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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

696

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

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NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form.* If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: **Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery**
Other names/site number: Village Church
Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing

2. Location

Street & number: 2 Central Street
City or town: Wellesley State: MA County: Norfolk
Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this ✓ nomination ___ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 3\6 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property ✓ meets ___ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

___**national** ___**statewide** ✓**local**

Applicable National Register Criteria:

✓**A** ___**B** ✓**C** ___**D**

Brona Simon July 29, 2014

Signature of certifying official/Title: Brona Simon, SHPO **Date**

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official: **Date**

Title : **State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government**

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

for Edson H. Beall 9.22.14

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private: [x]

Public – Local [ ]

Public – State [ ]

Public – Federal [ ]

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)	☐
District	☐
Site	x
Structure	☐
Object	☐

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	-	buildings
1	-	sites
3	1	structures
28	4	objects
33	5	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion/Church
Funerary/Cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Religion/Church
Funerary/Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Late 19th and 20th Century Revivals/Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)
Principal exterior materials of the property:

Concrete
Brick
Slate

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The Wellesley Congregational Church and adjacent cemetery occupy a 2.33-acre parcel in Wellesley Square near the town hall. The church, located in the eastern section of the parcel, is a Georgian Revival brick building complex. The earliest sections were designed by Carrère and Hastings in 1918 and 1923 (Photo #2). The complex also has additions made in 1955 and 2003 (Photo #4). The eastern half of the church complex retains a high degree of integrity to the 1918 and 1923 design, while the western half of the complex reflects almost entirely the 1955 and 2003 modifications (Map 3). The major interior spaces – the 1923 church and the 1918 chapel and parish house – have had only subtle modifications and retain their essential character,

The cemetery, which is in the western part of the property, has served the community since the late 18th century, and remains active for cremation burials today. There are roughly 263 headstones, footstones, and monuments, dating at least from 1777 to the present. Together, the church complex and the cemetery retain integrity.

For the purposes of this nomination the buildings and representative markers and monuments have been described in the text that follows and listed on the attached datasheet, which contains 37 resources, of which five are non-contributing because they were added or substantially modified in the last 50 years. In the following description bold lettering is used to indicate features that are listed in the datasheet.

Setting and Site

Wellesley is an affluent suburban community of approximately 27,000 located in Norfolk County, Massachusetts, about 13 miles west of Boston. The community, which is home to Wellesley and Babson Colleges, has a strong tradition of civic improvements, and retains a surprisingly bucolic character for a town so close to Boston.

The Wellesley Congregational Church and cemetery are located in Wellesley Square, a small-scale 20th-century commercial district that is one of several villages within the town. The combined church and cemetery property is a 2.33-acre parcel that is bounded by Central Street/Route 16 to the north, Washington Street to the east, Church

Street to the south, and Abbott Street to the west (Map 1). The **church complex** is located in the eastern part of the site, with the cemetery to the west. The topography slopes gradually from a high along Church Street on the south to a low along Central Street on the north. There is a small triangular park abutting the church property to the northeast. This land was formerly owned by the congregation, but was sold in the 19th century with the stipulation that it would always remain public open space. The town-owned park, which is not included in this nomination, has mature plantings, creating a pleasant foreground to the church.

There are mature deciduous trees scattered around the church property. Small-scale ornamental plantings, primarily yews, are located on the north and east sides of the building. There are also a number of mature trees in the cemetery, including a specimen white pine and several large sugar maples, as well as smaller trees around the perimeter. The weeping beech near the northeast corner of the cemetery, which serves as a memorial tree, was planted in the late 20th century. There are also some deciduous shrubs and perennials around the perimeter of the cemetery, primarily lilacs and forsythia.

The current **perimeter wall** around the property, which dates to the 19th century, is the successor to a series of earlier walls. For the most part it is random-cut granite block and fieldstone with a rough granite coping. The wall runs along the north side of the church, as well as around the north, west, and south edges of the cemetery. Along the north edge (Central Street), it is a retaining wall that varies from about 30 inches to four feet tall. The western edge (Abbott Street) of the wall ranges from three feet at the northern (Central Street) end to 2½ feet at the southern (Church Street) end. There are no breaks in the Central and Abbott Street frontage, although there is evidence of the old receiving tomb (now blocked in) along Central Street. The wall is generally in good condition, although the mortar has failed in some places.

The one-way **driveway,** which provides vehicular access to the site, enters from Church Street southwest of the church, following the alignment of a 19th-century path that extended between church and cemetery. The entry is marked by one granite pier and one brick pier. The driveway continues north along the western edge of the church, east along the northern edge, and then south along the eastern edge of the church, exiting onto Church Street near the intersection with Washington Street. There has been a driveway in more or less this location since the 1950s, but the current configuration includes changes made in the early 21st century to create a paved plaza west of the church and additional parking on the north and east sides. The new at-grade road has strengthened the connection between church and cemetery. The pedestrian circulation system includes paved walkways extending north from the church complex to Central Street, east to Washington Street (the main entrance to the church), and south to Church Street. There are no paved paths in the cemetery.

Buildings

The present **church complex** includes the main sanctuary/church, the parish house (now housing an entry lobby, living room, administrative offices, and classrooms on the second floor), the chapel, and the parish hall, known as Village Common (Map 4). The Carrère and Hastings design (Map 2, Historic Photo 1) formed a U-shaped complex, and later additions formed a larger U with extended sides and more infill along the bottom (western) part of the U. The complex consists of the cruciform-plan 1922-1923 church on the south side, the parish house, now more accurately known as administrative offices (1918-1919, 1955), on the north side, the chapel (1918-1919) and the cloister (1922-1923) connecting the church and the parish house, and a parish hall (1955, 2003) that spans the west elevations of the chapel and church. The building is united by its common materials throughout all phases – brick on concrete with slate roof and cast-concrete ornamentation. Although built in phases, the church and the parish house (now administrative offices and classrooms) were of one design, thus they are considered one building. The sections are described beginning with the church, followed by the parish house, the cloister and chapel connecting the two, and finally the modern parish hall stretching across the western elevation.

Church/Sanctuary (Photos 2 & 3) – The Georgian Revival church, which is the focal point of the complex, occupies the entire southern section along Church Street. Built in 1922-1923, it is a tall brick building rising from a concrete aggregate foundation and topped with a polychromatic slate roof. The church displays a cruciform plan, with its major east-west axis orientation and its north-south transepts orientation. Unifying architectural features that are characteristic of the Georgian Revival period include: a corbelled brick cornice wrapping around the building; multicolored dark bricks forming quoins with corbelled caps at each corner of the main building, transepts and belltower; brick splayed lintels, marble keystones and sills on most windows; and wood pediments trimmed in modillion blocks, triglyph friezes, and dentil molding.

On the eastern end (facing Washington Street) are the most prominent architectural features, including the belltower and entrance porch, both of which are characteristic of the Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival style. The main entry is marked by a full-height, open entry porch under a classical pediment. The pediment, which is trimmed with modillion blocks, dentil molding, and alternating triglyphs and slightly raised rounds in the frieze, is carried by six monumental Doric columns and two monumental Doric square pilasters (against the façade wall). In the pediment is a sunburst fan design. This porch is approached by marble steps that wrap around the entry porch and lead to the porch itself, with its marble-tiled floor. The double-door entry to the narthex is set into the base of the belltower, which projects slightly in front of the gabled-front wall of the main structure. Each side of the paired door has five raised panels and is set into a casing that projects slightly from the belltower wall and has a deep cornice lined with modillion blocks. Above the entry is a marble tablet set into the brick wall which says "ENTER INTO HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING."

Rising behind the open porch and through the façade pediment is a four-stage, 17-foot-square, Colonial Revival belltower that rises to a height of 60 feet. The tower base and the first stage above the roof line are brick, with each side of the first stage having a clock face set into a slightly recessed panel and flanked by brick pilasters that are topped with deep projecting caps trimmed with modillion blocks. Segmental arches over each clock face are trimmed with modillion blocks. The second stage is a tall, wood, octagonal-shaped element with narrow disengaged columns (collonettes) flanking each face of the octagon – four of which have louvered, arched openings and four of which have panels. The narrow columns have composite capitals and deep projecting caps above the composite design. The third stage is another smaller octagon with square corner pilasters marking each side. The pilasters have small volutes on the two sides of each pilaster. Four sides of the octagon have a round oculus with patterned lights, and four have a panel similar to those employed in the second stage. The fourth stage is a tall, slate-covered spire, topped by a copper finial, gold ball, and cast-iron weathervane.

On each side elevation there is an entry into the narthex of the church – one on the north elevation and one on the south.(Photo 2). Projecting entry porches, similar to the main one, mark these side entries. Above each side entry, there is a small double-hung window with 6/6 sash. Punched into the walls of the north and south elevations of the church are large, round-arched, Georgian Revival windows, each with brick lintels and marble sills and keystones. There are four on the south elevation and three on the north elevation.

The transepts of the cruciform plan (Photo 2, Map 2) are on a north-south axis. The one projecting from the south elevation has a tall, round-arch window in the end wall. The one projecting from the north elevation blends into the hyphen, which houses the Burtt Chapel and is described below. The west end of the church building has a plain brick addition (1955, 2003) that wraps around the original west end of the church where the altar is located.

Interior of Church/Sanctuary. On the interior, the cruciform plan is laid out within the sanctuary and has undergone few changes since its 1922-23 construction. (Photo # 3) The plain off-white plaster walls and vaulted ceiling are enriched by classical elements, such as the colonnaded side aisles, the wide entablature wrapping around the interior space, and the arched windows. The vaulted ceilings rise 30 to 40 feet over the main sanctuary, the side aisles, and the south transept. Wrapping around the church and carried by the columns

(described below) is a wide entablature topped by narrow dentil trim and a deep projecting crown molding. There are three aisles—a center one running from the main entry and narthex (back of the church) to the altar, and an aisle on each side of the church running from the narthex to the transept. Arched windows with plain glass line the side aisles. Each has interior functional louvered shutters with a louvered fan in the top section. Under each window is a radiator hidden from view by a tall, slant-top, paneled covering with three rectangular panels over a metal decorative grill at the bottom and on the slanted top as well. Lining the side aisles of the church are pairs of tall Ionic columns with egg-and-dart molding around the top rims, and each pair rests on a high rectangular paneled base. Each pair of columns has a small brass plaque, indicating that the bay was erected in memory of a named parishioner. Most columns are rounded except those on the corners of the transepts, which are squared, as are the pilasters behind the altar and lining the transept walls.

The south transept has a center aisle aligned with the tall, round-arched window in the south wall, and seven rows of pews arranged on each side of the aisle. A brass plaque on the tall slant-top radiator cover states that the transept was erected in memory of Lincoln Ware Riddle (1880-1921), who was an active member of this church, and faculty at Wellesley College from 1906 to 1919, and at Harvard. The north transept has a flat ceiling and is separated from the main sanctuary by wide molding across the front of the transept. Here the end wall is unadorned, and the pews are arranged in eight rows pushed to the right with no center aisle. Interior church woodwork is ivory white with mahogany trim, and accents features such as the top rails of the church pews, the pulpit, and the baptismal font.

Furnishings are Georgian Revival in design, including those that have been rebuilt or added. The walls of the pews are elaborated with recessed panels – a square panel over each long, rectangular one. The chancel was rebuilt in 2003 to make the altar accessible. Wide, segmental shallow steps lead the congregation to the altar. The back wall wainscoting is a series of recessed panels with a top mahogany rail. The gold cross that hung on the wall behind the altar for many years has been refurbished and placed on top of a larger wooden cross. The baptismal font, given in honor of the Reverend Charles L. Goodrich in 1923, is adorned with rounded, reeded pilasters and swags with putti around the bowl. An altar table is supported by reeded, squared pilasters. New parts include the segmental-arched backdrop with recessed panels, resembling the wainscoting of the chancel. This backdrop was created to conceal the new accessible ramp made behind the altar. In front of it are six small pews, which were preserved and relocated during the 2003 renovation. In 2009 the pulpit was rebuilt in honor of the present pastor, the Reverend Martin B. Copenhaver, using the same design as the first pulpit with reeded pilasters. At the east end of the church (the back of the sanctuary), there is a full-width balcony that extends over several rows of pews. The recently refurbished Reiger Orgelbau organ, made in Schwarzach, Austria, and installed in 1967, is in the balcony, with many of its pipes mounted on the balcony's overhanging wall.

Parish House/Administrative Offices (Photo 1) – Designed by Carrère and Hastings, the 1918-1919 parish house section of the church complex is located at the northern edge of the property high above Central Street. It is no longer referred to as the "parish house" and has no overall name, as it includes a lobby, administrative offices, a living room and classrooms on the second floor. It consists of two sections, representing two building periods; the eastern two-thirds was built in 1918 as part of the Carrère and Hastings design; and the western third, added in 1955 and designed by Collens, Willis & Beckenert, which displays detailing similar to the original section. The two parts comprise a large, rectangular, brick Georgian Revival building that is similar to the church building. Both sections (1918 and 1955) are two-story brick construction on high concrete foundations with polychromatic slate roofs. The 1955 addition is set back slightly from the façade of the 1918 building and is slightly lower so that the roofline and the distinctive end walls of the earlier construction are visible and are character-defining features. The 1918 construction is seven bays wide and two deep and the 1955 addition is five wide and two deep. The façade (north side) of the 1918 section has a centered entry with a large paneled door, half-round glazed fanlight, and a bold segmental-arched pediment edged with dentil blocks and carried by Ionic pilasters. Windows of both sections have 6/6 sash set into narrow wood casings with marble sills and marble Greek keys set into the

brick, splayed lintel over each window. Second-story windows of the addition nearly meet the cornice and do not have the lintel or key design. Basement windows are slightly above grade, with a window well marking each. Both sections of this administrative office building have a brick stringcourse marking the top of the first story and running nearly the full length of each section's north façade. The 1918 building has patterned and multicolored bricks on the corners to resemble quoins, and molded wood cornice with returns at the roof edge. The two brick end walls of the 1918 construction rise into a pair of chimneys. The east end has an oculus in the gable peak; the one that had been in the west end was moved to the west end of the addition, where it is set into the wood, flushboarded gabled peak. Each oculus has patterned leaded lights. The east-end oculus is set into a brick rim with four evenly spaced marble keystones; the west-end oculus is set into a wood circular casing with four wood keystones.

