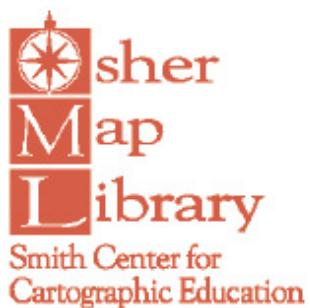


# Resurgam:

## The Remarkable History of Portland, Maine

Completed By: \_\_\_\_\_



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

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### Key Terms

Remember what you've learned about the following terms.

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

**Revolutionary War** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Symbol or Seal** \_\_\_\_\_

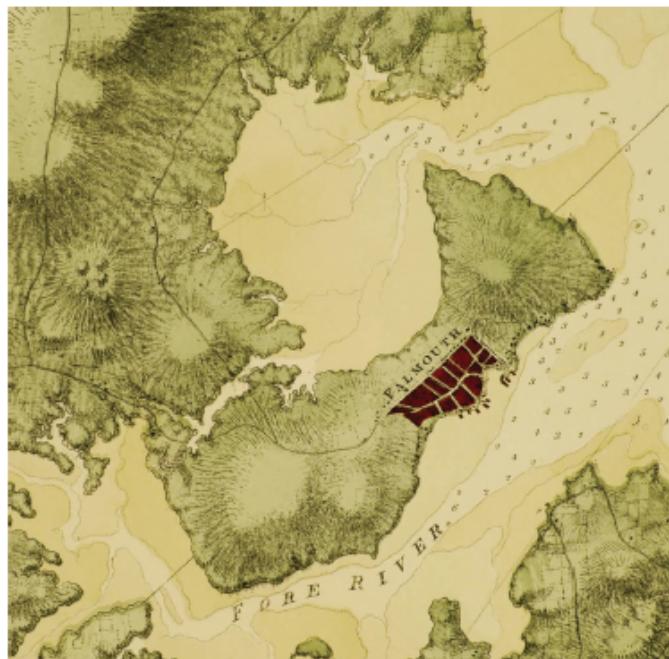
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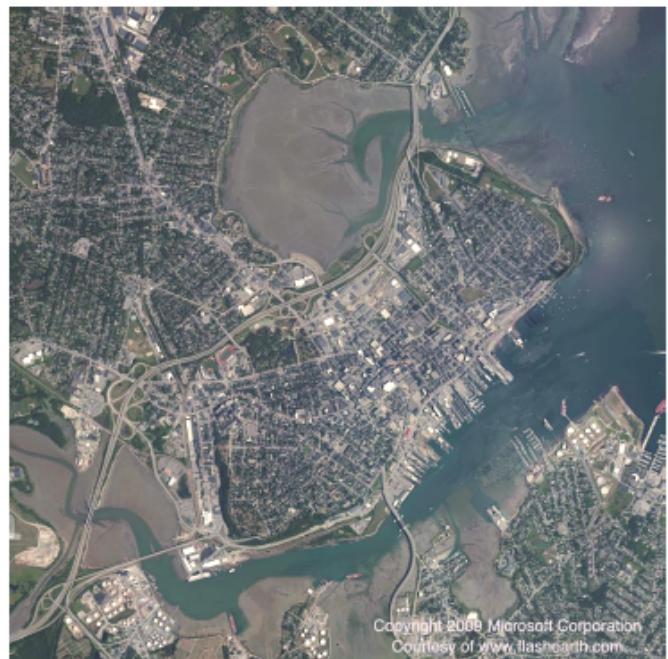
## Portland Then and Now

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. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_



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* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Anchor* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



*Ship* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Phoenix* \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## 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 blanks spaces on the map, **write** the title for each paragraph that goes along with the picture.

