

TRUSTEES

ROY F. HAYES  
1009 MYRTLE AVE., WATERTOWN

KENNETH DOWNEY  
305 CANISTEO ST., HORNELL

GEORGE A. FRIEDRICH  
82 WALL ST., NEW YORK

# New York State Convention of Universalists

TRUSTEES

REV. BENJAMIN B. HERSEY, D. D.  
4 WEST 76TH ST., NEW YORK

REV. ELLESWORTH C. REAMON, D. D.  
677 SOUTH WARREN ST., SYRACUSE

REV. HOWARD B. GILMAN  
95 W. GANSEVOORT ST., LITTLE FALLS

OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT AND SECRETARY  
526 CUMBERLAND AVE., SYRACUSE 10, N. Y.

March 17/51

Dear Arthur :

In regard to the Olcott society :

1930 - It deeded its property to the State Convention.

Oct. 7, 1936 - Convention declared the society extinct.

November 20, 1936 - sale to Olcott Fire Co. Inc., was  
recorded at Niagara County Clerk's office.

Can you ascertain from the office, the date of recording the deed in 1930 - where the society deeded to the New York State Convention of Universalists ?

I need this date -- and can move on from there.

Thanking you,

Prof. Leuning

Dear Fred -

I have been looking  
a long time on this  
matter. Don't find the  
date you want.

Yours truly  
William McNeil

11-15-7 Lockport St. Albans

623/302 - 1936 -

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DONALD W. BEEBE, TREASURER  
373 ARDONNE DRIVE, KENMORE 17, N. Y.

April 16, 1951

Rev. Fred C. Leining, D.D.  
526 Cumberland Avenue  
Syracuse 10, New York

Dear Fred:

Over the weekend I made a thorough check on my books and the vault papers regarding the Olcott matter. I found that on August 31, 1936 Faye Parsons had written the Olcott church property at estimated value and liabilities assumed on taking it over, at \$2,000.00. On August 31, 1937, Faye had a further entry on the Olcott church of \$466.63. I am not able to find just what this was but as the church was apparently sold at about that time, for \$2500.00, this must have been the net amount involved. On August 31, 1938, a further entry of legal expenses regarding the Olcott church of \$150.00 was paid. This leaves the net amount carried, as received from the Olcott church, on my books of \$2,316.63.

The deed to the Convention is dated October 26, 1936 and was recorded on November 5, 1936 in the Niagara County Clerk's Office in Liber 622 of Deeds at page 411. I have now found this deed in the Treasurer's files.

In the file also is a letter from Attorney Fazio dated November 13, 1936 which says that the Olcott church sold for \$2500.00 and indicated that he enclosed with the letter a check for \$1250.00. The letter also indicates that the purchaser gave back a \$1250.00 mortgage to make up the balance of the \$2500.00 purchase price, which mortgage the correspondence indicates was subsequently paid in full.

There does not seem to be anything about a formal dissolution of the church but maybe with the reference to this deed and an affidavit that you might offer to make on your part with reference to the situation, you might be able to get the Lockport Bank to aid you in getting the U.S. Bond turned over to the Convention. Please let me know if I can give you any further information or help.

Sincerely yours,



DONALD W. BEEBE,  
Treasurer

DWB/car  
Dictated but not read

To the Treasury Department, Fiscal Service, Washington, D.D.  
Bureau of the Public Debt  
Division of Loans & Currency

Dear Sirs : SUR:ER

March 1, 1948

In answer to your letter to Mr. Albert B. Becker, President of the Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank in Lockport, N.Y., relating to a \$50.00 Fourth Liberty Loan, 4 1/2 per cent bond of 1933-38, No. 769,287, registered in the name of The Universalist Church of Olcott, N.Y.

Quote from Chapter 53, Laws of 1909 as amended by Chapter 555 of the laws of 1918 ... Religious Corporations Law of the State of New York on Property of Extinct Churches... If services have not been held for two consecutive years prior thereto - if it has less than 13 resident attending members paying \*\* governing body may declare it extinct.

This is to certify that

The New York State Convention of Universalists, incorporated in the State of New York, with its office at 526 Cumberland Avenue in Syracuse, N.Y., is the governing body of Universalist churches and societies within the State of New York, and is the successor organization legally to extinct churches or societies of the Universalist denomination in the State of New York.

In 1930, the Universalist Church of Olcott, N.Y., at a legal meeting decided its land and edifice to the New York State Convention of Universalists.