Interior of Parish House/Administration Offices. The interior space has been remodeled at least three times—in 1948, according to plans of Perry, Shaw and Hepburn; in 1955, when the western third of this section was constructed; and in 2003, when the parish hall along the western elevation was added and other remodeling occurred. Remodeling has been done to accommodate present-day needs of office space and meeting rooms. However, some design elements remain, particularly in the entry hall and the living room on the east end. A double-door entry leads into the living room (to the left of the building's main entry) where symmetry is carried out with a fireplace opposite the double doors, tall windows flanking the fireplace, and two windows on each of the two end walls (north and south) of this room. The centered, slightly projecting, fireplace with a high mantel has a herringbone-patterned brick hearth. The room is surrounded by decorative crown molding.

Chapel and Cloister – The chapel was part of the original 1918 design and construction. The plans included the chapel with a social hall beneath it in the basement. It is likely that the basement was used as such; however, there is no institutional memory of the social hall in the basement. The chapel, now known as the Robert E. Burtt Chapel, in memory of the pastor who served from 1951-1955, has architectural details that are similar to the main sanctuary that had been designed at the same time as this space, but built several years later. The ceiling is vaulted with a shallow arch. The same rhythm of arches in the east wall (the shared wall of the cloister) and the west wall has been retained, although most of the openings in the west wall have been converted to doors rather than windows. The altar, located at the south end of the chapel, is elaborated with small fluted pilasters and a Greek key design wrapping around the top of the altar table. The panels on the front of the altar have the Greek letters for Alpha, Jesus, and Omega. The pulpit has the same architectural trim as the altar. Pews flank the altar, and those on the west side sit in front of an organ and organ pipes. Modern additions to this room, besides window openings converted to doors, include the long wood-topped counter and cupboards across the back of the room, and the 2003 restored hardwood floor with painted labyrinth.

The cloister, linking the church and the parish house sections of the complex, was built at the time that the church was constructed in 1922. It provided a passageway between the two main sections of the building. Perpendicular to the parish house (now lobby and offices), it extends from the south side of the parish house/offices to an entry to the church just east of the north transept of the church. Originally an open cloister, it was enclosed in the 1950s, providing an interior space to walk between the church and the parish house. The Georgian Revival architectural details are retained, including: an accentuated, deep corbelled cornice above the arches; a brick lintel lining the arch of each window with three marble keystones marking the arch; and patterned bricks that form circles between each arch. Four openings have been filled with windowlike fixed glass of nine panes under the multilight arch. One opening has a pair of glazed doors set under the glazed arch. The roof retains its polychromatic slates and is topped by a small, polygonal open lantern or cupola elaborated with classic details.

Parish Hall (Photo 4) - Additions made in 1955 and in 2003 created additional education and community space, now known as the Village Common, along the western edge of the church complex, obscuring the original western elevation. The final form is brick on a poured concrete foundation, with standing-seam metal roofing.

Fenestration patterns recall Colonial Revival design with the use of multilight glazing and traditional forms that are clearly modern, consistent with the Secretary of Interior Standards for additions to historically significant buildings. The western elevation now comprises: the west end wall of the 1955 extension to the two-story parish house/administrative offices described above; the full-length addition along the western wall of the present chapel, forming a parish hall that has an open arcade using the vocabulary of the east side of this part of the complex; a large, two-story addition with a broad, bowed element at the west end of the church building; and a two-story, infill addition wrapping to the west side of the south transept. The advancing and receding planes of the four elements, and the symmetry within each element, break down the overall size of these additions and relate them to the original design without becoming replicas. The open arcade is formed by segmental arches that are articulated by the marble, inset arch above. Doric columns support the arches. The second story, which is stepped back from the arcade, has eight sets of nearly square, three-part, multilight windows with transoms. The addition behind the chancel of the church building echoes the sweeping arc-shape of the chancel and has a large, centered entrance bay with second-story, multilight, square windows, bowed out slightly over the entry below. Basic plain classical columns are employed to support this bowed window element.

Cemetery

Overview

The cemetery (Photos 4 and 5) is roughly a one-acre area located in the western part of the church property. It has the characteristic features of a late 18th- and early 19th-century New England burying ground, with a later overlay of family lots that reflect the influence of the mid 19th-century rural cemetery movement. The older part of the cemetery is on the east, adjacent to the church, where individual slate and marble headstones are arranged in rough rows. There is also a straight row of 31 headstones, which were originally located further east on the property where the driveway and parish hall are now, but were relocated when the parish hall was expanded in the 1950s. Most of the headstones face west. The newer part of the cemetery is the western section, which was laid out in family lots in 1860 with a U-shaped grassy path between the lots.

Headstones and Monuments

The 2000 cemetery map (Map 5) identifies 259 monuments, headstones, and footstones dating from 1777 to the present. Four headstones have been added since that time, for a current total of 263. Most are fairly simple in design and modest in scale. Most are slate or marble, in roughly equal numbers. There are much smaller numbers of granite monuments, as well as a few of sandstone and other types of stone.

Late 18th-Century Slate Headstones

There are nine 18th-century slate headstones in the cemetery, most with accompanying footstones. Six of these, which reflect a progression of artistic sophistication, are described here. The oldest extant headstone is that of **Ebenezer Hunting** (d.1777, lot #135), a roughly carved, mottled, gray-slate stone with a low tympanum on narrow-shouldered main block, with an abstract sheath of wheat at the top and vine-like motifs along the sides. (Note: headstone numbers are keyed to Map 5, "Burial Ground, Plan of land in Wellesley, Mass, 2000.")

Next chronologically is the **Ensign Ephraim Bullard** (d.1779, lot #50) headstone, the earliest of four stones at the cemetery attributed to the Daniel Hastings workshop. The entire stone is treated as a single block, with tympanum and shoulders integral. There is very little ornamentation except for a relatively lifelike winged head. The headstone of **Timothy Hunting** (d.1793, lot #36) dates to only a few years later than the two earliest stones, but employs a more sophisticated carving style. It has a full rounded tympanum on shouldered main block, with a

well-carved willow and urn in the tympanum and vinelike motifs along the sides. The inscription is set in a raised oval panel with stippled background at the corners.

There are three 18th-century stones from the Smith family, all attributed to the Daniel Hastings workshop.[1] The gray slate headstone of **Elizabeth Smith** (d.1781, lot #154) has a stylized sheath of wheat in the tympanum, which is similar to that found in the Ebenezer Hunting headstone. The slate headstone of Revolutionary War veteran **Captain Aaron Smith** (d.1795, lot #146) is similar to the two earliest stones in its overall shape, which is treated like a single block with rounded top. It has a round winged face, which is somewhat cruder than that of the Ensign Ephraim Bullard headstone. The distinctive slate headstone of **Mrs. Beulah Smith** (d.1796, lot #147) has a pointed top and narrow sloping shoulders integral with the main block, with a stylized cherub at the top, rather than the rounded tympanum that is typical of the period. While this stone has also been attributed to the Daniel Hastings studio, its shape and the carving of the winged head are distinctly different than his other work in the cemetery.

19th-Century Slate Headstones

The use of slate headstones and footstones continued into the early 19th century, but by this time the shape, lettering, and imagery had become more standardized. Willows and urns were the most common motifs, typically used together but sometimes individually, especially for the small headstones of children.

The small, light-gray slate headstones of **Mary Daniells** (d.1803, lot #61) and **Deacon Joseph Daniells** (d.1810, lot #60) (Photo 6) are similar in style and carving, with fairly stylized willow and urn in the rounded tympanum on shouldered main block and simple columns in the side blocks. The Mary Daniells headstone is in excellent condition, while the Joseph Daniells headstone has signs of past damage and repair, including a concrete surround.

The Mary Eustis (d.1812, lot #27) headstone is larger than the two Daniells headstones and is carved on a dark gray, heavily mottled stone. The main block, shoulders, and tympanum are treated as a single space, not separated as they are in most headstones of the period. The headstone has columns on the sides with an urn on top of each, and the main inscription is on a raised circular panel. The willow and urn on the Eustis headstone are similar in style to those on the Timothy Hunting headstone, but the rest of the carving is more elaborate.

The **Captain Abel Stevens** (d.1814, lot #63) headstone also has a willow-and-urn motif with columns at the sides, but is slightly more sophisticated, with oval, rather than round, inscription panel and more decorative elements. The headstone of Revolutionary War veteran **Captain Ephraim Bullard** (d.1826, lot #45) is a handsome, well-carved slate, with a weeping willow that is similar in style to the headstone of Captain Abel Stevens.

The **Cyrus Pratt** (d.1821, lot #172) headstone, which was signed by Jepson of Newton Corner, reflects a slightly different style of slate willow-and-urn headstone. The main block is set off from the tympanum and side blocks, and is surrounded on the top and sides by a deeply incised scalloped design. The lettering of the main block is also deeply incised. The willow and urn in the tympanum are set against a stippled background. The double headstone (lot #34) for **Sally** (d.1821) and **Martha** (d.1833) **Travis**, two girls who died by the age of five, is skillfully carved and has an incised scallop pattern like that of the Cyrus Pratt headstone, as well as similar, deeply carved letters and the use of stippling.

[1] "Gravestone/Monument Condition Assessment" by Fannin Lehner Preservation Consultants in "*Wellesley Congregational Church, Master Plan Resource Notebook,*" 2006.

Infant mortality is a common theme throughout the history of the cemetery. One of the most evocative headstones is that of three children of Daniel and Lydia Ware, who all died in 1823. **Daniel, Caroline, and Levina Ware** (d.1823, lot #126) (Photo 7) ranged in age from 11 months to 10 years. The headstone is small, with three tympanums and three separate raised inscription panels. The carving is cruder than some of the other stones of the period, but uses some of the same decorative motifs of stippling and scalloping. The inscription at the bottom reads, "Dear parents weep no more for us, We now lie with the just, Those parting tears are all in vain."

Marble Headstones

In the early 19th century, marble was the preferred choice for headstones because it was easier to carve than slate. Four examples illustrate the range of styles found in the cemetery. The most common is a simple upright slab, often with lettering and no images. A typical example is the simple headstone of mother and infant daughter **Mrs. Martha B. Flagg and Martha B. Flagg** (d.1848, lot #74), which is signed by A. Wentworth of Boston. Another marble headstone that is similar in style is that of **Timothy** (d.1871, lot #28) and **Mary** (d.1862) **Hunting** and seven children, all younger than fifteen years old. This simple rectangular slab reflects a common theme found throughout the burial ground, that of a high rate of childhood death. From roughly the same period is the small marble headstone of **Joseph Winship** (d. 1852, lot #39), which has an inset panel at the top with a central urn flanked by two willow trees. The motif appears stylized because it has become eroded over the years.

The marble headstone of **John W. Clements** (d.1864, lot #232) is more elaborate. It is set on a granite base; the headstone is more three-dimensional than the earlier slabs, with a low granite pedestal and a rounded top with semicircular overhanging hood with several layers of trim. The inscription is set in a recessed panel with a mix of raised and inset lettering.

The Gothic style is illustrated by the marble headstones of **Enoch Winch** (d.1821, lot #208) and **Dorcas Winch** (d.1874, lot #208), which are set side by side on a single granite base. The headstones are inscribed with their names on one side and "Father" and "Mother" on the other side. Both have pointed tops and surrounds with inset panels inscribed with a mix of raised and inscribed lettering. In a cemetery with simple forms, these two headstones are distinctly three dimensional and Victorian.

Family Lots and Monuments (1860-1893)

The western part of the cemetery was laid out in 1860. Unlike the eastern section, which was arranged in single graves more or less chronologically, the western section has family lots where relatives could be buried together in perpetuity. Many of these lots were originally enclosed with fences and curbing. Today there are only two lots that retain their granite curbing, the Smith lot (Photo 8) near the southeast corner of the cemetery and the Carhart lot (Photo 5) in the western part, both of which also retain their family monuments. There are also a few granite corner posts and some low granite corner markers denoting the corners of lots that are not otherwise discernable in the landscape.

A surviving remnant from the earlier years of the cemetery is the **McCracken tomb** (1841, lot #202), which is located in the northwest corner. It is a low earthen tomb with a granite-block face and an iron door. The top is covered with concrete, which postdates the original construction and is probably a recent effort at repair. This tomb is the only remaining tomb in the cemetery. Three other tombs located near the church were removed in 1893 because they were badly deteriorated and the space that they occupied was needed to provide room for church expansion. The remains from the three tombs were relocated to nearly Woodlawn Cemetery, which was newly established at that time. Adjacent to the McCracken tomb is the polished granite **McCracken/Poole monument** (lot #202), which honors John McCracken (d.1884) and Francis H. Poole (d.1886), as well as other

family members. The monument, which is approximately eight feet tall, is a polished granite pillar surmounted by a large granite urn.

The Carhart lot (Photo 5), located in the western part of the cemetery, is one of two family lots that retains its granite curbing. The central **Carhart monument**, which honors William Carhart, (d.1865, lot #257), is a squat marble pillar about six feet tall on granite base, with one other small, faded marble burial marker in the corner.

The Smith lot (Photo 8), located in the southeast corner of the cemetery, which also retains its granite curbing, is the most typical example of what a 19th-century family lot would have looked like. The inscription on the granite curbing that surrounds the lot says "S.F. Smith" with a date of 1883. The central **Smith/Fuller/Ware monument** (lot #130) honors Solomon F. Smith (d.1881, lot #130) as well as his two wives, daughters, and other family members. The monument, which is about eight feet tall, is one of the largest and most elaborate in this small cemetery. It consists of a wide marble pillar with architectural motifs on a granite base topped by a tall urn. Surrounding the monument are very small marble burial markers for many of the family members. The Smith lot also has remnants of earlier shrub plantings.

Recent Headstones and Monuments (1893 – present)

Very few burials occurred after 1893, when Woodlawn Cemetery was established nearby with strong ties to the congregation. In the 20th century the cemetery was little used and fell into disrepair. A cemetery master plan was completed in 2006, which was followed by conservation of many of the most damaged stones. In 2007 a new Memorial Path cremation area was established in the western part of the cemetery. There are three new slate **communal headstones**, (ca. 2007) carved by Karin Sprague, that have multiple names on each to minimize the visual intrusion into the landscape. Another recent addition is a marble replacement headstone for Revolutionary War veteran **Jacob Lyon** (d.1829, lot #10A, stone 21st century).

