

The Waltham Historical Society
190 MOODY STREET
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

The Edmund L. Sanderson Lecture Series

Dr. Anthony Howes

“George III, The King who lost America”

Tuesday,
November 14, 2006
7:00 pm in the
Community Room
at RTN Federal
Credit Union
600 Main Street,
Waltham



George III was only 22 years old when he acceded to the British throne in 1760 following the death of his grandfather. Despite his young age, he was confident of his ability to rule and immediately set about choosing ministers who would support his views. He believed that he could restore the active role of the monarch in politics which had been neglected by his Hanoverian ancestors.

When he turned his attention to the American Colonies he did not understand how the effects of over 100 years of benign neglect could not be lightly dismissed. His refusal to listen to advice from many experienced

and learned parliamentarians resulted in a series of blunders that resulted in the Revolutionary War and American Independence.

We will look at events taking place in England at that time and how these events were impacted by George III himself. The talk will be illustrated by prints and illustrations of the period.

The lecture will be held in the Community Room of the RTN Federal Credit Union building, 600 Main Street, Waltham. Parking is free in the RTN lot. The entrance is at the back of the building, and is handicap accessible.

Please note: Doors to the Credit Union will open at 6:30 pm, and will be locked at 7:15 pm. Please, arrive before 7:15 to avoid missing this informative lecture.

For information call 617-448-6706 or email waynemccarthy@rcn.com.

About the speaker:

Dr. Anthony Howes is a retired radiation oncologist who is also a re-enactor with the Sudbury Companies of Militia and Minute. He was born in London, England and is particularly interested in the connections between British and American history.

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Inside this issue:

<i>Images of Waltham Past</i>	2
<i>House Tour 2007</i>	3
<i>E.L. Sanderson Lectures</i>	4
<i>Correspondences</i>	3-4
<i>Calendar</i>	4

About this issue...

The intent of The Waltham Historical Society's Newsletter is to provide information on historical, current, and upcoming events in which the Society is involved.

We receive many inquiries about historic Waltham. This issue we share some of the recent images discovered while

conducting the research. Enjoy the images and please consider helping us identify, sort, and catalog our library.

These activities are currently keeping us very busy, but if you are able to volunteer your assistance, we can greatly expand our efforts to keep moving the Society forward. Please join us.

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and encourage your comments at 781-891-5815 or through our web site at walthamhistoricalsociety.org.

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Bacon and Dale Streets

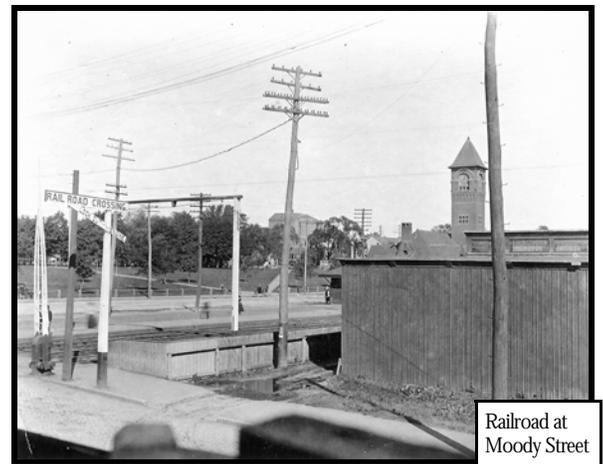


Totten Pond



Piety Corner

Images of Waltham Past



Railroad at Moody Street



Dale Street Looking West



Main and Lexington Streets

Recent Correspondences

Memories from Chuck Goodale

All the little vignettes will be absolutely true, and will include yours truly, since I'm sure that, where appropriate, the statutes of limitation have long run their course. Nothing horrifying. I assure you, just the crazy antics of kids growing up in Waltham, Massachusetts long before the days of television, the internet, Little League and all the other "advances" that have robbed American youth of the fun we had running around barefoot in the summer, playing pick-up games (who could ever, ever replace Nipper Maher), "hooking" apples (nobody called it stealing) as soon as they were of decent size to pick, and just generally raising Cain. Here is an example:

THE LITTLE ENGINE THAT COULDN'T

It had to be around 1937 or early 1938. It was certainly before the hurricane of 21 September 1938, because all the trees were still standing. My brother, Dick, and I, and Greg Nanos were bored, perhaps, or just looking for something to do. And I have not the slightest recollection of whose idea it was, but we decided to play "Fire Engine". Dick and I got the matches, so we would be the fire lighters (the word "arsonist" was not a part of our lexicon), and Greg would be the fireman. Dick and I would light the fires,

Greg would stamp them out. Very simple rules. Greg and I were either 9 or 10 years old, Dick was one year younger. Dick and I, soaking wet, probably weighed 60 pounds apiece, Greg weighed more than the two of us put together.

Are you getting the picture?

Anyway, off we went (our houses backed up to Bicycle Park) to the pathway that lead up through the woods to Middlesex University, now Brandeis University. It was a nice little pathway, ideal for our purposes, with lots of dry grass and sort of hidden

Get well wishes go to out to Past Society President Joan Sheridan, and to Ginny Hays, Edna Dolber, and Louise Hamilton, who are all recuperating from recent Surgeries.

We extend condolences to Dorothy Smith on the recent death of her husband, Edward, and to the family of Barbara Whidden.

Dues Are Now Past Due!

