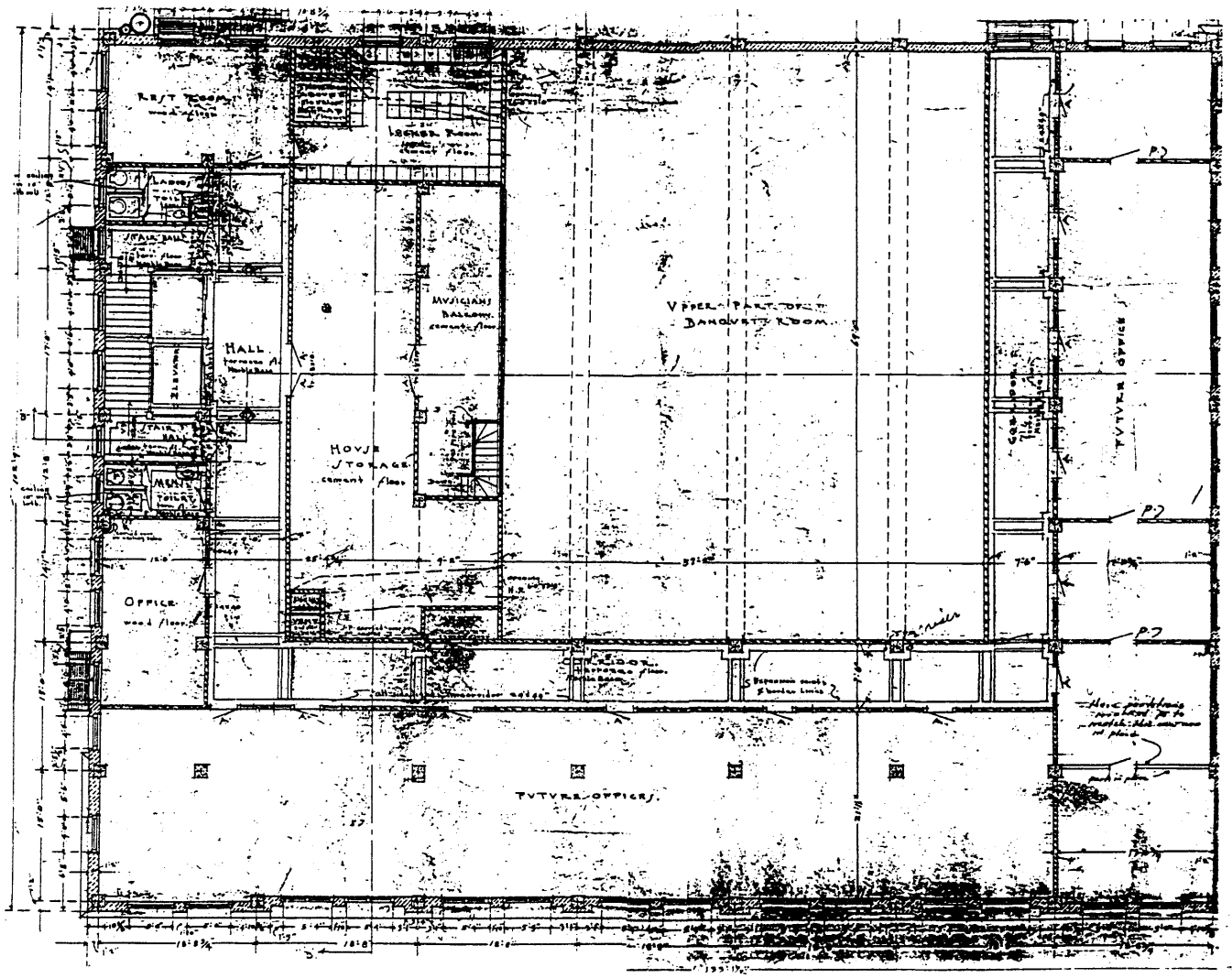
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Section number 7 Page 12

