

- BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	51

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

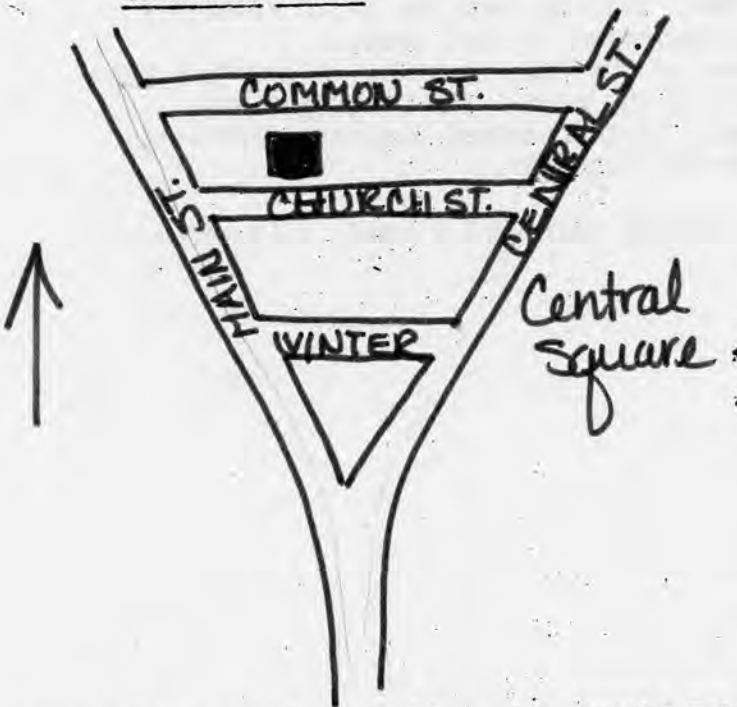
Roll 19:12A, 19

Town Stoneham
 Address Main and Church Streets,
 Historic Name First Congregational Church ✓
 (~~United Church of Christ~~)
 Use: Original church
 Present church
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
First Congregational Church
 Public _____
 Original owner First Congregational Church

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
 Staple to left side of form
 Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1840
 Source documents
 Style Greek Revival
 Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric clapboard
 Outbuildings none
 Major alterations (with dates) _____
interior only
 Moved no Date _____
 Approx. acreage 33,132 sq. ft.
 Setting mix of commercial, residential, and institutional

Recorded by Candace Jenkins with Carole Zellie

Organization Landscape Research

Date May, 1979

Assessor's Map #12-409

UTM: Boston North Quad
19/327500/4705120

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

The First Congregational Church is the earliest of three well preserved religious structures in Stoneham. It is also the town's most stylish example of the Greek Revival style. Constructed in 1840, it is a rectangular plan structure resting on a brick foundation and enclosed by a pitched roof. It is covered with clapboards on all elevations except its gable end facade, which is flushboarded. Ornament is concentrated on the facade, which faces west onto Main Street over a planted open space. The facade is divided into three parts by unfluted Doric pilasters, carrying a full entablature. Each part contains an entry with transom at the first floor and a 6/6 light window at the second floor. The gable is treated as a pediment and contains a triangular louvered opening. Above the pediment *

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

The First Congregational Church possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. It is significant as Stoneham's most fully developed example of the Greek Revival style, and for its central role in the town's establishment and growth. The Church thus meets criteria A, B, and C of the National Register of Historic Places

The history of the First Congregational Church in Stoneham is woven into the early incorporation of the town. The first church was erected in 1726, near the intersection of Summer and Pleasant Streets. A new meeting house was erected on Spring Street in 1803, and burned in 1840. This is thus the third structure, occupying the present site since 1840, and dedicated in that year.

The parish was organized as independent of the Town in 1826. A church school was instituted in 1816, one of the earliest in the area. The Congregational Church is one of the most important landmarks of the central business district, occupying a block known as Church Square or the "Common".

* is a three part steeple which consists of a short rectangular base, a louvered rectangular belfry and an octagonal spire.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Community of Faith in Stoneham 1725-1975
Stevens, History of Stoneham, p.147

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only
received 2/25/84
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 3 of 7

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Stoneham Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Farrier, Amasa, Boardinghouse

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

22. Farrier, Amasa, House

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

23. First Baptist Church

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

24. First Congregational Church

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

25. First Unitarian Church

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

26. Foley, Michael, Cottage

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

27. Foster, Walter K.,
House

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

28. Fuller, Enoch, House

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

29. Fuller, William Griffin,
House

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

30. Gill, Charles, House

**Entered in the
National Register**

for Keeper Delores Byers 4/13/84

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

First Congregational Church (Stoneham MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. FEB 28 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85
Date Due: 3-29-84 - 4-13-84
Action: ACCEPT 4-13-84
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection



First Congregational Church
Sturham MA, Ma

8130



17

L.C. #2144
67.5 ACRES



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000295