

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Area <u>C</u>	Form no. <u>3-6</u>
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231 Payson Road

Town Belmont

Belmont Street at Payson Road

ic Name Payson Park Congregational Church

Original Church

Present Same

ship: Private individual
 Private organization
 Payson Park Congregational Church
 Public

Original owner Same

DESCRIPTION:

1914-1916

Source Church records in Belmont Room

Style Late Gothic Revival

Architect Newhall and Blenens (arch.)
Alonzo Allen (builder)

Exterior wall fabric Dressed fieldstone

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates)
auditorium, parish hall,
1929/1930: offices and church school

Wm. H. McLean (architect)
rooms--Loomer and Allen (builders)

Moved No

Date _____

Approx. acreage 29, 928 sq. ft.

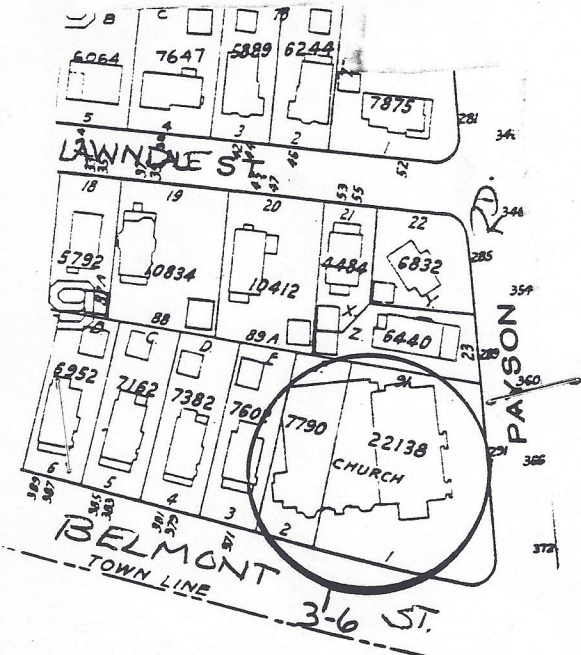
Setting Sited to face the southeast

corner of a well landscaped double

lot at the southern edge of Payson

Park at heavily travelled Belmont St.

cross streets and other buildings
or geographical features.
Indicate north.



Recorded by Marcia M. Cini

Organization Boston University

Date September 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The Payson Park Congregational Church's sturdy late Gothic Revival styling executed in native stone is typical of that used for houses of worship built by many New England Protestant congregations in early 20th century suburbs.

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

The development of the Payson Park Congregational Church, as reflected in the location of its worship activities, is representative of that of many rapidly growing early 20th century suburban church groups. The congregation began to assemble in 1905-06, holding its first worship service after formal organization in the Benton family chapel (1913--See Form 4-2). By 1914 funds had been raised to hire local builder Alonzo Allen to complete a permanent home for the Payson Park Church. An additional major building campaign by Allen's firm in 1929-30 reflects a significant increase in the size and needs of the congregation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Payson Park Congregational Church folder--Belmont Room, Belmont Public Library