

A History of Unity Lodge No. 146

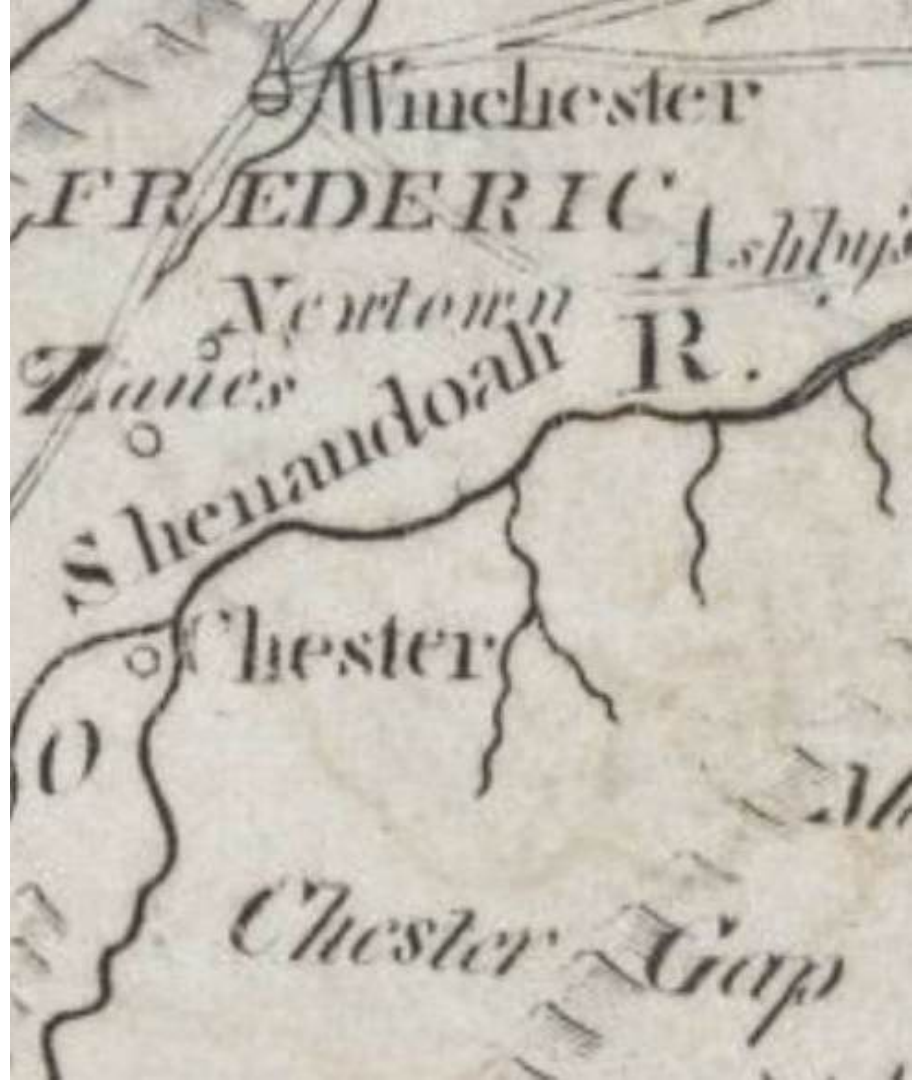
From Chester Lodge to the Present



Chester Lodge No. 61

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- 1799 to 1804
- Between Chester Gap and Chester Ferry, along Chester Street within Front Royal
- Front Royal established in 1788
- Maps show Chester in 1794



Front Royal Lodge No. 102

- 1816 to 1825
- 1840 to 1857
- Winchester dedication: Hiram Hall 1822
- Courthouse & Odd Fellows Hall



