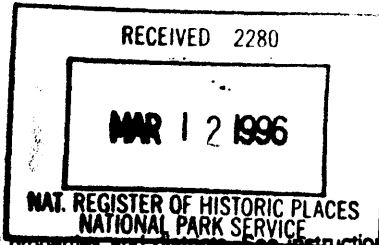


United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



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 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 Masonic Temple Building

historic name \_\_\_\_\_

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 1311 North Second Street N/A  not for publication

city or town Stuart N/A  vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Guthrie code 077 zip code 50250

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 Oshenking 3-6-96  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
State Historical Society of Iowa  
State of 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 H. Beall Signature of the Keeper Date of Action  
4.12.96

Entered in the  
National Register  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Masonic Temple Building  
Name of Property

Guthrie, 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	0	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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/ business  
SOCIAL / meeting hall

Current Functions  
(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMERCE/TRADE/ business  
DOMESTIC/ multiple dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification  
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE VICTORIAN/ Romanesque  
LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVAL/  
Colonial Revival

Materials  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE  
walls BRICK  
roof ASPHALT  
other

Narrative Description

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

Located in the heart of Stuart's downtown commercial district and practically dominating it visually, the Masonic Temple Building is a three-story red brick edifice capped with a one-story clock tower. Completed in 1894, this building exhibits the combined influence of the Romanesque Revival and Colonial Revival modes. The Romanesque influence is predominant, most notably in the utilization of round arched windows on the upper level and for the main entry on the first floor. The colonial influence is most apparent in the treatment of the clock tower, the stepped roof

CONTINUED ON SECTION 7 p. 1

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.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1894

Significant Dates

1894

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Merrill and Smith

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Masonic Temple Building  
Name of Property

Guthrie, Iowa  
County and State

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of Property Less than one

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 

1	5	3	8	9	9	5	0	4	5	9	5	4	6	0
Zone	Easting						Northing							

3 

Zone	Easting						Northing							

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 William J. Wagner, FAIA

organization \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

street & number 2272 240th telephone 515/992-3023

city or town Dallas Center state Iowa zip code 50063

**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 SHPO or FPO.)

name BABCO, an Iowa Partnership (Wilbur N. Bump, Partner)

street & number 1311 North Second Street telephone 515/523-2255

city or town Stuart state Iowa zip code 50250

**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.

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National Park Service

Masonic Temple Building  
Guthrie, Iowa

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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cornice treatment, and the multi-paned transoms over the second story windows. Despite a number of alterations to the building over the years due to a fire and changing usage, this edifice still retains a high degree of exterior integrity.

The Masonic Temple Building is a wall-bearing, brick structure with centerline supports 48 feet wide, 90 feet in depth, with three floors and basement. There is a small fourth floor which leads to a clock tower. The building fronts south on North 2nd Street, located at the west end of an original 1/2 block of brick structures, located between the alley and east to Highway 4 - (north - south street.)

The cornerstone of the Stuart Masonic Temple Building was laid on June 12, 1894, before a large group of Masons and Masonic leaders from around the State, townspeople and the Stuart Band.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

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The building was built by the Masons in 1894 for a multiple usage; shops and stores on first floor with a stairway leading to the second floor. The second floor was occupied by professional persons; doctors, dentists and lawyers. A stairway continued to the third floor which was used by the Masonic Order. A small fourth floor north of the tower housed the Masonic library and memorabilia.

Alterations to the building prior to the sale in 1970 were few. Date unknown, the east half of the first floor was remodeled to "The Star Theater: and this later, date unknown became a cinema. A four hundred and fifty square foot stage addition was added to the north of the east half of the building. A fire damaged the clock tower and a small portion of the roof surrounding the tower. Repairs were made in 1911, with some modification of detail on the tower.

The building was sold by the Masonic order in 1970 to Mr. Don Shirley and then to Mr. William Hunter. Mr. Wilbur N. Bump bought the building in 1985 and started remodeling the building. Ownership of the building was later transferred to BABCO, an Iowa Partnership, in which Wilbur N. Bump is a partner.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page<sup>3</sup>       

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The exterior of the front (south elevation) was restored in 1984 to its original appearance (1894). Contemporary materials were used but restoration was as detailed as the original. The only change to the front was necessary because the building needed to be made handicapped accessible.

The main stairway to the second floor was off the street level (see continuation sheet section 8 page 8). This was removed and reconstructed under the existing stairs that went from second floor to third floor (see continuation sheet 8 page 9). This provided an inside stair off the lobby. An elevator provides access to all floors. The west store had double doors from the street. These were rebuilt and used as a new building entrance located where the original stairs had been. The pairs of doors to either side of the entrance are new and constructed to look the same as original. They are stop set and inactive. Entrances to shops are now off the lobby. Refer to continuation sheet section 8 page 14 which shows entrance doors.

The second floor was modified by rearranging some partitions to increase the efficiency of today's office planning. The entire floor currently houses a law firm, and other offices. Refer to continuation sheet Section 8 page 9.

The third floor now has three apartments. The south apartment, with minor changes, occupies the original Masonic offices. Two new apartments were constructed within the original Lodge Room and the Dining Room. All apartments have eighteen foot ceilings and loft bedrooms. Refer to continuation sheet section 8 page 11.

A small fourth floor room is located north of the clock tower. It originally housed a library and memorabilia room for Masonic material. This area has been preserved and has been added to the south apartment by a special stairway within this apartment.