Archaeological Description

While no ancient sites are known on the church and cemetery property, sites may be present. Two Native sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Both sites are located on terraces in close proximity to Waban Brook, a tributary stream of Lake Waban, approximately one-half mile to the southwest of the nominated area. Environmental characteristics of the church and cemetery area represent locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of ancient sites. The church and cemetery occupy level to moderately sloping topography; however, natural wetlands are not present within 1,000 feet of the area. Urban growth has altered the soil composition and surface drainage patterns in the area. Soil types in the vicinity of the church and cemetery are classified as Urban land. These areas are covered by structures including industrial areas, shopping centers, parking lots, and roads. Based on the results of archaeological excavations conducted in 2006, soil types in the vicinity of the church and cemetery appear as well-drained sand and gravel. Surface drainage patterns in urban areas are also frequently altered, resulting in streams being re-channeled, often in culverts. USGS maps of the area illustrate a manmade aqueduct within 1,000 feet north of the church; however, the aqueduct may represent the route of a natural wetland that has been modified. The nominated area is located within the Charles River drainage. Given the above information, the small size of the district (2.33 acres), the extent of historic land use, and known patterns of Native settlement in the region, a low to moderate potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources at the Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery.

A high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources at the Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery. Additional documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may locate structural evidence of the three churches that preceded the existing fourth church at this location. Construction for

the first meetinghouse was begun in 1774, but not completed for 20 years because of the Revolutionary War. The meetinghouse was built on the eastern side of the cemetery on the north side of Church Street where the present sanctuary of the Congregational Church is located. The second meetinghouse (1835) was set further back from Church Street, and faced east instead of south. It was built because the first meetinghouse had become dilapidated. The Third Church (1872) was also built on this site after the second church was moved to Grove Street, later becoming part of the Dana Hall School. In 1916, the Third Church was destroyed by fire, which initiated construction of the fourth church, which was not completed until 1923. Structural remains may survive from the first three churches. Similar remains may also survive from barns, stables, hearse houses, and outbuildings associated with each of the churches and the cemetery. Archaeological evidence of occupational-related features may also be present. At least one hearse house (no longer extant) is known to have been constructed near the second meetinghouse in 1835. Stratigraphic evidence of paths and roadways should also be present.

Additional historical research combined with archaeological survey and testing can help locate unmarked graves and grave markers, and document the associations between existing gravestones and actual graves. Known and unmarked graves represent the most common archaeological resource in the cemetery. Individual graves may include skeletal remains, in addition to clothing and other personal items interred with each individual. Funerary objects including coffin remains and artifacts associated with the initial interment(s) and later memorials may also be present with individual and multiple interments. In 1893, approximately 140 remains were transferred from the old burying ground to the Woodlawn Cemetery. The transfer included 67 people from the Bullard, Parker, and Smith tombs who were moved to make space for a new addition to the southwest corner of the church where the tombs were previously located. In 1953, approximately 40 graves were relocated within the cemetery to provide space for the proposed addition to the western side of the church complex. As recently as 2002, human remains were found by construction workers during construction projects on the property. Commemorative markers may lack below-ground burial features and contain burial monuments only. Archaeological testing may also identify head and footstones that are overgrown and presently not visible on the surface. Post molds and buried courses of stone may also be present from older fence lines and stone walls that marked the boundaries of the cemetery and groups of graves over time. No surviving records or plans for the initial years of the Meetinghouse Burial Ground have been identified.

In 2006, an intensive, machine-assisted archaeological survey was conducted for a part of the cemetery. Specifically, the survey focused on testing the limits of a 19th-century roadway for the presence (or absence) of burials in an area where the burial of cremated remains was planned. No burials or other cultural features were found, and no additional research was recommended. The Memorial Path was dedicated in 2007 as a place for cremation burials.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

[x] A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

[ ] B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

[x] C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

[ ] D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

[x] A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes

[ ] B. Removed from its original location`

[ ] C. A birthplace or grave

[x] D. A cemetery

[ ] E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

[ ] F. A commemorative property

[ ] G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

Architecture
Art
Religion
Social History

Period of Significance

1777-1964

Significant Dates

1918-1919 Construction of parish hall and chapel; design of church
1923 Construction of church

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Carrère and Hastings (1918-1923)
Collens, Willis, & Beckenert/Harold Buckley Willis (1955)
Office of Michael Rosenfeld (2003)

Stone Carvers

Daniel Hastings Shop, Newton, MA.
J.P. Jepson, Newton Corner
A. O'Connor and Company, Worcester
Karin Sprague

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery, located in Wellesley, Massachusetts, meet National Register Criteria A and C at the local level. The property derives its significance from its age, location, design, and strong historical association with the community. The present church, the fourth on this site, is significant as the work of architects Carrere and Hastings. It is also a fine example of the Georgian Revival style. The cemetery has approximately 263 headstones, footstones and monuments, representing a variety of styles, materials and motifs, some carved by prominent local carvers, who are listed above. The cemetery was the primary burial place for the community from at least 1777 to 1893, and it remains an active cemetery today. Many of the town's founders are buried here, as well as eleven Revolutionary War veterans and two Civil War veterans.

The period of significance extends from 1777—the date of the oldest identified headstone—to 1964, which is the standard 50-year cut-off established by the National Park Service to provide adequate time for resources to be considered in an objective historical context.

Criteria Considerations A and D

Criteria Consideration A: Religious Property

Wellesley Congregational Church and cemetery meet Criterion Consideration A as a religious property that derives its primary significance from the architectural merit of the church, as well as the artistic value of the headstones and monuments in the cemetery.

Criteria Consideration D: Cemetery

The cemetery derives its primary significance from the graves of persons of transcendent importance, including 11 Revolutionary War soldiers and 2 Civil War solders, as well as many of the town's founders. The cemetery also derives significance from the age of the burial markers, as well as their distinctive design features and their association with historic events.

Narrative Statement of Significance

Criterion A: Broad Patterns of History

Social History

The area, which was initially known as West Needham, was settled in the 1600s and remained rural into the 19th century. With the advent of the railroad in the 1830s, the community became a commuter suburb. In 1881 West Needham separated from Needham to become the town of Wellesley.

The Congregational Church and cemetery are important institutions for the town and are intimately linked with the historical growth of the community as well as the physical development of Wellesley Square. The first meetinghouse, which stood on the site of the present Wellesley Congregational Church and represented the birth of West Needham village, served as both town hall and place of worship. Three church buildings succeeded the first meetinghouse at this location (the last being the nominated building) and four church edifices have served as an anchor of Wellesley Square, both in their geographical positioning and in their roles within the development of the community.

Prior to the construction of the first Congregational Church in 1775, there had been little development within the village of West Needham (now Wellesley Square). In fact, it was arguable that there was no village there at all. The only structures in the vicinity were several farmhouses and a tavern. In addition, there were but three roads in the area: Sherburne Road (now Washington Street); "the road to North Natick" (now Church Street); and Weston Road.[2]

Members of the community were required to attend church and to the support the minister. Chandler's history of the congregation records that the Congregational Church was established as a separate entity in 1798, but the meetinghouse continued to function as both church and town hall until 1864, when the Wellesley Congregational Society was established and became owner of the church and cemetery.

[2] Joshua Dorrin, Wellesley Historical Commission, correspondence, June 2014.

The cemetery is the oldest burial place in the town, where most of the founding members of the community were interred. It is a rare surviving remnant from the early years of a community that has undergone rapid growth and change. It was the only burial place in the community from the 1770s to 1893. The oldest extant headstone,that of Ebenezer Hunting, dates to 1777.

The cemetery is a rich repository of the history of the community and its residents. The names found on the headstones at the Wellesley Congregational Church are almost all of English origin, with a few from the Beck family recorded as being born in Ireland. The one exception is the headstone of Augusto Granados, whose epitaph, written in Spanish, records that he was born in France and died in Wellesley in 1870 at the age of 22.

The epitaphs provide a poignant window into early life in the community. There are a large number of infant deaths, often multiple infants within a single family, as in the family of Timothy and Mary Hunting, whose 19th-century headstone commemorates the death of seven children who were between the ages of one and fifteen when they died.

Of note are those buried here who carried out a civic duty by serving in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. The precinct of West Needham was established in 1774 on the eve of the Revolutionary War. Many of the town founders took up arms against the British in April 1775. Ultimately, more than 300 men from Needham's total population of 1,000 served before the war was over. Most noteworthy was Captain Aaron Smith, who led the West Needham response to the alarm of April 19, 1775, and continued to serve the town and the militia in multiple capacities throughout his life.[3]

There are 11 Revolutionary War veterans buried at Wellesley Congregational Church.[4] Ten are represented by their original headstones. Jacob Lyon has a 21st-century replacement stone.

Bullard, Ensign Ephraim (d.1779, #50)
Bullard, Captain Ephraim (d.1826, #45)
Daniells, Sergeant Joseph (d.1810, #60)
Hunting, Corporal Timothy (d.1793, #36)
Lyon, Jacob (d.1829, #10A, replacement headstone)
Muzzey, Benoni (d.1846, #233)
Pratt, Deacon Samuel (d.1807, #?)
Smith, Captain Aaron (d.1795, #146)
Smith, Aaron (d.1833, #101?)
Stevens, Sergeant Ephraim (d.1806, #57)
Ware, Daniel, Esq. (d.1819, #99)

There are also two Civil War veterans buried at the cemetery:

Private Cornelius Smith (d.1864)
Private F.J. Simpson (death date unknown)

[3] George Kuhn Clarke, *Epitaphs from Graveyards…*, p. 55-57.

[4] The list of Revolutionary and Civil War veterans buried in the cemetery was compiled in 1990 by graveyard expert and parishioner Fred Oakley. The name of Jacob Lyon was a later addition.

Criterion C: Distinctive Characteristics

Architecture

The Wellesley Congregational Church complex was executed in a style popular for early 20th-century institutional buildings in other parts of the Commonwealth. Colonial Revival/Georgian Revival architecture was reminiscent of mid 18th-century buildings from Independence Hall to many of the early meetinghouses. Principal architect Thomas Hastings (1860-1929) of the New York architectural firm of Carrère and Hastings, selected to prepare a design for the fourth church, described his intent for the church:

> *"In determining upon the general style and character of the proposed Wellesley Congregational Church and after several interviews with the Building Committee, it was agreed that for a New England town unusual results might be obtained by building a Colonial or what approximates a Georgian 18th century edifice. Such a building, in our opinion, will be a real contribution to the character of the town in its civic improvement on the part of the members of this church, - indeed so much so that we believe that all the people, even those who do not attend the church but are interested in the welfare of the town of Wellesley should gladly be willing to contribute to make this church a real success."*[5]

Hastings went on to talk about the historic interest that such a building would provide as well as its recollection of the "splendid character of our forefathers." This was an important concept and relatively new to Wellesley in that most other local churches that predate this building were constructed in the Gothic Revival style (Unitarian Society of Wellesley, 1888, WEL.198; St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1894, WEL.202; the First Congregational Church of Wellesley Hills, 1902, WEL.207; and St. Paul's Catholic Church, 1916, WEL.204). In addition, the public buildings such as the 1882 Wellesley Town Hall (NR, WEL.1) and schools such as the 1894 First High School (NR, WEL.145) were late 19th-century asymmetrical stone and brick structures. Even the Wellesley College campus, much of which was constructed in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, only had a few small Classical and Colonial Revival buildings, most of which were society houses with the exception of the Renaissance Revival Claflin Memorial Library (WEL.437) built in 1909.

Interest in colonial architecture had resurfaced with the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia, where this connection with the past was articulated in some of the architecture. The following year a group of architects visited New England to document the colonial architecture of the region. Charles McKim, William Mead, and Stanford White were among them and in 1879 joined practices to form McKim Mead & White, a firm that went on to help define Colonial Revival architecture. Classical design was solidified by the Chicago World Columbian Exposition of 1893 where classical architecture, designed by many prominent architects of the day, was featured. The Agricultural Building had been designed by Charles McKim of McKim Mead & White, for whom Thomas Hastings had worked briefly.

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[5] The *Wellesley Townsman* documented the progress of the new church throughout 1922, with articles on January 6, 1922, February 24, 1922, April 28, 1922, May 5, 1922, and September 8, 1922. A special section entitled "The New Edifice of the Wellesley Congregational Church," written by Thomas Hastings, of Carrère and Hastings Architects, dated July 14, 1922, provides information about the design intent and early appearance of the church. An undated ca. 1922 article by Rev. Lewis Wilder Hicks entitled "Certain Outstanding Facts about the Wellesley Congregational Church" provides additional information. Copies of these articles are attached to Massachusetts Historical Commission inventory form WEL.201 and are also available at the Wellesley Historical Society.

Colonial Revival architecture used Georgian and Federal design features such as pediments, porticos, arches, columns, entablatures, and quoins to define the new architecture that referred to the past. Hastings used many elements in his design of the church complex that were in vogue well into the 20th century and that contributed to creating this fine example of a permanent structure rooted in the past. He employed the Georgian Revival style for this stately brick structure with classical details in the fenestration patterns, the monumental columned entry porch, the open arcade (now glassed in but retaining the arched openings) linking the Church on the south and the Parish Hall/Chapel (now Administrative Offices) on the north, and the clean, sparsely decorated, and well-lit church interior. By referencing the past in his design for the church complex, Hastings recalled the early history of this congregation dating back to the late 18th century.

Art

The headstones and monuments at the cemetery are noteworthy for the range of carving styles and motifs. The earliest extant headstone dates to 1777. The most recent are three slate headstones along the Memorial Path established in 2007 to accommodate cremated remains, as well as the 21st-century replacement headstone for Jacob Lyon. The oldest headstones are hand-carved slates that display the winged faces typical of the late 18th century. Early 19th-century headstones are a mix of marble and slate, many of which display the willow and urn motif. By the mid 19th century, an increasing number of stones were marble rather than slate, and production of gravestones became less of an art and more of a business, with headstones increasingly machine made rather than hand-carved. By the late 19th century, granite, which was much more durable than marble, became the primary material for gravestones. Later stones lack the creativity and individuality of the earlier periods and are less likely to be considered unique or significant.

