

A MEMORIAL to be registered pursuant to the statute in that case made and provided of an Indenture of Trust, in words following, that is to say "Whereas in and by a statute of the Province of Upper Canada, passed in the ninth year of the reign of King George the Fourth, entitled "An Act for the relief of Religious Societies therein named", it is enacted that whenever any Religious Congregation or Society of Presbyterians, Lutherans, Calvinists, Methodists, Congregationalists, Independant Annabaptists, Quakers, Menonites, Tuckers and Moravians shall have occasion to take a conveyance of land for the site of a church meeting-house or chapel, or a burying ground, it shall and may be lawful for them to appoint Trustees, to whom and their successors to be appointed in such manner as shall be specified in the deed, the requisite land for all or any of the purposes aforesaid (not exceeding five acres for any one congregation) may be conveyed, and such trustees and their successors in perpetual succession by the manner expressed in such deed shall be capable of holding, taking and possessing such land, and of commencing and maintaining any action in law or equity for the protection thereof out of their right thereto, and whereas a religious congregation of society of Methodists have occasion to take such a Deed of Trust of land situate in the Township Of Augusta in the County of Grenville, in the District of Johnstown in the said Province for the site of a church meeting house or chapel and burying ground and have appointed trustees by the name of THE TRUSTEES OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CANADA, meeting house or chapel and burying ground in the Township of Augusta.

Now This INDENTURE, made the thirteenth day of February in the year of our Lord, One thousand eight hundred and forty, between TOBERT ALDER of the Township of Augusta in the District and Province aforesaid, yeoman, and MARTHA ALDER, his wife, of the one part, and JOSEPH BASS, JOHN LAND, GEORGE LAND, ANDREW PYKE and WILLIAM McLEAN, of the same place, yeomen, the trustees aforesaid of the other part:

WITNESSETH, that the said ROBERT ALDER and MARTHA ALDER, for, and in consideration of the sum of fifty pounds to them in hand paid by the said Trustees, before the sealing and delivery hereof, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath given, granted, bargained, sold, assigned, released, conveyed and confirmed, and by their presents both give, grant, bargain, sell, assign, release, convey and confirm unto them, the said JOSEPH BASS, JOHN LAND, GEORGE LAND, ANDREW PYKE and WILLIAM McLEAN, by the name aforesaid of the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, meeting house or chapel and burying ground in the Township of Augusta, and their successors to be appointed in the manner hereinafter specified, all that certain tract of land, situate in the Township of Augusta, containing by admeasurement three-fourths of an acre, by the same more or less, which said tract of land is butted and bounded or may be otherwise known as follows:

that is to say, the said tract of land being a part of the east half of Lot Number thirteen in the third concession of the Township of Augusta aforesaid, commencing at the south west corner, at a post on the north side of the road in front of the said third concession on the centre line, then north twenty-four degrees, west fifteen rods, then forty-seven degrees east, eight rods parallel with the concession line, then south twenty-four degrees, east fifteen rods to the concession line aforesaid, then along the line forty-seven degrees west, eight rods to the place of beginning.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD:

the said tract of land with the building or buildings erected or to be erected thereon and all the appurtenances and privileges thereof to them the said trustees and their successors in the said trust forever, for the site of a church meeting house and burying ground, for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, according to the rules and discipline which now are or hereafter may be adopted by the general or annual Conference of the said church in Canada, in trust and confidence that the said Trustees for the time being shall at all times hereafter permit any Methodist Episcopal minister or preacher or ministers or preachers, he or they being a member or members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada and duly authorized as such by the said general or annual Conference to preach and perform religious service in the said house and burial service in the said burying ground, according to the rules and discipline of the said church, and in further trust and confidence that the said Trustees for the time being may at their discretion permit the regular minister or preacher of any other protestant denomination of Christians to preach and perform public religious worship in the said house when it shall not be required for the use of the ministers or preachers of the said Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, and it is hereby declared to be the true intent of this Deed that the full amount of the Trustees of the said Trust shall continue to be five, and that whenever any one or more of the said abovementioned trustees or of their successors in the said trust shall die or cease to be a member or members of the said Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, according to the rules and discipline of the said church, the vacant place or places of the Trust or Trustees so dying or ceasing to be a member or members of the said church, it shall be filled with a successor or successors, being a ~~xxxxxxx~~ member or members of the said church of the age of twenty-one years to be nominated and appointed as follows:

