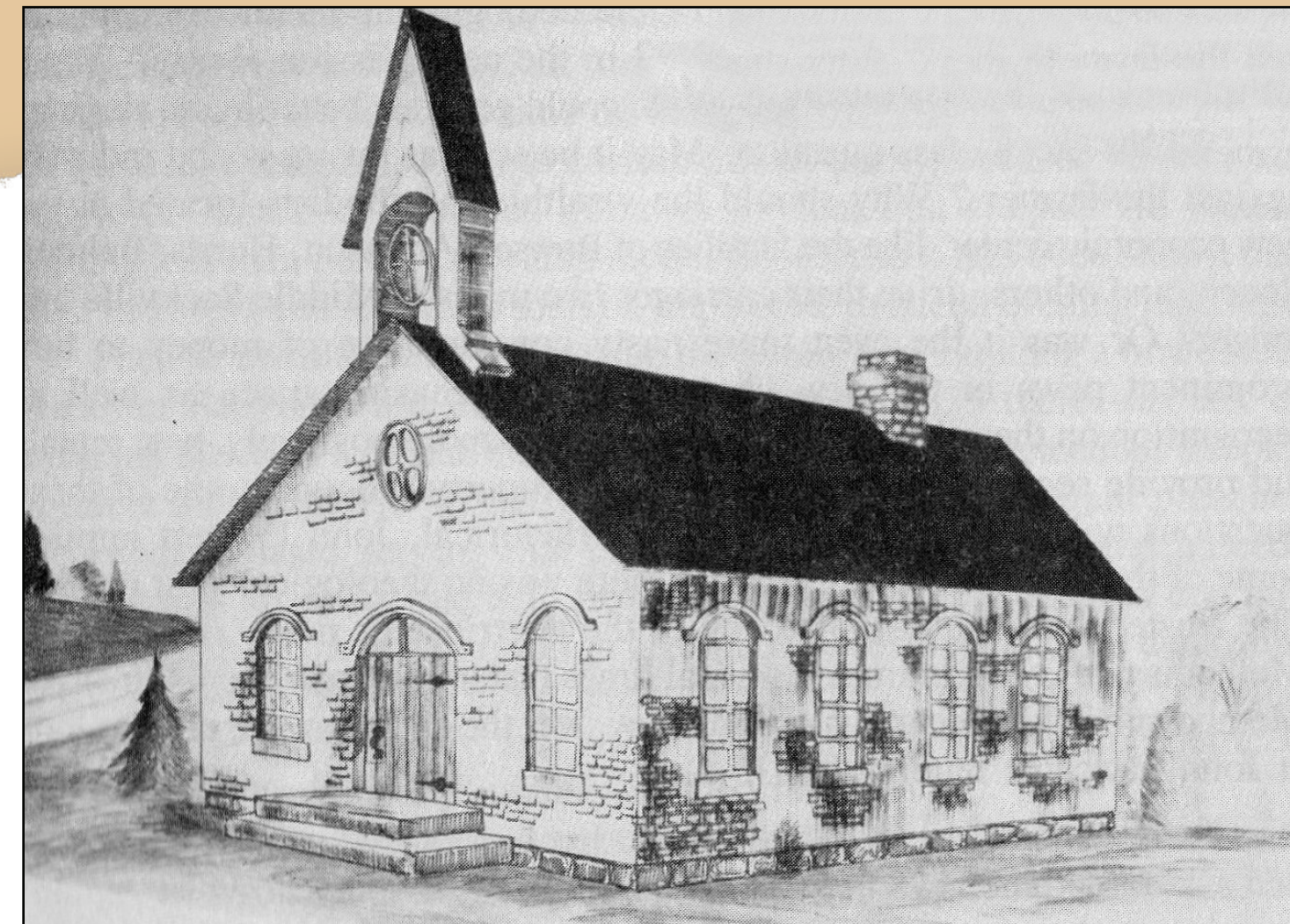


Sackville Methodist Churches 1818-2015

Methodism played an important role in the history of Sackville. Methodist lay persons, who attended these churches, made major contributions to the community, especially to the founding and development of Mount Allison University.



