

10 Historical & Cultural Resources



“The basic purpose of preservation is not to arrest time but to mediate sensitively with the forces of change. It is to understand the present as a product of the past and a modifier of the future.”

John Lawrence, Dean, School of Architecture, Tulane University

Along with its extraordinary natural resources, Newport's historic, architectural, and maritime resources are the City's greatest assets in shaping a vision for the future. The City recognizes that the preservation of our cultural heritage protects the unique character of Newport and provides important environmental, economic, and educational benefits to the community.

Newport's physical landscape is the product of over 375 years of residential and commercial interaction. From its origins as a community in 1639 as a bustling colonial seaport, to its present day situation as a fashionable seaside vacation spot, Newport's character has been influenced by its proximity to Narragansett Bay. Throughout the City's history, Newport harbor has remained a focal point of growth and change and a central part of Newport's economic and cultural activities. Impending sea level rise and climate change will impact of the evolution of Newport's historic and cultural resources going forward for the next generation of Newporters.

The City's urban character reflects distinctive periods in Newport's historical and cultural development. The variety and quality of representative architectural styles distinguishes Newport as a unique model for preservation efforts. The colonial town rests comfortably beside the Victorian resort, while the twentieth century has integrated its own unique mark into Newport's urban landscape.

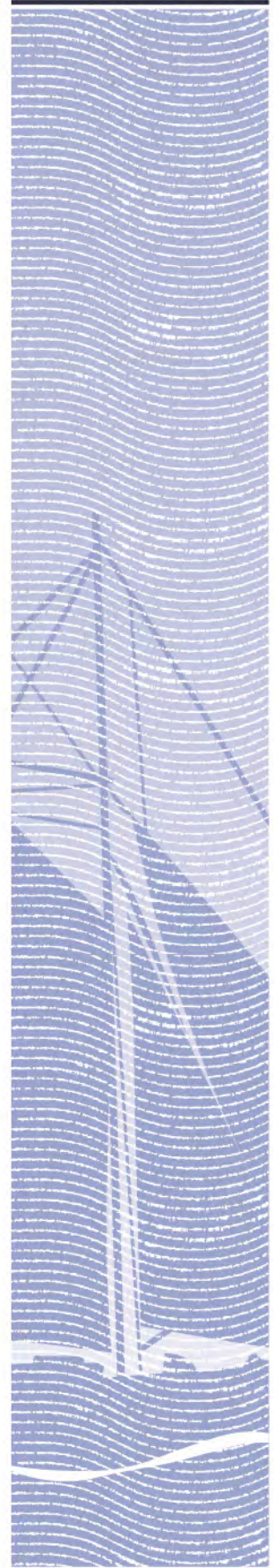
Of equal importance to the City's architectural heritage is the relationship between the built environment and the social contours of the community. Commercial buildings and residential structures reflect our history and are part of our collective past. Architecture is also the product of human endeavor; it captures a cultural moment and mirrors the tastes, needs, and activities of a community of ordinary people. The evolution of land use patterns and neighborhood settlement establishes a broader context for preservation planning.

This chapter explores both the historical and cultural resources present within Newport, and the methods in place to help cultivate these resources.

10.1 Existing Conditions

Newport's cultural heritage is an important feature of the City's unique sense of place, which makes it an attractive environment in which to live, work and visit. Many creative individuals have spent time in the city, such as famous painters, artists, architects, authors and award-winning stone carvers, enhancing Newport's mystique.

The historic resources found in Newport embody the traditional qualities and characteristics of the city. In turn these resources create an attractive environment which is conducive to a variety of uses. Preservation of the historic resources of Newport is an integral part of the success of the city going forward. Interspersed throughout the historic and cultural resources is the maritime heritage and environmental resources which form the basis for the City's very existence.



Historic Preservation Resources, Organizations, Associations, and Commissions

The current level of preservation results from the combined efforts of federal, state, and municipal programs, as well as efforts from local private organizations and individual members of the community. The following is an inventory of some of the programs involved in the preservation of Newport history.



There are 968 historic Newport properties in the floodplain. One potential threat is the occurrence of any unforeseen natural events such as flooding, hurricanes, Nor'easters, as well as the negative effects of climate change.

Federal Preservation Programs

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) is legislation intended to preserve historical and archaeological sites throughout the county. The National Register of Historic Places, the list of National historic Landmarks, and the State Historic Preservation Offices were all created through this act. Through the NHPA, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) and Section 106 review process were established.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of historic resources throughout the county. The ACHP is also the only entity with the legal responsibility to encourage federal agencies to factor historic preservation into federal project requirements.

