

On February 12 residents who reside in the Greenburgh Central School district will be voting whether to spend \$114.6 million dollars to consolidate the Greenburgh schools into one campus. The campus is located at the Warburg estate.

As historians we won't give you an opinion on the referendum. It's your decision. Our goal in this week's posting is to tell you a little bit about the Warburg estate.

Town of Greenburgh
**ASSISTANT
TOWN HISTORIANS**



— felicia barber + riley wentzler —



The Intersection of Banking, Ballet, and School: Greenburgh's Warburg Estate

By: Riley Wentzler & Felicia Barber

Today, Woodlands Middle/High School's administration building is located on 475 West Hartsdale Avenue. However this building was once a mansion containing thirty- five rooms. From 1902-1938, this building and eighty acres

surrounding it belonged to Federal Reserve Vice Chairman Paul M. Warburg. Accordingly, the mansion was known as the Warburg Estate (<https://www.nytimes.com/1938/10/07/archives/warburg-estate-sold-eightyacre-place-in-hartsdale-includes-35room.html>).



Paul M. Warburg (1868-1932)

Paul Warburg was born in Hamburg, Germany on August 10, 1868. From 1895-1902 he worked at his grandfather's famous bank in Hamburg, M.M. Warburg and Company. Then, in 1902, he and his brother Felix M. Warburg came to America. In 1914, Paul became a member of the Federal Reserve Board, he served in this capacity until 1916 (https://www.federalreservehistory.org/people/paul_m_warburg).

Meanwhile, his brother Felix became a partner at the famous bank Kuhn, Loeb & Co and an active philanthropist, in fact after Felix and his wife Frieda died, they bequeathed their estate on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan to New York City and it became the Jewish Museum (<https://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/Warburg-Frieda-Schiff>). Like his brother Felix, Paul also believed in philanthropy, but he began his philanthropic activities later in life.

In 1916, Paul became Vice-Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board; he served in this capacity until 1918 when he officially left the board. This allowed him to devote most of his time to philanthropy while occasionally serving on The Federal

Reserve's advisory council. He maintained his connection with the Federal Reserve until 1926. He died on January 24, 1932 (https://www.federalreservehistory.org/people/paul_m_warburg).

The Warburg Estate was not forgotten after Paul died because, in 1934, it made history as the place which held the premiere performance of George Balanchine's "Serenade" (<http://www.greenburghny.com/Cit-e-Access/news/?TID=10&NID=2147>).



George Balanchine (1904-1983)

For those unfamiliar with the name, George Balanchine, he was one of the most influential dancers and choreographers of the twentieth century, and is acknowledged as the founder of American Ballet. He was born in Saint Petersburg, Russia in 1904. He was educated in dance at Imperial Ballet Academy and studied composition at the Saint Petersburg Conservatory (Microsoft Encarta 1993-2003). He moved to the United States in 1933. From 1933, until his death, he lived in New York City (<http://www.greenburghny.com/Cit-e-Access/news/?TID=10&NID=2147>). He died in 1983 (Microsoft Encarta 1993-2003).

He is best known for the following ballets:

- “The Four Temperaments” (1946)
- “The Nutcracker” (1954)
- “Don Quixote” (1965)
- “Jewels” (1967)

(Microsoft Encarta 1993-2003)

In October of 1938, six years after the death of Paul Warburg, his wife then sold their house to the Hartsdale Park Corporation of 341 Madison Avenue (<https://www.nytimes.com/1938/10/07/archives/warburg-estate-sold-eightyacre-place-in-hartsdale-includes-35room.html>) The Hartsdale Park Corporation then gave it to what was then Greenburgh School District #8 and is now Greenburgh Central #7 School District, where it was first a kindergarten classroom, and then an administrative building for the school (<https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/news-photo/this-is-the-old-mansion-of-the-lovely-warburg-estate-now-news-photo/514875914>).



Previous Slices of History include:

A Small House, an Important Meeting, a Huge Victory: The Story of the Odell House (1/12/2019)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Documents/Mail%20-%20jlucasey@greenburghny.com1.pdf>

The Guardians of History: Greenburgh's Historical Societies (1/6/19)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Documents/Mail%20-%20jlucasey@greenburghny.com.pdf>

How a Flat Tire led to a Happy Escape: The Story of Carvel in Greenburgh (12/11/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Documents/Carvel%20History.pdf>

A Thousand Words Which You Never Knew: The Forgotten Story of the Seal of Greenburgh. (11/17/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Documents/Slice%20of%20History%20-%20A%20Thousand%20Words.pdf>

"The Disappearing Railroad Blues" in Greenburgh: The Fate of the Putnam Railroad Line and the old Putnam Trail ((11/6/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Documents/Slice%20of%20History%20-%20%20Railroad%20Blues.pdf>

