

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

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

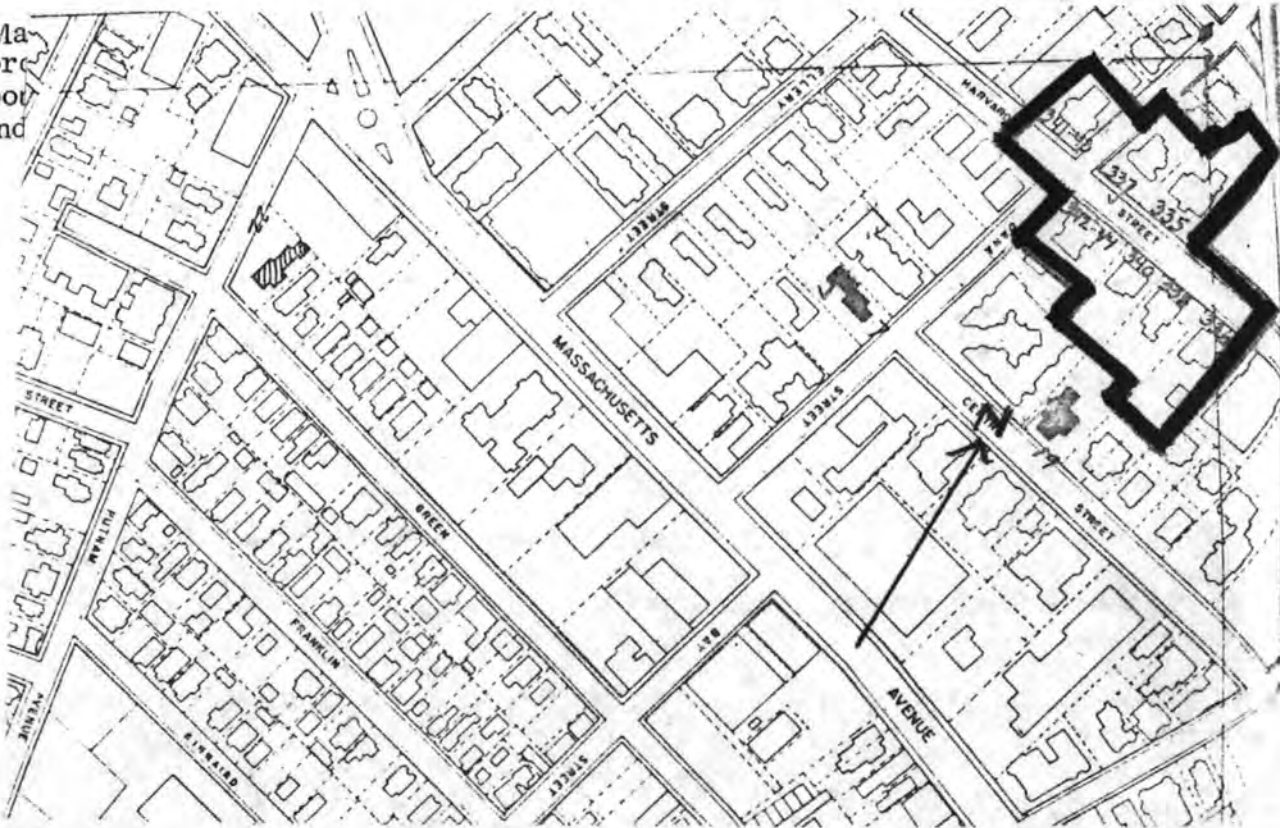
Form numbers in this area	Area no.
Mid Cambridge	MC I.3

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1096-1A
" - 3A
" - 4A
1104-13A

1. Town Cambridge
Name of area (if any) Harvard Street
National Register District
3. General date or period 1850-59, 1887,
1897
4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? no, a number of styles
in condition? yes, good to excellent
in type of ownership? yes, private
in use? yes, residential

5. Map
pr
pot
Ind

ic
s-
rth.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant

MHC Photo no.

2.009 ACRES

6. Recorded by B. Bunting/R. Rettig
Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.
Date 1964/1968

(over)

UTM-BOSTON SOUTH
19/326290/4692860

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

Harvard Street is important for its many substantial houses of outstanding quality, and its role in the early suburbanization of Cambridge by prosperous Boston businessmen. Harvard Street is one of the major thoroughfares of mid-Cambridge, and although it was developed as a transportation route to Boston, no street railway or busline ever ran along it.

Harvard Street was projected as the most direct road from Old Cambridge to Boston, and was laid out over the active objections of Judge Francis Dana (see Opposition House, q.v.), whose estate occupied the top of Dana Hill. Promoted by real estate interest, the street was soon lined by suburban villas. It was first laid out as Canal Street in 1801 in Cambridgeport, and by 1803, eight years after the construction of the West Boston Bridge, extended as far as Lee Street. The whole length from the West Boston Bridge to Harvard Square was opened to traffic in 1808. In the 1830s, the stretch from Prospect Street to Quincy Square was parceled into house lots. By 1854 over thirty houses had been built, among them some of the finest Greek Revival mansions in the city. Each successive building style from Italianate to Colonial Revival brought fine examples to the street. Most of these houses were large single-family residences set high above the street.

