

**Cambridge Municipal Elections 1985
Collection**

Provenance Unknown

Received for Processing, November 2007

2 inches

**Processed by
Alice Dodds
November 2007**

**Cambridge Historical Commission
831 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02139**

Description

This collection, of unknown provenance, was received for processing in November 2007. It contains the electioneering materials of ten City Council candidates and four candidates for the School Committee, all running in the 1985 Cambridge, Massachusetts municipal elections. These brief materials consist of brochures, fliers, and letters describing the qualifications and positions of each candidate. Four lapel buttons are also included. Brief though they are, these personal statements give insight into the issues of paramount concern to the voters at this particular juncture of the city's history.

Scope and Content

Series I -- Cambridge City Council

Candidates for the Cambridge City Council all spoke to the single most important issue of concern to voters at that time: rent control and housing. Most of the candidates strongly supported rent control, increased community oversight of real estate development, and the protection of home owners. Another issue generic to the time was cable television. Crime, economic development, taxation in the wake of Proposition 2½, and the delivery of municipal services were also of general concern.

An historic first took place in this election: the candidacy of Hugh Russell for City Council, the first openly gay individual to stand for an elected city office. While mentioning many of the same issues as the other candidates, Mr. Russell's primary thrust was in support of the gay and lesbian community: promoting several measures to assist AIDS sufferers and equal rights for gays and lesbians in Cambridge.

Series II -- Cambridge School Committee

The four candidates for the School Committee shared many positions such as quality teaching, parent participation in the decision making process, upgrading academic standards, racial balance, accountability, and budgetary responsibility.

Folder List

Series I -- Cambridge City Council

1. Armstead, Lewis A, Jr.
2. Budryk
3. Dixon, Vincent
4. Malenfant, Geneva
5. Reeves, Kenneth
6. Russell, Hugh
7. Scott, Renae
8. Sullivan, David
9. Swain, Karen
10. Turk, Mike

Series II -- Cambridge School Committee

1. Kennedy, David P.
2. Garcia, Sara
3. Griffin, Richard
4. Weinstein, Larry

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