

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.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

D-133  
1001336204

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

**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
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____ _____
			ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

**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:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> 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)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Phi-	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	losophy	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Human-	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	itarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____

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

**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				O R	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
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 \_\_\_\_\_

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 of Colonel 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 Courthouse, Cambridge, Maryland.

Land Records.

Will Records.

Dorchester County Office Building, Cambridge, Maryland.

Assessment Records.

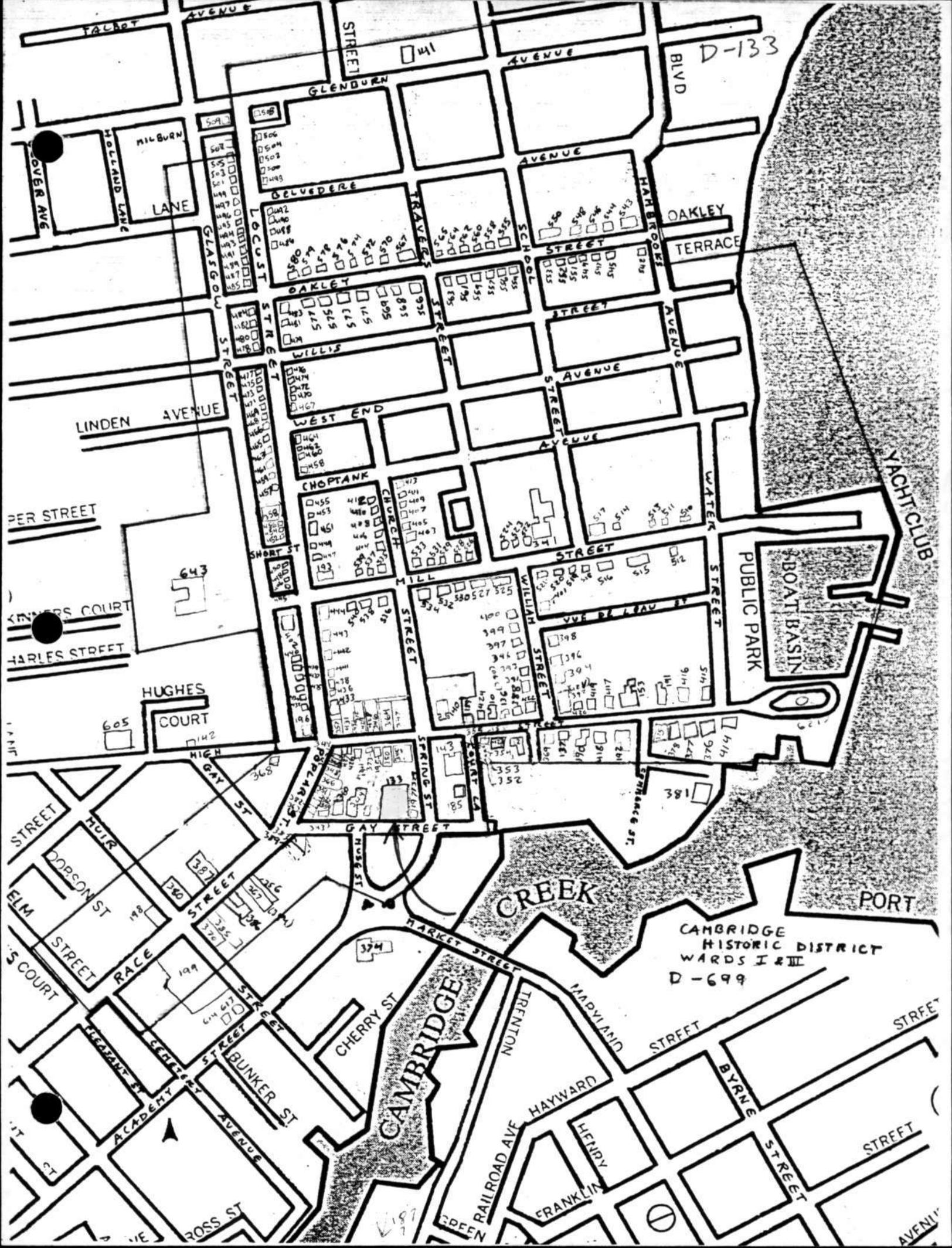
Research by;

