## NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# History Starts Here

**SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER** 

**VOLUME 7** 



INSIDE

Celebrating Scholarship • Innovative Partnerships: New History Space Programs

Summer Events • Work on the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

### Director's Note

s part of its service to the community at large, the Newport Historical Society allows me to spend some time serving as Chair of the Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission. As part of these responsibilities, I recently led the effort to find and hire a new State Historic Preservation Officer, as Edward Sanderson retires after 40 years.

The Commision, appointed by the Governor, is comprised of professionals from all over the state whose work and expertise reflect a range of activities that relate to historic preservation and heritage. We are archeologists and landscape designers, architects and architectural historians, developers and museologists. An historic preservation office is mandated, and partially funded by the federal government for each state and federally recognized tribe in the nation. Backed up by an office of hard-working professional staff, the commission considers a range of issues and activities related to the documentation and protection of the State's historic resources and its cultural heritage.

This work has particular resonance for Rhode Island, as we are rich with historic resources, perhaps more so than any other state in the nation. From the earliest 17th century surviving structures, through the golden age of the colonial period and the American Revolution, to the relics of industrialization which dot our entire landscape, to the great homes created during the wealthy 19th century in Newport, Providence and elsewhere, Rhode Island represents much of American history left on the landscape in a small place.

Here at the NHS, we have been exploring the changing historic landscape of our city in the "Mapping the Newport Experience" project with Visiting Scholar John Tschirch. In this study, we are tracking both the development of the urban fabric over nearly 400 years, but also its survival, and changing attitudes about the historic landscape of the City. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, earlier buildings were regularly adapted and reused. By the early 20th century, the oldest part of the city was considered romantic and anachronistic, but still, many buildings remained in use. Starting in the 1920s, the "ancient supernumerary buildings" began to be removed towards the goal of developing a modern, thriving city. By today's historic preservation standards, numerous great old structures and streetscapes were destroyed.

While we often express a great deal of pride in our history, what have not been completely obvious are the myriad ways that this surviving historic fabric represents an economic asset for Rhode Island. Sure, in the most obvious sense, it attracts tourism, and that is essential to our economy. But an historic sense of place also contributes to community well-being in ways that may be more important,



PHOTO: ANDREA HANSEN

more resilient and longer lasting than simply providing entertainment for visitors.

Many studies, including the most recent local one developed by the Preservation Society and Preserve Rhode Island (preserveri.org), point out that preserved historic buildings, landscapes and viewsheds make a place more desirable for life and work. This has tremendous economic value – it is one big reason why great numbers of students from our cohort of wonderful universities choose to stay here with their skills and talents, why entrepreneurs who can work anywhere settle here, and why companies, large and small, may seek to relocate here (many other things being equal). The issue, of course, is to support 21st century development and infrastructure while also protecting our historic resources, and this is the challenge of the Commission today.

In June, the new leader for the RIHPHC office and the Commission will continue the 40 years of foundational work by outgoing SHPO Edward Sanderson. In coming here, Paul Loether is an embodiment of the value of our history. Most recently the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, DC, Paul will likely be the country's most skilled and qualified State Historic Preservation Officer, right here in Rhode Island. Paul is joining us because of the diversity and strength of our historic resources, and because he thinks that, by working with the development community and the Governor's office, he can help Rhode Island become a model of forward-looking historic preservation. In a state which often took the lead in religious tolerance, revolutionary fervor, industrialization and leisure activities across our history, this is an appropriate and important way we can continue to lead.

- Ruth S. Taylor, *Executive Director* 

#### CAMPAIGN NEWS

### Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust



In 2017 the Newport Historical Society announced that the Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust approved a \$1 million 1:1 matching challenge grant for our endowment. This is the largest grant ever received by the Newport Historical Society to date. The Society is pleased to report that the goal is more than 60% complete. There is only \$380,000 left to raise to complete the challenge!

