

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC **Masonic Temple**

AND/OR COMMON  
**Masonic Temple**

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER **74 South Second Street**

CITY, TOWN **Chambersburg**

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT **9**

STATE **Pennsylvania** VICINITY OF CODE **42**

COUNTY **Franklin** CODE **055**

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

**Masonic Organ.**

NAME **George Washington Lodge #143 F & AM**

STREET & NUMBER  
**74 South Second Street**

CITY, TOWN **Chambersburg**

VICINITY OF

STATE **Pa.**

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **Franklin County Courthouse**

STREET & NUMBER  
**1 North Main St.**

CITY, TOWN **Chambersburg**

STATE **Pa.**

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE **Pa. Inventory of Historic Places**

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS **Wm. Penn Museum, Box 1026**

CITY, TOWN **Harrisburg**

STATE **Pa.**

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built in 1823-24, the Masonic Temple is a brick, two-story structure with a stucco veneer which was applied in 1905. The front facade of the building has an arched moulding that reaches to the bottom of the frieze. A stairway leads to the porch; the porch includes a recessed door with a fan light transom panel and is supported by two columns. Directly above the columns is an entablature which divides the arched moulding roughly in half. Above the entablature is a large semicircular stained glass window, with a moulded surround. An inscription stone at the top of the arched moulding at the top of the front facade are a frieze and a cornice; the frieze is composed of a series of triglyphs and swagged metopes and the cornice is accented by dentils. The windows on the sides of the structure are rectangular with fanlights and labelled moulding or are rectangular with pediments; all the windows have moulded surrounds. Two rectangular windows on the right side of the second story are headed by a single fan-shaped stained glass window. All the windows are believed to be the originals, except for the two that have been replaced by memorial windows. There are moulded chimneys with bracket trim; however, there are no fireplaces. It is believed that the rooms were once heated by stoves. The exterior is basically the same as when built; the additions of stucco veneer and the near kitchen facilities in 1965 are the major structural changes. The interior has been refurbished periodically.

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MASONIC TEMPLE - Franklin County

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 1

**Description:**

The architect for the construction of the Masonic Temple was Brother Silas Harry, for which he was paid \$5.00. On May 15, 1823, Brother Silas Harry, also a contractor, offered to construct and finish the building for the sum of \$2,500. The building was to be 32' by 67'. The architect for the addition built in 1966 was the firm of Buchart and Harn Associates of York, Pennsylvania, and the contractor was Brother Carl R. Flohr, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The size of the two-story addition was 29½' by 21'.

The roof of the building is a standing seam roof of metal construction. It has four gables starting near the center of the building and extending north, south, east and west. The west gable extends west and joins the false front of the building approximately 54'. The east gable extends 27' to complete the original building to the rear. The north and south or side gables extend 15' each. All the measurements are taken from the cone section of each gable. The roof of the addition is a flat roof.

# 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 checked="" 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/HUMANITARIAN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                            | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                       | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS                 | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                                               |                                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |                                                 |                                              |

