

# CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

# THIRD QUARTER 2003 CRIME REPORT

January 1st to September 30th

**FULL STATISTICS,  
DESCRIPTIONS &  
ANALYSES  
COVERING:**

- Part I and Part II Crimes
- Reviews of Cambridge  
Neighborhoods



**Ronnie Watson**  
*Police  
Commissioner*

**Robert W. Healy**  
*City Manager*

**Crime Analysis Unit**

5 Western Avenue • Cambridge, MA 02139 • 617-349-3390 • [www.cambridgepolice.org](http://www.cambridgepolice.org)

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**Cambridge Police Department  
2003 Third Quarter  
Crime Report  
Neighborhood Profiles**

**Produced by the  
Cambridge Police  
Crime Analysis Unit:**

**Richard E. Sevieri**  
Senior Crime Analyst

**Sara Bressman**

**Heidi Baez**

**Patrick Leighton**

Crime Analysis Interns

**Stephen Maywalt**

Information Systems Manager

**Officer Daniel Wagner**

Information Systems Administrator

**Sergeant Frederic Riley**

Unit Supervisor

**Deputy Michael Walsh**

Deputy Superintendent of

Administrative Services

**Superintendent Michael Giacoppo**

Superintendent of Support Services

Crime Analysis Unit

Cambridge Police Department

5 Western Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139

617-349-3390

[canalysis@cambridgepolice.org](mailto:canalysis@cambridgepolice.org)

<http://www.cambridgepolice.org>

# Crimes Reported in Cambridge

January 1 to September 30

Crime	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2000	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	Change 02-03
<b>Murder</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>*Inc.</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>*Inc.</b>
Stranger	3	2	2	1	*Inc.
Non-Stranger	6	8	8	6	*Inc.
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>+23%</b>
Commercial	18	22	27	28	+4%
Street	112	103	106	135	+27%
<b>Agg. Assault</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>-13%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>569</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>-21%</b>
Commercial	129	98	128	113	-12%
Residential	288	381	441	335	-24%
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>2148</b>	<b>2109</b>	<b>2143</b>	<b>1851</b>	<b>-14%</b>
Building	460	394	403	403	N.C.
Fm. Motor Vehicle	504	538	561	487	-13%
Person	270	334	296	239	-19%
Bicycle	282	244	227	169	-26%
Shoplifting	271	342	349	265	-24%
Residence	168	122	158	167	+6%
MV Plate	119	75	76	63	-17%
Services	13	21	23	26	+13%
Misc.	61	39	50	32	-36%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>-7%</b>
<b>Total Violent</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>-2%</b>
<b>Total Prop.</b>	<b>2912</b>	<b>2995</b>	<b>3059</b>	<b>2623</b>	<b>-14%</b>
<b>Index Total</b>	<b>3296</b>	<b>3357</b>	<b>3438</b>	<b>2996</b>	<b>-13%</b>

## First Nine Months in Review

The downward trend in crime in Cambridge continued in the third quarter of 2003. Over the first nine months of 2003, there were 442 fewer index crimes reported in the City when compared with the same time period last year. The decrease from 3438 incidents recorded between January 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of 2002 to 2996 incidents this year reveals a thirteen percent decrease in serious crime. Further analysis indicates that despite declines in murder, rape and assault, violent crime fell only two percent as these drops were offset by a twenty-three percent increase in robbery. The twenty-one percent decline in burglary helped propel the fourteen percent slide in property crime when compared with 2002.

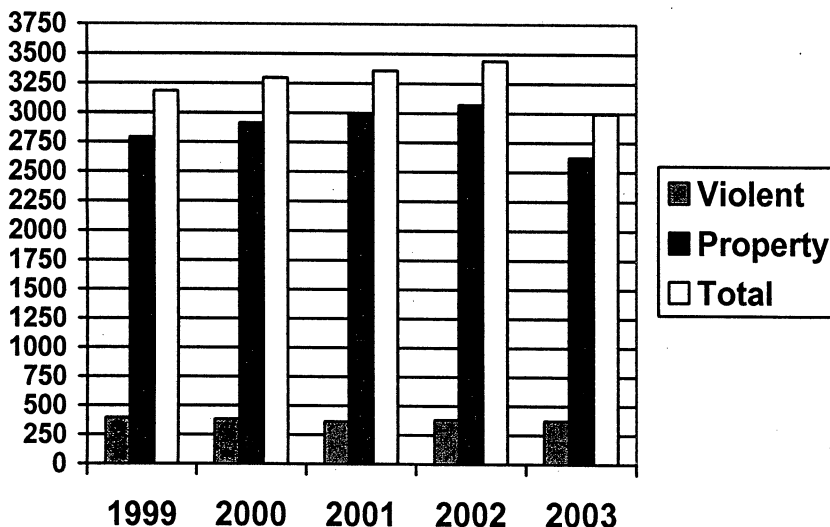
The twenty-three percent increase in robbery was fueled by the twenty-seven percent increase in street robberies. Despite the fact that many neighborhoods experienced an increase in this crime, no major street robbery patterns emerged.

Year to date, housebreaks are down twenty-four percent. However, housebreaks increased considerably in the last two months of the third quarter. This increase was due to a pattern of breaks that plagued the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. The housebreak total in Mid-Cambridge consistently ranks highest among the City's neighborhoods, however, from mid-August to the end of the quarter, thirty-three housebreaks were reported in this neighborhood. During the same time period in 2002, only five housebreaks were reported. All of the breaks reported in this year's pattern were concentrated below Broadway in an area bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Ellery Street.

Overall, statistical indicators point to a Serious Crime Index in 2003 below 4000 incidents for the first time in forty years.

\*Note: percentages are not calculated for numbers so small as to lead to a statistically misleading percentage.

January-September Crime,  
Past 5 Years



**THIRD QUARTER CRIME REPORT 2003**



# **PART I CRIMES**

**MURDER**

**RAPE**

**ROBBERY**

**AGGRAVATED ASSAULT**

**BURGLARY**

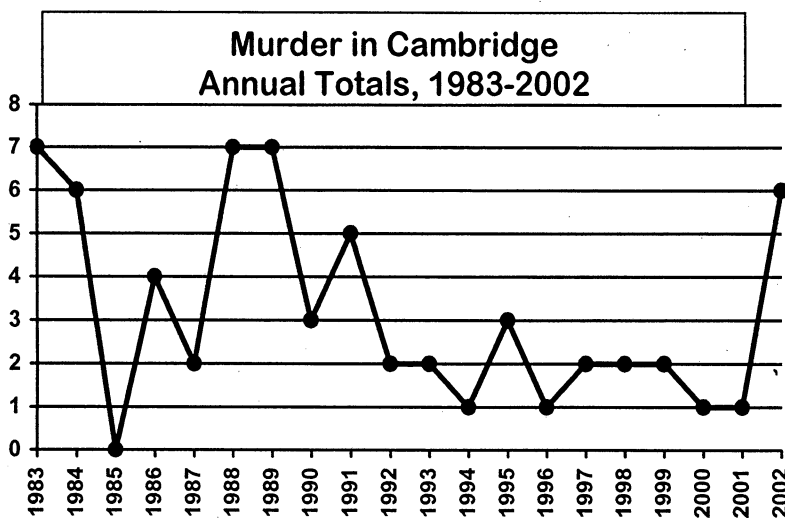
**LARCENY**

**AUTO THEFT**

# MURDER

Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter, as defined in the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, is the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense, as for all other Crime Index Offenses, is based solely on police investigation, as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. Not included in the count for this offense classification are deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident; justifiable homicides; and attempts to murder or assaults with the intent to murder, which are scored as aggravated assaults.

**5 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 2 reported in the first nine months of 2003**



THE first murder of the year in Cambridge occurred in the early morning hours of Saturday, April 12th, 2003. Alexander Pring-Wilson, a 25-year-old Harvard University graduate student, was arrested for the stabbing death of Michael Colono, an 18-year-old Cambridgeport resident. The incident involved the escalation of a verbal exchange into a street fight in front of 208 Western Avenue. On Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, Pring-Wilson was released on \$400,000 cash bail with restrictions. This case is awaiting trial.

**A**N afternoon shooting in early June marked the second homicide of 2003 for the City of Cambridge. Officers responded to the parking lot of Kentucky Fried Chicken located on Massachusetts Avenue, just past Porter Square to find the victim, Robert Scott, lying face down from bullet wounds to the back. Multiple witnesses stated that Scott and his girlfriend were waiting for the bus when the suspect came up to them and began firing at Scott, which eventually led to his death. Thanks to willing witnesses, Markendy Jean of Malden was identified as the prime suspect responsible for this homicide. Warrants were issued for Jean and after it was discovered that he had fled to Northern Florida, surveillance was set up. Due to the combined efforts of the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, Cambridge Police Department and Massachusetts State Police, along with the cooperation of the Metro-Dade and North Miami Police Department, Jean turned himself over to the authorities in the early morning hours of July 3, 2002. Jean is currently in custody and awaiting trial.

# RAPE

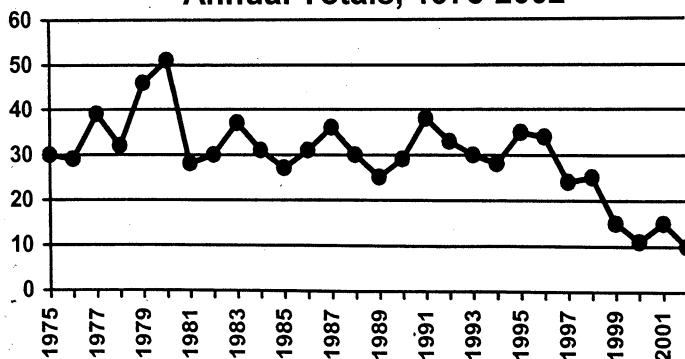
Forcible Rape, as defined by the Uniform Crime Reporting Program is the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. Attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force, and assaults with the intent to commit rape, are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses are excluded.

**10 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 7 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

There were three fewer rapes reported in the first nine months of 2003 than reported in the same time period in 2002. Of the seven rapes reported so far this year, four were completed rapes and three were attempts. All four of the completed rapes were "contact" rapes, meaning that the suspect contacted the victim and tried to gain his/her confidence before assaulting him/her. Of the attempted rapes, two were classified as "contact" rapes. Contact rapists usually pick up their victims in bars, lure them into their cars or houses, or

otherwise try to coerce the victim into a situation in which they can begin their assault. The third attempt was classified as a "stranger" rape and involved a young female at an area park who was approached by an unknown male who asked her if she would like some alcohol. The female fled, but later was approached by the suspect again, who pushed her into a Port-a-Potty and tried to take off her clothes. The female was able to get out of the Port-a-Potty and fled the scene. A Cambridge man was later arrested for this attempted rape.

**Rape in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1975-2002**



# ROBBERY

*Robbery is the taking or attempted taking of anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. This crime includes muggings, purse snatchings, and bank hold-ups.*

**133 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 163 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

A twenty-three percent increase was reported in the first nine months of 2003 when compared to the first nine months of 2002. The commercial robbery total remains steady with only one

Type	3rd Q. 2002	3rd Q. 2003	% Change
Commercial Robbery	27	28	+4%
Street Robbery	106	135	+27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>+23%</b>

additional incident reported this year when compared to the same period last year. The twenty-three percent increase this year is thus fueled by an increase in street robbery incidents.

## COMMERCIAL ROBBERY

Although the overall commercial robbery total has remained steady when compared to last year, bank robberies in particular have increased dramatically. Fourteen of the twenty-eight robberies reported in the first nine months of 2003 occurred at area banks. This is a significant increase from the six bank robberies reported during the same time period last year. Many of the high totals reported in the business districts can be attributed to this increase in bank robberies. For example, five out of the six robberies reported in the 1500-1900 Mass. Ave. business district, and three out of the four robberies reported in both the Kendall Square/M.I.T. business district and the Central Square business district were at area banks. Of the fourteen bank robberies reported in the first nine months of the year, nine took place in the first three months. Incidents have typically consisted of 'note-passers' who pass a note to the bank teller demanding cash in lieu of physical harm. Cambridge Police arrested an Everett man in late January after he passed a note at an Inman Square bank and the Federal Bureau of Investigations has arrested at least two individuals who have been linked to at least five Cambridge bank robberies.

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Robberies		
Business Districts	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
Galleria/East Cambridge	6	3
Kendall Square/MIT	1	4
Inman Square	1	2
Central Square	4	4
Cambridgeport/Riverside	0	0
Bay Square/Upper B.way	1	1
Harvard Square	5	2
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	3	6
Porter Square	4	3
Alewife/West Cambridge	2	3

The remaining fourteen commercial robberies in the City occurred at various locations such as gas stations, drug stores, and other miscellaneous retail locations. When analyzing the business districts without including bank robberies, East Cambridge, Alewife, and Porter Square reported the most activity.

Three commercial robberies were reported in the East Cambridge/Galleria business district in the first nine months of 2003. The first transpired in late May when a confident culprit walked into Hedin Furniture, demanding money out of the safe. After finding the safe empty, the suspect took a small amount of cash from the register and fled. The second and third robberies in this business district occurred at the same gas station on Monsignor O'Brien Highway. In March an unknown suspect walked into the gas station and asked to use the bathroom. The suspect then waited for everyone else to leave the store before approaching the counter, displaying a knife, and demanding money from the clerk. The second gas station robbery occurred in June when a masked robber approached the clerk with a handgun and demanded money from the register.

The Alewife/West Cambridge business district also reported three robberies in the first nine months of 2003. The first two robberies in this business district were at the same drug store on Huron Avenue and seem to have been committed by the same suspect. The suspect entered the store near closing time and demanded Percocet and OxyContin. The third Alewife robbery occurred at a gas station on Concord Avenue when an unknown masked robber came in with a handgun and demanded money.

The first robbery reported in Porter Square occurred at a gas station on Mass. Ave. and followed the same pattern as the other gas station robberies discussed above. The second robbery resulted in the arrest of a Maynard man after he went into CVS to use the phone and then turned on the employees with a knife. This man attempted to physically hold an employee in order to get what he wanted, but before the demands were made, the employee broke free without incident.

## STREET ROBBERY

Street robbery increased by twenty-seven percent when compared to the same time period in 2002. Seven of the thirteen neighborhoods experienced an increase in street robbery. Of those seven, the Cambridgeport and North Cambridge neighborhoods experienced the most dramatic increases. Activity reported in those two neighborhoods is reviewed in detail below.

Robberies in the Cambridgeport neighborhood were clustered in two locations: within the 500 block of Massachusetts Avenue and in an area of Magazine Street, between Cottage & Erie Streets. Incidents were concentrated on weekends between 11:00 p.m. and 3:00 a.m. Most of the incidents were crude in nature, meaning that the perpetrator appeared inexperienced in committing the crime. No robberies were reported in the month of August. In total, twenty-one arrests were made in Cambridgeport over the first nine months of the year, which stemmed from nine incidents. All but four of the

Neighborhood	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2003
East Cambridge	12	9	10
MIT	2	0	2
Inman/Harrington	7	10	6
Area 4	18	24	22
Cambridgeport	19	9	29
Mid-Cambridge	13	11	10
Riverside	8	9	12
Agassiz	4	5	2
Peabody	7	6	8
West Cambridge	8	11	7
North Cambridge	4	9	23
Cambridge Highlands	0	1	2
Strawberry Hill	1	2	2

arrestees were residents of Cambridge. For more information regarding street robbery arrests made in this neighborhood or any other neighborhood, see the notable arrests reviewed at the end of this section.

Of the twenty-three robberies in North Cambridge, only five involved the use of a weapon. Incidents were heavily concentrated along Massachusetts and Rindge Avenues on Mondays through Wednesdays between 9:00 p.m. and 1:00 a.m. Like the Cambridgeport robberies, most of the North Cambridge robberies were also crude in nature. Incidents often involved victims being approached by several unknown teenaged suspects at one time, demanding the victim's money.

Of the one hundred and thirty-five street robberies reported during the first nine months of 2003, here is a quick recap of the events:

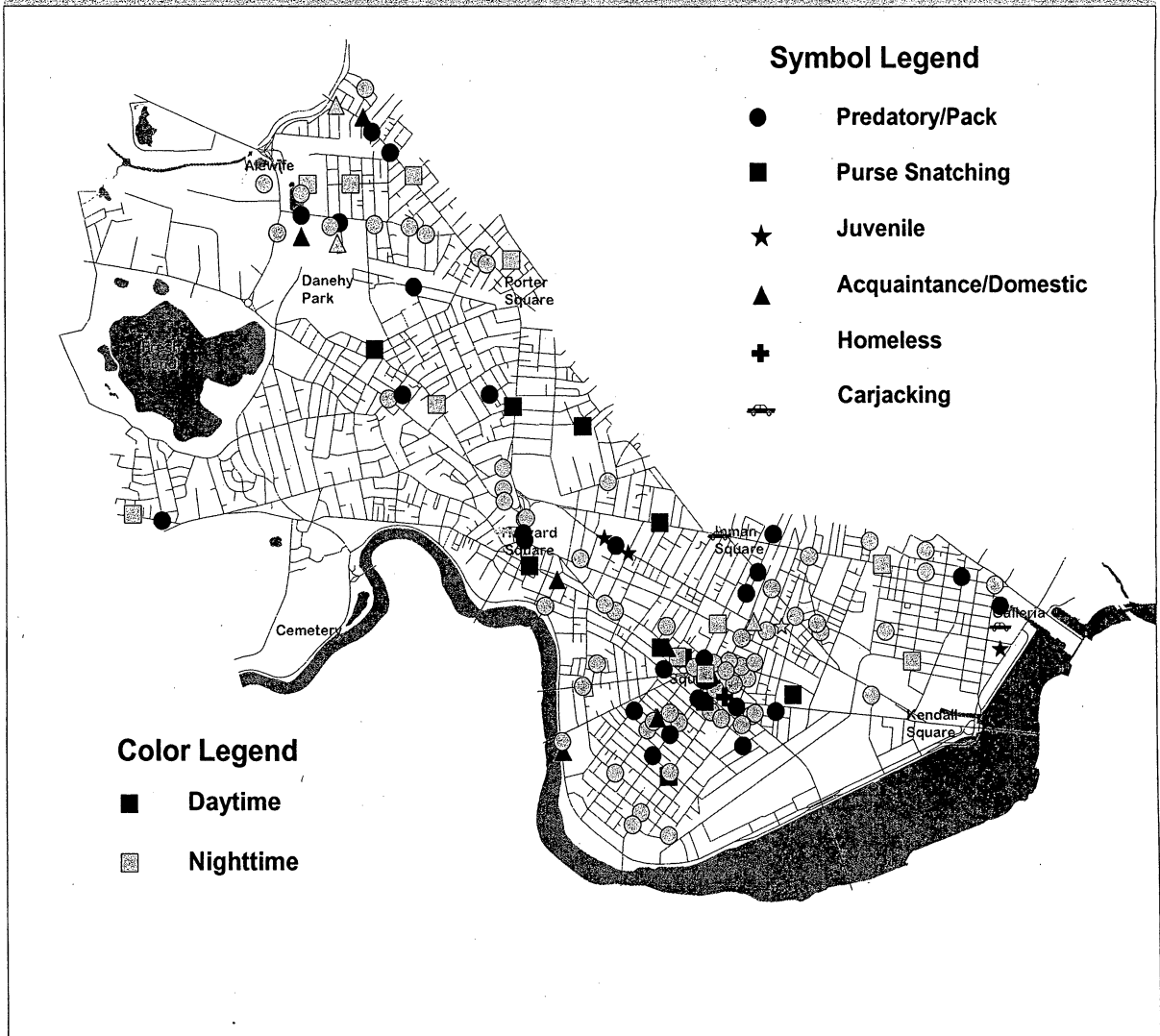
- Six robberies were classified as **acquaintance** situations where the victim knew his/her assailant, such as a friend, co-worker, or drinking buddy. Situations like these commonly involve people who know when someone else has money and use strong-arm tactics to rob the victim of their cash, etc.

- Four incidents of **bully boy** robberies were reported, which typically consist of school-aged youths who rob each other. These robberies often occur on the way home from school, or at playgrounds, malls, or parks and often involve two to four juvenile males using strong-arm tactics to steal such things as clothing or money.
- Four **carjackings** were reported in the first nine months of 2003. In a carjacking scenario, a lone predator will approach a victim entering or exiting their car, or when stopped at a traffic light. What the suspect demands from that point on can range from the car keys to money, or even as far as demanding that the victim drive the assailant to a specific location.
- Three **domestic** robberies were reported, all of which took place as part of an escalating domestic dispute.
- One **dial-a-victim** robbery took place after a pizza deliveryman was assaulted as he climbed the stairs to a fake delivery address.
- One **drug deal** robbery took place after the victim went with two unknown suspects with the promise that they would all get high together. The suspects then turned on the victim, assaulting him and stealing two dollars.
- One **homeless** robbery took place after a wheelchair-bound person gave his friend money to hold for him and two other homeless persons came up, assaulted the man, and took the money.
- Four of the eighteen **pack robberies** resulted in arrests. Typically these situations play out after a group of young males use strong-arm tactics to relieve the victim of his/her money. Seven of these robberies involved the use or threat of a weapon, while the remaining eleven involved physical force.
- Seventy-six **predatory** robberies were reported during the first nine months of the year, in which one or two offenders 'mugged' their victim with a weapon, with the threat of a weapon, or, by the threat of some other type of force. Of the total seventy-six robberies, twenty-seven were classified as *professional*, indicating that the robber(s) were collected, efficient, and effective. The remaining forty-nine robberies were deemed *crude*, meaning that the robber(s) were edgy, unprepared, and unpredictable, and in turn, not always successful.
- The most classic robbery is a **purse snatching**, which accounted for twenty-one of the City's robberies during the first nine months of the year. In this scenario, the robber typically approaches his female victim from behind and grabs her purse. In a little over half of the incidents, suspects were successful and fled with the victims' purses. In the remaining incidents, the robbers were unprofessional in nature and caught off guard when the female victims put up a struggle.

