

Name Review Survey

## Q5 Please briefly describe what you have read or heard about Hamilton Fish III.

Answered: 419 Skipped: 102

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	He is at least the fourth generation of a family which made considerable contributions to this locality, New York State, and the nation.	11/6/2023 12:34 PM
2	He was a Congressman who led and fought with Black regiments. Spent time with an upper member of the Third Reich. Supported our entry into World War II. Married Alice Desmond. She founded the DFPL; Fish put his name on it next to hers. She divorced him later.	11/6/2023 12:25 PM
3	Im aware he was an influential politician and was upset with our political environment, but he wanted to keep us out of the war. He also feared communism.	11/6/2023 12:18 PM
4	His history with the Nazi party	11/6/2023 11:54 AM
5	Ham Fish III was a Nazi sympathizer/supporter.	11/6/2023 11:51 AM
6	Very disturbed by his Nazi affiliations.	11/6/2023 11:47 AM
7	We have heard about him from family, and we know some members of the Fish family. We have read some materials on the library website. He was a conservative Republican who was very respected in his district and in Congress. He wanted to keep American soldiers from being killed, and likely made some errors in who he worked with.	11/4/2023 11:23 PM
8	Read materials on the library website. Watched YouTube videos of Congressman Fish's speeches.	11/4/2023 11:15 PM
9	There have been allegations of anti-Semitic behavior.	11/4/2023 4:31 PM
10	He was a Nazi	11/4/2023 3:40 PM
11	That he had a history of anti-semitism and Nazi sympathies (at least before WWII).	11/4/2023 1:11 PM
12	From one source: affiliations with Nazi sympathizers during WW2 Other sources are more nuanced	11/4/2023 12:03 PM
13	I have read nearly all the material on "A House Divided" and am proceeding through the contextual material on "Past as Prologue."	11/3/2023 11:24 PM
14	He was a man of his times. He contributed to society via politics and his resources.	11/3/2023 7:52 PM
15	He served his country, was an author and a politician. He introduced a resolution instituting Veterans Day as a National Holiday...and a resolution to provide "The Tomb of the Unknown soldier ,which is thought to be the most hallowed military site in the United States.He funded our beautiful Library in Garrison, where he was born.Since it's opening hundreds of people use it as a source of education, the love of reading, the joy of opening our minds and hearts to the world.I cannot imagine removing his name ..in the name of our"woke" society! He was a great man and gave us so much.....and remember he is not alive to defend himself.	11/3/2023 5:42 PM
16	Rachel Maddow that he collaborated with Nazi Germany	11/3/2023 4:54 PM
17	Politician, WWI veteran, significant historical figure in 20th Century American politics, buried at Saint Philip's Church Cemetery	11/2/2023 10:42 PM
18	There are allegations that he was a sympathizer of the Nazi movement in Germany. It is thought that his big fear of communism colored his view of Germany's Nazis as a legitimate anti-communist movement.	11/2/2023 10:07 PM
19	Learned from Rachel Maddow podcast that he was a Nazi sympathizer (too soft a word?) and used his office in Congress to mail propaganda.	11/2/2023 6:59 PM
20	I have read that he was an accused Nazi sympathizer and also accused of mistreatment of	11/2/2023 5:57 PM

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	women.	
21	It's clear he has had a positive impact across many lines including donating time and coin. If one reads his grandson's editorial printed in the PCNR, one can only give pause.	11/2/2023 3:10 PM
22	-In his time in office, he mailed things to constituents that were sympathetic to the Nazi party interests, using Congressional funds to pay for those mailings. -He spoke at a NYC rally attended by many sympathetic to the Nazi party. -For most of his political career, he was an isolationist, which was very typical of the US population at the time. - Towards the end of his life, he was viewed by distinguished religious leaders as not being anti-Semitic. -Fish gave generously to charitable causes and the Garrison community throughout his life.	11/2/2023 2:39 PM
23	Read and heard innuendo that HF111 had antisemitic leanings. Actually one broadcaster implied he was indeed that! I do believe He was an isolationist though.	11/2/2023 2:18 PM
24	Like most of us, Fish was not perfect yet he contributed in significant ways to his community. To compare: FDR and Eleanor Roosevelt are considered by many to have been anti-semitic for various reasons, yet are not being cancelled. None of us want to be remembered for things we have done that we regret. The movement afoot to emphasize the worst about people is uncharitable and tears at the fabric of the community. Looking for reasons to hate people in the end does not cancel hate, rather, it multiplies hate. Let' Hamilton Fish at his best.	11/2/2023 2:09 PM
25	I got to know him well. I'm he was a curmudgeon but also a man who cared about others.	11/2/2023 1:28 PM
26	only knew about him when the controversy of his actions and relations with the Nazis were surfaced	11/2/2023 10:58 AM
27	I've read that at times he had poor judgement.	11/2/2023 10:53 AM
28	Aware of him as a historical political figure. In my early years in Garrison, caught some of his local appearances where he seemed a colorful personality.	11/2/2023 10:41 AM
29	There were issues with some of his past alleged affiliations with questionable ideological groups.	11/2/2023 10:40 AM
30	I have heard that Hamilton Fish was a Nazi sympathizer.	11/2/2023 10:06 AM
31	He was supportive of Hitler.	11/2/2023 9:49 AM
32	American politician who was, prior to Pearl Harbor, a Nazi sympathizer, who changed his tune after the US entered the war	11/2/2023 9:43 AM
33	He led black troops but also was a Nazi sympathizer at times	11/2/2023 9:35 AM
34	He sided with fascist Germany in the years leading up to WWII and supported the antisemitism America First movement.	11/2/2023 9:32 AM
35	I understand that Hamilton Fish was a very active community members with some unsavory ties	11/2/2023 9:29 AM
36	Nothing good	11/2/2023 9:22 AM
37	That is was anti semetic and Hitler sympathizer.	11/2/2023 9:08 AM
38	Support for racism	11/2/2023 9:07 AM
39	I was aware of historical role in connection with New York and the US generally. And I also heard about his alleged connections with and support of the Nazi party on Sunday Morning on CBS (interview with Rachel Maddow)	11/2/2023 9:06 AM
40	That he was a communist sympathiser during WWII, founder of the American Legion, a strong Conserative as Representative in Congress.	11/2/2023 9:04 AM
41	That he was a communist sympathiser during WWII, founder of the American Legion, a strong Conserative as Representative in Congress.	11/2/2023 9:03 AM
42	Isolationist. Anti-semite. Racist. Conservative verging on fascist.	11/2/2023 9:00 AM
43	He supported Nazi propaganda efforts in the U S. in the period leading up to the war.	11/2/2023 8:55 AM
44	He was at least a nazi sympathizer and at most a nazi supporter.	11/2/2023 8:52 AM

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45	Isolationist and antisemitic statements prior to WW2	11/2/2023 8:46 AM
46	He was a Nazi sympathizer	11/2/2023 8:34 AM
47	His office was used to send propaganda in favor of the Germans during the raise of the hate against Jews in Germany.	11/2/2023 8:27 AM
48	I have read about his history. While he may have had affiliations, no bad actions are directly associated with him.	11/2/2023 8:17 AM
49	That he was antisemitic	11/2/2023 8:12 AM
50	I have his read his memoir and every item on the Library "House Divided" list.	11/1/2023 11:51 PM
51	I listened to Rachel's Ultra podcast, but also did some research of my own afterwards. Ham Fish III is my great grandfather, and I've also done a fair amount of research about his life over the years.	11/1/2023 10:55 PM
52	Prior to U.S. involvement in WW II, Fish III was one of a number of congressmen whose offices distributed Nazi propaganda using their frank. He associated with a Nazi spy and with known anti-Semites, and flew in the German foreign minister's plane. Fish was keynote speaker at a 1938 MSG rally where there was a swastika onstage, Nazi anthems, and Nazi salutes. He did some good work in civil rights and other areas.	11/1/2023 4:37 PM
53	His is a complicated history that encompasses a range of activities.	11/1/2023 2:55 PM
54	He had a some shady connections	11/1/2023 1:55 PM
55	He was a nazi sympathizer	11/1/2023 12:54 PM
56	I listened to the Rachel Maddow podcast on the rise of Natzism in the US and his part in spreading the propaganda.	11/1/2023 11:42 AM
57	That he has been accused of being a Nazi sympathizer and this has not been substantiated. Even if it had, or would be, I don't think it is reason enough to warrant a name change.	11/1/2023 8:31 AM
58	He collaborated with known American Nazis. Among other things he assisted in the dissemination of Nazi propaganda. Which, therefore, leads me to be convinced that he had fascist anti-democratic tendencies.	11/1/2023 12:33 AM
59	I am aware of the antisemitism allegations that Rachel Maddow has brought up in her Podcast. As someone who has a deep interest in US politics I do no think she is looking at the many times that Hamilton Fish III championed and supported the Jewish people. The articles provided by the DFPL were excellent in outlining the dedication Hamilton Fish III had in defending people of Jewish descent. Furthermore, during his lifetime, he demonstrated a unparalleled life of altruism and service of people from many backgrounds. He is documented as going to war with the first all black infantry during WWI, wrote the legislation for the tomb of the unknown soldier and spoke out with conviction against communism. Hamilton Fish III was not a perfect person, but he lead a life that embodied the pursuit of life and care for others that a young man like myself admire and look to emulate.	10/31/2023 11:56 PM
60	He was a great congressman for 25 years and also was a major in the 369th infantry regiment (Harlem Hellfighters) He was a very passionate man who lived until 102 years old and was very proud of his service for his country. He is truly an American Hero.	10/31/2023 8:59 PM
61	I've read the contents of the Desmond-Fish Public Library website as well as the Rachel Maddow podcast beginning with Episode 5. I am also a personal friend of Hamilton Fish III's granddaughter for many years.	10/31/2023 7:28 PM
62	World 1, he was the leader for black regiment. Also, he was a member of the House of Representatives in New York.	10/31/2023 6:45 PM
63	I understand that he: 1. Served the USA valiantly in WWI, serving with a black regiment; I think he served as a Colonel in WWII as well; 2. Was strongly opposed to the growing threat of the Nazis in the 1930s and their mistreatment of Jews; 3. Was very reluctant for America to enter WWII having personally experienced the ravages of war; 4. Worked to find safe havens for persecuted Jews, even in Africa; Introduced a resolution in Congress for the president to ask Hitler not to mistreat the Jews; 5. Supported the formation of the nation of Israel; 6. Initiated anti-lynching legislation; and 7. Helped to establish the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; I think he introduced a resolution about it in Congress. In short, he was a patriot and a good	10/31/2023 4:56 PM

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person who cared deeply about people and sought to help the downtrodden. His helping to found this library is an example of his life of service for humanity.

64	Hamilton Fish III was my great grandfather. I am familiar with his work in congress.	10/31/2023 3:40 PM
65	He was an isolationist and not much liked by my parents, who were his constituents.	10/31/2023 2:25 PM
66	That there was some pro-Nazi sentiment on his part.	10/31/2023 2:16 PM
67	Briefly, Fish was the scion of a well-known NY political family, a congressman from the Hudson Valley in the first half of the 20th Century, a prominent anti-communist and Nazi fellow traveller, an implacable enemy of FDR and part of FDR's famous refrain of "Martin, Barton, and Fish," and a man who disgraced himself and his family name in out of desperate political opportunism.	10/31/2023 1:16 PM
68	Hamilton Fish III was the grandfather of my close friend, Alexa Fish-Ward. I met him when he was in his 90's. I know about his legislation creating the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. I have read excerpts of his various legislation and attempts to keep the US out of the World Wars. I am particularly struck by the fact that HF was the first voice condemning Hitler's treatment of Jews in 1933. Coupled by the fact that he commanded the African American infantry in WWI demonstrates his acceptance of all races and nationalities.	10/31/2023 11:48 AM
69	HF III was a member of Congress and a staunch isolationist during the time when events were leading into the start of World War II. He was against the USA entering into another war and advocated for appeasement with Germany. I believe his views on foreign policy were deeply impacted because of his participation as a soldier and a commander of a unit during World War I. It has been suggested through certain publications and broadcasts that HFIII was pro-Nazi and an antisemite through his involvement with certain events (such as the German Day Rally) and individuals (such as Joachim von Ribbentrop and George Viereck).	10/31/2023 10:18 AM
70	I'm aware now that he served in the US Congress during the Roosevelt era and was a Nazi sympathizer.	10/31/2023 6:38 AM
71	I have come to understand that Mr. Fish was a formidable man. He stood for his convictions and didn't waiver in his resolve. He was a man who knew combat from WWI as an officer with the fighting 369th. He was dedicated to his constituents in his district. Even after WWI, he worked to make sure that all who died would be remembered by creating the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.	10/31/2023 12:16 AM
72	He objected to America's entry into WWII, was a strong anti-communist, decorated WWI veteran and American patriot.	10/30/2023 8:39 PM
73	Hamilton Fish III was a patriot from WWI and a special one at that. He was the only Caucasian commander of an entirely African-American regiment, the Harlem Hell Fighters and he stood up for his soldiers when they were mis-treated by local towns people while in training. He was also a congressman in the 1930s who opposed the mistreatment of the Jews in Germany by the Nazis and introduced legislation asking that President Roosevelt send a letter to Chancellor Adolf Hitler to lodge a complaint. He also fought for the civil rights of African-Americans during a time when blacks in the South were still being lynched by bands of unlawful whites.	10/30/2023 8:37 PM
74	He had been serving on the warfront with the all black 369th Infantry during World War II. He introduced legislation in the House to protect the lives of American blacks.	10/30/2023 6:37 PM
75	I heard about Rachel Maddow's attempt to defame Hamilton Fish III. I do not agree with her explanations to destroy a good man who was never anti-semitic. I'm a friend of the Hamilton Fish family and have discussed his history with them . I believe Rachel is politically motivated to take down a good man.	10/30/2023 5:47 PM
76	LETTERS TO EDITOR AGAINST UNITED STATES VIETNAM WAR, KNOWN ISOLATIONIST AND ANTI COMMUNIST. COVERED FISH III APPEARANCE BEFORE BRONXVILLE VFW TO DEBATE WITH CONGRESSMAN OTTINGER ON CONGRESSMAN'S VOTE AGAINST HOUSE UN AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE VOTE (LATE 60'S) FISH III'S RECORD ALSO Majority Report of Fish Committee, Investigation of Communist Propaganda, Jan. 17, 1931, pp. 13 and 32. (Library of Congress Serial No. 9331.)	10/30/2023 5:22 PM
77	Had read nothing about Fish before the recent allegations. Since then have read "Yankees and Yorkers" (1985) Alice Curtis Desmond's history of her own family, including her second brief and unsuccessful marriage to Fish. Have also read "Prequel" (2023), Rachel Maddow's latest book, subtitled "An American Fight Against Fascism", which includes numerous references to	10/30/2023 3:16 PM

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and descriptions of Fish as a congressman and his Isolationist (to be mild) views prior to World War Two.

78	I understand that Fish's administrationn (and possibly Fish himself) were supporters of Hitler's regime.	10/30/2023 2:30 PM
79	Hamilton Fish III was sympathetic to Adolph Hitler and Nazi Germany. He opposed the United States entering WWII.	10/30/2023 12:42 PM
80	Concerns about Fish's Nazi sympathies	10/30/2023 10:13 AM
81	Hamilton Fish III was a dedicated American patriot. Responsible for the establishment of the Tomb of the Unknown soldier. And service to our great nation. I am confident of the Fish family's integrity and sincere dedication to the well being and betterment of the USA.	10/30/2023 9:57 AM
82	'	10/30/2023 7:54 AM
83	War hero; civil rights champion; liberal Repulican; critic of FDR; opposed to US entry into World War II until Pearl Harbor; llifelong opponent to the Soviet Union and the Marxist-Leninist Worldview.	10/30/2023 1:27 AM
84	He was a congressman, member of a prominent political family, involved in creation of the tomb of the unknown soldier.	10/29/2023 10:54 PM
85	I listened to the podcast Ultra and became aware of his involvement with the Nazi party to prevent America from getting into WWII. I also know that he had many other accomplishments — and while he was deeply conservative and in my opinion, on the wrong side of things, he was not alone in his thinking.	10/29/2023 3:24 PM
86	I've been very impressed with his patriotism that he has shown and acted upon.	10/29/2023 1:41 PM
87	That he distributed pro Hitler information.	10/29/2023 1:00 PM
88	I hold him in high regards because of his contribution to history. I like the facts to stay as facts.	10/29/2023 11:25 AM
89	Hero, villian - depending on how you skew the context of history and hindsight.	10/29/2023 10:56 AM
90	Hamilton Fish III was a man of great courage and fortitude. He served in World War I, leading the all black 369th infantry, known as the Harlem Hellfighters, as they fought on French soil for 191 days. He served in the US House of Representatives from 1920 to 1945. He wrote the legislation that established the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. He advocated for veterans and proposed anti-lynching legislation. He sponsored the Lodge Fish Resolution. He strongly opposed entering World War II, and was a critic of FDR. However, after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, he called for unified support for Roosevelt as a wartime president.	10/29/2023 9:58 AM
91	Have heard he supported Nazi movement.	10/28/2023 9:24 PM
92	the co-founder was said to have been a Nazi sympathizer	10/28/2023 4:06 PM
93	Heard that he was a Nazi sympathizer thru Rachel Maddie. But have since then been made aware that he was an isolationist who addressed A Nazi Rally at Madison Sq Garden.	10/28/2023 3:30 PM
94	I understand that Congressman Fish was an incredible patriot, and he introduced the bill to create the Tomb of thre Unknown Soldier. I understand that he was an incredible anti-communist voice during his lifetime. His son became a Congressman and his ancestor was the Secretary of State under President Grant.	10/27/2023 7:39 PM
95	He co-founded this library in 1980 with Alice C. Desmond. They wanted to capture and retain history of Putnam County and nearby area, plus provide a secure place for the Fish family papers and literature of Mrs. Desmond, as well as serve the current needs of local community. Hamilton Fish III is part of a longtime and prestigious political family in New York. I understand the name controversy through research. I also know a member of the Fish family.	10/27/2023 1:21 PM
96	I have reviewed materials posted online credited to Rachel Madden and others, as well as materials posted by The Desmond Fish library. As well I am an acquaintance of the Fish family for many years and am therefore aware of the history of the family.	10/27/2023 9:15 AM
97	The Fish family descends from a signer to the Declaration of Independence; he was a celebrated officer that lead the Harlem Hellfighters in WWI; he was an isolationist in the lead up to WWII; his Congressional office used its franking privileges to send mail to Americans to	10/27/2023 9:10 AM

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stay out of WWII; these messages were written by the Nazi government; that his office assistant/secretary was convicted of knowingly sending this mail; that he was not convicted.