On October 7, 1936, in view of the fact that regular services had not been held by the Universalist Church of Olcott, N.Y., for a period of two years and more and its membership carried less than thirteen members, the New York State Convention of Universalists at a legal meeting declared the said Universalist Church to be extinct.

On November 5, 1936, the New York State Convention of Universalists sold the land and edifice to the Olcott Fire Company, Inc., of Olcott, N.Y., and the deed is recorded under this date in the Niagara County Clerk's office in Lockport, N.Y.... The amount realized by this sale appears in the General Fund of the said State Convention as the Olcott Fund, \$2,321.29, and the income is used for the general work of the said State Convention.

As Secretary of the organization, successor to the Universalist Church of Olcott, N.Y., I am appealing to your department to recognize the New York State Convention of Universalists as successor to the Universalist Church of Olcott, N.Y., that it is legally entitled to receive the said \$50 bond, No. 759,287 and to apply it to its Olcott Fund for its general work (income) and authorize and direct the said Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank to terminate its trust and holding of the said bond, surrendering it to the New York State Convention of Universalists .

A true copy :

Fred C. Leining  
Secretary

June 28, 1951  
526 Cumberland Avenue  
Syracuse, New York.

Biel -  
leave  
corner forced

Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York.

This is to certify that Fred C. Leining, a resident and citizen of  
Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York, appeared before me on June 29,  
1951, certifying that he is the Secretary of the New York State Convention  
of Universalists and that the statements, which he made on this document,  
are true.

Ex #  
113

✓ 1 <sup>25</sup>/<sub>100</sub> pt. (envelope)  
5 pages Pinkies  
1204 Hills Bldg

Syracuse, N.Y.

DEED

FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
OF  
OLCOTT, NEW YORK  
TO  
NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION  
OF  
UNIVERSALISTS

DATED Oct. 26 1936

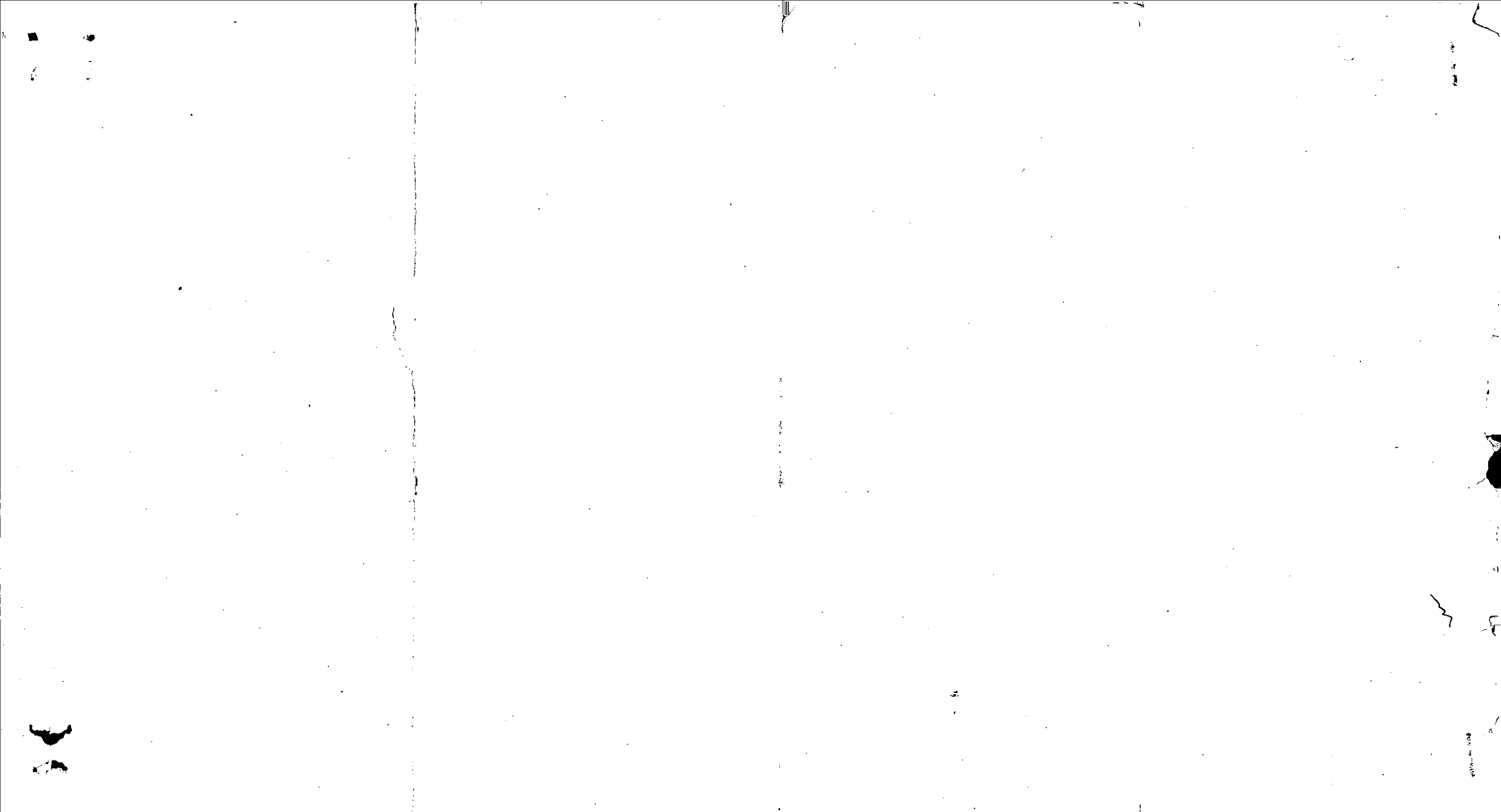
RECORDED  
on the  
5 day of Nov. A.D. 1936  
at 10:04 o'clock A M.

