

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

Photo number 65-15A

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)

Recorded by Therese Alduino

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1985

USGS Quad: Boston North
UTM 19/325025/4694010

Town Cambridge, Mass.
Cambridge MRA

Address 53 Shepard Street

Historic Name Bertram Hall,
Radcliffe College

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1901

Source building permit

Style Neo-Georgian

Architect A. W. Longfellow, Jr.

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings NA

Major alterations (with dates) None

Moved no Date NA

Approx. acreage .0285 acres

Setting On the southern side of
the Radcliffe Quadrangle.

(Staple additional sheets here)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Cambridge, MA Old Cambridge	Form No: II C 5A
Property Name: Bertram Hall, Radcliffe College	

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

Architectural Significance

Bertram Hall is a four story red brick Neo-Georgian building with projecting end pavillions and brick quoins. The cornice is of wood with dentils and the hipped roof is slate with six chimneys. The recessed windows have marble trim and are joined by a belt course below the third story and in the middle of the first. Because of its position on Shepard Street, Bertram Hall has two principle facades. The Quadrangle facade is distinguished by a center entrance with an elaborate broken pediment, flanked by two round windows with garlands. The first floor windows/doors are recessed in brick arches and capped with fanlights. On the roof are five pedimented dormers. The Shepard Street facade has a center entrance with a Palladian window above the balustrade. The center dormer is segmental.

The earliest and most elaborate dormitory built on the Quadrangle, Bertram Hall was designed in 1901 by A.W. Longfellow, whose other Radcliffe/Harvard commissions include the Philip Brooks House (1898) and Agassiz House (1904). Bertram Hall is significant under Criterion C as embodying the distinguishable characteristics of the Colonial Revival style.

Historical Significance

Bertram Hall was the first Radcliffe dormitory to be built on the Radcliffe Quadrangle. Most of this land had belonged to the Willard Philips estate purchased in 1900 by Radcliffe. Originally used for field sports, the Quadrangle has remained flat and relatively treeless.

Bertram Hall was constructed through gifts of the Class of 1895, in particular through the generosity of Mrs. David P. Kimball, in memory of her son. From the beginning, Bertram Hall was seen as the first step in a larger project that would produce several dormitories around the Quadrangle. As such, it marked a significant change in the philosophy of Radcliffe College. Prior to this period, Radcliffe students had been placed in private homes. The new dormitory, relatively small in scale, with its own dining and reception rooms, and headed by a matron, provided home comforts and a social setting for only twenty-five students. Constructed at the time when Harvard's President Lowell was beginning to develop the house system of undergraduate housing, Bertram Hall gave Radcliffe women the same advantages of communal living as their male counterparts. As such, it is significant under Criterion A for its importance in understanding the development of Radcliffe College.

Bertram and Eliot Halls were found to be significant under the themes of architecture and education, as proposed by Dr. Cynthia Zaitzewsky to the Review Committee for the Study of Architecture of Harvard University and Its Environs in Cambridge.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Cambridge, MA

Property Name: Cambridge Multiple
Resource Area

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

Standard Bibliography - Cambridge Multiple Resource
Nomination

Bunting, Bainbridge, and Floyd, Margaret H., ed., Harvard, An Architectural History. Cambridge: The Belknap Press of Harvard University, 1985

Cambridge Historical Commission, Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge. Cambridge: The MIT Press.

Report One: East Cambridge (1965)

Report Two: Mid Cambridge (1967)

Report Three: Cambridgeport (1971)

Report Four: Old Cambridge (1973)

Report Five: Northwest Cambridge (1977)

Cambridge Historical Society, Proceedings. Cambridge, 1906-present

Daughters of the American Revolution, Hannah Winthrop Chapter, An Historical Guide to Cambridge. Cambridge, 1907

Gilman, A., ed., Cambridge of Eighteen Hundred and Ninety Six. Cambridge: The Riverside Press, 1896

Paige, L.R., History of Cambridge. Boston: H.O Houghton and Company, 1877

Paige, L.R.; Gozzaldi, M.I., ed., History of Cambridge Supplement and Index. Cambridge: The Cambridge Historical Society, 1930

Rettig, R.B., Guide to Cambridge Architecture. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1969

Stillman, W.J., ed., Poetic Localities of Cambridge. Boston: James R. Osgood and Company, 1876

Woods, R.A., and Kennedy, A.J.; Warner, S.B., ed., The Zone of Emergence. Cambridge: The MIT Press, 1962

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)

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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 17 of 17

