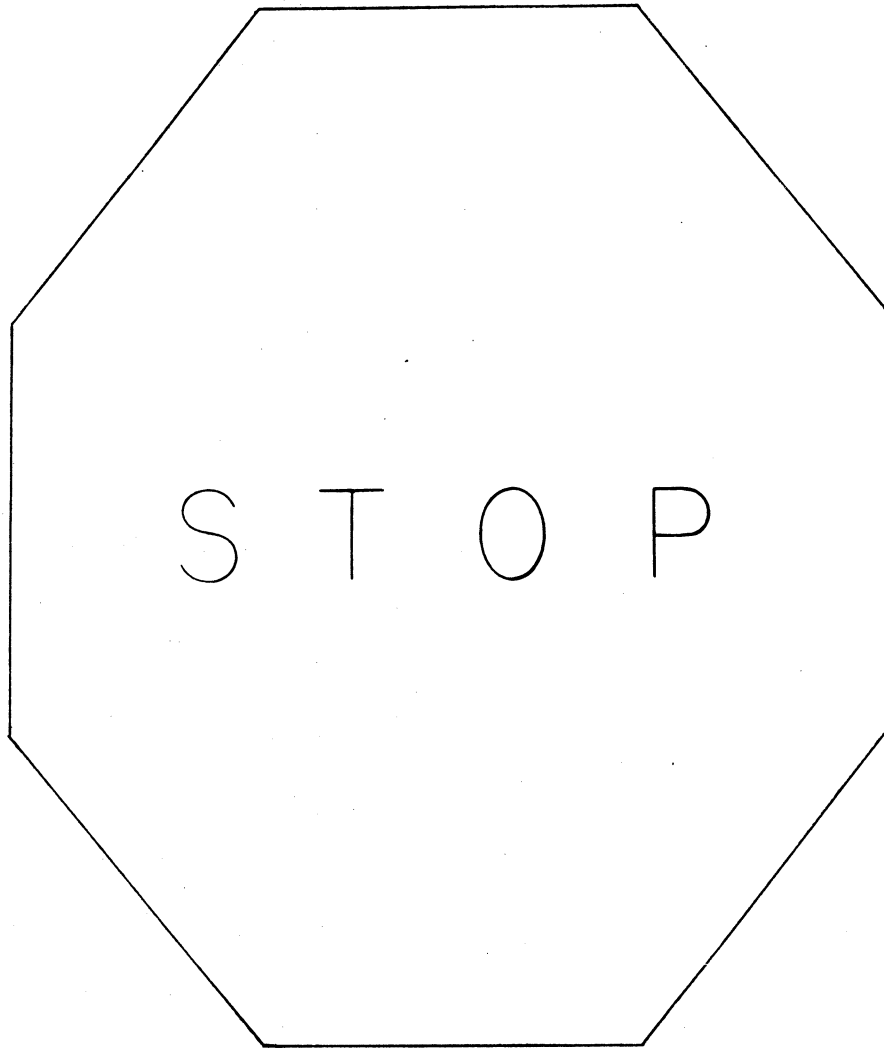


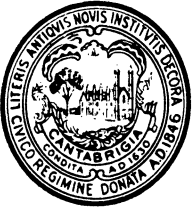
HURON AVENUE
TRAFFIC AND PARKING STUDY



APRIL 1985

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

TRAFFIC AND PARKING DEPARTMENT



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

57 INMAN STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 TEL. 498-9042

DEPARTMENT OF
TRAFFIC & PARKING

HURON AVENUE
TRAFFIC AND PARKING STUDY

George Teso
Director

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- D. To locate all existing signing on the street including regulatory, directional and warning signs.
- E. To analyze this data to pinpoint problem areas and make recommendations and changes that will insure safety and at the same time determine the need for parking in the business areas.

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The area studied is a 0.75 mile section of Huron Avenue that is mostly residential with a small business district and many cross streets. Due to the length of the street and the mixed use it was necessary to conduct this study on a block by block bases. A number plate parking study was conducted during the hours of 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM to determine location and length of time vehicles parked on this street. Speed checks were made at strategic locations and the accident records on file at the police station were checked by the Traffic Department.

