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# NEWPORT HISTORY

JOURNAL OF THE NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 83 SPRING 2014 Number 270

**John Banister**

**Henrietta Overing Auchmuty**

*A Writer's Dozen*

# Newport History

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JOURNAL OF THE NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Vol. 83 Spring 2014 Number 270



NEWPORT HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
[www.NewportHistory.org](http://www.NewportHistory.org)

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Cover Photo: *John Banister's Journal* (see page 1).Page detail, photograph by Daniel McManus.

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*Detail of a bookcase and desk, 1750-80 (see page 53).*

## Newport Historical Society Resources, Programs and Collections

The Newport Historical Society has maintained a Library and Museum of Newport and Rhode Island history since its incorporation in 1854. For over 150 years, the Society has grown in its membership, and in the extent and diversity of its collections, representing a wealth of information for researchers.

Society activities include lectures, exhibits, guided and self-guided walking tours, educational outreach programs and special events such as the annual Newport Antiques Show.

The Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House at 17 Broadway is one of Newport's oldest surviving residences, built circa 1697. A fully restored example of early Colonial architecture, the house is furnished with period decorative arts and furniture. Tours are offered seasonally.

The Great Friends Meeting House at Farewell and Marlborough Streets was built in 1699. Rhode Island's oldest surviving house of worship is an exceptionally fine example of early architecture. During the early 1700s it was one of the largest and most recognizable buildings in town, a symbol of the political, cultural, and economic dominance of Newport's Quakers. Tours are offered seasonally.

The Seventh Day Baptist Meeting House was constructed in 1730 on Barney Street and can now be seen as part of the Historical Society's headquarters building. Extensively restored in 2008-09, it is the oldest surviving Seventh Day Baptist meeting house in America. It is believed to have been designed by Richard Munday, and boasts complex moldings, raised bolection paneling, and hand carved balusters on the staircase leading to the wineglass pulpit. Tours are offered seasonally.

The Colony House on Washington Square, designed by Richard Munday, was built in 1739, and quickly became the cultural and political center of Colonial Rhode Island. It has been the scene of important events, including landmark trials, a reading of the Declaration of Independence from the balcony, the state's Election Day festivities, and a reception for the visiting George Washington hosted by French General Rochambeau. Tours are offered seasonally.

The 1762 Brick Market at 127 Thames Street was designed in the Palladian style by Peter Harrison, considered to be the first American architect. Now the Museum & Shop at Brick Market, it is the place to start for Newport's unique and exciting story, told through exhibits from the collections of the Newport Historical Society.

For information on tours, programs, exhibits and properties please call 401-846-0813 or visit [www.newporthistory.org](http://www.newporthistory.org).

Hours: The Historical Society is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. Appointments are required to access the library and collections. Call 401-846-0813 or email [info@newporthistorical.org](mailto:info@newporthistorical.org).

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*It is the mission of the Newport Historical Society to ensure that the story of Newport's significant place in American history continues to be told. Please join us!*

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*Roger Williams' compass-rose from the Middle Island Historical Society*



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