

City Engineer's Office City Hall
Cambridge March 6, 1872.

To the Honorable the Mayor and Aldermen,
Gentlemen.

The City Engineer, to whom was referred sundry petitions relating to the lines and grades of streets, reports as follows.

The petition of Hancock and Greely, for the line and grade of Broadway, has been complied with in full. The petition of R. N. Roof and of Henry O. Marcy, severally, for the line and grade of Main St., has not been attended to, from the fact that an uncertainty still exists with reference to the original, - the existing, - or the lines which public requirements call for, to be observed in the improvements alluded to by the petitioners.

In 1635, that portion of Main St. West of Inman and Pleasant Sts. was known as the "Highway to the Oyster Bank"; from this point East, as the "Highway to Pelham's Island."

In 1793, Main St., from Pelham's Island to the public meeting house in the First Parish, was laid out four rods, or 66 ft., wide. The record of said laying out is but verbiage,

and traces of the road, as then existing, like snow tracks, disappeared ages past.

No action has been taken since that early date by the Court of Sessions, County Commissioners, Town Authorities, or by the City, except in a few instances, covering detached and short sections of the street; and the passage of an order relating to the lines of said street between Clinton St. and Front St.

All now occupied, resulting from said laying out, dedication, and use, it is of varying width; from 66 to 105 ft. in width between the points last named. To improve, preserve, and legalize present occupancy, action on the part of the City Council is necessary; until which occurs, I cannot see clearly the manner in which to harmonize all questions pertaining to said lines.

I would recommend that the lines of Main St., from Brookline St. to Clinton St., be defined and established by authority of the City Government.

Respectfully submitted.

J. G. Chase
City Engineer

In Board of Aldermen, March 6, 1872.

Referred to the Committee on Roads and Bridges.
Sent down for concurrence.

Attest: Justin A. Jacobs, City Clerk.

Approved, Attest
In Union Council Mch, 12/72
J. W. Cotton Clerk,

Mch. 18/72 approved,

Henry Oldenbloom
Mayor.

March 6, 1872.

James M. Chase
President

Refused -
City Engineer -
Union of Clean Sts, &c.

Cambridge, Feb 7 21st 1872

To the Honorable, the Mayor, and Aldermen,
of the City of Cambridge.

The undersigned respectfully prays that a License may be granted him to obstruct Main Street upon its southerly side near Pearl Street while building. And also that the line and grade of Main Street may be given him. And also that I own 15 feet of the present sidewalk in front of my estate,

R. N. Roaf.

In Room of Aldermen, Feb. 21. 1872.

The above Petition, except so much thereof as refers to obstructing the street while building, is referred to the City Engineers.

Attest Justin A. Jacobs. City Clerk

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Pelican
of R. M. Roof -
building, etc., clean str.

Feb. 21. 1872 -