

NORTH AMERICA

Introduction

Although North America was colonised by the French, Dutch and Spanish, as well as the British, all mainstream Masonry there was derived from the 'home' Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland, except for Louisiana, where the Grand Orient of France had a strong influence. For the most part, the story of the development of Freemasonry in what are now Canada and the United States of America will be told under the individual State or Province headings, in separate *sections* for each country. However, one aspect of Masonry in North America needs to be explained at the outset.

It cannot be denied that Freemasonry in the United States of America has developed on mainly racially-exclusive lines, with men of predominantly European stock in one group of Grand Lodges (mainstream, elsewhere called 'Caucasian' and 'George Washington'), and men of predominantly African stock in others, of which the Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation (PHA) is the largest group and has the clearest claim to compliance with mainstream criteria for recognition. With mainstream Grand Lodges in all 50 States and the District of Columbia, and PHA Grand Lodges or lodges in all except Montana and Vermont, both are featured in the entries under each State. The sequence of appearance under the State heading is determined by the date of foundation of the Grand Lodge. In most instances, this places the mainstream Grand Lodge first, but in Alaska the situation is reversed, with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge listed as 'A' and the mainstream Grand Lodge as 'B'. In those states where the existence of other Grand Lodges or their outposts is known, brief entries appear under the heading 'C'.

Prince Hall Masonry traces its ancestry to a single lodge in Boston, Massachusetts, chartered directly from the Grand Lodge of England in 1784. For both mainstream and PHA, the early history of Masonry in the colonies which became the United States of America is mainly the history of Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania, and the reader should refer to those headings for an outline of early development. Subsequent history is traced under the appropriate State and jurisdictional headings. It is regretted that, with regard to some of the Prince Hall entries, the subsequent historical notes are very brief or vague. This is a reflection of the lack of published histories, the limited access to existing publications, and a failure in many jurisdictions to reply to inquiries. On the other hand, in some jurisdictions there was a wealth of information generally available on the Internet, or supplied personally to the authors, and it is asserted with some confidence that this book presents the reader with more information about the Prince Hall fraternity than any other single volume to date.

Racial discrimination in Canada was not endemic, but men of African stock who moved north of the border and found refuge in Canada, nevertheless chose to erect their own lodges in several Provinces. In two instances, these lodges formed Grand Lodges, in Ontario as early as 1856, and in Alberta as recently as 1997. Entries for each Province, therefore, reflect the presence or absence of Prince Hall Masonry in the same manner as in the USA.

It has been said that Prince Hall and mainstream rituals and practices are almost identical. Since the authors have not been privileged to visit Prince Hall lodges, the claim cannot be confirmed. However, where differences have been discovered, they are mentioned in the text. Otherwise, the general remarks based on mainstream North American practices may be taken to *probably* apply to Prince Hall practices in the same area.

Note: Entries for North America are divided into three sections: United States of America, Canada, and Mexico. Within each section, the respective states and provinces are listed alphabetically.

Section 1

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Caveat

With nearly a hundred Grand Lodges in the United States to be described, it would be impossible to provide a lengthy report on each, individually. Fortunately, the ritual, customs and practices of most are very similar, and thus it is practicable to provide an expansive general text of American Freemasonry, followed by brief remarks for each jurisdiction separately, under State headings.

For the most part, differences that do exist are fairly minor. Nevertheless, it must be made perfectly clear that it is impossible to detail minutely the practices of all American jurisdictions, as they may affect or interest the visitor. Rather, the aim here is to provide the visitor with a wide and reasonably detailed impression of what he may expect in the majority of cases. The visitor must be aware that much of the information about to be provided is not necessarily applicable America-wide, and not necessarily applicable to Prince Hall Masonry. Where this is the case, varying degrees of qualification are added to the general text, as appropriate.

General notes for visitors

Meetings

As a general rule, lodges in the United States meet at least twice per month, often on a fortnightly basis. One meeting is called the 'Stated Meeting' or 'Regular' communication, while other meetings are referred to as 'Special', 'Called', or 'Emergent'.

Recess Months

Visitors should note that most American lodges, regardless of jurisdiction, recess in the northern summer months of July and August. A small number of lodges will 'be dark' in June and/or September. An increasing number of lodges in northern American areas are recessing in January and February instead of, or in addition to, July and August in order to avoid the expense of heating their temples.

Stated Meetings

These meetings are often held monthly at a fixed time (for example: 2nd Monday, 3rd Thursday, 4th Tuesday). They do not necessarily involve a degree conferment ceremony, but are more usually business meetings adopted for the conducting of the routine affairs of the lodge. This includes such things as reading minutes, correspondence, receiving reports, and conducting ballots. In the past, for these meetings the lodge would be opened in the third degree in all jurisdictions. Indeed, no lodge in the United States would open proceedings in the first or second degree except when those degrees were to be conferred. Quite obviously, only Master Masons could attend business meetings and indeed, a Mason was not a member of a lodge until he has taken the third degree. In recent years, this has begun to change. Those jurisdictions where a lodge may, or does, open in the first degree for business are indicated in the text.

The American Stated meeting, as a purely business meeting, is somewhat analogous to the Standing Committee or Committee of Past Masters which forms the administrative body of an English-type lodge. However, two major differences are noteworthy. Firstly, the administrative body of an English lodge does not meet as part of a regular, typed meeting. Secondly, in English lodges, administration devolves largely on Past Masters, whereas in the United States every Master Mason has an equal say, and vote, in the running of his lodge, through its business meetings.

Nonetheless, it must be clearly indicated that in many American jurisdictions, a business meeting and a degree conferment are undertaken, on occasions, within the same stated meeting. Procedures in this regard may even vary between lodges within a single jurisdiction. In many lodges, a degree conferment and a business meeting will be held together at a stated meeting on the basis of available work. An example might be that if one conferment of a degree is available to a lodge in a given month, then it will have a stated meeting, without degree work, followed two weeks later by a special meeting for the degree conferment. If

two conferments are available, one might be done at the stated meeting, and the other at a special meeting. Of course, a number of variations to this pattern are in use.

Special Meetings

While stated meetings are held monthly on a day fixed by a lodge's by-laws, special meetings are held when convenient, in many jurisdictions. Such a meeting might be held one or two weeks before or after a stated meeting, and they are most often called specifically to conduct a degree conferment. The lodge will open directly into the degree to be conferred. In the majority of jurisdictions, special meetings are only called when there is degree work to be undertaken, or for some other special reason such as an Installation, or for the visit of a Grand officer. Often, there is no set limit to the number of special meetings that may be called in any one month. As the need arises, a lodge might call two or more such meetings between its stated meetings, although this is not common these days. It must also be noted that in some jurisdictions, lodges are required to fix regular dates for two meetings per month (one stated, one special) in their by-laws. Again, in some States this is optional, so that the visitor might find some lodges advertising two regular meetings, and others only one. Where a lodge has two fixed meetings per month, these are almost invariably held at fortnightly intervals.

Meeting Times

The meeting times of American lodges are not easy to detail because, as with days of meeting, there are few constants. Daylight lodges are becoming increasingly popular, but there is no set time for them. Some have a meal before the meeting and some after, and meetings may start in the morning or afternoon. Evening meeting times are largely linked to the type of meeting, the work of the lodge, and to its repast. In broad terms, these may be grouped into three categories, as follows:

Stated Meeting, without Degree Work

Lodges generally meet at a time between 7 pm and 8 pm, open directly in the third degree, conduct a business meeting, and close in the third degree. In a minority of jurisdictions, lodges are required to state the time of opening of the stated meeting in their by-laws. Often this will be 7.30 pm.

Stated Meeting, with Degree Work

Lodges often open between 5.30 pm and 6 pm, directly in the degree to be worked (whether first, second or third) and conduct the first part of the ceremony. The lodge will then adjourn for a repast between 6.30 and 7 pm. At about 7.30 to 8 pm, the lodge will open in the third degree for its business meeting, which will usually consume about half an hour. At the conclusion of the business, the lodge will then be resumed in the degree of the ceremony commenced prior to the repast, and the ceremony will be finished. There are a number of varying patterns to this format. In some areas or jurisdictions, the repast will be taken prior to the opening of the lodge, while in others, the business meeting might be held before or after the degree ceremony, rather than breaking in the middle for this purpose. This later occurrence is not particularly common, as Americans tend to prefer to work degree ceremonies in two parts. Indeed, American Webb-form rituals are mostly structured in this manner.

Special Meeting

The meeting times of special meetings tend to largely follow those of stated meetings with degree work. The lodge will often be opened in the degree to be worked at or about 6.30 pm, whereupon the first part of the ceremony will be conducted. Again, the ceremony will usually be broken by a repast, often commencing at about 7.30 pm.

Visiting in terms of Meetings and Meeting times

In view of the foregoing, the visitor will now doubtlessly appreciate that planning ahead to visit an American lodge involves specific local knowledge. The only lodge meeting for which a date is often fixed is the stated meeting and, depending on the lodge or the jurisdiction, a visitor attending such a meeting might well find no degree work being performed. As special meetings are not often fixed, it can be fairly difficult to plan a visit well in advance without specific information. Again, the variations of meeting times do not assist the visitor.

Nonetheless, with these matters identified, visiting any American lodge does not pose a real problem. However, a visit to the appropriate Grand Lodge office, or to the main temple in any of the larger American cities, is a prerequisite to expeditious visiting. Upon such a visit, the travelling Mason can be assured of every courtesy and assistance. It will be noted that not all Grand Lodge offices are located in the largest city or population centre of a State. Where this is the case, the addresses of Temples in the larger cities are provided in the preliminary information under the jurisdictional headings.

Dress

In general terms, the dress required for attending American lodges is often of a far more relaxed nature than is normal in Britain and Europe. Indeed, the majority of American jurisdictions do not impose dress regulations by Grand Lodge statute, but rather rely on convention. In a number of jurisdictions, business suits are worn, but usually sports coats and open neck shirts are also acceptable for ordinary members. It is more standard for lodge officers to wear a business suit to meetings, and even dinner suits (tuxedos), especially to 'special nights', such as an Installation. Generally, the more southerly the jurisdiction (and therefore the warmer the weather), the more relaxed will be the dress worn by members attending lodge meetings. In order to cover all contingencies, unless a visitor has specific local knowledge to the contrary, the best advice is for him to visit in a dark business suit. White gloves are worn by lodge officers in some jurisdictions, but it is unlikely a visitor will have any need of these.

Prince Hall requirements tend to be stricter than mainstream, with dinner suits or dark suits in northern jurisdictions, and some concession to warmer temperatures in the south, at least in the summer. A visitor in a dark suit, white shirt, black socks, shoes and tie would probably be acceptable in all jurisdictions.

Regalia

The regalia worn by American Masons is rather different from that of British or Australian Masons. The first point to note is that most lodges in most American jurisdictions supply aprons for members and visitors. Generally, a Past Master will own his own apron, but in some jurisdictions lodges own a few old, ornate aprons for use by their revered Past Masters. Even so, a visitor of any rank who owns his own apron is certainly welcome to bring and wear it in an American lodge.

Aprons are generally of plain white cloth, or with blue trimming, but no insignia indicating ranks of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft or Master Mason. These distinctions are made by the manner in which the apron is worn. In most jurisdictions, the newly initiated Entered Apprentice is presented with a plain white lambskin apron, and is instructed to put it away carefully and keep it for his funeral. Often, a record of the Craft degrees subsequently taken are recorded beneath the flap. Grand Lodge regalia throughout the American jurisdictions tends to be far less ornate than the gold-trimmed aprons of the British type.

In short, having assimilated the position regarding American regalia, the visitor should have no hesitation in attending a lodge regardless of whether or not he is carrying regalia.

Lodge After-proceedings

A heading of *After-proceedings*, in regard to American Masonry, is to some extent a misnomer. The terms 'festive board' and 'refectory', common in English usage, are largely unknown in America. As previously indicated, American lodges commonly hold a repast in the middle of proceedings. The repast can take the form of a dinner or a supper, depending largely on the preferences of the lodge and the work to be undertaken. Some lodges rarely hold a dinner, except perhaps on nights of Installation, but instead hold a supper. In addition, a not insignificant number of lodges have neither a dinner nor a supper associated with lodge meetings. Again, in some lodges, a dinner will only be held at a stated meeting, or when the Master Mason degree is conferred, or perhaps only at a special event. It is, therefore, something of an understatement to say that dining arrangements associated with American lodges vary widely.

Whether or not a particular lodge engages in a dinner or supper as an adjunct to any meeting, the vast majority of American lodges, regardless of jurisdiction, provide a very light repast after proceedings have concluded. This is usually referred to as a 'collation'.

In virtually every jurisdiction of the United States, the provision of alcohol at any dinner or supper associated with a lodge meeting, or any Masonic function, is not permitted. In some, this ban is simply achieved by not allowing alcohol onto Masonic premises. In fact some jurisdictions have gone much further

in an aversion to alcohol being associated with Freemasonry, to the extent of ruling that persons associated with the liquor trade could not become or remain Masons. Some of those which had this restriction subsequently amended it to ban persons involved in *unlawful* trading in liquor.

A small number of jurisdictions do permit alcohol to be available to members and visitors after a lodge meeting has closed; in other words, at the 'collation'. In the States where this is permissible, the matter is left to the discretion of individual lodges, but always under strict conditions. Nonetheless, it is often only a small majority which avail themselves of this option. In addition, a small number of jurisdictions do not oppose the provision of wine at a table lodge. The table lodge ceremony will be examined shortly.

Another factor which may appear somewhat strange to the overseas visitor is that no toasts of any nature are proposed during the normal repasts of American lodges, the table lodge being the only exception. There is certainly no prohibition to the proposition of toasts in any American jurisdiction. Rather, toasting appears to have never found its way into general American custom. Nonetheless, at a dinner or supper, visitors are sometimes called upon to speak. A visitor from outside the United States is likely to be called upon in preference to a local visitor.

It is unusual in the United States for lodge dues to cover the costs of any repast associated with meetings except, perhaps, the 'collation'. It is far more usual for members to contribute to the expenses of dinners and suppers on each occasion that they are provided. Thus, general American practice in this area parallels the English. Members are usually encouraged to purchase tickets for major lodge repasts which, depending on the expanse of the meal provided, may cost anything from five to twenty dollars, or more. As a result of this system, pre-booking for meals is the norm. While this is appreciated on the part of visitors, no visitor will be prevented from attending any meeting without prior notice, but on the contrary will be welcomed warmly. It can clearly be seen that issuing invitations to visitors to attend American lodges is quite rare; visitors are most welcome to attend any lodge meeting without any forewarning, subject to the usual proofs of regularity and good standing. Regardless of whether a visitor has booked a meal or not, it would be unlikely for him to be asked to contribute. However, should he become a regular visitor at any particular lodge, he may then be expected to pay.

As has already been indicated, most visitors will find it a practical necessity to gain meeting details at an appropriate Grand Lodge office, or major Temple, to facilitate a lodge visit. The visitor will then invariably find that the lodge he intends to visit will receive some forewarning of his imminent presence.

The Table Lodge

A most interesting custom associated with modern American Masonry is the Table Lodge ceremony. This has many similarities to English festive board practices—as well as several obvious differences.

The table lodge is an old Masonic custom dating back several centuries, and stems from the earliest speculative times, or perhaps earlier, when it was common practice in England for lodges to convene in taverns and inns. In England, table lodge practices of these earlier times have evolved into the festive board so familiar to English Masons. In America, it would appear that table lodges in varying forms were certainly characteristic of early lodge meetings. However, it would seem that by the nineteenth century these practices had died out and were replaced by the current American system. In relatively recent years, mainstream jurisdictions have widely supported the revival of table lodges, and the practice also occurs in Prince Hall jurisdictions. The revived table lodge ceremony is a translation from an early French ceremony, which itself derives from England prior to the English union of 1813. Various regulations adopted by the US Grand Lodges have led to some divergences in its practice across the spectrum of American Masonry, but basically the ceremony used is similar throughout the USA.

The table lodge ceremony varies from an English festive board in several major ways. Firstly, it is a tyled meeting, and only Masons may be in attendance. Secondly, it involves a ritual catechism for its opening and closing. It must be held on Masonic premises, invariably in a dining room. The opening and closing of the table lodge is roughly analogous to the opening and closing of an actual English lodge, although in a much abbreviated form. The catechism involved is almost solely between the Master and one or both Wardens. Thereafter, the ceremony differs somewhat between jurisdictions. There are two main forms.

In the first form, dinner follows the opening. After the repast, those present are welcomed by the Master, who then introduces a guest speaker. There follows a toast list, generally limited to seven toasts, which are similar to the toast programme of an English festive board. The main point of difference is that the wording

of the toasts is often prescribed in the table lodge ritual and where this occurs, this wording must be used. The form of layout of the table lodge is quite similar regardless of which type of ritual is used. An example layout follows. Extra tables are added parallel to the side tables shown in the diagram below [NB Not available in PDF format].

The following is a sample toast list in the first main form, each toast being followed by a response in unison:

To our Country

This toast is always proposed by the Master,
and followed by a pledge of allegiance to the American flag.

To the Craft

This toast may be proposed by any member who is so designated by the Master.
It may be followed by a short talk on some significant aspect of Masonry.

To the Memory of Departed Brethren

Again, this toast may be delegated to any member.

To the Grand Lodge of . . .

This toast is often proposed by a Past Master.
If a Grand Lodge officer is present, he may be called upon to respond.

To the Lodge

This toast is proposed by the Junior Warden.

To our Visiting Brethren

This toast is proposed by the Senior Warden.
A reply is made by a forewarned visitor.

To all Freemasons Wheresoever Dispersed

This is the Tyler's Toast, and the wording is almost identical to that used in England.

In the second main form, the toasts are spaced throughout the repast rather than being given afterwards. After the opening, the first two toasts of this form will often be given before the meal commences. The first five toasts are different, and are:

To the President of the United States

To the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge

To the Master

To the Wardens

To our Brothers in the Armed Forces

The sixth and seventh toasts are the same in both the main forms.

After the toast list is completed, regardless of the form, the table lodge is then closed according to the ritual. Indeed the opening and closing rituals are largely identical across the United States. The first form just described is more common in the mid-western jurisdictions, while the second form is commonly used in the eastern States. It is interesting to note that most toasts are accompanied by Masonic Fires, some of which are quite spectacular. In a number of jurisdictions, the use of the table lodge is restricted to once per year. Even in those jurisdictions where this restriction does not apply, it is unusual for frequent use to be made of it. Indeed, some lodges fail to use it at all, even though they are entitled to do so. There is evidence to suggest that its use is becoming increasingly popular. Other regulations sometimes associated with a table lodge include the necessity of obtaining Grand Lodge permission before it is held, and the necessity of having a Grand officer in attendance when it is presented.

In almost all jurisdictions, the general ban on alcohol at Masonic occasions equally applies to table lodges. However, some Grand Lodges do permit a small quantity of wine to be available for toasts, invariably under strict regulations. It is rare for there to be any restrictions as to the type of meeting to which a lodge may associate a table lodge, although in practice many lodges call a special meeting for the purpose.

As visitors will readily appreciate, the intermittent use of the table lodge ceremony in American Masonry makes it difficult to plan a visit to witness one. Interested visitors are advised to make inquiries at any Grand Lodge office they happen to attend, whereupon they will readily receive details of any lodge which will be using the ceremony during their stay.

Nights of Installation

Nights of Installation in American lodges vary considerably from the English pattern. The first point to note is that virtually nowhere in America is a night of Installation assigned to a specific date. Instead, it is the night of *election* that is often fixed. The actual Installation will be held perhaps two or three months later, at a special meeting.

The Night of Election

This occasion is held annually for the purposes of electing a new Master, and certain other senior officers of the lodge. The date of it is usually fixed, and it takes place at a stated meeting. The Master-Elect then has two to three months to plan his year in office prior to his Installation. Another common feature of most American jurisdictions is the Annual Meeting or more correctly, the Annual Business Meeting. This is sometimes held on the night of Installation, just prior to that event, but certainly not always. Another practice in this regard, although less common, is to hold the Annual Meeting in concert with the election. The Annual Meeting will receive annual reports from various sources, and at it the lodge committees for the ensuing twelve months will be elected or appointed.

The Night of Installation

As has already been mentioned, a night of Installation is keyed to a night of election. Therefore, while its date is rarely fixed as such, it is held in each lodge at about the same time every year. In some jurisdictions, Installations are required to be held on or near the festival of St John the Baptist, or St John the Evangelist. These two patron saints of Freemasonry figure in Webb-form ritual and are viewed with special affection by the body of American Masonry. Again, in not a few jurisdictions all lodges are required to install in one particular month, or before a certain date each year. Two main features characterise an American Installation, both of which are opposite in nature to British-type practices. Firstly, common in the United States is the public Installation. Secondly, the Board of Installed Masters has no prominent place in an American Installation ceremony.

The 'Public Installation'

To the overseas Mason, the 'Public Installation' of a new Master will at first view appear strange indeed. To begin with, the term 'Public Installation' is not strictly correct, although it is the usual American designation. Actually, only part of the ceremony is public, and even then non-Masons in attendance are present only by invitation. Invitations are only extended, as a rule, to the relatives and friends of members. Of course, invitations are necessary only for non-Masons, and not for Masonic visitors, who may freely attend. Public Installations are not only permitted by all American Grand Lodges, in many they are actively encouraged. No lodge is under any compulsion to 'open' its Installation, but nevertheless there are few that do not.

An English Mason will be interested to know, perhaps with some relief, that not all parts of an American Installation are open to non-Masons. The opening of the lodge is restricted to Masons. An example of an Installation programme might be:

- Opening at 5 pm in the Third Degree for a Business Meeting, followed by an adjournment.
- At maybe 6.30 pm a dinner will be held, attended by members and visitors, Masonic and non-Masonic.
- At 8 pm the lodge will resume for the 'Public' Installation of the Master and Investiture of Officers.

This part of the ceremony has been adapted somewhat. Of course, during the 'public' proceedings the use of any esoteric ceremonial is avoided.

The example programme just outlined is subject to fairly wide variations. Often a dinner will be held after the meeting rather than in the middle, or no dinner will be held at all. If the latter occurs, the 'collation' available afterwards might well be more substantial than usual. Again, meeting times are apt to vary from lodge to lodge, often depending on the Installation programme.

Qualifying the Master-Elect

While the Chair degree of Installed Master forms no part of an actual American Installation, it is nonetheless a prerequisite for the Master's Chair. All American Grand Lodges require that a Master-Elect possess the secrets of an Installed Master prior to his Installation. This procedure is often called Qualifying the Master-Elect. There are two ways this may be achieved. The Installed Master's degree may be conferred at a Lodge of Qualification, or on an actual night of Installation in a side room. The first method is by far the most common. A Lodge of Qualification will bring together the Masters-Elect of a number of lodges, usually on a district basis, whereupon the degree will be conferred on them collectively. Where the degree is conferred on an individual Master, this will be done *in camera* at an appropriate point on his night of Installation. Regardless of the method used, only Installed Masters may be present. The method employed varies between jurisdictions, but in most the Lodge of Qualification is favoured, with the degree only being conferred on a Master-Elect at his actual Installation if for some reason he was unable to be present at the Lodge of Qualification.

This degree in America is universally called the Actual Past Master degree. The reason for this is that the same, or a similar, degree is conferred in Royal Arch Chapters as part of the York Rite. In that context it is called the Virtual Past Master degree. The holder of the York Rite degree certainly has none of the rights or privileges of a Mason who is an actual Installed Master of a Craft lodge. The York Rite will be examined in some detail below.

In terms of the visitor, he will experience no problems in attending an American Installation other than those he may find in attending a normal meeting. Once again, as Installations in the United States are not often held on fixed dates, the visitor is well advised to make his inquiries at a Grand Lodge office.

Visiting in general

The Initial Approach, and the Dues Card

Upon entering the domain of an American lodge, the visitor will first approach the Tyler's table. An American or Canadian visitor will present his current Dues Card, and seek admission. The Dues Card is another practice largely peculiar to North America. While all American Grand Lodges prescribe a Master Mason's Diploma (certificate), it is most unusual for an American Mason to carry this document when visiting. The Dues Card is universally accepted in America as proof of current financial membership of a Craft lodge. Of course, elsewhere, many jurisdictions do not issue Dues Cards. Visitors from these areas should present their Grand Lodge Certificates, a letter of introduction from their Grand Lodge (if they possess one), and some form of receipt of dues to show that they are currently financial members of a Craft lodge. It is this receipt of dues that will be of greatest interest to the hosting American lodge.

Recognition and the Tyler's Oath

Having examined a visitor's credentials to show that he is, indeed, a financial Mason, it will still be necessary for the Tyler to determine if the visitor comes from a recognised jurisdiction. Of course, this will usually be 'taken as read' for an American or Canadian visitor, but for 'foreign' visitors, reference is often made to a book on the Tyler's table which lists almost every mainstream lodge and Grand Lodge in the world, and cross-references the various Grand Lodge recognitions. This is invariably the *List of Lodges, Masonic*, published annually in the United States, and circulated to every lodge which cares to purchase it, which is most of them.

Once the visitor has satisfied the Tyler as to his *bona fides*, he will then usually be passed over to one or two Past Masters of the lodge, to take a brief Masonic examination. Americans are generally particularly vigilant in this area, and the examination will be thorough, but should pose no problems to the true and lawful brother. At the examination, the visitor will usually be called upon to take the Tyler's Oath. This procedure is largely unknown outside the American continent. In some American jurisdictions it is referred to as a 'Test Oath'. It is considered monitorial, and so may lawfully be repeated here:

I,, in the presence of God and these witnesses, do hereby and hereon, solemnly and sincerely swear that I have been regularly initiated as an Entered Apprentice Mason, passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft and raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason in a just and legal manner; that I do not stand suspended or expelled from any Lodge of Masons, nor do I know of any reason why I should not hold Masonic communication with my brethren. So help me God.

Visitors in some Prince Hall jurisdictions may be fortunate to witness the proving of a Prince Hall Mason by either of two interesting ceremonies, one of which is called 'Walking the Tyler's Sword', and the other 'Entry on 3, 5 or 7 (steps)'. Not all jurisdictions are known to use either or both ceremonies, and the authors are reluctant to describe them because they may be 'secret' in some jurisdictions. It is unlikely that visitors other than Prince Hall Masons would be subjected to these tests.

Entry into the Lodge, and the Flag Ceremony

Having passed the necessary avouchment procedures, the visitor may now enter the lodge room. He will be supplied with regalia, should he not be carrying his own. All members and visitors assemble in the lodge room for the opening. Generally, only the visit of a Grand officer, or another lodge on an official visit, will occasion an admittance once the lodge is opened, latecomers excepted. Even so, procedures in this regard do vary between jurisdictions. Generally, the lodge will be opened directly in the Master Mason degree. During the opening procedures, it is not uncommon for the lodge Deacons to purge the lodge, demanding certain modes of recognition from those present.

An interesting ceremony sometimes applied during the opening of a lodge in America is the Flag Ceremony, or more correctly, the 'Reception of the Flag of our Country'. All American lodges must display the American Flag within the lodge room. The ceremony involves certain lodge officers retiring from the lodge to collect the flag, and re-entering to present it to the Master. The Master then leads those present in a Pledge of Allegiance, which is usually accompanied by the singing of *America* or *The Star-Spangled Banner*. During the closing of the lodge, the flag will be retired with similar ceremony. It should be noted that in most jurisdictions the Flag Ceremony is only used, as a rule, at certain meetings such as the annual election and the lodge Installation. However, in every jurisdiction, a flag ceremony is always used at the opening and closing of a Grand Lodge meeting.

The closing of a lodge

Towards the closing of an American lodge, it is not uncommon for visitors to be asked to speak, although if time is running late this might be dispensed with. Visitors will be asked to rise, and state their name, lodge and jurisdiction. Visitors from some distance are more likely to be asked if they wish to speak. It is most desirable to be brief.

Special visits

There are two other occurrences which the visitor may encounter at American lodges: a Fraternal Visit and an Official Visit. A Fraternal Visit can mean differing things, depending on the jurisdiction. Either it is the visit of one lodge to another (master, officers, and members) or it is a visit by a local Grand officer. It is quite common in the large majority of American jurisdictions for lodges to be grouped into Districts under a local Grand officer. It is usually incumbent upon this officer to visit each of his lodges at least once per year. The American District System will be examined more fully below.

An official visit in a number of jurisdictions consists of the attendance at a lodge by the local Grand officer for the purposes of 'inspecting' the lodge. Upon entry, he will examine the lodge charter, its by-laws, and its records to ensure that they are in order, and he will receive the annual dues payable to the Grand Lodge. He will also witness an exemplification of a degree ceremony. In practice, his inspection of lodge records is usually a symbolic ceremony to a great extent, as the official purposes of the visit will normally have been already dealt with in a meeting with the lodge's Master and Secretary.

An Official or Fraternal Visit largely affords the only examples whereupon a group of Masons will be admitted, with some ceremony, into an American lodge after it has been opened. In many jurisdictions, it is usual to call a special meeting for the purpose of receiving such a visit. Of course, the official visit of a Grand Master or senior Grand officer will also be received with great ceremony, but in most jurisdictions, particularly those with a large number of lodges, such visits tend to be infrequent. It must be noted, in addition, that the terms Fraternal Visit and Official Visit can be found to be interchanged between some American jurisdictions.

As with usual British-type practices, a visit from a local Grand officer often coincides with a lodge Installation. The American system of lodge inspection is largely a reflection of another difference between American and British-type customs. In America, with some exceptions, there is no such thing as a Past Grand Officer, or Past Grand Rank (except for Past Grand Masters, of which there is an abundance).

Limitations of visiting American Lodges

In addition to general limitations imposed on any Mason visiting from one lodge to another (as discussed earlier in this guide), there is a further limitation that the visitor may encounter in America. In some jurisdictions, a visitor will not normally be present during a Business Meeting, and more particularly during an Annual Meeting. Of course, such a restriction will not apply to a visitor attending a degree ceremony, or other type of meeting. Nonetheless, even in those jurisdictions where attendance at a Business Meeting by a visitor is not usual, many Masters will grant permission to an overseas visitor upon request.

The Family and American Masonry

It is difficult to delve much further into the realms of American Masonry without discussing it in the context of the family. Probably one of the first things that will become apparent to the overseas visitor is that Freemasonry in the United States is not simply for the man alone, but rather it involves the entire family. The male Freemason will be a member of one or more Craft lodges. In America, these are consistently referred to as Blue lodges. He will often be a member of a number of additional degrees, as well.

For his wife, there are several 'Masonic' orders, such as the Order of the Eastern Star, the Order of Amaranth, and others. For girls, there is the Order of Job's Daughters, and the Order of the Rainbow. For boys up to the age of twenty-one, there is the Order of DeMolay. These organisations for the Masonic family are not Masonic as such: they contain no ritual or forms in any way imitative of Freemasonry. However, in America, these bodies are certainly associated or identified with Masonry. For the women's orders such as the Eastern Star, a definite Masonic relationship is a prerequisite for membership. In other words, the female candidate for the Eastern Star must be wife, mother, sister, aunt, daughter, or some other relative of a Freemason. A Masonic relationship is not necessary for the children's orders, but nevertheless the vast majority of children involved tend to be related to Freemasons. Masons may be members of the essentially female orders, such as the Eastern Star. In addition, Masons and Eastern Star Sisters tend to act as organisers and guardians for the various children's orders.

These organisations have their counterparts in the Prince Hall fraternity, generally with identical or very similar names. The Order of the Eastern Star is even more closely associated with the Craft than in the mainstream jurisdictions. The Grand Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star is sponsored and protected by the Grand Lodge; the jurisdictions of the two coincide geographically, even to the extent of military chapters in the same overseas postings as military lodges; and the *Prince Hall Masonic Directory*, published every few years, lists every Eastern Star chapter as it does every Prince Hall lodge. The equivalent of DeMolay among the youth of the Prince Hall fraternity is the Knights of Pythagoras.

It must be noted that outside North America these organisations for the Masonic family are sometimes not approved by Grand Lodges, particularly those of direct British descent. Indeed, the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland look upon them with consistent disapproval, and will not permit their members to belong to them, with the exception of the Eastern Star in relation to Scotland. It is therefore most advisable for the overseas visitor to be well aware of his own Grand Lodge's policies and statutes in these matters.

Membership

Another fact which may well surprise the overseas visitor is that lodge memberships in the United States tend to be very large. In the bigger cities of America, it is far from uncommon to find lodges with memberships of more than a thousand. Naturally, in smaller centres these huge memberships are not reached, but nevertheless across the national Masonic spectrum, many lodges will fit into a two hundred to eight hundred membership range. Indeed, in many jurisdictions, should a lodge find itself reduced to one hundred members, it will generally be looking to merge with some other lodge. Conversely, of course, in many jurisdictions outside of North America a lodge possessing more than one hundred members will be considered large.

Reasons for large membership

It would appear that there are two main reasons for the mammoth memberships of American lodges. Firstly, the costs of running lodges and maintaining lodge buildings in America are very high. This is accentuated by

the fact that individual lodges tend to own individual Masonic temples. Therefore, a large membership is usually needed to maintain a sound financial position.

Secondly, high lodge memberships are often enforced by the territoriality of American lodges, and by regulations relating to dual and plural membership. The majority of American lodges, either by statute or custom, have custody over candidates in their immediate geographical area. This custody may be shared by one or more other lodges in the same area, whereupon it becomes joint custody. In other words, a man seeking to join Freemasonry may only petition a lodge located in the vicinity of his residential address. Larger cities are often divided into territories for Masonic purposes. In addition, it is far from uncommon for a lodge to object to a new lodge being formed in its territory as this will, it is argued, limit its potential membership.

Dual and Plural Membership

In terms of dual and plural membership, American practices in this area also assist in ensuring large lodge memberships. A number of Grand Lodges only permit single membership; in other words a Mason may belong to only one Craft lodge. Some Grand Lodges do allow dual membership, but more commonly permit members to belong to one lodge in its jurisdiction and one lodge in another, rather than to two lodges within its own boundaries. Only a minority of American Grand Lodges permit plural membership.

The sum total of all these factors means that the actual number of lodges is kept relatively low in most jurisdictions of the United States, and this in turn forces high memberships. In addition, the American system for convening a virtually unregulated number of special meetings allows for a great many men to join Freemasonry.

The Higher Degree factor

A rather obvious effect of large memberships is that the average Mason might be excused for thinking that his personal scope for involvement in lodge activities is somewhat limited. This is doubtlessly one of the main reasons why the higher degrees are extremely popular in the United States. Curiously, the large number of Masons who become members of these additional degrees and get involved as such, tend to greatly lessen the active membership of Craft lodges. A natural question coming from an overseas visitor might well be: 'With lodge memberships as many as one thousand, how can you ever attain office and become Master of a lodge?' The answer, it can now be appreciated, lies in the fact that active membership is comparatively low. All the Master Mason has to do is express interest, and he will soon find himself in office or, to use the American term, in the lodge line. Of course, these factors cannot be applied equally across the breadth of American Masonry, but nevertheless, the 'higher degree' factor unintentionally aids progression in Craft lodges.

The Scottish Rite, the York Rite, and the Shriners

There are two major progressions beyond the Craft in American Masonry, the Scottish Rite and the York Rite. Both involve a system of degrees which are eagerly sought, and fairly readily attained, by a large number of American Freemasons.

The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite

The Scottish Rite is probably the most powerful single Masonic organisation in the United States and, 'beyond the Craft', it is certainly the most popular. In the United States, the Rite is governed by two independent Supreme Councils—those of the Northern and Southern Jurisdictions—which between them control the Rite in America and part of Canada. The terms 'Northern' and 'Southern' are somewhat misleading, in that the Northern Jurisdiction is confined to the states north of the Mason-Dixon line *and east of the Ohio River*, leaving all the western states to the Southern Jurisdiction.

The Scottish Rite is a system of 33 degrees. The first three degrees are the Craft degrees, taken in a Craft lodge. Within the American Scottish Rite, under the Northern Jurisdiction, there then follow five stages of advancement: The Lodge of Perfection (4th to 14th degrees), The Princes of Jerusalem (15th and 16th degrees), Chapters Rose Croix (17th and 18th degrees), the Consistory (19th to 32nd degrees), and finally the Supreme Council (33rd degree). The system under the Southern Jurisdiction is similar. Progress up to the 32nd degree is readily obtainable and reasonably rapid. Moreover, the 33rd degree is considered an honour

and is only held by members of the Supreme Council (limited in number to 33), apart from being awarded on an honorary basis to small numbers of 32nd degree Masons for distinguished service to the Rite.

A commonly heard statement made in American Freemasonry is that a brother is a '32nd degree Mason and a Shriner'. Indeed, the attainment of the 32nd degree and membership of the Shriners is considered by many in America to be the pinnacle of Freemasonry. The Shriners will be discussed shortly.

The conferment of the degrees of the Scottish Rite is achieved with great pageantry. Some of the largest Masonic edifices in the United States are Scottish Rite temples. Basically, they are in fact large theatres, with stages, props, scenery, elaborate lighting and sound, dressing rooms, and all the trappings one would expect to find associated with a huge dramatic production. Indeed, a huge production is exactly what a session of degree conferment involves. Groups of degrees are often conferred at a single session—and there may be a hundred or more candidates. Usually, only one of the degrees to be conferred will actually be worked in full, with the others being communicated in brief form. Often, only one candidate is chosen to take part in the ceremony, with all others watching; then they all take their obligations as a group. The work is conducted by a team of officers acting out the ceremony as one would a dramatic play.

Membership of the Scottish Rite is very high, and about one Mason in five in America holds the 32nd degree. It is usual for there to be only one Scottish Rite Cathedral in any one city, and as a result some Valleys (as single units of the Rite are often called) have memberships of 30,000 or more. Evidently, these huge numbers are needed to maintain the massive buildings that are the Scottish Rite Cathedrals. Appropriately qualified visitors may readily visit the Scottish Rite in America. The two American Supreme Councils maintain fraternal relations with the English, Irish and Scottish Supreme Councils of the Rite. Nonetheless, overseas visitors are still advised to seek advice from their own Supreme Council prior to visiting under the Scottish Rite in America.

The York Rite

The York Rite is the second system of Masonry beyond the Craft to claim our attention. It covers a series of nine, ten, or eleven degrees and Orders, all of which are worked in full. These are grouped into three tiers, or sub-Rites, as follows:

- Conferred in a Royal Arch Chapter: the Mark Master degree, the (Virtual) Past Master degree, the Most Excellent Master degree, and the degree of Royal Arch Mason. These four degrees form what is known in America as the Capitular Rite. (In at least one jurisdiction, the (Virtual) Past Master degree is taken, instead, in the Craft lodge.)
- Conferred in a Council of Royal and Select Masters: the Royal Master degree, the Select Master degree, and the Super Excellent Master degree (optional). These three degrees form the Cryptic Rite. (A degree of Thrice Illustrious Master is conferred only on those who have passed the Chair in a Council of Cryptic Masons.)
- Conferred in a Knights Templar Commandery: the Order of the Red Cross, the Order of Malta, and the Order of the Temple. These three Orders form the Chivalric Rite.

The Scottish Rite and the York Rite both tend to engage in friendly rivalry for membership. Both systems are well established throughout America. In some jurisdictions, the York Rite is stronger, but in many the Scottish Rite predominates. Of course, a Mason may belong to both Rites, and many do. Again, York Rite bodies tend to maintain fraternal relations with Grand bodies working the same degrees in other parts of the world. This certainly applies to the comparable Grand bodies in England, Ireland, and Scotland. However, once again, qualified visitors should consult their own home Grand authorities prior to visiting a York Rite lodge in America.

The Shriners

A North American Mason who holds the 32nd degree in the Scottish Rite, or who is a Knight Templar in the York Rite, is in a position to join the Shriners. The full title of this order is the Ancient Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine. It is considered the apex of Freemasonry in the United States. Actually, it is in every sense a non-Masonic Order, except that it has the prerequisites just stated. It was invented—quite literally—as an Order in New York in the 1870s and later spread throughout North America. Its ceremonies are extremely extroverted and somewhat bizarre. The Shriners as an organisation is devoted entirely to charity and social activities. Membership of the Shriners is keenly sought, and it appears to grant a certain social status in America. The charitable work of the Order is outstanding. The Shriners operate 22 huge hospitals

for crippled children in major cities across the United States, Canada and Mexico; together with institutes for research and treatment of the severely burned. Membership of the Shriners is about one million. It does not exist to any extent outside North America although there is a Shrine Temple (called a Mosque) in West Germany. It must be noted that the Shriners are not countenanced by the Grand Lodges of England, Ireland and Scotland and some other non-American Grand Lodges. Masons belonging to these jurisdictions may not join the Shriners. Visitors from outside North America are advised to be aware of their own Grand Lodge policy in this area.

Prince Hall 'Higher Orders'

The Prince Hall fraternity enjoys similar extensions to Freemasonry, with both the York Rite and the Scottish Rite, the latter being divided into Northern and Southern Jurisdictions, but having different boundaries from those of their mainstream counterparts. The Shriners are the Ancient *Egyptian* Arabic Order, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Lodge workings and ritual

American Craft ritual is reasonably similar to British rituals. The content is much the same, but the forms used show variations. Indeed, American ritual is older than English ritual currently in use. English ritual, to a very large extent, was standardised upon the union of the rival *Antients* and *Moderns* Grand Lodges in 1813. This standardisation, or amalgamation, of two rituals meant that certain symbolic features of both were lost in the process. American ritual, on the other hand, retains many of those features that were lost to the English. There is no question that American ritual originated from the workings of England, Ireland, and Scotland. Indeed, not only in terms of ritual but in many other customs, the visitor will note many facets of American Masonry which are grafts from the old usages of the British Isles.

American ritual, in a broad sense, was itself standardised. This was achieved in the late 1790s by Brother Thomas Smith Webb, who is often described as the 'Father of American Ritual'. Basically, Webb took the English *Antients* ritual of the time and, with a few minor changes, the Webb ritual emerged, whereupon it became generally adopted in the United States. Of course, barely twenty years later the English union occurred, and English ritual was thereupon moulded into its present form. The term 'Webb ritual' has long been used to describe the spectrum of American Craft rituals. There are a range of differences between the workings of the 51 mainstream American Grand Lodges, just as there are between the various English rituals in current usage. For example, while in most jurisdictions lodges open and close in the Master Mason degree, some do so in the first degree, while some only open in the degree to be conferred. In some eastern jurisdictions, and Pennsylvania is a notable example, ritual forms tend to be somewhat more *English* than *Webb*. Clearly, there is no such thing as the Webb ritual as such, as each American jurisdiction has its own prescribed ritual. The term Webb-form is probably more appropriate, to encompass the gamut of American rituals.

Probably the first thing that the overseas visitor will notice about Webb-form ritual is that it retains many symbols no longer found in English forms, but omits others. For example, symbolic use is made of such things as the hour-glass, beehive, scythe, and anchor, but the chisel and skirret are not mentioned. In addition, great use is made of catechistical lectures which have been largely lost to English usage. The signs of the three degrees are broadly similar to those of England, except that they retain the 'due guards'. The second degree is probably more elaborate than the English, while the third degree in many Webb forms is closer in character to Scotland than England.

All American Grand Lodges prescribe a standard ritual for their lodges, and generally only this ritual may be used. They go to some lengths to safeguard their rituals. Sixteen mainstream Grand Lodges do not publish a ritual in any form, relying entirely on mouth-to-ear instruction. Thirty-two publish a ritual in cipher (actually one, two, or sometimes three letter codes). Only three mainstream Grand Lodges publish a plain text ritual, English-style, with certain matters coded. But, whether they publish a ritual or not, they all publish a plain language monitor containing explanatory parts of the ritual, such as symbolical lectures and charges, as opposed to esoteric portions. Not so much is known of Prince Hall rituals; many are Webb-form. Of the nineteen jurisdictions which provided information on the subject, eight use a cipher and eleven use plain text. Further details are given under jurisdictional headings.

The American District System

As with the system in Ireland, which until 1997 also prohibited a printed ritual, innovations in America are guarded against by the extensive use of Inspectors or Lecturers. Brief reference has already been made to the American District system. Nearly all American Grand Lodges, Prince Hall and mainstream, use such systems, all of which are quite similar. Basically, every lodge in a jurisdiction is placed in a District, which might contain anything from three to thirty lodges. Each District is placed under a local Grand officer, usually named a District Deputy Grand Master, or District Inspector. It is pertinent to add that American Districts bear no real comparison to a Provincial or District Grand Lodge of the British type. American Districts are not District Grand Lodges, and a District Deputy Grand Master has only limited administrative powers. Instead, most American Districts basically exist to perpetuate the ritual prescribed by the Grand Lodge. A District Deputy Grand Master, therefore, acts largely as an Inspector of Workings. The District Deputy generally acts as a coordinator of Masonic instruction and education in his district. This is done through classes for lodge officers, exemplifications, and other methods. Many jurisdictions decree lodges of instruction, organised on a District basis. Generally, attendance at instruction classes is compulsory for lodge officers.

Perhaps the most striking feature of the Webb-form ritual is its proficiency tests. Each Grand Lodge has its own standards in this area, but all tend to be most rigorous. In the United States, (with one recently-introduced exception, explained below) it is obligatory for a candidate to pass an extensive proficiency test in the previous degree before being advanced to the next. This also includes passing a proficiency test in the Master Mason Degree. Passing a proficiency test may involve answering by memory up to eighty questions in catechistical form by memory, including the recital of the obligation. In some jurisdictions, these tests will be taken in open lodge, while in others they are taken privately with examiners, and progress is reported to the lodge.

Of course, the lack of a printed ritual does not make achieving proficiency a simple task for candidates. Many jurisdictions hold instruction classes for candidates to assist in this regard. In addition, many Grand Lodges require that senior lodge officers attain proficiency in aspects of the work prior to achieving a higher office. For example, a Junior Warden might be required to prove his proficiency as a Senior Warden before he can be elected to that office. Instructors must also achieve proficiency in what they instruct. Many Grand Lodges offer an extensive series of proficiency certificates to qualifying Masons.

Some Grand Lodges have experimented with a different style of proficiency test, requiring candidates for promotion to be able to answer a series of questions in their own words, thus demonstrating an understanding of the subject matter. Even more recently, some Grand Lodges are experimenting with 'One-day Classes', which do not require the old proficiency tests between degrees, and whose critics describe the results as 'McMasons', referring to the fast-food chain. To be fair, the experiment has not been conducted for a sufficient time to draw reliable conclusions.

It varies from one jurisdiction to another in form and purpose. In some, it is confined to men who were initiated some time ago, but have failed to return for the second or third degree, often from lack of time or ability to learn the extensive memory work involved. These are encouraged to complete the formal ceremonies of the degrees, in a large class reminiscent of Scottish Rite practices, with one candidate taking the degree complete, and the others taking the obligation. They are then encouraged to study the material, in some instances to take a modified form of proficiency test later, and to attend individual degree workings as would any other duly-qualified Mason. In other jurisdictions, one-day classes are held for a large group of candidates who have previously petitioned a lodge and been vetted, and these receive all three degrees in one day. They then join a lodge in the normal way, and are expected to study, etc. The degrees are often worked by a specially selected team. Since these 'spectacles' are organised well in advance, the interested visitor might be able to arrange his schedule accordingly.

This experiment bears no relationship to the American practice of a Grand Master making a Mason 'at sight'—which also varies between jurisdictions. Nor to the individual degree-workings by special, colourful teams such as those in period dress or Red Indian (aka Native American) brethren. Several of these teams are famous throughout North America, and beyond. If the opportunity arises to see one in action, it is highly recommended.

The American lodge, its layout, and its officers

The layout of American lodges differs only slightly between jurisdictions, and like many features of American Masonry it can be viewed as an amalgam of English, Irish and Scottish usages. Typical features of an American lodge are the location of an altar in the middle of the lodge room, and a concealed light to illuminate it at appropriate times. The three 'lesser lights', which used to be candles but are now usually electric, are placed near the altar, or around the room, in many different patterns and locations—perhaps as many as 20 variations.

In many lodges, only the Master's chair will be located in the East, while in others a chair will be available for the Chaplain. As a rule, the immediate Past Master has no 'official status' in an American lodge. An interesting point concerning the Master is that in American lodges he usually wears a hat. The hat is briefly removed when the name of TGAOTU is mentioned. Not all Grand Lodges approve the hat, but in those that do a variety of types can often be seen in use in lodges.

