



MASONIC
T E M P L E
R O C H E S T E R · N Y





M.:W.:CHARLES H JOHNSON
Grand Master

Dedication and Consecration

OF

M A S O N I C
T E M P L E
R O C H E S T E R • N Y



Saturday May 24th
NINETEEN THIRTY

BY

M.:W.:C H A R L E S H J O H N S O N
Grand Master

BUILDING COMMITTEE

ROCHESTER MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOCIATION



Geo. Francis



H. L. Marsh



E. G. Foster



E. A. Marsh



J. B. Mullin



S. J. Osgood



Carl Ade

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John B. Tucker



Charles H. Clark



Edward G. Stallman, Secy.

BRIEF HISTORY OF

... **A**MONG the early settlers at the Falls of the Genesee were many men who had received their Masonic degrees before migrating into the wilderness of Western New York, and these brethren, aware of the benefit to be derived from a closer association in a common brotherhood, presented a petition to the Grand Lodge in 1815, bearing the approval of Morning Star Lodge of Pittsford, N. Y.

The petition was approved and the Charter granted June 5th, 1817, to Wells Lodge, No. 282. This Charter was surrendered during the Morgan excitement, and was dormant for about twenty years.

In 1845 efforts were made to revive Masonry in Rochester. The original Charter could not be located in the records of the Grand Lodge, and a new Charter was issued June 6, 1846, bearing the name of Valley Lodge, No. 109, F. & A. M. The original Charter was discovered in 1898, and is now in the archives of the Rochester Historical Society. It bears the signature of DeWitt Clinton as Grand Master.

The storm had passed. The survivors found that the principles of Masonry had not been disturbed. The reaction was marked and rapid, and on June 8, 1850, a Charter was granted to Yonnonidio Lodge, No. 163. This was followed by Genesee Falls Lodge, No. 507, chartered June 12, 1861, and Rochester Lodge, No. 660, chartered August 22, 1867.

In 1872 brethren from the four Lodges proceeded to organize Germania Lodge, No. 722, and a Charter was granted June 7, 1872. For a period of seventeen years the five Lodges above mentioned served the Masonry of Rochester.

In 1889 a Charter was granted Frank R. Lawrence Lodge, No. 797, bearing the date of June 6. In 1893 a new Lodge was formed in the North West part of the city, and May 30, 1893 a Charter was granted to Corinthian Temple Lodge, No. 805.

These seven Lodges moved from their various meeting places in 1902 into a new Masonic Temple on Clinton Avenue North. The influence of this new Temple upon the Craft was so remarkable that within the next twenty-five years, nine new Lodges were organized, as compared with seven in the preceding fifty-six years.

It would be interesting if we could trace accurately the different meeting places of the various Masonic bodies during the past eighty-four years. The first is only a tradition, that the meeting place was a Lodge room in a building owned by Abelard Reynolds on the site of the present Arcade—an old Concert Hall on Exchange Street was used by Valley Lodge, Hamilton Chapter and Monroe Encampment in 1847. Yonnonidio met in the Burns Block where the Elwood Building now stands.

In the early sixties many of the bodies met in "Masonic Hall" which was the top floor of the Chappell Block, the present site of the Wilder Building.

Rochester Lodge, Ionic Chapter and Cyrene Commandery when organized held their meetings in the Union and Advertiser Building—the site now occupied by the Powers Hotel. At a later date they moved to the top floor of the building at the North East corner of Main Street East and Water Street. Rochester Consistory occupied a building on Main Street West where Fay's Theater is located, and for a time Rochester Lodge, Ionic Chapter and Cyrene Commandery were tenants of this building.

On November 14, 1872, Christopher G. Fox of Buffalo, Grand Master, dedicated quarters in the Smith Perkins Building on Exchange Street, and this became the principal center of Masonic activity

ROCHESTER MASONRY

until the removal to the Temple on Clinton Avenue North.

Corinthian Temple Lodge from date of organization to 1902 held their meetings in Ashtons Hall on Lake Avenue.

During the period 1846 to 1930, other branches of the York and Scottish Rite were organized as follows:

Hamilton Chapter, No. 62 R. A. M.	Charter dated—Feb. 3, 1819
Ionic Chapter, No. 210 R. A. M.	Charter dated—Feb. 5, 1868
Doric Council, No. 19 R. & S. M.	Charter dated—Oct. 31, 1860
Monroe Encampment, No. 12 K. T. (now Commandery)	Charter dated—June 14, 1826
Cyrene Commandery, No. 39 K. T.	Charter dated—Oct. 12, 1867
Rochester Consistory, A. A. S. R.	Charter dated—May 19, 1866
Germania Lodge of Perf., A. A. S. R.	Charter dated—Aug. 10, 1874
Damascus Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.	Charter dated—June 7, 1876
Lalla Rookh Grotto, M. O. V. P. E. R.	Charter dated—June 2, 1893

The new Masonic Temple is owned and operated by the following bodies:

