

raments of baptism and the Lord's Supper and the Apostolic Rite of Confirmation and a sermon by the bishop, it was announced a meeting for friends of the church would be held immediately after the service at the house of Jesse Avise to form a parochial association.

Organization of a parish had been planned two years earlier when the notice of the meeting appeared in the Bounty Land Register, Quincy's first newspaper and the second oldest newspaper in the state. It was to have been held in the office of John Tillson and Francis Moore. Moore, a soldier in the War of 1812 and a Quincy land agent, was later named the first junior warden of the church.

The articles of the association were signed by Jesse Avise, Isaac Davis, Francis C. Moore, Ebenezer Moore, John L. Avise, Erastus A. Strong, S.C. Sherman, Abraham DeHaven and S. Touzalin. On November 20, the names of Daniel G. Whitney and James R.M. Sellwood were added, as were those of George Bowers on February 10, 1838, and Isaac O. Woodruff and William H. Taylor on April 16, 1838.

Abraham DeHaven was elected senior warden and Francis C. Moore, junior warden. Vestrymen were Ebenezer Moore, S. C. Sherman and Jesse Avise.

On October 13, 1837, the Rev. John Sellwood, a graduate of the Theological Seminary of Gambier, Ohio, sent out by the Missionary Society, conducted services in the Congregational Church (Lord's Barn) on Fourth Street. He also officiated in the same place three times on the following Sunday and then gave notice that the parish would meet the following evening at the store of Daniel G. Whitney.

At this meeting a plan for a church building was presented by Charles Gurn, a carpenter-builder, and adopted with little alteration. It called for a one-story frame building, 24 by 35 feet, at a cost of \$800 for the carpentry work. A lot on the east side of Sixth between Hampshire and Vermont, on the alley near the Women's Christian Temperance Union building, was purchased for \$225. Meanwhile, the small congregation continued to hold services in the old Land Office Building on the southwest corner of Sixth and Hampshire and at the residences of DeHaven and Avise.

The neat little frame building, on the lot later occupied by Col. Charles Morton's residence, was ready for use by December 31, 1837. The cost of the masonry, painting and glazing was \$400.

By now there were 12 parishioners, with 17 by Easter. The new building was formally consecrated

Abraham DeHaven, Ebenezer Moore, L. Bigwood, S. Touzalin, M. Higbee, Samuel Homes and William H. Taylor.

With Father Sellwood leaving in October, the Vestry called the Rev. James Young to become minister. On October 1, Father Sellwood left for Fairfield and was succeeded by Father Young, with Quincy considered a missionary station for another year.

On October 19, 1840, the Vestry agreed to call the Rev. George P. Giddings as pastor, but learned that he could not immediately accept the call and did not move to Quincy until April, 1841. Father Giddings remained until October, 1856. He died in 1861 and was buried in Woodland Cemetery.

By 1843 the congregation had grown and the building on Sixth was no longer large enough. On April 22 the Vestry appointed a committee to select a plan and obtain estimates to build a brick church and to select a church lot. E.A. Thompson, Vestry secretary, was named to confer with M.B. Bar about his lot on Jersey.

The Vestry book indicates there was further discussion of the location of the proposed site, but the details are not recorded until March 6, 1844, when it states the lot on the northeast corner of Seventh and Hampshire, across from the Orville H. Browning residence, was selected.

On April 18, 1844, a committee of three was appointed to obtain estimates for a 75-by-40-foot church building, with and without a tower. This size was later reduced to 70 by 40 feet and a subscription paper circulated to raise \$4,000. However, on August 14 it was decided that it was impractical to build a new church that year and it was decided to enlarge and repair the old one on Sixth. Thompson reported that he was not present at this meeting and did not know the vote.

The enlargement and repairs were completed by November 12, 1845, when it was learned that Father Giddings was unable to remain with the church unless he was installed as rector, with the Vestry saying that was impossible at the time. It was also reported that the lot at Seventh and Hampshire could be purchased for \$500.