To the maximum extent possible, all original material, trim, doors, and windows were cleaned and reused. New materials matched the original. A complete set of before and after pictures are available to show the care that was taken in the restoration and rehabilitation of the building. See continuation sheets section 8 pages 7 through 12 for original plans and alteration plans which were prepared by William J. Wagner, FAIA.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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It is difficult to describe what was done to the building without a drawing of the building. See continuation sheet section 8 page 14 which shows a horizontal "layered" building--four "layers" capped with a gable to support the clock tower, detailed late Victorian windows, one on the first floor, two on the second floor and three on the third floor which are all spaced and lined up over each other. The tower lines up over the first floor entrance, second floor windows (were pivot and today are inoperative), and the third floor balcony and entrance.

All first floor shop windows were reconstructed using wood for bulkheads, trim and jamb construction, insulated glass was set in aluminum sash (matching the original wood sash). Entrance doors to the building and non-operative shop doors on either side of the main entrance match the original in detail - but are thicker to house the insulated glass. Second floor windows, originally a pivot lower sash (below the small pane transom) were replaced with non-operative windows with the appearance of the original, but fitted with insulated glass. Third floor windows were restored and reused.

Stone was used for the cornice over first floor building shop windows and below the second floor windows; the lintel over the 2nd floor windows and the transom on third floor windows. The balcony bay and the cap cornice are metal. The clock tower construction above the brick pediment is wood with decorative metal.



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There are several areas of leaded glass that have Masonic emblems, notably the arched transom over the entrance and another off the stair landing from second to third floor. The latter was reconstructed from pieces which fell out onto the roof below on the adjacent building. Leaded glass sidelights to the balcony bay and the glass in the door were reconstructed. Masonic emblems on the front of the building and some movable interior details have been preserved.

The balance of the exterior of the building had been re-pointed and there was no sand blasting by the previous owner. The exterior was in good condition, except for the chimney located at the Northeast corner of the building. The chimney appeared to be separating from the structure and it was then tied back to the structure by steel straps. Other current changes were a new roof with a 1 in 4 pitch to hips, added over the existing flat stage roof. Exterior exits were added on the North. The existing roof has been re-shingled with asphalt shingles, and the basement dirt floors excavated and 8" of new concrete floor added. The basement floor was lowered as much as possible to provide head room for basement use and storage.

Most interior plaster was damaged beyond repair by 20 years of having no maintenance. Exterior walls were furred out, insulated and firestop sheetrock were used throughout the building.

Originally a dark green color appeared to have been used for exterior trim and sash. The brick molding was a light warm grey. This was determined from paint chips which appeared to have been original. The tower color was not available so the accent color of matching the brick was chosen with a little bit of green to match the roof tiles.

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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The Masonic Temple Building is locally significant under criterion C as the most outstanding example of a commercial building design in Stuart. Completed in 1894, it is the most visually predominant edifice in the commercial district and exhibits an eclectic blending of Romanesque Revival and Colonial Revival stylistic motifs. Believed to have been designed by the Des Moines architectural firm of Merrill and Smith, who designed other buildings in the business district and throughout Iowa and who had remodeled the Exposition Building in Des Moines into the Iliad Apartment Building one year earlier, this building should be viewed as possessing at least local significance as a very good example of the firm's design skills.

The cornerstone was laid in 1894. At this time, Stuart was an important station on the Rock Island Railroad. The building was designed as a multi-use commercial structure. The first floor was devoted to two shops with off street entrances. A grand stairway between the first floor shops led to the 2nd floor which was composed of varied offices for doctors, dentists and lawyers. From this floor an extension of the grand stairway led to the third floor which basically was used primarily for Masonic functions, but included other social functions as well.

This three story Late Victorian building was and still is the most prominent structure in the commercial area. It is the fourth of the group of four brick buildings extending from the alley on North 2nd east to Hwy #4. (see continuation sheet section 8 page 15.) The building adjacent to the Masonic temple on the east was designed by Merrill and Smith, a Des Moines architectural firm. The first floor exterior detail for windows, doors, cornices and brick carry through the two buildings. This indicates that the Masonic Temple also used the same architect. It appears that the Temple came first, but could have been built at the same time. The wall between is a party wall. The building, designed in 1894, has had few efforts to improve its appearance. The east shop became the Star Theater in 1905 and later was remodeled to a Cinema Theater in 1938. The second floor, built as offices, became less desirable as many buildings were being built one floor on level grade. With no improvement for modern day requirements, the building became virtually useless. In 1970 the Masonic Order sold the building to Attorney William Shirley who, in turn, sold it to William Hunter, who did some preservation on the exterior brick work. In 1985 Hunter sold the building to Wilbur Bump who started

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## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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serious preservation while rehabilitating the building. Within two years, the empty, useless building was restored to a 100% usable condition.