Plan of Third Floor



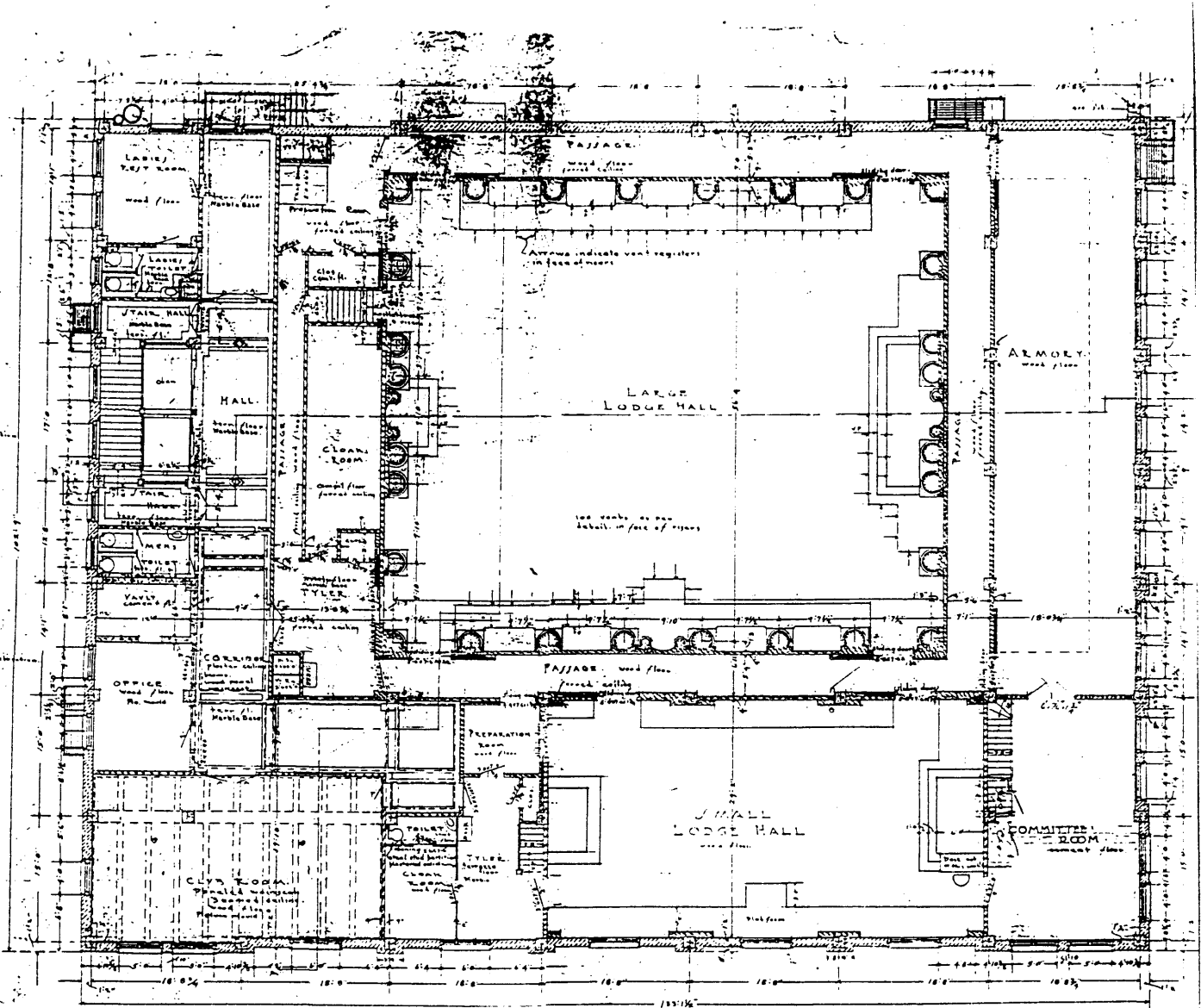
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Section number 7 Page 13

Plan of Fourth Floor



All doors marked A have vestibules
to the outside of doors leading to outside
entrances.

