Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System
Scanned Record Cover Page



Inventory No:	FRM.665
Historic Name:	Edwards Congregational Church
Common Name:	Saxonville Meeting House - United Church of Christ
Address:	40 Edwards St
City/Town:	Framingham
Village/Neighborhood:	Saxonville;
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	1827
Architectural Style(s):	Gothic Revival;
Architect(s):	Batcheldor, Francis; Stevens, George H.; Summer, Thomas W.; Sumner, Thomas Waldron;
Use(s):	Church; Meeting House;
Significance:	Architecture; Politics Government; Religion;
Area(s):	FRM.S, FRM.AH
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (08/20/1992);
Building Materials:	Wall: Aluminum Siding; Glass; Wood;
Demolished	No

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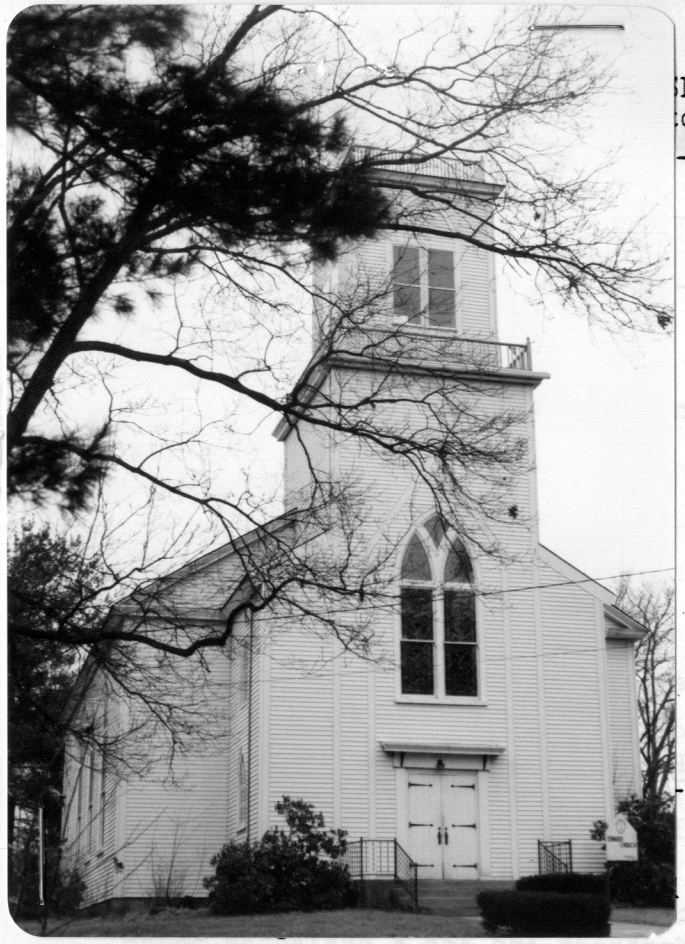
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

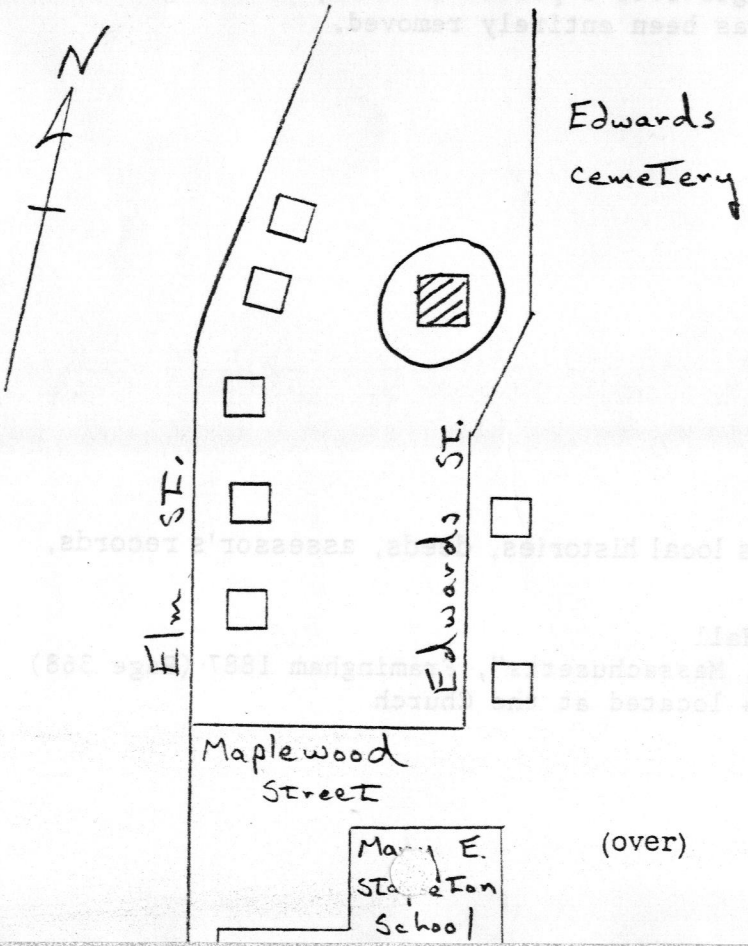
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In Area no.	Form no.
5	665



Framingham Assessor's Map Reference
Sheet 291 - Block 181 - Lot 14



(over)

1. Town Framingham

Address Edwards St.

Name Edwards Congregational Church

Present use Church

Present owner Edwards Congregational Church
Edwards St.
Framingham, Mass.

3. Description:

Date 1827

Source Temple's History of Framingham
Page 36

Style Vernacular Gothic Revival

Architect Thomas W. Summer

Exterior wall fabric Aluminum Siding

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features Parish House - Parsonage

Altered Steeple - 1938
Siding - 1967 Date 1938-1967

Moved Date

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre

Approximate frontage 224.97 ft.

Approximate distance of building from street
25 ft.

6. Recorded by M.Evans, S.Roper, L.Glass

Organization Framingham Planning Dept.
Framingham Historical Comm.

Date 11-27-79

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7. Original owner (if known) Saxonville Religious Society

Original use Church

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Church

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The Edwards Congregational Church was erected in 1827 by the Saxonville Religious Society. According to Temple's "History of Framingham" the first religious worship was conducted by Unitarian and Methodist Ministers. On May 23, 1833, a small group of people, primarily from the Hollis Evangelical Church , organized to form a Congregational Church which assumed the name of the Edwards Church in Saxonville.

The Church building is of a Vernacular Gothic Revival style and features a four bay sanctuary with a projected apse at it's Northern end and a projected porch with a tower at it's southern end. The steeple was slightly damaged by the 1938 hurricane and as a result the early corner pinacles were replaced by a railing on each stage of the steeple. The building was also covered with aluminum siding in 1967. Due to these and other changes over a period of time, the original Gothic Revival trim on the Church building has been entirely removed.

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

Framingham Assessor's Records, Town Hall
J. H. Temple, "History of Framingham, Massachusetts", Framingham 1887 (Page 368)
Historical sketch of Church 1827-1974 located at the Church
South Middlesex News 3-13-75