



City of Cambridge

17.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 22, 1993

COUNCILLOR WALSH
MAYOR REEVES
VICE MAYOR CYR
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Among the hazards of living in a throw away culture such as ours is the often cold shortsightedness with which we treat history, historical events and the persons who were part of them. Tending to think that the present is all there is, we toss the past into the dumpster of history. By doing so, we lose; and

WHEREAS: This tendency is particularly evident in our treatment of the history of the Irish people who emigrated from Ireland to America between 1845 and 1855. In two waves of emigration, one quarter of the entire Irish population left the homeland in search of survival and a better life in America. It was a type of journey that the timid never start and the weak die along the way. Many did not complete the journey. Those who did, strong in conviction and courage, began what continues to be a beautiful chapter in the history of hope in the face of harassment, help in the face of hurt and humor in the face of humiliation; and

WHEREAS: That not only was the welcome mat not rolled out but was rolled up by the panderers of prejudice into whose neighborhoods the Irish arrived is clearly indicated by Doris Kearns Goodwin when she writes, "Of all the immigrant nationalities in Boston, the Irish fared the least well, beginning at a lower rung and rising more slowly on the economic and social ladder than any other group." They knew what it was to be not only looked at but looked down at. It was not that many years ago when those in search of jobs were greeted with the sign, "Irish need not apply"; and

WHEREAS: Deep in their roots, these Irish immigrants were a people of faith and a faithful people. They took pride in their work and they were proud to work. They knew, as many in our own day still know, what it was to be victimized by the politics of exclusion at the hands of the so-called "better" people, the elite who, because these newly arrived were different, they judged them to be inferior and treated them accordingly; and

WHEREAS: No appreciation of the travails and triumphs of the Irish immigrants and their offspring down through our own day would be complete without noting the core of their early community life, their anchor of stability in a sea of change, the local Catholic Church. In describing the impact of the Church on the immigrant community, a writer in the Atlantic Monthly in 1868 declared, "All in their lot, all in their surroundings, is mean, nasty, inefficient, forbidding - except their Church"; and

WHEREAS: This City Council desires to express its recognition and respect for this legacy of life of the Irish immigrant community in the past and the continued vitality of its beliefs and values in the lives of residents of Irish descent in the City of Cambridge today by declaring Wednesday, March 17, 1993 to be IRISH HERITAGE DAY IN CAMBRIDGE; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That all of us, whatever our ethnic, racial or religious roots, will celebrate that day by adopting and adapting to every circumstance in our lives the sentiments of the Irish saying, "There are no strangers, just friends who have never met"; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this City Council, in recognition and respect to those of Irish heritage in Cambridge, designates March, 1991 to be IRISH HERITAGE MONTH in Cambridge. Further, that His Honor, the Mayor, arrange that a sign expressing this designation be prepared and displayed on the front lawn of City Hall from March 12 through 17, 1993, special days in the lives of those with Irish heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this resolution and transmit same to the Irish Consul General in Boston, Liam Canniffe, on behalf of the entire City Council.

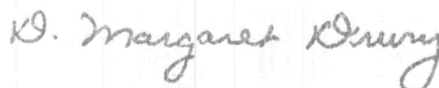
In City Council February 22, 1993.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



City of Cambridge

A handwritten signature, possibly "A/C", is written in the upper right corner of the page.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 16, 1993

COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS, Among the hazards of living in a throw away culture such as ours is the often cold shortsightedness with which we treat history, historical events and the persons who were part of them. Tending to think that the present is all there is, we toss the past into the dumpster of history. By so doing, we lose; and

WHEREAS, this tendency is particularly evident in our treatment of the history of the Irish people who emigrated from Ireland to America between 1845 and 1855. In two waves of emigration, one quarter of the entire Irish population left the homeland in search of survival and a better life in America. It was a type of journey that the timid never start and the weak die along the way. Many did not complete the journey. Those who did, strong in conviction and courage, began what continues to be a beautiful chapter in the history of hope in the face of harassment, help in the face of hurt and humor in the face of humiliation; and

WHEREAS, that not only was the welcome mat not rolled out but was rolled up by the panderers of prejudice into whose neighborhoods the Irish arrived is clearly indicated by Doris Kearns Goodwin when she writes, "Of all the immigrant nationalities in Boston, the Irish fared the least well, beginning at a lower rung and rising more slowly on the economic and social ladder than any other group." They knew what it was to be not only looked at but looked down at. It was not that many years ago when those in search of jobs were greeted with the sign, "Irish need not apply"; and

WHEREAS, deep in their roots, these Irish immigrants were a people of faith and a faithful people. They took pride in their work and they were proud to work. They knew, as many in our own day still know, what it was to be victimized by the politics of exclusion at the hands of the so-called "better" people, the elite who, because these newly arrived were different, they judged them to be inferior and treated them accordingly; and

