Form 10-300 (July 1969)

NAME COMMON

2. LOCATION

STATE

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III

.

AND/OR HISTORIC:

CITY OR TOWN:

CITY OR TOWN:

STREET AND NUMBER:

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM T

Knights of Pythias Building

315 Main Street

Fort Worth.

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

COUNTY

STATE: TEXAS COUNTY: Tarrant FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER DATE 4/28/70 Knights of Pythias Castle Hall CODE 439 ACCESSIBLE STATUS

COUNTY

ENTRY NUMBER

DA TE

CODE

FOR NPS USE

ONLY

42 Texas 3. CLASSIFICATION CATEGORY OWNERSHIP TO THE PUBLIC (Check One) Yes: Public Public Acquisition: X Occupied ☐ District X Building X Restricted Private ☐ In Process Unoccupied ☐ Structure Unrestricted Both Being Considered Object Preservation work ☐ No in progress PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) Agricultural Government Park Transportation Comments Industrial X Other (Specify) fraternal X Commercial Private Residence Military Religious ☐ Educational lodge Museum ☐ Scientific Entertainment OWNER OF PROPERTY

CODE

OWNER'S NAME: Knights of Pythias Fraternal Order STREET AND NUMBER: 315 Main Street STATE: CODE CITY OR TOWN: Fort Worth 42 Texas 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Tarrant County Court House STREET AND NUMBER: CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE Fort Worth Texas 42 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: None DATE OF SURVEY: Federal ☐ State County ☐ Local DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: STREET AND NUMBER:

STATE:

		(Check One)					
CONDITION	☐ Excellent	K Good	☐ Fair	☐ Dete	riorated	Ruins	☐ Unexposed
		(Check O	ne)	STROI	HARTE	(Ch	eck One)
	☐ Alte	red	X Unaltered	000		☐ Moved	Original Site

The red brick Knights of Pythias Castle Hall is reminiscent of a medieval guild hall or a North European city hall, an appropriate home for a fraternal order at the turn of the century. The most interesting feature is the iron knight which stands in a niche in the gable above the third floor. This seven foot tall figure was made of galvinized iron and was brought from New York in 1882 for the original Castle Hall. When the present building was designed to replace the old building, the niche was created for the figure. The knight is painted silver and he has lost his right arm and shield and the banner which he once held in his left hand. The medieval style of the building possibly was an attempt on the part of the architect to create a proper environment for the organization which it housed. Since the architectural firm of Sanguinet and Staats designed the Castle Hall, the medieval and European influence in the design might have come from the European architects who were brought in by Sanguinet or possibly could have been a reflection of the European influence left over from the 1870's.

The original Castle Hall was razed in 1901 and it was replaced by the present three story building the same year. There is some question as to whether the building of 1881 was destroyed by fire and then razed, or simply razed. Regardless of this, there is such a striking similarity of the two first floors that one is inclined to believe the new building was built on top of the old one's first floor. The lower floor is used for commercial purposes; the second floor is devoted to games and reading rooms; the third floor contains a ballroom, reception parlors, pantry and kitchen.

by Drury B. Alexander
(edited)



PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		turn of
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	☐ 18th	Century X 20th Centur
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	☐ 19th	Century
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicab	le and Known) 1901	A	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropria	te)	, , ,, ,,
Abor iginal	☐ Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	☐ Engineering	☐ Religion/	Phi- Other (Specify)
Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	☐ Science	
	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	X Social/Hu	man-
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	☐ Military	☐ Theater	er and a grander of the

"On June 6, 1881, a procession of the Order of Knights of Pythias formed at the corner of 4th and Main Streets and marched to Weatherford Street, down Houston, Fourth Street, to Main Street, and thence to Third Street. This impressive ceremony was for the purpose of laying the corner stone of the first Pythias Castle Hall ever erected in the world, and the only Castle Hall ever dedicated by the founder of the order, Justis H. Rathbone of Washington, D. C.", said D. B. Alexander.

The Encyclopedia Britannica defines the Knights of Pythias as "a fraternal and benevolent order of secret character. founded in Washington, D. C., on February 19, 1864, and chartered by a special act of Congress. In the 1950's the order maintained more than fifty grand lodges or grand domains in the d states of the United States and in the provinces of Canada. There were also about 3,000 local or subordinate lodges. (Encyclopedia Britannica, XVIII, p. 804)."

