

MARC A. RODWIN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
50 FOLLEN STREET NO. 206  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138  
(617) 491-0696

RECEIVED BY  
OFFICE OF CITY CLERK  
1991 MAR 25 AM 9:55  
CAMBRIDGE MA.

March 21, 1991

Robert C. Clark  
Dean, Harvard Law School  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dean Clark:

As you are aware, the Cambridge City Council will hold a hearing on the nuisance caused by the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn Society on April 1, at 7 p.m. and Dean of Students, Sarah Wald will attend.

I am writing to request that you attend yourself, or if you are unable to come, that at least you send your Vice-Dean David N. Smith to explain what measures the law school is taking to resolve the problem. The reason is simple. As I explained to you in my letter of February 25, efforts to resolve this problem through the dean of students over the last 20 or more years has been to no avail. This has been as true under the current dean of students as in the past. We do not believe they have authority to take the measures needed. The neighbors believe that until the issue receives attention at the highest level this problem will not be solved.

In your letter to me of March 6, you indicated that you did not have the time to meet with the neighborhood group. But you said that Vic-Dean Smith would handle the issue on your behalf. Sending Vice-Dean Smith to the Cambridge City Council would help indicate the seriousness of the law school's intent to resolve the problem. It is a needed measure because to date Vice-Dean Smith has been unable to meet with the Neighbors of the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn. He also did not attend the License Commission hearing. We thus have little evidence that he is handling these matters on your behalf.

At the License Commission meeting on March 19th Sarah Wald presented a tentative law school plan that was inadequate to resolve the problem and showed little law school commitment. Neighbors indicated the problems with the plan at the License Commission hearing. I have also spoken to Vice-Dean Smith by telephone today indicating why the plan is unsatisfactory and indicating how it can be improved. We believe that the Cambridge City Council hearing is an appropriate opportunity for either yourself or Vice-Dean Smith to respond to the constructive suggestions that Neighbors have made on the tentative law school plan.

(letter to Dean Robert C. Clark, p. 2)

I am sure that you want to consult the neighborhood in devising a plan to stop the problems caused by your students. I also believe you want to explain the law school response in a public forum to help clear up the misunderstandings and ill will that has developed over this issue. A problem this serious should not be left to fester. The City Council meeting is a perfect opportunity to help resolve this problem. I therefore look forward to meeting you at the Cambridge City Council. If you are unable to attend I expect you will send Vice-Dean David Smith.

Sincerely,



Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors' of  
the Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

cc: Mr. Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk, to be distributed to City Councilors in preparation for the April 1 hearing.



DEAN OF STUDENTS

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL  
CITY CLERK  
CAMBRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS · 02138  
MAR 29 PM 4:33  
CAMBRIDGE MA.

(617) 495-1880

March 28, 1991

Mr. Joseph Connarton  
City Clerk  
Cambridge City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

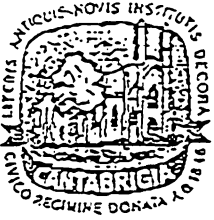
Dear Mr. Connarton,

In connection with the public hearing on Lincoln's Inn scheduled for April 1, 1991, I have enclosed (a) the recent decision by the License Commission, and (b) a letter from a neighbor in response to the Law School's activities.

I will be at the hearing along with Marilyn O'Connell, and we will be available to answer any questions the council may have.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Wald  
Dean of Students



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

831 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., 1ST FLOOR, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL ~~495-6140~~  
349-

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief of Police Department  
Commission Member

THOMAS V. SCOTT  
Chief of Fire Department  
Commission Member

RICHARD V. SCALI  
Commission Executive Officer

March 25, 1991

Kent Sevener  
Lincoln's Inn Society  
44 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

RE: Lodging House License Renewal, Disciplinary Action and  
Change of Managers.

Dear Mr. Sevener:

Please be advised that this will serve to confirm the vote of the License Commission, 2-0 on March 19, 1991 renewing your Lodging House license for 1991-1992, resolving the disciplinary action heard November 1990 and changing your resident managers. The following in detail was approved:

1. The (3) new resident managers are: Kent Sevener, Michael Bopp and Michael Dierks. Please submit their background probation forms to us for final confirmation.
2. The renewal of this license is conditioned on the continuing involvement of the Harvard Law School as specified in the March 19, 1991 letter signed by Sarah E. Wald, Dean of Students, and David N. Smith, Vice-Dean. (See letter attached for reference of agreement).
3. Also as a condition of this renewal, if at any time a party is held at the Lincoln's Inn, the Executive Officer of the Cambridge License Commission should be notified in advance so that the party may be monitored by the License Commission staff. This monitoring is to make sure that the neighborhood is not subjected to a nuisance by the parties occurring.

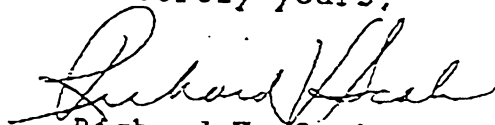
Kent Sevener  
March 25, 1991  
Page Two

4. You should also confer with the Inspectional Services Department to determine the number of persons which would be allowed safely in your building before any party occurs at the Inn. Please confirm this number to the Executive Officer on or before your license is renewed. You should also consult with the Fire Department on the entrances and egresses needed for the number of persons approved by Inspectional Services. You should have final confirmation from both Departments before you next party and before April 30, 1991, the expiration date of your 1990-91 license. This condition of confirming the number of persons allowed in your building was considered a friendly amendment by Thomas Scott, Fire Chief and License Commission member and approved by the Commission 2-0 as an amendment to the above conditions.

The payment of the fee of \$66.00 is also due before your license may be renewed.

If you should wish to appeal any of the above decision, you may do so to Middlesex Superior Court within 60 days of receipt of this decision, pursuant to M.G.L. c.249, s.4.

Sincerely yours,

  
Richard V. Scali  
Executive Officer

Enclosures.

cc: Mayor Alice Wolf; Councillor Frank Duehay; Fire Chief Thomas Scott; Acting Police Chief Joseph Grainer; Acting Police Chief Henry Breen; Fred Scribner; Ken Mehlman; David Wylie, Esq.; Cathie Born; Howard Medwed; Rita Corkery; Mark Rodwin, Esq.; Valerie Lynch.



## HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS · 02138

March 19, 1991

Cambridge License Commission  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge Massachusetts 02139

Dear Members of the Commission:

In connection with your March 19, 1991 hearing concerning Lincoln's Inn, this is to update you on Harvard Law School's efforts to resolve the Inn's problem with its neighbors.

As you know, Lincoln's Inn is an independent corporation, over which the Law School has no direct authority. The Inn, not the law school, owns the building at 44 Follen Street. The Law School does not give Lincoln's Inn any funding or support, as it does with the 82 other officially recognized student organizations. As an organization comprised of Harvard Law students, however, Lincoln's Inn is permitted to use the facilities of the law school (e.g. rooms, bulletin boards), and to have a table at the annual student activities fair. More important, since the Inn is comprised of law students, we feel an obligation to help resolve problems that the neighbors have. Thus, although we do not have direct authority over the Inn's on-site activities in the same manner that we do with activities on campus or in the dorms, we have tried to lend our assistance and our influence to improving the Inn's situation with the neighbors.

Early this fall, before there was any organized activity by the neighbors or this Commission, we met with Inn officers to discuss ways to ensure that neighborhood problems of which we had been made aware in the past were resolved in a systematic way. These discussions led to the

adoption of the Inn's "Management Plan," which for the first time spelled out in some detail what practices the Inn would adopt to minimize neighborhood disruption. These practices were written into the bylaws to ensure continuity. Since the adoption of that plan, there have been no complaints about the Inn's behavior.

The neighbors and the Law School want to ensure that these improvements continue on a permanent basis. We have met with Kathy Born of Neighborhood Nine, and Marc Rodwin, Esq. and have talked with individual neighbors to learn more about the problems and discuss ways to accomplish our shared goal. We then undertook a series of meetings with student officials of the Inn and with local alumni to try to develop a more detailed permanent plan. The latest agreement between alumni and students of the Inn which we understand will be submitted to you is the result of these efforts.

We recognize the good faith efforts of the students and alumni to find a permanent solution and to try to set limits on their activities. Since there have been no complaints from neighbors since last fall, fairness dictates recognizing the students' improved behavior at this point.

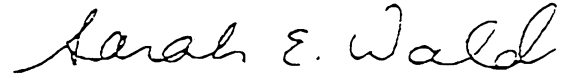
However, we agree with the neighbors that monitoring on a longer term basis is appropriate. Accordingly, we would propose that any future complaints about disruptive behavior by Inn students be directed to the License Commission, with immediate notification to the Law School. If there are substantiated complaints of serious disruptive behavior anytime within the next three years, Harvard will join the neighbors in appearing before the Commission, and will urge that the Commission take whatever action it deems advisable to resolve the situation, including, if appropriate, revocation of the Inn's license.

At that time, Harvard also will seriously consider decertifying the Inn as a student organization. However, we remain concerned that decertification may not improve the situation, because it will result in a loss of leverage with the students. It may be that cutting all ties with the student organization will not serve the neighbors' and our mutual interest, since we then would be unable to help monitor or influence student behavior, or to offer our facilities for on-campus (as opposed to Follen Street) parties. Harvard Law School does agree to consult with the neighbors about the decertification issue if it arises. At the end of the three year period Harvard Law School will also assess the need to continue this commitment.

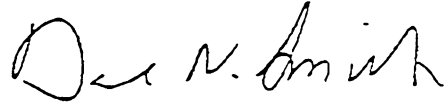
In conclusion, we sympathize with the neighbors' concerns. They have a right to expect that Lincoln's Inn

will be a responsible neighbor. We feel that the past five months have shown that improvements in the students' behavior is possible, and that the new policies will go a long way toward ensuring permanent improvements. At the same time, we will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Sincerely,



Sarah E. Wald  
Dean of Students



David N. Smith  
Vice-Dean

ANDREW L. HYAMS  
1572 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

March 27, 1991

Sarah Wald, Dean of Students  
Harvard Law School  
Cambridge, MA 02138

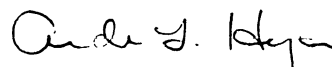
Dear Ms. Wald:

I am in receipt of your letter of March 18, 1991, updating me on the Law School's actions regarding Lincoln's Inn, and enclosing the March 19 letter to the License Commission.

I want to thank you, Dean Clark, and the other Law School leaders for your time and effort given over to solving this problem. The March 19 letter to the License Commission, in particular, demonstrates the Law School's good faith and interest in helping this neighborhood should things "get out of hand" again.

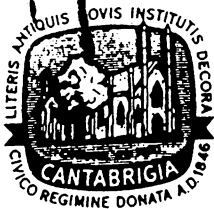
Again, many thanks for your responsiveness.

Very truly yours,



Andrew L. Hyams  
Class of 1980

cc: Dean Robert Clark



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

831 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., 1ST FLOOR, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 488-6140  
349-

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief-of-Police Department  
Commission Member

THOMAS V. SCOTT  
Chief of Fire Department  
Commission Member  
RICHARD V. SCALI  
Commission Executive Officer

RECEIVED  
9 MAR 22 PM 3:49  
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

March 25, 1991

Kent Sevenser  
Lincoln's Inn Society  
44 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

RE: Lodging House License Renewal, Disciplinary Action and  
Change of Managers.

Dear Mr. Sevenser:

Please be advised that this will serve to confirm the vote of the License Commission, 2-0 on March 19, 1991 renewing your Lodging House license for 1991-1992, resolving the disciplinary action heard November 1990 and changing your resident managers. The following in detail was approved:

1. The (3) new resident managers are: Kent Sevenser, Michael Bopp and Michael Dierks. Please submit their background probation forms to us for final confirmation.
2. The renewal of this license is conditioned on the continuing involvement of the Harvard Law School as specified in the March 19, 1991 letter signed by Sarah E. Wald, Dean of Students, and David N. Smith, Vice-Dean. (See letter attached for reference of agreement).
3. Also as a condition of this renewal, if at any time a party is held at the Lincoln's Inn, the Executive Officer of the Cambridge License Commission should be notified in advance so that the party may be monitored by the License Commission staff. This monitoring is to make sure that the neighborhood is not subjected to a nuisance by the parties occurring.

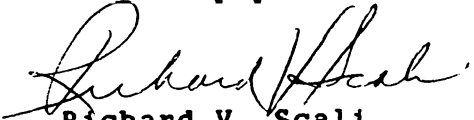
Kent Sevener  
March 25, 1991  
Page Two

4. You should also confer with the Inspectional Services Department to determine the number of persons which would be allowed safely in your building before any party occurs at the Inn. Please confirm this number to the Executive Officer on or before your license is renewed. You should also consult with the Fire Department on the entrances and egresses needed for the number of persons approved by Inspectional Services. You should have final confirmation from both Departments before you next party and before April 30, 1991, the expiration date of your 1990-91 license. This condition of confirming the number of persons allowed in your building was considered a friendly amendment by Thomas Scott, Fire Chief and License Commission member and approved by the Commission 2-0 as an amendment to the above conditions.

The payment of the fee of \$66.00 is also due before your license may be renewed.

If you should wish to appeal any of the above decision, you may do so to Middlesex Superior Court within 60 days of receipt of this decision, pursuant to M.G.L. c.249, s.4.

Sincerely yours,

  
Richard V. Scali  
Executive Officer

Enclosures.

cc: Mayor Alice Wolf; Councillor Frank Duehay; Fire Chief Thomas Scott; Acting Police Chief Joseph Grainer; Acting Police Chief Henry Breen; Fred Scribner; Ken Mehlman; David Wylie, Esq.; Cathie Born; Howard Medwed; Rita Corkery; Mark Rodwin, Esq; Valerie Lynch.



# HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS · 02138

March 19, 1991

Cambridge License Commission  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge Massachusetts 02139

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adoption of the Inn's "Management Plan," which for the first time spelled out in some detail what practices the Inn would adopt to minimize neighborhood disruption. These practices were written into the bylaws to ensure continuity. Since the adoption of that plan, there have been no complaints about the Inn's behavior.

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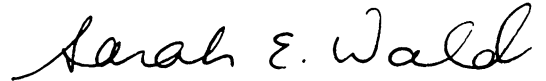
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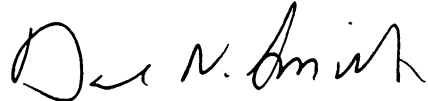
In conclusion, we sympathize with the neighbors' concerns. They have a right to expect that Lincoln's Inn

will be a responsible neighbor. We feel that the past five months have shown that improvements in the students' behavior is possible, and that the new policies will go a long way toward ensuring permanent improvements. At the same time, we will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah E. Wald".

Sarah E. Wald  
Dean of Students

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David N. Smith".

David N. Smith  
Vice-Dean

LINCOLN'S INN SUMMARY OF EVENTS  
OVER PAST FIVE MONTHS  
April 1, 1991

Lincoln's Inn has responded energetically to the neighbors' complaints by the following actions:

1. Adopted Management Plan (attached)
  - a) Building alterations:
    - (i) use a different front door
    - (ii) sealed and doublepaned windows
  - b) Operations Rules
    - (i) closing time for parties
    - (ii) prior announcement of parties
    - (iii) parties by invitation only
2. Entered Contract with Alumni
  - a) Reduced number of parties by half
  - b) Alumni attendance at all large parties
  - c) Prior scheduling and notice of parties
3. Revised By Laws
  - a) Established position of Governor of Neighborhood Relations
  - b) Elaborate procedure for briefing and committing newly elected officers
4. Maintain log of unusual noises and occurrences so that future discussions will be based on fact.
5. Convinced a skeptical License Commission in the course of three long hearings over five months to renew license.
6. Maintained a complaint-free operation for five months, without substantially reducing their activities.

\* \* \*

In contrast, a small group of neighbors persists in continuous hostility toward the Inn despite have obtained all of the actions and proof of good faith described above. They have:

1. Sent dozens of scurrilous letters aggregating thirty years of grievances in a way calculated to suggest that the causes for complaint are on-going.

2. Made unverified and untrue charges:

- That the Inn is the source of noises that in fact originate elsewhere.
- That their own unsightly dumpster and trash belong to the Inn.
- That the Inn causes rats to come out of the toilets.

3. Instigated vicious, slanderous, untrue newspaper accounts:

"house of ill repute"  
"animal house"  
"loutish lawyers"

4. Used neighborhood leverage over Harvard's Mass. Ave. development plans to put Harvard pressure on Inn.

5. Unsuccessful in misleading the License Commission, they now seek to politicize the Inn through the City Council, perpetuating their slander despite the absence of any pertinent legislation before the Council.

**LINCOLN'S INN SOCIETY  
HOUSE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
FALL 1990**

The Lincoln's Inn Board of Governors, and specifically its House Managers, have adopted and successfully enacted the following program to insure that neighbors are not disturbed by noise or any activities at the Inn. In order to indicate the date of each action, parentheses "( )" have been placed next to each action to indicate the date that it was enacted. All members of the Board welcome any feedback or further recommendations.

*I. Daily Operation*

1. Members have been informed, by way of several mailings, of the need to remain quiet when entering and leaving the house (10/05/90).
2. Signs are posted throughout the house informing members of the need to remain quiet (10/02/90).
3. Use of the physical structure has been improved to minimize any noise problems that may have existed. Specifically:
  - a. Members will enter and leave through the front rather than the side door (11/12/90). The side door is much closer to 50 Follen Street, while the front door is close to nothing but the street;
  - b. Window locks have been installed on all second floor common rooms, specifically in the poolroom (10/10/90). When the windows are closed, noise is unlikely to travel;
  - c. The stereo has been removed, and the piano disabled, in the poolroom (10/10/90);
  - d. Storm windows have been installed on the poolroom windows (projected 11/15/90 completion).
4. Access to the Inn is restricted after 1 a.m. on weekday nights (10/14/90). On weekend nights and before 1 a.m. on weekdays, board members will monitor both activities and noise levels.

## II. Parties

1. All Lincoln's Inn parties will be closed; only persons with invitations and invited guests will be admitted (11/07/90):
  - a. Members may invite guests to the party by giving them invitations;
  - b. Persons on the guest list will also be given invitations;
  - c. Only those persons with invitations will be admitted;
  - d. No donations at the party will be accepted (10/07/90), nor will an admission fee be charged (Longstanding policy).
2. A policeman will work outside the door at every party (In effect for the past several years):
  - a. The officer will stand outside the door both to check for noise from within the party and to keep all arriving and departing guests quiet and moving home (9/30/90);
  - b. All party guests will leave before the policeman leaves at the end of the evening (2 a.m.).
3. Members of the board will also assist in insuring that all members leave parties quietly and quickly:
  - a. Guests will be monitored until they are well off of Follen Street, and will not be--as they never have been--permitted to "cut through" 1574 Massachusetts Avenue.
4. Guests entering the party will be admitted for free (10/07/90), but will be required to present a valid identification with their invitation:
  - a. Guests who have valid licenses indicating they are over 21 years old will receive a hand stamp or mark (Longstanding policy);
  - b. Members of the board will monitor the front door in hourly shifts, checking identifications of all persons entering (Longstanding policy).
5. Persons tending bar will not provide drinks to persons under 21, will

not serve persons becoming intoxicated, and will not allow guests to make their own drinks (Longstanding policy).

6. Members of the Board, and all members of the Lincoln's Inn Society, will carefully watch downstairs windows to insure that these windows remain closed (Longstanding policy):

a. Signs are posted stating the need to keep all of the windows closed;

b. Persons who open, or attempt to open, windows will be removed from the party immediately.

7. Music will be tested before and during the party to insure that it is not audible outside (09/25/90).

8. A "point person" is a member of the Board appointed to monitor each party (Longstanding policy). This is a rotating position--each member of the Board of Governors takes a turn. This person:

a. Coordinates the efforts of members of the Board who work the door, insuring that I.D.s are checked and that persons leaving the party are quiet;

b. Has authority to close the party at any time that noise becomes excessive;

c. Would receive any noise complaints that might occur.

### *III. Maintenance of the Physical Facility*

1. The yard and house at 44 Follen Street is currently well kept and attractive like other houses on the street. The Inn has spent a large sum on landscaping since October 1, 1990.

2. Landscapers will be hired to re-mulch and clean up the yard each Spring and Fall.

3. Members have been informed of the need to keep the yard clean (10/08/90).

4. An individual will be retained by the Inn who will maintain the yard through periodic cleanups, take out and maintain garbage, and shovel snow from the property (11/10/90):

- a. The name and telephone number of this person will be made available to all interested neighbors.

#### *IV. Parking*

1. The parking situation with respect to 50 Follen Street has been amicably resolved.
2. Non-resident members have been informed not to park around the Inn:
  - a. WE WILL TOW members who do so (09/25/90);
  - b. "No parking" signs are posted throughout and around the Inn (9/25/90).

#### *V. Summer*

1. An employee will be hired for the summer whose sole function is to oversee the Inn and insure it is quiet and its grounds are well maintained (10/02/90).
2. No parties will be permitted during the summer, and summer tenants will sign contracts agreeing not to have any parties:
  - a. Such a contract will stipulate loss of security deposit for a first violation and eviction for a second violation;
  - b. The summer manager will have the power to enforce such a contract.
3. Summer tenants will be assigned house jobs to insure that the physical facility remains neat.
4. The Chairman will carefully oversee the selection of summer tenants, and have veto power over any tenant.

#### *VI. Continuity*

1. In order to insure that future Boards of Governors understand the importance of courteous and considerate behavior, the Lincoln's Inn Constitution has been amended to require a formal meeting between the outgoing chairman and the new board BEFORE that board takes

office (10/15/90):

a. At this meeting, this document, as well as general concerns of the neighbors, will be discussed in detail;

b. The amendment specifically reads:

Before the newly elected Board of Governors assumes office, and the old Board is removed, the outgoing Chairman shall hold a formal meeting with the new Board to discuss neighborhood relations. All members of the new Board shall be required to attend.

2. A board of local alumni will be formed to insure, among other things, smooth neighbor relations:

a. Such a board will meet each September with the student Board of Governors;

b. The Chairman of the alumni board will speak with the student Chairman on a monthly basis;

c. The Inn will keep a log of neighbor complaints and will mail this log to the Chairman of the local alumni board on a monthly basis. Board members living in the Inn are generally available at their personal telephone numbers and the general Inn number. In addition, we have an answering machine and a general Inn telephone number, so complaints, if any, can be made known to us as they occur:

1) Both the general Inn number and the personal telephone numbers of Board members will be made available to interested neighbors.

d. Neighbors will have the names of the local alumni board;

e. James Barr Ames will be among those on the alumni board.

3. Newcomb Stillwell, an attorney at Ropes and Gray, will be present at both the Spring meeting between the old and new Boards and the Fall meeting with the local alumni board to provide further guidance and continuity.

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OVER PAST FIVE MONTHS  
April 1, 1991

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  - b) Elaborate procedure for briefing and committing newly elected officers
4. Maintain log of unusual noises and occurrences so that future discussions will be based on fact.
5. Convinced a skeptical License Commission in the course of three long hearings over five months to renew license.
6. Maintained a complaint-free operation for five months, without substantially reducing their activities.

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In contrast, a small group of neighbors persists in continuous hostility toward the Inn despite have obtained all of the actions and proof of good faith described above. They have:

1. Sent dozens of scurrilous letters aggregating thirty years of grievances in a way calculated to suggest that the causes for complaint are on-going.

2. Made unverified and untrue charges:

- That the Inn is the source of noises that in fact originate elsewhere.
- That their own unsightly dumpster and trash belong to the Inn.
- That the Inn causes rats to come out of the toilets.

3. Instigated vicious, slanderous, untrue newspaper accounts:

"house of ill repute"  
"animal house"  
"loutish lawyers"

4. Used neighborhood leverage over Harvard's Mass. Ave. development plans to put Harvard pressure on Inn.

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**LINCOLN'S INN SOCIETY  
HOUSE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
FALL 1990**

The Lincoln's Inn Board of Governors, and specifically its House Managers, have adopted and successfully enacted the following program to insure that neighbors are not disturbed by noise or any activities at the Inn. In order to indicate the date of each action, parentheses "( )" have been placed next to each action to indicate the date that it was enacted. All members of the Board welcome any feedback or further recommendations.

*I. Daily Operation*

1. Members have been informed, by way of several mailings, of the need to remain quiet when entering and leaving the house (10/05/90).
2. Signs are posted throughout the house informing members of the need to remain quiet (10/02/90).
3. Use of the physical structure has been improved to minimize any noise problems that may have existed. Specifically:
  - a. Members will enter and leave through the front rather than the side door (11/12/90). The side door is much closer to 50 Follen Street, while the front door is close to nothing but the street;
  - b. Window locks have been installed on all second floor common rooms, specifically in the poolroom (10/10/90). When the windows are closed, noise is unlikely to travel;
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## II. Parties

1. All Lincoln's Inn parties will be closed; only persons with invitations and invited guests will be admitted (11/07/90):
  - a. Members may invite guests to the party by giving them invitations;
  - b. Persons on the guest list will also be given invitations;
  - c. Only those persons with invitations will be admitted;
  - d. No donations at the party will be accepted (10/07/90), nor will an admission fee be charged (Longstanding policy).
2. A policeman will work outside the door at every party (In effect for the past several years):
  - a. The officer will stand outside the door both to check for noise from within the party and to keep all arriving and departing guests quiet and moving home (9/30/90);
  - b. All party guests will leave before the policeman leaves at the end of the evening (2 a.m.).
3. Members of the board will also assist in insuring that all members leave parties quietly and quickly:
  - a. Guests will be monitored until they are well off of Follen Street, and will not be--as they never have been--permitted to "cut through" 1574 Massachusetts Avenue.
4. Guests entering the party will be admitted for free (10/07/90), but will be required to present a valid identification with their invitation:
  - a. Guests who have valid licenses indicating they are over 21 years old will receive a hand stamp or mark (Longstanding policy);
  - b. Members of the board will monitor the front door in hourly shifts, checking identifications of all persons entering (Longstanding policy).
5. Persons tending bar will not provide drinks to persons under 21, will

not serve persons becoming intoxicated, and will not allow guests to make their own drinks (Longstanding policy).

6. Members of the Board, and all members of the Lincoln's Inn Society, will carefully watch downstairs windows to insure that these windows remain closed (Longstanding policy):

a. Signs are posted stating the need to keep all of the windows closed;

b. Persons who open, or attempt to open, windows will be removed from the party immediately.

7. Music will be tested before and during the party to insure that it is not audible outside (09/25/90).

8. A "point person" is a member of the Board appointed to monitor each party (Longstanding policy). This is a rotating position--each member of the Board of Governors takes a turn. This person:

a. Coordinates the efforts of members of the Board who work the door, insuring that I.D.s are checked and that persons leaving the party are quiet;

b. Has authority to close the party at any time that noise becomes excessive;

c. Would receive any noise complaints that might occur.

### *III. Maintenance of the Physical Facility*

1. The yard and house at 44 Follen Street is currently well kept and attractive like other houses on the street. The Inn has spent a large sum on landscaping since October 1, 1990.

2. Landscapers will be hired to re-mulch and clean up the yard each Spring and Fall.

3. Members have been informed of the need to keep the yard clean (10/08/90).

4. An individual will be retained by the Inn who will maintain the yard through periodic cleanups, take out and maintain garbage, and shovel snow from the property (11/10/90):

- a. The name and telephone number of this person will be made available to all interested neighbors.

#### *IV. Parking*

1. The parking situation with respect to 50 Follen Street has been amicably resolved.
2. Non-resident members have been informed not to park around the Inn:
  - a. WE WILL TOW members who do so (09/25/90);
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#### *V. Summer*

1. An employee will be hired for the summer whose sole function is to oversee the Inn and insure it is quiet and its grounds are well maintained (10/02/90).
2. No parties will be permitted during the summer, and summer tenants will sign contracts agreeing not to have any parties:
  - a. Such a contract will stipulate loss of security deposit for a first violation and eviction for a second violation;
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Before the newly elected Board of Governors assumes office, and the old Board is removed, the outgoing Chairman shall hold a formal meeting with the new Board to discuss neighborhood relations. All members of the new Board shall be required to attend.

