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A woman in a floral shirt is looking down, and a man is using a microscope.

The Isolation Hospital

Creating My
history
works
Cambridge

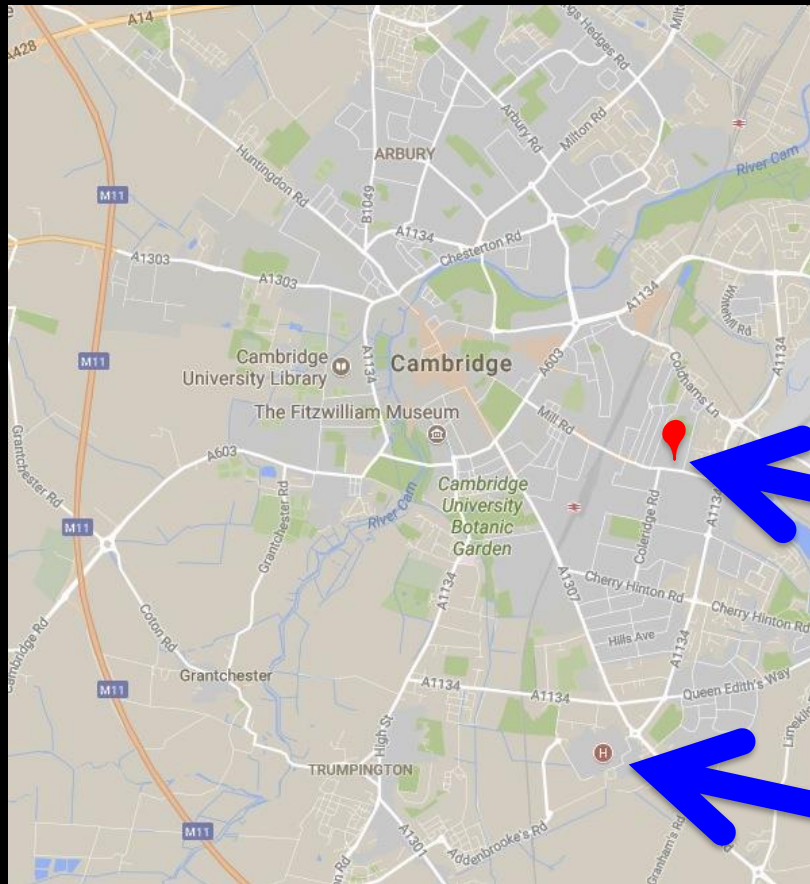
A person wearing a floral patterned shirt is looking through the eyepiece of a microscope. The image is dark, with the person's face and the microscope's body visible against a black background. A semi-transparent dark blue banner is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing the text 'Where is the Isolation Hospital?' in white.

Where is the Isolation Hospital?

It is separate from the main hospital in Cambridge, called Addenbrooke's.



Have you ever been to either of the hospitals?



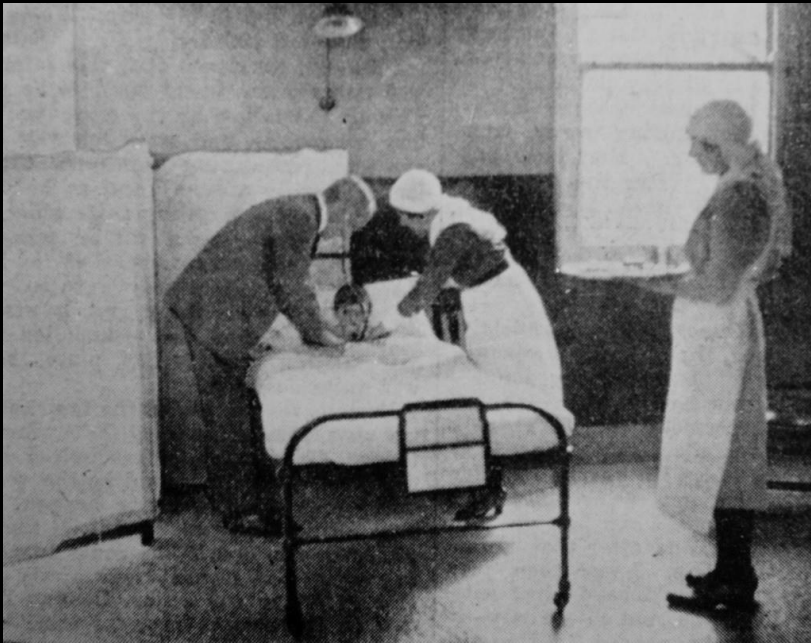
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Map from Google Maps

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What was an Isolation Hospital?

