

BUILT IN 1896...

The building was commissioned in 1895 by C. I. Whiting as a memorial to his wife Flora E. Giddings Whiting.

Work began in the spring of 1896 and the church was consecrated September 20, 1896.

The building was designed by Edward S. Hammatt of Davenport a well known Iowa architect from 1883 until his death in 1907. He drew the plans for at least seven Episcopal churches in Iowa. This building is the best example of Hammatt's original work.

The building remains one of the best examples of Gothic Revival and Romanesque building design in this area of the state.

The magnificent stained glass windows pre-date the building and were donated to this church by the St. Thomas Episcopal Church congregation of Sioux City. The windows had been removed from their church that was torn down in 1892.

Albert and Edmund Jenkinson Contractors of Sioux City constructed the building.

The cornerstone was laid May 28, 1896, by Bishop Perry Assisted by Quarry Lodge No. 404 A.F. & A.M. of Mapleton.

The building cost approximately \$15,000 and was deeded to the Trustees of the Diocese of Iowa in 1896.

Rev. William Frost, the first resident minister, lived in the rectory, also built in 1896, now a private residence located just south of the church building.

The last service in the building was held in 1984 - the funeral of Charles G. Whiting - the son of C.I. and Flora Whiting. Deconsecration services were held in 1988.

The Guild Hall, located east of the church building, was completed in 1926.

HISTORY OF MAPLETON

In October 1877, when the Northwestern Railroad was established on the east side of the Maple River the town of East Mapleton was plotted. "Old Mapleton" has been established in 1857, on the west side of the Maple River. Many of its residents and businesses moved east across the river and relocated next to the railroad. On May 10, 1878, an election was held approving the incorporation of East Mapleton. The population was 188. On March 2, 1896, by a vote of 114 for and 5 against, the town's name was changed to Mapleton. In 1978, Mapleton celebrated its centennial. Today the residents of Mapleton are proud of its strong business district, outstanding medical care, active churches, good school, several popular sources of entertainment and attractive residential area. The 2000 census shows a Mapleton population of 1416.



To Arrange A Tour Of
The Museum of American History

Contact

Keith Robinson

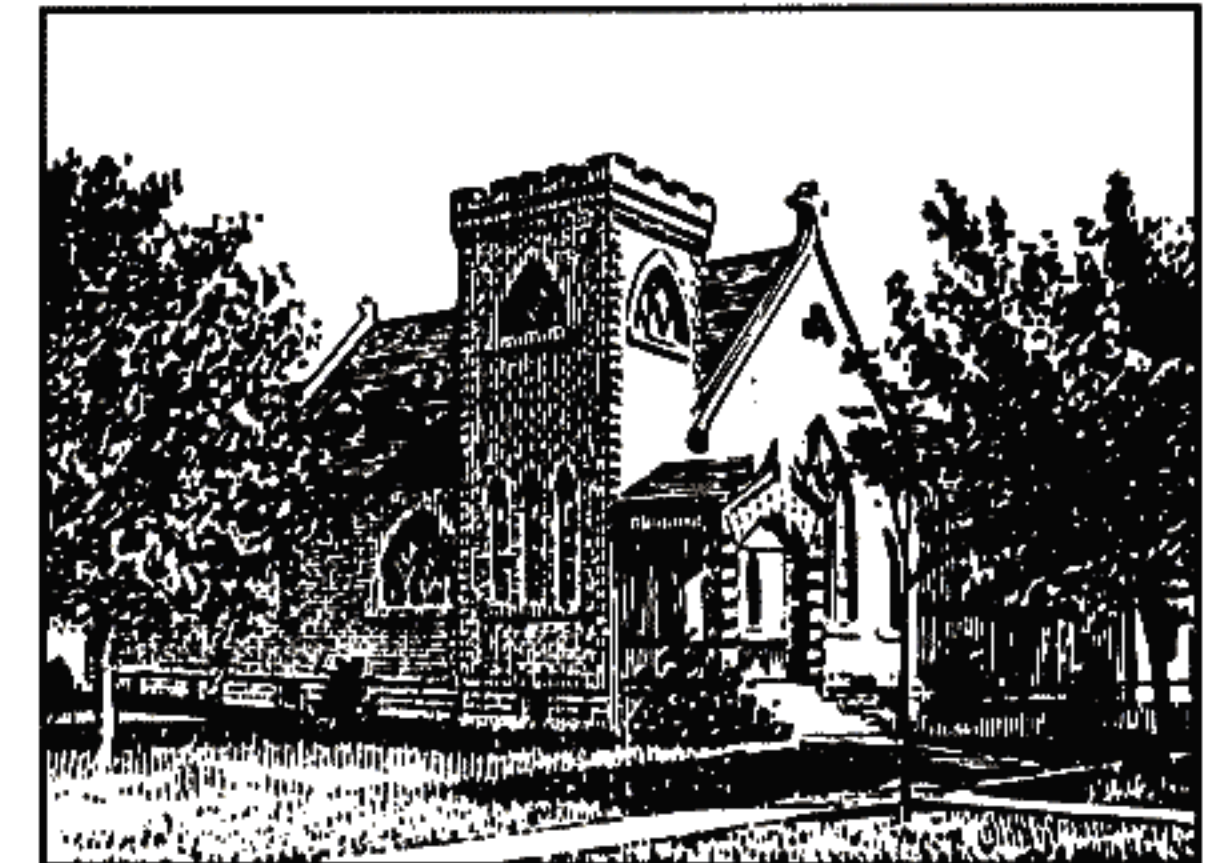
502 1/2 S. 7th

Mapleton, Iowa 51034

Phone: 712-881-1460

Visitors Are Always Welcome

THE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY



302 SOUTH 7th STREET
MAPLETON, IOWA

THIS BUILDING IS LISTED ON
THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF
HISTORIC PLACES

Welcome to...

THE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

LOCATED IN THE FORMER
TRINITY MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

IN 1988...

Keith Robinson purchased the church building and the neighboring hall planning to develop a museum in the church building. His personal collection of historic artifacts would provide the first collections for the museum. The Museum of American History would focus on important periods in our country's history. Keith's collection of political Americana would be a principle portion of the exhibit. Local history would be highlighted and appear with important national events.

Before a museum could open extensive work needed to be completed. Some of the major projects included patching and plastering the walls and painting. The building was completely rewired and the floor was refinished. Display cases were built and displays developed.

Extensive research and documentation was necessary to have the U.S. Department of the Interior list this building on the National Register of Historic Places. This listing recognizes the architecture preserved in the building.

After several years of work the museum officially opened September 21, 1996 - almost 100 years to the day following its dedication.

