

10/30/74 B.T.C. w/j.p.c.

Form 10-300  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: <b>Rhode Island</b>	
COUNTY: <b>Newport</b>	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	<b>MAY 22 1973</b>

1. NAME

COMMON:  
**Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road Historic District**

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
**The Hill**

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:  
**Newport**

STATE: **1** CODE: **44** COUNTY: **Newport** CODE: **005**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:  
**multiple**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
**City Hall**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**Broadway**

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:  
**Newport Rhode Island 44**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
**"See Continuation Sheets"**

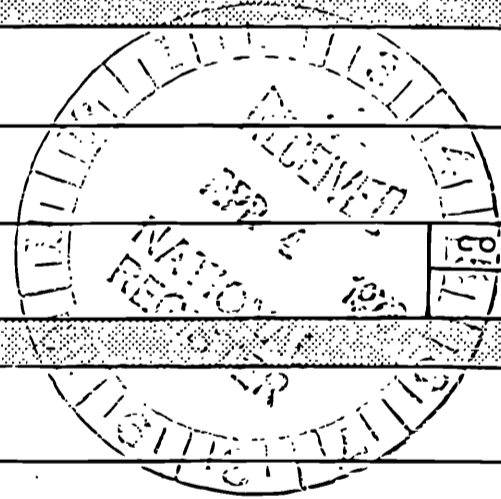
DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

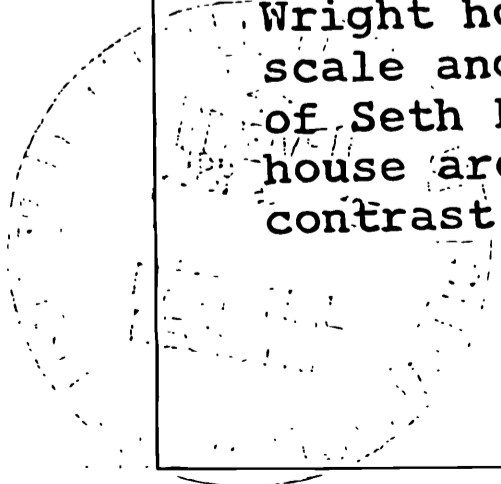
Newport's Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road neighborhood, located on a broad hilltop overlooking the port and the eighteenth century town on the west and Easton's Pond and the beach on the east, developed in the era between 1830 and 1910 when Newport was the queen of America's summer resorts. Prior to the 1830's, Touro Street and Bellevue Avenue defined the eastern edge of town. On these streets stand outstanding seventeenth and eighteenth century monuments: the Jewish Cemetery (1677, #1 on the site plan), the Sabbatarian Meeting House (1729, #2, now forming the rear wing of the Newport Historical Society building), Redwood Library (1748, #3) by Peter Harrison, and Touro Synagogue (1763, #4), also by Harrison -- a National Historic Site. The seventeenth century Stone Windmill (#5) stands in Touro Park, just west of Bellevue Avenue. East of this developed area the neighborhood was agrarian until the nineteenth century.

Many of the early summer visitors were housed in the Kay-Catherine-Old Beach Road neighborhood. Before the Civil War, activities were centered in summer hotels clustered along northern Bellevue Avenue and the west end of Catherine Street. Of these the only well preserved remnant is the "Elizabethan Style" dining room wing of the Bellevue House (#6); the wing was designed in 1850 by the Rhode Island architect Russell Warren. After the hotel burned, the dining room was moved and refitted, used as an opera house, and then became the Mount Zion A.M.E. Church in 1875.

From about 1845 to 1870 the residential section of the area was dominated by four large estates: the Izard place (c.1850, #7), at 10 Pell Street, built for Ralph Izard of Charlestown; the Porter Villa (1855, #8), at 25 Greenough Place, belonging to Mary T. Porter from New Orleans; "Belair" (c.1850, #9), at 34 Old Beach Road, the home of H. Allen Wright, a New Yorker; and "Red Cross Cottage" (1844, #10), at 8 Oakwood Terrace, built for David Sears of Brooklyn. Though Sears' estate was larger than the others, his house was a modest Gothic Revival cottage. Better preserved examples of the type remain at 6 Greenough Place (#11) and at 34 Mann Avenue (#12). The Izard, Porter and Wright houses are hulking stone villas, almost brutal in scale and detail. The Porter villa is known to be the work of Seth Bradford, a local builder; "Belair" and the Izard house are attributed to him. The hauteur of these three contrast with the unassuming Gothic Revival cottages.

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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(Continuation Sheet) 1.

