Subject(s): Kansas Masonic Home

Wichita Beacon
Tuesday, February 20, 1896
page 5. Masonic Grand Lodge meeting yesterday tentatively approved establishment of a Masonic Home, with site to be determined. Article says a property worth $75-80,000 at corner of Seneca and Maple streets, on West Side of Wichita can now be purchased for as little as $30,000. Details.

Friday, May 22, 1896
page 5. The committee on location of the Masonic Home arrived in Wichita today. Details.

Wednesday, June 3, 1896
page 5. The Masonic Home committee met at Topeka last night and decided to locate the Home at Wichita and to purchase the R. E. Lawrence property at the corner of Maple and Seneca streets, on the West Side. Details. Contributions totaling $42,000 have been made by the various Masonic lodges of the state. Of this $21,000 will be paid for the Lawrence property. Details.

Thursday, June 25, 1896
page 5. Report of a lawn fete given yesterday by the Order of the Eastern Star at the new Masonic Home. Over 2,000 people visited the home last night. One car after another left this side every few minutes for two hours, carrying people to the West Side. Details.

Tuesday, July 28, 1896
page 5. City council yesterday, at request of the board, took the Masonic home grounds into the city. This will give the home fire protection.
Sunday, September 5, 1896
5. The street car line on the West Side is being put in good condition to the handle the
crowd for the Masonic Home dedication next Thursday. The company has never yet
failed to handle a big crowd here satisfactorily.

Wednesday, September 8, 1896
5. Long article describing the Kansas Masonic Home, with details. To be dedicated
Thursday.

Friday, September 9, 1896

Saturday, September 10, 1896
5. Article about dedication of Masonic Home today. Drawing.

Wednesday, June 22, 1898
5. Directors of the Masonic Home yesterday decided to put in a new steam heating plant and
to add a wide veranda around the building. They also purchased a large plot in Maple
Grove cemetery.

Friday, August 26, 1898
5. Contract for the Masonic Home’s new building between the home and dormitory has
been let to W. H. Sternberg. To be two stories, of stone, and cost $7,500. Details.

Thursday, October 20, 1898
5. The new addition to the Masonic home is nearly completed. It is built on the rear or west
of the main building and from Maple street it gives the home a much more imposing
appearance.

Friday, February 3, 1899
5. The addition to the Masonic Home has been completed and accepted. Long article with
description.

Tuesday, November 17, 1903
page
1. Kansas Masonic home is planning to build an addition. Details.

**Thursday, May 12, 1904**

6. Board of directors of Kansas Masonic Home has decided to build a $5,000 addition to the building this year. Details.

**Wednesday, June 15, 1904**

6. Contract let yesterday for $3,700 addition to the Masonic Home to be built by contractor W. H. Sternberg. Work is to started at once. Details.

**Saturday, January 20, 1906**

12. Corner stone of the Eastern Star chapel of the Kansas Masonic home will be laid January 23rd, Tuesday. Details.

**Monday, September 10, 1906**

5. The chapel of the Order of the Eastern Star on the grounds of the Kansas Masonic Home is nearly completed. The electric wiring was finished last week and a test of the lights was made. Details.

**Thursday, June 13, 1907**

5. List of buildings under construction on West Side. Includes two eight room additions to Kansas Masonic Home, costing $6000.

**Saturday, January 25, 1908**

12. Annual meeting of board of directors of Kansas Masonic Home is to be held in Wichita Tuesday, January 28, and at that time erection of a $15,000 addition to the home will he considered. Details.

**Monday, February 24, 1908**

6. Meeting of the Masonic grand lodge council at Topeka last week decided to build a $20,000 addition to the Masonic Home in Wichita. It will have a 60 foot front adjoining the present main building on the south. Details. The new building will be devoted to the use of the children.

**Tuesday, February 25, 1908**

4. Article gives annual report of the Masonic Home for the year 1907. Details.
Thursday, May 28, 1908
page
3. Work has started on the foundation for the new addition to the Masonic Home. To be three stories, directly south of the present main building, and cost about $25,000.

