

BETHINKING OF OLDE ORLEANS

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AUG. 25, 1910

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This picture taken on Aug. 25, 1910, by W.C. Eaton shows the Orleans County Pioneer Association Drums Corps. The photo was taken in front of the Knowlesville Grange Hall that stood across the street from the present Knowlesville Methodist Church.

This building, however, was erected by the Baptists for a church in 1833. In 1873, it was completely remodeled to its appearance as seen here. In other words, the stained glass windows date from this period of time.

By 1908, the Knowlesville Baptist Church had dissolved and the building was purchased

by the Grange.

No doubt some special program was taking place here in 1910, perhaps hosted by the Grange. The picture shows predominantly men with only a couple of women showing in the back by the doorway.

One man appears holding a flag staff with what seems to be a shredded flag attached. This leads me to wonder if it isn't perhaps a conclave of Civil War veterans (GAR), although "Pioneer Drums Corps" is written on the back of the photo.

Following the demise of the Knowlesville Grange, this former church building was used by the Knowlesville Fire Dept. It has since been replaced with more modern facilities.