EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY

John Hunt House

Gazette

VOL. XII No. 6 MARCH 2001

"WHAT'S ON OUR MINDS? . . . ." HON. BRUCE SUNDLUN, SPEAKER

MONDAY, MARCH 26, 7:30 PM, WEAVER LIBRARY, GROVE AVENUE, EAST PROVIDENCE

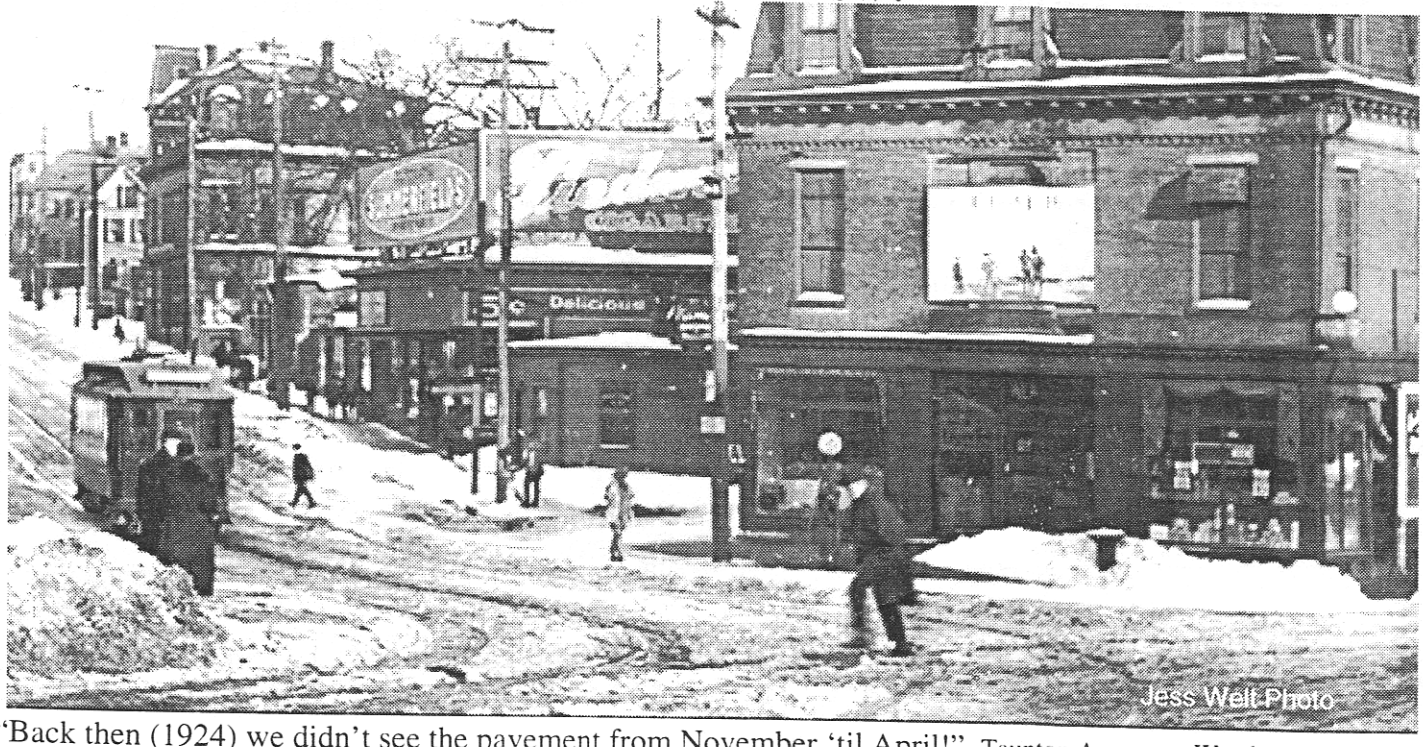
This presentation challenges audiences to take an active interest in whatever is going on and whatever is on our minds. Refreshments and business meeting will follow.

Bruce Sundlun was elected Governor of Rhode Island in 1990 and served until 1995. He is currently Governor-in-Residence at the University of Rhode Island where he teaches courses in political science at the Kingston Campus and the College of Continuing Education in Providence.

Mr. Sundlun has had a distinguished military career. In addition, he holds a Bachelor degree of Arts from Williams college and a Bachelor of Laws degree from Harvard Law School.

Mr. Sundlun has been an attorney for the federal government and in private practice. He has held many executive level positions in business including President and CEO of the Outlet Company from 1976 to 1984.

You call *that* snow?



