

Dedication

*Executive Office Building
The Grand Lodge of
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons
of North Carolina*

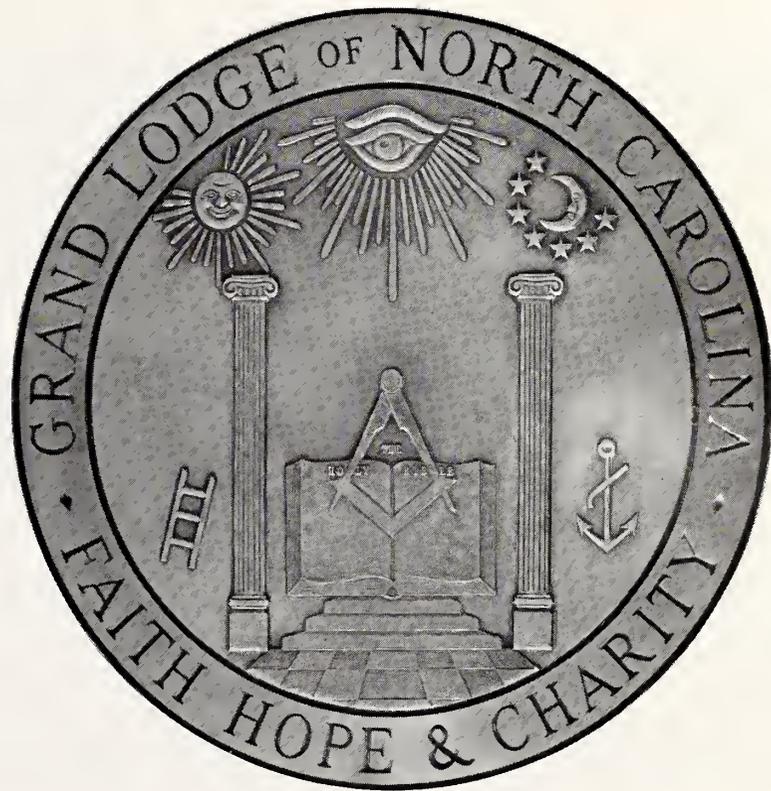
*April 16, 1958
Raleigh, North Carolina*





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THE GRAND LODGE OF
ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF NORTH CAROLINA

- 1954 -

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Dedication

*The Grand Lodge of
Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons
of North Carolina*

April 16, 1958

Raleigh, North Carolina



Greetings

My brethren, we are today officially dedicating this beautiful building. Throughout the ages men have dreamed, and as a result of those dreams mankind has achieved peace of mind and spiritual well-being, and knows less suffering and more comforts. There are in our Grand Jurisdiction men of great vision who many years ago dreamed of a finer and more efficient building, beautiful in structure and appearance, and today we are dedicating this magnificent building. May this venture stimulate each of our brethren to greater zeal for the institution, and a practice in daily life of those great tenets of our Order. May the hearts and lives of our brethren and those who will follow reflect the beauty, purity, and stability of this edifice.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

Charles A. Harris

Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina

JAMES GUY JOHNSTON

Born October 2, 1901, in Chester, South Carolina, the son of Dr. James Gilliam Johnston and Susan Alma Guy Johnston.

Educated in the Chester, South Carolina, public schools, and at Baird's Preparatory School; entered Davidson College with the Class of 1923.

Accepted a position with R. S. Dickson and Company, Charlotte, in the early part of 1933, and is now Vice-President and Treasurer, as well as a member of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee.

Active in Sunday School and church work. Now member Philadelphia Presbyterian Church in Mint Hill.

Married the charming and lovely Anne Lee Mann, daughter of a Methodist minister, on January 20, 1936. They have one son, James Guy Johnston, Jr., currently a senior at Georgia Military Academy in Atlanta, Georgia, who will enter The Citadel this fall.

Symbolic Masonry: Initiated in Excelsior Lodge No. 261, A. F. & A. M., Charlotte, on January 15, 1940; passed on February 26, 1940; and raised on March 25, 1940. Delivered Entered Apprentice Degree Lecture in June, 1940. Appointed Steward of Excelsior Lodge No. 261 in December, 1940; served as Master in 1947; and later as Secretary in 1949 and 1950. Life Member.

