

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received SEP 23 1985

date entered

OCT 24 1985

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic First Congregational Church of Blandford

and or common Old White Church

2. Location

street & number North Street

NA not for publication

city, town Blandford

NA vicinity of

state Massachusetts

code 005

county Hampden

code 013

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NA being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name First Congregational Church of Blandford

street & number Chester Road

city, town Blandford

NA vicinity of

state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Hampden County Registry of Deeds

street & number State Street

city, town Springfield

state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Cultural Resources of the
title Commonwealth of Massachusetts has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 Inventory #1 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission, 80 Boylston Street

city, town Boston,

state Massachusetts

7. Description

First Congregational Church of Blandford, Massachusetts

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The First Congregational Church of Blandford is located on North Street, at the top of a hill which overlooks the center of Blandford, Massachusetts, a rural, upland community on the western side of the Connecticut River Valley. The First Congregational Church is a two-story, rectangular structure, five bays wide by five bays long. A three-bay pedimented porch is centered on the main facade. The front-gabled roof is surmounted by a three-stage steeple located close to the front of the building. The church was built in 1822, and renovated in 1866, although it was not substantially altered at that time.

The Blandford Congregational Church sits on a 1.2-acre polygonally-shaped site. The church is located in the northwestern corner of the lot, close to North Street, with its primary facade facing south toward the town center. There are no outbuildings associated with the church, and the remainder of the lot is either blacktopped (close to the church on the east and west sides) or open field.

To the north of the site is a residence with a square plan and a hip roof, probably built or remodelled during the early 1900s. To the east is Watson Park, a town-owned park that is predominantly open fields. A stone wall divides the church parcel from Watson Park. To the south of the parcel is also town-owned land, which was once the site of a late nineteenth-century brick school that was demolished in 1981. The site is now an open field. Across the street from the Blandford Congregational Church is the town common, a grassy, open area where the first meetinghouse (begun ca. 1740, completed ca. 1805, probably demolished ca. 1822) was located. Just to the north of the common is the old burial ground.

From grade to the tip of the steeple, the First Congregational Church is approximately ninety feet in height. There is no cellar under the building. The foundation is probably of fieldstone below grade, and is of granite blocks above grade. The low, rectangular deck at the front of the church has a rough fieldstone foundation.

The original clapboard siding is retained on both the east and west side facades. The front facade is sheathed in flush boards. With the exception of some replacement in the pedimented gable, all the flush boarding is original. The north facade of the church is clapboard, with some replacement due to the 1866 renovation and other alterations. Windows throughout the church have multi-pane double-hung wood sash, most of which presumably dates from the 1866 renovation. The roof is sheathed in tin, painted red.

Continued

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National Park Service**

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date entered

Continuation sheet First Congregational
Church of Blandford,
Massachusetts Item number 7 Page 1

The front (south) facade is five bays wide, with a central three-bay pedimented projecting porch. The corners of the church are graced with Doric pilasters. Four more pilasters are arranged symmetrically across the porch. All six pilasters support a wide frieze and double-outlined pedimented gable. The three bays of the porch consist of three entrances at the first level, and three windows with 16/12 wood sash and blind, semi-circular heads above at the second level. The central entrance has double paneled doors, while the side entrances have single doors. All three entrances are surmounted by round-arched fanlights consisting of fourteen lights arranged in two concentric rows. Reeded soffits surround the fanlights. The outermost bays have a 12/12 window on the first level, and a 16/12 window with a blind semi-circular head above it on the second level.

The most striking feature of the main facade is the steeple. The base or plynth of the steeple rests on the porch pediment's roof. The base has a square plan, and is sheathed in flush boarding that is interrupted on each side with a blind, round arch filled with fixed, louvered shutters. At its top, the base is surrounded by a low, flush-board balustrade with corner posts adorned with wooden urns. The middle stage of the steeple has an octagonal plan outlined at the corners with engaged Ionic columns supporting a frieze. Between the columns, this section is sheathed with flush boards. The top section of the steeple consists of a smaller stage with an octagonal plan, with a recessed panel on each side, and a crowning convex and domed roof. An arrow-shaped weathervane tops the church.