Monday, July 13, 1908
page
5. Street car No. 164 with motorman C. E. Gear and conductor Don Hayworth struck and killed an 80 year old deaf man residing at the Masonic home this morning. Details.

Monday, August 8, 1910
page
3. Building permit issued Saturday for stone and brick one story building, 36 by 60 feet, to be erected just south of the Masonic Home and used as a hospital. Cost $9000. To be finished by September 15.

Saturday, January 28, 1911
page
1. Report of death today of Wichita pioneer, Robert E. Lawrence, age 63, at his residence, 1011 North Topeka. Had had a stroke of paralysis four years ago and again last Thanksgiving time. Born at Litchfield, Connecticut December 17, 1847. Grew up in Massachusetts. Came to Wichita in 1870 and preempted a claim which he called Maplewood. In 1896 this farm house was sold to the Masonic lodge and became the Masonic Home. Since 1896 he has lived at 1011 North Lawrence. ¶ Survived by wife, Laura, two sons, Charles S. and Harry A., and two daughters, Hattie A. and Ruth L. Lawrence, both living with their parents.

Friday, December 22, 1916
page

Saturday, December 23, 1916
page
1. Board of directors decided today to rebuild a new Kansas Masonic Home. Details.

Saturday, March 31, 1917
page
1. Drawing of proposed new building for Kansas Masonic Home. Article with details. To cost $260,000.

Tuesday, October 30, 1917
page
5. Work has begun on the superstructure for some of the new buildings for the Kansas Masonic Home.

Saturday, November 17, 1917

7. Cornerstone to be laid Sunday for the new Kansas Masonic Home building. Long article with history and details. Drawing. (“Lay Cornerstone Next Monday for new Kansas Masonic Home”)

Tuesday, November 20, 1917


Saturday, December 29, 1917

1. Summary of Wichita building permits during past year -- total was $3,741,749. Major buildings included the Skaer Apartments at Lawrence and English, $100,000, the Virginia Apartments on North Topeka, $40,000, the Lassen Hotel, $500,000, the Derby Building at 2nd and Lawrence, $110,000, the Cathedral and Interdale Apartments on North Lawrence, $125,000 each, and the Kansas Masonic Home, $225,000.

Wednesday, February 19, 1919

5. Report of dedication of new Masonic Home, which replaces the old one destroyed by fire, today. Details.

Saturday, October 18, 1919

3. Recent aerial photograph of Kansas Masonic Home. Two street cars are visible on Maple.

Thursday, January 19, 1922

5. Masonic Home board of directors Tuesday approved $50,000 in improvements, including two story building for use by the old men at the institution, a barn and a garage.

Thursday, July 6, 1922

7. Article reports extensive additions are to be made at the Masonic Home this year and in 1923. Details.

Friday, January 19, 1923

7. Between $150,000 and $300,000 is to be spent this year for an addition to the Kansas Masonic Home. Details.
Saturday, January 20, 1923
page
1. Article with further details about addition to be built by Kansas Masonic Home. To cost $200,000. To be started within 60 days.

Friday, May 18, 1923
page
7. Plans will be out tomorrow for the large addition to the Kansas Masonic Home, to cost about $125,000. Drawn by Glen H. Thomas and Scott Fullerton, architects.

Thursday, May 31, 1923
page
14. Contract let today to Eberhardt Construction Company for the addition to four wings of the Kansas Masonic Home for $77,400. Total contracts let was $113,240 including plumbing and heating, etc. Details.

Saturday, April 13, 1929
page
3. The Kansas Masonic Home board yesterday decided to proceed with building of a new unit similar to the present group of buildings but facing on Maple and Martinson. To cost about $400,00. Details.

Tuesday, September 3, 1929
page
5. Contract let yesterday to George Siedhoff Construction Company for the new unit of the Kansas Masonic Home, which will cost $400,000 equipped. Work is to start at once.

Monday, November 25, 1929
page
14. Photograph of addition to Kansas Masonic Home under construction.

Sunday, August 31, 1930
page
C-7. The large addition to the Kansas Masonic Home was completed last week. Article with details. Photograph. Architect is Edward L. Tilton, of New York City. Aerial photograph on Magazine page 5.

Wednesday, March 4, 1942
page
1. Report of death today of John Wenzel, 73, prominent Wichita building contractor for several decades, at his residence, 325 South Main Street. Among others, he built the Wichita Forum, Union Station, the Kansas Masonic Home, the home office of the Farmers and Bankers Life Insurance Company, and the Wenzel Apartments at Lewis and South Main. Born in Germany and came to United States at age four. Survived by his
wife, Lela, and a step-son in Indiana (named). Photo.
Please note: The “Tihen Notes,” as we call them, provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle or Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): Masonic Home

Wichita Eagle
Tuesday, June 25, 1896
page 5. Article about the new Masonic Home in Wichita.

Wednesday, August 12, 1896
page 5. Work of remodeling the new Kansas Masonic Home on the West Side began Monday and will be finished by September 7. Details.

Tuesday, September 1, 1896
page 5. Article describes the new Masonic Home at Seneca and Maple. Says it was designed by the great architectural firm of Proudfoot and Bird, who are now famous in Denver.

Thursday, September 10, 1896
page 5. Kansas Masonic home to be dedicated today. Details. Drawing.

Friday, September 11, 1896

Friday, February 18, 1898
page 5. The grand lodge of Masons voted $5,000 yesterday for building an addition to the Masonic home. Plans are drafted and work will begin early in the spring.

Wednesday, June 22, 1898
page 5. The board of directors yesterday voted to spend $10,000 for a new addition to the Masonic home and improvements to the present building. There will be a wide veranda surrounding
the building, which will be of the same material as the present building. A corridor will connect the two buildings.

Saturday, October 8, 1898
page 5. The walls are up to the first story on the new addition to the Masonic home.

Wednesday, January 4, 1899
page 5. The new dining room and kitchen of the Masonic Home was occupied yesterday. The bedrooms on the upper floor of the new addition have not yet come into use.

Wednesday, January 25, 1899
page 5. The Masonic home additions were completed yesterday.

Wednesday, May 30, 1900
page 5. New street railway bridge across river at Douglas avenue is nearing completion. Rails will probably be put down tomorrow and cars running over the bridge Saturday. ¶ Track gang has completed 600 feet of the track west of the river. The passing track is placed at the turn of the avenue at Sycamore street. If no train, track should be completed to Masonic home early next week. ¶ New boiler at power house was fired up yesterday. It is expected that the new generator will be ready for use soon.

Tuesday, June 17, 1902
page 6. Commodore Nelson reports the street car company has 250 tons of new steel rails at Ft. Wayne which will be shipped here at once and used to replace the old rails on South Main from Lincoln to Harry, on the West Side from the Masonic Home to Friends University, and on the Fairmount line from 1st street to the cemetery. More switches will also be put in on the West Side and Topeka avenue lines, after which there will be a ten minute service on that line.

Friday, June 27, 1902
page 6. The Wichita Railroad and Light company will begin the work of relaying the Fairmount track from Central to the Frisco crossing with 60 pound rails. When this is completed, College Hill cars will run through to the cemeteries on Sunday afternoons when there is 15 minute service instead of going to the summit of the hill, and it will not be necessary to transfer at the corner of Jersey and Douglas avenues as at present. ¶ When the ties arrive, work will begin on relaying the West Side track. The company will then establish ten minute service on the Topeka avenue-West Side line by placing another car in regular service on that line. Two more sidings will be placed, one at the Masonic home and one on North Topeka avenue.
¶ A loop will be placed at Harry street and also one at Fairmount.

Wednesday, December 16, 1903

6. Because of the many calls for Wichita souvenir postal cards, C. A. Tanner and Company have issued a beautiful set of ten cards of various scenes in and around Wichita. Separate cards show a fine scene of the court house, two park scenes, and a view of the Masonic Home. The remaining six cards contain groups of the prominent buildings, churches, and residences in the city, and one shows two scenes in Kansas wheat fields and a group of Kansas cowboys on their ponies.

Wednesday, January 27, 1904

5. Board of managers of the Masonic Home in Wichita last night voted to build an addition to the home costing $25,000.

Sunday, July 17, 1904

4. Work has been in progress for several weeks on a two story addition to the Masonic Home. The addition is of stone similar to that used in the main part of the building, and completion is expected within the next 60 days.

