

Palatine Lodge No 97  
Rowland Burdon's Iron Bridge

Record of planning the Procession and the Laying of the foundation Stone for:-

The unique and original account of a magnificent world event  
from the original pages 57 to 64 inclusive of the Minute Book 1791 to 1794  
The foundation stone was laid on 24th September 1793.

This picture was originally in the possession of the Lodge.  
Presented by the brethren to the RW Master, Rowland Burdon



Ironbridge Gorge Museum  
Courtesy of the Museum's Trust

ELTON COLLECTION

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B. Hilvington  
B. Hutchinson  
B. Atkin  
B. M<sup>c</sup> Nab  
B. G. Parker  
B. Hinde — prof'd to a F. L. — Chair'd to a M. —  
B. Towell  
B. Oliver  
B. Friend  
B. Stanfield  
B. Huguenot — Visitor — Wakefield Lodge

Resolved  
That The W<sup>m</sup> Master, Senior, & Junior Wardens  
Hentley, B<sup>r</sup> Mills, & B. Hewitt shall & hereby approve  
to meet a like Number of the Phoenix Lodge  
to regulate the intended procession for laying the Foundation  
Stone of Wearmouth Bridge. That the W<sup>m</sup> Master, Wardens &  
Brethren of the above Comonite be hereby empowered to  
pay out of the Provincial such Sums of Money as they may  
deem proper for, or towards the Expenses of the said Procession  
B<sup>r</sup> Hutchinson proposed W<sup>m</sup> Hast to be made a Mason &  
aid a Deposit of 100<sup>l</sup> — the General Lodge was closed &  
Followed by the Master Lodge where specie for passing &  
was given by B<sup>r</sup> Parker & B<sup>r</sup> Hinde. — Attest  
Adjournd to 19<sup>th</sup> Sep<sup>r</sup> 1793. — W<sup>m</sup> Hill

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A request to the PGM to hold a Provincial Grand Lodge in the Phoenix Hall and then to proceed to the Parish Church  
signed by Dr Tipping Brown of Phoenix Lodge and Michael Scarth of Sea Captains' Lodge

And that the Provincial Grand Master had complied therewith  
and gave an Order accordingly of which the following is a copy (this)

"In compliance with the annexed request, I hereby appoint a  
Provincial Grand Lodge to be held at the time and place and for the  
purpose therein mentioned - and order the Provincial Grand  
Secretary to issue summonses accordingly."

Given under my hand this 14<sup>th</sup> day of Sept. 1773

W. H. Lambton

The W. M. appointed W. Burcastle to represent him that day, he  
having to fill his own office in the P. G. L. as J. G. Warden; and  
after making other necessary appointments for the occasion adjourned  
to the Phoenix Lodge to attend the Provincial Grand Lodge for the purpose  
before mentioned; from which place the procession proceeded out of  
Lodge in the following Order (viz.)

Speakers with Names

Tiler of S. Captains Lodge Sundry other Warrants, <i>Drum, Pipe, &amp;c.</i>	Tiler of Phoenix Lodge, with drawn sword
G. Moku, Wapping	W. Winlands
W. Seasley, Liverpool	Hugh Quinn, Wakefield
G. Deumont, Warrington	G. Richardson, Warrington
J. Taylor	Moor, Warrington
W. Anderson, South	Sanderson, Halifax
J. Wade, Belfast	A. J. Ray
J. McPherson, St. George	Dobson, St. George, St. Pauls
Davison, St. Pauls	Scott, St. Pauls, St. Pauls
Grant, — do	Scarth, — do
Tate, — do	Frost, Union, Gateshead
Robson, Union	Chambers, do
J. Hill, — do	Coop, — do

