

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 16A). 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 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 64-66 Forrester Street

N/A not for publication

city or town Salem

N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts

code MA

county Essex

code 009

zip code 01970

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 60. 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.)

Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, for Judith B. McDonough, Exec. Dir, MHC
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough Date Executive Director

Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer
State of Federal agency and bureau

3/22/93

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

Signature of certifying official/Title _____

Date _____

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

Signature of the Keeper _____

Date of Action _____

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:)

Name of Property

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	Total

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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: church; rectory

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: church; rectory

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:
Byzantine Revival, Classical Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Wood, Almminum
roof Asphalt
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation SheetSt. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
Salem (Essex County)
MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 1**7. DESCRIPTION**

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory are located at the corner of Forrester and Webb streets in the densely settled residential neighborhood between the Salem Common and Collins Cove in Salem. Sited on a small lot the church faces to the northwest and the rectory is located on the same parcel to the south. The church replaced an earlier chapel and was built in 1908 by the Salem architect William Devereaux Dennis; the rectory was constructed soon after. The distinctive form and ornament of the church, most notably its blue onion domes, make it an important and well-known local landmark.

The area around the Church was developed in the third quarter of the 19th century as the marshy land before the cove was filled and platted for residential construction. At the western edge of the district are the Federal period mansions constructed around the Common as the Salem elite reconfigured it as Washington Square. This area was laid out with streets running from the east side of the Square to Webb Street, the new artery along the Cove. Construction on this grid was most rapid during the 1880s, and speculative builders constructed a narrow range of single- and two-family residences common in similar neighborhoods throughout New England. The houses on Boardman Street demonstrate the form that came to characterize middle- and working-class neighborhoods of the late 19th century. Primarily gable front in orientation, these houses have a three bay facade and side entry. In their interior plan they employ one of the several variations of the side or corner passage plan that rose to pre-eminence at this time. During the early years of the 20th century, larger apartment blocks were added to fill in the lots along these streets. Set on small lots and close to the street, these houses created the inner residential neighborhoods of expanding turn-of-the-century cities and large towns.

On its exterior St. Nicholas Church takes a common western church form but is ornamented with distinctive ornament from the Orthodox tradition. The ornamental vocabulary of the church has been described as Byzantine Revival (Tolles 1983: 37), and reflects the Eastern European origins of the congregation. The building measures 39 by 62 feet built of frame construction on a stone foundation. Its primary single story gable block presents its gabled end to the street with a semi-projecting entry tower and side turrets on its facade and an apse in the rear. It is dominated by five bright blue domes located on the center entry tower, the two turrets and two on the roof ridge. The largest domes on the ridge sit on the octagonal arcaded drums; the smaller domes sit on square drums, those on the tower decorated with arcading and crosses. Each blue dome is topped by the distinctive three-barred cross. On the facade, openings are arranged in

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Massachusetts

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two tiers and five bays on the main block, with a third tier in the tower. Large round-headed openings are located at the entry and above it in the center tower, with a round window or oculus above. The tower is flanked by narrow windows, flat in the first tier, round-headed in the second. Each tower is lit by a flat-headed window in the first tier, an oculus above. The lateral walls are lit by four evenly-spaced, round-headed windows. The facade wall is covered in gray matchboard with white trim while the side and rear walls have been covered in aluminum siding.

The unifying Orthodox symbol of the circle is repeated in the composition of the facade. The entry is covered by a semi-circular canopy supported by columns, a shape echoed in the round and round headed windows in the second tier of the facade as well as on the four long wall windows. Each opening is marked by thick, eared labels and stained glass. Round-headed arcading is employed in the central belfry and at the cornice line and tower belt courses. The use of three towers symbolized the Trinity of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit; the use of five domes symbolized Christ and the four Evangelists.

The interior of St. Nicholas bears a closer resemblance to Orthodox church design, including a nearly square meeting area and the traditional division into three functional subsections. The small vestibule or narthex occupies the narrow front section of the building, marked on the exterior by the tower and turrets. Stairs to the basement hall and a lavatory are also located here. The majority of the main block encloses the nave, ornamented by wall and ceiling paintings, as well as the the stained glass of the windows. The nave originally had no pews, the tradition of orthodoxy being to stand. The focal point of the nave is the screen of seventeen icons, the iconostas, that divides the nave from the sanctuary. It is reached by four steps to the avon or pulpit, where the priest administers communion, leads the litanies, reads the gospel, and delivers sermons. Only the ordained clergy can pass through the royal doors in the iconostas to enter the sanctuary where communion is celebrated at the prestol or altar. The basement of the church included space for lavatories and a kitchen, and a large meeting hall.

The current appearance of the church reflects minor recent alterations and interior embellishments. First during World War II the pews were installed, in a configuration of slips on either side of a central aisle. During repair campaign of the 1960s, the lower hall was modernized, the siding on the lateral walls added, the stained glass installed, and the interior repainted. The windows were designed by Archpriest Vitaly Voshcullo, and executed from his watercolors by the Vetro Art Glass Company, formerly of Pittsburg PA. Most recently the ceiling was restored to reveal the original ornamental timbers and a painting of Christ Pantocrator, or Christ the Judge, the traditional treatment of the dome in an Orthodox Church, replacing a central medallion.

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Comparison of the current appearance to the architect's drawing also suggests that the canopy at the entry is not original.

Several years after the construction of the Church, between 1911 and 1913, a rectory was added next door to provide housing for the pastor and his family. The two-and-a-half story hip block is a frame Colonial Revival design with bay windows, a side entry, and a two-story front porch. The building's ornament includes the treatment of the polygonal bay windows the front door and surround, and a very elaborate wide cornice of swags in the frieze. This house is an example of the turn-of-the-century housetype called the Four Square, named for its cubical massing, as well as the common configuration of its first floor plan. This plan usually includes four nearly equal-sized rooms, including a large entry area, a parlor, a dining room, and a kitchen, with a similar plan of four bedrooms above. The rectory was aluminum sided in 1960 and its front porch extension over the garage dates to 1964. The rectory has been redecorated and its kitchen modernized but no significant changes have been made.

Archaeological Description

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory are located in an area of documented prehistoric settlement. At least 34 prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) including one site which may extend into the church locale. The Boardman Street Site, 19-ES-375 is located less than 1,000 ft. from the church. The boundaries of that site are unknown. Materials were collected from the site in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The physical characteristics of the area include locational characteristics, a well drained, relatively level land surface bordering Collins Cove near Beverly Harbor, which are favorable for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. In general, however, the potential for significant archaeological survivals, both prehistoric and historic, is low because the church is built in a densely occupied residential area and because the church and rectory, each of which has a basement, covers a major portion of the lot.