In 2007 the Society's endowment was at \$2.5 million. When the campaign is complete and all pledges have been received, it is projected that the endowment will be at \$6 million. This will ensure that proper staffing levels can be maintained to support not only the work making the Society's collections, research, and programming available to the public, as well as new initiatives for an active and current history community in Newport County.

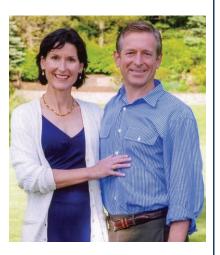
Completing the Alletta Morris McBean
Charitable Trust's challenge can
be accomplished with your help.
If you are interested in safeguarding
the future of the work being done
at the Newport Historical Society
please email Ruth Taylor at
rtaylor@newporthistory.org today.

#### **BOARD MEMBER PROFILE**

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## Dwight Sipprelle

Dwight is currently CEO of Sipprelle Capital Advisors, a family investment office. From 2001 to 2008, he was the founder and CEO of ARX, a global \$1.5 billion investment firm, and previously spent 16 years at



Morgan Stanley as a managing director and founder of the Global High Yield Department, for many years the leading global underwriter and trader of below investment grade debt.

Dwight graduated from Harvard Business School as a Baker Scholar in 1984 and received his B.A. from Williams College in 1980, graduating cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa. Born in California, he is the son of American diplomats. He grew up in Colombia, Sweden, Turkey, Venezuela and Austria, which gave him an early perspective and appreciation for the extraordinary history of the United States and Newport, R.I., where his family has early colonial roots.

Dwight is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the Manuscript Society, the Preservation Society of Newport County and the Naval War College Foundation and serves on the boards of the Newport Historical Society and the Aquidneck Land Trust. He lives in the New York metropolitan area and is married to Susan, an award-winning documentary film maker. The couple has five children and two grandchildren.



# Write Your Way to Hamilton ESSAY CONTEST

Thank you to everyone who participated in the "Write Your Way to Hamilton Essay Contest." Using the theme, Big Ideas for a Changing World, the Newport Historical Society asked 10th grade Rhode Island students to write about what is happening in their community that has the capacity to change Rhode Island or the world. This year we received approximately 100 entries!

The responses are a snapshot of what young people are observing, worrying about, and thinking regarding their futures. The essays address issues that might have been torn from the headlines: safe food and the environment, clean energy, sexual consent, education, mental health, the drug crisis, guns, automation and coding, diversity and the recognition of minority contributions to our shared American heritage. This year in particular, some students suggested that simply by paying more attention to the ideas and concerns of young people, we might all change the world for the better.

Participants, drawn from each Rhode Island County, and sponsoring teachers gathered for a reception in their honor on Monday, April 23 at the Colony House in Newport, Rl. Winners traveled to New York on May 12th, 2018 to see *Hamilton, An American Musical*.

The winning essays were compellingly argued, addressed a problem, and identified a solution that was innovative, potentially effective, and connected to our Rhode Island communities. Each is among the best that was submitted on the topic chosen.

# **Essay Contest Participants** and Winners (in blue):

Andrew Ackroyd Chariho High School

Jasmine Aldazabal Middletown High School

Sophie Amore Toll Gate High School

Codi Anderson North Smithfield High School

Olivia Banister Middletown High School

Lily Belka Middletown High School Matthew Bergeron North Smithfield High School

Thomas Bertsch Westerly High School

Alexandra Boutelle North Smithfield High School

Ireland Boyden Middletown High School

Alexia Brandao North Smithfield High School

Naiara Camilo Middletown High School

Leslie Campbell Middletown High School Josh Carufel North Smithfield High School

Autumn Casey North Smithfield High School

Katherine Cawley Middletown High School

Rachael Ceres Middletown High School

Dreyden Cianci Chariho High School

Bailey Clark Middletown High School

Ryan Clarke Middletown High School

Jennifer Cohen North Smithfield High School

Nicole Connell North Smithfield High School

### Ethan Corriveau North Smithfield High School

Zu Zu Crane Narragansett High School

Alyssa Culipher Middletown High School

### llaria D'Andrea Narragansett High School

Elizabeth Dagesse North Smithfield High School

Mia Delacruz Middletown High School

Olivia Diebold South Kingstown High School

Trinity DiNunzio Middletown High School

Erin Donovan Middletown High School

Lauren Drapeau North Smithfield High School

Cole Dubois North Smithfield High School

Lindsay Dumont North Smithfield High School Michael Either North Smithfield High School

