

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	IF NR, SPECIFY
<input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> NR	<input type="checkbox"/> Actual <input type="checkbox"/> Potential

Whitney Avenue 216-482-5

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) (Historic)  
 1st Church of Christ Scientist Same

2. TOWN/CITY VILLAGE COUNTY  
 New Haven New Haven

3. STREET AND NUMBER (and or location)  
 691 Whitney Avenue

4. OWNER(S)  
 First Church of Christ Scientist  Public  Private

5. USE (Present) (Historic)  
 Church Same

6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE IF YES, EXPLAIN  
 Yes  No  Yes  No Church hours

7. STYLE OF BUILDING DATE OF CONSTRUCTION  
 Modern 1952

DESCRIPTION

8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)  
 Clapboard  Asbestos Siding  Brick  Other (Specify) metal & plate glass  
 Wood Shingle  Asphalt Siding  Fieldstone  
 Board & Batten  Stucco  Cobblestone  
 Aluminum Siding  Concrete Type: cast stone  Cut stone Type: polished red granite

9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM  
 Wood frame  Post and beam  balloon  
 Load bearing masonry  Structural iron or steel  
 Other (Specify)

10. ROOF (Type)  
 Gable  Flat  Mansard  Monitor  sawtooth  
 Gambrel  Shed  Hip  Round  Other (Specify)  
 (Material)  
 Wood Shingle  Roll Asphalt  Tin  Slate  
 Asphalt shingle  Built up  Tile  Other (Specify)

11. NUMBER OF STORIES APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS  
 3 85' X 115'

12. CONDITION (Structural) (Exterior)  
 Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated  Excellent  Good  Fair  Deteriorated

13. INTEGRITY (Location) WHEN? (Alterations) IF YES, EXPLAIN  
 On original site  Moved  Yes  No

14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES  
 Barn  Shed  Garage  Other landscape features or buildings (Specify) Long, double walkway leading to front steps. Large trees on either side of walkway. Asphalt drive on north side. Parking lot in rear. Lot from Whitney to Everit Street.  
 Carriage house  Shop  Garden

15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT  
 Open land  Wood-land  Residential  Scattered buildings visible from site  
 Commercial  Indus-trial  Rural  High building density

16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS

Faces a Queen Anne/Colonial Revival house (684). To the north is a Spanish Revival apartment building To the south is a shingle styled house now used by the American Red Cross (703).

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

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

Symmetrical, rectangular flat roofed structure with a monitor type roofed central section. Central section of facade emphasized by 4 square marble projections, the 2 middle projections being taller & joining in a flat bridge. Steeple rises from bridge. Between red granite pieces are rectangular panes of glass placed end to end to form vertical bands. Panes have aluminum bar trim. 3 pairs of glass plate doors across center section. Concrete front steps with aluminum railing. Columns of rectangular lights at facade corners. North & south sides slant back to rear. Full length Chicago windows on ground floor. Upper story windows are columns of rectangular, opaque glass panes. Molded concret wings between window columns emphasize angled wall. North side entrance has large, flat roofed car port with 4 marble columns & 2 rows of square openings in a rear brick wall. 2 wood paneled doors, encased in marble, at rear of building.

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

Douglas Orr

19. HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

SIGNIFICANCE

Architectural: Designed by Douglas William Orr, F.A.I.A. (1892-1966), a well known New Haven architect. Another Orr design on Whitney Avenue is the New Haven Lawn Club, a Colonial Revival structure. An article from the May 7, 1952 edition of the New Haven Register states that Orr was striving for a feeling of space and serenity.

History: The First Church of Christ Scientist was incorporated on November 11, 1901, with 16 charter members and was the first Christian Scientist congregation organized in Connecticut.

Background: Church built on the site of a Whitney granddaughter's house.

SOURCES

Dana, vol.118,p.123.  
Brown, p.42.  
1923,1956(Sanborn)map.

PHOTOGRAPHER

DATE

Alan Rutberg 6/81

VIEW

NEGATIVE ON FILE

Front NHPT, CHC, Sheet 51

NAME

DATE

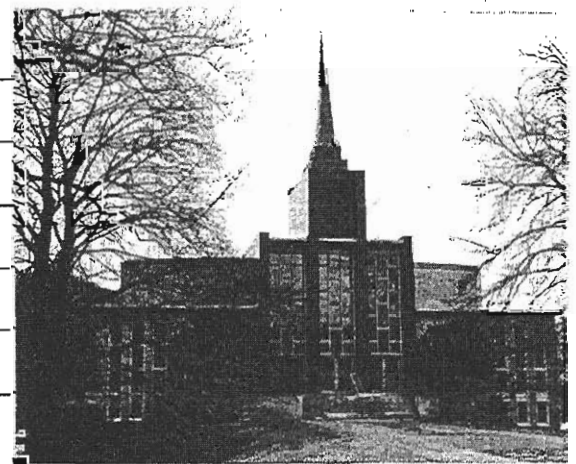
Amy L. Hudnall 6/29/81

ORGANIZATION

New Haven Preservation Trust

ADDRESS

P.O. Box 1671, New Haven, CT 06507



20. SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATIONS

21 THREATS TO BUILDING OR SITE

None known  Highways  Vandalism  Developers  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal  Private  Deterioration  Zoning  Explanaton \_\_\_\_\_