



The Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
JURISDICTION OF MASSACHUSETTS

ORGANIZED 1808

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Brethren:

Tradition states that on the evening of March 6, 1775, Prince Hall and 14 Black men were initiated as Masons in Military Lodge No. 441, of the 38th British Foot Infantry, under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Ireland. This momentous occasion occurred at Castle William Island in Boston Harbor, Massachusetts.

In 1784, Prince Hall and several of these Black men petitioned the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) for a warrant/charter to organize a Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons, which on September 29th 1784, the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns) issued Warrant/Charter Number 459 for a Lodge to be organized in Boston, Massachusetts under the title of "**African Lodge**".

In 1984, the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Grand Lodge of England (Moderns), granting Warrant/Charter Number 459 to Prince Hall and his brethren to operate as a Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons, under the title of "**African Lodge**", established a **Symbolic Lodge**, open for membership to all Prince Hall Masons. It was later amended to permit membership to any brother whose Grand Lodge was in fraternal relations with the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Massachusetts.

African Lodge No. 459 is a **Symbolic Lodge Only**, and in no way does it entitle the member thereof to affiliate with, demit to, or visit any Regular and Duly Constituted Lodge of Free & Accepted Masons worldwide.

Fraternally,


James Marshall
R.W. Grand Secretary



"Giving of our Best in Service to Him"