



COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC RECORDS
STATE HOUSE

July 17, 1913.

Hon. J. Edward Barry,
Mayor of Cambridge;

Dear Sir:-

In 1908, following an official visit to Cambridge, I wrote a letter to the honorable City Council, through the then Mayor, citing Sections 18 and 19, and the penalties in Section 22, of Chapter 35, Revised Laws, and calling attention to certain violations of the law concerning the care of public records in your city.

In 1910, following a further visit, I again wrote to the City Council in the matter, and failing to get any action, I took the case to court, but upon request of the City Solicitor, and with the assurance that the public records of your city would be protected against fire, I consented to a stay of proceedings.

Upon a further inspection yesterday I find that the following conditions, which are still in violation of the statutes, exist, and I must ask the honorable city government, through Your Honor, to remedy them immediately, or I shall be obliged again to take the matter to court:

REGISTERS OF VOTERS.

The safe is not large enough, and many records are not protected against fire.

OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

The vault is fitted with combustible materials.

BOARD OF HEALTH.

No safe or vault provided, and records are kept in a metal case in a combustible room.

PARK COMMISSION.

No safe or vault provided for records.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The small safe has walls too thin to be surely fireproof, and no safe or vault is provided for the census records.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

No safe or vault for records.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

No safe or vault for records.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

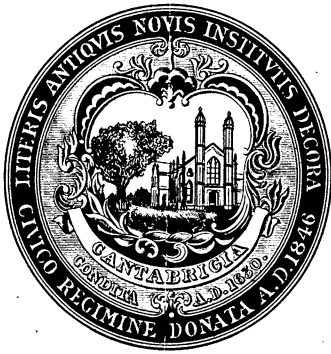
The old safe is probably not fireproof, and the records are on wooden shelves in a combustible room.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION.

No safe or vault provided, and records are in a metal case in a combustible room.

Very truly yours,


Commissioner.



*Office of the Mayor
Cambridge Massachusetts*

July 18th, 1913.

To the

Honorable the City Council of the
City of Cambridge:-

I transmit herewith a communication from the Commissioner of Public Records, State House, Boston, calling attention to violation of the statute relative to providing for the care of public records in this city.

I respectfully recommend early consideration of this matter.

Yours truly,

Edward Barry
Mayor.

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COMMUNICATION
from the Mayor, transmitting
one from the Comr. of
Public Records

July 18, 1913

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JUL 22 1913
In Board of Aldermen
Referred to Committee on
Public Property
E. J. Brandon City Clerk

IN COMMON COUNCIL,
July 22, 1913
CONCURRED
ATTEST Edward A. Bennett
CLERK.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC RECORDS

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON

November 7, 1913.

Hon. J. Edward Barry,

Mayor of Cambridge;

Dear Sir:-

On July 17, 1913, I addressed a communication to the honorable City Council, through Your Honor, calling attention to violations of the law concerning the protection of public records in Cambridge; and on the following day I received a letter from Your Honor, saying that my letter had been referred by you to the Council.

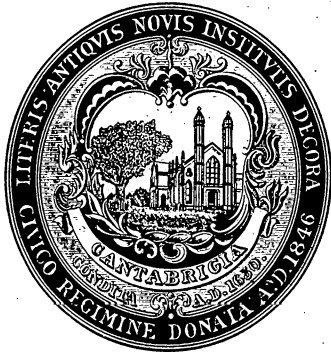
As it is my duty to ascertain, I now write for information as to what action has been taken in the matter.

Awaiting the favor of a reply I am,

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Henry C. Woods".

Commissioner.



*Office of the Mayor
Cambridge Massachusetts*

November 8th, 1913.

To the

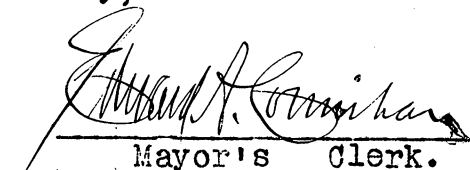
Committee on Public Property, of the City Council:-

Cambridge, Mass.

Gentlemen:-

By direction of His Honor, the Mayor, I am sending you the enclosed communication from the Commissioner of Public Records, calling attention to a previous communication from him dated July 17th, 1913, which is now in the files of your Committee.

Respectfully,



Mayor's Clerk.

