

The Quorum Review

Official Newsletter of the Brownstone Quorum, Inc.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – by Mike Susca

It's all about change. In geologic time, the valley saw the slow deposition of sand, silt, and clay from river deltas and meanders and in the epochs that followed, saw these unconsolidated materials turned into Portland arkose – the choice layers called “brownstone.”

In man's time, the brownstone saw abrupt changes from drilling, cleaving, and controlled explosions that stripped away layers, coarse and fine, in search of the uniform for building stone. Another abrupt change followed – flooding. Fast and furious, the waters overtook and changed the landscape yet again.

The quarries themselves saw relatively little change for the next fifty years, but as Portland changed around them, and buildings came and went, the quarries, overtaken by maple, elm and willow, slowly returned to nature.

Enter the Hayes brothers and the Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park. The brothers promised changes, and here they come. With the help of the Portland Public Works Department, the group is changing the face of the quarries again. Given equipment, financing, and a plan, the progress is fast. Visit the North Quarry and see the cleared and re-graded entrance. If you never believed that a scuba-oriented attraction would succeed at that hole in the rock,

stop by on a Saturday morning and see the line of parked cars. Stay tuned, more changes are on the way.

The Quorum is working to change the face of the riverfront property – a vegetated pile of quarry waste, made land – into a community riverfront park. A plan, developed by Susan Fiedler, features improved access to the land and the Connecticut River, with natural areas for picnicking, primitive and improved trails, and garden areas that embrace the historical aspects of the land (specifics are featured elsewhere in this issue of the *Review*). The Quorum will soon be working to apply for grant monies to fund these changes, some of which will hopefully occur in the near term (access improvements and small scale appurtenances), with other changes (river access and the design and erection of structures) may take longer.

This edition of the *Quorum Review* features stories on other good things that are in the works, such as the enclosure for the arch and the upcoming Brownstone Festival.

Man's time or geologic time, change is constant. Change can be good. The Quorum welcomes all interested parties, members and non-members alike, to be part of these changes and to communicate your ideas and opinions.

BROWNSTONE EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY PARK, L.L.C.

If you haven't already done so, take a drive down Brownstone Avenue and stop to see the progress being made in the development of the water park.

The promontory area is drastically changed. The Town has completed the grading for the access to the launch area. It awaits the installation of water and sewer lines before the asphalt surface can be installed. The rain has caused some erosion at the road edge and down the drive to the water's edge, but trap rock has been installed to hold the soil in place, especially where trees and underbrush have been removed. Frank Hayes says they hope to be able to use brown and tan pebbles under the picnic tables placed to the right of the launch site to improve the aesthetics. Grass cannot be used here because of the scuba activity to take place from this area.

Evergreens have been planted along the embankment



next to the Triram office. Changing rooms and a ticket office will shortly be installed in front of this bank.

On the promontory itself, the flag pole has been removed (it will be re-installed near the WPA wall), and the cement pad has been taken up. Some grading of the area has been done and several large blocks of brownstone, that over the years became dislodged and fell into the water, have been recovered and reinstalled. This is a significant safety improvement. You'll be happy to know that the stairwell down into the quarry and the tunnel beside the promontory are being retained and protected.

Around the promontory and dotted about the quarry lake are some of the docks that will provide resting and picnicking places for swimmers and boaters alike. Orange, yellow and white scuba markers add color at the same time they provide divers information



about the location and depth of underwater dive platforms.



The changes are evident at the WPA wall, too. Some clearing has been done at both ends of the wall and lovely vistas have been opened up. John LeShane has often talked about what great views you can

get from the wooded area north of the wall. Now, some clearing has been done and it is as great as John has said. The Hayes brothers (Ed, Frank and Sean) have designated this area as the "team building" site.

Moving up to the end of Brownstone Avenue, work has begun on the parking area for the campground to be built on seven acres at the riverfront park. The plan here is to have mainly tent sites (with a few RV sites) tucked in among as many trees as can be saved.

Currently the park is being used by scuba divers, both during the week and on the weekends. Work and diving go on simultaneously. In fact, divers keep discovering more and more "hidden treasures" deep in the quarry waters. They find one sunken car, remove it, and find another underneath it. This is "exploration and discovery" in action.