FOURTH FLOOR PLAN

M.H. 77

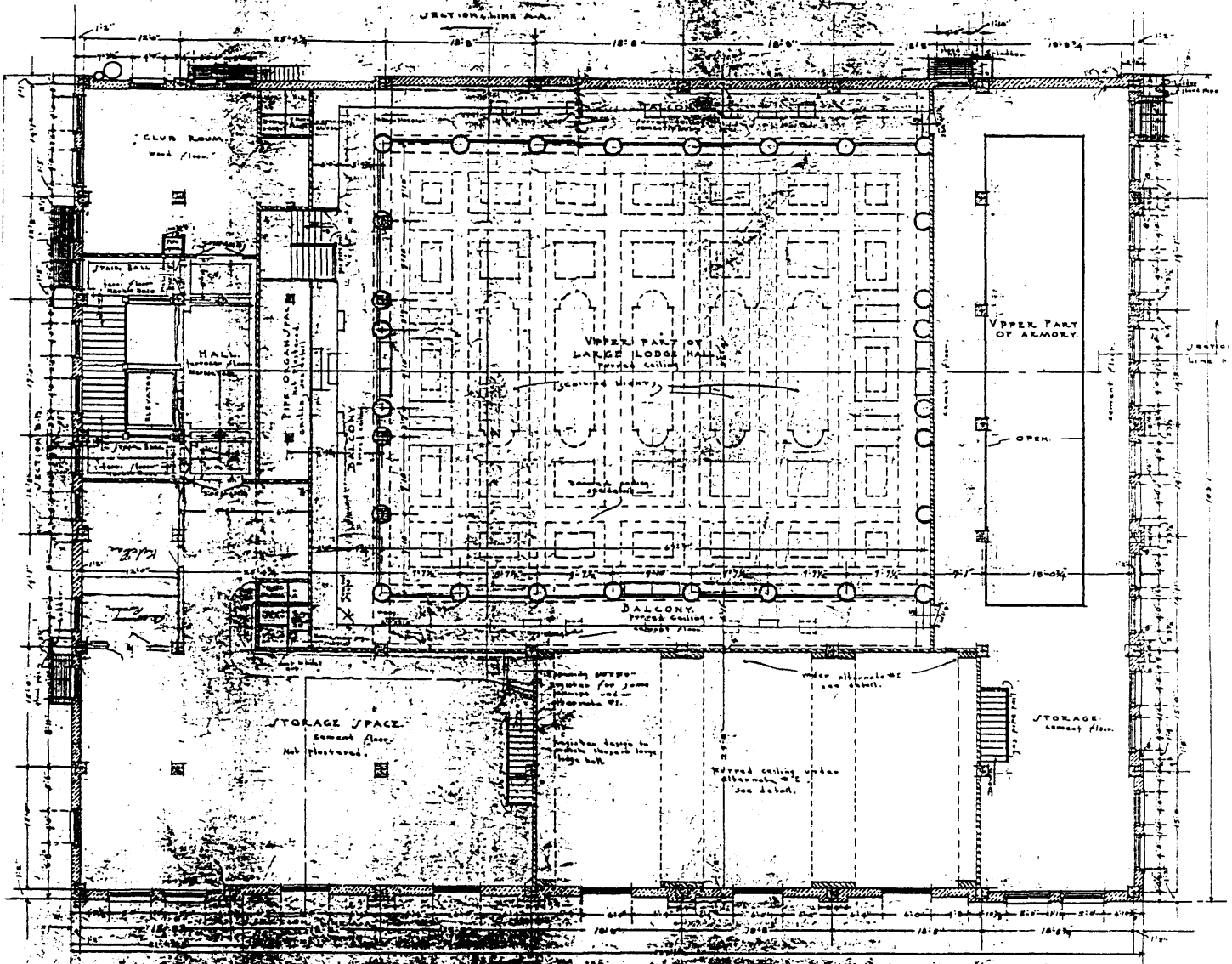
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

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Plan of Mezzanine Floor



MEZZANINE FLOOR PLAN

MASONIC

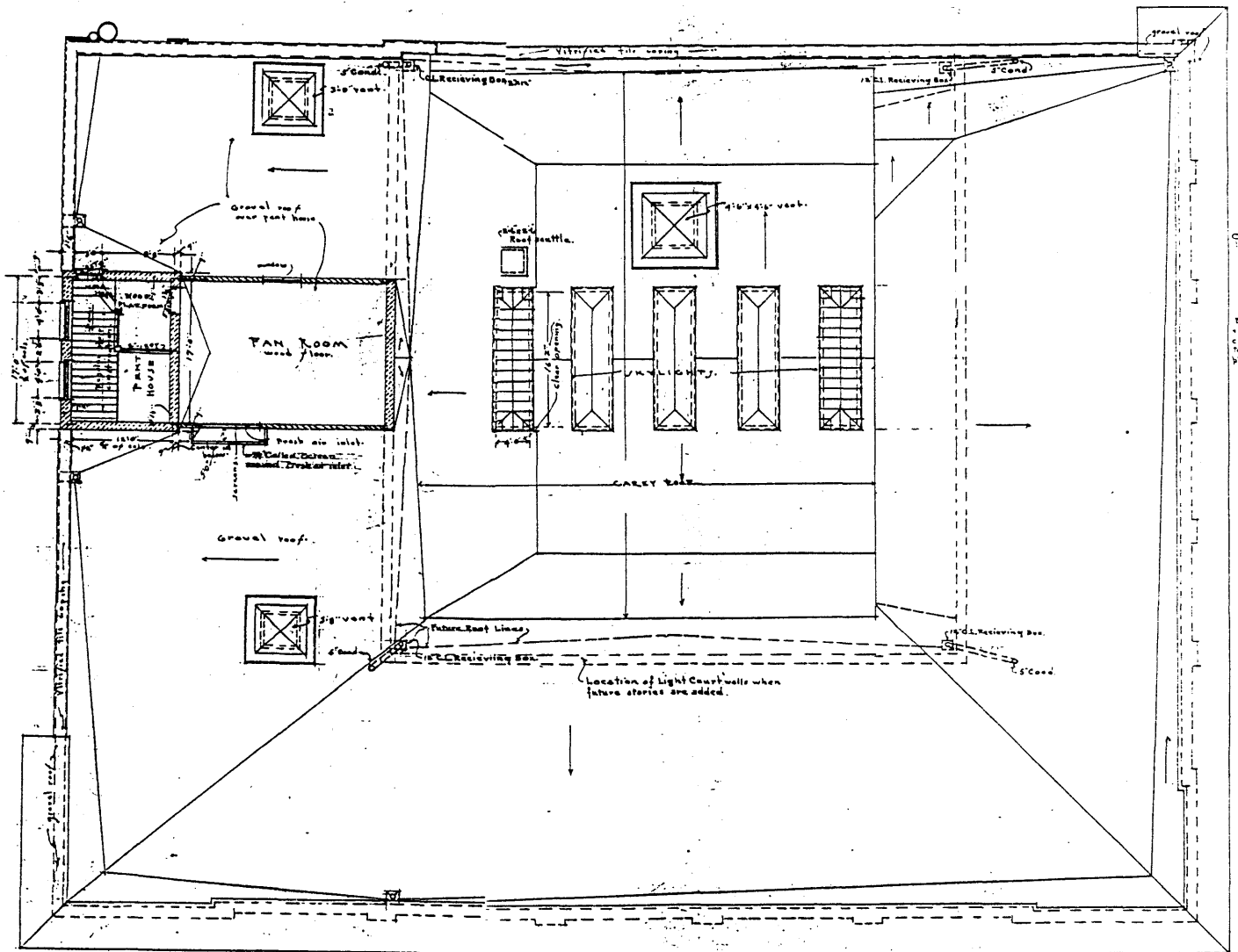
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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Section number 7 Page 15

Plan of Roof



.. PLAN OF ROOF ..
Scale 1/8" = 1'-0"

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Section number 8 Page 16

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, Criteria C

Summary Statement

The Des Moines Masonic Temple is locally significant under Criterion C as an outstanding example of the design skills of Proudfoot and Bird et. al., in the Multiple Property Document entitled "The Legacy of Proudfoot and Bird et. al. in Iowa, 1882-1940."¹ This firm was Iowa's premier architectural firm in the first three decades of the 20th century. The Masonic Temple was designed to fit into its downtown commercial street setting. At the same time, it reveals the Masonic function that is located on its upper floors. The decoration of the two lodge rooms is outstanding and intact as originally designed. The cornerstone was laid on May 22, 1912, and the building dedicated on May 26, 1913.

Significance and Historical Contexts

History of Proudfoot and Bird et. al.

This property meets the registration requirements in the multiple Property Document entitled Iowa's Pre-Eminent Architectural Firm: The Architectural Legacy of Proudfoot and Bird, et al, in Iowa, by Barbara Bevin Long.

Masonic Temples as architecture

The Masonic Temple of Des Moines reflects customary standards for Masonic temples world-wide. There are two elements involved, the combination of the Lodge with commercial space, and the use of traditional proportions and symbolic details which make reference to lodge hall as a representation of the Temple of Jerusalem.

Masonic Halls in Iowa are usually located on an upper floor of a building which also houses commercial spaces. This format holds true for lodges in small as well as large towns. A small Masonic temple of two stories in a town such as Garnavillo, Iowa, has commercial space on the first floor and the lodge itself on the upper floor. The usual pattern is for three stories, the first floor for commercial or sales space, the second floor for office space, and the top floor for the lodge.

¹ Barbara Bevin Long, "Iowa's Pre-Eminent Architectural Firm: The Architectural Legacy of Proudfoot and Bird, et al, in Iowa," (unpublished research report for the Bureau of Historic Preservation, State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines, Iowa 1981.