Terrance P. Walbert

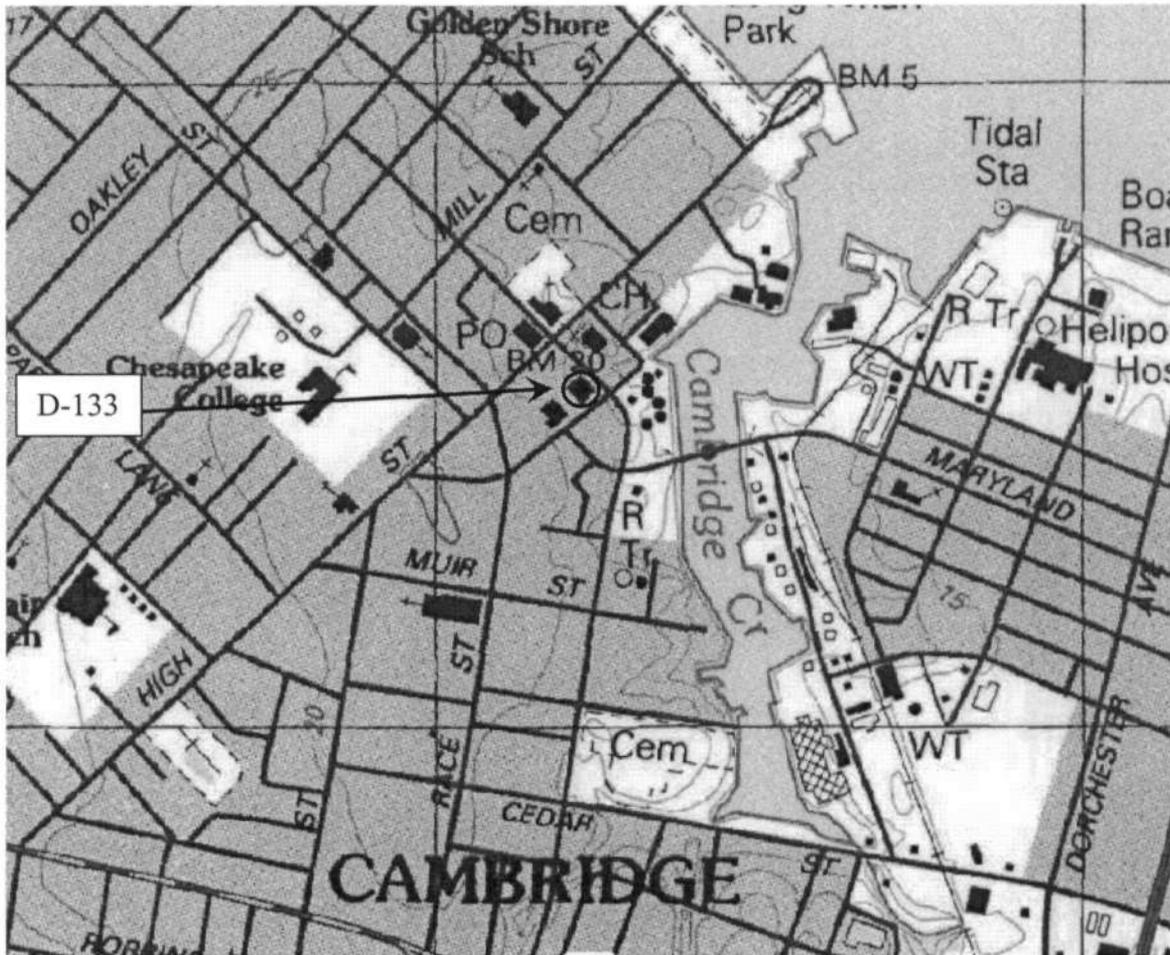
1976

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

1. STATE <b>Maryland</b> COUNTY <b>Dorchester</b> TOWN <b>Cambridge</b> VICINITY STREET NO. <b>Gay Street</b>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY <b>D-133</b>	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE <b>dwelling</b> PRESENT OWNER <b>City of Cambridge</b> PRESENT USE <b>offices</b> WALL CONSTRUCTION <b>brick</b> NO. OF STORIES <b>2½</b>		2. NAME <b>THE HILL</b> <i>or the old Wallace Mansion</i> DATE OR PERIOD <i>18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries</i> STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
Destroyed by the City of Cambridge and in its site is to be built a new Library. 1970		OPEN TO PUBLIC <i>yes</i>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE		Endangered <i>NO</i>	Interior Exterior <i>poor</i>
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. <b>Laskowski Papers, 1955, p 127</b>		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <b>mob</b>  DATE OF RECORD	



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

omit +  
write up -  
photo