Section 106

Section 106 of the NHPA requires all federal agencies to identify and assess the effects of their actions on historic resources. The federal agency must consult with the appropriate state and local officials, Indian tribes, applicants for federal assistance, and members of the public regarding their views on historic preservation.

Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit

The Economic Recovery Act of 1981 established tax credit programs where up to 25% of restoration costs could be credited towards income taxes. This program helped fund the historic rehabilitation of many of the city's three-to-five family structures, and also led to the conversion of rental units to condominiums.



The city recognizes the importance of its Historic and Cultural assets. This document capitalizes on the opportunity to coordinate the protection of these assets into other sections of this plan, such as Chapter 13, Natural Hazards and Climate Change.

State Preservation Programs

Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

The Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) is responsible for conducting statewide surveys of historic sites and places. They are also responsible for recommending places of local, state or national significance for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places; administering federal grants-in-aid to National Register properties for acquisition or development; and developing state historic preservation plans. The RIHPHC has identified, documented, and evaluated historic properties in four neighborhoods in the city: the Kay/Catherine neighborhood, Old Beach neighborhood, the Broadway neighborhood, and Harbor/Lower Thames Street neighborhood. The RIHPHC also plays a role in documenting archaeological sites in the city.

Municipal Preservation Efforts

Newport Historic District Commission

In Newport, over half of the parcels and about 40% of the city's area are a part of the Historic District. The Newport zoning ordinance designates the Newport Historic District Commission (HDC) as the review authority for the City of Newport on historic preservation. The HDC must review and approve any new construction, exterior alteration, or demolition of structures on properties within the Historic District or on a list of specified historic properties.

City of Newport Historic District Zoning

Enacted in 1964, Newport's Historic District Zoning has the following objectives: stabilize and improve property value, preserve specific historical districts, foster civic beauty, strengthen the local economy, and promote the use of such districts and specific buildings for the education, pleasure, and welfare of the citizens of Newport. Historic District Zoning has had a positive impact Newport, largely by improving the quality of deteriorated historic structures through proper rehabilitation actions. Historic District Zoning has also served to protect the quality and historic integrity of historic areas. The National Historic Landmark status does not protect a property or a National District from incompatible development. Development of these properties may only be regulated when federal funds are utilized; therefore the local Historic District Zoning combined with the Newport HDC gives much greater protection to historic resources.

As an additional protection to Newport's larger historic properties, the City's Zoning Ordinance was amended to prohibit multi-family development of new construction in all zoning districts represented in the Bellevue Avenue and Ocean Drive neighborhoods in order to preserve the exterior appearances of the historic buildings. Multi-family developments are permitted in these neighborhoods by special exception only, and only through conversion within the confines of the existing structure. Wind energy systems, including wind turbines, are also excluded from the Historic District. While the majority of buildings within Newport's Historic District are significant, approximately 26% of the 2,395 structures are considered to be contributing to the district.

Demolition within the Historic District

The Demolition Delay ordinance, enacted in 1991, was the result of public outcry over the demolition of historic homes adjacent to the Newport Hospital outside of the Historic District. That ordinance has since been replaced by the Demolition of Structures ordinance, Chapter 17.86 as described in Chapter 3, Land Use. Demolition of historic structures within the Historic District is regulated under Chapter 17.80.060. The HDC shall not approve the demolition of contributing historic structures that retain integrity of condition. The ordinance further defines the special considerations regarding valuable historic resources and demolition under Chapter 17.80.070.

City of Newport Historical and Cultural Resource Areas and Sites


Table 10-1 provides a list of Newport's robust historic and cultural resources. The table corresponds with Map 10-1 which shows where each property is located within the City. The City of Newport has a total of 56 properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NRHP is a federal program overseen by the National Park Service (NPS) and includes historic places that warrant preservation. All properties on the list have been designated by the NPS as being either historically or culturally significant. Of the properties listed on Table 10-1, 20 properties are considered National Historic Landmarks (NHL). Buildings in the NHL are eligible for preservation grants and technical preservation assistance. Map 10-1 also shows the boundaries of the historic districts that have been established within Newport and whether they are locally or nationally designated.



The zoning of historic districts or properties regulates how property owners may develop their property. Without reasonable control, new development may threaten the integrity of historic areas. Future efforts to establish historic districts should be a collaborative process between the City and property owners.