Grand Lodge: District Deputy Grand Master for the 27th Masonic District during 1948, 1949 and 1950. President of the District Deputy Grand Masters' Association in 1950. Appointed to the Board of Custodians of the Grand Lodge in 1948, and has served continuously since that time, the past three years as Chairman. Appointed Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge on April 18, 1951, by M. . . W. . . Brother Herbert M. Foy, Grand Master, and has been advanced regularly each year since, having been elected and installed Deputy Grand Master on April 17, 1957.

York Rite Masonry: Past High Priest of Charlotte Chapter No. 39, Royal Arch Masons; Past Illustrious Master of Charlotte Council No. 8, Royal and Select Masters; and Past Commander of Charlotte Commandery No. 2, Knights Templar.

Scottish Rite Masonry: Has served as Venerable Master of Charlotte Lodge of Perfection; as Wise Master of Mecklenburg Chapter, Knights Rose Croix; as Commander of Charlotte Council of Knights Kadosh; and as Master of Kadosh in Carolina Consistory. Elevated to rank and decoration Knight Commander of the Court of Honour in 1949. Coronetted with rank and dignity Sovereign Grand Inspector General, Honorary, 1957.

Other Rites and Orders: Member of other organizations too numerous to mention in the space allotted.



LUTHER THOMPSON HARTSELL, JR.

Born September 7, 1902, in Concord, North Carolina, the son of Luther Thompson Hartsell and Janie Witherspoon Ervin Hartsell.

Educated in the public schools of the city of Concord, and in the University of North Carolina where he graduated both in the School of Liberal Arts and in the School of Law.

Returned to Concord and, having passed the North Carolina examination and obtained his license to practice law, formed a partnership with his father in the law firm of Hartsell and Hartsell, which continues to this day. Member of the several Bars; Cabarrus County to the United States Supreme Court. Has served as President of the North Carolina State Bar, and has been a member of the North Carolina Board of Law Examiners for many years.

Member of the Rotary Club of Concord; has served as chairman of the Cabarrus County Board of Elections; as Cabarrus County Attorney; and in the Senate of the North Carolina General Assembly.

Member of the First Presbyterian Church of Concord, and has given many years of faithful service as a deacon of the church.

Married the beautiful and charming Mary Heath Jones, at Lancaster, South Carolina, on October 24, 1924. There are two children, Lena Heath Hartsell (now Mrs. J. E. Wiggins, Jr., Greensboro) and Luther Thompson Hartsell, III, Charlotte.

Symbolic Masonry: Became a Master Mason on December 29, 1924, in Stokes Lodge No. 32, Concord; has served his lodge in many offices and capacities; Past Master; Life Member.

Grand Lodge: Orator for Special Communication of Grand Lodge at Oxford on St. John's Day in June, 1928. Has served for many years as member and Chairman of the Committee on Appeals; as member of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence; and as member of the Board of Directors of Oxford Orphanage. Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts continuously since 1928. Appointed Grand Steward on April 19, 1939; advanced regularly each year, until he was elected and installed Grand Master of Masons in North Carolina on April 16, 1947.

Other Rites and Orders: Member of other organizations too numerous to mention in the space allotted.



Program

Dedication

Executive Office Building

The Grand Lodge of

Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

of North Carolina

April 16, 1958

:

4:00 P.M. Processional

Greetings and Introductions by the Grand Master—

Charles A. Harris

Ceremony of Dedication

Bless This House—

The Chanters
—Sherwood L. Jones, Director

Address—

Luther T. Hartsell, Jr., Past Grand Master

Benediction—The Lord's Prayer

Sherwood L. Jones, Soloist

Recessional

5:00 P.M.

until Open House immediately following the Ceremony of Dedication

7:30 P.M.





Left—Masonic Temple erected by the Grand Lodge in 1907, corner Fayetteville and Hargett Streets, Raleigh.

