

# WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH (207 WASHINGTON STREET)

Year Completed: 1903



Church property at 207 Washington Street were acquired in five separate conveyances:

- |   |  |   |                       |
|---|--|---|-----------------------|
| • | ~4224 sq. ft. (discontinued portion of Chapel Place) |   |                       |
|   | 03/08/1960   | Boston Safe Deposit and Trust Company (Executor of the will of Julia L. Fuller) to<br>The First Congregational Church in Wellesley Hills  | Book/Page<br>3801/561 |
| • | 6633 sq. ft. lot in northeast corner                 |   |                       |
|   | 07/02/1946   | Babson's Reports Incorporated to The First Congregational Church in Wellesley<br>Hills  | 2621/436              |
| • | 21,468 sq. ft. lot in southeast corner               |   |                       |
|   | 11/28/1930   | Julia L. Fuller to The First Congregational Church in Wellesley Hills   | 1920/477              |
| • | 4083 sq. ft. lot in east corner                      |   |                       |
|   | 11/28/1930   | Henry D. White to The First Congregational Church in Wellesley Hills  | 1920/476              |
| • | 144 sq. rods comprising core portion of church lot   |   |                       |
|   | 09/09/1846   | Joseph W. Maynard to John Batchelder for the Society & Church and granted to<br>the Orthodox Trinitarian Congregational Society (corrected the following year to<br>the Grantville Society) | 167/202               |

## Additional Information:

- “There are two events in the history of a house of worship which are notable -- the laying of its corner-stone and its dedication. The one marks its initial stages, the other its completion; the one is an act of promise and expectation, the other declares that promise fulfilled and that expectation realized. The foundation stones of the second house of worship of the First Congregational Church, Wellesley Hills, were laid in March, 1901, but the copper box, with its freight of documents, sermons, programs and photographs, was not lowered into its place in the southwestern corner of the tower until October second of the same year. After a lapse of nearly sixteen months from that auspicious day, another and much larger assembly gathered in the church itself, a completed structure. The date was February 17, 1903. The object was to surround this house unto the Lord in solemn dedication. MORE DETAILS The Wellesley Hills Congregational church is built upon distinct Gothic lines, which were in vogue five centuries ago in England. It marks the period of transition from the decorated to the perpendicular style. The three large windows resemble that at Edington, Wilts, near Bath, which bears the date of 1361, very graceful and symmetrical in curvatures and blendings. The tower of the new church has called forth much favorable comment and delights the eye by its massive proportions, a splendid reproduction of the towers that form so striking a feature of such English churches as Brislington, Somersetshire (1500) and of the little church at Stoke Pogis, with its tower ivy-mantled and alluring to the eye.” – Our Town: March 1903
- Note: In 1896, all church property was transferred from The Wellesley Hills Congregational Society (formerly the Grantville Religious Society) to The First Congregational Church in Wellesley Hills.