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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Section number 8 Page 17

The Des Moines Masonic Temple uses an expanded version of this format and successfully blends the lodge into its urban environment. The lower floor is taller than the upper floors as was customary for commercial structures, and it is joined with the second floor with a giant order of pilasters as are the lower one or two stories of most tall commercial buildings in Des Moines and most other cities during this period. The street level is filled with store fronts. Second and third floors have office spaces which wrap around the two-story high banqueting room. The fourth floor and the mezzanine are devoted to Lodge activities. The majority of the second floor was reserved for Lodge use originally, leaving only the first and third floors for commercial use. Second floor had reception rooms, meeting rooms and cloak rooms for the banqueting hall.²

The conformity to traditional Masonic proportions and symbolism is present in the Des Moines Masonic Temple as well. The lodge is oriented to the compass points as much as possible (Des Moines streets in this part of town are at an angle to the compass points). Both lodge halls are arranged with the most important thrones in the East and others in the West and South.

The proportions of the entire Masonic temple, as well as the main lodge hall, conform to the usual squarish rectangle or "expanded square" dimensions of Solomon's Temple in Jerusalem (see plan of 4th floor). These proportions are traditional for Masonic Temples. Although Solomon's temple itself has never been excavated, its general proportions are known, and there are many written descriptions as well. The Dome of the Rock mosque sits on top of the site of the Temple of Jerusalem today. A number of recreations of the temple have been attempted based on literary descriptions.³ One of many schemes is illustrated here (page 18)⁴. The proportions and the multiple encircling walls are characteristics shared by the different schemes and are recreated in the Des Moines Masonic temple. The walled corridors surrounding the main lodge hall represent these walls as well as serve to protect the privacy of the lodge meetings.

The use of classical architectural details and styles is also traditional. Sometimes Egyptian motifs are used, but here in Des Moines, the stately rows of Doric columns and the triglyph and metope entablature of the large lodge hall suggest the ancient past. Two specific columns or pillars are described and named Boaz and Jochim in the Bible as part of the temple complex.⁵ They are often incorporated in Masonic symbolic schemes. They symbolize the gateway to knowledge just as the Temple of Jerusalem represents lost ancient knowledge. It is hard to say if these are represented by the two small columns which support the pedimented niches or the doubled giant Doric columns which frame these niches in the East and West of the Large Lodge Hall.

² "New Masonic Temple and Plans for Dedication Tomorrow," *Des Moines Register*, May 25, 1913, p. 7.

³ Curl, pp. 80-104.

⁴ View of Temple in Jerusalem by Matthias Merian from *Icones Bibliae* illustrated in Curl, plate 50, p. 91.

⁵ Curl, pp. 28-32.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

Masonic Temple of Des Moines
Polk County, Iowa

Section number 8 Page 18

The honey-combed semi-domes in the niches (See page 20)⁶, follow a similar design from a famous lodge hall in London. An etching of this hall, the Freemasons' Hall, Queen Street (page 21), reveals similar semi-dome decoration as well as and many others characteristic of the main lodge hall in Des Moines.⁷ The Des Moines Masonic Temple and the Queen Street Masonic Temple lodge halls share other characteristics in addition to the half-domes. Both lodge rooms are surrounded by a classical entablatures supported by columns or pilasters. Both lodge halls have limited natural light which enters the room only from above. The Queen Street temple has lunettes above the entablature while the Des Moines temple has sky lights.

Fine Interiors, a Proudfoot and Bird Tradition

Proudfoot and Bird created a number of impressive interiors in their churches, courthouse and other public structures. There is a spectacular Egyptian room in the Scottish Rite Grand Lodge they designed in Wichita, Kansas in 1891. This room has a pylon gate entrance, winged disks, and sculptured sphinxes.⁸ Their 1907 Library for the University of Northern Iowa, Seerely Hall, has arched windows similar to those in the Small Lodge room and boasts a ceiling with octagonal coffers and murals on the upper interior walls. The room projects an American Renaissance feeling.

One interior which relates directly to the Large Hall in the Des Moines Masonic Temple is the Law Library, now lost, in Gilmore Hall at the University of Iowa (see page 23).⁹ Gilmore Hall, planned in 1908 and completed in 1910, was constructed to house the College of Law.¹⁰ The entire top floor was devoted to a Law Library. This space was lauded as "one of the show spots of the University."¹¹ The central lengthwise bay was covered with a vaulted ceiling into which were placed three curved art-glass skylights. This bay was separated from the sides by Doric columns which supported a Doric entablature and triglyph and metope frieze similar to the one found in the Des Moines Masonic Temple. Proudfoot and Bird also used a Doric portico on the Elmwood Presbyterian Church, now St. George's Orthodox Church.¹² It was somewhat archaeologically correct in that it employed classical Doric proportions as well as Doric capitols rather than the taller Ionic proportions usually used in the 19th and 20th centuries.

