

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Town Northampton

Address 125 King St.

Historic Name St. Valentine Polish Nat'l

Use: Original church Church

Present church

Ownership: Private individual Polish Nat'l
 Private organization _____

Catholic Church

Public _____

Original owner _____

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1932

Source History of St. Valentine...

Style Gothic Revival

Architect H.J. Tossier

Exterior wall fabric Red Brick

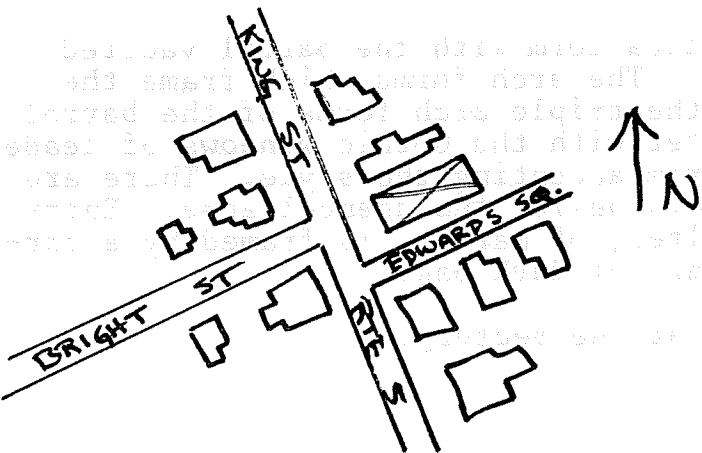
Outbuildings Rectory-1936

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage one acre or less

Setting _____



Recorded by _____

Organization NHC

Date July 1980

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

see below

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

The St. Valentine Polish National Church was built in 1932 and stands on the site of the homestead of Rev. Jonathan Edwards, third preacher of the First Congregational Church. The red-bricked, buttressed exterior contains a tower form within its facade which has a centered, painted, arched portal, Gothic niche containing saint's statues and louvered Gothic arch forms topping the tower which is crowned by a conical spire, Colored, leaded Gothic windows flank the entry portal.

The interior is basically a basilica form with the barrel vaulted ceilings repeated in the aisle ceilings. The arch forms which frame the chancel apse and altar backdrop repeat the triple arch forms of the barrel ceilings. The interior is painted plaster with the Gothic windows of leaded colored glass having naissair painted trim accenting the style. There are two small, painted and carved chapel alters beside the chancel apse. Entry ways flank each side aisle. The main altar, of marble, is framed by a carved, niched altar backdrop. The pews are of dark oak.

Original plans of the church are at the rectory.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Daily Hampshire Gazette 12/11/1971.

History of St. Valentine's Polish National Catholic Church, by Frances Kaminski.

Blueprints: at Church rectory.