WASHINGTON SQUARE REHABILITATION STUDY

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Produced by

CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY GROUP

For the

WASHINGTON SQUARE REHABILITATION COMMITTEE
NEWPORT BEAUTIFICATION AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

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WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK REHABILITATION ASSESSMENT

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PART I

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK REHABILITATION ASSESSMENT

When the voices of children are heard on the green
And laughing is heard on the hill,
My heart is at rest within my breast
And everything is still.

William Blake

Section 1. ORGANIZATION AND INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT GOAL

Parks express the culture of a city or town: Openings provide scale and aspect for architecture; land is often configured with walkways, plantings, and other landscape features; the landscape, in turn, provides settings for fine and decorative arts. Parks and their property are creations that engage human senses and intellect on a grand scale.

Washington Square Park is one of two parks [1] established on the "Great Common", Newport's colonial common which is one of America's oldest commons. On arriving at the "Square", whether by foot, car, or bus, the unique quality of Newport's history and culture is imparted to community and visitors. Unlike proprietary real estate that surrounds the park, Washington Square Park is a public resource: Its maintenance and development are expressions of our shared integrity with two centuries of historic culture.

The goal of this project, while multifarious in process, is simple: To express the best of our culture in this historic, public forum; to strengthen and clarify the Park's historical and cultural features.

To this end, the practical goal of this phase of the project has been: To identify contributing cultural features, such as the tall elm trees, the bluestone fence curbing, and cobble gutters; to identify features which depredate the quality of the park; and to identify ways to protect, stabilize, restore, and develop the Park.

1.2 PROJECT ORGANIZATION

This report is the culmination of a twenty month study of Washington Square Park. In its simplest form, the study was comprised of historical research, assessment of social use, environmental research, and condition assessment. In concert with the Rhode Island State

Historic Preservation Commission and City Officials, this information was evaluated and compiled to develop recommendations for restoration and improvement of the square.

The report provides four primary types of information: 1. Historical and social context of the Square and its surrounds; 2. A professional condition assessment of cultural property contained in the Park; 3. Recommendations for restoration and improvement predicated on the condition assessment and conservation tenets; and 4. Estimates of the cost to implement treatments. The layout is as follows:

Part I provides general introductory and summary information. Section 1. summarizes project genesis, technical conventions, Park history, and broad concepts of the study. Section 2, Executive Summary, provides an overview of the study: Problems, recommendations, procedures, and costs are outlined.

Part II provides background information necessary to evaluate the Park and its present condition. Sections 3. details the Park's origins and history; Section 4. examines current social and commercial factors affecting the Park and it evaluates previous studies.

Part III provides a detailed condition report: Section 5. identifies cultural property associated with the Park and provides specific detail on the condition of selected property.

Part IV provides recommendations: Section 6. includes specific restoration recommendations concomitant with the cost of restoration and improvement procedures.

Part V provides references.

1.3 INTRODUCTION

Study origin: The Washington Square Rehabilitation Project was conceived of and initiated by a special committee fostered by the Newport Beautification and Conservation Commission. Conservation Technology Group, a clinical preservation firm with international experience in conservation analysis and the management of preservation projects, was engaged to define and perform the study.

Conventions: Two language conventions are used throughout this report: Washington Square Park (Eisenhower Park) is referred to as "Park" or "Square"; and compass points are referenced to grid north (the center axis of the Park is assigned east / west).

Background history: Washington Square is the original name of the Park which makes up the historic center of Newport. The site was officially established as a "park" in 1799 on the southern portion of the "Great Common", common land granted to Newport's colonists by King Charles I. The site was surrounded by natural and built features which supported Newport's nascent but thriving agricultural and commerce society[2]: A clear spring was

located at the east end; a river and public water mill were located to the north along Marlborough Street (where the old police station stands); Marlborough Dock, Newport's earliest dock,[3] was located to the west. Newport's earliest roads, Broad, Spring, Farewell, Bull, and Thames Streets all intersected with the Common[4].

In addition to providing resources and access to sea and land, the site's gentle west facing slope facilitated early trade in the form of an open market. By the late seventeenth century, the Common was surrounded by civic, commercial, and residential buildings. The first Colony House was constructed in 1687 high on the site to view down Queen Street to the Marlborough Dock. Later, in the 18th century, Long Wharf was created to increase access to the sea. Peter Harrison's *Brick Market* arcade was constructed in an area known as the "queen's hive"[5] to store and provide a covered market place for grains and produce. The area quickly filled with commercial structures and the residences of prominent capitalists.

Today, the Washington Square area remains one of Newport's busiest districts. The Square is subject to many of the problems which plague metropolitan parks: Litter, pollution, vandalism, vagrancy, and damage from auto accidents.

The recent rehabilitation of the Brick Market into The Museum of Newport History has created increased interest in the Square's historic and cultural features. Conservation Technology Group was asked to provide a study of the Park which would: Assess the condition of cultural property; make recommendations for restoration and improvement; estimate costs; and develop an implementation strategy.

Study concepts: This study is predicated on professional tenets established by the American Institute for Conservation, standards set forth by the United States Secretary of the Interior for Historic Preservation Projects, procedures set forth by the National Institute for Conservation, and standards developed through the experience of this firm. As a municipal project involving a significant cultural site, associated Newport and Rhode Island State officials were included in the process of developing plans for improvements.

It is our understanding that recommendations made by the study will be evaluated and administered through the Washington Square Rehabilitation Committee under the aegis of the Newport Beautification and Conservation Commission and the Newport City Council. It is our further understanding that the project will be professionally managed.

PART I
Section 2. SUMMARY REPORT

Scope of study

Washington Square Park Rehabilitation Study examined aspects germane to developing a rehabilitation strategy including: Historic, architectural, and socioeconomic context; existing historic features; related preservation projects; and planned use. Concepts for restoration and alteration were developed by C.T.G. staff conservators and scientists from clinical examination, assessment of previous studies, and discourse with consultants, municipal administrators, state historic preservation personnel, and local citizens.

What was established

The report clinically establishes the need to correct substandard conditions and to make site improvements: A technical condition assessment characterizes losses and damage; contextual reports address causal agents; recommendations address future use and establish protocol with related projects. Restoration recommendations are based on established professional tenets for historic preservation projects such as minimal intervention, reversibility, and practical maintenance.

Conclusions

The study concluded that while the Square serves effectively as a municipal park, it does not reflect the value of Newport as a preeminent historic and cultural center: Historic features are often obscured and in poor condition, and little effort has been given to coherently interpret the Square as a historic and cultural site of national significance.

Recommendations

Recommendations follow tenets established by the American Institute for Conservation and other professional preservation organizations. They are oriented towards encouraging greater resident and tourist use of the Square and its surrounding cultural and commercial establishments. This study also engaged in limited design studies to compensate for vandalism and other damage to cultural property[1] and to augment long range plans of the State of Rhode Island Historic Preservation and Heritage Commission. The study further concluded that

1. A reproduction iron fence post was designed to have the full appearance of the original but it will provide breakaway / replaceable mount tabs. It was also designed with two sections to facilitate replacement of the top section which is often vandalized.

Newport's 350 year history and tradition of refined design and craft should be incorporated into any improvements or restorations.

Specific recommendations for improvement include: Strengthening the visual relationship between the site and Colony House; redefinition of lower parking area; and specific alterations to the Park interior and immediate surrounding walkways. Recommendations for restoration include: Refurbishment of the cast iron fence, cobble gutters and gas lights; reestablishment of continuous bluestone fence curbing; patination of the Perry Statue; and cleaning of the statue's base.

Implementation

The project may be implemented over a period of time if properly managed: While certain procedures are predicated on the completion of other work, most components of the rehabilitation may be implemented individually.

Anticipated cost

The anticipated cost if all projects are implemented is estimated to be $ 965,383.00 including technical specifications and project administration but exclusive of project insurance costs which must be negotiated once the project is established.

Refined scope

In conclusion, while this study was not contracted to comprehensively examine the larger Washington Square Area, C.T.G. gathered considerable information which indicates that a more expansive study of parking, land use, traffic patterns, and commercial use would greatly benefit Newport: The area might be improved to become a highly attractive cultural zone which would draw more locals and tourists, as well as draw new businesses and benefit existing business.

PART II

WASHINGTON SQUARE PARK REHABILITATION ASSESSMENT

Section 3. HISTORIC ASSESSMENT

Newport history can be approached through both historic events and traditions: Newport is significant in its participation with the founding and development of our nation; it is also significant in the quality of its fabric. This study assumes that both Newport's 350 years of history and its strong tradition of the quality craftsmanship should be reflected and incorporated into any improvements made to Washington Square Park. The following section examines Washington Square in the context of its traditions and it provides a *time line* of the Park and its elements.

3.1 A CRITIQUE OF THE PARK AND ITS SURROUNDS BASED ON TRADITIONAL NEWPORT STANDARDS

Standards

Washington Square Park and its surrounds might be maintained to a higher standard. Newport has a long and rich tradition of cultural refinement: Several books, including Ralph Carpenter's The Arts And Crafts of Newport, describe the work of skilled artisans working in Newport during its earliest days. Even to the casual observer, Newport's architecture, decorative, and fine arts are sui generis in their sophistication of craft and refined scale and configuration.

Architecture

Washington Square Park developed as a working center surrounded by refined architecture: The Old Colony House, Pitts Head Tavern, Governor Coddington House, Henry Bull House, and Abraham Rodrigues Rivera House [1] are a few of the colonial structures which surrounded the site. The tradition of designing and building refined structures continued into the early twentieth century with the Bank of Newport and Sayers Building. It is not until recent history that some surrounding architecture has lost contact with the tradition of fine craft and neighborhood scale.

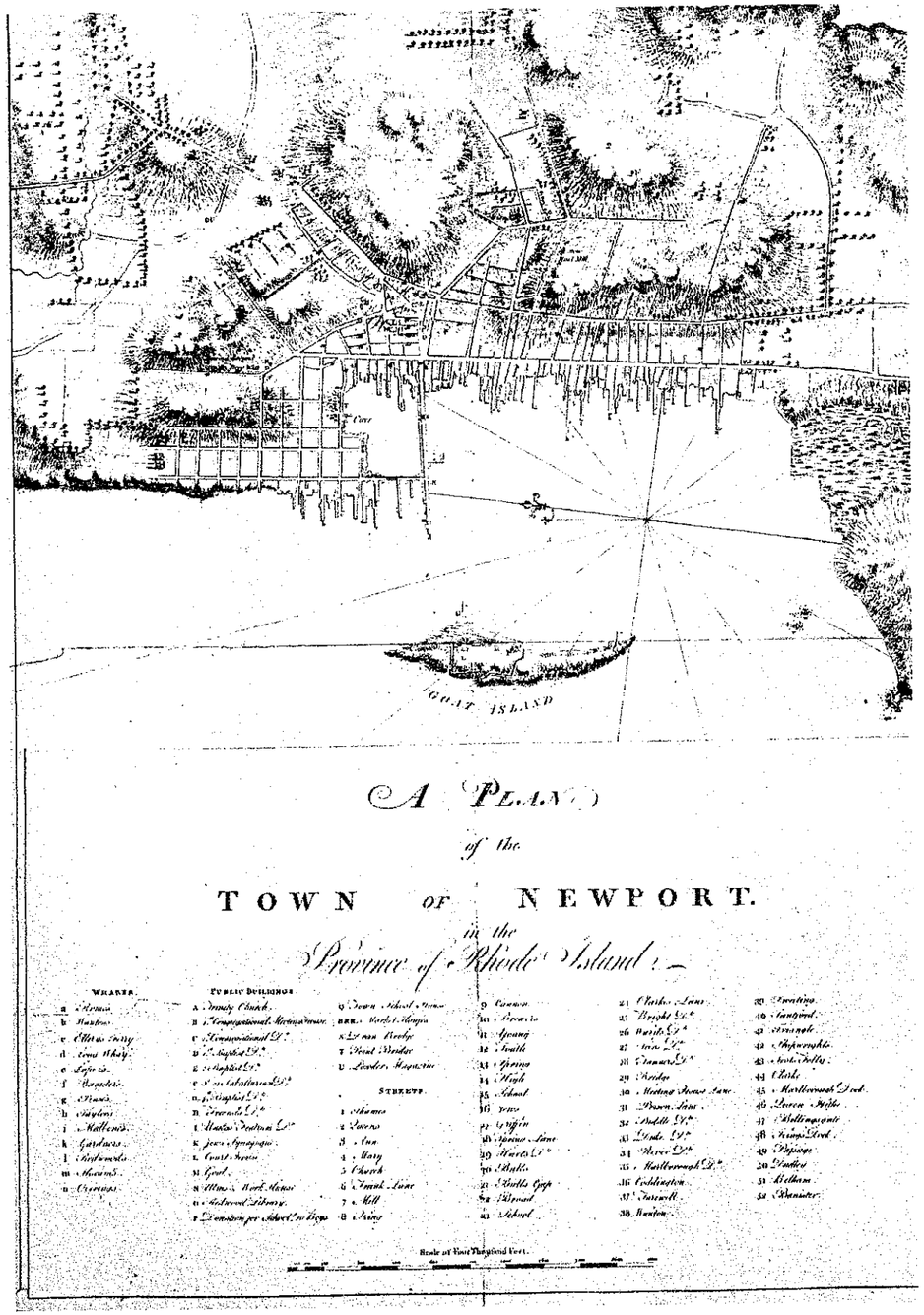
1. Presently the Old Colony Newport National, Citizen's Bank

Park Property

Washington Square Park presently consists of disparate elements which do not work in harmony. Property such as the Perry Statue, the cast iron fence with bluestone curbing, and fountain accurately reflect Newport's aesthetic tradition. Other elements of the Park reflect base and inferior quality: The Park's walks are out of alignment; restorations and alterations to the iron fence do not reflect the scale and craft level of the original; the fountain pool is too large for the fountain and its color inappropriate; the upper circle, the visual center of the Park, is ill shaped and contains a common *grave marker* type stone [2] surrounded by rough grass. Certainly, future alterations should reflect Newport's high aesthetic and craft tradition. In addition, recent poor quality work be removed and replaced with appropriate materials and craftsmanship.

Map of Newport by J.F. De Barres, 1776. Reprinted by permission of the Newport Historical Society

2. A long time resident reported that it was common knowledge that, at the time of its commemoration, President Dwight Eisenhower referred to the stone as a "gravestone".



3.2 ORIGINS AND DEVELOPMENT

This section examines historic development of the Park site from early colonial days to the present. The series of CAD maps generated by C.T.G. to illustrate land configuration and development are based on historic record, maps, and land evidence. Even though the Park was measured and much of the information is based on historic information, the maps are presented as interpretations and not historic fact: Early source maps and records often provide ambiguous and conflicting data which required interpretation.

Origins

Aquidneck Island was purchased from Narragansett Indian Chiefs Canonicus and Miantonomi in 1638: Colonists paid for the land with ten coats and twenty hoes. A year after its purchase, Nicholas Easton, William Coddington, and Dr. John Clarke founded Newport.

Although there is no written history from the pre-colonial, Narragansett Indian period of Newport, it is common belief that paths laid by the native predecessors became the first lanes and streets [3]. An examination of the site's topography [see following section] indicates that the native paths were laid along natural erosion paths.