IV. PARKING STUDY

A number plate parking study comprised of checking every space every hour gave us the type of information needed to determine existing parking habits and the future parking needs. This data is summarized as follows:

A. Huron Avenue South Side from Fresh Pond Parkway to Garden Street

<u>Location</u>	<u># of Spaces</u>	<u># of Veh. Observed</u>	<u>Turnover Per Space</u>	<u>Average Duration</u>	<u>Percent Occupancy</u>
Fresh Pond Pkwy. to Larch Rd.	5	8	1.60	1.37 hrs.	20%
Larch Rd. to Grozier Rd.	8	4	0.50	3.75 hrs.	17%
Grozier Rd. to Lexington Ave.	7	5	0.71	1.60 hrs.	10%
Lexington Ave. to Lake View Ave.	9	15	1.66	2.06 hrs.	31%
Lake View Ave. to Gurney St.	20	89	4.45	1.67 hrs.	67%
Gurney St. to Fayerweather St.	8	27	3.37	2.37 hrs.	72%
Fayerweather St. to Reservoir St.	12	28	2.33	2.67 hrs.	56%
Reservoir St. to Blakeslee St.	10	8	0.88	4.25 hrs.	34%
Blakeslee St. to Appleton St.	9	16	1.77	4.31 hrs.	69%
Appleton St. to Sparks St.	13	29	2.23	3.93 hrs.	79%
Sparks St. to Manassas Ave.	9	16	1.77	4.43 hrs.	71%
Manassas Ave. to Concord Ave.	4	13	3.25	1.76 hrs.	52%
Concord Ave. to Holly St.	10	22	2.20	4.22 hrs.	84%
Holly St. to Garden St.	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>1.07</u>	<u>3.71 hrs.</u>	<u>36%</u>
Total South Side	137	294	2.15	3.07 hrs.	50%

B. Huron Ave. North Side from Fresh Pond Parkway to Garden Street

<u>Location</u>	<u># of Spaces</u>	<u># of Veh. Observed</u>	<u>Turnover Per Space</u>	<u>Average Duration</u>	<u>Percent Occupancy</u>
Fresh Pond Pkwy. to Larch Rd.	5	9	1.80	1.77 hrs.	29%
Larch Rd. To Grozier Rd.	11	16	1.45	2.75 hrs.	36%
Grozier Rd. to Lexington Ave.	7	5	0.71	2.80 hrs.	1%
Lexington Ave. to Lake View Ave.	9	11	1.22	4.00 hrs.	44%
Lake View Ave. to Standish St.	11	40	3.63	2.50 hrs.	82%
Standish St. to Chilton St.	4	18	4.50	2.27 hrs.	93%

B. Huron Ave. North Side from Fresh Pond Parkway to Garden Street

<u>Location</u>	<u># Of Spaces</u>	<u># of Veh. Observed</u>	<u>Turnover Per Space</u>	<u>Average Duration</u>	<u>Percent Occupancy</u>
Chilton St. to Fayerweather St.	6	32	5.33	1.28 hrs.	62%
Fayerweather St. to Granville Rd.	8	18	2.25	2.66 hrs.	54%
Granville Rd. to Reservoir St.	3	4	1.33	3.50 hrs.	54%
Reservoir St. to Vassal Lane	10	14	1.40	3.78 hrs.	48%
Appleton St. to Royal Ave.	12	26	2.16	2.96 hrs.	58%
Royal Ave. to Concord Ave.	<u>25</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>1.92</u>	<u>3.69 hrs.</u>	<u>64%</u>
Total North Side	111	241	2.17	2.91 hrs.	52%
Grand Total	248	535	2.16	2.99 hrs	51%

V. ACCIDENT STUDY

In checking the accident reports on file at the police station the following are the location of these accidents and the enclosed "Accident Study Plan".

