

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED JAN 30 1976

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Scottish Rite Temple/Fowler Methodist Episcopal Church

AND/OR COMMON

Scottish Rite Temple

### LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2011 Dupont Avenue South

—NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
5th

STATE

Minnesota

CODE  
27

COUNTY

Hennepin

CODE  
053

### CLASSIFICATION

#### CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

#### OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH

#### PUBLIC ACQUISITION

- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

#### STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS

#### ACCESSIBLE

- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

#### PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- COMMERCIAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Fraternal lodge-meeting hall

### OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Scottish Rite Bodies

STREET & NUMBER

2011 Dupont Avenue South

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

### LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds - Hennepin County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

3th Avenue at 4th Street South

CITY, TOWN

Minneapolis

STATE

Minnesota

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1975

—FEDERAL  STATE —COUNTY —LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society, Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED 1916	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Drawings and specifications for the Chapel portion of the Scottish Rite Temple, (formerly the Fowler Methodist Episcopal Church) as prepared by Warren H. Hayes, Architect, are dated August 10, 1894, just five years before his death.

In 1906 it devolved upon Harry W. Jones, another well known Minneapolis architect, to design the main Fowler Church. Jones, in incorporating the existing chapel into his design for the overall building, logically followed the Romanesque style and materials used in the Chapel. However, realizing the need to increase the scale of the ultimate building, he raised the height of the roof over and above the chapel roof. He also heaved up the stone details of the main church while retaining the more delicately carved features of the chapel's decorative stonework.

The exterior stone facing for the main walls is of rough cut pink Jasper, extremely hard and durable, quarried in Jasper, Minnesota.

The buttresses, watertables and carved trim are of Portage, Wisconsin red sandstone, as are also the upper portions of the two towers flanking the main entrance. The columns and the 13 arch stones of the main entrance, as well as other entrances, are polished Jasper.

The principle gable end of the Franklin Avenue facade features a 24 foot diameter "rose" window divided into 12 divisions or "petals", all beautifully glazed with leaded stained glass. Five of the twelve depict various faces of Christ as taken from great paintings and are illustrative of the Birth, Life, Death, Resurrection and Ascension. Five sections show, as medallions, the Red Cross, Maltese Cross, the Templar Cross, the Passion Cross and the Nine-pointed Star. The remaining two sections show the medallion of Bishop Fowler and a part of the Wall of Jerusalem bearing the incscription "Zion Commandry No. 2, Knights Templars, to Bishop Charles Fowler".

The other leaded stained glass windows throughout, while of course smaller, are beautiful examples of the art inspired by works of master painters.

The six windows in the main entrance foyer, for example, are taken from the "Cardinal Virtues" by Joshua Reynolds.

The four lower windows of the left or East transept are the "Guardian Angel" by Phlochurst; "Resurrection" by Hoffman; and "Lead Kindly Light" inspired by Cardinal Newman's notable hymn.

The four lower windows of the right or West transept depict "Moses", "Abraham", "Isaiah" and "Jeremiah".

Interior wood framing of the structure consists of posts, girders, joists and rafters all of white pine.

Floor joists are "gained" into the rafters and are strapped across the girders with iron straps.

The bottom 6 inches of all supporting posts were soaked in hot linseed oil to preclude rotting and as a further precaution, were protected at the base with sheet lead where they rest on heavy limestone footings.

(see continuation sheet)

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These supporting footings for the structure consist of large blocks of native limestone "set by means of a derrick and pounded into the sand bed" to submission. Use of concrete at that time was very limited in this area.

The supporting roof structure of the nave or auditorium is of steel truss-work designed without need for intermediate columns; this gives a feeling of spaciousness, what with the high ribbed and vaulted ceiling. Huge suspended crystal chandeliers add sparkle and richness to the room.

The Franklin Avenue gable end of the building featuring the 24' diameter rose window is flanked by 100' high massive stone towers connected by a two-story arcaded stone porch. Similar porches are on the West and East elevations. All have tile floors and heavy oak beamed ceilings. Decorative bronze lanterns provide the lighting.

Access to the 40' long main foyer with its beautifully vaulted ceiling is from this main arcade.

The room known as the Red Room since the building was acquired in 1916 by the Scottish Rite Temple Association was the 1894 Chapel as designed by Architect Hayes. When Architect Jones, in 1906, designed the main church, this room became the chapel and was used for small weddings, funerals, etc.

The former large Sunday School Room, so designated on the original plans, is reached by a wide corridor from the rear of what is now the main auditorium and by another corridor from the main foyer, is called the Red Room". Balconies on three sides are suspended from the roof structure by heavy steel rods and beams.

The interior walls and ceilings are plastered throughout in three coat work on pine wood laths.

To improve the acoustical properties of the room, when microphones and speakers were installed, the Scottish Rite covered the plaster ceilings in the auditorium and Red Room with first quality acoustical tile.

Solid wood paneled wainscot has been employed throughout at stairways and walls of principle rooms.

The main stairway, from the first floor to the balcony of the auditorium, is wainscoted in clear cherry stained dark mahogany and the heavy beautifully turned and carved newel post, balusters, rail and stringers are also solid cherry. The West entrance stairway and wainscoting is of best quality quarter sawed oak.

The remainder of wood trim and wainscoting is cherry with some birch.

In 1916 Bertrand and Chamberlin, Minneapolis Architects, were commissioned to make a number of minor changes. This was to adapt the building to the use of the Scottish Rite. Among the changes were the raising and levelling the floor of the auditorium to permit the room to be used for the fraternal and certain social functions.

In the past years, of course, the plumbing, heating, ventilation and electrical systems have been improved.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1894, 1906, 1916

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Warren H. Hayes and Harry W. Jones

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Scottish Rite Temple at 2011 Dupont Avenue South in Minneapolis stands as a significant and unique example of combined architectural design of two noted Minnesota architects: Warren H. Hayes and Harry W. Jones as well as a tribute to the community consciousness and preservation efforts of the Scottish Rite Bodies.

In 1892 the Minnesota Conference of the Methodist Church organized a mission on Franklin Avenue near Dupont Avenue South. The mission became a church in 1894 and was named in honor of Bishop Charles H. Fowler, resident bishop of Minneapolis. Well known church architect Warren H. Hayes was commissioned to design the new edifice. Hayes' credits were already well established in his designs for Wesley Methodist Church, Swedish Mission Tabernacle, First Congregational Church and Westminister Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis and Central Presbyterian Church in Saint Paul.

Although Hayes submitted drawings for the entire building, only the rear portion, or chapel, was completed by 1898 due to financial difficulties. In 1899, Hayes died and no construction took place until 1906 when Harry Jones, a well-known and versatile architect, succeeded Hayes. Some modifications were made, mostly to the proportions of the Franklin Avenue facade; however, Jones honored Hayes' original conception through to completion. The building is therefore the only known example of the combined talents of Hayes and Jones in Minnesota.

The Scottish Rite acquired the building in 1915 following a merger of Fowler M.E. Church with Hennepin Avenue M.E. Church. This fraternal benevolent organization has occupied the building since that time and has made extremely few alterations to accommodate the performance of their rites. Further, the Scottish Rite has been dedicated to the preservation of the building for its historic and architectural merit in hope that it will stand as a symbol of masonic community involvement. Although the organization never speaks publicly of its activities and charity, it feels that this building has been and will continue to be a source of inspiration to the furtherance of the doctrines of freemasonry.

