

Societas Rosicruciana in Anglia - Reading List

WOLFSTIEG A : Bibliographie der Freimaurerischen Literatur (Leipzig 1911 - 1926 and later reprints.) 4 volumes.

The only significant Masonic bibliography and still of great value for works printed up to the early years of the last century

The Royal Arch and the Additional Degrees

BAIGENT M & LEIGH R : The Temple and the Lodge (1989)

An interesting if historically flawed study of the supposed Templar origins of Freemasonry

BROWN Rev A : The Fourth Gospel and the Eighteenth Degree

A correlation of two systems of symbolism (1956)

A comparative study of Johannine Christianity and the philosophy of the Ancient and Accepted Rite. (This is not an official publication of the Supreme Council for England and Wales).

JACKSON A C F. Rose Croix. A History of the Ancient and Accepted Rite for England (2nd edition 1987)

a fine and sympathetic study which takes account of the concept of Rosicrucianism.

JACKSON Keith B : Beyond the Craft. (Lewis 4th edition 1994)

A concise structure of the history, structure and philosophical nature of the Additional Degrees - including this Society.

JONES Bernard E : Freemason's Book of the Royal Arch (2nd edition

Revised by H Carr & R A Hewitt 1969).

The standard overview of the Order.

LE FORRESTIER R

La Franc - Maçonnerie Occultiste au XVIIIe Siècle & l'Ordre des Elus Coëns (Paris 1928).

Les Illuminés de Bavière et la Franc Maçonnerie Allemande (Paris 1914. reprinted Geneva 1974)

La Franc - Maçonnerie Templière et Occultiste aux XVIIIe et XIXe Siècles 2nd edition edited by Antoine Faivre (Paris 1987) 2 volumes.

These three works constitute the most important study by far of the High Grades and of esoteric Freemasonry during its first century.

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PARTNER P : The Murdered Magicians: The Templars and their Myths.
(Oxford 1982, reprinted 1987)

A delightful and scholarly corrective to much of the nonsense that has been written about the Templars.

ROBERTS J M : The Mythology of the Secret Societies (1972 later reprints).
A careful study of masonic , quasi-masonic and other esoteric bodies, and true secret societies in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

SMYTH F H : Brethren in Chivalry (Shepperton 1991)
The history of the masonic Orders of Knights Templar and Knights of Malta.
Symbolism and Philosophical Speculation.

Collectanea: Published by the Grand College of Rites of the United States of America (V.Y.)

This occasional publication, together with its sister journal, Miscellanea , provide texts of the rituals; and commentaries on the philosophical content of a host of obscure and largely defunct additional degrees. Much of the information they contain is not found elsewhere.

DI BERNARDO G : Freemasonry and its Image of Man, A Philosophical Investigation (Tunbridge Wells 1989)- A highly original speculative study.

DORMER STUDY CIRCLE: Transactions (continuing).
The Dormer Study Circle parallels the work of Quator Coronati Lodge but in the fields of Masonic Symbolism and philosophy.

DYER Colin: Symbolism in Craft Masonry (1976).
A sound and comprehensive study of the symbols of the three Craft ceremonies.

HAFFNER C : Workman Unashamed, The Testimony of a Christian Freemason (1989).
Exactly what its title implies - a detailed and timely rebuttal of the nonsense contained in the crop of so - called 'Christian' attacks on Freemasonry.

HORNE Alex : King Solomons Temple in the Masonic Tradition.
(Wellingborough 1972). - A thorough study of the historic Temple and of its symbolic role in Freemasonry.

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McNULTY W K : Freemasonry, A Journey Through Ritual and Symbol (1991)

- A profusely illustrated study, approached principally from the point of view of Depth Psychology.

PIKE Albert : Morals and Dogma of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry. Charleston 1872, many reprints)

Pike's *magnum opus* is both idiosyncratic and infuriating, but judicious mining of his text will uncover much of value to the esoteric student.

WAITE A E : The Secret Tradition in Freemasonry (1911 revised 1937) in two volumes.

Emblematic Freemasonry (1925).

Both works embody Waite's interpretation of the philosophical and mystical essence of Freemasonry.

WILMSHURST W L : The Meaning of Masonry (1922)

The Masonic Initiation (1924)

Wilmshurst's two works are classics of sensitive, speculative interpretation. The papers he issued under the aegis of *The Lodge of Living Stones* are also well worth reading and reflecting upon.

YARKER J : The Arcane Schools 1909)

Much of Yarker's historical material is now of little worth, but as a source of information on the aims and philosophy of the obscure degrees he created/controlled his book is invaluable.

NOTE:- The literature of Freemasonry is vast and, as most Fratres are probably aware, there is an enormous number of works devoted to philosophical, esoteric and other speculative interpretations of the Craft. Those listed above can necessarily be only a very brief (but it is to be hoped, a judicious) selection that may be of help to Fratres seeking an understanding of all that is of lasting value in the Craft to which we all belong. And as with other subjects dealt with in this reading list there are some authors whom it is wise to treat with caution while recognising that there is yet wisdom in some of their work. They include the Rev. George Oliver, the Rev. F de P Castells, J S M Ward, Manly P Hall (this stricture applies specifically to his masonic works), and H V B Voorhis.

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The Librarian - General will gladly offer his help to any Frater seeking assistance or advice concerning books on this or any other topics covered in this list.

Many of our Fratres have themselves written on various aspects of Freemasonry and a few of their papers have been printed in the early *Transactions* of Metropolitan College and in the publications of other Colleges. In recent times, and with the rise of excellent Research Lodges, Fratres have been encouraged to confine their papers written for this Society to non-masonic subjects appropriate to its stated Aims and Objects.

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