

Lot 1.

COLLECTION OF RARE MANUSCRIPT SURVEYS, SURVEY TRACES, AND BLUEPRINTS

CAMBRIDGE / CAMBRIDGEPORT / SOMERVILLE

\$13,650

One lot consisting of twenty-five street/lot cadastral plans from Cambridge, Massachusetts and nearby areas of Cambridgeport and Somerville. These plans represent work performed in the 1840's through the 1900's by local Cambridge area surveyors and engineers William A. Mason, J.G. Chase, E.F. Bowker, W.S. Barbour, and Alex Wadsworth. Artifacts include manuscript surveys, manuscript survey traces, and rare 19th century blueprints. Many of the items in this lot are unrecorded and for the others the few known holdings are in institutions. Condition and size vary by item.

Note: Lot includes an unprotected soft copy of this document.

SC_Cam_1. Osgood Carleton [after]. PLAN OF THE CAUSEWAY OVER THE MARSH IN CAMBRIDGE EXHIBITING THE NAMES OF THE OWNERS AND THE QUANTITY OF LAND THROUGH WHICH IT PASSES INCLUDING MR JARVIS'S UPLAND SURVEYED AND PLATTED (by a scale of one chain to an inch) NOV 12TH 1792 BY OSGOOD CARLETON. COPIED FROM THE ORIGINAL BY W.A. MASON & CO. DEC. 20, 1855. MS ink surveyor's collation number "1637".

Unrecorded antebellum manuscript cadastral plan of great historical value after an earlier plan in 1793 by well-known Boston surveyor Osgood Carleton. This is the best and only available detailed plan of the West Boston Bridge causeway from the Charles River to Pelham island. This is Mason's true signed MS surveyor's copy from a survey made by Osgood Carleton contemporaneously with the Causeway construction. Numerous and detailed pencil notations of ownership record based on Carleton's original survey. Measurements recorded in chains and links.

A very rare plan of the old Causeway stretching 3344 feet over wet marshland largely owned by Leonard Jarvis. The Causeway, begun July 15, 1792, ran over the course now occupied by Main Street in Cambridge and spanned the marsh from the West Boston Bridge (second bridge built across the Charles River; in the location of current the Longfellow Bridge) to Pelham's Island (now in Cambridgeport), then consisting of about 20 acres of high ground. According to Holmes "the sides of the causeway are stoned, capstand, and railed; and on each side there is a canal 30 feet wide." (Holmes, Abiel. *The History of Cambridge*. Samuel Hall: Cornhill, Boston. 1801. p. 4.)

Increased traffic over the West Boston Bridge and causeway opened up new areas to development and facilitated the growth of Cambridgeport and East Cambridge at the expense of Old Cambridge. Scale one chain (66') to one inch.

SC_Cam_2. W.A. Mason, Surveyor. PLAN OF LOTS IN SOMERVILLE. MS ink surveyor's collation number "1646". October 30, 1848. Drawn by **H.W. Muzzey** whose style of lettering and coloring makes his works easily recognizable. MS Ink antebellum survey with original outline and wash color of one block of 21 lots in Somerville, Massachusetts in Middlesex County. Bounded by Gilman Street, Cross Street, and Auburn Avenue the lots range in size from 5,370 to 13,730 square feet. Lowell Railroad located just east of the lots. The plan, drawn in 1848, when Muzzey was 16 years old, suggest Muzzey's apprenticeship or other formal working relationship with Mason. Attractive compass rose displaying magnetic north. Scale 40 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_3. W.A. Mason Engineer and Surveyor. [TWO LOTS NEAR INTERSECTION OF MAIN AND HARVARD STREETS IN CAMBRIDGE, MASS]. MS ink surveyor's collation number "1617". Not dated but assumed before 1848 based on collation number.

Rare original manuscript plan of two lots in Cambridgeport, Mass. ca. 1860. These two lots, owned by Harlow and by Fisher, were located at the intersection of Main Street and Harvard Street (the streets do not intersect today). Main Street was also known as **Causeway Street** as it was once the site of a raised roadbed (causeway) across the Cambridge marsh. The Causeway, begun July 15, 1792, ran over the course now occupied by Main Street in Cambridge and spanned the marsh from the West Boston Bridge (second bridge built across the Charles River; in the location of the current Longfellow Bridge) to Pelham's Island (now in Cambridgeport). Cadastral information for the Fisher lot was copied from a much earlier plan by Peter Tufts. North oriented to bottom. Includes Mason's blind stamp which notes the establishment of his firm in 1839. Scale 10 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_4 . J.G. Chase, Engineer and Surveyor. PLAN OF LAND IN OLD CAMBRIDGE BELONGING TO THE BIGELOW LAND ASSOCIATES. Surveyor's number in MS ink "1607". April 28th, 1871.

