

FORM E - BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

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

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

SEE ATTACHED MAP

UTM REFERENCE 19/334,780/4,678,610 N
USGS QUADRANGLE Blue Hills, MA
SCALE 1: 25,000

1372

AREA	FORM NO.
	803

Town Quincy, MA / MRA
Address 54-60 School Street
Name Christ Church Burial Ground
Ownership: Public
X Private

DESCRIPTION

Approximate number of stones 75
Earliest death date 1737
Latest death date Post Civil War
Landscape Architect (if known)

N/A
Condition Good

less than one acre:
Acreage 10, 469 sq. ft.
Setting The burial ground is adjacent to St. John's Catholic Church on a busy commercial and residential street.

Recorded by Fannin and Lehner / J. Johnson
Organization Quincy Historical Commission
Date July 1, 1986 / May 1987

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The site of the original building and cemetery of the Protestant Episcopal Society of Christ's Church, Quincy's oldest Episcopal church, Christ Church Burial Ground possesses integrity of design, location, materials, setting, workmanship, feeling and association. The site fulfills Criteria A and exception C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF ART WORK Describe materials used, designs, motifs, symbols that are either common or unusual, known carvers.

SEE ATTACHED INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain religious affiliations, major period of use and evaluate historical importance of burial ground within the community.

SEE ATTACHED INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Assessors Records.

H. Hobart Holly, Quincy Historical Society.

Draft National Register nomination prepared by H. Hobart Holly and Massachusetts Historical Commission staff, 1978.

William S. Pattee. History of Old Braintree and Quincy, 1878.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Quincy, Mass.

Form No:

803

Property Name: Christ Church Burial ground

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

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE -- 54-60 SCHOOL STREET
CHRIST CHURCH BURIAL GROUND

Christ Church Burial Ground is historically significant as the site of the original building and cemetery of the First Church of England in Braintree, the oldest Episcopal parish in Quincy, and the second formed in Massachusetts (the first was King's Chapel in Boston). In 1727, a church building was erected on the property deeded for that purpose in 1725 by William and Benjamin Veazie. Anglican worshippers had first gathered in Quincy (then Braintree) in 1689. Recognized by the Anglican Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, the group in Braintree was sent its first visiting minister, William Barclay, in 1702. From 1702 until the church was completed in 1727, communicants worshipped in private homes and were forced to pay taxes in support of the Braintree North Precinct Congregational Parish.

Upon completion of their church, members adopted the usual practice of setting aside a portion of the site as a burial ground. Here, parishoners were buried from 1727 through the post-Civil War era. Persons of historical interest in the burial ground include the Reverend Ebenezer Miller (1703-1754), the first rector of Christ Church; Reverend William Clark (1712-1815), and Joseph Cleverly (1712-1802), a longtime active churchman and teacher. Cleverly was a schoolmaster of John Adams and a friend of later years with whom he enjoyed an exchange of ideas on philosophical matters.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

QUINCY

Form No:

803

Property Name: Christ Church Burial Ground

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

ASSESSMENT OF ART WORK -- 54-60 SCHOOL STREET
CHRIST CHURCH BURIAL GROUND

The Christ Church Burial Ground consists of a square, relatively flat lot surrounded by a wrought iron fence. Entrance to the site is made through a gate framed by two granite posts on the School Street side of the property. Along School and Phipps Streets a granite base, which had initially served as foundation stone for the 1727 church, sits beneath the fencing. The building site is still distinguishable as a plot of low land about twenty-five feet square surrounded by an edge of mounded earth. Within this perimeter are two family vaults which had stood under the church. (The church building was a simple, two-story, wooden frame structure enlarged in the 18th century and dismantled in 1832).

Virtually the entire plot, except the church site and path, was used for burial purposes. There are approximately seventy-five marked graves, at least this number in family tombs, plus an unknown number of early unmarked graves or graves from which stones have been removed. The gravestones, which date from 1737 through the post-Civil War era, are slate and marble and represent a range of mortuary art styles. Fairly standard design motifs such as death's-heads and cherubs are present as are portrait effigies and later urn and willow forms.

The cemetery includes a particularly handsome slate stone which marks the grave of Ralph Shirley (1734-1737), son of Royal Governor William Shirley (1694-1771). Finished on both sides, the stone contains an inscription in Latin and on the front surrounded by a flowering garland and topped with a death's head. A shorter English inscription appears on the back of the marker. As the stone was commissioned by a prominent Massachusetts family, it may have been the work of the one of the more important stone-carvers working in the Boston area during the early 18th century although an attribution is not possible at this time.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 7 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Building at 1--7 Moscow Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____12. Building at 51 Hunt Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____13. Burgess, Charles H., House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____14. Burgess, Frank, House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____15. Burgin, Clarence, House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____16. Central Fire Station
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____17. Christ Church
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____18. Christ Church Burial Ground
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____19. Coddington School
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____20. Crane, Frank W., House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 9/20/89
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Christ Church Burial Ground
NAME:

MULTIPLE Quincy MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

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

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001372

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

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

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

 count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

 historic current

DESCRIPTION

 architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

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

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

 acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

 sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



54-60 School St.
Christ Church Burial Ground
at: Planning Dept. - Quincy
by: Julie Johnson
view: East
date: July 1987
PKT# 803

Quincy, ^{MRT} Mass.