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e. James Barr Ames will be among those on the alumni board.

3. Newcomb Stillwell, an attorney at Ropes and Gray, will be present at both the Spring meeting between the old and new Boards and the Fall meeting with the local alumni board to provide further guidance and continuity.

LINCOLN'S INN SUMMARY OF EVENTS  
OVER PAST FIVE MONTHS  
April 1, 1991

Lincoln's Inn has responded energetically to the neighbors' complaints by the following actions:

1. Adopted Management Plan (attached)
  - a) Building alterations:
    - (i) use a different front door
    - (ii) sealed and doublepaned windows
  - b) Operations Rules
    - (i) closing time for parties
    - (ii) prior announcement of parties
    - (iii) parties by invitation only
2. Entered Contract with Alumni
  - a) Reduced number of parties by half
  - b) Alumni attendance at all large parties
  - c) Prior scheduling and notice of parties
3. Revised By Laws
  - a) Established position of Governor of Neighborhood Relations
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4. Maintain log of unusual noises and occurrences so that future discussions will be based on fact.
5. Convinced a skeptical License Commission in the course of three long hearings over five months to renew license.
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MARC A. RODWIN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
50 FOLLEN STREET NO. 206  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138  
(617) 491-0696

MAR 25 11 05

CAMBRIDGE MA.

March 21, 1991

Robert C. Clark  
Dean, Harvard Law School  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dean Clark:

As you are aware, the Cambridge City Council will hold a hearing on the nuisance caused by the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn Society on April 1, at 7 p.m. and Dean of Students, Sarah Wald will attend.

I am writing to request that you attend yourself, or if you are unable to come, that at least you send your Vice-Dean David N. Smith to explain what measures the law school is taking to resolve the problem. The reason is simple. As I explained to you in my letter of February 25, efforts to resolve this problem through the dean of students over the last 20 or more years has been to no avail. This has been as true under the current dean of students as in the past. We do not believe they have authority to take the measures needed. The neighbors believe that until the issue receives attention at the highest level this problem will not be solved.

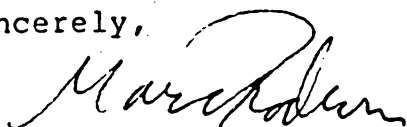
In your letter to me of March 6, you indicated that you did not have the time to meet with the neighborhood group. But you said that Vic-Dean Smith would handle the issue on your behalf. Sending Vice-Dean Smith to the Cambridge City Council would help indicate the seriousness of the law school's intent to resolve the problem. It is a needed measure because to date Vice-Dean Smith has been unable to meet with the Neighbors of the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn. He also did not attend the License Commission hearing. We thus have little evidence that he is handling these matters on your behalf.

At the License Commission meeting on March 19th Sarah Wald presented a tentative law school plan that was inadequate to resolve the problem and showed little law school commitment. Neighbors indicated the problems with the plan at the License Commission hearing. I have also spoken to Vice-Dean Smith by telephone today indicating why the plan is unsatisfactory and indicating how it can be improved. We believe that the Cambridge City Council hearing is an appropriate opportunity for either yourself or Vice-Dean Smith to respond to the constructive suggestions that Neighbors have made on the tentative law school plan.

(letter to Dean Robert C. Clark, p. 2)

I am sure that you want to consult the neighborhood in devising a plan to stop the problems caused by your students. I also believe you want to explain the law school response in a public forum to help clear up the misunderstandings and ill will that has developed over this issue. A problem this serious should not be left to fester. The City Council meeting is a perfect opportunity to help resolve this problem. I therefore look forward to meeting you at the Cambridge City Council. If you are unable to attend I expect you will send Vice-Dean David Smith.

Sincerely,



Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors's of  
the Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

cc: Mr. Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk, to be distributed to City Councilors in preparation for the April 1 hearing.



HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE · MASSACHUSETTS · 02138

DEAN OF STUDENTS

(617) 495-1880

March 28, 1991

Mr. Joseph Connarton  
City Clerk  
Cambridge City Hall  
795 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Connarton,

In connection with the public hearing on Lincoln's Inn scheduled for April 1, 1991, I have enclosed (a) the recent decision by the License Commission, and (b) a letter from a neighbor in response to the Law School's activities.

I will be at the hearing along with Marilyn O'Connell, and we will be available to answer any questions the council may have.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Wald  
Dean of Students



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

631 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., 1ST FLOOR, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL 495-6140  
349-

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief of Police Department  
Commission Member

THOMAS W. SCOTT  
Chief of Fire Department  
Commission Member

RICHARD W. SCAL  
Commission Executive Officer

March 25, 1991

Rent Sevenser  
Lincoln's Inn Society  
44 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

RE: Lodging House License Renewal, Disciplinary Action and  
Change of Managers.

Dear Mr. Sevenser:

Please be advised that this will serve to confirm the vote of the License Commission, 2-0 on March 19, 1991 renewing your Lodging House license for 1991-1992, resolving the disciplinary action heard November 1990 and changing your resident managers. The following in detail was approved:

1. The (3) new resident managers are: Kent Sevenser, Michael Bopp and Michael Dierks. Please submit their background probation forms to us for final confirmation.
2. The renewal of this license is conditioned on the continuing involvement of the Harvard Law School as specified in the March 19, 1991 letter signed by Sarah E. Wald, Dean of Students, and David N. Smith, Vice-Dean. (See letter attached for reference of agreement).
3. Also as a condition of this renewal, if at any time a party is held at the Lincoln's Inn, the Executive Officer of the Cambridge License Commission should be notified in advance so that the party may be monitored by the License Commission staff. This monitoring is to make sure that the neighborhood is not subjected to a nuisance by the parties occurring.

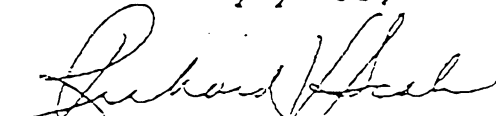
Kent Sevener  
March 25, 1991  
Page Two

4. You should also confer with the Inspectional Services Department to determine the number of persons which would be allowed safely in your building before any party occurs at the Inn. Please confirm this number to the Executive Officer on or before your license is renewed. You should also consult with the Fire Department on the entrances and egresses needed for the number of persons approved by Inspectional Services. You should have final confirmation from both Departments before you next party and before April 30, 1991, the expiration date of your 1990-91 license. This condition of confirming the number of persons allowed in your building was considered a friendly amendment by Thomas Scott, Fire Chief and License Commission member and approved by the Commission 2-0 as an amendment to the above conditions.

The payment of the fee of \$66.00 is also due before your license may be renewed.

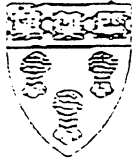
If you should wish to appeal any of the above decision, you may do so to Middlesex Superior Court within 60 days of receipt of this decision, pursuant to M.G.L. c.249, s.4.

Sincerely yours,

  
Richard V. Scali  
Executive Officer

Enclosures.

cc: Mayor Alice Wolf; Councillor Frank Duehay; Fire Chief Thomas Scott; Acting Police Chief Joseph Grainer; Acting Police Chief Henry Breen; Fred Scribner; Ken Mehlman; David Wylie, Esq.; Cathie Born; Howard Medwed; Rita Corkery; Mark Rodwin, Esq.; Valerie Lynch.



HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

CAMBRIDGE MASSACHUSETTS 02138

March 19, 1991

Cambridge License Commission  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge Massachusetts 02139

Dear Members of the Commission:

In connection with your March 19, 1991 hearing concerning Lincoln's Inn, this is to update you on Harvard Law School's efforts to resolve the Inn's problem with its neighbors.

As you know, Lincoln's Inn is an independent corporation, over which the Law School has no direct authority. The Inn, not the law school, owns the building at 44 Follen Street. The Law School does not give Lincoln's Inn any funding or support, as it does with the 82 other officially recognized student organizations. As an organization comprised of Harvard Law students, however, Lincoln's Inn is permitted to use the facilities of the law school (e.g. rooms, bulletin boards), and to have a table at the annual student activities fair. More important, since the Inn is comprised of law students, we feel an obligation to help resolve problems that the neighbors have. Thus, although we do not have direct authority over the Inn's on-site activities in the same manner that we do with activities on campus or in the dorms, we have tried to lend our assistance and our influence to improving the Inn's situation with the neighbors.

Early this fall, before there was any organized activity by the neighbors or this Commission, we met with Inn officers to discuss ways to ensure that neighborhood problems of which we had been made aware in the past were resolved in a systematic way. These discussions led to the

adoption of the Inn's "Management Plan," which for the first time spelled out in some detail what practices the Inn would adopt to minimize neighborhood disruption. These practices were written into the bylaws to ensure continuity. Since the adoption of that plan, there have been no complaints about the Inn's behavior.

The neighbors and the Law School want to ensure that these improvements continue on a permanent basis. We have met with Kathy Born of Neighborhood Nine, and Marc Rodwin, Esq. and have talked with individual neighbors to learn more about the problems and discuss ways to accomplish our shared goal. We then undertook a series of meetings with student officials of the Inn and with local alumni to try to develop a more detailed permanent plan. The latest agreement between alumni and students of the Inn which we understand will be submitted to you is the result of these efforts.

We recognize the good faith efforts of the students and alumni to find a permanent solution and to try to set limits on their activities. Since there have been no complaints from neighbors since last fall, fairness dictates recognizing the students' improved behavior at this point.

However, we agree with the neighbors that monitoring on a longer term basis is appropriate. Accordingly, we would propose that any future complaints about disruptive behavior by Inn students be directed to the License Commission, with immediate notification to the Law School. If there are substantiated complaints of serious disruptive behavior anytime within the next three years, Harvard will join the neighbors in appearing before the Commission, and will urge that the Commission take whatever action it deems advisable to resolve the situation, including, if appropriate, revocation of the Inn's license.

At that time, Harvard also will seriously consider decertifying the Inn as a student organization. However, we remain concerned that decertification may not improve the situation, because it will result in a loss of leverage with the students. It may be that cutting all ties with the student organization will not serve the neighbors' and our mutual interest, since we then would be unable to help monitor or influence student behavior, or to offer our facilities for on-campus (as opposed to Follen Street) parties. Harvard Law School does agree to consult with the neighbors about the decertification issue if it arises. At the end of the three year period Harvard Law School will also assess the need to continue this commitment.

In conclusion, we sympathize with the neighbors' concerns. They have a right to expect that Lincoln's Inn

will be a responsible neighbor. We feel that the past five months have shown that improvements in the students' behavior is possible, and that the new policies will go a long way toward ensuring permanent improvements. At the same time, we will continue to monitor the situation closely.

Sincerely,

*Sarah E. Wald*

Sarah E. Wald  
Dean of Students

*David N. Smith*

David N. Smith  
Vice-Dean

# 1. The History

November 22, 1990

APPENDIX  
TO THE  
PROPOSALS FOR ADDRESSING THE LINCOLN'S INN NUISANCE  
SUBMITTED BY NEIGHBORS OF THE LINCOLN'S INN

THE NATURE AND HISTORY OF THE  
LINCOLN'S INN NUISANCE AND  
THE INADEQUACY OF THE PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Lincoln's Inn Society, located at 44 Follen Street in Cambridge, operates an Inn under a license granted by the city of Cambridge. But the society has used the premises contrary to the purposes stated in its application for a variance to use the premises, in violation of laws for operating inns, and contrary to uses compatible with a residential neighborhood. The Inn has flouted the city laws and abused the good will of neighbors.

Today the Inn asks the Commission not to revoke its license, pledging to turn over a new leaf. They submit a management plan which they claim will resolve the long-standing problems. For the reasons stated below, we respectfully submit that the plan, even if taken at face value and fully implemented, cannot resolve the problem. Moreover, the long record of abuses and bad faith in addressing neighbors' complaints, and violation of previous agreements militates against giving them a second chance. Already neighbors have written statements saying that they have moved out of the neighborhood because of the nuisance, have visited friends on party nights so that they could sleep, have declined to purchase a condominium abutting the Inn because of the noise pollution, and have felt "victimized in their own homes." It is now time for the Lincoln's Inn to stop its parties, or if they are essential to its changed purposes, to relocate the parties or the Inn to a more appropriate neighborhood.

## The Inadequacy of the Proposed Management Plan

The proposed management plan, is not substantially different from many of the reforms promised and put into place in past years, and does not even attempt to address the concerns of the community.

The management plan would not limit the number of people at parties. It would not stop the parties at a reasonable hour of the night. It would not stop or in any way control the drinking of large amounts of alcohol and thus would not eliminate the drunken behavior of members or guests. It does not provide for a Harvard Law School official proctor, or a Harvard Law School Dean being on call on a 24-hour basis to bring order to the party if there are complaints. The plan does not reduce the number of guests at parties to a number legally allowed for purposes of preventing fire hazards. Rather than attempt to address the cause of the problems caused by their loud drinking parties, the Inn has the gall to claim that the noise emanates from elsewhere.

The management plan offers meaningless procedural protection, management structures, and a board of advisors. The Inn claims that its efforts to insulate the house for heat with thermapane windows, and using a front door rather than a side door will stop the noise. But much of the noise comes as the partygoers (one hundred to two hundred) leave the premise and walk drunk in the neighborhood. No effort to contain noise within the house will stop the nuisance as long as the Inn hosts parties with large numbers of people, late at night, with open bars. The history of the inn explains why the management plan cannot even begin to address the problem.

### The History

The Original Use of the House and Covenant With the Neighborhood.

When the Inn applied for a zoning variance, to move to 44 Follen Street, they made certain public promises to the city and the neighborhood. They stated that the Inn would be primarily a residential and eating facility. They explicitly said that stringent academic demands "would prevent its members from making 24 hour a day use of the property or from constantly using the property in a noisy manner, that except at meal hours, the use of the property would be for study purposes..." At the time there was a special need for housing. Members of the Inn comprised 1/8 of the total enrollment of the Harvard Law School and the Inn provided a residence for them. The Christian Science Church located on the corner of Follen Street attended the hearing on the zoning variance and said they would not oppose the variance if no alcoholic beverages were served. It was understood by all parties that this would be the case. Thus the Lincoln's Inn entered the

neighborhood with a specific understanding about the kind of conduct they would engage in. These understandings are a matter of public record, and stated in documents filed at the board of licensing and appeal and zoning board (Exhibit A).<sup>1</sup>

Since 1947 the purposes and actives of the Lincoln's Inn has changed dramatically. No longer is it primarily an eating club and dormitory. Today the Lincoln's Inn is used primarily to host drinking parties. Seven students live there (3 in violation of their current permit) and the Inn does not provide meals for the remainder of their members. The Inn also hosts other social activities. But the main activity people buy when they join the Inn is the chance to party, an activity that was specifically stated as outside the objectives of the Inn when they entered the neighborhood. It is these parties which create the bulk of the problems for the neighborhood, the noise, drunken behavior, and refuse. The Inn must now decide if they want to continue with their new purposes and if so move to a more appropriate location, or return to their original objectives and publicly state that they will not use the Inn as a place of entertainment.

#### A Pattern of Problems Is Established Early On

Had the activities of the Lincoln's Inn been unobtrusive no one would have noticed that they violated their covenant with the community. But such was not the case. The Harvard Law School has refused to provide residents with any record of the voluminous complaints they have received. And many of those who have been aggrieved have long moved or passed away. But public records at the Board of Appeals and the Licensing Commission and former neighbors who have remained in contact with area friends provide sufficient records to show a long-standing problem.

As early as 1957 the Inn had become a menace to the neighborhood. The Vice-President of NILES, Inc. owner of 41 Follen Street wrote several angry letters to the Lincoln's Inn complaining of the loud noisy parties, vandalism, and drunken behavior. These letters make clear that these incidents were not isolated, but long-standing and had existed "ever since your organization obtained a variance of the zoning Laws" and that repeated efforts to resolve the problem had resulted in failure. The complaints of neighbors today are similar in character, but the problem is worse. Copies of the NILES, Inc. letters were mailed to the Cambridge

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<sup>1</sup> Documents supporting the statements in this Appendix are on file at the Cambridge Licensing Commission in a document titled "Exhibits Supporting the Proposals for Addressing the Lincoln's Inn Nuisance Submitted by Neighbors of the Lincoln's Inn." These documents are also included, with others, in the materials submitted at the November 13 Hearing.

Board of Appeals and the Dean of the Harvard Law School. Thus the Inn, the law school, and the city of Cambridge had notice of these problems (Exhibit B).

In the mid 1970's the problems were almost the same as the 1950's but the instigators of the official complaints were neighbors on the other side. In 1975 the owners of 50 Follen Street objected to the renewal of the Lincoln's Inn Society permit and hired attorneys to state their case before the Cambridge Licensing Commission (Exhibit C). However the permit was not denied and the problems persisted.

In the Early 1980's these problems became worse. Again complaints were lodged with the Lincoln's Inn, the Harvard Law School, the President of Harvard University, and the campus police. The author of one letter said "your music was so loud that I could not hear the radio in my own apartment" (Exhibit D). This complaint still reverberates today. A letter written to the Commission in 1990 states "I could not hear the television in my apartment because of your loud music" (Exhibit E).

#### The Problem Today

In the past two years there have been continual efforts by neighbors to end the nuisance amicably. Starting in 1988 there were a series of meetings. In addition to meeting with the Lincoln's Inn Society, neighbors have written and met with City Councilor Alice Wolfe, (now Mayor), Police Chief Anthony Paolillo, the Licensing Commission, Paul Johnson, Chief of the Harvard Police, and Sarah Wald, Dean of Students at Harvard Law School (Exhibit F).

The Licensing Commission investigated the complaints. The investigator entered the premises without being "charged admission, carded, or hand-stamped, as was the normal procedure as explained by [Lincoln's Inn President] Kenneth Vermillion. The report indicates that there was normally a charge for non-members, and the charge entitled people admitted to "free drinks" at one of the three bars (Exhibit G). In effect the Lincoln's Inn was selling liquor without a license in the guise of an admission fee in violation of state liquor laws.

Although the Lincoln's Inn denies that it now charges for liquor, it admits that in the past they placed a box at the door for contributions. We submit that the characterization of this practice as a voluntary contribution is a misrepresentation. It was a subterfuge, a way to charge admission in effect while altering the appearance. Whatever their practice since the licensing violations were disclosed to authorities the Inn flouted the liquor laws in the past and thus have shown themselves unworthy of keeping their license as an Inn.

## The Current Alcohol Problem

However, even if the Inn now ceases to sell liquor, the liquor problem is nearly as grave, perhaps even graver. If the Inn distributes alcohol freely, it encourages public drunkenness and creates a public health hazard. The Inn dispenses alcohol not with meals but after dinner and throughout the night when it will intoxicate drinkers even more quickly. Despite the Inn's submitting all sorts of management plans that it claims will eliminate the problems, the Inn has never submitted a plan that would limit the amount of alcohol partygoers could consume. Thus without charging for drinks the Inn becomes an "all you can drink bar" that encourages reckless drunkenness. State laws prohibit commercial bars from having "happy hours" that provide two drinks for the price of one because it has found this to encourage excessive drinking. The problem in this private club is even greater. Drunkenness is the root cause of most of the problems neighbors complain about: the outrageous conduct that is rude, loud, vulgar, intimidating, a nuisance and a danger to the public safety of neighbors as well as Inn members and guests. The thirty statements submitted by residents at the November 13 hearing indicate that Inn members or guests have driven away too drunk to control a car.

The failure of the Inn to devise a plan to limit alcohol consumption is understandable (though not excusable) for two reasons. First, as long as there is a free liquor bar and large numbers of members and guests, it will be nearly impossible to control the volume of alcohol consumed. Second, drinking and partying is the raison d'être of the Inn as it operates today. If it alcohol drinking were not central to the Inn's activities they would have stopped these drunken parties long ago in response to complaints. They have not and refuse to do so even today in face of our repeated requests.

## Conclusion

Other fraternities at Harvard, M.I.T. and other Cambridge colleges do not pose the problems as Lincoln's Inn because they are subject to strict university oversight, are answerable to a national organization, comply with strict rules about the time, and number of guests and dispensing of alcohol or are not located in the middle of residential neighborhoods. None of these conditions exist in the case of the Lincoln's Inn.

If the Inn wants to be located in a residential neighborhood they must stop being a site for drinking parties. Without this all other efforts to address the nuisance will be futile.

## 2. The Proposal

November 22, 1990

### CAMBRIDGE LICENSING COMMISSION

#### PROPOSALS FOR ADDRESSING THE LINCOLN'S INN NUISANCE

#### SUBMITTED BY NEIGHBORS OF THE LINCOLN'S INN

We respectfully suggest three alternative approaches for the Cambridge Licensing Commission to take to resolve the problem. They are listed in order of preference. An appendix explains the nature of the problem and reasons for our recommendations.

1. The Commission should permanently and unconditionally revoke the License of the Lincoln's Inn and grant the club one year to cease all activities at its 44 Follen street premises.

2. The Licensing Commission should condition the Lincoln's Inn license on the Inn using the 44 Follen street premises as originally intended and in the manner promised when the City of Cambridge granted a variance in 1947. The Lincoln's Inn told the City they would use 44 Follen Street for study and eating meals only with the Inn hosting no noisy social activities. It was understood by all parties that the Inn would not serve alcohol. The Inn has now changed its function. The 44 Follen street should not be used as a place to host law school parties.

3. If the Licensing Commission does not choose one of the first two alternatives they should hold the Inn on probation and impose the restrictions on the Inn's activities listed below.

A.) The Commission should prohibit any social gathering lasting beyond 11 p.m. on any day.

B.) The Commission should prohibit the Inn from serving alcoholic beverages at social gatherings.

C.) The Commission should prohibit any social gathering over 65 people.

D) The Commission should make the Lincoln's Inn prove they merit having their license renewed each year. The Commission should revoke the Lincoln's Inn license and suspend the revocation each year if neither the Cambridge Licensing Commission, the Harvard Law School, or the Cambridge police receive complaints about the Inn's activities.

E) The Commission should prohibit the Lincoln's Inn from having any social gathering of more than 20 individuals unless the Inn applies for and has been granted a one-day license for a party. If the parties lead to complaints, the commission should stop granting the Inn one-day licenses for social gatherings.

F) The Commission should prohibit no more than six one-day licenses for social gatherings in any one year.

G) If the Commission allows the Inn to serve alcoholic beverages, it should require that the Inn file written confirmation of adequate liability insurance to cover any host liability that may result from automobile or other accidents of guests who have consumed alcohol. The proof of insurance should include a letter from the insurer indicating that they are aware the Lincoln's Inn hosts parties and serves alcohol and have reviewed the record of the November 13 and November 27 hearing and believe the Inn is adequately insured. The failure to file yearly proof of insurance and insurer knowledge of existing activities should cause the license to be automatically revoked.

H) The Commission should keep the legal number of residents at four. To do otherwise would encourage violating licenses as a way to unilaterally amend them.

Marc A. Rodwin

for the neighbors of  
the Harvard Law School  
Lincoln's Inn Society

3

PRESS

File.

# REPORTER

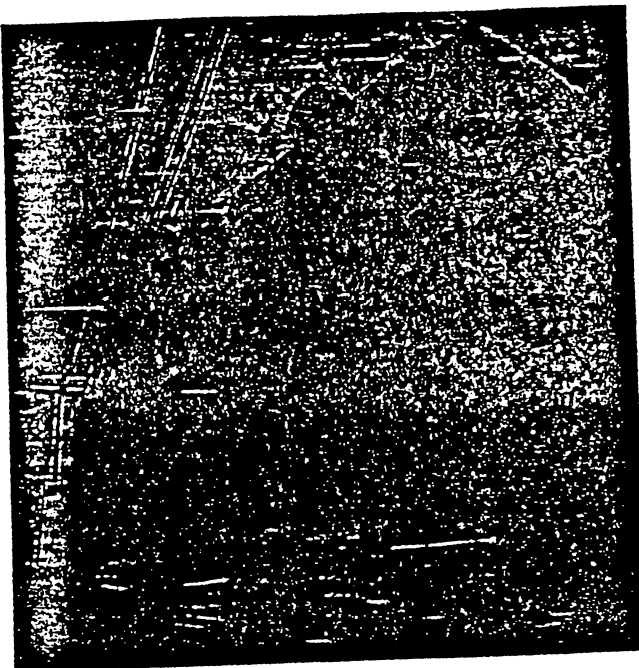
BY BETH TEITEL

## Loutish Law Students Run Amok

CAMBRIDGE RESIDENTS at 50 Follen Street and others living near the Lincoln's Inn Society, an 83-year-old Harvard Law School club at 44 Follen Street, probably agree with the Shakespearean character who said, "The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers."

Society members, seven of whom live in the three-story Victorian house, apparently do not confine themselves to preparing briefs and researching case law. Instead, according to neighbors who are pushing to have the club's license revoked or restricted, clubbers throw parties that feature loud, drunken singing, cursing, and cheering, and last until 4 a.m.

"I was awakened by the sound of students yelling, 'Fuck you, 50 Follen Street,' as they left a party at the Inn," Dzvina Orlowsky, a former 50 Follen Street resident, wrote in a November 1990 letter to the Cambridge License Commission.



Harvard Law students' house of ill repute:  
The Lincoln's Inn Society.

"Sometimes the music has been so loud that I can't hear a television in the room in which I'm sitting," Marjorie Westerman, a 50 Follen Street resident, told the license commission. "I've also been awak-

ened more than once by drunken shouting and singing."

The commission held two hearings on the situation in November and decided to give the club until April, when the

building's lodging permit expires, to clean up its act.

We've reformed, pleads Ken Mehlman, Lincoln's Inn Society chairman and a third-year law student. The society has sealed off the side of the house that borders 50 Follen Street, muffled its piano, moved the stereo, installed storm windows, and instituted a 1 a.m. curfew during the week, he says. Additionally, parties are now open only to the club's 134 members and their guests, instead of to the whole law school.

And if the neighbors don't trust the law students—and why should they?—how about the law students' predecessors?

"I hope very much that the Society will be given another opportunity to demonstrate that it really can be a tidy and considerate good neighbor," James Ames, former Lincoln's Inn Society member and now a Ropes & Gray senior partner, wrote to the license commission in November.

## Flirting for Beginners

IN HONOR OF VALENTINE'S DAY, THE REPORTER DECIDED TO brush up on her flirting techniques. She signed up for "Seventy-two Ways to Flirt" at the Boston Center for Adult Education. Her laugh would become musical, light, intoxicating. Her remarks would be witty, provocative. Men and women alike would be drawn to her.

Wink.

That's how the Reporter flirts now, after almost two hours of flirting lessons from Sharyn Wolf, a "singles consultant" and author of *Fifty Ways to Find a Lover*. And that's just one of the subtle come-hither tips offered by Wolf. Here, free of charge, are 10 more.

1. Make lingering eye contact.
2. Smile from the heart.
3. Touch someone on the wrist (lightly).
4. Twirl some object (key chain, hair) suggestively.
5. Send over a drink.
6. Pick a bunch of wildflowers, smile at an attractive stranger,

and give them to him or her.

7. Observe good flirts in real life or in the movies.
8. Be aware when someone is flirting with you.
9. Carry or wear a conversation piece (a book with a funny title, a zany tie).
10. When you spot a comely stranger in a store, drop a handful of change and hope that he or she will help you pick it up.

The Reporter didn't return for the second of the two-hour lessons. She thinks she'll stick to her crude charm.

Cambridge  
TAB

# Lincoln's Inn trouble

Members of the Lincoln's Inn Society should spend more time worshipping Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom, than Dionysus, the god of wine.

Parties at the private Follen Street club have angered residents. Neighbors complain of loud parties filled with drunker revelers who keep them up until 3 a.m.

This is not the first time there have been complaints against the club, which is composed of 134 Harvard Law School students. Complaints filed against student hi-jinks at the Lincoln's Inn date back to 1957. However, neighbors told the TAB that the Inn has become an increasingly unpeasant neighbor over the past 10 years.

Law students say they need a place to relax and get away from the pressure of studying. Nobody questions the law students' need for a place to unwind, but do club members need to throw rowdy parties and disturb the neighborhood in order to relax?

Last week, some Follen Street residents urged the License Commission to revoke the club's lodging license. "There is more than sufficient evidence to revoke their license," said Marc Rodwin, a resident at 50 Follen St.

