

REFLECTIONS
on
DELAWARE'S
MASONIC LODGES



James H. Hutchins

**DELAWARE'S
PAST GRAND MASTERS HONORARI**

**Marie Jean Paul Roch Yves Gilbert-Mottier,
Marquis de Lafayette - July 25, 1825**

**Josiah W. Ewan - October 3, 1918
Past Grand Master of New Jersey**

**Frank C. Sayrs - October 6, 1926
Past Grand Master of New Jersey**

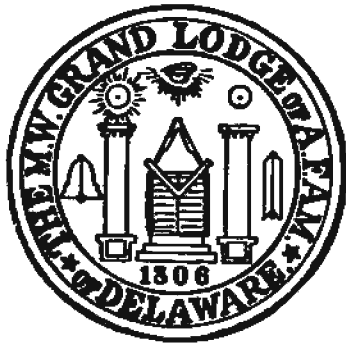
**Charles H. Callahan - October 5, 1927
Past Grand Master of Virginia**

**Carl H. Claudy - October 5, 1949
Past Grand Master of District of Columbia
Executive Secretary of Masonic Service Association**

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DELAWARE'S
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by
James H. Hutchins, P.G.M.
Grand Historian

Authorized by the
Grand Lodge A.F. and A.M. of Delaware
in Conjunction with the
History and Library Committee
Assisted by the
Delaware Lodge of Research



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PREFACE

This volume, prepared by our Grand Historian, James H. Hutchins, provides reflections on the heritage of Freemasonry in Delaware. Rather uniquely, Past Grand Master Hutchins provides this insight by examining each of the Lodges within this jurisdiction, thus providing a rarely found, individually distinctive contemplation of our ancestry. The result is an extremely readable volume for everyone who will avail themselves of it. All who read it will find additional light and further understanding as to why Delaware Freemasons are justly proud of their heritage. Hopefully, all the Brethren who read it, wheresoever dispersed, will be justly inspired to carry forth in ever glorious brilliance the honor which has been bestowed upon us by those who have preceded us.

Past Grand Master Hutchins' theme during his term as Grand Master was "FIAT LUX" — Let There Be Light — So Mote It Be.

DAVID B. CRAIG, JR.
Grand Master of Masons in Delaware

INTRODUCTION

During the Grand Lodge Masonic year of 1977, the then Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master and now Most Worshipful Past Grand Master James H. Hutchins presented a brief historical talk on each of the constituted Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction. These talks were presented as part of the ceremonies associated with the official visitation of the Grand Master and his staff at each of the constituted Lodges of this jurisdiction.

The Delaware Lodge of Research, in conjunction with the History and Library Committee of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, realizing the great value provided to the Craft by Past Grand Master Hutchins' labors and studies, undertook the task of making them available to the Brethren in this publication. Several minor changes were made, to reflect the current state of Masonry in Delaware and provide a brief reflection of the Grand Lodge of Delaware itself. In addition, the seal of each of the constituted Lodges has been incorporated as part of the papers. These seal reproductions were obtained photographically from seal impressions provided by each of the Lodges. The quality of the reproductions reflect the outstanding talent of the photographer in dealing with impressions from very old and often used seals. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time that seals have been so presented. They provide the opportunity for great enlightenment and further study by the Brethren.

On behalf of all the Brethren who will enjoy this diminutive volume, the History and Library Committee of the Grand Lodge of Delaware would like to express their deepest thanks to the following: To Most Worshipful James H. Hutchins, Past Grand Master, for providing the basis of the work contained herein. Without his dedication to Masonic enlightenment, none of this would have been possible. To all the Secretaries of the Constituted Lodges, for their patience and assistance in providing the seal impressions; Mr. G. D. Burch for the photographic reproduction of the seals; The Delaware Lodge of Research for their assistance and support of this work; Most Worshipful David B. Craig, Jr., Grand Master of Masons in Delaware, for his assistance to and strong support of the activities of this Grand Lodge Committee. Last, but not least, all the Brethren of this Grand Jurisdiction whose labors in the quarries of Freemasonry in years past and today, have provided us with a heritage worth recording.

DONALD D. THOMAS, *Chairman*
History and Library Committee

FOREWORD

Although over three decades have elapsed, I am still haunted by those echoes of the past charging me that as a Master Mason I am entitled to all its rights and privileges, as well as those of Ancient Craft Masonry, wheresoever dispersed. This admonition I accepted as a token, permitting me to pass through the unlimited annals of history, legend and symbolism of Freemasonry. I was thereby able to ascertain that truly the greatest and best of men, in all ages, have been encouragers and promoters of the art. I also realized that the history of each lodge was, in reality, our true Masonic heritage. Once this legacy is established, it becomes incumbent upon us to endeavor to project our Masonic image in our daily lives and actions. I welcomed the opportunity afforded me during my term as Deputy Grand Master to share these "reflections" with the brethren at the official visitation to each of our constituent lodges. To say the least, I was both honored and humbled when permission was requested by my peers to make this collection of essays available to the entire Craft.

I would be remiss in not acknowledging those brethren who made this publication possible. First, to Past Master Donald D. Thomas who conceived the idea and so ably coordinated the efforts of all those involved in bringing such an undertaking to fruition. Next, for the authorization of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware, through their History and Library Committee and with the assistance of the Delaware Lodge of Research. Also to my wife, Betty, without whose typing and assistance in editing the manuscript, the preparation of this edition would have been a task rather than a labor of love. Finally, it should be emphasized that these "reflections" should in no way be interpreted as a history of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. Past Master Charles E. Green, Grand Historian Emeritus, in his book published in 1956 entitled "History of the Grand Lodge of A.F. and A.M. of Delaware", magnificently accomplished that task in a manner which can never be surpassed. All of Brother Green's writings, talks, conversations, and even the mere pleasure of being within his presence have been the inspirational light behind these "reflections". Recognizing the invaluable contributions that he has personally made to all the brethren, as well as being my Masonic mentor, this publication is proudly dedicated to him, affectionately known as "Seey Gee", with our bountiful thanks.

"FIAT LUX"

JAMES H. HUTCHINS, P.G.M.
Grand Historian



“THE GRAND LODGE OF DELAWARE”

Although the Grand Lodge of Delaware did not become a reality until June 6-7, 1806, the light of Freemasonry was ignited in Delaware by the chartering of Lodge No. 5 by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania at Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa) on June 24, 1765. This lodge holds the distinction of not only being the first lodge chartered in Delaware, but also being the first one to be chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge of A.Y.M. of Pennsylvania outside their jurisdiction. Before the onset of the American Revolution, they were to charter their second lodge, No. 14 at Christiana Ferry (Wilmington), in the winter of 1769.

During our War for Independence, the Provincial Grand Lodge, A.Y.M., of Pennsylvania, was to charter two more lodges within the State of Delaware. They were No. 18 at Dover, chartered in the fall of 1775, followed in the spring of 1780 by No. 33 at New Castle. After the cessation of the hostilities with England, a fifth lodge, No. 44, was chartered in the summer of 1785 at Duck Creek Crossroads (Smyrna). This was to be the last lodge chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge, A.Y.M., of Pennsylvania, as the next year, 1786, they formed their independent and current Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania.

This period, 1786-87, also marked the first attempt of Delaware's five lodges of A.Y.M., chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge, A.Y.M., of Pennsylvania, to form a Grand Lodge of Delaware. This initial effort by the brethren of Delaware failed, resulting in the re-chartering of Delaware's Lodges No. 5 at Odessa,

No. 14 at Wilmington and No. 33 at New Castle by the newly instituted Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania between 1787 and 1790. During this same period Lodge No. 18 at Dover and Lodge No. 44 at Smyrna both became dormant, vacating their charters.

Delaware, with three active lodges surviving, next turned to Maryland in their quest for additional Masonic light. Following the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Maryland in 1787, it was not until the fall of 1792 that Maryland was to charter their first lodge outside their jurisdiction. This Delaware Lodge, No. 10 at Georgetown, was later to be designated by Maryland as St. John's Lodge No. 10.

Of the five lodges which had been chartered by the former Provincial Grand Lodge of A.Y.M. of Pennsylvania, only three remained viable. Delaware next petitioned the newly independent Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Pennsylvania which resulted in the chartering of Lodge No. 63 at Lewistown (Lewes) in the spring of 1794.

The year 1794 also marked the second attempt by the Delaware brethren to form a Grand Lodge of Delaware composed of the four lodges chartered by Pennsylvania and the one lodge by Maryland. Although they again failed and, undaunted by Lodge No. 10 at Georgetown becoming dormant about 1796, they made a third try in 1797 to form a Grand Lodge. This attempt, like the previous two, also failed with Lodge No. 63 at Lewes becoming dormant at the same time.

Delaware was again to turn to the Grand Lodge of Maryland for the second time when some of the brethren of Sussex County endeavored to have St. John's Lodge No. 10 reinstated at Georgetown, which had been dormant for four years. Even though their request was denied, they were successful in the chartering of Hope Lodge No. 31 at Laurelton (Laurel) in the summer of 1800. Finally, after the chartering of Lodge No. 96 at New Ark (Newark) in the winter of 1802 by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, the stage was at last set for the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Delaware.

At a meeting held at the Town Hall in the Borough of Wilmington on June 6, 1806, a Grand Lodge of Masons for Delaware was constituted under the leadership of Past Master Jesse Green of Concord. Nine brethren representing a majority of the lodges of Ancient York Masons established in the State of Delaware were in attendance. The four lodges which they represented were No. 14, No. 33 and No. 96 under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and No. 31 chartered by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

These brethren, joined by four others, met the following day, June 7, 1806, again in Wilmington's Town Hall, resulting in the four lodges becoming Washington Lodge No. 1 at Wilmington, St. John's Lodge No. 2 at New Castle, Hiram Lodge No. 3 at Newark, and Hope Lodge No. 4 at Laurel. Thus, the Grand Lodge of Delaware finally became a reality with the election of Gunning Bedford, Jr., of Wilmington, as their first Grand Master.

Even though the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Delaware became a reality on June 6-7, 1806, after three previous unsuccessful attempts, the lack of unanimity among the Delaware brethren was still evident. A point of contention arose among the members of the first lodge to be chartered within the state, forty-one years earlier, as Lodge No. 5 in Odessa. They chose not to join with their four sister Delaware lodges at that time, fearing reprisals from their mother Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. So ten more years would elapse before they were destined to affiliate with the Grand Lodge of Delaware as Union Lodge No. 5, occupying the vacancy which had been reserved for them since the beginning in 1806.

Thus, let us as the Master Masons of today take this opportunity to reaffirm our Masonic principles as we harken the echoes from the preamble of those regulations adopted by our founding brethren one hundred and seventy-five years ago: "Therefore we the members of the majority of the lodges within the State of Delaware, the better to establish and promote order and uniformity, love and charity and to diffuse the general principles of the Craft, do ordain and establish the regulation for the government of the Grand Lodge of Delaware."



WASHINGTON LODGE NO. 1

On June 7, 1806, a charter was granted to Washington Lodge No. 1 by Grand Master Gunning Bedford, Jr., naming Thomas Stockton - Worshipful Master, John Hedrick - Senior Warden, and Archibald Hamilton - Junior Warden. This marked the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware with the assistance of three other lodges meeting in New Castle, Newark, and Laurel.

The first lodge to be chartered at Christiana Ferry (Wilmington) was Lodge No. 14 by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on December 27, 1769, with Hugh McConnell - Worshipful Master, Jonathan Jordan - Senior Warden, and Joseph McGarraugh - Junior Warden. This lodge appears to have met primarily in the homes of several of its members. On September 25, 1786, the Independent Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was established replacing the Provincial Grand Lodge which had previously operated under the authority of Great Britain. At about this period Lodge No. 14 was experiencing dissensions among its members as it appealed to the Grand Master of Pennsylvania to take steps for quieting the discord.

On January 15, 1789, Lodge No. 14 was issued its new warrant by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania naming Patrick Murdock - Worshipful Master, David Bush - Senior Warden, and Jonas Alrich - Junior Warden. Later the same year a Brother Rutherford petitioned the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to command the Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 14 to return the jewels he had loaned them about twenty years earlier and for which he had not been compensated. The Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 14 responded that the jewels were lent to another lodge in Delaware which was then extinct and they felt no responsibility in the matter. The warrant of Lodge No. 14 was finally vacated September 15, 1806,

for unmasonic proceedings in the establishment of the pretended Grand Lodge of Delaware.

There can be little doubt that the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware was largely through the concentrated efforts of the brethren of Lodge No 14 as five of the eight charter Grand Lodge officers were members of this Lodge. By the same token it was probably their Junior Warden Archibald Hamilton who incurred the wrath of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania when he informed them of Delaware's actions rather than intentions. It also did not help matters that Lodge No. 14 had only filed returns until 1784 and the only payment had been in 1781, during their entire 37-year association with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. The final indignation came when Brother Hamilton offered to settle their account for the sum of \$50 as the only terms he was authorized to make.

Finally on December 16, 1811, the said Grand Lodge of Delaware was duly recognized by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, thus gaining recognition throughout the world. By the time Lodge No. 5 of Middletown withdrew from the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania to join the Grand Lodge of Delaware on January 15, 1816, three out of four of Delaware's earliest Grand Masters had been members of Washington No. 1: Gunning Bedford, Jr., Edward Roche and John Sellars, and the original four lodges had increased to nine with a total membership of 291 or a gain of 250% during the first ten years. Thus, Washington Lodge continues to project its Masonic image as it has from our earliest beginnings.



ST. JOHN'S LODGE NO. 2

The present St. John's Lodge No. 2 had its charter revived on June 27, 1848, by Grand Master Alexander Porter, naming William T. Read - Worshipful Master, Amos H. Wickersham - Senior Warden, and William H. Dobbs - Junior Warden, after remaining dormant for a period of twenty years. The lodge rented the third floor of the New Castle Town Hall, which space was shared with the Odd Fellows, before they were finally able to build about thirty years later.

Masonic light first came to New Castle on April 4, 1781, when Lodge No. 33 became the fourth to be chartered by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the state of Delaware. It was to alternate meetings each year between New Castle and Christiana Bridge, but has always met at New Castle since 1797. They were able to count among their members many of the leading statesmen, patriots and citizens of colonial New Castle and were most active from their inception in 1781 until it reached a low point between 1793-1797, with only 3-4 meetings being held. By 1806 Lodge No. 33 had regained its vigor and stamina to be one of the four lodges to constitute the Grand Lodge of Delaware, thus becoming St. John's Lodge No. 2.

Masonic discord was to appear in 1825 when Jefferson Lodge No. 15 was also chartered in New Castle. It was formed out of a controversy which arose over an oration to be given by Brother John D. Read of St. John's Lodge No. 2. After having been delegated by his lodge to make the oration, it was decided by some of the members that he was too young a Mason and had not received the Royal Arch degree and, therefore, should not be the speaker. Relations were evidently most bitter and anything but Masonic, with both lodges refusing to admit each others officers

as visitors. Brother Read finally gave the oration, but as a charter member of Jefferson Lodge rather than as a member of St. John's Lodge. Both lodges failed to survive; Jefferson No. 15 surrendered its charter in 1840, which was then assigned to Lewes in 1849, while St. John's No. 2 remained dormant from 1828-1848.

