



City of Cambridge

Executive Department

YI-AN HUANG
City Manager

CMA 2026-284
IN CITY COUNCIL
October 5, 2026

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Please see attached a memo from Charles Sullivan, Historical Commission Executive Director, conveying a response to Awaiting Report 26-56 regarding placement of a historical marker on 103 Irving Street in recognition of Julia Child's life.

Very truly yours,

Yi-An Huang
City Manager





CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

831 Massachusetts Avenue, 2nd Fl., Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Telephone: 617 349 4683 E-mail: histcomm@cambridgema.gov

URL: <https://www.cambridgema.gov/historic>

Chandra Harrington, *Chair*; Elizabeth Lyster, *Vice Chair*; Charles Sullivan, *Executive Director*
Joseph V. Ferrara, Gavin W. Kleespies, Paula A. Paris, Kyle Sheffield, Yuting Zhang, *Members*
Florrie Darwin, Scott Kyle, Michael Rogove, *Alternates*

September 30, 2026

To: Yi-An Huang

From: Charles Sullivan

Re: AR 26-56

The above referenced Council Order requests the City Manager to confer with the Historical Commission “regarding placing a historical marker on 103 Irving Street in recognition of Julia Child’s life.”

Julia Child (1912-2004) is nationally recognized as a significant figure in late 20th century popular culture and is still remembered by many as a distinctive Cambridge figure.

The Historical Commission would favor placing a blue oval marker on or near the Child house to commemorate her residence there, similar to the one at 95 Irving Steet commemorating the philosopher William James. The property is privately owned and currently on the market. CHC staff will approach the owners and request permission to install a marker on the house itself or on the fence by the sidewalk.

A blue oval marker can be fabricated from blank stock on hand and installed in two or three months at a cost of approximately \$1,500, if the property owners are willing to accept it.