

PH 354970

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUL 16 1976  
DATE ENTERED NOV 7 1976

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC Grace Episcopal Church *John*

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Corner of Common and Jackson Streets

CITY, TOWN Lawrence

NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 5th

STATE Massachusetts VICINITY OF CODE 025

COUNTY Essex CODE 009

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Grace Episcopal Church in Lawrence, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER 35 Jackson Street

CITY, TOWN Lawrence VICINITY OF

STATE Massachusetts 01840

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER 381 Common Street

CITY, TOWN Lawrence

STATE Massachusetts

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE 1976  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN Boston

STATE Massachusetts

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Grace Church occupies a half acre corner lot at the intersection of Common and Jackson Streets. The church faces the Common.

The church is a simple rectangular auditorium. The wall surfaces are random ashlar except for the rear, which is face brick and stone. The gabled end of the roof faces Jackson Street. The facade is three bays wide with three pointed arch entrances. The center bay projects and above its entrance are three lancet windows. At the peak of the gable is a gabled stone bell housing that projects beyond the center bay. The housing is supported by two massive stone consoles that step out and form a three-pointed arch. The opening for the bell is also a pointed arch. The corners of the projecting bay and the building proper are quoined in a rough cut stone. Fenestration on the side elevations is narrow pointed arch windows.

Six triangular dormers are set in the roof, one third down from the ridge. At the southeast corner of the church is a one story addition, built in 1895, similar in design to the main body of the church. Attached to the church at the northeast corner, is a 2½ story ell-shaped parish house. The shaft of the ell was built in 1929 in a Tudor Revival style. The base of the ell was built in 1958 in a contemporary manner with appropriate gestures to the Tudor Revival style of the Parish House. On the lot, in the area formed by the parish hall to the north and church to the south, is a privately owned vernacular Romanesque commercial building of about 1850.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1851, 1895

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Hammatt Billings, Ralph A. Cram

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grace Church was founded on October 11, 1846, five months before the Town of Lawrence was established. In the spring of 1846 the Episcopal Church Missionary Association of the Eastern District of Massachusetts, "believing that there were several places within her limits where the church might be established, appointed in April the Rev. George Packard as missionary. Three stations were designated as demanding particular attention, one of which was the manufacturing town that was to be built upon the banks of the Merrimack near Methuen."

The new town was named for the Lawrence family; the family has always remained personally concerned with Grace Church. Two of the clergy, William Lawrence, the second rector, and his son, W. Appleton Lawrence, a curate, were members of the Lawrence family; both later became Episcopal Bishops, as did three of the other light rectors of Grace Church.

Land was offered by the Essex Corporation as a site for the church and the selection was made by Mr. Lawrence and the missionary. They chose a lot at the corner of Jackson and Common Streets. The deed required that within five years a church of stone or brick would be built.

On July 1, 1846, a design for a small wooden church was submitted by Hammatt and Joseph Billings of Boston. The Billings also designed the Thayer Public Library of Braintree, Massachusetts, and Hammett Billings alone designed College Hall at Wellesley College, the Museum Theatre in Boston, and the Tremont Street Methodist Church in Boston.

In 1851 the wooden chapel was moved to Garden Street and the present stone church was built in its place. The new church was dedicated on May 5, 1852.

As the church grew, the need for more space arose. In the spring of 1895 plans were drawn to enlarge the church by adding a new chancel and wings on either side. These plans were drawn by the young firm of Cram, Wentworth, and Goodhue. Later Cram and Ferguson were responsible for other work in the interior, including the choir stalls, choir room, sacristy and new organ. The rood beam and calvary were executed for Ralph Adams Cram by Lualdi.



