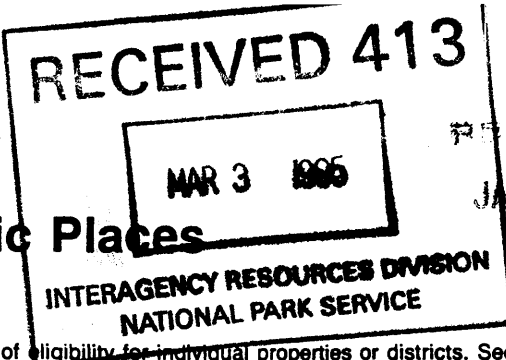


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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OHP

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 the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" 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 Masonic Temple
other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number 501 North Harbor Boulevard not for publication
city, town Fullerton vicinity
state California code CA county Orange code 059 zip code 92632

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u> </u>	<u> </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> objects
			<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: NA Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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.

[Signature] Date 2/21/95
Signature of certifying official
State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and 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 and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

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:) _____

Edson H. Beall Entered in the National Register 3/31/95

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL/meeting hall

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

WORK IN PROGRESS

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS/

Mission/Spanish Colonial Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls STUCCO AND OTHER

roof CERAMIC TILE

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Fullerton Masonic Temple sits at a prominent northwest corner at the north end of downtown Fullerton, occupying property that provides it a minimum of open space to the east, south, and west. Historically, a small number of trees lined the east and south sides of the property, but these areas have since been taken for road widening. Today, two trees and shrubs are found at the front (east) of the property, and asphalt parking is found at the back. A car wash behind (to the west) and a small historic building (c. 1930s) abutting the north boundary, along with one- and two-story commercial buildings at adjacent blocks, provide an urban setting to the Temple. The Temple building is a rectangular, three story (though multi-level), stucco-over-hollow clay tile, Spanish Colonial Revival style building that was constructed from 1919 to 1920. Its styling is not ornate, like most large-scale Spanish Colonial Revivals, but is rather clean-lined and eclectic. The front and sides, which surround the taller lodge at the center and back, have a skirt roof; the boxed eave has many regularly spaced, rafter-like brackets. The back of the building, which is a half story higher than the other elevations, has a flat roof with Mission Style parapets at the north and south ends. The foundation is poured concrete. Although the building has not been well maintained for several years, the exterior has not been altered and retains a high degree of integrity. No other structures or features now exist, nor ever existed, on the property.

The east facade is the primary elevation, and is symmetrical except for a south end projecting wall. At the center is a pedimented classic style portico that is supported by two unfluted columns with unadorned capitals, arrived at by a double set of stairs. Marble cornerstones are under each column, with the Masonic emblem and date of the building etched in the north one. Behind these follow two attached columns. Rectangular pilasters, and classic relief scroll work above the architrave, adorn the entry. Batchelder Arts and Crafts tile, which are original to the building, grace both walls leading to the double doors (they appear damaged, however, from a past sandblasting treatment). A transom and lights on either side of the doors are currently boarded. The stair is in its original configuration, but has a brick veneer finish that was added c. 1974; this will be removed during planned rehabilitation.

The main central portion of the facade has three windows on each side at the basement and first floors. The basement windows here are boarded, but appear to have been double casement or awning. The first floor windows, which rest on a string course, are rectangular double casements with smaller stationary windows across the tops. There are four third floor sash windows, with a small window between the roof line and the portico roof on either side of the center. At either end is a wing-like wall projection (though there are not separate wings), and the window treatment here differs from the main central wall: at the basement and ground levels are palladian windows (the ground level windows sit on

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Period of Significance

1919-1945

Significant Dates

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Significant Person

NA

Architect/Builder

Benchley, Frank

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Fullerton's Masonic Temple was constructed in 1919-1920, and is the second temple building used by the city's large number of Masonic organizations. It was the Mason's only meeting place from 1919-1945, and continued to be so for most of Fullerton's Masonic organizations until 1993. The building, which has a seemingly high degree of integrity (it is in the first stages of rehabilitation), represents the height of Freemasonry within the historical context of fraternal organizations in the City of Fullerton, and for a period, in the County of Orange. The temple meets National Register Criteria A in the area of Social History as an obvious and well-known reminder of the group of fraternal organizations that served the surrounding community so prominently during much of the twentieth century.

Fullerton's Masonic F&AM (Free and Accepted Masons) Lodge No. 339 was founded in 1900, 13 years after the town was first platted. It was formed when residents of Fullerton and Placentia (a neighboring town), who belonged to Anaheim Lodge No. 207, split off from this neighboring order (there were only two other Masonic lodges in the county at this time). Reflective of the prestige associated with Masonic membership, the first officers were prominent in Fullerton's and Placentia's early development: E.A. Amerige, a Fullerton founder and real estate agent; W.T. Brown, prominent business man; G.C. Clark, a Fullerton founder, city councilman, and local physician; and, W.M. McFadden, teacher, school superintendent, early Placentia settler, and one who was instrumental in the formation of Orange County in 1889. A temple was built in this same year, 1900, and by 1901 the Lodge had 46 members (this first temple building still stands a few blocks south of the present one). Two other lodges, which shared the temple, were founded at about this time as well. They were the Royal Arch Mason (RAM) Lodge No. 90 (ca. 1900) and Order of the Eastern Star (OES) Lodge No. 191 (1901). Prior to 1919, when the Masons sold their first building in order to build a new temple, two lodges had split off: Buena Park Lodge No. 357 (1903) and Yorba Linda Lodge No. 469 (1918).

The new, 1919-1920 temple represents the beginning of an era of rapid growth for Fullerton Masonic organizations, despite the membership drain from the lodges that split off. It was a high mark for Fullerton's economy as well. Though Fullerton did well with oranges and walnuts, in 1919 the area's oil boom began with the drilling of a gusher on Charles C. Chapman's (a Mason) property, and this post-World War oil boom led to a building

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

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 # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property Less than .5 acre

UTM References

A	<u>11</u>	<u>414580</u>	<u>3748395</u>	B	_____	_____	_____
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	_____	_____	_____	D	_____	_____	_____

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The property is at the northwest corner of Chapman Avenue and Harbor Boulevard, the north boundary being 125' north from Chapman, and the west boundary being 136.5' west from Harbor. The east and south boundaries are the roads, and the southeast corner is rounded.

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes the Masonic Temple and the small amount of open space surrounding it to the east, south and west. The property is somewhat reduced from historic times due to the widening of Harbor Blvd. (east) and Chapman Ave. (south). In addition, the narrow lot to the north was probably once a part of the original property, but holds a c. 1930s structure that is not related to the Temple. No other structures or features exist on the property.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Vicki L. Solheid, Historical Resources Consultant
 organization NA date 10-20-94/12-29-94
 street & number 1342 Deerpark Drive, NO. 60 telephone 714/579-7527
 city or town Fullerton state CA zip code 92631

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the string course); three narrow, rectangular, stationary windows are at the third floor, all sharing a sill. All windows appear to be original.

The north elevation is partially obstructed by a small one story Moderne Style structure that sits at the property line. The multi-level stories of the Temple are apparent here by the tiered fenestration (which is at present mostly boarded), and are described below by east and west sections. The eastern third of the third floor here is living quarters and has a door almost centered in the wall, which is to the right of two rectangular casement windows, and to the left of a small double casement window that serves the kitchen. At the door, the landing sits above a ground floor window, then stairs travel down to meet a walkway along the ground floor exterior, which meet a second emergency exit door near the west end of the building, where finally the stairs go down to meet the ground just before they reach the wall end. The windows at ground level are the same as those at the front, but not centered: two are to the east, and one is further west, under the emergency exit landing. A small double casement window is to the right of this. There are two boarded windows in the basement level.

The third floor of the western two-thirds of the north facade holds an open-air balcony that has a craftsman-like balustrade. The wall behind, which is another half story higher, is the exterior of the lodge and has a simple, flat, one-step parapet; the only opening here is a single door that opens to the balcony, which is located at the east end. Second floor windows are three sash to the left of center, with a smaller sash at center, then a door (as mentioned above) with two sash windows to the right of center. At the basement level, five windows meet the string course at top and are also sash; the smaller center window is a short sash.

The south elevation has a large two-step parapet that is only slightly curved, which rises above the skirt roof; also above the skirt roof, molding mimics the parapet outline above. There are few wall openings at the west two-thirds of the south elevation, which is the exterior of the lodge; the upper level door and emergency exit stairs were added in the late-1950s. A round vent is at the center, just above the string course that divides the basement level from ground floor. The east one-third, which is recessed, has three rows of three windows each: The bottom windows, which are at the basement, are currently boarded; the second floor windows are tall rectangular double casements, with small stationary windows set above, that sit on the string course; and the third floor windows are rectangular sash that share a sill (the upper sash of the left window is boarded and holds a vent).