If you have accidentally neglected to send along your membership dues please take the time now to help support the Waltham Historical Society. If there is a red dot beside your name, we have not received your membership renewal, according to our records at the time of mailing. Please use the enclosed envelope and send \$15 for individual or \$20 for a family membership to Edna. Include any changes to your address, telephone, or email. We want to keep our records up to date, and want to be certain you don't miss any of the exciting happenings expected in the coming months. With your continued assistance we can see that the Society reaches its 100th anniversary in 2013. Support your Historical Society!

Sponsorship Opportunities Available

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor of the Waltham Historical Society and any of its activities, please contact Co-presidents Sheila FitzPatrick or Wayne McCarthy and learn of the possibilities. We have numerous events offering sponsorship opportunities that allow for contributions at many different levels. Call us at 781-891-5815 or 617-448-6706.

House Tour 2007 Plans

Our Annual House Tour is now in the planning stage! Last year's eleven homes were unique and the homeowners were enthusiastic throughout the event.

If you would like to have your home included on this year's tour, please contact us and we will have a member of our House Tour Committee contact you with details. Waltham's treasure trove of homes always generates an interest in preserving the fine examples of historical architecture and modern tastes in design and decorating.

Our House Tour books have become collectors' items that provide snapshots of the City's homes every year. If you cannot open your home, please consider becoming a Friend of the Waltham Historical Society with a donation, or referral to a local business who can benefit by having their company's information listed on our web site, in our tour book, and in every issue of the Historical Society's newsletter.

Once again, Mr. Joe Connors and the RTN Federal Credit union are to be commended for their continued support of our largest fundraising event of the year. Please consider helping out!

2006 Business Friends of the Waltham Historical Society

Allegra Print and Imaging	City Councillor Kathy McMenimen
Laura M. Cannon	Waltham West-Suburban Chamber of Commerce, Mr. John C. Peacock, Executive Director
Chateau Restaurant of Waltham	The Regan Family
Constructions Collaborative, Inc.	Rotary Club of Waltham
Delaney & Delaney, Attorneys at Law	Stack Chiropractic Office
Embassy Trophy Company	Waltham Land Trust, Inc.
Fran's Fruit and Flowers	Robin Tyler
"Hayes" Oil Co., Inc.	The Island Yarn Company
Gordon's Liquors	The Tea Leaf for Tea and Treasured Things
Joyce Funeral Home	
Marcou Jewelers	

Chuck Goodale

from the view of the general populace. And so the game began. Dick and I would light a fire, Greg would stomp hell out of it. Dick would light, I would light, Greg would stomp. A problem soon developed. Dick and I were about 5 or 6 fires ahead of the fire engine (Greg). The fire engine began to wheeze and stumble as the fires became more numerous and pronounced. Finally, the fire engine said "I'm tired, I don't want to play anymore" and collapsed on the ground.

Problem. Big time. There were more fires than the law allows. So naturally, Dick and I did the noble thing. We ran like hell, leaving poor Greg to fend for himself. Now Greg was no dummy. He picked himself off the ground and ran right behind us.

Did you know during those years, Waltham had a fire alarm system that included using the city foghorn (that's what we called it)? You would go to a fire alarm box (made by Gamewell), break the glass, pull the handle and the foghorn would blow. Two blasts, eight blasts, two blasts. 282, that was the number on the fire alarm box at South and Dartmouth Streets.

Oh, man, it was spectacular!! Fire engines were coming from all directions!! The three of us crouched in the shrubbery close to Biggins' house as Waltham's finest swung into action. The woods were on fire, but it never stood a chance. Within minutes, the fire was under control, and we could join all the others who had gathered to watch the fire department do its work.

We made our way home amid some suspicious and accusing looks, but we never blinked an eye. We also never played "fire engine" again.

Sincerely,

Chuck Goodale

Commander, US Navy (Retired)

I am doing some research on the production of banjo clocks in the second half of the twentieth century, and wonder if you can tell me when the Howard Clock Products factory arson occurred and when the company was rescued by Ira B. Gordon.

Do you have in your collection any of the company records from this period?

Send your contributions or inquiries to the Society through our web site www.walthamhistoricalsociety.com,



The Waltham Historical Society is grateful for the continued support of the RTN Federal Credit Union.

Upcoming Society Calendar

November 10, 2006

National Archives and Records Administration
Veterans Day Open House, 10:00 am-3:00 pm. *Learn about Military Records in the Archives. The staff will assist Veterans and their family members in requesting records stored at the Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis. The National Archives is located at 380 Trapelo Road and is open to the public*

Through November 12, 2006

National Archives and Records Administration
Nathaniel P. Banks. *Visit the National Archives and Records Administration and view an exhibit about Waltham native Nathaniel P. Banks. The National Archives is located at 380 Trapelo Road and is open to the public.*

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

Dr. Tony Howes

King George III, the King who lost America. *RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, Waltham. This lecture in the Edmund L. Sanderson Series will begin at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be available.*

Tuesday, January 9, 2007

Paul Hogman

The Henry Knox Trail, General Henry Knox. *RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, Waltham. This lecture in the Edmund L. Sanderson Series will begin at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be available.*

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Paul J. Bunnell, FACG, U.E.

Loyalty is Everything. *RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, Waltham. This lecture in the Edmund L. Sanderson Series will begin at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be available.*

Tuesday, May 8, 2007

Bill Rose

The French Perspective on the American Revolution. *RTN Federal Credit Union, 600 Main Street, Waltham. This lecture in the Edmund L. Sanderson Series will begin at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be available.*