

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Massachusetts
COUNTY:
Essex
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
MAY 8 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:

Hammond Museum

AND/OR HISTORIC:

Abbadia Mare

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

80 Hesperus Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Gloucester

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

Sixth

STATE

CODE

COUNTY:

CODE

Massachusetts

025

Essex

009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building	☐ Public	☒ Occupied	Yes: ☒ Restricted
☐ Site ☐ Structure	☒ Private	☐ Unoccupied	☐ Unrestricted
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Preservation work in progress	☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☒ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☒ Entertainment	☒ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Hammond Museum, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Boston 2121 Commonwealth Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:

Boston

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

Federal Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Salem

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE OF SURVEY:

1971

☐ Federal

☒ State

☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:

40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN:

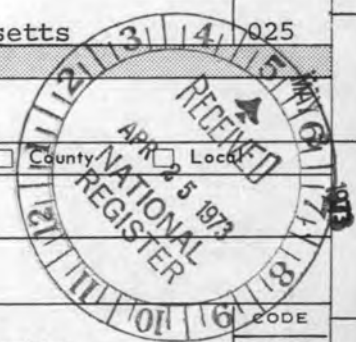
Boston

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025



STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

☒ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

☐ Altered ☒ Unaltered

(Check One)

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Hammond Museum property, comprising approximately six and one half acres, faces the ocean on the Magnolia Shore. Often called "Hammond Castle", the building is on a height overlooking the reef of Norman's Woe, the locale of Longfellow's "The Wreck of the Hesperus". This site was chosen for its unimpeded view across Gloucester Bay. The Museum has no near neighbors and is set back about two hundred yards from Hesperus Avenue. This is the only street in the area, other than access roads to the large estates spaced far apart and built between 1900 and 1930.

The Museum was constructed in 1925-1928. John Jay Hammond, Jr. was essentially his own architect with technical assistance from the architectural firm of Allen, Collins and Willis, Boston. Though the building is in no recognized style, it is "medieval" in feeling and intention. It is composed, in part, of structures and sections of structures purchased by Mr. Hammond in Spain, France, and Italy and transported to the site. It was Hammond's intention to depict Europe as it was up to the sixteenth century. However, his juxtaposition of architectural periods and styles, from the Roman to the Gothic and Renaissance which sometimes constitute part of the same structure, is interesting but confusing.

The building is essentially divided into four parts, with Mr. Hammond's laboratories and office at the northern end in a modern wing, now containing the administration offices. Adjoining this is the Tower, then the Great Hall, and, at the southern end, the "Spanish baronial" residence.

The French building (the Tower) represents a 12th century fortified keep with four corner towers, each two hundred feet high. It is entered by crossing a "medieval" drawbridge to a Gothic-arched doorway.

The central portion of the structure (the Great Hall) is a conscious imitation of the transept of the Cathedral of San Nazaire in Carcassonne, France. This room, with its Gothic detail, is sixty feet by one hundred feet. The famous pipe organ designed by Mr. Hammond is placed in an abutting eighty-five foot tower which opens into the Great Hall, affording ideal acoustics.

Adjoining the Great Hall is a glass-roofed courtyard with a Roman pool and columns surrounded by galleries and 15th century French housefronts. Beyond the courtyard are the two-story living quarters, including a Gothic bedroom, a medieval refectory and a Sicilian room. All these rooms contain architectural details and furnishings dating from the 12th to the 17th centuries.

The exterior walls are stone and are decorated with gargoyles and other medieval ornamentation. In general, the fenestration is an adaption of pointed Gothic. The perpendicular exterior wall which terminates the transept of the Great Hall contains a rose window and was deliberately constructed to give the impression of a ruined cathedral. Flying buttresses support the southeast wall. The sloping roofs of both the Great Hall and the "Spanish manor" are of slate, with conical towers and stone chimneys surmounting the latter.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian ☐ 16th Century ☐ 18th Century ☒ 20th Century
☐ 15th Century ☐ 17th Century ☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1888-1965; 1925-1928

