FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
MID CAMB.	MC II B 16

1095-33

Cambridge

ess 1707-09 Cambridge Street

---

ent use residential

1707: Elizabeth Tucker
ent owner 1709: James I. & Helen M. Constantine

ription:

1845

ource deed records

Greek Revival

Architect Mather Hayward, builder

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

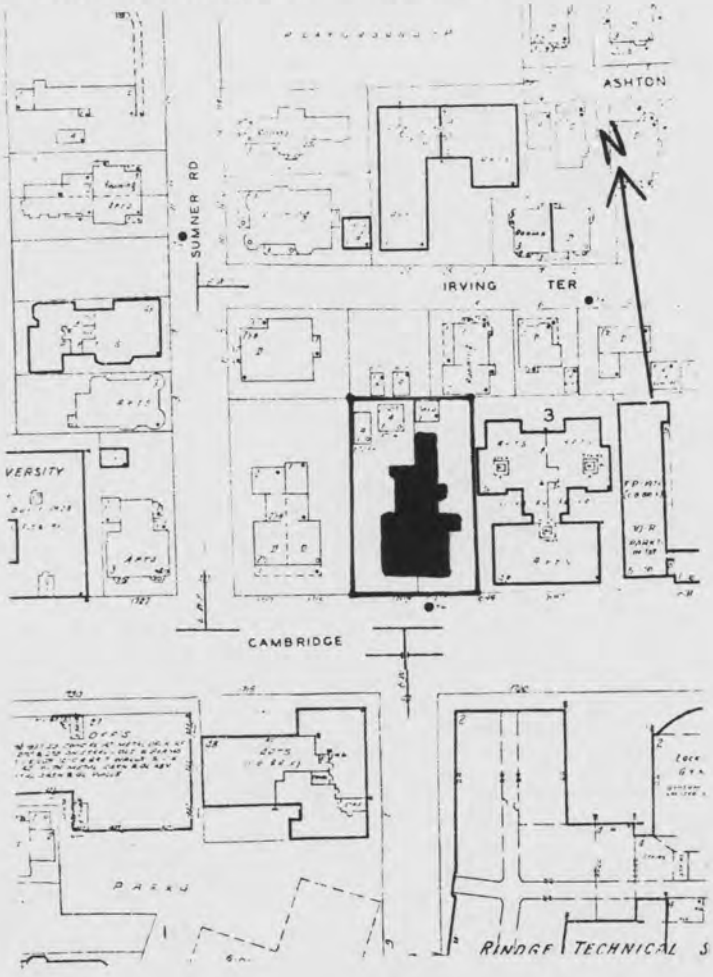
Outbuildings (describe) --------

Other features two-storied, gabled-roofed house with full-width Doric porch.

Altered No Date -----

Moved No Date -----

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



5. Lot size:

One acre or less XX Over one acre ____

Approximate frontage 85'

Approximate distance of building from street 12'

6. Recorded by E. MacDougall

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1966

UTM-BOSTON NORTH
19/326060/4693400

ASSESSOR # 142-14
142-15

30M-5-77

7. **Original owner (if known)** Royal Richardson

Original use residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. **Themes (check as many as applicable)**

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

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

One of two fine Greek Revival houses in this block of Cambridge Street, 1707-09 was built as a rental property on contract for real estate speculator Royal Richardson. Standing beside each other with flanks to the street, the two almost identical houses have full-width Doric porches. The building contracts for both houses survive, each referring to existing houses that were to be copied both for appearance and for quality of materials. They both are nominated for their importance to the architectural history of Cambridge.