The rear of the building, which is the west facade, is the least embellished. Basically, it is one large flat surface with a flat roof, the second and third stories being the exterior of the lodge with no fenestration. There are nine sash windows along the southern two-thirds of the first floor, and three north of a door located at the northern end. There are four sash windows in the second floor of the northern end as well. The skirt roof of the south

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elevation, which is a half floor lower than this side's flat roof, is carried through the wall at the south end.

The interior design of the Masonic Temple incorporates organizational standards and functions. Temples normally face east, as Fullerton's does, in symbolic affinity to King Solomon's Temple. The floor plans reflect the functioning of the Masonic organizations through their temple. Connecting the split levels, short flights of stairs are located at both ends of the building, with most being oriented in a north-south direction. The north end stairs are those of primary circulation, but are not decorative in any way, and in fact most appear to have been designed to not be seen. The first level contains the basement, which was used as a pool hall; the main central portion was the pool hall (67'x27'), the south end was walled off for the boy's game room, and the north end was walled off for the mechanical systems (the original ventilation system is still here). The upper portion of the first level, along the west side of the building, holds the dining hall (75'x47'), kitchen, and related storage rooms. When it was completed, this dining facility was the largest in the city, and the kitchen was very highly regarded; one wall in the kitchen, which divides a storage room, was infilled at an unknown date, and stoves were recently removed by the Masons. The original sinks were replaced at an unknown date. The dining hall has a terrazzo floor that apparently replaced a wood floor in 1927. Supporting beams here are steel or iron, and if not original to the building, were added early (1927) as well. The beams were from the oil field operations and were provided by members who worked for the local oil companies.

The second level contains the rooms probably seen most frequently by Masons as well as nonmembers. The main entrance and lobby are centered at the east side. To the right (south) is the card room (38'x23') where cribbage was played, furnished with a north-end fire place decorated with tile very probably made by the Batchelder-Wilson Company of Los Angeles. (We know from Temple Association minutes that Batchelder was paid for tile work, and the exterior tiles are clearly those of Batchelder, but the interior tiles are different in style.) Batchelder "Arts and Crafts" ceramic products were well-known and highly regarded throughout the western United States in the early part of this century. Batchelder Tile of Pasadena operated from 1909 to 1916, and Batchelder-Wilson Tile from 1916 to 1932. The tiles are cast, brown-tone, with a flower and leaves pattern flowing out of a planter. The entrance to this room is open (no doors) with freestanding square columns at either side. The corner-curved ceiling is a high 11.7', and has a nonhistoric textured coating. The floor is covered with nonhistoric vinyl tile flooring. Wood window trim and molding (which is on all walls about 3' up, and at the wall-ceiling juncture) appear to be original. Original radiators abut the walls. The wall coating in these rooms is concrete, or a type of plaster, which is 1" thick over the hollow clay tile; this is typical of the entire building.

To the left (north) of the entrance is a lounge (21'x25'), and beyond this is the ladies' lounge (12'x24') and restroom. The ladies' lounge has decorative wood molding (painted) unique to this room. (Women were not members of the Blue Lodge but of the Order of the Eastern Star.) Behind these rooms, along the western half of the building, are the lodge and its

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adjoining rooms: lounge (20' x 32'), men's restroom and lounge, and three dressing rooms. The lounge's appearance was altered, probably in the 1970s. The walls are now covered with sheets of wood paneling, and the ceiling has white textured tiles placed over the old plaster. As the original ceiling is curved at the corners, the edge tiles were placed at an angle around the room, so that they meet the upper wall molding. A historic metal vent is located above the baseboard to the left of the door to the lodge (south wall). Though in poor condition, it retains carpet that was placed in 1948 (described more below).

The lodge, which is the most significant space in the building, was the meeting room of the Blue Lodge, Commandery, and other Masonic groups. It is 66' long, 46.5' wide, and has a very high ceiling (with curved corners). The ceiling had been covered with a textured coat, no doubt to hide the linear cracks (due to building movement) that can now be seen between many of the ceiling's plaster segments. Within the curved part of the ceiling are eight large vents, currently painted black. The ceiling also contains four square, ornamental, cast plaster grill-vents at each of the corners, and a very ornate, though very damaged, central inset plaster-and-light fixture. This fixture was damaged by fire in the spring of 1994. A molded plaster border makes a pentagon, which holds a five-pointed star, also defined by molded plaster. Five triangular-shaped, ornate panels fill the spaces between the border and star (this is of the same pattern as the grill-vents). Though some are now missing, and the others black from the fire, decorative panels (apparently of stained glass) are within the arms of the star. A pentagon is at the center of the star, with lights above, which had illumined the star. Whatever had decorated the pentagon is now missing, along with the light that came down from its center, which functioned to spotlight the altar (removed) and bible below. The star and other symbols were important to the rituals of the Order of the Eastern Star and the Knights Templar Commandery.

