

BETHINKING OF OLDE ORLEANS

Vol. XXVIII, No. 39

9-28-06

MILLVILLE PRESBYTERIAN

From the Illustrated Historical Album of Orleans County 1879, we find that a Presbyterian Church was organized in Millville as early as 1821.

It was reported to have had 52 members in 1846.

The album states: "This Church, nominally Presbyterian and recognized as such by the Presbytery, was most of the time up to 1874 working under the Congregational form of government, as most of its members were of strong Congregational ancestry; and in April of that year those of the number who were strong in their faith in the Presbyterian Church polity took letters and were regularly organized as a Presbyterian Church."

Consequently, these 19 people organized by the Rev. D. Weisner of the Niagara Presbytery purchased the former Quaker meeting house in Millville for a church. At that time in 1874, they spent \$1,000 in repairs, redecorating and furnishings.

Our photo accompanying this story shows the east end of this cobblestone building which was built of lake-washed stone by Quakers in 1840.

This Presbyterian congregation survived until 1884, when it sold its cobblestone building



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

back to the revived Society of Friends (Quakers). However, by the mid-1890s they dissolved for good and in 1896, the old meeting house/church was sold and converted into a general store.

When the Presbyterians had their own building, 1874-84, they were served by the Congregational minister.

The Congregational Church in Millville, a brick structure built in 1870 is now a gift shop known as Another Time Another Place. The congregation dissolved around 1900, when it was discovered their minister was of low moral character. The church did not survive the scandal.

For many years, this church was used as a farm storage building. This followed its use as the Millville IOGT Lodge.