

**Registered 2005**

## **Central Grove Baptist Church circa 1880**



**This church was built in 1880. It was without a regular pastor for the next 25 years. In 1905 the Central Grove Baptist Church was formed and separated ties with Freeport and Tiverton. (Digby Courier)"Saturday, October 14, 1905 the regular meeting was held and the following business was then transacted. Pastor Caldwell occupying the chair, moved by W.H. Powell and seconded by Alfred Shortliffe that we, a section consisting part of Freeport church and part of Tiverton church organize ourselves into a regular Baptist church. This was carried without a dissenting voice. The deacons being W.H. Powell, Alfred Shortliffe, Coleman Powell and Clarence Tibert.**

**The name of the church was decided upon to be Central Grove Baptist Church. There were 19 members from Tiverton and 19 members from Freeport."**

**There is no electricity in this church. It is still lighted with kerosene lamps. It has a chandelier in the center of the ceiling with the oil lamps fitted in, also some in brackets on the walls. They still have regular weekly services in this church along with weddings and funerals.**

**The members of this church were of the belief that it was built in 1905 but research has indicated that it was built in 1880. The 1905 date was when it gained separate status. Central Grove first started having services in 1863. Prior to the completion of the present church they held services in Tibert's school.**

**It was during Rev. William Hall's ministry that the beginnings of a separate church life at Central Grove became evident. By 1863, Mr. Hall was holding regular preaching services and conference meetings in the local Tibert school. The school continued to be used as a gathering place until the completion of the present church. Construction of the building commenced during the pastorate of Rev. W.L. Parker who served on Long Island from 1872 to 1878. An ardent evangelist, Long Island was one of several areas of which it was reported that under his ministry there were "showers of reviving mercy". He was succeeded by Rev. L.M. Weeks whose incumbency saw the completion of the Central Grove Church. Mr. Weeks had been ordained at Isaac's Harbour in 1874. He settled on Long Island in 1879 but remained there only a year.**