98	Local news coverage	10/26/2023 10:47 PM
99	Became aware after listening to Rachel Maddow's podcast Ultra.	10/26/2023 7:46 PM
100	He was a very good Congressman representing the Hudson Valley.	10/26/2023 6:39 PM
101	I began with reading newspaper articles about him, then moved on to his Memoir, attended Dr. Troncone program reflecting his thesis on HFIII, read books about his friend a known American Nazi, George Sylvester Viereck and Young's "Why We Fight: Congress and the Politics of World War II etc.	10/26/2023 4:49 PM
102	His general history. Isolationist. No evidence of Nazi and or Antisemitism.	10/26/2023 12:31 PM
103	This is what I learned about HFIII: Oppose HF • Isolationist/opposed US entry WW II • Keynote speaker at 1938 MSG German rally with pro-Nazi sentiment • Associated with paid Nazi propagandist George Vierick et al. • Used franking privileges to disseminate Nazi and anti-Semitic literature. Support HF • In 1933, opposition to Nazi treatment of Jews • Denied knowledge of content of anti-Semitic mailings from his office that were executed by his chief of staff. • Supported US entry into WW II after December 7, 1941 • Introduced congressional resolution (1922) calling for the creation of Jewish state • Supported integration of- African-Americans into U.S. Military All of the above is true, but questions remain • Was HF supporting the German Nazi war effort or was he opposed to involvement in overseas wars that do not affect US interests? • Was HF anti-Semitic or was the distribution of anti-Semitic literature through his office unknown to HF?	10/26/2023 12:30 PM
104	he was congressman in mid-20th century, who was basically on the wrong side of history for much of his tenure.	10/26/2023 12:10 PM
105	Not much	10/26/2023 11:06 AM
106	I have read the Wikipedia page about him, some of the Ultra transcript and some materials on your web site. He was a complicated person.	10/26/2023 10:38 AM
107	That he spread Nazi propaganda	10/25/2023 10:37 PM
108	Hamilton Fish was a local congressman and Nazi sympathizer.	10/25/2023 5:59 PM
109	I have studied World War II history and the American reluctance to get into another "European war." I understand that Hamilton Fish III was part of that widespread belief that America should stay out of the conflict until it became obvious that we could not. I am also a longtime friend of a member of the Fish family, and they have informed me of how many admirable things the Congressman did during his long and distinguished lifetime. These things have been corroborated by my own research.	10/25/2023 3:33 PM
110	Rachel Maddie allegations Letters to editor in local papers Articles in local papers A couple Googled reports	10/25/2023 11:54 AM
111	I've studied the great way Hamilton Fish III worked with the 15th New York National Guard Regiment—also known as the (U.S.) 369th Infantry, which was all Black, and defended his infantry against bigotry and persecution based on their skin color. Maddow is gravely misinformed, and wants to create a history that did not happen. Throughout history, rights of all people have progressed. We cannot categorize in one place the thoughts and mindset of those from another time period. It would do well if the library would properly state these facts, instead of siding with untruths.	10/25/2023 10:15 AM
112	His possible affiliation with the communist supporters.	10/25/2023 10:13 AM
113	In his personal relationships, Hamilton Fish assorted with some question groups. He also fought for some honorable causes. The Desmond Fish library has served this community in an unbiased and responsive member of this community.	10/25/2023 9:17 AM
114	may have been a Nazi sympathizer. Certainly his policies were white supremacist leaning, racist and bigoted.	10/25/2023 3:40 AM
115	Have read that he was a congressman for a long time. That he was associated with the America First/Isolationist movement in late '30's. That he was married to Alice Desmond for a relatively short time. That she gave a lot of money to build the library and to endow it (the latter	10/24/2023 8:45 PM

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in her will after she had been divorced from Fish) and that he gave to the Library while he was married to her

116	He was in attendance for some events that were clearly regrettable. It is evident that he is being pigeon holed as a sympathizer and nazi supporter(antisemite) . He was a war hero in WW1 and served with the Harlem hell fighters. He also served our Government, and ultimately passed away in Cold Spring but not before he received recognition from the Ambassador of Israel.	10/24/2023 8:23 PM
117	Donated to many. Has historic homes in Putnam and Westchester	10/24/2023 7:12 PM
118	He held many roles in our government including that of a congressman prior to and during WW2. (Earlier he had served with the Harlem Hellcats, an all Black unit during WWI.) He was a critic of FDR, anti Communist and an isolationist. He was identified as a potential ally by the Nazi Party due to these views. In 1938, he spoke at MSG in NYC at a German Day rally filled with swastikas. His chief of staff was convicted of perjury when questioned about his involvement with a Nazi spy. In time, Fish became a leader of the isolationist movement and was investigated for a franking controversy that benefitted the Nazi Party at taxpayers' expense. He made statements that supported the Nazis and some that refuted Nazi treatment of Jews. After Pearl Harbor, Fish gave all is support to FDR to conduct the war.	10/24/2023 5:17 PM
119	Lots of articles regarding his position on the Nazis prior to WWII.	10/24/2023 2:08 PM
120	His direct involvement in franking to send Nazi Propaganda to Americans using his political office. Also - his use of political influence to lobby to get prosecutors removed from the Department of Justice and protect those who were being influenced by foreign powers to feed anti-semitic, seditious and fascist sentiments in this country.	10/24/2023 11:16 AM
121	I have learned about his history by reading and doing a little research about his service during World War I, as well as his championing of African American soldiers. I became interested because of my friend Alexa Fish Ward. Congressman Fish was not alone in his opposition to another European war, especially among former military members.	10/23/2023 11:09 PM
122	Nazi supporter	10/23/2023 10:29 PM
123	Hamilton Fish III attended Nazi rallies.	10/23/2023 7:39 PM
124	Hamilton Fish is in the museum of the 369th Harlem Armory. He led an all-black regiment in France known as Harlem Hellfighters who are recognized for their valour and were awarded the highest honor. Upon returning back to the US they were given a ticker tape parade, an honor and was not given to Black Soldiers at the time. Their Leader, Hamilton Fish III not only fought alongside them but also fought racism and was adamant that the Hellfighters be recognized for their bravery. After the war he became an isolationist NOT a Nazi sympathizer. The link below was sent to me and is a NY Times Link where the Editors Note states: "An article on July 23 described historical research on papers detailing a 1940 Nazi plan to finance a propaganda campaign in the United States. The article, headlined "How Nazis Tried to Steer U.S. Politics," appeared with a photograph of Representative Hamilton Fish, Republican of New York, who was chairman of the National Committee to Keep America Out of Foreign Wars. The committee sponsored isolationist newspaper advertisements during the Republican Convention of 1940, but the research has found no evidence that Mr. Fish had any connections with the Nazis or was directly influenced by them. The use of the photograph suggested a connection, and it should not have appeared" NYT, <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/1997/07/23/us/how-nazis-tried-to-steer-us-politics.html">https://www.nytimes.com/1997/07/23/us/how-nazis-tried-to-steer-us-politics.html</a> Additionally he is on record as opposing anything related to the Nazi Party. See Wikipedia Link for more information on Hamilton Fish III background: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamilton_Fish_III">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hamilton_Fish_III</a>	10/23/2023 7:11 PM
125	I have a general idea from columns in The Highlands Current, as well as LTES, that Fish was a Nazi sympathizer and also that he was a decorated war hero in WWI and vaguely that he had some connection with leading Black troops in that war.	10/23/2023 4:12 PM
126	I read various articles online about the history of Hamilton Fish, both aspects to be admired (e.g. soldier leading "Harlem Hellfires", US House of Representatives, advocated for veterans and anti-lynching, etc.) and disliked (e.g. Nazi sympathizer, anti-semitic remarks).	10/23/2023 12:25 PM
127	Politician, fought in World War I, complicated relationship with Germany during World War II.	10/23/2023 10:03 AM
128	He was a soldier and a politician. He was notable for his opposition to communism and for his support of anti-lynching legislation. He also supported Jews and the formation of the State of	10/23/2023 9:47 AM

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Israel at a time when these were both unpopular sentiments in the U.S., and decried German treatment of the Jews. That said, he was favorably inclined toward the Nazis prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. Sympathy with the Nazis and with fascism generally was significant in the U.S. prior to WWII, in part due to the threat of communism, in part due to shared antisemitic and eugenic beliefs among Progressive Era social elites, and in part due to a popular belief among political elites of the time that national success would rely on the continued ascendancy of large anti-competitive Trusts coupled with a more muscular and top-down government. It is likely that Fish was drawn to the Nazi cause primarily for its antagonism to communism, and not for the other reasons, especially considering he was a noted detractor of some of these beliefs.

129	Antisemitic views.	10/23/2023 9:18 AM
130	I have read the charge that in the course of his service as a US Congressman he associated with fascists during WWII, and I have heard him described as a Nazi sympathizer and an anti-Semite.	10/22/2023 11:05 PM
131	Prior to this mailer regarding the Library, we hadn't hear much. Mostly that he was a congressman and a prominent Republican in the area. After doing more research on it from various sources, not just the RM podcast, he seemed to have been a Nazi sympathizer.	10/22/2023 9:48 PM
132	Leader of a black platoon during WW1. Current controversy regarding views on Jewish immigration and associations with anti Jewish organizations.	10/22/2023 6:51 PM
133	Supporter of nazis	10/22/2023 5:50 PM
134	It has been suggested he was a Nazi sympathizer.	10/22/2023 4:09 PM
135	Fish was a noble man.	10/22/2023 3:45 PM
136	He was an isolationist who wanted to keep America out of the war. He vocalized support for the Nazi party before America's entry in the war and reversed his position after America entered the war.	10/22/2023 2:49 PM
137	Varying accounts of WWII appeasement/anti-semitism	10/22/2023 11:07 AM
138	He is a nazi supporter	10/22/2023 9:57 AM
139	He was a strong anticommunist congressman for New York and help in banning racial discrimination in the military. He also was seen as allying with the Nazi Germans against Communism. He was in full support of the Jew state in Palestine after the war.	10/22/2023 6:42 AM
140	Blueblood fellow. Philanthropist. Made pro-Nazi statements. Funded the founding of the DFPL.	10/21/2023 5:24 PM
141	Read and heard about Hamilton Fish III being a Nazi sympathizer.	10/21/2023 3:41 PM
142	The current research is misguided. Hamilton Fish was a contributor to Garrison and should continue to have his name on thr library.	10/21/2023 3:23 PM
143	He helped Hitler by spreading Nazi propoganda.	10/21/2023 3:10 PM
144	NY representative, opposed US involvement in WW2, identified as Nazi sympathizer, opposed FDR.	10/21/2023 2:49 PM
145	He was a man of his times: an antisemitic, fascist-loving Republican.	10/21/2023 2:45 PM
146	That he was an isolationist congressman during WWII who was known to have associated with German Nazis or prominent pro-Nazi Germans, and had a chief of Staff who was indicted for associating with a Nazi spy. He was intensely anti-communist and accused of being a Nazi sympathizer.	10/21/2023 1:25 PM
147	I need to make an amendment to a previous survey response where I stated that I believe the library should be renamed. After responding to this survey I did some research on Hamilton Fish III and I realized I was misinformed. Hamilton may have had an unpopular opinion on the US's involvement in WWII, but it doesn't seem there is evidence to confirm he was pro-Nazi or anti-semitic. We cannot tear people down based on unsubstantiated claims about their history, intentions, or beliefs. I think more information is needed and more socialization around facts would he helpful for our community.	10/21/2023 12:49 PM
148	I understand that he was a Nazi supporter and used his political platform to share anti-war thoughts.	10/21/2023 11:52 AM

## Name Review Survey

149	Fish headlined a pro-Nazi rally at Madison Square Garden in 1938. Fish's office was the center of a German plan to enlist members of Congress to spread Nazi propaganda across the country, all using the congressional "franking privilege." Envelopes from Fish's office were used to send out order forms so recipients could get copies of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion." Fish was subpoenaed by the federal prosecutor but evaded legal accountability. After the Allied victory in the Second World War, the tallying of the dead, and the opening up of the concentration camps and crematoria, you might think Fish would have reconsidered his general perspective. However, in 1946, he published a book titled "The Challenge of World Communism," followed by "The Red Plotters" the following year.	10/21/2023 11:02 AM
150	Storied local family. National politics. Issue involving III supporting Nazi initiatives in U.S.	10/21/2023 9:52 AM
151	That he served his country and generously provided for a public library, but is now being faulted for allegations against which he, now many years deceased, cannot defend himself.	10/20/2023 11:00 PM
152	I have read several articles, listen to POD casts, and read several books about the America Bund movement and there were references to Hamilton Fish III in many of these books.	10/20/2023 5:33 PM
153	German sympathizer in years before WW II	10/20/2023 2:33 PM
154	Hamilton Fish III was a member of Congress in the 1920s-40s, a proponent of isolationism and the America First movement, and a Nazi sympathizer and antisemite who used his congressional privileges to promote the Nazi cause in the United States.	10/20/2023 2:15 PM
155	Longtime congressman, staunch anti-communist and isolationist, Nazi sympathizer.	10/20/2023 12:07 PM
156	Hamilton Fish's pro Nazi propaganda	10/20/2023 10:45 AM
157	Besides all of the local coverage in our paper, I listened to the Maddow podcast and have read a few articles in national journals on the issue. I understand it is a complicated story and that the alarmist rhetoric has skewed the dominant narrative of his Nazi connection/support beyond the true extent of it. I know that I do not share his political leanings, but that he was a powerful politician that has contributed to 20th century American history.	10/20/2023 10:18 AM
158	As reported and stated. Though I know a PR professional who worked for his son and shared with dismay similar views and remarkably inappropriate behavior and disrespectful comments at Jewish events	10/20/2023 7:37 AM
159	I heard about the issue through the library then read some books about and by Hamilton Fish. He was clearly involved in something related to Nazi propaganda in the US in the 1930s via Vierick, perhaps not as severe as was purported, though its difficult to know his own attitudes. Through my own readings, I understand he contributed to significant positive artifacts in America in the 20th century, such as the tomb of the unknown soldier and support for Black soldiers, as well as other more problematic issues, such as his virulent anti-communism which he maintained even until the 1980s. I think his views on Jewish people is complicated, and I don't think we have a full account of his personal views yet - particularly the relationship between his support for the Balfour declaration alongside the association of Jews with communism (which is where the anti-semitic label stems from, as far as I know). I'm not sure if we were to learn more about HFIII that we would like him any more.	10/20/2023 5:45 AM
160	that he had pro-nazi sentiments	10/20/2023 2:18 AM
161	He was a prominent member of our community who was a leader but who has been accused of pro-Nazi sympathies made by a political partisan TV host.	10/20/2023 12:11 AM
162	Nazi connections	10/19/2023 10:29 PM
163	Nazi ally, critic, flip flop ideologist, antisemitic, war instigator	10/19/2023 8:48 PM
164	I've read that he was a Nazi sympathizer, I've read that the facts are more nuanced.	10/19/2023 8:07 PM
165	Unfortunately it has come to light of his Nazi leanings.	10/19/2023 7:24 PM
166	He did some decent things for the US and its peoples, and he also did some very questionable things.	10/19/2023 7:16 PM
167	In the 30's he used Federal funds to mail pro Nazi propaganda from Washington.	10/19/2023 7:12 PM
168	Blue blood. Was, initially, a Progressive state legislator. Enlisted to fight in WWI. Commanded Harlem Hellfighters. Elected to US House of Representatives after the War. Anti Communist.	10/19/2023 5:06 PM

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Advocated for WWI vets and strong proponent of anti-lynching laws. Staunch anti communist. Supporter of Jewish state in part of Mandatory Palestine. Supported FDR but then became a New Deal critic. Both Nazi agents of influence tried to recruit him. Brits tried to smear him because he opposed Lend Lease. Allegations of anti-Semitism at the time re: books he helped get published, Nazi Bund rally etc. His defence was that he was anti-communist, not pro-Nazi. He initially was isolationist and recommended diplomatic measures to avert war. Once war was declared, he staunchly supported US declarations of War vs Germany and Japan but, post-war, criticized some aspects of US foreign policy while supporting others. diplomacy leading up to WWII and post war. Failed to be reelected after WWII. Published lots of articles critical of some aspects of Cold War foreign policy and supportive of others.

169	Privileged lineage and upbringing, leadership of the 369th "Harlem Hellfighters", efforts in Congress to ban lynching, opposition to the VietNam war. Also his support for Nazi Germany, opposition to FDR and the New Deal, opposition to communism which also led to opposition to trade unions. He's a complicated fellow with contradictory views about class and race.	10/19/2023 4:18 PM
170	We have known his family for years. They have been very dedicated to this community. Also very very involved in the work of the library.	10/19/2023 4:17 PM
171	I am familiar with the attraction that fascism held for many conservatives in America (and England) prior to the war, including other otherwise admirable figures such as Charles Lindbergh, and the variety of reasons for this infatuation. We must also remember that these people formed their views in the context of widespread popular rejection of U.S. involvement in a war against fascism (and a wide-spread conviction that global communism was the greater threat).	10/19/2023 3:03 PM
172	I heard that Mr. Fish had anti war sentiments during world war II, which others suggested were pro National Socialist Party (Nazi)leanings.	10/19/2023 1:15 PM
173	Accused of sexual harassment in the workplace	10/19/2023 1:04 PM
174	He was a Nazi sympathizer.	10/19/2023 12:30 PM
175	What seems indisputable is that he used his office in Congress to disseminate Nazi propaganda and that he was a featured speaker at the infamous Nazi rally at Madison Square Garden in the late '30s. He was an isolationist who did a great amount of harm to this country during that period	10/19/2023 11:43 AM
176	he was a Nazi sympathizer	10/19/2023 11:41 AM
177	That actions and statements in the 30's attributed to him were made supporting Hitler and the Nazi regime. And his congressional office distributed anti- Semitic materials.	10/19/2023 10:31 AM
178	That he expressed views that could, with hindsight, be considered as sympathetic to German nationalism, rearmament, and by implication Nazism.	10/19/2023 9:59 AM
179	That he supported Hitler and distributed propaganda	10/19/2023 9:05 AM
180	A pinnacle in society and politics in New York.	10/19/2023 8:56 AM
181	He was an old white man in his day	10/19/2023 8:55 AM
182	Concerns about pro-Nazi sympathies	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
183	Concerns about pro-Nazi sympathies	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
184	That he was sympathetic to the Nazi Regime	10/18/2023 7:23 PM
185	I would like to weigh in on the discussion on renaming the library after allegations that Hamilton Fish was either a Nazi, Nazi sympathizer, or Nazi informant, and therefore not worthy of this library's name. First, I have been on both sides of the argument of renaming things over misrepresented earlier American historic figures; so I come to this decision from a neutral position. Rather than rush to an uninformed decision, I have read most of both dissertations listed at the library (Chapters V-VII pgs. 318-406 of Hanks & Chapters 10-24 pgs. 152-449 of Tracone). Here are some facts that seem undisputed: 1. Never has Fish said publicly that he approved Adolf Hitler. In fact the only quote about Hitler mentioned in either book was, "Hitler is undermining the foundation of civilization." Uttered after the bombing of Guernica, Spain [ p. 309 Tracone]. 2. Immediately after WWI until the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Fish was an unapologetic, devoted isolationist, and that was his driving emotional and political motivation. After his heroic and brutal service as a U.S. soldier during WWI, he was determined to never	10/18/2023 6:43 PM

## Name Review Survey

see the U.S. “dragged” into another European war. He even saw the war he fought in as a waste of time: “[the U.S.] asked for nothing and got nothing.” [Hanks] 3. Until the time of political turmoil caused by his opposition to powerful political leaders in the middle 30s, including FDR himself, he was a strong opponent of antisemitism and the German persecution of Jews [Hanks], and a strong supporter of civil rights [pg. 300 Tracone]. 4. His second driving emotional and political motivation was his distrust, hate and paranoid certainty of communism and Russia. 5. His immense ego ,and headstrong steadfast adherence to those two driving motivations, made him an extremist with power and the political enemies that come with it. This eventually led to political decisions to appease mid-American German isolationists and later Jewish interest during after the war; his misguided attempts to run against his most powerful political enemy FDR for President, probably made him take these politically expedient stances. 6. While not a supporter of Hitler, immediately after WWI and continuing until the actual onset of U.S. involvement in WWII, he saw Germany as the only European nation capable of standing up to the perceived Russian threat. Both dissertation writers agree that this made him an “inevitable” easy target [Hanks] for accusations and conspiracies by political opponents and columnists, that he was a Nazi. That’s where it gets controversial... Both essayists here would agree with Hanks statement, “While there has never been any evidence that implicates Fish directly in Nazi design, it is true that he was careless in his use of the franking privilege and in the scrutiny that he applied to his personal activities.” Yes, he had German friends, the result of their shared opinion of not going to war with Germany. Yes, a few of those Germans might have been agents of Nazi Germany down the road (he knew many of them before Hitler’s rise to power). Yes, he saw fascism as still way better than Communism; ““Although I earnestly deplore the economic and racial persecution of Jews in Germany, I prefer the Hitler regime to any form of Bolshevism, with its class and religious hatred and avowal of world revolution.” [P.196 Tracone]. Yes, even as Europe was on the precipice of war, he was over there trying to find a compromise between Germany and the Allies. However, both essayists see that as the result of his two guiding motivations. Is there any evidence to the contrary? The most damning thing I read in those combined 400+ pages was this on pages 326-327 from Tracone- “ At the request of Fanny Holtzman, a New York attorney who he had in the past aided in getting Jewish immigrants through Ellis Island, Fish hastily arranged for three month exit visas for these Jews to visit the Worlds Fair in Flushing Meadows, New York. According to Holtzmann, Fish had ‘personal knowledge of the German plans’ for Jews. Holtzmann also quotes Fish as telling her: ‘Their solution, Fanny, is concentration camps, where the entire Jewish population will be wiped out.’ Fish later agreed that Holtzmann’s account of their conversation is fairly accurate. This was while in Germany in 1939. This is harder to reconcile with all his previous actions, and it is the author’s view that this just shows how devoted he was to avoiding war, and the preference both the Jews and the world would prefer as the result of a Russian conquering of Europe. There are more accusations, and a possibly shady deal with a Dominican Republic dictator, but that’s pretty much all of it. According to his son, in 1988, for his 100th birthday, he received a letter from the Israeli ambassador to the U.S. praising Fish’s unflagging support of Israel. There is not enough hereto take away also for his support and assistance in founding this library. Please leave his name here where it belongs.