Center—Aerial view Grand Lodge Executive Office Building dedicated April 16, 1958.

Upper Right — Cornerstone of building erected by the Grand Lodge in 1813, corner Morgan and Dawson Streets, Raleigh.

Lower Right — Cornerstone Grand Lodge Executive Office Building dedicated April 16, 1958.







Watson Newberry Sherrod
Past Grand Master
Chairman
Special Committee on Building and Quarters



Charles Bailey Newcomb
Past Grand Master
Past Grand Secretary
Secretary
Special Committee on Building and Quarters

A FEW POINTS OF HISTORY OF THE GRAND LODGE OF NORTH CAROLINA

By

Dr. Charles H. Pugh, P. G. M., Grand Historian

It would be impossible in the limited space allotted in this brochure to even mention the high spots of interest and importance pertaining to the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

The history of Masonry in our Grand Jurisdiction should be, and no doubt is, a matter of interest to every Mason in the state, and deserves a prominent place in any Masonic publication.

While the glory of Masonry lies not in its antiquity alone, yet we may justly point with pride to its immemorial existence and to its past accomplishments, and rightly keep them before us as an inspiration for the future.

The beginning of Freemasonry in North Carolina, as in many other Grand Jurisdictions, is hazed in uncertainty. Some of the early records are incomplete, some doubtless lost, and in some cases it is probable that no records were kept at all. Unfortunately, therefore, we are without a complete record of what took place among our early brethren in this state.

Some light is thrown on the subject, however, in a statement made by Francois Xavier Martin, the well-known historian and jurist, in a discourse delivered by him before St. John's Lodge, now No. 3, of New Bern, on the occasion of the Festival of St. John the Baptist, June 24, 1789. In this discourse, he said:

"Masons crossed the Atlantic with the first settlers of the British Colonies in America, and some after the Grand Master of England appointed Provincial Grand Masters and constituted regular lodges in the New World.

"The Carolinas, whose settlement is of later date, had no Provincial Grand Master until 1736 A. D., when the Earl of Loudoun appointed John Hammerton, Esq., to that dignity. From him a regular succession can be traced to Joseph Montfort, Esq., who was appointed by the Duke of Beaufort."

From the above quoted statement taken from the Ahiman Rezon and Masonic Ritual published in New Bern in 1805 by John C. Mims and Edward G. Moss by order of the Joint Grand Lodge of North Carolina and Tennessee, it seems clear that there were Masons in the Carolinas as early as 1736, and probably prior to that date.

The oldest Subordinate Lodge in North Carolina now in existence is St. John's No. 1, of Wilmington, it having received its charter from the Grand Lodge of England in 1755, with the number 213, which number was, however, changed several times.

The second oldest in the state is Royal White Hart No. 2, of Halifax. Royal White Hart Lodge was instituted on November 1, 1764, "By virtue of a Letter of Authority obtained from Cornelius Harnett, Grand Master of the Lodge in Wilmington."

Among the earlier lodges established in North Carolina was a lodge called "The First Lodge in Pitt County," The records of the Provincial Grand Lodge at Boston show that this lodge was in existence in 1766. It became extinct, however, prior to the War of the Revolution.

On January 14, 1771, the most notable event in the development of Masonry in North Carolina prior to the Revolution took place. That event was the appointment by the Duke of Beaufort, Grand Master of England, of Joseph Montfort, Master of Royal White Hart Lodge, at Halifax, as Provincial Grand Master of and for America. Joseph Montfort was vested with higher and more extensive authority than had ever been granted to any Provincial Grand Master up to that time and had the distinction of being the first and only Provincial Grand Master of and for America. The original of his commission is preserved by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, and is deposited in the Hall of History at Raleigh. This was an appointment of much interest and importance.

Referring to this appointment of Joseph Montfort, Brother Marshall DeLancey Haywood, Historian of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina for several years, in his "Historical Synopsis" of the Grand Lodge says:

"The appointment of Joseph Montfort as Provincial Grand Master was most fortunate. The old minute books in the lodge at New Bern and at Edenton as well as in his home town of Halifax, show that he paid frequent visits to them. What is more important still, he chartered a number of new lodges and also appointed a full complement of officers to aid him in carrying on his work.