Boating and swimming are expected to be in full operation by August 1st (if the rain ever stops so that construction can be completed). In the meantime, Frank Hayes is on the site daily and welcomes visitors. He loves talking about this project. While you are there, say "Hello" to Elizabeth and Sammy Hayes, six and four respectively, who pop in and out of the icy quarry waters at will. Seeing them in action is amazing. And it will assure you that swimming in the quarry - with the right equipment, - is *the* thing to do. They each



wear kid size dive suits, which provide both flotation and protection against the cold. Sammy works with his dad, Frank, on site all day each day, covering himself with the grime of hard labor, which

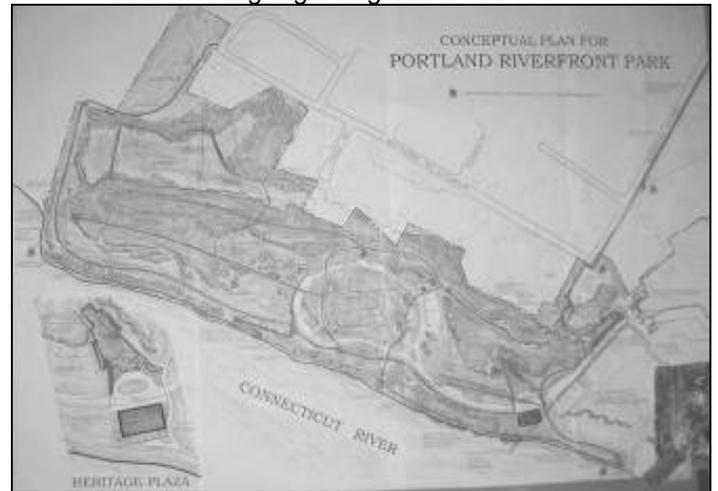
gets washed off in the quarry bathtub before he gets in the car to go home. Now that Elizabeth is out of school for the

summer, she'll be able to spend her days "working" at the quarry alongside Dad and brother.

Stop by. You'll be amazed.
(on the web: www.BrownstonePark.Com)

CONCEPT PLAN FOR THE QUARRY RIVERFRONT PARK

In January, the Board of Selectmen reaffirmed their relationship with the Brownstone Quorum. The Quorum's role has been to educate the public about the quarry property, its historical and geological significance, to determine what the public envisioned as appropriate uses for the property, and to advise the Board of Selectmen in their decision-making regarding this valuable resource.



The Quorum has fulfilled these assigned duties and with the leasing of the quarries to become a water park, the Quorum proposed to redirect their energies to the development of the remaining portion of the riverfront land. In returning to the BOS, they sought approval for doing so. The Board of Selectmen essentially said, "Go to it!" And so we did.

Sue Fiedler, Quorum member and licensed Landscape Architect went to work and developed a concept plan for a real community park, accessible to all and adaptable to all appropriate functions.



On Wednesday, June 14th, President Mike Susca presented Sue's plan to the Board, providing each Selectperson with a copy of the plan, explaining it in detail.

The Board unanimously accepted the concept and instructed the Quorum to move forward with grant applications and further studies. A color presentation of the concept will be displayed at the Festival and the Portland

Agricultural Fair. In the meantime a copy will be made available at the Portland library.

Trails in the park will be retained and expanded, with the riverfront trail continued all the way out to the north end of the park. Susan has proposed a loop trail between the eastern brownstone slopes over the wetlands with boardwalks and an educational area for study by schoolchildren and scientists alike.

She has located several sites where narrow gauge railroads once hauled waste rock away from the quarries.



The Birders' Thicket will remain, but will be circled by one-way park drive that will provide access to the park and to its activities for all. A children's area with a scramblin' slope, rails and ties, Slag Mountain, a water tower and splash park will satisfy kids' curiosity, desire to explore and challenge themselves, and learn while having fun. Visualize a bocce court and horseshoe pits overlooking the river. "Immigration" gardens in raised beds. Switchback paths that lead down the steep river banks to fishing platforms at the river edge. Picnic areas dotted throughout. And Heritage Plaza where history is revealed and groups of people, large and small, can celebrate important Town and personal events.