Rodwin and other neighbors want parties to be limited to 65 people and to end at 11 p.m. Neighbors also want one-day permits issued to the inn when it wants to hold a party.

Inn members have promised to take their own steps to reduce disturbances from parties, such as making the building soundproof and changing the club's entrance so that late club members do not disturb the neighborhood. "There won't be further grounds for complaint," said David Wylie, the inn's attorney.

Wylie better hope he is right. The inn's license comes up for renewal in April. Law students could lose their social hang-out if they do not make an effort to work with neighbors to control their parties.

After all, these law students must remember they are part of the Follen Street neighborhood. They should know, more than the average student, the importance of respecting community codes and local residents.

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# Lincoln's Inn arouses anger on Follen Street

By AMY MILLER  
Chronicle staff

12/13/90  
Cambridge Chronicle  
P.1

Screams have become so common on the north end of Follen Street, if someone is ever really hurt there, no one is apt to respond, says an angry resident of this neighborhood.

But what really bothers Bob Schoenberg and other neighbors of 44 Follen St. is that when law students hold parties there, as they are prone to do, it's hard to get much sleep until the wee hours of morning. Furthermore, they say, the kind of drinking and revelry associated with the parties at Lincoln's Inn are beyond the realm of acceptable or legal behavior.

"The issue is drunken behavior and noise," said Schoenberg, a UMass student and 38-year-old resident of 50 Follen St. "Nobody would care if they had a party but it's a party keeping you up until three or four in the morning. And at two in the morning there are people screaming at the top of their lungs."

Neighbors of Lincoln's Inn, who have complained in public hearings and written testimony, say the lodging house that is home to seven Harvard law students and the 82-year-old Lincoln's Inn Society has been given more than a fair chance to behave. After decades of rowdy behavior, they say, it's high time the inn is either shut down, or that its license renewal is tied to stringent conditions regarding parties.

"What we need is for the parties to stop or the inn to close," said Marc Rodwin, 36, of 50 Follen St. who has helped lead neighbors' pleas to the city license commission, which regulates the inn as a lodging house.

After two public hearings in November, the license commission agreed to grant the society one last chance. The commission's executive director, Richard Scali, said any apparent sympathy for the society's 134 members is unrelated to the fact that several U.S. Supreme Court judges, including David Souter, are alumni of the club. Nor, Scali said, were commissioners swayed by the prominence of several local lawyers who once partied in the inn's hallowed halls and wrote letters on the inn's behalf.

Rather, he explained, officials felt they should give the society's latest set of house rules and regulations a fair shake before taking radical action.



**KEN MEHLMAN** is chairman of the Lincoln's Inn Society, a club for Harvard law students that runs Lincoln's Inn on Follen Street. Neighbors are complaining about loud parties and other disturbances they say are caused by the inn. (Staff photo by Amy Miller)

In April, when the inn's permit expires, the commission will determine the proper course of action.

In the meantime, the city council has agreed to meet as soon as possible with Sarah Wald, dean of students at Harvard Law School; David Wylie, a Harvard Law School graduate and lawyer for the inn, and Rodwin, who is also a lawyer.

## Inn promises changes

Beyond that, Wald plans to meet in January with neighbors, including Rodwin, and students from the inn.

The events of the past few months have apparently scared the Lincoln's Inn Society into action. They have amended their constitution in "Draconian" ways the society chairman promises will please his neighbors, and they are working with local alumni who will oversee inn behavior.

"I think there was a problem, no question; in the past there was too much noise at parties, but I think we've addressed that," said Ken Mehlman, a third-year law student and Lincoln's Inn Society chairman.

Please see LAW, page 12

# Law school rooming house draws ire of Follen Street

Continued from page 1

New rules at the society, which was formed in 1908 and moved to Follen Street in 1947, state that parties will be open only to members and those with invitations; that a Harvard police officer will be hired for all parties; that parties will end when the officer leaves at 2 am; that sound will be checked to make sure it can't be heard outside; and that drinking will be monitored.

In addition, Mehlman said as he led an impromptu tour of the large old house, the piano has been covered and now faces the wall, the stereo was removed from the upstairs common area, and storm windows were installed to block the noise.

Pointing out a few of the house amenities, Mehlman noted that parties are just a small part of what the club offers its members, who comprise about 10 percent of the law school enrollment. The magazines and newspapers — the house subscribes to more than 30 — are a big draw, as are the VCR and television, and weight room.

## A history of trouble

But the neighbors are unimpressed by bylaws, plans or promises. A group of 30 or more neighbors who have met periodically to organize letter campaigns and lobby the license commission, say problems have persisted for years, and no matter how good a solution is found, new students bring new problems.

"Bylaws don't change their habits," said Eleanor Williams of 33 Follen Street.

"They can change the bylaws and change them right back," Rodwin

added, during an interview with four neighbors in the home of Sheila Cook on Follen Street.

Dozens of angry letters have been forwarded to city officials, some of them from alumni of Harvard Law School, attesting to the noise, drunkenness, rude comments and rubbish problem on their street for years and even decades.

Jeffrey Lant, a society alumni and resident of 50 Follen St., wrote the commission on Nov. 27: "From time to time, neighborhood complaints about the late night excessive noise, the rubbish, the ambulatory drunkenness and the after effects of so many convivial evenings have resulted in some of the members pledging better results. But as is the way with students, those making the pledges move on and the next crew comes in determined to amuse themselves to the max."

Like other neighbors, Lant said the license for the inn must be revoked.

Follen Street is a narrow lane less than a half-mile long that runs from Waterhouse Street to Garden Street, just outside Harvard Square. While a few single family homes remain on the Lincoln Inn part of the L-shaped way, a few large brick apartment buildings dominate.

Neighbors have found documents showing the inn's request for a variance in 1947 came with a statement by supporters that students would be too busy studying to party much. "They noted that if this was ever the case, it isn't anymore.

"They came in as an eating club and then they changed to a party club," said Rodwin. Members "are paying so they can go to parties.

That's what's now driving the club." Dues are \$150 a year, Mehlman said.

A summary of the inn's license history and neighborhood complaints put together by Rodwin show complaints over the years led to public hearings in 1957 and 1975. Neighbors have met with Harvard officials and students on other occasions as well.

## New rules at inn

Mehlman contends the continuity of the inn's new behavior will be addressed for the first time by the new bylaws, which require the outgoing chairman to meet with the incoming board of governors to discuss neighbors' concerns.

In addition, a new alumni board of governors will meet each new student board to discuss neighbors' concerns. Newcomb Stillwell, an alumnus and attorney at the well-known firm of Ropes and Gray, will meet twice a year with the board of governors, the management plan promises.

But neighbors say that isn't good enough. Some are asking that the license be completely revoked, while

others would at least like conditions put on the license saying parties must be small and end by 11 pm and that alcohol will be banned.

License commissioners are not convinced, however, they have this kind of authority. Although they grant the license, they may not be able to set the sort of conditions requested on the permit, Scali said.

Since the inn is owned privately by the Lincoln's Inn Society, the law school has no legal authority, according to Rita Corkery, Harvard's

assistant director for community relations.

Because the society is not affiliated with Harvard Law School the way fraternities are generally connected to colleges, Harvard has little authority over its residents, Corkery said. Short of disciplining students for misbehavior, the school cannot control what goes on at Lincoln's Inn, she said.

Perhaps to make sure the Society's independence is clear, the law school recently told the group it could not use Harvard Law School's name on its stationery, according to Andrew Hyams, a neighbor of the inn for seven years and former law student at Harvard.

Wald, the dean of students, has met with the students and will do so again, largely out of concern for the problems the students are causing. Wald acts as a mediator, Corkery said.

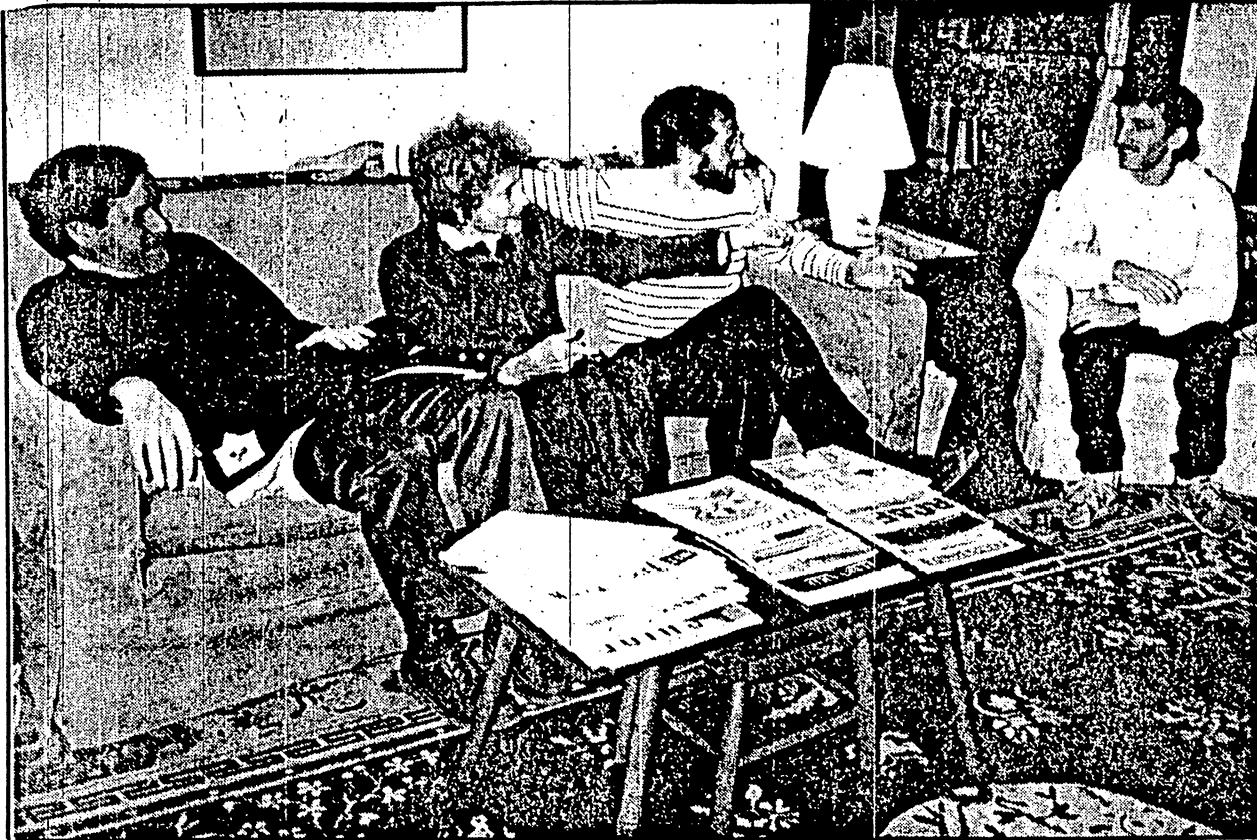
Jurisdiction has also been a problem when it comes to police, neighbors said. Although city and Harvard officials generally agree that the Cambridge police have responsibility over the house, they say neither may respond adequately at times.

Aware that no action can be taken until May, neighbors are mostly hoping the students' behavior will improve.

"It's regrettable the license board didn't take more definite action," Hyams said, "but the members of the inn seem a little shaken up, so maybe their behavior will change and that will be the end."

Mehlman assures that this is so. "We think about this all the time," he said, "more than anything else. And we want future boards, before anything else, to think about the

neighbors



**NEIGHBORS OF LINCOLN'S INN** (from left) Andrew Hyams, Sheila Cook, Mark Rodwin and Bob Shoenberg discuss problems in the neighborhood in a meeting at Cook's Follen Street home. (Staff photo by Amy Miller)

Harvard Law Record. 3/15/1991

# Neighbors Want Inn's License Revoked

## Hearing Set For March 19

Even though there haven't been any parties at Lincoln's Inn over the last six months,

**By Malcolm E. Harrison**

the neighborhood surrounding the social club at 44 Follen Street has been anything but quiet.

Gearing up for a pivotal March 19 hearing before the Cambridge License Commission which will determine if the Inn can continue to house board members in the future, a group calling itself the Neighbors of the Harvard Law School Lincoln's Inn Society submitted a petition to Dean Robert Clark '72 requesting that HLS sever all affiliations with the Inn and publicly support its efforts to have the inn's license revoked.

For the past twenty years there have been on again off

again complaints by the neighbors who assert that the Lincoln's Inn Society has used its premises for parties of up to 300 people. The inn's neighbors complain of blasting stereos, noise from open windows, and inebriated loiterers outside of the Inn itself.

This most recent push - which has been accompanied by a minor media blitz - has surprised Inn members who say that there have been no complaints against them since Lincoln's Inn started throwing its parties in the Harkness Commons in November.

"Lincoln's Inn has been pursuing a good neighbor policy since last fall," said Adam Weiss, 2L, who is the board member in charge of neighborhood relations. "The last letter is unfair and dismaying

**Inn page 3**

# The party's not over yet

## Despite neighbors' protests, Harvard students allowed to use private club

By Bill Premo  
TAB Staff Writer

**CAMBRIDGE** — Members of the Lincoln's Inn Society have been warned: Any more rowdy parties and the city could revoke its operating license.

The private Follen Street club, composed of 134 Harvard Law School students, has been the focus of neighborhood wrath because of periodic weekend parties. Several residents, many of whom live next door in a large apartment building, say party goers are loud and wake them up, sometimes at 2 or 3 in the morning.

An example of the neighborhood correspondence sent to the city's License Commission comes from Jane and Christopher Reed, who have owned a home next door to the inn for 25 years.

The Reeds wrote: "The society has quite consistently been a bad neighbor, but the past decade or more has been especially difficult." They said they are "sometimes bothered by excessive noise and seeming drunkenness late at night when the Society throws large parties."

Many first-year law school students wrote to the commission as well, saying the inn provides them with a place to relax and get away from the pressures of studying.

Neil Gorsuch, a Lincoln's Society board member, told the commission some residents are "on a vendetta to close the inn", not to reduce the noise coming from it.

Last week the License Commission told the club it will not revoke the inn's license now. Instead, commissioners said the club is on notice to make peace with its neighbors. If more complaints are filed, the commission would consider revoking the club's lodging permit, said James McDavitt, commission chairman.

The club's permit is up for renewal next April and a licensing hearing will be held then to determine whether it should be reissued.

Inn members said steps are being taken to soundproof the building and to control parties.

"They've undertaken a number of changes in the mode of operations and are confident during the six-month period there won't be further grounds for complaint," said David



The operating license for the Lincoln's Inn Society will not be revoked — for now.

PHOTO BY WILSON MARTIN

Wylie, the inn's attorney.

The inn will institute changes that include having guests use a different entrance so as not to disturb neighbors, putting storm windows up outside rooms where parties take place and not using the piano.

Also, members will be directly responsible for the actions of their guests when parties take place, Wylie said.

A few neighbors were unhappy about the commission's decision not to at least put conditions on the Inn's license.

"There is more than sufficient evidence to revoke their license," said Marc Rodwin, a resident on 50 Follen St. who is one of the most vocal neighbors. "There is a history of this problem lasting 10 years or more."

In fact, a check of the Lincoln's Society licensing file finds two other instances, in 1957 and 1975, when neighbors filed complaints about loud parties at the inn.

In the 1957 complaint, the management company that

ran the Eliot Manor next door said the morning after one of the parties at the inn, "a sign with a heavy cement base" was found on the car owned by the manager of the Eliot Manor.

Rodwin and his neighbors wanted the commission to at least set strict conditions for the inn's operation.

They proposed prohibiting any social gathering lasting beyond 11 p.m., limiting the number of people at the parties to 65 and prohibiting the serving of alcohol.

Neighbors also proposed that the commission grant one-day permits whenever the inn members want to hold a party.

"We expect Lincoln's people to try to have less noisy parties," said Rodwin.

And if they do not keep it down during their socials, Rodwin said he and his neighbors will try again to get the city to act.

# Letters to the Editor

March 21/1991. E. L. De

## Lincoln's Inn license renewed for good reasons

The unsubstantiated allegations made in Bella English's March 13 column concerning Cambridge's Lincoln's Inn Society ("Inn on the outs with neighbors") could have received no more stinging a rejoinder than the decision made by the Cambridge License Commission, after almost two hours of hearings yesterday evening, to renew our lodging license. It was simply untrue to write, as English did, that "[t]here have been few complaints since last fall. In fact, as neighbors of Lincoln's Inn conceded to the Commission, there were no complaints.

Despite the impression given by the column, which picks and chooses among unproven allegations submitted to the commission last year, Lincoln's Inn continues to be a good neighbor which has given its fellow residents of Follen Street no cause to complain since the Inn's Board of Governors instituted a comprehensive management program. This program has succeeded entirely in addressing our neighbors' substantive concerns.

A quick telephone call to the Cambridge License Commission or to the Cambridge Police Department might easily have confirmed this. Instead of checking her facts, however, English plays on unfair and outmoded stereo-

types about students in general and about Harvard students in particular.

In addition, English relies almost entirely on information provided by Marc Rodwin, the attorney who represents several of our neighbors in this matter, in order to present a biased and one-sided view of the situation. Unlike her reporter colleagues at the Cambridge Chronicle, Harvard Crimson, Harvard Independent, Boston Magazine and Associated Press, each of whom sought to get the full story when contacted by Rodwin, English did not speak with a single member of the current Board of Governors of the Lincoln's Inn Society. Through this oversight, English assists Rodwin in his attempt to achieve through the newspapers what he has failed to do through the legal system. A more balanced presentation of the facts might better have informed the Globe's readers about the Lincoln's Inn Society's sincere efforts to be a good neighbor. The success of these good faith efforts was recognized last night when the Cambridge License Commission renewed our lodging license after almost two hours of hearings.

ADAM SAMUEL WEISS

Governor in Charge of Neighborhood Relations, Lincoln's Inn Society  
Cambridge

## Quiet late-night parties? Impossible

Members of the Lincoln's Inn Society claim that there have been no complaints of noise since the License Commission hearing last fall. This is true but misrepresents the facts. The Lincoln's Inn has held most of its parties on campus and temporarily stopped having large late-night parties at the Inn.

If it continues to do so the problem will disappear. However, Lincoln's Inn changed its practice only temporarily to avoid losing its license. It now wants to resume having large drinking parties until 2 a.m. at the Follen Street location.

The Inn was granted a license for one year at yesterday's hearing, with the stipulation that it notify the commission before each party so that the commission can

monitor noise. The law school also is supposed to work with the inn and alumni to prevent recurrent problems.

Unfortunately, Lincoln's Inn has not lived up to at least five such "management plans" in the past. It is simply impossible to hold such large late-night parties that are quiet in a residential neighborhood. The hundreds of pages of documents submitted to the commission and transcripts of the hearing, all of which were carefully reviewed and summarized by Bella English, show that this has been the case for the past 20 years.

MARC A. RODWIN, Attorney  
for Neighbor's of the Harvard Law  
School Lincoln's Inn Society  
Cambridge

TAB. 3 - 26 - 91

# Lincoln's Inn keeps license

## Neighbors wary of parties by Harvard Law School students

By Bill Premo  
TAB Staff Writer

CAMBRIDGE — Lincoln's Inn lives.

The now-famous house on Follen Street that has raised the ire of neighbors and has been the subject of numerous news stories over the last three months will remain the home of the Lincoln's Inn Society.

Lincoln's Inn Society, composed of Harvard Law School students, was berated by neighbors for holding parties that woke them up in the wee hours of weekend mornings.

The Cambridge License Commission voted to renew the inn's license, provided that the Harvard Law School keep tabs on the inn. The law school is not formally connected to Lincoln's Inn.

Last year neighbors complained to the License Commission about the noise, and the commission put the students on notice

last fall that if they disturbed their neighbors again, their inn's license would be in jeopardy.

No complaints have been filed by neighbors since the commission admonished the society, so it voted to renew the license last week.

Fire Chief Thomas Scott, in response to one neighbor's concerns, also called for a structural safety inspection at the inn.

Before the commission voted last week neighborhood residents tried to convince commissioners to enact restrictions on Lincoln's Inn parties.

"We want conditions on the kinds of parties or move the parties to another site on campus," said Marc Rodwin, a resident who has led the neighbors' fight to quiet the inn.

If that was not done, he said, the neighbors wanted the club

see **Lincoln's Inn**, page 8

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## Law School will monitor inn

### LINCOLN'S INN,

from page 3  
kept on probation so it knew its license was in danger. "Once they stop having the probationary period we fear it will happen again."

David Wylie, an attorney representing the inn, said the neighbors were being unreasonable.

"There are a few obsessive

neighbors who want to continue this battle incessantly," he said. "They have done everything the neighbors have asked for and there has not been a whisper of a complaint for five months."

Ken Mehlman, a member of the society, said the neighbors had other motives.

"I think their real desire is to close down the inn," he said.

Although the commission allowed the inn to stay open, commissioners asked the Harvard Law School to monitor the society.

Sarah Wald, the dean of students at the law school, said the students deserved credit for heeding the neighborhood's requests for peace. But, she added, the school also understands residents want the situation to stay that way.

Wald, in a letter to the commission, said if substantiated complaints are reported within the next three years, the school would "join the neighbors in appearing before the commission and will urge that the commission take whatever action it deems appropriate." That includes revoking the inn's license.

Commission Chairman James McDavitt, in one of his last statements before quitting the board a few days later, said the commission can take action outside the hearing room as well.

"The license commission is equipped with a decibel meter and can use it if it needs to."



Lincoln's Inn Society can still have parties as long as they are well managed.

PHOTO BY WINSLOW MARTIN

TAB 3-15-91

## NEWSWIFE



PHOTO BY KEITH JACOBSON

### Lincoln's Inn saga continues

The saga of the Lincoln's Inn Society continues this week as the License Commission considers whether to revoke the inn's license for waking up neighbors.

**The dean of Harvard Law School has pledged to help harried neighbors of the Lincoln's Inn Society.**

Harvard Law students are in the club, which

has included famous legal personalities but is not directly connected to Harvard.

Residents who live near the Follen Street house where the club is located have complained that club members occasionally hold loud parties that go late into the night.

Several letters were written to the License Commission detailing the disturbances and the commission agreed to listen to the neighbors.

After hearing testimony last fall, the commission put the club on notice: Any more loud parties and your license is in danger.

Marc Rodwin, a resident who has been one of the leaders of the campaign to quiet Lincoln's Inn, said since the fall hearings before the license board the neighborhood has been peaceful. But the neighbors want the inn to move any future parties on campus and they also want the Harvard Law School to exert its influence.

Law School Dean Robert Clark, in a letter to Rodwin, said that Dean of Students Sarah Wald was "working with the students and alumni to establish future guidelines" to assure that neighbors are not disturbed.

The commission was due to hear an update from neighbors and inn members March 19 about whether the peace has been kept.

Wed March 13, 1991 p 1

# Law School Club

## Tones Down Fun

### Lincoln's Inn Restricts Club Activities

By TOYIA R. BATTLE

The Lincoln's Inn Society, a social club for 130 law students, has completed implementing a management plan to alleviate community concerns, only one week before Cambridge's licensing commission will hear a complaint filed against the club by area residents, members said yesterday.

The management plan called for cosmetic changes to the building, increased alumni involvement in the club and an improvement of neighborhood relations, said Kenneth B. Mehlman, the club's former chair.

In the past, neighbors have complained of public drunkenness and frequent loud parties, creating what they said was excessive noise. The neighbors have also complained that the Inn's grounds are unsightly and poorly kept.

Marc A. Rodwin, spokesperson for the residents' coalition, said yesterday that the Inn should be closed down, despite any cosmetic changes its residents have made. "We thought there was sufficient evidence already to revoke their license," he said.

In implementing its reforms, Lincoln's Inn has hired a gardener,

sealed off the side of the house that borders 50 Follen Street, muffled its stereo and piano, installed store windows and bricked over windows in the basement, where most of the parties are held.

In addition, a 1 a.m. curfew during the week should reduce neighborhood noise, said Adam F. Weiss, governor of neighborhood relations for the group and a second-year law student.

The group has also changed its bylaws to ensure that continued attention be paid to community relations, Mehlman said.

The new bylaws ask local alumni to act as overseers of the society, create a governor of neighborhood relations to handle community complaints and require outgoing Inn officers to brief the incoming board on community concerns.

Residents of Follen Street—wedged between the Cambridge Common, the Radcliffe Quadrangle and the Law School—had charged that the Lincoln's Inn Society has not responded to any of their complaints.

On November 13, the Licensing Commission held a hearing

Continued on page 7

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## Lincoln's Inn Quiet

Continued from page 1  
concerning the club's activities. After hearing two hours of residents' testimony describing the noise and disturbances the inn has caused, the Licensing Commission decided to meet this month to consider whether the groups' license should be renewed.

Neither Harvard Law School nor the group have received complaints since the club began implementing the management plan in mid-October.

"I think that, while neighbors have voiced a concern or two, no one has asserted that the management plan hasn't worked," Mehlman said.

According to Mehlman, many of the Inn's parties are open by invitation only, and large parties are held on campus. At all parties, intoxicated guests may not be served alcohol, and a police officer is present until the all guests have left, Mehlman said.

Although Lincoln's Inn is allowed to hold meetings and recruit members at Harvard Law School, the Law School does not have much jurisdiction over activities at the Inn because the group is financially independent of Harvard and owns the Follen Street building, accord-

ing to Sarah E. Wald, assistant dean of student affairs.

However, the Law School has met with the group various times and enlisted the help of alumni to help resolve the situation. "We are very concerned about the situation," Wald said.

## Cambridge Hospital Seminar

noon seminar entitled "Living with the Cancer Patient" will be held from 4-6 pm March 20 at Cambridge Hospital, 1493 Cambridge Street. The program is designed for nurses and other health professionals. The seminar is worth 2.2 Continuation Units for registered nurses in Massachusetts. Connie O'Connell, nurse at Trinity Hospice, will be the primary speaker. She will also lead a question and answer session. Registration is recommended. Call 643-3010 or by sending a check for \$5 to the American Cancer Society, 100 Mass. Ave. in Arlington.

Cambridge Professional Committee of the American Cancer Society will offer a seminar in April at Cambridge Hospital on pain control in cancer patients. More information is available from Zoher Ghogawala, Vice-President of The American Cancer Society's Cambridge Chapter at 277-2213.

## Run for police candidates

Manager Robert Healy is accepting candidates for membership in the Police Review and Advisory Committee. Candidates must be from the Northport/Riverside, North Cambridge or Mid-Cambridge section of the city.

The committee will investigate complaints against the Police Department by civilians and is requesting timely, fair and impartial investigations allowing for participation in reviewing department policies, procedures. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. Meetings are held once a month.

Interested in becoming candidates should submit a letter of interest to resume by April 1 to: Robert Healy, City Manager, City Office, City Hall, 795 Cambridge, 02139.

## Meeting March 21 on school budget cuts March for women

A proposed cut of 69 school department positions, including 51 teaching positions, is expected to bring a host of parents to the school committee budget subcommittee public budget hearing 7 pm, March 21 in the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School media cafeteria. Budget committee co-chairmen James Rafferty and Larry Weinstein said the proposed Fiscal 1992 budget of \$71.5 million for the schools, submitted to the committee by Superintendent of Schools Mary Lou McGrath last week, will be reviewed by the school committee following parents' comments. A decision on the budget is due by the committee on March 28.

## Testimony wanted for AIDS programs

A hearing is being held 3 to 6 pm Tuesday, March 19, at Cambridge City Hall so residents can testify about what needs exist for AIDS services and programs. State Department of Public Health Officials will be there to hear the testimony. Spanish, Portuguese and Haitian Kreyol translators will be on hand. More information is available from: Cambridge Cares About AIDS at 498-1663.

## Chapter 1 parent advisory council

The Chapter 1 parent advisory council of the school department will hold its next meeting 7 pm Thursday, March 21, in Room R 258 at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway. The meeting will be open to anyone and parents of students being served by the Chapter 1 program are urged to attend. More information is available from Mary Lyons at 349-6490.