The east and west facades are identical, each five bays wide with symmetrically placed windows on both first and second levels. The corners of these facades are marked by narrow cornerboards. The windows hold 8/8 sash on the first level, and 16/8 sash on the second level. (The upper sash on this level is arranged in two rows of four panes topped by two rows of four very small panes.) The second-floor windows were originally two feet taller, but were reduced in size during the 1866 renovation. Clapboard was applied over the top of the original window openings, and a semi-circular molding applied over the clapboard.

The north facade is sheathed in clapboard. It is currently almost a blank wall, although there is an off-center entrance to the north on the first level, and a shuttered window in the gable. This facade seems to have originally had four windows on each level. Either during the 1866 renovation or within the next few decades, a shingled Queen Anne chapel was added to the north side of the building; this was removed in 1937, and clapboards now cover the opening. Two small chimneys sit close to the rear facade on either side of the roof ridge.

Continued

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received
date entered

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Church of Blandford,
Massachusetts

Item number

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On the interior, there is a vestibule at the south end of the church, running nearly the entire width of the building. The sanctuary beyond takes up most of the interior, and is arranged with a platform and pulpit on the north end, galleries lining the east and west sides at second-floor level, and slip pews arranged in two double tiers in the middle with slip pews placed on an angle under the galleries. Access to the galleries is by two corner staircases in the vestibule. A wide hall above the vestibule allows access to the two staircases from the galleries. Within the sanctuary is a recessed "Orchestra" area between the vestibule and pews, while at the front of the sanctuary is an alcove (two feet deep and thirteen feet wide) behind the pulpit. The pressed tin ceiling was installed at some time during the late nineteenth century and incorporates floral and geometric designs. The tin ceiling conforms in shape with the coving of the original ceiling, as indicated by the lath and joists exposed in the attic.

The interior changes of the \$4,000, 1866 renovation were more far-reaching than those on the exterior. The original location of the pulpit had been at the south end of the church. In 1866, the pulpit was relocated to the north end. The middle slip pews were re-oriented, and the original box pews on the sides were replaced with slip pews. The north wall was furred out several feet so as to hide the chimneys, and the gallery on the north wall was removed. The columns supporting the gallery were replaced with the present Doric columns, and an "Orchestra" alcove was created on the south end of the sanctuary. Most of the original slip pews were reused, and additional pews were made in the same style as the originals. The reuse of the pews explains why this interior, although somewhat Victorianized, still retains a late Federal feeling. With the exception of the addition of some railing for safety reasons, and the addition and later removal of the Queen Anne chapel, (of which little is known), no changes have been made to the church since 1866. Some of the walls have received only one coat of paint since that time, while the grained pews in the gallery have not been painted in the past 118 years.

There is limited potential for historic archaeological resources associated with the First Congregational Church site. The west foundation was rebuilt in 1866 and an addition was built and removed from the north side, both of which would have disturbed any backfill. The porch on the south side was also rebuilt (1866). The erosion/drainage problem on both the west and east sides was such that in recent years the two areas were blacktopped. There is no indication of wells or trash pits, but there must have been a privy somewhere on the site.

8. Significance First Congregational Church of Blandford, Massachusetts

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) community development
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates 1822 **Builder/Architect** Isaac Damon

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The First Congregational Church in Blandford possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. The First Congregational Church is a well-preserved Federal-style New England meeting-house. Constructed ca. 1822, it is a distinctive example of the work of Isaac Damon, a prominent Federal-period architect/builder who worked primarily in the Connecticut River Valley. Damon is one of the very few early Massachusetts builder/architects of whom much is known, and his influence on the field of architecture as a profession was major. The church is also significant as a focal point for the development of Blandford Center. The First Congregational Church of Blandford thus meets criteria A, B and C for listing to the National Register of Historic Places, with significance at the state and local level.

Upland settlement in the Connecticut River Valley was spurred by numerous land grants made in the 1730s. The Town of Blandford was originally granted in 1735 to individuals who had formerly held common and undivided house lots in Sheffield, Massachusetts. The six-mile-square private grant was surveyed and divided into lots the next year. Early settlement was primarily by Scots-Irish Presbyterians immigrating from Hopkinton, Massachusetts, who provided the inspiration for the plantation's name of New Glasgow. New Glasgow was incorporated as a town in 1741, and renamed Blandford after the ship that had carried newly-appointed Governor Shirley to Massachusetts.

