

**Charlotte L. Evarts Memorial Archives, Inc.
8 Meetinghouse Lane
Madison, Connecticut 06443
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Number 25

The Chapel



The Chapel in 1984

Now affectionately known as "The Chapel" this building was built by the First Congregational Church as "a suitable room or chapel for social worship (with) church parlors for missionary and benevolent work and in which the social life of the Church and Parish may be domesticated and friendly union and good will promoted."

Under the guidance of Rev. James A. Gallup, a fund drive was launched and \$4,000 was raised to construct and furnish the chapel. It was dedicated July 3, 1884, and has served both the church and the Madison community ever since.

This is a lovely building with elegantly cut shingles and wood moldings that contrast with the clapboard siding. Be sure to notice the beautiful rosette window in the gable and the arched window in the small projection below the rosette.

Historically and architecturally significant, the building is inventoried in the records of the Connecticut Historical Commission.

In 1962 the First Congregational Church built its present Church House and sold the chapel to the town to be used as a community center. In 1980 the Madison Beach and

Recreation Commission renovated the building, carefully preserving its character. Over the years the former chapel has been used by a variety of town organizations. Many church suppers were served here, and during the World War II era, women gathered to prepare bandages to be sent overseas. Current occupants are Madison Community Services and Madison Youth Services.

Directions: From center of Madison drive west toward Guilford. Continue past the traffic light at the intersection of Route 79 and Route One. Take the next right onto Academy Street. Immediately turn left on to Meetinghouse Lane. The Chapel is the second building on the right.