

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 *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Terre Haute Masonic Temple

other names/site number 167-628-21289

2. Location

street & number 224 North Eighth Street N/A not for publication

city or town Terre Haute N/A vicinity

state Indiana code IN county Vigo code 167 zip code 47807

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Paul R. Roberts 4-26-95
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the 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:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property (Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Table with 2 columns: Contributing, Noncontributing. Rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, Total.

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late 19th & 20th c. Revivals:

Neo-classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls BRICK

STONE: Limestone

roof ASPHALT

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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.)

- Criteria A, B, C, D with checkboxes and descriptions.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Criteria A, B, C, D, E, F, G with checkboxes and descriptions.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Architecture

Period of Significance

1916-1945

Significant Dates

1916

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Hubbard, Archie H.

Stoolman, A.W.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- Documentation checkboxes: preliminary determination, previously listed, designated landmark, recorded by survey, recorded by engineering.

Primary location of additional data:

- Location checkboxes: State Historic Preservation Office, Other State agency, Federal agency, Local government, University, Other.

Name of repository:

Terre Haute Masonic Temple Library

Terre Haute Masonic Temple
Name of Property

Vigo, Indiana
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 6	4 6 5 0 7 0	4 3 6 8 7 1 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Clarence H. Jones, Sr. -- Secretary / Suzanne Fischer, Intern (DHPA)
organization Terre Haute Masonic Temple Association date 6-28-94
street & number 224 North Eighth Street telephone 812/234-4039
city or town Terre Haute state IN zip code 47807

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Terre Haute Masonic Temple Association
street & number 224 North Eighth Street telephone 812/234-4039
city or town Terre Haute state IN zip code 47807

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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The Terre Haute Masonic Temple is a Neo-Classical, grey brick building built on a rectangular plan. It is three stories tall and rests on a raised basement. The raised basement and first floor are faced with Bedford limestone. These two levels are articulated by a watertable. The first and second floors are divided by a projecting cornice. The first floor level is divided vertically into three portions. The central portion has a one story Roman Doric portico. It has two pairs of smooth columns in the center. The corners of the portico are supported on square stone piers. The entablature has an architrave, guttae, metopes, triglyphs, modillions, and a projecting cornice. A tablet interrupts the frieze and has the inscription "MASONIC TEMPLE."

The main entrance is in the center of the first floor and consists of double wooden doors with glazing and a transom, all of which are covered with decorative metal grillwork. The entrance is framed by stone molding and an entablature with dentils and a cornice. There are three large and one small single-pane windows with transoms on each side of the main entrance.

Smooth stone pilasters vertically articulate the second and third story levels. The pilasters have Ionic capitals with the Masonic compass-and-square symbol. Between the pilasters on the second floor are round-arched openings with flat-head windows, now of glass block, and blind brick lunettes and keystones. Pilasters flanking the portico or central area are paired and enclose a narrow bay with tall rectangular opening with keystone. The third-floor level has no fenestration, but has brickwork panels between the pilasters. The narrow bays have stone festoon panels at this level. The central bay has a stone panel with the Masonic symbol surrounded by a wreath.

The pilasters support a stone entablature with an architrave, a frieze with the wreath motif over the paired pilasters flanking the portico, and a projecting cornice. The parapet above the cornice has two stone panels with festoons aligned over the paired pilasters.

The side elevations continue the first-floor stone facing and cornices. Both sides are similar except for minor differences in the fenestration. Windows are paired or triple one-over-one sash windows with transoms. The window at the right side of the south elevation has no transom. This elevation also has brickwork Doric

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Terre Haute Masonic Temple
Vigo County, Indiana

pilasters but fenestration only on the first floor. All of the basement windows have been bricked up for security reasons.

The rear (west) side of the temple has no adornment and is faced with common red brick. This elevation contains numerous windows of varying sizes and shapes. Except for the stained glass window at the stair landing, the windows are filled with glass block. A fire escape leads from second and third story doors to the ground. Two other entrances are located toward the center of the building at ground level.

The interior of the building has changed little since construction. The basement, which was originally unfinished except for the boiler room, now contains the kitchen and banquet hall. Two of the other rooms have different functions, but remain in the same general condition as when built. The first floor is reached by seven steps leading up from the portico through the vestibule to the main lobby. Opening off of this lobby are the men's lounging room, main parlor, card room, auditorium, and rest rooms. The lobby, rest rooms, and vestibule have tile floors and marble wainscoting. The main stair treads are of marble. The remaining trim is of clear red oak. At the back of the lobby is the grand staircase leading to the second floor. At the stair landing is a large stained glass window in Arts and Crafts style, with a compass-and-square symbol in the center.