#### Notable Arrests:

- The week before Valentine's Day, two street robberies occurred in the Peabody neighborhood involving two victims walking alone in the early evening. Both victims were stabbed. The suspect descriptions were identical in the two robberies. In response, undercover patrols set up surveillance and saturated the area in an effort to catch the suspect. These efforts turned out to be successful. On February 16<sup>th</sup>, a Somerville man and a youth from Malden were arrested for a housebreak. The two offenders were carrying weapons similar to the ones described in the street robberies. The youth was subsequently identified as the robber.
- One hour prior to the housebreak arrest described above, the patrol division was making another major apprehension. Four suspects, all Area 4 residents, were arrested for robbing a pair of Central Square shoppers entering their vehicle on Pearl Street. The Investigations Unit is working to link this quartet of offenders to as many as eight other robberies committed in the area.
- The arrest of three Boston individuals by undercover officers on the night of June 7<sup>th</sup> eliminated a late-night street robbery pattern that was beginning to emerge in Cambridgeport at the time.
- Two Cambridge men and one Dorchester man were arrested in late September after they attempted to rob a man coming out of a Cambridgeport liquor store. A struggle ensued and the victim walked away. However, the men then followed the victim for several blocks, cornered him, and stabbed him repeatedly in the back.

## Street Robberies Reported in Cambridge Between January 1, 2003 and September 30, 2003



# ASSAULT

*Aggravated Assault describes an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempts are included since it is not necessary that injury result when a gun, knife, or other weapon is used which could and probably would result in serious personal injury if the crime were successfully completed.*

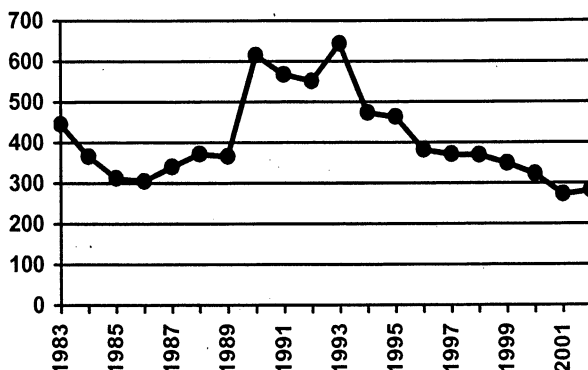
**231 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 201 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

The number of aggravated assaults reported in the first nine months of 2003, as compared to the same time period in 2002, dropped by thirty incidents. Of the incidents reported, most were the result of domestic altercations. Within those assaults categorized as domestic, the most common relationship between victim and offender was that of romantic partners. The second most commonly reported type of aggravated assault involved victims who were surprised when strangers attacked them without provocation. Batterers most often used their own hands and feet to harm their victims. Weapons such as knives, glass bottles, and handguns were used in far

less incidents. Of those incidents reported where a weapon was produced and used, the following is a review of the most serious:

- In late May, a man in Harvard Square was approached by an unknown Pembroke female. The two exchanged words and then parted. Later in the day the female returned with her boyfriend, a Hingham man. The two men got into an argument, which escalated when the Hingham man pulled out a knife and began to stab the victim in the shoulder. Before the victim could get away he was stabbed five more times while the female suspect punched him repeatedly. The two suspects were later apprehended and arrested in the Harvard Square T station.
- One of the most notable assaults of the first nine months of 2003 took place late at night on June 4<sup>th</sup>, outside of Riverside Pizza on River Street. The victim was called outside of the bar where he was met by an ambush of bullets, sending him to the hospital. The shooter was subsequently identified as a 32-year old Cambridge resident and was placed under arrest.
- Just a few days after the assault reviewed immediately above, another shooting occurred in the Riverside neighborhood. This incident occurred at the intersection of Magee Street and Putnam Avenue. The victim had been shot four times, but was still able to drive himself to the hospital. No suspects have been identified. This case is still under active investigation.
- In response to a street fight in the Area 4 neighborhood between two women in mid-June, an unknown man retrieved an axe from the trunk of his vehicle. The victim, seeing the man with the axe, told him not to get involved with the street fight and was subsequently hit in the head with the axe, causing a large laceration.
- In late July, a Cambridge teen was playing basketball at an East Cambridge park when six unknown males approached him and began to assault him. One of the suspects was carrying a knife, which he used to stab the victim three times. This case is also still under active investigation.

**Aggravated Assault in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1983-2002**



**Relationships**

Another way to look at aggravated assaults is to classify the relationship between the offender and the victim

Relationship	Total	%
Stranger or Unknown	83	41%
Romantic Partner	27	13.5%
Misc. Acquaintance	25	12.5%
Parent/Child	15	7.5%
Spouse	8	4%
Co-Worker/Employee	8	4%
Schoolmate	8	4%
Ex-Romantic Partner	8	4%
Third Lover	4	2%
Roommate	4	2%
Sibling	4	2%
Neighbor	3	1.5%
Step-Parent	2	1%
Landlord/Tenant	1	.5%
Other Family	1	.5%

Of the two hundred and one aggravated assaults reported in the first nine months of 2003, ninety-four incidents ended in arrests. In total, one hundred and twelve arrests were made during those ninety-four incidents. By far, the most arrests were made in assaults that were domestic in nature. Most of the individuals arrested were male, between the ages of eighteen and thirty, and resided in Cambridge.

**Weapons**

The following is a list of the various weapons and the number of times they were used.

Hands/Feet - 81	Knife - 34
Bottle/Glass - 14	Household Items - 14
Handgun - 13	Bar/Bat/Club - 8
Automobile - 7	BB Gun - 2
Other - 28	

# LARCENY

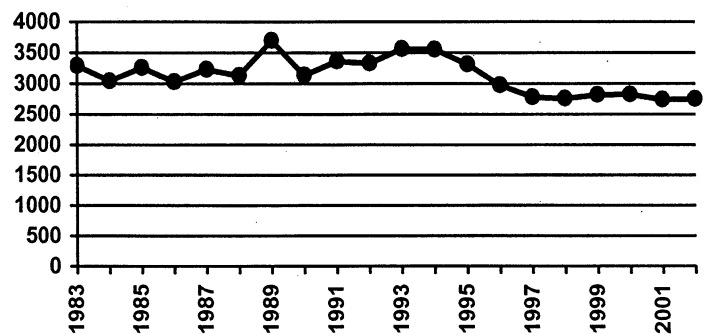
Larceny is the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of another. It includes crimes such as shoplifting, pocket-picking, thefts from motor vehicles, thefts of auto parts and accessories, and bicycle thefts, in which no use of force, violence, fraud, or trespass occurs. In the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, this crime category does not include embezzlement, "con" games, forgery, and worthless checks. Motor vehicle theft is also excluded from this category, as it is a separate crime index offense.

**2143 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 1851 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

The overall larceny total continued to decrease throughout the summer months, resulting in a fourteen percent decrease in the first nine months of 2003 as compared to the same time period in 2002. All of the subcategories of larceny decreased except for larcenies committed in residences and larcenies of services, both of which are subcategories that do not typically lend themselves to pattern identification. Larcenies of bicycles and incidents of shoplifting in particular have dramatically decreased in the first nine months of 2003.

Type	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
Larceny from a Building	403	403
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	561	487
Larceny of a Bicycle	227	169
Larceny from a Person	296	239
Shoplifting	349	265
Larceny from a Residence	158	167
Larceny of a License Plate	76	63
Larceny of Services	23	26
Miscellaneous Larceny	50	32
<b>Total Larcenies</b>	<b>2143</b>	<b>1851</b>

**Larceny in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1983-2002**



The following is a breakdown of the major subcategories of larceny, including any patterns or trends identified:

**Larceny from Motor Vehicle:** Larcenies from motor vehicles typically rank among the top three subcategories of the crime of larceny. During the months of July and August of 2002, the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood experienced a dramatic increase in activity. In late August of 2002 several arrests were executed in Mid-Cambridge, which ended this pattern. Fortunately, the pattern did not re-emerge this summer, allowing for a thirteen percent decrease overall in this subcategory and a forty-nine percent decrease in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. The most noticeable increases this year occurred in the East Cambridge, M.I.T., Cambridgeport, and Cambridge Highlands neighborhoods, which are discussed in further detail below.

**East Cambridge:** The East Cambridge larceny from motor vehicle total in the first nine months of 2003 was fueled by numerous sprees of incidents reported in the months of April, May, and September.

- On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, five vehicles were broken into in the area of Gore Street and Second Street. The breaks occurred between 8:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Entry was gained by smashing a window in each incident and guest parking passes and bags of various items were targeted. On the night of April 25<sup>th</sup>, four vehicles in the Bent Street and Second Street area were targeted. The breaks occurred during the same time as the April 23<sup>rd</sup> breaks and followed a similar pattern, i.e. windows broken and bags of items stolen.

Neighborhoods	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	69	103
M.I.T.	10	18
Inman/Harrington	28	23
Area 4	62	34
Cambridgeport	54	66
Mid-Cambridge	109	59
Riverside	33	22
Agassiz	40	21
Peabody	45	33
West Cambridge	39	39
North Cambridge	54	45
Cambridge Highlands	11	15
Strawberry Hill	7	9

- A third spree was reported between May 8<sup>th</sup> and May 10<sup>th</sup>. Six incidents were reported in the area of Rogers Street and First Street. Methods of entry and items targeted varied, but most of the breaks took place between 11:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 a.m. on Sunday.
- On May 19<sup>th</sup>, five larcenies from motor vehicles were reported. Two occurred at the parking garage at 1 Kendall Square and two occurred at Bent and Third Streets. The incidents occurred between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and entry was gained in all of the incidents by smashing a window. Car stereos were taken in three of the incidents.
- In response to the increase in incidents in this neighborhood, the Cambridge Police Department decided to set up a decoy vehicle in mid-May in the hopes of catching the thieves responsible for the car breaks. The decoy vehicle was set up at Bent Street and Second Street on a Friday night. Shortly thereafter, two Dorchester men were witnessed smashing the decoy vehicle's window and taking a laptop from inside the car. They were arrested. No additional sprees were reported over the summer.
- On September 4<sup>th</sup>, a spree of four larcenies from motor vehicles was committed in the Bent Street area. The breaks occurred on a Thursday afternoon around 3:00 in the afternoon. In each incident, entry was gained by smashing a window and car stereos were stolen, resulting in damage to the car dashboards. Five days later, on a Tuesday afternoon around 2:30, three more breaks were reported in the same area, which shared the same characteristics as the breaks committed on September 4<sup>th</sup>.

M.I.T.: Eight of the eighteen larcenies from motor vehicles reported in the M.I.T. neighborhood occurred in the last three months. Seven of those eight have occurred on Vassar Street. Incidents are concentrated between the 200 and 300 block of Vassar Street and typically have involved individuals forcing open door locks of parked cars and stealing car stereos. In late July, an M.I.T. student from Chicago was arrested after he was seen walking up and down Vassar Street, trying to break into parked cars. After this arrest only one additional incident was reported in this neighborhood.

Cambridgeport: No major patterns were identified in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. However, three possible sprees were reported during the first nine months of 2003. Between April 26<sup>th</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup>, five cars parked in the area of Putnam Avenue and Allston Street were targeted. Entry was gained in various ways. Car stereos were a common target. In two of the incidents it looked as though the suspect initially intended to steal the car, evidenced by damage to the ignition, but later settled with stealing the car radio. Six motor vehicles were reported broken into in late June. The incidents occurred overnight, entry was gained by smashing a window, and various items were targeted. In late September, between September 21<sup>st</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>, five parked cars were targeted in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. Three of the parked motor vehicles were parked on Memorial Drive and two of the cars were parked at the same location on Sidney Street. Three of the incidents involved the theft of items from the exterior of the motor vehicles, including a radiator, tires, and a spoiler. The last two incidents involved the cutting of convertible tops. Various items were taken, however, both of the cars were rummaged through.

Cambridge Highlands: All but three of the incidents reported in the Cambridge Highlands neighborhood occurred in the parking lots of 186 and 168 Alewife Brook Parkway. Incidents were concentrated on the weekends between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. Entry was gained in most of the incidents by breaking a window, however in a few incidents door locks were forced open. Laptops and cell phones were targeted. Only one additional incident has been reported in the Highlands neighborhood since July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Larceny from Building:** Larcenies from buildings in Cambridge remained steady in the first nine months of 2003. As more businesses moved into Cambridge, this crime became concentrated in commercial buildings housing many different business offices. Suspects would enter the offices, posing as delivery or lost persons, and would steal items such as laptops, wallets, and cell phones. This year, the number of larcenies reported from traditional office buildings has declined. Many addresses reported multiple incidents and most of those addresses fell into five categories of non-residential buildings: health clubs, churches, hospitals, schools, and hotels. In addition, the Galleria Mall also reported multiple incidents.

- Forty-nine incidents of larceny were reported at health clubs throughout the City. The most incidents were reported at Bally's on Massachusetts Avenue (14 incidents), the Wellbridge Center on Bennett Street (12 incidents), the Cambridge Racquet & Fitness on First Street (7 incidents), and the YMCA on Massachusetts Avenue (7 incidents). Incidents were concentrated late in the week during patrons' lunch breaks (11:00 a.m.

– 1:00 p.m.) and after work (4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.). In all but five of the incidents, thieves stole wallets and purses, later using the victims' credit cards at various Cambridge retail establishments. The incidents reported were evenly dispersed between entry into locked lockers and entry into unlocked lockers, which means that the best way to prevent this crime is to leave cash and credit cards at home when going to the gym.

- Twenty-three of the larcenies from buildings reported occurred at local schools. Eight out of the twenty-three occurred at the Cambridge Rindge and Latin school. Most incidents occurred during the week when school was in session or during athletic programs after school. Wallets, purses, and backpacks were targeted in unattended offices, locked lockers, and other unattended areas.
- Eighteen thefts were reported from Cambridge churches. The majority of incidents occurred on the weekend between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. and involved guests leaving their personal belongings unattended while attending church.
- Fifteen incidents of theft were reported at area hotels. Incidents were concentrated on the weekends at various times. Items were stolen from rooms, conference rooms, and hotel hallways. Two of the incidents involved individuals breaking into and stealing from Coke vending machines at the Hotel at M.I.T. in June.
- Fourteen incidents of larceny were reported at hospitals in the first nine months of 2003. The incidents were concentrated during the middle of the week between 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Ten incidents involved the theft of property left unattended by patients and personnel and four involved the theft of hospital property.

**Larceny from Person:** Typically, larcenies from persons dominate the larceny subcategories. However, in the first nine months of 2003, the larceny from person total fell into the fourth highest position. Thefts from people shopping and dining in Harvard Square and the Cambridgeside Galleria drive this total. Two arrests were made in the beginning of the year, which are reviewed below, that have helped keep the larceny from person total lower than normal this year. Larcenies from person are generally easy to prevent. Remember to always keep your belongings within your control. Do not leave purses on the floor, on the back of your chair, or otherwise unattended. Do not leave wallets or cell phones in the pockets of hanging coats.

- In mid-January, a woman dining at Paparazzi's reported that her wallet had been stolen out of her purse. The woman had left her purse on the floor next to her chair while she ate. She noticed a man and a woman sitting at the table behind her. When she went to leave, she noticed that her purse had been moved and that her wallet was missing. When she called the credit card company to cancel her credit cards, she was informed that one of her cards had already been used at the Timberland store in the Galleria Mall. A search of the Mall led to the arrest of a Tewksbury woman and a Roxbury man.
- In early February, a woman was eating at the Border Café in Harvard Square when an unknown couple came up to her and commented that her meal looked good. Later, the woman found that her purse had been stolen. The couple was later seen at the Harvard Square Cinema going through the victim's purse and trying to sell a camera on the street. They were both subsequently arrested.

# BURGLARY

*Burglary describes the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. The use of force to gain entry is not required to classify an offense as burglary. Burglary attempts are included in the total.*

**569 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 448 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Overall, burglary has significantly decreased from last year's nine-month total. Residential burglary in particular has fueled this overall decrease; evidenced by the 24 percent decline in incidents reported in the first nine months. Commercial burglary is also slightly down from last year's nine-month total.

Burglary Type	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	% Change
Commercial Burglary	128	113	-12%
Residential Burglary	441	335	-24%
Total	569	448	-21%

## COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

The commercial break total for the first nine months of 2003 slightly decreased from last year's total. The Inman Square and Harvard Square business districts had the highest numbers of incidents with nineteen breaks each. The Bay Square business district experienced the most notable increase in incidents from its normal third quarter totals. Activity in these business districts is reviewed below. The Central Square and East Cambridge business districts experienced the most notable decrease in incidents as compared to last year's totals. The decrease in incidents in Central Square can be attributed to a pattern of breaks into restaurants in 2002 that failed to emerge in 2003 and the East Cambridge decrease can be attributed to fewer breaks into area businesses made in pursuit of computer equipment.

Geographic Breakdown of Commercial Burglaries in Cambridge			
Business District	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
Galleria/East Cambridge	14	22	9
Kendall Square/MIT	7	6	9
Inman Square	16	14	19
Central Square	16	28	13
Cambridgeport/Riverside	10	3	4
Bay Square/Upper B.way	7	4	14
Harvard Square	6	23	19
1500-1900 Mass. Ave.	5	1	3
Porter Square	12	8	11
Alewife/West Cambridge	5	19	12

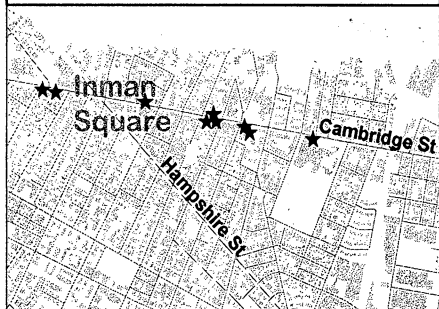
Suspects in these commercial breaks gained entry into targeted establishments typically by prying or somehow forcing the front doors. Entry was also gained in fewer incidents through the rear door of the establishment or through a ground-level window. In seven of the reported incidents, the suspect(s) ransacked the interior before fleeing. Eighteen of the incidents were only attempts that were aborted prior to entry being gained. Various retail establishments were the most common type of premise targeted by burglars, followed by restaurants/bars and business offices.

Although there were no major patterns reported in the first nine months of 2003, the following is a review of identified trends and clusters:

### Inman Square:

- Four commercial breaks were reported between the 1000 to 1100 block of Cambridge Street on Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> in the early morning hours. The first break reported occurred around 1:00 a.m. at the Hyde Factory Outlet. An unknown suspect set off the alarm upon entering the establishment and stole cash from the business' safe. The other three breaks occurred at the Mid-West Grill and Pino's Tattoo shop, which share a common basement. In each break, an unknown suspect broke into the businesses' cash registers and stole cash.

*Nine of the nineteen commercial breaks reported in the Inman Square business district occurred on Cambridge Street*

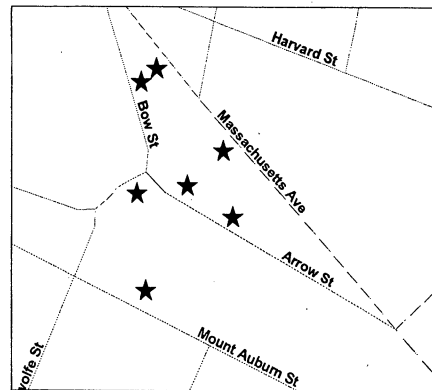


- In early July, an unknown suspect gained entry to the Islamic Society of Boston and tried to get into a locked drawer containing cash. The suspect(s) fled before stealing anything and set off the alarm on their way out. The very next day entry was gained again and a bookcase with a locked cash drawer was removed. The suspect(s) attempted to open the drawer with a pitchfork, but were scared off when police arrived. No further breaks were reported at this location.
- In late September, a Broadway restaurant was broken into twice in pursuit of cash kept in a safe. In the first break, the suspect(s) successfully took cash that was left in an unlocked safe. In the second break, a week later, the safe was left unlocked and empty, thus thwarting the efforts of the burglars.

### Harvard Square:

- Although one of the highest commercial break totals was reported in the Harvard Square business district, no major patterns have emerged. In fact, the total in this business district is lower than the total recorded during the same time frame last year.

- A concentration of breaks was reported during the first half of the year in a tight area between Massachusetts Avenue and Bow and Arrow Streets. The breaks were concentrated between Saturdays and Mondays at various times. Laptops and cash were targeted. Entry was gained in most of these breaks by prying front or rear doors. A salon on Arrow Street was broken into three times.



Seven of the nineteen commercial breaks reported in the Harvard Square business district occurred at businesses near Bow and Arrow Streets.

**Bay Square:**

- There has been a high concentration of commercial breaks in the lower half of Massachusetts Avenue. This concentration was fueled by a spree of seven commercial breaks into businesses located at 955 Massachusetts Avenue on April 30<sup>th</sup>. The breaks occurred between 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. The same suspect was described in each of the breaks. The suspect gained entry into the businesses by prying the locks on front and side doors and once inside took cash and digital cameras. Apparently, the suspect took his time moving about the building and was seen sitting in a conference room, drinking a soda.
- During the first week of August, the Isaac Harding House on Harvard Street was broken into three times. In all of the breaks the suspect(s) appeared to have stacked crates under a window and used a shovel to gain access. During the first break, once inside, the suspect(s) pried open a drawer and took cash. The second and third breaks seemed to be made in pursuit of the drawer that had been previous emptied during the first break.

## RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

Residential burglary decreased significantly in the first nine months of 2003 as compared to the same time period in 2002. With the exception of the M.I.T. and Cambridge Highlands neighborhoods, which increased by one incident each, a decrease was experienced by all the neighborhoods. The most significant housebreak pattern of the year, which is reviewed below, was identified late in the summer in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. However, despite this pattern, the overall housebreak total remains low and the Mid-Cambridge total in particular is still below normal. Neighborhoods such as Agassiz and Peabody, which experienced a dramatic increase in incidents in the first nine months of 2002, are now back to normal levels. The Inman/Harrington neighborhood in particular has experienced a dramatic decrease in incidents this year, specifically a sixty-eight

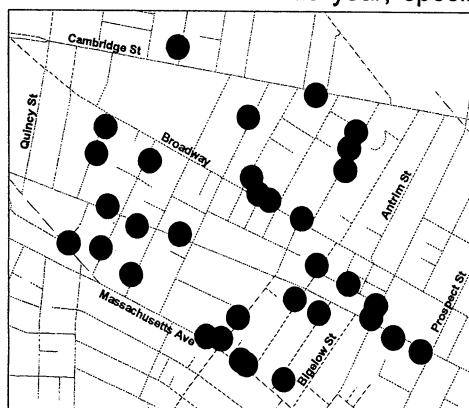
Neighborhood	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	31	31	25
MIT	0	0	1
Inman/Harrington	29	31	10
Area 4	54	41	30
Cambridgeport	39	58	38
Mid-Cambridge	81	76	69
Riverside	45	32	28
Agassiz	13	38	14
Peabody	20	47	38
West Cambridge	35	28	27
North Cambridge	30	47	46
Cambridge Highlands	0	2	3
Strawberry Hill	4	10	6

percent decrease from last year.

The following is a review of sprees, patterns, or trends identified during the first nine months of 2003:

**Mid-Cambridge – Between Cambridge Street & Massachusetts Avenue**

Of the sixty-nine housebreaks reported in this neighborhood in the first nine months of the year, thirty-three were reported in the months of August and September. Geographically, thieves targeted apartments located in a tight area between Cambridge Street and Massachusetts Avenue, which is shown in the map to the left. Breaks were concentrated during the daytime between 11:00 a.m. to



Concentration of breaks in Mid-Cambridge

2:00 p.m. on all weekdays. In a majority of the incidents, entry was gained by prying the front door and lock. Targeted items included jewelry and laptop computers.

#### North Cambridge - North of Rindge Avenue

Although the housebreak total for the North Cambridge neighborhood has remained steady overall, a significant number of incidents have been reported since July 1<sup>st</sup>. The breaks seem to be concentrated Tuesdays through Thursdays between 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Entry is being gained either through a ground floor window or by cutting panels out of front and rear doors. Targeted items include jewelry, laptops, and cash. Multiple breaks have been reported on Cambridgepark Drive, Reed Street, and Washburn Avenue.

#### East Cambridge - Museum Way

The East Cambridge total remained steady this quarter due to a high concentration of incidents reported at apartment buildings on Museum Way. Twelve breaks in total have been reported since the beginning of the year. Most of the breaks have occurred since April, and have been concentrated on the weekends during the late afternoon and early evening hours. In eight of the incidents, residents left their front doors unlocked, creating an irresistible opportunity for would-be burglars. Laptops and high-end luxury items such as paintings and expensive jewelry were targeted.

#### Peabody - Linnaean Street & Washington Avenue

On April 10<sup>th</sup>, between noon and 3:00 p.m., an unknown suspect broke into seven apartments located in buildings on Linnaean Street and Washington Avenue. The suspect gained entry by forcing open either the front or rear doors of the apartments and once inside took cash and cameras.

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# AUTO THEFT

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*Defined as the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, this offense category includes the theft of automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, and snowmobiles. This definition excludes the taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access.*

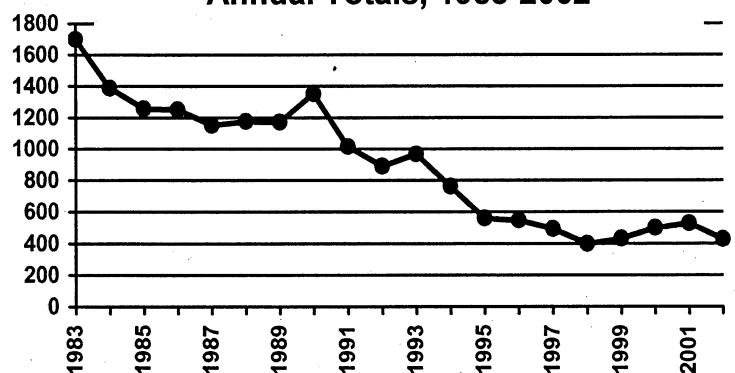
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**347 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 324 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Auto thefts marginally decreased by the end of the third quarter of 2003. They reached a peak during the summer months, with thefts being concentrated on Saturdays and Wednesdays during those months. Theft and recoveries in Cambridge were concentrated in the lower half of the City. Cambridgeport reported the highest number of thefts, which combined with Area 4, makes the two neighborhoods the top target areas for auto thefts throughout the City.

There have been no discernable auto theft patterns through the third quarter in 2003 other than the trend in Honda thefts. As it can be seen in the table below, Hondas are the most targeted cars when it comes to thefts, which are the second top stolen car throughout the nation. Vehicle thefts took place during the nighttime almost as frequently as the daytime. Locations of repeat incidents included: the 200 block of Massachusetts Avenue, the 1100 block of Cambridge Street, the 700 block of Memorial Drive, and at the intersections of Norfolk and Harvard Streets in Area 4.

**Auto Theft in Cambridge  
Annual Totals, 1983-2002**



### TOP FIVE CAR MAKE/MODELS

MAKE	NUMBER
Honda Accord	44
Honda Civic	41
Acura Integra	23
Toyota Camry	20
Toyota Corolla	9

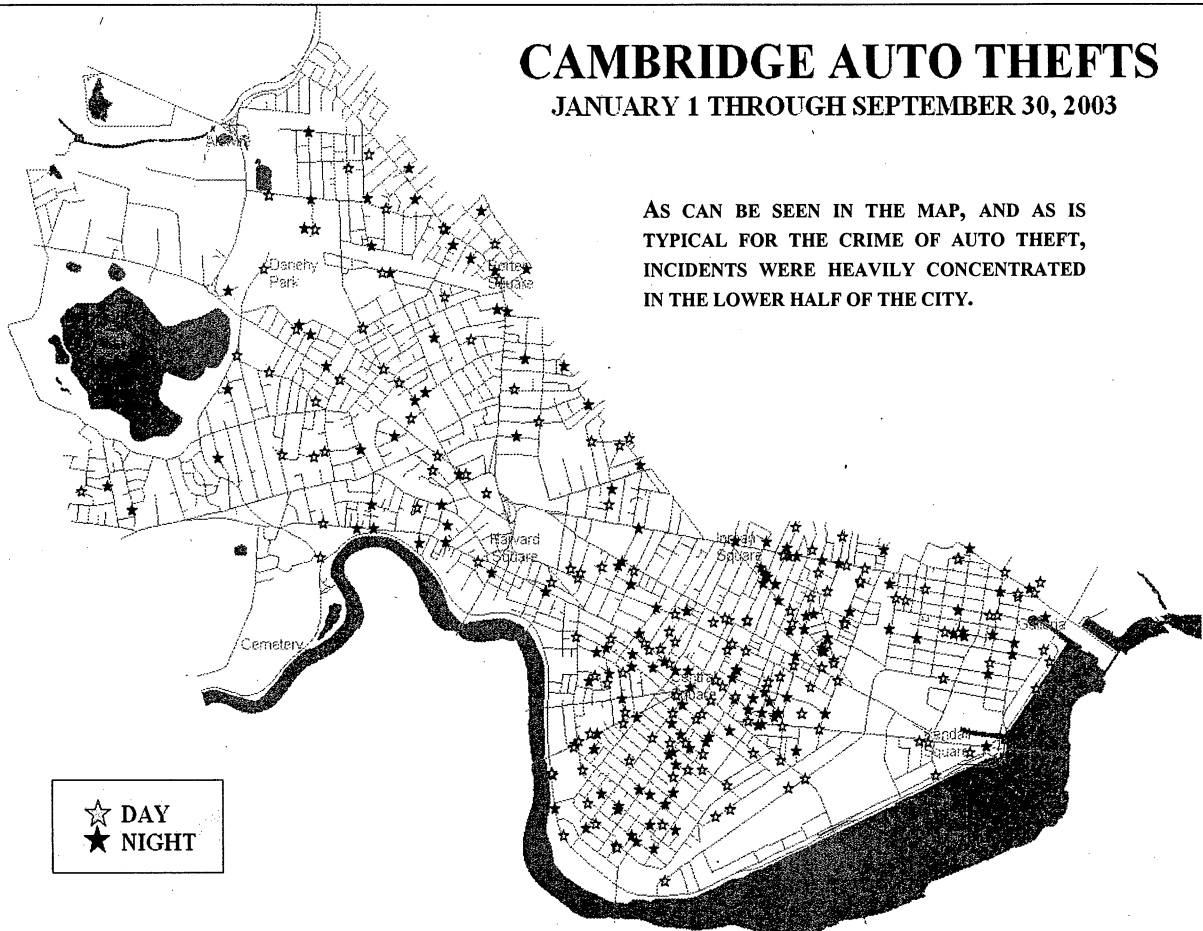
The month of April incurred the highest number of incidents due to a rash of thefts early in the month. Between April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 9<sup>th</sup>, six Honda Accords were stolen from the West Cambridge and Peabody neighborhoods. The thefts occurred between 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on a Tuesday night. Honda Accords manufactured in either 1994 or 1996 were targeted. Five of the cars stolen were recovered and of the five recoveries, four were made in Cambridge. Most of the cars only had ignition damage.

NEIGHBORHOOD	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	PERCENTAGE CHANGE 02-03	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
East Cambridge	45	45	34	-24%	11%
M.I.T. Area	13	4	8	+100%	3%
Inman/Harrington	26	41	41	NC	13%
Area 4	64	50	46	-8%	14%
Cambridgeport	58	50	58	+16%	18%
Mid-Cambridge	34	19	27	+42%	8%
Riverside	32	29	24	-17%	7%
Agassiz	11	15	11	-27%	3%
Peabody	30	26	20	-23%	6%
West Cambridge	25	16	23	+44%	7%
North Cambridge	36	36	24	-33%	7%
Cambridge Highlands	21	7	4	-43%	1%
Strawberry Hill	12	9	4	-56%	1%

## CAMBRIDGE AUTO THEFTS

JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

AS CAN BE SEEN IN THE MAP, AND AS IS TYPICAL FOR THE CRIME OF AUTO THEFT, INCIDENTS WERE HEAVILY CONCENTRATED IN THE LOWER HALF OF THE CITY.



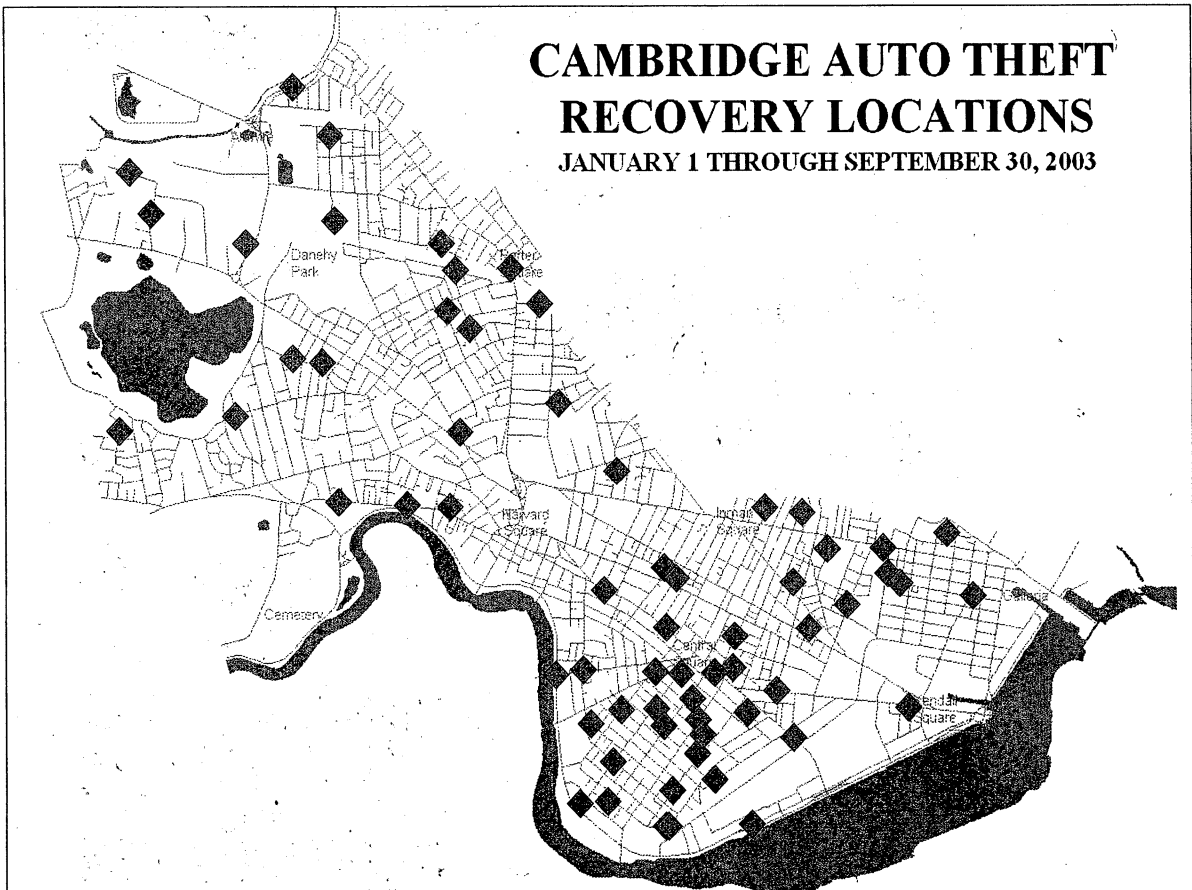
### RECOVERY LOCATIONS

Boston	79	Brockton	1
Cambridge	70	Andover	1
Somerville	27	Chicopee	1
Arlington	4	Dedham	1
Medford	3	Lynn	1
Malden	2	Haverhill	1
Revere	2	Brookline	1
Waltham	2	Chelsea	1
Haverhill	1	Newton	1
Methuen	1	Out-of-State	6

**Auto Theft Recoveries:** 206 out of the 324 motor vehicles reported stolen during the first three quarters of 2003 have been recovered. As the table to the left indicates, the largest number of motor vehicle recoveries were made throughout Boston, in which over half of the recovered vehicles were Hondas. The majority of recoveries made in Boston were carried out during the summer months. Approximately twenty percent of the vehicles stolen in Cambridge were recovered in Cambridge. As the map below shows, a majority of cars recovered in Cambridge were recovered in the lower half of the city, particularly in the Cambridgeport neighborhood.

### CAMBRIDGE AUTO THEFT RECOVERY LOCATIONS

JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2003



**THIRD QUARTER CRIME REPORT 2003**



# **PART II CRIMES**

**NARCOTICS ARRESTS**

**MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION**

**FRAUD & FORGERY**

**SEX OFFENSES**

**OTHER CRIMES**

# NARCOTICS

Narcotics includes all incidents in which the police made an arrest, complaint, or warrant for the possession or distribution of illegal narcotics. Narcotics statistics do not include all instances of narcotics use or distribution; they only reflect those cases that are known to the police.

**74 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 110 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

## Geographic Breakdown of Drug Incidents

Neighborhood	3rd Q. 2001	3rd Q. 2002	3rd Q. 2003
East Cambridge	13	11	20
MIT	2	2	1
Inman/Harrington	15	3	19
Area 4	17	10	19
Cambridgeport	9	11	14
Mid-Cambridge	14	6	3
Riverside	18	13	13
Agassiz	0	2	1
Peabody	9	2	6
West Cambridge	7	3	2
North Cambridge	11	7	6
Cambridge Highlands	3	1	1
Strawberry Hill	0	3	2
Unknown	2	0	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>110</b>

Cambridge Police received 110 reports of drug activity during the first nine months of 2003. Of these reports, all but eight resulted in at least one arrest. In total there were 163 arrests for various drug violations. Fifteen drug incidents occurred after a routine search of individuals arrested for other offenses revealed illegal contraband.

Thanks in part to the combined teamwork of Cambridge citizens, Patrol Officers, and the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) of the Cambridge Police Department, drugs and the individuals responsible for selling them continue to be taken off our streets. Observations made by Cambridge citizens and Patrol Officers are valuable in the fight against the presence of narcotics in our community. Many times a citizen's complaint is not filed as a report, but rather relayed to the proper officers in order to conduct the appropriate investigation. The

Special Investigations Unit, through surveillance, investigations and the information provided by citizens, continually works to combat the proliferation of organized narcotic activities. In one of the major arrests in Cambridge this year, SIU undercover detectives met with a prospective seller of ecstasy. When the transaction was complete the subject was arrested and over 1,000 tablets of ecstasy and over \$3,000 were confiscated. Another drug incident resulted in the arrest of two individuals in possession of 86 bags of heroin. In September SIU detectives netted over \$100,000 in drug money as well as numerous bags of marijuana from a Cambridge residence.

A very dangerous and increasingly more popular drug in the Northeast in the recent past has been heroin. Cambridge has seen 18 incidents in which the highly addictive drug was taken off the streets. The majority of narcotic arrests however continue to involve the possession, use, or intent to distribute marijuana. In fact 54 cases involved marijuana, also known as "pot" or "weed". Other drug incidents included: 36 involving cocaine/crack; 5 involving prescription drugs; and 4 involving possession of hypodermic needles. Possession of drugs was the most common offense leading to arrest as it involved 66 incidents, followed by possession with the intent to distribute with 39.

### Drug Tip Hotline

The Special Investigations Unit employs an anonymous Drug Tip Hotline to gain intelligence information from the community. The Unit can be reached by calling **617-349-3359**. Generally, you will be greeted by a taped message instructing you to leave very detailed information. **You do not have to provide any personal information and all information is held in confidence.**

## Know Your Narcotics

**Note:** The following information was gathered from the following sources: <http://www.drugfreeamerica.com>; [Massachusetts Drug Threat Assessment](http://www.mass.gov), published by the National Drug Intelligence Center of the U.S. Department of Justice; <http://www.erowid.org>; <http://www.gazettenet.com/12192002/news/2941.htm>; and [http://www.Townonline.com/Lincoln/news/local\\_regional/lin\\_newljdrugs12242002.htm](http://www.Townonline.com/Lincoln/news/local_regional/lin_newljdrugs12242002.htm).

### Heroin (AKA: dope, smack, horse, Jude, brown sugar, junk, black tar)

Heroin is a highly addictive drug derived from morphine, which is obtained from the opium poppy. It is a "downer" that affects the brain's pleasure systems and interferes with the ability to feel pain. Heroin can be used in many ways, depending on user preference and drug purity. Heroin is fast acting, especially when

injected or smoked. Injected heroin reaches the brain in 15 to 30 seconds; smoked heroin in 7 seconds. The high from heroin is experienced as intense pleasure. Once a person begins using heroin, they quickly develop a tolerance to the drug and need more and more to get the same effects.

Epidemiologists agree that heroin is the most under-reported drug in terms of usage and that any usage statistics are unreliable. Estimates range from 428,000 past-year users (National Household Survey, 1995) to 600,000 past week heroin users (Office of National Drug Control Policy). On the other hand, some experts estimate that as many as 2 to 3 million people in the United States use heroin recreationally. In 1980 the average bag of street heroin was 4% pure; the average bag today is 40% pure and can be as pure as 70%. Increased purity results in snorting and smoking rather than injecting.

Heroin use in the state has risen sharply over the last decade, particularly among young men ages 18-24, who are buying cheaper and purer forms of the drug.

**Cocaine & Crack Cocaine** (AKA: coke, snow, nose candy, flake, blow, big C, lady white, snowbirds, (crack only) rock, freebase, Manhattan marble)

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Cocaine is a drug extracted from the leaves of the coca plant. It is a potent brain stimulant and one of the most powerfully addictive drugs. Cocaine is distributed on the street in two main forms: cocaine hydrochloride is a white crystalline powder that can be snorted or dissolved in water and injected; and "crack" is cocaine hydrochloride that has been processed with ammonia or sodium bicarbonate (baking soda) and water into a freebase cocaine. These chips, chunks, or rocks can be smoked.

Cocaine may be used occasionally, daily, or in a variety of compulsive, repeated-use "binges." Regardless of how it is used, cocaine is highly addictive. Crack cocaine and injected cocaine reach the brain quickly and bring an intense and immediate high. Snorted cocaine produces a high more slowly.

Cocaine can produce a surge in energy, a feeling of intense pleasure, and increased confidence. The effects of powder cocaine last about 20 minutes, while the effects of "crack" last about 12 minutes. Heavy use of cocaine may produce hallucinations, paranoia, aggression, insomnia, and depression. Cocaine's effects are short lived, and once the drug leaves the brain, the user experiences a "coke crash" that includes depression, irritability, and fatigue; and long term effects include heart problems, respiratory problems, sleep and appetite problems, and harm to developing children if used by a pregnant woman.

### **Designer Drugs**

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Designer drugs are a class of drugs often associated with "raves." Designer drugs are modifications of restricted drugs, made by underground chemists in order to create street drugs that are not specifically listed as controlled (i.e., restricted) substances by the Drug Enforcement Administration. Changing the molecular structure of an existing drug or drugs to create a new substance, like Ecstasy, creates a designer drug. The street names of designer drugs vary according to time, place, and manufacturer. Because unlicensed and untrained amateurs create designer drugs in clandestine laboratories, they can be extremely dangerous. In many cases, the designer drugs are more dangerous and more potent than the original drug.

The pharmaceutical drug, fentanyl, was originally created for anesthesia during surgeries. Designer drugs derived from fentanyl are extremely potent and have a strong potential for overdose. They have been associated with hundreds of unintentional deaths in the United States. They are also short lived, about 30 to 90 minutes. Increasingly the drug is sniffed or smoked, in part to avoid getting HIV via infected needles. The respiratory paralysis that may occur is so sudden after drug administration that often victims who injected the drug are found with the needle still in their arm.