The Isolation Hospital was founded in 1885. It was where people with infectious diseases were sent, so they didn't pass them on to other people.



People at the time worried about children being separated from their parents. Would you like to be sent away when you were feeling really ill?

A horizontal banner image featuring two people. On the left, a person is wearing a green and red floral patterned shirt. On the right, a person is seen in profile, wearing a dark shirt and holding a large black microphone. The text 'How did it work?' is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

How did it work?

There were seven separate blocks. Each block treated a different disease, and had both male and female wards.

Here is a picture of the Scarlet Fever Ward, and a plan of what it would have looked like inside.

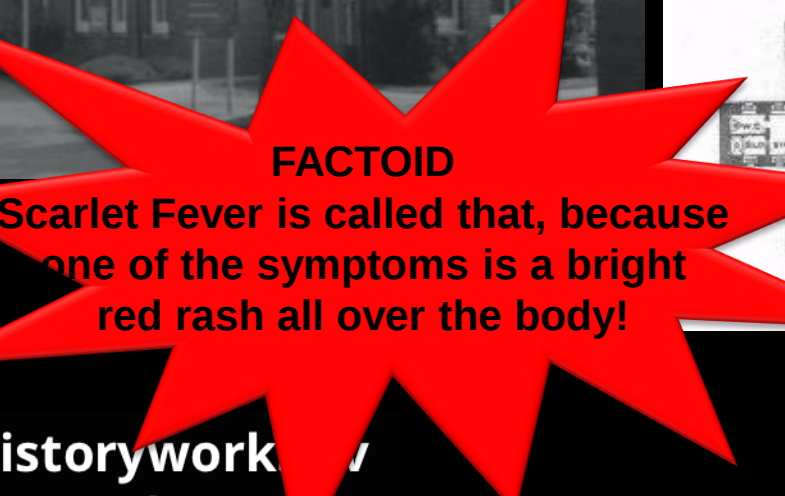


FACTOID

Scarlet Fever is called that, because one of the symptoms is a bright red rash all over the body!

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Photos from Captu

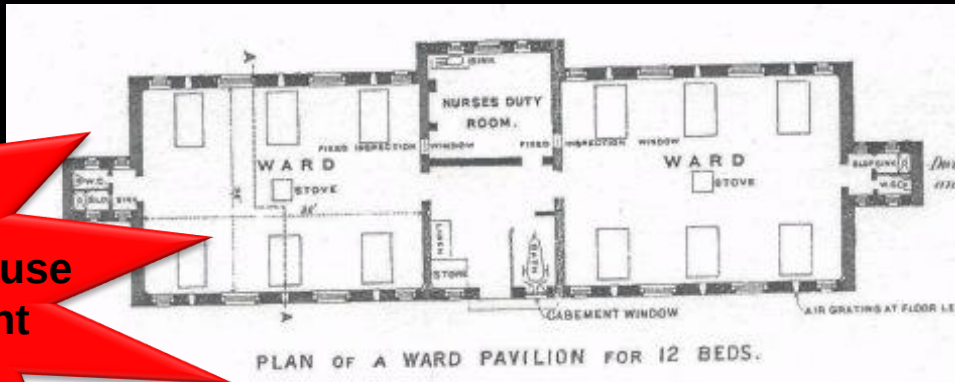
A large, bright red, multi-pointed starburst graphic is centered on the slide. Inside the starburst, the word "FACTOID" is written in bold black capital letters. Below it, a paragraph in bold black text states: "Scarlet Fever is called that, because one of the symptoms is a bright red rash all over the body!". The background of the slide is a collage of three images: a black and white photo of a street scene with a building and a car on the left, a black and white photo of a person in a white lab coat in the top right, and a black and white photo of a person in a white lab coat in the bottom right. The text "www.historyworkstv" is visible in the bottom left corner, and "Photos from Captu" is visible in the bottom right corner.

FACTOID

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Photos from Captu



A Changing Cambridge

The Isolation Hospital was built in a time of great change in Cambridge. The **Industrial Revolution** had arrived!

A railway line was built to Cambridge in 1854 and new factories sprung up around town.



Photo of Cambridge Railway Shed from the [National Railways Museum Collection](#)

The population rises!

Because the new jobs working in the factories and on the railways paid more than farming, thousands of people moved from the countryside to the city.

To make homes for all these new people, lots of houses were built, but they were often close together, cramped and lacked toilets and running water.

