

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
Old Camb.	OC IIB24

1. Town Cambridge

Address 6 Appleton Street

Name Howe House

Present use residential

Present owner Jonathan R. & Barbara Beckwith

3. Description: 8 Appleton St.

Date 1887

Source deed records

Style Queen Anne/Shingle

Architect Cabot and Chandler

Exterior wall fabric wood

Outbuildings (describe) -----

Other features Queen Anne features in wood shingle; gambrel roof, elongate

hip dormer combined with chimney stack.

Altered No Date -----

Moved No Date -----

5. Lot size:

One acre or less        Over one acre XX

Approximate frontage 90 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

30 feet

6. Recorded by Bainbridge Bunting

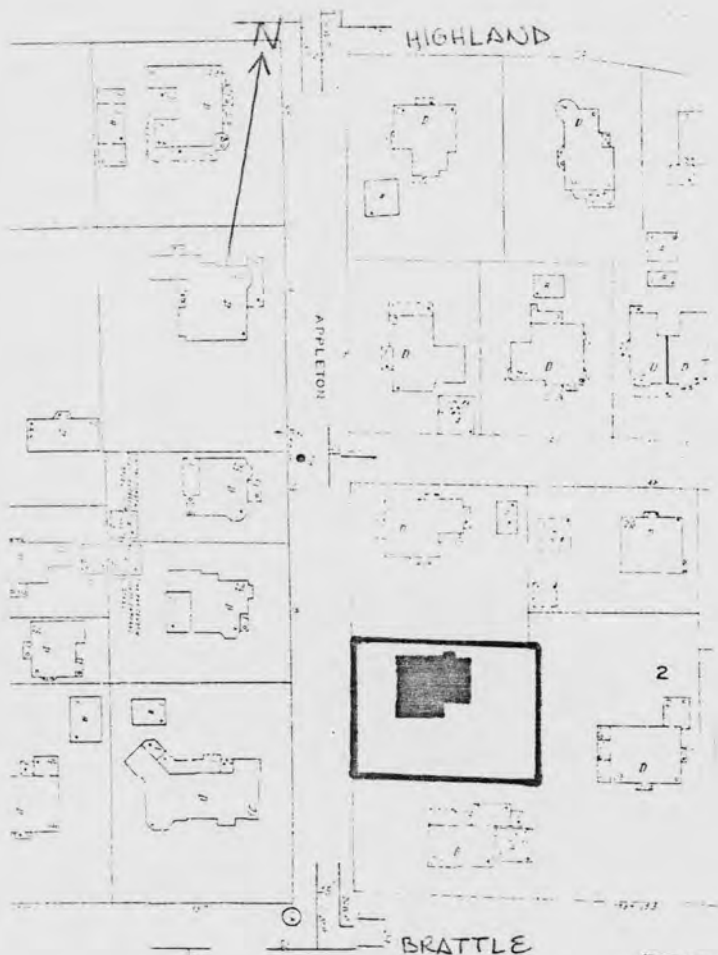
Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1964

UTM - LEXINGTON  
19/324330/4693720

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number 1099-31

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



Assessor # 223-17

7. Original owner (if known) Mrs. Estes, Howe  
 Original use residential  
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- |                       |                                     |                            |                          |                         |                          |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aboriginal            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Conservation               | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recreation              | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Agricultural          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Education                  | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion                | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Architectural         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Exploration/<br>settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science/<br>invention   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Arts              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Industry                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/<br>humanitarian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commerce              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Military                   | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation          | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Communication         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Political                  | <input type="checkbox"/> |                         |                          |
| Community development | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                            |                          |                         |                          |

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

This Queen Anne/Shingle Style house was the home from 1889-1963 of Lois Lilley Howe, America's first woman architect. Howe was an early practitioner of the Colonial Revival Style.

The building is marked by a broad overhang above the first floor and a symmetrical facade.

