The LaClede Lodge #601 charter was issued 6 Oct 1868 by Illinois Grand Master Jerome Renaldo Gorin to Samuel M. Gentry (WM), James A. Nevins (SW), Edwin C. Park (JW), Aisle Wheeler, George Tibbitts, William Riley Jones, Stillwell Truax, A. G. Gilman, Samuel L. Rainey, Martin Luther Sidener, Charles W. Vermillion, William Brent, and Henry H. Wolfe.

Three years later, a “Petition for Charter” was presented for Farina Lodge #761 on 6 Sep 1871, and the Charter was granted 3 Oct 1871. The annual returns were submitted by Farina Lodge #671 to the Grand Lodge of Illinois for eight years from 1871 to 1878. The Charter Members for Farina Lodge #671 were; James Potticary, John F. Wenck, William L. Arnold, A. H. Bryan, Charles N. Harber, Elnathan J. Bond, Michael William Aaron Butts, John A. Flick, A. S. Coon, James W. McCluer, John S. Thompson, and David J. Maxon. James Potticary, William Arnold, and James McCluer had also been members of Kinmundy Lodge #398.

The last annual report received by the Grand Lodge of Illinois for Farina lodge #761 was in 1878, indicating Farina lodge #761 went extinct after that time.

Four years after the last annual report for Farina Lodge #761, on August 10th, 1882, MWGM William H. Scott issued a duplicate charter to LaClede Lodge #601, as the original charter had become defaced. The following year, Laclede lodge was moved to Farina, Illinois on May 17, 1883 by Grand Master Daniel M. Browning. Ten years later on 4 Oct 1893, LaClede Lodge #601 changed its name to Farina Lodge #601.

It would appear that Farina Lodge #761 went extinct without merging with LaClede Lodge #601. Any members of Farina Lodge #761 who wished to have membership in LaClede Lodge #601, or Kinmundy Lodge #398 would have to petition for affiliation.

I have contacted Grand Secretary Franklin E Cline, and he could not find a record indicating a merge of the lodges as of July 5th, 2022. However, we are continuing our research for additional records that may shed light on the history of the early Masonic lodges in our area, and whose members ultimately merged with Kinmundy Lodge #398.