

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70-4-29-0001	DATE 4/3/70

HIS 10-300-100
 2010

1. NAME

COMMON:
First Presbyterian Congregation of Connecticut Farms

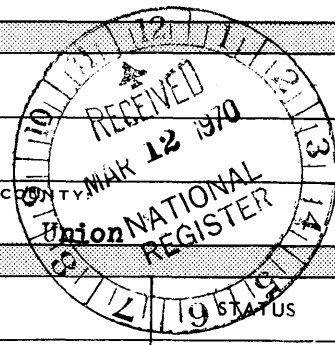
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Connecticut Farms Church

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stuyvesant Avenue at Chestnut Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Union

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **29** COUNTY: **Union** CODE: **039**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Historic education</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
First Presbyterian Congregation of Connecticut Farms

STREET AND NUMBER:
Stuyvesant Avenue at Chestnut Street (thru their Board of Trustees)

CITY OR TOWN:
Union, Union County

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **29**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Register of Union County, Union County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:
Corner Broad Street and Rahway Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:
Elizabeth

STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **29**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS)

DATE OF SURVEY: **1939** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress

STREET AND NUMBER:
Washington

CITY OR TOWN:
Washington

STATE: **D. C.** CODE: **08**

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" 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

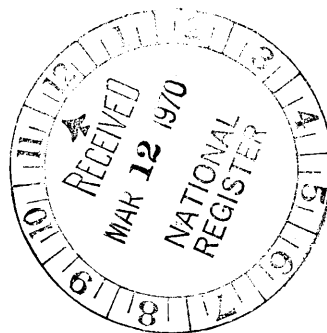
* Except by addition of brick building abutting on South and rear, containing church offices and educational facilities, and furnace room

Rectangular original native stone and red brick building, with original cornice, and original hand-hewn timber roof trusses. White wood doors and window trims, not all original but retaining original design and type of materials. White wood front gable pediment, surmounted by white wood Colonial bell cupola and surrounding railing, all original.

Original appearance unchanged, except for weathering of walls, and except for foregoing modern brick addition abutting on South and rear, which follows original architectural lines.

Early sharply sloping dirt country road is now a widened, paved and graded highway, necessitating present stone retaining wall fronting original building.

Lawn area slopes to South. Colonial burial ground (1732), and fence enclosed, extends on level ground to North.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **Please see Statement of Significance**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

HISTORIC: Congregation formed and Colonial burial ground established 1732. In continuous existence and use since then. First church building of wood construction built about 1740, and burned by British troops in 1780 in action around and approaching Springfield during advance from Elizabethtown. Erection of present stone building begun 1782 and completed 1818. First pastor, Rev. Simon Horton, installed 1734 and served twelve years. Second pastor 1748 and third 1757. Church grounds contain remains of 72 Revolutionary soldiers, both men and officers, and soldiers from all United States conflicts except Viet Nam.

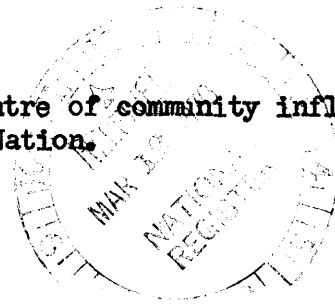
ARCHITECTURE: Building is an excellent and unimpaired example of the architecture of its period, the outstanding features being, perhaps, the cupola and the interior. Cupola will need resupporting within another five years. This work should be done under competent AIA supervision. An objective of National Register listing is the perpetuation of the present architectural integrity.

CONSERVATION: Admission to the National Register could well become the vital factor in preventing inroads by highways or commerce, in this already congested and changing environment.

EDUCATION: The church building, and its adjoining burial ground, are the objects of frequent visits by groups of school children under teacher escort, and by numerous other peoples, from surrounding areas.

RELIGION: Congregation has existed continuously since 1732, and presently numbers in excess of 1,000 members.

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN: The building has stood as a centre of community influence, through the entire history of the Nation.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Please see Continuation Sheet

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	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		40 ° 41 ' 30 " N	74 ° 16 ' 30 " W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

(total, incl. historic burial ground

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1.5 acres as to church building - 3.15 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
No overlaps			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Thomas C. Hanna, President** (By and with knowledge and approval of the Trustees of the property)

ORGANIZATION: **Friends of Connecticut Farms Church Foundation, Inc.** DATE: **10/29/69**
 (a New Jersey corporation - letterhead attached)

STREET AND NUMBER: **P. O. Box 7** (Corporate address **17 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, N. J.**)

CITY OR TOWN: **Woods Hole** STATE: **Massachusetts 02513** CODE: **26**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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:

National State Local

Name *Joseph Barthe*

Title **Acting Commissioner, Dept. of Conservation and Economic Development**

Date **February 27, 1970**

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Arrest Allen Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

APR 4 1970

Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Santoglo
 Keeper of The National Register

Date **MAR 21 1970**

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STATE New Jersey	
COUNTY Union	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
70.4.29.0001	4/3/72

(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries) Connecticut Farms Church, Stuyvesant Ave., Union, N.J.

#6. New Jersey Historical Survey Inventory # 3096.8
Historic Sites Section
Dept. of Conservation and Economic Development
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Code: 29



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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE New Jersey	
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70-4-29-0001	4/2/70

(Number all entries)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES;

All original records kept by the Congregation were destroyed in 1780 in burning of church and manse by the British.

Many publishings have been made in later years, of which the following, as listed October 23, 1969 by the Reference Librarian of the New Jersey Historical Society, are major ones:

1. Honeyman, A. Van Doren, ed. History of Union County, New Jersey, 1664-1923. 3 Vols. New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., p. 441.
2. Street, Rev. Robert. History of the Presbyterian Church at Connecticut Farms, N. J. A Sermon Preached July 2, 1876. Elizabeth: Drake & Cook, Printers, 1876.
3. Marsh, Dr. John E., C. C. Gardener and M. A. Quinby. "Connecticut Farms (Now Union) Cemetery Inscriptions," Proceedings of the New Jersey Historical Society Vol. IX (1924), pp. 167-173, 275-280, 381-387; Vol. X (1925), pp. 59-68.
4. Clayton, W. Woodford, ed. History of Union and Middlesex Counties, New Jersey. Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1882, pp. 99, 212, 381-383.

Additional historic information is available from recent President of Trustees, John P. Rudert, 110 Bayberry Lane, Watchung, N. J. 07060, and on architecture and restorations from Frederick A. Elsasser, AIA, 2013 Morris Avenue, Union, N. J. 07083.

