

THE EDEN METHODIST CHURCH . .

Having been closed since the Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational Churches were joined forming the United Church of Canada in 1925, the Methodist church in Eden is very hard to research for its history, or its congregation members.

The building, however, still stands on No. 19 Highway as you enter the village from the north and is on the right. It has been converted into a Garage and service station with a living apartment above. In 1966 it is operated by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sawyer.

The Historical Society of Ontario has this to say about the beginning of Methodism in early Upper Canada:

"Plans are now under way for restoring (1965) an historic Methodist home on a location 35 miles west of its original site.

The house has been revered as the last abode of BARBARA HECK (1734-1804) the mother of Methodism in North America. The story is that Barbara with her husband, Paul, influenced by the preaching of John Wesley, on emigrating to New York City, brought together in 1766 the first Church-Methodist in this country. On moving to Canada as Loyalists, they settled in Augusta Township in 1785. After the death of her husband, Barbara with her son Samuel's family, moved to this house on the banks of the St. Lawrence River between Prescott and Maitland where, while reading her Bible, she passed on to her reward, Aug. 17, 1804.

Her house has been described as being one of the finest rubble stone houses of Georgian joinery. Such prominent Methodists as Nathan Bangs, Francis Ashbury, Egerton Ryerson and John Carroll have recorded visits there.

In the 1950s the Dupont Company of Canada bought the land on which it stood, carefully dismantled the house in 1963 and generously offered to transport the materials to any future reconstruction site. A non-profit company of Christian men has been formed to re-erect the house on Landon's Bay between Gananoque and the International Bridge at Ivy Lea. An architect, Mr. B. Napier Simpson of Toronto, one of the foremost authorities on the restoration of old Ontario buildings, has been commissioned to supervise the work.

The house is to become the centre of tourist interest, a retreat for small groups and part of a larger development planned to create a park land and Christian conference centre. "

The Eden Methodist Church was known as the McDowell's branch in 1854-55.

Collectors were Misses McDowell and Armstrong.

Henry Conner & family	7 shillings	6 pence
A Friend	5	6
Wm. McDowell	5	
Joseph McDowell	5	
Harvey McDowell	5	
John Petch	5	

Total L2 12 S

The above information is from the 1857-8 Directory lists for Eden which also says:

The Mail came daily to Eden.
 John Mabee was Postmaster and General Merchant.
 Israel Stilwell was Inn-keeper.
 W. English was Carriage Maker
 John Cook was Carpenter
 E. Clarkson was Blacksmith
 Walter Sinden was flour miller (1905)

Population 150

Eden also had a Telegraph office.

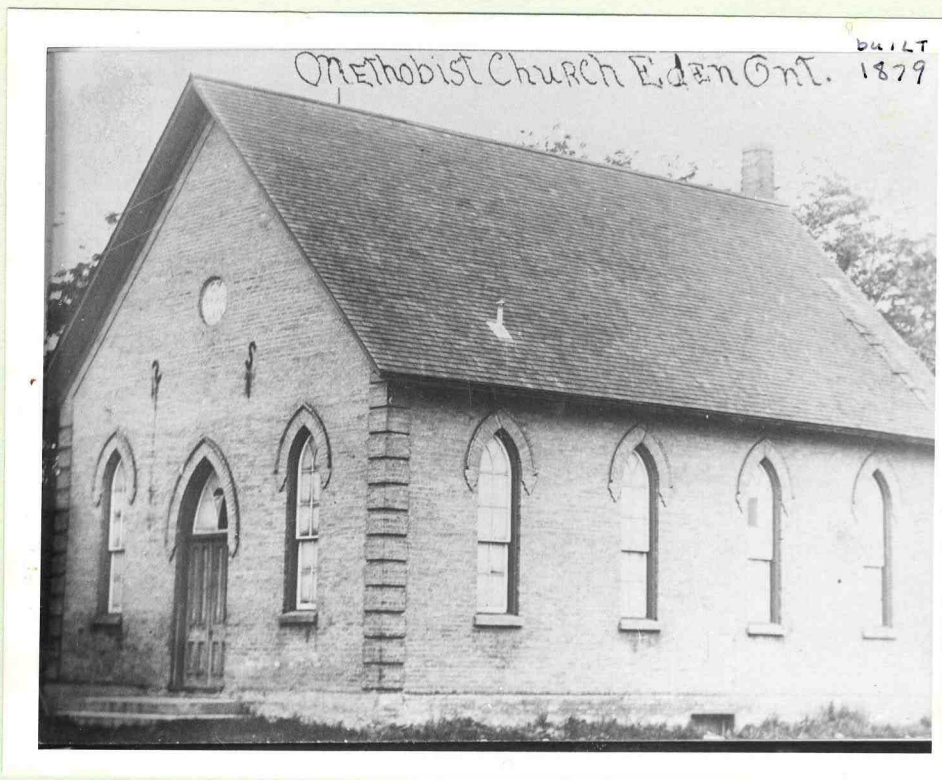
From the Guysboro Church Centennial report it is recorded:

Guysboro was on a five-point charge about 1911 with Maple Grove, Eden, Straffordville and North Hall.