<u>Location</u>	<u># Of Accidents</u>
Huron Ave. and Larch Rd.	1
Huron Ave. near Grozier Rd.	1
Huron Ave. & Lake View Ave.	2
Huron Ave. & Standish St.	1
Huron Ave. & Gurney St.	1
Huron Ave. & Chilton St.	1
Huron Ave. & Fayerweather St.	3
Huron Ave. & Granville Rd.	1
Huron Ave. & Walden St.	2
Huron Ave. near Blakeslee St.	1
Huron ave. & Appleton St.	2
Huron Ave. & Royal Ave.	2
Huron Ave. & Concord Ave.	4
Huron Ave. & Holly Ave.	<u>1</u>
Totals	23

Of the total number of accidents reported on this section of Huron Ave. 9 (39%) were right angle type, 6 (26%) involved parked vehicles, 5 (22%) were rear end collisions, 2 (9%) were vehicles sideswipped and 1 (4%) involved a vehicle making a U Turn.

VI. SPEEDING

Speed checks were made at various locations on Huron Ave. during the off-peak hours as that is the time when traffic is light and drivers tend to speed. 600 vehicles were checked, 300 in each direction and the average 85 percentile speed the speed at which 15% of the drivers exceed and the speed that usually determines the speed limit was 28.3 MPH and the average speed was 24.87 MPH.

VII. TRAFFIC CONTROLS

All the traffic control devices under the City of Cambridge jurisdiction were checked and found to be working normally.

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All signing was checked and missing and worn signs were replaced. We are at the present time re-evaluating all our signing to determine its effectiveness.

IX. CONCLUSIONS

In analyzing the data collected, we tried to evaluate the entire section of Huron Avenue as one entity but found that parking traits varied from block to block along with the speed of these vehicles. We found that the business areas where double parking was prevalent and turning movements were heavy the speed decreased but the accident frequency increased along with the parking demand. We found that the approach to Fresh Pond where parking is light that the speed increased and the accident frequency decreased. We have also determined that the traffic volumes have decreased along with truck traffic from our last study which was done in 1976. We believe this is partly due to the Huron Avenue Bridge construction. We are also concerned that when the bridge is re-opened to two way traffic we will get an increase in traffic. The parking situation particularly in the business areas is one that requires short-term parking as most of the businesses are small and rely on people running in and out and walk in customers from the neighborhood. There is also some concern by the residents that customers and employees parking in the residential areas are creating a problem for them to find spaces to park. The speed checks have indicated that except for the late evening traffic that most of the drivers are obeying the speed limits and that the existing traffic control devices are keeping the accidents down.

X. RECOMMENDATIONS

The study did indicate a need for a separate study to be conducted within the business district to determine the need for parking by establishment and to accomplish this,

