

[Genoa, Cayuga Co. NY]

A preliminary meeting of Universalists and others of Genoa was held at the house of Wm. Miner June 12, 1829, for the purpose of building a meeting-house, which it was resolved should be free to all other denominations, when not occupied by the Universalists... This meeting was attended by Wm. Miller, Alfred Avery, Edwin Avery, Samuel Moore, Zerah Whitney, Azor Cole, and Worthington Smith. July 9th, 1829, Wm. Miner, Worthington Smith, Edwin Avery, John Leavenworth, and James Young were constituted a committee to locate and purchase a site in the village of Genoa, to build a house, and secure a title for the benefit of the Universalist Society. A subscription was obtained for that purpose from 116 individuals. On Aug. 2, 1829, at a meeting held in the school-house in District No. 5, "the usual place of worship," presided over by Wm. Hewitt, an organization was effected under the statute, the above name adopted, and trustees elected. Aug. 13 the trustees contracted to build a house for \$2300; on the 19th, decided to build on three-fourths of an acre east of the residence of W. Smith, who was to give and level it. On July 29, 1830, the next year, the church was finished and dedicated by Rev. D[olphus] Skinner of Utica.

Elliot Storke, "The First Universalist Society of Genoa," in *History of Cayuga County 1789-1879*, (1879), p. 499.

Transcribed on 6 Apr 2009 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY