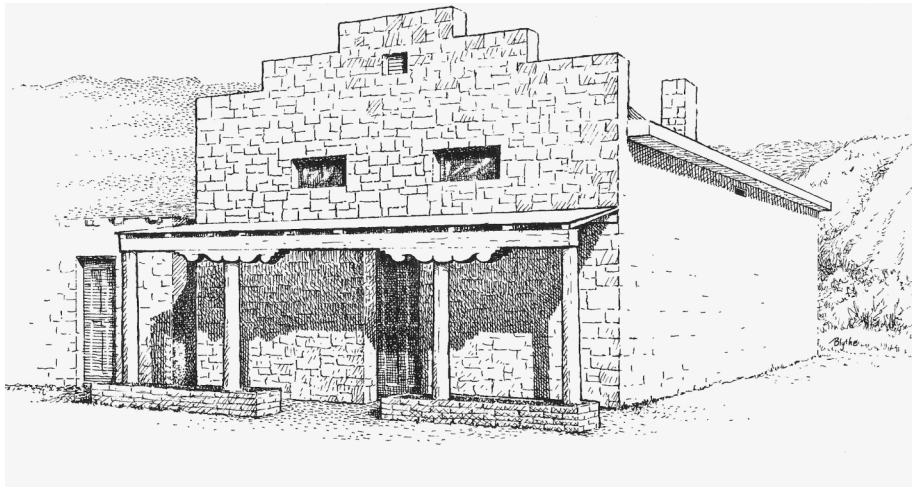


Craftsmen

From the

Quarry



A History of Cerrillos Lodge #19
A.F. & A.M.

By Bert P. Dalton
Past Master 2004

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1889-2012

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Preface

Nestled in the foothills of the mineral rich Ortiz Mountains, twenty-five miles south of Santa Fe, lays the sleepy town of Cerrillos, New Mexico. Once a thriving mining and railroad center with a population of over 1000, Cerrillos has managed to survive into the 21st century as a living community of a hundred or so residents. Ingrained in the fabric of the town's colorful past are the Masons of Cerrillos Lodge #19. Originally chartered in 1890, Cerrillos Lodge continues as a small but thriving Masonic Lodge with a reputation for warm hospitality, a beautiful and intimate lodge room, and thought-provoking philosophic and esoteric discussions.

There are several well-researched histories of the town of Cerrillos and this work will provide but a brief summary. Instead, the focus will be on the interesting and colorful men who not only shaped their community, but created this remarkable Masonic Lodge which has stretched its continuous existence into a third century. To those brethren, their ideals and fine examples, this work is dedicated.

AUTHOR'S NOTE: The old name of the town was Los Cerrillos in some sources, but the article "Los" gradually fell into disuse. In this work, the two terms will be used interchangeably. In the Spanish language, "ll" is pronounced "y," thus *Cerrillos* is pronounced *Ser-ree'-yos*. Direct quotes from Cerrillos Lodge records are indicated by italics.

Preface To Second Addition

This second edition incorporates additional material and corrections from William Baxter, local historian.

Introduction

My first introduction to Cerrillos Lodge came in the early 1980s, when as a musician I recorded at a studio housed in an old stone building in Cerrillos. The place had a special feel about it, and I learned it had been a Masonic Lodge many years ago.

After becoming a Mason, I visited Cerrillos Lodge #19 in Santa Fe in 1987 and began hearing the legends and rumors: “oldest lodge building in New Mexico . . . town council met there . . . the coal stove use to blow up . . . the lodge used to meet in Taos . . . the furniture came over the Santa Fe Trail . . . “ and so forth. When Montezuma Lodge #1 published a beautiful history book in 2001, it became painfully obvious that no one really know the real story of Cerrillos Lodge #19. As I became active in the lodge and began progressing in the stations, I thought it would be an interesting project to tackle.

Honorary Past Grand Master Ron Brinkman was one of the two living Masons who attended lodge in Cerrillos, and was very knowledgeable and enthusiastic about the history. Without his help, this story could not have been fully told.

Most of the information is derived from reading 115 years worth of lodge minutes, attendance registers, and treasurers’ report with frequent trips to the State Historical Library, the county clerk’s office, and the town of Cerrillos.

Many thanks to my friends Baird and Busy Banner who own the old stone building where they have been successfully operating Kludgit Sound, a modern recording studio, since 1977. They too have a love of the place and have been gracious in allowing access to the members of Cerrillos Lodge.

Special thanks go to Brother Todd and Patricia Brown who own the Palace Hotel Property and operate the Turquoise Trail Mining Museum and Petting Zoo. They have voluntarily cared for the old Protestant/Masonic cemetery for many years and contributed valuable historical information and photos.

I’d like to thank my wife Dori, the real author in the family, for her patience, encouragement, proofreading, and our shared love of history.

Dedicated to Brother Eugene B. Dalton, 32°
Raised to the Sublime Degree of Master Mason May 1, 1948
Lombard Lodge #1098 – Lombard, Illinois

A skilled artificer in metals, an exemplary Freemason, and a great Dad

“Father’s Lodge”

by Douglas Malloch

Father’s Lodge, I well remember, wasn’t large, as lodges go;
There was trouble in December, getting to it through the snow,
But he seldom missed a meeting, drifts or blossoms in the lane,
Still the Tyler heard his greeting, winter ice or summer rain.

Father’s Lodge thought nothing of it; mid their labors and their cares
Those old Masons learned to love it, that fraternity of theirs.
What’s a bit of stormy weather, when a little down the road
Men are gathering together, helping bear each other’s load?

Father’s Lodge has made a village; men of father’s sturdy brawn
Turned a wilderness to tillage, seized the flag and carried on,
Made a village, built a city, shaped a country, formed a state.
Simple men, not wise or witty – humble men, and yet how great!

Father’s Lodge had caught the gleaming of the great Masonic past;
Thinking, toiling, daring, dreaming; they were builders to the last.
Quiet men, not rich or clever, with the tools they found at hand
Building for the great forever, first a village, then a land.

Father’s Lodge no temple builded, shaped of steel and carved of stone;
Marble columns, ceilings gilded, Father’s Lodge has never known.
But a heritage of glory they have left, the humble ones
They have left their mighty story in the keeping of their sons.

1. BRIEF HISTORY OF CERRILLOS TO 1890

The story of Los Cerrillos, the “little hills,” is the story of treasures in the earth and the quest to put them to use. It is not certain exactly when the Native American residents first discovered these riches, but pottery shards from 900 AD show the use of mined minerals. Analysis of the shards in the Cerrillos Hills indicated a large portion of them came from the nearby San Marcos Pueblo, which, between the middle 1300s and the middle 1400s, was a major center of pottery-making in the upper Middle Rio Grande Valley.

The Hills are the source of much of the lead that was used for glaze paint by Rio Grande Pueblo potters between AD 1300 and 1700. One of the most ancient and longest-worked lead or galena load mines is the Mina del Tiro, located a mile from Mt. Chalchihuitl, an ancient Toltec or Aztec word for turquoise.

These early inhabitants believed in the healing power of turquoise and incorporated it into their buildings. The Cerrillos hills turquoise and lead deposits played a central role in the commerce and economy of the prehistoric Indians of the greater Rio Grande Valley, and it is probable that these mineral deposits influenced the early Spanish explorations and settlement of New Mexico.

When Coronado’s expedition passed within a few miles of Cerrillos (1540-1542), it is said the Pueblo residents were distrustful and closed their mining operations to protect their locations. The Spanish, however, were on a quest for gold and had no interest in turquoise.

Later expeditions in the 1580s and 1590s visited the Cerrillos hills, named Sierra de San Marcos by the Spanish, and obtained ore specimens for assay. Captain Gaspar Castano de Sosa visited many of the pueblos in the region in 1591, giving several their Spanish names by which they are presently known, including San Marcos “where the mines had been discovered.”

In the mid 1600s, a cattle ranch was established south of the Santa Fe River near Alamo Creek, and the nearby hills were given the name Los Cerrillos. In 1695 Governor Vargas appointed a mayor for *El Real de los Cerrillos* which qualifies it as the oldest Western mining settlement for which we have a clear record. *El Real de los Cerrillos* was abandoned and probably destroyed during the revolt of 1696.

The earliest well-documented Spanish mine claim was registered by General Don Juan de Ulibarri in 1709, according to the Spanish Archives of New Mexico. The Santa Rosa mine has been previously owned by Pedro Rodriguez Cubero, therefore in existence before 1709. Ulibarri “denounced,” a process of gaining rights to an abandoned claim.

There is a record from April 20, 1788, where Jose Miguel de la Pena requested a piece of land from Governor Fernando de la Concha called Los

Cerrillos. The land formerly belonged to Don Antonio Rael de Aguilar, who was the grandfather of Pena's wife Maria Rae. It was left unoccupied for so many years that Don Alonzo lost the right to it, and it was divided among Pena and his other heirs. Three years later, Pena sold the Los Cerrillos property to Don Cleto de Miera for \$450 (\$ sign indicates pesos). Later it was owned by Colonel Manuel Delgado.

Few records of early Spanish mining operations have been uncovered which suggests that much of the mining activity was performed outside the rigid Spanish mining laws. New Mexico was receiving financial support from the Spanish Crown, and knowledge of the presence of mineral wealth could have jeopardized that subsidy.

New Mexico was in Spanish control until the Mexican revolution of 1821 when it became part of Mexico. In 1846, the U.S. Army under General Stephen W. Kearny took control of New Mexico without a battle. The U.S. occupation was interrupted during the Civil War when General Henry Hopkins Sibley's Texas Volunteers defeated Union forces at Ft. Craig and took control of Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The Texans were moving to capture the supply depot at Ft. Union, near present day Las Vegas, when they met Union regulars and Colorado Volunteers at Glorieta Pass on March 28, 1862. While the battle did not produce a decisive victory for either side, the Confederate advance was halted by the destruction of their supplies and livestock by Major John M. Chivington's Colorado Volunteers. Chivington, a Presiding Elder in the Methodist Church and the first Grand Master of Masons in Colorado during the previous year, was later remembered for leading a force of Colorado Territory militia in the brutal 1864 massacre at Sand Creek where up to 163 Cheyenne and Arapaho men, women, and children were killed and mutilated.

Thus the Cerrillos area was, at one time or another, under five different governments – Native American, Spanish, Mexican, United States, and the Confederacy.

The 1846 Baca y Delgado land grant that encompassed the Cerrillos hills was invalidated in 1869, and President U.S. Grant opened the area to public purchase in 1870. An enterprising politician, Stephen B. Elkins, purchased 606 acres, which included the future site of Cerrillos, from the government for \$2.50 per acre. He anticipated a town could be built when the railroad passed through. Elkins partner, Thomas B. Catron, was left in charge of developing the town around 1876 and is generally credited with naming the town "Cerrillos."

Stephen Benton Elkins was born in Perry County, Ohio, in 1841. He received a law degree from the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1860, served the Union in the Civil War as a captain in the Kansas Militia, and moved to New Mexico in 1864. He served as a member of the Territorial House of Representatives 1864-1865, District Attorney for the Territory of New Mexico 1866-1867, U.S. District Attorney for the Territory 1867-1870, and Republican Delegate to Congress 1873-1877. He was the purported leader of the political "Santa Fe Ring." After moving to Elkins, West Virginia (which he founded),

Elkins was appointed Secretary of War by President Benjamin Harrison 1891-1893. He was elected Senator from West Virginia in 1895, 1901, and 1907, serving until his death in 1911. Elkins took his Masonic degrees in Montezuma Lodge in 1867 and was also a Royal Arch Mason and Knight Templar.

Thomas Benton Catron was Master of Montezuma Lodge, 1883; Grand Lecturer, Grand Lodge of New Mexico, 1877; Grand High Priest of Royal Arch Masons of New Mexico, Knight Templar, and 32nd Degree Scottish Rite. He served four years in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. After his move to New Mexico in 1866, he practiced law in Las Cruces and served as District Attorney for the Third Judicial District 1866-1868. President Grant appointed him U.S. Attorney for New Mexico 1872-1878. He was a six-time member of the New Mexico territorial council, U.S. Congressional delegate, and first U.S. Senator from New Mexico 1912-1917.

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad obtained a route through Raton Pass from Richard L. Wootton in February, 1877. The first rail town was Otero, about two miles south of Raton, and was established in March, 1879. In May of 1879, President Rutherford B. Hayes offered a public sale of New Mexico lands that included the Cerrillos Hills.

Frank Dimmick (or Dimmitt) of French ancestry, & Robert Hart of English ancestry, two miners from Leadville, Colorado, came to the Cerrillos Hills in 1878 to try their luck. They returned to Leadville with ore samples rich in gold, triggering a stampede. By mid-summer, there was a tent city of 300 miners extracting gold, silver, copper, lead, and zinc. Coal was discovered along the Galisteo River. In addition to Cerrillos, other mining towns sprang up nearby including Carbonateville and Bonanza City. The few mines that were profitable were silver, lead, iron, and later on zinc, turquoise, and manganese. The real profits were made, however, by selling shares in the various “gold” mines.

Early mines included the N. Hallek, Sulky, Herlow, Pinon, J.J. Bush, Franklin, Foot Hills, Constellation, Sun Rise, Little Peter, Pole Pick, Silver Chief, Last Lode, and Little Emma. Several claims have Masonic reference, indicating there were Masons among the miners – “Masonic Lode” located Jan. 1, 1881 by George W. Sinclair (Deputy Sheriff), “Royal Arch” located Jan.1, 1883 by S.H. Bernard (Carbonateville constable), “Rough Ashler,” located August 19, 1879, by C. Wells, P.M. Jones, G.H. Hibbs, & Joseph Wright; and “Perfect Ashler,” located August 27, 1879, by Cyrus Wells & G.H. Hubbs. Hubbs’ brother, C.L. Hubbs, later built the smelter at Bonanza City.

The original Delgado family resisted the invalidation of the Baca y Delgado land grant, and continued to drive off the “trespassers” for nine years. By 1879, there so many miners flowing in that the Delgados could not stop them, and the boom years began.

The tent city of Cerrillos was reported to have its share of saloons, gambling, and con men. According to Stanley, “No squeamish, self-respecting gentleman lingered here of a Saturday night during those first few months.” From the

mayhem of the tent city, a town began to emerge. Founders Day is said to be March 8, 1880. William Nesbitt was referred to by the *Cerrillos Rustler* as a “pioneer of Cerrillos – the man who built the first house in town.”

