

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

30 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

for Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Pine Street Gospel Chapel Historic: same
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 219 Pine Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Pine Street Gospel Chapel Corporation PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Chapel Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain with trustees' permission  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Early 20th C. Vernacular Chapel DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1911 to 1914
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  

<input type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> brick
<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding	<input type="checkbox"/> fieldstone
<input type="checkbox"/> board & batten	<input type="checkbox"/> stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> cobblestone
<input type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: <u>rusticated</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: <u>brownstone</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	<u>concrete block foundation</u>	<u>window sills</u>
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
 wood frame:  post and beam  balloon  
 load bearing masonry  structural iron or steel  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. ROOF: type:  
 gable  flat  mansard  monitor  sawtooth  
 gambrel  shed  hip  round  other \_\_\_\_\_  
material:  
 wood shingle  roll asphalt  tin  slate  
 asphalt shingle  built up  tile  other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 1½ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 15'x40'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
Alterations:  no  yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:  
 barn  shed  garage  other landscape features or buildings: small yard  
 carriage house  shop  garden around building; low yew trees in front
- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:  
 open land  woodland  residential  scattered buildings visible from site  
 commercial  industrial  rural  high building density
- 16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This small builder-decorated chapel is placed close to its neighbors, on a small plot facing east on Pine Street, in a residential area west of the Wesleyan University campus. It is set back about fifteen feet from the sidewalk to range with three brick developer houses to the south, which are similar in scale, siting, and in use of modest masonry decoration.

NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):  
 - beveled, denticulated brick course on facade at top of first story  
 - even belt courses indented in brick walls: symmetrically placed  
 - yellow brick on corners simulating quoins  
 - yellow brick in chevron pattern over all windows  
 - stained glass triangular transom over all windows

ANCE: \_\_\_\_\_ Builder: \_\_\_\_\_  
 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: The Pine Street Gospel Chapel was founded by Rev. H. Reimers, a former Methodist minister, in 1911. For many years it was an independent, nondenominational church group, evangelical in orientation. In 1977 it became allied with the Seventh Day Baptist Church, but is still governed by the local congregation. The church was erected over a three-year period by the men of the congregation. Among the builders were Clarence Baldwin and Robert Lyman, whose son Howard worked as a youth, and still serves on the board of trustees.

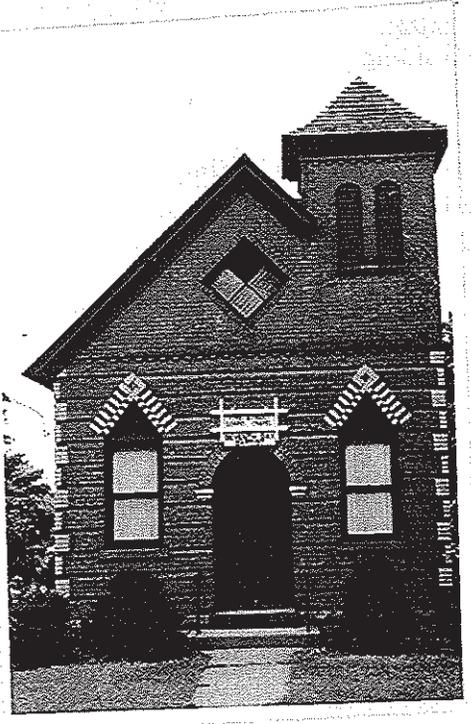
The building is a compact 1½-story gable-roofed brick structure with a square tower at the northeast corner. A number of unique styling details combine in eclectic fashion to give the building a Gothic-Romanesque appearance. On the gable peak of the facade is a diamond-shaped stained glass window set in diamond position. This window, in combination with triangular stained glass transoms over the other facade windows, gives a Gothic appearance to the fenestration. The tower has twin round-arched belfry louvres, and a Roman-arched front doorway which leads into a recessed vestibule. This modest chapel, with its dualistic embellishment, is a vigorous expression of vernacular church architecture.

GRAPHIC: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
8/78 view: east  
 File on file: Roll 36, #35

LED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ date: 9/78  
 Led by: Roger Sherman  
 Organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
 Address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

SOURCES: Middletown Tax Records; Consultation with Howard Lyman, trustee, and one of the original builders, 9/13/78; Middletown Press, 9/9/50

SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:



THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:  
 none known     highways     vandalism     developers  
 renewal     private     deterioration     zoning  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 explanation: \_\_\_\_\_