
Bethinking of Old Orleans

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HULBERTON FREE METHODIST CHURCH

Around three weeks ago the old Free Methodist Church at Hulberton was almost completely destroyed by fire of unknown origin. Forlorn and neglected in appearance it stood as an idle landmark for almost the entirety of this Century.

Here then, is the story of its origin and demise. A Free Methodist Church was organized in 1874 at Hulberton by twenty people who withdrew from the Methodist Church across the street, feeling that it had departed from the teaching of its founder John Wesley. For eleven years they met in homes of members and the Hulberton Schoolhouse for worship. In 1885 the members incorporated and erected their church on a lot donated by M.H. Phillips on the west side of Main Street. They organized a Sunday School and carried on an active program with about twenty in membership for around twenty years. By 1900 they were unable to support a pastor for regular services but retained a Sunday School a little while longer. The Hulberton Church then disbanded and since the building was no longer needed it reverted to the Phillips property from which the site originally came. Following its ecclesiastical purpose, the belfry was removed and the interior has since been used as storage by William Phillips. Although over-looked as a building of architectural importance, it was a simplistic version of the Eastlake building of architectural importance, it was a simplistic version of the Eastlake Style which is abundantly found in the Hulberton and Holley areas of our county.

CORRECTION: From a recent column there have been 3 women supervisors appointed to complete their husband's unexpired term including Mrs. George H. Wilson from Carlton in 1933.