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

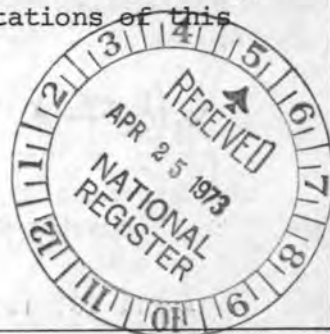
- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) _____ |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☒ Science | _____ |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☒ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | _____ |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| ☒ Art | ☐ Architecture | ☐ Theater | _____ |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Literature | ☐ Transportation | _____ |
| ☒ Communications | ☒ Military | | |
| ☐ Conservation | ☒ Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hammond Museum, Gloucester, was built by the late John Jay Hammond, Jr., (1888-1965), inventor and genius in electronics. His father, having made a tremendous fortune in the discovery of African gold and diamond fields with Cecil Rhodes, contributed financially to his son's experiments. These resulted in the development of remote control by radio and many devices for radio communications. By 1916 Hammond held over 100 patents of military and civil value. He invented a light incendiary bomb in 1914, a selenium cell which was the first step toward radar, single dial radio tuning, telephone amplification and made substantial contributions to the development of the modern radio tube. During World War II Hammond was active in development of various national defense projects, including a variable pitch airplane propeller. In 1961 he worked on a project for broadcasting from a single station to any part of the world and into outer space. One of Hammond's main interests was music and it served as a stimulus for additional projects, such as the pipe organ he developed with the help of such friends as Serge Koussevitsky, Igor Stravinsky, and Leopold Stokowski. His genius was recognized world-wide, as evidenced by the many high positions he held and by the honorary degrees and variety of awards he received.

The Museum may be considered a unique example of a rich American eccentric's regard for what he considered to be his European cultural heritage. Possibly the only building of its kind in the United States with the multiplicity of contents, it reflects Mr. Hammond's serious if rather eclectic and uninformed interest in art. In large part he intended his castle to exemplify the influence of the Church on art, particularly during what he considered to be the medieval period. There is little attempt at curatorial order, and anachronisms abound.

The Museum is an astonishing and in some ways touching embodiment of the American dream as expressed by men of wealth, accomplishment and energy. Hammond's "Castle" is one of the few remaining manifestations of this intense, turn-of-the-century individualism.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Witham, Corinne B. The Hammond Castle Guide Book. Cambridge, 1966.

C. 100 patents in the name of John Hays Hammond, Jr., U.S. Patent Office, Washington, D.C.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42 ° 35 ' 06 "	70 ° 41 ' 35½ "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: C. 6½ acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:

Elizabeth Reed Amadon, State Survey Director

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

10/17/72

STREET AND NUMBER:

40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☐

Name

John F. X. DAVOREN, Secretary of
the Commonwealth and Chairman of
the Massachusetts Historical
Commission

Date

April 18, 1973

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

5/8/73

ATTEST:

W. M. [Signature]
Keeper of The National Register

Date

5 2 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PROPERTY

Hammond Castle

STATE

Mass.

WORKING NUMBER

4.25.73.2857

TECH REVIEW

Photos

3

Maps

1

Essex

DB #73000298

CONTROL REVIEW

CM

4-26-

73

OK

HISTORIAN

less than 50 yrs. and a museum now ? AmL 4/26/73
however as product of eccentric inventor Conference
this is quite good - has checked too many areas of sign.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

It's almost 50 yrs old ! Accept
is very interesting but I'd use 4-26-73
historic name or Hammond Castle. cshull

ARCHEOLOGIST

Ops - Hammond didn't make the DAB
Architecturally interesting enough but he's still interesting too
to waive the 50 yr. limit - also man of interest Accept KH

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

4/30/73

BRANCH CHIEF

Looks like
exceptional significance
to me

OK 4/30/73

4/30/73

Wm

5/2

KEEPER

note name change

National Register write-up

Send-back

Federal Register entry 7-3-73

Re-submit

Entered



I Northwest elevation - toward Hesperus Ave.
NPS Number 5/8/73

Title: Hammond Museum

Loc. Essex, Mass.