"Back then (1924) we didn't see the pavement from November 'til April!" Taunton Avenue at Watchemoket Square

The Gazette
is published monthly by the
EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY
P.O. Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774
Tel: (401) 438-1750 E-Mail: ephist@home.com

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Jo Marchi	*Recording Secretary*
Gladys Panzarella	*Corresponding Secretary*
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Ray Anderson	*Grounds*
Kris Rose	*Markers*
Mona Breault	*Membership*
Virginia Berwick	*Museum*
Edna Anness	*Museum Curator*
Florence Adams	*Newsletter*
Les Haworth	*Preservation*
Ray Anderson/David Kelleher	*Program*
Florence Adams	*Publicity*

NEW MEMBERS

Warm Welcome to Our New Members:

Julie Lundgren
Richard and Susan Moseson
Ray and Margaret Wiebolt
Elizabeth Woodcome*

** correction ...misspelled in February Gazette. We apologize for the error.*

BOARD BRIEFS

Doreen Bonney is retiring from her duties with the Gazette. Since 1996, she has given her time to create for us a much praised newsletter. We wish her well and many thanks. **George Adams** will continue the layout duties and **Florence Adams** will serve as Editor/ Facilitator. The rest of the staff, **Billie Arden**, **Mona Breault**, **Fran Gross**, **Virginia Ripley** and **Helen Smith**, will continue to prepare the Gazette for the monthly mailing. It should be noted that the February 26 Questionnaire showed that the *Gazette* and *John Hunt House* received the highest response regarding the things that the Society is doing well.

The revised bylaws were approved at the February 26 meeting. They are available to members upon request.

The Society has an E-Mail address: <ephist@home.com> and is constructing a website.

Society member, **Marilyn Brewer** has put in a request for old games. How about *"Flinch"* card game ?

THE EAST•PROVIDENCE•HISTORICAL•SOCIETY

is dedicated to preserving the heritage and enjoying the history of our City

. . . If you are not a member we invite you to join now.

Annual dues are $10 individual, $15 family or a Life membership for $150.
Please make check payable to:
East Providence Historical Society
and mail with form below to:
Mona Breault
34 Josephine Avenue
Rumford, RI 02916-3018

New ❑ Renewal/ Change ❑
EAST PROVIDENCE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name(s)_____

Street_____

City_____ State____ **Zip (+4)**_____ Phone_____

Amount Enclosed: ❑ **$15.00 Family** ❑ **$10.00 Individual** ❑ **$150.00 Life**

From the Attic

Edna Anness, *Museum Curator*

The Hunt House Museum would like me to remind the readers that we still have the Crescent Park posters for sale which are copies of the early original Crescent Park poster dated 1886 which shows the original park. (See the photo on page 5.) The original poster is quite large and hangs in the Keeping Room in the Hunt House. It was a gift from Richmond Day who had worked at the Providence Lithograph Co. where the original print was made. Over fifty years ago while cleaning out a closet at the company he found the old rolled up print and had it framed for his home. Later he moved to Tucson, Arizona and much later while clearing out his home to move into a retirement home he donated the framed print to the Historical Society. By coincidence we were preparing for the Crescent Park Exhibition and so we had copies made of the print as a fund raiser for the Society. We then sent Mr. Day a copy for his wall as he had remarked in correspondence how much he missed the print. The prints are $20.00 each plus tax. They are easily framed with a standard frame from any store.

Update-May is Museum Month: Dave Kelleher, Virginia Berwick and Edna Anness are attending preparation meetings at the Heritage Harbor Museum, Providence. On April 28th all participating museums from around the state will be set up at the Warwick Mall. Each has a display space and our display will emphasize our two programs: the *E.P. Land Conservation Trust Walk* and the *John Hunt House Open House to dedicate the Philip Walker Room.* If anyone with artistic talent would like to step forward to help us design a display panel for an easel or a folding floor model we'd love to hear from you. Contact any one of us. Or leave a message on the Hunt House answering machine (401) 438-1750 or E-mail: ephist@home.com Non-members are urged to volunteer too.

NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

About 2500 people from around the country are expected to attend the *National Preservation Conference* to be held in Providence October 16 - 21. The Conference is sponsored by the **National Trust for Historic Preservation, Preserve RI**, which owns the Governor Lippitt House and the **Jeremiah Dexter House**, both in Providence, and the Phillip Walker House in East Providence. Society member, **Dave Kelleher**, along with representatives from other R.I. groups, has sent a "things to see and do" proposal to the planning committee.

..... ***More to come ...***

Gifts and Accessions

Edna Anness -Pair of ladies "drawers" from c.1890. Tsk, tsk!