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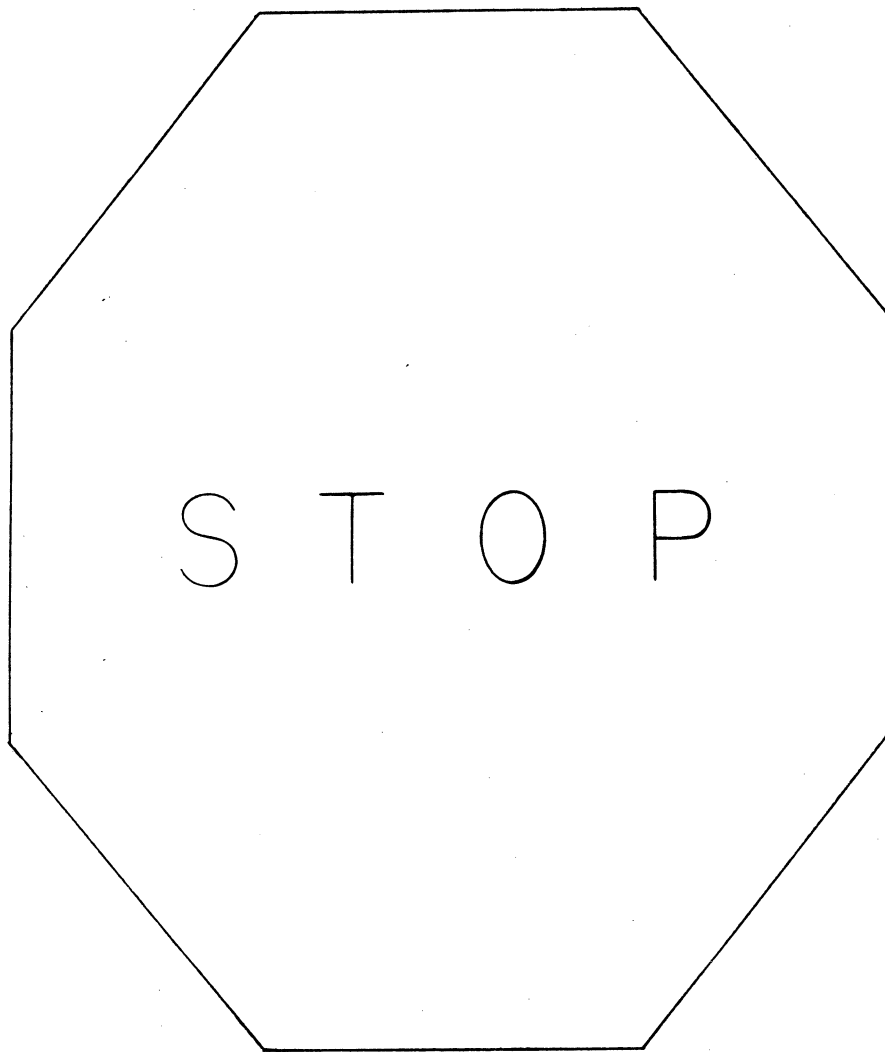
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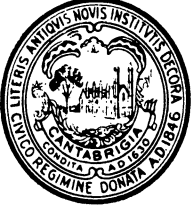
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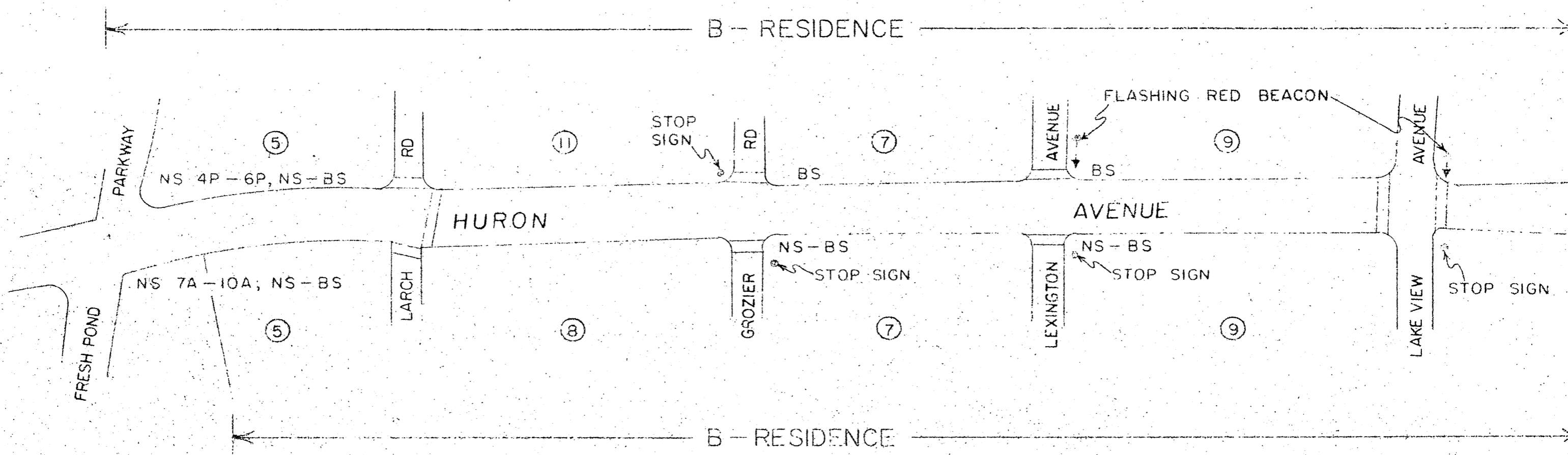
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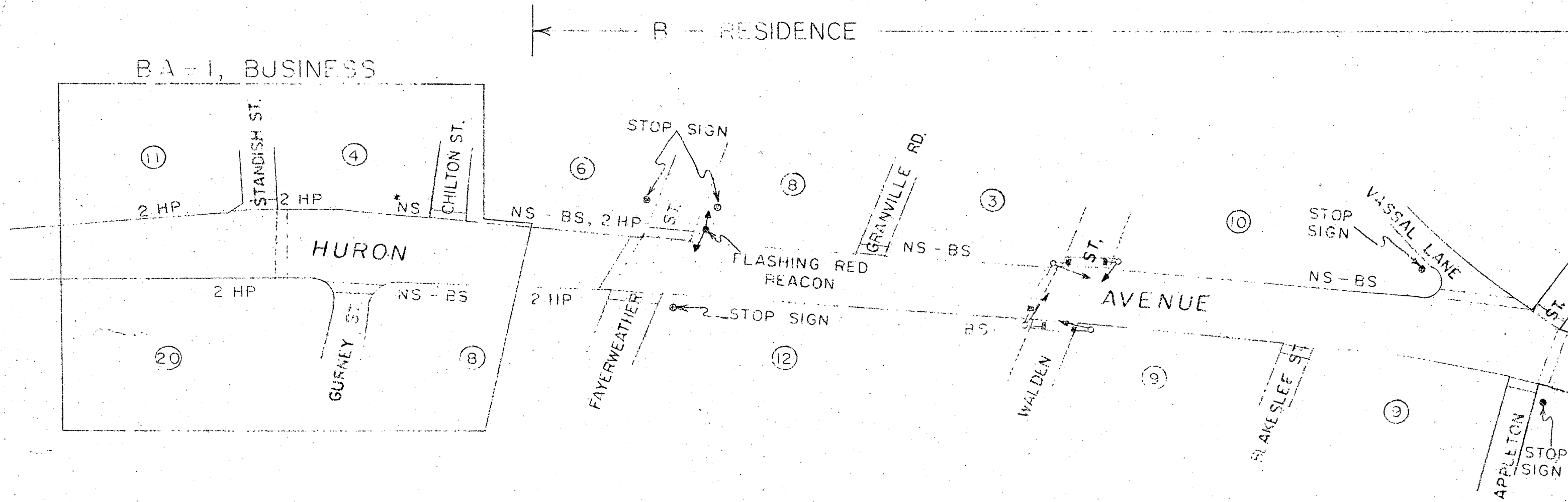
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 BS BUS STOP

