

**The Newton Historical Society's
25th Annual House Tour
to benefit The Newton History Museum**

Today's House Tour is the premier annual event through which the Newton Historical Society raises funds for programs and community outreach by the Newton History Museum throughout the year. Thank you for helping us preserve Newton's historic resources, along with the stories of the people who have built and sustained our community through the centuries.

The Newton Historical Society is especially grateful to the homeowners who have opened their magnificent homes today to Tour participants. We thank the more than 130 volunteers who are helping to make this program a reality. Without their hard work, this event would not be possible. And we thank our program sponsors — the businesses and individuals who have provided financial support for today's event.

The Newton History Museum at The Jackson Homestead, accredited by the American Association of Museums, is a community museum devoted to preserving and exploring Newton and New England's history. A documented site on the Underground Railroad, the Museum is listed in the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, the National Underground Railroad Millenium Trail, and the National Park Service's Aboard the Underground Railroad National Register Travel Itinerary.

The Newton History Museum offers exhibits and programs about

- slavery, abolition and the Underground Railroad
- Native Americans in Newton
- 19th-century family life
- the experience of immigration & balancing between cultures
- the history of Newton's farms, gardens & parks
- the interaction of transportation & the "built" environment
- preservation & design
- hands-on history: historic maps & photographs, neighborhood walks, and more

The Museum houses extensive collections of documents, photographs, maps and objects that residents use to trace the history of their homes and neighborhoods, and that students and teachers use to understand how the story of our community reflects regional, national, and world events.

Please consider supporting these programs throughout the year by becoming a member of the Newton Historical Society (look for the membership form in this booklet). Members receive our printed newsletter, program discounts, and invitations to special members-only events.

The Board of the Newton Historical Society and the House Tour Committee hope that you enjoy your tour today of some of Newton's most distinctive homes.

Sunday May 20, 2007

Noon to 5 p.m.

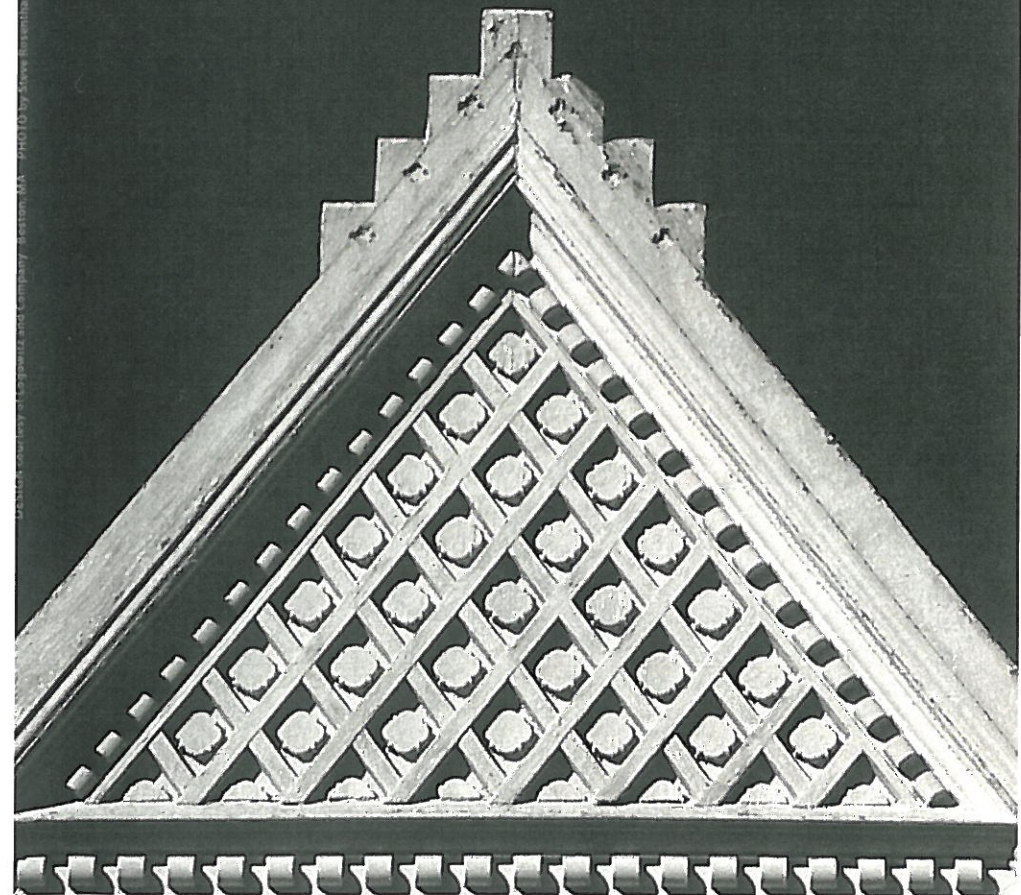
25th annual

House

Newton Historical
Society

Tour

TO BENEFIT THE NEWTON HISTORY MUSEUM
AT THE JACKSON HOMESTEAD



9. 43 Hood Street, Newton Corner

Directions: From Sargent or Kendrick St. and Waverley Ave., take Waverley north (downhill) one block and turn right at the blinking light onto Franklin St. At the next intersection, veer left onto Shornecliffe Rd., which ends at Nonantum St. (one-way to the left). Hood St. is a narrow cul de sac, a sharp right uphill turn.

