

Rhode Island Economic Development Corporation

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Introduction

The town of Newport was settled in 1639, and was incorporated as a city in 1784.

Rhode Island was founded on the basis of complete religious and political freedom, and in Newport, Quakers and Jews found a comfortable haven. By the early 1700s, commerce, combined with a successful farming and fishing industry, brought great wealth to the community. Newport ships probably developed what became the first resort in British North America when, during the 1720s, sea captains brought passengers from the Carolinas and Caribbean who wished to get away from the heat, fever and humidity.

Newport was one of the five most important settlements in the 13 colonies, sharing that distinction with Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Charlestown.

The U.S. Navy had its beginnings in Newport: private and naval shipping combined added to the cosmopolitan atmosphere of the community. The finest craftsmen in furniture and silver worked here before the Revolution. Summer visitors enjoyed an cultured society that has continued to this day.

Newport combines three communities in one-- the settled community, the Navy (which bases its Naval Education and Training Center here), and the "summer colony." All work in harmony to produce and sponsor events of international importance such as opera and music festivals, the opening of the opulent Vanderbilt, Astor, and Belmont mansions to visitors, and outstanding exhibits and performances of the visual and performing arts.

The city claims more standing buildings built before 1830 than any American community. Many are open to visitors, such as the Old Colony House, the nation's second oldest capitol building; the Redwood Library, the oldest library building in continuous use; the Touro Synagogue, America's oldest Jewish house of worship; the armory of the Artillery Company of Newport, the oldest, active military organization in the country; and several examples of Colonial residential architecture such as the Hunter House, which experts agree rates in the nation's top ten.

Contemporary Newport has a variety of museum attractions, including the International Tennis Hall of Fame, the Newport Art Museum, the Museum of Newport History, and replicas of two ships recalling the port's part in the Revolutionary War, the colonial Sloop-of-War Providence. There are windjammer cruises out of the port, excursion boats, harbor and city bus tours, a New York style disco, scuba diving, surfing, spearfishing, summer theatre, golf, pari-mutual jai alai, tennis and fishing along with numerous yacht races for international, national, regional, or Olympic championships. Numerous restaurants serve up the best in Rhode Island seafood, and several are known for their continental cuisine.

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Municipal Government & Officials

Address: City Hall Established in 1639 Fiscal Year Begins: July 1st 43 Broadway **Incorporated** in 1784 Fax: 848-5750 Newport, RI 02840 8:30 am – 4:30 pm Hours: **Location**: Newport County Website: www.cityofnewport.com Form of Government: Council-City Manager Election Date: November, Even Years Council Meetings: Second and Fourth Wednesdays Monthly @ 6:30 p.m. City Manager: James C. Smith 846-9600, Ext. 201 Assessor: Allan Booth, Jr. 846-9600, Ext. 313 Building Inspector: William P. Pascoe 846-9600, Ext. 227 Canvassing Authority Clerk: Rita D. Slom 846-9600, Ext. 318 Clerk, City: Kathleen M. Silvia 846-9600, Ext. 326 Finance Director: Laura Sitrin 846-9600, Ext. 308 Financial Systems Officer: Dorothy Ricci 846-9600, Ext. 312 Housing Auth. Exec. Director: Daniel W. Marvelle, Jr. 847-0185 Human Resources Director: Michael J. Coury 846-9600, Ext. 311 Librarian: Regina Slezak 847-8720 Planning, Zoning, Development & Inspections Director: Paige R. Bronk 846-9600, Ext. 218 Police Chief: Charles F. Golden 847-1282 Probate Judge: Mortimer A. Sullivan 846-9600, Ext. 208 Public Works Director: Julia A. Forgue 846-9600, Ext. 402 Purchasing Agent: Marc P. Agin 846-9600, Ext. 310 Recreation, Parks & Tourism Director: Susan F. Cooper 846-1398 School Superintendent: Mary C. Canole 847-2100 Solicitor, City: Joseph J. Nicholson, Jr. 846-9600, Ext. 210 Water Official: Julia A. Forgue 847-0154 Welfare Regional Supervisor: Thomas Dalton 849-6000 Zoning Official: Guy Weston 846-9600, Ext. 216 **Fire Departments and Fire Districts** Newport Fire Department, 21 West Marlborough Street, Newport, RI 02840 847-2695 Fire Chief: Edward W. McCarthy, Jr. **Municipal Court** City Hall, 43 Broadway, Newport, RI 02840 846-9600, Judge: James F. Hyman Clerk: Merrie Scott Ext. 206 **School Committee** David S. Gordon, Chairperson 51 Ridge Road 02840 Dr. Mary Jane Barry 99 Wellington Avenue 02840 David R. Carlin, Jr. 37 Bedlow Avenue 02840 Hugo J. DeAscentis, Jr. 388 Broadway 02840 Jo Eva Gaines 227 Eustis Avenue 02840 Robert J. Leary 541 Bellevue Avenue 02840 Thomas S. Phelan 75 Old Fort Road 02840 **City Council** Richard C. Sardella, Mayor 35 Wilbur Avenue 02840 James W. Baccari 124 Bliss Road 02840 Kathryn E. Leonard 37 Castle Hill Avenue 02840 Jeanne-Marie Napolitano 34 Malbone Road 02840 Richard E. O'Neill 11 Garfield Street 02840 John J. Trifero 5 Aborn Street 02840 Stephen C. Waluk 19 Middleton Avenue 02840