Washington Square Park, like many public parks, began as common land: "The germs of our public-park system must be sought in the old Germanic idea of Commonages, or common lands, which were coeval with the Saxon conquest of England, and, in course of time, found expression in some form in the New England colonies, in moulding a land-tenure somewhat more democratic than that in the mother country."[4]

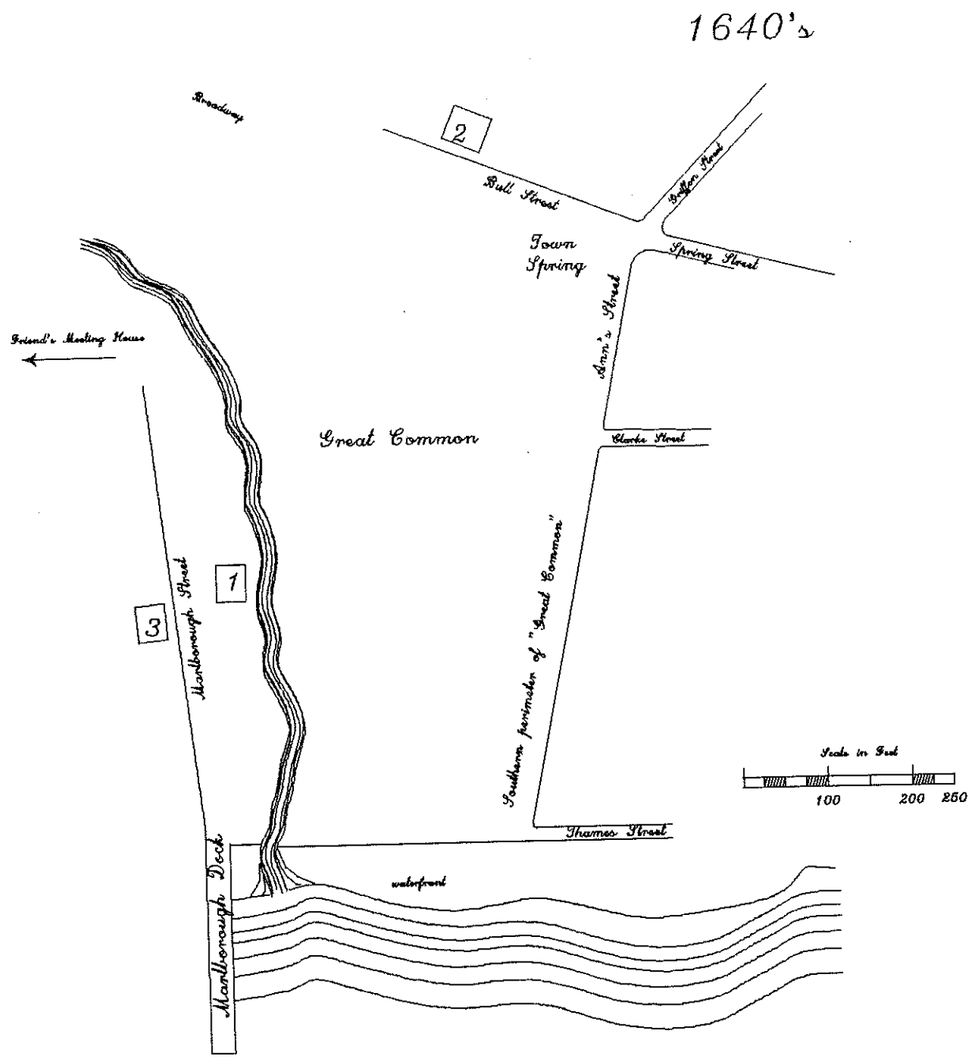
Colonies were established by English Common law: All land belonged to the King[5]; land use was *granted* and taxed by the King. In addition to common land which was divided amongst colonists for dwelling, farming, and commerce, colonial towns often established a central *common* for communal use. Washington Square Park is located on the southern perimeter of Newport's central or *Great Common*. The common was approximately sited between Ann Street (now Touro Street), Equality Park (on Broadway) and the Friends Meeting House.

For New England colonists, the common served as a land reserve from which individuals were permitted to draw land for private use at stated intervals. Typical to New England commons, maps indicate that by 1641, the *Great Common* was intersected by several streets with some residences and, by the mid-18th century, the southern portion of the *Common* (Washington Square Park) was filled with residences.

3. Jefferys, Cham: Newport, A Short History 1992 Newport Historical Society pg. 1

4. Clark, Franklin, "The Commonage System of Rhode Island." The Magazine of History. 3 (June 1906) pg. 341

5. All English and colonial land title deferred to the King.



1. Water mill
2. Henry Bull House
3. Governor Coddington House

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map of the great common reflecting the 1640 configuration.

Unlike many New England colonies, Newport had excellent access to the sea and comparatively *well off* residents. These natural and economic resources altered the character of Newport's common from the typical: The *Great Common* was surrounded by commercial, residential and social resources:

To the North, the boundary was defined by a river which ran from the Kay street hill, and most likely from Pond Street, along Tanner Street (now Dr. Marcus F. Wheatland Boulevard)[6], River Lane, and along the south side of Marlborough Street into Narragansett Bay; a water mill for processing grain was located on the river; and the Friends Meeting House was constructed just to the north of the mill.

To the east, a communal spring was located on Bull Street (now Spring Street behind the F. Murray Court House).

The southern perimeter formed by Ann's Street which is now Touro Street.

The western boundary was defined by the marshy waterline of Narragansett Bay; Marlborough Dock, the first wharf in Newport, was located at the end of Marlborough Street.

The common then provided the basic needs for a nascent colony: Water, a grain mill, a religious center, a tavern, a shipping wharf to connect the colony with other colonies and general commerce, and plenty of room to manage the ancillary needs of commerce.

Topology In addition to social forces, area topology is significant to the formation of Washington Square Park. The J.F. W. de Barres map of 1776 (Page 3) reveals an undeveloped topography with streets following erosion patterns: Broadway runs at the base of the northwestern *Kay Street ridge* and Griffon Street (now Touro Street) is located in an erosion channel between the Kay Street ridge and the "Hill". The streets which border and intersect those topological formations form a triangle which terminates into the "funnel like" Park. In essence, Washington Square Park is a triangular piece of land formed to satisfy the geometry of the waterfront and hills to the east. The location of the Park is clearly definable by the mid - 17th century. It is this irregular parcel which is the subject of the remainder of this timeline.

Development Originally the southern section of the Great Common, Washington Square Park was gradually defined through architecture, within and surrounding the Park, and the establishment of refinements.

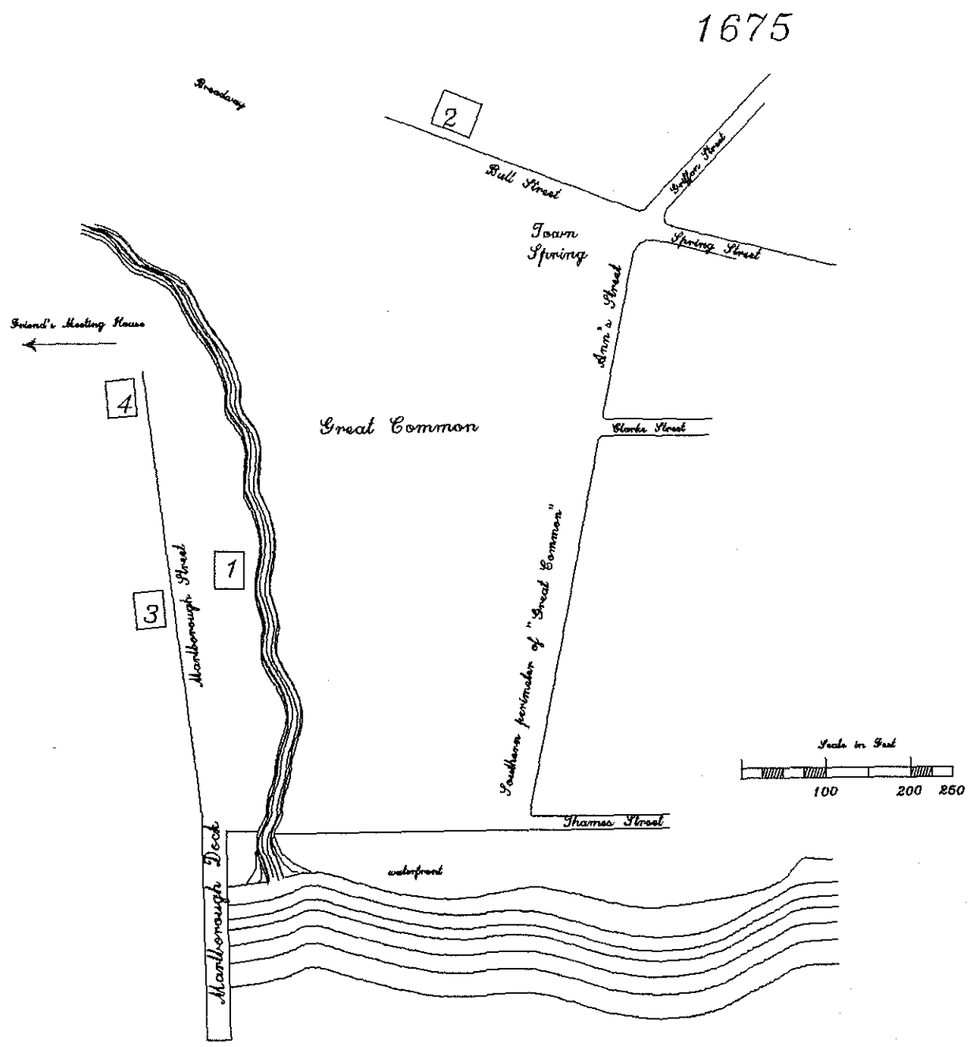
1640 Henry Bull erected his house at the center of the east end of the Park site.[7]

1641 Governor Coddington House (demolished in 1835) was constructed at northern edge of Common.[8]

6. Formerly West Broadway.

7. Mumford map

8. Mumford Map



1. Water mill
2. Henry Bull House
3. Governor Coddington House
4. White Horse Tavern

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map of the great common reflecting the 1675 configuration: The White Horse Tavern was constructed during this period.

1673 The White Horse Tavern was built at the corner of Farewell and Marlborough Streets. [9]

c. 1722 The Abraham Rodrigues Rivera House was built on corner of Charles and Queen Streets. This house became the Newport Bank in 1803 and is currently used as the Old Colony, Newport National, Citizens Bank. [10]

pre-1726 The Pitts Head Tavern, formerly the home of arts patron Henry Collins, was standing at corner of Charles and Queen Streets. [11, 12]

early 1700s The Stephen Decantur House stood at top of the Park. The Decantur House was moved by Levi Gale in 1834 to Charles Street; it is presently La Petit Auberge Restaurant. There is speculation that the house might have been the original Colony House. [13]

1739 The State House (now called the Colony House) was constructed in its present location. The structure was designed and built by master builder Richard Mundy.

1758 The Stiles map indicates that the Park interior was filled with dwellings. Numbers on the Stiles map refer to the number of stories each structure contains; the customs house, listed as one of the buildings destroyed in the 1770 fire [14], is most likely the building in the far southeast corner marked with a C. [15]

1760 The Peter Buliod House constructed on Ann (Touro) Street next to the present position of the Opera House Movie Theater. This structure became the Rhode Island Bank and first Newport Bank in 1795. The structure was purchased by Oliver Hazard Perry in 1818. [16]

1762 The Brick Market was designed and constructed by Peter Harrison for grain storage with an open arcade market. The structure is presently the Museum of Newport History at the Brick Market.

1770 A large fire [17] - destroyed most of the buildings located in park. [18]

9. Downing, Antoinette F. and Vincent J. Scully Jr. The Architectural Heritage of Newport, Rhode Island second edition New York,: Bramhall House, 1967, page 8

10. Downing plate 87

11. Queen Street, presently Washington Square Street, marks the northern boundary of the present Park.

12. Downing page 53

13. Conversation with Burt Lippencott, Newport Historical Society, on 2 December 1994

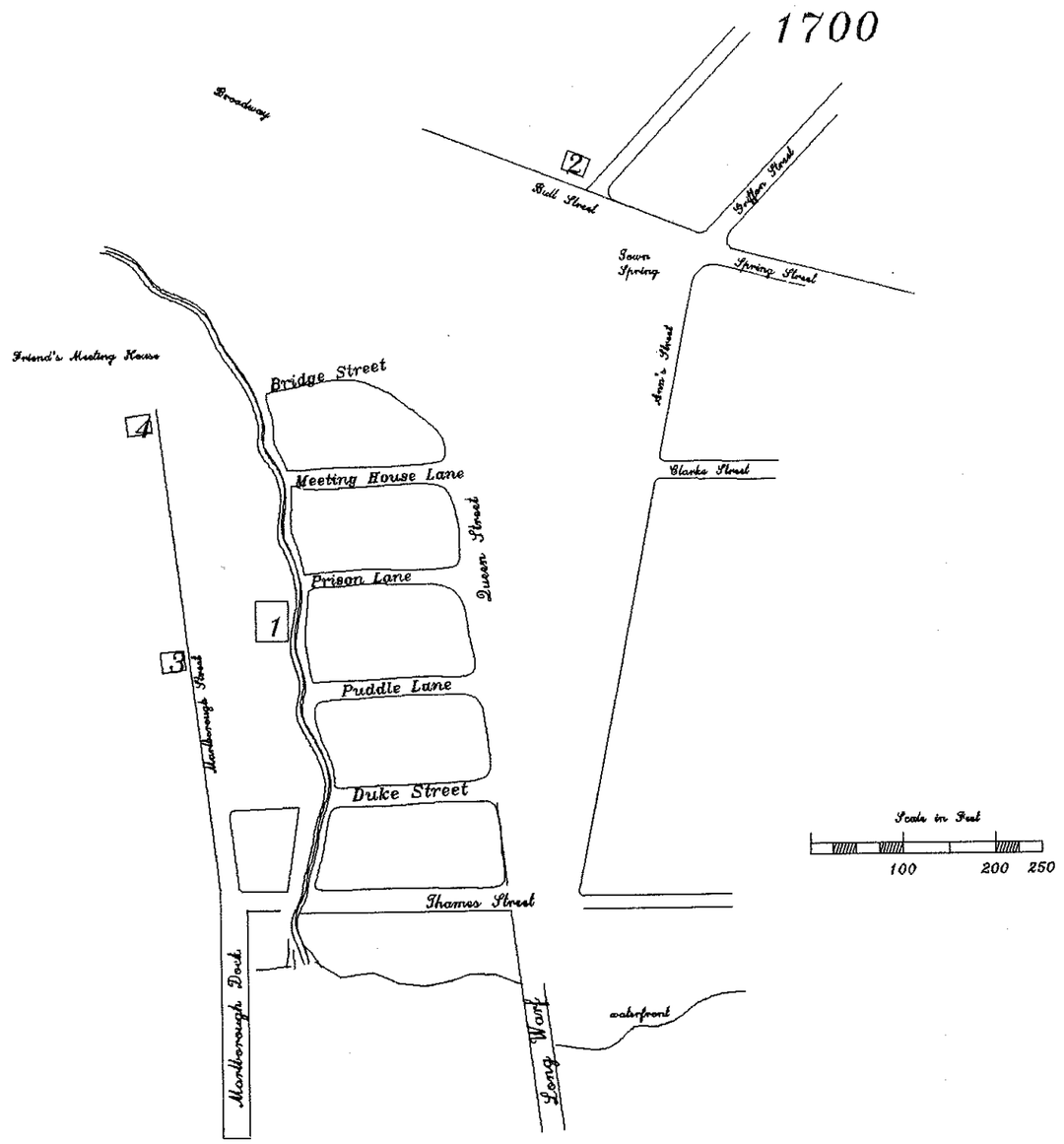
14. Mason, George Champlin Reminiscences of Newport, Newport: Charles E. Hammet Jr. 1884