Elsa Eliasson Rogers High School

Ahmed Elhariri Middletown High School

Tim Ferron Smithfield High School

### Amy Flynn Middletown High School

Melody Fontaine North Smithfield High School

Julie Forster Middletown High School

Nicholas Gamache North Smithfield High School

### Eytan Goldstein Barrington High School

Claudia Gomes Classical High School

Michael Graves Toll Gate High School

Desiree Gray Middletown High School

Lexi Hartley Middletown High School

Jessica Holcomb Middletown High School

Marin Holden Middletown High Scool

Emma Kalif Middletown High School

Rose Ellen Kane Middletown High School

Quinn Keene-Connole Middletown High School

Ryan Kerr Middletown High School

Freddie Killian Middletown High School

Jaden Kinney Middletown High School Brianna Krue Middletown High School

Nathan Lamoureux North Smithfield High School

Kate Lapierre North Smithfield High School

Michael Lavallee North Smithfield High School

### Alexander Lavoie Coventry High School

Jack Leys Middletown High School

Emily Loughlin Middletown High School

Sudiksha Mallick Barrington High School

### Phoebe Maranjian Classical High School

Michele Mariano North Smithfield High School

Cailin Martin Rogers High School

Nathan Masi North Smithfield High School

Colin McCabe Rogers High School

Regan McEnroe Middletown High School

Erika Noel Middletown High School

Emma Phillips North Smithfield High School

Myna Pina Middletown High School

Benjamin Prather Middletown High School

Jack Puccetti North Smithfield High School

Ayrin Ramirez Central High School

Jack Regan Middletown High School

Hannah Robinson Middletown High School Chris Rucker Middletown High School

Delaney Salvja Middletown High School

### Elana Sheinkopf Barrington High School

George Shaver Middletown High School

Connor Silvia Middletown High School

Sarah Sirois Middletown High School

Megan Skinner North Smithfield High School

Andrew Skirzenski Middletown High School

Jordan Smith Middletown High School

Kevin Smith Middletown High School

Ella Solimene Middletown High School

### Daniel Sullivan Middletown High School

### Kallie Urbach Narragansett High School

Maddison Vail Middletown High School

Savannah Van Sidenner Middletown High School

Aldrec Viera Dones North Smithfield High School

### Abigail Votta North Smithfield High School

Mikayla Whitney North Smithfield High School

Madison Wilkes North Smithfield High School

Sarah Wilme Portsmouth High School

Laurea Wright Classical High School History Space

The Newport Historical Society's **History Space** initiative, performed in partnership with the Rhode Island Historical Society, supports the field of public history through education and demonstration. 2018 saw a record number of unique events. Programs ranged from living history reenactments, traditional crafts and other forms of costumed interpretation, and seminars that assist practitioners of public history and inform the public about topics and issues in the field.

ABOVE: The Colony House is bustling with visitors during the Colonial Career Fair.



History Space has presented the following events at the NHS:

February 15, 2018

Meet an 18th Century Doctor: A Living History Talk

with Dr. Hunter

First person historic interpreter Seán O'Brien, portraying 18th century doctor William Hunter, recreated aspects of the first anatomical and surgical lectures that took place in the American colonies in the location where they first occurred, the Newport Colony House.

February 24, 2018

Colonial Career Fair

Costumed interpreters represented various occupations that would have been present in this 18th century seaport.