Population Characteristics

Population: The population count for The City of Newport as of April 1, 2000, was 26,475. This represented a - 6.21% decrease (1,752 persons) from the 1990 population of 28,227.
Rank: In 2000 Newport ranks 13th in population among Rhode Island's 39 cities and towns.
Median Age: In 2000 the median age of the population in Newport was 34.9.
Age Distribution: In 2000, 80.4% or 21,276 persons residing in Newport were 18 years of age or older. 19,429 were 21 and over, 3,926 were 62 and over, and 3,408 were 65 and over.

Population Density: The 2000 population density of Newport is 3,336 persons per square mile of land area. Newport contains 7.94 square miles of land area (20,552,846 Sq. meters) (5,078.76 acres) and 3.54 square miles of water area (9,159,021 square meters) (3,545.59 acres).

Housing Units: The total number of housing units in the The City of Newport as of April 1, 2000, was 13,226. This represented an increase of 132 units from the 13,094 housing units in 1990. Of the 13,226 housing units 1,660 were vacant. 858 of the vacant units were for seasonal of recreational use.

Households: In 2000, there are 11,566 households in Newport with an average size of 2.11 persons. Of these, 5,646 were family households with an average family size of 2.86 persons.

Race:

Total Population of One Race: 25,564 White: 22,272 Black of African American: 2,053 American Indian and Alaska Native: 225 Asian: 353 Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander: 23 Some Other Race: 638 Total Population of two or More Races: 911 Hispanic or Latino: In 2000, 1,467 persons of Hispanic origin resided in Newport. This represented 5.5% of the population.

Census 2000 Demographic Profiles:

General Characteristics	Number	Percent
Total population	26,475	100.0
Male	12,751	48.2
Female	13,724	51.8
Median Age (years)	34.9	(X)
Under 5 years	1,526	5.8
18 years and over	21,276	80.4
65 years and over	3,408	12.9
One race - Total	25,564	96.6
White	22,272	84.1
Black or African American	2,053	7.8
American Indian and Alaska Native	225	0.8
Asian	353	1.3
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	23	0.1
Some other race	638	2.4
Two or more races	911	3.4
Hispanic or Latino (of any race)	1,467	5.5
Average household size	2.11	(X)
Average family size	2.86	(X)
Total housing units	13,226	100.0
Occupied housing units	11,566	87.4
Owner-occupied housing units	4,843	41.9
Renter-occupied housing units	6,723	58.1
Vacant housing units	1,660	12.6
Social Characteristics	Number	Percent
Population 25 years and over	17,428	100.0

High school graduate or higher	15,170	87.0
Bachelor's degree or higher	4,592	41.5
Civilian veterans (civilian population 25 years and older)	2,697	13.7
Disability Status (population 21 to 64 years)	2,314	15.7
Foreign Born	1,485	5.6
Now Married (population 15 years and over)	8,885	40.5
Speak a language other than English at home (5 years and older)	2,383	9.6