Table 10-1 Areas of Historical Significance

Label	Name	Label	Name
1	Castle Hill Lighthouse	2	Ida Lewis Rock Lighthouse
3	Newport Harbor Lighthouse	4	Rose Island Lighthouse
5	Emmanuel Church	6	Trinity Church
7	Francis Malbone House	8	Touro Synagogue
9	United Congregational Church Spring & Pelham St.	10	Baldwin (Charles H) Hs. Bellevue Ave. Opposite Perry St.
11	Bell (Isaac) Hs. /Edna Villa 70 Perry St.	12	Chateau-Sur Mer / Wetmore Hs.
13	Malbone, Malbone Road	14	Clarke St. Meeting Hs. / Congregational Ch. Clarke St.
15	Cotton (Dr. Charles) Hs. 5 Cotton's Court	16	Covell (William King III) House / Sanford (Millton H.)House
17	Commandant's Residence, Quarters #1, Fort Adams	18	Henderson Home / Stiles (Ezra) Hs.14 Clarke St.
19	Hunter House	20	Jewish Community Center/Gale (Levi H.) House 85 Touro St.
21	King (Edward) House Aquidneck Park (Spring St.)	22	Kingscote North-West Corner Of Bellevue Ave. & Bowery St.
23	Lucas-Johnston Hs. / Lucas (Augustus) Hs. 40 Division St.	24	Mawdsley (Captain John) House / Bull (Jireh)-Mawdsley House
25	Old Colony Hs.	26	Rogers (Joseph) Hs.
27	Presidents House - Naval War College	28	Shiloh Church / Trinity School Hs. 25 School St.
29	Newport Art Museum / Griswold (John N A) Hs. 76 Bellevue Ave.	30	The Bird's Nest
31	Tillinghast (John) Hs. 142 Mill St.	32	Vernon House
33	Wanton-Lyman-Hazard Hs.	34	Whitehorne (Samuel) Hs. 414 Thames St.
35	Wm. Watts Sherman Hs.	36	Army And Navy YMCA
37	Brick Market	38	Weatherly (Sloop)
39	Newport Artillery Company Armory 23 Clarke St.	40	Newport Steam Factory 449 Thames St.
41	Perry Mill 337 Thames St.	42	Redwood Library
43	Seamen's Church Institute Market Square	44	Original U.S. Naval War College - U.S. Naval War College & Torpedo School & Luce Hall Coasters Harbor Is.
45	White Horse Tavern 26 Marlborough St.	46	Miantonomi Memorial Park
47	Common Burying Ground and Island Cemetery	48	Charles Tillinghast House
49	Newport Casino	50	Fort Adams
51	St. Mary's Church Complex	52	Coronet (Wooden Hull Schooner Yacht)
53	Marble House	54	The Breakers
55	The Elms	56	Rosecliff