The possibilities are almost endless. Susan has found places for all of these, but has also found areas for future development of opportunities not yet suggested. Even parking and park access have been provided for with a small parking area on the park drive and a large parking area up top, at the end of Middlesex Avenue, that would be shared with the athletic events across from BIS.

The plan is a concept, a starting point to promote thinking and planning. It will only become concrete when each element is approved and developed. The idea is to start with what we have and build on it gradually, always aware of and sensitive to community needs and concerns.

BROWNSTONE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

One stipulation of the lease agreement between the Town of Portland (Lessor) and the Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park, L.L.C. (Lessee) was the establishment of an advisory committee.

Under the section headed Historic Preservation Consultation the lease states:

"While developing and operating on the Premises during the term and extended terms of this Lease, Lessee shall consult with an advisory committee, appointed by the Lessor, concerning matters of historic preservation and natural conservation."



New Picnic Area near Park Entrance

The Advisory Committee was established by the Board of Selectmen on March 22, 2006 and held their first meeting on April 19, 2006. Members appointed by the BOS were Mike Susca and Jim Tripp of the Brownstone Quorum; Norm Ward, Conservation Commission; Maryann Dolan, Historical Society; Bob McDougall, Quarryside Downtown; and Don Bascom and Bob Spencer of the Planning and Zoning Commission. Norm Ward was approved as Chair by the members present.

Susan Bransfield, First Selectwoman; Rick Kelsey, Director of Public Works; and other Portland staff participate for the Town. Ed and Frank Hayes, and their professional consultants, represent the Park corporation.

Meetings are usually held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM in the 1st floor conference room (next to the Planning Offices), although the June 12th meeting was canceled and the next meeting is scheduled for July 17th.

BROWNSTONE FESTIVAL

Plans for the Brownstone Festival are moving ahead. We'll have some new things as well as old favorites. One great new idea this year is the Ambassador Corps. Last year people told us that they couldn't be sure what was going on where and when. So this year we will have programs and maps, but we'll also have Ambassadors – youth volunteers – who will be available in all areas to answer questions and help you out.

Main Street will be buzzing: the Farmer's Market and Craft Sale will operate most of the day between the bank and the Police Station; Quarryside Downtown will have Arts-on-the-Green. The ever popular Family Day will repeat with the return of lots of activities for kids up to fifth grade. We'll have plenty of water this year! (An urgent request from last year's visitors.) And 80 Licks will be there with their fantastic ice cream!

The Portland Visiting Nurse Association plans another Health Fair and a Care Bear display at their offices at 309 Main Street.

Trinity Church will be a beehive of activity. They will provide tours of their historic, and recently restored, brownstone

church and the ancient cemetery out back, and will open their meeting room to the combined garden clubs that will hold a Portland history-themed flower show focusing on brownstone quarrying, shipbuilding and tobacco growing, with a class for young people. Trinity has also offered the use of their north lot for an antique/classic car show. We hope all car buffs will come to see and be seen.

The Connecticut Cellar Savers will again shuttle riders up Main Street to their Fire Museum in Gildersleeve and to the Callandar Museum of Portland History with their antique fire engines. This year we hope to add a stop at Trinity Church as well.

Jeff Kelsey and his family will be running their hayride shuttle from Main Street down to the riverfront and quarries. Departures and returns will be from the Brownstone Intermediate School parking lot by the tennis courts right on Main Street. This will make the rigs more visible as they come and go.

Other displays by organizations and businesses will be tucked in at various points along Main Street and down to the riverfront.

At the North Quarry, the Hayes brothers will open the Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park to Festival visitors. They have a wide range of activities planned, possibly including a "trolley" to transport visitors from their parking lot, or even Main Street, to the water park.

Quorum members are working to get the Riverfront Park ready for a Town picnic/barbecue beside the river. This will be a free affair with hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, etc. – the usual picnic fare – provided between 4:00 and 6:00 PM. The Quorum is using the Festival as an opportunity to introduce the Riverfront to more people so that the public will come to understand and more fully appreciate the possibilities of this place.

