

NPS FORM 10-900 (Rev. 8-86) OMB No. 1024-0018 [SD-SHPO # ECA-OH-597-1/89]
 [use paper with at least 25% cotton rag content, use NLQ or LQ printer]

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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering "NA" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Madison Masonic Temple
 other name/ site number: Evergreen Lodge No. 17 A.F & A.M.

2. Location

street & number: 229 North Egan Avenue	/NA/ not for publication
city, town: Madison	/NA/ vicinity
state: SOUTH DAKOTA code: SD county: Lake	code: SD 079 zip code: 57042

3. Classification

Ownership of Property:	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property:	
		Contributing	Noncontributing
/XX/ private	/XX/ building(s)	1	buildings
/ / public-local	/ / district		sites
/ / public-state	/ / site		structures
/ / public-federal	/ / structure		objects
	/ / object	1	Total
Name of related multiple property listing: NA _____		0	
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0			

11. Form Prepared by

name/title: Rev. Ben Zimmerman, owner; w/technical assistance by John Rau, SHPO staff
 organization: date: October 26, 1989
 street & number: Box 35 telephone: 605-482-8594
 city or town: Ramona state: SOUTH DAKOTA zip code: 57054

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property name

, Lake
county

, SOUTH DAKOTA
state

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, 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. / / See continuation sheet.

ADJ

Signature of certifying official

12/12/83

Date

South Dakt SHPO

State or Federal agency or bureau

In my opinion, the property / / meets / / does not meet the National Register Criteria.
/ / See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency or bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

Entered in the
National Register

- 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) _____

Melony Byer

1/26/84

Signature of the Keeper

Date

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property name county state

6. Function or Use (enter categories from instructions)

Historic functions:
SOCIAL/Meeting Hall

Current Functions:
SOCIAL/Meeting Hall
COMMERCIAL/Speciality Store
WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification:
(enter categories from instructions)
Classical Revival

Materials:
(enter categories from instructions)
foundation Brick
walls Brick

roof Asphalt
other NA

Describe present and historic physical appearance: /XX/ see continuation sheet

8. Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in
relation to other properties: / / / / /XX/
nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria / / A / / B /XX/C / / D

Criteria Considerations / /A / /B / /C / /D / /E / /F / /G

Areas of Significance (enter from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance
1906-1907

Significant Dates
1906-1907

Significant Person
NA

Cultural Affiliation
NA

Architect/Builder
Schwarz, Joseph Sr.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations,
and periods of significance noted above /XX/ see continuation sheet

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Situated at a heavily traveled corner at the north edge of the original commercial core of the City of Madison, the Madison Masonic Temple is a masonry construction Neo-Classical Revival building. It ascends two stories above a raised basement. The foundation and walls are fabricated from structural tiles faced with light tan bricks. A small double-door front entry and flanking rectangular multiple-light windows are deeply recessed within a cavernous portico marked by large evenly spaced Ionic columns. Flat arches of brick construction with terra cotta keystones, cap the door and window openings. Terra cotta plaques bearing Masonic symbols are set into the otherwise blank brick surfaces flanking the portico. A projecting terra cotta cornice and an ornate brick parapet crown the rectangular front facade. Rising from the center of the parapet is a metal pole with colored lamps originally used to indicate which of the Masonic orders was meeting at a particular time. The building is covered by a sloping, flat tar roof.

Side and rear facades are pierced by rectangular two-over-two windows capped by arches. The north facade, facing First Street North or South Dakota Highway 34, is divided into bays by four distinctive brick pilasters. The south facade is basically unadorned.

The bulk of the main floor is devoted to the Masonic lodge chamber and library. Original hardwood trim and floors are extant throughout the interior of the building. Located on the upper floor are built-in cabinets for storing Masonic paraphernalia. Also from this floor a balcony once overlooked the lodge chamber, but this feature recently has been closed off with temporary construction. It could be easily reopened. Much of the basement floor is covered with hardwood.

Although it has lacked maintenance in recent years and is in need of considerable attention to cosmetic features, the building is structurally sound. It is currently undergoing restoration for continued use as a lodge hall and for renovation of the basement space into a retail gift shop.

The present owner is planning to remove the two overgrown evergreen trees that block the front facade from easy view.

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Under Criterion C of the National Register Criteria, the Madison Masonic Temple is significant in the area of architecture, because it is an outstanding example of the institutional design work of South Dakota architect Joseph Schwarz. A fine specimen of local Neo-Classical Revival styling, the building has been recognized by generations of local residents as a city landmark. Under the South Dakota Historical Preservation Plan, the property relates to the historic context labeled: V. Depression and Rebuilding, D. Social Organization Halls.

Joseph Schwarz Sr. contributed substantially to the architectural legacy of South Dakota for over four decades. Born in New York City in 1858, he moved to Wisconsin at an early age. He was apprenticed to an architect at LaCrosse, and in 1884, Schwarz moved to Sioux Falls, Dakota Territory, to establish his own practice. A versatile architect, his commissions spanned a wide range of styles, materials, and building types. He is perhaps best known within the state for his church designs; however, he also planned a variety of private homes, commercial buildings, schools, and other institutional edifices. His three sons followed their father's footsteps into the architectural profession and also contributed to the state's built environment.

In the early decades of settlement in Dakota Territory, fraternal organizations served a vital social function by providing a sense of community as well as of regional affiliation to small isolated towns. As these settlements grew in population and prosperity, the need arose for special halls to hold meetings and ceremonies. Thus, from the late 1890s to the beginning of World War I, scores of these local fraternal societies from across the new state of South Dakota built lodge halls using up-to-date architectural expression.