Everyone threw their wee, poo and other rubbish into the street or the river!

Can you imagine the smell?!



Here is a photo of some Victorian streets. Can you see how close together the houses are?

Cambridge cultivates disease!



All these people living on top of each other, surrounded by rubbish, meant that disease occurred often and spread very quickly.

The Isolation Hospital was built in response to an outbreak of Smallpox and Diarrhoea in the early 1880s.

It's in the air!

At the time, people believed sickness was carried in bad smells, or 'miasmas'. The new Cambridge streets would have smelled awful – people thought this smell was disease!

Taking people away from their home to the Isolation Hospital was thought to help, because it would take them away from the bad smell. It would also keep the bad air around them away from others.



Photo of a doctor, nurses and a patient at the Hospital, from Capturing Cambridge

What happened to the Hospital in World War One?

In World War One the Hospital became the place where men signed up to the army.

Here is a propaganda poster, which encouraged young men to join up and fight. Would it have convinced you?

FACTOID

Although you weren't meant to join the army until you were 18, lots of younger boys lied about their age, so they could go too! The youngest known boy who fought in the War was 12 years old!



The 1,500 mile walk to Cambridge!

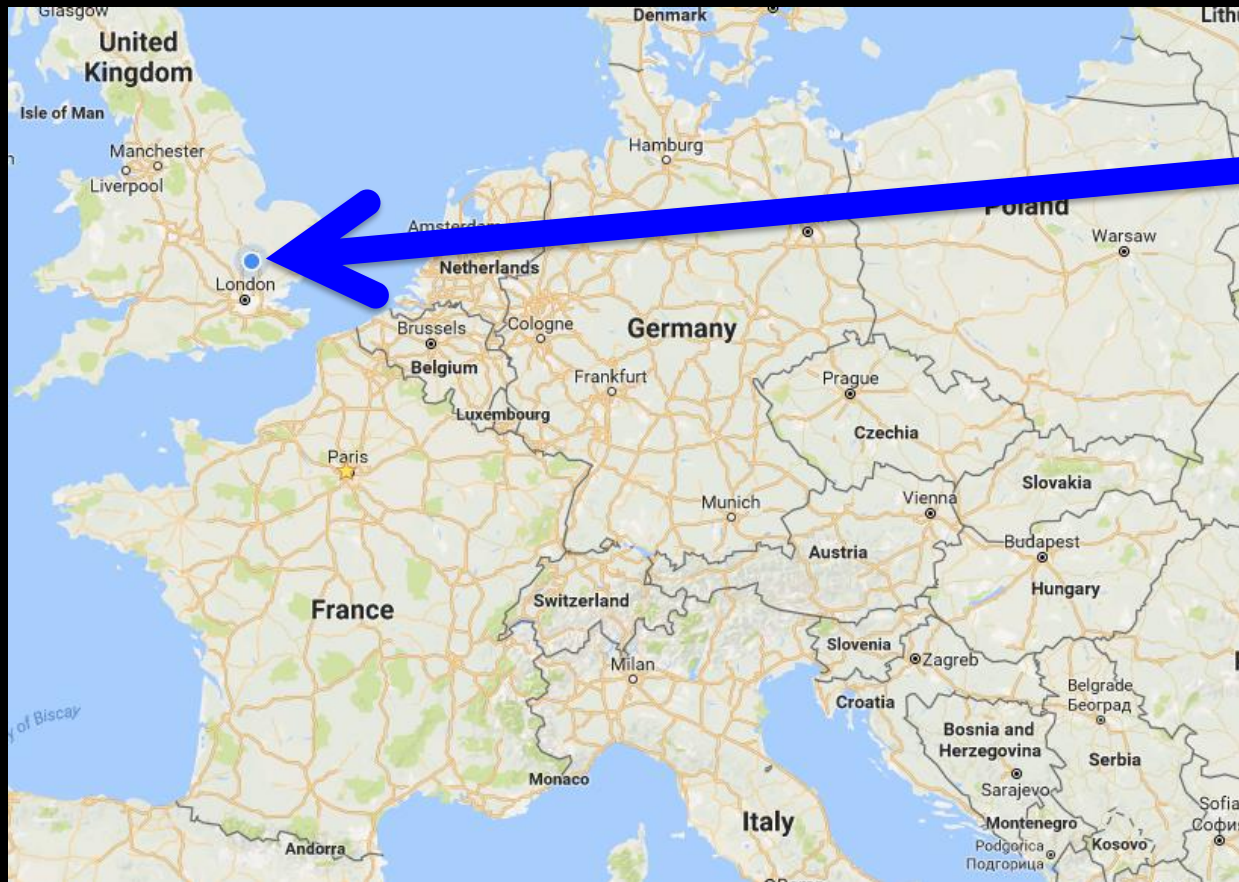
During World War One, the Hospital also became a home to Serbian refugees.