Only twenty years were to elapse after the revival of St. John's Lodge No. 2 in 1848 until Masonic discord was again to appear in New Castle with the chartering of Jefferson Lodge No. 24 in 1868. It was formed on the petition of ten members from St. John's to revive old Jefferson Lodge No. 15, which had since been designated to Lewes nineteen years earlier. They were then assigned Jefferson Lodge No. 24, but unlike the previous controversy in 1825, no reason can be found for their action. The ten brothers included two Past Grand Masters and a Grand Treasurer and, while bitterness marked the relations between the two lodges in 1825, yet during the second withdrawal in 1868, there seems to have been perfect amity and good will as they both used the same hall and jewels until Jefferson Lodge No. 24 became dormant in 1876.

Of the eight Grand Masters elected from St. John's Lodge, the name of William T. Read stands unparalleled. He had withdrawn from St. John's Lodge to assist in the formation of Jefferson Lodges No. 15 and No. 24 in 1825 and 1868, but returned as Worshipful Master when St. John's charter was revived in 1848, going on to serve three terms as Grand Master from 1850-1852 and occupied almost every Grand Lodge office. Thus, St. John's Lodge No. 2 in New Castle has not lost sight of projecting their Masonic image.



HOPE LODGE NO. 4

On June 7, 1806, a charter was granted to Hope Lodge No. 4 in Laurel by Grand Master Gunning Bedford, Jr., marking the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, along with three other lodges then meeting in Wilmington, New Castle and Newark.

Masonic light first came to Laureltown with the chartering of Hope Lodge No. 31 by the Grand Lodge of Maryland on June 23, 1800. This was the result of Jesse Green's efforts to revive the charter of Lodge No. 10 of Georgetown which had existed between 1792-1796, but had been dormant for four years. At least ten of the thirteen charter members of Lodge No. 31 were former members of Lodge No. 10.

Hope Lodge No. 31 continued to flourish and in 1806, with a total of nineteen members, became one of the four lodges in the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, thus becoming Hope Lodge No. 4. It was largely due to the leadership of Jesse Green that the Grand Lodge of Delaware became a reality and, although Gunning Bedford, Jr., was selected to be the first Grand Master, it was only fitting that Jesse Green became the first Deputy Grand Master.

It was during Jesse Green's 3-year term as Grand Master, 1809-1811, that the first Grand Chaplain was appointed, the differences with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania were settled and a set of Grand Lodge jewels was procured. After having served as charter Worshipful Master of Lodges No. 10 and 31 as well as Grand Master, he again became the charter Worshipful Master when Temple Lodge No. 9 was chartered in Milford in 1815.

The second Grand Master to be elected from Hope Lodge was James Derrickson, a physician, who served a 3-year term, 1821-1823. During this period, both Franklin Lodge No. 12 in Georgetown and Harmony Lodge No. 13 in Smyrna were chartered. Current studies are only now revealing that as Jesse Green was the cornerstone of our Grand Lodge, so the same designation must be given James Derrickson in both our Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons and the Cryptic Rite.

Between 1876-1877 the third Grand Master was elected from Hope Lodge No. 4 in the person of Thomas N. Williams who later served as State Superintendent of Schools from 1883-1887. During his term as Grand Master, the first Grand Lecturer was appointed and the Grand Lodge was composed of twenty-two lodges with a membership of over 1200, Hope No. 4 accounting for twenty-four of them.

William E. Valliant was the fourth Grand Master to serve from Hope Lodge in 1914. He was associated with the Marvil Company, as well as the Valliant Company in Laurel. During his term the Grand Lodge laid the cornerstone of the Women's College in Newark and also endorsed and contributed to the Masonic War Relief Association as World War I began.

In 1921 George C. Williams, a Methodist minister in Laurel, became the fifth member of Hope Lodge No. 4 to serve as Grand Master. This was the formative period of the Gunning Bedford, Jr., Memorial Scholarship Fund and also marked the expansion of Delaware's Masonic Home. The celebration of George Washington's Masonic birthday was also observed by all lodges in this Grand Jurisdiction and a mass meeting was held in Wilmington High School.

The sixth Grand Master from Hope Lodge No. 4 was W. Harrison Phillips in 1957, who was engaged in the milling business. The Grand Lodge then consisted of twenty-two lodges with 8400 members and Hope Lodge No. 4 having 190. Year 1957 also marked the dedication of another addition to our Masonic Home and the installation of an improved fire alarm system.

May that spark of Freemasonry, which was first lit in Laurel-town by Jesse Green and kindled by succeeding generations, continue to burn brightly on our altar as a reminder of our responsibility to so project our Masonic image that the honor, glory and reputation of our institution may be firmly established, and the world at large convinced of its good effects.



UNION LODGE NO. 5

Union Lodge No. 5 of Middletown was originally chartered as Lodge No. 5, Ancient York Masons, in Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa) by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on June 24, 1765, naming William Bradford - Worshipful Master, Peter Wyatt - Senior Warden, and Duncan Beard - Junior Warden. In addition to being the first regular Masonic lodge in Delaware, it was also the first to be chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Ancient York Masons of Pennsylvania outside the bounds of their Providence.

Lodge No. 5 met on the last Thursday of the month at 2 p.m., and during the period 1765-1779 initiated ninety Masons, fifty-seven of whom saw service in the American Revolution, two listed as Colonels, nine as Captains, and seven as Lieutenants. During these early days, the elections were held in December, the Worshipful Master being the only one installed. He in turn appointed the other officers and if any declined to serve, they were fined two dollars.

In August 1775 three visitors from Dover presented themselves at Lodge No. 5, and upon examination were found to be Ancient York Masons, but "clandestinely made". Upon their request, they were made regular by receiving the three degrees of Masonry and the same evening requested certificates of withdrawal in order that they might petition the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania for a warrant for a new lodge. By October 1775 Lodge No. 18 was constituted in Dover with the same three "Masonic visitors" serving as the charter officers of this new lodge.

In the minutes of September 1777, we find that Lodge No. 5 was prevented from meeting the previous month due to the confusion they were thrown into by the British Army landing at Elk. This, of course, was just prior to the Battles of Cooch's Bridge and the Brandywine. The minutes of Lodge No. 5 also reveal their part in the establishment of Lodge No. 33 in New Castle in 1780, as well as their participation with the other Delaware Lodges in several attempts to establish a Grand Lodge of Delaware prior to the year 1806.

Lodge No. 5 maintained its fealty to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania when the Grand Lodge of Delaware was finally constituted in 1806. Eventually, it became Union Lodge No. 5 under the Grand Lodge of Delaware in 1816, assuming their rightful place which had been reserved for them ten years earlier. Since moving their location to Middletown in 1822, Union Lodge No. 5 has contributed the leadership of five of their Past Masters to serve our craft as Grand Masters of Masons in Delaware: Arnold Naudain, 1825-1827; John C. McCabe, 1870-1872; William W. Black, 1899; and Francis W. Hukill, 1953.

In 1977 Elton P. Holland became the fifth Past Master of Union Lodge No. 5 to be elected Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware. Under his leadership, the Masons of Delaware were challenged to share the responsibility of projecting their Masonic Image. Thus, Grand Master Holland continued the example set by his lodge, Union No. 5, the Mother Lodge of Freemasonry in Delaware, during the past two centuries of her existence.

In closing, let us ever remember the Latin motto selected by "Ole" Lodge No. 5, Ancient York Masons, in 1765: "Amor Honora et Justicia" - Love, Honor and Equal Justice. These continue to be the basic tenets of our Fraternity, even today, so mote it be.



UNION LODGE NO. 7

The present Union Lodge No. 7 had its charter revived on June 27, 1857, by Grand Master Alfred P. Robinson, naming James P. Wild - Worshipful Master, William Shark - Senior Warden, and John A. Nicholson - Junior Warden, after remaining dormant for a period of twenty-three years. They first met in the old brick academy on State Street where their predecessors had met during their existence from 1809 until 1834.

After the first year they moved north on State Street to the Dunning Building where they met for twenty-seven years. During this period only sixteen men served as Worshipful Masters. In 1885 the lodge moved to 22 Loockerman Street where they continued to meet until 1927, at which time they moved back to State Street in the Hinkle Building where they remained until the present temple on South Street was completed in 1960. Over a 102-year period Union Lodge No. 7 was privileged in having ten Grand Masters called from their ranks to serve the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware.

The first Union Lodge No. 7, Ancient York Masons, was chartered on June 24, 1809, with Willard Hall as charter Worshipful Master. Brother Hall was born in Massachusetts in 1780 and, after graduating from Harvard Law School, came to Delaware on horseback in 1803. He served as Secretary of State, congressman and State Senator before being appointed a federal judge by President James Monroe in 1823. He continued to serve in this position for forty-eight years, retiring in 1871 at the age of ninety-one.

Judge Hall was best known as "the father of our state school system" on the basis of establishing the 1829 school system law

which divided the counties into school districts with legal authority in the qualified voters of each district to establish and maintain free schools. Each district was to receive a fair share of state funds upon the condition that they raise local funds; thus the taxpayers were responsible for the quality of education received in their local school system.

Brother Hall, having served Union Lodge as Worshipful Master twelve times (six-month terms), went on to be elected Junior Grand Warden in 1809 and 1810 and Grand Master in 1817 and 1818. By this time the Grand Lodge of Delaware was composed of nine lodges with a total membership of 291. Due to the Morgan Affair, Union Lodge became dormant in about 1833 but during a twenty-three year period their ten charter members had "brought to light" forty-four who went on to distinguish themselves in honor and service to our Fraternity.

Masonic Light first came to Dover on August 26, 1775, when Lodge No. 18 became the third to be chartered by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in the state of Delaware. During their twelve-year history they met at the "Sign of General Washington", an inn which stood on the Green until it was destroyed by fire in 1863, where the Kent County Courthouse now stands. Between 1775 and 1787, 106 men were made Masons with at least twenty of their members serving as officers in the American Revolution, a claim which few Masonic lodges can equal.

A few of these Masonic patriots were Colonel David Hall, whose regiment saw action in six major battles before he was able to return to become charter Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 63 in Lewes and Governor of Delaware; Captain Jonathan Caldwell of the Company of Blue Hen Chicks with their famous fighting cocks; Captain Robert Kirkwood, who risked his life in thirty-three battles before making the supreme sacrifice for his country; Captain James Tilton, surgeon, who saved the Continental Army from a typhus fever epidemic, later to become Surgeon General in the War of 1812. But the greatest patriot of all was Captain Allen McLane of whom General George Washington remarked: "I would not do without him in the Light Corps - no, not for a thousand pounds."

Thus, during the past two centuries of our nation's history, the brethren of Dover have endeavored to uphold their responsibility in projecting their Masonic Image in their community, state and nation.



TEMPLE LODGE NO. 9

On January 16, 1815, a charter was granted to Temple Lodge No. 9 to meet in Milford by Grand Master John Sellers naming Past Grand Master Jesse Green - Worshipful Master, John Mitchell - Senior Warden, and James Millechop - Junior Warden. With the exception of Jesse Green, their charter members were all from Milford or its vicinity.

This was the third lodge that was to have Jesse Green as its charter Worshipful Master, having previously served in that capacity with Lodge No. 10 in Georgetown in 1792 and Lodge No. 31 in Laurel in 1800. Both of these earlier lodges had been established in Delaware by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Jesse Green was born in Maryland in 1766, coming to Concord, Delaware, in 1790. He was engaged in the mercantile and shipping business, amassing considerable wealth and acquiring over 3,000 acres. He was also a Roman Catholic and the father of twelve children.

Masonically, he was made a Mason in Washington Lodge No. 3 near Baltimore, which is still in existence today and is the oldest lodge within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Maryland. In 1800, he was elected Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, re-elected in 1801 and in 1802 was elected Senior Grand Warden.

Jesse Green was one of the most brilliant guiding lights which culminated in the constitution of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware on June 6, 1806 and was elected the first Deputy Grand Master of the newly

formed Grand Lodge. Three years later he succeeded our first Grand Master, Gunning Bedford, Jr., to the office of Grand Master in 1809. It was during his ensuing three-year term as Grand Master that Jesse Green was able to bring about a settlement of the differences between the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Delaware, which resulted in our national recognition.

Brother Green was active in the political life of Sussex County, being elected to the House of Representatives eight terms between 1797 and 1807 and served as Speaker in 1804. He was elected State Senator four times between 1812 and 1824 serving as Speaker in 1815 and 1824. He was Adjutant General from 1808 to 1814 and when the War of 1812 broke out he helped raise a regiment of Delaware and Maryland troops and was present with these troops at the British bombardment of Lewes.

He died in 1834 at the age of 68 and is buried in the Episcopal Cemetery at Seaford. The only known original likeness of Jesse Green is that youthful picture of him which today hangs in the Milford Masonic Temple. Even though this portrait is all that remains of his likeness, it should ever serve as a constant reminder of the outstanding contributions he made in the establishment of the Grand Lodge of Delaware.

Although the spark which was ignited by Jesse Green has been intensified by ten of Temple Lodge's members being elected to the exalted station of Grand Master, it must never be forgotten that it was Jesse Green who placed Delaware Freemasonry on such a solid foundation. Thus, when Jesse Green stood in the Northeast corner he was destined to become the cornerstone of our fraternity. Let us ever continue to emulate the example which he has set for us to follow.



TEMPLE LODGE NO. 11

On January 20, 1817, a charter was granted to Temple Lodge No. 11 by Grand Master John Sellars naming Archibald Hamilton - Worshipful Master, John Springer - Senior Warden, and Benjamin Springer - Junior Warden. Within the first five months, the five charter members had increased their membership to seventeen and between 1818-1829 fifty-one new members were received into Temple Lodge No. 11. The year 1829 also marked the first of eleven Past Masters to be called from their ranks to serve as Grand Master of Masons in Delaware in the person of Archibald Hamilton. During the next two years the lodge ceased to grow due to the effect of the Morgan Affair, which resulted in vacating their charter and surrendering their jewels in 1832.

On March 24, 1837, after a five-year lapse, Temple Lodge No. 11 was revived and resumed their labors. They continued to meet regularly for a little over a year and some work was done; but from June 1838 to July 1843, the lodge failed to meet, it being stated that unavoidable circumstances prevented such meetings. These conditions resulted in Temple Lodge No. 11 again being forced to vacate their charter in 1842.

Six months later, on June 27, 1843, the prayer of the petitioners was granted when the charter and jewels were again returned to Temple Lodge No. 11 for the second time. From this period, 1843, up to the present, the lodge has never ceased to work, although their lights dimmed briefly in 1847 and again in 1880.

Within a nine-year period (1843-1851), thirty-six new members were added to the lodge. During this period they passed through many financial difficulties and by 1847 the attendance

was again so poor that consideration was again given to surrendering their charter for a third time. But fortunately through this period of adversity, Temple Lodge No. 11 successfully passed and in 1848-1849 their Past Master Richard Clement was elected Grand Master.

The period of 1852-1881 marked the Great Renaissance of Freemasonry in Delaware as sixty-five members were added to the rolls of Temple Lodge No. 11 during this twenty-nine-year period. These included two more future Grand Masters: John P. Allmond, who would serve in 1873-1874, and Dr. George W. Chaytor in 1875. Again in 1880, due to poor attendance the Worshipful Master summoned the members to show cause why the charter should not be surrendered. The membership of Temple Lodge No. 11 again rallied to the call of duty and survived as attested to by a current membership of 262.