**Brick**: 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.*)

**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.

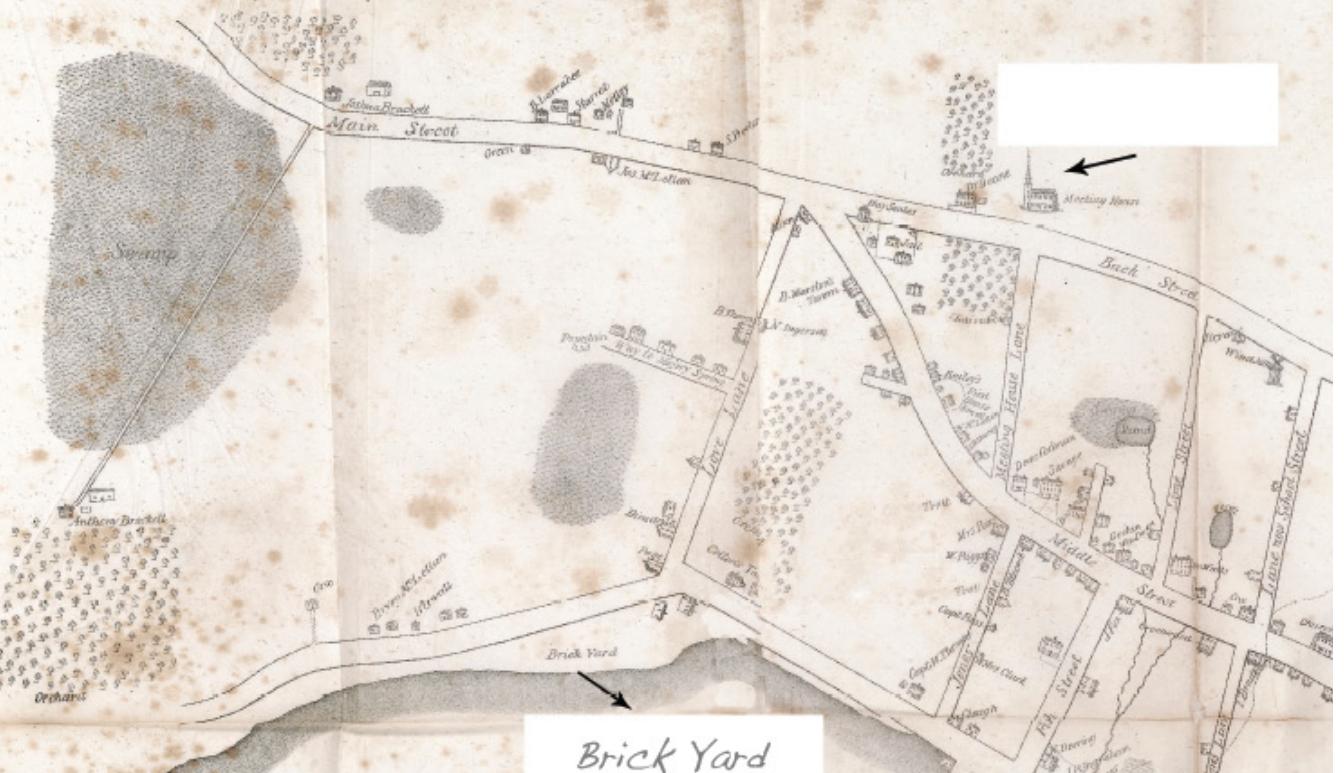
**Mowatt's Arrest**: A British captain named Henry Mowatt was in Falmouth during April of 1775. People were angry that a local shipbuilder was making a warship for Britain, and Mowatt was sent to protect him from the town. While he was on Munjoy Hill, Revolutionaries captured Mowatt and held him prisoner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



Brick Yard

## FALMOUTH NECK.

As it was when destroyed by MONETT.

On 18. 1775.

(All the Buildings shew the Dotted line were  
Destroyed &c. except a few in the perfect line)  
Printed by George, Barber.

Scale of Rods.



Captain  
Mowatt's  
Revenge  
(continued)

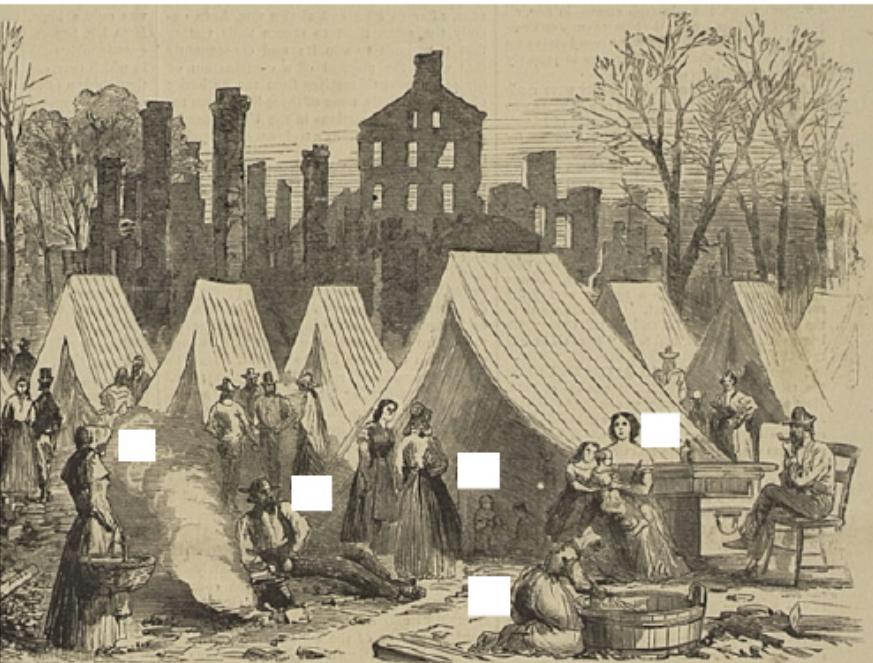


## The Great Fire of 1866

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.



