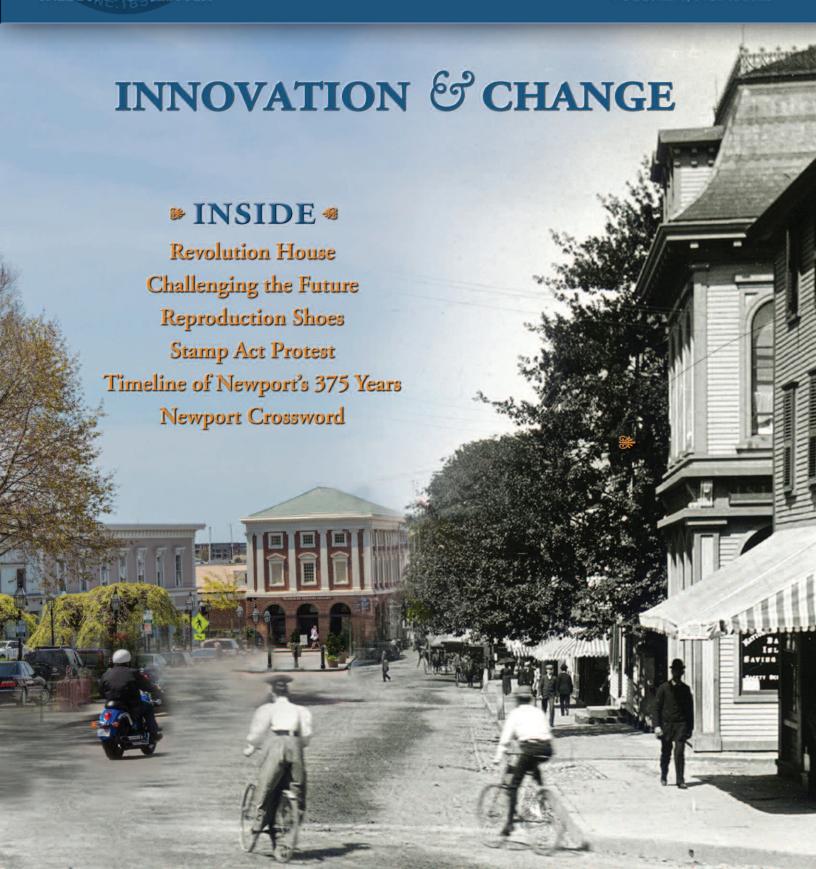
NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Newport History Starts Here.

FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 4. NUMBER 2



2014 FALL EVENTS

EXHIBITS (See page 6 for exhibit information.)

Flowers of the Ocean:
A History of Seaweed Collecting in Newport
Through October 2014; Museum of
Newport History

Past Meets Present: An Exhibit of Composite Photographs Through October 2014; Colony House

PRESENTATIONS

War, Diplomacy and Power in 17th Century New England and Indian Country: Ninigret, the Niantic and Narragansett Sachem Thursday, October 2, 5:30pm; Colony House A lecture with authors David Silverman and Julie Fisher.

Gentility & Consumerism in 18th Century Newport: A Widow's Story Thursday, October 16, 5:30pm; Colony House A lecture with scholar Christina J. Hodge, Ph.D.

At The Point of a Cutlass
Thursday, October 30, 5:30pm; Colony House
A lecture with author Gregory Flemming.

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Monday, December 1, 4-5pm; Colony House
A celebration of the season with live music performance
by Newport String Project.

Newport Historical Society HOURS

Resource Center

82 Touro Street, Newport RI 02840 401-846-0813 | Tuesday - Friday 9:30 to 4:30

Brick Market: Museum and Shop

127 Thames Street, Newport, RI 02840 401-841-8770 | Daily 10 to 5

Properties

For Guided Site Tours see www.NewportHistory.org www.NewportHistoryTours.org

FRONT COVER: Composite photograph by Lew Keen from the NHS exhibit *Past Meets Present*.

INNOVATION & CHANGE

We say Newport is wonderful because it has not changed much, and often tout the fact that we have about three hundred structures still standing that pre-date the Revolution. Visitors love Newport's timeless quality and look to us at the NHS to help them understand and interpret



that. Certainly historical societies are not traditionally epicenters of change. Quite the opposite—we are generally tasked with preserving and protecting, activities which, for the most part, seem to limit change.

But is our mission in fact to be the guardians of a static vision of the past? Preserving the past is much like forecasting the weather: the universe of potentially relevant information is so huge that the practitioner must limit the things to be considered, and the data points deemed relevant define the outcome, for good or

for ill. We are, as I recently heard at a conference on Heritage and Healthy Communities at the University of Massachusetts, defining what we want our futures to be when we make decisions about what to preserve. In fact, we are "curating" our futures by choosing what is important in the past; managing and defining the inevitable change that comes with the passage of time. Which, perhaps, makes historical societies particularly useful to any discussion of managing change. Here in Newport, one could suggest that there is in fact less conflict between studying the past and supporting change, as our history is one of innovation and change, beginning with the earliest settlers who chose to live differently in a new world.

The staff at the Newport Historical Society has been recreating the Society's traditional mission by rethinking how we interpret and what we interpret, how we think of our historic structures and their uses, and how we make our collections and data accessible to the public. Our collections committee is also working to redefine what we collect in this modern and digital age. We are innovating and we are changing as we work to be responsive and relevant in changing times.

We have also begun the work to transform our Headquarters building into a modern and attractive Collections Resource Center, using innovative approaches to egress, climate control and collections storage. Planning is also continuing for *Revolution House* at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House, a new vision for a very old house, and a new way to tell an important and historic story.

Things are changing within the Historical Society as well. Many of us have new titles and new responsibilities, and some valued members of the team are moving on to new adventures. You will see evidence of all of the above in the Newsletter that follows.

- Ruth S. Taylor, *Executive Director*

Revolution House

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House on Broadway has been owned by the Historical Society since the 1920s. Presented over the years as a traditional house museum, the house has been open to visitors who are invited to tour the house and imagine what it was like to live in Newport during the city's earliest times.

The *Revolution House* project will transform the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House into Newport's only museum devoted to the American Revolution. The WLH House is an appropriate venue for this endeavor, as it was the site of activities, and home to individuals, significant to the build-up to and the conduct of the Revolution.



The museum will highlight Newport's contributions to and experience of the era while also stressing the connections among local and international political, cultural and social influences. It will incorporate recent scholarship on the American Revolution, which has added the perspectives of African–Americans, women, the poor, and other groups to more traditional studies of political and military history.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, this interpretation will draw attention to the Newport Historical Society's remarkable collection of Revolutionary artifacts, using these objects to tell local and national stories of the Revolution in a way which will appeal to everyone. *Revolution House* will debut in a limited opening in the fall of 2015.

HISTORY BYTES

Orphaned Gravestones

Many Newport gravestones have been lost to development, theft and vandalism. Stones have been found as far away as Long Island for uses such as shoreline erosion control, patio steps and cesspool covers. Other stones were rescued from destruction by well-intentioned citizens including the three Newport gravestones next to NHS headquarters on Touro Street:

GOVERNORS JOHN AND SAMUEL CRANSTON tablet stone in two sections 1727. Replaced by a full size reproduction at the Common Burying Ground 2003.