The standard officers of an American lodge are: the Worshipful Master (often referred to as Worshipful Sir), Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Chaplain, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Marshall, Senior Steward, Junior Steward, and Tyler. Most lodges also possess an Organist. In some jurisdictions, other officers may be appointed, such as a Ritualist, Orator, Electrician, Inner Sentinel and one or two Masters of Ceremonies; but these appointments are not particularly common. In every American jurisdiction, the Master, Wardens, Secretary, and Treasurer are elective officers. The balance of the offices are held by the Master's appointees. Nevertheless, in practice both elective and appointive offices tend to be progressive, with the exceptions of Secretary and Treasurer, who generally hold office, subject to re-election, for as long as they wish to serve. It is most unusual, for example, for a Junior Warden to fail to be elected as Senior Warden subsequently.

The titles and functions of certain offices show Irish or Scottish influences. The Senior Deacon is usually responsible for conducting the candidate within the lodge in all three degrees; the Marshall leads the procession and the Stewards accompany it. The Junior Deacon sits inside the door to the lodge room, and his functions largely match those of an English Inner Guard. In those jurisdictions that appoint an Inner Sentinel, he basically functions as a door opener to the preparation room, which leads directly into the lodge, and the Master of Ceremonies is responsible for the preparation of the candidate. A Ritualist, often a Past Master, acts as the prompter of ritual work, while an Electrician controls the lighting of the temple. In many jurisdiction where these extra officers are not appointed or given a title, designated Masons are often placed to perform analogous functions.

Other aspects of American Masonry

While American lodges involve themselves in a diverse range of charitable pursuits, probably the most popular charity is the Blood Bank. The giving of blood to Blood Banks and hospitals is greatly favoured by American Masonic authorities, particularly in the Eastern States. In some jurisdictions, actual Masonic Blood Banks are maintained, and Indiana has even chartered a lodge to co-ordinate and encourage blood donations.

There are few American Grand Lodges that do not possess a Masonic home for the elderly. Those that do not, generally tend to be too small numerically to afford one. American Masonic homes tend to be very large institutions, and heavily supported by the general Masonic fraternity. Some jurisdictions have also endowed children's homes, and Masonic hospitals. Charitable pursuits of this nature, where they occur, are mentioned under the jurisdiction headings following this general text.

Perhaps the best known Masonic charitable organisation is the Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada. It is supported by all mainstream North American Grand Lodges, and there is scarcely a major city in North America that does not possess an affiliated Masonic Relief Committee, Masonic Service Bureau, or Masonic Employment Association, although some have been scaled down in recent years.

The other major inter-jurisdictional Masonic organisation is the Masonic Service Association. Again, it is supported by all American Grand Lodges. It was founded in 1919, and its basic aims are those of Masonic education and the dissemination of Masonic information. It is also involved in benevolent activities. It has field agents in most jurisdictions, and coordinates a nation-wide hospital visiting program for Masons and their family members. Its periodical, the *Short Talk Bulletin*, has a very wide circulation. The Association meets annually.

Inter-jurisdictional cooperation in North America is aided by several annual conferences. Firstly, there is the Annual Conference of Grand Masters of North America. In concert with this is always held the Annual Conference of Grand Secretaries of North America. There are also several regional Conferences of Grand Masters held on a regular basis. The Conference of Grand Masters has several Committees attached to it, the most influential being the Commission on Information for Recognition. Among the Prince Hall fraternity, the Grand Masters also have an annual conference.

In a number of American Jurisdictions, lodges have been specifically formed for the sole purpose of conducting Masonic funerals. These lodges are usually known as Memorial Lodges. Their functions are self-evident. They meet only as required and, while they possess the officers of a normal lodge, they perform no degree work whatsoever.

In some jurisdictions, smoking is permitted in lodge rooms. However, where this is permitted, it is often restricted to the body of the lodge, and the privilege rarely extends to lodge officers for obvious reasons. Nonetheless, the number of Grand Lodges continuing to permit smoking in its temples is diminishing.

The titles assumed in American Masonry warrant some comment. General practice in America is to omit the word 'Brother' for Worshipful Masters and Grand officers. Thus, a Master will be referred to as 'Worshipful John Smith', and a Grand Master as 'Most Worshipful John Smith'. Nonetheless, there are a few jurisdictions mainly in the East, that do use the word 'Brother' for these types of titles. In addition, one or two Grand Lodges (for example, New Hampshire and Pennsylvania) use the Scottish system, whereby the title is attached to the office, not to its incumbent. Thus, a Grand Master in this usage will be referred to as Brother John Smith, Most Worshipful Grand Master.

In some jurisdictions, a dispensation is sometimes obtained to work a degree ceremony (suitably tyled) in the open air, usually fairly remote. Often the ceremony worked will be the Master Mason degree.

It is not uncommon for many American lodges to hold ladies' nights. As one might expect, a wide variance of usage is prevalent in this area. Often they are not associated with any lodge meeting but when they are, a special meeting is usually called for the purpose, although no Masonic meeting as such will be held. Ladies' nights often consist of a dinner or a dance.

Language lodges are permitted in a number of mainstream jurisdictions. A number of American cities tend to be cosmopolitan in nature, and others have a long tradition of settlement by a particular ethnic group. As many as twenty American jurisdictions possess this type of lodge, where members work in a language other than English. New York City has quite a substantial number of them, and many large cities often possess at least one or two. Visitors interested in attending such a lodge will readily gain assistance at a Grand Lodge office.

Many mainstream jurisdictions have one or more lodges of research, or a research society, but there are two Craft research societies that cross jurisdictional lines, each holding inter-jurisdictional conferences and supporting constituent 'chapters' in various States. These are the International Philalethes Society (begun by mainstream Masons) and the Phylaxis Society (organised by Prince Hall Masons). In recent years, both fraternities enjoy cross-membership, and both organisations have an Internet presence in close cooperation.

The Philalethes website is at <<http://www.Freemasonry.org/psoc>> and the Phylaxis at <<http://www.Freemasonry.org/phylaxis>>. Addresses and other particulars of Philalethes chapters are given under the appropriate State headings. Unfortunately, similar particulars of Phylaxis chapters were not available.

Masonic government

The forms of Grand Lodge government in the United States are remarkably similar across the gamut of its Masonry. With the exception of only two eastern jurisdictions (Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, which meet in Quarterly Communications), all mainstream Grand Lodges meet annually. The annual session usually lasts two to three days. At the Annual Communication all business of the Grand Lodge is considered, and the new Grand Lodge officers are elected and installed. A number of Prince Hall Grand Lodges meet half-yearly.

The Elective Grand Lodge

All mainstream Grand officers, including Grand Masters, usually hold their positions for only one year, with the exceptions of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer. It is not common for a Grand Master to serve a

second year in office in most jurisdictions. In all mainstream jurisdictions, the Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, Junior Grand Warden, Grand Treasurer, and Grand Secretary are elected annually. In a very small number of cases, the offices of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer are combined. All other Grand officers are, as a rule, appointed by the Grand Master. The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer tend to be re-elected every year until retirement. Of course, they are invariably paid, usually as full time employees of the Grand Lodge, although in smaller Grand Lodges they may be part-time.

In some Prince Hall jurisdictions, the Grand Master tends to be re-elected year after year, on the English pattern, and in others he is re-elected for a few years, as in Australia. In some jurisdictions, the Grand Master appoints a fairly junior line officer, such as the Junior Grand Deacon, who may then reasonably expect to progress up the line (by 'election'), even as far as Grand Master. Some jurisdictions are too small to support a permanent Grand Lodge office, and in some the Grand Secretary operates on a part-time basis, perhaps even voluntarily.

The Grand Lodge Line

Aside from the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, the elective Grand Lodge offices in the United States tend to be progressive. For example, it would be most unusual for a Senior Grand Warden to fail to be subsequently elected as Deputy Grand Master, and so on. In America, this is usually called the Grand Lodge Line, and the high officers of the Grand Lodge are called Line Officers. Of course, this progressiveness is quite distinctive of American Masonry, and is unknown in British-type practice. In many American jurisdictions, but certainly not all, most appointive Grand Lodge offices also tend to be progressive, leading in time to the elective offices at the top, and eventually to the Grand Mastership. The appointive Grand Lodge offices in the United States closely resemble those of the British Grand Lodges.

The Equal Representation System

The actual membership of American Grand Lodges, for the most part, is based on equal representation. The usual members of an American Grand Lodge are its Grand officers, past Grand officers (which are usually few), and the Masters and Wardens of each constituent lodge. Generally, every lodge is entitled to three votes in the Grand Lodge, allotted to the three lodge officers just mentioned.

Many jurisdictions also employ a proxy system, whereupon a lodge may appoint a Mason other than its three usual representatives to attend the Grand Lodge, should one or more of these three be unable to attend. It is also quite usual that if only one lodge delegate is attending, he exercises all three votes to which his lodge is entitled. By these methods this system ensures, at least in theory, that every lodge has an equal say in the running of the Grand Lodge. Of course, the system tends to break down if a lodge's representatives fail to attend the Annual Communication, or fail to appoint proxies, and this sometimes occurs. There are variations on the theme; in some jurisdictions all past Masters are members of Grand Lodge, and in others the number of votes is proportional to the lodge membership.

Past Grand Officers

Past Grand officers are not common in American Grand Lodges. Generally, only past elective Grand officers retain their rank as such, and thus maintain Grand Lodge membership. Of course, as the offices of Deputy Grand Master, Senior Grand Warden, and Junior Grand Warden are progressive, it is rare for a Grand Lodge to possess Masons holding these offices in a 'past' sense. Occasionally, there will be a Past Grand Secretary, or a Past Grand Treasurer but as the incumbents of these offices tend to serve for long periods, this occurrence is equally rare. In addition, in many jurisdictions, a Past Grand Secretary (or Treasurer) is usually termed as 'Grand Secretary Emeritus'. Therefore, it is generally only Past Grand Masters who hold a 'Past' office. Appointive Grand officers who leave the Grand Lodge Line often gain no past rank, but merely revert to being Past Masters. The conferment of Past Grand Rank in the English sense is largely unknown in the United States, except occasionally to distinguished brethren from other jurisdictions in a purely honorary capacity.

The Past Master

Of course, the Past Master is a universally recognised rank in all American jurisdictions. The distinction between an 'Actual' and 'Virtual' Past Master in mainstream American usage has already been explained. Generally, a candidate for an office in a Grand Lodge (whether it be elective or appointive) must be an

actual Past Master. There are a small minority of Grand Lodges (mostly in the east) in which Past Masters of constituent lodges are members of the Grand Lodge in their own right, generally in addition to the representative system already outlined.

In some Prince Hall jurisdictions, Past Masters may be referred to as 'Brother Past Master Jones', a custom which died out in the 19th century in the 'home' jurisdictions. All Prince Hall jurisdictions retain another old custom, referring officially to their Grand Lodge as the 'Most Worshipful Grand Lodge', and it is usual to accord the honorific to the office, as in 'Right Worshipful Grand Secretary'.

The Committee System

Between Annual Communications, an American jurisdiction is administered by a myriad of Grand Lodge Committees, many of which are permanent, although some are *ad hoc*. Generally, the membership of each is elected or appointed (varying methods are employed depending on the jurisdiction) at the Annual Communication. It is not uncommon for a Grand Lodge to possess over twenty committees, such as Masonic Education, Fraternal Relations, Public Relations, Necrology, Finance, and so on. In most Grand Lodges, it is the Committee on Jurisprudence which tends to be the most 'powerful'. Very few American Grand Lodges employ a Board of General Purposes on the English model.

Locating the lodges and Grand Lodges

Having completed this extensive synopsis of American Masonry, we shall examine briefly each of the States and the jurisdictions located therein. It is not practicable to list every lodge, or even every temple—and in cities with several lodges, often each will have its own temple—but lodges are often listed in the telephone directory, in the white pages under 'Masonic' and in the yellow pages under 'Fraternal organisations'. Of course, the directory does not give meeting dates and times, but this information is only a phone call away. In addition, in many jurisdictions, lodges advertise their meetings in the 'public notice' columns of newspapers. And—the recommended method—inquiries at the Grand Lodge office listed in this book will usually be successful. It should be noted that in many instances, no lodges meet in the building which houses the Grand Lodge office itself, which is sometimes situated at the Masonic Home.

Mainstream and Prince Hall Grand Lodges are listed under the same State heading, one below the other, with priority being given to the older Grand Lodge. Below both of these are listed other Grand Lodges or lodges known to exist in that State, unrecognised by either mainstream or Prince Hall Affiliated Grand Lodges. While some Prince Hall Grand Lodges are quite large, others are very small by mainstream standards, too small to afford a full-time Grand Secretary and maintain separate office accommodation. In such cases, the address of the Grand Master or Grand Secretary is published as the 'Grand East'. Consequently, with a change of personnel comes a change of address.

This situation applies to many of the unrecognised bodies listed briefly at the foot of the State entry, as '**C Other Grand Lodges**'. It may be that what appear to be separate bodies, with similar titles but different addresses, are in some instances the same organisation observed and reported in different phases of its existence. On the other hand, there are some Grand Lodges with almost identical names in this twilight of Masonry, and the scene is always changing; some of them are, quite literally, here today and gone tomorrow.

ALABAMA

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama

Founded: 1821. *Descent:* Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, and others.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Home, 3033 Vaughn Road, Montgomery.

Postal address: PO Box 6195, Montgomery, AL 36106.

Telephone: 334 272 8961.

Email: <gsec@alagl.org>. Website: <<http://www.alagl.org>>.

Annual Meeting: November.

Lodges: 358. Membership: 46,000.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

History

Alabama's first lodge was established at Huntsville in 1811, under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. A Grand lodge was formed in 1821 by a convention of delegates from nine lodges, variously holding charters from Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Tennessee.

The anti-Masonry which swept America in the wake of the Morgan Affair had a substantial effect in Alabama. While a great many lodges were formed in the early years following the erection of the Grand Lodge, by 1829 a third of all Alabama lodges had closed. The Grand lodge failed to meet at all in 1832, such was the decline of Masonry in the State. By 1836, the Grand Lodge was able to re-establish itself, and thereafter followed a long period of sustained expansion. By 1860, Alabama had 236 lodges on its roll, and in 1997 it possessed 364 lodges.

Special Notes for Visitors

Alabama is a largely rural southern State, without the large population centers found in other parts of America. Virtually every small town in Alabama has a lodge, each with its own temple, as a rule. The largest concentrations of lodges are in Birmingham (14), Mobile (13), and Montgomery (6). In Alabama, it is usual for lodges to list two regular meetings per month, which are usually on the same days (for example, 1st and 3rd Mondays, 2nd and 4th Thursdays, and so forth). Unlike most American jurisdictions, Alabama lodges are permitted to open and conduct business in any degree; they are not restricted to the third.

Alabama does not have a Grand Lodge library but it does have a lodge of research, Alabama Confederate Military Lodge of Research. Meeting and membership details are obtainable from the secretary, Clifton W Crisler, PO Box 776, Alexander City, AL 35011-0776. At time of going to press, a chapter of the Philalethes Society was in the process of being formed in Alabama.

The Masonic Home in Montgomery (also the seat of the Grand Lodge) represents the great emphasis Alabama places on benevolent pursuits. The *Alabama Freemason* magazine is no longer distributed by the Grand Lodge.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Alabama

Founded: 1870. *Descent:* Missouri & unknown.

Grand East: 1630 North 4th Avenue, Birmingham, AL 35203.

Telephone: 205 328 9078.

Annual Communication: third Tuesday in July.

Lodges: 593 (?). Membership: 30,822 (?).

History

Remarkably little information is available about this Grand Lodge, even in published Prince Hall sources. Its entry in the *Prince Hall Masonic Directory* has not been updated since 1992, and what little is provided here is from that source and from a single paragraph in *A Prince Hall Masonic Quiz Book*, by Joseph A Walkes Jr.

A lodge was chartered at Selma from Missouri before or during 1866, and a Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was formed in Mobile in 1870, five years after the abolition of slavery and shortly

before many Grand Lodges seceded from the National Compact, but it is not known what procedure was followed in the formation of the Grand Lodge, or what lodges had previously been established there, and by whose authority. The Grand Lodge subsequently changed its name to the present one, and moved its headquarters to Birmingham. It is probably the largest Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Affiliation, and at one time had 964 lodges, all within the state borders. At some time prior to 1989 this had dropped to 541 lodges with 26,450 members, but by 1992 the trend had been reversed, with a rise to the figures shown above.

C Other Grand Lodges

Five other Grand Lodges or bodies are known to exist in Alabama. MW King Solomon Grand Lodge AF&AM of Alabama has its headquarters in Mobile. At Prattville is the MW St James Grand Lodge of Alabama, Inc. A group called International Masons is located at Montgomery and another called Progressive Free and Accepted Masons of the USA is in Birmingham. MW Mt Olive Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin, is under the National Compact.

ALASKA

A The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM Alaska and its Jurisdiction, Inc

Founded: 1969. *Descent:* Washington.

Annual Communication: third week in April.

Postal address: PO Box 100736, Anchorage, AK 99510.

Telephone: 907 488 0924.

Lodges: 5. Membership: 170.

History

This Grand Lodge was erected in 1969 from lodges chartered by the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM Washington and Jurisdiction, which officiated at the formation. It began with seven lodges, divided into two districts. Five of those lodges survive, and meet as follows: Alpha #1, at Elmendorf Air Force Base; Mt McKinley #2 at Anchorage; Midnight Sun #3 at Fairbanks; Summit #6 at Fort Richardson, near Anchorage; and Arctic #7 at Eielson Air Force Base.

B The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Alaska

Founded: 1981. *Descent:* Washington.

Grand Lodge office: 4101 Arctic Boulevard, #101, Anchorage.

Postal address: PO Box 190668, Anchorage, AK 99519-0668.

Telephone: 907 561 1477. Fax: 907 561 1477.

Email: <rbender@ptialaska.net>.

Website: <<http://www.alaska-Mason.org/index.htm>>.

Masonic Temple: 1431 Eagle Street, Anchorage.

Annual Meeting: First or second Thursday in April 1999; thereafter, first Thursday in February.

Lodges: 19. Membership: 2194.

Ritual: Washington Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

History

The mainstream Grand Lodge of Alaska was formed in 1981 from twelve lodges holding charters from the mainstream Grand Lodge of Washington. This was done with the blessings of the Washington Grand Lodge although six other lodges located in southern Alaska, close to Washington, decided to maintain their current allegiance. Since 1981, two of these have transferred to the Alaskan jurisdiction. Of the remaining four, two have consolidated as Mt Juneau-Gastineaux #124, at Juneau, and the others are Ketchikan #159 and Petersburg #262, all three under Washington. The Grand Lodge of Alaska has developed steadily since its

inauguration, and has secured fraternal recognition from most regular Grand Lodges in the world, including the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alaska.

Special Notes for Visitors

Not unexpectedly, the Masonic practices of this Grand Lodge closely follow the forms of its parent, Washington. Visitors can readily make their inquiries at the Grand Lodge office in Anchorage, where they will receive every assistance; or, if wishing to make Masonic contact in Juneau, Ketchikan or Petersburg, through the Grand Lodge office in Tacoma.

C Other Grand Lodges

Two other Grand Lodges exist in this sparsely populated state: MW King Solomon Grand Lodge AF&AM Inc, based at Fairbanks; and MW Sons of Solomon Grand Lodge AF&AM of Alaska, with headquarters at Anchorage.

ARIZONA

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Arizona

Founded: 1882. *Descent:* California and New Mexico.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 345 West Monroe Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003-1684.

Telephone: 602 252 1924. Fax: 602 252 3733.

Website: <www.neta.com/~kottinge/AZGL>

Annual Meeting: first Friday in June.

Lodges: 71. Membership: 11,820.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Arizona Masonry*.

History

The first lodge established in Arizona was *Aztlan #177* at Prescott, formed in 1866 under the Grand Lodge of California. This was followed by *Arizona Lodge #257* at Phoenix, in 1879, and *Tucson Lodge #263* in 1881, both under Californian charters. New Mexico chartered *White Mountain Lodge #5*, at Globe, in 1881. A further lodge, *Solomon*, was also formed in 1881, under dispensation from California. Four of these lodges met in Tucson in March 1882 and formed the new Grand Lodge. *Aztlan* saw fit not to send a representative to the formation meeting, but later affiliated with the others and is considered one of the founding lodges. It heads the Arizona rolls, as #1. The Grand Lodge of Arizona has expanded steadily since its founding, and reported 68 lodges in 1998, plus three Research Lodges.

Special Notes for Visitors

Arizona is largely a desert State, with its history steeped in the Wild West tradition. Its two main centers are Phoenix and Tucson. Phoenix, the state capital, is in the center of the area known as 'the valley of the sun'; the Grand Lodge office is centrally located in Phoenix, and is readily accessible to visitors, either in person or by phone. Arizona is one of the few mainstream US Grand Lodges which permits lodges to conduct general business in the first degree.

There are five daylight lodges, as well as three research lodges in this jurisdiction. The daylight lodges are located at Kingman (Rough Ashlar #79), Peoria (Sun City West Meridian #78), Phoenix (Hiram #73), Scottsdale (Camelback #75) and Tucson (Jerusalem #66). There is a Scottish Rite library and museum at 160 South Scott, Tucson. At Phoenix there is a chapter of the Philalethes Society, 'The seekers'. The charters of the research lodges are numbered separately from the degree-working lodges:

Arizona Research #1 is at Phoenix (Secretary: Nicholas L Vosovic, 2830 East Earl Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85016);

Southern Arizona Research #2 is at Tucson (Secretary: Charles T Mason Jr, 2945 North Bear Canyon Road, Tucson, AZ 85749); and

Colman-Holley Research #3 is at Yuma (Secretary: Quaid E Smith, 4410 14th Lane, Yuma, AZ 85364).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM Arizona and Jurisdiction Incorporated

Founded: 1920. *Descent:* Texas.

Grand East: Masonic Temple, 6035 South 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ.

Telephone: 602 268 8511.

Annual Communication: first weekend in May.

Lodges: 12. Membership: 313.

History

Baldwin Lodge #16 had a military warrant issued from Texas, and by 1887 was located at Fort Verde, Arizona Territory. It subsequently moved on, with its regiment, but by then Texas had chartered other lodges in the Territory, which were formed into the sixth Masonic district of Texas. It was not until 1920 that a Grand Lodge was formed, as *Sovereign Grand Lodge, F&AM*, which changed to its present name in 1952. To date, it has chartered 32 lodges, including military lodges in Arizona. In 1989 it had 21 lodges, with a total membership of 646. By 1992, it had dropped to 12 lodges and 380 members, and in 1997 membership had fallen further, to 313.

Special Notes for Visitors

Phoenix and Tucson have three lodges each; two others are close to Phoenix, at Chandler and Glendale; two in the northern part of the state, at Flagstaff and Winslow; one is in the east, at Pinetop; and one in the southeast corner, where the borders of Arizona, New Mexico and Mexico meet, at Fort Huachuca, near the legendary town of Tombstone.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is another Grand Lodge based in Phoenix, MW St John Grand Lodge of Arizona.

ARKANSAS

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Arkansas

Founded: 1838. *Descent:* Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama.

Grand Lodge office: Albert Pike Memorial Temple, 700 Scott Street, Little Rock AR 72201.

Telephone: 501 374 6408.

Email: <jlweatherall@juno.com>. Website: <<http://www.cei.net/~khat>>.

Annual Meeting: first Thursday in February.

Lodges: 328. Membership: 28,152.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

History

The first lodge erected in Arkansas received its charter from Kentucky in 1819, and was named *Washington* after the first American President. By 1838, three lodges were working in Arkansas, chartered from Louisiana, Tennessee and Alabama, and it was these lodges that joined together in that year to establish a new Grand Lodge. The original *Washington Lodge* had expired in 1822. Knowledge of the early history of the Grand Lodge is somewhat scant, largely as the result of records being lost in fires in 1864 and 1876. The Grand Lodge has expanded steadily since its inception, and today there remain few places in Arkansas without a Masonic temple.

Special Notes for Visitors

Arkansas (pronounced *ar-can-saw*) is a largely rural mid-western American state, with the city of Little Rock being the only population center of any real size. Nevertheless, Little Rock only possesses 10 lodges out of the 328 currently working in the state, although there are more in its environs. Almost without exception, every town in Arkansas has a lodge, but rarely more than one. Arkansas is one of the US Grand Lodges that refuses to permit a printed ritual in any form. In terms of other practices, there is little more to mention outside the general text on the United States. There is no research lodge or Grand Lodge library.

B MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM, Inc, Jurisdiction of Arkansas

Founded: 1873. *Descent:* Missouri, Kansas.

Grand East: 119 East Fourth Avenue, Pine Bluff, AR 71601.

Telephone: 870 534 5467. Fax: 870 535 3581.

Annual Communication: second Tuesday in August.

Lodges: 110. Membership: 3527.

Ritual: Duncan's, Lester's (plain text).

Main publications: nil.

History

The first two Prince Hall lodges in Arkansas were chartered from Missouri in 1866, *J A Alexander Lodge #4* at Helena, and *Jeptha Lodge #10* at Little Rock. A third lodge, *Widow's Son #18*, was chartered from the King Solomon Grand Lodge of Kansas (under the National Compact Grand Lodge) six years later. In March 1873 these three lodges met in convention at Little Rock and formed the MW Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Arkansas, which changed to its present title in 1944. The three founding lodges are still active, as James A Alexander Lodge #1, Richmond (formerly Jephtha) Lodge #2 and Widow's Son Lodge #3.

The lodge numbering system indicates that 490 lodges have been chartered by this Grand Lodge but, in keeping with the recent trend throughout the US, there are now only 110 lodges at work. However a rise in membership of nearly 10 per cent over the past two years is encouraging.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Grand Masonic Temple at Pine Bluff has a library, and the Grand Lodge has a training scheme for lodge officers, but there are no official publications except proclamations from the Grand Master's office.

Grand Lodge meets annually, in August, when the election of all Grand Lodge officers takes place, but there is no tenure restriction on the office of Grand Master. The incumbent, MW the Rev Howard L Woods, has held office since 1982, and has been President of the Conference of Prince Hall Grand Masters since 1993. He is a Fellow of the Phylaxis Society, and an honorary Past Grand Master in Kentucky, Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Grand Lodge uses the District system, and there are eight District Grand Lodge meetings each year. The Grand Lodge does not exchange Grand Representatives but, like all PHA Grand Lodges, maintains a committee for fraternal relations.

Dress at Grand Lodge functions is dark suit, white shirt, solid black or navy-blue tie, black shoes and socks, but lodges have freedom of choice of dress for their own meetings. They also have a choice between two rituals, Duncan's, and Lester's *Look to the East*.

General business is conducted in the third degree, and Entered Apprentices are not considered members of the lodge. Refreshments are served occasionally in conjunction with meetings but, as is usual in the US, no alcohol is permitted. There is no restriction on members working in the liquor trade, however, which is still a feature in some jurisdictions. The use of tobacco products is permitted on lodge premises but not in lodge.

CALIFORNIA

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of California

Founded: 1850. *Descent:* Missouri, Louisiana, Illinois, Connecticut and others.

Annual Meeting: second Monday in October.

Grand Lodge office: California Masonic Memorial Temple, 1111 California Street, San Francisco CA 94108-2284.

Telephone: 415 776 7000. Fax: 415 776 0483.

Email: <jlcooper@Freemason.org>, <johnlcooperiii@msn.com>.

Website: <<http://www.Freemason.org>>.

Other addresses: Los Angeles: Masonic Temple, 4357 Wilshire Boulevard.

Long Beach: Masonic Temple, 3610 Locust Avenue.

Sacramento: Masonic Temple, 1123 'J' Street.

San Diego: Masonic Temple, 1895 Camino del Rio Street.

Lodges: 419. Membership: 110,227.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Constitution*. Annual *Proceedings*, *Monitor & Officer Manual*, *Roster of Lodges*.

Periodical: *Californian Freemason*.

History

The history of the Craft in California closely parallels the discovery of gold in 1848. The first lodge was born in that year and, incredibly, the Grand Lodge of California was formed only two years later, in 1850. Of course, the vast population influx occasioned by the gold discovery largely accounts for these events.

The first lodge in California, chartered in 1848, was *Western Star #98*, formed under the Grand Lodge of Missouri. It commenced operations late in 1849. In the next two years, about fifteen further charters were issued for California, coming from a variety of Grand Lodges including Louisiana, Connecticut, Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin. The Grand Lodge was established by four lodges on 19 April 1850, after which it expanded rapidly. Today, it remains one of the largest jurisdictions in the United States, and in the world.

Special Notes for Visitors

California possesses several large population centers, and to assist visitors the main temples in the five largest cities are listed above. Of course, each city has several other temples in its environs. All the noted temples possess an office, and the visitor will find each staffed during normal business hours, whereupon he may readily obtain assistance. While these temples are large, it is invariably the Scottish Rite temples in particular that are huge and magnificent edifices. The Scottish Rite Memorial Temple in San Francisco, for example, falls into this category and is well worth visiting. It is located at 2850 19th Avenue, San Francisco. Telephone: 664 4700.

There is little concerning Californian Masonry which does not fit into the parameters of the general text. Of interest to visitors will be the 'Old Masonic Hall', located at 416 North Main Street, in central Los Angeles. It was first used in 1854, and has been refurbished by the State of California as an historic monument. It is open for public inspection on four afternoons per week. Sadly, the old Hollywood Masonic Temple, at 6840 Hollywood Boulevard, is no longer in Masonic hands. It is now owned by an affiliate of the Walt Disney organisation for animated productions for children.

The old Masonic temple at 25 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, will be of interest to visitors to that city, although it is no longer in use as a Masonic facility. It must also be mentioned that the Grand Lodge library and museum at the Masonic Memorial Temple in San Francisco is well worth a look when the visitor calls at the Grand Lodge office. There are two Scottish Rite libraries in San Francisco, and one each in Fresno, Oakland and Los Angeles.

In the area of charity and benevolence, the Grand Lodge is particularly active. The Masonic Home at Union City is a very large establishment, catering for well over 300 aged residents. In addition, the Grand

Lodge dispenses benevolence through various foundations and charitable funds. The Grand Lodge publishes a fine quarterly magazine, *The Californian Freemason*.

There are four research lodges in this jurisdiction:

El Camino Research Lodge at San Jose (Secretary: George C Hesse, 2238 Los Gatos-Almaden Road, San Jose, CA 95124);

Northern California Research Lodge at Oakland (Secretary: Donald F Lambert, 20313 Forest Ave, Castro Valley, CA 94546);

Orange County Research Lodge at Anaheim (Secretary: William M Bostic, 13161 Coleman Pl, Garden Grove, CA 92643); and

Southern California Research Lodge, which has a worldwide membership of thousands (Secretary: Herman Deiters, 714 879 3840, email <HLDSPD@aol.com>, lodge website <<http://www.Freemason.org/scrl>>).

The Philaethes Society has the following chapters in California (contacts in parentheses):

Eureka Chapter (James Madrid, 647 Isabel Street, Los Angeles, CA 90065);

Habonim Chapter, (Kevin M Tuck, 1111 California Street, San Francisco CA 94108-2284, email <ktuck@Freemason.org>);

High Desert Chapter (James B Brown, 13965 Smoketree Road, Victorville, CA 92392);

Orange County Chapter (Norman B Leeper, 2097 Smokewood Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92631, email <LeepSan@aol.com>);

San Diego Chapter (Frederick G Kleyn III, 11073 Plum Tree Lane, Spring Valley, CA 91976); and

San Francisco Bay Chapter (Jorge Soto, 2832 Petar Place, Antioch, CA 94509).

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, States of California and Hawaii, Incorporated

Founded: 1855. *Descent:* Pennsylvania and New York.

Annual Communication: second or third Monday in July.

Grand Easts: Berkeley: 3132 Martin Luther King Way, Berkeley, CA 94703.

Telephone: 510 845 6977. Fax: 510 845 8599.

Los Angeles: 9027 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90003.

Telephone: 213 754 2938. Fax: 213 754 2930.

Email: <RGMoore357@aol.com> (Asst Grand Secretary).

Website (unofficial): <<http://users.aol.com/jabron/phgl.htm>>.

Lodges: 87. Membership: 5600.

Ritual: own publication (plain text).

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Prince Hall Masonic Digest*.

History

In 1853, the National Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of North America (National Compact) chartered two lodges, *Hannibal* and *Victoria*, in San Francisco, and a third, *Philomathean*, in Sacramento. Two years later, these three lodges got together and organised the *Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of California*, in San Francisco, under the National Compact, with Philip Buchanan of Pennsylvania as Grand Master.

Earlier in 1855 the United Grand Lodge of New York (previously Boyer Grand Lodge) chartered *Olive Branch Lodge*, and in 1865 another, *Wetherington*, both in San Francisco. In 1868 yet another lodge was chartered in San Francisco, *Mosaic*, this time by the First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. In 1871 these three lodges organised the *Conventional Independent Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of California*.

Three years later, in 1874, the older Grand Lodge left the National Compact and the two consolidated, to become the *Most Worshipful Sovereign Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of California*, and subsequently the *Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons State of California Incorporated*. The original minute books from 1855 have been preserved.

Of the earliest lodges, Hannibal is now #1, Philomathean #2, and Victoria #3. Three lodges have been chartered in Hawaii, Cosmopolitan #82, Kaneohe Bay #114 and New Hope #116, and in 1994 the Grand

Lodge changed its name to the present title, to reflect the fact that it has jurisdiction in both states. This made recognition by the mainstream Grand Lodges of the separate states more difficult but, with good will on all sides, it was achieved. This Grand Lodge is one of the growing number recognised by the United Grand Lodge of England.

Special Notes for Visitors

Dress for lodge and Grand Lodge functions is dark suit, white shirt, dark tie, black shoes and socks. General business is conducted in the third degree and, in line with general US practice, Entered Apprentices are not considered members of the lodge. Refreshments are served occasionally during intermediate meetings, but alcohol is not permitted. There are no restrictions on members working in the liquor trade and the use of tobacco products is permitted, but smoking is prohibited in the Prince Hall Memorial Auditorium.

The ritual used is very similar to Prime's *Ritual of Freemasonry and Book of Instructions for Prince Hall Masons* (plain text), which was used in this jurisdiction prior to publication of their own ritual.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are at least twelve other Grand Lodges in California:

MW Grand Lodge AF&AM, based in San Francisco.

MW Golden Gate Grand Lodge AF&AM, whose offices are at Oakland.

MW Mt Nebo Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin (National Compact).

MW St Anthony Grand Lodge AF&AM of California, Inc, of Oakland and Los Angeles (with an address on the same street as the Prince Hall Grand Lodge).

MW Sons of Light Grand Lodge AF&AM of California, Inc, with offices in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

MW St Matthews Grand Lodge of California, Inc, AF&AM, based in Los Angeles.

MW Hiram of Tyre Grand Lodge of California, based in Los Angeles.

MW St John Grand Lodge, at Los Angeles.

MW John A Belle Grand Lodge of California, with Grand Office at Compton.

MW King David Grand Lodge of California, Inc, also at Compton.

MW St Andrews Grand Lodge Scottish Rite of California, Inc, at San Jose.

And a Western States Council of AF&AM Grand Lodges, Inc, at Pacifica.

There are two lodges of the Grand Orient of France in California: *Lodge Art et Lumière* uses an Emulation-type ritual at Santa Monica, and *Lodge Pacifica* works the French Rite and the 1°–3° of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite in San Francisco. There is also a lodge of the Feminine Grand Lodge of Belgium at work under dispensation in Los Angeles.

COLORADO

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Colorado

Founded: 1861. *Descent:* Kansas and Nebraska.

Annual Meeting: January.

Grand Lodge office: 1130 Panorama Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

Telephone: 719 471 9587. Freecall: 1800 482 4441. Fax 719 471 9157.

Lodges: 147. Membership: 19,162.

Ritual: Webb Form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Colorado Masonic Craftsman*.

History

The early Masonic history of Colorado was largely uneventful. The first lodge to receive a charter in Colorado was *Golden City #34*, which was established at Golden in 1860, and now heads the Colorado roll of lodges as #1. This was followed in 1861 by the Nebraska-chartered *Summit Lodge #7*; and *Rocky Mountain Lodge #8*. In the same year, these three lodges met and erected the Grand Lodge of Colorado.

Summit and *Rocky Mountain* subsequently expired, but the Grand Lodge itself continued to grow in strength, reporting 147 lodges in 1998.

Special Notes for Visitors

Colorado is another mid-west State largely composed of dry areas, whose principal tourist attraction is the Southern Rocky Mountains. Masonically, Colorado usages and customs largely fit within the scope of the general section on visiting in the United States. It is also one of the minority of American Grand Lodges that permits a written ritual (in cipher) to be published. Denver, the 'Mile-high city', is the largest population center and principal airport location in Colorado. There are 30 lodges in Denver, including the Research Lodge of Colorado which meets four times per year, in January, April, July and October (Secretary, Warren L Glover, phone 303 364 5762). As there are several different temples in Denver, is advisable to contact the Grand Lodge office in Colorado Springs for general information, where the Grand Lodge library also is located.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Colorado and its Jurisdiction

Founded: 1876. *Descent:* Kansas.

Annual Communication: second Sunday in August.

Grand East (GM): 2921 S Vaughn Way, Aurora, CO 80014.

Telephone: 303 671 0046 or 303 884 0055.

Grand Secretary (Robert N Andrews): PO Box 2328, Pueblo, CO 81005.

Telephone: 719 561 8844.

Website: <<http://www.gabbys-link.net/users/rharland/INDEX.HTML>>.

Lodges: 17. Membership: 833.

Ritual: Lester's *Look to the East* (plain text).

History

King Solomon Grand Lodge of Kansas (National Compact) chartered *Rocky Mountain Lodge* in Colorado in 1867 and two further lodges, *Western* and *Mount Olive*, in January 1876. Less than a week later, these three formed *African Grand Lodge of Colorado*, which subsequently chartered lodges in Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming. In consequence, it later changed its name to the present one. It does not have separate Grand Lodge premises, and its address is that of the reigning Grand Master. Since Grand Masters tend to change more frequently than Grand Secretaries, the postal address and telephone number of the present Grand Secretary are also given, above.

Over the past ten years, this Grand Lodge has increased the number of its lodges, but suffered a slight membership loss. In 1989 it had 13 lodges and 929 members; in 1992 13 lodges and 946 members; and in 1997 17 lodges and 833 members. Eight of the current total are military lodges (of which six are in Korea); two others are located in Utah and two in Wyoming.

Special Notes for Visitors

Of the lodges within the state borders of Colorado, three meet in Denver, one in Pueblo and one in Colorado Springs. Two of the military lodges are also located within the state, one at Fort Carson, near Colorado Springs, and the other at Aurora, near Denver.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is a National Compact Grand Lodge in Colorado, MW Hiram Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

CONNECTICUT

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut

Founded: 1789. *Descent:* England (Moderns), and Scotland.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Home, Masonic Avenue, Wallingford.

Postal address: PO Box 250, Wallingford, CT 06492.

Telephone: 203 284 3903. Fax: 203 284 3996.

Email: <maw.m.mccrv@Masonic.chime.org>.

Website: <<http://www.hiram.com>>.

Annual Meeting: March or April.

Other addresses: Bridgeport: Masonic Temple, 3045 Fairfield Avenue.

Hartford: Masonic Temple, 201 Ann Street.

New Haven: Masonic Temple, 285 Whitney Avenue.

Lodges: 114. Membership: 22,091.

Ritual: Webb-form (plain text).

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Connecticut Square and Compasses*.

History

Connecticut is one of the oldest Masonic jurisdictions in America. Its first lodge was warranted by the Provincial Grand Master at Boston, Massachusetts (under the English *Moderns*). This was *Hiram Lodge*, which meets at New Haven, and today heads the *Connecticut Roll of Lodges*. Other lodges were chartered from Scotland (via Massachusetts), and New York (English *Moderns*), as well as another five from Boston. By the end of the American Civil War, 16 lodges existed in Connecticut; of which 13 joined together in convention in 1789 to form a Grand Lodge.

As with all the New England areas, Connecticut Masonry suffered during the anti-Masonry of the 1830s. In 1831, almost all Grand Lodge officers resigned, and many lodges closed. It was not until the 1860s that Masonry made a recovery in the State. Since those times, it has expanded steadily.

Connecticut changed from cipher to plain text ritual, with essential secrets omitted, in 1991. There is an interesting story told about this, connecting it to the claim in John J Robinson's book, *Born in Blood*, that the phrase 'Brother to Corsairs and Pirates' occurs in Masonic ritual. The transcribers from a single-letter mnemonic code to plain text were prevailed upon to change a small part of the ritual, including insertion of the phrase 'Brother to Corsairs and Pirates', and 6000 copies of the new ritual were printed and distributed before it was realised that the change had not been authorised by Grand Lodge. The book was recalled and reprinted without the inserted material.

Special Notes for Visitors

Connecticut is one of the minority of US jurisdictions wherein most of the lodges list two stated meetings per month. On the other hand, Connecticut lodges are permitted to open and conduct business in any degree. As with most of the United States, few lodges meet in July and August. For the most part, lodges open at 7.30 pm, although a small number meet at 8 pm. Full assistance will be received by visitors at the Grand Lodge office.

Connecticut's Masonic Home and Hospital is of particular interest. This large facility for the aged, dedicated in 1895 and currently licensed for 568 beds, is on a large tract of land in Wallingford. A 156-bed satellite facility, known as *Ashlar of Newtown*, and run by the Masonic Charity Foundation of Connecticut, is located in a twelve-acre rural setting. The Grand Lodge library is located at 121 Hayes St, New Britain.

Connecticut possesses two research lodges:

Masonic Lodge of Research meets at 3960 Main Street, Stratford, at 7.30 pm on the third Monday of February, March, May, October and December, and the fourth Monday of September (Secretary: Douglas A Gray, 197 Circular Ave, Hamden, CT 06514); and

Philosophic Lodge of Research meets at the Holiday Inn, 4 Sebethe Drive, Cromwell at 7.30 pm on the third Friday of February, April, September, October and December, and all Master Masons are welcome. The lodge dines before the meeting, 5.30 for 6 pm, at a cost of \$15, and five days notice by intended diners is required (Secretary: Matthew F Griffin, 35 Garfield Road, Bristol, CT 06010).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut, Inc, F&AM

Founded: 1873. *Descent*: New York.

Grand East: 106 Goffe St, New Haven, CT 06511.

Telephone: 203 329 9957. Fax: 203 329 9957.

Annual Communication: second Saturday in October; and a further meeting on the second Saturday in March.

Lodges: 17. Membership: 1500.

Ritual: *King Solomon And His Followers*. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Annual Proceedings*.

History

In 1849 several Masons formed a Masonic Club in New Haven and when they were joined by Bro the Rev James Hood in 1857 they sought a charter from New York. *Widow's Son Lodge #10* was formed in New Haven the following year, as was *Eureka #15* at Norwich. Two further lodges were also chartered from New York, *Excelsior #16* in Hartford in 1859 and *Doric #33* at Bridgeport in 1871. Two years later they notified New York of the intention to form their own Grand Lodge, and towards the end of 1873 they formed the *Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Connecticut*, and renumbered the lodges. Three of the four original lodges are still active, *Widow's Son #1*, *Excelsior #3* and *Doric #4*. *Eureka* is dormant. In 1975, the Grand Lodge changed its name to the present title.

In 1966 the two Grand Lodges in Connecticut jointly sponsored a 'Brotherhood in Action' community program, in which they were joined by the (Roman Catholic) Knights of St Columbus and the (Jewish) B'nai B'rith. The two Masonic bodies also combined with Eastern Star, Rainbow, DeMolay, Shrine and Red Cross groups in a blood donor scheme. After a lengthy 'getting to know you' period, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge made a formal request for recognition, and one month later, in October 1989, both Grand Lodges voted to extend fraternal recognition and visitation rights to the other. This was a Masonic 'first', and the example was soon followed by other Grand Lodges agreeing to share territory on similar terms. But the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Connecticut continued to lead the way, by exchanging recognition with mainstream Grand Lodges elsewhere in the US, and in Canada, Europe, South America and Australia.

By mid-1998, this Grand Lodge had exchanged recognition with 25 mainstream Grand Lodges: Alberta, British Columbia, Connecticut, England, Germany, Idaho, Ireland, Maine, Manitoba, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, Netherlands, New Brunswick, New Hampshire, Nova Scotia, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Scotland, South Australia, Tasmania, Venezuela, Vermont, Victoria and Washington. Although there have been many contributors, the principal architects of this success are Bros Lewis Myrick Sr, PGM <LEWISMYR@aol.com> and Preston L Pope, PGM. The amity between the two Grand Lodges in Connecticut extends to lodges sharing premises in some instances: for example, in Middleton.

Special Notes for Visitors

Connecticut lodges meet once or twice monthly, at 8 pm, generally opening in the third degree. Dress for local brethren is dark suit, black tie, shoes and socks, white gloves, but visitors are permitted to dress according to the dress code of their own Grand Lodge. Visitors are tested in the usual American way by a committee appointed by the Master, and required to produce a current dues card or other proof. On special occasions a dinner is served in conjunction with the lodge meeting. Neither liquor nor smoking is allowed in the lodge room but wine is permitted in conjunction with a Table Lodge in the 'lower hall'.

The Grand Lodge does not have a library or museum, but conducts a training system for lodge officers. The ritual is entirely in cipher, and may not be published in other form. The Grand Master usually serves for two years. This Grand Lodge exchanges Grand Representatives, and all Past Masters are members of the Grand Lodge. Since there are only 17 lodges in this jurisdiction, and recognition is enjoyed so widely, meeting details of all lodges are provided (meeting time at 8 pm in each case):

Ansonia: J H Wilkins #9 meets at 150 Tremont St on 4th Thursday.
Bloomfield: Composite #22 meets at 3 Tunxis Avenue on 1st & 3rd Saturdays.
Bridgeport: Doric #4 meets at 865 East Main St on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Hartford: two lodges meet at 2 Mahl Avenue, *Excelsior #3* at on 2nd & 4th Mondays, and *St Peter's #20* on 2nd Friday & 4th Saturday; while a third, *Tuscan #17*, meets at 66 Montville St on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.
Middleton: G W Crawford #21 meets at 33 Pleasant St on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.
New Britain: Ionic #7 meets at 198 Gold St on 2nd & 4th Mondays.
New Haven: three lodges meet in the same premises, the Grand Temple at 106 Goffe St, *Widow's Son #1* on 2nd & 4th Mondays; *Oriental #6* on 1st & 3rd Mondays, and *King Solomon #23* on 3rd Saturday.
New London: *Jeptha #11* meets at 66 Hempstead St on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.
Norwalk: *Corinthian #16* meets at 15 Knight St on 2nd & 4th Mondays.

Stamford: St John's #14 meets at 273 Greenwich Avenue on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays.
Torrington: W P Gladding #12 meets at 60 Brightwood Avenue on 4th Friday.
Waterbury: Kellogg #5 meets at 22 Bishop St on 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.
Willimantic: Ashlar #19 meets at Route 6, North Windham on 2nd Monday.

DELAWARE

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware

Founded: 1806. *Descent:* Pennsylvania (*Antients*) and Maryland.

Grand Lodge office: 818 Market Street, Wilmington, DE 19801-3077.

Telephone: 302 652 4614. Fax: 302 652 4059.

Annual Meeting: first Wednesday in October.

Lodges: 29. Membership: 6736.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

History

The first lodge established in Delaware was warranted by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (under the English *Antients* Grand Lodge) in 1765, and continues to the present day as Union Lodge #5 at Middletown. The second lodge in the area was *Washington Lodge #14*, also warranted from Pennsylvania, four years later. This lodge now heads the Delaware *List of Lodges* as Washington #1, meeting at Wilmington. Five more lodges were chartered from Pennsylvania up until 1802, of which three survived. The Grand Lodge of Maryland weighed in with two lodges, in 1792 and 1800.

Four lodges held a convention in 1806 for the purposes of establishing a Grand Lodge, which was duly established on 7 June of that year. However, *Washington Lodge* failed to pay its outstanding dues to Pennsylvania prior to joining the new Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, as it now is, voiced strong objections, and was less than happy with other procedures concerning the erection of the Delaware Grand Lodge, declaring it illegal. The Grand Lodge of Maryland adopted the same course. However, other Grand Lodges, such as Virginia, supported Delaware. With the passing of time the acrimony abated, and the Grand Lodge of Delaware was recognised as regular by the dissenting Grand Lodges in 1812.

