

**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

For HCRS use only

received JAN 29 1980

date entered MAR 26 1980

## 1. Name

historic Dallas Scottish Rite Temple

and/or common

## 2. Location

street & number Corner Harwood and Young Streets not for publication

city, town Dallas vicinity of congressional district 5

state Texas code 048 county Dallas code 113

## 3. Classification

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> no	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other philanthropic organization

## 4. Owner of Property

name Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies

street & number P. O. Box 1850

city, town Dallas vicinity of state Texas 75221

## 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Deed Records

street & number Dallas County Courthouse

city, town Dallas state Texas

## 6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Recorded Texas Historic Landmark  
title Historic Sites Inventory

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ no

date 1978, 1979 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Texas Historical Commission

city, town Austin state Texas



## 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

Since its construction in 1913, the Scottish Rite Temple has served as one of the most significant historical landmarks in downtown Dallas. A fine architectural example of Beaux Arts Classicism which prevailed nationwide at the turn of the 20th century, this building embodies all the structural elements of the Classical Corinthian order. Designed by H. M. Greene and B. H. Hubble, members of the Scottish Rite Bodies, the cathedral building is an impressive monumental center for this Masonic organization. Notable architectural features include the grandiose colonnaded two-story portico and the contrasting use of red brick and stone for the exterior walls. The broad steps and large columns of the facade both contribute to the heavy monumentality of the stone and brickwork.

The planning and massing, as well as the ornamentation of the slightly T-shaped building are strictly symmetrical throughout. Aligned with a N/W - S/E orientation, the central projecting facade faces Harwood Street on the southwest. The temple consists of three stories with a basement. The unadorned roof line above the cornices on both sides of the front wing forms a continuous line with the attic story, which was completed later than the main structure. Red brick and Bedford stone from Stanford, Texas were the materials employed for the exterior walls, which were ornamented with large stone quoins and trim. Alternating receding patterns of brickwork and stone dominate the areas between the windows on all sides of the building and sometimes from small ornamental brick squares in the stonework. The basement walls are constructed of brick with stone foundations, while the entire rear wall with its central chimney is stone faced.

The dominant feature of the structure is the monumental projecting portico on the southwest facade which contains six uniformly spaced columns in the Corinthian order. Their finely carved decorative capitals with acanthus leaves, and those of the monumental corner pilasters of the portico, were executed by Peter Facen of Dallas. The colossal columns, whose Attic-style bases rest on square plinths, support a Classical Greek entablature consisting of a triple fasciated architrave, a simple frieze with carved circular patterns, and a continuous projecting cornice with modillions. The roof of the portico is highlighted with a balustrade whose brick pilasters are symmetrically aligned with the columns below. Centrally located on the balustrade is a large gilded Scottish Rite double eagle emblem.

The numerous monumental doors and windows on both floors comprise another outstanding architectural feature of the building. The main entrance to the temple consists of three massive 8 ft. double oak doors with semicircular arched windows above. Two doors identical to the ones on the facade are located on each side of the building. Archivolt trim of cut stone with pronounced carved keystones and imposts span the central and first floor openings, while those on the second story display a less ornamental, squared architrave trim. On the upper level of the portico is a balcony with a window on each side. The type of stone tracery wall which encloses it also forms the balcony-like projections with paired brackets on all the second story windows.

The grandiose proportions and Classical Greek details of the interior display superior craftsmanship and a fine choice of materials. The many valuable art treasures housed within the building, together with the exquisitely carved plasterwork, oak paneled walls, and marble columns, all compliment the monumental and stately appearance



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

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RECEIVED JAN 29 1980

DATE ENTERED

MAR 26 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

of the exterior. The dominant room on the first floor, which originally consisted of thirteen rooms, is the huge banquet hall and ballroom with large sliding oak partitions. Two pedimented entrances with architrave trim open onto this room from the tiled lobby, whose walls are accentuated with marble pilasters and wainscoting, and elaborately carved details which include a frieze with triglyphs and metopes. Two-hundred and sixteen ornate original crystal light fixtures enhance the beauty of the stately banquet room. Both the library and the parlor room on the first floor contain intricately carved fireplaces with compound oak columns, rich oak paneling, and carved plaster ceilings. Other rooms on the first floor include two reception rooms, a serving room, social room, coat room, secretary's office, and statuary hall. The tile floor of the statuary hall is set with four colored mosaic emblems of the Scottish Rite Bodies.