5

Communication
in relation to Public Rooms

Nov. 7, 1913

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BUILDING DEPARTMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Room 28, City Hall

November 11, 1913

To the Honorable the Common Council

of the City of Cambridge,

Gentlemen:-

I have received from your honorable body a copy of an order "That the Superintendent of Public Buildings be requested to submit recommendations to the Common Council in relation to cells in the several police stations, etc.", and I beg leave to submit the following report.

Police Stations Three and Four are equipped with cells of a later day type and possess adequate light and ventilation. With reference to Police Stations One and Two, I desire to call your attention to the annual report of the building department on this matter, which follows: "Forty years have passed since provision was made for the construction of the Central Square and Brattle Square city buildings. No one will question the fact that both buildings long ago outlived their usefulness. The cell room in the Central Square building, particularly in the basement, is unfit for human habitation. The district court will move from its present quarters in the Brattle Square building in August, and with the removal of the electrical department to the proposed fire headquarters in Inman Square, the building will not be more than one-half in use. The demand of the time requires that a municipality shall provide buildings for the conduct of its business which will reflect the spirit of its inhabitants. Shall it be said that these buildings are an expression

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Room 28, City Hall

-2-

of the spirit of the citizens of Cambridge? The Central Square building might well be torn down or remodelled for a police headquarters and accommodations provided for a branch library, to meet the needs of this section of the city. The Brattle Square building presents no easy problem for solution. Efforts have been made in the past for the sale of the building to the Boston Elevated Railway Company, but without success. A much smaller building would care for the police and fire departments and this, I think, should be provided and the present building disposed of." Investigation will show that a condition exists at Police Station Two which should no longer be tolerated. On Saturday nights and Sundays, there is an almost continual overcrowding of the cells. On one occasion there were six men quartered in one cell. Both the ventilation and light at this station are extremely poor and should be remedied.

I would urge upon your honorable body the immediate consideration of this problem with a view to providing an appropriation to stop an existing evil.

Respectfully

Jeremiah F. Downey
Sup't. of Public Buildings

to³ Communication
from Superintendent of Public Buildings
relative to the cells in
certain Police Stations

Nov. 11, 1913

City Clerk
CONCURRED

Nov. 11, 1913
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Refer to the Board of Aldermen for consideration
Public Health
Ald. J. J. Connelley, Clerk

IN COMMON COUNCIL, Nov. 11, 1913
REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON

7

Cambridge May 20th 1913

Honorable Board of Aldermen of City of Cambridge

The Gaelic School again requests you to establish its right to use of Old Armory Hall on City Building Harvard Square, as many of you know the Board of 1911 & again of 1912 Granted us the use, but when the Grand Army found out we were looking for it they annexed it to their quarters and acted dog in the manger with us and are liberal enough with their choices. It seems when they wanted it they didn't have to go to the Board and therefore secured it and have it now included in their lease. We now ask you to relieve them of this annex and restore the City's right but you may let them have use of it also but not exclusive right as they now claim. It is a surprise to us that your honorable Board should stand for intolerance or bigotry and cunning methods to divide us. And some are bragging that you will loose control again as they are going to have all students enrolled as voters. However let us on while you can as we are members of the Gaelic League of Ireland and are fighting for a worthy cause. The City of Boston Boston has given them quarters years ago and too along with several Military Bodies so you see they compel the lambs to dye down with the wolves in Boston We are yours with great esteem per John Egan
36 Brettle St. Cambridge

7 Communication
from John Egan in
relation to room in
Brattle Sq. building

May 10, 1913

May 20, 1913

Forwarded to the Committee on

Public Property.

Sent to the Director

1913

May 20, 1913

Edward A. Cornish

House of Representatives U. S.
Washington, D. C.

May 25, 1914.

Hon. Timothy W. Good,
City Hall, Cambridge, Mass.

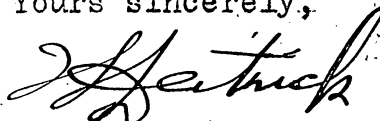
Dear Mr. Mayor:-

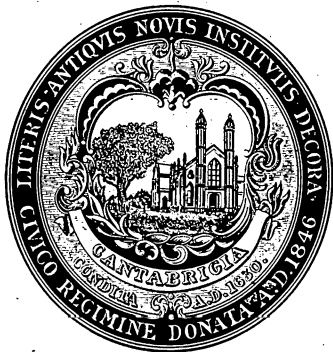
It has occurred to me that possibly you and the City of Cambridge might wish two cannon placed on the lawn at City Hall for decorative purposes. If this suggestion appeals to you, I would suggest that you make a written application to the Secretary of the Navy to this effect and send it to me. I will then take it up personally with the Secretary and endeavor to have the cannon sent along as soon as possible.

