



## HOLY ROYAL ARCH KNIGHT TEMPLAR PRIESTS HISTORY OF THE ORDER IN USA – Part 1

In USA the Order is first mentioned in 1829, in Rhode Island. Five tabernacles were consecutively constituted between 1840–1931, but none remained active.

On 31st of October 1931, Knight Priest Sidney Clifton Bingham from Cristchurch, New Zealand having no information for a long time from the Grand College of England, though the Order disappeared, so he admitted three Knights from North Carolina, J. Raymond Shute II, J. Edward Allen and L. Thompson Hastell Jr. His action was justified by article 3 of the Ancient Constitution from 1813 throughout this procedure was valid in case of emergency. Furthermore he issued three charters for constituting three Tabernacles in North Carolina.



In 1934 Knight Priests found that the Order they though has vanish long time ago is still active in England. In the attempt to exchange representatives, the Americans were informed that according to English constitution they are irregular.

In 1935 an American delegation was sent in England with the proposal to regulate the Grand American College. Knight Priest J.

On 14th of May 1933, Preceptors of the three Tabernacles organized a Convention held in Raleigh, NC and decided to form a Grand Body. In the same month, on 27th of May 1933, the Grand College Knight Templar Priests of America was born.

Edward Allen was initiated on 16th of August 1935 in Royal Kent Tabernacle and received the Charter to form "United States" Tabernacle No. 9. Back in the US, he reconstituted the existing Tabernacles according the English ritual and on 27th of October 1935 the regularized all the members.

Actions and work of the Grand American College were confirmed at the annual gathering in 1936, when the Charter issued by England was presented. Then was presented that the English jurisdiction name is Grand College for England of the Order of Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests or Order of the Holy Teaching and a similar name was adopted.

This Order is dedicated to Past Commanders of Knights Templar Commanderies were the Tabernacle has its jurisdiction. All members are entitled Knight Priests and the Tabernacle is presided by an Eminent Preceptor elected through balloting.

Gabriel GHERASIM, KCT, KYGCH  
Eminent Preceptor  
King Solomon Tabernacle No. 82 of the  
Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priests