

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Entered: 5-19-86

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| AREA    | FORM NO. |
| MID CAM | II B 30A |

USGS Map #27

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)  
staple to left side of form

Photo number 30-2

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

SEE ATTACHED MAP

Town Cambridge, Mass.  
Cambridge MRA

Address 3 Sacramento Street

Historic Name J.A. Wood House

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1888

Source tax records

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Hartwell & Richardson

Exterior wall fabric wood

Outbuildings NA

Major alterations (with dates) none

Moved yes Date 1925

Approx. acreage .2182 acres

Recorded by T. Alduino

Organization Cambridge Historical Com.

Date 1985

Setting Sacramento Street was developed residentially in the second half of the 19th century. Although situated on a large lot, the J.A. Wood House's residential setting is somewhat compromised by its close proximity to Mass. Ave.

UTM 19/325470/4694230

USGS Quad; Boston North

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Palatial in size, the J.A. Wood House features a center front entrance between two segmental bay windows on the first floor. The second story of the house projects as far as the bays and is supported on carved brackets. The east side features a three-sided, two story bay window, an exterior chimney and a Palladian window on the projecting gable. Originally, this side also had a porch above the bay window and a ground level piazza. Throughout the house the original shutters have been removed. A center turret dominates the rear elevation. Ornamentation on this clapboarded house includes a molded cornice,

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

3 Sacramento Street was built in 1888 for James A. Wood, a lumber dealer. Originally facing North Avenue (now Massachusetts Ave.) it was turned ninety degrees to face Sacramento Street in 1925 when a block of stores was built along Mass. Ave. Its present cramped position is preferable to being hidden behind a commercial block, a fate all too frequent along Mass. Ave. Until the trolley brought apartment houses and stores to the northern half of Mass. Ave. after the turn of the century, Mass. Ave.'s width attracted wealthy Cambridge residents who built large homes facing the street. The J.A. Wood House serves as a reminder of this period.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

SEE ATTACHED BIBLIOGRAPHY

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

|                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Community:                        | Form No: |
| Cambridge, Mass.<br>Cambridge MRA | II B 30A |
| Property Name: J.A. Wood House    |          |

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

Architectural Significance con't.

a carved pediment over the front porch, a carved frieze on the three front dormer windows and fluted columns on the front porch.

Designed in 1888 by Hartwell & Richardson, the J.A. Wood House marks the firm's transition into the Colonial Revival style. Previously, the firm's residential work had been in the Shingle Style, Cambridge's most notable example being the Yerxa House (1887-1888). Although the J.A. Wood House shares some similarities with the firm's Shingle Style its centered turret, small lights, overhanging second story supported by brackets, and centered dormers (used in the Yerxa House), 3 Sacramento Street's symmetrical facade and carved details clearly distinguish it as Colonial Revival. In the 1890's, the firm worked increasingly in this idiom. The J.A. Wood House is significant under Criterion C as an early example of the Colonial Revival style of the firm of Hartwell & Richardson.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION  
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

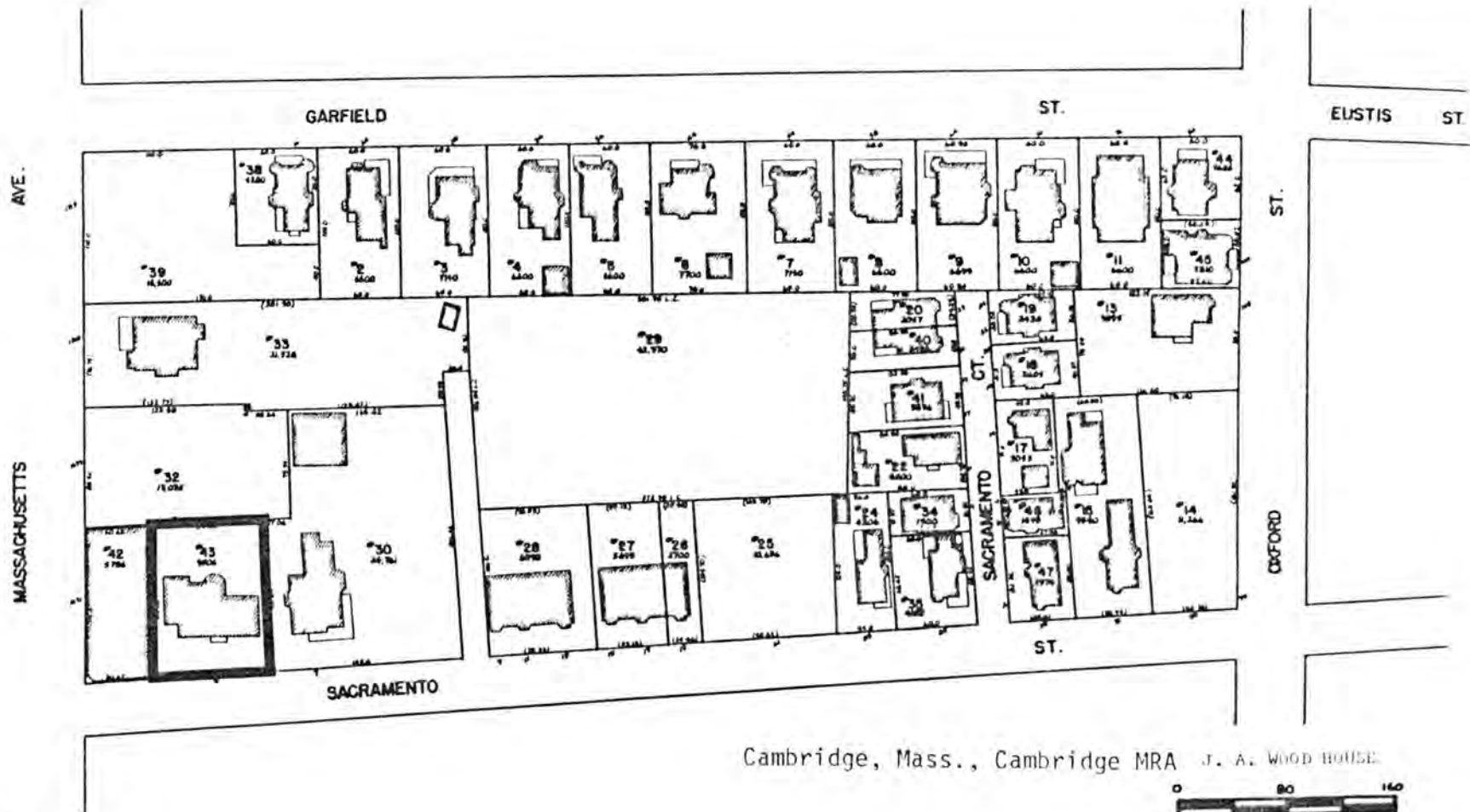
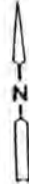
|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Cambridge, Mass.<br>Cambridge MRA | MC<br>II B 30A |
| Property Name: 3 Sacramento St.   |                |