15. Stiles, Ezra. Map of Newport 1758 [Redwood]

16. Downing page 8

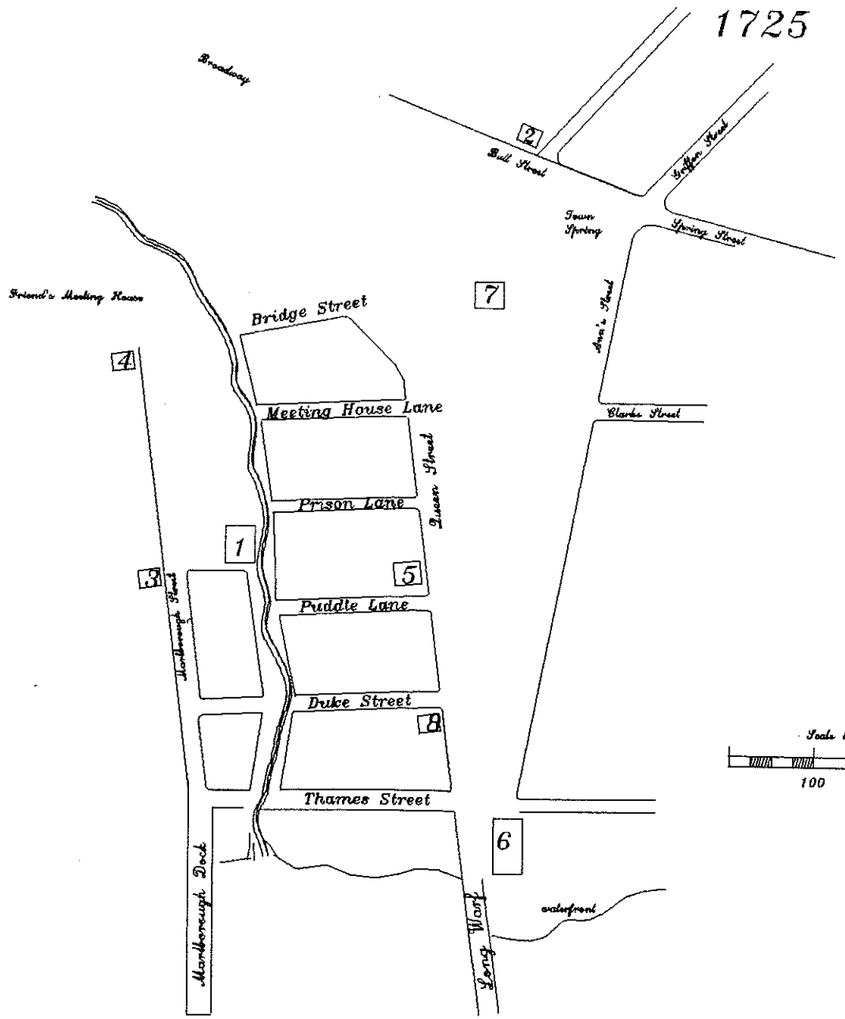
17. Newport Mercury 31 December 1770 and Bull page 71

18. Bull, Henry. "The Memoir of Rhode Island". Rhode Island Republican 1832-38, page 71



1. Water mill
2. Henry Bull House
3. Governor Coddington House
4. White Horse Tavern

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1700 configuration: Lanes are defined; little is recorded about buildings of this period.

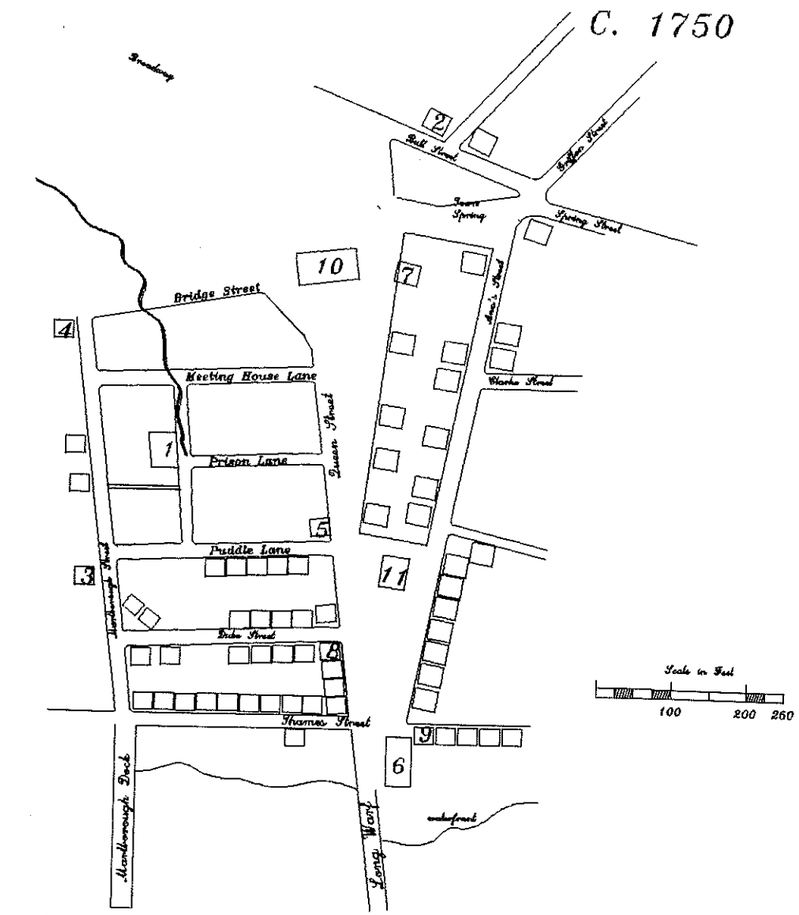


1. *Water mill*
2. *Henry Bull House*
3. *Governor Coddington House*
4. *White Horse Tavern*
5. *Pitts Head Tavern*
6. *Brick Market*
7. *Decatur House*
8. *Rivera House*

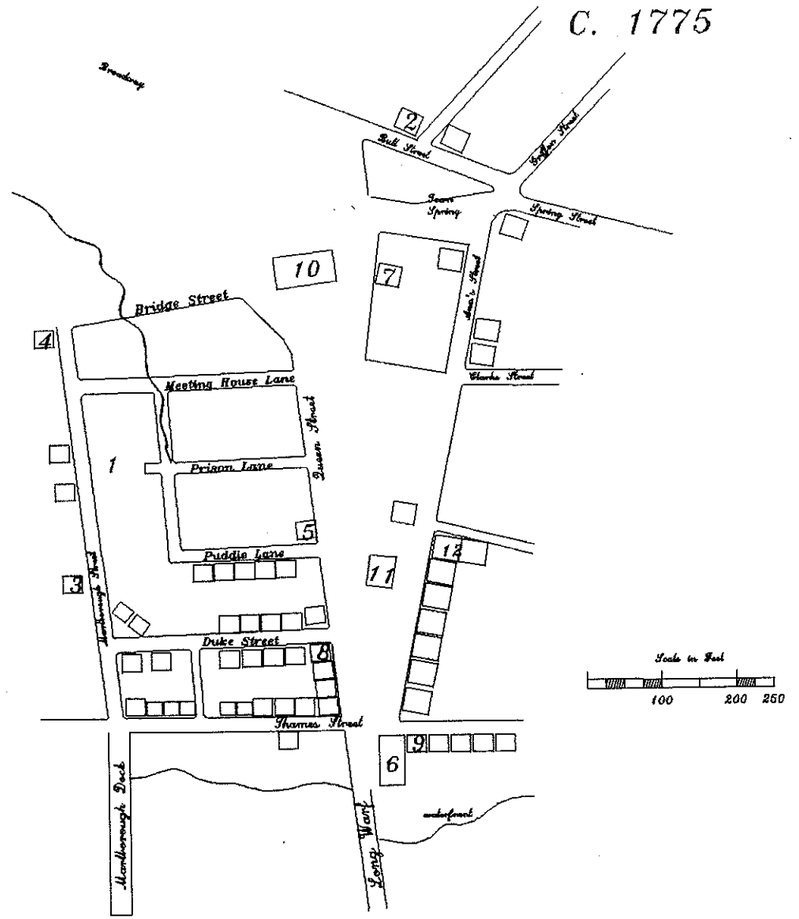
C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1725 configuration: Note the introduction of several structures.

xxxxxxx 1772	The first jail was built.
1777	The "Map of Newport" drawn by Charles Blascowitz for the British Admiralty (page 3) indicates that there were two structures on the lower park grounds: One is listed as the "School House", the upper structure is not identified.
1783	"Town of Newport should purchase the other lots and appropriate them to the use of the public and provided that the town should never erect or cause to erect thereon any building whatever . . . ".[19]
pre-1793	John Manchester House was standing on the west corner of Charles Street at the Park. The structure, described as a *mansion*, was purchased by cabinetmaker John Townsend and later sold, by 1818, to Charles Feke.[20]
1795	The Robert and Joseph Rogers House was constructed on Touro Street near Clarke Street. It later was used as the St. Joseph's school.
c. 1796	Mumford House was constructed on Washington Square Street.
c. 1797	Fence was 4.5' high with a "double pitch cap".[21]
1799	It was at this time that development of Washington Square as a public park began: The site was unofficially named "Washington Square Park" after George Washington's death[22] and there is no further indication of enclosed structures being built on the site. Park was " . . . planted with rows of Lombardy Poplar."[23] " . . . shortly after, a number of them [poplar] were procured by . . . George Champlin . . .. Those trees were planted . . . ".[24]
pre-1800	The Isaac Gould House, originally the Rodman House, was built at 51 Touro Street.[25]

19. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at the Newport Historical Society, Newport, Rhode Island. s. v. "Washington Square."
20. Downing page 110
21. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."
22. Boss, Judith. Newport: A Pictorial History Norfolk, Virginia,: Downing, 1981, page 35
23. Boss page 35
24. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."
25. Downing page 459



C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1750 configuration: Note the increase in dwellings within in the Park's borders and diminution of the river.



C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1775 configuration:

1797 Shortly after 1797, old cellars were filled and new poplar trees were planted.[26]

1800 The name, "Washington Square Park", was approved by vote in town meeting[27] and the site was made into the *mall* with circular walks. "Major Toussard gave the poplars for the Mall at this time".[28,29]

1802 A hollowed log aqueduct was in service.[30]

1806 The Newport Mercury reported that a flag staff and two gates were installed in the fence, one 10'long, for Newport Artillery cannons to fire salutes.[31]

1818 An oil painting by an anonymous Hessian Soldier depicts the Park and its surrounds. Several houses are located to the south; a white plank fence lines the perimeter; and the *parade* is gravel (see digitally enhanced copy of the painting on the following page). The Philip Wanton House, William Wanton House, Job Lawton House and Buttrick House are depicted in the painting as are linden trees planted by "Count" Vernon: These die shortly thereafter.[32]

A digitally enhanced detail of the lower end of the park and long wharf (page 17) shows: Traffic control bollards at the foot of the park; tall columns at the Park entry; a horse drinking from the public fountain; and considerable shipping activity on long wharf.

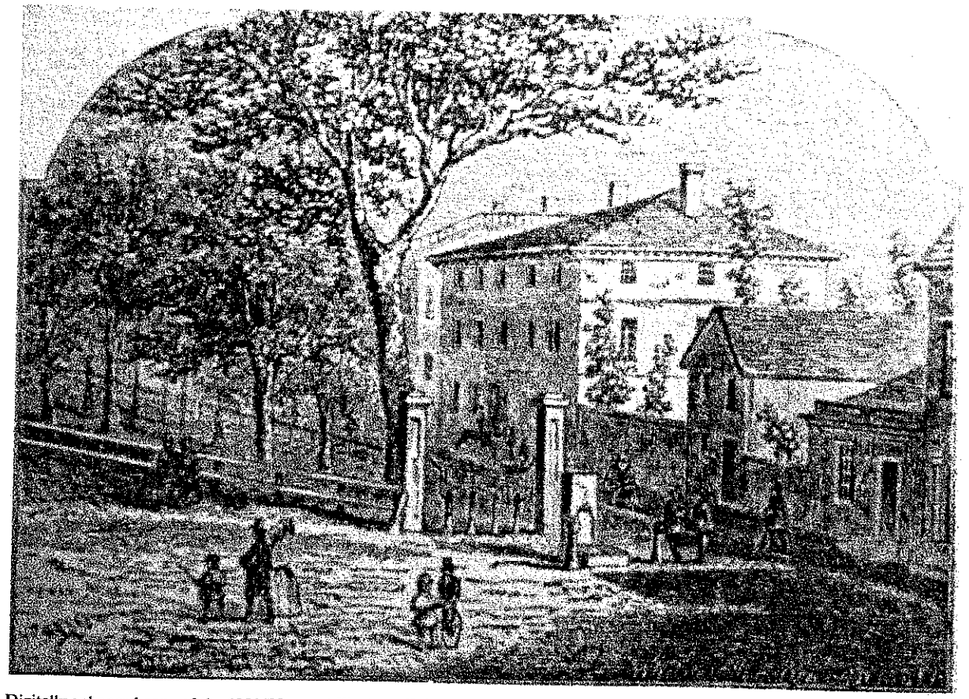
1821 New trees were planted by G. W. Lawton.[33]

1828 On ornamental cast iron fountain was installed.[34]

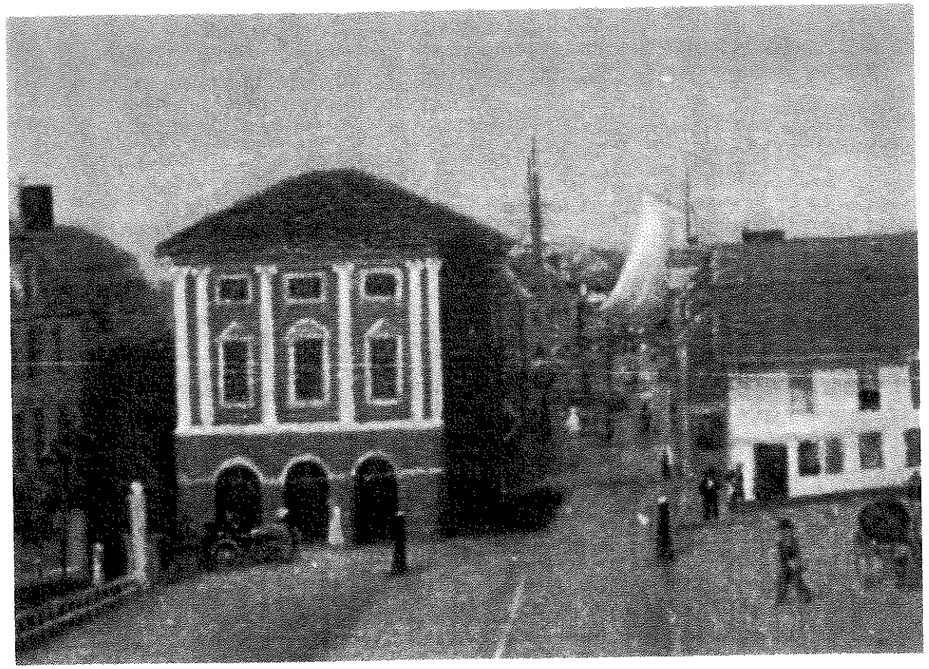
1829/32 Governor G. W. Lawton laid walks and planted linden, elm, buttonwood, ash, and willow - all together 77 trees. He also removed a fence (probably the fence in the Hessian painting) and built a new fence (probably the fence in the Walling's Map illustration.[35]

26. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."
27. Newport Mercury 21 April 1800. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."
28. Bull page 71
29. According to A. Downing, The Architectural Heritage of Newport Rhode Island (pg. 10) indicated that Major Toussard was in Newport overseeing the construction of Fort Adams.
30. Boss page 75
31. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."
32. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."
33. "Gould Day Book" in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square." page 1324
34. Boss page 75
35. Newport Mercury 1 July 1865. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."

