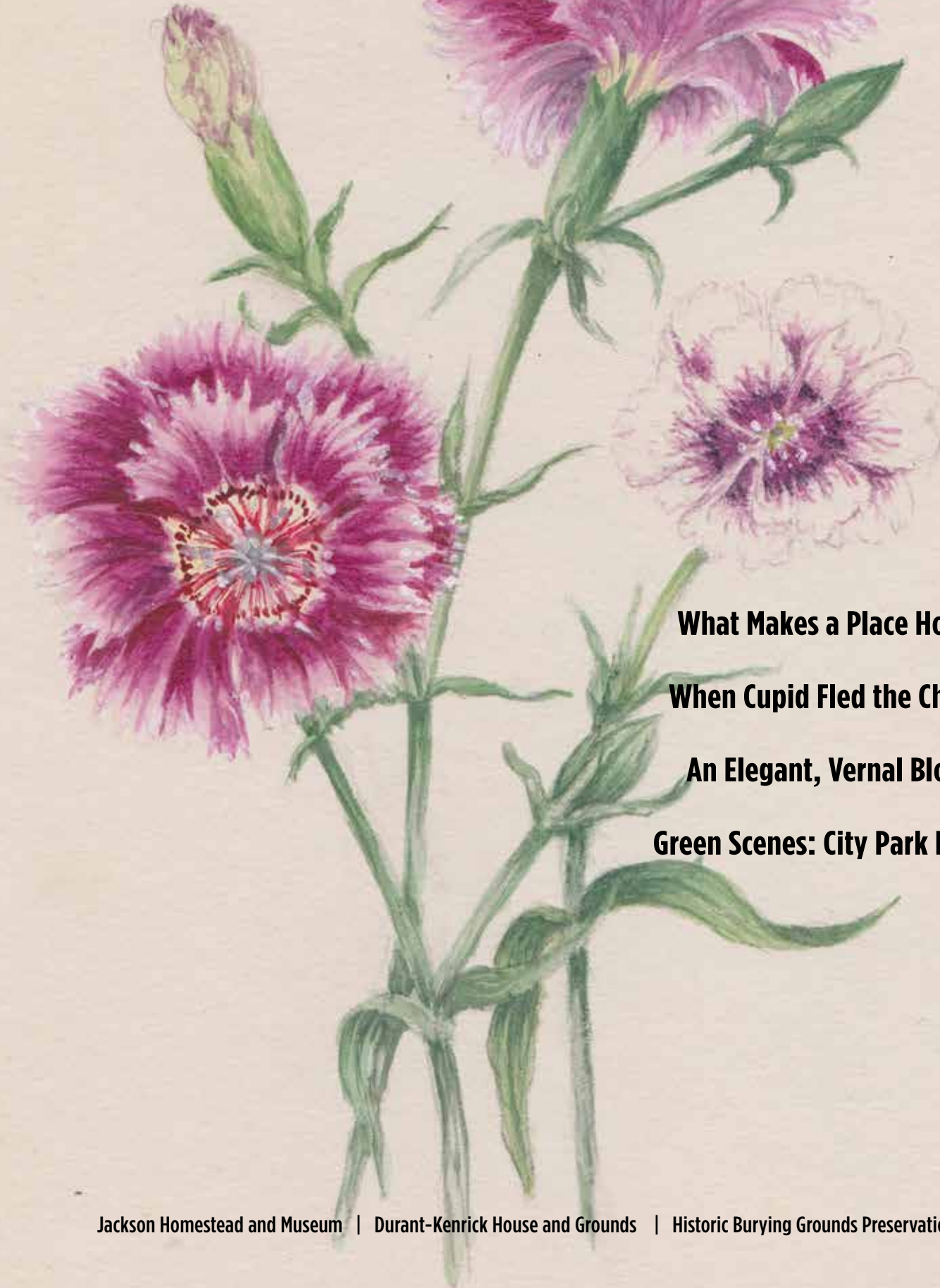


HISTORIC *Newton* NEWS

SPRING 2018



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Green Scenes: City Park History

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of Historic Newton,

On a chilly March day, how lovely for us to be thinking ahead to spring and summer. With visions of gardens and fruit trees, honeybees and bunnies, Newton's landscapes are featured in this issue. Newton's history is written on our green spaces, from the time before European settlement, to agriculture giving way to suburbanization, to the golf courses, dog parks, and playgrounds of today.

