

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**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 Masonic Temple

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 3650 Eleventh Street not for publication

city, town Riverside vicinity of congressional district 36

state California code 06 county Riverside code 065

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Riverside County, Clerk to the Board of Supervisors

street & number 3711 Orange Street

city, town Riverside vicinity of state California 92501

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Riverside County Assessor's Office

street & number 4080 Lemon Street

city, town Riverside state California

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title State Inventory of Historic Resources has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Office of Historic Preservation

city, town Sacramento state California 95811

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Masonic Temple is a three-story rectangular building in the Neo-classical Revival style. The facade is emphasized by the projecting portico, complete with pediment and pilasters. The building is of brick construction with concrete pilasters and decoration inspired by the Greek tradition.

The building was designed to be viewed from the southern steps of the County Courthouse, which it faces. When viewed from this position, the rusticated first floor of the temple forms the "podium" or base for the decorative upper levels. Ionic columns move the eye upward to the pediment. A plain parapet forms the actual roofline of the temple, following the stylistic characteristics of Neo-classical Revival.

On either side of the front entrance are short Doric columns. These are completely faithful to their Greek prototypes, even to such details as the rings on the echinus. Above the columns runs a proper Doric architrave with a triglyph-metope frieze, complete even to the guttae. The first floor is composed of a "rusticated" area at the window level composed of brick and mortar. A plain band of brickwork visually carries the idea of a frieze level from the doorway to the edge of the building. Paired windows, single-light sash, have geometrically patterned transoms which reflect the pattern in the courthouse across the street. The windows and doors have flat lintels.

The second floor of the building is divided into a series of five recessed panels with their own architrave. This portion of the building contained the Masonic hall; in order to maintain the secrecy of the meetings, windows were not allowed. The third floor contains rectangular windows above each of the recessed panels.

The detailing of the temple is of particular interest. Two tall Ionic columns rise from above the center doorway; these are flanked by pilasters at the edge of the projecting portico and at the edge of the building. The order is an orthodox representation of the Greek type. Above the columns runs a proper Ionic architrave (stepped), with a plain Ionic frieze. This is continued to the edge of the building on both sides. An egg-and-dart motif frames the frieze at the top and bottom. A floral ornament in plaster (or cast concrete) fills the angles of the pediment. In the center, a laurel wreath surrounds a bronze shield with the building's date, 1908, enscribed. Acroteria appear at the center and edges of the pediment roof.

The remaining sides of the building are broken by random windows, single-light sash with transoms, recessed into brick arches. The sides are plain. There is evidence that several of the side and rear windows have been filled in. Also a large area in the rear, possibly a back entrance, as also been filled. A fire escape and a modified front door have been installed to meet the city's fire code. Little alteration has taken place. However, the appearance of the facade is marred by the presence of window air conditioners.

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 type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1908 **Builder/Architect** Franklin P. Burnham

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Masonic Temple represents a period in Riverside's architectural history prior to the formulation of the Mission Revival vernacular. It is the finest example of the Neo-Classical style in Riverside.

Just as elsewhere in the United States, the Neo-Classical style was employed whenever there was a desire for a structure to reflect the importance of a particular organization, so in Riverside the Masons considered the Neo-Classical style could "appropriately exemplify (through the) chaste beauties of the classic orders of architecture especially esteemed by the Masons" (1) the greatness of Masonry. In 1908, as now, the Masons were one of the most prestigious and powerful civic organizations in Riverside. The architectural style they chose was meant to reflect their place in the community. This was a conscious choice determined by a committee formed in 1905. The committee recommended not only the style but also the architect, F. P. Burnham, the same architect hired by the County to build the County Courthouse directly across the street from the Masonic Temple. The Temple was meant to harmonize with the Beaux-Arts style of the Courthouse (1903-04), and with the Neo-Classical Women's Clubhouse which then adjoined it.

F. P. Burnham was a Los Angeles architect whose architecture was influential in Riverside, not only in the County Courthouse but also in the fine Riverside Public Library (1902: Mission Revival: now demolished).

The history of the Masons in Riverside dates to the beginnings of the city. It was founded in August of 1897 when a group of men met in the home of C. C. Miller (father of Frank Miller, founder of the Mission Inn). The group selected the name Evergreen Masonic Lodge. The Masonic Temple of 1908 was their first permanent home. The Evergreen Lodge sponsored the formation of the Riverside Lodge, with whom they shared the Temple. Many civic leaders were members of the Masons: S. C. Evans, Sr. and Jr. (founders of the Riverside Land and Irrigation Co., first mayor, president of Riverside Land and Irrigation, and donor to the city's famous Rairmount Park (designed by the firm of Frederick L. Olmsted, Brookline, MA)); K. D. Shugart, one of the earliest settlers; C. E. Waite, a prominent banker; John S. Castleman, horticulturist and director of the First National Bank; John Jarvis, leading horticulturist; Gaylor Rouse, organized a stock company and prominent in the dry-goods business; and S. A. White, a prominent horticulturist. (2)

The Evergreen Lodge moved to Palm Street in 1955 and to Chicago Avenue later. The Temple was purchased by Riverside County, its present owner.

The Masons built their Temple to last. It was dedicated Feb. 22, 1908—"Long after we (3) have been called to our Grand Master above, may this edifice rear its columns." The Temple is, then, not only a symbol of the important part the Masons have played in the civic development of Riverside, but also an important part of the architectural environment.

