

MAY 23 1989

697

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
B	139

Town Wakefield

Address Main & Oak

Historic Name Greenwood Union Church

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 Church

Original Church

DESCRIPTION

Date 1884, remodeled 1921,

Addition 1956

Source Proceedings of the 250th

Anniversary of ancient town of Reading

Style Queen Anne

Architect NA

Exterior Wall Fabric Shingle/clapboard

Outbuildings None

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

Major Alterations (with dates) altered

1921, had clock, entry porch;

addition c. 1950 to street

Condition Fair

Moved NO Date N/A

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting At corner faces south on hill, granite & fieldstone retainer wall east, iron lamp post to light stairs.

UTM REFERENCE 19/330130/4705220

USGS QUADRANGLE Boston North, MA

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Architectural Preservation

Associates

Organization Wakefield Historical

Commission

Date March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Greenwood Union church, though altered, remains a well preserved example of popular 1880s stylistic elements. It retains integrity of location, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets Criterion C of the NRHP on the local level.

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

Though this high gable roofed church has been remodeled twice, it retains the charming, warm character of a community chapel. An eclectic combination of Stick, Shingle and Queen Anne styles, the 1 ½ story structure, built into the hill, was designed with a community hall as an integral part of the plan. The building, according to a sketch which appears in the 250th Anniversary volume, was apparently entered between the tower and gabled element. If this is accurate, the present entry porch is an addition. The banded windows, turreted tower, fancy shingling and decorated bargeboards are a typical and well planned mix of the popular stylistic elements of the 1880s. Fine detailing, like the heavy doors with forged hinges, and the high fieldstone foundations add much to the composition.

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

Like the similarly outlying hamlet of Montrose, Greenwood, a rather remote community, experienced with increasing population a need in the 1870s for its own church. It was to be Christian but non-denominational. The Greenwood Congregational Society was founded in 1873, using an unfinished hall in the local public school, and attended first by a Congregational, and then by a Unitarian minister. In 1883 a parcel of the Joseph Eaton estate was purchased, and this building was started. Its upper portions remained incomplete until 1894-95, when it was dedicated "for the purposes of a Christian church, without respect of persons". 1. In 1903 it became the Greenwood Union Church in response to a survey of the denominations preferred by all residents of the community. It was remodeled in 1922 and 1937, and more recently added to.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Eaton, Chester, and Eaton, Warren. Proceedings of the 250th Anniversary of the Ancient Town of Redding. Reading, 1896.
Eaton, William, History of Wakefield. Wakefield, 1944.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Wakefield MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review Date/Signature

11. Cowdry, Nathaniel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

12. Emerson--Franklin Poole House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

13. Flanley's Block

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

B-10
14. Goodwin, Captain--James Custis House
Substantive Review

Keeper *Byrum* 3/2/90
Attest _____

15. Gould, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

16. Green, Capt. William, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

17. Green, Deacon Daniel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

18. Greenwood Union Church

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

19. House at 1 Morrison Avenue

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

20. House at 1 Woodcrest Drive

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper *Delores Byrum* 7/6/89
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Greenwood Union Church

MULTIPLE NAME: Wakefield MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/23/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/07/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000697

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 7/6/89 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

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



B 139

Greenwood Union Church

Main and Oak St

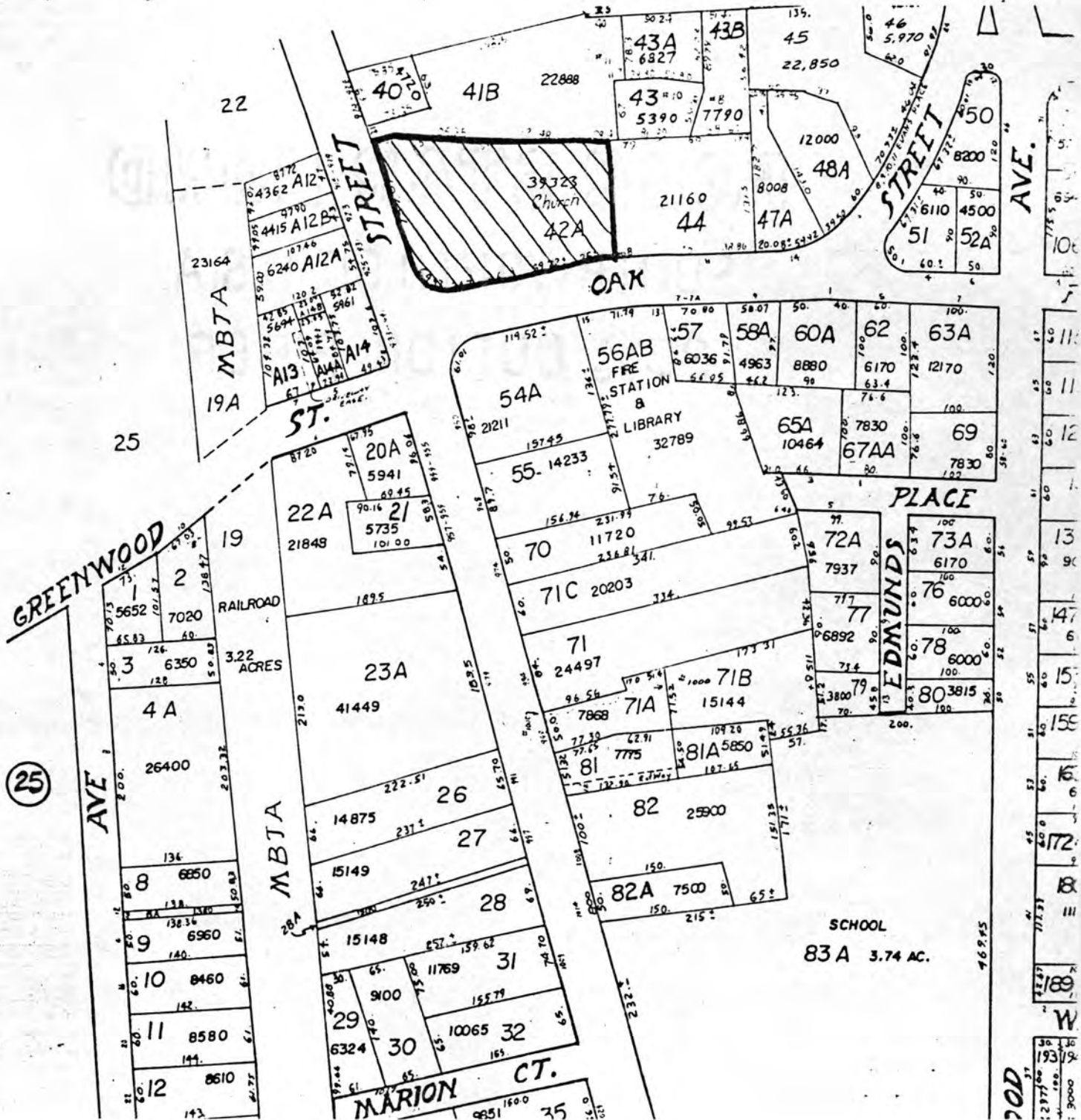
Wakfield, Mass

GREENWOOD UNION CHURCH MAIN and OAK ST



SCALE: 1" = 80'

24



25

200

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300