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Newport	
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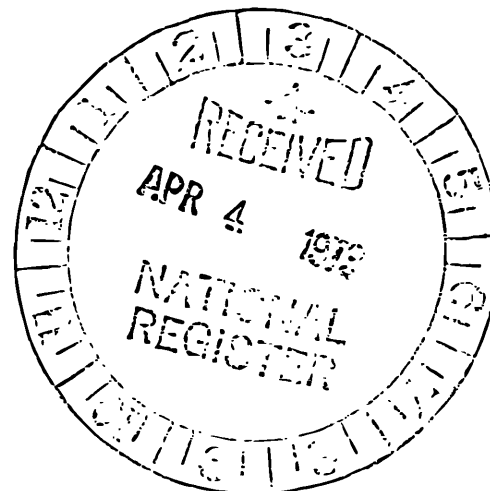
(Number all entries)

6. Structures within the District already on the National Register

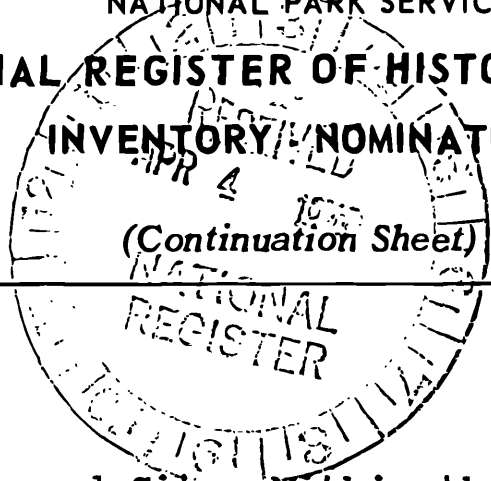
Art Association of Newport (J.N.A. Griswold House)  
76 Bellevue Avenue  
Redwood Library  
50 Bellevue Avenue (National Historic Landmark)

Structures Within the District Recorded by the H.A.B.S.

Edgar, Commodore William, House (RI-318)  
29 Old Beach Road  
Griswold, J.N.A., House, Art Association of Newport (RI-322)  
76 Bellevue Avenue  
"Hypotenuse," Richard Morris Hunt House (RI-315)  
33 Catherine Street  
Izard, Ralph S., House (RI-319)  
10 Pell Street  
King, David, House (Dr. William Birkhead House) (RI-317)  
20 Catherine Street  
"Linden Gate," Henry G. Marquand House (RI-335)  
north side of Old Beach Road - destroyed by fire, Feb. 1973  
Mason, George Champlin, House (RI-341)  
31 Old Beach Road  
Porter, Mary T., House (RI-314)  
25 Greenough Place  
Powel, James C. - Julia M. Peckham House (RI-320)  
28 Greenough Place  
Redwood, Abraham, Garden House (RI-274)  
Redwood Library Grounds, 50 Bellevue Avenue  
Redwood Library (RI-100)  
50 Bellevue Avenue  
Richardson, John G. - Sophia E. Blatchford House (RI-316)  
37 Catherine Street  
Stone Mill (Viking Tower) (RI-103)  
Touro Park  
Swinbourne, Daniel J., House (RI-312)  
6 Greenough Place  
Tilton, Samuel, House (RI-309)  
12 Sunnyside Place  
Tompkins, Tillinghast, House (RI-311)  
11 Redwood Street  
White, Isaac P., House (RI-321)  
66 Ayrault Street



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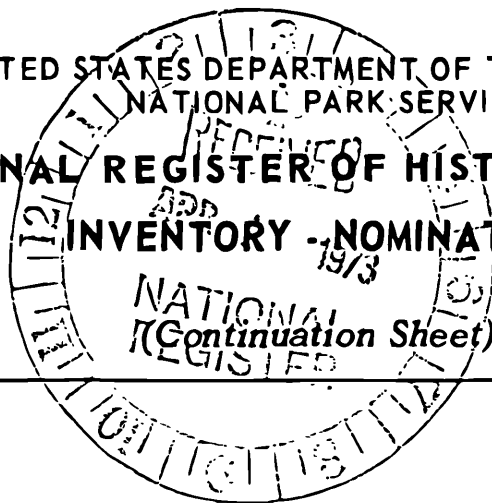
(Number all entries)

6. Continued

Other Buildings and Sites Within the District of Major Historic and/or Architectural Importance:

- 21 Ayrault Street (1882): 1½ story mansard cottage; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 52 Ayrault Street (c.1910): modest 2½ story Colonial Revival house.
- 68 Ayrault Street (1881): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Clarence S. Luce, Arch; home of Admiral Werden.
- Bellevue Avenue: Jewish Cemetary (1677); Egyptian Revival fence (1842) by Isiah Rogers.
- 8 Bellevue Avenue: Mount Zion A.M.E. Church; major church of local Black community since 1876; previously Newport Opera House (1866); originally the dining room wing of the Bellevue House (1850), Russell Warren, arch.
- 10 Bellevue Avenue (c.1835): 2½ story Greek Revival house with later mansard roof; home of Lt. Gov. Samuel Engs, early developer of the Kay Street - Bellevue Avenue area.
- 20 Bellevue Avenue (1872): 1½ story mansard roofed office; Dudley Newton, Arch.
- 27 Bellevue Avenue -- Viking Hotel: site of home of Richard and William Morris Hunt.
- 29 Bellevue Avenue (c.1835): 2 story Greek Revival House -- one of the first summer homes in area; became the Newport Reading Room c.1860.
- 32 Bellevue Avenue (c.1835, 1893): early Greek Revival summer home; later home of Dr. David King; Muechinger-King Hotel.
- 49 Bellevue Avenue (1871-72): Pratt House; 1½ story mansard roofed cottage; attributed to Richard Morris Hunt.
- 100-102 Bellevue Avenue (c.1965): site of Sea Girt Hotel and Downing Block; home and business of George T. Downing, nationally prominent Black business man, advocate of desegregated education.
- 6 Brinley Street (c.1845): 2½ story bracketed cottage.
- 10 Bull Street (c.1845): 2½ story Greek Revival house.
- 12 Bull Street (c.1845): 2½ story Greek Revival house.
- 15 Bull Street (c.1850): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 29 Bull Street (c.1855): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 35 Bull Street (c.1850): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 30 Calvert Street (c.1900): 2½ story modest Colonial Revival house.
- 25 Catherine Street (1856): 2½ story Bracketed cottage; home of Clement C. Moore, scholar, author of "The Night Before Christmas".
- 45 Catherine Street (1915): Ayrault House; 2½ story neo-Georgian house.
- 49 Catherine Street: site of home of Charlotte Cushman, actress.
- 5 Champlin Street (1883): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Geo. C. Mason & Son, architects.
- 29 Champlin Street (c.1875): 1½ story Mansard cottage; James Fludder, arch.
- 1 Cottage Street (1871-72): 2½ story "Stick Style" chalet; Geo. C. Mason & Son, architects.
- 8 Cottage Street (c.1850, c.1880): 2½ story early victorian house with Queen Anne alterations.

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6. Continued

- 39-41 Cranston Avenue (1882): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 40 Cranston Avenue (1883): 2½ story Queen Anne house; J.D. Johnston, arch.
- Downing Street: site of Sea Girt Hotel and Downing Block; street named for George T. Downing, Black business man and advocate of desegregated education.
- 7-9 Elizabeth Court (1850, 1890): 2 story house exhibiting various stylistic periods; home of Nathan Barker, local builder.
- 161 Eustis Avenue (1882-83): converted "Shingle Style" stable; C.H. Burdick, builder.
- 247 Eustis Avenue (1881): 2½ story Queen Anne House; Geo. C. Mason & Son, architects.
- 45 Everett Street (1871-72): 2½ story "Stick Style" chalet; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 48 Everett Street (1881): 2½ story "Shingle Style" house; Miller & Greene, architects.
- 7 Francis Street (1871-72): 1½ story Mansard cottage.
- 11 Francis Street (1881): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Clarence S. Luce, arch.
- 12 Francis Street (1873-79): 2½ story "Stick Style" house.
- 13 Francis Street (c.1880): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 15 Francis Street (1883): 2½ story "Shingle Style" house; Clarence S. Luce, arch.
- 262 Gibbs Avenue (c.1882): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 300 Gibbs Avenue (1881-83): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 336 Gibbs Avenue (1882-82): "Elm Cottage"; 2½ story Queen Anne house; William R. Emerson, arch.
- 381 Gibbs Avenue (1883): Linden Gate porter's lodge; attrib. to Richard Morris Hunt's office.
- 396 Gibbs Avenue (1883): 2½ story Queen Anne - Colonial Revival house; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 428 Gibbs Avenue (1871-72): 2½ story "Stick Style" house; Cabot and Chandler, arch's.; home of William B. Rogers, founder of M.I.T.
- 448 Gibbs Avenue (c.1884): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 1-3 Gray Terrace (c.1884): remodeled "Shingle Style" carriage house; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 12 High Street (c.1759): William Littlefield House: 2½ story gable roofed house, 2 interior chimneys, 5 bay facade.
- 10 Kay Street (c.1890): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 27 Kay Street (c.1855): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 28 Kay Street (c.1855): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 30 Kay Street (c.1855): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 33 Kay Street (c.1855): 2½ story Bracketed house.
- 36 Kay Street: much altered home of George H. Calvert, scholar, translator of Goethe.
- 54 Kay Street (c.1871): 2½ story Mansard house.
- 59 Kay Street (1907): 2½ story Colonial Revival house; Dudley Newton, arch.

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(Continuation Sheet) 4.