During the present century Temple Lodge No. 11 has been honored by seven more of their Past Masters being elected as Grand Masters of the Grand Lodge of Delaware: Dr. Harmer Rile - 1898, Edward Mode - 1909, Stuart Horn - 1916, Stewart Allmond - 1932, Bayard Allmond - 1946, Charles Daniels - 1960, Lousell Jewell - 1970 and William Littel - 1979.

Thus, Temple Lodge No. 11, since 1817, has felt the responsibility to project its Masonic image by the words written on the title page of their earliest written record: "and now abideth Faith, Hope, and Charity; these three, but the greatest of these is Charity".



FRANKLIN LODGE NO. 12

On June 27, 1823, a charter was granted to Franklin Lodge No. 12 by Grand Master James Derrickson, naming Caleb Layton - Worshipful Master, Kendal Batson - Senior Warden, and Asaph Buck - Junior Warden. Their meeting place was the third story of the Eagle Hotel where they continued to meet until 1838.

Freemasonry and Georgetown have become synonymous in Sussex County, since the town was founded in 1791 and a lodge in 1792. This first lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, only to become dormant four years later in 1796. Just recently has the only known return of this early lodge been located, dated 1794 and listing thirty-six members. A study reveals that the majority of these first Sussex County Masons continued to spread their Masonic Light by assisting in the chartering of five additional lodges between the years 1794 and 1823, three of which continue to labor today.

After a twenty-seven-year lapse of Masonic activity in Georgetown, Franklin Lodge No. 12 came to light in 1823. This lodge was one of six to survive the Morgan Affair. During this period of anti-Masonic activity, twelve Delaware lodges were to become dark and the membership decreased from 365 to approximately 150 before the cloud passed. Over a twenty-six-year period (1833-1859) we find four Grand Masters emerged from Franklin Lodge No. 12 to guide and direct the Grand Lodge of Delaware for twelve of its **most crucial** and trying years. By the time of the Civil War, there **were again** thirteen lodges in Delaware as 13,000 Delawareans answered their country's call to the colors.

One of the most colorful Delaware heroes of the war between the states has to be General Alfred Thomas Archimedes Torbert who was born and educated in Georgetown, and later entered the United States Military Academy at West Point. He was made a Mason in Franklin Lodge while serving as a Lieutenant before the Civil War. At the outbreak of the war, he was appointed a Colonel in the Peninsular Campaign, fought in the second Battle of Bull Run and Antietam. At Gettysburg he served as a Brigadier General. Two years later he was made a Major General and transferred to command a corps of cavalry under General Philip Sheridan in the Wilderness Campaign against General J. E. B. Stuart. General George A. Custer, who served under him, once said that Torbert leading a charge with his whiskers blowing over his shoulders was an inspiring sight. After the Battle of Fisher's Hill, when his attempt to trap Jubal Early's army was foiled by the Confederate Cavalry, he was criticized by Sheridan. A few days later he received the famous order: "Whip or get whipped". Torbert did just that, wiping out General Rosser's Confederate forces. After the war he was appointed by President Grant to various diplomatic posts in San Salvador, Havana and finally Paris. Thus, the brethren in Georgetown were aware of their responsibility, fourteen years before the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, of projecting their Masonic image and still continue to labor to that end.



HARMONY LODGE NO. 13

The present Harmony Lodge No. 13 had its charter revived on June 27, 1867, by Grand Master Daniel McClintock, naming Issac S. Shortman - Worshipful Master, John H. Peterson - Senior Warden, and Jacob P. Dickson - Junior Warden, after remaining dormant for a period of thirty-four years. Meetings were held in various locations including the third floor above the Smyrna Town Hall until it was destroyed by fire on Christmas night in 1948. They then moved into the third floor of the Clayton Town Hall where they met continuously for twenty years until their present temple was completed and dedicated in the Still Building in Smyrna on November 19, 1977.

Masonic light first came to Smyrna when Lodge No. 44 was chartered at Duck Creek Cross Roads on June 23, 1785. This was to be the fifth and last lodge to be chartered in Delaware by the Pennsylvania Provincial Grand Lodge of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England (Ancient York Masons). This lodge was constituted on the recommendation of Lodge No. 18 in Dover with both becoming dormant at about the same time. The charter members of Lodge No. 44 numbered ten, seven from Lodge No. 18, two from Lodge No. 5 at Odessa and one from Lodge No. 6 at Georgetown, Maryland. Within the first year they initiated six new members. Daniel Cummins was their first Worshipful Master, having been a Past Master of Lodge No. 18 at Dover. The other charter officers were also former members of Lodge No. 18. Although Lodge No. 44 became dormant about 1787, its last report was filed with the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1791 showing thirteen of the original eighteen members missing from their rolls, with their charter Worshipful Master Cummins and Senior Warden Freeman having been expelled and Junior Warden Berry having obtained

a demit. Much speculation remains as to what activities could have transpired about 1787 to result in both Lodges No. 18 and No. 44 to have become dormant and ceased to exist.

The first Harmony Lodge No. 13 was chartered on January 19, 1824, by Grand Master James Derrickson, naming Jerome Loring - Worshipful Master, Thomas Jamison - Senior Warden, and Garry Longfellow - Junior Warden, but dark days were ahead as evidenced by the fact that they surrendered their charter in 1833.

After twenty years of enthusiastic growth, the anti-Masonic movement set in. The growing pains of a new nation and a growth in the concepts of popular democracy brought secret orders under suspicion. The Masonic Order declined drastically. Where seventeen lodges existed in 1826 with a membership of 365, ten were gone by 1840, leaving only about 150 members.

For a decade and a half, the Masonic fraternity was threatened with extinction. Then around 1840, the anti-Masonic movement began to lose force. For another ten years the Delaware Masons struggled to revive their former strength, a struggle which finally began to show results in the early 1850's. From the mid-1850's through the 1870's the Masons effected a revival that more than blotted out the dark days with eleven new lodges being chartered and four of the seven "dark lodges" rechartered.

Thus, the brethren of Smyrna have felt their responsibility in projecting their Masonic Image in their community as well as in our state of Delaware.



LAFAYETTE LODGE NO. 14

On January 17, 1825, a charter was granted to Lafayette Lodge No. 14 by Grand Master J. G. Brinckle naming Josiah F. Clement - Worshipful Master, John D. Wood - Senior Warden, and John Gordon - Junior Warden. At a special communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware on July 25, 1825, which was called for the purpose of making Brother Lafayette our first Past Grand Master Honorarius, the distinguished guest, his son and secretary signed their names to the charter of the lodge which had been named in honor of him only six months earlier.

In 1866 Daniel McClintock became the first of nine Grand Masters to be elected from Lafayette. During his two-year term he issued warrants for Felton Lodge No. 22, Eureka Lodge No. 23, Jefferson Lodge No. 24 and revived that of Harmony Lodge No. 13.

He was followed by Grand Master Edwin J. Horner in 1868, who also served for two years. Grand Master Horner laid the cornerstone of the Town Hall at Middletown and also granted the charters for both Hiram Lodge No. 23 and Armstrong Lodge No. 26.

The third Grand Master from Lafayette Lodge was Thomas Davidson, who also served two years, beginning in 1884. Grand Master Davidson, in addition to dedicating the new lodge rooms of Union Lodge No. 7 and Harmony Lodge No. 13, also participated with his staff in the dedication of the Washington Monument, Washington, D.C.

In 1902 Harry J. Gathrie was elected Grand Master, the fourth to be so honored from Lafayette Lodge. In addition to

chartering Doric Lodge No. 30, he also attended a communication of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, which commemorated the 150th Anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington as a Mason. The speaker at this event was Brother Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States, who spoke on "Freemasonry and Citizenship".

Enoch Moore was the fifth Grand Master from Lafayette Lodge in 1911. It was his privilege to dedicate the Masonic Home of Delaware on October 2, 1912, the fulfillment of a dream of the Grand Lodge of Delaware since the idea was first proposed in 1895. The twelve-acre estate known as Highfield on Lancaster Pike was purchased on November 29, 1911, and dedicated less than a year later with eight guests during its first year.

The sixth Grand Master from Lafayette Lodge was Harry Galbraith in 1926, who also served as Grand Tyler from 1907 until 1942 with the exception of the two years he was Deputy Grand Master and Grand Master. It was also during his term that Past Grand Master Charles H. Callahan of Virginia was made the fifth Grand Master Honorarius of the Grand Lodge of Delaware.

In 1936 Harry W. Lowe became the seventh Grand Master from Lafayette Lodge. He participated in the Bicentennial of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in Edinburgh with over 3,000 Masons from all parts of the world. He also took part in the 125th Anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution as well as the 150th Anniversary of the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

Henry I. Law was the eighth Grand Master from Lafayette Lodge in 1950. He consecrated Ionic Lodge No. 31 and installed their officers in the Henry C. Conrad High School gymnasium before a large assemblage of Masons. He also instituted the practice of the Grand Lodge of Delaware presenting pins to their fifty-year members, which continues even today.

Finally in 1964 William D. Paulin became the ninth Grand Master from Lafayette Lodge, having also served as acting Grand Master for the previous ten months due to the death of Grand Master Sipple. During Grand Master Paulin's term the first issue of Delaware Freemasonry appeared. He also consecrated, dedicated and constituted both Granite Lodge No. 34 and Christiana Lodge No. 35.

Thus, the brethren of Lafayette Lodge No. 14 have projected their Masonic image as evidenced by the nine of their number who have been called to advance Freemasonry in Delaware by being summoned to serve the craft in the office of Grand Master.



JEFFERSON LODGE NO. 15

On June 27, 1849, Grand Master Richard Clement directed the Charter and Jewels of Jefferson Lodge No. 15, formerly working at New Castle, to be transferred to a lodge at Lewes and revived under the same name and number with George Tunnell - Worshipful Master, John Walker - Senior Warden, and Edward West - Junior Warden. The first Jefferson Lodge No. 15 had existed in New Castle from 1825 until the effects of the Morgan Affair were felt in 1840.

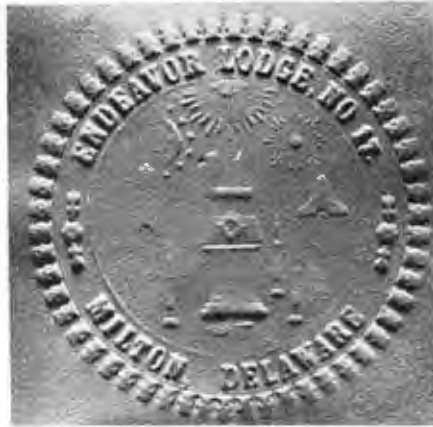
Freemasonry made its appearance in Lewistown (Lewes) when the sixth lodge to be chartered by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Delaware was warranted on May 28, 1794. This lodge, No. 63, was the first lodge to be constituted following the formation of the independent Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1786. David Hall, who was born in Lewes in 1752, was their charter Worshipful Master.

Hall was an attorney, being admitted to the Delaware Bar in 1773 and was raised in Lodge No. 18 (Dover) under the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on May 18, 1776. In January 1776 he was commissioned a Captain in Colonel Haslet's Delaware Regiment and was in the Battles of Long Island and White Plains. In April 1777 he was commissioned a Colonel in the Delaware Regiment, succeeding Colonel John Haslet who had been killed during the Battle of Princeton. He led the regiment to Morristown and was with them during the Battle of Brandywine. At the Battle of Germantown in October 1777, he was wounded and went home on account of illness.

Hall was sufficiently recovered to command the Delaware Regiment during the occupation of Wilmington in the Winter of 1777-1778. He was Worshipful Master of Hiram's Delaware Regimental Lodge No. 30 under the Provincial Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania which was chartered in the Spring of 1780. During the disastrous Battle of Camden, August 16, 1780, the jewels and records along with the warrant of this lodge were lost. Although Colonel Hall was unable to lead the Delaware Regiment in the Southern Campaign, his men played a prominent role in the final battles of the American Revolution under the capable leadership of Major Joseph Vaughn.

Only recently have the returns of Lodge No. 10 in Georgetown (1792-1796) for the year 1794 been located. This lodge was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, and we find David Hall listed among its thirty-six members. Thus, Brother David Hall was a member of two lodges (No. 18 in Dover and No. 10 in Georgetown) and charter Worshipful Master of two others (No. 30, Military Lodge and No. 63 in Lewes). Colonel David Hall was Governor of Delaware from 1802-1805 and appointed Associated Judge of the Court of Common Pleas for Sussex County from 1813 until his death in 1817.

Lewes established its image by being the first settlement in Delaware, when DeVries founded the Dutch colony in 1631. Let the Masons of today heed their responsibility to preserve that image established here in Lewes over three centuries ago.



ENDEAVOR LODGE NO. 17

On June 27, 1848, Grand Master Richard Clement read a petition from James Ponder and nine other Master Masons for a charter for a lodge at Milton. The charter of Endeavor Lodge No. 17 at Frederica was revived for Endeavor Lodge No. 17 at Milton, naming James Ponder - Worshipful Master, Theodore Parker - Senior Warden, and Elisha Holland - Junior Warden. Worshipful Master Ponder conducted a successful mercantile business in Milton, was elected State Representative - 1856, State Senator - 1864, Speaker of Senate - 1867, Governor of Delaware 1871-1875. "A man of affairs and successful in business, he never lost touch with the plain people in his state."

The original charter for Endeavor No. 17 at Frederica was issued by Grand Master Arnold Naudain on January 16, 1826, naming James Lister - Worshipful Master, Thomas Clark - Senior Warden, and Samuel Viriden - Junior Warden. On June 27, 1827, the Grand Lodge of Delaware ordered the books and papers of America Lodge No. 10 of Camden (1817-1827) turned over to Endeavor Lodge No. 17 of Frederica. On January 18, 1830, Endeavor Lodge No. 17 of Frederica expressed the desire to surrender its charter because of deaths, removals, resignations and a want of proper zeal. Thus, Endeavor Lodge No. 17 existed for only four years in Frederica (1826-1830) and following a lapse of eighteen years was revived in Milton in 1848.

In 1927 Weldon C. Waples was the first Grand Master to be elected from Endeavor Lodge No. 17. He was President of Waples Lumber Company of Milton, Vice President and Treasurer of Newark Lumber Company, director of Newark Trust Company, as well as of the Delaware, Maryland and Virginia Railroad Company. At this time, Endeavor Lodge No. 17 had a membership of about 100.

On June 3, 1928, Grand Master Waples called a special communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware in Middletown for the purpose of unveiling a tablet presented to and placed in "Old Drawyers' Meeting House", near Odessa, by Union Lodge No. 5 in memory of Past Master Duncan Beard. An interesting address bearing on the life of Duncan Beard was delivered by Honorable Henry C. Conrad.

Duncan Beard was charter Junior Warden of Lodge No. 5 at Cantwell's Bridge, under the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania and the oldest in Delaware. Past Master Beard was an active Mason, a renown clockmaker and intimately associated with Old Drawyers' Meeting House.

In 1963 the membership of Endeavor Lodge No. 17 had risen to 150 when Lawrence E. Sipple was elected Grand Master. Brother Sipple was the second Grand Master to serve from their ranks, only to die two months after his election.

Thus, the town of Milton, which was incorporated in February 1807 by an act of legislature, approximates the age of the Grand Lodge of Delaware and can boast of contributing four governors to our state. As the citizens of Milton have honored their namesake, the famous English poet John Milton, may the members of Endeavor Lodge continue to endeavor to emulate the beauty he expressed in his literary works.