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

161. Mead, Alpheus, House

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

William H. Brackham 4.13.82

Attest

162. Snow, Daniel, House

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

✓ Keeper

William H. Brackham 4.13.82

Attest

determined eligible

163. Wyeth, John, House

~~Substantive Review~~

✓ Keeper

William H. Brackham 4.13.82

Attest

164. HOMER-KOVELL House

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Wm. Duhon 12/22/83

Attest

165. Reversible Collar
Company Building

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

Michael Dwyer 9.27.85

Attest

166. Ash Street Historic District (Boundary Increase)

~~Substantive Review~~

Keeper

T S

Attest

167. Berkeley Street Historic District (Boundary Increase)

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 5-19-86

Attest

168. Bertram Hall at Radcliffe College

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 5-19-86

Attest

169. Bennink-Douglas Cottages

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 5-19-86

Attest

170. Brabrook, E. H., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvin Byers 5-19-86

Attest

36001270

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Bertram Hall at Radcliffe College (Cambridge
MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. APR 4 1986
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 5/1/86 5/19/86
Action: ACCEPT 5-19-86
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

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

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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

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
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

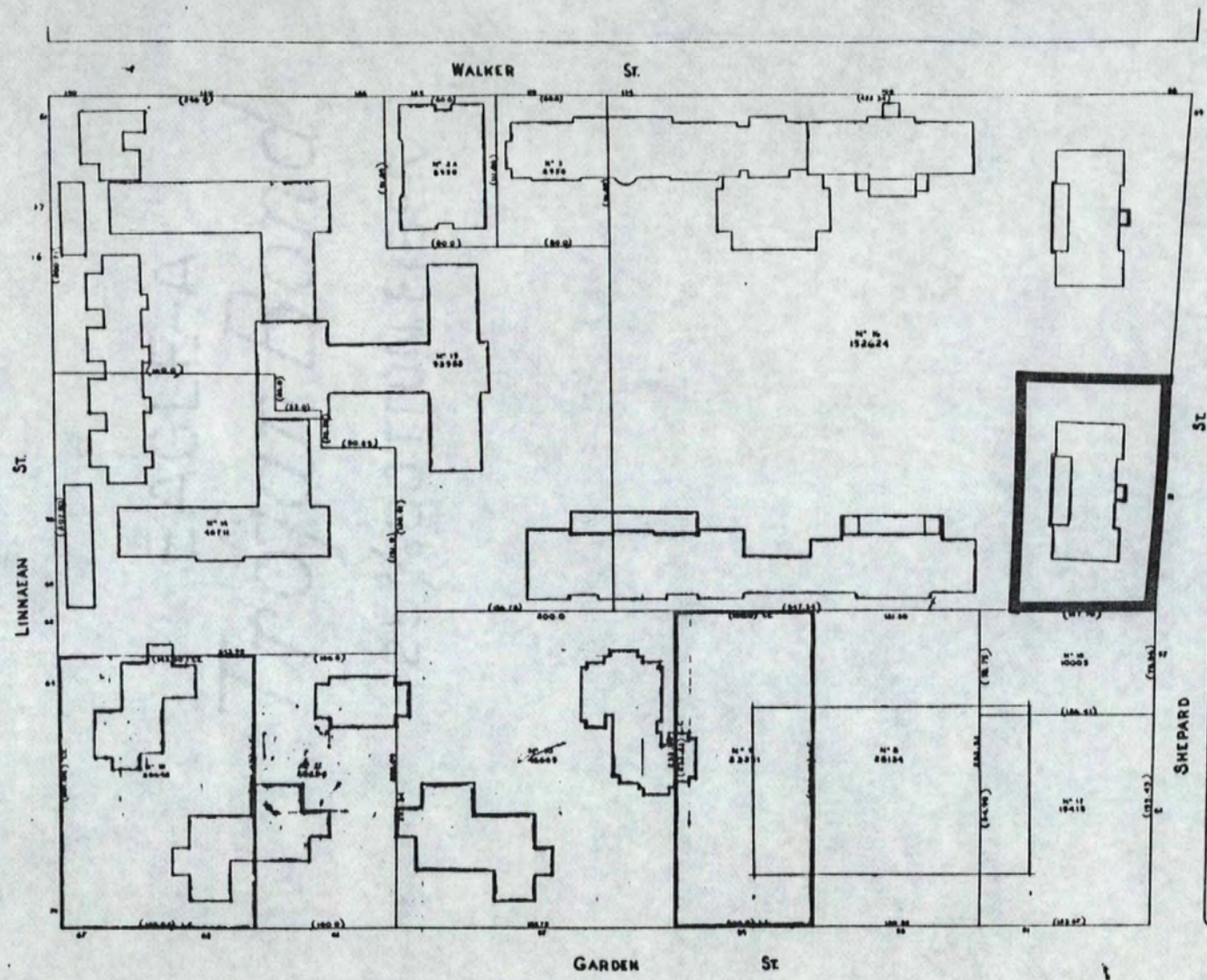
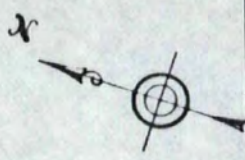
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

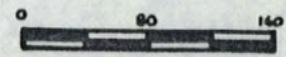


Bertram Hall
53 Shepard Street

Cambridge *MRA* 65-15A
Ma



Cambridge MRA
 Cambridge, Mass.
 BERTRAM HALL



Base: City of Cambridge
 Assessor's Plans

January 1983

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275