Economic Characteristics	Number	Percent
In Labor Force (16 years and older)	15,266	70.1
Mean travel time to work in minutes (16 years and older)	17.7	(X)
Median household income (dollars)	40,669	(X)
Median family income (dollars)	54,116	(X)
Per capita income (dollars)	25,441	(X)
Families below poverty level	745	12.9
Individuals below poverty level	3,520	14.4

Housing Characteristics	Number	Percent
Single-family owner-occupied homes	3,471	100.0
Median value (dollars)	161,700	(X)
Median of selected monthly owner costs	(X)	(X)
With a mortgage	1,362	(X)
Not mortgaged	465	(X)

Newport Employment 2002

NAICS Sectors	Newport			
	Number of Units	Average Employment	Total Wages	
Total, Private & Government:	1,256	17,658 \$	661,040,659	
Total, Private Only:	1,227	12,674	348,395,249	
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing & Hunting				
	6	51	1,907,310	
Mining	0	0	0	
Utilities	*	*	*	
Construction	85	444	15,429,538	
Manufacturing	47	284	8,201,543	
Wholesale Trade	69	210	9,377,093	
Retail Trade	222	1,591	32,590,403	
Transportation & Warehousing	33	262	5,259,195	
Information	22	273	10,276,983	
Finance & Insurance	34	195	7,396,296	
Real Estate & Rental & Leasing	47	223	6,404,425	
Professional & Technical Services	159	808	43,917,315	
Management of Companies & Enterprises			, ,	
	4	26	1,465,567	
Administrative & Waste Services	64	586	18,576,786	
Educational Services	13	538	16,277,187	
Health Care & Social Assistance	87	2,009	66,147,445	
Arts, Entertainment, & Recreation	46		24,354,371	
Accommodation & Food Services	172	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	68,334,762	
Other Services, except Public		- ,		
Administration	114	511	11,814,267	
Unclassified Establishments	2	2	17,270	
Public Administration	29		312,645,410	

Source: Department of Labor and Training, 2002

2004/2005 Municipal Tax Rates (Per \$1,000 of Assessment)

& These communities have homestead exemptions available. (Providence rate with homestead exemption \$23.96)

* These communities also have local Fire district taxes.

These communities may exempt wholesale inventories.

\$ These communities may exempt retail inventories.

Modified: October 5, 2004

Municipality	Tax Ra	ential Prop ates Per \$ at of Full N Assessmen	1,000 Value	Commercial Real Estate Rate Per \$1,000	Motor Vehicle Rate Per \$1,000	Retail & Wholesale Inventory Rate Per \$1,000	Business Personal Property Rate Per \$1,000
Barrington	18.99	100%	2003	18.99	42.00	8.88	18.99
Bristol	16.85	100%	2001	16.85	17.35	6.97	16.85
Burrillville * # \$	12.55	100%	2003	12.55		Not Taxed	12.55
Central Falls &	13.04	100%	2003	34.85	48.65		51.33
Charlestown *	12.59	100%	2001	12.59	13.08		
Coventry * \$	25.63	100%	2001	25.63	18.75	7.75	25.63
Cranston &	23.23	95%	2003	30.80		12.70	34.84
Cumberland * #	16.73	100%	2002	16.73	19.87	10.03	16.73
East Greenwich * # &	17.91	100%	2002	17.91	22.88		
East Providence &	15.20	100%	2003	19.35	37.10		44.59
Exeter #	14.70	100%	2002	14.70		14.00	14.70
Foster	14.11	100%	/2002	14.11	36.95	7.39	14.11
Glocester * #	20.91	100%	2001	20.91	24.37	10.06	28.46
Hopkinton *	17.71	100%	2003	17.71	21.18	8.30	17.71
Jamestown	11.58	100%	2004	11.58	14.42	6.05	11.58
Johnston &	16.40	100%	2003	16.40	41.46		44.11
Lincoln * # &	18.64	100%	2003	22.74	30.66	9.82	26.84
Little Compton	4.53	100%	2003	4.53	13.90	Not Taxed	4.53
Middletown #	15.85	100%	2002	17.90	16.05	6.64	15.85
Narragansett	10.57	100%	2002	15.86	16.46	6.74	15.86
Newport &	13.72	100%	2001	16.30	23.45	9.48	16.30
New Shoreham # \$	3.77	80%	2000	3.77	9.75	Not taxed	3.77
North Kingstown # \$	14.38	100%	2003	14.38	22.04	Not taxed	14.38
North Providence &	28.71	100%	2004	31.02	41.95	17.54	57.50
North Smithfield #	14.26	100%	2003	14.26	37.62	12.43	37.24
Pawtucket	17.25	100%	2003	25.88	53.30	20.83	52.09
Portsmouth #	16.20	100%	2003	16.20	22.50	9.19	16.20
Providence &	29.65	50%	2004	37.00	76.78		49.50
Richmond *	18.83	100%	2003	18.83	22.64	9.10	18.83
Scituate	22.08	50%	2003	27.75	30.20	Not taxed	33.05
Smithfield	13.95	100%	2003	13.95	39.00	15.60	41.00
South Kingstown *	12.58	100%	2003	12.58		7.75	12.58
Tiverton *	14.36	100%	2002	14.36	19.14		14.36
Warren	14.82	100%	2003	14.82	26.00	14.82	7.87
Warwick	14.81	100%	2003	22.22	34.60	17.73	29.62
Westerly *	9.64	100%	2004	9.64		5.05	9.64
West Greenwich	18.50	100%	2001	18.50	19.02	7.79	18.50
West Warwick	17.31	100%	2003	24.80	28.47	11.77	28.17
Woonsocket # &	23.85	55%	2002	38.25	46.58	18.63	46.58