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Salem (Essex County)
MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 1**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church forms a distinctive cultural monument within the city of Salem. The church is known as a landmark for its blue domes and is closely associated with several of the city's most important immigrant groups. St. Nicholas Orthodox Church is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places meeting criteria A and C at the local level. Although St. Nicholas Church is a property owned by religious institution and used for religious purposes, it derives its primary significance from both its architectural and its historic importance within the historic landscape of the City of Salem. It retains integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling, and association.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church was built in 1908 to house a congregation for an expanding population of the Eastern European immigrants of the Orthodox and Eastern Rite Catholic or Uniate faiths. Of the Orthodox churches, only the Russian Orthodox under the Moscow Patriarch had established a church organization and hierarchy within the United States, dating to 1794 in Alaska. Orthodox immigrants from many national and ethnic communities thus turned to the Russian church and those of Eastern European origins were united by the Old Church Slavonic language of the services. In addition, some had been members of Eastern Right Catholic or Uniate Churches. Sharing some theological and liturgical traditions with the Orthodox, but recognizing the leadership of the Pope in Rome, priests of this tradition were rare in the U.S. and Roman Catholic religious were not always sensitive or sympathetic to their needs. When this group was chartered in 1901 it apparently emphasized the Catholic tradition, as some early records use Latin. The congregation is listed as simply the Russian Catholic Church in the city directories of 1903 and 1904, as St. Nicholas Russian Catholic Church between 1905 and 1907, and in the Essex County Deeds as St. Nicholas Russian Greek Catholic Church; it appeared on a 1906 atlas of the city it is marked "Catholic Church." Once this building was constructed it was consistently known as a Russian Orthodox Church. The Russian Revolution of 1917 caused significant divisions among followers of the Moscow patriarch abroad, but this church joined the majority of churches in the United States and assumed a position of loyal autonomy. In 1970 the independence of the American churches was acknowledged as the the autocephalic Orthodox Church in America. One of the earliest Russian Churches in New England, this congregation was soon joined by other orthodox in Boston, Lowell, Lynn, and Springfield in Massachusetts.

The parcel on which the church stands was acquired in two parcels in 1901 and 1904 from Albert Smrecznski. Smrecznski had purchased them as part of a single larger lot

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from Samuel W. Berry and Martyha L. C. Berry earlier the same year. The Berrys claim to the land dated to a probate division of 1882 in which this parcel was a part of the property assigned to Elizabeth Berry. On the first parcel purchased the newly formed church constructed a small church, mentioned in a deed and drawn on the atlas of 1906. This building was fitted for use as the rectory when the corner portion of the parcel was added and the new larger church constructed. The earlier church was removed when the rectory was constructed before 1911.

The architect of the church, William Devereaux Dennis, was born in Salem in 1847. The son of Devereaux Dennis a Salem housewright, he grew up on Dearborn Street in north Salem. He first appears in the Salem Directories in 1866 and subsequently lived nearby on Buffam Street with his own family. Dennis's office was located at 243 1/2 Essex Street and later at 210 Essex Street. Of the works currently known to be by Dennis, his first high profile commission was the 1877-1878 remodeling of the First Universalist Church; his Victorian remodelings were reversed in a restoration by R. Clipson Sturgis in 1924 and only the pavilions and the chapel remain. In 1884-1885 Dennis was unsuccessful in his bid to remodel the Salem Jail, and competition won by Rufus Sargent. In 1885 he remodeled the John Tucker Deland House for use as the library and offices of the Essex Institute at 34 Church Street. He is also known to have designed commercial buildings at 242 Essex Street in 1876 and at 1-3-5 Central Street in 1886. The commission for St. Nicholas Church came late in his career, and he died five years later at the age of sixty-six. His plans for the church are on file at the Archives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts among the Public Safety/Building Inspection Department files.

It is not known whether Dennis consulted with members of the congregation about the design, or the nature of his research into eastern European and European Russian architecture when he undertook the design. While Dennis is unlikely to have had extensive knowledge of the home parish buildings of the church members, the design put forward under his name bears some common features of Eastern European Orthodox church buildings, as well as of North American examples and adaptations of those forms. Several basic characteristics of Orthodox church design provide points of contrast to Roman Catholic building as well as the meetinghouse or auditory church tradition that grew out of the Reformation. While the Orthodox Church also has the basilica as its ancestral form, the eastern church followed a course far removed from the Gothic modes emphasizing verticality and elongation. The eastern churches were more drawn to centralizing plans, of Greek crosses, crosses in squares, and occasionally mulit-sided and nearly round buildings, and to the dome and domed tower.

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The large masonry churches of towns and cities were often square or nearly square, with barrel-shaped gables in the roof and topped by multiple onion-domed towers. Even as the influence of western architecture increased after the 17th century, builders retained many of the essential features, and only a small number of Latin cross or nave plan churches were constructed. By contrast, the rural regions of Russia, Ukraine, and Byelorussia developed and maintained a strong tradition of log and shingle churches, sharing many of these features rendered in wood in the largest buildings.

The best examination of the adaptation of these Eastern European traditions to North American immigration is the study of Ukrainian Churches built in Manitoba Canada (Rostoff, Yereniuk, and Hryniuk 1990). In addition to a survey of local Ukrainian forms that were repeated in that province, the authors catalogue adaptation of these forms to the new environment. Their typology included, in addition to the various Eclectic designs, categories for two-towered, three-towered, and cruciform churches. The first group consists of gable-roofed meeting halls with onion-domed twin towers on their facades. In the second group are churches of similar design and the addition of a third central tower, often sited on the ridge. The last group included the cross-gabled churches often ornamented by domed crossings as well as facade towers. Except for the largest of these churches, most are quite plain, and the elements of the design that relate most closely to the ornament of traditional churches is the extensive use of the half-round arch at openings and, of course, the onion domes. St. Nicholas Church compares favorably, in terms of elaboration of surfaces and ornament, with the urban examples of that focus of Ukrainian settlement. The resemblance of Saint Nicholas Church to the pictured examples of the three-towered church is strong, testimony to the strength of traditional values among this group even when their numbers were small compared to other parts of North America, and even when they relied on the efforts of an American architect to execute the design for their church.

St. Nicholas Church's earliest members were Eastern European immigrants, part of the larger movement of displaced persons who migrated due to crowding and declining agriculture. Those immigrants came to Salem primarily from the Byelorussian and Ukrainian portions of the Tsarist Russian and the Austro-Hungarian empires. While their national borders have changed and been reinterpreted over time, the focus of these states is in the Dnieper River drainage, a major north-south flowing river through the Eastern European land mass that drains into the Black Sea on the south. White Russia or Byelorussia as the area was known is located to the north, bordering on the Baltic states on the north, Russia on the east, and Poland on the west. The Ukraine is located to the south, sharing its eastern border with the Caucasus area of Russia, and with Moldova, Roumania, Hungary, the former Czechoslovakia, and Poland to the west.

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Now known as the independent republics of Ukraine and Byelorussia, these areas were long caught between expanding and contracting empires on their eastern and western borders, and were repeatedly and differently divided by more powerful neighbors throughout modern times. Byelorussia was successively controlled by the Lithuanians, the Poles, the Tsarist Russian empire, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and for brief periods by the eastward expanding Central Powers and later the Nazis. Cultural nationalism within Byelorussia rose in modern times first among the intellectuals with increased interest in folklife, and nationalist movements based in both socialism and more conservative Catholic circles. The Ukraine rose to regional importance at the end of the last millennium, a powerful kingdom with its capital in Kiev. Attacked by the Mongolians from the east, the area was soon divided among its rising neighbors, controlled by the Poles and later the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the west and the Russians in the east and the north. A brief period of independence after the Russian Revolution, followed by occupation by Nazi Germany. The rise of the Cossacks was responsible for the early development of a nationalist identification for Ukrainians. During these periods of changing authority individuals came to adopt either a Polish or a Russian cultural orientation, or a Catholic or an Orthodox religious orientation. Among the peasants in both countries, identification remained predominantly local or regional rather than national. It is thus not surprising that students of immigration from these areas emphasize that, prior to World War I, immigrants identified themselves with their controlling empire, their home locality, or their religion, rather than these ephemeral nation states (Thernstrom et al. 1980: passim).