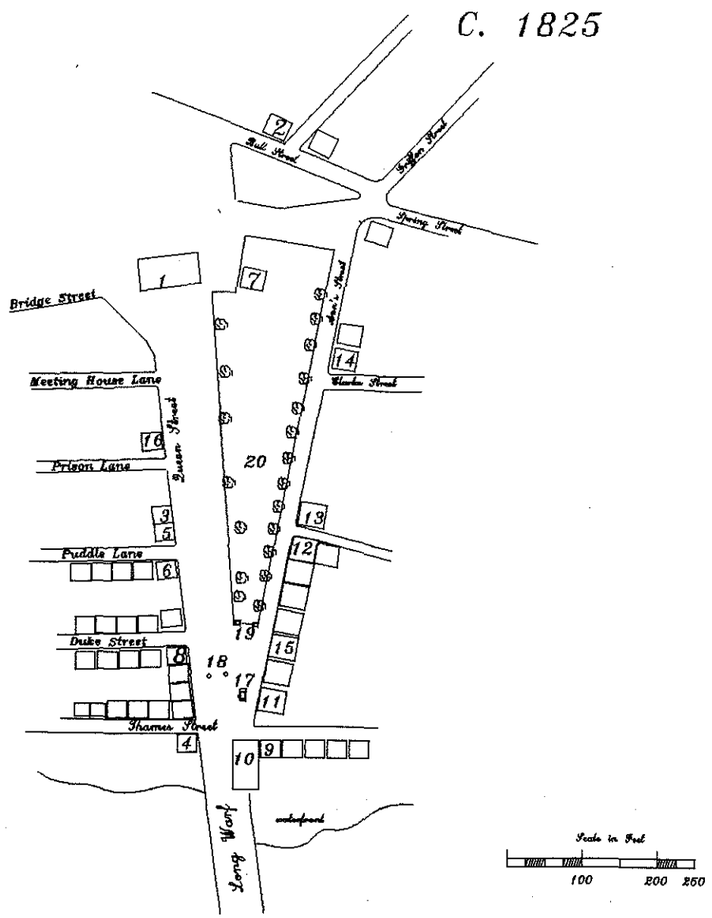
Digitally enhanced copy of an 1818 Hessian oil painting located in the Museum of Newport History at the Brick Market. Reproduced by permission of the Newport Historical Society.



Digitally enhanced copy of the 1854 "Newport Illustrated" A series of Pen and Pencil Sketches illustration. The illustration depicts the granite horse fountain and details the foot of the Park: Two tall stone columns frame the lower entrance which is controlled by a series of four bollards.. The photograph is in the Stanhope and Covell photographic collection of the Newport Historical Society. Reproduced by permission of the Newport Historical Society.



Digitally enhanced detail of the 1818 Hessian oil painting located in the Museum of Newport History at the Brick Market. Horse drinking from granite fountain; lower entrance stone posts; street bollards; and busy Long Wharf are depicted. Reproduced by permission of the Newport Historical Society.



1. Colony House
2. Henry Bull House
3. Buttrick House
4. Lawton House
5. Pitt's Head Tavern
6. Feke House
7. Decatur House
8. Newport Bank
9. Gould House
10. Brick Market
11. Wanton House
12. Perry House
13. Rogers House
14. Ellery House
15. Lydon House
16. Mumford House
17. Public Fountain
18. Street bollards
19. Park entrance with two columns and bollards
20. Park planted with young poplar trees; wooden fence

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1825 configuration.

1834 The Levi Gale (Sheffield) House was built on the site of the Stephen Decantur House at the top of the Park, facing the present Court House cutoff street to Washington Square Street. The structure was designed by Russell Warren. [36]

1834 The Zion Episcopal Church was constructed. The structure was designed by Russell Warren. It later became St. Joseph's Catholic Church and is presently the Jane Picken's Theater.

1850 The City Map shows trees and no paths; it also indicates that the lower portion of the park (in front of the Brick Market) was open and excluded from the Park property. [37]

The 1850 "Walling's Map of Newport" illustration shows a granite fountain at the foot of the Park. Two tall stone columns frame an entrance at the bottom of the Park which is blocked by a series of four bollards. The "map" shows no sidewalks; the fence is the same as the fence in the Hessian painting; and the Park is planted with trees.

The 1850 atlas "Map of Newport" shows the Park House Hotel standing adjacent to the Sheffield (Levi Gale) House:[38] Hotel was to the east along "Park Place" which is currently the Court House cutoff between Farewell (then Spring Street) and Washington Square and it extends through to Touro Street. ; the structure was probably demolished when the Courthouse was constructed in 1926.

1854 The same granite fountain, bollards, columns and trees are shown in a Newport Illustrated lithograph (see digitally enhanced reproduction on page 16). [39]

1865/66 Major alterations were made to the Park path at this time. [40] These changes are evident between the 1850 City Map (which shows only trees and no paths) and 1870 City Map which shows diagonal walks which terminate at the present location of the cast and wrought iron fence end posts. This suggests that the present iron fence might have been installed at this time.

1866 Sidewalk was removed from the front of the Sheffield [Levi/Gale] House and a "graded glacis . . . which will be very ornamental" was installed. [41] A digitally enhanced detail from a Stanhope and Covell photograph (page 20) dating from the turn of the century indicates that there was a retainer wall with double picket iron fence at the top of the Park.

36. The Levi Gale House was moved to its present site on Touro Street in 1926.

37. 1850 Map of Newport, NHS

38. Photo of Park House Hotel in Museum of Newport History.

39. Newport Illustrated . . . page 26

40. Newport Mercury 15 April 1866. in vertical file at NHS, s. v. "Washington Square."

41. ib. 14 April 1866

1870 The Atlas of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations depicts two sets of diagonal paths between three cross paths. [42]

c.1880 An early photograph reveals plain benches in the Park: The benches have two wooden rungs for back with plain metal legs. The photograph also shows the present cast and wrought iron fence. [43]

1883 The City Atlas Map shows a path layout identical to that of 1870; two fire hydrants are shown at the bottom of the park. [44]

1884 ". . . Elms & Lindens now growing there . . . ". [45]

A fountain, described as: ". . . Lilliputian reminder of the Ballachino at St. Peters, bronze and color gilding included . . . dates back to 1828 . . . ".[46]

Digitally enhanced detail from a Stanhope and Covell photograph (page 20) dating from the turn of the century indicates that there was a retainer wall with double picket iron fence at the top of the Park. Stanhope and Covell Photographic Collection of the Newport Historical Society. Reproduced by permission of the Newport Historical Society.

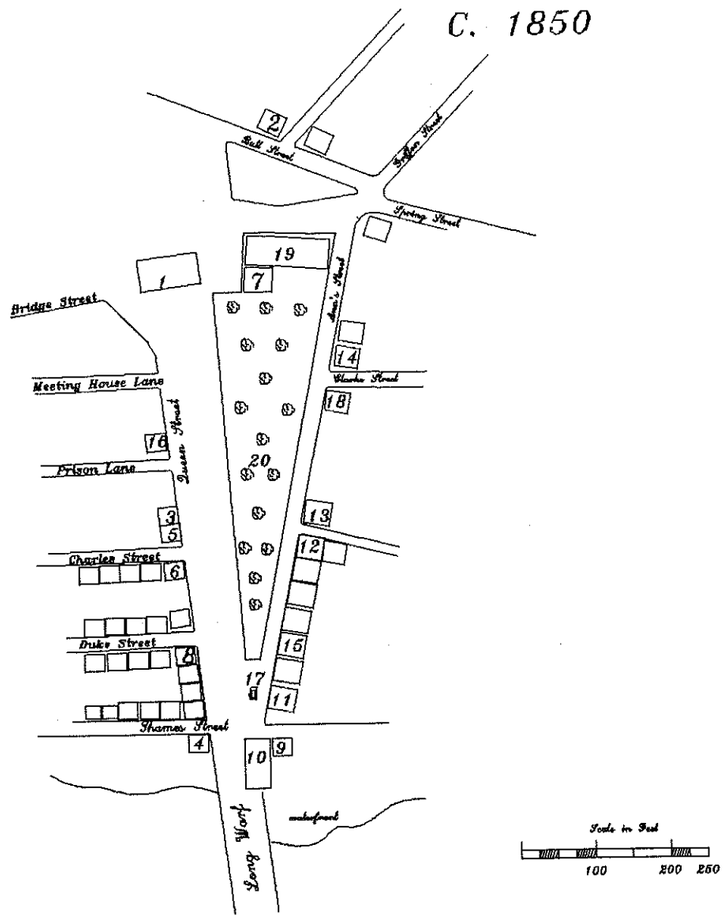
42. Atlas of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations Philadelphia,: D. G. Beers and Co., 1870

43. Warburton page 9

44. City Atlas of Newport, Rhode Island Philadelphia,: G. M. Hopkins, C. E., 1883 [NHS]

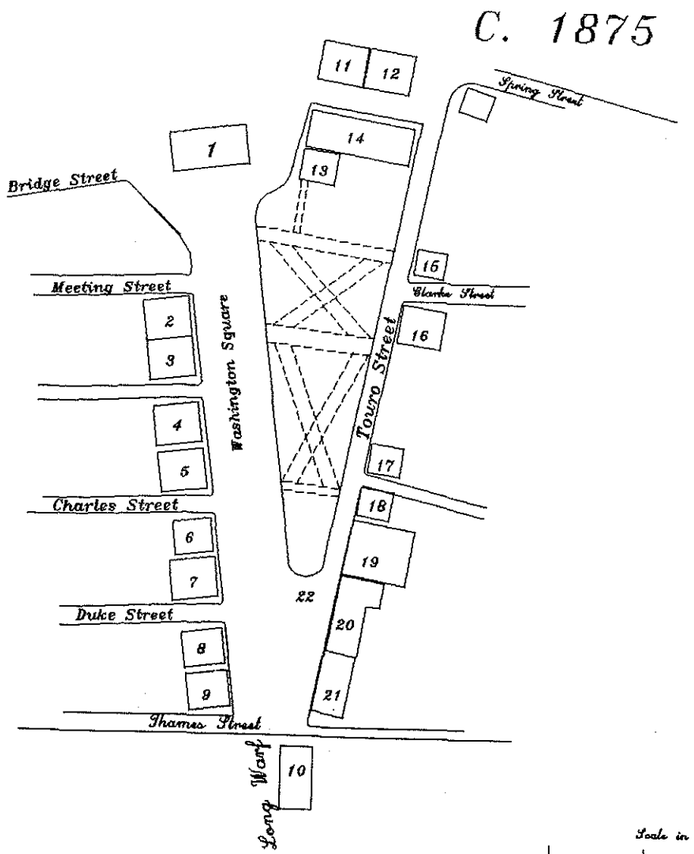
45. Mason, George Champlin. Reminiscences of Newport Newport, Rhode Island,: Charles E. Hammett, Jr., 1884, page 25

46. Mason page 2



1. Colony House
2. Henry Bull House
3. Buttrick House
4. Lawton House
5. Pitt's Head Tavern
6. Feke House
7. Levi Gale House
8. Newport Bank
9. Gould House
10. Town Hall
11. Wanton House
12. Perry House
13. Rogers House
14. Ellery House
15. Lydon House
16. Mumford House
17. Horse fountain
18. Zion Church
19. Park Hotel
20. Park planted with Linden, Elm, Buttonwood, Ash, and Willow in diamond pattern

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1850 configuration.



1. Colony House
2. Bank
3. Hazard
4. Buttrick
5. Lawton
6. Coff
7. Barker
8. Newport National Bank
9. Young
10. City Hall
11. Hassard
12. Livery
13. Sheffield
14. Park House Hotel
15. Cozzens
16. Zion
17. Young
18. Marsh
19. Opera House
20. Perry
21. Young
22. Hydrants and fountain

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1875 configuration.

1885 On the 10th of September, the "Perry" Statue was dedication on 72nd anniversary of Battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812; [47] Oliver Hazard Perry was a hero of that Battle; the sculptor was William Greene Turner.

1893 The City Map indicates that the lower (west) diagonal path section was eliminated. [48]

1895 St. Joseph's Rectory (currently housing Taylor-Made Designs at 39 Touro Street) appears on the City Atlas.

1896 The Newport Daily News reported that "healthy elms, parterres of variegated tulips, and scarlet geraniums" were growing in the Park. [49] A late nineteenth century photo indicates that there were lamps were located on the periphery of the Park but none in the Park. [50]

c.1900 A series of *turn of the century* photographs from the Stanhope and Covell Photographic Collection of the Newport Historical Society show several features of the Park:

- Photo 2 shows two paths in the southeast section of the Park with what appears to be flagstone or a similar paving material. Secondary paths appear to be dirt. Both paths have small stone border gutters similar to the partially buried gutter remaining at the top crosswalk of the Park.
- Photograph 14 shows a gravel / stone path.
- Photograph 2 shows young rhododendrons around the Perry Statue.