⁶ Proudfoot and Bird, details of the Large Lodge Hall, Des Moines Masonic Temple, from the original plans. Brooks, Borg and Skiles, Architects and Engineers, Des Moines.

⁷ Curl, p. 112.

⁸ "To Shine in Use: A Centennial Celebration of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Wichita, Kansas, Wichita, 1986, photo of the Egyptian room, p. 27.

⁹ Gilmore Hall Law Library, photo, Calvin Photograph Collection, University of Iowa Archives, Iowa City, Iowa.

¹⁰ Eckhardt, pp. 249-259.

¹¹ "The New Law Building and its Dedication," Iowa Alumnus, 7 (1910).

¹² Eckhardt, p. 170.

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Skylights and glass domes such as those in the Large Hall in Des Moines are part of Proudfoot and Bird's repertory during the 1902 to 1913 period as well.. There are many examples of similar use of glass in their work. In addition to the law library in Gilmore hall and Polk County Courthouse, there are glass domes in First Methodist Church in Des Moines, and Jasper County Courthouse in Newton, Iowa.

Use and Future Use

A cloud rests over the Des Moines Masonic Temple. Its location in the area proposed for a city park make its future in question. The building continues to be used by the Masonic Temple and various tenants. It is the hope of the Masonic Temple Association of Des Moines that the building will be preserved and restored. Efforts are being made to upgrade tenants and refurbish the commercial store fronts. Thought has also been given to restoring the building cornice which would improve its appearance from the street. The building will be in a good location when this portion of Des Moines is redeveloped.

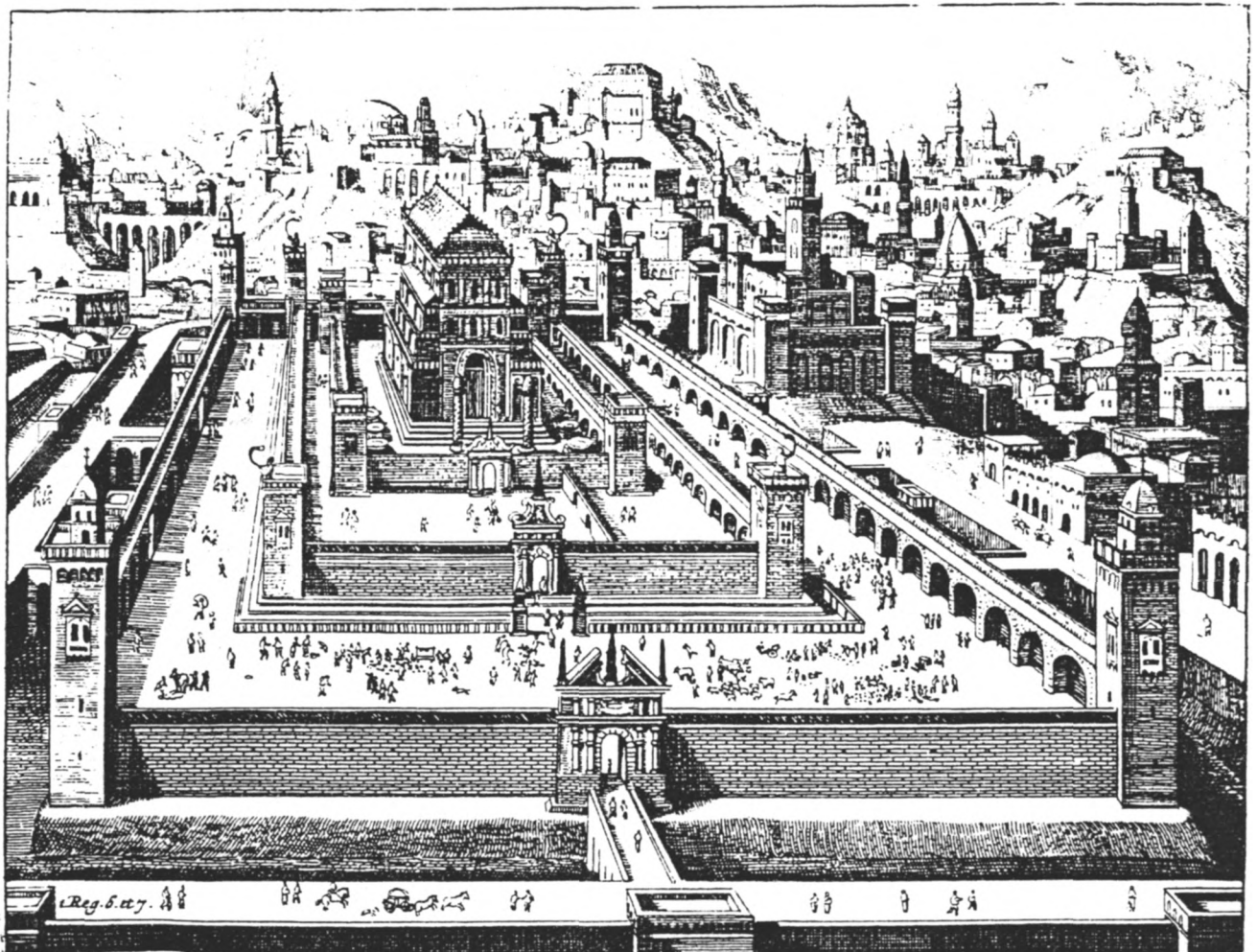
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A Plan of the Temple in Jerusalem