Access to the second floor is gained through a double marble and cast iron stairway with two graceful marble columns located at either end. Marble wainscoting accentuates the stairwell. A monumental Egyptian Revival stage and auditorium dominates the second story interior. Additional rooms, such as the large candidate room and lodge room, contain beautiful carved plaster ceilings and oak paneled walls. Carved plaster ceilings, as well as the marble floors and marble wainscoting adorn the upstairs lobby. After the main structure was completed in 1913, a third story was designed to include a wardrobe room, make-up room, choir room, music room, and several storage rooms. The original basement, which consisted of fourteen rooms, housed a built-in vault, storage rooms, boiler room, bowling alley, and a small kitchen and dining room.

Alterations and additions to the structure over the years have been confined to the interior, and executed without changing the architectural integrity of the original structure. Except for some minor interior room rearrangements and the later completion of the attic story, the appearance of the building has remained unchanged since its construction in 1913. Alterations to the office and library were carried out in 1937, and twelve years later rooms on all the floors were renovated. Between 1937 and 1952 the George L. Dahl Company made alterations in the stage and auditorium, which included installation of a new stage electrical control center and a choir. In order to accommodate a larger seating capacity the same company also installed a balcony and additional seats in the auditorium in 1946.

Presently the building is in excellent condition. Since 1973 active restoration and refurbishing projects have progressed under the direction of Secretary Brother Robert W. Cooper, who has undertaken the responsibility of restoring the building back to its original beauty. Improvements in the mechanical equipment of the building and renovation of the library, ballroom, and parlor have recently been made. Further redecoration of the interior and exterior of the building are now in progress.



## 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 checked="" 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** 1909 - 1913

**Builder/Architect** H.M. Greene and B. Hubble

### Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Constructed as an official headquarters for use by the Scottish Rite Masons and other local Masonic lodges and affiliated organizations, the monumental Scottish Rite Temple in Dallas is a fine example of early 20th century Beaux Arts Classical architecture in Texas. With its architectural integrity virtually intact, the structure has continued, since its construction in 1913, to serve the purpose for which it was designed. Official meetings and conventions, as well as social events are held here throughout the year. The grandiose temple stands as a symbol of the Scottish Rite Bodies who continue to serve the Dallas community through their philanthropic endeavors which include active participation in, and contribution to various charitable organizations in Dallas. Other humanitarian causes sponsored by the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies include the Dallas Hospital for Crippled Children, the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Girls at the University of Texas at Austin, the Masonic Home for Aged Masons in Arlington, and the Masonic Orphan's Home in Fort Worth.

The history of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, which was established in Dallas when the permanent charter of the Dallas Lodge of Perfection was granted on October 20, 1897, is closely bound to the early history of the city of Dallas. A portion of the land now occupied by the Temple was originally granted to John Grigsby on January 28, 1842, by Sam Houston, President of the Republic of Texas. Prior to the establishment of a Scottish Cathedral, the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies had been meeting at the Stafford Building at 1704 Elm Street. The Bodies then moved their center to the Dan Sullivan Building at 219 Commerce Street until their new shrine could be completed.

On June 16, 1903, articles of incorporation were granted to "The Dallas Rite Cathedral Association," whose first head was Sam P. Cochran. Mr. Cochran, who headed one of the largest general insurance agencies in the Southwest, was perhaps the most instrumental figure in the planning and construction of the new building. One of the most prominent figures in Masonry in Texas, Cochran served as chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Shrine Crippled Children's Hospital from 1901–1934, and was responsible for the foundation of the Home for Aged Masons in Fort Worth. As a memorial to his early leadership and community services, a monument was erected on the west lawn of the Scottish Rite Temple in 1920.

Two years after the incorporation of the association, contracts were drawn up for the construction of the Scottish Rite Temple on its present site. In April, 1906, ground was broken for the new building and on March 7, 1907, the formal cornerstone ceremony was held. Although the structure was not completed until 1913, official functions were held inside the building as early as 1908. Besides the Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies, several other Masonic Bodies, such as the Order of DeMolay and the Order of Eastern Star, meet regularly in the building and sponsor events held in the auditorium and Crystal Ballroom. The structure is continually maintained and is presently being restored to its original beauty. Future plans for the Dallas Scottish Rite Temple include expansion of the museum of early Dallas Masonic memorabilia and sponsorship of periodic events to be opened to the public.