Delaware's ritual, in cipher, was extracted from 'Exoteric Portions of the Ritual' in Albert Mackey's *Manual of the Lodge*. Circulation of the cipher is limited to the line officers of Delaware lodges.

Special Notes for Visitors

Delaware is one of the smaller Grand Lodges in the United States, currently possessing 29 lodges. Of these, six (including Delaware Lodge of Research; Secretary: Franklin R Townsend, 905 Bradley Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808) meet in Wilmington, the major population center of the State. A visitor will readily receive every assistance upon visiting the Grand Lodge office in Wilmington. This Grand Lodge is one that permits the publication of a ritual cipher. The Masonic Home of Delaware, established in 1911, is located just outside the City of Wilmington on a 12-acre site, and is also well worth a visit.

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware

Founded: 1849. *Descent:* Pennsylvania.

Grand East: 623 South Heald Street, Wilmington, DE 19801.

Telephone: 302 652 9283.

Annual Communication: fourth Friday in June.

Lodges: 17. Membership: 800.

History

Hiram Grand Lodge was erected at Wilmington in June 1849, with assistance from Pennsylvania. It was an independent body and denounced the National Compact the following year. In 1944 it changed its name to the present one.

Special Notes for Visitors

There are six military lodges chartered from Delaware, three of them in Turkey, one in the Azores, one in Bangkok, and one meeting at Dover, in Delaware. Of the civilian lodges, one meets at Dover, four at the Grand Temple at Wilmington, and one each at Clarksville, Laurel, Middleton, Milford, Milton and Smyrna.

C Other Grand Lodges

Most Worshipful African Harmony Grand Lodge Free and Accepted, Ancient York Masons, Prince Hall Origin – National Compact In and For the State of Delaware, has headquarters at Wilmington.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**A The Grand Lodge of Free And Accepted Masons of the District of Columbia**

Founded: 1811. *Descent:* Maryland and Virginia.

Grand Lodge office: 5428 MacArthur Boulevard, NW, Washington, DC 20016.

Telephone: 202 686 1811. Fax: 202 686 2759.

Email: <dcMasons@aol.com>.

Website: <www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/3278>.

Annual Communication: second Saturday in December.

Lodges: 32. Membership: 6062.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Voice of Freemasonry*.

History

The District of Columbia, of course, is not a state, but it is treated as one for Masonic purposes. The District of Columbia is that area which surrounds the American capital city of Washington. It was formed in 1790 and originally included the town of Alexandria in Virginia, which was returned to Virginia in 1846.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland chartered a lodge at Georgetown in 1789, which expired in 1794, and chartered another in 1795 but it also became extinct. The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania established *Alexandria Lodge* in 1783 but this lodge exchanged its charter for one under the Grand Lodge of Virginia in 1788 and later became *Alexandria-Washington Lodge #22*. *Brooke Lodge #47* (later *Alexandria-Brooke Lodge #2*) was formed at Alexandria by Virginia in 1796, and Maryland weighed in with a further four lodges between 1793 and 1806, giving the District six lodges in total. These lodges, with the exception of *Alexandria-Washington*, met in Convention in 1811 and formed a Grand Lodge. Today, the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia possesses 32 lodges, all of which meet in Washington.

Special Notes for Visitors

As the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge centers on one city, visiting its lodges is a relatively easy pursuit for the travelling Freemason, and every assistance will be afforded visitors at the Grand Lodge office.

Without doubt, the highlight of any trip to the American Capital will be an excursion to the George Washington National Monument located at Alexandria just to the south of Washington. The monument was built between 1922 and 1932, with the financial support of all the mainstream American jurisdictions, at a cost of about five million dollars. The monument was dedicated in 1932 at one of the largest Masonic meetings ever held, with the then President of the United States and all American Grand Masters present. Alexandria itself is actually within the state of Virginia.

The monument is on a site of 36 acres, and rises seven stories. Its design is that of a Chaldean Ziggurat, built entirely of stone Masonry without the use of steel. It contains assembly rooms, dining rooms, museums, libraries, an auditorium with a seating capacity of 1200, archives, and a variety of Masonic temples. A major feature is the statue of Washington in the Memorial Hall, which is over seventeen foot high and weighs nearly eight tons.

The District of Columbia is one of the few American Grand Lodges which does not employ a *district* system, doubtlessly because of the concentration of all its lodges in Washington. In addition to Arminius Lodge #25, which has long worked the DC ritual in German, other foreign-language lodges have been chartered in recent years. Mehr Lodge #90 works an Emulation ritual in Farsi (but opens and closes in English); Alianza Fraternal Americana Lodge #92 works the DC ritual in Spanish; La France Lodge #93 works an Emulation ritual in French (and the *Grande Loge Nationale Française* has returned the compliment by chartering a lodge in France to work the DC ritual); Hayastan Lodge #94 works an English ritual in Armenian; and Sojourner-Kilwinning Lodge #1798 (once every three months) works a Scottish ritual—and holds a traditional Scottish ‘Harmony’ afterwards. Most meetings of these lodges are followed by a *table lodge* at a nearby restaurant. The Grand Lodge has also created an International Relations Committee, charged with assisting and hosting visiting brethren.

There are, in effect, two lodges of research, Pythagoras Lodge of Research and the recently formed Lodge of the Nine Muses #1776. The newcomer seeks to emulate its famous namesake in 18th-century Paris, stimulating thought and discussion on all aspects of Masonry, with a fair amount of success. It meets at the historic Oddfellows Temple on 7th Street, in an area of good restaurants, bookstores and art galleries. The older research lodge, Pythagoras, meets at Singleton Lodge Hall, 4441 Wisconsin Avenue North West, four or five times a year, in January, April, June and/or September, and at the end of October (installation). Actual meeting dates can be obtained from the Secretary, Harold Grainger, 14914 Laurel Oaks Lane, Laurel, MD 20707; or Senior Warden (at time of publication), Robert H Starr, email <roberth@cheerful.com>.

Washington is also the venue for the annual Feast and Forum of the Philalethes Society International, the largest Masonic research society in the world, and headquarters of the Scottish Rite Research Society, the fastest-growing research body. The Scottish Rite library is at 1733, 16th Street NW.

The Grand Lodge cares for the aged, and is heavily involved in a Masonic blood bank program. A *Lodge Activities Bulletin* is regularly published for circulation to lodge officers, Past Masters, and Grand Lodge officers. The Past Masters Association of the District of Columbia publishes a bi-monthly *Newsletter*, in addition, which is mailed to all members, and the Grand Secretary edits the Grand Lodge periodical, *Voice of Freemasonry*. The *Scottish Rite Journal* (formerly the *New Age*) of the Southern Jurisdiction A&ASR is also published in Washington.

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, PHA, District of Columbia Incorporated

Founded: 1848. *Descent:* Pennsylvania.

Grand East: 1000 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20001.

Telephone: 202 462 8878 & 8877. Fax: 202 265 5620.

Email: <mwphgl@erols.com>.

Website: <<http://www.erols.com/mwphgl/index.htm>>.

Annual Communication: second Wednesday in December.

Lodges: 25. Membership: 5100.

Periodical: *Prince Hall Masonic Digest*.

History

Social Lodge #7, meeting in Washington, was chartered by *First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania* in 1825. *Hiram Grand Lodge* of Pennsylvania chartered *Universal Lodge #10* in 1845 and *Felix Lodge #17* the following year. In 1848, representatives of these three lodges formed *Union Grand Lodge* of the District of Columbia. In 1945 *Union Grand Lodge* changed its name to the present title. *Social Lodge #1* and *Felix Lodge #3* remain at the head of the list of lodges. *Universal Lodge #10* of Pennsylvania became #2 of the District of Columbia, but withdrew from *Union Grand Lodge* in 1865 to assist in the formation of a Grand Lodge in Virginia, becoming #1 on the rolls of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Perhaps the best known member of *Union Grand Lodge* is William Henry Grimshaw, author of *Official History of Freemasonry Among the Colored People in North America* (1903). He served as Master of *Social Lodge #1* in 1874, and as Grand Master in 1907. It says something for the stability of this Grand Lodge that in the 150 years of its existence it has chartered only 29 lodges, of which 25 are still active, and its

membership is not much smaller than that of its mainstream counterpart. The *Prince Hall Masonic Digest*, begun in 1969, has become a model for Prince Hall publications.

Special Notes for Visitors

Lodges in this jurisdiction have one stated meeting per month. All but one of the 25 lodges meet at the temple on U Street; there is a lodge meeting each night at 7.30 pm, Monday through Saturday, four weeks per month, with the exception of the fourth Saturday. In addition, there is a daylight lodge, Prudence #27, that meets at 1.30 pm on the second Saturday. The only lodge meeting elsewhere is the youngest, Nathaniel M Adams Jr Military Lodge #27, which meets at Botling Air Force Base at 6 pm on the first Thursday.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is a National Compact Grand Lodge, MW Eureka Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin, in Washington, DC, and two others: MW King Solomon Grand Lodge AF&AM Inc, and St John Grand Lodge AF&AM.

FLORIDA

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Florida

Founded: 1830. *Descent:* Scotland, South Carolina, Alabama, Georgia.

Grand Lodge office: 220 Ocean Street, Jacksonville.

Postal address: PO Box 1020, Jacksonville, FL 32201.

Email: <grsec@glflaMason.org>. Website: <<http://www.glflamason.org>>.

Telephone: 904 354 2339. Fax: 904 632 3865.

Annual Meeting: June.

Lodges: 311, plus 5 Memorial lodges. Membership: 64,984.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Strict limitation on copies.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*, *Digest of Masonic Law*.

Periodical: *The Florida Mason*.

History

The territory that today comprises Florida spent its early colonial career being ceded between various nations. Originally a Spanish colony, it was sold to Britain in 1763, ceded back to Spain in 1783, and finally the whole territory was ceded to the United States in 1821. It became a state of the Union in 1845.

The first lodge in the area was warranted from Scotland in 1768. This was *Grant's East Florida Lodge #143 SC*. At the same time, Scotland warranted a Provincial Grand Lodge 'over the lodges in the Southern District of North America. Between 1821 and 1825, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and the Scottish Provincial Grand Lodge chartered eight lodges, but none survived.

However, after United States control was firmly established, a number of new lodges sprang up. *Jackson Lodge #23* was chartered at Tallahassee by the Grand Lodge of Alabama in 1825, and the Grand Lodge of Georgia chartered two more lodges: *Washington* in 1828 and *Harmony* in 1829. These three lodges met and formed the Grand Lodge of Florida in July 1830. Today, virtually every town in Florida has one or more lodges, with the largest numbers being in Jacksonville (23) and Miami (17).

Special Notes for Visitors

The Grand Lodge of Florida is one of the larger American jurisdictions. It uses a district system, each headed by a District Deputy Grand Master. Florida is one of those American jurisdictions where lodges hold two regular communications per month.

The Grand Lodge is heavily involved in charitable pursuits. Among these are a Masonic Home at St Petersburg, and a Masonic blood bank. Visitors to Florida can readily gain assistance at the Grand Lodge office in Jacksonville. In Miami there is no main temple, but rather a number spread across the city, so reference to the local phone book is suggested.

Florida has four lodges (Jose Marti Perez #371 and Clyde S McLaren UD at Miami, Universal #178 at Tampa, and Dr Felix Varela #64 at Key West) that work in Spanish. These cater for, among others, Cuban Masons who have left the Caribbean. Florida also has five *memorial lodges* (two at Miami and one each at Tampa, Key West and Fort Lauderdale) that only conduct funerals. The Florida Lodge of Research meets at Jacksonville (Secretary: Jeff May, 220 NE 39th Street, Ocala, FL 34479, phone 352 629 8669). There is also Florida Chapter of the Philalethes Society (contact Wilbur Allaback, 4366 Roanne Drive, Orlando, FL 32817).

B Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity Free and Accepted Masons PHA Florida & Belize, Central America Jurisdiction, Inc

Founded: 1870. *Descent:* unknown.

Grand East: 410 Broad Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Telephone: 904 354 2368. Fax: 904 355 8667.

Website: <http://members.tripod.com/~MWUGL_of_FL_PHA>.

Annual Communication: third Tuesday in April.

Lodges: 199. Membership: 6500.

History

Union Grand Lodge F&AM of Florida was founded at Jacksonville on 17 June 1870. A National Compact Grand Lodge had been established earlier. On 12 June 1872, these two Grand Lodges consolidated into the present one. In 1910 a schism arose and a group of lodges, together with a substantial number of individual Masons, formed a Grand Lodge which was incorporated using the name *Prince Hall Grand Lodge*. Thus, when Grand Lodges in other states were adopting the name *Prince Hall* in their titles in the 1940s, the parent Grand Lodge in Florida was legally unable to follow suit. Consequently, Union Grand Lodge is the one recognised by Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation, and the Prince Hall Grand Lodge is unrecognised by them.

Union Grand Lodge chartered two lodges in the Central American country of Belize (formerly British Guiana), one of which is still at work, Steadfast Lodge #683, in Belize City. Consequently, the Grand Lodge altered its name to reflect the fact that its jurisdiction extended beyond the confines of the United States.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Grand Temple on the corner of Broad and Duval Streets, in Jacksonville, was constructed in 1912, and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. It is a five-storey brick and concrete building designed as a multi-use structure, with the lower floors as shops and offices, and the top two floors reserved for Masonic purposes. Externally, each level is embellished with a different series of abstract ornaments, using brick, terracotta and pressed metal, with Masonic symbols below the top-floor windows. The *Negro Blue Book* (1926) described it as 'one of the finest buildings owned by Negroes in the world'.

C Other Grand Lodges

In addition to the above, there is a National Compact body, Meridian Grand Lodge.

GEORGIA

A The Grand Lodge of Georgia, Free and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1735. *Descent:* England and Pennsylvania.

Grand Lodge office, 811 Mulberry Street, Macon, GA 31298-5099.

Telephone: 912 742 1475. Fax: 912 742 1465.

Email: <grand.lodge@juno.com>. Website: <<http://www.glofga.org>>.

Annual Meeting: fourth Tuesday in October (third Tuesday, in 1999 only).

Other addresses: Atlanta: Masonic Center, 1690 Peachtree Street NW.

Lodges: 440. Membership: 62,000.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: strictly limited access.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Georgia Masonic Code* (including Constitution).

Periodical: *Masonic Messenger*.

History

The early history of Masonry in Georgia is somewhat obscure. The first lodge established in the area was *Solomon's Lodge*, under the Grand Lodge of England (*Moderns*). It would seem that this lodge was meeting in 1735, shown in the Engraved List of 1747 as a lodge at Savannah, Province of Georgia, but other records do not appear extant prior to 1756. This lack of information was not assisted by the destruction of the Grand Lodge records in a fire in 1820. The *Moderns* warranted two further lodges in 1774 and 1775, but both had short lives. In 1784, the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania issued a charter for *Hiram Lodge #42*, at Savannah. The Pennsylvania Grand Lodge was of *Antients* stock and, possibly as a prelude to union, *Solomon's Lodge* resolved to become *Antients* in 1785.

In 1786, the Grand Lodge of the *Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons according to the Old Constitutions in the State of Georgia* was organised. This title was later changed to that in current usage. It will be noted that historians differ over whether the Grand Lodge of Georgia was formed by only two lodges (*Solomon's* and *Hiram*), or more. The modern requirement for 'regularity of origin' is formation by a minimum of three lodges. No such requirement existed in 1786, and no 'justification' is needed. Nevertheless, accounts persist of the presence of one or more other lodges, *Columbian*, *St Andrews* and *St Louis*, whose origins and foundation dates are unknown.

Since its early days, the Grand Lodge has developed steadily and today remains one of the largest in the United States.

Special Notes for Visitors

Georgia is divided into twelve Masonic districts, each with its own set of District officers, and holding its own annual District Convention. Lodges hold one or two stated meetings per month. In terms of charitable activities, the Grand Lodge has an active Board of Relief and also runs the Georgia Masonic Home for Children, which was built in 1903 on a 600-acre site at Macon. There is a large Scottish Rite hospital in Atlanta. Assistance in visiting is readily obtained at the Grand Lodge office in Macon, or at the Atlanta Masonic Temple.

The Grand Lodge library is located at 811 Mulberry Street, Macon; the Grand Lodge museum is in a building on the Masonic Home property, and the Atlanta Masonic Center also has a library and museum. The official periodical, the *Masonic Messenger*, is issued bi-monthly. Georgia has four lodges of research, located at Atlanta, Columbus, Macon and Savannah:

Georgia Lodge of Research (formerly *Lodge of Research #6 of Atlanta*) meets in the Atlanta Masonic Center, address above (Secretary: Kenneth White, 2320 Oak Hill Road, Covington, GA 30209);

Lodge of Research #1 meets in the Scottish Rite Center, Savannah (Secretary: Donald C Combs, PO Box 4213, Port Wentworth, GA 31407);

Lodge of Research #2 of Columbus, meets in various locations (Secretary: J W Barrett, 7891 Georgia Highway 208, Waverly Hall, GA 31831); and

Lodge of Research #4 meets in the Scottish Rite Center, Vineville Avenue, Macon, quarterly on the fifth Tuesday (Secretary: Fred E Metzler, 312 Forest Hill Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31088).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons Jurisdiction of Georgia

Founded: 1870. *Descent*: Massachusetts, Pennsylvania.

Grand East, 330 Auburn Avenue NE, Atlanta, GA 30335.

Telephone: 404 521 1358. Fax: 404 525 1341.

Annual Communication: second Tuesday in June.

Lodges: 194. Membership: 10,107.

History

Three lodges were erected in Georgia in 1866, *Eureka #11* and *Hilton #13* in Savannah, chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and *Banneker #38* at Augusta, with a charter from Pennsylvania. In 1870 these three lodges formed a Grand Lodge of 'Free and Accepted Masons'. Four years later, other

lodges formed a Grand Lodge of 'Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons'. In 1888, the rivals united as *Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge F&AM of Georgia*, with 53 lodges and 1275 members.

By 1932, over 500 lodges had been chartered, but in that year a number of weaker lodges were merged, and lodges were grouped into districts, under District Deputy Grand Masters. This Grand Lodge has chartered military lodges in Germany and Korea, and has a lodge in the US Virgin Isles, Caribewinds Lodge #589 at St Thomas.

Georgia follows the English practice of retaining a Grand Master for an extended period. Since the union of 1888 there have been only eight Grand Masters—three of them having served for periods of 30 years each, between 1901 and 1991.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are at least seven other Grand Lodges in Georgia. Three of them are based at Columbus: MW St Joseph Grand Lodge of Georgia, Inc; Modern Free and Accepted Masons of the World, Inc; and Traveling Masons of the World Inc. Two have their headquarters in Atlanta: MW Pride of Georgia Grand Lodge AF&AM of Georgia, Inc, on Edgewood Avenue; and St John Grand Lodge, on Bankhead Highway. MW John A Belle Grand Lodge of Georgia is located at Putney, and there is a National Compact unit, MW Smooth Ashlar Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin (National Compact).

IDAHO

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Idaho

Founded: 1867. *Descent:* Oregon and Washington.

Grand Lodge office: 219 North 17th Street, Boise, Idaho 83702-5187.

Telephone: 208 343 4562. Fax: 208 343 4562.

Annual Meeting: third Thursday in September.

Lodges: 73. Membership: 6629.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*, *Masonic Directory*.

History

The initial lodge established in Idaho was formed under the Grand Lodge of Washington in 1863. This was *Lewiston #10*, but it lasted only a few months. The Grand Lodge of Oregon had more success with *Idaho Lodge*, chartered in 1864. This lodge currently heads the register of the Grand Lodge of Idaho. In the following two years Oregon chartered three more lodges, and the Grand Lodge of Washington finally had success with *Pioneer #12*, in 1867.

These five lodges met on 17 December 1867 and formed the Grand Lodge of Idaho, which has prospered since that time. Idaho is one of the smaller American States in terms of population, but nevertheless there are few towns within its borders today that do not possess at least one lodge.

Special Notes for Visitors

Visitors will find the Grand Lodge library in Boise of particular interest. It is largely maintained by the Idaho Lodge of Research #1965, meeting at Boise (Secretary: Dean Millard, 3753 Centennial Way, Boise, ID 83706). Two old temples in Idaho may be of interest to the visitor, those at Idaho City and Silver City. Both have been designated as Masonic memorials.

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

Two lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation meet in the Oddfellows Hall at Mountain Home. One is chartered from Oregon, Sabre Lodge #7. The other is from Nevada, Andrew P Horton Military Lodge #8, which meets at 9 am on the first and third Saturdays of each month.

ILLINOIS

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois

Founded: 1840. *Descent:* Kentucky and Missouri.

Annual Meeting: Friday after the first Tuesday in October.

Grand Lodge office, 2866 Via Verde Street, Springfield.

Postal address: PO Box 4147, Springfield, IL 62708.

Website: <<http://www.ilMasons.org/index.htm>>.

Telephone: 217 529 8900. Fax: 217 529 0242.

Other addresses: Chicago: Masonic building, 1210 North Waller Avenue.

Lodges: 619. Membership: 94,335.

Ritual: Webb-form, plain text.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*,

Periodicals: *Grand Lodge Newsletter*, *Illinois Freemason*.

History

The early history of Freemasonry in Illinois was somewhat chequered. It started strongly and the first lodge, Western Star #107 was formed in 1805 under charter from Pennsylvania. Bro Shadrach Bond was an early joining member, and he became in succession Master of the lodge (1815), first governor of the state (1818), and first Grand Master of Illinois (1822). Other lodges were chartered by Kentucky, Tennessee (2), Indiana, and four by Missouri. In 1822 they formed the first Grand Lodge of Illinois, which soon chartered seven other lodges. However, soon after its formation the anti-Masonic fervour accompanying the Morgan Affair (see the section on New York) arose, and by 1827 the infant Grand Lodge had ceased to operate, with none of its constituent lodges surviving beyond 1829.

By 1835, the hysteria surrounding Morgan's disappearance had waned, and the Grand Lodge of Kentucky chartered *Bodley Lodge*, which was later to assume the premier position in the Illinois roll of lodges. Another ten lodges followed prior to the erection of the new Grand Lodge, holding charters from Kentucky and Missouri. Six of these lodges joined together in 1840 to form the Grand Lodge of Illinois, but not without some difficulty. Several lodges held out from the union, the last of which waited until 1845 to join. However, all problems were overcome and by the 1890s Illinois possessed nearly 700 lodges. Today it remains one of the largest jurisdictions in North America.

Special Notes for Visitors

Being such a large jurisdiction, Illinois has an extensive district system, with nearly 100 districts under Deputy District Grand Masters. Interestingly, Illinois used to be the only mainstream American Grand Lodge that printed and distributed through its lodges a full ritual book in plain English, without the use of ciphers (except where obviously necessary). Now Connecticut has followed suit.

The Grand Lodge runs a very large Masonic Home for the aged, at Sullivan. Dating from 1904, it is on a 464-acre site, and is made up of 10 main buildings. The Grand Lodge of Illinois has had a Home for children since 1886, initially in Chicago, then in 1911 it was moved to a four-acre site at LaGrange. By 1931 it housed 314 children, but later the numbers dropped. Consequently, cottage homes were built on the same site, which were opened in 1964, replacing the old institution-like buildings. Since its inception, the Illinois Masonic Children's Home has been financed entirely by the lodges, which sponsor the children. A blood-sharing program is among the many other charitable pursuits of Illinois Masonry.

While the Grand Lodge office in Springfield may be readily visited, most Masons entering Illinois will probably do so by way of Chicago. Full assistance can be readily obtained by visitors at the main temple in that city, the address of which is noted above.

Illinois has five Masonic libraries, of which four are in the Chicago area: the Scottish Rite library of the Valley of Chicago is situated at 915 North Dearborn St, Chicago; the Grand Encampment library is at 14 East Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1700, Chicago; the Masonic historical library is located at 1924 North 74th

Court, Elmwood Park; and the Evanston Masonic library is at 1453 Maple Avenue, Evanston. The fifth is the Louis L Williams Library at the Scottish Rite Temple at 110 East Mulberry, Bloomington, in the center of the state. It is named after a founder of the Masonic Book Club and the Illinois Lodge of Research, and is jointly sponsored by the research lodge, the book club and the Scottish Rite Valley of Bloomington.

The Illinois Lodge of Research was founded in 1976, and produces loose-leaf *Transactions* of a high standard. Its secretary is Ron Blue, 2002 Berrywood, Bloomington, IL 61704, email <rblue@statefarm.com>. It was one of the first research bodies to take advantage of the Internet, with the appointment of Bro Martin Smith as Internet Information Officer <10mas1@wpo.cso.niv.edu>. There is also a Central Illinois Chapter of the Philalethes Society (contact Edward R Ahlenius, 2025 East Lincoln #2214, Bloomington, IL 61701).

In addition to the *Grand Lodge Newsletter* and the *Illinois Freemason*, three other periodicals are published in Illinois, *Masonic Temple Topics*, *Knight Templar*, and the *Masonic Chanticleer*.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, State of Illinois and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1867. *Descent:* Ohio.

Grand East: 809 East 42nd Place, Chicago, IL 60653.

Telephone: 773 373 2725. Fax: 773 523 1793.

Email: (for lodge meeting details) <mwphgl il@hotmail.com>;

(GM) <CPDBOSS@aol.com>.

Website: <<http://www.ecnet.net/users/bskgc>>

Annual Communication: first Thursday in August.

Lodges: 77. Membership: 5125.

Ritual: own publication (plain text).

Periodical: *Prince Hall Freemasons Journal Of Illinois*.

History

The earliest lodges were chartered from Ohio. *North Star Lodge #12* of Chicago, *G T Watson Lodge #16* of Alton and *Central Lodge #19* of Springfield met in convention at Springfield on 15 February 1867 and organised the *Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons*, which received a charter from the National Compact Grand Lodge. The founder lodges were renumbered, with a total of 110 members between them; *North Star #1* and *Central #3* remain on the rolls to this day.

The Grand Lodge withdrew from the National Compact in 1876. It incorporated in 1909 as *Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge AF&AM of Illinois*, and in 1929 changed its name to *Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM State of Illinois*, and subsequently changed to its present name to reflect the chartering of lodges outside the state. The Grand Lodge chartered lodges in Minnesota, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin.

Special Notes for Visitors

Of the 150 charters issued by the present Grand Lodge, 76 are in use by lodges at work, and a new lodge, *New Life*, is working under dispensation. Two of the lodges are in Germany. A Masonic and OES Home was established in Chicago in 1896, and finally paid for in 1944. The present Masonic temple in Chicago was purchased in 1953, and the mortgage discharged six years later.

This Grand Lodge has established an organisation for boys, called the Order of Junior Craftsmen. It has 35 Councils of more than 600 boys throughout the state, and a camp program on the Home Grounds at Rock Island.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are six or more other Grand Lodges in Illinois, all based at Chicago. MW United Grand Lodge, AF&AM, is on West 79th Street, and MW United Grand Lodge AF&AM Scottish Rite of the State of Illinois, Inc. is on South Union Street. MW John A Belle Grand Lodge of Illinois is located at either Halstead Street or South Campbell Avenue, while Hiram Grand Lodge is at Ashland Avenue, and MW St John Grand Lodge AF&AM at South Inglsd Avenue. St James Grand Lodge AF&AM (on South

Western Avenue) merged with King David Grand Lodge in 1994, after a split lasting 18 years. The National Compact unit is called MW St Mark Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

INDIANA

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana

Founded: 1818. *Descent:* Kentucky and Ohio.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 525 North Illinois Street, Indianapolis.

Postal address: PO Box 44210, Indianapolis, IN 46244-0210.

Telephone: 317 634 7904.

Email: <grsec@indy.net>. Website: <<http://www.indianaMasons.org>>.

Annual Meeting: third Tuesday in May.

Lodges: 485. Membership: 98,256.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Book of Masonic Law* (Constitution), *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodicals: *Indiana Freemason*, *Square & Compass*, and *Square & Compass of Northern Indiana*.

History

Kentucky was the source of the first charter in Indiana. This was given in 1809 for *Vincennes Lodge #15*, although it had been operating in the two previous years under dispensation. Kentucky chartered seven other lodges between 1815 and 1817, while the Grand Lodge of Ohio chartered *Brookville Harmony Lodge* in 1817. With one exception, these lodges held a convention in 1818 and formed the Grand Lodge of Indiana. The subsequent history of Masonry in Indiana has been largely uneventful. The Grand Lodge has expanded to become one of the largest in the United States.

Special Notes for Visitors

In addition to the Grand Lodge building in Indianapolis, that city also possesses one of the largest Scottish Rite Cathedrals in the United States. Both edifices are of great architectural interest, and well worth visiting. The Grand Lodge Temple also contains an excellent library and museum.

The Indiana Masonic Home at Franklin, in central Indiana, is also worthy of a visit. A very large establishment, on a 360-acre site, it caters for around 400 mostly elderly residents. This is the meeting place of Dwight L Smith Lodge of Research UD, long desired and recently formed, whose name honours a PGM and Grand Secretary who was also a noted writer and speaker, a president of the Philalethes Society and a Blue Friar.

Indiana has two other special purpose lodges, Bartimaeus Lodge UD and Transylvania Lodge UD, both in Indianapolis. Bartimaeus Lodge, whose dispensation is renewed each year by the incoming Grand Master, performs degree ceremonies with candidates suffering physical handicaps. For example, if a lodge has a candidate who is deaf, Bartimaeus Lodge will supply a brother skilled in sign language. Transylvania Lodge promotes blood donations from the local lodges, and its foundation Master, dressed as Dracula, attends local blood drives. Thus, the lodge encourages community involvement with a touch of humour.

There is a chapter of the Philalethes Society in Indiana, York Minster Chapter (contact Roger S VanGordon, 5656 Ralston Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46220, <100724.747@compuserve.com>).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Indiana

Founded: 1856. *Descent:* Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Grand East: 5605 East 38th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46218.

Telephone: 317 546 8062. Fax: 317 546 8071.

Email: <glodgein@sigmaduke.com>.

Website: <<http://www.sigmaduke.com/glodgein>>

Annual Communication: second weekend in July.

Lodges: 37. Membership: 2100.

History

The First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania established *Union Lodge* in Indiana in 1847, but this lodge accepted a charter from the Grand Lodge of Ohio (National Compact) in 1850 as *Union Lodge #5*, in Indianapolis. Over the next five years, Ohio chartered five more lodges in Indiana: *King Solomon #8* at Madison, *Britton #13* at Richmond, *Darnes #15* at Terre Haute, *R Phillip #17* at Carthage, and a second lodge at Indianapolis, *Gleaves #2*. In September 1856, representatives of these six lodges met in Indianapolis and established the *Independent Union Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana*.

Although the Grand Lodge of Ohio was chartered by the National Compact, the national body acted independently to erect other lodges in Indiana over the same period: *Green Day Hunter #6* at Terre Haute, *St John's #8* at New Albany, *Pythagoras #9* at Indianapolis, *St Mark's #16* at Kokomo, and *Washington #22* at Washington. In November 1857, a convention of delegates from these lodges met in Indianapolis and formed the Pythagoras Grand Lodge of Indiana.

The two Grand Lodges continued to co-exist until 1783, when the older Grand Lodge withdrew from the National Compact and took the name *Most Worshipful Independent Union Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana and its Jurisdictions*. The phrase 'and its jurisdictions' was added because in its earlier incarnation it had chartered lodges in Michigan and Kansas. *Pythagoras Lodge* had already quit the *Pythagoras Grand Lodge*, which faded into obscurity. *Pythagoras* eventually became #11 and *St John's #8*, when the new Grand Lodge renumbered its lodges, while *Union* and *Gleaves* were consolidated as Central #1, and *Britton* was renamed Eastern Star #3, later becoming Quinn #28. *Darnes* has survived as Darnes #4, and *King Solomon* (renumbered #2) has become Eureka #30.

The Grand Lodge grew steadily and by the time it celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1906 had chartered 42 lodges. A few years later, it chartered a lodge in Wyoming, Mid-West Lodge #51, at Rock Springs, but this lodge is no longer at work. In 1921, the Grand Lodge purchased a Masonic and OES Home at Weaver, about half-way between Indianapolis and Fort Wayne, and paid off the mortgage in less than ten years. The Grand Lodge changed to its present name in 1944. In the early 1960s, a lodge of research was chartered, but, sadly, it has not survived to the present day.

C Other Grand Lodges

There appear to be three other Grand Lodges in this state: MW KSS Grand Lodge of Indiana; MW King Solomon Grand Lodge of Indiana, Inc; and MW Indiana Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin, under the National Compact.

IOWA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Iowa

Founded: 1844. *Descent:* Missouri.

Grand Lodge office & library: 813 First Avenue South East, Cedar Rapids.

Postal address: PO Box 279, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-0279.

Telephone: 319 365 1438.

Annual Meeting: third Friday in September.

Lodges: 354. Membership: 35,127.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Grand Lodge Bulletin*.

History

The Grand Lodge of Missouri was responsible for the charters of all the lodges which formed the Grand Lodge of Iowa. The first charter was issued in 1840 for *Des Moines Lodge #41*, at Burlington. This lodge heads the Iowa Register as #1. Missouri chartered a further lodge in 1841, and two more in 1843. These four lodges met and established the Grand Lodge of Iowa in 1844.

Special Notes for Visitors

There is little outside the parameters of the general text on the United States to add here. However, special mention must be made of the Iowa Masonic library located at Cedar Rapids. It is probably the largest Masonic library in the world, and as such will be of particular interest to visitors.

There are two chapters of the Philalethes Society and one research lodge in Iowa (contacts in parentheses):

Research Lodge #2 (Secretary: George E Richard, PO Box 3643, Des Moines, IA 50322);

Iowa Chapter (Tom Gruis, 1243 48th Street, Des Moines, IA 50311-2405); and

Samuel Clemens Chapter (James Fischer, 2322 Nye Avenue, Muscatine, IA 52761-8417).

B MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Iowa and Jurisdiction Inc

Founded: 1881. *Descent:* Missouri.

Grand East (GM's residence): 209 Gayle Street, Waterloo, IA 50701.

Telephone: 319 232 5412.

Grand Secretary: 2807 Madison Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50310.

Telephone: 515 255 7702.

Annual Communication: second Thursday in July.

Lodges: 7. Membership: est. 250.

History

Missouri chartered lodges at Keokuk, Muscatine and Des Moines. *African Grand Lodge AF&AM*, erected at Keokuk in August 1881, merged with *Hiram Grand Lodge* at Des Moines in July 1887, to become *United Grand Lodge AF&AM of Iowa*, and subsequently changed its name to the present one. The Grand East is located at the Grand Master's home, and thus it changes every few years. For that reason, the Grand Secretary's address and telephone number are also supplied above.

This Grand Lodge has chartered 45 lodges in just over a century, but has suffered severe losses in the past decade. The number of lodges dropped from 15 in 1989 to 11 in 1992 and 7 in 1997. Membership dropped from 646 to 380 between 1989 and 1992, with no figure provided for 1997.

KANSAS**A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Kansas**

Founded: 1856. *Descent:* Missouri.

Grand Lodge office: 320 SW 8th Street, Topeka.

Postal address: PO Box 1217, Topeka, KS 66601.

Telephone: 785 234 5518. Fax: 785 357 4036.

Email: <n0ku@gte.net>. Website: <<http://www.inlandnet.net/~ksgl>>.

Annual Meeting: third Friday in March.

Other addresses: Wichita: Masonic Temple, 332 East 1 Street.

Kansas City: No main temple—check telephone directory.

Lodges: 290. Membership: 43,810.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes

Main publications: *Laws of Masonry* (Constitution), *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Kansas Mason*.

History

The first lodge erected in Kansas was *Smithton Lodge*, which was formed under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1854. It is now #1 under the Grand Lodge of Kansas, and meets at Highland. This was followed by *Leavenworth Lodge* (now #2) at Leavenworth, in the same year; and *Wyandotte Lodge* (now #3) at Kansas City, in 1855. The Grand Lodge was opened in 1856 by representatives of these three

lodges. Since that date it has expanded steadily. There are 105 counties in Kansas and with 290 lodges this averages just under three per county, although in some there are one and in others as many as six or seven.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Kansas Masonic Home will be of interest to visitors. This huge complex is located in Wichita, and caters for elderly residents. A 120-bed skilled nursing section was opened in 1981. It has since added a 78-apartment independent living center and a 60-room assisted living center, thus offering three separate levels of care in the same facility. The Grand Lodge has also established a Masonic Foundation to establish and maintain projects in the areas of science and education. One of its main projects is a partnership with the Kansas University Medical Center, providing an annual grant of \$200,000 for cancer research, and Kansas Masons are in the process of endowing a Kansas Masonic Chair of Cancer Research at the medical center. Another project of the Foundation provides loans to university, college and trade school students at a deferred low interest rate. A third project provides tuition for a 200-strong marching band of high school students.

The Grand Lodge library at Topeka is another point of interest. Most lodges in Kansas hold two stated meetings per month. The Grand Lodge also permits a printed ritual (in cipher) and permits its lodges to conduct business in the first degree. It publishes an excellent quarterly magazine, the *Kansas Mason*, which is available on subscription.

The Kansas Lodge of Research was created by Grand Lodge Constitution. It has established local groups, called *Divisions*, of which it currently has two. The older (Division Three) was established in 1981, and the younger (Esoteric Division) in 1995. The lodge has its annual meeting during the Grand Lodge Communication on the third Friday in March, and the Divisions meet monthly, at the call of their officers. Membership is open to all Master Masons of or in amity with the Grand Lodge of Kansas. The Secretary is Rabbi Barry Albin, telephone 913 371 1981, email <barrya@qni.com>.

There are two chapters of the Philalethes Society in Kansas (contacts in parentheses):
Jerry Marsengill Chapter (Merlin R Grundy, 2600 Somerset, Prairie Village, KS 66206); and
Wichita Chapter (Donald F Young, PO Box 12004, Wichita, KS 87277-2004).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Kansas and its Jurisdiction

Founded: 1867. *Descent:* Missouri and Ohio.

Postal address: PO Box 300463, Kansas City, MO 64130-0463.

Telephone: 913 621 4300. Fax: 913 621 4330.

Alternative fax for Grand Secretary: 816 363 1555.

Email: <viceroysound.net>. Website: <<http://www.phglks.org>>

Annual Communication: first Wednesday in June.

Lodges: 42. Membership: 1392.

Ritual: Lester's *Look to the East* (plain text).

History

Different sources give substantially different accounts of the origin of Prince Hall Masonry in Kansas. The likely explanation is that the present Grand Lodge is derived from two earlier Grand Lodges.

Shortly after its formation in 1865, *Union Grand Lodge of Missouri* chartered lodges in Leavenworth and Lawrence, Kansas. These lodges formed *King Solomon Grand Lodge* on 11 September 1867, with a warrant from the National Compact. *King Solomon Grand Lodge* chartered *Rocky Mountain Lodge* in Colorado in 1867, *Widow's Son Lodge #18* in Arkansas in 1872, and two more lodges in Colorado in January 1876. In March of the same year, *King Solomon Grand Lodge* withdrew from the National Compact.

In 1865, Ohio chartered *Western Star Lodge* at Lawrence, followed by *Euclid Lodge* at Topeka and *Mt Olive Lodge* at Leavenworth. These three combined in 1875 to form the *Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Kansas, AF&AM*. The founding lodges were renumbered #1, #2, and #3 respectively, and retained these numbers when *Prince Hall Grand Lodge* and *King Solomon Grand Lodge* combined in or after 1887. In August 1950 the Grand Lodge took the name *MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Kansas*, and then changed to its present title, *MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Kansas and its Jurisdiction*, when it chartered North Star Lodge #114 at Box Elder, in South Dakota.

Special Notes for Visitors

There are indications that potential visitors from outside the Prince Hall fraternity require a personal invitation in order to be admitted to a lodge within this jurisdiction.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is a MW St John's Grand Lodge, AF&AM of Kansas, Inc, the headquarters of which is in Kansas City, Kansas, at 2206 North 11th Street.

KENTUCKY**A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Kentucky**

Founded: 1800. *Descent:* Virginia.

Grand Lodge office: 300 Masonic Home Drive, Masonic Home, Louisville, KY 40041.

Telephone: 502 893 0192. Fax: 502 899 5253.

Email: <NDNP18F@Prodigy.com>.

Website: <<http://www.masterMason.com/glky/>>.

Annual Meeting: third Monday in October.

Lodges: 441. Membership: 65,161.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

History

As Kentucky was a part of Virginia until 1792, it is not surprising to discover that all its early lodges came from that source. The first lodge chartered from Virginia was *Lexington Lodge #25*, in 1788. This lodge now heads the *Kentucky Register of Lodges*. This was followed by four further Virginia lodges up until 1800. These five lodges sent representatives to a Convention on 16 October 1800, and thereupon formed the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. The Grand Lodge survived the anti-Masonic excitement of the 1830s and grew substantially.

Special Notes for Visitors

Kentucky is a large southern jurisdiction, with virtually every town in the state possessing a lodge. Louisville is the only population center in Kentucky of any real size, and currently there are 40 lodges in the Louisville/Jefferson County metropolitan area, meeting in a variety of Masonic temples. Louisville is also the location of the Kentucky Masonic Home, a visit to which is highly recommended.

The Grand Lodge 'home page' on the Internet (listed above) is hosted by the Center for Education and Leadership; its Director of Education is William G Hinton, PGM <NDNP18F@prodigy.com>.

Kentucky lists two lodges of research; surprisingly, neither is anywhere near Louisville. William O Ware Lodge of Research meets at Covington, on the border with Ohio and just across the river from Cincinnati. Ted Adams Lodge of Research meets at Paintsville, in the eastern part of the state, near the border with Virginia (Secretary: Donald A Willis, HC 66, Box 54, Prestonsburg, KY 41653).

The Philalethes Society is represented by Kentucky Chapter (contact J B Hitt II, 3904 Gardenia Court, Louisville, KY 40220).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Kentucky Inc

Founded: 1866. *Descent:* Ohio.

Grand East: 1304 South 28th Street, Louisville, KY 40211.

Telephone: 502 776 5560 & 5544. Fax: 502 772 0355.

Annual Communication: first Tuesday in August.

Lodges: 67. Membership: 2400.

History

The first lodge for African-Americans in Kentucky actually met across the border in New Albany, Indiana, in 1850. This and other early lodges in Kentucky were chartered from Ohio and these formed the Grand Lodge F&AM of Kentucky in August 1866, under the National Compact. It withdrew from the Compact in 1875, and subsequently adopted the present name. Contrary to the general trend, this Grand Lodge appears to have achieved a slight rise in membership in recent years.

C Other Grand Lodges

Eureka Grand Lodge is also based at Louisville.

LOUISIANA**A The Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons**

Founded: 1812. *Descent:* France, Pennsylvania, South Carolina & New York.

Grand Lodge office: 5800 Masonic Drive, Alexandria.

Postal address: PO Box 12357, Alexandria, LA 71315-2357

Telephone: 318 443 5610. Fax: 318 443 5759.

Annual Meeting: first Monday in February.

Other addresses: Masonic Temple, 232 Industrial Avenue, Jefferson.

Lodges: 272. Membership: 27,637.

Ritual: Webb-form (York Rite), and Scottish Rite (Craft). Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Handbook of Masonic Law*, *Annual Proceedings*, *Masonic Directory*.

Periodical: *Louisiana Freemason*.

History

The history of Freemasonry in Louisiana poses a complicated picture, characterised by great disharmony. The basic problem was a French-inspired struggle between Craft Masonry and the Scottish Rite for control. In seeking to understand this, it must first be noted that Louisiana was originally a French colony and, not surprisingly, largely colonised by Frenchmen. Indeed, the Masonic history of Louisiana in some ways forms a parallel with that of France.

The first lodge in the area was formed by a group of refugee Frenchmen in 1794, under a charter from the Grand Lodge of South Carolina. This was *Loge La Parfaite Union* (Perfect Union) which, of course, worked in French. This was followed by *Loge L'Étoile Polaire* (Polar Star), originally chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Marseilles, but it was reconstituted in 1804 by the Grand Orient of France. Three further French-speaking lodges were chartered under Pennsylvania, but they appear not to have survived.

The first English-language lodge was *Louisiana Lodge*, chartered from New York in 1807. By the time of the admission of Louisiana into the union of the United States in 1812, there were seven lodges in the new State. These were *Charity*, *Concord*, *Perseverance*, *Harmony* and *L'Étoile Polaire*, all under Pennsylvania; *La Parfaite Union* under South Carolina; and *Louisiana Lodge* under New York. *L'Étoile Polaire* had left the umbrella of the Grand Orient of France and taken a Pennsylvanian charter in 1811.

Louisiana and *Harmony* Lodges were the only ones to work in English at this time, although all seven were working in the *York Rite*. The seven lodges met in 1812 to form a Grand Lodge, but the English-speaking lodges withdrew, leaving the French-speaking lodges to form the *Grand Lodge of Louisiana*.

In 1818, the Grand Orient of France again became active, and warranted a lodge in 1820. The two English-speaking lodges failed to flourish, with one expiring. By the end of 1820, the Grand Orient of France had three lodges in the State, and it appears to have greatly affected the attitudes of the infant *Grand Lodge of Louisiana*, which in that year permitted its lodges to work either the York, Scottish or French Rites. Several new English-speaking York Rite lodges sprang up under the Grand Lodge about this time, creating English and French factions within it.

There then followed a protracted struggle between these two factions leading to the formation of a *Council of Rites* in 1836, which had all the hallmarks of a Grand Orient on the French model. In short, the French faction had progressively 'won the day'. However, the degeneration of organisation inherent in factionalism brought the Grand Lodge to virtual dormancy. About this time there were also incursions into the Grand Lodge's affairs by so-called 'higher' bodies, including a Grand Consistory and a Supreme Council. In the face of this mire, *Louisiana Lodge* seceded, but expired soon afterwards.

In 1844 the Grand Lodge adopted a new constitution, but still kept its French Grand Orient structure largely unaltered. In the meantime, the Grand Lodge of Mississippi weighed into the Louisiana scene and chartered seven lodges up until 1848. In that year, these lodges formed the *Louisiana Grand Lodge*, which in two years had a further eighteen lodges within its ranks. Not surprisingly, the older Grand Lodge was less than impressed. It severed relations with Mississippi and declared the new Grand Lodge to be clandestine. Various other Grand Lodges took differing sides in the struggle.

Union was finally effected between the two Grand Lodges in 1850, although the question of what to do with Craft lodges working French or Scottish Rite 'higher' degrees caused problems for several years. The problem was eventually solved, but not without a bogus Supreme Council causing trouble, in alliance with the Grand Orient of France. This alliance took place in 1867, and it was directly responsible for all American Grand Lodges severing relations with the Grand Orient, following an appeal from the Grand Lodge of Louisiana.

Since that time the Grand Lodge has maintained harmony within its ranks. It has long adopted a Code or Constitution of the elective Grand Lodge type, similar to other American jurisdictions. However, ten of its lodges still work the Craft degrees of the Scottish Rite (the lodges of the 16th district), instead of the more usual York Rite with a Webb-form ritual. Nevertheless, the modes of recognition and certain other ritual points must be uniform between lodges regardless of the ritual used. There is also one lodge in New Orleans working in the Spanish language: Cervantes #5.

Special Notes for Visitors

Louisiana is a medium-sized American jurisdiction, which is today quite similar to others in the United States. It uses a District system for Masonic education in ritual proficiency similar to other States, each under a District Deputy Grand Master. It runs a large Masonic Home for children at Alexandria, underwrites its own Masonic cemetery, and publishes an excellent quarterly magazine, the *Louisiana Freemason*. The Grand Lodge office and library, which were in New Orleans, have been moved to the Masonic Home in Alexandria, and the library is well worth a visit. Louisiana also possesses five chartered *Relief* Lodges, which dispense charity and conduct Masonic funerals. Secretary of Louisiana Lodge of Research is Harold J Hooper, 10878 Sullivan Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70818.