 Indicates property is a National Historic Landmark



COMPREHENSIVE
LAND USE PLAN

Map 10-1
Historically and Culturally
Significant Properties in Newport

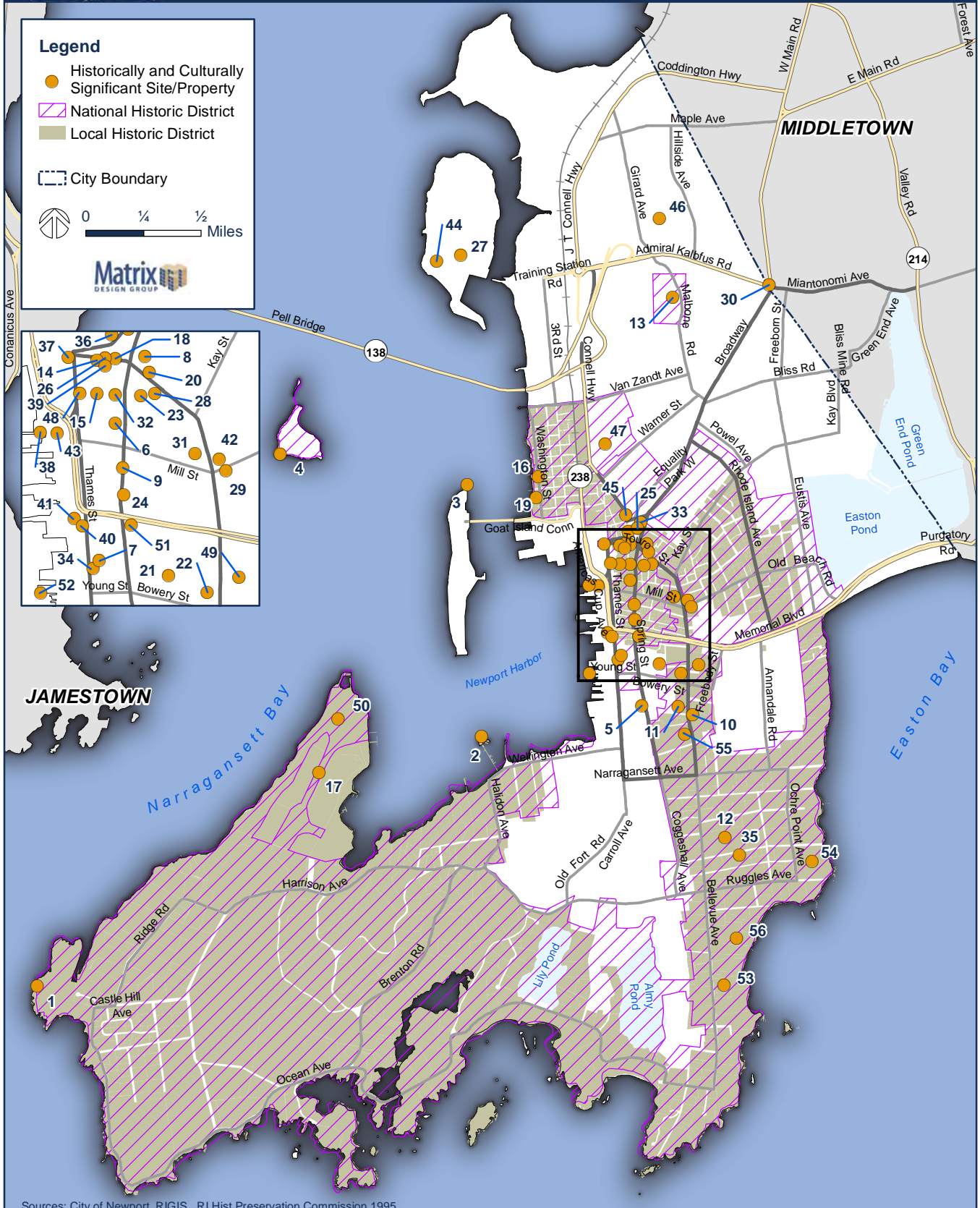
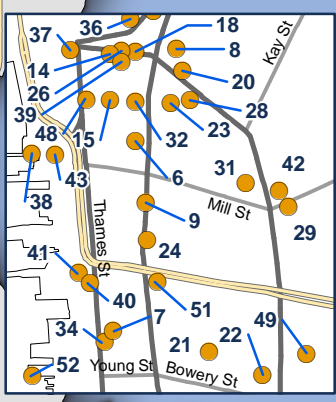
Legend

- Historically and Culturally Significant Site/Property
- National Historic District
- Local Historic District

City Boundary

0 1/4 1/2 Miles

Matrix
DESIGN GROUP



Sources: City of Newport. RIGIS. RI Hist Preservation Commission 1995.

National Historic Landmark Districts & National Register of Historic Places Districts

Areas of Newport that are federally registered National Historic Landmark Districts are: the Bellevue Avenue National Historic District (1976), Fort Adams National Historic District (1976), Newport National Historic District (1968), the Ocean Drive National Historic District (1976), and the U.S. Naval War College National Historic District. The National Register of Historic Places Districts in Newport are: the Bellevue Avenue – Casino Historic District (1972), Fort Hamilton (Rose Island) Historic District (2001), Kay Street – Catherine Street – Old Beach Road Historic District (1973), Ochre Point – Cliffs Historic District (1975), and the Southern Thames Historic District (2008).

Local Private Initiatives, Community Organizations, and Non-Profits

Preservation Society of Newport County

The Preservation Society of Newport County, one of the oldest preservation organizations in the country, was established in 1945, initially to preserve the Hunter House, but has expanded over the years and now owns and operates 11 historic properties; has 33,658 members; and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Its activities include preserving and maintaining nine mansions in the county, eight of which are in Newport. These include Rosecliff, Marble House, Kingscote, and The Elms; actively providing educational opportunities, advocating for the protection of historic and cultural resources, and enhancing the quality of life.

Newport Historical Society

The Newport Historical Society (NHS) was founded in 1854 with a goal of collecting and preserving Newport's history in the form of books, manuscripts, and properties. Notably, the NHS operates the Colony House, the Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House, the Great Friends Meeting House, the Brick Market, and the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard house.

Newport Restoration Foundation

The Newport Restoration Foundation (NRF) was founded in 1968 by Doris Duke. The NRF is a non-profit institution with a goal of preserving, interpreting, and maintaining landscapes and objects that reflect the character and architectural culture of eighteenth and nineteenth century Aquidneck Island. Since the institution's creation, they have restored and preserved 83 buildings on the island. The NRF also runs and maintains a number of historic house museums on Aquidneck Island.