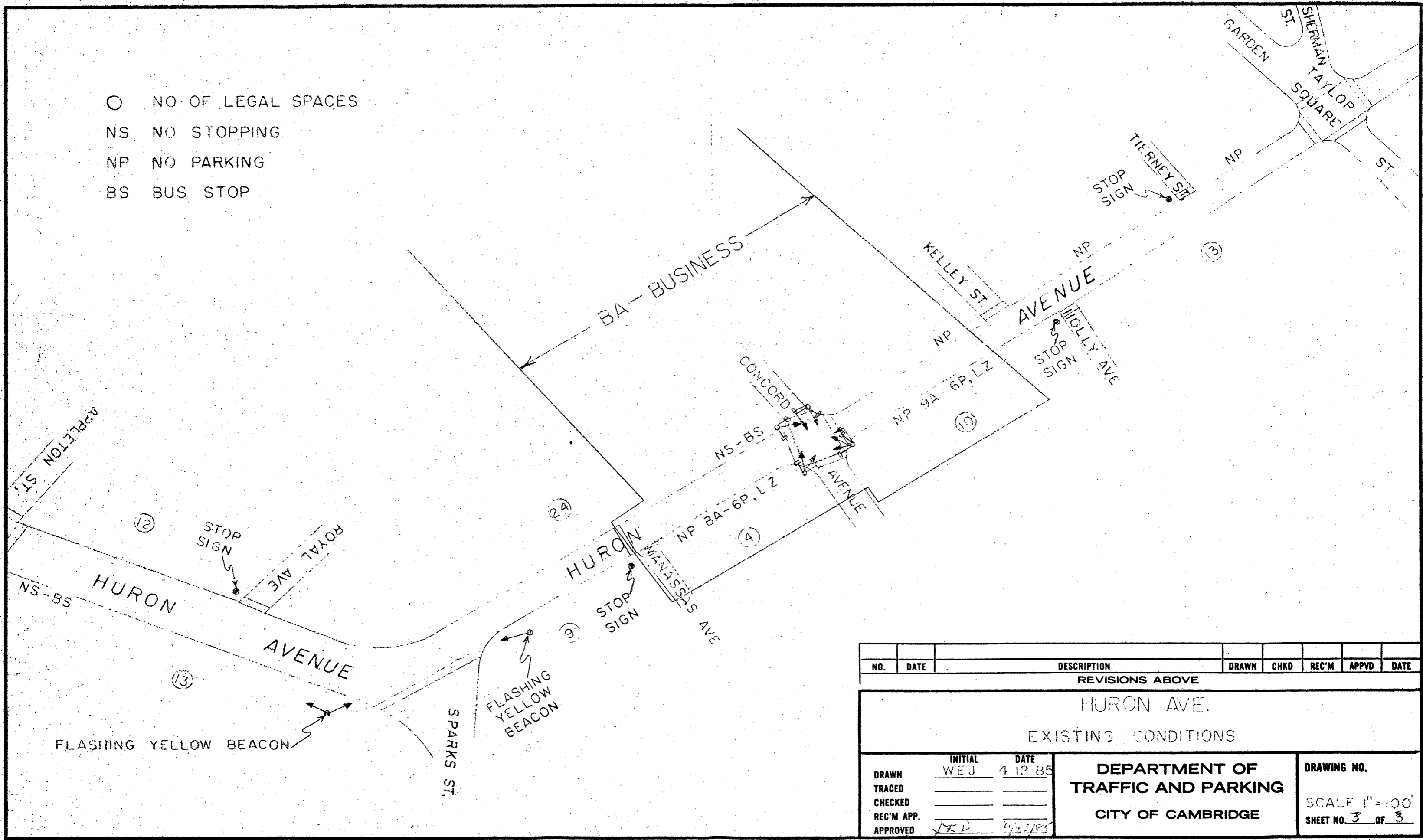
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REVISIONS ABOVE							
HURON AVE							
EXISTING CONDITIONS							
DRAWN	INITIAL	DATE	DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING CITY OF CAMBRIDGE			DRAWING NO. SCALE 1" = 100' SHEET NO. 1 OF 3	
TRACED	WEJ	4-12-85					
CHECKED							
REC'M APP.							
APPROVED	<i>L.B.</i>	4/23/85					