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Newport	
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## 6. Continued

- 60 Kay Street (1871-72): 2½ story Mansard house; Geo. C. Mason & Son, arch's.
- 66-66½ Kay Street (1882): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 68 Kay Street (1882): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Dudley Newton, arch.
- 75 Kay Street (1883-84): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Clarence S. Luce, arch.
- 80 Kay Street (1881): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Clarence S. Luce, arch.
- 10 Kilburn Court (c.1780): 2½ story double house, recessed central entrance.
- 14 Lincoln Street (c.1890): modest 2½ story "Shingle Style" house.
- 27 Mann Avenue (c.1895): modest 2½ story "Shingle Style" house.
- 29 Mann Avenue (c.1895): modest 2½ story "Shingle Style" house.
- 34 Mann Avenue (c.1845): 1½ story Gothic Revival cottage.
- 1-3 Oakwood Terrace (c.1902): 2½ story Colonial Revival house; home of George Gordon King, local philanthropist.
- 8 Oakwood Terrace (1845): "Red Cross Cottage"; 2½ story Gothic Revival house; George Dexter, arch.; home of David Sears; one of the earliest large estates in Newport.
- 19 Old Beach Road (1879): 2½ story "Stick Style" house; David Brown, arch.
- 34 Old Beach Road (c.1845, 1870, 1874): "Belair"; an early summer estate; 2½ story stone house attrib. to Seth Bradford, with alterations by Dudley Newton; carriage house and porter's lodge by Dudley Newton; home of George Norman, civil engineer, designer of municipal water works.
- Old Beach Road (c.1880): "Oakwold"; 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 1 Red Cross Avenue (1871-72): 2½ story Mansard house; Geo. C. Mason & Son, architects.
- 2 Red Cross Avenue (1876, 1882): 2½ story Queen Anne House; McKim, Mead & White, arch's.; home of Katherine Wormley, organizer of U.S. veterans hospitals, translator of Balzac.
- 3 Red Cross Avenue (1870, 1883): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 4 Red Cross Avenue (c.1873): 2½ story "Stick Style" house.
- 5 Red Cross Avenue (c.1882): 2½ story Colonial Revival house.
- 6 Red Cross Avenue (1882): Skinner House; 2½ story Queen Anne house; McKim, Mead & White, arch's.
- 7 Red Cross Avenue (1882-83): 2½ story Queen Anne house; McKim, Mead & White, arch's.; home of Samuel Coleman, artist.
- 30 Red Cross Avenue (c.1879, 1881): 2½ story "Modern Gothic" house; Peabody & Stearns, arch's.
- 10 Redwood Street (1863): 2½ story Mansard house; Bryant & Sturgis, arch's.
- 7 Rhode Island Avenue (1880): 2½ Queen Anne house; W.F. Wilbur, arch.
- 9 Rhode Island Avenue (c.1890): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 67 Rhode Island Avenue (c.1880): 2½ story Queen Anne house.
- 73 Rhode Island Avenue (1881): 2½ story Queen Anne house; Clarence S. Luce, arch.
- 86 Rhode Island Avenue (1882-83): 2½ story Queen Anne house; George C. Mason & Son, arch's.
- 91 Rhode Island Avenue (1883): 2½ story Queen Anne house; J.D. Johnston, arch.
- 93 Rhode Island Avenue (1875-76, 1881): 2½ story Mansard house; Dudley Newton, arch.; home of Sarah C. Woolsey, author of children's books.

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STATE Rhode Island	
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(Number all entries)

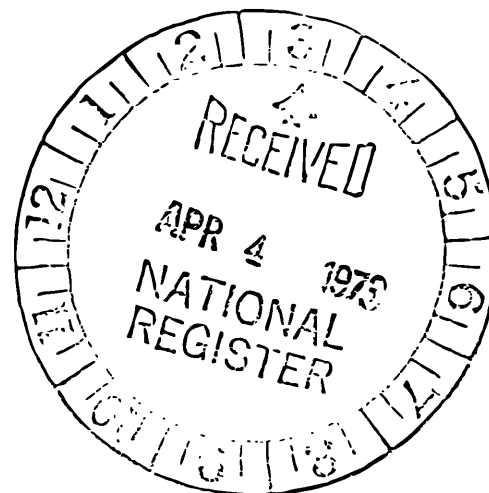
Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road Historic District, Newport

SITE PLAN

Boundary of Existing Historic District: 

Boundary of Proposed Historic District: 

1. Jewish Cemetary, 1677
2. Sabbatarian Meeting House, 1729
3. Redwood Library, 1748
4. Touro Synagogue, 1763
5. Stone Windmill, 17th century
6. Mount Zion A.M.E. Church -- 1850 dining room wind of the Bellevue House
7. Ralph Izard House, c.1850
8. Porter Villa, 1855
9. "Belair", c.1850
10. "Red Cross Cottage", 1844
11. 6 Greenough Place -- gothic revival house of c.1860
12. 34 Mann Avenue -- gothic revival house of c.1850
13. J.N.A. Griswold House, 1862-63
14. Marquand House, "Linden Gate", 1871 (destroyed by fire, February, 1973)
15. Pratt House, 1875
16. "The Hypotenuse", c.1870
17. Wormley House, 1879, 1882
18. Tilton House, 1881-82
19. Skinner House, 1882
20. Coleman House, 1882-83
21. Edgar House, 1884-85
22. Pell House, 1880
23. 31 Old Beach Road, c.1875
24. 5 Champlin Street, c.1883
25. 85 Rhode Island Avenue, c.1883
26. 100 Rhode Island Avenue, c.1888
27. King-Birkhead House, 1872
28. Swinburn House, 1875-76
29. Ellen Mason House, 1902