186	Listen to Rachel Maddox podcast originally, and then own research	10/18/2023 6:22 PM
187	HFIII made statements in support of the Nazi party, and published Nazi and anti-Semitic propaganda.	10/18/2023 6:17 PM
188	They are accusing him of being a nazi	10/18/2023 6:12 PM
189	I'm roughly familiar with the Fish family history, after looking them up after moving to Garrison 25 years ago.	10/18/2023 5:41 PM
190	That he was a Nazi sympathizer	10/18/2023 5:31 PM
191	As a Hudson Valley native, I'm familiar with the contributions and public service of the Fish family. I recall attending a political function at which Ham Fish IV spoke when I was a small child. I'm aware of the recent controversy about Ham Fish III from reading local newspaper articles.	10/18/2023 5:24 PM
192	He was a war hero and outstanding public servant. After reviewing the research that your library has made available, I do not believe that he was antisemitic.	10/18/2023 5:19 PM
193	Right wing proto nazi	10/18/2023 5:01 PM
194	That he or his office may well have been involved in helping advance pro nazi messages pre	10/18/2023 4:37 PM

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WW2		
195	Hamilton Fish is purported to be supportive of Hitler and the Nazi regime.	10/18/2023 4:33 PM
196	Fish family were active antisemitics.	10/18/2023 4:31 PM
197	Heard his name on Rachel Maddow's Ultra Podcast	10/18/2023 4:25 PM
198	Information disrupted via the public mailing as well as additional independent research.	10/18/2023 4:00 PM
199	I read that he was accused of being a Nazi sympathizer	10/18/2023 4:00 PM
200	Heard he had some involvement or showed support of Nazis	10/18/2023 3:57 PM
201	Overall that he was a benefactor to our town and state, but there is some concern about stages of his career	10/18/2023 3:55 PM
202	Read about it in the two local papers	10/18/2023 12:10 PM
203	HF III attended a pro-Nazi rally in 1939 and allowed his congressional franking privileges to be used to distribute what turned out to be pro-nazi propaganda. Having served in WWI he was well aware of the horrors of war and was a strong isolationist. My sense of what he did was related to his isolationist tendencies, and that he was caught up in Nazi spies who encouraged US staying out of the war.	10/18/2023 10:25 AM
204	The most important thing I read about Hamilton Fish III was the letter to the editor published by his grandson in the recent edition of the Highlands Current. I was unaware of his extensive service in World War I and how this influenced his antiwar activism. I believe that anyone who has been exposed to the horrors of war should be given the benefit of the doubt when they oppose future wars.	10/18/2023 10:15 AM
205	Nazi	10/18/2023 9:37 AM
206	That he was an isolationist during WWII and possibly a Nazi sympathizer	10/18/2023 9:00 AM
207	Only what is on the library website, I was unaware before receiving the postcard regarding the survey	10/18/2023 8:51 AM
208	Nazi propaganda and anti semitism	10/18/2023 8:31 AM
209	I listened to the podcast	10/18/2023 8:18 AM
210	He was an anti-Semite who used his political power to try to keep the US out of WWII.	10/18/2023 8:16 AM
211	Recently the news being told has all been about him being a Nazi sympathizer	10/18/2023 8:07 AM
212	In brief, that he was affiliated/had made positive statements about the Nazis	10/18/2023 6:36 AM
213	Ham Fish being friendly with Germany prior to WW2	10/17/2023 11:02 PM
214	There are alleged actions and statements that Mr. Fish made in the 1930's in support of Hitler	10/17/2023 9:41 PM
215	That he was a Nazi sympathizer.	10/17/2023 9:18 PM
216	He was a Nazi sympathizer, for a period of time. Allowed Nazis propaganda.	10/17/2023 8:59 PM
217	I've read and heard that people are seeking to undermine all his good work.	10/17/2023 8:42 PM
218	I have read about his heroics and also his desire to keep peace	10/17/2023 8:12 PM
219	I have read about HF's affiliation with the Nazi party and his funding of printing propaganda and mailing it through his political connections.	10/17/2023 7:52 PM
220	That he was a good man but had some poor judgement during the Nazi Era.	10/17/2023 7:05 PM
221	Fish was a pacifist and did not want the US entangled in another war. He fought in WWI and saw the horrors of that war. England's monarchs had the same position as did its Prime Ministers. Fish led black soldiers in WW I and sponsored anti-lynching legislation, something unpopular with southern Democrats. His family and its roots in Garrison deserve continued recognition. We should not destroy our history.	10/17/2023 6:51 PM
222	I understand that he was reported to have been Nazi sympathizer and made anti-semitic remarks.	10/17/2023 6:46 PM

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223	I have read that he was a Nazi	10/17/2023 6:30 PM
224	That he showed support for the Nazis in the 1930s.	10/17/2023 6:28 PM
225	'Possible ' affiliations with Hitler but a good man	10/17/2023 5:51 PM
226	He had slaves	10/17/2023 5:09 PM
227	Allegations that he was a Nazi or Nazi sympathizer or anti-semitic.	10/17/2023 4:53 PM
228	I know of his political history and recent information about his opposition to involvement in WWII.	10/17/2023 4:39 PM
229	allegations were made that he was a Nazi Sympathizer.	10/17/2023 4:15 PM
230	Allegedly was a Nazi sympathizer	10/17/2023 3:34 PM
231	He made statements in support of Hitler and his regime. And, mailed pro-Nazi materials using his Congressional privileges for postage.	10/17/2023 3:32 PM
232	I have heard that he is a Nazi-sympathizer and collaborator.	10/17/2023 3:24 PM
233	He was pro Nazi before the war as well as anti-Semitic.	10/17/2023 3:06 PM
234	Read everything published and on the DFPL website and linked materials.	10/17/2023 2:55 PM
235	Unfortunate racist statements, positions and ties to the Nazis.	10/17/2023 2:50 PM
236	His sympathies towards fascists.	10/17/2023 2:35 PM
237	His sympathies towards fascists.	10/17/2023 2:33 PM
238	I've heard that he wanted the US to stay out of WW2, at least up until Pearl Harbor. It seems he let his Congressional mail be used (ill-advisedly) by a group that was also against joining the war, who also had anti-Semitic policies. Most of what I've read about him has not convinced me that he held those views personally, and his speeches and mentions by Israeli government officials do not support labeling him as anti-Semitic.	10/17/2023 2:31 PM
239	Pro-nazi, anti-semite.	10/17/2023 2:07 PM
240	I know he was the commanding officer of an all black group of soldiers, a diplomat, a politician. He opposed FDR and the US entering WW2 but after Pearl Harbor he supported FDR and the war effort. He was against the treatment of Jews in Germany. He was a local, I once lived in his former home.	10/17/2023 1:52 PM
241	From the Highlands current.	10/17/2023 1:50 PM
242	He is accused of being a Nazi sympathizer	10/17/2023 1:43 PM
243	what you shared online	10/17/2023 1:34 PM
244	My college dissertation was based on Hamilton Fish III and completed in 1985. Generously Congressman fish allowed me to visit and work with him over a six-month period. I closely visited him twice a week six hours a day for close to two months. He found it hysterical that I rode from cold Spring New York to balmville on a moped via the ( new ) Newburgh bridge which wasn't yet even open. Congressman fish was a gentleman even when I brought up the subject that has in my eyes predicated this witchhunt. Should be noted that Fish did associate with known members of the American boon society, and had many friends whose families still reside in Garrison, New York and also maintain the same friendships. Even though Roosevelt found Fish to be a great hindrance to his reforms he never once made the suggestion that Hamilton Fish was a Nazi sympathizer. As a student of history, I find it repugnant to the possibility of removing historical names, statues in the attempt to rewrite history to fit modern narratives. Find it sad when a community attempts to change its past with unfounded hearsay, and conveniently, when the figure is no longer around to defend itself. Mr Fish confided in that he had numerous friends from all political areas of influence. My personal thoughts on the matter tend to lead me to the fact that some of these friends did attempt to associate Mr. fish with unacceptable political leanings however, his thoughts and comments to me personally vindicate any association with Nazi fascism. I think the interesting to look at many of the old name families in the community and determine their political leanings of the time and their associations with institutions of learning. What was promoted?	10/17/2023 1:01 PM

## Name Review Survey

245	Nazi sympathizer ?	10/17/2023 1:01 PM
246	He deserves his name on the library	10/17/2023 12:50 PM
247	Allegations of being a Nazi Sympathizer, but it based on what I read in his biography, I have some doubts.	10/17/2023 12:30 PM
248	Hamilton Fish III was born in Garrison, New York on December 7, 1888. His father was Hamilton Fish II, a New York State congressman in the House of Representatives. Just like his father and grandfather he will also go into politics as a republican for New York State. Rachel Maddow is a misinformation Marxists and is clearly slandering Fish as he was a Republican. These disgusting MSM tactics along the hate filled agenda of racist Marxists must not be allowed in Garrison.	10/17/2023 12:22 PM
249	I literally just clicked the release you guys published so that's all I know.	10/17/2023 12:19 PM
250	The history of his governor ship, war, record, community, outreach, donations, and his literature. The library's website posting.	10/17/2023 11:35 AM
251	Lately, many of our past leaders are being vilified for past behaviors without historical context. This is misleading and harmful to our society. Accusations of "Nazi Sympathizer" have been raised.	10/17/2023 11:32 AM
252	Governor Hamilton fish was a pillar of the community, donated to our community, was an astute writer, and a veteran of World War I. He was a noble man.	10/17/2023 11:27 AM
253	Complicated life: Anti-communist. Nazi sympathizer. Probably not an anti-Semite. Extremely right wing.	10/17/2023 10:58 AM
254	that he was a nazi sympathizer	10/17/2023 10:35 AM
255	I have not relied on my own research, but have come to understand that he was an active supporter of the Nazi movement, perhaps also a member of the Nazi party in America.	10/17/2023 9:56 AM
256	He was an accused of being a nazi sympathizer .	10/17/2023 9:14 AM
257	He did many wonderful things and received commendation from Israel, but he also voiced support of the Hitler government and Nazism in the lead up to America's entrance into WW2.	10/17/2023 9:12 AM
258	Various accomplishments during his life and allegations of Nazi support.	10/17/2023 9:09 AM
259	Hamilton Fish III was a supporter of the America First party, of Hitler and his policies in Nazi Germany and an abuser of his political office to further the aims of the American Nazis to keep the US from entering the WWII. HF III used the tax payer's money for a mass mail campaign to propagate the agenda of the above institutions to the American Public.	10/17/2023 8:58 AM
260	I learned that Hamilton Fish III was in support of Hitler before the war as many leaders actually were before he led his regime to kill jews as we are taught about the history. There was a lot of corruption and slander at the time and I would need to know more before saying he was conspiring to publish and distribute nazi propaganda in our country. It is a fact that individuals working under him were said to be spies and were conspiring. Where did Rachel Maddow get her information sourced from? I think she should have included some context about what happened before hitler began killing jews and nazism. Because many leaders were first unaware of his toxic mindset and were supporting him. They then warned others about what he was doing and our country refused to get involved but without our involvement hitler would have not been defeated and he would have caused more terror and damage and would have gained control of more territories. I think the library should stand up and discuss this in like a full scale way and elicit official leaders in the community to do so.	10/17/2023 7:51 AM
261	Nothing other than the writeup here	10/17/2023 7:40 AM
262	While in office generally advocated for closer relations with Nazi Germany.	10/17/2023 7:22 AM
263	He served in Congress and was sympathetic to the German regime of the era.	10/16/2023 11:07 PM
264	That he was involved with Nazi sympathizers prior to World War II	10/16/2023 10:36 PM
265	Through social media.	10/16/2023 8:13 PM
266	I have read the book Hitler's American Friends and read about him in it.	10/16/2023 8:11 PM

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267	Multiple newspapers, books, and historical records.	10/16/2023 7:41 PM
268	His activities as a member of the US congress assisting and supporting German government interests and representatives after 1933	10/16/2023 7:23 PM
269	He was a major supporter of the Nazi regime. His speeches and participation in the America First movement attest to that.	10/16/2023 7:00 PM
270	I listened to the Rachel Maddow podcast and did some online research about Hamilton Fish III and the America First movement	10/16/2023 6:40 PM
271	He made antisemitic comment dents in the press.	10/16/2023 6:29 PM
272	I believe the research is not complete	10/16/2023 6:23 PM
273	I have read the research you are using which is lacking and politically motivated.	10/16/2023 6:10 PM
274	Comments re: Hitler.	10/16/2023 6:02 PM
275	A member of the Fish family had some indiscretion.	10/16/2023 5:58 PM
276	I listened to the Rachael Maddow podcast on the subject of Nazi influence on the U.S. Congress.	10/16/2023 4:32 PM
277	His occasional anti-Semitic remarks and derogatory remarks about women.	10/16/2023 4:18 PM
278	That he supported the Nazis for a time before World War II, and never publicly admitted it later.	10/16/2023 4:10 PM
279	Congressman. Regan's campaign	10/16/2023 3:27 PM
280	I read the article in the Highlands Current that reported he might have been an antisemite	10/16/2023 3:23 PM
281	That he was a member of Congress, an isolationist and a Nazi sympathizer who used taxpayer monies to fund mailings in support of the Nazi cause. The I-84 bridge across the Hudson is named after him.	10/16/2023 1:12 PM
282	He was one of those who expressed some support for fascism	10/16/2023 12:15 PM
283	I Hamilton Fish, served in World War I and is the driving force for the creation of the tomb of the unknown soldier in Arlington, national cemetery, a place that honors service and sacrifice of all Americans were defending our nation.	10/16/2023 11:43 AM
284	He was a man who fought for civil rights and fought for our country	10/15/2023 10:12 PM
285	Scion of the political Fish family; WWI veteran: potential Nazi sympathizer; potential Bluebeard type	10/15/2023 4:41 PM
286	That though he served our country Hamilton Fish III was a nazi sympathizer	10/15/2023 3:46 PM
287	he sponsored a nazi rally at MSG	10/15/2023 2:43 PM
288	Supporter of Nazi party	10/15/2023 12:45 PM
289	His ties to German spy Viereck, his mailing of Nazi propaganda, his participation in the 1938 Madison Square Garden rally, etc.	10/14/2023 1:36 AM
290	I listened to the ultra podcast and reviewed many of the materials on display at the library	10/12/2023 7:21 PM
291	How he supported Germany	10/12/2023 3:15 PM
292	Ham was on the first Walter Camp All-America football team at Harvard. During WWII he headed an all-black regiment which was sent to France and served longer than any other. As a U.S.Representatvie from Dutchess County,NY he championed minorities and individuals in need. He also stopped FDR from packing the Supreme Court which would have been disastrous. He personally defended me when at a luncheon another guest of his spewed anti-semitic rhetoric directed at me.	10/12/2023 1:16 PM
293	One TV commentator broadcast linking him to Nazi Germany prior to the U.S. entry into WWII	10/12/2023 10:49 AM
294	His positive work with the tomb of the unknown soldier.	10/12/2023 8:21 AM
295	Notable local family with generations of service. I knew the Congressman and his son. They were men of their times.	10/12/2023 8:19 AM

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296	I have read his book, read the dissertations about him, and read the Ultra podcast transcript.	10/12/2023 12:01 AM
297	We read the mostly the online materials.	10/11/2023 11:38 PM
298	Rachel Maddow podcast series "Ultra." Fish had an active relationship with supporters and agents of the Nazi Party in Germany during the years before the start of World War II. This put Fish's history as a legislator in the context of what I've read or seen in the past about the America First Committee and other movements before the War.	10/11/2023 10:48 PM
299	He was a Nazi	10/11/2023 8:56 PM
300	A hugely blatant Nazi supporter.	10/11/2023 12:30 PM
301	I have read in the local paper and heard via friends involved in this conversation about Hamilton Fish III's ties to the Nazi party.	10/11/2023 9:51 AM
302	He was a Nazi sympathizer and fascist prior to WWII. After, he was a typical American hard right conspiracist.	10/11/2023 9:12 AM
303	I only learned recently of his sympathy for the nazi cause. Very disappointing.	10/10/2023 9:37 PM
304	That he had some sympathies for the Nazis that were disturbing	10/10/2023 9:12 PM
305	He abused his power in the federal government to promote Nazi propaganda.	10/10/2023 8:55 PM
306	He abused his role in the federal government to promote and disseminate pro-Nazi party propaganda.	10/10/2023 8:41 PM
307	He was anti Semitic.	10/10/2023 4:08 PM
308	He supported the Nazi rise in Germany in the 1930's. He exploited his congressional franking privileges to mail Nazi propaganda at no cost.	10/10/2023 3:35 PM
309	Alleged Nazi sympathizer and conspirator. Ultra conservative right with isolationist. A bit racist.	10/10/2023 11:12 AM
310	He was friends with Nazis and supported their cause, but stopped short of actually being a card-carrying member of the party. He renounced that when it was clear they were on the losing side. There's more to him than that affiliation, but I'd have to research on who exactly he was. He has both ancestors and descendants who are in public service and have a more moderated stance on human rights.	10/10/2023 6:34 AM
311	Hamilton Fish III was a Nazi sympathizer, and it was in fact his wife who was committed to creating a legacy through libraries/educational programs.	10/10/2023 5:58 AM
312	Hamilton Fish was a supporter & promoter of the Nazi antisemitism philosophy	10/9/2023 8:43 PM
313	That he was a Nazi sympathizer	10/9/2023 8:31 PM
314	He was a politician who supported Nazi causes	10/9/2023 5:40 PM
315	An extreme isolationist and certainly connected to various Nazi sympathizers and even convicted Nazi agents. Spoke at a Bund rally with zis. Nazi swastikas present. Flew on a Nazi plane in Europe. Against everything FDR proposed. Even his own Chief of Staff was convicted of distribution Nazi propaganda.	10/9/2023 1:22 PM
316	Through the media, I learned he had connections to the Nazis party.	10/9/2023 12:41 PM
317	That he had some sympathies with Nazi Germany	10/9/2023 10:03 AM
318	While in office, he used his privilege to send free mail to send political material that advocated non-intervention in Europe, a view that was widespread at the time but does not hold up well in hindsight knowing what we know now about the outcome of the war, the holocaust, etc	10/8/2023 3:53 PM
319	I have read several articles online after listening to the Rachel Maddow Podcast.	10/8/2023 3:36 PM
320	He was a Nazi sympathizer, and even had his speeches written by Nazi party affiliates.	10/8/2023 2:59 PM
321	Long time Congressman from this region. Did many good things but was also an avowed Nazi sympathizer	10/8/2023 2:03 PM
322	That he was elected to the State Assembly on T.R.'s Bull Moose ticket, quit to serve in the Army in WW I leading African-American troops (see film Men of Bronze), was elected to the	10/8/2023 6:49 AM

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House of Representatives 1919-44, successfully sponsored bills establishing the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and a declaration that the Jews -- especially those uprooted by WW I, be afforded a homeland in Palestine (for which the future State of Israel honored him), was a founder of the American Legion and in connection with his continuing involvement with veterans both Black and white led him to work against US involvement in another world war, was accused by interventionists of being sympathetic toward the aggressor nations at a time when he was faithfully representing the anti-war convictions of his largely rural and conservative constituency, but rallied wholeheartedly to the nation's defense upon our Declaration of War. In short, a notable public servant who, like any of us when one's thoughts and actions are viewed in retrospect, has not always been right. It was his vehement anti-communism that is what most who remember him will recall, for remarkably from the Bolshevik revolution in 1917 and his election in 1919 right through to his centenary in 1988 and the collapse of the Soviet Union, both in public and private life, that was his pre-eminent message.

