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The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series Presents

"The Life and Times of Francis Cabot Lowell, 1775-1817"

with Mr. Chaim M. Rosenberg

Join us for Chaim (Mike) Rosenberg's story of the life and times of one of Waltham's most significant men. Follow Francis Cabot Lowell from his birth and early schooling to his days as one of the most prominent persons in the Country.

This lecture will explain the background history of the times, the major players in mercantile New England, and the important undertakings of America's first Industrialist.

Mike Rosenberg's interest in the 19th century mill buildings led him to speculate on the importance of industry in the development of Massachusetts. After giving up the practice of medicine he decided to devote his time to the study of the industrialization of Massachusetts. In 2007, the University of Massachusetts Press published *Goods for Sale*, a study of the goods made in Massachusetts (textiles, shoes, pianos etc.)

This research then took him to Francis Cabot Lowell who built the Boston Manufacturing Company in Waltham in 1814 and started the industrialization of America, bringing the ability to compete in price and quality with the Europeans. Using correspondence of Francis Cabot Lowell now kept at the Massachusetts Historical Society in Boston Mr. Rosenberg brings to life the story of quite possibly the most significant man in Waltham's history.



Doors open at 6:30. A brief business meeting will begin at 7:00 and the lecture will begin immediately thereafter. The lecture will be held at the RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, (rear) in Waltham. For more information please call 617-448-6706.

Mr. Rosenberg will have copies of his book, *The Life and Times of Francis Cabot Lowell* available for purchase at the meeting.

PLEASE CHECK THE LABEL ON YOUR NEWSLETTER ENVELOPE TO LEARN WHETHER YOU ARE CURRENT IN YOUR DUES!

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www.bookandpaperexpo.com

Members of the Historical Society have been given free passes to the Boston Book and Paper Exposition and Sale, Saturday, May 7 from 10am to 5pm at Shriner's Auditorium in Wilmington. Your free pass will accompany the electronic version of this newsletter or send an email to waltham.historical.society@gmail.com, or call 617-448-6706 and leave a message indicating how many passes you need and how to arrange pick-up.

Report on Historical Commission submitted by Laura Bernstein

Stonehurst (Ann Clifford): Work on external renovations is nearly finished.

Work on the "water project", including new accessible restrooms, is scheduled for Jan-April 2012. Updated markings for properties--including the adjacent Coleman property acquired by the City--are in the works. CPA and private funding is involved.

WHC Activities (Archie Bennett):

- 2 demolition signoffs: 53 Milner St & Maravista Ave

- Wellington House: detailed WHC proposal for additional \$370K of CPA funding, was tabled by the Mayor (see CPA note, below).

- Poss MHC Survey & Planning Grant: application submitted; may know by May 1. One goal will be to have 100 additional properties proposed for Natl Register: Waltham preservationists and residents should be thinking about candidates. Approximate Natl Register criteria for buildings are:

- 50 years old
- within existing Natl Reg district or has been found Natl Reg-eligible
- associated with historic persons or events....or with architectural, cultural, political, economic, social history.....in Waltham or MA
- architecturally significant

CPA/CPC (Carl Zinnell):

- Wellington House renovations financing: Mayor wants already-approved \$180K CPA funding spent, before considering WHC proposal for additional \$370K. In effect there are 2 options for applying the \$180K, which would be spent on more basic internal renovations: 1/ having Don Cusano taking over much of the work, using City labor; 2/ having the existing private architect on the project & City Purchasing Agent Joe Pedulla work together on overseeing the bids. WHC voted unanimously for 2/, thinking that the end result would be more in line with the overall WHC proposal for the project.

Presentation on General Purpose Viewer features of City Website:

- will combine data from MACRIS & Natl Reg, GIS/other City maps, & other sources; will be searchable, with helpful links. Will be able to 'underlay' historic maps.

- will help WHC & citizens quickly determine characteristics & history of buildings of interest.

Proposal for partial CPA funding for specific area of Grove Hill Cemetery: WHC voted to back a project to restore and improve signage on an area including Civil War participants, notably the Banks family. WHC, the Mayor & WHS approvals are needed.



HENRY WHITTEMORE

Waltham News Tribune, May 6, 1931

Henry Whittemore of 47 Worcester Lane, who was former Superintendent of Schools here and later principal of the Framingham Normal School until his retirement several years ago, died suddenly at Hanover, N.H., where he had gone last week to attend a meeting of the class secretaries. Mr. Whittemore passed away early this morning. He was quartermaster in F.P.H. Rogers Post 29 GAR in which he was actively interested, being its youngest member.

Born in Hopkinton, MA, July 23, 1843, Mr. Whittemore received his degree from Dartmouth College in 1866. He served as a private in Company C Massachusetts infantry.