That is to say, to be nominated by the stationed minister or preacher in charge of the said church for the time being, within whose station or circuit the said tract of land shall be, and thereupon appointed by the surviving trustee or trustees of the said trust, if they think proper to appoint the person or persons to nominated; and in case of an equal division of votes of the trustees present, the stationed minister or preacher shall have a casting vote in such appointment, and if it shall happen at any time that there shall be no surviving trustee of the said trust, in that case it shall and may be lawful for the stationed minister or preacher who shall ~~xxxxxxx~~ have the charge of that station or circuit for the time being to nominate, to appoint the requisite number of trustees of the said trust by a major vote of the members of the said conference then present, and in case of an equal division of their vote, the Chairman of the said conference shall have a casting vote in such appointment, and the person or persons so nominated and appointed trustee or trustees as aforesaid in either of the said modes of nomination and appointment shall be the legal successor or successors of the said here named trustees -- and shall have in perpetual succession the same capabilities, rights and duties as given to the said above mentioned trustees in and by this deed, and the statute aforesaid.

And the said MARTHA ALDER hereby relinquishes and forever quits claim to the said trustees and their successors, all her right, title or claim as dower in the aforesaid premises in the event of her surviving the said TOBERT ALDER, her husband, and that evidence of the one nomination and appointment of succeeding trustees in the said trust be preserved, it shall be the duty of the Trustees for the time being to keep a book of Record in which the name or names of any person or persons nominated and appointed successors in the said trust as aforesaid, and also the names of the persons so nominating and appointing them shall be entered, and such entry subscribed by the said nominator and appointer.

"In testimony whereof the said TOBERT ALDER and MARTHA ALDER have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year above written.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered in the presence of

Alex McDonald
Robert Headlam Deputy Registrar

which said Indenture is witnessed by Alexander McDonald of Prescott, gentleman and Robert Headlam, of the same place, gentleman, and this memorial thereof is required to be registered by Robert Alder one of the grantors therein named, pursuant to law.

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Registered on Saturday, the fifteenth day of February in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred and forty, ~~and~~ at two of the clock in the forenoon.

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METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH REGISTER, Augusta Circuit 1878
- Wm. H. Graham

Churches - Brick church class, some rec'd 1836, 1840, 1837
309 listed Leaders

Wm. Taney, August, 6th Conc. 1836
Joseph Briggs
Nicholas Burns, Con. 8, 1828
Michael Hemingway

List for Con. 7 and for Con. 8 no church named.

McGuinn, Marshal, Reed
Class leaders: Richard Cook, Henry bass, Oliver Everts, Robert Alder;
Ebison fretwell

NELSONVILLE, Augusta Methodist Episcopal Church...
names suggest Domville residents

Holden, FEll, Leslie, Rood, Davison, Bass, Youker, Brown no date

TOWN HALL, Methodist Episcopal Church

Leaders: Wm Tanney; John Smith, Mrs. John Smith
Some transferred to McLean Church or to Wrights' Corners

Leaders: Wright Place, Augusta; John W. Bass, Augusta; Richard Birks;
William Lane, Eben Scott, Augusta:
James Baker, Nelsonville; John Tanny, Town Hall; Asa Bass, Jr. Augusta

No. 1 Augusta Church (Western Church:

Trustees: Richard Birks, Jno W. Bass, P. Fretwell; Agusutus Whitney,
F.D.Scott, Nelson Whitney, Chas Birks, J. Nelson FEll, Thos. Newans