Research into the carvers of the stones at the cemetery has been limited so far and it is likely that additional research would result in further attributions to specific carvers. The best source to date is found in the *Wellesley Congregational Church Master Plan Resource Notebook.* The stone conservation section of the master plan, which was prepared by Fannin Lehner Preservation Consultants, is based on their own observations and those of gravestone scholar Laurel Gable.

The report identifies one signed headstone by carver **Daniel Hastings**, that of Ensign Ephraim Bullard (d.1779, #50), and three signed headstones by the **Daniel Hastings Shop** (specific carver not identified) for members of the Smith family: Mrs. Elisabeth Smith (d.1781, #154); Captain Aaron Smith (d.1795, #146); and Mrs. Beulah Smith (d.1796, #147). The work of Hastings is summarized as: "Daniel Hastings b. 1749, A resident of Newton, MA and brother-in-law of Ebenezer Howard, a well-known gravestone carver. A prolific and popular carver in the area west of Boston. Hastings was extremely skilled at portraiture."[6]

The headstone of Cyrus Pratt (d.1821, #172) is signed by carver **J.P. Jepson** of Newton Corner, MA. The adjacent headstone of Deborah Pratt (d.1840, #173) is very similar in design and is most likely also carved by Jepson, as are the shared headstone for Sally (d.1821) and Martha Travis (d. 1833, #34), two young daughters of Henry and Sally Travis. The master plan indicates "What little is known of this stone carver is available at the Newton History Museum. His name is usually clearly carved at the bottom of the gravestones and he favored the willow and urn design."

The Perry family obelisk (d.1848-1874, #234) is signed by **A. O'Connor and Co.**, Worcester, who is known for creating sculptures and monuments in the late 19th and early 20th century.

[6] *Wellesley Congregational Church Master Plan Resource Notebook.* Section on gravestone carvers. 2006.

HISTORY OF CHURCH AND CEMETERY

Early History and First Meetinghouse (1635 - 1835)

The area that is now Wellesley, Massachusetts, was initially part of the 300-square-mile Dedham land grant of 1635-1636. In 1711 the town of Needham broke away from Dedham, incorporating present-day Needham and Wellesley (then called West Needham). In the early years, farming was the primary livelihood for most families in Needham, but there were also several small mills along the Charles River. In 1773 the meetinghouse (located in East Needham) burned, increasing tension between the east and west parts of the community. The following year a new meetinghouse was built in East Needham, and West Needham, which would eventually become Wellesley, began to assert its independence.

In 1774 West Needham was set off as a separate parish, although the separation was not formally ratified by the state legislature until 1778.[7] West Needham's first meetinghouse was a two-story frame building that served as both town hall and church. Construction of the meetinghouse was interrupted by the Revolutionary War, and the building was not formally completed until 1798. [8] The meetinghouse and adjacent burial ground were located on ½ acre of land on the north side of Church Street, where the present sanctuary of the Congregational Church is located. The area to the north of the church was open common and pasture.

The first meetinghouse was described as a "bare structure furnished with benches for the lack of pews, and during much of the time without glass in the windows."[9] As in most New England towns of the period, all members of the community were required to attend services and to provide financial support for the preacher.

In September 1798, the Congregational Church of West Needham was formally organized with ten members, and the first meetinghouse was finally completed. In 1799 Thomas Noyes was ordained and installed as the first pastor, a position he held until 1833. At that time the parish included about 100 families out of a total population of 500 to 600 in the scattered farming community.

By the early 1800s, West Needham had become a distinct town with a small village center. Most people still farmed for their livelihood. The village was described in Nason's *Gazetteer of Massachusetts* as "a church, one or two stores of the common country kind, a junction of several roads, and a few dwellings, scattered rather than clustered" and a place where "drowsy influence hung over the land and pervaded the whole locality."[10] New transportation routes created during the early 19th century linked the community with the outside world, providing convenient access to Boston markets for sale of farm products and bringing urban residents to the country for health and recreation. Later the community became a group of villages, which still exist as the Fells, the Square, the Hills, the Farms, and the Falls.

The oldest extant headstone in the cemetery is that of Ebenezer Hunting, who died in 1777, but there may have been earlier burials for whom no headstone exists. In 1809 the first tomb was built on the church property by Mrs. Sarah Badger, a wealthy member of the congregation. In addition to Mrs. Badger, Thomas Noyes, the first minister of the congregation, is buried in this tomb located underground near the southeast entrance to the church. This was followed by several additional tombs belonging to prominent Wellesley

[7] Hinchliffe, *Five Pounds Currency*, 15.
[8] Hicks, Rev.Lewis Wilder, "Certain Outstanding Facts about the Wellesley Congregational Church." MHC inventory form Wel.201.
[9] Chandler, *History of the Wellesley Congregational Church*, 21.
[10] Hinchliffe, 25.

families. In 1812 Ralph Smith deeded one acre, 12 rods, to be improved as part of the meetinghouse lot and burying ground.[11]

The Rev. Joseph Sessions, a young man described as having "an earnest zeal for the spiritual welfare of his congregation," was installed as the second minister in 1833 and remained in the position until 1842.[12] In 1834 the congregation voted to build a new meetinghouse to replace the old one, which had become dilapidated. To accommodate the new building, which was set further back from Church Street and faced east instead of south, additional land was purchased adjoining the original property.[13]

Growth of Town and Second Meetinghouse (1835 - 1871)

The Boston & Worcester Railroad, built through Wellesley in the 1830s, made access to Boston easier, prompting an influx of visitors who came to enjoy the scenic community and healthy environment. Due to the presence of the church and the surrounding development of the time, some of Boston's wealthiest settled here on large summer estates. These included Horatio Hollis Hunnewell (1810-1902), who would become Wellesley's primary benefactor, Henry Fowle Durant, the founder of Wellesley College, and Charles B. Dana, the namesake of the Dana Hall preparatory school.[14]Many visitors established summer residences and eventually year-round homes, so that by mid-century the town was still small with heavy reliance on agriculture, but there were many new residents who worked in Boston.

The second meetinghouse, a simple one-story wood frame structure with a steeple at its eastern end, was dedicated in 1835. The same year the parish committee made repairs around the burying ground and built a new hearse house.[15] The 1840s were a period of dissent for the congregation, with several pastors dismissed. In 1847, 28 members split off to form the Congregational Church at Grantville (now Wellesley Hills). When set off it was called the Orthodox Congregational Society and later named the Wellesley Hills Congregational Society. There were also constant financial struggles during this period.

In 1858 the church sold a strip of land from the northeast corner of its lot to the county commission, to be used as a road or common with the stipulation that it remain open for public use. The former church property remains town-owned open space today.

By the 1850s, the old burial ground, which had evolved haphazardly over the years, was filling up and was in poor condition. In 1856 the church acquired from Nathaniel T. Guild about 13,000 sq. ft. of land to the west of the burial ground. In 1865 the church acquired additional land west of the burial ground, which was later exchanged to acquire land for Woodlawn Cemetery.[16]

A bequest from congregation member Betsey Brown, known as the Brown Trust, provided funds for improvements to the burial ground in the late 1850s and '60s. A major project was construction of the present stone wall around the perimeter. Another project was laying out the newly acquired cemetery land.[17] In contrast with the single graves found in the old section of the burial ground, the new part of the cemetery was

[11] Fuller Notes, Wellesley Historical Society. The hearse house appears on the 1876 and 1888 town atlases, but not the 1897 atlas.
[12] Chandler, 55.
[13] Chandler, 51.
[14] Dorrin, correspondence, June 2014.
[15] Fuller Notes, WHS.
[16] Fuller Notes, WHS.
[17] Chandler, 70.

laid out in orderly lots where family members could be buried together in perpetuity. The lots were arranged around a U-shaped path.

In 1864 the congregation was reorganized as the Wellesley Congregational Society, beginning a period of strong leadership and financial stability. The church and burial ground, which had previously been owned by the West Precinct, were transferred to the Congregational Society. The new name is particularly significant because the use of the name "Wellesley" preceded the naming of the town. It referred to the Hunnewell estate, also named Wellesley, and indicates the important role that the church played in the development of Wellesley Square. Just two years before, in 1862, the post office and railroad station in West Needham Village had also adopted the name "Wellesley," as the area had become associated with Horatio Hunnewell and his Wellesley estate at 845 Washington Street (WEL.127, NR).[18]

New Church and New Town (1872 - 1916)

As the congregation grew in numbers and achieved greater financial stability, it undertook construction of a new church. The third church, designed by architects H. and J.E. Billings, was dedicated in 1872. The old church was moved to Grove Street, and later became part of the Dana Hall School.[19]

By the 1870s, most of the family lots in the cemetery had been sold. There was little burial space remaining, and no room to expand on the original site. In 1877, the church acquired land on Brook Street southeast of the village center that became Woodlawn Cemetery. The new cemetery, designed as a rural cemetery, became a nonsectarian cemetery corporation in 1882. In 1879 the old burying ground was closed to all burials except in the family lots at the western edge, although later some exceptions were allowed.

In 1881 the town of Wellesley, previously part of Needham and known as West Needham, was incorporated as an independent community with a population of about 2,000. The new town was named for Isabella Pratt Welles, wife of Horatio Hollis Hunnewell. Wellesley's first civic buildings, the town hall/library and the railroad stations, were an important statement regarding the stature and sophistication of the new community. Other civic improvements soon followed.

During this period, other religious congregations were formed, including the Unitarian Society at Wellesley Hills between 1869 and 1871 and a Catholic parish in 1881. The Congregational Society of Wellesley Hills adopted its new name in 1884. It had been the Orthodox Congregational Church, established in 1847 by families leaving the Wellesley Congregational Church to form a new congregation in Wellesley Hills. Each of these religious societies erected buildings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries as well. In 1894, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church built its structure, but it had been established as a mission in 1891 and had been meeting at various locations in Wellesley (West Needham until 1881) for about 15 years prior to that.

The 1880s were a time of greater stability for the congregation, allowing the church to pay off long-term debts. In 1881 the first church by-laws were established. It was also an active time for the congregation, with greater organization and many new committees formed, such as the Ladies Home Missionary and Church Aid Society. Perez Cowan, minister from 1878 to 1890, oversaw a period of religious development that ended with his retirement in 1890. Another reflection of the growing strength of the congregation was the reorganization in 1891 of the old Wellesley Congregational Society into the Wellesley Congregational Church (a corporation).

[18] Dorrin, correspondence, June 2014
[19] Chandler, 94.

Edward Herrick Chandler, minister from 1892 to 1897, wrote:

> *"The year 1890 is surely one to be noted in the history of the church. Never had there been so bright an outlook for the future. With the changing conditions which had already begun to influence the church life there was also a larger body than ever of loyal men and women, young and old, ready to go forward with the new work of new days, and to meet unhesitatingly the problems of the future."*[20]

The 1890s were a time of growth for the church and the congregation. In 1893, approximately 140 remains, including 67 people from the Bullard, Parker, and Smith tombs, were transferred from the old burying ground to Woodlawn Cemetery to make space for the new addition on the southwest corner of the church where the tombs had previously been located.[21] In 1897 construction of the new parish house extension was completed. In 1898 the church celebrated its centennial. It was a period of change for the community too, as Wellesley became less of a country town and more of a suburb of Boston.

Growing Community and Fourth Church (1916 - present)

In 1916 the third church was destroyed by fire and many early church records were lost. Rebuilding began in 1918 with the parish house and chapel (present administrative offices and Burtt Chapel) as the first phase. Construction of the church itself, which was part of the 1918 Carrère and Hastings design, was postponed because of World War I. In 1922, Carrère and Hastings revised the 1918 design of the church, and construction took place in 1922 to 1923.

The first section of the current Georgian Revival building complex, the Parish House and Chapel, was completed in 1918-1919. The Parish House included a living room, sewing-machine room, a kitchenette, and Men's Bible classroom on the main floor and classrooms on the second story. (Map 3) A social hall was located beneath the chapel in the basement where there also was a kitchen, coatrooms, and a Boys club. The Chapel was in a north-south ell projecting from the south wall of the Parish House, with the altar on the south end and seating extending into the parish house where today's lobby is located.

The cornerstone of the church structure was laid October 12, 1922, and the building was completed and dedicated on October 21, 1923. A "Statement of the Building Committee," written as the design of the church was nearing completion, reported that it was "not uncommon to see over 400 people crowded into our Chapel....and we believe that the time has come to complete our plant by erecting an adequate Church edifice."[22]

At the same time, the Cloister was built linking the new church with the parish house and providing a passageway between the two. The Cloister was part of the original design, but not built until 1922-1923. It was an open, full-length porch lining the eastern wall of the chapel, consisting of five open arches in the brick wall. The Cloister was enclosed in the 1950s by filling the open arches with glass, providing an interior space to walk between the parts of the complex.

The Wellesley Congregational Church is one of only a few local projects designed by Carrere and Hastings that have been identified to date. The well-known architectural firm was based in New York. In 1886 John

[20] Chandler, 109.
[21] Chandler, 96.
[22] *Wellesley Townsman*, 1922, from undated clipping in files of Wellesley Historical Society and also attached to MHC inventory form WELL.201.

Mervene Carrère (1858-1911) and Thomas Hastings (1860-1929) formed a partnership after both had attended L'École des Beaux Arts and worked at McKim Mead & White, where they were exposed to classical design. Carrère and Hastings designed commercial buildings, elaborate residences, and prominent public structures in New York, Washington, London, Paris, Rome, and Havana between 1895 and 1924. Their client list included Carnegie, duPont, Rockefeller, Harriman, Morgan, Gould, Astor, Payne, Whitney, and Vanderbilt. They are known for Beaux-Arts masterpieces such as the New York Public Library, the Ponce de Leon Hotel in St. Augustine, and the Frick House (now The Frick Collection) in New York, among many others. In addition, they made extensive renovations to the U.S. Capitol and designed the Senate Office Building, the House Office Building, and the Carnegie Institute in Washington. Other residential, institutional, and commercial works included the Alfred I. duPont House (now Nemours Mansion) in Delaware, the Flagler House in Palm Beach, and, in New York, the Henry Sloane House (now Lycée Français).