Unrecorded lithographed plan for lots (with a 10 foot front setback) to be sold in Old Cambridge, Massachusetts. The sale, by Bigelow Land Associates, was for more than 100 lots between Cambridge Street and Broadway Street with cross streets at Prescott, Felton, Irving, Trowbridge and Ellery Streets. No copy of this plan in Old Cambridge, Mass. by Chase is found anywhere. The real-estate in the plat begins only about 300 feet northeast of Harvard Yard, and is currently the location of the Cambridge Public Library and Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. Both Cambridge Street and Broadway Street are shown with tracks labeled "Horse Railroad to Boston." Pencil annotations with purchaser names and other illegible entries. Shows corrections to nearby street names which suggests this may have been a publisher's proof copy. Lithographed by Forbes Co. on thin paper. Scale 50 ft. to an inch.

SC_Cam_5. W.A. Mason & Co. PLAN OF BUILDING LOTS IN SOMERVILLE SURVEYD BY IRA HILL AND OTHERS. September 1870. MS ink plan of lots along Warren Avenue at Bow Street in the Union Square area of Somerville, Mass. Copied from an earlier plan by Ira Hill and others. With lot numbers, square feet, dimensions, and in some cases owner's names. Shows a portion of Robert Sanborn's old farm, not developed at that time. Scale 50 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_6. W.A. Mason. PLAN OF HOUSE LOTS IN CAMBRIDGE AND SOMERVILLE OWNED BY AMORY HOUGHTON. Copied from Plans by W.A. Mason dated March 1854 and April 1859. Later surveyor's number in MS ink "1651."

This MS ink plan includes lots bounded by or adjacent to a polygon defined by Cambridge Street, Webster Avenue, Prospect Street, and Oak Street with interior cross streets Houghton Street, Bolton Street, and Tremont Street. Data pertaining to each lot may include the lot number, dimensions, owner name or initials, and square footage. With a MS notation in red ink denoting the boundary line between Cambridge and Somerville.

Amory Houghton, Sr. (1812 – 1882) was born in Bolton, Mass. in 1812 to Rufus and Abigail Houghton dabbled in real estate and trading, which eventually led to a wharf in Cambridge where he traded coal, wood and other materials. Houghton owned small glass companies including, in 1851, his investment in Bay State Glass Works. He purchased the Brooklyn Flint Glass Works in Brooklyn, N.Y. and in 1868 Houghton moved the company to Corning, N.Y. and changed the company's name to reflect its new home: Corning Glass ¹⁶. Scale 100 feet to one inch.

SA_Cam_7. H.A. Brown. Auctioneer. PLAN OF LAND IN CAMBRIDGE AND SOMERVILLE TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, WEDNESDAY OCT. 9TH, 1867. MS ink surveyor's collation number "1606".

Lithographed plan of lots to be sold in the Wellington-Harrington neighborhood of Cambridge, Mass. The lots, bounded by Cambridge Street, Webster Avenue, and Prospect Street, include cross streets of Tremont Street, Norfolk Street and Elm Street. MS note that Amory Houghton (founded Corning Glass) lots are recorded on plan number 1651. Boundary between Somerville and Cambridge indicated with a dotted line. Scale 40 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_8. W.A. Mason, Surveyor. PLAN OF LAND IN CAMBRIDGE BELONGING TO Z.L. RAYMOND AND OTHERS. MS ink surveyor's collation number "1602". April, 1863.

Antebellum MS ink plan of land recently prepared for sale between Cambridge Street and Broadway Street with cross streets of Ellery and Dana streets. The real-estate in the plat begins only about 600 feet northeast of Harvard Yard, and is currently across the street from the Cambridge Public Library.

SC_Cam_9. W.A. Mason and Son, Surveyors. Cambridgeport. Plan of land in Cambridge belonging to the Bay State Brick Company. August 5, 1886. Lacks surveyor's collation number.

