

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION

59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM

F Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

TOWN NO.: SITE NO.:
UTM: 18/6/22/920/45 45/950
QUAD:
DISTRICT: 5 NR: ACTUAL
POTENTIAL

Inventory # 7

IDENTIFICATION

Unitarian - Universalist
Church

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: _____ Historic: Universalist Church

2. TOWN/CITY: Stamford COUNTY: Fairfield

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 20 Forest St.

4. OWNER(S): Unitarian - Universalist Society

5. USE: Present: Church Historic: Church

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no

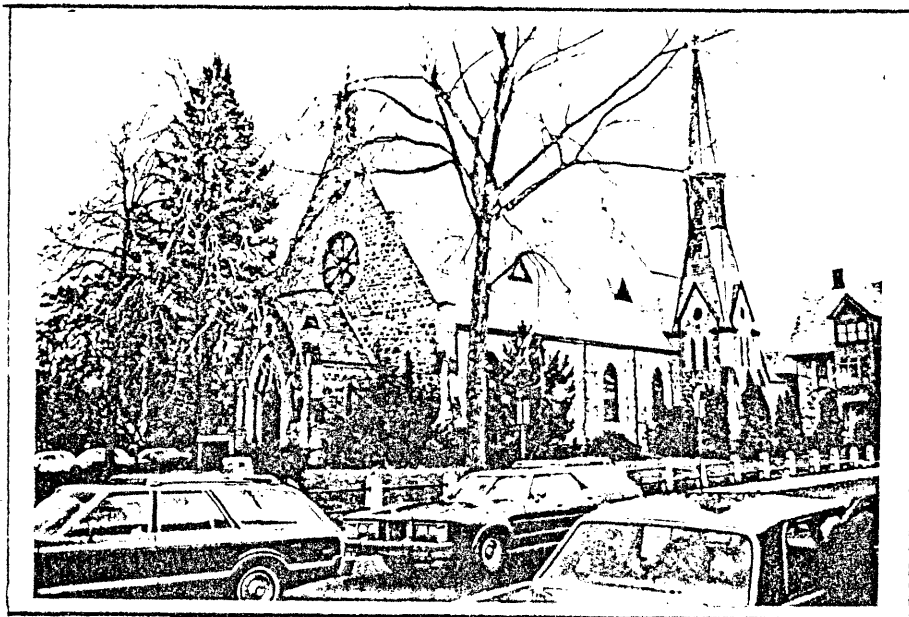
DESCRIPTION

Victorian Gothic

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: (English Country Gothic) DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1870

8. APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 40' x 70'

9. ARCHITECT Gage Inslee BUILDER Unknown



photographer: Steven Hirschberg name: Renee Kahn Associates date: July 77-Mar.
date: July 1977-Mar. 1979 view: W/S organization: Stamford Community Development Program
negative on file: Stamford Historical Society address: 429 Atlantic Street

10. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

See attached sheet.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Unitarian Universalist Church, 20 Forest St.

Item number: _____ Date: 3/23/79

OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES:

This attractive, small-scale Victorian Gothic church is built largely of fieldstone with light colored bricks keyed to the masonry at the pointed arched windows and doors. Its buttresses, quoins, and dentils are also made of light brick. Granite is used at the sills and at the watertable. The front door has Gothic panelling, and its main arch springs from its side columns. The side windows are stencilled in imitation of stained glass, while genuine stained glass windows, representing St Peter and St. Paul, are located in the choir loft. The brick trim encircling the fenestration and exterior walls aids in stabilizing the structure. The architect, Gage Inslee, was a resident of Stamford with an architectural office in N.Y.C. He later moved his practice to Stamford.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This church has a handsome massing of tower and roof lines, with classical details precursing the Queen Anne style. The two interior stained glass windows are estimated to be 400 to 700 years old, and were brought from Europe by Thomas Crane. Crane placed them in his church on Orchard St. in New York City, and later brought them to Stamford.

