

RON M. POTVIN

Assistant Director and Curator
John Nicholas Brown Center for
Public Humanities & Cultural Heritage
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

John Nicholas Brown Center, Brown University

Assistant Director & Curator 2004 –
Adjunct Lecturer, American Studies 2010 –
Historic Site Administrator 2002 – 2004

Newport Historical Society, Newport, RI

Director of Historic Sites 2000 – 2002
Editor, Newport History 1993 – 2002
Curator of Special Collections 1993 – 2000
Assistant Curator 1992 – 1993

William Benton Museum of Art, Storrs, CT

Fine Arts Handler 1991 – 1992

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Project Coordinator, RhodeTour.org, 2013 -

American Association for State and Local History, Awards
Committee, 2011 – 2016; Historic House Museum
Committee, 2016 –

Tiverton Library Foundation, Board of Directors, 2012 –
2014

New England Museum Association, Board of Directors,
2007 – 2016

Governor Henry Lippitt House Museum, Strategic Planning
Committee, 2011 – 2012; Lippitt House Council, 2011 –
2015

Chair, American Association of Museums Curators Program
Committee, 2008 – 2013

Rhode Island Coalition of Historic Sites, Steering
Committee, 2007 – 2014

Consultant, Newport Historical Society,
reinterpretation of the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard
House, 2006

American Association of Museums Curators'
Committee, Board of Directors, 2003 – 2012

Co-chair, New England Museum Association Curators
Professional Affinity Group, 2003 – 2007

Consultant, Rhode Island Holocaust Memorial
Museum, 2001

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

"Finding Numen at Historical Sites," in *Reimagining
Historic House Museums* (Forthcoming).

"Chasing the White Whale? Flexible Use of Museum
Collections," *History News*, autumn 2014.

"Washington Slept Here? Reinterpreting the Stephen
Hopkins House," *History News*, spring 2011.

"House or Home? Rethinking the House Museum
Paradigm" in "The Power and Predicament of Historic
Sites," *History News*, spring 2010.

COURSES TAUGHT

"Shrine, House, or Home: Rethinking the House
Museum Paradigm," Brown University

"Museum Collections and Collecting," Brown
University

"Power & Water: Material Culture & Environmental
Consequences," Brown University

EDUCATION

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT
Master of Arts, 1992

University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
Bachelor of Arts, 1990