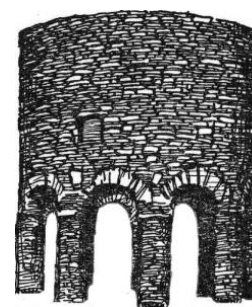


SCENE ON THE HILL

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

NOVEMBER 2007



THE HILL WALKING TOUR

It was almost 20 years ago that The Hill Association received a call from the Director of the Newport Historical Society, asking if the Association was interested in working on a walking tour project for the Hill. A committee was formed of John Hattendorf, Frank Ray and Federico Santi which soon expanded to include Brook Roberts, Brian Pelletier, John Grosvenor and Jim Connors. The group met each Saturday morning for about 2 hours for what seemed endless months. The outcome was the tour as we see it today. The walking tour map, available at the Visitors center and at the Historical Society's headquarters, is included with the newsletter.

The locations were chosen, permissions asked for (by station abutters and City Depart-

ment heads), graphic designer selected, stanchion style chosen, etc. The Historical Society staff selected the building to be depicted on each station (with input from Committee members) and provided the historical information. The Historical Society applied and received funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities plus there were local subsidies from businesses who wished to have their name listed on a particular station. The cost of the installation was in excess of \$175,000.00.

Eight long years from that initial Walking Tour Committee meeting passed before the Tour was established.

Today the Self-Guided Hill Walking Tour is used by thousands of visitors each year. The tour which has been installed for over a decade now



The walking tour stations are located throughout the Hill. Some are in need of repair.

shows wear and is in need of attention. Some stations are damaged and some need to be replaced. The Hill Association Board of Directors welcomes new Historical Society Director Ruth Taylor and at a meeting with her earlier this year has asked the Historical Society that a new oversight committee be established to assist in maintenance and ongoing

Hill Association Annual Meeting

Guest Speaker

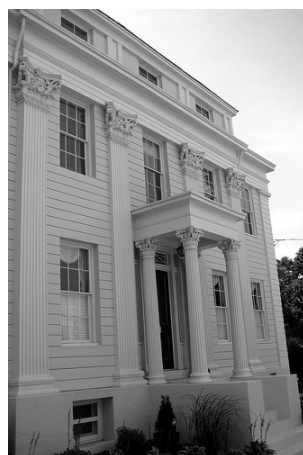
Steven Sitrin, Executive Director

Touro Synagogue Foundation

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

7:30 PM

Levi Gale House, Division & Touro Sts.



Board Members

Peter Goff, President

Bill Farrell, Treasurer

Pam Giroux Secretary

Win Smith

David Wixsted,

Federico Santi

Virginia Baldwin

Virginia Long

Alexandra Allardt

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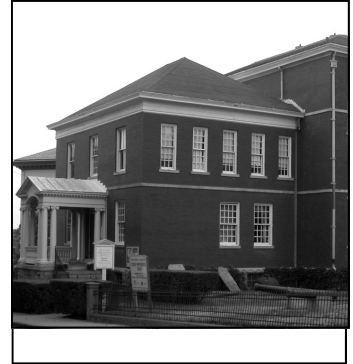


funding of the Tour. The Society has indicated that a committee at this time would be important and it is expected that one will be formed before the end of the year to take stock of the existing signage, prioritize repairs and plan for additional stanchions and the publication of a brochure. If any Hill member wishes to be on this important Guided Walking Tour Committee, they should contact the editor.

The Self-Guided walking tour is one way that the Historical Society educates Newport's visitors

and residents. Combined with a visit to the Museum of Newport History, and perhaps a guided walking tour from the seasonal schedule of offerings, it becomes part of a comprehensive introduction to Newport History. The Historical Society hopes to expand this very successful program into other neighborhoods (with neighborhood association support), and is also working on an audio tour component in collaboration with 1 to 1 Broadcasting of North Kingstown.

VISIT
NEWPORT HISTORICAL
SOCIETY AT
WWW.
NEWPORTHISTORICAL.ORG



A NON-PROFIT NEIGHBOR—BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

DID YOU KNOW
ABOUT THE
NEIGHBORHOOD
POOL
AND FITNESS
PROGRAMS ?

ADULT SWIM
8AM -11AM
M-F

WWW.
BGCNEWPORT.ORG



The mission of the Boys & Girls Club is to inspire and enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. At the Boys & Girls Club we work hard to provide a safe environment filled with caring staff and lots of life-enhancing and character development programs. We have over 1,300 annual members coming either to the Church St. club, or our other sites located in Park Holm/ Tonomy Hill in public housing or Oxbow Farms in Middletown. We also have a summer day camp, Camp Grosvenor, in Saunderstown.