Sunday, August 13, 1905

5. Article reports contract to be let August 30 for addition of a dining room and 11 other rooms to the Kansas Masonic Home, as well as a new chapel. Details.

Thursday, September 14, 1905

5. Contract for the Masonic Home additions was let two weeks ago. The excavations will be completed this week, and work on the foundation will start the first of the week.

Sunday, December 17, 1905

4. Contract let for erection of a chapel at the Masonic home for $7,300. To be 47 feet by 53 feet and be completed by May 1.

Tuesday, January 23, 1906

5. Article reports cornerstone of the Eastern Star chapel at the Masonic home is to be laid today.

Sunday, August 26, 1906

5. Death notice of William H. Sternberg, contractor, who died yesterday at age 75. He was
contractor for the county court house, government building, south wing of Mt. Carmel Academy, Royce block, Fletcher block, Levy mansion at 1st and Topeka, so long the home of the Commercial club, the fine home of C. R. Miller, the residence of Charles Smyth on Waco avenue, George Pratt house on North Emporia, home of A. W. Bitting, etc., and the many additions to the Masonic home. Came to Wichita in 1877. Survived by two sons, William O. and Oscar E.

Wednesday, August 29, 1906
page 5.
The new chapel at the Kansas Masonic home will be dedicated September 10, which is the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the Kansas Masonic Home. Details. (Later -- date was delayed.)

Friday, May 15, 1908
page 5.
Contract has been let to Wurster Construction company of Wichita for a new $22,000 addition to the Masonic Home, to be built at south end of the main edifice and have a frontage of 120 feet. It will conform on the outside to the present main building. To be completed by January 1, 1909. ¶ The grand lodge paid Mr. Lawrence $20,000 for this fine property about 12 years ago.

Tuesday, July 14, 1908
page 10.
Street car Number 162 on West Side line struck and killed an elderly Masonic Home resident yesterday at Maple and Martinson streets.

Sunday, February 14, 1909
page 12B.
Photo of new addition to Masonic Home.

Thursday, May 12, 1910
page 5.
Improvements being carried out by Wichita street railway company. ¶ The work on new tracks on West Side line from Hiram east to Seneca on Maple will start today. The tracks will be torn up and there will be no service for two weeks or more until the work is completed. The new double track will be extended to the entrance of Masonic home, and a new switch will be constructed in front of the Trinity Methodist Episcopal church. Seventy pound rails will be used. ¶ Workmen have now finished laying brick pavement at the intersections of South Main with English and Watermen streets. The rest of the paving will be finished as soon as brick can be secured. The old track has been torn out as far south as Bayley street, and new double tracks put in its place. ¶ Hillside avenue work will begin June 1. New track will be laid for one mile and three new switches installed. ¶ Waco avenue has been finished and opened to traffic for the past two weeks. ¶ Owing to the amount of work to be done by the company this summer it is not probable that the Emporia avenue line will
be built. ¶ A new track will be laid on Central avenue from Main street to the park. ¶ Because of the legal battle between the Trinidad paving company and West Douglas property owners, nothing has been definitely decided in regard to the car line from Seneca street to Mt. Carmel.

Sunday, July 9, 1911

16. Children of the Kansas Masonic home were taken for boat ride at the Riverside Boat company last evening on the gasoline launch “Bessie May.”

Sunday, December 31, 1911

4-B. Article about marked growth and development of West Wichita. ¶ Includes photographs of:
   Midland Valley depot -- exterior and interior.
   Orient shops, with ten stall round house in foreground.
   New Riley-Holden block.
   New Odd Fellows hall.
   Trinity Methodist Episcopal church.
   Masonic home.
   Grotto at Mt. Carmel.

Friday, June 14, 1912

5. Masonic home to have a new 33 room addition costing $20,000. It is the original R. E. Lawrence home, built in 1888 and sold to the Masons in 1896, with several additions built since.

Saturday, August 2, 1913

2. Children from the Masonic Home were taken for a launch ride last night at the Riverside Boat company in the launch “Bessie May.”

Friday, December 22, 1916

1. Fire is burning the Kansas Masonic Home -- was a blazing mass of wood and masonry at 3:15 this morning. Temperature was six above zero. Possibly due to a defective furnace.

Extra
1. Kansas Masonic Home completely destroyed by fire this morning. Photograph before fire. Former residence of R. E. Lawrence, bought by Grand Lodge of Kansas in 1896 for $21,000. Home dedicated September 10, 1896. Since then $100,000 more spent on buildings alone.

Saturday, December 23, 1916
1. Photograph of burning Masonic Home and of building before fire. Five people killed.

8. Photographs of burned Masonic Home.

Thursday, December 28, 1916
page 5. Temporary one story building to be built to house residents of the Masonic Home.

Friday, January 26, 1917
page 12. The ruins of the Masonic home are being torn down. The foundation for the temporary replacement building will be laid today.

Friday, February 23, 1917
page 14. Masonic board agreed last night on plans for buildings to replace the Masonic home destroyed by fire December 22.

Friday, March 23, 1917
page 2. Edward L. Tilton of New York City has been commissioned as architect for the new Masonic Home. Drawing of general layout of buildings.

Tuesday, May 29, 1917
page 5. Kansas Masonic board met yesterday discussing plans for the new $240,000 Masonic home to be erected here soon to replace the one destroyed by fire last winter.

Sunday, November 4, 1917
page 5. Laying of the corner stone of the new Masonic Home to be held Monday, November 19. Cost will be approximately $500,000.

Tuesday, November 20, 1917
page 5. Article reporting on laying of corner stone yesterday for the new Kansas Masonic Home.

Thursday, August 22, 1918
page 5. The New Masonic Home building will be ready for occupancy about December 1.

Monday, December 9, 1918
page 5. Article about new Masonic home -- says by January 1 all of the residents should be settled
in their new quarters.

**Wednesday, February 19, 1919**

5. Formal dedication of new $300,000 Masonic Home to be held today.

8. Photograph of new Masonic Home.

**Friday, May 2, 1919**

1. Aerial photograph of downtown Wichita -- not very clear. It shows Memorial arch in place. Ackerman island extends to just opposite mouth of Little Arkansas river. Photograph by U.S. Air Service.

9. Aerial photographs of Union Stock Yards, Masonic Home, and Jones Motor Car company -- by U.S. Aerial Service and developed by Homer T. Harden, Wichita.

**Wednesday, January 18, 1922**

5. The directors of the Masonic Home have decided to build a $50,000 addition in the immediate future.

**Saturday, July 8, 1922**

5. Glen H. Thomas, architect, has been selected to draw plans for the new additions to the Masonic Home. This will be a second floor addition to the infirmary building.

**Sunday, May 13, 1923**

9A. Photograph of small claim house built for R. E. Lawrence in early days of Wichita on site of the present Masonic Home, and still in use as a chicken house by the Masonic Home.

**Friday, June 1, 1923**

3. Contracts let yesterday for construction of four additional wings to the Kansas Masonic Home in Wichita at total cost of about $150,000.

**Sunday, September 23, 1923**

Special issue for fall wheat show. Photographs of Forum, Masonic Home, new high school, Red Star mill, Kansas Gas and Electric plant, Kansas Sanitarium, string of boats in river above Murdock, Wichita Club, Barnes Building, etc. and various special articles.

**Sunday, December 9, 1923**
page
24. Photograph of Masonic Home.

Saturday, January 19, 1924
page
5. The new $150,000 additions to the Masonic Home are now 90 percent completed.

Sunday, August 5, 1928
page
Rotogravure
Photographs of Friends University, a building at Mr. Carmel, and the Kansas Masonic Home.

Thursday, February 21, 1929
page
1. Article says recommendation has been made to the Grand Lodge for enlargement of the Kansas Masonic Home. Photograph.

Friday, February 22, 1929
page
1. The Kansas Masonic Home board yesterday authorized the preparation of plans for expansion of the home. The added buildings will face on Martinson and be a duplication of the group now facing on Seneca. Cost will be approximately $400,000.

Friday, August 9, 1929
page
5. Article says addition to Kansas Masonic Home is expected to be started in September. Details.