in Liber 622 of DEEDS  
at PAGE 411 and examined

[Signature]  
Clerk  
mk. Lhp

RECORD SOCIETY  
100 WEST BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY  
1936 NOV 6 AM 10:04

FILED



THIS INDENTURE, made the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-six, between THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF OLCOTT, NEW YORK, a religious corporation organized under the Laws of the State of New York, and located in the Village of Olcott, County of Niagara, and State of New York, party of the first part, and

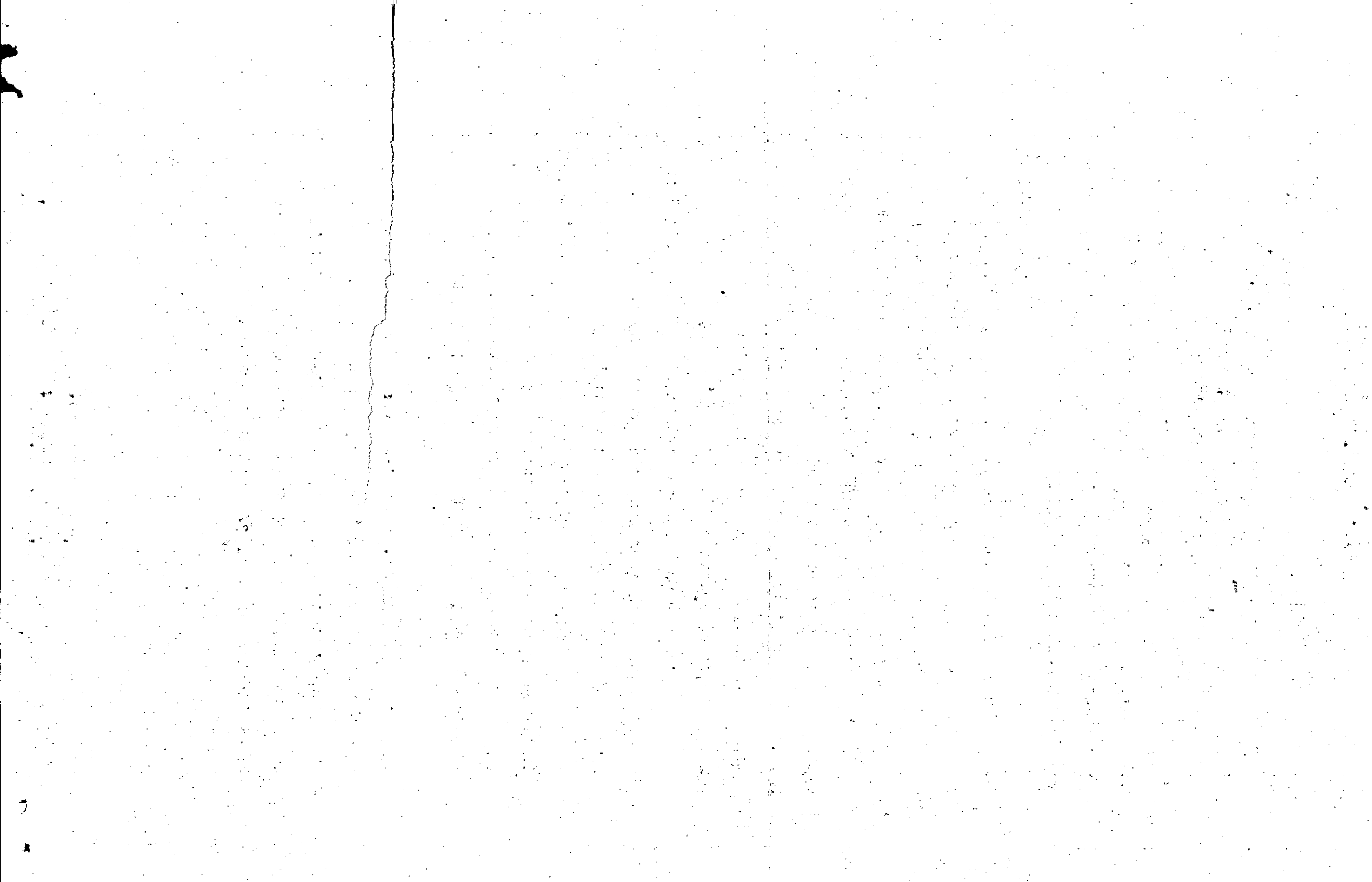
NEW YORK STATE CONVENTION OF UNIVERSALISTS, a religious corporation, organized under the Laws of the State of New York, having its office in the City of Syracuse, New York, party of the second part.