0089 / AQN

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

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Howe House (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  
 RETURN 4.13.82  
 REJECT \_\_\_\_\_

resubmission  
 nomination by person or local government  
 owner objection  
 appeal

photos \_\_\_\_\_  
maps \_\_\_\_\_

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Please discuss the significance of this particular house. Generally, a significant architect is recognized for a particular design or building of her execution. Please discuss Howe's career, etc. and why her associations with this house make it eligible.*  
*Bravham*

Recom./Criteria Return  
Reviewer Patrick Andrus  
Discipline Historian  
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

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

USGS References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national  state  local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

Site \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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## 13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed B. Brown

Date 4-13-82

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

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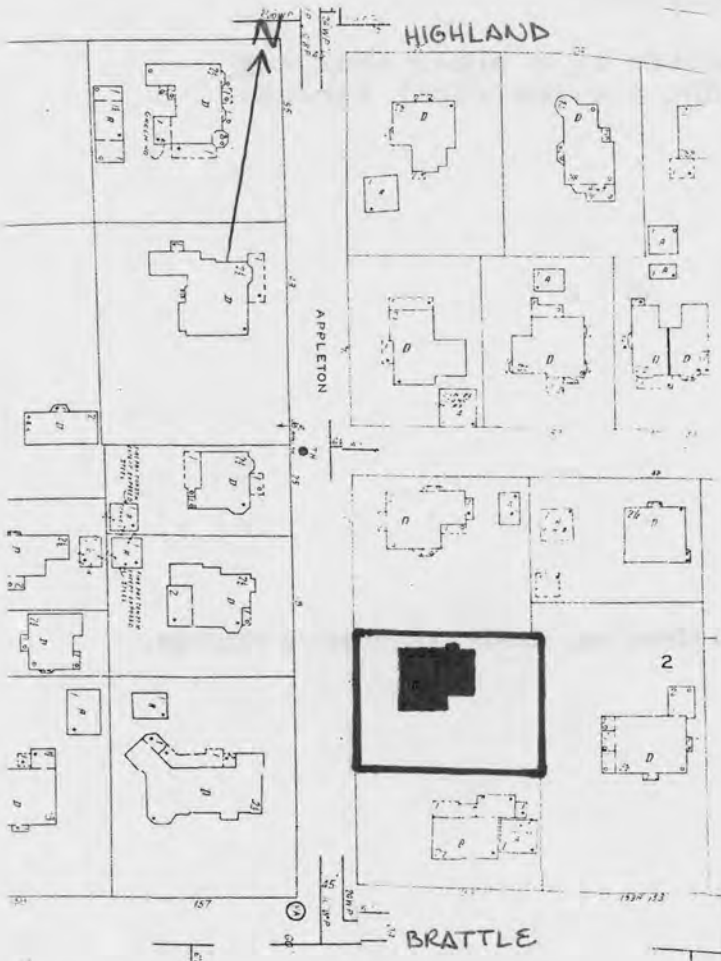
Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1964

UTM - LEXINGTON  
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2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
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Photo number 1099-31

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



ASSESSOR # 223-17

7. Original owner (if known) Mrs. Estes, Howe

Original use residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

This Queen Anne/Shingle Style house was the home from 1889-1963 of Lois Lilley Howe, America's first woman architect. Howe was an early practitioner of the Colonial Revival Style.

The building is marked by a broad overhang above the first floor and a symmetrical facade.

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

NOV 14 1980

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETMASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Old Cambridge	Form No: II.B.24
Property Name: Lois Lilley Howe House	

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

Lois Lilley Howe (1864-1964) was one of the first women to graduate from the architectural program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the organizer of the only all-woman architectural firm in Boston in the early twentieth century, and the first woman elevated to Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. Born in Cambridge in 1864, she grew up in a house at 1 Kirkland Street opposite Memorial Hall. After financial reverses in the 1870s and the death of her father in 1887, when Howe was 23, the family left the house at Kirkland Street and moved into one at 6 Appleton Street designed for them by the Boston architectural firm of Cabot & Chandler. Howe lived at 6 Appleton Street throughout her life. Although she did not design it, the house is associated with her most productive years as architect of domestic structures (at least 33 commissions in Cambridge alone, 12 in various National Register Districts). It meets Criterion A as associated with the role of women in architecture and Criterion B for its associations with Howe.

The following biography is excerpted from the M.I.T. Historical Collections, "Inventory of Howe, Manning & Almy Papers, 1883-1973":

Lois Lilley Howe, 1864-1964

Lois Lilley Howe (LLH) was born into the Cambridge family of Dr. Estes and Lois Lilly White Howe. Before entering the Museum School of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts in 1882, she earned an equivalency certificate from the Cambridge Public High School. At the Museum School, LLH concentrated in design, finishing the program in 1886. Her later architectural work reflected this artistic training, and she maintained contacts with artists throughout her life. . . .

