

# Harvard Baptist Church

by  
Ortha Green

The Harvard Baptist church is located in Jackson township in the village of Harvard, Lot 7, Shriver's 1st addition just south of Doctor Hinkles home in the N.E. corner of the S.E. corner of Sec. 16-68-21.

The articles of Incorporation in book 1, page 139 reads as follows;

"Know all men present, that we, S.W. Mullen, John Hickman, Henry Harvey, Henry Bollman, D. Harvey, Ezra Temple and David Hinkle, persons of full age and citizens of the United States, State of Iowa, do desire to associate ourselves together for religious purposes and here by certify that the name of this society shall be known as "The Harvard Baptist Church", of Harvard, Wayne county, Iowa. Object; to spread the Gospel, benevolent purposes, to own and control property, collect money and to disperse the same, contract debts and liquidate same, to hire

pastors and janitors, and such other business as is usually done by similar organizations. The officers shall be three trustees to manage and control all business of the society. Officers the first year are; W.F. Moss, S.W. Miller and Henry Harvey.

Signed August 10, 1892, by Charlie Ward, notary."

The old Harvard Baptist church was sold to the Odd Fellows Lodge in February, 1911.

The last revival meeting held was by Rev. Clark in 1905.

The Ezra Temple mentioned above was a Baptist minister and later in life became known as "The Tramp Preacher".

Rev. T.T. Barron was pastor in 1899.

## Catholic Church in Corydon, Iowa

Mention is made of a Catholic denomination in Wayne county in the 1875 Historical Atlas of Iowa.

Recorded in Wayne county.

In October 1881, J.A. Harper and M.A. Harper deeded Lots 3 and 4 in Block 5 Harpers Addition in the town of Corydon, Wayne county, Iowa to the Right Rev. John McMullen of the Diocese at Burlington, Iowa, consideration \$1.00. On October 31, 1898 Henry Casgrove, Bishop, deeded this property back to J.A. Harper for the sum of \$150.00.

Quoting from "History of the Catholic Church in Decatur Co., Iowa, by the Rev. J. Harkin, published 1956, and related by W.H. Burton, Charlie Sweeney of Maxwell, Iowa came to Wayne county in November 1876, with his mother and two sisters, by train to Harvard, a country cross-road south of Corydon. It was the

first time a train stopped at Harvard." Services or Mass was held in the homes. Father O'Brien, Father King, Father Daily and Father Loftus were the visiting priests who would come on Saturday night and stay until Monday as there was no train on Sunday. People came in wagons from as far away as Lewisburg three miles east of the Decatur county line on highway 2."

A church was built in 1882, but was never finished as it was severely damaged by a wind storm.

The first Catholic Mass held in Corydon Jan. 27, 1969 at the Court House. The Methodists offered them a place for worship in the new church, and Rev. Father McIlhon took charge June, 1971.