

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

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**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received JAN 26 1982

date entered

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

1. Name Canaan Chapel

historic Canaan Chapel (aka Canaan Free Will Baptist Church)

and/or common Canaan Chapel (perferred)

2. Location

street & number Route 202 & 9 (aka Canaan Road) not for publication

city, town Barrington vicinity of congressional district First

state New Hampshire code 33 county Strafford code 017

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	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input 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 Canaan Chapel Association (aka Canaan Free Will Baptist Church)

street & number Route 202 & 9 (aka Canaan Road)

city, town Barrington vicinity of state New Hampshire 03825

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Strafford County Registry of Deeds Vol. 316, pa. 498, 499
Strafford County Courthouse Vol. 547, pg. 499

street & number County Farm Cross Road

city, town Dover state New Hampshire 03820

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Barrington Master Plan
Special Features Map of Significant Historical Sites has this property been determined eligible? yes no
date adopted December, 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Town Office, Town of Barrington

city, town Barrington state New Hampshire 03825

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<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

Canaan Chapel, built in 1881, is a one-story wooden frame structure, 24'x 40' in size, with a pitched (v shaped) roof, chimney, and white painted clapboards. The building was constructed on a split stone foundation; there is no cellar.

There is an entrance door and two windows facing the road, one at street level to the right of the door and one above, in the center of the gable. There are three windows on the east side and three on the west side, all six over six, and each framed by a set of green shutters. The rear of the building is blank.

The interior consists of three sections: a small entrance hallway; an anteroom to the right of the hallway; and a large meeting room of about 24'x 32'.

The meeting room is the focal point of the building, both structurally and in terms of usage. Its floor plan, unchanged since its origin, provides space for settees to accommodate ninety-six people and the original twenty-four deacon benches, circa 1880, still remain in place.

There is a raised stage area at the front of the meeting room, and at its center stands the pulpit and Victorian style chair purchased with money donated by Frank Jones.* To the left of the pulpit, the building's northwest corner, sits a unique 1890 pump organ with mock wooden pipes manufactured by the Boston Organ Company. In the corner opposite to the organ is a piano of more recent vintage.

The plain native pine board flooring contrasts with a more elaborate embossed steel ceiling which has been decoratively painted white with light blue trim and from which hangs an antique brass chandelier, now converted to electricity.

Interior changes since construction have been few and include electric lights, the addition of venetian blinds and paneling on the interior north walls. Also, while the heat remains wood, the original stove was replaced with one of 1930 vintage which sits in the back of the meeting room.

Behind the Chapel--to the rear of the one-half acre lot--is the same 18'x 76' horseshed constructed in 1898 to shelter the horses of those attending the Chapel. It contains 8 bays, is built of rough siding and has a corrugated steel roof.

*as cited in Frank Jones, King of the Ale makers, Ray Brighton, Peter E. Randall, Hampton, N.H. 1976

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 checked="" 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 dedicated 8/24/81 **Builder/Architect** John Hill Perry

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Architecture: The Canaan Chapel is one of a small but distinctive group of meeting houses built for a number of associated Free Will Baptist churches in southeastern New Hampshire. The religion with which these structures are associated was a native sect founded in nearby New Durham, N.H. about 1780. The Free Will Baptist movement exerted a powerful influence in the country towns of the region during the nineteenth century. Similarly, the buildings associated with the Free Will Baptists--generally of simple design that reflect the limited funds available to the rural congregations--contribute an important element to the architectural heritage of southeastern New Hampshire. The Canaan Chapel shares the aesthetic which governs most Free Will Baptist architecture in the area. It is a simple building which, despite its late date of 1881, continues to utilize the plain Greek Revival style that had characterized most Free Will Baptist buildings since the 1830s. Earlier church buildings that had contributed to this architectural tradition stand nearby at New Durham (1819; 1869); Crown Point, Strafford (1834); Center Strafford (1834); Bow Lake Village, Strafford (1843); South Barrington (1847); and East Alton (1820; 1848). Several local Free Will Baptist meeting houses were, like the Canaan Chapel, built without steeples. The most direct prototype of the Chapel in this regard was the North Strafford Free Will Baptist meeting house (1842). A building of the same general style and size as the Canaan Chapel was built still later at Green Hill in Barrington (1899), continuing the local architectural tradition of the turn of the twentieth century. The Canaan Chapel thus represents a characteristic element in a coherent architectural tradition. Associated with a religion of origin and strong local appeal, the Chapel reflects part of the religious, social and architectural history of its region.

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

9. Major Bibliographical References

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Information from original church records of the Fourth Free Will Baptist Church, later called the Canaan Free Will Baptist Church and from a private collection of papers from the Boodey family. Church records are maintained at the Canaan Chapel; Boodey family papers are maintained in the private collection of Ralph Boodey, Canaan Road, Barrington, N.H.

-continued-

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property @ 1/2

Quadrangle name Pawtuckaway, NH

Quadrangle scale 1:62500

UMT References

A

1	9	3	2	9	2	9	7	4	7	8	5	2	4	3
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 : Property is bounded on two sides by Rt. 202 (9), aka Canaan Rd., and Canaan Back Road. Norht boundary is @288 feet running north 80° east; eastern boundary is @107 feet running south 10° east. Total acreage is 1/2 acre more or less. Tax map #4, lot #25.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ralph Boodey, Chairman & Alice Boodey Downing

organization Canaan Chapel Association date December 29, 1980

street & number Canaan Back Road, Star Route telephone 664-2266

city or town Barrington state New Hampshire 03825

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature [Signature]

Commissioner, Department of Resources & Economic Development

title NH State Historic Preservation Officer date February 12, 1981

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

William H. Brawham date 3.11.82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JAN 23 1982
DATE ENTERED

MAJOR
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL

CONTINUATION SHEET #1-REFERENCES ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

Other sources include:

"The congregation of this church is faithful but once a year," Marty McGannon,
Foster's Daily Democrat, September 25, 1980.

"The Canaan Chapel", Ralph Boodey, prepared for the Open House 250th Anniversary
Celebration, Town of Barrington, 1972.

"The Canaan Church", Ralph Boodey, as read to the Barrington Historical Society,
August, 1972.

