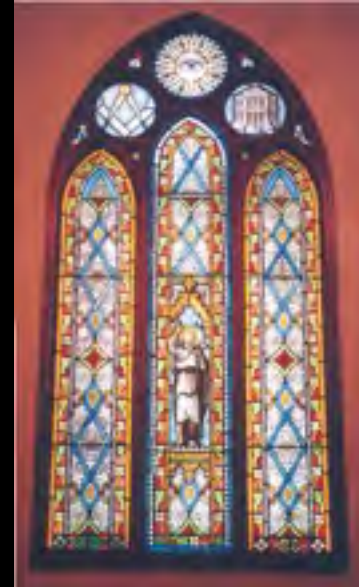
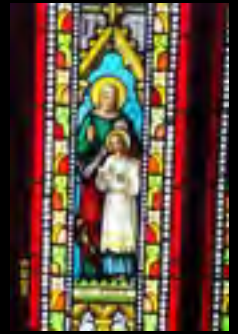


# Welcome to Zetland Hall

This Presentation is dedicated to  
the Brethren of Lodge Cosmopolitan No. 428 SC





# Shanghai Masonic Hall



By Bro. Brian L. Coak

“Hmmmmmmmmm...”



# Shanghai on the Map & Early History



- ❑ The city is still known as “Hu” and was a fishing coastal village in Zhou Dynasty (770-221 BC)
- ❑ In 1842, Treaty of Nanking, the Qing Govt. signed the first treaty leasing land to the British in Shanghai commencing the ‘Settlements’
- ❑ During the ‘roaring 1920’s and 1930’s’ the financial and ‘swinging’ culture was established and elegant buildings were constructed along the Bund



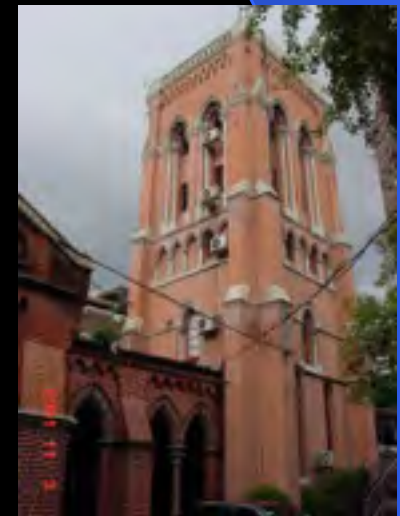
# Early Shanghai Masonic Religious Affairs



❑ **Trinity Cathedral** – the first church was built in 1847. Second Church – In **24.5.1866** – the **Foundation Stone was laid** under the superintendence of the DPGM for China EC. Today, the church is now known as the **St. Shan Yi Church**

❑ **The Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony was commenced with a Public procession** commencing at the Masonic Hall 30 Bund and included the Consular Corps, Marines, The Shanghai Volunteers & Brethren in full regalia

❑ **In March 1947, Lodge Cosmopolitan 428 SC** issued a summons inviting members and families to attend Evensong to celebrate the Cathedral Centenary





# Early Shanghai Educational Masonic Activities

- ❑ **The Masonic School** – Freemasons took the initiative in providing schooling for foreign children. In **1855** established the Masonic School Fund
- ❑ **The** original school opened in **1886** was followed by a new one and constructed in 1895. It became known as the **Shanghai Public School**. In **1890**, the Ratepayers granted a grant towards the school
- ❑ In **1893**, the Municipal Council took over the management of the school
- ❑ Another school was built and the pupils continued to wear the '**Square & Compasses**' as their school badge



**Boys School 1913**



# Shanghai Masonic Halls

Pre 1855 - First Meeting Places – Church Street

1855 - **First** Masonic Hall – Nanking Road

1861 - **Second** Masonic Hall – Canton Road

1866 – **Third** Masonic Hall – 30 Bund

1928 – **Temporary** Hall – 8C Yuen Ming Road

1928 – American Masonic Hall – 178 Route Dufour



Route Dufour

1931 – **Fourth** Masonic Hall – **1623 Avenue Road** (now Beijing Road West)



