

# CITY OF CAMBRIDGE.

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IN THE YEAR ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-SIX.

## AN ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS.

*Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Cambridge, as follows:*

SEC. 1. No building hereafter erected in this city, except manufactories, and halls for public assemblies, shall be built in a range of more than fifty feet without the intervention of a brick wall at least eight inches in thickness, except by permission of City Engineer. Said wall shall be built up at least two feet above the flat of the roof of the highest building of which such wall forms a part, for the full extent of the flat, and the top of said wall shall be covered with a coping of stone or iron, or of other metal, and, where there is a mansard or a pitch roof, the wall shall be built up to the under side of the roof covering (that is, to the top side of the roof boarding), which shall be laid and imbedded in mortar upon said wall.

SEC. 2. The exterior walls of every brick building hereafter erected in this city, to be used for the purposes of a dwelling-house, shall be at least twelve inches thick to the second floor above the street, and eight inches for the remaining height, provided the building is not more than thirty feet from sidewalk to gutter, in which case the twelve-inch wall shall go to the third floor. All floors and roofs to be anchored to walls not less than once in ten feet.

SEC. 3. All chimneys hereafter erected in this city shall be built of brick, stone, or other fire-proof, non-conducting materials, and shall be built plumb, or nearly, so as to be self-sustaining.

No woodwork of any kind shall be placed at a less distance than one inch from the outside brick work of any flue, and in no case shall a nail be driven into the masonry of any flue.

SEC. 4. No smoke-pipe shall pass through stud or wooden partitions of any kind, whether the same be plastered or not, without being guarded either by a double collar of metal with at least four inches' air-space and holes for ventilation, or by a soap-stone ring not less than three inches in thickness, and extending through the partition.

No woodwork shall be placed at a less distance than one inch from any tin or other metal flue or flues, pipe or pipes, used or intended to be used to convey heated air in any building, unless such flues or pipes be cased with metal, leaving a free circulation of air all around the same.

SEC. 5. All buildings used for public assemblies or for manufacturing purposes, where more than twenty persons are employed, and all tenement houses intended for the occupancy of more than two families, shall be provided with fire escapes or two suitable ways of egress, accessible from every floor that is eighteen feet or more above the grade of the land immediately adjoining; said escapes or modes of egress to be satisfactory to the officer named in the sixth section hereof.

SEC. 6. The City Engineer shall have supervision over all matters provided for in this Ordinance, and shall have authority to prescribe the character and thickness of the walls referred to in the latter part of Section 3, and the character of the fire escapes or modes of egress referred to in Section 5 hereof. All permits given by him in reference to such matters to be in writing. Parties dissatisfied or aggrieved by any decision or action of said City Engineer, as to matters placed under his charge by authority of this Ordinance, may appeal to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, whose decision in such cases shall be final.

SEC. 7. Any person or persons violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall upon written notice from the officer named in Section 6 hereof, served upon him or them, alter said building in conformity with the provisions of this Ordinance within a reasonable period of time from said service. Any party or parties refusing or neglecting to comply with such notice shall be liable to a penalty of not less than twenty nor more than fifty dollars, and shall be restrained from further violation of this Ordinance by provisions already established by law.

In COMMON COUNCIL, Dec. 20, 1876.

Passed to be enrolled.

Attest:

J. W. COTTON, *Clerk.*

*In Common Council Dec. 27, 1876,*

*Passed & be ordained,*

*Attest,*  
*Frank A. Allen President.*

*in sound of accented, Dec. 27. 1876*

*Passed to be accented -*  
*Isaac Bradford - Secy.*

N. S. Forbes

Archibald M. Howie

} Committee  
on  
Scolled Ordinances