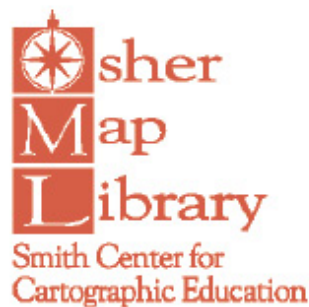


# Resurgam:

## The Remarkable History of Portland, Maine

Completed By: ANSWERS



[usm.maine.edu/maps](http://usm.maine.edu/maps)

## Table of Contents

Key Terms_____	1
Portland Then and Now_____	2
Portland Motto: Resurgam_____	3
Captain Mowatt's Revenge_____	4
The Great Fire of 1866_____	7
Looking Back_____	8
Learning More About Portland History_____	11

## Key Terms

Remember what you've learned about the following terms.

**Define** each term in your own words.

**Revolutionary War** War between Britain and the colonies in North America.

The Colonies declared their independence from Great Britain, who  
attempted to regain control through war. Starts in 1775.

**Symbol or Seal** A symbolic image that represents a place or organization.

---

---

## Portland Then and Now

Portland has changed a lot over the past few hundred years.  
**Compare** the map of Portland from the Revolutionary War to present-day Portland. **Describe** THREE things that have changed.

1. The shape of the peninsula has become wider
2. There is no more estuary between the peninsula and modern-day Deering neighborhood
3. More roads, bridges, buildings, and wharfs

Optional: Could also have the name. Map on the left says "Falmouth."



Portland During the Revolution



Portland Today



## Portland Motto: Resurgam

Portland has been destroyed by many times. Each time, Portlanders rebuilt their businesses and homes. This is why Portland's motto is RESURGAM, which means "I will rise again" in Latin.

Portland's city seal is pictured below. It shows an anchor with a picture of a ship on it. On either side of the picture, there are two fish. Sitting on top of the anchor is a phoenix, a bird in Roman mythology who bursts into flame every 500 years, only to be reborn in its own ashes.

**Explain** why you think the creators of the Portland city seal included each symbol. Then **color** the Portland city seal at the bottom of the page.



*Fish* Portland had many citizens who made their living from fish. Also, closeness to ocean.

*Anchor* Portland was known for its good harbor and shipping industry.

*Ship* Portland was known for its good harbor and shipping industry

*Phoenix* Portland has been destroyed several times only to "rise again" like the Phoenix in mythology.



## Captain Mowatt's Revenge

The Revolutionary War was a dangerous time to live in North America. One way that the British punished the colonists for rebelling was to burn down whole cities.

The paragraphs below tell important parts of the Revolutionary War history of Portland, then called "Falmouth." **Match** the pictures that go with each paragraph to pictures on the Map of Falmouth Neck (pages 5 and 6). In the blank spaces on the map, **write** the title for each paragraph that goes along with the picture.

Brick

**Brick Yard:** Falmouth was a good place for businesses during the 1700s. It was located on the ocean, and goods were almost always transported by ship. Falmouth's land was also rich in lumber, which was needed for fires. It took very hot fires to make bricks, so Falmouth was a good place for Brick Yards. (*Finished as an example.*)

Stone wall

**Pasture:** There were no grocery stores in Falmouth. People got their food from their gardens and livestock. Like all New England towns in the 1700s, Falmouth had a common pasture, where everybody's cows could graze. Falmouth's pasture was on present-day Munjoy Hill, behind a stone wall that kept the cows from wandering into town.



**Pine Tree:** Many people in Falmouth worked at sea for a living. As they were sailing into the harbor, sailors from Falmouth would look for the large Pine Tree in the Burying Grounds as a sign that they were close to home.

1775

**Revolution:** The Revolutionary War started in 1775, with the Battle at Lexington-Concord.

Munjoys

**Mowatt's Arrest:** A British captain named Henry Mowatt was in Falmouth during April of 1775. People were angry that a local shipbuilder was making a warship for Britain, and Mowatt was sent to protect him from the town. While he was on Munjoy Hill, Revolutionaries captured Mowatt and held him prisoner for a few days.



**Mowatt's Ship:** Mowatt was still angry at being arrested when he got permission to destroy Falmouth for their rebellion. He brought his ship, the *Canceaux*, and began firing on Falmouth on the morning of October 18th, 1775, destroying much of downtown.



**Lower Battery:** Falmouth has had many forts throughout history. During the Revolution, a fort known simply as the Lower Battery was destroyed by Mowatt's Revenge.



**Meetinghouse:** The First Parish Meetinghouse (church) was an important building in Falmouth during the Revolution. Thankfully, it survived Mowatt's Revenge with very little damage, and is still standing today. Only one cannonball was shot through the walls of the meetinghouse--that cannonball is still on display in First Parish!

Greely's

**Greely's Tavern:** Alice Greely owned a tavern (an inn and restaurant) in Falmouth during the Revolution. She stood by her tavern during Mowatt's attack, putting out the fires that started near her tavern. Because her tavern was one of the few buildings downtown that survived, it became a sort of headquarters for Falmouth during the Revolutionary War.







Captain  
Mowatt's  
Revenge  
(continued)



## The Great Fire of 1866

The last time that Portland was destroyed by fire was in July of 1866. A firecracker set a pile of wood-shavings on fire near the harbor. Almost all of downtown Portland was burned to the ground, and 10,000 people were left homeless! For months, Portlanders had to live in tents while they rebuilt their homes and businesses. It was called "Tent City."