The firm's Massachusetts commissions include several buildings designed in 1899 at the Giraud Foster Estate in Lenox including what some believe is the finest mansion in Lenox, Bellefontaine (LEN.162, NR). At Elm Bank in Wellesley/Dover, Carrère and Hastings designed the Alice Cheney Baltzell House (DOV.179, DOV.A, NR) in 1907 in the Georgian Revival style. The Baltzell House, built a decade before the Wellesley Congregational Church complex was started, is located nearby on Washington Street at the town line between Wellesley and Dover, and may have led the church building committee to Carrère and Hastings, although no link has been identified to date.

The Building Committee for the church articulated their pride in the architects and their aspirations for the new church:

> *"Our architects, Carrere and Hastings of New York, hold first rank among the architects of America, and the building they are designing for us is pronounced to be the firm's masterpiece in Church architecture. This commanding structure will add character and tone to the Town, increase the value of real estate, and generally strengthen the commercial integrity of the Community. Irrespective of religious affiliation, every man and woman, every boy and girl, may point with just pride to the edifice of the Wellesley Congregational Church.... While earlier buildings of the congregation had been referred to as meeting house, the new project was envisioned as a House of Worship."*[23]

The chairman of the Building Committee was Charles Norton Taylor, who also constructed commercial blocks on Washington Street, directly opposite the church as well as his own residence at 592 Washington Street.

Funds were limited due to World War I, so the first parts of the project to be completed were the chapel and Sunday school rooms or Parish Hall, which were completed in 1919 at a cost of $71,426. The church came soon after, with its cornerstone laid on October 12, 1922, and its completion and dedication on October 21, 1923. John W. Duff Inc. of Boston was the builder. The final cost was about $150,000. The building was inspected for public safety, as were all public buildings in the Commonwealth. Attached to the card telling of the first phase—the chapel and Parish Hall (1918)—there is an inspection card for a building to be used as a "church" with J. Williams Beal & Sons as architects. It was dated November 1924. J. Williams Beal (1855-1919) established his firm on Summer Street in Boston, and had spent some time in the 1880s in New York in the office of McKim, Mead & White. Two sons followed him into architecture (John W. and Horatio);

[23] Ibid.

another, Robert W., who lived in Wellesley, became a landscape architect. Robert was a member of this church. It is unknown what the Beal firm did – whether they were supervising architects or if there were alterations to the first phase that were made in 1924. There are no plans corresponding to this information in the Department of Public Safety file in the Massachusetts State Archives and there is no information in the church records explaining a role for J. Williams Beal & Sons.

Around this time the cemetery fell into disrepair and was being used as a thoroughfare. In 1932 the wall facing Central Street was made taller in an effort to reduce the pedestrian traffic through the cemetery. In the hurricane of 1938, the Church Street wall was damaged by an uprooted tree and many of the tombstones were toppled and broken. The church raised money through popular subscription to repair the wall, set the tombstones in their original positions, and restore broken stones by encasing them in cement. After the hurricane, citizens began to discuss the community's obligation to care for the cemetery regardless of its ownership. The fact that Revolutionary War soldiers were buried there was cited as indication of its importance as hallowed ground.

The Wellesley *Townsman* reported in 1945 that the cemetery remained in poor condition with evidence of extensive foot traffic, as well as vandalism and debris. In 1946 a cedar fence was erected along the east side of the burial ground from Church Street to Central Street, with a gate at either end. The stone walls around the other three sides had already been rebuilt so that the burial ground was entirely enclosed. Signs read,

> *"Village Church Cemetery. This is God's acre. Here lies all that is mortal of the men and women who established this town and who in 1775 pledged their lives and fortunes, some to die in battle, for freedom's sake. Trespassing is forbidden in order to keep sacred the ground in which they rest. Per order of the Church Committee."*[24]

This sign not only protected the cemetery but also affirmed its importance to the town well beyond the church community. In 1953, an article in the *Townsman* urged public support for beautification of the cemetery. The following year, approximately 40 graves were relocated within the cemetery to provide space for the proposed addition on the western side of the church complex.

Plans on file at the Massachusetts State Archives include interior alterations to the 1918 parish house by the Boston architectural firm Perry, Shaw, and Hepburn in 1948. These plans showed the reworking of interior spaces into additional small rooms. A much larger project in 1955 included a parish house addition and enlargement of the sanctuary. Harold B. Willis (1890-1962) of Collens, Willis & Beckonert was the architect. Georgian Revival design of the original buildings was respected and carried out in the parish house addition. The dedication of the new building addition was planned for September 18, 1955; however, the pastor, the Rev. Robert Burtt, died at home as he prepared to come to church that day. Eventually the chapel, which served as a chapel throughout the building's history, was named after him.

The most recent expansion of the church, which included parish facilities on the west side of the building and raising the path between the church and the cemetery to grade level, was undertaken in 2002-2003, with design by the Office of Michael Rosenfeld.

In 2006, the church completed a cemetery master plan with the goal of identifying and prioritizing preservation needs and determining whether there were any remaining opportunities for burial of cremated remains within the cemetery. Based on historical evidence, primarily the 1860 map, the western segment of the U-shaped historic road was identified as the best opportunity for potential cremation sites. This was

[24] *Townsman* 5/9/1946, Wellesley Historical Society files.

confirmed by archaeological investigations conducted by PAL Inc. The Memorial Path was dedicated in 2007 as a place for cremation burials.

To this day, the Wellesley Congregational Church still serves as a unifying presence within the community, primarily as a result of the physical relationship between the church and the rest of Wellesley Square. Although the property of the church is bounded on all sides by busy roadways, the design and positioning of the church was meant to complement and harmonize with the surrounding buildings. Specifically, this was accomplished by constructing the new church of materials similar to those of nearby business blocks, as well as situating the main entrance to the church opposite the most heavily patronized part of the commercial district on Washington Street (in contrast to the third church, which fronted the less-developed Central Street). It was therefore all but impossible for any passerby to overlook the unity between the church and the rest of Wellesley Square.[25]

Archaeological Significance

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to contribute detailed information on the social, cultural, and economic patterns that reflect much of Wellesley's community history throughout most of the 18th through the 20th centuries. Archaeological resources can be especially important by contributing information on Wellesley's resident population from its working-class to more affluent citizens. The original half acre of the meetinghouse and cemetery was created in 1774 on the north side of Church Street, where the sanctuary of the Congregational Church is located. Several purchases were subsequently made, increasing the total acreage to 2.33 acres. Additional documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing within and around the current boundary of the cemetery, may identify the full range of graves present at the Congregational Church cemetery. Unmarked graves may exist, and the current pattern of the gravestones may not, in every instance, reflect their actual placement. Gravestones were frequently removed from older cemeteries, then later replaced at more recently formed cemeteries. The movement of graves may have resulted in partial sets of remains at both cemeteries; one set at the older cemetery where the remains might not have been completely excavated, the other set at the new cemetery where incomplete remains were reinterred. Gravestones were also erected as commemorative markers by descendants of individuals after their deaths. This scenario has been observed at other burial grounds in Massachusetts, and may have been used for some burials at the Wellesley Congregational Church Cemetery. Archaeological research can help identify these graves, as well as later unmarked graves resulting from stolen, damaged, and overgrown stones. Eighteenth- through 20th-century unmarked graves may also be present, representing paupers and unknown persons. Archaeological research can also be used to help test the accuracy of existing boundaries at each cemetery. Existing bounds may not accurately represent the actual boundaries of each cemetery. Some burials, possibly those of unknown persons, paupers, or other indigent persons, may have intentionally been buried outside the cemetery boundary. Artifact distributions may also be present associated with funerary or memorial services for specific individuals at their time of death or individuals and groupings of individuals (possibly families) at a later date.

While the sites for some structures are historically known for the cemetery and other structures are still extant, additional documentary research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may locate structural evidence of barns, stables, maintenance buildings, and outbuildings associated with the operation and maintenance of the cemetery. Occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) may also be present. Detailed analysis of the contents of these features may contribute important information on the social,

[25] Dorrin, correspondence, June 2014.

cultural, and economic characteristics of cemetery workers and Wellesley residents who came to the Congregational Church Cemetery to pay their respects to the dead.

Much of the above information can be obtained through unobtrusive archaeological research. That is, information can be obtained by mapping artifact concentrations and the locations of features such as grave shafts and post molds without disturbing actual skeletal remains. Remote-sensing research techniques might also contribute useful information. A ground-penetrating radar (GPR) survey was conducted of the roadway area prior to the intensive archaeological survey. The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) requested that an intensive archaeological survey be conducted to test for the presence of burials due to the problematic nature of GPR results. No evidence of burials or other mortuary features was found in the results of either the GPR or intensive surveys. Unobtrusive archaeological research obtained in this manner may contribute important social, cultural, and economic information relating to the 18th- through 20th-century Wellesley (West Needham) village settlement; however, more detailed studies can be implemented through the actual excavation of burials and their analysis. Osteological studies of individuals interred at the cemetery have the potential to contribute a wealth of information relating to the overall physical appearance of the town's inhabitants, their occupations, nutrition, pathologies, and cause of death. This information can also be used to determine the actual number of individuals interred at each cemetery. Osteological information can provide detailed information about the inhabitants of a community during periods when written records are rare or nonexistent. The paucity of written records is especially true for minority members of the community, including Native Americans and African Americans. The overall context of the graves, including material culture remains, can contribute information on burial practices, religious beliefs, economic status, family structure, and numerous other topics relating to the individual, their socioeconomic group, and the overall settlement. Archaeological research may be our only source of evidence for the investigation of certain aspects and areas of interest for the Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery, particularly those topics that deal with the early formative years of cemetery growth for which few if any records survive.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Books, Reports and Articles

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/J._Williams_Beal Accessed 2/6/14.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Centennial_Exposition Accessed 2/26/14.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World's_Columbian_Exposition#Architecture Accessed 2/26/14.

www.ancestry.com Accessed 2/6/14.

www.historicnewengland.org/preservation/your-older-or-historic-home/architectural-style-guide#colonial-revival-1880-1955 Accessed 2/28/14.

Maps (all maps are from the Wellesley Historical Society unless otherwise noted)

1860. *A Plan of the Cemetery at West Needham.* Robert Mansfield, surveyor.

1876. *Atlas of Norfolk County.* Comstock & Kline.

1888. *Atlas of Norfolk County.* Robinson.

1897. *Atlas of Norfolk County.* Stadly and Co.

1919. *Atlas of the Town of Wellesley.* Sanborn.

2000. Hayes Engineering. *Burial Ground Plan of Land in Wellesley, Massachusetts, August 29, 2000.* On file at Wellesley Congregational Church.

2005. Hayes Engineering. *Existing Conditions, March 2005* (on 2000 Site Plan). On file at Wellesley Congregational Church.

Plans

Massachusetts State Archives. Department of Public Safety Files. Architectural Plans for the Wellesley Congregational Church:

1. Carrère & Hastings.Wellesley Cong. Chapel. May 23, 1918. Plans are for the chapel and parish house. Case B, rack 8, apart.10, no. 15176. (Attached to the index card for these plans was an index card for the Wellesley Congregational Church indicating plans were filed by architect J. Williams Beal Sons on Nov. 21, 1924. The plans could not been located by the staff of the State Archives.)

2. Carrère & Hastings. Wellesley Congregational Church, June 16, 1922. Plans are for the church and cloister with arcade. Case B, rack 9, apart. 49, no. 17560.

3. Perry, Shaw & Hepburn. Parish House Alteration, 1948. (plans are rolled with the Carrère & Hastings 1918 plans.

4. Collens, Wills & Bekonert. Aterations and additions. March 16, 1955. (plans are rolled with the Carrère & Hastings 1922 plans.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

____ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
____ previously listed in the National Register
____previously determined eligible by the National Register
____designated a National Historic Landmark
____ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #_____
____recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
____ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

____ State Historic Preservation Office
____ Other State agency
____ Federal agency
____ Local government
____ University
__x__ Other
Name of repository: _Wellesley Congregational Church, Wellesley Historical Society

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): WEL.201, 800

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.33 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates
Datum if other than WGS84:_____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 42.296159 Longitude: -71.293813
2. Latitude: Longitude:
3. Latitude: Longitude:
4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or
UTM References
Datum (indicated on USGS map): Framingham Quad

☐ NAD 1927 or ☐ NAD 1983

1. Zone: 19 Easting: 310910 Northing: 4685207
2. Zone: Easting: Northing:
3. Zone: Easting: Northing:
4. Zone: Easting : Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

This nomination includes a single 2.33-acre parcel, which is listed as Parcel 85 on Map 124 of the Wellesley, Massachusetts Assessor's database.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

This parcel includes the entire parcel owned by the Wellesley Congregational Church, which includes the church complex and the cemetery.