ELDER WILLIAM BLISS gravestone 1808. Rescued from Bliss graveyard at Green End Avenue, Middletown, lost to development. William Bliss was a pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House.

SAMUEL AND WAITE CARR tablet stone 1739. Rescued from Goat Island Torpedo Station development. Father and daughter died of small pox on the same day.

Challenging the Future

In 2012 the Newport Historical Society initiated a capital campaign, entitled "Challenging the Future," directed toward three goals which represent the foundation of our envisioned future.

- Development, through modernization of the existing 1915 headquarters building, of a Resource Center for the study, interpretation and understanding of Newport's history.
- Creation of endowed funds to support the functions which are most responsible for providing access to Newport's history for the public: The Curatorial and Education Departments.
- A redevelopment of the Museum Store with a vibrant presence at the Brick Market, including increased retail opportunities.

The first phase of the campaign, the modernization of our Resource Center, is underway; work began the first week in August, in a phased plan.

Phase I includes mostly exterior work like the creation of a new driveway between Touro and Barney Streets, and preparations for the construction of the elevator tower and new entrance. Updated electrical service to the building will also be supplied. We expect to complete this work before the cold weather comes with minimal disruption to the NHS' programs and services.

More extensive work both inside and out will follow, culminating in a modern, highly functioning Resource Center.



Collections will be properly stored and protected, and the building will function effectively for researchers, visitors and staff. There is no doubt that productivity will increase, and that services to researchers and the public will improve along with general collections care, while increases in budget size will be moderate.

A museum-specific climate control consultant (William Wladyka) was hired to work with the project architect (NewPort Architecture's Mohamad Farzan) and his team of engineers to design climate systems for the new building. Wladyka's plan will allow the carrying costs of the new system to be approximately the same as energy costs for heat and light only at the current time, while still providing a protected and stable environment for collections.

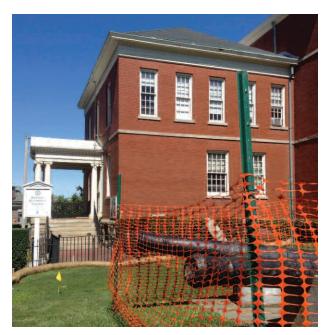
Of course, if you are interested in helping complete this effort, please call the NHS office!

Challenging the Future Campaign Status

Campaign Goals:

| Bricks & Mortar | \$3,000,000 |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Education Department | \$1,000,000 |
| Curatorial Department | \$1,500,000 |
| Total Campaign Goals: | \$5,500,000 |
| Campaign Status: | |
| Gifts & Pledges | \$2,115,500 |
| Total to Raise: | \$3,384,500 |
| Sources: | |
| Foundations | \$1,456,000 |
| Board members | \$496,500 |
| Other individuals | \$161,000 |
| Totals: | \$2,115,500 |





PAGE 4 NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER * PAGE 5

Flowers of the Ocean: A History of Seaweed Collecting in Newport Through October 2014; Museum of Newport History

Flowers of the Ocean is a new exhibit about the historical appeal and process of seaweed specimen collecting. Kate Duffy, 2014 Buchanan/Burnham Fellow at the Newport Historical Society and PhD student at Brown University, served as curator.

The exhibit grew out of Kate's interest in the world of natural history collecting in late 19th-century Newport. Research in the Newport Historical Society collection led her to a box filled with hundreds of dried seaweeds, a vast variety gathered and arranged by different collectors. Some collectors identified their seaweeds, labeling each one with its Latin name. Another collector used algae to decorate an album filled with souvenir photographs of the Old Stone Mill, local beaches, and other Newport scenes.

"Seaweed collecting was a popular hobby in Newport from about 1850 to 1900, especially among women," explains Kate. "Naturalists pulled seaweeds from the briny depths and pressed them on paper. They considered this to be a wholesome and uplifting way to spend free time." By transforming tangles of algae into delicate arrangements, collectors expressed their interest in the natural world and appreciation for its beauty. The algae specimens they gathered became a medium for souvenir crafts and scientific study.



Cover of 'Sea Mosses' album, c. 1875 and examples of seaweed specimens from the NHS collection, c. 1896–1897.

Headturners

This digital exhibit is free to enjoy by visiting: http://j.mp/headturners

The Newport Historical Society is pleased to announce the debut of its latest digital exhibit, Headturners: Expressions of Social Change through Millinery Fashion 1790-1970. Available on the NHS Explore Historic Newport app, this exhibit focuses on a rarely seen subsection of the Society's large costume and textile collection. It explores and illustrates historical connections between cultural and political eras and events, and their effects on millinery fashions.

For centuries women's hats have been essential to the wardrobe and proper dress, conveying information about the wearer's social class, modesty, profession, and activities. Long a mandatory element of a respectable woman's appearance, hats have become sartorial rarities in contemporary culture. In this sampling of millinery objects from the Newport Historical Society's collection, the impact of a variety of social and political events are reflected in the design of each hat.

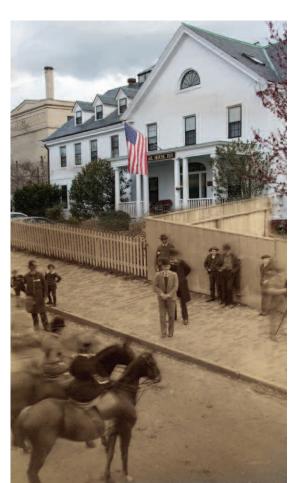


Christian Dior turban.

FOUND | A TURBAN HAT

The 1950s saw the revival of full skirts, which achieved a voluminous quality with tulle petticoats. This Christian Dior turban utilizes the fullness of tulle to create an evening-appropriate accessory. The House of Christian Dior dominated couture in the 1950s and continued to thrive when Yves Saint Laurent took over following Dior's death in 1957.

This hat was rediscovered this summer as our team worked to inventory and rehouse our collection of costume accessories.



A c. 1885 photograph of the Newport Jail House by Clarence Stanhope is paired with a contemporary image of the Jail House Inn by Lew Keen, Marlborough Street.

Past Meets Present: An Exhibit of Composite Photographs Through October 2014; Colony House Presented by The Newport Historical Society & Photographer Lew Keen

With the popularity of social media, it's not surprising that the inspiration for Newport Historical Society's exhibit *Past Meets Present* stemmed from a

digitally altered photograph that "went viral."

"In early April, photographer and supporter of the NHS Lew Keen emailed us an image that united a late 19th-century view of Thames Street with a modern view from the same perspective," Executive Director Ruth Taylor explained. "We posted this on Facebook and within a few hours received an overwhelmingly positive response."

Inspired by the dozens of shares and "likes" the image received, the Historical Society partnered with Keen to present an exhibit of photographs based upon this theme. Using selected historic photographs from the NHS collection with modern shots of the same location, the exhibit of thirteen images opened to an appreciative crowd during this year's Fourth of July festivities at the Colony House on Washington Square.