The Santa Fe to Lamy rail spur was completed in February, 1880. In April of the same year, the main rail line extended all the way through to Albuquerque. The AT&SF railroad established Cerrillos Station as the supply center for the surrounding camps of Carbonateville, Golden, San Pedro, and Dolores. The location provided a source of fuel from the Cerrillos Coal Banks and less mineralized water from San Marcos Arroyo.

D.D. Harkness had moved to Cerrillos when it was still a tent city. He built a temporary home and brought in his family from Las Vegas. When the railroad track was being laid in 1880, six railroad workers and a foreman were unable to find anywhere to eat or sleep. While D.D. Harkness was away on a prospecting trip, Mrs. Harkness offered to put them up in their home. Upon her husband's return, she told him she had taken in seven boarders and that they were now in the hotel business. They set to work building the eighteen room Cerrillos House, the town's first hotel.



Cerrillos miners, cir. 1880, photo by George F. Bennett. Man reading the paper, probably “Cerrillos Prospector,” is likely Edmund F. Bennett, the photographer's brother

The first Post Office opened in January, 1880, probably in a tent. George A. Waller named as the town's first postmaster. The next ten years saw eight different locations and postmasters.

“Cerrillos is lively and coming to the front as a rich mining camp and a lively town,” reported the *Las Vegas Optic*, February 19, 1881. “The railroad company are looking well to their interests here, which are of importance, and among other things are shipping coal miners, and giving them \$2.50 a day to mine the best coal in the West. Preparations are being made for extensive workings of the coal mines here, and the railroad company means business . . . Captain Harkness will feed the crowd, and will have his hands full, as he already has over fifty boarders. The captain is one of the original inhabitants of the burg, and has kept the ‘hotel’ for over a year, starting with but two boarders. The want of water has been badly felt, but is being overcome. Miners are arriving from all over.”

The *Santa Fe New Mexican* reported April 23, 1882 that “the Mina del Tira and the old turquoise mine are of particular interest to the antiquarian. It is said that some of the crown jewels came from this mine and that the Spaniards paid to the Church in tithes \$300,000, and that over the years the mine produced \$3,000,000 for the Spaniards . . . a number of miners, inspired by the success that attended the efforts of the Spaniards . . . went earnestly to work to derive benefit from the hidden treasure of the little hills. Since that time they have established several thriving towns, all of which have bright futures before them. They are Cerrillos, Carbonateville, and Bonanza City. At the first named place, business at this time is very brisk . . . The businessmen of the place are very much elated over the prospect of having the Texas, Santa Fe, & Northern run into their town, and there is general confidence in the future.”

In 1882, a town council was elected, and D.D. Harkness was chosen Justice of the Peace. Landowners saw the opportunity to begin selling off their property across the Galisteo River at a profit. The Cerrillos Town Company, a small group of land speculators including future New Mexico Governor (and Mason) L. Bradford Prince, plotted 400 new lots and contracted the George F. Nesbitt Company of New York to draw up maps.

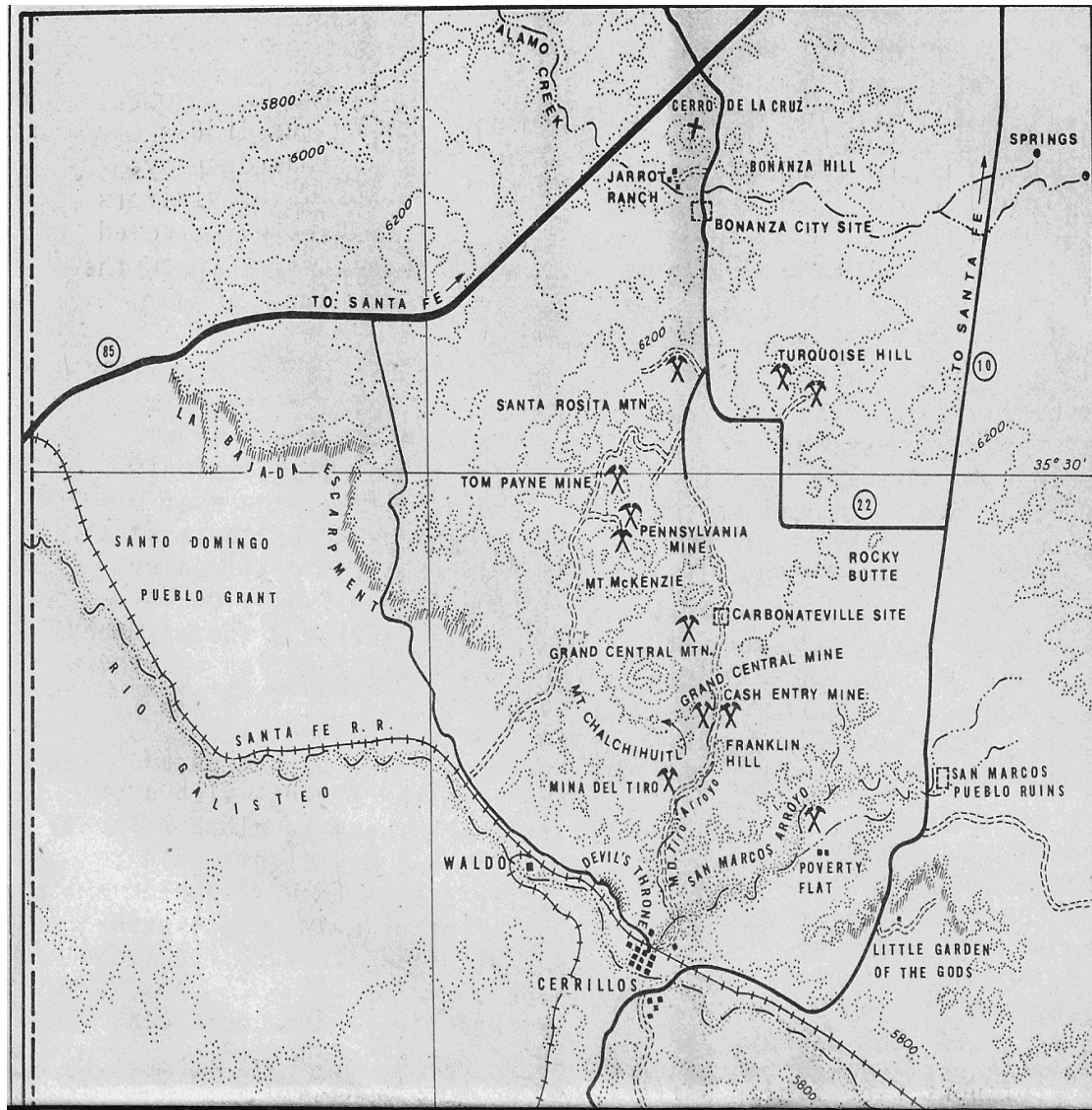
By 1884, the stable town population reached one hundred. Joseph Richards was postmaster and ran a drug store, J.B. Daniels was a grain dealer, William C. Hurt had a general store, George Lay was the blacksmith, William McClurg was the carpenter, F.H. Mitchel was town constable, William Nesbit and George L. Williams had saloons, Joseph Silrey was town barber, Rev. W.C. Wheeler took care of the Methodist church, and C.W. Uptegrove ran the Tabor House.

St. Joseph’s (San Jose) Catholic church was built in 1884 and served by the Padre from Pena Blanca. From 1881 to 1918 it was a visita out of the Guadalupe Church in Santa Fe, then was transferred back to the Pena Blanca Franciscan Fathers. At that time, the church building was located on the lot next to the present site. St. Joseph’s Catholic Church was built in 1922 by a local crew of carpenters headed by Frank Schmitt. Father Jerome Hesse, a Franciscan from Pena Blanca, was the first pastor. The Methodist Church was built in 1885.

The Cerrillos Town Company held an auction July 7, 1887. One hundred lots were up for auction, and when it concluded after 9:30 pm, 105 lots had

been sold – five more than were available. Cerrillos bidders included William C. Hurt, D.D. Harkness, Dr. Joseph Richards, and C.W. Uptegrove.

Although mining of silver, gold, & turquoise played an important role, it was coal that brought prosperity. Beehive ovens were set up at Waldo to convert coal to coke. Madrid mines were worked as early as 1869 by the New Mexico Mining Co. Testing revealed the quality of the coal from those mines to be the best outside Pennsylvania, prompting the town's nickname of "Little Pittsburgh." The coal market was restricted to local area because it was hauled by wagon.



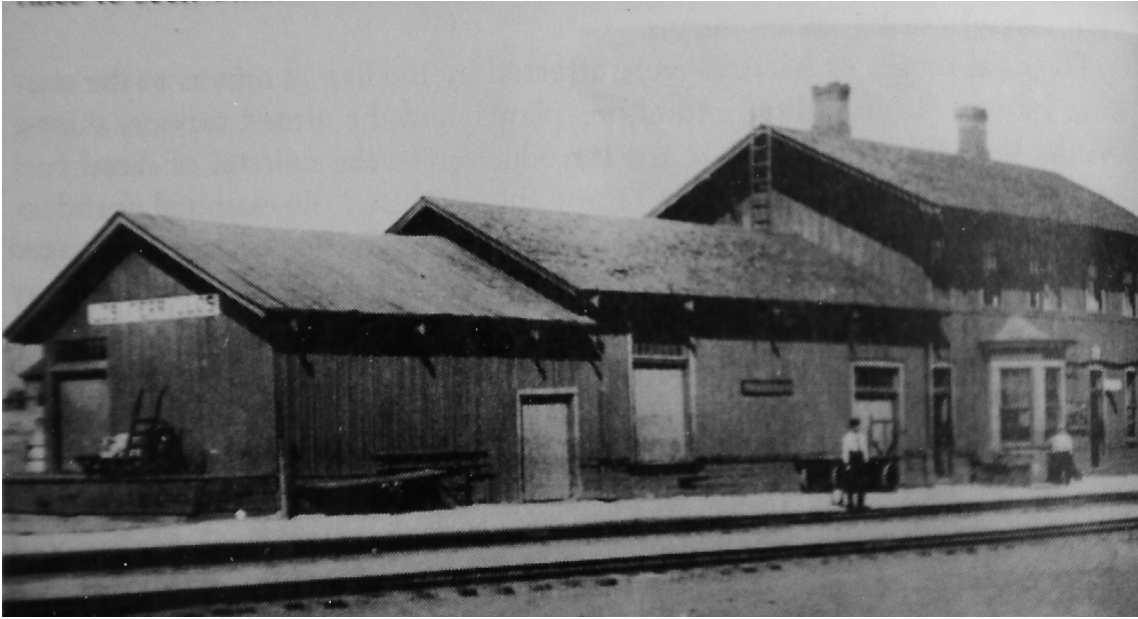
Cerrillos Mining District - Excerpt from N.S. Beckman map

The railroad took advantage of this valuable local resource, eventually taking possession of the coal mining property at Madrid in 1891. A spur line was installed from Madrid to Waldo to bring coal to the main rail line. The 6.25

mile long Cerrillos Coal spur was built in 1892 to bring coal from Madrid to the railroad main line. It was built from used rails coming from the A.T. & S.F re-tracking project between Canoncito and Wallace. The rail spur birthed the towns of Waldo and Madrid, originally called Coal Bank, as well as a large coking oven at Waldo.



Early photo of two-story Cerrillos schoolhouse



Cerrillos train depot

Four passenger and six freight trains passed daily through Los Cerrillos. There were 340 registered voters in the 1890 election. The *Cerrillos Rustler*, always a cheerleader for the town's development, reported in 1890 that "there are no vacant houses in Cerrillos."

An article in the *Santa Fe New Mexican* stated, "There is to be a rail line built from Texas through the breast of New Mexico that will have Salt Lake and the Northwest for its destination – and that road will come through the Cerrillos coal fields. It is not long off, either."

Thus, Cerrillos became a junction of stage, horse and ox drawn freight, and rail lines, setting the stage for rapid growth and prosperity. Within a few years, it had grown to a population of over 1000 people and boasted a two-story schoolhouse, twenty saloons, meat markets, grocery stores, a bakery, barber shops, two livery stables, two blacksmith shops, several general stores, Wells Fargo Express, Western Union Telegraph, a theater, dance halls, Methodist and Catholic churches, three or four hotels, two newspapers, a jail and the "Little Pittsburgs" baseball team.

In more recent times, Cerrillos has been the setting for several film and television productions. They include "The Nine Lives of Elfego Baca" (1958), "Pancho" (1968), "Shootout" (1971), "The Bear Cats" (1971), a Lone Ranger Movie in 1980, "The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez" (1982), "Outrageous Fortune" (1987), "Young Guns" (1988), "Sparks: The Price of Passion" (CBS TV 1990), "John Carpenter's Vampires" (1998), and "The Hi Lo Country" (1998).

The original Cerrillos Railroad station was moved to Estancia Valley, and the school closed for the last time in 1962. Santa Fe County created the Cerrillos Hills Historic Park in January 2000. Walking trails wind past historic mines, volcanic formations, and Native American sites.

2. THE BIRTH OF CERRILLOS LODGE

The first documented Mason in New Mexico was Dr. John N. Robinson who accompanied Zebulon Pike on his explorations of the 1803 Louisiana Purchase. This territory came within fifteen miles of Taos. Other early Masons were Dr. Rowland Willard who visited in 1825 and a trapper, Stephan Cooper, who was in the territory in 1821 and 1822.

Missouri Military Lodge No. 86 was chartered June 12, 1847, by John Ralls, colonel of the regiment and Grand Master of Masons in Missouri. The regiment then marched 900 miles across Kansas and New Mexico arriving in August. A special communication was called by Worshipful Master Capt. James J. Clarkson to confer a Fellowcraft degree on September 18, 1847, the first documented Masonic meeting in New Mexico. Montezuma Lodge #109 was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Missouri on May 8, 1851.

The New Mexico Grand Lodge was organized in 1877 with four member lodges: Montezuma #1, Chapman #2, Aztec #3 and Union #4, holding a combined membership of 165 Masons.

An ad appeared in the town's newspaper, *The Cerrillos Rustler*, on November 30, 1888 – “Fine colored engraving of Ancient York, England, where first Grand Lodge of Masons was held. Also large illustrated catalog of Masonic books and goods with bottom prices. Agents wanted. Pay very liberal. Beware of spurious books. Redding & Company, 131 Broadway, New York. Name this paper every time you write.”



