HISTORIC PRESERVATION ASSISTANCE PROJECT
Strafford Rockingham Regional Council
1 Water Street, Exeter, New Hampshire
Phone: (603) 778-0885

TOWN: Kingston
COUNTY: Rockingham
SURVEY NUMBER: 83
COMMON NAME: First Congregational Church
HISTORIC NAME: First Congregational Church
LOCATION: W. side Church St. @ W intersection of Church & Depot
OWNER: First Congregational Church
ADDRESS: Kingston, N.H.
MAP & PARCEL #: U10 12
DATE: c. 1825
SOURCE: Inspection
STYLE: Greek Revival

UTM: Z 19 /E 32275 /N 4755700
USGS QUAD: Haverhill Quad 15' series
FUNCTIONAL TYPE: Church
PRESENT USE: Church
ARCHITECT/BUILDER: Unknown
CONDITION: Exc. *Good Fair Poor Ruins
INTEGRITY: Original Site X Moved ___
(When: ___)
Major alterations & date: ____________
Several.
LEVEL/SIGNIFICANCE: Natl State Local X

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: Structural System
1. FOUNDATION: Stone X Brick Concrete Concrete Block
2. WALL STRUCTURE: Wood Frame X Post & Beam X Ballon Frame Other
   Load Bearing Masonry Stone Brick Concrete Block Other
   Metal Iron Steel Other Other
3. WALL COVERING: Clapboard X 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 X Standing Seam Tim Slate Pressed Metal Sheet Metal Rolled Asphalt Other
5. ENGINEERING STRUCTURE:
6. OTHER:
   # of Stories 2 X # of Bays 5 X 3 Approx. Dimensions 40' X 60'
   Roof Style: Gable X Hip Gambrel Flat Shed Mansard Jerkinhead Monitor Sawtooth Other
   Appendages: Porches Towers Dormers Bay Windows Eills Chimneys
   Wings Cupolas Sheds Garage Other Belfry
   Entry Location: Center X Sidehall Other

MAP (Indicate North in circle):

PHOTO

Description of View:
Front (NE) Side (SE)
Photographer: Herb Bubert
Negative with: S.R.R.C.
Negative File Number: K30-3C-24-25A
ADDITIONAL ARCHITECTURAL AND STRUCTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The First Congregational Church is a Greek Revival Style structure built in the early 19th century. The main block is a 2 1/2 story rectangular unit. The front (east) facade has recessed, double-leaf doors with a panelled reveal and framed by narrow pilasters which rise to an entablature. On each side of the entrance are two, eight-over-twelve windows, arranged vertically and separated by a recessed panel. The rest of the windows on the main block have twelve-over-sixteen sash framed by architrave trim. Vertical board siding has been applied to the gables and the main block is framed by arch-panelled pilasters. The steeply-pitched roof is surmounted by a belfry with a tall, hexagonal roof and projecting, bracketed eaves. The eaves treatment on the main block consists of a boxed cornice with a wide frieze and bracketed, gable-end returns. The structure rests on a granite slab foundation.

A 1 1/2 story, gable roofed ell has clapboard siding, 12 over 12 windows, the same cornice and brackets as the main block but rests on a brick foundation. A second ell to the west is one story, features a gable roof, clapboard siding, 6 over 6 windows and also rests on a brick foundation. A one story flat-roofed wing, extends to the southwest with 12 over 12 windows, clapboard siding and rests on a concrete foundation.

RELATED STRUCTURES AND CONTEXT:

BOUNDARY AND ACREAGE DESCRIPTION:

2.6 Acres. Bounded to the N. by the Masonic Lodge, E. by Church Street, S. by Norris, and Sullivan, W. by Greenwood Pond.

REFERENCES:

Kingston Historic Advisory Committee; interviews w/members, Spring 1980.
Wilson, Rodney M. A Brief Sketch of the History of the First Congregational Church, Kingston, NH (privately printed) 1975.
1856 Map
1892 Map

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Evaluation & Historical Associations):

The present appearance of the Congregational Church is the product of evolution (see "Integrity"). The predominant style presently is Stick Style, and it is likely that it received this treatment as a result of competition with Church on the Plains. Old photos indicate that many architectural details have been removed.


MAP DATA: 1856: Congregational Church
1892: Congregational Church

SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT: Open Land_ Woodland_ Scattered Bldgs_ Moderately Built Up_X
Densely Built Up_ Residential_ Commercial_ Industrial_ Agricultural_ Roadside Strip Development_ Other_

Recorded By: H. Bubert, S. Novak
Date: 12, 28, 79