JACKSON LODGE NO. 19

On June 27, 1857, a charter was granted to Jackson Lodge No. 19 in Delaware City by Grand Master Alfred P. Robinson naming John Homan - Worshipful Master, Alexander Biddle - Senior Warden, and Adam Culin - Junior Warden. This was the first lodge to be chartered in Delaware after a lapse of thirty-three years, with Union Lodge No. 7 in Dover being revived at the same time after being dark for nearly a quarter of a century as the result of the Morgan Affair. Of Jackson Lodge's nine charter members, four were from St. John's Lodge No. 2, one from Washington Lodge No. 1 with at least some of the remaining from Union No. 5.

In 1861 the first member of Jackson Lodge to be elected to a Grand Lodge office was Benjamin N. Ogle, one of their charter members, formerly of Washington Lodge No. 1, being elected as Grand Treasurer. The following year, 1862, he was elected to the office of Grand Secretary, serving for three years, until the year 1864.

W. Wood Lesley, the second member of Jackson Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge, was elected Grand Treasurer in 1865. This year also marked the chartering of Hiram Lodge No. 21 in Seaford, as well as repudiating the work of Robert Morris, the founder of the Order of Eastern Star, as un-Masonic and in violation of the ancient landmarks of Freemasonry.

The third to serve the Grand Lodge from Jackson Lodge was Past Master Francis S. Dunlap, who was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1882. During this year new lodge halls were dedicated in both Newport, for Armstrong Lodge No. 26, and in Seaford, for Hiram Lodge No. 21.

In 1894 the fourth member of Jackson Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge was George W. Green, who was elected Junior Grand Warden. He participated in the dedication of new halls for Hope Lodge No. 4, Laurel; Jefferson Lodge No. 15, Lewes; and Endeavor Lodge No. 17, Milton.

The fifth member of Jackson Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge was Charles W. Pancoast when he was elected Senior Grand Warden in 1900. The 20th Century began with the Grand Lodge mourning the death of Queen Victoria and that of Brother William McKinley, President of the United States, both true patrons of Freemasonry in England and America.

In 1916, H. Morton Price became the sixth member of Jackson Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge when he was elected Senior Grand Warden. This year saw the laying of the cornerstone of the New Century Club building in Middletown and the Grand Lodge adopted the issuing of an identification medal to all of its members serving in the great conflict, World War I.

The year 1935 saw Harris Samonski become the first member of Jackson Lodge to be elected to the office of Grand Master. Most Worshipful Brother Samonski was privileged to attend the meeting in New York when the President of the United States, Brother Franklin D. Roosevelt, assisted in raising two of his sons to the sublime degree of Master Mason.

In 1971 Walter E. Nelson became the second Grand Master to be elected from Jackson Lodge, having previously served as Senior Grand Deacon - 1964, Junior Grand Warden - 1968, and Deputy Grand Master - 1970. Only three years had elapsed when in 1974 the third Grand Master was to emerge from Jackson Lodge in the person of their long-time secretary, Henry E. Snedeker, who had also served as Junior Grand Steward - 1949, Senior Grand Warden - 1956, and Grand Marshal - 1971 to Past Grand Master Nelson.

Thus, Jackson Lodge No. 19 has played an important role in the advancement of Freemasonry since its founding before the Civil War. Let us emulate their example by not shirking our responsibility to take every opportunity to project our Masonic Image.



CORINTHIAN LODGE NO. 20

On June 27, 1861, a charter was granted to Corinthian Lodge No. 20 by Grand Master Daniel C. Godwin, naming Joseph Teas - Worshipful Master, Martin Johnson - Senior Warden, and Josiah Sibley - Junior Warden. This was the last lodge to be chartered until the close of the Civil War, which started with the firing upon Fort Sumter in April, 1861. The Grand Lodge of Delaware was at that time composed of thirteen lodges.

The first Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge was John B. Book in 1892 who informed the Grand Lodge that Pennsylvania was withdrawing all representatives because no Masonic purpose was being served by them. The Committee on Uniform Work reported, but little progress being made in Delaware.

In 1900 Joseph Stuart became the second Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge, who devoted nearly a quarter of a century to the Masonic Home. In his address to the Grand Lodge he mourned the death of Queen Victoria and that of Brother William McKinley, President of the United States.

William J. Highfield became the third Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge in 1920. He reported on the formation of the Masonic Service Association by thirty-seven Grand Lodges in 1919 which over the years has responded to all major world-wide disasters, operated seventy-five service centers during World War II, and continued their hospital visitation programs as well as issue numerous Masonic publications for the benefit of the craft. It was Grand Master Highfield who established the Gunning Bedford Memorial Educational Scholarship and also presided over reinterring the remains of our first Grand Master, Gunning Bedford, Jr., on the grounds of our Masonic Home.

The fourth Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge was J. Bayard Hearn in 1928 who laid the cornerstones of seven public schools throughout the state. Between 1920 and 1935 the Grand Lodge of Delaware participated in laying cornerstones of forty-five new schools. This increase was brought about by the generosity of Pierre S. duPont, who paid for the construction of 120 schools and assisted in financing at least fifty more public schools in Delaware.

In 1938 George E. Vandegrift became the fifth Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge and also served as Grand Treasurer for a total of twenty-six years. During his term as Grand Master, he participated in the installation of the new Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England before 12,000 members from all parts of the world; the previous Grand Master had served in that office for thirty-eight years.

Edward E. Clough became the sixth Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge in 1952 and was to participate in the 200th anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, in the company of Grand Masters from all over the United States. During his term the Grand Lodge was presented with a stone taken from the White House, bearing a Masonic mark and accompanied by a letter from President Brother Harry S. Truman, Past Grand Master of Missouri.

The seventh Grand Master from Corinthian Lodge was Elmer W. Randall, Jr., in 1967 who constituted two new lodges: Delaware No. 37 in Millville and Solomon No. 36 in Newark. The Grand Lodge staff conferred the Master Mason degree on three different occasions during his term, one of those so that the Grand Master might raise his son in the Scottish Rite Cathedral, possibly a first for a Delaware Grand Master.

Thus, the seven Grand Masters who have emerged from Corinthian Lodge No. 20 during the past century to project their image have left us with the responsibility to labor diligently in the quarries to advance Freemasonry to even higher achievements in the years to come.



HIRAM LODGE NO. 21

On June 27, 1866, a charter was granted to Hiram Lodge No. 21 by Grand Master John A. Nicholson, naming Thomas Phillips - Worshipful Master, John Phillips - Senior Warden, and Joseph Shipley - Junior Warden. Both the Worshipful Master and Junior Warden had been members of Hope Lodge No. 4 the previous year in Laurel. This was the first lodge to be chartered by the Grand Lodge of Delaware following the Civil War. By 1868 their membership stood at eighteen and their Worshipful Master, Dr. J. P. H. Shipley, was also serving the Grand Lodge as Deputy Grand Master. This was again repeated in 1884 when Henry F. Porter served as Worshipful Master as well as Deputy Grand Master. Neither Shipley nor Porter were to advance to the office of Grand Master as at this period in our history the Grand Master usually was elected to two terms while the Deputy Grand Master only one.

In 1897 James E. Dutton was elected the first Grand Master to serve from Hiram No. 21. In his address to Grand Lodge, he related the bravery of the men of the Square & Compass in their response to the President's (Brother William McKinley) call to arms by serving in the Spanish-American War. At this time the lodge was meeting on the first floor of the Odd Fellows Hall while the Eastern Star met on the second floor.

June 7, 1906 marked the centennial of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Delaware. At this time Reverend Robert K. Stephenson of Hiram No. 21 was serving as Deputy Grand Master, four months later he was elected Grand Master. He participated in the laying of the cornerstone of the new Masonic Temple in Washington, D.C., on June 8, 1907. The President of the United States

(Brother Theodore Roosevelt) spread the cement using the trowel which President George Washington had used in laying the cornerstone of the Capitol in 1793.

The year 1909 was marked by the installation of electric lights, as well as an organ, in the Lodge Room. In 1911 the present building was constructed with the first meeting being held on December 28, 1911. During the same year, the Grand Lodge of Delaware purchased the beautiful property known as Highfield, consisting of an old mansion and about twelve acres of ground, on Lancaster Pike for \$10,500. This was to be dedicated a year later as the Masonic Home of Delaware.

By the year 1939, although the Grand Lodge of Delaware still consisted of only twenty-two lodges, its membership had risen to 5,200 and Hiram Lodge's had increased to 120. T. Scott Purse was elected to the office of Grand Master, the third to be chosen from Hiram Lodge No. 21. As World War II was approaching, the Masonic Service Association was swinging into action with its centers, relief funds, hospital visitations and other charitable endeavors.

The fourth Grand Master from Hiram No. 21 was R. Franklin Gordy in 1966. During the elapsed quarter of a century, five new lodges had been chartered in the suburbs by the Grand Lodge of Delaware and the membership had reached 9,200 with Hiram No. 21 having 295. Thus, for over a century the brethren of Hiram Lodge have grown with Freemasonry in Delaware and continue to project their Masonic image by ever being aware of their responsibilities as Masons.



EUREKA LODGE NO. 23

On June 27, 1867, a charter was granted to Eureka Lodge No. 23 by Grand Master Daniel McClintock naming William S. Hayes - Worshipful Master, George H. Walter - Senior Warden, and William H. Thompson - Junior Warden. They met in Free Masons Hall at 224 Market Street. Previously the various lodges meeting in Wilmington met in Old City Hall at 6th and Market Streets where the Grand Lodge of Delaware was formed in June 1806.

The first Grand Master to be elected from Eureka Lodge was James S. Dobb in 1888, who served for three years. He dedicated the new lodge rooms in Delaware City and Seaford as well as the Masonic Hall in Middletown. Grand Master Dobb laid the cornerstone of the Delaware Hospital in Wilmington and turned over the necessary sum for the support of a bed in each of the two hospitals to be used for and by the Masons for a period of one year, the cost having been contributed by the various city lodges.

In 1896 Dr. J. Paul Lukens became the second Grand Master from Eureka Lodge. He laid the cornerstone of the Methodist churches in both Georgetown and Seaford. In his Grand Master's address to the Grand Lodge he reported that progress was being made in uniform work by all of Delaware's then twenty-one lodges.

The third Grand Master from Eureka Lodge was R. Henry Young who laid the cornerstone of Eastlake Methodist Church in Wilmington and Doric Lodge No. 30 at Millville in the year 1904.

As World War I was drawing to a close, A. Victor Hughes became the fourth Grand Master to be elected from Eureka Lodge in 1918. He traveled to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to participate in the formative meeting of the Masonic Service Association. In his ad-

dress to Grand Lodge he commented on the disastrous fire which destroyed the hall and lodge room of Union Lodge No. 5 in Middletown in which many ancient and valuable records were lost.

In 1934 William O. Wingate became the fifth Grand Master elected from Eureka Lodge. He laid the cornerstone of Christiana Public School as well as those of the Henry C. Conrad and P. S. duPont High Schools in Wilmington. During the conference of Grand Masters in Washington, it was his honor to be introduced to the President of the United States, Brother Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The sixth Grand Master from Eureka Lodge was James Carswell in 1948. He presided over the dedication of "Sussex Cottage" at the Masonic Home of Delaware. During his term of office, Past Grand Master Carl H. Claudy of Washington, D.C., was made Delaware's fifth Past Grand Master Honorarius. At the Grand Masters' Conference in Washington, Brother Carswell was received by the President of the United States, Past Grand Master Harry S. Truman of Missouri.

William H. Cantwell was to be the seventh Grand Master elected from Eureka Lodge in 1962. He laid the cornerstone of Milford High School and Jackson Lodge No. 19, Delaware City, and for the first time in ninety-two years gave dispensations for two new lodges: Granite No. 34 at Talleyville and Christiana No. 35 at Newport. At the Conference of Grand Masters, Most Worshipful Brother Cantwell was elected chairman while the Grand Secretary, Chester R. Jones, was elected President of the Grand Secretaries' Association.

In 1973 John N. Fortner became the eighth Grand Master elected from Eureka Lodge. He laid the cornerstone of Dover City Hall, the Granite Lodge addition to Lombardy Hall and the Hudson Health Center in Newark. In his effort to "Activate Masonry", he brought the "Scottish Degree Team of New Jersey" to Delaware which was enjoyed by over 1,000 brethren. Most Worshipful Brother Fortner was also the first Grand Master to visit every Chapter of DeMolay and International Order of Job's Daughters Bethel in the state during his term of office.

Thus, the brethren of Eureka Lodge No. 23 have projected their Masonic image as evidenced by the eight of their number who have been called to advance Freemasonry in Delaware by being summoned to serve the craft in the office of Grand Master.



HIRAM LODGE NO. 25

On June 27, 1870, a charter was granted to Hiram Lodge No. 25 by Grand Master Edwin J. Horner, naming Rev. John France - Worshipful Master, Walter Turner - Senior Warden, and Prof. Edward Porter - Junior Warden. As the fourteen charter members constituted Hiram Lodge No. 25, the records show 967 Masons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Delaware in the year 1870.

The first lodge to be chartered in Newark was Delaware Hiram Lodge No. 96 by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on December 6, 1802, with George Read - Worshipful Master, John McBeth - Senior Warden, and Samuel Meteer - Junior Warden. This was to be the seventh and last lodge to be chartered in Delaware by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. On June 7, 1806, when the Grand Lodge of Delaware was formed, Hiram No. 96 under Pennsylvania became Hiram No. 3 under Delaware with a membership of about thirty. John McBeth was elected the first Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. The first evidence of discord is found when brethren of Hiram Lodge No. 3 participated in the chartering of Warren Lodge No. 16 in Glasgow on January 16, 1826. Hiram Lodge No. 3 apparently continued to decline until it finally surrendered its charter on June 27, 1833, with Warren Lodge following on June 27, 1851.

The present Hiram Lodge No. 25 was formally consecrated and its officers installed by Grand Master John McCabe on July 6, 1870. Rev. McCabe holds a record never to be equaled. He affiliated with Union Lodge No. 5 in Middletown in 1870 from Randolph Lodge No. 19 of Richmond, Virginia, where he had been raised in 1836. The same night, he was elected Worshipful Master

and within one month was elected Grand Master serving for three years. He then immediately moved to Pennsylvania in 1873, where he died in 1875.

The first Grand Master elected from Hiram Lodge No. 25 was L. Irving Handy in 1905. He was raised in Harmony Lodge No. 13, Smyrna in 1833, affiliating with Hiram Lodge No. 25 in 1897. Brother Handy was an educator, orator, editor, U.S. Representative and attorney. While Grand Master he, undoubtedly, presided over the most gala Grand Lodge celebration ever held in Delaware with the centennial of the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware in 1906.

In 1923 Edward W. Cooch became the second Grand Master elected from Hiram Lodge. Brother Cooch was an attorney, historian and served as Lieutenant Governor of Delaware from 1937-41. During his term as Grand Master, he was accompanied by about 500 Delaware Masons as he participated with other Grand Masters from throughout the U.S. in the cornerstone laying ceremonies of the George Washington Masonic National Monument, Alexandria, Virginia. This was probably one of the largest assemblages of Masons with 25,000-30,000 marching in procession.

