

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service****National Register of Historic Places Registration Form****1. Name of Property**

Historic Name: Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M.

Other name/site number: NA

Name of related multiple property listing: NA

2. Location

Street & number: 2615 Stonewall Street

City or town: Greenville

State: Texas

County: Hunt

Not for publication: ☐Vicinity: ☐**3.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 at the following levels of significance:

☐ national ☐ statewide ☒ localApplicable National Register Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
Signature of certifying official / Title

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

9/11/23

Texas Historical Commission

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency / bureau or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register☐ determined eligible for the National Register☐ determined not eligible for the National Register.☐ removed from the National Register☐ other, explain: _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M.

5. Classification

Ownership of Property: Private

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property

| Contributing | Noncontributing | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 1 | 0 | buildings |
| 0 | 0 | sites |
| 0 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 1 | 0 | total |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions: SOCIAL: Meeting Hall

Current Functions: VACANT

7. Description

Architectural Classification: LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Commercial Style; LATE VICTORIAN: Renaissance Revival; LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

Principal Exterior Materials: BRICK, METAL

Narrative Description (see continuation sheets 7-12)

Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations: NA

Areas of Significance: Social History (*local*)

Period of Significance: 1910-1973

Significant Dates: 1910, 1942

Significant Person (only if criterion b is marked): NA

Cultural Affiliation (only if criterion d is marked): NA

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Narrative Statement of Significance (see continuation sheets 13-19)

9. Major Bibliographic References

Bibliography (see continuation sheets 20-21)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☒ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested. Part 1 approved August 1, 2022.
- ☐ 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 #

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office (*Texas Historical Commission, Austin*)
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): NA

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10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property: Less than one acre (approximately 0.13 acres)

Coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: N/A

1. Latitude: 33.138442°N Longitude: -96.106966°W

Verbal Boundary Description: S4385 Original Town of Greenville, Block 18, Lot 6, Greenville, Hunt County, Texas (Property ID 70644). Hunt Appraisal District data accessed August 16, 2022 (Map 4).

Boundary Justification: The boundary includes the legal parcel currently associated with the property.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title: Amanda Barry (Manager) with assistance from Britain Venner (Consultant) and Marie Martinsen (Intern)

Organization: MacRostie Historic Advisors, a Ryan Company

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Date: September 2022

Additional Documentation

Maps (see continuation sheets 22-27)

Additional items (see continuation sheets 28-34)

Photographs (see continuation sheets 5-6, 35-45)

Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photograph Log

Name of Property: Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M.

City or Vicinity: Greenville,

County: Hunt

State: Texas

Photographer: Amanda Barry, October 2021

All photographs accurately depict property conditions. No changes nor significant deterioration has occurred since the photos were taken in October 2021.

Photo 1

West façade, view southeast

Photo 2

West façade at left, south (side) elevation at right, view northeast

Photo 3

South (side) elevation at left, east (rear) elevation at right, view northwest

Photo 4

North (side) elevation, cornerstone in foreground at bottom left, view west

Photo 5

South façade, detail of original entry tile

Photo 6

First floor, original pressed tin ceiling, view northeast

Photo 7

First floor, original pressed tin ceiling, view southwest

Photo 8

First floor, 1942 storage vault, view east

Photo 9

Second floor, central hall, original stair at left with 1942 elevator adjacent, original pressed tin ceiling, view northeast

Photo 10

Second floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view east

Photo 11

Second floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view west

Photo 12

Third floor, central hall, original pressed tin ceiling, paneled doors/transoms, and wood floor, view southwest

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Photo 13

Third floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view east

Photo 14

Third floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view west

Photo 15

Third floor, secondary meeting room for Rainbow Girls meetings/storage, view south

Photo 16

Third floor, lodge room, detail of original pilaster capital

Photo 17

Second floor, lodge room, detail of original Square and Compasses door knocker

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.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 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 Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Narrative Description

The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. (Ancient, Free, & Accepted Masons) is a 16,200 square foot, three-story commercial style building located at 2615 Stonewall Street in Greenville, Hunt County, Texas. The building was constructed in 1910 and is a two-part commercial block with classical and Renaissance Revival detailing. It is rectangular in plan and corner sited, with the shorter span/façade facing west onto Stonewall Street and the longer span facing south onto Pickett Street. The building is located at the southern edge of Greenville's commercial downtown among low-scale one and two-story buildings. The principal exterior material is tan brick and it features a metal cornice with brackets and dentils, pilasters with dentiled capitals, a rounded pediment, brick string course, cast iron Tuscan columns, and third floor arched windows with keystones. Non-original stucco panels are present at the infilled storefront. Original windows on the two upper floors have been encapsulated with stucco panels. The interior of the building is divided into two functions: leasable tenant space and the lodge. The open-volume area on the first floor was historically and is currently a tenant space. The upper two floors support lodge functions and include large meeting spaces, offices, and dressing rooms. All three floors retain their original decorative pressed tin ceilings, and painted wood floors, though some of the wood has been covered with carpet or vinyl tile. Original walls are painted plaster. Original window trim, stools, and aprons remain throughout, as does the wood trim at cased openings and picture rails. The interior configuration is mostly original, with some minor subdivision of space for storage rooms and restrooms. The architect is unknown. Despite changes over the years, the Greenville Masonic Lodge retains historic integrity. The planned rehabilitation utilizing state and federal historic tax credits will provide space for community gatherings and loft apartments.

Site

The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. is located at 2615 Stonewall Street in downtown Greenville. The setting is urban with paved pedestrian sidewalks at the building's south (side) and west (front) elevations (Maps 2-4). The building is sited at Lot 6, Block 18 in the Original Town of Greenville Subdivision. Block 18 is bounded by Washington Street to the north, Johnson Street/north-bound Business 69 to the east, Pickett Street to the south, and south-bound Business 69/Highway 34/Stonewall Street to the west. The property is located at the southwest corner of Block 18 at the northeast corner of the intersection of Stonewall and Pickett Streets. The building is adjacent to and physically connected (though not internally) to 2611 Stonewall Street, a two-story commercial block building to the north. A shared alley is located to the east/rear of the property.

The building is sited at the southern edge of Greenville's downtown and surrounded by low-scale one- and two-story buildings. Because of the building's high ceilings, it is taller than its commercial counterparts. Sanborn maps indicate that historically blocks to the south of the lodge were primarily residential, but by the mid-twentieth century, commercial development began to overtake the residential blocks.

The building is two blocks east of Central Christian Church (NRHP 2004), one block south of the Hunt County Courthouse (NRHP 1996), five blocks east of Katy Depot (NRHP 1997), four blocks southeast of the Post Office Building (NRHP 1974), and one block southeast of the Washington Hotel/Cadillac Hotel (NRHP 2010).

Exterior

Despite exterior modifications, particularly visible on the west and south elevations, the building serves as a good example of early twentieth century commercial style architecture with classical details. The tan brick building is a two-part commercial block with distinct separation between the ground floor and upper floors, particularly evident at the west façade. The building has a classical sense of order and balance with Renaissance Revival influences. These

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influences are seen in the building's symmetry and projecting, bracketed cornice concealing a moderately pitched roof. Each level of the building has a different window type than the level below, with the third level featuring arched windows with keystones. These differing windows are enframed by pilasters at the west façade and south (side) elevation. The pilasters have dentiled capitals that match the dentil detail at the cornice.

The three-bay façade faces west onto Stonewall Street and a six-bay side elevation faces south onto Pickett Street. The westernmost third of the north (side) elevation is obscured by and physically attached to the adjacent building. The wall then jogs to the south, revealing a portion of this elevation and creating a narrow alley between the lodge and the adjacent building. The rear elevation faces east onto a shared alley. Non-original stucco panels are present at the infilled ground-floor storefront.

Historically, there were two predominant window types. One-over-one wood sash windows with single lite transoms were implemented on the façade and south (side) elevation. Some of these windows have been encapsulated with stucco panels (presumed 1960s alteration), which will be removed during the rehabilitation slated to begin in late 2023. The original three-over-three wood sash windows with three-lite transoms are extant on the upper floors of the north (side) and east (rear) elevations.¹ The building has a gable roof with a rear hip that is concealed by the parapet. The parapet has ribbed metal coping. The roof slope flattens as it reaches the parapet, creating a walkable surface at the roof perimeter.

West (Stonewall Street) Façade

The lodge's primary façade faces west onto Stonewall Street.² The façade has a two-part composition with a ground-floor storefront and two floors above divided into three bays with an A-B-A pattern (Photos 1 & 2). The storefront windows have been removed and replaced with full-height stucco panels (Figure 1). The original framing members remain behind the panels and are visible from the interior. Lodge signage is centered on the stucco panels. The arched words "Masonic Temple" are centered above the Square and Compasses with A.F. & A.M. below. The storefront's two original cast iron Tuscan columns remain, as do the flanking brick corner pilaster and square column. The original canopy was removed at an unknown date, but the original tieback escutcheon plates remain. Other remaining historic storefront features include the decorative hexagon tile at the storefront/lodge entry threshold. "Greenville Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M." is spelled out in hexagon tile at the entry to the lodge (Photo 5).

