National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 15A) Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-9000a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Historic name</th>
<th>Pilgrim Congregational Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Other name/site number</td>
<td>Church of the Nazarene / 035-0210-0003</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Location

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Street &amp; number</th>
<th>101 North Third Street</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City or town</td>
<td>Arkansas City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>KS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County</td>
<td>Cowley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zip code</td>
<td>67005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this 

☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 80. In my opinion, the property meets ☑ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant 

☐ nationally ☑ statewide ☑ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title
Kansas State Historical Society

Date
4/7/05

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☑ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the National Register
☐ removed from the National Register
☐ other, (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)
- [] private
- [X] public-local
- [] public-State
- [] public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)
- [X] building(s)
- [] district
- [] site
- [] structure
- [] object

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contributing</th>
<th>Noncontributing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 buildings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 structures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1 objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>total</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter Categories from instructions)
RELIGION: religious facility

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)
RELIGION: religious facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)
LATE VICTORIAN: Romanesque

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)
Foundation: Limestone
Walls: Sandstone
Limestone
Roof: Asphalt
Other:

Narrative Description
(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)
8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria
(Mark "X" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register)

- Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- Property has yielded, or likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark “x” in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- Removed from its original location.
- A birthplace or grave.
- A cemetery.
- A reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- A commemorative property.
- Less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architecture</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Period of Significance
1891-1893

Significant Dates
1891-1893

Significant Person
(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
- Preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- Previously listed in the National Register.
- Previously determined eligible by the National Register.
- Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey. Record #
- Recorded by Historic American Engineering Survey. Record #

Primary location of additional data:
- State Historic Preservation Office.
- Other State agency.
- Federal agency.
- Local government.
- University.
- Other.

Name of repository:
Pilgrim Congregational Church
Name of Property

Cowley Co., Kansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property  Less than one

UTM References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zone</th>
<th>Easting</th>
<th>Northing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>00</td>
<td>00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Zone Easting Northing

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description
(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification
(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

Name/title  Shannon Gackstatter; Edited by KSHS staff

Organization  Date  January 27, 2005

Street & number  321 N. 3rd

City or town  Arkansas City  State  KS  Zip code  67005

Additional Documentation
Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property’s location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs
Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items
[Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items]

Property Owner

Name  City of Arkansas City

Street & number  118 West Central

City or town  Arkansas City  State  KS  Zip code  67005

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16) U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.
Summary

Constructed from 1891 to 1893, the Pilgrim Congregational Church is a Richardsonian Romanesque-style, sandstone-and-limestone church located on the northwest corner of 3rd Street and Central Avenue in Arkansas City, Cowley County, Kansas (population 13,000). The church is built upon an above-grade, rock-faced limestone foundation laid in regular courses. The rock-faced sandstone walls are also laid in regular courses with contrasting limestone utilized for the door and window arches, sills, beltcourse, and sculpted stone. The multiple-gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The five gable ends have parapets with metal caps and limestone cornices and scrolled returns. At the southeast corner of the church, a prominent bell tower extends seventy-eight feet in height. There are two limestone chimneys.

Elaboration

The front, or eastern, elevation faces 3rd Street and is composed of the recessed bell tower/entrance to the south, a large, projecting gable end in the center, and a recessed side-gable bay to the north. The tower features a large Roman-arched entry accessed by five concrete steps on the ground floor. The entrance is comprised of two modern double-leaf doors with a semi-circular, single-pane transom. The second level of the tower has two rectangular openings, one each on the eastern and southern elevation, that are infilled with wood. The top level of the tower is defined by a belfry that consists of four open arches with limestone sills and impost. These arches are outlined by four square columns that extend beyond the denticulated cornice and are capped with limestone finials. The belfry is covered by a steeply pitched, eight-sided, asphalt-shingled pyramid roof with a cross for a finial. Currently, decorative louvered vents enclose the open arches.

The central bay of the front elevation contains a large, Roman-arched, multiple-paned, stained-glass window flanked by two regular-sized, double-hung windows with stained-glass upper sashes. A narrow rectangular limestone louvered attic vent is located near the peak of the gable. The north bay has a single-leaf entrance with a stained-glass transom underneath a shed-roof extension of the side-gable roof. This entrance, which leads into the pastor’s office, is considerably above grade and is accessed by metal steps and a new wheel-chair lift. Three regular-size, double-hung, stained-glass windows are located north of this entrance.

