

TOWN OF WINDSOR
 HISTORIC SURVEY
 AUGUST, 1981
 WINDSOR PLANNING DEPARTMENT

responsibility of giving warning to the settlers south of him, in case of Indian attacks.

The present Hayden Station Road was once the only thoroughfare north from Windsor/Hartford to Northampton and Boston. It was not until 1814 that a road closer to the River, including necessary bridges, (the current northern section of Palisado Avenue) was opened for travel. A famous establishment of its time was Pickett's Tavern, a way-stop for travelers. It was located at the junction of the road to Northampton and the road to the "Pine Meadows" (see Map 2); this is the present Hayden Station Road/Center Street intersection. The "Pine Meadows" referred to an area which is now within the Town of Windsor Locks. Up until the 1930's, Hayden Station Road was known as "Pink Street." The majority of land in and surrounding Hayden Station was wooded and the clearing of this land for fuel and lumber was followed by agricultural utilization. During the 1700's, various commercial establishments became evident along Hayden Station Road to support the rural settlement. These included a shoemaker's shop, brickyards, a tannery and a grist mill. It also included a red stone quarry from which were produced the blocks for many of the surrounding house foundations. This quarry was located in the area known as the "Stone Pit" (see Map 2). The name Pink Street was probably derived from the brick houses and their red stone foundations prevalent in the area. After the Revolution, John Hayden began Hayden's shipyard on the Connecticut River opposite Hayden Station Road. This continued for some twenty to thirty years.

Further west along Hayden Station Road near the pond existed a small community of blacks, as early as the mid 1700's. In the late 1800's, a church was constructed in this area. This church burned down in the early 20th century and was replaced with the A.M.E. (Archer Memorial) Zion Church

which was demolished in 1981 (see Survey Item #94). Plans for a new and larger church structure, on the same site, were filed with the Town in 1979. The pond in this area was a gathering and meeting place for this community. Its members used it for baptisms, social gatherings, and recreation.

With the passing of Hayden Station Road as a major thoroughfare north in the early 1800's, the next significant impact on the growth of Hayden Station came about as a result of the construction of the railroad line which was completed in 1844, with a stop at what is now Hayden Station Road (see Map 5). Rail service became available from this rural "outpost" to Windsor and Hartford and its significance is reflected in this period's residential construction along Hayden Station Road. Train service continued from this location until 1933. Strangely, the name change from Pink Street to Hayden Station Road occurred after that date. Along with Palisado, this area has undergone relatively little change and still exhibits many of the qualities of its early history.

Poquonock and Rainbow - At the northwest corner of Broad Street the "Old Mill Road" extended northwest toward the Old Warham Mill site (see Survey item #248). The road continues northwesterly along the Farmington River to the village of Poquonock (see Maps 1, 3 and 5). The first settlers of this area are thought to have been Edward Griswold, Thomas Holcomb, and John Bartlett. They moved here about 1649. The next fifty years saw this becoming one of the most populated districts in Town.

The Farmington River and its tributaries afforded Poquonock (sometimes referred to as Tunxis valley) good water power. Also, the Farmington was navigable by shallow draft boats to this point from its juncture with the Connecticut River. Further northwest is an area known as Rainbow; which, undoubtedly, received its name from the graceful curve of the segment of the Farmington River adjacent to it.

BUILDING RESOURCES INVENTORY
HISTORIC AND STRUCTURES

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

IDENTIFICATION

1. **Item No.** 194
 2. **Town City** HARTFORD
 3. **Street and Number** 122 HAYDEN STATION ROAD
 4. **Owner** ARCHER, A. M. R. ZION CHURCH
 5. **Use** CHURCH
 6. **Accessibility to Public** Yes No
 7. **Year of Construction** c. 1908
 8. **Public** Public Private

DESCRIPTION

1. **Other Specific**
 2. **Roof** Gable Hip Round Other Specify: _____
 3. **Exterior** Asphalt Siding Fieldstone Other Specify: _____
 4. **Interior** Floor Monitor Sawtooth Other Specify: _____
 5. **Foundation** Foundation Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated
 6. **Basement** Full Partial None No basement
 7. **Dimensions** 15' x 20'
 8. **Other** Carriage Shop Garden
 9. Open land Wood Residential
 10. Commercial Industrial Rural Scattered buildings visible from site
 11. High building density
 12. Other landscape features or buildings Specify: _____

LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE ROADWAY JUST WEST OF POND ROAD. SEVERAL RESIDENCES ARE VISIBLE FROM THE SITE AS WELL AS VACANT WOODED LAND.

(OVER)

DESCRIPTION (Continued)

1 story frame building with pitched roof, gable-end faces the street. Building is 3 bays wide and 2 bays deep. Front bays are in paired groups, with 1 x 1 sash. Side bays are in single groups with 1 x 1 sash. The entry is centered under a gabled entry porch. Has small 1 story rear addition.

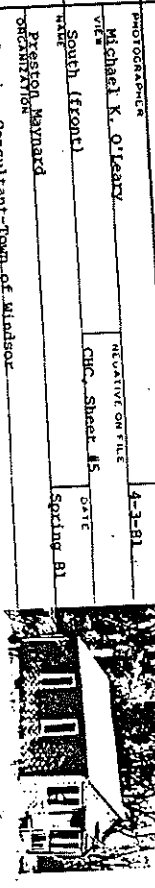
SIGNIFICANCE

This building (demolished in June 1981) was the home of the AME Zion Church of Hayden Station. It was built in the early 20th century with a grant from Frederick H. Thrall. Originally situated in the pine grove to the rear of the present site, it was moved here in about 1908. This building formed the center of a large black community which settled in this area in the late 19th and early 20th century. The building was raised to make way for a new church to be completed by 1962. The AME Zion Church got its start in the 1890's and 1890's. At the time, a Rev. Dennis Scott White conducted prayer meetings in the pine grove behind the present church. These attracted a large following, with families coming from Hartford and Springfield by trolley to spend 3 or more weeks in the summer. By the end of the century 60 or more people had settled permanently in the area, forming the first cohesive black community in the town. This settlement formed along Pond Street where it intersects with Hayden Station Road. The church was named for Sandy Archer, a former slave who lived in a house opposite the church and died at the age of 100.

SOURCES

Town of Windsor Assessor's Office
 Windsor Historical Society - Photograph collection
 Simmons, Joan; Unpublished article AME Zion Church
 Windsor Land Records: Vol. 69, pg 25

PHOTO



COMPILED BY

Michael K. O'Leary
 Planning Consultant-Town of Windsor
 275 Broad Street, Windsor, CT 06095

REVISIONS

Major Alterations
 Minor Alterations
 Additions
 Deletions
 Other Specify: _____

Archer Memorial AME Zion Church

The first resident minister of Archer Memorial AME Zion Church was the Reverend Dennis Scott White. Reverend White had moved to the Hayden Station area of Windsor from South Carolina. After the Revolutionary War, a number of black families settled in this area, where a small black population had lived for many years.

Reverend White constructed a church building next to the pine grove north of the intersection of Hayden Station and Pond Roads in the late 1800s after receiving financial assistance from Frederick H. Thrall, described as a philanthropist of the day.

In addition to building the church, he also built a store in the area.

During the the summer months of the late 1880's and early 1890's, Rev. White conducted camp meeting in the pine grove. The camp meetings were held for two to four weeks in late summer and would last all day and on into the evening. People would come from as far away as Torrington and Springfield to attend the camp meetings.

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