2. Form Prepared By

name/title: Shary Berg & Gretchen Schuler with Betsy Friedberg, MHC NR Director
organization: Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number: 220 Morrissey Boulevard
city or town: Boston state: MA zip code: 02125
e-mail betsy.friedberg@state.ma.us
telephone: 617-727-8470
date: July 2014

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Wellesley

County: Norfolk State: MA

Photographer: Shary Berg

Date Photographed: 2011-2012

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Number	*Description*	*Date*	*Photographer*
Photo 1	Parish Hall, now known as Administrative Offices, original 1919 five-bay section in foreground, 1955 addition at the right rear. View to the west from northeast corner of property.	November 2012	Shary Berg
Photo 2	Church from corner of Washington and Church Streets. View to the northwest.	November 2011	Shary Berg
Photo 3	Interior of church sanctuary from balcony looking west towards altar.	June 2012	Shary Berg
Photo 4	Parish Hall and cemetery. View to the east from Abbott Street.	November 2012	Shary Berg
Photo 5	Cemetery, looking north towards Central Street with Carhart family lot at left.	September 2011	Shary Berg
Photo 6	Headstones of Deacon Joseph Daniells (d.1810) and his wife Mary Daniells (d.1803). View to the east with Parish Hall in the background.	November 2012	Shary Berg
Photo 7	Ware children triple headstone (d.1823, #126. View to the east with Parish Hall in the background.	November 2012	Shary Berg
Photo 8	Smith family lot with Smith, Fuller, Ware monument. View to the west with Church Street wall on the left.	November 2012	Shary Berg

District Data Sheet

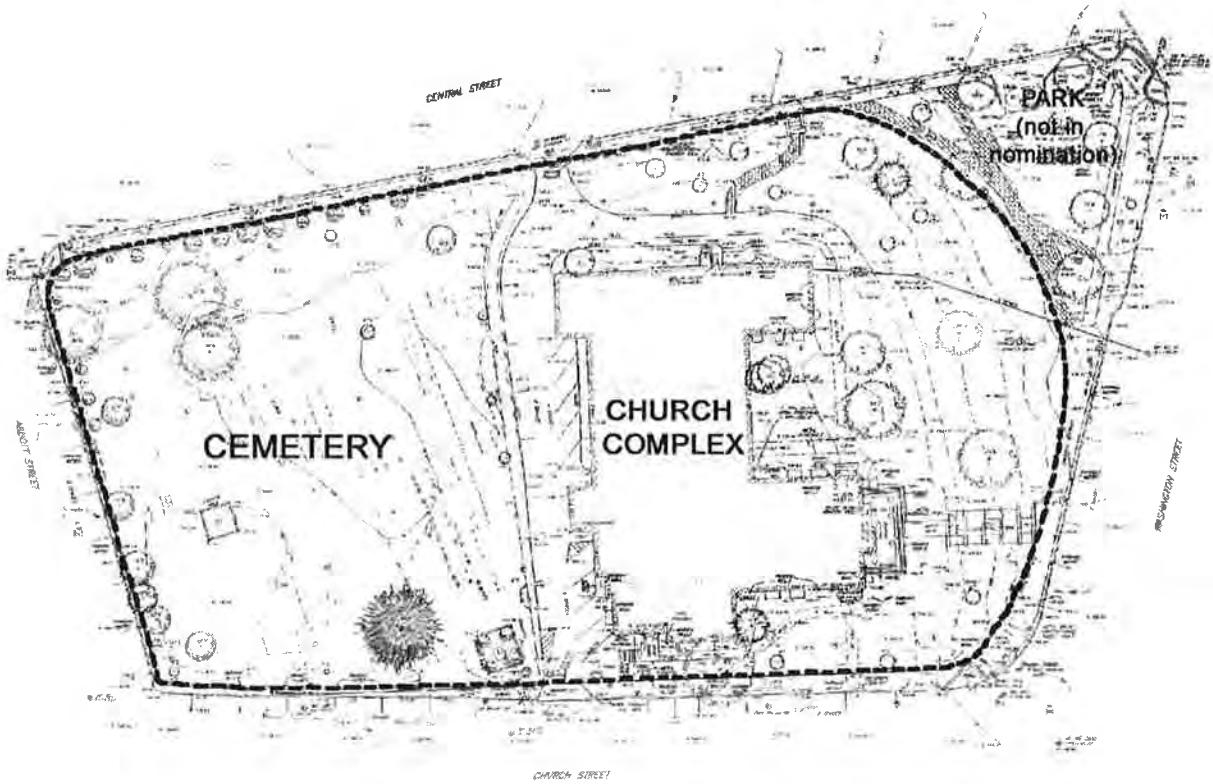
Note: Buildings and structures are listed first, followed by headstones, monuments and tombs, which are listed in chronological order. HS = headstone, FS = footstone, Mon = monument. Only key and representative markers and monuments are included in list.

MHC #	Name	Date	Lot	Photo	Type	C/NC	Description
201	WCC Church Complex	1918 - 2002	NA	1,2,3,4	B	C	Church, chapel, offices, parish hall. Brick, slate.
800	WCC Cemetery		NA		Si	C	2.33 acres
976	Perimeter Wall	19th C.	NA		St	C	Granite & fieldstone retaining wall
978	Cemetery Road Remnants	ca. 1850	NA		St	C	
996	Driveway	19th C. - 2002	NA		St	NC	U-shaped drive around church, asphalt, stone
997	Hunting, Ebenezer	1777	135		Ob	C	Slate HS earliest stone
998	Bullard, Ensign Ephraim	1779	50		Ob	C	Slate HS carved by Daniel Hastings Rev War veteran
999	Smith, Elizabeth	1781	154		Ob	C	Slate HS carved by Daniel Hastings Shop
9000	Hunting, Corporal Timothy	1793	36		Ob	C	Slate HS willow/urn, light gray, Rev War veteran
9001	Smith, Captain Aaron	1795	146		Ob	C	Slate HS carved by Daniel Hastings Shop, Rev War veteran
9002	Smith, Mrs. Beulah	1796	147		Ob	C	Slate HS carved by Daniel Hastings Shop
9003	Daniells, Mary	1803	61	6	Ob	C	Slate HS, willow/urn
9004	Stevens, Ephraim	1806	57		Ob	C	Slate HS willow/urn, Rev War veteran
9005	Daniells, Deacon Joseph	1810	60	6	Ob	C	Slate HS, concrete surround, Rev War Veteran
9006	Eustis, Mary	1812	27		Ob	C	Slate HS, willow/urn, architectural motifs, mottled stone
9007	Stevens, Captain Abel	1814	63		Ob	C	Slate HS, willow/urn, Rev War veteran
9008	Ware, Daniel	1819	99		Ob	C	Marble HS, Rev War veteran
9009	Pratt, Cyrus	1821	172		Ob	C	Slate HS, willow/urn arch motifs. Signed by Jepson, Newton Corner
9010	Travis, Sally Travis, Martha A.	1821 1833	34A		Ob	C	Double slate HS, willow, motifs.
9011	Winch, Enoch Winch, Dorcas	1821 1874	208		Ob	C	Double marble HS, single granite base
9012	Ware, Daniel Ware, Caroline Ware, Levina	1823 1823 1823	126	7	Ob	C	Unusual triple slate HS, with FS

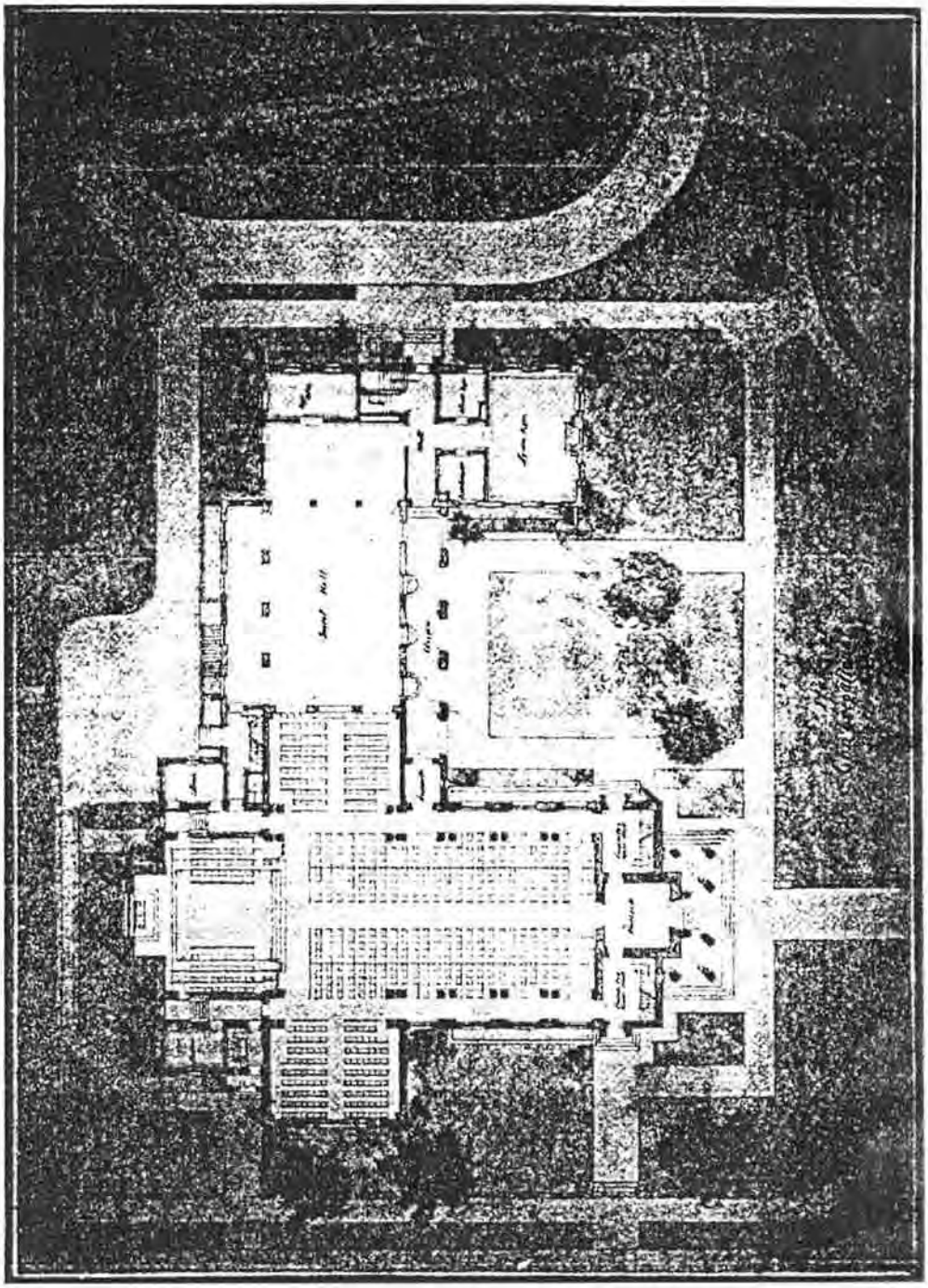
MHC #	Name	Date	Lot	Photo	Type	C/NC	Description
9013	Bullard, Captain Ephraim	1826	45		Ob	C	Slate HS, willow/urn Rev War veteran
9014	Lyon, Jacob	1829/21st C.	10A		Ob	NC	Replacement marble HS Headstone, 21st cent. Rev War veteran
9015	Smith, Aaron	1833	121		Ob	C	Slate HS, Rev War veteran
9016	Greenwood, Moses	1834	87		Ob	C	Marble HS, Carved by T. Warren, Lowell
977	McCracken Tomb	1841	202		St	C	Granite faced mound tomb
9017	Muzzey, Benoni	1846	233		Ob	C	Marble monument, Rev War veteran
9018	Flagg, Martha B Flagg, Mrs. Martha B	1848 1848	74		Ob	C	Marble HS, mother and infant. Carver: A. Wentworth, Boston
9019	Perry, Isabella, William et al	1848 1867	234		Ob	C	Marble obelisk, granite base, carved by A. O'Connor & Co., Worcester
9020	Winship, Joseph	1852	39		Ob	C	Marble HS, unusual willow
9021	Clements, John W.	1864	232		Ob	C	Marble monument on granite base, rounded top, hood
9022	Carhart Monument in curbed lot	1865	257, 258	5	Ob	C	Marble pillar, granite base, in curbed lot
9023	Hunting, Timothy Hunting, Mary B 7 children age 1-15	1871 1862	28		Ob	C	Marble slab HS,
9024	Smith, Fuller, Ware Monument	1881	130	8	Ob	C	Marble monument on granite base, curbed lot
9025	McCracken, Poole Monument	1884	202		Ob	C	Squat granite pillar with urn
9026	Communal Headstones	Ca. 2007	None		Ob (3)	NC	Slate headstones for new cremation area Karin Sprague, carver.

Resource Count	Contrib	Non-Contrib
Buildings	1	0
Sites	1	0
Structures	3	1
Objects	28	4
Totals	**33**	**5**