The ground floor has three entries along the west façade. The entry to the lodge's second and third floors is in the northernmost portion of the first bay tucked behind the brick pilaster; the painted hollow metal door corresponds to the location of an interior circulation stair. The second entry is in the southernmost portion of the first bay and is an aluminum-framed full-lite door with a full-lite flanking sidelite corresponding to the location of an interior office/elevator lobby. The third entry door is a single painted hollow metal door located in the southwest corner tucked behind the square column in the third bay and is a recessed entry to the main tenant space.

A continuous brick string course visually separates the lower storefront level from the upper two levels. The upper levels are divided into three bays in an A-B-A pattern. The bays are defined by brick pilasters with cast stone bases and capitals, as well as recessed monumental semicircular arches that enframe the windows. The outer "A" bays have paired windows at the second and third levels; the central "B" bay has triple-grouped windows. Recessed brick spandrel panels are located above the second level windows and below the third level windows. The windows at the second and third level in the second and third bay are non-original one-over-one wood sash windows with a one-lite

¹ Selective demolition of the stucco in early 2023 confirmed the original windows are intact beneath the panels.

² In Masonic tradition, the meaning of the word "lodge" is two-fold; it means both Masons meeting together and the room or building in which they meet.

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transom above. The windows in the first bay have been encapsulated with stucco panels. The windows at the third level are arched, one-over-one wood sash windows with a single-lite arched transom above with a cast stone keystone. These windows have also been encapsulated. The central "B" bay is executed in the same manner as the outer "A" bays. The third level is topped by a projecting metal cornice with a dentil band and paired brackets that correspond to the location of the pilasters below. The parapet extends above the cornice with a taller, rounded pediment above the central "B" bay.

North (Side) Elevation

The north (side) elevation is a tertiary elevation only visible from the shared alley (Photo 4). The westernmost third of the elevation is obscured by and physically attached to the adjacent building. The wall then jogs to the south, creating a narrow alley between the lodge and the adjacent building. There are no windows at the first level; there is a single pedestrian door. It is a wood and glass door with two panels in the lower half and one lite in the upper half protected by a plywood panel. The second and third levels each retain three original windows. The windows are three-over-three wood sash windows with three-lite transoms above and chicken wire glass. The narrow, east-facing section of the elevation has one original two-over-two wood sash window with chicken wire glass at the second and third level.

South (Pickett Street/side) Elevation

The south (side) elevation faces south onto Pickett Street (Photos 2-3). The first level has no formal division of bays; the upper two floors are regularly divided into six bays and repeat the same monumental arch with recessed window bays as the facade. On the ground floor, there are four original square single-lite wood windows with cast stone sills and headers tucked behind an exterior metal fire escape. A paired wood door with a five-lite transom is located at the southeast corner. The horizontal brick string course continues from the west façade separating the lower level from the upper two levels. The second and third floors are divided into six identical bays defined by a repeat of the monumental arches and pilasters with cast stone bases and capitals, and the recessed enframed windows. Each bay contains paired windows at each level that have been encapsulated by stucco panels. The lite patterns, transom shapes, and brick spandrel panels on the second and third level are the same as those on the west façade. Within each bay, there is a recessed vertical brick panel between the windows. The arched windows at the third level also have a cast stone keystone. The cornice is also a continuation from the west façade. The parapet above maintains a consistent height across the elevation. Air conditioning units have been intermittently introduced into various window openings. Doors are present in the second window openings at the second and third level of the fourth bay for access to the attached, exterior metal fire escape.

East (Rear) Elevation

The east (rear) elevation is a tertiary elevation that faces the shared alley (Photos 3-4). This elevation is clad in red brick and there are no windows at the first level. There are two three-over-three wood sash windows with three-lite transoms above at the second level. There are two three-over-three wood sash windows at the third level. The windows are original and have cast stone sills. The windows at the third level flank a central painted mural. The mural features the words "Greenville Masonic" arched above the Square and Compasses with the words "Lodge No. 335" below. The mural was painted in 2005 by lodge member Bill Sprouse.³ In accordance with Masonic tradition, the building's cornerstone is located at the northeast corner. "A.F. & A.M." is arched above the Square and Compasses flanked by "19" and "10."

³ Duane Gaulden, interview by Anna Mod and Britain Venner, Greenville, TX, September 9, 2022. Mr. Gaulden has been a member of the Greenville Masonic Lodge since 2007; he is the current Lodge Secretary, a position he has held for four years.

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Interior

The interior of the building is divided into two functions: ground floor leasable tenant space and the lodge on the upper floors. The tenant space is an open-volume area that was historically a leasable tenant space. The upper two floors support lodge functions and include large meeting spaces, offices, and dressing rooms. These floors have an east/west orientation, consistent with a traditional Masonic layout. An original, straight-run wood stair along the north wall of the building leads from the first floor to the second floor landing/central hall. An "L" shaped stair leads from the second floor to the third. The stairs are wood with wood balustrades and newel posts. The elevator located to the south of the stairs serves all three floors.

All three floors retain their original decorative pressed tin ceilings, which are among the most stylized elements of the interior design, save for the decorative plasterwork in the second and third floor lodge rooms. Floors are painted wood, though some have been covered with carpet or vinyl tile. Original walls are painted plaster. Original window trim, stools, and aprons remain throughout, as does the wood trim at cased openings and picture rails. The typical door type is a six-panel wood door with a single-lite transom above. The interior configuration is mostly original, with some minor subdivision of space for storage rooms and restrooms.

First floor (Figure 7)

The first floor is primarily an open-volume leasable tenant space with iron support posts (Photos 6-7). The floor is concrete and the ceiling is the original pressed tin. Perimeter walls are painted plaster. Remnants of the original storefront system are exposed at the west façade. Original wood window trim, stools, and aprons are present at the fixed windows on the south (side) elevation.

In the northwest corner is a small office/elevator lobby. The office has non-original carpet, wood paneling, and an acoustical tile ceiling. To the east/rear of the office is a large, walk-in vault with terrazzo flooring and CMU walls and ceiling (Photo 8). The vault stored sensitive lodge documents, including nineteenth century meeting minutes, which were removed and placed in storage when the Masons vacated the building.

Second floor (Figure 8)

The second floor has a central hall/circulation area that provides access to the perimeter spaces throughout, where much of the chapter's memorabilia is displayed (Photo 9). A large meeting room, or "lodge room," occupies the east half of the floor (Photos 10-11). The lodge room was specifically designed for initiation rituals, large enough to accommodate both the ceremonial furnishings and the participants themselves and considered by the members to be a spiritual space. The lodge room has a dais, or raised platform, at the east and west end of the room creating an axis for the space. The symbolism of the eastern orientation was one based on association with the sun, light, and life. The heights of the daises correspond to Masonic traditions/rituals. The Worshipful Master, the most senior member of the lodge, presides on the dais at the east end of the room, which is three steps higher than the surrounding floor. The siting of the Greenville Lodge meant the Worshipful Master could preside in the east both cardinally and symbolically, which is not always possible for all lodges. An illuminated letter "G" is suspended above the Worshipful Master's chair, representing both God and the science of geometry. The dais for the Senior Warden, second in charge of the lodge, at the west end of the room is two steps above the floor. The Junior warden sits along the south of the room one step above the floor. The steps symbolize the progression of life: youth, manhood, and age. Members were seated along the sides of the hall on raised seating areas at the north and south sides.⁴ The rectangular orientation with

⁴ The auditorium-style seats at these areas are not original; they were salvaged from a local movie theater that went out of business in the 1970s and reupholstered in the mid-2000s.

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perimeter seating allows for all to view the ceremonies, which take place in the center of the room where the altar is located. Upon the altar, a Bible is opened, referred to as the Volume of Sacred Law. Three candles adjacent to the altar illuminate the Volume of Sacred Law. The Terrestrial and Celestial lamps are located in the northwest corner of the room flanking the doorway from the anteroom. These two pillars topped with globes are patterned after two bronze columns that were prominent features of Solomon's Temple.⁵

The walls feature original plaster Doric pilasters with decorative egg and dart capitals and fleur de lis medallions below (Photo 16). These classical motifs allowed membership to leave the present and enter a romanticized version of the past, further contributing to their separation from the "profane" world while within the lodge. An original transom window is present in the west wall of the meeting room, which has been modified by a mechanical duct. The lodge room is accessed via two anterooms just outside the northwest and southwest corners of the room, where members would change into their ceremonial dress.

