

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	170-252



Northampton

Address 35 No. Main St.

Church Free Congregational Church

Present use Seventh Day Adventist Church

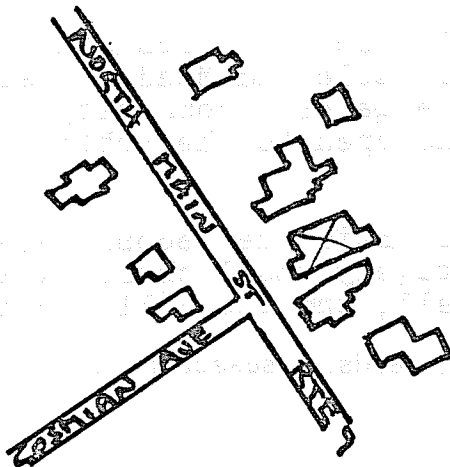
Present owner _____

Description: 1915- 1922

Source Directories

Architect _____

in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Exterior wall fabric stucco

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered -- Date _____

Moved -- Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage _____

Approximate distance of building from street _____

6. Recorded by E. Lonergan

Organization NHC

Date June 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Free Congregational Society of Florence

Original use church

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	<u> x </u>
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		_____
Community development	<u> x </u>				

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

The "Free Congregational Society of Florence" was organized in 1863,

"respecting in each other-- and in all-- the right of intellect and conscience to be free, and holding it to be the duty of everyone to keep his mind and heart at all times open to receive the truth and follow its guidance, we set up no theological condition of membership, and neither demand nor expect uniformity of doctrinal belief; asking only unity of purpose to seek and accept the right and true, and an honest aim and effort to make these the rule of life. And, recognizing the brotherhood of the human race and the equality of human rights, we make no distinction as to the conditions and rights of membership in this society, on account of sex, or color, or nationality."

The Society met in the local schoolhouse until Cosmain Hall was erected in 1874 at the junction of No. Maple and Meadow Sts. The Hall serviced not only the Society, but the general community as well. The seating capacity was nearly 700 and was open to the public without charge.

The Society continued to meet here until the second decade of the 20th century. At that time this relatively small church was constructed across the street from Cosmain Hall, and the Hall continued its

cont'

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

- 1915 Atlas.
- Northampton Directory: 1915, 1922 and 1930.
- History of Florence, ed. by Charles Sheffield, 1895.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Northampton	Form No: 17C-252
Property Name: Free Congregation Church	

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

9. Historical Significance

public functions until its demolition mid-century. Today the small church services the Seventh Day Adventists.

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