List of lodges

The ten lodges working the Scottish Rite Craft ritual are listed below. The lower-numbered lodges tend to work an older version of the ritual. Cervantes #5 works in Spanish, the remainder in English. They all meet at 7.30 pm except Kosmos #171 (8 pm) and Paul M Schneidau #391 (9 am). The meeting places are as follows:

- (a) Etoile Polaire Hall, 1433 North Rampart Street, New Orleans.
 - (b) Germania Hall, 4415 Bienville Street, New Orleans.
 - (c) Masonic Temple Building, 333 St Charles Avenue, New Orleans.
 - (d) 946 Jefferson Highway, Jefferson.
- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Etoile Polaire #1 | 1st & 3rd Thursdays, (a). |
| Perseverance #4 | 2nd Thursdays, (b). |
| Cervantes #5 | 2nd & 4th Mondays, (a) (Spanish). |
| Germania #46 | 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, (b). |
| Kosmos #171 | 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, (c). |
| Union #172 | 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, (c). |
| Dante #174 | 1st Mondays, (b). |
| Galileo-Mazzini #368 | 4th Thursdays, (c). |
| Albert Pike #376 | 2nd & 4th Thursdays, (d). |
| Paul M Schneidau #391 | 2nd Saturdays, (d). |

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM for the State of Louisiana and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1863. *Descent:* Pennsylvania, Ohio.

Grand East: 1335 North Blvd, Suite 301, Baton Rouge.

Postal address: PO Box 2974, Baton Rouge, LA 70821.

Telephone: 504 387 0996. Fax: 504 343 0366.

Annual Communication: Tuesday preceding 24 June.

Other addresses: New Orleans: 1614 Basin St, New Orleans.

Lodges: 192. Membership: 9600.

Ritual: *Masonic Monitor* (plain language, with cipher for secrets).

Periodical: *Plumb Line*.

History

Prince Hall Masonry was brought to Louisiana in 1849, at a time when slavery was still practiced and there were two rival mainstream Grand Lodges in the state (*see above*). The Rev Thomas W Stringer was a Deputy District Grand Master of a predecessor to the present Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and a travelling Elder of the Indiana circuit of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Louisiana had recently been added to the Indiana circuit, which covered Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Kentucky and Tennessee. Bro Stringer was approached by some Masons from around New Orleans, and granted them a dispensation to form *Richmond Lodge UD*, under Pennsylvania. Three months later and a thousand miles distant, a Grand Lodge was chartered in Ohio by the National Compact, with the ubiquitous Bro Stringer as Grand Master.

He discreetly suggested to *Richmond Lodge UD* that they might care to change allegiance to Ohio, which they did, with the approval of Pennsylvania. GM Stringer then appointed John Parson as Deputy District Grand Master for Louisiana and issued a charter for *Richmond Lodge #4* under Ohio. Bro Parson issued dispensations in 1852 and 1854 for two more lodges in New Orleans, *Stringer Lodge #11* and *Parson's Lodge #18*. In 1863, these three lodges formed *Eureka Grand Lodge of Louisiana*. This Grand Lodge was independent of the National Compact, which subsequently chartered another Grand Lodge in the same state, *Union Grand Lodge*. In 1874 these two bodies consolidated into what is now the Prince Hall Grand Lodge. *Richmond Lodge* is now #1 and *Stringer Lodge* #3 on the rolls. Jazz fans will be delighted to learn that both of these (and 12 other New Orleans 'blue' lodges) now meet at the *Basin Street* temple. There is a Parson's Lodge #45 meeting at Slidell, on the other side of Lake Pontchartrain and about 40 miles from New Orleans.

Two other notable Prince Hall Masons of Louisiana are commemorated by having lodges named after them, Oscar J Dunn Lodge #85, at Gretna, and C C Antoine Lodge #185, at Shreveport. Both were Lieutenant-Governors of the state during the reconstruction after the Civil War.

In 1987 an event occurred which may well be unique: a Grand Installation ceremony was conducted by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Louisiana to install the Grand Master of Liberia. This was necessary because of the tragic events which had occurred in Liberia (*see volume two* of this work).

Special Notes for Visitors

At the time of writing, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Louisiana has not exchanged recognition with any Grand Lodge other than those of Prince Hall Affiliation, and does not permit 'unrecognised' Masons to visit its lodges. However, this situation may change and, in any event, these notes may assist visiting Prince Hall brethren.

Most lodges meet twice monthly, at around 8 pm, and open on the third degree. Dress is black suit, bow tie and socks, white shirt and gloves, but most lodges permit the jacket to be omitted in the summer months. Many lodges provide for dues to be paid monthly, a practice hallowed by ancient custom but a bit of a headache for the lodge secretaries. Visitors are subjected to the usual tests; smoking is permitted on the premises but not in a tiled lodge; refreshments are usually served after a meeting, but alcohol seldom.

All Grand offices fall vacant annually, but there is no tenure restriction on the office of Grand Master. The Grand Lodge library is extensive, including a copy of all official publications since 1912, and a considerable amount of Scottish Rite material. Education is organised on a regional level.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are at least nine other Grand Lodges in Louisiana, although not all are active. Some have remarkably similar names: MW St John Grand Lodge AF&AM of Louisiana; United MW St John's Grand Lodge

AF&AM; MW St Andrews Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Inc; MW St Andrew Grand Lodge AF&AM; and United MW King George Grand Lodge AF&AM, all based in New Orleans; MW Universal Grand Lodge, AF&AM, of Louisiana, Inc, based at Shreveport; MW United Universal Grand Lodge of St John AF&AM, at Alexandria; and John G Jones Grand Lodge, with headquarters at Baton Rouge. The National Compact has warranted MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Louisiana. There is also a General Grand Masonic Congress of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of the United States of America, located at Baton Rouge.

MAINE

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Maine

Founded: 1820. *Descent:* Massachusetts.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 415 Congress Street, Portland.

Postal address: PO Box 15058, Portland, ME 04112-5058.

Telephone: 207 773 5184. Fax: 207 773 5108.

Website: < <http://www.mainemason.org>>.

Annual Meeting: May.

Lodges: 193. Membership: 28,447.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Maine Mason*.

History

All the early lodges in Maine were chartered from Massachusetts, which is far from surprising, considering that Maine was part of Massachusetts until 1820. The first lodge formed in Maine received its charter in 1769. This was *Triangle Lodge*, which now heads the Maine list of lodges. Four more lodges were established in Maine between 1778 and 1796, all of which still exist. By the time of independence from Massachusetts in 1820, there were 31 lodges in Maine, of which 24 met in convention in that year and formed the Grand Lodge of Maine.

Maine, in common with all other mainstream eastern American jurisdictions, was hard hit by the anti-Masonry of the 1830s, following the Morgan Affair. The Grand Lodge was placed under great pressure as a result, and several lodges closed. However, it recovered, and continually expanded from the 1840s onwards. Indeed, in proportion of membership to adult male population, worldwide, Maine is second only to Scotland.

Special Notes for Visitors

Although Maine does not possess a Masonic Home as such, the Grand Lodge is heavily involved in charity programs, through its Charity Fund and its Blood Bank activities, among others. Maine spearheaded two highly successful community programs which have been adopted by other jurisdictions, a Scholarship Program and a Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program for Young People. Another interesting feature of Maine Masonry is its Grand Lodge Travel Program. In recent years, Maine Masons have visited many overseas jurisdictions, notably in Europe, and received return visits. This most commendable program is fully supported by the Grand Lodge. A periodical magazine, the *Maine Mason*, is published three times per year by the Grand Lodge.

Maine also possesses an excellent Grand Lodge library and a lodge of research, both at Portland. The Maine Lodge of Research was formed in 1979 and publishes annual *Transactions*. Membership is open to all Master Masons of or in amity with the Grand Lodge of Maine. Dues are \$10 within the US and \$15 elsewhere. The Secretary is Norris JDwyer, RR #2, Box 1995, Bowdoinham, ME 04008, phone 207 353 2053; the current Master is Richard L Rhoda, email <rlrhoda@ainop.com>.

In addition, Maine has a chapter of the Philalethes Society, Cornerstone Computer Chapter (contact Edward L King, PO Box 816, Bangor, ME 04401, phone 207 843 7115, email <edking@mint.net> and <76711.2533@CompuServe.COM>).

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

North Star Lodge #22, chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, meets at Bangor.

MARYLAND**A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Maryland**

Founded: 1787. *Descent:* Pennsylvania.

Grand Lodge office: Freemasons Hall, 304 International Circle, Cockeysville, MD 21030.

Telephone: 410 527 0600. Fax: 410 527 1276.

Website: <<http://Freemasonry.org/maryland>>.

Annual Meeting: third Monday in November.

Lodges: 118. Membership: 25,154.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Free State Freemason*.

History

The early history of Freemasonry in Maryland is somewhat hazy. A lodge is said to have met at Annapolis in 1750, under a charter from Boston, but evidence is scant. The first lodge for which records exist was an English (*Moderns*) lodge, warranted in 1765. In 1782, it became *Antients* by taking a charter from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Between 1766 and 1782, ten lodges were chartered from Pennsylvania. Following the American War of Independence, five lodges met in 1783 with a view to forming a Grand Lodge, but this was not achieved until 1787.

Sadly, of the first six lodges warranted in Maryland, only one has survived. This is Washington Lodge #3 at Baltimore, which remains the oldest lodge in the jurisdiction. Of course, the anti-Masonry of the 1830s had its effect on Maryland, as it did elsewhere. However, the Grand Lodge of Maryland survived to become a large jurisdiction.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Masonic Temple in Baltimore is a large edifice, and well worth a visit. It houses the Grand Lodge offices and a fine library. Maryland also possesses a large Masonic Home just outside Baltimore. The Masonic Service Association's Carl H Claudy Memorial Library is also located in Maryland, at its headquarters at 8120 Fenton Street, Silver Springs.

The Maryland Masonic Research Society is independent of any Masonic body, and meetings are open to Masons and non-Masons alike. It meets four times a year in various parts of the state. Each meeting starts with a brief opening ceremony, followed by business matters, then presentation of research papers, and concludes with a short closing ritual. Masonic ritual is *not* used in the opening and closing ceremonies. The secretary is Donald M Miller, phone 410-285-5670, email: <DonMMMRs@compuserve.com>.

In addition, Maryland has two chapters of the Philalethes Society: *Southern Maryland Chapter* (David W Hillery, 5 Silverwood Circle #2, Annapolis, MD 21403, email <ChesirCat@aol.com>); and *International Friendship Chapter* (Kenneth Gibala, PO Box 7803, Gaithersburg, MD 20898-7803, email <kengib@classic.msn.com>).

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM State of Maryland and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1845. *Descent:* Pennsylvania & others.

Grand East: 1307 Eutaw Place, Baltimore, MD 21217

Telephone: 410 669 4966. Fax: 410 462 4642.

Annual Communication: Saturday–Monday, second week in August.

Lodges: 99. Membership: 4762.

Ritual: *Masonic Monitor* (plain language, with cipher for secrets).

Periodical: *The Masonic Family*.

History

African Grand Lodge of Maryland was organised in 1845, then accepted a warrant under the National Compact as *Union Grand Lodge*. It left the National Compact and consolidated with *First Independent Colored Grand Lodge* in 1876 and later the combined Grand Lodge adopted its present title.

There are 69 lodges in Maryland under this jurisdiction, including a military lodge at Baltimore, and a further 30 military lodges overseas. For details of these, see entries under Belgium, England, Germany and Italy, in volume 2.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are three other Grand Lodges in Maryland with headquarters at Baltimore: MW Hiram Grand Lodge, AF&AM, Masonic Jurisdiction, State of Maryland; MW Luxor Grand Lodge of Maryland, Inc; and MW Maryland Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin (National Compact).

Loge la Fayette, under the Grand Orient of France, meets at Bethesda; it works the French Rite and the Craft degrees of the Ancient & Accepted Scottish Rite.

MASSACHUSETTS**A. The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

Founded: 1733. *Descent:* England, Scotland.

Address: Masonic Temple, 186 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

Telephone: 617 426 6040. Fax: 617 426 6115.

Email: <grandsec@glMasons-mass.org>.

Website: <<http://www.glMasons-mass.org>>.

Quarterly Communications: second Wednesday in March, June, September and December.

Grand Installation: 27 December.

Lodges: 296. Members: 52,000.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitutions and Regulations*, *Annual Proceedings*, *Directory of Lodges*.

Periodical: *The Trowel*.

History

Massachusetts was the birthplace of Jonathan Belcher, the first known native-born American to be made a Mason. He was initiated in England in 1704, and served as Colonial Governor of Massachusetts and New Hampshire from 1730 to 1741. However, it was not Belcher but Henry Price, an English tailor resident in Massachusetts, who took the decisive steps to establish a lodge in this colony. Price went to England with the intention of obtaining a warrant for a lodge in Boston, and returned in April 1733 with a deputation, or patent, as Provincial Grand Master of New England, with authority from the Grand Lodge of England (later dubbed the *Moderns*) to form a Provincial Grand Lodge and to warrant lodges. On 30 July 1733, Price constituted the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, appointed Andrew Belcher, son of Governor Jonathan Belcher, as Deputy Grand Master, and issued a charter for *First Lodge* (later renamed *St John's Lodge*).

In 1734, Henry Price's authority was extended to 'North America', and he continued in office until 1737. Each of three successors (Robert Tomlinson, Thomas Oxnard and Jeremy Gridley) died in office, and on each occasion Price resumed office as Provincial Grand Master, *pro tem*. In all, Price served four terms, 1733–37, 1740–43, 1754–55 and 1767–68. In 1768 he was succeeded by John Rowe, who managed to outlive Price; the latter died in 1780, aged 83 years, and Rowe continued in office until *he* died in 1787.

Under this Provincial Grand Lodge, historically known as *St John's Grand Lodge*, some 40 lodges were chartered between 1733 and 1775 in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North and South Carolina, Pennsylvania, the West Indies, Dutch Guiana, Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, as well as

three military lodges. The 'Henry Price Medal' is the highest award bestowed by the Grand Lodge of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In 1752 a new lodge was formed in Boston, by Masons who found *First Lodge* 'too exclusive'. They applied to Scotland for a charter, which was granted in 1756 as *St Andrew's Lodge* (now called Lodge of St Andrew). The charter arrived four years later, in 1760, and the first Mason made under this warrant was Paul Revere. Dr Joseph Warren was initiated in this lodge the following year.

St John's Grand Lodge was hostile to the recognition of this 'upstart' outside its jurisdiction. So, to put itself on an equal footing, *St Andrew's Lodge* obtained the help of three military lodges stationed in Boston, chartered from Ireland, Scotland and the recently-formed *Antients* Grand Lodge. These four lodges petitioned the Grand Master Mason of Scotland to appoint a Provincial Grand Master. As a result, Joseph Warren, Master of *St Andrew's Lodge*, was appointed Provincial Grand Master in 1769, an office which he held until his death in the Battle of Bunker Hill in June 1775. This Scottish Provincial Grand Lodge, known historically as the *Massachusetts Grand Lodge*, chartered some 30 lodges, many of them outside Massachusetts.

Exactly when the *Massachusetts Grand Lodge* assumed the status of a sovereign Grand Lodge is debatable. *St Andrew's Lodge* was divided on the question of independence; in December 1782, 30 members voted in favour of remaining loyal to Scotland and 19 were against; over a year later, a second vote was recorded, with 29 for and 23 against. At the following meeting, those who had voted against remaining with Scotland were expelled from the lodge. They immediately formed a separate *St Andrew's Lodge* under the independent *Massachusetts Grand Lodge*, and later changed the name to *Rising States Lodge*.

It is also unclear precisely when *St John's Grand Lodge* assumed independence from the Grand Lodge of England (*Moderns*), but it was in this period that another Massachusetts lodge was warranted direct from England: *African Lodge #459*. The story of this lodge and its foundation Master, Prince Hall, is summarised below; it belongs here, as an integral part of Massachusetts Masonic history, but historically the lodge was segregated and, as a result of that segregation, developments require a separate, more detailed study. Suffice it to note here that by 1784 there were two Grand Lodges and two independent lodges in Massachusetts. In 1792, the two Grand Lodges merged into the present *Grand Lodge of AF&AM of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts*, and in 1809 *St Andrew's Lodge* joined them. *African Lodge* was never invited to join.

In 1820, Massachusetts lost 31 lodges when part of the Commonwealth became the state of Maine, and the Massachusetts-chartered lodges therein formed a new Grand Lodge. Worse was to follow; the anti-Masonic storm following the Morgan incident in New York had a devastating effect on Massachusetts. Many lodges closed, never to reopen. Nevertheless, the Grand Lodge resolutely continued to meet under very difficult circumstances. The magnificent Grand Temple in Boston was built in this period in very precarious circumstances. Despite adversity, every crisis was met, and the Grand Lodge eventually emerged to become one of the strongest in America.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Grand Temple in Boston rates as one of the most outstanding in Freemasonry, and any visitor to Massachusetts would be ill-advised to miss it. The Samuel Crocker Lawrence Library within it, dating from 1815, is also highly recommended, and likewise the Grand Lodge museum. The Masonic Home at Charlton, established in 1908, is a tribute to the charitable activities of the Grand Lodge, as is the Massachusetts Masonic Blood Bank.

The administration of the Grand Lodge, while quite similar to others in the United States, exhibits some patterns more reminiscent of English forms. Two examples: the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts meets in quarterly communications, rather than annually, which is the usual American pattern; and, in addition to the plethora of Grand Lodge committees which characterise all American jurisdictions, Massachusetts possesses a *Grand Lodge Board of Directors* to govern administrative matters, which can to some extent be compared with the English-type *Board of General Purposes*.

It is interesting to note that, alone among the American jurisdictions, Massachusetts has never given its lodges *numbers*, and remains one of the very few Grand Lodges in the world not to follow a numbering system. This situation arose from the union of the two Grand Lodges in 1792; when it could not be agreed which lodge would get number one, the problem was solved by not numbering lodges at all.

Massachusetts, since its beginnings, has been a 'missionary' Grand Lodge. It has been directly responsible for chartering many of the early lodges in America, and was never restrained from granting charters outside America. Today, it has three lodges in Panama, three in Chile, one in Japan, and one at the naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. These lodges are mentioned under the appropriate headings elsewhere in this work. The four chartered in mainland China are in recess.

Contact for the *Allen E. Roberts Chapter* of the Philalethes Society is Robert C Corr, PO Box 345, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568-0345, email <rcorr@capecod.net>. In addition to the Grand Lodge publication, the *Trowel*, two other excellent magazines are published in this state, the *Northern Light* of the Northern Jurisdiction of the Scottish Rite, at Lexington, and the *Philatelic Freemason*.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Massachusetts

Founded: 1791. *Descent:* England.

Grand East: 24 Washington St, Dorchester.

Postal address: PO Box 173, Dorchester, MA 02121.

Telephone: 617 445 1145. Fax: 617 445 8698.

Email: <phglma@juno.com>. Website: <<http://www.princehall.org>>.

Annual Communication: second Saturday in December.

Lodges: 27. Members: 1287.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

History

Prince Hall Masonry, which is now worldwide, began in Boston, Massachusetts, in the 1770s. The traditional account is that on 6 March 1775, a man named Prince Hall and 14 other civilians were initiated in a military lodge with an Irish warrant in a British regiment stationed in the vicinity of Boston. When the regiment left the area, these men were given a permit to meet as a lodge but not to make Masons. They called it *African Lodge #1*. Ethnically, all 15 were what was then described as Negroes, and now as African-Americans. In the social climate of the times, they were not acceptable to the other lodges, and this attitude has persisted for two centuries, but is now beginning to change.

It has been claimed that Joseph Warren was sympathetic to their cause, and John Rowe issued them a further permit 'to walk on St John's Day' and 'to bury their dead in form'. After the War of Independence, they petitioned the premier Grand Lodge of England (*Moderns*) for a warrant, which was granted in September 1784 and delivered in May 1787. By this time *African Lodge #459 EC* had 19 Master Masons, 4 Fellow Crafts and 11 Entered Apprentices (including one of the original 15). Prince Hall was Master of the lodge from its inception until his death in 1807. The lodge continued in good standing with the Grand Lodge of England, and in 1792 the Grand Secretary asked Prince Hall for a report on the other English lodges, because nothing had been heard from them since before the war. This was the year in which *St John's Grand Lodge* and *Massachusetts Grand Lodge* united, and in which *African Lodge #459* was renumbered 370, but these occurrences are not mentioned in the correspondence.

Early in 1814, *African Lodge #459/370*, in common with all other English lodges in the United States, was omitted from the rolls of the newly-formed United Grand Lodge of England, but *African Lodge* was not aware of this and continued to function under the English charter, and to send reports and queries to the Grand Lodge as late as 1824—which remained unanswered.

As with the other Grand Lodges in Massachusetts, various dates are assigned to the assumption of Grand Lodge status by African Lodge. The earliest of these, 1791, is claimed by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge itself; the latest date is 1827, when African Lodge declared its independence in a public notice in a Boston newspaper. From then on, it was recorded as *African Grand Lodge #459*, or the *Grand African Lodge*. Between these dates, Prince Hall and his successors issued charters for lodges in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and New York.

In 1847 the Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the United States of North America (otherwise known as the National Compact Grand Lodge) was formed, with jurisdiction over state Grand Lodges, and *African Grand Lodge* accepted a charter from this body as the *Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts*. African Lodge ceased to exist, its members being divided

between three new lodges, *Union #1*, *Celestial #2* and *Rising Sun #3*, all of which are still active. The National Grand Lodge was not a success, and the *Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts* withdrew from it in December 1873, and has functioned as a sovereign body ever since. It has continued to charter lodges in and out of the state, including military lodges, spreading the light of Masonry among duly qualified men, whether African-American or otherwise. It has four civilian lodges in Trinidad, West Indies, and one in Bangor, Maine, and five military lodges in Holland, Spain, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. These lodges are mentioned under the appropriate headings elsewhere in this work.

From the very beginnings of *African Lodge*, Prince Hall Masonry has been subjected to attacks on its legitimacy, from every conceivable angle: claims that Prince Hall and his fellows were not free-born; that the initiation ceremony was a sham; that England had no right to issue the warrant; that the warrant was obtained by fraud; that the lodge ceased to work, and was unlawfully resurrected years later; that Prince Hall and his successors had no right to charter other lodges; that the Grand Lodge was unlawfully erected; and so on. From time to time, results of investigations by Masons from 'mainstream' American Grand Lodges have been published, some for and some against the regularity of origin of Prince Hall and the fraternity which honours him. The most notable reports emanating from Massachusetts were those of Grand Master William S Gardner in 1868, described by another Grand Master as 'the ablest attack upon the Negro Masons we have seen', and of a Grand Lodge committee in 1947, acknowledging the legitimacy of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. But that is now academic. After lengthy talks, in December 1994 the United Grand Lodge of England recognised its offspring as legitimate, with the approval of the 'mainstream' Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the concurrence of Ireland and Scotland, thus opening the way for general exchanges of recognition.

Special Notes for Visitors

The original warrant of African Lodge #459 EC has survived to the present day. In 1869, when a fire raged through the headquarters of the Grand Lodge, destroying priceless records, the warrant was saved by Grand Master Kendall, who entered the burning building and rescued the warrant, charred at the edges, but still legible. It is the oldest surviving charter in the US, and is preserved in a fire-proof bank vault, where it is inspected by a select group once every 10 years.

African Lodge #459 was revived by proclamation in 1984, as a commemorative lodge. The reigning Grand Master is automatically Master of the lodge, and the Treasurer and Secretary are also from the Massachusetts jurisdiction, but the Senior Warden is always the current Grand Master of Pennsylvania and the Junior Warden is the Grand Master of New York. Membership of the lodge is open to all Prince Hall Masons.

The ritual is reported to be virtually identical with that of the mainstream Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are two unrecognised Grand Lodges in the state: MW Hiram Grand Lodge AF&AM, Inc, with headquarters at Roxbury; and MW George Washington Carver Grand Lodge, based in Boston.

MICHIGAN

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan

Founded: 1826. *Descent:* England and New York.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 233 East Fulton Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49503-3270.

Telephone: 616 459 2451. Fax: 616 459 3912.

Email: <gl-office@gl-mi.org>. Website: <<http://www.gl-mi.org>>.

Annual Meeting: fourth Tuesday in May.

Other addresses: Detroit: Masonic Temple, 500 Temple Avenue.

Lodges: 406. Membership: 66,313.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution, Annual Proceedings.*

Periodical: *From Point to Point.*

History

Freemasonry came to Michigan at a reasonably early date, mainly because Detroit was a key town on the track between Canada and the Mississippi River. The first lodge in the area was chartered at Detroit in 1764, under a warrant from the English Provincial Grand Master at New York. This was *Union Lodge #1*, which apparently expired prior to 1788. In 1772 the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec (*Moderns*) chartered *Union Lodge #448 EC*. A number of lodges were erected between 1772 and 1824, few of which survived. Some were Irish military lodges, others were chartered from Canada and New York. In 1823, *Zion #3, Detroit #337* and *Oakland #343* (chartered from New York), all meeting at Detroit, formed a Provincial Grand Lodge to lay the cornerstone of the Territory Capitol. In 1826, a Grand Lodge was formed, only to become dormant in the anti-Masonic excitement of the 1830s. A second Grand Lodge was formed in 1841, but was unable to obtain recognition of its peers. By 1843, seven lodges were again active, and the following year they formed the present Grand Lodge. The first Grand Master of the third Grand Lodge of Michigan was installed by the former Grand Master of the first Grand Lodge. Subsequently, the Grand Lodge of Michigan developed into one of the largest jurisdictions in the United States.

Special Notes for Visitors

Michigan, as one of the largest jurisdictions in the United States, makes great use of a district system, similar to most of its American peers. The state has several large towns, but its biggest population center is the huge industrial city of Detroit. Michigan has long been the proud possessor of a very large Masonic Home complex at Alma, which, with its associated hospital, caters for over 300 elderly residents.

John Tavernier, 17429 Lowell, Roseville, MI 48066, is secretary of the Michigan Lodge of Research. Contact for Michigan Chapter of Research of the Philaethes Society is Ronald B Blaisdell, 1620 Woodbrook Drive #46, East Lansing, MI 48823.

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan

Founded: 1866. *Descent:* Ohio & others.

Grand East: 3100 Gratiot Avenue, Detroit, MI 48207.

Telephone: 313 579 3333 & 3336. Fax: 313 579 0507.

Website: <http://www.htc-mall.com/html/grand_lodge.html>.

Annual Communication: Monday preceding the fourth Tuesday in April.

Lodges: 47. Membership: 2900.

History

Union Grand Lodge was formed at Niles in April 1866. The National Compact also chartered a Grand Lodge in Michigan, and the two Grand Lodges consolidated in September 1873.

Special Notes for Visitors

Substantial numbers of brethren of this jurisdiction regularly perform a public service on Halloween, patrolling the streets to reduce the violence associated with 'Devil's Night'.

C Other Grand Lodges

The International Free and Accepted Modern Masons and Order of Eastern Stars, under a Supreme President, Supreme Grand Master and Supreme Grand Matron, has its headquarters at 2101 Gratiot Street, Detroit. This body was formed in 1950 as a multi-racial, multi-faith Order, but 'based on Christian principles', with the stated object of providing 'moral, financial, benevolent and charitable leadership for the community and the world'. Membership is predominantly African-American, with no claim to descent from Prince Hall Masonry, and they practice only the York Rite degrees. Although they have no hope of meeting the mainstream or PHA criteria of regularity of origin, the organisation appears to be conducted sincerely on Masonic lines. It claims approximately 300,000 members 'worldwide', mainly in North America and the Caribbean, with state Grand Lodges in Alabama, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York,

Ohio, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. The state Grand Lodge in Michigan is the MW Ralphe Bunche Grand Lodge.

There are at least five other Grand Lodges in Michigan: MW Bethany Grand Lodge of Michigan AF&AM, Inc; MW King Darius Grand Lodge, State of Michigan; MW National Grand Lodge, AF&AM, Inc; MW Sinai Grand Lodge, AF&AM, of Michigan, Inc; and a National Compact unit, MW Pride of the East Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

MINNESOTA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota

Founded: 1853. *Descent:* Ohio, Wisconsin and Illinois.

Grand Lodge office: St Paul Masonic Center, 200 East Plato Boulevard, St Paul, MN 55107.

Telephone: 651 222 6051. Fax: 651 222 6144.

Email: <mn-Mason@spacestar.com>. Website <<http://www.mn-mason.org>>.

Annual Meeting: March or April.

Lodges: 196. Membership: 23,920.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *General Regulations* (Constitution), *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Minnesota Mason*.

History

The first lodge to be located in Minnesota was *St Paul Lodge*, erected under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Ohio in 1849. It received its formal Ohio charter in 1852. However, as this lodge was somewhat removed from Ohio, it sought to change its allegiance to Wisconsin, receiving a new charter in 1853. In the meantime, two other lodges were established, namely *St John's Lodge #39* under Wisconsin, and *St Anthony Falls Lodge* (later *Cataract Lodge*) under Illinois.

Consequently, when these three lodges met in convention to form a Grand Lodge of Minnesota in 1853, *St Paul* became #3, with *St John's* and *Cataract* preceding it. Today, the Grand Lodge maintains great strength, with lodges in every part of the State.

Special Notes for Visitors

As with many other American jurisdictions, Minnesota uses a district system, each under a Grand Lodge District Representative. Currently, Minnesota has 30 districts with each containing between four and twelve lodges. The two largest population centers in the state are the cities of St Paul and Minneapolis. The outstanding charitable pursuits of Minnesota Masonry are its Masonic Home, senior citizen nursing home, assisted living and related housing center; and the Masonic Cancer Center at the University of Minnesota (supported by the Masonic Cancer Centre Fund), which carries out great work in the field of cancer research.

There are two 'educational lodges' in Minnesota, and a chapter of the Philalethes Society:

Educational Lodge #1001 (Alden E Lind, 4130 McCulloch Street, Duluth, MN 55804);

Educational Lodge #1002 (Richard C Tufte, Box 13895, St Paul, MN 55113);

Minnesota Chapter (Duane E Anderson, 1126 Arrowhead Road, Duluth, MN 55811, president Barnes A Sharitt Jr <bsharitt@spacestar.net>, meets twice yearly).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons, Jurisdiction of Minnesota

Founded: 1894. *Descent:* Illinois and Missouri.

Grand East: 3836 Fourth Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55409.

Telephone: 612 824 5150.

Annual Communication: third Tuesday and Wednesday in September.

Lodges: 11. Membership: 310.

Ritual: Daggett's cipher.

History

The MW Grand Lodge F&AM of Minnesota was erected at St Paul on 16 August 1894. It changed its name in June 1950 to MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM, State of Minnesota and its Jurisdiction, and again subsequently to the present one.

Minnesota has two military lodges in North Dakota, Mosaic #11 at Grand Forks, and Acacia #12 at Minot Air Force Base; and a lodge in Canada. Sadly, Regent Lodge #5, in Winnepeg, Manitoba, is virtually in darkness due to loss of membership. Until recently, Minnesota had three more lodges in Canada, in the Province of Alberta: Pride of Alberta #9 and Mount Sinai #16 at Edmonton, and Perseverance #15 at Calgary. But in 1997, Minnesota granted independence to these lodges, to form the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alberta. This reduced the total of lodges under Minnesota from 14 to 11, and membership from 400 to approximately 310.

C Other Grand Lodges

The National Compact unit in Minnesota is MW North Star Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

MISSISSIPPI**A The Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Free and Accepted Masons**

Founded: 1818. *Descent:* Kentucky and Tennessee.

Grand Lodge office: Campus of the Masonic Home for Children, 2400 23rd Avenue, Meridian.

Postal address: PO Box 1030, Meridian, MS 39302.

Telephone: 601 482 2914.

Annual Meeting: February.

Lodges: 280. Membership: 29,998.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Grand Lodge Statutes* (Constitution), *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodicals: *Grand Lodge Newsletter* and *Mississippi Mason*.

History

The early history of Masonry in Mississippi is fairly straightforward. The first lodge in the area was *Harmony #7*, chartered at Natchez in 1801 by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky. However, this lodge had expired by 1814, only to be re-chartered in 1816 as *Harmony Lodge #33*. Interestingly, the re-chartered lodge took its warrant from the Grand Lodge of Tennessee. The second lodge in Mississippi was also chartered from Tennessee, and also at Natchez. This was *Jackson Lodge #15*, erected in 1816. These two lodges are now #1 and #2, respectively of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, and remain the only two lodges located at Natchez. The third lodge to enter the scene was *Washington Lodge #17*, chartered from Tennessee in 1817. These three lodges met in Convention in 1818 and formed the new Grand Lodge.

Special Notes for Visitors

Mississippi is largely a rural state, having no huge cities. The two largest population centers in the state are Jackson and Meridian. Mississippi is divided into 30 districts under Deputy District Grand Lecturers. Aside from attending a lodge meeting, without doubt the facet of Mississippi Masonry that will be of greatest interest to visitors is the Mississippi Masonic Home. This is not a home for aged persons, but for children. It usually has about 25 children in residence. As the Grand Lodge office building is on the campus of the Masonic Home, visitors will readily be in a position to view it.

Two individual lodges maintain libraries, Magnolia Lodge #120 at Biloxi, and Pascagoula Lodge #419 at Pascagoula.

B Most Worshipful Stringer Grand Lodge, F&AM (Prince Hall Affiliation) Jurisdiction of Mississippi

Founded: 1875. *Descent:* Ohio & Missouri.

Grand East: 1072 John R Lynch Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

Telephone: 601 354 1403 & 1404. Fax: 601 354 4881.
 Annual Communication: Sunday before the first Tuesday in December.
 Lodges: 357. Membership: 17,910.

History

Bro the Rev Thomas W Stringer was active in Pennsylvania (DDGM), Louisiana, Ohio (first GM, 1849–51), Missouri, Canada (DGM) and Mississippi, becoming Master of *Stringer Lodge #22* of Vicksburg, Mississippi, chartered from Missouri at the end of the Civil War. Substantial numbers of freed slaves became eligible to enrol as voters at this time, and African-Americans in Mississippi elected two of their own to high office, Bro the Rev Hiram R Revels as state and then US senator, and Bro the Rev James R Lynch as secretary of state. Missouri proceeded to charter lodges at Jackson (*Lynch Lodge #28*, with Bro Lynch as Master), Natchez (*H R Revels Lodge #36*, in 1871) and Greenville. These lodges combined in 1875 to form the Stringer Grand Lodge, with Thomas Stringer, PGM of Ohio, as Grand Master until his death in 1893.

Stringer Lodge #1, Lynch Lodge #2 and H R Revels Lodge #3 continue to head the Mississippi roll of lodges. of which 715 have been chartered and half that number are still at work.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are at least six other Grand Lodges in Mississippi, some with very similar names. MW King David Grand Lodge AF&AM of Mississippi, Inc, is based at Laurel, and MW King David Grand Lodge AF&AM of Mississippi has its headquarters at Natchez, as does MW T M Grant Jr Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Inc. MW Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Inc, is to be found at Columbus, and MW King Hiram Grand Lodge AF&AM is on Martin Luther King Jr Drive, Jackson. The National Compact unit is called MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge.

MISSOURI

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Missouri

Founded: 1821. *Descent:* Tennessee.

Grand Lodge office: 800 Highway 63 North, Columbia, MO 65201-6697.

Telephone: 314 474 8561. Fax: 314 474 3601.

Email: <GRLodge@tranquility.net>.

Grand Secretary <rmiller@trnaquility.net>.

Website: < <http://Freemasonry.org/gl-mo>>.

Annual Meeting: last Monday in September.

Other addresses: Kansas City: Scottish Rite Temple, 1330 Linwood Blvd.

St Louis: Scottish Rite Temple, 3633 Lindell Boulevard.

Lodges: 442. Membership: 59,000.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution & By-laws*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *The Freemason*.

History

The first two lodges in Missouri were chartered by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1807 and 1808, but evidently both expired. The third lodge in Missouri, and the oldest surviving, was *Missouri Lodge #12*, chartered at St Louis by the Grand Lodge of Tennessee in 1816. This was followed by three more lodges constituted from Tennessee, and one each from Kentucky and Indiana. In 1821, *Missouri*, *Joachim*, and *St Charles* Lodges, all stemming from Tennessee, met in Convention and formed the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The earliest days of the new Grand Lodge were not particularly buoyant, and it was not until the 1850s that the Grand Lodge became secure. Its early problems came as a direct result of the anti-Masonic

excitement accompanying the Morgan Affair. After this unsteady start, the Grand Lodge of Missouri has developed into a large jurisdiction, containing over 440 lodges in 1997.

Special Notes for Visitors

Missouri is one of the few Grand Lodges to permit lodges to open in the degree of their choice for general business. It has also changed from single to plural membership and now publishes its ritual (in cipher). The two largest population centers in Missouri are Kansas City and St Louis, possessing 16 and 11 lodges, respectively. In terms of Masonic charity, Missouri has a large Masonic Home at St Louis catering for over 300 residents, of which more than 250 are women.

In addition to the Grand Lodge's publication, the *Freemason*, Missouri is home to the *Royal Arch Mason* magazine. There are two good libraries, the Scottish Rite of Kansas City Library and the Scottish Rite of St Louis Library. Frank W Hazelrigg Jr, of PO Box 605, Fulton, MO 65251, is secretary of the Missouri Lodge of Research, which was chartered in 1941 by Harry S Truman, Grand Master, who was foundation Master of the lodge.

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM of Missouri and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1865. *Descent:* Ohio.

Grand East: 4525 Olive Street, St Louis, MO 63108.

Telephone: 314 361 3044.

Annual Communication: second Wednesday in July.

Lodges: 62. Membership: 2000.

Ritual: Duncan's, *revised* (plain text).

Main publications: *Official Masonic Handbook*.

Periodical: *Masonic Light*.

History

Prince Hall Lodge #10 was chartered from Ohio in 1856, and two other lodges, *Lone Star #22* and *H McGee Alexander #8*, were organised in 1860 and also chartered by Ohio. These three founded the *Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons for the State of Missouri* in February 1865, and were renumbered as *Prince Hall #1*, *Lone Star #2*, and *H M Alexander #3*. The following year, the infant Grand Lodge accepted a warrant from the National Compact, as *Union Grand Lodge*, but reverted to being an independent grand body in 1875 and subsequently assumed its present name. All three founding lodges remain active to this day.

This Grand Lodge has chartered more than 185 lodges, but the attrition of recent years has reduced the number to 62. Membership has fallen from 3715 in 1989 to 2900 in 1992, 2549 in 1996, to just over 2000 in 1998. Missouri was responsible for spreading Prince Hall Masonry in Alabama, Arkansas, Kansas, Iowa, Minnesota, Mississippi, and Tennessee. It still has two military lodges, one within the state and one in Panama, all that remain of an empire of military lodges spread across the western United States, Hawaii and the Philippines.

The ritual used in this jurisdiction is a combination of a revised version of Part 1 of Duncan's *Ritual of Freemasonry* and the *Official Masonic Handbook* of the jurisdiction.

Special Notes for Visitors

Visiting requirements are the same as for 'mainstream' jurisdictions in the same geographical area. Dress requirements are set by the lodges and vary from evening dress to street clothes; 'shirt-and-shorts' is not acceptable. Lodges meet twice monthly, from Monday to Saturday, mostly in the evenings, but some meet during the day on Saturdays. Smoking is prohibited in the lodge room, but smoking areas are provided elsewhere in the buildings.

There are no research lodges in the jurisdiction, but the Phylaxis Society maintains two Chapters in the state, which is not surprising, since the President of the Society (Joseph A Walkes Jr) and his special assistant (Byron E Hams <hariam@email.msn.com>) both belong to the jurisdiction. *Lawrence A Jones Chapter* is in Kansas City, and *Gateway Chapter* is in St Louis.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are four other Grand Lodges operating in Missouri: MW St Mark Grand Lodge AF&AM of Missouri, Inc, with headquarters in Kansas City, Kansas; MW John A Belle Grand Lodge of Missouri, Inc, based in St. Louis; St Matthew Grand Lodge; and MW St Andrew's Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin, under the National Compact.

MONTANA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Montana

Founded: 1866. *Descent:* Colorado and Kansas.

Grand Lodge office: 425 North Park Avenue, Helena.

Postal address: P O Box 1158, Helena, MT 59624.

Telephone: 406 442 7774. Fax: 406 442 1321.

Email: <mtglsec@ixi.net>. Website: <<http://www.ixi.glofmt>>.

Annual Meeting: fourth Friday & Saturday in June.

Lodges: 104. Membership: 9400.

Ritual: Webb-form, *Vigilante Days and Ways* (Ritual cipher, first letter mnemonics).

Main publications: *Montana Manual & Mnemonics*, *Annual Proceedings*, *Montana Masonic Code*.

Periodical: *Montana Masonic News* (quarterly).

History

The first attempt to form a lodge in Montana failed because of the shifting population caused by gold strikes. In November 1862 there were 76 Masons in a total population of 500 in the mining town of Bannack. They applied for a charter from Nebraska but, six months later, before the arrival of the charter, all the original applicants had left for goldfields new, and the charter was returned. A second charter from Nebraska was issued to Idaho Lodge at Nevada City in 1863, but this lodge expired two years later.

The curious title of Montana's ritual cipher, *Vigilante Days and Ways*, is derived from events of that period. A gang of 'road agents', led by a corrupt sheriff, terrorised the goldfields until a group of men banded together as Vigilantes, to restore law and order. Some of the Vigilantes were Masons at the time and others became Masons later.

Virginia City Lodge #43 was chartered by Kansas in 1864, and two others were erected by Colorado in 1865, *Montana #9* and *Helena City #10*. These three lodges met in January 1866 and formed the Grand Lodge of Montana. It was not until 1871 that the town of Bannack again had sufficient Masons to form a lodge, and then the Grand Lodge of Montana chartered Bannack Lodge #16. The Grand Lodge has expanded comfortably since then, to erect lodges under its banner in all parts of the State.

Special Notes for Visitors

Montana is one of America's largely rural States, possessing no huge cities. Billings, the largest city, and Butte each have four lodges, while Great Falls, Missoula and Helena each have three. Being mainly rural, the State's population is not large by American standards and consequently the membership of the Grand Lodge of Montana, at less than 10,000 in 1998, forms one of the smaller US jurisdictions. Nevertheless, Montana has been able to erect and maintain a substantial Masonic Home for the aged, about 12 miles east of Helena, dating from 1909. The Grand Lodge office, library and museum are located in downtown Helena. One of the library's main treasures is the Masonic apron of Captain Merriwether Lewis, of Lewis and Clark fame. Visitors will be made most welcome at the Grand Lodge office and receive full assistance from the office manager, Barbara Cole, during regular business hours.

Billings is the home of a most unusual Masonic library, financed and run by Harold Davidson, librarian of the Philalethes Society. The library, which is housed in the Scottish Rite building on 14th Street West, has membership in 19 research lodges around the world. It has 1800 Masonic books, and complete sets of many Masonic periodicals (such as *The Builder*, *the New Age*, *Royal Arch Mason*, and *Philalethes*), research transactions (including *Ars Quatuor Coronatorum*, and the *Chater-Cosmo Transactions* from Hong Kong),

and all the Masonic Book Club books, as well as pamphlets and memorabilia. Having no official budget, Bro Davidson maintains and enlarges the library by receiving donations of books, which he either adds to the library or sells in order to buy others. If he is not in attendance at the library, he can be contacted at home (phone: 406 259 1552, email <105521.3507@compuserve.com>).

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

Until very recently, there was a lodge at Great Falls, Northern Lights Lodge #8, chartered from the MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Oregon, Inc. It was connected with the nearby Malmstrom Air Force Base, but is now defunct.

NEBRASKA

A The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of Nebraska

Founded: 1857. *Descent:* Illinois, Missouri and Iowa.

Grand Lodge office: 1530 South Street, Lincoln.

Postal address: P O Box 81852, Lincoln, NE 68501.

Telephone: 402 475 4640. Fax: 402 475 4736.

Annual Meeting: February.

Other addresses: Omaha: Masonic Temple, 119 South 19th Street.

Lodges: 174. Membership: 19,505.

Ritual: *King Solomon and His Followers Webb-form cipher.*

Main publications: *Constitution & By-Laws, Annual Proceedings.*

Periodicals: *Nebraska Freemason* and *Masonic News.*

History

The first lodge was *Nebraska Lodge #184*, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Illinois in 1855, followed by *Giddings Lodge #165* (later named *Western Star Lodge*) in 1856, under the Grand Lodge of Missouri. The Grand Lodge of Iowa chartered the third lodge in Nebraska in 1857, *Capitol #101*. These three lodges met in convention in September 1857 and formed the Grand Lodge of Nebraska. All three original lodges have survived, and occupy the first three places on the Nebraska roll of lodges. It was in 1986 that Nebraska first permitted the use of ritual cipher.

Special Notes for Visitors

Nebraska forms a medium-sized American Masonic jurisdiction. The state comprises a mixture of urban and rural communities, with Omaha (13 lodges) and Lincoln (11 lodges) being the largest population centers. As is usual throughout America, virtually every town in Nebraska possesses at least one lodge. Nebraska uses a district system, in common with most other Grand Lodges in the United States. In Nebraska, the Grand Custodian (of the Work) is the overseeing official, with a Deputy Grand Custodian appointed to each District. Nebraska is blessed with two Masonic Homes. The Nebraska Masonic Home (for the aged) at Plattsmouth serves about 60 residents, while the Masonic/Eastern Star Home (for children) at Fremont houses about 30 children.

Nebraska has two research lodges: *Roscoe Pound Lodge of Research* (Secretary: B Lynn Alexander, 3701 'O' Street, suite B2W, Lincoln, NE 68510), and *St John the Baptist Lodge of Research #330*, in the Holy Protection Orthodox Monastery near Geneva (RR 1, Box 75, Geneva, NE 68361).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM of Nebraska and its Jurisdiction

Founded: 1919. *Descent:* Missouri, Iowa.

Grand East: 2418 Ames Avenue, Omaha, NE 68111.

Telephone: 402 451 5177. Fax: 402 451 8087.

Annual Communication: third Friday in July.
Lodges: 8. Membership: 286.

History

A substantial number of lodges were established in Nebraska before and during World War I, not only in the larger cities in the east of the state, but also in the smaller towns further west. Most were chartered from Missouri, but Iowa played a significant part in the development of Prince Hall Masonry in Nebraska, and there may have been lodges chartered from Kansas and Colorado. A mass migration of African-Americans from the southern states at this time resulted in rising membership and moves towards creating an independent Grand Lodge. This was opposed by Missouri but encouraged by Iowa.

In 1917, among the lodges chartered from Missouri, *St John's #31* (at Grand Island), *Marvin #36* (Hastings), *Rough Ashler #74* (Omaha) and *Lebanon #126* (Lincoln) were in favour of the move, while *Excelsior #110* and *Omaha #146* (both of Omaha) were opposed it. Iowa had only one lodge in Nebraska at the time, *Rescue #25*, which was prepared to join in the formation of a Nebraskan Grand Lodge. When Missouri squashed the moves towards independence and suspended the charters of *St John's #31* and *Marvin #36*, Iowa countered by chartering them as *Boaz #37* and *Marvin #38*. Missouri withdrew recognition from Iowa until Iowa suspended the charter for *Boaz #37*, but then Iowa chartered another lodge at Grand Island, *True American #40*.

In a series of moves in 1919, supported by Iowa, the MW Grand Lodge, AF&AM of Nebraska and its Jurisdiction was formed with six lodges: *Rough Ashler #1*, *Excelsior #2*, *Lebanon #3*, *Rescue #4*, *Marvin #5*, *True American #6*. Three other lodges joined before the end of the year, two of them previously chartered from Missouri, *Alliance #7* (at Alliance, in the far west of the state) and *Omaha #9*. The former jurisdiction of the third lodge, *Platte Valley #8* (at Scottsbluff, even further west than Alliance) is unrecorded.

Missouri gave its blessing to the proceedings, and the new Grand Lodge started life with nine lodges spread through the state and 514 members. Of these nine, five have survived (#1–4 & #9); since then, five more have been chartered, of which 3 have survived.

Special Notes for Visitors

There are no longer any lodges in the middle and west of the state. One lodge, *Lebanon #3*, meets at 1630 North 24th Street, Lincoln. The other seven meet at the Grand Temple, 2412 Ames Avenue, Omaha.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is a National Compact Grand Lodge in Nebraska, MW St Stephen's Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

NEVADA

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Nevada

Founded: 1865. *Descent:* California.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 40 West First Street, Suite 317, Reno, NV 89501.