Much of the design of the walls remains intact. The long walls (east and west) have three pilasters evenly spaced through the middle, and two at the corners. Capitals are flared and made of multiple moldings, which continue along the wall; this molding is painted in various warm tones and is apparently original. A single strip of molding makes a rectangle on the pilaster faces, which encloses original floral-patterned wallpaper in colors that match the multiple molding. The same single molding makes a large square on the faces of the wall between the pilasters. Outside each square is the same floral wallpaper, but the inside is bare, as the Masons removed the Masonic wallpaper that was here. The center pilaster is short at its base as it had a pediment feature (since removed), which sat above the large chair that formerly sat here (at both walls). The officials of the lodge sat in these chairs, there being a third built-in chair at the north end, and a movable chair at the south end. Below, and on either side of the central chairs, at the east, west, and north walls, are slightly raised platforms which formerly held attached seating for the lodge members; most of these have been removed by the Masons.

The Lodge's north and south walls have doors at either end, two central pilasters, and two end pilasters. The upper level of the north wall looks similar in design to the other walls, though it was an open-air balcony until 1950. The floor is covered with silk carpet that was

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placed in 1948, which was purchased from Bullock's at a cost of \$10,000. Parts of this red and pink abstract rose-patterned carpet are in relatively good condition, but the recent fire damaged much of the central portion (the fire had burned the ceiling light and some of the chairs).

At the south end of the lodge room is a stage, fronted by an 8.4' platform (with central steps), and rear storage rooms. The stage is somewhat small (about 8.6' x 10') but is fully functional. It has a fly gallery and mechanism to operate the curtains, which are painted with biblical scenes and very probably date from the time of the Temple's construction (produced by the "FLAGG Scenery Co., Inc."). The large pediment that covered the stage was taken down by the Masons in order to remove the symbolic stained glass it contained, but it is in storage and will be reinstalled during rehabilitation. (The stage was used only by the Commandery for its ritualistic plays and not by the Blue Lodge itself.) Above the stage, and to the sides along the lower part of the wall, is modern wood paneling. At the southeast corner of this floor is the Lodge's walk-in safe.

The east side of the third floor contains living quarters at the north end, two central storage or meeting rooms (15' x 21' and 16' x 22'), and a large practice room at the south end (22' x 38'). The apartment (which is app. 775 square feet) has a kitchen, linen closet with built-in shelves, bathroom (with skylight), bedroom, dining room, and living room. Molding at the upper wall, and baseboard molding, is typical throughout. Much of the west side of this floor is taken up by the upper level of the lodge. The lodge balcony (13' x 43') is here as well, though it was only used to hold lockers for many years, and was finally closed-off in 1950. A large open air balcony (19' x 46'), which is not visible from the front exterior, is at the northwest corner of the building.

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boom. The new lodge was one of the first buildings constructed at this significant time, and it is still the largest building at the north edge of downtown Fullerton.

The temple building was designed by local builder and architect Frank Benchley, son of Edward Benchley. Construction began in November of 1919 and was completed the following fall. A long, relatively detailed article appeared in July, 1920, describing the building. Excerpts include:

Standing on the northwest corner of . . . one of the most sightly spots in Southern California, being on the main highway between Los Angeles and San Diego, the building can be seen and admired by the thousands of visitors who annually pass through the city and will prove one of the most important factors in the city in making those thousands remember Fullerton. . .

The local lodge has approximately 400 members and they have a right to feel proud of their beautiful new home.

All of Fullerton can also well feel proud of this structure which would be considered magnificent in a city ten times the size of Fullerton (*Fullerton Daily News Tribune* 1920a:1).

The final cost of the building totaled \$115,000 for the structure and its fixtures. One-thousand people attended the dedication held on December 8, 1920, which was officiated by the Master of the Grand Lodge of Los Angeles (now in San Francisco): "The new temple, one of the finest on the coast, was open for inspection to the public yesterday afternoon and . . . hundreds went through the building. They were impressed with the beauty of the new structure" (*Fullerton Daily News Tribune* 1920c:1).