March 23, 2018

Myth, Memory, History and Heritage

During this panel talk four experts in the field discussed issues around family myths, improving historical literacy, and how members of a large and diverse public perceive the past. This event featured the Executive Directors of both the Rhode Island Historical Society and Newport Historical Society took part, with others, at the Colony House.

May 19, 2018

18th Century House Joiner and Planemaking Demonstration

Woodworker and historic interpreter Dan Lacroix will demonstrated and discussed the labor-intensive process of crafting interior woodwork.





LEFT TOP: Michele Gabrielson discussed printing.

LEFT BELOW: Andrew Teixeira interpreting 18th century furniture makers.



### And at the Rhode Island Historical Society in Providence:

March 6, 2018 in Providence and May 3, 2018 in Newport Undressing History: Women's Fashions and Unmentionables from the 19th Century This hour-long talk with historical costumer Carrie Midura explored women's clothing and undergarments from the early and late Victorian eras.

April 19, 2018

After Dark: Browns, Bad Boys, and Boudoirs

This living history tour of the John Brown House in Providence explored the tantalizing home life of the Brown family while delving into 21+ topics rarely discussed at house museums.

June 2, 2018

What Cheer Day: Life After the "Gaspee" Affair

Two dozen costumed interpreters discussed opposing viewpoints and illustrate the growing tension in the colony of Rhode Island after the British customs schooner HMS *Gaspee* ran aground and was burned in June 1772 in Narragansett Bay.

The NHS is pleased to welcome the Redwood Library as a new History Space partner. The organizations are partnering to present a living history event featuring 18th century life at the Redwood in November 2018, details forthcoming.



ABOVE: The cast of "After Dark: Browns, Bad Boys, and Boudoirs" and historic interpreter Matthew Mees portraying John Brown during "After Dark."
PHOTOS COURTESY OF RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Myth, Memory, History and Heritage

On Friday, March 23rd, four people with very different training, interests and perspectives, but who all are in the business of talking about history to the public, gathered at Newport's Colony House to join the Newport and Rhode Island Historical Societies in a History Space program — Myth, Memory, History and Heritage, a panel discussion focused on the issues public historians face when trying to make history understandable and useful to a broad public audience.

How do we learn about and understand the past? Historians have a way of doing so – but as individuals, history is only one lens through which we try to access the past. Our sense of heritage, our memories and the repeated memories of our families, and the stories that we tell and are told – some fairly called myths – are all fuel for us as individuals.

But are they all equal weight? All evaluated the same way? What role should history, and the work of historians, play in our public examination of the past? And, for those of us who manage history museums, historical sites, and other history-based public endeavors, how do we approach the very important job of talking to the public about history? What are our goals? To give people facts? To encourage them to "think like historians?" To examine their myths and memories? What can we do to help people navigate these interesting times?

The panelists were:

**Akeia Benard,** Anthropologist, archeologist and ethno-historian, Curator of Social History at the New Bedford Whaling Museum.

**Morgan Grefe,** Historian and public historian, Executive Director of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

**Jim Ludes,** Historian, public policy scholar and journalist, Executive Director of the Pell Center for International Relations and Public Policy and Assistant Professor of History at Salve Regina University.

**Jason Steinhauer,** Public Historian and originator of the discipline of history communication, Director of the Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest at Villanova University.

The conversation was both theoretical and specific, and focused on the following issues and challenges of public history:

- Bringing historical data and interpretation to the public in clear, digestible packages, and often with limited face-time.
- Meeting the public where they are, including the other ways of knowing and thinking about the past that



audiences bring to our museums, sites and activities. And the expectation that history will be presented as narrative, not data.