Once a month a local preacher supplied for a Sunday service. Some of them were:

Mr. Isaac Hogarth, Tillsonburg,
Mr. Robert Woulds, Tillsonburg,
Mr. Levi J. Hatch, Maple grove, (Maple Grove Church was Dedicated Dec. 29, 1872).
Mr. William McDowell,

Mr. Love, Mr. Burgess and T. A. Grainger 1912
Frederick Sypher 1913
Mr. Hann, T. A. Grainger (a probationer until College opened) 1914
Frederick Sypher (under Corinth as a supply) 1915
William S. Fagan 1917
Kinglake Circuit Supply 1919
Wallace J. Holley 1922
Bertram E. Newnham, Straffordville 1923-4
United Church was organized and the Eden Methodist Church was closed in 1925.



Some information on the Eden Methodist church or the McDowell Church

A list of the main supporters of the church

John

Ebenezer Buchner (Grandfather of Harry Godwin)

Fred Allemand (father-in-law Dr. Joy)

Sam Howey - "Uncle " Charlie Howey

Simon Ostrander - (store in what is now the Chrysler house)

John Inman - main man or elder (Milton's father)

John Stilwell

wife (sister)

Wm. Howey (Jim Howey's father)

Mart Howey (Alex father)

Bob Howey

Henry (went to Straffordville)

Levi J. Hatch - sister of John Ketchabaw

The church was built as a new church 1879

The circuit was Eden - North Hall - Maple Grove - Straffordville.

The parsonage was Claude Wilson's house-later it was changed to Straffordville.

Ministers were:

Newjent (Nugent?)

Kennedy

Laird

Snell

One used to drive a team of horses

(One a Rev. Woods at 80 used to spit under the pulpit and seemed to have no interest in the sermon, to the amusement of the boys)

John McDowell -Epiworth League

Andrew Dean

Mrs.

Sophia Allemand

Julia Allemand

Sylvia Buchner (Ebenezer's daughter)

Sylvia Dean

Andrew Dean was Superintendent as was Sim Ostrander, Ed Buchner

Geo. Bennett - assistant

(Sylvia' sister married Henry (Hank)Godwin)

Mrs. Joel Bate

Mr. Edward Sivyver - T. S. Charlie Nellie sang.

Lillie Ketchabaw

Organists were Ida Chandler, Cleo Dean, Ida Dean, Harley Howey, Mrs. W. McDowell, Catharine McDowell, Mary Howey

Mrs. Wm. Chandler taught Ida Kennedy when she attended Sunday School here. Others were Violet Bennett, Mrs. Wm. Chandler (boys) Eb Buchner, older boys, Nellie Howey, Mrs. McDowell (boys) Mrs. Art White, Vilo McDowell (girls) Frank Ketchabaw, Milton Inman, Mrs. Geo. Grass, Fred Sypher, Henderson, Newam, Masson, Fagan, Wickett. Minnie & Cephus at revival meeting -
Ida Dean, Hilda Craven, Lillian McDowell, Ermina McDowell Mary Hatch
The whole Sunday class went forward.

On the Same Circuit

The Maple Grove Church

David Hatch and his brother-in-law, William Bowes, are named as two of the seven trustees to whom Caleb Cook gave deed of lot for the Richmond Church, March, 1850. Later the former was the moving spirit in having the first frame church at Maple Grove moved up from Straffordville about 1871. The building was taken down, moved and rebuilt, the new church being dedicated three years later (about 1874).

David Hatch and William Bowes were the pioneer class leaders of this Methodist church. While "Uncle William" nurtured the Church by calling upon the sick, it was always "Uncle David" who fathered it materially carrying over kindling, building the fires, in faithful free service. He even made the cedar wreaths that scalloped the walls for the annual Christmas trees.

The leading settlers supported the Church loyally with money and attendance. On their death their descendants with other incoming residents, took over the work which then became a strong and busy congregation: Thomas Hatch and John Hatch (sons of David) and Levi Hatch Jr., before they moved away.

Edwin Bowes, Henry Hatch, Jacob Ketchabaw, John Wilson and his son William and John Stewart, William Chamberlain, Walter Mitchell, William Yeandle, James Procunier, Elgin Hatch became church pillars.

Andrew Dean taught the singing school and energetically and faithfully farthered the first then new Choir of Maple Grove Church until he moved to Eden.

Note: The North Hall Church was closed June 30, 1934. (Mrs. Cyriel Williams)

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
STRAFFORDVILLE CIRCUIT, - 1

of the
METHODIST CHURCH

for the year ending May 31st, 1892.

L.W. WICKETT PASTOR.