### **OxyContin**

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OxyContin (oxycodone HCl controlled-release) is the brand name for an opioid analgesic - a narcotic. Oxycodone is the narcotic ingredient found in Percocet (oxycodone and acetaminophen) and Percodan (oxycodone and aspirin). OxyContin is used to treat pain that is associated with arthritis, lower back conditions, injuries, and cancer. OxyContin is available by prescription only. It is approved for the treatment of moderate to severe pain that requires treatment for more than a few days.

Oxycontin abusers remove the sustained-release coating to get a rush of euphoria similar to heroin. They chew the tabs...crush them for snorting...or boil the powder for injection. The most serious risk associated with opioids, including OxyContin, is respiratory depression. Common opioid side effects are constipation, nausea, sedation, dizziness, vomiting, headache, dry mouth, sweating, and weakness. OxyContin is

oxycodone in a sustained release form and that is why the tablet should not be broken. Taking broken, chewed, or crushed tablets could lead to the rapid release and absorption of a potentially toxic dose of oxycodone.

In 2001 and 2002, there was a surge in robberies of pharmacies carrying OxyContin in Massachusetts. There is so much money to make with OxyContin, that stealing and selling the drug has become irresistible to dealers and addicts who can get their hands on it. As a result, many pharmacies in the area have stopped stocking the drug in order to deter robbers.

# MALICIOUS DESTRUCTION

*Vandalism, or malicious destruction of property, includes tire-slashing, window-smashing, spray-painting, and myriad other crimes in which someone's property is willfully and maliciously damaged. It is the most commonly reported crime in Cambridge, yet we suspect that vandalism is one of the most underreported crimes; residents and businesses frequently ignore "minor" incidents of vandalism and graffiti*

**806 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 709 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Neighborhood	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2001	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003	Destruction Act	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
East Cambridge	86	104	95	Car Window	158	165
MIT	8	6	12	Car (Other)	173	129
Inman/Harrington	59	48	53	Attempted Theft	47	34
Area 4	97	88	76	Pinstriping	61	65
Cambridgeport	90	105	111	Tire Slashing	94	94
Mid-Cambridge	82	102	66	Business Window	37	52
Riverside	74	71	52	Business (Other)	35	34
Agassiz	24	19	10	House Window	58	32
Peabody	74	91	57	Residence (Other)	24	52
West Cambridge	78	47	59	Graffiti	110	50
North Cambridge	96	91	76	Miscellaneous	9	2
Highlands	8	21	22			
Strawberry Hill	26	13	20			

Incidents of malicious destruction, or "vandalism," decreased by almost one hundred incidents in the first nine months of 2003. Many neighborhoods, such as Mid-Cambridge and Peabody, experienced a significant decrease in incidents compared to their normal totals. These decreases can be attributed to the sharp decline in incidents of graffiti around the City.

The malicious destruction total is often fueled by sprees of incidents committed in one night in a concentrated geographic area by the same suspect(s). Several sprees of incidents were reported in the first nine months of 2003. The following is a review of those incidents:

- During the first weekend in January, nine incidents of malicious destruction were reported in the Cambridgeport neighborhood. Six out of the nine incidents involved the smashing of car windows. The remaining three incidents involved two smashed windows at area businesses and one smashed house window. It is suspected that the same suspect committed each incident with a BB gun.

- On January 7<sup>th</sup>, an unknown suspect smashed six car windows and four business windows in East Cambridge. The damage in this spree was also committed by a BB gun and the cars targeted were all sport utility vehicles.
- On January 15<sup>th</sup>, an unknown suspect slashed the tires of five vehicles parked on Kelley Street in the Peabody neighborhood.
- On April 13<sup>th</sup>, between 9:50 p.m. and 10:20 p.m., an unknown suspect slashed the tires on four cars parked on Elm Street in the Area 4 neighborhood.
- On a weekend in late May, eleven incidents of tire slashings and two incidents of pinstripping were reported in the Mid-Cambridge neighborhood. All of the vehicles targeted were sport utility vehicles.
- Between July 12<sup>th</sup> and July 14<sup>th</sup>, eight vehicles parked on Columbia Street in the Area 4 neighborhood had their tires slashed. Makes and models targeted varied.

So far this year, the number of graffiti incidents in the City has been cut in half. This is partly due to the new graffiti hotline, which allows residents to confidentially report incidents of graffiti. These calls are forwarded to the appropriate agency or property owner for removal and to the Police Department for investigation. To report any incidents of graffiti, please call (617) 349-INFO.

# FRAUD

*The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting System does not include fraud, false pretenses, forgery, embezzlement, and confidence games among larceny. Yet in many cases, fraud is a much more serious crime than theft. Victims of check forgery and "con" games stand to lose thousands of dollars. Often added to this loss is the personal humiliation that accompanies being "duped" by a "con man." The confidence game crook, a particularly crafty breed of criminal who has no qualms with deceiving his victims face-to-face, expects (often correctly) that his victim's embarrassment will deter him or her from reporting the crime to the police*

## 367 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 339 reported in the first nine months of 2003

In the first nine months of 2003 there were 340 incidents of fraud and forgery reported in Cambridge, compared with 367 during the first nine months of 2002. Specific crimes categorized as fraud are reviewed below.

- **Counterfeiting:** During the first nine months of 2003 there were seven reports of counterfeiting in Cambridge. Five of the seven incidents of counterfeiting occurred in April and May. Three incidents involved the passing of fake \$100 bills at area retail establishments and four involved the passing of fake \$20 and \$10 bills at area restaurants and bars.

- **Application:** Two incidents of forged applications were reported. One incident involved a man who successfully opened five accounts at Sears, charging a computer, a camera, and jewelry. The second involved two suspects applying for student loans with an unknown victim's name.

- **Bad Check:** "Bad" checks are written on insufficient funds or closed accounts. The Cambridge Police took fifteen reports for this crime in the first nine months of 2003.

Crime	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q. 2003
<b>Counterfeiting</b>	2	7
<b>Forgery/Uttering</b>	237	248
Application	2	2
Bad Check	27	15
Forged Check	44	59
ATM/Credit Card	160	159
Other	4	12
<b>Embezzlement</b>	5	3
<b>Con Games</b>	32	20
Big Carrot	8	4
Utility Impostor/ House Work	1	3
Pigeon Drop	7	3
Charity	6	0
Psychic	3	2
Miscellaneous	7	8
<b>Identity Theft</b>	91	62

- **Forged Check:** Fifty-nine crimes involved the use of a lost or stolen check, with the offender forging the victim's signature.
- **ATM/Credit Card Fraud:** One hundred and fifty-nine incidents of the use of a lost or stolen credit or ATM card were reported in the first nine months of 2003. This crime is becoming more popular with the proliferation of "check cards." The Galleria is a hot spot for this crime.
- **Embezzlement:** Embezzlement involves a situation in which an employee takes advantage of their position for their own financial gain, re-diverting company funds or property to themselves. The first incident reported this year involved an employee of a security company who "hired" her boyfriend. The employee's boyfriend never showed up to the job, but collected over \$100,000 in paychecks. The second involved an employee at the Galleria who was "selling" merchandise for free to her friends and making false returns. The third incident involved an employee of a medical practice who was in charge of posting payments to the practice, which she instead diverted to her own private bank account.
- **"Con" Games:** There were twenty swindles, con games or flim flams in the first nine months of 2003. The types of flim flams reported this year were similar to last year with the exception of three incidents of individuals disappearing with money paid for services never performed. The same Kingston man committed two of the incidents. The first occurred when the man was hired to do some work for a local bookstore, was given a deposit for the work, but never showed up to actually do the work. The second occurred when the man offered to do work for a real estate company, was paid a large sum of money, but again never showed up to do the work. "Big Carrot" scams, charity scams, and "Pigeon Drop" scams are all down so far this year.

# SEX OFFENSES

*Sex Offenses refers to six crimes of a sexual nature: prostitution and solicitation, indecent assault, indecent exposure, peeping and spying, annoying & accosting, and obscene telephone calls. Rape is not include because it is a Part I crime.*

**87 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 68 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

## Annoying & Accosting

**13 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 13 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

"Annoying and Accosting a Member of the Opposite Sex" is a form of criminal harassment. Generally, it involves a man repeatedly following, shouting, making off-color suggestions, hooting, repeatedly asking for a date, or otherwise harassing a woman. It happens most often on the street and in the workplace. Each report involves an individual situation; the crime is not subject to geographic patterns. Thirteen incidents have been reported in the first nine months of 2003.

Crime	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Q 2003
Annoying & Accosting	13	13
Indecent Assault	24	8
Indecent Exposure	14	25
Obscene Phone Calls	11	11
Peeping & Spying	15	8
Prostitution & Solicitation	10	3

## Indecent Assault

**24 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 8 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Indecent assault is the unwanted touching of a person by another in a private area or with sexual overtones. In most cases the victim knows the offender. Any incident where force or injury occurs would be considered an aggravated assault rather than an indecent assault. In the first nine months; only two incidents occurred between strangers. The two incidents do not seem related. Two of the incidents were domestic in nature and four were committed by acquaintances.

## Indecent Exposure

**14 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 25 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Indecent exposure often involves homeless or inebriated individuals who expose themselves in order to relieve themselves, couples engaging in sexual acts in public, or individuals who expose themselves and/or touch themselves in front of members of the public. Only one of the twenty-five incidents reported occurred in the first three months of 2003. The total rose sharply during the second quarter due to a series of reports

involving an older man exposing and touching himself in public. Two arrests were made in connection to these incidents.

### Peeping & Spying

**15 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 8 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Peeping and spying occurs most often when offenders will peer through windows of houses or apartments, generally at night. Eight incidents were reported during the first nine months of 2003. The incidents were unrelated in nature, occurring mostly during the second quarter. All but one of the incidents occurred early in the week between a Sunday and Tuesday between 9:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m.

### Prostitution & Soliciting Sex for a Fee

**10 reported in the first nine months of 2002 • 3 reported in the first nine months of 2003**

Prostitution is commonly associated with "streetwalking," (prostitutes working the streets) but it also includes escort services, where a "john" (prostitutes' clients) will call and a prostitute will be sent to the "john's" location. All three arrests were the result of an undercover operation conducted by the Special Investigations Unit in which they called such an escort service who's employees were willing to provide sex for a fee.

# OTHER PART II CRIMES

*Under the Uniform Crime Reporting Program, any actual crime not recorded as a Part I Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny and Auto Theft) is a Part II Crime. The relative infrequency of patterns and trends among these crimes discourages detailed analysis.*

**1176 reported in the first nine months of 2003 • 1048 reported in the first nine months of 2002**

Crime	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2002	3 <sup>rd</sup> Qtr 2003
Disorderly Conduct	33	35
Drinking in Public	20	34
Extortion/Blackmail	1	1
Hit & Run Accidents	549	505
Kidnapping	5	2
Liquor Violations	2	1
OUI	34	46
Threatening	285	264
Traffic Arrests	203	80
Trespassing	39	67
Weapons Violations	5	13

### Disorderly Conduct

Police make an arrest for this crime when a person disrupts the peace enough to pose a danger. Examples include bar disputes, homeless altercations, and public shouting of profanity and threats. Twenty-seven of the thirty-five incidents resulted in an arrest.

### Drinking in Public

Seventy-one percent of the drinking in public incidents occurred in Central Square. Other locations where this activity is monitored include: Harvard, Inman, and the Porter Square T-area. These areas are targeted due to the nightlife they attract.

### Extortion/Blackmail

A rare crime, involving an offender taking money from a victim by threatening to do something other than use violence. Fortunately there was only one incident of extortion/blackmail in the second quarter of 2003. The one incident involved a man extorting money out of another man in exchange for the victim's safety.

### Hit and Run Accidents

Hit and run accidents slightly declined through the first three quarters of 2003 as compared to the same time period last year. The majority of incidents involved parked cars being hit by unknown suspects. Fourteen incidents involved pedestrians being struck.

### Kidnapping

There were two reported kidnapping incidents in Cambridge during the first nine months of 2003. The first involved a Cambridgeport resident being abducted on the street near her residence by an acquaintance. In the second incident, a domestic dispute turned ugly when the suspect who has weekend custody of his child refused to return the victim upon completion of his visitation rights.

### **Liquor Violations**

Liquor violations generally involve minors drinking, though it can also include the sale of liquor to a minor, or the unlicensed sale of liquor. There has only been one liquor violation so far this year.

### **Operating Under the Influence (OUI)**

Out of the forty-six OUI arrests that took place during the first three quarters of 2003, fifty-seven percent occurred during the hours of 10pm to 3am. Special attention is given to Harvard, Porter and Central Squares during these high activity hours.

### **Threatening**

A self-explanatory crime that often arises in domestic disputes, arguments between acquaintances and co-workers, school fights, and in other environments.

### **Traffic Arrests**

The average traffic stop for speeding, running a red light, or related offenses results in only a warning or citation. Some traffic offenses, however, are arrestable crimes: driving to endanger, driving after suspension or revocation, possession of a counterfeit inspection sticker, and attaching false license plates are all examples. Such arrests are often made during routine traffic stops after the police officer learns of the operator's license suspension or revocation. Traffic arrests decreased dramatically over the first nine months of 2003 when compared with the same period in 2002.

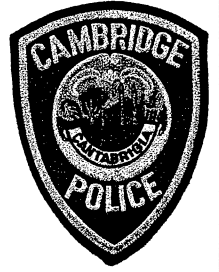
### **Trespassing**

Arrests for trespassing are generally made at establishments where the offender has been previously warned not to enter. Often, the same offender is arrested multiple times. Property owned by MIT has received the most trespassing violations through the third quarter of 2003. A majority of the individuals arrested for the crime of trespassing are homeless.

### **Weapons Violations**

There were thirteen weapons violations reported so far in 2003. Four of the incidents involved arrests of persons with concealed weapons in their possession. Another incident involved an unexploded Japanese grenade that was discovered in the basement of a Peabody neighborhood apartment, which was disposed of by the bomb squad. The other eight were various incidents. In order to be considered a "weapons violation", the weapon in question cannot be directed at a person or property; otherwise, the incident would be recorded as an assault or act of malicious destruction.

**THIRD QUARTER CRIME REPORT 2003**



# **Neighborhood Profiles**

**EAST CAMBRIDGE**

**MIT**

**INMAN/HARRINGTON**

**AREA 4**

**CAMBRIDGEPORT**

**MID-CAMBRIDGE**

**RIVERSIDE**

**AGASSIZ**

**PEABODY**

**WEST CAMBRIDGE**

**NORTH CAMBRIDGE**

**CAMBRIDGE HIGHLANDS**

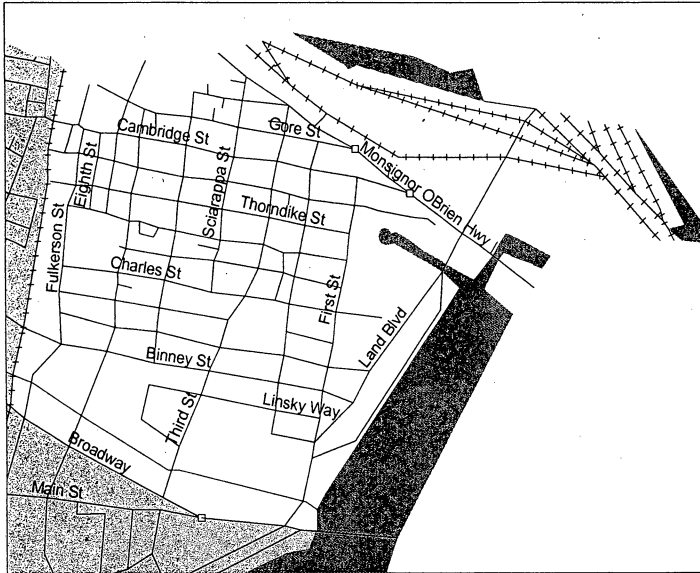
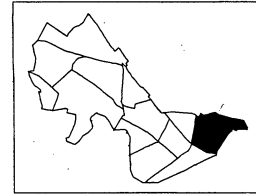
**STRAWBERRY HILL**

# City of Cambridge

## Neighborhoods



# NEIGHBORHOOD 1 EAST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the Charles River, Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION:** 7,294 residents  
2,726 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$30,281

Neighborhood #1 lies within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 1R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 1A, 1B, and 1C.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 – 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	20	26	31	34	25
Street Robbery	12	10	12	9	10
Auto Theft	54	47	56	45	34
Larceny from MVs	85	76	61	69	103
Malicious Destruction	103	60	87	104	95
Drug Arrests	8	7	7	11	20

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

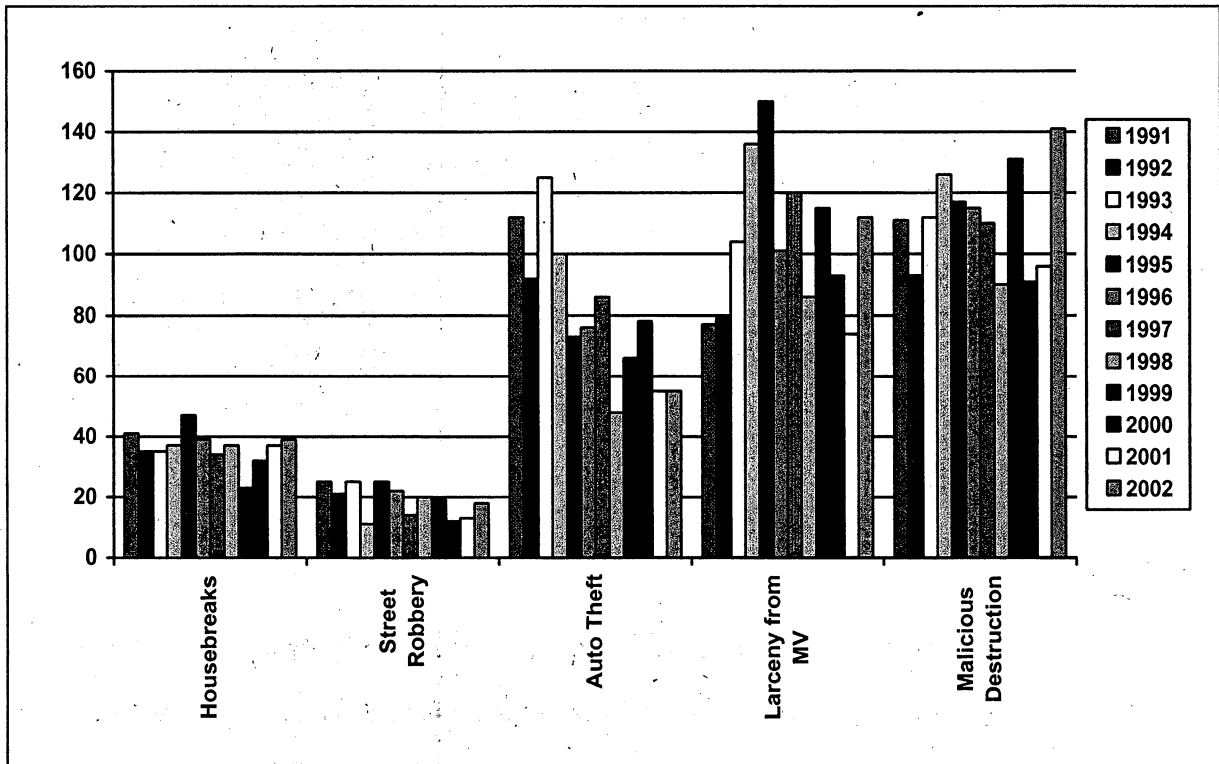
There were four **street robberies** in the East Cambridge over the summer months bringing the total for the first nine months of the year in this neighborhood to ten incidents. There were no weapons shown in any of the four robberies. An arrest was made in an attempted robbery at the Galleria Mall in August in a juvenile versus juvenile intimidation assault. The other three robberies were along or just south of Lower Cambridge Street and were snatch-and-grabs with two of the victims being female. Four of the ten street robberies in Neighborhood #1 this year have been in the corridor between the Galleria Mall and Lechmere Station. • Two of the four **drug arrests** in East Cambridge in the third quarter were the result of shoplifting arrestees at the Galleria Mall being in the possession of controlled substances. Two surveillance and sting cases by the Special Investigations Unit produced major arrests of ecstasy distributors on Cambridge Street and at a local restaurant. • A major weekday pattern of thefts from cars in parking lots between Charles and Binney Streets was the major impetus in the increase for **larceny from motor vehicles** in Neighborhood # 1 in the third quarter. The arrest of a pair of Chelsea residents in September appears to have dissipated this trend. • There were only six **housebreaks** in the area over the summer. Two of the incidents were at a high-rise apartment building that has been experiencing internal theft problems throughout the year. • After recording only 19 **auto thefts** over the first six months of 2003, this target crime spiked with 15 incidents reported between July and the end of September. A high percentage of the stolen vehicles were geographically concentrated in the corridor between Second and Fifth Streets with Hurley Street to the south. Eighty percent of the stolen vehicles were recovered in Somerville.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

With the booming Cambridge Galleria and the fringe of Cambridge Center as its most prominent features, East Cambridge may be the most heavily trafficked commercial region in the city. It has a smaller than average residential population. Other features of the neighborhood include the Lechmere MBTA station, the Kennedy Elementary School, and the Middlesex County Courthouse.