323	The Rachel Maddow report.	10/7/2023 11:12 PM
324	Besides all the Nazi propaganda, he has been a huge supporter of community. He has given his time and money to help educate our children. Regardless of his past mistakes we need to support his generosity.	10/7/2023 8:46 PM
325	That he was a Nazi sympathizer who never made reparations for his statements nor expressed regret.	10/7/2023 8:00 PM
326	I've read he had Nazi sympathies and if it's Ham Fish III or earlier an ester, did research and published that blacks had less intelligence, other racists comments.	10/7/2023 7:41 PM
327	That he supported Nazis.	10/7/2023 7:38 PM
328	That Fish was possibly a Nazi sympathizer	10/7/2023 6:24 PM
329	Nazi sympathies	10/7/2023 4:05 PM
330	Allegations of Nazi supporter.	10/7/2023 4:04 PM
331	Association with nazi party	10/7/2023 3:58 PM
332	That he was a Nazi supporter and facilitated the distribution of nazi propaganda using tax payer money through congressional mailings.	10/7/2023 3:54 PM
333	Fervent Republican with fascist leanings. Foe of FDR and of FDR's "socialism.)	10/7/2023 3:22 PM
334	Pre WWII protectionist involved in disseminating German propaganda in this country.	10/7/2023 2:28 PM
335	That at the beginning of Nazi Germany he was a collaborator. At some stage he wasn't.	10/7/2023 2:27 PM
336	Nazi sympathizer	10/7/2023 2:06 PM
337	Hamilton Fish III was a politician who served in the House of Representatives from the 1920s through the 1940s. He was born in Garrison. He was a critic of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal and also his foreign policy. He was apparently also sympathetic to the Nazi party in Germany.	10/7/2023 1:50 PM
338	Hamilton Fish was an important figure in the America First movement and, as a Congressman, actively worked to promote naziism in the United States in the 1930s and 1940s.	10/7/2023 1:47 PM
339	I know Rachel Maddow is known for her political ideology and has disdain for anyone who disagrees with her. Hamilton Fish is a contributor to this town and any reference to him as a Nazi sympathizer is an activists' imagination. Stop the propaganda and hate. Fish Library forever	10/7/2023 1:45 PM
340	That he was a Nazi sympathizer and actively allowed his office to be used for pro-Nazi mailings	10/7/2023 1:14 PM
341	From my personal knowledge, through the museum of the 369th Harlem Armory: Hamilton Fish led an all-black regiment in France, known as the Harlem Hellfighters, who became renowned for their valour and were awarded the highest honor. When troops returned, they were given a ticker tape parade down Fifth Avenue, an honor that was not to be given to these black soldiers. Hamilton Fish fought this racism and successfully arranged for a ticker tape parade to honor them. Hamilton Fish became an isolationist after WWI, not a Nazi sympathizer. According to the NYT, <a href="https://www.nytimes.com/1997/07/23/us/how-nazis-tried-to-steer-us-">https://www.nytimes.com/1997/07/23/us/how-nazis-tried-to-steer-us-</a>	10/7/2023 12:56 PM

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politics.html Editor's note: Editor's Note: "An article on July 23 described historical research on papers detailing a 1940 Nazi plan to finance a propaganda campaign in the United States. The article, headlined "How Nazis Tried to Steer U.S. Politics," appeared with a photograph of Representative Hamilton Fish, Republican of New York, who was chairman of the National Committee to Keep America Out of Foreign Wars. The committee sponsored isolationist newspaper advertisements during the Republican Convention of 1940, but the research has found no evidence that Mr. Fish had any connections with the Nazis or was directly influenced by them. The use of the photograph suggested a connection, and it should not have appeared."

342	He chose on the wrong side of history and has anti-Semitic views.	10/7/2023 12:41 PM
343	He may have been in the 30s ( as many others were) supportive of hitlers rebuilding of Germany BEFORE his insane aggression began	10/7/2023 12:34 PM
344	He was a bit of a free loader, perhaps an abuser or at least some weird husband crap no spouse should have to deal with. Also, some sort of opportunistic fool who allied himself with far right extremists to leverage against a political rival.	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
345	Do I need to repeat the whole sordid past?	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
346	Too much to detail, but know of him as an important historical figure, and recall when he was live and his many contributions.	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
347	Nazi symptomatic	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
348	Although a founder of the American Legion, he was sympathetic to the Nazi regime	10/7/2023 12:23 PM
349	While a philanthropist, he also had, at one point, Nazi sympathys.	10/7/2023 12:15 PM
350	He has nazi ties or something like that	10/7/2023 12:08 PM
351	They are a wonderful and generous family.	10/7/2023 11:57 AM
352	I read about the Nazi issue. To me its something to remember and use fight hate. to many people now a days what to cancel anything they dis agree with.I feel that is wrong. we need to remember the past in its context of the events so we may learn from it	10/7/2023 11:56 AM
353	He was an isolationist and nazi sympathizer in the 1930s he changed his opinions when the war started	10/7/2023 9:56 AM
354	He led black soldiers in WW1. He was a balanced legislator though best known for his anti-Communist positions.	10/7/2023 8:53 AM
355	I read some local news articles suggesting he may have liked Nazis, then I read his wikipedia article.	10/6/2023 5:37 PM
356	Material in the Highlands Current	10/6/2023 5:09 PM
357	He was very conservative and had some Nazi sympathies prior to WWII	10/6/2023 4:23 PM
358	He was a supporter of the Nazi regime and was involved in a large conspiracy which could have seriously destabilised our government and war efforts.	10/6/2023 4:12 PM
359	Issues with Hamilton Fish III political views at that time in the world.	10/6/2023 1:45 PM
360	Nazi	10/6/2023 12:55 PM
361	Fish was connected to the Nazis efforts to infiltrate the American government. I listened twice to the "Ultra" podcast and have read many articles about this issue, and researched the web.	10/6/2023 12:35 PM
362	That he had right-wing views and supported the Nazi regime before World War II	10/6/2023 12:24 PM
363	Hamilton Fish has had involvement with Nazis and his pro-Israel stance was not a pro-Jew stance, but stemmed from a place of White Supremacy because the lives of White Jews still outweighed those of Brown Palestinians. He also used his power to put African American men on the frontline of the war because he knew they were more disposable and that he could lure them in with the false promise of economic and social advancement that never really came with the service the Black men provided to the country.	10/6/2023 11:46 AM
364	His biography.	10/6/2023 11:30 AM

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365	He was a promotor of Nazi propaganda in America. His presence at pro-Nazi events, the use of his franking to send out pro-Nazi literature, his tolerance of his employees pro-Nazi work ... all are notable. I realize he was a supporter of the Hudson Valley environmental movements, and that he did much good later in life ... but I still don't think anything, especially a public library, should have his name.	10/6/2023 10:54 AM
366	My parents knew him -- we were friends with the Fish family	10/6/2023 10:44 AM
367	That he was a public official that represented our area and was co-opted by the Nazi cause during WWII, using public funds to spread Nazi propaganda and support.	10/6/2023 8:26 AM
368	Prior to and during WWII, Fish acted under the direction of an agent of Nazi Germany, against the interests and principles of the United States, for personal financial and political gain, and to further an agenda of fascist, ultranationalist ideology.	10/5/2023 5:51 PM
369	Fish supported Hitler groups in US the 1930's and used his office to distribute propaganda that supported Hitler's efforts in the US.	10/5/2023 4:39 PM
370	That he was a Nazi sympathizer, although some say he was in their company at times but not a supporter.	10/5/2023 2:43 PM
371	I read that Hamilton Fish was a Nazi sympathizer/ supporter/activist. He promoted ideals that were in sharp contrast to our democratic.	10/5/2023 2:34 PM
372	Alleged Nazi ties	10/5/2023 1:39 PM
373	Extensive	10/5/2023 1:25 PM
374	read the information on website and attended zoom meetings. Did not hear or read about original MSNBC broadcast.	10/5/2023 11:26 AM
375	That he was pro-Nazi.	10/5/2023 11:25 AM
376	I heard the whole Rachel podcast, so I know about his pre-WWII nazi sympathizing	10/5/2023 10:33 AM
377	I've heard and read that HF III led a full, complex, and, at times, seemingly contradictory life. He fought in WWI. He championed Civil Rights. Yet he later conspired with Nazis and tried to undermine American opposition to German aggression in the late 1930s/early 1940s. On that score, he was horrifyingly wrong.	10/5/2023 8:22 AM
378	That he played a role to some degree in spreading propaganda of the Nazi Party in the US during a period prior to ww2. I also know that HF3 did many admirable things over his long career and life. I've listened to the Ultra podcast and reviewed most of the DFPL's resources list on the topic.	10/4/2023 7:45 PM
379	As a longtime Garrison resident I know the Fish family personally and am aware of the Fish family representation of the Hudson River Valley over the years	10/4/2023 3:06 PM
380	Ham Fish III was a supporter of the Nazis.	10/4/2023 3:01 PM
381	He did not mellow in his old age.	10/4/2023 2:16 PM
382	wife printed out the website for me and we came the professor lecture	10/4/2023 11:29 AM
383	I am familiar with his long and varied career and life in public service. I am familiar with his isolationist views in the lead up to America entering WWII, and his resultant ties with Germany and anti-semitism.	10/4/2023 10:36 AM
384	I know that it is not proven that he knew about the plan to mail the propaganda, but we find it stunningly naive to find him blameless for this, especially the more we learn about him.	10/4/2023 10:30 AM
385	That he supported Nazi beliefs	10/4/2023 7:31 AM
386	Antisemitism	10/3/2023 6:38 PM
387	I have read the available online material as well as watched the seven minutes documentary documenting the Nazi rally that Fish participated in in the 1930's.	10/3/2023 5:38 PM
388	Supporter of Hitler/Nazi regime	10/3/2023 5:30 PM
389	I have heard that he was supportive of far right ideologies	10/3/2023 5:23 PM

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390	That he was a Nazi sympathizer and an elected official in this area.	10/3/2023 5:15 PM
391	Local Family, Republican Congressman, founded the library with his now Ex-wife. Involved in a scandal where nazi propoganda was mailed out through his office. Attended a pro-hitler rally. Was never convicted of anything.	10/3/2023 2:55 PM
392	Read entire transcript of R. Maddow's podcast, attended historian's lecture, hearing from respected colleagues.	10/3/2023 2:17 PM
393	Read Rachel Maddow podcast, re, HF's abuse of Congressional franking privilege to spread Nazi propoganda and embrace of Nazi sympathizers. Also read about HF's appearance at a Nazi sponsored rally, in front of a banner of bright red with a bold with a swastika symbolizing the Nazi party. A noted historian, who wrote a doctoral thesis on the man, described him as reckless.	10/3/2023 1:45 PM
394	Read Rachel Maddow podcast, re, HF's abuse of Congressional franking privilege to spread Nazi propoganda and embrace of Nazi sympathizers. Also read about HF's appearance at a Nazi sponsored rally, in front of a banner of bright red with a bold with a swastika symbolizing the Nazi party. A noted historian, who wrote a doctoral thesis on the man, described him as reckless.	10/3/2023 1:43 PM
395	Supporter of the Nazi movement in the pre-war era, including antisemitic propogandist.	10/3/2023 1:04 PM
396	That he was one of several congressmen who allowed German propoganda to be distributed through their offices for free.	10/3/2023 10:13 AM
397	Both contribution and endowment to the community of this Library, and Mr. Fish's political ideology and influence regarding historic period in history regarding the Nazi ideology.	10/3/2023 9:19 AM
398	From Maddow's Ultra and subsequent library messaging, I am aware of his controversial positions on US involvement in WWII.	10/2/2023 8:08 PM
399	I know that he was an isolationist during the start of World War 2. I know that he was an influential congressman. I know that he and FDR did not share the same view on the United States entering the War.	10/2/2023 8:02 PM
400	Virulent isolationist and opponent of FDR. Borderline Nazi sympathizer, altho belatedly supported war effort after attack on Pearl Harbor.. Mixed later record on racism/civil rights.	10/2/2023 3:53 PM
401	Familiar with the family history. Clear on each of the HF. Listened to the podcast and understand the allegations.	10/2/2023 3:24 PM
402	During the period prior to US involvement in WWII, a number of elected officials allowed their franking privileges to be used to materials/propaganda which had a pro-Nazi tone. These materials were provided to the offices by an American citizen who was working on behalf of the Hitler regime to influence how Americans viewed potential involvement in WWII.	10/2/2023 1:31 PM
403	Only vaguely know about some accusations of sexual impropriety at work	10/2/2023 12:26 PM
404	Hamilton Fish was actively involved with attempting to dissuade the US government from entering WWI and was sympathetic to the Nazi movement.	10/2/2023 8:57 AM
405	News and local comments	10/2/2023 8:42 AM
406	He was a Nazi sympathizer and a supporter of facism. As a senator, he was investigated for his close ties to Nazi Germany and used his office to spread nazi propoganda.	10/2/2023 8:10 AM
407	Prominent politician and philanthropist on the national level.	10/2/2023 8:00 AM
408	While there are many positives about his legacy, it is disturbing that he spoke at a rally where Nazi flags were in evidence. He also allowed his office to be used for distributing Nazi propoganda. Even though he claimed he was not aware of such behavior it was his responsibility to monitor whatever went on in his office.	10/2/2023 7:51 AM
409	Anti Semitic remarks	10/2/2023 6:53 AM
410	Troubles with his politics and lifestyle choices, so much so that it overshadows his philanthropic historic benefit (ie. we should remove his name to avoid ongoing harm).	10/2/2023 6:36 AM
411	He was a slave owner	10/2/2023 12:48 AM

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412	That Fish was a Nazi sympathizer and may have have been affiliated with the Nazi party.	10/1/2023 10:44 PM
413	Right wing Republican.	10/1/2023 8:22 PM
414	He was a Nazi sympathizer	10/1/2023 5:48 PM
415	Active politically early 1930's through early 40's. Was an isolationists and against support for England until Pearl Harbor, then supported war effort. Have spoken at rallies where Nazis were present but was against persecution of Jews in Germany. Was target of British campaign because of his stand against sending arms before the war. He a Roosevelt did not like each other.	10/1/2023 4:47 PM
416	I know broadly about the family. Knew he was a Republican as Republicans used to be. I know about his involvement with Nazis and I have heard about his defense of African Americans. I find the questionable use of franking Privileges particularly galling Many anti Communists were anti semites.	10/1/2023 3:58 PM
417	Some connection to the Nazis	10/1/2023 2:39 PM
418	Allegations of anti-Semitism. Substantial information about real situation has been provided by library	10/1/2023 1:35 PM
419	That he was a patrician who had a long and distinguished career including military service in WWI, could be a difficult person on a personal basis (e.g., divorce from Alice Desmond), was initially fiercely opposed to US participation in WWII, detested FDR and the New Deal, and said and did some questionable (at best) things in the run-up to Pearl Harbor.	10/1/2023 8:12 AM

## Q8 Why do you say that?

Answered: 521 Skipped: 0

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Alice Desmond and Hamilton Fish privately paid for this library, and generously endowed it. Hamilton Fish III had his faults, but everyone has faults. He also did many good works and was still speaking on what he thought was best for the country at age 100!	11/6/2023 12:34 PM
2	Alice Desmond wanted his name on it when she founded it, with her money. It was her call. Also, the Confederate statues in the South were meant to and did terrorize the Black population. I may be wrong but I don't think the name Fish is striking fear into anyone's heart here in Garrison. Angering some maybe but not terrorizing.	11/6/2023 12:25 PM
3	We must consider the times he lived in. Many Americans felt the way he did. If you look at history many leaders in politics, business, and the military have a tainted past. Most followed what they felt was right. We should learn from history and not pretend it didn't occur. We have to stop knocking down statues and recognize their contributions and try to understand and forgive their mistakes. We should learn from their mistakes and misjudgments not destroy them. Leaders good and bad made this country great and we shouldn't destroy their memory. Learning from history the good and bad will help us make better decisions in the future.	11/6/2023 12:18 PM
4	No response.	11/6/2023 12:07 PM
5	No response	11/6/2023 11:54 AM
6	To eliminate public recognition of a hateful ideologue.	11/6/2023 11:51 AM
7	Ham Fish's Nazi affiliations.	11/6/2023 11:47 AM
8	We don't feel it accomplishes anything to change it.	11/4/2023 11:23 PM
9	I like the current name.	11/4/2023 11:15 PM
10	I say that because I do not believe that his behavior rises to the level of being called an anti-semitic, especially in the context of his entire life's work.	11/4/2023 4:31 PM
11	Unless there are similar discoveries about Desmond, I am not sure why we wouldn't keep her name on the library and just remove Fish.	11/4/2023 3:40 PM
12	I believe that it is important to re-assess the historical legacies we pass on through the generations, and that includes the naming and dedications of institutions and monuments. In light of this, given the history in question, I feel a name change would be appropriate.	11/4/2023 1:11 PM
13	I'm going to love the library no matter the name	11/4/2023 12:03 PM
14	Fish was not only close with Viereck, but with Friedrich Auhagen, and West's British Intelligence in the Americas also reveals that Fish accepted money for unclear purposes from the Nazi agent G. Hansen-Sturm. It beggars belief that someone who associated with such a wide array of American fascists and nativists, with so many Nazi connections - Fish, after all, was the one who introduced Viereck to Hill (and aware enough of wrongdoing that he suggested Prescott Dennet as a middleman) - remained blissfully unaware of the deeds done around him or even in his name. Were he as catastrophically ignorant as he claimed, he still bears responsibility for that blindness. And he was *not* blind to Jewish suffering in Europe; he condemned it over and over at the same time he and his office offered active aid to the people perpetrating that suffering, even confirming that he knew (or suspected) that Germany's aim was Jewish extinction *before continuing to support a policy favorable to — if not dictated by — that same nation*. I do not find persuasive the idea that the Pelley mailing was manufactured by the BSC. Absent any real evidence in favor of this theory, only conjecture based on what they "might" have done and things looking "fishy" (and I see nothing in Fish's history to support taking him at his word), we have a transcript of Fish's own words which he did not dispute (merely their subsequent use out of context, though I would submit that even in context, they are damning), and ample records that Fish knew Pelley and permitted him to use his frank, as Troncone describes: "While he did know him and allowed him the use of his frank,	11/3/2023 11:24 PM

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Fish did not consider the Silver Shirt official a friend. Though both were nationalists, Fish felt uncomfortable with the Silver Shirt's virulent anti-Semitism. Nevertheless, Fish considered him a useful ally in the crusade against war." This, to me, is a apt summary of Fish's failures: I do believe that Fish had genuine moral feelings in regards to the welfare of the Jews of Europe, as he did for Black Americans, but it seems quite clear that for Fish, ethics never stood in the way of personal gain, political advantage, and spite for those against whom he had vendettas. The Fish Committee hearings, built on a foundation of racism and antisemitism, contextualized the conversation about communism in America as one about Jews in America (and thus about Jews as one about communists), and in its "tacit recognition" of the Protocols, contributed to the perception in the American consciousness of the impossibility of Jewish loyalty to America, or even that Jews could be fully American — a position Fish explicitly held as far back as 1922, when he advocated for the Zionist theft of Palestinian land in order to stem Jewish immigration and preserve the national character by slamming the doors on Jews. Whether or not Fish personally harbored ill feelings toward Jews — apart from a vague distrust, I don't see real evidence either way — his actions quite clearly contributed to racially-motivated hatred toward Jews, and echo to the present day. One cannot insult an antisemite at dinner and claim to be a champion of Jews, when one's career has been so profoundly consistent in affirming or inspiring the beliefs that that antisemite carries. In this, in his advocacy for appeasement of Hitler, even in his later support for Reagan and perplexing support for the Gulf War — and in a clear instance of domestic abuse toward Alice Desmond mentioned by Professor Troncone — Fish seemed bafflingly committed to the wrong side of history.

