

1: Masons Secrets: Freemason Society

The lost history of the Freemasons Conspiracy theories abound about the Freemasons. But Scotland's true Masonic history, while forgotten by many for centuries, remains hidden in plain sight.

Origin myths and theories[edit] Early Masonic sources[edit] The earliest masonic texts each contain some sort of a history of the craft, or mystery, of masonry. The oldest known work of this type, The Halliwell Manuscript, or Regius Poem , dates from between and This document has a brief history in its introduction, stating that the "craft of masonry" began with Euclid in Egypt, and came to England in the reign of King Athelstan born about , died 27 October The resulting constitutions are prefaced by a history more extensive than any before, again tracing the history of what was now freemasonry back to biblical roots, again forging Euclid into the chain. He maintained that Crusader Masons had revived the craft with secrets recovered in the Holy Land , under the patronage of the Knights Hospitaller. At this point, the "history" of the craft in Continental Freemasonry diverged from that in England. Mackey states that "The propositions of Larudan are distinguished for their absolute independence of all historical authority and for the bold assumptions which are presented to the reader in the place of facts. The list of his published works start in with "A Lexicon of Freemasonry", and extend to his monumental Encyclopedia of Freemasonry in Thus we have "sculptores lapidum liberorum" London , "magister lathomus liberarum petrarum" Oxford , and "mestre mason de franche peer" Statute of Labourers These all signify a worker in freestone, a grainless sandstone or limestone suitable for ornamental masonry. In the 17th century building accounts of Wadham College the terms freemason and freestone mason are used interchangeably. Freemason also contrasts with "Rough Mason" or "Layer", as a more skilled worker who worked or laid dressed stone. While this is difficult to reconcile with medieval English masons, it apparently became important to Scottish operative lodges. In England, he would leave home at nine or ten years of age already literate in English and French, educated at home or at the petty junior school. From then until the age of fourteen, he would attend monastery or grammar school to learn Latin, or as a page in a knightly household would learn deportment in addition to his studies. Between the ages of fourteen and seventeen he would learn the basic skills of choosing, shaping, and combining stone and then between the ages of 17 and 21, be required to learn by rote a large number of formal problems in geometry. Three years as a journeyman would often finish with the submission of a masterwork dealing with a set problem in construction or design. At this point, he was considered qualified, but still had a career ladder to climb before attaining the status of Master Mason on a large project. These would be realised on the ground by using a larger compass than the one used for drafting. Medieval architects are depicted with much larger compasses and squares where they are shown on a building site. Fine detail was transferred from the drawing board by means of wooden templates supplied to the masons. Visiting Master Masons and Master Carpenters sat at high table of monasteries, dining with the abbot. The original use of the word lodge indicates a workshop erected on the site of a major work, the first mention being Vale Royal Abbey in Later, it gained the secondary meaning of the community of masons in a particular place. The earliest surviving records of these are the laws and ordinances of the lodge at York Minster in It should be noted that these regulations were imposed by the Dean and Chapter of the Minster. The masons were late in forming such bodies. The major employer of masons in medieval England was the crown , and the crown frequently employed masons by impressment. In other words, they were forcibly recruited when the need arose. The Halliwell Manuscript, or Regius Poem is the oldest known document of masonic origin. It was published in by Shakespearean scholar and collector James Halliwell who dated it to Woodford , the pioneering Masonic scholar and a founder of Quatuor Coronati Lodge , agreed with this dating. Finally, in , four representatives of the "mystery" or trade are elected to the Common Council in London. This also seems to be the first use of the word "freemason" in English. It was immediately struck out, and replaced with the word "mason". The regulations or charges follow, usually with instructions as to the manner in which a new mason should swear to them. The Lansdowne , originally dated to this period, is now thought to date from the 17th century. It was at one time assumed that the church was the major employer of masons, and with the Dissolution of the Monasteries the lodges disappeared. In ,

"The bill of conspiracies of victuallers and craftsmen" was passed, revoking their monopolies. In it was repealed, presumably because they were too useful to the government. While this was not chartered until , the state used it in the sixteenth century to procure and indent masons for building projects. In addition, masons were increasingly employed by private individuals. Robert Cooper, the archivist of the Grand Lodge of Scotland, believes that the lost mystery play of the masons may survive in the ritual of contemporary masonic lodges. Towards the end of the century, William Schaw held both these posts. These state "They shall be true to one another and live charitably together as becometh sworn brethren and companions of the Craft. Edinburgh became the "first and principal" lodge and Kilwinning the "second and head" lodge of Scotland, attempting to appease all parties. Clair of Rosslyn the right to purchase patronage over the masons of Scotland. Kilwinning is noticeably absent from the list of lodges appending their endorsement. The charter seems to have lapsed when St. Clair fled following a scandal, [27] and a second charter was granted to his son, also William St. Clair, on the formation of the Grand Lodge of Scotland in , [43] in spite of the fact that it never won the royal approval that would have made it valid. The Scottish lodges began to keep minutes, and therefore the appearance of "accepted" or non-operative masons is better recorded than in England, where there are no known internal records of lodge proceedings. Clair charter, the lodges of Scotland being his own responsibility. The reasons that his brother and their friend were also admitted are unclear. As the responsibility for design shifted from the Master Mason to the architect in the sixteenth century, it is probable that architects started to join the lodges of the masons they worked with. The "old Brothers" were probably from the Cheshire Cheese and at least one other lodge. It is known that the four lodges mentioned above held an assembly at the Goose and Gridiron, in St. They agreed to restore their "Quarterly Communications", four meetings a year for the transaction of masonic business, and an annual assembly to elect the next Grand Master. At this meeting, they elected Anthony Sayer , Master of the lodge at the Apple Tree, of whom little else is known, and the Grand Lodge of London and Westminster was born. At this stage, it is unlikely that they saw themselves as anything more than an association of London lodges. This perception was to change very rapidly. He was a career civil servant with the commissioners of taxes. In , they elected John Theophilus Desaguliers , a clergyman, an eminent scientist, and a Fellow of the Royal Society. Thereafter, in what appears to be a deliberate attempt to raise the profile of the organisation, all the Grand Masters have been members of the nobility. Although he only served one term as Grand Master, he was twice Deputy Grand Master under figurehead Grand Masters, and at other times behaved as if he was Grand Master, forming irregular lodges to conduct initiations. It seems to have been Desaguliers who insisted that ritual be remembered rather than written down, leading to a dearth of material on the development of English ritual until after the formation of United Grand Lodge. Initiations began to be reported in newspapers. The noble grand masters were often fellows of the Royal Society, but the Duke of Wharton 23 had just had his Hell-fire club shut down by the government, and joined, or possibly formed, an anti-masonic group called the Gormagons almost as soon as he left office. From the installation of the new Grand Master was the occasion for a parade, originally on foot, later in carriages. This became the subject of some ridicule, until starting in there were also mock processions by anti-masonic groups, leading to the discontinuation of the practice in The rapid expansion of freemasonry also led to many new lodges failing after only a year or two. In addition to attacks from outside the craft, there were now disillusioned ex-masons willing to make money out of "exposures" of freemasonry. It was edited by the presbyterian clergyman, James Anderson , to the order of John Theophilus Desaguliers , and approved by a Grand Lodge committee under his control. This work was reprinted in Philadelphia in by Benjamin Franklin , who was that year elected Grand Master of Masons in Pennsylvania. It was also translated into Dutch , German , and French His reward for his labours was the copyright on the work. It was expanded, updated, and re-published in The ceremony for dedicating a new lodge was briefly outlined, and the work finished with a section of songs. Although the historical section was attacked at the time, and ever since, as being a work of obvious fiction, the work remains a milestone in masonic history. An apprentice who had learned his craft became a journeyman, qualified to do all manner of masonic work. The master was also qualified as a project manager, often functioning as architect as well. An apprentice, after serving his term of seven years, could elect to pay to join a lodge, becoming an "entered apprentice". Alternatively, he could elect to freelance on the