Also on the riverfront, there will be guided trail walks and displays related to the concept plan for park development. We're readying a volley ball court in hopes of getting a match set up between the local politicians or maybe different high school classes or...?. Who knows? We also hope to have a couple of horseshoe pits in place for a pickup game or two.

A very special event we hope will happen is a Dance-a-Thon, sponsored by the Girl Scouts, as a fundraiser for their upcoming European trip. Johnny K of 80 Licks is working with the Girl Scouts to iron out all the details. It will be great, so get out your dancing shoes, polish up your moves and get ready to dance.

Now, with all this activity – and more that we haven't got set just yet – you know we need MUSIC! And we will have music on Main Street, at the quarries and, of course, on the riverfront. For six years now, Mike Troderman and his sophisticated jazz have delighted visitors at the annual Quarry Focus Days. In 2006, he promises to make music at the 2nd Annual Brownstone Festival.

A HOME FOR THE ARCH

The arch – the lovingly and authentically restored* relic of the old brownstone quarrying days – is waiting for a permanent home. After townspeople voted at the Portland Agricultural Fair two years ago on both a shelter design (post and beam) and a location (in the parking lot between the bank and the Buck-Foreman building), the Brownstone Quorum and the Portland Historical Society were given permission by the Board of Selectmen to begin raising funds to erect the building. Several local residents offered their skills, equipment and material for the project.

Believing that this was a really worthwhile project, 32nd District Representative Jim O'Rourke filed a bill to obtain funding. The bill was passed by the State Legislature and the Town was informed that the funds would be forthcoming for this and for other local projects. If the funding were to come from the State, Portland would have to follow specific guidelines for completing the project and our volunteer offers would not have met those guidelines, so we were not able to take advantage of residents' generosity.

It has been well over a year now and the funding request has not been forwarded to the State Bonding Commission for action. Therefore, the Quorum is back to the drawing board – literally – on this project. Howard Rosenbaum, Quorum member and former Selectmen is working with Architect Rick Staub on the necessary drawings and specifications so that we can establish a budget and then get started on fundraising and building. In the meantime, the arch is well-protected – out of sight, but not out of mind.

*Restoration done by Eddie and Joe Chiabrero and their nephew, William Long.

WHO'S WHO IN THE NEW BQ

At the annual meeting, Quorum members elected a new slate of officers to lead the organization into another stage in its development.

Mike Susca is the new Quorum President. Mike is a geologist (Can you think of a better person to deal with a quarry park?), quiet, disciplined, dependable, with good organization skills. Mike has been a behind the scenes stalwart ever since the beginning, when the original group of volunteers found their way with the help of John Monroe. After a stint as Quorum Vice President, Mike has served as Treasurer, making sure we were fiscally sound and guiding us through our recent five year recertification as a 501C3 non-profit.

In addition to his sound fiscal management skills, Mike has been well-tested in site management skills. For five years he has been site manager for all our Quarry Focus Days and last year for the 1st Brownstone Festival. He got exhibitors in appropriate spaces, got tents up, and down, canoes to the quarry and into the water, people into canoes and out – safely. Because of Mike's foresight our second Dem/Rep challenge volleyball game got to be played – Mike had a pin and pump that put air into the brand new volleyball.

Last year, the hurricane threatened the Festival, but the day went off, clear, sunny, hot, without a hitch, until the last tent was down and out, Mike's truck was loaded and Allen Silberstein's steel sculptures back at his home. Then and only then did all hell break loose and the long threatened hurricane hit. Now, I call that good management, and great training for leading the Brownstone Quorum through the trauma of "losing" our beloved quarry, and dealing with the demands of creating a real park at the riverfront.

Mike will not be alone. Jim Tripp is his Vice President. Jim has served two terms as BQ President, and he will be familiar to many of you as the "canoe guy." Jim managed the Quorum Canoe Days for the last three years. Now that that job is defunct, Jim will become a "park developer." Jim also organized the data developed by BQ surveys taken over the years to determine what townspeople wanted to have happen with the Quarry/Riverfront property and, more recently, with townspeople's desires regarding the brownstone arch. He now serves, with Mike, as a member of the Brownstone Park Advisory Committee.