Drop by the Club any afternoon and you'll see a lot of exciting activity. From children swimming in the pool

learning their basic strokes (by the way the pool is open to adult swimmers every morning), to our Technology Labs filled with children doing their homework or learning graphic design or research skills. You'll see a group playing basketball in the gym, another group having a hearty free meal served every day, or possibly some talented teens in the music studio learning how to produce their own music. The music studio is part of the new Teen Center that opened last fall and offers a host of programs for the teens of Newport County. Every day, the Boys & Girls Club is a busy place filled with children and youth ages 5 – 18 picking up new skills, having fun with their fiends, and being given new challenges and opportunities.

It's been a long relationship between our Hill neighbors and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County. Having just celebrated our 50th Anniversary, we know we could not have reached such a milestone without the ongoing support from so many of our neighbors over these many years. This support has allowed us to offer quality afterschool programs and services to thousands of children from Newport and the neighboring towns.

We are invite our neighbors to stop by and see firsthand what's happening at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County!

Joanne M. Hoops,
Executive Director

A CURIOUS STORY ON JOHN STREET

It began in a small town in France near Coulommiers. This was the birthplace of a young man destined to become a noted chef both in New York and Newport. As an accomplished apprentice chef, he had emigrated from France and built a successful career in New York while working in several restaurants in the city of demanding palates.

When he determined it was time to retire from the most active part of his life, he ventured eastward along the coasts and found a quiet town on Aquidneck Island. He settled in Newport with his family that then included a New York Born son.

The son grew up in Newport, attended local schools and was graduated from Brown University and later Columbia University in New York. He had married a Newporter between schools, and eventually went to Detroit to build his career in Hospital management.

Upon his retirement he returned to Newport and after a short time began looking to purchase a home. One house on John Street interested him for several reasons: it was the right size for his family, it was a good location on Historic Hill, and in addition, there was a "curious thing" about the house. He had an acute

memory likened to that house: the room arrangement and a connection to his childhood. He then recalled that as a younger, he had been taken to visit a doctor there and remembered that he had received vaccinations-it was the sharp pain of needle pricks that had mired in his mind.

After moving his family into the house, he set about uncovering its history by sorting through files of the Newport Historical Society. It was thus he learned that, yes indeed, the house had once been the home of a Doctor of Medicine. But why had his father chosen that particular doctor. Remember that the father was born in France, and spoke the native language throughout his career as a Chef de Cuisine. Discovering more about the doctor, the son learned that this earlier landlord, the brandisher of needles and inflictor of needle-sharp pain, had been one Dr. Wheatland who, because of his race, found it difficult to receive complete medical education in the United States at that time. In recourse he went to an advanced school in Switzerland. In that country, French is one of the three prominent languages spoken. Dr. Wheatland learned French. Our check, preferring to speak of personal matters in his native tongue, had uncovered the one doctor in

Newport who spoke French. The connection was made and the curious case solved.

Old West Broadway is now named in Honor of Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland, a former resident of John Street.

Charles F. Weishar



Notable Newporter
Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland,

HILL BLOG

A discussion forum for the Historic Hill neighborhood of Newport provides useful information and a forum to share thought, concerns, announcements and ideas for those wishing to make a positive difference in our neighborhood. We share a vision-historic preservation, neighborhood improvement, park enhancement, and commitment to quality of life. Join us! To subscribe go [HistoricHill-subscribe\(at\)yahoo.com](mailto:HistoricHill-subscribe(at)yahoo.com)

This list is moderated by a Hill Association Board Member. New members are welcome! Please include your name and address when applying for list membership. When posting a message: please when emailing a posting, only email what you want sent to the group. All posted messages are forwarded to the group unless you are advertising a product or your message is too controversial, or has nothing to do with the Hill Area of Newport. Thanks, Federico Santi,

FOR MORE
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Residential homeowner and commercial tax credit information available at WWW.RIHPHC.STATERIUS/CREDITS/HOMEOWNER.PHP

WINDOW RESTORATION WORKSHOP

As we on The Hill know, historic buildings are an integral part of Rhode Island's built environment. Our historic districts define a sense of place, attract tourists, and provide the unique character of our residential community neighborhoods. Historic buildings are a culmination of history and change, and each building holds an intrinsic value of authentic fabric and alterations. Windows in particular are significant and character defining features of historic buildings. They are also the most vulnerable and threatened element of a historic building's fabric. Maintenance challenges, expectations of energy efficiency and changing building uses have put pressure on buildings' authenticity especially towards windows. The expectations all lead to interpretations of what is appropriate and what is not for maintenance, efficiency, repair and replacement.

A Window Restoration Workshop is being held in City Hall Chambers, Saturday, November 3rd from 9 AM to 11:30. Historic preservation trades professionals will provide a hands on demonstration demystifying window restoration and raise awareness in the efficiency, repair and replacement of historic window an features. Information on historic tax credits will also be available. The workshop is sponsored by The Hill Assn., Preserve Rhode Island, Preservation Trades Network, and the Newport Historic District Commission. Homeowner, contractors, architects and other interested are welcome to participate. Continuing Education credits will be given for AIA members. The workshop will cover:

- Methods of repair and restoration
- Weather-stripping windows
- Energy efficiency and energy panels
- Lead safe window operation

Robert Cagnetta, Principal of Heritage Restoration, Inc. and Board Director and Treasurer of Preservation Trades Network will present the Window Restoration Workshop. Rob has been restoring windows for 20 years, using every generation of technology and methods to provide a well functioning, energy efficient historic window system. The discussion will be an open forum for questions, comments and suggestions. Please join us for the workshop.