lower grades of building work as a "Cowan". The members of the lodge were "Brithers" brothers, a Scottish legal term for those bound to each other by oath. The Master was simply the mason in charge of the lodge, or one who had held that distinction. From this, and from other documents of the same period, such as the Trinity College, Dublin manuscript of , we can form an idea of the ritual of an operative lodge at the end of the 17th century. This was accompanied by much horseplay, which was probably excised as the craft became more gentrified. The fellowcraft was made to take a further oath, and entrusted with two further words and the "five points of fellowship", which in were foot to foot, knee to knee, heart to heart, hand to hand, and ear to ear. The distinction between a fellowcraft and a master is unclear, and in many documents they appear to be synonymous. There still remains the rank of Installed Master, which comprises the Master in charge of the lodge and its past masters, and involves its own ritual, words and signs, but entails being elected to take charge of the lodge for a year. Other, "higher" degrees are optional and require a mason to join a side-order, except in lodges constituted under the Grand Lodge of Scotland, which are empowered to confer the Mark Master Mason degree on Master Masons, as an extension to the second or Fellowcraft degree. Hence the third degree emerged sometime between and , and took some time to spread within the craft. The fact that it did spread seems to many scholars to indicate that the tri-gradal system was not so much innovation, as the re-organisation of pre-existing material. The new Master Mason degree was centred on the myth of Hiram Abiff, which itself consists of three parts. The second is the story of his murder by subordinates, which is similar to one of the legends of the French Compagnonnage. Lastly, the story of the finding of his body, and the derivation therefrom of the five points of fellowship, which appears in the Graham Manuscript of , where the body being sought and exhumed is that of Noah. The earliest reference to the conferment of a third degree is from London, from the minutes of "Philo Musicae et Architecturae Societas Apollini", a short-lived musical society composed entirely of Freemasons. These minutes record the initiation and passing to the degree of Fellowcraft of Charles Cotton. This would nowadays be regarded as highly irregular.

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In that time, I have learned much regarding Freemasons secrets. I have no qualms about revealing the truth behind the secrecy because the truth is that as an organization our secrets are kept in plain sight. Are There Secrets in our Masonic Symbols? Perhaps, but if our symbols contain Freemasons secrets why are they plastered all over our buildings? Why do we proudly display them on our vehicles, in our homes, on our clothing, on our fingers? The truth is there is no great mystery in the Freemason symbols. They are simple working tools endowed with moral teachings. The plumb is used to erect a structure that stands upright and true. The square when used properly ensures that two angles brought together bring equitable strength to the structure. The use of the level ensures that the whole rests upon a solid foundation and that no one structural member bears excessive pressure. The Masonic lambskin apron symbolizes the way Freemasons choose to live their life, in service to others and with purity of intent. These tools could be used in a variety of ways, and they could be endowed with a variety of moral qualities. There are other tools and other teachings, but the simple truth is they are just symbols. They are not secrets. Yes, these are secret. But, why are they secret? The hand grips are simple modes of recognition. The signs and passwords are used primarily as part of our Masonic ritual. They are not keys to some ancient and arcane knowledge. Were a man to learn all the signs, grips, and words it would still not be enough to gain him entrance into a Lodge meeting. And, even if he should manage to pass himself off as a Mason and gain entrance into a meeting he would simply come away confused, not enlightened. Without understanding, the observation of an act carries little meaning. It would be like watching a National Geographic presentation on primitive tribal customs with the sound turned off. Without knowledge and understanding of what they are doing and why, it just would not make sense. So, why are these things considered Freemasons secrets? Every man who has become a Mason has taken upon himself a promise that he would keep these, as well as other things, secret. It is not a matter of secrecy, or privilege, or exclusivity, or even privacy; it is plainly and simply a matter of personal honor. You make a promise, you keep it. What About the Secret Masonic Rituals? Well yes, our Masonic ritual does contain many Freemasons secrets. They are secrets that come under the same promise of personal honor that each Mason takes upon himself. We use our ritual as a means to explain, educate, and impart knowledge to the candidate and to Brethren who seek to learn more. But, is our ritual truly secret, apparently not. For nearly three centuries, maybe longer, men have been "exposing" the secrets and mysteries of the Freemasons, and they continue to do so today. After nearly three hundred years of exposure, surely there is nothing more to be seen. And yet, there is more. The rituals of the Freemasons contain Masonic secrets. This much is true. But, as any Mason who has traveled and attended Lodge in another State or Country can attest, the ritual varies from one to another. In fact, in my own experiences I have seen that the secret Masonic ritual can vary considerably from one night to the next in the same Lodge. The teachings are the same; the impressions intended to be made upon the candidate are the same, but the varying ritual is only similar. Surely, no real secret can be kept in varying forms. So What is the Truth of the Freemasons Secrets? The true secrets of the Freemasons are just that: Men from all walks of life and from disparate backgrounds come together in Masonry and call each other Brother. Some of those men truly become like brothers. They form trusting and resilient friendships. They accept and are accepted. And, along the way secrets are made and secrets are shared and secrets are kept. That is the truth of the Freemasons secrets. No true Freemason can or will publicly disclose the secret knowledge that he has sworn not to. As I said, it is a matter of personal honor. However, this does not mean that an in-depth and comprehensive study of the symbols, secrets, and significance of the order is discouraged. By all means, we should all continue to strive for more knowledge, deeper understanding, and more light. An excellent resource for this continued study of Freemasons secrets is W. Have a comment, question or concern? Let us know what you think, or ask us what you want to know. We are happy to answer and discuss sincere questions and address legitimate concerns regarding Freemasonry and the Masonic fraternity using the Facebook app below.