Any action on Father Giddings was delayed until a meeting the following October when he stated that his resignation was not connected with either the parish or Vestry. It was accepted, but he was asked to remain until the following Easter, which he did.

Father Giddings said that \$460 had been subscribed and promised toward the purchase of the church lot, with the result that Seth C.

new church. The committee was to employ a competent architect and secure plans for a building not to exceed \$6,000. This committee consisted to Seth C. Sherman, Ebenezer Moore and J.P. Erskine.

These plans were submitted on April 2, 1849, and the rector was authorized to contract for the necessary timber to be used and delivered to Quincy. Sherman was also authorized to secure the church lot on Hampshire. Arrangements were made for the erection of a building on the lot that could be used as temporary quarters and later for a Sunday School room. This latter was later dropped as being inexpedient.

As a result, arrangements were made for a 14-foot addition to the front of the Sixth Street building. Plans for the new church drifted along until the meeting of February 4, 1852, when a new committee was appointed to investigate the possibility of a church costing not more than \$2,500. This committee, headed by Peter Lott, reported that it felt that a church could not be erected without involving the parish in an excessive debt.

The \$2,500 limit having failed, a new committee was appointed on February 15, 1852, to investigate building a church, costing within \$5,000 and submit plans for the structure. At the meeting held a month later the Vestry considered plans of the Galena church and also one from St. Louis. The whole project was again postponed.

However, at a meeting held on April 17, 1852, the Vestry unanimously adopted a resolution endorsing the Galena plan and empowering Henry Asbury, Ebenezer Moore and Peter Lott to appoint a building committee with power to proceed with contracts. The church was to be on the two westerly lots of ground so that the east 40 feet of the church property could be sold if necessary, without interfering with the church building.

The Vestry at the September 3, 1852, meeting executed a contract with Charles Howland, master builder from Massachusetts, who had erected the Quincy House in 1838. The cost of the new church was estimated at \$8,000 and was to be ready the following year. The Vestry also decided to sell the old church property, with was done on March 13, 1854, to the Westminster Church, with the old building moved to the corner of Sixth and Maine.

Although the "History of Quincy," published in 1879, states the present church was occupied in 1849, the 1919 "History of Quincy" gives 1853 for the completion and occupying of the church. The 1879 history states that services were held in the Sixth Street building until a part of the new church could be used. The cost