Cambridge will celebrate International Women's Day with a citywide march and program on Saturday, March 16. The day's events represent a collaboration between the city's women's and peace commissions and two CRLS student groups: Youth for Peace and SAVE — Students Against Violence and for Equality. The theme is "Women Against Violence and for Equality at Home and Abroad."

This first citywide International Women's Day will begin with marches by students and women from many neighborhoods and end at Cambridge Rindge and Latin School. Those marching will gather at noon at Harrington School (East Cambridge); Sennott Park (Area 4); Dana Park (Cambridgeport); the M.L. King School (Riverside) and Porter Sq. T (North Cambridge). Several local marches will link up at City Hall where Mayor Alice K. Wolf and others will join them. High school students will meet at Cambridge Common at 1 pm to join the march. The Battucada Belles, a women's marching percussion group, will lead off the Cambridgeport contingent and continue to City Hall, the Common and the high school.

## For bilingual students

A new plan for assigning students who have completed the Schools' Transitional Bilingual program will be presented by School Superintendent Mary Lou McGrath at 7 p.m. March 19 at the school committee meeting at CRLS. Parents of students in bilingual classes and particularly those in the Portuguese, Haitian, Spanish and Asian language classes are invited to attend and offer their views to the School Committee regarding the Superintendent's recommendation.

## Harvard Law says give inn a chance

In response to a plea from angry neighbors, Harvard Law School Dean Robert Clark said he plans to work with law students in the Lincoln's Inn Society at 44 Follen St. to help prevent future problems in the neighborhood.

Clark said the law school will not break ties with the 82-year-old society, as requested in a letter from neighborhood organizer Marc Rodwin. He suggested breaking ties with the society will leave the law school less chance to work with the students involved and to help resolve the neighborhood dispute.

Clark also pointed out in the March 6 letter that problems have diminished since November, when complaints of noise and neighborhood disruption were heard by the Cambridge Licensing Board. Changes at the inn included moving parties off site.

As far as claims by neighbors that the problems have gone on for years, and are sure to get worse again after the furor dies down, Clark said he and Dean Sarah Weld will work with the 134-member society, based in an inn that is also home to seven law students, to ensure policies put in place prevent an ongoing problem.

"Like you," Clark wrote, "we would like policies in place that will prevent problems on a permanent basis consistent with your concerns and with treating the students fairly and recognizing their recent efforts to improve the situation."

## Correction

A story on Page 1 of the March 7 Cambridge Chronicle about the finalists for the position of Police Commissioner incorrectly reported the race of two of the candidates: Clyde Cronkite, former police chief in Santa Ana, Calif., is white; Raymond Johnson, Chief of Police in Inglewood, Calif., is black. The Chronicle regrets the error.

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# Lincoln's Inn Survives Neighborhood Petition

By George Paul

The Lincoln's Inn Society has survived, for the moment, a threat to its very existence in the latest chapter of a forty-year battle between the Inn and its neighbors.

Citing rowdy, selfish and "anti-social" behavior, a group of Follen Street residents had petitioned the Cambridge License Commission to revoke or severely restrict the Inn's license to function as a lodging house at the 44 Follen Street address.

The Commission rejected such drastic action and gave the Inn a six-month grace period in which to demonstrate more considerate conduct.

The Inn successfully argued that no action by the Commission is necessary since they have recently instituted a comprehensive plan to be more responsive to their neighbors' concerns. In addition, the Inn repeatedly denied that it is the source of many of the neighbors' complaints.

According to the Inn chairman, Ken Mehlman, 3L, the Commission ruled to continue the decision until April in order to give the Inn's plan a chance to work. "It has

worked for the past six weeks," Mehlman said, "and the License Commission has recognized that." Mehlman added that the decision showed the Commission was willing to objectively assess the situation, and vindicated the Inn's assertions that its members were not the exclusive source of much of the offending disturbances.

The group, "Neighbors of the Lincoln's Inn," has organized the neighborhood in an effort to drastically curtail Inn activities. Complaints filed with the Commission cited noise, late night parties, rude behavior and poor upkeep as reasons for the Inn to be shut down.

The group had petitioned the Cambridge Licensing Commission to "permanently and unconditionally revoke the [Lodging] License of the Lincoln's Inn and grant the club one year to cease all activities at its 44 Follen street premises." In the alternative, the group petitioned the Commission to place severe restrictions on the use of the premises.

In response to the complaints from neighbors, the Inn's Board of Governors designed a "management plan" whose stated purpose is to "insure that neighbors are not disturbed by noise or any activities

of the Inn." The plan defines steps to decrease everyday noise, limit noise at parties, maintain the premises in an attractive manner, and insure continuity between old and new boards.

A statement delivered by the Board of Governors to the Commission stated that "We sincerely believe that these efforts will keep the Inn quiet and a good neighbor and that no action by the Commission is necessary."

Marc Rodwin, a member of the neighbor-

hood group, hinted that regardless of the final decision handed down in April, the "continual nuisance" of the Inn will have broad ramifications in the community surrounding HLS.

Rodwin stated that the problems associated with the Inn, also affect his view of the proposed expansion of the Law School campus. "If the law school wants to expand," he suggested, the local residence groups will demand "assurances of quiet in the

(see INN on page 7)

# Inn

(continued from page 3)

surrounding neighborhoods. If the law school cannot even control seven students, how can we be sure it will control the noise level with new dormitories?"

In a letter to the Commission, another neighbor, Gall Gardner, wrote: "As a Harvard alumna, I have often been ashamed in my building and neighborhood to admit my affiliation. These rude, ignorant adolescents ... must understand that their privileged position is not a cover for their bizarre behavior."

Local resident Sheila Cook wrote to the Commission: "In the fifteen years I have lived on Follen Street, the members of Lincoln's Inn have done nothing but disrupt the neighborhood with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties, and their trash which spills over the entire neighborhood ... It is clear that the Inn's members care only for themselves."

Mehlman recognized that "there have been some legitimate gripes, no question." He noted that he felt that the "problem of the past" was continuity. "We just didn't know how vehement their concerns were," he added.

Rodwin stated, "This is not against Harvard Law School. We like students. We are just objecting to anti-social behavior. If you want to have a party, there are better places to have it."

The controversy's biggest casualty may be the open Inn parties. Like many fra-

ternities nationwide, the Inn's parties will now be closed -- only members and invited guests will be allowed. To avoid legal problems relating to the sale of liquor at the parties the Inn will no longer accept seven dollar "donations" from nonmembers attending the parties.

Boardmember Neil Gorsuch, 3L, downplayed the impact of new "management plan" of the Inn. "There are only six to eight parties a year," Gorsuch replied when asked if fewer and smaller parties would hurt membership. "The Inn is more of a place to hang out." Members cited the weight room, the chance to meet new people, the billiards table, and Thursday night dinners as reasons for joining.

Rodwin added further that the effort to revoke the Inn's licenses stems from the failure of past efforts to amicably resolve the problem. Graduate student Kimberly Adams, a six year resident of Follen street, claims she was told by a former Inn vice-president, "If one chooses to live across from the Harvard Law School, one has to put up with the noise from law students."

The Inn has continually denied that they are responsible for all the problems on Follen Street. Mehlman kept a log of noise on the street after meeting with neighbors. Based on information from the log, the Inn wrote to the Commission, "We believe that many complaints the neighbors have had about noise... are not legitimately attributable to the Inn... Many of our neighbors exaggerated, misrepresented, or misattributed

problems involving the Inn."

Rodwin dismissed such assertions as "ludicrous."

Resident board member Bob Kroll, 3L, noted that Follen street is not as quiet as neighbors had portrayed it. "This street is noisy. We've got apartment buildings and are next to the Cambridge Commons, Radcliff, the Longy School of Music and Harvard Square."

Mehlman said the drastic action the neighborhood group sought was not necessary because of several features of the management plan, some which were suggested by neighbors. Continuity is the key to the program according to Mehlman. Mehlman noted he would personally meet with the new board before they take office. "Making the [new] board aware of the

concerns of the neighborhood will be the first thing we will discuss."

Furthermore the management plan calls for "[a] board of local alumni ... to insure, among other things, smooth neighbor relations." The plan dictates that interested neighbors be given the phone numbers of the Inn and members of the Alumni Board so that complaints can be handled effectively.

According to Mehlman, the Inn has already invested over \$10,000 to respond to neighbor's complaints. Mehlman listed the installation of noise reducing thermopane and storm windows, while other windows have been bricked, the hiring of professional landscapers have been hired, and the disabling of a piano as changes implemented to accommodate the neighbors.

# Love Thy Neighbor

## Community Attacks Law School Social Club

By Carolyn McKee

**D**avid Souter may esteem the quiet life, but his old social club apparently doesn't share this philosophy. Lincoln Inn, a Follen Street social organization of law students, has outraged the community by generating excessive noise and unruly behavior.

At a public hearing before the Cambridge Licensing Committee on Tuesday, tempers flared as irate citizens demanded that the club's lodging license be immediately revoked. They complained of poor upkeep of the house, excessive noise, late-night parties and drunken behavior. Charges were also made that alcohol was being sold on the premises without a liquor license.

"How many more disturbances and how many more sleepless nights are we going to have to endure so a group of people can have a good time?" asked Bob Schoenburg, a resident of a neighboring apartment building.

"I find the current situation a disheartening example of how a select few, for whatever reason, regard themselves above common courtesy and how many of us, as a result, have felt and continue to feel victimized in our homes," added another resident in a letter to the committee.



Photo by James Grosjean

### Neighbors have raised a ruckus over the Law School social club Lincoln Inn.

Lincoln Inn members objected to the complaints, citing a recently initiated plan which they say has kept noise levels to a minimum in the last month. "In the past we've applied band-aids to these problems,

but now we have a cure," said Ken Mehlman, president of Lincoln Inn and a second-year law student.

The plan, according to the club's attorney David Wylie, includes sealing off doors on one side of the house, installing storm windows and removing a piano from the second floor pool room.

Wylie added that the bylaws of the club have also been changed to insure a continuity of understanding between boards. The alumni board of the club will meet with

meet with the students," said James Ames '32. "As long as I'm associated with the club, I will see that the management plan will be carried out, and if it doesn't work, something else will be implemented."

**S**till, the club's promises of change did little to quiet the disgruntled citizens. Citing similar problems in the past, many doubted if such promises were anything more than short-term solutions. "All the assurances that we got from them

*"In the past we've applied band-aids to these problems, but now we have a cure."*

*—Ken Mehlman,  
president of Lincoln Inn*

neighborhood issues, according to Mehlman.

In addition, outside personnel will be hired to control the problem. Someone will be employed to help with the upkeep of the premises and an on-foot policeman and two University squad cars will continue to be hired to patrol parties.

Wytie claimed that since only seven members live on the premises, a revocation of the lodging license would not solve the problem. "Their activities as a club are the problem, not their activities as a lodging house," he said.

Alumni of the club support the students efforts. "I've never felt any responsibility for what goes on at the club, but I would be willing to come in from time to time and

plan that they've put together is superior." moric."

Other residents objected to the condescending attitude maintained by the students throughout the proceedings. "I have relatives who went to Harvard Law School," said neighbor Kathy Bourne. "Believe me, they don't get any special consideration in my family when they misbehave."

Club members are frustrated that neighbors have not responded to their attempts to rectify the situation. "We had an open meeting on November 1, and only one person came," Mehlman said.

Fred Scribner, an alumnus of the club, also challenged the residents to cooperate. "These are only a few brief moments that have occurred over a long period of history," he said. "You all are neighbors. If they are trying to accommodate your feelings, you should try to accommodate theirs."

Scribner fears the precedent which would be set if the club's license is revoked. "If they can shut down a club for a night of noise every 4-8 weeks, they can go after every club on the Harvard campus," he said.

Tuesday's hearing follows on a long series of conflicts between the citizens and the Inn. "We're suffering from sins, real or imagined, of the last 40 years," said Bob Kroll, a resident board member of the club.

The Cambridge Licensing Committee will vote on the case on November 27.

coln Inn was granted a trial period by the Cambridge Licensing Commission to prove that it can abide by community standards. The decision, made Tuesday, effectively puts the Law School social club on probation until spring. Still, citizens are skeptical that the students will pass this test, and they plan to continue their crusade. "They have made their noise heard all over the community," said neighboring citizen Marc Rodwin. "Now we are going to have to make our voices heard in order to stop them." The residents will next approach Harvard, which has kept a low profile in the feud.

### Noising Off

The verdict has been postponed. Court will reconvene in April. Charged by its neighbors with disturbing the peace, Lin-

-Life Next to Harvard

11/20/90 HARVARD CRIMSON P3

# Neighborhood Fights Law School Club

By JULIAN E. BARNES

Wedged between the Cambridge Common, the Radcliffe Quadrangle and the Law School is a short residential street lined with trees—the sort of place where children ride big wheels and parents rake the lawns on Saturday afternoons.

Judging from all outward appearances, Follen St. could be any resi-

eyesore.

The parties, they say, have got to go somewhere else.

"This is not against Harvard Law School—we like students," says Mark A. Rodwin, a resident of 50 Follen St., the apartment building next to the club. "We are just objecting to anti-social behavior. If you want to have a party there are better places to have

they have received and the first hearing on the inn.

"Any kind of license is a privilege and not a right," said Richard V. Scali, executive director of the Licensing Commission. "Any time a licensee is causing a nuisance that is general cause to bring them in for a hearing."

Scali said the commission could go so far as to suspend the inn's lodging license, either temporarily or permanently. He cautioned, however, that such a scenario is unlikely.

"Most likely the license will not be revoked," said Scali. "My feeling is that there will be very stringent conditions [placed on the license.]"

The Lincoln's Inn members say the situation is under control. Since the current wave of complaints began earlier this fall, they say, the club has instituted a "management plan." Club members say they are installing storm windows, changing the entryway to the club and instructing the incoming executive board about neighborhood concerns.

"I'm hoping the commission will allow the club to put the plan into effect," said David A. Wylie, the attorney for the inn and a former city councillor. While Wylie acknowledges that some of the neighborhood

complaints were legitimate, he says the new management plan will address them.

"We have made a huge amount of changes," said Kenneth B. Mehlman, chair of the Lincoln's Inn and a third-year law student. "People here want to work with the neighbors. I have no animosity [towards them.]"

But both Scali and the club's neighbors say they are skeptical about the new plan's effectiveness, arguing that club representatives told them in a meeting at Harvard's office of community relations that the plan was already in effect. To date, Scali said, nothing has changed.

"The very next weekend all hell broke loose," Scali said.

Rodwin said that he hopes the licensing commission takes action to solve the problem but would like to see the University take a stand on the controversy. Sarah Wald, dean of students at the Law School, could not be reached for comment on the inn's problems yesterday.

"We don't think Harvard has done its share. Harvard has said it's a private club and they can't do anything," Rodwin said. "If the Lincoln's Inn was next to the dean of the Law School, this problem would have been solved years ago."

## Law School parties, say Follen St. residents, have got to go somewhere else.

dential roadway in any suburban neighborhood in the U.S. But area residents say that they have had one constant reminder this year that Follen St. is not just anywhere, that it is right next-door to the nation's oldest institution of higher education.

For several months now, the Lincoln's Inn, a social club for some 135 law students, has been disturbing the otherwise peaceful street, neighbors say. They say that monthly parties thrown by the group has created excessive noise, public drunkenness, and that garbage around the inn has become a neighborhood

it."

Rodwin's apartment does not face the club—it looks instead onto the Cambridge Common. But he says that on some nights, he can hear noise from the club's parties and people exiting onto the street afterward as late as 3 a.m.

The Licensing Commission held a hearing on the club on November 13, and is expected to announce its decision on what action to take today. Although the neighbors have produced letters of complaint going back several decades, the commission says that it is the first full complaint

4. Neighbor's Complaints(A)

STATEMENTS SUBMITTED BY THE NEIGHBORHOOD  
AT THE CAMBRIDGE LICENCING COMMISSION'S HEARING  
ON WHETHER TO  
REVOKE, SUSPEND OR LIMIT THE LICENCE  
OF THE LINCOLN'S INN

November 13, 1990

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(2 pages)

A) STATEMENTS OF AFFECTED NEIGHBORS

1. Summary Quotations from statements organized by theme (6 pp)

i) The Problem;

Noise;

Late Night Parties; Intoxicated Individuals Endangering  
the Public and Disturbing the Peace;

large Crowds;

Rude Behavior, Intimidation and Harassment;

Poor Upkeep and Unsanitary Conditions.

ii) The Failure of Efforts to Amicably Resolve the Problem

2. Thirty Signed Statements of neighbors (42 pages)

B) DOCUMENTS INDICATING THE HISTORY OF THE NUISANCE AND THE  
FAILURE OF REPEATED EFFORTS TO ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM SINCE  
FROM 1957 TO 1990.

1. Summary Quotations From Key Documents (3pp)

p. 2 Contents

2. Key Documents

April 29, 1947 Zoning Variance, Case No. 1759, 44  
Follen Street. (2pp)

April 22, 1947 Minutes, Public Hearing of the Board of  
Appeal. (2pp)

June 6, 1957 letter from Leslie Read, Vice President,  
NILES, Inc.

Oct. 4, 1957 letter from Leslie Read, V-President,  
NILES, Inc.

Dec. 4, 1957 letter from Leslie Read, V-President,  
NILES, Inc.

1975 letter of Bruce Daniels on behalf of 11 Waterhouse  
Street, Inc. opposing renewal of permit (2pp)

Irene Polednak Dvgas, September, 1982

1983 letter from Marv Upton, Dean of Students, Harvard  
Law School.

April 12, 1988 memo from David Browne to Alice Wolf

April 12, 1988 letter from David Browne to Ken  
Vermeulin, Lincoln's Inn (3pp)

April 26, 1988 memorandum from Marlene Knights, Chief  
Investigator, Cambridge Licencing Commission (2pp)

September, 1989 letter to Lincoln's Inn from Anonymous  
resident of 50 Follen Street

C) PETITION REQUESTING THAT THE LICENCING COMMISSION REVOKE THE  
LINCOLN'S INN LICENCE SIGNED BY FIFTY-SEVEN PEOPLE (4 pp)

November 13, 1990

HIGHLIGHTS

EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENTS MADE BY NEIGHBORS OF LINCOLN'S INN

(full statements attached)

I THE PROBLEM

General

"I find the current situation of Lincoln's Inn hard to believe. My uncle Zecharia Chafee Jr. was a member of Lincoln's Inn around 1910. His signature is on a poster over the fireplace.... My cousin Senator John H Chafee of Rhode Island, was also a member of the Lincoln's Inn...**Yet in the fifteen years I have lived on Follen Street the members of Lincoln's Inn have done nothing but disrupt the neighborhood** with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties, and their trash which spills over the entire neighborhood. This trash is not only unsightly, but has encouraged so many rats that they were coming up in my toilets... It is clear that the Inn's members care only for themselves... They are renting parking spaces and charging admissions to what is a defacto speak easy on a street which is part of the Old Cambridge Historic District."

"I find the current situation a very disheartening example of how a select few, for whatever reason, regard themselves above common courtesy, and how many of us, as a result, have felt and ~~continue to feel victimized in our homes.~~"

"I do not feel any one has the right to impose his or her lifestyle on anyone else, and the people at 44 Follen Street impose their lifestyle on the neighborhood."

"The nights I was denied sleep, denied the ability to concentrate on graduate studies, etc. **finally culminated in a decision to move.**"

Noise

~~"In order to cope with the ongoing stress of being kept up to sometimes as late as 3:30 AM, my husband and I often rented videos so that we could have something to do in those hours we would be kept awake. We acquired earplugs suited for use on a pistol range, as well as made plans to sleep at my sister's house, as the only way to escape the noise."~~

"Your music was so loud I could not hear the radio in my apartment."

"Sometimes if I needed my sleep, I would have to stay at a friend's house on Saturday night."

"I was trying to finish my dissertation, and losing one or two nights' sleep several weeks a month didn't help."

"It is just not possible to sleep through this kind of noise... I am constantly awakened late at night, and **usually several times**. Often when the noise finally stops, there are only a few hours left before I have to get up."

"Sometimes the music has been so loud that I can't hear a television in the room in which I am sitting."

"There is shouting and singing and generally boisterous behavior that is not appropriate to this residential neighborhood in the early morning hours."

#### Late Night Parties

"The music stops at 2:00 am but other noise (shouting and conversation continues to 3:00 a.m.)"

"Partygoers created a general ruckus in the street throughout the night, as late as 4:00 a.m."

"When returning from closing (my) Jazz Club on Saturdays, people with drinks in their hands would be strolling up Follen Street talking loudly. This was usually around 2:00 a.m."

"The Inn's social gatherings and parties ... habitually last into the early morning hours, e.g. 2:00 to 4:00 a.m."

#### Intoxicated Individuals Endangering the Public and Disturbing the Peace

"Party goers pay a fee at the door in order to enter the premises and then appear to be able to drink as much as they like."

"Party goers carry on in the street in a drunken state for hours."

"People leaving the Inn are often quite intoxicated, which is evident by the screaming and yelling that goes on for hours in the street."

"These people have posed a threat to the peace and safety of my wife and children."

"Obviously drunk partygoers climbed over a locked gate facing Follen Street, to trespass on a short-cut to Massachusetts Avenue."

"Many of these obviously drunk people get into automobiles and drive away, tires screeching."

"Cambridge city officials should take action to see that the Lincoln's Inn disruption stops immediately. They should do so to protect the citizens whom they serve. They should also do so to protect themselves and the city which is now exposed to the risk of civil liability under Sec. 1983 and tort law if Lincoln's Inn members or guests injure or kill people while driving drunk. I believe that a court of law may well find the city had notice of unreasonable dangerous conduct and that their failure to stop it will be considered negligence if the actions of drunk Lincoln's Inn members or guests lead to injury."

"The most serious disruptions from these parties were the loud noise of drunk young people leaving the parties, yelling, singing, screaming, starting fights on Follen Street."

#### Large Crowds

"Often in excess of one to two hundred people may attend, [Lincoln's Inn's parties] most of whom pay admission..."

"For several years, I have been disturbed when Lincoln's Inn has large parties."

#### Rude Behavior, Intimidation and Harassment

"The group was so large and noisy, and I was living alone at the street level with large windows right by my bed, that I did not dare to tell them to be quiet. The group was so extremely noisy that I was afraid that if they saw me alone, they would throw rocks through the window."

"The students were so rude when I came home alone that I did not dare to confront them."

"On another night, I was awakened by the sound of student yelling 'Fuck you 50 Follen Street' as they left a party at the Inn."

"On one occasion... one of the resident's of 50 Follen Street (a woman) knocked on the door of the Inn, asking the young man who answered... to please turn down their music and be more quiet. After she left, I heard the young male ... call her a "bitch" and obscenely gesture with his finger. The music was not turned down."

"People shouted "Fuck 50 Follen " in chorus outside my window in December, at about 1, a.m."

"On one occasion a student was seen urinating."

" Why should my two daughters, ages 10 and 6, hear foul language and see men and women acting out of control?"

"As a Harvard alumna, I have often been ashamed in my building and neighborhood to admit to my affiliation. These rude, ignorant adolescents... must understand that their privileged position is not a cover for their bizarre behavior."

#### Poor Upkeep and Unsanitary Conditions

"Lincoln's Inn has been a constant source of embarrassment and concern with it's filth and its noise."

"The presence of the monitor has not discouraged the partygoers from throwing glass liquor bottles drinking glasses and debris on the area sidewalks, streets and private property"

November 13, 1990

HIGHLIGHTS

EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENTS MADE BY NEIGHBORS OF LINCOLN'S INN

(full statements attached)

II THE FAILURE OF EFFORTS TO AMICABLY RESOLVE THE PROBLEM PAST

"Every year I have been repeatedly disturbed by parties given by Lincoln's Inn..."

"Our troubles with Lincoln's Inn began in 1987 when we move into our new house on Follen Street."

"I talked to the superintendent and my neighbors who had experienced the same problem. I wrote letters, called the police, signed letters, talked to David S. Brown." (Resident from 1987-1989)

"The students there make life miserable for people who live on Follen Street, and after years of requests and meetings are still unwilling to accommodate the neighbors' very reasonable requests about late night noise, trespassing, crowds, and garbage." (Former resident)

The V.P of the Lincoln's Inn told a complaining neighbor, "If one chooses to live across from the Harvard Law School, one has to put up with the noise from law students." (Resident from 1984 to August 1990)

"At least three or four times a year, I have been forced to call the Cambridge police (usually after midnight) to get some peace. But the revelers do not always respond to the police."

"On one occasion I called the police twice because the racket started again only a short interval after the police had come."

"When the police do come, the music and noise immediately decreases only to return back to the usual level once the police have left."

"When the police have responded, the partygoers have quieted down only to start up again once the police have left."

"At various times, neighbors have met with representatives of Lincoln's Inn who invariable promise to control the parties. Unfortunately, it never lasts..."

"At various times, members of Lincoln's Inn have made promises regarding noise, trash, etc. Their actions always belied their words."

"Promises they [Lincoln's Inn] make are meaningless."

"Mr. Melhman repeatedly assured us that there would not be more disturbances and presented 6 pages of new procedures that he was going to institute... Yet, two days later, Columbus Day weekend began a series of one of the worst disturbances that I've experienced since living at 50 Follen street."

"3:30 a.m. I called Lincoln's Inn and requested to speak to Ken Melhman. I was told that none of the Officers of Lincoln's Inn were present and that there were just a bunch of people there visiting."

"In the spring of 1990 I phoned the Dean's office of the Law School... The woman with whom I spoke... remarked that she wished she could help, that given the number of complaints from residents that her office received regarding the Inn, a solution to the problem would win her a promotion."

"In the spring of 1990... the students told me that there was no way they could control the behavior of people once they left the Inn."

November 13, 1990

**STATEMENTS MADE BY NEIGHBORS OF LINCOLN'S INN**

Sheila Cook

David Browne

Dzvinia Orlovskv 3p

Kimberly Adams 2p

Jay Hoffman

Bob Schoenberg 2p

Marjorie Westerman

Marcia Lamel

Birgitta Ralston 2p

Gail Gardner 2p

Andrew Hyams

Marvin Lazarowitz

Elaine Williams

Stephen Bell

Bethel Smith

James Ralston 5p

Jeanne Chall

Marc Rodwin 2p

Ted Zalewski and Mary  
Cunningham

Noman Van Dale

N. J. Anderson 2p

Douglas Yaffe

Tamara Orlovskv

Sheila Cook 2p  
(reponse to Lincoln's Inn  
plan)

Ruth and James Sidd

Dzivina Orlovskv Hoffman

Jean Stryker

Margaret Gibson

Jill Tonelli

Mr and Ms. Read  
(2p w/ 5 photographs)

34 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 5, 1990

Mr Marc Rodwin  
44 Follen St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Mr. Rodwin:

I find the current situation of Lincoln's Inn hard to believe. My uncle, Zechariah Chafee Jr., was a member of Lincoln's Inn around 1910. His signature is on a poster over the fireplace. He spent his life fighting for freedom of the press, was a professor at the Harvard Law School for over forty years, and a Harvard University Professor. My cousin, Senator John H. Chafee of Rhode Island, was also a member of Lincoln's Inn. Both of these lawyers spent their lives working for the public welfare.

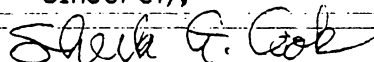
Yet in the fifteen years I have lived on Follen Street the members of Lincoln's Inn have done done nothing but diisrupt the neighborhood with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties and their trash which spills over the entire neighborhood. This trash is not only unsightly, but has encouraged so many rats that they were coming up in my toilets. I was forced to spend a small fortunate last year to install a back flow valve to prevent this irvasion. The "Cambridge Rat Control Consultant" told me that I was not the only victim on the street.

I have gone out of my way suggesting ways to Lincoln's Inn to minimize all these nuisances. But it is clear that the Inn's members care only for themselves. These are the individuals who will be responsible for carrying out our country's laws. It is a frightening thought.

Now not-satisfied with their-prospective \$70,000. annual income, they are renting parking spaces and charging admissions to what is a defacto speak easy on a street which is part of the Old Cambridge Historic District!

Certainly Lincoln's Inn is going beyond it's original charter and has no right to keep it's liquor license. I request that it be rescinded forthwith.

