

A Few Pews

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A careful look at the photo in the poster of the interior of the church 1874-1902, shows the old pews made with an opening at the ends below the arms. This is an intricate design that you can see on the three remaining pews from this period that are along the outside walls at the back of the church. You can see the lovely detailing of the curved wooden arm and the tricky wood molding outlining the space. In contrast, the pine board seat is very plain and hard looking. It is also narrow! The airlines did not invent seat shrinking; these seats are just 13 1/2" wide. Ours today under our thick cushions are 15 1/2" wide.

We have no information about the pews installed in the newly located 1836 meetinghouse, except that they were in rows, or assembly halls style. Our three old ones may date back to 1836. Take a look at their simple antique beauty, and then try sitting on them some Sunday.



Amherst Meetinghouse Interior Through the Ages

Artist's rendition of pulpits
1774 - 1836
While still on the common
1836 - 1874

1874 - 1902
Note gas chandelier, ceiling edge and pews

1902 - 1916
Remodeled by James Towne:
New woodwork, furnishings and oak pews

Balcony remained unfinished from 1836 - 1979

New chancel dedication - Nov., 1950