



Cambridge City Hall

Have you ever been to a city-wide dance party? Over the last 24 years, thousands of Cambridge residents can say they have. With the backdrop of their historic City Hall building, thousands gather to dance the summer night away on the City Hall lawn. This tradition started with the city's 150th anniversary. Last year, projected onto the historic façade, were brightly colored shapes and images to get everyone in the 90s music mood. Residents were able to enjoy a night of music and fun alongside a historic building that's been preserved for decades.

Cambridge City Hall is a beautiful facet of the Commonwealth's architectural history. Originally completed 135 years ago in 1890, the building exemplifies the masonry and style of its time and continues to be a beacon of change for its community. Used as a city government building since its construction, it houses the mayor's office, city council chambers, and other city departments. But outside the walls, it houses the people who use the green space as a place to relax or a place to speak their minds.

They see the brick and stone on the outside as a chance to make the changes they want when they go inside.

The building underwent masonry and window repairs, clock tower restoration, regilding, flagpole replacement, lightning protection, signage relocation, bird deterrent, and roofing and drainage replacements. Each replacement or restoration was decided with care to not disturb the building's aesthetic and provide durability and longevity.

After 13 months of construction, residents are passing by a building they might not even notice has changed. Ever the point of a historic preservation project like this one; the goal of all teams involved was to leave the building as if it was never touched. This required precision for all parts of the building that needed to be restored, from the stone color and texture to the paint of the clock faces at the tower.

The historic City Hall deserves to be the 2025 People's Preservation Choice because of its rich history and tight-knit connection to the community. The building was originally funded by a businessman and philanthropist who grew up in Cambridge. He was giving back to his city the same way that what happens in the City Hall gives back to its residents. The preservation of the building is a testament to its history and the project team's dedication to ensuring that the future of the building is safe and secure for more events and dance parties to come.