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## Uncle Sam

*With  
Mr. Paul Hogman*

Who is this national figure? How did he become known world wide? Is he a myth, legend, or real person? These questions, and many more, will be answered as we discover the real story, and facts of "Uncle Sam."

He played an important role in the birth of our Nation. Generations have seen pictures of Uncle Sam: tall and slender, in his tall hat, his goatee, and suit of red, white and blue. You will hear about the man people know, but really don't know too much about. It is a fascinating bit of history which you will not forget.

P.S. Uncle Sam was born in Menotomy (Arlington) Massachusetts.



Please join us to learn more about Uncle Sam as Mr. Paul Hogman, Historian, Teacher, and member of the Waltham Historical Society explains the origin and legacy of Uncle Sam.

This interesting lecture will begin at 7:00 pm in the Community Room of the RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street in Waltham. Plan to arrive early in order to get a good seat. This lecture is free and open to the public. If you have any questions please call 617-448-6706.

*The Weathervane is an official publication of the Waltham Historical Society  
190 Moody Street  
Waltham, Massachusetts 02453  
781-891-5815  
www.walthamhistoricalsociety.org*

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### THE HOUSE TOUR NEEDS YOU!

The Annual House Tour is still in need of homes for our Annual House Tour. If you would be willing to let us include your home, please contact us here at the Society as soon as possible. We will see that you receive all the necessary information.

Every year it becomes more difficult to find homes that have not been on the tour previously. If your home is one of those, please consider helping your Society by making it available on June 13th from noon to 4:00 pm. We will provide docents and all necessities. All you need to do is give us the okay and we will do the rest.

We also need Friends and Business Friends. Enclosed with this newsletter is a sheet with three forms. One form is for Business Friends and the other for Friends of the Society.

# First Waltham Historical Society Trolley Tour a Big Success

On February 27, 2010 the first Historical Society Trolley Tour was conducted. Departing from 760 Main Street, we traveled to the Robert Treat Paine Estate on Beaver Street.



Photo by Patricia Santana

The Trolley was very nearly full as it traveled across the City to tour one of Waltham's historic gems.

Greeting us at the door to the Estate, Curator Ann Clifford welcomed us into the home and introduced us to the architecture, the history, and the family associated with the property.

We were able to view the specially designed grand room whose ceiling is suspended from a truss in the roof.

We walked through the home and viewed portraits of the Paine family, once occupants of the estate.

Wood is a prominent feature in the interior of the structure. All the stones used in the construction of the house and garden walls were collected on the property.



Ms. Clifford pointed out the original location of the oldest portion of the structure, and discussed the significance of the architecture, and architects, as we made our way through the house and grounds.

Many innovative technologies were used in the house including a windmill that pumped ground water to a storage tank in the attic which supplied water to the house.

Electricity was adopted by the Paines in 1886, shortly after it first appeared in New York City in 1884.

## On to the Watch Factory



Upon completion of our tour of Stonehurst, we next traveled to the former Waltham Watch Factory to view the recently completed exhibit created by the collaborative efforts of the Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation, Berkeley Associates, and the Waltham Historical Society.



The exhibit highlights the many important roles the factory and the watch making business played in Waltham's history.

For more information on either of these sites please contact the Historical Society at 781-891-5815, or email us at [waltham.historical.society@gmail.com](mailto:waltham.historical.society@gmail.com).

Stonehurst can be contacted at 781-314-3290 or at [www.stonehurst-waltham.org](http://www.stonehurst-waltham.org).

The Watch Factory Exhibit is open during regular business hours, or by appointment through the Waltham Historical Society at 617-448-6706.

Nearing the conclusion of the tour our guests were asked to provide us with some feedback on their experience. We told them that, in an effort to improve the tours, we would welcome any suggestions they could offer. The first suggestion to come back was "do more tours!"

A compliment, indeed!

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We're currently working on those recommendations already submitted, and are planning another tour in the near future. Please let us know your thoughts.