Immigration from these areas to the United States and Canada occurred in three waves. The first, dating from 1880 to 1914, was the result of over-population and a resulting lack of available land in these areas. Subsequently large numbers came after World War I and the Russian Revolution and the reconfiguring of Eastern European borders, and after World War II, when the Nazi assault resulted in many displaced persons. Particularly during the first phase, these groups were identified, by outsiders and often by themselves, by national origin and thus among the larger population of Russians, Austrians, and Poles. They first appear in Salem as 171 Austrians in the 1895 state census, and in large numbers in the 1905 state census, when they are counted among the 491 Russians and 654 Poles. Many of these newcomers were Roman Catholic and the rise of a Polish national parish in Salem dates to the 1900s, just at the time this church was organizing. Research on these Salem ethnic groups has not been extensive. Polish neighborhoods have been located in this neighborhood west of Webb Street, as well as along Derby Street to the south. Many of the Eastern Europeans found employment as leather workers and at the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company. The Great Fire of 1914 did much to disperse this group as the leather industry relocated, but many loyal

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parishioners continued to attend to St. Nicholas from other neighborhoods and nearby towns. Dislocation and migration caused by World War I and the Russian Revolutions added significantly to the Salem community and by 1930 the Russians numbered 858 and the Poles 1,894. With larger numbers came to formation of institutions reflecting the true diversity within the community and the Ukrainian Catholic St. John's Church, on nearby Bridge Street, was organized in 1930. Immigration after World War II added particularly to the numbers of professional and skilled workers. Today the congregation includes a broad spectrum of the Salem community, welcoming worshipers from many ethnic groups while celebrating Slavic cultural traditions.

(end)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Borkowski, Elizabeth, "One Houndred Fifteen Years in Salem," in Adele Younis, "Graduate Immigration Seminar: A Bicentennial Study," Salem State College, 1976-1977. Typescript of ten volumes on file at the Essex Institute.

Brumfield, William Craft. Gold in Azure: One Thousand years of Russian Architecture. Boston: David Godine, Publisher, Inc. 1983.

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Faensen, Hubert and Vladimir Ivanov. Early Russian Architecture. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1972.

Halich, Wasyl. Ukranians in the United States. Chicago: The University of Illinois Press, 1937.

Kuropas, Myron B. The Ukranian Americans: Roots and Aspirations, 1884-1954. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1991.

Mead, Frank S. Handbook of Denominations in the United States. 7th edition. Nashville: Abbingon Press, 1980.

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Continuation Sheet**

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Salem City Directories, 1857-1942.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Company. Atlas of the City of Salem. Multiple editions, including 1906 and updates.

Thernstrom, Stephen, Ann Orlov, and Oscar Handlin. The Harvard University Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1980.

Tolles, Bryant F. Architecture in Salem: An Illustrated Guide. Salem: Essex Institute, 1983.

Vakar, Nicholas P. Belorussia: The Making of a Nation. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1956.

Voshchullo, Vitaly, Archpriest of St. Nicholas. Pamphlets on Church and personal communications.

Walker, George H. & Co. Atlas of the City of Salem, Massachusetts. Boston: George H. Walker & Co., 1911.

(end)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Description:

The boundaries of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory are illustrated on the attached City of Salem Assessors Map 41, lot 219.

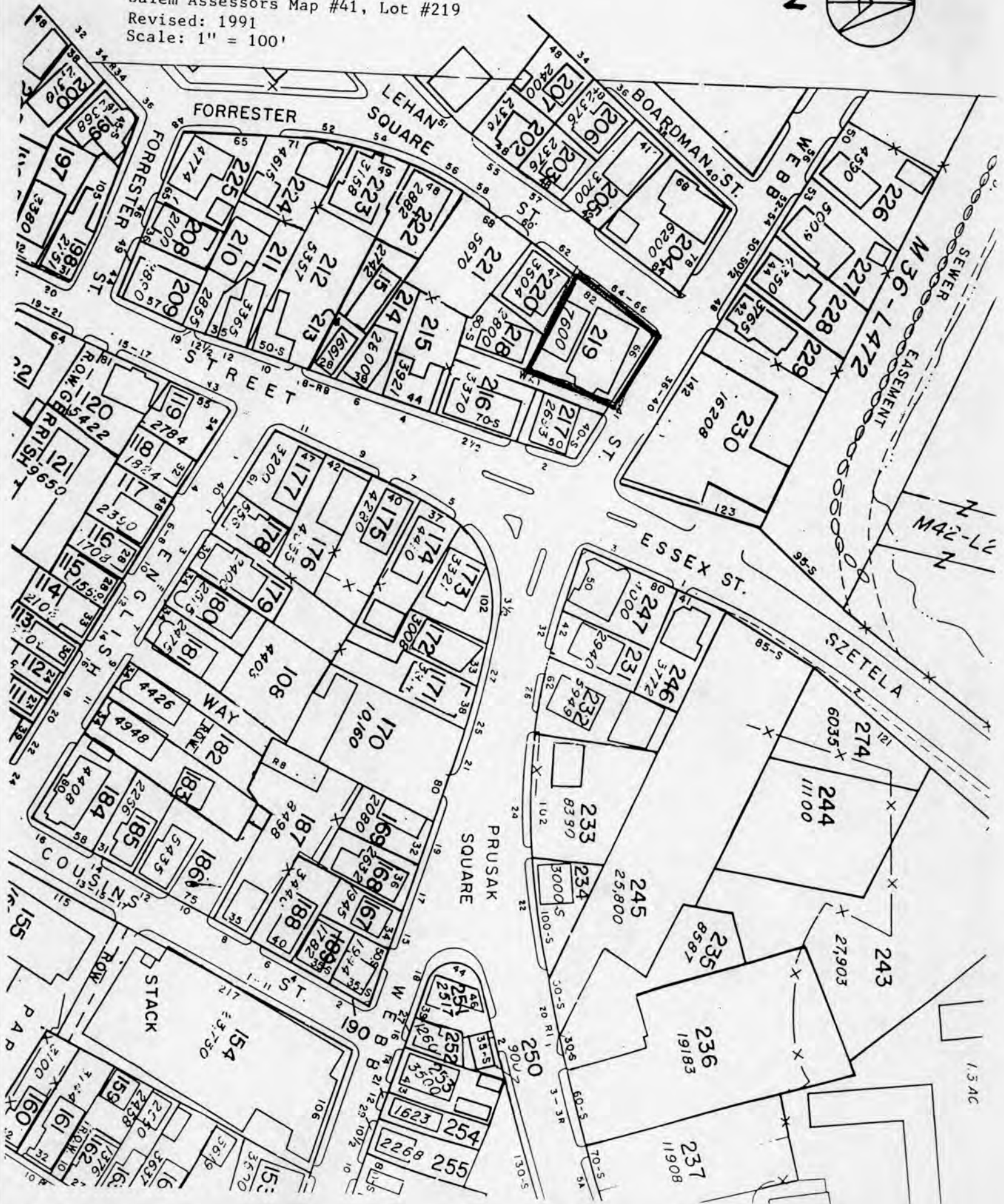
Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory.

(end)

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church & Rectory
64-66 Forrester Street
Salem (Essex County)
Massachusetts

Salem Assessors Map #41, Lot #219
Revised: 1991
Scale: 1" = 100'



10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8,100 square feet

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 9	3 4 5 1 6 0	4 7 0 9 6 5 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date March 1993

street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02116

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 the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Saint Nicholas Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church

street & number 64 Forrester Street telephone _____

city or town Salem state MA zip code 01970

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 Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** 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.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- ETHNIC HERITAGE, EURASIAN
- RELIGION
- SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1908 - 1943

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Dennis, William Devereaux

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Salem Planning Department

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 3/29/93 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/13/93
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/29/93 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/13/93
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000346

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 4/26/93 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Returned at request of SHPO

Please have SHPO sign nomination when resubmitted

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
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed *D. Byer* Phone 202 343 9553
Date 4/26/93

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

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 16A). 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 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 64-66 Forrester Street N/A not for publication

city or town Salem N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Essex code 009 zip code 01970

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination 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 60. 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.)

Judith B. McDonough 1/19/94
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer
State of 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 certifying 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:)

Entered in the
National Register

for Signature of the Keeper Gregory M. Lapsley Date of Action 2/18/94

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2		Total

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

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: church; rectory

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

RELIGION: church; rectory

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:
Byzantine Revival, Classical Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone
walls Wood, Almminum

roof Asphalt

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

74113

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSt. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
Salem (Essex County)
MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 1**7. DESCRIPTION**

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory are located at the corner of Forrester and Webb streets in the densely settled residential neighborhood between the Salem Common and Collins Cove in Salem. Sited on a small lot the church faces to the northwest and the rectory is located on the same parcel to the south. The church replaced an earlier chapel and was built in 1908 by the Salem architect William Devereaux Dennis; the rectory was constructed soon after. The distinctive form and ornament of the church, most notably its blue onion domes, make it an important and well-known local landmark.

The area around the Church was developed in the third quarter of the 19th century as the marshy land before the cove was filled and platted for residential construction. At the western edge of the district are the Federal period mansions constructed around the Common as the Salem elite reconfigured it as Washington Square. This area was laid out with streets running from the east side of the Square to Webb Street, the new artery along the Cove. Construction on this grid was most rapid during the 1880s, and speculative builders constructed a narrow range of single- and two-family residences common in similar neighborhoods throughout New England. The houses on Boardman Street demonstrate the form that came to characterize middle- and working-class neighborhoods of the late 19th century. Primarily gable front in orientation, these houses have a three bay facade and side entry. In their interior plan they employ one of the several variations of the side or corner passage plan that rose to pre-eminence at this time. During the early years of the 20th century, larger apartment blocks were added to fill in the lots along these streets. Set on small lots and close to the street, these houses created the inner residential neighborhoods of expanding turn-of-the-century cities and large towns.

On its exterior St. Nicholas Church takes a common western church form but is ornamented with distinctive ornament from the Orthodox tradition. The ornamental vocabulary of the church has been described as Byzantine Revival (Tolles 1983: 37), and reflects the Eastern European origins of the congregation. The building measures 39 by 62 feet built of frame construction on a stone foundation. Its primary single story gable block presents its gabled end to the street with a semi-projecting entry tower and side turrets on its facade and an apse in the rear. It is dominated by five bright blue domes located on the center entry tower, the two turrets and two on the roof ridge. The largest domes on the ridge sit on the octagonal arcaded drums; the smaller domes sit on square drums, those on the tower decorated with arcading and crosses. Each blue dome is topped by the distinctive three-barred cross. On the facade, openings are arranged in

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St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
Salem (Essex County)
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two tiers and five bays on the main block, with a third tier in the tower. Large round-headed openings are located at the entry and above it in the center tower, with a round window or oculus above. The tower is flanked by narrow windows, flat in the first tier, round-headed in the second. Each tower is lit by a flat-headed window in the first tier, an oculus above. The lateral walls are lit by four evenly-spaced, round-headed windows. The facade wall is covered in gray matchboard with white trim while the side and rear walls have been covered in aluminum siding.

The unifying Orthodox symbol of the circle is repeated in the composition of the facade. The entry is covered by a semi-circular canopy supported by columns, a shape echoed in the round and round headed windows in the second tier of the facade as well as on the four long wall windows. Each opening is marked by thick, eared labels and stained glass. Round-headed arcading is employed in the central belfry and at the cornice line and tower belt courses. The use of three towers symbolized the Trinity of the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit; the use of five domes symbolized Christ and the four Evangelists.

The interior of St. Nicholas bears a closer resemblance to Orthodox church design, including a nearly square meeting area and the traditional division into three functional subsections. The small vestibule or narthex occupies the narrow front section of the building, marked on the exterior by the tower and turrets. Stairs to the basement hall and a lavatory are also located here. The majority of the main block encloses the nave, ornamented by wall and ceiling paintings, as well as the the stained glass of the windows. The nave originally had no pews, the tradition of orthodoxy being to stand. The focal point of the nave is the screen of seventeen icons, the iconostas, that divides the nave from the sanctuary. It is reached by four steps to the avon or pulpit, where the priest administers communion, leads the litanies, reads the gospel, and delivers sermons. Only the ordained clergy can pass through the royal doors in the iconostas to enter the sanctuary where communion is celebrated at the prestol or altar. The basement of the church included space for lavatories and a kitchen, and a large meeting hall.

The current appearance of the church reflects minor recent alterations and interior embellishments. First during World War II the pews were installed, in a configuration of slips on either side of a central aisle. During repair campaign of the 1960s, the lower hall was modernized, the siding on the lateral walls added, the stained glass installed, and the interior repainted. The windows were designed by Archpriest Vitaly Voshcullo, and executed from his watercolors by the Vetro Art Glass Company, formerly of Pittsburg PA. Most recently the ceiling was restored to reveal the original ornamental timbers and a painting of Christ Pantocrator, or Christ the Judge, the traditional treatment of the dome in an Orthodox Church, replacing a central medallion.

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United States Department of the Interior
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St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
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Comparison of the current appearance to the architect's drawing also suggests that the canopy at the entry is not original.

Several years after the construction of the Church, between 1911 and 1913, a rectory was added next door to provide housing for the pastor and his family. The two-and-a-half story hip block is a frame Colonial Revival design with bay windows, a side entry, and a two-story front porch. The building's ornament includes the treatment of the polygonal bay windows the front door and surround, and a very elaborate wide cornice of swags in the frieze. This house is an example of the turn-of-the-century housetype called the Four Square, named for its cubical massing, as well as the common configuration of its first floor plan. This plan usually includes four nearly equal-sized rooms, including a large entry area, a parlor, a dining room, and a kitchen, with a similar plan of four bedrooms above. The rectory was aluminum sided in 1960 and its front porch extension over the garage dates to 1964. The rectory has been redecorated and its kitchen modernized but no significant changes have been made.

