

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

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

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
Cambridgeport	CPT I. 4.

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")

Staple to left side of form

Photo number 1106-15A

1106-19A

1106-20A

1106-21A

1. Town Cambridge

Name of area (if any) Inman Square National

Register District

3. General date or period 1855-1900

4. Is area uniform (explain):

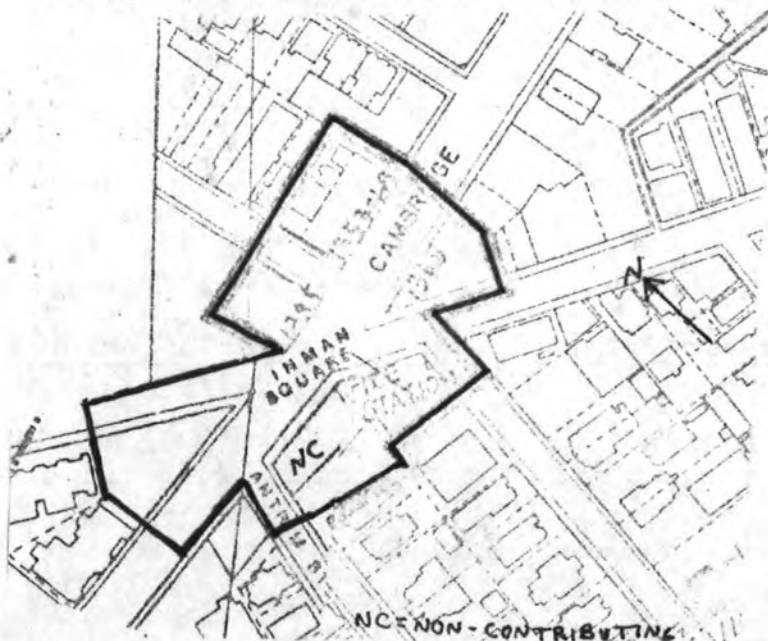
in style? no, mixed styles

in condition? yes, generally very good

in type of ownership? no, commercial/municipal

in use? no, stores, firehouse, bank

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



NOV 14 1980

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____

MHC Photo no. _____

1.808 Acres

6. Recorded by Robert Nylander

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1968

UTM - BOSTON SOUTH

19/326990/4693180

(over)

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

Inman Square is the only nineteenth century commercial square in Cambridge which is virtually intact and retains its early character and appearance. Today, Inman Square, known as Atwood's Corner until 1875, is the commercial hub of the area known as the Hampshire Triangle. The key elements of Inman Square's nineteenth century streetscape and the proposed National Register District are the Middlesex Bank Building (1874), the Waite Building (1855-57), a Queen Anne commercial/residential block (1894), and the Inman Square Fire Station (1912). The Waite Building and the Middlesex Bank Building are handsome Greek Revival commercial buildings of a type once common in commercial districts of New England cities.

1. Waite Building (1855-57), 1368 Cambridge Street:

The Waite Building has been a prominent Inman Square landmark for 125 years. This mid-nineteenth century commercial structure occupies a triangular lot at the intersection of Cambridge and Hampshire Streets, directly south of the Cambridge-Somerville line. The Waite Building was built for Charles Waite, a property owner with extensive holdings in the Inman Square area that included most of the Inman Square frontages. Waite's ownership of these parcels can be traced back to the 1840s. Waite was a dry goods importer, whose own residence stood nearby at the corner of Oak and Hampshire Streets, opposite the Waite Building. The Waite family heirs retained possession of a number of these properties until World War II.

2. Middlesex Bank Building (1874), 1374-85 Cambridge Street:

The Middlesex Bank Building is an important vestige of the commercial vitality of Inman Square during the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Its large scale and dominant siting have made this building a highly visible landmark for over 100 years.

3. Inman Square Fire Station (1912), corner of Hampshire and Cambridge Streets, (Newhall & Blevins, architects):

The Inman Square Fire Station is distinguished by an unusual series of terra cotta panels on the facade depicting the development

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:	Form No:
Cambridgeport	CPT I. 4.
Property Name: Inman Square N.R.D.	

Page 2

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

Inman Square Fire Station - cont'd.:

of the fire engine. The panels illustrate the history of fire fighting techniques from the early use of hand-drawn pumps to later motor-driven trucks. This is particularly significant since the Inman Square Fire Station was the home of Cambridge's first motor-driven fire-fighting apparatus. The panels were the work of the Atlantic Terra Cotta Company of New York, who based their designs on old prints and photographs. Engine Company #5, organized in 1874, is based at this station.

4. Queen Anne Commercial/Residential Block (1894), 1353-69 Cambridge Street:

The last of the four key elements in the Inman Square National Register District is a two-story, gable-roofed commercial/residential block, with four storefronts at the ground level and apartments on the upper floor. Noteworthy Queen Anne features include the solid barge-boards with bosses in the dormers and roof gables, and the decorative patterned wood shingles on the upper story. The building is remarkable for its unchanged appearance; it retains its original storefronts, including large double-hung display windows.

The Inman Square National Register District includes properties at the intersection of Hampshire, Cambridge and Inman Streets (see Cambridge Community Development P. D. Quad Map 5). Boundaries were chosen to include the early nineteenth century commercial buildings in this area.

-END-

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 17

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- ✓ 1. East Cambridge Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 6-30-83
Attest _____
- ✓ 2. Winter Street Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
- ✓ 3. Upper Magazine Street Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
- ✓ 4. Hastings Square Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
- ✓ 5. Salem-Auburn Streets Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
- ✓ 6. Inman Square Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
- ✓ 7. Old Cambridgeport Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 6-30-83
Attest _____
- ✓ 8. Norfolk Street Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
- ✓ 9. Cambridge Gateway Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
- ✓ 10. Bigelow Street Historic District
Substantive Review
Keeper William H. Brachman 4-13-82
Attest _____

Substantive Portion
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

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

Working No. 11-1480-2862
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 4/17/82
Action: ☒ **ACCEPT** 4/13/82
☐ **RETURN**
☐ **REJECT**

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

photos 4
maps _____

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

Reviewer's comments: intact
Virtually 19th century commercial ~~share~~ square

Recom. / Criteria C
Reviewer Brannon
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 _____ 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

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UNIT 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



1106-19A

NOV 14 1980

0640

JNMAN SQ.

Cambridge MA Ma

Hampshire + Cambridge

1106-19A



1106-21A

NOV 14 1980

INMAN SQ.

0640

1368 Cambridge St.

Cambridge MA, Mass

1106-21A



1106-15A

NOV 14 1980

INMAN SQ. C

1385 Cambridge St.

Cambridge MA, Ma

1106-15A



1106-20A

NOV 14 1980

Cambridge MRA, 49

INMAN SQ.

1353-69 Cambridge St.

1106-20A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275