Longfellow-Washington House
& Mt Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge
Thursday, May 23

7:45 am – Please park and board the bus at the State Street parking lot located directly across from the Springfield Main Library.

8:00 am sharp - Departure for Cambridge with one rest stop.

10:30 am – Enjoy a guided tour of the Longfellow-Washington House. Once the home of noted American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow for almost 50 years, it had previously served as the headquarters for General George Washington beginning July 16, 1775, and it served as his base of operations during the Siege of Boston until he moved out on April 4, 1776. The house was built in 1759 for Jamaican planter John Vassall Jr., who fled the Cambridge area at the beginning of the American Revolutionary War because of his loyalty to the King of England.

11:45 am - Next, explore the connection with Cambridge, Harvard, and George Washington with historian Brooke Barbier on an engaging 45-minute walking tour of the significant historic sites along Tory Row and nearby Harvard University.

12:30-1:45 pm – Enjoy a group lunch in Cambridge at Henrietta's Table at the Charles Hotel, Cambridge. Menu to be announced.

2-3:30 pm – A guided highlights tour of Mt Auburn Cemetery, a national historic landmark and the first rural, garden cemetery in the United States. The 174-acre cemetery is important both for its historical aspects and for its role as an arboretum. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow is buried there along with Isabella Stewart Gardner, Winslow Homer, and many prominent Boston Brahmins. Please note this tour involves a fair amount of walking.

Brooke Barbier received her PhD in American History from Boston College, researching Boston’s social and cultural life during and after the American Revolution. www.brooke-barbier.com/

3:30 pm – Return to Springfield with an estimated return by 5:30-6 pm.
What to bring: Drink, snack for the bus. Please wear comfortable walking shoes, sun protection and dress in layers as the temperature on the bus and the outdoors can vary. Bottled water is provided on the return to Springfield.

Cost: $154, Members; $180, nonmembers; includes tours, lecture, lunch, bus travel and driver gratuity.