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7. Description

In the expansive post-Civil War era architects of national reputation received numerous commissions in Newport. The Kay-Catherine-Old Beach Road area is uniquely rich in buildings designed by major architects active in this period. Richard Morris Hunt worked on at least six houses in the area. His "Modern Gothic Style" of the 1870's is exemplified by the J.N.A. Griswold House (1862-3, #13) at 76 Bellevue Avenue (already on the National Register); Henry Marquand House (1871, #14), "Linden Gate", at Rhode Island Avenue and Old Beach Road, destroyed by fire February 1973; and the small but exuberant Pratt House (c.1875, #15) at 49 Bellevue Avenue. "The Hypotenuse" (c.1870, #16) stands at 33 Catherine Street.

The firm of McKim, Mead and White are responsible for five houses in the neighborhood: the Wormley House (1879, 1882, #17), at 2 Red Cross Avenue; the Tilton House (1881-82, #18), at 12 Sunnyside Place; the Skinner House (1882, #19), at 6 Red Cross Avenue; the Coleman House (1882-3, #20), at 7 Red Cross Avenue; and the Edgar House (1884-5, #21), at 29 Old Beach Road. Located in a compact area, these houses present a comprehensive picture of architectural trends in the 1880's, illustrating the evolution of the Queen Anne Style and the development of the Colonial Revival. A number of other nationally prominent architects were working in the Kay-Catherine-Old Beach Road area during the 80's. None was so active as Clarence S. Luce who did ten houses here between 1880 and 1885. Characteristic of these is the Queen Anne Style Pell House (1880, #22), at 11 Francis Street.

Chief among local architects working in this period were George C. Mason, Sr., his son George C. Mason, Jr., and Dudley Newton. The work of the Masons and Newton follows the lead of their better known colleagues. The Masons' Swiss Chalet style house at 31 Old Beach Road (#23), Colonial Revival Houses at 5 Champlin Street (#24) and 85 Rhode Island Avenue (#25), and the vaguely Flemish Renaissance house at 100 Rhode Island Avenue (#26) attest to their imitative and antiquarian predilections. Dudley Newton did a series of charming story and a half mansard roofed cottages, best illustrated by the King-Birkhead House (1872, #27) at 20 Catherine Street. His Swinbourne House (1875-6, #28), at 97 Rhode Island Avenue, is in Hunt's Modern Gothic Style.

From the 1890's to the 1930's, building activity in the neighborhood was at a near standstill. One noteworthy house built in this period is the Ellen Mason House (1902, #29),



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(Continuation Sheet) 7.

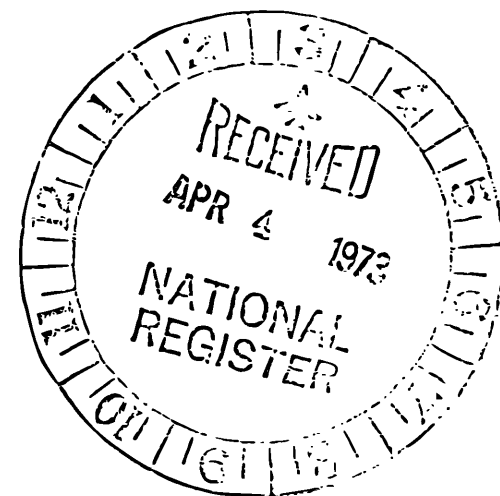
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7. Description

now St. Michael's School, an important stucco building by Irving Gill in his Hispano-California manner. Since the Depression the neighborhood has undergone significant changes. The houses are no longer used as summer residences. Many of the large estates have been broken up into relatively small building lots on which typical mid-twentieth century houses have been erected. Yet the Kay - Catherine - Old Beach Road area retains the look of a gracious suburban neighborhood -- the look it has borne for a century.

The Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road District is situated east and north of the existing Newport Historic District (a National Historic Landmark). The boundaries of the Kay - Catherine - Old Beach Road District are as follows: Starting at a point on the boundary of the existing Newport Historic District on Memorial Boulevard, following Memorial Boulevard east from that point to Easton's Pond, following the shore of Easton's Pond north to a point opposite Champlin Street, following the rear property lines of lots on the north side of Champlin Street to Prairie Avenue, and following the rear property lines of lots on the east side of Prairie Avenue to Kay Street; at Kay Street the boundary line runs east to Powell Avenue to include properties on both sides of Kay Street, then cuts north following the rear property lines of lots fronting the east side of Rhode Island Avenue to Broadway; from the intersection of Broadway and Rhode Island Avenue the boundary line runs south along Broadway to Spring Street and then follows Spring Street to Sherman Street where the boundary of the Kay - Catherine - Old Beach Road District follows the boundary of the existing Newport Historic District from the intersection of Spring Street and Sherman Street to the intersection of the existing Historic District and Memorial Boulevard (see site plan). The area so bounded contains some 900 structures surveyed by the staff of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission.



**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

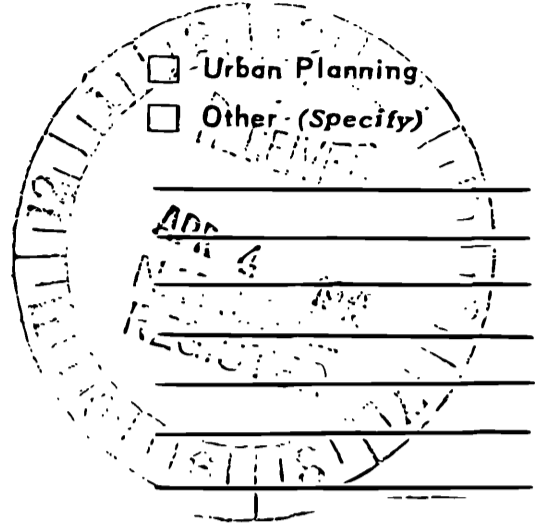
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian |  16th Century |  18th Century |  20th Century  
 15th Century |  17th Century |  19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy            | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Science             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture                      |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature  | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater                        |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                 |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |   |  |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At the height of its development in the 1870's and 80's the Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road area became a typically American suburban neighborhood, characterized by wide, friendly streets lined with well kept lawns and over-arched by shade trees. What made this particular neighborhood noteworthy were its illustrious residents, and its outstanding, in some instances trend —setting, architecture.

The genteel, intellectual character of the neighborhood set it apart from other areas settled by Newport's summer colony. From the 1850's on, residents of the area formed a cross-section of the nation's cultural elite: Professors Pumpelly, Rogers and Cooke -- all eminent scientists; Catherine Wormley, translator of Balzac, and George Calvert, translator of Goethe; Charlotte Cushman, the actress; Clement C. Moore and Sara C. Woolsey -- both better known for their juvenile literature than for their "serious" writing (Moore's texts on Hebrew are all but forgotten, but his "The Night Before Christmas" is a seasonal standby); Henry Marquand, businessman and board chairman of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, and Dr. David King, prominent physician and first president of the Newport Historical Society; John LaFarge and William Coleman, artists ... all had residences here. At the north end of Bellevue Avenue stood the house and studio of William Morris Hunt, the painter. It later belonged to his brother Richard, the architect. Early in the 1850's the family of William and Henry James settled in the neighborhood. William James studied painting in the Hunt studio; Henry James became Newport's most perceptive critic. In the 1870's Julia Ward Howe, best known for her "Battle Hymn of the Republic", organized the "Town and Country Club" which met in the Catherine Street home of Col. George E. Waring, an eminent sanitary engineer. Later Mrs. Howe's daughter,

(See Continuation Sheet)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Chase, David W.; Survey Report for the Kay Street -- Catherine Street -- Old Beach Road Neighborhood in Newport, Rhode Island; Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission, Providence, 1973; passim.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	41 ° 29' 49.29	71 ° 18 45.22		0 . .	0 . .	
NE	41 ° 29' 49.29	71 ° 17 44.91				
SE	41 ° 29' 0.00	71 ° 17 44.91				
SW	41 ° 29' 0.00	71 ° 18 45.22				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 280 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**David W. Chase, Survey Director**

ORGANIZATION: **Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission**      DATE: **23 Feb 73**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**52 Power Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Providence**      STATE: **Rhode Island**      CODE: **44**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National       State       Local

Name: *Frederick W. Williams*  
Title: State Historic Preservation Officer  
Date: 3/28/73

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

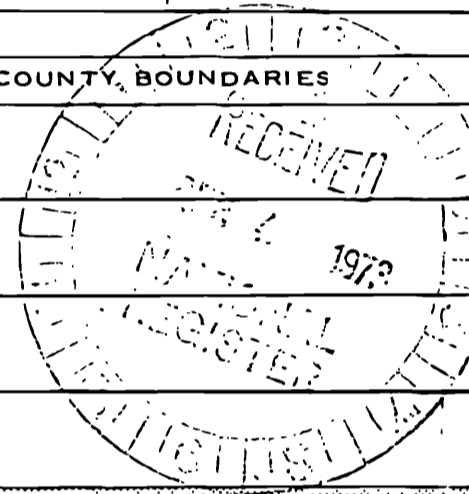
*Robert M. Utley*  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 5/22/73

ATTEST:

*J. Bradford Fox*  
Acting Keeper of The National Register  
Date: 5/17/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 9.