Parking: Please follow the directions of the police officer stationed here. If you can, please park on Shornecliffe or Nonantum and walk - 43 Hood St. is 4 houses from the intersection. If you cannot walk, please park only on the uphill (south) side of Hood St.

When leaving, take one-way Nonantum St. west (downhill). Turn right at the light onto Waverley Ave., then left at the light onto Tremont St., which becomes Park St. From Park St., you may turn right for an eastbound Massachusetts Turnpike ramp, or veer left onto Washington St. (Route 16), which also leads to a westbound Turnpike ramp.

“A Home is a House Designed with Living in Mind”

This house was designed by Montreal native Annie Paquette, an award-winning contemporary artist and designer, who appropriately considers this her largest artwork to date. Created as a three dimensional work of art, this house can be contemplated as a monumental sculpture; every standpoint becoming a point of interest. Her goal was to use dimensions and proportions to create something enveloping and comforting but neither restrictive nor overwhelming. A flowing spatial geometry and the absence of traditional passageways promotes openness and a general sense of well-being.

The palette of more than 20 colors was inspired by pebbles gleaned from the Cape Cod and New England seashores. The thoughtful and extensive use of glass openings intimately incorporates picture-framed landscapes into every room. The 62 windows, 6 glass doors and 1000 square feet of mahogany decks celebrate the natural environment.

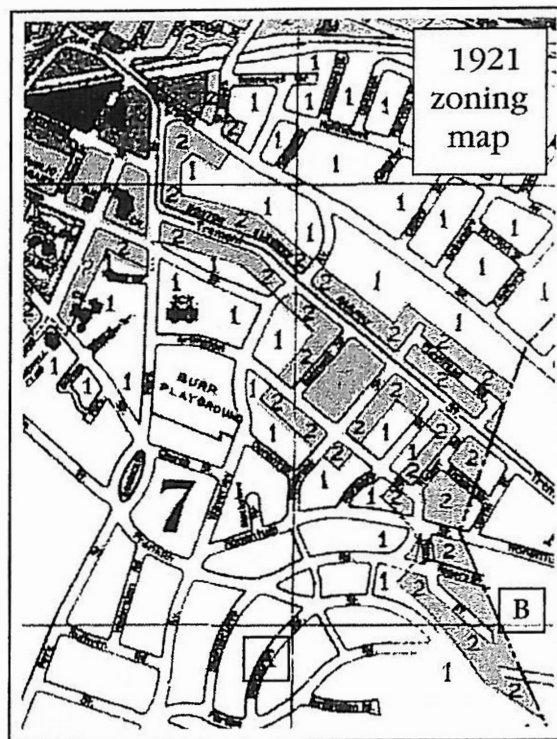
The inspiring attic is a sanctuary of light and nature. A large arch window offers aerial views while an ancestral hemlock creates a tree house sheltering sensation.

A zen-like gardenscape includes a half-moon terraced garden which embraces the ‘great room’, making the outside an intrinsic part of the inside. A timeless ‘stonehenge’ rock formation stands as an inevitable conversation piece. At night, its illuminated monoliths invite a dance under the stars.

What Was Here Then?

Hood St. did not appear on Newton city atlases until 1917.

Gilded Age railroad commuters often built their impressive homes and carriage houses on scenic hillsides. But slopes too steep for horse-drawn carriages often developed very differently, and only after automobile ownership became fairly widespread. Newton’s first zoning plan, in 1921, reflected these historical differences.



A Shornecliffe Road was largely in zone 1, which permitted “detached single-family houses with private garages and stables.”

B Hood Street was in zone 2, which also permitted “houses for more than one family, apartment and boarding houses.” Interestingly, in 1921 both zones still allowed farms and greenhouses, as well as churches, schools, and clubs.

The House on the Hill

Designer Annie Paquette’s comments on transforming a small, square 1930s home:

“Considered as a significant work of art, this house was not only created at the appearance level. Although its proportions, shapes, textures and colors are seamlessly seductive and result in a pleasing combination, the house itself, as a whole, expresses its essence and reveals a presence of its own. That is what I consider a successful work of art; the artist must put his soul into his art, and then, as a loving creator, allow the creation to unveil its own intrinsic soul-full existence. That is a creation of integrity. That is Art”.