The west half of the floor is associated with the lodge's recreational activities and routine operations. A meal is served before or after every meeting. There is a kitchen in the northwest corner and a dining hall to the south of that. The lodge secretary's office is along the south (side) elevation to the south of the central hall. The file room to the west of the secretary's office is a ca. 1980s buildout. A candidate initiation dressing area/storage room is located to the east of the central hall accessed via the lodge room anterooms. The floor has two restrooms – one to the north of the dressing area and one east of/adjacent to the elevator chase (this restroom was added in 2020).

The original wood floor is covered throughout with either carpet or vinyl tile (only the restrooms and the kitchen have vinyl tile). Walls are painted plaster, except in the restrooms which have non-original wood paneling. The secretary's office has an atypical, paired door and transom; one door is the typical six-panel wood door, the other is a fifteen-lite wood door. Each door has an eight-lite transom above. Ceilings are original pressed tin.

Third floor (Figure 9)

The third floor configuration is almost identical to the floor below. A central hall/circulation area provides access to the perimeter spaces throughout the floor (Photo 12). The lodge room occupies the east half of the floor and support spaces occupy the west half of the floor. The lodge room is detailed in the same manner as second floor lodge room below and similarly accessed by anterooms outside the northwest and southwest corners of the room (Photos 13-14). The floor also has a secretary's office along the south elevation and a restroom to the north of the candidate initiation dressing room/storage area. There is another large club room along the west façade, which was also used for Rainbow Girls meetings. The meeting room has two substantial cased openings that divide the room into three semi-distinct areas. The southern cased opening has wood pony walls with tapered box supports above (Photo 15).

The original wood floor is painted in most areas. Carpet covers the original wood in the large meeting room (east half of floor). The restroom and the candidate initiation dressing area have vinyl tile flooring. Walls are painted plaster, except in the restroom which has non-original wood paneling. Ceilings are original pressed tin. Arched windows at this level feature the same keystone detail at the crown as the exterior windows, but executed in wood.

⁵ The original ceremonial furniture, including chairs for the Worshipful Master, Chaplain, Senior Warden, altar, and the Terrestrial and Celestial lamps, were removed when the Masons vacated the building.

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Alterations

Exterior alterations of note include:

- Removal of the original storefront windows and replacement with stucco panels in the 1960s following a vandalism incident;
- Painting of the mural at the east (rear) elevation in 2005;
- Partial replacement of the rounded pediment at the west façade after the building was struck by lightning in 2013; and
- Encapsulation of the original upper floor windows at an unknown date prior to 1980 (it's possible this work happened concurrently with the replacement of the storefront windows).

Interior alterations of note include:

- Installation of an elevator in 1942; and
- Construction of an office and vault on the first floor, also in 1942.
- Minor subdivision of space for storage rooms and restrooms, 1980s-2020.

Integrity

The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. retains a high degree of integrity as a good example of an early twentieth century two-part commercial block with classical and Renaissance Revival detailing. Integrity of location is intact because the building has not been moved. Additionally, the lodge is adjacent to (south of) the building that served as the Masons' original meeting location. The setting remains mostly the same; the area is still at the edge of Greenville's commercial center, though the blocks to the south have transitioned from primarily residential, as they were historically, to low density "light" commercial. The original design, materials, and workmanship are also evident in the intact form, brick cladding, metal cornice with brackets and dentils, pilasters with dentiled capitals, a rounded pediment, brick string course, cast iron Tuscan columns, decorative hexagon tile at the storefront, and third floor arched windows with keystones. Though the storefront was altered in the 1960s, the building is still highly recognizable as a two-part commercial block. The original windows are extant and have been encapsulated, but the tall, narrow openings at the upper levels remain. Original windows are intact on the north and east elevations. The interior configuration remains largely intact with minor alterations over the years. The east/west orientation of the space is still discernable and consistent with Masonic tradition. Because of the building's few alterations, the majority of the original materials and finishes are extant, including the original pressed tin ceilings and decorative plaster detailing at the pilasters in the lodge rooms. Combined these intact character defining features evoke a feeling of an early 20th century Masonic lodge. Since the last meeting with held in November 2021, the building is no longer associated with the Greenville Masons.

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Statement of Significance

The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. (Ancient, Free, & Accepted Masons) was chartered on June 15, 1871 for the community's white male business and civic leaders. It was historically and is currently the only Free Masonic lodge in Greenville. Meetings were held on the second floor of a two-story commercial building at 2611 Stonewall Street built before 1888, which is still extant and adjacent to the current lodge. In 1910, in response to increasing membership, a new lodge building was constructed at 2615 Stonewall Street. The Greenville Lodge, like many others, was designed with leasable tenant space on the ground floor and housed the lodge on the upper floors. Most of the lodge members were and are business owners and community leaders. Many of the city's commercial industries were represented in its membership, including farmers, plant workers, railroad workers, and carpenters. The lodge served as a forum for its members to gather and socialize, participate in Masonic rituals, and engage in philanthropic endeavors. Consistent with national trends, membership numbers within the chapter have dwindled in recent years. The last meeting at 2615 Stonewall Street was held in November 2021. The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Social History at the local level of significance as the only Free Masonic Lodge in Greenville representing the growth of the fraternal organization and its role in the community over the years. When compared to its counterparts in Hunt County, the Greenville Lodge appears to be the largest and most intact example of an early twentieth century lodge building. The period of significance begins with the build date in 1910, and since the building was continuously used by the Masons until 2021, ends in 1973 with the NPS 50-year cutoff.

Greenville, Texas

The City of Greenville is located fifty miles northeast of Dallas in the Blackland Prairies, an area of Texas known for its rich and fertile soil. The city is named for Thomas Jefferson Green, a general in the Texas Army for Independence from Mexico and, later, a member of the Congress of the Republic of Texas. Founded in 1846, the physical development of the city began at a slow pace, owing to the majority of its citizens living on the outskirts of town on farms, raising livestock and growing grains. Although not yet the agricultural powerhouse it would become, Greenville was indeed a slaveholding community prior to the Civil War and voted to secede from the Union. It was not until after the war in the 1870s that cotton would become an important cash crop and the predominant industry for decades in the region. Concurrent with the rise of the cotton industry was the area's aptly earned reputation as the "railroad hub of the northeast," with the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Extensions Railway, East Line, Red River Railroad, Dallas Railway, Greenville Railway, St. Louis Midwestern Railway, and Texas Midline all constructing lines in the area in the 1880s and 1890s. These rail lines facilitated Greenville's ability to ship over \$1 million worth of cotton annually. By the turn of the century, Greenville was considered the "cotton capital of the world," whose product was a favorite of mills in Liverpool and Manchester, England. It was home to a world record holding cotton compress that in 1911 and 1912 set the world record for most bales of cotton pressed in a day. In 1912, 2,073 bales of cotton were produced in one ten-hour day.⁶

A booming cotton and rail industry led to a subsequent population boom, with the number of residents more than doubling between 1892 (5,000) and the mid-1920s (12,000) and growing to nearly 15,000 by the early 1950s. The completion of the federally funded Majors Field airfield on the outskirts of town did much to attract non-agricultural industry to the area. Texas Engineering and Manufacturing Company (TEMCO), which leased a portion of Majors Field to work on aircraft for the armed services, became one of the leading employers in Greenville with a workforce numbering approximately 2,200 persons by 1960. Following a merger in the 1960s, the company rebranded as Ling-

⁶ Brian Hart, "Greenville, TX (Hunt County)," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/greenville-tx-hunt-county>; "History of Greenville," City of Greenville, <https://www.ci.greenville.tx.us/911/History-of-Greenville#:~:text=Greenville%20was%20carved%20out%20of,was%20named%20the%20county%20seat.>; Doyle Dick, "The Cotton Capital of Texas," Bullock Texas State History Museum, <https://www.thestoryoftexas.com/discover/texas-story-project/the-cotton-capital-of-texas>.

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TEMCO-Vought (LTV) and the workforce grew to 4,600 people, cementing its role as the city's largest employer. LTV sold its facility in the mid-1970s to E-Systems Corporation, an electronics and defense contractor, which remains one of the city's largest employers. Other leading employers in the region include Henson-Kickernick and Shirey (lingerie and sleepwear companies), the Electric Supply Company, and Mary of Puddin' Hill, Inc. (baker and retailer of fruitcakes). The city's population today is approximately 28,000.⁷

Freemasonry in the United States

Today, there are upwards of two million Free Masons in the United States and nearly 4.5 million throughout the world. Though the group's exact origins are unknown, it has roots in the stonemasons' guild in the Middle Ages. Mythologized history, however, dates back to King Solomon in the 900s BCE. The society formally emerged in England in 1717 and, from there, spread throughout Europe and the American colonies. Among their ranks included some of America's most famous and influential leaders, like George Washington and Benjamin Franklin. Prince Hall Masonry, the African American branch of Freemasonry named for its founder, Prince Hall (a freed slave) was founded in Boston in 1775.

