

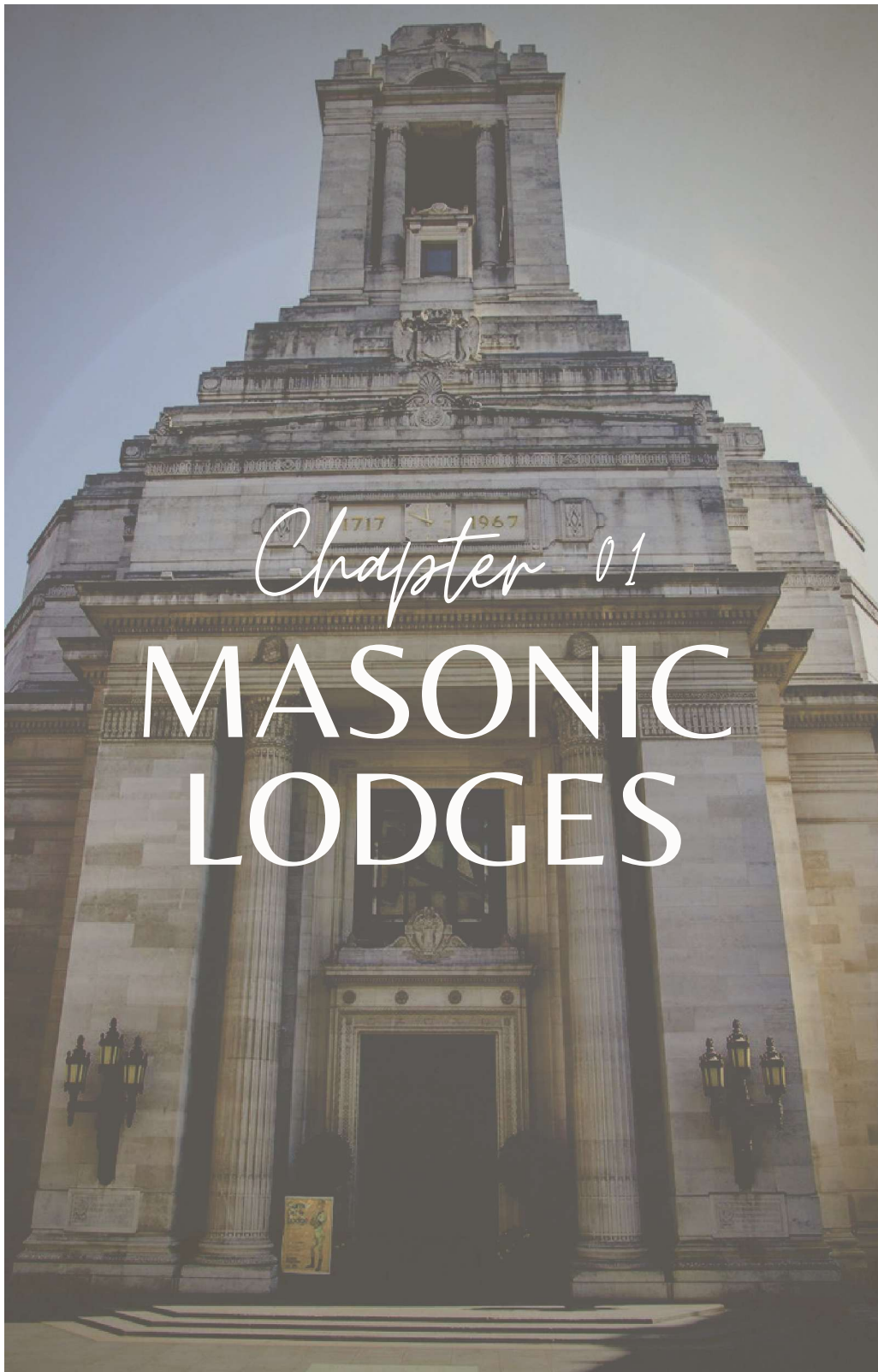


100 FACTS ABOUT FREEMASONRY

(ALMOST NOBODY KNOWS)

ILLUSTRATED BY SYMBOLS
(& IMAGES)

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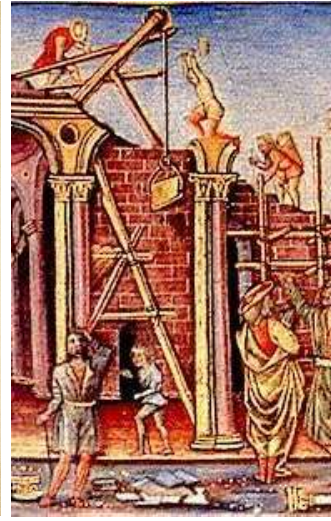


Chapter 01

MASONIC LODGES

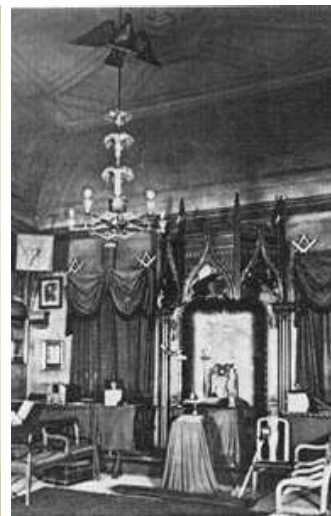
The first permanent Masonic Lodges as we know them today (before the United Grand Lodge of England in 1717)started appearing in the 1600s.

These were operative masonic lodges which eventually became solely speculative.



Apart from the first Grand Lodge of England that formed in 1717, there were other Grand Lodges which formed; however, it's the original United Grand Lodge of England (UGLE) that still stands.

The oldest known Masonic Lodge room is said to be St John's Chapel in Edinburgh, Scotland (1736) which belonged formerly and wholly to Lodge Canongate Kilwinning but it is now owned by the Royal Order of Scotland and used as their Headquarters.





The oldest known Masonic Lodge room in the United States is "Prentiss House" in Marblehead, Massachusetts (1760)

The oldest Masonic Lodge building is Lodge Hall of Royal Whitehart Lodge No 2 in Halifax, North Carolina (1771)



Three out of the four original Lodges that first formed the United Grand Lodge of England are still in existence today.

St. John's Lodge (in Philadelphia)
Ledger for the year 1731 is the oldest
Masonic Lodge document in existence
in the United States.

**ROSTER OF THE LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED
MASONS WHICH MET AT THE TUN TAVERN, PHIL-
ADELPHIA.**

BY JULIUS FREDERICK SACHSE.

The first lodge of Free and Accepted Masons held in the Colonies was organized in Philadelphia, at the Tun Tavern, a once prominent hostelry on the east side of King (Water) Street, at the corner of a small thoroughfare that led down to the river, known as Wilcox's, now Tun, Alley. In Franklin's *Pennsylvania Gazette*, as early as June 26, 1732, it is announced that a "Grand" Lodge had been held on the previous Saturday (St. John's Day), when William Allen was chosen Grand Master and the printer as one of the wardens.

No official records of this lodge are known to exist, with the exception of the lodge ledger, "Liber B," now in possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. From this we learn that the body was known as St. John's Lodge, and proves that the lodge was in existence June 24, 1731. There is also a strong presumption that this lodge constituted itself as a "Grand" Lodge after the formation of other lodges within the province.

St. John's Lodge did not remain long at the Tun Tavern, for when, in 1734, mine host Brother John Hobart removed from that hostelry the lodge also changed its quarters and was convened at the Indian King Hotel, corner of Market Street and Biddle's Alley, now Bank Street, and in 1749 to the Royal Standard Tavern, on Market Street, near Second Street.