Mr. Whittemore was the second Superintendent of Schools in this city, succeeding the late John T. Prince, who was for many years connected with the State Board of Education. Coming to Waltham from Westboro, MA, where he had been Superintendent of Schools for nine years, Mr. Whittemore served this city most acceptably and efficiently from 1883 to 1898, a period of fifteen years marked by many improvements in the school system.

WHITTEMORE *continued*

After retiring from educational work, he returned to Waltham, making his home on Worcester Lane and taking an active interest in the florist business conducted by his son. He was also interested in municipal affairs and was a member of F.P.H. Rogers Post 29 GAR, in which organization was adjutant and quartermaster.

As Superintendent of Schools in this city, Mr. Whittemore was beloved by every teacher and pupil in the community for his unvarying courtesy and genial manner.

In recognition of Mr. Whittemore's valuable service as head of the Waltham Public Schools, the School Committee, when the new elementary school was built on the south side five years ago, decided to name the building the Henry Whittemore School. It was the first occasion on which a Waltham schoolhouse has been named in honor of a living person.

On receipt of the information of Mr. Whittemore's death, Mayor Duane directed that the national flags on public buildings be placed at half staff.

An interesting portion of manuscript from a January 31, 1896 School Committee Report reprinted by Waltham High School Students

Students in the Graphic Communications classes at Waltham High School have worked on numerous historical publications over the years. This year they have produced a publication entitled *Brief Sketches of Citizens of Waltham After Whom the Various Schools are named*.

This publication is a partial transcript taken from the Annual Report of the School Committee and Superintendent of Schools delivered January 31, 1896. With the exception of the Plympton School, all schools mentioned have been repurposed or demolished.

The book contains brief sketches of the citizens after whom the schools were named. Some of the names you will recognize. Some are quickly

Save This Date!



On Saturday, July 16, 2011, the Waltham Historical Society along with the Waltham Public Library and the National Archives and Records Administration will join together to sponsor The Mass. Memories Road Show.

The Road Show will be held between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm at the National Archives, 380 Trapelo Road, Waltham. Current and former residents are invited to become a part of Massachusetts history by sharing 1, 2, or 3 photos; copies of which will become part of a statewide archive, along with the stories behind the photos.

The Mass. Memories Road Show is a state wide public history project that documents Massachusetts history through family photos and stories. It is an initiative of the Massachusetts Studies Project at UMass-Boston and is co-sponsored by Mass. Humanities. Pre-registration is encouraged. Please contact Sheila for further information or leave a message at 781-891-5815.

fading from memory. Men who were once so prominent that institutions of education were named in their honor have now been nearly forgotten.

The students who worked on this book have learned more than typesetting, page layout and design, printing, collating, and binding. They have learned a bit about how a community goes about honoring its prominent citizens. Even though many of these schools were gone before they were born, today's students have a bit clearer understanding of history's nature and appreciation.

Thanks go to Mr. Jose Orellana, Mr. Matthew Camarano, and Mr. James Finn for their efforts in producing what we hope is an interesting reminder of Waltham's past.

Special Request:

We need your assistance...



Recently, the Historical Society, in collaboration with the Vocational Graphic Communications classes at

Waltham High School, have begun to inventory and document paintings by Waltham's own Paul Shea.

Mr. Shea was a teacher and Director of Art for the Waltham Public Schools for many years. You have probably seen his work in many of the local landmarks you frequent on a regular basis. His watercolors include many subjects, both in Waltham and beyond. He was often seen in the process of creating his works in locations near and far.

If you know of a Paul Shea painting, you can help us complete this survey by sending us the following information: the subject of the image, its size, whether it is matted and/or framed, and where it is located.

Send the info (and if possible a snapshot) to us at our email (waltham.historical.society@gmail.com) or snail mail (190 Moody Street, Waltham, MA 02453) address or call 617-448-6706.

MGC Annual Seminar

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council will hold its annual seminar on Saturday, July 23, 2011, at Bentley University, 175 Forest Street, Waltham, MA. There will be four tracks (repositories, technology, records, and workshops), continental breakfast, lunch with author Eric Jay Dolin who will speak about his book *"Fur, Fortune, and Empire"*, and vendors. Non members and walk-ins will pay \$75 for a full day of good information at the LaCava Center, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. For further details, visit www.massgencouncil.org or write to MGC, P.O. Box 5393, Cochituate, MA 01778. Pre-registration is encouraged.

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

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**ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND
DIRECTORS WILL BE HELD AT
MAY MEETING**

The Nominating Committee has defined a slate of Officers and Directors to lead the Waltham Historical Society for the next two years.

If you have been nominated please make every effort to attend this important meeting and help the Society move forward with many exciting new initiatives.

**“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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