Telephone: 702 786 5261. Fax: 702 786 3506.

Unofficial Website: <<http://coyote.accessnv.com/ad7k>>.

Annual Meeting: second Monday in November.

Other Addresses: Masonic Temple, 2200 West Mesquite Avenue, Las Vegas.

Telephone: 702 382 6055.

Vegas Lodge No 32, 632 East Charleston Blvd, Las Vegas.

Telephone: 702 382 1174.

Lodges: 43. Membership: 5844.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Masonic Code* (Constitution).

History

All the early lodges in Nevada were chartered from California. The first was *Carson City #154*, formed in 1862. Another ten were erected between 1862 and 1864, some of which were quite short lived. The Grand Lodge of Nevada was constituted in 1865. Of the early lodges, only four have survived until the present day. These are *Carson City #1*; *Amity #4* (at Silver City); *Escurial #7* (at Virginia City); and *Lander #8* (at Austin). After this slow start, the Grand Lodge expanded steadily, spreading its lodges throughout Nevada.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Grand Lodge of Nevada is numerically one of the smallest of the mainstream American Grand Lodges. In explanation of this, it needs to be remembered that Nevada is largely a desert area with relatively few population centers. The larger towns of Las Vegas and Reno are international tourist destinations, famous for their casinos. The Grand Lodge office is in the Reno Masonic Temple and, together with the Grand Lodge library and museum, is located on the third floor. Nevada has no Masonic Home, but charity relief is available through its lodges.

Since November 1997, Nevada lodges have reverted to the original practice of conducting business in the *first* degree.

There are two research lodges in this jurisdiction, numbered separately from the degree-working lodges. *Nevada Lodge of Research #1* is at Reno (Secretary, Kenneth L Slack, PO Box 11901, Reno, NV 89703) and *Nevada Lodge of Research #2* is at Las Vegas (Secretary, Dale Poray, 2200 West Mesquite Ave, Las Vegas, NV 89106).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, F&AM, for the Jurisdiction of Nevada, Inc

Founded: 1980. *Descent:* Arizona.

Grand East: 2700 Colton St, North Las Vegas.

Postal address: PO Box 44227, Las Vegas, NV 89030

Telephone: 702 647 2095. Fax: 702 783 7093.

E-mail: <cwsearcy@ix.netcom.com>

Website: <<http://netcom.com/~cwsearcy/index1.htm>>

Annual Communication: first Saturday in June.

Lodges: 5. Membership: 153.

Ritual: *Lester's Look to the East* (plain text).

Periodical: *Living Light*.

History

The first Prince Hall lodge in Nevada was *Saint Mark's #15*, chartered from Arizona in 1944. By the beginning of 1980 there were five lodges, three from Arizona (*Saint Mark's*, *Military Lodge #27* and *Jodie Cannon Senior #28*) all at Las Vegas, and two from Texas, *Mizpah #206* at Reno and *Omega #556* at Hawthorne. At about this time, *Military Lodge* was renamed *David Coe Lodge*. The official history of Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Nevada, by Henry L Clay, is a remarkably candid and detailed document, which describes the beginnings and early years of the Grand Lodge as 'turbulent'.

The problems appear to have been partly geographical and jurisdictional, and partly a clash of personalities. In 1980, the three Las Vegas (Arizona) lodges filed articles of incorporation, in anticipation of the formation of a Grand Lodge, and then held a convention at Las Vegas. The Texan lodges, *Mizpah* (Reno) and *Omega* (Hawthorne), were invited but did not attend, although *Omega* at least had indicated support for a Grand Lodge. The convention voted to form the Grand Lodge of Nevada, and the Grand Lodges of Arizona and Texas were advised. It did not meet with the approval of the Grand Master of Arizona for a number of reasons, including the fact that the two lodges chartered from Texas were not participants.

Nevertheless, formation of the Grand Lodge of Nevada went ahead, with the Grand Master of Oklahoma conducting the installation. The three Las Vegas lodges were renumbered *St Mark's #1*, *David Coe #2* and *Jodie Cannon #3*. Arizona, Texas and other southern Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation withheld recognition. A year later, recognition was granted, but the two Texan lodges never did join, the Grand Lodge of Texas did not co-operate by requiring these lodges to return their charters, and all the regular Prince Hall lodges in Nevada are now located at the Grand Temple at North Las Vegas. *Proud Ones Lodge #4* and

Nathan Scott Sr Lodge #7 were chartered in 1981 and 1985 respectively, but both failed for lack of membership and had disappeared by 1989.

With outside recognition secured, the Grand Lodge was beset by internal dissension for quite a few years, but by 1992 had settled down and begun to plan for the future. There are now five lodges in Nevada, and one in Idaho. This lodge, Andrew Horton Military Lodge #8 (1989) is located at Mountain Home Air Force Base, where there is also a lodge chartered from Oregon (particulars given under Idaho). In 1996, dispensations were issued to form lodges at Reno and Fallon, but these are still in the planning stage (1998).

Negotiations were begun with the mainstream Grand Lodges of Idaho (1993) and Nevada (1994) with a view to an exchange of recognition, but have not been finalised.

Special Notes for Visitors

Grand Lodge meets twice a year, with the Grand Communication in June and a Mid-Winter Conference in January. The Grand Communication begin as a lodge meeting, with the lodges taking turns to host the Grand Lodge. When the WM has opened the lodge in due form, he hands his gavel to the Deputy Grand Master, who convenes Grand Lodge prior to the reception of the Grand Master. The mid-winter conference is opened directly by the Grand Master. Tea or coffee is served in conjunction with Grand Lodge meetings, never alcohol. All Past Masters are members of Grand Lodge. The average term of a Grand Master is four years.

Lodges meet twice monthly at the Grand Temple at North Las Vegas, mostly at 7.30 pm, opening on the third degree. Dress is dark suit, black shoes, socks and bow or string tie, white gloves and dress apron. Visitors who are not vouched for are examined by no less than three Past Masters. No refreshments are served in conjunction with lodge meetings.

The Grand Lodge is too small to support a library and museum, but is progressive in other respects. It has a good Internet website, with the Deputy Grand Master (Charles W Searcy) as webmaster, and Masonic education is ongoing within each lodge, overseen by a Lodge Lecturer, who is subordinate to the Grand Lecturer. Training for lodge officers is conducted during semi-annual workshops held in conjunction with the Grand Lodge meetings, and there are quarterly staff meetings attended by Grand Lodge officers and the principal officers of the lodges. There is also a Lodge of Instruction, conducted by the Grand Lecturer, open to all members. A quarterly magazine, *Living Light*, is produced by historian Henry L Clay.

The lodges meeting at 2700 Colton St, North Las Vegas, are:

St Mark's #1, 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 7.30 pm;
 King Solomon #2, 1st Tuesday, 7.30 pm, and 4th Saturday, 10 am;
 Jodie Cannon Sr #3, 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 8 pm;
 Phillip E Bell Jr #5, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays, 7.30 pm;
 Jack Hayward #6, 2nd & 4th Fridays, 7.30 pm.

C Other Grand Lodges

Two other Grand Lodges are known in Nevada, both based in Las Vegas: MW St Mark Grand Lodge, AF&AM of Nevada, Inc, and King James Grand Lodge AF&AM.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

A The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons in the State of New Hampshire

Founded: 1789. Descent: Massachusetts (England and Scotland).
 Grand Lodge office: 813 Beech Street, Manchester, NH 03104-3136.
 Telephone: 603 668 8744. Toll-free (within State): 1800 675 8744.
 Fax: 603 668 8744.

Email: <Masoniclnh@juno.com>.

Annual Meeting: third Saturday in May.

Lodges: 77. Membership: 9710.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*, *Historical Highlights of Freemasonry in New Hampshire*.

Periodical: *New Hampshire Freemason*.

History

The first lodge in New Hampshire was warranted by the Provincial Grand Lodge (*Moderns*) at Massachusetts about 1736. This was *St John's Lodge*, meeting at Portsmouth, which now heads the New Hampshire *List of Lodges*. It would appear that it was not until 1780 that a second lodge was formed, *St Patrick's Lodge*, warranted by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge (under Scotland). This body issued charters for another four lodges in New Hampshire up until 1788, but few survived. In 1789, delegates from *St John's Lodge* and *Rising Sun Lodge* (formed in 1784) met and constituted the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire. This Grand Lodge suffered, as did all mainstream eastern Grand Lodges in America, during the anti-Masonry of the 1830s, losing 26 of its 48 lodges.

Special Notes for Visitors

New Hampshire is a small, mountainous state located in the north-east of the United States. Its population is not large, and consequently the Grand Lodge is one of the smaller ones in North America. Nevertheless, it still possesses 74 lodges located widely throughout the state. Somewhat unusually for a smaller Grand Lodge, and therefore one with presumably lower financial resources, New Hampshire possesses a substantial Masonic Home for the aged. It was established at Manchester in 1903, and can accommodate about 40 residents. The Grand Lodge office is located in the Home. New Hampshire is organised into eight Masonic districts, each under a District Deputy Grand Master, with a District Deputy Grand Lecturer and District Education Officer.

New Hampshire has a research lodge, Anniversary Lodge of Research #175, meeting at Portsmouth and elsewhere, and dating from 1964, and two other special purpose lodges.

William Pitt Tavern Lodge #1789 was organised in 1983 to raise funds to restore the historic tavern of that name, where the Grand Lodge was formed in 1789. It was the regular meeting place of *St John's Lodge*, which was formed in 1736 and now heads the roll of lodges. Distinguished visitors to this lodge included the Marquis de Lafayette, John Hancock and probably George Washington. There were almost 2000 founder members of the new lodge, who raised over \$200,000 towards the restoration. The tavern is located in Strawberry Banke, an historical preserve in downtown Portsmouth, which is open daily from April to late October or early November (phone 603 433 1100, website <<http://www.strawberrybanke.org>>). Occasionally, local lodges still use the lodge room on the third floor of the tavern for degree work and special meetings.

General William Whipple Military Lodge is not a military lodge in the usual sense. It was formed in 1978 for the purpose of 'the preservation of the heritage of our State, Nation and Fraternity', and is named after a member of *St John's Lodge*, who was an officer of the New Hampshire Militia during the War of Independence and a signatory of the Declaration of Independence. Members of this commemorative lodge wear period costume to perform degree work in other lodges, and a group of members known as the Colonial Craftsmen perform a series of plays about Masonry and the War of Independence, some in public and others in tiled lodges.

The Grand Lodge publishes an excellent magazine, twice a year, the *New Hampshire Freemason*, which is mailed to every member in the jurisdiction. The Whalley Museum & Library is situated at 351 Middle Street, Portsmouth (phone 603 436 3712).

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

Triple 8 Travelers Lodge #32, chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts in 1975, meets at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on the fourth Thursday of each month, at a rented location which changes from time to time. It also holds a study group on the second Thursday of each month. Inquiries for the current location may be made by post to the lodge, at PO Box 1121, Portsmouth, NH 03802-1121, or at the parent Grand Lodge in Boston. The lodge began as a military lodge for brethren at Pease Air Force Base but when the base closed in 1991 the lodge survived, supported largely by brethren who had retired in the vicinity.

NEW JERSEY

A The Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Society of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

Founded: 1786. *Descent:* New York, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania.

Address: Grand Lodge Building, 902 Jacksonville Road, Burlington, NJ 08016.

Telephone: 609 239 3950.

Website: <<http://njFreemasonry.org>>.

Annual Meeting: April.

Lodges: 159. *Membership:* 42,125

Ritual: Webb-form. *Ritual Cipher:* Yes.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

Periodical: *New Jersey Freemason*.

History

As New Jersey was one of the earliest colonies in America, it is not surprising to learn that Freemasonry entered it at an early date. The first lodge in New Jersey, *St John's Lodge*, was formed at Newark under warrant from the English Provincial Grand Master in New York, in 1761. This lodge became dormant during the American War of Independence but revived thereafter. Two further lodges were warranted from Massachusetts in 1762 and 1763, but these failed to survive the War. Two lodges warranted from Pennsylvania, *Basing Ridge* and *Burlington*, did manage to survive those troubled times.

The formation of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was unique. The Grand Lodge was erected not by a group of lodges or a convention of lodges, but rather by a *General Assembly of Freemasons*. It is probable that the move was originated in *Basing Ridge Lodge*, but nonetheless the Grand Lodge was constituted in 1786. Interestingly, it was *Basing Ridge Lodge*, rather than the older *St John's Lodge*, which was placed at the head of the *New Jersey Roll of Lodges*. *St John's Lodge* became #2. *Basing Ridge Lodge* moved to Bedminster about the time the Grand Lodge was formed, and it changed its name accordingly. However, *St John's Lodge* in due time received 'justice', as *Bedminster Lodge* expired and, in a re-numbering of lodges in 1842, *St John's* assumed its rightful position at the head of the Roll, a position it retains to this day.

Special Notes for Visitors

New Jersey is located immediately to the south of New York City. While geographically small, it has a fairly substantial population and this is reflected in Masonic membership. Nevertheless, New Jersey does not possess any large cities, with the largest population center being the city of Trenton.

There are several aspects of Masonry in New Jersey that will be of interest to visitors. In terms of benevolence, New Jersey possesses a Masonic Home dating from 1898, located at Burlington. It caters for about 520 residents. An excellent Masonic Blood Bank program is also supported by the Grand Lodge. Of great interest to visitors will be the most attractive Grand Lodge building in Burlington. The library and museum contained therein are both of great quality and are highly recommended.

In recent years, it came to the notice of the Grand Lodge that many Cuban Masons in exile were resident in New Jersey. After exhaustive inquiries, large numbers of Cuban Masons were enabled to affiliate with New Jersey lodges. There is a German-speaking lodge, *Mozart #121*, at Pennsauken.

Within this jurisdiction is a lodge famous for the fact that most of its members have been (and still are) African-Americans, *Alpha Lodge #116*, chartered in 1871 in Newark (and now meets a couple of miles away at East Orange). The story begins a year earlier. There were already two *Prince Hall Grand Lodges* established in New Jersey, but in 1870 a group of *Prince Hall Masons* applied to the mainstream Grand Lodge for recognition and a warrant for a lodge to be called *Cushite Lodge*. The application was rejected. The following year, a group of mainstream New Jersey Masons petitioned for a new lodge, to be called *Alpha Lodge*. This was granted. The founders were all European-Americans, and during the first year of operation they initiated three European-Americans and nine African-Americans, including the *Prince Hall*

Masons who had petitioned for Cushite Lodge. There was considerable opposition from other lodges in New Jersey, and subsequently complaints from other jurisdictions to the west and south, over a period of more than 70 years, but the lodge persisted in its policy to initiate African-Americans. Statistics indicate that in the first 67 years, Alpha Lodge had 198 members, 176 of whom were African-Americans. They were not always well received in other lodges whose Grand Lodges were in amity with the Grand Lodge of New Jersey, and sometimes Prince Hall Masons indicated disapproval, also, but the lodge has survived.

Alpha Lodge meets at the Masonic Temple, 56 Melmore Gardens, East Orange, New Jersey. Its regular meetings are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays monthly (except July and August, holidays, the fourth Wednesday in December, and the Annual Communication of Grand Lodge). Visitors are most welcome to attend. Details of other New Jersey lodges can readily be obtained from the Grand Lodge office in Burlington.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons State of New Jersey

Founded: 1848. *Descent:* Pennsylvania.

Grand East: 180–192 Irvine Turner Boulevard, Newark, NJ 07108.

Telephone: 973 824 6457.

Annual Communication: fourth Monday in June.

Lodges: 52. Membership: 3145.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

History

In 1845, *Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania* erected *St John's Lodge #8* at Trenton, and then in 1847 *Rising Sun Lodge #19* at Camden. Also in 1847, *First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania* chartered two lodges, *Unity #11* at Burlington, and *Mount Moriah #12* at Salem.

In June 1848 the National Compact formed these four lodges into the *Most Worshipful Union Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons for the State of New Jersey*, renumbering the lodges *St John #1*, *Unity #2*, *Mount Moriah #3* and *Rising Sun #4*. This Grand Lodge chartered *Friendship Lodge #5*. In April 1850, *St John*, *Friendship*, and an element of *Rising Sun* withdrew and formed an independent Grand Lodge. The two Grand Lodges consolidated into the present Grand Lodge in December 1875. Of the original lodges, only *Mount Moriah #3* at Salem survives.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are six or more other Grand Lodges in New Jersey: the General Grand Lodge F&AM, Most Worshipful King Solomon Grand Lodge, Most Worshipful Oriental Grand Lodge, and the MW King William Grand Lodge of New Jersey, all based at Newark; MW Oriental Grand Lodge AF&AM of New Jersey, Inc, at Jersey City; MW Grand Lodge of New Jersey, AF&AM, with headquarters at Allen Town; and the National Compact unit, MW St John's Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

NEW MEXICO

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of New Mexico

Founded: 1877. *Descent:* Missouri.

Grand Lodge office: 1638 University Boulevard North East, Albuquerque.

Postal address: PO Box 25004, Albuquerque, NM 87125.

Telephone: 505 243 4931. Fax: 505 242 8723.

Website: <<http://204.134.124.1/leon/gl.htm>>.

Annual Meeting: third Friday in March.

Lodges: 66. Membership: 8204.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Annual Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

Periodical: *New Mexico Freemason*.

History

Freemasonry was first introduced into New Mexico during the American-Mexican War, in the form of two military lodges. Neither of these lodges, which were chartered from Missouri, survived the end of the war. The first permanent lodge in New Mexico opened at Santa Fe in 1851. This was *Montezuma Lodge #109*, holding a Missouri charter. Indeed, all lodges erected in New Mexico prior to the formation of its Grand Lodge held Missouri charters. The second lodge in New Mexico was *Bent Lodge #204*, chartered in 1860. The claim to fame of this lodge is that one of its members was the famous frontiersman, Kit Carson. It expired in 1865, but a lodge of the same name was formed in 1909. Another six lodges were chartered from Missouri up until 1875, and most of these have survived. The Grand Lodge of New Mexico was formed at a convention of *Montezuma, Chapman, Aztec* and *Union* lodges, held in 1877. These lodges, in the order indicated, hold the first four places in the New Mexico *List of Lodges*.

Special Notes for Visitors

New Mexico is a southern mid-western State, bordering Mexico. It is composed largely of desert areas, and consequently it is not heavily populated. The only city of any real size is Albuquerque, which is the seat of the Grand Lodge and the home of its library and eight constituent lodges. New Mexico does not have a Masonic Home, but it is nevertheless engaged in a range of charitable activities. It has an excellent magazine, the *New Mexico Freemason*, published regularly by the Grand Lodge.

New Mexico also has five daylight lodges under charter, as well as a Lodge of Research which meets at various locations within New Mexico on the second Saturday in January, May and September (Secretary: Donald B Davidson Jr, 104 Bandolier Ave, Los Alamos, NM 87544). As the daylight lodges might be of particular use to visitors, their details are listed below. The oldest of these lodges (*Zia*) was chartered in 1976 and the youngest (*Mountain Top*) in 1991. Temple addresses can readily be obtained at the Grand Lodge office or from local phone books.

Zia Daylight Lodge #77 meets at Albuquerque, first Tuesday, at 10 am.
Dona Ana Daylight Lodge #78 Mesilla, second and fourth Saturdays, at 9.30 am.
Valley Daylight Lodge #79 Roswell, first and third Thursdays, at 10 am.
Four Corners Daylight Lodge #80 Farmington, first Saturday, at 2 pm.
Mountain Top Daylight Lodge #81 Timberon, first Saturday, at 2 pm.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of the State of New Mexico Inc

Founded: 1921. *Descent:* unknown.

Grand East: 525 San Pedro North East, Albuquerque.

Postal address: PO Box 5674, Albuquerque, NM 87185.

Telephone: 505 268 5823. Fax: 505 268 5823.

Annual Communication: fourth Monday in June.

Lodges: 10. Membership: est. 300.

History

Until recently, this Grand Lodge had a military lodge in Bermuda.

C Other Grand Lodges

MW King Solomon Grand Lodge, AF&AM of New Mexico, Inc is also based at Albuquerque.

NEW YORK**A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York**

Founded: 1781. *Descent:* England.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd Street, New York, NY 10010-4149.

Telephone: 212 337 6600. Fax: 212 633 2639

Email: <ATHOLL1781@AOL.com>. Website: <<http://www.nymasons.org>>.

Annual Meeting: May.

Lodges: 677. Membership: 85,563.

Ritual: *Ecce Orienti* (Webb-form) cipher.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Empire State Mason*.

History

The Grand Lodge of England appointed Daniel Cox as Provincial Grand Master of North America, based at New York, in the 1730s, but the surviving evidence of early activities is very scant. The first lodge in New York for which records exist was *St John's Lodge*, warranted in 1757. Today, this lodge heads the New York *Roll of Lodges*. Approximately twenty further lodges were warranted up to 1771 by the Provincial Grand Lodge, many of which were located outside New York. The American War of Independence of the late 1770s brought unsettled times to New York Masonry. The main characteristic of the period was the transition by lodges from *Moderns* allegiance to the *Antients*. Three *Antients* lodges were operating in New York by 1781, and in that year an *Antients* Provincial Grand Lodge was organised. By 1786, most New York lodges had transferred allegiance to the *Antients*, whose local administration would appear to have been superior. The formation of the Grand Lodge of New York was unique. In 1787, a committee was appointed to consider methods for forming an independent Grand Lodge. The Committee determined that the Provincial Grand Lodge (*Antients*) exercised all the powers of a Grand Lodge and had done so since its formation in 1781, and that all that was required was a name change! The Grand Lodge of New York was thus formed. As the *Moderns* Provincial Grand lodge had by this time faded away, the 'new' Grand Lodge remained undisputed as the Masonic authority for New York.

The subsequent history of Masonry in New York was less than happy. Mounting friction arose between lodges in New York City and lodges located in up-country areas of New York state, concerning voting in the Grand Lodge and related matters. The discontent came to a head in 1823 when the city lodges effectively seceded and formed their own Grand Lodge. Reunion was achieved in 1827, on the basis that in future Grand Lodge officers must be evenly divided between city and country.

Hardly had the reunion been happily effected, when the Morgan Affair occurred. In autumn 1826, William Morgan disappeared and was presumed to have been murdered. Prior to this, he had conspired to publish an exposure of Freemasonry after being refused admission to a lodge at Batavia, New York State. It was his supposed murder by Masons which largely gave rise to the *Anti-Masonic Movement*, which had built up full steam by 1830 and lasted until about 1840. Despite public denials by the Craft of any complicity with Morgan's disappearance, public outrage was immense, greatly spawned by most effective propaganda from the opponents of Masonry. A very large number of lodges closed down throughout eastern America, temples were sacked, and it was dangerous for any man to admit Masonic membership. Since New York state was the *scene of the crime*, it felt the full force of the attack. The number of lodges under the Grand Lodge of New York fell from about 480 to 70 in the period. At the same time, to make matters worse, a schism occurred within the Grand Lodge. York Lodge in New York City withdrew from the Grand Lodge and with nine other lodges formed its own Grand body. It had 27 lodges when it reunited with the regular Grand Lodge of New York in 1850.

Before this schism had been mended, another occurred. In 1848, the Grand Lodge resolved to disfranchise Past Masters in favour of elected delegates, for the purpose of Grand Lodge membership. In other words, this was a move from the English system to the elective Grand Lodge system current throughout most American jurisdictions today. Needless to say, the Past Masters were less than impressed, and they withdrew *en masse* in 1849 and formed a rival Grand Lodge. This schism lasted nine years before an amicable reunion was effected. Fortunately, disharmony in the Grand Lodge appears to have faded away after the last incident. The Grand Lodge of New York recovered speedily from these schisms and the Morgan Affair, and is today one of the largest in North America.

Special Notes for Visitors

New York City possesses more lodges than any other city in the United States but, of course, virtually every town in New York State contains at least one lodge. The Grand Lodge's Masonic Hall in New York is massive, and in recent years it has been completely redecorated. This nineteen-storey building is home to about 120 lodges. The breathtaking interior features an array of lodge rooms exhibiting various architectural

styles, such as the Grand Lodge Room, Renaissance, Ionic, Doric, Corinthian, French Doric, Jacobean, Colonial, French Ionic, Empire, Gothic, and Chapter Rooms, among others. The magnificent *Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Library and Museum* on the fourteenth floor contains over 60,000 volumes, and an impressive collection of Masonic art works and artefacts. A tour of the New York Masonic Hall must be a first priority of any Masonic visitor to New York.

The Grand Lodge of New York employs a very extensive district system for Masonic education. The Masonic Home at Utica, founded in 1891, and officially described as a *450-guest adult care facility*, is one of the largest such establishments in the United States. The Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hospital was established on the site in 1922, and this was followed in 1956 by a Masonic medical research laboratory.

Perhaps the most interesting point concerning New York Masonry is the large number of so-called *language lodges* it once contained; although some have since changed to English, others still work in their original languages. The oldest is *L'Union Française # 17*, which has worked in French since its creation in 1797. New York also possesses a dozen German-heritage lodges, mostly located in the Manhattan area. And there are lodges which work in Italian, Spanish and Greek. One of the most interesting of these is *Garibaldi #542*, with an old form of the French Rite, translated into Italian. To add to the polyglot mixture, *Excelsior Lodge #1177* was chartered in 1997, whose founders were mainly from English and Scottish lodges in Guyana, South America. Therefore, it is advisable for a visitor to inquire as to the language used by the lodge he proposes to visit. These inquiries and any other concerning visiting under the Grand Lodge of New York will be readily answered at the Grand Lodge office, located on the seventeenth floor of the Masonic Hall in New York.

The Grand Lodge of New York, like Massachusetts, has chartered lodges outside the United States. Currently, it has a District of Syria–Lebanon, containing eleven lodges in the Middle East, including a lodge of research in Beirut. Although the civil war in Lebanon caused great hardship, these lodges continue to work, and with the cessation of the conflict have begun to grow. Most, including the research lodge, work in Arabic, but one each work in English, French and Armenian. For further details, see under *Lebanon* in *volume two*.

In addition to the *Empire State Mason*, several other magazines are published in New York, including the *Masonic Philatelist*, *Masonic News*, *Long Island Mason*, and *Masonic Times*. The Grand Lodge has chartered five research lodges, and the Philalethes Society has two active chapters, namely:

American Lodge of Research (Harvey A Eysman, 15 Stonehenge Road, Great Neck, NY 11023), meeting at the Masonic Hall, 71 West 23rd Street, New York, NY;

Infinity Lodge of Study & Research (Donald C Vetel, 56 Merritt Place, New Hartford, NY 13413);

Western New York Research Lodge (John R Eggen, 3878 Schintzius Road, Eden, NY 14057);

Third Millennium Lodge of Research (Michael J Mimoso, 15 Pasadena Drive, North Babylon, NY 11703-2811);

Justice Robert H Jackson Lodge of Study and Research (Leland Sperry, 14 East Third Street, Lakewood, NY 14750-1204);

Finger Lakes Chapter (William J Edwards, 28 Kathrene Court, Rochester, NY 14580-3427, email <stellenm@aol.com>, <WEdwa86938@aol.com>); and

Long Island Chapter (Robert Dockweiler, 7 Elizabeth Drive, Bethpage, NY 11714-6005).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of New York

Founded: 1845. *Descent:* Massachusetts.

Grand East: 454 West 155th Street, New York, NY 10032.

Telephone: 212 281 2211.

Lodges: 77. Membership: 6500.

Annual Communication: first Thursday in June.

Ritual: own publication, cipher.

Periodical: *Prince Hall Sentinel*.

History

Boyer Lodge #1 of New York was chartered from Massachusetts in 1812, by African Lodge #459 EC of Boston, or by the Grand Lodge derived from African Lodge, depending on precisely when African Lodge assumed Grand Lodge status. Three more lodges were chartered from the same source in 1826, *Celestial #2* in New York, *Rising Sun #3* in Brooklyn, and *Hiram #4* in New York. There are reports of a Grand Lodge called *Philanthropic Grand Lodge* being formed in New York in 1844, but from what lodges is not stated. In the following year, 1845, *Boyer Grand Lodge* was formed by an assembly of Masons from the four lodges chartered from Massachusetts. In 1847 delegates from *Boyer Grand Lodge* attended the Grand Convention in Boston, from which the National Compact Grand Lodge emerged, but when the delegates returned to New York, *Boyer Grand Lodge* refused to endorse their actions. This resulted in a schism, whereby some members left, and accepted a charter from the National body to form their own Grand Lodge. *Boyer Grand Lodge* reorganised in 1848 as *United Grand Lodge of New York*. Some 29 years later, in 1877, the Compact Grand Lodge and United Grand Lodge consolidated as the *Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of New York*, with the Compact providing the first Grand Master, Junior Grand Warden and Grand Secretary, and the United Grand Lodge supplying the other senior officers. The words 'Prince Hall' were added to the title in 1919 and the full present title was adopted in 1944. The origin of Prince Hall Masonry is commemorated in the name of African Lodge 459 #63, which meets at Brooklyn.

This Grand Lodge has three military lodges, all within the state. At present it has no lodges chartered outside the state, but from 1965 until 1993 it had lodges in the West Indies. These began with Prince Hall Memorial Lodge #100 at Barbados, and grew to nine lodges in all, three in Barbados, one each at Sint Maarten, St Lucia and Dominica, and three in Guyana, South America. These were administered as the Ninth District of the Grand Lodge of New York until the Grand Lodge of the Caribbean was inaugurated in 1993.

Special Notes for Visitors

Grand Lodge meets twice yearly, at the Annual Communication in June and at a Mid-Year Assembly in January. It maintains a good library, and once, for a brief time, had a very promising research lodge. Prince Hall Lodge of Research of New York was granted a dispensation in 1943, with a fine Masonic scholar named Harry L Williamson as Master and Daniel O Brathwaite (who was later active in the formation of the lodges in the West Indies) as Senior Warden. Sadly, the lodge was never granted a charter, and expired within two years. It produced a single booklet of annual transactions, called PHLORONY, an acronym of its name, and copies are rare. Masonic education centers mainly on degree work, with demonstration teams practiced at District schools of instruction. Lodges are also active in response to community needs.

Lodges meet once a month for stated meetings, and open on the third degree. Thus, although an Entered Apprentice is considered a member of the lodge, he is unable to attend stated meetings. Dress is dark suit, black shoes and tie, white shirt and gloves. Liquor is permitted on lodge premises for use during the hours of refreshment only. Smoking is permitted on lodge premises, other than in the tyled lodge, but generally brethren smoke outside, in consideration for others.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are no less than 18 other Grand Lodges in New York:

La Serenissima Gran Loggia de Lengua Española para los EE UU de Norte America;

La Grande Lodge of Saint Jean of Orients, Inc;

MW Alpha Grand Lodge of New York, Inc;

MW Athenian Grand Lodge of New York, Inc;

MW Edwin Sturup Grand Lodge of New York, Inc;

MW Enoch Grand Lodge of New York, Inc;

MW Grand Lodge AF&AM;

MW Grand Lodge of New York, AF&AM;

MW Grand Lodge of the State of New York (National Compact);

MW King Solomon Grand Lodge AF&AM of New York, Inc;

MW Mt Ephraim Grand Lodge;

MW Mt Nebo Grand Lodge of New York;

MW Omega Grand Lodge;
 MW Orient Grand Lodge of New York, Inc;
 MW Rose of Sharon Grand Lodge, IF&AMM;
 MW Sons of Zebedee Grand Lodge AF&AM, Jurisdiction of New York;
 Superior Grand Lodge Jurisdiction of New York, Inc;
 Tyre Grand Lodge.

European bodies are represented by *Loge L'Atlantide* (working the French Rite) under the Grand Orient of France, and *Loge Universalis* under the Feminine Grand Lodge of Belgium in New York City. Until recently there was also a lodge under the Feminine Grand Lodge of France.

NORTH CAROLINA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina

Founded: 1787. *Descent:* England (*Moderns*).

Grand Lodge office: 2921 Glenwood Avenue, Raleigh.

Postal address: PO Box 6506, Raleigh, NC 27628.

Telephone: 919 787 2021. Fax: 919 787 2279.

Email: <rcarter@grandlodge-nc.org>.

Website: <<http://www.grandlodge-nc.org>>.

Annual Meeting: third Tuesday in April.

Lodges: 384. Membership: 60,500.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *North Carolina Mason*.

History

The early Masonic history of North Carolina is somewhat obscure. It would appear Freemasonry was active in the area about 1736, but records are scant. The oldest lodge for which records exist is *Wilmington Lodge #213*, which appeared on the English roll of lodges in 1754. It is now St John's Lodge #1 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina. The Royal White Hart Lodge, now numbered #2, appeared on the English roll as #403 in 1767. This remains the second lodge of North Carolina. In 1771, the Moderns Provincial Grand Master for North America became actively involved in North Carolina, and warranted several lodges between that date and 1787. It would appear that about four lodges were erected by the Moderns in this period, while about the same number came into being through other sources, their origins being largely obscure.

In December 1787, eight lodges met in convention and formed the Grand Lodge. It is noteworthy that at this time North Carolina also included Tennessee. Although Tennessee became a state in 1796, Masonically it remained under North Carolina until 1813; see under 'Tennessee'.

Special Notes for Visitors

North Carolina is one of the oldest jurisdictions in the United States, and while its ritual and Masonic government largely parallel those of other mainstream American jurisdictions, a few of its forms hark back to its original English ancestry. For example, North Carolina possesses a Board of General Purposes consisting of the most senior Grand Lodge officers, which has an overall administrative function. Of course, the large number of other Grand Lodge Committees which characterise American Masonry also prevail in North Carolina.

The Craft in North Carolina is involved in some quite outstanding charitable pursuits. The Oxford Orphanage, established in 1872, also includes a hospital. It caters for about 200 children; these days, most are from broken homes, not orphans. The Masonic and Eastern Star Home at Greensboro houses about 130 elderly persons. Both of these institutions are large, and well worth visiting.

North Carolina has a chapter of the Philalethes Society, *Light from the East Chapter* (contact Carl E Scheer, 618 Henderson Drive, Jacksonville, NC 28540-4947), and a library at Charlotte.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons Jurisdiction of North Carolina

Founded: 1870. *Descent:* New York..

Grand East: 315 East Chapel Hill Street, suite 300, Durham.

Postal address: PO Box 1507, Durham, NC 27702-1507.

Telephone: 919 683 3147. Fax: 919 683 9636.

Email: <mwphglnc@earthlink.net>. Website: <<http://mwphglnc.org>>.

Annual Communication: first Thursday in October.

Lodges: 325. Membership: 18,000.

Ritual: *Ecce Orienti* (own revised edn, Webb-form cipher).

History

The earliest Prince Hall lodges in North Carolina were *King Solomon #23* at New Bern and *Giblem #28* at Wilmington, both chartered from New York in 1866. The following year two more lodges commenced work under the same jurisdiction, *Eureka #30* at Fayetteville and *Widow's Son #31* at Raleigh. In March 1870 these four lodges met at Wilmington and organised the *Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons*, which received a charter from the National Compact Grand Lodge. Two years later, the Grand Lodge withdrew from the Compact, and later adopted its present name.

The four founding lodges are still at work, renumbered #1–4. North Carolina has the second-largest membership of all Prince Hall Grand Lodges, and in the past 127 years has chartered nearly 850 lodges, of which 325 are still on the rolls. A few years ago, this Grand Lodge chartered two lodges in Africa, Felix Houphouët-Boigny Lodge in the Ivory Coast (named after the President of that country), and Nelson Mandela Lodge at Soweto in South Africa. There has been no recent contact with these two lodges, and the Grand Lodge considers them defunct.

Special Notes for Visitors

Most lodges in this jurisdiction meet twice a month, usually at 7, 7.30 or 8 pm, and quite a few of them on a Saturday evening. Two lodges which are unusual in their meeting arrangements are: Beauty of the South Lodge #75, which meets at 8 pm on the Friday before a full moon (a custom quite common in the last century, but rare today); and Rising Star Lodge #135, which meets at midday on the second Tuesday and at 4 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Brethren qualified to visit should inquire at Grand Lodge for meeting places.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are at least two other Grand Lodges in this state: MW J E Misenheimer Grand Lodge of North Carolina, Inc; and a National Compact unit, MW St James Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

NORTH DAKOTA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Dakota.

Founded: 1889. *Descent:* Iowa, Minnesota.

Grand Lodge office: 201 14th Avenue North, Fargo, ND 58102.

Telephone: 701 235 8321. Freecall (within state) 1800 358 3306.

Fax: 701 235 8323.

Annual Meeting: June.

Lodges: 72. Membership: 4947.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution, Annual Proceedings.*

Periodical: *North Dakota Mason.*

History

It is well nigh impossible to separate the Masonic histories of North and South Dakota. These two States originally comprised the Dakota Territory, which was divided by an Act of Congress in 1889 for the purposes of creating two new states.

The first lodge in the Dakota Territory was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Iowa in 1862. This was *St John's Lodge*, which now heads the roll of lodges of South Dakota. Four other lodges, also chartered from Iowa, were quickly formed, and together these five lodges established the *Grand Lodge of Dakota* in 1875.

At the division of Dakota into two states in 1889, the *Grand Lodge of Dakota* became the Grand Lodge of South Dakota, with 73 lodges under its jurisdiction at that time. The 26 lodges then working in North Dakota formed a new Grand Lodge, the Grand Lodge of North Dakota. The division was effected with total harmony, with both Grand Lodges being formed on the same day, and Grand Officers of each assisting at the Installation of the other.

The oldest lodge in North Dakota is Shiloh Lodge. It was originally #105 under Minnesota, becoming #8 under the *Grand Lodge of Dakota*, and finally #1 under the Grand Lodge of North Dakota.

Special Notes for Visitors

North Dakota is one of the smaller mainstream Masonic jurisdictions in the United States, with a membership substantially under 10,000. The state of North Dakota itself is largely rural, with no big cities from which to draw members. Nevertheless, the visitor will find it difficult to discover any town in the state without at least one lodge. North Dakota does not possess any Masonic benevolent institutions, but nonetheless the Grand Lodge is involved in several substantial charity funds. The Grand Lodge building in Fargo possesses an excellent library and museum, which visitors will no doubt find of interest.

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

There are two Prince Hall lodges in North Dakota, both military lodges chartered from the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota. Mosaic Lodge #11 is at Grand Forks, and Acacia Lodge #12 at Minot Air Force Base.

OHIO

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio

Founded: 1808. *Descent:* Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, and others.

Grand Lodge office: 634 High Street, Worthington.

Postal address: PO Box 629, Worthington, OH 43085-0629.

Telephone: 614 885 5318. Fax: 614 885 5319.

Website: <<http://www.freemason.com>>.

Annual Meeting: October.

Other addresses: Cincinnati: Masonic Temple, 317 East 5th Street.

Cleveland: Masonic Temple, 3615 Euclid Avenue.

Dayton: Masonic Temple, 525 West Riverview Street.

Toledo: Masonic Temple, 4645 Heatherdowns Street.

Lodges: 608. Membership: 154,638.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution, Annual Proceedings.*

Periodical: *Ohio Mason.*

History

The first lodge established in Ohio was *American Union Lodge*, which first met in Ohio at Marietta in 1790. This lodge is one of the most famous in the United States. It was originally a military lodge, warranted in 1776 by the 'Moderns' Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts. At the close of the War of Independence, the then Master of the lodge, Jonathan Heart, moved to the Northwest Territory (now Ohio), where the lodge was re-opened. This lodge remains today as #1 on the roll of lodges of Ohio.

The second lodge in Ohio was *Nova Cesarea*, chartered from the Grand Lodge of New Jersey. It had expired by 1805. Between 1803 and 1806, five lodges were chartered in Ohio, two from Connecticut, with one each owing allegiance to Pennsylvania, Massachusetts and Kentucky. In 1808, these five lodges met together in convention with *American Union Lodge* and agreed to form a Grand Lodge. It was erected the following year, but only four of the six lodges participated. *American Union Lodge* decided to stand aloof, believing that it could remain independent under its Massachusetts warrant. The new Grand Lodge of Ohio declared it to be clandestine, with the effect that in 1810 the lodge split. A number of its members petitioned the new Grand Lodge, to be chartered as American Union Lodge #1. The recalcitrant members continued to work as a lodge, without legal charter, and it appears to have faded into oblivion about 1820. The original *Nova Cesarea Lodge* was re-chartered under Ohio in 1812 as Nova Cesarea Harmony Lodge #2. It still works happily at Cincinnati. The Grand Lodge of Ohio since its formation has developed into the largest Grand Lodge in North America, and one of the largest in the world.

Special Notes for Visitors

Ohio is a very populous American State, possessing several large cities. Of its 608 lodges, 16 are located in Cincinnati; 9 in Cleveland, 14 in Columbus, 12 in Dayton, and 13 in Toledo. In being such a large jurisdiction, it uses an extensive district system. Ohio has a massive Masonic Home located at Springfield, dating from 1890. It caters for both aged adults and children, and usually houses in excess of 500 residents. A substantial hospital is also located within its campus. Visitors to Ohio can readily gain assistance at the Grand Lodge office, at Worthington, a suburb of Columbus, or at the main temples in the large cities listed above.

In addition to the Grand Lodge library at Worthington, there are the Scottish Rite Research Library at Columbus (34 North Fourth Street), Cleveland Masonic Library (3615 Euclid Ave) and Cincinnati Masonic Library (317 East Fifth Street). Secretary of the Ohio Lodge of Research is Lawrence E Johnson, 3160 Mann Road, Backlick, OH 43004. And there are two chapters of the Philalethes Society: *Fort Washington Chapter* (Samuel Capozzolo, 4000 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45223); and *Western Reserve Chapter* (William F Koeckert, 14413 South Woodland Road, Shaker Heights, OH 44120).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio

Founded: 1849. *Descent:* Pennsylvania.

Grand East: 50 Hamilton Park, Columbus, OH 43203.

Telephone: 614 221 6197. Fax: 614 221 6197.

Annual Communication: First Monday and Tuesday in August.

Lodges: 61. Membership: 4674.

Ritual: *Grand Lodge Official Ritual* (1949, revised 1974) in cipher.

Periodical: *The Lamp*.

History

Two lodges were established in Cincinnati in 1847, one of them being *Corinthian Lodge #17*, chartered by First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The other lodge claimed to be warranted by the schismatic Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and also to have received a charter from the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio. When this charter was proved to be a forgery, they obtained one from First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, in 1848, as *True American Lodge #26*. A third lodge, *St John's #27*, was chartered by the same authority, and the three lodges met in May 1849 to form the Grand Lodge, which promptly obtained a warrant from the National Compact. The Grand Lodge split from the National Compact in 1868, and subsequently changed to its present title. The three founding lodges lead the rolls today as #1, 2 and 3.

The first Grand Master of this Grand Lodge was the Rev Thomas W Stringer, a past DDGM of Pennsylvania and a future Deputy Grand Master of Ontario, who also played a significant role in establishing Prince Hall Masonry in Louisiana and other states. Ohio was filled with missionary zeal, chartering lodges in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Tennessee and West Virginia, and has become parent or grandparent to half the Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation.

Special Notes for Visitors

Lodges in this jurisdiction meet twice each month, except for August, which is 'dark'. The two meetings are one or two weeks apart; the first is a business meeting and the second for ritual work. For business meetings the dress is casual (not jeans), with gloves and apron. Otherwise the dress is dark suit (black, navy blue or dark grey), black socks & shoes, white shirt & gloves, and apron. Examination of visitors may vary slightly between lodges, but is generally standard US procedure, including the Tyler's Oath. However, in some lodges, where a group of visitors from another lodge are unknown, the visitor of senior rank will be tried, and admission of the whole group will depend on *his* proficiency! Provision for refreshments also varies between lodges, but most lodges go to a local bar or restaurant after the meeting. Grand Lodge has no regulations concerning smoking and liquor on lodge premises; these are considered lodge issues.

Until recently, the small town of Xenia, midway between Cincinnati and Columbus, and just a few miles out of Dayton, was home to three lodges of this jurisdiction: a university lodge, a town lodge, and a military lodge. In 1991 the university lodge, Collegiate #124, (composed entirely of students, faculty, graduates and staff of three universities: Central State, Wright State, and Wilberforce) closed and its brethren joined the town lodge, Wilberforce #21. This has resulted in the town lodge comprising 80% collegians. Similarly, the third lodge, Edward Dugger Jr #123, used to be listed as a military lodge, but now has military personnel comprising only about 75% of its membership, drawn from Wright Patt Air Force Base at Dayton. Both lodges meet at 436 E Main St, Xenia, the almost-collegiate lodge at 7.30 pm on the first and third Thursdays, and the mostly-military lodge at 4 pm on the second and fourth Saturdays (except August, which is 'dark' for all lodges).

Out-of-state visitors are cautioned that there are lodge premises, particularly in Cleveland, Dayton and Toledo, which display a sign indicating that the lodges meeting there are 'Prince Hall' lodges, but which do not belong to the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ohio, which is the only one recognised by other Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation, by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Ohio, and by the United Grand Lodge of England.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are six other Grand Lodges in Ohio, four of them with headquarters in Cincinnati: International Grand Lodge of Masonic Brotherhood, MW Hiram Grand Lodge AF&AM of Ohio, Inc, MW Rising Height Grand Lodge AF&AM Inc, and MW St John's Grand Lodge AF&AM. A National Compact body, MW National Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons, Prince Hall Origin, National Compact, USA Inc, (possibly also called Eureka Grand Lodge) is based at Oakland Village, near Springfield, and a Grand Lodge of International Masons and OES is at Akron.

OKLAHOMA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Oklahoma

Founded: 1874. *Descent:* Arkansas, Kansas.

Grand Lodge office: 102 South Broad Street, Guthrie.

Postal address: PO Box 1019, Guthrie, OK 73044.

Telephone: 405 282 3212. Fax: 405 282 3244.

Annual Meeting: November.

Other addresses: Tulsa: Masonic Temple, 706 South Boston Street.
 Oklahoma City: Masonic Temple, 3415 Nth West 36th St.

Lodges: 264. Membership: 37,537.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Oklahoma Mason*.

History

The history of Freemasonry in Oklahoma is the story of Grand Lodges of two discrete locations which united to form one Grand Lodge. Originally, the area now covered by the state of Oklahoma consisted of two territories, the Indian Territory and the Oklahoma Territory. The Indian Territory in the east was inhabited by five tribes, and it was not until 1889 that it was opened up for settlement. The first lodge in the Indian Territory was probably *Cherokee Lodge*, chartered from Arkansas in 1848. It had expired by 1868. The earliest surviving lodge was *Muskogee Lodge #93*, gaining its charter from Arkansas in 1855. This lodge is now Eufaula Lodge #1 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma. Eufaula Lodge, together with two other Arkansas-chartered lodges, formed the *Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory* in 1874.

The *Grand Lodge of the Oklahoma Territory*, in the western part of present-day Oklahoma was formed by three lodges in 1892, but more lodges may have been present. The three lodges that definitely were present were *Guthrie*, *Oklahoma City* and *Edmond* lodges. These are now numbered 25, 36, and 37 respectively, on the roll of the Grand Lodge of Oklahoma. After the union of the two territories into modern Oklahoma, the two Grand Lodges decided to merge, and this was happily achieved in 1909, whereupon the Grand Lodge of the State of Oklahoma was created.

The Grand Lodge ventured onto the Internet in 1997, but had too many hassles with computer hardware and software, and abandoned it in 1998.

Special Notes for Visitors

While Oklahoma is largely a rural State, the cities of Tulsa and Oklahoma City are larger population centers, possessing eight and ten lodges, respectively. Oklahoma is a medium-sized American jurisdiction, employing a district system under District Deputy Grand Masters. It is also one of those jurisdictions wherein lodges prescribe two stated meetings per month.

Three aspects of particular interest concerning Oklahoma Masonry are notable. The Masonic Home for the Aged at Guthrie caters for about 100 residents, and can be readily visited by travelling Masons. The Grand Lodge possesses its own printing facility. The 'Print Shop' publishes all the Grand Lodge's publications, including the *Oklahoma Mason* which is issued monthly. It also derives considerable income for the Grand Lodge by printing commercially. The Oklahoma Indian Degree Team is very well known throughout America. It has performed extensively in many areas of the United States, with its members wearing traditional Indian Dress.