Northwest elevation

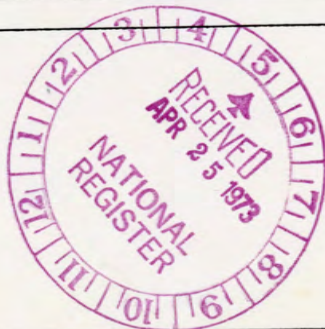
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME COMMON		AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Hammond Museum		Same	MAY 8 1973
2. LOCATION STATE		COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts		Essex	Gloucester
STREET AND NUMBER			
80 Hesperus Avenue			
3. PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT		DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Louis H. Frohman		c. 1970	Five Merestone Terrace Bronxville, N.Y.
4. IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			
Northwest elevation, toward Hesperus Avenue			



3 11 64



VIEW OF TOWERS -

South east elevation, toward
Bay

NPS Number 5/8/73

Title: Hammond Museum

Loc. Essex, Mass

southeast elevation

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

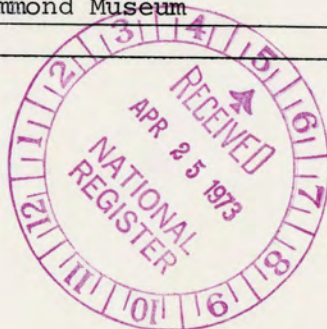
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

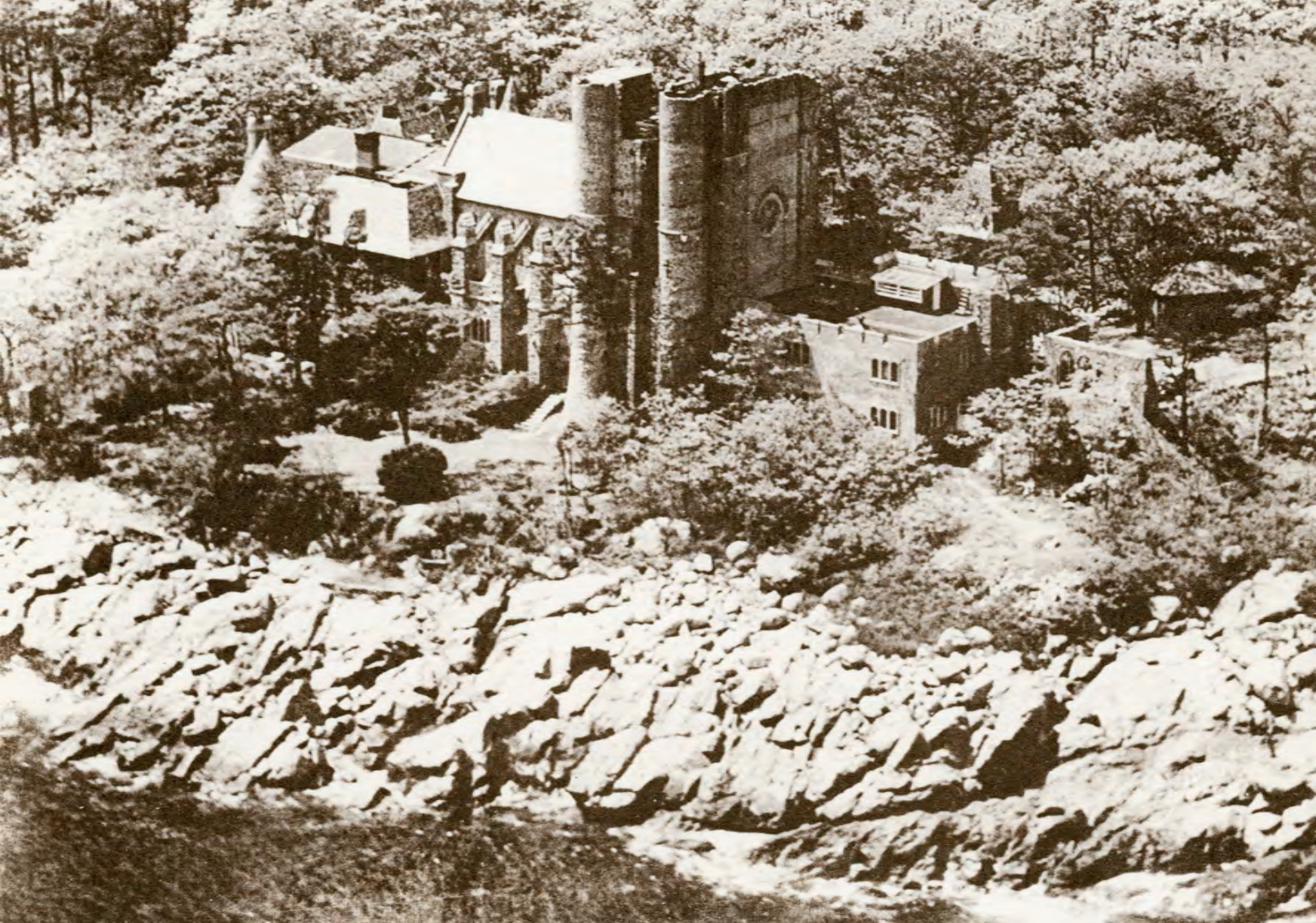
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Hammond Museum	Same	MAY 8 1973
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Essex	Gloucester
STREET AND NUMBER		
80 Hesperus Avenue		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Hammond Museum	1972	Hammond Museum
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Southeast elevation, toward Gloucester Bay





FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME

COMMON

Hammond Museum

AND/OR HISTORIC

Same

NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)

MAY 8 1973

2. LOCATION

STATE

Massachusetts

COUNTY

Essex

TOWN

Gloucester

STREET AND NUMBER

80 Hesperus Avenue

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Curhan Co.

DATE

1970

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Gloucester, MA

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

aerial view looking north west

Hammond Medieval Museum
Gloucester, Mass.

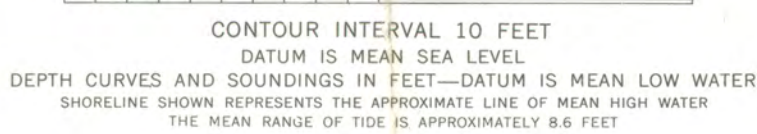
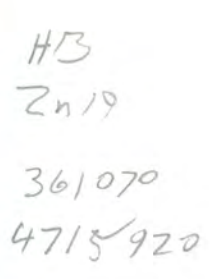
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE <i>(Assigned by NPS)</i>
Hammond Museum	Same	MAY 8 1973
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Essex	Gloucester
STREET AND NUMBER		
80 Hesperus Avenue		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U.S.G.S. Gloucester, MA	1960	1:24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.





MASS.

QUADRANGLE LOCATION

GLOUCESTER, MASS.
N4233.75—W7037.5/8×7.5
1960

ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON
2121 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BRIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02135

OFFICE OF THE CARDINAL

March 28, 1973

Mrs. Elizabeth Amadon
Massachusetts Historical Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mrs. Amadon:

As you know, we are vitally interested in expediting action on our request to have the Hammond Museum in Gloucester listed in the National Register of Historic Buildings and Places. You will recall that our initial request for this is dated the 5th of October, 1972. Our internal planning has proceeded on the assumption that a decision on our request would be reached within a period of not more than five or six months, a period, as you will note, that has expired.

We have discussed with officials of an interested city, participation of the Museum in a coming Tricentennial of the City and the place that the Museum may have as a tourist attraction in the plans for the economic revitalization of the City. These matters, as you will appreciate, tend towards complications. Many of the decisions which must be reached depend on official recognition of the Museum via listing in the National Register. I am sure you will understand also that decisions by the City must be made part of the political process which, in itself, is extremely time-consuming. We would like to suggest therefore that the staff of the Register in Washington be requested to expedite a decision on the application and that we be informed of the results as soon as convenient.

We do wish to thank you for your very understanding interest in this matter. We can only say to you that we understand completely the difficulties occasioned by lack of staff both in Boston and in Washington.