Barry Geary- 1880's autograph album found in attic of RUMFORD CO. railroad building on Greenwood Ave.-

Dorothy Marshall- A neat pair of spats, a silk nightcap and gown from 1910-1920

Dan Wood - His 1949 wedding picture ,old package of waterproof matches photo of a bloomer car, eight photos of the fire at St. Mary's Academy, Bay View. The Paule Loring cartoon listed last month was also from Dan. (It was credited to Dan Howard-the curator's error).

In Memory of .....

Donations were made to the Society's Memorial Fund in memory of:

William Saunders

Sadly Missed . . . Fondly Remembered

The Society's Memorial Fund was established in 1993, in memory of past members, for "the betterment of the Society and with no specific purpose."

The Memorial Fund is a qualified endowment administered by the Executive Committee.

Members and friends wishing to contribute may make checks payable to the **East Providence Historical Society** and mail to the Society at Box 4774, East Providence, RI 02916-4774

Members' Memories

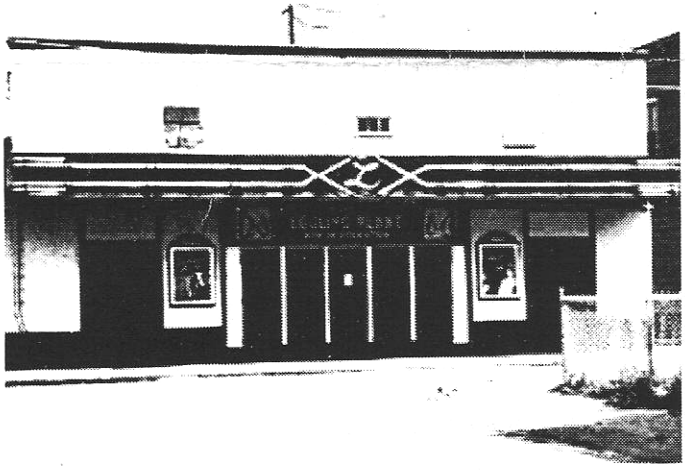
SATURDAY AFTERNOON FUN

Ned Clark

In the 1930's the Lyric Theatre on Maple Avenue in Riverside offered movies on Saturday afternoon for 10 cents. We saw newsreels, cartoons, serials, (which were usually Westerns) and two feature movies. The serials always ended in such a way that we wondered how our "heroes" would survive such a bad situation. We knew the movie makers did this to make us come back for the next episode, but it was fun to see how they did it.

We were allowed to cheer for our "good guys" and to laugh at the funny scenes, but loud talking and horseplay were taboo. Those who did not obey these rules got a warning the first time, after that they were sent outside and had to ask permission to come in the next time they arrived at the theatre.

The owners of the theatre were a Mr. & Mrs. Goff.



The Lyric Theatre, Riverside (now a metal shop)

DOUBLE TAKE

A 3D View of 19th Century Rhode Island

AVON CINEMA April 1

Thanks to new technology you can experience 19th Century Rhode Island on the silver screen. The RHODE ISLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY will take you back in time. The narrator will be **Ned Connors**, a member of the East Providence Historical Society. (There will be 2 stereo card views of Hunt's Mills in the program)

Premiere Party 3 - 4:15 PM $75

General Admission 4:15 - 5:30 PM.....$40

Student (under 21) $25

NOTE: In the February Gazette a *Members' Memories* piece titled "The Riverside Canal"was attributed to Ned Connors in error. **Ned Clark** wrote that one also. We sincerely regret the error.

The editors

The Gazette ...

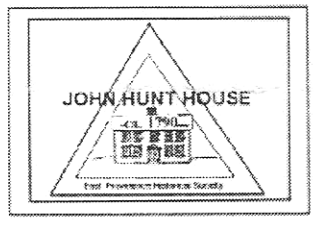
welcomes "letters to the editor". Mail to
Florence Adams
c/o E.P. Historical Society, PO Box 4774,
East Providence, RI 02916-4774

"Members Memories" and articles of historic interest. mail to:
Ray Anderson,
32 Algonquin Road,
East Providence, RI 02916-3502

EAST•PROVIDENCE• HISTORICAL•SOCIETY

Historical Marker Program

Your home may be eligible for a Marker



Any building in the City of East Providence which contributes to the historical development or architectural character of the City is eligible to be considered for a

Historical Marker

For information, send the coupon below to:

The Marker Program
East Providence Historical Society
PO Box 4774
East Providence R02916-4774

I am interested in receiving information about the **East Providence Marker Program**

Name_____

Address_____

_____

The John Hunt House is Open

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 AM until noon
or by appointment.