Points of Interest

ABRAHAM RODRIGUES RIVERA HOUSE. Washington Square. In this building (then the residence of Deputy Governor John Gardiner) the Reverend James Manning, in July, 1763, met with interested citizens and first made the design known to establish a college in the English colony of Rhode Island, which eventually became Brown University.

ARTILLERY COMPANY OF NEWPORT, MILITARY MUSEUM. (1836) Armory, 23 Clarke Street. The museum is considered to have one of the most outstanding collections of foreign and domestic militaria to be seen in the United States. Started in 1960, it has grown from a minute collection that today represents over one hundred countries throughout the known world. The command, Rhode Island Militia, chartered in 1741, is the nation's oldest military organization in continuous service under its charter. OPEN: Jun-Sep, Wed-Sun, 10-4 p.m.; Sun, 12 noon-4 p.m. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays. 846-8488.

ASTORS' BEECHWOOD MANSION, THE. (1856) 580 Bellevue Avenue. Summer home of William Backhouse and The Mrs. Astor. Costumed actors re-create the fabulous 1890's lifestyle by remaining in character and treating visitors as if they were personal guests of Mrs. Astor, the undisputed Queen of American society. Living history tours, Murder mystery tours, private parties, teas, luncheons and weddings. OPEN: May 15-Oct 31, daily, 10-5 p.m.; Nov 1-Dec 16, daily, 10-4 p.m. Weekends, Feb-mid-May, 10-4 p.m. 846-3772.

BELCOURT CASTLE. (1894) Bellevue Avenue. Louis XIII-style castle designed by Richard Morris Hunt for Oliver H.P. Belmont and the former Mrs. W.K. Vanderbilt. Exhibits a full-size gold Coronation Coach and the largest collection of antiques and treasures in Newport. Only Newport mansion with owners in residence. OPEN: Jan-Mar, Nov & Dec, Mon-Fri, 10-3 p.m., Sat & Sun, 10-4 p.m.; Apr-mid-Jun & Mid-Sep to Oct, 10-5 p.m. Mid-Jun to Mid-Sep, daily 9-5 p.m. 846-0669.

BOWEN'S WHARF. America's Cup Avenue. Features restored waterfront shopping, restaurant and marine district with cobblestone and brick walkways and a rich blend of 18th, 19th & 20th century history and architecture. OPEN: Summer hours: Mon-Sat, 10-10 p.m.; Sun, 12-7 p.m. Winter hours: Mon-Fri, 10-5:30 p.m.; Sun, 12-5 p.m. 849-2243.

