



## Rhode Island

## Newport Harbor Navigation Project

Newport Harbor in Newport is situated between Goat Island and the mainland, about 12 miles northeast of Point Judith Harbor. One of the Atlantic coast's principal yachting centers and resorts, Newport Harbor accommodates a wide variety of boating craft, including commercial fishing boats, cabin cruisers, schooners, sightseeing and cruise boats, sail boats, visiting foreign sailing ships, ferries, and oil barges. Several inns, restaurants, and shops dot the historical waterfront. Newport Harbor is the starting point for the Newport to Bermuda Yacht Race, and the finish point of the Annapolis-Newport Yacht Race. For many years it was the site of the America's Cup Race. Newport Harbor is also home to the U.S. Naval War College and Destroyer Base.

Initial work in the harbor, completed in 1906, provided for a 15-foot-deep channel extending southerly from the East Passage of Narragansett Bay, around the southern end of Goat Island, to the inner harbor; a 10-foot-deep anchorage off the south end of the main waterfront; a 13-foot-deep anchorage off the north end of the main waterfront; a stone jetty at the southwest end of Goat Island; partial removal of a sand spit at the south end of Goat Island; and construction of additional jetties along the western shore of Goat Island to reduce erosion.

The present project, completed in 1940, consists of:

- A 1.25-mile-long channel, 21 feet deep, along the east side of Goat Island. The channel is initially 300 feet wide at its northern end, and widens to 450 feet at the southern end of the island.
- A 1-mile-long channel, 18 feet deep, situated east of and parallel to the 21-foot-deep channel. The 18-foot-deep channel is initially 450 feet wide and gradually narrows to 350 feet near the southern end of the island.
- A 1-mile-long channel, 18 feet deep, situated west of and parallel to the 21-foot-deep channel. This channel is initially about 100 feet wide at its northern end and gradually merges with the 21-foot-deep channel at a point about halfway past Goat Island. The channel then widens as it continues around the southern end of the island.
- Two adjacent anchorage areas along the main waterfront. The southern anchorage, which begins at the City Stone Pier Marina on Newport Neck and extends northeasterly toward the Newport waterfront, is 13 feet deep. The northern anchorage is 18 feet deep and lies along the Newport waterfront.
- The removal of Nourmahal Rock in Brenton Cove, situated off the Fort Adams waterfront about 0.5 mile southwest of Goat Island. This provided the channel with a depth of 18 feet.

