## Breathing Life Back into the Bartlet Mall Frog Pond

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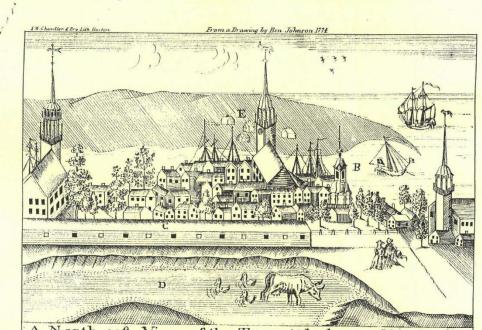
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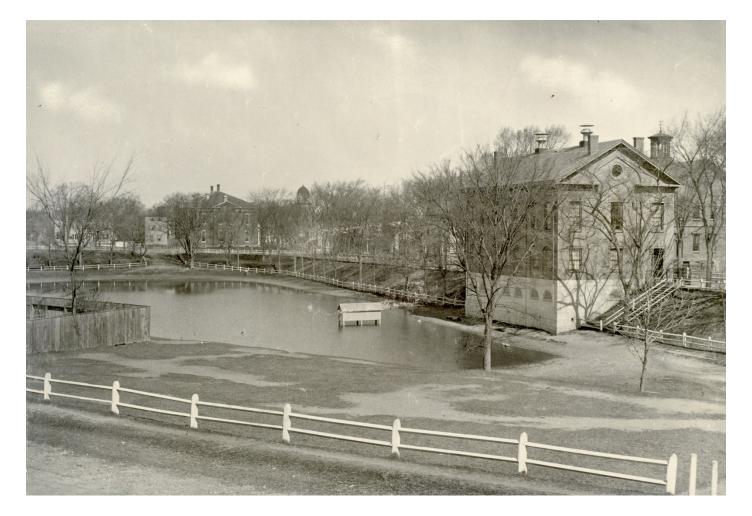
# History of the Bartlet Mall

- Newburyport's first Common
- 1600's: Colonial settlers watered and grazed livestock
- 1700's: Rope making and training for militia that would fight in the Revolutionary War
- 1800: transformed from a place for industry to one for beauty and pleasure exclusively



A North-eaft View of the Town & harbour of NewburyPort A. The Town House B. Merimack River C. Rope Walk D. Prog Pond E. Salifonry

# The Mall between 1805-1891 (water inlet/outlet from ravine cut off)



#### The 'Tennessee Crane' added in 1891 (first attempt to clean the water)



#### The Swan Fountain in 1987

(diversion of stormwater, no municipal water source)



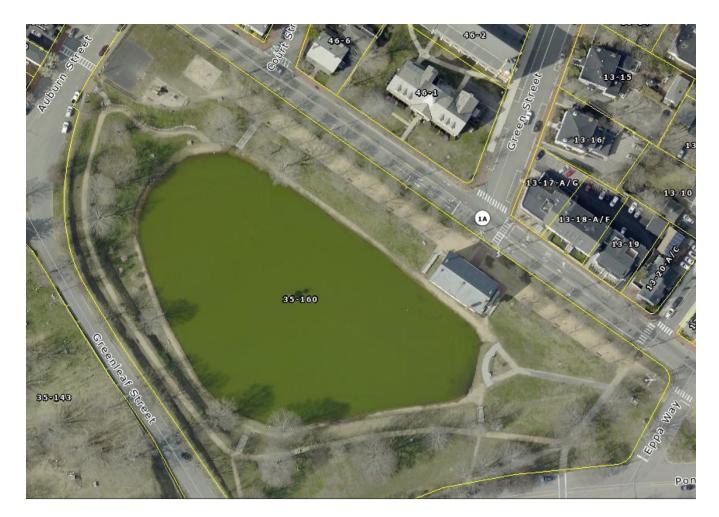
# Study in 2014

- Showed depths of muck and identified contaminates (heavy metals) & TP in sediment
- Recommended dredging and disposing out of state
- Expensive
- Not environmentally conscious
- Likely will create a proliferation of cyanobacteria (HAB) because can't dig deep enough

## Reverse osmosis in 2017

- Grant funded \$70K
- Failed because did not take into account the volume of TP in the muck which kept cycling back into the water as the water was cleaned
- Once some of the TP was removed, cyanobacteria (kept in check by TP) likely proliferated, causing HAB

#### We have reached a critical point (HAB=harmful to people, toxic to small animals)



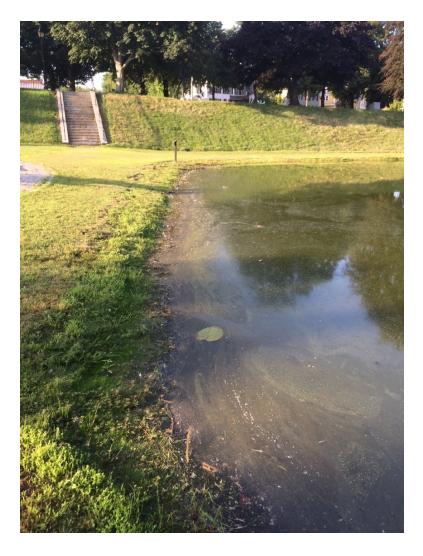
## Original design intent



## Edges are compromised



#### Water level is not consistent





## Current thinking

- Working with a team from the Boston Public Garden Lagoon project, as well as local resident Vlad Novotny (world renowned water scientist) to execute a feasibility study
- Use encapsulation model: dewater, re-sculpt, liner or admixture, fill with fresh water, circulate and aerate
- Stabilize the edge

## **CPC** requests

- Bathymetric Survey: \$13,812
- Water Source: \$40,200
- Edge Stone (1/3 of pond): \$132,023

• Fountain Restoration: \$126,000

