

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
A	18

2.



1. Town North Reading

Address 148 Haverhill Street

Name Union Congregational Church

Present use church

Present owner Union Congregational Church, Inc

3. Description:

Date 1836

Source See #10

Style Greek Revival

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric wood clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) educational wing annex and parsonage

Other features _____

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 1.9 acres

One acre or less _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 359'

Approximate distance of building from street 40'

6. Recorded by Church/O'Brien

Organization Historical Commission

Date June 1978

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Congregational Society
 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	<u>X</u>	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 church structure is classical Greek Revival architecture in its purest form.

Shortly after the Third Meetinghouse on the Common was built in 1829, the North Parish Society suffered an agonizing split over unresolved views. The orthodox left the Parish Society to form a new society and build another church.

The puritanical ideology of the old Parish Society as preached by Rev. Daniel Putnam and Rev. Eliab Stone from 1718 through 1822 was perpetuated by the Congregational Society in their new home. However, the physical assets of the old Parish Society - the records, communion set and real estate - remained with the liberal Universalist group.

The early records of the Congregational Church and Society have been lost. At this stage in the inventory of the Town's assets, we are unable to form any conclusions as to the architect and/or builders of the Congregational Church.

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

Mdd1sx s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate
 Celebration at Reading, Flint, 1844
 Story of a Musical Life, Root, 1891
 250th Anniversary of the Ancient Town of Reading, Eaton, 1896
 History of North Reading, LePage, 1944