The G. H. H. 1849-1852

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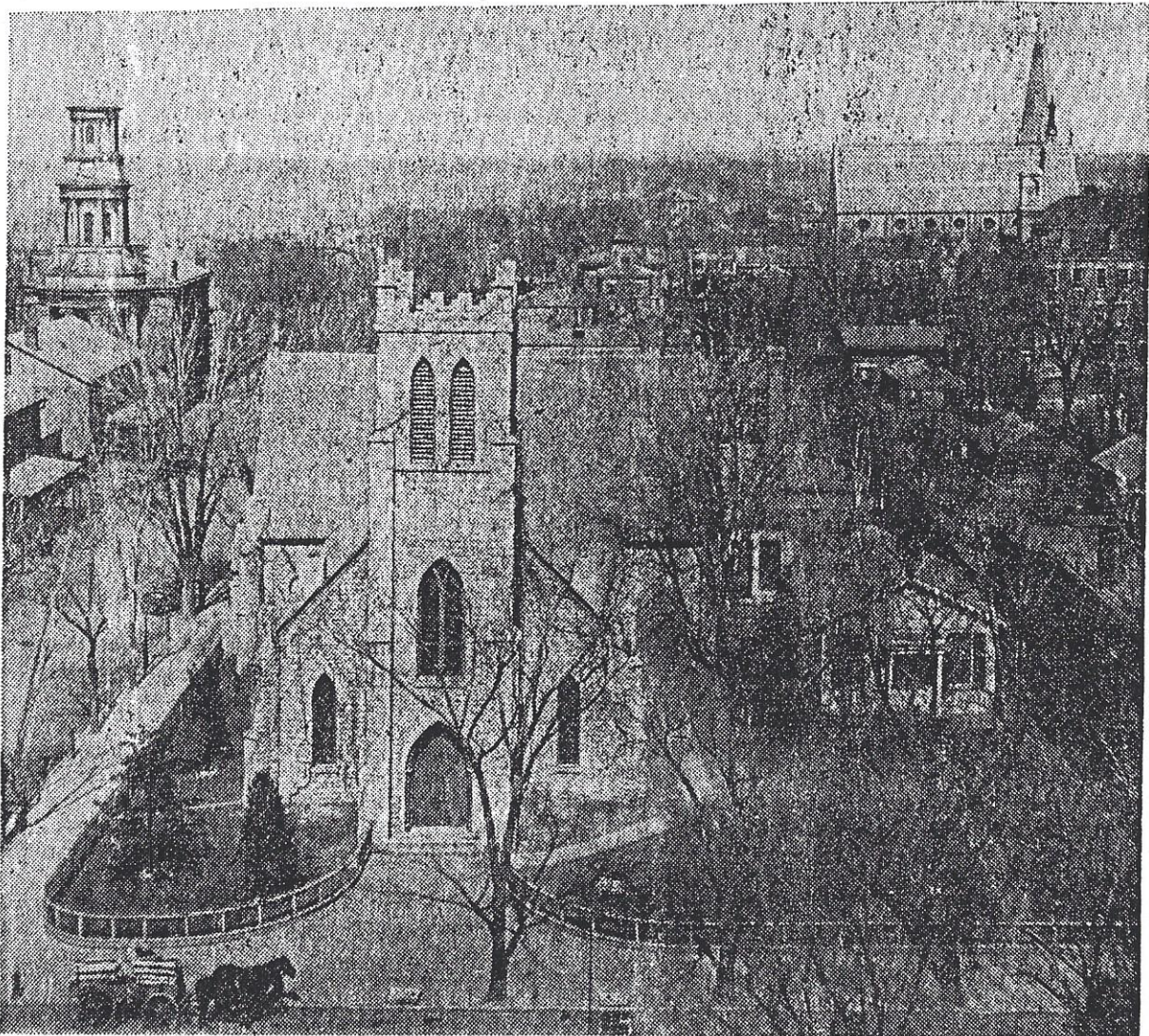
By now there were 12 parishioners, with 17 by Easter. The new building was formally consecrated by Bishop Chase on June 24, 1838, the fourth parish church erected in the diocese of Illinois, the others being in Chicago, Jacksonville and Rushville.

Father Sellwood agreed to remain for one year, until October, 1838. A notice was published in the Quincy Argus of December 30, 1837, stating that pews in the new church would be rented by public auction at a

Father Giddings said that \$460 had been subscribed and promised toward the purchase of the church lot, with the result that Seth C. Sherman was asked to examine the deed to the lot and report back.

On April 4 the secretary was asked to invite Father Giddings to remain until the first day of September at the same salary, but Father Giddings felt that he could only do this if he was appointed rector. He said that he had been looking for a place to live the rest of his days and felt Quincy was the

Although the "History of Quincy," published in 1879, states the present church was occupied in 1849, the 1919 "History of Quincy" gives 1853 for the completion and occupying of the church. The 1879 history states that services were held in the Sixth Street building until a part of the new church could be used. The cost of this stone structure was \$10,000, but by the time it was finally completed in 1867, the cost had risen an additional like amount. The building is of early English architecture, and one of the most beautiful in this area. Later it was enlarged by the addition of transepts and chancels, with a chapel added in the rear in 1880.

