

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name Temple Craft Building

Other names/site number HM01-186

Name of related multiple property listing N/A

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

## 2. Location

Street & Number 1127-1131 12<sup>th</sup> Street

City or town Aurora State Nebraska County Hamilton

Not for publication  Vicinity

## 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 at the following level(s) of significance:  national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:  A  B  C  D

*Michael J. Smith*

SHPO/Director

09-18-2014

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

Nebraska State Historical Society

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting Official

Date

Title

State of Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

## 4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
- determined eligible for the National Register.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

*Jon Salter*  
Signature of Keeper

11-12-2014

Date of Action

Temple Craft Building  
**Name of Property**

Hamilton County, Nebraska  
**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	
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Buildings
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	Sites
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	Structures
<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	Objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register** N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: general store  
COMMERCE/TRADE: professional  
SOCIAL: meeting hall

**Current Functions** (Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMERCE/TRADE: specialty store  
VACANT/NOT IN USE

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification** (Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE VICTORIAN/Queen Anne Commercial

**Materials** (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick, Stone

Temple Craft Building

Hamilton County, Nebraska

**Name of Property****County and State****Description**

**Summary Paragraph** (Briefly describe the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

The Temple Craft Building is located in Aurora, Nebraska, the county seat of Hamilton County. The commercial block is located on the southwest corner of 12<sup>th</sup> Street and M Street, two of the four streets that make up the commercial square around the Hamilton County Courthouse (NRHP listed in 1985). The building may well be the oldest building on the commercial square, after suffering the loss of its Royal Highlander Building to fire a few years ago. The building retains its original wood windows, cast iron storefronts (if not the windows), decorative cast concrete and stone details on the façade, pressed tin ceilings on the interior, and innumerable examples of the beautiful Victorian woodwork. While it is in rough shape, the building's bones are intact, and its rehabilitation, which is currently being planned by the property owners, will restore the building to its grand visage of the past.

**Narrative Description** (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable.)

The Temple Craft Building is a five-bay commercial building constructed in 1889. The two-story building has an asymmetrical façade with the south three bays creating what had been two large commercial space on the first floor, and the north one and a half bays making another storefront. The rhythm of the storefront windows and doors would have originally been window-recessed doorway-window-window-corner entrance. The canted, recessed doorway has doors into each side of the two commercial spaces, and the door that provided access to the stairs that led to offices upstairs. The doorways remain, but the doors themselves have been replaced. The decorative scalloped cast iron framework of the Victorian era storefronts, which was fabricated in Saint Louis, Missouri, remains intact; the glass windows and doors have been altered. The northern-most door is no longer at the corner, but sits flush with the windows one bay south. There are metal panels placed over the areas where the transom windows were located. From the interior, the original violet prism glass transoms remain in place, but are mostly covered on the inside of the building as well.

Each bay of the second story, except the northern half-bay, features a paired set of tall, delicate one-over-one double-hung wood windows with a carved jamb between them. The half bay has a single window, and is embellished on the corner with a round brick and cast concrete pilaster that set off the corner entrance. The sills of all the windows are stone, and make up a belt course that runs around the building along the top of the cast iron storefront. An additional, thin cast concrete belt course rings the building halfway up the upper sash of the windows, as well as a more elaborate, decorative band that incorporates the cast concrete lintels above the windows. The center windows of the large, southern bay add some additional ornamentation with a cast concrete fan or set of stylized peacock feathers under a faux arch with keystone. Above this, an additional bit of cast concrete has been truncated by a metal roof that slips around the historic parapet. It is difficult to determine if the parapet and/or cornice is intact under the metal, but certainly a portion that included a pediment projection with the words "TEMPLE BLOCK" in the cornice is missing. The corner entrance also had a taller portion of cornice that drew attention to the corner entrance, and appears to be missing.