All is not flowers and fun, however. We live in challenging times, but history can offer solace. It does so by providing context and perspective, and sometimes solutions, for today's troubles. Scores of people come to our museums and programs to better understand contemporary ethnocentrism, racism and sexism through the lens of 19th-century life. By the time you read this, we will be wrapping up a lecture series on the *Wisdom of Immigrant Women*, and launching new educational initiatives around immigrant experiences. We have had an uptick in groups coming to Jackson Homestead to deepen their understanding of the fight against racism. Here, visitors see abolitionists and suffragists, and think of the agitators and resisters of today.

So at your history center, we cover a gamut of moods in the exploration of history. At this moment, though, I am putting down the newspaper and picking up the seed catalog.

Here's wishing you flourishing gardens, sunny days, and bare feet in the grass.

Best regards,

Lisa S. Dady

Director



Staff

Lisa Dady, *Director*

Kate Bresee, *Weekend Manager*

Nicki Downer, *Assistant to the Director*

Sara Goldberg, *Archivist*

Rosalind Kreizenbeck, *Education Manager*

Max Metz, *Durant-Kenrick Manager*
and *Anne Larner Educator*

Clara Silverstein, *Community Engagement Manager*

Janet Goff, *Development Associate*

Cynthia Cowan, Julia Foster, Conor
O'Malley, *Museum Educators*

About the cover: This painting from 1879 is by Ellen Jackson, lifelong resident of the Jackson Homestead.

Why is Newton called the "The Garden City?"

This is embarrassing, but we don't know! Curators and historians at Historic Newton (and the Newton Free Library) have looked into this question but have yet to find a definitive answer. Newton's nickname may have developed organically, rather than by decree. An early reference appears in *The King's Handbook of Newton* (1889) in a description of Newton's natural beauty. According to *Newton Massachusetts 1688-1988, a Celebration of Three Hundred Years*: "It is in the 1880s that the term 'Garden City' began cropping up in speeches, administrative reports and promotional literature, and the movement for setting aside open space for public use gained momentum." History often contains unanswered questions like this, as sources vary, and new scholarship confirms or debunks earlier knowledge. New discoveries are made in archives and attics, giving way to new hypotheses to test. Origin questions are sometime never resolved - and that's what makes history interesting!

Modern Touches on 2018 Newton House Tour

As we continue to line up houses, the 2018 Newton House Tour on Sunday, May 20 already promises an eclectic offering. We have

two architect-owned homes with very different approaches to design. The first takes a classic split-level and adds new windows and cathedral ceilings. The result is a light-filled, comfortable space with modern decor. The second doubles the size of the original house with a second unit filled with Steam Punk memorabilia, salvaged millwork, sculpture and art.

Of course the tour will include more traditional styles. We will have one of the grander Victorian houses on Commonwealth Avenue that has been lovingly restored, plus a beautifully attired bungalow in Waban. And we are not done. We are currently investigating an historic chapel as

well as homes in West Newton and the Highlands.

Tickets make a lovely Mother's Day gift; take the tour with your mom and spend the day together.

Purchase tickets in advance and save. Historic Newton members pay only \$30; the general public pays \$35. Go to www.newtonma.gov/housetour or call 617-796-1450.



Immigration Program Explores 'Home,' Asks Community to Donate Objects

What makes a place "home"? Is it your physical dwelling space? The family or friends you live with? Is it your neighborhood, town, city, or state? Or connections to the culture that you identify with?

A new program from Historic Newton's education team invites students in grades 4-12 to consider this question by meeting those who immigrated to Newton in the 19th century. Students will use artifacts to understand what pushed families to leave their home countries, and what pulled them to immigrate to Newton. The program is supported in part by a grant from the U.S. Federation of Friends of Museums.

