



HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE PROJECT

Strafford Rockingham Regional Council

1 Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire

Phone: (603) 778-0885

TOWN: Kingston COUNTY: Rockingham

SURVEY NUMBER: 18\*

COMMON NAME: Church on the Plains

HISTORIC NAME: Universalist Church

LOCATION: east side of Main Street, .08 miles N of inter. Main & Bartlett

OWNER: Kingston Improvement & Historical Society

ADDRESS: 151 Main Street  
Kingston, NH

MAP & PARCEL #: U-9/7

DATE: c. 1879

SOURCE: H. Bubert, S. Novak

STYLE: Stick Style

UTM: Z 19 / E 332350 / N 4755275

USGS QUAD: Kingston Quad 7.5' series

FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Church

PRESENT USE: Church

ARCHITECT/BUILDER: C. Willis Damon  
of Haverhill

CONDITION: Exc. Goody Fair Poor Ruins

INTEGRITY: Original Site  Moved   
(When: )

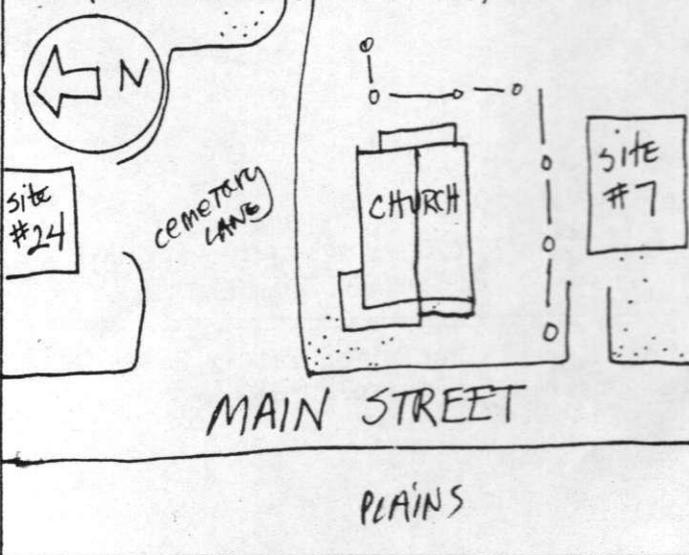
Major alterations & date:

LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Nat'l  State  Local

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System

1. FOUNDATION: Stone  Brick  Concrete  Concrete Block
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame  Post & Beam  Ballon Frame  Other   
Load Bearing Masonry  Stone  Brick  Concrete Block  Other   
Metal  Iron  Steel  Other
3. WALL COVERING: Clapboard  Wood Shingle  Board & Batten  Shiplap  Aluminum   
Novelty  Stucco  Stone  Brick  Sheet Metal  Asphalt Shingles  Vinyl   
Asphalt Sheeting  Composite Board  Other
4. ROOF SHEATHING: Wood Shingle  Asphalt Shingle  Standing Seam Tin  Slate   
Pressed Metal  Sheet Metal  Rolled Asphalt  Other
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
6. OTHER:  
# of Stories 1 1/2 # of Bays 2x4 Approx. Dimensions Approx. 40' x 50'  
Roof Style: Gable  Hip  Gambrel  Flat  Shed  Mansard  Jerkinhead   
Monitor  Sawtooth  Other   
Appendages: Porches  Towers  Dormers  Bay Windows  Ells 1 Chimneys 1  
Wings  Cupolas  Sheds  Garage  Other   
Entry Location: Center  Sidehall  Other

MAP (Indicate North in circle):



PHOTO



Description of View: Front-west  
Side-south

Photographer: Scott Novak  
Negative with: S.R.R.C.  
Negative File Number: K-80-2-c/8A-9

**ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Church on the Plains is an impressive Stick Style structure built in the late 19th century.

The main block is a 1½-story gable-roofed rectangular unit. The front (west) facade contains a double-leaf door sheltered by a shed-roofed, bracketed door hood that extends the width of the facade. The cornice of the door hood is embellished with quairfoil designs. In the gable over the main entry is a tall, narrow three-part window. Above this window is an ornamental, Stick Style truss in the peak of the gable. The five windows in the south elevation of the main block are of stained glass. Set into the south and north slopes of the medium-pitched roof are two gabled dormers, each containing one triangular light. The treatment of the lateral eaves consists of a boxed cornice supported by brackets, and a wide frieze decorated with vertical strips of wood. The brick foundation has a corbeled course where it meets the watertable.

A clock tower rises from the northwest corner of the main block. The first story level of the tower contains tall, narrow paired stained glass windows on both elevations and above the paired windows is one large quatrefoil light. On the level above the quatrefoil light is a belfry with paired triangular-arched, louvered vents. The tower has a pyramidal hipped roof with four offset gables, each containing a clock face.

There is a small ell attached to the main block. Windows are of stencilled glass.

**RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:**

**BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION:** .2 acres bounded on the N-Cemetery Lane, S-Auger, E-Perkins, W-Main Street.

**REFERENCES:**

Kingston Historical Society. "The History of Kingston: 1694-1969." Kingston Improvement and Historical Society, 1969.

1892 Map Universilist Church

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):**

This building is an excellent example of the Stick Style of architecture and commands the attention of all who pass. At the same time, it is not overpowering.

Entered in the National Register of Historic Places on December 26, 1979. See nomination papers for more details.

\* SEE ADDITION / CORRECTION SHEETS  
FOR OWNER COMMENTS

**SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:** Open Land  Woodland  Scattered Bldgs  Moderately Built Up   
Densely Built Up  Residential  Commercial  Industrial  Agricultural   
Roadside Strip Development  Other

Recorded By: Scott Novak  
Herb Bubert

Date: 12/18/79