

Odd Fellows Temple - Reading, PA



Artist: Sylvia B. Deye, AIA

The building was designed by Stetler and Mengel, architects of Wyomissing for the Odd Fellows of Berks County, and was constructed during 1912-13. The Style of the building is Classic Revival Architecture consisting of a detailed drip course, stained glass windows, large pediment and pilasters. The total construction cost was \$75,000. Major contractors and the amount of materials used by each were: structural steel, E. Wager-Smith of Philadelphia - 60 tons; brick, Hummelstown Brown Stone Co. of Waltonville, PA - 500,000 bricks; plaster, Reading Lime Co., 622 N. 8th St. - 680 barrels of cement; mill work, Northeastern Planting Mill Co., 9th & Green Sts., - 100,000 feet of lumber and 1 barrel of nails; slag roof & basement damp-proofing, Lance Roofing & Waterproofing, West Side, Penn Street Bridge. Other materials used in construction were: 890 barrels of crushed stones; ½ tone of nuts, bolts and spikes; 96 panes of glass 12" x 19" (1st floor); 32 panes of glass 32" x 36" (2nd floor). The stained glass panels on the 3rd floor represent every branch of the Odd Fellows Order. They were designed by Winsfield S.H. Keck of Mt. Penn and made by Pittsburgh Art Glass Co. of Pittsburgh. The gallery of the auditorium is suspended by 6 steel I-beams, weighing 6 tons each. There are no posts or supports extending to the auditorium. The floor in the auditorium is maple wood. The building was dedicated the week of September 13-20, 1913.