Preservation Partnerships

Local and Statewide preservation plans are strengthened by the efforts of private agencies and individuals who have a desire to protect Newport's historic resources. Newport has partnered with the Rose Island Lighthouse Foundation, to preserve the structure and see its return to use as a lighthouse and development as a bed-and-breakfast and living museum. The city has also worked with the Brick Market Foundation, formed to rehabilitate the historic Brick Market Building on Thames Street, and its adaptive re-use as a museum of Newport History, operated by the Newport Historical Society.

Opera House Theater & Performing Arts Center Restoration Project

The Opera House first opened in December, 1867 as a venue for performances and presentations in Newport. This opera house hosted some of America's most famous icons, including Henry Ward Beecher, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Thomas Wentworth, Frederick Douglass, and George M. Cohan. Due to Newport's prestigious and sophisticated community, the Opera House often became a center stage for nation-wide deliberations such as the abolition of slavery and women's rights.

Unfortunately, in 1955, a fire on Thames Street led to the demolition of the Opera House's top floor and the neighboring Perry House Hotel. By the early twenty-first century, the Opera House was closed as the building's condition continued to deteriorate and was considered for complete demolition. The Newport Performing Arts Center has been working vigorously to restore and preserve this iconic part of the city's history as a live

entertainment performing center. The repair effort has received a \$4.2 million state grant and its re-opening is anticipated in 2017.

World Heritage Commission

With the concentration of historic colonial homes and landmarks and as an early center for religious freedom, Newport is once again seeking a nomination as a United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site. An application was submitted in 2006 and was deemed to be “worthy of future consideration” by UNESCO. Rhode Island’s Governor Lincoln Chafee created the Newport World Heritage Commission in October 2014 to lead to another attempt for submission in 2016.

Visitor Resources

Discover Newport, is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting the city, as well as several other surrounding townships. Discover Newport runs the Newport Visitors Center and also operates through a website (<http://www.discovernewport.org/>). Both of these resources act as information hubs for citizens and visitors, providing information about where to stay, eat, shop, and visit in Newport.

Museums

Newport is home to a large number of museums including the International Tennis Hall of Fame, the Museum of Newport History, the National Museum of American Illustration, the Naval War College Museum, the Newport Art Museum, the Loeb Visitors Center at Touro Synagogue National Historic Site, and many properties preserved by the Preservation Society of Newport County, which is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Many of the historic buildings and mansions preserved by the Preservation Society of Newport County have been converted into museums that offer tours. They give glimpses into the culture and lives of their historic and prestigious owners. The converted buildings and mansions that offer tours include, but are not limited to The Breakers, Chateau-sur-Mer, The Elms, Isaac Bell House, Great Friends Meeting House, Hunter House, Whitehorne, and many others.

Table 10-2 gives a brief description of Newport’s major museums and mansions.

Table 10-2 - Newport’s Museums

Museum	Description
The Breakers	Acting as another one of the Vanderbilt family’s summer “cottages”, The Breakers overlooks the Atlantic Ocean. Designed by Richard Morris Hunt, The Breakers is built in an Italian-Renaissance revival style. In 1948, The Breakers was leased to the Preservation Society of Newport County for operation as a historic house museum. It was purchased by the Preservation Society in 1971.
Chateau-sur-Mer	Once owned by the former Governor of Rhode Island, Chateau-sur-Mer ushered in Gilded Age in Newport. This Newport mansion displays most of the major design trends of the latter half of the nineteenth century.
The Elms	The Elms acted as a summer residence for the Berwind family. The structure itself was modeled after the eighteenth century French chateau d’Asnieres outside of Paris. The Classical Revival style formal gardens were designed and implemented over the course of several years, from 1901 through 1907; the Sunken Garden was introduced in 1913. The Elms was purchased by the Preservation Society of Newport County in 1962.
Great Friends Meeting House	The Great Friends Meeting House is the oldest surviving house of worship in the State. Built in 1699, this structure served as place where Quakers could meet and worship together. At the time, it was the largest building in the City and remained an identifiable landmark within Newport for large portions of the 18th century. After falling into disrepair, the building was restored in the 1970’s and donated to the Newport Historical Society