Lodges are largely secular institutions that serve social networking purposes and charitable outreach. Early philanthropy included support for public schools, orphanages, and homes for widows and the elderly. Philanthropy, or "relief," is one of the principles of Freemasonry. Others include brotherly love (tolerance, respect, and kindness for others) and truth. Though religious in character, Freemasonry does not have a particular orthodoxy. Members must, however, possess a belief in a Supreme Being and immortality of the soul.⁸ Lodges meet regularly throughout the calendar year to conduct lodge business and fellowship. Guest speakers are often invited, or members themselves will give presentations on the rituals, history, philosophy, or symbols of Freemasonry.

Lodges are divided into degrees, or ceremonial stages, that must be completed in order to become a full member: Apprentice, Fellowcraft, and Master Mason. To be a member, you must be a male at least 18 years of age, believe in the existence of a supreme being, be of good moral character, possess a favorable opinion of Freemasonry, be "motivated to join for reasons unrelated to personal gain or profit," be desirous of earning knowledge, and be willing to "conform to the ancient usages and customs of the fraternity." Applicants must submit a petition for membership, which is then considered by a committee to determine whether a candidate is fit for membership.⁹ While race and religious affiliation are not specified in membership criteria, historically it has been predominantly a society for elite, white, Protestant men.

In 1959, it was estimated that approximately 4.5% of American men were Freemasons, or roughly 4.1 million. In recent years, membership has fallen as much as 75%. Many members see the decline in numbers as symptomatic of the overall decline in voluntary associations, in general, across the United States. Others speculate that the secrecy of the society has lost its allure, as information regarding the rituals and traditions are easily discoverable via the internet and published scholarship. As with many institutions, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic also played a role in dwindling numbers as meetings were cancelled or held virtually, which presented challenges in terms of inducting new members. Critics of the group further argue that Freemasons, a group with inclusive promises but exclusive practices, hamstringing themselves by excluding women and struggling to attract members of color.¹⁰

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ History of Freemasonry," Massachusetts Freemasons, <https://massfreemasonry.org/what-is-freemasonry/history-of-freemasonry/> and Mitch Horowitz, "Mason and the Making of America," *U.S. News*, September 14, 2009.

⁹ "Who Can Be a Freemason," Be a Freemason, <https://beafreemason.org/faq>.

¹⁰ Christianna Silva, "Freemasons Say They're Needed Now More Than Ever. So Why Are Their Ranks Dwindling?," *NPR*, November 28, 2020.

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Freemasonry in Texas

Masonic influence in Texas can be traced back to the earliest days of Anglo settlement in the area. Masons, including Stephen F. Austin, were among the first Americans to migrate to Texas in the 1820s.¹¹ While early attempts to establish lodges under Mexican charters were quashed for political reasons, by 1837, there were three lodges in Texas – Holland Lodge No. 36 (Houston), Milam Lodge No. 40 (Nacogdoches), and MacFarland Lodge No. 41 (San Augustine) – all chartered by the Grand Lodge of Louisiana. On December 20, 1837, Sam Houston presided over a convention of the three lodges to organize the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas. The delegates elected Anson Jones as the first Grand Master of Masons in Texas.¹²

Between 1838 and 1845 when Texas was its own Republic, the Texas Grand Lodge issued charters to twenty-one more lodges. Though Masons only constituted 1 ½ percent of the Texas population, they occupied 80 percent of the Republic's higher offices. All presidents (including Sam Houston), vice presidents, and secretaries of state of the Republic of Texas were Masons. Five of the six governors between 1846 and 1861 (after annexation) were Masons.¹³ In fact, of the fifty-nine signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence in 1836, twenty-two were known Masons.¹⁴

By 1860, there were 226 active lodges in Texas. After financial difficulties during the Civil War, the Grand Lodge was solvent again by 1878 and membership reached 17,000. Membership continued to increase into the twentieth century, rising to 94,000 in 1920 and 134,000 by 1929. Membership declined by as much as 60 percent during the Great Depression, and many local lodges lost their temples over the inability to financially upkeep. Membership rebounded following World War II and into the mid-twentieth century, with numbers reaching 245,000 by 1961. In the early 1960s, membership in Masonic organizations, like other fraternal organizations, faced a serious decline. Membership dropped to 201,000 by the end of 1985, when 960 active lodges were reported.¹⁵ Today, there are approximately 110,000 Masons in 889 Lodges in the Grand Lodge of Texas, making it the fourth-largest Grand Lodge in the world.¹⁶ All local Lodges are subordinate to the Grand Lodge; the Grand Lodge of Texas is in Waco.¹⁷

Masonic Charitable Work in Texas

The charitable and benevolent activities of Texas Masonry fall into two categories. Before 1900, most of the money raised and philanthropic effort was directed to education, especially in the years before the establishment of a reliable public school system. In 1847, the Grand Lodge established an education fund and appointed a superintendent of education the following year to oversee the efforts. Between 1850 and 1873, the legislature chartered seventeen masonic-sponsored schools.¹⁸ Masons also helped establish more than 100 other unchartered schools, including a hall in Greenville that was used for both school and church services in 1865. It was the third school built in Greenville in a joint venture between the Elks and the Masons. One group donated the building while the other provided the teachers.¹⁹

In the twentieth century, Texas Masons broadened the scope of their philanthropic efforts beyond education. Examples included the establishment of the Masonic Home and School in Fort Worth (closed in 2005), the Home for Aged

¹¹ William Preston Vaughn, "Freemasonry," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/freemasonry>.

¹² "Texas Masonic History," The Grand Lodge of Texas, <https://grandlodgeoftexas.org/#>.

¹³ "Freemasonry."

¹⁴ "Texas Masonic History."

¹⁵ "Freemasonry."

¹⁶ "Texas Masonic History."

¹⁷ Masonic Information Center, *Facts About Freemasonry* (Burtonsville, MD).

¹⁸ "Freemasonry."

¹⁹ Brian Hart, "Greenville, TX (Hunt County)," *Handbook of Texas Online*, <https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/greenville-tx-hunt-county>; Gaulden, interview.

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Masons Clinic Nursing Century in Arlington, and the Scottish Rite Dormitory for Women at the University of Texas at Austin. More public-facing charitable organizations include the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children in Dallas and the Shriners Burns Institute in Galveston.²⁰

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The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 was originally chartered in the 1850s but was disbanded after the Civil War.²¹ The lodge in its current iteration was chartered on June 15, 1871 for the community's white male business and civic leaders.²² The Greenville lodge was historically and is currently the only Free Masonic lodge in Greenville. Other fraternal organizations in Greenville in the early twentieth century included the Elks Club, Knights of Pythias, and Knights of Tabor.²³ Meetings were held on the second floor of the two-story commercial building at 2611 Stonewall Street (still extant/adjacent to the current lodge).²⁴ The chapter was chartered as a Moon Lodge, meaning that meetings were held on Friday evenings on or before the full moon. The founding charter had to be duplicated twice. The first time the charter was duplicated was after a fire destroyed the original charter in 1877. Special dispensation was granted by the Grand Lodge to allow the chapter to hold meetings without a charter until another could be drafted. The second time the charter was duplicated was after another fire in 1884. In 1889, the chapter was allowed to mortgage land and incur indebtedness.²⁵

In 1909, the chapter began discussions regarding the sale of the building at 2611 Stonewall Street to finance construction of a new temple to accommodate growing membership on a lot to the south of the building at 2615 Stonewall Street, also owned by the Masons. An architect is not mentioned in the minutes. A meeting to lay the cornerstone was held on May 9, 1910. The official move appears to have happened a year or so later. Minutes from 1911 detail conversations about purchasing furniture for the new building and entering into a contract with the lodge lease committee to pay \$60 per month in rent.²⁶ The lodge occupied the second and third floor while the first floor was occupied by commercial tenants throughout its tenure to generate revenue that supported lodge operations.²⁷ According to Sanborn maps and city directories, early tenants included J.W. Sinclair, a furniture dealer, and the county, who used the first floor space for offices until their new building was completed in 1929.²⁸ Hunt-Collin Elec. Co-op Inc. occupied the first floor in the 1960s. There was also an upper floor meeting space for Rainbow Girls, a young women's organization supported by the Order of the Eastern Star. The Order of the Eastern Star is a Masonic-related fraternity of men and women dedicated to charity, though it is not a part of the Masonic fraternity. Membership is based on Masonic affiliation or relationships to Masonic members (members in good standing and/or their wives, mothers, daughters, widows, sisters, etc.).²⁹

In 1914, the chapter had 298 members. In 1945, the chapter had 570 members. By the centennial celebration in 1971, the chapter had 711 members, with membership peaking at 1,100 in 1975.³⁰ Consistent with the national trend, membership declined in subsequent decades with membership currently totaling just under 100 persons. In recent years, the Greenville lodge and the Prince Hall-affiliated Bee Hive Lodge #105 have established membership reciprocity. The recognition between the two chapters means that members can now attend each other's meetings. The Bee Hive Lodge meets at a non-historic community recreation center. The Greenville Masonic Lodge, like other

²⁰ "Freemasonry."

