



Spectacle Island – History Detective

Spectacle Island, like many of the harbor islands, has been used for many different uses over the years. Be a history detective and place the events that occurred on Spectacle Island in the proper order by placing a letter in the box next to the date you choose.

Once you match the letters to the correct dates it will spell out a word. This word is a type of renewable energy that is used on the island.

(HINT: the pictures to the right of the dates may help you match up the correct information)

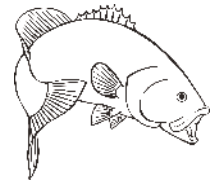
E. The Central Artery/Tunnel Project also known as the "Big Dig", used 2.7 million cubic yards of dirt from its excavations to cap over the dump and prevent pollutants from seeping into the Harbor.

2000 years ago



O. Native Americans came to Spectacle Island in the summer. They would catch cod fish, sturgeon and clams while on the island.

1200 years ago



R. Two Hotels received guests on the island. They operated as gambling casinos for ten years. Although it was illegal, gambling was a widespread activity at this time.

1600's



L. English Colonists started to live on the island and farm the land to feed cattle.

O. Two lighthouses were constructed on this island. They were called range lights. These lighthouses were in a row with the taller of the two towers behind the first. These lighthouse helped guide ships safely into the port of Boston.

1717



S. As Glacial ice melted and sea level rose, the ocean moved inland and slowly flooded the Harbor, transforming Spectacle Island from a hill into an island.

1847



W. Spectacle Island housed a factory that extracted grease from garbage, the extracted grease was made into soap. The garbage that was processed was dumped onto the island covering it with trash.

1857



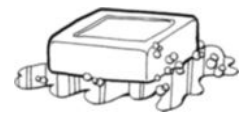
P. In the nineteenth century, horses were the main form of transportation. A horse rendering plant was built on the island to aid Boston in the disposal of dead horses, which otherwise would pose a health hazard. Two thousand horses a year were rendered into hides, glue, neats-foot oil, and horsehair for brushes.

1897



R. The new 105- acre island park is a place where people can once again enjoy its natural beauty and vistas of the National Park. Visitors can go hiking or swimming on one of Boston Harbor Islands' two beaches.

1930's



A. A quarantine hospital placed on the island was used for people with smallpox and other diseases. Many passenger ships were required to stop there to check for smallpox victims. At this time more than seventy percent of the Native American population died from the spread of smallpox.

1994



2006

