

Resources

Mississippi Grand York Rite

<http://www.msyorkrite.org/>

Mississippi GYR Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/282052953533012>

●An Intro to the Cryptic Degrees

●History of the Cryptic Rite

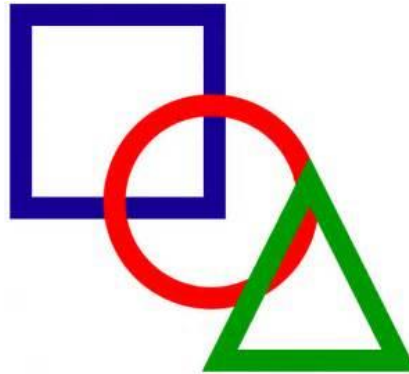
<http://www.msyorkrite.org/resources>

General Grand Council

<https://crypticmasons.org/>

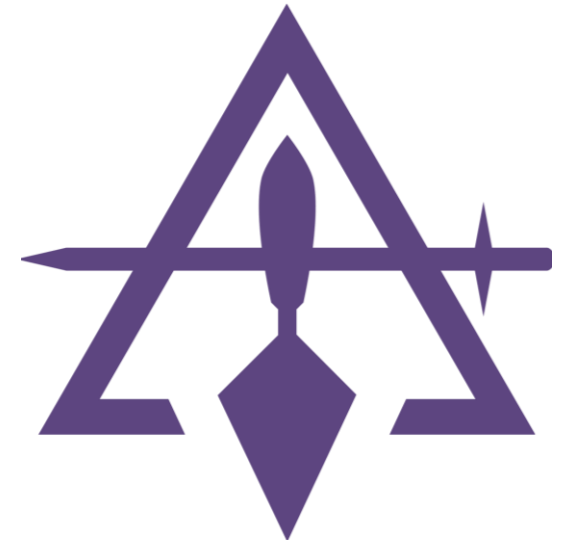
Cryptic Masons Medical Research
Foundation

<https://crypticmasons.org/cmmrf/our-philanthropy-s-history>



**Super-Excellent
Master**

**MISSISSIPPI
GRAND COUNCIL
OF ROYAL AND
SELECT MASTERS**



Cryptic Masonry is part of the “York Rite of Free Masonry.” The various Councils in the United States operate under the jurisdiction of the Grand Council of their respective state and confer three degrees:

- 1) Royal Master;
- 2) Select Master; and
- 3) Super Excellent Master.

The Royal Master and Select Master Degrees inform us that Masonry does not reveal her secrets to the thoughtless, nor all in one degree. There is only glory of the Sun, other glory of the Moon, and another glory of the Stars, says the Apostle, and one Star is different from another Star in glory. 1 Corinthians 15:41. So in Masonry, one degree differs from another in Beauty, Wisdom, and Truth. The moral truths of the Symbolic Lodge and the deeper philosophy of the Royal Arch are only part of the Masonic teachings.

Surely it must be quite a disappointment to the average man on being raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason, to be told that he has not completed his work and the secrets pertaining to the ceremony will not be given him, but instead a substitute. This is indeed unfortunate, but the secrets and real Word are given him in the Royal Arch. But, without the Royal Master and Select Master Degrees, neither the Mason Mason Degree nor the Royal Arch Degree is complete, for they rationally account for the concealment and preservation of the treasures revealed in the Royal Arch.

Our three Grand Masters, knowing the dangers they might undergo, were determined to prevent the loss of the Masters Word. When the Ninth Arch had been completed, they arranged for the deposit of the Holy Vessels and the Furniture of the Lodge, including a true copy of the Covenant and the Book of the Law, an imitation

of Aaron’s Rod. So that it might be known for what purpose it was deposited, on the sides of the Ark were placed certain mysterious characters, the key or Cover Words by which the Masters Word may be recovered. Thus was preserved the Long Lost Masters Word.

The Super Excellent Master Degree is an honorary degree, to which the Cryptic Mason is entitled by virtue of being in good standing in a Council. This is a very dramatic and spectacular Masonic degree that is typically offered once a year on the third Saturday of January in South Mississippi.

There are many resources available to help you explore the deeper meaning and symbology of these degrees beyond just the ritual, and I hope you will explore them.

- *R. Lane Dossett, IGM 2021*

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