

FORM B - BUILDING

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

NOV 14 1980

In Area no.	Form no.
C'port	CPT IIC6

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1104-6A

1. Town Cambridge

Address 135 Western Avenue

Name Cheney Read House

Present use residential

Present owner Sylona Wilder

3. Description:

Date 1846

Source deed records

Style Greek Revival

Architect William Hyde- builder

Exterior wall fabric asbestos

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features slope of pediment is
unclassically steep; stock door
frame is framed by pilasters and
a pedimented lintel.

Altered No Date -----

Moved No Date -----

5. Lot size:

One acre or less XX Over one acre -----

Approximate frontage 50 feet

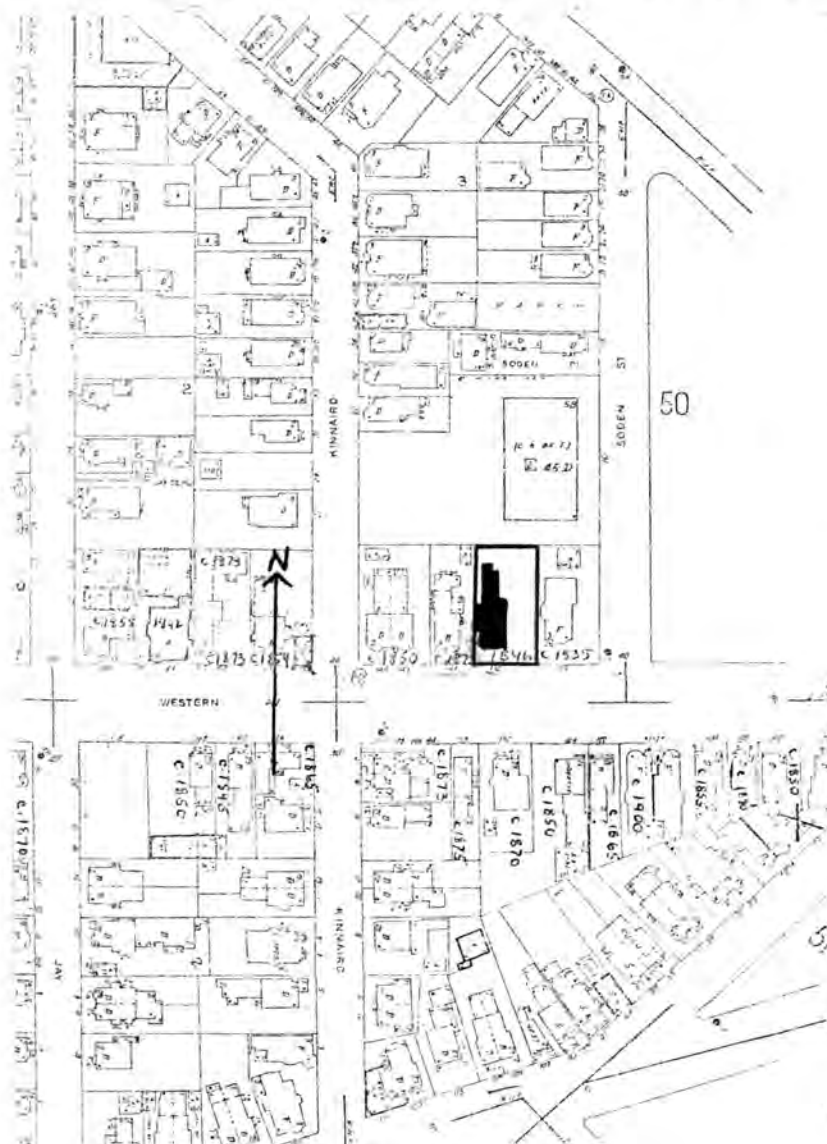
Approximate distance of building from street
15 feet

6. Recorded by Bainbridge Bunting

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm

Date 1965

UTM-BOSTON SOUTH
19/326340/4692240



ASSESSOR # 124-25

7. Original owner (if known) Cheney Read

Original use residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residential

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)

The Cheney Read House is important as the only surviving Greek Revival house with a two-story portico in Cambridgeport. The builder, William Hyde, squeezed a pretentious Ionic temple front on this house of otherwise ordinary dimensions. The door and window openings, with their heavy Greek Revival trim, are not quite centered between the columns. The steeply sloped pediment allows for more headroom in the attic.

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

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 6 of 7

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Read, Cheney, House

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

William H. Brachman 4.13.82

Attest

52. Reardon, Edmund, House

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

William H. Brachman 4.13.82

Attest

53. River Street Firehouse

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

William H. Brachman 4.13.82

Attest

54. Sands, Ivory, House

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

William H. Brachman 4.13.82

Attest

55. Senior House

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION ✓

Keeper

Noted 4.13.82

Attest

56. South Row

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

Noted 6.30.82

Attest

57. Urban Rowhouse (40-48 Pearl St.)

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

William H. Brachman 4.13.82

Attest

58. Urban Rowhouse (30-38 Pearl St.)

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

William H. Brachman 4.13.82

Attest

59. Urban Rowhouse (26-32 River St.)

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

Noted 6.30.82

Attest

60. Valentine Soap Workers Cottages
(5-7 Cottage St.)

Substantive Review ✓

Keeper

Noted 6.30.82

Attest

Substantive Review
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

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

Working No. 11-14-SR-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 1
maps _____

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

Reviewer's comments:

*Only such example in
Cambridgeport*

Recom./Criteria C
Reviewer Braun
Discipline arch his
Date 4.2.82
☐ 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	☐ moved
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ 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 _____

USIT 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



1104-6A

NOV 14 1981

0860

Cambridge MA, Ma
Read, Cherry, House

135 Western Ave.

1104-6A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275