WHEREAS, No appreciation of the travails and triumphs of the Irish immigrants and their offspring down through our own day would be complete without noting the core of their early community life, their anchor of stability in a sea of change, the local Catholic Church. In describing the impact of the Church on the immigrant community, a writer in the Atlantic Monthly in 1868 declared, "All in their lot, all in their surroundings, is mean, nasty, inefficient, forbidding - except their Church"; and

WHEREAS, this City Council desires to express its recognition and respect for this legacy of life of the Irish immigrant community in the past and the continued vitality of its beliefs and values in the lives of residents of Irish descent in the City of Cambridge today by declaring Wednesday, March 17, 1993 to be IRISH HERITAGE DAY IN CAMBRIDGE; and be it further

RESOLVED, That all of us, whatever our ethnic, racial or religious roots, will celebrate that day by adopting and adapting to every circumstance in our lives the sentiments of the Irish saying, "There are no strangers, just friends who have never met"; and be it further

RESOLVED, That this City Council, in recognition and respect to those of Irish heritage in Cambridge, designates March, 1991 to be IRISH HERITAGE MONTH in Cambridge. Further, that His Honor, the Mayor, arrange that a sign expressing this designation be prepared and displayed on the front lawn of City Hall from March 12 through 17, 1993, special days in the lives of those with Irish heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the City Clerk be and is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this resolution and transmit same to the Irish Consul General in Boston, Liam Canniffe, on behalf of the entire City Council.



City of Cambridge

17.

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 22, 1993

COUNCILLOR WALSH

WHEREAS: Among the hazards of living in a throw away culture such as ours is the often cold shortsightedness with which we treat history, historical events and the persons who were part of them. Tending to think that the present is all there is, we toss the past into the dumpster of history. By doing so, we lose; and

WHEREAS: This tendency is particularly evident in our treatment of the history of the Irish people who emigrated from Ireland to America between 1845 and 1855. In two waves of emigration, one quarter of the entire Irish population left the homeland in search of survival and a better life in America. It was a type of journey that the timid never start and the weak die along the way. Many did not complete the journey. Those who did, strong in conviction and courage, began what continues to be a beautiful chapter in the history of hope in the face of harassment, help in the face of hurt and humor in the face of humiliation; and

WHEREAS: That not only was the welcome mat not rolled out but was rolled up by the panderers of prejudice into whose neighborhoods the Irish arrived is clearly indicated by Doris Kearns Goodwin when she writes, "Of all the immigrant nationalities in Boston, the Irish fared the least well, beginning at a lower rung and rising more slowly on the economic and social ladder than any other group." They knew what it was to be not only looked at but looked down at. It was not that many years ago when those in search of jobs were greeted with the sign, "Irish need not apply"; and

WHEREAS: Deep in their roots, these Irish immigrants were a people of faith and a faithful people. They took pride in their work and they were proud to work. They knew, as many in our own day still know, what it was to be victimized by the politics of exclusion at the hands of the so-called "better" people, the elite who, because these newly arrived were different, they judged them to be inferior and treated them accordingly; and

WHEREAS: No appreciation of the travails and triumphs of the Irish immigrants and their offspring down through our own day would be complete without noting the core of their early community life, their anchor of stability in a sea of change, the local Catholic Church. In describing the impact of the Church on the immigrant community, a writer in the Atlantic Monthly in 1868 declared, "All in their lot, all in their surroundings, is mean, nasty, inefficient, forbidding - except their Church"; and

WHEREAS: This City Council desires to express its recognition and respect for this legacy of life of the Irish immigrant community in the past and the continued vitality of its beliefs and values in the lives of residents of Irish descent in the City of Cambridge today by declaring Wednesday, March 17, 1993 to be IRISH HERITAGE DAY IN CAMBRIDGE; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That all of us, whatever our ethnic, racial or religious roots, will celebrate that day by adopting and adapting to every circumstance in our lives the sentiments of the Irish saying, "There are no strangers, just friends who have never met"; and be it further

RESOLVED: That this City Council, in recognition and respect to those of Irish heritage in Cambridge, designates March, 1991 to be IRISH HERITAGE MONTH in Cambridge. Further, that His Honor, the Mayor, arrange that a sign expressing this designation be prepared and displayed on the front lawn of City Hall from March 12 through 17, 1993, special days in the lives of those with Irish heritage; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to prepare a duly engrossed copy of this resolution and transmit same to the Irish Consul General in Boston, Liam Canniffe, on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council FEB. 22 1993
Adopted by the affirmative vote
of 9 members

M. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

CONSENT ORDER #17

Gormey, M Reeves *R 81*
Nymca, Russell, Sullivan,
Councillor Walsh re: Irish Heritage
Day in Cambridge.

In City Council,

February 22, 1993

Order adopted

NEW S.S. 11/11
CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
COUNCILOR
COUNCILOR
COUNCILOR