"As a long-time historic preservationist and a fairly new photographer, I thoroughly enjoyed creating these visions of Newport's historic streetscapes," said Keen. "This project places historic images of Newport in the context of what visitors see and experience today. I hope that *Past Meets Present* enhances our appreciation for Newport's built environment through the overlapping of what has been lost with today's view. Placing images from the past and present in the same frame helps viewers easily identify the locations. And seeing what has been lost in context with what still stands suggests that our role as caretakers of these remarkable treasures has not been without some losses—and encourages us to do better for the future."

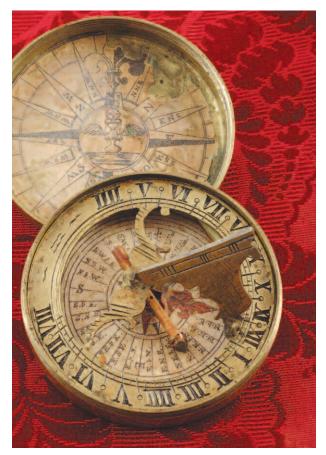
"During this year of Newport's 375th anniversary, *Past Meets Present* is an ideal way to reflect upon Newport's remarkable history," Taylor added.

50 Objects that Shaped Rhode Island History... a Selection Loan Exhibit, Newport Antiques Show 2014

Rhode Island may be a small state, but its influence has been felt the world over. Founded by settlers unlikely to be welcome elsewhere in the colonies, Rhode Island's history of innovation in thought, in work, in artistry, at war, and in leisure illustrates what is possible when peoples from around the globe live and work side by side. The source of the American notion of religious freedom, Rhode Island has also been a cauldron of the American Revolution, the first port of the American Navy, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, an international resort, and so much more.

Rhode Island is a place where rebellious women thrived, where African Americans created businesses, where artists painted, wrote and composed, where intellectuals conversed, and where sportsmen set records. This state has been defined by its relationship to the sea and waterways, its peoples' willingness to argue and even take up arms over ideas; yet their simultaneous tolerance for difference, their spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship, and their continued interest in international engagement. These distinguishing characteristics are not limited to a single period or region; they are threads that can be pulled through time and space.

In exploring the idea of the 50 things that shaped Rhode Island's history, staff at the Rhode Island and Newport Historical Societies had the advantage of both organizations holding extraordinary collections on which to draw. The collections of the two Historical Societies are Rhode Island's history embodied. Look for more of the 50 objects in the months to come.



Roger Williams' compass, brass, 1630–1683. Collections of Rhode Island Historical Society. 1902.3.1



Culture as Catalyst: Catalyzing Culture



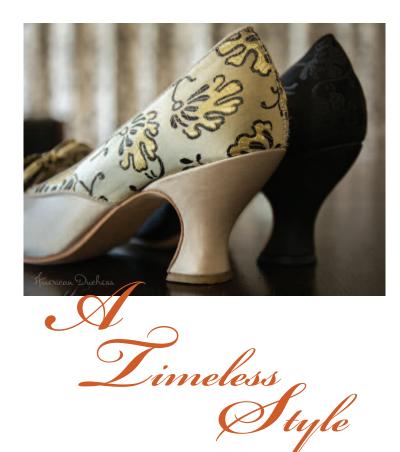
For over a year the executive directors of the Newport Historical Society, the Newport Restoration Foundation, the Redwood Library, the Preservation Society of Newport County, and the Rhode Island Historical Society have been quietly meeting. This work, conducted in a variety of locations, and facilitated by staff and consultants of the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, focused originally on a single question: How can we, working together, all be more successful at telling the story of Newport's history to the broadest possible audience?

The project, called *Culture as Catalyst: Catalyzing Culture* and funded throughout by the van Beuren Charitable Foundation, has completed a year of planning and is now ready to launch three years of programming to explore many possibilities for deeply collaborative work that serves our community, our organizations, and Newport's history.

This project will engage noted, respected practitioners of relevant disciplines to become visiting catalysts to spend time in Newport. Catalysts will be artists, scholars or other specialists who have experience thinking about, practicing and leading innovation. They will work with visiting committees comprised of members of the local community to create a project that relates to Newport's history and heritage and a new way of looking at it, thinking about it, or sharing it with the public. Alternatively, the catalysts may examine existing efforts in the history and heritage sector within the City and work with local practitioners to improve and expand these activities. Throughout the next three years, events which provide for the community a window into the activities of the project will also be scheduled. A web presence will be a large component of the transparency of the project.

At the end of three years, the *Catalyzing Culture* project will culminate in the *Newport Fair* – a grand Newport-wide, multi-format showcase that blends exhibition and exposition in collaboration with local, national and international partners. This event will engage the entire City in a celebration of Newport's history and heritage. We cannot wait.

Catalyzing Culture will launch for the public on September 19th, when the website will become available. We will be linking to the site on www.NewportHistory.org, so stay in touch.



The Newport Historical Society is pleased to announce a partnership with historical footwear company American Duchess, formed to create a pair of women's dress shoes based on a pair of Edwardian shoes in the NHS costume collection.

For the The Seabury shoe, two design concepts are being developed: a dove gray version and a version in black. They will be available for purchase both at the Historical Society's Brick Market Museum & Shop and also online at American-Duchess.com.

"This classic design will be great not only for historic costumers but for everyone," comments NHS Executive Director Ruth Taylor. "We are looking forward to wearing these shoes."

The Seabury design is based on a silk and brocade shoe with leather sole and 2½" French heel in the Society's collection. It made its way to Newport from the Baltimore department store O'Neill & Company sometime between the 1890s and 1925. The Seabury's lines are not only historically accurate but versatile enough to be worn with modern clothing, according to Lauren Stowell, American Duchess owner and creative director. The reproduction shoe will feature a brocade fabric based on the original shoe's brocade and created specifically for this shoe. It will have a leather heel and front for practical durability.

The original owner of the dove gray and seafoam green pump is not known, but she wore a size 6.

COLLECTIONS: ONLINE ACCESS

GLADYS: ONLINE COLLECTIONS DATABASE

For scholars, researchers, and enthusiastic members of the public.

Online catalog of artifacts, photographs and archival collections with keyword and advanced searching, as well as some browsing capabilities. While not all collections items are represented online as yet, more are continuously added as data is updated and verified. There are approximately 7,000 artifacts, photographs, and manuscript items currently online. The database also features a randomizer, which allows for fun and unexpected Pinterest-style browsing of NHS collections.

FINDING AIDS

For serious scholars and researchers.

Completed finding aids for formally arranged archives and manuscript collections. This resource allows users to access finding aids in several formats (either PDF or the web via RIAMCO) and features transcriptions or images of archival material when available.

ARCHIVES AND MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTION INVENTORY For serious scholars and researchers.

A PDF available for download that represents the first step in an ongoing process to provide scholar and researcher access while more formal processing is underway. While this spreadsheet contains many unprocessed or unarranged collections and may contain incomplete information or inaccuracies, it is the first time in the Society's history that a comprehensive manuscript resource has been made available to the public.

NEWPORT HISTORY ONLINE

Free for NHS members or subscribers.

