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WBro. S M Herapath

The Prince Of Wales Lodge No.1338



Samuel March Herapath was born in 1857, the son of Philip and Emma (nee March) who arrived in Auckland on 3 June 1857 on *Harkaway* (formerly one of the transport fleet during the Crimean War). He had a younger brother, John, born in 1859. His parents came from Pilton in Devon, after which the family home was named. He attended Auckland Grammar School and in 1869 won first prize in the 3rd nomination class.

His father Philip Herapath was a noted architect who was responsible for the design of many churches and public buildings around Auckland, including the Wesleyan Churches in Pitt Street, Onehunga, Pukekohe and Pokeno, the main block of Auckland Hospital, Carrington Hospital (then known as the Provincial Lunatic Asylum), Auckland Museum and St James Presbyterian Church.

Samuel joined his father's architectural practice and for many years P.Herapath & Son were the pre-eminent architects for Auckland. Their offices were in the Colonial Bank Building. In 1882, he presented a paper to the Auckland Institute of Architects on the benefits of competitive design.

Then, as now, it was common practice for architects to advertise in the papers for tenders for the construction of buildings they had designed. However, in those days, they also advertised the tenders received (not only from who but also the price) and who had been successful.

His father was active in the Wesleyan Church and Samuel followed his father although, unlike his father, he did not appear as a public supporter of the Temperance movement.

He was an accomplished musician who played the organ not only for churches but also on a number of Masonic occasions. He was responsible for the second printing of Major Pirie's Masonic Song Book. Unlike the first edition, the second edition included the music as well as the words.

He appears to have been quite an innovator for his time and promoted the construction of the electric lighthouse. He was also an artist and won a prize for his watercolour of Sulphur Islet, Coromandel, in 1882.

He also gave regular talks on various subjects including a lecture of the chemistry of candles given to the St Matthews Literary & Debating Society and lantern shows to the children at the Howe Street Industrial School and the patients at the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. Both he and his father were members of the Auckland Institute. In 1881 he and his father were among those who tried to establish a co-operative store in Auckland.

He married Clara Wadham in 1882 and they had a son in 1883, at their residence in Day Street, off Karangahape Road.

He died in 1894 at the early age of 37 and was buried alongside his father who died only two years earlier in Purewa Cemetery. Sadly, his mother who was, according to contemporary newspaper reports inconsolable after the loss of both her husband and eldest child so close together, died only a week later.

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Sources: Contemporary newspapers

The Prince of Wales Lodge

www.englishmasons1338.org.nz

The Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 1338, under the United Grand Lodge of England, was founded on the 18th day of December, 1869, and consecrated on Thursday, the 28th day of September, 1871, at the Masonic Hotel, Princes Street, Auckland, by Bro. J.J. Fitzgibbon, Past Master of the Waitemata Lodge, No. 689, E.C.