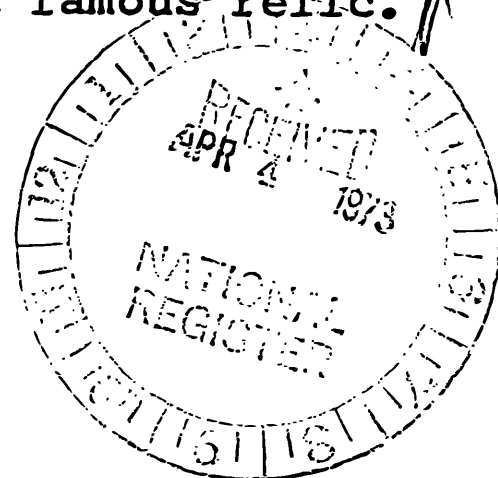
STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	22 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

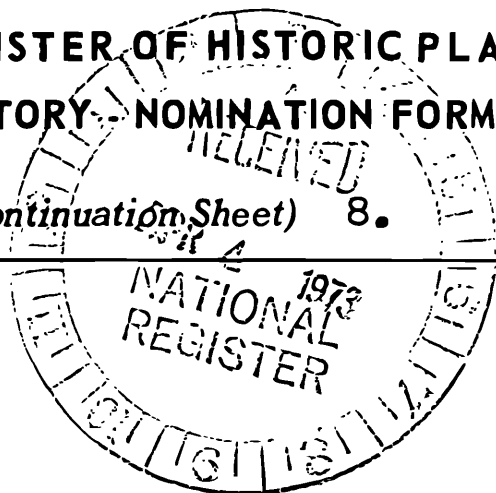
"(The house) built for Mr. Samuel Coleman, on Red Cross (Avenue), seems to me particularly happy in expression -- dignified yet rural, simple yet refined, almost picturesque yet quiet, and wholly devoid of that affection, that attitude-inizing (so to say) which too often accompanies picturesqueness."

Though the pre-1830 structures in the Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road neighborhood anti-date the height of its development, they are among Newport's most important monuments, and thus must be singled out for mention here. The major XVIII buildings in the area have already been entered on the National Register, either individually or as part of the Newport Historic District. But two XVII century monuments -- the Jewish Cemetery and the Old Stone Mill -- are not yet on the Register. In the cemetery are buried members of one of the oldest Jewish Congregations in America. It was the subject of Longfellow's popular poem, "The Jewish Cemetery at Newport". Isaiah Rogers' iron and granite Egyptian Revival fence which protects the cemetery is as striking as it is prominently placed, dominating the intersection of Kay Street, Bellevue Avenue and Touro Street. The Old Stone Mill, popularly known as the "Viking Tower," also figured in a Longfellow poem, "The Skeleton in Armour." The arcaded circular stone structure was the cause of much wonderment and intense speculation throughout much of the XIX and early<sup>xx</sup> centuries. It is Newport's most famous relic.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY-NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet) 8.



STATE	
Rhode Island	
COUNTY	
Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

MAY 22 1973

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

Maude Howe Elliot, wife of sculptor John Elliot, and a prolific chronicler of Newport's literary and artistic history, lived on Rhode Island Avenue.

