THE HILL OR WALLACE MANSION (SITE)

The Hill was the home and headquarters of Lord Baltimore's Commissioner for this section of Maryland, Sir Roger Woolford. The graves of Woolford and his wife remain on the property. About 1838, the property was acquired by the Wallace family, who lived there for seventy years. Col. James Wallace, a lawyer, raised the first Maryland Eastern Shore volunteer regiment during the Civil War, and was later one of the first in Dorchester County to become involved with the packing industry, canning vegetables and oysters. He built his office in front of this home at the corner of Gay and Church Streets. The house, which was a two and one-half story brick structure of five bays with a gabled roof, center entrance hall, and flat roofed portico, was torn down a few years ago, although the office remains.

D-133

1001336204

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:

AND/OR HISTORIC: The Hill or The Old Wallace Mansion

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Gay Street

CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Dorchester

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Building ☒ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☐ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other *(Specify)*	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One) ☐ Excellent ☐ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed	
	(Check One) ☐ Altered ☐ Unaltered	(Check One) ☐ Moved ☐ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (*If known*) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Photographs show that this was a two and one half story brick building with a gabled roof. The front consisted of five bays, and above the center bay was a gable. On either side of this gable was a gabled dormer. In front of the center door was a flat roofed portico supported by columns. The windows were all of the sash type except for a one story polygonal bay window to the south of the door. The cornice appears to have been modillioned. There were three chimney; on the north and south ends and in the center of the house. To the rear of this main portion of the house was a two and one half story addition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☒ 18th Century
- ☐ 19th Century
- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - ☐ Prehistoric
  - ☒ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In the days of the Calverts, this house which is no longer standing, was the home and headquarters of Lord Baltimore's commissioner for this section of Maryland. Sir Roger Woolford was the commissioner, and he and his wife were buried on the grounds. About 1838, the property was acquired by the Wallace family who made it their home for seventy years. Col. James Wallace, who lived here, raised the first Maryland Eastern Shore Volunteer Regiment in the Civil War. His command was with the Army of the Potomac in 1863 under General Lockwood. Towards the close of 1863, Col. Wallace resigned his position and resumed his profession as a lawyer. Later he became interested in agriculture and was said to have been the first to plant a peach orchard in Dorchester County on a commercial scale. Col. Wallace and his son James were the pioneers of the packing industry in Dorchester County, canning vegetables and oysters.

This house was torn down a few years ago to make way for the new county library. Prior to that it was used as a public health clinic.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

F. Arthur Lascowski, Papers, 1958

Elias Jones, New Revised History of Dorchester County, Cambridge. Tidewater Publishers, 1906

Photograph

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY									OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE						LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds				Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"				°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"									
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"									
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"									

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Catherine L. Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE: 11/30/75

STREET AND NUMBER: Route 3, Box 32

CITY OR TOWN: Cambridge

STATE: Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

D-133

301 Gay Street
Cambridge, Maryland PLC 168/255

This building is one of several professional offices dating from the nineteenth century that are still standing in Cambridge in the Courthouse area. Unlike the others on Court Lane or High Street, this office is currently vacant. It was originally part of the mansion property known as "The Hill." In 1971 the house was torn down, but the office was allowed to remain on the corner of Gay and Spring Streets. THis office was built before 1852 and has served as the law office ofColonel James Wallace and others in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Since 1940, the property has been in the possession of the city of Cambridge.

Sources:

Dorchester County Courthosue, Cambridge, Maryland.

Land Records.

Will Records.

Dorchester County Office Building, Cambridge, Maryland.

Assessment Records.

