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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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**OSTON LANDMARKS COMMISSION**

**Building Information Form**

**Form No.** __

**Area** Cambridge St.

**ADDRESS** 6-18 Blossom St.  
**COR.** Cambridge St.

**AME Planning Office**  
present original

**AP No.** 26N-12E  
**SUB AREA** Cambridge St.

**DATE** 1929  
1929 Boston City Directory

**ARCHITECT** source

**BUILDER** source

**OWNER** Massachusetts General Hospital

**PHOTOGRAPHS** _3 1/2 *87_

<table>
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<th>TYPE (residential)</th>
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<th>row</th>
<th>2-fam.</th>
<th>3-deck</th>
<th>ten apt.</th>
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<tr>
<th>ROOF</th>
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<th>asbestos</th>
<th>alum/vinyl</th>
<th>iron/steel/alum.</th>
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**BRIEF DESCRIPTION**

Three-story, brick, Colonial Revival structure, symmetrically arranged with five centered bays on a very shallow projecting pavilion with blank outside bays. Belt coursing between first and second floors. Simple metal cornice below balustraded parapet. Centered doorway is classical in design, of cast concrete with fluted pilasters and a pediment of triglyphs and projecting moldings. The door itself is recessed with an arched fanlight. Windows are metal sash. (continued)

**EXTERIOR ALTERATION** minor drastic

**CONDITION** good fair poor

**LOT AREA** 7667 sq. feet

**NOTEWORTHY SITE CHARACTERISTICS**

**SIGNIFICANCE** (cont'd on reverse)

This building is most noteworthy as the former West End House, founded in 1907, as a settlement house founded by a Boston native. It was soon taken over as a settlement house by the increasing number of Jews in the neighborhood and continued to serve Jewish Youth through the 1950s. In the 1960s there were few Jewish youths left in the neighborhood and the (continued)
organization served the local Italian children. It was used primarily for athletics, games, and arts and crafts. In 1965 it was bought by HGH and converted to the Planning Office. The West End House still exists in Brighton where it moved after leaving the West End.

The building's past is honored with a plaque on the building, near the entrance.
ADDRESS 16-18 Blossom St.

NAME MGH Planning Office

DESCRIPTION CONTINUED:

First and second floor windows have three horizontal panes; third floor windows which appear to be in a ballroom or large meeting hall are twice the length of those on lower floors, have brick arches with six horizontal panes below the arch. All windows have brick lintels.