It is customary for the Department when granting such requests to have the cannon shipped from whatever yard they designate and it may come some distance, like Philadelphia or Brooklyn. There would be a slight expense, payable by the consignee for the expense of transportation.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,





*Office of the Mayor
Cambridge Massachusetts*

May 29th, 1914.

To the

Honorable the City Council of the
City of Cambridge:-

I transmit herewith a communication dated May 25th, 1914, from Hon. Frederick S. Deitrick, M.C. offering to secure the loan of two cannon to be placed on the lawn at City Hall, for decorative purposes.

Respectfully,

Timothy W. Good

Mayor.

From the Mayor, dated June 1, 1914
 Hon. Frederick S. Dietrick
 relative to the loan of cannon for the
 lawn at City Hall.

June, 1914.

T.

Referred to the Committee on
 Public Property
 Sent to the Common Council for concurrence
 Attest: *Charles J. Anderson*

City Clerk

IN COMMON COUNCIL

June 2, 1914

CONCURRED
 ATTEST: *Edward A. Quinn*
 CLERK

City of Cambridge

In Board of Aldermen,

March 30, 1915.

The

Committee

ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

to which

were referred sundry communications,

Reports

recommending reference to

the next City Council of the following:

- 1 - Communications (2) from Mayor transmitting one from Comm. of Public records relative to public records in this city.
- 2 - Communication from Supt. of Public Buildings, relative to the cells in certain police stations.
- 3 - Communication from John Eagan relative to room in Brattle Sq. Bldg.
- 4 - Communication from Mayor transmitting one from Hon. Frederick S. Deitrick relative to loan of cannon for City Hall lawn.

Report received and
recommendation ADOPTED.
Sent to Common Council for concurrence,
Edward J. Connelley City Clerk

For the Committee.

IN COMMON COUNCIL

March 30, 1915

CONCURRED

ATTEST

CLERK

REPORT

Committee on Public Property

referring sundry orders,
etc. to next City Council

MAR 30 1915

Good

For the Committee.



City of Cambridge

In Board of Aldermen,

April 27, 1915.

ORDERED:

That the following matters from the last City Council be referred to the Committee on Public Property:

- 1 - Communications (two) from Mayor transmitting one from Commissioner of Public Records relative to public records in this city
- 2 - Communication from Superintendent of Public Buildings relative to the cells in certain police stations
- 3 - Communication from John Eagan relative to room in Brattle Square Building

Adopted:

Sent to the Common Council for concurrence.

Attest:

City Clerk

IN COMMON COUNCIL,

APR 27 1915.

CERTIFIED

ATTEST

CLERK.

Order

I reference of various matters from last City Council to Comm. on Public Property.

April 27, 1915.

On File

Reference from John Green relative to room in Chicago office

to his office in Chicago office assistant

to his office in Chicago office assistant (the) from Green's personal office communication

relative to the committee on Public Property:

to his office in Chicago office assistant

ORDERED:

WILLIAM S. JONES

IN FRONT OF WITNESSES

City of Cambridge

In Board of Aldermen.....December 28, 1915

The

Committee

ON Public Property

to which

were referred several communications,

Reports

recommending that the following

be placed on file:

- Comm. from Mayor transmitting one from Commr. of Public Records relative to public records in this city
- Comm. from Supt. of Public Buildings relative to cells in certain police stations
- Comm. from John Eagan relative to room in Brattle Sq. Bldg.
- Comm. from Hon. F.S. Deitrick relative to loan of cannon for City Hall lawn

For the Committee.

David F. Concoran

Report received and
recommendation ADOPTED.
Sent to Common Council for concurrence.
[Signature]
City Clerk

/ IN COMMON COUNCIL

CONCURRED

ATTEST

[Signature]
CLERK

REPORT

Committee on

Public Property
recommending that
suredry communications
be placed on file

Dec 29, 1915

Concurrence