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Editor's Note

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Editor's Note

The Naval Historical Collection, housed in the library of the Naval War College at Newport, is the main repository for documents relating to the naval history of Aquidneck Island. In this issue of *Newport History*, Evelyn M. Cherpak recounts the story of Newport's Women Officers School by delving into five large photographic albums from this collection. Dr. Cherpak has been Head of the Naval Historical Collection since 1974. She has been active for more than a decade in studies of women in the Navy. She earned her Ph.D. in 1973 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, an M.A. in 1965 from the University of Pennsylvania, and a B.A. in 1963 from Connecticut College.

Scholars studying the Old Stone Mill in Touro Park usually debate its controversial origins, but Marian Mathison Desrosiers here explores a different angle. Using wills, court cases, and other primary documents, she unravels the mill's ownership by the Arnold, Pelham, and Banister families. Dr. Desrosiers received a Ph.D. in Humanities from Salve Regina University at Newport in 2004. She also holds a B.A. in History from Salve Regina (1968), along with an M.A. in Political Science from Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts (1970). She has taught secondary school for two decades in various cities, and has been an adjunct professor at Salve Regina University and the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth.

John O. C. McCrillis, a long-time resident of New Haven, Connecticut, lived at Newport for over twenty-five years during his younger days. Here, he recalls a visit in the 1930s to the house of two of Newport's legendary "locals," Timmy "the Woodhooker" Sullivan and his sister Julia. John O. C. McCrillis studied art at the Newport Art Association, winning its Charles Whitman Award in 1935. He received a diploma in 1939 from the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence, followed by a Bachelor of Fine Arts there in 1950, an Honorary Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1956, and a doctorate in Fine Arts in 2006. He also earned a Master of Fine Arts Degree in 1950 from Yale University in New Haven. He served as a Professor of Lettering at the Rhode Island School of Design from 1950 to 1951. He held the same post at Yale University from 1951 to 1979. He also worked for the Yale University Press in New Haven from 1952 to 1979.