Finally, we would be remiss if we were to fail to mention how extremely fortunate we are to have on our Board of Directors a person who is also licensed to drive the Trolley! Ms. Leona Lindsay, currently the Society's Recording Secretary, graciously provided her services to safely move us from one location to another. Thank you Leona!



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### Can you identify this location in Waltham?



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## The Historical Commission

By Laura Bernstein

**Meetings of:  
March 8 & April 12, 2010**

### *Commission Discusses how Three Possible Local Historic Districts Might be Established*

Local historic districts would allow local governing bodies to limit changes in some external features of buildings within them. Establishing 'LHDs' can be a more effective preservation tool than inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, which is 'prestigious' but offers historic buildings little protection from demolition.

WHC will apply for state funding to do feasibility studies on Moody Street, Ellison Park/Lyman Sts, and Piety Corner local historic districts. This requires the Mayor's approval, which is likely. The process of actually establishing LHDs is complex, requires input from local residents and 2/3's approval by City Council, and is likely to take two years.

### *Update on Threatened Historic Properties*

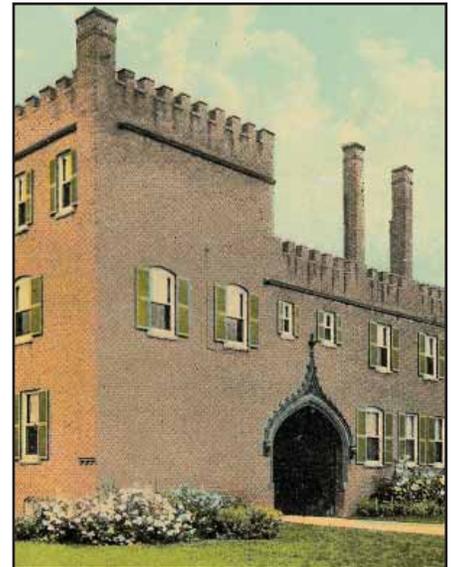
Demolition delays remain in effect until mid-June on 385 and 1767 Trapelo Road.

The 'Brooks House' at 546 Moody St. remains protected from demolition, in effect, until TD Bank can secure all the City Council permits necessary for its planned facility there.

Sachem Realty is planning a mixed residential/retail building on the sites of 425 River and 62 Elm Sts, and have secured most of the permits. This area was the former site of a major railroad complex, and Sachem's project (Station Landing) will include an exterior marker, and photographs and possibly memorabilia in the lobby.

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## Special Notes:



### **760 Main Street**

The Waltham Historical Society will be opening a new exhibit at 760 Main Street. It is hoped that the exhibit will be ready for our Annual House Tour in early June, but will certainly be ready before Historic Waltham Days in July.

One recent Saturday morning a few folks gathered at the site to have tea, coffee, and chats about Waltham's history. It was quite a bit of fun. There are plans to do it again in the near future. Watch the calendar listing to learn when we'll be getting together.

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### **Thank You to Mary Selig**

The Waltham Historical Society is grateful to Mary Selig for recent donations to our collection.

Mary has been monitoring the Ebay website for items of interest concerning Waltham's past. If you see items you believe should be in the collection of the Waltham Historical Society please contact us as soon as possible to avoid competing with one another in an attempt to acquire the items.

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The location in the image at left is the intersection of Lincoln and Lexington Streets taken in 1928.

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*Please patronize all our sponsors. Without their support, we would be unable to continue our efforts to preserve Waltham's history for future generations.*

**Our Business Friends**

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*Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Greene at home*

**The Waltham  
Historical  
Society's 2010  
House Tour  
plans are now  
underway**

The 2010 Tour is seeking homes interested in being featured on our

annual house tour. Please contact Wayne McCarthy at 617-448-6706 or waltham.historical.society@gmail.com for more information.

**"Thank you" to the Waltham  
Historical Society for preserving  
the City's rich legacy!**



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we look forward to serving all members of the Society.*

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