Cannons from 1779 British Privateer Tartar are located on either side of fountain. [51]

1905 Washington Square Street became a street car (trolley) terminus. [52]

A period photograph shows "Peanut Joe" Brangazio at the northeast side of park. Exterior/perimeter sidewalk is brick - mostly light colored with intermittent dark bricks. [53]

47. Newport Mercury 12 September 1885, page 1

48. Elliott, Chas L., C. E. and Thomas Flynn, C. E. Atlas of the City of Newport, Rhode Island Springfield, Massachusetts,: L. J. Richards and Co., 1893 [NHS]

49. "Parks in Newport." Newport Daily News 5 May 1896

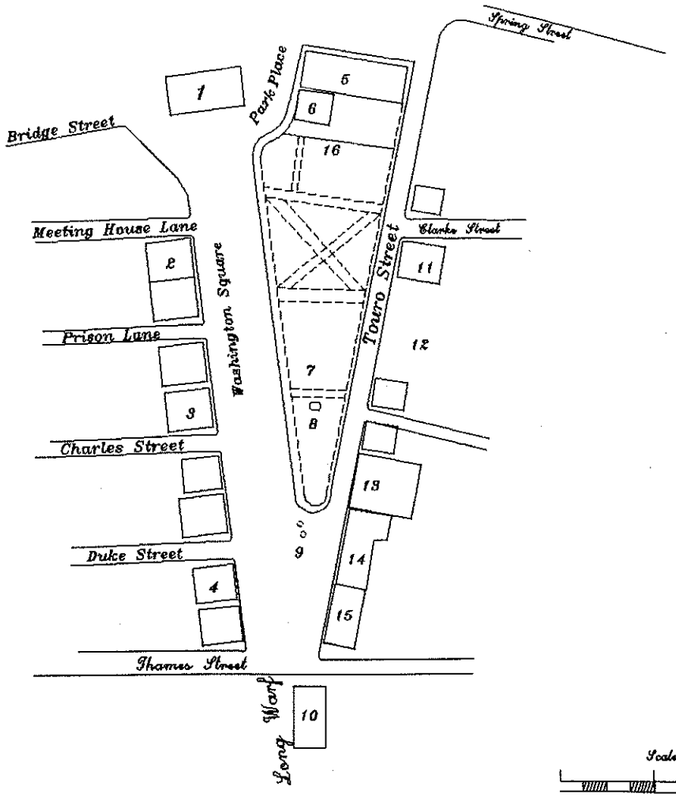
50. Warburton, Eileen. In Living Memory: A Chronicle of Newport, Rhode Island, 1888-1988 Newport, Rhode Island,: Newport Savings and Loan Association, 1988, page 9

51. Newport Illustrated, in a Series of Pen and Pencil Sketches New York,: D. Appleton and Co., 1854, page 26

52. Boss page 46

53. Hall, Marshall. " 'Peanut Joe' Brangazio at Washington Square: Newport, Rhode Island", Photographic Print. 1905. Collection of "12 Old Photographs" reproduced by Brian Pelletier NPL

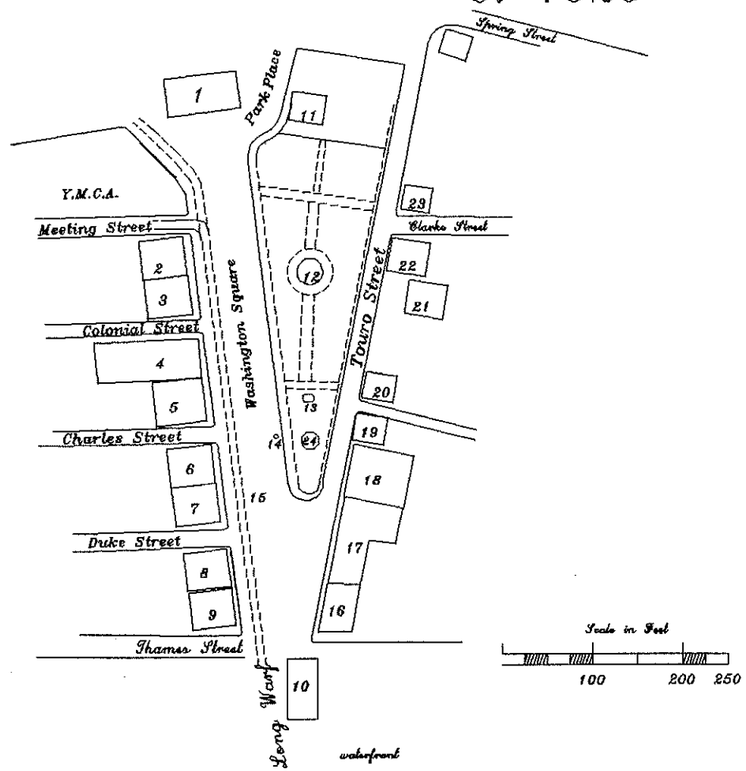
C. 1900



1. Colony House
2. Newport Exchange Bank
3. Odd Fellows Hall
4. Newport Bank
5. Park Hotel
6. Sheffield
7. Cannons from Tartar
8. Perry Statue
9. Hydrants
10. Curiosity Shop
11. St. Josephs Church
12. St. Josephs buildings
13. Opera House
14. Perry
15. Touro House
16. Stone retaining wall with double picket iron fence

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1900 configuration.

C. 1925



1. Colony House
2. National Exchange Bank
3. Builders Merchant Exchange
4. Newport Realty
5. R.I. Lodge
6. Goff
7. Horgan
8. Newport Bank
9. Coggeshall
10. City Hall
11. Bliss
12. Band Stand
13. Perry Statue
14. Hydrant
15. Trolly
16. Liggett Co.
17. Horgan
18. Opera House
19. Salvation Army
20. Rogers House
21. St. Joseph's Rectory
22. St. Joseph's Church
23. Sherman
24. Fountain

C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the 1925 configuration.

1907 The Atlas of the City of Newport shows further alteration to the paths: The upper (east) diagonal was eliminated; a central (east west) path with a circle was added between the upper cross walks; and a bandstand was added to the center of the circular path.[54]

Electric lamp Standards made by the "King Co." along exterior walk were probably original to 1920's/ 30's.[55]

1960 Dedication of the Eisenhower stone and designation of a portion of the Park as "Eisenhower Park".[56]

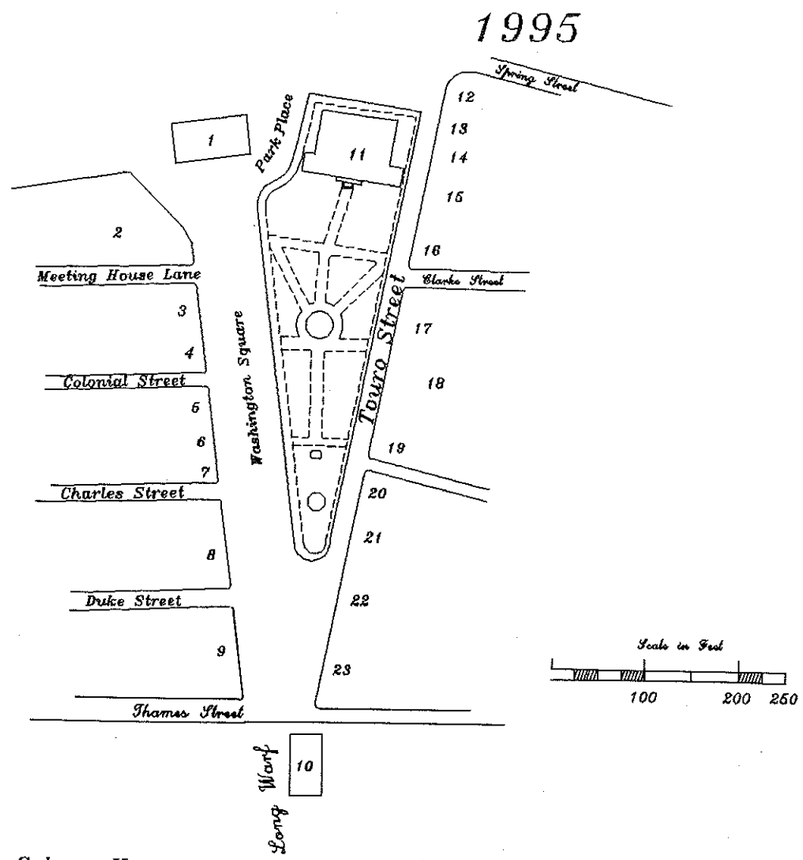
1991 Maintenance work finished on the cast iron fountain.[57]

54. Atlas of the City of Newport and Towns of Middletown and Portsmouth. Springfield, Massachusetts,: L. J. Richards, 1907 [Newport Public Library and NHS]

55. Conversation with Brian Pelletier

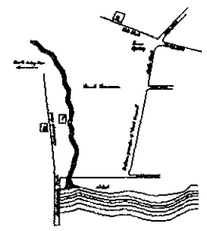
56. "Eisenhower Park Designation Set for Part of Washington Square", Newport Daily News 21 July 1960

57. Conversation with John Isham

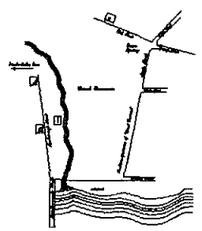


1. Colony House
2. Non-profit organizations McKinney Shelter
3. old Hospital Trust Bank for lease
4. Professional offices
5. Yesterday's restaurant
6. Consignment shop
8. Ocean Coffee Roasters
9. Bank of Newport
10. Citizens Bank
11. Florence K. Murray Judicial Complex
12. Ebenezer Flagg
13. Murray's
14. N.R.F. residential
15. parking lot
16. residential
17. Jane Pickens Theater
18. Taylor Reservations
19. Professional offices
20. Professional offices
21. Opera House
22. Horgan Building
23. Banana Republic

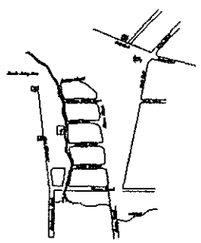
C.T.G. Inc. CAD map reflecting the present, 1995, configuration.



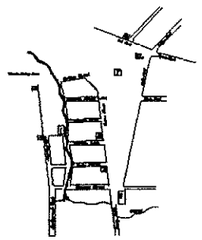
1650



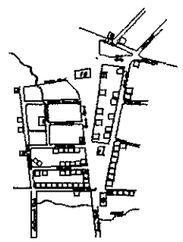
1675



1700



1725



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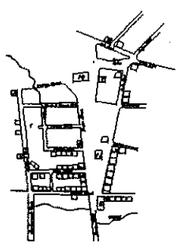
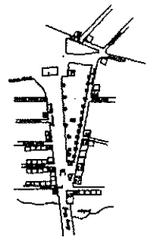
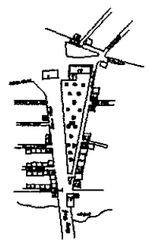


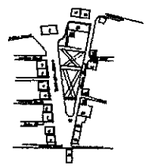
1775



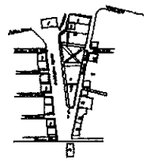
1825



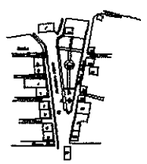
1850



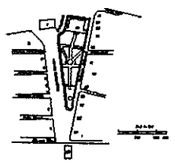
1875



1900



1925



1995

C.T.G. Inc. composite: 1650 to 1995.

PART II
Section 4. UTILIZATION ASSESSMENT

Clearly alterations and restorations to public parks should be predicated on use and abuse patterns: Treatments should encourage socially and economically beneficial uses as well as compensate for extant and anticipated deleterious natural and social conditions. For this phase of the study, the environment, socioeconomic, historic, and potential uses were examined.

4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

Washington Square is contained in an environment of buildings and paved ways. The park is somewhat sheltered from wind by surrounding structures and the lowest (west) section is located approximately 14' above the mean high tide of Narragansett Bay.

Physical geology of the Park is soil over shale forming a west facing slope. A perpetual spring, located at the east end of the park, has a subterranean drain. Storm runoff is controlled by culverts and a municipal storm sewer system. No evidence of physical erosion and only minor historic evidence of flood incursion damage was found.

The Park's natural environmental includes specimen trees, sycamore maples, elm, Norwegian maples, and grass. While trees and grass increase soil stability, a marked thatch buildup is evident at Park borders. One maple tree at the northeast corner of the Park has seriously displaced the bluestone fence curbing and a second tree at that site obscures the vista to the Colony House. Dutch Elm Bark Beetle, a precursor to Dutch Elm Disease, has been identified in the Park placing the three remaining elm trees at high risk [1].

Atmospheric chemistry is important to determining the stability of sensitive materials such as bronze and marble: Acidic particulate will deposit and mass on surfaces and form liquid phase acids with rain, condensation, and fog. Liquid phase acids interact (oxidize, erode, and form hygrophilic salts) with cultural property such as the Perry statue, fence, standards, bluestone, and benches. The ambient atmosphere contains moderate levels of several deleterious chemicals in addition to containing airborne chlorides from the Bay and winter deicing. Air chemistry is characterized on the C.T.G. Critical Environmental Information Form located on the following page.

Treatments to cultural property should be predicated on anticipated environmental factors. For instance: Bronze property in this environment should be buffered with benzotriazol [BTA], a copper anti-oxidant, in microcrystalline wax;

1. Assessment by Scott Wheeler, Newport Tree Warden

CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
FOR: Newport, Rhode Island

WEATHER:	Source: New England Regional Climate Center Date obtained: 6 Dec. 94
Average Rain Fall:	thirty year average / 44.81 inches
Wind Direction:	monitoring location - T. F. Green
SSW	Jan-NW / Feb.-NNW / Mar-WNW / Apr.-SW / May-S / June & July-SW / Aug.-Sep-SW / Oct.-NW / Nov.-SW / Dec.-WNW yearly prevalent - SW

AIR POLLUTANTS:	Source: Environmental Protection Agency 1993 Annual Report	
Carbon Monoxide:	eight hour std. / 35ppm	local / 9.05ppm
Nitrogen Dioxide:	a. mean std. / 0.05ppm	local / 0.0231ppm
Sulfur Dioxide:	a. mean std. / 80 ug/m^3	local / 21.2 ug/m^3
Ozone:	one hour std. / 0.12ppm	local / 0.1345ppm
Lead:	discontinued	
Suspended Particulate:	a. mean std. / 50 ug/m^3	local / 25.5 ug/m^3

ACID RAIN: Source: Narragansett Bay Atmospheric Deposition Study (1992-1993)
by James Latimer

local a. mean / 4.3pH

Readings for this report represent averages taken from recording stations in Providence, Fall River, Groton, and Bridgeport. Sources determination was based on availability of reliable data and average ambient wind conditions.

In conclusion:

1. Park land is stable in the existing environment; there is no need to alter topography other than for aesthetic reasons.

2. Selected trees require attention.

3. The ambient atmosphere has been deleterious to metal and stone; restorations and alterations should incorporate measures to compensate for the environment.

4.2 CULTURAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONTEXT

Surrounding neighborhoods, businesses, tourism, and special events determine present and potential Park use. Washington Square is located in an historic, urban setting surrounded by structures with diverse architectural styles. Surrounding structures are representative of Newport's diverse cultural History: A National Landmark structure, the Colony House, sits at one end of the Park; and the Opera House, a commercial structure with incongruous stone and aluminum veneer, is sited at the opposite end. Other architectural styles surrounding the Park include colonial, federal, Palladian, romantic revival, nineteenth century and modern commercial, and a "preservation sensitive" twentieth century facade rehabilitation.

The use of surrounding structures is as diverse as their styles. Current utilization includes a shelter for the homeless, professional offices, service and commercial businesses, cultural, and public institutions: The square is frequented by vagrants, tourists, businesspersons, and lawyers with a harmony unique to Newport. The range of uses can be typified as follows:

Businesses:	Commercial ventures
	National franchise businesses
	Office buildings
	Professional businesses (banks, lawyers and other professionals)
	Service businesses
Cultural:	Two of Newport's most significant historic structures:
	The Colony House currently being restored for cultural

and public use by the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission

Brick Market recently rehabilitated into the Museum of Newport History at the Brick Market

The Newport Academy of Ballet

Residential: The Square is surrounded by an historic residential neighborhood: It is intersected by Clarke Street which contains several historic bed and breakfast establishments, significant private dwellings, and the Newport Artillery building.

Municipal / State: The Florence Murray Courthouse is situated at the eastern boarder of the park. This colonial revival edifice dominates the top ground of the Square.

The old Armed Forces YMCA serves as the McKinney Shelter homeless center and offices for other social agencies.

4.3 UTILIZATION ASSESSMENT

Historically, Washington Square has been used for military drill, ceremony, social and cultural events, commerce, residential housing, and as a green for leisure activities. Present day utilization varies with the season, day, and time of day. Over the period of this study, typical daily uses became apparent:

Court: The Square serves as an extended consultation room and waiting room for the Florence Murray (Newport County) Courthouse. On weekdays, it is common to see consultations between lawyers and clients, lawyers and lawyers, and between court patrons and their families and friends. Distressed individuals might be seen using the park as a temporary refuge and occasionally there is an gathering of outspoken supporters anxious to make a public statement.

The Square is effectively used for this purpose: Walkways are used for slow conversations; benches for longer consultations; lawns for relaxing and waiting with children; and, occasionally, someone peruses the Perry statue or fountain.