15	The people who want to change it are virtue-signaling. It is very easy to criticize a person's life and choices in hindsight. Who among us is perfect? Many, many people were taken with Hitler in the beginning before his true mission became obvious. In the end, Hamilton Fish was all for defeating Hilter and Nazi Germany. This correcting of history after it has happened is short-sighted. We need to preserve our history in order to learn from it. We should continue to honor a life well-lived and Hamilton's Fish generosity and foresight in investing in the cornerstone of life in Garrison. We should continue to appreciate Ham Fish and his contribution to our town instead of trying to cancel him. We all have astericks beside our name. I have used this library for over 30 years and have greatly appreciated it. If not for Hamilton Fish, it would not have been here in the first place. I say, continue to appreciate his contribution by keeping the name the same.	11/3/2023 7:52 PM
16	From my comments #5	11/3/2023 5:42 PM
17	Can't give honor to someone who supports statements of the Nazis	11/3/2023 4:54 PM
18	It's a great name. The library is a beloved local institution and the virtue-signaling of a name change seems silly, and risks alienating the library's long-term supporters and donors.	11/2/2023 10:42 PM
19	The times that the alleged activities took place were complicated around the world due to historic events that grew out of the end of WWI, the great depression, the rise of communism, and major social upheavals globally. It is thought that one of the reason's FDR chose to embrace the social programs he undertook was to head off any revolutionary drift in the United States. Early in his rise to power it may not have been clear to such a staunch (maybe emotional) anti-communist as Fish the path that Hitler would pursue. Early on, perhaps any anti-communist was worth his sympathy. Late in his long and dedicated life, Fish never seemed to be a Nazi sympathizer when the truth of the horrors of Nazi-ism became clear. FDR made deals with Stalin, though we found later the number of bodies he (Stalin) was likely all-but-personally responsible for. He was anti-Nazi, though and , by then, that was the only criterion needed. Both Fish and FDR could be said to have made some compromises to combat what each considered the greatest threat to the United States. They may have made these compromises at different points on the time line of Adolf Hitler's role on the world's stage. But they don't make Fish a Nazi nor FDR a communist.	11/2/2023 10:07 PM
20	For me the library has always been a shelter, a safe place where education and community are prized. When you know better, you must do better, and while my family has always loved the name "DezFish," a far-right pro-fascism liar and traitor should not continue to have his name on this vital institution.	11/2/2023 6:59 PM
21	Apart from the obvious reason, the current name says nothing about where it is.	11/2/2023 6:52 PM
22	His personal life doesn't change the fact that he was the co-founder of this wonderful library. His name wasn't picked out of a hat like some other schools or institutions who choose a local citizen out of respect for their contribution to the community but may have no real connection	11/2/2023 5:57 PM

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to the building or or its function. From what I have seen on your website, it hasn't been proven that he was a Nazi sympathizer and he certainly achieved a lot of good in his career. It would not be fair to his son and grandchildren, who have also been dedicated, to eliminate his name. He's not the only Hamilton Fish associated with the library. It even appears that it might be illegal to eliminate his name, according to this website which emphasizes all the reasons why it should not be eliminated: <https://desmondfishlibrary.org/founding/> But I guess you have investigated that detail.

23	How DARE you try to change the name of the library that was DONATED and name for that donation. Why would anyone in the future donate ANYTHING if people like you can come in and find offense and change whatever they want when they want. I am outraged that this survey is even out there. As it is, the library was NEVER supposed to take public money and you've pushed that through as well. If you change the name I will never donate anything to this library!	11/2/2023 4:57 PM
24	Dismantling his name solves nothing.	11/2/2023 3:10 PM
25	We must judge a person based on their entire lifetime of actions and opinions. I would rather see the library keep its current name and dedicate a permanent exhibit explaining Fish's opinions and actions, giving historical context, and explaining how we now view this today. It's important for our community to understand the man and not put him on a pedestal. I would not want to see reparations come from the Library's income obtained via tax-payer funds. It's not for today's Philipstown taxpayers to make reparative actions for Fish III.	11/2/2023 2:39 PM
26	Maybe call it the Alice Curtis Desmond-Fish Library. From what I've learned, I don't believe he was antisemitic. However I don't think this hot button issue will go away anytime soon--perhaps the above could be a useful compromise.	11/2/2023 2:18 PM
27	Cancelling history distorts. First, Knowing the positive and negative makeup of influential persons of the past is important because it allows us to judge the past for ourselves, rather than leaving it to others to make those judgments for us. Second, attempting to perfect history retroactively is not a useful endeavor--better to see fully how and why people acted as they did so we can emulate their positive contributions to society and avoid their mistakes.	11/2/2023 2:09 PM
28	Alice Curtis Desmond should at least be a part of the new name	11/2/2023 1:32 PM
29	Hamilton Fish and Alice Desmond spent hours and hours planning the library. They approached my father, William Osborn and asked him to donate and sell the library the land. They created the not for profit 501c3 They chose an architect and a grounds person. They talked long and often about how t would be a community resource for local families and children. They held several fund raising dinners. I was invited to Alice Desmond's house probably ten times to discuss the services the library would provide. Ham was often there and while he was more interested in his family legacy, he also liked the idea of a library for the community. He encouraged his then wife to give money as endowment for the library and he hired people to comb through his collections to see what might or might not be valuable for the library. He talked with the architect just about every day and it was his vision that made the library look the way it does today.	11/2/2023 1:28 PM
30	Changing the name does not erase the history.	11/2/2023 12:06 PM
31	these are the times-- the library is a critical resource to the town and it is important that we recognize the impact that the name has on others	11/2/2023 10:58 AM
32	No one is perfect but is a mix of qualities. We have currency with pictures of slate owners, towns, cities and states named after important imperfect people, and I would venture that even the most venerated among us have made mistakes or taken foolish positions.	11/2/2023 10:53 AM
33	The Library is a significant legacy for the greater good. I don't feel Hamilton Fish should be definitively judged by one aspect of his biography. I found his grandson's letter to the Currents editor to be persuasive argument for keeping the name as is.	11/2/2023 10:41 AM
34	The world is complicated and I don't believe in cancel culture. What was acceptable then is not acceptable now, however, that does not take away from the great things people did. We should learn from the lessons of history to teach, not to erase.	11/2/2023 10:40 AM
35	I feel that the name should be retained because we are talking about events of 80+years ago and who can really know what had occurred. At that time the US government denied knowledge of the atrocities that occurred in Europe during that time so we cannot assume Mr Fish was	11/2/2023 10:06 AM

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aware. From discussions with friends and neighbors the first thing they think of when they hear "nazi sympathizer" is the holocaust. Although I condemn the atrocities of WWII I we cannot assume that Mr Fish had knowledge of and supported this. Maybe he was misguided in his support of the nazi government but I do not see how that in any way supports the removal of his name(and his wife's) from the library. When we see the crimes and antics of today's government officials this pales in comparison.

36	Can't change History- He is a man of honour	11/2/2023 9:51 AM
37	Why are we still having this conversation, change the name already!	11/2/2023 9:49 AM
38	There is other important work to do on the community and the world than get bogged down in a name change	11/2/2023 9:49 AM
39	Alice Beardsley Curtis Desmond was married for a relatively brief period to H. Fish III (1976-1984). This occurred, obviously, long after the War, but it strikes me that the prime mover and principal philanthropist in the pair was A.B.C. I suggest a name that highlights her contribution, rather than one that shares it equally with her second husband of 'brief tenure.'	11/2/2023 9:43 AM
40	He was a nazi sympathizer but later retracted this, I believe?	11/2/2023 9:35 AM
41	We should not support anti-semites.	11/2/2023 9:32 AM
42	Although there is some shade in his past, I believe we can learn from it rather than erasing it	11/2/2023 9:29 AM
43	Ham fish's name needs to go	11/2/2023 9:22 AM
44	H. Fish was a product of the times. We can't ignore history.	11/2/2023 9:09 AM
45	Alice Desmond Fish was the true founder and deserves to have her name on the library	11/2/2023 9:08 AM
46	Keep Alice Curtis Desmond. Remove Hamilton Fish due to his support of Hitler and anti-semitism.	11/2/2023 9:08 AM
47	I think that the subsequent generations of the Fish family have served our community and the Fish name and association is affiliated in people's minds with the whole family. Also, changing the name doesn't change the history, and the history is what it is.	11/2/2023 9:07 AM
48	I don't want our wonderful library to have to deal with criticism and distract from the mission. I'm torn because I don't want to give in to cancel culture, but feel like a name change would just avoid the distraction of the discussion.	11/2/2023 9:06 AM
49	Out Country needs yo keep our history...the bad as good as the bad even if it is proven true. Taking names off of buildings or removing statues hides the truth (sometimes it isn't the truth) and ends any conversations that may prove to be needed.	11/2/2023 9:04 AM
50	Out Country needs yo keep our history...the bad as good as the bad even if it is proven true. Taking names off of buildings or removing statues hides the truth (sometimes it isn't the truth) and ends any conversations that may prove to be needed.	11/2/2023 9:03 AM
51	I always heard that the library was really Alice Curtis Desmond's project, and that it was paid for with her personal funds. I think I'd be inclined to support renaming it for her. Also, the library recently modified its name by adding "Public" but I don't see that above, I assume the trustees would like to keep that part of the mission clear.	11/2/2023 9:00 AM
52	Let he who is blameless cast the first stone. Enough already. He did something generous AND he made an error in judgment at one point in his life. Both are true. This is probably true of many people. Just say so, for those who are care to know.	11/2/2023 8:55 AM
53	Names of public institutions are used as symbols of pride and reverence. It is important that those names demonstrate community values. Seems to me, that the current name holds controversial and divisive sentiment. A new name could be a way for the community to come together and relook at values.	11/2/2023 8:52 AM
54	Library funded in his honor	11/2/2023 8:46 AM
55	Don't let a minority influence the decision!	11/2/2023 8:38 AM
56	Was Desmond involved in Anti-semitism ? Then keep her name.	11/2/2023 8:34 AM
57	It's important to bear the weight of the name and understand that people may feel the need to	11/2/2023 8:27 AM

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express feelings about HFIII but the library is a source of information and it should be a neutral organization that strives to keep information in the hands of its community and allow them to decide how they feel about people, places and controversial things. The library can then focus on reparative justice in their programing and outreach in the community they serve.

58	No need to honor this individual	11/2/2023 8:21 AM
59	The community has accepted their gift and funding. Much of the information on the history was known then. It's not right to change the name.	11/2/2023 8:17 AM
60	I want my community library to feel inclusive	11/2/2023 8:12 AM
61	For the last 11 years of his long life, Hamilton Fish III devoted many hours and resources to the library he and Alice Desmond had built in 1980. He wanted it to be a place of learning and a place where the legacy of his family would be honored. His extended family has also selflessly dedicated time and money and other resources to keeping the library open and helping it grow. I believe that contribution should continue to be honored. The research I have done shows that he was loyal to his country and to his party. He paid a high price for his relationship with George Viereck and George Hill - the one a master manipulator and the other a weak person motivated by greed. To me this is not sufficient reason to remove his name from the library.	11/1/2023 11:51 PM
62	While Ham Fish III is my great grandfather, the other half of my family is Jewish, and I don't really think there's any way to excuse his anti-semitic actions. I'm proud of many of his accomplishments, but I don't see any reason to be promoting his [now] nationally soiled name when we have 3 other Hamilton Fish's that have much cleaner records and who in many ways made greater contributions towards society. The first Hamilton Fish would be a great choice given that he lived right there at the Garrison Institute and was Governor of NY, and my grandfather Ham IV had a pretty impressive record on civil rights and social justice issues.	11/1/2023 10:55 PM
63	I believe what Fish did through his statements, actions, and inactions helped to legitimize and further the cause of Nazism and anti-Semitism by giving his imprimatur to Nazi and anti-Semitic associates and events. To give him a pass is to downplay Nazism and anti-Semitism at a time when these sentiments are dangerously on the rise. The name on a public library, like a public statue, puts a person on a pedestal, and makes people who are marginalized by what that person symbolizes feel excluded and unwelcome. I don't think Fish III belongs on a pedestal, I don't think he represents the library's current values, and I believe a library's name should reflect its values.	11/1/2023 4:37 PM
64	I appreciate the due diligence conducted at the library and find keeping the name the best option.	11/1/2023 2:55 PM
65	nnnbnnn	11/1/2023 1:55 PM
66	Pretty obvious. Why celebrate someone who was supportive of genocide.	11/1/2023 12:54 PM
67	I do not think a public building/organization should be named after someone who worked against our government	11/1/2023 11:42 AM
68	The whole thing is not clear and we run the risk of doing something hurtful - kind of similar to what we are accusing him of.	11/1/2023 8:31 AM
69	We could change the name to the Adolf Hitler Sympathizer Memorial Library. Let us remember, when Fish was working with Nazi Germany's operatives here in America Fish knew who they represented and every educated person knew what the Nazis were about.	11/1/2023 12:33 AM
70	Hamilton Fish III was not a perfect person, but he lead a life that embodied the pursuit of life and care for others that a young man like myself admire and look to emulate. I think his life work and commitment to the United States has been well documented and is worthy of keeping his name on the library.	10/31/2023 11:56 PM
71	This great man and his legacy are being attacked by Democrats for political purposes. This man did not have an anti-semitic bone in his body and served the Hudson Valley proudly. It would be a real shame if the library gave in to pressure from some few individuals with an Agenda. I feel strongly that Hamilton Fish III would be standing with Israel now during this very difficult time. I can't say the same about many of my Democrat friends. Removing his name is a large statement and is an attempt to smear this man after he died with ludicrous accusations being thrown around. This was a great American	10/31/2023 8:59 PM
72	I respect the honoring and remembrance of the library founders through use of their names. I	10/31/2023 7:28 PM

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am not convinced by the arguments presented by Rachel Maddow in her podcasts due to much inuendo and assumptions, and my assumption of partisan reporting by the Washington Post (based on my long experience with this newspaper).

73	Because he is the great patriot.	10/31/2023 6:45 PM
74	He is a founder of the library and a good man who has served his country and his fellow man all his life. It appears he has, unfortunately, been inappropriately maligned by those with their own agenda. It would be regrettable if the library were to lose its historical identity because of untruth.	10/31/2023 4:56 PM
75	After researching both sides of the argument of Hamilton Fish III's tenure as congressman, I do not believe that changing the name of the library is justified or warranted. Congressman Fish stood up for the rights of Jews and African Americans throughout his career. Changing the name of the library would be an injustice to his name, efforts and contributions that he made in bringing greater rights and equities to the Jewish and Black communities, whether through his appearances, speeches or proposed legislation.	10/31/2023 4:55 PM
76	I am a life time friend of a family member of Hamilton Fish. I believe he is a good and decent man and served his country with distinction.	10/31/2023 4:30 PM
77	I believe my grandfather did good things. He died when I was very young, so I cannot address the allegations regarding his shortcomings from experience. And I don't even agree with his politics, but I am proud of some of his more notable works (such as his role in the establishment of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier). He loved New York and I would hate to see his legacy there erased.	10/31/2023 3:40 PM
78	I will do more research.	10/31/2023 2:25 PM
79	To simplify the name and put the kerfuffle to rest. This is how I list the library in my contacts and how I think of it. The donors are long gone and it was given to the community of Garrison. Perhaps the portraits and their rooms could remain.	10/31/2023 2:16 PM
80	Even though Fish disgraced himself and his family name by being a Nazi fellow traveler and by his red baiting and his sleazy political opportunism, his actions during the First World War in organizing the NY 15th (later the US 369th) and in supporting, defending, and promoting the African-American troops is an opportunity for the library that would be squandered by a simple name change. Pages 44-69 of the Troncone dissertation lay out the details of Fish's astonishing actions in the face of a hostile and racist War Department.	10/31/2023 1:16 PM
81	Hamilton Fish III represents the best of what a public figure can be. He served his country in war and politics with the desire to uphold and protect America at home and abroad. He is a person of distinction lending honor and pride to the library credibility and pride to the library.	10/31/2023 11:48 AM
82	Although I do not believe HFIII was pro-Nazi or an antisemite based on the evidence on I read, I am deeply troubled by the fact that HFIII was fully aware of Nazi Germany's morals and its plans to wipe out the Jews. Despite knowing this, HF III continued to advocate for appeasement with Germany. In this regard, he was deeply insensitive to the plight of millions of Jews in order to advance his political agenda.	10/31/2023 10:18 AM
83	Because the current name is tainted by its historical association.	10/31/2023 6:38 AM
84	This isn't a statue that others 100 years after the fact erected for someone else. This edifice is something created by Mr. Fish to pass knowledge along. Some of the knowledge may not be flattering to him. The information has been made available and people can draw their own conclusions.	10/31/2023 12:16 AM
85	The slander by Rachel Maddow, of Representative Hamilton Fish III and his wife, Alice Curtis Desmond is motivated by her personal agenda to create a narrative of America as a racist, homophobic, and fascist nation.	10/30/2023 8:39 PM
86	No reason to change the name of a public library named after a true American patriot.	10/30/2023 8:37 PM
87	Hamilton Fish fought for civil rights.	10/30/2023 6:37 PM
88	The explanation given by Rachel Maddox is way off to connect anything that Hamilton Fish did in the past to the Jan. 6th event in DC. I know that she is just trying to defame a righteous man who stood up for good principles and ideas during the time that he lived. She has no basis in reality. I know a member of the Hamilton Fish family and they have shared what he actually	10/30/2023 5:47 PM

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did in his lifetime and how many know that he never was antisemitic and overall, stood for a God-loving democratic society. There are no clear reasons that HFIII's name should be taken off the library.