Archaeological Description

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory are located in an area of documented prehistoric settlement. At least 34 prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) including one site which may extend into the church locale. The Boardman Street Site, 19-ES-375 is located less than 1,000 ft. from the church. The boundaries of that site are unknown. Materials were collected from the site in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The physical characteristics of the area include locational characteristics, a well drained, relatively level land surface bordering Collins Cove near Beverly Harbor, which are favorable for Native American subsistence and settlement activities. In general, however, the potential for significant archaeological survivals, both prehistoric and historic, is low because the church is built in a densely occupied residential area and because the church and rectory, each of which has a basement, covers a major portion of the lot.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** 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.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

- ARCHITECTURE
- ETHNIC HERITAGE, EURASIAN
- RELIGION
- SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1908 - 1943

Significant Dates

N/A

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Dennis, William Devereaux

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Salem Planning Department

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 8,100 sq. ft. (less than 1 acre)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 9	3 4 5 1 6 0	4 7 0 9 6 5 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

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 Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date January 1994

street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02116

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 the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Saint Nicholas Russian Orthodox Greek Catholic Church

street & number 64 Forrester Street telephone _____

city or town Salem state MA zip code 01970

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.

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St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
Salem (Essex County)
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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church forms a distinctive cultural monument within the city of Salem. The church is known as a landmark for its blue domes and is closely associated with several of the city's most important immigrant groups. St. Nicholas Orthodox Church is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places meeting criteria A and C at the local level. Although St. Nicholas Church is a property owned by religious institution and used for religious purposes, it derives its primary significance from both its architectural and its historic importance within the historic landscape of the City of Salem. It retains integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling, and association.

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church was built in 1908 to house a congregation for an expanding population of the Eastern European immigrants of the Orthodox and Eastern Rite Catholic or Uniate faiths. Of the Orthodox churches, only the Russian Orthodox under the Moscow Patriarch had established a church organization and hierarchy within the United States, dating to 1794 in Alaska. Orthodox immigrants from many national and ethnic communities thus turned to the Russian church and those of Eastern European origins were united by the Old Church Slavonic language of the services. In addition, some had been members of Eastern Right Catholic or Uniate Churches. Sharing some theological and liturgical traditions with the Orthodox, but recognizing the leadership of the Pope in Rome, priests of this tradition were rare in the U.S. and Roman Catholic religious were not always sensitive or sympathetic to their needs. When this group was chartered in 1901 it apparently emphasized the Catholic tradition, as some early records use Latin. The congregation is listed as simply the Russian Catholic Church in the city directories of 1903 and 1904, as St. Nicholas Russian Catholic Church between 1905 and 1907, and in the Essex County Deeds as St. Nicholas Russian Greek Catholic Church; it appeared on a 1906 atlas of the city it is marked "Catholic Church." Once this building was constructed it was consistently known as a Russian Orthodox Church. The Russian Revolution of 1917 caused significant divisions among followers of the Moscow patriarch abroad, but this church joined the majority of churches in the United States and assumed a position of loyal autonomy. In 1970 the independence of the American churches was acknowledged as the the autocephalic Orthodox Church in America. One of the earliest Russian Churches in New England, this congregation was soon joined by other orthodox in Boston, Lowell, Lynn, and Springfield in Massachusetts.

The parcel on which the church stands was acquired in two parcels in 1901 and 1904 from Albert Smrecznski. Smrecznski had purchased them as part of a single larger lot

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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
Salem (Essex County)
Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 2

from Samuel W. Berry and Martyha L. C. Berry earlier the same year. The Berrys claim to the land dated to a probate division of 1882 in which this parcel was a part of the property assigned to Elizabeth Berry. On the first parcel purchased the newly formed church constructed a small church, mentioned in a deed and drawn on the atlas of 1906. This building was fitted for use as the rectory when the corner portion of the parcel was added and the new larger church constructed. The earlier church was removed when the rectory was constructed before 1911.

The architect of the church, William Devereaux Dennis, was born in Salem in 1847. The son of Devereaux Dennis a Salem housewright, he grew up on Dearborn Street in north Salem. He first appears in the Salem Directories in 1866 and subsequently lived nearby on Buffam Street with his own family. Dennis's office was located at 243 1/2 Essex Street and later at 210 Essex Street. Of the works currently known to be by Dennis, his first high profile commission was the 1877-1878 remodeling of the First Universalist Church; his Victorian remodelings were reversed in a restoration by R. Clipson Sturgis in 1924 and only the pavilions and the chapel remain. In 1884-1885 Dennis was unsuccessful in his bid to remodel the Salem Jail, and competition won by Rufus Sargent. In 1885 he remodeled the John Tucker Deland House for use as the library and offices of the Essex Institute at 34 Church Street. He is also known to have designed commercial buildings at 242 Essex Street in 1876 and at 1-3-5 Central Street in 1886. The commission for St. Nicholas Church came late in his career, and he died five years later at the age of sixty-six. His plans for the church are on file at the Archives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts among the Public Safety/Building Inspection Department files.

It is not known whether Dennis consulted with members of the congregation about the design, or the nature of his research into eastern European and European Russian architecture when he undertook the design. While Dennis is unlikely to have had extensive knowledge of the home parish buildings of the church members, the design put forward under his name bears some common features of Eastern European Orthodox church buildings, as well as of North American examples and adaptations of those forms. Several basic characteristics of Orthodox church design provide points of contrast to Roman Catholic building as well as the meetinghouse or auditory church tradition that grew out of the Reformation. While the Orthodox Church also has the basilica as its ancestral form, the eastern church followed a course far removed from the Gothic modes emphasizing verticality and elongation. The eastern churches were more drawn to centralizing plans, of Greek crosses, crosses in squares, and occasionally multi-sided and nearly round buildings, and to the dome and domed tower.

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**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation Sheet****St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
Salem (Essex County)
Massachusetts**Section number 8 Page 3

The large masonry churches of towns and cities were often square or nearly square, with barrel-shaped gables in the roof and topped by multiple onion-domed towers. Even as the influence of western architecture increased after the 17th century, builders retained many of the essential features, and only a small number of Latin cross or nave plan churches were constructed. By contrast, the rural regions of Russia, Ukraine, and Byelorussia developed and maintained a strong tradition of log and shingle churches, sharing many of these features rendered in wood in the largest buildings.

The best examination of the adaptation of these Eastern European traditions to North American immigration is the study of Ukrainian Churches built in Manitoba Canada (Rostoff, Yereniuk, and Hryniuk 1990). In addition to a survey of local Ukrainian forms that were repeated in that province, the authors catalogue adaptation of these forms to the new environment. Their typology included, in addition to the various Eclectic designs, categories for two-towered, three-towered, and cruciform churches. The first group consists of gable-roofed meeting halls with onion-domed twin towers on their facades. In the second group are churches of similar design and the addition of a third central tower, often sited on the ridge. The last group included the cross-gabled churches often ornamented by domed crossings as well as facade towers. Except for the largest of these churches, most are quite plain, and the elements of the design that relate most closely to the ornament of traditional churches is the extensive use of the half-round arch at openings and, of course, the onion domes. St. Nicholas Church compares favorably, in terms of elaboration of surfaces and ornament, with the urban examples of that focus of Ukrainian settlement. The resemblance of Saint Nicholas Church to the pictured examples of the three-towered church is strong, testimony to the strength of traditional values among this group even when their numbers were small compared to other parts of North America, and even when they relied on the efforts of an American architect to execute the design for their church.

St. Nicholas Church's earliest members were Eastern European immigrants, part of the larger movement of displaced persons who migrated due to crowding and declining agriculture. Those immigrants came to Salem primarily from the Byelorussian and Ukrainian portions of the Tsarist Russian and the Austro-Hungarian empires. While their national borders have changed and been reinterpreted over time, the focus of these states is in the Dnieper River drainage, a major north-south flowing river through the Eastern European land mass that drains into the Black Sea on the south. White Russia or Byelorussia as the area was known is located to the north, bordering on the Baltic states on the north, Russia on the east, and Poland on the west. The Ukraine is located to the south, sharing its eastern border with the Caucasus area of Russia, and with Moldova, Roumania, Hungary, the former Czechoslovakia, and Poland to the west.