- The lack of current information in our school textbooks and curricula, which tend to perpetuate out-of-date information and narratives.
- Cultural differences in "knowing" the past, including different ideas about the nature of time.
- Myths about the past and the value of myth, regardless
  of any factual base, in reinforcing cultural norms and
  defining who "we" are. This becomes an issue when
  society is changing, and when facts conflict.
- The transitory nature of memory.
- The complicated understanding that historical interpretation is based on the facts currently known, and to some degree, to the lens of the current time and place through which we all see any given issue. New facts change interpretations, and new times change the way we see things.
- An understanding that the "dominant narrative" of history has been disrupted, with stories of previously marginalized populations introduced and political and cultural differences in interpretation all being presented at the same time.
- The importance, given the above, of talking about how
  we interpret, how we evaluate an interpretation, and how
  to address perspectives and interpretations that appear to
  be based on belief more than analysis.
- The political polarization and politicization of historical narrative that is a part of our intellectual environment now.
- The value of diverse perspectives in a democracy; the danger also of the lack of a shared narrative.

Thanks to all who participated in this event! We hope these conversations continue to make our field vibrant, useful and engaging. Please join the RIHS and NHS, and watch our spaces for more. A video of this event can be seen on our youtube.com page.

## Introducing our **New Visual Identity!**





The Resource Center is home to the Newport Historical Society's main offices, library, special collections reading room, and secure collections storage. NHS collections encompass the five centuries of social and cultural diversity that makes Newport County unique. We invite you to make an appointment to visit the Resource Center and conduct research in our collections.



Newport History Tours offers guided walking and site tours that immerse guests in the past as they walk through preserved historic cityscapes and explore Newport's complex history through contemporary scholarship. The tours blend architecture, social and cultural history in a manner that engages, entertains, and enlightens our guests.



History Space is an intellectual center for programming that supports the practice of public history through the production of high-quality living history programs and events; the fostering of traditional trades and crafts through demonstrations; and programs and seminars that assist practitioners of public history.



The Newport History Museum & Shop in the Brick Market, presents Newport's history through objects, art, and documents. and features an endlessly interesting selection of unique products inspired by Newport history, including a reproduction of Ida Lewis's ring, Caswell-Massey products, and a wide assortment of intriguing books.



Newport Historical Society Events encompass a wide range of programming that chronicle and interpret history for a broad audience; including workshops, lectures, exhibit openings, and signature fundraising events such as the Annual Culinary Dinner and The Newport Show.



## RECENT ACQUISITIONS



### **ELLERY LETTER**

Over the winter, the Newport Historical Society had the opportunity to purchase a page containing draft letters written by William Ellery (1727-1820) during his tenure as a customs collector in Newport following the Revolution. On further inspection, it was discovered that the page was missing from one of several letter books by Ellery already in the NHS collections. The page and book are reunited and currently on display at the NHS Resource Center.

William Ellery was born in Newport in 1727. He is best known as Newport's signer of the Declaration of Independence, replacing Samuel Ward as a representative to the Continental Congress. Ellery went on to be appointed the first customs collector for the port of Newport under the United States Constitution. In one of the letters on this page, he wrote to Oliver Wolcott, the successor to Alexander Hamilton as Secretary of the Treasury. Ellery's correspondence reflects Newport's place in the early republic.

### SAMUEL VERNON CUP

The NHS recently acquired a small silver cup, crafted by Newport silversmith, Samuel Vernon (1683-1737) around 1720. Vernon was active as a silversmith in the early part of the 18th century, up until his death in 1737. His distinctive marking, the initials SV in a heart, can be seen to the right of the cup's handle. Donated by Leone Brownell Fagan, the ownership of the cup can be traced back to the end of the 18th century. Its provenance is detailed through the engraved initials around the bottom rim of the piece.

# SAMUEL HOPKINS COMMUNION SERVICE

Earlier this year, the Newport Historical Society received a donation of a communion set and alms box believed to have been used by Reverend Samuel Hopkins (1721-1803) during his time at the First Congregational Church in Newport. The set was passed down through descendants of Rev. Hopkins until being gifted to NHS by Patricia Davies. The pewter service was crafted by London maker Richard King and was sent to Hopkins by a supporter in London.