Newport Comprehensive Land Use Plan

Museum	Description
Hunter House	The Hunter House displays examples of the finest achievements of eighteenth century arts and crafts done in Newport. Purchased by Mrs. George Henry Warren in 1945, the Hunter House became the founding property of the not-for-profit organization that Mrs. Warren created: The Preservation Society of Newport.
International Tennis Hall of Fame	The International Tennis Hall of Fame, located in the Newport Casino, was renovated in 2015. The museum has exhibits dedicated to the history of the game through three different eras; The Birth of Tennis (1874 – 1918); The Popular Game (1918 – 1968); and The Open Era (1968 – Present).
Isaac Bell House	The Isaac Bell house personifies the Queen Anne style, featuring influences from English and European architecture as well as early American colonial architecture. The house is one of the best surviving examples of shingle style architecture in the entire country.
Loeb Visitors Center	Located at the Touro Synagogue National Historic Site, this cutting edge, 13 million dollar visitors' center showcases the role of Newport as the birthplace of the concepts of separation of church and state and freedom of religion.
Museum of Newport History	The Museum of Newport History is located in the eighteenth century Brick Market building. The museum is open to families and provides information on Newport's rich history and architecture.
National Museum of American Illustration	The National Museum of American Illustration (NMAI) is located in circa 1901 Vernon Court. NMAI displays illustration art by artists including Norman Rockwell, Maxfield Parrish, Charles Dana Gibson and many others.
Naval War College Museum	Located in the old Newport Asylum for the Poor building on Coasters Harbor Island, the Naval War College Museum showcases different exhibits on naval warfare and the naval heritage of Narragansett Bay. Many of the exhibits pertain to the technology studied at the Naval War College itself.
Newport Art Museum	The Newport Art Museum is located in the John Griswold house, and is among the six percent of American museums to be fully accredited by the American Association of Museums. The Newport Art Museum displays exhibits that reflect the state's cultural heritage and its unique art scene. The museum also offers over 30 educational classes to those interested in improving their own artistic talents.
Redwood Library and Athenaeum	The Redwood Library and Athenaeum is the oldest lending library in the county. Additionally, it is the oldest library in America still occupying its original building. The library was built in 1750 by colonial architect Peter Harrison, who was responsible for designing other famed buildings in Newport including the Brick Market and Touro Synagogue. This library is a membership library that is open to the public for a subscription fee. In addition to being a lending library, the Redwood Library and Athenaeum is also open to qualified scholars, researchers, and others interested educating themselves using the library's 160,000 volumes.
Rough Point	Rough Point was originally built for Frederick W. Vanderbilt and at the time of its commissioning in 1887, was the largest house in the city. The home was designed in an English manorial style, meant to evoke a feeling of a classic English county home. Over the years, Rough Point changed hands numerous times and was purchased in 1922 by James B. Duke. Duke passed away in 1925, leaving Rough Point to his 12-year old daughter Doris Duke. During her lifetime, Doris renovated the home and furnished it with pieces of fine art, antiques, and family treasures. Upon her death in 1993, Doris bequeathed Rough Point to the Newport Restoration Foundation with instructions for it to be open to the public as a museum. The home opened as a museum in 2000.
Whitehorne	Built in 1811, the Whitehorne house is an example of a Federal-style mansion. The mansion features a formal garden and a significant collection of American furniture from the 18th century.

Galleries

Dozens of art galleries are located throughout Newport, showcasing the community’s current and historic art and culture. The city holds a Gallery Night on the second Thursday of each month, where citizens and visitors can walk from gallery to gallery to see or purchase the artwork and observe artists in their studios.

Festivals

Newport is home to many renowned festivals that attract international attention. Perhaps the most well-known festivals are the annual Newport Jazz and Newport Folk Festivals. Both of these festivals are held at Fort Adams State Park and are put on by the Newport Festivals Foundation. The Newport Jazz Festival started in 1954 and was the first jazz festival in America. It is often referred to as the “granddaddy” of all jazz festivals. Thousands of people attend the famous festival every year. The Newport Folk Festival first held in 1959, continues to captivate fans with its lineup.



Newport events, such as the Volvo Ocean Race and the Folk and Jazz Festivals, are renowned events that are attended by visitors from all around the United States

Other festivals that take place in the City of Newport include the Bowen’s Wharf Seafood Festival, the Black Ships Festival, the Newport Waterfront Oyster Festival, the Newport Daffodil Days Festival, the Festival of the Arts, the Annual Newport Winter Festival, the Newport Mansions Wine and Food Festival, the Newport Flower Show, the Newport Music Festival, and BridgeFest.

Community Events

In addition to Newport’s many festivals, there are a number of events around the city that attract residents and visitors alike. These include parades, comedy shows, charity events, guided hikes, movie nights, poetry nights, craft brew races, and many others. These events are a way to bring the citizens of Newport together and to celebrate the community.