On the north side of the building, the cast iron storefront wraps around, making up the first floor portion of the east bay. Using the second story fenestration pattern, the north façade also has five bays, in an A-B-C-B-A configuration. "A" is a narrow portion of wall with two single one-over-one, double-hung wood windows with the same square cast concrete lintels. "B" has two of the same windows as "A", separated by a similarly sized window with an arched cast concrete lintel. "C" is a tripartite set of windows with carved wooden jambs between them, with a three-arch lintel over the windows. The center window is slightly wider than the two that flank it. This bay also has a piece of tin decorative metalwork under the windows that mimics the scalloped decoration on the cast iron storefront. The remainder of this façade is painted brick. There are a few areas that give them impression that a few windows may have been present on the first floor, but they are now bricked in.

The rear wall utterly collapsed in 2009, causing damage to the interior, of course, which will be described later. The wall has been reconstructed in concrete block. Although the material is not the same, care was taken to do the work well, and

Temple Craft BuildingHamilton County, Nebraska**Name of Property****County and State**

the building feels very safe and secure. It is only visible from the alley behind the building. The south wall is shared with another building, although a portion of it is visible over its one-story neighbor, and it features a ghost sign for "Patton's Sun-Proof Paints", presumably from the building's hardware store era. An internet search for "Patton's" yields results that date mostly from 1900 to 1927, which would fit with what is known of the building's hardware history.

Upon entering the northern-most door on the front façade, one enters a three-bay space in the building. A wall has been removed: a small portion remains, along with the pressed tin cornice that abutted it, along with a I-beam that has replaced the load-bearing wall. Although the skeletal remains of a drop ceiling on the north bay obscures part of the original pressed tin ceiling, enough is missing to see that the ceiling is almost completely intact, along with pressed tin borders of bundled reeds, decorative swats and shields and crossed spears. This space also displays the only visible intact violet prism glass transom, which would have been placed over the canted doorway.

The south storefront, the only one currently occupied by a tenant, has been painted and refurbished by the owner. This space has an equally ornate tin ceiling and cornice, but it is different from the adjacent space. It has been freshly painted, and lights and fans suspended from it to retain the high ceilings. This space also has violet prism glass transoms, but they have been encapsulated in drywall to preserve them for now. The storefront has been truncated for the cellular store by building a non-permanent wall that separates the space into halves. The back space retains the tin ceiling and cornice, but also retains some of the woodwork of the original storefront. There is a suspended platform with molding for display space above, and display space beneath. Further back, the building retains its original 1890 freight elevator, which was manufactured by the J. W. Reedy Elevator Manufacturing Company in Chicago.

Returning to the main façade, one enters the door that leads to the stairway that provides access to the upstairs space. The stairs are original wood, with a short landing ten steps up, before resuming the climb to the second floor. The stairs are lined with pressed tin panels and some painted wood wainscoting, and a squared newel post and intact balustrade is located at the top of the stairs. The second floor has gone unused for a long time. Unfortunately, local teens were allowed to create a haunted house on the second floor, and as a result some gruesome things have been painted on the walls and the original woodwork. Still, the Queen Anne door jambs, transoms (plus hardware), window surrounds, baseboards, and some of the doors themselves remain in place, along with the original plaster walls. The floors appear to be hardwood, although some have been covered in old linoleum or rugs. The offices do not open off of one long corridor, as in some buildings of this era. Instead, one office seems to lead to another, which may lead back to a hall or the next office. A narrow closet at the top of the stairs was converted into a water closet with a toilet tucked in at the back, and probably dates to the 1910s. There is an old porcelain sink in the first office space, perhaps in place for a doctor or dentist's office.

There is one wide, ornate doorway to the right of the stairs that features fluted oak columns on either side of the doors, with a classic frieze above. It also features a period screen door. Another doorway featured a large frieze with a pocket door that is missing its glass panels. A similarly carved door provides a wide passage from one room to another in the same office space.

The back portion of the building held the lodge hall facility. On the northwest corner of the exterior of the building, the owner indicated that there was once likely an entrance to the lodge with a second set of stairs. The materials do change from a solid brick wall to some infilled panels. Between the lack of a historic photograph from that angle and the damage the back wall collapse caused, it is difficult to determine what it might have looked like. On the second floor, the back half of the building houses the various rooms of the lodge. There was one large room lined with wainscoting and cloak hooks for lodge members to store their coats and hats, a dressing room with eight wood cabinets that could hold the ritual paraphernalia of the individual lodges that used the space, as well as a stair to a small balcony space with a low balustrade. Three of the eight cabinet doors are missing. The large meeting room has the most elaborate, pedimented doorways, wainscot that has been painted black, and a pressed tin ceiling with borders and cornice pieces. A portion of the ceiling collapsed due to the collapse of the rear wall, but it remains in the room and can be restored. Two doorways lead out of the east end of the room: one to the cloak room and another to a series of small closets or changing rooms. A raised dais is found between the two doors.