- **Street robberies** ballooned with the opening of the Cambridge Galleria in 1991, but have abated in recent years. Most of these are pack or bullyboy robberies committed by and against juveniles. Other robbery patterns—predatory in nature—sometimes appear on Cambridge Street near the B&A Railroad.
- The motor vehicle related crimes of **auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction of property** occur at the highest numbers here, of anywhere in Cambridge due to the level of commercial parking around the Cambridge Galleria, along Cambridge Street and in the vicinity of Cambridge Center.
- **Assaults, threats** and related crimes between plaintiffs, victims, or complainants and defendants sometimes occur in the area of the Middlesex County Courthouse.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

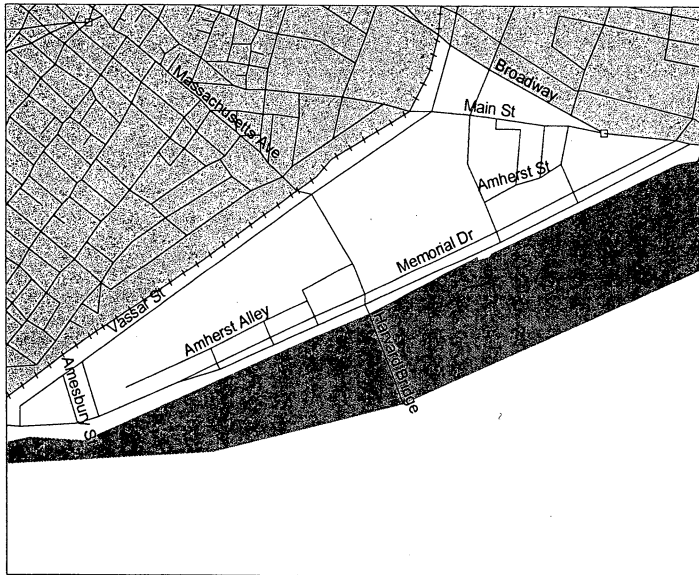
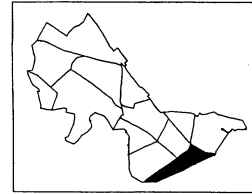


## ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR EAST CAMBRIDGE TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	38	10	36	9	7
Street Robbery	10	11	20	4	4
Auto Theft	156	2	85	1	3
Larceny from MVs	121	5	107	1	2
Malicious Destruction	118	5	114	1	2

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 2 M.I.T. AREA



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River

**POPULATION:** 5,486 residents  
794 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$26,397

Neighborhood #2 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	1	2	0	0	1
Street Robbery	1	1	2	0	2
Auto Theft	17	21	18	4	8
Larceny from MVs	23	18	25	10	18
Malicious Destruction	9	16	8	6	12
Drug Arrests	4	6	1	2	1

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

Three quarters of the **auto thefts** in M.I.T. took place between June and August of this year. Vassar Street was the main location for repeat incidents. The thefts took place throughout the week, but were concentrated in the afternoon hours. • There has only been one reported **housebreak** since the beginning of the year, which resulted in the arrest of a man who was wandering the halls of an M.I.T. building with stolen property. • The two **street robberies** since the beginning of the year took place in the third quarter. One incident involved an intoxicated victim, who recalled that the perpetrators were armed but otherwise remembered very little about the incident. The other incident started out as a fight until one of the participants forcefully took a cell phone from the victim. • **Malicious destruction of property** has doubled in comparison to last year. The majority of incidents involved damage to motor vehicles. For example in early January four SUVs had their windows smashed. • Like auto thefts, **larceny from motor vehicles** were concentrated at Vassar Street, particularly along the 200 to 300 blocks. Nearly half of the car breaks involved entry through a smashed window. Over a third of the breaks took place during the third quarter, with nighttime and daytime breaks being almost equal. Toyotas and Jeeps were the most targeted vehicles. There were three arrests for car breaks during the summer months, two of which were conducted by M.I.T. Police. • There was only one **drug arrest** for marijuana, which took place in August at Cambridge Center.

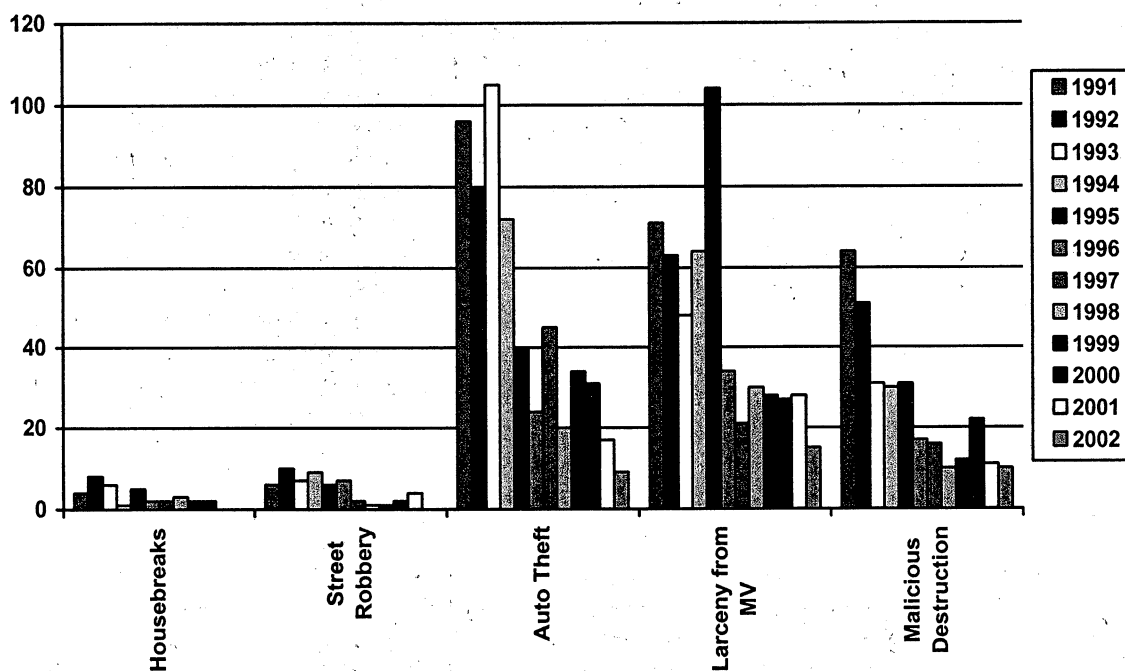
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

The M.I.T. Area is dominated, of course, by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. M.I.T. property envelops most of the neighborhood. Its large student population—many of whom are foreign—is alluring to local criminals, who often consider students unsuspecting prey.

*The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has its own police force, which reports its own crime statistics to the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Statistics contained in this profile—and in the rest of the report—do not include crimes on M.I.T. property except for arrests and incidents in which Cambridge Police Officers participated.*

- The large number of automobiles parked each day on Vassar Street, Ames Street, Amherst Street, and at the Hyatt Regency Hotel have traditionally accounted for high numbers of **auto theft** and **larcenies from motor vehicles**.
- **Street robbery** patterns have sometimes emerged at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, and outside the Fleet ATM on Main Street. These are often predatory, targeting college students that are walking in the areas late at night. Over the course of 20 years, however, M.I.T. has maintained a street robbery level well below the other neighborhoods.
- Bicycles parked at racks on sidewalks all around M.I.T. have been targeted by thieves in large numbers. M.I.T. and Cambridge Police make several arrests per year for **larcenies of bicycles**.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

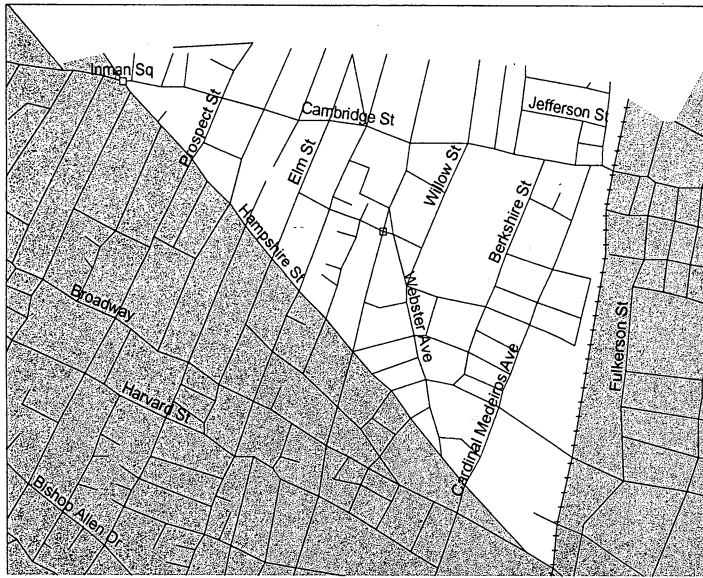
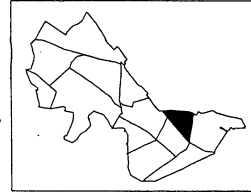


### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR M.I.T. AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	19	11	4	12	13
Street Robbery	11	10	5	11	12
Auto Theft	102	7	55	6	12
Larceny from MVs	56	10	50	8	13
Malicious Destruction	47	10	28	11	13

\*RANKS ARE OUT OF 13 NEIGHBORHOODS, WITH 1 INDICATING THE HIGHEST CRIME RATE AND 13 THE LOWEST

# NEIGHBORHOOD 3 INMAN/HARRINGTON



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the B&A Railroad, Hampshire Street, and the Somerville line.

**POPULATION:** 7,345 residents  
2,734 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$30,231

Neighborhood #3 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 1 (2 officers) and Car 3R (1 officer). Also included within this area are walking routes 3A, 3B, and 3C.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	24	20	29	32	10
Street Robbery	16	16	7	10	6
Auto Theft	25	29	26	41	41
Larceny from MVs	27	18	26	28	23
Malicious Destruction	62	46	59	48	53
Drug Arrests	6	9	15	3	19

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

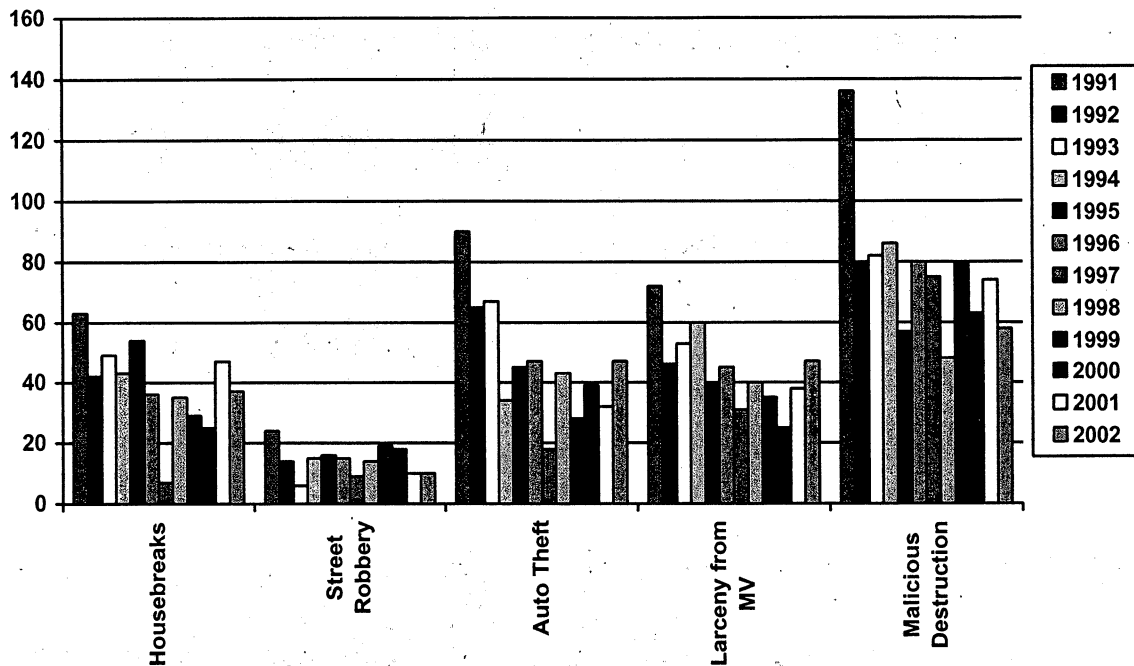
After recording only four **housebreaks** over the first six months of 2003, six additional incidents were reported in Neighborhood #3 in the third quarter. There were two daytime housebreaks on Elm and Berkshire Streets in September. Overall, this target crime has decreased dramatically this year in the Inman/Harrington area. In 2002, there were 32 housebreaks registered in this area in the first nine months of the year. • In response to citizen's complaints of street level **drug activity** in this neighborhood, the Special Investigations Unit executed a dozen arrests between the beginning of July and the end of September in the Inman/Harrington area. Pockets of activity around Donnelly Field and Berkshire and Hampshire Streets were targeted and produced significant seizures of heroin and crack cocaine. • There were no **street robberies** recorded in Neighborhood #3 in the third quarter and only six incidents since January. All of the second quarter street robberies occurred on weekday nights between the hours of 9:00PM and 11:30PM. A weapon was shown in only one of the six incidents. • It was also a very quiet summer for the target crime of **larceny from motor vehicles** in this area with only seven incidents registered in the third quarter. Four of the seven thefts from cars were on Berkshire Street with two reported crimes in both July and September. • **Auto theft** totals at the third quarter mark remained unchanged from last year with 41 incidents registered in the same time frames. Weekend night thefts on side streets off of Cambridge Street were the only discernible temporal pattern identified.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

The Inman Square/Harrington neighborhood's population ranks at the median for the city; consequently, so does many of its crimes. Inman/Harrington is also marked by a number of commercial establishments along Cambridge Street, in Inman Square, and around One Kendall Square.

- Inman/Harrington has an average number of **housebreaks**, given its population. Cambridge Street, Hampshire Street, Elm Street, Columbia Street, and Willow Street have been "hot spots" for this crime. The density of housebreaks increases in the lower half of the neighborhood.
- **Auto theft** and **malicious destruction** have also remained at nominal levels in the 1990s. The related crime of **larceny from motor vehicles**, on the other hand, is lower in only three other neighborhoods.
- The Harrington School and Donnelly Field guarantee a certain share of juvenile related crime, such as vandalism, gang fights, and petty larcenies.
- Drug sales are sometimes a problem on Windsor Street, Webster Street, and areas around Donnelly Field.

## ANNUAL TOTALS



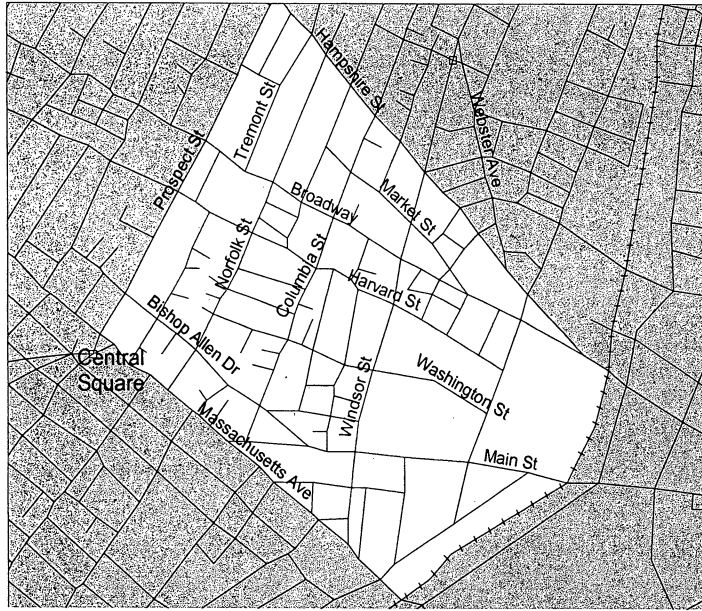
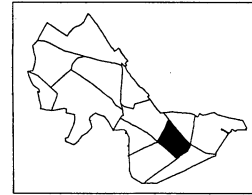
### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR INMAN/HARRINGTON AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	57	9	40	7	9
Street Robbery	14	8	15	7	8
Auto Theft	89	10	46	6	4
Larceny from MVs	66	9	45	10	8
Malicious Destruction	94	7	83	6	9

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 4

## AREA 4



**BOUNDARIES:** the B&A Railroad, Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Hampshire Street

**POPULATION:** 7,263 residents  
2,523 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$24,665

Neighborhood #4 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers), and Car 4R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 4A, 4B, and 4C, and Central 10.

### COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	36	40	54	41	30
Street Robbery	29	23	18	23	22
Auto Theft	49	69	64	50	46
Larceny from MVs	54	88	82	62	34
Malicious Destruction	67	97	97	88	76
Drug Arrests	60	23	17	13	19

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

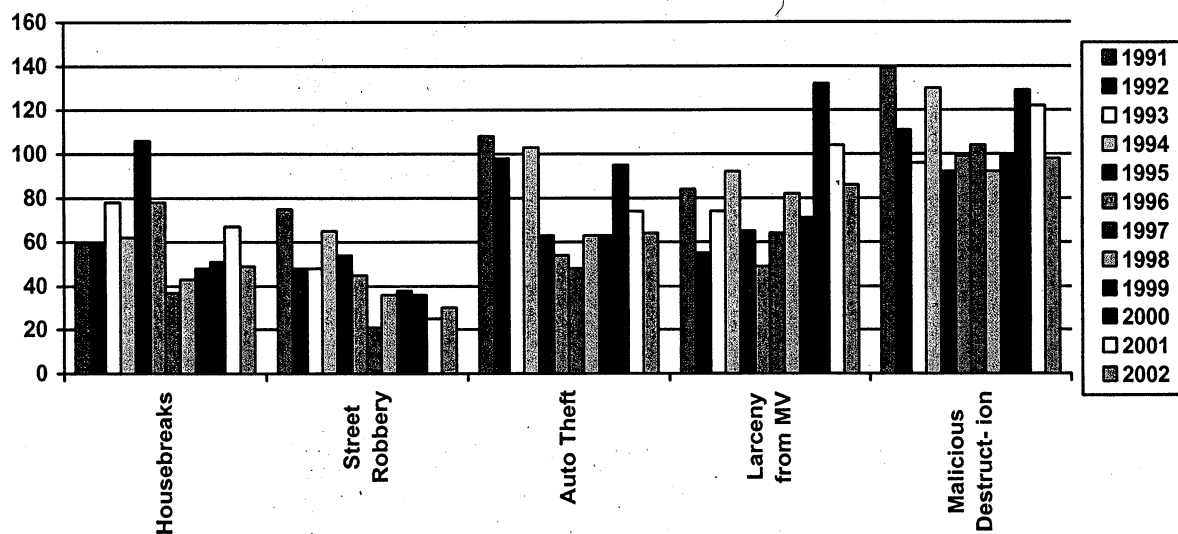
Nearly a quarter of the **street robberies** took place in January of this year. Sundays and Thursdays have been the most active days for these incidents. From Sundays through Wednesdays, the incidents have been concentrated between 8:00PM and 11:00PM. In two of the robberies the suspect was known to the victim. There have been no precise repeat locations, but multiple incidents have taken place along the length of Massachusetts Avenue in this neighborhood. The robberies were overall random in nature. • **Housebreaks** declined significantly this past year. Early in the year there were multiple incidents on the 0 to 100 blocks of Norfolk Street, while repeat incidents took place on the 100 to 200 blocks of Windsor Street during the summer. During the summer months there were also a significant number of breaks that involved the perpetrator entering, or attempting to enter, apartments while the residents were home. All of the housebreak locations were apartments. • Over fifty percent of the stolen vehicles have been recovered. Almost half of the **auto thefts** took place during the third quarter. During the summer, three Yamaha motorcycles were stolen from Area 4. • Norfolk Street, between Harvard and Suffolk Streets, was the main area of repeat auto thefts, while **larcenies from motor vehicle** were repeated between Hampshire and Union Streets on Norfolk Street. The second quarter was highest for these incidents. Almost all of the incidents in the third quarter took place on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Early in the year there was a trend of tire thefts that died down. • There have been two rashes of tire slashings in Area 4 this year, one on April 13<sup>th</sup> and the second on July 13<sup>th</sup>. The July rash took place on Columbia Street, while the April incidents occurred on Elm Street. Temporally, **malicious destruction of property** incidents tend to take place during the weekends at night. • Of the nineteen **drug arrests** this year, seven were the result of investigations conducted by the Special Investigations Unit. Arrests were lowest during the first quarter. The majority of the arrests were carried out by patrol officers, and mainly involved the possession of marijuana and crack/cocaine.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Area 4 has a less than average residential population (among Cambridge neighborhoods), coupled with a series of commercial establishments lining Massachusetts Avenue. Multi-family homes, as well as large apartment buildings, and 2 public housing developments (Newtowne Court and Washington Elms) distinguish this neighborhood from all others.