To further demonstrate the status-level associated with Masonry, people instrumental in helping to get the 1919/1920 temple built were: Charles C. Chapman, who was Fullerton's first Mayor, a very important southern California investor, on a number of bank boards, a pastor of the Christian Church, and is known as the "father of the Valencia orange industry"; Willie Hale, prominent business man and City Mayor (1930-1936); Edward Benchley, one of the first City Councilmen, and a president of the Farmer's and Merchant's National Bank; and C. Stanley Chapman (son of Charles C. Chapman), a successful business man and a very high ranking Mason.

The number of Masonic organizations grew in the decade following the building's completion, so that for a time Fullerton had more lodges and chapters than any other community in Orange County. Besides the three existing lodges, ten more lodges or Mason-related groups were founded in the 1920s, all of which met at the Temple (most of these still meet today): Knights Templar Commandery No. 55; F&AM Lodge No. 533; White Shrine No. 6; Ancient Egyptian Order of Sciots; a DeMolay Chapter; OES Lodge No. 403; Amaranth Court No. 52; Job's Daughters; the Masonic Club; and the Temple Association. Masonry was growing rapidly in the City of Santa Ana (the County seat) as well, and the Santa Ana Masons took away Fullerton's glory of having the county's largest temple by building a larger one of their own in the 1930s.

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The temple was used by the Fullerton lodges until 1993, after which time they began meeting in Anaheim. Declining membership, which began in the 1940s but quickened in the last two decades, coupled with new earthquake safety codes, made maintenance of the large building by the Masons impractical.

The place of Freemasonry in Fullerton can only be understood within the historical context of the organization's national history. Fullerton's Masonic organizations are in fact primarily significant only in this wider context, since they were local groups that pursued the agenda of a national organization. Masonic activities allowed local members to maintain social contacts with like-minded people, while fulfilling a need to belong to something that reached beyond city boundaries. Freemasonry is one of the oldest, largest, and most prominent secret fraternal orders in the world, although orders vary from one country to the next. In the United States, Freemasonry began in 1733 and flourished for over two centuries, but membership has declined since its high mark in 1959. The order has had much influence in our nation's history. The Great Seal of the United States, for instance, contains many Masonic symbols, with the "All-Seeing Eye" being the most obvious. The Freemasons influenced the content of the American constitution as well. And it was Freemasonry that other fraternal organizations modeled themselves after.

As a social institution, Masonic membership was predominantly made up of high-status individuals and entrepreneurs (all male), until about the 1940s. So among the fraternal organizations, it is probably safe to say that Masonry was viewed as the most prestigious. There are a number of reasons why someone would have joined the Masons. The lodges were social groups that had ritualistic meetings, social events like dances and picnics, and game room activities. These social activities were much more popular in an era without television sets and automobiles. The Masons still attract members for social reasons, but urbanization and modernization, and (apparently) the organization's unwillingness to modernize their rituals and membership requirements, have caused a decline in membership during the second half of this century (other organizations that have modernized, such as the Elks and Loyal Order of Moose, have had increasing memberships). The Fullerton Masons fit this pattern; though the city's population increased, membership remained somewhat steady through to the 1960s, then declined. In 1920 there were about 400 members, in 1950, 392, in 1972, 417, and today, 190.

Other Masonic functions that attracted members included: quasi-religious, or moral, guidance and education; providing charitable care for orphaned and injured children; and providing housing for the elderly. Fullerton's Masonic organizations had all of these functions, including: a game room with pool tables; the city's largest banquet facility; and support for a house each for orphans and senior citizens, both established in the 1920s (if not earlier) by the Grand Lodge. Charitable funds are also collected that are channeled through the Shriners, with this fund being the largest of its kind in the world. The Masons as a local organization did not provide local charity, although many individual members did. Fullerton Masons feel that their local social functions, along with their charitable contributions that help people regionally and nationally, are the significant aspects of their

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organization.

So there were many reasons why people joined (and continue to join) the Masons and made it the most influential fraternal organization in the United States. As in other cities, Fullerton had other fraternal groups. Many of these were benefit societies, however, and not secret societies, which Freemasonry represents. Benefit societies provided "life insurance" and other aids to members, whereas secret societies were, and continue to be, primarily social and ritualistic organizations. Four benefit societies were established prior to Fullerton's Masonic Lodges: Fraternal Aid (1893); Ancient Order of United Workmen (1896); Independent Order of Foresters (1897), and the Fraternal Brotherhood (1899; the nature of this group is not known). Other prominent organizations that were established early in Orange County and which developed chapters in Fullerton after 1900 were the Independent Order of Odd Fellows ("the poor man's Masonry"; Schmidt 1980:244), Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Knights of Pythias, and Royal Neighbors of America. Until recent decades, however, Freemasonry always had the highest number of groups and members.