Unrecorded lithographed plan of lots for sale in Cambridge, Massachusetts by the Bay State Brick Company. The land, comprising 12 blocks (A - L), lies directly south of today's Danehy Park, bounded on the south by Concord Avenue and at the north by Field Street and Garden Street. Cross streets in Mason's plan include Bay State Road, Birch, Fern, Dale, Alpine, Chilton, Fayerweather and Copley. Laid to linen. 20" W x 8" H. Scale 120 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_10. [After Osgood Carleton]. PLAN OF SECTION NUMBER 3 OF (A SCALE OF) BUILDING LOTS IN CAMBRIDGE SEPT 27, 1804 SURVEYED AND TAKEN BY ME OSGOOD CARLTON. Dated 186? On verso (Warranty Deed). MS collation number in ink "1609b". MS ink cadastral plan of streets and lots in Cambridgeport, MA. bounded by Harvard St., Columbia St., Washington St. and Norfolk St. Captures Meeting House Square on Harvard Street. 15" W x 10" H. Scale not noted.

SC_Cam_11. W.A. Mason, Surveyor. PLAN OF HOUSE LOTS IN CAMBRIDGE BELONGING TO ASA MURDOCK ESQ. Later surveyor's number in MS ink "1642." October 25, 1845.

MS ink cadastral survey plan on paper. Mason's 1845 survey of land near the summit of Observatory Hill records the beginning of what became the first Irish immigrant settlement in Old Cambridge, these few lots sold by Asa Murdock ¹⁵ (p. 267). According to Maycock and Sullivan *"Asa Murdock laid out five large lots on Concord Avenue and eleven small lots on an L-shaped alley originally called Sparks Street Court. ... Murdock built a house on Concord Avenue and sold lots to the Irish laborers who flocked to the barren hilltop when entrepreneurs began to exploit the vast clay-beds nearby."*

Drawn by H.W. Muzzey. The few plans dated 1845 – 1848 probably reflect Muzzey's apprenticeship or other formal working relationship with Mason. Scale 35 feet to an inch.

SC_Cam_12. W.A. Mason, Surveyor. PLAN OF LAND IN CAMBRIDGE OWNED BY MRS. ASPINWALL. May, 1846. Later surveyor's number in MS ink "1641."

MS ink survey on paper with original red outline color. Copied by H.W. Muzzey October, 1848. Survey of two lots at the south side of Harvard Street bounded by Lee and Hancock Streets in Old Cambridge, Massachusetts. At 314 Harvard Street (corner of Lee Street) is now located the Frances Knapp House built in 1881 and one of Cambridge's earliest examples of the Queen Anne style.

One of only three plans we have seen by Mason with attribution to H.W. Muzzey as the draftsman. The plan, copied in 1848, when Muzzey was 16 years old suggest an apprenticeship or other formal working relationship with Mason.

SC_Cam_13. S.R. Knight & Co. Auctioneers. PLAN OF ESTATES TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 21, 1882 AT 2 O'CLOCK P.M. ON THE PREMISES. MS collation number "1338". October 21, 1882.

Two-color lithographed plan of lots to be sold in one block next to the current MIT campus bounded by Harvard Street, Portland Street, and Hastings Street (now Washington Street?). Includes House numbers 112 – 136 Harvard Street. S.R. Knight and Company lists two offices, in Boston, and in Cambridgeport at 593 ½ Main Street.

SC_Cam_14. LAND IN CAMBRIDGEPORT BELONGING TO THE ESTATE OF ROBERT MURDOCK. MS ink on tracing paper. Surveyor's collation number in ink "1064". May 7, 1874.

Cadastral survey plan of land for the Robert Murdock estate at the corner of River Street and Putnam Avenue near Hoyt field in Cambridgeport, Mass. Shows the extant "horse railroad track" and several

stone boundary markers. River Street and Putnam Ave. are both noted as 50 feet wide. Scale 30 feet to one inch. Surveyor is not noted on the plan but based on the style I would guess the surveyor was W.A. Mason.

SC_Cam_15. E.F. Bowker, Engineer and Surveyor. 623 Main Street, Cambridgeport. PLAN OF LAND IN CAMBRIDGEPORT OWNED BY THE CAMBRIDGE GAS LIGHT COMPANY. MS Collation number "1413".

July 1, 1885. Unrecorded lithographed plan of lots belonging to the Cambridge Gas Light Company along the Charles River at the cross streets of Brewer, Ross, and Gerry. Shows the low water line, important to ownership claims. Statement at bottom of broadside reads: "Dwelling house and 27 building lots to be sold at public auction by J.W. Coveney, Auctioneer, 78 Cambridge Street, East Cambridge on Wednesday September 23, 1885 at 3 o'clock P.M." 9" W x 10" H. Scale 40 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_16. E.F. Bowker, Engineer and Surveyor. 623 Main Street, Cambridgeport. PLAN OF LAND IN CAMBRIDGEPORT OWNED BY THE CAMBRIDGE GAS LIGHT COMPANY. MS Collation number "1413".