54 - 60 School St. ^{next}

Christ Church Burial Ground

at: Planning Dept. - Quincy

by: Julie Johnson

date: July 1987

view: East

Pict # 803

Quincy, ^{MA} Mass.



54-60 School St. Street

Christ Church Burial Ground

at: Planning Dept. - Quincy

by: Julie Johnson

date: July 1987

view: East

Pict # 803

803 Quincy, Mass.



54-60 School St

Christ Church Burial Ground

at: Planning Dept. - Quincy 87

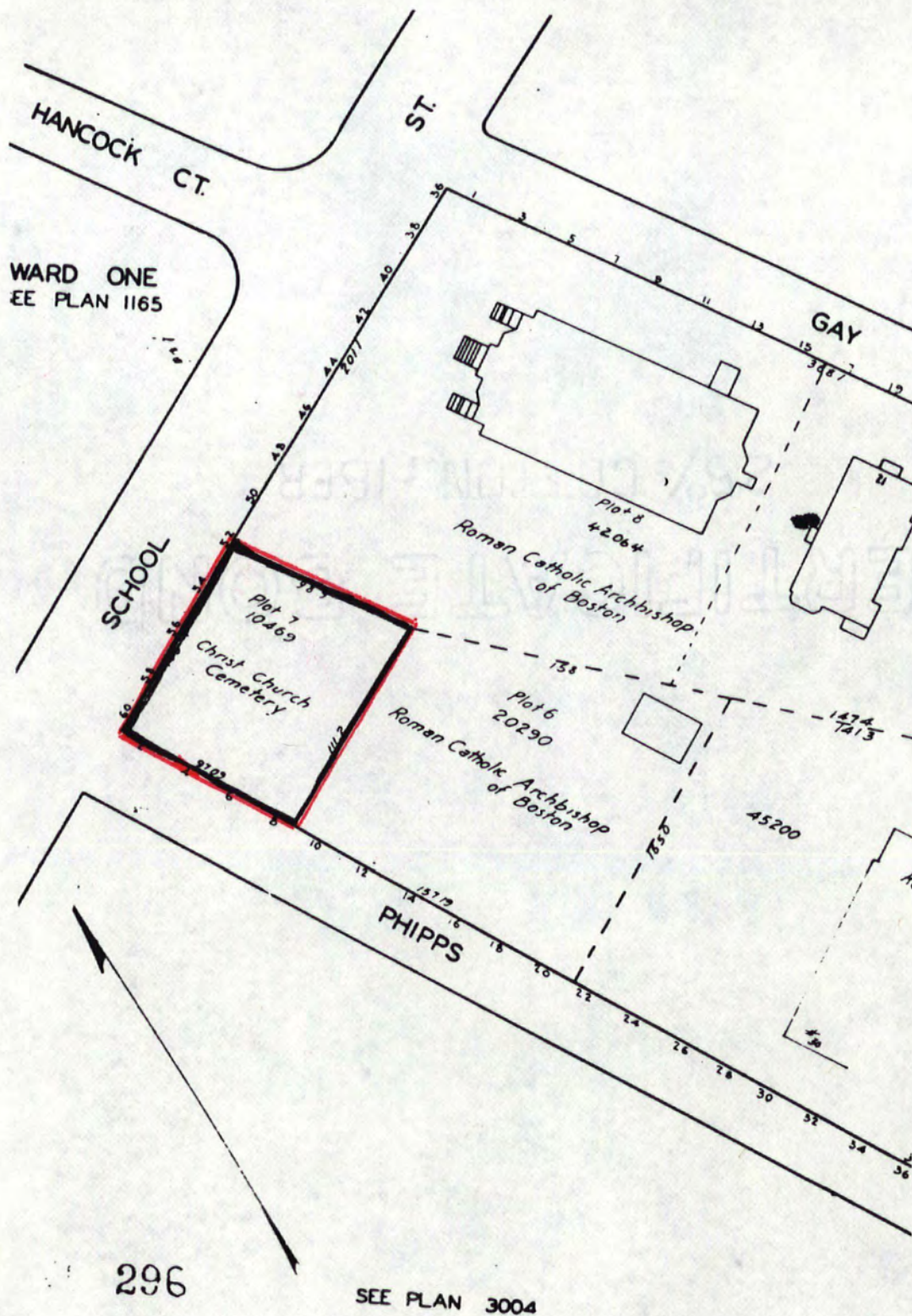
by: Julie Johnson

date: July 1987

view: East

pict # 803

Quincy, ^{MA} Mass.



Address 54-60 School Street
Christ Church Burial Ground

QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS / MRA

Assessors Map # 3003

1979

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000289