During his tenure at the First Congregational Church, Rev. Hopkins was one of the first Congregational ministers to denounce the practice of slavery and openly preach abolitionist views.



Pewter Communion Service owned by Reverend Samuel Hopkins. Gift of Patricia Davies.

### MARY SHRIEVE SAMPLER

Thanks to several wonderful donors, an engaging piece of Newport County's history is now part of our collection. The Newport Historical Society recently purchased a sampler made by Mary Shrieve in 1752.

Shrieve married Benjamin Mumford of South Kingston at Trinity Church in Newport in 1760. Together they had nine children and lived to see the 19th century. They are both buried in the Common Burying Ground in Newport. Her obituary in the Rhode Island Republican noted:

"...During a long and painful illness, never for once was a murmur heard to escape from her lips, but the tranquil resignation waited with pious patience the will of her God. She was a real disciple of Christ, and in her last moments with unshaken zeal, relied upon all sufficient merits for redemption and salvation, and we trust she now inhabits that happy world of spirits where the just souls are made perfect."



Sampler made by Mary Shrieve in 1752.



### IN MEMORIAM

RICHARD M. A. BENSON,

"CHIP," was from a long line of Newport Quakers and artisans. His expertise in photography helped the Newport Historical Society document and preserve its collection of images by Matthew Brady and other early photographers.

RICHARD GROSVENOR served on the Board of Directors of the Newport Historical Society 1967-1970.

He was an accomplished artist who used Newport Historical Society collections to help inspire his watercolors of Aquidneck Island.

He also had a keen interest in the architecture of Dudley Newton and was an instructor for Salve Regina University's Circle of Scholars, promoting our resources with his students.

#### FREDERICK HENRY PRINCE IV

carried on a legacy of philanthropy following in the footsteps of his Prince and Norman family forbearers.

The Society is grateful for continued support from The Prince Foundation and his extended family.

#### JOHN JERMAIN SLOCUM, JR.

served on the Board of Directors of the Newport Historical Society 1978-1985. He was an avid historian, bibliophile and promoter of Newport history. Jerry regularly discussed Newport's history with NHS staff and supported us through his work as a trustee of the Alletta Morris McBean Charitable Trust.



### ON LOAN

# View in Paradise Valley BY EDWARD M. BANNISTER

Edward M. Bannister's "A View in Paradise Valley" will be exhibited this summer at the Gilbert Stuart Birthplace and Museum. The painting will be part of the exhibition, "My Greatest Successes Have Come Through Her; The Artistic Partnership of Edward and Christiana Bannister," on display from June 7th to October 8th, 2018.

Edward M. Bannister was born in New Brunswick, Canada, moving to Boston in 1848. It was there that he met and married his wife Christiana, originally of North Kingston, RI. The Bannisters relocated to Providence in 1870, at the height of Edward's artistic career. Bannister was the first African-American to receive a national award for his painting, "Under the Oaks," at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition in 1876.

Bannister was a leading figure in the Providence artistic community during the second half of the 19th century until his death in 1901. He was known for his landscapes and seascapes, many of which featured the scenery of Aquidneck Island. "View in Paradise Valley" is thought to be of the Paradise Farm area in Middletown, now encompassed by the Norman Bird Sanctuary.



# Restoration Work at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House

Over the last year, restoration work has been performed at the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House. The windows and casings had severe wear and tear due to the harsh New England weather and the windows needed to be restored. To perform this work the Newport Historical Society contracted with Newport Window Restoration, D&D Fence, A-1 Construction, and Campbell Painting.

The work was fully completed in May and the site will be open again this summer. Plans for continued work include a new fence along Spring and Stone Streets.

This work was supported by several local and not-so-local foundations, including:

The Champlin Foundation
The 1772 Foundation
The Gerry Trust
The Sons of the American Revolution
The Newport Restoration Foundation



The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House after all restoration work has been completed.