Ceremony: Situated near City Hall and in the center of historic Newport, the Square provides an opportune site for ceremony and celebration. Politicians, the Navy Band, civic groups, and the Newport Artillery are some of the groups who routinely use the site.

Indigents: The McKinney Homeless Shelter is in close proximity to the Square. Although this facility provides much needed relief for the temporarily indigent, it also houses chronic substance abusers: During warm afternoons, intoxicated men pan handle, dominate the benches, and sleep on the lawns. Observation indicates that drunks intimidate both tourists and local patrons. Police presence is, by economic necessity, light; the problem is managed when crime occurs or when officers engaged in court business call the Newport Police to clear the Square of vagrants.

Tourists: Organized tourist groups, including private and Historical Society tours, and individual tourists frequent the Square. By far, the greatest number of tourists visit the Square as part of organized groups: Parking and other tourist attractions discourage individual use of the Square as does the lack of historic interpretation.

Businesses: Shoppers use the Square as a shortcut to move between businesses but rarely stop or utilize the park. Local businesses are not particularly reliant on or supported by the Square in its present configuration.

4.4 WHAT DIMINISHES USE OF WASHINGTON SQUARE

This section includes a compilation of observations presented by citizens, tourists, surrounding businesses, and Newport City Officials regarding factors deleterious to Park use. Citizens, tourists, and surrounding businesses were asked to comment on various factors including lighting, safety, cultural property, perceived use, landscape, maintenance, access, parking, and events. The survey was not scientific in that no controls or recognized tabulation methodology was used; it is presented as a reasonably accurate overview. Subjects were asked to comment on general and specific conditions. Narrative responses were categorized and tabulated with the following results:

Safety / Crime: Drunkenness, vagrancy, and boisterous behavior intimidate most citizens: A significant group of individuals indicated that vagrants and drunks keep them from using the Park as they would like.

Canopy: Psychology indicates that areas with a dark, enclosed, low cover tend to be perceived as potentially dangerous. The Park canopy, while improved in the past three years, has diminished sight lines and creates a closed

environment.

Culture: While the Park is rich in native, colonial, and western culture, there is little to indicate or interpret that culture: There is very little reason for a tourist to visit the Park other than to take a break.

Condition: The Park is presently in poor condition (see condition report). The apparent condition reflects on the culture of the City and it sends a message to patrons that the area is not prosperous and therefore, not of any significance. An adequate upkeep budget is generally considered to be indespensible for sucessful park systems such as Williamsburg and Savannah.

Safety: The south walk, along Touro Street, poses a serious safety hazard to tourists and tour groups moving between the Colony House and the Museum of Newport History: The walk is barely two and a half feet wide and bordered on one side by the iron fence; there is a history of vehicles colliding with the fence at this location placing pedestrians at considerable risk; ice and snow increase the threat to pedestrians along this side of the Park.

4.5 RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE WASHINGTON SQUARE

Crime: The British concept of a Park Warden might be an effective way to maintain park order. A full time Warden (or Keeper) would be responsible for everyday order and maintenance: Authority would include direct contact with the Newport Police and responsibilities would include cleanliness, maintenance of landscape and cultural property, and general safety. The author has observed Park Keepers working effectively in other municipal parks.

Canopy: The Tree Warden has been asked to draft a plan for Washington Square which would include increased tree maintenance and raising canopy height.

Culture: Washington Square is at the center of Newport cultural history yet there is little to indicate that history. It is surrounded by historic architecture and has been the site of nationally significant historic events. Multilingual placards, restoration of historic features, and increased historic interpretation would greatly increase the value of the park to draw locals and tourists. Specific recommendations to increase historic awareness include:

1. Reestablish the historic name "Washington Square" to the entire Park;

2. Restore historic elements such as the fence and gutters;

3. Replace cement sidewalks with A.D.A. compliant historic reproduction pavers bordered by 4" bluestone coping;

4. Clean and restore the Perry statue patina;

5. Create a central dais surrounded by historic plaques;

6. Clear the vista between the Colony House and Brick Market;

7. Increase public events and traditions which draw attention to the history of the Square;

8. Encourage historic activities such as horse drawn wagon tours;

9. Integrate the landscape between the Park and Colony House as part of the R.I. State Historic Preservation Commission rehabilitation project. Infill the area with A.D.A. compliant, fishscale (Appian Way) pavers;

10. Establish an information kiosk in the parking area to the west of the Park.

garden Increasing the lower (west) garden size and converting the west parking area into a garden with an information kiosk would improve both appearance and *user friendliness*. The present garden is restricted to a ring around the pool. The lower (west) section of the Square lends itself to a more developed garden which would add both color and cultural interest. This would incur the need for greater maintenance: Local business or civic organizations might be asked to underwrite the cost of developing and maintaining a garden; a full time "Keeper" would be responsible for maintaining the site.

maintenance Maintenance, a problem with any public park, includes vandalism, trash, normal wear, environmental deterioration, and accident damage. At present, most maintenance is performed by borrowing staff from other positions. Because of its heavy use and urban nature, Washington Square, more than any other city park, requires a full time "Keeper".

recreation If a common grade and historic paving is established between the northeast corner of the Park and the Colony House, the area might be utilized by the horse and carriage trade. The appearance of horse drawn carriages would be appropriate to the Colony House as well at to the Park and its surrounding district. This type of activity would both draw tourists and add a new dimension to public events held in the Park.

Safety: Safety should be addressed in perception as well as fact: Pedestrians should be made to feel safe from anti-social behavior and traffic.

social Vagrancy and other anti-social behavior is a transient but very real problem: While it does not require full time police presence, it does require monitoring and communication with police. This problem would best be managed by a "Keeper": While a greater police presence might be reassuring to some, it also may suggest that there is a more serious crime problem than what actually exists.

traffic The risk to pedestrians walking along the southwest corner of the park is significant as evidenced by damage inflicted on the fence in that region. Widening of the south sidewalk and installation of bollards along the west / southwest walk would provide a wider margin of safety for pedestrians. Specific recommendations for bollard installation are included in Sections 6 and 7.

PART III
Section 5. TECHNICAL CONDITION ASSESSMENT

The purpose of section 5 is to report findings from a clinical assessment of cultural property located in the Park. The Section is arranged as follows:

5.1 Contains a summary review of cultural property with recommendations

5.2 Contains clinical assessments:
- A. Perry Statue Assessment
- B. Iron Fence Assessment
- C. Fountain Assessment
- D. Other Cultural Property Assessment

5.1 CONDITION SUMMARY OF CULTURAL PROPERTY WITH RECOMMENDATIONS

ITEM	CONDITION	RECOMMENDATION
FENCE		
Posts	damaged or missing	New post construction designed on old configuration; Cast 78 new replacement posts
	moderate to light damage	Restore 50 posts Cast 10 additional for future needs
	mounts damaged	New mount designed for posts
	oxidization	Remove rust and paint entire fence
Picket Sections	seriously damaged or missing	Fabricate 22 new sections Restore 72 sections
Curbing	damaged or missing	Replace 500 linear feet of damaged bluestone or cement with bluestone Reset remaining curbing
Chain Link	inappropriate material	Work with Courthouse to replace chain link with cast iron
WALKWAYS	inappropriate material	Replace all walkways with aligned pavers
Interior Walks	misoriented inappropriate edging	Realign Line with 4" bluestone curbing
Surrounding Walks		
North Walk	inappropriate	Tie in with Colony House improvements
South Walk	too narrow	Widen into Touro Street to 4'
West curved walk	misoriented	Realign and conform to widened north walk
GAS LIGHTS	out of alignment poor condition	Remount as necessary Repaint / restore tops

ITEM	CONDITION	RECOMMENDATION
ELECTRIC LIGHTS		
Southwest	inappropriate site paint in poor condition	Move to lower parking island Repaint Savannah Green
North	paint in poor condition	Repaint Savannah Green
LANDSCAPE / TREES		
Northeast corner	grade anomaly	Regrade in concert with Colony House regrading and Courthouse
Elm Trees	endangered	Inoculate
Maple Trees	inappropriate canopy	Raise canopy as necessary
	deleterious	Remove one tree
	diseased	Remove one tree
COBBLESTONE GUTTERS	inappropriate condition	Reconstruct in bluestone dust as a decorative border
UPPER CIRCLE	inappropriate site	Move Eisenhower Stone to Eisenhower House Form stone dais with historic markers
PERRY STATUE		
Statue	Surface oxidizing	Clean and repatinate Establish annual maintenance protocol
Base	Stained	Clean
HISTORIC SITE MARKER	inappropriate condition	Clean and repaint
CARRIAGE STONE	inappropriate site	Move to upper site for use with carriages

5.2 CONDITION ASSESSMENTS

A PERRY STATUE

Description

The Perry statue is a heroic figure of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. The statue was commemorated on 10 September 1885, the second anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie in the War of 1812. The statue is high Roman style: Perry is depicted in a flowing military uniform with a banner draped over his arm and nautical trophies at his right foot. His right arm is raised, pointing to the heavens; his left foot casually edges over the side of the plinth; and his torso is gallant in disposition.

The statue was sculpted by William Greene Turner and cast using *French sand* method [1] at the *Fille Galli Fuseio* Foundry in Firenze (Florence) Italy. It is vigorously sculpted and rich in both texture and detail.

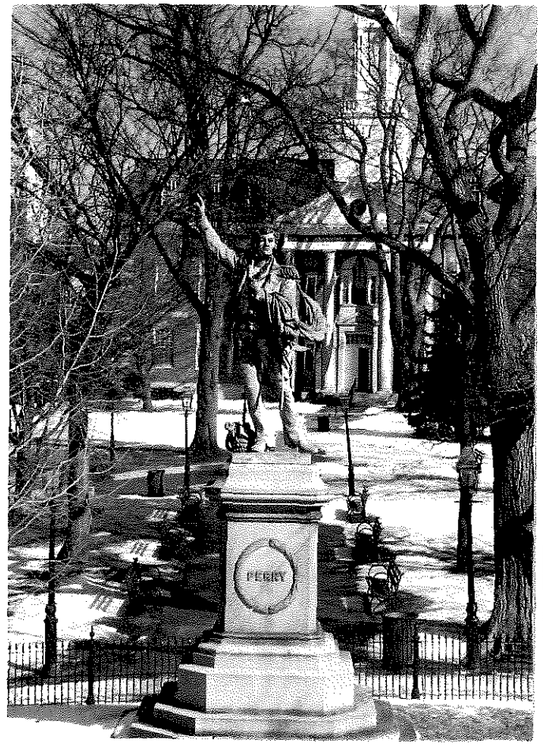
The statue is 10' high from the toe to top of head; the bronze plinth is approximately 6" high; the right hand (proper) extends approximately 1' above the head. The statue is 7' wide at maximum. It is mounted on a granite octagonal stepped pedestal which is approximately 25' high: The central column of the pedestal, west face, contains the inscription *"Perry"* in a bas relief wreath; the east face contains the inscription *"We have met the enemy and they are ours"*. The full pedestal retains a proportional octagonal motif; and the upper transition moldings visually integrate the stone work with the bronze plinth.

Material analysis

A 10 gram sample was removed from under the left epaulet tassels for atomic absorption spectroscopy analysis. The purpose of alloy determination was to evaluate stability of the alloy in the ambient environment (see Critical Environmental Information Form, Section 4, Page 2). The hidden surface was selected as a site which had minimal exposure to weather and minimal visual impact. Alloy determination is:

Cu	85.83%
Sn	9.40%
Pb	4.26%
Zn	0.27%

1. Casting technique is apparent from examination of surface detail.



West elevation of Perry statue

East elevation of statue

Casting flaws in right epaulet

Erosion patterns

The alloy is high in tin and lead. It is low in zinc, the component which galvanically stabilizes copper in an acid environment such as Washington Square.

Visual assessment

Bronze surface characteristics were examined from a bucket lift. The surface is characterized by casting flaws [2] (see photo plate 5-3), deleterious corrosion patterns (see photo plate 5-4), and dirt [3]. Examination of the upper horizontal surfaces indicated heavy pitting; examination of the lower surfaces indicted nascent erosion channels. This pattern is typical of bronze monuments with poor resistance to natural elements. No evidence of a ferrous armature or other galvanically interactive material was discovered during examination.

Granite characteristics were examined from the ground using naked eye, a field microscope, and binoculars. Horizontal surfaces are covered with oxides from the bronze and dirt; vertical surfaces are relatively clean. There appear to be no loose or missing elements.

Condition

The surface of the statue is in very poor condition. It is extremely important that the statue be cleaned, chased, repatinated [4], and buffered with BTA [5] in microcrystalline wax. Heavy pits on horizontal surfaces should be power washed and chased to prevent deleterious hygrophilic chlorides from forming and exacerbating corrosion. The statue should also be cleaned and rewaxed on an annual basis.

The pedestal is in excellent structural condition. Although granite is a hard igneous stone which is very resistant to surface particulate, the pedestal would be more aesthetically pleasing if it were cleaned.

2. Fissures and pitting resulting from heat stress deformation (poor casting technique) and core sand inclusion.

3. The upper horizontal surfaces of the statue are covered with pigeon dung; the entire surface is covered with corrosion by-products and carbon deposits.

4. patina color should be based on extant material information or historic record. All evidence of historic patina color was obliterated by Talix Foundry, the foundry that cleaned the statue during the early 1980's. That foundry is presently near bankruptcy and I was informed that they did not assess original patina. There is no record of the casting foundry. In the absence of this evidence, the patina is generally colored to an appropriate dark brown bronze with black highlights.

5. BTA is benzotriazol, a copper anti-oxidant.

B IRON FENCE

Description

Although there is no direct documentation of when the iron fence was constructed and installed, a Newport Mercury article [6] suggests that the fence was installed in 1865 when major alterations were made to the Park. The fence design reflects romantic revival ornamental ironwork common to that period.

Material analysis

A 15 gram sample was removed from a section of the fence for micro analysis. C.T.G. metallurgist Marc Richman Sc.D. determined that the fence was cast from perlitic gray cast iron.

Construction

The fence is constructed from several component parts.

- The posts are cast as a single unit (see CAD drawing on following pages). A long rod which is threaded into the base plate, and which terminates at the finial top, hold the post to its base: the base plate consists of a horizontal mount bar with two protruding iron pins that were set into the bluestone curb with lead. Each post has integral tabs cast on the side to receive the sections.