Research by;

Terrance P. Walbert

1976

1. STATE Maryland
COUNTY Dorchester
TOWN Cambridge VICINITY
STREET NO. Gay Street

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE dwelling
PRESENT OWNER City of Cambridge
PRESENT USE offices
WALL CONSTRUCTION brick
NO. OF STORIES 2½

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY D-133

2. NAME THE HILL
or the old Wallace Mansion
DATE OR PERIOD 18th & 19th Centuries
STYLE
ARCHITECT
BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION OPEN TO PUBLIC yes

Destroyed by the City of Cambridge and in its site is to be built a new Library. 1970

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered NO Interior Exterior fair

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

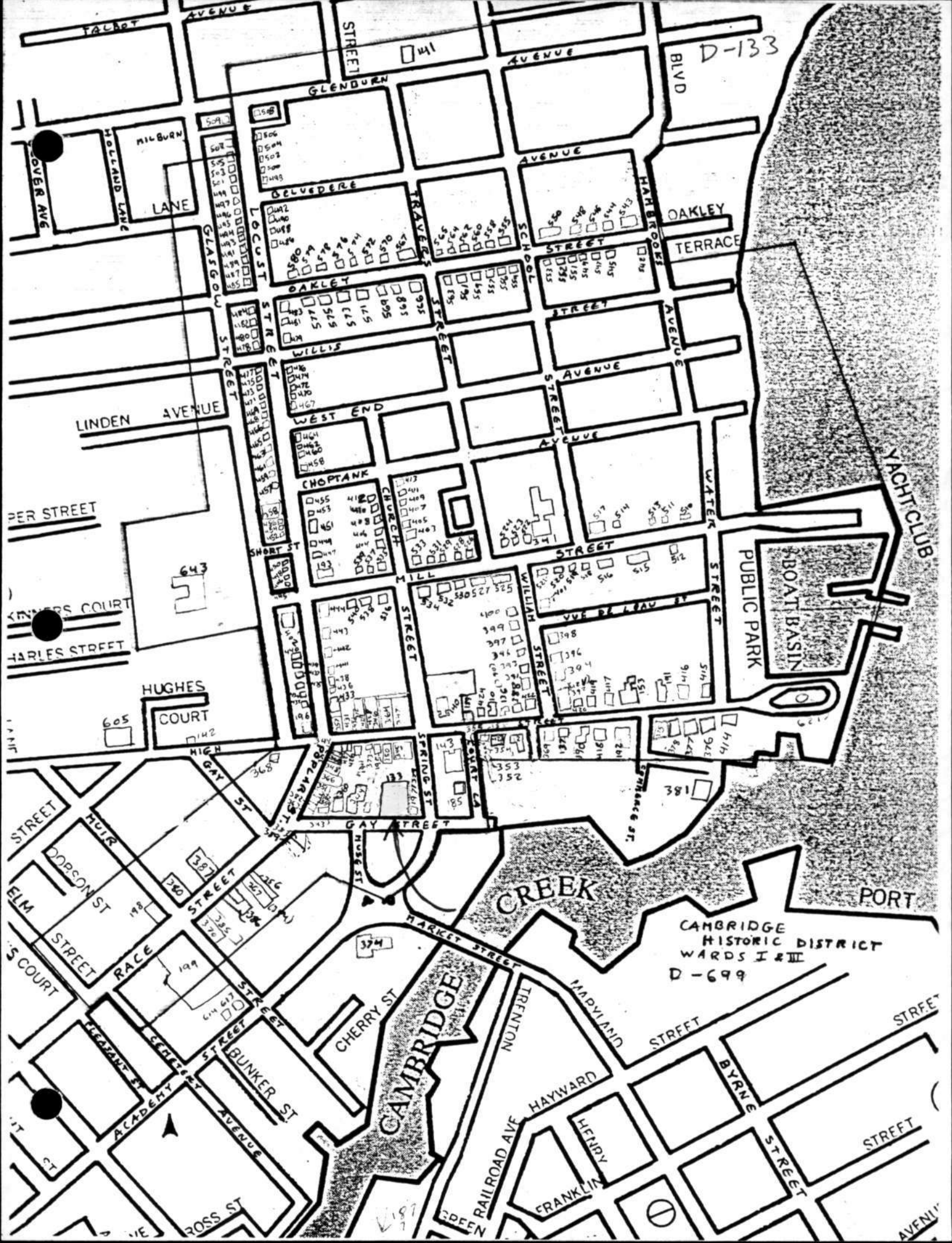
7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.
Laskowski Papers, 1955, p 127