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

NOV 14 1980

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Buildings at 1707-1709 Cambridge Street

Property: (Cambridge Multiple Resource Area)
State, County: MA- Middlesex
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 11-14-80-2862
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 4/7/82
Action: ___ ACCEPT
✓ RETURN 4/13/82
___ REJECT

___ resubmission
___ nomination by person or local government
___ owner objection
___ appeal

photos 1
maps ___

Substantive Review: ___ sample ___ request ___ appeal ✓ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

~~Does~~ DO statement of significance - Architectural significance is not defined, context (outside of its block) is not given

Recom. / Criteria Return
Reviewer Braham
Discipline Arch. Hist.
Date 4-2-82
___ 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		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	___ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date ___
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

___ summary paragraph
___ completeness
___ clarity
___ alterations/integrity
___ dates
___ boundary selection

NPS Form 10-900

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
UMT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

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

13. Other

_____ Maps
_____ Photographs
_____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Patricia Andrus

Signed [signature] Date 4/3/82 Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
MID CAMB.	MC II B 16

1. Town Cambridge

Address 1707-09 Cambridge Street

Name -------

Present use residential

Present owner 1707: Elizabeth Tucker
1709: James I. & Helen M. Constantine

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1095-33

3. Description:

Date 1845

Source deed records

Style Greek Revival

Architect Mather Hayward, builder

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

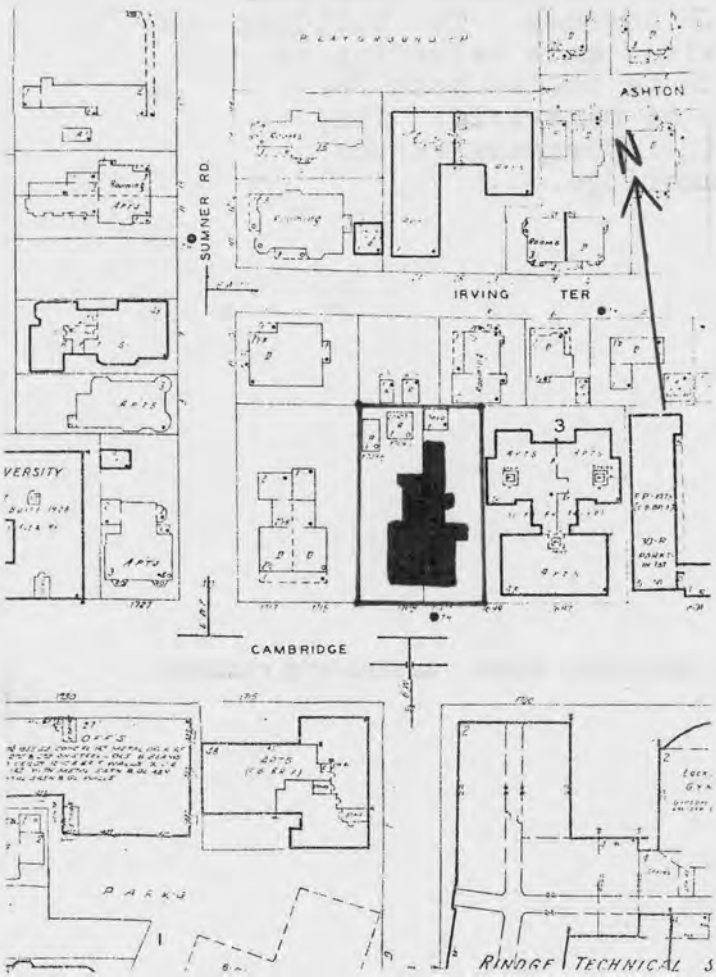
Outbuildings (describe) --------

Other features two-storied, gabled-roofed house with full-width Doric porch.

Altered No Date -----

Moved No Date -----

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



5. Lot size:

One acre or less XX Over one acre ____

Approximate frontage 85'

Approximate distance of building from street 12'

6. Recorded by E. MacDougall

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1966

UTM-BOSTON NORTH
19/326060/4693400

ASSESSOR # 142-14
142-15

30M-5-77

7. Original owner (if known) Royal Richardson

Original use residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

One of two fine Greek Revival houses in this block of Cambridge Street, 1707-09 was built as a rental property on contract for real estate speculator Royal Richardson. Standing beside each other with flanks to the street, the two almost identical houses have full-width Doric porches. The building contracts for both houses survive, each referring to existing houses that were to be copied both for appearance and for quality of materials. They both are nominated for their importance to the architectural history of Cambridge.