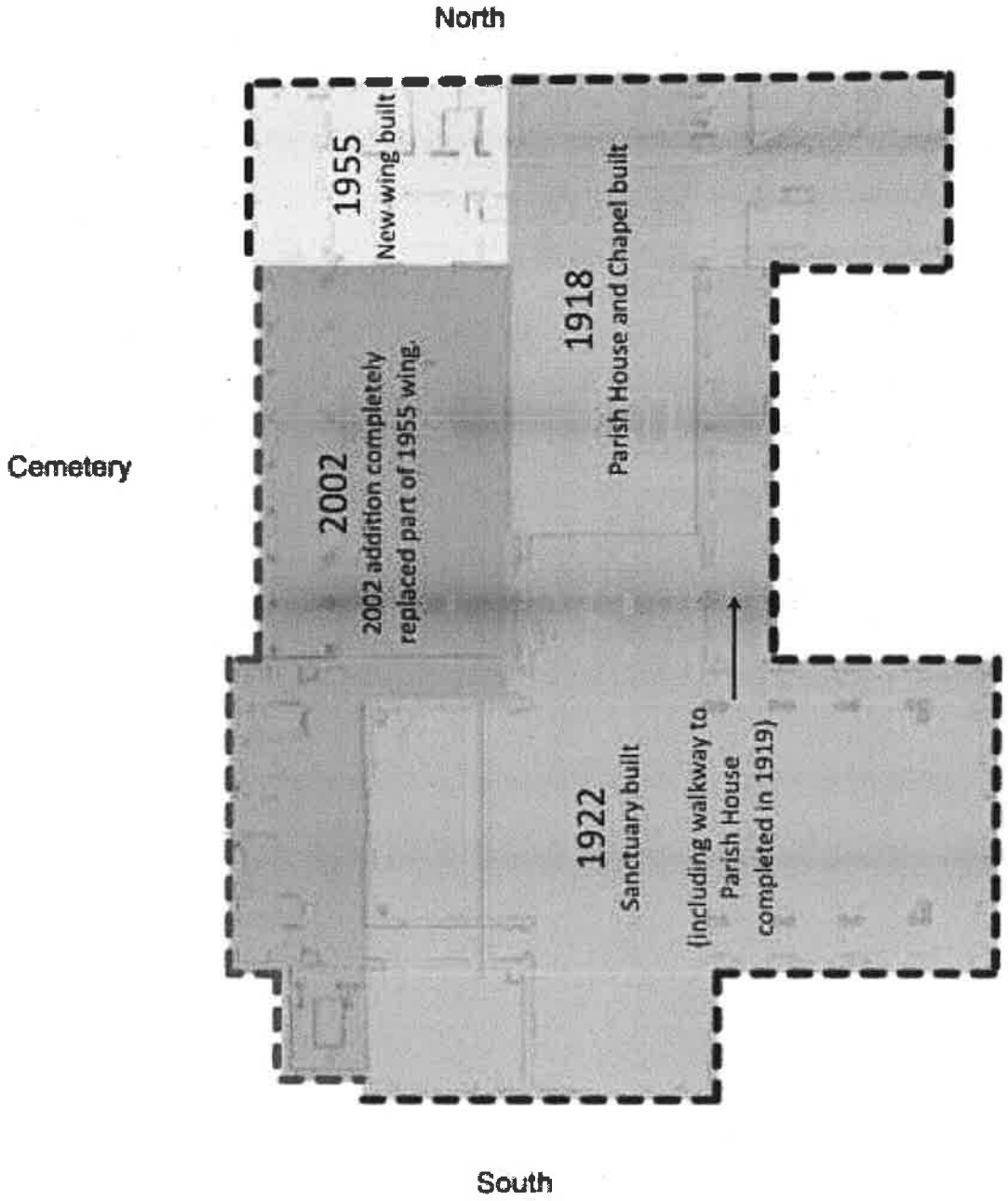
Maps and Figures



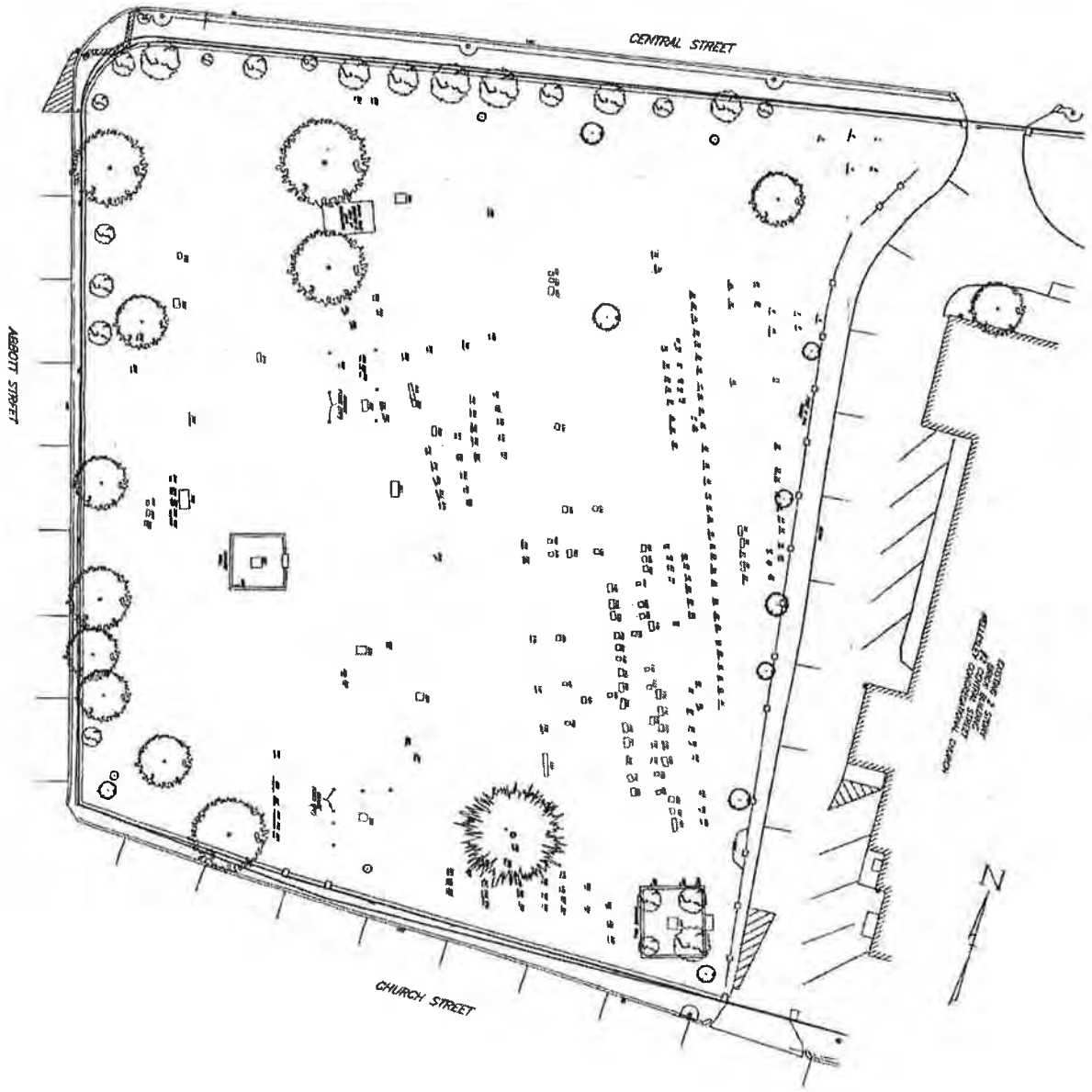
Map 1 – Church and Cemetery, 2012. Heavy black line shows area included in nomination.



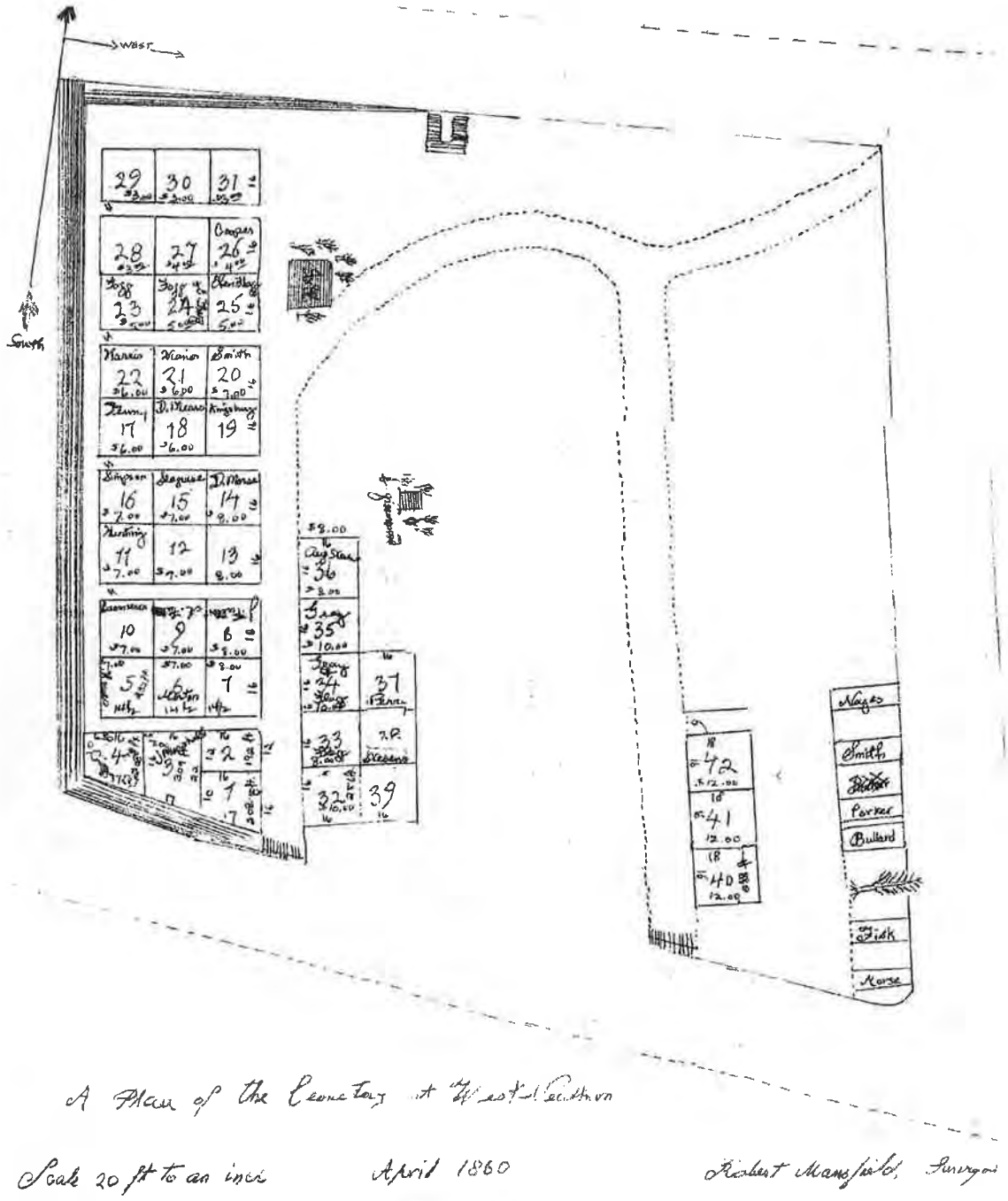
Map 2 – Carrere and Hastings Plan of Church Complex, 1918. Main sanctuary is at the bottom, social hall (now chapel) is at the upper left and offices are at the upper right.
(From the *Wellesley Townsman*, courtesy of Wellesley Historical Society).



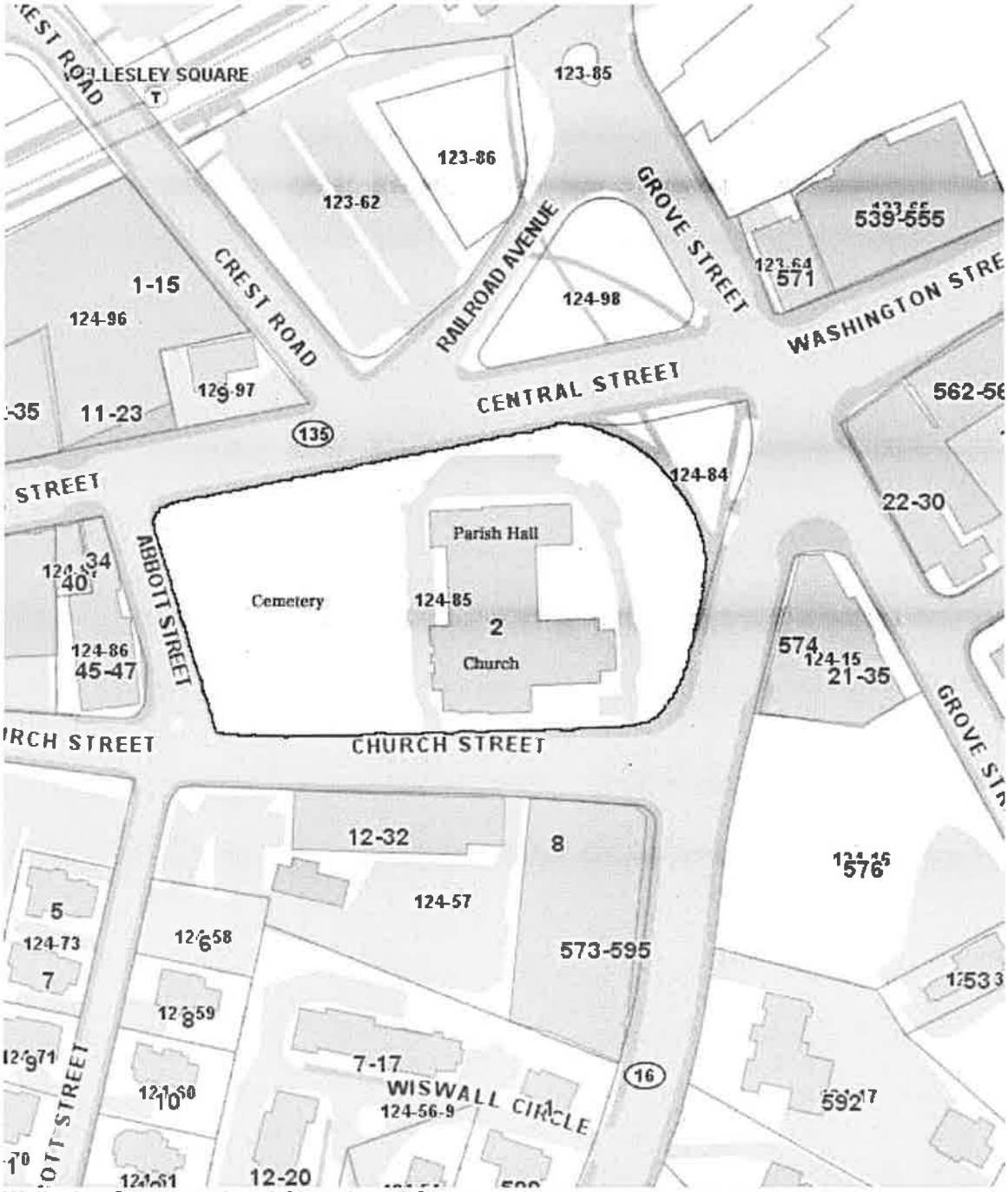
Map 3 - Diagram showing current interior uses of church complex.



Map 4 – *Burial Ground Plan of Land in Wellesley, Massachusetts, 2000* by Hayes Engineering. Church is to the right of the cemetery.



Map 5 –1860 map of cemetery, by Robert Mansfield, showing new path (now turf) and family lots that were added in the western part of the cemetery at that time.



Wellesley Congregational Church and Cemetery
Proposed National Register Boundary
Parcel 124-85
2 Central Street, Wellesley, MA
Wellesley Assessing Department
Online Database
Accessed 3-24-2014

Historic Photo 1 – 1923 view of church complex, view to the west from Washington Street. This view most clearly shows the relationship of the three components of the Carrère and Hastings design: the main church sanctuary at left, the social hall/chapel in the center (with arched openings that have since been glassed in) and the administrative offices to the right. This view has since become obscured by vegetation between Washington Street and the church buildings. (Wellesley Congregational Church Archives)

Photographs

Photo 1 – Administrative offices from NE corner, view to the west, 2012.