Running through Blandford was the primary native American trail across the Berkshire highlands to the Housatonic Valley. Use of this trail continued by Plantation and Colonial Period settlers. With the establishment of the town of Blandford, this route, known as the Great Road to Housatonic, was upgraded and called the Old Post Road. (The route still remains as Massachusetts Route 23, also called the Otis Stage Road and the Blandford Turnpike).

Blandford Center was established on the Great Road in the eastern half of the town. The local transportation routes developed as radial highways from the center along town division lines. Most of these roads still exist, including North Street, Russell Road, Second Division Road, Sperry Road, Herrick Road and Blandford Road. Blandford Center developed in a nucleated pattern, focused around a town common. A series of uniform, rectangular house lots were established on both sides of North Street. Early commercial and institutional construction in Blandford Center included "the village tavern" (ca. 1735) and the first meeting house (ca. 1740), located on the west side of North Street.

Continued

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Continuation Sheet

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.2 acres

Quadrangle name Blandford

Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UTM References

A

1	8	6	7	1	0	3	0	4	6	7	1	8	1	4	0
Zone				Easting				Northing							

B

Zone				Easting				Northing							

C

Zone				Easting				Northing							

D

Zone				Easting				Northing							

E

Zone				Easting				Northing							

F

Zone				Easting				Northing							

G

Zone				Easting				Northing							

H

Zone				Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification The property nominated comprises the entire lot historically associated with the First Congregational Church of Blandford. See attached map.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state NA code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Kate Sampson with Lee Hamburg, Preservationist Consultant

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July, 1985

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

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie A. Talmage
State Historic Preservation Officer
title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date Sept. 12, 1985

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date 10-24-85

Shelores Byer
Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
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date entered

Continuation sheet First Congregational Church of Blandford
Blandford, Mass. Item number 8

Page 1

Although the first meeting house was begun in 1740, it was not completed until 1805. Because the earliest settlers were Scots-Irish, the church in Blandford was Presbyterian, not the orthodox Congregational Church. There is some suggestion that a religious controversy between the Presbyterians and later-arriving Congregationalists arose, and this may, in fact, have delayed the completion of the first meetinghouse. An account of the sixty-five year construction of the meetinghouse was given by Rev. John Keep, pastor of the church, in 1821. Although Keep explicates the stages of interior finishing work on the meetinghouse, he does not describe the building's exterior form in any detail beyond noting that a steeple was constructed in 1789.

A presbyterian form of organization was used in the church until 1801. In that year, the church adopted a congregational form of government. It is not clear whether a Presbyterian faction moved to another location, but the new Congregational Church continued to use the first meetinghouse until 1822 or 1823, when the present First Congregational Church at Blandford was constructed. The new church was built on Town Street (now North Street) across the road from the site of the first meetinghouse. There is no record of whether the first meetinghouse was demolished or simply abandoned, but it no longer stands. The original burying ground that was located just to the north of the meetinghouse survives.

The Blandford Congregational Church was designed by the prominent Connecticut River Valley builder/architect, Captain Isaac Damon (1791-1862). Isaac Damon is an important figure in the architectural history of Massachusetts, for he is one of the few pre-1850 builder/architects whose work is well-documented. He was important in the establishment of the field of architecture as a profession, particularly in western Massachusetts, and in the transition from the construction of vernacular buildings to designed buildings. While Damon is best known for his meetinghouse designs, he also built civic buildings and residences throughout the Connecticut River Valley.

Damon was born in Weymouth ca. 1781. It is believed that he was a junior draftsman in the office of Town and Davis in New York in the early 1800s, but he moved to Northampton, Massachusetts in 1811. In that year, he fulfilled his first commission as a builder for the First Congregational Church in Northampton (1810-1812, burned 1878), which was designed by Asher Benjamin. Damon went on to build at least thirteen meetinghouses in the Connecticut River Valley. Five of Isaac Damon's churches are still extant, including the First Church, Springfield (1819); First Church, Blandford (1823); First Church Southwick (1824); Johnson Chapel at Amherst College (1826-1827); and Second Church, North Hadley (1834). Of these remaining meetinghouses, the First

Continued

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Continuation sheet First Congregational Church of Blandford
Blandford, Mass. Item number 8

Page 2

Congregational Church of Blandford is one of the least-altered, and offers a good opportunity for the study of Damon's work.