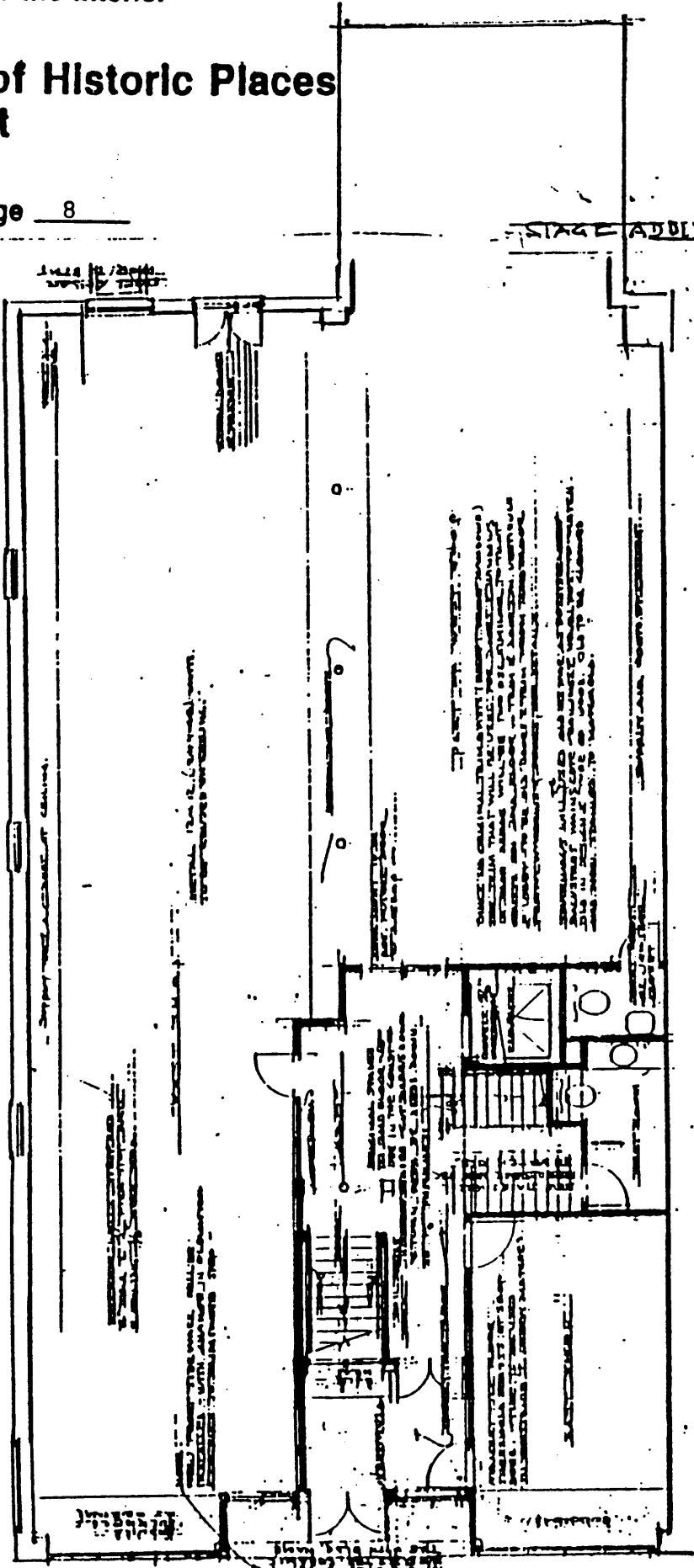
Many architects and those involved specifically in preservation, realize that "the largest source of stored up energy in our country is in our existing structures." Many feel, as do I, that money spent on an existing structure to make it a more functional and viable building, adding new life, is conservation at its best. Every square foot of this building is now paying its way.

All exterior walls, including windows and transoms, remain as original. With the exception of store fronts and second floor pivot windows - the stairs from second to third floor and on to the fourth floor library-memorabilia room. The south third floor apartment is little changed and much of the northwest and northeast third floor apartments are original.

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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90'0"



STAGE ADDITION

W

FIRST FLOOR REHAB & RESTORED  
17'0"

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Masonic Temple Building  
Guthrie, Iowa

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FIRST FLOOR  
AS EXISTING

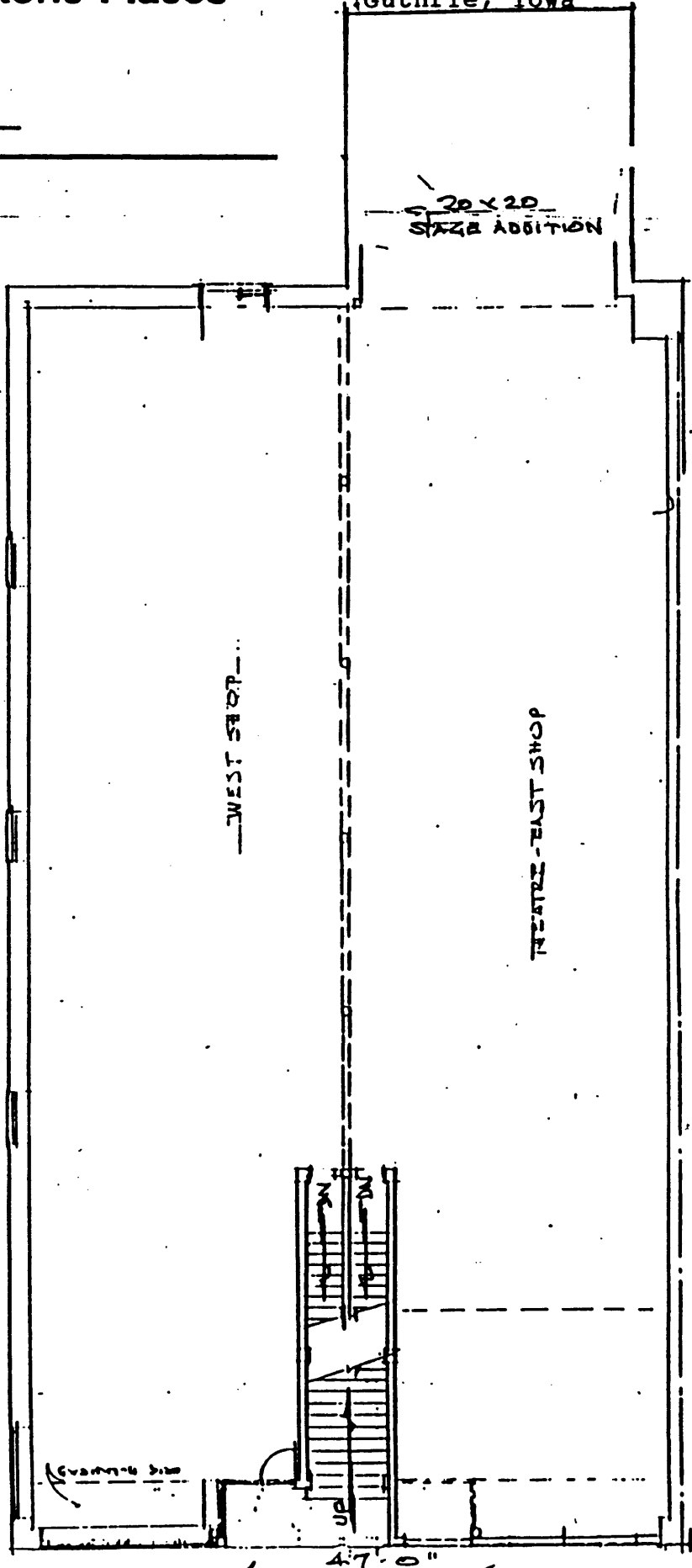
9'-0"