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER mob

DATE OF RECORD

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AND PHOTOGRAPHS MAY BE ADDED ON SHEET OF SAME SIZE


D-133
TALBOT AVENUE
STREET
AVENUE
BLVD
GLENBURN
MILBURN
HOLLAND LANE
LANE
COVER AVE
BELVEDERE
TRAVERS
SCHOOL
HARBROOK
OAKLEY
TERRACE
STREET
LOCUST
GLASGOW
OAKLEY
WILLIS
WEST END
LINDEN AVENUE
CHOPTANK
CHURCH
WATER
YACHT CLUB
PUBLIC PARK
BOAT BASIN
SHORT ST
MILL
WILLIAM
VUE DE L'EAU ST
HUGHES COURT
HIGH
GAY ST
GAY STREET
SPRING ST
POPLAR ST
HUIR
DOBSON ST
ELM STREET
RACE
MARKET STREET
CREEK
PORT
CAMBRIDGE HISTORIC DISTRICT WARDS I & III
D-699
CHERRY ST
CAMBRIDGE
TRENTON
MARYLAND
STREET
BYRNE
HAYWARD
HERRY
FRANKLIN
RAILROAD AVE
BUNKER ST
ACADEMY
AVENUE
ROSS ST
GREEN

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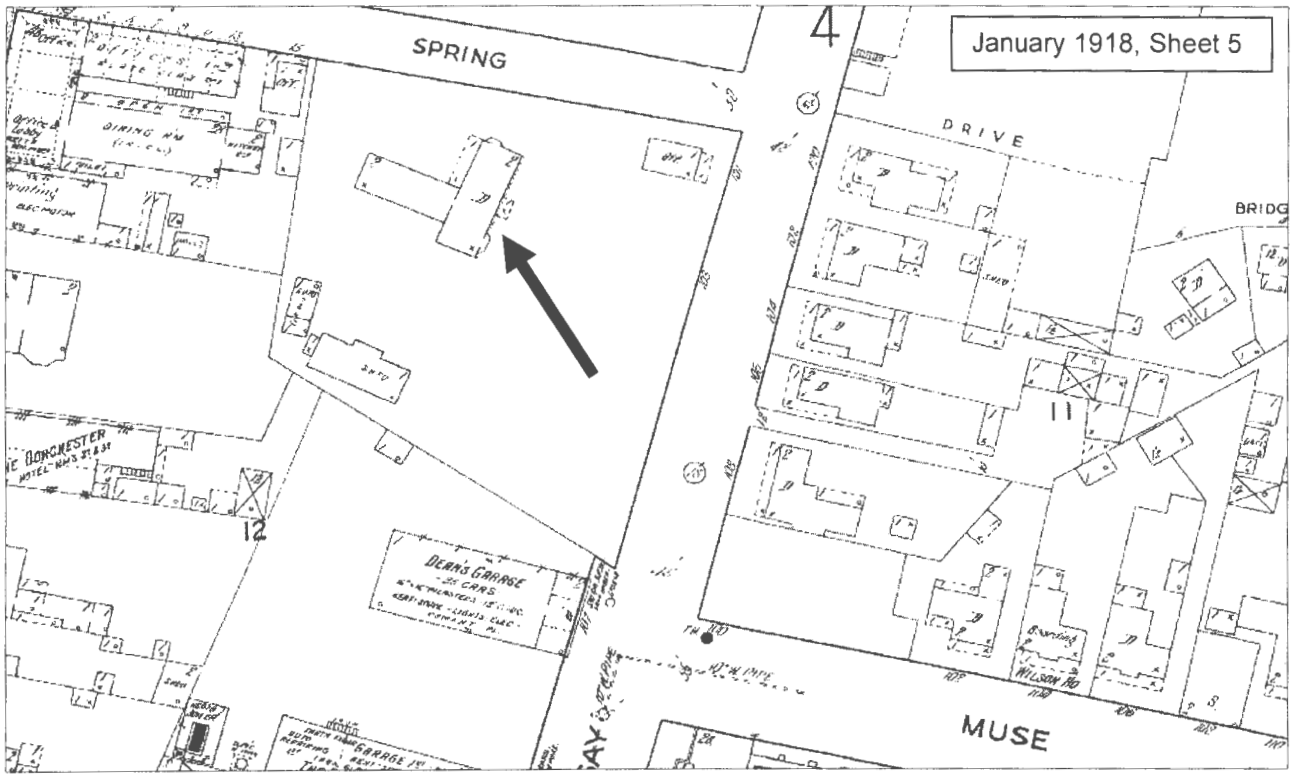
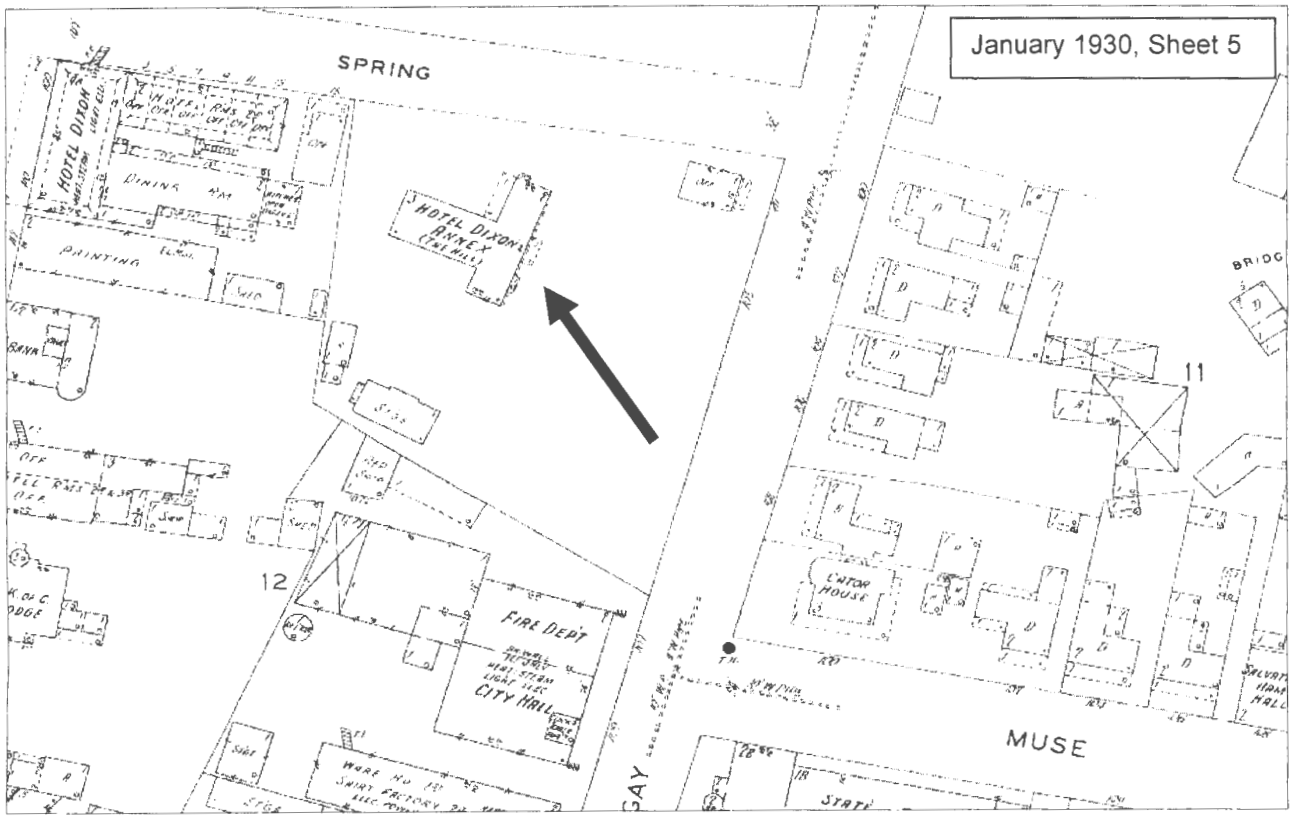
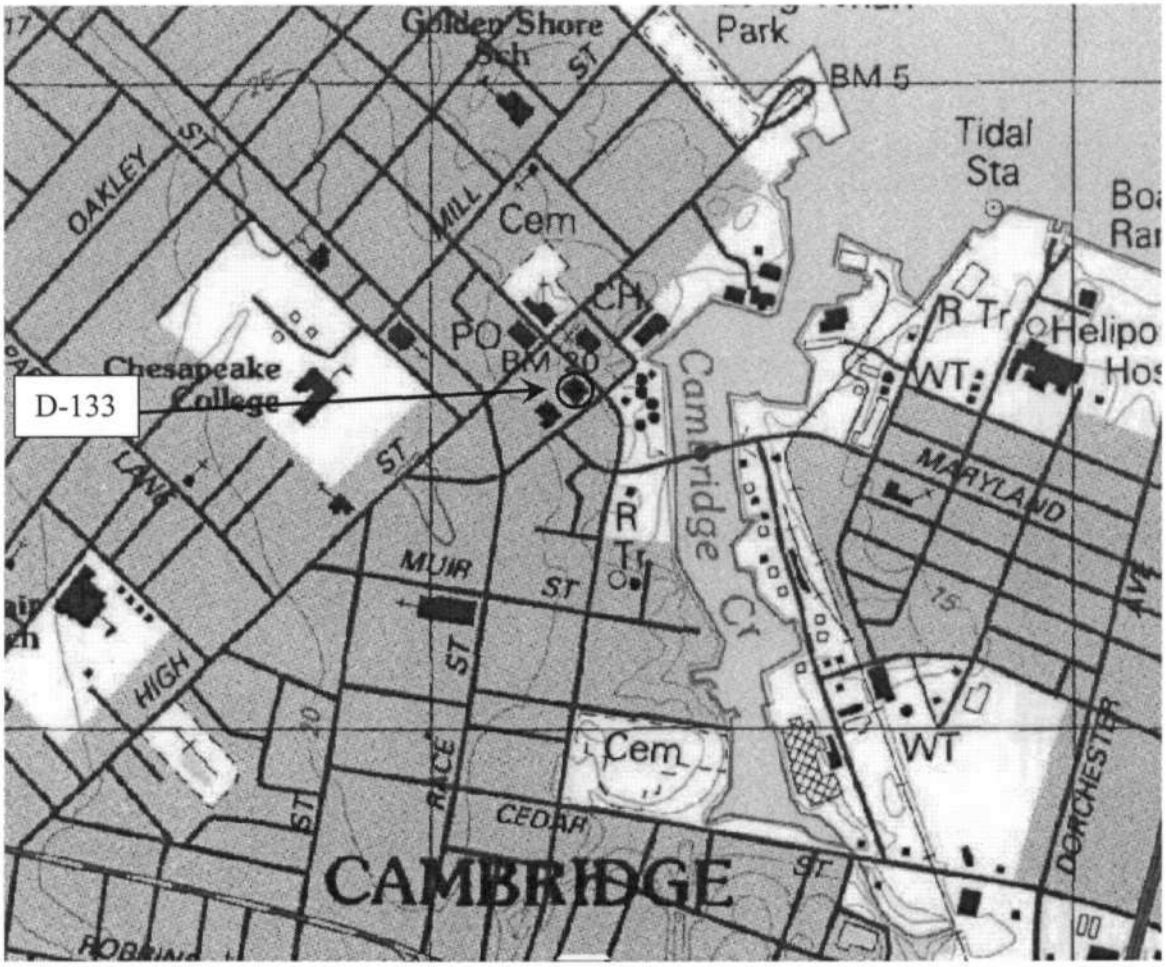
The Hill, site (Old Wallace Mansion)
Gay and Spring Streets, Cambridge
Sanborn Maps





D-133
The Hill (Old Wallace Mansion), site
Gay St. and Spring St.
Cambridge
Cambridge Quad.
Dorchester Co.



Wallace mansion, formerly at the corner of Gay and Spring Sts.

D-133

Photo doesn't match write up -

omit photo