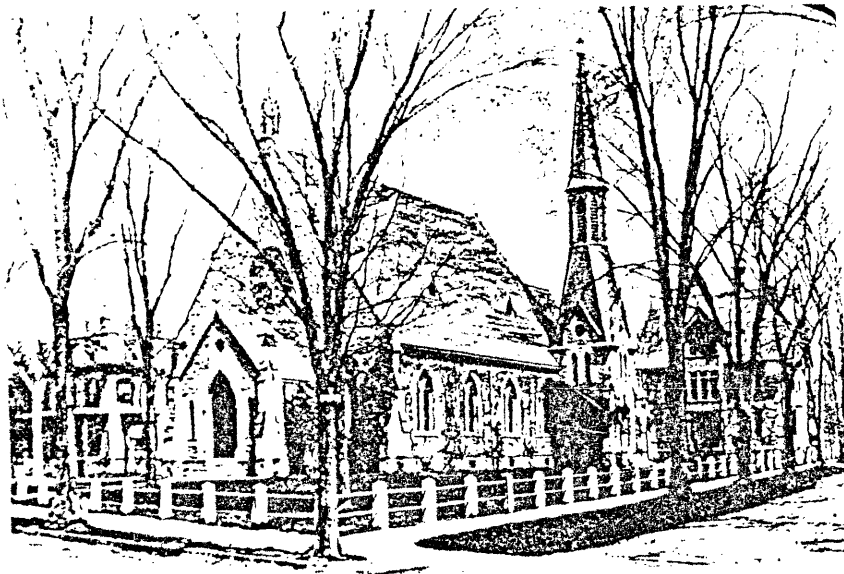
prepared by:
Alan Burnham, FAIA
Renee Kahn

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CONTINUATION SHEET
Item number: _____ Date: _____

20 Forest Street: Unitarian Universalist Church and Rectory: c. 1892



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POTENTIAL

Inventory # 8

IDENTIFICATION

Unitarian-Universalist

1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Church Rectory Historic: Universalist Parsonage

2. TOWN/CITY: Stamford COUNTY: Fairfield

3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 20 Forest St.

4. OWNER(S): Unitarian Universalist Society

5. USE: Present: Offices - Residence Historic: Single Family - Parsonage

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no

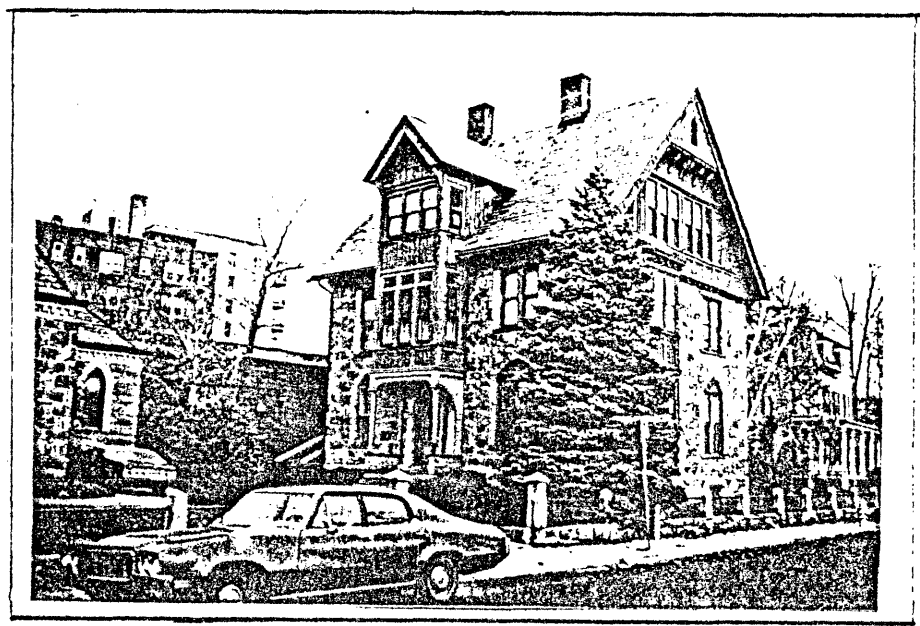
DESCRIPTION

Victorian Gothic with

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: early Queen Anne elements DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1880

8. APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 30'x30'

9. ARCHITECT Unknown BUILDER Unknown



photographer: Steven Hirschberg name: Renee Kahn Associates date: July 77-Mar.
date: July 1977-Mar. 1979 view: w/s organization: Stamford Community Development Program
negative on file: Stamford Historical Society address: 429 Atlantic Street

10. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

See attached sheet.

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CONTINUATION SHEET Unitarian Universalist Rectory, 20 Forest St.
Item number: _____ Date: 3/23/79

OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES:

This distinctive Victorian Gothic polychromed rectory has light-colored bricks accentuating the pointed arches of the door and windows. Wood panelling and board and batten enhance the projecting bays, as well as the oversized end gables. The overhanging peaks of the end gables are supported by modillion-like brackets, as is the cornice of the two-story bay on the south elevation. Colored glass transoms surmount the multi-paned upper sashes of the Queen Anne windows in the projecting central bay.

SIGNIFICANCE:

A fine example of a Victorian rectory of the 1880's, it displays the imaginative use of materials so popular in the residential construction of the period.

prepared by:

Alan Burnham, F.A.I.A.
Renee Kahn