

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
E. Camb.	EC IIB4

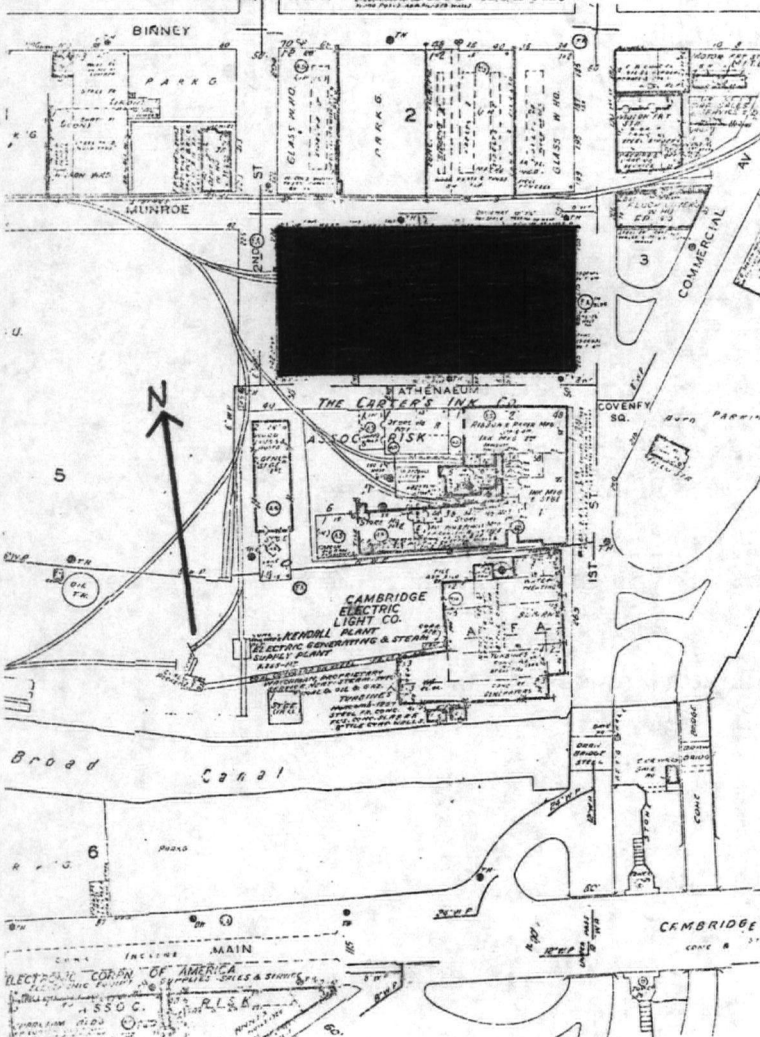
1. Town Cambridge
Address 215 First Street
Name Athenaeum Press (now Cuneo Press)
Present use industrial

Present owner Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1102-20

3. Description:
Date 1895
Source assessor/deed records
Style Mill Construction

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



Architect Lockwood, Greene, & Co.
Exterior wall fabric brick
Outbuildings (describe) -----
Other features numerous stylistic embellishments, including at one time, a statue of Athena.
Altered No Date -----
Moved No Date -----

5. Lot size:
One acre or less Over one acre XX
Approximate frontage 200 Feet
Approximate distance of building from street 0 Feet

6. Recorded by Bainbridge Bunting
Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.
Date 1964

UTM-BOSTON SOUTH
19/328060/4692770

7. Original owner (if known) Ginn and Company

Original use book printing plant

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The first printing in the English-speaking colonies was done in Cambridge, and by the late nineteenth century, it had become an important center of printing and publishing. Ginn and Company, the well-known school book publishers, built this extensive plant on the banks of the Charles River. It was the third and last of the major printing establishments to locate in the City following the Riverside Press of 1849 and the Harvard University Press. It is also important as a major architectural landmark on the Charles River Basin.

The architects, Lockwood, Greene & Co., were mill engineers of wide repute. The Athenaeum Press building is one of the earliest and largest industrial plants along Cambridge's reclaimed riverfront. Structurally, it represents a continuation of nineteenth century mill construction techniques. The architects were concerned with efficient and economical manufacturing as well as with the health and safety of the workers. The latest innovations in ventilation, plumbing, lighting and fireproofing were applied to the construction.

Because of the high visibility from the Longfellow Bridge, the Athenaeum Press building was given numerous stylistic embellishments, including a statue of Athena, which has since been removed.

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

NOV 14 1980

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 3 of 7

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

✓ 21. Harvard Houses Historic District *owner objection withdrawn* **DOE/OWNER OBJECTION** *for* Keeper

Patricia Andrews 9/12/86

Substantive Review Attest

John J. Savage 9/12/86

✓ 22. Harvard Square Historic District *Substantive Review* Keeper

William H. Brauman

Attest

4.13.82

✓ 23. Old Harvard Yard Historic District (Boundary increase) *see #193* **DOE/OWNER OBJECTION** *Substantive Review* Keeper

Harvard 10/6/82

Attest

✓ 24. Old Cambridge Historic District *Substantive Review* Keeper

Anna M. Byers 4.13.82

Attest

Harvard

✓ 25. Winthrop Square Historic District *Substantive Review* Keeper

10/6/82

Attest

Harvard

✓ 26. Hubbard Park Historic District *Substantive Review* Keeper

William H. Brauman 4.13.82

Attest

✓ 27. Fresh Pond Historic District *Substantive Review* Keeper

Reject 4.13.82

Attest

✓ 28. American Net and Twine Company Factory *Entered in the National Register* Keeper

Delores Byers 4/1/82

Attest

✓ 29. Athenaeum Press *Substantive Review* Keeper

William H. Brauman 4.13.82

Attest

✓ 30. Barnes, James B., House *Substantive Review* Keeper

William A. Brauman 4.13.82

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Athenaeum Press (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 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:

This building is locally significant for its association with the important 19th and 20th century Cambridge book publishing industry.
Built in 1895, the building is a good local example of 19th century mill construction.

Recom. / Criteria accept A&C
Reviewer Patrick Andrus 67KB
Discipline Historian
Date 3/15/82
 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: excellent deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed
Check one: unaltered altered
Check one: original site moved 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

Acres 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 _____

Site _____ 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



1102-20

NOV 14 1980

Cambridge MA, Ma
Atheneum Press

0820

215 First St.

1102-20

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275