The design of fraternal halls was another of Schwarz's specialities. He was responsible for the construction of several Masonic temples in the state. One of his best designs was that of the Madison Masonic Temple built in 1906 and 1907. For this work, the architect chose the prevailing Neo-Classical Revival style executed in fire resistant structural tile and tan facing brick. In keeping with the most basic characteristics of this style, the front facade of the building displays a huge recessed portico marked by majestic Ionic columns, capped by a projecting terra cotta cornice and an ornate brick parapet. Small terra cotta plaques with Masonic symbols in relief adorn the otherwise plain, windowless flat wall surfaces that flank the entry portal. The building is an excellent example of Schwarz's ability to adapt high style architecture to local scale.

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The order of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons had an early start in Dakota Territory. In 1862, the first lodge was organized at Ft. Randall. However, members failed to secure a charter and the lodge disbanded. Soon thereafter the first Masonic charter in Dakota was granted to St. John's Lodge at Yankton. The order spread fairly rapidly throughout the territory. By the time of statehood in 1889, there were 73 lodges with over 3,000 members in South Dakota. North Dakota had 32 lodges with some 1,300 members.

Lake County was organized in 1873, taking its name from the many glacial lakes located within its borders. A number of small settlements sprang up throughout this fertile region. In 1881, at the town of Herman, the Evergreen Lodge No. 17 A.F. & A.M. was organized. However the nearby town of Madison had grown to dominate Herman, because the former settlement managed to secure a significant railroad siding and county seat status. Madison members of the Evergreen Lodge quickly petitioned to form their own lodge but were denied permission to do so. Finally in 1882, the Herman lodge was moved to Madison, where it has prospered. For decades, the lodge held meetings in several different commercial buildings in the city, until a fire in March of 1906 forced members to look for new permanent quarters. At this time the lodge chose to construct a new building to serve exclusively as a Masonic temple.

The corner stone was laid on December 12, 1906, and the first meeting in the new temple was held on July 16, 1907. Ever since then, it has continued to serve the needs of community Masons. When the Madison station was a division point for the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad, hundreds of company employees made their homes in the city, many of which were loyal members of Evergreen Lodge. Stories of the building being packed to capacity for special Masonic and Eastern Star events abound throughout the annals of the community. Over the years, several lodge members have risen to high positions within the Order at state and district levels. Others have achieved renown outside of the Order, including the late U. S. Senator Karl Mundt.

Nevertheless, in recent years, pullout of the railroad and a generally declining agricultural economy has caused a noticeable reduction in lodge membership. In 1973, the Howard Lodge No. 45 joined the Madison group and bolstered the numbers somewhat. Still, the resources, but not the spirit, of the lodge have waned considerably. Due to lack of funds to keep the building in an appropriate state of repair, in June of 1989, the lodge sold the building to member Ben Zimmerman and his wife. They are restoring the building to its former splendor and have leased the lodge chambers back to the lodge. In addition, they are renovating the basement space for use as a retail gift shop.

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The period of significance of the nominated property does not extend beyond its date of construction in 1906 and 1907.

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property name county state

9. Major Bibliographical References /XX/ see continuation sheet

Previous documentation by 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 # _____

Primary location of additional data:

/XX/ State historic preservation office

/ / Other State agency

/ / Federal agency

/ / Local government

/ / University

/ / Other

Specify repository:

South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property: Less than one acre

UTM References:

A = /14/	/651-250/	/4874-150/	B = / /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /
C = / /	/ /	/ /	D = / /	/ /	/ /	/ /	/ /
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		

Quad: Madison

Scale: 1:24000

/ / see continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description:

The nominated property is bounded the legal description as recorded in the Lake County Register of Deeds office: Lots 16, 17, and 18, Block 4, of the Original Plat of Madison, Lake County, South Dakota.

/ / see continuation sheet

Boundary Justification:

The boundaries of the nominated property are based on legally recorded lot lines of the parcel historically associated with the property.

/ / see continuation sheet

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Erpestad, David and David Wood. "The Architectural History of South Dakota." Draft Ms. Vermillion, SD: State Historical Preservation Center, N.d.

Lowry, V. A. "Evergreen Lodge No. 17 A.F. & A.M., Madison, South Dakota, 1881-1975." Ms. N.d.

"Madison OES celebrate [SIC] 100th Anniversary." Madison (South Dakota) Daily Leader. July 20, 1989.

"Masonic Lodge Formed in 1881 at Herman." Centennial Edition. Madison (South Dakota) Daily Leader. June ?, 1980.

"Order of Eastern Star Plans Centennial Event Next Week." Madison (South Dakota) Daily Leader. July 3, 1989.

Robinson, Doane. Encyclopedia of South Dakota. Pierre, SD: privately printed at Sioux Falls, SD, 1925. pp.265-267.

Tisher, Harold L. The First 100 Years of the Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of South Dakota, 1875-1975. N.p. N.d.

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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

1.

Madison Masonic Temple

Madison, Lake County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

West (front) and south facades, camera facing east-northeast

Photo No. 1

2.

Madison Masonic Temple

Madison, Lake County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

North facade, camera facing south-southeast

Photo No. 2

3.

Madison Masonic Temple

Madison, Lake County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

Detail of Ionic columns, camera facing east

Photo No. 3

4.

Madison Masonic Temple

Madison, Lake County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

Interior: lodge chamber, camera facing east-northeast

Photo No. 4

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5.

Madison Masonic Temple

Madison, Lake County, South Dakota

by John Rau

August 1989

Neg.: South Dakota Historical Preservation Center

Interior: lodge chamber, camera facing southwest

Photo No. 5