The Temple Craft Building has seen much change over its 125 year history and has compromised historic integrity. The most obvious changes that have affected its integrity are the changes to the storefronts (particularly the panels that cover the transoms) and the odd roof that looks almost like a lid covering a box and removed at minimum some decorative work

Temple Craft Building

Hamilton County, Nebraska

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

that was removed from the cornice. Of more minor consequence are the bricked in windows on the north elevation, the replaced rear wall that is now concrete block, and the wall that was removed in the first bay. There are also problems with painted woodwork upstairs and the collapsed pressed tin ceiling upstairs. The building has sufficient issues with its historic integrity that it precludes the building from being listed under Criterion C for architectural significance, however there is sufficient historic material hidden in and amongst the building to support an argument under Criterion A for the interesting formation of the organization that oversaw its construction in 1888 and 1889.

The current property owners bought this building with the intent of restoring it as much as possible to its historic condition. In fact, since the building serves as a rental property for them, they plan to undertake a federal tax credit project through the National Park Service.

Temple Craft Building  
**Name of Property**

Hamilton County, Nebraska  
**County and State**

**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 a grave.
- D** A cemetery.  
A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- E** 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.)

COMMERCE

ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION

**Period of Significance**

1889-1938

**Significant Dates**

1889

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

C. C. Rittenhouse, architect

S. L. Burt, mason

Johnson & Henthorn, contractors

Temple Craft Building

Hamilton County, Nebraska

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Temple Craft Building is eligible at the local level for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A for the history of its committee of owners and their desire to further the economic development of Aurora. In this regard, the establishment of this organization and its building appear to be unique within the city of Aurora. The period of significance runs from 1889, the year of its construction, to 1938, the year the Temple Craft Association was set to go defunct as a function of its Articles of Incorporation.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

In April 1888, a group of thirty-one men in Aurora, Nebraska met and drafted Articles of Incorporation for the Temple Craft Association. A Temple Craft organization is not a degree of Masonry, but is a compact among the different orders of the members, which resembles a stock company.<sup>1</sup> Such organizations were not unique to Aurora, but were organized throughout Nebraska and the rest of the country. The purpose of the organization was to

“...encourage building and improvement, and to promote the material prosperity of said City of Aurora, and to that end to acquire, hold, use and convey real estate, and to erect and maintain on real estate owned by the corporation such structures and buildings as may be deemed necessary or proper, and to use, occupy, lease, hold, sell or otherwise dispose of or encumber any part or all of the property of the corporation, and especially to acquire Lots Nos. 19, 20 and 21 in Block No. 19 in the Original Town of Aurora in said county and to erect and maintain thereon a Brick building suitable for business, society and office purposes and generally to transact such business as is usually done by like associations.”<sup>2</sup>

The creation of this association prompted the construction of the Temple Craft Building on the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and M Streets on the business square surrounding the county courthouse, on precisely the lots mentioned in the Articles, triggering the retail and commercial growth of the square, and providing fraternal lodge space for Masons and other secret orders.

At the April 25, 1888 meeting, the group of businessmen drafted the bylaws of the association and elected officers: a president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary. Thirty-one men signed the Articles, fourteen of whom subscribed money toward their aims in \$100 shares in order to fund their plans. The association was intended to last from April 25, 1888 through April 25, 1938, precisely fifty years.

