FIRST PARSONAGE

During the ministry of Reverend Charles Holmes, 1880 or 1881, the first parsonage was built in back of the church on Fourth Street. It was a modest, story and a half cottage. Prior to that time, the pastors lived in rented houses. Rev. Holley resided in the old brick house at 408 East University Avenue, where Mrs. L. A. Riley formerly resided. Rev. Holmes, Rev. W. J. Davis, and Rev. Derrick lived in a house which would now be 307 or 309 East Park Avenue.

NEW CHURCH

Records for June 1892 show an abstract for the property signed by the following trustees: Robert English, L. H. Walden, Clay Brown, John Moss and General C. Lee. On October 5, 1892, a meeting was held to incorporate the church and take action to build a new church and the following were named trustees: William Lee, L. H. Walden, Clay Brown, John Moss and General C. Lee. The corporate name of the church was to be "The African Methodist Episcopal Church of Champaign, Illinois."

> Building upon the new church began in early June 1892, and the building was completed in January 1893, at which time the church was dedicated. A Corner Stone laying by Lone Star Lodge No. 18, F. & A. M. featured the early stages of building. The church was financed by a loan from the Urbana Citizen's Building Association, subscriptions from the members, and generous donations from other citizens. Later a loan was made by the A. M. E. Extension board. For a number of years afterwards, each member paid fifty cents monthly to keep up the payments to the Loan Association. Benches and pulpit and the organ from the old church were installed in the new church...[as was] an old furnace donated by the First Presbyterian Church of Champaign, which was never quite usable. The dedication was a special occasion. In the