~~Dukes~~ Essex PROPERTY Grace Episcopal Church STATE MASS

DATE OF RECEIPT 4/3/72 YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ REGISTER: \_\_\_\_\_

DATA PAGE \_\_\_\_\_ NOV 3 1972

PHOTO (S) \_\_\_\_\_

PHOTO DESCRIPTION (S) \_\_\_\_\_ 1 OB # 6051966

MAP (S) \_\_\_\_\_

MAP DESCRIPTION (S) \_\_\_\_\_ 1

LOGGED \_\_\_\_\_

ACKNOWLEDGE 4/3/72 \_\_\_\_\_

RESUBMIT \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEW \_\_\_\_\_ mf

HISTORIAN \_\_\_\_\_ Tech. Review OK 11-4-72  
Chas. Duke 10/6/72

ARCHEOLOGIST \_\_\_\_\_

ARCHITECT \_\_\_\_\_

ASST. KEEPER \_\_\_\_\_ OK Chamber 10-9-72  
OK R. [unclear] 10/31/72

KEEPER \_\_\_\_\_ Wm  
U.I.

WRITER/EDITOR \_\_\_\_\_ OK [unclear] 10/5/72

DIRECTOR, OAHP \_\_\_\_\_

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR \_\_\_\_\_

Federal Registry Entry 12-5-72 Annual Edition Entry \_\_\_\_\_

Logged NOV 3 1972 Card NOV 3 1972

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_ WORKING NUMBER 4.3.72.412

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: # 7



Grace Episcopal Church

Lawrence, MA.  
Geoffrey Poore

*Essex County*

1975

370 Ames Street

Lawrence, MA.