Read each description below.  
When you have found the person it is describing on the picture of tent city, write its letter in the white box next to them.

- A. Children playing in a tent.
- B. A man boiling coffee.
- C. A girl doing laundry.
- D. A mother holding her baby.
- E. A woman carrying supplies.



**Imagine** what it would have been like to live in Tent City.

**Write** a short diary entry as one of the children in the tent.!

WILL VARY



## Looking Back

A lot has happened in Portland throughout history. In the 1930s, a man named William Dow created a map of Portland showing important events in its lifetime. Use Dow's map to answer the following questions.



1. By the time Mowatt attacked Falmouth, the city had already been destroyed twice before! The town could use a fire engine, so they ordered one from England soon after it was invented. What year did they finally get a fire "handengine?"

1787



2. When Mowatt destroyed Falmouth's Lower Battery in 1775, another fort on Falmouth Neck was strengthened the next year. What was the improved fort named?

Fort Allen



3. Soon after the Revolutionary War was won, George Washington decreed that a lighthouse should be built on Maine's coast to keep ships from running aground. What is the name of this lighthouse?

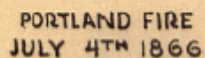
Portland Headlight



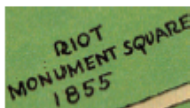
4. The Observatory is one of the most famous buildings in Portland. It narrowly avoided being burned in the fire of 1866! What year was it built?

1807

5. How many buildings were destroyed during the fire of 1866?



1,500



6. In 1855, a large riot took place in Monument Square. About 1 out of every 7 people in Portland showed up to protest the mayor, who had outlawed the sale of a certain drink. The government soon got rid of that law. What drink had he outlawed?

Rum





PORTLAND HEAD  
LIGHT  
FIRST ON MAINE COAST  
LIGHTED 1791.

5000 MEN WENT FROM PORTLAND IN THE CIVIL WAR  
4579 " " " " " " WORLD WAR

THE FIRST MASONIC CHARTER  
FOR A LODGE WAS GRANTED  
MARCH 20, 1762

JOHN WILKES BOOTH  
PLAYED AN ENGAGEMENT AT  
PORTLAND THEATRE 1861

REV. THOMAS SMITH WAS THE  
FIRST REGULAR MINISTER  
TO PREACH HERE  
FROM 1725-1795

THOMAS BIRD  
HANGED FOR PIRACY  
AND MURDER 1790

GENERAL NEAL DOW  
THE FATHER OF PROHIBITION  
BORN MAR. 20, 1866

HOG TOWN

RUM RIOT  
IN MONUMENT SQUARE  
1855

MONUMENT  
1855

JOSEPH TITCOMB INTRODUCED THE  
FASHION OF WEARING  
PANTALOONS 17

DANFORTH  
FIRST ELEGANT

1755  
OF THE GREAT  
EARTHQUAKE

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW was born at Portland, Maine, Feb. 27, 1807 in a house still standing at the corner of Fore and Hancock streets. He was graduated from Bowdoin College in 1825. He taught at Bowdoin and later at Harvard. He spent much time in study abroad, where he received academic honors and great distinction. He died March 24, 1882. He is, truly, Portland's best-known and best loved son.

WATERLINE

WATERLINE 1632  
THE PILLORY STOCKS  
WHIPPING POST & DUCKING  
STOOL STOOD ON THE FIRST  
FLOOR OF THE OLD  
COURT  
HOUSE

LONGFELLOW HOME  
BUILT BY

GEN. PELEG  
WADSWORTH  
1785

FREE ST  
ADAMS ATTEN

PRES. AL  
COURT 1774

MARJOR

PLEASANT

COMMER

1

PORTLAND FI  
JULY 4TH 18  
500 BUILDINGS

3000 PEOPLE HO  
STARTED ON COMME  
NEAR MARI

SETT NO.1

LOVE LAND  
LIME



MO  
1757 SIX PUR  
GOAL FOR NA

SCALE FOR NO  
CRES

---

M TOWN

MEETING HOUSE  
CARSONS LA

BLACK POINT	FALMOUTH	MASSABESEC	NARRAGANSETT NO.1	GORHAM TOWN	NEW
-------------	----------	------------	-------------------	-------------	-----

OLD PORTLAND STREETS	BACK MAIN	QUEEN BROAD	FISH KING	FIDDLE LANE TURKEY LANE	LOVE LANE LIME	MEETING HOUSE PEARSONS LANE
----------------------	-----------	-------------	-----------	----------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------



Looking  
Back  
(continued)



---

Want to Learn More  
About Portland History?

Portland has many wonderful history museums! Ask your parents to take you to one of the following museums to learn more about Portland's history:

**Maine Historical Society and The Longfellow House**

[mainehistory.org](http://mainehistory.org)

**Victoria Mansion**

[victoriamansion.org](http://victoriamansion.org)

**Tate House Museum**

[tatehouse.org](http://tatehouse.org)

**Portland Observatory**

[portlandlandmarks.org/observatory](http://portlandlandmarks.org/observatory)

**Fifth Maine Regiment Museum**

[fifthmainemuseum.org](http://fifthmainemuseum.org)

**Portland Fire Museum**

[portlandfiremuseum.com](http://portlandfiremuseum.com)

and of course...



[usm.maine.edu/maps](http://usm.maine.edu/maps)