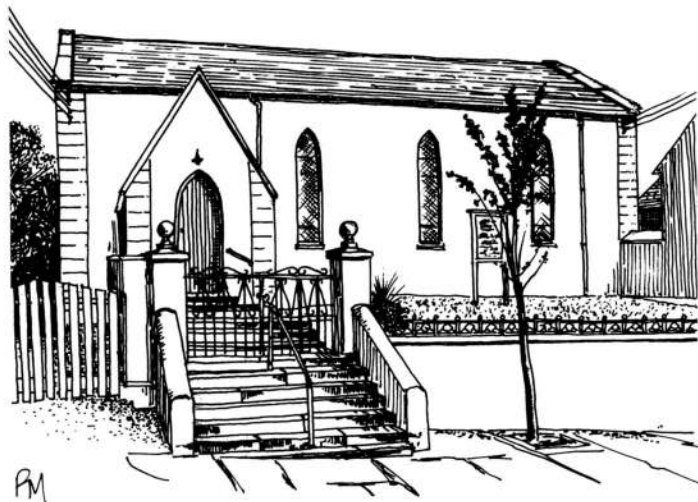


ROUND THE CHURCHES

Drawing: Peter Murray

66: Irvinestown Methodist Church

Text: Douglas Hudson



The first mention of Irvinestown in the Methodist Conference is in 1771, when it was part of the Enniskillen circuit. In 1794 it was

part of the new Ballinamallard circuit, and in 1817 it became the head of the circuit which included Ballinamallard.

It is very difficult to find an exact date for the building in which we now meet, but in 1804 the Conference approved the building of a church in Irvinestown. In the earlier part of the 19th century there were two Methodist churches in Irvinestown, Primitive Wesleyan and Wesleyan. One was on the Commons in Fairgreen Street, and the other on Pound Street. The congregations united on the Pound Street site in 1878.

In those early days the back

portion of this church was a minister's residence. When the walls were stripped there was clear evidence of a back door and other windows.

In 1976 there were further changes to circuit boundaries. Part of the Irvinestown circuit was added to Ballinamallard, and the Pettigo church was linked to Irvinestown, forming the present circuit. After a major renovation we come to what is practically a new church building, in which it is our intention to continue the work of our predecessors in worshipping here and serving God in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord.