

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
Old Camb.	OC IIA4

1. Town Cambridge

Address 40 Brattle Street

Name Brattle Hall

Present use commercial - theater

Present owner Elvin Vaughn Deal & Elvin Parks Deal, North Scituate

3. Description: MA.

Date 1889

Source deed records, Cambridge Chronicle

Style Dutch Colonial Revival

Architect Longfellow, Alden & Harlow

Exterior wall fabric brick and clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) -----

Other features large public hall

built to serve the needs of a

Cambridge social group, and now a theater.

Altered yes Date 1907
architect: Charles Cogswell

Moved No Date -----

5. Lot size:

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

Approximate frontage 110 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

10 feet

6. Recorded by Robert Nylander

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1967

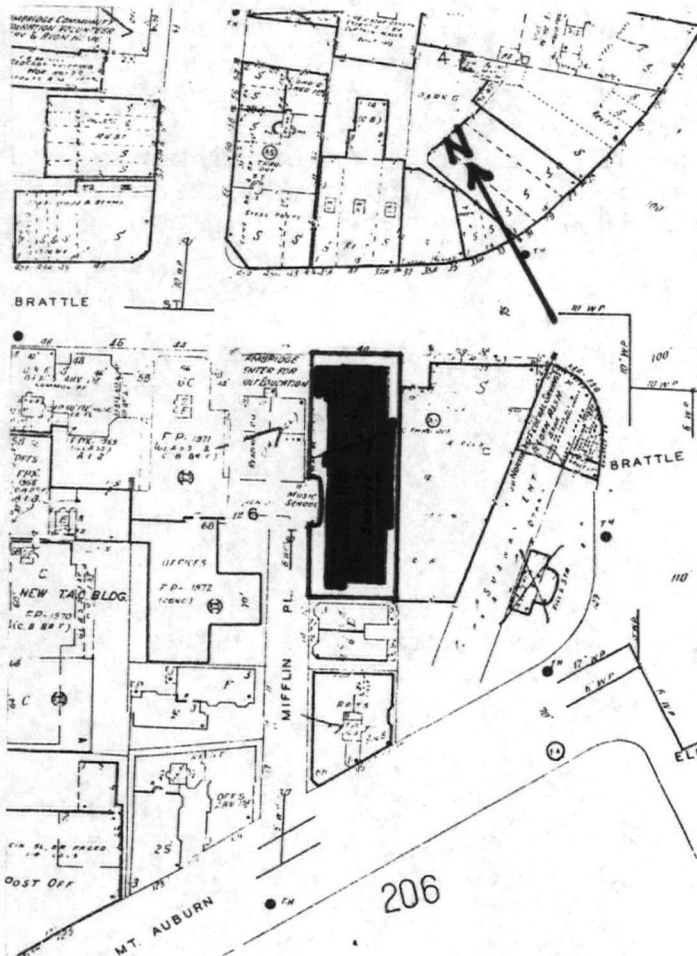
UTM - BOSTON SOUTH

19/325310/4693200

NOV 14 1980

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1098-6

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



ASSESSOR # 168-32

7. Original owner (if known) Cambridge Social Union

Original use club

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates commercial

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle Street, was originally built to serve the needs of the Cambridge Social Union. The Union, founded in 1871, was formed to establish a free reading room and library, as well as provide a forum for social activities. When the Union moved to new quarters in 1889 at 42 Brattle Street (the William Brattle House), this large theater was built next door to house its various literary, musical and dramatic events.

The building was designed by the prominent architects Longfellow, Alden & Harlow. Dubbed Brattle Hall, the building today continues to provide cultural entertainment to the public. A number of alterations and the addition of brick ends was completed in 1907 by architect Charles Cogswell.

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 13 of 17

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Determined Eligible
Date/Signature

- 121. X Worcester, Frederick, House
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
✓ Keeper Thomas M. Boyd 6-30-82
Attest _____
- 122. Porcellian Club
Substantive Review
✓ Keeper Thomas M. Boyd 6-30-82
Attest _____
- 123. Lowell School
Substantive Review
✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4-13-82
Attest _____
- 124. X Frost, Elizabeth, Tenanthouse
Substantive Review
✓ Keeper Thomas M. Boyd 6-30-82
Attest _____
- 125. Wyeth, Augustus, House
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Keeper Ret 6/10/82
Attest Harvard
- 126. Brattle Hall
Substantive Review
✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4-13-82
Attest _____
- 127. Frost, Robert, House
Substantive Review
✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4-13-82
Attest _____
- 128. Stedman, Samuel, House
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Keeper Ret 6/10/82
Attest Harvard
- 129. X Mount Auburn Hospital -
Surgical Building
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION
Determined Eligible
Substantive Review
Keeper Thomas M. Boyd 6-30-82
Attest _____
- 130. Dodge, Edward, House
Substantive Review
✓ Keeper William H. Braham 4-13-82
Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: BRATTLE HALL (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 _____

photos 1

maps _____

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

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Significant for cultural associations & use

Recom./Criteria A

Reviewer Braham

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
<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 _____ 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

Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____
Quadrangle name _____
USGS 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



1098-6

NOV 14 1980

NOV 14 1980

9050

Cambridge MA, Ma

Brattle Hall

40 Brattle St.

1098-6

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275