



Short History of Smithton Masonic Lodge

When an application was made to the Grand Lodge of Missouri for a dispensation to hold a lodge of Master Masons at Smithfield, Kansas Territory. The request being granted. The first regular Lodge of Master Masons was held near Smithfield on November 30, 1854, on a hill overlooking the Missouri River with John Smith as Worshipful Master.

Smithton Masonic Lodge is the oldest lodge in Kansas. It was organized in 1854 and chartered in 1856. The lodge originated in Burr Oak Bottoms north of Wathena, Kansas where they met under a large oak tree (pictured below) with a burr-oak stump for the altar. In 1855 the Lodge moved to the new town of Iola, South of Sparks, Kansas. In 1856 after the new town of Iola failed, the lodge moved to Iowa Point, Kansas. In 1872 the lodge moved to Highland, Kansas where it has remained.

The following lodges have merged with Smithton Lodge #1: Leona, Severance, White Cloud, Bendena and Denton

Lodge Projects

Scholarships, essay contest, Girls State, Boys State, Kansas Society for Children with Challenges and N. E. Kansas food pantry.

Smithton Lodge meets on the first Thursday of each month from September to May at 6:00 p.m. for dinner with a regular meeting to follow. All brothers are welcome.

