



Cambridge Historical Commission

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4 March 1999

To the Honorable the City Council:

This year, the Cambridge Historical Commission strengthened its commitment to share the architectural and social history of Cambridge with students in the public schools. Commission staff created a series of five programs, which are detailed in the attached flyer, to introduce young students to the history of their city. The programs support the curriculum goals and guidelines established by the school department and include slide presentations and neighborhood walking tours. The flyer was distributed to social studies teachers at Cambridge's fifteen elementary schools earlier this year. Thus far, presentations have been scheduled for students at the Tobin, Kennedy, and Agassiz schools.

Sincerely,

Kathleen (Kit) L. Rawlins
Assistant Director



EXPLORING CAMBRIDGE: CAMBRIDGE HISTORICAL COMMISSION EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Presentations, offered free of charge, take place in or near the classroom or meeting place, last 30 to 45 minutes and are geared to the age group of the participants. **Programs are offered on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays only.** Please call at least three weeks in advance of the desired date. To arrange for a program or for more information, contact Kit Rawlins at the Cambridge Historical Commission.

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"A fit place for a fortified town:" The Settlement of Cambridge

In the spring of 1630, a fleet of 11 ships carrying 700 English passengers arrived in the Massachusetts Bay Colony to establish a new Godly community. Who were these Puritan settlers? Why did they leave England? What drew them to Cambridge and what kind of town did they build? Slide presentation includes biographical sketches of prominent settlers.

Coming to America: Immigrant Groups in Cambridge

Driven out of Ireland by the devastating potato blight of 1845, thousands of Irish found work in the clay pits and brickyards of North Cambridge and as laborers in East Cambridge factories. Immigrants from Italy, Poland, and Portugal followed, as well as Russian Jews and French Canadians. Slide presentation focuses on immigrant groups through the turn of the century and discusses: reasons for immigration; work; living conditions; and family life.

First in Line: The Remarkable Women of Cambridge

Cambridge has long been a city of remarkable women. Learn about the inspiring contributions of such diverse women as Anne Bradstreet, Margaret Fuller, and Maria Baldwin. Slide presentation focuses primarily on women through the beginning of the 20th century.

I Live Here!: Neighborhood History

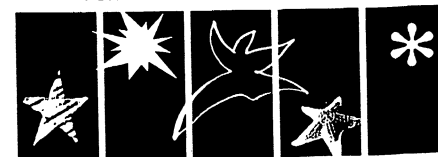
Cambridge is made up of distinct neighborhoods, each with its own history. Old Cambridge was the site of the original settlement. Cambridgeport grew up along the roads leading to the West Boston (now Longfellow) Bridge. East Cambridge was the city's major industrial center. North Cambridge once was home to cattle yards, clay pits, and a race track. Mid Cambridge was a commuter suburb. Slide presentations explore the development of specific neighborhoods--around a school, meeting place or other chosen area.

Dormers, Dentils and Drip Molding: Identifying Architectural Styles

Cambridge neighborhoods boast a variety of architectural styles, from Georgian and Greek Revival to Bracketed Italianate and Queen Anne. On a walking tour of a specific neighborhood (around a school, meeting place or other area), learn how to look at buildings, name architectural details, and identify various styles.



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Communication was received from
the Cambridge Historical Commission
transmitting information regarding a
series of five programs to introduce
young students to the history of their
city.