

Whereas on or about the 12<sup>th</sup> of September  
1840 a Religious Society was formed in  
Iowa City, called the First Presbyterian  
Church of Iowa City and afterward on  
the 31<sup>st</sup> day of Decr 1842 said Society,  
being desirous of placing themselves in  
an attitude to receive a conveyance of  
real estate and to build a house of Wor-  
ship thereon and to transact such secular  
business, as might be necessary to effec-  
tuate the object of their organization -  
adopted the following Certificate of  
Organization and caused the same to  
be recorded in the Recorders office of  
Johnson County, viz -

"Iowa City, Iowa Territory Decr= 31<sup>st</sup> 1842  
"In conformity to an act of the Legislature  
"approved Feby 14<sup>th</sup> 1842 Supplemental  
"to an Act relative to Incorporated Re-  
ligious Societies, Approved Decr 22<sup>nd</sup> 1840.

"This is to certify that on the 12<sup>th</sup> of Sept  
1840, a church was organized in Iowa  
City, Iowa Territory, to be known by the  
name of the First Presbyterian Church of  
Iowa City - John McConnell was duly  
elected Ruling Elder in this church at  
its organization -

"Rev. G. Bell and	3	Presiding Ministers
"Rev. M. Wimmer	3	
"Rev. M. Homan	Present Pastor	
"John McConnell	Elder	3
"Diodate Holt	Deacon	3
"Chauncy Swan		
"Joseph Schell	3	
"George J. Huay	3	
"Theodore Saxy	3	Trustees
"R. Hutchison	3	
"J. Willmargate	3	
"Diodate Holt	3	

"Given under my hand Decr<sup>3</sup>,<sup>rd</sup> 1842  
"George Perry. Recorder  
"Johnson County  
"Iowa Territory -"

And Whereas no new Trustees have been elected by this Society since its organization and many of those first designated as Trustees have moved away and consequently are incapable of acting, and Whereas the Elder and Deacon have also been removed the one by Death and the other to a distant state and no full or authentic record of the Society nor of the Corporation now exists and Whereas the Laws of the Land

in regard to the incorporation of Religious Societies have been greatly changed since their first organization - This Society being desirous to place their temporal affairs on a safe footing under the State Constitution and the Laws of the Land as they are at this time do now establish and ordain the following <sup>6</sup> Constitution -

Art. 1 - This Society shall be called the First Presbyterian Church of Town City

Art. 2 - The Doctrines and Discipline of this Church shall be in accordance with "The Constitution of "The Presbytery man Church in the United States of America" commonly known at this time as "The Old School Presbyterian Church". The Secular concerns of this church shall be conducted be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution and such bye Laws and Rules as may be hereafter made by this Society not in conflict with the Law of the Land and the aforesaid Constitution of the Presbyterian Church -

Art. 3. The place for Religious Worship and for the transaction of Secular -

4<sup>th</sup>

business shall be Iowa City, and the Secular Officers of this Society shall be Seven Trustees, who shall be styled

The Board of Trustees of the First Pres-

-byterian Church of Iowa City and be

chosen annually on the first or sec-

ond Monday of August in each year

by the members of the church and the  
~~those who have been contributed for one year previously~~  
contributors to the support of the trusteeship  
in the same - And in the event that

~~corporation~~ the above specified time for the annual election should pass without such election being made then the Trustees last chosen shall continue in office until a new election is made.

Art. 5<sup>th</sup> Said Board shall be charged

with the management of the Sec-

ular concerns of this Society, and any Four of them shall be a quorum

competent to transact business -

They shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur in their

number during their term of office

and they may adopt such by-laws

for their own regulation as are not

inconsistent with this Constitution  
or the Laws of this State.

Said Board shall appoint from  
among their own number a President  
Secretary and Treasurer - The President  
shall preside at all meetings of the  
Board - Sign all orders upon the Treas-  
urer - Sign and Seal all contracts made  
by the Board and keep the Seal of  
office. In his absence or inability to  
act, the Board shall appoint a President  
Pro. Temp. who shall be charged further  
time being with full powers of office.

The Secretary shall keep a full and  
fair record of all Proceedings both  
of the Society and of the Board open  
to the inspection of all Persons inter-  
ested in them - He shall file and  
carefully preserve all papers properly  
pertaining to his Office, and it shall  
further be his duty, to give written  
notice to the Society from year to year  
of the time of its Annual Meetings  
wh notice shall be read from the  
Pulpit by the Pastor or officiating  
Minister on the first or second Sabbath  
preceding the day of the annual meeting.

6<sup>th</sup>

The Treasurer shall hold all the money belonging to this Society and disburse the same on the order of the President attested by the Secretary. He shall preserve and file all vouchers and accounts and pay them before the Board for auditing when required to do so all contracts or other instruments of writing made by the Board of Trustees signed by the President and attested by the Secretary and the seal of office shall be binding on this Corporation - A Record of the foregoing Preamble and Constitution shall be made in the Recorders Office of Johnson County in this State according to the requisitions of the Statute under which this corporation is formed, approved apprned April 24 1847 under which this is effected

This Constitution may be altered and amended at any regular annual Meeting of the Society, by a vote of two thirds of the Members Present a Record of what amendments shall be duly made, in the Records of the Office of Johnson County -

Special meeting of the Society shall be called by the President  
of the Board of Trustees, whenever he may deem them necessary, or whenever  
required so to do by four members of the Society, notice of which shall  
be given in the manner herein required for the annual meetings

There is no evidence that these Articles  
of incorporation were ever filed or recorded  
or placed on file in Johnson Co. Recorder's Office

E. H. Barrie

Aug. 15, 1890

They are recorded in the Deed Book

Deed Book, Vol. VII, pp. 514-516