1818-1838

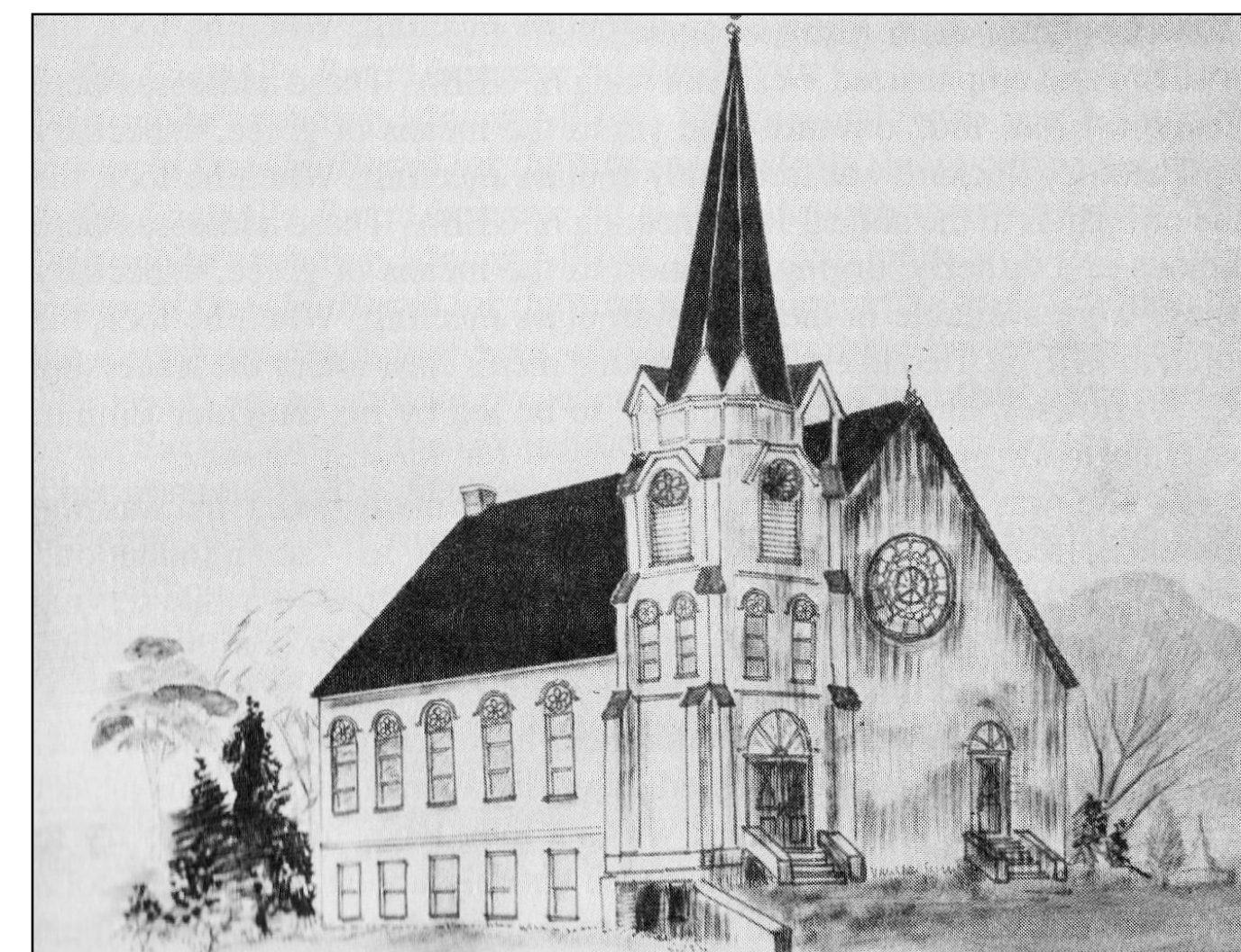
Methodism was brought to this area by Yorkshire settlers in the 1770s, and a Methodist chapel built in Middle Sackville in 1790 was among the first Methodist churches in Canada. As the population began to shift to Lower Sackville, in 1818 a brick chapel was constructed across the road from here at the site later occupied by the Powell Block at the corner of Main and Bridge Streets.



1838-1876

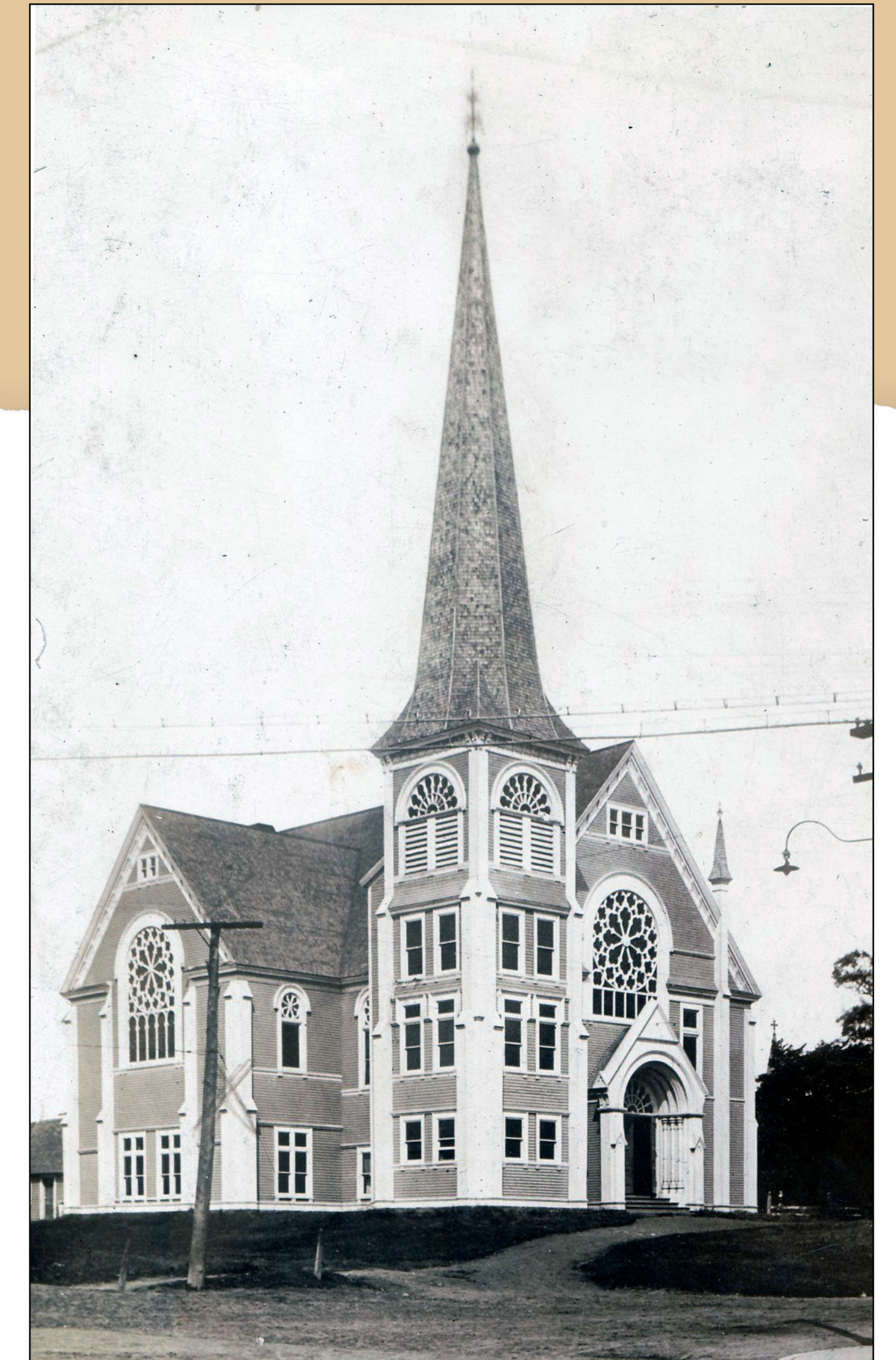
Growth in numbers led to the building in 1838 of a new and larger chapel on this side of Main Street, approximately on the site of the adjacent apartment building. This building was enlarged in 1842.

Imaginative reconstructions of the early churches by Harvey and Michael Mesheau. Courtesy of Sackville United Church.



1876-1898

To accommodate greater numbers, a new and larger church was built on the same site, the 1842 chapel having been removed to a location further along Main Street. Begun in 1875, it was dedicated on 8 October 1876.



1898-2015

In 1897 the need was again felt for a larger building. Rather than demolish the 1876 church, it was decided to enlarge and completely rebuild it, to a design by the noted New Brunswick architect H.H. Mott. Two transepts were added and a large balcony. Notable features included four round stained glass "rose" windows and a new pipe organ. The rebuilt church was opened in 1898.

After the 1925 amalgamation of the Methodist, Congregational and part of the Presbyterian churches in Canada, the building became known as "Sackville United Church." In 1927, parlours were added to the west side of the church, providing additional accommodation for congregational and community events.

Due to the changing nature of the community, the building was sold in 2012 and the congregation moved to the former Town Hall, built in 1924 and near the former site. The church building was demolished in 2015.

Photo courtesy of Dave Fullerton.

The 1898 Bell

This 1,200 lb bell was made by Meneely & Co., of West Troy, New York, for installation in the 1898 rebuilt church. According to the inscription, Mary Anne (Snowball) Black, wife of Hon. Joseph L. Black, presented the bell to the church in October 1898.

The bell was salvaged from the 2015 demolition by Lafford Realty who kindly donated it and contributed significantly in the creation of this memorial.