Today the Knights of Pythias Castle Halllin Fort Worth, Texas is the object of concerned preservationists within the dodge itself as well as within the membership of Historic Fort Worth, Inc. Both of these groups hope to restore the old Castle Hall so that it will maintain its architectural uniqueness and cultural importance in downtown Fort Worth. Members of the local lodge want to make part of their building into a museum about the international fraternal order.

The Texas State Historical Survey Committee recognized Castle Hall in 1962 for its cultural and historical significance.



Alexander, Drury B., Professor of Architecture, University of Texas at Austin

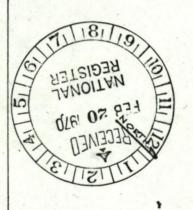
Encyclopedia Britannica, XVIII, p. 804, Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., Chicago, 1959.

Smith, Mrs. C. Edward, Research and Volunteer Chairman for Historic Fort Worth, Inc., 3505 West Lancaster, Fort Worth, Texas.

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			COUNTY: CODE					
FORM PREPARED BY				8	REGIS	(3)	/	
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	. Kennedy, Hi			10	11181			
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Texas St	tate Historic	cal	Surve	y Com	mittee	9 :	1/26/7	70
TREET AND NUMBER:		1				15		
108 W.	15th Street							
ITY OR TOWN:		S	TATE	Calm 3	THE REAL PROPERTY.		SE STATE	CODE
Austin,		THE P	T	exas				42
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	son Officer for the Na-	w	I hereby	certify t	hat this p		included	

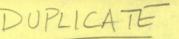
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FT. WORTH , TEXAS
3-5 MAIN STREET
CODE: +3-+39 SCALE: 1"=50'
T. WORTH MAP REFERENCE NO. 25-4
DIMENSIONS APPROXIMATE



3 RD STREET

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Ref. 7000076/

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Knights of	Phythias Blo Co, Texas	G.		
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larmy+	o lexas		Fed. Reg. Date:	
1001 and			Date Due:	
			Action:ACCEPT	
resubmission				
nomination by person	n or local government			
owner objection			Federal Agency:	
☐ appeal				
Substantive Review:	□ sample □ request	appeal	☐ NR decision	
Reviewer's comments:				
			Recom./Criteria	
			Reviewer	
			Discipline	
			Date	
			see continuation sh	eet
Nomination returned for:	technical corrections cited substantive reasons discuss			Correlation of Proposition
1. Name			una ficilities and a second	
2. Location		SAME.		
3. Classification				
Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use	
4. Owner of Property		1000	Tolkin Kaphan, Indian	refraight to a plant with
5. Location of Legal Des	cription	(2) (2) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4) (4		nomige
6. Representation in Exis	sting Surveys		of the Siessey Allins	
Has this property been de	etermined eligible?	□ no		
7. Description				
Condition		Check one	Check one	
excellent	deteriorated	unaltered	original site	
good	ruins	altered	moved da	te
fair	unexposed			
	original (if known) physical appea	rance		
Daumman, paramah				
summary paragraph completeness				
☐ completeness				
alterations/integrity				
dates				
boundary selection				

8. Significance	COLUMN HOTEL CAME	The Total Control of the Control of
Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify belo	ow w	
Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)		
summary paragraph completeness clarity applicable criteria		
☐ justification of areas checked ☐ relating significance to the resource ☐ context ☐ relationship of integrity to significance		
☐ justification of exception ☐ other		
9. Major Bibliographical References		
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of nominated property Quadrangle name UTM References		ATTENDED TO THE PARTY OF THE PA
Verbal boundary description and justification		
11. Form Prepared By	T. States	autonosi.
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification The evaluated significance of this property within the sta	nte is:	The second secon
nationalstateloc State Historic Preservation Officer signature	cal	
title date		e and 100 and an armonic of the Agree one and the second and the s
13. Other		
☐ Maps ☐ Photographs ☐ Other		
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to	0	search the content of the other transfer of the second
	Deta	right in the annual control of the second of
Signed	_ Date	Phone:



NPS Number 70-4-93-00/3

Title: Knights of Pythias

Building

Loc. Jarrant County, Jeras

Lide facacle on Shid

Street



70-4-42-0013 NPS Number_ Title: Kushts of P



Title: Kights of Pythias

Building

Loc. Jarrant County, Jeras

Front facade on

Maie Street

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Form 10-301 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

