



2 Across the street, the **Seaside Institute** was built by the Warner Brothers to house immigrant female factory workers and to provide them an education. First Lady of Cleveland, Francis, dedicated the building in 1886.

1 Walk one block north up Lafayette Street to Atlantic Street. On the northwest corner is the **Warner Brothers Factory**, built in 1876. Here Lucien and Ira DeVer Warner became the world's leading producer of women's corsets.

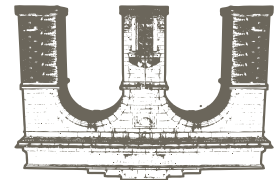
To begin your tour, park in the lot where **Lafayette Street** meets **University Avenue** by the soccer field.

3 Turn right on Atlantic Street and walk one block to Broad Street. Look ahead to the end of Atlantic where the **Locomotive Factory**, one of the first U.S. car companies and producer of luxury automobiles, once stood.

4 Walk down Broad Street to Linden Avenue. Along the way note the former **Remington Electric Shaver** office building on the left. Across the harbor you can catch glimpses of **Pleasure Beach**. This island was the home of an amusement park from 1892 to 1973, which included dozens of rides and the largest ballroom in New England, hosting popular bands led by musicians like Glenn Miller and Artie Shaw. At Linden Avenue take a right and then a left onto Lafayette Street. The Health Sciences building on your left houses the **Fones School of Dental Hygiene**. Dr. Alfred Fones of Bridgeport was a pioneer in the field of dental hygiene. His cousin, Irene Newman, was trained and performed the duties of a dental hygienist for the first time in 1907. She became the world's first licensed

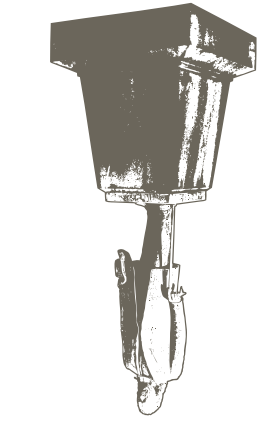
5 As you pass the Health Sciences building, cross the street following the sidewalk on Waldemere Avenue. Take this past the **Harvey Hubbell Gymnasium**, named for the pioneer of the machine tool industry and inventor of such devices as the pull-chain electric light.

6 Soon you will reach Park Avenue, where you turn left to cross the street by the **Perry Arch**, built in 1918. The triumphal arch is built of Vermont granite and features Ionic pillars and Bacon, architect of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C., and has become a



7 Calvert Vaux and Frederick Law Olmsted, designer of Central Park in Manhattan. Land was generously donated by P.T. Barnum and other prominent Bridgeport citizens for its creation. After the Civil War, and reaching its present form in 1920, it was the first "marine" rural park

8 In the United States. At the intersection, take Howe Drive to the right until you reach the statue of **Elias Howe**, inventor of the sewing machine. This statue, originally slated for Manhattan's Central Park, was considered "too lifelike", and Bridgeport gladly accepted it for Seaside Park.



BRIDGEPORT'S SOUTH END

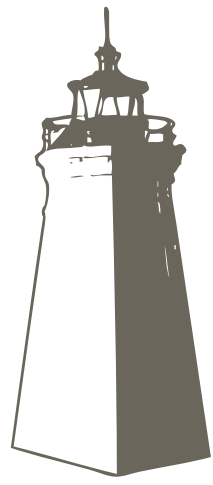
HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR



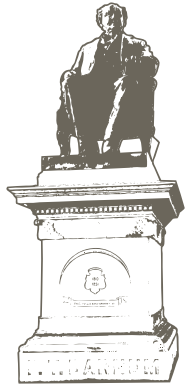
Text by: **Professor Eric D. Lehman**
 Designed by: **Henry Gomes, Class of 2011**



9 Turn right again and follow the seawall on Soundview Drive. In the distance at the end of the beach you can see Fayerweather Island, on which you will still find the **Black Rock Lighthouse**, built in 1823. A remarkable woman named Catherine Moore kept this lighthouse for most of the 19th century, living in a small house on the island, farming oysters, carving wooden



10 ducks, and tending sheep. You can access this island at the far end of the beach over a rocky breakwater. At the next intersection you will see the statue of a seated **P.T. Barnum**, who was perhaps the most famous person in the world at the end of the 1800s. His promotion



11 of acts such as Tom Thumb and Jenny Lind made him a multi-millionaire, and he became well-known as an author, entrepreneur, and showman. Some of his many projects to improve Bridgeport include the Bridgeport Hospital, the Port Jefferson ferry, and the entire community of East Bridgeport. The circus that he is most famous for used Bridgeport as its winter quarters for 50 years, delighting city children with its animals and performers.

12 The statue was sculpted by Thomas Ball, and the citizens of Bridgeport chipped in to donate the granite base, setting Barnum in sight of his old house on a spot where he had often sat to watch the sea. Turn right on Waldemere Avenue by the statue, and head north past the pond. As the road curves, on your left will be **Waldemere Hall**, originally the house of P.T. Barnum's granddaughter and now named for Barnum's third Bridgeport mansion. Reaching Marina Park Circle, take a left to the crest of the lawn, where the **original gate of P.T. Barnum's mansion, Marina**, still stands. Follow Linden Avenue to your right back to Park Avenue and turn left. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, Park Avenue was the finest address in all Bridgeport, along which many splendid homes were built.

MAP KEY

- 1 Warner Brothers Factory
- 2 Seaside Institute
- 3 Locomobile Factory
- 4 Remington Electric Shaver
Pleasure Beach
- 5 Fones School of Dental Hygiene
- 6 Harvey Hubbell Gymnasium
- 7 Perry Arch, Seaside Park
- 8 Elias Howe
- 9 Black Rock Lighthouse
- 10 P.T. Barnum
- 11 Waldemere Hall
- 12 original gate of P.T. Barnum's mansion, Marina
- 13 Cortright Hall



13 One of these is **Cortright Hall**, at the northwest corner of University Avenue. Built by architect Warren Briggs, this was originally the home of Lavinia L. Parmly, descended from a long line of prominent Bridgeporters. It is the only remaining home of Barnum's development of Marina Park and is still regarded as the South End's premier Victorian-era residence. You'll note

similar architectural elements to the Seaside Institute. It is presently named Cortright Hall after E. Everett Cortright, the founder and first president of the Junior College of Connecticut, now the University of Bridgeport. To complete your walk, turn right and take the University Avenue pedestrian mall back to your car.