Fully developed by 1896, Harvard Street was one of the handsomest streets in the city. Despite the unfortunate intrusion of apartment buildings in the 1920s and again in the 1960s, the street retains much of its original appearance.

1. 335 Harvard Street (1850), James P. Melledge House

A wide-pilastered, monitor-roofed Greek Revival mansion that was the residence of James P. Melledge, a Boston commission merchant. The grounds of the house originally extended to Dana Street. A stable in the rear dates from later in the nineteenth century.

2. 337 Harvard Street (1887), James P. Kelley, architect

James P. Kelley was the architect of this elegant hip-roofed Colonial Revival house of refined scale. Noteworthy features include the elliptical front porch, recessed shell motif

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Mid Cambridge MC	Form No: I.3
Property Name: Harvard St. N.R.D.	

page 2

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

above the entrance, Palladian window and dormers with swan's neck pediment.

3. 341-43 Harvard Street (1855-56)

A well-preserved brick double house in a square expression of the Italianate style.

4. 336 Harvard Street (1858), Caleb Warner House

Notable features of this center-gabled Bracketed-Italianate house include a small projecting center pavilion and hood moldings on the windows of the upper story. This house was built for Caleb Warner, a cashier at the Bank of Commerce in Boston.

5. 338 Harvard Street (1859), Amos Frothingham House

One of the few remaining pattern book Gothic houses in Mid-Cambridge. Gothic Revival elements include pointed arch wall dormers on the asymmetrical facade. The original owner was Amos Frothingham, a cashier at the Tremont Bank in Boston.

6. 340 Harvard Street (1897), William Goepper House, Arthur Vinal architect

Arthur Vinal was the architect of this Colonial Revival house, which retains the asymmetrical facade arrangement of the Queen Anne style, but a total effect of formal clarity and linear precision reminiscent of Federal architecture. Goepper was the owner of a large steam barrel factory in East Cambridge.

7. 342-44 Harvard Street (1857) Samuel Baker Rindge House.

This stylistically up-to-date Mansard house was the residence of Samuel B. Rindge, a successful shipping merchant and banker in the Boston-Cambridge area. His son, Frederick H. Rindge, gave a succession of gifts to the City of Cambridge in memory of his father: the Public Library, City Hall and the Manual Training School.

The Harvard Street National Register District marks the summit of Dana Hill and includes portions of Harvard Street between Ellery and Hancock Streets (see Cambridge Community Development P. D. Quad Maps 3 and 5). Boundaries were selected to include the large nineteenth century residences which once distinguished this street.

-END-

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

EXP. 12/31/84

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2417

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

✓ 11. Garfield Street Historic District
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce MacPhee 6/30/83

Attest

Harvard

✓ 12. Harvard Street Historic District
Substantive Review

✓ Keeper

William H. Brasham 4.13.82

Attest

Result ✓ 13. Kirkland Place Historic District
Substantive Review

✓ Keeper

Patrick Andrews 5/19/86

Attest

Beth L. Sarge 5-14-8

✓ 14. Maple Avenue Historic District
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce MacPhee 6/30/83

Attest

Harvard

✓ 15. City Hall Historic District
Substantive Review

✓ Keeper

William H. Brasham 4.13.82

Attest

Harvard

✓ 16. Ash Street Historic District
Substantive Review

✓ Keeper

William H. Brasham 4.13.82

Attest

Harvard

✓ 17. Avon Hill Historic District
Substantive Review

✓ Keeper

Bruce MacPhee 6.30.83

Attest

Harvard 4.13.82

✓ 18. Berkeley Street Historic District
Substantive Review

✓ Keeper

William H. Brasham 4.13.82

Attest

Harvard

✓ 19. Cambridge Common Historic District
Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce MacPhee 6.30.83

Attest

- Harvard

✓ 20. Gold Coast Historic District
Substantive Review

Keeper

Ret 6/10/82

Attest

Harvard

Substantive Review
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

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

Working No. 11-14-80-2862

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 4/17/82

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 4/13/82

☐ RETURN _____

☐ REJECT _____

photos 4

maps _____

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

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

Reviewer's comments:

*fine collection of Greek Revival to Colonial Revival structures
for Mid. Cambridge*

Recom./Criteria C

Reviewer Braham

Discipline Arch/His

Date 4.5.82

☐ 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

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

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USGS 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



1104-13A

NOV 14 1990

086C

343 Harvard St.

Cambridge MRA, Ma
Harvard St. H.D.

1104-13A



1096-4A

NOV 14 1980

9090

Cambridge MRA, Ma

Harvard St. H.D.

342-44 Harvard St. 1096-4A



1096-1A

NOV 14 1980

9090

Harvard St. H.D.

Cambridge MA, Ma

336 & 338 Harvard St.

1096-1A



1096 3A

NOV 14 1980

Harvard St. A.D.
Cambridge MA MA

9030

335 Harvard St.

1096-3A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275