89	SHORTEN NAME TO DESMOND FISH PUBLIC LIBRARY AS YOU HAVE ON LETTERHEAD --DESMOND WAS MRS FISH - WAS IT HER CHOICE TO HAVE ALICE CURTIS DESMOND IN THE NAME OF THE LIBRARY? WAS SHE	10/30/2023 5:22 PM
90	We don't feel it is appropriate, especially after having read Alice Desmond's personal account of her relationship and nearly 50 year marriage to Tom Desmond as compared to her second brief 7 year marriage to Fish ("I divorced him"), to continue to associate Fish's name with the library, which, in her book, seems as an idea to have grown out of her relationship which Desmond, and which, as we have been led to believe, was largely financed by her. The fact that likely Tom Desmond lived in Newburgh and Fish was from Garrison should be considered irrelevant.	10/30/2023 3:16 PM
91	I think our community library should be a space dedicated to inviting the public in and not be named for a divisive political figure who was sympathetic to fascism and Nazism. We can do better.	10/30/2023 3:08 PM
92	We learn from history if you erase it you lose an opportunity to Compare past standards or morals to current ideas. If social justice Requires cancellation of names, perhaps you should next Target the Democratic National Party for it's support for slavery, Jim Crow Laws, my Klux Klan and not supporting the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Erasure of history becomes addictive to the tyrants who Find themselves in power.	10/30/2023 2:52 PM
93	In addition to renaming, also take reparative actions. Keeping the current name while also taking reparative actions seems contraindicated.	10/30/2023 2:30 PM
94	We should study history to learn from past mistakes, not obliterate the history. Using current (possibly ephemeral) standards alone to judge actions of a different era with different standards ignores the historical context in which individuals had to make choices for their beliefs and actions.	10/30/2023 12:42 PM
95	Things shouldn't necessarily be changed based on current sensibilities to the total exclusion of other positive aspects	10/30/2023 10:13 AM
96	The founding and dedication of the library by the Fish family should not be forgotten, but remembered as a representative and model of service and sacrifice for the public.	10/30/2023 9:57 AM
97	Hamilton Fish served his country extensively in good faith. He was a man of his times. He bears credit for his deeds that have stood the test of time (military service in WWI and U.S. Congressman) and the misfortune of bad judgments (his alleged antisemitism and willingness to countenance the Fascism.) All evidence suggests he grew as a human being and a public servant over his long career. His public service in all its dimensions should be explained in clear format to the community and become part of the Library's legacy. To change the name of the library would sacrifice a rich legacy that cannot be replaced.	10/30/2023 7:54 AM
98	I find the one-sided attitude of Rachel Maddow who is at the root of this issue to be unacceptable. What justifies her choice to "expose" Hamilton Fish and Hamilton Fish alone? Less we forget, until Hitler invaded Poland in June 1941, the Communist Party USA, consistently in its rallies and in its publications, lobbied against US involvement against Germany to preserve the August 1939 Molotov–Ribbentrop Pact of non-aggression between the Nazis and the Soviets. The Soviets knew of Hitler's hate for Jews and yet befriended him. There was a conscious alliance between Hitler and Stalin until Hitler opened his second front. *** Also FDR is not without blame. Unlike FDR, Fish did not propose to solve what he described as the "Jewish problem" by scattering small numbers of Jews in tiny enclaves across the country. Unlike FDR, as antisemitic hate grew overseas, he did not assert that "the Jews should keep quiet." FDR, like Hamilton Fish, I conclude, had bad actors around him. That does not mean that he should be canceled. Hamilton Fish was not antisemitic nor did he maintain friendships and associations with people who became known to him as such. His years on the battlefield had shown him that patriotism transcends religion, ethnicity, and race.	10/30/2023 1:27 AM
99	He helped found it.	10/29/2023 10:54 PM
100	The library should not be associated with an individual who supported Hitler. It stands in as a reminder to those who had loved ones who perished. It would be the same blatant slap in the face to African Americans if the library was named Robert E. Lee.	10/29/2023 9:05 PM

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101	Because if it offends anyone, I think it should stand. I don't think the Fish name is important to the work of the library or necessarily draws people in, and therefore I don't think it's necessary for the library to fight for it. The history of the institution can still be preserved and celebrated but the library needs to pivot to a more public facing organization now that it collects public tax dollars.	10/29/2023 3:24 PM
102	Because we should not erase history.	10/29/2023 1:41 PM
103	The library has been wonderful and is no longer connected to the person who sent out the pro Hitler information.	10/29/2023 1:00 PM
104	Because it's already a fact in history so why would we change it?	10/29/2023 11:25 AM
105	Erasing names isn't the answer. It's more important for the library to use this to educate and put correct context; paint the complicated detail to the histories of lives that matter. Layer, do not erase	10/29/2023 10:56 AM
106	Hamilton Fish III was not a perfect person, however, I do not believe that anything he did rises to the level of being canceled for any reason.	10/29/2023 9:58 AM
107	Part of the community history.	10/28/2023 9:24 PM
108	Do we really know all the facts and his point of view that lead him to 'become' a Nazi sympathizer? It's part of history, and we can certainly talk and improve upon the past, but not rewrite it. Thomas Jefferson had hundreds of slaves, he also wrote the Declaration of Independence, should we consider revising the document? cancel culture is getting out of hand!	10/28/2023 4:06 PM
109	Because the facts dispute the claim.	10/28/2023 3:30 PM
110	PLEASE keep history in history I do not believe we should change or ignore our history We have moved on as a nation and are aware of our shortcomings of our ancestors and may not have the same beliefs that they had so many years ago.	10/28/2023 2:16 PM
111	I know some of the current Fish family members and understand that the Fish lineage is quite pro-American and Patriotic A	10/27/2023 7:44 PM
112	I see no reason to ever change the name, especially since Hamilton Fish III was a great patriot.	10/27/2023 7:39 PM
113	If we named our institutions only after perfect people there would be none named after people. Cancel culture is taking over. Pick another name and someone will find a flaw in that too.	10/27/2023 2:04 PM
114	I am a retired journalist (40 years) and I saw a transcript of Rachel Maddow's program. It is well-researched and quite interesting, but it also has a fatal flaw: Ms. Maddow is ascribing knowledge from the late 1940s-1950s to people, including Mr. Fish, who acted in the 1930s and early 1940s. This critical mistake means the program cannot accurately explain why people acted as they did at the time. And motivation matters. The truth is that the residual fog of the Great War in the 1930s and early 1940s obscured all things Nazi, especially overseas. The world knew that Hitler was enthusiastically appointed as Germany's chancellor in 1933. The world knew (via The New York Times) that Hitler was mentioned for the 1940 Nobel Peace Prize. Hitler was popular and admired on some US college campuses, and was presented to the public, via The New York Times, as a "quiet" intellectual, a great orator, and a leader who would bring economic revival to Europe and "unite" democracies. Barely a whiff of evil could be sensed back then. My recent historical reading confirmed what I learned in high school: Before World War II, people in US and elsewhere didn't know what to think about Hitler, and they certainly had no idea how malevolent Hitler would become. So, when Maddow ignores this "timing" and treats Members of Congress as if they knew they were helping an evil regime in the 1930s/early 1940s, she is doing her own historical revisions (e.g., shaping the narrative to publicize a particular view, in this case that Members of Congress deliberately aided and abetted the "evil" Hitler. This is untrue and an unethical journalistic tactic known as "sensationalism." The truth is that Mr. Fish's actions fit with his documented mindset that he, a World War I veteran, wanted to prevent US military personnel from dying again on European soil, and he therefore did all he could to try to preserve peace with the Powers that Be in Germany and Europe. Since Mr. Fish didn't know how evil Hitler and his Nazi Party were, he can't be accused of anything more than (colossal) poor judgment and a blind willingness to believe Nazi promises of peace. Regarding Mr. Fish: I have been told that when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941, Mr. Fish immediately abandoned his previous stances	10/27/2023 1:21 PM

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and wholeheartedly supported US as part of the Allies Forces in World War II. I didn't see that Maddow's program addressed Mr. Fish's subsequent regret at helping the Nazi Party, but I suspect that is in your library records. Mr. Fish was a man of honor and notable works, such as creating the legislation for the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. It is actually unconscionable that the board of the library he founded with Alice C. Desmond would consider erasing his name (and tossing the Fish family papers?) over a fatally flawed program by a modern journalist.

115	I believe the library should keep it present name because Desmond Fish is the founder of the Library. Should we remove the name of any artist from its creation because they spoke words we consider morally wrong? Even if history shows words spoken by an individual at some point in his life to be wrongful does not mean they were his thoughts at the end of his life. Often times history proves us wrong. Perhaps rather than accusing a man for things said in the past focus on the good he has actually done ...for example creating the library! to say nothing of the fact that he served the country in WWI, in fact, captaining the two thousand black soldiers known as the (U.S.) 369th Infantry or creating the tomb of the unknown soldier to honor all war dead whose remains have not been found or identified. The impetus for doing that alone speaks volumes to the heart of the man.	10/27/2023 9:15 AM
116	As an isolationist, he was a product of his times. Even though he used his position to understand the German government and went there and needed to be brought to Oslo in a German/Nazi plane, was he a Nazi? From what I've read, I haven't seen evidence that he was. Was he naive? Maybe. Was he stupid? Maybe. History is repeating itself clearly at this very moment. I believe people can draw parallels from Fish's time to ours. Annihilation of the Jews, then and now, is the goal. The Library can help make the connections for people.	10/27/2023 9:10 AM
117	I think it's critical to retain our full history and interpret it. Tell the full story. Understand context and ways we have grown and changed. Learn from our mistakes.	10/26/2023 10:47 PM
118	Although I do not believe that everyone who may have done things in their life that were objectionable should have negative consequences (e.g. removal of a name on a school, a statue removed, etc.) we should look at their character and contributions to society overall and the times that these things were done. Desmond Fish III did some very honorable things in his life, however being an isolationist during a time where innocent people were being slaughtered because of their religion and although apparently not a member of the Nazi party, he closed his eyes to what was going on in his own office with his staff. As the leader of that district, he should have take responsibility for what went on in his office and at rallies he attended and the appearance of supporting the horrific acts of the Nazi party.	10/26/2023 7:46 PM
119	It's a good resource for the community created from the kindness and wealth of a benefactor of said community.	10/26/2023 6:39 PM
120	Maintain the history	10/26/2023 5:19 PM
121	HV III was a congressman following the mood of his constituency in the county he represented where isolationism and supremacy existed. As Commander of the Harlem Hellfighters during WWI, he gained huge respect for his unit was distressed at the lack of support and recognition was received by Congress and the U.S. compared to the rest of the Army. He became a staunch supporter of NAACP. At his funeral at West Point, my husband I observed how many African Americans were in attendance to honor him. The Congressional Record reflects Mr. Fish's Resolution 19 protesting the persecution and repression of Jews in Germany. In his Memoirs he talked about reporting to the State Department about the mass destruction of Jews in Germany with the hope that the State Department would allow refugees into the U.S. to be told that the State Department had no evidence of this. There are letters from local Rabbis thanking Rep. Fish for his support for the Jews in Europe and for establishing the State of Israel. In his later years, his wife Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Fish III established a fund that would building the library as it stands today, with an endowment that currently represent's 50% of the Library's budget.	10/26/2023 4:49 PM
122	Innuendos are not reality. Should not vilify on innuendo. Should pursue truth and react with balance.	10/26/2023 12:31 PM
123	. Please note: my response to question 7, above is "modify the current name," but I also would have selected "be renamed with a new name," but it was not possible to check 2 boxes.HF's name should no longer be part of the DFPL name. The current name of the library should be removed or modified because of actions taken by HF and/or his congressional staff in HF's name related to support of Nazi Germany and anti-Semitism. While the evidence is not	10/26/2023 12:30 PM

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definitive, DFPL is not a court of law or a judge. And even though there is evidence to the contrary (e.g. HF's 1922 support for Jewish state, supporting US involvement in WWII after 12/7/41 and 1933 resolution opposing German government mistreatment of Jews), the overall body of evidence suggests sympathy with the Nazi government and anti-Semitic literature distributed by his office, for which he should be accountable. DFPL as a highly regarded community institution that should, by its actions, reflect values that are important to this community, especially at this time with well-documented trending increases in hate and anti-Semitism. (see "other thoughts" question 13) .

124	No one is perfect.	10/26/2023 12:10 PM
125	The name is awkward.	10/26/2023 11:06 AM
126	There wouldn't be a library in Garrison without him.	10/26/2023 10:38 AM
127	There is no good reason NOT to change the name!	10/25/2023 10:37 PM
128	Many great people made mistakes but this is one he should've avoided.	10/25/2023 5:59 PM
129	I believe that it is not wise to try to look back on people of the past and judge them by the standards of today. Hamilton Fish III was a staunch patriot and condemned antisemitism in resolutions and public statements. I have learned that he also was a supporter of African-American soldiers and led a squadron of them during WWI. His Congressional service was exemplary and I think it is wrong to ignore all that he did for this country because of perhaps unwise loyalties to friends during the 1930s when those friends were using him for their own greedy purposes (George Hill, in particular).	10/25/2023 3:33 PM
130	It's an opportunity to learn history. Hamilton Fish was a patriot and flawed human being. Kids and adults need to hear history that resonates — stories about people that lived where they live and did some amazing things and made big mistakes and maybe understand why.	10/25/2023 11:54 AM
131	The library should proudly state its history based on fact and not succumb to Maddow's prejudice.	10/25/2023 10:15 AM
132	It's silly to me that someone who supported our area and "did good" gets canceled for not realizing what the world would think of it 50 years from now. We all make mistakes. We are all human. You should go down in history for the kind of person you were not negated because you were open to what was familiar at the time.	10/25/2023 10:13 AM
133	Though some people believe the history of Mr. Fish places a shadow over the library, it is important to allow for evolution. Historically, the library has worked to embrace the best parts of the Fish legacy. In the future, the library can be a focal point for better understanding and continued discussions about how we move forward as a community that supports all beliefs and ideas.	10/25/2023 9:17 AM
134	The Fish family decedents are not following in their predecessors infamous foot steps. They have continued Alice Curtis Desmond's vision and support for our library. I see both sides of this issue and support each.	10/25/2023 3:40 AM
135	I just read the history just now. It is an opportunity to name the library as a community , knowing what we now know.	10/24/2023 9:29 PM
136	I think it would be a good time now that taxpayers contribute a good amount to the library to simply call it the Garrison Library, have at least one elected board member (so that there is no taxation without representation). And to keep the name on the building - as that is history, much as Carnegie's name is on so many libraries still but they are called by their geographical names now. And .... to have some historical information inside about Alice (who I think is not really recognized as the major founder) and Hamilton Fish III. The good and the bad. I think if you decide to keep the name now this controversy could easily resurface later, maybe much later and the library would have to go through a whole questioning process again. Why not just accept that public money now might be more in the future and that a public library name feels more inclusive and less precious, and frankly classist. Special families and all that. I know that naming something brings in a lot of money. But real gifts are anonymous. And publicly funded institutions should acknowledge the public. Just6 moving on would sidestep really difficult decisions.	10/24/2023 8:45 PM
137	Educate the present, don't eradicate the past. We can't reach history if we continue to erase statues, names of libraries, bridges and tunnels. This is short sites and cowardly. These same	10/24/2023 8:23 PM

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people fought for the Country we enjoy today. Without these figures in history we would be speaking German or Japanese.

138	No one is perfect.	10/24/2023 7:12 PM
139	Fish and Desmond did donate the funding for the library. But a Nazi sympathizer should not be allowed to keep the honor of having the main community institution named for him.	10/24/2023 5:17 PM
140	I believe the name should be kept but outreach and education about that time period and why Fish and others may have taken the stands they did are very important for people to understand.	10/24/2023 2:08 PM
141	We cannot continue to apologize for anti-democratic acts and sympathies to antisemitic regimes. We are not "tearing down any institutions" by changing the name - we can easily have a small section of the library dedicated to him and all the horrible things he did and represented if we want to still honor him because he lived here. By not changing the name, we are telling our Jewish friends and neighbors that we are not willing to deal directly with antisemitism and they are not supported.	10/24/2023 11:16 AM
142	I think it would be an insult to a patriotic American to remove his name from the library. I'm sure it would also entail a good deal of expense, which I think would be a waste.	10/23/2023 11:09 PM
143	If the Cleveland Indians can do it...	10/23/2023 10:29 PM
144	Several prominent institutions have been renamed due to negative associations that their namesakes have.	10/23/2023 7:39 PM
145	Hamilton Fish served our country and our community and appears to be maligned recently through misinformation.	10/23/2023 7:11 PM
146	I do not think we need to change the names of organizations (such as Des-Fish and Audubon) to make the point that these organizations are not lauding the namesakes of the organization. I never think of Fish when I say the name "Desmond-Fish Library." The name has taken on entirely different meaning. That said, I suppose that if the library were named after Hitler, I would think the name should be changed. Similarly, a library or property named after Trump. So I guess I feel that Fish's role was not so extreme that keeping the name would be offensive and wrong.	10/23/2023 4:12 PM
147	history should be told for better or worse and on all topics	10/23/2023 1:52 PM
148	Question 7 should include an option "I don't know". I agree that someone with active Nazi and anti-semitic sympathies should not be publicly honored. Yet, Desmond Fish III has also accomplished a great deal that deserves to be remembered. I don't have enough information to know whether he was swept up with the events of the day or truly fighting for views that aren't acceptable then or now. In short, I'd suggest a new name so that D.Fish III can remain controversial without having that controversy spill over into the library's community today.	10/23/2023 12:25 PM
149	In WWI led a unit of African American soldiers. Protested the treatment of Jews in congress during WWII. Started the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Anti communist. I'm Jewish, seems relevant for this conversation.	10/23/2023 10:03 AM
150	Accusations of anti-semitism ignore the fact that Hamilton Fish was unusual in a time of widespread and rampant anti-semitism, for having publicly and prominently staked out pro-Jewish positions. As we experience a rise in anti-semitism globally and in our own country, we shouldn't selectively and retroactively punish those who were notable supporters of Jewish interests. The Highlands Current noted that Fish said he preferred Naziism to Bolshevism. That was frankly stated, but was that an endorsement of Naziism, or was it (more plausibly, considering Fish's known beliefs), a "lesser of two evils" position, especially prior to it being clear that Jews were to be treated less well in Germany than elsewhere in Europe? The Jewish Telegraphic Agency notes Fish was both "the author of the American Balfour Resolution in 1922", and despite being a "known isolationist" prior to the War, in 1970 called upon Richard Nixon to recognize Israel's right to self-defense. In other words, both well before the Nazis and well after, Fish was a notable and rare ally for Jewish interests, and he was also capable of changing his mind for the better as time passed - he rescinded his isolationism, for example. If we wish to purge our public spaces of totems to known anti-semites, we should start with those who weren't notable for their support of Jews. It shouldn't be hard to find some, considering that Putnam County was a known bastion for the KKK. Or, perhaps we should	10/23/2023 9:47 AM

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focus more on combating anti-semitism in our contemporary midst, and less on identifying anti-semites of yore, which would implicate an awful lot of people.