Tom Bransfield, most recently a Quorum Vice-President, has become the Treasurer. Tom chaired fundraising activities for the Quorum for several years, selling "T"-shirts, sweatshirts, caps, post cards and posters, and – especially on summer weekends at the Farmers' Market – raffle tickets for prize kayaks. Having made all this money for the Quorum, Tom is now going to manage it (and find ways to make more of it so we can finance the arch home and park development).

We have a team filling the role of Recording Secretary. Sari and Howard Rosenbaum are the Quorum Secretary. Sari records. Howard types. Now that's team work, and two heads make for really good minutes. They also both make great sandwiches for the Quorum Cafe. Can't wait to see what they come up with for the Festival BBQ.

Cindy Andrus, elected Corresponding Secretary, is moving from paddling canoes as she has done every Canoe Day for seven years, to writing the Quorum correspondence. Like most active Quorum members, Cindy has worn many hats in addition to Quarry paddler, trail clearer, Bittersweet Brigadier, docent for the BIS 5th and 6th grade class tours at the quarries and over the park trails. She has been gracious hostess, and a willing worker in any project that has needed her help. Most recently Cindy served, with her husband Wayne, as Co-Chair of the Quorum Organization Committee.

The Quorum is fortunate in being able to add two new at-large members to the Executive Committee. Betty Curley, owner of Curley Real Estate, and a long time Quorum member who has worked on all our events and who underwrote our recent postcard fundraiser, is now able to provide her excellent knowledge of and love for Portland in guiding Quorum activities as we move ahead with plans for the Riverfront Park development. Her business acumen became immediately helpful at her first Executive

Committee meeting when she gave excellent suggestions for advertising the upcoming Festival. Betty's warm, open friendliness, and commitment to Portland, along with her wisdom and common sense, exemplify the ideals on which the Brownstone Quorum was established and will make a good organization better.

Frank Winiski, our second new at-large member, is a Portland native who has returned to town with his wife Carol. Together they enlarged and restored his childhood home, an antique Cape tucked under a hill on Jobs Pond Road. And Frank resumed exploring Portland and capturing it on film. Many of you have seen and purchased Frank's work at the Arts-on-the-Green show (which will again be a part of the Festival in September). Frank has participated in many aspects of Quorum activities and is currently working on displays related to the concept plan for the Riverfront Park. His fundraising ideas will help us make the concept plan a reality.

There you have it. The five people the membership selected to lead the organization for the next year (years?).

VOLUNTEERS

The Quorum has lots of jobs and needs lots of hands. We need workers to help with the clearing at the riverfront. Watch Rivereast for schedules. Currently Pres. Mike Susca has scheduled park workdays for 6:00 PM to dark on Monday, 7/24; from 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM on Saturday, 8/26; and 12:00 noon to 3:00 PM on Saturday, 9/9 to get the park ready for the Festival.

We need artists to help create the displays for the Festival that will show everyone what the park concept plan would look like in reality.

We need people to work at the Festival for set-up, (all activities) as well as cooking and serving at the free barbecue; and clean-up after the Festival is over. Come to the regular BQ meeting on Monday, August 28th at 7:00 PM at the Mary Flood Room at the Portland Library for final scheduling.

If you have some time, a skill, ideas, and would like to be part of something special, call Mike Susca at 342-0293 or Jeanne at 342-2260.

Meetings:

The Brownstone Quorum meets at 7pm on the fourth Monday of every month at the Portland Library, the public is always welcome to attend. Special Programs and work parties are announced in the Rivereast News Bulletin.

Web: www.BrownstoneQuorum.Org
Email: BrownstoneQuorum@Yahoo.Com

The History of Portland, Part 28
The Brownstone Quarries Part V

by William Van Beynum

(Editor's Note: The following is a copy of a very hard to find magazine article about "Freestone Quarries, Portland, Connecticut", published in 1853 in THE NATIONAL MAGAZINE. It is being used to show how the people of that time wrote about the quarries.)