To date, our education department has focused on the Colonial-era Durant family and 19th century Jackson family, which has limited our education collection almost exclusively to the stories of Western European ancestry. To tell the stories of the diverse families profiled in

this new program, we are expanding our education collection with the funds from the grant.

In the new program, taught at our museums or in school classrooms, students first analyze artifacts and primary sources from families from four different countries (Ireland, Italy, Russia, and China). Each of these families is considering immigration to Newton in the late 1800s. Children learn about the family's life in the place they call home. Although the families presented in the program are composites, Historic Newton educator Cynthia Cowan based each one on extensive primary-source research into real families that immigrated to Newton.



Smallwood factory workers, circa 1850. Many new immigrants to Newton found work at factories.

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New Acquisitions Offers Glimpse into Nineteenth Century Newton Life

Historic Newton recently acquired photos and other materials that reveal more about life in 19th century Newton. A photo album shows us the adventures of Hattie Kistler, a young woman from Newton Centre who attended Smith College. A second acquisition of correspondence and photographs from Mary Clark Shannon and her niece, Mary Shannon, reveal daily life as well as special visitors in a well-to-do household in Newtonville. Both acquisitions of 19th century materials add to Historic Newton's collections that chronicle the social history of Newton.

Kistler's photo album shows her riding in a horse-drawn wagon and entertaining friends on her front porch in Newton. She also captures scenes at Smith College, and while she is on vacation. Orphaned at two months of age, she was adopted by her aunt. After attending college, she married former neighbor and Newton real estate lawyer A. Leslie Harwood. They lived with her aunt at the home Hattie grew up in at 945



Hattie Kistler with her husband, Leslie Harwood, and friends.

Beacon Street. Both were civic minded and active in organizations including the Boy Scouts and the Newton Centre Women's Club. An unusual aspect of the album is that all of the images are cyanotypes, created with a photographic printing process that produces images in a heavy blue tint.

The Shannon material rounds out the collection of family papers already in the care of Historic Newton. The new acquisition includes a rare half-plate daguerreotype, taken in 1859, showing an outdoor scene of a group of people and three dogs. All the individuals are identified, including the two Mary Shannons and several neighbors from the Edmunds and Lombard families.

A small photo album includes an image of various Shannon family members and both Marys as younger women. Also pictured are illustrious Newton residents of their day: Lydia Cabot Parker, wife of the Unitarian minister, Theodore Parker; Newton lawyer William Morton; close friend and Unitarian minister John Weiss; actress and journalist Kate Field; and artist William Morris Hunt, to name a few. These individuals provide insight into the Shannons' religious, social, and intellectual interests.



The new acquisition includes a rare half-plate daguerreotype, taken in 1859, showing an outdoor scene of a group of people and three dogs.

Also included in the Shannon acquisition are two small photos of the no longer standing Cabot house once on the Shannon property.

Cabot Street and the nearby Cabot Playground are named for the Cabot family that owned a large area of farmland here in the late 18th and early 19th century. These images, combined with other collection materials, contribute to our understanding of the development of the area.

Director Lisa Dady and Committee Co-Chairs Susan Abele and Laura Fitzmaurice recommended the acquisitions to the Collections Committee, which determined that they were important enough to purchase if we could raise the funds. Thanks to 18 generous donors, these new materials further the themes laid out in our collections plan.

Anyone wishing to view these materials in the Archives is welcome to make an appointment with Sara Goldberg at research@historicnewton.org.

RECENT COLLECTIONS ACQUISITIONS

Historic Newton recently added new items to our collection, including books and photos, all with important connections to Newton history. We are grateful to the following donors:

- **C. Bernard Fulp** – personal papers and news articles document Fulp’s more than 30 years in the financial services industry. Fulp founded Middlesex Bank & Trust in Newton in 1997 and served as president and CEO until 2002. Previously, he was executive vice president at Bank of New England, the first African-American to attain this position at the bank. Fulp’s papers also reflect his community and civic service.
- **Jennifer Murphy** – Because her grandmother’s clothing is already in our collection, the donor contributed family photographs in memory of her mother, Marjorie [Gould] Murphy Shuman. The donor’s grandmother, Florence Emily King Gould, lived in one of Newton’s oldest homes, the “Noah King house,” built c.1710.
- **Carol Zuckerman** – materials include a copy of the *Horrors of Slavery* by William Kenrick, the *New American Orchardist* by John Kenrick, a well-curated collection of Newton postcards, and early School Committee reports.
- **Fred Giordano** – a composite portrait of the Newton Police Department of 1878 includes John Ryan, who would ultimately rise to captain and have the park next to the police department dedicated to him. The donor’s parents were Italian immigrants who purchased Ryan’s home in 1928 and Giordano believes that “the police photograph was abandoned in the attic when the papers passed.”
- **Newton Chapter of the American Red Cross** – the collection includes publicity photos and scrapbooks.



C. Bernard Fulp, center, celebrates the opening of Middlesex Bank & Trust in 1997 with officials including then Newton Mayor Thomas Concannon, third from right.



Left: Florence Emily King Gould.



Top and left: The Newton Chapter of the American Red Cross.



Join us at our walking tours, public programs, and special events! Watch our web site, www.historicnewton.org, for additions and updates.

HISTORIC NEWTON

MARCH

Tuesday, March 20, 7:00 pm
UNVEILED: A ONE WOMAN PLAY



Racism. Hate crimes. Love. Islam. Culture. Language. Life. Five Muslim women in a post-9/11 world serve tea and uncover what lies beneath the veil in this critically acclaimed one-woman show. Q&A will follow. Program cosponsors include Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries, First Unitarian Universalist Society of Newton, Historic Newton, L'Arôme Café, Newton Human Rights Commission and Newton Theatre Company. Written and performed by award-winning playwright Rohina Malik. Musical accompaniment by Alejandro Castellano.

Location: Newton Free Library, 330 Homer Street

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1360

Wednesday, March 21, 6:30 pm
SUSTAINABILITY + PRESERVATION: ENERGY EFFICIENCY FOR OLD HOUSES



Can you make your home more energy efficient while still respecting its historic character? Yes! Three experts will discuss how to blend comfort, carbon footprint, and preservation. The panel includes Stephanie Horowitz (ZeroEnergy Design),

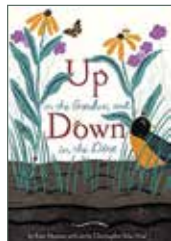
Paul Eldrenkamp (Byggmeister), and Nick Falkoff (Auburndale Builders), with moderator Katy Hax Holmes, Newton's Preservation Planner.

Location: Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds, 286 Waverley Ave.

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1450

Wednesday, March 28, 10:00 am
STORYTIME – IN THE GARDEN



Today we read *Up in the Garden & Down in the Dirt* by Kate Messner. Preschoolers and their caregivers will

learn how the Durants used their garden and get a chance to use a historic artifact, as well as create their own bouquet of spoon flowers. Enjoy the Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds as we welcome spring.

Location: Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds, 286 Waverley Ave.

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1450

Thursday, March 29, 7:00 pm

NEWTON HISTORY SERIES

THE LOST CITY OF NORUMBEGA

Join prolific historian and five-time Boston/New England Emmy Award-winner John Horrigan as he talks



about the legend of Norumbega in Auburndale. Learn about Harvard professor Eben Horsford, who was at the center of the "Viking Craze" of the late 19th century. Review Horsford's claims that Vikings sailed up the Charles River and settled in the area over 1,000 years ago, and why he commissioned a tower to be built in their honor. Horrigan will also give a

retrospective of Norumbega Park, the popular Totem Pole Ballroom, and the historical Waltham Watch Factory.

Location: Newton Free Library, 330 Homer Street

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1360

Thursday, March 29, 7:30 pm
HISTORY BOOK CLUB MEETING



The History Book Club of Historic Newton meets to discuss Judge Sewall's *Apology: the Salem Witch Trials and the Forming of an*

American Conscience by Richard Francis. The book looks at the extremism of the core beliefs of the Puritans. Open to all. Read the book in advance and join our discussion.