Secretary of Oklahoma Lodge of Research is Bob Ellenwood, 7312 S Douglas Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73139. The Grand Lodge library is located at 102 South Broad Street, Guthrie.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons Jurisdiction of Oklahoma

Founded: 1893. *Descent:* unknown.

Grand East: 1304 West Broadway, Muskogee.

Postal address: PO Box 2348, Muskogee, OK 74402.

Telephone: 918 683 3123.

Annual Communication: first Sunday in June.

Lodges: 129. Membership: 6,000.

Ritual: Lester's *Look to the East* (plain text).

History

St John's Grand Lodge was established at Ardmore on 15 August 1893, and changed its name to the present one in 1947. This Grand Lodge has 41 military lodges. of which 25 are in Germany, eight in Korea, three in Italy, and one each in England, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Sicily and the US Virgin Isles.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is a National Compact unit in Oklahoma, MW Eureka Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

OREGON**A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Oregon.**

Founded: 1851. *Descent:* California and Missouri.

Grand Lodge office: 3435 Pacific Avenue, Forest Grove.

Postal address: PO Box 96, Forest Grove, OR 97116-0096.

Telephone: 503 357 3158. Fax: 503 357 1815.

Email: <HIRAMOR@aracnet.com>.

Website: <<http://www.aracnet.com/~hiramor>>.

Annual Meeting: first Thursday in June.

Lodges: 152. Membership: 16,877.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Oregon Masonic News*.

History

The first lodge established in the territory of Oregon was *Multnomah #84*, chartered at Oregon City by the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1846. Almost immediately after its erection this lodge became dormant, doubtless as a result of losing most of its members to the California Gold Rush. However, it was revived in 1850 and today heads the *Oregon Directory of Lodges*. The second and third lodges formed in Oregon gained their charters from the Grand Lodge of California. These were *Willamette Lodge #11* (chartered in 1850) and *Lafayette Lodge #15* (chartered in 1851). They became #2 and #3, respectively, in the *Oregon Directory*. It was these three lodges which met in September 1851 and organised the Grand Lodge of Oregon. However, *Lafayette Lodge* later consolidated with *Union Lodge #43*, to become *Union Lodge #3*.

Special Notes for Visitors

Oregon is a north-western State, possessing one large city, Portland, which is currently the home of 22 lodges, including the Research Lodge of Oregon. There is a large Masonic home at Forest Grove, catering for about 100 aged residents. Other charitable activities include an educational fund for the children and grandchildren of Oregon Masons. They are assisted while attending public schools. There is also a program helping in the transportation of cancer patients.

The Grand Lodge library is at Forest Grove, and the Scottish Rite Oregon Valley library is at 709 SW 15th Ave, Portland. Secretary of the Research Lodge of Oregon is Greg Estell, 930 NW Front (#K19), Portland, OR 97209.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Oregon, Inc

Founded: 1960. *Descent:* Illinois and Washington.

Grand East: 115–118 NE Russell Street, Portland, OR 97212.

Telephone: 503 218 2225. Fax: 503 698 4253.

Annual Communication: fourth Monday in June.

Lodges: 7. Membership: 143.

History

The earliest Prince Hall lodge in Oregon was *Enterprise Lodge #47*, chartered from Illinois, and in 1903 this lodge joined with two in the neighbouring state of Washington to form the *Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and Oregon (African)*. The Grand Lodge later took the name *Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of Washington and Jurisdiction*, and chartered further lodges in Oregon. It was not until 1960 that these lodges formed their own Grand Lodge, with *Enterprise* heading

the roll as #1. In turn, this Grand Lodge has chartered lodges in Idaho and Montana. The lodge in Montana, Northern Lights #8, has recently gone dark, but Sabre Lodge #7 still meets at Mountain Home, Idaho, where it shares premises with Andrew P Horton Military Lodge #8, chartered from Nevada.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is another Grand Lodge active in Oregon, MW St Joseph Grand Lodge of Oregon, with headquarters at Portland.

PENNSYLVANIA

A Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania

Founded: 1731. *Descent:* England.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, One North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-2598.

Telephone: 215 988 1900. Fax: 215 988 1951.

Website: <<http://www.icubed.com/users/blulodge/blulodge.html>>.

Quarterly Communications: first Wednesday in March, June, September & December.

Grand Installation: 27 December.

Other addresses: Pittsburgh: Masonic Temple, 4227 5th Avenue.

Lodges: 487. Membership: 153,755.

Ritual: Old *Antients* form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Ahiman Rezon*, *Proceedings*, *Digest of Decisions*.

Periodical: *Pennsylvania Freemason*.

History

The Masonic history of Pennsylvania, in combination with that of Massachusetts and New York, virtually accounts for the introduction and establishment of the Craft in North America. The first records of Masonry in Pennsylvania came in the form of an article in Benjamin Franklin's *Philadelphia Gazette* in 1730, wherein it was indicated that several lodges were working in the colony. Franklin was initiated, passed and raised in the *Tun Tavern Lodge* in Philadelphia, the earliest known lodge for which records exist, between January and June 1731. On 24 June 1731 he was elected Master of the lodge. On the same day, William Allen was elected Grand Master of the *Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania*, of which there is no earlier record. Records are sketchy, to say the least, but the lodge and Grand Lodge were very closely related; indeed, the *Tun Tavern Lodge* may have been the only lodge under this Grand Lodge. In 1732 Allen was re-elected Grand Master and Franklin was Junior Grand Warden; both were out of high office in 1733, but Franklin became Grand Master in 1734.

Tun Tavern Lodge appears to have expired about 1738, and was succeeded by a lodge known as *First Lodge*. And then in 1750 Lord Byron, Grand Master of England, deputised William Allen as Provincial Grand Master for Pennsylvania, under the Grand Lodge of England (soon to be dubbed the *Moderns*) and Franklin became his Deputy. It would seem that the original Grand Lodge had expired, or that its leaders lost faith in its legitimacy. By 1755, two more lodges were at work in the colony, under the Provincial Grand Lodge. A fourth lodge was warranted in 1757, but its charter was revoked when it persisted in working *Antients'* ritual.

As a result, the first *Antients* warrant for America was issued to these brethren in 1758, for Lodge #69 at Philadelphia, and by 1761 an *Antients* Provincial Grand Lodge was operating. The American War of Independence disrupted Masonic organisation, and by its end all the *Moderns* lodges had expired, with only *Antients* lodges surviving. The *Moderns* Provincial Grand Lodge had disappeared by 1785 at the latest. In September 1786 the *Antients* Provincial Grand Lodge declared independence from England, and thirteen lodges then met and erected the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

Special Notes for Visitors

Pennsylvania is a heavily populated eastern state, possessing two very large cities, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The former contains 42 lodges, while the latter has 12. Eight surviving Pennsylvania lodges have

numbers only, with no names. This harks back to *Antients* and Irish practice. Indeed, Pennsylvania retains many traditions which have largely lapsed elsewhere in America. Its Grand Lodge follows the English pattern of meeting in Quarterly Communications, and on 27 December each year (St John the Evangelist's Day) for its Grand Installation. The highest honorific is 'Right Worshipful', applied to the most senior offices (not to the office-holders) and to the Grand Lodge, and everyone from the Grand Master to the newest Entered Apprentice is addressed simply as 'Brother'. The ritual is substantially different from the standard Webb-form work, and public installations are not permitted. Pennsylvania even retains the old Irish and Antients practice of working the (Virtual) Past Master degree in the Craft lodges. Members are forbidden by Edict from joining the Order of the Eastern Star or any other mixed-gender Order that requires Masonic affiliation as a prerequisite.

Without doubt, the most interesting Masonic edifice in the United States is to be found at Philadelphia. The Grand Lodge building rates with the Grand Temples in London and Stockholm as the most magnificent in the world. Its richly decorated temples, and huge library and museum, should not be missed by any visitor. There are Masonic libraries at three other locations, also: Benjamin S Barbour Memorial library and museum at the Pittsburgh Masonic Temple; the Harry C Trexler library at 1524 Linden Street, Allentown; and Caldwell Consistory library at Bloomsburg.

On the charitable front, the Grand Lodge is involved in a range of outstanding endeavours. The Masonic Home at Elizabethtown is one of the largest in the United States, catering for over 900 residents. On the same campus is an Independent Living Community of 238 units and a Masonic Children's Home. Guided tours are available through the Homes complex. A Youth Foundation, a foundation for the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse among children, and a conference center are all located on campus at Elizabethtown. In addition, the Health Care Centre, formerly the Philadelphia Freemasons' Memorial Hospital, performs outstanding work. It is interesting to note that the Masonic Homes have a farm department, which runs a dairy, a poultry farm, an apiary, a piggery, and a cattle herd, all of which are substantial in size.

There are three German-speaking lodges in Pennsylvania, Herrmann #125 and Humbolt #359 in Philadelphia, and Teutonia #367 at West Reading. Pennsylvania has no research lodge, but does have four chapters of the Philalethes Society:

Benjamin Franklin Chapter (George R Haynes, PhD, 2205 Pemberton Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146-1140, email <george782@aol.com>);

Chester County Chapter (Robert M Blair, 364 Lincoln Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335);

James Buchanan Chapter (Edward W Harding, PO Box 205, Strasburg, PA 17579); and

Valley Forge Chapter (Russell A Wenner, 608 Delaware Avenue, Lansdale, PA 19446).

B The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania

Founded: 1815. *Descent:* Massachusetts.

Grand East: 4301 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19140.

Telephone: 215 457 6110 & 6111.

Website: <<http://www.princehall-pa.org>>.

Annual Communication: second Friday in October.

Lodges: 106. Membership: 7600.

Periodical: *The Light*.

History

In 1797, African-American Masons in Philadelphia applied to Prince Hall, Master of African Lodge #459/370 EC in Boston, Massachusetts, for a warrant. This was granted by the curious device of issuing a copy of the English warrant, thus creating a clone, *African Lodge 459 of Philadelphia*. Prince Hall's successors warranted three more lodges, whose names are subsequently recorded as *Union #2* (1810), *Laurel #5* (1811), and *Phoenix #6* (1814). In 1815 these four lodges formed the *First Independent African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania*.

In 1837 two lodges, *Union* and *Harmony*, which had either broken away or been expelled, and some others, formed a rival body, *Hiram Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania*. Over the next ten years there was intense rivalry between these two bodies, and this was one of the reasons for the formation of a 'superior' body, the Most Worshipful National Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Ancient York Masons of the United States of

North America, otherwise known as the National Compact Grand Lodge, in 1847. The two rivals united under a warrant from the National Compact, as the Grand Lodge for the State of Pennsylvania, but this armistice did not last long. The 'Hiram' component split in 1849, and the 'First Independent' component left the National Compact the following year. It was not until 1882 that there was another consolidation, to form the present Grand Lodge.

Prince Hall Masonry in Pennsylvania has been as subject to as many allegations of irregularity of origin as have the origins of the fraternity in Massachusetts, but when the United Grand Lodge of England ruled in 1994 that the origins of the present Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts were unusual but of acceptable regularity, the 'mother' Grand Lodge went on hint that the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania would also fall into that category. The English pronouncement referred to the *First African Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania* as the 'predecessor' of *African Grand Lodge* of Massachusetts. In 1997, England and the mainstream Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania both extended recognition to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

This Grand Lodge has been the direct progenitor of six other Grand Lodges: Maryland (1846) District of Columbia (1848), New Jersey (1848), Ohio (1849), Delaware (1849), and Virginia (1866). It has also chartered lodges in California, Georgia, Louisiana and South Africa. In 1977 the members of the two lodges in South Africa, Ethiopia Lodge #75 and Coppin Lodge #76, handed in their charters and founded two lodges under the Grand Lodge of South Africa, Perseverance Lodge #126 and Phoenix Lodge #127, which had obtained an exemption from the apartheid laws for that purpose.

Special Notes for Visitors

All but 12 lodges in this jurisdiction have only one 'communication' per month. Of the 106 lodges at work, 43 use the Grand Temple at 4301 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, and the allocation of meeting dates indicate that there are at least three lodge rooms on these premises. Every week-night, except the fourth Wednesday of the month, there are one, two, or three lodges meeting there, plus a few at weekends. Within the jurisdiction, 17 lodges meet on Saturdays, and four on Sundays!

C Other Grand Lodges

Pennsylvania is home to five other Grand Lodges, all with headquarters in Philadelphia: MW Keystone Grand Lodge AF&AM of Pennsylvania, Inc; MW Knights of St. John Grand Lodge, AF&AM (Sons and Daughters of Haiti); MW Union Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; MW Widows Son Grand Lodge of Philadelphia, Inc; and the National Compact unit, MW Pennsylvania Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

RHODE ISLAND

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

Founded: 1791. *Descent:* Massachusetts and New York.

Grand Lodge office: Freemasons' Hall, 222 Taunton Avenue, East Providence, RI 02914-4556.

Telephone: 401 435 4650. Fax: 401 435 4423.

Website: <<http://www.Freemason-ri.org/Masons/home.htm>>.

Annual Meeting: third Monday in May.

Lodges: 39. Membership: 6989.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Rhode Island Freemason*.

History

While there are undocumented references to Masonic activity in Rhode Island as early as the 1650s, the first lodge established in the colony was warranted by the Provincial Grand Master of Boston, Massachusetts, in 1749. This lodge, meeting at Newport, was named simply *First Lodge*, but later became called St John's. In

1757, a second lodge was warranted, at Providence, also from Massachusetts. These two lodges, both named St John's, met and formed the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island in 1791. Interestingly, they both emerged from the formation holding the number one. Both exist today, with St John's Lodge #1 (Newport) apparently taking precedence over St John's Lodge #1 (Providence). It is also interesting to note that Thomas Smith Webb, the 'founder' of American Craft ritual, was an early Grand Master of Rhode Island.

The anti-Masonic fervour associated with the Morgan Affair had a grave effect in Rhode Island, and with the possible exceptions of New York and Vermont, was felt at its worse in this state. The campaign against Rhode Island Freemasonry in the 1830s was most virulent, and even extended to six lodges having their charters 'revoked' by the State legislature. By 1840, membership had faded to fewer than 1000, a two-thirds drop in ten years. Nonetheless, the opposition soon waned, and sustained growth took place.

Special Notes For Visitors

Rhode Island is geographically the smallest continental American state. Its two main population centers are Cranston and Providence. The Grand Lodge is one of the many in the United States which employs a district system, under District Deputy Grand Masters. While basically an Elective Grand Lodge on the American model, Rhode Island is one of the few mainstream American jurisdictions to designate Past Masters as members of the Grand Lodge in their own right. The Grand Lodge is involved in a wide range of charitable activities, including a Masonic Blood Bank.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM of the State of Rhode Island

Founded: 1858. *Descent:* Massachusetts.

Grand East: 883 Eddy Street, Providence, RI 02905-4705.

Telephone: 401 461 2600. Fax: 401 461 2600.

Annual Communication: second Friday and Saturday in June.

Lodges: 5. Membership: 280.

History

Tradition has it that Prince Hall warranted *Hiram Lodge #3* in Providence, Rhode Island, in June 1797, and that it was composed of members of his own lodge who had moved there from Boston. The lodge is said to have become dormant in 1813, in consequence of most of its members migrating to Liberia, and that a second lodge was chartered from Massachusetts in 1826, *Harmony Lodge*.

The National Compact chartered a Grand Lodge in 1858, *Harmony Grand Lodge F&AM of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations*. In 1875 it merged with the independent *Union Grand Lodge* to form the present body, which now has five lodges, three of them at Providence, meeting at 833 Eddy Street. Of the other two, Stone Mill Lodge #3 meets at 32 Dr Marcus Wheatland Boulevard, Newport, and Corinthian Lodge #6 meets at 340 South Main Street, Woonsocket.

SOUTH CAROLINA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina

Founded: 1737. *Descent:* England.

Grand Lodge office: 1401 Senate Street, Columbia, SC 29201-3781.

Telephone: 803 799 4377. Fax: 803 799 1915.

Annual Meeting: fourth Thursday in April.

Lodges: 329. Membership: 56,051.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

Periodical: *Masonic Light*.

History

The first lodge in South Carolina appears to have been warranted by the Grand Lodge of England in 1735, and a Provincial Grand Master appointed the following year. This was *Solomon's Lodge*, which appeared as

#251 on the English list of 1760 This lodge still works happily at Charleston, and heads the South Carolina roll of lodges. Another six or seven lodges were granted English warrants up until about 1770. The *Grand Lodge of South Carolina* was organised during the American War of Independence. While the exact date is somewhat obscure, it would appear it was formed about 1783. However, the Grand Lodge claims 1737 as its origin.

Of course, by this time the *Antients* had become well established as the rival Masonic power in England, and moved into South Carolina, as well as other parts of eastern America. The *Antients* warranted three lodges in South Carolina in 1761, 1774, and 1786. The Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania (*Antients*) weighed in another three lodges between 1782 and 1786. In 1787, five of these lodges organised the *Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of South Carolina*. The result of this action led to about 30 years of bitter rivalry between the *Moderns* and the *Antients* in South Carolina. The story of this rivalry is too long to relay here, except to say that the matter finished up in the South Carolina Supreme Court. It was not until after the Union of *Antients* and *Moderns* in England in 1813 that the warring factions in South Carolina became convinced of the virtues of peace, and it was not until 1817 that a happy union was effected. The Grand Lodge has progressed steadily and harmoniously since that date.

Special Notes for Visitors

South Carolina is a large southern jurisdiction, with several population centers of some size, in particular Charleston and Columbia. The Grand Lodge office and library are centrally located in the latter city. South Carolina has never opted to erect a Masonic Home, but instead assists the less fortunate and the aged in their own communities through various charitable funds.

The South Carolina Masonic Research Society (established 1988) meets quarterly at various locations within the jurisdiction. It publishes annual *Transactions*, a quarterly newsletter, and sometimes 'bonus' books. Full membership is open to Master Masons in the jurisdiction, and associate membership to others in amity with the Grand Lodge (dues \$15). President is Paul Handley, phone 843 571 3213, fax 843 571 3396, email <Phandley@aol.com> & <phandley@Charleston.Net>. The secretary is Ed Smoak, PO Box 31582, Charleston, SC 29417, email <edsmoak@juno.com>.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of F and A Masons of the State of South Carolina

Founded: 1867–1872. *Descent:* Massachusetts.

Grand East: 2324 Gervais Street, Columbia, SC 29204.

Telephone: 803 254 7210.

Annual Communication: second Tuesday in December.

Lodges: 306. Membership: 16,000.

History

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts chartered *Hayden's Lodge #8* to meet at Charleston in 1865. This and other National Compact Grand Lodges may have warranted other lodges in the state within the first few years after the end of the Civil War. It is variously claimed that this Grand Lodge was erected at Charleston in June 1867, in 1869 and 1872.

C Other Grand Lodges

MW James O Dugan Grand Lodge of South Carolina has its headquarters at Greenville. New Hope Grand Lodge was established as recently as May 1993, and its Temple in Columbia was dedicated two years later. The National Compact unit is MW Palmetto Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

SOUTH DAKOTA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of South Dakota

Founded: 1875. *Descent:* Iowa.

Grand Lodge office: 415 South Main Ave, Sioux Falls.

Postal address: PO Box 468, Sioux Falls, SD 57101-0468.

Telephone: 605 332 2051.

Annual Meeting: third Friday in June.

Lodges: 105. Membership: 8292.

Ritual: Webb Form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitutions & By-Laws*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Masonic Messenger*.

History

South Dakota and North Dakota were, until 1889, united as the Dakota Territory, and Masonically it formed one jurisdiction until that date. The political separation of Dakota into two states prompted the Grand Lodge of Dakota to amicably divide into two jurisdictions. A fuller look at general Dakota Masonic history is contained under the heading of North Dakota.

Special Notes for Visitors

South Dakota is another rural-based mid-western state which does not contain any large cities. Understandably, its regulations and forms are quite similar to those of North Dakota. South Dakota does not possess a Masonic Home or similar institution, although it does give support to one run by the Order of the Eastern Star. Nonetheless, the Grand Lodge has a number of substantial charity funds at its disposal, which it uses in supporting many benevolent activities.

Of great interest to the visitor will be the Grand Lodge office and library building in Sioux Falls. It is a very large stone structure of particular beauty, both inside and out. There is also a Scottish Rite Masonic Library at 520 South First Avenue, Sioux Falls. Secretary of South Dakota Lodge of Masonic Research is Richard M Luther, 124 Gilley Avenue South, Brookings, SD 57006.

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

North Star Lodge #114, chartered by the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Kansas, meets at Box Elder.

TENNESSEE

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Tennessee

Founded: 1813. *Descent:* North Carolina.

Grand Lodge office: 100 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville.

Postal address: PO Box 24216, Nashville, TN 37202.

Telephone: 615 255 2625.

Email: <f&am@kornet.org>. Website: <<http://www.kornet.org/f&am>>.

Annual Meeting: March.

Other addresses: Chattanooga: no main temple, check local phone directory.

Memphis: Scottish Rite Temple, 815 Union Avenue.

Lodges: 367. Membership: 72,397.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Annual Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

History

The state of Tennessee was originally part of North Carolina, achieving statehood in 1796. The first lodge established in Tennessee was *St Tammany #29*, which was chartered by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina in 1796. It had expired by 1813. It is interesting to note that out of respect for this lodge, no later Tennessee lodge ever came to use the number one. After Tennessee became a state, the Grand Lodge of North Carolina chartered a further six lodges there up until 1811. In that year these lodges petitioned the Grand Lodge of North Carolina to form a Grand Lodge in Tennessee. The processes involved moved slowly, but in 1813 the so called *Great Charter* was drawn up by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, in effect constituting the

Grand Lodge of Tennessee. This was the first time such a procedure had been used in erecting a new Grand Lodge and it created controversy at the time. However, the Grand Lodge of Tennessee did come into being as a result, and has since prospered as one of the larger jurisdictions in the United States.

Special Notes for Visitors

Tennessee is a populous southern state possessing several large cities, including Chattanooga with 15 lodges, Memphis with 19, and Nashville with 12 lodges. The Grand Lodge used to own a Widows and Orphans Home, dating from 1892, but in recent years this has been closed, and benevolence is administered through charity funds. The Grand Lodge building in Nashville is a noteworthy structure and will be of particular interest to visitors.

The Tennessee Lodge of Research was organised in 1985 and now has nearly a thousand members. It meets at noon, quarterly, as guest of lodges around the state—in the west in March, centrally in June, in the east in September and at Nashville in December. It publishes a quarterly bulletin and annual *Proceedings* (after the December meeting), and dues are \$10, with a joining fee of \$5. Secretary is Robert E Gooch, 111 Tobacco Road, Clarksville, phone 931 645 7741, email <rgooch@clarksville.com>. There is a good library at the Scottish Rite Temple in Memphis. Contact for Charles A Snodgrass Chapter of the Philalethes Society at Knoxville, is Philip L Kerlin, 12209 W Kingsgate Drive, Knoxville, TN 37922.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons Jurisdiction of Tennessee

Founded: 1870. *Descent:* Ohio and Missouri.

Grand East: 253 South Parkway, West Memphis, TN 38109.

Telephone: 901 774 7230.

Annual Communication: first Monday in August.

Lodges: 172. Membership: 6500.

History

Lodges were chartered from Ohio and Missouri. Two Grand Lodges were formed, an independent one in August 1870 and a National Compact unit in September 1871. The two consolidated in 1888.

C Other Grand Lodges

Hiram Abiff Grand Lodge AF&AM State of Tennessee and the Travelling Masons of the World, Inc are both located at Memphis, and the Grand Lodge of Tennessee (formed in 1980) has its headquarters at Nashville.

TEXAS

A The Grand Lodge of Texas, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1837. *Descent:* Louisiana.

Grand Lodge office: 715 Columbus Street, Waco.

Postal address: P O Box 446, Waco, TX 76703.

Telephone: 817 753 7395.

Email: (DGM) <dgm@gltxas.org>. Website: <<http://www.gltxas.org>>.

Annual Meeting: first Friday in December.

Other addresses:

Dallas: Scottish Rite Temple, Corner Harwood & Canton Streets.

Fort Worth: Masonic Temple, 1100 Henderson Street.

Houston: Masonic Temple, 4923 Rusk Street.

San Antonio: Masonic Temple, 125 West Maple Street.

Lodges: 907. Membership: 144,884.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Constitution. Annual Proceedings.*

Periodical: *Texas Freemason.*

History

The earliest Masonic history of Texas is somewhat obscure. It would appear that there was Masonic activity in the area as early as 1828, when the York Grand Lodge of Mexico was petitioned for a charter. It would seem that this charter was never issued. In 1835, the Grand Lodge of Louisiana issued a dispensation for a lodge at Brazoria. It moved to Houston during the Mexican-American War and received a charter as *Holland Lodge* in 1837. *Holland Lodge* later became #1 on the roll of lodges in Texas. At this time, Louisiana issued charters for two more lodges, and in December 1837 these three lodges met at Houston and created the Grand Lodge of Texas.

Special Notes for Visitors

Texas is geographically the largest of the contiguous American states, and one of the biggest in terms of population. Not surprisingly, the Grand Lodge of Texas is one of the largest in America. Texas possesses several very big cities, including Dallas (with 30 lodges), Fort Worth (with 20 lodges), Houston (with 34 lodges), and San Antonio (with 21 lodges). Of the urban lodges, quite a few have memberships in excess of 1000. Park Place Lodge #1172, of Houston, had a membership in 1981 of 2632, making it numerically the largest lodge in Texas and probably in the world. Not surprisingly, Texas uses a district system. It possesses well in excess of 100 districts, each under a District Deputy Grand Master, with each district comprising an average of nine lodges.

Masonic charity is wide-spread in Texas. The Grand Lodge operates a Masonic Home and School at Fort Worth, catering for over 100 students. It also runs a home for aged Masons at Arlington, and the Scottish Rite has a large hospital for crippled children at Fort Worth.

The Texas Lodge of Research, formed in 1958, meets at least four times a year, usually on the third Saturday in January, March, June and September, in various temples around the state. The Master carries the lodge charter with him, for display in the host temple. Meetings are preceded by a dinner, and ladies and other guests may be invited to the dinner and to open portions of meetings where papers are presented.

There are three classes of membership: Master Masons of all recognised jurisdictions, and lodges, libraries and other Masonic associations may be Associate members; an Associate may qualify for full membership by presenting a suitable paper to the lodge; and the lodge may elect one full member per year to be a Fellow in Masonic Research.. The lodge sponsors a prestigious annual lecture by an outstanding Masonic scholar, the Anson Jones Lecture, named after the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the Republic of Texas.

The lodge publishes an *Occasional Bulletin* and annual *Transactions*. There are over 1300 members; dues are US\$15. Full members are permitted to wear a cloth replica of the Republic of Texas lambskin apron, as worn by Sam Houston and Anson Jones. It is a white apron with a gold border, with the All-Seeing Eye on the bib, a gold five-pointed star in the center, and the initials GLRT below. All classes of membership may wear a lapel pin depicting this apron in white enamel and gold.

The lodge has its website at <<http://pentium2.gower.net/Community/tlr>>, and other Internet contacts include Pete Martinez <hushpup@gower.net> and Clifford Acker <cliff@imsday.com>.

There are three notable libraries in Texas, the Grand Lodge library and a Scottish Rite library at Waco, and a Scottish Rite library at Houston. Texas has three chapters of the Philalethes Society:

Oklahoma Chapter (Wade Massey, 918 Pebblebrook Drive, Allen, TX 75002);

Southwest Chapter (Jacob R Casanover, PO Box 719, Helotes, TX 78023); and

William M Taylor Chapter (R A Ford, 4802 De Milo Drive, Houston, TX 77092).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of Texas and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1875. *Descent:* Kansas.

Grand East: 3433 Martin Luther King Freeway, Fort Worth.

Postal address: P O Box 1478, Fort Worth, TX 76101-1478.

Telephone: 254 534 4612. Fax: 254 534 9289.

E-mail: <pha@flash.net>. Website <<http://www.intertex.net.phglotx>>.

Annual Communication: fourth Tuesday in June.

Lodges: 424. Membership: 10,201.

Ritual: own publication. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Texas Family Masonic Quarterly*.

History

Five lodges were chartered from Kansas between 1871 and 1873, *Mt Bonnell #2* at Austin, *San Antonio #22* at San Antonio, *Magnolia #24* at Houston, *Galveston #25* at Galveston and *Mt Lebanon #26* at Brenham. In 1875, a Grand Lodge was formed from these lodges, three of which survive to the present day, San Antonio #1, Mt Bonnell #2 and Magnolia #3. This Grand Lodge grew steadily in membership and number of lodges, to a peak of over 600 lodges, and the recent general decline in numbers has left it in 1997 with 424 lodges and just over 10,000 members.

Texas has chartered military lodges in Germany (3), South Korea and Hawaii. The civilian lodges in Nevada, Mizpah #206 and Omega #556, are no longer on the rolls, but Texas has a lodge chartered in Utah, Beautiful Lodge #395 in Salt Lake City.

Special Notes for Visitors

Grand Lodge meets annually in June, when the election of all Grand Officers takes place. There is no restriction on tenure of the office of Grand Master. All Past Masters are members of Grand Lodge. Dress is black suit, tie, shoes and socks, white shirt. Lodges, however, have freedom of choice of dress for their own meetings. The Grand Masonic Temple at Fort Worth also houses a library. Most towns of any size have a lodge, and six cities share 75 lodges between them: Houston 21; Tyler 12; Dallas, Fort Worth and San Antonio 11 each; and Waco 9.

Local lodges meet at least once a month. General business is conducted on the third degree, and Entered Apprentices and Fellow Crafts are not considered to be members of the lodge. Refreshments are served occasionally, but alcohol is not permitted. Smoking is permitted in the premises but not in lodge.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are at least 14 other Grand Lodges and bodies in Texas, with seven of them based in Houston: Grand Lodge of Deliberation of Texas; MW Abraham Grand Lodge of Texas, Inc; MW Lodge of Light; MW Mount Lebanon Grand Lodge of Texas, Inc; MW Mt Corinth Masonic Grand Lodge, AF&AM of Texas, Inc; MW Sinai Grand Lodge of Texas; and National King Solomon Grand Lodge, AF&AM of the USA, Inc. Two are based in Austin: Federation of Masons of the World; and Mt Carmel Grand Lodge of Texas. Two have their headquarters at Dallas: MW Eureka Grand Lodge of Texas Inc; and MW John A. Belle Grand Lodge of Texas Inc; while the Travelling Masons of the World, Inc. operate out of Texarkana.

The MW St John–St Joseph Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin, is under the National Compact.

There is also an International Masonic Association of the World, organised in Geneva in 1921 but now based at Houston. It consists of an International Supreme Council Rite 33rd and last degree of North and South America, International Grand Consistory, International Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of North and South America, General Grand Chapters of Royal Arch Masons of North and South America, Grand Lodges and local lodges, Grand Chapter OES and local chapter OES under its jurisdiction.

UTAH

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Utah

Founded: 1872. *Descent:* Montana, Kansas and Colorado.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 650 East South Temple Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84102-1141.

Telephone: 801 363 2936. Fax: 801 363 2938.

Email: (DGM) <jchretien@juno.com>.

Website: <<http://www.utahMason.org>>.

Annual Meeting: fifth Monday of the year.

Lodges: 32. Membership: 2714.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Masonic Code* (Constitution), *Annual Proceedings*.

History

The first lodge in Utah was *Rocky Mountain #205*, chartered as an army lodge in 1860 by the Grand Lodge of Missouri, but had expired by 1862. In 1866, *Mt Moriah Lodge* was established at Salt Lake City under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Nevada. It was stipulated that the lodge was not to admit Mormons, and when the lodge protested, the dispensation was withdrawn. Montana granted a charter for *Wasatch Lodge #8* in 1867, also at Salt Lake City. *Mt Moriah* finally received a charter in 1868, from the Grand Lodge of Kansas. In 1871 the Grand Lodge of Colorado weighed in with a charter for *Argenta Lodge #21*. These three lodges met in convention in 1872, and the Grand Lodge of Utah was opened.

Special Notes for Visitors

The Grand Lodge of Utah is one of the smallest mainstream Grand Lodges in the United States. This is largely accounted for by the fact that a large majority of the population of the State are members of the Mormon faith. There have long been misunderstandings between the Mormon Church and Freemasonry in Utah. Basically, after a brief honeymoon period between the two organisations, both discouraged Masonic membership of Mormons until quite recently.

Salt Lake City is the only population center of any size in Utah, and it is the home of six of Utah's 32 lodges. Utah does not possess a Masonic Home, and it is doubtful if the jurisdiction would be large enough to support one. Nonetheless, some outstanding work in the area of benevolence is undertaken through various Masonic charity funds. The Masonic Temple in Salt Lake City is a particularly fine architectural structure, and visitors to the city will be made most welcome at the Grand Secretary's office contained therein. The Grand Lodge library and the Research Lodge of Utah are also located there.

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

Beautiful Lodge #395, chartered from Texas, meets at 132 East 8th Street, Salt Lake City, on the first and second Tuesdays of each month at 7.30 pm.

Colorado has chartered two lodges in Utah, High Marine #12 in Salt Lake City, and Mount Ogden #20 at 2720 Lincoln Ave, Ogden (second and fourth Mondays at 7 pm).

VERMONT

The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Vermont

Founded: 1794. *Descent:* Massachusetts, England (via Canada) and Connecticut.

Postal address: East Road, RR #3, Box 6742B, Barre 05641-8611.

Telephone: 802 223 1883. Fax: 802 223 2187.

Email: <glsec@vtfreemasons.org>.

Website: <<http://www.vtFreemasons.org/glv/index.html>>.

Annual Meeting: June.

Lodges: 89. Membership: 8870.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Green Mountain Mason*.

History

The first lodge in Vermont was *Vermont Lodge #17*, warranted by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge in 1781, to meet at Springfield. However, it actually met in Charlestown, New Hampshire, before moving to Springfield in 1788 or 1789. Meanwhile, Massachusetts chartered *North Star Lodge* in 1885. Next came *Dorchester Lodge*, named after Lord Dorchester, Governor-General of Canada, warranted from the

(English) Provincial Grand Lodge of Canada in 1791. Then Connecticut chartered *Temple Lodge* in 1793 and *Union Lodge* in 1794. These five lodges organised the Grand Lodge of Vermont in October 1794.

The anti-Masonry of the 1830s, following the Morgan Affair, was severely felt in Vermont and by 1833, the Grand Lodge was virtually extinct. It re-organised finally in 1846, having been very badly depleted.

Special Notes for Visitors

Vermont is a small mountainous state located in the north-east of the United States. Its population is not overly large, and this is reflected in Masonic membership. Nonetheless, Vermont is a very active jurisdiction. In the area of charity, it is not large enough to support a Masonic Home, but is involved in relief through a substantial charity fund. The majority of Vermont lodges advertise 7.30 pm as the starting time of their monthly stated meetings, although a small number commence at 8 pm. There is a library at the headquarters at Barre, and a lodge of research was in the formation stage at the beginning of 1998 (enquiries to Jim Goss, phone 802 773 3300).

VIRGINIA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Founded: 1778. Descent: England and Scotland.

Grand Lodge office: 4115 Nine Mile Road, Richmond, VA 23223-4926.

Telephone: 804 222 3110. Fax: 804 222 4253.

Website (unofficial): <<http://aw22.com>>.

Annual Meeting: November.

Lodges: 336. Membership: 50,720.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: No.

Main publications: *Virginia Methodical Digest* (Constitution), *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Virginia Masonic Herald*.

History

The early history of Masonry in Virginia is obscure. There may have been Masonic activity as early as 1730. The first known lodge was *Royal Exchange*, which may have been erected in 1733, but was probably not chartered by the Grand Lodge of England until 1754. Kilwinning-Crosse Lodge began work in 1754 and obtained a charter from Scotland in 1755. Other English and Scottish lodges followed.

Nine lodges were invited to participate in the formation of a Grand Lodge, but only four met in convention to erect the Grand Lodge of Virginia in October 1778. They were *Royal Exchange #172 EC* (now Norfolk Lodge #1) and three Scottish lodges, *Kilwinning-Crosse* (designated #2, but now #2-237), *Blandford* (now #3) and *Fredericksburg* (now #4).

The unusual double number of Kilwinning-Crosse Lodge arose from the fact that this lodge became extinct and, before it was revived, the original number was re-allocated to Atlantic Lodge #2. Indeed, Kilwinning-Crosse died twice and has twice been resurrected; the four charters for this lodge are still in existence, dated 1755, 1796, 1855 and 1881.

Special Notes for Visitors

Two early Virginian lodges are well known throughout America because of their association with George Washington: *Fredericksburg #4*, first chartered by Scotland in 1758, his mother lodge, now meets at the Masonic Temple, 803 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg, on the second Friday monthly, at 8 pm; and *Alexandria-Washington #22*, in which he served as Master, which meets at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria (just outside of Washington DC), on the second and fourth Thursdays monthly, at 7.30 pm. Meeting details of other Virginia lodges can readily be obtained at the Grand Lodge office in Richmond.

Virginia's penchant for unusual charter numbers is reflected in its three prestigious lodges of research: *Virginia Research Lodge #1777*, *A Douglas Smith Jr Lodge of Research #1949*, and *Civil War Lodge of Research #1865*. The oldest of these, *Virginia Research Lodge*, has recently lost its revered Secretary, Allen

E Roberts, a loss felt throughout North America and beyond. It meets at Babcock Lodge, Highland Springs, and publishes annual Transactions. Its new Secretary is Keith Hinerman, 222 Carlstone Drive, Highland Springs VA 23075. A Douglas Smith Jr Lodge of Research meets at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, 101 Callahan Drive, Alexandria, at 10 am on the fifth Saturday of the month, whenever that occurs, and also on the third Saturday of December (Installation). The Secretary is Mickey Ander, 5911 Edsall Rd, Alexandria VA 22303.

Civil War Lodge of Research was formed in 1995, with Allen E Roberts as foundation Master. Its stated meetings are at 10 am on the second Saturday of April, July and October, and the first Saturday of December (Installation). Its official base is at Highland Springs, but often stated and called meetings are held at other locations which have relevance to the Civil War—even barns and battlefields. This lodge has also held a joint meeting with Quatuor Coronati Lodge #2076 EC at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial, attended by Masons of many jurisdictions both sides of the Atlantic. Its website is <<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/1799/cwlr.html>> and for further information contact Paul M Bessel, phone 703 418 1172, fax 703 418 6625, email <paulb@cpcug.org>.

There is a large Masonic Home located at Richmond, catering for up to 200 aged residents. The Grand Lodge also runs an extensive educational scholarship program and a statewide Masonic Blood Bank program.

Virginia has no fewer than five notable libraries, the Grand Lodge library, the R S Crump Memorial library and the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons library in Richmond, the George Washington Masonic National Memorial library and the Collingwood library and museum at Alexandria. In addition to the quarterly *Virginia Masonic Herald*, two other periodicals are published in Virginia, the *Philalethes* and the *Sojourner*.

Contact for the Virginia Chapter of the Philalethes Society is Charles S Sarbaugh, PO Box 9135, Richmond, VA 23227.

B MW Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Virginia Free and Accepted Masons, Inc

Founded: 1865. *Descent:* District of Columbia, Pennsylvania.

Grand East: 906 North Thompson Street, Richmond.

Postal address: PO Box 14646, Richmond, VA 23221.

Telephone: 804 359 1111. Fax: 804 359 8123.

Annual Communication: third Tuesday in September.

Lodges: 208. Membership: 10,865.

Ritual: Webb-form cipher.

History

A unit of the National Compact, *Union Grand Lodge*, was erected in October 1865 (with the co-operation of *Universal Lodge #2* of the *Union Grand Lodge*, District of Columbia, which became #1 on the Virginia roll of lodges), and an independent Grand Lodge was formed two years later. When *Union Grand Lodge* left the Compact, the two amalgamated in December 1875.

C Other Grand Lodges

MW King Solomon Grand Lodge of Virginia Inc has its headquarters in Richmond, while MW Consolidated Hiram Grand Lodge AF&AM of Virginia, Inc is based at Irvington. The present National Compact unit is St John Grand Lodge, Prince Hall Origin.

WASHINGTON

A Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Washington

Founded: 1858. *Descent:* Oregon.

Grand Lodge office: Masonic Temple, 47 St Helens Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402-2698.

Telephone: 253 272 3263. Fax: 253 627 5369.

Annual Meeting: second Thursday in June.

Other addresses:

Seattle: Masonic Temple, corner Harvard Ave & East Pine St.

Website: <<http://www.telebyte.com/Masons>>.

Lodges: 224. Membership: 26,802.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*, *Washington Monitor* and *Freemason's Guide*.

Periodicals: *Washington Masonic Tribune*, *Masonic Family News*.

History

The state of Washington was part of Oregon until it was severed from the latter by an act of the United States Congress in 1853. Consequently, all Craft Masonry in Washington derived from the Grand Lodge of Oregon. The first lodge in Washington was *Olympia Lodge*, chartered in 1853. This was followed by *Steilacoom Lodge* in 1854, *Grand Mound Lodge* in 1857, and *Washington Lodge* in 1858. Delegates from these four lodges met in Convention in December 1858 and formed the Grand Lodge of Washington. Of the four original lodges, all survive except *Grand Mound*. Olympia #1 heads the Washington roll of lodges.

In the closing years of the 19th century, this Grand Lodge took a courageous stand in respect to Prince Hall Masonry, but folded in response to pressure from other mainstream US Grand Lodges. To its credit, this Grand Lodge was again in the forefront of moves towards reconciliation in the closing years of this century. For a brief account of events, see below.

Special Notes for Visitors

The state of Washington is located in the north-west corner of the continental United States. It possesses two large cities, Seattle (with 26 lodges), and Tacoma (with 9). The jurisdiction is divided into districts, each under a Deputy of the Grand Master. A large Masonic Home is located at Zenith, midway between Tacoma and Seattle. It originally cared for children, but today caters for about 140 aged residents, although it has the capacity for 200. Visitors are welcome to attend the Home. Washington also possesses a most substantial charity fund to assist those in need.

Washington permits its lodges to conduct general business in the first degree. Daylight lodges are becoming popular in this jurisdiction. The most recent to be chartered (November 1997) is Frank S Land #313, founded by Senior DeMolays, with an average age in the low 40s. Their monthly stated meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at 9.30 am in the Washington Masonic Retirement Center, Des Moines. There is a library under the aegis of the King County Masonic Library Association, at 29604, 11th Place South, Federal Way.

Walter F Meier Lodge of Research #281, formed in 1936, is the third-oldest research lodge in the US. It has earned a high regard among researchers worldwide; it publishes its papers in pamphlet form and in bound annual volumes. Full membership is US\$25 per year, and corresponding membership (outside the state, only) is US\$18; both categories receive the bound annual transactions. The lodge meets at the Seattle Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 1155 Broadway East, Seattle, at 7.30 pm on the fourth Thursday of February, April, June, August, October, and the third Friday in December (Installation). Among its other activities, the lodge has organised a Masonic College, on the third Saturday of each month (except July, August), for the education of Washington brethren. Secretary of the lodge is Bob J Jensen, 23312, 94th Place West, Edmonds, WA 98020 (phone 206 546 3780).

In the far east of the state, Eastern Washington Lodge of Research #310 meets at Spokane on the third Thursday of odd-numbered months throughout the year. The Secretary is Henry W Rautio, 1108 Riverside Avenue, Spokane WA 99201-1106, and the current Master (1998) is George Livie <glivie@ior.com>. Each year, the Washington research lodges combine with the Research Lodge of Oregon and Canadian research lodges from British Columbia for an inter-jurisdictional meeting, with workshops and presentation of research papers, which are subsequently published in loose-leaf form by Walter F Meier Lodge of Research.

It is interesting to note that Washington still controls three lodges in southern Alaska subsequent to the erection of the Grand Lodge of Alaska. However, it is expected that these lodges will eventually exchange their Washington charters for those of the Alaskan jurisdiction.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge F&AM Washington and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1903. *Descent:* Illinois and Iowa.

Grand East: 306 24th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98144.

Telephone: 206 323 8835. Fax: 206 325 7079.

Annual Communication: second Monday in July.

Lodges: 62. Membership: 2958.

Ritual: own publication (plain text).

Periodical: *Masonic Community Monitor*.

History

The first Grand Lodge of Prince Hall Masons was erected by the National Compact in 1891. This was *Cornerstone Grand Lodge*, with two lodges, *John A Mulligan #1* and *Prince Hall #2*, at Seattle. The Grand Lodge and its constituent lodges folded within three years, and there is no direct descent from it to the present Grand Lodge.

The present Grand Lodge traces its beginnings from a Masonic club formed in 1889. Two men associated with the club, James Shepperson and Gideon Bailey, were active in the erection of lodges chartered from Iowa and Illinois respectively. *Washington Lodge #49*, chartered from Illinois, began working under dispensation at Franklin in 1892, and the following year saw *Sumner Lodge UD* (in Tacoma) and *Seattle Lodge UD* at work. By 1895 Bailey was secretary of *Washington Lodge* and Con Rideout, former Grand Senior Warden of the defunct *Cornerstone Grand Lodge*, was secretary of *Seattle Lodge*. Two other lodges were warranted from Illinois in this period, *Enterprise #47*, just across the state border in Portland, Oregon, and *Inland Empire #53* at Spokane. Shepperson's contribution was to organise *Concord Lodge #23* at Roslyn and *Trinity Lodge #28* in Seattle, both chartered by Iowa.

In 1897 Bailey and Rideout wrote a letter to the (mainstream) Grand Lodge of Washington, asking if a way could be devised to permit them to visit lodges under that jurisdiction. The question was referred to a committee chaired by a superior court judge, William H Upton. The committee reported back to Grand Lodge with a series of resolutions favourable to the applicants with regard to regularity, visitation, and the formation of a separate Grand Lodge if so desired. The Grand Lodge adopted the resolutions unanimously, and elected Upton Grand Master. When this became known, 17 Grand Lodges in the United States severed relations with the Grand Lodge of Washington—which then rescinded its decision. Upton did not waiver, however; he published a book, *Negro Masonry, being a critical examination*, assigned publication rights to the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and made provision in his will that no monument should be erected over his grave until Black and White Masons could stand beside it as brothers.

In 1903, *Enterprise Lodge #47* (Portland, Oregon), *Washington Lodge #49* (now at Seattle) and *Inland Empire Lodge #53* (Spokane) formed the *MW Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and Oregon (African)*. The Iowa-chartered lodges did not join, and Iowa refused to grant recognition, on the basis of one state, one jurisdiction. In 1906 the Grand Lodge resolved to change its name to *MW Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and its Jurisdiction (African)*. This removed the impediment to recognition, and the two Iowa-based lodges came into the fold, resulting in a further name-change to *MW Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington and its Jurisdiction (United)*. The current name was adopted in 1944. Of the early lodges, only *Inland Empire #3* remains on the rolls.

Gideon Bailey died in 1905, suitably honoured by his Grand Lodge. William Upton died the following year, mourned by both Grand Lodges in Washington, and by the descendants of African Lodge throughout the continent. His name was commemorated in the erection of lodges in several Prince Hall jurisdictions, including *William H Upton Lodge #11* at Walla Walla, in the south-east corner of the state of Washington, where he is buried. In 1990 the two Masonic powers in Washington exchanged recognition, and in June 1991 an estimated 400 Masons of both jurisdictions held a joint ceremony at the graveside to lay his headstone. Later the same year, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge applied to the United Grand Lodge of England for recognition—which was granted in 1997.

Contrary to the trend in many parts of the world, the number of lodges in this jurisdiction seems to have been increasing in recent years, from 33 in 1988 to 49 in 1992, 60 at the beginning of 1997, and two more that year. This is partly explained by a growth in the number of military lodges in this jurisdiction, located in

England, Germany, Guam, Japan, Philippines and Turkey. Curiously, published membership numbers have stayed unchanged since 1992, at 2958.

This Grand Lodge chartered lodges in Alaska, and in 1969 approved the formation of those lodges into a separate Grand Lodge. Washington also has a lodge chartered in Canada, True Resolution Lodge #16, in New Westminster, British Columbia.