"Beautiful is the valley of the Connecticut. The river rises near the Canada line, flowing southward between the White Mountains of New-Hampshire on the east, and the Green Mountains of Vermont on the west, and meandering through the hills of Massachusetts and Connecticut, soon reaches the city of Middletown. Here it forsakes what must be considered its natural channel, and seeping off in a direction nearly due-east, finds its way through lofty granite hills for the distance of two miles, where it turns to the southward and empties into Long Island Sound, some twenty-five miles east of New Haven-the termination of the valley proper. Others may descant upon its verdant slopes, and towering hills, and pretty villages, but to us there is a charm in its bare old rocks.

"As you enter the river from the Sounds, the land on both sides is quite low and level; but, as you proceed, it gradually becomes more elevated and broken, and quarries are seen on the hill sides, which have not unfrequently been mistaken by strangers for those which are made the subject of this article. But the stone here obtained is very hard, and of a gray color, and is used chiefly for flagging. Indeed, for many miles the observant traveler will perceive that the rocks bear no resemblance to sandstone, but are entirely granite in their character.

"A beautiful sail, of some twenty-five miles, will bring you to a pleasing village, called Middle Haddam, one of the numerous Haddams which line the shores of the Connecticut. Directly north of the village a granite hill rises to the height of nearly eight hundred feet, called Cobalt Mountain, from the fact that a mine of this rare metal is found in its sides. This hill, as we learn from the diary of Dr. Stiles, formerly president of Yale College, was in "days of yore," known as "Governor Winthrop's Gold Ring;" that gentleman, it is said, became accustomed to visit the place, with his servant, searching for the precious metals; and "after his return he always had plenty of gold."

Soon after leaving Middle Haddam you enter "The Straits,?" where the bases of the high granite hills press closely upon the river, affording it but narrow passage, which seems, in some manner, to have been unexpectedly open, to allow the river, as by a side cut, to escape from its natural valley, and find its way to the Sound.

"Emerging from "the Straits," in your upward passage, the soil on both banks is seen to be entirely changed. Before it was granite, with a scanty vegetation; now it becomes alluvial, and the gently undulating surface spreads out into fertile fields. Here for the first time, are seen the distinguishing characteristics of the true valley of the Connecticut.

"Half a mile above "The Straits" a small stream enters the Connecticut from the west, and in the little valley it has excavated occurs the Middletown silver mine, which appears formerly to have been worked-sometimes for lead, sometimes for silver, and sometimes for sulphur, according to the fancy or want of the operators.

"The Portland quarries...are situated directly on the back of the river; and tradition informs us that, when they were first opened, the rocky straits projected quite into the river, and even overhang the channel. But the work of excavation, which has been going on for two centuries, has removed the seal of operations further back, and the bank of the river is now formed by the rubbish which has accumulated.

"The stone here obtained is an elegant and durable building material, used in nearly every city of our Union, and commonly

called *freestone*, probably from the facility with which it is worked, and by geologists it is known as *sandstone*, a name which implies its supposed origin, it having evidently been formed, in some past age of the world's history, by vast quantities of sand, gravel, and pebbles, subsequently cemented into solid masses by the operation of causes which cannot now be fully explained. It occurs in regular strata, or beds, which are not perfectly horizontal, but incline a little in a south-easterly direction. Here, and throughout the whole Connecticut valley it is of a deep brick-red color; but in other places, as in the vicinity of Washington, in Nova Scotia, and Ohio, a similar stone is found of gray color. The common grindstones may be taken as specimens. At an early period some grindstones appear to have been made out of the Portland stone, but it is too hard to answer well for this purpose; but for buildings, and almost every use to which it is applied, it is probably superior to any other kind. It withstands well the action of the weather, and is very easily worked; while its dark color, in almost every situation, is exceedingly pleasing to the eye.

"The quarries at present worked are three in number, known severally, as the Middlesex, the Brainders & Co.'s., and the Shailer & Hall's. A fourth quarry, not now worked, and an ancient buryingground ...separate between the two first named. They extend a distance up and down the river, of half a mile, and cover, perhaps, nearly a hundred acres. Everywhere, except just at the water's edge, the stone was originally covered with earth, from one to twenty-five feet deep, all of which, as a matter of course, has to be removed before the stone can be quarried and disposal of this, with the refuse stone, constitutes no small item of expense in the working of the quarries....