Valley Lodge, No. 109, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 6, 1846
Yonnonidio Lodge, No. 163, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 8, 1850
Genesee Falls Lodge, No. 507, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 12, 1861
Rochester Lodge, No. 660, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—Aug. 22, 1867
Germania Lodge, No. 722, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 7, 1872
Frank R. Lawrence Lodge, No. 797—F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 6, 1889
Corinthian Temple Lodge, No. 805, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 8, 1893
Flower City Lodge, No. 910, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 7, 1914
Seneca Lodge, No. 920, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—June 22, 1914
Ancient Craft Lodge, No. 943, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 3, 1917
Zetland Lodge, No. 951, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 8, 1918
Warren C. Hubbard Lodge, No. 964, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 6, 1920
Craftsman Lodge, No. 969, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 6, 1920
Frank Simes Lodge, No. 990, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 3, 1922
John A. Robertson Lodge, No. 1032, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 8, 1924
Orpheus Lodge, No. 1082, F. & A. M.	Charter dated—May 5, 1927
Hamilton Chapter, No. 62, R. A. M.	Charter dated—Feb. 3, 1819
Ionic Chapter, No. 210, R. A. M.	Charter dated—Feb. 5, 1868
Doric Council, No. 19, R. & S. M.	Charter dated—Oct. 31, 1860
Monroe Commandery, No. 12, K. T.	Charter dated—June 14, 1826
Cyrene Commandery, No. 39, K. T.	Charter dated—Oct. 12, 1867
Rochester Consistory, A. A. S. R.	Charter dated—May 19, 1866
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MAIN LOBBY