In 1941 Clarence A. Short became the third Grand Master elected from Hiram Lodge. Brother Short was an educator, college president and industrial executive. During his term as Grand Master, the U.S. became involved in World War II, and, upon his recommendation, the flag of our country began being presented at our altars in the opening ceremonies of our lodges.

Thus, Hiram Lodge has contributed its chapter to the history of Freemasonry in Delaware.



ARMSTRONG LODGE NO. 26

On June 27, 1870, a charter was granted to Armstrong Lodge No. 26 by Grand Master Edwin J. Horner, naming Joseph Watson - Worshipful Master, Robert Armstrong - Senior Warden, and Thomas Brakin - Junior Warden. At the same communication another charter was granted to Hiram Lodge No. 25 in Newark. Watson was a Past Master of a Kansas lodge while Armstrong and Brakin were members of Temple Lodge No. 11 in Wilmington. Tradition tells us that the name of the lodge was decided upon by a drawing from a hat containing the names of the three charter officers. So Armstrong Lodge No. 26 became the only lodge in Delaware to bear the name of a living founder.

The lodge met on the second floor of the 2½ story brick Hilyard House located on the banks of the Christiana until the year 1883. Their meeting night was to be on the Thursday on or after the full moon. This "moon lodge" continued for forty-four years until 1914 when their by-laws were amended to meet on the second and fourth Thursdays. Of the eight charter members, six would serve in the office of Worshipful Master.

The first Grand Master elected from Armstrong Lodge No. 26 was Joseph W. H. Watson, a banker, in 1880, was reelected in 1881 and had served as Grand Treasurer in 1871. In his first address, he paid tribute to the memory of our assassinated President, Brother James A. Garfield. During his second term as Grand Master, he participated in the cornerstone laying of a monument at Yorktown, Virginia, marking the centennial of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis.

By the year 1883, the membership had grown to fifty-seven which resulted in inadequate accommodations for the growing lodge. Their second meeting place was the third floor of the Killgore Building, which had just been newly constructed by Past Master John Killgore at James and Justis Streets. They continued to meet there until the present building was erected in 1913, and which was greatly enlarged to its present condition in 1959. It was about this time that Armstrong Lodge moved into first place in membership among Delaware lodges with 786.

In 1947 Paul Yearsley became the second Grand Master elected from Armstrong Lodge. During his term, it was most appropriate to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Wilmington's Chapter of DeMolay as he was a member of the first class in Delaware and the first DeMolay to become Grand Master in Delaware.

In 1965 Arthur G. Craig was the third Grand Master from Armstrong Lodge, also continuing to serve as their secretary. His term saw the first Grand Lodge Award of Honor presented as the Grand Lodge convened in Newport for the first time.

Thus, after the seed of Freemasonry was planted in suburban Wilmington with Armstrong Lodge No. 26, it matured to be a Masonic giant as our largest lodge. But just as the almond tree flourished, so did Masonry by the chartering of four new viable lodges. The brethren of Newport have truly been aware of their responsibility to project their Masonic image.



ORIENTAL LODGE NO. 27

On June 27, 1872, a charter was granted to Oriental Lodge No. 27 by Grand Master John C. McCabe naming Henry McIntire - Worshipful Master, Jacob Mynich - Senior Warden, and William Miller - Junior Warden with about twenty-five charter members. At this communication, steps were taken to change the meeting date from June to October and the Grand Lodge had 1,046 members.

No history of Oriental Lodge would be complete without reflecting upon their charter Senior Warden, Jacob F. Mynich. He was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1833, raised in a Trenton, New Jersey, lodge in 1867 and exalted the same year in their Royal Arch Chapter, where he was to make his greatest contribution.

The first Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Delaware existed from 1817 until 1864 when George W. Chaytor was elected Grand High Priest. He then seized the charter of his own chapter, Washington and Lafayette, and refused to call any Grand Chapter Convocations. It was during this period that Companion Mynich, with nineteen other Delaware Royal Arch companions, petitioned the General Grand High Priest to form a new chapter, St. John's, and reinstitute a Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Delaware, which was accomplished in 1868. Companion Mynich served as St. John's High Priest in 1871-1872, Grand King in 1872 and Grand High Priest in 1877.

As the charter Senior Warden of Oriental Lodge No. 27, Brother Jacob Mynich went on to be their Worshipful Master in 1874 and, ironically, served as Grand Marshal for Most Worshipful George W. Chaytor in 1876, whom he had so bitterly opposed only a few years earlier.

The first Grand Master elected from Oriental Lodge was Virginius V. Harrison in 1894, later to serve as Grand Secretary from 1907-1915. He dedicated the new Masonic Halls in Laurel and Milton as well as "re-laid" the old cornerstone in Jefferson Lodge's new Masonic Temple in Lewes

In 1924 Charles D. Bird became the second Grand Master elected from Oriental Lodge. He laid the cornerstones of three public schools and the Milford Community Building. He also performed the same duty in Lewes with their new Masonic Temple as Past Grand Master Harrison had for their old Temple thirty years earlier.

World War II brought reduced Masonic activity as J. Thomas Warren became the third Grand Master elected from Oriental Lodge in 1942, but he was able to secure adequate office space for both the Grand Master and Grand Secretary.

In 1956 H. Clifford Bauer became the fourth Grand Master from Oriental Lodge, whose membership of 784 was the highest in the state out of a total of 8,290 members. He participated in five cornerstone ceremonies during his term in office.

The fifth Grand Master from Oriental Lodge was Edward H. Pollock in 1976. He laid the cornerstones of the Dover Fire Hall as well as Smyrna's City Hall. He also brought the Oklahoma Indian Degree Team to Delaware which was enjoyed by about 1,200 brethren with the proceeds going to assist in the restoration of Lombardy Hall, the home of Delaware's first Grand Master, Gunning Bedford, Jr. Thus, Oriental Lodge has shown that they might project their Masonic image by the demonstration of that great tenet, Brotherhood.



GETHSEMANE LODGE NO. 28

On October 7, 1875, a charter was granted to Gethsemane Lodge No. 28 by Grand Master John P. Allmond, naming James Gordy - Worshipful Master, James Smith - Senior Warden, and Tyros Phillips - Junior Warden. The seven charter members were largely members of Hiram Lodge No. 21, which had existed in Seaford since 1866, as well as those of neighboring Maryland lodges.

The years between 1860-1880 were full of promise and growth. Several Delaware Masons had achieved eminence during the Civil War, among them Willard Marshall - surgeon, James Parke Postles - soldier, and Thomas A. Smyth - brigadier general. Membership was climbing to new heights, with a total of 967 in 1870.

Another sign of growth was the desire to create permanent meeting places. During the second half of the 19th century, Masonic lodge buildings were being erected throughout the state—a building program which culminated in a new home for the Grand Lodge, which had been meeting in various buildings around Wilmington.

In 1870 the Masons purchased from the Gordon family a lot with a frontage of 100 feet on the east side of Market Street between Eighth and Ninth Streets which ran through to King Street. The plan was to erect a building that would not only house the Grand Lodge, but also would be a combined Masonic Temple and Opera House which, in keeping with the Masonic philosophy, would provide a center for education and the arts. The building, ever

since a landmark in Wilmington, was designed by Thomas Dixon of Baltimore. The cornerstone was laid on April 20, 1871, and the building was dedicated April 18, 1872. A dream was realized for Delaware Masons, for not only did they now have a permanent home with ample meeting rooms and offices, but they also provided space for a school for dances, plays and choruses. Many great artists appeared in the Masonic Hall and Grand Opera House, thus the Masons with their new home made a significant contribution to the cultural life of Delaware.

On April 18, 1970, Grand Master John J. McClearn laid the cornerstone, dedicated and consecrated a new Masonic Temple for Gethsemane Lodge No. 28. This new building was constructed within a six-month period and was completely paid for within three years. From the time of their chartering in 1875 the lodge met on the second floor of Gethsemane Church until it was torn down in 1905. Within three months they had built another Lodge Hall which was dedicated by Grand Master I. Irving Handy on December 28, 1905.

Gethsemane Lodge No. 28 is also unique in that ninety-seven years were to elapse before one of their Past Masters, Paul E. Ellis, would emerge to serve as Grand Master in 1972. He then continued to serve the Grand Lodge as Grand Treasurer for five years. Thus, the members of Gethsemane Lodge are fulfilling their responsibility in projecting Masonic Image in their community of Reliance.



DUPONT LODGE NO. 29

On October 4, 1876, a charter was granted to DuPont Lodge No. 29 by Grand Master George W. Chaytor, naming John Taylor - Worshipful Master, John Miller - Senior Warden, and Benjamin Sheppard - Junior Warden. The Centennial of the founding of the United States was being celebrated by the thirty-eight states and the membership of the Grand Lodge of Delaware was approaching 1200.

The majority of the charter members of DuPont Lodge either lived or worked for the DuPont Powder Mills in the area of Henry Clay. Their first lodge room was on the third floor of a building owned by the DuPont Company and shared with the Odd Fellows. It was only natural for them to honor Victor M. duPont, the highly esteemed Delaware Mason, in choosing the name DuPont Lodge.

In 1889 the membership had increased to seventy which required larger facilities, resulting in their moving to Odd Fellows Hall at 17th and Woodlawn Avenue in Wilmington. They continued to meet there until 1898 when they moved to another property, "New School", also owned by the DuPont Company at Rising Sun. As their membership increased from 115 to 197 by 1907, it was decided that DuPont Lodge should seek facilities in the Blue Room of Wilmington's Masonic Temple.

The first Grand Master elected from DuPont Lodge No. 29 was John Taylor in 1878. He was reelected in 1879, after having served as their charter Worshipful Master in 1876 and 1877. It was he who laid the cornerstone of New Castle's Masonic Temple and dedicated the new lodge room for St. John's Lodge No. 2.

In 1907 Thomas J. Day became the second Grand Master to be elected from DuPont Lodge as the Grand Lodge membership reached nearly 2900. His official visitation to DuPont Lodge marked their first meeting in Wilmington's Masonic Temple. He was one of the founders of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association and also participated in laying the cornerstone of Wilmington's new City Hall.

The third Grand Master to be elected from DuPont Lodge was Charles A. Bamberger in 1922 who reported on the institution of the first chapter of Order of DeMolay in Wilmington. He also laid the cornerstones of both Smyrna and Dover Public Schools and offered a resolution on the death of the President of the United States, Brother Warren G. Harding.

In 1940 the fourth Grand Master to be elected from DuPont Lodge was George Duffy who laid the cornerstone of the Delaware R.E.A. Association in Greenwood and also participated in Rhode Island's sesquicentennial of the founding of their Grand Lodge.

The fifth Grand Master from DuPont Lodge was Horace S. Allen in 1954 who chartered Unity Lodge No. 32 in Newport and with the assistance of six Past Grand Masters laid the cornerstone of the Scottish Rite Cathedral. He also laid the cornerstones of Dover's East and South Elementary Schools as well as that of North Laurel's. Thus, for over 100 years DuPont Lodge has emulated the image of their namesake, Victor M. DuPont, patriot, statesman and Mason.



DORIC LODGE NO. 30

On October 7, 1903, a charter was granted to Doric Lodge No. 30 in Millville by Grand Master Harry J. Guthrie, naming Edward F. Reynolds - Worshipful Master, John W. James - Senior Warden, and George L. Barnett - Junior Warden. This was the first lodge to be chartered after a lapse of twenty-seven years during which period the Grand Lodge membership had increased by about 1500 members. A special communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware was held on June 22, 1905, for the purpose of laying the cornerstone and dedicating the Hall of Doric Lodge No. 30 with Reverend Brother J. B. Quigg delivering the address.

In 1910 K. James Hocker served as Senior Grand Warden, the first of six members of Doric Lodge who were destined to be elected to office in the Grand Lodge of Delaware. This was during the formative period in the establishment of the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia.

He was followed by William B. Derrickson, who was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1918, another formative period in Masonic history. This marked the establishment of the Masonic Service Association, which has continued to dispense Masonic charity in times of peace as well as war.

In 1943 Urah W. Long, who was to serve as Grand Master two years later, was elected Junior Grand Warden. This year marked the 75th Anniversary of St. John's Commandery No. 1, K.T., which was marked by a banquet followed by a service at the First and Central Presbyterian Church.

The following year, 1944, Urah W. Long was elected Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Delaware. This was to be a memorable year inasmuch as an "Occasional Lodge" was held on September 19, 1945, for the purpose of making R.R.M. Carpenter a Mason at Sight which represents the first and only one in the Masonic history of Delaware.

In 1945 Grand Master Long was successful in bringing to fruition "Sussex Cottage". This was a much needed addition to our Masonic Home for it provided a place for the superintendent and his family and released space for additional guests. Under his guidance and inspiration, the lodges of Sussex County launched a drive which raised over \$10,000 for this purpose. At the Conference of Grand Masters in February 1946, he, with other delegates, was invited to a reception and tea hosted in the White House by President Harry S. Truman, who was also a Past Grand Master of Missouri.

Arthur R. Hudson was elected Senior Grand Warden in 1952, which marked the 200th anniversary of the initiation of Brother George Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia. It was also the year the President and Past Grand Master Truman presented each Grand Lodge with a stone, bearing a Masonic Mark, from the White House.

In 1958 Elias H. Tingle was elected Senior Grand Warden during which time cornerstone ceremonies were conducted for Wesley College's new dormitory and classroom as well as Milford's new library. It was also during this period that the newly added lodge room to the Newport Masonic Temple was dedicated.

Finally in 1975 Hugh A. Stephens was elected Junior Grand Warden which marked the Bicentennial of our country's independence as well as the 170th anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, all of which were observed with appropriate celebrations.

Thus, just as Doric Lodge No. 30 celebrated the 75th anniversary of their founding, let us today follow the example set by those of the past in assuming the responsibility of projecting our Masonic Image into the future.



IONIC LODGE NO. 31

On November 4, 1950, a charter was granted to Ionic Lodge No. 31 to meet in Newport naming Edward H. Livermore, Jr., as Worshipful Master. The ceremonies of constitution and installation of the lodge and its officers were conducted by Grand Master Henry I. Law, assisted by the other members of the Grand Lodge staff, at a well-attended meeting in the Henry C. Conrad High School auditorium.

Up until the year 1950, the Grand Lodge of Delaware consisted of twenty-two lodges and a total membership of 6861, with seven lodges concentrated in the city of Wilmington. As a result of the population shift to the suburbs and Armstrong being one of the larger lodges in the growing area, it was decided to form a new lodge. Of the thirteen charter members of Ionic Lodge, twelve were members of Armstrong Lodge and one of Nanticoke Lodge of Federalsburg, Maryland.

Ionic Lodge was to be the first lodge chartered in Delaware in forty-seven years and its name was so chosen because it completed the three original orders of architecture in Delaware, there already being a Corinthian and Doric. The first treasurer's report showed a starting balance of \$486.00, this being a gift from Armstrong Lodge, but by April, 1953, they were able to become a stockholder in the Masonic Hall Company by purchasing 500 shares of stock.

On December 23, 1953, Ionic Lodge reached its first milestone when they conferred the Master Mason degree on their 100th member. By 1955 they were able to sponsor and begin furnishing a room in the Masonic Home and celebrated their fifth anniversary by participating in the constitution and consecration of Unity Lodge No. 32, also in Newport.

In 1958, Past Master Theodore H. Work, Jr., became the first member of Ionic Lodge to serve on Delaware's Grand Lodge staff when he was appointed Junior Grand Steward. He participated in the dedication of Newport's new lodge room by the Grand Lodge on January 7, 1959.

