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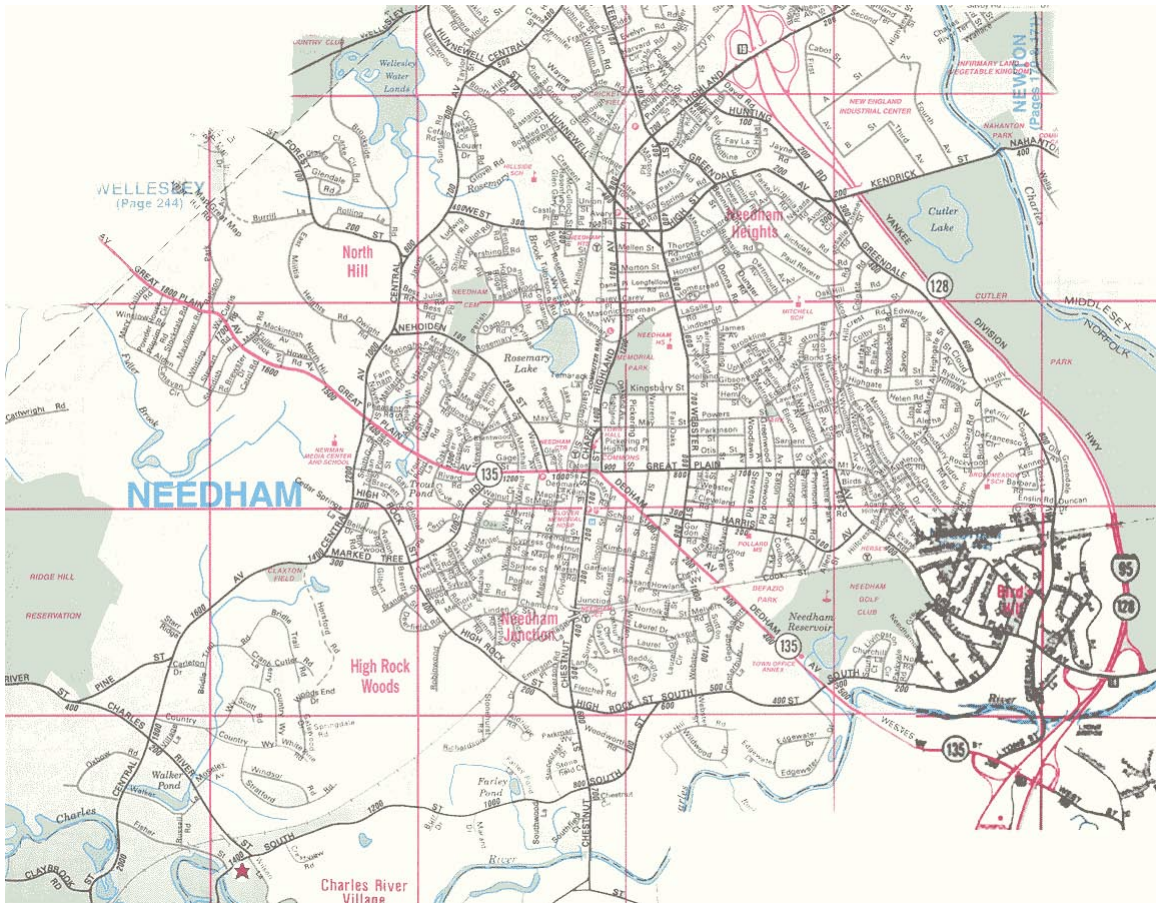
DIRECTIONS TO GGI
Effective: June 1, 2001

Goldense Group, Inc.

1346 South Street
Needham, MA 02492
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From Boston:

1. Take I-93 S/RT-3 S ramp.
2. Merge onto US-1 S.
3. Take the MASS. PIKE/ALBANY Street exit, exit number 20.
4. Keep right at the fork in the ramp.
5. Stay straight to go onto ramp.
6. Merge onto I-90 W (toll road).
7. Take the I-95 N/I95 S exit, exit number 15, toward WESTON.
8. Keep right at the fork in the ramp.
9. Merge onto I-95 S.
10. Take the RT-135 exit, exit number 17 towards NEEDHAM/NATICK.
11. Keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp.
12. Turn LEFT onto MA-135.
13. MA-135 becomes MA-135/DEDHAM AVE.
14. Turn LEFT onto SOUTH ST.