No. 2 Augusta Church, (Eastern_

Mathew Robinson, Maynard; Richard Cook, Domville; Jos. Scott, Domville;
Amrs Barton, Mayanrd; Sam'l Dulmage, Mayanrd; Wm. Bishop, Algonquin;
Benj. Hanna, Algonquin;

Nelsonville Church:

Chester FEll; Wm. Whitmore, Nelson Leslie, Jno Rood, Eben Scott

Knapp Church

Geo. Knapp; Jno Barton; Hy Goldsmith; Peter Drummond; Jos. McLean

No. 1 Class, 3 con. 29 members, Wm Lane, leader 1885

No. 2 Class, Wright Place leader 22 memebrrs

No. 3 Class, Leader, Richard Birks, 12 m:mebrrs

No. 4 Class, Jno. Wm. Bass, leader 11 memebrrs

No. 5 class, Eben Scott, leader, 16 memebrrs

No. 6 Class, Matthew Robinson, leader, All Robinsons removed
Sam'l Dulmage, removed

Domville, James Baker, leader

RownHall Wm. Tanny, leader

Probationers, leader ASa Bass, jr. 1884

Later, some removed, some dropped, some withdrawn.

Church membership was not taken lightly. e.g. Admitted to church on
trial at his won home, being an invalid, baptized and admitted on trial.

Class Leaders : William Lane, Asa Bass, Jr.; Wright Place, Charleville, 1885

Amos Barton, Blue Church Road;

Mrs. Eben Scott (first female leader noted 1885)

John W. Bass, Concession 5

Richard Birks, Concession 4

John Rood

James Baker, Con. 4, 1885 George Knapp; Wm. Tanny, Town Hall

Edgar Lesslie; John G. Carson.

Stewards, Trustees, Collectors

Domville, leader; Nelson Leslie, John Rood

William Lane, Richard Birks, Charles Birks, Amos Barton, Eben Scott,

J. W. Bass; Oliver Everts; Wm. H. Knapp; John Rood, J. B. Scott

Samuel G. McCrady, Thos. Newans, Edgar Leslie, Samuel J. Fell

Town Hall, transferred to Algonquin in Maitland Circuit, July 25, 1888
James Watson.

Victoria branch or CLASS 1st 1888 - the renewed church?

Epworth Class, 1890, first mentioned.

42 Divisions

Victoria Church - Oliver Everts, leader

Epworth Church - Domville.

Rev. G. S. White, May 15, 1892

"This circuit register was corrected before the Quarterly meeting conference on the second day of May 1892, every name was called over one by one, and none retained only those whom the official board approved."

By 1896, it was called DOMVILLE APPOINTMENT, still with divisions.

Richard Cook, James Baker; Henry Bass, Jessie Knapp.

VICTORIA CHURCH also had classes and divisions.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Leslie were listed as resident Toll gate near Prescott.

1901 - Division VI, Catechism Class -

Epworth Church, 1901, T. E. Burke, Pastor, had 5 divisions and 1 catechism class. Membership 1904, 157. tickets were provided. Catechism came first, then received into full communion.

MAITLAND APPOINTMENT transferred to Augusta Circuit by Montreal Conference, June 1904. List of members added - 44 persons.

In 1808 Augusta Circuit was one of the nine circuits in Upper Canada, with Henry Ryan as Presiding Elder. In 1817 the first Methodist Convention in Canada was held in the township of Elizabethtown, on the Augusta Circuit.

Before the present church was built, a small stone church stood on the same site, built between 1833 and 1840. The present building was erected in 1858, and dedicated December 28, 1859, by Rev. David Aylesworth. The stone from the old church was used for the foundation of the new. Timber was supplied by Charles Lane. There were two porches, the south-east was used by the women, and the south-west by the men. In those days women and men sat apart in church, entering by different doors. Crane Brothers had the contract for the building, and many men of the parish gave volunteer help. When dedicated, it was named Victoria Methodist Episcopal Church, to distinguish it from the Maynard Wesleyan Methodist Chapel located on the same road one-half mile to the east.