BREAKERS STABLE AND CARRIAGE HOUSE, THE. (1895) Coggeshall Avenue. Built in 1895 by Richard Morris Hunt, this incredible building, fully equipped and staffed, was an extremely important addition to The Breakers. A private collection of various Vanderbilt memorabilia, including the famous coach Venture, is on display. Jul-Sep, weekends, 10-5 p.m. 847-1000.

BREAKERS, THE. (1895) Ochre Point Avenue. Newport's most palatial summer residence was built for Cornelius Vanderbilt by Richard Morris Hunt. (1893-1895) The symmetry of design, opulence and lavish use of alabaster, marble, mosaics, and antique woods rival the magnificent northern Italian Renaissance palaces after which it was modeled. The seventy room mansion overlooks the Atlantic Ocean. Children's cottage. Please check events calendar for special anniversary celebrations. OPEN: Apr 1-Oct 31, 10-5 p.m.; Jul-Labor Day, Sat. until 6 p.m. Decorated for the holidays, Dec, 10-4 p.m.; Nov-Mar, weekends, 10-4 p.m. 847-1000.

BRICK MARKET. (1762) Long Wharf and Thames Street. Designed by Peter Harrison and used initially as a market and granary. Now, the quaint restored area offers a tremendous variety of gift and novelty shops, boutiques, and restaurants.

CASTLE HILL COAST GUARD STATION. (1940) Ocean Drive. Individual visitors and groups welcome by appointment during daylight hours. Contact Officer of the Day at 846-3676.

CHANNING MEMORIAL CHURCH. (1880) 135 Pelham Street. Dedicated to William Ellery Channing, leader of American Unitarianism and anti-Slavery movement. Built largely of porphyritic granite. Stained glass windows by John LaFarge and Donald MacDonald; bronze plaque by Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Church of Julia Ward Howe, author of Battle Hymn of the Republic. Sunday worship, 10 a.m. OPEN: By appt. 846-0643.

CHATEAU-SUR-MER. (c. 1852) Bellevue Avenue. Considered one of America's finest examples of lavish Victorian architecture and design. Built for China trade merchant, William S. Wetmore, it was renovated by Richard Morris Hunt in 1872. Some original furnishings and beautiful trees on the grounds. OPEN: Apr, Sat & Sun, 10-5 p.m.; May 1-Sep 30, daily, 10-5 p.m.; weekends in Oct: Nov-Mar, Sat & Sun, 10-4 p.m. Decorated for the holidays, Dec, 10-4 p.m. 847-1000.

CLIFF WALK. Begins at Memorial Boulevard. Picturesque walk overlooking the Atlantic Ocean and adjoining many famous Newport summer mansions. Designated a National Recreation Trail in 1975. CAUTION: Potentially dangerous in places. 849-8048, 800-326-6030.

CONTINENTAL SLOOP PROVIDENCE. Fort Adams State Park. This 10-gun, 110' topsail sloop is a reproduction of the first ship commissioned by the Continental Navy and the first command of John Paul Jones. On March 4, 1776, the U.S. Marine Corps made its first amphibious landing at New Providence Island in the Bahamas from the Providence. For sailing and visitor information, Box 76, Newport, RI 02840. OPEN: Available for education under sail, dockside events, and group charter. 846-1776.

EDWARD KING HOUSE. (c. 1846) Aquidneck Park, 35 King Street. Designed by Richard Upjohn for Edward King, the mansion is considered one of the finest villas of Italianate design in America. Now a Senior Citizen's Center. OPEN: Year-round, Mon-Fri, 9-4 p.m. Arts and crafts shop. 846-7426.

FORT ADAMS STATE PARK. Harrison Avenue. Magnificent views of Newport Harbor and the East Passage of Narragansett Bay. Seasonal activities for families, all ages, and all facilitiyes are accessible to handicapped and wheelchairs. Historic Fort Adams, the Museum of Yachting, Sail Newport and the Eisenhower House (not open for public tours) are located within the 80 acre park. Open sunrise to sunset. 847-2400.

