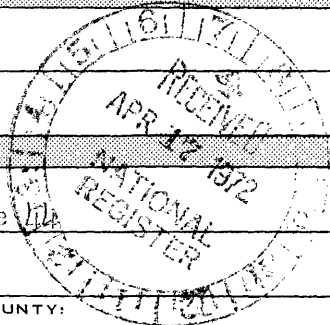


PH0010570

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| STATE: Connecticut | |
| COUNTY: Hartford | |
| FOR NPS USE ONLY | |
| ENTRY NUMBER NOV 7 1972 | DATE |



1. NAME

COMMON:
Avon Congregational Church

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: 201 W. 10th St. 40744
Northwest corner of Route 10 and Route 124

CITY OR TOWN:
Avon

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09 COUNTY: Hartford CODE: 003

3. CLASSIFICATION

| CATEGORY (Check One) | OWNERSHIP | STATUS | ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure | <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered | Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment | <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum | <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ |

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Avon Congregational Church

STREET AND NUMBER:
Route 124

CITY OR TOWN:
Avon

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Town Hall

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Avon

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Connecticut Historic Structures and Landmarks Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: 1966 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Connecticut Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
51 Pratt Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Hartford

STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Connecticut

COUNTY: Hartford

ENTRY NUMBER: NOV 7 1972

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| CONDITION | (Check One) | | | | | |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> Good | <input type="checkbox"/> Fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated | <input type="checkbox"/> Ruins | <input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed |
| | (Check One) | | | (Check One) | | |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Altered | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered | | <input type="checkbox"/> Moved | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site | |

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Avon Congregational Church presents an ornate and delicate facade to the street. Its three-bay portico is slightly set off from the facade proper and is defined by flush boarding and four fluted Ionic pilasters. Between the pilasters are three twenty over twenty pane windows, with a row of dentils at the headings, at the second floor, and three entryways with arched fanlights and keystone arches above. Here, as on the rest of the church, is a wide frieze and modillions on raking and return cornices. Above the triangular pediment rises a bell tower, sheathed with clapboards, in the front of which is a round motif resembling a globe. The first stage of the tower, above a balustrade and urns, is octagonal with four openings with keystone arches above. At the next stage pilasters finish the corners and another motif fills in the flat sides. There are urns and modillions at each stage. The spire gracefully tapers to a peak, upon which is a weathervane.

To the rear of the church proper is a one and a half story wing, probably housing offices and classrooms. It is harmonious, though does not have the grand detail of the main portion.

The foundation of the main structure is dressed red sandstone blocks.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



6. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1819

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avon Congregational Church is one of several churches in the State built by David Hoadley, a native Connecticut architect, born in Waterbury in 1774. Mr. William Warren of Litchfield has called it "one of the finest examples of a Connecticut architect's designs." It shows the influence of Charles Bulfinch, who, with his Boston churches, moved the previously traditional side entrance to the end, where the entire gable end became the dominant feature and readily was given to decorative details. /

It was the second church built in the town, the first having been built on the east side of the Farmington River in 1754 when the area was the Northampton Society in Farmington. After it burned in 1817 and the western part of the town settled, the parish was divided and a church built in West Avon. The new society was called Avon in 1819 and that year funds were raised to build a meetinghouse which furnishes an excellent example of the architecture of the period.¹

The church has not always had an easy existence. The bell was reputedly cracked in 1865 while celebrating Lee's surrender at Appomattox. In 1876 there was a bad fire, and the hurricane of 1938 blew the top of the steeple off; it was subsequently restored.

The church is a striking building, but its beauty is threatened by encroaching commercial buildings. The other corner sites of the large junction of two busy highways are occupied by an automobile agency, a gas station, and a modern low brick building housing a bar and grill and drug store, none of which is an appropriate or compatible land use so close to such a fine building as the Congregational Church.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Crofut, T.S.M., Guide to the History and the Historic Sites of Connecticut.
New Haven, Yale University Press. 1937.

Kelly, J. Frederick, Early Connecticut Meeting Houses. New York, 1918.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

| LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY | | | O R | LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES | | |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------|---|-----------|---------|
| CORNER | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | | LATITUDE | LONGITUDE | |
| | Degrees Minutes Seconds | Degrees Minutes Seconds | | Degrees | Minutes | Seconds |
| NW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 41° | 48' | 36" |
| NE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | 72° | 49' | 52" |
| SE | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |
| SW | ° ' " | ° ' " | | | | |

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

| STATE: | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|--------|------|--------|------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Susan Babbitt, Administrative Trainee

ORGANIZATION: Connecticut Historical Commission DATE: April 6, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
51 Pratt Street

CITY OR TOWN: Hartford STATE: Connecticut CODE: 09

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:</p> <p>National <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Name <u><i>[Signature]</i></u></p> <p>Title <u>State Liaison Officer</u></p> <p>Date <u>April 6, 1972</u></p> | <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>11/7/72</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>11-1-72</u></p> |
|---|---|

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Russell Brook

Minister Brook

FARMINGTON

King Phillip Mt.

Little Phillip Mtn

Avon (BM 202)

Alson Corner

MacDonald Memorial Park

Ely Pond

Hartford Reservoir No 6

OLD FIELDS ROAD

LAKE ERIC

Ely Mound

Wells Pond

King Phillip Cave

Radio Tower (WTHI)

Hiba Pond

Gale Pond

BM 196

BM 202

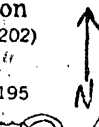
BM 195

BM 173

BM 197

BM 202

BM 300



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M
N