Richard Green's Palace Hotel from the side (left photo) and the front (right photo). The lodge room was on the second floor of the adobe addition visible in the left photo and was reached by climbing the outside wooden staircase.

On a balmy May evening in 1889, fifteen men climbed an outside wooden staircase to the second floor meeting room of the new addition to the Palace Hotel in Cerrillos, New Mexico. Among them were miners, merchants, railroad men, a Judge, a minister, the Chairman of the Town Board, and the hotel's owner - Masons from at least six different lodges in four states.

INTERROGATORIES AS TO HALL.

1. Is the house of wood, stone or brick? *adobe*
2. How many stories high? *Two*
3. In what story is the proposed Lodge to meet? *Second*
4. Are the walls solid or studded? *Solid*
5. Are the floors deafened? *Sufficiently so*
6. Does the lodge-room adjoin any other room? *none*
7. If so are the partition walls solid or studded?
8. What is the white male adult population of the jurisdiction over which the proposed Lodge will have control? *1,600*
9. If not adjoining, how far from any other building? *adjoining*
10. How many anterooms? *Two*
11. How large? *each ten feet square*
12. How is the hall reached? *By steps from outside*
13. Are the windows safe from outside view? *They are*
14. What is the size of the main hall? *20' x 35' ft*
15. How is it to be furnished, and at what cost? *as cheaply as the exigencies of the case will allow, as we are all poor now*
16. Do you propose to occupy the hall yourselves, or jointly, with some other society; and, if jointly, with what society? *by ourselves*
17. How much money have the above parties raised towards furnishing the hall and carrying on the Lodge, with reference to prospective petitions?
18. Do you propose to rent or own the hall? *rent*
19. Have you incurred any debt in starting the Lodge, and if so, how much, and for what? *None as far as*
20. How far from each Lodge whose jurisdiction will be affected by the new Lodge? *27 miles from Santa Fe, and 51 miles from Albuquerque*

Add such additional description deemed necessary.

This New Mexico Grand Lodge document describes the Palace Hotel meeting room as part of Cerrillos Lodge's request for a charter. The lodge room is described as being located on the second floor of an adobe building 20' x 35' in size with two ten foot square ante rooms. Accessible by an outside stairway, the room will be furnished as cheaply as possible, "as we are all poor now."

Cerrillos Lodge met Under Dispensation for the first time on May 2, 1889, in the second floor room of Brother Richard Green's Palace Hotel. The meeting was called by order of Right Worshipful Charles F. Easley, Grand Lecturer, for the purpose of organizing the lodge. The lodge was opened by:

Charles F. Easley, Worshipful Master (Montezuma #1)

J.D. Bush, Senior Warden (Socorro #9)

John Gray, Junior Warden (Montezuma #1)

Eugene B. Ames, Treasurer

Joyce Board, Secretary

William J. Jackson, Senior Deacon (Montagua #415, Texas)

C.W. Watergrove, Junior Deacon

Saul C. Wright, Tyler.

Other Master Masons present were L.D. Sugar of Gate City #11, F.W. Estas of Waynesville Lodge #49 in Missouri, and C.W. Uptegrove of Lafayette Lodge #16 in Kansas. Randolph Kelley, George L. Wyllys, Richard Green, John L. Jenks, Eugene B. Ames, Saul C. Wright, Austin L. Kendall, and Joyce Board are listed as Petitioners for Dispensation.

The lodge was opened on the third degree and the following officers were assigned to their respective stations:

George L. Wyllys, Worshipful Master

Richard Green, Senior Warden

John L. Jenks, Junior Warden

Eugene B. Ames, Treasurer

Joyce Board, Secretary

Saul C. Wright, Tyler.

Meetings were set for the first Saturday night of each month, and Brothers Green, Wright, and Board were set to work drafting by-laws to be submitted to the Grand Lodge Saturday, May 4, 1889. Two days later at the first regular communication, the by-laws were approved. The first degrees were conferred on June 1, 1889, when William E. Dame and Otto Zeigler were

initiated Entered Apprentices. Zeigler was a partner in a dry goods store in San Pedro, and we'll learn more about Dame later.

At the same meeting, petitions for affiliation from Rev. William J. Jackson of the Methodist Church and hotel owner C.W. Uptegrove were voted on and approved, as were petitions for the degrees from John King and P. Cunningham. Uptegrove was active in politics and chaired the 1890 meeting of Republican delegates in Santa Fe. By December, ten degrees had been conferred in Cerrillos Lodge.

In each issue of the weekly *Cerrillos Rustler* newspaper, in the upper left corner of the front page, a square and compass symbol appeared with this notice – "Cerrillos Lodge A.F. & A.M. meets at its hall on the 1st Saturday evening in each month. Geo. L. Wyllys WM, Joyce Board, Secretary."

Of the charter members, several held Grand Lodge offices. L.D. Sugar served as Grand Junior Deacon in 1899, Saul C. Wright as Grand Tyler in 1889, George L. Wyllys as Grand Marshal, and C.W. Uptegrove as Grand Secretary in 1889. Uptegrove, incidentally, owned the first major hotel in Cerrillos, the Tabor House at Main and Second Streets. The hotel was enlarged in 1890 and renamed the Grand Central Hotel. It was bought by W.C. Rogers in 1893, named the Rogers Hotel in 1898, and renamed the Central Hotel in 1902.

Joyce Board was a partner in a liquor, wine, and cigar store. John Gray sold real estate and insurance. Wyllys was a county commissioner. John Jenks served as one of the town's early postmasters.

At the September meeting, Richard Green asked to be paid \$20 for the use of his meeting room for the last six months. An arrangement was struck to pay him \$12.50 per month for the next six months, but in actuality, continued for nine years.

A Chapter of the Knights of Pythias, of which Brother Charles Easley was District Deputy Grand Chancellor, inquired about using the lodge hall. It was discussed at the December 7 meeting, but there is no further mention in the lodge records. The Knights chose a second floor room in the L.G. Jones building located on First Street near Main and met as Vesper Lodge every Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

The order of Knights of Pythias is an international fraternity founded by Justus H. Rathbone on February 19, 1864, in Washington D.C. The distinguishing principles of the order are Friendship, Charity, and Benevolence. Rathbone was impressed with a play by Irish poet and dramatist John Banim which retold the ancient story of Damon and Pythias.

In the Greek city of Syracuse lived the cruel king Dionysus. When a young man named Pythias was overheard criticizing the king, he was seized, tried, and sentenced to be executed in two weeks. His close friend Damon offered to take his place in prison while Pythias traveled to his

home to put his affairs in order and bid farewell to his family. (Both friends, incidentally, were initiates in the Pythagorean mysteries.)

As Pythias had not returned on the day of execution, Damon said he was happy to die in place of his friend. At the last moment, Pythias, who had met several delays, arrived just in time to prevent Damon's death. King Dionysus was so moved by the deep friendship that he freed both men.

Rathbone organized a fraternal order, complete with ritual, based on this principle in response to the rampant hatred of the times. President Lincoln, when advised of this movement, encouraged Rathbone to seek a charter from the U.S. Congress. Thus the Knights of Pythias is one of only two orders chartered by Congress, the other being the Boy Scouts.

Tragedy struck the new lodge when Senior Deacon William J. Jackson, noticeably absent from the October and November meetings, died at his home at 7:00pm, December 10, 1889. Jackson was minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Cerrillos. The lodge was called upon to perform the rites of burial on December 12.



Old Protestant / Masonic town cemetery

Cerrillos Lodge attended to the passing of a member with a great deal of grace and ceremony. Brother Jackson's Masonic funeral was typical of the work the lodge performed to honor the deceased and to minister to his family.

Services were held in the lodge, and then Brother Austin L. Kendall, as Marshal, organized the procession to Brother Jackson's home. The lodge took charge of the remains and conveyed them to Methodist Episcopal Church where Senior Warden J.D. Bush, Presiding Elder for the church, conducted the

service. Afterwards, the casket was conveyed to the hill north of town and interred in the town's Protestant cemetery in due Masonic form.

The adobe Methodist Episcopal Church was built between 1884 and 1885 by its pastor, W.B. Wheeler. The property was owned by W.C. Hurt who also owned the Opera House which later housed the lodge. Services continued at the church until 1907.

At the January 4th regular meeting, a resolution honoring Brother Jackson was drafted and supplied to the local newspaper and the lodge paid \$45 for a coffin and funeral expenses. Cerrillos Lodge has a tradition of drafting these resolutions, publishing them in the paper, giving a copy to the family, and writing them into the lodge records.

"Whereas: it has pleased the Great Architect of the Universe to remove from our midst – our late Brother William J. Jackson: and whereas it is but Just that a fitting recognition of his many virtues should be had. Therefore be it resolved by Cerrillos Lodge U.D., A.F. & A.M., that while we bow with submission to the will of the Most High, we do not-the-less mourn for our lamented brother, who has been taken from us.

Resolved: that in the death of William J. Jackson, this lodge laments the loss of this brother, who was ever ready to proffer the hand of aid and the voice of sympathy to the needy and distressed of the fraternity; an active member of this society whose utmost efforts were exerted for its welfare and prosperity: a friend and companion who was dear to us all, a citizen whose upright and noble life was a standard of emulation to his fellows.

Resolved: that the heart felt sympathy of the lodge be extended to the family in their affliction.

Resolved: That these resolutions be spread upon the records of the Lodge and a copy thereof be transmitted to the family of our deceased brother, and the newspaper of Cerrillos for publication."

3. THE CHARTER

On January 27-29, 1890, the New Mexico Grand Lodge met in Las Cruces for the twelfth annual communication during which charters were issued to Roswell Lodge #18 and Cerrillos Lodge #19. Since Roswell had met under dispensation April 3, 1889, one month before Cerrillos, the lower number went to Roswell. In other business at this communication, Grand Master Alexander Hamilton Morehead suggested liberalizing the rules to accept candidates with slight physical defects, but the Committee on Grand Master's Address held onto the old rules and the Grand Lodge did not change position on this issue.

Grand Master Morehead, born in Virginia in 1836, belonged to seven different lodges in four states. He served as Master of Aztec Lodge at Las Cruces, Silver City Lodge, and White Mountain Lodge in Globe, Arizona.

He was succeeded by Fredrick Herbert Kent, born in Massachusetts in 1851. Kent moved to Albuquerque in 1878 where he ran a drug store in "old town," and established the first drug store in "new town." He managed the firm owning the Albuquerque townsite, also townsites in Raton, Springer, Lamy, Socorro, and Las Cruces. He helped found the Indian School in Albuquerque and was an early trustee of Albuquerque Academy. He served as Master of Temple Lodge in 1885, and died in Albuquerque in 1918.

The Cerrillos Lodge Consecration and Dedication ceremony was set for Friday, February 7, 1890. Grand Master Frederick H. Kent opened a Specific Grand Lodge of Masons in the Cerrillos Lodge room with the following Grand Lodge officers present:

E.I. Carr, Deputy Grand Master

A.S. Plowman, Grand Senior Warden

Adolph Reigles, Grand Junior Warden

W.H. Kennedy, Grand Treasurer

C.W. Uptegrove, Grand Secretary (member of Cerrillos Lodge)

W.E. Dame, Grand Senior Deacon

L.D. Sugar, Grand Junior Deacon (member of Cerrillos Lodge)

S.C. Wright, Grand Tyler (member of Cerrillos Lodge)

G.L. Wyllys, Grand Marshal (member of Cerrillos Lodge)

M. Crutchfield, Grand Chaplain (member of Cerrillos Lodge)

The list of brothers present was Richard Green, John L. Jenks, Eugene B. Ames, Robert S. Grier, Randolph Kelly, Joyce Board, Stuart F. Loughborough, W.J. Templeton, E.H. Hart, S.W. Hale, William Mailand, B. Ford, Thomas P. Gable, and F.M. Estes.

The Grand Master stated that *“upon due deliberation, the Grand Lodge had granted the brethren of Cerrillos Lodge a charter confirming them with the rights and privileges of a regularly constituted lodge.”* He proceeded to suspend labor in the Grand Lodge for the purpose of organizing Cerrillos Lodge #19. Labor was resumed in the Grand Lodge and the Grand Master then proceeded to dedicate the lodge hall according to ancient usages. The Grand Lodge Officers consecrated it in due and ancient form, and the Specific Grand Lodge was closed.

Immediately following, a special communication of Cerrillos Lodge U.D. was convened by order of the Grand Master and opened with the Grand Lodge officers at their respective stations and places. The lodge opened in form on the third degree, and then the Cerrillos Lodge officers were elected for the ensuing Masonic year. They were:

George L. Wyllys, Worshipful Master

Richard Green, Senior Warden

John L. Jenks, Junior Warden

E.B. Ames, Treasurer

Stuart Loughborough, Secretary

Joyce Board, Senior Deacon

Randolph Kelley, Junior Deacon

Robert S. Grier, Tyler.

The Grand Master declared them duly elected and appointed, and they were installed. Deputy Grand Master J.E. Carr delivered “a very instructive address,” the Grand Master was thanked, and the lodge was closed for the first time as Cerrillos Lodge #19.

Two of the signers on the Cerrillos Lodge charter became well known, but for very different reasons.

Albert Fountain

Albert Jennings Fountain, one of the most colorful figures in New Mexico Masonic history, led a remarkable life and died an equally remarkable death. Born in New York and educated at Columbia College, Fountain traveled extensively through Europe, India, and China. He was arrested in China along with a group of Americans and was released only after the intervention of the U.S. Consul.

He had studied for the Episcopal ministry, but instead went into newspaper work and studied law on the side. While working as a correspondent for a California newspaper, Fountain was arrested in Nicaragua and sentenced to be shot. He escaped in a woman's disguise on the eve of his impending execution and made his way to San Francisco.

He commanded a group of First California Volunteers during the Civil War and marched across New Mexico under General Carleton. At Apache Pass, his command of 110 men was attacked by Cochise and 1200 Apaches, but the heavily outnumbered Californians managed to defeat their attackers in a two day battle.

Fountain settled in El Paso after the war and served as Surveyor of the Bexar District, Probate Judge, and U.S. Customs Inspector. He later left government service to accept a Colonel's commission under General Juarez of Mexico (also a Mason). Later he was elected to the Texas State Senate and was president of that body in 1874. During his term, he authored the bill creating the Texas Rangers.