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Salem (Essex County)
MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 4

Now known as the independent republics of Ukraine and Byelorussia, these areas were long caught between expanding and contracting empires on their eastern and western borders, and were repeatedly and differently divided by more powerful neighbors throughout modern times. Byelorussia was successively controlled by the Lithuanians, the Poles, the Tsarist Russian empire, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and for brief periods by the eastward expanding Central Powers and later the Nazis. Cultural nationalism within Byelorussia rose in modern times first among the intellectuals with increased interest in folklife, and nationalist movements based in both socialism and more conservative Catholic circles. The Ukraine rose to regional importance at the end of the last millennium, a powerful kingdom with its capital in Kiev. Attacked by the Mongolians from the east, the area was soon divided among its rising neighbors, controlled by the Poles and later the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the west and the Russians in the east and the north. A brief period of independence after the Russian Revolution, followed by occupation by Nazi Germany. The rise of the Cossacks was responsible for the early development of a nationalist identification for Ukrainians. During these periods of changing authority individuals came to adopt either a Polish or a Russian cultural orientation, or a Catholic or an Orthodox religious orientation. Among the peasants in both countries, identification remained predominantly local or regional rather than national. It is thus not surprising that students of immigration from these areas emphasize that, prior to World War I, immigrants identified themselves with their controlling empire, their home locality, or their religion, rather than these ephemeral nation states (Thernstrom et al. 1980: passim).

Immigration from these areas to the United States and Canada occurred in three waves. The first, dating from 1880 to 1914, was the result of over-population and a resulting lack of available land in these areas. Subsequently large numbers came after World War I and the Russian Revolution and the reconfiguring of Eastern European borders, and after World War II, when the Nazi assault resulted in many displaced persons. Particularly during the first phase, these groups were identified, by outsiders and often by themselves, by national origin and thus among the larger population of Russians, Austrians, and Poles. They first appear in Salem as 171 Austrians in the 1895 state census, and in large numbers in the 1905 state census, when they are counted among the 491 Russians and 654 Poles. Many of these newcomers were Roman Catholic and the rise of a Polish national parish in Salem dates to the 1900s, just at the time this church was organizing. Research on these Salem ethnic groups has not been extensive. Polish neighborhoods have been located in this neighborhood west of Webb Street, as well as along Derby Street to the south. Many of the Eastern Europeans found employment as leather workers and at the Naumkeag Steam Cotton Company. The Great Fire of 1914 did much to disperse this group as the leather industry relocated, but many loyal

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Continuation SheetSt. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
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parishioners continued to attend to St. Nicholas from other neighborhoods and nearby towns. Dislocation and migration caused by World War I and the Russian Revolutions added significantly to the Salem community and by 1930 the Russians numbered 858 and the Poles 1,894. With larger numbers came to formation of institutions reflecting the true diversity within the community and the Ukrainian Catholic St. John's Church, on nearby Bridge Street, was organized in 1930. Immigration after World War II added particularly to the numbers of professional and skilled workers. Today the congregation includes a broad spectrum of the Salem community, welcoming worshipers from many ethnic groups while celebrating Slavic cultural traditions.

(end)

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory
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Thernstrom, Stephen, Ann Orlov, and Oscar Handlin. The Harvard University Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1980.

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Vakar, Nicholas P. Belorussia: The Making of a Nation. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1956.

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(end)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Boundary Description:

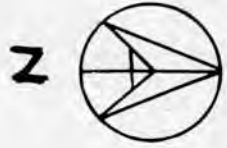
The boundaries of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory are illustrated on the attached City of Salem Assessors Map 41, lot 219.

Boundary Justification:

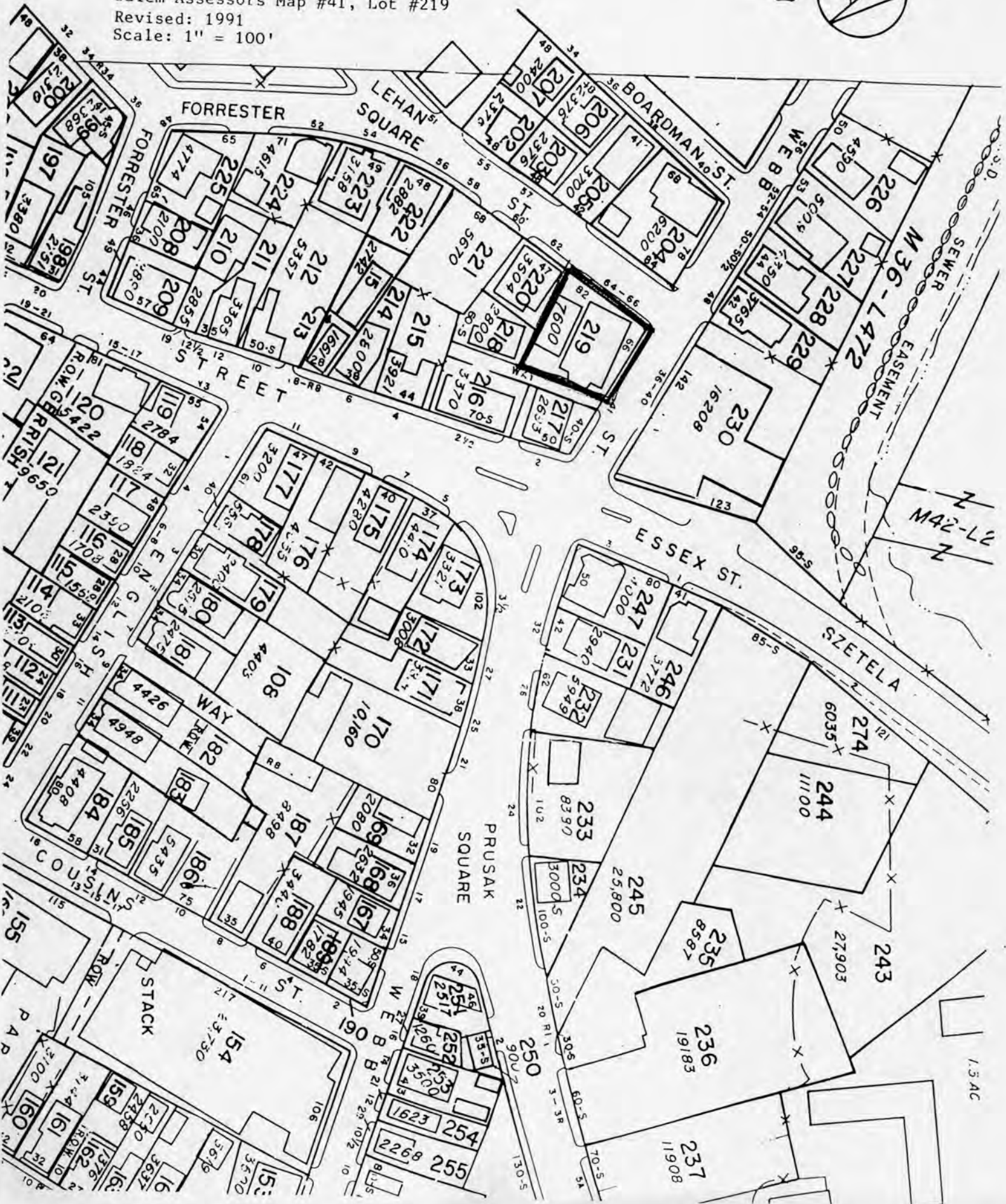
The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory.