# Shanghai Masonic Hall

1623 Avenue Road (Beijing Road West)

## The precursor of the fourth Hall

In 1928 - the Masonic Hall 30 Bund was demolished



In 1929 – The new Hall 12 Trustee Masonic bodies were authorized to purchase a site at Avenue Rd. The design of the new hall was opened to an architectural competition

In 1930 – work began and the lease on the temporary premises ended in October

# Shanghai Masonic Hall Foundation Stone Laying

Saturday 17.1.1931 2.30 pm – DGL Northern China EC held a special Meeting and assembled at the Yuen Ming Road temporary hall premises

Officiating Officers on site – R.W. Bro. **Nation** DDGM EC  
R.W. Bro. **Penfold** DGM SC  
W.Bro. **Young** WM Erin IC





# Foundation Stone Laying *cont.*

R.W.Bro. Nation concluded by saying, “ *On behalf of the English Constitution and of my esteemed Brethren of the Irish and Scottish Constitution, I now declare it our will and pleasure that the Foundation Stone of this building be laid*’.

W.Bo. Middleton, DGS EC read the **description**:

‘This Stone was laid by Rt. Wor.Bro. **Henry J. Clarke**, PGD, DGM Northern China, English Constitution; Rt. Wor. Bro. **F.G.Penfold**, Hon JGW DGM of Scottish Freemasonry in North China and Wor. Bro. **Stewart C. Young**, Past Master, Lodge Erin No. 463, Irish Constitution, Representing the English, Irish and Scottish Constitutions, in the presence of many Brethren on the **17<sup>th</sup> day of January, A.D. 1931, A.L. 5931**’

# Foundation Stone Laying *cont.*



- ❑ **The Foundation Stone** - centre was taken from the 30 Bund Hall when it was reconstructed in 1912
- ❑ **Small stones** left & right (white) are from the 1861 Canton Road Hall corner stones
- ❑ **The copper box** of 1865 Bund Hall placed behind the 1912 corner stone and was again replaced behind the current stone

# Consecration of the New Masonic Hall



A Special Meeting of DGL Northern China EC was held on Saturday 26 Sept. 1931 at 9.45 PM Officiated by R.W.Bros. H.J. Clarke & Penfold & W.Bro. Young with 247 Brethren in attendance. The Ceremony closed at 10.50 PM



Much of the teak paneling came from the Bund. The roof tiles were of French pattern made in China; the flat roof membrane from the USA; steel from Belgian; wall tiles from Germany; shelving, glass, book room door and locks from England; porcelain and earthenware from Scotland; Staircase & sandstone paneling was Japanese; Damarlaut flooring from Sumatra; Luan joinery from Manila; teak from Burma; some electrical fittings were Dutch; some fittings were designed & made by the Brethren locally.

Royal Sussex Lodge No. 501 Shanghai 1934



# Masonic Hall Corner End & Special features *cont.*



The fan shaped corner was left vacant but in January 1934 a lease was signed with the 'First Church of Christ Scientist' for 30 years with an option for further 10 years

A 'vault' was made outside the main hall for the use by Scottish Chapters

A projection room was made behind the main hall west room

An air-conditioning scheme was investigated but not proceeded with

A flat was provided for the resident engineer on the mezzanine floor

"Marks" were recorded on the corner stone in the Register of Orient Lodge MMM No. 482 EC Shanghai

# Unfulfilled Expectations



❑ By 1928, General Chiang Kai-shek controlled most of China  
In 1932, Pu Yi became the puppet ruler of Manchukuo (Manchuria)

❑ By 1933, Hitler was gaining ground in Europe



❑ In 1935, Mussolini invaded Ethiopia and there was Civil War in Spain

❑ In 1937, after the clash at the Marco Polo Bridge, Beijing, Japanese aircraft bombed ships on the Huangpu and Japanese soldiers landed in Shanghai

❑ In December 1941, and following the attack on Pearl Harbour, due to hostilities it was difficult for the Brethren to meet and internment followed

