

## NPT Quarterly News



P. O. Box 184, Newburyport, MA 01950  
[www.nbptpreservationtrust.org](http://www.nbptpreservationtrust.org)

*Linking the past with the present and future*



Preservation Trust co-president Linda Miller listens to longtime member Carol Rouleau, at right. At left, NPT members during the annual meeting held Feb. 26.

## Newburyport Preservation Trust

# Looking back, moving forward in 2023

More than three dozen members of the Newburyport Preservation Trust gathered Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> to share successes and challenges at their annual meeting, in the Ocean Mills community room on Monroe Street.

In 2022, the owners of 19 historic homes engaged the NPT to research the history of their properties and install plaques indicating the date and the name of the original homeowner, according to researcher Ellie Bailey. So far, 117 plaques have been installed since the historic house plaque program began in 2014. During the past year, the 100<sup>th</sup> plaque was affixed to the 1796 Newburyport Art Association building (special thanks to Skip and Marge Motes). Also notable in 2022 was the installation of the program's first bronze plaque

which adorns the 1835 Custom House Maritime Museum (special thanks to Rita Mihalek).

This educational project, as well as these properties, are appreciated. Honoring a local project initiated a few years ago, students from Bresnahan Elementary and from Aileen Maconi's Honors Art Society at Newburyport High School strung a total of 103 valentines on doors of historic homes to surprise the homeowners.

In addition, Barb Bailey has continued to profile selected historic properties as part of her "nbpt@3mph" series which is published in *The Daily News* and on the NPT website, [www.nbptpreservationtrust.org](http://www.nbptpreservationtrust.org).

Speaking of the website, 2022 saw a spike in social media connections: NPT can now claim

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Boarded-up building on Water Street in the 1970s.

*Photo by Robert Currier*



The same building today.

*Photo by Richard Lodge*

## Preservation Weekend 2023: ‘Focus on History’

The featured event of Preservation Weekend, May 19-21, will be the screening of dozens of photos by local photographer Robert Currier of downtown Newburyport in the early 1970s, when the area narrowly escaped the wrecking ball.

On Friday night, May 19, Currier will talk about his photos, which will be part of a “then and now” slide presentation with recent photos taken by NPT newsletter editor Richard Lodge, showing the same scenes Currier captured half a century earlier.

NPT board member Kevin Latady also will give a workshop on how to assess light, angles and viewpoints to make the best photos of historic buildings.

More details about Preservation Weekend events will be available soon.

The popular Preservation Awards will be presented in a program on Sunday afternoon, May 21. Members are encouraged to make nominations in many categories.

**See the form on page 4.**

### Some 2022 Trust highlights

- Sponsored 7<sup>th</sup> annual “If This House Could Talk” self-guided tour and publication of latest book (with 80 house posters).
- Sponsored the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual William Lloyd Garrison lecture, by Professor Kabria Baumgartner.
- Advised on renovation of the William Lloyd Garrison birthplace on School Street and installation of



The 1822 Powder House on Low Street.

interpretive plaques in nearby Garrison Gardens.

- Hosted students from Molin Middle School and River Valley Charter at the 1822 Powder House, restored and maintained by NPT.
- Marked installation of almost 120 historic house plaques, with more in the pipeline for 2023.
- Reached 1,200 followers and 1,000 “likes” on Facebook.
- Recorded 667 Instagram followers and more than 300 posts.



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more than 1200 Facebook followers and nearly 670 Instagram followers. In keeping with the times and building on this interest, the Trust is redesigning its website and plans to launch it within the next few months.

NPT also is making plans for Preservation Weekend, slated for May 19-21.

In addition, the Trust continues to weigh in at municipal meetings addressing renovations and reconstruction. Member Stephanie Niketic gave updates on several Newburyport properties that generated interest and concern, such as:

- **30 Winter Street:** The NPT filed a request with the city to enforce zoning regulations after the developer left the building open to winter weather. Ultimately, he was fined not for violating zoning regulations but for illegally removing trees along the Rail Trail abutting the property;
- **Institution for Savings, 93 State Street:** After a two-year fight by neighbors opposed to plans for a 16,000-square-foot addition behind the IFS main branch, the Planning Board approved the application in July 2022, clearing the way for construction this year.
- **2 Neptune Street:** The Zoning Board of Appeals denied the homeowner's petition to alter the roofline of a 17<sup>th</sup> century saltbox, possibly the oldest house in Newburyport; the owner can resubmit a petition to the ZBA in September 2024 but first must get approval from the Historical Commission;
- **Leary's Fine Wines, 200-208 Merrimac Street:** A plan to add a 74-seat coffee shop and outdoor cafe at Leary's liquor store brought an outcry from residents of the dense historic neighborhood. Although the plan was prohibited by zoning, the application made it through the zoning administrator to the ZBA before it was withdrawn.



Board member Reg Bacon, right, chats with Victor Tine at the Trust's annual meeting.