THE SECRET HISTORY OF FREEMASONRY pdf

You can also use our "Answers 2 Your? Have something to add? Comments Have your say about what you just read! Leave me a comment in the box below.

3: The Secret History of Freemasonry: Its Origins and Connection to the Knights Templar by Paul Naudon

An intriguing and scholarly summary of the history of masons to free masons. Since my great grandfather, my grandfather and my father were all masons (actual, operative, work with stone, brick and mortar masons) I was intrigued by the ties of this occupation to faith, honor and nobility.

Inside, strange symbols, ancient inscriptions, and mystical numbers lead to a room shaped like a pyramid, with an eye that points toward the heavens, and in the center of the floor, a massive altar. Some of the most powerful men in the country gather here to enact an ancient, secret ritual, drinking wine meant to represent blood from a human skull, and all of it happening just a mile from the U. Skull and Bones, the infamous Yale secret society, uses similar secret symbols operating out of a foreboding building called the "Tomb. Bush, his father, his grandfather, and John Kerry are just a few of their prominent members. For a short CNN video clip showing the "Tomb," a peek at their rituals, and more, [click here](#). And when they found out that Dan Brown was going to be dealing with Freemasonry in this book, what was their reaction? Well, I think they were nervous that I might focus on what some would call the macabre sides of Freemasonry. Perhaps with good reason. Brown has a history of prying open doors, revealing dark secrets or at least seeming to. The central premise of his novel, "The Da Vinci Code," was an earth-shaking secret that Jesus and Mary Magdalene married and had children whose descendants live among us. The book infuriated some Christians. It also sold 80 million copies worldwide, became a blockbuster film, and made Dan Brown a household name. Will it have the same impact? It became a Christian country. The human mind really does have the ability to affect matter. Government intelligence services have been exploring the powers of the mind and psychic abilities for many decades. They have quietly achieved a remarkable degree of success. Yet they have often spread disinformation to debunk the very things which they have achieved to keep them secret. For lots more on this, [click here](#) and [here](#). Benjamin Franklin published a book about Freemasonry on his own printing press. Nine signers of the Declaration of Independence were Freemasons, including the man with the biggest signature: The secrecy of the Masons is what allowed prominent disgruntled colonists to gather, to conspire against British tyranny, and eventually to establish the new and independent country of the United States. Yet few history books touch on this important piece of American history. At the time of independence in , Masons were highly respected. Yet as they became more powerful after the revolution, they also became more corrupt. By the late s an anti-masonic movement swept the nation and decimated Masonic membership, though interest returned by the s. For more, [click here](#) , and [here](#). Freemasonry still has millions of members worldwide, and they still conduct rituals like this one performed for our cameras: Grim Reaper enacting Masonic ritual: If curiosity spurred you towards us, go away. If you are capable of deception, tremble. Because you will be found out. Freemasons have been accused of everything from murder to devil worship to secretly controlling the U. Take a dollar bill, turn it over, look at the great seal of the United States on the back. Now draw a star of David. One point will match up with the all-seeing eye: Now look at the letters at the other points of the star: Could it be just a coincidence? Freemasons have been accused of being involved in some rather strange conspiracies. A lot of that the result of the fact that you had powerful men, in this case, meeting behind closed doors and not discussing what they were doing. In times of great oppression like that of medieval Europe and the pre-revolutionary American colonies, secrecy was a vital means of sharing banned information and planning to bring positive change to the world. Yet particularly in more peaceful times, that same secrecy can and has been used to forward agendas which support the privileged few. Very few people know about the Bilderberg Group , Davos , and other secretive gatherings of the global elite. Why is there so little media coverage of these powerful conclaves when their influential members are daily fodder for the tabloids? And there is an animal quality about him. He has feather tattoos on his legs. He saves one square inch of his flesh for something that he is coveting. That is the lost word. The last piece of the puzzle. The cherry on top of the sundae that will be his transformation. That will give him power. I spent a lot of time researching and really had to get to the point where I realized, "You know what? Invariably, I was able to find reliable sources supporting his claims. Capitol, where, at the center of the rotunda, he finds a severed hand, tattooed to