²¹ Gaulden, interview.

²² B. Mechell, Librarian/Curator, Masonic Grand Lodge Library and Museum of Texas (email correspondence, December 1, 2021).

²³ Greenville, City Directory, 1916, courtesy of Ancestry.com.

²⁴ Sanborn Map Company, Greenville, Hunt County, Texas, 1888. Texas Digital Sanborn Maps.

²⁵ B. Mechell (email correspondence, December 1, 2021).

²⁶ "Minutes of the Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335," Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335, 1909, 1910, and 1911.

²⁷ Sanborn Map Company, Greenville, Hunt County, Texas, 1914, 1923, and 1949. Texas Digital Sanborn Maps.

²⁸ City Directory, 1916 and W. Walworth Harrison, *History of Greenville and Hunt County Texas* (Texian Press, 1977).

²⁹ Greenville Chapter #189, *Order of the Eastern Star* (Greenville, TX).

³⁰ B. Mechell (email correspondence, December 1, 2021).

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Masonic Lodges across the United States, has struggled to attract members of color. In 2021, however, the lodge did initiate its first African American member.

The building elevator reached the end of its serviceable life in 2020, making it difficult or impossible for older members who were unable to climb the stairs to attend meetings, thus resulting in a significant attendance decline. Repairing the elevator and bringing it up to code was determined to be prohibitively expensive. The lodge sought permission from the Grand Lodge of Texas to sell the building. The request was approved in 2021. The last chapter meeting at 2615 Stonewall Street was held on November 2, 2021. The chapter now meets at the Caddo Masonic Lodge #581. They are in the process of planning and raising funds for a new building and looking to break ground in 2023.³¹

Freemasonry in Greenville

Among the pillars of Freemasonry is social betterment through individual involvement and philanthropy, a pillar which the Greenville Lodge upholds in its community. Most of the lodge members were and are business owners and community leaders in Greenville. All manner of Greenville's commercial industries were and are represented in its membership, including farmers, plant workers, railroad workers, and carpenters. In the chapter's own words, these are men of sound mind, moral character, and good reputation with a belief in a Supreme Being and life after death. Their presence in the community dates to Greenville's founding, with the construction of one of Greenville's first schools and street names such as "Briscoe" and "Pollard" named after early, influential Masons.³² Today, the lodge's charitable work focuses on children in the community, especially children's education. The chapter awards college scholarships to local high school students, in addition to providing financial assistance for the community's widows and orphans. The lodge raises money for these endeavors by hosting raffles, corn hole tournaments, and an annual magic show in December. The chapter maintained its ties to the business community throughout the subsequent decades by maintaining the ground floor retail space.³³ Outside of philanthropy, the lodge serves as a forum for its members to gather and socialize with one another.

Freemasonry and Racial Tension in Greenville

Greenville had a history of racism and discrimination in the Jim Crow-era, which was mirrored in the Freemasons' historically exclusionary practices.³⁴ Within the charter's first fifty years, it boasted a dominant social/political presence with 298 of the city's business and civic leaders claiming loyalties to the fraternity. Indeed, at the turn of the twentieth century, membership in the Freemasons was common for politicians and businessmen in the United States.³⁵ As hundreds of prominent white men were members of the Freemasons since the charter's creation, it can be reasonably inferred that they held an influence on social and political life in Greenville.

Racial violence was also common in early 20th century Greenville. Perhaps one of the most infamous acts of violence was the horrific burning of Ted Smith, an eighteen-year-old African American man accused of assaulting a white woman on August 5, 1908. An account of the event in the *Greenville Banner* described how law enforcement arrived at the jail with Smith in custody and lost control of a violent mob attempting to abduct him. There was a "struggle" between officers and a crowd of approximately 2,000 that lasted fifteen minutes resulting in officers sustaining injuries. Police were forced to end their efforts after the crowd dragged the officers from the vehicle onto the ground.³⁶

³¹ P. Kelley (email correspondence, March 25, 2022); Gaulden, interview.

³² John R. Briscoe was a prominent rancher and Baptist preacher who lived just west of town. He died in Arkansas during the Civil War.

³³ Obituaries, *The Herald Banner*; P. Kelley (email correspondence); Gaulden, interview.

³⁴ City of Greenville and its Representatives, "History of Greenville," City of Greenville, TX, 2023, <https://www.ci.greenville.tx.us/site/copyright>.

³⁵ Miguel Hernandez, "Fighting Fraternities: The Ku Klux Klan and Freemasonry in 1920s America," (University of Exeter, 2014), <https://ore.exeter.ac.uk/repository/bitstream/handle/10871/16509/HernandezM.pdf>, 41.

³⁶ Brenda Huey, *The Blackest Town the Whitest People: The Untold Story of My Hometown*, (Bloomington: Author House, 2006), 94-95.

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While this was an event which involved countless crimes, the mayor, Joseph Francis Nichols, proclaimed that no one would be punished for the events of that day.³⁷ Not only was no one tried, city officials issued a statement in support of its citizens' actions.³⁸ Edwin W. Harris, the owner of Greenville's daily newspaper, allowed the *Morning Herald* to regularly publish articles in support of violent actions against Greenville's African American citizens and the *Evening Banner*, the local evening newspaper, was used to announce Ku Klux Klan (KKK) activities to the community.³⁹

It is not known if any of the Greenville Freemasons were also members of the KKK, as there were no official ties between the organizations. However, what is known is that the two groups historically intermixed, as the KKK targeted their recruitment towards politically dissatisfied Freemasons in the early 1900s.⁴⁰ Today, Freemasonry has evolved by granting memberships to those of different races, with the Greenville Lodge, specifically, initiating its first African American member in 2021.⁴¹ As they have extended membership to other races, Freemasons have also created organizations within the fraternity for the opposite gender, such as the International Order of the Rainbow.

Masonic Lodges in Texas & Hunt County

In Masonic tradition, the meaning of the word "lodge" is two-fold; it means both Masons meeting together and the room or building in which they meet. Buildings are sometimes also called temples because the original meaning of the term, "place of knowledge," is consistent with the Masonic practice of encouraging the advancement of knowledge.⁴² Lodges are named by founding members, often after the town they are in, but can also be named for historical figures, prominent Masons, or even symbolic words or phrases in the Masonic tradition. The name is always followed by a number, corresponding to the order in which the lodge has been chartered in that jurisdiction. The Greenville Lodge follows the model of many of its Texas counterparts – an assembly hall and meeting rooms on the upper floors, to separate the gathering spaces from outsiders and the "profane" world, and revenue generating commercial space on the ground floor. As with other lodges, the Greenville Lodge also incorporates elements of the Five Orders of Architecture (Doric, Ionic, Corinthian, Tuscan, and Composite), which the Masons consider to be the truest forms of architecture. These orders are executed differently in the styles of Texas lodges. Texas lodges of the early twentieth century are typically either highly styled or modest determined, in part, by the size and wealth of the community from which the local membership derived. Highly stylized examples include the Scottish Rite Cathedral in San Antonio (1924), the Houston Scottish Rite Lodge (1923), and the Scottish Rite Cathedral Galveston (1928). More restrained examples include the South Side Masonic Lodge in Fort Worth (1924; NRHP 1985) and the Royal Arch Masonic Lodge in Austin (1926; NRHP 2005).⁴³

In addition to the Greenville Lodge, there are five other lodges in Hunt County:

- Caddo No. 581 – chartered December 14, 1883 (101 Brewton Industrial Blvd, Caddo Mills)
- Commerce No. 439 – chartered June 5, 1875 (1227 Washington St, Commerce)
- Excelsior No. 505 – chartered December 15, 1879 (112 E Main St, Wolfe City)
- Shiloh No. 307 – chartered June 12, 1868 (105 Katy St, Lone Oak)

³⁷ Travis Hairgrove, "The Day Greenville Murdered Ted Smith," *Herald-Banner*, June 18, 2021, https://www.heraldbanner.com/news/the-day-greenville-murdered-ted-smith/article_8778209c-d076-11eb-baab-ab7c8fde8a83.html.

³⁸ Julie Mellby, "The Murder of Ted Smith in 1908," *Graphic Arts*, May 3, 2018, <https://graphicarts.princeton.edu/2018/05/03/the-murder-of-ted-smith-in-1908/>.

³⁹ Unfortunately, most issues of the *Morning Herald* and *Evening Banner* from this period have disappeared, as the successor of these newspapers and Greenville's current newspaper, the *Herald-Banner*, remorsefully admits.