Damon's influence on church architecture in the southern and central sections of the Connecticut River Valley continued through a number of his apprentices, who built the Unitarian Church, Deerfield (1824) and the First Church, Chicopee (1825). Damon himself also worked in Connecticut, designing the First Church, Simsbury (1830) and the stone church in East Granby. Besides ecclesiastical designs, Damon worked on a number of other public buildings in the Connecticut Valley, including the Northampton Town Hall (1823), the County Court House at Lenox (1824) and several other buildings at Amherst College (North and South Halls; 1821-1827). Damon was also active in the construction of bridges in the Connecticut River Valley, and is said to have focused on bridge construction in the 1830s and 1840s.

The tripartite steeple tower found on the Blandford Congregational Church is characteristic of Damon's work. The square base with recessed blind arches topped by two windowless octagonal stages, a small domed cap and a weathervane is duplicated exactly at the First Church, Southwick. Damon's churches also frequently show a two-story projecting front porch with a pediment, four pilasters or columns and round-arched entrances. The Blandford Church provides a fine example of these elements characteristic of Damon's work. Damon was undoubtedly influenced by Asher Benjamin. He had direct exposure to Benjamin's work in Northampton in the 1810s. Damon was also familiar with Benjamin's published works: the use of fanlights over the three entrances on the projecting porch of the First Church, Blandford is a virtual reproduction of a design in Benjamin's American Builder's Companion.

The Blandford Congregational Church was, of course, primarily used for church services. The church also served as the location for civil meetings such as town meetings. Although a town house was constructing in Blandford in the Federal period, no particulars about it are known, and it is no longer extant.

The First Congregational Church also has important symbolic significance to the town of Blandford. With its location on the brow of a hill overlooking Blandford Center, the church provided an important visual symbol for the community, marking the institutional focus of Blandford. Although a small mill village at North Blandford developed during the mid-nineteenth century, the civic activities of the town remained and still remain, at Blandford Center. By the early twentieth century, the First Congregational Church had acquired the nickname "The Old White Church," and was seen by Blandford residents as one of the most important images of the town.

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date entered

Continuation sheet First Congregational Church of Blandford
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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Hart, Tom, "Architect Damon Giant of a Man, Giant of a Builder," Springfield Daily News, June 20, 1975.

Hart, Tom, "Damon Conservative Designer With Grand Ambitions," Springfield Daily News, June 21, 1975.

Hayden, Doris W., compiler, "Historical Notes on the First Congregational Church," typed ms., August 20, 1984.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Reconnaissance Survey Report: Blandford, 1982.

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Historical and Archeological Resources of the Connecticut Valley, 1984.

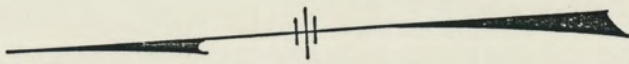
Withey, Henry F. and Elsie Rathburn Withey, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects, Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, 1970.

WATSON PARK

S 5°-28'-43" E 216.00'

TOWN OF BLANDFORD

N 88°-00'-50" W 207.77'



S 88°-00'-50" E 265.47'

RIPLEY



STREET

S 22°-50'-00" E

STATE HIGHWAY

NORTH

S 18°-47'-00" E

31.88

27.54

80 + 42.70

Plot of Town Common Land given by deed to the First Congregational Church of Blandford by the Town of Blandford 1961

Scale: 1" = 38'

25003371

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

First Congregational Church of Blandford
Hampden County
MASSACHUSETTS

SEP 23 1985

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 10/24/85 - 11/7/85
Action: ACCEPT 10-24-85
____ 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

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"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



First Congregational Church
North Street
Blandford, MA
Photographer:
November, 1984

Neg. file w/ Blandford His-
torical Society
Photo #1 of 4
View of front fascade from
the southwest



First Congregational Church
North Street
Blandford, MA
Photographer:
November, 1984

Neg. filed w/ Blandford Hist-
orical Society
Photo # 2 of 4
View of front fascade from
southeast