Owing to the absence of documentary evidence, there is no way of determining when the subordinate lodges were constituted or where located, but one was within the city and also met at the old Tun Tavern, then in possession of the Mullen family. This society was known as "The Tun



Edinburgh Lodge No. 1, also known
as Mary's Chapel, is said to be the
Lodge with the oldest records.

Some of these records date back to
the 31st of July, 1599.

The first duly noted constituted Lodge
in America is St John's Lodge in
Boston, Massachusetts, on July 30th,
1733.

On that day, eighteen men gathered at
the Bunch of Grapes Tavern on King
Street in Boston and pledged to be
true to each other, to God, and to their
king.





In the United States, if there are 3 or more Lodges in any State or territory with no current Grand Lodge)they may be free to organize one.

The first title of the first “African American” Grand Lodge was “The African Grand Lodge of North America”.

In 1827 the African Grand Lodge declared its independence from the United Grand Lodge of England, as the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts had done 45 years earlier.



In 1749, the first Lodge was constituted in Norway in the city of Christiania (now known as Oslo)

It was founded by Count Christian Conrad Danneskiold-Laurvig, probably with the Danish king Frederick V of Denmark present at the initiation ceremony.

The first Masonic Lodge established in Japan was at Yokohama in 1865 by the Grand Lodge of England.

This Lodge was called Yokohama Lodge No. 1092 and was very active for many years.



"The Order of the Eastern Star" appeared on December 28th, 1868, known as Alpha Chapter No. 1.

It was established by lawyer and educator Rob Morris, a noted Freemason, but was only adopted and approved as an appendant body of the Masonic Fraternity in 1873.

The highest Masonic Lodge in the world is on top of Cerro de Pasco in Peru, 14,208 feet above sea level.

It's called "The Roof of The World" Lodge No. 1094 under the Grand Lodge of Scotland.

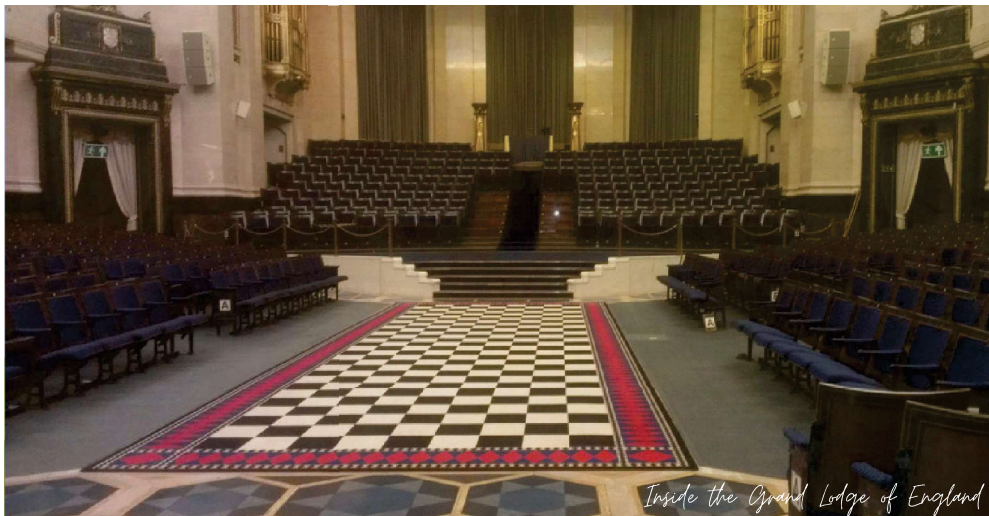




The highest Lodge in the United States is Corinthian Lodge No. 42 at Kokomo, Colorado.

On Oct. 13, 1881, a fire destroyed the biggest part of Kokomo including the Lodge Room. On Jan. 11, 1882, with a special dispensation from Ionic Lodge No. 35, the lodge was convened. A regular meeting was held on Jan. 21, 1882, and business resumed.

In the Canal Zone, all land is owned by the US Government, except for one plot, which is a Masonic Temple and stands by the permission of Congress.



Inside the Grand Lodge of England