Sincerely,



Sheila G. Cook

DAVID S. BROWNE

120-D Auburn St.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

November 4, 1990

To The Cambridge Licensing Board:

I am writing this letter to urge you to revoke the Boarding House License of the Lincoln's Inn on Follen Street at your November 13, 1990 hearing.

I was a resident of 50 Follen Street from 1982 to 1989. During that time, I was disturbed by parties at the Inn innumerable times, and made numerous complaints to the board of the Inn, the Harvard University Police, the Cambridge Police and the staff of the Licensing Board -- all to no avail. I am glad to hear that there is now an opportunity for some serious action to stop this absurd disruption.

During my seven years on Follen St., the Inn would throw loud, drunken parties approximately every two or three weeks during the school year. These parties generally would begin approximately 10:00 PM and run until 2:30 or 3:30 AM.

The most serious disruption from these parties was the loud noise of drunk young people leaving the parties, yelling, singing, screaming, starting fights on Follen St. between 11:00 PM and 3:30 AM. I tried numerous times to deal with these noise-makers, including speaking to them directly, to Harvard U. Police Officers at the parties, and speaking to Inn board members. The noise only got worse.

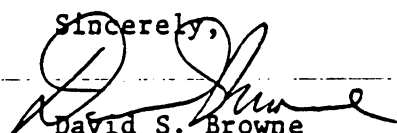
Finally, I led an effort to convince the Inn to stop its parties. I began with the Harvard Law School Dean's office; they claimed that they could do nothing, as the Inn was independent of Harvard. Thereafter a group of us from 50 Follen met with the board of the Inn and negotiated some promised changes in their parties. These promises were broken that very month, as the parties continued to run late and loud. Outside of one of their parties the chairman of the Inn board -- drunk at the time -- told me that the Inn had no intention of trying to keep its promises to me.

My other major concern is about the nature and level of drinking at these parties. From what I have seen, young people come out of that house excessively drunk. If none of them have been hurt in drunk driving accidents or the like, it is a miracle, and not likely to continue forever.

In summary, Lincoln's Inn has been disrupting the peace of Follen St. for years. While the board of the Inn makes appeasing and pleasant-sounding promises, they have broken their promises to me and (I'm told) to other neighbors. The house is unruly, uncooperative and it's members irresponsible (at best). By their behavior they have forfeited any rights to continued existence in a residential neighborhood.

Their license should be revoked.

Sincerely,



David S. Browne

MEMORANDUM

To: Richard Scali  
Executive Director  
Licensing Commission  
City of Cambridge

From: Dzvinia Orlosky *Dzvinia Orlosky*  
66<sup>4</sup> Forest Street  
Marshfield, MA 02050

Date: November 4, 1990

Re: Lincoln's Inn Society

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Currently a resident of Marshfield, I lived at 50 Follen Street, apartment 515 for three years (May 1987 through May 1990.) During those three years I was frequently disturbed (primarily on weekends) by noise coming from Lincoln's Inn as well as by noise generated by people coming to and leaving the Inn. In addition to weekends, during the summer, I was disturbed by noise coming from the Inn on week nights.

My mother currently occupies and owns apartment 515. Because of work commitments that leave me too tired to make the hour (plus) commute home on the South East Expressway, I have to occasionally stay overnight at the apartment. Both my mother and I are very concerned about being kept up at night (she is seventy years old, and I am a full-time graduate student in addition to working full time); and the decision to stay in Cambridge is often a difficult and stressful one.

What annoys me most about the ongoing battle to restore Follen Street to the quiet residential street (that I believe originally attracted its residents to both rent and purchase real estate there) is that members of Lincoln's Inn Society seem to be exempt from community and civil responsibilities that non-members are required to abide by. Cambridge police claim the Inn is not under their jurisdiction, they are the responsibility of Harvard police; Harvard police, on the other hand, do little, if anything, to control the noise and drinking that occurs at every party. In fact, I have watched from my window on several occasions and seen Harvard Police officers socialize with the crowd, and make minimum effort to control the loudness of party-goers as they leave the Inn.

November 4, 1990

page two

I would like to list several specific instances which indicate to me that legal enforcement is necessary in maintaining peace:

1. On one occasion in the summer of 1989 after 1:30 AM one of the residents of 50 Follen Street (a woman) knocked on the door of the Inn, asking the young man who answered the door to please turn down their music and be more quiet. After she left, I heard the young male with whom she spoke call her a "bitch" and obscenely gesture with her finger. The music was not turned down.
2. In the spring of 1990 I called from my window to a group of four students to please be quiet (I was particularly concerned because I heard glass being broken on the driveway.) A young male yelled back to me "We don't have to be quiet, we're Harvard business students." They proceeded to stand at the end of the driveway between the Inn and 50 Follen and talk loudly, as well as call out, whistle, etc., to others walking down the street.
3. On another night, I was awoken by the sound of students yelling "Fuck you 50 Follen Street" as they left a party at the Inn.
4. On one occasion when I was awoken by fire trucks responding to an alarm set off by someone in the Inn during one of their parties.
5. In the spring of 1990 I knocked on the door of the Inn and asked to speak with two students who were sitting in the lobby. The students told me that there was no way they could control the behavior of people once they left the Inn. Many of the students and young participants who leave the Inn are intoxicated.
6. ~~In order to cope with the ongoing stress of being kept up to sometimes as late as 3:30 AM, my husband and I often rented videos so that we could have something to do in those hours we would be kept awake. We acquired earplugs suited for use on a pistol range, as well as made plans to sleep at my sister's house as the only way to escape the noise.~~
7. In the winter of 1990 I went outside in the rain (after 1:00 AM) to talk to police officers who were responding to complaints called in by Follen Street residents. I pointed to the window of the Inn from where loud music from a stereo was blarring. One officer went inside the Inn and requested that the music be turned town. Shortly after he left the Inn, the loud music was resumed.
8. In the spring of 1990 I phoned the Dean's office of the Law School asking if they could help in resolving the growing tensions between Inn Society members and Follen Street residents. I was informed that Harvard was powerless with regard to the Inn, that it was owned by a trust set up by former Harvard alumni. The woman with whom I spoke (I do not recall her name) remarked that she wished she could help, that given the number of complaints from residents that her office received regarding the Inn, a solution to the problem would win her a promotion.

November 4, 1990

page three

Also, I'd like to add that I was actively involved with the committee formed by David S. Browne that met with the Lincoln's Inn to discuss mutually acceptable "good neighbor policies." Although some effort on the part of the Inn's occupants was made regarding the quiet exiting of party attendees as well as the turning down of music beyond a specified hour, these policies were dropped as soon as a new term of students moved into the Inn.

There have been more incidences in which the Inn has been both directly and indirectly responsible for disturbing the peace of Follen Street than I've listed here. The nights I was denied sleep, denied the ability to concentrate on graduate studies, etc., finally culminated in a decision to move.

I find the current situation a very disheartening example of how a select few, for whatever reason, regard themselves above common courtesy, and how many of us, as a result, have felt and continue to feel victimized in our homes.

3622 Baring St., Apt. 3R  
Philadelphia, MA 19104  
5 Nov. 1990

The Cambridge Licensing Commission  
Cambridge, MA

Re: License for Lincoln's Inn Society, a society of Harvard Law  
School students and alumni/ae, Follen St., Cambridge

Dear Commissioners:

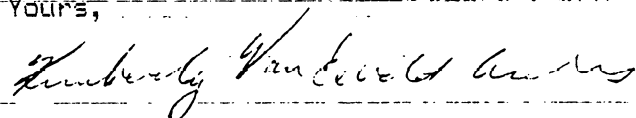
I lived at 50 Follen St. in a basement front apartment from  
September, 1984, to August, 1990. During that time I was  
constantly bothered on weekends by the noise and obnoxious  
behavior of partygoers at the Lincoln's Inn Society next door.  
Sometimes, if I needed my sleep, I would have to stay at a  
friend's house on Saturday night.

Residents of 50 Follen St. who have complained about the noise at  
Lincoln's Inn have been accused by the law students there of  
being anti-Harvard and anti-student. Let me point out that I  
recently received my doctorate from the Harvard Graduate School  
of Arts and Sciences, and it's because I was a student that the  
Lincoln's Inn ruckus was such a problem. I was trying to finish  
my dissertation, and losing one or two nights' sleep several  
weeks a month didn't help.

I enclose two letters I wrote about the party noise. Both are  
from 1989; one is to the building manager of 50 Follen St., and  
the other to Lincoln's Inn officers. I also enclose a report on  
the June, 1990, meeting of Lincoln's Inn representatives, city  
officials, and Follen St. residents about the problems of  
Lincoln's Inn. Copies of the report were given to those who  
attended the meeting.

Please do deny a license renewal to Lincoln's Inn. The students  
there make life miserable for people who live on Follen St., and  
after years of requests and meetings are still unwilling to  
accommodate the neighbors' very reasonable requests about late-  
night noise, trespassing, crowds, and garbage. Why should  
Cambridge residents have to put up with that?

Yours,



Kimberly VanEsveld Adams

encs.

50 Follen, Apt. 9  
11 Feb. 1989-----2:45 a.m.

Dear Doug and Norman,

I just got off the phone to Ken Vermeulen. V. P. of the Harvard Social Club. He was superficially polite, but underneath it obnoxious (calling me by the wrong name, interrupting me, and saying that because the Harvard Social Club has taken so many measures to keep noise down, it's not fair for me to call about the "reasonable" street noise which wakes me early Sunday morning each time the Club has a party). Here are some of the things he told me tonight:

- 1) Party noise and voices in the street until 3 a.m. should be acceptable, because Norman's emptying the garbage at 6:30 in the morning and the saxophone player in the building wake up people at the Social Club early on weekdays.
- 2) If one chooses to live across the street from Harvard Law School, one has to put up with the noise from law students.
- 3) I told Ken Vermeulen about the people shouting "Fuck 50 Follen!" in chorus outside my window in December, at about 1 a.m., and he said that was excusable because it was a response to the duress we create, with all our complaints. He likened this response to my calling him at 2:30 a.m. because I was woken up--what if he had been asleep? I'd consider my response reasonable because of duress, wouldn't I?

Vermeulen's numbers at Lincoln's Inn are 354-0294 and 864-2601.

Yours,  
*Kimberly*  
Kimberly, Apt. 9

P.S. If you use this letter with Harvard, please don't give out my last name. I suspect I could get some harassment from Lincoln's Inn--calls at 2 a.m. to be buzzed in, for example.

November 5, 1990

Richard Scali  
Executive Director  
Licensing Commission  
City of Cambridge

Dear Richard;

I hope this correspondence finds you well. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your help in resolving the transfer of my liquor license.

It has come to my attention that there is a hearing on November 13, 1990 regarding complaints from residents on Follen street against the Lincoln's Inn Society. As I had lived at 50 Follen street since 1983 I would like to add my experiences to the already large number of complaints. For simplicities sake I hope a listing will suffice.

- 1) When returning from closing the Jazz Club, on Saturdays, people with drinks in their hands would be strolling up Follen Street talking loudly. This was usually around 2:00A.M.
- 2) Later when my schedule at the Jazz Club changed I found myself at home (unfortunately) on these Saturdays. I was kept awake by the dance music and conversation of the residents.
- 3) On one occasion I went to this police station to request an interview with the chief. The purpose was to have extra police around that evening because a particularly large party was planned. The extra attention, I felt would allow for greater documentation of these continuing disturbances.

I could go on for several pages, but it seems to me that a city so stringent in dealing with zoning and licensing requirements could deal with a fraternity house.

Due to prior work commitments I may not be able to attend the hearing. If you have any questions regarding my experiences while at 50 Follen Street call me at 617-843-3890.

Sincerely,



Jay Hoffman

November 5, 1990  
50 Follen St. #5  
Cambridge, MA 02138

License Commission  
City of Cambridge

Re: Lincoln's Inn (Hearing Statement)

To the License Commission:

I am a resident of 50 Follen St. and have been living there since the fall of 1988. Since that time on numerous occasions, I've heard noise consisting of shouting, screaming, hollering, cheering and loud music, coming from 44 Follen St., Lincoln's Inn. Many times I've been awoken by noise as late as 2, 3 even as late as 4am!

On October 3, I attended a meeting set up by Councilman Duehay to try and resolve the problems that residents of Lincoln's Inn were creating. This was the second meeting. Mr. Scali and Chief Paollilo were present along with representatives of the neighborhood, Harvard Police and representatives of Lincoln's Inn, including Ken Melhman.

Mr. Melhman repeatedly assured us that there would be no more disturbances and presented 6 pages of new procedures that he was going to institute. He also indicated that he would assume the responsibilities of the resident manager. Yet, two days later, Columbus Day weekend, began a series of one of the worst disturbances that I've experienced since living at 50 Follen St.

~~Specifically, on 10/4/90 - Shouting, laughter, groups of people bantering while exiting the building 11-11:30 pm.  
1:20 am. Loud Voices/shouting. Intermittent shouting until 2:00 am.~~

10/5/90 2:30 am. Yelling & shouting. (Note, my windows were closed and I was awoken). 4:00 am. Laughter and loud voices outside Lincoln's Inn less than 6 ft. from my building. (50 Follen St.)

10/6/90 2:15 am. Shouting & yelling  
2:35 am. Shouting and piano playing  
2:35 am. Police are called, piano playing, shouting and yelling continues.  
3:00 am. There is still noise, no police.  
3:06 am. Loud shouting and a banging sound like a wall is being smashed down.  
3:25 am. Several people leave yelling and piano playing begins again. (Police are called, again. They inform me they were there and it was "as quiet as a tomb").

3:30 am. Noise continues. I called Lincoln's Inn and requested to speak to Ken Melhman. I was told that none of the Officers of Lincoln's Inn were present and that there were just a bunch of people there visiting.

What existed at this point was a situation totally out of control. But that was not the end of the disturbances.

On 10/7/90 12:20 am. Shouting and laughter  
intermittent shouting and laughter till 12:30 am.  
1:00 am. loud outburst  
1:12 am. loud outburst, yelling & laughter. I  
called the Lincoln's Inn warning I'd call the  
police if the noise continued.

As if all this wasn't enough, there have been additional disturbances since this time, which include:

10/14/90 12:30 am. Screaming & cheering  
1:00 am. loud cheering, shouting  
between 1:30-2:00 am. repeated slamming of car  
doors and racing of engine.

10/20/90 9:35 pm. a car parks illegally at 50 Follen  
St. driveway. At 11:15 pm. 4 women screaming and shouting  
right outside my apartment, returning to illegally parked  
car. Note: "No Parking" signs are clearly posted.

11/1/90 12:45 am. screaming (males)

In summary, Lincoln's Inn has demonstrated a consistent pattern of disturbing the neighborhood and has repeatedly failed to follow through on their assurances of quelling these disturbances. I emphasize that these disturbances I have described occurred after the October 3rd meeting when they assured the neighborhood representatives, Harvard and City Officials, including Police Chief Paolillo, Mr. Scali and Councilman Duehay that there would be no more disturbances. The Lincoln's Inn does not belong in a residential neighborhood. I therefore request the License Commission to put an end to these endless disturbances and sleepless nights.

Sincerely,

  
Bob Schoenberg

50 Follen Street, Apt. 508  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
November 10, 1990

Mr. Richard Scali  
Executive Officer  
Cambridge Lincense Commission

Dear Mr. Scali and Members of the Commission:

I am writing to report the disturbances caused by the members of the Lincoln's Inn Society and their guests and to ask you to take action to prevent their continuation in the future.

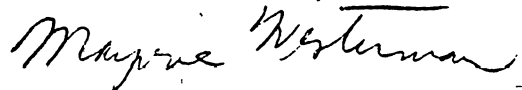
I have lived at 50 Follen Street since July 1990, first in Apartment 515, then in Apartment 508. Every year I have been repeatedly disturbed by parties given by Lincoln's Inn and by the behavior of those attending.

These parties feature loud, throbbing music as well as the noise of large, milling crowds and drunken outbursts by individuals and small groups. Sometimes the music has been so loud that I can't hear a television in the room in which I'm sitting. Nor can I escape the loud noise in any room of my apartment, even with the door shut. I've also been awakened more than once by drunken shouting and singing, as late as three o'clock in the morning.

At least three or four times a year, I have been forced to call the Cambridge police (usually after midnight) to get some peace. But the revelers do not always respond to the police. On one occasion I called the police twice because the racket started again only a short interval after the police had come.

Please take action to stop these disturbances in the future. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Marjorie Westerman

Cambridge Licensing Commission

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been living at 50 Follen Street for the past few years. Throughout that time, Lincoln's Inn has held a number of parties, usually on Saturday evenings, that have gone on until 2:00 to 3:00 a.m., sometimes even later. The music is loud at all times. In addition, party goers carry on in the street in a drunken state for hours. There is shouting and singing and generally boisterous behavior that is not appropriate to this residential neighborhood in the early morning hours. During the summer months, most of the parties end up taking place outside in the street in front of Lincoln's Inn and in the alley between the Inn and 50 Follen Street.

Party goers pay a fee at the door in order to enter the premises and then appear to be able to drink as much as they like. This is a commercial enterprise being illegally conducted. Such activity should not be allowed.

At various times, members of Lincoln's Inn have made promises regarding noise, trash, etc. Their actions always belie their words. The parties have never stopped. Indeed, during the parties the phone is not answered, making it impossible to complain to them during the actual event. I have called the Cambridge police on a number of occasions. They have not always responded; when they have, things have quieted down for a short while and when it seems clear that the police will not be back, the noise has started up again. People leaving Lincoln's Inn are often quite intoxicated, which is evident by the screaming and yelling that goes on for hours in the street. Unbelievably too, many of these obviously drunk people get into automobiles and drive away, tires screeching.

It is time to stop Lincoln's Inn. Promises they make are meaningless. Each year, there is another group that takes over. There is no continuity in leadership or membership such that responsibility can be meaningfully exercised. This is not the type of organization that should have a lodging license. That is evident by the actions of the Lincoln's Inn over the past few years.

Very truly yours,

  
Marcia Lamel

50 Follen Street  
Cambridge

1 Newport Road  
Cambridge, Ma. 02140  
November 6, 1990

Mark Rodman  
50 Follen Street  
Cambridge, Ma. 02138

Dear Mr. Rodman,

Thank you for your two phonecalls concerning 50 Follen Street. While living at 50 Follen St., in Apt. 8, (from Nov. 1987-March 1989) I was very shocked one night when I woke up after 2 a.m. when a large group of people of 10 or so were shouting and singing right outside my basement apartment window. The group was so large and noisy, and I was living alone at street level with large windows right by my bed, that I did not dare to tell them to be quiet. The group was so extremely noisy that I was afraid that if they saw me alone, that they would throw rocks through the window. The noise continued in the same place for 1 1/2 hours. I called the police.

The first time this happened I thought it was some sort of "once-a-year student carnival celebration." The day after I and the superintendent picked up broken glass, bottles and paper cups right in front of my window. I soon found out that these "carnivals" were not just once a year, but once a week or happened very often on week-ends. I always had to clean up their mess the day after in front of my window.

I talked to the superintendent and my neighbors (apt. 7 and 9), who had experienced the same problems. I wrote letters, called the police, signed letters, talked to David S. Brown. I was very pleased at the serious efforts that Mr. Brown made in writing letters to the Lincoln's Inn Society with copies to the Cambridge Police Department, Alice Wolf The Dean of Students, at the Harvard Law School etc.

In addition to the extreme noise from Lincoln's Inn, I noticed their carelessness with garbage. In addition to the broken glass and empty bottles in front of my window, there was garbage on the street after the parties, broken glass on the sidewalk and once when I came home very late, two broken champagne glasses at the stairs leading to the 50 Follen Street entrance. The students were so rude when I came home late alone, that I did not dare to confront them. Twice

rats were found in apartment 8, once ~~when~~ I lived there and once *Since* my son moved there. I don't know if it has anything to do with the careless way students at Lincoln's Inn leave garbage in the street after parties.

Otherwise I was very happy living at 50 Follen Street because of its family-run management, and I have no complaints directed in any way towards 50 Follen, where my son now lives in apt. 8. ~~He~~ has the same problems with Lincoln's Inn.

In fact, I wanted to ~~stay~~ at 50 Follen, because I liked the ambiance. I wanted to buy a condominium at 50 Follen, but when I was shown apartments that were facing the Lincoln's Inn, I ~~decided~~ *decided* against it, because I was sure that I would have ~~some~~ of the same problems.

Please let me know again which nr. on Mass Ave the meeting is on November 13 at *6*.P.M.

Yours truly,  
*Birgitta Ralston*  
Birgitta Ralston

cc: David S. Brown  
James E. Ralston  
management at 50 Follen Street

50 Follen Street, #304  
Cambridge, MA, 02138  
5 November 1990

To whom it may concern / Mr. Dewhary,  
On more late nights and very  
early mornings (3 A.M.) than I'd  
care to count, the rowdy crew at  
Lincoln's Inn has interrupted my  
sleep. I have never in my 53  
years known of a more inconsiderate  
lot.

I have lived in my present  
apartment for over four years,  
and have been amazed that  
during that time, until very  
recently, no one would take re-  
sponsibility for this public  
nuisance. David Brown (#104) tried

for two years or more to achieve some justice for the neighborhood. All his efforts were futile, and in desperation he moved out of the building. I am so gratified that at least the Cambridge Police are acknowledging their role as protectors of our sanity.

As a Harvard alumna, I have often been ashamed in my building and neighborhood to admit to my affiliation. These rude, ignorant adolescents (for, indeed, they are hardly to be considered adults!) must understand that their privileged position is not a cover for their bizarre behavior.

Yours truly,  
Gail Gardner

HGSE '81

1572 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 4, 1990

Richard Scali, Executive Director  
Cambridge License Commission  
Cambridge City Hall - Lombardi Building  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Lincoln's Inn, 44 Follen Street

Dear Mr. Scali:

Although I have a Massachusetts Avenue address, my apartment overlooks Follen Street (where it jags left, near 29 Follen Street). My apartment is a substantial distance from Lincoln's Inn.

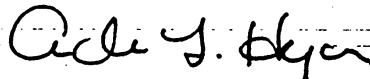
For several years, I have been disturbed when Lincoln's Inn has large parties.

Lincoln's Inn held such a party on Saturday evening, September 15, 1990. Partygoers created a general ruckus in the street throughout the night, as late as 4:00 a.m. Partygoers talked loudly in the street for most of the evening. At 2:00 a.m., obviously drunk partygoers climbed over a locked gate facing Follen Street, to trespass on a short-cut to Massachusetts Avenue. At 4:00 a.m., three or four men sat in a convertible outside of 29 Follen Street, loudly anticipating the arrival of another car which finally arrived to lead the convertible to a different party-venue. The convertible is usually parked at Lincoln's Inn.

I am concerned that Lincoln's Inn, even if it has a security guard at its own building, is unable to control noise, trespassing and disturbing neighbors who are several houses away.

Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Andrew L. Hyams

50 Follen Street, #415  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
November 13, 1990

Cambridge Licensing Commission

To Whom It May Concern:

I have lived at 50 Follen Street for the past six years. During that period, Lincoln's Inn has held numerous parties, usually on weekends, which have been noisy, boisterous and very disturbing to the peace of a quiet residential neighborhood.

It appears that often in excess of one to two hundred people may attend, most of whom pay admission (obviously illegal) to share in the festivities. People often gather in the streets, particularly after leaving the parties. Many are in various states of intoxication and have been loud and disruptive until as late as 4:00 a.m.

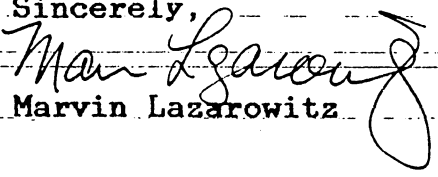
I have called the Cambridge police on a number of occasions to complain. Since this is a relatively low priority call, the response has been quite slow and in some cases there has been no response at all. On those occasions when the police have responded, the partygoers have quieted down only to start up again once the police left.

At times, neighbors have met with representatives of Lincoln's Inn who invariably promise to control the parties. Unfortunately, it never lasts, particularly since each year there is a turnover in people who manage Lincoln's Inn as well as those who reside there.

There also have been problems in the summer when rooms are rented to people temporarily attending special summer programs. There are problems with parties, trash, and general maintenance of the house. Invariably, there is no one from the Lincoln's Inn society who is in residence during the summer period and resolution of problems becomes impossible.

Promises by Lincoln's Inn representatives have been meaningless in the past and, I believe, will be meaningless for the future. Unfortunately, the only action which would appear to be left is revocation of their lodging license and enforcement of the ban on illegal paid admission, or commercial, parties.

Sincerely,

  
Marvin Lazarowitz

Date: November 3, 1990

To: The Cambridge Licensing Board  
From: Bill Belanger and Eleanor Williams

Our troubles with Lincoln's Inn began in 1987, when we moved into our new house on Follen St. I had lived for 12 years in Porter Square on Orchard St.; my new husband and I combined investments so we could afford to live near Harvard Square-- at \$725,000!

But one house across the street was a mess--unpainted, black Plastic garbage bags scruffily laid over the dirt front "yard", piles and piles of full garbage bags heaped at the side, broken glass, rubbish, newspapers, dog droppings, a rusted barbeque tettering on crooked ground at the other side. I thought I could make a difference, and phoned Harvard Law School to inform them of the situation. The run-around was all I got-- absolutely no one, not the Deans nor the secretaries, not students, not police, not anyone was related to the Inn. It was a free-floating object responsible to no one.

The derelict condition of the building has remained constant, sometimes worse in the summer or after a (huge) party, but never better. Quite recently it has been painted and tidied up (for only the second time in all these years).

One August evening in 1988 I found a 9" rat with a 9" tail running round the toilet seat in my first floor lavatory. Bill and our neighbor Steve Bell killed the rat. I phoned the Health Department Inspector (498-9013) the next morning. When "the inspector in charge of rats" arrived he told me that this was not a sewer rat but a common land rat, attracted to the water of the toilet bowl; that he had come most likely from the open dumpster across the street. Soon after the dumpsters (now there are two) received covers, but the metal is rusted and bent and certainly the dumpster is not sealed against entry or infestation.

We were horrified

In September of 1989, at 2 am my husband and I listened to the conversation, and peered anxiously out the window as three people loudly yelled and cajoled "Steve, don't drive that car, you are too drunk, we'll take care of you. Don't drive." etc. After some scuffling and more conversation under our window Steve drove screeched down Follen St.

Lincoln's Inn has been a constant source of embarrassment and concern with its filth and its noise. I think its presence in our neighborhood is extremely inappropriate.

*Eleanor Williams*  
33 Follen St.  
Cambridge 02138  
617-7370.

Stephen A. Bell  
31 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 2, 1990

Members  
Cambridge Licensing Commission

Dear Sirs,

My name is Stephen Bell, I live at 31 Follen Street diagonally across from Lincolns Inn.

In the nearly three years that my wife and I have lived here we have frequently been disturbed by the parties at Lincolns Inn. Many times we have been wakened at one, two or later in the morning by loud music and people coming and going. Also, people jumping over the six foot fence between our property and the Bay State Building. I myself have picked up rubbish from the parties in the street and in front of the house dozens of times. Plastic cups, beer bottles, etc.

I have called the police on two occasions. Illegal parking by dozens of cars is also a hazard.

On another occasion last year, I stopped my car in front of the Inn and asked the fellow in charge if that nights party would be quieter and his response was to call me a four letter word name. I understand that this situation has existed for years before we moved in.

  
Stephen A. Bell

31 Follen Street

November 10, 90

To Whom it may concern

I am a tenant at 50 Fallen Street.  
My apartment overlooks The Cambridge  
Common.

During the Labor Day week-end  
I was waken (3 am) by a loud  
boisterous group leaving a party at  
the Lincoln Inn. They proceeded  
to gather under my window & con-  
tinue their socializing. They were  
extremely loud. This noise continued  
for hours. Finally a policeman came  
and told them to leave the area.  
This seem to happen almost each time  
the inn has a party.

I do hope these young people would  
become more considerate and neighborly  
of others in the neighborhood.

Sincerely,  
Ethel J. Smith  
50 Fallen St.  
Cambridge, Mass.