WHEREAS, the party of the first part is a member of and in fellowship with the Universalist denomination of the State of New York, party of the second part, and

WHEREAS, upon a duly verified petition of the sole and only surviving trustees of the said First Universalist Church of Olcott, Niagara County, New York, and in pursuance to an authorization granted to the said trustees by an order of the County Court dated the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1936, and entered in the County Clerk's Office of the County of Niagara, New York on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1936 authorizing, empowering and directing the said trustees on behalf of the party of the first part to transfer and convey the property hereinafter described.

NOW, THEREFORE, THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, that the party of the first part in pursuance to the provisions and authority given to it by the order above described does hereby grant and release unto the party of the second part, its successors and assigns forever.





"ALL THAT TRACT OR PARCEL OF LAND, situate in the Village of Olcott, Town of Newfane, County of Niagara, and State of New York, being part of Lot 11, Township 15 Range 7 of the Holland Purchase ( so called) described as follows: Beginning at a point in the east line of Lockport Street which is 85 feet north of the north line of Washington Street and running thence north along the east line of Lockport Street 80 feet to the south line of Village Lot 4; thence east parallel to the north line of Washington Street 132 feet to the west line of Village Lot 5; thence south along said west line 88 feet; thence west parallel to the north line of Washington Street, 40 feet; thence north parallel to the east line of Lockport Street, 8 feet; thence west parallel to the north line of Washington Street, 92 feet to the point of beginning, be the same more or less. Being and intended to be the same premises conveyed to James D. Cooper and others, as Trustees of the First Universalist Society of Olcott, by deed dated August 5, 1858, and recorded in Niagara County Clerk's Office in Liber 82 of Deeds at page 594, on April 18, 1859, excepting therefrom that portion thereof deeded by the Trustees to Thomas Halsted, by deed dated October 10, 1872, and recorded in said County Clerk's Office in Liber 131 of Deeds at page 183 on April 21, 1873."

TOGETHER with the appurtenances and all the estate and rights of the party of the first part in and to said premises.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the premises herein granted unto the party of the second part, its successors and assigns forever.

AND the party of the first part, covenants as follows:

FIRST. That the party of the second part shall quietly enjoy the said premises.

SECOND. That the party of the first part will forever WARRANT the title to said premises.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the party of the first part, having no corporate seal has caused these presents to be signed, executed, acknowledged and delivered in its behalf by Ruby M. Clark, Irene Leonard and Otis Case, the surviving trustees of the said corporation.

THE FIRST UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF OLCOTT

By: Ruby M. Clark  
Surviving Trustee

Irene Leonard  
Surviving Trustee

Otis L. Case  
Surviving Trustee

STATE OF NEW YORK ) SS:  
COUNTY OF NIAGARA )  
*Town of Tonawanda*

On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1936, before me personally came Ruby M. Clark, Irene Leonard and Otis Case, to me personally known, who being by me duly severally sworn did depose and say, that they reside in the Village of Olcott, Niagara County, New York; that they are the sole and only surviving trustees of the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; that they know the said corporation has no corporate seal; that they signed the said instrument in pursuance to an order of the County Court dated the 24<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1936, and entered in the Niagara County Clerk's Office on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of October, 1936, and signed their names thereto in pursuance to said order.