Special Notes for Visitors

At least one Prince Hall lodge now uses mainstream accommodation, Vancouver Lodge #47. A Prince Hall daylight lodge has recently been chartered, African Genesis #101, meeting at Oak Harbor. The *Masonic Community Monitor* is a quarterly newspaper with a nice mix of news, photos and educational pieces. Intervisiting between the two Washington jurisdictions is quite common, on lodge and Grand Lodge levels, but specific information is sparse.

C Other Grand Lodges

There is an organisation called Sons of Haiti Supreme Council, with headquarters in Seattle.

WISCONSIN

A The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin

Founded: 1843. *Descent:* New York, Missouri and Illinois.

Grand Lodge office: Grand Masonic Center, 36275 Sunset Drive, Dousman, WI 53118.

Telephone: 414 965 2200. Fax: 414 965 4211.

Email: (Grand Secretary) <georgea@internetwis.com>,

(Grand Lodge) <glwisc@Freemasonry.org>.

Website: <<http://userpages.itis.com/camelot6/grandlw/index.htm>>.

Annual Meeting: second Monday in June.

Lodges: 222. Membership: 22,141.

Ritual: *The pure work of M L Young* (Webb-form cipher).

Main publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Wisconsin Masonic Journal*.

History

The first lodge erected in Wisconsin was *Menominee Lodge #374*. It was chartered by the Grand Lodge of New York in 1824 for military personnel, but it subsequently expired. The second lodge in Wisconsin, and the oldest surviving, was *Mineral Point Lodge #49*, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri in 1842. It now heads the roll of lodges in Wisconsin. This was followed by *Melody Lodge #15*, chartered from Missouri in 1843, and *Milwaukee Lodge #22* (later Kilbourn Lodge), chartered from Illinois in the same year. These three latter lodges met in Convention in December 1843 and established the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.

Special Notes for Visitors

Wisconsin is a large, mainly rural state, possessing one substantial city, Milwaukee. Nonetheless, Wisconsin is far from being a small jurisdiction, and there are few towns in the state not possessing at least one lodge. There used to be at least seven German-speaking lodges in Wisconsin, but now there remains only one, Aurora #30 at Whitefish Bay. It works a 'Modified French Ritual' in German, and it has another distinction—it is the only Wisconsin lodge to regularly provide beer after the meeting.

The Silas H Shepherd Lodge of Research #1843 was formed in 1982. It usually meets quarterly on a Saturday, from 9 am to noon, but the dates and locations vary from year to year, usually being determined by the principal officers. The Secretary is David Hullinger, 542 North 115th Street, Wauwatosa, WI 53226, and other contacts are William F Milz <wfmilz@cybrzn.com> and Rick Gustafson <rgufstn@bratshb.uwc.edu>.

The Grand Lodge runs an excellent Masonic Home, located on a large site at Dousman, about 30 miles from Milwaukee. The Grand Lodge library is at the Grand Masonic Center, in Dousman.

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge, Inc, Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin

Founded: 1925. *Descent:* Illinois.

Grand East: 600 West Walnut Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212.

Telephone: 414 265 6555. Fax: 414 265 6994.

Annual Communication: third Monday in June.

Lodges: 11. Membership: 650.

C Other Grand Lodges

There are four other Grand bodies in Wisconsin: King Solomon Grand Lodge Inc; MW St Mark Grand Lodge AF&AM of Wisconsin, Inc; International Masons & OES; and a National Compact Grand Lodge.

WYOMING

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Wyoming

Founded: 1874. *Descent:* Colorado, Nebraska.

Grand Lodge office: Suite 200, 600 East First Street, Casper.

Postal address: PO Box 459, Casper, WY 82602.

Telephone: 307 234 2692. Fax: 307 234 7922.

Email: <wygs@Coffey.com>. Website: <<http://www.coffey.com/~wygs/>>.

Annual Meeting: second Monday in August.

Lodges: 50. Membership: 6500.

Ritual: Webb-form. Ritual Cipher: Yes.

Main publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitutions*.

Periodical: *Wyoming Mason*.

History

The first Masonic meeting in Wyoming took place in July 1862 at Independence Rock. This event is commemorated every ten years, when the Grand Lodge of Wyoming convenes a Special Communication at the site. The first lodge erected in Wyoming was *Cheyenne Lodge #16*, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Colorado in 1868. This was followed by *Wyoming Lodge #28*, chartered from Nebraska in 1870; *Laramie Lodge #18* and *Evanston Lodge #24*, both chartered from Colorado, in 1870 and 1874 respectively. These four lodges, all of which still exist, met in convention in December 1874 and constituted the Grand Lodge of Wyoming.

Special Notes for Visitors

Wyoming is a large northern state. It is rural based, and possesses no large cities. The largest population centers are Casper and Cheyenne, containing four lodges each. Consequently, Wyoming is one of the smaller mainstream Masonic jurisdictions in the United States. While it does not have a Masonic Home, it does possess a sizeable charity fund. Of particular interest to the visitor will be the Grand Lodge library and museum, situated at the Masonic building, 1820 Capital Avenue, Cheyenne.

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Colorado has two lodges in Wyoming, Western Star #6, meeting at 19th & Snyder Avenues, Cheyenne at 7 pm on first and third Tuesdays, and Zenith #25, meeting at 900 Grant Street, Caspar.

Section 2

CANADA

Canada possesses ten political divisions known as *Provinces*, with each having a Provincial Government similar to the *States* of the United States of America. Each Province has its own mainstream Grand Lodge, with the newest (Newfoundland and Labrador) formed only in 1997. The Masonic scene in Canada can, in a broad sense, be described as an amalgam of American and British practices and customs. In some Canadian jurisdictions, both Webb-type and English-type rituals are used.

Canada also has two Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation, the older being formed as early as 1856 and the younger as recently as 1997. There are also two lodges chartered by US Grand Lodges of Prince Hall Affiliation, although one is dormant.

Brief historical precis

The first settlers in Canada were the French. Quebec became a French colony in 1608, and remained so until 1763, when all of Canada became a British possession. The geo-political history of Canada is rather fluid, but suffice to say here that the several Provinces underwent various groupings, separations and regroupings. Canada became a Dominion in 1867, uniting Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. Other Provinces joined later. The first lodges in Canada emerged in 1738 in what is now Nova Scotia, and in 1759 in Quebec. Many of the earliest lodges were military. Warrants came from both New England and Britain. In 1855, a Grand Lodge of Canada was formed in Ontario, claiming jurisdiction over the whole of Canada, which at that time comprised Ontario and Quebec. After Canadian independence, and the progressive formation of other Provinces, other Grand Lodges were erected accordingly. The original Grand Lodge became the *Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario*.

The Canadian Work

A number of different craft ritual forms are used across Freemasonry in Canada. The ‘most indigenous’ (for want of a better description) is the *Canadian Work* (or *Canadian Ritual*). The following synopsis looks at the development of this ritual form, and locates it and other craft rituals used in Canada.

Before the American War of Independence, the only clear evidence of lodges in Upper Canada (the area now known as Ontario) is of two Irish military lodges and three civilian lodges (warranted by either the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York or of Quebec—both *Moderns*. The influx of loyalist settlers following the War of Independence brought more lodges to the settlements along the waterway which forms the southern boundary of modern Ontario. Six of these were chartered by the *Moderns* and two by the *Antients*.

The first Provincial Grand Lodge for Upper Canada was warranted by the English *Antients* Grand Lodge in 1792. It first met at Niagara in 1795, and many more lodges were erected during the next 25 years. The Canadian area also saw large scale Irish immigration in the first half of the 19th century, resulting in the formation of 16 Irish Constitution lodges. These lodges undoubtedly proved to be the catalyst for an independent Grand Lodge of Canada.

By and large, Masons arriving in Upper Canada brought their own ritual forms with them. Subsequently, attempts were made to *standardise* the work in lodges. In 1782, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec set up a committee *to look into and settle the best mode of working in order that uniformity may take place*. There is little evidence of an actual standardised ritual worked in lodges over the next 30 or 40 years, but in 1819 a *Grand Convention* met at Kingston, and appointed a *Grand Visitor* to ‘to visit the several lodges, at least twice in each year, to lecture on the different degrees of Masonry, agreeably to the constitution’.

Simon McGillivray, the most noteworthy Mason of early Canadian Masonic history, had attended the Lodge of Reconciliation in London in 1815, following the Union in England of the rival *Antients* and *Moderns* Grand Lodges. In 1822 he was appointed Provincial Grand Master of Upper Canada. He subsequently reported that the workings of lodges, in many cases, were substandard, mostly because of confusion wrought by immigrants from varying Masonic traditions unwittingly inflicting ritualistic confusion, together with the problem of no overall leadership from Masonic authority.

In 1824, the Provincial Grand Lodge of Montreal ‘decided to inquire into and report the most speedy and effectual mode of rendering uniform the work of the several lodges’. In the next year it announced that its members ‘feel it their duty to enforce uniformity of work in all the lodges within its jurisdiction’. Evidence unearthed in 1993 suggests that Simon McGillivray introduced a uniform ‘new’ ritual into Canada in 1825.

The exact form of the *McGillivray ritual* is not certain, though it was undoubtedly a version of the post-Union English ritual. McGillivray was certainly active in Masonry until 1825 and in office as Provincial Grand Master, albeit mostly *in absentia*, till his death in 1840. Thomas Gibbs Ridout, whose Masonic career would have commenced before or during Simon McGillivray’s term of office, was in very senior Masonic offices from 1845 until his death in 1861. Evidence suggests that Ridout, and some other senior Canadian Masons of the era, also had input into subsequent ritual development.

In July 1859, the Grand Lodge of Canada (formed in 1855) adopted the ‘English mode of work’, basically English ritual with slight modifications, which was doubtless the ritual already familiar to most of the Masons in the colony. This came to be called the *Canadian Work* (or *Canadian Ritual*). The Grand Lodge of Canada added ‘in the Province of Ontario’ after Ontario and Quebec became politically separated entities. The *Canadian Work* subsequently became relatively widespread across Canada as a whole. This diffusion owes its success to the fact that the *Canadian Work* was adopted by the Grand Lodge of Canada at the time when it was the only independent Grand Lodge in British North America.

The various rituals in use across mainstream Canada today can be listed as follows:

- ***American Work*** is used under various titles, namely Ancient York, Webb Work, Old Work, Irish Work, and even Scotch Work. It is used almost exclusively in the Maritime Provinces (New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and Prince Edward Island), in several lodges in southern Quebec near the Vermont border; in two lodges in Ontario (which call it *Irish Work*), in many lodges in Manitoba, in two lodges in Saskatchewan, in about 40% of lodges in Alberta, and in almost half the lodges in British Columbia.
- ***Canadian Work*** used in all Ontario lodges but two, in most Quebec lodges, in many lodges in Manitoba, in most lodges in Saskatchewan, in about 60% of the lodges in Alberta and in almost half the lodges in British Columbia.
- ***Scottish Work*** used in three old lodges in Quebec.
- ***French Work*** in various forms, used in several lodges in Quebec.
- ***Emulation Work*** used in twelve lodges in British Columbia.
- ***Australian Ritual*** (New South Wales origin), used by two lodges in Vancouver, British Columbia.

ALBERTA

A The Grand Lodge of Alberta, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1905. *Descent:* Manitoba.

Grand Lodge office: 330 12th Ave South West, Calgary, Alberta T2R OH2.

Telephone: 403 262 1149. Fax: 290 0671.

Website: <<http://www.connect.ab.ca/~ddgmnl/index.htm>>.

Annual Meeting: 1st Friday, June.

Lodges: 141. Membership: 9641.

Ritual: Canadian (English-type), and Ancient York (Webb-type).

Main Publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Grand Lodge Bulletin*.

History

The first lodge formed in Alberta was *Saskatchewan Lodge #17*, chartered by the Grand Lodge of Manitoba at Edmonton in 1882. It had expired by 1890. The oldest extant lodge in Alberta is *Bow River Lodge*, chartered as #28, at Calgary in 1884, by Manitoba. Shortly afterwards, this was followed by *Medicine Hat Lodge #31*, at Medicine Hat. Sixteen lodges met together in a convention of delegates in 1905, and established the Grand Lodge of Alberta. The Province of Alberta had been created in that year, formed by splitting off the Alberta territory from Manitoba.

Notes for Visitors

Alberta lodges are permitted to work either of two Craft rituals approved by the Grand Lodge. These are the Canadian ritual, and the Ancient York. The former is English-type derived subsequent to the English Union of 1813, while the latter is an American Webb-form ritual. As a result, meeting procedures vary between lodges. Lodges using the Ancient York ritual open in the third degree, as is usual Webb-form practice. Interestingly, the Alberta Constitution requires that all lodges conduct their regular business in the third degree. This has meant that lodges using the Canadian ritual must open in the first, second and third degrees for this purpose, regardless of which ceremony is to be conferred at any given meeting.

Dress for Alberta lodges varies from lodge to lodge. The minimum requirement is a dark business suit, but in many lodges officers will wear a dinner suit (tuxedo). Again, lodge after-proceedings vary, depending on the ritual form employed. In lodges using the Canadian ritual, it is usual for a toast list to be followed at a *formal* festive board following a meeting. Toasts will invariably include 'The Queen', 'The Grand Master and his Officers', and 'The Visitors'. At least one pre-warned visitor will be called upon to respond to a Visitor's Toast. After-proceedings in this form tend to comprise a substantial meal.

In lodges using the Ancient York ritual, the American practice of having a very light supper after a meeting is largely followed. Normally, no formal toast list is used. Nonetheless, regardless of which ritual form is employed, most Alberta lodges tend to prefer a substantial repast and full toast list following an Installation. While members are sometimes called upon to contribute to the costs of any substantial meal provided in association with a lodge meeting, it is unusual for a visitor to be asked to pay.

All Alberta lodges meet regularly on a monthly basis, although most recess in the months of June, July and August. It is also not uncommon for lodges to hold at least one 'Emergent Meeting' per month, particularly those lodges using the Ancient York working. Again, meeting times tend to vary between lodges, somewhat according to the ritual form used, but most convene at 7.30 pm (often 'city' lodges), or at 8 pm (often 'country' lodges). Unknown visitors should arrive early to complete the appropriate examination procedures, which will often include a *Tyler's Oath*. Despite the fact that two divergent ritual forms are approved, it appears that each has influenced the other somewhat. For example, a procedure employed in both openings includes the 'Purging of the Lodge' to collect certain modes of recognition. In addition, the proficiency tests for candidates in all lodges tend to be quite extensive, and compare more with American than English practices.

It is also not unusual for a charity collection to be taken inside the lodge, often during the closing ceremonies. The regalia used in Alberta lodges is quite similar to that of England, rather than to that of the United States. Indeed, the regalia used by Grand officers, in particular, is largely indistinguishable from the English.

The Grand Lodge of Alberta is basically an Elective Grand Lodge on the American Model, but nonetheless many of its Constitutional statutes strongly resemble those of England. Indeed, its two main administrative bodies are a Board of General Purposes, and a Board of Benevolence.

The Alberta jurisdiction is divided into fifteen Masonic districts. Each district is composed of between four and 12 Lodges. A District Deputy Grand Master (DDGM), a member of a lodge in the district, is the Grand Master's representative. Fiat Lux Lodge of Research #1980 has a travelling charter, so does not fall within a District *per se*, and reports to the Deputy Grand Master. Its number refers to its year of formation. It meets four times per year at variable locations within the Province and uses York ritual.

A second lodge of research is in the process of being formed at the time of going to press, to be called Aurora Borealis Lodge of Research #1999. Until granted a charter, it works as a club under dispensation. Its purpose is to research the Masonic history of the Peace River District and, using York ritual, will tyle at 8 pm on the fourth Saturday of March, May, September and November, in each of the four lodges in the district in turn. Dues will be Can\$15. Fiat Lux Lodge of Research has undertaken to publish the Peace River research papers.

For further details, contact D Daniel Drewe, 10032, 96 Avenue, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V 0M3; phone: (H)403 539 9892, (W)403 814 7656, (M)403 814 4248, Fax 403 814 7657, email <ddrewe@telusplanet.net>.

Alberta possesses two Masonic tourist attractions which will be of interest to the visitor. In the Heritage Park in Calgary is a replica of an old lodge room (prior to 1914), and a similar historical site has been erected in Edmonton, depicting a lodge from the earliest days of Alberta. Both attractions are open to the public.

List of lodges

The fairly large number of Alberta lodges precludes the possibility of providing full meeting details here. However, listed below are the lodges meeting in Alberta's two largest cities, Calgary (the Grand Lodge seat, with 21 lodges), and Edmonton (with 26 lodges). Outside of Calgary and Edmonton, there are few towns in Alberta that do not possess at least one lodge. Of the 143 lodges currently comprising the Grand Lodge of Alberta, about ninety work the Canadian ritual, while about 50 use the Ancient York working.

A calendar of Calgary and Edmonton lodge meetings follows, headed by the meeting locations for each city, preceded, for convenience here, by an alphabetical letter. The appropriate alphabetical letter next to each lodge title indicates its meeting place.

Calgary

- [a] Freemasons Hall, Calgary,
 - [b] St Marks Masonic Hall, Calgary,
 - [c] King George Masonic Hall, Calgary,
 - [d] Bowmount Masonic Hall, Calgary
- 2nd Monday St Mark's #118 [b], Renfrew #134 [a].
 3rd Monday Loyalty #197 [c].
 4th Monday Northmount #189 [c].
 1st Tuesday Mosaic #176 [c], Elbow River #180 [d].
 2nd Tuesday Mount Lebanon #54 [a], Crescent 87 [c].
 3rd Tuesday Perfection #9 [a].
 1st Wednesday Bow River #1 [a].
 2nd Wednesday Canada #165 [c], Jordon #177 [a], Kelvingrove #187 [d].
 1st Thursday Foothills #174 [d], Glenbow #184. [b], Zetland #83 [a].
 2nd Thursday Ashlar #28 [a].
 1st Friday Calgary #23 [a].
 2nd Friday King George #59 [c], Jubilee #173 [d].
 1st Saturday Concord #124 [a].

Edmonton

- [a] Freemasons' Hall, 10318, 100 Avenue, Edmonton.
- [b] Acacia Masonic Hall, Edmonton

[c] Highlands Masonic Hall, Edmonton

[d] McQueen Community Hall

1st Monday Empire #63 [a], Evergreen #166 [a].

2nd Monday Jasper #14 [a], Sherwood #183 [c].

3rd Monday Griesbach #191 [b].

1st Tuesday Norwood #90 [a], Eastgate #192 [a].

2nd Tuesday Edmonton #7 [a], Patricia #91 [a], Gateway #164 [b], Highlands #168 [c].

1st Wednesday Avon Glen #170 [b], Redwood #193 [c], West Edmonton #101 [a].

2nd Wednesday Dominion #117 [a], Mystic Tie #188 [a].

1st Thursday Unity #51 [b], Ivanhoe #142 [a], Centennial #194 [d], Exemplar #175 [a].

2nd Thursday Acacia #11 [b], Saskatchewan #92 [a].

2nd Friday Strathcona #77 [b], Temple #167 [a].

2nd Saturday Ye Olde Craft #196 [b].

3rd Saturday Commercial #81 [a].

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alberta

Founded: 1997. *Descent:* Minnesota.

Grand East: 3 Alder Cresswood, Sherwood Park, Alberta P8A-0K.

Telephone: 403 467 7066.

Lodges: 3. Membership: 90.

Ritual: Daggett's cipher.

History

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota established three lodges in Alberta, Pride of Alberta #9 and Mount Sinai #16 at Edmonton, and Perseverance #15 at Calgary. In June 1997 these three lodges met in convention and, with the approval of Minnesota, erected the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Alberta. They elected a Past Grand Master of Minnesota, MWBro Barry F Boyd, as Grand Master (address above). It was not until the annual conference of PHA Grand Masters in May 1998 that the formation of a new Grand Lodge was announced by Minnesota, and formal recognition granted on behalf of the 42 Grand Lodges present.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

A The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of British Columbia

Founded: 1871. *Descent:* England and Scotland.

Address: Freemason's Hall, 1495 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver V6H IC9.

Telephone: 1-604 736 8941.

Website: <<http://www.pacific-online.com/bc-Freemasonry/>>.

Annual Meeting in June.

Lodges 164. Membership: 16,200.

Ritual: Emulation, Canadian, Ancient, New South Wales.

Main Publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Periodical: *Masonic Bulletin*.

History

Prior to 1858, British Columbia remained almost devoid of white settlement. In that year, gold was discovered in the area and its population suddenly boomed as a consequence. A number of lodges quickly followed, variously holding either English or Scottish warrants. By 1871, England had four lodges in British Columbia, and Scotland possessed five. District Grand Lodges has previously been formed for both. In that year, all English and Scottish lodges united to form the Grand Lodge of British Columbia.

Initially, the development of the new Grand Lodge was slow. The fluid population of the area as a result of its mining industry was the main cause. Nonetheless, time saw expanding permanent settlements develop, and British Columbian Masonry established on a sound footing. Right from its foundation, the Grand Lodge

permitted its constituent lodges to work any regular Craft ritual they wished, rather than possibly prejudice the union of English and Scottish lodges then effected. This policy has seen Masonry in British Columbia employ a wider variety of ritual forms than any other mainstream North American jurisdiction.

Notes for Visitors

As has just been premised, lodges in British Columbia are largely free to use any regular ritual they choose. The three main rituals in use are the English Emulation working, the Ancient ritual (basically a Webb-type ritual), and the Canadian ritual. The last named is an English-type ritual originally emanating from Ontario, although the Canadian working has a number of Scottish features (see the historical description above). The Australian ritual is actually that of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales (Australia), which is itself an English-type ritual. Two lodges located at Vancouver (Southern Cross Lodge #44, and Commonwealth Lodge #156) use the 'Australian Ritual', and both were originally formed by expatriates from that country.

The standard dress in lodges in British Columbia is a dark business suit, although it is largely usual for Lodge Officers to wear a dinner suit (tuxedo). After-proceedings tend to vary from lodge to lodge, but generally a very simple supper is served, although a full meal more commonly follows an Installation Meeting. A toast list will sometimes accompany any after-proceedings, especially following Installation meetings. Toasts commonly used include 'The Queen', 'The Grand Master and Grand Lodge', 'The Visitors', and 'The Tyler's Toast'. A selected visitor is asked to respond to the 'Visitors' Toast', and a visitor from outside British Columbia can usually consider himself unlucky if he does not get the response. Visitors will not be charged for any repast they attend following a lodge meeting. Alcohol is permitted to be served in association with after-proceedings in British Columbia, although under strict rules laid down by the Grand Lodge. Indeed, unlike common American practice in this area, the limited consumption of alcohol following lodge meetings is largely permitted under most Canadian Grand Lodges. A majority of lodges have a bar attached to their dining facilities, and the vast majority of lodges at least serve wine for Toasts, although there are a few temperance lodges. It is the policy of the Grand Lodge that lodge funds not be used to subsidise a bar, so generally each member and visitor will be responsible for his own purchases in this regard.

The regalia used in British Columbia is quite similar to that employed in England and visitors are certainly welcome to wear their own. Interestingly, despite its British origins, the Grand Lodge of British Columbia is basically an Elective Grand Lodge, with its constitution being somewhat closer in nature to those of America, rather than to that of England. It possesses the large range of Grand Lodge committees common in American jurisdictions, and uses a 'Grand Lodge Line' system, by convention, for its highest officers.

List of lodges

Every unknown visitor can expect a Masonic examination, and so an early arrival is advised. Of all lodges, about 80 use the Canadian working, about 70 the Ancient working, and a dozen employ the Emulation ritual. Similar to usual American practice, the British Columbia jurisdiction is divided into Masonic districts (currently 27), each under a District Deputy Grand Master.

The Grand Lodge of British Columbia does not publish a *Directory of Lodges*, as is common to many English-speaking jurisdictions. However, a sheet entitled *The Trestle Board Directory* is regularly produced providing all meeting details for lodges in Vancouver and District. It is available at the Grand Lodge office within Freemasons' Hall, Vancouver. Indeed, this imposing building also houses a fine Grand Lodge library and museum which will be of interest to visitors. All 31 lodges currently meeting in central Vancouver at Freemasons' Hall are listed below by meeting days. Most lodges in British Columbia open at 7.30 pm, and most recess in July and August.

Vancouver

Meeting at Freemason's Hall, 1495 West 8th Avenue, Vancouver. Installation meeting noted in brackets. Ritual used in each lodge noted as follows: [A] = Ancient Ritual, [C] = Canadian Ritual, [E] = Emulation Ritual, and [Aust] = New South Wales Ritual.

1st Monday	Maple Leaf #74 (Inst: November [A])
1st Tuesday	Mount Hermon #13 (Inst: November [A]); Zion #77 (Inst: November [C])
1st Wednesday	Trinity #98 (Inst: September [C]); Mosaic & Crown #162 (Inst: December [A])
1st Thursday	Acacia #22 (Inst: December [A]); Grandview #96 (Inst: March [C]); Emerald #134 (Inst: October [A])

2nd Monday	Park #63 (Inst: December [A]); University #91 (Inst: November [A]); Fellowship #137 (Inst: September [C])
2nd Tuesday	Kerrisdale #117 (Inst: October [C]); Evergreen #148 (Inst: September [C])
2nd Wednesday	Melrose #67 (Inst: June [A]); Composite #76 (Inst: September [C]); Burnaby #150 (Inst: September [C]); Alliance #193 (Inst: April [C])
2nd Thursday	Vancouver #68 (Inst: January [A]); Mount Lebanon #72 (Inst: December [A]); Unity #106 (Inst: November [C]); Keystone-Loin's Gate #115 (Inst: October [E]); Adoniram #118 (Inst: October [E]); Dunbar #145 (Inst: September [C])
2nd Friday	Southern Cross #44 (Inst: September [Aust])
2nd Saturday	Meridian #108 (Inst: September [C])
3rd Monday	Cascade #12 (Inst: December [C])
3rd Tuesday	Commonwealth #156 (Inst: September [Aust])
3rd Wednesday	Mount Moriah #82 (Inst: December [A]); Prince of Wales #100 (Inst: September [E])
4th Tuesday	Progress #87 (Inst: October [A]); Caledonia #136 (Inst: April [A])

Research lodges

Until recently, there were three lodges of 'education and research' in British Columbia, but now the number has been reduced to two.

Vancouver Lodge of Education and Research is not a warranted lodge, but operates under annual licence from the Grand Master. It meets eight times per year at Marpole Hall, 8486 Granville Street, Vancouver, at 8 pm on the third Friday of January–May and September–November. The lodge has only five officers—Master, Wardens, Secretary and Treasurer—and all five are required to be Past Masters of another lodge. The small number of officers does not present any problems for opening and closing the lodge because the Master arranges for a guest lodge to perform these ceremonies. With a large number of lodges in the area, and four different rituals in use, this is itself a source of education. The lodge also features a 'Grand Masonic Day' each October, which begins with a breakfast, has several concurrent one-hour sessions in the morning, and a plenary session after lunch. It also participates in the combined jurisdictions meetings organised by Washington's Walter F Meier Lodge of Research. Email contact is George W Eaton <gwe@unixg.ubc.ca>.

Victoria Lodge of Education and Research operates Under Dispensation. It meets on the third Tuesday of September, October, November, February, March and April, and participates in the combined jurisdictions meetings. Email contacts: Douglas M Greer <dmgreer@island.net>, Art Scott <scotta@direct.ca> and George Skelton <gskelton@AMPSC.COM>.

When Mid Island Lodge of Education and Research was wound up in 1997, the remaining members were invited to transfer to the Victoria Lodge of Education and Research.

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Washington chartered two lodges in British Columbia, but only one has survived. True Resolution Lodge #16, chartered in 1920, is now a daylight lodge, meeting at 1 pm on the first Saturday of each month (including July and August) at the Park Lodge Hall, 4474 Rupert Street, Vancouver. The Secretary is Clarence Garraway, phone 604 589 1705, email <cgavincy@hotmail.com>.

MANITOBA

A The Grand Lodge of Manitoba, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1875. *Descent:* Ontario.

Address: Masonic Memorial Temple, 420 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg.

Telephone: 1-204 453 7410. Fax: 284 3527.

Email: <glsec@grandlodge.mb.ca>.

Website: <<http://www.cyberspc.mb.ca/~bobgalbr/fm4.html>>.

Annual Meeting: 1st Friday & Saturday, June.

Lodges: 72. Membership: 5695.

Ritual: Canadian, Ancient York.

Main Publications: *Constitutions*, *Annual Proceedings*.

History

Originally, Manitoba included all of Western Canada, except British Columbia. The initial lodge in the area was chartered at Fort Garry (now Winnipeg) by the Grand Lodge of Minnesota in 1864, but it soon expired. The first permanent lodge in Manitoba was formed under a warrant from Ontario. This was *Prince Rupert Lodge #240*, established at Winnipeg in 1871. This lodge is now #1 in the Manitoba *Directory of Lodges*. Two further Ontario lodges followed, and in 1875 these three lodges sent representatives to a Convention and formed the Grand Lodge of Manitoba. Upon the erection of the Province of Alberta in 1905, 18 lodges in that territory split off to form a new Grand Lodge. Similarly, in 1906, upon the formation of the Province of Saskatchewan, 29 lodges in that area followed the Alberta example.

Notes for Visitors

Manitoba lodges are permitted to choose between two official rituals. By far the most popular is the Canadian Working, the *English-type ritual* derived from Ontario (described above). Ten Manitoba lodges, however, work an Ancient York ritual, often referred to locally simply as the *American Work*. It is, as noted earlier, a Webb-form ritual.

The dress employed in all Manitoba lodges is a dark business suit, with officers in many lodges attending in a black dinner suit (tuxedo). As with the other Canadian jurisdictions already reviewed, the regalia employed in Manitoba closely resembles English types. Visitors are certainly welcome to wear their own regalia when attending a Manitoba lodge meeting. All lodges meet at least on a monthly basis, although most recess months of June, July and August. After-proceedings in Manitoba largely consist of a light supper, sometimes incorporated with a short toast list. On Installation nights, after-proceedings tend to comprise of a more substantial meal, as a rule. Alcohol is often available. Visitors are not required to contribute to the costs of any supper or meal they might attend.

Most Manitoba lodges convene at a time between 7.30 pm and 8 pm, and prior examinations for unknown visitors tend to be quite thorough. An early arrival is therefore advised. Of the 72 lodges in Manitoba, 33 meet at Winnipeg. Again, Manitoba uses a District system largely on the American model, headed by District Deputy Grand Masters. Indeed, the structure of the Grand Lodge compares strongly to those of the United States, with all senior Grand Lodge offices being elective. Nonetheless, while using an expansive American-type committee system, Manitoba still employs a Board of General Purposes, which is formed and operates in an analogous way to that of England.

List of lodges

Manitoba possesses only one large city, namely Winnipeg. The Masonic Memorial Temple in that city has contains the Grand Lodge office, several temples, plus an excellent Grand Lodge library. The meeting details of all 33 lodges in Winnipeg are noted below. Meeting details for other lodges in Manitoba can be readily obtained in at the Grand Lodge office.

Winnipeg

All Winnipeg lodges recess in June, July and August, with one exception, as noted below. All lodges use the Canadian Ritual, except those marked (*), which use the Ancient York Ritual. There are seven temples in the city. The temple applicable to each and meeting time follows each listing.

- (1) Masonic Memorial Temple, 420 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg
 - (2) East Kildonan Masonic Temple, 205 Kimberly Avenue, Winnipeg
 - (3) Sturgeon Creek Masonic Hall, 2746 Ness Avenue, Winnipeg
 - (4) Transcona Legion Hall, 117 Regent Avenue East, Winnipeg
 - (5) Empire Masonic Hall, 1575 Alexander Avenue, Winnipeg
 - (6) Windsor Masonic Temple, 596 St Mary's Road, Winnipeg
 - (7) Masonic Hall, 4289 Ridgewood Avenue, Winnipeg
- (a) meets at 7.30 pm. (b) meets at 7.45 pm. (c) meets at 8 pm
- 1st Monday Ionic #3 (1, c); Transcona #123 (4, a); Sturgeon Creek #145 (3, b); William Douglas #176 (1, c)
- 1st Tuesday The Assiniboine #114 (1, b); The Dormer #151 (2, c); Three Pillars #169 (6, b)
- 1st Wednesday St John's #4 (1, c, *); King Edward #93 (2, a); Lord Selkirk #137 (6, c); Beaver #139 (1, b); Corthinian #178 (1, c)
- 1st Thursday Norwood #119 (1, b);
- 1st Friday Capitol #136 (6, b); Fidelity #146 (1, b); The of Renewal #181 (5, b), except June, July, Aug, & Sept, then 2nd Wed, Recess: December & January

2nd Monday	Empire #127 (5, b); Windsor #138 (6, b, except 1st Monday, Oct.); Charleswood #163 (7, c); Gateway #171 (1, a)
2nd Tuesday	2nd Tuesday Kildonan #131 (2, c); Cornerstone #179 (3, c); Seven Stars #180 (3, c)
2nd Wednesday	Acacia #111 (2, c, *); St James #121 (3, a); Fort Garry #130 (1, b); Friendship #165 (1, c); Menorah #167 (1, b)
3rd Monday	Ancient Landmark #3 (1, c, *); Red River #172 (2, c)
3rd Tuesday	Northern Lights Prince Rupert #1 (1, c);
3rd Thursday	Meridian #140 (1, c)
4th Tuesday	Mount Sinai #143 (1, b).

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Minnesota chartered Regent Lodge #5 in 1914 to meet at Winnipeg. Sadly, by 1998 this lodge had been reduced to three members, and no longer meets.

NEW BRUNSWICK

The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of New Brunswick

Founded: 1867. *Descent:* Nova Scotia, New York and England.

Address: Masonic Temple, 92 Germain Street, Saint John, New Brunswick.

Postal Address: P O Box 6430, Sta. 'A', Saint John, E2L 4R8.

Telephone: 1-506 652 2390.

Email: <Masonic@nbnet.nb.ca>

Annual Meeting: 2nd Friday, May.

Lodges: 51. Membership: 6770.

Ritual: Ancient York (Webb-form).

Main Publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

History

The first lodge erected in New Brunswick was *St George's Lodge #2*, warranted as a military lodge by the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York in 1783. This lodge subsequently became stationary, but still continued to meet under its original warrant until 1788, when the Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia granted it a new charter. A second lodge was chartered from Nova Scotia at St John in 1784. In 1789, the *Moderns* Grand Lodge of England warranted *New Brunswick Lodge #541*, at Fredericton, and this was the only lodge in New Brunswick to receive a warrant from that source. The source of further charters was Nova Scotia, but it was not until 1867 that the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was established. This was achieved at a Convention of 19 lodges in that year.

Notes for Visitors

New Brunswick is a relatively small Grand Lodge. Unlike most other Canadian Grand Lodges, the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick has only one official ritual for its lodges. This is the Ancient York working, inherited from Nova Scotia. It is a Webb-form American ritual. Not surprisingly, Masonry in New Brunswick is far more comparable to the United States than to England. Its Grand Lodge is elective, and its Constitution reflects its American heritage. A District system on the American model is used. New Brunswick currently possesses seven Districts, each headed by a District Deputy Grand Master.

Most lodges in New Brunswick meet at 7.30 pm, invariably holding a regular meeting each month, except in June and July. 'Emergent' meetings are sometimes held between regular meetings. Dress is a dark business suit, although lodge officers and Grand Lodge officers usually attend meetings in a black dinner suit (tuxedo). Regalia, in common with other Canadian jurisdictions, compares strongly with that of England, rather than with that of America.

Lodge after-proceedings in New Brunswick usually consist of a light supper. A toast list is sometimes used, following regular meetings, but this practice is far more common in association with a night of Installation. Again, visitors will not often be required to contribute to any repast attended by them.

List of lodges

Of New Brunswick's 51 lodges, seven meet in Saint John (listed below), the largest population centre of the Province. Virtually every town in New Brunswick possesses at least one lodge.

All seven lodges meeting in Saint John convene at the Masonic Temple, 92 Germain Street, Saint John, except Carleton Union Lodge, which meets at the Masonic Temple, 270 Charlotte St, Saint John West. All recess for the months of July and August.

St Martin's Lodge #30	4th Monday, monthly
St John's Lodge #2	1st Tuesday, monthly
Hibernia Lodge #3	2nd Tuesday, monthly
Union Lodge of Portland #10	3rd Tuesday, monthly
Albion Lodge #1	3rd Wednesday, monthly
Carleton Union Lodge #8	1st Thursday, monthly
New Brunswick Lodge #22	2nd Thursday, monthly.

The meeting details of other New Brunswick lodges can be readily gained at the Grand Lodge office located in the Masonic temple at Saint John.

NEWFOUNDLAND**A The Grand Lodge of Newfoundland & Labrador**

Founded: 1997. *Descent:* England & Scotland.

Postal Address: P O Box 23018, St John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1B 4J9.

Telephone/fax: 709 754 6520.

Email: <glnfld@nf.sympatico.ca>.

Website: <<http://www.newcomm.net/Masonic>>.

Lodges: 32.

History

Newfoundland possesses the newest mainstream Grand Lodge in North America (at time of going to press), having been founded in late 1997. Previously, all lodges working in Newfoundland operated under English or Scottish warrants.

The first point to appreciate about Newfoundland is that it did not become a Province of Canada until 1949. The political history of the area has been turbulent, although such a study is outside the scope of the text provided here. The first lodge erected in Newfoundland was *St John's Lodge #186* warranted by the *Antients* Grand Lodge of England in 1774. It had expired by 1832. Several further lodges were formed in the area either under the *Antients* or the *Moderns*, but by the time of the English Masonic union in 1813, only two lodges remained. These were *St John's #186*, and *Benevolent #247*, and, ultimately, even these did not survive. The oldest English lodge now working in Newfoundland is *St John's Lodge #1* (until recently #579 EC), dating from 1850.

The premier Scottish lodge in Newfoundland is *Lodge Tasker #454*, established at St John's in 1866. An English District Grand Lodge was formed for Newfoundland in 1871, and this was followed by one for the Scottish lodges. The earliest moves to establish an independent Grand Lodge occurred in 1876, which at that time met with opposition within the area, as well as from the United Grand Lodge of England. Intermittently, further attempts were made, with success finally achieved in late 1997.

Upon the formation of the Grand Lodge of Newfoundland and Labrador, all English-chartered lodges voted to join the new Grand Lodge. However, only five Scottish lodges followed suit, with the remaining eleven Scottish lodges resolving, at least for the present, to remain under Edinburgh.

Notes for Visitors

The practices and customs of lodges in Newfoundland stem directly from those of England and Scotland, and therefore it is unnecessary to become involved in a copious repetition here. Most towns in Newfoundland and sparsely-populated Labrador possess at least one lodge, with the capital city of St John's accounting for eight of the Province's 43 lodges.

List of lodges

The five Newfoundland lodges and three Scottish lodges detailed below meet at the Masonic Temple, Cathedral Street, St John's. Newfoundland (former English) lodges tend to meet at 7.30 pm, while Scottish Lodges usually commence at 8 pm.

St John's Lodge #1	Meets 2nd Wednesday monthly (except July and August). Installation: January.
Avalon Lodge #2	Meets 2nd Thursday monthly (except July, August, and November). Installation: 1st Tuesday, November.
Whiteway Lodge #8	Meets 2nd Monday monthly (except July and August). Installation: April.
St George's Lodge #15	Meets 1st Monday monthly (except July and August). Installation: 1st Tuesday, April.
Neptune Lodge #22	Meets 3rd Wednesday monthly (except January, July, August, and January), & 4th Wednesday, January. Installation: Friday before 3rd Wednesday, February.
First Colony Installed Masters Lodge #29	Meets 2nd Tuesday, February, May, September and November. Installation: November.

B District Grand Lodge of Newfoundland, SC

Address: District Grand Secretary, P O Box 494, Mount Pearl, Newfoundland A1N 2W4.

Lodges: 11.

List of lodges

For historical and visiting notes, see (A) above. The following Scottish lodges meet at the Masonic Temple, Cathedral Street, St John's:

Lodge Tasker #454	Meets 3rd Thursday monthly (except July and August).
Lodge St Andrew #1139	Meets 4th Monday monthly (except June, July and August).
Lodge Newfoundland Kilwinning #1754	Meets 4th Tuesday, monthly (except June, July and August).

NORTH WEST TERRITORIES

This sparsely populated sub-polar area of Canada does not have a Grand Lodge, but it does possess one lodge meeting at Yellowknife, under warrant from the Grand Lodge of Alberta. This is Yellowknife Lodge #162. It meets at the Masonic Temple, Yellowknife, North West Territories, 1st Monday monthly, except June, July and August.

NOVA SCOTIA**The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Nova Scotia**

Founded: 1866. Descent: England and Scotland.

Address. Freemasons' Hall, 1533 Barrington Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Postal Address: P O Box 214, Halifax, B3J 2M4.

Telephone: 1-902 423 6149, Fax: 423 6254.

Email: <GLNS@ra.isisnet.com>.

Annual Meeting: 1st Friday, June.

Lodges: 114. Membership: 7896.

Ritual: Antient York, Emulation.

Main Publications: *Constitution*,. *Annual Proceedings*.

History

There are records of Masonic activity in Nova Scotia as early as June 1738, when a dispensation was issued by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts for the erection of a lodge. This lodge would appear to have been military. The first stationary lodge in Nova Scotia was *First Lodge*, which received a *Moderns*

warrant about 1750. It subsequently turned *Antients*, and it received a charter as an *Antients* Provincial Grand Lodge in 1757. Today, this lodge is St Andrew's Lodge, #1 on Nova Scotia roll of lodges.

Up until 1866, both England (*Antients*) and Scotland warranted a number of lodges in Nova Scotia, many of them having a chequered history. In 1866, most lodges in Nova Scotia united to form a new Grand Lodge, although many English lodges stood out until 1869. One English lodge has survived in Nova Scotia. This is Royal Standard Lodge #398 EC, working at Halifax. It dates from 1815 and in combination with two other EC lodges remaining in Canada (both in Quebec) forms the English *Grand Inspectorate of Montreal and Halifax*.

Notes for Visitors

Virtually all lodges in Nova Scotia work its Ancient York ritual, which is most analogous to the Webb-form rituals of the United States (being largely the Ancients pre-1813 English Union working). Nonetheless, the Constitution of the Grand Lodge does permit lodges originally working the English Emulation ritual to continue using it.

The dress for lodges in Nova Scotia is a black dinner suit (tuxedo), but a dark business suit is a permitted alternative. Lodge after-proceedings are quite comparable to those of the United States, and generally consist of a very light meal. Toasts are only rarely proposed at regular meetings, although brief speeches are sometimes employed. A toast list is, however sometimes used at a repast following an Installation meeting. All Nova Scotia lodges meet on a monthly basis, although most recess in the months of July and August. Largely, meetings commence at 7.30 pm. In addition, it is not uncommon for lodges to hold *emergent* meetings. The private business of a lodge is always dealt with in the third degree at a regular meeting. *Emergent* meetings are usually called for extra degree conferments. It should also be noted that the use of alcohol at any Masonic function in Nova Scotia is prohibited by Grand Lodge statute. As with most other Canadian Grand Lodges, the regalia used in Nova Scotia approximates English types. Again, visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia at a lodge meeting in Nova Scotia.

The Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia is quite comparable to those of the United States. It is an Elective Grand Lodge, makes extensive use of a Grand Lodge committee system, and divides its jurisdiction into Masonic districts headed by District Deputy Grand Masters. Nova Scotia is the only Canadian jurisdiction possessing a Masonic home for the elderly. The Nova Scotia Freemasons' Home is located at Windsor, about 5 miles from Halifax. Dating from 1908, the Nova Scotia Home has a current capacity of 60, and in recent years the majority of residents have been women. Quite naturally, it is heavily supported by the body of Nova Scotia Freemasonry. Visitors are welcome to inspect the home, for which purpose application can be made at the Grand Lodge office in Halifax.

List of lodges

Of Nova Scotia's current list of 114 lodges, 15 meet at Halifax. Details of all lodge meetings in Nova Scotia are obtainable upon personal application at Freemasons' Hall, Halifax.

Indeed, Freemasons' Hall will be of interest to visitors. It is over 100 years old, and well worth inspecting. Details of the Halifax lodges under Nova Scotia and meeting within it, are as follows:

St Andrew's Lodge #1	Meets 1st Tuesday monthly.
St John's Lodge #2	Meets 1st Monday monthly (except July and August).
Virgin Lodge #3	Meets 4th Monday monthly (except July and August).
Royal Sussex Lodge #6	Meets 1st Thursday monthly (except July and August).
Burns Lodge #10	Meets 1st Wednesday monthly (except July, August).
Acadia Lodge #14	Meets 2nd Monday monthly (except July and August).
Keith Lodge #7	Meets 1st Monday monthly (except July and August).
The Lodge of Saint Mark #38	Meets 2nd Friday monthly (except July and August).
Composite Lodge #105	Meets 4th Saturday monthly (except July, August and December), and 3rd Thursday in December.
Equity Lodge #106	Meets 3rd Monday monthly (except August).
University Lodge #110	Meets 3rd Tuesday monthly (except June, July, August).
Whistle Ensign Lodge #129	Meets 3rd Wednesday monthly (except July, August).
Ad Astra Lodge #130	Meets 4th Wednesday monthly (except July and August).

Of special interest to visitors will be the sole remaining English lodge in Nova Scotia, Royal Standard Lodge #398 EC (Postal Address: P O Box 942. Halifax). It meets at Freemasons' Hall, Halifax; on the second Tuesday (except July and August); Installation in May.

ONTARIO

A The Grand Lodge, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario

Founded: 1855. *Descent:* England, Quebec, New York.

Address: 363 King Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8P 1B4.

Telephone: 905 528 8644.

Website: <<http://www.grandlodge.on.ca>>.

Annual Meeting: 3rd Wednesday, July.

Lodges: 641. Membership: 71,799.

Ritual: Canadian.

Main Publications: Constitution, Proceedings, *Ontario Masonic Blue Book* (Directory of Lodges).

Periodical: *Ontario Mason*.

History

Ontario probably has the most confused history of any Canadian jurisdiction. Ontario first became the object of white settlement in the 1760s and 1770s. By 1790, ten lodges were operating in the territory. Of these, five held English warrants, three held charters from the Provincial Grand Lodge of Quebec (*Antients*), while one owed allegiance to the Provincial Grand Lodge of New York (*Antients*). Soon afterwards the division of Upper Canada and Lower Canada occurred, and this resulted in a good deal of territorial acrimony between lodges in both areas. Political conditions in both areas were less than satisfactory and in 1841 England reunited both territories. In 1843, a convention of lodges formed the Grand Lodge of Canada West. Continuing Masonic difficulties occurred with England, and in the territories. Finally, a Grand Lodge of Canada was formed in 1855, uniting most lodges in both Upper and Lower Canada.

It must be appreciated that this area then covered Ontario and Manitoba, and from 1858, Quebec. When the Grand Lodge was formed in 1855, it consisted of thirty lodges. Twenty-one were in Canada West (Ontario) and nine in Canada East (Quebec). A dispensation was issued to a lodge in Manitoba in 1870, as the 'great Northwest' was unoccupied from a Masonic viewpoint until 1875. The Dominion of Canada was created in 1867 and the Grand Lodge of Quebec was formed in 1869, with lodges in Manitoba going their own way in 1875. The Grand Lodge of Canada now only controlled lodges in Ontario, and it therefore changed its name to the Grand Lodge of Canada in the Province of Ontario, in 1888.

Notes for Visitors

Ontario possesses by far the largest Masonic jurisdiction in Canada, and one of the largest in North America. The prescribed ritual for Ontario is the Canadian work which, as has previously been alluded to, is reasonably similar to present day English-type ritual. As with most other Canadian jurisdictions, Ontario prints its ritual in plain English for sale to qualified members.

The usual dress for lodges in Ontario is a dark business suit or a black dinner suit (tuxedo) with the latter favoured by lodge officers and Grand Lodge officers for the most part. Again, Ontario regalia resembles English types. Visitors are welcome to attend any lodge meeting, and wear their own personal regalia if they have it with them. After-proceedings in Ontario lodges largely tend to be informal, and consist of a light supper. A toast list is often only employed on special occasions, such as at the festive board following a Night of Installation. Nonetheless, speeches are not uncommon, and visitors are often given an opportunity to speak. Visitors are never expected to contribute to the costs associated with any repast at an Ontario lodge.