Past issues of the NHS' academic journal, *Newport History*, are available for download through Salve University. Access to this database is a benefit of membership. Year-long subscriptions can also be purchased for \$30. To inquire about subscribing, please call us at (401) 846-0813.

DIGITAL EXHIBITS

For everyone: historians, scholars, history buffs, Newport residents, tourists.

As part of Explore Historic Newport, visitors can view current and past exhibits displayed at the Museum of Newport History. Also available are born-digital exhibits on various Newport related topics, such as the Common Burying Ground Mapping Project, Hurricanes in Newport, and the Consumer Revolution in Newport.

EXPLORE HISTORIC NEWPORT

For everyone: historians, scholars, history buffs, Newport residents, tourists.

This web-based app is accessible with any internet-capable device, including desktop computers. It synthesizes educational content, such as walking tours and other scholarship, with collections items such as historical photographs. The app's GPS enabled interactive map pinpoints nearby historic sites. Developed with founding sponsor, Lila Delman Real Estate. Now you can download this app from the Apple AppStore and Android GooglePlay!

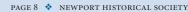
Going Native

Update On the NHS App

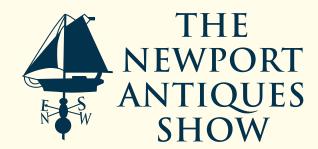
Explore Historic Newport is now available for download. iPhones, iPads andAndroid devices. Visitors and residents alil

devices. Visitors
and residents alike can
download the app from
either Apple's AppStore or Android's
GooglePlay – or continue to
access the app from the web at
www.NewportHistoryApp.com.

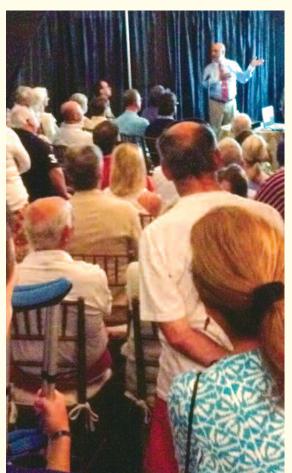
Because the free app is so flexible and accommodating, it is also infinitely expandable. A newer addition is the integration of NHS exhibit content, allowing visitors to learn more about collections items on exhibit as well as the opportunity to virtually visit an exhibit. We have also started generating "born-digital" exhibits, curated by interns, which highlight their area of expertise and our collections. Sites also continue to be added on a routine basis, and soon to be added are oral histories, video, and more exhibit content.Explore Historic Newport replaces the need for museum-loaned devices. Visitors can access tour information from their own personal devices. As a supplement to our guided tours, users of the app can curate their own experience of historic Newport, from anywhere in the world, any time of day or night. The history of Newport is now accessible as never before.







To Benefit the Newport Historical Society and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County



Everyone who experiences the Newport Antiques Show understands that it is an opportunity to see and shop for remarkable antiques. But it is also a fundraiser that is vital to the Newport community. As the country's only high end antiques show with two beneficiaries—the Newport Historical Society and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County—this Show has raised a cumulative total of over \$1.6 million in support of Newport's past and Newport's future.

This year we welcomed American Realty Capital/RCS Capital as Presenting Sponsor, and Franklin & Company Design Associates as the Gala Preview Party Sponsor. Their generous participation helped to make this Show a great success.

The Newport Antiques Show has grown, first and foremost, from the dynamism, drive and commitment of Show Chair Anne Hamilton. Personally involved with all aspects of the planning and preparation for the Show since the very beginning, each year she takes the helm with extraordinary energy and leadership. We are also fortunate to have our Show Manager Diana Bittel, Facilities Manager, Ralph DiSaia, and many faithful supporters and volunteers.

SHOW EVENTS

- "Big History, Little State: 350 Years in 50 Objects" presented by Kirsten Hammerstrom, Director of Collections, RI Historical Society and Loan Exhibit curator.
- * "Fruits of Our Labor: Industry, Immigration and Rhode Island's Road to Riches" by C. Morgan Grefe, Executive Director, RI Historical Society.
- "Vintage Cars: A Meditation on Collecting" with Nicholas Schorsch, CEO of Presenting Sponsor American Realty Capital.







Newport Antiques Show 2014

PRESENTING SPONSOR

American Realty Capital-RCS Capital

GALA PREVIEW PARTY SPONSOR

Franklin & Company Design Associates

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Brittain Bardes Norey Dotterer Cullen Mrs. Peter D. Kiernan III

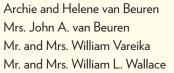
FOUNDERS

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Mr. and Mrs. David B. Ford

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Gewirz













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EDUCATION

Buchanan/Burnham Internship Program

This annual program, now in its 12th year, provides an extraordinary opportunity to undergraduate and graduate students interested in a career in public history. Every year, thanks to the generosity of the Buchanan and Burnham families, the selected interns lead public history tours and conduct research in the NHS archives and collections. In the process, they learn about Newport's important role in American history and experience working in the field of public

history and museums. A significant part of the internship is a research project which culminates in a report, presentation or a product such as a collections finding aid, research paper, public program or exhibit.

2014 Buchanan/Burnham Fellows:

KATHRINNE DUFFY

Ph.D. Candidate, American Studies Program, Brown University.

Projects: Exhibit titled "Flowers of the Ocean: A History of Seaweed Collecting in Newport" which opened August 6, 2014 at the Museum of Newport History; and a paper titled "From

Virtuous Visions to Rats and Rubbish: The Fall of the Newport Natural History Society, 1883-1915."

DONALD JOHNSON

Ph.D. Candidate, Northwestern University Department of History.

Projects: interpretive plan for the Newport Historical Society's *Revolution House* project at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House which will incorporate Newport's Revolutionary heritage with scholarship on the founding era. He is also in the final stages of writing a doctoral dissertation on military occupation during the American Revolution, "Occupied America: Everyday Experiences and the Failure of the Imperial Authority in Revolutionary Cities Under British Rule."

2014 Buchanan/Burnham Interns:

JASMINE SOUZA

Senior in the Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design Department, University of Rhode Island.

Projects: Cataloging project of the NHS' textile collections, including researching and dating, conservation work, and



(Clockwise from above): 2014 interns, Kathrinne Duffy, Donald Johnson and Margaret Stack and Jasmine Souza.

rehousing items; a virtual exhibit, NewportHistoryApp.com, featuring hats from the NHS costume collection titled "Headturners: Expressions of Social Change through Millinery Fashion 1790-1970."

MARGARET STACK

Graduate student, University of Connecticut History Department.

Projects: interpretive plan for the Newport Historical Society's *Revolution House* project at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House which will present Newport's Revolutionary heritage with scholarship on the founding era; two essays for *History Bytes*, "Education & Midshipmen in the Antebellum Navy," and "A Month in the Life: Midshipman Charles Hunter on the USS Potomac, November 1832".