The second floor contains three lodge rooms, two lounges, and the preparation rooms for each lodge room. The third floor has two large meeting rooms separated by a wide central passage. At the rear of this floor are several smaller preparation rooms and rest rooms. A balcony extends over the back of one of the rooms.

Many of the rooms are decorated with Masonic symbols and stenciled designs in the Arts and Crafts style. Some of the furnishings in the public rooms were donated at the time of construction by the women's auxiliaries, and include a grandfather clock, Craftsman-style lobby chairs and benches, a massive Renaissance Revival glass-front bookcase, and a large Victorian hall stand. Many of the furnishings in the lodge rooms appear to be original as well.

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**Terre Haute Masonic Temple
Vigo County, Indiana**

The Terre Haute Masonic Temple is significant under Criterion A as the home, from 1916 to the present, of an important Terre Haute social institution, and as one of the few remaining local buildings associated with 19th and early 20th century fraternal orders. The building is also significant under Criterion C as an important Neo-Classical building in Terre Haute. It was rated outstanding in the Vigo County Historic Sites and Structures Inventory.

Modern Masonry has its roots in the guilds of stonemasons in medieval England. These early masons were the builders of the great cathedrals. After the Protestant Reformation, a decrease in cathedral-building, and therefore, in guild membership, led to the admittance of honorary masons. By the early 18th century, when Masonry came to the United States, it was a purely social organization with no ties to the profession of stonemasonry. Today, Masonry is the oldest and largest of the fraternal orders in this country, and the one on which most other organizations of its type are modeled. Masonry can be classified as a men's club and as a benevolent society that provides assistance to members and their families. The fraternity and its ceremonies are characterized by ritual, secrecy, symbolism, and an interest in antiquity.

The first Masonic lodge in Indiana was organized in 1809 at Vincennes, and the first building constructed specifically for a lodge was in Madison in 1822. The fraternity spread quickly, and at the start of the Civil War, there were over 270 lodges in the state. The popularity of the fraternity can be explained by looking at the social needs of pioneers in the Indiana wilderness. Settlers were eager to recreate the social institutions they had left behind. Churches fulfilled their needs to some degree. For the men, Masonry was a brotherhood, strengthened by secrecy and ritual. It gave them an opportunity to form the kinds of alliances--in business, social life, and politics, for example--that help determine the course of a society. It was said of the Terre Haute lodge that its members comprised "every leading man in the county of the early settlers."

The first Masonic lodge in Terre Haute was chartered in 1821,

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**Terre Haute Masonic Temple
Vigo County, Indiana**

although members had been meeting for two years previous to the charter.

The Terre Haute area supported seven Masonic bodies at the turn of the century: the Terre Haute Lodge, Social Lodge, Humboldt Lodge, Euclid Lodge, Terre Haute Chapter, Terre Haute Council, and Terre Haute Commandery. These groups desired to build a permanent home for the fraternity, but no single plan had ever satisfied the requirements of all of the member organizations. The Masons owned a vacant lot, which they sold so that they could put the proceeds into a fund towards the building of a new Temple.

In 1910, a committee of Masons formulated a building plan that was acceptable to all of the groups. The plan called for the creation of a Masonic Temple Association for the purpose of erecting and maintaining the new building. Each group elected one member to the Association's Board of Directors. The Association was chartered on October 11, 1911. The following year, the Association purchased two lots on North Eighth Street for the Temple. Architects submitted plans for the building during 1913, and in January, 1914, the winning plans were announced. The successful architect was Archie H. Hubbard of Champaign, Illinois. In November, 1915, the Association awarded the construction contract to A.W. Stoolman, also of Champaign. Both the contractor and architect were Masons. No significant buildings in Illinois are mentioned as having been designed by Hubbard.

Construction began on 27 November 1915, and the cornerstone was laid on 25 May 1916. Total expenditure for the finished Temple was approximately \$138,000; \$20,000 for the building site, first year's taxes, and landscaping; \$100,000 for the complete building (including architect's fees); and \$18,000 for interior furnishings including light fixtures, carpeting, draperies, and furniture. The furnishings for the public rooms and all of the carpets and draperies were chosen by the Areme Club, composed of members of the Eastern Star (the women's auxiliary).

The Masonic Temple is still in use today by the same seven organizations that founded the Masonic Temple Association in 1911.

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**Terre Haute Masonic Temple
Vigo County, Indiana**

Section 9-Bibliography

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Masons: Seventy-Fifth Anniversary. Terre Haute, IN: no
date.

Goebes, Alan. Downtown Terre Haute Multiple Resource Area.
National Register nomination, 1983.

Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory. Vigo County
Interim Report. 1984.

Masonic Temple Association. Minutes of the Association meetings,
1915.