- As the numbers denote, Area 4 has earned the top rank among all 13 neighborhoods for street robbery over the past 20 years.
- In recent years, community crime watches, the Cambridge Housing Authority, and thorough policing by the Cambridge Police Special Investigations Unit have succeeded in preventing many potential drug incidents in the neighborhood's residential areas.
- Area 4 **housebreaks** have increasingly rated higher than average, moving from the fifth to the third highest rank among Cambridge neighborhoods over the past 20 years. Area 4 is often a prime target, due to its high population density in residential areas. In both Mid-Cambridge and Area 4, The Crime Analysis Unit identifies several discernable housebreak patterns that emerge throughout each year.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

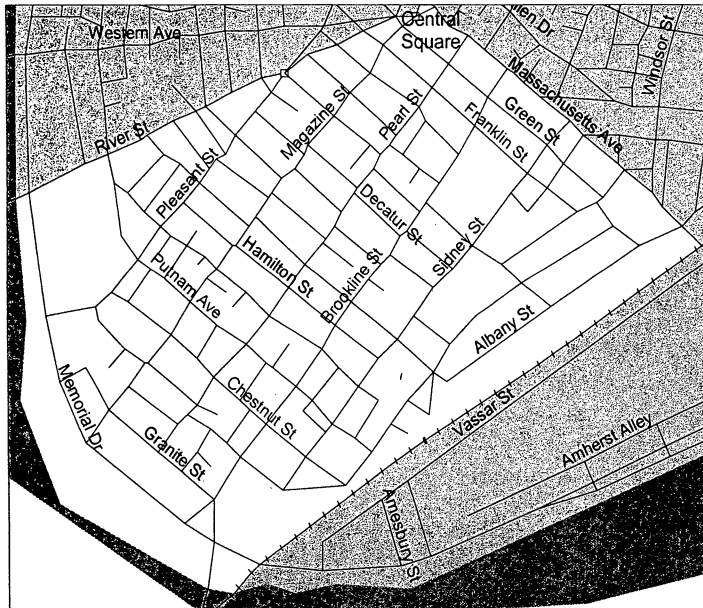
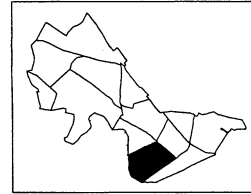


### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AREA 4 TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	101	5	59	4	5
Street Robbery	75	1	48	1	1
Auto Theft	147	3	78	3	1
Larceny from MVs	134	2	77	4	3
Malicious Destruction	131	3	109	4	6

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 5 CAMBRIDGEPORT



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, the B&A railroad, the Charles River, and River Street

**POPULATION:** 10,052 residents  
4,203 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$28,466

Neighborhood #5 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officers) and Car 5R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 5A, 5B, and Central 12.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	32	34	39	59	38
Street Robbery	18	16	19	9	29
Auto Theft	41	46	57	50	58
Larceny from MVs	53	72	76	54	66
Malicious Destruction	52	80	90	105	111
Drug Arrests	37	21	9	13	14

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

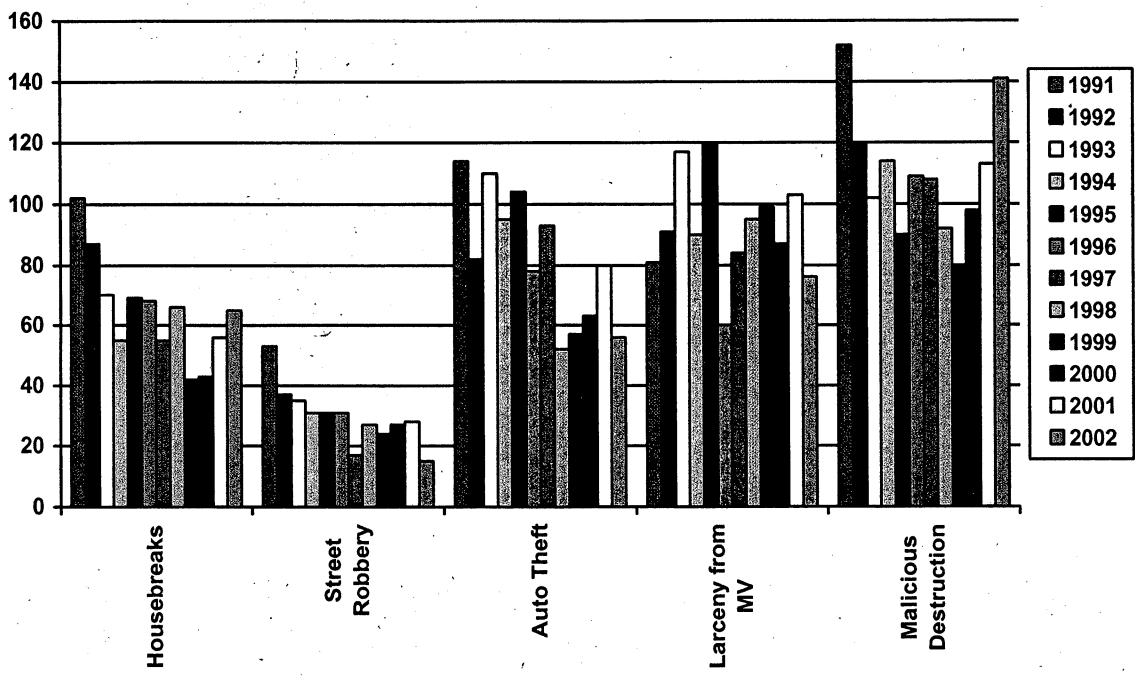
**Street robberies** increased significantly in comparison to 2002. The number of robberies has been rather consistent throughout the first three quarters of the year. During the first quarter, the robberies were concentrated in the afternoon hours and in the area of the 500 block of Massachusetts Avenue. Over the summer, robberies were prominent in the area of Brookline, Chestnut and Magazine Streets between 11PM and 3AM from Fridays to Saturdays. Many of the robbery incidents in Cambridgeport involved the threat of the use of weapons, primarily guns and knives. Of the twenty-nine reported street robbery incidents, nine resulted in an arrest. • During the third quarter **housebreaks** drastically increased, as they did in other Cambridge neighborhoods, particularly taking place on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the daytime. Almost all of the housebreaks took place in apartments and laptops were a popular target item. Areas of repeat offenses included the 0 to 200 blocks of Pearl Street, 0 to 100 blocks of Kelly Road and the 0 to 200 blocks of Brookline Street. • **Auto thefts** were highest during the summer, concentrated on Fridays through Sundays. There was one arrest for these incidents which was made by the state police and in six of the incidents the victims knew the perpetrator. During April almost all of the stolen vehicles were Hondas. Areas of multiple thefts have been the 100 to 200 blocks of Brookline Street and around the 800 block of Memorial Drive. • This area of Memorial Drive was also high in **larcenies from motor vehicles**, which peaked during the second quarter. Mondays were the most common day of the week for the summer breaks. CD car stereos have been the most popular item for theft. • The only notable rash of **malicious destruction of property** incidents took place in early January, when multiple cars were shot at with BB pellets, breaking windows and windshields. Once again, the 700 to 800 blocks of Memorial Drive incurred repeat incidents as well as the 300 to 400 blocks of Massachusetts Avenue. • Of the fourteen **drug arrests** since the beginning of the year, four were the result of Special Investigations Unit proceedings. Nearly half of the arrests were made during the third quarter. Most arrests were executed during the daytime and involved the possession and/or use of marijuana. The area of Magazine Street was the only significant repeat location.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Cambridgeport has the fifth highest residential population of the city's neighborhoods. It is characterized by several large apartment buildings as well as many one, two, and three family houses. The neighborhood is bordered by a string of retail stores, hotels, and restaurants on Memorial Drive, River Street, and Massachusetts Avenue.

- **Street robberies** have long been the most serious crime problem in Cambridgeport. As with Area 4, Cambridgeport's street robberies tend to concentrate near Massachusetts Avenue and Central Square. They are often predatory, and are usually committed after 9:00 at night on weekends.
- **Housebreaks**, usually higher than average in Cambridgeport, have declined significantly since the 1980s. The average number of housebreaks since 1991 is half of the 1980s average. And they have declined another 30 percent since 1991. Cambridgeport's housebreak rate can be attributed to its large, densely packed residential population.
- Cambridgeport has continually experienced the highest rate of **auto theft** since the 1980s. The 1999 Camry Auto Theft pattern helped to displace Cambridgeport's number one ranking by setting East Cambridge and Area 4 as the top two.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles** usually registers high in Cambridgeport.
- The homeless shelter on Albany Street is often a scene for **street robbery** and **aggravated assault** between its patrons.

## ANNUAL TOTALS



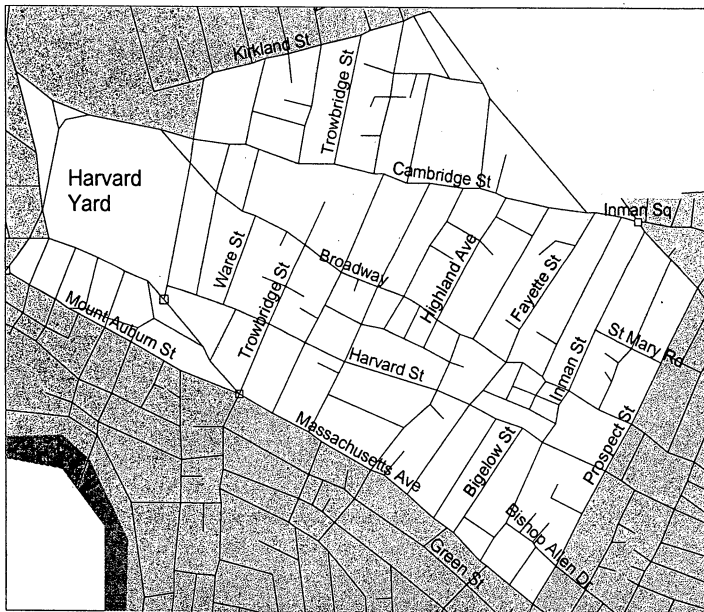
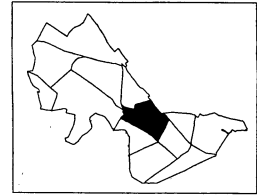
### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR CAMBRIDGEPORT AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	156	2	67	2	2
Street Robbery	57	2	33	2	5
Auto Theft	165	1	85	1	2
Larceny from MVs	126	4	94	3	4
Malicious Destruction	106	6	110	3	1

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 6

## MID-CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, Hampshire Street, the Somerville border, Kirkland Street, Quincy Street, and Cambridge Street

**POPULATION:** 13,285 residents  
5,989 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$37,075

Neighborhood #6 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 2 (2 officers) and 6R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 6A, 6B, 6C, and Harvard 15

### COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	29	55	81	76	69
Street Robbery	2	12	13	11	10
Auto Theft	14	30	34	19	27
Larceny from MVs	64	47	65	109	59
Malicious Destruction	53	69	82	102	66
Drug Arrests	15	11	14	8	3

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

**Housebreaks** skyrocketed in the third quarter, beginning in August. The breaks involved the theft of high-priced electronics, laptops and DVD players, and entry was usually gained to residences by prying the front door. These third quarter breaks concentrated around the 200 to 300 blocks of Harvard Street and the 800 to 900 blocks of Massachusetts Avenue during the daytime. Other clusters of incidents have taken place around Trowbridge, Inman and Hancock Streets. Seven of the third quarter incidents were attempted breaks, in which there was evidence of an attempted entry, but none was made. • The only area of multiple **street robberies** has been around Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, on Broadway. These incidents have for the most part been classified as “bully boys”, incidents in which multiple teens victimize a peer. Friday and Saturday robberies typically occurred between 11:00PM and 2:00AM, while weekday robberies concentrated between 1:00PM and 3:00PM. There were two arrests in Mid-Cambridge so far this year for street robberies. • **Auto thefts** have increased in the past year, when compared to 2002. The majority of these vehicles have already been recovered. Thursday was the prominent day of the week for auto theft incidents. • **Larceny from motor vehicles** was lowest during the first quarter. During the second quarter the breaks concentrated on Mondays and Tuesdays. In April there were several incidents involving the theft of auto parts (i.e. headlights) from Audis, and an additional incident of this nature took place in July. Almost all of the thefts in which Hondas were targeted involved stealing the car stereo, particularly Pioneer brand stereos. • **Malicious destruction of property** was also lowest during the first quarter. There was one rash of incidents on May 22<sup>nd</sup>, in which the tires of eleven vehicles were slashed in the area of Hancock, Antrim, and Harvard Streets. Seven of the total malicious destruction incidents were attempted auto thefts. The main area of multiple offenses is around Broadway, Harvard and Hancock Streets. • There were only three **drug arrests** in Mid Cambridge since the beginning of 2003, all of which were routine stops in which the suspects were found in possession of marijuana.

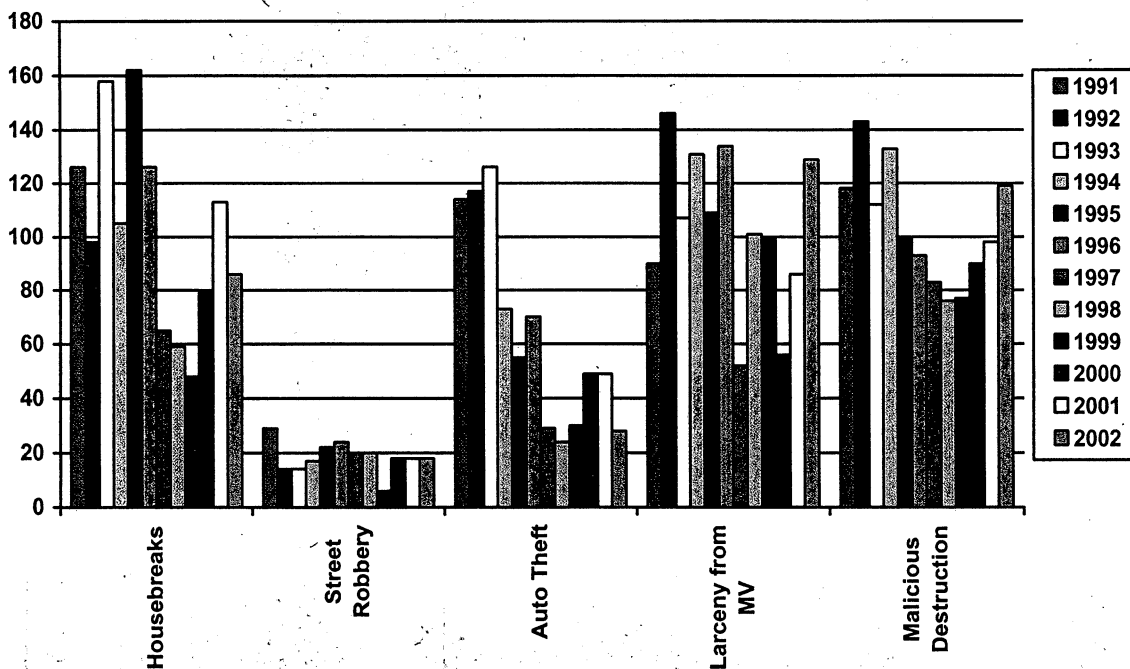
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Mid-Cambridge is a busy neighborhood. In addition to the highest population of any neighborhood in Cambridge, Mid-Cambridge also has the city's largest high school (Cambridge Rindge & Latin), the Jackson Gardens residential complex, a good portion of Harvard University, and our own City Hall. It is bordered by the major thoroughways of Massachusetts Avenue, Prospect Street, and Cambridge Street, and three of the city's five busiest squares (Central, Harvard, and Inman) occupy its corners.

Because of the large number of people living, working, shopping, and going to school within its borders, Mid-Cambridge tends to have a higher than average rate for several crimes. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the western part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- **Residential Burglary** is naturally highest in a neighborhood with the largest number of residences. Though the rate of this crime has been cut in half since the 1980s, it still remains a serious problem. In 1992, burglaries fell below 100 for the first and only time in the previous 30 years. The largest clusters appear on Harvard Street between Prospect and Lee Streets, on Broadway between Lee and Ellery Streets, around the Massachusetts Avenue/Hancock Street intersection, on the lower half of Trowbridge Street, and on Lee Street. Mid-Cambridge also ranks high in **Larceny from motor vehicles** and the related crimes of **auto theft** and **malicious destruction**. The Cambridge Police Department strives to reduce both crimes through preventive patrol efforts, "Park and Walks," and priority investigation. Its 50 percent drop since the 1980s bespeaks some success.
- **Street robbery** is surprisingly low in Mid-Cambridge given its population. Most of the incidents that do occur happen on Massachusetts Avenue, on Cambridge Street, and in Inman Square.
- The high amount of pedestrian traffic on Massachusetts Avenue leads to a large number of **bicycle thefts** each year, particularly in or near Harvard Square.

### ANNUAL TOTALS



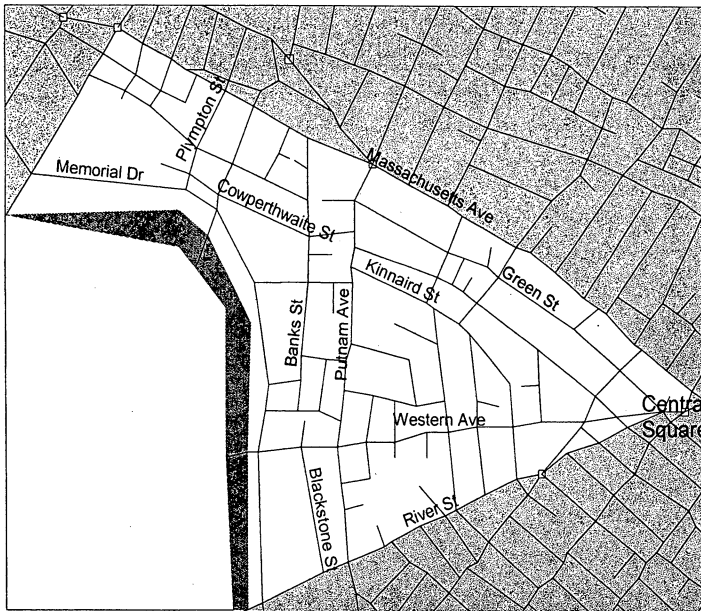
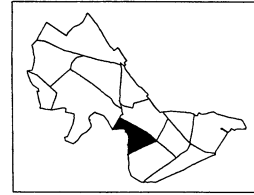
### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR MID-CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	226	1	103	1	1
Street Robbery	49	3	18	5	3
Auto Theft	147	4	70	3	8
Larceny from MVs	198	1	106	2	1
Malicious Destruction	149	1	106	5	3

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 7

## RIVERSIDE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, the Charles River, and JFK Street

**POPULATION:** 11,201 residents  
3,341 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$27,415

Neighborhood #7 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 3 (2 officer cars) and Cars 6R and 10R (1 officer cars). Also included within its boundaries are walking routes 7A and 7B.

### COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	17	26	45	31	28
Street Robbery	8	15	8	9	12
Auto Theft	22	16	42	29	24
Larceny from MVs	42	19	27	33	22
Malicious Destruction	56	65	85	71	52
Drug Arrests	12	11	18	13	13

#### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

Half of the **street robberies** took place during the first quarter. Five of the twelve robberies resulted in an arrest. Overall, street robberies tended to take place from Fridays to Sundays, particularly between the hours of 11PM and 4AM. • Similar to other neighborhoods, **housebreaks** peaked during the third quarter. These were mostly daytime breaks. Five of the total housebreaks were attempts, and in three other incidents the victims knew the perpetrators. There were two arrests for housebreaks in Riverside. Most of the targeted locations were apartments and laptops were a popular item for theft. • **Auto thefts** were highest during the second quarter. Sixteen of the twenty stolen vehicles have already been recovered. There were several Acuras stolen, but other than that there was no real dominant car make targeted for auto theft. • **Larceny from motor vehicle** has decreased. There have been several days when multiple cars were targeted on a particular street. These incidents included a parking garage on Massachusetts Avenue and the areas of Kinnaird and Franklin Streets. Stereos were the prominent theft target. • Saturdays and Sundays were the top days for **malicious destruction to property** incidents. These incidents were lowest during the third quarter and tended to occur during the nighttime. Areas of repeat incidents included the 200 block of Western Avenue and the 1100 to 1200 blocks of Massachusetts Avenue, during the summer months. • The majority of **drug arrests** were made during the third quarter. Six of the thirteen arrests were the result of investigations carried out by the Special Investigations Unit, while two were the result of standard motor vehicle stops. Most of the arrests involved the possession or use of marijuana.

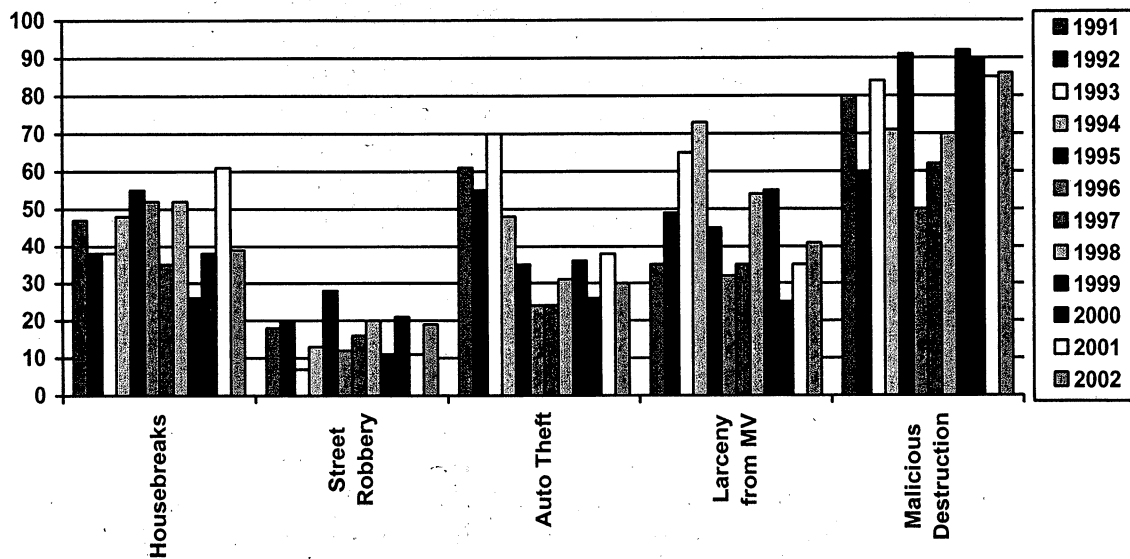
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Riverside has the fourth highest population in the city, but it ranks well below the average for almost all index crimes. Along with its ten thousand residents, Riverside has two housing developments (Putnam Gardens and the River-Howard homes), two major parks (Hoyt Field and Riverside Press Park), and many commercial establishments along Massachusetts Avenue, River Street, and Western Avenue. Several Harvard University dormitories and other properties occupy the northwestern quarter. Riverside's borders also encompass the United States Post Office and the Cambridge Police Department headquarters.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the northwestern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on university property.*

- **Malicious destruction** is the only crime that has not shown a significant average decline in Riverside since the 1980s, though it is low compared to the rest of the city. Most of this vandalism occurs to motor vehicles. Occasional patterns of this crime over long holiday weekends have been a problem in the past.
- **Street robberies** are low for a neighborhood of Riverside's population, but they remain a pressing problem. Most of these incidents are on Western Avenue. Riverside has an exceptionally low **housebreak** rate for its size; a few clusters appear on Franklin and Kinnaird Streets, and at Putnam Gardens.
- The only neighborhoods with lower **auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles** totals have less than half of Riverside's population.