FRIENDS MEETING HOUSE. (1699) 21 Farewell Street. The oldest religious structure in Newport. Expanded in 1729 and 1807; recently restored. Home of the New England Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends, until 1905. The Quakers were the dominant religious group for the first 100 years of the Colony's history; and as late as 1730, over half of the people in Newport were members of the society. OPEN: By appt. only. Call one week in advance. 846-0813.

HAMMERSMITH FARM. (1887) Harrison Avenue (Ocean Drive). 28-room shingled cottage located on Narragansett Bay and surrounded by acres of beautifully landscaped gardens. Summer home of the Auchincloss family for four generations. Hammersmith was the setting for daughter Jacqueline Bouvier and John F. Kennedy's wedding reception. Often referred to as the Summer White House (1961-63), the mansion is a popular site for wedding receptions, clam bakes, and other functions. OPEN: Guided tours Apr-mid-Nov daily. Memorial Day-Labor Day, extended summer hours. Special Christmas showing, early Dec. 846-7346.

HISTORIC FORT ADAMS AT FT. ADAMS STATE PARK. Open for public tours mid-May through Columbus Day 10 AM – 4 PM. General admission \$5, \$4 for seniors and youth, \$2 under 12 and Free 5 years of age and under. Visit this National Historic Landmark and see behind the walls of this 176 year old significant fortification and view the casemates, officer/enlisted quarters, 3-tiered cannon mounts, listening tunnels and grasstopped parapets with commanding views of the East Passage and Newport Harbor. Great site for family outings with free parking available. Site of the famous Newport Jazz and Folk Festivals, easily reached by water taxi from downtown. 841-0707.

HUNTER HOUSE. (1748) 54 Washington St., near Goat Island Causeway. Exhibition of Newport's original and famous Townsend-Goddard furniture, silver, and portraits of the period. Revolutionary War headquarters of French Admiral de Ternay. Restored 18th century garden. OPEN: Apr, Sat & Sun, 10-5 p.m.; May 1-Sep 30, daily, 10-5 p.m., weekends in October. 847-1000.

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS HALL OF FAME. (1880) 194 Bellevue Avenue. See tennis history come alive at the world's largest tennis museum, housed in historic Newport Casino. Site of first U.S. National Championships in 1881. Museum features displays and memorabilia covering over a century of tennis history. Walk through the halls where great tennis legends are remembered. Tour the grounds and buildings, which have all been restored to their original elegance. The Casino's historic grass courts host major professional tennis tournaments each summer, and are available to the public for play in season. OPEN: Year round 10-5 p.m. 849-3990, 849-6053.

KINGSCOTE. (1839) Bellevue Avenue. Charming Gothic-revival cottage built in 1839 by Richard Upjohn as a summer residence for George Noble Jones of Savannah, Georgia. Considered the nation's first summer cottage. House features the celebrated McKim, Mead, and White dining room, added in 1881, with Tiffany glass wall and cork ceiling. Exhibits Townsend-Goddard furniture and outstanding Chinese export paintings and porcelains. OPEN: Apr, Sat & Sun, 10-5 p.m.; May 1-Sep 30, daily, 10-5 p.m.; weekends in Oct. 847-1000.

MARBLE HOUSE. (1892) Bellevue Avenue. Mansion built for William K. Vanderbilt. Louis XIV-period predominates. Building utilizes features of the Grand and Petit Trianons at Versailles. Harold S. Vanderbilt Memorial Room features yachting trophies and memorabilia. Chinese Tea House (1913-1914) on grounds. Tea house open only May-Oct. OPEN: Apr-Oct 31, daily, 10-5 p.m.; Nov-Mar, Sat & Sun, 10-4 p.m. 847-1000.

MUSEUM OF YACHTING, THE. Fort Adams State Park. Housed in a 19th century brick building on the waterfront, the museum chronicles the history of yachting through its displays of photos, paintings, memorabilia, and various vessels. Galleries include: The Mansions & the Yachts; Small Craft Gallery; Hall of Fame for Singlehanded Sailing; America's Cup Gallery. Also featured are special exhibits and in-water displays. OPEN: May 15 - Oct 31, 10-5 p.m. daily. 847-1018.

