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## **Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge East Cambridge**

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## II

### Residential Architecture

*Nearly all houses in East Cambridge date from the 19th century, principally from 1820 to 1875. During this period Americans built in a variety of styles, but beneath the stylistic trappings the building tradition, at least in East Cambridge, remained conservative. Because the area was settled near the beginning of the century, the earliest house plans and basic forms, as well as the earliest styles, reflected 18th-century building practices. Houses were built in all the popular 19th-century styles until after the Civil War, but East Cambridge is particularly noted for its abundance of fine Greek Revival houses dating from the 1820s to the 1840s. By 1879, houses filled the main residential streets, so that the area has almost no examples of the Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles that were so popular in other parts of Cambridge. After 1880, utilitarian, multifamily buildings with few stylistic features dominated residential construction.*