

**Eastchester, Westchester Co. NY  
(Mount Vernon)**

Certificate of Incorporation  
The First Universalist Society, Mount Vernon

State of New York  
County of West Chester

We the undersigned, two of the members of the Religious Society hereinafter mentioned do hereby certify that in pursuance of due notice for that purpose given and read under and in accordance with the [directions?] of the Act of the Legislature for that purpose made and [?] did the male persons of full age belonging to a Religious Society called "The First Universalist Society in Mount Vernon" not already incorporated met on the twelfth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and fifty five at Tourneaux? [?] at the corner of the Fifth Avenue and Fourth Street in the village of Mount Vernon in the County of West Chester aforesaid, (that being the place where they statedly attend for Divine Worship) for the purpose of incorporating themselves and electing trustees of and for the said Society: That at the time and place aforesaid there being no elders or churchwardens belonging to the said Society, the undersigned[,] two of the members of said Society[,] were nominated by a majority of the members present to preside at such election and thereupon such election was held and by a plurality of voices the following persons were elected to serve as Trustees for the said Society—namely Horace McGowen[,] Cornelius A. Cooper, and William Bertino: and we further certify that the name or title by which the said Trustees and their successors shall for ever hereafter be called and known shall be "The First Universalist Society of Mount Vernon."

In Testimony Whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this twelfth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred and fifty five[.]

*H. McGowen*  
*Thomas [W.?] Atkinson*

State of New York  
County of West Chester

On this fourth day of May in the year eighteen hundred and fifty five personally appeared before me H. McGowen and Thomas [W.?] Atkinson by me personally known to be the same persons described in and who executed the foregoing Certificate of Incorporation and they severally acknowledged that they executed the same[.]

*David R. Cooper*  
*Justice of the Peace*

A true copy of the original Certificate of Incorporation and acknowledgement thereof  
Recorded May 7, 1855 at 10 o'clock A.M.

Westchester County Religious Societies Incorporation Records pp.197-8