151	The Library should not be associated with or honor an antisemite.	10/23/2023 9:18 AM
152	It's clear that from the extensive research conducted by the Library and others that these charges are unsupported by the record. At the same time, the Jewish people experienced unimaginable suffering during WWII and it would be appropriate for the Library to acknowledge that history.	10/22/2023 11:05 PM
153	I think that it is a bad look for us to have his name on the public Library. For many reasons. In these days of polarization and the like he is now linked to extreme political acts, Nazis, America First...a little too similar to current political groups that are extremist. I would vote to take his name off. He is not someone that represents our community, certainly not the more liberal and balanced values that seem to prevail most times in Garrison.	10/22/2023 9:48 PM
154	Beliefs have changed over the years and opinions held 80 years ago do not translate to current beliefs. Also, the good Hamilton Fish did during his life outweighs any unpopular beliefs he may have held.	10/22/2023 6:51 PM
155	Important to understand our history.	10/22/2023 5:50 PM
156	Of her eventual disassociation from him.	10/22/2023 4:09 PM
157	Keep the name, the idea of changing it is nonsense.	10/22/2023 3:45 PM
158	Generosity of donors. Understanding of that period of time.	10/22/2023 2:49 PM
159	It's part of our history. Everybody has done bad things in their lives. Things that were acceptable in the past are not acceptable today. History of the United States has never been solely on the side of right. Personally, I don't care what he thought about the Nazis.	10/22/2023 1:51 PM
160	As a publi library, the fundamental functions of D-F are inherently reparative actions, for every wrong, known or unknown, related to its existence.	10/22/2023 11:07 AM
161	Because we should not continue to support nazis	10/22/2023 9:57 AM
162	It keeps the history of the library intact.	10/22/2023 6:42 AM
163	The name is long and clunky anyway. I do not mind keeping a nod to the funders in the name (they created it after all), but by all means take reparative actions including, but not limited to, prominent statements on the website and a display near all entrances of the library.	10/21/2023 5:24 PM
164	Alice Desmond contributed the money to establish the library as well as leaving a large bequest to the library upon her passing. While I have no patience for prejudices of any kind, I also believe its wrong to erase someones name from an institution that they founded. Without Alice there would be no library. We can't erase or change our collective history, nor should we choose to. The past is something we must face and learn from which is why I'm in favor of reparative actions.	10/21/2023 3:41 PM
165	Common sense	10/21/2023 3:23 PM
166	Hamilton Fish was a Nazi sympathizer.	10/21/2023 3:10 PM
167	The actions of someone associated in name with an institution should be known. If those actions are not consistent with the institutions purpose than change is necessary.	10/21/2023 2:49 PM
168	History is a pendulum of thought and action. 50 years from now, maybe sooner, there might be a movement to restore everything that was cancelled today. Better to leave it be and indicate the man was imperfect. List his faults along with his achievements.	10/21/2023 2:45 PM
169	Because even if these allegations were true, so what? The history of the world is filled with bias and discrimination. We don't have to like it, but spending time and taxpayer funds to delve into past history & try to 'right a perceived wrong' is futile and particularly egregious when the world is facing monumental never-seen-in-our-lifetimes catastrophic issues such as the implosion of the global economy, WW III - a nuclear holocaust that will take out the majority of the US population, preplanned pandemics to eliminate yet more of our freedoms, and so on. Makes the current focus of the library look trivial, at best.	10/21/2023 2:40 PM
170	I disagree with the way this survey was made. Crowdsourcing alternatives (as you are doing in question 9) and THEN survey us to gauge sentiment between the current name and the	10/21/2023 1:25 PM

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alternative options. Don't make me reject the current name blindly. What if I find the alternatives to be evocative of something more reprehensible than what Hamilton Fish was accused of? So many things in this region and this country have names connected to something morally bankrupt. If I need to choose the lesser of two evils, so be it.

171	More information is needed to make an informed decision.	10/21/2023 12:49 PM
172	Our community is one of inclusivity. Having the library - a core component of our neighborhood - named after someone who didn't share a belief in human equality created an invisible divide.	10/21/2023 11:52 AM
173	Retaining the name is not worth the risk of alienating or offending those who find his actions (or certain of his actions) deplorable. A library should be a welcoming place for all and a controversy about its name--especially in this instance in which there is clear evidence of some truly awful behavior--is a distraction that prevents the library from its mission of serving EVERYONE in the community and being a welcoming, safe place for all.	10/21/2023 11:02 AM
174	It's an issue. Place it in the context of its time and place. It merits examination. So do the decisions of Stimson of Stinson and FDR with respect to barring Holocaust refugees from the U.S. Eliding historical unpleasantries doesn't mean they didn't happen, and expunging names doesn't cure the mistake. Continuing to have the Fish name attached to the library does not in my mind suggest the library supports fascism. Providing access to facts, information and opinions is the core work of the library. This might not be a welcome opportunity, but it's an opportunity nonetheless.	10/21/2023 9:52 AM
175	Renaming buildings is a trivial and superficial solution that merely placates those who are offended by them. There is more to be gained by openly acknowledging how our forefathers were mortal, flawed, and yet still achieved great things.	10/20/2023 11:00 PM
176	It is not a simple yes/no question or answer. His record outside of his affiliations with the anti war movement and their organizations pre ww2, is noteworthy. Especially his leadership of the Harlem Hell fighters as was his commitment to pass a federal anti lynch law and his attempts to protect the benefits of these veterans. You could keep the name but have a permanent display/explanation of Fish's actions that were NOT reflective of American values and traditions. It becomes a "teachable" moment. As a former US History teacher, I don't know of any major figure in American History who didn't have actions, quotes, etc. that revealed a belief that was NOT heroic or supportive of American values of tolerance, equality, and justice. People are far from perfect and revealing the shortcomings of prominent historic Americans make them more human. For too long, history books have painted a simplistic picture of these people. Usually highlighting their positive contributions and ignoring their shortcomings. The question here is does Hamilton Fish's accomplishments outweigh his support for affiliation with various Fascist organization pre WW2?	10/20/2023 5:33 PM
177	let's not go crazy about this.....	10/20/2023 2:33 PM
178	I do not believe the library should bear the name of someone who was an antisemite, Nazi sympathizer, and worked to subvert our democracy.	10/20/2023 2:15 PM
179	I see no valid reason to change it.	10/20/2023 12:13 PM
180	The argument for keeping it seems to be that he paid for it, and that he was a longtime congressman born from a powerful family. The argument against is that he used his power and influence in service of the Nazis.	10/20/2023 12:07 PM
181	Keep the wife's name. Her history in the library shouldn't be erased because of her husband's wrongdoings.	10/20/2023 10:45 AM
182	It is a fact that Desmond and Fish founded the library. We are just fooling ourselves by futilely trying to erase history. Don't fall into this trap that many other organizations have fallen into. We want to uncover history, not bury it.	10/20/2023 10:41 AM
183	I am not in the business of tearing down monuments, if you know what I mean.	10/20/2023 10:18 AM
184	Nationally we have removed statues and changed longstanding names to show respect and reflect values as we have grown and learned as a society	10/20/2023 7:37 AM
185	1) Money shouldn't buy ceremonial immortality nor should we attempt to over-fantasize the aura surrounding certain American dynasties. 2) History has shown that names on buildings can change without significant impact; 3) A generic name for the library would in some ways be better for the mission of serving the community; 4) Either way, if a small number of people	10/20/2023 5:45 AM

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feel excluded by the current name and do not visit as a result AND the name change would make no material difference to a majority who want to keep it, then the board would have an ethical obligation to change it given its public mission. The vote tally is almost immaterial in that sense.

186	Honestly i'm not sure how bad his actions were, on the one hand, and, on the other, how much he did to make the library possible.	10/20/2023 2:18 AM
187	Hamilton Fish was a distinguished war hero on behalf of the United States and a leader in the fight for civil rights for Afro-Americans long before it was fashionable.	10/20/2023 12:11 AM
188	Bad time to be anti-Semitic and be glorified	10/19/2023 11:37 PM
189	Renaming it to something neutral	10/19/2023 10:29 PM
190	Someone with that type of record should not have their name on a public building	10/19/2023 8:48 PM
191	This really feels like grievance politics tempest in a teacup. He was NOT in favor of gassing Jews. He did NOT support Germany annexing other countries. He had legitimate reasons for not going to war.	10/19/2023 8:07 PM
192	There are many deserving people that do not have such history and have been good American citizens that the library could be named for.	10/19/2023 7:24 PM
193	First, the name is too long. Second, I'd say that if seeing a building's name will hurt or stun anyone, why not change it? In addition, it is a VERY long name? SO why not call it what most people do? THE GARRISON LIBRARY. Good people mostly do good works withOUT insisting their names be used. That would be a good acid test here.	10/19/2023 7:16 PM
194	The Fish Family have been public public servants since the 19th century, and have contributed to the Hudson Valley in many ways. Little was known about the Nazi depravity in the late 30's, Fish III was duped and simply made an error of judgment.	10/19/2023 7:12 PM
195	Any association with racism or anti semitism must be stamped out, especially for a public building	10/19/2023 5:35 PM
196	Any association with racism or anti semitism must be stamped out, especially for a public building	10/19/2023 5:18 PM
197	I deeply oppose cancel culture, because I believe more harm than good comes from erasing the past. Fish was a staunch American patriot whose first priority was America's national interest. I don't agree with each and every position he took (he changed himself) but taken in context, his positions are understandable. I don't think he was a hater. I believe he was an America Firster. We all make mistakes. We should learn from them. In this case, I think it's far better to honor his contributions -- including the library that he endowed and which bears his name while at the same time discussing the reasons for and against the positions he took and placing them in historical context. A better future, imho, comes from a critical understanding of the past. It does not come from erasing it. That's what was tried in the French Revolution, the Russian Revolution, the Chinese Revolution. It's not what the USA is about. Cultural revolutions never end well.	10/19/2023 5:06 PM
198	It's easy to judge and dismiss a person's good works by focusing on his unfavorable views and attitudes. It's a mistake to judge a historical figure by present-day values. From what I've read it was mostly Alice Desmond's idea to found the library and H. Fish didn't really treat her very well, so I'd rather the honor go to her more than Fish. It bothers me that so often people of great privilege (H. Fish) are publicly honored, but ordinary people who make extraordinary contributions to our country and culture are ignored.	10/19/2023 4:18 PM
199	The current name is perfectly fine. It honors both he and his wife and talking about reparations is patently absurd. To whom? How? Who would give the reparations? Is the family supposed to be sued? Who is currently feeling persecuted? There are so many problems in this world it is insane to go looking for them.	10/19/2023 4:17 PM
200	History is History.	10/19/2023 3:57 PM
201	Re-naming hysteria reminds me of anti-communist hysteria. It has gone too far. Many of our ancestors initially favored the Germans, admired various aspects of fascism and did not support American involvement in the war until after Pearl Harbor. They all couldn't be as far-sighted as Winston Churchill. Antisemitism - however morally repugnant we know it to be - was	10/19/2023 3:03 PM

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(as it had been for all of American history) rampant, and was a grievous error in which many institutions (e.g., the Catholic Church) and individuals persisted. We often forget that racism was then the law of the land (and not just an individual moral failing). A library of all institutions should not make the mistake of viewing and judging the conduct of historical persons through the lens of contemporary values (or with the benefit of hindsight). Moreover you are not choosing a name for a new institution where you can choose to recognize anyone. HFIII and his wife were donors and founders - this is all the name signifies, not some kind of moral endorsement of his political views or moral shortcomings.

202	reparative action, if any, are a more appropriate response	10/19/2023 1:15 PM
203	I think there was more than 1 Hamilton Fish who was a prominent figure in the area. I am ok if the name remains, but would be fine with a name change as well	10/19/2023 1:04 PM
204	We should not be rewarding racists with power and prestige. And worry for the Jewish members of our community who have to think of his hurtful, racist actions every time they hear the name of the library or visit the library.	10/19/2023 12:30 PM
205	The WOKE initiative to rename the library because of negative associations with Hamilton Fish III is pure nonsense. All individuals have some issues. He, along with his wife, was a respected leader who contributed a great deal to the community. Let he who is without shame cast the first stone!	10/19/2023 12:08 PM
206	To keep his name on the library implicitly condones his misconduct and the prejudice he embodies. I went to Princeton and am proud that it has confronted the Woodrow Wilson's misconduct during the time he was president by removing his name from university buildings. In his case, it wasn't that he was just a bystander in a time when it was the prevailing opinion; he initiated a reversal of government policies to limit racism in hiring. With Fish it is the same. he wasn't just a bystander, but an active proponent of Hitler's policies and conduct, and there is no excusing that.	10/19/2023 11:43 AM
207	There needs to be a complete disconnect from the previous name.	10/19/2023 11:41 AM
208	At the time of filling out this survey the closest choice above to my answer is No Opinion and I'd like the selection to read "No opinion at this time"	10/19/2023 10:31 AM
209	If it was funded by Hamilton Fish and Alice Desmond then maybe by giving back to the community this was their way to correct their wrongs and veivs. Were Hamilton Fish and Alice Desmond ractists? We dont know because they are dead. Possibly they changed their views later in life and should be forgiven. If they were openly racist then change the name.	10/19/2023 10:09 AM
210	Very few public figures in the pre-World War II period in the US and even more remarkably in the UK were vehemently opposed to German nationalism, preferring isolationism (US) or appeasement (UK). Winston Churchill was one of the few politicians to recognize the height of the danger. Besides, in any public figure's career, the plusses must be fairly assessed alongside his or her mistakes. None of us knows, however pure or moral we think we are, how we would have reacted in the face of the same information or circumstances. Otherwise, we should rename everything associated with the twelve US presidents who owned slaves.	10/19/2023 9:59 AM
211	I do not think our public institutions should amplify people who put forth harmful information and supported evil.	10/19/2023 9:05 AM
212	The source "Through a recent podcast produced by Rachel Maddow" is a biased, misinformation paid puppet and fake news agent.	10/19/2023 8:56 AM
213	Tradition, an abhorrence to the progressives' attempts to erase our history, an expectation American and local culture will change and we will regret it later (think just 10y ago about what was ok & is now verboten, it can and will happen again, the pendulum will swing back)	10/19/2023 8:55 AM
214	Let's learn from history- showcase the concerns about Hamilton Fish.	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
215	Let's learn from history- showcase the concerns about Hamilton Fish.	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
216	If we were to change every building that was named for someone we find reprehensible we would have to change every name of every park/building/school and street	10/18/2023 7:23 PM
217	I would like to weigh in on the discussion on renaming the library after allegations that Hamilton Fish was either a Nazi, Nazi sympathizer, or Nazi informant, and therefore not worthy of this library's name. First, I have been on both sides of the argument of renaming things over	10/18/2023 6:43 PM

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misrepresented earlier American historic figures; so, I come to this decision from a neutral position. Rather than rush to an uninformed decision, I have read most of both dissertations listed at the library (Chapters V-VII pgs. 318-406 of Hanks & Chapters 10-24 pgs. 152-449 of Tracone). Here are some facts that seem undisputed: 1. Never has Fish said publicly that he approved Adolf Hitler. In fact, the only quote about Hitler mentioned in either book was, "Hitler is undermining the foundation of civilization." Uttered after the bombing of Guernica, Spain [ p. 309 Tracone]. 2. Immediately after WWI until the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Fish was an unapologetic, devoted isolationist, and that was his driving emotional and political motivation. After his heroic and brutal service as a U.S. soldier during WWI, he was determined to never see the U.S. "dragged" into another European war. He even saw the war he fought in as a waste of time: "[the U.S.] asked for nothing and got nothing." [Hanks] 3. Until the time of political turmoil caused by his opposition to powerful political leaders in the middle 30s, including FDR himself, he was a strong opponent of antisemitism and the German persecution of Jews [Hanks], and a strong supporter of civil rights [pg. 300 Tracone]. 4. His second driving emotional and political motivation was his distrust, hate and paranoid certainty of communism and Russia. 5. His immense ego ,and headstrong steadfast adherence to those two driving motivations, made him an extremist with power and the political enemies that come with it. This eventually led to political decisions to appease mid-American German isolationists and later Jewish interest during after the war; his misguided attempts to run against his most powerful political enemy FDR for President, probably made him take these politically expedient stances. 6. While not a supporter of Hitler, immediately after WWI and continuing until the actual onset of U.S. involvement in WWII, he saw Germany as the only European nation capable of standing up to the perceived Russian threat. Both dissertation writers agree that this made him an "inevitable" easy target [Hanks] for accusations and conspiracies by political opponents and columnists, that he was a Nazi. That's where it gets controversial... Both essayists here would agree with Hanks statement, "While there has never been any evidence that implicates Fish directly in Nazi design, it is true that he was careless in his use of the franking privilege and in the scrutiny that he applied to his personal activities." Yes, he had German friends, the result of their shared opinion of not going to war with Germany. Yes, a few of those Germans might have been agents of Nazi Germany down the road (he knew many of them before Hitler's rise to power). Yes, he saw fascism as still way better than Communism; "Although I earnestly deplore the economic and racial persecution of Jews in Germany, I prefer the Hitler regime to any form of Bolshevism, with its class and religious hatred and avowal of world revolution." [P.196 Tracone]. Yes, even as Europe was on the precipice of war, he was over there trying to find a compromise between Germany and the Allies. However, both essayists see that as the result of his two guiding motivations. Is there any evidence to the contrary? The most damning thing I read in those combined 400+ pages was this on pages 326-327 from Tracone- " At the request of Fanny Holtzman, a New York attorney who he had in the past aided in getting Jewish immigrants through Ellis Island, Fish hastily arranged for three month exit visas for these Jews to visit the World's Fair in Flushing Meadows, New York. According to Holtzmann, Fish had 'personal knowledge of the German plans' for Jews. Holtzmann also quotes Fish as telling her: 'Their solution, Fanny, is concentration camps, where the entire Jewish population will be wiped out.' Fish later agreed that Holtzmann's account of their conversation is fairly accurate. This was while in Germany in 1939. This is harder to reconcile with all his previous actions, and it is the author's view that this just shows how devoted he was to avoiding war, and the preference both the Jews and the world would prefer as the result of a Russian conquering of Europe. There are more accusations, and a possibly shady deal with a Dominican Republic dictator, but that's pretty much all of it. According to his son, in 1988, for his 100th birthday, he received a letter from the Israeli ambassador to the U.S. praising Fish's unflagging support of Israel. There is not enough hereto take away also for his support and assistance in founding this library. Please leave his name here where it belongs. Thank you for your consideration, ██████████

218	Ham Fish was a nazi sympathizer. Like many (crooked) NY politicians whose names are on buildings, structures, plaques, bridges and other honorary items are not thought out through the test of time. There should be repercussions for ones actions whether here or beyond. Confederate statues are coming down, cancel culture is not a bad word, Ham Fish, Joe Bruno, Vincent Libel, Cuomo, Trump are all tainted and should not be honored but remembered for being wrong.	10/18/2023 6:22 PM
219	A library should not be named after a Nazi propagandist. It is offensive to all Jewish members of the community and offensive in general.	10/18/2023 6:17 PM
220	We met him years ago. A lovely man who loved his constituents. Stop your witch hunt	10/18/2023 6:12 PM
221	This movement is yet another effort by a select few to smear the name of an individual who	10/18/2023 5:41 PM

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had overwhelmingly positive contributions to his family and country, but held some views that were common at the time, but don't pass the '2023' test. Applying the standards of today to a century ago, and more, is patently ridiculous.

