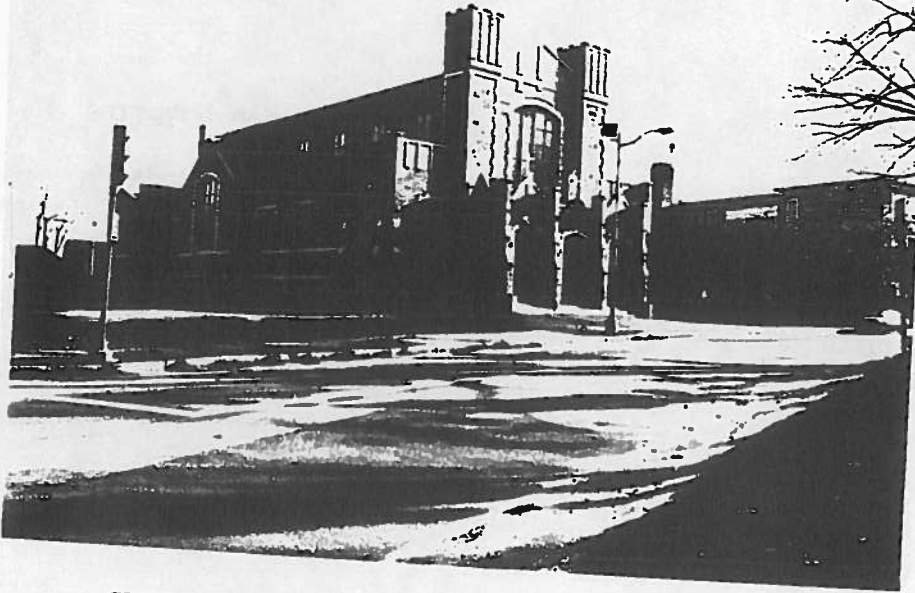


FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA none	FORM NO. 24-10
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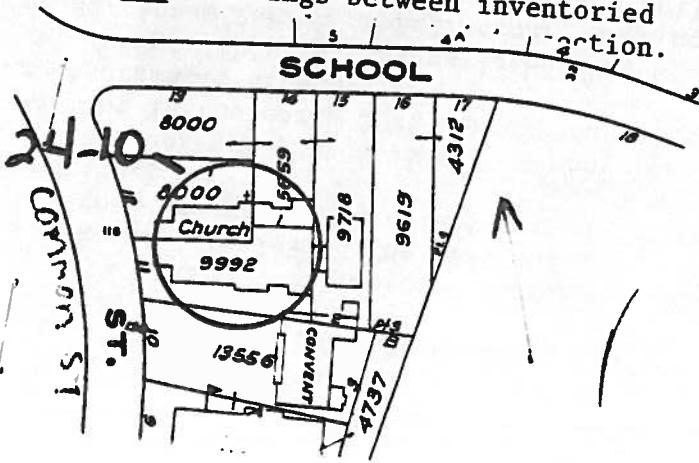
*116 Common St.*



Belmont  
 corner of Common Street and  
 School Street  
 Original Name St. Joseph's Church  
 Present Church  
 Original same  
 DESCRIPTION:  
1912

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried action.



Source building department records

Style Gothic Revival

Architect T. Edward Sheehan

Exterior wall fabric stone, broken ashlar

Outbuildings school building (1950)

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

NA

Moved NA Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage under 4 1/2 acres

Setting located near street at intersection

of two main suburban thoroughfares in

residential neighborhood

Recorded by Nora Lucas

Organization Boston University

Date November 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

St. Joseph's Church represents a Gothic Revival building typical of houses of worship built throughout America's growing suburbs early in the 20th century.

Surfaced in stone, trimmed with ashlar, the church is an oblong rectangle in plan. Two castellated towers rise behind the three-bay, one story, center entry portico. (BEL. 82-24 #9)

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

The 1912 church replaced a smaller structure, built only 22 years previously, in 1890. The 1912 building represents Belmont's tremendous suburban growth and resultant demand for new or larger religious and civic institutions.

St. Joseph's Church is one of many institutional buildings built in Belmont in the early 20th century during the period of the town's most dramatic growth.

The parish's beginnings in Belmont were in 1888 as a mission church of St. Agnes Parish in Arlington. Meetings were held in the Belmont Town Hall until the stick style church was built in 1890. In 1900, as Belmont and its Catholic population grew, the independent parish of St. Joseph's was established, and in 1912 the present building built.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

"Original Saint Joseph's Church." Belmont Historical Society Newsletter, March 1975.

Newspaper Clippings from Saint Joseph's Folder in Belmont Room.

Building Department Records.