Location: Jackson Homestead and Museum, 527 Washington St.

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1450

APRIL

Saturday & Sunday, April 7 & 8, 10:00 am-5:00 pm

ENJOY FREE ADMISSION TO OUR MUSEUMS

Saturday, April 14, 9:30 am
STORYTIME – PRESERVATION



Explore preservation at the Jackson Homestead and Museum and join us

in a conversation about historic homes' importance in our community. We read *The Little House* by Newton-born author Virginia Lee Burton, and preschoolers and their caregivers can create their own paper shape houses.

Location: Jackson Homestead and Museum, 527 Washington St.

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1450

Wednesday, April 18, 6:30 pm
2018 NEWTON PRESERVATION AWARDS



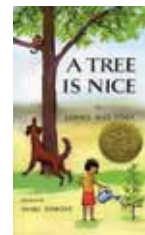
Celebrate the winners of the 2018 Newton Preservation Awards, which recognize outstanding accomplishments and stewardship in local historic preservation. Enjoy appetizers, followed by the awards ceremony. An exhibit of the winners will be on display at Newton City Hall from April 19 through June 19.

Location: War Memorial at Newton City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1450

Wednesday, April 25, 10:00 am
STORYTIME – SPRING IN NEWTON



Join us in a conversation about historic homes' importance in our community. Welcome the warmer weather as we read *A Tree*

is Nice by Janice May Udry. Preschoolers and their caregivers can explore the beautiful outdoor space around the house and make their own springtime paper bag trees.

Location: Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds, 286 Waverley Ave.

Admission: Free

Information: 617-796-1450

Sunday, April 29, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
BURYING GROUNDS CLEAN UP

Join a NewtonServes team of volunteers to clean up one of Newton's three historic burying grounds. Help is needed raking leaves, removing fallen limbs,

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For questions and further information about all events, call 617-796-1450 unless otherwise noted.



and tidying the grounds at the East Parish, West Parish, and South Burying Grounds.

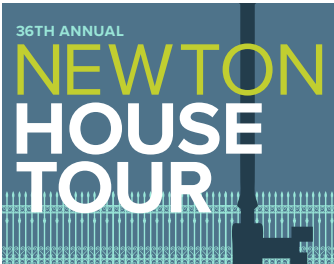
Registration: Sign up through newtoncommunitypride.org/ NewtonSERVES

Information: 617-796-1540

MAY

Saturday & Sunday, May 5 & 6, 10:00 am-5:00 pm
ENJOY FREE ADMISSION TO OUR MUSEUMS

Sunday, May 20, 12:00 noon - 5:00 pm
2018 NEWTON HOUSE TOUR



Historic Newton's 36th annual Newton House Tour gives you a rare opportunity to tour carefully selected, remarkable private residences and properties. The tour showcases outstanding historic preservation as well as creative modern interpretation in a broad range of architectural and interior design styles. Celebrate Newton's rich architectural heritage with us.

Admission: \$35 in advance (\$30 for Historic Newton members), \$40 on the day of the tour (\$35 for members). Purchase tickets through historicnewton.org

Information: 617-796-1450

JUNE

Saturday & Sunday, June 2 & 3, 10:00 am-5:00 pm
ENJOY FREE ADMISSION TO OUR MUSEUMS

Sunday, June 3, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

HISTORIC NEWTON AT NONANTUM VILLAGE DAY

Visit the Historic Newton booth at Nonantum Village Day for a chance to try out historic toys, including a stereoscope, and pick up information about our upcoming events.

Location: Coletti-Magni Park, 386-392 Watertown Street, Nonantum

Admission: Free

Sunday, June 24, 2:00 pm

HISTORIC NEWTON WALKS EAST PARISH BURYING GROUND



Newton's oldest cemetery, the East Parish Burying Ground, dates back to 1660 and serves as the resting place of Newton's founding families. Learn about Newton's history and explore this community resource as an educator from Historic Newton guides you in this special tour held in partnership with Newton Community Education. Get up close to see a sequence of styles in gravestone art. Hear stories of those memorialized, and consider the lives of those whose final resting places are unmarked.