WEST STAIR

EAST STAIR

20' X 20'  
STAIR ADDITION

47'-0"

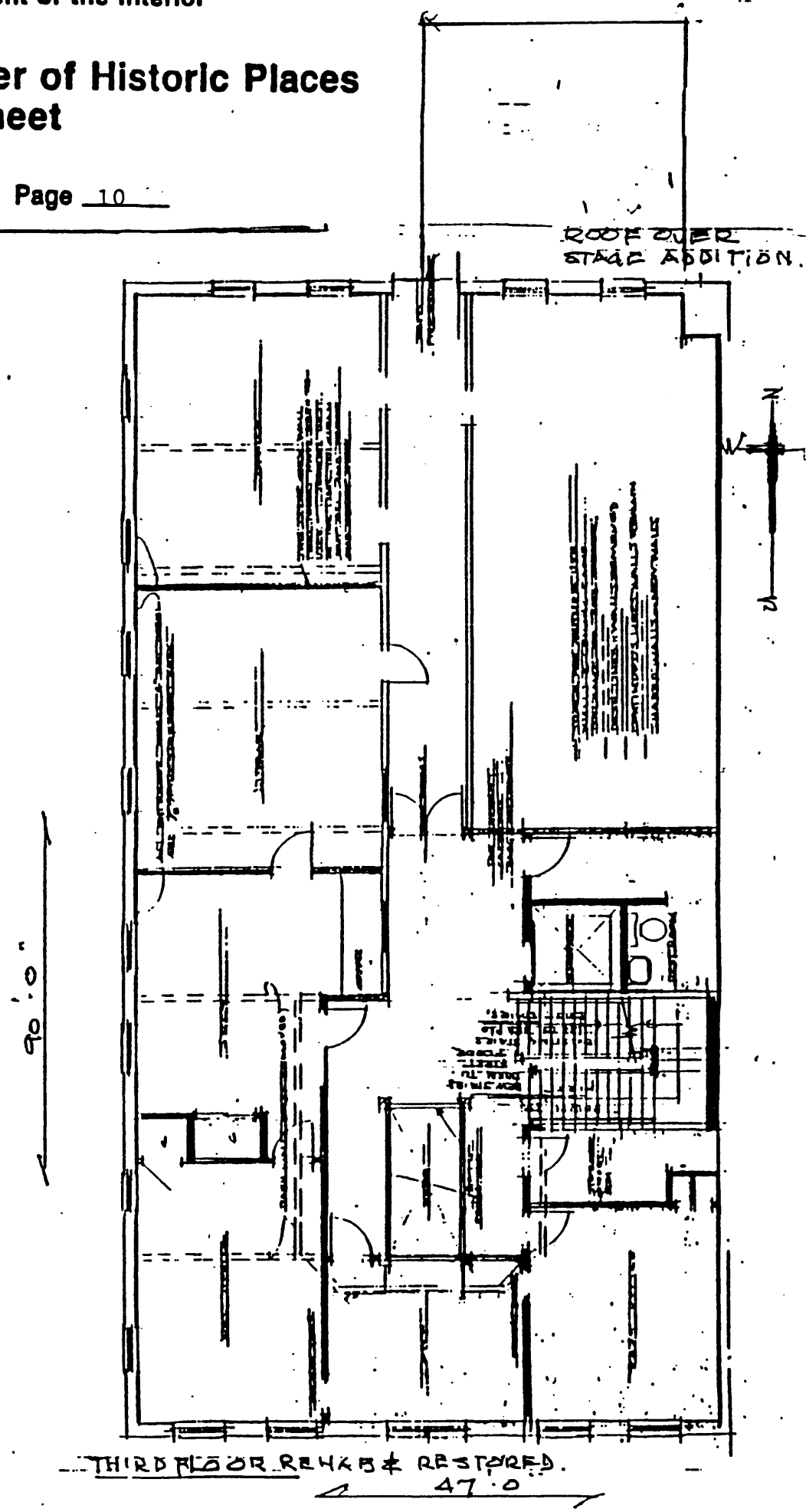


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Masonic Temple Building  
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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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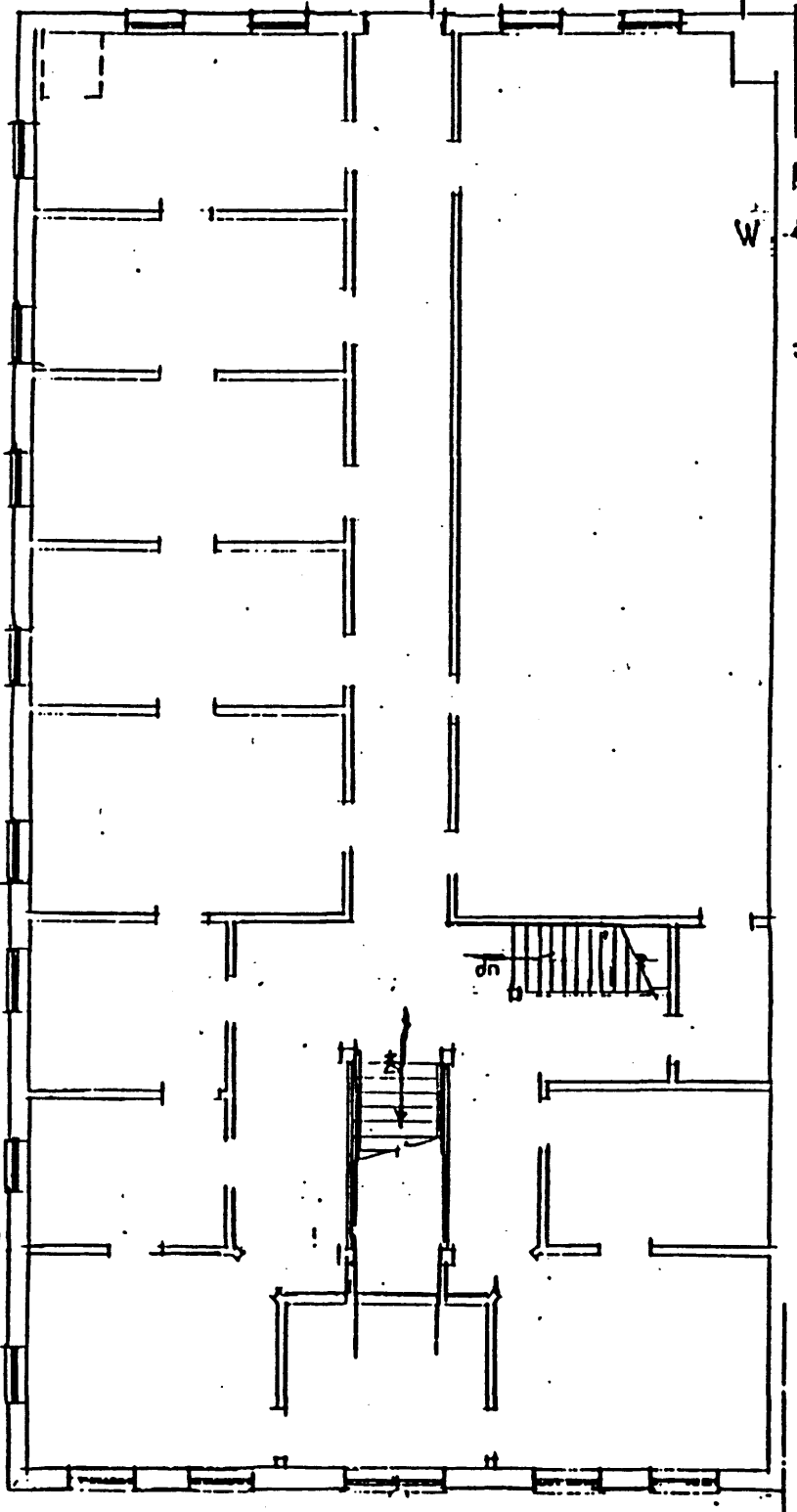
# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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SECOND FLOOR  
AS EXISTED

90'0"