resemble an ancient mystical symbol: It beckons him on a dangerous journey. Solomon runs the Smithsonian Institution. One character is being elevated to the 33rd degree of the Scottish Rite. He drinks wine, which is to represent blood out of a skull. How much of that is fact and how much of that is fiction? Well, this is a real ceremony. The ceremony is described accurately. The fiction comes in as to whether or not it still happens at this moment in history in this room. And like any good work of fiction, it has to involve both truth and error to make it believable. Arturo de Hoyos is the grand archivist and grand historian of the supreme council of the Scottish rite and himself a 33rd-degree Mason. The candidates to the members are dressed wrong. Brown can quote multiple historical sources. What is the truth? To find out, we have to delve into the distant past. Masonry in many respects is a historic mystery. Mitch Horowitz is the author of the new book, "Occult America. Masons themselves cannot agree on the nature of their own origins and background. The origins of the Freemasons are shrouded in mystery. Art de Hoyos outlines the simplest theory: In other words, the first Masons were literally that: So they developed a system of secret signs and secret passwords. De Hoyos says the tradesmen started another system associated with Freemasonry – the so-called "three degrees: Freemasonry has been a vessel, a channel, for some very ancient ideas. Many Masonic symbols are even older than that. The all seeing eye, the pyramid, the obelisk. It drew very deeply upon the symbols of pre-Christian religion because it believed that it was part of a chain of a spiritual search for truth that was older than any modern or contemporary religion. The Masons are often linked to other secret societies claiming ancient heritage like the Knights Templar and the Rosicrucians. The Knights Templar, reputed to be some of the fiercest warriors of the time, were officially endorsed by the Catholic Church in the early 12th century. Some believe the superstition around Friday the 13th came from a secret edict issued by the King of France on Friday the 13th of October in to arrest all members of the order. He infiltrates the group, kidnaps its leader, and uses blackmail to try to get what he wants. But in fact, their freethinking about religion once caused the Vatican to denounce the masons as Satanic. Today the web is full of anti-Masonic material. I frequently run into people who have heard of a couple of things about Freemasonry and no more. Those people might be surprised to hear this: The father of our country was a Freemason. And historians agree that some principles of Freemasonry became cherished principles of the United States. Freemasonry was one of the earliest societies to advocate self-rule. We elected our own leaders. We had a secret ballot. We had a separation of powers. We were governed by a constitution. All these elements were very familiar to the founding fathers. But remember Freemasons also had some radical ideas about religion. There was a statue that sat in the Capitol. It was George Washington as a god.

4: The Secret History of Freemasonry by Jeremy Harwood

Masonic teachings are nothing less than an elaborate counterfeit of the Bible. It is a religion of secularism and has its roots in ancient Babylonian false religion found in the Old Testament of.

History and Purpose of the Freemasons and other Secret Societies If you patiently read the following paragraphs of historical explanation, you may come to an understanding of "the hidden mysteries of nature and science". Then we can discuss Freemasonry, and you will see truths your Worshipful Master has never contemplated. From the Garden of Eden a battle has raged between two deadly enemies. The battle began when Lucifer incarnate the serpent, a man-like creature - great giant of a fellow, until God changed every bone in his body and put him upon his belly. Knowing it would be inherited by Michael, or Christ, he became jealous and set about gaining it for himself. God commanded man to multiply, fill and subdue the earth, and to have dominion over it. But by his wisdom, Lucifer knew that as the seed of a horse can fertilize a donkey to produce the hybrid mule God never created, so the seed of the serpent could fertilize the woman and create a hybrid species uncreated by God. So he incarnate the serpent and seduced Eve. From that time to this there have been two races of people on this earth. The seed of Cain, and the seed of Adam. Cain was begotten of that wicked one I John 3: Abel was the son of Adam who was the only son of God Luke 3: Lucifer knew that by miscegenation, he could exterminate the seed of Adam and thus fall heir to the kingdom of Christ. In the time of Noah, God destroyed the world with the Flood because of miscegenation between the races of Adam and Cain. The serpent seed was in the Ark and it is with us to this day. It populated the land of Canaan, and afterwards spread throughout the world Genesis God made a Covenant with Abraham, and promised his seed would inherit the land of Canaan. Their son, Isaac, had twins. Esau then married two serpent-seed women and an Ishmaelite, whose offspring intermarried with the serpent seed. Thus Esau committed "genocide" for that was the end of the Adamic lineage in Esau whose nation became known as Edom. Edom is "The people against whom the Lord has indignation forever" Malachi 1: It disappeared from history through miscegenation with Israel and has assumed the name "Jew". God told Moses, when Israel conquers the Land, they must utterly slay all of its serpent seed inhabitants. Israel were disobedient and eventually found themselves dominated and ruled by these people. From before the days of Christ there was intense hatred between Rome and the "Jews". Later when the Southern Kingdom adopted this pagan worship, God sent Nebuchadnezzar to destroy Jerusalem and the temple, and take the people captive to Babylon. At the end of the captivity, many of the Hebrew people declined to return. Whilst the returnees brought with them the Babylonian fractional reserve banking system usury, calendar, the synagogue form of worship, rabbis, Cabbala, and the beginnings of the Talmud and Pharisaism. In 37BC, Herod the Great succeeded John when the Romans made him ruler of all Judea - now called Idumea, because of the overwhelming number of Edomites in the population. Thus by the time of Christ, the majority of "Jews" were unrelated to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob by blood, and certainly not by faith. The religion of the Judeans was no longer the Law and the Prophets, but "the traditions of the elders" which had been compiled as the Babylonian Talmud by about AD This Babylonian religion called "Pharisaism" became Talmudism. Lucifer was trying to steal the Kingdom from Jesus Christ by the same ploy he used in the garden of Eden. They had assumed or stolen the identity of these so-called "Chosen People" and were certainly not willing to receive a Messiah and King from the House of David. This was why Herod tried to kill all the boy children from two years of age and less Matthew 2: Who killed the Lord Jesus? The Bible says it was "the chief priests and Pharisees" who accused Him and cried, "His blood be upon us and upon our children". Any student of history knows that the few Christians who attended Nicea left before the Council sat, for apostate Jews who controlled the proceedings had arranged their usual Hegelian FALSE alternative of thesis and antithesis in the form of two heresies as Satan had set the Sadducees and the Pharisees before Jesus, and later Paul. Here he set the heretics Arius and his Unitarianism, and Athanasius and his Trinitarian, together with their followers, in opposition against one another, the Christians, and God. The Babylonian form of worship was introduced into nominal, carnal Christianity, with the organization of the Roman Universal church. Their false trinity of gods, and false water baptism in three Titles, instead of in the Name of our Lord