PROFILE

A P

Douglas L. Newhouse *Board of Directors*

Doug Newhouse and his wife Holly Bannister joined the Newport community in 2008 when they purchased Seaweed, a 1860/1903 Colonial Revival home designed by Horace Trumbauer which overlooks Bailey's Beach. Since arriving in Newport, Doug and Holly have been active on many fronts including the complete restoration of Seaweed, for



which they have recently been awarded the Doris Duke Historic Preservation Award by the Newport Restoration Foundation

Doug has served on the Board of Directors of the Newport Historical Society since 2011. Since joining the board he has been actively involved in the development of *Explore Newport History*, an award-winning app that allows users to take self-guided tours of Newport using their hand held device as a guide. Doug has also been engaged in the Newport Historical Society's Capital Campaign, and this past summer Doug and Holly opened their home to host the Newport Antiques Show dealer and patron party. Doug believes that the Historical Society's mission of preserving the important documents and artifacts of Newport's past and communicating Newport's history is important not only for Newporters, but also for those that are interested in American history. According to Doug, "...organizations

like the Newport Historical Society provide the critical links from our past to the future."

In other philanthropic endeavors, Doug is a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Yacht Restoration School (IYRS) in Newport, is past Chairman of the Westport, Connecticut-based Greens Farms Academy Investment Committee on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and is a past board member of the Pequot Library in Southport, Connecticut. Doug has also served as a member of the Undergraduate Business School Council at Cornell University.

Professionally, Doug is a Managing Partner and co-Founder of Sterling Investment Partners of Westport, Connecticut. Sterling is a twenty-five-year-old leading private equity investment company focused on building midsized companies. Doug has served on many corporate boards of both public and private companies. He has an MBA from the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business and a BS from Cornell University.

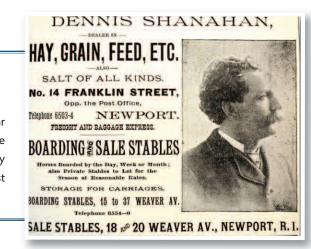
Recreationally, Doug is a passionate skier with a home in Stratton Mountain, Vermont. He is a committed, but not particularly good, golfer. Doug is also a sailor and enjoys racing and cruising around Narragansett Bay.

Doug and Holly have two adult children. Olivia, who was recently married at Seaweed in Newport, lives in Boston and is a graduate of Georgetown University. She works in marketing for Digitas. Nick lives in New York, having just graduated from Brown University. He works at The Lodge, a leading sound design firm.

HISTORY BYTES

Horses and Carriages

Before the introduction of the automobile with taxi stands and rent-a-car agencies, getting around Newport required some planning. If you did not have your own stable and carriage house, transportation was available at several livery and boarding stables around town, to be rented by the day or season. The largest concentration was in the Freebody Park area, behind the Ocean House Hotel.



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PROFILE

Elizabeth Sulock

Manager of Public Outreach & Living History



Elizabeth has worked at the Newport Historical Society since 2008. Her responsibilities include managing the Historical Society's marketing efforts, promoting the annual Newport Antiques Show and serving as a firstperson interpreter for school programs and seasonal events. She is currently editing the Society's forthcoming book

Newport History Bytes: Fifty Fast Facts, and most recently created and organized the August 2014 living history

program reenacting the 1765 Stamp Act Riot in Newport (highlighted on page 15).

In her spare time, Elizabeth researches and recreates authentic 18th- and early 19th-century costumes for use at the NHS and for her participation at living history events throughout New England. (Elizabeth and her daughter Aubrey are shown on the steps of the Colony House in typical dress, c. 1780; Lew Keen, photographer.) She maintains a blog highlighting her costuming research and experience. Outside of the history field, Elizabeth has written for media outlets such as Newport Life Magazine, Main Line Today Magazine and NFL Films. She also teaches ballet and tap at the Gladding School of Dance. Elizabeth has a B.A. and M.A. in English.

THIRD ANNUAL

Craft Beer Fest

This year's Newport Craft Beer Festival again drew hundreds of visitors to the Great Friends Meeting House on a cool Saturday in April. The historic structure, built in 1699, provides an ideal setting for the event; Newporters—many Quakers among them—have been brewing beer since long before the Revolutionary War. In two sessions (noon to 3 and 4 to 7pm), guests had the opportunity to meet the brewers and try a wide variety of craft beers from around the country.

Aquidneck Island's early settlers brought with them the European and English tradition of drinking beer, due—in part—to the presence of

pollutants in the water supply. And for those who think that consuming beer would be antithetical to the stern teachings of the Society of Friends, the Newport Quaker brewer Giles Hosier (1725-1806) had a thriving business and rented cellar space in the Colony House to store his beer. Hosier Street today runs between the Colony House and The Fastnet Pub.

Proceeds from this annual event benefit the Rhode Island Brewers Guild and Newport Historical Society. Our thanks to our friends at Pour Judgement Bar & Grill and Newport Storm Brewery, and we look forward to next year.



A REENACTMENT:

at Rhode-Island in New-England, (where no stamped Paper is to be had) in the Presence of us, 22020 Cele Nevvport Stamp Act Protest

A LIVING HISTORY EVENT

Costumed interpreters brought to life Newport's 1765 Protest of the Stamp Act in the heart of the Old Quarter, Washington Square. The living history event provided an exciting glimpse of life in colonial Newport at one of the events that sparked the American Revolution, with costumed citizens, sailors, fine ladies and gentlemen, loyalists and patriots alike.

The event kicked off with a group of unhappy "citizens" gathered in the Square to reenact the Protest of 1765. Costumed participants created and hung in effigy a figure of the loyalist Martin Howard, and then led the 18thcentury Newporters in a loud and passionate expression of their discontent with the King of England.

Following the protest, the rabble rousers regrouped at the 1739 Colony House, the location of the original protest, for a Stamp Act Party in the spirit of the 18th-century. Partygoers enjoyed "beer and strong cheese," just as original protest participants were served, provided by Newport Storm Brewery and Narragansett Creamery. Loyalists were welcome too, and enjoyed tea from Empire Tea + Coffee.

Our thanks to all who participated and especially to event sponsors: The Newport Mercury, Newport Storm, Narragansett Creamery, Empire Coffee + Tea, and the Newport Restoration Foundation.



Sealed and delivered





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Timeline of Newport History

In honor of Newport's 375th Anniversary on April 28, 2014 our staff created a timeline of some of the most significant events that have shaped Newport. Here begins a brief version of the complete timeline that first appeared in the *Newport Daily News*.

April 29, 1639

The Newport Compact, which formed the basis of the settlement in Newport, was signed by John Clarke, William Coddington, William Dyer, Nicholas Easton, John Coggeshall, William Brenton, Henry Bull, Jeremy Clarke, and Thomas Hazard. These early settlers envisioned a community where religion did not define government and government did not define religion.

1640

Baptist Church established by Dr. John Clarke. Clarke played a leading role in the affairs of the colony. He would return to England as the Colony's agent, and work for 13 years to obtain a Royal Charter for the colony from King Charles II in 1663.

1657-58

Members of the Society of Friends (Quakers) and Jewish settlers arrive in Newport. Newport's philosophy of toleration provided an attractive, safe haven for many religious groups that had been marginalized and persecuted in other communities.

June 1, 1660

Mary Dyer, an original Newport settler, is hanged on Boston Common for her Quaker beliefs.