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Frank W. Johnson, A History of Texas and Texans, vol. 5, American Historical Society, 1914.  
Ledger of Dallas Scottish Rite Temple Association, 1905-1938.  
Record and files of the Dallas Scottish Rite, 1938-1977.

## 10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property 3.6 acres

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name Dallas

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UMT References

A 14 706807 3628725  
Zone Easting Northing

B                    
Zone Easting Northing

C                  

D                  

E                  

F                  

G                  

H                  

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is bound by Harwood, Pearl, Young, and Canton Streets, and is otherwise described as lots 1-23, City Block 29-129; tract 25 of Block 28-130.

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

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Barbara C. Nagel

organization Texas Historical Commission

date December 11, 1979

street & number P.O. Box 12276

telephone (512) 475-3094

city or town Dallas

state Texas 78711

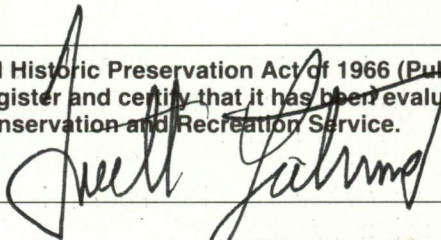
## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

   national    state X 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



title State Historic Preservation Officer

date January 25, 1980

For HCRS use only

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

for Barbara C. Nagel  
Keeper of the National Register

date 3/26/80

Attest: Beth Groves

date 3/26/80

Chief of Registration



Property

*Dallas Scottish Rite Temple*

80004088

State

*Tx - Dallas*

Working Number

*1-29-80 281*

**TECHNICAL**

**CONTROL**

Photos

*5*

Maps

*1*

**HISTORIAN**

*Fine ex of Beaux Arts Classicism. Headquarters for Dallas Masonic activities since early 30<sup>th</sup> c.*

*accept*

*B. Grover*

*3/26/80*

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

*accept*

*B. Grover*

*3/26/80*

**BRANCH CHIEF**

**KEEPER**

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered MAR 26 1980

Federal Register Entry

*2-3-81*

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_







Dallas Scottish Rite Temple  
Corner of Harwood and Young Streets  
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photo courtesy of Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies, provided  
1979. Negative on file at Dallas Scottish Rite Temple.

Date of photograph: 1911.  
Southwest elevation (main facade).

Photo #1 of 5.

JAN 29 1980

MAR 26 1980







Dallas Scottish Rite Temple  
Corner of Harwood and Young Streets  
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photo by Danny Hardy, Texas Historical Commission, 1979.  
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Southwest elevation (main facade).

Photo #2 of 5.

JAN 29 1980

MAR 26 1980







Dallas Scottish Rite Temple  
Corner of Harwood and Young Streets  
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photo by Danny Hardy, Texas Historical Commission, 1979.  
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

West oblique

Photo #3 of 5.

JAN 29 1980

MAR 26 1980







Dallas Scottish Rite Temple  
Corner of Harwood and Young Streets  
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photo by Danny Hardy, Texas Historical Commission, 1979.  
Negative on file at Texas Historical Commission, Austin.

Southeast oblique.

Photo #4 of 5.

JAN 29 1980

MAR 26 1980







Dallas Scottish Rite Temple  
Corner of Harwood and Young Streets  
Dallas, Dallas County, Texas

Photo courtesy of Dallas Scottish Rite Bodies, provided  
1979. Date of photo 1979.  
Negative on file at Dallas Scottish Rite Temple.