Jesus Christ; the Bible-denying Nicene Creed, and church-State union. Their mark of the beast. Scores of millions were martyred through almost a thousand years of Dark Ages. Both of them hail from Babylon! And if you are a Mason who has studied the Craft, you will recognize that much of its allegory is drawn from pagan mythology. This mythology originated in Chaldea Babylon, spread to Egypt, and from there the Hebrews received it. The major sources of information are in the records of Egyptian and Grecian culture. Egypt received her science and mathematics from the Chaldeans and Greece received hers from Egypt. Since the priests were in charge of teaching these sciences and they formed a part of their religion, we know how the Babylonish religion gained its strength in these two countries. And whenever one nation was able to subdue another, in due time the religion of the subduer became the religion of the subdued. As is well known, the Greeks had the same signs of the Zodiac as the Babylonians; and according to the ancient Egyptian records the Egyptians gave the Greeks their knowledge of polytheism. Thus the Babylonian mysteries spread from nation to nation until in Rome, China, India, and even in North and South America, we find the same basic worship. The battle between "the children of God" and "the children of disobedience" is raging today. As a consequence we encounter numerous secret societies, or "societies with secrets," which all ultimately serve the same master. The three great distinguishing principles of secret societies are secrecy, their peculiar emphasis on benevolence, and their system of regalia, badges, rank and formalities, as well as many incidental practices that are radically false, and plainly opposed to sound reason and the Word of God. Jesus said to the high priest: And we have miscegenation between East and West on a scale not seen since the Flood. And the mixing of religions. For twenty centuries the "Jews" have never ceased to reiterate their rejection of Jesus. This purpose, and their persecution of natural Israel has bound them together: Through a rabbit warren of secret societies, the old boundaries have been broken down and we see the open conspiracy drawn up by Fabian Socialist H. Wells, transformed in our sight. Satan is using them to work his purposes. Eve had acquired carnal knowledge but with it came death. True Spiritual revelation or faith from God is Life and peace. God is trying to unveil His secrets through intimate faith, not second-hand learning. The prophet of Malachi 4: He is not seeking to hide, but to unfold His mystery to whomsoever will. Does it matter if there are secrets and secret societies? Is there anything wrong with being a member of a secret society? When asked such questions those who belong to a secret society frequently deny their membership. When the motive for belonging is requested, it is said that their purpose in joining was for fellowship and connections; and the larger the secret society, the more connections. It is power that draws one to Bones. Ralph Epperson, *The Unseen Hand* p. William Edward Smith suggested: Americas have long held to the view that things should be done in the public view. The very idea of a secret government, once unknown to Americans, is anathema. Yet there is a very long history of things being secret - including the convention that established the U. There is also a little-known history that includes the concept of unwritten laws and oral traditions with allegiance being made to unknown superiors and masters. Those who meet in secret conclave appear to have an aversion for paramount written constitutions, that every citizen is capable of reading and knowing. The secret society is generally based on a hierarchy afraid of discovery, with secret membership, meetings and oaths, claims of brotherhood and unknown superiors. However, membership lists are available for each of these groups except for the Bildebergers. Perhaps one of the earliest stories we have learned is about the Greeks and their Trojan Horse. When the walls of Troy were found to be too strong to breach, the Greeks built a tall wooden Horse and left it outside the city. Jubilant at seeing the Greeks depart, the Trojans opened their gates and let the horse come in. They celebrated and slept. In the middle of the night the Greeks came out of the belly of the horse, opened the gates and took the city. The principle of vigilance and the surprise attack! Those who are weaker or wish to have lower casualties attack without warning, as cats sneak up on their prey which might otherwise outrun them. Five magistrates, overseers, or ephori were elected each year Ward, p. The ephori were five secret despots or supreme judges of the system invented by Chilon, a wise man of Greece. They trained a number of young men as assassins and ordered them to be ready at any minute with daggers to waylay helots enslaved Greeks and butcher them in sufficient numbers to keep down the labor force to a schedule tabulated at their political councils. One of the functions of the ephori was to see that the ambushes were carried out Ward, p. They were called together by governors. In the day time they hid themselves and rested in the most

private places they could find; but at night they sallied out into the roads and killed all the Helots they could meet with. Periander advised Thrasybulus to cut off the tops of the tallest ears of corn. If you read both Books of Maccabees, you will discover whom the Spartans really were. They were not Greeks, but Jews. The Helots were spied upon all the time.

5: Top 10 Scandalous Freemason Secrets - Listverse

The secret history of freemasonry: its origins and connection to the Knights Templar. [Paul Naudon] -- "Historians often make a sharp distinction between the operative masonry of the Middle Ages - referring to the associations of builders that formed during that time - and the speculative Freemasonry.

Share9 Shares 4K The Freemasons are one of the most secretive and controversial religious groups in the world. They admit that it may be perjury, but to them, it is a far greater sin to not protect one of their own. Supposedly, there are even phrases a Freemason can utter when facing grave danger â€” causing other members to rush to their aid. The founder of Mormonism, Joseph Smith, is said to have uttered this phrase in the last moments before his death. In fact, there are several passwords for various occasions and reasons. This secret word is used only for ceremonies: They sing the sun in its flight â€” marvelling at its passage through the sky. Masonic lodges tend to be built in the east and in the west, as an attempt to control solar power for their own purposes. The first requirement is that potential members must believe in a higher power of some sort. They claim not to care what higher power that is, but you must define it for yourself. You can lie about it, but religion seems to be a point of honor among them. On the other hand, traditionally excluded groups â€” such as gay men â€” are included in Masonry, so long as they behave in the same moral manner as other groups. The temple still excludes women, but some groups are currently challenging that fact. Put it on in secret; wear it in public. Half a million Masons in England are disproportionately involved in banking, politics, and government. Even hospitals and universities are often controlled by the Masons. Many say that the decision to include this masonic symbol was not influenced by Freemasons â€” Benjamin Franklin being the only Mason on the design committee â€” but the coincidence remains fascinating all the same. He was promptly excluded â€” but his degree of involvement within the organization is open for debate. Astronauts in the Apollo program â€” including Buzz Aldrin â€” were self-professed Masons. Their rite flags have been to the moon and back, and Aldrin seems to have claimed the moon for his Masonic lodge in Texas. Some of these strange and scandalous secrets of the Freemasons are obviously urban legends, and should be taken with a grain of salt; but others seem to contain a degree of truth.

6: Freemasonry - Wikipedia

History and Purpose of the Freemasons and other Secret Societies. If you patiently read the following paragraphs of historical explanation, you may come to an understanding of "the hidden mysteries of nature and science".