NAVAL WAR COLLEGE MUSEUM. (1820) 686 Cushing Road E. In Founders Hall, 19th Century Newport Poorhouse (1820-82), original site of the world's first Naval War College (1884), and site of historian Alfred Thayer Mahan's writings of the epochal, The Influence of Sea Power Upon History, 1660-1783, first published in 1890. Exhibits on the history of naval warfare and the naval heritage of Narragansett Bay. Public access through Gate 1 of the Naval Education and Training Center. OPEN: Year-round, Mon-Fri,10-4 p.m.; Jun-Sep, Sat & Sun, 12-4 p.m. Closed holidays. 841-4052, Ext. 1317.

NEWPORT ART MUSEUM AND ART ASSOCIATION. 76 Bellevue Avenue, opposite Touro Park. Founded in 1912 by a group of prominent artists, it is housed in the former Griswold Mansion (1864), designed by Richard Morris Hunt (the architect of many Newport mansions) in the Stick Style, and the Cushing Memorial Gallery (1921). Changing exhibitions of contemporary and historical art of Newport and New England. The museum offers art classes, lectures, tours, performing arts events, and evening musical picnics. OPEN: Sep 12-May 28, Tue-Sat, 10-4 p.m.; Sun, 12-4 p.m. May 29-Sep 10, open daily, 10-5 p.m. 848-8200.

NEWPORT CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH. (1860) Spring and Pelham Streets. Congregation gathered 1695. Decorated by John LaFarge around 1880. OPEN: Memorial Day-Labor Day, Tue & Thu, 10-12 p.m., or by appt. 849-2238.

NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY. 82 Touro Street. Society is a resource center for the study and appreciation of Newport's history. Museum with changing exhibitions of photographs, paintings, Townsend-Goddard furniture, silver and china. Research facilities include library and archival manuscript materials with earliest town records, merchant account books, and important collections in architectural history and photography. Attached is Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House (1729). OPEN: Jun 15-Aug 31, Tue-Sat, 9:30 to 4:30 p.m., but closes Sat at 12 noon rest of year. 846-0813.

OLD COLONY HOUSE. (1739) Washington Square. Nation's second oldest capitol building, used for the General Assembly's Newport sessions until 1900. The first Roman Catholic Masses in Rhode Island were celebrated here, 1780-81, by the Abbe DeGlesnon, French Army chaplain under Count de Rochambeau. The Declaration of Independence was proclaimed from its second floor balcony. Washington, Jefferson, Lafayette, Jackson, Eisenhower, and other distinguished Americans were entertained here. The Rhode Island Building at the "Big E" (Eastern States Exposition, held each fall in Massachusetts) is a replica of this historical landmark. OPEN: By appt. only. 846-2980, 277-6790.

OLD STONE MILL. Touro Park. Much time and effort have been spent to determine the mill's origin. Most popular theory is that it was built by Norsemen before Columbus' voyage; academic theory has it built by a Colonial farmer.

REDWOOD LIBRARY AND ATHENAEUM. (1748-50) 50 Bellevue Avenue. Oldest library building in America. Outstanding collection of 18th and 19th century portraits. OPEN: Mon-Sat, 9:30-5:30 p.m. Call ahead as planned renovation may impact accessibility for both building and paintings. 847-0292.

RHODE ISLAND FISHERMAN AND WHALE MUSUEM, THE. 18 Market Square, Seamen's Church Institute. Explore the hands-on exhibits, pilot a fishing vessel in the replica of a ship's wheelhouse, go on a whale watch without going to sea, eavesdrop on real fisherman over the marine radio and try your hands at knot-tying. An educational museum devoted to increasing awareness of the marine environment. Daily, 10-5 p.m. Closed Wednesdays. 849-1340.

ROSECLIFF. (1902) Bellevue Avenue. Overlooking famous Cliff Walk and Atlantic Ocean. Built for Hermann Oelrichs. Designed by McKim, Mead, and White; modeled after the Grand Trianon at Versailles. Features Newport's largest private ballroom. Presented to Preservation Society of Newport County by Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Monroe of New Orleans. Several movies have been filmed here, including "True Lies" in 1994. OPEN: Apr-Oct 31, daily, 10-5 p.m. 847-1000.

SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY. 100 Ochre Point Avenue. Administration building, Ochre Court (1888-91), designed by Richard Morris Hunt. Visitors are invited to stroll the seaside campus rimmed by the Cliff Walk, view the exteriors of twenty 19th-century buildings, and tour the first floor of Ochre Court. OPEN: Mon-Fri, 9-4 p.m. 847-6650, Ext. 2347.

SAMUEL WHITEHORNE HOUSE. 416 Thames Street. This Federal-period house features the exquisite furniture, silver, and pewter made by Newport's famed artisans from 1740-1840. A garden completes this Federal showcase. OPEN: May-Oct, Tue-Thu, by appt. with 24-hour notice; Fri, 1-4 p.m.; Sat, Sun, Mon, and holidays, no appt. necessary, 10-4 p.m. 847-2448, 849-7300, 849-7301.

SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST MEETING HOUSE. 82 Touro Street. Adjacent to Newport Historical Society Museum. Built in 1729, possibly by Richard Munday, the Meeting House is the oldest of its faith in America and contains a beautiful pulpit and William Claggett clock. OPEN: Call for hours and appts. 846-0813.

St. MARY'S CHURCH. Spring Street. Oldest Roman Catholic parish in Rhode Island, established April 8, 1828. Location of wedding of Jacqueline Bouvier to John Fitzgerald Kennedy, September 12, 1953. OPEN: Mon-Fri, 7:00-11:30 a.m. Closed holidays. 847-0475.

THE ELMS. (1901) Bellevue Avenue. Magnificent estate of the late E.J. Berwind, Philadelphia coal magnate. Designed by famous Philadelphia architect Horace Trumbauer and modeled after the early 18th century Chateau of Asnieres near Paris. Formal sunken garden designed by French landscape architect, Jacques Greber. Decorated for Christmas in December. OPEN: Apr, Sat & Sun, 10-4 p.m.; May 1-Oct 31, daily 10-5 p.m.; Nov-Mar, Sat-Sun, 10-4 p.m. 847-1000.

TOURO SYNAGOGUE. (1763) 85 Touro Street. Oldest synagogue on North American continent. Designed by Peter Harrison. Symbol of religious freedom throughout the world. Oldest torah in North America on display. George Washington letter, 1790. Services in summer, Fri, 7 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.; rest of year, Fri, 6 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m. Summer- daily, subject to daily conditions. OPEN: May-June, Mon-Thu 1-3 p.m. Late Jun-Labor Day, Sun-Thu, 10-5 p.m.; Fri, 10-3 p.m. Sep-Oct. 15, Mon-Thu 1-3 p.m. Other times, Sun, 1-3 p.m., and by appt. 847-4794.

TRINITY CHURCH. (1725-26) Queen Anne Square, Spring and Church Streets. Parish founded 1698. Washington worshipped here in Pew 81. One of the finest structures of its kind in America. Features only three-tiered, wine glass pulpit in America. Organ tested by Handel before sent from England by philosopher Bishop George Berkeley. Queen Elizabeth II and the Archbishop of Canterbury visited in 1976. Tiffany stained glass windows. \$3 million rehabilitation completed in 1987 to original specifications. The church has been in use since 1726. OPEN: May, daily, 1-4 p.m.; Jun 15-Labor Day, 10-4 p.m.; Sep 8-Apr 30, 10-1 p.m.; Sun worship (Episcopal), 8 & 11 a.m. (summer, 8 & 10 a.m.). 846-0660.

WANTON-LYMAN-HAZARD HOUSE. (1675) 17 Broadway near Washington Square. Oldest restored house in Newport. Home of Colonial governors, Tories, patriots, Supreme Court Justices, and site of the Stamp Act riot of 1765. A tour of the house illustrates the exciting history of Colonial and revolutionary America, as seen through the daily life of individual Newporters. Colonial herb garden. OPEN: Call for hours and appt. 846-0813.

WHITE HORSE TAVERN. (1673) corner of Marlborough and Farewell Streets. Oldest continuously operating tavern in America. Open: Daily for lunch & dinner. Closed Tuesday for lunch. 849-3600.