A Different Kind of Rebel: Greenburgh's Contributions to the Underground Railroad (10/27/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Documents/GREENBURGH.pdf>

Greenburgh at The Great American Crossroads: Greenburgh's Civil War Story (10/19/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Cit-e-Access/news/index.cfm?NID=47461&TID=10&jump2=0>

Greenburgh's Hall of Heroes: Ferncliff Cemetery Where Memories Live Forever (10/12/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Cit-e-Access/news/index.cfm?NID=47403&TID=10&jump2=0>

A Final Resting Place for "Man's Best Friend": The Peaceable Kingdom (9/29/18)

<http://www.greenburghny.com/Cit-e-Access/news/index.cfm?NID=47331&TID=10&jump2=0>

Greenburgh and The Arts (9/22/18) <http://www.greenburghny.com/Cite-Access/news/index.cfm?NID=47278&TID=10&jump2=0>

Greenburgh's BROTHERLY LOVE, RELIEF AND TRUTH: A History of The Freemasons in Greenburgh (9/12/18) <http://www.greenburghny.com/Cite-Access/news/archnews.cfm?NID=47212&TID=10&jump2=0>

About the Authors:

We are both Assistant Town Historians at Greenburgh Town Hall and we are engaged to be married and are currently looking for permanent employment.

Riley Wentzler:

I was born and raised in a small rural town in central Pennsylvania. In high school, I took every honors course available including four years of Spanish. I received A's in all of them. I graduated third in my class of 146 students. This brought me to Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Once there, I continued my trend of academic excellence. I graduated summa cum laude in Political Science with a minor in Spanish and a Master's in Communication Studies, with a G.P.A. of 3.94. Within Communication Studies, I specialized in semiotics. It was also there that I met my lovely fiancée, Felicia Barber. My Master's in Communication has promoted public speaking, teamwork, and customer service. My Political Science degree has developed my research skills using computer-based tools and provided me with experience using the Microsoft Office products. My minor in Spanish has facilitated my bilingual capabilities. During my internship at Greenburgh, I created the petition for the State Roads project using website tools. My diverse education and areas of interest have provided me with a wide range of skills. I look forward to finding a career opportunity in business or government. **To learn more about the Warburg Estate or to suggest a topic for next week's article, you can contact me at assistanthistorian@greenburghny.com. To help me find employment you can contact me at rjwentzler413@gmail.com**

Felicia Barber:

I was born in New York City and raised in Hartsdale, New York. I graduated from Ardsley High School. I recently earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. It was here that I met my fiancé, Riley Wentzler. As a result of my academic excellence, I won a scholarship every year. I learned and applied many graphic design skills to projects during my summer internships and at school. I am proficient in using Adobe graphic design applications including Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign. For my Identity/branding course at Edinboro, I created logos to appear on the tee-shirts of Physical Education majors. For a veteran's upcoming event, I used a typeface to focus the reader to the soldier in the poster. For the State Roads Legislative Campaign project, I created the embedded graphic-photo that accompanied the petition I am looking for a job to utilize my skills as a Graphic Designer in an agency, print shop, company or government **To suggest a topic for next week's article, you can contact me at assistanthistorian@greenburghny.com. To learn more about my artwork or to help me find employment you can contact me at feliciadbarber@gmail.com.**

Two Interviews with the authors

<https://riverjournalonline.com/around-town/a-love-of-history-and-each-other/13708/>

<https://wcbs880.radio.com/articles/news/stories-main-street-couple-cerebral-palsy-brings-manytalents-town-greenburgh>

References

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. ((Not Given), (Not Given) (Not Given)).
Paul M. Warburg . Retrieved from Federal Reserve History :
https://www.federalreservehistory.org/people/paul_m_warburg

Bettmann. (1966, December 17). Getty Images . Hartsdale, New York, United States of America

Micorsoft Corporation . (1993-2003, (Not Given) (Not Given)). Micorsoft Encarta . Redmond ,
Washington, United States of America.

Millier, J. (2019, (Not Given) (Not Given)). *Frieda Schiff Warburg*. Retrieved from Jewish
Women's Archive : <https://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/Warburg-Frieda-Schiff>

Town of Greenburgh. (2014, (Not Given) (Not Given)). *BALANCHINE CENTENNIAL AT
WARBURG ESTATE ON 4/17* . Retrieved from Town of Greenburgh NY:
<http://www.greenburghny.com/Cit-e-Access/news/?TID=10&NID=2147>

Unknown. (1938, October 7). Warburg Estate Sold: Eighty-Acre Place in Hartsdale Includes 35-
Room Home. *New York Times* , p. 41 .