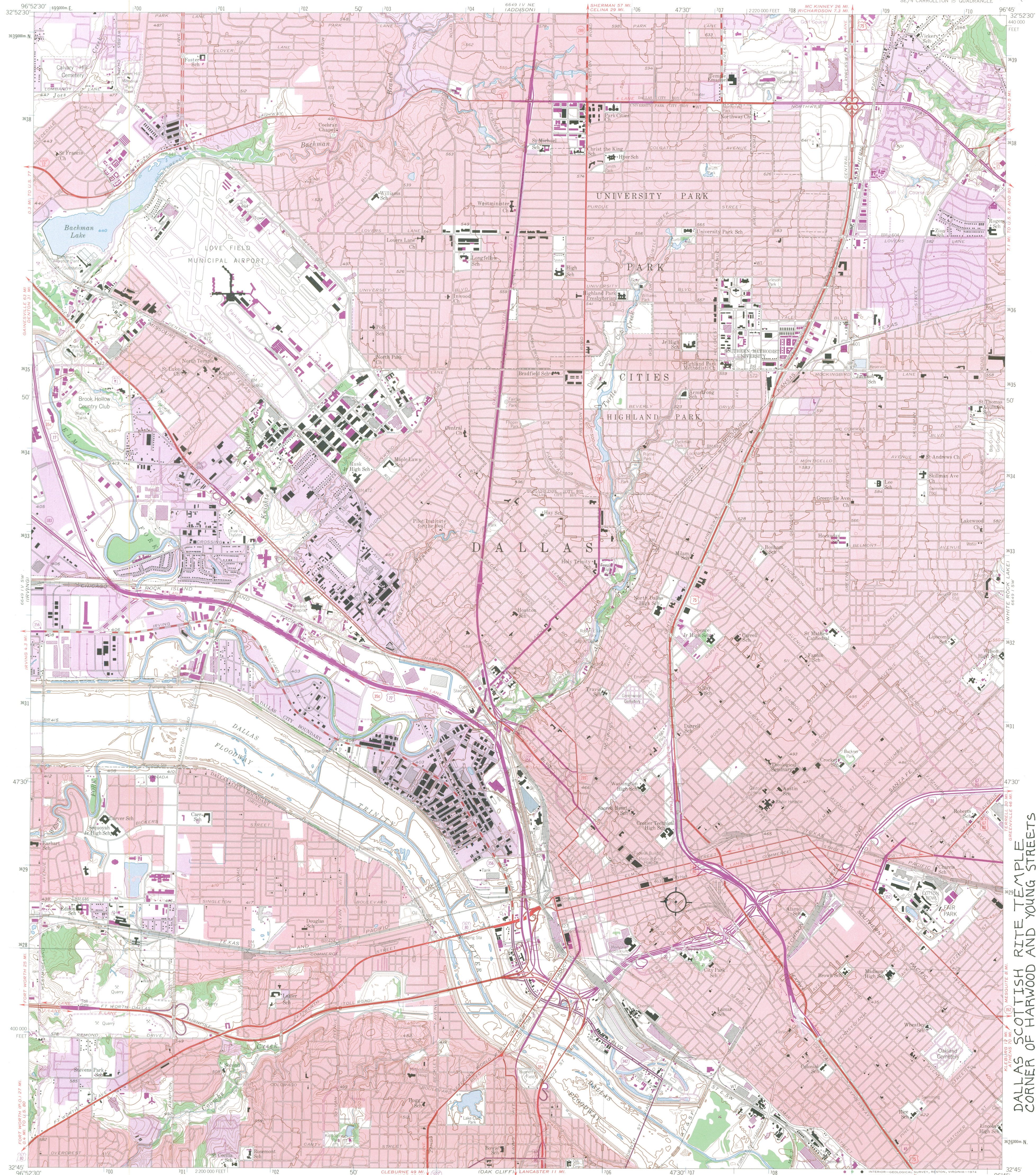
Detail in library.

Photo #5 of 5.

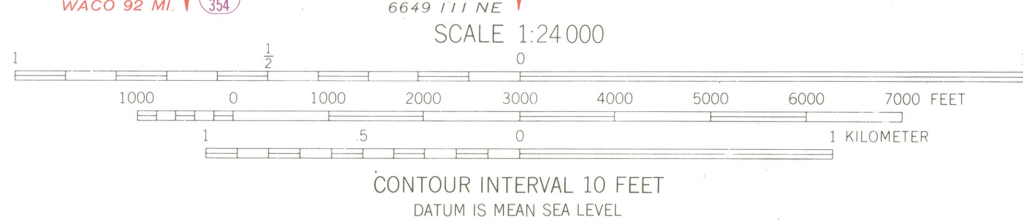
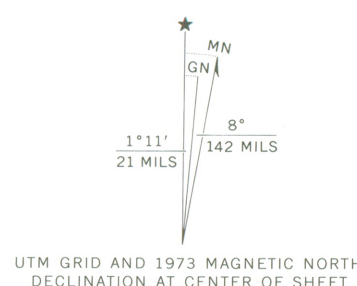
JAN 29 1980