## ANNUAL TOTALS



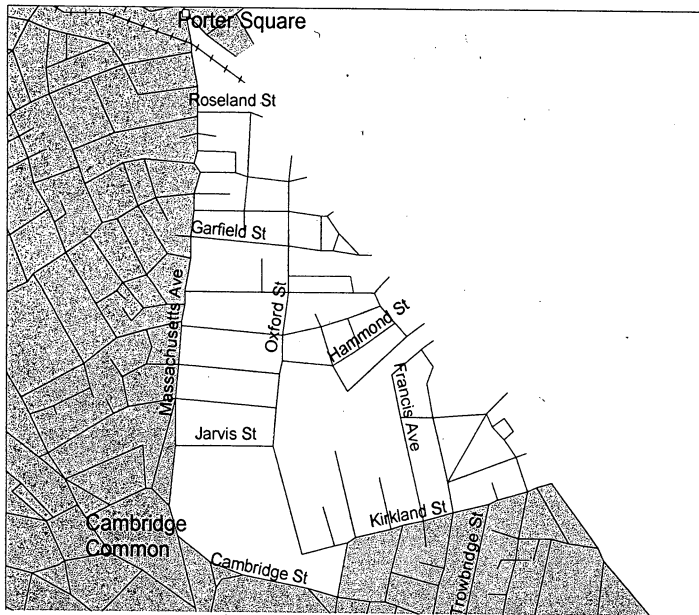
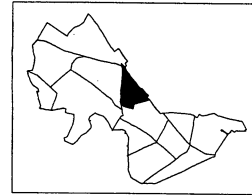
## ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR RIVERSIDE AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	83	7	43	6	8
Street Robbery	34	4	17	6	2
Auto Theft	92	9	41	9	7
Larceny from MVs	87	7	48	9	10
Malicious Destruction	78	9	74	8	7

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 8

## AGASSIZ



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge Street, Quincy Street, Kirkland Street, and the Somerville border

**POPULATION:** 5,241 residents  
1,891 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$36,853

Neighborhood #8 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It is also covered by walking routes 8A, 8B, and 8C.

### COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	17	14	13	38	14
Street Robbery	1	1	4	5	2
Auto Theft	4	9	11	15	11
Larceny from MVs	27	17	25	40	21
Malicious Destruction	16	20	24	19	10
Drug Arrests	1	1	0	2	1

#### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

**Housebreaks** have significantly declined when compared to last year's numbers. However, a rise began to emerge in September, a trend throughout other neighborhoods as well. One particular apartment complex on Howland Street was targeted on three occasions during September. Thursdays are the most common day for these breaks, and daytime hours are the dominant time. Two of the housebreaks were unsuccessful attempts, and two of the total to date were perpetrated by a party known to the victim. There were also four arrests, two in June and two in September. • There were only two **street robberies** so far in 2003. Both of these took place during the second quarter. One was a purse snatching, while the second involved two suspects demanding the victim's wallet, which he was unable to produce and was punched in the face. • The second quarter showed the highest number of **auto thefts** for Agassiz. No thefts took place in February, May or September of this year. Over fifty percent of the stolen vehicles have been recovered. The only location with multiple incidents was Scott Street. • **Malicious destruction of property** took place throughout the week, but particularly overnight, after victims parked their vehicles following a workday. The 0 to 100 blocks of Oxford Street and Francis Avenue were the main locations for repeat offenses. • This area of Oxford Street was also targeted for **larcenies from motor vehicles**. Nearly half of the breaks took place during the second quarter, with a concentration during the month of April. There have been a couple of thefts of tires since the beginning of the year. The majority of all car breaks took place in the nighttime. The latter half of the week was also more active for car breaks • There has only been one **drug arrest** so far this year, and it took place in May. This incident occurred on Oxford Street, and was the result of discovering two men in possession of marijuana and Methadose while in their vehicle. The arrest was a cooperation between Harvard University Police and Cambridge Police.

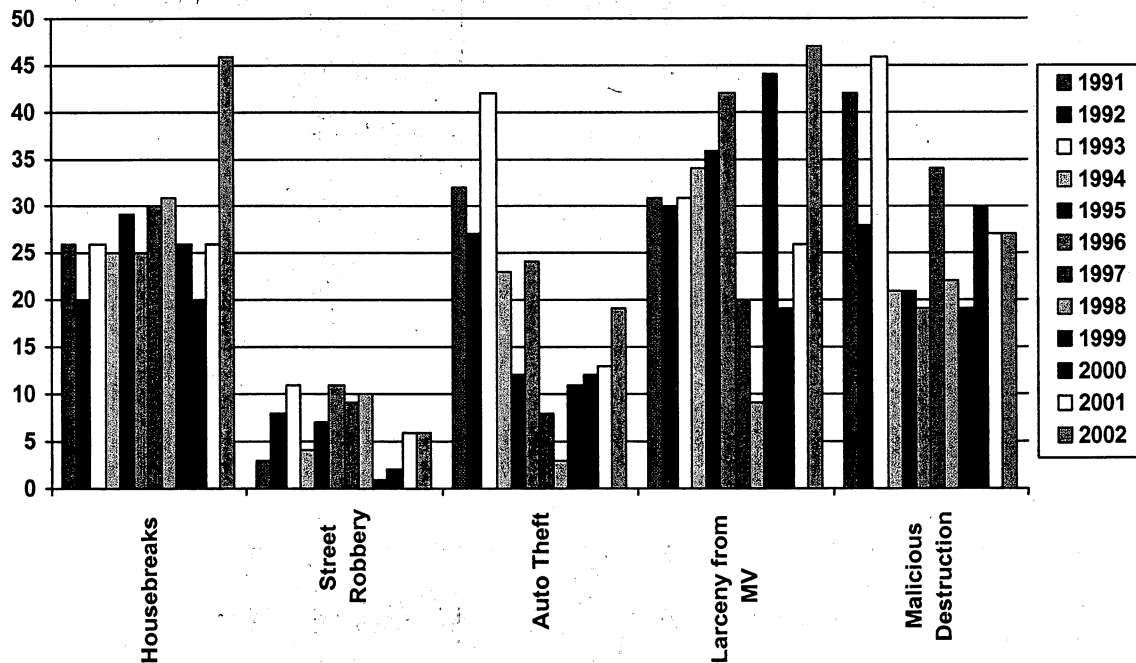
## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Over half of the Agassiz neighborhood is occupied by Harvard University and Lesley College. The rest of the residential population is concentrated primarily in a triangle in the northern section of the neighborhood, capped by bustling Porter Square. A number of businesses line Massachusetts Avenue on Agassiz's west border.

*Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the southern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Agassiz has a significantly lower than average rate for almost every measured crime. Unlike some other neighborhoods, only one of its borders is defined by a major, heavily trafficked avenue. Only four other neighborhoods have lower average **housebreak** and **larceny from motor vehicle** totals; only three other neighborhoods have lower average totals for **street robberies**, and Agassiz ranks as the third lowest neighborhood for **auto theft** and **malicious destruction**.
- Juveniles entering the neighborhood from Somerville were suspected in a pattern of **street robberies** in 1996 and 1997; such patterns arise every few years, usually clustered at the intersections of Massachusetts Avenue and Wendell Street or Oxford Avenue and Sacramento Street. These occasional patterns generally occur in the late night on weekends.
- Somerville juveniles have also been associated with occasional tire slashings on Forest Street and Massachusetts Avenue. The **malicious destruction** statistics reflect incidents of spray-painting at the Agassiz School.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

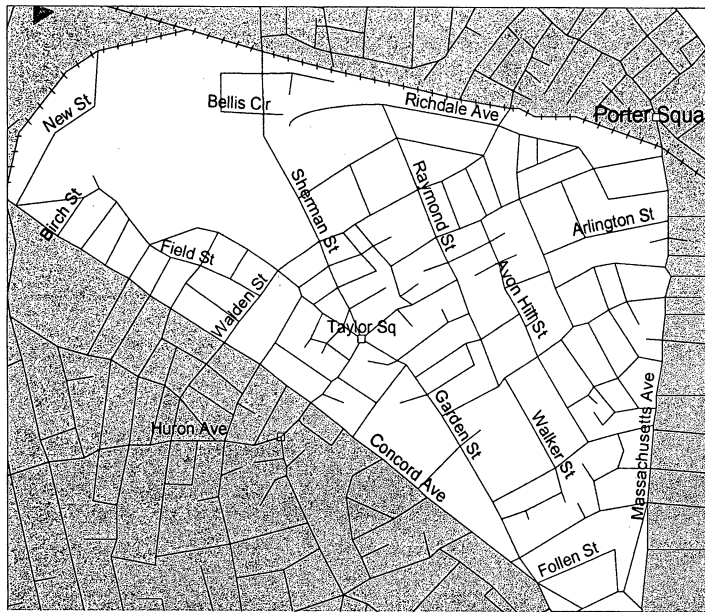
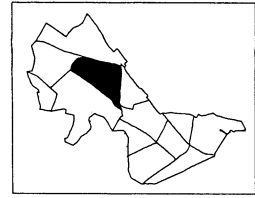


### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR AGASSIZ AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	67	8	25	10	6
Street Robbery	11	9	6	10	10
Auto Theft	45	12	20	10	9
Larceny from MVs	47	11	30	11	9
Malicious Destruction	45	11	29	10	11

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 9 PEABODY



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, Concord Avenue, Garden Street, and Massachusetts Avenue

**POPULATION:** 11,794 residents  
5,208 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$36,608

Neighborhood #9 is encompassed by Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 9R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 9A, 9B, 9C, and 9D.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	59	27	20	48	38
Street Robbery	7	5	7	6	8
Auto Theft	19	26	30	25	20
Larceny from MVs	43	46	52	45	33
Malicious Destruction	58	40	74	91	57
Drug Arrests	8	8	8	2	6

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

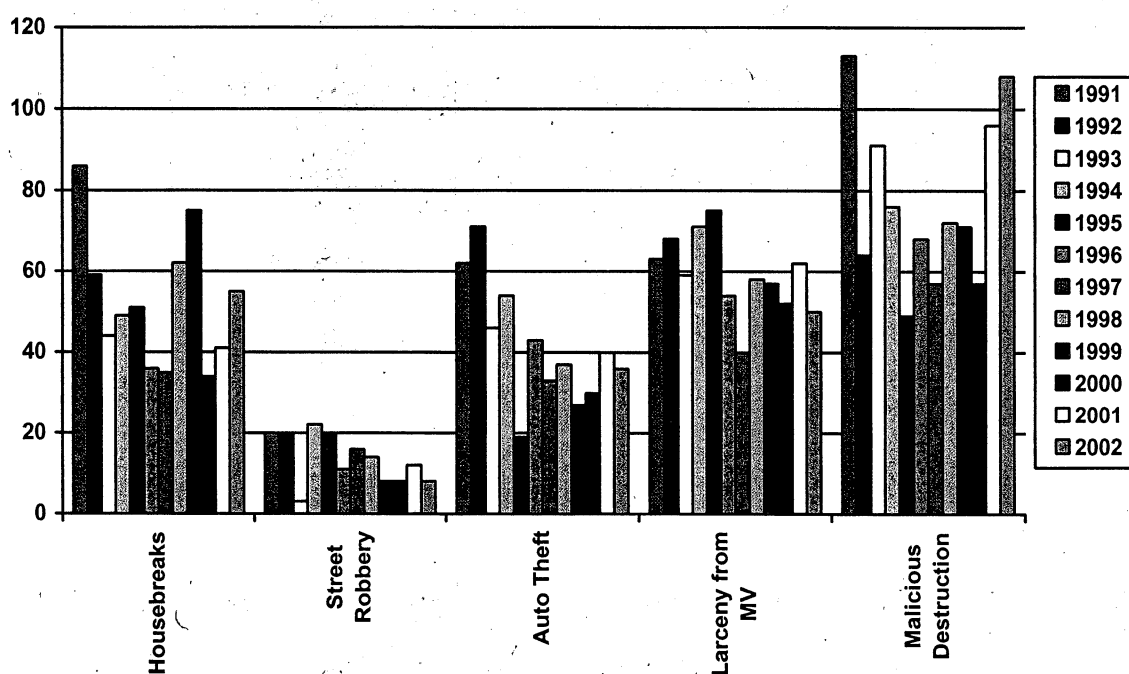
Despite the fact that there were sixteen housebreaks recorded in the Peabody neighborhood during the third quarter, this target crime remains ten incidents below the forty-eight crimes that were reported in this area in the first nine months of 2002. There were four housebreaks on Raymond Street during August but disparate suspect descriptions and modus operandi point to a series of unrelated cases. The majority of the breaks in Neighborhood #9 over the summer months were between 3:00PM and 7:00PM on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. • The only **street robbery** in the neighborhood during the third quarter occurred on a Friday morning at 5:00AM on the Cambridge Common. Three subjects were subsequently arrested in Harvard Square for this strong-armed robbery where no weapons were shown. Six of the eight street robberies in Peabody were in late January and were part of a pattern that was eradicated with the arrest of two local juveniles. • There were four **drug arrests** in the Peabody neighborhood between the beginning of July and the end of September. Two of the arrests were products of the patrol division and involved motorists being in possession of controlled substances after being stopped for traffic infractions. The Special Investigations Unit executed a search warrant on Walden Street in September and the subsequent search uncovered methamphetamines and cocaine. The other SIU drug arrest in this area over the summer was for street level marijuana dealing along Garden Street • **Malicious Destruction** of property has declined substantially in the Peabody neighborhood. When comparing the first nine months of this year with those of 2002, there have been 34 fewer acts of vandalism recorded in 2003. Sporadic tagging of commercial buildings on Richdale Ave. remains a problem.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Peabody has the second highest population in the city, yet most of its crimes are at or below the city's average. The neighborhood's residents include several large apartment complexes, a public housing development (Lincoln Way) and hundreds of single and double family houses. Peabody boasts two of the biggest public parks in the city: Cambridge Common and Danehy Park. Also contained within its borders is Radcliffe College. Large commercial establishments mark Massachusetts Avenue and Walden Square Road.

- Cambridge Common has traditionally experienced after-dark crimes ranging from **public drinking** and **drug use** to **robbery** to **sexual assault**. Increased preventive patrol has diminished such occurrences in recent years.
- Summer **housebreak** patterns sometimes plague Richdale Avenue and Upland Road. This year, clusters returned to that region, though the crime has radically declined in other sections of the neighborhood.
- **Auto theft** and **larceny from motor vehicles**, though low in this neighborhood, show concentrations on Richdale Avenue and in the triangle formed by Massachusetts Avenue, Upland Road, and Avon Street.
- Drug activity and juvenile crime have long been concerns in the Walden Square area. The Narcotics and Juvenile Units began targeting these areas in 1993 and have almost eliminated the patterns.

## ANNUAL TOTALS



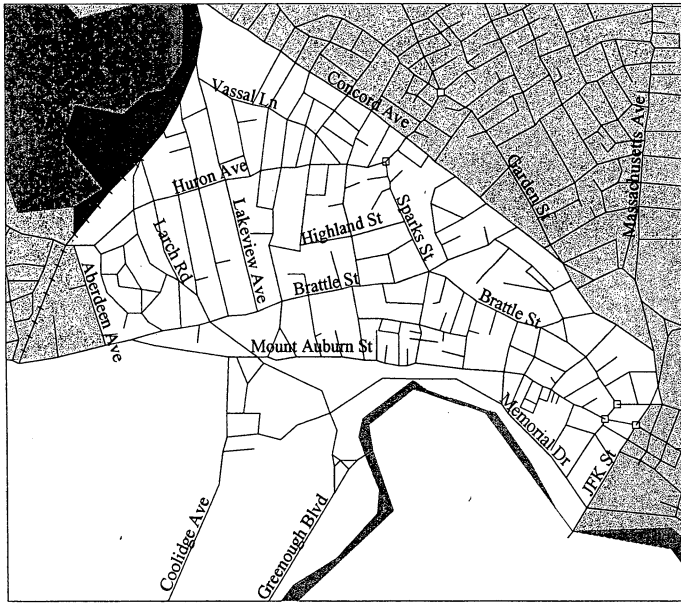
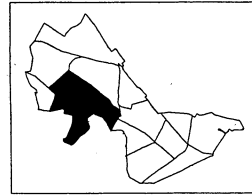
## ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR PEABODY AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	150	3	53	5	3
Street Robbery	21	6	14	8	9
Auto Theft	94	8	43	7	6
Larceny from MVs	74	8	60	7	7
Malicious Destruction	135	2	73	9	5

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 10

## WEST CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by the Charles River, JFK Street, Garden Street, Concord Avenue, Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, and the Watertown line

**POPULATION:** 8,266 residents  
3,887 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$54,656

Neighborhood #10 is encompassed by the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Cars 10R and 13R (1 officer cars). It also includes walking routes 10A, 10B, 10C, and Harvard 16.

### COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	27	15	35	28	28
Street Robbery	3	6	7	11	7
Auto Theft	16	11	25	16	23
Larceny from MVs	45	41	31	39	39
Malicious Destruction	44	57	78	47	59
Drug Arrests	4	9	7	3	2

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

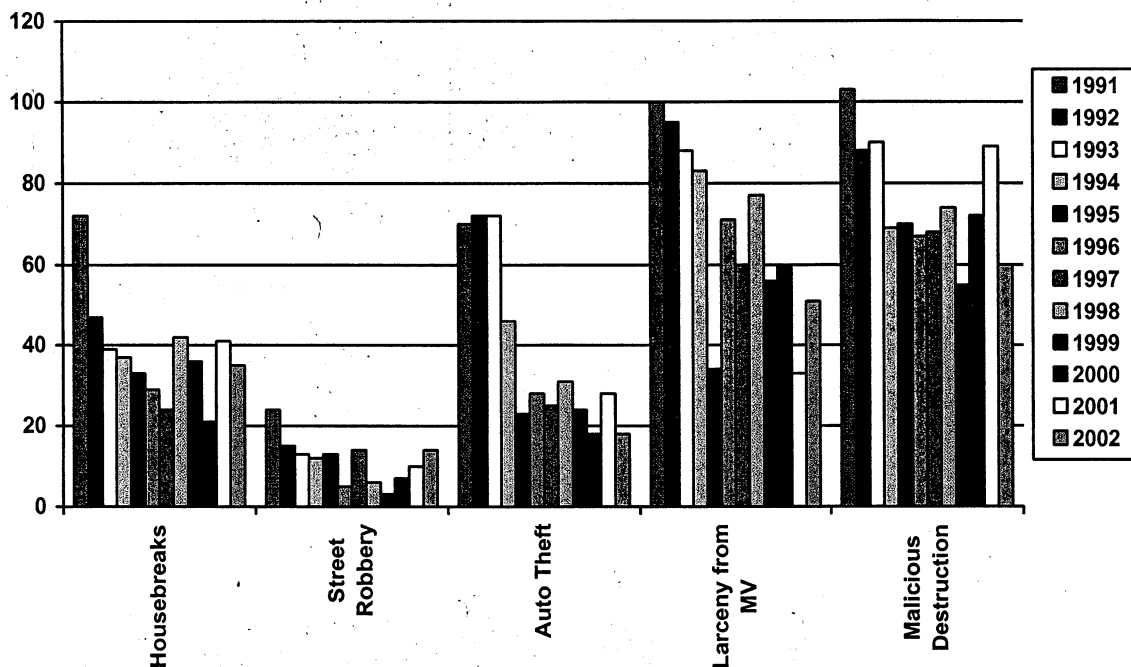
The majority of **street robberies** in West Cambridge have taken place around the Harvard Square and Cambridge Common areas. One of these robberies resulted in the arrest of a Roslindale man. During the spring, the robberies were taking place in the early morning, around 2:00AM, and in the afternoon during the summer. Only one of the robberies involved the use of a weapon, and this robbery appeared to be related to a short string of robberies in this area of the city. Overall there has been a decrease in street robberies when compared to last year. • Of the **housebreaks** more than half took place in the third quarter. These third quarter breaks tended to occur during the overnight hours. A trend for these housebreaks was entry through windows using a chair, or something similar, to prop against the outside of the residence. The theft of silverware was also noticeable in West Cambridge. Areas of repeat offenses included the 0 to 100 blocks of Fayerweather, Lowell, and Brattle Streets. • Nearly half of the **auto thefts** took place during the second quarter, particularly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. This included four thefts of Honda Accords that occurred on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Approximately two thirds of the stolen vehicles so far this year have been recovered. • The 100 to 200 blocks of Mount Auburn Street was the only area of repeat offences throughout the year for auto thefts as well as for **larceny from motor vehicles**. Nearly a half of the breaks took place during the second quarter. Wednesdays and Fridays were the most active days of the week. • **Malicious destruction of property** declined in the third quarter, with no incidents in September. Of the total incidents, three were attempted auto thefts. Incidents were rather consistent throughout the year, except for the month of September, when there were no reported incidents. • The first **drug arrest** of the year involved a man smoking Crystal Meth in the bathroom of a grocery store. The second arrest incident resulted in the arrest of two individuals, one in possession of heroin, while the other seemingly sold the former the heroin, and was in possession of the drug as well as Klonopin and marijuana.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

West Cambridge is, geographically, the largest neighborhood in the city. Its east end contains a good portion of Harvard Square, bustling with commercial traffic; its western border is marked by Fresh Pond and Kingsley Park. In between are the beautiful homes of Brattle Street, the expansive Cambridge Cemetery, Mount Auburn Hospital, and half a dozen elementary schools. *Harvard University, which has its own police department, patrols Harvard property in the eastern part of the neighborhood. Our statistics do not reflect most incidents that occur on Harvard University property.*

- Almost all of West Cambridge's target crimes are lower than average, its population is slightly higher than average.
- **Larceny from motor vehicles**, is concentrated in the area bordered by Sparks, Brattle, and Mount Auburn Street. The incidents occur primarily on weekends, late at night. The related crime of **malicious destruction** registers at average levels.
- **Housebreaks**, once a pressing problem, have been virtually eliminated. Summertime residential burglary patterns, once the scourge of West Cambridge, have not appeared for years. The 2001 total broke the trend of the lowest number of reported incidents over the past three decades.
- **Bicycle theft** patterns strike the Harvard Square area each spring and summer. The large number of bicycles parked in the area lead to high levels of theft. **Larcenies from Persons** become a problem every spring and summer around the Square and in its many commercial establishments.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