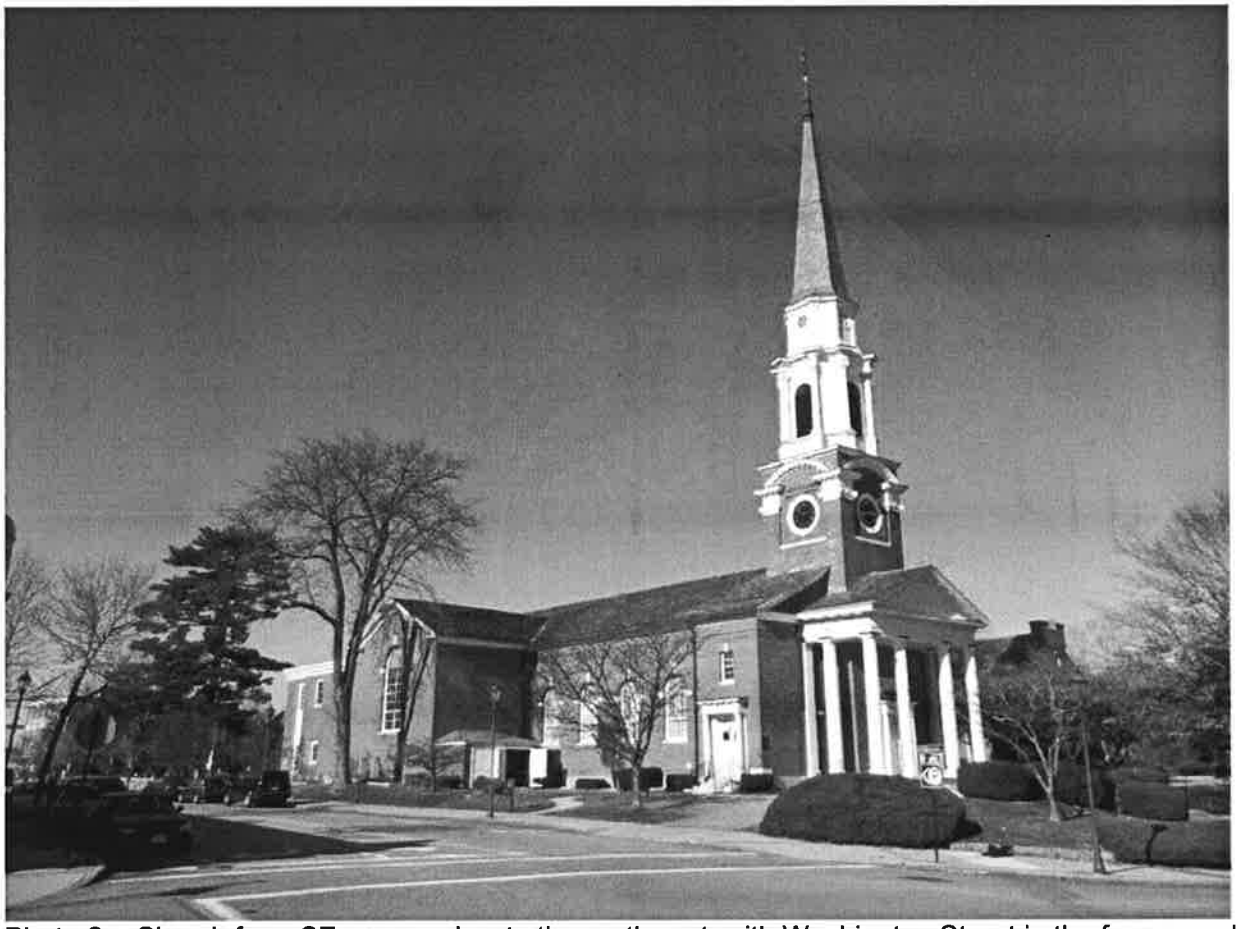


Photo 2 – Church from SE corner, view to the northwest, with Washington Street in the foreground, 2012.

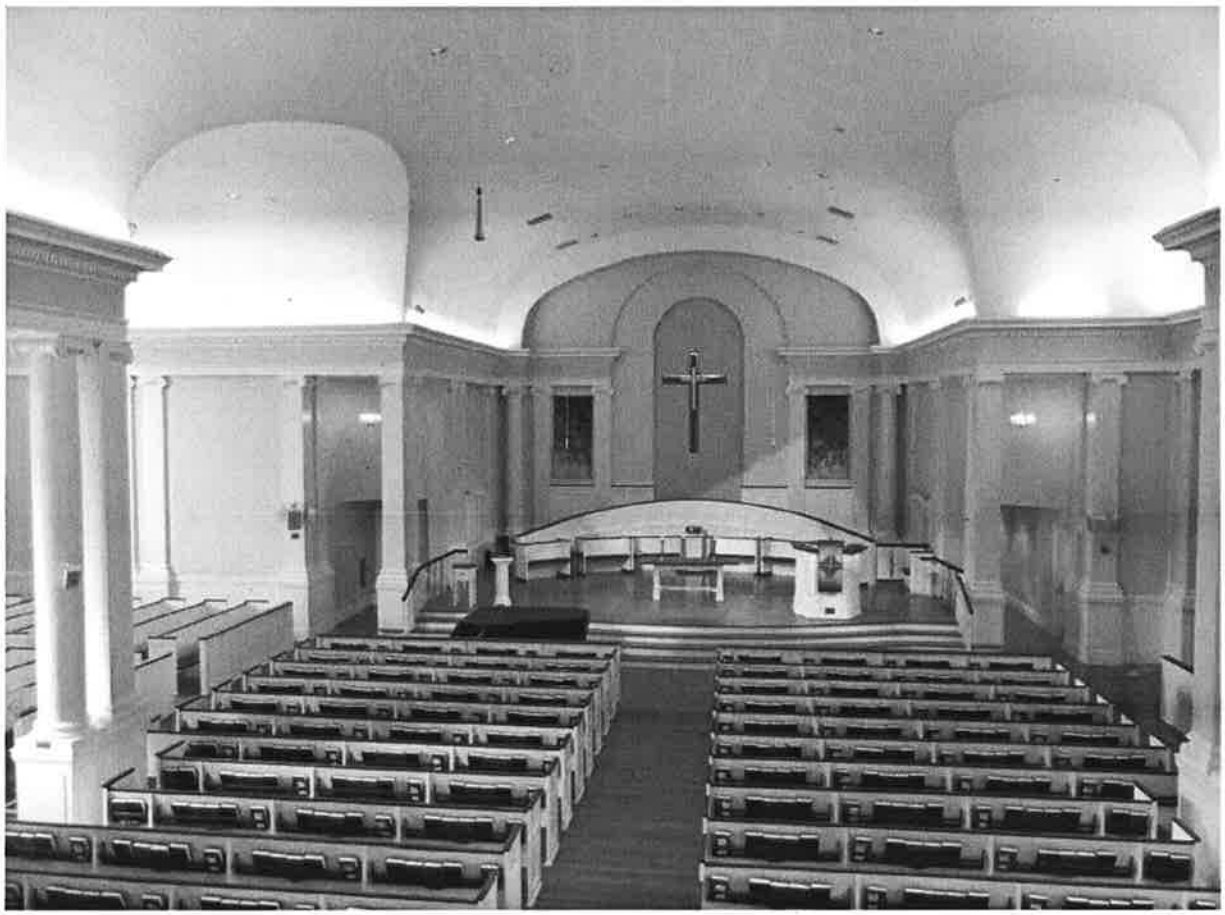


Photo 3 – Church sanctuary from rear balcony; view west to altar, 2011.

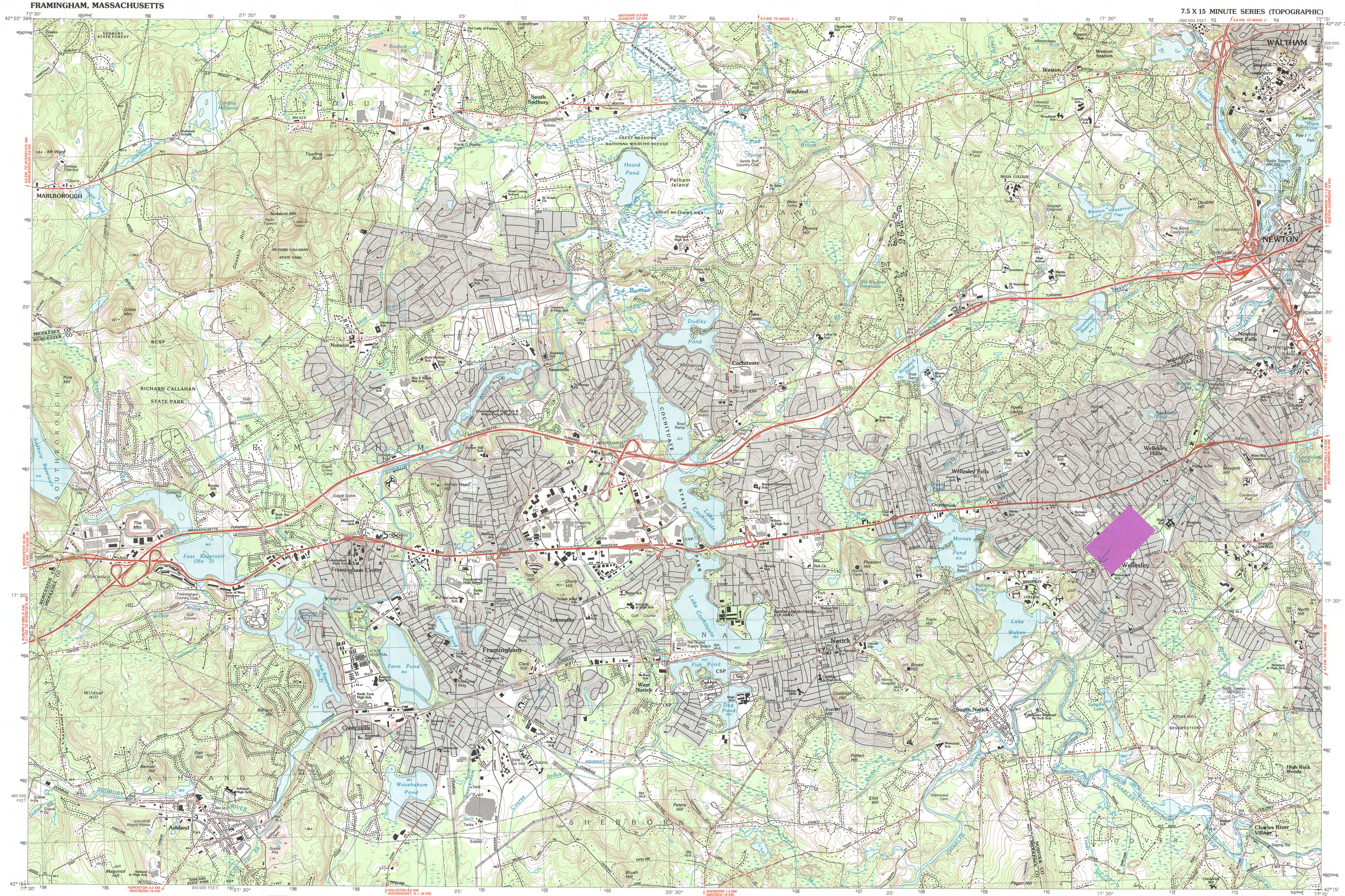
Photo 4 – Cemetery in foreground, Parish Hall in background, view to the east, 2012.

Photo 5 – Cemetery, view to the north with curbed Carhart lot at left, 2011.

Photo 6 – Slate headstones of Deacon Joseph Daniells (d.1810) and Mary Daniells (d.1803), view to east with Parish Hall in background, 2012.

Photo 7 – Triple headstone for three children of the Ware family (d.1823); view east with Parish Hall in background, 2012.

Photo 8 – Smith family lot, view to the west with Church Street at left, 2012.



SCALE 1:25 000

1 CENTIMETER ON THE MAP REPRESENTS 250 METERS ON THE GROUND

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS

KILOMETERS 1 .5 0 1 2 3 4

MILES 1 .5 0 1 2

500 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 METERS

1000 0 2000 4000 6000 8000 10 000 12 000 14 000 16 000 FEET

FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

42071-C3-TM-025

1987

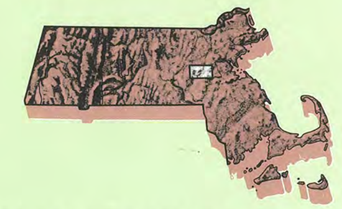
42071-C3-TM-025

Framingham

MASSACHUSETTS

Wellesley Congregational Church & Cemetery, Wellesley, MA

1:25 000-scale *metric* topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978 and 1981. Field checked 1979 and 1982. Map edited 1987
Supersedes Framingham 1979 and Natick 1970
1:25,000-scale maps

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19
Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks: Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929

CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

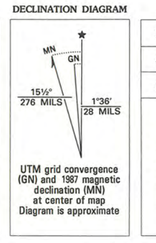
CONVERSION TABLE

Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
3	9.8425
4	13.1234
5	16.4042
6	19.6850
7	22.9659
8	26.2467
9	29.5276
10	32.8084

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM



UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1987 magnetic declination (MN) at center of map. Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS

1	2	3
4		5
6	7	8

1 Hudson
2 Maynard
3 Boston North
4 Marlborough
5 Boston South
6 Milford
7 Medfield
8 Norwood

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road; trail
Route marker: Interstate; U. S.; State
Railroad: standard gage; narrow gage
Bridge; drawbridge
Footbridge; overpass; underpass
Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
House; barn; church; school; large structure
Boundary:
National, with monument
State
County, parish
Civil township, precinct, district
Incorporated city, village, town
National or State reservation; small park
Land grant with monument; found section corner
U. S. public lands survey: range, township; section
Range, township; section line: location approximate
Fence or field line
Power transmission line, located tower
Dam; dam with lock
Cemetery; grave
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
Windmill; water well; spring
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava; sand
Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
Scrub; mangrove
Orchard; vineyard

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

In memory of
Dea. Joseph Daniells
who died April 16 1810
Aged 73 Years
S
A
R
1775
In memory of
Mrs. Mary Daniells
wife of
Dea. Joseph Daniells
who died June 6th 1803
Aged 56 Years

Here lies three children of Mr Daniel & Mrs Lydia Ware
DANIEL N.
died
Dec. 20. 1823.
Æt. 11 mo.
CAROLINE
died
Dec. 23. 1823
Æt. 3 yr.
Dear parents weep no more for us
We now are numbered with the just
Those parting tears are all in vain
LEVINA
died
Dec 21. 1823
Æt 10 yr

SMITH.
S.E.SMITH.