⁴⁰ Miguel Hernandez, "Fighting Fraternities," 83-85.

⁴¹ P. Kelley (email correspondence, March 25, 2022); Gauden, interview.

⁴² Masonic Information Center, *Who Are the Masons? And What Do They Do?* (Burtonsville, MD)."

⁴³ Christie M. King, "Royal Arch Masonic Lodge," National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, 2004, Section 8, 11.

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- Trestle Board No. 534 – chartered December 12, 1881 (408 E. Richmond, Quinlan)⁴⁴

The Greenville Lodge appears to be the largest and best intact example of an early twentieth century lodge building in Hunt County (Figure 1). The Greenville Lodge is the only three-story building, whereas its historic counterparts are one and two-story buildings. The Excelsior Lodge in Wolfe City is a one-story commercial building with a heavily altered façade (Figure 4). The Shiloh and Commerce Lodges are two stories and, like Greenville, readily identifiable as two-part commercial blocks with retail on the ground floor (Figures 3 & 6). Like Greenville, Commerce is taller than its surrounding commercial counterparts, presumably owing to the high ceilings in the ceremonial rooms, and also features a dentiled cornice. Both Shiloh and Commerce feature decorative cartouches at the pediment detailed with Masonic imagery and symbolism, which is not extant at Greenville. Both the Shiloh and Greenville Lodge feature arched windows at their upper levels. All lodges have had their original ground floor storefronts altered and upper-level windows encapsulated or infilled. The Greenville Lodge, however, retains original storefront members visible at the first-floor interior. Both the Commerce and Excelsior Lodge have had the original masonry painted, whereas the original brick at Greenville and Shiloh Lodge remains exposed. The Caddo Lodge, though large in rectangular footprint, is a non-descript one-story building ca. 1993 (Figure 2). Scyene Daylight and Trestle Board both meet in the same contemporary, non-historic (ca. early 2000s) building in Quinlan (Figure 5).

Though there are no lodges in Hunt County individually listed in the National Register yet, there are several in the state of Texas: Blessing Masonic Lodge No. 411 (Matagorda County), Farmersville Masonic Lodge No. 214 (Collin County), Masonic Lodge No. 570 (Tom Green County), Royal Arch Masonic Lodge, Lone Star Chapter No. 6 (Travis County), Las Moras Masonic Lodge (Kinney County), Royse City Lodge No. 663 A.F. & A.M. (Rockwall County), St. John's A.F. & A.M. Lodge (Smith County), Dallas Scottish Rite Temple (Dallas County), Masonic Temple (Tarrant County), and South Side Masonic Lodge No. 1114 (Tarrant County).⁴⁵

Summary

The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. has held a prominent role in Greenville since its founding in 1871. Most of the lodge members were and are business owners and community leaders representing a variety of commercial industries. The lodge served as a forum for its members to gather and socialize, participate in Masonic rituals, and engage in philanthropic endeavors that promote the welfare of society. The Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M. is nominated to the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A in the area of Social History at the local level of significance as the only Free Masonic Lodge in Greenville representing the growth of the fraternal organization and its impact on the community over the years. The property appears to be the largest and best intact example of an early twentieth century lodge building in Hunt County. The period of significance begins with the build date in 1910, and since the building was continuously used by the Masons until 2021, ends in 1973 with the NPS 50-year cutoff.

⁴⁴ "Lodge Locator," The Grand Lodge of Texas, https://tx.grandview.systems/public_lodges/landing_page?q=&d=10; The Lodge Locator also indicates that the Scyene Daylight No. 295, chartered June 14, 1867, also meets at this lodge, but the building is identified as the Trestle Board Lodge.

⁴⁵ *Texas Historic Sites Atlas*, <https://atlas.thc.state.tx.us/>.

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Map 1
Hunt County, Texas



Map 2
Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 33 A.F. & A.M., 2615 Stonewall Street, Greenville, Hunt County, Texas



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Map 3

Google Earth Map, accessed August 16, 2022.



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Map 4

S4385 Original Town of Greenville, Block 18, Lot 6, Greenville, Hunt County, Texas (Property ID 70644). Hunt Appraisal District data accessed August 16, 2022. The boundary includes the legal parcel currently associated with the property.



