

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0675806

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Whitneyville Congregational Church

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

__NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Whitneyville

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

__ VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

Maine

CODE

23

COUNTY

Washington

CODE

029

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

- DISTRICT
- BUILDING(S)
- STRUCTURE
- SITE
- OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

- PUBLIC
- PRIVATE
- BOTH
- PUBLIC ACQUISITION**
- IN PROCESS
- BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

- OCCUPIED
- UNOCCUPIED
- WORK IN PROGRESS
- ACCESSIBLE**
- YES: RESTRICTED
- YES: UNRESTRICTED
- NO

PRESENT USE

- AGRICULTURE
- MUSEUM
- COMMERCIAL
- PARK
- EDUCATIONAL
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- ENTERTAINMENT
- RELIGIOUS
- GOVERNMENT
- SCIENTIFIC
- INDUSTRIAL
- TRANSPORTATION
- MILITARY
- OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Whitneyville Congregational Church, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER

Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Whitneyville

STATE

Maine

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Machias

STATE

Maine

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

__FEDERAL __STATE __COUNTY __LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Whitneyville Congregational Church, built in 1869-70, is an elaborate and impressive example of the Italianate style in a rural context. The one-story building is rectangular in plan, of frame construction, with granite foundation, clap-boarded walls, and slate roof. A single brick chimney is present at the rear of the building, in line with the ridge-pole. The 3-bay facade, which faces east, is dominated by a central tower which protrudes beyond the front wall.

The two-story tower, square in plan, contains a central entrance, ornately enframed with pilasters and a bracketed and denticulated pediment. The panelled doors are surmounted by a fan-light. Above the doorway is a four-part window with detail comparable to that around the entrance. Above the roof-line three sides of the tower contain circular clock faces which carry Roman numerals. The tower's cornice, like that of the main body of the church, is bracketed and denticulated. A polygonal spire with crowning weather-vane rises above the tower; the roof of the tower is decorated with four pinnacles. Each facade bay flanking the tower consists of a window equivalent to that in the tower's second story.

The sides of the church are three bays long, each bay consisting of a two-part window with enframing as on the facade. Here each bay contains a pair of tall, double-hung 6/8 sash.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1869-76

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William Bowker

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The complete manuscript records of the Church Building Society of Whitneyville, 1866-1878, are extant and reflect in detail the vicissitudes undergone by this small community in erecting and completing this elaborate (for a remote rural region) and surprisingly sophisticated structure. Beginning with the formation of the Society and selling of shares, through the financial problems encountered in completing the interior (not accomplished until 1876), to the selling of the pews, this record demonstrates the dogged determination of the citizens of Whitneyville to erect a house of worship.

It must be concluded that William Bowker, the master builder chosen by the Society, drew on existing plan books for the design, but the actual source has not been determined. In any case the result is a surprisingly cohesive and well proportioned structure of considerable style.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Records of the Church Building Society of Whitneyville, 1866-1878.

Historic Washington County, Washington County Bicentennial Commission, 1976.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2

UTM REFERENCES

A	19	6481510	4952975	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The church occupies a rectangular lot on the south corner of Main and Hall Streets. The lot runs 220 feet on Main Street and 190 feet on Hall Street.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Frank A. Beard, Historian
Robert L. Bradley, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION Maine Historic Preservation Commission DATE October 1978

STREET & NUMBER 242 State Street TELEPHONE 207/289-2133

CITY OR TOWN Augusta STATE Maine

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *Charles S. Heltzer*

TITLE S.H.P.O.

DATE 4/19/79

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION ATTEST: <i>[Signature]</i> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <u>6-25-79</u> KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER DATE <u>6/25/79</u>
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