In 1875, he moved to Mesilla, New Mexico, developed a law practice, and founded *The Independent* newspaper. As Colonel of the First New Mexico Cavalry, he fought cattle rustlers and searched for the renegade Apache leader Geronimo.

Fountain took an interest in the Las Cruces Agricultural College and saw potential for turning it into a university, but only with state support. He won a seat in the New Mexico State Legislature and became Speaker of the House in his first term. There he garnered support for the school that eventually became New Mexico State University. The cornerstone for the first building was laid September 13, 1890, with Gov. L. Bradford Prince, also a Mason, in attendance along with the Ft. Bliss band, Aztec Lodge, Knights Templar, and out of state guests.

In addition, he was appointed Special Council for the U.S. Government by President Cleveland and Assistant U.S. District Attorney for President Harrison.

Fountain was an active Mason and served as Deputy Grand Master twice, but never Grand Master. Cornelius Bennett had led Silver City Lodge's opposition to joining the fledgling New Mexico Grand Lodge, claiming instead loyalty to Arizona. Underlying this tug of war was the downstate opposition to the "Santa Fe Ring," a group of powerful political figures (including Masons such as Catron and Elkins) trying to exert influence in the southern part of the state. Fountain was considered part of the Santa Fe establishment, and the political struggle unfortunately leaked into Masonic affairs. Bennett blocked Fountain's election to be Grand Master, but the incident led to a later Grand Master recommending handling matters like these in the court system, keeping them out of the lodge.

In 1896, Fountain traveled with his son to the county courthouse in Lincoln, New Mexico, to obtain indictments against Oliver Lee and William McNew for cattle larceny. He was handed a threatening note in Lincoln, but finished his business and left for his home in Mesilla on January 30. Three riders tailed the buckboard for two days. On February 1, Fountain met Saturnino Barela, a mail carrier, and stopped to talk about the riders. Fountain declined Barela's offer of escort and rode off toward White Sands – and into oblivion.

Posses were formed and located the abandoned buckboard and a bloody handkerchief, but no trace of the father and son. Charges were brought against Lee, McNew, and others in the disappearance. After a venue struggle, a spectacular trial was held in Hillsboro in newly formed Otero County. Tom Catron, a powerful lawyer, a Mason, and leader of the "Santa Fe Ring" was chosen to prosecute. Defense attorney Albert B. Fall commanded the trial, had strong popular support against the "Santa Fe Ring," and got the alleged cattle rustlers acquitted of murder charges. No one else was ever charged, and the bodies have never been found.

Charles H. Dane

Charles H. Dane served as Grand Master in 1891. He organized banks in Deming and Silver City, both of which were closed February 3, 1892 by the Controller of Currency. Dane was convicted for illegally using \$81,000 of the banks' funds for his own ranching properties in Colfax and Sierra Counties.

Masonic charges were filed against him by Deming Lodge. At his trial, a representative pointed out that he could not be tried by the Grand Lodge as he had been suspended for non-payment of dues. The Grand Lodge voted to reinstate him and then proceeded to expel him. A communication from Deming Lodge was read in Cerrillos Lodge July 7, 1893, stating Dane had been expelled for unmasonic conduct. He died in Los Angeles in 1904.

4. THE EARLY YEARS

Cerrillos Lodge held its first regular communication in March 1890. The first order of business was paying the following bills:

Brother Richard Green - \$25.00 for rent of Lodge Hall

Brother Joyce Board - \$21.75 for Grand Lodge expenses (Roswell)

McKenzie Supply Co. - \$1.00 for oil and chimneys

Brother Stuart Loughborough - \$1.10 for laundering Masonic aprons

On June 23, 1890, a devastating fire consumed the entire block nine of Cerrillos on South Railroad Avenue between First and Second Streets. It originated in a two-story frame building, known as the Speigelberg Building, then owned by W.C. Hurt. Fortunately the lodge room in the Palace Hotel on Third Street and Main was located at a safe distance and was unharmed. The *Santa Fe New Mexican* observed that "it is very generally believed that the fire was of incendiary origin." The loss was estimated at \$30,000, of which \$18,000 was covered by insurance. Many of the businesses were rebuilt within a few months.

The town of Cerrillos incorporated August 29, 1891, with W.M. Dame, chair of the Board of Trustees, and C.H. Whited, clerk. The population was estimated conservatively at one thousand residents. Brother Charles Easley began the official Book of Ordinances, which some years later was commandeered by Cerrillos Lodge to record minutes.

The early months were full of degree work for the new lodge with special communications being called each month. The lodge approved a furniture purchase of \$64.00 on January 2, 1892, and shipping charges indicate the furniture arrived within the month. In July, Richard Green indicated he would like his second floor meeting room back "*if a suitable location could be found*" for the lodge to meet. This didn't happen for another six years.

New Mexico Grand Lodge records report that in 1891, Cerrillos Lodge inquired of Most Worshipful Grand Master Charles H. Dane if it would be proper for them to entertain an application for the degrees from a saloon keeper. The Grand Master replied he knew of no landmark, regulation, or Grand Lodge by-law that would interfere. He did not think, however, that saloon keeping would be considered a recommendation for membership, but a hindrance. Grand Master Dane, as we have seen, was hardly a good judge of character.

The Ortiz Mine Robbery

Large quantities of gold were mined at the Ortiz mine, and regular shipments of gold amalgam were shipped to the Denver, Colorado, mint via Los Cerrillos. George Bailey, foreman (married to Richard Green's daughter Nancy) and Roy Green were employed by the Ortiz Company and were responsible for the safety of those shipments.

On one occasion, Roy was driving the wagon from the mine to the railroad in Los Cerrillos, when he was held up by a masked bandit who, with the aid of a very persuasive 38 Colt, forced Roy to throw down the bag of gold. This particular shipment was a "clean up" of the mill and amounted to approximately \$50,000. Roy, fortunately, was sent on his way unharmed, but minus his precious cargo. The bandit then dug a hole and buried his loot for safe keeping against his return when the news and excitement of the robbery had abated.

However, the entire robbery was witnessed by a sixteen year old boy of Los Cerrillos, Maurice Utt, who had been sitting on the side of the hill, silently observing the procedure. After the bandit had buried the gold, Maurice calmly dug it up and returned the entire amount to George Bailey at the mine. Mine officials paid Maurice the sum of fifty dollars as a reward. The bandit was never apprehended.

- Nancy Green McCleary

Cerrillos, being a mining & railroad town, attracted residents from many other states and countries. An early lodge roster shows members from twenty different states as well as Canada, England, Italy, Hungary, Germany, Wales, Croatia, Austria, Ireland, and Russia.

The only Masonic trial ever held in Cerrillos Lodge took place in 1896. Brother P. Cunningham was tried for unmasonic conduct stemming from a "brutal assault" on Brother Thomas P. Gable in Santa Fe on March 20 of that year. A search of the *Santa Fe New Mexican* revealed no mention of the incident. Gable had run "Tom's Broad Gauge," a "pleasant resort" on the east side of the Santa Fe plaza and later managed A.T. Grigg's undertaking business.

Charges were read at the April meeting along with letters from witnesses Joseph and Eve Thornton. Brother Gable asked to absent himself, but his presence was needed to make a quorum. Worshipful Master Kendall, who was incidentally the town's Justice of the Peace, asked that the trial proceed with Gable present. A check of the by-laws confirmed that this was not in violation, so Brother Gable must have spent an uncomfortable evening in Lodge.

The Lodge voted 6 guilty, 1 not guilty. On the question of expulsion from the lodge, the vote was evenly split 3-3. A vote on suspension was passed 5-1, and the period was set at one year. While the vote was secret, the tally suggests that Brother Gable may have voted his attacker not guilty, and then abstained from subsequent votes on punishment.



Col. Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt and the Rough Riders

In mid 1898, a call for volunteers went out for the 1st Regiment of United States Volunteer Cavalry, better known as Teddy Roosevelt's "Rough Riders." While the ranks were filled with men from Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma Indian Territory, and several Eastern states, it was New Mexico that provided the most volunteers. Serving with Roosevelt in the charge of San Juan Hill were William E. Dame, first man raised in Cerrillos Lodge, and Clay Green, son of charter Brother Richard Green. Tragically, Clay Green, serving as Roosevelt's Orderly of the Day, was killed in the first charge up San Juan Hill in the Battle of Santiago de Cuba, July 1, 1898. Brother Dame served in the Philippines, was cited for bravery by Teddy Roosevelt, and was Senior Grand Warden in 1904-5. He died in Venezuela in 1937 and is buried in Albuquerque.

Ten Cerrillos men appear on the muster of Troop E under Captain Frederick Muller. They are John S. Langston, William S.E. Howell, James E. Merchant, William J. Moran, Charles E. McKinley (who suffered a head wound in the charge), Lloyd L. Mahan, Adolph F. Nettleblade, Edward Scanlon, William E. Dame, and Clay Green.

Richard and Nancy Green, along with four of their children attended a Rough Riders reunion in Las Vegas, New Mexico, on July 4, 1899. There they met and shook hands with Col. Roosevelt, himself an avid Freemason. In the words of daughter Nancy Green McCleary, *"From this great man, praise was bestowed on the son, who gave his life for his country, by the simple gesture, and the words he spoke as he laid his hand on eleven year old Dick's head and said, 'Dick, I sincerely hope you will grow up to be as fine a man as your brother Clay was.'"*



Clay Green, son of charter member Richard Green, was killed in the charge up San Juan Hill. He is buried in the Cerrillos town cemetery.

In 1899, Richard Green's request to have his room back was finally granted when Cerrillos Lodge vacated the Palace Hotel, but herein lays a mystery. There was no recorded communication with the New Mexico Grand Lodge regarding the move and no dispensation requested or granted. Cerrillos Lodge minutes indicate that \$10 per month rent was paid to a "Lewis Jones" from 1899-1903, but there is no mention in Cerrillos Lodge or the Grand Lodge records of where the meetings were held during those years.

Evidence strongly suggest that Cerrillos Lodge moved into the second floor room of what was called the "L. G. Jones Building" on First Street, three doors south of Main Street above what later became the Simoni Store, where the Knights of Pythias had been meeting.

L. G. Jones Building – the lodge room was upstairs on the right over Miller & Legace's Drug Store



This perplexing question called for extensive research. Census records of 1900 confirm the presence in Cerrillos of Louis Jones (age 47), his wife Sarah (age 45), and their son Robert (13) and two daughters, Anna (21) & Bessie (19). There is a boarder in their home at this time, a 27 year old telegraph operator named Annie Campbell. Mr. Jones indicates his occupation as "merchant." Methodist Episcopal Church records show his daughters baptisms. County records indicate they owned at least five properties in the Cerrillos area, four of them in the town's center – Lot 2, Block 10 on Main Street; Lot 2, Block 23 located one block south on Waldo Street; and Lots 2 & 3, Block 79 on the east side of First Street.

Sarah Jones, Lewis' wife, had purchased the First Street lots in 1892 from Stephen Elkins. The 1902 town map clearly shows adjoining two-story buildings with the words "Lodge Room" written on the third lot from the corner. None of the other Jones properties had two-story buildings. There is a meat market on the second lot. The *Cerrillos Rustler*, unfortunately, is unavailable during the years in question, but earlier issues still contain many valuable clues.

11/30/89 – McCormick's Meat Market opens in old Jones store building

9/26/90 – "L.G. Jones contemplates the erection of a second two-story business house by the side of the new one nearing completion."

10/3/90 – "Miller and Legace's drug store will occupy the lower floor of L.G. Jones' new building. The upper floor will be used by the Knights of Pythias."

10/17/90 – An ad appears for C. A. Whited, a jeweler at Miller's Drugs who does watch repair. Subsequent ads show Miller's selling wallpaper, drugs, and medicine

10/24/90 – Jones building progressing rapidly

11/14/90 – Mrs. C. Doyle sells dry goods, groceries, clothing, and notions in room recently vacated by Miller & Legace

4/24/91 – "C. A. Whited has a neat room in front, upstairs in the Jones block..."

7/10/91 – Knights of Pythias (Vesper Lodge) officers installation names L. G. Jones as an officer, also Cerrillos Lodge brother Crutchfield.

Easley and Crutchfield belonged to both Cerrillos Lodge and the Knights of Pythias, and Jones himself was a member of the Knights. No other property owned by Jones was two stories high or could reasonably accommodate a meeting room. The 1902 town map clearly indicates a lodge room on the second floor of the First Street property.

It seems logical to conclude that Cerrillos Lodge would have met on Saturday nights in the lodge room above the Miller & Legace drug store, even if Vesper Lodge was still meeting on Tuesday nights.

Although rent was paid to Louis Jones, it was his wife Sarah who held title to the property. It must have been unusual in the 1890's for a woman to own the property where the Masonic Lodge met.

Apparently, the accommodations were less than perfect as numerous mentions are made in the minutes of requesting repairs to the lodge room. In December of 1901, a committee of three was appointed to meet with Jones to *"see whether something could not be done so as to make lodge room more pleasant."* Out of frustration, the lodge withheld rent payments for a time until repairs were made. The struggle continued for two more years.

Miller & Legace,

— Dealers In —

Pure Drugs and Medicines,

Stationery, Toilet Goods, Perfumery,
Paints, Oils, Varnishes Wall
Paper, Glass, Cigars and
Tobacco.

PRESCRIPTIONS CAREFULLY COMPOUNDED:

L. G. Jones' New Building. Cerrillos, N. M.

Miller & Legace ad in the Cerrillos Rustler

The population of Cerrillos was at its peak in 1890 when the lodge was founded. As the mining slowed, people began leaving and by 1902, the population had been reduced to 500. The town marshal was discharged in 1903, and on Feb. 11, 1904, the residents of Cerrillos voted 23-8 to disincorporate. The town council met for the last time on March 19, 1904, and

the town clerk, Jose S. Gonzales, made this final entry in the record, "A motion was made to adjourn for good. Carried, I guess."