Fronting Central Avenue, the south elevation is oriented with the bell tower to the east (a regular-sized, double-hung window with a stained-glass upper sash is located east of the tower in the short south wall of the front elevation’s projecting central gable). The bell tower contains a single one-over-one window with an arched top sash underneath a limestone Roman arch. Between the tower and the large center bay is a projecting shed-roofed bay with three small square stained-glass windows with crown (spun) glass disks in the center of each window. These windows have unusually heavy limestone lintels. The
central gable end features a large Roman-arched, multiple-paned, stained-glass window that provides natural light for the sanctuary. Underneath this window is a below-grade, single-leaf basement entrance that is flanked by two small one-over-one windows. West of the center bay are two arched openings, a double-hung, stained-glass window with an arched upper sash and a single-leaf vestry entrance with a semi-circular stained-glass transom. Accessed by a metal ladder, this above-grade wood door is original and features a glazed upper panel with alternating stained-glass square panes surrounding one clear pane.

The rear, or western, elevation is comprised of the rear gable end fenestrated with two one-over-one, double-hung windows and a central stone chimney extending from the parapet. The above-grade foundation is covered with stucco on this elevation and the north elevation.

The north elevation is stepped in appearance with a side-gable wall to the west, a projecting gable end center bay, and another gable end to the east that projects beyond the center bay. The western end of this elevation is fenestrated by two arched windows. The center bay is nearly identical to its opposite gable end on the southern elevation and contains a large Roman-arched, stained-glass window for the sanctuary. The eastern gable end bay contains two pairs of one-over-one windows and a chimney. There are several basement-level windows on this elevation.

Fenestration is primarily composed of the three large Roman-arched, stained-glass windows, the conventional-sized, arched and regular double-hung stained-glass windows, and the three stationary square stained-glass windows. Many of the window panels were dedicated to individual church and family members. Ecclesiastical scenes depict Christ represented as the Anchor, Lily, The Vine, and Dogwood. Smaller windows also bear names of members and “in memory of” family members.

The interior of the church is defined by a large sanctuary, with two of the aforementioned large stained-glass windows on the north and south walls, and an annex with large vertical pocket doors for separating the annex from the sanctuary. The two pocket doors, which recede into the ceiling, are wood paneled on the lower third and glazed on the upper two thirds. The glazing is similar to the original exterior door on the south elevation with alternating colored-glass squares outlining one-over-one frosted glass, three per door (six total). The pocket doors are trimmed with beaded casings and bull’s eye corner blocks. The annex space has been altered into offices with a dropped ceiling and sheetrock wall partitions.

The main entrance on the southeast corner of the church leads into a small vestibule that is lighted by the three square stained-glass windows described above. The vestibule, which includes a staircase to the basement, opens into the rear of the sanctuary with the raised pulpit on the opposite (western) side. The oak flooring is partially covered by carpet, and the pews are original. The walls are lath and plaster, and the multi-faceted ceiling is covered with dark, beaded-board wood with exposed beams and decorative brackets. At some point in the non-historic period, the original double-beaded board wainscoting was
replaced with light-colored, luan-type wainscoting along the walls and around the base of the raised pulpit area. At the same time, a Gothic-arched choir alcove was created at the rear of the pulpit. The anterooms to either side of the pulpit retain their original doors, trim, and wainscoting. The building sits upon a full finished basement that houses a meeting room and kitchen.

In 2001, the Church of the Nazarene, which had occupied the building since 1949, relocated to a new building and sold the structure previously known as the Pilgrim Congregational Church to the City of Arkansas City. Under the city’s tutelage, the exterior sandstone and limestone walls were cleaned, a new asphalt-shingled roof and metal parapet caps installed, and the interior painted. The church is currently leased to the Vinelife Family Church.
Summary

The Pilgrim Congregational Church is being nominated to the National Register under Criterion C for its architectural significance as a Richardsonian Romanesque-style church.

