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ALICE K. WOLF

--IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE--

July 12, 1978

ORDERED:

That the School Committee approve the request contained in the communication from the Master, Longfellow School, and the President of the P.T.A., regarding acquisition of a garage on West Street for use as a playground, and that the communication be forwarded to the City Council and the City Manager with the affirmative endorsement of the School Committee.

A true copy:

Attest:

Claire E. Rodley
Claire E. Rodley
Acting Secretary of the School Committee

cc Superintendent
Master, Longfellow School
President, P.T.A., Longfellow
School
City Manager
Chairman, City Council

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LONGFELLOW SCHOOL

35 BRATTLEWAY

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. 02139

MARGARET ENROLL, MASTER

492-8000

July 11, 1978

To: The Honorable Members of the Cambridge School Committee
1700 Cambridge St.
Cambridge, Mass.

It has been brought to our attention that a garage, located on West St. is presently for sale. The owner is S. Robert Taylor of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This sale is of deep interest to the Longfellow School and the community. We request that the School Committee ask the City Council to investigate the purchase of the garage for a playground area.

This is a unique opportunity for the Longfellow School and also the Mid-Cambridge area. The garage abuts the Lee St. Tot Lot. Planned renovation is underway for that Tot Lot. Lee St. is 10,200 sq. ft. The garage is 11,500 sq. ft. In effect, the purchase of the garage would double the area and create a playground in a section of the city that is notoriously lacking in open space.

The play area at Longfellow School is very restricted. Only two classes can play safely at one time. In addition, the drainage is so poor that children cannot go out at recess during the winter months. Ballgames and any large group activities must be played at Sennott Park - an already overused playground. During the election count, when the gymnasium is occupied, we are always looking for play space.

Because we are aware of the need for good Physical Education programs, the teachers are presently investigating Project Adventure, a program which is an adaptation of Cutward Bound, designed to be taught to inner-city children. Extra space would assist us in the implementation of this program.

LONGFELLOW SCHOOL

35 BRUEN WAY

CAMBRIDGE, MASS 02139

MARGARET CARROLL, MASTER

492-6000

The neighborhood in the vicinity of Lee and West Streets is almost all family dwellings. Purchase of the garage would not necessitate relocating families, but would enhance their outdoor living.

We could enumerate other reasons for the desirability of such an acquisition. Suffice it to say that this is a unique and rare opportunity for Longfellow School and therefore we respectfully request that the School Committee speak to the City Council about the possibility of purchasing the property for future playground space.