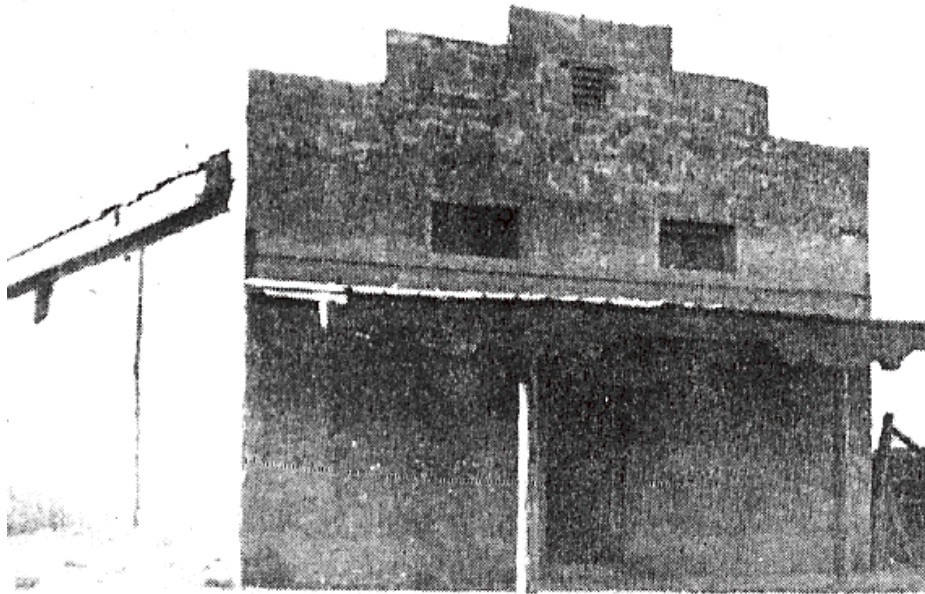
The Book of Town Ordinances was apparently in the possession of Brother Charles Easley. As only one third of the book had been used, and the blank pages posing temptation, the Lodge commandeered the Book of Ordinances in 1909 as the second volume of official Lodge minutes.

Charles F. Easley petitioned Montezuma Lodge in 1881 and was rejected. He petitioned again was elected in 1883. He then served as Master of Montezuma Lodge in 1888 & 1889. Immediately after he was Master, he demitted and affiliated with Cerrillos Lodge as a Charter member and became its first Senior Warden. He then served four consecutive years as Master from 1891 to 1894. In 1902, he demitted from Cerrillos and re-affiliated with Montezuma #1 serving a third term as Master there in 1903. Along the way he served Grand Lodge as Grand Sword Bearer in 1885, Grand Lecturer in 1889, Senior Grand Deacon in 1902, and Junior Grand Warden in 1906.

An ex-register for the Santa Fe Land Office, Easley was an attorney in land and mining cases, real estate and collection agent, abstractor, conveyancer, surveyor, and notary public.

An item in the *Rustler* on May 1, 1891 reports "Hon. C. F. Easley received a severe blow from a line ball batted by Dick Mathews in the game last Saturday afternoon between the fat and lean men of Cerrillos. The ball was like a cannon shot and appeared to whack on Mr. Easley's seat of knowledge about the same time the whack of the bat resounded." The blow knocked him out for a few minutes and he recovered at home. A week later the paper reports him still "affected with swimfog," and prompted the following quip in the May 15 paper, "Cerrillos would like to organize a regular baseball club, only it has no more good men to kill off."

He died on October 8, 1917, a member in good standing in Montezuma Lodge.



5. THE STONE BUILDING

In 1903, Hurt's Hall, also known as the Clear Light Opera House, became available. The building had been used for community concerts, guest performers, and glee club performances usually involving the women of the Methodist church. William Hurt had died and his widow Maud was interested in selling off some of their real estate. In order to own this property, the lodge was advised to set up a corporation which would hold title.

July 18, 1903

On motion, the following motion was passed – whereas Cerrillos Lodge No. 19, A.F. & A.M. wishing to purchase the lot and building on Main Street, known as the lot and stone building owned by Mrs. Maud L. Hurt to be used for lodge purposes, and having ascertained from legal authority that it will be necessary to incorporate before we can obtain legal title to the same,

Be it resolved that we hereby appoint Bro. Jno.(John) W. Sullivan, A.L. Kendall, and W.H. Kennedy a purchasing committee to file the articles of incorporation with the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico.

Have done so, the incorporated lodge purchased the stone building on September 21, 1903, for three hundred and five dollars. Richard Green had his room in the Palace Hotel back, the lodge was rid of the troublesome Mr. Jones, and for the first time in its fourteen year existence, Cerrillos Lodge had a permanent home.

RECORD OF WARRANTY DEEDS.		168
<i>Mrs Maud L. Hunt</i> TO <i>Verillas Lodge No. 19</i> <i>A. E. & A. M.</i> TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO, } ss. County of Santa Fe. I hereby certify that this instrument was filed for record on the 15 day of <i>April</i> A. D. 1905 at 9 o'clock A. M., and was duly recorded on this 15th day of <i>April</i> A. D. 1905 <i>Marco Castile</i> Probate Clerk and ex officio Recorder. Index. (\$ 305.00)	This Deed, Made this <i>First</i> day of <i>September</i> in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and <i>three</i> between <i>Mrs Maud L. Hunt, Widow of Santa Fe and Territory of New Mexico</i> of the County of Santa Fe, and Territory of New Mexico, of the first part, and <i>Verillas Lodge No. 19 A. E. & A. M., duly since located under the laws of the Territory of New Mexico</i> of the second part Witnesseth, That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of <i>Three Hundred and five</i> DOLLARS, in the sum of of the first part, has paid by the said party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby confessed and acknowledged, has granted, bargained, sold, conveyed and confirmed, and by these presents do sell, grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm unto the said party of the second part, its successors heirs and assigns forever all the following described lot or parcel of land, situate, lying and being in <i>Santa Fe, and Territory of New Mexico, to-wit:</i> <i>Lot No. 4, in Block No. 13 in the town of Verillas, according to plat of said Town of Verillas on file in the office of the Probate Clerk and Ex officio Recorder of said County of Santa Fe and Territory of New Mexico</i>	

Together with all and singular, the hereditaments and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining, and the reversion and reversion, remainder and remainders, rents, issues and profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title, interest, claim and demand whatsoever of the said party of the first part, either in law or equity, of, in and to the above bargained premises, with the hereditaments and appurtenances: **To Have and to Hold** The said premises above bargained and described, with the appurtenances, unto the said party of the second part, ~~its successors heirs and assigns forever~~ and assigns forever. And the said party of the first part, for herself, heirs, executors and administrators, do sell, convey, grant, bargain and agree to and with the said party of the second part, ~~its successors heirs and assigns~~ well wised of the premises above conveyed, as of good, sure, perfect, absolute and indefeasible estate of inheritance, in law, in fee simple, and full right, full power and lawful authority to grant, bargain, sell and convey the same in manner and form aforesaid, and that the same are free and clear from all former and other grants, bargains, sales, liens, taxes, assessments and incumbrances of whatever kind or nature soever; and the above bargained premises in the quiet and peaceable possession of the said party of the second part ~~its successors heirs and assigns~~ and assigns, against all and every person or persons lawfully claiming, or to claim the whole or any part thereof, the said party of the first part shall and will warrant and forever defend.

In Witness Whereof, The said party of the first part ~~has~~ hereunto set her hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in Presence of

Chas. F. Casley } *Maud L. Hunt* [SEAL.]

TERRITORY OF NEW MEXICO, } ss.

County of *Santa Fe*

On this *21st* day of *September* 1905, before me personally appeared *Mrs Maud L. Hunt Widow of Santa Fe, County of Santa Fe and Territory of New Mexico* to me known to be the person described in and who executed the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged that she executed the same as her free act and deed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.

Chas. F. Casley Notary Public

Previous page: Record of Warranty Deed on file at Santa Fe County Clerk's Office showing sale of old stone building by Mrs. Maud Hurt to Cerrillos Lodge on Sept. 21, 1903, for \$305. Brother Charles Easley, an attorney in mining and land transactions, serves as notary public.

Grand Lodge records show a dispensation to remove to their new hall was granted by Grand Master John C. Slack on December 14, 1903, at the Twenty-seventh Annual Communication held at Temple Lodge #6 in Albuquerque. Satisfactory proof had been furnished that the new hall complied with all the Grand Lodge requirements of a lodge room.

In March of 1904, the by-laws were amended to set up a Board of Trustees to comply with Territorial regulations. The board would consist of the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, and Secretary of the Lodge. The Board had legal power over the Lodge holdings; with the exception that real estate could not be sold.

The stone building certainly had its rustic charm. Several hours before a meeting, the Tyler would have to go down to the lodge and stoke up the coal fire in the pot belly stove. Lighting was provided by three kerosene lanterns hung from the ceiling, and during meetings a brother would have to jump up and pump the lanterns. There was no plumbing and no bathroom. Refreshments consisted of coffee made in an old pot. Members reported watching the moon rise through a crack in the wall. The coal stove had a nasty habit of building up coal gas, then spewing a burst of heat, flame, and ash into the room.

Until now, meetings were held on the first Saturday of each month. In April, 1904, the meeting night was changed to "*the Saturday night on or before the full moon in each month.*" This was not uncommon in Lodges of the time, for more practical than esoteric reasons. The moonlight would aid members in returning home safely after meetings.

Richard Green, a charter member who had provided Cerrillos Lodge with its first room in his Palace Hotel, passed away in 1906. The Lodge conducted his funeral November 30, 1906. He was buried in the family plot near his son Clay.

While the stone building was an improvement over the room above the drug store, repairs were still needed. In October of 1907, Brothers Gable & Kennedy were ordered "*to procure an architect or builder in Santa Fe to make estimate on repairs,*" not to exceed \$25. Later photos show a steel cable encircling the building near the roof line to help keep the walls together. The cable remains to this day.

An interesting note from 1908 shows Cerrillos Lodge contributing \$6 to help repair the road to the cemetery.

In April of 1909, District Deputy Grand Master H.F. Stephens reported to the Grand Master that *"there is a very great lack of harmony in this lodge ... members even ignoring a summons although there is work pending, and further, the Master has been untiring in his efforts to get his lodge in better condition but without effect."* The lodge must have strongly disagreed, because they passed a resolution *"that the Secretary be ordered to call the District Deputy Grand Master to his grave error and have same corrected in his next report"* (to the Grand Master).

In July, Brother Thomas Madden died and left a bequest to the lodge, significant enough that the Board of Trustees was ordered to procure an attorney to *"defend the interests of the lodge."* Lodge minutes don't specify the exact amount of the gift, but it was enough that a portrait of Brother Madden was hung in the South of the Lodge.

There were some marathon meetings in 1910 when John W. Sullivan was Master. The February meeting saw an Entered Apprentice Proficiency, a Fellowcraft proficiency, and regular lodge business which included voting on a petition, paying of bills, and a vote on a \$200 allowance for building improvements. Any self respecting lodge would have adjourned at this point, satisfied with a evening of accomplishment, but Cerrillos Lodge continued on into the night conferring all three degrees, complete with lectures and charges. The March meeting saw three proficiencies, regular business, and again the conferring of all three degrees in one night. Assuming the lodge opened at 8:00pm, which was the custom, the work must have continued until 3:00 or 4:00 in the morning, no doubt requiring explanations to skeptical wives.

Grand Lodge relations seem to improve in the next two years. District Deputy Grand Master Salamon Spitz *"gave us heaps of advice"* during his June 1913 visit. *"His points were well taken, and we needed it."* The following year, Spitz *"gave expression from the Most Worshipful Grand Master and expressed his pleasure in being with the lodge, his pleasure in your success holding meetings, your success in improvements, in work, in efficiency, and that all this were a credit."*

The Grand Master's praise proved ironic as Cerrillos Lodge faltered over the next three years. During 1915-1917, only three meetings were held each year and no degrees were conferred. 1918 saw five meetings, then, coinciding with the conclusion of the First World War, activity resumed as the lodge gathered eleven times in 1919.

Charter member Austin Kendall died in August of 1918, and the lodge held a special meeting to make arrangements for his widow. She had little money, and the members didn't want to see her be put in a home. As the lodge was unable to support her, they wrote letters to the Scottish Rite almoner and Temple Lodge #6 asking for help.

"Mr. Kendall, who is now postmaster of the town and a member of the board of county commissioners of Santa Fe county, has resided in the Territory since 1880. The first six years of his residence here he devoted to the livery business in Santa Fe. From 1886 to 1889 he conducted a general store at
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Dolores, or the Ortiz mine grant, but since the latter year has resided in Cerrillos. After a short time devoted to mercantile business he operated the waterworks from the time they were constructed, in 1892, until 1894. For about ten years he has served as justice of the peace, has been postmaster since March 12, 1900, and has twice been county commissioner—from 1892 to 1894, and from 1902 to the present time. Judge Kendall was born in Danville, Vermont, October 2, 1837. In 1855 he went to Mobile. In October of the latter year he sailed from New Orleans to join the expedition of General William Walker, the noted filibuster, but left this historic expedition at the first opportunity and returned to his home in the east. During the Civil war he was connected with the quartermaster's department, and was an eye-witness of the celebrated fight between the Monitor and the Merrimac in Hampton Roads. From 1873 to 1880 he resided in Kansas, and during 1875 served the government as scout on Indian duty. Judge Kendall is a Republican. He is prominent in Masonic circles, a past master of Cerrillos Lodge No. 19, A. F. & A. M., of the lodge and chapter of Perfection in Santa Fe, and the Scottish Kite in Denver. He took the Scottish Rite degree in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1863, a short time after being made a Mason in Chelsea, Massachusetts. In Kinsley, Kansas, he was master of the local lodge for one term."

– History of New Mexico: its resources and people, Vol.2 – by George B. Anderson

On August 20, 1920, thirty-six Masons (10 members and 26 visitors) crowded into the stone lodge building for the official visit by the Grand Master. A team from Montezuma Lodge conferred the Master Mason degree.

A courtesy funeral for a Scottish brother, Alexander Brown, a member of Ancient Brazen Lodge #17 of Linlithgow, was performed on Nov. 27, 1922.

An organ parked in the lodge hall for several months in 1926 proved a temptation, and the lodge decided to purchase it for \$25.

Mary Mora is the grand-daughter of the Vergolios, who bought the Palace Hotel from Richard Green's widow. Mary still runs the only bar in Cerrillos and enjoys reminiscing about the town's earlier days. She was born in the Palace Hotel, used to deliver papers all over town, and later taught in the Cerrillos School. She recalls hearing that the Masons would make the candidates ride a goat during their initiation, so she climbed onto the roof of a house near the old stone building on a degree night to peek in and see if it was true. She said they chased her away and put curtains in the windows after that.