July 8, 1663

The Rhode Island Royal Charter granted by King Charles II. The Charter united Newport and Providence and established freedom of religion and Liberty of Conscience. For the first time, a European monarch officially approved a policy of religious tolerance. With the Charter of 1663, Rhode Island's experiment in religious freedom was not only legal, but its colonial government was more democratic than that of any other American colony.

1726

James and Ann Franklin move to Newport with an elm wood press. Within a year of moving to Newport, James started printing sermons, treatises, and other documents for locals.

The Franklin Press was in operation in Newport from 1726 – 1815 and can be seen on display at the Museum of Newport History in the Brick Market.

May 4, 1776

The General Assembly of the Colony of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations meets at the Colony House and declares that it will no longer obey King George III.

December 8, 1776

A large British military force under General Henry Clinton arrives in Newport. The British command had decided that Newport would be an ideal home port for its Navy as the mother country went about quelling the rebellion. Narragansett Bay would provide both ample harbor and ready access to the Atlantic, where they could try to cut off sea routes between New England Colonial strongholds and the other colonies. An army of more than 6,000 troops, around half of them Hessians and other German soldiers hired out by their lords to support Britain, occupied Newport and the rest of Aquidneck Island for almost three years.

July 10, 1780

French forces, under the leadership of General Rochambeau, arrive in Newport. Not only did a sizeable French fleet anchor in Newport Harbor, but around 6,000 soldiers came ashore at what is now King Park at the far end of the harbor.

June 1781

General Rochambeau and his troops leave
Newport to march south where they plan to
engage the British in Battle. The Battle of
Yorktown in Virginia will take place September
28. 1781. This decisive victory for the Americans
with the help of the French would be the last
major battle fought during the American
Revolution.

December 4, 1812

The HMS Macedonian is brought as a prize of war into Newport Harbor. She was captured by the USS United States, commanded by Stephen Decatur during a War of 1812 naval battle.

Decatur's grandfather's house can still be seen on Charles Street.

April 1828

Father Robert Woodley, on behalf of the Boston diocese, purchases a small school house on Barney Street for the purpose of converting into Newport's first Catholic Church.

1855

The Sea-Girt Hotel is built by George T.

Downing, a prominent African-American entrepreneur engaged in the restaurant and hotel business. Downing was one of 26 men who would donate funds towards the purchase of Touro Park. When fire destroyed the hotel in 1860, Downing built a commercial real estate block on the same site, the first store block designed for summer business.

April 1865

John Wilkes Booth is a guest at the Aquidneck House Hotel in Newport shortly before the assassination of President Lincoln in Washington, D.C. The hotel was located on the west side of Corne Street, between Mill and Pelham Streets.

1869

The United States Naval Torpedo Station is founded on Goat Island as a Navy experimental station for the development of torpedoes and torpedo equipment, explosives, and electrical equipment.

1871

Julia Ward Howe, famed abolitionist and author of the "Battle Hymn of the Republic", and her friend Thomas Wentworth Higginson, writer, abolitionist, and commander of a black regiment in the Civil War, establish the Town and Country Club. The Club's activities were meant as an

intellectual antidote to frivolous summer pursuits, in the words of Julia, "lest the Newport season should entirely evaporate into the shallow pursuit of amusement."

October 6, 1884

Naval War College is established on Coaster's Harbor Island in the building previously occupied by the Newport Asylum for the Poor. Commodore Stephen B. Luce was the college's first president.

1900

Newport is no longer a capital. Since the Colonial Era, legislature sessions had rotated between colony (and later state) houses in Providence, Newport, Bristol, East Greenwich and Kingston. In 1854 all but Newport and Providence were eliminated. In 1900 Article Amendment XI made Providence the sole capital.

May 25, 1908

The first game of the six team City Baseball League is played at Basin Field, later Cardines Field. The Torpedo Station Clerks won the first championship. Complaints of broken windows led the railroad to shut the league down at the end of the year.

October 25, 1911

Idawalley Zorada Lewis (Ida), the keeper of Lime Rock Light, dies. Her first recorded rescue was in 1858, but her most famous was in March of 1869 when she saved two soldiers from the icy waters of the harbor. During her 39 years on Lime Rock, Ida is credited with saving 18 lives, although unofficial reports suggest the number may have been as high as 36.

1930

America's Cup Races move to Newport from New York.

December 6, 1933

Billy Goode obtains Newport Liquor license
No. 1 the day after Prohibition is repealed.
Billy Goode's Bar was in operation until 2013.

1954

The Newport Jazz Festival featuring the likes of Billie Holiday, debuts at the Newport Casino.

July 25, 1965

Bob Dylan goes electric at the Newport Folk Festival.

June 28, 1969

The Newport Bridge opens.

1969 - 1970

The revitalization and development of downtown is under way; the West side of Thames Street is demolished to make way for America's Cup Avenue.

June 23, 1989

Oil tanker World Prodigy ran aground at Brenton Reef spilling 420,000 gallons into Narragansett Bay.

September 5, 2013

Claiborne Pell Elementary School opens, marking the end of neighborhood elementary schools in Newport.

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Brick Market Museum & Shop



▼ he Museum & Shop had a very exciting and eventful year. The Museum saw an increase in visitation and in revenue. Temporary exhibits were well received and enhanced the museum experience for both new and returning visitors. In June, the dedication ceremony naming Washington Square a National Historic Site in Journalism was held at the Museum, and a plaque commemorating this honor was installed on the exterior of the Brick Market building.

This year the shop explored the opportunities in online sales. We began with a small presence in the Amazon Marketplace, and quickly realized there was interest! Continued success on Amazon led to a decision to launch a web store on the Amazon platform and www.ShopNewportHistory.com opened on June of this year.

We expect to continue to grow the web store; a marketing plan has been put into place using Google and a thoughtful social media presence to direct customers to www.shopnewporthistory.com. The ability to continue to engage visitors and customers after they leave the Museum & Shop is a wonderful enhancement to the visitor experience.

There will also be some much needed capital improvements made at the Museum & Shop. Watch for improved lighting and signage in and around the shop and Brick Market building.

Another enhancement to the visitor experience this year will be the addition of an in-store kiosk. The kiosk will serve multiple functions:

- ❖ Virtual Tour: This will allow disabled visitors to engage with Brick Market Museum's exhibits. This is essential because there is not an accessible way to the second floor, which houses the Museum.
- ❖ In-store ShopNewportHistory.com portal: This will allow visitors to make purchases and ship them directly to home.
- Self-service for donated admissions to the Museum
- Portal for access to our digital resources such as History Bytes, Found!, NHS blogs, Gladys, and The Digital Ark

We are excited about the new initiatives at the Brick Market Museum & Shop and hope that you will visit soon!

127 Thames Street, Newport, RI (401) 841-8770

Hours: Open Daily 10 - 5 Admission: Free for members. For nonmembers, suggested donation of \$4/adult and \$2/child over age 5.



The Franklin Press, Washington Square:

Winner of the 2014 Historic Site in Journalism Award

Since 1942, the Society of Professional Journalists has honored the people and places that have played important roles in the history of American journalism. In 2013, the Newport Historical Society and The Newport Mercury together nominated the Franklin Press, housed in the NHS Brick Market Museum of Newport History on Washington Square for the 2013 Historic Sites in Journalism Award.