### Newport Window Restoration performed the following:

- Removed each window
- Placed it into a steam oven twice to safely remove the lead paint
- Removed the glass and stripped the paint from the wood
- Soaked the wood frame in A/B epoxy bath which solidifies the wood
- Repaired the carpentry of the window frames
- Added t a coat of paint onto the frames
- Placed the glass back into frames with a glass resin
- Glazed the glass into the window frames
- Re-installed the windows into restored window sills
- Painted the windows and the exterior wood on the house

### D&D Fence accomplished the following:

Replaced the fence on Broadway

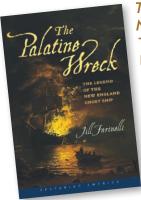
### A-1 Construction completed the following:

- Removed severely deteriorated chimney caps
- Replaced them with copper chimney caps

## **Upcoming Events**

For details and registration, visit
NewportHistory.org or call 401-841-8770

### Lectures



The Palatine Wreck: The Legend of the New England Ghost Ship Thursday, June 7, 2018, 5:30 PM / NHS Resource Center

Author Jill Farinelli will reconstruct the origins of one of New England's most chilling maritime mysteries. The tales became known as the legend of the *Palatine*, the name given to the ship in later years, when its original name had been long forgotten. The flaming apparition was nicknamed the Palatine Light. The eerie phenomenon has been

witnessed by hundreds of people over the centuries and numerous scientific theories have been offered as to its origin. Its continued reappearances, along with the attention of some of nineteenth-century America's most notable writers, has helped keep the legend alive, despite evidence that the vessel, whose actual name was the *Princess Augusta*, was never abandoned, lured ashore, or destroyed by fire. So how did the rumors begin? What really happened to the *Princess Augusta* and the passengers she carried on her final, fatal voyage?





### A Monument to Perseverance: The Struggle to Build the Newport Bridge, 1945-1969

Thursday, June 21, 2018, 5:30 PM / NHS Resource Center

Dr. Jim Ricci will illuminate the struggle to build the Newport Bridge from its original momentum following World War II to its opening in 1969, the technological innovations employed in its construction, and its emergence as a cultural icon.

The Newport Bridge has become a cultural icon to Newport and Rhode Island. Its gothic arches invoke Roebling's Brooklyn Bridge. Its image has become ubiquitous around Newport. It graces virtually every tourist guide and promotional publication about the city. The bridge stands sentinel over Newport's storied environment. During the bridge's opening ceremonies, Governor Frank Licht characterized the bridge as a monument to the perseverance of the proponents and bridge builders who got the job done.



### History Space Events

Life during the French Occupation

Saturday, July 21, 10 AM-2 PM / Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House This program highlights aspects of life in 1780 Newport shortly after French troops arrived to support the Revolutionary War with expert living historians Matthew and Elizabeth Mees.

Fifth Annual Living History Event:
Life during the 1778 Battle of Rhode Island
Saturday, August 25, Noon- 5 PM / Washington Square
Join the Newport Historical Society for its annual summer
reenactment. The 2018 theme features life in Newport in late
summer of 1778, in the weeks surrounding the Battle of Rhode Island.
Meet costumed interpreters portraying roles of specific citizens as
they discuss the challenges they face living in this this pivotal time in
American history.







# JULY 28 & 29, 2018

GALA PREVIEW PARTY FRIDAY, JULY 27

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

### St. George's School Ice Rink 375 Purgatory Road, Middletown, Rhode <u>Island</u>









Each summer since 2007, the St. George's School Ice Rink has been transformed into an upscale shopping venue during the Newport Antiques Show. It's a weekend event that has become a high point for the social season and a not-to-be-missed opportunity for fine art aficionados.

This year the Show will continue its reputation for luxury but it adopts a new name, The Newport Show, to better reflect its diverse roster of over 40 dealers. Attendees can browse for antique furniture, fine art, jewelry and other unique vintage accessories, but they can also anticipate discovering a series of modern objects such as photographs and mid-century art.