GREAT FIRE IN PORTLAND, MAINE—TENTS AMONG THE RUINS.—[SKETCHED BY STANLEY FOX.]

**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!

## Looking Back

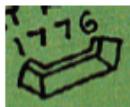
A lot has happened in Portland throughout history. In the 1930s, a man named William Dow created a map of Portland showing important events in its lifetime. Use Dow's map to answer the following questions.

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?"



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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?



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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?



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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?



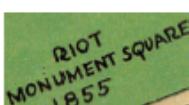
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5. How many buildings were destroyed during the fire of 1866?



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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?

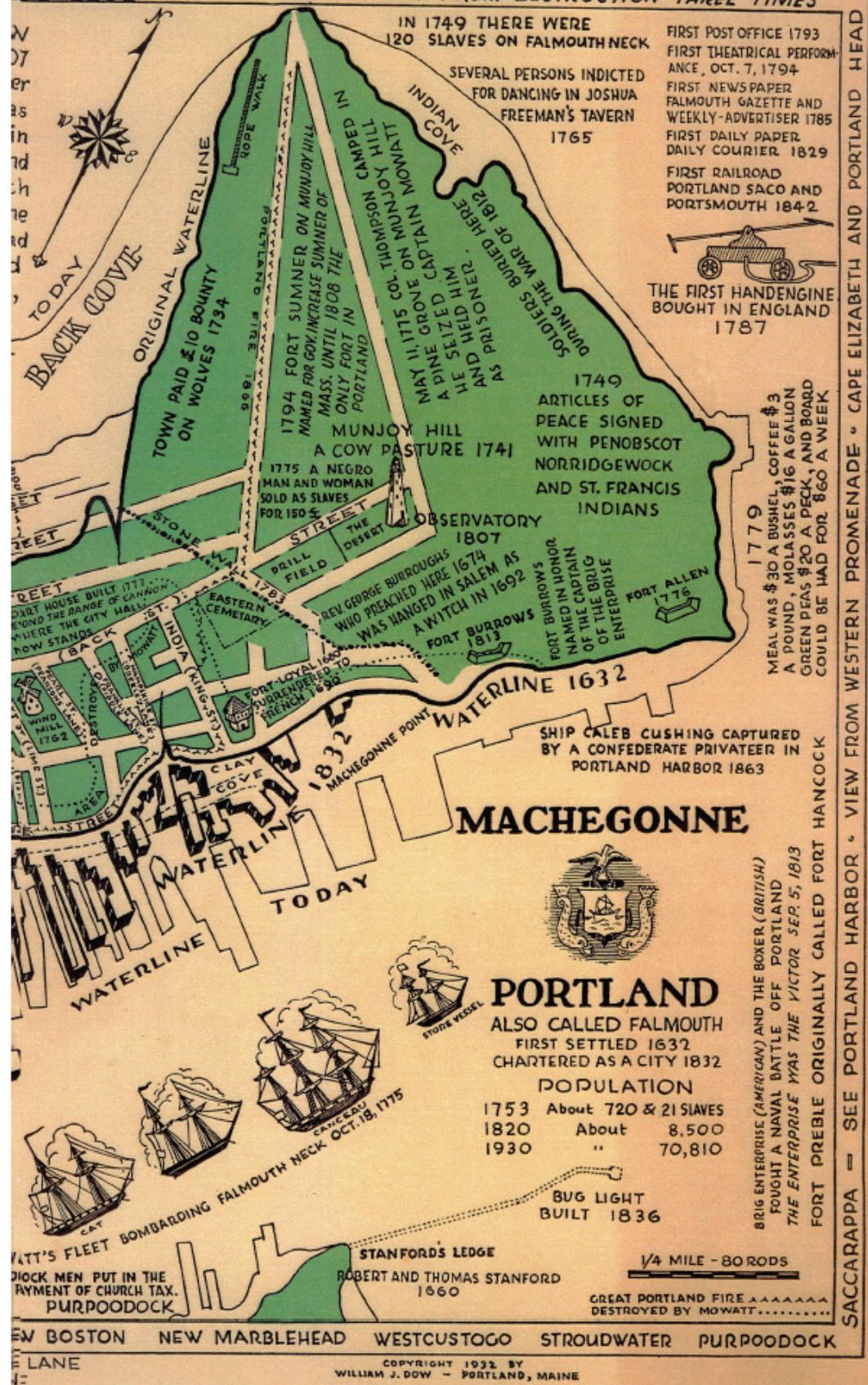


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**SAM**

## PORLAND HAS ARISEN FROM DESTRUCTION THREE TIMES



## Looking Back

## 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)