

Stratford History - Always Amazing

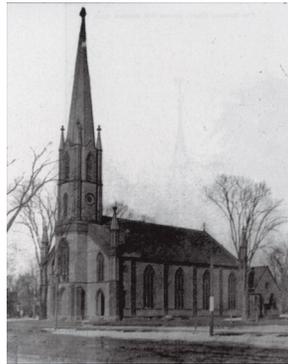
By David Wright, Editor
Stratford Historical Society's
UPDATE

Holiday time was a quiet time around Ye Olde Stratford. Stratford was still a very rural town in the mid-1800s. Holiday life revolved around the town's three churches and Town Hall. Town Hall, in 1867, was located behind the Congregational Church on Church Street near the point today's I-95 crosses Church Street. The following newspaper article describes an 1867 Thanksgiving celebration.

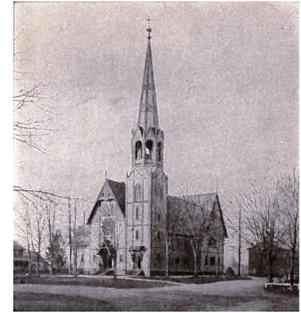
From **The Bridgeport Daily Standard**, November 29th, 1867.

Thanksgiving day was unusually quiet, the 'drizzling rain' keeping people in doors. Services were held in the Episcopal and Congregational Churches. Dr. Weston preaching in the former, and Mr. Littlewood, of the Methodist church, the latter. Some slight disturbance occurred the evening previous at some of the 'watering places,' but we understand

were amicably [sic] adjusted, without resort to arms. A meeting was held in the town Hall, last Saturday evening, when a Committee from Milford and Orange Agricultural Society appointed for the purpose extended to the citizens here, an invitation to join the above Society. A Committee was appointed to confer with the farmers and others likely to take an interest in the movement, and report at a future meeting.



Christ Church c 1890



First Congregational Church c 1870



Methodist Episcopal Church c 1880