Barb Bailey speaks about "If This House Could Talk" at the meeting.

- **22 Market Street:** in a positive development, the architect for the developer sought advice from the NPT co-presidents, Linda Miller and Tom Kolterjahn, for plans to address the exterior of the building.

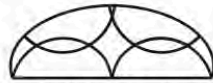
Kolterjahn also heralded the progress to save the iconic Pink House, sited on federal land on Plum Island. Between 2019 and 2022, NPT donated to Support the Pink House, Inc., house research, other volunteer time, and funding for a preservation consultant to prepare documents needed for a perpetual preservation restriction on the building's exterior and setting. In 2022, SPH saw the resulting draft preservation restriction through to acceptance by the Town of Newbury. Still pending for the Pink House's fate is the complicated transfer of the land from the federal government. When successful, it will likely remain a single-family home in private ownership, preserved in its 1925 form.

## Trust honors volunteers

At the 2023 annual meeting, the Preservation Trust board gave special thanks to the volunteer efforts of Barb Bailey, Ellie Bailey, Brendan Banovic, Chris Edmonds, Andrea Eigerman, Karen Holt, Skip and Marge Motes, Stephanie Niketic, Patricia Peknik, Ginny Rizzo, Jack Santos, Bob Watts, and the late Howard Fairweather and Prudence Fish.

**Don't Wait!  
Nominate!**

**Nominations Due  
April 1, 2023**



**NEWBURYPORT  
PRESERVATION TRUST**

P. O. Box 184, Newburyport, MA 01950

Web: [www.nbptpreservationtrust.org](http://www.nbptpreservationtrust.org)

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**Preservation Award Nomination Form**



**Beginning in 2007, the Newburyport Preservation Trust has celebrated preservation efforts throughout our city** by awarding individuals and organizations annually for their contributions toward historic preservation. Our goal is to support, promote, celebrate, and showcase preservation and raise awareness of the value and unique historic character of our community.

**We invite you to participate** in this celebration by nominating those projects, individuals, and/or organizations that you believe demonstrate an outstanding effort to preserve and protect our building heritage and the historic character of our city.

*A Past Winner for Interior Restoration*

**AWARDS CATEGORIES**

**Stewardship.** Property owners that successfully maintain and preserve a historically significant building or landscape while retaining distinctive materials and original features.

**Exterior Restoration.** Restoration, rehabilitation, and preservation of a historic structure or building façade, including original exterior architectural features and materials such as porches, windows, moldings, and siding.

**Interior Restoration.** A project that demonstrates an exceptional effort to preserve historically significant interior features and finishes. This may include: retaining, preserving, or restoring the original room configuration; original moldings, or removal of materials to reveal original features; restoration, or reproduction of historic wallpapers, paint colors, or interior finishes compatible with the original period style; reinstallation of original doors and hardware; or the reconstruction of missing original architectural features.

**Sensitive Addition to a Historic Building.** A new addition to a historic building that preserves the scale, architectural features, and overall integrity of the original structure.

**Historic Landscape Restoration.** Preserving or re-creating a historic garden or landscape design or restoring the original scenic character of a garden or landscape.

**Historically Sensitive Contractor/Builder.** A contractor, builder, or craftsman whose work demonstrates principles of preservation while serving as an example to others.

**Sustainable Historic Structure.** Recognition of a renovation project that demonstrates that older buildings are excellent examples of "green" and sustainable construction, showcasing the benefits of energy-efficient upgrades to a historic structure while preserving and restoring original features such as windows, which aid in its inherent energy conservation and reduce construction waste.

**NOMINATION PROCESS**

**(1) Fill out the form below** with the category and a **brief description** of the nominated project. If you would like to nominate more than one person or project, please copy the form and fill out each nomination on a separate sheet.

**(2) Send your nomination form to:**

Newburyport Preservation Trust  
P. O. Box 184  
Newburyport, MA 01950

*Nominations must be received by April 1, 2023.*

**Awards Criteria.** Projects that have won in the past cannot be nominated again. Projects that have been nominated in the past and have not won an award can be nominated again. Projects under construction will not be considered; nominated projects must be fully completed. Projects shall be located within the City of Newburyport.

**Awards Presentation.** The awards ceremony – the closing event of Preservation Week – will be Sunday, May 21, 2023 at St. Anna's Chapel of St. Paul's Church, 166 High St., Newburyport.

----- Send Nomination Form to: Newburyport Preservation Trust, P. O. Box 184, Newburyport, MA 01950 -----

**I/We would like to nominate:**

**For the Category:**

Nominee/Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of Property/Project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Stewardship

\_\_\_ Exterior Restoration

\_\_\_ Interior Restoration

\_\_\_ Sensitive Addition  
to a Historic Building

\_\_\_ Historic Landscape Restoration

\_\_\_ Historically Sensitive  
Builder/Contractor

\_\_\_ Sustainable Historic Structure

My/Our Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*Nominations must be received by April 1, 2023.*