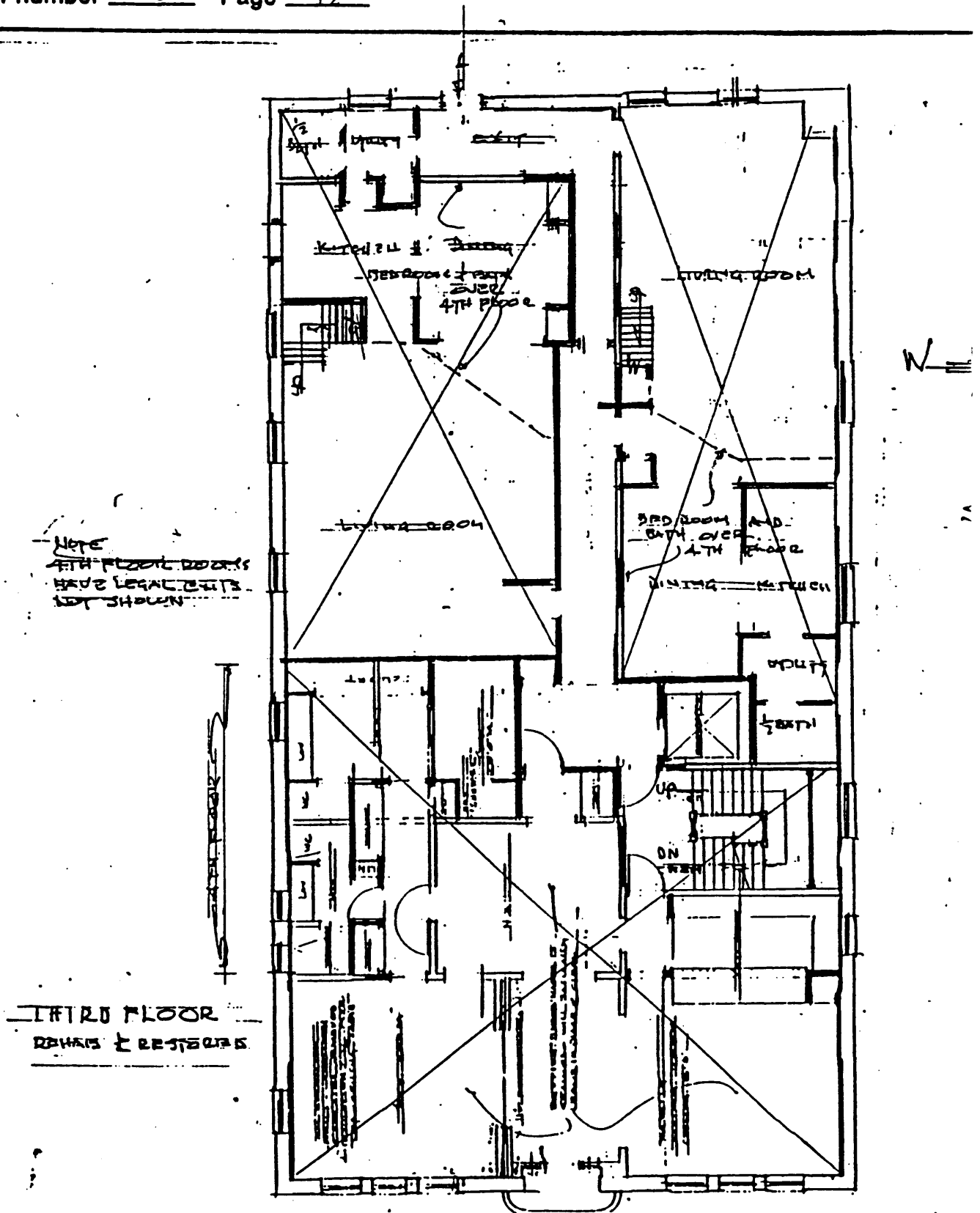
47'0"