The second Past Master of Ionic Lodge, Clifford L. Barrow, to serve the Grand Lodge was appointed Junior Grand Deacon in 1960. During this term, Brandywine Lodge was chartered and the cornerstone laid at the Gunning Bedford, Jr., school by the Grand Lodge of Delaware.

In 1964, Past Master Henry F. Seeds became the third Past Master of Ionic appointed to the Grand Lodge staff (as Senior Grand Steward) and the first to be elected, in 1969, to the office of Senior Grand Warden. Right Worshipful Brother Seeds first served on the Delaware Freemason staff from its inception and continues today as well as serving as a member of the Committee on Charters.

When Past Master Horace D. Taylor was appointed Grand Tiler in 1971, he became the fourth Past Master of Ionic Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge. In the meantime, the membership of Ionic had reached nearly 400 and three new lodges were chartered in Newport: Unity No. 32 in 1955, Christiana No. 35 in 1963 and High Noon No. 38 in 1978.

It was also the pleasure of the Grand Staff of the Grand Lodge of Delaware to have the fifth Past Master of Ionic Lodge, James W. Emerson, serve as their Senior Grand Steward during the 1977-1978 term of office.

Thus, the brethren of Ionic Lodge No. 31 have merited the confidence reposed in them by their "mother lodge", Armstrong, who sponsored their chartering over a quarter of a century ago.



UNITY LODGE NO. 32

On November 5, 1955, a charter was granted to Unity Lodge No. 32 to meet in Newport, naming Stephen D. McDonald as Worshipful Master. This was the culmination of the efforts of Armstrong Lodge No. 26 and Ionic Lodge No. 31, initiated in June 1954, to institute the third lodge in Newport. Upon their petition, Grand Master Hukill granted a dispensation to Unity Lodge, under dispensation which was extended by his successor, Grand Master Allen. It remained for Grand Master Pierce to charter Unity Lodge No. 32 and install their officers in the auditorium of the Conrad High School, assisted by Past Grand Masters Hukill and Allen serving as Marshals. From their fourteen charter members, they grew in size and stature by assuming their responsibility, along with their other two sister lodges in Newport, in many benevolent endeavors in behalf of the Masonic Home, youth groups and community affairs.

In 1961, Past Master John A. Dillman, Jr., became the first member of Unity Lodge to serve on Delaware's Grand Lodge staff when he was appointed Senior Grand Deacon by Grand Master Johnson. He participated in the consecration of Brandywine Lodge No. 33 and in the installation of their officers. He also took part in the ceremonies commemorating the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Masonic Home of Delaware.

The second Past Master of Unity Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge was Howard M. Herron who was appointed by Grand Master Craig also to the office of Senior Grand Deacon in 1965. During this term, the Grand Lodge convened in Newport for the first time, the first issue of the Delaware Freemason appeared and the first Grand Lodge Award of Honor was presented.

Edward H. Horney was the third Past Master of Unity Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge when he was appointed to serve as Grand Marshal for Grand Master Warren Schuelcr in 1968. This year saw the dedication and consecration of the new lodge room of Delaware Lodge No. 37 in Dagsboro.

In 1974, Past Master Robert F. Mowbray became the fourth brother of Unity Lodge appointed to the Grand Lodge staff as Junior Grand Deacon by Grand Master Snedeker. This year saw the dedication of the remodeled wing of Lombardy Hall as the new meeting place of Granite Lodge No. 34, as well as the constitution of the newly chartered Delaware Lodge of Research.

When Vernon E. Lee was appointed Grand Sword Bearer in 1976 by Grand Master Pollock, he became the fifth Past Master of Unity Lodge to serve the Grand Lodge. This term was marked by the laying of two cornerstones and the visit of the Oklahoma Indian Degree Team to Delaware.

It is also the pleasure of the Grand Staff to have the sixth Past Master of Unity Lodge serving with them. In 1977, Right Worshipful Walter F. Lokey was elected to the office of Grand Secretary, having previously served in the office of Deputy Grand Secretary.

In closing, we would be remiss if we did not pause for a moment to reflect upon one who contributed so much to the spreading of Masonic light in the Newport area. James B. Wilson served as Worshipful Master of Armstrong Lodge No. 26 in 1949, was appointed Senior Grand Deacon in 1950 and elected Junior Grand Warden in 1955. It was largely through Brother Wilson's efforts that resulted in the expansion of Freemasonry in Delaware by the chartering of Ionic Lodge No. 31 in 1950 followed by Unity Lodge No. 32 in 1955.

Thus, when Brother Wilson was called from labor to refreshment on October 1, 1972, he left us with a Masonic image, which it is our duty and responsibility to project in our Masonic labors, not only today, but in the years to come as well.



BRANDYWINE LODGE NO. 33

On October 28, 1961, a charter was granted to Brandywine Lodge No. 33 by Grand Master Charles E. Daniels upon the approval of the seven lodges meeting in Wilmington. This was to be the first lodge chartered north of Wilmington and was to meet in Claymont. By selecting the name Brandywine, a tradition was reaffirmed with Delaware's earliest history.

The Brandywine River is seventeen miles long, heading in Pennsylvania and flowing southeast to the Christiana River in Wilmington. Unlike the Christiana River, it was not navigable due to its many shoals, but its pulsing waters furnished energy to operate the grist mills which soon dotted its banks. Brandywine flour grew in demand because of its fine, smooth texture and before long, Wilmington was the flour center of the colonies. In addition, saw mills, cotton mills, and paper mills were also constructed along the Brandywine to grind out exportable merchandise, and a new era of trade was being opened.

In late August 1777, Washington and Lafayette entered Wilmington by way of Brandywine Village to prepare for the Battle of Cooch's Bridge. For several days preceding the battle, 16,000 Continental troops camped on the shores of the Brandywine. Shortly after the Battle of Cooch's Bridge, Washington wheeled his army about and hurried up the Brandywine to defend its crossing at Chadds Ford, a few miles north of the Delaware line. But Howe sent a very strong left flank across the Brandywine at an undefended ford north of Washington and the badly defeated Americans were forced to retreat.

It was at the Battle of Brandywine on September 11, 1777, that Lafayette was destined to endear himself to the American people. He was helping rally Sullivan's men before the terrible onslaught of Cornwallis when he was wounded. Captain Peter Jacquet, who later entertained both General Washington and Lafayette at his Long Hook Farm (Kent Manor Inn), is said to have heard Lafayette call to Washington as he fell: "General, I am wounded!" Washington, riding up, expressed his sorrow and Lafayette replied: "Sir, I am not sorry."

On July 25, 1825, Brother Lafayette returned to Delaware for the last time to be made our first Past Grand Master Honorarii. Following the ceremonies, he visited the Brandywine battleground at Chadds Ford where he had been wounded and wrote: "After having seen, near half a century ago, the banks of the Brandywine a scene of bloody fighting, I am happy now to find it the seat of industry, beauty and mutual friendship."

Thus, the brethren displayed wisdom in uniting with the strength and beauty of the Brandywine in naming their lodge. May both the river and lodge continue to flow with industry and brotherly love, never forgetting their responsibility to project their image of activity and service to their fellowman.



GRANITE LODGE NO. 34

On October 26, 1963, a charter was granted to Granite Lodge No. 34 naming Ray W. Budd - Worshipful Master, Steve S. Smith - Senior Warden, and Harold T. J. Littleton - Junior Warden, to meet in the Grange Hall at Talleyville. Four years later, on September 22, 1967, the Lombardy Hall property was purchased and in 1973 Granite Lodge voted to convert the attached garage into their meeting room.

Lombardy Hall, originally setting on a farm of 250 acres, was purchased by Gunning Bedford, Jr., in 1785. He moved here with his family in 1793 from his residence in the 600 block of Market Street, Wilmington. This was to be his home until his death in 1812.

Gunning Bedford, Jr., was born in Philadelphia in 1747, graduating from Nassau Hall (Princeton) in 1770 with a future president of the United States, James Madison, as a classmate. After graduation, he studied law in Philadelphia, moving to Dover in 1779 where he was admitted to the bar and shortly thereafter settled in Wilmington.

During the Revolutionary War he apparently served as an Aide-de-Camp to General Washington and was held as a captive of the British briefly in 1778. He received his Masonic degrees in Lodge No. 14 at Christiana Ferry (Washington Lodge No. 1, Wilmington) in 1782.

In 1783 Bedford was elected a delegate to the Continental Congress and was appointed Attorney General of Delaware in 1784. In 1786 he was appointed a delegate to the Annapolis Convention

and the following year a delegate to the Philadelphia Convention. It was here that Bedford was able to prove himself as the leading statesman in the establishment of our new Nation.

During the Constitutional Convention it was Bedford, assisted by the other Delaware delegates: George Read, Jacob Broom, John Dickinson, and Richard Bassett, who held out for equal representation of all states, whether large or small, in the United States Senate. It was largely through the efforts of Gunning Bedford, Jr., that Delaware was destined to be the first state to ratify the United States Constitution on December 7, 1787.

In 1789 Bedford was appointed by his friend, President George Washington, the first District Judge of the United States for the District of Delaware. In 1799 it was Bedford who was selected by his brethren of Lodge No. 14 in Wilmington to deliver the funeral oration for Washington on St. John the Evangelist Day.

It was only natural that when the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Delaware was established by four lodges on June 6-7, 1806, that Gunning Bedford, Jr., was selected to be Delaware's first Most Worshipful Grand Master.

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Thus, as we reflect upon the image of Gunning Bedford, Jr., let us assume our responsibility as Masons by assisting the brethren of Granite Lodge in the completion of the restoration of Lombardy Hall.



CHRISTIANA LODGE NO. 35

On November 6, 1963, Christiana Lodge No. 35 became the third lodge to be chartered in Newport during the past quarter century. The name chosen for this lodge dates back to the colonial origins of Delaware.

When Peter Minuit anchored in a tributary of the Delaware River with his Swedish settlers, they named the Christiana River in honor of their queen. They landed about March 29, 1638, to establish Fort Christiana, the first permanent settlement in our state, now known as Wilmington.

The Christiana River was navigable for about twenty-five miles from its mouth, where it entered the Delaware River, to a point later to be known as Christiana Bridge and eventually the town of Christiana. The area was first settled by Dr. Reese Jones in 1731, who owned seventy-five acres. In 1759 most of the land was conveyed to nine tenants-in-common. Christiana became an important supply center during the American Revolution as it stood at the head of navigation and along the principal highway between Philadelphia and Baltimore.

On December 16, 1776, the Dover Light Infantry, consisting of thirty-five soldiers under Captain Thomas Rodney, entered Christiana on their way to join General George Washington, who had requested 500 Delaware troops. Here they were issued their knapsacks and canteens, only to meet the members of the Continental Congress fleeing to Annapolis, fearing the invasion of Philadelphia by the British. They bravely marched from Christiana Bridge to join Washington in his successful surprise attacks on Trenton and Princeton.

On August 26, 1777, Washington, accompanied by Generals Lafayette and Green, rode through Christiana Bridge from their headquarters in Wilmington to observe the movements of the 18,000 British and Hessian soldiers, who had recently landed at the Head-of-Elk. A few days later Washington was to order several battalions to march to Christiana to prevent the British advancement to Wilmington in their effort to capture Philadelphia.

Again on March 1, 1781, Lafayette returned with 1200 troops on their way to begin the Southern campaign in an effort to capture the traitor, Benedict Arnold. They had proceeded down the Delaware River from Trenton and up the Christiana River to Christiana. They then marched overland to the Head-of-Elk where other boats waited to take them to Annapolis.

In March 1783 the remnants of the Delaware Regiment arrived in Christiana after their long, weary, 720-mile march back to Delaware from South Carolina.

Thus, our colonial heritage should remind the members of Christiana Lodge of their Masonic responsibility to emulate the image established in the earliest days of our state's history as they meet on the banks of the Christiana River.



SOLOMON LODGE NO. 36

On October 15, 1967, a charter was granted to Solomon Lodge No. 36 to meet in Newark, naming Milton L. Draper - Worshipful Master, Albert J. Miller - Senior Warden, and David H. Calhoun - Junior Warden. The eighteen charter members were from Hiram Lodge No. 25, and on October 28, 1967, the lodge was formally constituted by Grand Master Elmer W. Randall, Jr.

Masonic light first came to Newark with the chartering of Delaware's Hiram Lodge No. 96 by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in 1802 and went on to become Hiram Lodge No. 3 when the Grand Lodge of Delaware was formed on June 7, 1806.

The formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware was considered an unMasonic procedure by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, and it was not until 1811 that recognition was accorded them. Even John McBeth, charter Junior Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, and Samuel Meeter, both charter officers of Lodge No. 96, applied to the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania on November 11, 1807, that they acknowledged the irregularity in Delaware and prayed that they might be issued certificates of good standing from Pennsylvania, which were granted.

In January 1823 an application was received by the Grand Lodge from Worshipful Master George Enos and Senior Warden Eli Newlin to remove Hiram Lodge from Newark to Glasgow, which was granted. At the following Grand Lodge Session, held six months later, Worshipful Master William Watson and Past Master George Reed declared that this change of location was not the desire of the majority of their members, so the Grand Lodge rescinded its previous decision. In 1829 the Grand Lodge reported that the

minutes of Hiram Lodge No. 3 were badly kept, but from want of ability rather than bad intentions and also that they were making Masons for a less sum than required by Grand Lodge, and their returns showed a 50% drop in membership to only ten.

The dimming of Masonic light in Hiram Lodge No. 3 in Newark was the result of another light being ignited by Warren Lodge No. 16, a few miles away in Glasgow. During this era many of Hiram's members resided in Glasgow which apparently promised much more potential for growth and development than did Newark. Following the controversy in 1823 in moving Hiram Lodge from Newark to Glasgow and back to Newark within six months, nine members withdrew and on June 27, 1825, requested the Grand Lodge to charter a new lodge in Glasgow, which was denied.

But at the next Grand Lodge session, twelve members again petitioned and a charter was granted on January 16, 1826, for Warren Lodge No. 16 at Glasgow with George Enos as Worshipful Master. Apparently Brother Enos was not one to take "no" for an answer, as it was he who led the fight as Worshipful Master of Hiram No. 3 to move to Glasgow and was also the charter Worshipful Master of Warren No. 16 three years later. On June 27, 1833, Hiram No. 3 fell into darkness while Warren No. 16 flickered until June 27, 1851, when it too surrendered its charter. Fortunately about twenty years later Masonic light was rekindled with the chartering of Hiram No. 25 on June 27, 1870, and intensified on October 5, 1967, by Solomon No. 36 being chartered.

Thus, may Solomon Lodge continue to intensify the Masonic light already generated by Hiram Lodge in an effort to present the brightest Masonic image possible. This is our Masonic responsibility, remembering that old adage of our founding fathers: "United we stand, divided we fall".



DELAWARE LODGE NO. 37

On October 5, 1967, a charter was granted to Delaware Lodge No. 37 to meet in Millville, naming Paul L. Jackson, a Past Master of Doric Lodge, as their Worshipful Master. Their charter members also being mainly from Doric Lodge, they were formally constituted on October 21, 1967, by Grand Master Elmer W. Randall, Jr. On September 7, 1969, an Emergent Communication of Grand Lodge was called by Grand Master Warren F. Schueler for the purpose of dedicating the new lodge room of Delaware Lodge No. 37 in Dagsboro.

