

The altar and reredos were given as a memorial, the steps of light-colored Tennessee marble bearing the following inscription: "To the Glory of God. In memory of Orlo James Hamlin and Orra Lucinda Hamlin." The credence table and sedalia seats are built into the wall by means of arches and are made a prominent feature of the interior of the church. All the walls are plastered and painted with soft golden colors. The massive roof timbers are bolted together with simplicity, while the ceilings throughout are of yellow pine.

The flooring under the seats is of oak. The central passage way, the aisles, the choir and sanctuary are tiled. The aisles are filled with cream colored tile with a border of



Saint Luke's Archive Collection

red and black. The tiling of the choir and sanctuary is of the same colors, but laid in rich patterns of ecclesiastical form. A beautiful wood screen of oak, divides the nave from the chancel. The choir stalls and pews are also of oak. Standing near the west door is a large, handsome Font of Caen stone, the cover of which is of oak and brass; cut in the base of the Font is the following inscription: In loving memory of Rachel Niles and Ada, children of D.C. and Ada M. Young."

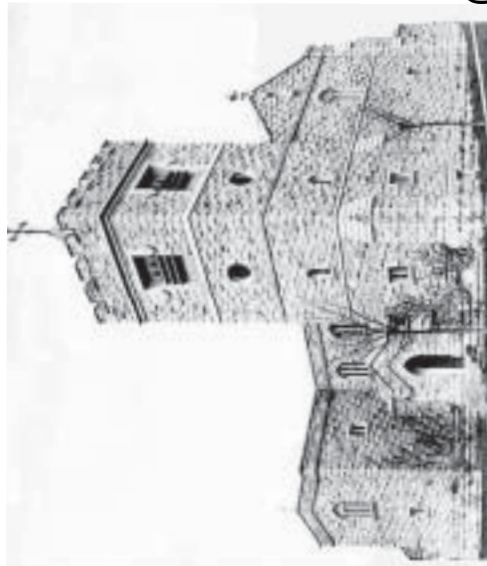
No one could fail to notice the entire harmony existing between the building and its furnishings, which is owing to the fact that almost everything placed in the church was manufactured from special designs prepared by the noted architect. The character of the church can be fitly expressed in three words: Solidity, simplicity, dignity.

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For more information go to the
 "Planet Smethport" website:
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*Smethport Heritage Committee
 famous Smethport, Pennsylvania 16749*



TO:

One of few remaining Pristine Examples of the Architect's Genius

William Halsey Wood Architectural Triumph
Saint Luke's Church: 602 W. Main Street Smethport, PA.



**William Halsey Wood's
 Architectural
 Triumph**
Saint Luke's Church, Smethport, PA



William Halsey Wood was only 37 when Smethport's Saint Luke's was completed.
Newark Public Library Collection



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One of few remaining Pristine Examples of the Architect's Genius

The St. Luke's Church, designed by William Halsey Wood, is of the 14th century English Gothic style of architecture. At the southeast corner of the building is placed a square battlemented tower, 17x17 feet in width, walls 1 1/2 feet thick.

Besides the central passage way, there are two aisles on the north and south sides of the church, with massive brick columns supporting the arches, also of brick, between the aisles and the nave. The clerestory windows are richly tinted glass which is set deep into thick brick jambs. The altar and reredos are of cain stone and are strictly in accordance with the style of the building. The front of the altar, which is 9 feet 3 inches long, is divided into three recessed arched panels, almost as deep as the altar is wide. The mensa or altar slab is one piece of pure white marble. The reredos is also of Caen stone formed in 3 niches, surmounted by a delicately carried canopy, which is very beautiful.