Galas and Benefits

Newport is also host to number of galas and benefits throughout the year which celebrate and support some of the most spectacular causes being undertaken around the city. A sample of gala events being held in 2016 include: the Oliver Hazard Perry Gala, the Newport Yacht Rendezvous, the Aquidneck Land Trust Gala, the Island Moving Company, Gala, the International Yacht Restoration School (IYRS) Gala, and the Doris Duke Historic Preservation Awards Gala. These gala and benefit events help support numerous programs and organizations throughout the City from the Preservation Society and Fort Adams, to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center and Boys & Girls Clubs of Newport County.

Regattas

Newport has a long hosted variety of regattas. Table 10-3 highlights just a few of the regattas that Newport has been and continues to host throughout the year.

Table 10-3 - Newport’s Regattas

Race	Description
Newport Bermuda Race	The Newport Bermuda Race, the oldest regularly occurring ocean race, has been held in Newport since 1936. The 635-mile race from Newport to Bermuda is run every other year. The first ever Bermuda Race was run in 1906 and the starting point was at Gravesend Bay, New York.
America’s Cup	America’s Cup is Newport’s most fabled race. The race was held in Newport from the years 1930 to 1983. The New York Yacht Club sponsored the American yachts, and Liberty (U.S. Ethnicity) lost in 1983.

Race	Description
Volvo Ocean Race	The Volvo Ocean Race is a yacht race around the world that is held every three years. The most recent race was in 2014-2015 and spanned over 39,000 nautical miles. Newport was one of the many ports visited during the race. The next installment of the race will be in 2017-2018 and will again visit Newport.
New York Yacht Club Race Week	The 2016 New York Yacht Club Race Week at Newport presented by Rolex featured buoy racing, mid-distance races, government marks and "stadium" racing for eligibility in the Swan 42 National, J/109 North American, and C&C 30 North American championships.
Candy Store Cup	Newport Shipyard and Bannister's Wharf owners hope to carry forth the Newport Bucket tradition in 2016 as the "Candy Store Cup" for superyacht racing.
Ida Lewis Yacht Club Distance Race	The Ida Lewis Distance Race is a sailing overnighiter hosted by the Ida Lewis Yacht Club.
Newport Sup Cup	2016 will be the year of the 7 th annual Newport Sup Cup event in Newport which features long and short course races.
Sail for Hope	The Newport Shipyard will be hosting the 16 th annual Sail for Hope event near the end of the season. This fundraiser race event and after sailing party are presented as an opportunity for Newport sailing to give back to the community.

Cultural Organizations and Agencies

In addition to the larger facilities, Newport is home to a growing number of smaller organizations and private businesses that enhance the city's image as a center for the creative and performing arts. For a small community, Newport hosts an eclectic blend of cultural activities for residents and visitors alike. Groups which contribute to the city's creative climate include the Firehouse Theater, the Newport Playhouse, the Jane Pickens Theater, Island Moving Company, the Newport Arts Festival, Swanhurst Chorus, the Newport Children's Theater, the Bit Players, Flickers - the Newport Film and Video Society, and the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Newport County.

Educational and cultural institutions play a critical role in preserving and promoting the city's cultural heritage. Newport's arts organizations, libraries, museums, churches, and colleges are spearheads for cultural programs and events. A number of organizations, seek to collect, preserve, and share the material culture of Newport's collective past. Local institutions should be recognized for their efforts in the collection and preservation of architecture and landscapes, books, artwork, furniture, photographs, architectural drawings, maps, and other artifacts, the product of over 350 years of Newport history. These organizations contribute to the community by providing access to collections and developing educational opportunities in history, art, music, dance, and drama. Increased awareness, appreciation, and respect for the cultural heritage of Newport are an important safeguard for its continued growth.

Although not a cultural organization in the traditional sense, the non-profit Discover Newport is a destination organization dedicated to promoting the City of Newport and the neighboring townships of Newport and Bristol counties. In Newport, Discover Newport works in coordination with the city to promote numerous historic, cultural, and recreation activities to visitors. Since the beginning of 2016, the agency has tracked visitors from ten countries, nine states, and the District of Colombia. While the cruise ship schedule coordinated by Discover Newport has 37 ships listing destination stops docking at Perrotti Park and another 25 docking at Fort Adams during 2016.

State and Municipal Programs

A variety of organizations exist at the state and local levels to encourage activities related to the arts and humanities. Through funding, technical assistance, and promotion, these agencies seek to develop and expand cultural programs. These include the RI Council for Humanities, the RI Historic Preservation and Heritage Commissions, The RI State Council on the Arts, the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Newport County, and Newport FILM.