Inasmuch as Delaware Lodge represents the latest regular symbolic lodge in our state, let us return to the beginning. By the time the light of Freemasonry was ignited in Delaware in 1765, Pennsylvania had already operated under the jurisdiction of four different Grand Lodges. They were to charter two lodges in Delaware before the American Revolution: No. 5 in Odessa in 1765 and No. 14 in Wilmington in 1769 as well as two more during the war: No. 18 in Dover in 1775 and No. 33 in New Castle in 1781. The fifth lodge to be chartered in Delaware by the Pennsylvania Provincial Grand Lodge of the Ancient Grand Lodge of England was No. 44 in Smyrna in 1785.

In 1786 the present Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania was established when twelve lodges met (seven in Pennsylvania and five in Delaware) and declared their Masonic independence from Great Britain. All of these lodges exchanged their Ancient York Mason charters for new ones issued by the newly independent Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. Two more charters were to be granted by the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania in Delaware: No. 63 in Lewes in 1794 and No. 96 in Newark in 1802. Thus, a total of seven lodges were chartered in Delaware by the Grand Lodge of Penn-

sylvania between 1765 and the formation of the Grand Lodge of Delaware in 1806.

The Grand Lodge of Maryland, which was established in 1787, was also to charter two lodges in Delaware: No. 10 in Georgetown in 1792 and No. 31 in Laurel in 1800. By the year 1806, three lodges chartered by Pennsylvania had become dormant: No. 18 of Dover, No. 44 of Smyrna and No. 63 of Lewes, as well as Lodge No. 10 of Georgetown which had been chartered by the Grand Lodge of Maryland.

On Friday, June 6, 1806, four of the five active lodges in our state met at the Town Hall in Wilmington for the purpose of organizing the Grand Lodge of Delaware. This was accomplished the next day when Lodge No. 14 became Washington No. 1, Lodge No. 33 - St. John's No. 2, Lodge No. 96 - Hiram No. 3, and Lodge No. 31 - Hope No. 4. The charter Grand Lodge officers represented each of the four charter lodges: Grand Master - Gunning Bedford, Jr. (1), Deputy Grand Master - Jesse Green (4), Senior Grand Warden - Joseph Israel (2), and Junior Grand Warden - John McBeth (3).

The early days of the Grand Lodge of Delaware were marked by confusion as the Grand Lodges of Pennsylvania and Maryland were displeased by the separation and it was not until 1811 that their differences were reconciled. Lodge No. 5 at Odessa, which later moved to Middletown, did not choose to leave the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania until 1816, when it finally joined the Grand Lodge of Delaware as Union No. 5, the vacancy which had been reserved for them for ten years. The Grand Lodge of Delaware was now firmly established as the four original lodges had now increased to nine with a total membership of 291.

Thus, Delaware Lodge No. 37, as the newest conventional lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction, is charged with the responsibility to project its Masonic Image as has the oldest lodge since its inception back in 1765.



HIGH NOON LODGE NO. 38

On November 25, 1978 the latest chapter was written as the Grand Lodge of Delaware approached the One Hundred and Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of its founding. On this occasion Grand Master James H. Hutchins, assisted by the other members of the Grand Lodge Staff, constituted and consecrated High Noon Lodge No. 38 in Newport's Masonic Temple. The following officers of the Lodge were installed and presented with their charter, which had been granted at the One Hundred and Seventy-Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Delaware: Past Master Frank W. VanLuvanee, Jr. - Worshipful Master, Past Master M. Raymond Loose - Senior Warden, and Brother Floyd France - Junior Warden.

The Light of Freemasonry was first ignited in Newport with the chartering of Armstrong Lodge No. 26 in 1870. Eighty years were to elapse before they were joined by Ionic Lodge No. 31 in 1950. But only five years later Unity Lodge No. 32 was chartered in 1955 and finally Christiana Lodge No. 35 followed in 1963. These four Newport lodges, particularly Armstrong No. 26, were responsible for the establishment of High Noon Lodge No. 38 in Newport.

In view of the fact that many Grand Jurisdictions are experiencing not only a loss in membership but the necessity to merge some lodges in order to survive, Delaware feels honored in being able to constitute a new lodge within its Grand Jurisdiction. Possibly some of High Noon's success lies in the fact that it is unique in that being a Daylight Lodge, it should prosper as it fills a void which has long prevented some of our brethren from becoming participants in their lodges due to their work schedule. It is also

most appropriate that it became the fifth lodge in Newport, which has long held the reputation of being the "beehive" of Masonic activity of Delaware.

Inasmuch as High Noon Lodge No. 38 has the unique distinction of being a Daylight Lodge as it holds its regular communication at noon on the second Wednesday of each month, Grand Master Hutchins issued an edict at the Semi-Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge on March 24, 1979 which he felt was in the best interest of the Craft in general and of High Noon Lodge in particular by granting them concurrent jurisdiction with the other lodges in the City of Wilmington as well as those in New Castle County.

In view of the fact that the chartering of High Noon Lodge No. 38 marks the closing chapter of the 175-year history of the Grand Lodge of Delaware, it might be well to review the Masonic activities during the past three decades in the Newport Jurisdiction.

In 1949 the membership of Armstrong Lodge No. 26 approached five hundred, and despite the chartering of four additional lodges whose total membership now approximates one thousand, Armstrong Lodge continues to lead the growth of Freemasonry as the largest lodge within this Grand Jurisdiction.

Thus, if each subordinate lodge within the Grand Jurisdiction of Delaware would only try to emulate the example set by the brethren in Newport, this could truly be a glorious prologue to the future of the Grand Lodge of Delaware.



DELAWARE LODGE OF RESEARCH

On February 22, 1975, a charter was granted to the Delaware Lodge of Research by Grand Master Henry E. Snedeker who also constituted the lodge and installed its charter officers at the same time in the Masonic Temple in Wilmington. The honor of becoming the first new member was accorded Grand Master Snedeker while Brother Charles E. Green had the honor of becoming the first fellow.

The seven charter officers, all of whom were Past Masters with one exception, were James H. Hutchins - Worshipful Master, Charles M. Allmond III - Senior Warden, and Charles E. Green - Junior Warden, as well as Chester C. Coffin, Donald D. Thomas, Paul E. Ellis and Henry G. Law.

The first seed was planted in 1965 when six brethren met to discuss the possibility of forming a Masonic Study Group, with the encouragement of Past Grand Master Arthur G. Craig. As the result of that meeting, the Delaware Masonic Study and Research Group was organized. By about 1968 the group had increased its membership from approximately ten to twenty-four members. Many interesting papers were prepared by the various members, some of which were presented to several symbolic lodges which requested them. During the next several years seven of the brethren labored diligently to make the Delaware Lodge of Research a reality.

Possibly for the first time, at least in this Grand Jurisdiction, Masonic history was made when not one but three charters were issued to the Delaware Lodge of Research. This was possible inasmuch as its "territorial jurisdiction is co-extensive with that of

the Grand Lodge of Delaware and it may hold its annual or special communication at such times and places as it or its duly authorized officer or officers may determine". It was agreed that one charter would be kept in the Grand Lodge offices, the second would hang in Dover's Masonic Temple and the third would be retained by the Worshipful Master to be used wherever the lodge might meet throughout the state of Delaware.

The Delaware Lodge of Research was formed to fill a void and fulfill a need, which some felt existed in Delaware, by instituting a Research Lodge as had previously been done in about fifteen other Grand Jurisdictions throughout the United States. Although the basic purpose of Freemasonry is to make Masons, it encompasses much more than the mere conferral of the three symbolic degrees of the craft. No other subject offers more to contemplate by delving into its legend, history, symbolism and philosophy than does Ancient Craft Masonry. It has often been described as a gigantic iceberg with only the peak being visible while the massive superstructure remains hidden from view, submerged below the water.

It is impossible for any one person to explore all the facets of Freemasonry, but the more who become involved, sharing their findings with their brethren, the brighter will the lamp of knowledge, which is depicted in the seal of this lodge, shine as a beacon to enlighten others. This is really what the Worshipful Master offered when he charged you that as a Master Mason "you were entitled to all the rights and privileges, as well as those of Ancient Craft Masonry wheresoever dispersed". Let your light so shine, thus dispensing Masonic knowledge to your brethren in particular and the world in general.

"DELAWARE'S PHANTOM LODGE"

During the American Revolution no less than ten military lodges operated within the ranks of the Continental Army. These Masonic lodges were authorized under regimental warrants issued by various Grand Jurisdictions. The most famous of these military lodges was American Union Lodge which was chartered by the Provincial Grand Lodge of Massachusetts to the Connecticut line in February 1776. During the first six months, thirty meetings were held and thirty-eight men were made Masons.

The most memorable meeting of American Union Lodge was held to observe the Feast of St. John the Evangelist Day on December 27, 1779 at Morristown, New Jersey. Brother George Washington was in attendance at this famous meeting when a petition was introduced proposing the formation of a National Grand Lodge and recommending him as National Grand Master.

Delaware was represented at the formation of American Union Lodge by having Colonel John Parke of Dover elected as their charter Senior Warden. In addition to being a prominent officer in the American Revolution, he was a brilliant writer who later distinguished himself as a talented poet. Although Parke was raised in Lodge No. 5 at Cantwell's Bridge at the age of twenty, he eventually affiliated with Lodge No. 2 at Philadelphia before his death at the early age of thirty-five in Dover. Just as a Delawarean had participated in the formation of the most famous military lodge, American Union, others would be responsible for the least known "Phantom" Lodge, Hiram's Delaware Regimental Lodge No. 30, Ancient York Masons.

Hiram is one of the most popular names selected for Masonic lodges and Delaware is no exception. This is only natural, in view of the fact that two of the three legendary Grand Masters of the Craft were Hiram, King of Tyre, and Hiram Abif, the widow's son. Of the six Delaware lodges to bear the designation of Hiram, only two remain, No. 21 in Seaford and No. 25 in Newark. Hiram's Delaware Regimental Lodge No. 30, A.Y.M., was apparently chartered in the spring of 1780 prior to the departure of the Delaware and North Carolina troops for the south to oppose the British in the Carolinas and Georgia. The only evidence which remains to support the existence of Hiram Lodge No. 30 is a memorandum in the archives of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania from the lodge secretary, George Purvis, sent at the request of the Master, Col. David Hall, stating the fate of the lodge. The memorandum briefly states: "The warrant and jewels of Hiram's Delaware Regimental Lodge were taken at the Battle of Camden the 16th of August 1780 by the British troops, and supposed by some of Col. Tarlton's Legion they being in a wagon brought into Camden the day after the action."

The Delaware Regiment had entered the Battle of Camden four hundred strong, but after the hour-long struggle two hundred and fifty-six gallant Delaware soldiers lay dead on the field of battle. The defeat was due to the over-confidence of Gen. Horatio Gates in an understaffed army composed largely of new recruits, wearied by a long march and lack of supplies.

The Master of Hiram's Delaware Regimental Lodge No. 30, A.Y.M., Col. David Hall, was unable to march south with his regiment in 1780 as he was recovering from the wounds he had received earlier in the Battle of Germantown. Hall had been raised a Master Mason in Lodge No. 18 in Dover in 1776 and was later a member of Lodge No. 10 in Georgetown in 1794 before becoming the charter Worshipful Master of Lodge No. 63 in Lewes, also in the year 1794.

The secretary of this military Lodge No. 30, George Purvis, was commissioned Second Lieutenant in Col. Hall's Delaware Regiment in 1777 where he was promoted successively First Lieutenant, Regimental Adjutant, and Captain by the close of the war. From a certificate granted Purvis by Lodge No. 18 at Dover in 1782, it appears he was made a Mason in St. John's Regimental Lodge (No. 63, Albany) in a camp near Morristown. The minutes of Lodge No. 14 at Wilmington also show him present with other brethren of the Delaware Regiment in April 1780 for the raising of their fellow soldier, Thomas Anderson.

Thus, the name of Hiram is still highly revered by all Masons. The principles of both strength and beauty, which the name signifies, were certainly exemplified by the members of Delaware's first Hiram Lodge, No. 30. How many of Delaware's two hundred fifty-six casualties or one hundred forty-four survivors were Masons we will never know, but Brothers Col. Hall and Capt. Purvis truly projected their Masonic Images through their services. Let us then employ the wisdom of our other legendary Grand Master, Solomon, King of Israel, by attempting to emulate his character so we too can be of service to our fellowman.

DELAWARE'S EIGHT DORMANT LODGES

In calling the roll of Delaware's Symbolic Lodges, we observe that eight dormant lodges fail to respond. Their history and fate have fallen into obscurity, and yet I am certain that interest has been kindled into their transactions and achievements during their period of existence.

The first echo from the past which we encounter is that of Hiram Lodge No. 3 in Newark, which was one of the four lodges to form the Grand Lodge of Delaware in 1806. The first sign of disunity became evident in 1823 when the Grand Lodge granted their request to move from Newark to Glasgow, only to rescind their action six months later. By 1827 the Grand Lodge reported that the minutes of Hiram Lodge No. 3 were badly kept and their membership returns showed a fifty per cent drop to only ten members.

The dimming of Masonic Light in Hiram Lodge No. 3 was the result of another Light being ignited by Warren Lodge No. 16, a few miles away in Glasgow. During this era, many of Hiram Lodge No. 3 members resided in Glasgow which apparently promised much more potential for growth and development than did Newark. Warren Lodge No. 16 was finally chartered in Glasgow in 1826 largely through the efforts of twelve of Hiram Lodge's members who attempted to move Hiram Lodge from Newark to Glasgow without success only three years earlier. By 1833 Hiram Lodge fell into darkness while Warren Lodge No. 16 flickered until 1851 when it, too, surrendered its charter.

Having heeded the echoes of two extinct lodges, we encounter another Hiram Lodge, No. 6, which met at Buck Tavern. They were chartered in 1807 and met north of Wilmington. The next year they reported having twenty-two members and by 1812 had more than doubled their membership to fifty-six. They surrendered their charter in 1833 and as late as 1842, the Grand Lodge of Delaware was still exerting an effort to collect their jewels.

Moving away from Wilmington, we reflect on Union Lodge No. 8 of Port Penn which was chartered in 1812 with ten members. Their charter was suspended for one year in 1819 and again in 1826 for six months, both occasions for non-payment of dues to the Grand Lodge. In 1827 they petitioned to change their meeting place from Port Penn to St. Georges, which was granted. Union Lodge No. 8 probably ceased to meet in 1829, as in 1830 a letter was received by the Grand Lodge stating that their lodge had been closed for about five years and that they were now desirous to rekindle Union Lodge No. 8. No reply to this request is known, so their appeal must have fallen on deaf ears.

Traveling down state, we come upon America Lodge No. 10 of Camden, whose charter was granted in 1817. The interesting thing is that their five charter members had all received their three degrees of Masonry within the preceding six months in Union Lodge No. 7 of Dover at intervals of only one week apart. In 1826 their charter was suspended for six months for non-payment of dues, only to be surrendered the following year. The Grand Lodge ordered their jewels and furniture placed in possession of Lodge No. 18 in Wilmington, and their books and papers turned over to Endeavor Lodge No. 17.