All Ontario lodges meet on a monthly basis, usually about 7.30 pm. The large majority of lodges conduct their Installation meetings on or near the Festival (Feast Day) of St John the Evangelist, which in effect means at a meeting between October and March. The minority install on or near the Festival of St John the Baptist, in effect, at a meeting between April and September. The largest cities in Ontario also possess a few daylight lodges which tend to meet in the morning.

While the Grand Lodge of Canada in Ontario is basically an 'Elective Grand Lodge' on the American model, its Constitution possesses a number of English influences. Typical American forms include delegates

to Grand Lodge from lodges, the use of many Grand Lodge Committees, and an extensive District system under District Deputy Grand Masters. Currently, Ontario is divided into 43 Masonic Districts. English influences include the use of a large Board of General Purposes with nearly 100 members.

A CASE STUDY—WORKINGS IN ONTARIO

The Layout of the Lodge

The centre of the lodge room contains an altar with the three great lights upon it and the three lesser lights around it, in the South, North West and North East. A tassel hangs in each corner of the ceiling, a little distance out from the walls. On the walls near the Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Chaplain (who sits in the North at a pedestal opposite the Junior Warden) are respectively the first, second and third Tracing Boards uncovered and permanently displayed, whilst in the South East is a 'real' tracing board, on a trestle and bearing rudimentary diagrams. In some Ontario lodge rooms the pedestals in front of the wardens and the Master are, respectively short Ionic, Doric and Corinthian columns which are used as tables.

The Junior Deacon and Junior Steward sit to the right and left of the Senior Warden. The Senior Steward is located in the South East corner where he looks after the working tools and the Tracing Board. The Senior Deacon is placed in the North East. The District Deputy Grand Master, if present, sits on the left of the Master, with the Immediate Past Master to the Master's right. The Director of Ceremonies may also be seated to the right of the Master. On the floor in the East are the two Ashlars, the *perfect* to the South and the *rough* to the North of the Master.

Visiting

Visitors are not usually admitted until after the lodge is opened. The ritual employed is not dissimilar from usual English-type workings, except that the Master remains seated and all the answers to his questions are given alternately by the two Wardens. The lesser lights are lit in order by the Junior Warden, Senior Warden and Master. Behind the Junior Warden is a light representing the sun, behind the Senior Warden is a crescent or moon shape, and behind the Master is a square at 90°.

In terms of proficiency requirements in each degree, the visitor will note that, in addition to the normal questions, the candidate is required to recite his obligation.

List of lodges

Ontario possesses a number of substantial population centres, of which the largest are Toronto (with 62 lodges in its main five temples), Ottawa (the Canadian capital, with 16 lodges), and Hamilton (the Grand Lodge seat, with 19 lodges). Visitors to Ontario are best advised to call at the main temple in one of these cities, where full assistance can be obtained. The largest temple in Toronto is located at 1100 Millwood Road, Toronto (phone: 416 425 0174), while Ottawa's main temple is at 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa (phone: 613 521 8636). The address of the Grand Lodge building in Hamilton is provided above. The details of other lodges in Ontario can be readily obtained at these locations. Listed below are the meeting details of lodges located in the main metropolitan temples in each of these three cities.

Hamilton

- (a) Masonic Temple, 908–918 Main Street East, Hamilton
- (b) Masonic Temple, 257 Mohawk Road West, Hamilton
- (c) Masonic Temple, 546 Concession Street, Hamilton
- 1st Monday Dundurn #475 (a)
- 1st Wednesday Ionic #549 (a)
- 1st Thursday Buchanan #550 (b), Tuscan #551 (a)
- 2nd Monday Hamilton #562 (a), Hillcrest #594 (c)
- 2nd Tuesday Temple #324 (a)
- 2nd Wednesday Barton #6 (a)
- 2nd Friday Acacia #61 (a)
- 3rd Monday Doric #382 (a)
- 3rd Tuesday Hugh Murray #602 (a), Centennial Daylight #679 (a)
- 3rd Wednesday Electric #495 (a), Composite #667 (c)
- 3rd Thursday St John's #40 (a)
- 4th Monday Wardrope #555 (a)
- 4th Tuesday Ancient Landmarks #654 (a), Westmount #671 (b)
- 4th Wednesday St Andrew's #593 (a)
- 4th Thursday Corinthian #513 (a)

Ottawa

- (a) Masonic Temple, 432 Churchill Avenue, Westboro, Ottawa
- (b) Masonic Temple, 2140 Walkley Road, Ottawa
- 1st Tuesday Dalhousie #52 (b), Temple #665 (a)
- 1st Wednesday Defenders #590 (b), Edinburgh #736 (a)
- 1st Thursday St Andrews' #560 (b)
- 1st Friday Ashlar #564 (b)
- 2nd Tuesday Civil Service #148 (b)
- 2nd Wednesday Ionic #525 (a), Sydney Albert Luke #558 (b)
- 2nd Thursday Rideau #595 (b)
- 2nd Friday The Builders #177 (b)
- 3rd Tuesday Acacia #561 (a), of Fidelity #231 (b)
- 3rd Wednesday Luxor Daylight #741 (b)
- 3rd Thursday Bytown #721 (a), Doric #58 (b)
- 4th Tuesday Chaudiere #264 (b)
- 4th Friday Prince of Wales #371 (b)

Toronto

Listed below are the lodges meeting in the major Masonic temples in Toronto (there are others):

- (a) East Toronto Masonic Temple, 15 Chisholm Avenue, Toronto
- (b) York Masonic Temple, 1100 Millwood Road, Toronto
- (c) West Toronto Masonic Temple, 151 Annette Street, Toronto
- (d) Scarborough Masonic Temple, 2201 Ellesmere Road, Scarborough, Toronto
- (e) Connaught Masonic Hall, 23 Superior Avenue, Toronto
- 1st Monday Mimosa #576 (a), Fairbank #592 (b)
- 1st Tuesday Occident #346 (b)
- 1st Wednesday Ionic #25 (b), Orient #339 (b), Queen City #552 (a)
- 1st Thursday Alpha #384 (a), Huron-Bruce #611 (b), Dentonia #634 (a)
- 1st Friday St George #367 (b), King Hiram #566 (c)
- 2nd Monday St Andrew #16 (b), York #156 (b)
- 2nd Tuesday Progress #711 (a)
- 2nd Wednesday University #496 (c), Metropolitan #542 (b), Imperial-Eastgate #543 (d), Runnymede #619 (c), Harry L Martyn #676 (b)
- 2nd Thursday Todmorden #647 (a)
- 2nd Friday Riverdale #494 (a), General Mercer #548 (c)
- 3rd Monday Zetland #326 (b), Acacia #430 (a), Caledonia #637 (b)
- 3rd Tuesday Wilson #86 (b), Victoria #474 (c), John Ross Robertson #545 (a), Long Branch #632 (e)
- 3rd Wednesday Fidelity #575 (c), Harcourt #581 (b), Cathedral #643 (a)
- 3rd Thursday Zeta #410 (b)
- 3rd Friday Tuscan #541(a), Kilwinning #565 (c)
- 4th Monday Ulster #537 (b), Transportation #583 (a)
- 4th Tuesday Shamrock #533 (b), Antiquity #571 (a)
- 4th Thursday The Victory #547 (b)
- 4th Friday Georgina #343 (b), Prince of Wales #630 (c)

Research lodges

Heritage Lodge #730 was formed in 1977 for research purposes and to establish and maintain a Masonic museum. It does no degree work, and all members are required to maintain membership of another lodge. Of its four regular meetings each year, two are held in the Preston–Hespeler Masonic Temple, 1 Groh Avenue, Cambridge (September and November) for elections and Installation, while the other two (March and May) are as guests of a ‘host’ lodge. The annual Heritage Banquet is held in January, and features a prominent speaker. In addition to publishing its annual *Transactions*, this lodge has reprinted the papers of the defunct Canadian Masonic Research Association, established a Grand Lodge Library and Museum at Hamilton, and restored a pre-Confederation lodge building as one of the highlights at Black Creek Pioneer Village. Other achievements may be viewed on the Internet at <<http://www.grandlodge.on.ca/heritage.htm>>. Out-of-Province Masons may become Corresponding Subscribers, dues Can\$25. Further information is available from Jack Pos, 10 Mayfield Avenue, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2L8, email <posj@sentex.net>.

Ontario has three chapters of the Philalethes Society (website <<http://Freemasonry.org/psoc>>, email <nking@Freemasonry.org>), as follows (contacts in parentheses):

John Ross Robertson Chapter (William Minors, 73 Greenbeck Drive, Scarborough, Ontario M1V 2H5);

Lux Quaro Chapter (James A Finch, 103 Connaught Avenue, London, Ontario N5Y 3A5); and Dr George T Kennedy Chapter (R D Paddon, 25 Phillip Street, St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 1W5).

B Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Ontario and Jurisdiction

Founded: 1856. *Descent:* New Jersey, New York & Michigan.

Grand East: 116 Leyton Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario M1L 3V2.

Telephone: 416 698 8500.

E-mail: AGSec/CCFC <clayt@mnsi.net>.

Annual Communication: second Monday in August.

Lodges: 15. Membership: 500.

Main Publications: *Prince Hall Masonry in Ontario 1852–1933* (Arlie C Robbins).

History

In the years prior to 1850, hundreds of African-Americans migrated to Canada, and between 1850 and 1860 their numbers increased to thousands. Some were free-born, some manumitted, and some escaped slaves. Brother the Rev Josiah Henson (inspiration for the 'Uncle Tom' of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*) was an early migrant; Bro Dr Martin Delany (appointed a Major in the US Army by President Lincoln) and Bro the Rev Thomas Stringer, first Grand Master of the (National Compact) Grand Lodge of Ohio, were among later arrivals.

Union Grand Lodge of New Jersey (a National Compact Grand Lodge) chartered the first three Prince Hall lodges in Canada, *Mount Olive Lodge* at Hamilton in December 1852, *Victoria Lodge* at St Catherines in June 1884, and *Olive Branch Lodge* at Windsor in October of the same year. These three lodges formed *Widow's Son Grand Lodge* at Hamilton in August 1856, at which the Grand Master of the National Compact Grand Lodge of New York officiated. No representative of *Union Grand Lodge* was present. One of the first official acts of *Widow's Son Grand Lodge* was to publish a declaration in the local newspaper:

... Because of the unsociableness of the brethren (white) to meet with us and not giving us that satisfaction then called upon for harmonious working of the craft, We in solemn convention assembled, believe it to be our indispensable duty to act for ourselves, and form ourselves into an independent body of Free and Accepted Masons . . .

Of the original three lodges, *Mount Olive #1* and *Victoria #2* were active, but *Olive Branch #3* was ailing. Nonetheless, by 1866 there were nine lodges on the roll of *Widow's Son Grand Lodge*, but all was not well. The Grand Master declared his intention of returning to the United States, and resigned. And the Grand Lodge, although its first lodges had been chartered by one National Compact Grand Lodge (New Jersey), and another National Compact Grand Lodge (New York) had officiated at its inauguration, was unable to obtain a warrant or recognition from the National Grand Master of the National Compact—and consequently from other National Compact Grand Lodges.

The next six years presented many further problems. The establishment of the Dominion of Canada and consequent divisions into Provinces; the conclusion of the Civil War in America, with the return home of many Blacks, but the refusal of others to leave, particularly those Canadian-born, and consequent racial ill-feeling; the refusal of the mainstream Grand Lodges to countenance Prince Hall Masons; the incursion into Canada of several American Prince Hall Grand Lodges; and internal troubles, all took their toll.

First of the 'intruders' was the *United Grand Lodge of New York*. This was a re-organisation of the original *Boyer Grand Lodge*, an independent 'states rights' body, which erected *St John's Lodge #9* at Chatham, *Mount Moriah Lodge #11* in Dresden, and *Meridian Sun Lodge #13* in Toronto in 1866, and another lodge at Hamilton in 1869. *Darrow Lodge* was chartered from Illinois at London in 1871 (but quickly faded), and *Salem Lodge #12* was established at Windsor with a Michigan charter. *Widow's Son Grand Lodge* chartered two further lodges, *Mount Carmel #10* at Buxton, and *Rondeau #12* at Shrewsbury.

In June 1872 *Widow's Son Grand Lodge* met for the last time, then a call went out for all the lodges to meet and form a single Grand Lodge. In October of that year, ten lodges of three jurisdictions were represented, under the chairmanship of the Grand Master of Ohio. With the dissolution of *Widow's Son Grand Lodge*, they formed the *Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Ontario*.

Two years later, its name was changed to *The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Ontario in the Dominion of*

Canada. By 1913 it was the *Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the Province of Ontario*, and by 1922 the name *Prince Hall* was inserted. When Mount Moriah Lodge #24 was erected in Montreal, in the neighbouring Province of Quebec, in 1958, the Grand Lodge added the words *and Jurisdiction*, thus providing all the ingredients of its present title. However, in 1959 the name was altered to Most Worshipful Grand Lodge F&AM (PHA) of Ontario and Jurisdiction, but in 1974 the title was changed back to that of 1958.

The early years of this Grand Lodge were by no means free of internal strife or of external squabbles with its neighbour in Michigan, but it has survived and now has twelve lodges in Ontario and three in Quebec. Long concerned with establishing fraternal relations with mainstream Masonry, this Grand Lodge was well aware that it was older than all but one of the other Grand Lodges in Canada, and that protocol required a younger Grand Lodge to approach an older for recognition. Consequently, in 1991 it passed a 'provisional resolution' declaring that it agreed to 'accord fraternal recognition for the purposes of inter-visitation' with any or all of the nine mainstream Canadian Grand Lodges then established which might wish to accord reciprocal recognition. The following year, a conference of Grand and District Grand Lodges of Canada unanimously recommended 'the acceptance of Prince Hall Grand Lodges, as approved by the Conference of Prince Hall Grand Lodges, as being regular Masonic Grand Lodges'. With the adoption of this resolution by individual Grand Lodges, including the mainstream Grand Lodge AF&AM of Canada in the Province of Ontario, the way was open for recognition and an exchange of Grand Representatives. Recognition by four of the nine was extended almost immediately, and some of the nine have extended recognition to US Grand Lodges of PHA.

Notes for Visitors

In view of the wealth of historical information readily supplied by this Grand Lodge, it is disappointing that no meeting particulars are available. Intending visitors to Prince Hall lodges in either Ontario or Quebec are advised to inquire at the Grand Lodge office. Particulars of one lodge have been gleaned from the 1997 *Proceedings*; Solomon Lodge #26 meets at 41 Rosemount Avenue, Ontario, on the second Tuesday of each month for the stated meeting, and on the third Friday for study sessions.

A 'Table Lodge of Instruction' is held occasionally in this jurisdiction, and a booklet on the subject is being prepared for the lodges. Although in US terminology a Grand Lecturer is responsible solely for the purity of the ritual, in this jurisdiction he appears to function in a more general educational role.

Lodges in this jurisdiction sometimes organise visits to Prince Hall lodges in the United States, travelling surprising distances. In a single year, Utopia Lodge #27 made a trip to Washington, DC, to visit Fellowship Lodge #26 of that jurisdiction, and Eureka Lodge #20 made two trips, six months apart, to Onondago Lodge #32 in Syracuse, New York, and to Victor Lodge #73 in Reddington, Pennsylvania. In the same period, Travelers Lodge #46 of Michigan brought a degree team to American Star Lodge #4 of Ontario, to raise four Fellow Crafts.

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ontario has been active in communities across the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec, providing support in times of disaster, and rendering community assistance. It also has a Grand Youth Committee, which encourages the development of artistic and musical talent, and is organising the establishment and growth of the Order of the Knights of Pythagoras, a boys organisation equivalent to the mainstream Order of DeMolay.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

The Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1875. *Descent:* England and Scotland.

Grand Lodge office: 204 Hillsboro Street, Charlottetown.

Postal Address: P O Box 337, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada C1A 7K7.

Telephone: 894 9326.

Annual Meeting: 2nd Saturday, June.

Lodges: 16. Membership: 1066.

Ritual: English-type.

Main Publications: *Proceedings, Constitution.*

History

The Provincial Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia (*Antients*) granted the first warrant for a lodge in Prince Edward Island. This was for *St John Lodge #26*, founded at Charlottetown in 1797, and it became #833 on the Roll of the United Grand Lodge of England subsequent to 1813. In 1858, *Victoria Lodge #383* was chartered at Charlottetown by the Grand Lodge of Scotland. These two lodges remain the only lodges working at Charlottetown. Another six lodges received English warrants up until 1869, and in 1875 all eight lodges then working met and erected the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island.

Notes for Visitors

The Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island is not only the smallest mainstream Grand Lodge in Canada, it is the smallest in North America, possessing only sixteen lodges. All lodges hold a regular meeting on a monthly basis, although the two lodges in Charlottetown recess in July and August. Dress for lodges is a dark business suit, or a dinner suit (tuxedo), with the latter being favoured, particularly by lodge officers. Regalia is largely identical to England. Most lodges open at 7.30 pm, and follow their meetings with a light supper. A toast list is sometimes employed, especially on Installation Nights, when a full meal is usually provided.

It is not uncommon for Prince Edward Island lodges to convene a special meeting between regular meetings for a variety of reasons. Annual Ladies' Nights, and an Annual Church Service are a feature of the programs of most lodges. Visitors, particularly those from outside the Island, will usually be given an opportunity to speak at the festive board. Again, no visitor will be asked to contribute to any repast attended.

The ritual prescribed by the Grand Lodge exhibits a number of American forms, although it is basically of an English type. Likewise, the Grand Lodge's Constitution is largely that of an Elective Grand Lodge, with all senior Grand offices filled by ballot at the Annual Grand Lodge Communication. The American-type Grand Lodge Line also prevails. Nonetheless, English forms such as a Board of General Purposes are features of the Grand Lodge structure.

List of Lodges

Virtually every town on Prince Edward Island possesses one lodge, with Charlottetown, the Provincial capital and Grand Lodge seat, having two. The Charlottetown lodges meet in the Grand Lodge temple, as follows: Saint John's Lodge #1 meets 2nd Tuesday, monthly; Victoria Lodge #2 meets 1st Monday, monthly. Both lodges recess in July and August.

The meeting details of all lodges in Prince Edward Island can readily be gained at the Grand Lodge office.

QUEBEC

A The Grand Lodge of Quebec, Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1869. *Descent:* England, Ontario.

Address: Masonic Memorial Temple, 2295 St Mark Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3H 2G9.

Telephone & Fax: 1-514 933 6739.

Annual Meeting: 1st Thursday, June.

Lodges: 94. Membership: 6592.

Ritual: Canadian.

Main Publications: *Proceedings, Constitution.*

Periodical: *The Trowel.*

History

Quebec is a largely French-speaking Province of Canada, and was one of the first areas of the country to be settled. The first lodges in Quebec were military, the members of which formed part of the forces which captured it for the British in 1759. Five military lodges appear to have formed a Grand Lodge of Quebec about this time, which in 1768 apparently became a Provincial Grand Lodge under the English *Moderns*.

However, by about 1791 lodges in Quebec had defected to the *Antients*. By the time of English Union in 1813, Quebec possessed seven military lodges and 13 stationary lodges.

In 1855, when the Grand Lodge of Canada was formed, it included nine lodges from Canada East (Quebec). A number of other lodges there maintained allegiance to the English, Irish and Scottish Constitutions. In 1858, a majority of Quebec lodges joined the Grand Lodge of Canada. Upon the creation of the Dominion of Canada in 1867, many Quebec lodges decided to form their own Grand Lodge, and this was duly effected with the creation of the Grand Lodge of Quebec in 1869. By the early 1880s, no Quebec lodges remained under the Grand Lodge of Canada (Ontario). However, a small number of lodges chose to remain under the United Grand Lodge of England, of which two survive today. St Paul's Lodge #374 EC, and St George's Lodge #440 EC still work happily in Montreal, and together with one other English lodge at Halifax, Nova Scotia, remain the only English-warranted lodges in North America.

Notes for Visitors

Lodges in Quebec use the Canadian ritual, as briefly discussed under earlier headings. It is reasonably similar to post-1813 English ritual, but possesses several features which are analogous to Webb-form and Scottish practices. It is of interest to note that in very recent years the Quebec ritual has been translated into French.

It is notable that Masonic membership in Quebec is relatively small, compared to the total population of the Province. The answer to this is found in the fact that about 80% of the populace of Quebec is French-speaking. It is only in fairly recent times that English-speaking Quebec Masonry has moved to pave the way for increasing French involvement. A handful of lodges, notably in Montreal, now work in French, and it would appear that this trend will continue into the future.

Dress for Quebec lodges is a dark business suit as a minimum requirement, but many members wear a black dinner suit (tuxedo), particularly lodge officers. Most lodges convene at about 7.30 pm, and meet on a monthly basis for a regular meeting. At these meetings, the business of the lodge is dealt with in the third degree, and a degree conferral will usually be performed as well. Many lodges will also, on occasions, hold an emergency meeting between regular meetings, often for an extra degree conferral, or for some other special reason. The annual Installation Meeting in Quebec lodges is either held on or near the Festival of St John the Evangelist (27 December) or the Festival of St John the Baptist (24 June). Again, most lodges recess in the months of July and August, and some fail to meet in June as well.

The festive board following a Quebec lodge meeting, as is quite common throughout Canada, tends to consist of a simple supper and an informal structure. A toast list is generally only used following an Installation or on some other special occasion. Nonetheless, speeches are not unusual, and a visitor may be called upon to speak, although prior notice is normal. Visitors are never expected to contribute to any repast associated with a Quebec lodge meeting.

The Grand Lodge of Quebec is fairly typical of wider Canadian practices in terms of its organisation. It is basically an Elective Grand Lodge, although it retains such English-type customs as a Board of General Purposes. Quebec is divided into nine Masonic districts, each under a Deputy District Grand Master whose functions closely parallel those of the American jurisdictions. Once again, the regalia employed in Quebec lodges largely compares with that of England.

List of lodges

Of the current 94 lodges in Quebec, 32 work in Montreal, which is the second largest city in Canada. The Masonic Memorial Temple in Montreal is centrally situated, and contains a fine library in addition to the Grand Lodge office, and several lodge rooms. All lodges meeting within it are noted below.

Montreal

1st Monday	Elgin #7 (except Jul, Aug, Sep)
2nd Monday	Westmont #76 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, & Oct); Royal Albert #25 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, Oct) Oct—1st Monday; John T Gladston #102 (except Jul, Aug, Sept, Oct) Oct—1st Monday; <i>La Loge Renaissance</i> #119 (except Jul, Aug)
3rd Monday	Ionic #54 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, Dec) Dec—1st Monday; St Alban's #106 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug)
4th Monday	Eastern Star #74 (Jun, Jul, Aug & Dec)
1st Tuesday	St Lawrence #14 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug); <i>La Loge Les Artisans Reunis</i> #140 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug); Royal Victoria #57 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, & Sep)
2nd Tuesday	St Andrew's #53 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug); Devonshire #120 (except Jan, Jun, Jul, & Aug)

3rd Tuesday	St George's #10 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, & Dec) Dec—1st Tuesday; <i>La Loge Delta</i> #136 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug)
4th Tuesday	Prince Consort #52 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, & Dec) Dec—2nd Wednesday
1st Wednesday	Rosemere #123 (except Jun, Jul, & Sep); Corinthian #62 (except Jun, Jul, Aug & Jan) Jan—3rd Wednesday
2nd Wednesday	University #84 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug); Temple Daylight #142 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug)
3rd Wednesday	Lodge of Antiquity #1 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug); Edinburgh #124 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, & Dec); Beaver #99 (except Jun, Jul, & Sep)
4th Wednesday	<i>La Loge des Coeurs Unis</i> #45 (except Jun, Jul, Aug & Dec); <i>La Loge Jean T Desaguliers</i> #138 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug)
1st Thursday	<i>La Loge Denechau</i> #80 (except Jan, Jun, Jul, & Aug); Allenby #89 (except Jun, Jul, & Sep)
2nd Thursday	Zetland #12 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug); Argyle #65 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug)
1st Friday	Mount Moriah #38 (except Jun, Jul, & Aug)
2nd Friday	Phil-Can #137 (except May, Jun, Jul, Aug, & Dec) May & Dec—1st Friday
3rd Friday	Transportation #103 (except May, Jun, Jul, Aug, & Dec) May & Dec—1st Friday
4th Friday	Montreal Kilwinning #20 (except Jun, Jul, Aug, & Dec) Dec—2nd Friday

B Prince Hall Affiliation lodges

The Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Ontario has three lodges in Quebec, Mount Moriah #24, King David #30 and Maple Leaf #31. For the history of this Grand Lodge, see under Ontario.

C Other Grand Lodges and lodges

The National Grand Lodge of Canada (*la Grande Loge Nationale du Canada*, formerly *la Grande Loge Francophone du Canada*), is based at Brossard, Quebec. It is a combination of men-only, women-only and mixed lodges which work the Ancient & Accepted (Scottish) Rite Craft degrees in French, English, Spanish and Arabic. It permits its constituent lodges complete freedom to accept or reject belief in a Supreme Being.

The Grand Orient of France has a lodge in Montreal, *Le Maillon Laurentien*, which works the French Rite.

The Grand Lodge of France has a lodge in Montreal, *Port Royal d'Acadie #1131*, which works the Ancient & Accepted (Scottish) Rite Craft degrees.

SASKATCHEWAN

The Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

Founded: 1906. *Descent:* Manitoba.

Address: Masonic Temple, 1930 Lorne Street, Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 2M1.

Telephone: 1-306 522 5686. Fax: 522 5687.

Annual Meeting: 3rd Friday, June.

Lodges: 94. Membership: 5938.

Ritual: Canadian.

Main Publications: Annual *Proceedings*, *Constitution*.

History

The first lodge in Saskatchewan was warranted from the Grand Lodge of Canada in 1880, having been founded under dispensation in the previous year. This was *Kinistino Lodge #381*, at Prince Albert. In 1882, this lodge transferred its allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Manitoba, and subsequently came to head the directory of lodges of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan. By 1906, the year after the creation of the Province of Saskatchewan, 24 lodges were working in the territory under charters from Manitoba. In that year, most of these lodges came together in convention and formed the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan.

Notes for Visitors

Saskatchewan uses a form of the Canadian ritual inherited from Ontario, via Manitoba. The basic details of this working have already been mentioned. However, whereas Emulation-style rituals prescribe separate opening procedures for each degree, requiring a series of three ceremonies to reach the third degree, Saskatchewan has provided a time-saving alternative opening procedure. At a regular meeting when lodge

business is expected to be lengthy, the Master may open directly into the third degree, and at emergent meetings he may open directly into the highest degree in which any work is to be done.

The dress for Saskatchewan lodges is a dark business suit, although lodge officers largely prefer a dinner suit (tuxedo). All lodges meet on a monthly basis for a regular meeting, although many recess in the months of July and August. In addition, a number of lodges convene emergency meetings as necessary. Most lodges commence their proceedings about 7.30 pm. About 50 Saskatchewan lodges conduct their annual Installation Meeting on or about the anniversary (Feast Day) of St John the Baptist, while the rest prefer St John the Evangelist's Day.

In common with most other Canadian jurisdictions, the festive board following a regular Saskatchewan lodge meeting tends to consist of a light and simple supper. A toast list is usually only used on special occasions, such as at the festive board following an Installation. Even then, the list is often limited to a handful of toasts, such as 'The Queen', 'The Craft', and 'The Visitors'. Nonetheless, it would be an unusual Saskatchewan festive board that did not contain a few brief speeches. Opportunities are usually afforded to visitors to speak, if they so desire. It should also be noted that visitors are never expected to contribute financially at any Saskatchewan festive board.

The government of the Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan approximates other Canadian jurisdictions. It is basically an elective Grand Lodge, with both English and American forms in its constitution. Both Grand Lodge and constituent lodge regalia closely resemble that of England.

Visitors to a lodge in Saskatchewan, particularly if they are unknown, should be certain to arrive early. Lodges in this jurisdiction are particularly vigilant with their avouchment procedures, although these will pose no problems to the regular Mason. These procedures also include the requirement that a visitor recite the 'Tyler's Oath' (for the wording of this oath, see under section 1, the United States). In addition, the Canadian ritual requires both visitors and members to provide certain modes of recognition inside the temple when the Deacons 'Purge the Lodge' at appropriate points. A visitor can usefully make inquiries on this topic after he has been examined, if he is unfamiliar with this procedure.

List of lodges

Saskatchewan is largely a rural province, and does not possess any huge cities. Nonetheless, there are few towns within its boundaries that do not have at least one lodge. Most meet at 7.30 pm, and hold two meetings per month: a regular meeting (where lodge business is handled), and an *emergent* meeting (usually specifically for degree work). The largest population centre in the Province is Regina (with 8 lodges), and Saskatoon (with 9 lodges). The details of regular meetings of these lodges at both locations are noted below. Visitors to the Grand Lodge Temple in Regina, will readily gain the meeting details for other lodges in Saskatchewan, as desired.

Regina

Emulation Lodge #186	Meets 1st Wednesday
King Hiram Lodge #10	Meets 2nd Tuesday
Wascana Lodge #2	Meets 2nd Wednesday
Sherwood Lodge #214	Meets 2nd Friday
Flagship Lodge #154	Meets 3rd Monday
N.W.M.P. Lodge #11	Meets 3rd Tuesday
St Andrew's Lodge #174	Meets 3rd Wednesday
Assiniboia Lodge #49	Meets 3rd Friday

Saskatoon

Saskatchewan Lodge #16	Meets 1st Tuesday
Saskatoon-Central Lodge #217	Meets 1st Tuesday
Lodge Progress #92	Meets 1st Thursday
Twin City Lodge #89	Meets 2nd Monday
Elstow Lodge #147	Meets 2nd Tuesday
Imperial Lodge #60	Meets 2nd Wednesday
Mystic Tie Lodge #213	Meets 2nd Friday
Victory Lodge #144	Meets 2nd Saturday
Rosthern-Duck Lake Lodge #13	Meets 4th Wednesday

Research lodge

Solomon Lodge of Research #5986 was organised in *Anno Lucis* 5986, hence the number on its charter. It meets regularly at the Saskatoon Masonic Temple at 1.30 pm on the fourth Saturdays of April and November, and emergent meetings may be called by the Master. Further information is obtainable from Larry Wong, 1113 Macklem Drive, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7L 4R7, phone (H) 306 382 7923, (O) 306 966 4469, email <wongl@admin.usask.ca>.

YUKON TERRITORY

Canada's Yukon Territory lies to the north of British Columbia and south-east of Alaska. Sparsely populated, it does not possess a Grand Lodge, but nonetheless contains three lodges warranted from the Grand Lodge of British Columbia. Meeting details are noted below.

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| Atlinto Lodge #42 | Meets at the Masonic Temple, Whitehorse, 4th Tuesday, monthly. Installation: 1st Tuesday, October. Ritual: Ancient York. |
| Whitehorse Lodge #46 | Meets at the Masonic Temple, Whitehorse, 3rd Monday, monthly. Recess: June, July and August. Installation: November. Ritual: Canadian. |
| Yukon Lodge #45 | Meets at the Masonic Temple, Dawson City, 2nd Saturday, monthly, Recess: October to March (inclusive). Installation: September. Ritual: Canadian. |

Section 3**MEXICO****Introduction**

The task of producing even a synopsis of Mexican Masonic history verges on the encyclopedic. This is due to its great complexity of development which, in turn, was strongly tied to the political development (or lack of it) of the country. Mexico, since its independence from Spain in 1810, has suffered approximately 100 revolutions and about 80 governments, so it is less than surprising that Freemasonry has been greatly affected as a result.

Mexico is the most Masonically diverse country in the world. It possesses two 'National' Grand Lodges, twenty-three 'State' Grand Lodges (see below)—and numerous other Grand bodies beyond the scope of this book.

One National Grand Lodge is the small York Grand Lodge of Mexico, which is mainly English-speaking, and has its lodges dispersed over the country. The other is the Gran Logia Valle de Mexico, which is entirely Spanish-speaking, and has 'jurisdiction' in the states of Aguascalientes, Guanajuato, Guerrero, Morelos, Puebla, Tlaxcala, Zacatecas, and the Federal District (Mexico City)—those states which do not have a separate Grand Lodge.

NATIONAL GRAND LODGES**The York Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Mexico**

Founded: 1862. *Descent:* United States, Valle de Mexico.

Address: Masonic Temple, Calle Hegel 416, 11560 Mexico City.

Postal Address: P O Box 1986, Mexico 1, DF, Mexico.

Telephone: (52-5) 121 9050. Fax: (52-5) 647 2128.

Email: <cmario@lloyd.com.mx> (Grand Secretary).

Lodges: 13. Membership: 376.

Main Publications: *Constitution*, *Annual Proceedings*.

Grand Lodge of the Valley of Mexico

[*Gran Logia Valle de Mexico*]

Founded: 1862. *Descent:* Colombia.

Address: Templo Masónico, Sadi Carnot No 75, Col. San Rafael, Delagación Cuauhtemoc, 06470, Mexico City, DF, Mexico.

Telephone: (52-5) 535 3539. Fax: 592 4551.

Lodges: 229. Membership: 12,321.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

STATE GRAND LODGES**Grand Lodge of the State of Baja California**

[*Gran Logia de Estado Baja California*]

Founded: 1933. *Descent:* Valle de Mexico.

Address: Templo Masónico, Mision del Descanso Num. 12, Fraccionameito, Padre Kino, Tijuana.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 134, 22000 Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico.

Telephone: (52-66) 84 5571.

Lodges: 30. Membership: 2000.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of the State of Baja California Sur

[*Gran Logia de Estado Baja California Sur*]

Founded: 1978. *Descent:* Baja California.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 490, 23000 La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of Campeche

[*Gran Logia de Campeche*]

Founded: 1885. *Descent:* Supreme Council.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 68, 24000 Campeche, Campeche, Mexico.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of the State of Chiapas

[*Gran Logia del Estado de Chiapas*]

Founded: 1929. *Descent:* Valle de Mexico.

Address: Templo Masónico, Av. Central Norte y 5a, Calle Pte. No 1, Tapachula.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 67, 30700 De Tapachula, Chiapas, Mexico.

Telephone: 63 600.

Lodges: 20. Membership: c. 800.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Cosmos' of the State of Chihuahua

[*Gran Logia 'Cosmos' del Estado de Chihuahua*]

Founded: 1936. *Descent:* Unida Mexicana.

Address: Templo Masónico, Calle Libertad No 1004, Chihuahua.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 171, 31000 Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico.

Telephone: 25 493.

Lodges: 58. Membership: 2600.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Benito Juarez' of the State of Coahuila

[*Gran Logia 'Benito Juarez' del Estado de Coahuila*]

Founded: 1890. *Descent:* Grand Diet of Mexico.

Address: Templo Masónico, Boulevard Constitución No 311, Torreón.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 87, 27000 Torreón, Coahuila, Mexico.

Telephone: (01-17) 12 1029.

Lodges: 24. Membership: 250.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Sur-Oeste' of the State of Colima

[*Gran Logia 'Sur-Oeste' del Estado de Colima*]

Founded: 1923.

Address: Templo Masónico, Independencia 95, Colima.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 13, 28000 Colima, Colima, Mexico.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Guadalupe Victoria' of the State of Durango

[*Gran Logia 'Guadalupe Victoria' del Estado de Durango*]

Founded: 1923. *Descent:* Grand Lodges of Mexico (extinct).

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 108, Durango, Durango, Mexico.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of the State of Hidalgo

[*Gran Logia del Estado de Hidalgo*]
Founded: 1940. *Descent*: Valle de Mexico.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 75, Pachuca, Hidalgo, Mexico.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Occidental Mexicana' of the State of Jalisco

[*Gran Logia 'Occidental Mexicana' del Estado de Jalisco*]
Founded: 1912. *Descent*: Valle de Mexico & Unida Mexicana, Veracruz.
Address: Templo Masónico, Lopez Cotilla No. 111, Guadalajara.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 1-9, 44100 Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico.
Telephone: 614 3208.
Lodges: 36. Membership: c. 750.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Lazaro Cardenas' of the State of Michoacana

[*Gran Logia 'Lazaro Cardenas' del Estado de Michoacana*]
Address: Templo Masónico, Laguna de Carmen No 178, Colonia Venture Morelia.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 148-A, 58000 Morelia, Michoacana, Mexico.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of the State of Nayarit

[*Gran Logia del Estado de Nayarit*]
Founded: 1909. *Descent*: Grand Lodges of Mexico (extinct).
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 79 y 407, 63001 Tepic, Nayarit, Mexico
Telephone: 26 043.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of Nuevo Leon

[*Gran Logia de Nuevo Leon*]
Founded: 1905. *Descent*: Unida Mexicana, Veracruz.
Address: Templo Masónico, Gral Mariano Escobedo No. 414 Nte., Monterrey.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 309, 64000 Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico.
Telephone: 42 3047, or 40 6066. Fax: 43 1493.
Lodges: 74. Membership: 3000.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Benito Juarez Garcia' of the State of Oaxaca

[*Gran Logia 'Benito Juarez Garcia' del Estado de Oaxaca*]
Founded: 1886. *Descent*: Supreme Council.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 184, 68000 Oaxaca, Oaxaca, Mexico.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of Queretaro

[*Gran Logia de Queretaro*]
Founded: 1934. *Descent*: Valle de Mexico.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 130, 76000 Queretaro, Queretaro, Mexico.
Telephone: 22 275

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of the State of Quintana Roo

[*Gran Logia del Estado de Quintana Roo*]
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 339, 77000 Chetumal, Quintana Roo, Mexico.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'El Potosi' of the State of San Luis Potosi

[*Gran Logia 'El Potosi' del Estado de San Luis Potosi*]
Founded: 1891. *Descent*: Grand Diet of Mexico
Address: Templo Masónico, Manuel Jose Othon #335, San Luis Potosi.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 104, 78000 San Luis Potosi, San Luis Potosi, Mexico.
Telephone & Fax: (48) 158 446
Lodges: 13. Membership: 600.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of Sinaloa

[*Gran Logia de Sinaloa*]
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 121 Suc. F, 80060, Culiacán, Sinaloa, Mexico.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Del Pacifico' of Sonora

[*Gran Logia 'Del Pacifico' de Sonora*]
Founded: 1923. *Descent*: Valle de Mexico.
Address: Templo Masónico, Jose Obregon No. 296, Colonia Luis Encinas, Hermosillo.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 5-113, Hermosillo, Sonora, Mexico.
Telephone: 26 913.
Lodges: 22. Membership: 387.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Restauracion' of the State of Tabasco

[*Gran Logia 'Restauracion' del Estado de Tabasco*]
Founded: 1923. *Descent*: Valle de Mexico.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 26, 86000 Villahermosa, Tabasco, Mexico.
Telephone: 26 923
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge of Tamaulipas

[*Gran Logia de Tamaulipas*]
Founded: 1909. *Descent*: Unida Mexicana, Veracruz.
Address: Encino 100 y Ave Hidalgo, Colonia Aguila, Tampico.
Postal Address: Apdo Postal 419, 89000 Tampico, Tamaulipas, Mexico.
Telephone: 17 0715. Fax: 13 7845.
Lodges: 95. Membership: 2509.
Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.
Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Unida Mexicana' of Veracruz

[*Gran Logia 'Unida Mexicana' de Veracruz*]
Founded: 1883. *Descent*: Cuba.
Address: Templo Masónico, Benito Juarez No. 59, Veracruz.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 56, 91700 Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico.

Telephone: (52-29) 32 2518.

Lodges: 102. Membership: 2500.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

Grand Lodge 'Oriental Peninsular' of Yucatan

[*Gran Logia 'Oriental Peninsular' de Yucatan*]

Founded: 1883. *Descent*: Supreme Council.

Postal Address: Apdo Postal 61, 97000 Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.

Ritual: Scottish (Craft) Rite.

Main Publication: *Constitution*.

History

While tradition gives an earlier date, the first lodges established in Mexico for which extant evidence exists were chartered early in the nineteenth century from Spain, Louisiana, Pennsylvania, and New York. The American jurisdictions evidently disowned their offspring not long after chartering, as most of them became extremely political in nature. Indeed, the various political factions which battled for revolutionary control of Mexico during the first half of the nineteenth century were largely comprised of 'Masons'. The battle lines were drawn between the York Rite Masons on one hand, and the Scottish Rite Masons on the other. In 1827, the Grand Masters of the two bodies of Masonry actually battled for the Presidency of Mexico! However the story, one of the most interesting in Masonic history, is too long to relate here, except to say that the Scottish Rite side won.

In an effort to unite the two factions, several well-intentioned Masons decided in 1830 to form a mixture of the two Rites, creating the *Mexican National Rite*. This Rite contains nine degrees: the three Craft degrees, plus selected Scottish Rite degrees. While the effort failed in its purpose, an unrecognised Grand Lodge still exists in Mexico today practicing this Rite.

Masonry lay dormant between about 1833 and 1860, as a result of the perpetual political turmoil. In 1860, Scottish Rite lodges were established at Vera Cruz and Mexico City from the United States. These bodies soon factioned, and a number of State Grand Lodges were formed, all claiming to be independent Grand bodies. The next to intervene appears to have been the Grand Lodge of New Grenada (Colombia) which warranted a lodge in Mexico City in 1859. Out of this lodge a Supreme Council promptly developed, and shortly afterwards the Grand Lodge *Valle de Mexico*. By 1878, aside from the infant State Grand Lodges, the two main Mexican bodies were the Grand Lodge *Valle de Mexico*, and the *Grand Orient of Mexico* (the latter being the schismatic daughter of the former), together with two Scottish Rite Supreme Councils. All four were in great competition, with some even offering cut-rate initiations! The Grand Lodge of Missouri chartered *Toltec Lodge #520*, at Mexico City in 1883 for English and American residents.

In 1890, the vast dispersion of Masonry that was Mexico finally came together, albeit only briefly, in a unifying reorganisation. The new body formed for this purpose was the *Grand Diet of the States of Mexico*. It brought virtually all Mexican Freemasonry under its control, possessing 122 of the 125 lodges then operating in the country. Even *Toltec Lodge* was prevailed upon by Missouri to join in.

However, the unity forged by the *Grand Diet* was only fleeting. The *Grand Diet* Grand Master was accused (apparently on strong evidence) of initiating women, and there was a question concerning a shortfall of \$10,000 in the accounts. It needs to be made plain that the *Grand Diet* was an 'apex' Grand Lodge, and that the then existing Grand Lodges retained most of their identity within its structure. Nonetheless, during its short existence, it did warrant a several new lodges in various parts of the country, which were later to form the nucleus of several later-emerging 'State' Grand Lodges.

The *Grand Diet* was formally dissolved in 1901. Aside from the then-existing State-based Grand Lodges, the only Grand Lodge remaining at this time that was 'national' in character was *Valle de Mexico*. This Grand Lodge was extremely active in chartering lodges all over Mexico between 1891 and 1910, mostly English-speaking.

By 1910, *Valle de Mexico*, with a Scottish Rite constitution, consisted of a majority of lodges and Masons practicing the York Rite. With this majority, the *Yorkists* changed the constitution to reflect more the main York Rite institutions. This resulted in the last great schism in Mexican Masonry, whereupon the York and

Scottish sections split. *Valle de Mexico* continued as a Scottish Rite (Spanish-speaking Mexican) body, with the York body of lodges, renamed the *York Grand Lodge of Mexico*, going its own way.

The various State Grand Lodges recognised Valle de Mexico, while overseas just about the rest of the Masonic world went with the English-speaking York Grand Lodge. These two remain the only Grand lodges of a national sense in Mexico today. The argument between these two Grand Lodges remained until 1945, when intervisitation treaties started to be agreed upon. The York Grand Lodge's basic concern was the contention that *Valle de Mexico* was controlled by a Supreme Council. *Valle de Mexico*, however, came out strongly in 1939 favouring exclusive jurisdiction for itself over the Craft degrees.

Since the War, a few of the State Grand Lodges, and Valle de Mexico have entered into visitation treaties with the York Grand Lodge. These treaties, certainly novel in terms of Masonry, allow members from either allegiance, under certain conditions, to visit each other's lodges. This stops short of actual recognition. Nonetheless, for a number of years now two State Grand lodges, *Nuevo Leon* and *Tamaulipas*, have exchanged recognition with the York Grand Lodge. Indeed, it is not uncommon for the Grand Masters of these two Grand Lodges to visit the Annual Communication of the York Grand Lodge.

It will be noted that the York Grand Lodge is quite small in membership. However, as it is so widely recognised outside Mexico, similar recognition for other Mexican Grand Lodges, to an extent, depends on its blessings. Indeed, recognition by the York Grand Lodge of *Nuevo Leon* and *Tamaulipas* has largely facilitated the latter in securing considerable recognition themselves outside Latin America, unlike the other Mexican Grand Lodges—particularly in the United States where they are recognised by virtually all its mainstream Grand Lodges.

Notes for Visitors

The York Grand Lodge is the only Mexican Grand Lodge recognised as regular by the English, Irish and Scottish Grand Lodges. Until relatively recent years, all its lodges were English-speaking and comprised mainly of non-Mexicans, although a number of bilingual Mexicans had joined under it. The progress of the York Grand Lodge has historically been slow, simply because English-speaking candidates in Spanish-speaking Mexico are not numerous.

Until the 1970s, there had been a resistance within the York Grand Lodge to translate its rituals into Spanish to enable greater expansion. This was finally achieved in 1980. Unfortunately, the 1980s and 1990s have seen a perpetual economic malaise in Mexico. This has resulted in a seemingly ever-increasing number of English-speaking Masons returning to their native lands in the United States, Canada and Britain. While Spanish-speaking membership has expanded, it has not made up for the English-speaking loss.

In response to this decline, the York Grand Lodge has continued with its *Mexification* efforts, and in recent years has chartered three new lodges. Of its current thirteen lodges, seven work in English, five in Spanish, and one in German. The ritual for all is the *York Rite*, in this case a Webb-form ritual clearly derived originally from the United States. Most lodges meet in the evening, and refreshments are provided at the conclusion of some lodge meetings. Dress is a dark suit, and visitors are welcome to wear their own regalia, although it is available on loan to those not carrying it.

List of lodges, York Grand Lodge

As the York Grand Lodge possesses only a small number of constituents, it is possible to list them all hereunder. Note that there is a lodge of research in Mexico City, and a German-speaking lodge.

Mexico City: meeting at the Masonic Hall, Hegel 416, at 8 pm:

Toltec Lodge #1.	English-speaking, 1st Monday in January, May, September and December.
Anahuac Lodge #3	English-speaking, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays.
Logia Azteca #22	Spanish-speaking, 2nd & 4th Mondays.
Mexico Lodge of Research #24	English-speaking, 5th Wednesdays.
Alexander Von Humboldt Lodge #26	German-speaking, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays.

Guadalajara (Jalisco): meeting at the Masonic Hall, corner of Montevideo & Regina Streets:

Guadalajara Lodge #5	English-speaking, 3rd Wednesdays, at 7.30 pm, except December (then 2nd Wednesday).
Logia Atemajac #29	Spanish-speaking, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursdays, at 8.30 pm.. Correspondence: Apartado 31-56, 44100 Guadalajara, Jalisco.

Cuernavaca, (Morelos): meeting at the Masonic Hall, Av. Alta Tensión 62, Rincon de Acapatzingo:

Cuernavaca Lodge #23 English-speaking, 2nd and 4th Mondays, at 7 pm.. Correspondence: Apartado 555-3, 62271 Cuernavaca, Morelos.

Logia Morelos #27 Spanish-speaking, 4th Thursdays, at 8 pm. Correspondence: Apartado 4-501, 62000 Cuernavaca, Morelos.

Logia Xochicalco #32 Second Tuesdays, at 8 pm. Correspondence: Compositores 204, 62166 Cuernavaca, Morelos.

Others:

Monterray Lodge #13 English-speaking, meets at Masonic Hall, Condominio Acero 907, Monterray, Nuevo Leon, 1st Tuesdays, at 8 pm, except August.

Axixic Lodge #31 English-speaking, meets at the Masonic Hall, Angeles Flores 5, Ajijic, Jalisco, 1st Wednesdays, at 5 pm. Correspondence: Apartado 428, 45920 Ajijic, Jalisco.

Logia Zamora #33 Meets at Francisco Villa 44 – C , 59680 Zamora, Michoacan, 3rd Saturdays and Fridays, at 5 pm.