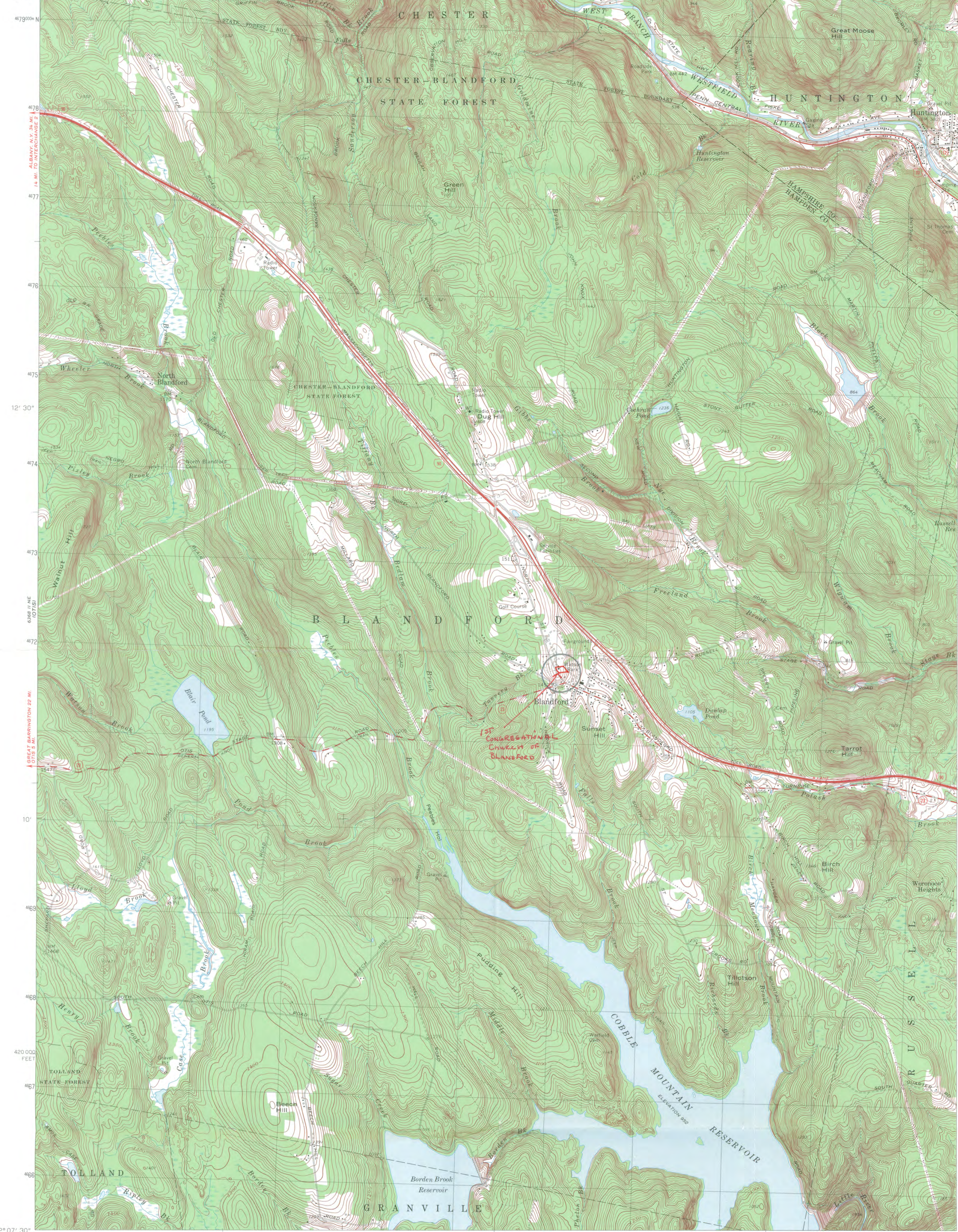
First Congregational Church
North Street
Blandford, MA
Photographer:
November, 1984

Neg. filed w/ Blandford His-
torical Society
Photo # 3 of 4
Front elevation



First Congregational Church
North Street
Blandford, MA
Photographer:
November, 1984

Neg. filed w/ Blandford His-
torical Society
Photo \$4 of 4
View of rear (north) fascade