As the main fundraiser for its two beneficiaries, the Newport Historical Society and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County, the Show has raised a cumulative total of \$2.2M supporting the city's distinguished past and its historic future.

For the latest updates, follow The Newport Show on Facebook and Instagram at @TheNewportShow and visit TheNewportShow.com.



### Gala Preview Party

Friday, July 27: 6-9 pm Tickets: from \$150

### Show Admission

Saturday, July 28: 10-6 pm Sunday, July 29: 10-4 pm

Tickets: \$15 for one day, or \$20 for a

two-day pass

#### For tickets and more information visit:

TheNewportShow.com 401-846-2669

Free parking. Complimentary shuttle service is available on Saturday and Sunday. The shuttle schedule and location information will be available online in June



Endlessly interesting shopping starts here – your place to buy for those who are hard to shop for.

he Museum of Newport History Shop offers products that reflect various aspects of five centuries of Newport's history. From period inspired jewelry and wax seal pendants to nautical chart scrolls and throw blankets, and everything in between, our merchandise selection is vast, yet has one thing in common – a connection to Newport's past and present.

Books however continue to be a bestseller! Here are some titles that we recommend.

### Letters of Note: An Eclectic Collection of Correspondences Deserving of a Wider Audience Complied by Shaun Usher \$22.95

Filled with images of letters from Queen Elizabeth II, Andy Warhol, Leonardo Da Vinci, and many others, Letters of Note provides an intimate view of some of history's most significant moments and remarkable individuals.





# Food Fights & Culture Wars: A Secret History of Taste By Tom Nealon \$30.00

The influx of coffee, tea, and cocoa to the American colonies stimulated individuals' diets. Cocoa, in particular, played a large role in the diets of those who maintained a kosher table. Beautifully illustrated with images from rare books, Nealon explores the history of taste through various consumables, including chocolate.

### Ask the Past: Pertinent and Impertinent Advice from Yesteryear By Elizabeth P. Archibald \$20.00

Ever wonder how to impress girls at a dance, rid your house of bed bugs, or tell if someone is dead? If so, Archibald has the answers for you and presents them through this easily digestible and wildly fascinating read.

A Compendium Of Useful, Rare And Curious Counsel

Ask the Past
Pertinent And Impertinent Advice From Yesteryear
ELIZABETH PARCHIBALD

Some other engaging titles currently stocked in the Museum of Newport History Shop include:

Bitten by Witch Fever: Wallpaper and Arsenic in the Nineteenth-Century Home by Lucinda Hawksley

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#### **HISTORY BYTES**



### 1958 America's Cup Race

The crews of the Volvo Ocean Race enjoyed a well-deserved break before they departed Fort Adams for the next leg of the around the world race. World class sailors have competed in Newport waters since the first regatta of the New York Yacht Club in 1844. This autographed photo shows designer Olin Stephens and the crew of the Twelve-meter *Columbia* enjoying some down time during the 1958 America's Cup Race.

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Society has collected and preserved five centuries of history and continues to document Newport's unique contribution to our national narrative. The mission of NHS is also to chronicle and interpret this history for a broad audience, so that knowledge of our past will contribute to a deeper understanding of the present and better preparation for the future.

#### STAFF MEMBER PROFILE

Les

### Heather Rockwood



Heather is the latest hire at the Newport Historical Society. She started her museum career at the Steven Phillips Trust House in Salem, Massachusetts as an intern cataloguing art during her graduating year at Salem State College. She then worked at the Bostonian Society, caretakers of the

Old State House, in Boston, Massachusetts. She started in the shop and worked her way up the ranks through Educator in the museum and then into development as the Development Associate. In total she worked at the Bostonian Society for six years and was the Development Associate for three of those years.

Heather is excited to be a part of the Newport Historical Society team and to learn more about Newport and its endlessly interesting history, buildings, and stories.

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