Aquidneck Island Events

Rose Island Seal Watching - every March

Black Ships Festival - every July

JVC Jazz Festival - every August

1903 - 1905 laying tracks for the trolley travel “Island Line” (West Main Road)

1905 -1907 Construction of the “New” Stone Bridge

October 17th, 1910 Julia Ward Howard dies in her summer home in Portsmouth
Wrote “Battle Hymn of the Republic”

1911 First Boy Scout Troop

November 7th, 1916 Portsmouth enters into the prohibition laws

Early 1920’s – 1930’s Island Park - Amusement Park

June 7th, 1926 Weyerhaeuser Lumber Company in full operation

September 13th 1930 America’s Cup Defense (defending for the 14th time)
1930 New York Yacht Club established

1929 Mt. Hope Bridge links Bristol and Portsmouth

1930’s and 1940’s Newport tourism was extremely slow

1940’s 80% of torpedoes used by the US Navy for WWII were manufactured on the island

1938 Great Hurricane Disaster

1945 Preservation Society of Newport formed to save the Hunter House and the eventual restoration of the Gilded Age buildings

1947 1st commercial movie theatre was built in Portsmouth by Mr. Orville Smith (west of Stone Bridge)

1947 Salve Regina College first opens its doors to 50 women

September 26, 1956 “Seaconnet” (original spelling) Bridge open to the public

1953 John and Jackie Kennedy married at St. Mary’s Church

1957 Dwight D. Eisenhower House – summer home
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<td>1960's</td>
<td>Development of the Melville area</td>
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<td>1961</td>
<td>Hammersmith Farm – John F. Kennedy</td>
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<td>1969</td>
<td>Newport Bridge completion</td>
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