STATE	7.7.7.7
TEXAS	
COUNTY	
Tarrant	
FOR NPS USE ONI	LY
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70-4-42-0004	4/28/2

		all entries - attach to d	or enclose with	70-4-42-0	004 4/28/20
	NAME				/ /
	COMMON:	Knights of	Pythias B	uilding	
	AND/OR HISTORIC:				
2.	LOCATION				
	STREET AND NUM BE	R:			
		315 Main St	reet		
	CITY OR TOWN:		1.4	100	
1		Fort Worth			
	STATE:		CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
		Texas	048	Tarrant	439
3.	MAP REFERENCE				
	SOURCE:				51160
		ates Departmen	t of the :	Interior Geological	Survey
	SCALE: 1:24000			/	RECENT
	DATE: 1952-54,	1955. Revise	d 1968		7 "ILCEINE
4.	REQUIREMENTS			(%	JAN 27 197
	TO BE INCLUDED ON	ALL MAPS			.01
	1. Property brou	ndaries where required.	Texas Maj	Reference #3297-4	31 NATIONAL
	2. North arrow.			ity, Texas	REGISTEN
				1.	AV

NATIONAL REGISTER PROPERTY - TEXAS 048

Knights of Pythias Castle Hall, Tarrant County - 439

Geographical data, Item 10, Form 10-300 is given as:

Latitude 97° 19' 52" Longitude 32° 45' 19"

Please CHANGE this to correctly read:

Latitude 32° 45' 19" Longitude 97° 19' 52"

A new, correctly marked map is being enclosed. Please DESTROY the old map and replace it with this one. Thank you.



o rom No-100 is given is

r com

134-10

RETAINED

Hon. Relph Webster Tarborough United States Senate Weshington, D. C.

Dear Senator Terborough:

We are pleased to inform you that the Knights of Bythics Building in fort Worth, Texas, has been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the Mational Minterio Preservation Program in Texas and has been entered into the Mational Register of Sixtoric Places. Senstor John Goodwin Tower and Representative James C. Wright, Jr., have also been provided with this information. A leaflet explaining the National Register is emclased. Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Intered in the Estional Segiste

SCI

Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, 108 West 15th Street, Austin, Texas 70701

Doplicate letters sent to: lion. John Goodwin Tower United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Hon. James C. Wright, Jr., House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

theen, Southwest Regional Office

JIM WRIGHT

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

July 10, 1970

CW

Honorable Walter J. Hickel Secretary of the Interior Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On April 28, 1970, the Knights of Pythias Castle Hall, 315½ Main Street, Fort Worth, Texas, was entered in the National Register of Historic Places. A copy of the letter I received from Mr. George B. Hartzog, Jr., National Park Service Director, advising me of this excellent decision is enclosed.

Mr. Secretary, this is the first structure in Fort Worth to receive this distinction, and the Historic Fort Worth, Inc. organization is most anxious to properly recognize the significance of this historical designation. This historical association would like to have a letter from you announcing the entry in the National Register of Historic Places. It is my understanding that this letter, along with abhistory of Castle Hall will be framed and placed in a most prominent place at the entrance to this building.

If the letter could be addressed to me, and mailed so that it would not be folded, it would be most appreciated.

Thank you in advance for any consideration and assistance you might be able to render to this request.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Jim Wright

CONCRESSIONAL LINISON

JUL 13 2 32 PH . 70

DEPT. OF INTERIOR

ez-5752

HATTIGNADATE VED 7-14

FROM:	Assistant Secretary (FMPMR)
то:	1. FNP 2. 3. 4.
FOR:	Approval
	Information
	Per our Conversation
	Comment
	Action as Appropriate
	Prepare Reply for SELT Sig.
	Prepare Reply for SELT Sig. As Requested Pen CL buckship
	File File
*	Return
	Forward
	See me
Domanka.	

JUL 1 6 1970

Hon. James C. Wright, Jr. House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wright:

Secretary of the Interior Hickel has asked us to acknowledge your inquiry in behalf of Historic Fort Worth, Inc., concerning the Knights of Pythias Castle Hall, Fort Worth, Texas.

The Secretary appreciates your interest in this matter and you will receive a reply at his earliest opportunity.

Sincerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

FNP:TGWood:gcm 7/15/70

onen

H34-HR

AUG 1 2 1970

PARKS

S. Chambers

Dear Mr. Wright:

We are pleased to inform you that the Knights of Pythias Building in Fort Worth, Texas, has been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the National Historic Preservation Act in Texas and has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places.