From the West:

1. Merge onto I-90 E.
2. Turn RIGHT onto N MAIN ST/MA-135
3. Turn LEFT onto E CENTRAL ST/MA-135
4. Turn RIGHT onto UNION ST.
5. Turn Slight RIGHT onto ELIOT ST.
6. Stay straight to go onto PLEASANT ST S
7. Turn LEFT onto DOVER RD
8. DOVER RD becomes CHARLES RIVER ST.
9. Turn RIGHT onto SOUTH ST.

From the North:

1. Merge onto I-95 S.
2. Take the RT-135 exit, exit number 17 towards NEEDHAM/NATICK.
3. Keep LEFT at the fork in the ramp.
4. Turn LEFT onto MA-135.
5. MA-135 becomes MA-135/DEDHAM AVE.
6. Turn LEFT onto SOUTH ST.

From the South:

1. Merge onto I-95 N.
2. Take the RT-135 exit, exit number 17, toward NEEDHAM/WELLESLEY.
3. Turn RIGHT onto WEST ST/MA-135.
4. WEST ST/MA-135 becomes MA-135.
5. MA-135 becomes MA-135/DEDHAM AVE.
6. Turn LEFT onto SOUTH ST.

You can also visit <http://www.mapquest.com/> for directions.



NEEDHAM HISTORY

“Sketch of Needham History,” Copyright 2004, Needham Historical Society, www.needhamhistory.org. Used with permission.

Needham's development began in the 1640's when the area was first explored by people from Dedham who believed that they had discovered gold. Settlers began bringing cattle to graze here in the 1680's, and in 1681 the land of present-day Needham and Wellesley was purchased from tribal leader William Nehoiden.

By 1711 more than 50 families had located here, enough to require a church, school, and local government. On November 5th of that year the Town of Needham was incorporated. The Royal governor selected the name Needham because a town of that name was close to Dedham in England.

The character and future of the community changed drastically when it became the county seat for Norfolk County and the courthouse was built in the 1796. As local historians pointed out, this brought in lawyers and officials, trained, educated and ambitious men who changed the face of the community by investing in and supporting industrial development.

Until the arrival of the railroads in the 1800's the center of town was along the current Central Avenue at Nehoiden Street. The gradual movement of the old town center to the Great Plain Village from the 1850's on was necessitated by the fact that the Charles River Railroad did not come to the old center. In the 1870's, when the First Parish Church was moved to its current location in what is now Needham Center only the Old Burial Ground and the 1720 parsonage were left as the reminder of the original settlement.

The people of the town made a modest living as farmers, although eventually horticulture and dairying became prominent. Highlandville, now Needham Heights, took on a completely different character with the migration of English knitters such as William Carter, Mark Lee, etc., in the 1850's. What started as cottage industries developed into large knitting factories that produced world famous knit goods.

Almost from its beginning the western part of the town was dissatisfied with the location of town government. This culminated in the separation of Wellesley in 1881, which approximately divided the town in half. It was not until the turn of the new century when a new high school building and a beautiful town hall were created, combined with the effect of seven different trolley lines, that Needham began to gain the momentum that made us a successful dairy and suburban community.

From 1859 to the late 1870's, a considerable amount of Needham's land was removed by train for the “Back Bay Fill”. Needham was chosen as the removal site of the fill because of the abundance of gravel and reasonable rail access to Boston. Most of the land removed lay between the Charles River and the present Route 128. When the gravel was exhausted, a devastated desert was left which was not developed until the post World War II construction of a large industrial center.



When Swiss-American botanist Denys Zirngiebel lived in Needham he established a very successful commercial horticultural business where he first introduced the giant Swiss pansy to America. The pansy is now the official town flower. Zirngiebel was also the grandfather of one of America's greatest artists - Newell Convers (N.C.) Wyeth, who attended Needham schools, and used many Needham people and locations for his paintings and illustrations when he lived here in the 1920's.

One of the current attractions of the town is the significant collection of Wyeth works displayed in the public library and the Needham Historical Society Museum.

Gradually both dairy farming and the knitting industries declined. In 1955 the well-known Walker-Gordon Dairy closed, and in the 1990's even the world famous Carter Company relocated. However, the creation of one of the nation's first industrial parks in 1950, the later addition of high technology firms, the improvement of access to Route 128 and Boston, frequent railroad passenger service to Boston, and the excellent quality of Needham schools have contributed to the town's emergence as one of the more desirable suburbs of Boston. Retention of the representative Town Meeting form of government and an abundance of trees and open spaces add to the feeling of a typical New England village.