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 mi N of inter. Main & Bartlett |
| TOWN: Kingston |
| COUNTY: Rockingham |
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| HISTORIC NAME: Universalist Church |
| LOCATION: east side of Main Street, .08 mi N of inter. Main & Bartlett |
| OWNER: Kingston Improvement & Historical Society |
| ADDRESS: Kingston, NH |
| MAP & PARCEL #: N-9/7 |
| DATE: c. 1879 |
| SOURCE: H. Rubert, S. Novak |
| STYLE: Stick Style |

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System
1. FOUNDATION: Stone _ Brick _ Concrete _ Concrete Block _
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame _ Post & Beam _ Balloon Frame _ Other _
   Load Bearing Masonry _ Stone _ Brick _ Concrete Block _ Other _
   Metal _ Iron _ Steel _ Other _
   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 _ Slate _
   Tin _ Rolled Asphalt _ Other _
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE: _
6. OTHER: _
   # of Stories: 1½ _ # of Bays: 4 x 4 _ 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 _ Chimneys _
   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 quatrefoil 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:


1892 Map Universalist 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.

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

Recorded By: Scott Novak
Herb Bubert

Date: 12/18/79