

## **St. George Anglican**

Captain Elmes Steele, a retired naval officer, made plans to establish an English Church when he immigrated to Canada in 1832. Rev. Adam Elliott, a traveling missionary, served the area from 1832 to 1835. Rev. George Hallen arrived from Purbrook, England in 1835, becoming the first resident clergy in Medonte.

The church and churchyard were founded on eight acres of donated land (four acres located at Lot 10, Concession 11, were given by Elmes and Elizabeth Steele and four acres at Lot 9, Concession 11 were given by Gustavus G. Hamilton and his wife.)

Originally known as "The Church at Medonte", the 36' x 20' frame church was planned by Rev. Hallen and opened in 1843. The building was consecrated on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1847 by Bishop John Strachan, the first Bishop of Toronto.

The contract for the present structure was awarded to Mr. Mungo McWhinney of Orillia on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1886. Brick maker John J. Mitchell made the 50,000 bricks used by a Mr. Cottrell and his assistants to complete the church building walls by August 13<sup>th</sup>. The church opened for services on October 31<sup>st</sup>, 1886. By 1910, the church was debt-free and was consecrated by Rev. W. D. Reeve, assistant Bishop of Toronto.

The only addition to the current church, a Sunday School and Meeting Room, was added to the back of the structure in 2002 and consecrated in 2003.