

Masonic Temple  
1928

Building History

Lowell's Masonic Temple was built in 1928 on a site that formerly contained corporation housing for the Merrimack Manufacturing Company. Designed in the Neoclassical Revival style, the Dutton Street façade is built of sandstone while the side and rear facades are constructed of yellow brick. A staircase spans the length of the front façade while eight imposing, partially-engaged Doric columns divide this façade into seven bays. The Masonic insignia appears within the recessed arch above the central second floor windows.

Much of the building's interior design and appearance is based upon Masonic use, symbolism, and function. In addition to several paneled meeting and function rooms, Grecian Hall and Egyptian Hall are two of the more unique and spectacular interior spaces with their revival architectural detailing and features. An unusual and fascinating feature is the lighting scheme in Grecian Hall that portrays day and night skies through special lighting effects, a system that is unfortunately inoperable and present and in need of restoration.

The Masons moved from their Merrimack Street location at the Hosford Building to this building in 1928 where it has served their needs ever since.



*View of the Masonic Temple under construction on December 14, 1928, looking toward Merrimack Street. (Photo – Lowell National Historical Park)*



*View of the rear of the Masonic Temple under construction along Worthen Street on December 14, 1928, looking toward the Merrimack Manufacturing Company millyard, the site of present-day River Place Towers. Merrimack Company boardinghouses, demolished in 1966, are visible on the right side of Worthen Street beyond the temple. (Photo – Lowell National Historical Park)*