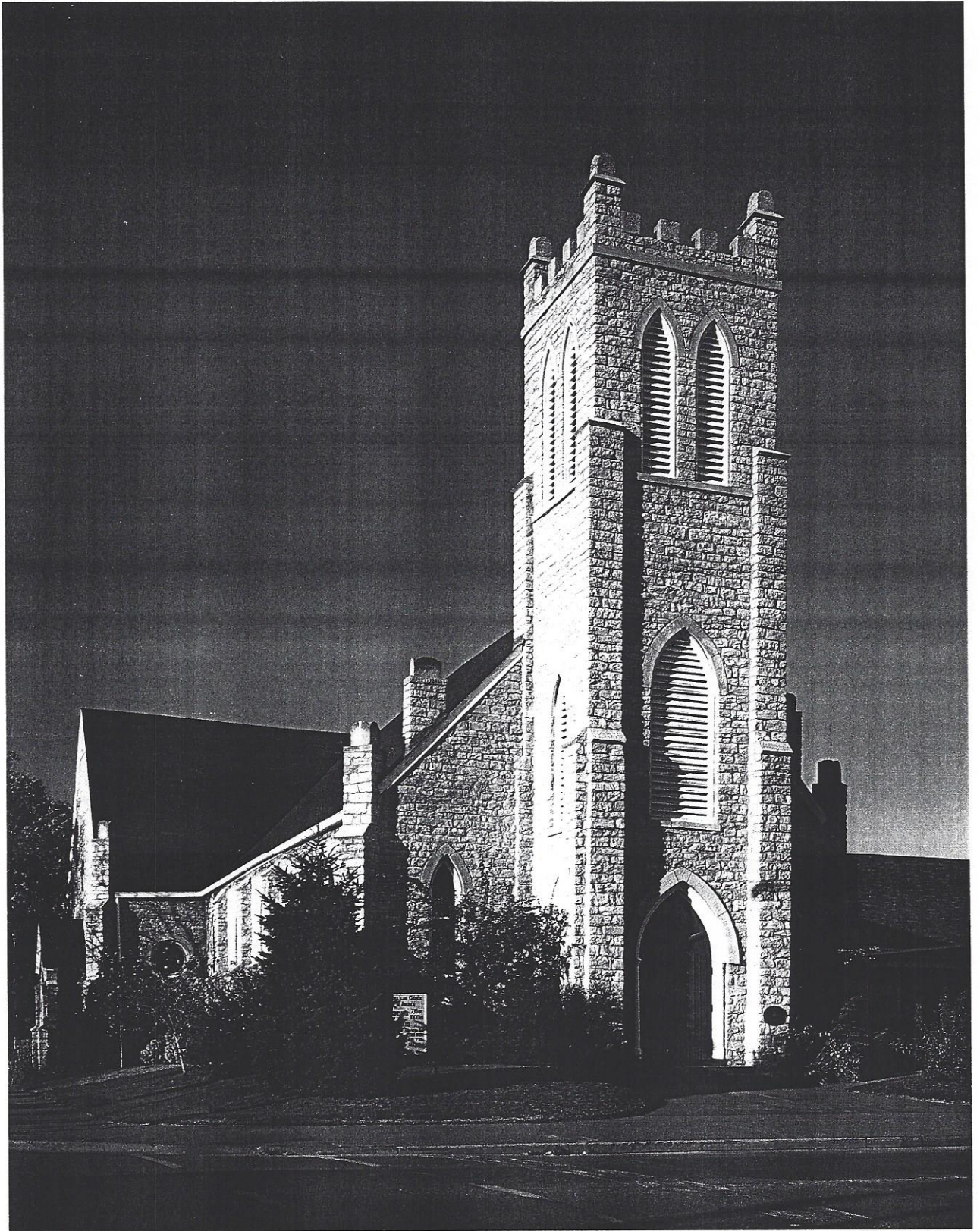


Episcopal church about 1880

St. John's Episcopal Church on the northeast corner of Seventh and Hampshire about 1880. The Vermont Street Baptist church on the northwest corner of Seventh and Vermont is in

the background on the left, while the First Presbyterian Church on the southwest corner of Eighth and Broadway is in the right background.

(Payne)



*St. John's Episcopal Church
701 Hampshire Street*

St. John's church receives plaque

The rain drizzled and the wind blew in cold gusts Saturday morning but nothing deterred Quincy Preserves from presenting its first commemorative plaque.