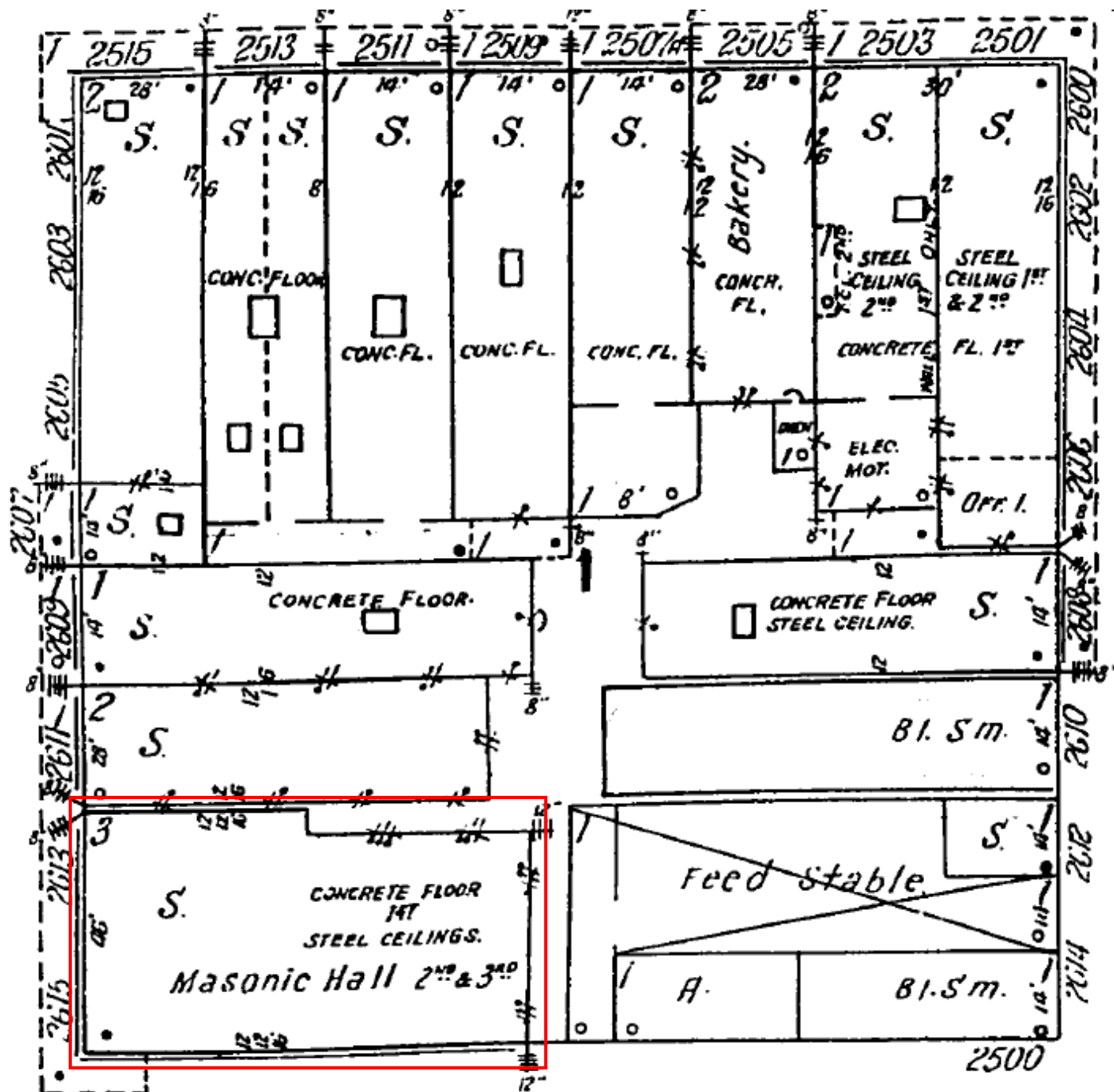
Page 25

Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Map 6

Sanborn Map, Greenville, 1923, Sheet 8, block detail

Courtesy: Texas Digital Sanborn Maps

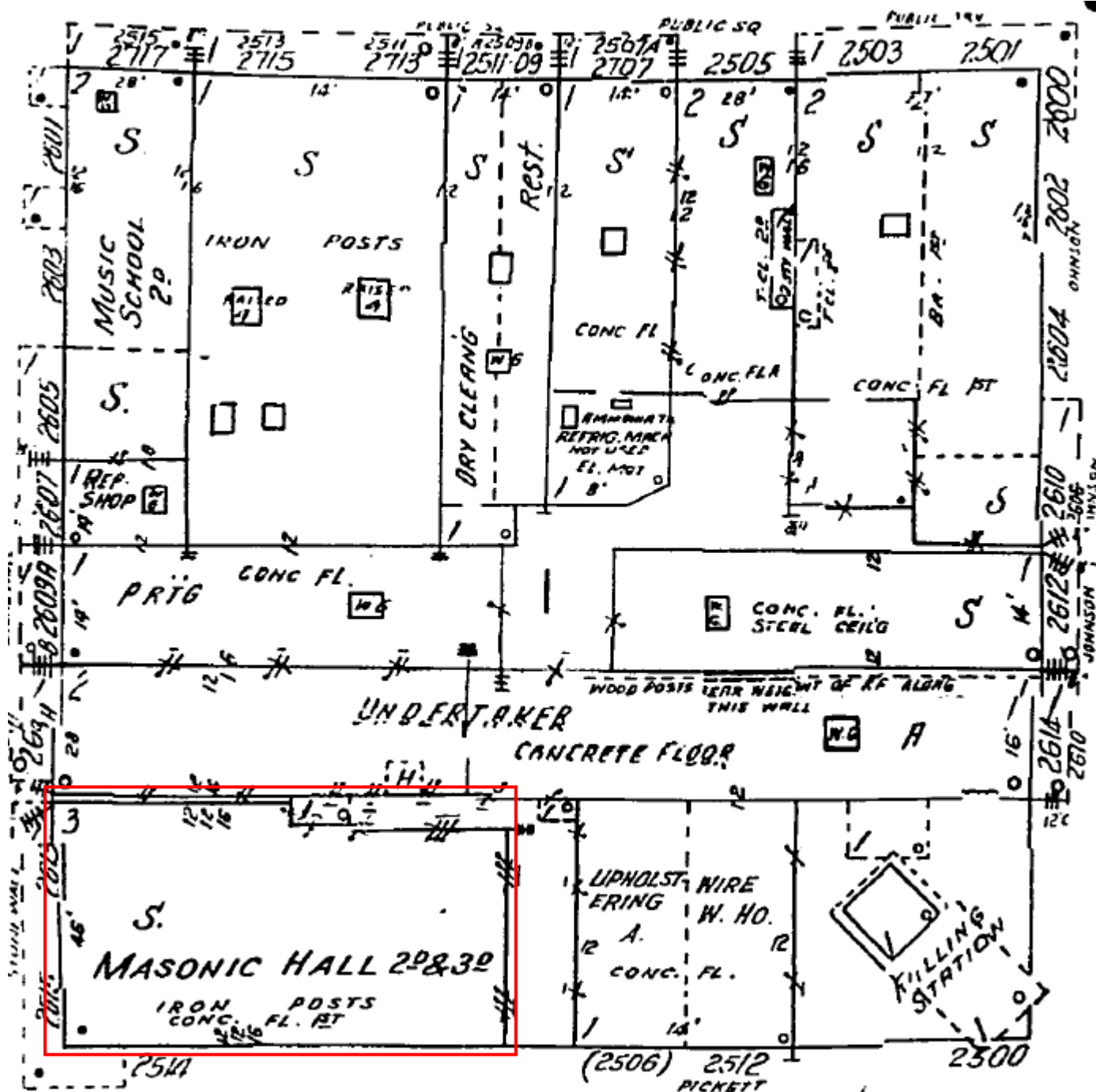


Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Map 7

Sanborn Map, Greenville, 1949, Sheet 8, block detail

Courtesy: Texas Digital Sanborn Maps



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 1

Historic photo of the Greenville Masonic Lodge, ca. 1950s
Courtesy Greenville Masonic Lodge 335 A.F. & A.M.



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 2

Caddo Lodge No. 581, Caddo Mills, Hunt County, TX
Courtesy Google Maps



Figure 3

Commerce Lodge No. 439, Commerce, Hunt County, TX
Courtesy Google Maps



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 4

Excelsior Lodge No. 505, Wolfe City, Hunt County, TX
Courtesy Google Maps



Figure 5

Trestle Board Lodge No. 534, Quinlan, Hunt County, TX
Courtesy Google Maps



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 6

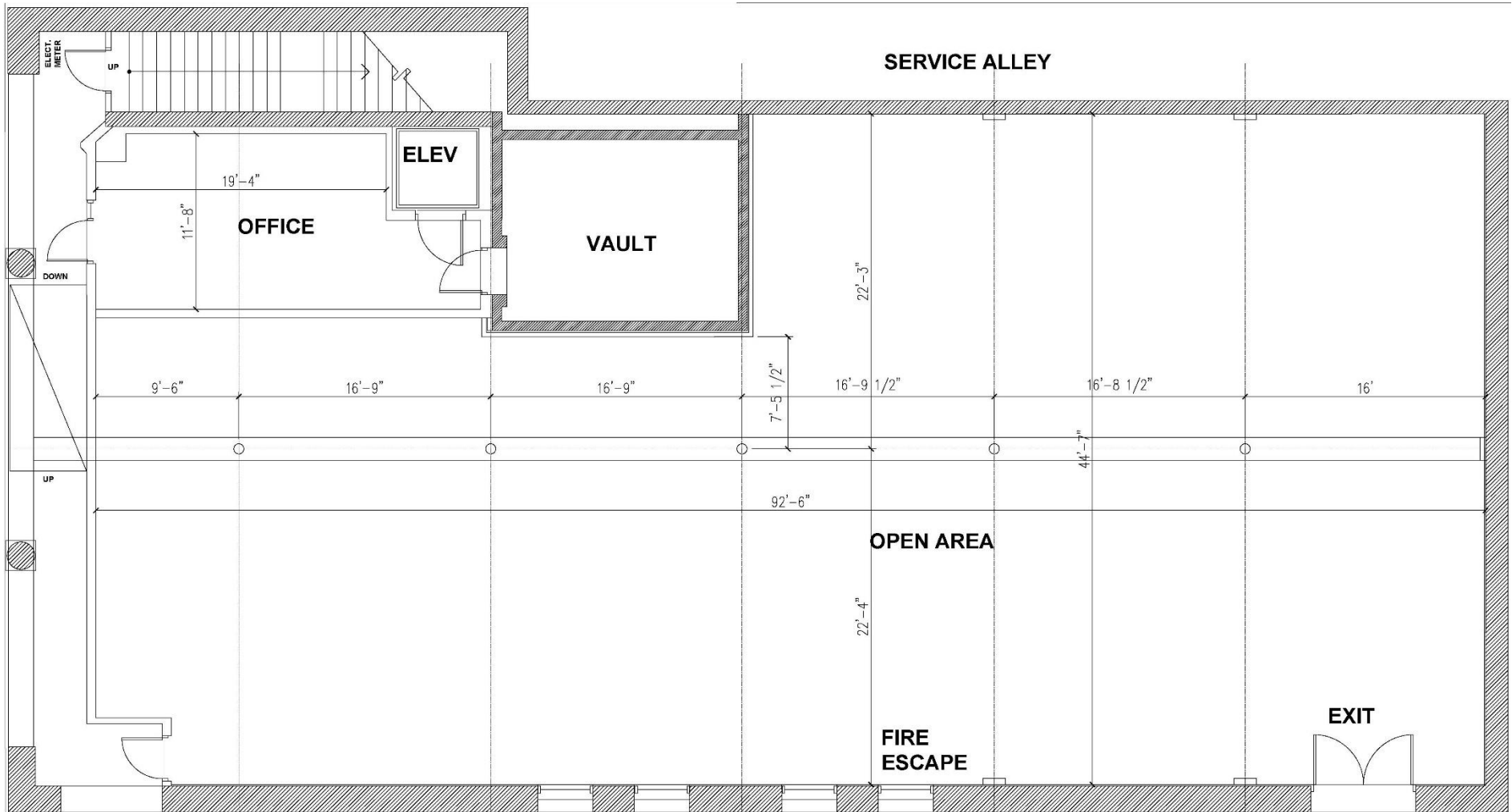
Shiloh Lodge No. 307, Lone Oak, Hunt County, TX
Courtesy Google Maps



