

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
50 South Prospect Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106
(203) 566-3005

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY FORM
For Buildings and Structures

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

IDENTIFICATION

- 1. BUILDING NAME: Common: Methodist Church Historic: The First Methodist Church
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: _____ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 24 Church Street
- 4. OWNER(S): First United Methodist Church PUBLIC PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Church Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road: yes no
Interior accessible: yes, explain house of worship no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Second Gothic Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1931
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):

<input type="checkbox"/> clapboard	<input type="checkbox"/> asbestos siding	<input type="checkbox"/> brick
<input type="checkbox"/> wood shingle	<input type="checkbox"/> asphalt siding	<input type="checkbox"/> fieldstone
<input type="checkbox"/> board & batten	<input type="checkbox"/> stucco	<input type="checkbox"/> cobblestone
<input type="checkbox"/> aluminum siding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> concrete: type: <u>poured</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> cut stone: type: <u>granite</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> decoration	walls and foundation
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:
 wood frame: post and beam balloon
 load bearing masonry structural iron or steel
 other: _____
- 10. ROOF: type:
 gable flat mansard monitor sawtooth
 gambrel shed hip round other _____
material:
 wood shingle roll asphalt tin slate
 asphalt-shingle built up tile other: _____
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: _____ APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 45'x90' (wing, 70'x25')
- 12. CONDITION: Structural: excellent good fair deteriorated
Exterior: excellent good fair deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location: on original site moved, when: _____
Alterations: no yes, explain: Tower removed
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:
 barn shed garage other landscape features or buildings: Annex and parsonage
 carriage house shop garden
- 15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT:
 open land woodland residential scattered buildings visible from site
 commercial industrial rural high building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS: This building is one of a number of institutional buildings in the historic South Green district. On the north side of the Green, the church is part of a "U" shaped complex of three structures. Affixed to its east wall is the Tudor style church annex. Attached to the south wall of the annex is a breezeway connecting to the Second Empire style parsonage. Between the buildings is a small, well-kept, court yard facing the Green.

17. OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior):

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: _____ Builder: _____

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: The Methodist Society was first founded in Middletown in 1791. The first meeting house, erected in 1804 on the present site, was replaced in 1828. This replacement building was destroyed by fire in 1885. In 1930 the third edifice, erected in 1886, was also destroyed by fire. The present church (the fourth to be erected on the same property), was completed in 1931.

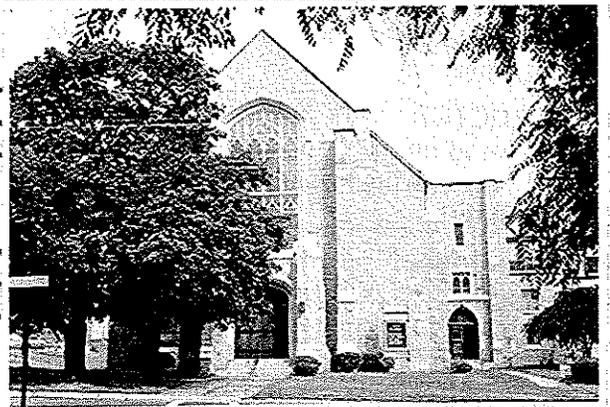
Although the granite construction of the Methodist Church is unusual in Middletown, the use of the Gothic style is common. The gabled nave is buttressed and the corners are capped with pinnacles. The chief features of the facade are the compound-arched entranceway with double doors, and the tall pointed arched stained glass window.

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: John E. Reynolds
date: 11/78 view: south
negative on file: Roll 51, #2-2A

COMPILED BY:

name: Elizabeth Loomis date: 8/78
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457



19. SOURCES: "The First Methodist Church: Twentieth Anniversary of the Fourth Church Building" (Middletown, 1951)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

none known highways vandalism developers other: _____
 renewal private deterioration zoning explanation: _____