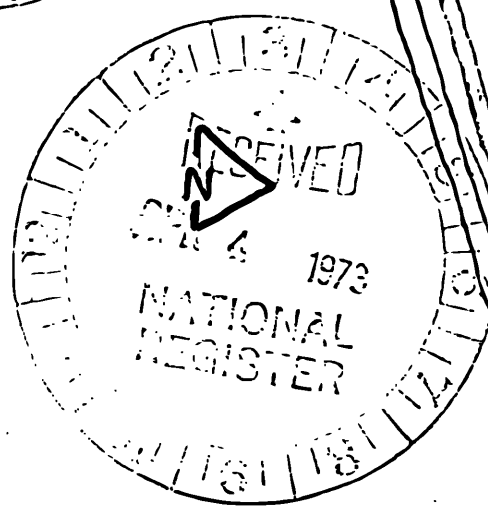
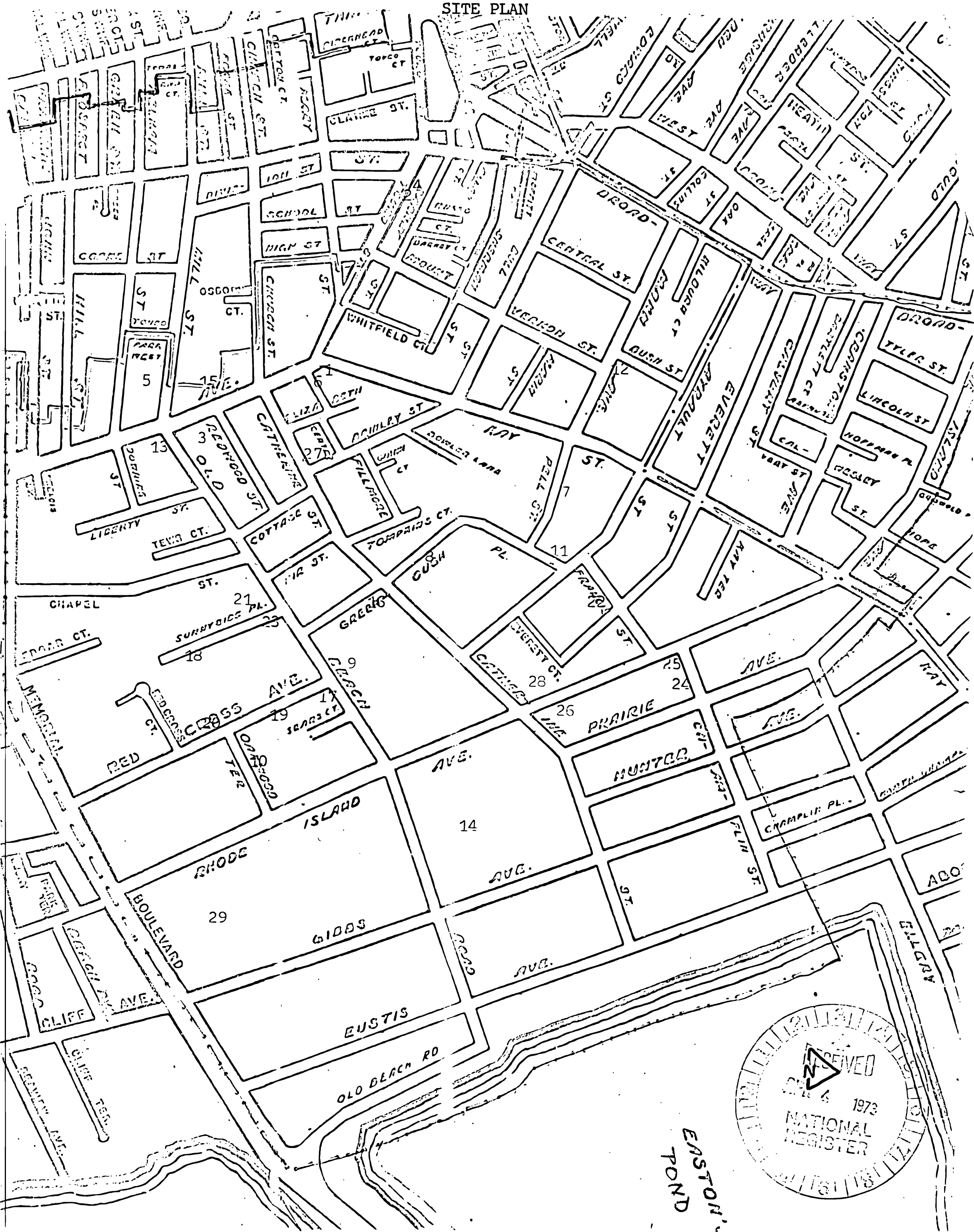
Montgomery Schuyler, in his 1895 commemorative piece on the life and works of Richard Morris Hunt, presented a succinct statement concerning the significance of Newport's resort architecture in the social and architectural history of the nation:

"The expansion of the Newport Cottage of 1855 into the Newport Palace of 1895 affords an epitome of the history of the United States for the interval and furnishes matter for the discourse of the social philosopher as well as of the architectural critic."

The time has come for this aspect of Newport's heritage -- so much a part of our national heritage -- not only to be recognized, but conserved. Newport's Kay Street - Catherine Street - Old Beach Road neighborhood retains many of the finest and most characteristic of the city's summer homes as well as the only significant remnant of the pre-Civil War hotels -- Russell Warren's dining room wing for the Bellevue House, now the Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church. The palaces of the 1890's are not found here, but all that went before is presented to great advantage in this area.

The architectural character of the neighborhood is established by the homes built by its illustrious and socially prominent residents. These buildings run the gamut of styles current in the decades between 1830 and 1890. Among them are a remarkably large number of houses designed by nationally prominent architects which were illustrated and discussed in books and periodicals of the day. These buildings are central monuments in American architectural history on two counts: aesthetic quality and as result of the influence they exerted on building trends throughout the country. McKim, Mead and White's Coleman House is representative. It was discussed in print repeatedly during the 1880's. Mrs. Schuyler van Rensselaer, in her series of articles on American architecture which appeared in the Century Magazine in 1886, felt the Coleman House was a paradigm of what an American "country house" should be:

SITE PLAN



EASTON POND