

FORM B - BUILDING

AUG 07 1989

1374

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

QC-252

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

SEE ATTACHED MAP

Town Quincy, MA / MRA
Address 8 Spear Street
Historic Name Bethany Congregational Church

Use: Present church
Original church

DESCRIPTION

Date 1927
Source Quincy Patriot Ledger, Feb. 1, 1964
Style Gothic Revival
Architect J. William Beal and Sons
Exterior Wall Fabric granite
Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) NoneCondition GoodMoved no Date _____Acreage Less than one acre: 33,962 sq.f

Setting The Church is located across the
street from the Thomas Crane Library (NR)
and adjacent to the Coddington School.

UTM REFERENCE 19/334,920 E/ 4,679,440 NUSGS QUADRANGLE Boston South, MASCALE 1: 25,000Recorded by Fannin and Lehner/ J. JohnsonOrganization Quincy Historical CommissionDate June 8, 1986 / May 1987

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Bethany Congregational Church is Quincy's most elaborate example of 20th century Gothic Revival architecture. Associated with a Boston architect active in Quincy during this period, the church retains integrity of design, materials, location, setting, feeling, workmanship, and association. The church fulfills Criterion C and exception A of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessors Records.

H. Hobart Holly, ed. Quincy: 350 Years, 1974.

Quincy Patriot Ledger, April 4, 1932; September 24, 1953; February 1, 1964.

150th Anniversary pamphlet, 1982.

75th Anniversary pamphlet, 1907.

125th Anniversary pamphlet, 1957.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

QUINCY, MA

Form No:

QC-252

Property Name: *Bethany Congregational*

Church

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE -- 8 SPEAR STREET
BETHANY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Bethany Congregational Church (1927), in its present edifice at 8 Spear Street, is actually in its third home. The first meetings of the Evangelical Congregational Church took place in Quincy in 1832. The original group of twenty-one men and women were previously members of Quincy's Episcopal Church, the "Church of England in Braintree," (now Christ Church). They originally met in a hall over the post office. In 1834, the congregation built the Hancock Meetinghouse at Hancock and Canal Streets. In 1870, the "packard lot" was purchased by the church and a new building erected on the site of the present South Shore Bank on Hancock Street (1929, #QC-171). In 1896, the present Bethany Congregational Church was incorporated combining the functions before exercised by the Evangelical Congregational Society and the Evangelical Congregational Church. The congregation grew too large for its 1870 structure, and in the 1920s, the church was torn down and the land sold to the Granite Trust Company for their bank. In turn the site on Coddington Street and Spear Streets was provided by the bank for construction of a new church. The present edifice was built in 1927.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

QUINCY

Form No:

QC-252

Property Name: *Bethany Congregational Church*

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE -- 8 SPEAR STREET
BETHANY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Bethany Congregational Church, prominently located adjacent to the Thomas Crane Library (NR) and the Coddington School (1909, #QC-198) is the most elaborate twentieth century Gothic Revival style church in Quincy. The most striking element in the building's composition is the tall square tower, high in the Quincy skyline, which dominates the area. Stylistically, the tower evokes the Perpendicular Gothic period with its tripartite rectangular windows under a pinacled parapet with corners articulated by buttresses and picturesque gargoyles. The church's gabled facade is embellished with a beautiful Tudor arched opening filled with five cusped lancet windows within a limestone enframingent and an impressive entrance set under a splayed multiple lancet arch and projecting gabled porch. Decorative details include the finial atop the entrance, the pinnacles over the entry porch, and the stepped buttresses.

The building's architects were the Boston firm, of J. Williams Beal Sons who had proven their versatility in the Quincy buildings they had previously designed: the Tudor Revival Adams Building (1880-1885, NR), the Colonial Revival Elks Building (1924, QC-155), and the Neoclassical Masonic Temple (1926, #QC-152). The firm would proceed to design the Art Deco Granite Trust Company Bank (1929; #QC-171).

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 7 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Quincy MRA
State Norfolk County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

Substantive Review

1. Alden, Arthur, House Entered in the
National Register
2. Brainbridge, Randolph, House Entered in the
National Register
3. Barker, George A., House Entered in the
National Register
4. Barker, Henry F., House Entered in the
National Register
5. Barnes House Entered in the
National Register
6. Barnicoat, S.H., Monuments Entered in the
National Register
7. Bateman, William R., House Entered in the
National Register
8. Baxter Street Historic District
Substantive Review
9. Bethany Congregational Church Entered in the
National Register
10. Brown--Hodgkinson House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper Beth L. Savage 9-20-89
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9-20-89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9-20-89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9-20-89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9-20-89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9-20-89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____
for Keeper Beth L. Savage 9-20-8
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____
for Keeper Shelton Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Bethany Congregational Church

MULTIPLE NAME: Quincy MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 8/07/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/07/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/21/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001374

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/20/89 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

 count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

 historic current

DESCRIPTION

 architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

 summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

 acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

 sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone

Signed

Date



8 Speare Street
Bethany Congregtional Church
at: Planning Dept. - Quincy
by: Julie Johnson
date: July 1987
view: North
Act: AC-252
Quincy, ^{MRT}Mass.



