

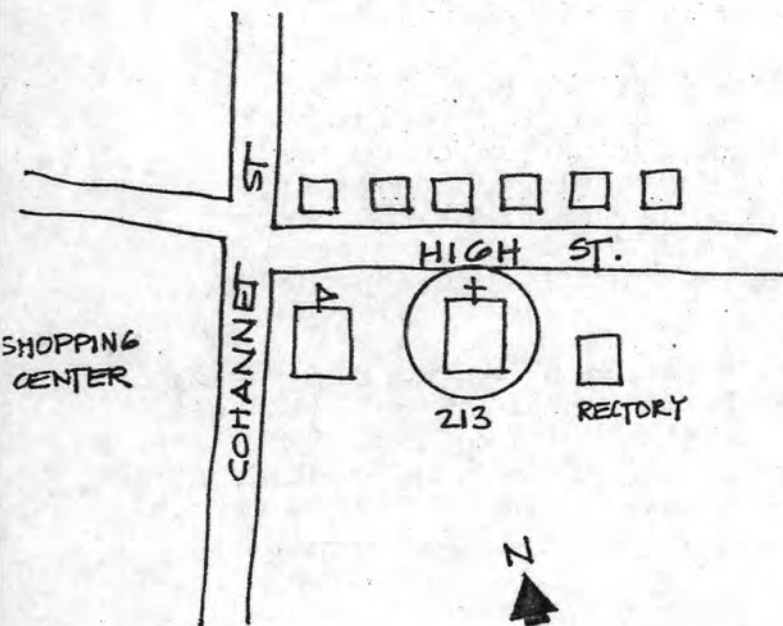
FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	213

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location  
in relation to nearest cross streets and  
other buildings. Indicate north.



1. Town Taunton  
Address 115 High St.  
Name St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
Present use Church

Present owner St. Thomas' Parish

3. Description:  
Date 1857-59  
Source See Bibliography  
Style Gothic Revival

Architect Richard Upjohn

Exterior wall fabric Random coursed stone

Outbuildings (describe) None

Other features See attached.

Altered No Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved No Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size: WARD 2, PLAN 5, BLOCK 9, LOT 2  
One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_  
Approximate frontage 100'  
Approximate distance of building from street  
20'

6. Recorded by T.W.  
Organization T.C.H.S.  
Date 9/10/79

(over)

UTM: 19/326560/4640260

7. Original owner (if known) St. Thomas' Episcopal Church

Original use Church

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates N/A

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

St. Thomas' Episcopal Church is the most stylistically outstanding masonry building designed by Richard Upjohn in Taunton. The monumentally-scaled structure adheres to a basilica plan and features restrained Gothic Revival ornament, characteristics that typify Upjohn's church designs of the 1850's. Unlike the architect's other Taunton works--the Trinitarian Church, on Broadway, and the Academy Building, Church Green-- that exhibit very little decorative detailing, St. Thomas' Church approaches later Victorian Gothic architecture in its plentiful use of limestone trim and decorative wrought iron roof cresting.

The first Episcopal church in the city was a wooden building built in 1829 at the corner of Cohannet and High Streets which, despite subsequent additions, could not adequately serve its growing congregation by the 1840's. After a long subscription campaign, \$30,000 was raised for the construction of the present church on High St., which was begun in 1857 and consecrated in 1859. A chapel, built at an expense of \$15,000, was appended to the church in 1869.

Description: The church features a basilica plan, and has one major level with a clerestory. The apse, facing north, is detailed with limestone-trimmed, elongated pointed-arched windows, and limestone buttresses. The aisles are defined by paired, pointed-arched, stained glass windows, interspersed with buttresses. The church is entered

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Emery, History of Taunton, 1893, p. 244-49

Everard Upjohn, Richard Upjohn - Architect and Churchman, 1939, p/ 112;  
174.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Taunton	Form No: 213
Property Name: St. Thomas Episcopal Church	

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

9. Historical Significance (continued)

Description (cont.):

by doors located in small, hip-roofed projections located at the angle where apse and nave meet. Other features include a steeply pitched gable roof, sheathed in slates, and round stained glass windows set in the clerestory.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. It is an ecclesiastical property deriving primary significance for its architectural distinction and secondarily, deriving historical importance as a religious institution built for a growing congregation. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

*Boundaries conform to current lot lines.*

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received MAY 21 1984  
date entered 6

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 6 of 9

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Taunton Multiple Resource Area  
State Bristol County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Mason, N. S., House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

52. McKinstrey House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

53. Morse House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

54. Morse, Henry, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

55. North Taunton Baptist Church

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

56. Old Colony Railroad Station

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

57. Old Weir Stove Company

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

58. Paull, Alfred, House

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

59. Pilgrim Congregational Church

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

60. St. Thomas Episcopal Church

Entered in the  
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

St. Thomas Episcopal Church (Taunton MRA)  
Bristol County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. MAY 21 1984  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5.85  
Date Due: 6/21/84 - 7/15/84  
Action:  ACCEPT 7-5-84  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Entered in the  
National Register

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	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"/> 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

(A N S ...)