Halter W. Beachley  
Notary Public  
*Justice of Peace*

OLCOTT FIRE COMPANY, INC.

OLCOTT, NEW YORK

Mar. 16, 1951

Rev. Mr. Feining  
Syracuse, N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

I find that the Universalist property was sold to the Olcott Fire Co. Inc. <sup>and</sup> recorded at the Niagara County Clerk's office on Nov. 20, 1936

The following people are still living in Olcott <sup>and</sup> were members of the Universalist Church.

Mrs Mabel Baker.

Mrs Hazel Aikin.

Mrs Althea Halsted.

Mr. Milo Smith.

Mrs Alice Dietrick 113 Upland Ave. Ithica N.Y.

Mr <sup>and</sup> Mrs James B. Chapman Sr.

Mr <sup>and</sup> Mrs Otis Case

Mrs Emil Hagen

John Tenbrook

Oct. 7/36

Declared extinct

Notation to sell  
to Olcott Fire Dept.

Property

declared

in 1936

Sincerely yours  
Olcott Fire Co. Inc.  
Leonard Wilson Secretary.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
FISCAL SERVICE

Washington 25

Bureau of the Public Debt  
Division of Loans and Currency

Mar 1 1948

In your reply refer to SUR:TR

Mr. Albert B. Becker  
President  
The Farmers and Mechanics' Savings Bank  
Lockport, New York

Dear Mr. Becker:

Further reference is made to your letter of January 9, 1948, in which you advise that your bank is holding in safe-keeping a \$50 Fourth Liberty Loan  $4\frac{1}{4}$  percent Bond of 1933-38, No. 759,287, registered in the name of The Universalist Church of Olcott, which congregation disbanded a number of years ago, and the assets reverted to the New York State Convention of Universalists, Syracuse, New York. You state you would like to turn this bond over to the rightful authorities.

Assuming that the congregation was dissolved pursuant to the provisions of Section 18, New York Religious Corporations Law, to show that the New York State Convention of Universalists is entitled to the bond, we suggest there be submitted a copy of the petition for dissolution, certified under seal of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, showing the distribution of the property formerly belonging to The Universalist Church of Olcott.

Upon receipt and examination of the evidence we shall be glad to advise you further.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) M. Wesley  
Chief, Division of Loans and Currency

526 Cumberland Avenue  
Syracuse, New York  
June 28, 1951

To the Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank  
Lockport, New York/  
Att. Frederick Sand, President.

Dear Mr. Sand :

In relation to the \$50.00 Fourth Liberty Bond held by your  
Bank in the name of the Universalist Church, Olcott, N.Y.

Religious Corporations Law of the State of New York - Property  
of Extinct Churches. Such incorporated governing body may decide that  
a church, parish or society in connection with it or over which it  
has ecclesiastical jurisdiction, has become extinct, if it has failed  
for two consecutive years next prior thereto, to maintain religious  
services according to the discipline, customs and usages of such  
governing body, or has had less than thirteen resident attending  
members paying annual pew-rent or making annual contribution to its  
support .... Chapter 53, Laws of 1909 as amended by Chapter 555 of  
the laws of 1918.

This is to certify that

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office at 526 Cumberland Avenue in Syracuse, N.Y., is the governing  
of Universalist churches and societies within the State of New York.

In 1930, the Universalist Society at a legal meeting deeded its  
edifice and land to the New York State Convention of Universalists.

On October 7, 1936, in view of the fact that regular services had  
not been held for a period of two years and more and its membership  
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of Universalists declared the Universalist Society to be extinct.

On November 20, 1936, the New York State Convention of Universalists  
sold the building and land to the Olcott Fire Co., Inc. of Olcott,  
N.Y., and the deed is recorded in the Niagara County Clerk's office  
in Lockport, N.Y. This amount appears in the General Fund of the  
said State Convention as the Olcott Fund, \$2,321.29 and the income  
is used for the general work of the-said State Convention.

As the successor organization of the Universalist Society of Olcott,  
N.Y., I am hereby as its Secretary making ##### the appeal that the  
Treasury Department, Fiscal Service, Washington, 25, D.D. through  
the Bureau of the Public Debt, Division of Loans and Currency,  
recognize the New York State Convention of Universalists as successor  
organization and authorize and direct the transfer of the said  
\$50.00 Fourth Liberty Loan, 4 1/2 per cent bond of 1933-38, No.759,287,  
registered in the name of the Universalist Church of Olcott, N.Y.