JUL 16 1976

NOV 7 1976

Photograph #1

Looking northeast to the church

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

WILLIAMS PHOTOGRAPHY  
506 ESSEX STREET  
LAWRENCE, MASS. 01840



Grace Episcopal Church  
Lawrence, MA. *Essex County*

1975

Geoffrey Poore

1975

370 Ames Street  
Lawrence, MA.

JUL 16 1976

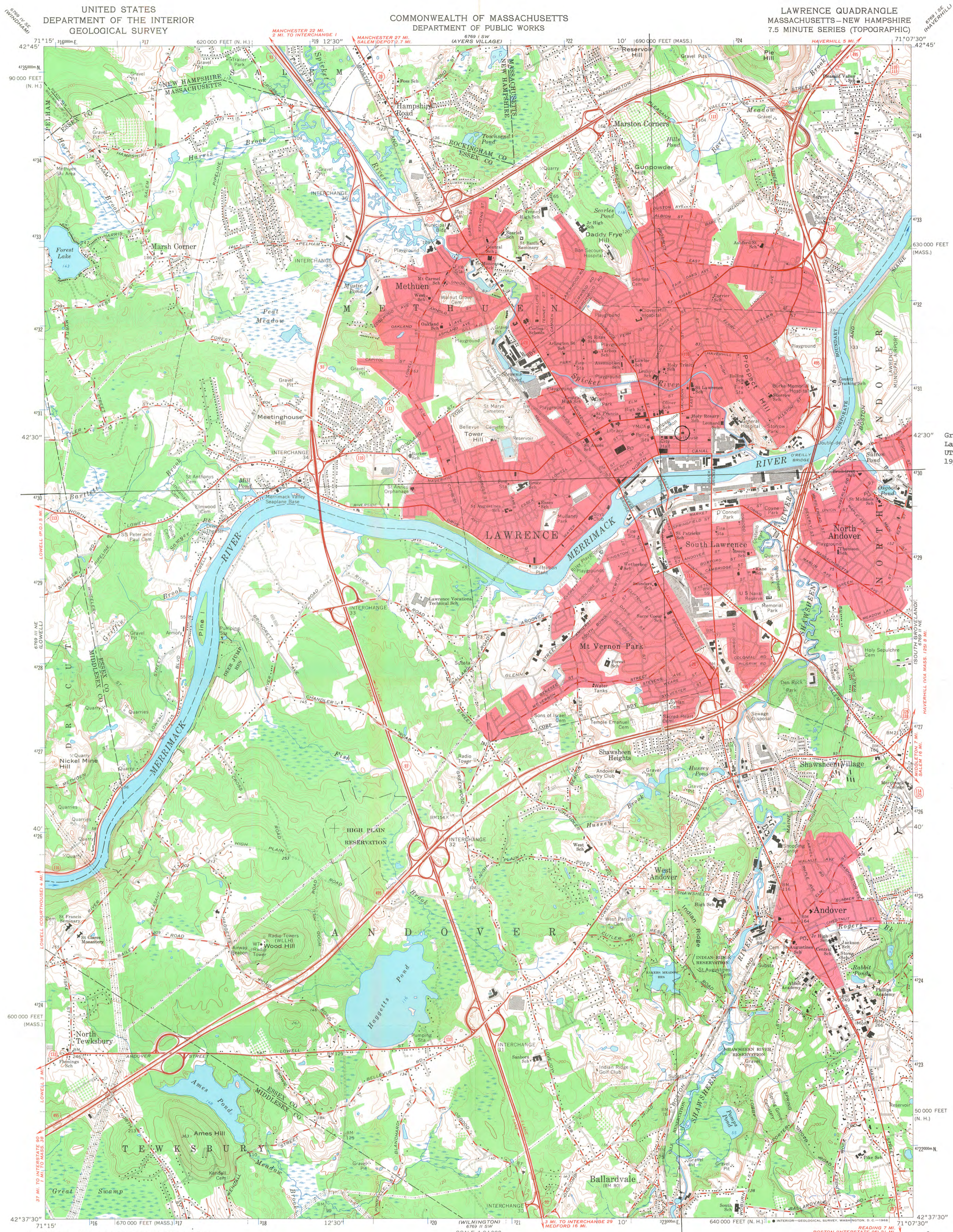
Photograph #2

NOV 7 1976

Looking southeast to the Parish House

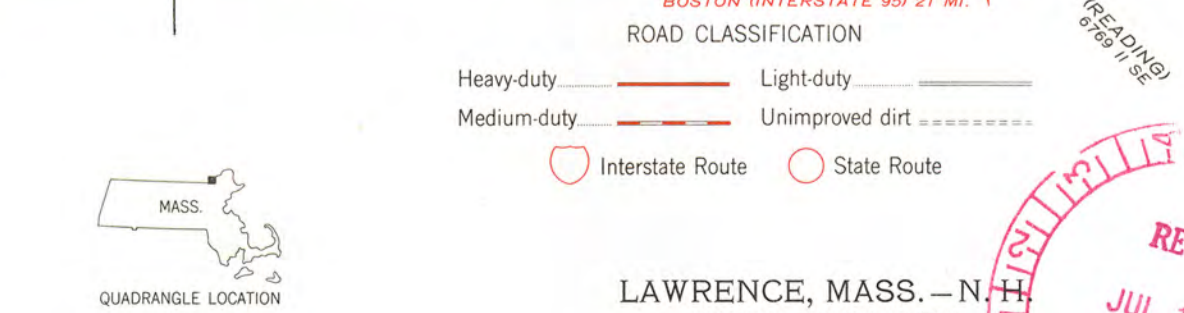
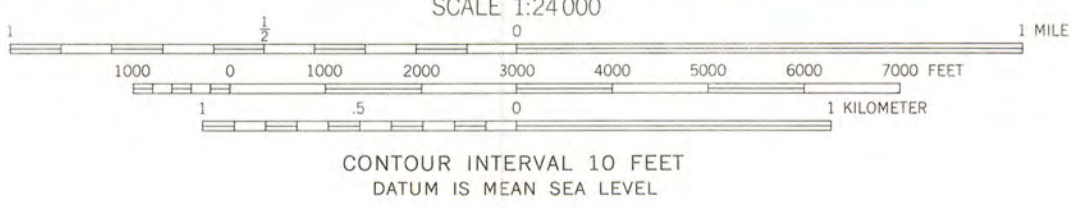
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

370 Ames Street, Lawrence, Mass.



Grace Episcopal Church  
Lawrence, MA.  
UTM Reference:  
19/323270/4730510

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable surveys 1941 and 1942. Revised 1966  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone, and New Hampshire coordinate system  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 19, shown in blue  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LAWRENCE, MASS.—N.H.  
N4237.5—W7107.5/7.5  
1966  
AMS 6769 II NW—SERIES 8714





PAUL GUZZI

Secretary of the  
Commonwealth

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

## Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

294 Washington Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

(617) 727-8470

October 19, 1976

Mr. William Lebovich  
National Register of Historic Places  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Bill:

As you suggested in our phone conversation of October 15 concerning Grace Episcopal Church in Lawrence, Massachusetts, this is a clarification of its significance.