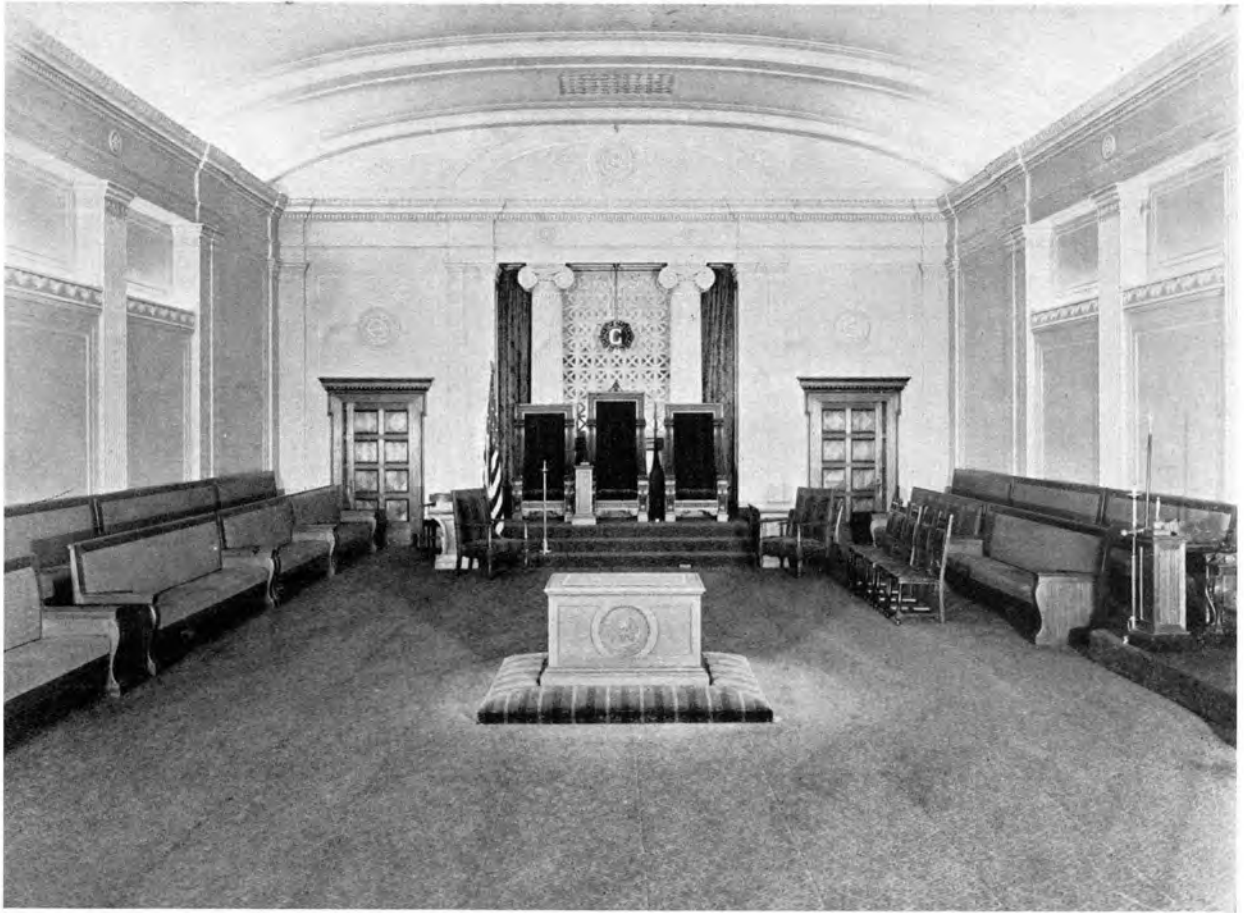
MAIN LOUNGE



AUDITORIUM LOBBY



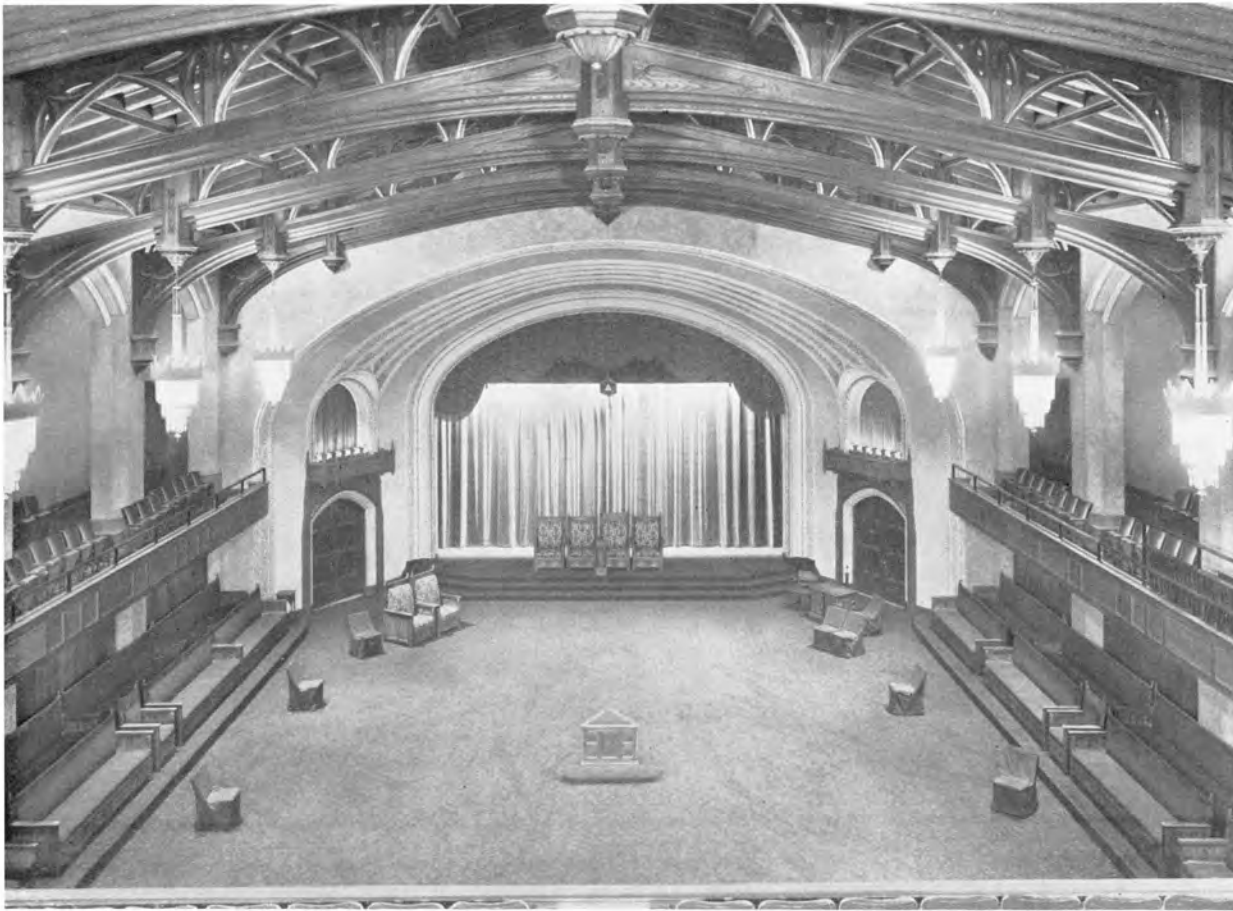
MAIN AUDITORIUM



IONIC ROOM



GOTHIC ROOM



CATHEDRAL HALL—LOOKING TOWARD STAGE



CATHEDRAL HALL—LOOKING TOWARD BALCONY

"MASONS ARE BUILDERS,
BOTH SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL.



THE CRAFT OF ROCHESTER SUB-
MITS THIS BUILDING IN THE HOPE
THAT IT MAY PROVIDE AN INSPI-
RATION, NOT ONLY TO THOSE
WHO MAY RECEIVE MASONIC
LIGHT WITHIN ITS WALLS, BUT TO
THE ENTIRE FRATERNITY, TO THE
END THAT THE COMMONWEALTH
SHALL BE PROSPERED THROUGH
THEIR INDUSTRY, ESTABLISHED
THROUGH THEIR FIDELITY AND
HONORED THROUGH THEIR
INTEGRITY."

