

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 80 BOYLSTON STREET  
 BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
	4

Town Washington, Mass.  
Washington MRA

Address Washington Mountain Road

Historic Name St. Andrew's Chapel

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

Use: Present Chapel

Original Chapel

DESCRIPTION

Date 1899

Source History of Washington, p. 39

Style Gothic Revival

Architect George C. Harding

Exterior Wall Fabric stone rubble

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition excellent

Moved no Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting East side of Washington

Mountain Road, 1500 ft. southeast  
of the intersection of Frost Road.

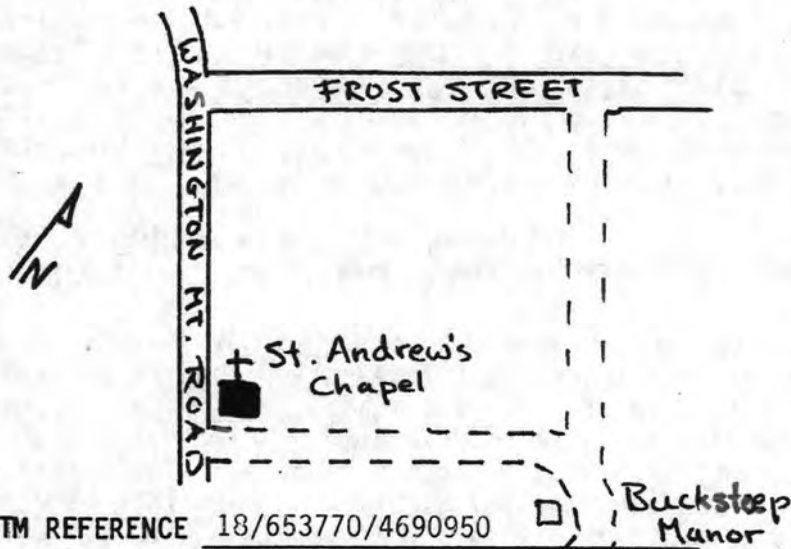
Recorded by Betsy Friedberg  
Preservation Planner

Organization Massachusetts Historical  
Commission

Date June 1986

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

See Assessor's Map.



UTM REFERENCE 18/653770/4690950

USGS QUADRANGLE East Lee Quadrangle

SCALE 1:25,000

### **NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

St. Andrew's Chapel, a well-preserved structure erected in 1899, retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Designed by Pittsfield architect George C. Harding, the chapel is a sophisticated and finely proportional example of the Gothic Revival style. The building is historically significant as a reflection of Washington's brief period of popularity as a summer resort for the very wealthy at the turn of the century. It was built as a gift of New York businessman George F. Crane. The chapel thus fulfill Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

### **ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.**

St. Andrew's Chapel, Washington's most impressive late 19th century public building, was erected in 1899. It was designed by prominent Pittsfield architect George C. Harding, senior partner in the firm of Harding & Seaver and architect of a number of noted public buildings in New England. It is a small, well-proportioned Gothic Revival-style building constructed of coursed fieldstone. Its plan is a simple: a rectangular nave with a corner tower extending to the southeast. The nave is supported by buttresses and capped by a steep gable roof. A fine tripartite stained-glass window, depicting St. Andrew between panels of stylized flowers, is located in the gable end. The tower is square and flat-roofed, with lancet-arched vents. The chapel stands on the site of the home of Washington's first minister, Rev. William Gay Ballantine.

### **HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.**

St. Andrew's Chapel was built as the gift of wealthy New Yorker George F. Crane, who spent summers in Washington with his family. (His nearby estate, Bucksteep Manor, also survives although it has undergone alterations.) Crane was one of a number of prosperous and prominent city dwellers who in the late 19th century came to the Berkshires to participate in Lenox's summer society and discovered the bucolic virtues of nearby Washington.

Services were held at St. Andrew's only when the Crane family was in residence at the nearby manor. The family also hosted Christmas parties for neighborhood children in the church. By 1937, with the children grown, the Cranes visited the area less frequently. Both the chapel and house were donated to the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts. The house served as a conference center and summer camp from 1937 to 1969, while the chapel was the site of worship services through the summer months.

In 1977, the chapel was donated to the town. It is now run by a town committee and is used frequently for ecumenical services.

(continued)

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Elliot, History of Washington (1977)  
Files of Bradley Architects, Pittsfield

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Washington, Mass. Washington MRA	Form No:  4
Property Name: St. Andrew's Chapel	

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

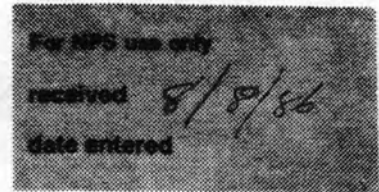
Historical Significance (continued)

The Gothic Revival chapel was an early design of Pittsfield architect George C. Harding (1867-1921). On an early drawing for the building, Harding noted that it was "the first job I worked on as a draftsman in Pittsfield." Harding was later well known for public buildings throughout New England, designed with the help of his partner Henry M. Seaver (who joined him in 1902).

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 1

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Washington Multiple Resource Area  
State Berkshire County, MASSACHUSETTS

*Courtesy Byers* 9/12/86

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Clark--Eames House

Entered in the *for*  
National Register Keeper

*Melvin Byers* 9/12/86

Attest

2. Eames, Philip, House

Entered in the *for*  
National Register Keeper

*Melvin Byers* 9/12/86

Attest

3. Lower Historic District

Entered in the *for*  
National Register Keeper

*Melvin Byers* 9/12/86

Attest

4. ~~Saint Andrew's Chapel~~

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

*accept Patrick Andrus* 9/12/86

Attest

*Beth L. Swager* 9/12/86

5. Sibley--Cocoran House

Entered in the *for*  
National Register Keeper

*Melvin Byers* 9/12/86

Attest

6. South Center School House

Entered in the *for*  
National Register Keeper

*Melvin Byers* 9/12/86

Attest

7. Upper Historic District

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

*Patrick Andrus* 9/2/87 R S

Attest

*Beth L. Swager* 9/2/87

8. Deming-Root-Messenger-  
Schultz House

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

*Eligible Patrick Andrus* 9/12/86

Attest

*Beth L. Swager* 9/12/86

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

9.

Keeper

Attest

10.

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Substantive Review

Saint Andrew's Chapel (Washington MRA)  
Berkshire County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. AUG 8 1986  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/2/88  
Date Due: 9/14/86 - 9/22/86  
Action:  ACCEPT 9-2-86  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*nine, locally significant representative of  
Victorian Gothic Revival style designed  
by Pittsfield architect George C. Harding.*

Recom./Criteria Accept C  
Reviewer Source  
Discipline Architectural History  
Date 9/8/86  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

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





St. Andrews Chapel 1899 #4  
Washington Mass Multi Resource Nomination  
Washington Mountain Road  
Washington, MA 01223  
James N. Parrish 11/9/81 BCRPC  
Photo 10 of 25 Roll 16 Frame 9A  
View of St. Andrews Chapel from road.

*Washington MPA, MA*



16-9

St. Andrew's Chapel  
Washington Mt. Road  
Washington, Mass. M.R.A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000302