8 Spear St. *organizational Church*

Bethany Congregational Church

at: Planning Dept. - Quincy

by: Julie Johnson

date: July 1987

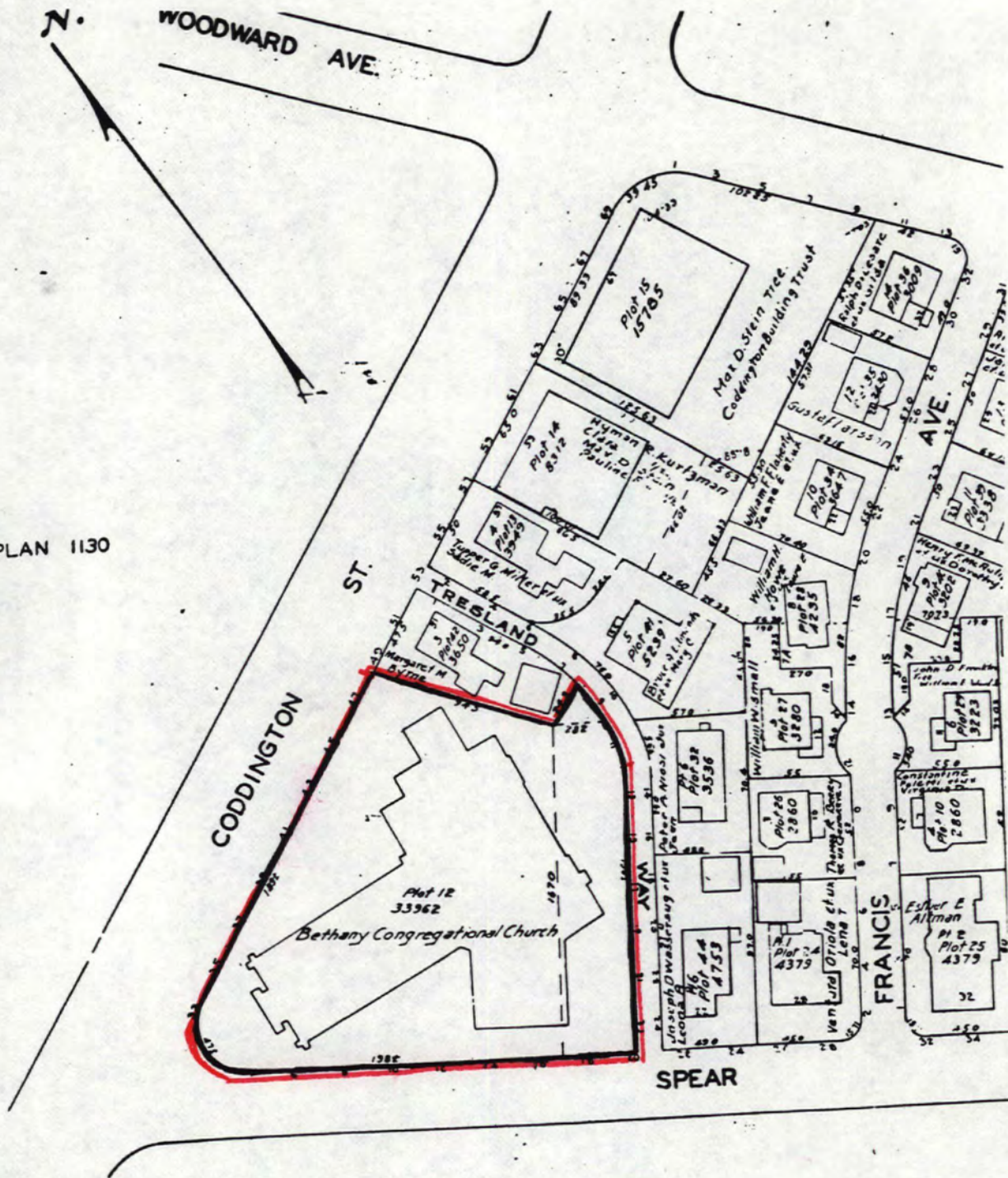
view: East *of whole Church*

PICT # QC-252

MRI
Quincy, Mass.

JUL 1987

PLAN 1130



SEE P

Address 8 Spear Street

Bethany Congregational Church

QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS / MRA

Assessors Map # 1131

1979

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000289