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A woman in a floral shirt and a man with a beard looking through a microscope.

CAMBRIDGE TOWN GAOL (JAIL)



A Gaol (Jail) on Parker's Piece!



Do you recognise
Parker's Piece?

Cambridge Town Gaol
(now called a jail or
prison) was located here
in the 19th century.

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An Expensive Build!

FACTOID!
The Town Gaol
cost £25,000 to
build!



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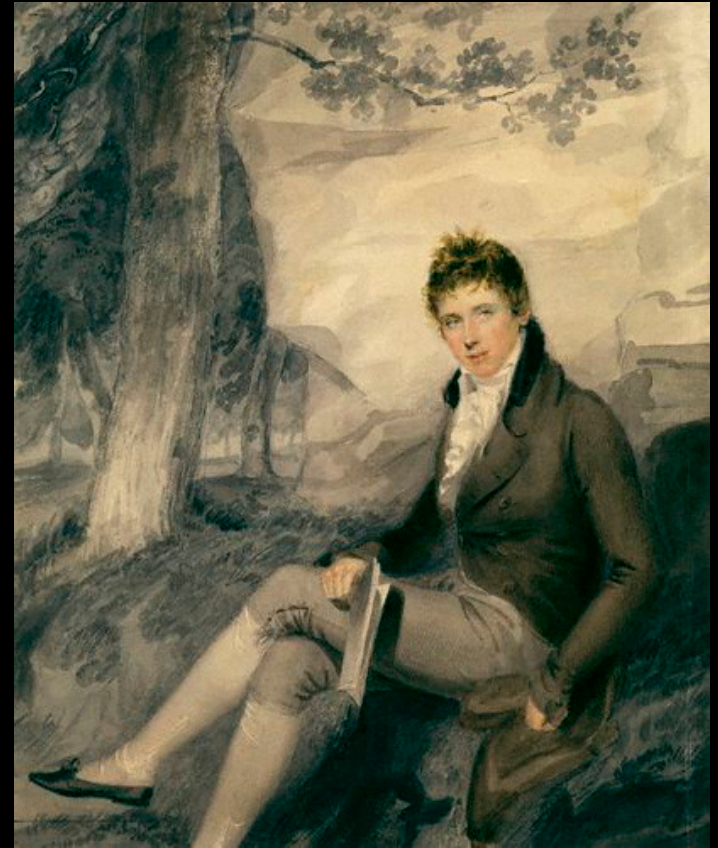
We Won't Pay!

The University did not want to pay for the Prison... leading to a lot of arguing between the University and the Town.

The local paper stated:

‘Lord Palmerston presented a Petition from the Chancellor, Master, and Scholars of the University of Cambridge, complaining of several clauses in the New Cambridge Gaol Bill, which obliged them to bear their share of the expense.’

The Morning Post, 1826



A painting of Lord Palmerston

What Was Their Crime?

Frederick Housden was charged with stealing a bay horse in 1834.



A ring of thieves were imprisoned for stealing a silver watch in 1832.

What Was Their Crime?

**Do you recognise this
place in London?
It is where Members of
Parliament (MPs) meet**

In 1835 Mr Robert Canham was imprisoned at Cambridge Town Gaol for bribing residents of Cambridge to vote for the Tory candidate to become their next Member of Parliament (MP) for Cambridge in the election!



“Whoops, We’ve Got the Wrong Prisoner!”

Some prisoners were sent to Cambridge Town Gaol by mistake!



An unnamed person was falsely charged with stealing pigeons in 1828...

He received 5 pounds in compensation.

The Final Days of the Town Gaol



The Town Gaol on Parker's Piece was the last Cambridge Town Gaol.

It was abandoned in 1878.

After 1878 prisoners were sent to the County Gaol instead, which was on Castle Hill.

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A person with long hair is looking through a microscope. The background is dark, and the person's face is partially visible in profile.