10.2 Goals and Policies

Goal HC-1

To identify, protect, and enhance the City's cultural and historical resources.

- Policy HC-1.1** The City shall maintain qualified professional staff to provide the highest possible level of service in supporting the protection of the city's historic resources and in collaboration with other key stakeholders within government, non-profits, neighborhoods and other interested parties.
- Policy HC-1.2** The City should consider historic and cultural resources when making operational decisions to successfully enhance and protect historic and cultural resources.
- Policy HC-1.3** The City shall advocate for appropriate private sector actions which protect and enhance the community's historic and cultural resources.
- Policy HC-1.4** The City shall develop and adopt a comprehensive set of guidelines and related design expectations that promote suitable use of historic properties and structures.
- Policy HC-1.5** The City shall continue to develop and deploy a comprehensive program of Communication and educate, in collaboration with other key stakeholders within government, non-profits, neighborhoods and other interests.
- Policy HC-1.6** The City shall engage interested constituencies in historic and cultural resource planning and plan implementation and support efforts to integrate cultural literacy into and programs. Educate residents and utilize community collaboration
- Policy HC-1.7** The City shall work in tandem with cultural institutions to create economic benefit for the entire community, to promote cultural literacy among all age groups.
- Policy HC-1.8** Create outreach programs, recognizing that cultural institutions create economic benefit for the entire community.
- Policy HC-1.9** The City shall create and implement innovative programs and practices to assure the equitable allocation of culture and arts resources throughout the City with respect to geography, income, age and other constituent attributes.
- Policy HC-1.10** The City shall utilize and capitalize on its architectural character and cultural heritage to promote economic growth.

Goal HC-2

To enhance the protection and survivability of historic resources from the impacts of climate change, sea level rise and storm hazards.

- Policy HC-2.1** The City shall prioritize the protection of historic resources, their character, values and contributions to the community.
- Policy HC-2.2** The City shall work in collaboration with other levels of government (state and federal) to advocate for and secure design and development options to protect historic structures, buildings and landmarks from the effects of climate change impacts.

Goal HC-3

To foster a climate that supports the continuation of Newport as a home for the artisan and creative artist.

- Policy HC-3.1** The City shall foster and work with other organizations in their efforts to enhance the city's museums, libraries, art, theater, musical and cultural institutions
- Policy HC-3.2** The City shall promote the development and growth of Newport's arts and cultural resources.
- Policy HC-3.3** The City shall support efforts to retain and attract artists and craftspeople to live and work in Newport.

10.3 Implementation Actions

The following are the implementation actions for the goals included in the Historical & Cultural Resources Element.

Goals & Actions	City Objectives								Priority Cost	Time	Responsibility / CIP
	Prosperous	Beautiful	Happy	Destination	Collaborative	Smart	Healthy	Resilient			
GOAL HC-1: To identify, protect, and enhance the City's cultural and historical resources.											
A) Reestablish Tax Incentive Programs for the protection and enhancement of historic structures.	■	■			■				Mid No Cost	Short	• City Council
B) Establish a system of communicating plans affecting Newport's historical and cultural assets to citizens to encourage community involvement.	■			■	■	■	■	■	Mid No Cost	Short & On-going	• City Council • Engage Newport
C) Continue to host tours through Newport's Historical District.	■			■	■				Mid \$	Short & On-going	• Tourism Board
D) Continue to promote awareness of Newport's rich history to school children and visitors.	■			■	■				Mid \$	Short & On-going	• BOE • Chamber, Tourism Board
E) Continue to secure funding for plans, programs, and projects affecting historical and cultural sites.	■	■		■	■				High No Cost	Short & On-going	• City Council • City Manager • City staff
F) Continue to seek public-private partnerships to restore, rehabilitate, protect, and preserve historical and cultural properties throughout Newport.	■	■		■	■				High \$	Short & On-going	• City Council • City Manager • City staff
G) Establish historic property guidebook for historic property owners.	■	■			■				Mid \$	Mid	• City Council • Preservation Planner
GOAL HC-2: To enhance the protection and survivability of historic resources from the impacts of climate change, sea level rise and storm hazards.											
A) Include historic preservation as part of a Climate Action Plan.	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	High \$	Short & On-going	• City Council
GOAL HC-3: To foster a climate that supports the continuation of Newport as a home for the artisan and creative artist.											
A) Develop a Cultural Enrichment Plan for the city.	■	■		■	■	■	■	■	High \$	Mid	• Planning • Cultural Organizations

Please see the next page.