National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

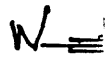
Masonic Temple Building  
Guthrie, Iowa

Section number 8 Page 12



NOTE  
4TH FLOOR ROOMS  
HAVE LEGAL EGRESS  
NOT SHOWN

4TH FLOOR  
ROOMS & RESTROOMS

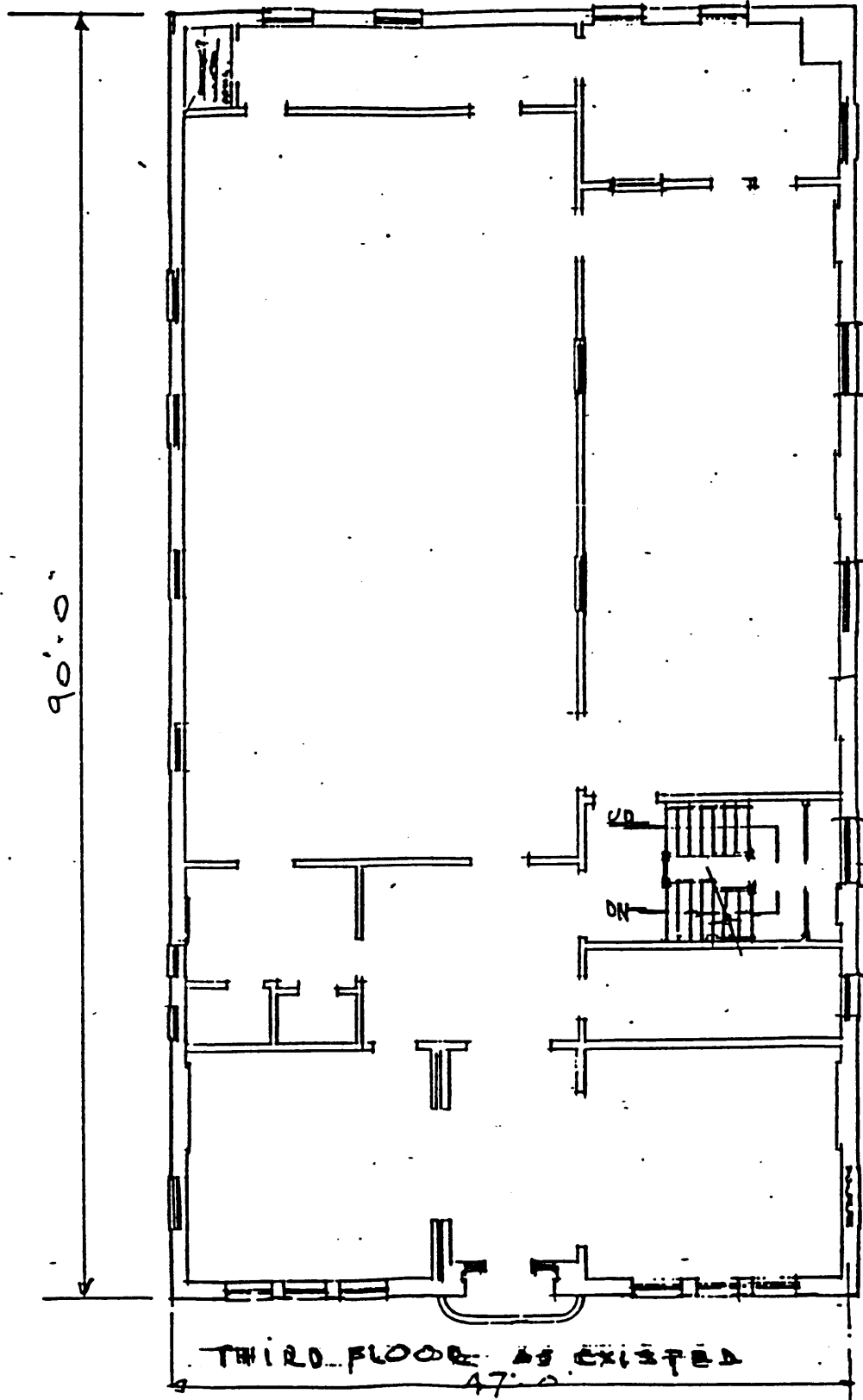




National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Masonic Temple Building  
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Section number 8 Page 13



# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Masonic Temple Building  