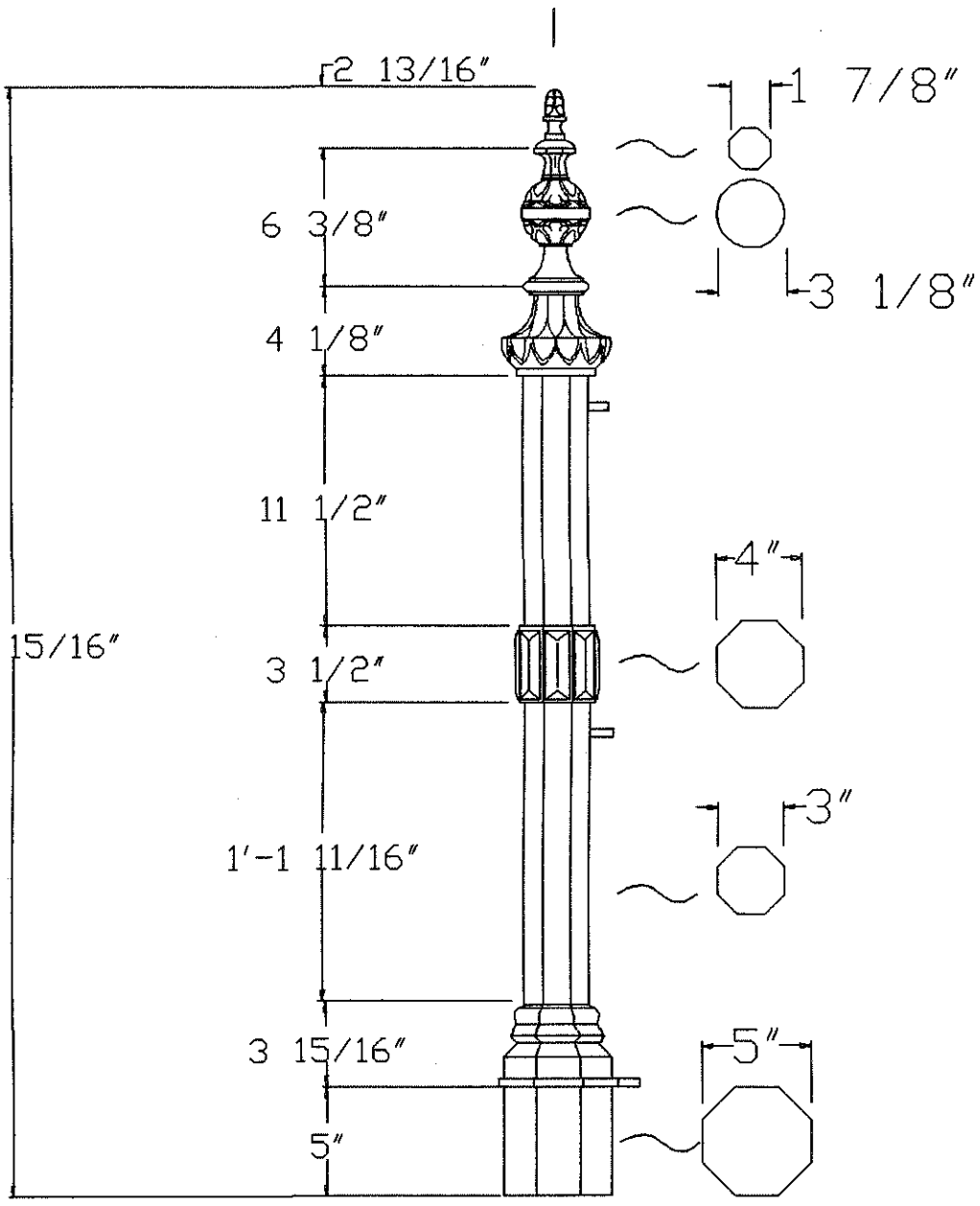
- The picket sections are joined to the posts with bolts which lock the rails to the post tabs or mounts. The rails are pierced by iron rods with cast picket tops.

Condition

The fence is in poor condition (see photo plates pages 9 and 10): total alignment is deformed as the curbing has shifted and due to vandalism and automobile accidents; several sections are missing; many of the posts are missing elements; and many picket sections are deformed or missing elements.

During the last "restoration", the entire south border was set in concrete. This concrete mount, which often rises above the lower rail, has veritably destroyed much of the fence so that it is no longer restorable. Oxidation has destroyed many of the posts: A restoration mount technique utilized galvanically incorrect materials which have exacerbated rust perforation. Condition details listing begin on page 9.

6. Newport Mercury, 15 April, 1866, NHS vertical file s.v. "Washington Square"



Washington Square
Newport, Rhode Island

C. T. G. Inc.
CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY GROUP
32 GREEN STREET, NEWPORT, RI 02840
401-847-1546 401-848-2448

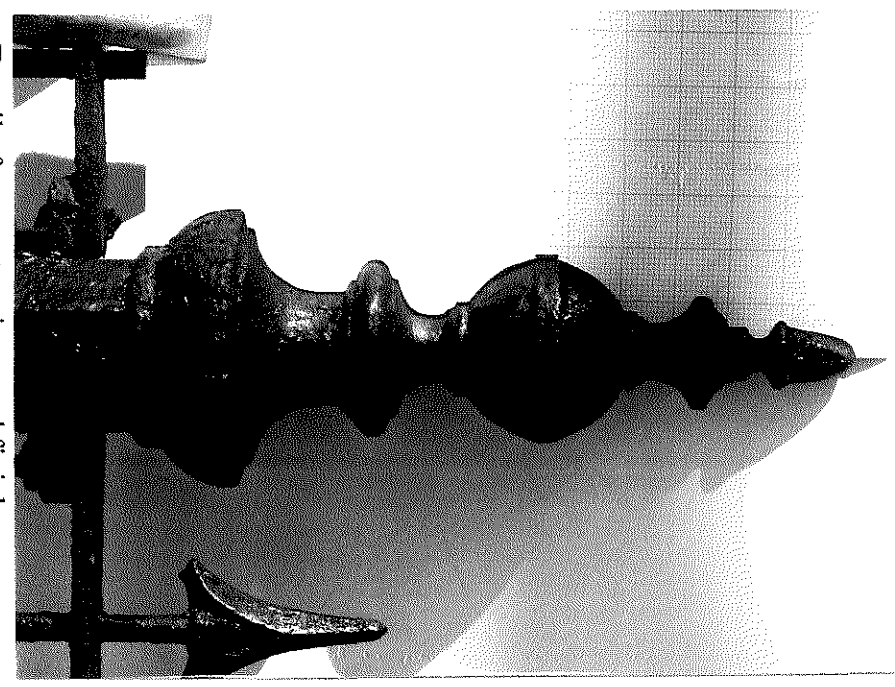
WASHINGTON SQUARE

SCALE dimension drawing

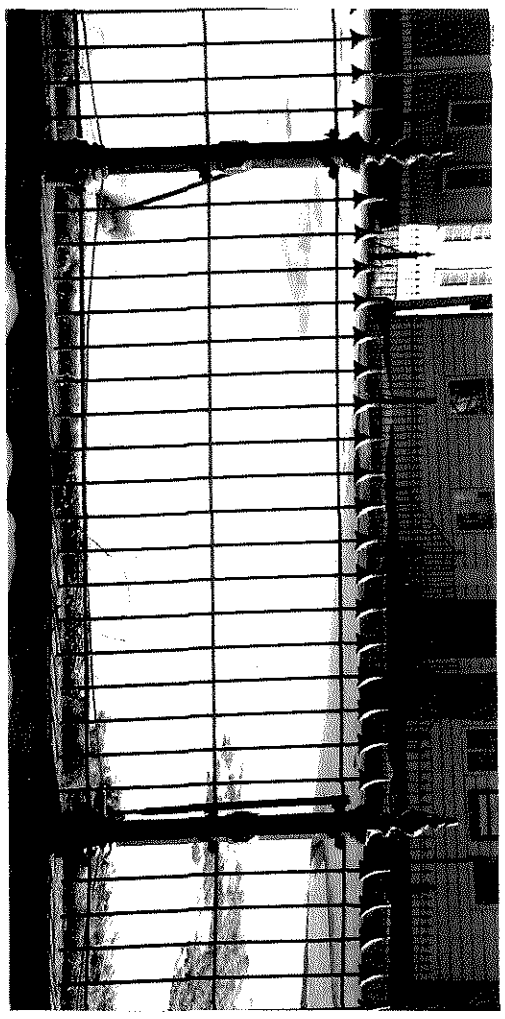
F1

STANDARD POST

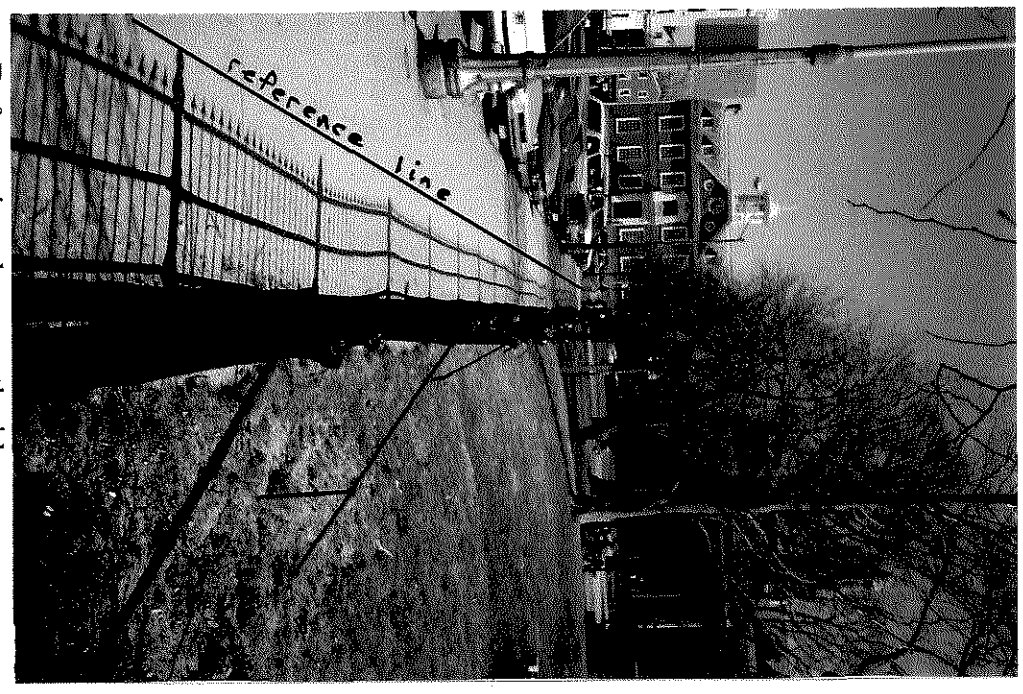
May 12, 1994



Detail of upper turnings and finial



Typical section



Deformation along north side

Typical post damage and deformation

Original mount system in poor condition

Embedded posts and lower rails; poor quality rail restoration

FENCE SECTION ASSESSMENT

POST:	SECTION LENGTH:	NO OF PICKETS:	RECOMMENDATIONS:	REMARKS:
1	4' 7.5"	13	ok	curved section
2	5'	14	ok	curved section
3	3' 11"	11	ok	curved section
4	5' 5.5"	16	ok	
5	5'	16	ok	
6	5' 5"	16	ok	
7	5' 5"	16	repair	
8	5' 5"	16	ok	
9	5' 5"	16	repair	top crosswalk
10	crosswalk			
11	5' 6"	16	repair	white metal picket
12	5' 6"	16	ok	
13	5' 6"	16	repair	
14	5' 6"	16	replace	
15	5' 6"	16	repair	
16	5' 6"	16	ok	
17	5' 6"	16	repair	
18	5' 6"	16	repair	
19	5' 6"	16	repair	
20	5' 6"	16	ok	
21	5' 6"	16	repair	
22	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
23	5' 6"	16	repair	
24	5' 5"	16	ok	

POST:	SECTION LENGTH:	NO OF PICKETS:	RECOMMENDATIONS:	REMARKS:
25	5' 6"	16	ok	
26	7' 11"	23	repair splice	
27	6'	16	remake	corner mid-walk
28	crosswalk			end post
29	4'	11	repair	lower mid-walk
30	5' 6"	16	repair	corner mid-walk
31	7' 9"	23	repair	
32	5' 6"	16	repair	
33	5' 7.5"	16	repair	
34	5' 7.5"	16	repair	
35	5' 7.5"	16	repair	
36	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
37	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
38	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
39	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
40	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
41	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
42	5' 7.5"	16	repair	
43	5' 7.5"	16	ok	
44	5' 7"	16	repair	
45	crosswalk			E. low-walk
46	6' 7"	18	repair	W. low-walk
47	6' 6"	18	repair	
48	6' 6"	18	repair	
49	6' 6"	18	repair	

POST:	SECTION LENGTH:	NO OF PICKETS:	RECOMMENDATIONS:	REMARKS:
50	6' 6"	18	repair	
51	6' 6"	18	repair	
52	6' 6"	18	repair	
53	6' 6"	18	repair	
54	6' 6"	18	repair	
55	6' 6"	18	ok	
56	6' 5"	19	repair splice	
57	6' 6"	18	repair	
58	6' 6"	18	repair	
59	6' 6"	18	repair	
60	6' 5"	18	repair	
61	6' 6"	18	repair	
62	5' 7"	16	ok	end of straight sections
63	5' 7"	16	ok	first curved section
64	5' 7"	16	repair	curved
65	5' 7"	17	replace	curved
66	6'	17	replace	curved
67	-6' 8"	to be 17	replace	
68	4' 11"	17	repair	
69	6'	18	repair	
70	6'	19	replace	
71	6' 5"	18	replace	
72	6' 9"	16	replace	
73	6'	17	rebuild	
74	6' 4"	19	rebuild	

POST:	SECTION LENGTH:	NO OF PICKETS:	RECOMMENDATIONS:	REMARKS:
75	5' 4"	12	rebuild	
76	7' 2.5"	21	rebuild	
77	6' 2"	18	rebuild	
78	6' 2"	18	rebuild	
79	6' 2"	18	repair	
80	6' 2"	18	repair	
81	6' 2"	18	repair	
82	6' 2"	18	repair	
83	6' 2"	17	repair	
84	6'	17	repair	first xverse sect. W. low-walk
85	6' 1"	17	ok	transverse sect.
86	6' 1"	17	ok	transverse sect.
87	6' 1"	17	repair	transverse sect.
88	6' 1"	17	ok	transverse sect.
89	3' 6"	10	repair	S. gate post gate
90	5' 8"	16	repair	S. gate post
91	5' 7"	16	ok	
92	5' 7"	16	repair	
93	5' 7"	16	repair	
94	5' 7"	16	ok	last W. xverse section
95		n/a	new replication	single post E. xverse
96		n/a	new replication	single post E. xverse
97	10' 6"	n/a	replication	last E. xverse E. low-walk
98	(2) posts missing			
99	17' 7"	n/a	rebuild	

POST:	SECTION LENGTH:	NO OF PICKETS:	RECOMMENDATIONS:	REMARKS:
100	5' 9"	16	replace	
101	5' 9"	16	repair	
102	5' 9"	17	repair	
103	5' 9"	17	repair	
104	5' 9"	17	repair	
105	5' 9"	17	repair	
106	5' 9"	17	repair	
107	11' 9"	35	rebuild	
108	9' 8"	27	rebuild	
109	crosswalk			W. mid-crosswalk
110	5' 7"	16	repair	
111	5' 7"	16	repair	
112	5' 7"	16	repair	
113	5' 7"	16	repair	
114	5' 7"	16	repair	
115	5' 7"	16	repair	
116	5' 7"	16	repair	
117	5' 7"	16	repair	
118	5' 7"	16	repair	
119	5' 7"	16	repair	
120	5' 8.5"	16	repair	
121	5' 4"	15	repair	
122	crosswalk			W. up-crosswalk
123	missing		replicate	E. up-crosswalk
124	5' 10.5"	17	repair	

POST:	SECTION LENGTH:	NO OF PICKETS:	RECOMMENDATIONS:	REMARKS:
125	5' 10.5"	17	repair	
126	5' 10.5"	17	repair	
127	5' 5"	16	rebuild	
128	8' 10"	26	rebuild	last section
129	n/a			granite post