The colonial-era printing press, which is often referred to as the Franklin Press, printed one of the longest running newspapers in American history, the Newport Mercury. The Franklin Press was made in Britain in the middle of the 17th century. It is one of the few colonial-era printing presses surviving in the United States. Long a part of Newport's history, the press is of national significance as well. It played a vital role in the dissemination of news from

near and far during a time of revolutionary change. For over a century, the press was a source of information and also of livelihood for the families who operated it, printing newspapers, almanacs, broadsides, laws, and currency.

It was first owned of Benjamin Franklin.

and operated by James Franklin, Jr., brother On June 19, 1758, the

first issue of The Newport Mercury came off the press. When James died, his widow Ann Smith Franklin continued to publish what is possibly the oldest continuously published newspaper in the United States.

When Ann died, her son-in-law Samuel Hall took over. He, in turn, sold the business to Solomon Southwick, an outspoken opponent of the British crown, in 1768. Local lore has it that Southwick buried the printing press in a garden off Third Street in the Point section of Newport to keep it out of British hands during the occupation, and when he returned to Newport after the war, unearthed the press and continued his printing operation.

On June 19, 2014 the official Awards ceremony took place in the portico of the Museum of Newport History. An exterior plaque was dedicated to distinguish the Franklin Press and Washington Square as a National Historic Site in Journalism.



IN MEMORIAM

NUALA O'DONNELL PELL

died 13 April 2014. Mrs. Pell was the widow of Senator Claiborne Pell and a long time member and supporter of the Newport Historical Society. A regular



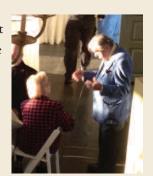
attendee of NHS lectures and events, she was gracious, engaged, and deeply concerned about education and the value of the humanities. Among her many other acts of

service, Mrs. Pell was a trustee of Salve Regina and Roger Williams Universities as well as the University of Rhode Island and the Redwood Library.

HAROLD WINTHROP SANDS

died 28 May 2014. He was a member of the NHS Board of Directors 2001-2006 and served on the Finance Committee. He had a particular interest in English history and genealogy, and was an active member of the Society of Colonial Wars and The First Families of Rhode Island. Mr. Sands attended the October 2013

Spectacle of Toleration event at the Colony House celebrating new scholarship and is shown here chatting with another guest.





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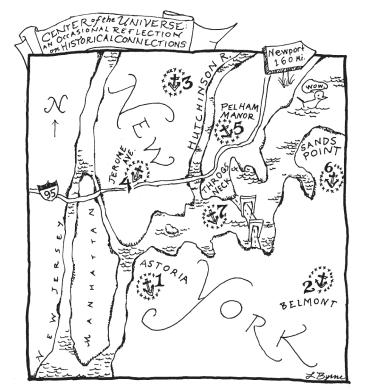


Hammett's Bookstore

Hammett's Bookstore operated from 1846-1898 at the corner of Thames Street and Cotton Court. It rivaled the collection of the Redwood Library and the Newport Public Library with thousands of

books, some dating to the mid 17th-century. It served as a bookstore with a circulating library, as well as a printing and stationery establishment.

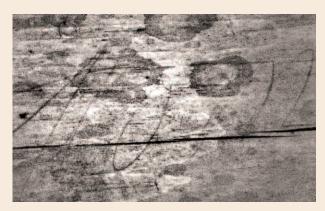
Charles E. Hammett, Jr. (1823-1902) was a civic leader and one of the original incorporators of the Newport Historical Society in 1854. Hammett's store is now occupied by the J. D. Convenience Store at 202 Thames Street.



Newport, Rhode Island and New York Place Names

- 1. Astoria Queens: Developed by John Jacob Astor and son William B. Astor, owner of "Beechwood."
- 2. Belmont and Belmont Race Track: Founded by August Belmont of "By The Sea" and son Perry Belmont of "Belcourt."
- 3. Hutchinson River: Named for Portsmouth settler and Antinomian leader Anne Marbury Hutchinson, who was killed at Pelham Bay Park 1643.
- 4. Jerome Avenue, the Bronx: Named for Leonard Jerome, owner of Ruggles Avenue cottage in 1863 and grandfather of Winston Churchill.
- 5. Pelham Manor: Named for Sir John Pell (b. 1643), second Lord of Pelham Manor and ancestor of Newport Pells.
- 6. Sand's Point: Purchased by James Sands (b. 1652) of Portsmouth and Block Island.
- 7. Throg's Neck: Purchased by Providence founder John Throckmorton in 1643.

FOUND | A MAKER'S MARK



Since research began for the NHS exhibit *A Writer's Dozen*, attempts had been made to find cabinetmakers' signatures or makers' marks on the 18th-century desks in the collection. On one in particular, a desk that family history suggested

was made by Thomas Goddard, son of the famous Newport furniture maker John Goddard, faint traces of graphite were found on the top surface of the desk's bottom board, but they defied decipherment.

Several NHS staff members enjoyed hearing Eric Groenning's talk at the Redwood Library's recent seminar on Rhode Island furniture makers regarding the use of infrared photography as a means to bring out faint traces of writing on furniture. Following the event, Adjunct Curator Adams Taylor borrowed such a camera from staff at the Preservation Society and was rewarded with a faint but legible image that revealed the name "Thom." This is strong evidence to confirm the desk's maker. Stay tuned for more discoveries.

The Poison Plot

A LECTURE BY ELAINE FORMAN CRANE

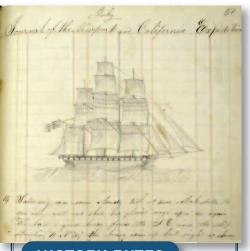


ometime during the month of November 1738, Mary Arnold attempted to poison her husband Benedict (grandson of Governor Benedict Arnold and grandfather to the infamous Revolutionary War General Benedict Arnold). Fearing for his life, he petitioned the Rhode Island General Assembly for a divorce. Benedict Arnold's plea contained not only an accusation of attempted murder, but of adultery, sexually transmitted disease, theft, fraud, and various other social improprieties. According to Benedict, Mary's ongoing abuse "...Scandalises his Family Relatives & Acquaintance in an Intolerable manner." The Arnolds were the talk of the town.

Elaine Forman Crane, Professor of History at Fordham University, presented highlights of her current research on April 17, 2014 at the Colony House. She emphasized that the unique details of Mary's betrayal are replayed often enough among her contemporaries as to not be unusual. "As a sidebar to the study of 'traditional' marriage and the family in early America," Dr. Crane explains, "the fine points of the Arnold story show that marriages were not necessarily made in heaven—or even were heavenly inspired. And although the seamy side of their union may be an extraordinary example of marital disarray in early America, the Arnolds' failings provide insights into a range of social fault lines that extend beyond their domestic circle: adultery, illegitimacy, poison, abuse of husbands by wives, female dependency, drugs and druggists, attempted crimes."