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Section number 8 Page 14



TRANSOM &  
WINDOWS  
RESTORED

TRANSOM  
RESTORED  
NEW PIVOT  
WINDOWS - BUT  
FIXED SHUT

ALL FIRST  
FLOOR WINDOW  
SASH ALUM  
JAMES WOOD  
ALL IN DETAIL  
OR ORIGINAL

LOOKING NORTH - SHOWING PRESERVATION &  
RESTORATION

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 15



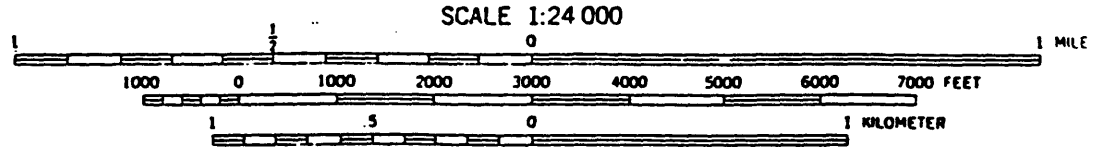
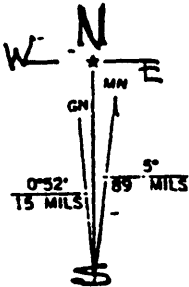
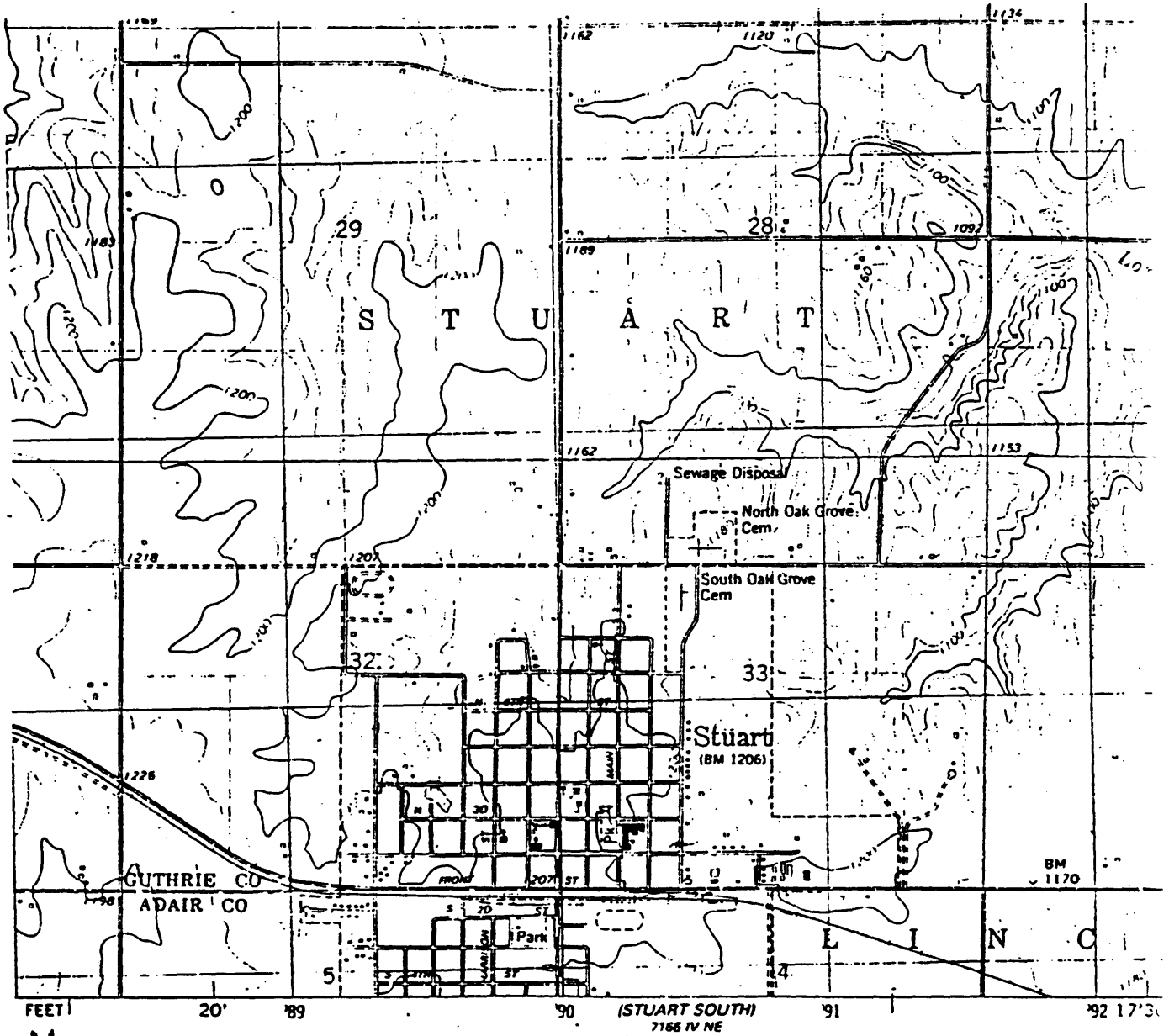
THIS BUILDING  
HAS SINCE  
FALLEN DOWN