Admission: \$16 per person. Register through Newton Community Education, newtoncommunityed.org

Information: 617-559-6999

JULY

Saturday & Sunday, July 7 & 8, 10:00 am-5:00 pm
ENJOY FREE ADMISSION TO OUR MUSEUMS

Sunday, July 29, 2:00 pm

HISTORIC NEWTON WALKS

NEWTON'S EARLIEST SUBDIVISIONS

William Jackson was one of the first to predict how the railroads would shape the future of Newton. Anticipating Newton's growth as a railroad suburb, in 1844 he sold portions of the historic Jackson Homestead farm to create housing for people likely to use the new Boston and Albany railroad line to commute to work. This tour highlights the architectural and social history of the neighborhood around Walnut Park and Waban Park from the mid-19th through early 20th centuries.

Location: Meet at the Jackson Homestead, 527 Washington St.

Admission: Donation, \$10 per person. Register through newtonma.gov/HNwalks.

Information: 617-796-1450

AUGUST

Saturday & Sunday, August 4 & 5, 10:00 am-5:00 pm
ENJOY FREE ADMISSION TO OUR MUSEUMS

Sunday, August 12, 2:00 pm

HISTORIC NEWTON WALKS

SPORTS LEGENDS AT NEWTON CEMETERY



Throughout history, Newton's schools, public playing fields, and parks have spawned quite a few

star athletes. Stroll through the Newton Cemetery to see the final resting places and learn more about the lives of tennis great Hazel Hotchkiss Wightman, baseball legend Dom DiMaggio, golf course designer Donald Ross, and other sports legends.

Location: Meet in front of the chapel just inside the main gate, 791 Walnut St, Newton Centre; park in the lot to the left of the chapel.

Admission: Donation, \$10 per person. Register through newtonma.gov/HNwalks.

Information: 617-796-1450

Thursday, August 23, 6:30 pm

HISTORIC NEWTON WALKS

400 YEARS OF LANDSCAPE HISTORY NEAR FARLOW HILL



During the past 400 years, the land surrounding the Durant-Kenrick House has been used in many different ways. Learn about chief Waban and Native American settlements as well as 17th century preacher John Eliot. Trace the history of development in the area as we walk through the grounds of the Durant-Kenrick House and past the Eliot Memorial overlooking what is now Newton Commonwealth Golf Course. The tour continues inside Durant-Kenrick House; explore the museum on your own afterwards.

Location: Meet at the Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds, 286 Waverly Avenue

Admission: Donation, \$10 per person. Register through newtonma.gov/HNwalks

Information: 617-796-1450

Donor Profile



Marie Presti appreciates her adopted city of Newton and has built a successful real estate business here by focusing on the factors that initially attracted her to Newton. She especially values the community's appreciation for preserving the architectural gems of our city.

Marie has been a supporter of Historic Newton for over

20 years. She initially became a member so that she could visit the Jackson Homestead and attend the annual House Tour with her mother. Eventually, Marie volunteered to be on the House Tour committee and helped select the homes for the Tour, organize the Preview Party on the evening before, and greet visitors during the Tour itself. Marie's real estate business and her role as president of the Greater Boston Association of Realtors now keeps her busy, but she still supports the House Tour through sponsorship. (Marie is also Greater Boston Realtor of the Year.)

Marie's role as a real estate broker gives her an intimate view of how homeowners in Newton often take a property's distinctive features, such as moldings, fireplaces, or columns,

and integrate these into a renovation that updates kitchens, bathrooms, and other aspects of the home to contemporary standards. These homes masterfully balance old and new elements, making Newton real estate distinctive. Marie also appreciates the village character of Newton.

Having gone through her own personal changes over the years, Marie offers deep understanding to clients undergoing major life events that prompt them to seek new properties. Marie's empathy encourages them to view their changed circumstances as an opportunity to dream of the future instead of dwelling on the past. She derives great pleasure from her work and loves to see her clients settle into a new home, embracing change.

As a Newton resident and business owner, Marie continues to support Historic Newton because she says we have done a great job over the years of educating Newton residents about the history of the city. Children and adults alike learn from our insights, education programs, and collections. Thanks to Historic Newton's archives, for example, Marie learned that her neighbor's home was a part of the abolitionist movement. She hopes that more people will participate in preserving our city's history. Thank you, Marie, for your longtime support of Historic Newton and for being such an excellent ambassador who educates others about the characteristics that make Newton such a wonderful place to call home.



An Elegant, Vernal Bloom in Newton

Ellen Jackson (1825-1902), lifelong resident of the Jackson Homestead and budding artist, documented the world around her in drawing, poetry, and prose. Some of her most compelling works are those of wildflowers here in Newton. The drawing on the cover of this newsletter comes from Jackson's sketchbooks, and we sell reproductions of some of her other wildflower sketches in the gift shops at our two museums.

As you prepare for springtime walks, keep an eye out for an inconspicuous, but elegant, vernal bloom that also captured Ellen Jackson's interest. The Jack-in-The-Pulpit (*Arisaema triphylloides*) can be seen as early as mid-March and its glossy purple leaflets grow

throughout June. This unusual flower has a spathe, known as "the Pulpit" that wraps around and covers over the spadix, or "the Jack." Interestingly, the plant actually has a series of tiny flowers of both sexes, but starts out overwhelmingly male. As the plant grows, it produces more and more female flowers. As it matures, it attracts flies, which act as its primary pollinator.

Culturally, Native Americans and other First Nations used (and still use) Jack-in-the-Pulpit throughout Northern North America. They gathered the fleshy taproots, called corms, dried them, and used them as a vegetable. Although the dried root can be consumed if properly prepared, when used fresh, a dangerous

poison leaves the eater with painful regret. There is one story stating that the Meskwaki (Sauk) Indians would put finely chopped fresh root into meat, leave it for their enemies to find, thereby poisoning the unknowing enemies. It's also reported that the Native People used a seed dropped in a cup of water to diagnose a variety of ills. If the seed went around four times clockwise the patient would recover. If less, the patient would die.

If you're lucky enough to find some Jack-in-The-Pulpit flowers this spring, take a moment, as Ellen Jackson did, to appreciate this spring treasure.

WHEN CUPID FLED FROM THE CHARLES



Pity the romantic-minded suitor who tried to steal a kiss from a young lady in a canoe afloat on the Charles River in 1903. He risked arrest by the Metropolitan Parks Commission, the agency charged with upholding morality on the stretch of the river that ran from Waltham to Newton Lower Falls. On August 15, 1903, park police began enforcing rules of behavior that forbade couples from kissing and from lying down in canoes by arresting a couple for kissing. The case went to trial and the man received a \$20 fine. Uproar ensued.

The “kissing controversy” reflected a clash between public officials and the freedoms that young people were beginning to enjoy around the turn of the 20th century. Canoeing along the “Lakes District” area of the Charles River between Newton and Waltham became quite popular. Youth with a bit of leisure time and money could travel out Commonwealth Avenue by trolley on their own, without bothersome chaperones. Many kept their canoes in boathouses in the area. In 1903, the Metropolitan Parks



Commission estimated that 3,000 canoes were in regular use during the season. The coves and inlets of the river made a nice, romantic place to stop and canoodle – until the police took out their field glasses.

Young people protested the new rule by refusing to sit up straight in their canoes, blaring love songs from their phonographs, and blowing kisses at officers. An editorial cartoonist sketched men and women tied to chairs at opposite ends of canoes. A poem in the Boston Sunday Journal on August 23, 1903 jested, “The Charles slinks abashed thro’

the rushes / Afraid to kiss even the shore.” People paddled their canoes to Dedham, where the Parks Commission did not have jurisdiction, leading to a 50 percent loss of business among boathouse owners in the Lakes District.

The police persisted, arresting 37 couples between 1903 and 1905. But in 1905, a case that went to trial was not prosecuted because the woman managed to escape from the canoe and walk away. This seemed to turn the tide

of enforcement and only seven couples were arrested between 1906 and 1910. By the 1920s, romance had moved into the back seat of the automobile, where privacy in secluded places was much easier to find.

