

Dublin Historical Society

DUBLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03444 • FOUNDED 1920

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Meetinghouses and Churches of Dublin

PART 3

This concludes the survey of places of worship built in Dublin. The Protestant Episcopal Emmanuel Church and the Roman Catholic Our Lady of the Snows were built for summer parishes. Fairwood Bible Chapel and Mountain View Bible Church are non-denominational Christian congregations.

EMMANUEL CHURCH

Like the Baptist congregation of a century earlier, those of the Protestant Episcopal faith held services in various locations in Dublin as early as 1874, but only during the summer months. By 1883 Rev. Reuben Kidner held regular services in the newly constructed Town Hall. Two years after the death of their sister, Elizabeth (Mrs. Casper Crowninshield), summer residents Mary Amory Greene and Margaret Greene proposed to build a church in memory of their sister. Their offer of \$2000 was soon matched by other contributors, allowing the hiring of Robert D. Andrews of the Boston architectural firm Andrews and Jacques to design a summer church; he subsequently donated his services.



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Emmanuel Church circa 1900

Three summer residents, Richard Parker, Raphael Pumpelly, and Dr. Hamilton Osgood managed the project, acquiring two and one half acres on the shoulder of Beech Hill from brothers Warren and George Fiske in June of 1887. By August local builder Alamander Ball, who also built the Town Hall and the Dublin Public Library, was hired as the contractor. Luckily, only the newly constructed horse sheds collapsed under heavy snow load in January of 1888, so that Bishop William Woodruff Niles could consecrate the building on August 3, 1888. Reverend Reuben Kidner would serve as minister for another 25 years.

Save the Date: Annual Meeting

FRIDAY AUGUST 25 AT 7:30 P.M.

FOUNTAIN ARTS BUILDING AT DUBLIN SCHOOL

Jamie Trowbridge will present : *"The History of Yankee and Dublin"*



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Interior of Emmanuel Church circa 1900 showing the original placement of the memorial windows designed by Frederic Crowninshield. By 1950 the windows had been moved into two groups of three, leaving the space behind the altar as a wooden panel.

Unlike the churches discussed in Parts 1 & 2, the nave of this shingle-style structure is nearly square with a wide transept near the altar. The louvered, octagonal steeple rises from the central intersection of roofs, instead of from a location on the end wall. On the west wall opposite the altar a huge stone hearth provides the only source of heat, the placement of which forces the entry porches to the side walls.

The interior remains rustic with unsheathed and unpainted walls punctuated by stained glass windows. Behind the altar the set of six memorial windows honoring Elizabeth Crowninshield date to the construction of the church. They were designed by a cousin of Casper Crowninshield, Frederic Crowninshield, who taught several of the Dublin Art Colony artists at the Museum of Fine Arts School in Boston in the late 1870s.

Additional memorial windows occupy the transept. In 1904 a set of five windows with a morning glory motif designed by the Tiffany Studios were installed in the north transept to memorialize the Parsons and Royall families. Five more windows grace the south transept: two memorialize individuals and three pay tribute to WWII casualties. The central window in the chancel, added in 1973, memorializes Augusta Petrone's mother, Mary Henderson. Extensive renovations to the foundation in 2010 will ensure Emmanuel's structural soundness for years to come.

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

Our Lady of the Snows was commissioned by summer residents from Boston and St. Louis, not for themselves but for the benefit of domestic servants residing with summer colony families. Previously, Roman Catholic services had been held in the Town Hall starting in 1891. Josiah Seward writes in the 1919 *History of Dublin, NH*, "Early, every Sunday, one hears the rattling of carriages and the whizzing of the automobiles as the numerous servants from various mansions are being conveyed to the seven o'clock mass." Like Emmanuel Church, services were held from June to October.

Built in 1904 and consecrated in 1905, this Catholic church was designed in the Gothic Revival style by Boston ecclesiastical architect Frank Augustus Bourne. It is notable for its shingled buttresses, eyebrow dormers, steeply gabled Gothic entrance porch, and octagonal cupola, echoing the cupola at Emmanuel Church.



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Circa 1910

With 28 rows of pews, it seated 225 people. It has 24 stained glass windows of opaque glass laid out in simple geometric designs. Of these, three groups of tripartite windows occupy the north and south walls of the nave, all with memorial inscriptions on their base.

Being a mission church, Our Lady of the Snows had no permanent priest. Rev. Furlong of East Jaffrey preached at services in the Town Hall



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Interior of Our Lady of the Snows circa 1910. Note that the windows in the apse are plain glass. Stained glass designs would be added later.

starting in 1891 and was succeeded in 1906 by Rev. McGill and later by Rev. Daniel Cotter of the Saint Denis Catholic Parish in Harrisville village. (In contrast Saint Denis' construction had been funded by its parishioners in 1895. Because its priests also preached in Dublin, it bears mention as the 13th place of worship even though it was built in Harrisville after 1870.)

The Great Depression ended the era of domestic servants in Dublin, but summer services continued until 1992. Eventually, Our Lady of the Snows was sold to Bruce Hunter, who hired architect Dan Scully to redesign the interior as a residence in 2004.

FAIRWOOD BIBLE CHAPEL

The Kingdom Christian Ministries, Inc. (The Kingdom) founded in 1892 moved its headquarters from Massachusetts Avenue in Boston to Fairwoods Farm on Old Marlborough Road in 1951. The property had belonged to Mrs. Charles Aldrich who had transformed the farmhouse built by Silas P. Frost in 1855 into a substantial summer residence in 1910. Upon purchase The Kingdom renovated the main floor of the adjacent horse barn into a sanctuary for worship, using windows and interior woodwork salvaged from the dismantled

sanctuary of the Kingdom's farming community "The Hilltop" located in Shiloh, Maine. The Reverend Joseph Wakeman described The Kingdom as a "religious organization... with a Christian emphasis. Its purpose is to teach the Bible and to live by its principles."

By the fall of 1963 the growth of the community spurred the decision to design and construct a new church capable of seating 700 to 1000 people. Under the guidance of Reverend Victor Abram they set the ambitious goal of completing the new chapel by September 25, 1965. The story of its construction is one of copious prayer and prolonged and incredibly hard work by legions of volunteers from near and far. Kenath Sandford and Charles Pass of California volunteered their time to design the structure. Volunteers harvested and milled the wood used for framing on Kingdom land in Maine. The only outside contractor hired for the project excavated the site for the foundation. The church was finished on schedule, in time for the first day of the "feast of ingathering" which 450 people attended. The total cost outlay came to only \$15,000.



Lisa Foote

Fairwood Bible Chapel

The building is in the form of a cross with a raised baptistry on the rear of the platform behind the speakers. The original 700 seats, salvaged from two theaters slated for demolition in Pennsylvania, were refinished and reupholstered on site and installed in concentric arcs whose radii originate at the baptistry. Two cornerstones flank the front doors: one dated September 25, 1897 reused from the "Temple" at Shiloh is inscribed with the verse

from Isaiah 28:16 and one dated September 25, 1965 is inscribed with "Christ Jesus...The Cornerstone - Till He Come".

Note: Details about the construction of Fairwood Bible Chapel were found in Keeping Faith: Fifty Years at Fairwood by Timothy F. Murray, 2012.

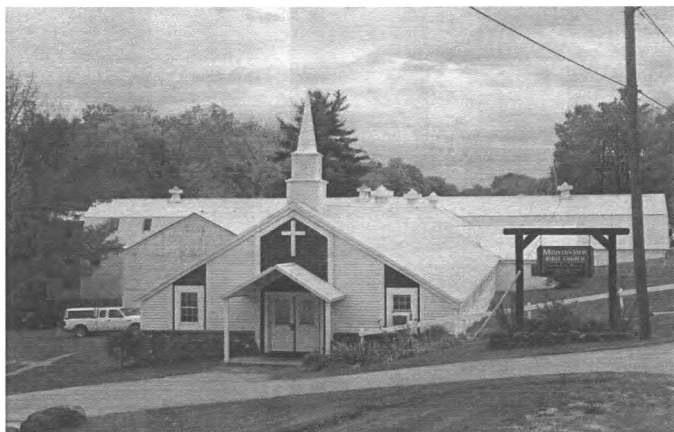
MOUNTAIN VIEW BIBLE CHURCH

Mountain View Bible Church is aptly named given its expansive view of the eastern slope of Mt. Monadnock. Its location on the Dublin Christian Academy (DCA) campus on Page Road speaks to its genesis. In the early 1960s Nelson and Ruth Blount, who were living in the

converted into an auditorium and chapel as a sanctuary. Reverend Moody served as minister until his death in 1994. The second pastor, the Reverend Bob Emberley, described the mission of the church in an interview in 1999, "To inspire people to know God through biblical preaching and Christ-honoring music during worship; to offer an atmosphere of Christian fellowship and care... and to provide training and support for worldwide mission programs".

The only interior adornment beside the pews is a cross behind the dais when DCA is not in session, belying the space's continued shared use by the school and the church.

- Lisa Foote



Lisa Foote

Mountain View Bible Church. Much of the barn complex was used by the Wenigmann family for a large chicken operation in the 1940's and early 1950's. Nelson Blount built the cow barn in the foreground.

James Gowing farmhouse, part of which was built in the 1780s, wanted a Christian education for their children. To that end in 1964 they gave their 1000 acre "Staghead Farm" expressly for the establishment of a Christian boarding school to Christian Schools, Inc. of Glen Cove, Maine, a non-denominational group. Brothers Dr. Melvin E. Moody and Dr. Leon Moody came to Dublin from Florida to establish the school.

It would be the Reverend Melvin Moody who established Mountain View Bible Church in 1982. In a similar fashion to The Kingdom, he used one of the former barns which DCA had

GENEROSITY OF THE SABINE FAMILY

Over the years Blake and Thea Sabine and their daughter, Edie Powell, have donated large quantities of photographs and other memorabilia pertaining to the Cabot and Brush families to DHS collections.

Recently DHS received the most generous gift of all, a bequest from Blake and Thea. We are so grateful for their thoughtfulness, because these extra resources will enable us to consider projects of larger scope. We hope the news of the Sabine's bequest will serve as a reminder to us all to consider adding the Dublin Historical Society to our estate plan. This kind of gift ensures our ongoing work preserving Dublin's heritage.

IN MEMORIAM

The society reports with great sorrow the recent loss of

Barbara Rowe DeMarneffe

Thea Cabot Sabine, *former DHS Trustee.*

We extend our condolences to their families