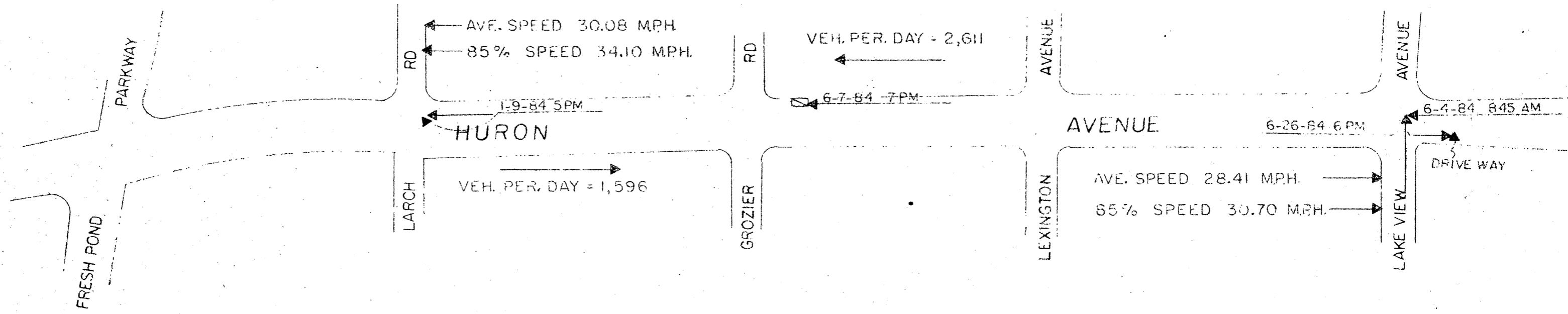
○ NO. OF LEGAL SPACES
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 *NS NO STANDING

NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	CHKD	REC'M	APPVD	DATE
REVISIONS ABOVE							
HURON AVE. EXISTING CONDITIONS							
DRAWN	INITIAL	DATE	DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING CITY OF CAMBRIDGE			DRAWING NO. SCALE 1"=100' SHEET NO. 2 OF 3	
TRACED	WEJ	4-12-85					
CHECKED							
REC'M APP.							
APPROVED	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/10/85					

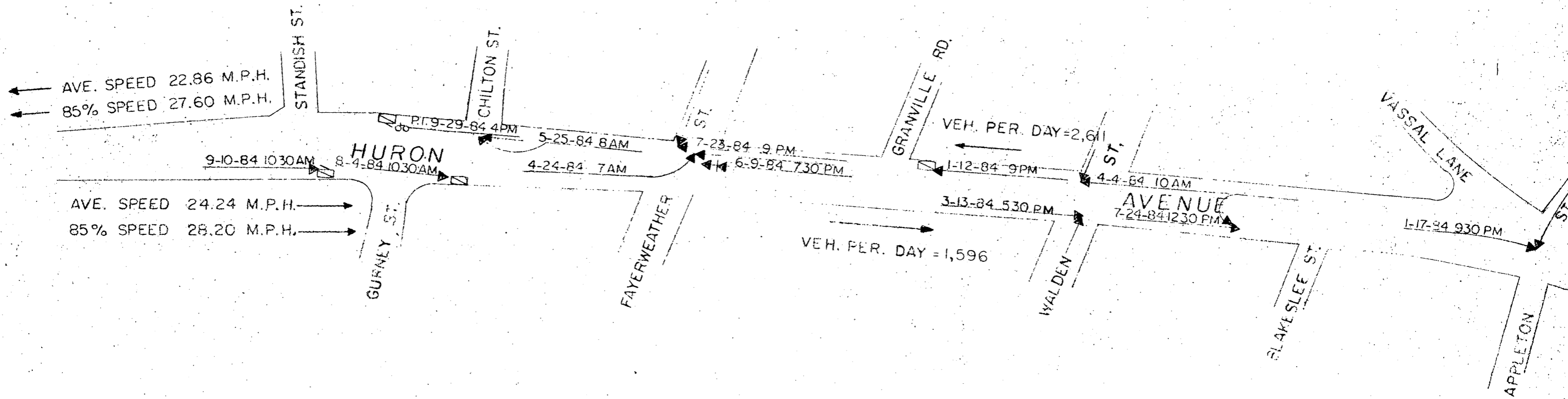
- NO OF LEGAL SPACES
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NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	CHKD	REC'M	APPVD	DATE	
REVISIONS ABOVE								
HURON AVE.								
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DRAWN	INITIAL	DATE	DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING CITY OF CAMBRIDGE					DRAWING NO. SCALE 1" = 100' SHEET NO. <u>3</u> OF <u>3</u>
TRACED	WEJ	4 12 85						
CHECKED								
REC'M APP.								
APPROVED	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/22/85						