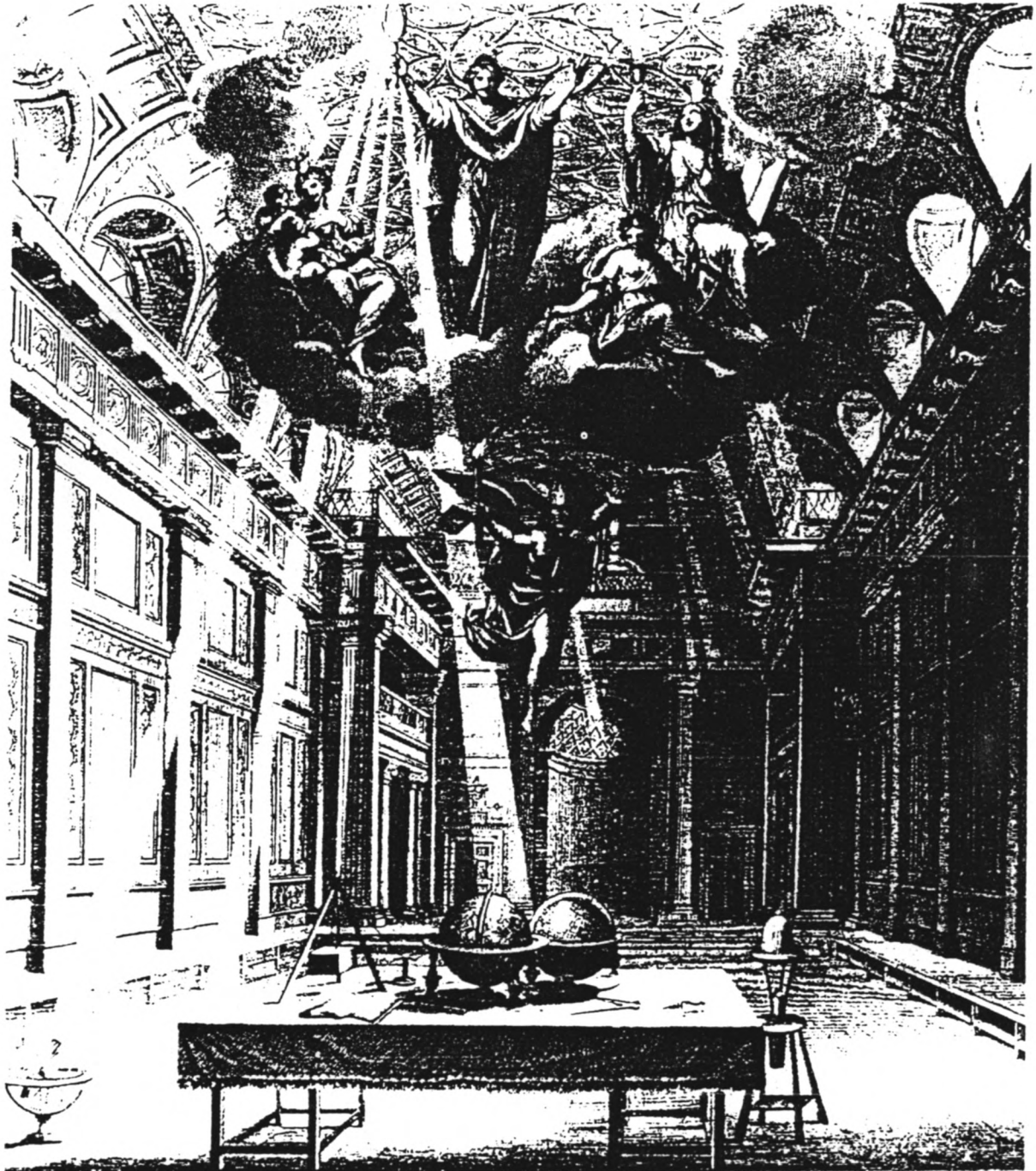
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Freemasons' Hall, Queen Street, Lincoln Inn Fields, England, Curl, pp. 110-111.