Truly yours,

Margaret Carroll

Margaret Carroll

Master, Longfellow School

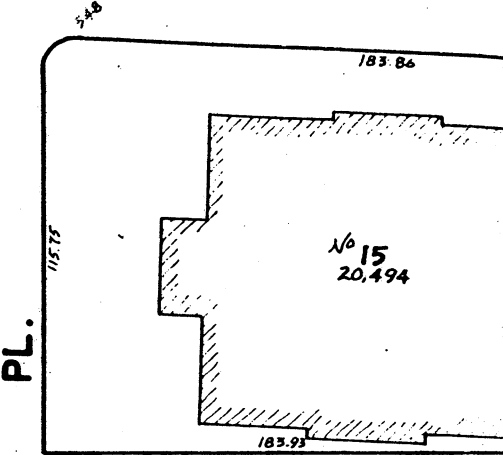
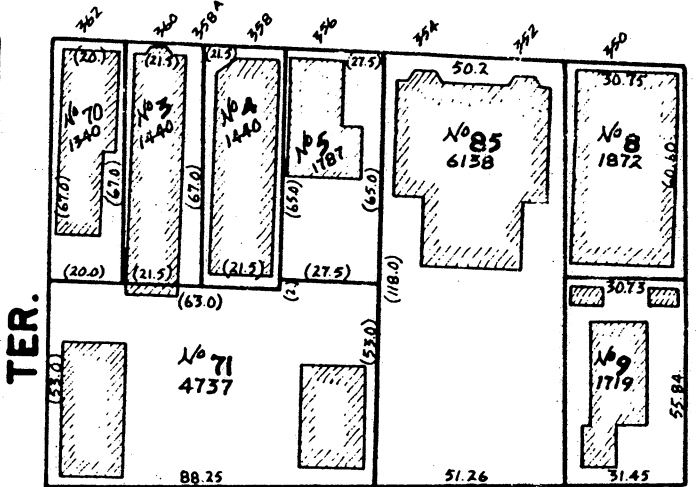
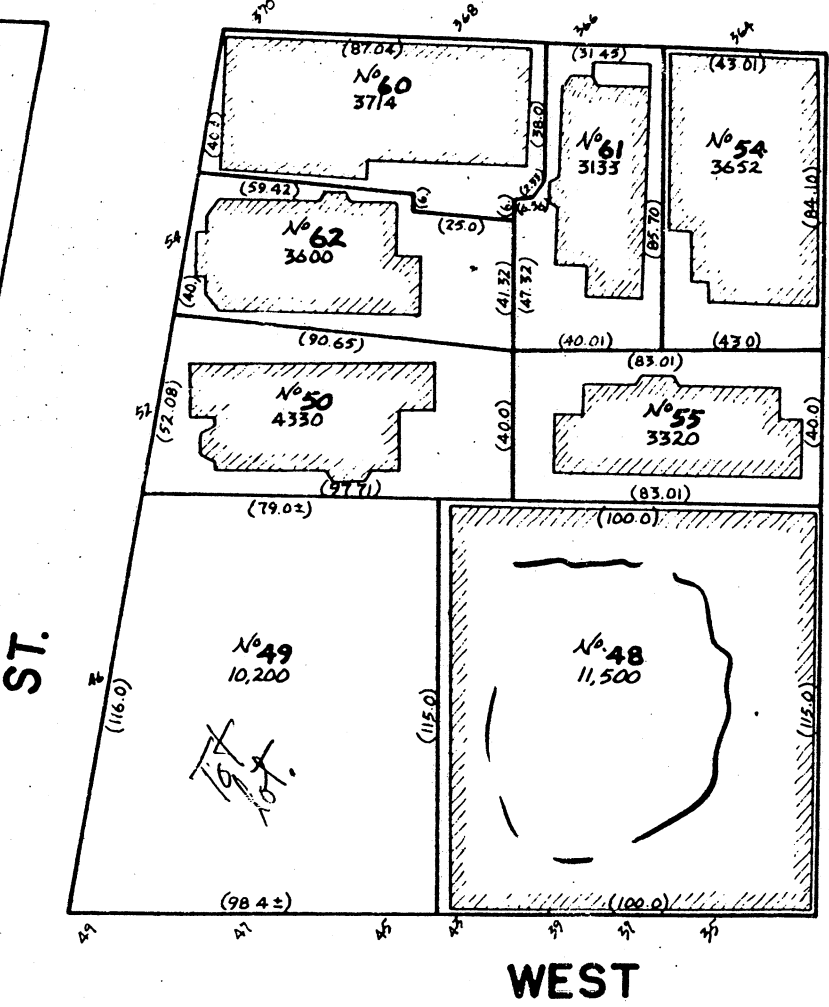
Jane Richards