Fierce fighting across Europe destroyed lots of people's homes and forced them to move. Thousands of Serbs were driven out from their country and some travelled the 1,500 miles to Cambridge.

This is a photo of people leaving Serbia. The weather and landscape are very different from Cambridge! What do you think they would have thought when they arrived?



Where is Serbia?



This is
Cambridge.
Can you spot
Serbia on the
map? Can
you imagine
walking that
far?

What happened there in World War Two?

During World War Two, children from big cities, such as London and Birmingham, were moved to Cambridge and other smaller towns, so that they would be safe from German bombing.

The Isolation Hospital became the place where these children went if they got sick.

FACTOID

The Germans dropped bombs on London nearly every night in 1940 and 1941! This sustained attack became known as the Blitz.



A person is shown in profile, looking through the eyepiece of a microscope. The background is dark, and the person's face is partially illuminated. The text 'Discover More' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Discover More

A full report on the building with more pictures, as well as a more in depth explanation of 'miasma' and 'germ' theories is available here.

<http://www.capturingcambridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/InfectiousDisease.pdf>

A simplified understanding of 'miasma' theory is available from the Science Museum

<http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/broughttolife/techniques/miasmatheory>

More details on the refugees displaced by World War One can be found at the British Library, with a specific section on Serbian refugees

<https://www.bl.uk/world-war-one/articles/refugees-europe-on-the-move>

More information on London evacuees, including an account of a young boy who moved from London, to Gwydir Street, can be found on the BBC.

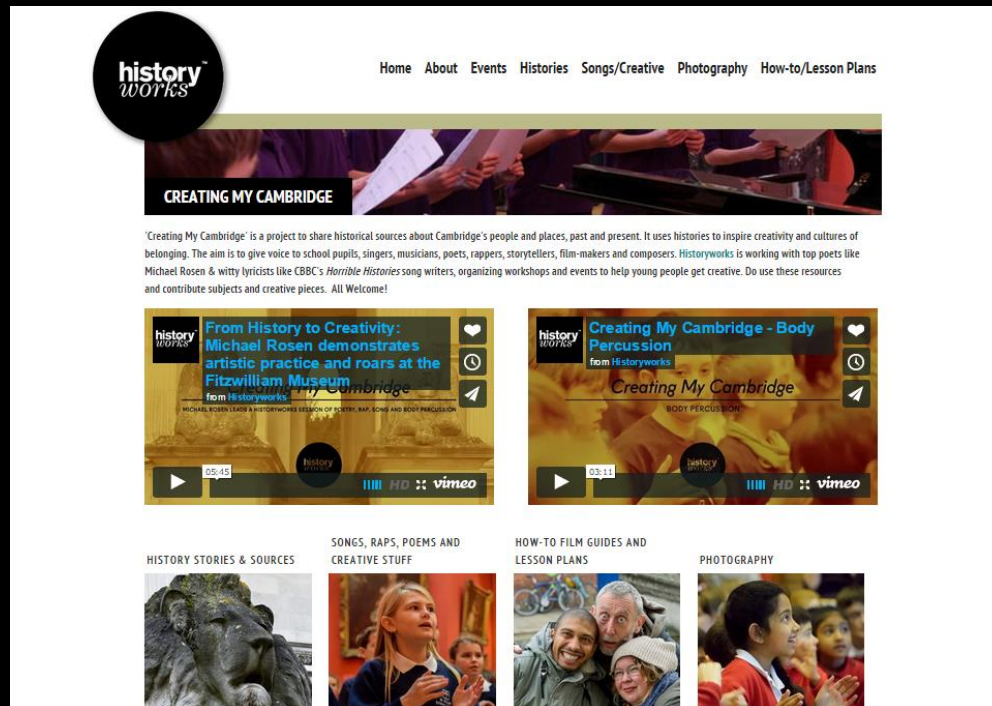
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/33/a1070533.shtml>

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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 image of people working on a project, with the text 'CREATING MY CAMBRIDGE' overlaid. Below this, 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.

At the bottom, there are four categories with corresponding images: 'HISTORY STORIES & SOURCES' (a lion statue), '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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