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 7

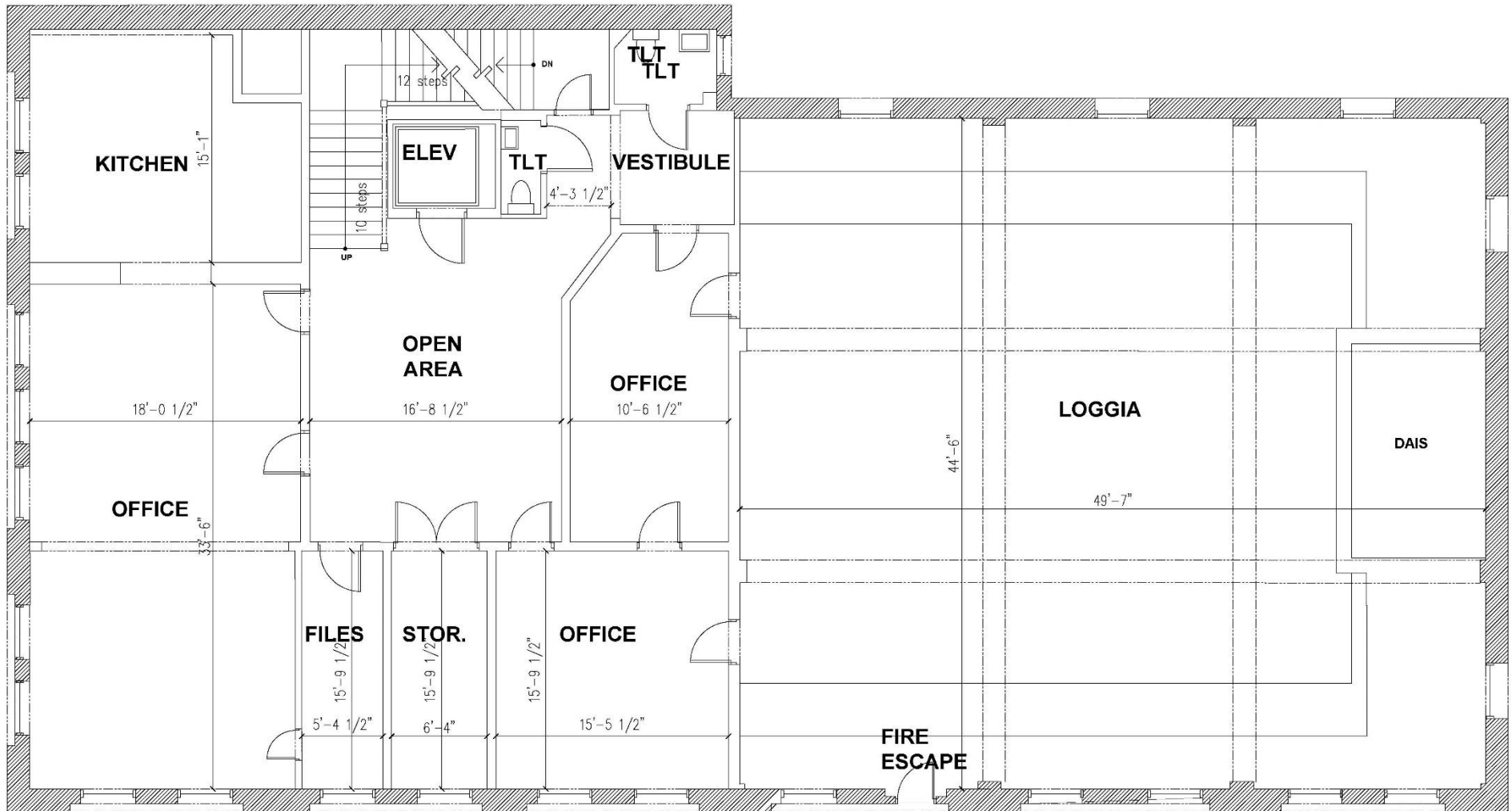
Current drawing, 1st floor plan
Courtesy Gallego Creative Design



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 8

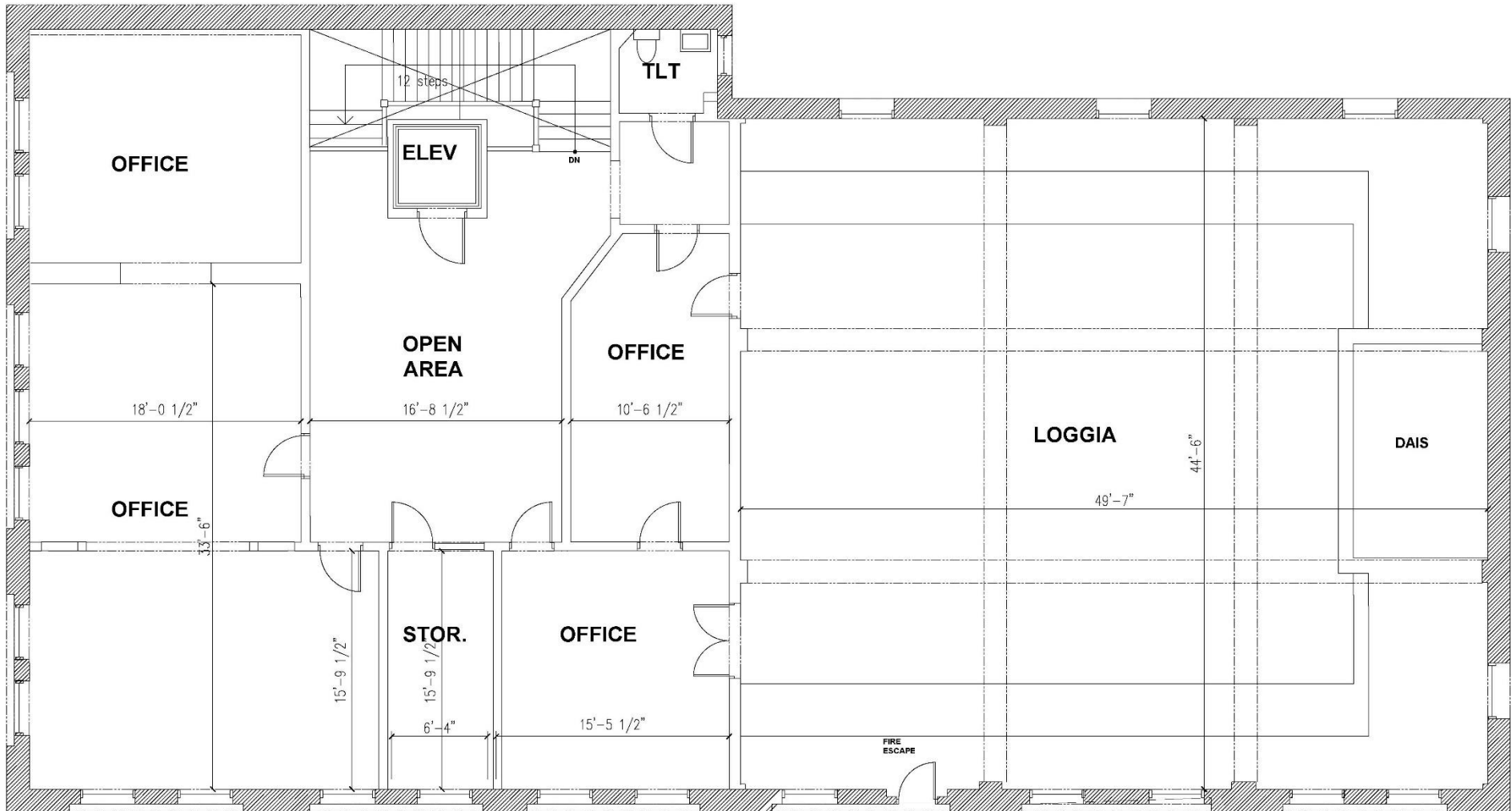
Current drawing, 2nd floor plan
Courtesy Gallego Creative Design



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Figure 9

Current drawing, 3rd floor plan
Courtesy Gallego Creative Design



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 1 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0001)

West façade, view southeast



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 2 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0002)

West façade at left, south (side) elevation at right, view northeast



Photo 3 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0003)

South (side) elevation at left, east (rear) elevation at right, view northwest



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 4 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0004)

North (side) elevation, cornerstone in foreground at bottom left, view west



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 5 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0005)

South façade, detail of original entry tile



Photo 6 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0006)

First floor, original pressed tin ceiling, view northeast



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 7 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0007)

First floor, original pressed tin ceiling, view southwest



Photo 8 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0008)

First floor, 1942 storage vault, view east



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 9 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0009)

Second floor, central hall, original stair at left with 1942 elevator adjacent, original pressed tin ceiling, view northeast



Photo 10 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0010)

Second floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view east



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 11 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0011)

Second floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view west



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 12 (TX_ HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_photo_0012)

Third floor, central hall, original pressed tin ceiling, paneled doors/transoms, and wood floor, view southwest



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 13 (TX_ HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0013)

Third floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view east



Photo 14 (TX_ HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0014)

Third floor, lodge room, original pressed tin ceiling and pilaster detailing, view west



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 15 (TX_ HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0015)

Third floor, secondary meeting room for Rainbow Girls meetings/storage, view south



Photo 16 (TX_ HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0016)

Third floor, lodge room, detail of original pilaster capital



Greenville Masonic Lodge No. 335 A.F. & A.M., Greenville, Hunt County, Texas

Photo 17 (TX_HuntCounty_GreenvilleMasonicLodge_0017)

Second floor, lodge room, detail of original Square and Compasses door knocker