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

NOV 14 1980

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Mid Cambridge	Form No: MC II.B.16
Property Name: 1707-1709 Cambridge Street	

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

Number 1707-1709 Cambridge Street is the first of a pair of essentially identical Greek Revival double houses proposed for National Register status. Along with the adjacent house at 1715-1717 Cambridge Street, this house is part of an original group of four similar structures built in a row along Cambridge Street by Royal Richardson, a local speculator between 1840 and 1845. Two of the buildings have been demolished.

These houses represent the high point of the vernacular Greek Revival style in Cambridge. Each of the four houses that originally lined Cambridge Street on this block presented its gable flank to the street, with a full Doric portico and four pedimented dormers above. The effect of this repetition of classical forms, still seen in the two remaining houses, is striking.

The Royal Richardson houses are particularly notable in that the original contracts survive, revealing a great deal about building practices of the time. In each contract, reference is made to a specific existing structure to be copied for appearance and quality of materials. This practice indicates a lack of working drawings and accounts for the use of pattern book ornament. Costs of the houses ranged between $2,500 and $4,000 depending on the degree of interior finish specified. Use of mixed stylistic detail is verified by the specification for "Gothic sash" in the contract, and by the appearance of panelled Gothic doors on the two surviving houses.

The houses at 1707-1709 and 1715-1717 Cambridge Street are significant under Criteria C as important examples of the Greek Revival style in Cambridge.

The buildings at the rear of the lot are from east to west: a one-story wood frame shed, a wood frame garage and a concrete block garage, none are considered to contribute to the significance of the nomination.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

NPS Form 10-900-a
(7-81)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet | Item number | Page 8 4-7

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review			Date/Signature
71. Melvin, Isaac, House	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	William H. Bracham 4.13.82
		Attest	
72. Saunders, William, House	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	6.30.83
		Attest	
73. Fay, Isaac, House	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	6.30.83
		Attest	
74. Buildings at 102-104 Inman St.	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	6.30.83
		Attest	
75. Buildings at 106-108 Inman St.	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	William H. Bracham 4.13.82
		Attest	
76. Buildings at 110-112 Inman St.	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	William H. Bracham 4.13.82
		Attest	
77. Buildings at 1707-1709 Cambridge St.	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	6.30.83
		Attest	
78. Buildings at 1715-1717 Cambridge St.	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	6.30.83
		Attest	
79. Deane-Williams House	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	William H. Bracham 4.13.82
		Attest	
80. Vinal, Albert, House	Substantive Review ✓	Keeper	6.30.83
		Attest	

ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES — EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

ited States Department of the Interior
tional Park Service

Substantive Review

Building at 1707--1709 Cambridge Street (Cambridge MRA)
Middlesex County
MA

Working No. 11.1480-2862
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-7-84
Date Due: 7/4/83
Action: ✓ ACCEPT 6/30/83
___ RETURN
___ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

✓ resubmission
___ nomination by person or local government
___ owner objection
___ appeal

Substantive Review: ___ sample ___ request ___ appeal ✓ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

SIGNIFICANCE PROVIDED/
CONTEXT PROVIDED

Recom./Criteria Accept/C
Reviewer Nan Dougherty
Discipline A.H.
Date 6.30.83
___ 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		Check one	Check one
___ excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	___ original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date ___
___ fair	___ unexposed		

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

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

13. Other

- ___ Maps
- ___ Photographs
- ___ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet

1095-33

NOV 14 1980

9:40

Cambridge MRA, Ma

Building at 1707-09 Cambridge St.

1707-09 Cambridge St. 1095-33

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275