(1,3) Riverside Press, Feb. 22, 1908. (2) Horticulture was important to Riverside's growth and wealth.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Le Berthon, J.L., The Architecture of Franklin Pierre Burnham. Commercial Publishing House, Los Angeles, 1906.
Riverside Daily Press. 12/17/1909; 12/9/1908.

10. Geographical Data UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property .13 ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
 Quadrangle name Riverside West, CA Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A	<u>11</u>	<u>465360</u>	<u>3759660</u>	B	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	D	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
E	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	F	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
G	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	H	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Verbal boundary description and justification

Lot 2 of block 281 found in assessor's book 215 page 28 of the County of Riverside, CA. The property is 65' x 90' and the entire lot is nominated to the National Register.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

Staff revision: OHP.

name/title Dr. Judith S. Schaeffer, Director & Denise Hammonds, Researcher

organization Old Riverside Foundation date 11/26/79

street & number 4049 Almond Street telephone 714-683-2725

city or town Riverside state California 92501

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Knori M. Ellison

title _____ date 3/20/80

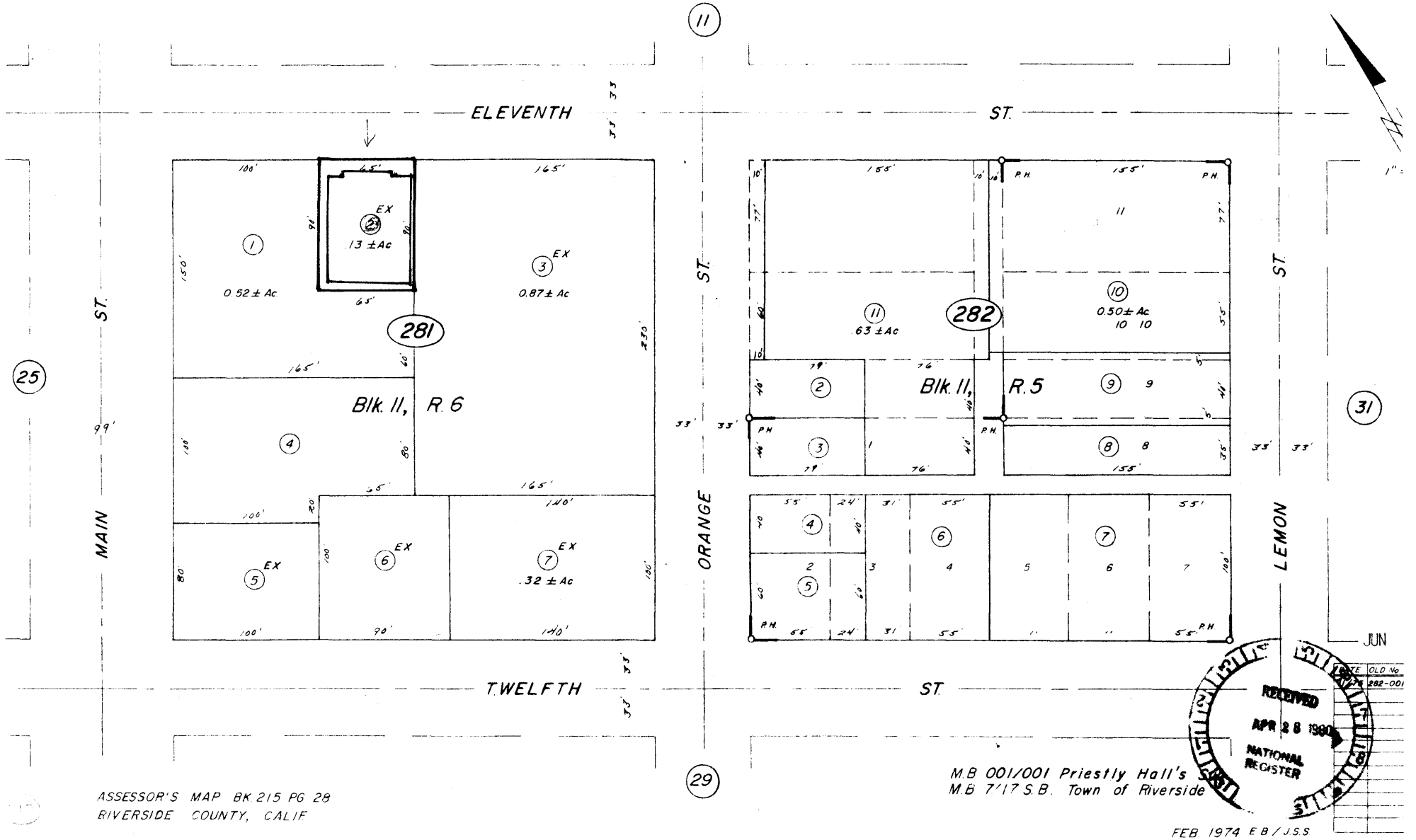
For HCERS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

[Signature] date 4/16/80
 Keeper of the National Register

Attest: [Signature] date 6-2-80
 Chief of Registration

POR. CITY of RIVERSIDE
 (BLK. II, R. 5 & 6)



ASSESSOR'S MAP BK 215 PG 28
 RIVERSIDE COUNTY, CALIF

M.B 001/001 Priestly Hall's
 M.B 7'17 S.B. Town of Riverside

FEB 1974 EB/J.S.S.