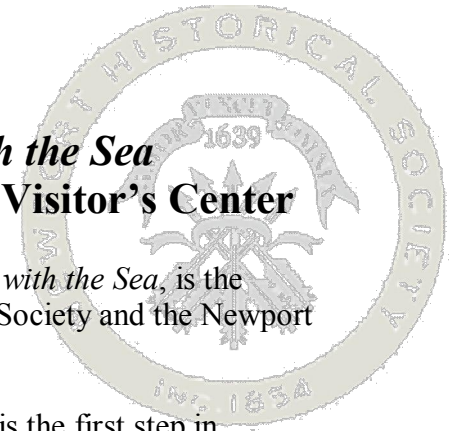


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hold Fast: Newport's Enduring Bond with the Sea **Preview Debuts at the Newport Convention and Visitor's Center**



Newport, RI – (August 2010) – *Hold Fast: Newport's Enduring Bond with the Sea*, is the beginning of an exciting collaboration between the Newport Historical Society and the Newport Visitor's Information Center.

This exhibit, which briefly portrays the history of the City and the Sea, is the first step in planning for a collaborative, comprehensive exhibit on Newport's history in the Information Center. The first phase of installation includes objects associated with the long history of the Navy in Newport – going back to Colonial days – and materials related to the great age of sail. Additional installations this winter will take the exhibit into the 20th century.

The exhibit will do more than simply display objects and labels, but will also encourage the visitor to visit Newport's many attractions. Currently, a label entitled "Where to Go From Here" points readers to the Aquidneck Lobster Company, the Naval War College Museum, The Museum of Yachting and Fort Adams, as well as the Historical Society's Museum & Shop at Brick Market.

"Newport boasts an internationally significant and varied history, and many cultural attractions stand ready to tell portions of that history in vibrant ways," explains Ruth S. Taylor, Executive Director of the Newport Historical Society. "With this exhibit, we hope to ensure that visitors have a sense of their many options for an educational and entertaining visit to Newport and all of its riches."

"I think the exhibit makes a great first impression on visitors arriving here at the Information Center," says Evan Smith, President & CEO of the Newport and Bristol County Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the Center's managing agency. "Moving forward we look forward to exploring more creative ideas with the Historical Society's staff that will give our guests a greater appreciation and understanding of Newport's fascinating history"

The exhibit is also part of a work plan designed to implement the Historical Society's strategic goal to increase its audiences and expand its exhibit space, particularly in more accessible spaces. "Implementing this goal in collaboration with others is the best possible outcome," said Richard Burnham, President of the NHS Board.

For additional information and/or to obtain media photos please contact: Elizabeth Sulock, Public Affairs Associate, 401-846-0813 x104, esulock@newporthistorical.org.

About the Newport Historical Society

Since 1854, the Newport Historical Society has collected and preserved the artifacts, photographs, documents, publications, and genealogical records that relate to the history of Newport County, to make these materials readily available for both research and enjoyment, and to act as a resource center for the education of the public about the history of Newport County, so that knowledge of the past may contribute to a fuller understanding of the present. For more information please visit www.newporthistory.org.

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