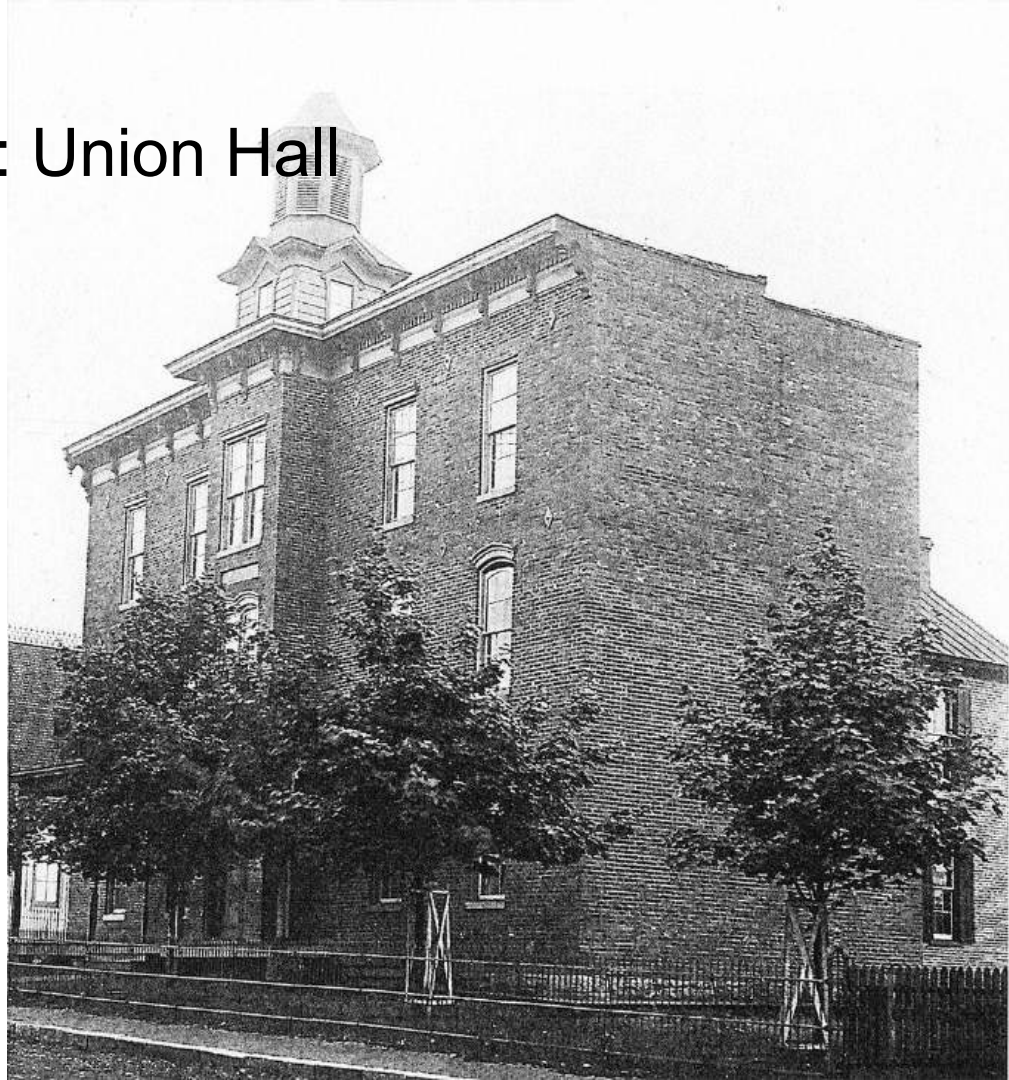
Founding of Unity

- Chartered December 13, 1870
- Old Front Royal Academy
- Saturdays on/before full moon
- 17 applicants raised in the first year
- 15 MM became affiliated
- Thomas N. Ashby as MM
- Prominent figures in community
 - Civil War veterans
 - Business Men
 - Lawyers
 - Sheriff
 - School Board
 - Town Trustees



Public Free School Building: Union Hall

- 1876 Add third floor during construction
- Rented to Secret Societies
 - Independent Order of Odd Fellows
 - International Order of Red Men
 - Friends of Temperance
- 1892 added electricity



Events

- 1899: 100 Years in Front Royal
- 1902: Open House & Stereoptican
 - At Davis Hall?
- 1904: Royal Arch Proposal
- 1907: Masonic Carnival & Bazaar

The undersigned Committee of Unity Lodge, 146 A. F. and A. M.,
of Front Royal, Va. cordially invite your presence, together with your
family and friends at

At DAVIS HALL,

Tuesday evening, June 24th, A. L. 5902., A. D. 1902.
at Eight-fifteen o'clock.