James Ralston  
50 Follen St. #8  
Cambridge,  
Mass. 02138  
Nov. 11, 1990

Mark Rodman  
50 Follen St. #206  
Cambridge,  
Mass. 02138

Dear Mark :

I have <sup>lived</sup> at 50 Follen St.  
for just over a year  
and a half and have  
been disturbed over a do-  
zen times by parties  
coming from the Lincoln's  
Inn Society. On Columbus  
Day Weekend, I was  
kept up late by loud  
parties two nights in  
a row. I did not get  
to sleep until around

2:30 or 3 in the morning.

My mother, who lived in my apartment from November 1987 to March 1989, had similar problems; she complained about party goers from the Lincoln's Inn making a lot of noise outside her window. The former tenant of apartment number 8, which is next to my apartment, made similar complaints. This former neighbor of mine and my mother's, who lived in this building before my mother did, complained that the Lincoln's Inn

Society was a Harvard Law School Fraternity and that the Deans at Harvard Law were very uncooperative in trying to reduce the noise at the parties. This former tenant of Apartment number 8, ~~was~~ also complained about the Harvard University Police not being very effective in trying to break up parties. These factors led to my feeling intimidated by both the residents of the Lincoln's Inn and the Harvard Law School Administration. The Lin-

Lincoln's Inn Society has been given many chances to quiet down their parties and have them end earlier, but they have not been cooperative. The behavior of the Lincoln's Inn Society on Columbus Day Weekend is a prime example of this. Though I was kept up late only two nights in ~~a~~ a row, I have neighbors who were kept up late three - nights in a row. The behavior and un-cooperativeness of the residents of Lincoln's Inn is evidence enough

to convince me that  
it is time to shut down  
this Fraternity of Har-  
vard Law School ~~etc.~~

Sincerely,  
James E. Ralston  
James E. Ralston

November 11, 1990

To: Cambridge License Commission

From: Teanne Chalk

Re: Lincoln's Inn Lodging House

I am a tenant in 1558 Mass Ave. My window's face the Lincoln Inn Lodging House and I should like to register my complaints of loud noise till the early morning on several nights during early October, and I believe even earlier in the fall during orientation week and the beginning of the fall semester. There were large crowds of people outside the house and on the street, making it difficult to sleep or carry on one's affairs.

MARC A. RODWIN  
Attorney-at-Law  
50 Follen Street No. 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 491-0696

November 13, 1990

Richard V. Scali  
Cambridge Licencing Commission  
831 Mass Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Scali:

I have lived at 50 Follen street since **December 1983**. Throughout the seven years the Lincoln's Inn has waken me up in the middle of the night when ever they have parties, which is at least once a month.

My apartment faces out toward the Cambridge common at the corner of 50 Follen street. Even though I am father away from Lincoln's Inn than man other I hear their noise. Its bad enough that the dance music is loud. But after the music stops drunk noisy students pour out into the streets. They hang around on the street corners talking loudly. They yell. They scream. They sing. The parties go way past midnight, Sometimes to 2:00 or 3: 00 in the morning.

At first I thought I was the only one bothered. But people in the building started comparing notes. It turns out that lots of people are waken in the middle of the night. The more people I have talked to the more horror stories I heard. Sometimes the Lincoln's Inn students harassed people who complain about noise. Other times they acted outrageously. One neighbor reported that a student defecated on their car. But even when they are on their best behavior they get drunk and make a ruckus. **By driving home from their parties drunk and endanger the lives of the public.**

-- Over the years people in the building have initiated several campaigns to stop the noise. Nothing we have done has had any significant effect. Their promises are not honored, and as the law students know, unenforceable. Most people in the building just try to grin and bear it because they have exhausted all the means they know to stop the disruption. The noise has caused some people to move away.

Our society generally tolerates all sorts of personal conduct. But it draws a line when the private actions of other harm others. Lincoln's Inn has crossed over that line. Long ago Harvard should have instituted some way to control its students. Long ago police should have arrested these revelers for disturbing the peace. Long ago the Lincoln's Insurers should have stopped selling them liability insurance because of their high risk of law suits due to excessive drinking alcohol. And Long ago the Cambridge Licencing Commission should have acted to revoke or suspect their licence.

P. 2 Marc A. Rodwin, J.D.

Cambridge city officials should now take action to see that the Lincoln's Inn disruption stops immediately. They should do so to protect the citizens whom they serve. They should also do so to protect themselves and the city which is now exposed to the risk of civil liability under Sec. 1983 and tort law if Lincoln's Inn members or guests injure or kill people while driving drunk. I believe that a court of law may well find the city had notice of unreasonable dangerous conduct and that their failure to stop it will be considered negligence if the actions of drunk Lincoln's Inn members or guests lead to injury.

I think that the Lincoln's Inn licence should be revoked. Short of that they should be relocated to a more appropriate neighborhood. At a minimum the Lincoln's Inn should not be allowed to have parties that continue past mid-night, should not be allowed to have more than 25 to 30 people at their parties, and should not be allowed to sell or serve liquor.



Marc A. Rodwin, J.D.



November 12, 1990

Dear Licensing Commission Board,

For the last three years my family has lived at 1558 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge. During that time we have been frequently disturbed by the loud noise, shouting and loud music coming from the Lincoln Society Inn on Fallon Street. Groups of people, appearing to be drunk, have congregated around the outside of the building. These people have posed a threat to the peace and safety of my wife and children.

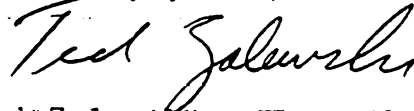
I have called the Cambridge Police as well as reported incidents to the Harvard University Police. The Cambridge Police Department was too busy to act. The Harvard University Police indicated that the Inn is not under its jurisdiction. The disturbances still continue.

I don't believe the Inn has a right to exist in a residential area repeatedly and repeatedly disturbing the neighborhood.

Why should my two daughters, ages 10 and 6, hear foul language and see men and women acting out of control?

My family and I would appreciate it if the situation would be permanently corrected.

Cordially yours,



Ted Zalewski



Mary Cunningham

I have been the superintendent of 50 Follen street for over nine years. Lincoln's Inn has caused problems throughout those nine years. I know the problems because I have to clean up the Lincoln's Inn mess, because every party season their yelling wakes me up numerous times, and because I hear the complaints of all the people who live in the building.

These students raise hell. They party, make noise that wake people in the middle of the night, throw trash, beer bottles and cups all over the place, piss in the driveway and park illegally. And they are rude. The noise they make would disturb people even if it was in the middle of the afternoon. But the noise occurs between 11 pm and 4 am. They have moved our dumpster to park their cars. They also sometimes put their trash in our dumpster. Once I was trying to drive into my parking space and the party had spilled out into the street and driveway. There were so many people I couldn't get by. I asked them move so I could get by, but they just ignored me.

What it comes down to is that the Lincoln's Inn crowd do what ever they damn please. They don't respect the rights of neighbors. They are trying to take over the neighborhood. And nothing we have done year after year has changed anything.

At first I tried to get them to stop. I've called the Cambridge police, the Harvard police, the Dean's Office at Harvard. But nothing changed no matter how much I or other neighbors complained. The Lincoln's Inn people say they will be more considerate. But as soon as the pressure is off it starts all over again. And when people in the building complained some Lincoln's Inn people went around saying "lets get 50 Follen street".

Its been damn frustrating. I know a lot of people don't bother to complain any more because they think nothing can change. The Lincoln's Inn has tried to wear us out and hope our complaints will go away. I think they are the ones who should move.

I'm angry with the Lincoln's Inn. I'm also fed up with Cambridge city and Harvard officials that let their disruptions go on. The kids can't control themselves but the city and law school are supposed to act responsibly and stop people from disturbing the peace. They haven't. Its the same routine year after year.

  
Norman Van Dale

1558 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
November 7, 1990

Cambridge License Commission  
City of Cambridge  
831 Massachusetts Avenue, 1st Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02138

RE: Lincoln Inn Lodging House License Hearing,  
November 13, 1990

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am writing to urge the Cambridge License Commission, at its November 13th hearing, to cancel, suspend, revoke or further condition the Lodging House License of the Lincoln Inn (the "Inn") located at 44 Follen Street in the City of Cambridge. As a nine-year resident of 1558 Massachusetts Avenue, located opposite the Inn, I can attest to the disruptive, intoxicated behavior of Inn residents, friends and invitees. Noise from the Inn and the behavior of partygoers is consistently offensive and constitutes a persistent, unreasonable nuisance which precludes the quiet enjoyment of my home.

The Inn's social gatherings and parties are held with great frequency and habitually last into the early morning hours, e.g. 2:00 to 4:00 a.m. The gatherings frequently attract hundreds of partygoers, generate loud music and disruptive noise (screaming, obscene shouting and brawling), and unacceptable intoxicated behavior. Characteristically, party nights make sleeping impossible until the last partygoers leave the Inn.

The Inn inconsistently provides a uniformed Harvard University police officer as an exterior monitor. It has been my experience that the monitor ineffectively attempts to control partygoer behavior. Occasionally, the monitor has contributed to the disruption through "social" interchange with residents and partygoers. The presence of the monitor has not discouraged the partygoers from throwing glass liquor bottles, drinking glasses and debris on area sidewalks, streets and private property.

Cambridge License Commission  
November 7, 1990  
Second Page

The Inn's Board members have consistently promised to control their own and their guests' behavior, and to minimize the adverse impacts of these "social gatherings" on the local community. Their efforts and promises toward this end have been neither effective nor honored.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the Cambridge License Commission consider the cancellation, suspension, revocation or further conditioning of the Lodging House License of the Lincoln Inn.

Sincerely,

N. J. Anderson

nja:tjg

J. A. D. MANAGEMENT INC.  
50 FOLLEN STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

November 12, 1990

Licensing Board

Cambridge, MA

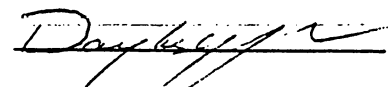
RE: Lincoln's Inn

Gentlemen:

I am the manager of 50 Follen St.. Going back for years, we have been having problems with the Lincoln's Inn. I feel that the vast majorities of these problems stem from the Lincoln's Inn having open parties where unlimited amounts of alcohol have been served. It has become obvious over the years, no matter what the managers of the Inn do, they can not control the drunken behaviour of their guests. This behaviour includes destruction of property, screaming and yelling late into the night, and illegal parking.

Over the course of years, I have had many meetings with the directors, and these problems have never been satisfactorily resolved. I have had a meeting with Ken Mehlman and we have reached an amicable agreement to resolve the parking problems, but the problem with the unregulated drinking parties have been unresolved.

Yours truly,

  
Douglas Yoffe

November 11, 1990

Richard Scali  
Executive Director  
Licensing Commission  
City of Cambridge  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Mr. Scali:

Although I will not be able to attend the Lincoln's Inn Society hearing on November 13, I would like to voice my concern over problems arising from the frequent use of Lincoln's Inn as a party house.

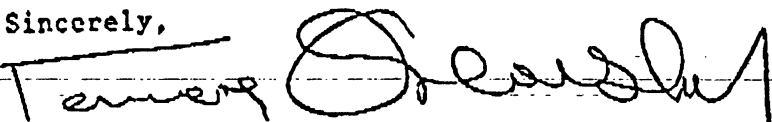
The parties sponsored and hosted by the Inn often draw large crowds of young people. The high level of noise generating from the house is often accompanied by loud music. This disturbance is made worse by loud guests (often intoxicated) leaving the Inn or in many cases (particularly in warmer weather), hanging around the Inn to talk, or walking up and down Follen Street. As I live ~~on the~~ directly next to the Inn, the effect is as if there were dozens of people partying right in my apartment.

I own a condominium at 50 Follen Street; and I am very concerned about the noisy reputation of the neighborhood, made worse by growing tensions between Follen Street residents and Inn residents, hurting my ability to rent the unit as well as lowering the property's value in general.

I am seventy years old. Nearly every second or third weekend I am denied peace and rest in my home. This situation is intolerable. I wouldn't expect quiet in the middle of Harvard Yard; but Follen Street is a residential area and should be respected as such.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



TAMARA ORŁOWSKY

617-659-7297

SHEILA G. COOK  
34 FOLLEN STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138

34 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 13, 1990

Mr Richard Scali  
Executive Officer  
Cambridge's Licensing Commission  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Mr. Scali:

I find the current situation of Lincoln's Inn hard to believe. My uncle, Zechariah Chafee Jr., was a member of Lincoln's Inn around 1910. His signature is on a poster over the fireplace. He spent his life fighting for freedom of the press, was a professor at the Harvard Law School for over forty years. My cousin, Senator John H. Chafee of Rhode Island, who was also a member of Lincoln's Inn has spent his life working for the community.

Yet in the fifteen years I have lived on Follen Street the members of Lincoln's Inn have done nothing but disrupt the neighborhood with their illegal parking, their loud and late parties and their trash which spills over the entire neighborhood. This trash is not only unsightly, but has encouraged so many rats that they were coming up in my toilets. I was forced to spend a small fortune last year to install a back flow valve to prevent this invasion. The "Cambridge Rat Control Consultant" told me that I was not the only victim on the street.

I have gone out of my way suggesting ways to Lincoln's Inn to minimize all these nuisances. But it is clear that the Inn's members care only for themselves. These are the individuals who will be responsible for carrying out our country's laws. It is a frightening thought.

This year, not satisfied with their prospective \$70,000 annual income, they are renting parking spaces and charging admissions to what is a defacto speak easy on a street which is part of the Old Cambridge Historic District!

The Follen Street residents have finally united in revolt. Pooling all their complaints they have produced a record of over 30 years of unacceptable behavior on the part of Lincoln's Inn. The Inn's original lodging variance vetoed the use of hard liquor.

In defense the managers have drawn up a management program which looks good until one starts examining it in detail.

The three weakest points in my eyes are:

1. The party guest list seems to have no real limit.
2. The fact that the Alumni Board is responsible for control. These are individuals the age of the members' parents. Yet are not the twnties the age when most young adults want to prove their own reponsibilities. Why do these lawyers still need such quasi- parental protection?
3. All the suggestions are set up to correct behavior, which no responsible community member would think of indulging in to begin with.

All of the above make one question a real desire to followthrough by Lincoln's Inn.

I believe in group housing and I believe in student socializing; and I am not against Clubs per se. But the long history of being a neighborhood nuisance makes me feel that the Commission should seriously consider modifying the License of Lincoln's Inn, particularly in regard to the Lincoln's Inn's right to serve liquor.

Sincerely,



Sheila G. Cook

Member Steering Committee of Neighborhood Nine

Jill Tonelli  
558 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 12, 1990

Cambridge License Commission  
City of Cambridge  
831 Massachusetts Avenue, 1st Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02139

RE: 44 Follen Street

To the Commission:

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the hearing on Tuesday, November 13, 1990 at 6 p.m. regarding 44 Follen Street, but I would like to tell you my experience of the situation.

I have been living at 1558 Massachusetts Avenue for two years. The indifference of the people at 44 Follen Street to the feelings of others is truly impressive. Screaming and yelling sometimes start suddenly at 2:00 in the morning. Door slamming and shouting occur on week nights and weekends at times around 1, 2 and 3 in the morning, though Follen Street is a neighborhood with young children and people who have to wake up early in the morning. It is just not possible to sleep through this kind of noise going on, and it has definitely affected the quality of my life. I am constantly awakened late at night, and usually several times. Often when the noise finally stops, there are only a few hours left before I have to get up.

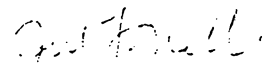
I think the fact that no amount of complaints or requests causes the slightest change in this behavior, is what makes the situation feel most unfair and oppressive. I do not feel anyone has the right to impose his or her lifestyle on anyone else, and the people at 44 Follen Street impose their lifestyle on the neighborhood.

The degree of callousness it takes to continue such behavior after being informed of the distressing effect it has on others is unique in a neighborhood of adults. It is upsetting to continually experience such an overt lack of respect for the feelings of others.

Unfortunately, the only motivation to be more considerate seems to be superficial and/or strategic: for example, not playing loud music a few days before the hearing. The motivation fails to reach the level of social conscience. Therefore, if something is not done at this hearing to cause a change, the behavior at 44 Follen Street can probably be expected to be the same, or even worse.


I am hoping something can be done to impose limitations on the noise and behavior at 44 Follen Street. It is unreasonable, as it stands.

Thank you for your attention.

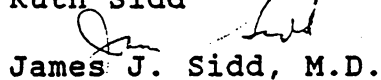
  
Jill Tonelli

November 5, 1990

We would like to register our complaints against Lincolns Inn on Follen Street. Their overloaded open dumpsters are not only an eyesore but also a breeding ground for pests. In addition, on numerous occasions, their delivery trucks block Follen Street. Since the street is narrow, it is impossible to pass these trucks and one must wait until they have completed the deliveries. Last year, when beverages were being delivered to Lincolns Inn and I had to return home for an emergency, I requested that the truck either pull into their driveway or up onto the sidewalk. (UPS always pulls up onto the sidewalk) A resident of Lincolns Inn marched out, swore at me and told me that I would be required to wait until the truck was emptied before they would allow me to pass. They are inconsiderate, rowdy and a general nuisance to the neighborhood.



Ruth Sidd



James J. Sidd, M.D.

November 13, 1990

Dear Members of the Hearing Board:

Due to surgery last Tuesday,

I am not able to attend  
this evening's hearing.

Please accept my signed  
statement as evidence  
of my profound concerns  
about these matters.

Thank you

Dzvenia Orlovsky Hoffmann

w: 495-3903 (Harvard Univ.)

h: 834-3657

Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. William Scott, Executive Director, City Licensing Commission  
c/o Jean Stryker, 52 Fellon St #314

at THE LINCOLN INN

DATE: 11/12/72

Noise at the Lincoln Inn, which does my bedroom, has been  
disturbing my sleep for years. This year has been particularly  
bad. I have called the police on several occasions but this  
usually does little good. If it's a party, the noise just dies  
down temporarily, and the police can't really do anything  
except intermittent noise, like people swimming the pool as  
they leave, hanging around in front the inn for no reason  
talking loudly, and starting up their illegally parked cars.

One of the worst weekends was that of Columbus Day. I could  
barely, could not party taking outdoors, and could hardly  
barely at about 4:00 AM. I called the police twice, and  
sounded irritated and said they had already sent a car by.

I hope you can be more effective in curbing the inn, either  
by revoking license or placing severe restrictions on their hours of  
operation (the Sullivan violation of which should solve the problem).

Thank you for your help.

Jean Stryker



# ALIENTO

LIMA • ISTANBUL • FINE IMPORTS • LA PAZ • BOSTON

November 13, 1990

Dear Liscencing Board Committee:

1553 Muldrey  
I'm writing to complain about the disruption caused by the members of the Lincoln Street Inn. In the past several years since I have resided at ~~44 Fallon Street~~, I've often been awakened by the drunken behavior of the visitors at the Inn. At times while walking by at night, there have been large crowds out in the street and I have felt intimidated.

There have been many times when I have been awakened after 1:00 o'clock in the morning by the noise of doors slamming, cars reving their motors and especially loud and noisy voices. Usually I call the Cambridge Police Department but have found that they normally do not respond. For example, last Columbus Day I called five or six times and finally the police arrived after an hour and a half only to tell them to be quiet. The police left and the noise and behavior continued into the early hours of the morning.

I've left notes at their door asking them to please keep the noise down after midnight but with no response.

I believe the Inn's license should be revoked.

Sincerely,

  
Margaret Gibson

Jill Tonelli  
558 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 12, 1990

Cambridge License Commission  
City of Cambridge  
831 Massachusetts Avenue, 1st Floor  
Cambridge, MA 02139

RE: 44 Follen Street

To the Commission:

Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the hearing on Tuesday, November 13, 1990 at 6 p.m. regarding 44 Follen Street, but I would like to tell you my experience of the situation.

I have been living at 1558 Massachusetts Avenue for two years. The indifference of the people at 44 Follen Street to the feelings of others is truly impressive. Screaming and yelling sometimes start suddenly at 2:00 in the morning. Door slamming and shouting occur on week nights and weekends at times around 1, 2 and 3 in the morning, though Follen Street is a neighborhood with young children and people who have to wake up early in the morning. It is just not possible to sleep through this kind of noise going on, and it has definitely affected the quality of my life. I am constantly awakened late at night, and usually several times. Often when the noise finally stops, there are only a few hours left before I have to get up.

I think the fact that no amount of complaints or requests causes the slightest change in this behavior, is what makes the situation feel most unfair and oppressive. I do not feel anyone has the right to impose his or her lifestyle on anyone else, and the people at 44 Follen Street impose their lifestyle on the neighborhood.

The degree of callousness it takes to continue such behavior after being informed of the distressing effect it has on others is unique in a neighborhood of adults. It is upsetting to continually experience such an overt lack of respect for the feelings of others.

Unfortunately, the only motivation to be more considerate seems to be superficial and/or strategic: for example, not playing loud music a few days before the hearing. The motivation fails to reach the level of social conscience. Therefore, if something is not done at this hearing to cause a change, the behavior at 44 Follen Street can probably be expected to be the same, or even worse.

I am hoping something can be done to impose limitations on the noise and behavior at 44 Follen Street. It is unreasonable, as it stands.

Thank you for your attention.

  
Jill Tonelli

36 Follen Street  
Cambridge 02138  
November 13, 1990

Richard Scali  
Executive Officer  
Licensing Commission  
City of Cambridge  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge 02139

Dear Mr. Scali:

We have owned our home at 36 Follen Street, next door to the Lincoln's Inn Society, since 1965. The Society has quite consistently been a bad neighbor, but the past decade or more has been especially difficult. The Society has not had a resident manager during this period. In summers the building becomes a general lodging house whose occupants by and large are not in any way affiliated with Lincoln's Inn. We have three main complaints:

The Society has not maintained its grounds to the standard of the neighborhood. In response to the mounting concerns of abutters and others, the Society hired a landscaping firm to clean the grounds this fall. That was the first attention paid to the appearance of the place in more than a year. All summer long the building sat in a sea of weeds interspersed with accumulated debris (see attached photographs).

In many recent years the Society has not handled the storage and disposal of its trash and garbage in a healthful or visually acceptable manner. We have had to ask the dean of students at the Harvard Law School and City health officials to intervene because of problems with rats and odor. (Trash disposal is not just of recent concern. We attach a photograph taken in 1970 from the entrance to our driveway. At that time the Society served members lunches and dinners daily. The photograph shows trash at Lincoln's Inn stretching, typically for those days, from the back door to the street. The photograph was published in Harvard Magazine as an illustration for an article on pollution.)

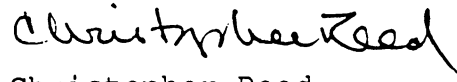
We are sometimes bothered by excessive noise and seeming drunkenness late at night when the Society throws large parties. We doubt that even with the best of intentions, a fraternity house can have large-scale parties decorous enough to suit a residential neighborhood.

Finally, we want to say that over the years we have dealt with many student officers of the Society. They have in general been conciliatory, but they come and go and their promises go with them. Assurances from any group of student officers that we will see lasting change in the Society's behavior are, therefore, virtually valueless to

us. We have not in the past had any contact with the Society's graduate board or been aware of any concern about these matters on their part.

Yours truly,

  
Jane Reed

  
Christopher Reed



Summer 1990



Summer 1990



Summer 1990



1970

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS DEMONSTRATING REPEATED EFFORTS TO RESOLVE  
THE PROBLEMS AND THE LACK OF RESPONSE BY LINCOLN'S INN

November 13, 1990

## HISTORY OF EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM

### Historical Documents Demonstrating Repeated Efforts to Resolve the Problems and the Lack of Response by Lincoln's Inn

#### List of Documents

- April 29, 1947 Zoning Variance, Case No. 1759, 44 Follen Street.
- April 22, 1947 minutes, Public Hearing of the Board of Appeal,
- June 6, 1957 letter from Leslie Read, Vice President, NILES, Inc.
- Oct. 4, 1957 letter from Leslie Read, V-President, NILES, Inc.
- Dec. 4, 1957 letter from Leslie Read, V-President, NILES, Inc.
- 1975 letter of Bruce Daniels on behalf of 11 Waterhouse Street,  
Inc. opposing renewal of permit
- Irene Polednak Dygas, September, 1982
- 1983 letter from Mary Upton, Dean of Students, Harvard Law  
School.
- April 12, 1988 memo from David Browne to Alice Wolf
- April 12, 1988 letter from David Brown to Ken Vermeulin,  
Lincoln's Inn
- April 26, 1988 memorandum from Marlene Knights, Chief  
Investigator, Cambridge Licencing Commission
- 
- September, 1989 letter to Lincoln's Inn from Anonymous resident  
of 50 Follen Street

HIGHLIGHTS

EXCERPTS FROM KEY DOCUMENTS

(full statements attached)

**HISTORY OF EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM**

The Zoning Variance and Licence

**April 22, 1947 minutes of Board of Appeals**

"The scholastic demands upon appellant's membership would prevent large groups of its members from making 24 hour a day use of the property or from constantly using the property in a noisy manner, that except at meal hour the use of the property would be for study purposes...

"The First Church of Christ Scientists, Mr. Richardson appeared and stated he had no opposition provided no liquor or beer is served or sold on the premises."

**1947 Case No. 1759, 44 Follen Street, Board of Appeals**

"The Board, therefore, finds that the exceptional circumstances peculiar to this specific case justify a relaxation of the restrictions imposed by the said Zoning Laws and that the varying of the application... will not ... injure any person property."

A History of Complaints

**June 6, 1957 letter from Leslie Reed, Vice-President NILES, INC.**

"Ever since your organization obtained a variance of the Zoning laws to operate an inn at Follen Street, Cambridge, our tenants in Eliot Manor at 41 Follen Street have complained about noisy parties and illegal parking...

Each year I have taken the situation up with your president... The beer cans and bottles are throw around the street and sidewalk after each party... The grounds are unattended most of the time and frankly this Inn reduces all values of real estate in the immediate neighborhood..."

The variance should never have been granted and this is to inform you that we do not intent to sit idly by and allow the disgusting commotion from your members and guests to continue next season."

**October, 4, 1957 from Leslie Read, Vice-President, NILES, INC.**

"On June 6, 1957 I wrote to you concerning your noisy parties held in your Inn until the early morning hours. Now that the Law School has started again the disgraceful actions and noise have commenced in the Inn."

**December 4, 1957 from Niles Inc to Lincoln's Inn.**

"Between midnight and 1:45 a.m. the following actions occurred...: 1.) A no parking sign with a heavy cement base was placed on the hood of our superintendent's car... scratching the paint; 2) empty liquor bottles were broken against the ...Eliot Manor apartment building; 3) a window was broken at the Inn; 4) loud talking by departing guests awakened our tenants and apparently you are unable to cope with the situation."

**1975 Letter from 11 Follen Street, Inc. to the Licencing Commission**

We are objecting to the renewal of the permit for (Lincoln's Inn Society).. (1)-it is in violation of its current permit in that it has more than four lodgers; (2) it is in violation of the law in that it serves food to persons not lodgers and charges a fee therefore, in effect operating a restaurant; (3) it... interferes with the rights of tenants, ... in that loud noises during the late evening and early morning hours emanating from the premises... disturb the tenants, and persons using the above facilities have parked their vehicles on the property of our client or in such manner as to prevent access to such parking..."

"On Friday, September 11, (1982) I was awake from 12 to 3:30 A.M. because of your loud music and partying."

'1983 letter from Mary D. Upton, Harvard Law School Dean of Students.

"I have met with this year's Officers of Lincoln's Inn and they assure me that they will continue to cooperate with us in keeping the inn quiet and clean."

19?? letter from

"If you insist on disturbing us (this is the third year you've been a bother to me in as many years as I've lived here) I will lead a campaign to move your 'Inn of Selfish Happiness' from Follen Street."

April 11, 1988 letter to Lincoln's Inn from David Browne

"If you use this letter with Harvard, please don't give out my last name. I suspect I could get some harassment from the Lincoln's Inn --calls at 2 a.m. to be buzzed in, for example"

"I am writing (Mr. Ken Vermeulin, Chairman, Lincoln's Inn) to inform you that if you do not take visible effective action to reduce or eliminate the disturbances from your upcoming party on April 16, the opportunity to reach a compromise will have passed."