For appointment, Telephone (401) 438-1750 or E-mail: ephist@home.com

While you're there, be sure to visit the

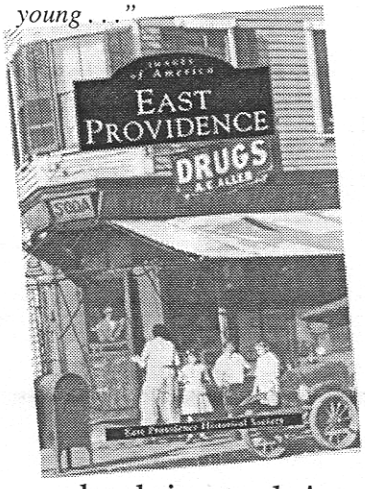
MUSEUM STORE

Lots of Good Stuff

IMAGES OF AMERICA

EAST PROVIDENCE

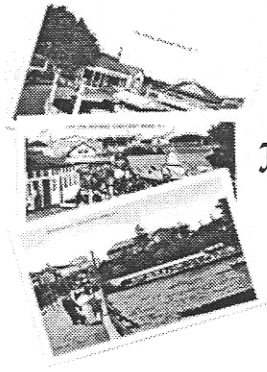
" . . a meander through these pages can mean recollection and reminiscence for older people and revelation for the young . . ."



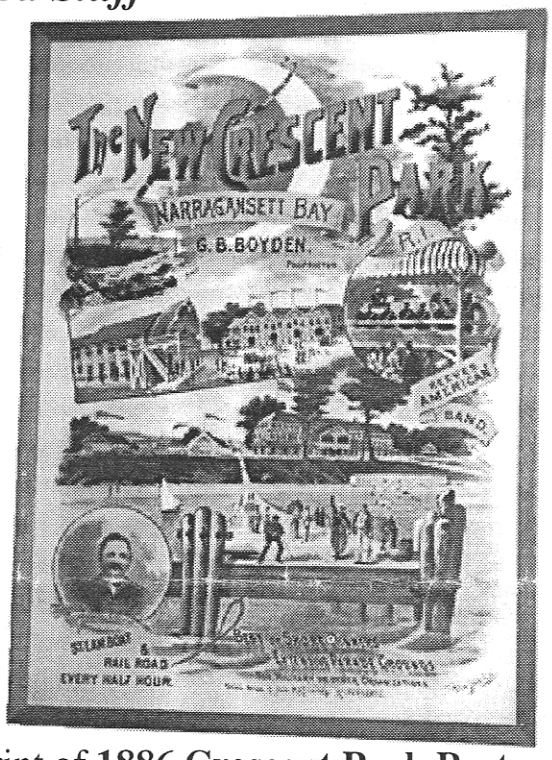
....back in stock !

First published in 1997, *Images of America ... East Providence* contains over 200 vintage photographs from the first 100 years of the "Town"

An excellent gift for YOU .. or for your East Providence family and friends .....$18.18 tax included



Replica Postcards 76¢ each



Print of **1886 Crescent Park Poster.**

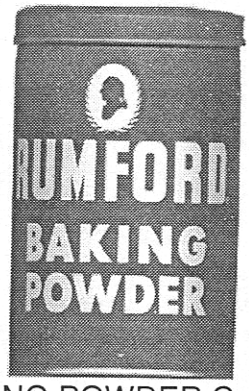
See description in *"From the Attic", pg. 3*

$21.40 tax incl.

RUMFORD CHEMICAL CO.

souvenirs

"RECEIPT" Book $3
also a few original cookbooks @ $8



BAKING POWDER Can $3
This replica 7 in. high 4 in. diameter is a handy container.

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P.O. Box 4774
EAST PROVIDENCE, RI 02916
John Hunt House

Non-Profit Organization
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH

Wednesday, March 21, 4:20 PM
Looff Carousel, Crescent Park, Riverside
Passenger pick up for
East Bay Tour/East Bay Tourism Council

Monday, March 26, 7:30 PM
Members Meeting
Weaver Library, 41 Grove Avenue, East Providence
Program: "*What's On Our Minds?*"
Hon. Bruce Sundlun.

CHANGE of ADDRESS

The Society has a **"Return Service Requested"** arrangement with the Post Office. You'll see the information block on this page .. There is a *charge every time we retrieve an undeliverable mailing.* Please advise the Society of all changes, whether temporary or permanent. Thank you for helping us save money

APRIL

Wednesday, April 4, 7:30 PM
Board Meeting (members welcome)
John Hunt House, Hunt's Mills Road, Rumford

Thursday, April 19, 7:30 PM
East Providence Historic Preservation Study Commission.
City Hall, Taunton Avenue
Patrick Rogers, *Councilman*
Jean Boyle, *Planning Department*

Monday, April 23, 7:30 PM
Strictly Sentimental Swing Band
American Legion Post 10, Riverside.
(fund-raiser)