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Photo of Law Library, Gilmore Hall, University of Iowa



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Masonic Temple of Des Moines
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Masonic Temple's First Commercial Tenant: Provident Life Insurance Co.
Detail of Advertisement Published in the Des Moines Capital,
November 4, 1913, p. 13.

THE MEN AND METHODS OF THE *Provident Life Insurance Co.*

IOWA'S most recently organized life insurance company, the *Provident Life*, has already placed upon its books a nice volume of business. It began issuing policies on the sixth day of August, and it has written double the amount of business ever written by a similar Iowa Company within the same period of time following the date of its organization.

THE COMPANY issues nothing but non-participating policies. WHEN YOU take out a policy with the *Provident Life* you know just what it is to cost you and what benefits you are to receive under it. There are no estimates; no uncertainties. Every provision is guaranteed.

IT COLLECTS no excessive premiums in order that a portion thereof may be returned to the policy holders under the guise of paying dividends.

THE CASH value of all policies issued by the *Provident Life* is secured by interest bearing securities approved and deposited with the Auditor of State.

THE FOLLOWING are some of the provisions of the policies which especially commend themselves to the insuring public:

ALL POLICIES issued by the *Provident Life* are incontestable after one year from date of issue, except for non-payment of premiums.

A GRACE of thirty days is allowed in the payment of premiums, during which time the insurance remains in force.

THE INSURANCE is automatically extended if paid up or cash surrender values are not selected.

LIBERAL loan and surrender privileges are granted to the insured. POLICIES may be assigned or beneficiaries changed.

ALL POLICIES are free from restriction as to residence or travel. PROVISIONS are made for immediate cash settlement in case of total disability.

THE INSURED has the privilege of paying his premiums, except the first, either annually, semi-annually or quarterly.

THE INSURED may direct the insurance to be paid to the beneficiary in one sum or in ten, fifteen, twenty or twenty-five annual installments, or yearly during the lifetime of the beneficiary.



EX-GOVERNOR R. F. CARROLL,
President and Manager.



PAUL W. CARROLL,
Asst. Secretary and Manager
Agency Department.



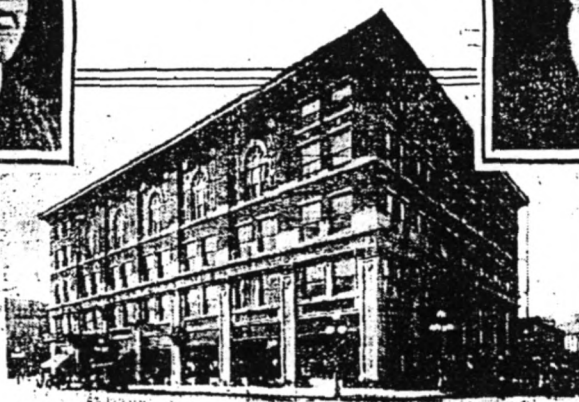
J. B. BUTLER,
Vice President.



ELBRIDGE J. DAWSON,
Secretary and
Auditor.



DR. ADDISON C. PAGE,
Medical Director.



NEW MASONIC TEMPLE
Home Office
PROVIDENT LIFE INSURANCE CO.



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“The Men and Methods of the Provident Life Insurance Co.,” advertisement, Des Moines Tribune, October 30, 1913; Des Moines Register, November 3, 1913; Des Moines Capital, November 4, 1913.

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“To Shine in Use: A Centennial Celebration of the Scottish Rite Bodies of Wichita, Kansas,” 1986, photo of the Egyptian Room, p. 27.

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Verbal Boundary Description

The Masonic Temple of Des Moines property consists of lots 1 & 2, Block Three of the Campbell and Macmullens addition, Des Moines, Iowa.

Verbal Justification

The Boundaries of the property consists of its two city lots described above which together comprise a square lot, 132 x 132 feet.