



The statewide advocate for Rhode Island's historic places

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Preserve Rhode Island Now Holds Preservation Easement on Kinney Bungalow in Narragansett After Public Vote

Preserve Rhode Island (Preserve RI) is thrilled to announce that it now holds a Preservation Easement on the iconic Kinney Bungalow in Narragansett. The building was constructed in 1899 for Francis S. Kinney. Marked by the distinctive characteristics of the East Indian bungalow form popularized at the turn of the century, it is located at picturesque Sunset Farm on Point Judith Road. During its years under private ownership, it served not only as a hosting space for parties and galas, but also as a rehearsal site for the American Ballet Theater.

In 1991, Sunset Farm and Kinney Bungalow were acquired by the Town of Narragansett. The building's interior spaces have remained largely unaltered since the building's construction. To protect and manage changes to its interior and exterior features into the future, the Narragansett Land Trust approached Preserve RI about placing an easement on the property. Until now, the Narragansett Historic District Commission has had oversight of the building's exterior. Going forward, the easement will ensure a more comprehensive review of any proposed alterations that might impact architecturally significant features and interior spaces.

The Town of Narragansett put the easement to a public vote in last year's election, where the vote passed with the support of local residents. Preserve RI has been working over the course of 2025 to finalize the terms of the preservation easement.

Preserve RI currently holds 13 preservation/conservation easements across the state, with others in various stages of negotiation. An easement is a binding legal contract that

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protects the historic, architectural, or scenic qualities of a property and ensures that it will not be destroyed or inappropriately altered.

Easements provide current owners with the peace of mind that if they sell or transfer a property, its historic significance and integrity will be protected by Preserve RI in perpetuity. Preserve RI conducts an annual site assessment of each of our easement properties, checking for inappropriate alterations, assessing building conditions, and advising owners on how to be good stewards of their historic properties.

We are thrilled to work with the Town of Narragansett on safeguarding Kinney Bungalow's future.

Photos: [Click here to access.](#)

About Preserve Rhode Island

Preserve Rhode Island is Rhode Island's statewide advocate for historic places. The 69-year-old nonprofit provides guidance for local preservation groups, finds productive and adaptive reuses for threatened buildings, advocates for the revitalization of historic places to stimulate local economies, and engages the community through public programs at Lippitt House Museum.

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Media Inquiries:

Alex Costa
acosta@preserveri.org
mobile: (401) 954-8813
www.preserveri.org