The National Register of Historic Places is a roll call of the tangible reminders of the history and achievements of the United States. It is a list of distinction identifying for the people those properties worthy of preservation for their historic and cultural value. By virtue of the protective provision of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register is a schedule to be followed in insuring that the Nation's historical and cultural property will be considered in Federal projects. In building the future, it is the guide to a richer environment providing visible continuity with the past.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Walter J. Hickel

Secretary of the Interior

Hon. James C. Wright, Jr. House of Representatives Washington, D.C.

RETURN TO: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mr. Truett Latimer Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee 108 West 15th Street)w/c of incoming Austin, Texas 78701

Secretary's Reading File (2) CL-5752 CL, Mr. Holley MPS Copy LL, Mr. Melvin

FNP:SAChambers:lwt:7-29-70

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

Congress of the United States

Mouse of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 July 10, 1970

Honorable Walter J. Hickel Secretary of the Interior Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

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Sincerely,

Jim Wright

CONCRESSIONAL LINISON

JUL 13 2 32 FH '70

DEFT OF IN-FRIOR

ez 5752



United Sate Department of the Incor

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

H34-HR

MAY 1 - 1970

Hon. James C. Wright, Jr., House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wright:

We are pleased to inform you that the Knights of Pythias Building in Fort Worth, Texas, has been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the Mational Historic Preservation Program in Texas and has been entered into the Mational Register of Historic Places. Senators Ralph Webster Yarborough and John Goodwin Tower have also been provided with this information.

A leaflet explaining the Mational Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Hrector

Enclosure

Entered in the National Register April 28, 1970.

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Eston 5/1/20

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MAY 1 - 1970

Hon. Balph Webster Yarborough United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Yarborough:

We are pleased to inform you that the Knights of Pythias Building in Fort Worth, Texas, has been nominated by the officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the Mational Mistoric Preservation Program in Texas and has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places. Senstor John Goodwin Tower and Representative James C. Wright, Jr., have also been provided with this information. A leaflet explaining the Hational Register is enclosed.

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

Intered in the National Register

Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, 108 West 15th Street, Austin, Texas 78701

Duplicate letters sent to: Hen. John Goodwin Tower United States Senate Mashington, D. C.

Hon. James C. Wright, Jr., House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

enset Region Regional Office

H30-HR

Mon. Balph W. Yarborough United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Yarborough:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been nominated by the State Limison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the Hational Historic Preservation Frogram in Texas and have been entered into the Mational Register of Historic Places. Senator John G. Tower and the appropriate Representatives have also been provided with this information. By copy of this lotter, the State Limison Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Toxas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 76711, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the Mational Register is enclosed.

Singerely yours,

(SGD) GEORGE B. HARTZOG, JR.

Director

Enclosures

Entered in the National Register

OCT 1 5 1970

cc: Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

Duplicate letter sent to: Hon. John G. Tower United States Senate Washington, D. C.

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN HR

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Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

Tenas

Davis Site
Tarrant County Courthouse
Gulf, Colorado and Santa Fe Railread
Passenger Station

Alto, Texas Fort Worth, Texas

Fort Horth, Texas

L: Mr. Melvin

Hon. James C. Wright, Jr. House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Wright:

We are pleased to inform you that the historic properties listed on the enclosure have been mominated by the State Liaison Officer appointed by the Governor for the implementation of the Mational Mistoric Preservation Program in Texas and have been entered into the Mational Register of Mistoric Places. Senators Ralph W. Yarborough and John G. Tower have also been provided with this information. By copy of this letter, the State Liaison Officer, Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Mistorical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711, has likewise been notified. A leaflet explaining the National Register is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

Director

Enclosures

OCT 1 5 1970

Entered in the National Register

cc: Mr. Truett Latimer, Executive Director, Texas State Historical Survey Committee, Post Office Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711

Director, Southwest Region

Properties added to the National Register of Historic Places

TEXAS

Davis Site
Tarrant County Courthouse
Gulf, Colorado and Santa Pe Railroad
Passenger Station

Alto, Texas Fort Worth, Texas

Fort Worth, Texas



Texas State Historical Survey Committee Box 12276, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 Truett Latimer Executive Director

January 4, 1972

Dr. Robert J. Mullen Chief, Bureau of Registration National Register 801 19th Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20006

Dear Bob:

Under separate cover we are forwarding corrections for the National Register submissions which were rechecked here in our office and found to be in error. I trust that this means of correction will not confuse the issue.

There may possibly still be errors but to date these are the only ones we have discovered. If you will notify us of any errors of which you are aware we will be glad to treat the submissions similarly.

Sincerely,

Truett Latimer State Liaison Officer

By:

M. Wayne Bell, AIA Project Director

TL/MWB/pbs