

Copied from the original handwritten church records

First Presbyterian Church of Whiteford  
Saturday, Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>, 1834

The Presbyterians and Congregationalists of the town of Whiteford convened at the school house in said town for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of organizing a church.

The Rev. Albert Worthington was present and opened the meeting with prayer. After stating the object of the meeting, individuals present were requested to present their letters from the different Churches at the East. The following persons then presented their letters vis Mr. Joel Green and his wife Philomela, Simon Green and his wife Sibil Green all of the Congregational Church in Marion N.Y. Elijah Rice and Mrs. Rice of the Congregational Church in Marion N.Y. Robert Smith and Nancy Smith his wife of the Presbyterian Church of Ovid Seneca County N.Y. Nathan G. Watkins and Mrs Amy Watkins of the Presbyterian Church in Naples N.Y. Mrs Sarah Harroun of the Presbyterian Church in Pembroke N.Y. Mrs Sally Hollister of the Presbyterian Church in Rome Oneida County N.Y. These persons were also examined as to their religious experiences. The meeting was then adjourned to half past one in the afternoon, and closed with prayer.

Afternoon. Agreeably to appointment a preparatory lecture for communion was delivered by the minister present, and the unfinished business of the morning was resumed.

George Peck who has not received his letter was examined as to experimental piety.

The articles of faith and covenant adopted by the Presbytery of Detroit were unanimously adopted. As part of those present were Congregationalists and part were Presbyterians, the question was tried whether the Church to be formed should be Presbyterian or Congregationalist when by the unanimous voice it was decided that it be called the first Presbyterian Church of the town of Whiteford and to be connected with Monroe Presbytery.

The question of temperance was then agitated and freely discussed whether the church ought not to pass some resolution in relation to the subject when the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously consented to. Whereas we consider the use of ardent spirits injurious to persons in health and the occasional use of it the means of forming intemperate habits, we do therefore resolve and agree 1st That we will neither manufacture, traffick in, or use ardent spirits except for medical or mechanical purposes. 2. That we will not receive any member into our communion either on examination or by certificate who will not subscribe to the above resolutions. The meeting was then closed by prayer. A sermon was preached Sabbath morning, and after the close of divine service, Mrs Alta Plumb of the Congregational Church of Volney presented her letter and was heard as to her religious experience. Also Wm White, Asa Cande and Miss Elisa Hallet who had not yet received their letters were examined as to their experimental piety. Mr Wm White and Nathan Watkins were chosen elders and Mr. William White Clerk. In the afternoon a sermon was preached and the Church was properly organized by rising up and assenting to the articles of faith and entering into the solemn Covenant after which the two elders chosen were regularly ordained and three children baptised vis Horace Edwin Rice, Albert Daton Watkins, and Alma Plumb. The ordinance of the Lords supper was then administered. The day was pleasant, and unusually large concourse of people for the place were present, who manifested solemnity and attention and the prospect of a flourishing Church is fondly cherished.