The Temple Craft Block was designed by Hastings architect Charles C. Rittenhouse. Rittenhouse was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, on August 16, 1852.<sup>3</sup> After attending school in Ohio, he became a carpenter’s apprentice until he was twenty-five. His biography from the 1920s states that he spent a few months working in an architect’s office in Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 1875 and 1876. He arrived in Hastings, Nebraska, in August 1877, and opened the city’s first architectural office. During the eighteen years he lived and worked in Hastings, he served on the city council for ten consecutive years and as mayor for two years. He designed nearly all of the public buildings constructed in Hastings during the period of his residence there, including the first Adams County Courthouse (non-extant), the Farrell Block (1880, NRHP listed 5/1/1979), the Nebraska Loan and Trust Company Building (1884, NRHP listed 5/1/1979), and McCormick Hall (1882, NRHP listed 5/12/1975).<sup>4</sup> Rittenhouse also designed numerous houses, churches, schools, and opera houses in Hastings and surrounding counties, including the Temple Craft Block in Aurora in 1888-9.

<sup>1</sup> *Omaha Daily Bee*, December 11, 1887.

<sup>2</sup> Articles of Incorporation, Temple Craft Association. Filed April 30, 1888.

<sup>3</sup> The U.S. Gen Web Project. “Glendale, California Biographies: Charles C. Rittenhouse.”

[http://theusgenweb.org/ca/losangeles/GlendaleBios/Rittenhouse\\_Charles\\_C.htm](http://theusgenweb.org/ca/losangeles/GlendaleBios/Rittenhouse_Charles_C.htm). Viewed July 2, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> Adams County Nebraska Historical Society. “Rittenhouse and Way: Architects of Hastings’ First Half Century.

[http://www.adamshistory.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=42](http://www.adamshistory.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=42). Viewed July 2, 2014.

Temple Craft BuildingHamilton County, Nebraska**Name of Property****County and State**

Although there were two newspapers in town during this period of Aurora's history, there are relatively few accounts of the construction of the building. According to the *Aurora Sun*, by May 26, 1888, the wooden buildings that were on the building site were moved elsewhere so that the ground could be broken for the new building.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, the same edition of the newspaper mentioned that the members of the Temple Craft Association were waiting for the architect to finalize plans and specifications for the new commercial block, so the group did not dally in putting their plans into action. The first week in June, the ground was broken for the new building, with George Daniels earning 18 cents per cubic yard of earth removed.<sup>6</sup> Johnson and Henthorn were chosen to receive the main construction contract for the Temple Craft Block, with the contract for the stone work going to Daniel Burt. By September, the building was beginning to assume "imposing proportions," although there was a delay due to a discrepancy in the figures for the galvanized iron work on the Temple Block.<sup>7</sup>

The building already had tenants in place by late 1888, including two tenants who had rented "business rooms" upstairs by November 1888.<sup>8</sup> The new business that received the most attention was the hardware and furniture store of Thad and Johnathan Adams, formerly of Louisville, Nebraska. The Adams Brothers had operated a similar mercantile firm in Louisville, but the elder brother, Thad, owned land in Hamilton County and desired to live there. The brothers rented the west two bays of the Temple Craft Block, and began operating their business in earnest in January 1889.<sup>9</sup>

Over the years, the first floor retail spaces housed the DeWaters and Howard Hardware store, D. A. Johnson General Store, S. J. Johnson Groceries, C. E. Neir Druggist, Magee Clothing Company, and the Aurora Mercantile. Professional offices upstairs at various times housed Dr. J. J. Waters, DVM, Dr. Bucklin, Forbes Company, A. B. Cowley & Co., General Develan Bates, and offices for the Republican Cultural Committee, the Young Men's Wheel Club, the United Workmen, the Aurora Commercial Club, and many more.

In February 1889, the *Aurora Sun* announced that "large and commodious" lodge rooms had been established in the building and that early on the Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Grand Army of the Republic and the National Women's Relief Corps had agreed to occupy space in them.<sup>10</sup> The first meeting of the Knights of Pythias met in the new lodge space in April 1889. "This was the first meeting of any secret order in the building...the boys are justly proud of their new quarters and intend to have something public in the near future."<sup>11</sup> Over the years, the lodge space played host to seven of Aurora's social and fraternal clubs, which also included the Degree of Honor, Ancient Order of Union Workmen, and the Modern Woodmen of America. These organizations leased the upstairs lodge hall for \$80 annually based on a five-year contract.

