

NOV 22 2016

CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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ID #100

Petition to Designate **227 Cambridge Street** a Cambridge Landmark

To be sure, 227 Cambridge Street is a distinctive building both architecturally and historically. Designed by same architect as the East Cambridge Savings Bank, previously designated a Landmark, and sharing much of its history, including officers, founding members, and incorporators. Notably, it was first chartered as the Lechmere Bank; later the Lechmere National Bank and Middlesex Bank during this century. While not the initial building for the original commercial bank, it is the sole vestige of that entity. Notably Amory Houghton, founder of Corning Glass, and Lewis Hall, Bank President and Abolitionist, sought and received the bank charter from the Legislature. This was the only commercial bank in East Cambridge and served as the repository for money and loans to finance much of the development and business in East Cambridge. Also, the early founders were integral to the neighborhood and lived within a block or two of this building. Architecturally it is a handsome and impressive building quite unique and compatible in size and impact on the neighborhood. We have seen buildings like this preserved over and over and reused with stunning success whether as a restaurant, or drug store.

Based on its history and architectural significance, we the undersigned, as duly registered voters of Cambridge, hereby petition the Cambridge Historical Commission to **undertake a landmark designation process**, as authorized by Cambridge Municipal Ordinance, Title 2, Article III, Chapter 2.78.180 D. Historical research in support of this Petition will be provided to supplement this Petition.

PROPERTY TO BE CONSIDERED FOR LANDMARK DESIGNATION:

**227 Cambridge Street**, owned by the Mark Lechmere, LLC.

PETITIONERS:

NAME AND SIGNATURE

ADDRESS

EMAIL OR PHONE

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