

BUILDING TITLE: Masonic Temple **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 112 Lonsdale Street
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B |X| C || D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** hall
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # AHC File # NT File # Class || Rec ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Hospital Hill **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 || 3 |X|
STYLE: Roman Revival

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1915
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

- 1 foundation stone

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: rendered brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: cement render
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: concrete
Other: plain brick side walls

SURVEY DATE: 4/4/91 **NEG FILE:** 4/13 **REPORTER:** tfh

INTEGRITY: E |X| G || F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** Use of skulls in frieze and overdrawn if not Mannerist classical detailing.

CONDITION: E || G |X| F || P ||

SIGNIFICANCE: A key surviving building in this streetscape and for its architectural expression of the principles of the Masons

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate: Rec extensions at side and rear
Inappropriate: Rec front fence missing?

O=reinstate original design S=reinstate sympathetic alternative R=remove RAM=remove by approved method

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS: land to J Blastock 6/10/51
ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS: Worshipful Bro. Hammond, architect
W T Stephens, builder
TITLE: Sec CA
1 pt 7/8
(from foundation stone)
current owner Trustees Freemasons Hall

COUNCIL COMPUTER # 10107.0008

MORE INFO OVER |X| **HAMDS076**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Masonic Temple
112 Lonsdale Street

This building has regional significance for its architectural interest and for its historical associations with Hamilton's Freemasons, a powerful local group as in most Victorian country towns, - particularly with the facade's designer in 1915, local architect and Worshipful Brother in the Masonic Fraternity, Frank Hammond. (i) Hammond (1858-1932) was also Hamilton's Town Clerk from 1887 to 1890 and again from 1902 to 1923 and Town Engineer from 1902 to 1927. He designed many important Hamilton buildings including the 'fever ward' at the Hamilton Hospital, with Butler in 1897, Samuel H Palmer's splendid residence at 4 McIntyre Street (1901) and 1903 additions to the Mechanics' Institute at 47 Gray Street. Hammond was responsible also for a detailed beautification scheme relating to the conversion of Market Square into Melville Park completed in September 1909. (ii)

The choice of a classical style was mandatory for Hammond as the architectural expression of the principles of the Masons. The use of skulls in the frieze and other overdrawn if not Mannerist classical detailing is notable but overall the design is old-fashioned which is typical for the architect. The building is significantly intact and in good condition. It is a key surviving building in this streetscape.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution Of The Town: 1900s.
Professions: Architects.
Clubs & Lodges: Masonic Lodge
Sport & Recreation: Cultural

ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS

Fever Ward, Hamilton Hospital (1897)
Lyndhurst, 4 McIntyre Street (1904)
St Mary's RC Church, Lonsdale Street (1901) (additions)
Mechanics' Institute (1903) (additions)
Melville Park Beautification Scheme (1902-9)

REFERENCES

Masonic Temple foundation stone.
Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, 1984.
Hamilton Spectator, 29 March 1932 (obituary).

FOOTNOTES

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- i Masonic Temple foundation stone.
ii Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 123, 126, 138 & 181; *Hamilton Spectator*, 29 March 1932 (obituary); *Australian Architectural Index* (various tender notices).