In 1902, annual rental fees were adjusted, and ranged from \$50 per year for upper floor suites of rooms to \$500 per year for large ground floor occupants. In 1909, the association agreed to put 25 cents per month toward lighting the upstairs hallway for the Aurora Commercial Club. The same year, the group installed steam heat throughout the building, and put water closets and lavatories in place throughout the building. Rents again increased to help cover these important improvements.

As years went by, the attendance at annual meetings of the Temple Craft Association diminished. By 1924, nearly 195 shares were held by three individuals and one lodge. As the economy worsened through the 1930s, the association continued to diminish. Mr. A. G. Peterson, president of the association, became the sole stockholder until the eventual termination of the association on April 25, 1938. After his death, the property belonged to Peterson's daughter, Nell K. Peterson, until she sold the building to Millard and Esther Jones in 1957.

The Temple Craft building is significant under Criterion A for its relationship with the association that shared its name that promoted the business and economic vitality of Aurora, and resulted in the construction of this building. Community

<sup>5</sup> *Aurora Sun*, May 26, 1888.

<sup>6</sup> *Aurora Sun*, June 9, 1888.

<sup>7</sup> *Aurora Sun*, September 28, 1888.

<sup>8</sup> *Aurora Sun*, November 24, 1888.

<sup>9</sup> *Aurora Sun*, January 19, 1889.

<sup>10</sup> *Aurora Sun*, February 9, 1889.

<sup>11</sup> *Aurora Sun*, April 6, 1889.



Temple Craft Building

Hamilton County, Nebraska

**Name of Property**

**County and State**

boosterism was not rare in Nebraska, but this organization took the movement to a higher level by creating a communal partnership that resulted in a building that remains a substantial part of the built environment of Aurora to this day. The commercial block housed retail commercial space on the first floor and professional office space above. The need for this type of building and the enthusiasm with which it was received is evidenced by the fact that most of the spaces were rented prior to the completion of the building. In addition to commercial and office space, the Temple Craft Building also provided lodge space that was for rent to other fraternal and civic organizations. Since the space was shared, it does not feature decorative details that point to use by any one organization; rather it is a classy, Victorian era space with fine woodwork, hardwood floors, and elaborate pressed tin ceilings that lends itself well to use by many. Although the building has some integrity issues, plans of the current owners call for the building to be restored and will take advantage of the federal tax credit for income producing properties.

---

**9. Major Bibliographic References**

---

**Bibliography** (Insert bibliography here – cite the books, articles and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Adams County Nebraska Historical Society. "Rittenhouse and Way: Architects of Hastings' First Half Century." [http://www.adamshistory.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=42](http://www.adamshistory.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=43&Itemid=42). Viewed July 2, 2014.

Articles of Incorporation, Temple Craft Association. Filed April 30, 1888.

*Aurora Republican*. Temple Craft Association. April 26, 1888 – July 26, 1889.

*Aurora Sun*. Temple Craft Association. April 28, 1888 – April 6, 1889.

Combs, H. Jason, Anne M. Bauer and John T. Bauer. *Hamilton County: Nebraska Historic Buildings Survey*. Prepared for the Nebraska State Historical Society with funding from the National Park Service. July 2009.

Furse, R. L. "Temple Craft Group Kick Started Aurora's Square Development." *Aurora News Register*. December 1, 2004.

*Kearney Hub*. "Aurora Building Deemed Unsafe After Collapse." *Kearney Hub*. March 2, 2009.

The U.S. Gen Web Project. "Glendale, California Biographies: Charles C. Rittenhouse." [http://theusgenweb.org/ca/losangeles/GlendaleBios/Rittenhouse\\_Charles\\_C.htm](http://theusgenweb.org/ca/losangeles/GlendaleBios/Rittenhouse_Charles_C.htm). Viewed July 2, 2014.