to hear a brief address by Rev. Dr. S. K. Cox, on

FREE MASONRY,

and to see a number of

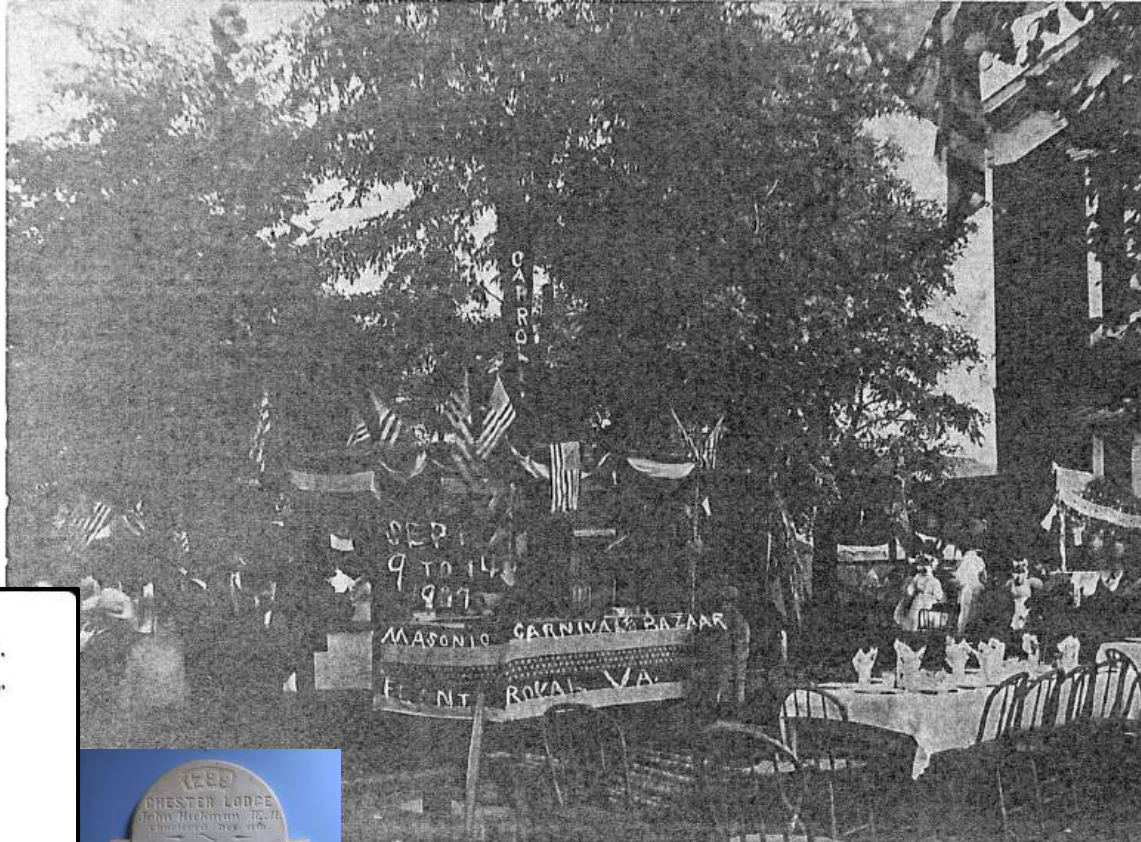
STEREOPTICAN MASONIC VIEWS.

to be explained by Rev. W. F. Locke and G. W. Forsyth.

H. L. COOK, CHAIRMAN,
G. H. BOWMAN,
J. F. FORSYTH.

W. O. RUST,
W. R. HUCK.

Present this card at the door.



Murphy Building

- 1910
- 1914 Fire
 - Odd Fellows provided a room during repairs
- 1916 Eastern Star Chartered
- 1918 Temple Property Search
- 1925 Search Renewed



Dr. Hansbrough House: Masonic Hall

- 1926 Cornerstone
- Government offices: Lawyers Row
- 1932 Restoration of Lodge History
- 1944 Two-Rivers DeMolay Chapter
- 1953 Temple Improvements
 - Office & waiting room remodeled
 - A/C installed
 - 3 bathrooms



Modernization

- 1956 Modernization
- 1970 Unity 100th Anniversary
- 1997 Demolished



Second Masonic Temple

- 1988 Masonic Hall sold to county
 - Lodge Purchased Criser Road
- Efforts by:
 - James Coverstone
 - Ronald Bean
 - Clyde Magee
 - Bill Wood
- Blueprints based on similar temples



Events

- 2019 Unity 150th Anniversary
- 2019 Knights Templar Meetings at Unity
- 2019 Pandemic
- 2020 Leigh-Hanson Quarry Lodge
- 2021 Breakfast Returns
- 2023 Knights Templar Move/Rename
 - Luray Commandery
 - Jeffery Glen Burnham Commandery