July 1, 1885. Rare antique blueprint plan of lots belonging to the Cambridge Gas Light Company along the Charles River at the cross streets of Brewer, Ross, and Gerry. Shows the low water line, important to ownership claims. 9" W x 12" H. Scale 40 feet to one inch. Somewhat dirty.

SC_Cam_17. W.A. Mason & Co. Engineers and Surveyors. SKETCH SHOWING HOUSE LOTS ON WEBSTER STREET BELONGING TO W.J. VICKERY. July 26, 1871. MS Collation number "1621".

MS plan of lots for sale along Webster Street (Upton) in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Narrow 17.5 foot-wide lots for sale on Upton Street (ex Webster Street). Documents eight row houses started in 1870 by Horace Bright in 1870. Upon completion, in 1871 the land deed was transferred from Read J. Tracey to Bright. The first time the cadastral information in these lots was published was not until 1873 when they appeared in Hopkins Atlas. From 1853 to 1873 known as Webster Street, the name was changed to Upton Street in 1871. (*Online: Hail, Christopher. Cambridge Buildings and Architects.*

Cambridge/Radcliffe Online Historical Reference Shelf.

<http://hul.harvard.edu/lib/archives/refshelf/cba/u.html#uptonst>).

With Mason's circular Civil Engineer's stamp in blue ink. 11" W x 10" H. Scale 20 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_17. W.A. Mason & Co. Engineer and Surveyor. 469 Main Street, Cambridgeport. PLAN OF LAND BELONGING TO THE HEIRS OF G.B. AND JOSIAH RICHARDSON, May 3, 1866: To Be Sold at Auction by PORTER & KNIGHTS, Tuesday June 12th at 2:00 P.M. 1866. MS ink surveyor's collation number "1603".

Lithographed plan of lots to be sold in Cambridgeport, Mass. along Columbia Street and lots on Hampshire Street, Market Street and Broadway Street near their intersection with Columbia Street about 1/10 mi. east of Sennott Park. Existing homes shown in outline and include owner's names. On Columbia Street lot addresses range between #200 to #299. Some penciled cadastral information. Lithographed by J. Mayer & Co. 4 State Street, Boston. 26" W x 14" H. Scale 40 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_18. E.F. Bowker, Engineer and Surveyor. 623 Main Street, Cambridgeport. [TWO LOTS IN CAMBRIDGEPORT AT THE INTERSECTION OF COLUMBIA AND MARKET STREETS WITH HORSE RAILROAD TRACKS]. Lacks collation number. May 28, 1888.

Rare antique blueprint plan of two lots separated by a 12' passageway at the corner of Market Street and Columbia Street in Cambridgeport, Mass. Shows the tracks for a "horse railroad" on Columbia Street. "The first horse car line in Boston began operation on 26 March 1856, running from Central Square, Cambridge to Bowdoin Square in Boston. Residents were wary at first of having tracks mar their

city streets but public favor soon turned to horse cars which provided greater speed and a smoother ride.” (Online: <https://www.masshist.org/objects/cabinet/june2003/june2003.htm>). 18” W x 21” H. Scale 10 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_19. E.F. Bowker, Engineer and Surveyor. 623 Main Street, Cambridgeport. [BLUEPRINT OF STRUCTURES IN THE 500 BLOCK OF MAIN STREET CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASSACHUSETTS]. MS crayon collation number “1356”. September 7, 1883.

Rare antique blueprint plan of portions of two structures and lots along Main Street in Cambridgeport. Structures were a brick store and a grain store owned by Benjamin P. Clark and the Friendship Hall Association respectively. The Friendship Lodge #20 was instituted in 1870 and recorded as holding meetings on Monday evenings at 548 Main Street. Blueprint shows the proposed line of Main Street. 18” W x 21” H. Scale 10 feet to one inch.

Sc_Cam_20. W.S. Barbour, Civil Engineer. Cambridgeport. [MANUSCRIPT SURVEY OF LOTS AND STRUCTURES IN CAMBRIDGEPORT BOUNDED BY PEARL STREET, COTTAGE STREET, AND COTTAGE COURT]. MS engineers collation number “1620”. April 20, 1867.