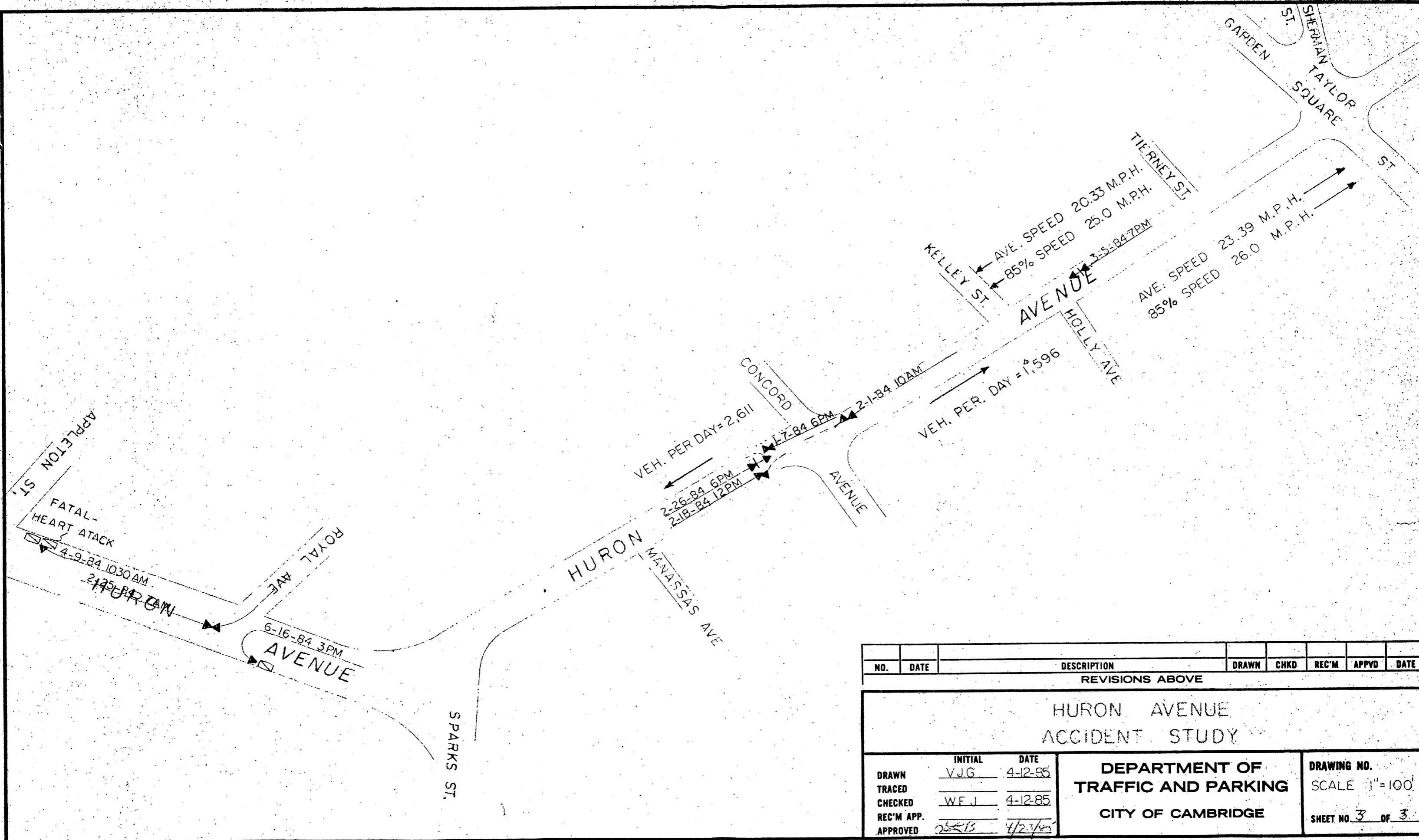
NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	CHKD	REC'M	APPVD	DATE
REVISIONS ABOVE							
HURON AVENUE ACCIDENT STUDY							
DRAWN	INITIAL	DATE	DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING CITY OF CAMBRIDGE			DRAWING NO. SCALE 1"=100' SHEET NO. <u>1</u> OF <u>3</u>	
TRACED	V J G	4-12-85					
CHECKED	W E J	4-12-85					
REC'M APP.							
APPROVED	<i>[Signature]</i>	4-25-85					



NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	CHKD	REC'M	APPVD	DATE
REVISIONS ABOVE							

HURON AVENUE
ACCIDENT STUDY

DRAWN	INITIAL	DATE	DEPARTMENT OF TRAFFIC AND PARKING CITY OF CAMBRIDGE	DRAWING NO. SCALE 1" = 100' SHEET NO. 2 OF 3
TRACED	V J G	4-12-85		
CHECKED	W E J	4-12-85		
REC'M APP.				
APPROVED	<i>[Signature]</i>	4/23/85		



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TRACED	VJG	4-12-85						SCALE 1"=100'
CHECKED	WFJ	4-12-85						SHEET NO. 3 OF 3
REC'M APP.								
APPROVED								

Agenda Item No. 10

5-493

Re: enclosed Huron Avenue Traffic &
Parking Study prepared by the Dept. of
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In City Council,

April 29, 1985

6/24/85

See Order Adopted
After Hearing
Placed on File -