VIEW LOOKING N.W. FROM CORNER  
OF SECOND & HIGHWAY 4

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Masonic Temple Building  
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CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

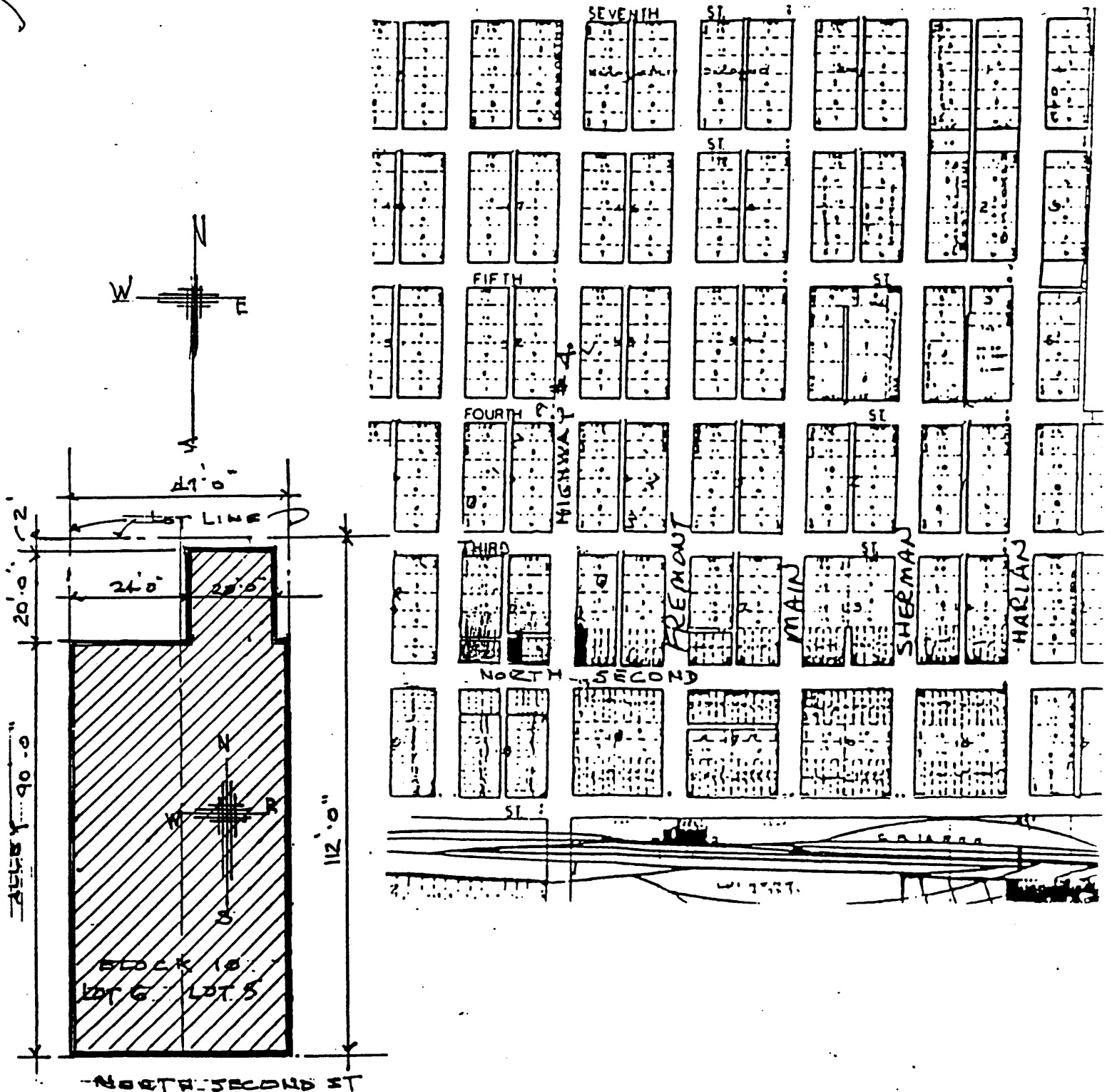
UTM GRID AND 1982 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Masonic Temple Building  
Guthrie, Iowa

Section number 8 Page 17



United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Masonic Temple Building  
Guthrie, Iowa

## National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 18

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### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

That part of Lots 5 and 6 in Block 10 of the original Town of Stuart, Guthrie County, Iowa, described as commencing at the SW corner of said Lot 6, thence North 112', thence East 47', thence South 112', thence West 47' to the place of beginning.

### BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The National Register boundary contains all land associated historically with the resource.