Share via Email Duke Ellington, American bandleader, composer and freemason. The only question was "what music should it host? I found it astonishing that such an anti-establishment figure turned out to be at the heart of an establishment organisation. And I thought it would be a perfect place to pay tribute. For musicians and artists who were new to a city, the lodge would have been an opportunity to meet fellow artists and network with people with whom they may be able to find work. But, like so much in American life, freemasonry was segregated, with American masonic lodges split along colour lines. Undaunted by the rebuff, Hall and 14 other free black men were initiated into freemasonry in by a British military lodge based in Boston. In , after the British had left America, the grand lodge of England issued Hall with a charter to set up an African lodge in Boston. It proved so popular that Prince Hall was granted the status of provincial grand master, allowing him to set up two further African masonic lodges in Philadelphia and Rhode Island. And, like all freemasonry in America, it became very popular in the early 20th century, which was a time when Americans tended to join things. Du Bois serving as active members. Throughout the 20th century, many key figures in the civil rights movement were attracted to freemasonry. Alex Haley , the writer of Roots and biographer of Malcolm X, was a 33rd-degree mason in the same order. Thurgood Marshall , the first black member of the US supreme court, was supported by his Prince Hall lodge in Louisiana. Some like the comradeship and the social aspects; others like the ritual and the regalia. The mysterious tenets of freemasonry include gnostic texts, references to ancient Egypt and alternative interpretations of the Bible. Prince Hall lodges thus became a forum where pre-Christian knowledge could mix freely with black liberation theories and remnants of African religions. The most obvious musical manifestation of this is Sun Ra. Born Herman Sonny Blount in , Sun Ra seems to have hidden in plain sight as a freemason throughout his career. Likewise, Dizzy Gillespie is not listed as being a Prince Hall lodge member, but his autobiography talks about his fascination with freemasonry and his application to join a masonic lodge. There are, however, numerous stories suggesting that the likes of Jay-Z, Nas and Kanye West are freemasons. Martin Cherry thinks we should take these stories with a pinch of salt. Most of these rumours are on anti-masonic sites or anti rap music sites that are trying to make connections between freemasonry, hip-hop and the occult. This article contains affiliate links, which means we may earn a small commission if a reader clicks through and makes a purchase. All our journalism is independent and is in no way influenced by any advertiser or commercial initiative. The links are powered by Skimlinks. By clicking on an affiliate link, you accept that Skimlinks cookies will be set.

7: History of Freemasonry - Wikipedia

The Free masons secret hierarchy is based in Oregon the thirty-third state founded by masons at the height of the Anti-masons, when Andrew Jackson the Grand Master of masonry and the 7th U.S. president orchestrated the relocation of masons suffering under the Anti-Masons of the early 's.

See Article History Alternative Titles: Free and Accepted Masons, Freemasonry Freemasonry, the teachings and practices of the secret fraternal men-only order of Free and Accepted Masons, the largest worldwide secret society. Spread by the advance of the British Empire , Freemasonry remains most popular in the British Isles and in other countries originally within the empire. Estimates of the worldwide membership of Freemasonry in the early 21st century ranged from about two million to more than six million. Freemasonry evolved from the guilds of stonemasons and cathedral builders of the Middle Ages. With the decline of cathedral building, some lodges of operative working masons began to accept honorary members to bolster their declining membership. From a few of these lodges developed modern symbolic or speculative Freemasonry, which particularly in the 17th and 18th centuries adopted the rites and trappings of ancient religious orders and of chivalric brotherhoods. In the first Grand Lodge, an association of lodges, was founded in England. FreemasonsA group of Freemasons in ceremonial dress, Freemasonry has, almost from its inception, encountered considerable opposition from organized religion , especially from the Roman Catholic Church , and from various states. Freemasonry is not a Christian institution, though it has often been mistaken for such. Freemasonry contains many of the elements of a religion; its teachings enjoin morality , charity, and obedience to the law of the land. In most traditions, the applicant for admission is required to be an adult male, and all applicants must also believe in the existence of a Supreme Being and in the immortality of the soul. In practice, some lodges have been charged with prejudice against Jews , Catholics, and nonwhites. Generally, Freemasonry in Latin countries has attracted those who question religious dogma or who oppose the clergy see anticlericalism , whereas in the Anglo-Saxon countries the membership is drawn largely from among white Protestants. The modern French tradition, founded in the 19th century and known as Co-Freemasonry or Le Droit Humain, admits both women and men. In most lodges in most countries, Freemasons are divided into three major degreesâ€”entered apprentice, fellow of the craft, and master mason. In many lodges there are numerous degreesâ€”sometimes as many as a thousandâ€”superimposed on the three major divisions; these organizational features are not uniform from country to country. In addition to the main bodies of Freemasonry derived from the British tradition, there are also a number of appendant groups that are primarily social or recreational in character, having no official standing in Freemasonry but drawing their membership from the higher degrees of the society. They are especially prevalent in the United States. In Britain and certain other countries there are separate lodges restricted to women. English Masons are forbidden to affiliate with any of the recreational organizations or quasi-Masonic societies, on pain of suspension.

8: The Pocket History of Freemasonry by Pick, Fred L. Hardback Book The Fast Free | eBay

Mo Rocca parts the veil on the history and rituals of one of the world's oldest fraternal orders. Inside the secret world of the Freemasons. Share; Tweet The Masons are a secret society. "No.