Wilson, Lion  
 Findall, D°  
 T. Harrison, St. Nicholas  
 Geo. Howe, Sea Captains  
 W. Haddock, D°  
 G. Eastoby, D°  
 Hawcy, D°  
 Huntley, D°  
 Hinde, D°  
 Fleming, D°  
 Davison, D°  
 De Bello, D°  
 Brown, D°  
 Oliver, D°  
 Donnison, D°  
 Henderson, D°  
 James, D°  
 J. Young, D°  
 Witton, D°  
 J. Naue, Phoenix  
 G. Wake, D°  
 R. Hayton, D°  
 G. Todd, D°  
 J. Douglas, D°  
 Bailey, D°  
 Malkham, D°  
 W. Irvine, Junr, D°  
 W. Robinson, D°  
 Gilkison, D°  
 Orton, D°  
 J. Scott, D°

Donkin, Lion, N° Shields  
 Irving, St. Nicholas, M. Castle  
 Elderton, Swallowell  
 W. Hay, Sea Captains  
 G. Matthews, D°  
 Hunter, D°  
 Cook, D°  
 Hogg, D°  
 W. Shields, D°  
 Gaps, D°  
 Simpson, D°  
 Glover, D°  
 Downey, D°  
 J. Baile, D°  
 Russell, D°  
 Taylor, D°  
 McRab, D°  
 Jameson, D°  
 Burr, D°  
 R. Stout, Phoenix  
 J. Dunston, D°  
 W. Story, D°  
 G. Robinson, D°  
 G. Boyd, D°  
 Fay, D°  
 J. Booth, D°  
 G. Wilkinfa, D°  
 W. Irvine, Junr, D°  
 R. Turner, D°  
 W. Friend, D°

B° and B° with two Phoenix Banners

Kennedy, Secy, St. George's  
 Byars, D°, Union  
 Isaac, D°, St. Nicholas  
 G. Wright, D°, Phoenix

Avak, Secy, St. Kilda  
 Holband, D°, Lion  
 Hurst, D°, Sea Captains

Guy, Treasurer,  
Lees, - - - - -

Larkin, Treasr., Seafaptains

Drummond, Highland Drap, with seven more

Banaroo, Band of Music, &c. &c.

Ramohau, J. W. St. Wills

Allan, J. W. Union

W. Curry, J. W. Lion

Moffat, J. W. St. Nicholas

J. W. Granby

Howell, J. W. Seafaptains

Stanfield, J. W. Chance

Snackoo, J. W. Philanthropy, Rockton

Lewis, S. W. St. Wills

Littlefair, S. W. Union

Hall, S. W. Lion

Laney, S. W. St. Nicholas

Castle, J. W. Granby

Jacker, J. W. Seafaptains

Egley, J. W. Chance

Spower, J. W. Philanthropy

McDonald, Master, St. George

Rain, Master, St. Wills

Bonker, - - - - - Union

Kaonili Pitka, D. Lion

Milner, - - - - - St. Nicholas

Bright, - - - - - Granby

Hardcastle, B. Seafaptains

Ferguson, B. Philanthropy

Siddall, L. G. Steward

W. Charlton, L. G. Steward

W. Hills, - - - - - D.

J. Stout, - - - - - B.

J. Bulmer, L. G. J. W.

G. Wood, L. G. J. W.

F. Eldon, - - - - - D.

Rowley, G. Steward

Wilson, as G. Architect, with Blake. -

J. Wilson, G. Steward }  
Bibliomaphion }  
R. Wright, with G. St. Nicholas, G. Steward

Rev. Hesketh, Chaplain

Rev. Keefield, G. Chaplain

Bone, G. Secretary

Longington, G. Treasurer

A. Kedley, G. Steward }  
Philanthropy among }  
of contributions. - - - }  
Rev. Dr. Brewster as Master

Scarth, G. J. Warden

D. Brown, G. J. Warden

Fried, D. G. W.