**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: \_\_\_\_\_



# 213

St. Thomas Episcopal Church  
Taunton MRA, Ma

W  
MAY 1980

Prestige Prints

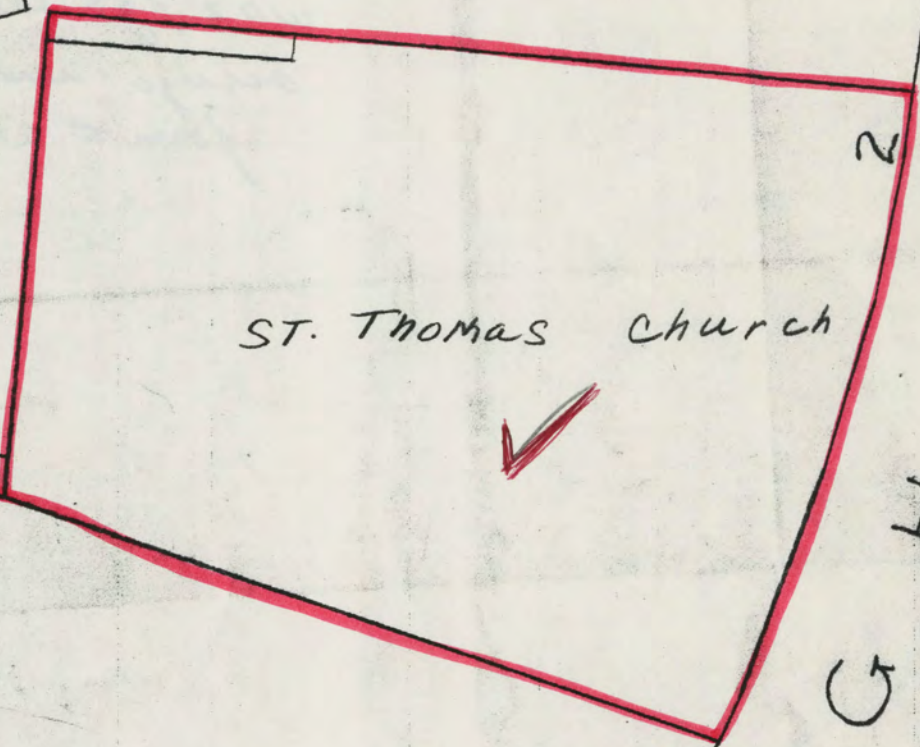
by Berkey

MAY 1980

Prestige Prints

CITY OF TAUNTON

CITY OF TAUNTON



**IV.**

ST THOMAS  
EPISCOPAL  
Church  
OF  
TAUNTON

Lodge #150  
P.O. ELKS

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Peters  
Family  
Trust  
1979

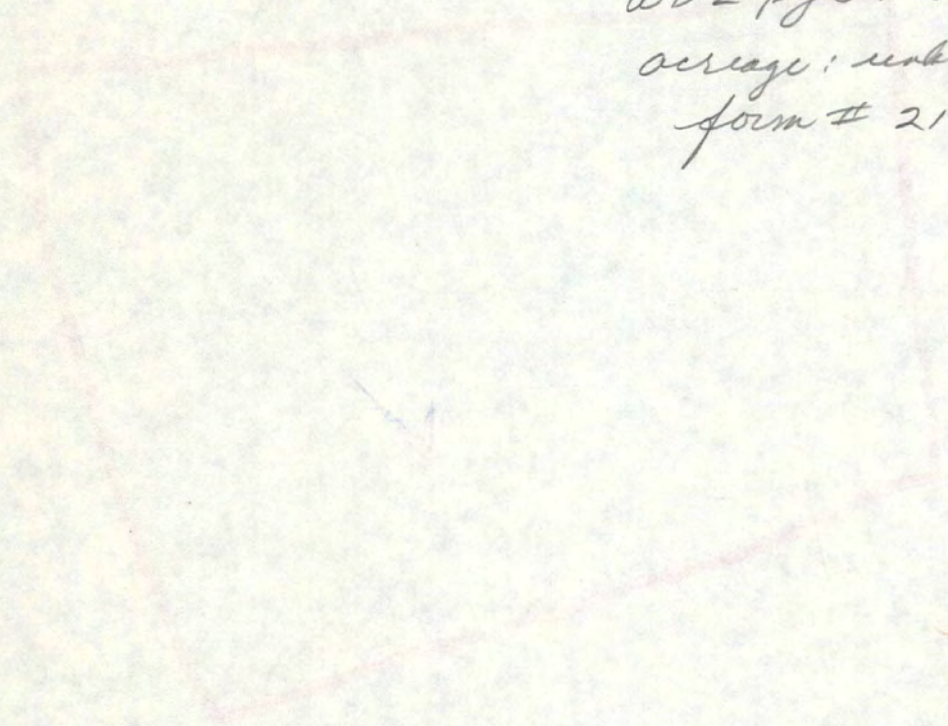
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TAUNTON MULTIPLE RESOURCE  
 NOMINATION  
 FORM NO. 213  
 ST. THOMAS EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
 SCALE: 1" = 40'  
 MAP NO. Wd2, Pg. 5, Lot 2  
*less than one acre*

seph  
+  
elyn  
a

2/5  
1'-10'

Date: unknown  
scale: 1" = 40'  
WD 2 pg 5 lot 2  
acreage: unknown  
form # 213



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000297