In September, a discussion developed on the condition of the hall. The Master called for a ten minute recess while a committee looked the place over. Upon reconvening, the committee recommended a new rug for the front room,

three easy chairs, one library table, curtains for the ante room, a new heating stove, and a new coal house. The report was accepted and the committee given authority to buy those things.

The late 1920's was a busy time for the lodge with steady work and meetings. The lodge met 18 times in 1928.

A grim report to Grand Master Herbert S. Murdoch was sent March 17, 1930 from James P. McNulty and reads:

Most Worshipful Sir and Brother:

Cerrillos Lodge #19, Cerrillos: Due to the fact that the lodge hall is located in Cerrillos and the majority of the members reside at Madrid, it is difficult to have a good attendance. It seems to me that eventually the charter should be transferred to Madrid for the good of all. Of course, it is realized that this is not feasible during the lifetime of some of the older members. In view of these conditions, I believe an outlay of funds for additions to the present building unwise. Financially the lodge is in exceptional condition.



J. P. McNulty

Contrary to this report, the lodge continued to meet regularly with steady degree work. While turnouts were never large, they were consistent.

In 1931, the secretary was allowed his dues plus one dollar per meeting – the same was approved for the Tyler, providing he cleans the lodge and builds the fire.

Charter Brother Eugene B. Ames died in 1932 and was buried with Masonic honors. His widow asked for financial help from the Lodge, and even wrote a letter to the wife of Worshipful Master Granita explaining her plight. In August the minutes state that “on reconsideration and opinions from five other lodges, Cerrillos Lodge #19 does not feel it should render financial aid for burial expenses when the relatives are, or can pay for such an expense.” In September,

however, it was decided to pay Mrs. Ames \$5 per month for the ensuing year, subject to the Grand Lodge contributing \$10 per month. The Grand Lodge declined, but said it would pay \$7.50 if the lodge matched that amount. Apparently \$5 was all the lodge would pay, which the Grand Lodge matched, and the Masons paid her that amount every month for three years.

The first discussion of moving the lodge appears on June 27, 1934. *"The matter of moving Cerrillos Lodge #19 to Madrid was discussed but no action taken."* One of the earliest community events was a banquet held at the Lamb Hotel on the night of a Master Mason degree with all local Masons and their wives invited. Members were encouraged to invite one non-Masonic couple to the dinner.

At the Dec. 27 meeting, it was decided that *"the lodge would not receive applications from any of its members for loans in the future,"* although this was not the usual practice anyhow.

In 1935 porch was rebuilt with Brother Gans purchasing materials, Irving C. Sweet doing the work, and Granito providing the posts.

Activity slowed down into the late 1930s with six meetings in 1937. In 1938, meetings were held in January, February, then not until June when the Master ordered meetings suspended until September. Seven meetings were recorded in 1939.

A roof repair was done in late 1941 which set the lodge back \$33.

There was a *"discussion on changing the meeting dates to conform with the months rather than moon,"* in the summer of 1943. *"Seemed to be a consensus of opinion dates should be left same."*

An offer was made to one George Archebeque to use the coal shed and land at the rear of the hall in exchange for serving as night watchman, but he declined to accept. The secretary's salary was fixed at \$35 per year in 1944, and "equipment" used in the rituals was replaced.

An Entered Apprentice degree on March 24, 1948, marked a new era as *"This meeting is the first to be held with the new electric lights."* Cerrillos is believed to be the last New Mexico lodge to get electricity, ironically located in one of the first New Mexico towns to get electricity in 1900. The old pot of coffee was now heated on a hot plate. In October, William G. Loomis of Montezuma Lodge visited, a grandson of charter member Eugene B. Ames.

Most Worshipful Past Grand Master Ron Brinkman, who is a source of information for this history, first visited Cerrillos Lodge on February 6, 1948. He appears in many degrees in the next several years, including a double Master Mason degree night on July 15 in which 31 Masons attended.

Members of Pajarito Lodge in Los Alamos visited Cerrillos Lodge to confer the Master Mason degree on Albro Rile, who happened to be Fire Marshal. During the degree, and while the candidate Rile was blindfolded, the gas in the

coal stove blew up spewing heat, flame, and ash into the room. Brother Rile was duly impressed with the pyrotechnics accompanying the degree.

The Grand Masters' visit on August 3 was literally a washout, with no quorum present. *"On this date was the big washout at Madrid. It was said by quite a few people at Madrid that 7" of rain fell in about an hour."*

There was a suggestion made in 1949 to put a fence around the Protestant cemetery where a number of Masons were buried, but the matter was tabled.



Honorary Past Grand Master Ron Brinkman, in the stone building in 2004

6. THE MOVE TO SANTA FE

The years 1950-51 saw regular work done by the lodge, but at a number of meetings only six members were present, pressing visitors into officer's chairs. The Grand Master's 1950 visit brought out only 8 members and 5 visitors.

Ron Brinkman made six visits to Cerrillos Lodge in 1951, taking part in five degrees. In September, the *“Grand Master (Hensley) was duly welcomed after which he made a talk touching on various matters of Masonic interest including recommending this lodge seriously consider moving to Santa Fe.”*

William Grantham became master in 1952. He was born in 1905, and had served as Master in 1946 and Secretary from 1947 to 1951. Ron Brinkman recalls, “I conducted his Masonic funeral in 1975. He was probably the last of the old timers who I originally met when the Lodge was at Cerrillos.”

At the October meeting, a resolution from Montezuma Lodge #1 was read inviting Cerrillos Lodge #19 *“to move their meeting place to Santa Fe and offered the use of their lodge rooms at \$5 per meeting date.”* A committee was appointed to meet with Montezuma Lodge for further discussion. The first vote came in March, 1952, when the motion to move the Lodge was rejected.

At the 75th Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge held at Portales on March 17 & 18, Grand Master Hensley recommended that the Cerrillos Lodge charter be revoked, but the Jurisprudence Committee suggested that the members be given the choice to move to Santa Fe or surrender the charter. On instructions from the Committee, Grand Secretary Chandler G. Thomas sent the following letter to each member of Cerrillos Lodge. This is a copy of his actual letter.

THE GRAND LODGE
OF ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF NEW MEXICO

Chandler C. Thomas
Grand Secretary

P. O. Box 535
Albuquerque, New Mexico

April 19, 1952

Dear Brother:

You being a member of our Cerrillos Lodge No. 19, A. F. & A. M., at Cerrillos, New Mexico, I am writing to you to inform you of the recommendation of Most Worshipful Brother E. T. Hensley, Jr., then Grand Master, at the Seventy-fifth Annual Communication of our Grand Lodge held at Portales on March 17 and 18, 1952, which reads as follows:

"Cerrillos Lodge No. 19, at Cerrillos, New Mexico, was chartered on January 28, 1890. Their By-Laws require them to meet monthly on Wednesday on or before the full moon. They now have a membership of 42 members. One member lives at Cerrillos. Five members live at Madrid, approximately three miles from Cerrillos. Five members live at Santa Fe, 14 miles from Cerrillos. Two live at Los Alamos and one lives at Lamby. The remaining 28 members are dispersed at points more remotely removed from those named.

"The Lodge property consists of an old one story stone building valued by the Lodge at \$2,000.00. Furniture and paraphernalia are valued at \$500.00.

"The principal occupation in the community is that of mining. Curtailed operations of this industry have forced many members to move.

"Due to the fact that this Lodge has been dormant for quite a long period of time, the Lodge was urged to consider the proposition of moving to Santa Fe where an additional Lodge is needed. Montezuma Lodge No. 1 at Santa Fe invited Cerrillos Lodge No. 19 to move to Santa Fe and extended the privileges of the use of the hall of Montezuma Lodge No. 1 for the charge of \$5.00 per meeting. The proposition has been discussed in Cerrillos Lodge No. 19 from time to time and rejected.

"Section 9 of Article IX of the By-Laws of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of New Mexico reads as follows: 'No Lodge shall be opened unless there be present seven Master Masons, nor shall any business be transacted unless there be present at least seven Master Masons, members of the Lodge.'

Page 2.

April 19, 1952.

"During the calendar year 1951, Cerrillos Lodge No. 19 endeavored to hold ten regular meetings including the installation meeting on December 27, 1951. At seven of those meetings there were not enough members present to transact business. During the calendar year 1951, Cerrillos Lodge No. 19 endeavored to hold three special meetings. At two of those meetings there were not enough members present to transact business. Thus it appears that during the year there were only three regular meetings and one special meeting held in compliance with law. On the other hand, this cannot be entirely relied upon as accurate since it is my information that where a visitor fills one of the regular stations he is not shown in the minutes as a visitor.

"In view of the foregoing, it is the recommendation of your Grand Master that the Charter of Cerrillos Lodge No. 19 be revoked and that such action be taken with respect to the records, seal, jewels and property as is required by Masonic Law."

The recommendation of Brother Hensley, to revoke the Charter of your Lodge, was not adopted by our Grand Lodge, and the Committee on Jurisprudence instructed that the Grand Secretary write each member of Cerrillos Lodge, advising them of the facts and to ask each member to make his wishes known to the Grand Secretary in regard to the following two alternatives:

1. Removal of Cerrillos Lodge No. 19 to Santa Fe, New Mexico, or
2. Surrender of the Charter of Cerrillos Lodge.

In accordance with the action of our Grand Lodge, I will appreciate it if you will advise me at the earliest possible date as to your wishes in the matter, whether to have the Lodge move to Santa Fe, or to surrender the Charter.

Thanking you in advance for your early reply, and with best wishes, I remain

Fraternally yours,

Chandler G. Thomas

Grand Secretary.

Grand Master Thorne attended the next meeting of Cerrillos Lodge, not held until June 4, where he *“explained situation as to ultimatum on move to Santa Fe.”* The matter was not discussed on the July 2 degree night.

On September 3, an historic meeting was opened at 8:15pm by Worshipful Master Grantham with A.M Tackitt as Senior Warden, Leo Pick as Junior Warden, J. F. Husler as Treasurer, John W. Allen as Secretary, Gerald Hoff as Senior Deacon, George W. Petterson as Junior Deacon, Right Worshipful Brother Rupert St. Clair as Senior Steward, and visitors C.A. Franks, Harvey Lutz, and John L. Boza.

There must have been ample discussion about the future of Cerrillos Lodge before this night, because the meeting was short and to the point. *“Letter from Chandler C. Thomas, Grand Secretary, regarding Grand Master Thorne’s advice to vote on Santa Fe read. Motion to move to Santa Fe carried unanimously. Closed in due form at 9:15 pm.”*

In one hour, the course was set to leave the old stone building the lodge had owned for 49 years, and the town which had spawned this remarkable group of Masons 62 years earlier.

Preparations for the move began right away. At the October 1 meeting, the Grand Master’s Letter of Transmittal and Dispensation was read, and a resolution was drawn up changing the meeting night to the second Wednesday in each month and raising dues to \$10 to conform to Montezuma Lodge.

The last meeting of Cerrillos Lodge #19 in Cerrillos was October 29, 1952. The change in dues and meeting night was approved and Montezuma Brother Sam Back was thanked for building a cabinet for use by the Cerrillos brethren. There was a report on offers to buy the building. Brothers St. Clair & Hoff were asked to contact Valley Lodge #69 in Espanola to store the lodge furniture, and use of the columns was offered to Pajarito Lodge #66. With that, the lodge closed for the last time in the old stone building.



Modern view of the Spiegelberg Building on the Santa Fe Plaza where Montezuma Lodge was meeting in 1952. This was the first Santa Fe home of Cerrillos Lodge #19

7. A FRESH START

On November 12, 48 Masons crammed into the Montezuma Lodge hall to begin a new era for Cerrillos Lodge and a most unique fraternal partnership between the two lodges. Brothers Harrington and Barrett of Montezuma Lodge #1 gave welcoming remarks followed by a response from Cerrillos Brother Hoff.

The old stone building was sold to Mary Salazar on November 19 and the sale was reported to the lodge on December 12.

For the first time, both lodges opened simultaneously on December 27 for the installation of 1953 officers. This marked the beginning of busy and fruitful years for Cerrillos Lodge.

Meeting time was set in April at 8pm, and then changed in May by the Master to 7pm. A permanent building fund was established in 1953, indicating the brethren saw the relationship with Montezuma Lodge as a stepping stone to another Cerrillos Lodge hall.

In 1954, Cerrillos Lodge met 24 times. They voluntarily raised the rent paid to Montezuma Lodge to \$6.50 per meeting, and set meeting time for 7:30

on the second Wednesday, a custom that continues to this day. In 1955, rent was raised voluntarily again to \$7.50 per meeting. The December installation saw 20 Cerrillos and 82 Montezuma members.

No doubt encouraged by the renewed activity, and viewing the shared lodge room as a temporary arrangement, Cerrillos Lodge purchased a lot for \$4000 on the southwest corner of Galisteo Street and the planned extension of Camino de los Marquez. A city resolution dated February 29, 1956, granted Cerrillos Lodge a special permit for non-conforming use of the land to build a lodge building and parking lot.

Mesa Lodge #68 put on a degree at Cerrillos Lodge in May 1956 that saw 18 members and 67 visitors, which was a Cerrillos Lodge attendance record at 81 Masons.

The year 1957 saw 27 meetings, and the lodge voted to voluntarily increase the rent to \$15 per meeting. The members began reconsidering the possibility of a long term relationship with Montezuma Lodge as evidenced by two decisions. A committee was appointed in July to investigate selling the lot, and the lodge voted to sell the chairs which had been loaned to Valley #69 in Espanola. The original chairs, pedestals, and altar from Cerrillos Lodge are still in use in Valley Lodge to this day.

A quarterly publication, *The Trowel*, was begun in 1958. A decision to meet on 4th Wednesdays was made early in 1959 *“as it was thought proper as Montezuma Lodge #1 held this Wednesday open for Cerrillos.”* On a degree night there was also a *“discussion about lending a new lodge some of our furniture, however it must be brought up at a regular meeting.”* At the next stated meeting, the lodge *“voted to give charts (chairs?), and lend any other furniture other lodges were not using at this time provided we could regain them when we should need them.”*

The Cerrillos Lodge tradition of giving a scholarship to a college student was begun in 1959. The first recipient was a Miss Winfrey, who was awarded the scholarship in July, accompanied by her mother.