"Thus it will be seen that the appointment of Joseph Montfort marked the beginning of an important era in Masonry in North Carolina, and the Order under his administration went forward in a manner that it had not hitherto done, After a distinguished and useful career, both as statesman and Mason, Joseph Montfort died on March 25, 1776. He was buried in the town of Halifax, N. C., where his body now rests in peaceful and loving remembrance."

Several distinguished Masons were named as successors to Joseph Montfort, serving for various periods of time.

Immediately prior to the War of the Revolution several lodges were in existence in North Carolina, of which Solomon was the lodge near the town of Wilmington; St. John's Lodge in Wilmington; Hanover Lodge near Wilmington, although there is no documentary proof of the existence of this lodge; Royal White Hart at Halifax; the "First Lodge in Pitt County" as it was called; St. John's Lodge in New Bern; St. John's Lodge

in Kinston; Royal Edwin at Windsor, North Carolina; Royal William Lodge in Hertford County; Unanimity Lodge in Edenton, which now carries No. 7 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina; and several others.

At the close of the Revolution, Masonry in North Carolina found itself in a rather peculiar situation. None of the Masonic officials who had held Grand Lodge authority during the Colonial period were living in the state. There was, therefore, no higher authority in the state than the subordinate lodges. It was obviously necessary that an independent Grand Lodge should be established in North Carolina.

The first definite step toward the organization of such a Grand Lodge was a circular letter sent to the various lodges in the state by Union Lodge of Fayetteville. This lodge was then working under dispensation from the Grand Lodge of Scotland, but was later, on November 18, 1789, chartered as Phoenix Lodge by the Grand Lodge of North Carolina, with the understanding that its Scottish dispensation be surrendered. It is now Phoenix Lodge No. 8 on the roll of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina.

The proposal contained in the above mentioned letter of Union Lodge was that a convention be held in Fayetteville on June 24, 1787, to take under consideration the matter of declaring the independence of the lodges in North Carolina and to appoint a Grand Master and other officers. There were not a sufficient number of delegates present, however, and the convention adjourned to meet at Tarboro on the 9th day of December of the same year.

The convention accordingly met on the said date in the town of Tarboro where a Masonic Declaration of Independence took place, and the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was organized. On December 11, the officers of the new Grand Lodge were elected with Samuel Johnston, afterwards Governor, as Grand Master. Space forbids the naming of the officers or of the lodges participating.

The formation of the Grand Lodge on December 9, 1787, was, of course, the great outstanding event in the early life of Masonry in North Carolina. With its organization Masonry had become a permanent reality and a living force. In 1791 there were 18 lodges on the roll of the Grand Lodge and seniority among them, which had been a matter of uncertainty, was definitely settled.

In November, 1797, the Grand Lodge was legally incorporated by act of the Legislature, Chapter 10, of the Law of that year with all the rights, powers and privileges of bodies corporate under the laws of the state of North Carolina.

The next event of importance was the organization of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, which occurred on September 30, 1813. This is the only charter establishing a Grand Lodge ever issued in America.

Sometime during the early part of the 19th century the Grand Lodge of North Carolina began to consider the advisability of erecting a building in which to hold its regular communications. Accordingly, on St. John

the Baptist Day, June 24, 1813, the cornerstone of the building was laid, this building being located at the corner of Dawson and Morgan Streets in the city of Raleigh.

After the close of the War between the States a movement was begun for the raising of funds to erect a new Temple at the corner of Fayetteville and Davie Streets in Raleigh. But this movement failed, and the Grand Lodge continued to occupy the old building until about 1880. After that time it met in the local hall of the lodges in Raleigh until the completion of the temple at the corner of Fayetteville and Hargett Streets. The cornerstone of this temple was laid on October 16, 1907, and the building was occupied by the Grand Lodge for the first time at its Annual Communication, January 12, 1909. The history leading to the completion of this present building which we are dedicating today will be fully covered in another brochure, printed at a later date.