"I led an effort [in 1988] to convince the Inn to stop its parties. I began with the Harvard Law School Dean's Office; they claimed that they could do nothing, as the Inn was independent of Harvard. Thereafter a group of us from 50 Follen met with the board of the Inn and negotiated some promised changes in their parties. These promises were broken that very month, as the parties continued to run large and loud. Outside of one of their parties the Chairman of the Inn board --**drunk** at the time-- told me that the Inn had no intention of trying to keep its promises to me."

"I was a resident of 50 Follen Street from 1982 to 1989. During that time, I was disturbed by parties at the Inn innumerable times and made numerous complaints to the board of the Inn, the Harvard University Police, the Cambridge Police and the staff of the Licensing Board --all to no avail."

"In the spring of 1990 I called from my window to a group of four students to please be quiet... A young male yelled back to me 'We don't have to be quiet, we're Harvard business students.'"

Minutes of the Public Hearing of the Board of Appeal held on Tuesday, April 22, 1947, at 4:00 P.M., in City Council Chambers, City Hall, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The Board of Appeal met on the above mentioned date with all members present, William L. Galvin, Chairman, Parker F. Scule and James J. Walsh, and the Chairman called the following case:

Case No.: 1759

Location: 44 Follen Street - Res. A-2

Petitioner: Douglas Mercer

Petition: Occupy premises as a club house.

Violation: Zoning Laws, Article 4, Section 3.

Mr. Douglas Mercer, President of Lincoln's Inn Society, appeared before the Board and stated that the appellant has entered into a purchase and sale agreement for the property at 44 Follen Street conditioned upon authorization of a variance from the Zoning Ordinance applicable to the property, that this agreement expires on May 1, 1947, that the Society is a nonprofit Massachusetts corporation, that it has been in existence and located in Cambridge since 1908, that its purpose is to further the interests of the Harvard Law School by providing a club house in which its membership of approximately 200 Harvard Law School students may meet and be served meals, that by reason of a non-conforming use at the time the present zoning ordinance became effective that the property is now used as a dormitory for students, that the property is not well suited for use other than as a dormitory, club house or other similar use, that the appellant's use would be similar to the property's present use or any other probable use, that the appellant's financial condition is such as to permit maintaining the property in good condition, that the scholastic demands upon appellant's membership would prevent large groups of its members from making 24 hour a day use of the property or from constantly using the property in a noisy manner, that except at meal hours the use of the property would be for study purposes, that for 14 years the Society owned and occupied 12 Garden Street adjacent to the Commander Hotel and the First Congregational Church in Cambridge and to appellant's best knowledge no complaints were received as to appellant's use of that property, that for the past 14 months appellant has been unable to purchase property in any unzoned area close to the Harvard Law School, that as appellant's membership comprises approximately 1/8th of total enrollment of Harvard Law School it is an integral part of the academic community of Cambridge.

Mr. James J. Weinstein, Attorney, of 209 Washington Street, Boston, appeared in favor of the Lincoln's Inn Society.

Dr. Geoffrey Edsall left card citing he would forward letter of conditional approval to petitioner.

Mr. Saul E. Moffie, 242 Clark Road, Brookline, Treasurer of 11 Waterhouse, Inc., owner of 50 Follen Street, appeared in opposition but stated he would like to have more time to investigate the club and if Dr. Beranick didn't oppose he won't.

Mr. Werner Willman of 29 Follen Street appeared objecting to the additional traffic congestion which would result if the petition were granted but finally stated he approves conditionally to the petition.

Representing the First Church of Christ Scientist, Mr. Richardson appeared before the Board and stated he has no opposition provided no liquor or beer is served or sold on the premises.

Case was taken under advisement.

*Marion O'Leary*

Secretary

Mr. Samuel W. Weinstein, Attorney, of 209 Washington Street  
Cambridge, appeared in favor of the Lincoln's Inn Society.

Mr. Paul E. Koffie, 212 Park Road, Brookline, Treasurer  
Lincoln's Inn Society, of 44 Pollen Street, appeared  
opposing the use of the property by the  
**CITY OF CAMBRIDGE** to have jurisdiction to  
authorize the use of the property as a club house.

**Board of Appeal**

Case No. 1759: appeal of the petitioner.

Decision by the Board of Appeal on the appeal and petition  
of Douglas Mercer, President, Lincoln's Inn Society, to vary the  
application of the zoning laws of the City of Cambridge  
as they pertain to the premises numbered 44 Pollen Street,  
Cambridge, to permit the occupancy of the premises as a club house.

Appeal is made upon notification by the Superintendent of  
Buildings to the petitioner that proposed use of premises is in  
violation of Article 4, Section 1, of the Zoning Laws of the  
City of Cambridge.

Papers in this case are numbered 1759 and are all made  
part of this record.

In conformity to Law, the case was advertised in the  
Cambridge Sentinel edition of April 12, 1947, and reasonable  
notices of the public hearing were sent to all those designated  
by the Board.

At the public hearing held on Tuesday, April 22, 1947, in  
the City Council Chambers, City Hall, Cambridge, Mr. Douglas  
Mercer, President of the Lincoln's Inn Society, appeared before  
the Board and stated that the appellant has entered into a  
purchase and sale agreement for the property at issue  
conditioned upon authorization of a variance from the zoning  
Ordinance applicable to the property, that this agreement expires  
on May 1, 1947, that the Society is a nonprofit Massachusetts  
corporation, that it has been in existence and located in  
Cambridge since 1908, that its purpose is to further the interest  
of the Harvard Law School by providing a club house in which  
its membership of approximately 200 Harvard Law School students  
may meet and be served meals, that by reason of a non-conforming  
use at the time the present zoning ordinance became effective  
that the property is now used as a dormitory for students, that  
the property is not well suited for use other than as a dormitory  
club house or other similar use, that the appellant's use would  
be similar to the property's present use or any other probable  
use, that the appellant's financial condition is such as to  
permit maintaining the property in good condition, that the  
scholastic demands upon appellant's membership would prevent  
large groups of its members from making 24 hour a day use of the  
property or from constantly using the property in a noisy manner,  
that except at meal hours the use of the property is for  
study purposes, that for 14 years the Society owned and occupied  
12 Garden Street adjacent to the Commander Hotel and the  
Congregational Church in Cambridge and to appeal to the Board.

Mr. James J. Weinstein, Attorney, of 209 Washington Street, Boston, appeared in favor of the Lincoln's Inn Society.

Mr. Saul E. Moffie, 242 Clark Road, Brookline, Treasurer of 11 Waterhouse Inc., owner of 50 Follen Street, appeared in opposition but stated he would like to have more time to investigate the club and if Dr. Beranick doesn't oppose he won't.

Dr. Geoffrey Edsall sent letter to Board citing his conditional approval of the petition.

Mr. Werner Willman of 29 Follen Street appeared objecting to the additional traffic congestion which would result if the petition were granted but finally stated he approves conditionally to the petition.

Representing the First Church of Christ Scientist, Mr. Richardson appeared and stated he has no opposition provided no liquor or beer is served or sold on the premises.

The Board, therefore, finds that the exceptional circumstances peculiar to this specific case justify a relaxation of the restrictions imposed by the said Zoning Laws, and that the varying of the application of the same will not conflict with the spirit of the law, or will it injure any person or property.

The Board finds that this is a specific case wherein enforcement of the law involves practical difficulty and creates unnecessary hardship and wherein desirable relief may be granted without substantially derogating from the intent and purpose of said Zoning Laws.

Therefore, the Board voted unanimously to GRANT the petition to use the premises as a club house and to issue the permit.

*[Handwritten signatures and stamps]*  
CE  
APR 29 1947

Filed with office of City Clerk  
on April 29 1947

RECEIVED  
APR 29 1947

June 6, 1957

Lincoln Inn  
Follen Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

Ever since your organization obtained a Variance of the Zoning Laws to operate an inn at Follen Street, Cambridge, our tenants in Eliot Manor at 41 Follen Street have complained about noisy parties and the illegal parking from your members and guests.

Each year I have taken the situation up with your president and have had a certain degree of co-operation but I can well understand that the president of such a society cannot control all its members and guests when drinking of alcoholic beverages is allowed on the premises. The beer cans and bottles are thrown around the street and sidewalks after each party - which proves my point. The grounds are unattended most of the time and frankly this Inn reduces all values of real estate in the immediate neighborhood.

The Variance should never have been granted and this is to inform you that we do not intend to sit idly by and allow the disgusting action from your members and guests to continue next season.

Very truly yours,

NILES, INC.

By:

Leslie C. Read,  
Vice-President

LCR/j

cc Cambridge Board of Appeal  
Erwin Griswold - Dean, Harvard Law School

October 4, 1957

The President  
Lincoln Inn  
301 Essex Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Sir:

On June 6, 1957 I wrote to you concerning the noisy parties held in your Inn until the early morning hours.

Now that Law School has started again the disgraceful actions and noise have commenced in the Inn.

This is to inform you that if there is not reasonable quiet after 11:00 P.M. when your members and guests are leaving the building, we intend to take necessary action to curb the noise.

Very truly yours,

NILES, INC.

By:

Leslie C. Read,  
Vice-President

LCR/j

cc ✓ Cambridge Board of Appeal  
Erwin Griswold - Dean, Harvard Law School

December 4, 1957

David W. Scully, President  
Lincoln's Inn Society  
44 Follen Street  
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Scully:

Since your letter to me of October 18, 1957, with the aid of a policeman, conditions at your Inn have been satisfactory until Saturday night, November 30.

Between midnight and 1:45 a.m. the following actions occurred when your party broke up:

1. A no parking sign with a heavy cement base was placed on the hood of our superintendent's car (Mr. John Maher, 41 Follen Street) parked near the Inn scratching the paint.
2. Empty liquor bottles were broken against the Follen Street side of our Eliot Manor apartment building.
3. A window was broken at the Inn.
4. Loud talking by your departing guests awakened our tenants and apparently you are unable to cope with the situation.

I, therefore, request and demand that commencing immediately you refrain from having any evening parties on the premises at 44 Follen Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Very truly yours,

HILES, INC.

By: *Julie C. Read*  
Vice President

LCR/s

cc to Cambridge Board of Appeal  
Erwin Griswold - Dean, Harvard Law School

**SIMONS & MARCUS**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

ISAAC E. SIMONS (1916-1955)  
JAMES B. MARCUS

ALAN S. BARKIN  
BRUCE G. DANIELS  
LAWRENCE M. ABRAMSON

40 COURT STREET  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108  
(617) 227-3117-3118-8844

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO. 3187

April 29, 1975

Cambridge City Licensing Commission  
Room 205  
795 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, Mass.

Attention: John R. Sennott, Jr.,  
Chairman

Re: Lincoln's Inn Society - 44 Follen St., Cambridge

Dear Sir:

This office represents Eleven Waterhouse, Inc., the owner of the premises at 50 Follen Street, Cambridge, being the premises abutting the above-described premises. On behalf of our client, we are objecting to the renewal of the permit of the above on the grounds that:

(1) it is in violation of its current permit in that it has more than four (4) lodgers;

(2) it is in violation of the law in that it serves food to persons not lodgers and charges a fee therefor, in effect operating a restaurant;

(3) it conducts activities on a fairly regular basis that substantially interfere with the rights of the tenants of the apartment building at 50 Follen Street, Cambridge, in that loud noises during the late evening and early morning hours emanating from the premises occupied by the above disturb the tenants, and persons using the above's facilities have parked their vehicles on the property of our client or in such a manner as to prevent access to such parking, thereby depriving our client and those authorized by our client from entering or exiting from the parking area belonging to our client.

(4) We further believe that the foregoing constitute use of the premises in violation of the City of Cambridge

Mr. John R. Sennott, Jr., Chairman  
Cambridge City Licensing Commission  
April 29, 1975

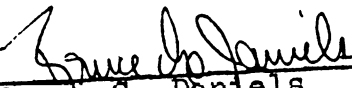
zoning By-Laws and any variances granted by said City  
pertaining specifically to the aforesaid premises.

For the foregoing reasons, Eleven Waterhouse, Inc.  
respectfully requests that the permit to operate a  
lodging house at 44 Follen Street, Cambridge, not be  
renewed.

Very truly yours,

ELEVEN WATERHOUSE, INC.

by its Attorneys,  
SIMONS & MARCUS

by   
Bruce G. Daniels

BGD/K

cc: Mr. Bernard Hill, Supervisor  
Housing Code Enforcement

cc: Eleven Waterhouse, Inc.



From the desk of

IRENE DYGAS

11.11.90

Dear Bob -

An enclosing this letter I wrote  
way back in 1982 just to show  
how long I've been disturbed  
by Lincoln Dun.

When I wrote it, things  
took a turn for the better -

TEMPORARILY - but as

we knew each year brings

on a new group of members,

Irene Dygas

50 Follen St. #308  
Cambridge, MA. 02138  
September 24, 1982  
11:50 P.M.

Dear Lincoln Inn Inhabitants,

On Friday, September 11, I was awake from 12 to 3:30 A.M. because of your loud music and partying.

On Tuesday or Wednesday, September 14 or 15, I was awakened by your loud music at about midnight. I did not fall back to sleep for at least an hour.

On Friday, September 18, as I sat down for dinner (6:20), I heard someone scream "Turn it down." Your music was so loud I could not hear the radio in my apartment.

I have just returned from a party in Carlisle, and since I know I will not be able to fall asleep because of the party you are having tonight, I have decided to share some of my thoughts with you.

The people who live at 50 Follen are quiet, working professional people who have responsible jobs who need their sleep and/or peace and quiet. We do our partying in places where we will not disturb others.

I have spoken to some of the neighbors who live in houses on Follen Street and they are not happy with your frequent vibrations and disruptions.

If you insist on disturbing us (this is the third year you've been a bother to me in as many years as I've lived here) I will lead a campaign to move your "Inn of Selfish Happiness" from Follen Street to the Harvard Campus based on the following and including letters to Mayor Vellucci and the Chronicle:

1. Zoning--Do you have a license to serve and/or sell liquor? Your rubbish shows that you consume very large quantities.
2. Fire Laws--Is the fire department aware of the numbers of people at your parties? On Friday the 11th, I watched the police "monitor" at least 60 people who had been asked to leave and were standing on the street and in the driveway between 1:30 and 2 A.M.. More partygoers were inside.
3. Taxes--I pay almost \$2000.00 a year. How much do you pay?
4. Good Neighbor Policy--as described above.


Sincerely yours,

*Irene D. Polednak*  
Irene D. Polednak

cc: Dean Mary Upton  
Dean James Vorenberg  
President Derek Bok  
Harvard Campus Police

~~6-10-87~~ 7

TO: Ms. Alice Wolf, Cambridge City Council  
Chief Anthony Paolillo, Cambridge Police Department  
City of Cambridge Licensing Commission  
Ms. Sarah Wald, Dean of Students, Harvard Law School  
Chief Paul Johnson, Harvard University Police

FROM: David S. Browne   
50 Follen St. #104  
Cambridge, MA 02138

DATE: April 12, 1988

RE: Disturbances Caused by Parties at Lincoln's Inn  
Society

Enclosed with this letter you will find a letter addressed to the chairman of the Lincoln's Inn Society, a Harvard Law School fraternity adjacent to the building where I live. I am writing for approximately 25 residents of 50 Follen St. who have organized to attempt to reduce or eliminate the neighborhood disturbances caused by this fraternity.

Lincoln's Inn hosts frequent, loud parties which disturb the neighborhood, and usually run until 3:30 in the morning. In an attempt to reduce this noise, I have had continuing discussions with members of the Society and a representative of the Law School Dean's Office. In addition, I have spoken to the Harvard Police Officer detailed to the Lincoln's Inn parties, as well as to an administrative officer of the Harvard University Police. Unfortunately, none of these efforts has resulted in any reduction in noise and disturbance from Lincoln's Inn parties.

I am sending you the enclosed letter to inform you of our concern and of the lack of progress in our dealings with Lincoln's Inn. I welcome any advice or contribution you may offer towards resolving this problem.

If you wish to get in touch with me, I can be reached at home at 491-5313 or at work at 638-8915.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

cc. Mr. Ken Vermeulin, Chairman, Lincoln's Inn Society  
Various residents of 50 Follen St.

50 Follen St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138

April 11, 1988

Mr. Ken Vermeulin  
Chairman  
The Lincoln's Inn Society  
44 Follen St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Ken:

As you know, I have made a serious effort to work with you and members of the Lincoln's Inn board to reach a reasonable compromise towards diminishing the noise and neighborhood disturbance from parties at your fraternity. I am writing to you today to inform you that if you do not take visible and effective action to reduce or eliminate the disturbances from your upcoming party on April 16, the opportunity to reach a compromise will have passed.

The residents of 50 Follen Street remain very disturbed about the noise from your two most recent parties. Perhaps ~~even more disturbing is the apparent lack of effort by The Lincoln's Inn Society to control that noise.~~ In light of these concerns, I must now request that you offer to the residents of this building your plan for reducing the noise of your April 16 party, and how you will bring the party to a close at a reasonable hour.

As you will recall, at your March 1 board meeting I presented requests to address the two key concerns of the residents of 50 Follen St.:

1) Outdoor Noise: Revelers have been known to yell, scream, sing, and hold loud conversations while leaving your parties, at times as late as 3:30 AM. I requested that you take action to minimize that noise.

You and we agreed that the Harvard Police Officer detailed to your parties has not been effective in

reducing noise caused by people exiting from and loitering outside of Lincoln's Inn. At your request, I have spoken to a more senior officer of the Harvard Police Department; however, it was apparent from your last party that that action was not effective.

In addition, I requested that members of The Lincoln's Inn take more personal responsibility towards minimizing outdoor noise. During your last party it was clear that this request was not complied with; witness the fact that it was necessary for me personally to request two of your board members to hush party-ers standing in the driveway of 50 Follen St. At that time the Harvard Police Officer was present, but was apparently unconcerned about the outdoor party noise.

2) Lateness of Your Parties: The fact that your parties usually continue well beyond 3:00 AM exceeds all norms of conduct in residential neighborhoods. I requested that you take actions to end your parties earlier, suggesting the following specifics:

- 12:30 -- Volume of music is to be turned down;
- 1:00 -- Last call for alcoholic beverages;
- 1:30 -- Music is to be turned off;
- 2:00 -- End of party.

You and the members of your board refused this request, but offered no alternative. Your last two parties disturbed the neighborhood until after 3:30 AM.

Your two parties since our March 1 meeting have demonstrated that the Lincoln's Inn Society totally lacks any concern about the noise from your parties and the effects on your neighbors. As a result, the residents of 50 Follen St. with whom I am dealing are now considering various actions to quiet -- or perhaps even permanently end -- parties at Lincoln's Inn.

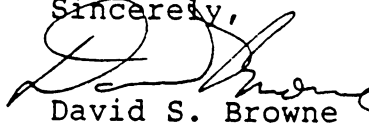
I have told you repeatedly that this result was something that I am anxious to avoid. However, unless there is a visible and effective effort to reduce the neighborhood disturbance at your party this coming Saturday, I am afraid that there is enough anger among this building's residents to take whatever actions are necessary to assure future quiet in this area.

I implore you to get in touch with me as soon as possible to discuss your noise reduction plans. In addition, I urge you to post several copies the details of these plans inside this building to demonstrate your sincerity to the residents here. In this way I hope we can avoid any extreme

measures, and your parties can continue in relative peace.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David S. Browne", written over the typed name below.

David S. Browne

cc: Ms. Alice Wolf, Cambridge City Council  
Chief Anthony Paolillo, Cambridge Police Department  
City of Cambridge Licensing Board  
Ms. Sarah Wald, Dean of Students, Harvard Law School  
Chief Paul Johnson, Harvard University Police Department  
Various residents of 50 Follen St., Cambridge.

50 Follen St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
20 Sept. 1989

Officers and Harvard Law School students  
Lincoln's Inn Society  
44 Follen St.  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Officers:

You are holding your weekend parties at hours when your neighbors are trying to sleep. Please take the following steps so that you do not continue to be a neighborhood nuisance:

1) Turn down the music so that it can't be heard outside the house. Shut the windows.

2) Do not allow guests to stand around talking in neighbors' driveways or in front of the apartment buildings on the street. People five feet away from the conversation are trying to sleep.

3) Remind guests at every party to leave quietly--no loud conversation until they're out of Follen St. Behavior that is acceptable at a bar or football game isn't in a residential street at 2 or 3 a.m.

4) Mail a notice like this to each Lincoln's Inn member and post copies at every party.

If you continue to treat your neighbors inconsiderately, we will continue to complain about your parties to the Cambridge Police. We are also talking about a lawsuit, which simple courtesy on your part would easily avert.

Yours,

A resident of 50 Follen St.

copy: Robert C. Clark, Dean of the Law School, Griswold 200



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 498-9021

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief-of-Police Department  
Commission Member

THOMAS V. SCOTT  
Chief of Fire Department  
Commission Member

RICHARD V. SCALI  
Commission Executive Off

TO: Richard V. Scali, Executive Officer  
FROM: Marlene C. Knights<sup>MK</sup>, Chief Investigator  
RE: Lincoln Inn, 44 Follen Street  
DATE: April 26, 1988

Contact person: Kenneth Vermeulen, Chairman, 864-8601

As per your request, I investigated the above premises on Saturday, April 16, 1988.

I entered the Lincoln Inn at approximately 12 midnight and was not charged admission nor was I carded or hand-stamped, as was the normal procedure as explained to me by Kenneth Vermeulen. There was an admission fee for non-members.

I walked throughout the premises and observed the following:

(Three) bars set up (one) on the first floor, (one) on the second floor and (one) in the basement. Bartenders were serving alcoholic drinks to patrons with the appropriate hand stamp as well as non-alcoholic beverages to those who were previously carded at the door and hand-stamped. All beverages were free.

The entertainment area was located in the basement composed of amplified music through speakers which were placed facing towards 50 Follen Street. Within the Lincoln Inn, the music was not above conversation level; although outside the premises the music was audible. There was also a small dance area in the basement.

Patrons conducted themselves in an orderly manner. They seemed to be enjoying conversation and dance. There was no one that appeared intoxicated or high on drugs. Basically, everyone was well behaved.

April 26, 1988  
Page Two

At the end of my observation I identified myself to the Chairman of the Lincoln Society, Kenneth Vermeulen. He welcomed me and explained how shocked he was when I informed him of my entering the premises without being questioned by the door person. His only explanation was that there is a change of shifts every hour and I happened to arrive at this time.

I also spoke with on-duty Harvard University Police Officer James Kaju who informed me that his supervising officer, Sgt. Rooney, was expected prior to closing to help him disperse the crowd in an orderly manner so as to not disturb the neighbors.

I also recently spoke to Lt. Dick Smithe of the Harvard University Police Department who assured me that the closing on the evening of April 16, 1988 went smoothly with the assistance of both officers and the staff of the Lincoln Inn. He would like to be informed of any future meetings regarding the Lincoln Inn. He can be reached at 495-1212.

It should also be noted that this was the last gathering to be held at the Lincoln Inn during this academic year.

Should you have further questions please advise.

PETITION

We the undersigned respectfully request that the Cambridge Licensing Commission revoke the Lincoln's Inn License.

The Inn exists in a residential neighborhood and we believe it is not in conformance with zoning and fire codes. The Inn hosts parties and other activities which attract large numbers of people that create loud noise, disorderly behavior and a public nuisance. As neighbors we have been disturbed by the noise. Despite repeated efforts over several years to resolve this matter, the nuisance persists. We therefore conclude that it is impossible for the Inn to operate in a manner consistent with residential use and that the only solution is to revoke their license.

Name	Address
Ted Zolucis	1558 Mass. Ave. Cambridge, 0213
Mary Cunningham	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge 02138
<del>Frank Miller</del>	<del>1558 MASS AVE CAMBRIDGE 02138</del>
<del>Robert Miller</del>	<del>1558 Mass Ave Cambridge MA 02138</del>
Julie L. Ferguson	1558 Mass Ave. Cambridge MA 02138
John O'Leary	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge MA 02138
David Owens	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge MA 02138
W. J. Anderson	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge, MA 02138
John Hunt	1558 MASS AVE #1 Cambridge, MA 02138
Jim Jonelli	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge, MA 02138
Ann Thompson	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge, MA 02138
Maggie Green	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge MA 02142
Margaret Meysman	1558 Mass Ave - Cambridge 021
Donna Taylor	1558 Mass Ave Cambridge MA 02138
Mayorie Wagman	1558 Mass Ave # 57 - Comb. 02138

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Name	Address
Yvonne J. Vandal	50 Follen St
Mary Louise Stewart	50 Follen St.
Herbert A. Stewart	50 Follen St
James E. Robson	50 Follen St.
Margaret Breen	50 Follen St
Marvin Kaganoff	50 Follen St
Margaret M. Stewart	50 Follen St
Marcia Amel	50 Follen St
Edith Tilly	50 Follen St.
Chickie Goki	50 Follen St
Gene Bygon	50 Follen Street
Bethel J. Smith	50 Follen St
Lois L. L. L.	50 Follen St.
Robert Scherberg	50 Follen St.
Jean Hughes	50 Follen St.
River Shepard	50 Follen St
Thomas J. [unclear]	50 Follen St.
Thomas [unclear]	50 Follen St

Hearing on 11/13, 6:00 PM

831 MASS. Ave,

2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Hearing  
Room

PETITION

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Name

Address

MARY M. WHITE

1572 MASS. AVE. #5

Ada S. Iyca

1572 Mass Ave #23

Jesse W. Sprinch	51 Follen St.
Yvonne Deitcher	50 Follen St.
Brian D. Sedie	50 Follen St.
Christopher Fomunyoh	50 Follen St.
D. O'Sullivan	" "
Tamera O'Dowd	" "
Raymond M. Kellan	" "
Marie Rodwin	50 Follen St Apt 206
W. D. Johnson	50 Follen St 201
Justin J. Rudolph	50 Follen St. 504
Kimberly Quinn	" 204
Bruce D. W. St	50 Follen St 404
Peter Amble	" 505
Shelia G. Cook	34 Follen St.
Isabelle Rubin La Belle	42 Linnaea St. #7
Allen D. Witt	17 Humboldt St.
L. P. Ward	6 Linnaea St
Pat McEachern	10 Linnaea St
Howard D. Medwed	55 WASHINGTON AVE
Alan R. Johnson	30 Agassiz St.
Ann Lee	40 Bellis Circle

5. (Neighbors complaints-B)

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**  
**SUBMITTED BY THE NEIGHBORHOOD**  
**AT THE CAMBRIDGE LICENCING COMMISSION'S HEARING**  
**ON WHETHER TO**  
**REVOKE, SUSPEND OR LIMIT THE LICENCE**  
**OF THE LINCOLN'S INN**

**November 27, 1990**

# RUTH ANN CIANI

To whom it may concern,

One morning at approximately 2-3 am I was awakened by the sound of a man vomiting in the bushes of my apartment building. I spoke with the man and asked him if he needed assistance. He said no. After he vomited a few more times he staggered up the stairs (away from my apartment building) and took a left. He returned a short while later with two other well dressed men and vomited a few more times.

Ruth Ann Ciani

November 25, 1990

Mr. Richard Scali  
Executive Director  
Cambridge Licensing Commission  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Scali,

Last week at the Lincoln's Inn hearing, someone on the Licensing Commission asked the audience, "What do you want us to do?" This letter will address that question.

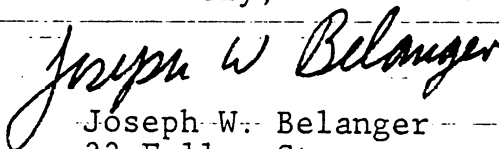
My wife Eleanor and I purchased 33 Follen Street in 1987. Since the purchase was quiet substantial we investigated the neighborhood prior to purchase. We were told the Lincoln's Inn property was a rooming house for Harvard Law students. We didn't see anything wrong with a small dormitory and thus proceeded with the purchase.

As soon as we moved in we found out the rooming house was acting as a fraternity house and social club. We were exposed to the many late night disturbances including alarming instances of public intoxication, as documented at the hearing.