Thayer, Laura. Fort Wayne Masonic Temple. National Register
nomination, 1991.

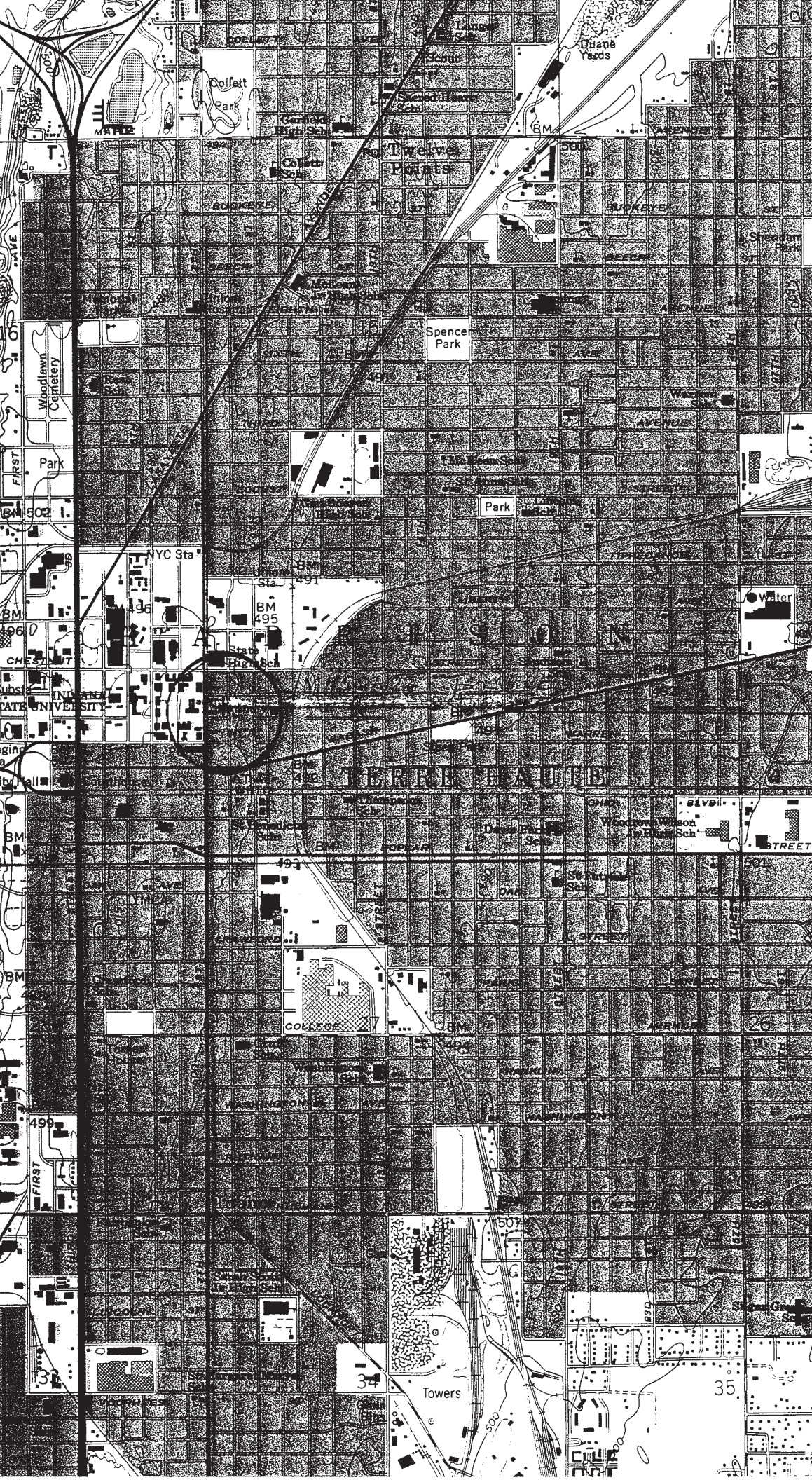
Whalen, William J. Handbook of Secret Organizations. Milwaukee:
Bruce Publishing Company, 1966.

Section 10-Geographical Data-Verbal Boundary Description

Property fronting on North Eighth Street between Eagle and
Mulberry Streets, consisting of Lots 115 and 116 of Chauncey
Rose's Addition to the City of Terre Haute; said property is 140'
deep by 150' frontage and being approximately one-half acre.

Boundary Justification

These two lots were purchased in 1912 by the Masonic Temple
Association as the building site, as per original deeds.



4371

4370

720 000
FEET

BRAZIL 1/4 MI.

TERRE HAUTE
MASONIC TEMPLE

ZONE 16
E 465070
N 4368710

4368

27'30"

4367

4366

(VILLE)
VINE