(end)

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church & Rectory
64-66 Forrester Street
Salem (Essex County)
Massachusetts



Salem Assessors Map #41, Lot #219
Revised: 1991
Scale: 1" = 100'



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: St. Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/25/94

DATE OF PENDING LIST:

DATE OF 16TH DAY:

DATE OF 45TH DAY:

3/11/94

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 93000346

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/18/94 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 _____

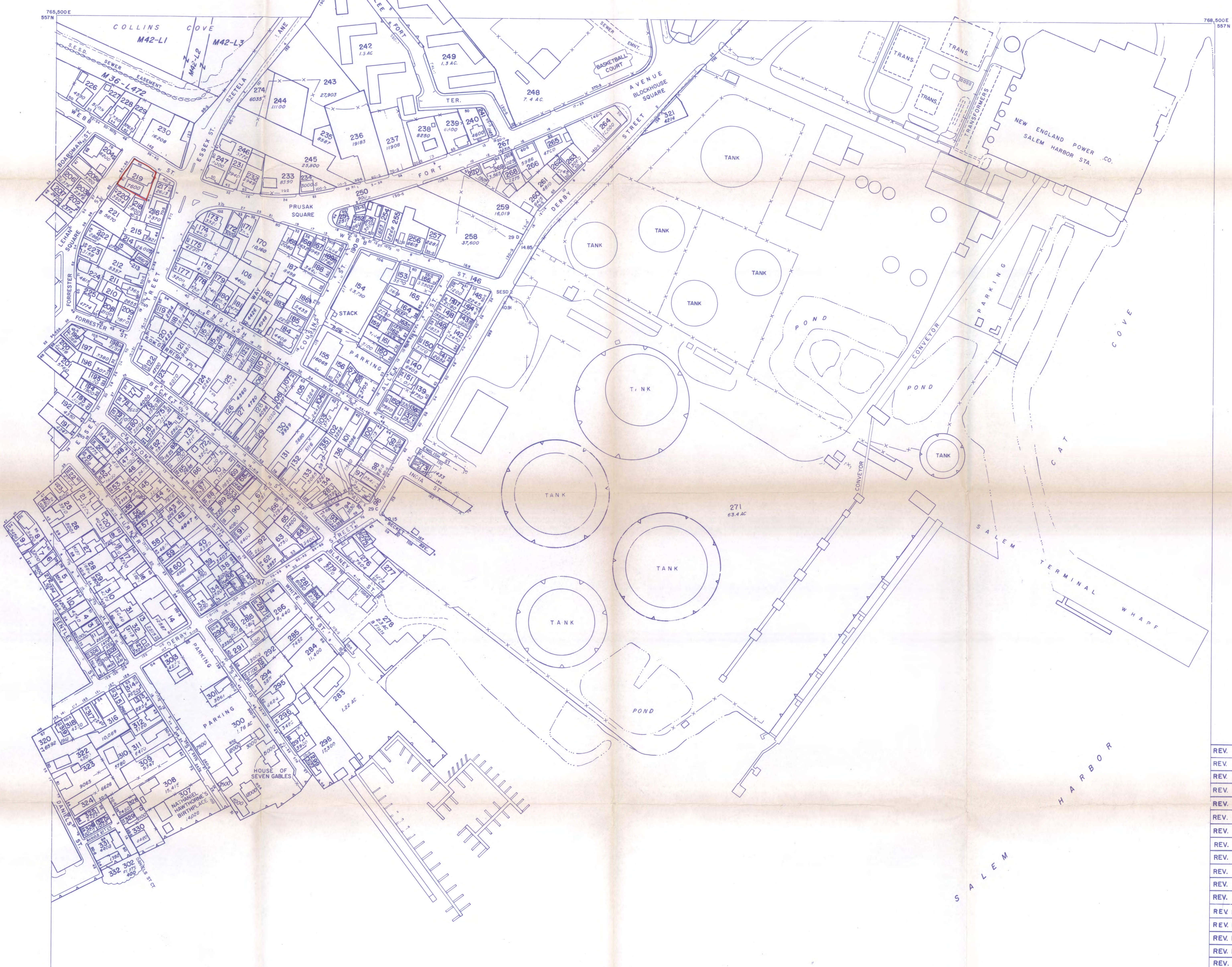
Signed _____ Date _____



St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Church and Rectory
64-66 Forrester Street, Salim MA
Claire W. Dempsey January 1992
Looking southeast from Webb Street

PHOTO # 1 of 1

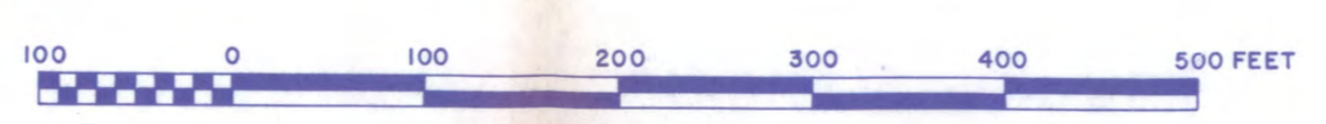
CITY OF SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS
ASSESSORS MAPS



REV. BY	S.E.D.	1991
REV. BY	S.E.D.	1990
REV. BY	S.E.D.	1989
REV. BY	B.O.A.	1988
REV. BY	B.O.A.	1987
REV. BY	B.O.A.	1986
REV. BY	B.O.A.	1985
REV. BY	B.O.A.	1984
REV. BY	B.O.A.	1983
REV. BY	S.E.D.	1982
REV. BY	S.E.D.	1981
REV. BY	S.E.D.	1980
REV. BY	AVIS	1979
REV. BY	AVIS	1978
REV. BY	AVIS	1976
REV. BY	11 /	1974
REV. BY	AVIS	1973
NUMBERS NOT USED: 95, 41		