Sandra Hull, bareheaded and without a coat, dedicated a cast aluminum plaque inscribed with the architect and year of construction of St. John's Episcopal Church, Quincy's oldest standing church.

The 1852 structure was the first building to receive such a plaque from the community group which organized to preserve the city's historical and architectural sites.

Saturday's ceremony involved Mrs. Hull and George Hamilton, both representatives of Quincy Preserves, and the Rev. Fletcher R. Bingham, assistant pastor of the church who was standing in for the Rev. Charles B. Upson Jr.

"It's the first plaque that Quincy Preserves has presented," a pleased Mrs. Hull said. "Hopefully it will be the start of many more."

Quincy Preserves selected the church because of its age, unique early Gothic revival architecture and its recent nomination for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in the United States, Mrs. Hull said.

Hamilton said he hoped the ceremony would make Quincy

cyans aware of the great architecture the city has and the need to preserve them.

Approximately 25 persons, including several young children, attended the ceremony, which included the unveiling of the plaque. It was mounted near the main entrance of the church.

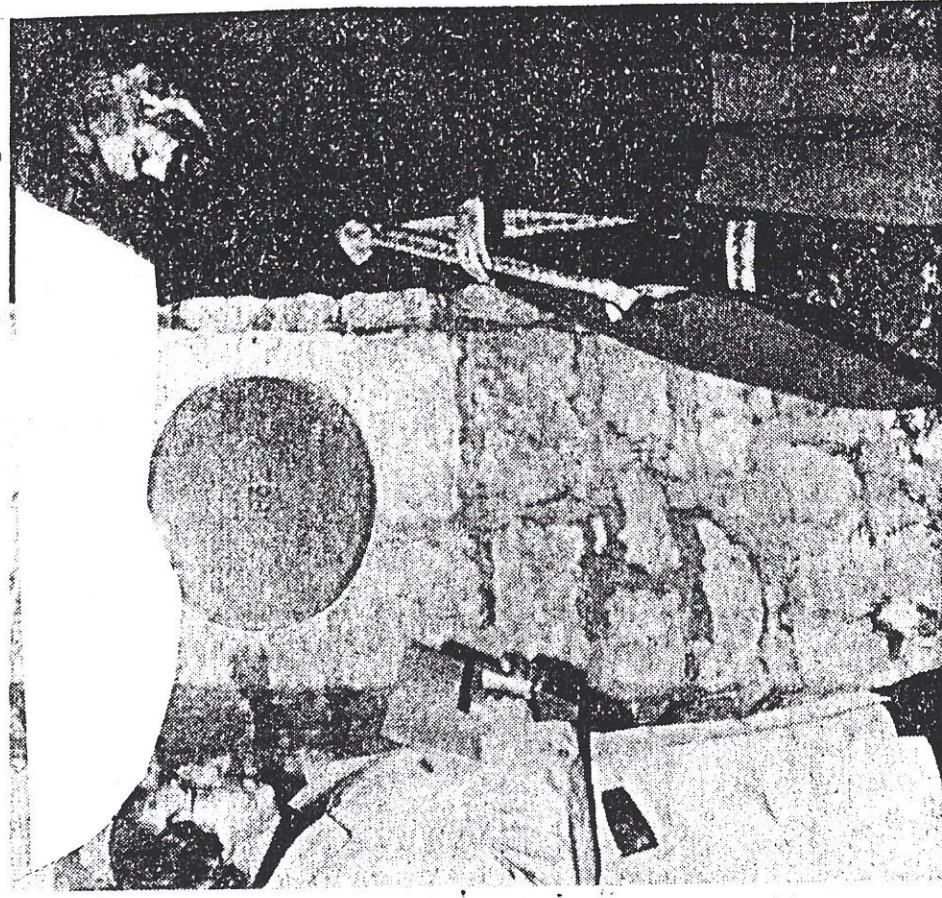
Quincy Preserves earned the money for the plaque with its house tour conducted last year under the auspices of the Quincy Society of Fine Arts and its own house tour in October.

Emphasizing the community nature of the project, the plaque was locally designed and cast by the Central Pattern Co., Front and Jersey.