With best wishes, I am -

Sincerely yours in Our Lord,

+ Humberto Cardinal Medeiros

Archbishop of Boston





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

John F. X. Davoren

Secretary of the Commonwealth

~~3--Joy--Street~~
40 Beacon Street

Boston, Mass. 02108
(617) 727-8470

April 20, 1973

National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Attention: Mr. Jerry Rogers

CERTIFIED MAIL

Dear Jerry:

Enclosed is the National Register nomination for:

Essex County, Gloucester, Hammond Museum

This has been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Review Board, and has been signed by Secretary of the Commonwealth John F.X. Davoren, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission and designated State Liaison Officer. The attached letter from His Eminence Humberto Cardinal Medeiros, Archbishop of Boston indicates the importance of this submission being processed as soon as possible, as Gloucester is now celebrating its 350th anniversary. We would appreciate it if you would expedite the Hammond Museum submission.

With thanks,

Sincerely,

Bob,

Robert B. Rettig
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission



WASO-9
(Nov. 1966)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON OFFICE

FOLLOW-UP SLIP

To: _____

Date 4-30

See letter to Mrs Amador from
Archbishop of Boston. I got a
call from a representative in the
archbishop's office asking us to
speed up the determination. He said
if we did it we'd "have their
blessings." I for one hate to
pass up a good thing! Let's put it
on!

NOT TO BE FILED

Signature

C. Shull

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered MAY 8 1973

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
South End District	Boston Suffolk County
Hammond Castle	Gloucester Essex County
Gloucester City Hall	Gloucester Essex County
Brattle (William) House	Cambridge Middlesex County
The House of Seven Gables Historic District	Salem Essex County
Hale (Edward Everett) House	(Roxbury) Boston Suffolk County
Lane (Job) House	Bedford Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. John Moakley
Hon. Michael J. Harrington
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Hon. Paul Cronin

Director, Northeast Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

5/9/73

NRowland:mm

PHR

July 7/18/79

City/Town: Gloucester Project Name: Hommond Castle
 Applicant: Jackson Robinson Owner: Hommond Museum
 Pre-Application Cost Estimate: \$140,000 Preliminary Site Visit: 5/27/79 By: BF
 Pre-Application Grant Request: \$109,000 Application Review By: _____
 MHC Invitation Amount: \$40,000 Admin. _____ History _____
 Application Cost Estimate: \$125,000 Architect _____ Arch. History _____
 Available Matching Funds: \$75,000 Archeology _____

Pres. Category _____ FY80 Objectives _____

Project Work Type: _____ Exterior _____ Interior _____ Structural _____ Mechanical _____
 Major Work Items: _____

1. GRANT ADMINISTRATION

A. Local Project Coordinator: Ruth L. Robinson Hommond Museum, Inc.
Hesperus Ave. Gloucester, Mass. 01930

B. Signature Authority

1) Contracts:

2) Preservation Restriction:

3) Certify/Disburse Funds:

Jackson W. Robinson, Pres.
Board of Trustees
197 Coolidge Hill
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

B. Preservation Consultant

1) Resume:

2) Supervision:

3) Other Consultants Listed:

Edward True
Souza & True, Inc.
6 Story St.
Cambridge

Robert Keiley, Professor James. F. O'Garra

C. Deed Opinion Statement

1) Prepared by:

2) Signators:

Peter J. Cahill - 33 Pleasant St. Gloucester, Ma. 01920
Bensten, Cahill, Cunningham & Walker

Hommond Museum, Inc

D. Matching Share Statement

1) Donor: Hommond Museum2) Source: Fed National Bank of Ipswich (Loan)3) Kind: cash4) Amount: \$35,000

Hommond Museum
Investment account

Investment account
cash

40,000

5) Date Available: upon request6) Donated Services? N/A7) Firm Commitments: Bank8) Match = NFS? YES

E. Cash Flow Statement

1) Financing Method:

2) Partial Payment Requested?

Bank loan, Investment account, fundraising?

one partial payment request

F. Flood Insurance Statement

Project is located in flood hazard area.
They will get flood insurance

G. Assurances

H. Financial Management Statement

1) Certification

2) Individual

I. Contractor Selection

good statement

Comment on Administration:

NOTE: They are requesting an additional \$19,000 increase in our original invitation amount (\$40,000) to bring it up to a total of \$59,000