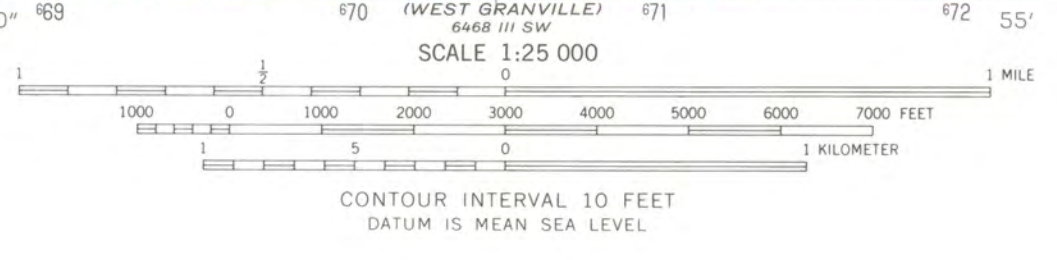
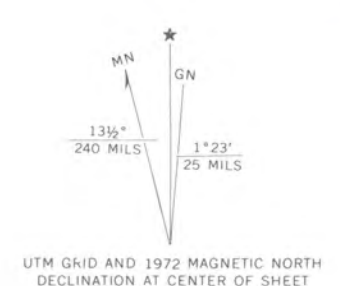
First Congregational Church
 of Blandford
 North Street, Blandford, Mass.
 Blandford Quadrangle
 UTM Reference: 18/671030/4671840

Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21286
8	24284
9	27282
10	30280

To convert feet to meters multiply by 3048
 To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

APPROX. Church Boundaries ARE IN RED

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
 Control by USGS and USC&GS
 Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1941. Topography by planetable surveys 1944
 Revised from photographs taken 1970. Field checked 1972
 Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
 10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
 1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 18



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
 DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
 Primary highway, hard surface
 Secondary highway, hard surface
 Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
 Unimproved road
 Interstate Route
 U.S. Route
 State Route

BLANDFORD, MASS.
 N4207.5-W7252.5/7.5
 1972
 AMS 6468 III NW-SERIES V814

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
 FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
 A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

file w/NR ✓ 52



Town of Blandford

Massachusetts

OFFICE OF
BOARD OF
SELECTMEN

RECEIVED

JUL 17 1985

MASS. HIST. COMM.

July 15, 1985

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Dear Ms. Talmage,

In response to your letter regarding the consideration by the State Review Board of nomination of the First Congregational Church, North Street, Blandford, Massachusetts to the National Register of Historic Places, we approve and support such a nomination. We certainly believe that the First Congregational Church of Blandford is worthy of preservation.

If we can be of any assistance in this process, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Taylor
James M. Kenna
Paul P. Flasser

Board of Selectmen

khn

CC: Brian Care
Pastor, First Congregational Church, Blandford

Cert. mail
P157 781 124



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Valerie A. Talmage
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

September 12, 1985

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms: Blandford,
First Congregational Church of Blandford, North Street.

Boston (Brighton), Engine House #34, 444 Western Avenue.

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have 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. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

Sarah Zimmerman
Director, Preservation Planning
Massachusetts Historical Commission

SZ/dr

Rec'd 9/23/85

**MEMORANDUM
OF CALL**

Previous editions usable

TO: Carol

YOU WERE CALLED BY- YOU WERE VISITED BY-

Jim Shea

OF (Organization)

House Appropriations

PLEASE PHONE ► FTS AUTOVON

225-3481

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Status
Congressman
Silvio Conti's
district

RECEIVED BY	DATE	TIME
	<u>10/1</u>	<u>1:01</u>

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

TO:

First
Congo Church

Blanford
man.

YOU WERE CALLED BY
 YOU WERE VISITED BY

PLEASE PHONE #
 ADVISE

WILL CALL AGAIN
 WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL
 WISHED AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

RECEIVED BY: _____
DATE: _____
TIME: _____

STANDARD FORM NO. 64 (REV. 5-21)
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27
5010-108-01-0001

DATE

10/2/85

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

AM
PM

1. CALL TO; FROM (Name)

Timi Shea

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Re. First Congregational
Church, Hampton Co
MA

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

225-3481 Cong. Court's office

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Received 9/23/85 - meeting date 10/24-11/7/85
Would like to be pulled when
listed.

10/24/85

Called Con Court's office
regarding meeting
10/24/85

also Betsy Friedberg
MA SHPO office

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

M Byers