Jane Richards

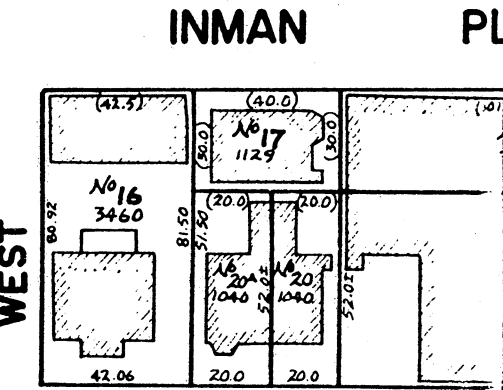
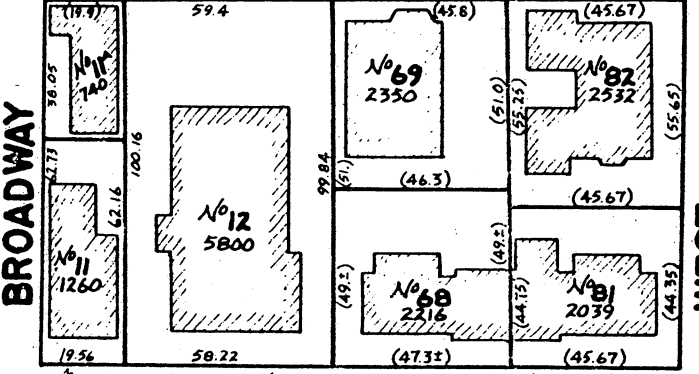
President, Longfellow P.T.A.

115

BROADWAY



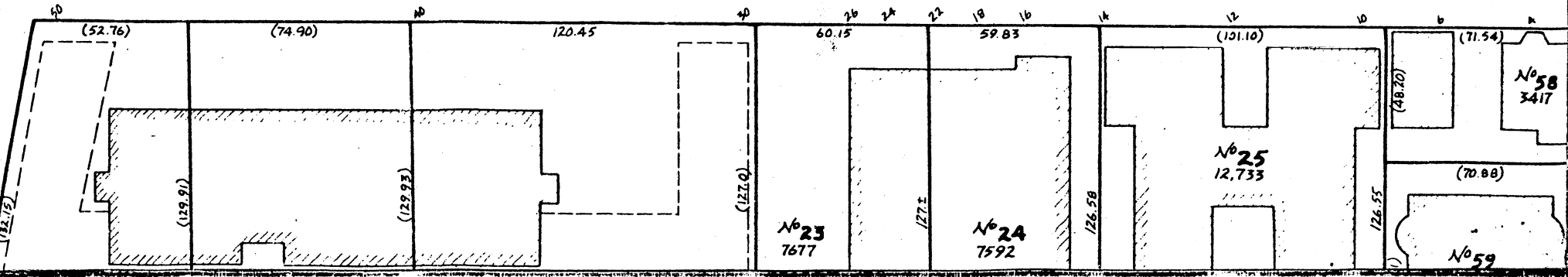
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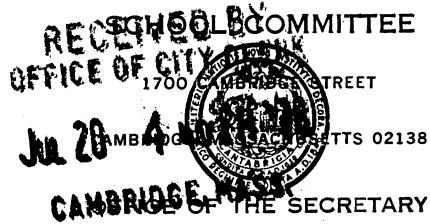
ST.

LEE



CHAIRMAN
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MEMBERS
SARA MAE BERMAN
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DAVID J. HOLWAY
GLENN S. KOOCHER
ALICE K. WOLF

July 19, 1978

City Council
City of Cambridge
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Members of the City Council:

At the request of the School Committee I am enclosing an order adopted at the meeting of the School Committee held on July 12, 1978, regarding acquisition of a garage on West Street for use as a playground, as requested by the Master of the Longfellow School and the P.T.A.

A copy of the letter received from Ms. Carroll and Ms. Richards is enclosed.

Kindly inform the School Committee of the progress on this request.

Very truly yours,

Claire E. Rodley
Claire E. Rodley
Acting Secretary of the School Committee

Enclosures

CER/cc

F-236

Comm. from Claire E. Rodley, Acting Sec'y of
the School Committee, re: acquisition of a
garage on West St. for use as a playground.

W. A. J. J.

In City Council,

July 26, 1978

REFERRED TO THE CITY MANAGER 7/26/78

Copy sent 7-27-78