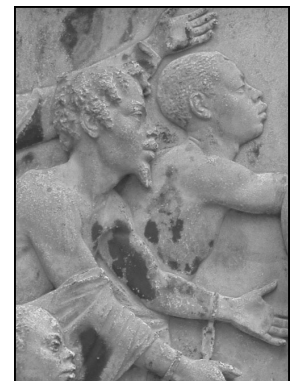
- The anatomy of all historic window types
- Window functions

WINDOW RESTORATION WORKSHOP
 NOV. 3RD
 SATURDAY
 9AM -11:30AM
 CITY HALL CHAMBERS

WHERE IN THE HILL?



CAN YOU FIND THEM?



PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Thanks to Alex Allardt and Ginny Long for their work to revive the Hill newsletter. Hopefully we would like to introduce new members to the Hill, spotlight interesting residents, places and Hill happenings! Publication will depend on the energy of our editors and whether we can develop an ample number of contributors. Anyone interested in working with or contributing to the newsletter are welcome to contact Ginny Long or Alex Allardt

The Board members are always interested to hear from the membership of concerns or problems and work to solve some of these concerns. Of current interest to the Board is the Mary Street parking lot. Although the construction of a parking garage seems to be off the table we would like to see improvements-landscaping, better egress, new rest rooms, a COP office to name a few necessary improvements. We intend to push the council for

these improvements that we think are fiscally possible and will make a significant improvement.

Until the next issue,
Peter Goff
President

October 15, 2007

Helpful Contacts:

Newport City Hall
401.846.9600

COP 3 Officer
Jonathan Cortes
401.845.5862
401.847.0686

City Preservation Planner
Shantia Anderheggen
401.845.5357

Committee help

ADD YOUR INSIGHTS AND HELPING HANDS

Assistance needed

- Newsletter
- Walking Tour Committee
- Hospitality
- Your ideas and participation



THE HILL ASSOCIATION

Join the Hill Association

Family Membership	\$ 20.00
Individual Membership	\$ 10.00
Business Membership	\$ 20.00

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Committee interest or your ideas:

Send to: Hill Assn. P.O. Box 658, Newport, RI 02840

Historic Hill is part of the Newport National Historic Landmark District, one of five recognized historic districts in Newport. It is bounded by Bellevue Ave. and Kay Street on the east, Bull St. onto Marlborough St. on the north, then Thames St. on the west, to Anne Street and up the hill, past Spring onto Golden Hill, and back to Memorial and Bellevue on the south. The Hill Association has been representing neighbors living on Historic Hill for over 30 years. Its elected Board of Directors is a watchdog group protecting the interests of its members within the larger city environments. The Association has raised funds for a variety of neighborhood projects over the years. Planting of trees, installation of park benches, and restoring city monuments are a few examples. They regularly host events supporting a variety of causes and to build community.

THE HILL ASSOCIATION

The HILL ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 658
Newport, Rhode Island 02840
Editor: Alexandra Allardt

Address label

WEB RESOURCES!

WWW.KNOWINGNEWPORT.COM/

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[WWW.RIHPHC.STATER.IUS/CREDITS/
HOMEOWNER.PHP](http://WWW.RIHPHC.STATER.IUS/CREDITS/HOMEOWNER.PHP)

ANIMAL PATROL

Three in the morning and another stray - no doubt up to no good - is cruising Division St. I go on patrol, growl and usually, the intruder slinks off. Since I fooled a human into liberating me from the Potter Prison for Animals - I've cleaned up the street. We used to get about 7 or 8 strangers running the back yards each day. Now this is probably the best animal policed area on the Hill.

My job is not without problems. Those black and white things still root through the yard early morning. I got nailed the first time I tackled

one. In truth I didn't smell too good for a bit. Now I have it down - wait for it to turn and as it sprays that stuff - I leap sideways and come in from the side. I also have a problem with those "Rac" things—the ones with the Lone Ranger masks—they are pretty big and take a bit of growling to get them to run. I chased one up a tree the other morning though!

I've not quite got "Colby" the wiggling dog from next door sorted though. He licks my nose for no reason I can figure. Right now I am trying the enigmatic stare to see if he will lay off.



How to Catch a Tourist

Tourists are easy. I do a cute roll on my back and they come in for the tickle. Then I strike. They usually howl and say bad words.

Time to sign off and go catch a "mousie" to justify my existence to the human feeder.

See you on the street,

BC