

Junction Bridge Cambridge St  
East Cambridge Oct 5<sup>th</sup> 1874

To The  
Honorable Board of Mayor & Aldermen  
City of Cambridge

Gentlemen, As owners of a large Wharf property in East Cambridge, we desire humbly to enter our earnest protest against the building a Bridge in continuation of Prison Point Street across the private dock or canal now leading from our wharf to main channel.

Our protest is founded on the following considerations;

- 1<sup>st</sup> We consider the Bridge an infringement of our rights & privileges.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> It would seriously injure the value of our property.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> It would lessen its rental value & desirability for wharfage.
- 4<sup>th</sup> A Bridge would add three cents per ton freight to every ton of coal passing through in vessels and also make corresponding increase in cost of freighting other merchandise.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Ice would form much earlier in the season from this obstruction.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Sewage matter now running into our docks would be obstructed from the same cause.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Every increase in the number of Bridges, increases the difficulty in chartering vessels to deliver merchandise at our wharves.
- 8<sup>th</sup> The proposed Bridge would interfere with the most legitimate business of your tax-payers.
- 9<sup>th</sup> It seems unjust to deprive our real estate of its legal rights to benefit a private speculation, so many years in advance of public need.
- 10<sup>th</sup> It seems to us that the time has not yet arrived

when the business of East Cambridge demands the  
improvement of existing wharf-property, for the benefit of  
new wharf property which may take years to develop.

11<sup>th</sup> It seems to us that this proposed bridge will cause  
greater money damage to the wharves now on this canal  
than it can produce benefit to the travel to and from  
Prison Point.

12<sup>th</sup> Finally we bought our property at heavy cost with  
a guarantee of existing rights & if you honorable  
body sees fit to deprive us of these rights, we shall  
expect the City of Cambridge to compensate us fully  
for the heavy damage so sustained & for this reason  
underin to record our views and feelings in advance  
of any decided action on your part.

Yours obt servant

West James & Co.

Protest. against Denial  
in continuation of  
Pious Point Letter

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Oct. 5, 1874.