Grand Lodge Grand Lodges and Grand Orients are independent and sovereign bodies that govern Masonry in a given country, state, or geographical area termed a jurisdiction. There is no single overarching governing body that presides over worldwide Freemasonry; connections between different jurisdictions depend solely on mutual recognition. The largest single jurisdiction, in terms of membership, is the United Grand Lodge of England with a membership estimated at around a quarter million. Each Grand Lodge maintains a list of other Grand Lodges that it recognises. When two Grand Lodges are not in amity, inter-visitation is not allowed. There are many reasons one Grand Lodge will withhold or withdraw recognition from another, but the two most common are Exclusive Jurisdiction and Regularity. If two Grand Lodges claim jurisdiction over the same area, the other Grand Lodges will have to choose between them, and they may not all decide to recognise the same one. In , for example, the Grand Lodge of New York split into two rival factions, each claiming to be the legitimate Grand Lodge. Other Grand Lodges had to choose between them until the schism was healed. Regular Masonic jurisdictions Regularity is a concept based on adherence to Masonic Landmarks , the basic membership requirements, tenets and rituals of the craft. Each Grand Lodge sets its own definition of what these landmarks are, and thus what is Regular and what is Irregular and the definitions do not necessarily agree between Grand Lodges. Essentially, every Grand Lodge will hold that its landmarks its requirements, tenets and rituals are Regular, and judge other Grand Lodges based on those. If the differences are significant, one Grand Lodge may declare the other "Irregular" and withdraw or withhold recognition. The Grand Lodge should be established by an existing regular Grand Lodge, or by at least three regular Lodges. A belief in a supreme being and scripture is a condition of membership. Initiates should take their vows on that scripture. Only men can be admitted, and no relationship exists with mixed Lodges. The Grand Lodge has complete control over the first three degrees, and is not subject to another body. All Lodges shall display a volume of scripture with the square and compasses while in session. There is no discussion of politics or religion. Masonic bodies and List of Masonic Rites Blue Lodge Freemasonry offers only three traditional degrees, and in most jurisdictions, the rank of past or installed master. Master Masons are also able to extend their Masonic experience by taking further degrees, in appendant bodies approved by their own Grand Lodge. This system is popular in North America and in Continental Europe. Templar and Cryptic Masonry also exist. Ritual and symbolism Main article: A moral lesson is attached to each of these tools, although the assignment is by no means consistent. The meaning of the symbolism is taught and explored through ritual. During these three rituals, the candidate is progressively taught the meanings of the Lodge symbols, and entrusted with grips, signs and words to signify to other Masons that he has been so initiated. The initiations are part allegory and part lecture, and revolve around the construction of the Temple of Solomon , and the artistry and death of his chief architect, Hiram Abiff. The degrees are those of Entered apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason. While many different versions of these rituals exist, with at least two different lodge layouts and versions of the Hiram myth, each version is recognisable to any Freemason from any jurisdiction. These painted depictions of Masonic themes are exhibited in the lodge according to which degree is being worked, and are explained to the candidate to illustrate the legend and symbolism of each degree. Accordingly, Masons swear at each degree to keep the contents of that degree secret, and to support and protect their brethren unless they have broken the law. In Progressive continental Freemasonry, books other than scripture are permissible, a cause of rupture between Grand Lodges. History of Freemasonry Origins Goose and Gridiron, where the Grand Lodge of London and Westminster, later called the Grand Lodge of England was founded Since the middle of the 19th century, Masonic historians have sought the origins of the movement in a series of similar documents known as the Old Charges , dating from the Regius Poem in about [38] to the beginning of the 18th century. Alluding to the membership of a lodge of operative masons, they relate a mythologised history of the craft, the duties of its grades, and the manner in which oaths of fidelity are to be taken on joining. The theory

had also been postulated in by German professor; J. Many English Lodges joined the new regulatory body, which itself entered a period of self-publicity and expansion. However, many Lodges could not endorse changes which some Lodges of the GLE made to the ritual they came to be known as the Moderns , and a few of these formed a rival Grand Lodge on 17 July , which they called the " Antient Grand Lodge of England. The Collector for the port of Pennsylvania, John Moore, wrote of attending lodges there in , two years before the formation of the first Grand Lodge in London. Grand Lodges developed within each state. Some thought was briefly given to organising an overarching "Grand Lodge of the United States," with George Washington who was a member of a Virginian lodge as the first Grand Master, but the idea was short-lived. The various state Grand Lodges did not wish to diminish their own authority by agreeing to such a body. In , an African American named Prince Hall , [56] along with 14 other African-American men, was initiated into a British military lodge with a warrant from the Grand Lodge of Ireland , having failed to obtain admission from the other lodges in Boston. When the British military Lodge left North America after the end of the Revolution, those 15 men were given the authority to meet as a Lodge, but not to initiate Masons. This lodge is not to be confused with the various Grand Lodges in Africa. As with the rest of U. By the s, such discrimination was a thing of the past. Grand Lodges recognise their Prince Hall counterparts, and the authorities of both traditions are working towards full recognition. From France and England, Freemasonry spread to most of Continental Europe during the course of the 18th century. Briefly eclipsed during the French Revolution , French Freemasonry continued to grow in the next century, [61] at first under the leadership of Alexandre Francois Auguste de Grasse , Comte de Grassy-Tilly. A career Army officer, he had lived with his family in Charleston, South Carolina from to the early s, after leaving Saint-Domingue now Haiti during the years of the Haitian Revolution. Schism The ritual form on which the Grand Orient of France was based was abolished in England in the events leading to the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in However the two jurisdictions continued in amity mutual recognition until events of the s and s drove a seemingly permanent wedge between them. In the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of the State of Louisiana appeared in the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, recognised by the Grand Orient de France, but regarded by the older body as an invasion of their jurisdiction. The new Scottish Rite body admitted blacks. The resolution of the Grand Orient the following year that neither colour, race, nor religion could disqualify a man from Masonry prompted the Grand Lodge to withdraw recognition, and it persuaded other American Grand Lodges to do the same. The new constitutions read, "Its principles are absolute liberty of conscience and human solidarity", the existence of God and the immortality of the soul being struck out. It is possible that the immediate objections of the United Grand Lodge of England were at least partly motivated by the political tension between France and Britain at the time. The result was the withdrawal of recognition of the Grand Orient of France by the United Grand Lodge of England, a situation that continues today. In , lodges favouring the compulsory recognition of the Great Architect of the Universe formed the Grande Loge de France. For the Continental lodges, however, having a different approach to Freemasonry was not a reason for severing masonic ties. The United Grand Lodge of England does not communicate with any of these jurisdictions, and expects its allies to follow suit. This creates the distinction between Anglo-American and Continental Freemasonry. Freemasonry and women and Co-Freemasonry The status of women in the old guilds and corporations of mediaeval masons remains uncertain. The principle of "femme sole" allowed a widow to continue the trade of her husband, but its application had wide local variations, such as full membership of a trade body or limited trade by deputation or approved members of that body. The French officially abandoned the experiment in the early 19th century. Having failed to achieve acceptance from any masonic governing body, she and Georges Martin started a mixed masonic lodge that worked masonic ritual. Meanwhile, the French had re-invented Adoption as an all-female lodge in , only to cast it aside again in The lodges, however, continued to meet, which gave rise, in , to a body of women practising continental Freemasonry. While they were not, therefore, recognised as regular, they were part of Freemasonry "in general". Anti-Masonry alternatively called Anti-Freemasonry has been defined as "opposition to Freemasonry", [84] [85] but there is no homogeneous anti-Masonic movement. Anti-Masonry consists of widely differing criticisms from diverse and often incompatible groups who are hostile to Freemasonry in some form. Critics have included religious

groups, political groups, and conspiracy theorists. These often lack context, [86] may be outdated for various reasons, [87] or could be outright hoaxes on the part of the author, as in the case of the Taxil hoax. The political opposition that arose after the "Morgan Affair" in gave rise to the term Anti-Masonry, which is still in use today, both by Masons in referring to their critics and as a self-descriptor by the critics themselves.