"To avoid inconvenience from the water, the excavations at first were not very deep, but in all the quarries they now penetrate the strata to a depth many feet below the level of the river. In one of them the descent is made by an incline road, and the stone is removed by teams; but in the others, the cut is made perpendicularly downward on all sides, and the stone, after being separated from its native bed, is drawn up by steam power; masses several tons in weight seeming but as playthings when bound in the chain and handled by this element.....

"As the excavations in the quarries are carried below the level of the river the water of course is constantly entering through joints and fissures in the stone, and to remove it pumps are kept constantly at work. These were at first worked by ox or horse power, but since a steam-engine was introduced for raising the stone, the same power has been attached to the pumps....

"The workmen are aided much in quarrying the rock by natural joints or seams, most of which are nearly vertical, and some of great horizontal extent. They are usually but little inclined from a vertical position, and though sometimes of limited extent, yet a few have been traced the whole distance the rock has been laid bare.

"Most of the more extensive ones take a general direction either north and south, or east and west, but this is not uniformly the case. By the side of one of these the workmen usually make their beginning, frequently by blasting, but often, also by cutting a channel or groove of sufficient width quite through the bed or layer. Having done this on two sides, the stone can generally be removed by means of wedges, unless it is wanted in larger blocks, when the excavation must extend to three sides, before the wedges can be made available.

(This article's text will be continued)

This article first appeared in

The Portland Citizen, Vol. 1 No. 31, October 17, 1958

Courtesy of the Portland Historical Society

Quorum Membership

Membership in the Brownstone Quorum, Inc. is open to all. Dues are \$10.00 per person per calendar year. All dues and contributions are tax deductible. You may use the enclosed envelope to send in your membership.

See notation after name on front of this issue for the last date dues was paid. If you have any questions about membership, please call Romanie Gussenhoven at 342-7237.

Quorum Calendar

All Quorum meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month at the Mary Flood Room at the Portland Library unless otherwise announced in Rivereast. They begin at 7:00 PM and are open to all.

August

- 6: 2-4 **Museum of Portland History**
492 Main St.
- 6: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 14: 7 PM **Festival Steering Committee Meeting**
80 Licks Ice Cream Cafe
- 19: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 26: 12-3 **Brownstone Quorum Workday**
Riverfront Park
- 27: 9-4 **Open Air Market and Festival,**
Brownstone Quorum participating.
Wadsworth Mansion, Middletown
- 28: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Regular Meeting**
Library, final Festival scheduling

September

- 2: 8:30 PM **Portland Fireworks**
Fairgrounds
- 3: 2-4 **Museum of Portland History**
492 Main St.
- 3: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 9: 12-3PM **Brownstone Quorum, Workday**
Riverfront Park
- 11: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Executive Meeting**
Place TBA
- 16: 9-7 **Brownstone Festival**
Main Street
Brownstone Avenue at the Quarries
Brownstone Avenue at the Riverfront Park
- 25: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Regular Meeting**
Mary Flood Room, Portland Library

October

- 1: 2-4 **Museum of Portland History**
492 Main St.
- 1: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 6, 7, 8: **Portland Agricultural Fair**
Fairgrounds various hours
- 9: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Executive Meeting**
Place TBA
- 21: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 23: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Regular Meeting**
Mary Flood Room, Portland Library

November

- 5: 2-4 **Museum of Portland History**
492 Main St.
- 5: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 6: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Executive Meeting**
Place TBA
- 18: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 27: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Regular Meeting**
Portland Library

December

- 3: 2-4 **Museum of Portland History**
492 Main St.
- 3: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 4: 7PM **Brownstone Quorum Executive Meeting**
Meeting, Place TBA
- 16: 10-3 **CT Cellar Savers Fire Museum**
934 Main St.
- 17: **Brownstone Quorum Holiday Celebration**
Place and Time TBA.

Quarry/Riverfront Workdays

Quarry/Riverfront Workdays: trail work, brush cutting, bittersweet removal, side hilling. Wear heavy shoes, workpants, gloves, and bring loppers small saws, clippers. etc. Call John LeShane at 342-0658 for further information.

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The Quorum Review

August 2006

Next Meeting:
August 28, 2006
7pm Portland Library