

330

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
Town No.:	Site No.:
UTM	
QUAD:	
DISTRICT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	IF NR. SPECIFY <input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

105/33/5/1

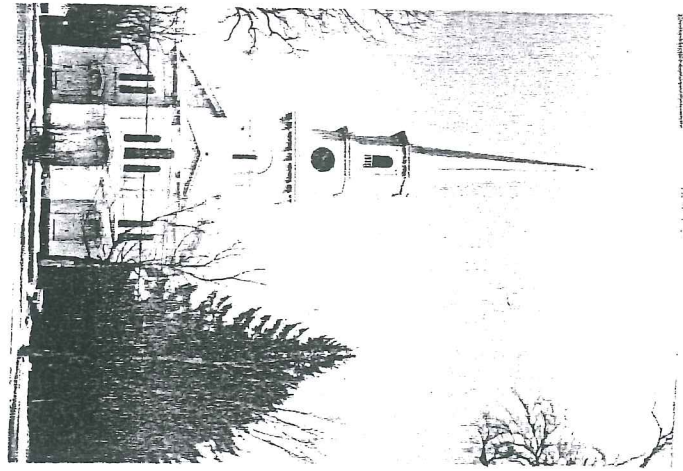
IDENTIFICATION	1. BUILDING NAME (Common) THOMPSON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH		(Historic) THOMPSON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH	
	2. TOWN CITY THOMPSON		VILLAGE THOMPSON	COUNTY WINDHAM
	3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location) 1882 ROUTE 193 (347 THOMPSON RO.)		105/33-5	
	4. OWNER(S) CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF THOMPSON, INC., THOMPSON, CT 06277		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private	
	5. USE (Present) Church		(Historic) Church	
	6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
	7. STYLE OF BUILDING Italianate/Greek Revival		DATE OF CONSTRUCTION c. 1856	
	8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clapboard		<input type="checkbox"/> Asbestos Siding	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> Brick	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Flushboards	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Aluminum Siding		<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt Siding	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Concrete Type:		<input type="checkbox"/> Fieldstone	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cut stone Type: Granite foundation		<input type="checkbox"/> Cobblestone	
	9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood frame		<input type="checkbox"/> Post and beam	
<input type="checkbox"/> Load bearing masonry		<input type="checkbox"/> balloon		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Structural iron or steel		
10. ROOF (Type)				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gable		<input type="checkbox"/> Flat		
<input type="checkbox"/> Gambrel		<input type="checkbox"/> Mansard		
<input type="checkbox"/> Wood Shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> Monitor		
<input type="checkbox"/> Asphalt shingle		<input type="checkbox"/> sawtooth		
<input type="checkbox"/> Built up		<input type="checkbox"/> Hip		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tile		<input type="checkbox"/> Round		
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)		
11. NUMBER OF STORIES		APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS		
3		48' x 80'		
12. CONDITION (Structural)		(Exterior)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good		<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		<input type="checkbox"/> Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated		
13. INTEGRITY (Location)		WHEN ?		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On original site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
<input type="checkbox"/> Moved		IF YES, EXPLAIN 1964 rear wing		
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Barn		<input type="checkbox"/> Shed		
<input type="checkbox"/> Carriage house		<input type="checkbox"/> Garage		
<input type="checkbox"/> Shop		<input type="checkbox"/> Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Garden				
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT				
<input type="checkbox"/> Open land		<input type="checkbox"/> Wood-land		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential		<input type="checkbox"/> Scattered buildings visible from site		
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial		<input type="checkbox"/> Indus-trial		
<input type="checkbox"/> Rural		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High building density		
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS				

DESCRIPTION

In the Thompson Hill village center, a well preserved neighborhood of 19th century buildings.

(OVER)

PHOTO	PHOTOGRAPHER Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	VIEW E	NEGATIVE ON FILE E11	
COMPILED BY	NAME Mark McDonough		DATE 1986
	ORGANIZATION Town of Thompson, Connecticut		
	ADDRESS		



20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)
 Three-part facade with steeple on central projecting flush-boarded gabled entry pavillion. Left, right and central entries with double heavy paneled wood doors, heavy molded gabled entry shelters on very large jigsawn consoles. Entry pilasters with round arched panels. Above entries, narrow round arched windows (triple central, paired sides) with heavy molded hoods on consoles with carved leaf designs.
 Pavillion has quoins on first floor, wide corner pilasters with round arched panels on second. Building has plain frieze, molded cornice on large paired jigsawn brackets. Pavillion cornice shows partial return; main cornice returns to meet pavillion.
 Steeple: Three-stage base, spire clad in aluminum siding. First stage is rectangular, with round arched slit windows with molded surrounds. Stage is flush boarded with paneled corner pilasters supporting plain frieze with round arched profile. Stage topped by molded cornice on paired brackets. Octagonal second stage has large round clock face. Third (belfry) stage has round arched openings with balustrades.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE
 Thompson's first Congregational Meeting House was built in 1754, 31 years before the settlement achieved formal township status. As the time, Thompson Hill was a lightly settled village. Its choice as a location for the church (at the time the center of both religious worship and government) may well have been a compromise between the residents of various outlying areas.
 In 1815, the first meeting house was replaced by a new structure built on the main green, just across the street from the present structure. The new building was reportedly designed by Thompson born architect Ithiel Towne. In 1855, prominent local citizens William H. Mason and Joseph B. Gay created a trust fund to help finance a third church (perhaps not coincidentally, Mason had just built a new Gothic Revival mansion on what is now Chase Road and found himself with a church in his front yard). In 1856, the church trustees purchased the present site, safely removed from Mason's line of sight. The design of the present building is said to have been based on Towne's 1815 structure.
 Historically, the Thompson Congregational Church is significant as a longtime community institution.

SOURCES
 Brief Historical Tour of the Town of Thompson
 Thompson Land Records 20:674 (1855); 21:604 (1856)

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known
 Highways
 Vandalism
 Developers
 Other _____
 Renewal
 Private
 Deterloration
 Zoning
 Explanaton _____

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
 CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 59 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
 HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
 For Buildings and Structures

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
TOWN NO.:	SITE NO.:		
UTM: 18/	/	/	/
QUAD:			
DISTRICT:	S	NR:	ACTUAL POTENTIAL

CONTINUATION SHEET #19 THOMPSON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
 Item number: _____ Date: _____

Architecturally, it is significant as a good example of 19th century church architecture. Like many American churches of the period, the building shows the influence of the British designs of Christopher Wren, combined here with the bracketed cornices, heavy moldings, and round arched forms typical of Italianate influenced Victorian architecture.