Sunday, August 18, 1929
page
Magazine
3. Article about Mayor Charles S. Lawrence says his father, R. E. Lawrence, homesteaded a quarter section of land west of the Big River in May of 1870 (site of Masonic Home), bounded by what is now Maple, Seneca, Hiram, and McCormick.

Monday, October 28, 1929
page
2. Work is progressing well on the $400,000 addition to the Kansas Masonic Home, with completion expected in January or February.

Monday, November 25, 1929
page
6. Photograph of new addition to Kansas Masonic Home under construction.
Friday, December 27, 1929
page 2. Aerial photograph of Kansas Masonic Home with new addition under construction.

Sunday, June 22, 1930
page 4. Aerial photograph of Kansas Masonic Home showing the new addition, just completed.

Saturday, December 20, 1930
page 7. The recently completed new addition to the Kansas Masonic Home is now being occupied. Details.

Sunday, February 15, 1931
page Rotogravure
Aerial photographs of North High School, Masonic Home, stock yards, flour mills, University of Wichita, and downtown.

Thursday, February 19, 1931
page 3. Article reports the dedication yesterday of the new $400,000 addition to the Kansas Masonic Home. Details.

Sunday, September 8, 1946
page 2. The Kansas Masonic Home will celebrate its 50th anniversary today. Details. Photo.

Tuesday, December 16, 1947
page 5. Report of death of William Edward Lawrence, 91, a Wichitan more than 60 years and a pioneer merchant here. Died Saturday night at the Masonic Home. Ran a shoe store on North Main in pioneer days. Photo.

Friday, August 6, 1954
page 5A. Contracts let yesterday for $565,000 addition to the Kansas Masonic Home. Construction is to begin this fall. It will be a addition to the present infirmary and will provide room for 86 more persons, bringing total capacity of the infirmary to 161 patients. To be located at the southeast corner of the present home, on the grounds at Seneca and Maple. Thomas, Harris, Cahrin and Associates are architects. Details.

Tuesday, March 22, 1955
page
2A. Photos of the new addition to the Kansas Masonic Home under construction.

**Sunday, August 14, 1955**

5A. Photo of the practically completed $610,000 infirmary addition to the Kansas Masonic Home. Occupancy is expected in October when furnishings and equipment have been delivered.

**Saturday, November 26, 1955**

4A. The first residents of the new $700,000 infirmary addition to the Kansas Masonic Home were moved into their quarters yesterday, according to V. M. Liston, superintendent. Details.

**Sunday, March 8, 1959**

Magazine

22. Feature article about Kansas Masonic Home. Superintendent is S. Allen Daugherty. Details. Photos include aerial photo. Article is seven pages long.

**Sunday, July 26, 1959**

5A. Contracts let yesterday for a $70,000 remodeling of portions of the Kansas Masonic Home. Details.

**Tuesday, March 29, 1960**

7A. “Wichita Silhouettes” -- biography of S. Allan Daugherty, superintendent of the Kansas Masonic Home. Born in Hoquiam, Washington, the son of a carpenter, he was brought to Kansas at age five. Early schooling was at Blue Mound, Kansas, after which the family moved to Baldwin, Kansas. He and wife, the former Lucile Kramer, daughter of a Methodist minister, met during their freshman year in college in 1929 and were married in 1935. After graduation, he taught, as a coach, at Vinland, Kansas High School for a year and then entered the retail food business for 22 years. In 1957 he became administrator for the First Methodist Church in Topeka, and this was followed by his present job in November 1958. He resides at 918 Spaulding and has one son, Dennis A., a junior at Wichita University. Photo.

**Wichita Eagle-Beacon**

**Sunday, March 31, 1968**

9B. The old gymnasium at the Kansas Masonic Home is being remodeled to make space for new offices and storage. It was used when children were housed at the Masonic Home, but there have been no children there since 1959 and the gym has not been used.
Friday, September 20, 1968
10F. Article about Kansas Masonic Home. Photo.

Sunday, August 7, 1977
1B. Article about children who lived at the Kansas Masonic Home between 1896 and 1959, who are now holding a reunion. Details.