

Reflections on 300 Years of Freemasonry

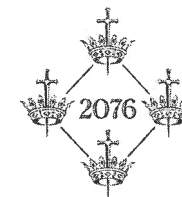
Papers Delivered to the Quatuor Coronati Lodge
Tercentenary Conference on the History of Freemasonry

Queens' College, Cambridge

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Dr James W. P. Campbell, Master

Professor Aubrey N. Newman, Conference Chairman



Edited by Dr John S. Wade

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been printed 'as is' and without the opportunity necessarily of revising it for publication. We still felt that we wanted to print all the papers. The result has been a mammoth fifty papers. The optimum length of a paper for the volume (as opposed to the delivery version) was 5,000 words. Most of the contributors managed around that figure, though one or two are rather longer and one or two are very short. Nevertheless we are delighted that the volume contains such a variety of papers and from contributors from across the world.

So I would like to thank all those who have helped to produce this volume for such an important Masonic anniversary (*pace* Prescott & Sommers!) and hope you will not find too many editorial solecisms! I would also like to place on record the unstinting help and advice I have received from Professor Aubrey Newman over a long period, discussing so many aspects of scholarship and editing during many train and taxi journeys to London as well as over the telephone.

Dr John S. Wade
Editor

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Building a Home for Grand Lodge: The Story of Freemasons' Hall in Great Queen Street

James W. P. Campbell

This lecture was delivered as a keynote speech at less than an hour's notice because the planned keynote speaker could sadly not make it to the conference. In such circumstances the lecture had to be closely based on material I had used elsewhere. The slides shown were first used for an AMUL (Association of Medical, University, and Legal Lodges) lecture in Queens' College Cambridge in September 2013 and the subject matter is similar to, but not the same as, my inaugural address as Master of Quatuor Coronati Lodge, published in AQC volume 129. Neither this lecture nor the AMUL one were done from scripts, so the text that follows here is as close as I can get to what was delivered on the day working entirely from memory.

AT THIS CONFERENCE WE ARE HEARING PAPERS ON ALL ASPECTS OF FREEMASONRY and its history and the range of papers has been wonderfully diverse. On this, the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of Grand Lodge, it seemed reasonable to devote this paper to looking at its setting and to tell the story of how we got from a simple tavern near St Paul's Cathedral to the magnificent building in Great Queen Street that houses the United Grand Lodge of England today.