# Return to the Light in 1945



- ❑ Following liberation in 1945 in Shanghai, operations of the Craft were revived in 1946
  - ❑ The Communists then intensified their struggle with the KMT
- ❑ The Executive Hall Committee found that their taxes were increased; labour costs became more expensive and membership dwindled
  - ❑ The last Craft meeting held at the hall is believed to be in June 1951
    - ❑ The Scottish District and the English Northern District closed their doors and the tapers of Freemasonry were extinguished In Shanghai

# Shanghai Masonic Hall

- Revisited May 2001

## Attendees

Peter Wong Hong –yuen

Peter Nunn

Tsang Yiu-wing

William Ng

Bill & Mrs. Chow

Tommy Thomson

Mike & Mrs. Rawlinson

Brian & Mrs. Coak

Ying & Mrs. Ko

Mark & Mrs. MacAlpine

Clive & Mrs. Holgate

Mike Eyles

Raymond & Mrs. Mok

Quincey Quang

Keith Jay

Martin Thomas

Mark Sutherland

Angus Stevenson-Hamilton

George & Mrs. Leung

Robert Murby

Mrs. Kwan Liu Chun

Mrs. Chan Chor-yin

Mr. & Mrs. Fung

Mel & Mrs. Boase

Frank van Ginkle

Russ Mason

Evan Evans



# 11 & 12 May 2001 – Visit to the Shanghai Museum



Shanghai Museum at night



Museum VIP room



Museum Furniture Exhibition



# Shanghai Masonic Hall Avenue Road



2001