Grace Episcopal Church is significant historically for its association with the Lawrence family. As you know, the Lawrence family was prominent in Massachusetts commerce, and industry and widely respected for their philanthropy and humanitarianism. Significantly, the only mill owner and member of the "Boston Associates" to actually take up residence in the Merrimack Valley was a Lawrence, who for a time lived in Lowell. The Lawrences associated with Grace Episcopal Church were naturally all clergy. They had admirable reputations for their work among textile workers in the city of Lawrence and several of them rose to prominence as Bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Grace Episcopal is architecturally significant as the work of Hammet Billings, a Massachusetts architect of the mid-century, who with his brother Joseph, enjoyed some reputation for their work. The principal architectural significance appears to be the association of Ralph Adams Cram with the church throughout its growth in the 19th century, and the span of his career.

I hope that this answers your questions sufficiently. If I can be of any assistance please let me know.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Orfant  
National Register Editor  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

JRO/pg

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered NOV 7 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Greendale Village Improvement Society Building	Worcester Worcester County
Grace Episcopal Church	Lawrence Essex County
Lane, Anthony, House	Lancaster Worcester County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy  
Hon. Edward W. Brooke  
Hon. Joseph D. Early  
Hon. Paul Tsongas  
Hon. Edward P. Boland  
Regional Director, North  
Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon  
Executive Director, Massachusetts  
Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

# NR Data Sheet

DATE: 1/23/76  
Reviewer INITIALS: 36  
NR  
DOE NOV 7 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Grace Episcopal Church

OTHER NAMES:

## LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER: Common and Jackson Sts.

CITY/TOWN: Lawrence

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 5th

STATE: Massachusetts 025 - VICINITY OF

COUNTY: Essex code 009

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline) FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST  
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

## FEATURES:

INTERIOR:  Substantially intact-1  unknown-4  not applicable-7  
EXTERIOR:  Substantially intact-2  unknown-5  not applicable-8  
ENVIRONS:  Substantially intact-3  unknown-6  Not applicable-9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT  GOOD  FAIR   
DETERIORATED  RUINS  UNEXPOSED  Unexcavated   
UNALTERED  ALTERED  Reconstructed  Excavated   
ORIGINAL SITE  MOVED  Unknown

ACCESS - Yes-restricted  Yes-unrestricted  No access  Unknown

historic district? YES  NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES  NO   
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES  NO   
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES  NO  Saved? YES  NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- church

now- church

## SIGNIFICANCE:

4  
\_ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
\_ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC  
\_ AGRICULTURE  
\_ ARCHITECTURE  
\_ ART  
\_ COMMERCE  
\_ COMMUNICATIONS  
\_ CONSERVATION  
\_ ECONOMICS  
\_ EDUCATION  
\_ ENGINEERING  
\_ EXPLORATION  
\_ INDUSTRY  
\_ INVENTION  
\_ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
\_ LAW/Gov't/politics  
\_ LITERATURE  
\_ MILITARY  
\_ MUSIC  
\_ PHILOSOPHY  
\_ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT  
\_ RELIGION  
\_ SCIENCE  
\_ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN  
\_ TRANSPORTATION  
\_ OTHER (SPECIFY)  
\_ entertainment  
\_ health  
\_ recreation  
\_ settlement  
\_ socio/cultural  
\_ urban & commun planning

## Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: *Gothic*

architect/m.builder: *Cram, Wentworth, and Goodhue* engineer:

landscape/garden designer: artist/artisan:

interior decorator: *Cram + Ferguson* builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal

*William Lawrence - 2nd rect. and member of family for whom town was named.*

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): *1851, 1895* ✓

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: *1929, 1958*

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

*15*

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

~~description~~ *stone, Gothic, rectangular, gabled roof, projecting triangular dome, entrance portico with stepped gable and bellcote, 3 narrow lancet windows above center entrance; ~~1895~~ <sup>1895</sup> brick addition; NE cell consisting of 1929 brick section in Tudor Revival style, and ~~1958~~ <sup>1958</sup> brick addition.*

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

~~Planned to serve the new manufacturing community of Lawrence, Mass. Church was founded by an Episcopal missionary organization in 1846; 5 months before the town was established, and this building was the church's first permanent church building, replacing the original wooden one.~~