

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no. MID CAMB.	Form no. <u>mc</u> II B 1
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2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1094-26A



(over)

ASSESSOR # 117-81

1. Town Cambridge
Address 2-4 Hancock Place
Name Opposition House
Present use residential

Present owner Herbert Oliver/Judith F. Ziegler
3. Description: 29 Dana St., Cambridge
Date 1807
Source tax records
Style Federal
Architect anonymous
Exterior wall fabric Clapboard
Outbuildings (describe) -----
Other features hip-roofed, double house.

Altered Yes-minor Date unknown
Moved Yes Date 1859-60
5. Lot size:
One acre or less XX Over one acre
Approximate frontage 52'
Approximate distance of building from street 3'
6. Recorded by Elizabeth MacDougall
Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.
Date 1966

UTH-BOSTON SOUTH
19/326500/46A2740

7. Original owner (if known) Judge Francis Dana

Original use residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Opposition House is the oldest surviving house on Dana Hill, and a historical curiosity. By 1803 attempts were being made to extend Harvard Street across Judge Dana's estate despite his violent opposition. In an unsuccessful attempt to block any further extension of the road, Opposition House was built in its path in 1807. The road was realigned and the house, a hip-roofed Federal style double house, was moved from Harvard Street to its present location in 1863 or 1865 when a more intensive use of the land was desired. Such moves are typical of Cambridge's earliest buildings extant and do not detract from the structure's significance in Cambridge's developmental history.

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

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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 7 417

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

61. Valentine Soap Workers Cottages
(101 Pearl St.)

Keeper

Robert L. Dwyer 6/30/83

Attest

Substantive Review

62. Opposition House

Keeper

William H. Bracham 4.13.82

Attest

Substantive Review

63. Frost, Walter, House

Keeper

William H. Bracham 4.13.82

Attest

64. Treadwell-Sparks House

Keeper

Patrick Andrus 9/12/86

Attest

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
owner objection withdrawn

Beth L. Savage 9/12/86

65. Francis, Ebenezer, House

Keeper

Harvard

Attest

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

66. Louvering, Joseph, House

Keeper

Patrick Andrus 9/12/86

Attest

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
owner objection withdrawn

Beth L. Savage 9/12/86

67. Atwood, Ephiram, House

Keeper

Robert L. Dwyer 6/30/83

Attest

68. Buildings at 104-106 Hancock St.

Keeper

Robert L. Dwyer 6/30/83

Attest

69. Colburn, Sara Foster, House

Keeper

William H. Bracham 4.13.82

Attest

Substantive Review

70. Brooks, Luther, House

Keeper

Patrick Andrus 9/12/86

Attest

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
owner objection withdrawn

Beth L. Savage 9/12/86

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

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

Working No. 11-14-80-2862

Fed. Reg. Date: _____

Date Due: 4/17/83

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 4/13/82
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT

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

photos 1
maps _____

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

Reviewer's comments:

*Oldest surviving house in its
immediate area - historical associations with
development of immediate area as
well.*

Recom./Criteria A
Reviewer Brianham
Discipline Arch / Hist
Date 4.6.82
☐ 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	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Address of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

USPT 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



1094-26A

NOV 14 1980

2-4 Hancock Place
Cambridge MRA, Ma
Opposition House

1094-26A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275