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

Bibliography/References

- Cambridge Historical Commission. Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge: Volume I, East Cambridge (1965), out of print.  
Volume II, Mid Cambridge (1967), Cambridge, MA  
Volume III, Cambridgeport (1971), Cambridge, MA  
Volume IV, Old Cambridge (1973), Cambridge, MA  
Volume V, Northwest Cambridge (1977), Cambridge, MA
- Cambridge Historical Society, Proceedings (1906-Present), Cambridge, MA.
- D.A.R., Winthrop Chapter, An Historical Guide to Cambridge (1907), Cambridge, MA.
- Gillman, A. (ed.), Cambridge of Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-Six (1896), Cambridge, MA.
- Paige, L.R., History of Cambridge (1877), Boston, MA.; Supplement (1930), Boston, MA.
- Rand, C., Cambridge, U.S.A. (1964), New York, NY.
- Rettig, R.B., Guide to Cambridge Architecture (1969), Cambridge, MA.
- Stillman, W.J. (ed.), Poetic Localities of Cambridge (1876), Cambridge, MA.
- Woods, R.A., and Kennedy, A.J. (Warner, ed.), Zone of Emergence (1962), Cambridge, MA.
- Zaitzevsky, C., with the advice of the Review Committee members, The Harvard University Study of Historic and Architectural Properties in the Environs of Cambridge, (April 1983-December 1984), Cambridge, MA.

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Cambridge, Mass., Cambridge MRA J. A. WOOD HOUSE



Base: City of Cambridge  
Assessor's Plans

January 1983

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic GroupName Cambridge Multiple Resource Area  
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

181. Memorial Drive Apartments Hist. Dist.

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

182. Montrose, The

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

183. Peabody Court Apartments

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

184. Shady Hill Historic District

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

185. Stanstead, The

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

186. Stickney-Shepard House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

187. Warren, H. Langford, House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

188. Withey, S. B., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

189. Wood, J. A., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Attest

190. Biological Laboratory

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Determined Eligible

*for* Alouise Byers 5/14/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Patrick Andrews 5/19/86*for* Beth L. Savage 5-19-86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*for* Alouise Byers 5/19/86*automatically*  
*DOE/owner obj* 1/26/87

86001319

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Wood, J. A., House (Cambridge MRA)  
Middlesex County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. APR 4 1986  
Fed. Reg. Date: 3/3/87  
Date Due: 5/1/86 — 5/19/86  
Action: ACCEPT 5-19-86  
RETURN  
REJECT

Entered in the  
National Register

- ☐ resubmission  
☐ nomination by person or local government  
☐ owner objection  
☐ appeal

Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

| Category | Ownership          | Status     | Present Use |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------|
|          | Public Acquisition | Accessible |             |

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent ☐ deteriorated  
☐ good ☐ ruins  
☐ fair ☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered  
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site  
☐ moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph  
☐ completeness  
☐ clarity  
☐ alterations/integrity  
☐ dates  
☐ boundary selection

---

## 8. Significance

Period      Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

- ☐ summary paragraph
- ☐ completeness
- ☐ clarity
- ☐ applicable criteria
- ☐ justification of areas checked
- ☐ relating significance to the resource
- ☐ context
- ☐ relationship of integrity to significance
- ☐ justification of exception
- ☐ other

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

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## 13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



J.A. Wood House  
3 Sacramento Street

*Cambridge, MA, Ma*

30-2

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275