

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

G-23 128
1/16/12

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number CP-1001

1. Town Fall River, Ma.

Address 264 Griffin St.

Name Former Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church

Present use Citizens for Citizens

Headquarters

Present owner Citizens for Citizens

3. Description: Lge. gable-roofed frame church w/ Gothic and stick-work detail.
Date tail. 1897

Source Bldg. Permit # 302

Style Late Victorian Gothic

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Polychrome-painted corner
Other features spire, stick-work & applied trefoil design at lancet window
triangular pediment at front gable.

High granite foundation.

entrance enclosed

Altered tower windows Date _____
boarded up.

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 21,363 sq. ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

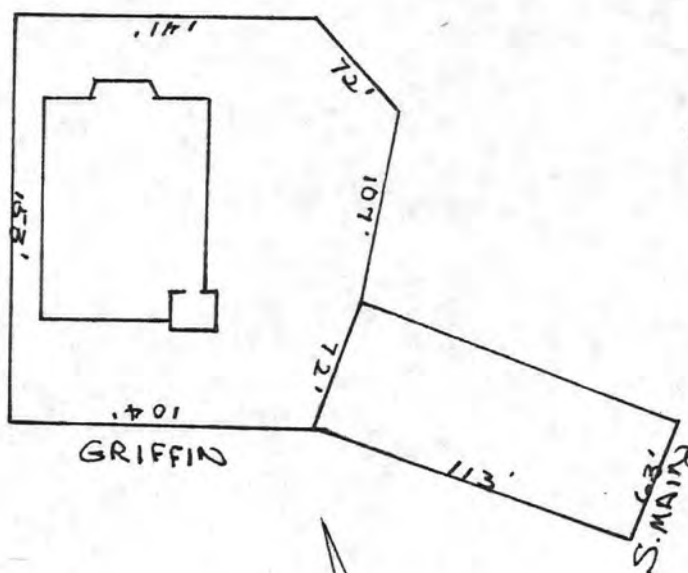
Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by P. Giza

Organization F.R.O.H.P.

Date Dec. 8, 1980

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



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church

Original use church

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Citizens for Citizens Headquarters

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	☐	Conservation	☐	Recreation	☐
Agricultural	☐	Education	☐	Religion	☒
Architectural	☒	Exploration/ settlement	☐	Science/ invention	☐
The Arts	☐	Industry	☐	Social/ humanitarian	☐
Commerce	☐	Military	☐	Transportation	☐
Communication	☐	Political	☐		
Community development	☒				

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

Parish History: Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church began as a Sunday school the South End in 1843. The Sunday school was organized by Abner L. Westgate its first superintendent. Meetings were held in the basement of a four tenement block called the Great Westerner on what is now South Main St.. Later a large room was secured in the hall over the Bay State Print Works on Globe St.. Mr. William Chapin, owner of the Print Works, not only allowed the Sunday school to meet in his hall but he also planned for religious services to be held there largely for the benefit of his operatives. His interest in religious matters & his interest in the spiritual needs of his workers led him to purchase a site on Globe St. for a new church, which was built in 1851 & was known as Christ's Church. In 1854 the church property was secured for the Methodists & was known as the Globe St. M.E. Church. The name of the church was changed in 1868, to the Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church in memory of John Brayton, a pioneer Methodist in this area, and the generosity of John S. Brayton, & his sister Mrs. Mary B. Young. The church membership grew to such an extent that a new church was erected in 1897 on Griffin Street. In 1970, because of dwindling membership, the church disbanded. The building is presently used by Citizens for Citizens.

The only major church in Fall River no longer in religious use, the former Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church is, despite its new use, largely intact on the exterior, as well as the interior, and appropriately painted to reveal its rich trim detail. The church was unique in that it was built by and named for the Braytons, a major industrialist family, yet this was a "mill-workers'" church, located in the southern section of the city near several mills. The church, a handsome vernacular example of Late Victorian Gothic, maintains integrity of design, workmanship, and reflects (continued)

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

Bldg. Dept. Brayton Methodist Society on 6-7-1897 Permit # 302 50 x 70 x 42
 Yearbook & Church Directory of Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church 1854-1931
 Fall River Herald News Clippings - June 12, 1942
 June 20, 1970
 Mar. 10, 1970

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Fall River, Mass.

Form No:

6-23 128
1/10/12

Property Name: Former Brayton
Methodist Episcopal Church

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

No. 9 Historical Significance (continuation)

the concern of the mill-owners for the spiritual, as well as the physical well-being of their operatives. The Former Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 10

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Fall River Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Borden, Ariadne J. & Mary A., House
Substantive Review

Keeper

2/16/83 Paula Ann Boyd

Attest

12. Border City Mills

Substantive Review

Keeper

Determined Eligible2/11/83 Paula Ann Boyd R.

Attest

13. Borden, N. B., School

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

14. Borden-Winslow House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

15. ~~Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church~~Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

16. Brightman, Hathaway, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

17. Bristol County Superior Court

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

18. Cadedy, Squire William B., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

19. Cataract Engine Company No. 3

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

20. Central Congregational Church

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

2/16/83 Delores Byers

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Brayton Methodist Episcopal Church (Fall River MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 115/83-15Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84Date Due: 2/3/83 - 2/9/83Action: ACCEPT 2/16/83Entered in the RETURNNational Register REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ 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. Name2. Location3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing Surveyshas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ 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

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT 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: 202 272 - 3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



NAME: Former Brayton Methodist
Episcopal Church

LOCATION: 264 Griffin Street
Fall River, Mass. 02724
ma

PHOTO CREDIT: Pamela Shields (1981)

NEGATIVE FILED AT: Fall River Office of Historic
Preservation
One Government Center
Fall River, Mass. 02722
(PSNR-7-19)

IDENTIFICATION: Former Brayton Methodist
Episcopal Church
Front View, looking north

photo # 1 of 2



CUSTOMER
PARKING
ONLY

Fall River MRA, Ma

Citizens for Citizens
former Brayton Meth. Epis Church

264 Griffin

CP II - 33a

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000279