Returning to Wilmington with the jewels and furniture of America Lodge No. 10 of Camden, we come to Lebanon Lodge No. 18 which was chartered in 1827 with Samuel Harker as their Worshipful Master. He was the publisher of the "Delaware Gazette", served as Grand Secretary in 1829, demitted to Temple Lodge No. 11 and continued to serve as Grand Secretary until 1831, after which he left the state with no recourse to his books. As Samuel Harker vanished from the scene, so did Lebanon Lodge No. 18 of Wilmington, who surrendered their charter and jewels in 1831.

The extinguishing of six of Delaware's eight Masonic lodges which we have thus far encountered, for all intended purposes, can be attributed to a common denominator, the Morgan Affair. This period in our history also had adverse effects on the remaining Masonic lodges, not only in Delaware, but throughout the entire United States. Before the storm blew itself out, three thousand lodges had been compelled to surrender their charters. In Delaware during these years, not only was no new lodge formed, but its seventeen lodges shrank to seven and membership decreased from 365 to approximately 150.

Next followed the Masonic Renaissance with membership increases and new lodges being chartered and dormant lodges being revived. As we progress southward once again, we encounter Felton Lodge No. 22 at Felton which was chartered in 1867. The Masonic fraternity in Felton had many trials as they were burned out and lost their furniture and regalia; and after their funds had been embezzled by their treasurer, they became disheartened and their charter was declared forfeited in 1882. As we travel back up the state, we find Masonic membership has leaped from the 150 of the 1830's to a total of 967 by the year 1870.

The next of Delaware's eight dark lodges to be chartered was Jefferson Lodge No. 15 of New Castle in 1825. It was formed out of a controversy as to which member of St. John's Lodge No. 2, which was one of the four lodges to form the Grand Lodge of Delaware in 1806, would deliver the St. John's Day oration in the town of New Castle. Relations were evidently most bitter between

the two lodges and anything but Masonic. They even refused to admit each other's elected officers into their lodges as visiting Master Masons. Both lodges suffered with Jefferson Lodge No. 15 surrendering its charter in 1840, which was later assigned to Lewes in 1849, while St. John's Lodge No. 2 remained dormant from 1828 until 1848.

By the year 1868 when Jefferson Lodge No. 24 was chartered, St. John's Lodge No. 2 had been reactivated for twenty years, but history had again repeated itself. Jefferson Lodge No. 24 was formed on the petition of ten members of St. John's Lodge No. 2 to revive old Jefferson Lodge No. 15 which had since been designated to Lewes nineteen years earlier. They were then assigned a charter as Jefferson Lodge No. 24, but unlike Jefferson Lodge No. 15, no reason can be found for the withdrawal of ten of St. John's members to form the new Jefferson Lodge. While bitterness and discord marked the relations between the two lodges in 1825, there seems to have been perfect amity and goodwill during the second withdrawal in 1868 as they both used the same hall, jewels and furniture.

Thus, we trust that when Jefferson Lodge No. 24 of New Castle surrendered its charter and jewels and faded into obscurity in 1876, it will be the last Light to be extinguished in the history of Delaware Freemasonry. Let us make it our responsibility as Masons to see that history never again repeats itself to the adversity of our Craft.

So Mote It Be.

DELAWARE'S GRAND MASTERS

| Year | Grand Master | Year | Grand Master | Year | Grand Master | Year | Grand Master |
|---------|--------------------------|---------|---------------------------|------|---------------------------|------|---------------------------|
| 1806-08 | Gunning Bedford, Jr. (1) | 1878-79 | John Taylor (29) | 1917 | George B. Hynson (9) | 1949 | J. Allen Frear (7) |
| 1809-11 | Jesse Green (4) | 1880-81 | Jos. W. K. Watson (26) | 1918 | A. Victor Hughes (23) | 1950 | Henry I. Law (14) |
| 1812-13 | Edward Roche (1) | 1882-83 | John F. Saulsbury (7) | 1919 | Harry Mayer (7) | 1951 | H. Edward Maul (15) |
| 1814-16 | John Sellars (1) | 1884-85 | Thomas Davidson (14) | 1920 | Wm. J. Highfield (20) | 1952 | Edward E. Clough (20) |
| 1817-18 | Willard Hall (7) | 1886-87 | George W. Marshall (9) | 1921 | George C. Williams (4) | 1953 | Francis W. Hukill (5) |
| 1819-20 | James Rogers (2) | 1888-90 | James S. Dobb (23) | 1922 | Chas. A. Bamberger (29) | 1954 | Horace S. Allen, Jr. (29) |
| 1821-23 | James Derrickson (4) | 1891 | Nathaniel F. Wilds (13) | 1923 | Edward W. Cooch (25) | 1955 | M. Haswell Pierce (9) |
| 1824 | Joshua G. Brinckle (1) | 1892 | John B. Book (20) | 1924 | Charles D. Bird (27) | 1956 | H. Clifford Bauer (27) |
| 1825-27 | Arnold Naudain (5) | 1893 | Eldad L. Clark (7) | 1925 | James P. Pierce (9) | 1957 | W. Harrison Phillips (4) |
| 1828 | Josiah F. Clement (14) | 1894 | V. V. Harrison (27) | 1926 | Harry Galbraith (14) | 1958 | Charles W. Lewis (1) |
| 1829 | Archibald Hamilton (1) | 1895 | Joseph L. Cahall (12) | 1927 | Weldon C. Waples (17) | 1959 | James B. Kilvington (2) |
| 1830-32 | John McClung (1) | 1896 | J. Paul Lukens (23) | 1928 | J. Bayard Hearn (20) | 1960 | Charles E. Daniels (11) |
| 1833 | Elias S. Rickards (12) | 1897 | James E. Dutton (21) | 1929 | Harry V. Holloway (2) | 1961 | Harry C. Johnson (13) |
| 1834-35 | Joseph G. Oliver (9) | 1898 | J. Harmer Rile (11) | 1930 | D. Raymond Keefer (1) | 1962 | William H. Cantwell (23) |
| 1836-38 | George W. Frame (12) | 1899 | William W. Black, Jr. (5) | 1931 | J. Wallace Woodford (7) | 1963 | Lawrence E. Sipple (17) |
| 1839-41 | James P. Lofland (8) | 1900 | Joseph Stuart (20) | 1932 | W. S. Allmond, Jr. (11) | 1964 | William D. Paulin (14) |
| 1842-44 | Elias S. Rickards (12) | 1901 | George Massey Jones (7) | 1933 | Harold W. T. Purnell (12) | 1965 | Arthur G. Craig (26) |
| 1845-47 | Alexander Porter (1) | 1902 | Harry J. Guthrie (14) | 1934 | William O. Wingate (23) | 1966 | R. Franklin Gordy (21) |
| 1848-49 | Richard Clement (11) | 1903 | Charles H. Maul (15) | 1935 | Harris Samonisky (19) | 1967 | E. W. Randall, Jr. (20) |
| 1850-52 | William T. Read (2) | 1904 | R. Henry Young (23) | 1936 | Harry W. Lowe (14) | 1968 | W. F. Schueler, Sr. (2) |
| 1853-54 | James Booth (2) | 1905 | Levin Irving Handy (25) | 1937 | George T. Macklin (9) | 1969 | John J. McClearnen (7) |
| 1855-57 | Alfred P. Robinson (12) | 1906 | Robt. K. Stephenson (21) | 1938 | Geo. E. Vandegrift (20) | 1970 | Lourell S. Jewell (11) |
| 1858-59 | John R. McFee (12) | 1907 | Thomas J. Day (29) | 1939 | T. Scott Purse (21) | 1971 | Walter E. Nelson (19) |
| 1860-61 | Daniel C. Godwin (9) | 1908 | Henry I. Beers, Jr. (7) | 1940 | George Duffy (29) | 1972 | Paul E. Ellis (28) |
| 1862-64 | Allen V. Lesley (2) | 1909 | Edward B. Mode (11) | 1941 | Clarence A. Short (25) | 1973 | John N. Fortner (23) |
| 1865 | John A. Nicholson (7) | 1910 | G. Layton Grier (9) | 1942 | J. Thomas Warren (27) | 1974 | Henry E. Snedeker (19) |
| 1866-67 | Daniel McClintock (14) | 1911 | Enoch Moore (14) | 1943 | Walter W. Hynson (13) | 1975 | Raymond M. Savage (9) |
| 1868-69 | Edwin J. Horner (14) | 1912 | Edward G. Walls (13) | 1944 | W. Harry Lewis (1) | 1976 | Edward K. Pollock (27) |
| 1870-72 | John C. McCabe (5) | 1913 | Frank B. Massey (1) | 1945 | Urah W. Long (30) | 1977 | Elton P. Holland (5) |
| 1873-74 | John P. Allmond (11) | 1914 | William E. Valiant (4) | 1946 | Bayard W. Allmond (11) | 1978 | James H. Hutchins (7) |
| 1875 | George W. Chaytor (11) | 1915 | Walter W. Bacon (2) | 1947 | Paul Yearsley (26) | 1979 | William J. Littel (11) |
| 1876-77 | Thomas N. Williams (4) | 1916 | Stuart J. Horn (11) | 1948 | James Carswell (23) | 1980 | David B. Craig, Jr. (35) |

LODGES CHARTERED BY
THE GRAND LODGE OF DELAWARE

| | NAME | NO. | LOCATION | DATE OF CHARTER | DATE OF SURRENDER | DATE OF REVIVAL |
|---|------------|-----|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| a | WASHINGTON | 1 | Wilmington | June 7, 1806 | | |
| b | ST. JOHN'S | 2 | New Castle | June 7, 1806 | 1828-1848 (dormant) | June 27, 1848 |
| c | HIRAM | 3 | Newark | June 7, 1806 | June 27, 1833 | |
| d | HOPE | 4 | Laurel | June 7, 1806 | | |
| e | UNION | 5 | Middletown | Jan. 15, 1816 | | |
| | HIRAM | 6 | Buck Tavern | June 24, 1807 | June 27, 1833 | |
| f | UNION | 7 | Dover | June 24, 1809 | 1834-1857 (dormant) | June 27, 1857 |
| | UNION | 8 | Port Penn | June 24, 1812 | 1829 | |
| | TEMPLE | 9 | Milford | Jan. 16, 1815 | | |
| | AMERICA | 10 | Camden | Jan. 20, 1817 | June 27, 1827 | |
| | TEMPLE | 11 | Wilmington | Jan. 20, 1817 | Jan. 16, 1832 | Jan. 1837 |
| | FRANKLIN | 12 | Georgetown | June 27, 1823 | | |
| g | HARMONY | 13 | Smyrna | Jan. 19, 1824 | 1833-1867 (dormant) | June 27, 1867 |
| | LAFAYETTE | 14 | Wilmington | Jan. 17, 1825 | | |
| | JEFFERSON | 15 | New Castle | June 27, 1825 | June 27, 1840 | |
| h | JEFFERSON | 15 | Lewes | June 27, 1849 | | |
| | WARREN | 16 | Glasgow | Jan. 16, 1826 | June 27, 1851 | |
| | ENDEAVOR | 17 | Frederica | Jan. 16, 1826 | June 28, 1830 | |
| | ENDEAVOR | 17 | Milton | June 27, 1848 | | |
| | LEBANON | 18 | Wilmington | June 27, 1827 | June 27, 1831 | |
| | JACKSON | 19 | Delaware City | June 27, 1857 | | |
| | CORINTHIAN | 20 | Wilmington | June 27, 1861 | | |
| | HIRAM | 21 | Seaford | June 27, 1866 | | |
| | FELTON | 22 | Felton | June 27, 1867 | Oct. 4, 1882 | |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----|-------------|---------------|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|
| EUREKA | 23 | Wilmington | June 27, 1867 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| JEFFERSON | 24 | New Castle | June 27, 1868 | Oct. 4, 1876 | . | . | . | . | . |
| HIRAM | 25 | Newark | June 27, 1870 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ARMSTRONG | 26 | Newport | June 27, 1870 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| ORIENTAL | 27 | Wilmington | June 27, 1872 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GETHSEMANE | 28 | Reliance | Oct. 7, 1875 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DUPONT | 29 | Wilmington | Oct. 4, 1876 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DORIC | 30 | Millville | Oct. 7, 1903 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| IONIC | 31 | Newport | Oct. 4, 1950 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| UNITY | 32 | Newport | Oct. 5, 1955 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| BRANDYWINE | 33 | Claymont | Oct. 28, 1961 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| GRANITE | 34 | Talleyville | Oct. 26, 1963 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| CHRISTIANA | 35 | Newport | Nov. 6, 1963 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| SOLOMON | 36 | Newark | Oct. 5, 1967 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DELAWARE | 37 | Dagsboro | Oct. 5, 1967 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| HIGH NOON | 38 | Newport | Nov. 25, 1978 | . | . | . | . | . | . |
| DELAWARE LODGE OF RESEARCH | | | Feb. 22, 1975 | . | . | . | . | . | . |

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- a No. 14 under Pennsylvania, chartered Dec. 27, 1769.
- b No. 33 under Pennsylvania, chartered Dec. 18, 1780.
- c No. 96 under Pennsylvania, chartered Dec. 6, 1802.
- d No. 31 under Maryland, chartered June 23, 1800. Lodge No. 10 at Georgetown, under Maryland was chartered Sept. 18, 1792, and became St. John's Lodge No. 10 of Delaware on May 2, 1794. Dormant 1796. Several members of No. 10 became Charter Members of No. 31.
- e No. 5 under Pennsylvania, chartered June 24, 1765. Located at Cantwell's Bridge (Odessa) prior to 1822. Known as No. 5 prior to 1851.
- f No. 18 under Pennsylvania, chartered Aug. 26, 1775, dormant 1787.
- g No. 44 under Pennsylvania, Chartered June 23, 1785, dormant 1787.
- h No. 63 under Pennsylvania, chartered May 28, 1794, vacated Apr. 7, 1806. Charter of No. 15 at New Castle revived for Lodge at Lewes.

WASHINGTON - THE BUILDER



(Photo courtesy of A. C. Robidoux)

“This southeast cornerstone of the Capitol of the United States of America in the city of Washington was laid on the 18th day of September, 1793, in the thirteenth year of American independence, in the first year of the second term of the presidency of George Washington, whose virtues in the civil administration of his country have been as conspicuous and beneficial as his military valor and prudence have been useful in establishing her liberties, and in the year of Masonry 5793, by the President of the United States, in concert with the Grand Lodge of Maryland, several lodges under its jurisdiction and Lodge No. 22, from Alexandria, Virginia.”

(From the “Columbian Mirror” and “Alexandria Gazette” of 9/23, 1793)

MASONIC REMEMBRANCE

In keeping with the celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the Grand Lodge of A.F. & A.M. of Delaware, the Joint Board of Trustees of Wilmington's Masonic Temple commissioned Delaware artist B. Bell-Walters, wife of Brother Vernon M. (Tiny) Walters, to execute a 6' x 12' mural to adorn the foyer of the Grand Lodge Offices. The subject selected was that of Washington laying the cornerstone of the U.S. Capitol, based on a painting by another famous Delaware artist, Stanley M. Arthurs (1877-1950), who was a member of Delaware's Temple Lodge No. 11 which continues to meet in the same Masonic Temple.



“TODAY PROLOGUE - TOMORROW HISTORY”

*Life is a book in volumes three,
The past, the present, the yet to be.
The first is finished and laid away;
The second we are writing, day by day.
The third and the last of the volumes three;
Is locked from view; God holds the key.*

“FIAT LUX”

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