

[Jerusalem (Branchport) Yates Co. NY]

Auction—On July 1, 1920, the following property will be sold at public auction at the Four Corners in the village of Branchport. Sale to commence at 1 o'clock P.M. Terms, Cash: The Universalist Church Farm, so-called of about 50 acres, one mile north of Branchport, on the east side of highway, including one-half of crop now growing on the farm. Also the house and lot in Branchport known as the Universalist Parsonage. The above property came onto possession of the Branchport Historical Society by the will of Peter H. Bitley, recorded in Yates County Clerk's Office March 12, 1891. In section seven and by the terms of said will, it has now reverted to the Universalist Relief Fund, now controlled by the New York State Universalist Convention, who will execute deeds for the property. There will also be sold a church organ, stove, tables, chairs, lamps, brackets, chandeliers, seats, curtains, matting and other articles.

ROBERT ALEXANDER, Auctioneer

Trustees:

Mrs. W. A. Kennedy

Mrs. George Perry

Mr. E. M. Stever

Penn Yan Democrat, Penn Yan NY, Fri. 18 Jun 1920

[Jerusalem (Branchport) Yates Co. NY]

From the Hammondsport Herald correspondent:

"There are now three churches in Branchport, the Universalist edifice having been sold to Oliver Lynn and Seymour Poyneer. What they intend to do with the building is not yet definitely known. It had long been unused. It was originally erected through the means and efforts of Peter H. Bitley, who was not only its founder but its chief maintainer while he lived. Gradually the society has diminished 'till they could no longer maintain an organization. Orba Burtch purchased the land on which on which it stood.

Penn Yan Democrat, Penn Yan NY, Fri. 4 Jun 1920

[Jerusalem (Branchport) Yates Co. NY]

—The real estate which belonged to the Branchport Universalist church Society, was sold at auction a few days ago. It was a farm of about 50 acres, half a mile or so north of Branchport. Several years ago the house on the premises was burned down. It was for a long time the property of Casper Hibbard, 'till his death. At the auction the property was bid off by Guy Herries, for \$2,300. It joins his land on the north.

—The Universalist church at Branchport, is no more, the edifice being completely dismantled, the material of which goes into the construction and repair of other buildings elsewhere. It was a neat and commodious structure, and during the life of its founder, Peter H. Bitley, there was a flourishing membership and the maintenance of a regular pastor. Rev. D. C. Reilly was the last regular minister and he was gifted with rare intellectual endowments.

Penn Yan Democrat, Penn Yan NY, Fri. 16 Jul 1920

Transcribed on 5 Dec 2010 by Karen E. Dau of Rochester, NY