POST:	MOUNT:	TOP:	BASE STONE:	LEFT RAIL MOUNTS:	RIGHT RAIL MOUNTS:	COLUMN:	SECTION TO RIGHT OF POST: [1]
1 [1]							curved good condition
2	modern/ badly oxidized	whole	pink granite/ check holes	ok	ok		curved good condition
3	modern/ oxidized	whole	pink granite/ check holes	ok	ok		first standard section condition ok
4	modern	whole	slate / L mount bolt is splitting stone	ok	ok		ok
5	modern	whole	slate/ corner repaired with cement	ok	ok		ok ok
6	old	missing above ring	slate	ok	ok		ok
7	old	missing above ball	slate	mid broken lower broken	top broken lower broken		P10 partial
8	modern	missing above ring	slate	ok	ok		ok
9	modern/ oxidized/ missing right bolt	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		P12 bent P13 partial
10 [2]	old	whole	broken off and repaired with a cement block	ok	ok		no section, walkway
11 [3]	modern	cement block	whole	ok	top mount broken		top rail bent, remount brace
12	old	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		P5 white metal
13	old	missing above ball	slate	broken off/ welded to rail	ok		ok
14	old	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		P3 top off
15	?	missing above ball	slate	ok	mid rail missing	large hole where rail mount is missing	modern iron replacement
16	old	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		P1 partial
17	old/ half in soil	missing above ball	slate top canting north	ok	ok		ok
18 [4]	modern/ oxidized	whole	slate	ok	ok		P6,7,8,9 partial/ P7 bent
19	modern/ badly oxidized pins missing/ base in soil	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		P1,2 bent
20	modern/ badly oxidized off stone to north side	missing above ball	stone	missing mid rail mount	ok	broken between mid /lower rails/ reinforced by plates	section not attached
21	modern/ oxidized	missing above ring	slate	all mounts broken off	ok		ok
22	modern/ oxidized	whole	slate		upper welded lower welded		P3 bent/ P11 top off
23	modern/ oxidized	missing above ring	slate	all mounts missing	ok		ok
24	modern/ oxidized	missing above ball ball bent to west	slate	mid joint welded	mid and lower rails missing		P23 top missing

1. "P" stands for picket followed by number: A picket is the vertical arrow and shaft component

POST:	MOUNT:	TOP:	BASE STONE:	LEFT RAIL MOUNTS:	RIGHT RAIL MOUNTS:	COLUMN:	SECTION TO RIGHT OF POST:
25	modern/ broken	finial missing	slate	ok	ok		ok
26	modern/ oxidized	missing above ball	slate	top welded	mid broken lower broken		rail splice at P17 clean/ inspect
27[5]	old	whole	slate	mid mount missing lower rail mount welded	mid mount missing		4 step rise/ modern rails/ mounts bad
28[6]	modern/ oxidized	missing above ring	slate	none			no section, walkway
29[7]	modern	missing above ball	cement	attached middle mount	ok to be removed		rails poorly welded at drop in elevation
30	modern oxidized	missing above ball	cement/ slate	lower mount off	ok	ok	ok
31	modern/ oxidized	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok	broken at base pushed into grass	Rod 1,3,4 bent
32	modern/ oxidized	missing above ball	slate	lower broken	lower broken		ok
33	modern/ oxidized	missing above ball	slate	top broken mid broken	all welded poorly		ok
34	old	broken and loose at ring	slate	ok	all replacements		P1 top missing
35	old	missing above ball	slate	all replacements	lower broken	off vertical	P8,9 partial
36	old	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok	off vertical	ok
37	old	whole	slate	ok	ok	off vertical	ok
38	old	missing above ring	slate	lower broken	ok	off vertical	splice in lower rail
39	early modification broken at slate	loose from ball	slate	ok	ok		ok
40	old	whole	slate broken at pin	ok	upper replacement		ok
41	old	bad weld/ replace	slate	ok	all welded		P1 top missing
42	old	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		ok
43	old	missing above ball	slate	ok	ok		P2 bent
44	embedded[8]	broken/ bent at ring	cement	all welded	all welded		ok
45[9]	embedded	missing above ball	ok	none		no section, crosswalk	
46[10]	embedded	whole	cement	ok	all welded		P1,3 top missing
47	embedded	missing above ball	cement	upper welded lower missing	mid/low welded		P2, 10 bent
48	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		P9 bent, P11, 16 top missing
49	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		ok
50	embedded	missing finial	cement	ok	lower welded		ok
51	embedded	whole	cement	lower welded	low bolt missing		rails bent in/ pickets bent
52	embedded	whole	cement	lower welded	mid bolt missing		ok
53	embedded	whole	cement	upper welded mid/ lower missing	ok		ok

POST:	MOUNT:	TOP:	BASE STONE:	LEFT RAIL MOUNTS:	RIGHT RAIL MOUNTS:	COLUMN:	SECTION TO RIGHT OF POST:
54	embedded	whole	cement	ok	ok		ok
55	embedded	whole	cement	check lower mount	ok		ok
56	embedded	whole	cement	ok	ok		P2 top off/ P16 too low P8 bent/ rails deformed
57	embedded	missing above ring	cement	top missing clean/ inspect welds	top welded		ok
58	embedded	whole	cement	lower missing	all welded		ok
59	embedded	missing above ball	cement	all welded	all welded	broken welded out of alignment	ok
60	embedded	missing above ring	cement	lower welded	top, mid welded lower missing		ok
61[11]	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		P12 top missing
62[12]	embedded	cracked above ring finial missing	cement	lower welded	all welded		ok
63[13]	embedded	missing finial	cement	ok	ok		ok
64	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		ok
65[14]	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	mid loose		new section
66	embedded	none	cement	n/a	n/a	new pipe column	new section/ tops bent many missing
67	embedded	none	cement	n/a	n/a	new pipe column	new section
68	missing	none	n/a	n/a	n/a	none	new section
69	welded to oxidized plate	missing above ball	cement	all welded	top welded mid, lower open	badly bent	new section badly deformed recently hit by car
70	embedded	top is a new column	cement	n/a	n/a	lower column original top is a new pipe column	all badly deformed by accident
71	welded to oxidized plate	embedded	cement	mid/ upper open	all welded		P1 bent rod/ P6 top missing
72	metal plate not attached to cement	missing above ball	cement	all welded	all welded		top and mid rails terminate into repair welded to post
73	plate	missing above ring	cement	ok	all welded		Left rail splice misaligned/ poor cond.
74	plate	missing above ring	cement	all welded	all welded		P2 twisted/ Bad splice between P4, P5 inspect right side splice welds
75	plate	missing above ring	cement	all welded	welded	hole in south column face	replacement section: pickets too far apart
76	embedded	none	cement	n/a	n/a	new pipe column	rails badly deformed elements missing
77	embedded	missing above ring	cement	all welded	all welded		rails bent/ bottom rail broken at splice
78	embedded	none	cement	n/a	n/a	new pipe column	ok
79	embedded	missing finial	cement	top welded	ok		P3, 10 partial
80	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		P10 shaft bent

POST:	MOUNT:	TOP:	BASE STONE:	LEFT RAIL MOUNTS:	RIGHT RAIL MOUNTS:	COLUMN:	SECTION TO RIGHT OF POST:
81	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower weld	ok		P5 shaft bent
82	embedded	missing above ball	cement	all welded	ok		P12 top missing/ top rail bent
							mid rail broken at right side
83	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		ok
84[15]	embedded	missing above ring	cement	all welded	lower welded		P9 top missing
85[16]	embedded	whole	cement	ok	ok		ok
86	embedded	missing above ring	cement	ok	ok		ok
87	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		P3 bent
88	embedded	missing finial	cement	ok	top, lower welded		ok
89[17]	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	none		gate P1 top off
90[18]	embedded	none	cement	n/a	n/a		pickets out of alignment
91	embedded	whole	cement	all welded	ok		ok
92	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	all welded		P2 partial
		crack at ring					
93	embedded	missing above ball	cement	all welded	ok		ok
94	embedded	whole	cement	ok	ok		ok[19]
95	n/a	none	n/a	n/a	n/a	free standing aluminum post to be removed	
96	n/a	none	n/a	n/a	n/a	free standing aluminum post to be removed	
97[20]	embedded	missing above ring	cement	ok	all welded		modern replacement, many sections missing/ replace
98	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower off	all open		section falling out/ lower rail in soil
99	missing	none	cement	n/a	n/a	none	
100	embedded	missing above ball	cement	all bad	lower bad	large hole in lower South face	lower rail in ground
101	embedded	missing above ball	cement	top weld/ lower emb[21]	lower emb		lower rail emb
102	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb
103	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb
104	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail missing
105	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb/ P1 partial
106	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb/ section bent
107	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb/ section too long
108	none	none	cement			missing/ long section	
109	embedded	missing above ring	cement	lower emb	top, mid welded lower emb		lower rail emb/ mid rail spliced
110[22]	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb	cracked and misaligned	no section, walk way
111[23]	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb	cracked and misaligned	lower rail emb
112	embedded	missing above ring	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb

POST:	MOUNT:	TOP:	BASE STONE:	LEFT RAIL MOUNTS:	RIGHT RAIL MOUNTS:	COLUMN:	SECTION TO RIGHT OF POST:
113	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb
114	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb/ top rail spliced
115	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb
116	embedded	missing above ball	cement	lower emb	lower emb		lower rail emb
117	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		ok
118	embedded	missing finial	cement	top, mid welded	ok		ok
119	embedded	missing above ring	cement	top weld	mid open		ok
120	embedded	missing above ring	cement	ok	ok		P6,7,8 partial
121	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		P5,8 partial/ P10 shaft bent
122	embedded	cracked at ring	cement	ok	mid, low open		mid rail spliced
123[24]	embedded	missing above ring	cement	ok	top, mid open		walkway
124	missing	none	cement			missing	missing section
125	embedded	missing above ball	cement	n/a	ok	leaning south	ok
126	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	mid open		ok
127	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		ok
128	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	ok		top rail deformed/ P1, 9, 15, 16 bent
129	embedded	missing above ball	cement	ok	top open		top rail spliced
130	granite post						

END NOTES

(1) This start column is located by the "Park House" and may be an original gate stone; rail mounts are still embedded in side of column; one of two matching columns; curved base stones are of same material.

(2) This post marks the east opening of the upper cross walk

(3) This post marks the west opening of the upper cross walk.

(4) "TAXI" stand tied to post.

(5) Upper corner post (north south juncture) of middle crosswalk.

(6) Upper end post of mid cross walk.

(7) Lower end of entry steps

(8) "embedded" refers to the post being mounted in an extension of the concrete side walk

(9) End post for lower walk

(10) lower corner post at north entry of lower crosswalk

(11) located by tree

(12) located at turn at bottom (west end) of park

(13) curved section

(14) located by "Washington" road marker

(15) West corner post of lower crosswalk

(16) Beginning of perpendicular fence (north / south)

(17) Left (south) gate post

(18) right (north) gate post

(19) last north / south section

(20) upper (east) corner post south side Touro St. length

(21) "emb" referrs to embedding of the lower mount in cement

(22) lower corner post for middle cross walk

(23) top (east) corner post for middle crosswalk

(24) lower (west) corner post of upper crosswalk

C FOUNTAIN ASSESSMENT

Design The drip fountain is located in the lower section of the Park surrounded by a disproportionately large octagonal fountain pool. The fountain is made from catalog stock items: Robinson Iron Roman Fluted Magnus (three tiers) top; Robinson Iron Griffin base. The fountain was designed for a 5' 6" diameter egg and dart fountain pool and either a much smaller or a more developed landscape (such as a garden).

Condition The fountain was reconditioned by Mr. John Isham in 1991 and remains in excellent condition.

West elevation of fountain

Aerial view showing disproportionately large pool

D GAS LIGHTS

History

Seventeen gas lights were installed in the park circa 1977 [1]. They are modeled after the 1870 lights used in the City of Newport; the originals were one and one half feet shorter than the present lights. They are constructed from cast iron, steel, copper, and glass.

Condition

A visual inspection made by Newport Gas Light Company revealed the following conditions:

The lights are in poor condition due to neglect and poor maintenance:

Missing elements:
- Decorative elements such as finials
- Clips that hold glass are missing

Galvanic and rust problems:
- The poles are rusting through the paint which is in the process of peeling from several lights
- Steel lantern supports are rusted solid with cast iron
- Iron ladder rests and couplings rusted together
- In ground valve boxes are rusted perforated allowing earth to cover and corrupt valves

Surface condition:
- Glass has become etched
- Lanterns are filled with debris

Anchors and mounts:
- Most poles are out of plumb

Structural:
- One pole is broken allowing the top to sway in the wind.
- Several solder joints are fatigued
- Some lanterns are bent

1. Conversation with Brian Pelletier January 26, 1995

E ELECTRIC LIGHTS

History

Three electric lights illuminate the Park: two are located on the north perimeter walkway and one is located within the southwest section of the Park. The lights consist of two distinct elements: historic bases and modern tops.

Raised panels with ovoid ends and rosettes suggest that the bases were manufactured in the 1920's or 30's. The bases contain the nameplate of the King Manufacturing Company. The bases are constructed from cast iron and have a small access panel. The bases are painted with aluminum paint.

The gooseneck top to the lights is very modern. Constructed from aluminum, the tops are affixed to the bases with a sleeve joint.

Condition

The bases are very rusty and subject to considerable galvanic interaction with the aluminum tops. The joint between aluminum and iron was not inspected.

F COBBLESTONE GUTTERS

History

The cobble gutters are located at the top of the Park on the east side to the upper crosswalk (along the front of the Courthouse). The gutters contain decorative slate borders laid on edge and a shallow pitch interior constructed from small cobbles.

No written history was found to explain their existence. They appear to be a refined version of the cobble gutters which line many of Newport's historic streets. A second possibility is that the gutters are remnants of the *glacis* mentioned in a Newport Mercury article dated 14 April, 1866. An early 20th century photograph shows that a retainer wall with a double picket iron fence was located just to the east of the gutter.

Condition

The gutters are presently covered with soil and many stones are missing. The slate borders are adequate for reconstruction

F WALKWAYS AND LANDSCAPE CONDITIONS

History The Historical Assessment section details development of the Park.

Condition The landscape currently is in poor condition: Walkways are lined up in a haphazard manner (in particular, the Courthouse walk does not line up with the central walk); sod is worn through where fence sections are missing and new paths have been created; and there is a marked buildup of thatch and soil along the north perimeter.

The walkways are constructed from concrete, a modern material which does not reflect either the historic or refined cultural traditions of Newport.

G TREES

History The Historical Assessment section details the development of this aspect of the Park.

Condition The trees, under the care of the Newport Tree Warden, are in various states of condition. His assessment is essential to determine the overall health of the Parks trees. Mr. Wheeler did indicate that the large elm trees which dominate the landscape are at high risk to Dutch Elm disease: several bark beetles (which transmit the disease) have been found in the Park. In addition, one trees located at the northeast corner is in very poor condition and is slated for removal; a second tree in that corner is also slated for removal as it is lifting the sidewalk and bluestone curbing.

H EISENHOWER STONE

History The Historical Assessment section indicates the history and commemoration of the Eisenhower Stone.

Condition The stone is in good condition but its setting is highly

inappropriate to the landscape.

I HISTORIC SITE MARKER

History There is no documentation as to when the historic marker was placed at the eastern end of the Park. It appears to be part of a national program to mark the geographic history of George Washington.

Condition The marker is in reasonably good condition.

J CARRIAGE STONE

History The carriage step stone is located on the northern portion of the middle crosswalk. How it got there is a mystery: it appears to have been placed in the Park at random as no carriage traffic is associated with the walkway.

Condition The stone is in good condition.