TIME OUT FOR History

Discover for yourself the vibrant array of public art throughout Cambridge. Explore this collection that honors the past while pointing to the future.

SHE CALLS ACROSS THE TENEMENT VALLEY TO HER FRIENDS PULLING LAUNDRY OFF THE CROSS-CUT LINE

EXPLORE MORE: CAMBRIDGEMA.GOV/PUBLICART
INNER CITY TOTEM II
LOCATION: MARGARET FULLER NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, 71 CHERRY STREET (AT FRONT ENTRANCE) DETAILS: BY VUSUMUZI MADUNA / 1983 / STEEL AND WOOD

Maduna’s two “Inner City Totems” are examples of the artist’s translation of African-inspired masks into large-scale sculptures. Vusumuzi Maduna (aka Dennis Didley) was born in Cambridge and spent time as a youth at the Margaret Fuller Neighborhood House. The 1807 house is a National Historic Landmark and was the childhood home of feminist and social activist Sarah Margaret Fuller.

DANA PARK QUOTES
LOCATION: DANA PARK, 74 MAGAZINE STREET, BETWEEN LAWRENCE AND CORPORAL MCTERNAN STREETS DETAILS: BY JOHN POWELL / 2007 / ALUMINUM

Powell, an artist who loves history, illuminates the words of writers who have lived or worked in Cambridgeport, including the social and political activists Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Margaret Fuller, and Richard Henry Dana, Jr., who fought for the rights of African Americans, women, and ship workers. Their writing is featured on light poles throughout the park.

BRICKWORKER AND BALLPLAYER
LOCATION: RINDGE FIELD, INTERSECTION AT PEMBERTON AND HASKELL STREETS DETAILS: BY DAVID JUDELSON / 1983 / HANDMADE BRICK, MASONRY

From the mid-19th to mid-20th centuries, brick companies took advantage of the good clay in the soil and ran an extensive brickmaking industry in this area. Judelson made his own bricks for this sculpture and inscribed family names of Irish, Italian, and Canadian immigrants who worked in the brickyards. He connects this history with the contemporary use of the land as a ball field.

SIDEWALK HISTORIES

Mandel features residents, business owners, and events that have contributed character and cultural history to this dense neighborhood along Brookline Street. The artist explored historical photographs to find starting points for his mosaic images.