Opposition to Freemasonry within Christianity Although members of various faiths cite objections, certain Christian denominations have had high-profile negative attitudes to Masonry, banning or discouraging their members from being Freemasons. The denomination with the longest history of objection to Freemasonry is the Catholic Church. The objections raised by the Catholic Church are based on the allegation that Masonry teaches a naturalistic deistic religion which is in conflict with Church doctrine. The Code of Canon Law explicitly declared that joining Freemasonry entailed automatic excommunication, and banned books favouring Freemasonry. Unlike its predecessor, the Code of Canon Law did not explicitly name Masonic orders among the secret societies it condemns. The faithful who enrol in Masonic associations are in a state of grave sin and may not receive Holy Communion. His writings represented his personal opinion only, and furthermore an opinion grounded in the attitudes and understandings of late 19th century Southern Freemasonry of the USA. Notably, his book carries in the preface a form of disclaimer from his own Grand Lodge. No one voice has ever spoken for the whole of Freemasonry. Roberts was a vocal opponent of Freemasonry in the mid 19th century. Roberts opposed the society on moral grounds and stated, "The god of the lodge is not the God of the Bible. Freedom from secret societies is one of the "frees" upon which the Free Methodist Church was founded. In recent decades, however, reservations about Freemasonry have increased within Anglicanism, perhaps due to the increasing prominence of the evangelical wing of the church. The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, appeared to harbour some reservations about Masonic ritual, whilst being anxious to avoid causing offence to Freemasons inside and outside the Church of England. In he felt it necessary to apologise to British Freemasons after he said that their beliefs were incompatible with Christianity and that he had barred the appointment of Freemasons to senior posts in his diocese when he was Bishop of Monmouth. This has been generally affirmed throughout the whole Eastern Orthodox Church. The Orthodox critique of Freemasonry agrees with both the Catholic and Protestant versions: However, countries such as Turkey and Morocco have established Grand Lodges, [] while in countries such as Malaysia [] [] and Lebanon [] there are District Grand Lodges operating under a warrant from an established Grand Lodge. Lodge buildings were confiscated by the government. However, the position changed following the revolution, and all lodges were forced to close in In the wake of the French Revolution, the Unlawful Societies Act banned any meetings of groups that required their members to take an oath or obligation. This continued until, when the obligation of the provision was rescinded by Parliament. Reports of the "Morgan Affair", together with opposition to Jacksonian democracy Andrew Jackson was a prominent Mason, helped fuel an Anti-Masonic movement.

9: The Freemasons Secrets - Can you handle the truth?

Freemasonry, the teachings and practices of the secret fraternal (men-only) order of Free and Accepted Masons, the largest worldwide secret www.enganchecubano.com by the advance of the British Empire, Freemasonry remains most popular in the British Isles and in other countries originally within the empire.

Further up the wall, carved into the sandstone, is a six-pointed star detailed with what seem to be at least to non-initiates like strange symbols and numbers. View image of Masonic symbol That might come as a surprise to some people. But in many ways, Freemasonry as we know it today is as Scottish as haggis or Harris tweed. From the Middle Ages, associations of stonemasons existed in both England and Scotland. It was in Scotland, though, that the first evidence appears of associations or lodges being regularly used. By the late 1300s, there were at least 13 established lodges across Scotland, from Edinburgh to Perth. Take, for example, the earliest meeting records, usually considered to be the best evidence of a lodge having any real organisation. As far as we can tell, there are no administrative records from England dating from this time. And what is more, we now know it was a national network. So Edinburgh began it, if you like. Since its founding in 1578, this lodge has received the records and minutes of every other official Scottish Masonic lodge in existence. It is also meant to have received every record of membership, possibly upwards of four million names in total. View image of Membership record with the signature of famed Freemason Robert Burns That makes the sheer number of documents to wade through daunting. Another came more recently when Cooper found the year-old membership roll book of a Scottish Masonic lodge in Nagasaki, Japan. It was full of flotsam and jetsam from around the world: Of course, conspiracy theorists find that kind of reach foreboding. Some say Freemasonry is a cult with links to the Illuminati. Like most other historians, Cooper shakes his head at this. We even advertise things in the press. A real secret society is the Mafia, the Chinese triads. They are real secret societies. One fantastical theory goes back to the Knights Templar; after being crushed by King Philip of France in 1312, the story goes, some fled to Argyll in western Scotland, and remade themselves as a new organisation called the Freemasons. Find out more in our recent story about the Knights Templar. But there was a significant difference between the tradesmen. Those who fished or gardened, for example, would usually stay put, working in the same community day in, day out. Not so with stonemasons. Particularly with the rush to build more and more massive, intricate churches throughout Britain in the Middle Ages, they would be called to specific often huge projects, often far from home. They might labour there for months, even years. Thrown into that kind of situation, where you depended on strangers to have the same skills and to get along, how could you be sure everyone knew the trade and could be trusted? By forming an organisation. How could you prove that you were a member of that organisation when you turned up? By creating a code known by insiders only like a handshake. In 1591, he sent these statutes out to every Scottish lodge in existence. One of his rules? Shortly after, lodges began to keep their first minutes. Even a chapel handbook published in 1628 makes no mention of any Masonic connections. Their doors may often be closed to non-members, but their addresses, and existence, are anything but secret. This story is a part of BBC Britain a series focused on exploring this extraordinary island, one story at a time. If you liked this story, sign up for the weekly bbc.

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