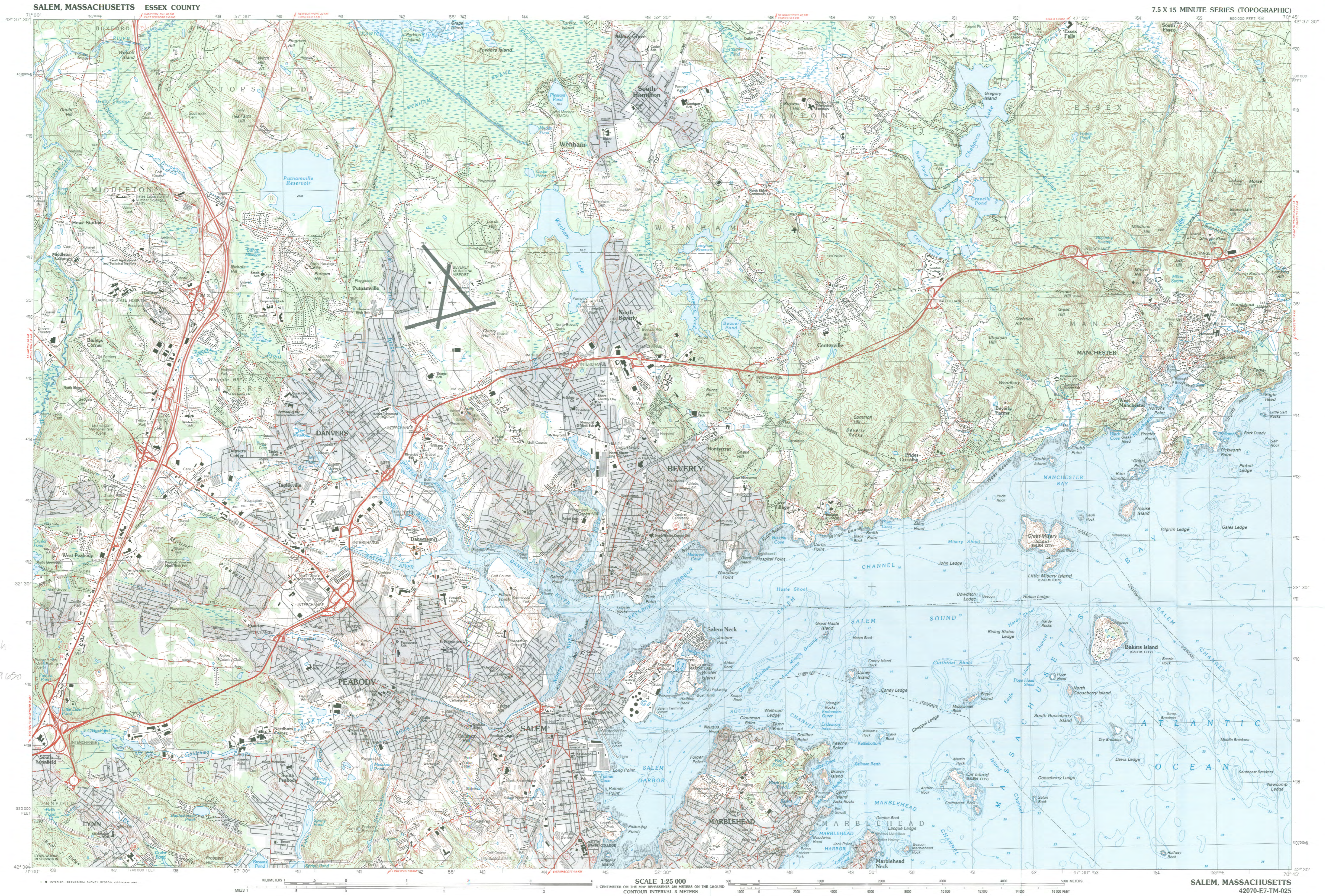
PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
SALEM BOARD OF ASSESSORS
BY
AVIS AIRMAP INC.
BROOKLINE - BRAintree - HARTFORD

SANT NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH & RECTORY
44-46 FORRESTER STREET
SALEM (ESSEX COUNTY)
MASSACHUSETTS
SALEM ASSESSORS MAP # 41, LOT # 219
REVISED: 1991



554,500N
765,500E
LAST # USED 333

36	42	44
35	41	43
34	40	

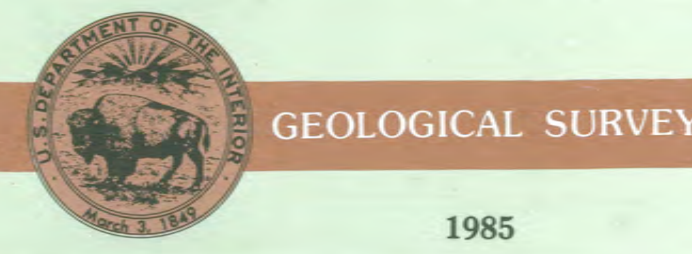


Salem MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



- 7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING**
- Contours and elevations in meters
 - Highways, roads and other manmade structures
 - Water features
 - Woodland areas
 - Geographic names



Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works. Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies. Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1985. Supersedes Salem and Marblehead North 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1970. Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts 13275 and 13276 (1981). This information is not intended for navigational purposes. Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 42 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks. There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTOUR ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.3 METER
 DEPTH CLINES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
 DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
 SHOULDER SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
 THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.7 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLEYS WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4043
6	19.6852
7	22.9660
8	26.2469
9	29.5278
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
 To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

Declination	Diagram
1°	Diagram 1
2°	Diagram 2
3°	Diagram 3
4°	Diagram 4
5°	Diagram 5
6°	Diagram 6
7°	Diagram 7
8°	Diagram 8

UTM grid convergence (GK) and UTM magnetic declination (MD) at center of map. Diagram is approximate.

Adjoining Maps	1	2	3
1	Lawrence		
2	Swanich		
3	Rockport		
4	Reading		
5	GloUCEster		
6	Boston North		
7	Lynn		
8			

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
 DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, toll
- Route marker: Interstate; U.S.; State
- Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage
- Bridge: drawbridge
- Canal; overpass; underpass; water location appropriate
- Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary: National, with monument; State; County, parish; Civil township, precinct, district; Incorporated city, village, town; National or State reservation; small park; Land grant with monument; found section corner; U.S. public lands survey; range, township, section; Range, township, section line; location appropriate; Fence or field line; Power transmission line, located tower; Dam; dam with lock; Cemetery; grave; Monument; U.S. location monument; Windmill; water well; spring; Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave; Control: national station; vertical station; spot elevation; Contour: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression; Distorted surface: strip mine, levee, sand; Bathymetric contour: index; intermediate; Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream; Rapids, ledge and small falls, large and small; Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp; Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland; Scuba; mangrove; Orchard; wayset

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



RECEIVED

MAR 29 1993

NATIONAL
REGISTER

March 22, 1993

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination form:

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory, 64-66 Forrester Street, Salem
(Essex County), Massachusetts, 01970.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church
Mayor Neil J. Harrington, City of Salem
Annie Harris, Chairperson, Salem Historical Commission
Jane Guy, Preservation Planner, Salem Historical Commission
Patrick Cloherly, Director, Salem Public Library
Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant

DR 3/29/93



RE

APR

RECEIVED 413

APR 19 1993

April 14, 1993

Carol Shull
Chief of Registration
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

RE: Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory, 64-66 Forrester Street, Salem (Essex County), Massachusetts, 01970

Dear Ms. Shull:

Because of a technical error in notifications, we are requesting the return of the above-named nomination. We plan to resubmit the nomination to the National Park Service once the notification error has been rectified.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: Jane Guy, Preservation Planner, Salem Historical Commission
Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant
Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church



January 18, 1994

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

RECEIVED

JAN 25 1994

NATIONAL
REGISTER

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church and Rectory, 64-66 Forrester Street, Salem (Essex County), Massachusetts, 01970.

This nomination was originally submitted to the National Park Service in March 1993, but due to a technical error in the notification process, the MHC requested the nomination be returned. The notification error has since been corrected.

Because the city of Salem is a participant in the Certified Local Government program, the owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60-120 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

RECEIVED 413

JAN 25 1994

enclosure

cc: Saint Nicholas Orthodox Church
Mayor Neil J. Harrington, City of Salem
Jane Guy, Salem Historical Commission
Patrick Cloherty, Salem Public Library
Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116 (617) 727-8470
Office of the Secretary of State, Michael J. Connolly, *Secretary*