Had we known the Inn would be such a public nuisance and noise problem we would probably not have purchased the property. We pay considerable taxes relative to Lincoln's Inn and we deserve the city's support and protection equally to Lincoln's Inn.

We feel the Cambridge Licensing Commission has a responsibility to homeowners and taxpayers such as we to uphold the conditions of the license granted to Lincoln's Inn. If the Inn cannot abide by the original license then the Commission must revoke the license or grant a different license after due process and neighborhood hearings.

Sincerely,



Joseph W. Belanger  
33 Follen St.  
Cambridge MA 02138

cc: Mayor Alice Wolf

November 26, 1990  
50 Follen St. #5  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Richard Scali, Executive Officer  
License Commission  
City of Cambridge  
Cambridge, MA

Dear Mr. Scali:

I was greatly disturbed when I read Lincoln's Inn statement which attempts to discredit and distort my testimony by alleging the noise that I heard came from the Cambridge Commons.

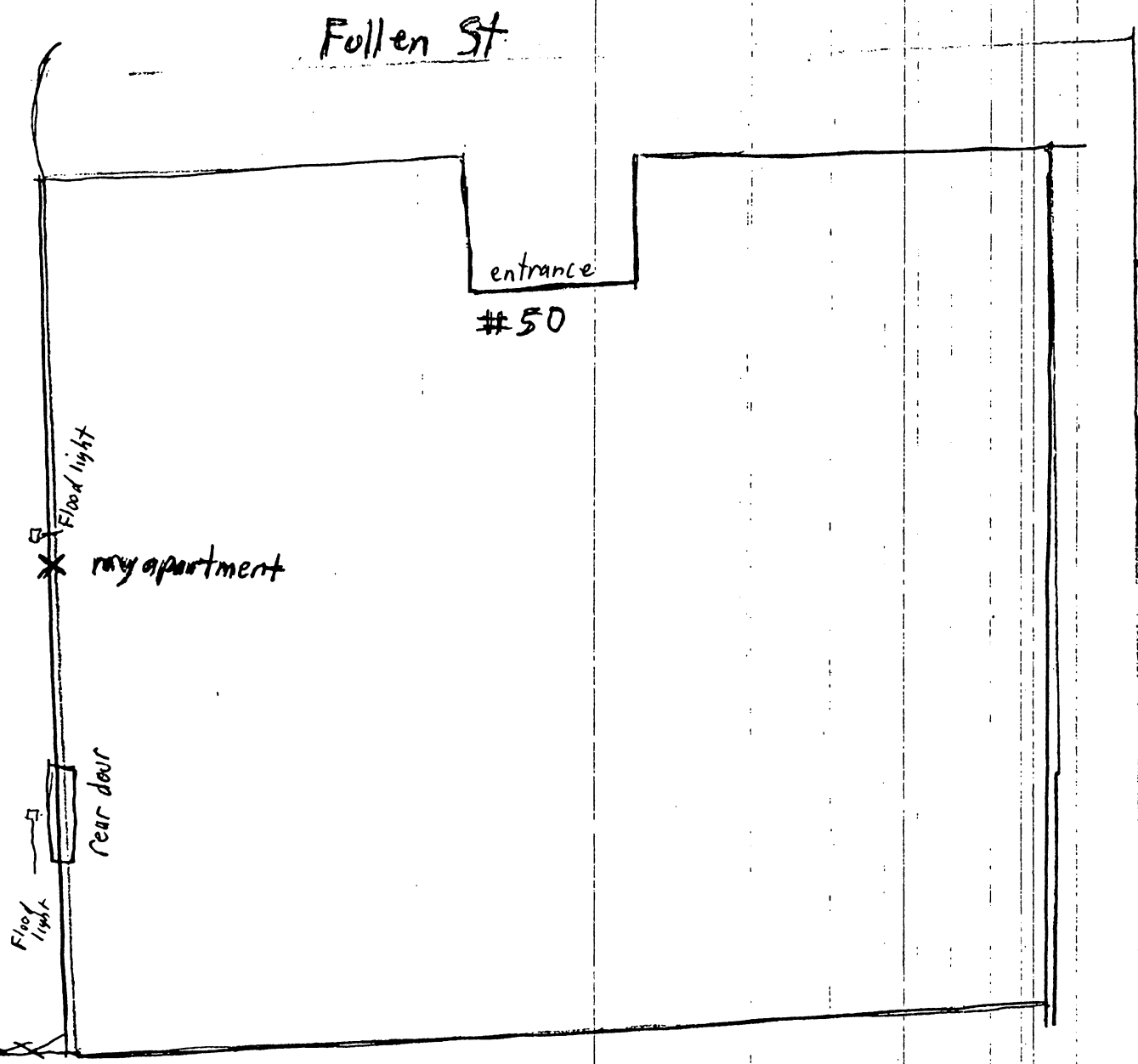
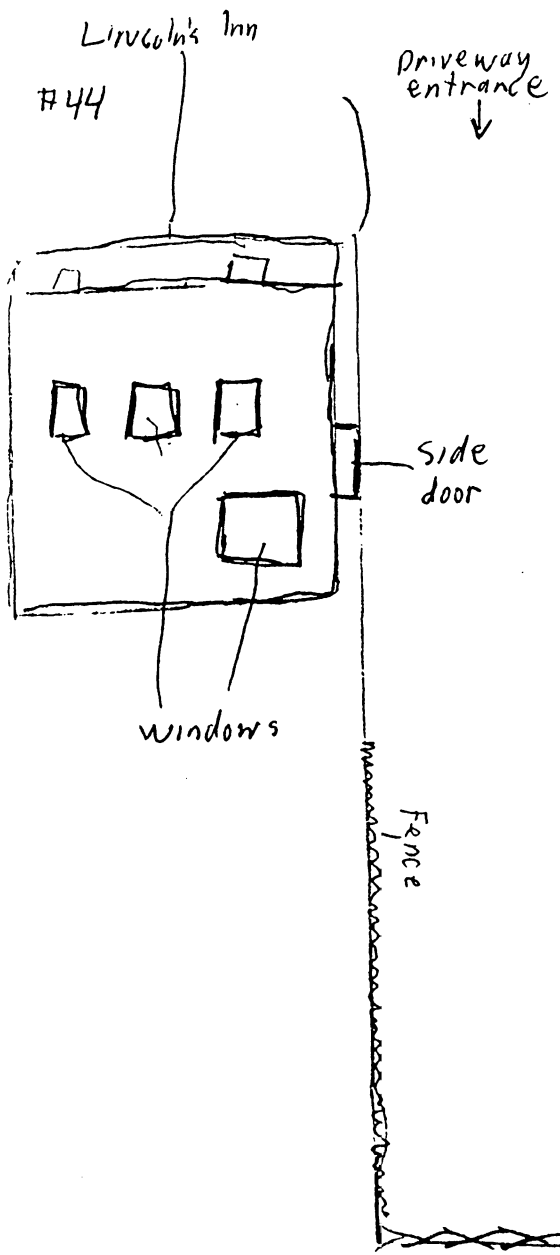
The enclosed map which I have drawn shows the proximity of my apartment in relation to Lincoln's Inn and will demonstrate the ludicrousness of their argument that the shouting I heard came from the Commons. As I stated in my testimony, my apartment is adjacent to the Lincoln's Inn. What I saw and heard came from 44 Follen Street. From my apartment window I can see right into the first and second floors of the Lincoln's Inn. In addition, I can also see the side door of their building, where people have entered and exited.

While I have acted in good faith by attending two meetings set up by Councilman Duohay to resolve this problem, I find it exceedingly difficult to work in harmony with people who attempt to deliberately distort the facts.

Sincerely,

*Bob Schoenberg*

Bob Schoenberg



CAMBRIDGE COMMONS  
WATERHOUSE STREET

Rear View

34 Follen Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138

November 26, 1990

Mr. Richard Scali  
Executive Officer  
Cambridge's Licensing Commission  
831 Mass. Ave  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Mr. Scali:

I am told that the Board and our Mayor are willing to give Lincoln's Inn another chance.

I certainly believe in hope and also expect that after all the commotion, the members will probably improve their behavior this year. However, I am not as impressed by their "new" Management Plan as you are. I feel the membership is still wide open; and I find it hard to continue the idea that the men who will be carrying out the law of the land, are willing to hide behind alumni their parents' age to make them behave like the responsible adults they should be.

Furthermore, although we have had to enforce "neighborliness" yearly; the long list of misdemeanors over the past forty years has not proven the reliability of "continuity", and the rapid turnover of the students does not ensure it in the future.

~~It takes a lot of effort to pull together neighborhood support. The Inn can pull together it's members more easily than we can. Yet the Inn's misdemeanours involve so many, City Boards: Zoning, Health and the Board of Licensing. Yet together the neighborhoods pay far more taxes to the City than Lincoln's Inn.~~

Therefore, I hope your recommendation will include some probationary measures: such as one day licensing permits for the parties or some way to control the liquor consumption at the Inn. I also feel that unsightly rubbish and rats do fall under the responsibility of eligibility for a Lodging Licence.

~~Thank you for your thoughtful consideration which has impressed me, November 6th.~~

Sincerely,

*Sheila G. Cook*

Sheila G. Cook

6.

## Miscellaneous Documents

Showing Lack of Action by

- A. Harvard University
- B. Cambridge License Commission
- C. Affiliation Between Lincoln ~~7~~ & Harvard Law School.

MARC A. RODWIN  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW  
50 FOLLEN STREET NO. 206  
CAMBRIDGE, MA 02138  
(617) 491-0696

March 21, 1991

Robert C. Clark  
Dean, Harvard Law School  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Dean Clark:

As you are aware, the Cambridge City Council will hold a hearing on the nuisance caused by the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn Society on April 1, at 7 p.m. and Dean of Students, Sarah Wald will attend.

I am writing to request that you attend yourself, or if you are unable to come, that at least you send your Vice-Dean David N. Smith to explain what measures the law school is taking to resolve the problem. The reason is simple. As I explained to you in my letter of February 25, efforts to resolve this problem through the dean of students over the last 20 or more years has been to no avail. This has been as true under the current dean of students as in the past. We do not believe they have authority to take the measures needed. The neighbors believe that until the issue receives attention at the highest level this problem will not be solved.

In your letter to me of March 6, you indicated that you did not have the time to meet with the neighborhood group. But you said that Vic-Dean Smith would handle the issue on your behalf. Sending Vice-Dean Smith to the Cambridge City Council would help indicate the seriousness of the law school's intent to resolve the problem. It is a needed measure because to date Vice-Dean Smith has been unable to meet with the Neighbors of the Harvard Law School's Lincoln's Inn. He also did not attend the License Commission hearing. We thus have little evidence that he is handling these matters on your behalf.

At the License Commission meeting on March 19th Sarah Wald presented a tentative law school plan that was inadequate to resolve the problem and showed little law school commitment. Neighbors indicated the problems with the plan at the License Commission hearing. I have also spoken to Vice-Dean Smith by telephone today indicating why the plan is unsatisfactory and indicating how it can be improved. We believe that the Cambridge City Council hearing is an appropriate opportunity for either yourself or Vice-Dean Smith to respond to the constructive suggestions that Neighbors have made on the tentative law school plan.

(letter to Dean Robert C. Clark, p. 2)

I am sure that you want to consult the neighborhood in devising a plan to stop the problems caused by your students. I also believe you want to explain the law school response in a public forum to help clear up the misunderstandings and ill will that has developed over this issue. A problem this serious should not be left to fester. The City Council meeting is a perfect opportunity to help resolve this problem. I therefore look forward to meeting you at the Cambridge City Council. If you are unable to attend I expect you will send Vice-Dean David Smith.

Sincerely,



Marc A. Rodwin, Esq.  
for the Neighbors' of  
the Harvard Law School's  
Lincoln's Inn Society

---

cc: Mr. Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk, to be distributed to  
City Councilors in preparation for the April 1 hearing.

April 7, HLS Adviser

David, I thought you might be interested. This is under the section: "Student Organizations." Gal

JOURNAL ON LEGISLATION: It's time for JOL t-shirts, sweatshirts, mugs, cups, etc. Order forms will be posted in the JOL office in the Publications Center tomorrow, April 8. Sign-up by next Friday, April 15 or you won't get any.

LAW & TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY: Meeting and election today, April 7, 4 pm, Mallory-Smith Room. Immediate franchise. Catch the wave of the Automated State.

LINCOLN'S INN SOCIETY: (1) This year's "Bar Golf" will be held Sat., April 9. "Bar Golf" is a members-only event in which the Inn is converted to an 18-hole course. Each member may bring one guest for free; additional guests will be charged \$5. Watch Hark boxes for mailers on this special event. (2) On Sat., April 16, the Inn will sponsor an open party for the Law School community. Admission: \$5 for HLS students, \$7 all others. Proper I.D. required for open bar. More information to follow.

MEDIATION PROGRAM: Reminder: members (and that includes everyone who has ever been in the program) -- we will be holding an inaugural meeting for the new non-elected Board of EMP, Tues., April 12, 6:30 pm, P500. If you would like to be a member of the Board of EMP, please come to the meeting or leave a note in Kim Dunnes 2L mailbox.

ROSCOE POUND SOCIETY: Elect a new president of the Roscoe Pound Society on Wed., April 13, 2-3 pm, ILS-2. 1Ls are especially important for changing the faces and the format. See you there.

PHI ALPHA DELTA: All members are encouraged to attend a reception Tues., April 12, 7 pm, John Chipman Gray Room. Come socialize with fellow PAD members and potential members. For information about the reception and tomorrow's plant sale, see the notices in the "General Information" section.

PRISON LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT: So you wanna be in the movies? How 'bout a video? The Law School Music Video is being taped in the next two weeks and they would like to film normal office activity at PLAP (ha!). Those of you interested in taking part in this video should talk to Lisa ASAP so that we can coordinate a time to be filmed. As for tonight's (April 7) board meeting, check in at the office to see if we are indeed having one.

ROSCOE POUND SOCIETY: See "General Interest" for info on our April Walking Tour of Cambridge.

SPIL Elections and Pizza Party: The next general meeting will be devoted to the eating of pizza, drinking of beverages, and the election of the new SPIL Board and two new chairpersons. The meeting will take place Mon., April 11, 7 pm, P100. We have a great group of nominees are looking forward to a great year for SPIL in this coming year. All members are encouraged to attend.

WLA: (1) Women's Lunch, tomorrow, April 8, 1-3 pm, Mallory-Smith Room. Topic is "Men in WLA -- Yes or No." WLA members only, please. (2) Do you have a cat? A new admit has questions about finding a Cambridge apartment that allows pets and about typical pet security deposits. If you can help answer her questions, contact Bonnie Savage (2L), 498-5067.

WLJ: Vol. 11 staff members (1Ls, 2Ls, and 3Ls) -- elections for editor-in-chief will be held next Thurs., April 14, 6:15 pm, in the WLJ office. Everyone who worked on Vol. 11 (no matter how small the task) is entitled to vote. Candidate statements are posted on bulletin board outside the WLJ office.

YEARBOOK: The 1988 Yearbook is proud to announce the winner of its April Fool's Gimmick: Dimitri Racklin (3L) will receive his Yearbook for free. For the rest of us, books are still available for \$29. Put a check made out to the 1988 Yearbook in Steve Bier's 2L box. Hurry, the price-jumps to \$30 soon. The book will be out by early May.

The Adviser is published every Thursday when classes are in session. Copy may be brought or sent to the Publications Center, Hastings Hall basement by 5 p.m. on Tuesday. Copy cannot be accepted over the phone. Notices must be legibly printed or typed on 8 1/2" x 11" paper and must bear the name and telephone number of the sender. Material may be edited to conserve space. No commercial advertising accepted.



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 498-9021

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief-of-Police Department  
Commission Member

THOMAS V. SCOTT  
Chief-of-Fire Department  
Commission Member

RICHARD V. SCALI  
Commission Executive Officer

April 26, 1988

Mr. David S. Browne  
50 Follen Street, #104  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Dear Mr. Browne:

Enclosed please find a copy of the inspection report on the Lincoln Inn. There were no serious problems apparent during the inspection, but we will continue to monitor the situation due to past problems.

It may be that, every September, the License Commission should remind the new group of lodgers at the Lincoln Inn that the Inn as a licensed lodging house must operate so as not to create a nuisance.

Please advise if there are comments or questions.

Very truly yours,

*James T. McDavitt*

James T. McDavitt  
License Commission Chair



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 498-9021

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief-of-Police Department  
Commission Member

399-6140

THOMAS V. SCOTT  
Chief-of-Fire Department  
Commission Member

RICHARD V. SCALI  
Commission Executive Officer

TO: Richard V. Scali, Executive Officer  
FROM: Marlene C. Knights, Chief Investigator  
RE: Lincoln Inn, 44 Follen Street  
DATE: April 26, 1988

Contact person: Kenneth Vermeulen, Chairman, 864-8601

As per your request, I investigated the above premises on Saturday, April 16, 1988.

I entered the Lincoln Inn at approximately 12 midnight and was not charged admission nor was I carded or hand-stamped, as was the normal procedure as explained to me by Kenneth Vermeulen. There was an admission fee for non-members.

~~I walked throughout the premises and observed the following:~~

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The entertainment area was located in the basement composed of amplified music through speakers which were placed facing towards 50 Follen Street. Within the Lincoln Inn, the music was not above conversation level; although outside the premises the music was audible. There was also a small dance area in the basement.

Patrons conducted themselves in an orderly manner. They seemed to be enjoying conversation and dance. There was no one that appeared intoxicated or high on drugs. Basically, everyone was well behaved.



# CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • TEL. 493-9021

JAMES THADDEUS McDAVITT  
Commission Chairman

ANTHONY G. PAOLILLO  
Chief-of-Police Department  
Commission Member

349-6190  
THOMAS V. SCOTT  
Chief-of-Fire Department  
Commission Member

RICHARD V. SCALI  
Commission Executive Officer

TO: Richard V. Scali, Executive Officer  
FROM: Marlene C. Knights, Chief Investigator  
RE: Lincoln Inn, 44 Follen Street  
DATE: April 26, 1988

Contact person: Kenneth Vermeulen, Chairman, 864-8601

As per your request, I investigated the above premises on Saturday, April 16, 1988.

I entered the Lincoln Inn at approximately 12 midnight and was not charged admission nor was I carded or hand-stamped, as was the normal procedure as explained to me by Kenneth Vermeulen. There was an admission fee for non-members.

I walked throughout the premises and observed the following:

(Three) bars set up (one) on the first floor, (one) on the second floor and (one) in the basement. Bartenders were serving alcoholic drinks to patrons with the appropriate hand stamp as well as non-alcoholic beverages to those who were previously carded at the door and hand-stamped. All beverages were free.

The entertainment area was located in the basement composed of amplified music through speakers which were placed facing towards 50 Follen Street. Within the Lincoln Inn, the music was not above conversation level; although outside the premises the music was audible. There was also a small dance area in the basement.

Patrons conducted themselves in an orderly manner. They seemed to be enjoying conversation and dance. There was no one that appeared intoxicated or high on drugs. Basically, everyone was well behaved.



COPY

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
MASSACHUSETTS 02139 • 617-498-9094

Councillor Francis H. Duehav  
26 LOWELL STREET  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138  
617-547-0271

March 19, 1991

Cambridge License Commission  
Lombardi Building - Cambridge City Hall  
831 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Re: Lincoln's Inn

Dear Members of the Commission:

Due to conflicting meetings, I cannot appear in person before the commission concerning this important decision this evening. I ask that you read this letter into the record.

For years disturbances have been noted at the Lincoln's Inn during and after large parties where music and dancing is provided and liquor served. These parties have been widely advertised and are an opportunity, for the most part very much deserved, for graduate students to relax in a pleasant social setting. No one can object to having these opportunities available, but not in a quiet residential neighborhood.

While these repeated disturbances were not brought before the License Commission before last fall, they should have been. Numerous complaints to the police should have resulted in referrals to the License Commission throughout the years. It is only after I explained to neighbors that they could appeal to the License Commission that they did so. And the information they have compiled about rowdiness and noise emanating from late night parties over the years is simply overwhelming. I should not have to have been the official that pointed out citizen rights to affected neighbors. The system in this case did not work for years, although belatedly it certainly is working now. Neither should the neighbors have to have put these long hours into compiling the facts and organizing the testimony which have brought them this far. They have every right to feel that the city should act in their behalf by doing whatever is necessary about premises under their jurisdiction to ensure public order.

There have been few disturbances this fall due to the steps Lincoln's Inn have taken. By far the most important step is to have large parties away from Lincoln's Inn and on the Harvard Law School campus.

To the extent to which Lincoln's Inn is a residential and eating club it will in the future be a good neighbor. If it is allowed to continue to have large parties on premises, it can be predicted with confidence that these incidents will reoccur.

If you, the License Commission, in your wisdom decide to renew the lodging house license, I urge you to do so only with the provision that large parties cannot be held on premises. A license is a privilege. If the Inn argues that such a proviso cannot be attached or that they will go to court to challenge it, then the Commission should in no circumstances renew the license under any condition.

*A. G. Anthony*



# City of Cambridge

14.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 10, 1990

COUNCILLOR WALSH

- WHEREAS: In view of and in response to the attached communications received regarding neighborhood complaints and concern with activities allegedly emanating from the Lincoln's Inn Society's house at 44 Follen Street, Cambridge, it is a matter of urgency that the principals involved be invited to come before this City Council for discussion of the problems at hand; now therefore be it
- ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and is requested to invite March A. Rodwin, J.D., for the neighbors, Attorney David A. Wylie, Counsel for Lincoln's Inn, and Ms. Sarah Wald, Dean of Students, Harvard Law School, to come before the City Council on Monday, December 17, 1990 or, be that date inconvenient, at the earliest regularly scheduled City Council session thereafter, to discuss and attempt resolution of the problems presently at hand; and be it further
- ORDERED: That the City Clerk advise this City Council as soon as possible about the finalization of a date and time for this requested hearing.

In City Council December 10, 1990.  
 Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.  
 Attest: Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

*Joseph E. Connarton*

Joseph E. Connarton  
 City Clerk



# City of Cambridge

14

## IN CITY COUNCIL

Councillor Walsh

December 10, 1990

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ORDERED: That the City Clerk advise this Council as soon as possible about the finalization of a date and time for this requested hearing.

(ATTACHMENT - Three (3) Pages)

FAX NUMBER AT CITY COUNCIL OFFICE IS: 349-4287  
FAX NUMBER AT CITY MANAGER OFFICE IS: 349-4307



# City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL FORM

DATE:

FROM: Personal Office of Councillor Wm. H. Walsh  
954 Cambridge Street  
Cambridge, MA. 02141  
Telephone: 617 354 3366  
FAX NUMBER: 617 876 9331

TO: Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk / John Flynn, Deputy City Clerk  
Office of the City Clerk  
City Hall, Cambridge, MA. 02139  
(KINDNESS OF CITY MANAGER'S STAFF)

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 2

If you do not receive all the pages, please telephone immediately.

REMARKS: I am enclosing a Council Order regarding the membership  
of the LICENSE COMMISSION which Councillor Walsh requests  
be included in Council Agenda for MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1990

Please give me a call so that I know this has been received.

SIGNATURE OF PERSON IN COUNCILLOR WALSH'S OFFICE TRANSMITTING  
THE DOCUMENT(S).

David F. Noonan

November 18, 1990

Councillor William Walsh  
Cambridge City Hall  
795 Mass Avenue  
Cambridge, MA.

Dear Councillor Walsh:

I am writing to alert you to a controversy that has recently become a made public at the Cambridge Licensing Commission. The issue may be written about in the press and I wanted to make the position of the citizen's group clear to members of the city council. The issue concerns the relations between Harvard University Law School, the City of Cambridge, and neighbors of the law school. It also concerns a major public health problem, namely public drunkenness and drunken driving.

Simply put, a group of Harvard Law School students that are members of an official law school club called the Lincoln's Inn Society own a house on 44 Follen Street, Cambridge and have designated that house as an Inn. Although the inn was originally granted a variance to locate at 44 Follen Street solely as a place to receive meals and study, its use has changed and it now regularly hosts drinking parties for large numbers of people. These parties create a public nuisance. The City of Cambridge Licensing Commission held a hearing on November 13th to consider whether to revoke, suspend, or condition the Inn's license. On November 27th the Licensing Commission will reconvene to consider the matter and come to a decision.

The Lincoln's Inn parties last to 3:00 or 4:00 in the morning. The parties attract hundreds of people, many from outside Cambridge. Vast amounts of alcohol are consumed and the drunk party-goers yell, trespass on neighbor's property, harass and intimidate neighbors, foul the surroundings with beer bottles, cups and other debris, and have even occasionally relieved themselves in public. The problem has caused some neighbors to move out of the neighborhood and others not to purchase condominiums in the abutting apartment building. As the statements and testimony poignantly show, many of those who remained have felt "victimized in their own homes."

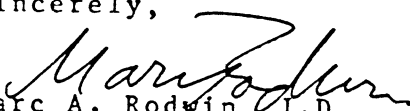
Enclosed with this letter is a copy of materials submitted by the neighborhood to the Cambridge Licencing Commission which provides graphic detail of the problem. It includes statements by 30 individuals attesting to the problem. It also includes documents showing the history of the problem going back decades and demonstrates that past efforts to resolve it through discussions with the Lincoln's Inn and the Harvard Law School have been futile. These documents contain personal testimony of

shocking behavior by Lincoln's Inn members and indicate that the Harvard Law School and the city has neglected to take appropriate action to address the problem.

At the November 13th hearing, the hearing room was packed wall to wall with neighbors testifying to the Harvard Law School Lincoln's Inn nuisance. The commission heard approximately two hours of testimony. A full transcript of the hearing may be obtained from the Cambridge Licencing Commission in approximately three weeks, or immediately from David Wylie, the attorney for the Lincoln's Inn Society, who had a court reporter transcribe the proceedings as well. We believe that you will find the transcript revealing. Graduates of the Lincoln's Inn made remarkable statements including suggesting that neighbors purchase ear plugs and that neighbors who moved into a neighborhood near a university must adjust to the noise of student parties.

Many city councillors and city officials have not heard of these problems in the past. We are writing this letter to keep you informed and would be happy to answer any question you may have.

Sincerely,

  
Marc A. Rodwin, J.D.  
for the neighbors  
50 Follen Street, Apt. 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138

P. S. For additional information you may wish to contact:

Marc A. Rodwin, Spokesman for the Neighbors 491-0696

Sarah Wald, Dean of Students, Harvard Law School 495-1880

David A. Wylie, Attorney for Lincoln's Inn 423-1233

November 20, 1990

BY FAX: 876-9331  
Councillor William Walsh

Dear Mr. Walsh:

I appreciate your support with the Lincoln's Inn matter. Upon further reflection I think it may be better if we postpone raising the issue before the Cambridge City Council.

I do not want to appear to be improperly influencing the Licensing Commission the day before the vote. Moreover, I think fairness would require that the Lincoln's Inn be represented as well. Furthermore, the effect of discussing the problem is likely to be greater if we can organize a turn out of supporters.

I still do want to discuss the matter before the Cambridge City Council but feel this should be done after the Licensing Commission hearing.

I will keep you appraised of our efforts to resolve the matter and am grateful for your support.

Sincerely,

Marc A. Rodwin, J.D  
50 Follen Street, Apt. 206  
Cambridge, MA 02138



# City of Cambridge

14.

IN CITY COUNCIL

December 10, 1990

COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS: In view of and in response to the attached communications received regarding neighborhood complaints and concern with activities allegedly emanating from the Lincoln's Inn Society's house at 44 Follen Street, Cambridge, it is a matter of urgency that the principals involved be invited to come before this City Council for discussion of the problems at hand; now therefore be it

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ORDERED: That the City Clerk advise this City Council as soon as possible about the finalization of a date and time for this requested hearing.

City Council Dec. 10, 1990  
Adopted by the affirmative vote  
of 9 members

Joseph E. Conroy City Clerk

Order # 14 S-1212

Councillor Walsh re: complains emanating from the Lincoln's Inn Society's house at 44 Follen Street.

In City Council,

December 10, 1990

*Order adopted*