

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
R2	31-7

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



Belmont

Address 69 Common Street

Historic Name

Saints Episcopal Church

Present church

Original church

DESCRIPTION:

1896

Source Building Dept. Records

Style Shingle

Architect

Exterior wall fabric shingles/stone

Outbuildings rectory at 65 Common

rectory at 14 Common

Major alterations (with dates)

Parish house, 1941

Northerly addition, 1954

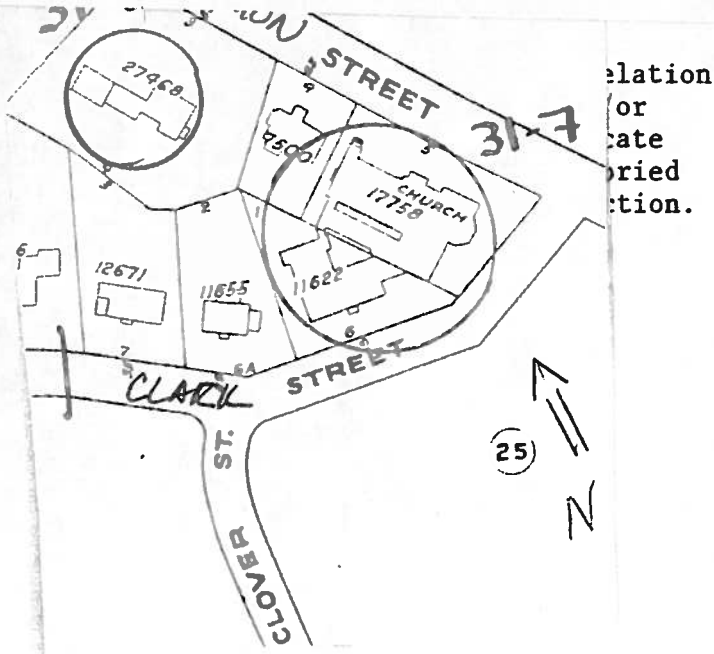
Moved - Date

Approx. acreage less than 1 acre

Setting Large corner lot on busy

Common Street; opposite the

Underwood Estate



Recorded by Judy Williams

Organization Boston University

Date November, 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston.

Community: <i>Belmont</i>	Form No: <i>31-7</i>
Property Name: <i>All Saints Church</i>	

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

Architectural Significance:

was designed by local architect Francis Johnson to complement the existing structure. Gabled dormers and pointed-arch windows were copied, the original tower entry was changed to a window, and an entry vestibule was created in the addition.

The Assistant Minister's Rectory at 65 Common Street was designed as a single-family residence in 1922 by local architect H. Thaxter Underwood, who designed many private dwellings in this area. The Colonial Revival building features a "Cape Cod" gable roof, three hipped-roof dormers and a side entry with pedimented portico.

These two structures contribute significantly to the visual cohesiveness of the Common Street extension to the town's Pleasant Street Historic District. Their architectural and historical integrity qualifies them for inclusion in this extension, as they meet the criteria for the National Register.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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

All Saints Episcopal Church is an example of Shingle Style Ecclesiastical architecture of the late 19th century. The building uses both shingles and stone in its massing of gables, bays and tower. The original structure (which extended from the six-sided bay to the south to the crenelated stone tower to the north) was greatly expanded in the mid-20th century with two compatible additions. The first was completed in 1941 as a Parish House on Clark Street which was later connected to the main building. A major addition in 1954 that doubled the size of the building

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

All Saints Episcopal Church was the first church of this denomination to be established in Belmont. Organized in the late 1880s, the church members met in private homes until they were able to purchase land for a church building. In 1895, 22 members were successful in purchasing approximately 17,000 square feet of land from Sarah G. Clark, the heir to the Mount Pleasant estate which once covered most of this area. The first minister of the new church was Edward A. Rand who had organized an Episcopal Church in Watertown before coming to Belmont.

All Saints expanded in the early 20th century by building a rectory across Common Street. Again, in the middle of the century, the church undertook two additional building campaigns and acquired a second rectory. A parish house addition was constructed to the west in 1941 and the main building was extended in a northerly direction in 1954. In 1961, the house at 65 Common Street was purchased for use as a rectory for the church's assistant minister. This structure had been built in 1922 as a single-family house for Francis Kendall.

Both the church building and the rectory are included in the proposed National Register District Extension at Belmont Center. The buildings have contributed significantly to the patterns of Belmont's history, meeting Criteria A and D for the National Register of Historic Places.

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

Interview with Richard Betts, Belmont Town Engineer, November, 1982.

Building Permits, 1922

Belmont Citizen articles, 1925, 1954, 1959.