Shows detailed outlines of four structures which appear to remain essentially as they existed just after the U.S. Civil War ended. 16” W. x 15” H. No scale provided.

SC_Cam_21. Alex Wadsworth, Surveyor. Boston. PLAN OF HOUSE LOTS IN CAMBRIDGEPORT TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION ON THURSDAY JULY 2nd 1863 AT 5 O’CLOCK P.M. SAMUEL A WALKER, AUCTIONEER. MS ink surveyors collation number “1604”. February 24th, 1852.

Two lithographed survey plans on a single sheet showing lots to be auctioned by Samuel Walker in 1863. Each plan with compass indicator. Plan 1 shows five lots to be auctioned in Cambridge situated between Harvard Street and West Street. Existing lot shown for W.A. Stearns. With MS pencil notes of purchasers’ names. Plan 2 shows eight lots bounded by Austin Street and Prospect Street. Several of these lots are bounded to the east by land owned by Dr. Chaplin. MS ink notation regarding recordation of Chaplin’s Estate. Lots along Austin Street are annotated with owners’ names in MS pencil. Four small binding holes. 20” W. x 17” H. Scale 20 feet to one inch.

SC_Cam_22. Joseph Whitney, Surveyor. E. Cambridge. LAND IN SOMERVILLE BELONGING TO THE HEIRS OF JOSHUA LITTLEFIELD. No surveyor’s collation number. Dec. 1854.

MS pen and ink survey plan of two lots with structures on Washington Street. On surveyors tracing paper. Scale 25 ft. to one inch.

SC_Cam_23. Alex Wadsworth, Surveyor. E. Boston. PLAN OF LAND IN CAMBRIDGE BELONGING TO RICHARD H. DANA ESQ. MS. surveyor’s collation number “1657”. Sept. 17, 1844.

MS pen and ink survey street and lot plan of streets very near to Harvard Yard. Historical Note: Richard H. Dana [Sr.] Esq. (1787-1879), descended from an eminent colonial family, was a poet and lawyer and was the father of Richard. H. Dana Jr. author of the classic biographical memoir “Two Years Before the Mast.” The surveyed area in Cambridge, Mass. is bounded by Harvard Street, Main Street and Dana Street including cross streets of Ellery, Trowbridge, and Remington. Nearest property to Harvard is shown to belong to a Dr. Beck. Date for each lot includes lot number, square footage, and possibly the owners’ name. An entire block is shown to belong to Little & Brown. 19” W. x 27” H. Scale not stated but by measurement is 50 feet to an inch.

SC_Cam_24. W.A. Mason and Son, Surveyors. Central Square, Cambridgeport. PLAN OF A PART OF BROAD CANAL SHOWING EQUITABLE DIVISION OF THE ABANDONED PART THEREOF. BETWEEN THE BOSTON WOVEN HOSE & RUBBER CO. AND THE GEORGE G. PAGE BOX CO. MS. surveyor's collation number "1833". Sept. 1897.

Manuscript ink survey on tracing paper. Shows the Broad Canal between the Boston and Albany R.R. Grand Junction Branch to its intersection with the Old North Canal, as stretch of about. **Broad Canal** was once a key part of the now-filled canal system in Cambridgeport. Dug before 1810, the canal was then 80 feet wide from the low-water mark to Portland Street. In 1874 the canal width between First and Third Streets, was 100 feet with connecting canals coursing through much of today's Cambridgeport. By 1903, the land on either side of Broad Canal was completely occupied by lumberyards, rubber companies and coal yards. Today, the remains of Broad Canal can be found entering the Charles River north of the Longfellow Bridge and northeast of the MIT Sloan School of Management. (Online: Wikipedia). 23" W x 13" H. Scale 20 ft = 1 inch.

SC_Cam_25. E.F. Bowker, Civil Engineer and Surveyor. Cambridgeport. [PLAN OF STREETS, LOTS, AND STRUCTURES BETWEEN THE BROAD CANAL AND BROADWAY STREET IN CAMBRIDGEPORT.] MS Surveyors' collation number "**1427**". Feb. 7, 1887.

Large blueprint plan of lots, dwellings, stables, and other structures in Cambridgeport, Massachusetts. Shows a portion of the Broad Canal (now filled) north of the intersection of Hampshire Street and Broadway Street. Shows the old horse railroad tracks. Today, the scant remains of Broad Canal can be found entering the Charles River north of the Longfellow Bridge and northeast of the MIT Sloan School of Management. 20" W x 29" H. Scale 10 feet to an inch.