Soon after the church dedication, Mr. Aylesworth held a wonderful revival service which resulted in six young men going into the ministry.

Over the years many changes have been effected in the building. There are no longer sheds at the rear to accommodate horse and carriages. The grounds have recently been enlarged for better parking.

In 1888, when Rev. James Watson was pastor, a contract was let for extensive repairs and improvements, including colored glass margins in the side walls of the church. One porch was made to replace the two old ones. A new pulpit and communion rail was added, a choir platform built in the west corner, and furnaces put in the basement. Total cost was twice the estimated cost of \$1,785. Rededication took place November 1889 when Rev. G.S. White was pastor.

1904-1908, when Mr. Nelson was pastor, a metal ceiling was put in the church to help with the heating problem. In 1906 oil lamps were replaced by an acetylene plant. In 1920 a Delco Plant was installed. The wood platform at the porch front was replaced by cement in 1910. The first church organ was bought about 1883, not without much opposition from those who believed it sacrilegious. In 1915 this organ was replaced by one given by Mr. Bass Scott, and it served until 1947 when a Minshall electric organ was dedicated, a memorial to Pilot Officer Irwin Robinson, RCAF.

1909 the envelope system of weekly church offerings was adopted, and the same year the Quarterly Official Board decided to buy an individual communion service. The pulpit Bible still being used was donated by Miss Margaret Polite in 1910.

1925 the Victoria Methodist Church became Victoria United during the pastorate of Rev. J. Holt Murray. In 1926 the basement was lowered and refloored. In 1931 the Hymnary of the United Church was first used. In 1934 a stairs leading from the northeast corner of the basement to the main floor of the church and the choir gallery was given in memory of Joseph H. Lane by his family. In 1937 hydro was installed in church and parsonage.

Once again extensive repairs and alterations were carried out 1956, when a new kitchen was installed, with cupboards, sinks and heavy duty wiring. The floor was replaced throughout the basement by a cement one, and the walls lined with cement blocks to help counteract dampness.

1958, Centennial year for the church was marked with many special activities, and many former residents returned to worship with us.

There has always been an active Sunday School connected with the church, and over the years at various times other youth groups. At present Scouts, Guides, Cubs and Brownies use the facilities for weekly meetings. Midweek groups include two units of United Church Women, one meeting in the afternoon, the other in the evening. There have also been Mission Band and Young People's groups, although there are none at the present time. Many family activities have been enjoyed over the years, one that is still being carried on is the annual Christmas party for the children of the Sunday School and their parents.

MINISTERS WHO HAVE SERVED THIS CHURCH.....

1858-1884	David W. Aylesworth	W. H. Graham
	Mr. McLaren	E. Woodcock
	Daniel Smith	W. E. Brown
	J. F. Wilson	L. Betts
	W. E. Brown	D. G. Bruce
	Isaac W. Aylesworth	

1884-1934	1884 --- W. G. Henderson
	1886 --- S. G. Philips
	1888 --- James Watson
	1889 --- G. S. White
	1892 --- Wm. Barnett
	1896 --- J. B. Hicks
	1896 --- Barry Pierce
	1898 --- T. E. Burke
	1901 --- W. J. Conoly
	1904 --- Isaac Nelson
	1908 --- Joseph Pinel
	1912 --- George Comerford
	1916 --- R. W. Street
	1920 --- Fred Horton
	1927 --- Thomas P. Shaver
	1930 --- Edward Lacey
	1934 --- C. C. Gilbert
	1936 --- Allison Dempsey
	1938 --- Hubert Fresque
	1945 --- David Grey
	1950 --- E. W. S. Coates (supply)
	1951 --- Kenneth MacAllister
	1957 --- John Thomas Angus
	1961 --- John Cook
	1966 --- Cecil Dukelow