Elaboration

In 1873, the congregation was an ecumenical amalgam of the Congregationalists, Methodists and Presbyterians and was called the Liberal Church. The Methodists and Presbyterians split off to their respective church groups in 1874, and the Congregationalists were left as their own entity. In 1890, the Congregationalists secured a popular minister who raised the funds necessary to build a new church. The structure, which was scheduled to cost $12,000.00, was started in 1891 and completed in 1893 at a cost of $15,000.00.

The 1890s in Arkansas City were energetic and entrepreneurial times, as they marked the opening of Indian Territory and the advent of the September 16, 1893 Cherokee Strip Land Run. Businesses sprang up and a business college was announced in the local paper. Residents prepared for the Run either as participants or merchants/businesses equipping those making the Run. The prairie landscape was changing with the growing population and the emergence of its built environment.

Early newspaper articles give little clue as to the architect of the new church; however, the Pilgrim Congregational Church is in close proximity to the Arkansas City High School (NR, 11-21-74), which was built in 1890 and designed in the Richardsonian Romanesque style by Minneapolis, Minnesota architect, Charles Sedgwick. Sedgwick was available during the time frame that both the school and church were being constructed. Prominent businessmen and town founders that were instrumental in the competition process for the high school’s architect were also members of the Congregational Church. It has been speculated that these individuals sought input from Charles Sedgwick on the design of the church. Whoever the architect, it is known that the firm of Kotterman and Beecher constructed the church (Interview with Lois McAllister Hinsey, July, 1974).

The Pilgrim Congregational Church occupied the building until 1949 when the dwindling congregation disbanded and sold the church building to the Church of the Nazarene for $17,500. When the Church of the Nazarene moved into a new building in 2001, they sold the church to the City of Arkansas City for $50,000. The city invested more than $30,000 in repairs and restoration to the church and currently leases it to the Vinelife Family Church.

The Richardsonian Romanesque style is characterized by semi-circular Roman arches over windows and entrances, rough-faced masonry walls, towers and asymmetrical facades. Richardsonian Romanesque is based on the talent and powerful personality of Henry Hobson Richardson and his adaptive use of the
Romanesque Revival style of architecture. He died prematurely with only a limited number of structures built. A sympathetic monograph based on his life created an increased interest in the 1890s. This type of architecture is usually found in commercial or ecclesiastical forms.

The Pilgrim Congregational Church employs a tall tower with an open arched belfry and a profusion of robust Roman arches to achieve its Richardsonian Romanesque appearance. Sandstone is employed in rusticated masonry in gabled walls and limestone in the arched window surrounds, belt course, sills, arches and foundation, providing articulation and accents of form against the sandstone body of the church. The Roman-arched, stained-glass windows with floral and interlacing detail provide ecclesiastical accents to the form. As such, the Pilgrim Congregational Church is the best example of a Richardsonian Romanesque-style religious building in Arkansas City.
Bibliography

*Arkansas City Traveler*, April 19, 1892, July 18, 1893, October 12, 1893.

Church of the Nazarene Historical Papers: *Arkansas City Congregation*, 1949.

Interview with Lois McAllister Hinsey, July 1974.


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10   Page 1

Pilgrim Congregational Church
Cowley Co., Kansas

Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated property stands on Lots 15, 16, 17, except the West 35 feet thereof, Original Town site of Arkansas City, Cowley County, Kansas. The property is bounded to the south by Central Street, to the east by Third Street, to the west by an alley, and to the north by adjacent property lines.

Boundary Justification

This boundary includes all of the property historically associated with this resource.
Photographic Information

The following information is consistent for all photographs:

1. Pilgrim Congregational Church
2. Cowley Co., Kansas
3. Photograph by Patrick Zollner
4. December 8, 2004
5. Negatives on file at the Kansas State Historical Society

The following information is applicable to specific photographs:

6. View from the southeast
   7. #1

6. View from the east
   7. #2

6. View from the northeast
   7. #3

6. View from the north
   7. #4

6. View from the northwest
   7. #5

6. View from the southwest
   7. #6

6. View of sanctuary from the east
   7. #7

6. View of sanctuary pocket doors from the west
   7. #8

6. View of north stained-glass window from the southwest
   7. #9
6. View of sanctuary ceiling from the south
7. #10

6. View of original door in south anteroom from the north
7. #11