Cerrillos Lodge Scholarship recipients:

1959	Miss (?) Winfrey
1963	Martha Mann
1964	Sharon Teague
1965	Mary Ann Morney
1966	Frank Rivell (increased to \$200)
1967	Ray Lamoreaux
1968	Jackie Peck
1969	Mary Graham

1972	Tom Dillon
1973	Rita Archuleta
1975	Elizabeth Hays
1976	Jean Wood
1988	Shannon Brown
1989	Joel Kelley
1990	Christine Smith
1993	Sherita Berghofer
1994	Maria Quintana
2003	Maria Castro
2004	Guadalupe Ruiz-Jones

In recent years, officers customarily advance to the next chair on their path to the East. During these years however, there were real elections with no assurance of advancement. One brother advanced to Senior Warden, was passed over for the Master's position, and seems to have dropped out of lodge affairs.

Cerrillos Lodge approved Loring Sperry's motion in early 1960 *"that we not try to build a building until our membership reached 300..."* The also agreed to *"sell the lot for what we had in it and buy bonds."* A committee was formed to try to sell the lot on Galisteo Street and a "For Sale" sign was posted. The committee reported activity on an impending sale in the fall of 1960, but Cerrillos Lodge continued to hold title to the property for several more years.



8. THE NEW LODGE BUILDING

Meanwhile, Montezuma Lodge had moved forward building on the property next to the Scottish Rite Temple. In preparation for the new lodge hall, Cerrillos Lodge donated \$425 (\$250 from the lodge funds, the balance from members) toward officer's chairs. The Master's chair was to be dedicated to Brother Harry Dakos, the Junior Warden's to Rupert St. Clair, and the Senior Warden's to Emil Pick. These dedication plaques are still present today, although Brother St. Clair's chair seems to have wandered into the darkness of the North station in the Montezuma Lodge room.

The old Master's and Wardens' chair from Montezuma were placed in the new Cerrillos Lodge room. Several rows of theater seats, obtained from the old El Paseo Theater in 1953, were added. (The El Paseo was located at 123 San Francisco, presently occupied by Coldwater Creek.) Montezuma Lodge possessed a number of wooden Captain's chairs that came from Santa Fe's Palace Hotel (not to be confused with Richard Green's Cerrillos Palace Hotel), located at Washington and Marcy Streets, when the hotel burned in 1926. Several of these were also placed in the new lodge room.

The new building was discussed at the December 1961 meeting, the rent to be increased to \$20 per meeting.

Official permission to move the lodge once again came from Grand Master Ray Lofton on January 24. Although the minutes do not specify, the first meeting of Cerrillos Lodge #19 in their fifth and current lodge room would have been February 14, 1962. The first Master of Cerrillos Lodge at the new hall was Brother Enos "Sandy" Arnold. He received his Deputy Grand Lecturer Card for memorizing fourteen sections of ritual in 1966, remained a presence in Cerrillos Lodge for decades, and continued to set the standard for the delivery of the Bible Lecture well into his nineties.

Brother Leo C. de Baca constructed new altar lights and kneeling cushions were donated by Brothers Pompeo and Qualls. The Past Masters' photo board which graces the ante room was created in 1965 by Sam Back and John Conlin. The flag was replaced at the end of 1961.

The lights went out in the middle of a Master Mason degree in April, causing a one hour interruption - an event that never happened under the kerosene lanterns in Cerrillos.

To celebrate St. John's Day, both lodges met together on June 29. The joint meeting was opened by Montezuma Lodge #1 and closed by Cerrillos Lodge #19. An Entered Apprentice Degree was conferred by a team of Past Masters from both lodges.

The lot on Galisteo Street finally sold in March of 1965 to Fred and Theresa Campora for \$4500. The report to the lodge indicates a \$500 profit on the sale plus \$709.29 *"interest received at 5% on unpaid balance."* After subtracting the \$100 attorney's fee, the lodge recorded a gain of \$1109.29.



This property now is numbered 1200 Galisteo Street in the desirable South Capitol area of Santa Fe, across from the Unitarian Church. If the brethren had had a crystal ball, they would have been astounded at what the property would be worth sixty years hence.

The Cerrillos Lodge Charter was reported to be in the Santa Fe National Bank lock box early in 1965, but by fall, the lodge decided to move important papers into the Montezuma Lodge vault.

As an ongoing tradition during the 1960s and 1970s, Brother Gerald Hoff would create a hand made gavel for presentation to each incoming Master of Cerrillos Lodge at their installation.

A joint degree took place on April 26, 1967, when Bent Lodge #42 and Cerrillos Lodge #19 conferred the Master Mason degree, Bent presenting the first section and Cerrillos the second. That same year, the Secretary's compensation was raised to \$100 per year, rent was increased to \$600 per year, and Brothers Arnold and Pompeo completed the historical display case for the ante room and the ballot box, both of which are still in use.

The sign in front of the building was designed in 1968. Cerrillos Lodge agreed to contribute \$100 toward the project, and then increased it to \$150 when the cost was higher than the estimate.

Enos "Sandy" Arnold painted a picture of the old stone building in Cerrillos and presented it to the lodge in February 1969. In March, Worshipful Master Glen Burttram of Montezuma Lodge visited Cerrillos Lodge for the first time. In April, Grand Lodge was opened during a Cerrillos Lodge meeting by Past Grand Master Howard Sleeper to install W. Carlos Powell as Grand Senior Warden.

May, 1969, brought the first reminisces about lodge history when Ron Brinkman gave a talk about the old stone building. This year mark the beginning of the presentation of 25 and 50 year membership pins.

Brother Pompeo, in his ongoing generosity, presented the lodge in 1970 with the Rough and Perfect Ashlars now in use. They were fashioned from stone taken from the Northeast corner of the old stone building in Cerrillos.

An unusual degree night in 1972 saw Cerrillos Lodge #19, Pajarito Lodge #66, and Bent Lodge #42 each bring a candidate to Valley Lodge #69 for a joint conferral. Each lodge conferred the Entered Apprentice degree on their respective candidate (Walter Mohr for Cerrillos Lodge).

In two moves of Masonic charity, Enos "Sandy" Arnold headed a committee to help the boys at El Miradore fix their kitchen, and the lodge voted funds to assist North Dakota flood victims.

The next mention of lodge history was a talk by Enos "Sandy" Arnold in 1973. This year also saw new aprons and jewels. The old original lodge jewels were retired to the case in the ante room.

A unique practice in Cerrillos Lodge is the use of sign language for the hearing impaired in the ritual. Brothers Luke Jacobs and Stephen Hughes are fluent in signing, and for the first time Brother Jacobs signed a degree for Brother Robert Klingenpeel in 1974.

The lodge voted in November, 1974, to remove the phone from the office. There was no explanation of this curious action.

Brother John Hughes was elected "Mr. Mason" by the lodge in 1976.

The subject of the Cerrillos cemetery came up again in February, 1978. John Waite of Montezuma Lodge advised that the graveyard was suffering from vandalism. A committee was formed to ask Grand Lodge the legal implications of acquiring or maintaining the graveyard. At the next meeting, Charles Churchill gave a historical account of the old cemetery. He recommended the committee meet with Hobart Durham and historian Marc Simmons, who are knowledgeable of the area. Marc Simmons had nominated the old stone building to the State Register of Cultural Properties in 1974. Ownership of the cemetery had not been determined.

Cerrillos Lodge was still holding its own Past Masters night where the scholarship was presented. There was discussion in June, 1979, of combining it with Montezuma Lodge, but it was decided that it was *"better to do it on our own."* This practice continued until the meetings were combined in 1987, a custom that continues to present day.

In July, 1979, Brother Gann suggested the lodge try to hold a meeting in Cerrillos, combined with a picnic.

Formerly a moonlight lodge, Cerrillos became a daylight lodge in 1980. It was not the first in New Mexico, as Zia Daylight Lodge in Albuquerque was already active at this time. A change in the by-laws was submitted in February and approved by the Grand Lodge changing the meeting time to the second Saturday at ten a.m. The first Saturday meeting held on April 12, 1980, was attended by 11 members and 21 visitors.

The daylight scheduled was not long-lived, however. By July, 1981, there was a proposal changing the meeting time back to Wednesday night. The last Cerrillos Lodge daylight meeting was held on Dec. 12, 1981.

The custom of having dinner in conjunction with lodge meetings emerged in the early 1980's, prompting incoming 1982 Master William Patton to speak on *"supplying things to make members want to come for more than to meet, eat, belch, and go home."*

There were frequent discussions at lodge on traditional Masonic topics, but beginning in 1986, more esoteric subjects were explored. In August, Brother Ivan Head spoke on the changing earth, earthquakes, and polar shift. Brother James Morgan talked about his extensive knowledge and experience with dowsing along earth energy lines.

Cerrillos brethren have always been curious about the past of Cerrillos Lodge as evidenced by lodge history presentations by Enos "Sandy" Arnold in 1973, Clyde Durnell in 1982, and Ron Brinkman in May, 1969; December, 1983; and May, 1987. Secretary John Hughes observes on the latter occasion that Brother Brinkman *"spoke on history and interesting events of Cerrillos*

Lodge. He mentioned some of the Past Masters he had known and worked with – a very interesting, emotional evening.”

In mid 1988, the Property Management Board authorized a roof repair over the Cerrillos Lodge room, and a repainting of the ceiling. At the same time, Brother Sean Graystone reports the lodge is authorized to remove the carpeting from the floor and replace it with a black and white mosaic pavement, traditional in Masonic ritual. The work was completed by Brothers Graystone, Mark Roush, and Will Woods.

Stephen Hughes comments in February 1989 that “... *we should write a formal letter to Montezuma (Lodge) thanking them for all the past years and especially for the new floor. Master (Hildon) Simmons (pro tem) then mentioned the very special harmony that has existed between Montezuma and us for so long. We probably would not be here now if they had not allowed us to move in.*”

As the 1980's drew to a close, the lodge began preparing for the centennial celebration. Sean Graystone led the preparations and historical research. Brother Ron Brinkman agreed to be the speaker for the event.

Brother Sean Graystone, Past Master of Cerrillos Lodge (1990), was awarded the Grand Cross by the Supreme Council, 33rd Degree, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite Freemasonry of the Southern Jurisdiction in 200 for his work in revising Albert Pike's original ritual used in the Scottish Rite degrees. He is one of only a handful of New Mexico Masons to hold that honor. Sean currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Scottish Rite Research Society and is Chief Building Engineer and Building Superintendant for the House of the Temple in Washington, D.C.
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9. THE SECOND CENTURY

There was a discussion in early 1990 about changing the name of the lodge, but no action was taken. The only suggested name mentioned in the minutes was "Santa Fe Lodge."

The 100th Birthday of Cerrillos Lodge was celebrated on May 7, 1990. Secretary John Hughes writes:

We celebrated our 100th birthday on this date due to scheduling problems. Our actual birthday was 29 January 1990.

Friends started arriving shortly after the ten o'clock time, for fellowship and to renew old friendships.

Lunch was served to about 85 people. A very delicious roast beef, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, rolls, cake and drinks were served. The meal was prepared by P.M. Carl B. Berghofer, Jr., with Sean Graystone making the gravy.

The sit down dinner was served by Santa Fe Assembly International Order of Rainbow for Girls.

We were pleased to have eleven Grand Lodge Officers present, plus immediate Past Grand Master Ernie Hazelwood. Grand Master Allen, John; (D.)D.G.M. Danny Calloway; S.G.W. B. Mac Page; J.G.W Ken Klentschy; S.G.S. Packwood, Larry J.; G.T. John R. Medius; G.S. Ray D. Carpenter; S.J.D. Tom Payne; J.G.D. Harry Abernathy; G.H. Myndent Gilbert; Past Grand Master Ron Brinkman; P.G.T Jose Pincheira; D.D.G.M. Hornsby, Darrel D; D.D.G.L. Burttram, Glen; P.D.D,G.M. Pompeo, Ernest; P.D.D.G.M. Bill Friedman; P.D.D.G.L. Arnold, Enos (Sandy). Jose, Darrell, Glen, Ernest, and Bill from above are members of Cerrillos and Montezuma.

There were many more D.G.M. & D.G.L. present. I missed my roll call. Many Cerrillos Past Masters were here including Horace F. Wilder P.M. 1939, and John L. Boza 1953. (Alva East sent apology). Many, many other friends of Cerrillos and officers of other lodges were present. (At close of day almost 100 had signed in).

W.M. Graystone M.C'd the program. We had P.G.M. Hazelwood introduce Ronnie who presented an interesting program on History of town(?) especially where connected with Cerrillos Lodge. Many interesting tales of old Cerrillos town.

W.M. Graystone then introduced Horace Wilder, our oldest Past Master, who remembered Christmas Lights and stories also. Boza remembered driving from Cerrillos to Los Alamos during March and wearing out a couple of cars.

W.M. Graystone then introduced Grand Master Allen for some remarks, and then an impressive and meaningful re-dedication of Masons for the next 100 years. We had all Masons take this re-dedication service.

A very happy birthday was had by all.

And with that, Cerrillos Lodge ceremoniously entered its second century of continuous Freemasonry.

In July of 1991, Stephen Hughes and Louis Jacobs again used sign language in conferring the Entered Apprentice degree on Stephen Hamerdinger. In September, Jim Stevenson presented the clock which hangs above the Secretary's desk in the lodge room and illustrates many Masonic symbols.

Past Master Glen Burttram was appointed State Chairman of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation and for 15 years assisted many New Mexicans who could not otherwise afford eye surgery.

Cerrillos and Montezuma Lodges conferred a joint degree in September 1994, but the installation of officers was held separate that year. The next year, 1995, saw the beginning of the tradition of both lodges installing officers at the same time.

Enos "Sandy" Arnold presented the Lodge with his Past Master's watch in March of 1997 to be deposited in the archives of the lodge. His watch is still on display in the historical display case in the ante room.

In November, Brother Arnold reported an incident between two Cerrillos brethren that had occurred at an Order of the Eastern Star meeting and suggested a Masonic trial against the offending member. A discussion ensued with the lodge deciding against a trial, which would have been only the second in Cerrillos Lodge. Apparently the matter was handled in another way, because Brother Arnold's charges and also comments from other brethren were withdrawn at the next meeting in December.

The June 2000 meeting saw a lively discussion about merging with Montezuma Lodge and what effects that would have. Senior Grand Deacon Joe O. Chrisman, who was present that evening, commented that *"Masonry was alive and well in this room and this had been one of the best meetings he had ever attended."*

Brother Enos "Sandy" Arnold passed away in December 2000 and remains one of the most respected and beloved past masters of Cerrillos Lodge.

