

11 Park Hill Meeting House

Route 63, Westmoreland, New Hampshire

Recognized as one of New England's most beautiful churches, Park Hill Meeting House resides next to Cole Cemetery in the rolling hills of Westmoreland, New Hampshire. Built in 1764, the church exemplifies the Grecian style of architecture that had become popular in New England during the late 18th and 19th centuries, with its four white pillars at the entrance, giving it an aura of dominance. There are no intricate designs or elaborate windows, as the Grecian style called for a plain and simple architectural design.

Since its construction, the church underwent numerous renovations. Fifteen years after the meeting house was built, it was moved by ox-carts to Park Hill due to a population shift in town.



Park Hill seemed to be a more convenient meeting place for Westmoreland's citizens, as most lived miles out of town.

While Park Hill Meeting House was originally built without a steeple, the 1826 renovations included a new façade, steeple, and bell cast by the Paul Revere Foundry, as well as physically moving the building a second time, ninety feet to the north where it sat at a higher elevation and could be seen from farther away.

Over the years, new additions such as porches and windows were added.

Park Hill Meeting House can be seen from various surrounding areas and exemplifies the traditional white-steeple New England town. The Park Hill Meeting House was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

Sources:

Park Hill Meeting House. (September 1976) *National Registration Nomination Information*. Accessed 27 November 2013, from <http://www.crijc.org/heritage/N03-1.htm>

Westmoreland Historical Society. Park Hill Meeting House. Accessed 28 November 2013 from <http://www.westmorelandhistoricalsociety.org/about.htm>