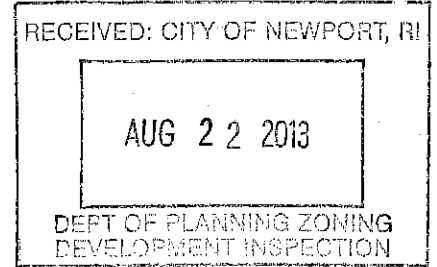


**MARTHA J SHERIDAN  
50 WINDSOR ROAD  
WAKEFIELD, RI 02879**



August 22, 2013.

Mr. John M. Shehan  
Chairman  
Historic District Commission  
43 Broadway  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Dear Mr. Shehan:

I am writing to urge your approval of the Preservation Society's plans to construct a welcome center on the grounds of The Breakers.

As someone who worked as a tourism professional in Newport and throughout Rhode Island, I am very familiar with the care the Preservation Society takes in managing its affairs and its properties. It is always conscious of its impact on the city, and consistently looks for ways to partner, and be a good neighbor. Its work is vital to the economic health of Newport and the state of RI.

The Preservation Society has studied the need for a permanent welcome center for a decade, and through extensive research has determined that the site of the current ticketing tent is the best location. The new building will serve vital needs, and has been carefully designed to be concealed from the view of The Breakers and from Ochre Point Avenue. The building and landscape design are the work of nationally recognized experts in their fields.

I hope you agree that the design meets Newport's standards for new construction in a historic district and that you vote to approve the plans.

Sincerely,

Martha J. Sheridan  
50 Windsor Road  
Wakefield, RI 02879