MAR 26 1980

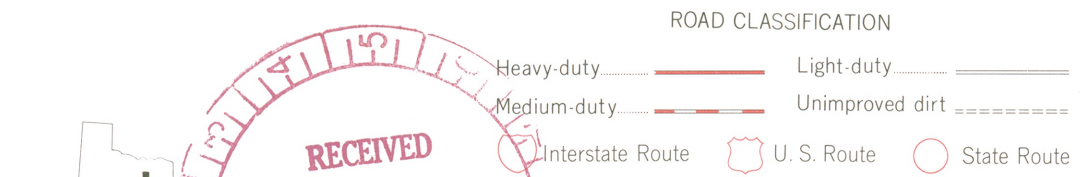




Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS and USC&GS  
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1952 and 1956. Topography from city of Dallas surveys  
1954 and by planetable surveys 1958  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Texas coordinate system,  
north central zone.  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 14, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only  
landmark buildings are shown  
Revisions shown in purple compiled from aerial photographs  
taken 1968 and 1973. This information not field checked  
Purple tint indicates extension of urban areas



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



DALLAS, TEX.  
SE/4 CARROLLTON 15 QUADRANGLE  
N3245-W9645/7.5  
1958  
PHOTOREVISED 1968 AND 1973  
AMS 6649 IV SE-SERIES V882

3296-331  
MAR 26 1980

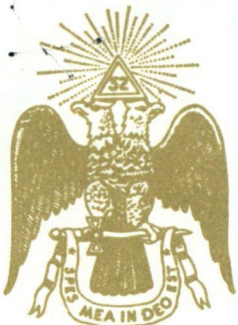
DALLAS SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE  
CORNER OF HARWOOD AND YOUNG STREETS  
DALLAS, DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS  
UTM REF: 4706807/3628725



mar 26, 1980

Dallas Scottish Rite Temple

2-12 80



# Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry

Dallas Co

TX

VALLEY OF DALLAS

ORIENT OF TEXAS

P. O. Box 1850 • DALLAS, TEXAS 75221 • PHONE 214-748-9196

February 26, 1980

Carol D. Shull  
Acting Keeper of the National Register  
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service  
Dept. of the Interior  
Pension Bldg.  
440 G. St. N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20243

Attention: NOM

Dear Ms. Shull:

Please refer to your letter Ref. #661, dated February 6, 1980,  
re: Dallas Scottish Rite Temple, P. O. Box 1850, Dallas, Texas,  
75221.

We are happy to hear that our building will soon be considered  
for listing in the National Register.

As you know, our building was designated as a Recorded Texas  
Landmark, and a Texas Historical Building Marker was placed on  
the building in 1978.

Because our building has been a landmark in Dallas since the  
cornerstone was laid in 1907, we believe it meets the criteria  
set up for listing in the National Register. It is an outstanding  
example of an early 20th-Century Neo-classical structure and in-  
cludes many examples of fine stonework, marble paneling, woodwork  
and carving, molded plaster ceilings and cast and wrought ironwork.

Since its completion in 1913 and to the present day, many social  
events have been held in the Auditorium and the Crystal Ballroom,  
and many of the important and well-known families in Dallas and  
North Central Texas have been associated with the building. It  
has played a significant part in the history and growth of Dallas  
and North Texas for the past 70 years. The building maintains a  
fine, growing Masonic Reference Library and an expanding museum of  
early Dallas Masonic memorabilia associated with the history and  
growth of Dallas and North Central Texas.



THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	
DATE REC'D	MAR 3 1980
INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)	
INFORMATIVE MATERIAL SENT	
TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)	
DATE TO BE RE-EXAMINED	
INITIALS	08/11/80 er

Carol D. Shull  
Page 2  
February 26, 1980

We hope that your consideration will be favorable for the listing  
of our building in your Register.

Sincerely yours,

 *Donald A. Will*   
Insp. Genl. Hon.

DHW/wi



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE      TEXAS

Date Entered      MAR 26 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Immaculate Conception Church	Brownsville Cameron County
Dallas Scottish Rite Temple	Dallas Dallas County
Sims House	Orange Orange County

Also Notified

Honorable Lloyd Bentsen

Honorable John G. Tower  
Honorable E. (Kika) de la Garza  
Honorable Jim Mattox  
Honorable Charles Wilson

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mr. Truett Latimer  
Executive Director  
Texas State Historical Commission  
P.O. Box 12276, Capitol Station  
Austin, Texas 78711

NR      Byers/bjr      3/31/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.