St. John's Parish was organized in 1837 with a frame building as its first church. The original stone building of 1852 was enlarged in 1868 and a chapel was added in 1880. It was seats 800 persons and has a set of eleven bells in its tower, the only true carillon in Quincy, the historical group said.

The interior of the church includes an ornate carved wooden back altar built in Germany and two Tiffany stained-glass windows.

Its altar was one of six in America included in a detailed publication of "Notable Altars of England and America."



PLAQUE GIVEN — Kirby Eber, on right, unveiled a cast aluminum plaque at a ceremony commemorating the unique architectural and historical St. John's Episcopal Church, 701 Hampshire. George Hamilton, on left, represented Quincy Preserves, the community group which presented the plaque.

(H-W Photo by Joe Liesen)

Monday May 8th 1848. Vestry met pursuant to adjournment, a quorum being present, and after reading the proceedings of the last meeting, it was declared by the Committee appointed to examine the Treasurers Report & other financial matters of the Parish, that for the want of Papers not to be had in season, they were not able to report, & requested further time - it was -

Resolved - That further time be granted - Also

Resolved - That George Bywater be a Committee to collect all old accounts due the parish at his discretion report to the Vestry - also

Resolved - That S. C. Sherman, F. C. Moore and Eben. Moore be a committee, with full power to compromise & settle the claim of D. G. Whitney against the Parish - also

Resolved - That the Vestry in behalf of the Parish desire to express to the Rev. G. P. Giddings their cordial thanks for his exertions to raise funds for the erection of a Church, and that the Clerk furnish Mr. Giddings with a copy of this resolution - also

Resolved - That a committee of three be appointed to take preparatory steps toward the erection of a Church.

That, said committee be instructed, in connection with the Rev. G. P. Giddings, to employ a competent architect, and request him to furnish one or more plans with full details and estimates of the cost, and that they submit the same to the Vestry -

That, in the opinion of the Vestry, the Building should be large enough to accomodate Five Hundred persons & that the estimated cost should not exceed Six Thousand Dollars

That when a satisfactory plan shall have been agreed upon, the Vestry will proceed with the erection of the buildings, as rapidly as practicable, consistently with economy and without embarisment to the Parish - also

Resolved That S. C. Sherman, Ebenezer Moore & J. P. Erskine be said committee.

The Motion being made, it was Resolved to adjourn

S. B. Hoffman
Clerk

30th Apl 1844

Vestry meet pursuant to adjournment,

Voted, that the size of our Church be 70 ft by 40 on the out side

Voted - that said Church be built with a basement,

Voted,

that a subscription paper be circulated forthwith for the purpose of raising \$4000. for the building of said Church -

(Adjourned) E. A. Thompson
Secy

Aug 14th,

*on N. 6th.
(M. J. K.)* ← It haveing been thought impracticable to build a new Church the present year, it was resolved to enlarge and repair the old one, not having be present at the Vestry meeting I am not aware what members of the Vestry voted on the subject

E. A. Thompson
Secy

Nov 11th

The enlargement and repairs of the Church having been gone through with, and previous notice having been heretofore given, the Pews were this day rented at auction till Easter Sunday next at the following rates per year,

No. 1	Not rented	
2	A. G. Ackerman	\$20.00
3	Not rented	
4	F. C. Moore	30.00
5	S. C. Sherman	30.00
6	E. A. Thompson & G. C. Dixon	35.00
7	Thazer & Cockran	30.00
8	E. Moore	35.00
9	Wm. H. Gaylor	25.00
10	H. Kent & Cavin	25.00
11	G. A. Miller & Huntington	20.00
12	1/2 to N. Bushnell	20.00
13	Lange & Gletche	15.00
14	Mr. Francis	10.00
15	C. M. Woods & E. J. Phillips	10.00
16	Geo. H. Howard	10.00
17	Mr. Bristol	10.00
18	J. Artus	10.00
19	Lloyd & Bigwood	10.00
20	Geo. Bywater	15.00