Operationally, the "basic" Masonic lodge containing all members up to the "third degree" is called the "Blue Lodge." If a member wishes to pursue more degrees, to become a Shriner, or to join the Commandery, he must go through the Scottish Rite or York Rite. Fullerton's largest group is a Blue Lodge, but historically the temple was also used by the Knights Templar Commandery and other Masonic groups that had women and children as members. While the Blue Lodge and Commandery are male-only, the Order of the Eastern Star and the White Shrine are primarily women's groups; DeMolay is a young man's organization, and Job's Daughter's is for young women. The Amaranth Court is a social group tied to the Masons, and the Sciots (which was founded in California) was a "booster" group of the Masons that arranged social gatherings and provided some monetary benefit to widows of members. While all of these groups used the Temple lodge for their ritualistic meetings, the building (particularly the banquet facilities) was also rented out for use by other organizations, though on a limited basis. The group members used other rooms, such as the front card room and the basement game (billiards) room, for entertainment. An apartment located at the third floor was always used by a caretaker, who often cooked meals for members.

While the Masonic Temple functioned as such until 1993, its primary period of significance is considered here to be the 25 year period prior to 50 years ago, 1919/1920 - 1945. Nothing of exceptional import occurred after the standard National Register cut-off of 50 years to justify a longer period of significance. However, this same period represents the height, and continued popularity, of Freemasonry in Fullerton. Once built, the large and eclectic Spanish Colonial Revival building allowed for the growth of new Masonic groups as well as overall membership. Freemasonry was the largest and most prestigious secret society in the United States, and Masonry in Fullerton was popular and important to local members for those reasons. Fullerton's Masonic organizations are significant for representing the nationally prominent organization, and having affected the lives of so many city and regional members.

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1919 Start Work on Temple. November 4:1. Fullerton Public Library.

1920a New Home of Masons. July 23:1. Fullerton Public Library.

1920b Masonic Temple To Be Dedicated. December 6:1. Fullerton Public Library.

1920c New Temple Is Dedicated. December 9:1. Fullerton Public Library.

1933 Death Takes W.T. Brown, Fullerton Pioneer. November 22:1. Fullerton Public Library.

1944 Charles C. Chapman, Noted Civic Leader, Passes at Age of 91. April 6:1, 6. Fullerton Public Library.

1948 Willie L. Hale, Former Trustee and Mayor, Dies. September 30:1. Fullerton Public Library.

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Maag, Jorice, and JoAnn Woodard. State of California Point of Historical Interest Application. On file, California State University Arboretum, Fullerton, 1976.

Mudrick, Sylvia Palmer. Fullerton, in *A Hundred Years of Yesterdays: A Centennial History of the People of Orange County and Their Communities* (108-111). The Orange County Centennial, Inc. (The Orange County Register), Santa Ana, 1988.

Schmidt, Alvin J. *Fraternal Organizations*. The Greenwood Encyclopedia of American Institutions. Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut, 1980.

Temple Association. Minute Book. On file, David Alexander, Secretary, Fullerton Lodge No. 339, La Mirada, 1919-1930.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**Section number NA Page 13

Photographs

- No. 1: Masonic Temple, 501 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, Orange County, California.
Jonathan Kim, September 1994. Negative on file at building address. View to west,
of front (east facade).
- No. 2: Masonic Temple, 501 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, Orange County, California.
Jonathan Kim, September 1994. Negative on file at building address. View to
northwest, of south side and front (east facade).
- No. 3: Masonic Temple, 501 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, Orange County, California.
Jonathan Kim, September 1994. Negative on file at building address. View to east,
of back (west facade). Buildings behind property precluded the taking of a more
inclusive view.
- No. 4: Masonic Temple, 501 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, Orange County, California.
Jonathan Kim, September 1994. Negative on file at building address. View to
southeast, of north facade and small building at property line.
- No. 5: Masonic Temple, 501 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, Orange County, California.
Jonathan Kim, September 1994. Negative on file at building address. View to east,
north end of back (west facade).

Historic photographs of the lodge and other interior spaces are not available.

Masonic Temple (Continued)

EXISTING BUILDING

Masonic Temple
EXISTING BUILDING
(FF = 16678)

EX. 20' WIDE ALLEY
NORTH 175.00'

BOULEVARD
HARBOR

CHAPMAN AVENUE