As a result of her alteration on a stairway for Reverend Francis G. Peabody's home, she gained the admiration of architect Robert Swain Peabody, and he became her mentor. In 1888, she entered M.I.T.'s School of Architecture and took the course in 'Partial Architecture' which lasted only two years. . . .

With Peabody's help LLH was hired as a draftsman with the firm of Allen and Kenway after finishing at M.I.T. Peabody also told her of the competition for a Women's Building at the Columbia Exhibition of 1893 in Chicago. She and her classmate Sophia Hayden Bennett (M.I.T. Class of 1890), both entered. Hayden won and LLH placed second. The prize money made it possible for LLH to take her mother and sisters to Europe. After fifteen months, LLH returned to Boston

(see over - continued)

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

and worked as a part-time librarian in the M.I.T. School of Architecture. She received her first commission to build a house in 1894 and worked alone and with various partners until 1900. She then established her own firm.

LLH concentrated on domestic architecture from the beginning of her architectural career. This emphasis continued when she became partners with Eleanor Manning O'Connor (EMO'C) in 1913 and with Mary Almy (MA) in 1926. Her work with houses was often innovative. For example, an article about her experimental plaster work appeared in a 1907 issue of Architectural Review and Architectural Record. In another 1907 issue she gave advice about designing serving pantries for small houses. LLH initiated Howe, Manning & Almy's (HM&A) use of the Colonial Revival Style for both building and renovating and stressed the need to research architectural details. Details of Old New England Houses was published in 1913 by LLH and Constance Fuller (M.I.T. Class of 1914).

The problems of urban housing concerned LLH enough to steer HM&A towards the development of small houses and of urban planning. She was on the Planning Committee for Architect's Small House Bureau and was a member of the Boston Society of Architect's Small House Service Bureau of the American Institute of Architects (A.I.A.). She also participated in the Committee on Small Houses for A.I.A. and was appointed to the Board of Directors of the Housing Association of Metropolitan Boston. . . .

Professionally, she was a forerunner because there were few women architects at that time. In 1901, she became the first woman to be officially elected when Robert Swain Peabody sponsored her for membership in the A.I.A. She was also one of the first women admitted to the Boston Society of Architects. Perhaps her greatest honor came in 1931, when she was elected a Fellow of the A.I.A., the first woman to be chosen.

LLH retired from HM&A in 1937, after practicing for more than forty years, but she never stopped working. After retirement, she occasionally worked on commissions for EMO'C's private practice. She was also treasurer of the Old Cambridge Shakespeare Association, president of the Cambridge Plant Club, vice-president of the Cambridge Historical Society and a member of the Cambridge Social Dramatic Club and various Unitarian Clubs. When LLH died in 1964, she was twelve days short of her hundredth birthday.

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 14 of 17

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 131. <sup>less than 50%</sup> Conventual Church of St. Mary and St. John *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4.13.82  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 132. Second Cambridge Savings Bank Building *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Paul H. Doyle 6.30.83  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 133. Frost, David, House *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Paul H. Doyle 6.30.83  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 134. Howe House *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Paul H. Doyle 6.30.83  
Attest revised 4/13 \_\_\_\_\_
- 135. Lowell, The *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Paul H. Doyle 6.30.83  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 136. Willis, Stillman, House *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4.13.82  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 137. Second Waterhouse House *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Paul H. Doyle 6.30.83  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- <sup>SEAS TOWER -</sup>  
138. Harvard Observatory *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Caree D. Hull 2-26-87  
<sup>owner objection withdrawn</sup> ~~DOE/OWNER OBJECTION~~  
Attest Beth L. Sarge 2-26-87
- 139. Almshouse *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4.13.82  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 140. Lovell Block *Substantive Review* ✓ Keeper Paul H. Doyle 6.30.83  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

Substantive Review

Howe House (Cambridge MRA)  
Middlesex County  
MA

Working No. 11-14-80-2862  
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:

*Association with an important early female architect. It is not eligible under A because her significance is recognized under A.*

Recom./Criteria B  
Reviewer Mer Duff  
Discipline A-16  
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
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

---

## 8. Significance

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Area 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

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## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UNIT References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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## 11. Form Prepared By

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## 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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



1099-31

NOV 14 1980

Cambridge MA, Ma

Heine House

6 Appleton St.

1099-31

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275