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Survey of Architectural History in Cambridge East Cambridge

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Acknowledgments

Many people have contributed to this revised edition of *East Cambridge*. A few of them also worked on the original book, and their perspective has been invaluable. Most were new to this project and contributed in a variety of ways to the accuracy and completeness of this volume. For all of their support, the author and the Commission are most appreciative.

Foremost in linking the original report and this volume were Robert H. Nylander, the Commission's talented historian, and Bainbridge Bunting, its first survey director. Bob began surveying the neighborhood and doing deed research in 1964. For the present volume he undertook extensive original research in deeds, taxes, and other early records and successfully pieced together an accurate history of East Cambridge in the 17th and 18th centuries, a subject that had eluded other historians. His death before the completion of the manuscript was an enormous loss.

Bain's many contributions are noted in the Foreword and Introduction. He wrote the original East Cambridge report, and much of his ground-breaking description of vernacular residential architecture is included here. He was very supportive of this project, if incredulous at its scope, and the high standards he set in the previous volumes have guided us in this one.

The Commission's executive director, Charles Sullivan, made the most extensive and varied contributions to this book. He conceived the project more than a decade ago and secured funding for it. More recently, he took the original manuscript in hand and transformed it into a finished piece. He also wrote the sections on

railroads and water transportation, took most of the copy photographs, discovered many images presented here for the first time, and oversaw the manuscript in all stages of production.

For some sections of this book, we benefited from the experience of the participants in development decisions. Urban designer Roger Booth of the Cambridge Community Development Department wrote the first draft of the Lechmere Triangle section, and Nat Green and Joe Tulimieri of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority provided background information and reviewed the section on Kendall Square.

A number of student assistants helped with research during internships at the Commission. I would especially like to thank Therese Alduino for her papers on late-19th-century land development companies, manufacturers, railroad and omnibus lines, and the Cambridge Park Commission; Ann Gilkerson for her papers on churches, schools, furniture companies, and the county jail; Anne van Doren for her work on the St. John's Literary Institute and the settlement patterns on Charles and Spring streets; Désirée Caldwell for her preliminary research on glass manufacturing; Debra Hilbert for her paper on banks; Kim Brengle for her paper on John P. Squire's; Pat Casler for her paper on early East Cambridge probate inventories; and Sig Roos for his research on the Miller's River controversy. John Hoops organized the city directory information, collected the 1850 census data, and ran statistical analyses. A number of students worked with us for several years and became close colleagues.

Many others generously shared their research. The section on the Meigs monorail is based on a 1983 master's thesis by Tawny Ryan Nelb, who also helped us with photographs and directed us to Yale University's extensive Meigs collection. Anne Farnum of the Essex Institute prepared a paper on A. H. Davenport-Irving & Casson furniture, and Charles Sullivan's barn, which was once owned by a chairmaker, yielded a trove of company photographs and sketches. Margaret Henderson Floyd and her students at Tufts University developed a detailed report on Sacred Heart Church. Arlene Palmer Schwind exchanged information on early glassworkers. Alan Laufman of the Organ Clearing House supplied information and photographs of organs and organ builders; he and E. A. Boadley also reviewed the section on organ building. Louis Carreras, formerly of the East Cambridge Heritage Center, shared his research on late-19th-century residents and ethnic groups, and directed us to photographs in the center's collection.

One of the most intriguing documents we found was the diary of Louis Vaupel (1824–1903), an engraver at the New England Glass Company. Handwritten in archaic German, its contents were known to scholars only through a summary. Elke O'Donnell gave us a synopsis of some passages, and Hannelore Rosset carefully translated part of Volume I and Volumes II and III. Vaupel's granddaughter Mildred March shared family photographs and recollections, and Elizabeth Kahn researched the people and places mentioned in the diary.

Photographs, both old and new, are a crucial part of this book and allow a more complete idea of the development of East Cambridge than could ever be possible through description alone. Many individuals and organizations have contributed photographs, and we would particularly like to thank the following people for their help in locating images and having them reproduced: Ellie Reichlin and Lorna Condon of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, Sally Pierce of the Boston Athenaeum, Bill Taylor of Carol Johnson & Associates, Richard Symmes of the Walker Transportation Collection of the Beverly Historical Society, Philip Bergen of the Bostonian Society, Alice Cooney Frelinghuysen of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Thad Tercyak of the Cambridge Redevelopment Authority, Louis Tucker of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Donald York of the Cambridge Public Library, Anne Garrison at Steve Rosenthal's studio, and Kenneth Wilson at the Toledo Museum of Art. Frank Cheney allowed us to publish the only known photographs of the New England Glass Company, and Winthrop Seelye contributed two important family photographs and displayed great patience awaiting their

publication. Many maps were provided by the Middlesex County Engineering Department and Joan Lastovica, City Engineer of Cambridge. For current photographs, we have been fortunate to have the services of such skilled architectural photographers as Alex Beatty, Richard Cheek, and Beverly Conley.

Members of the Cambridge Historical Commission were extraordinarily patient during the years of preparation of this volume and willingly read the manuscript at various stages. Allison Crump, William King, and Robert Neiley in particular provided useful comments. The suggestions of former Commission staff members Arthur Krim and Robert B. Rettig were also particularly helpful. Several other individuals commented on sections of the text, among them Foster Palmer and Louis Carreras.

The Commission's staff and consultants have contributed in various ways, particularly during the last months of production. Steven Smith established a fresh look for the series with his versatile page design and new cover; he also supervised all technical aspects of the book's production. John Colan laid out the book with patience and good humor in spite of delays and

unforeseen changes. The manuscript editor, Luise Erdmann, brought clarity, commas, and consistency to the text. Gerry Morse proofread all the galleys on short notice. Assistant director Nancy Doonan patiently handled photographic requests and permissions, and she, her predecessor, Paul Bockelman, and preservation planner Sally Zimmerman accepted additional responsibilities to allow the project to move forward. Maria Muller of Silverprint provided excellent darkroom services, printing many of the photographs, often from difficult negatives. Cartographers Eliza McClennan and Herb Heidt of Mapworks skillfully translated our research maps into publishable form.

It remains only to thank the residents of East Cambridge, who we hope will be the primary beneficiaries of this volume. Some of them have been waiting for a long time, and their friendly encouragement has meant a great deal.

Susan E. Maycock, Survey Director
Cambridge Historical Commission
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