

Cambridge, Mass. October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1887.

Walter W. Pike, Esq.

City Clerk, Cambridge.

Dear Sir:- I am in receipt of your communication of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant, informing me that a report on the petition of Joseph A. Jackson, et al., for the widening of Vassal Lane, together with an order establishing the lines of said street at a uniform width of forty feet, were "laid on the table" at a meeting of the Mayor and Aldermen, until proper releases shall be filed.

And in reply, I have to state for the information of the board of Mayor and Aldermen, that I will execute, in any form prescribed by the City Solicitor, proper releases of any land owned by me that may be required for the purpose of widening the said street as prayed for, whenever said street shall be so widened its whole length. Or I will at once execute releases contingent upon said street being so widened its whole length.

It is to me a novel proceeding to require

a portion of the abutters upon a street proposed to be widened to surrender their estates for the purpose without any assurance that the purpose will be effected, when it is known that one of the abutters will oppose such widening, and will not join in the release of land necessary to effect it. If the abutters were in agreement there would be little necessity for any action by the city, further than to accept the land released for such widening of the street as might be agreed upon.

I have not seen the most recent plan submitted by the City Engineer, and as I understood the order when it was read by his honor the Mayor, it seemed to require a much larger proportion of land from me than from other abutters. I shall not however on this account object to the release of any land that may be required to widen the street to a uniform width of forty feet, as prayed for by the petitioners and demanded by public convenience and safety.

I am very respectfully,  
Your obt. servant

Edw. W. Hinkley,

One of the abutters on Cassal Lane.





Walter W. Pilae. Esq.  
City Clerk