

MAYNARD METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodist Meeting House was built in 1839 in Maynard, NY. Maynard is a little hamlet in the southeast corner of Marcy, NY.

Jacob Edic, an early member of the congregation, donated the land upon which the foundation was laid. He was engaged in boating on the Mohawk River.

Contributions for the building fund ranged from \$.50 to \$150.00. The goal was \$925.00; this sum paid for all the carpentry work, except the foundation. The congregation also received contributions from its brethren in Utica, \$259.43.

The first recorded meeting in the new church was January 15, 1840, at which time the pews were "auctioned off" to members of the congregation. This old practice assured the church-goer's family of the same pew, service after service, for one year. Some pews were reserved for the general public free of charge. \$91 was raised through the sale.

Sufficient funds had then been raised for the meetinghouse; and to build adjacent horsesheds, lay out a burying ground, put up a fence, and build a parsonage.

The plots in the burying ground were offered for sale. The minimum price was set at \$5.00 a plot. No one living outside certain stated limits was allowed to purchase a plot without special order from the trustees.

In the early years only heads of families were listed as members and so in 1839 records list 27 men as Charter Members.

Church services played an important role in the lives of people of the early 19th century. Prayer meetings and choir rehearsals in the evenings made for a social occasion.

Maynard had the privilege of having a pastor occupy the parsonage until 1882. Some 50 pastors served this little church, some staying only a few months. In 1958, a resident minister was again appointed to the church.

When the community had outgrown this church and decided to build a new one on the same site, it generously donated the meetinghouse to the village.

Ministers from surrounding churches preside for Sunday Morning Services, weddings, and Christenings, etc.

We are fortunate enough to still have some of the original window panes.

The organ is a parlor pump organ and it is still used for services and at Christmas, however it is not original to the building.

The Baptismal Font was donated and neither it nor the Communion Service are original to the building.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHESTER
COMMUNION AND BAPTISMAL FONT