Adding to the story is the age gap between Mary and Benedict: he was nearly two decades older than Mary and by the time Benedict was in his mid-50s, Mary sought the company of other, presumably younger men. Nevertheless, as Benedict's wife Mary was her husband's first line of defense when illness overtook him. As his caretaker, she prepared medicinal remedies, and if Mary knew which cures would restore Benedict to health, she also seemed to have knowledge of poisons might better suit her purpose. The Arnold marriage—and divorce—raises intriguing questions about the complex relationships between men and women in early America.

Dr. Crane's books include Killed Strangely: The Death of Rebecca Cornell (Cornell University Press, 2002), Ebb Tide in New England: Women, Seaports, and Social Change 1630-1800 (Northeastern University Press, 1998), and A Dependent People: Newport, Rhode Island in the Revolutionary Era (Fordham University Press, 1985). She is a member of the Newport Historical Society's Leadership Council.



HISTORY BYTES

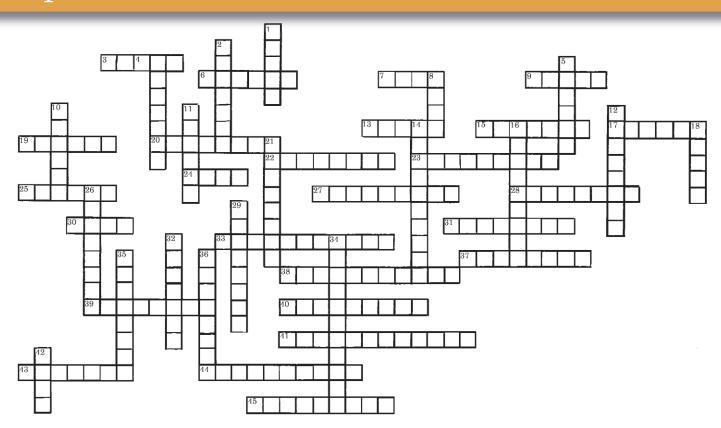
Newport and the California Gold Rush

In 1848 Gold Rush fever was spreading throughout the continent and adventurers were flocking to California to find their fortunes. On 15 February 1849, seventy-five Newporters set sail on the old whaler Audley Clarke under the command of Capt. Ayrault Wanton Dennis. After a quick stop at the Cape Verde Islands for supplies, the ship pulled into San Francisco Bay after a 198 day voyage around Cape Horn. Audley Clarke was immediately deserted and floundered in litigation concerning ownership and customs matters. Most passengers stayed out west or embarked on voyages to Australia's Gold Rush. Shown here are a sketch made of the Audley Clarke and a mysterious gold nugget from the NHS collections.



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Newport Crossword



ACROSS

- 3 Color of the tavern's horse
- 6 Trinity Church, Colony House and Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House all have him in common
- The HMS Endeavour's final exploration
- 9 Neighborhood with many colonial-era homes
- 13 He opened trade with Japan
- 15 The name on the marquee
- 17 Newport's Declaration of Independence signer
- 19 Author of "A Letter from a Gentleman at Halifax to his Friend in Rhode Island"
- 20 Weapons from Goat Island
- 22 One half of the famed furniture making families
- 23 3.5 miles of beauty
- 24 One of the first woman to surf competitively
- This league is the oldest continually operating amateur baseball league in the United States
- Founder of the Newport Jazz Festival 27
- 28 Mansions row
- 30 Six Terms and a bridge
- 31 Quaint term for not-so-quaint homes
- Was never a slave trading site, despite local lore
- Somewhere to get popcorn, peanuts and Cracker 37 lack
- 38 One of RIs former statehouses
- 39 Newport clock maker
- 40 Modeled after the Grand Trianon, the garden retreat of French kings at Versailles
- 41 An iconic mystery
- 43 Newport's early newspaper
- 44 Local character: Timmy the
- 45 Established on July 4, 1799

DOWN

- Architect and preservationist and authority on Newport's colonial architecture
- Quahog in a halfshell
- "Undaunted by ____ we'll die or be free"
- This hotel got its name through a community contest
- Newport's largest military presence
- Thank him for Ochre Lodge, Wakehurst, and Crossways
- II Washington Square used to be
- 12 Oliver Hazard Perry Belmont's residence
- 14 He commanded the French auxiliary army when they landed in Newport on July 11, 1780
- 16 This operation took place on the streets
- 18 Sail away
- 21 Cause to riot 1765
- Dylan went
- Touro Synagogue, Redwood Library and the Brick Market all have him in common
- 32 The Society of Friends
- 34 The only state with two unique words in its name
- Where to get an Awful Awful, as the locals say
- 36 It applies to both folk and jazz
- 42 Famed portrait painter

For answers see **NewportHistory.org** "News" tab, click on "What's Happening" and look for Newport Crossword.

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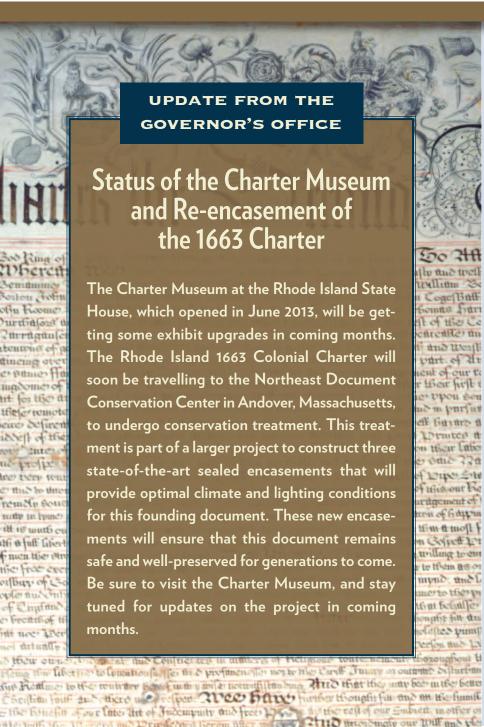
Elise Petrarca

Jenna Teachout

Transitions

Archivist Stacie Parillo came to the NHS in 2011 to assist in the important project of acquiring real intellectual control of our collections and the data associated with them. Hired originally to staff the "Lost and Found" project, she quickly became an essential member of the team, and our go-to person for all digital initiatives. Stacie is leaving us to take a dynamic position working with digital resources at the Providence Public Library. She will stay on as a consultant to keep her projects here moving forward, and will be joining the NHS Collections Committee.

Editor James Yarnall and designer Jane Carey have been producing the Journal Newport History for over a decade, and have been essential in providing our members with a regular dose of scholarship about Newport History. Both are retiring, which leaves us with some big shoes to fill!



HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO COLLECT AND PRESERVE THE ARTIFACTS, PHOTOGRAPHS, DOCUMENTS, PUBLICATIONS AND GENEALOGICAL RECORDS THAT RELATE TO THE HISTORY OF NEWPORT COUNTY; TO MAKE THESE MATERIALS READILY AVAILABLE FOR BOTH RESEARCH AND ENJOYMENT; AND TO ACT AS A RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC ABOUT THE HISTORY OF NEWPORT COUNTY SO THAT KNOWLEDGE OF THE PAST MAY CONTRIBUTE TO A FULLER UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRESENT.

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