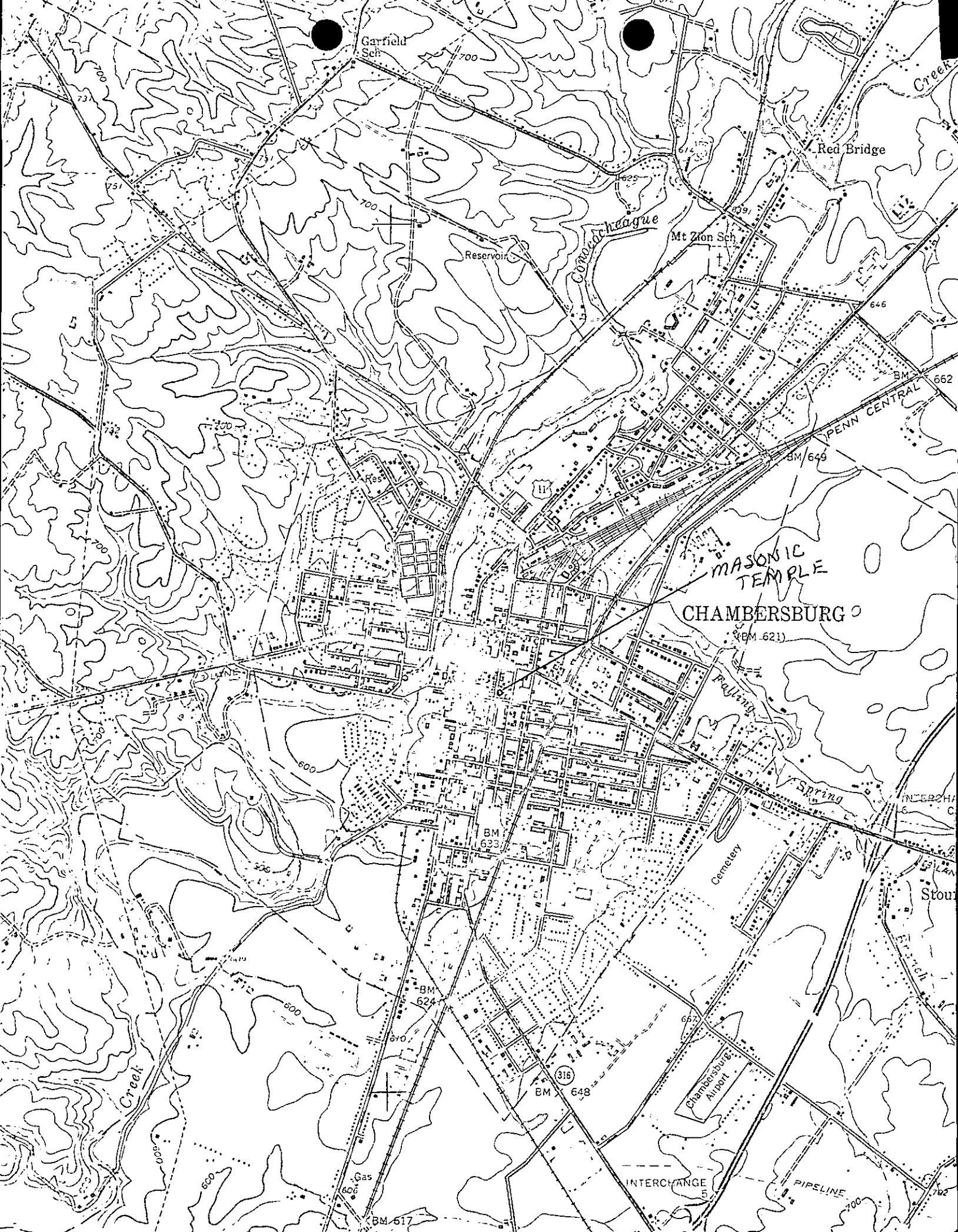
SPECIFIC DATES built in 1823-24

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The building was built in 1823-24 and is the oldest Masonic building west of the Susquehanna River, used exclusively for Masonic purposes. The Temple was spared when Confederates burned Chambersburg on July 30, 1864. Tradition relates that the Confederate commanding officer was a Mason and upon recognizing it, ordered it spared. The Masonic Temple is a fine example of early Classical architecture and was quite unusual for the area at the time.





Garfield Sch

700

Red Bridge

Reservoir

Mt Zion Sch

CHAMBERSBURG

(BM 621)

BM 624

BM 648

BM 617

Stou

Cemetery

Chambersburg Airport

INTERCHANGE

PIPELINE

Creek

Conowingo

Spring

73

751

732

700

700

600

600

600

700

700

646

662

BM 649

INTERCHA

LAN

762

700

Chambersburg, Pa.

NW/4 Chambersburg 15' Quadrangle

~~NW/4 Chambersburg 15'~~

N3952.5 - W7737.5/7.5

1944

Photo revised 1968

AMS 5463 I NW - Series V831