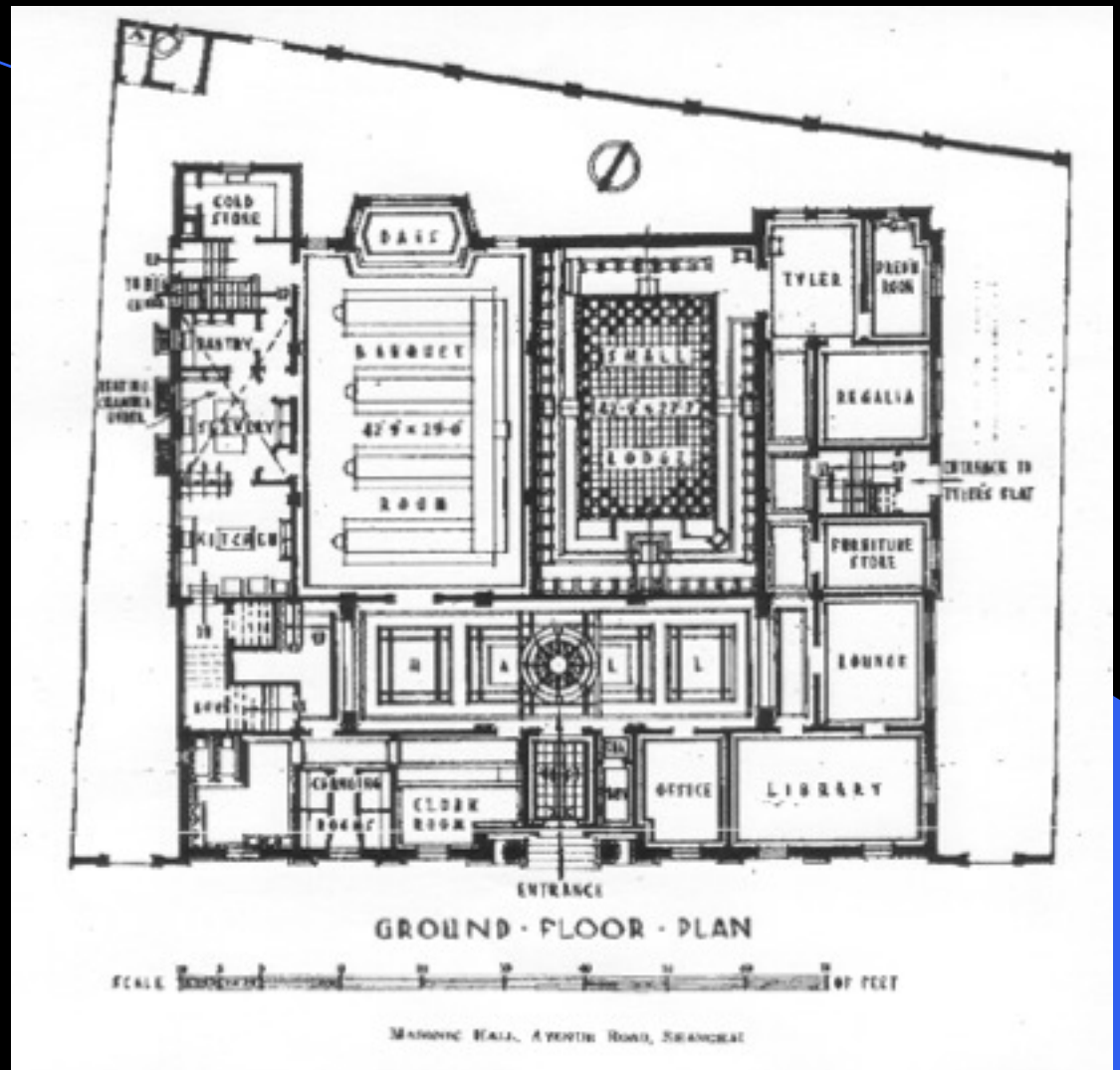
1931

Main Entrance now  
1623 Beijing Road  
West

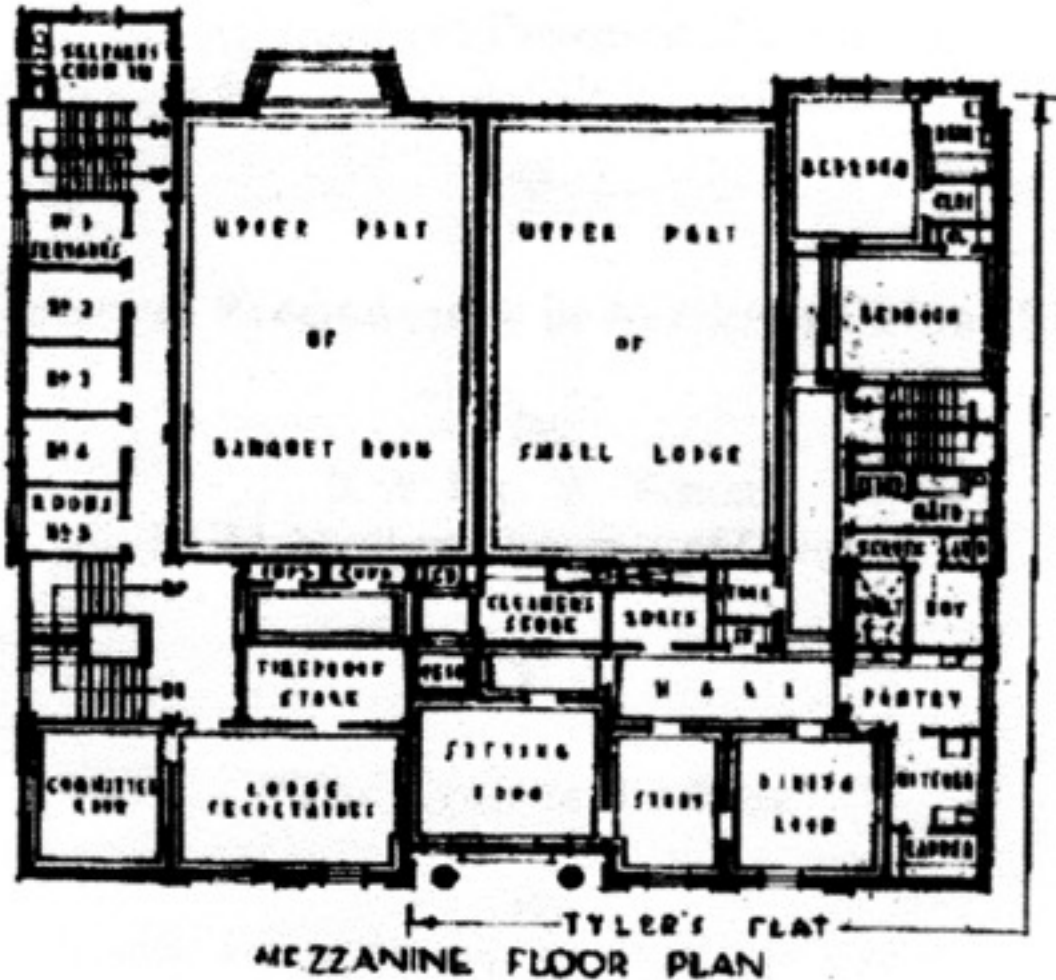


1931 NE Corner stone



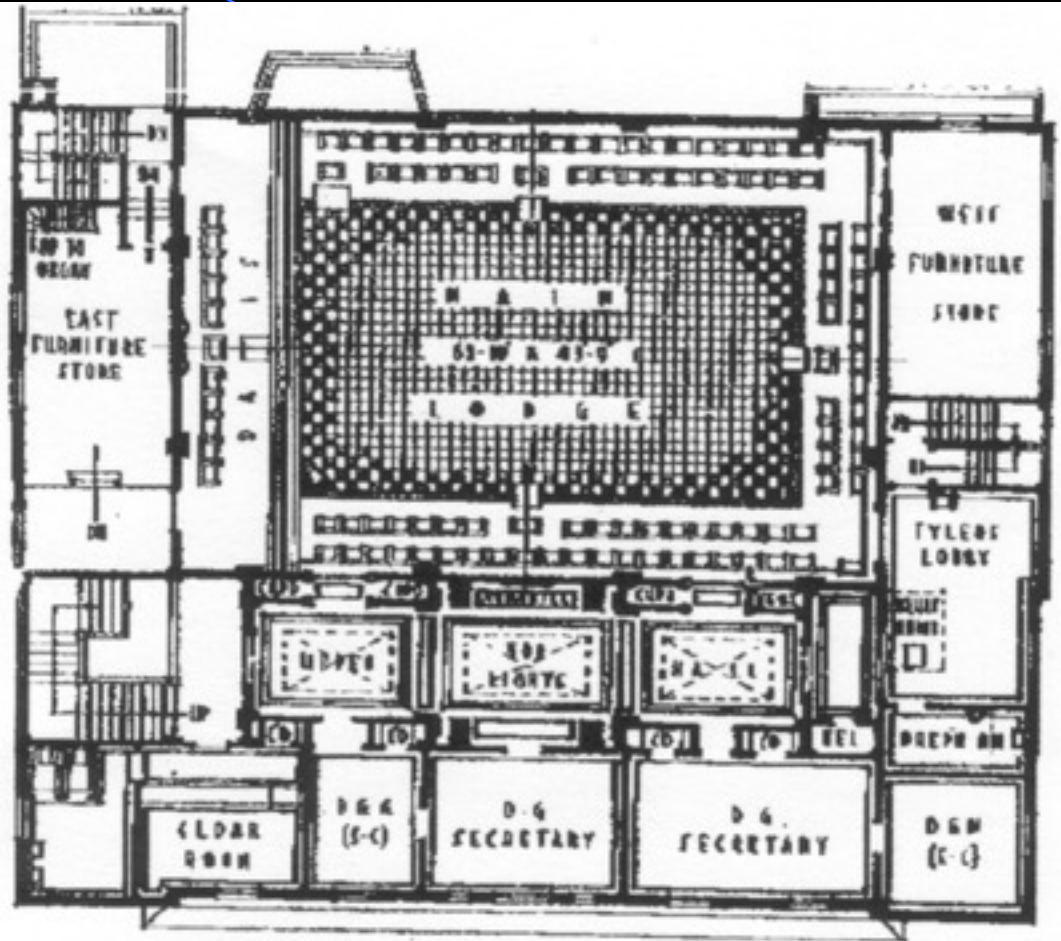


Ground Floor Plan



Mezzanine Floor Plan

# First Floor Plan



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

MASONIC HALL, AVENUE ROAD, SHANGHAI

## Former DGS EC Office



The vault in the Tyler's Room

# Shanghai Early Buildings on the Bund



That concludes this presentation  
- almost!



But have you wondered what a Scotsman wears  
under his **Kilt**? Then Harken...harken....



***Goodbye all.. May your lum reek!***