**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 #
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other (Name of repository)  
Plainsman Museum, Aurora, NE

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

---

**10. Geographical Data**

---

Acreage of property Less than one USGS Quadrangle Aurora

Temple Craft Building  
**Name of Property**

Hamilton County, Nebraska  
**County and State**

**(Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates. Delete the other.)**

**UTM References**

Datum (indicated on USGS map): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ NAD 1927 or \_\_\_ NAD 1983

- |    |            |               |                |
|----|------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. | Zone _____ | Easting _____ | Northing _____ |
| 2. | Zone _____ | Easting _____ | Northing _____ |
| 3. | Zone _____ | Easting _____ | Northing _____ |
| 4. | Zone _____ | Easting _____ | Northing _____ |

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Lots 19-21, Block 19, Original Town, City of Aurora, Hamilton County, Nebraska.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the historic property includes only the lots upon which the building was constructed.

---

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title	<u>Jill E. Dolberg</u>	date	<u>June 17, 2014</u>
organization	<u>Nebraska State Historical Society</u>	telephone	<u>(402) 471-4773</u>
street & number	<u>1500 R Street/ Box 82554</u>	state	<u>Nebraska</u>
city or town	<u>Lincoln</u>	zip code	<u>68501-2554</u>
email	<u>Jill.dolberg@nebraska.gov</u>		

---

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

**Photo Log**

Name of Property Temple Craft Building

Temple Craft Building Hamilton County, Nebraska  
**Name of Property** **County and State**

City or Vicinity Aurora County Hamilton State Nebraska

Photographer Ruben Acosta Date Photographed April 7, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera.

1. Exterior, view NW
2. Exterior, View SW
3. Exterior, View SE
4. Prism glass transoms in center commercial space, view SE.
5. Pressed tin ceiling, view W.
6. I beam and pressed tin ceiling, view NE.
7. Pressed tin ceiling in south commercial space, view W.
8. Freight elevator, view S.
9. Columned office door, view N.
10. Office pocket door, view SE.
11. Fraternal lodge ritual storage, view SE.
12. Fraternal lodge cloak room, view NW.
13. Fraternal lodge room door, view W.
14. Fraternal lodge dais and balcony, view E.

**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.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

# Temple Craft Building

1127-1131 12th St.  
Aurora, Hamilton Co.,  
Nebraska


Latitude/Longitude Coordinates:


40.868253, -98.003362

Datum: WGS84



## Legend

 Property Boundary

0 35 70 140 210 280  
 Feet

1:2,000



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, i-cubed, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AEX, Getmapping, Aerogrid, IGN, IGP, swisstopo, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors

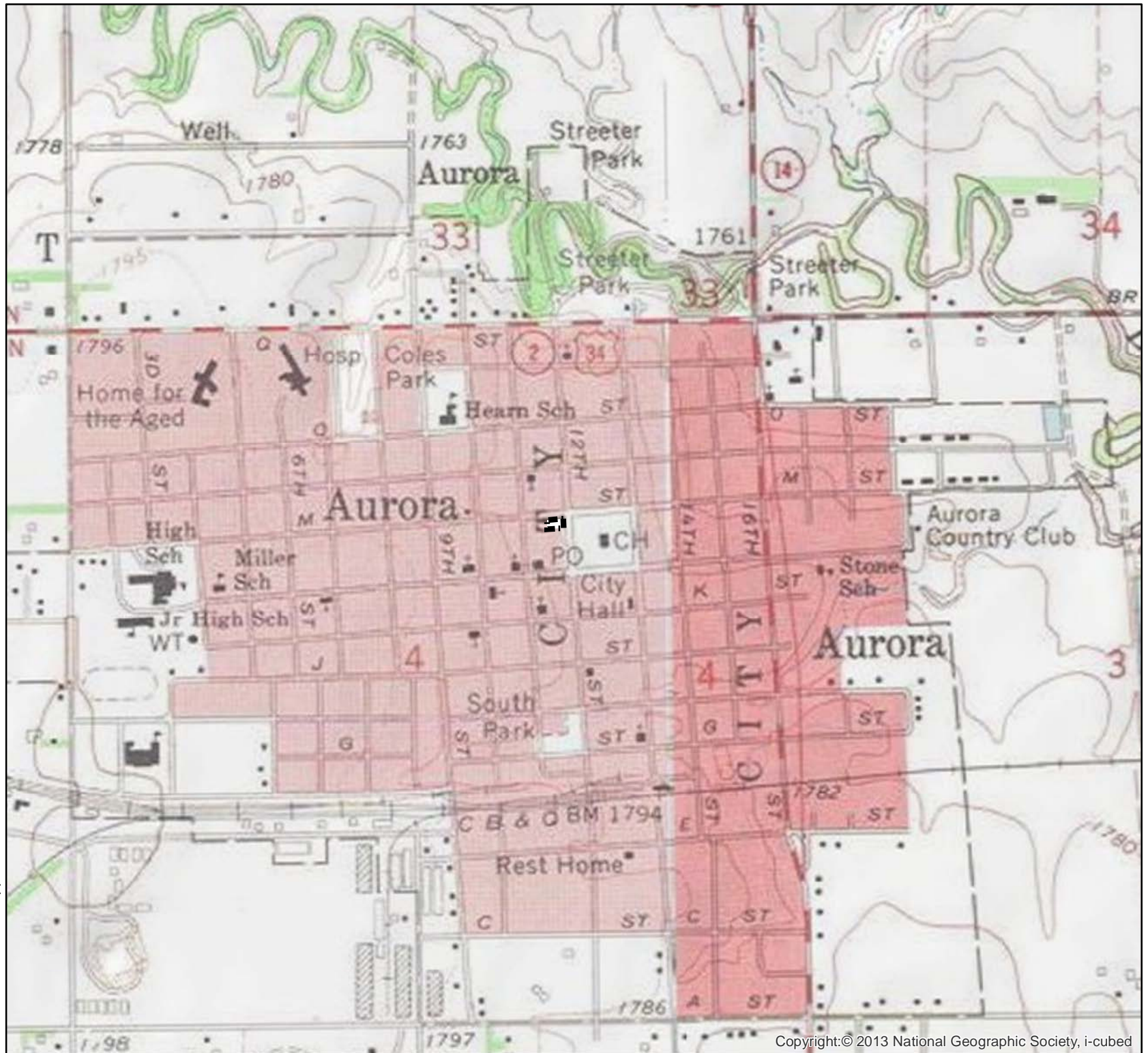
# Temple Craft Building

1127-1131 12th St.  
Aurora, Hamilton Co.,  
Nebraska

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates:


40.868253, -98.003362

Datum: WGS84



## Legend

 Property Boundary

0 220 440 880 1,320 1,760  
 Feet

1:12,000





800-841-1631  
762-694-5101  
**HAMILTON**  
TELCEL  
www.hamiltontel.com

**verizon**wireless  
Wireless World | Premium Retailer

**AMZYM**  
ELECTRIC  
LAWN & LANDSCAPE

Mon & Wed  
4:30pm

VERIZON  
EDGE

OPEN



verizon wireless  
Wireless World Premium Ready

AURORA



AURORA











Samsung GALAXY

verizon wireless  
Power to Your World

Reality Check

KNOW YOUR OPTIONS  
HOME PHONE &  
INTERNET SERVICES  
SAVE  
WITH OUR  
BUNDLED DEALS

verizon wireless

INTRODUCING  
**MORE**  
The MORE Everything Plan



J.W. REEDY ELEVATORS

MFG. CO. CHICAGO















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Temple Craft Building  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEBRASKA, Hamilton

DATE RECEIVED: 9/26/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/12/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000916

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 11.12.2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*important building in commercial core; served the social needs  
of community through seven different organizations that utilized its  
Mealy Space*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A

REVIEWER J. Gabriel DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N see attached

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



September 18, 2014

J. Paul Loether  
National Register—National Historic Landmarks Programs  
National Park Service  
1201 "I" Street NW, 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005

RE: Temple Craft Building  
Aurora, Hamilton County, Nebraska

Dear Mr. Loether:

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the above referenced property to the National Register of Historic Places. This form has met all notification and other requirements as established in 36 CFR 60.

If you have any questions concerning this nomination, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "L. Robert Puschendorf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

L. Robert Puschendorf  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Enclosure

1500 R Street  
PO Box 82554  
Lincoln, NE 68501-2554  
p: (800) 833-6747  
(402) 471-3270  
f: (402) 471-3100  
[www.nebraskahistory.org](http://www.nebraskahistory.org)