

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

received MAY 22 1985  
date entered 20

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*  
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic New Sharon Congregational Church

and or common

2. Location

street & number Route 134 N/A not for publication

city, town New Sharon, N/A vicinity of

state Maine code 23 county Franklin code 007

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<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:

4. Owner of Property

name New Sharon Congregational Church Board of Trustees

street & number

city, town New Sharon,  vicinity of state Maine 04955

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Franklin County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town Farmington, state Maine

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title N/a has this property been determined eligible? N/A yes  no

date  federal  state  county  local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

**Condition**

excellent  
 good  
 fair

deteriorated  
 ruins  
 unexposed

**Check one**

unaltered  
 altered

**Check one**

original site  
 moved date \_\_\_\_\_

**Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance**

The New Sharon Congregational Church is a long rectangular brick structure with a gable roof and a wooden bell tower over the SE facade. Constructed in the Greek Revival style, the church has full frame clapboarded pediments in the gable ends. Directly below is the principal facade which has two symmetrical entrances flanking a window which, like those on either side of the building, have twelve-over-twelve lights. Flat granite lintels are over all doors and windows. The tower is designed in a Gothic style with lancet arched apertures and pointed finials. The upper section is octagonal with a beehive-shaped roof.

The interior of the church contains original pews and window trim, which exhibit typical Greek Revival style moldings. Plywood panelling now covers the walls and the plaster ceiling has been removed, exposing the modern truss system supporting the roof.

# 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/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

<b>Specific dates</b>	1845	<b>Builder/Architect</b>	Unknown
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**Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)**

This charming village church, a forthright statement in the Greek Revival style is sited on a piece of rising ground overlooking the old residential center of New Sharon. With a large open space between it and the street, as near to a village green as is to be found in most small Maine towns, it is a focal point not only within the community but from its approaches as well.

Built in 1845 by the Congregational Church of New Sharon, it supplanted a wooden meeting house of 1816 erected as a common house of worship by the Congregationalists, Baptists, Methodists, and Unitarians and used by each denomination one-fourth of the time. Gradually each denomination built its own church leaving the wooden building to the Congregationalists. Its destruction by fire in 1843 brought about the erection of the present structure. The Congregational Church was federated with the Methodist Church from 1930 to 1965 after which it again became a separate entity.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Kearney, Marie, and Bonney, Pamela, New Sharon Remembered. Farmington, Maine, 1981.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acree of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name New Sharon

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

### UTM References

A 

1	19	4	1	19	5	18	10	4	19	4	12	8	10	15
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

C 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

D 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H 

Zone	Easting				Northing									

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Assessor's Map 3, Lot 8

### 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/Roger G. Reed, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date April, 1985

street & number 55 Capitol Street, Station #65 telephone 207/289-2132

city or town Augusta state Maine 04333

## 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 *E. S. Felt*

title S. H. P. O. date 5/10/85

### For NPS use only

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

*J. Melores Byer* Entered in the National Register date 6-20-85  
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Chief of Registration