F.E. KETCHABAW, Recording - steward

EDEN

E. Buchner.....	\$ 14.00	Sarah White.....	\$ 2.08
Mrs. E. Buchner.....	3.00	Susan Chandler.....	1.00
Amy Buchner.....	4.00	Sylvia Buchner.....	1.50
Charles Johnson.....	2.50	Maria Howey.....	2.00
Mrs. Howard Johnson.....	1.00	Bertie Howey.....	2.00
Levi Hatch, sen.....	4.75	Warren Harris.....	2.50
F. Allemand.....	20.50	Alice McDowell.....	.65
S. Howey.....	16.00	Mrs. L. Hatch.....	.25
Mrs. H. Ostrander.....	5.00	Ida Boyd.....	.50
George Cowan.....	1.00	Miss Ward.....	5.00
John Inman.....	9.00	A.S. Stilwell.....	2.00
Miss Nancy Boughner.....	1.00	A. McDowell.....	1.00
Charlie Howey.....	2.00	Mrs. McDowell.....	.94
Howard Johnson.....	1.00	Ann Phelps.....	1.00
James Howey.....	1.00	Lizzie Ostrander.....	.50
Merton Hatch.....	2.50	Melvin Ostrander.....	.50
Goodsil Wilson.....	1.00	Edwin Gray.....	.50
A Friend.....	.25	Collection.....	4.50
Mrs. J. Stilwell.....	2.00		
Mr. Havens.....	1.00	Total.....	\$120.62

MAPLE GROVE

Isaac Watts.....	2.00	Andrew Dean.....	4.00
Wm. Chamberlain.....	11.50	Jas. Bowes.....	6.00
George Ball.....	.50	C. McConkey.....	.50
Wm. Yeandle.....	2.25	John Stewart.....	2.00
John Kennedy.....	1.00	Lena Taylor.....	5.00
Henry Hatch.....	12.00	Jas. Ketchabaw.....	2.00
Laura Fraser.....	2.00	Walter Mitchell.....	2.00
Jacob Ketchabaw.....	15.38	Jane Bowes.....	1.00
Edwin Bowes.....	8.00	Wm. Russling.....	1.00
Jas. Procunier.....	10.00	John Ketchabaw Sr.....	2.50
L. J. Hatch.....	14.30	John Wilson.....	6.00
Margaret Bowes.....	1.00	Collection.....	4.07
Wm. Stewart.....	2.00		
Walter Stewart.....	2.00	Total.....	\$ 120.20

GUYSBORO

Names not reported.

Total..... \$ 92.38

Annual Report of the Straffordville Circuit - 2
STRAFFORDVILLE

Ralph Humphry.....	\$ 24.40	Levi H. Hatch	\$ 2.75
A. c. Herrick.....	4.00	A. Bartlett.....	1.00
J. D. Phillips.....	20.00	D. Stratton.....	1.00
Mrs. Lipsitt.....	1.00	Geo. Humphry.....	3.00
Henry Howey.....	3.25	Wm. Lipsitt.....	1.80
A Friend.....	.25	Thomas Mason.....	1.00
H. L. Stratton.....	1.50	Herbert Hatch.....	1.00
J. O. Cable.....	3.50	Geo. Philips.....	.50
L. Howey.....	2.00	Mary Morrison.....	1.00
Wm. Hatch.....	5.50	Mrs. S. Wickett.....	16.00
Mrs. Mason.....	4.00	Samuel Harp.....	1.00
Jas. Spencer.....	10.00	Leonard Johnson.....	.75
C. W. Sanderson.....	1.50		
Wm. Howey.....	2.00	Total.....	\$114.20

NORTH HALL

T. G. Hatch.....	14.65	Mrs. Clinton.....	1.50
A. Todd.....	11.00	W. Denton.....	9.00
H. Berry.....	11.00	A.L. Cook.....	3.75
W. M. Ford.....	9.00	E.S. Hatch.....	1.00
Haggai Cook.....	9.00	B.C. Hatch.....	1.00
H. Cook.....	4.00	C. Cook.....	1.35
Mrs. Howell.....	7.75	J. Middleton.....	1.50
Miss E. A. Cook.....	4.00	L. Dennis.....	3.00
L. Benner.....	2.00	J.D. Adams.....	.50
T. Firby.....	3.00		
J. Veitch.....	4.00	Total.....	\$110.80
F. Summers.....	9.00		

CONNEXIONAL FUND

	Missionary	General	Contingent	U.C. Relief	Super Fund	Educational	Sustention	S.School Aid
Straffordville	\$15.11	\$.98	\$.38	\$ 1.11	\$ 6.61	\$1.04	\$.64	\$.38
Eden	12.82	.99	.55	.53	6.61	1.80	.75	.42
Maple Grove	21.90	.96	.79	.71	8.00	.89	.72	.20
Guysboro	14.39	.93	.88	.96	3.22	1.16	.76	.20
North Hall	18.97	.93	1.17	1.15	8.00	1.00	1.00	.20

Raised by the Circuit for Parsonage and Stable Repairs.....\$ 54.01