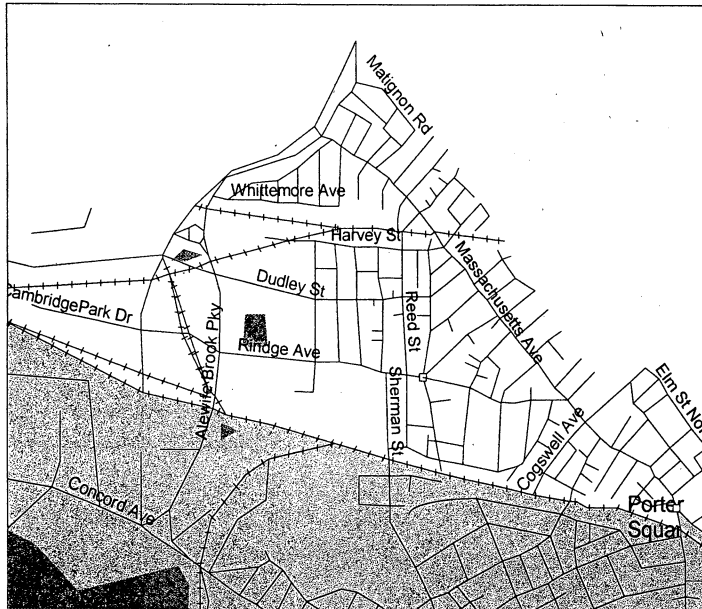
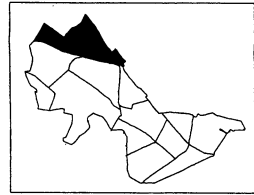


### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR WEST CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	105	4	38	8	10
Street Robbery	18	7	12	9	6
Auto Theft	105	6	42	8	10
Larceny from MVs	134	3	70	5	6
Malicious Destruction	92	8	75	7	8

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 11 NORTH CAMBRIDGE



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the Belmont line, the Arlington Line, the Somerville Line, Porter Square, and the B&M Railroad

**POPULATION:** 10,642 residents  
4,699 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$31,516

Neighborhood #11 is encompassed in the patrol boundaries of Car 5 (2 officers) and Car 11R (1 officer). It also includes walking routes 11A, 11B, 11C, and 11D.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	26	27	29	47	46
Street Robbery	10	5	4	9	23
Auto Theft	30	26	36	36	24
Larceny from MVs	41	34	48	54	45
Malicious Destruction	88	76	96	91	76
Drug Arrests	9	7	11	7	6

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

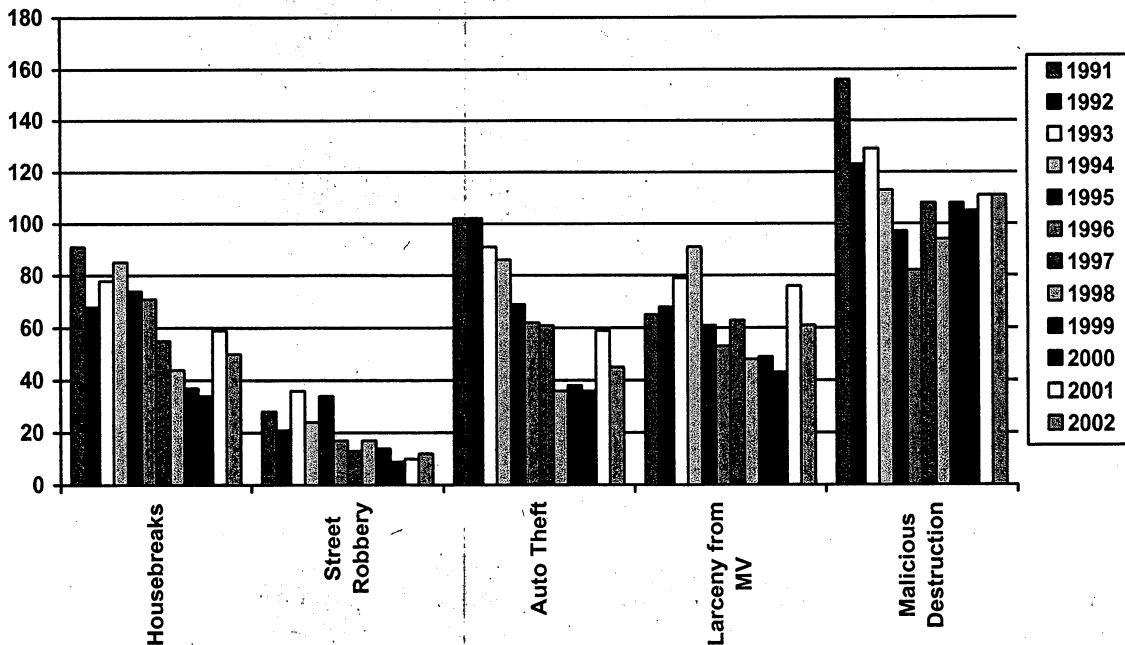
**Housebreaks** are virtually equal to last year during the same reporting period. After the slow months of June and July in which only 3 housebreak incidents were reported, the end of the summer heated up as seen by the 19 reported breaks during August and September. Ten out of the nineteen occurred mid-week on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Rindge Avenue, Reed Street, Cambridgeport Drive, Cedar Street, Edmunds Street and Beech Street were all targets of multiple housebreaks. • With the warmer weather came an increase in **street robberies**, evidenced by the twelve that occurred between July and September alone as compared to the eleven incidents reported in the first six months of 2003. Seven street robbery incidents involved the use of a weapon. The majority of robberies occurred between 6:00 p.m. and 1:30 a.m. • No patterns emerged for **auto thefts**. • Ten **larcenies from motor vehicles** occurred during the month of June. This number equals the entire total reports for the months of July, August and September. The most common entry into the targeted vehicle was through a smashed side window. Time of occurrence was usually during the nighttime hours. • Fifty **malicious destruction** acts were aimed towards motor vehicles. This includes keying, slashing of tires, and broken windows. • Five of the six **drug arrests** resulted in the confiscation of marijuana. The other arrest was the result of the sale of prescription medication. The six drug arrest incidents led to the arrest of 10 individuals. One juvenile was summoned to court after a parent found narcotics in his room and turned them over to the police.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

North Cambridge has the third highest population in the city. Its residences include a public housing development (Jefferson Park/Jackson Place) and the towering Fresh Pond Apartments. Within its confines are three major public parks (Rindge Field, Russell Field, and Linear Park), the bustling Porter Square, and the Alewife MBTA Station. Dozens of commercial establishments line Massachusetts Avenue. As with Mid-Cambridge, its elevated crime rate reflects its high residential and commercial population.

- **Housebreak** patterns tend to occur during the summer months. Incidents are scattered quite liberally throughout the neighborhood's residential population. Each year, the Crime Analysis Unit identifies two or three North Cambridge residential burglary patterns. North Cambridge's housebreak totals have decreased since the 1980s, but did not really start rolling downward until 1996.
- **Street robberies** have traditionally been problematic in Russell Field, Linear Park, and around the Alewife MBTA Station. In the most common scenario, local (Cambridge or Somerville) youths will form packs and strong-arm victims walking in these areas late at night. The packs may brandish knives or the occasional handgun. This type of crime has diminished greatly, however, in the past three years.
- **Auto theft** strikes Rindge Avenue (and particularly the Fresh Pond Apartments) in heavy numbers all year round. The related crime of **larceny from motor vehicles** is reported less frequently.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

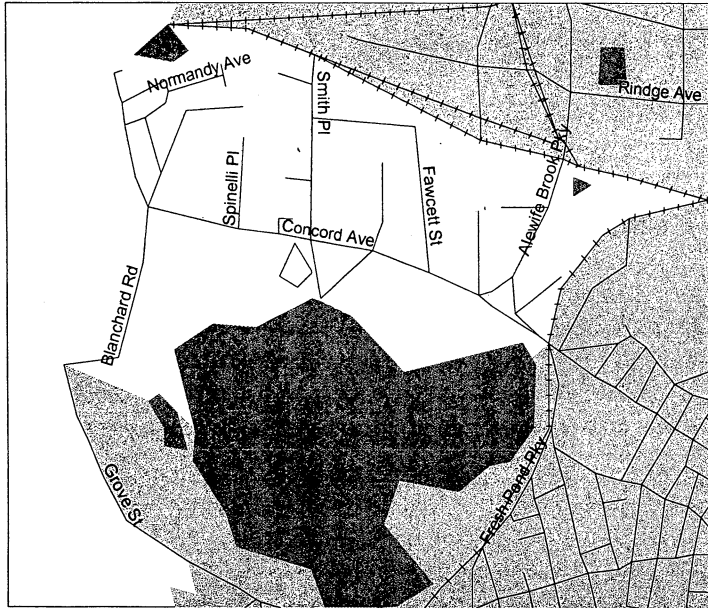
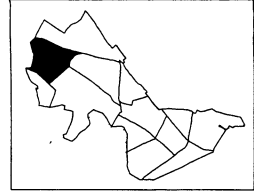


### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR NORTH CAMBRIDGE AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	100	6	64	3	4
Street Robbery	30	5	22	3	7
Auto Theft	130	5	69	4	5
Larceny from MVs	105	6	62	6	5
Malicious Destruction	125	4	111	2	4

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 12 HIGHLANDS



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by the B&M Railroad, the Belmont line, and Fresh Pond.

**POPULATION:** 673 residents  
281 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$37,125

Neighborhood #12 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included is walking route 12C.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	1	0	0	1	3
Street Robbery	0	0	0	1	1
Auto Theft	4	11	10	2	3
Larceny from MVs	18	16	10	10	15
Malicious Destruction	12	20	8	18	21
Drug Arrests	1	2	3	1	1

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

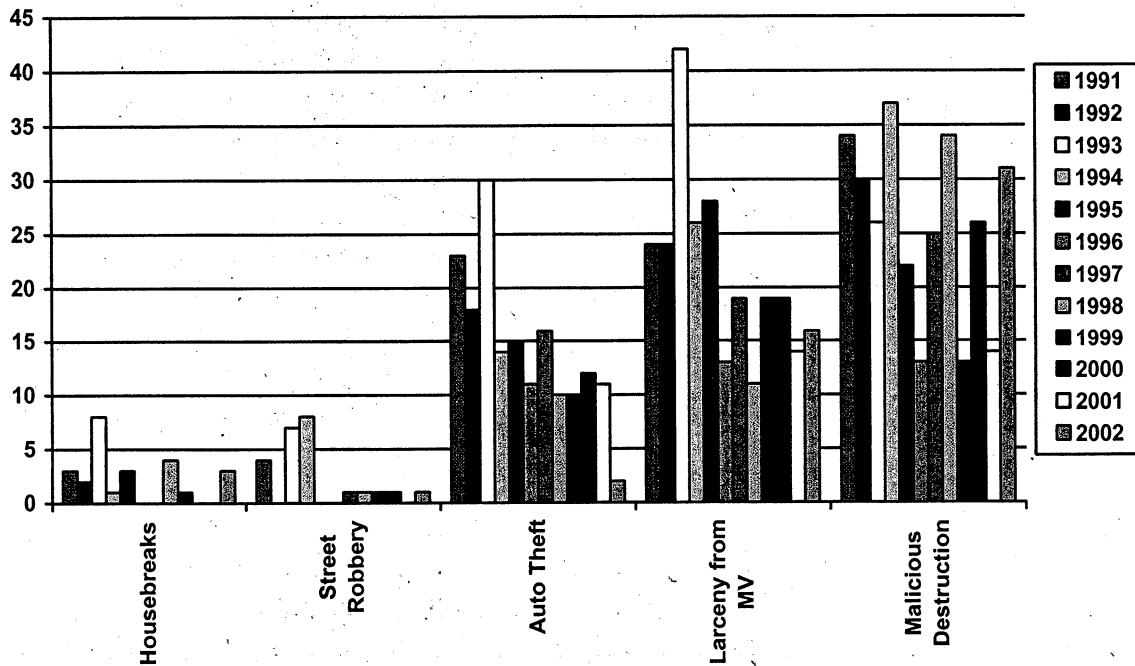
There were only three **housebreaks** since the beginning of the year. This is an increase when compared to the past several years. One of these was an attempt, thus no entry was gained. Two of these took place in June, both at a nursing home on Concord Avenue, one of which resulted in an arrest. • The **street robbery** occurred in June. This was a strong arm theft of a cell phone by four male teens outside of the theater, which took place around 11PM. • Two of the three **auto thefts** reported this year took place during the second quarter. There was no pattern to these thefts. • There was only one **larceny from motor vehicle** in the third quarter. The majority of car breaks took place at the Fresh Pond Mall parking lot. These incidents were concentrated between March and April. Fridays through Sundays were the target days for thefts, particularly between 7:00PM and 9:00PM. Cell phones were the most commonly sought property in these breaks. • The Fresh Pond Mall parking lot was also the hotspot for **malicious destruction of property** in the Cambridge Highlands. July was the most active month for these incidents, which tend to occur between Fridays and Saturdays, around 9:00PM. • There was only one **drug arrest** since the beginning of the year. This arrest was one of the biggest for the city. It took place in January, as members from the Special Investigations Unit received information that a man would be coming into the city from New York with a large amount of ecstasy. The man was apprehended and found carrying approximately \$10,000 worth of ecstasy.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

Cambridge Highlands' minuscule population makes for very little residential criminal activity in the neighborhood. In addition to 281 households, the Highlands' border encompasses the Fresh Pond Mall, the northern part of Fresh Pond, and a number of warehouses. Most crime here is commercial, and is covered in the business district profiles.

- Cambridge Highlands vies with Strawberry Hill for the lowest index crime totals in the city. For all index crimes this decade, it has ranked twelfth or thirteenth out of the 13 neighborhoods.
- **Auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction** has sometimes become a problem in the Fresh Pond Mall and Fresh Pond Cinema parking lot. Mall security, however, has drastically reduced such incidents in recent years—almost to the point of statistical insignificance. Small patterns of automobile related crimes have been known to emerge on Smith Place and Mooney Street.
- **Larcenies from Persons** exhibits some patterns around the Fresh Pond Mall and the Fresh Pond Cinema, where pocketpickers use the darkness of the theater to conceal their crimes.

## ANNUAL TOTALS

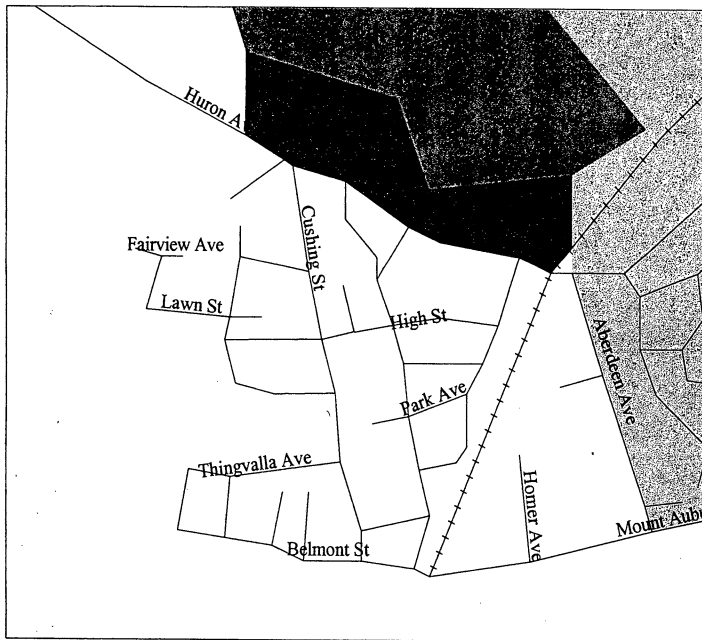
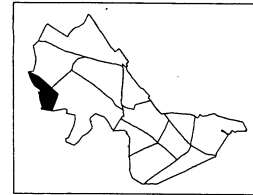


## ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR HIGHLANDS AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	6	13	3	13	12
Street Robbery	8	12	3	13	12
Auto Theft	54	11	16	11	13
Larceny from MVs	38	12	23	12	12
Malicious Destruction	28	12	26	12	10

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest

# NEIGHBORHOOD 13 STRAWBERRY HILL



**BOUNDARIES:** bordered by Fresh Pond, Aberdeen Avenue, the Watertown line, and the Belmont line.

**POPULATION:** 2,335 residents  
1,061 households

**AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**  
\$26,368

Neighborhood #13 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 4 (2 officers) and Car 13R (1 officer). Also included are walking routes 13A and 13B.

## COMPARISON OF 3<sup>RD</sup> Q. TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 1999 - 2003

CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Housebreaks	7	4	4	10	6
Street Robbery	1	0	1	2	2
Auto Theft	2	3	12	8	4
Larceny from MVs	10	10	10	7	9
Malicious Destruction	14	24	26	13	20
Drug Arrests	0	2	1	3	2

### 2003 THIRD QUARTER IN REVIEW

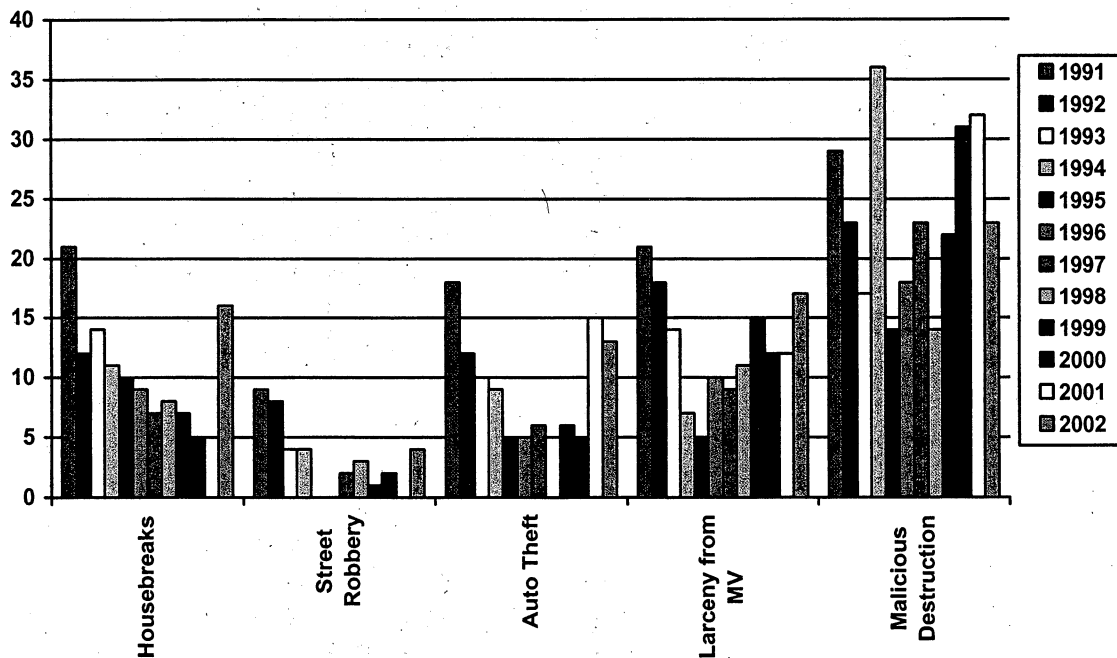
No **street robberies** were reported in Strawberry Hills during the third quarter. The two robberies recorded in this area were in March and May on Cushing Street and Sullivan Road. In both of the incidents, the victims were woman walking alone at night. The suspect approached them from behind and snatched their purses. This neighborhood has consistently averaged fewer than two street robberies per year for over a decade. • A subject with a "no trespassing" order was arrested for a **housebreak** at Corcoran Park in July. The other break in this neighborhood over the summer months involved a daytime break on Lawn Street in August. Three of the four housebreaks in the first six months of 2003 were committed by acquaintances of victims whose houses were burglarized. • The majority of the increase in **malicious destruction** in Neighborhood #13 in 2003 can be attributed to juvenile involvement in the smashing of car windows in the 600 to 700 blocks of Huron Ave. • Two of the three **auto thefts** in this area over the summer months were on St. Saviour Court. Both vehicles were recovered. • There were no **drug arrests** reported in Strawberry Hills during the third quarter. The two arrests earlier in the year included the seizure of 100 grams of cocaine and another for the possession of marijuana.

## NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

With a small population, Strawberry Hill challenges Cambridge Highlands for the lowest crime rates in the city. Its citizenry includes the residents of the Corcoran Park housing development and the large apartment building at 700 Huron Avenue. Its primary commercial establishment is Star Market.

- Overall, Strawberry Hill can be considered one of the safest areas in the city. In 1995, 1996, and 2001, there were no **street robberies** reported, and there were only two in 2000, and one in 1999. For **auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction**, Strawberry Hill continually ranks lowest in the city.
- Corcoran Park has historically been a “hot spot” for the occasional **housebreak**, and for some juvenile crime. Frequent “Park and Walks” address these problems.
- Cars parked at the Star Market parking lot are sometimes targeted for **auto theft, larceny from motor vehicles, and malicious destruction**. Yet, totals for this crime are usually extremely low, as it was in 2001 with a total of five incidents occurring at the Star Market. Several years ago, we received a number of reports of pocketpicking from this area, but this pattern has not resurfaced.

### ANNUAL TOTALS



### ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR STRAWBERRY HILL AREA TARGET CRIMES

Crime	1981-1990	Rank 81-90*	1991-2000	Rank 91-00*	Rank 2002*
Housebreaks	17	12	10	11	11
Street Robbery	4	13	4	12	11
Auto Theft	17	13	9	12	11
Larceny from MVs	22	13	13	13	11
Malicious Destruction	25	13	23	13	12

\*Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

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*Robert W. Healy, City Manager*

*Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager*

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December 17, 2003

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Please find attached for your information the Cambridge Police Department Third Quarter 2003 Crime Report.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy  
City Manager

RWH/mec  
Enclosure

428 S

**CAMBRIDGE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT THIRD  
QUARTER 2003**

**DECEMBER 22, 2003**