

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

MAR 2 1977

DATE ENTERED

MAY 12 1977

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC



Plymouth Church/The Congregational Church of Faribault

AND/OR COMMON

The Congregational Church of Faribault *use this***2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

227 N.W. Third Street

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Faribault

VICINITY OF

1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Minnesota

CODE

27

COUNTY

Rice

CODE

131

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 COMMERCIAL EDUCATIONAL ENTERTAINMENT GOVERNMENT INDUSTRIAL MILITARY MUSEUM PARK PRIVATE RESIDENCE RELIGIOUS SCIENTIFIC TRANSPORTATION OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

The Congregational Church of Faribault

STREET & NUMBER

227 N.W. Third Street

CITY, TOWN

Faribault

VICINITY OF

STATE

Minnesota

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Rice County Courthouse - Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Rice County Courthouse - 3rd Avenue at 3rd Street N.W.

CITY, TOWN

Faribault

STATE

Minnesota

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Statewide Historic Sites Survey

DATE

1975

 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Minnesota Historical Society - Building 25, Fort Snelling

CITY, TOWN

St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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 Congregational Church of Faribault on Third Street and Third Avenue North was constructed in 1867 to serve the Congregational people of Faribault and vicinity. The land the church stands on was given to the church by the city's founder, Alexander Faribault.

The architecture of the building is typical nineteenth century and has been copied from Congregational Churches of New England. The one difference is the steeple is on the corner of the building rather than in the middle front. This type of church served two purposes, the church above for the services and Sunday School, and the basement (that is, the ground level), could be rented out to help in the cost of running the church. This church has not been used in this way. The basement was used for Sunday School rooms and a meeting place for the congregation in the early years.

The church is made of native Faribault limestone taken from the quarry east of Faribault and transported to the site by team and wagon. It was built by local stone masons.

The original building was 40 x 75 feet, the spire 114 feet high. The walls upstairs are 2 feet, 2 inches thick. The basement walls are 3 feet, 1 inch thick. An addition was added to the back of the church in the summer of 1910, and a kitchen and Sunday School rooms were added later. This was made over into a chapel called the Mary Leavens Chapel. This addition is made of the same type of limestone, and the same architecture, so it blends in with the original church. This new addition is 24 by 35 feet.

On the East side of the building is a ground level entrance which goes directly into the church. The outside of the building is original except for the small dormers which were taken off when the steeple was shingled. Above each window of the church on the outside is a keystone with a decorative stone around it. The windows of the church are all stained glass. Some are original Tiffanys of great value.

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 checked="" 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 1867-69

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Monroe Sheire (St. Paul)
Builder Rice & Daniels (Faribault)

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The roots of the Congregational Church of Faribault date to 1856, when, known as the Evangelical Congregational Church of Faribault, Dr. Charles Jewett and Reverend Lauren Armsby (of New Hampshire) constructed the first religious edifice in Rice County, Minnesota, at the site of the town of Faribault. This first church prospered and soon divided into two groups known as the Plymouth Church (responsible for construction of the present building in 1867) and the First Congregational Church. In 1874, the two congregations again merged to occupy the Plymouth Church building and became known as The Congregational Church of Faribault.

The church building is significant both as the religious center for the county's oldest congregation, and also for its architectural merit. Designed in the early phase of the Romanesque Revival mode, the church is attributed to Saint Paul pioneer architect Monroe Sheire (known mostly for his mansion-type stone residences in the French Second Empire mode). The building has survived with almost total exterior integrity and is in an excellent state of preservation. An addition to the rear of the building was made in 1910 of similar materials and design as not to detract from the original conception. Cosmetic improvements through the more than one hundred years of use have done little to alter the interior spatial configuration and function. The church is, therefore, an excellent example of ecclesiastical architectural design in post-Civil War Minnesota.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

History of Rice and Steele Counties, Vol. I, especially at pp. 402 & 482, available at the Buckham Memorial Library of Faribault, Minn; Anniversary Bulletin of Congregational Church of Faribault, published in 1974 with date of 1856 on cover -- especially at pp. 2; History of Rice County, Minn., by Rev. Edward D. Neill, published in 1882 -- copies available at Buckham Memorial Library; also Centennial Anniversary of the Congregational Church, 1856-1956. Copies of Centennial bulletins of the church available in the church office in Faribault.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,5	4,7,8	2,6,0	4,9	10,4	2,6,0	B						
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING							
C							D						
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Oliver N. Larson, Historian/Charles W. Nelson, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

The Congregational Church of Faribault/Minnesota Historical Society

DATE

1975/1976

STREET & NUMBER

227 N.W. 3rd Street/Building 25, Fort Snelling

TELEPHONE

?/612-726-1171

CITY OR TOWN

Faribault/St. Paul

STATE

Minnesota

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Russell W. Fridley

TITLE Russell W. Fridley

State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

2-7-77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

W. D. [Signature]

DATE

5/12/77

ATTEST:

Charles [Signature]

DATE

5/10/77