

Mexico, Oswego Co. NY

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF MEXICO. Agreeably to previous notice a meeting was held April 12, 1832 at the school-house in Mexicoville, by the friends of this denomination. O[badiah] Whiston was chosen moderator, and Charles B. Brown clerk. A constitution was framed, and the name of the "Universalist Society of Mexico" adopted. The parish organization consisted of twenty-four members. The first trustees were Alexander J. Danby, Avery Skinner, Joseph Lamb, Amos Church, and Pliny Sabin.

Rev. O. [Obadiah] Whiston became the first pastor, and was in turn respectively succeeded by the Revs. Charles B. Brown, Henry Van Campen, O[liver] Wilcox, J. S. Kibbe, and William Sias. In 1849, during the pastoral labors of the last-named gentleman, there arose some dissatisfaction on the part of the members. The society refused to be represented in the Association [of Universalists], and the meetings went down.

The first meeting to revive the church was called and conducted by W[illiam] S. Goodell, January 16, 1853, at which time the parish organization was resuscitated. The church was legally organized in 1868, with fifteen members, and Rev. W. N. Barber was installed as pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. James Vincent, who in turn was followed by Rev. E. B. Cooper, the present pastor. The society consists of fifty-two members. The present handsome and commodious church was erected in 1870, and was dedicated in the fall of the same year by Rev. J. G. Bartholomew. The value of the church property is eight thousand dollars.

Crisfield Johnson, *History of Oswego County, New York*
(Philadelphia: L. H. Everts, 1877), p. 272)