Discover More

Visit the Museum of Cambridge. See the website below for more information about the museum or to contact their Education Officer:

<http://www.museumofcambridge.org.uk/>

Visit the Cambridgeshire Collection at the Cambridge Central Library:

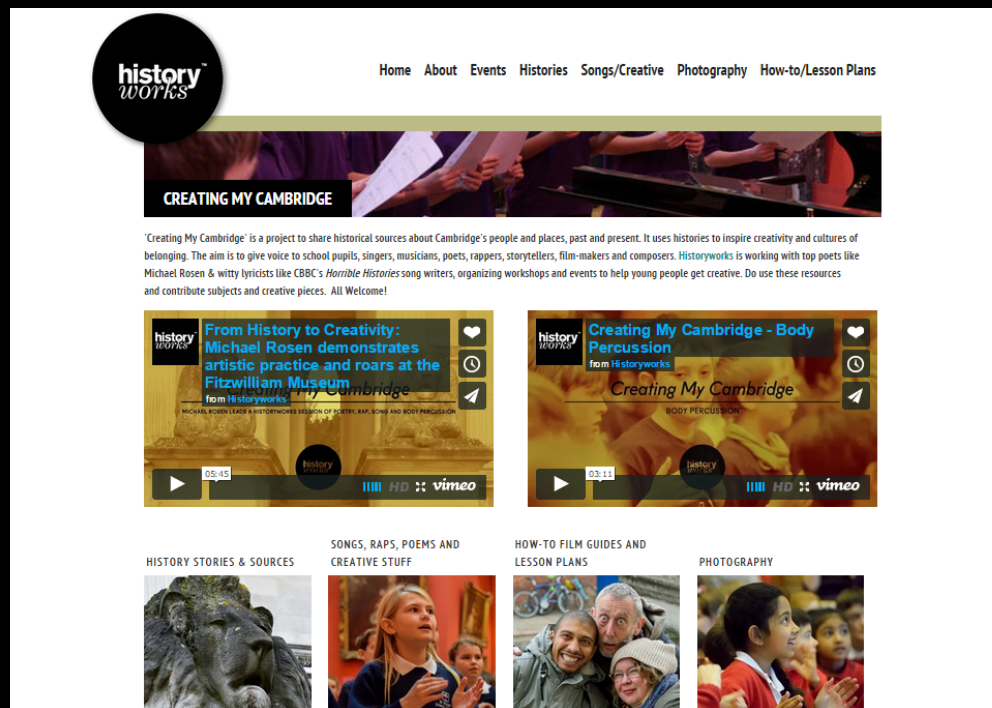
<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-&-culture/archives/local-studies/cambridgeshire-collection/>

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Web Resources available at:

<http://www.creatingmycambridge.com/history-stories>



The screenshot shows the 'historyworks' website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, About, Events, Histories, Songs/Creative, Photography, and How-to/Lesson Plans. The main header features the 'historyworks' logo and a large banner image with the text 'CREATING MY CAMBRIDGE'. Below the banner, a paragraph describes the project: 'Creating My Cambridge' is a project to share historical sources about Cambridge's people and places, past and present. It uses histories to inspire creativity and cultures of belonging. The aim is to give voice to school pupils, singers, musicians, poets, rappers, storytellers, film-makers and composers. Historyworks is working with top poets like Michael Rosen & witty lyricists like CBBC's *Horrible Histories* song writers, organizing workshops and events to help young people get creative. Do use these resources and contribute subjects and creative pieces. All Welcome!

Below the text are two video thumbnails. The first is titled 'From History to Creativity: Michael Rosen demonstrates artistic practice and roars at the Fitzwilliam Museum' and has a duration of 05:45. The second is titled 'Creating My Cambridge - Body Percussion' and has a duration of 03:11. Both videos are from 'historyworks' and are available on Vimeo.

At the bottom, there are four categories with corresponding images: 'HISTORY STORIES & SOURCES' (a stone lion), 'SONGS, RAPS, POEMS AND CREATIVE STUFF' (a girl singing), 'HOW-TO FILM GUIDES AND LESSON PLANS' (a group of people), and 'PHOTOGRAPHY' (a group of children).

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