The coves and inlets of the river made a nice, romantic place to stop and canoodle — until the police took out their field glasses.



Many romance-minded couples enjoyed canoeing in the “Lakes District” between Waltham and Newton Lower Falls.



Books of Local Interest at Museum Shops

For a carefully curated selection of books of local interest, visit one of Historic Newton's museum shops. We've just added ***Chestnut Trails***, a guide to nature walks in Newton, Brookline, and Boston, presented by the Chestnut Hill Garden Club. Young nature lovers will enjoy the ***Massachusetts Wise Animal Handbook***, which offers laugh-out-loud advice from members of the animal kingdom. Budding writers can fill in the prompts in ***Lucky to Live in Massachusetts***, a Bay State keepsake.



Adults will enjoy ***Ma Speaks Up***, Marianne Leone's poignant and humorous memoir about growing up in Nonantum with her Italian immigrant mother. Food lovers can find cookbooks of historical interest, including ***Forgotten Drinks of Colonial New England***, ***New England Pie: History Under a Crust***, and ***The New England Cook Book*** reprinted from a 1905 original. While you're shopping, pick up a jar of our custom-made ginger pear jam or a toy as a gift.

The shops at the Jackson Homestead and the Durant-Kenrick House are open during regular museum hours, Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. All purchases support Historic Newton. Members receive a 20 percent discount.

New Immigration Program Invites Students to Define Home

continued from pg. 3

Students will learn about their assigned family's culture by examining children's toys, and handling clothing, such as a 19th century simple work shirt with East Asian closures, and a 19th century Yarmulke (Jewish skullcap). Handling artifacts will encourage students to make connections to their own lives and experiences, making history tangible and accessible.

To investigate what life in the United States was like for these new arrivals, students will look at a jeweler's loupe, a package of laundry soap, and a

farmer's almanac for clues to the type of work available to new immigrants.

A 20th century political pin for an Italian-American candidate and a "No Irish Need Apply" ad for domestic workers demonstrate the opportunity and prejudice inherent in America at that time. Having discussed the lives of the families before and after immigration, students



8. "No Irish Need Apply" advertisements (*Boston Evening Transcript*, August 3, 1868, 3; August 29, 1863, 3).

will discuss: "what makes a place home?" After completing the program, they will better understand both the push and the pull of immigration.

Interested in donating objects related to family immigration to our education collection? Have a group you'd like to invite to pilot this new program? Contact Education Manager Roz Kreizenbeck at education@historicnewton.org

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS



Green Scenes: City Park History

Newton's first Committee on Parks in the 1880s recommended that the city create a 400-acre central park extending from what is now City Hall east to Centre Street and south to Beacon Street. Although the park was surveyed, it was never built. The city then acquired parcels of land for parks and playgrounds piecemeal, today resulting in

510 acres of general parks and recreation land. Public school grounds account for another 119 acres. Newton's Conservation Commission owns 280 acres. Some open space is also private golf courses (543 acres) and Massachusetts DCR property (296 acres). Below are historical highlights.



EDMANDS PARK
WPA-funded skating rink (1930s); poetry trail (2014)



FARLOW PARK
Newton's oldest public park (1885)



NEWTON CENTRE PLAYGROUND City's first public playground, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted (1890)



COLD SPRING PARK
Site of Atlas Films studio (1916-1920s); first official off-leash dog park (2003)



NAHANTAN PARK Almshouse and poor farm (1900-1960s); community garden site (1974-present)



KENNARD PARK
Original owner was ornithologist Frederic Kennard, who designed a landscape to attract birds (1907); sculpture trail (2016)

Sources of figures: City of Newton Open Space and Recreation Plan 2014-2020
City of Newton Parks & Recreation Commission Information Manual 2018
Map courtesy of Doug Greenfield, City of Newton GIS Administrator



Historic Newton

The mission of Historic Newton is to inspire discovery and engagement by illuminating our community's stories within the context of American history.

Jackson Homestead and Museum
Durant-Kenrick House and Grounds
Historic Burying Grounds Preservation

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