Montezuma Lodge celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2001 with a lodge rededication, followed by a colorful procession. Members were joined by Grand Lodge officers, local Shriners, the Order of the Thistle Pipe Band from the Scottish Rite Temple, and members of other Masonic organizations in a march to the Santa Fe Plaza and back. A banquet was held that evening with Past Grand Master Ron Brinkman as the speaker. Following the banquet, the Masonic play "The Traitor" was performed in the Scottish Rite Auditorium.

Cerrillos Lodge welcomed a visiting Mason from Turkey, Brother K. Kaynak Kugukpinar of Sabah Gunesi Lodge 093, Bursa, Turkey, at the November 2002 meeting. In addition to the Bible, a copy of the Koran was placed on the altar representing the book of Sacred Law.

A Traveling Gavel, which Cerrillos Lodge received from Pajarito Lodge #66 in Los Alamos was presented to Mt. Everest Lodge #1, F. & A.M., Prince Hall Affiliate in January 2004. The gavel had traveled throughout the state, but never to a Prince Hall lodge. The visit drew fourteen members of A.F. & A.M. lodges.

Native American musician Ronald Roybal was invited into the lodge room in February 2004 to play the flute and drum and to discuss Native American spiritual beliefs. After “smudging” all the members of the lodge, he stimulated a discussion of the remarkable similarities between Native American and Masonic symbolism and beliefs.

Cerrillos Lodge came full circle when it met back in the stone building in Cerrillos on Oct. 29, 2004, fifty-two years to the day since the last meeting there. Significantly, the date was a day after the full moon, an old lodge tradition. Twenty Masons crowded into the largest room of Baird Banner’s Kludgit Sound recording studio, transformed for the evening back into Cerrillos Lodge #19. Lodge was opened by Dalton as Master, then Honorary Past Grand Master Ron Brinkman and Montezuma Lodge Master Don Helberg were escorted to the East. Worshipful Master Helberg was thanked for the support of Montezuma Lodge, without which Cerrillos Lodge would have closed in 1952. He reaffirmed Montezuma’ Lodge’s continuing support.

Ron Brinkman shared humorous stories about the lack of facilities and the informal nature of the lodge in the old days.

Special guest Baird Banner told how he had acquired the property in the 1970’s, gutted the interior to the dirt, and constructed a modern recording studio within the old walls. His wife Busy McCarroll shared stories of a resident ghost seen numerous times during late night recording sessions. Could it be an old Mason?

The Entered Apprentice Degree was then conferred on Mr. Todd Brown who, along with his wife Patricia, owns the Turquoise Trail Mining Museum and Petting Zoo located on the old Palace Hotel Property. Brother Brown has voluntarily cared for the old Masonic/Protestant Cemetery for many years. He presented the lodge with a carved stone from the old Palace Hotel and a historical photo of the property.



Cerrillos Lodge brethren gather at the Cerrillos cemetery for a clean-up day

10. LODGE MEETING PLACES



1. The Palace Hotel – 1889-1898

The Palace Hotel where Cerrillos Lodge met for ten years was the creation of Brother Richard Green, a charter member of the lodge and Master in 1899 and 1900. Brother Green was born in North Carolina on Valentine's Day, 1847. He married Mary Caroline on October 31, 1867 and shortly thereafter pursued his dream to go west and become a farmer. The family first moved to Jonesborough, Tennessee, in 1873 where they lived for two years.

By 1875, the family had grown to six children, and they pushed further west to Jacksboro, Texas. Here the Greens settled onto a 300 acre farm for ten years where they had success with cattle and crops, and where five more children were born.

Still restless, the Greens decided to head west one more time. On April 10, 1884, they gathered their eleven children and began a two month journey with four covered wagons, three horse drawn and one pulled by oxen, and 65 head of cattle. Upon their arrival in San Pedro, New Mexico, Richard Green and his three eldest sons quickly landed a contract hauling ore from the San Pedro Mines to Los Cerrillos where it was loaded onto rail cars for shipment to the smelter in Socorro.

While the business venture proved successful, there wasn't a school in San Pedro, so Richard and Mary moved their family to Los Cerrillos where they purchased land and a seven room house in 1885. Richard purchased the

Cerrillos Coal Bank(s), and his children enjoyed the benefits of the new schoolhouse in Cerrillos. When Brother Green's health began to fail in 1888, he and Mary began converting their seven room house into the Palace Hotel. He eventually sold his coal interests to the Cerrillos Coal and Iron Company, later acquired by the AT & SF Railroad. A rail spur was constructed to move the coal from Madrid to Cerrillos by train, much more efficient than the wagon method.

The stone portion which contained twelve rooms was built first. Wages for the stone masons were \$5 per day. Next, an adobe addition was added which provided a 32 seat dining room downstairs and a lodge room upstairs, accessible by an outside stairway. Native labor was employed to make the adobe bricks, and the cost of the addition was reported to be \$10,000.

Green's Palace Hotel.

One of the model buildings and good hotels of Cerrillos. The house is of native building stone and was erected in 1889. This house is well equipped for the accommodation of the traveling and local public. The rooms are large, comfortable and well furnished. Rates Reasonable.

Palace Hotel ad from the *Cerrillos Rustler*

Brother Green served as night clerk and occupied a little room behind the office. Julius Muralter had a tailor shop in a room to the right of the entrance. Dr. F. Palmer, the town's only physician, occupied two rooms on the second floor above the tailor shop. One served as his office, the other as his operating room. Several of the Green children were married in his office.

The notorious outlaw Tom "Black Jack" Ketchum was once treated here by Dr. Palmer for gunshot wounds, and it is said that his bloodstains on the floor could never be completely removed. Known for murder, train robbery, and holding up stages, Ketchum was captured after a failed train robbery in 1899 and convicted. At his hanging in Clayton in 1901, his executioner accidentally beheaded him.

After the lodge left the Palace, the former lodge room was divided into bedrooms. Prominent hotel guests included Thomas A. Edison, who came to Cerrillos to develop a waterless method of extracting gold from sand using static electricity. Edison persuaded neighboring Madrid to build a coal-burning generator for electricity. Governor Prince stayed at the Palace while in Cerrillos inspecting placer mining locations. There is no evidence to support the rumor that Sarah Bernhardt stayed there.

Brother Green died in the hotel in 1906. His widow sold the property in 1911 for \$3000 in gold to Joe and Anna Vergolio. The Vergolio's closed their saloon on First Street but continued running the general store.

After Joe's death in 1947, the hotel was sold to Henry & Nellie Trigg who renamed it the Rock House. The last proprietors were Hank and Stephanie Salkheld who reopened the hotel to the public in 1965. The Palace was consumed by fire on October 27, 1968. The property is currently owned by Todd and Patricia Brown, who operate the Turquoise Trail Mining Museum and Petting Zoo. Todd is a member of Cerrillos Lodge.



2. The L. G. Jones Building – 1898-1903

This mysterious and irregular lodge room is covered in depth in Chapter 4, The Early Years. Louis Jones built first on Lot 2, then added his "new" adjoining building in 1891. According to Lawson, the two-story building was purchased by Tony Simoni in 1918 from E.W. Callender. The meat market was apparently run by August Probst, as evidenced by a sign painted on the building, "A. Simoni-Probst Merchandise." By the time Mr. Simoni bought it, the second story had been converted into a boarding house and a balcony ran across the front of the building. One half of the first floor housed a grocery and general merchandise store, the other half a feed store. The three Simoni daughters continued to run the store after Tony Simoni's death in 1956. The building still stands, and the former lodge room upstairs is now private living quarters.



3. The Clear Light Opera House (old stone building) – 1903-1952

For forty nine years, Cerrillos Lodge met in the building known as the Clear Light Opera House. The property was owned originally by Stephen Elkins, then sold in 1881 to A.W. Pollan and L.S. Butterfield. Several years later, it was bought by William C. Hurt who also bought the adjoining lots from J.R. Silva in 1888. The Hurts settled in Cerrillos in 1881 and became extensive property owners.

“1889 November 2; Cerrillos is to have an opera house. When W.C. Hurt makes up his mind to carry out such an enterprise it is safe to say that it will be successful. It is said that he has made up his mind.” - Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

“1889 November 5; Mining Notes. W.C. Hurt has fitted and furnished a neat public hall, to serve also as as opera house, at Cerrillos.” – Santa Fe Daily New Mexican

William Hurt was born in Nashville on April 15, 1845. He fought in the Civil War with Tennessee on the Confederate side. Hurt suffered a stroke of paralysis when he was 25 years old, and later lung and stomach troubles. He came to New Mexico for his health and managed his business and real estate until his death in 1889.

Also known as “Hurt’s Hall,” the opera house was used for dances, theatrical presentations, and musical concerts by local and visiting artists. A newspaper article in the Cerrillos Beacon dated June 20, 1891, describes performances of “Early Years” by local actors. The June 20, 1894, edition of the *Cerrillos Rustler* describes a successful ball held there. It is rumored, but not substantiated, that Sarah Bernhardt performed at Hurt’s Hall.

Following Hurt’s death, his widow Maud sold off some of their real estate. She sold the stone building to Cerrillos Lodge in 1903 for \$305.00. Upon the lodge’s move to Santa Fe in 1952, the property was sold to Mary Salazar. In 1974, it was a residence with a coffee shop in the front. That same year the opera house was placed on the New Mexico State Register of Cultural Properties, having been nominated by local historian Marc Simmons. The overhang and pillars were removed for safety.

In 1977, the building was purchased by Baird Banner, who transformed the interior into a modern recording studio. He had the front entrance stoned shut to discourage vandals. Baird and his wife, Busy McCarroll, continue to operate their studio to the present time.



4. Montezuma Lodge on the Plaza - 1952-1961

At the time of the lodge’s move to Santa Fe, Montezuma Lodge #1 owned the “Spiegelberg Block” on San Francisco Street. They had rented space in the Gans Building at the southeast corner of the plaza for many years previous. Montezuma Lodge purchased the building next door in 1905, joint owners with Santa Fe Chapter #1, Royal Arch Masons. A lodge room was created on the

second floor with the first floor reserved for retail space. There was a major remodeling in 1929 and a facelift of the front in 1952.



5. Montezuma & Cerrillos Lodge Hall Paseo de Peralta next to Scottish Rite Temple - 1962-present

A Property Management Board was created in 1958, and in 1960 purchased a tract of land adjacent to the Scottish Rite Temple on Paseo de Peralta. The tract was a portion of the Presbyterian Allison-James School and included a larger dormitory. Montezuma Lodge built the present lodge building in 1961 and moved into it on January 1, 1962. The dormitory in back provided a kitchen and dining hall until the building was leased to a law firm in 1982. A dining room, kitchen, and small office were built over the existing rose garden. The building features two lodge rooms with Cerrillos occupying the smaller room in the southeast. The Victorian officer's chairs are very old and are reported to have traveled west over the Santa Fe Trail.

By curious coincidence, four of the five lodge rooms where Cerrillos Lodge #19 has met are oriented where the ritual East is in the geographic south, to the frustration of several its members. The only room situated east and west was the irregular lodge room in the L.G. Jones Building.

11. PAST MASTERS OF CERRILLOS LODGE

George L. Wyllys	1890
Charles F. Easley (3 times)	1891-1894
Austin L. Kendall	1895-1896
William E. Dame	1897-1898
Richard P. Green	1899-1900
Earl A. Turner	1901-1902
Gus J. Johnson	1903
Earl A. Turner	1904
John W. Sullivan	1905-1906
Frank A. Yoakum	1907
James P. McNulty	1908
Frank A. Yoakum	1909
John W. Sullivan (3 times)	1910
Earl A. Turner	1911
Alfred P. Towne	1912-1914
Earl A. Turner (5 times)	1915
Alfred P. Towne	1917
James P. McNulty	1918
Milton E. Newhouse (3 times)	1919-1921
James P. McNulty (3 times)	1922
Edgar E. Stiedley	1923
Charles H. Churchill	1924
George Tabachi	1925
Joseph M. Granito	1926
Merle H. Livingston	1927-1928
Virgil E. Montgomery	1929
Fred Schimenz	1930
Joseph M. Granito (4 times)	1931-1934
George Tabachi	1935
Irving C. Sweet	1936
Richard Ramelot	1937
Joseph F. Husler	1938
Horace Franklin Wilder	1939
James D. Branch	1940
Andrew M. Tackitt	1941
George Tabachi (3 times)	1942
Leo Pick	1943
Francis Oren Pulliam	1944
Frank R. Jago	1945

William Grantham	1946
Alva J. East	1947
William T. Husler	1948
Rupert W. St. Clair	1949-1950
John W. Allen	1951
William Grantham	1952
John L. Boza	1953
George W. Peterson	1954
Gerald D. Hoff	1955
Charles G. Kirtley	1956
John H. Conlin	1957
Loring E. Sperry	1958
Emil Pick	1959
Clifford O. Wright	1960
David Walters Thornburg	1961
Hildon O. Simmons	1962
Enos S. Arnold	1963
John E. McCord	1964
Carl L. Slingerland	1965
Otha L. Qualls	1966
Ernest Pompeo	1967
Earl W. Carr	1968
John A. Hughes	1969
Victor L. Gallivan	1970
David J. Turner	1971
Ivan R. Head	1972-1973
Jack E. Churchill	1974
Hubert M. Caraway	1975
Louis R. Jacobs	1976
Charles R. Churchill	1977
John J. LeMaster	1978
Arthur J. Michael, Jr.	1979
O. O. Gallagher	1980
Louis M. Eyermann	1981
Fred O. Patton	1982
Clyde R. Durnell	1983
Keith E. Norris	1984
Newton H. Green	1985
J. M. Stevenson	1986
John H. Gann	1989

Sean Graystone	1990
Stephen G. Hughes	1991
Mark W. Roush	1992
Gale T. Fairchild	1993
Glen W. Burttram	1994
Mark W. Roush	1995
Stephen G. Hughes	1996
Mark W. Roush	1997
Adam C. LaVail	1998
Stephen G. Hughes	1999
Mark W. Roush	2000
Jose Morales	2001
Stephen G. Hughes (4 times)	2002
Jeff Assad	2003
Bert Dalton	2004
Mark Roush (5 times)	2005
J. Antonio Weiss	2006
David P. Barton	2007
Luke Jacobs	2008
Jon Caro	2009
Steven Chappell	2010
Kristaan Vilella	2011
L.V. West	2012

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