

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
5 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: Holy Trinity Church Historic: same
- 2. TOWN/CITY: Middletown VILLAGE: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY: Middlesex
- 3. STREET & NUMBER (and/or location): 381 Main Street
- 4. OWNER(S): Society of the Church of the Holy Trinity PUBLIC  PRIVATE
- 5. USE: Present: Church Historic: same
- 6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: Exterior visible from public road:  yes  no  
Interior accessible:  yes, explain religious services  no

DESCRIPTION

- 7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Gothic Revival DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1871-74
- 8. MATERIAL(S) (indicate use or location when appropriate):  
 clapboard  asbestos siding  brick  
 wood shingle  asphalt siding  fieldstone  
 board & batten  stucco  cobblestone  
 aluminum siding  concrete: type: \_\_\_\_\_  cut stone: type: brownstone  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM:  
 wood frame:  post and beam  balloon  
 load bearing masonry  structural iron or steel  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 10. ROOF: type:  
 gables  flat  mansard  monitor  sawtooth  
 gambrel  shed  hip tower  round  other \_\_\_\_\_  
 material:  
 wood shingle  roll asphalt  tin  slate  
 asphalt shingle  built up  tile  other: \_\_\_\_\_
- 11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 1 APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 61'x110'; rear wing 64'x70'
- 12. CONDITION: Structural:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  
 Exterior:  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated
- 13. INTEGRITY: Location:  on original site  moved, when: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Alterations:  no  yes, explain: Minor interior redecoration; Parish House wing added in 1898
- 14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES:  
 barn  shed  garage  other landscape features or buildings: playground in rear  
 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 Gothic Church faces east from the west side of Main Street on the central block between Court and Washington Streets. It is set back from the street with a lawn in front. Its substantial appearance, emphasized by the sombre tones of the heavy brownstone construction, contrasts greatly with the flat facades

(see continuation sheet)

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

Altar and reredos (screen) (Charles Haight, architect; J. Massey Rind, sculptor)

SIGNIFICANCE

Architect: Henry Dudley Builder: McConochie, Moore, & Mylchreest

18. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE: The Episcopal Church in Middletown had its beginnings as early as 1724. Unlike many Colonial Anglican Churches it was firmly committed to the patriot cause during the Revolution. This is the third meeting house of the Church of the Holy Trinity, which was formally established as Christ Church in 1750. Several of its ministers have become Bishops, including Abraham Jarvis, John Williams, and E. Campion Acheson.

This church was built in 1870-74. Henry Dudley was the architect and the firm of McConochie, Moor, & Mylchreest was the prime contractor. Constructed of local brownstone, this church displays a symmetrically arranged facade with a buttressed bell tower at the southeast corner. A large rose tracery window is the dominant decorative feature of this facade, which also displays arched and lancet windows. The tower lacks a spire but features narrow arched windows which emphasize its verticality, and echo the fenestration of the facades. The interior displays elaborate tracery trusses supported on cast iron posts. The present altar and reredos were added around 1892 and were designed by Charles Haight of New York.

(see continuation sheet)

PHOTOGRAPH

photographer: Elizabeth Loomis  
date: 7/78 view: east  
negative on file: Roll 29, #17A-18

COMPILED BY:

name: John E. Reynolds date: 7/78  
organization: Greater Middletown Preservation Trust  
address: 27 Washington St., Middletown, Ct. 06457



19. SOURCES: Jesse Alsop, "Church of the Holy Trinity," Old Houses of Connecticut Series (FERA, 1935); Alice B. Richter, History of the Church of the Holy Trinity (Middletown: 1963); Journal and Ledger of Church Building Committee (Holy Trinity archives); H.F. Donlan, Middletown Tribune: Souvenir Edition (Middletown: E.F. Bigelow, 1896)

20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS:

21. THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE:

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

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CONTINUATION SHEET  
Item number: 16&18 Date: 7/78

Holy Trinity Church  
381 Main St., Middletown, Ct. 06457

#16

and brightly decorated storefronts on Main Street.

#18

In the two decades following the Civil War, a number of institutional buildings were constructed in the Gothic Revival style in Middletown. The design of this church is representative of that pattern.