Nicholson, G. St. Warden

B. Borden

B. Lambert, G. W.

A. Ho

After the Br. had gotten out of the Lodge they were joined by the Commissioners appointed for Building the Bridge, Magistrates for the County, Neighbouring Clergymen, Comissioned Officers of the Army and Navy, &c. &c. and proceeded in regular Procession to Church, there heard Divine service and an occasional sermon preached by Br. Heskitt, - on which occasion was sung a Paraphrase on 122<sup>d</sup>. Psalm, written by Br. Stanfield. - After the sermon, the Procession was reassembled and proceeded to the place where the Foundation stone was laid, which is the N.W. corner of the N. West buttment; When Br. Burdon addressed his Brethren and then assembled on that occasion and afterwards deposited under the Foundation stone a Plate on which was engraved the following Inscription,

Duo tempore  
 Civium Gallicorum ardor vesanus  
 Intra jubentium  
 Genta turbavit Europaeas  
 Ferreo bello,  
 Rolandus Burdon Armiger  
 Meliora colens  
 Vidua  
 Ripas, scopulis praeruptas,  
 Ponte conjungere ferreo  
 Statuit.  
 Felicitate fundamenta posuit  
 Octavo calendae Octobris,

1770

Anno salutis humanae

M, DCC, XCIII.

Gregorii tertii XXXIII.

Probatante

Gulielmo Henrico Lambton Armigero

Summo provinciali Magistro

Fraternitatis Societatis Architectonicae

Et sacerum Comitatus Dunelmensis

Spetabili coronâ.

Opuli quoque plurima comitante caterva.

Mancant Vestigia hui

Non irrita spei.

---

Imitated in English

At that time

When the mad Fury of French Goblins,

Dictating Acts of extreme Depravity,

Disturbed the Peace of Europe

With Iron War;

Rowland Burdon Esq. M. D.

Striving at worthier Purposes

Hath Resolved

To join the steep and craggy Shore

Of the River Wear  
With an Iron Bridge.

He happily laid the Foundation  
On the XXIV. Day of September,  
In the year of human salvation  
M, DCC, XCIII.

And the XXXIII of the Reign  
Of George the third,  
In the presence of

W. Henry Lambton Esq. M. P. L. G. M.  
With an respectable circle

Of the Brethren, of the Society  
Of Free and Accepted Masons,  
And of the Magistrates and principal Gentlemen  
Of the County of Durham;

Attended by

An immense concourse of people.

Long may the Vestiges endure

Of a Hope not form'd in vain.

After which he (Br Burdon) laid the Foundation Stone  
due form amidst the joyful acclamations of many thou-  
sands of People. - The Grand Chaplain then delivered a

Justable Oration, and the Reception was again reassembled  
and returned in like Order to the (Sea Captain's) Lodge, and  
was closed in due form. —

The page below is interesting in that musicians and singers are requesting a reward for their services rendered in the Church on the day that the Bridge foundation Stone was laid.



Festival 27<sup>th</sup> Decr 1798.

Members.

W. M. Seath A. M.  
 Hardcastle S. M.  
 Parker — S. M.  
 Hewitt S. D.  
 Hutchinson A. S. D.  
 Taylor, Secretary  
 Shields — Mackintosh  
 Hasley Titl.  
 Young — Jowsey.  
 Harrison  
 Maddison  
 Hawey  
 Rendwick  
 Truitt  
 Atkin  
 Atkin  
 Houseman  
 Hills  
 Henderson  
 Nis  
 Frost  
 Hurst  
 Carr  
 Runyan  
 Brown  
 Wright, Lecturer.

Visiting Brethren.

Dr. Brown P. L. & S. G.  
 Ferguson P. L.  
 Inwood D.  
 Robinson D.  
 Robinson D.  
 Hunter D.  
 Martin D.  
 Smith D.  
 Wilson D. & S. G.  
 Stanfield D.  
 Waide, St. George's Lodge N.  
 Richard — Titl. of the P. L.

The Lodge was opened in the first Decr  
 P. Taylor Secy, read the Resolutions  
 the Committee for the School, and the  
 M. moved that a Subscription be entered  
 into for the further support thereof; and  
 was immediately complied with, and  
 £10. 5. 0 collected.

Sundry Tines received, amounting  
 to. 15. 6.

Received a Letter from the Singers and Musicians  
 Sunderland Church, soliciting a Reward for performing  
 Anthem the Day the Foundation-Stone of Weavershall Church  
 was laid. — referred to the next General Lodge Night.

In Gratitude  
 P. Taylor Secy