Two outstanding movements took place on separate dates that have made the Grand Lodge of North Carolina outstanding in its reputation for the care of the aged and the orphan. After the establishment of an educational institution at Oxford, known as St. John's College, had failed, by act of the Grand Lodge in 1872 the institution was converted into an orphanage and opened in 1873 with John H. Mills as its first Superintendent. This institution is now the Oxford Orphanage, the institution in which the Masons of North Carolina take so just a pride and which they love so well.

During the first decade of the present Century the Grand Lodge began to take under consideration the advisability of a home for the aged and dependent Masons and relatives. The idea grew in favor and accordingly on January 12, 1914, the Masonic and Eastern Star Home in Greensboro was opened for the reception of guests. This institution like the Orphanage holds a warm place in the affections of North Carolina Masons. In this it has been ably supported by the Order of the Eastern Star. In these two splendid institutions Masonry cares for both the morning and evening of life.

It is unnecessary to refer at length to present-day Masonry in North Carolina, for it is known to all. Suffice to say that the Order with its more than 60,000 members and 353 lodges, is with our sister jurisdictions throughout the world endeavoring to exemplify Masonry's ideals and principles in unselfish service to mankind.

We cannot be too often reminded that we of the present-day Craft have a heritage beyond price, and that at the same time there rests upon us an important responsibility. Our heritage is the record of an ancient and honorable institution: to uphold that record is our responsibility.

We are definitely proud of our great record of the past, we are awake to the responsibilities of the present, and we revel in the glory of our moral, spiritual, and fraternal future.

OFFICERS OF THE GRAND LODGE, 1957-58
ELECTIVE

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Charles A. Harris, | <i>Grand Master</i> |
| James G. Johnston, | <i>Deputy Grand Master</i> |
| W. Eli Hand, | <i>Senior Grand Warden</i> |
| Harvey W. Smith, | <i>Junior Grand Warden</i> |
| Herbert M. Foy, <i>P. G. M.</i> , | <i>Grand Treasurer</i> |
| Wilbur L. McIver, | <i>Grand Secretary</i> |

APPOINTIVE

| | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Lester H. Gillikin, | <i>Senior Grand Deacon</i> |
| James W. Brewer, | <i>Junior Grand Deacon</i> |
| Andrew S. Melvin, | <i>Grand Marshal</i> |
| Charles C. Ricker, | <i>Grand Steward</i> |
| J. Edward Rooker, Jr., | <i>Grand Steward</i> |
| Fred F. Harding, | <i>Grand Tyler</i> |
| A. D. Leon Gray, | <i>Grand Chaplain</i> |
| Dr. Charles H. Pugh, <i>P. G. M.</i> , | <i>Grand Historian</i> |
| W. Edward Burrier, | <i>Grand Lecturer</i> |
| Jasper E. Garlington, | <i>Grand Orator</i> |
| G. Dudley Humphrey, | <i>Judge Advocate</i> |
| Clyde G. McCarver, | <i>Assistant Grand Chaplain</i> |

PAST GRAND MASTERS

| | |
|------------------------------|------|
| J. Wallace Winborne..... | 1931 |
| Charles B. Newcomb..... | 1935 |
| J. Giles Hudson..... | 1936 |
| Watson N. Sherrod..... | 1937 |
| Thomas J. Harkins..... | 1940 |
| Dr. Charles P. Eldridge..... | 1941 |
| James E. Shipman..... | 1942 |
| William J. Bundy..... | 1946 |
| Luther T. Hartsell, Jr. | 1947 |
| Dr. Maxwell E. Hoffman..... | 1948 |
| Dr. Wallace E. Caldwell..... | 1950 |
| Herbert M. Foy..... | 1951 |
| William H. White..... | 1952 |
| Edwin T. Howard..... | 1953 |
| Robert L. Pugh..... | 1954 |
| Dr. Charles H. Pugh..... | 1955 |
| John C. Vance..... | 1956 |

PAST GRAND SECRETARY

Charles B. Newcomb, *P. G. M.*