222	He was a key part of starting the Library	10/18/2023 5:31 PM
223	Hamilton Fish III founded the library. Without his efforts, the library would not exist. As a writer, educator, and independent researcher, I don't think history is served well by trying to rewrite it or hide it. My preference would be to make information available about Hamilton Fish III's various activities—the good, the bad, and the ugly.	10/18/2023 5:24 PM
224	Hamilton Fish III was a man of principle, an outstanding public servant and a founder of the Library. His name should remain on the institution.	10/18/2023 5:19 PM
225	Current norms applied to historical contexts will erase the historical record. We must recognize and live with the past in order to inform the present. This survey would best be answered by our grandparents whose views could easily have coincided with old Ham's. Of course he was a nazi sympathizer and Washington was a slave holder. Should we rename our capital city? If we forget where we come from how can we know where we are going or even where we are?	10/18/2023 5:01 PM
226	His outstanding record in civil rights including leading the only US all black combat unit in WW1 whose members loved him. His sponsorship of anti lurching bills and efforts demanding equal rights for African Americans. He also spoke out against antisemitism and was one of the first in Congress to publicly support and sponsor resolutions calls for the creation Of a Jewish state in the Middle East. He was a committed isolationist as were many others (including fdr at least in public) and while his failure to earlier recognize the evil that was naziism is a forever blot on his record it should not warrant removal of his name. History should teach not eliminate . And this is a perfect example of the dangers of isolationism.	10/18/2023 4:37 PM
227	We are now living in a dangerous time where social movements want to reinterpret history and revise events to meet an ideological narrative. Who am I to judge an individual 100 years ago concerning their relationships with people, places and things? What was the national mood in Europe during the great depression, especially in Germany during the early 1930's? If I had family in Germany during that time and they were in depression circumstances I would want to help them irrespective of political affiliation. You may want to read "In the Garden of Beasts" as it portrays how few Americans understood the real intent of the Nazi regime and actually had hope they would bring peace and prosperity back to depression age Germany.	10/18/2023 4:33 PM
228	To erase the racism	10/18/2023 4:32 PM
229	It should be embarrassing to people in power to learn something, possibly something new about someone, and not take the appropriate action. Positive actions do not undo the negative impact on minority populations. I'm also reminded and cringe every time I cross the Beacon Newburgh Bridge.	10/18/2023 4:31 PM
230	NONE of the congressional representatives (Congressmen and Senators) were indicted for their active participation with our enemy during WWII. Their underlings were, but not the elected officials who swore oaths to preserve our Constitution and protect our democracy. There must be accountability for his involvement, and although he is deceased, we cannot turn our backs like the DOJ did after the WAR. We need to teach future generations through our actions, regardless of how late it is. It is never too late to right a wrong. I think it is the right thing to do so now.	10/18/2023 4:25 PM
231	To my knowledge, Hamilton Fish III was not indicted on any charges during his lifetime. Through my own research, I have not come across any facts that I believe should merit changing the library's official name.	10/18/2023 4:00 PM
232	There seem to be some contradictions around his remarks and beliefs and whether he had pro-Nazi sympathies. I need to research more on this before I come to a conclusion.	10/18/2023 4:00 PM
233	There was a reason why the library was initially named after him; many good qualities and actions on his behalf.	10/18/2023 3:57 PM
234	Overall the benefits and good deeds of someone's lifetime should not be judged by smaller lapses of judgement as we all grow as humans	10/18/2023 3:55 PM
235	I think the name change suggestion because of Fish's personal and political leanings ridiculous! Should we use the same criteria to research all building and site names?	10/18/2023 12:10 PM

## Name Review Survey

236	Not sure how much outcry is occurring from this name, or just that someone is gathering some information to see if it is a concern.	10/18/2023 11:41 AM
237	Many deceased people from bygone eras behaved in ways that the current day values deem unacceptable. HF III was a huge contributor to the equality of people of diverse heritage. He accomplished much for the good of the country. He was never a "Nazi Sympathizer" but he did NOT want the USA involved in WWII. I am often angered by the tendency of people to apply today's values of what is acceptable behavior to years long past where such behavior was acceptable.	10/18/2023 10:25 AM
238	I think Hamilton Fish III was a complicated man, like we are all complicated. I think his service in World War I, where he experienced firsthand the horrors of war, should be taken into account when we assess his anti-war advocacy during World War II. The library exists because of his and his wife's generosity. If we change the name of the library, we should give the building and land back to his family.	10/18/2023 10:15 AM
239	His actions hurt and continue to hurt people in our community.	10/18/2023 10:13 AM
240	Because he was a nazi	10/18/2023 9:37 AM
241	Let he who is without sin cast the first stone....	10/18/2023 9:00 AM
242	The library receives public money and should reflect the values of the community as they are now. For private institutions I feel differently. I would not feel aggrieved if the name stayed the same.	10/18/2023 8:51 AM
243	What is the benefit in the library being named after a person who may or may not been/said/done things that were racist? The community cares that their local Library provides learning for all and is a safe place for ALL to gather. Just name it after the community it supports not the people who footed the bill generations ago.	10/18/2023 8:32 AM
244	As a public place of learning open to all, the name should reflect a community with the same ideals.	10/18/2023 8:31 AM
245	Cannot be judged out of context	10/18/2023 8:18 AM
246	Although funding a library is a wonderful thing to do for the public, the name comes with a connotation and connection to non-inclusivity and hate.	10/18/2023 8:16 AM
247	History is complicated. Not everyone is perfect. This man also did a lot of good things. I thought the letter to the editor in the current by a descendent of Fish was enlightening and on point.	10/18/2023 8:07 AM
248	Mostly to keep the peace. I don't believe in cancel culture yet I do think the library would face some backlash of reparative actions are not taken.	10/18/2023 6:36 AM
249	There were probably many Americans that were friendly with Germany at the time. He was probably very instrumental in the founding of the Library.	10/17/2023 11:02 PM
250	The name has historical meaning that has far surpassed the people originally associated with the naming of the library as it serves as a pillar in our community.	10/17/2023 9:42 PM
251	The property, library, as well as the endowment was made by the Fish's for the betterment of the residents of Garrison. None of that has changed. They were good neighbors to the Garrison Community	10/17/2023 9:41 PM
252	Many historical figures did things or held beliefs we today would find problematic. We can't be erasing history every time we discover and unsavory aspect of someone's past.	10/17/2023 9:18 PM
253	I can't find anything to indicate Alice had Antisemitic views.	10/17/2023 8:59 PM
254	I don't support changing the name. I think you are using this 'controversy' to stay relevant and project a woke perspective.	10/17/2023 8:42 PM
255	I would be good with maintaining the Desmond name or doing a rename.	10/17/2023 8:20 PM
256	They endowed the library in good faith according to the norms of the time. You can't hold people in the past accountable for the norms of today.	10/17/2023 8:17 PM
257	There is no reason to change the historical name	10/17/2023 8:12 PM

## Name Review Survey

258	I think it's important that the name reflect acceptance of diversity and not of someone who opposed diversity.	10/17/2023 7:52 PM
259	Because I think that our community is over-reacting to a situation that happened historically and in the context of that time period. We can't change history with false reparation.	10/17/2023 7:05 PM
260	Fish deserves the continued recognition of this community. History and tradition should matter.	10/17/2023 6:51 PM
261	I feel it is more important to learn about errors in judgement that powerful people have made. It is part of history and not something that can be erased. Rather, this can be a teaching tool.	10/17/2023 6:46 PM
262	I like the name.	10/17/2023 6:38 PM
263	Start off with a fresh start and separate from any Nazi and/or negative connections to the past	10/17/2023 6:30 PM
264	I personally need to do more research, but on the face of it, if there isn't continued support of the nazis through their worst atrocities and in reflection, I'm not quick to paint Hamilton Fish as a nazi. Fortunately we all evolve as individuals and a people and unfortunately we are painted with a snap shot in history. If I learn of deeper hatred and active anti semitism and zero remorse or evolution, I may change my opinion, but based on what I know now, it seems a bit over reactive.	10/17/2023 6:28 PM
265	History doesn't change and it was named after them for a reason.	10/17/2023 5:51 PM
266	It's history, let's stop erasing it. There are plenty of well known people who have been less than stellar	10/17/2023 5:09 PM
267	We need to stop erasing people with problematic histories. Whether or not the allegations are true, he funded the library and his name should remain. If we erase history based on today's values, there sure won't be a lot of history left.	10/17/2023 4:53 PM
268	This is a waste of time and resources. The woke agenda is ridiculous. No one knew about this before. Everyone is just looking to cancel things. He founded the library. Keep his name on it.	10/17/2023 4:39 PM
269	I think too often we put people up as demigods instead of human beings. We are not looking to worship him and even though he did negative things he is responsible for the unknown soldier memorial and leading black units in WWI. Yes, what he did was wrong but educate people about it. Plus, it is not just his name so I think saying Desmond Fish library is just fine.	10/17/2023 4:38 PM
270	Hamilton Fish III fought in WWII leading the Harlem Hellraisers and was in the front lines fighting the war against Nazi's and Hitler. We need to respect his history during WWII and after.	10/17/2023 4:15 PM
271	They founded the library	10/17/2023 3:34 PM
272	While I am not generally in favor of tearing down statues and monuments of historical figures who may not represent our current cultural values, Fish did support an abhorrent ethic cleansing that resulted in the loss of many lives. Keeping his name would seem to some as passive approval or lack of concern for others. We have a duty to stand against evil. A name change is the least we can do.	10/17/2023 3:32 PM
273	Regardless of reparative actions, a community building should not be named in honor of a dishonorable and damaging person. The building should be renamed so that it can go by another name for future members of the community, but it should publicly acknowledge what it was before and the reasons it is no longer named after Hamilton Fish.	10/17/2023 3:24 PM
274	He apparently regretted some of his stances and changing the name seems ridiculous. Libraries should be places of history, not places to change history.	10/17/2023 3:06 PM
275	We do not support honoring or ignoring supporters of the Nazi movement.	10/17/2023 2:55 PM
276	Can we stop naming buildings, bridges and the like after people? All humans are flawed and are undeserving of an eternity of distinction. Also, enough with reverence for the elite class.	10/17/2023 2:50 PM
277	There were and are members of the Fish family who did not share Fish III feelings.	10/17/2023 2:35 PM
278	There were and are members of the Fish family who did not share Fish III feelings.	10/17/2023 2:33 PM
279	The bulk of the man's life does not seem to me to be in any way supportive of painting him as anti-Semitic.	10/17/2023 2:31 PM
280	Can't really erase history but can take actions to acknowledge bad behavior and move on.	10/17/2023 2:07 PM

## Name Review Survey

281	The library exists because of him. No one is perfect and his views on Nazi's evolved over time. This whole debate, 80 years later is a bit silly. There is no doubt that he was a good person and a patriot and gave back to his community.	10/17/2023 1:52 PM
282	A renaming would demonstrate that we learn from past mistakes.	10/17/2023 1:50 PM
283	He was a Patriot and decorated war hero who deserves to be recognized	10/17/2023 1:43 PM
284	Keeping the current name would be an affront. Some bad behavior cannot be explained away as merely a product of the times.	10/17/2023 1:34 PM
285	It's my opinion!	10/17/2023 1:28 PM
286	The facts are clear	10/17/2023 1:20 PM
287	As in war, the victors determine what's history. Rewriting history to fit current narratives is not only un fair to the one in the stand but also to future generations of historians.	10/17/2023 1:01 PM
288	I wasn't aware who they were before the allegations surfaced.	10/17/2023 1:01 PM
289	It is nonsense to diminish his reputation.	10/17/2023 12:50 PM
290	In the current social and political climate, it seems there is a tendency to erase any trace of anyone who is not perfect. People make poor judgements, but that doesn't mean they shouldn't be remembered. It seems that this person did more good in life, and meant well generally. There won't be any historical figures left if we continue to cancel everyone.	10/17/2023 12:30 PM
291	There are two options here. End the fake news media circus around slandering people of different political affiliations and the lies they spread or end all funding for DFPL and stop taxing the citizens of Putnam County for the Library.	10/17/2023 12:22 PM
292	Because you would have to be an idiot to think that this man's history somehow means that the library is an offshoot of some form of naziism.	10/17/2023 12:19 PM
293	I do believe the record the library is touting is wrong and taken out of context.	10/17/2023 11:35 AM
294	Erasing history doesn't change it, but prevents us from making better choices in the future.	10/17/2023 11:32 AM
295	Facts	10/17/2023 11:27 AM
296	The name is too complicated anyway. It might be best to change the name, but create a strong program that explains Fish's complicated life.	10/17/2023 10:58 AM
297	because history is history. cant go back and change. the Phillips family owned slaves, as did Washington and Jefferson. it just keeps on going.	10/17/2023 10:35 AM
298	from your website. The morning after Pearl Harbor, Congressman Fish denounced the attack and expressed his support for Roosevelt's Declaration of War. He also later signed a House resolution condemning Germany's abhorrent treatment of Jews. Fish was defeated for reelection in 1944 and never held elected office again.	10/17/2023 10:03 AM
299	I feel that we, as a society, have gone overboard to rename things in accordance with our current views; forgetting that one day another generation will feel that names we got rid of were OK and names we picked are inappropriate. Funding the library is a major effort and changing names could discourage potential donors.	10/17/2023 10:01 AM
300	I'm not comfortable using this resource knowing that the founder whose name is on the masthead was a Nazi.	10/17/2023 9:56 AM
301	It's the name of our library. He and his wife founded it. Whatever he's accused of he's not here to defend himself.	10/17/2023 9:35 AM
302	We can't re-write history. Who's going to feel better if you change the name? What's important is the actions you take now, moving forward being a source of truth no matter how hard the truth is.	10/17/2023 9:14 AM
303	There are more than enough buildings named after white men who had hateful views or allied themselves with agents of hate. It matters little that the building was initially funded by Fish; countless taxpayers since then have funded it as well, as have many generous donors. Please don't bow to threats of "I'll never come back if you change the name!"	10/17/2023 9:12 AM
304	The allegations are very old and the man is no longer here to defend himself. As well, it	10/17/2023 9:09 AM

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doesn't appear that he was antisemitic, overtly or otherwise.

305	An instution of learning in the public service of a community that supports it should be named for what it is, The Garrison Public Library. There is no need, after the revelation of the true character of HF III to invoke his name on a library.	10/17/2023 8:58 AM
306	The fish family has a deep and long history with NYS and dates back to Stuyvesant fish. If you change the name you lose a tie to history. We have historical revolutionary war sites in the area that teach us about traitors and for that we know what really happened. I.E: Benedict Arnold who burned villages in Connecticut after turning against his country.	10/17/2023 7:51 AM
307	Hamilton Fish shoould not be memorialized because of his actions	10/17/2023 7:40 AM
308	The continued use of the name whitewashes historic racism, while at the same time providing an example for future generations of children who visit the library that no matter how reprehensible your true values are, it's ok as long as you have wealth and power sufficient to erect monuments to obscure your past.	10/17/2023 7:22 AM
309	The name should reflect the values of our community and be inclusive	10/17/2023 7:09 AM
310	Fish is a historical figure, and had a family with history in Garrison/Cold Spring, and a family of career service to NY and the United States. A misinformed view from the perspective of someone of a different era should not erase the historical and legacy contributions of someone to their community. Not to mention, if he campaigned, fundraised, and financially contributed to make the Garrison public library the fantastic place it is, that legacy also should not be removed.	10/16/2023 11:07 PM
311	Now that more of us know the history, I think it is inappropriate to keep Hamilton Fish's name on the library.	10/16/2023 10:36 PM
312	Learn from History. Don't erase it!!	10/16/2023 8:13 PM
313	I believe the name should be changed because Hamilton Fish III was way too friendly with Nazi Germany and therefore in my eyes he is not the kind of person for whom a library should be named after.	10/16/2023 8:11 PM
314	Of course the name should not change!	10/16/2023 7:41 PM
315	There is no excuse for actively supporting the German government in the 1930s. Knowledgable people all understood the barbarity of the NAZI party	10/16/2023 7:23 PM
316	It has to be a completely new name going forward.	10/16/2023 7:00 PM
317	Constant banning everything is bringing the world to its knees.	10/16/2023 6:56 PM
318	Because groups like the America First which are virulently anti semitic are still active today. To condone such participation no matter when it happened should be antithetical to the mission of any institution of information and learning such as a public library.	10/16/2023 6:40 PM
319	For whatever reason, this is just bizarre. People of history cannot be held to today's standards. Further, if any politician was held to things ever said, no one could would be elected. Is it possible he changed his views? The present president has made incredible comments about Blacks and members of other minority groups. What should happen? This is really bizarre.	10/16/2023 6:29 PM
320	These accusations are unfounded.	10/16/2023 6:25 PM
321	See above	10/16/2023 6:23 PM
322	Because it is the right action	10/16/2023 6:10 PM
323	The only opinion I have is that people need to stop with reparative action — or even suggestions of reparative action. Live in the here-and-now. It's fine to modify the name of the library out of respect for some people's legitimate sensitivities, but that's about it.	10/16/2023 6:02 PM
324	We have all sinned and have moments of indiscretion and anyone saying different is not telling the truth. truth. We all make mistake and those that keeping the narrative going forward should take a look at themselves themselves and she if they are able to find some forgiveness. Why destroy the Legacy of Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Desmond and Hamilton Fish Library. What good will this do !!!	10/16/2023 5:58 PM

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325	He and his wife founded the library and you can't erase history.	10/16/2023 4:57 PM
326	I basically feel that if Maddow's claims are accurate that this needs to be acknowledged.	10/16/2023 4:32 PM
327	I lament the accusations about him, but feel that his other good actions should not necessarily be erased. Education about tolerance and respect for others should be expanded.	10/16/2023 4:18 PM
328	The purpose of the library matters more than the names of the people who paid for it. They've had their time where their names were on the building. Now it's time to move on.	10/16/2023 4:10 PM
329	Because views and opinions of those who lived before us are not in line with today's ideas, it doesn't mean those people's acts -especially acts of public generosity - are unworthy of recognition.	10/16/2023 3:27 PM
330	Don't want to insult or hurt anyone's feelings	10/16/2023 3:23 PM
331	Why not?	10/16/2023 2:05 PM
332	It should have a less-polarizing name, perhaps The Garrison Library.	10/16/2023 1:12 PM
333	It is part of history. Don't wipe it out or hide it, but keep it and provide the context and counter-arguments. If we blank it out people will forget that period of history, it will seem like it never happened, and we will be doomed to repeat it.	10/16/2023 12:15 PM
334	What is the point in changing the name? To appease someone who has not done the full research? People are human and nobody is perfect. Rumors and slander help nobody. There is no need to change the name.	10/16/2023 11:43 AM
335	They were both good people who donated and gave to their community.	10/15/2023 10:12 PM
336	Why continue celebrating Fish's mixed legacy? The Fish name is plastered around the region plenty already. This is an opportunity to center a woman, for once. It's so depressing to be a girl or woman in this country and see that the people revered in our monuments, infrastructure, and other public spaces are overwhelmingly white men. This pattern takes a mental toll and perpetuates deep-seeded inequality in our culture. It would be a positive outcome to focus on Desmond here!	10/15/2023 4:41 PM
337	Because Hamilton Fish III was a Nazi sympathizer This should not divide us but truth is more important than any money someone donates	10/15/2023 3:46 PM
338	it's offensive	10/15/2023 2:43 PM
339	The coverage has been unfair. The man did a lot of good yet may have made a few mistakes.	10/15/2023 12:45 PM
340	Hamilton Fish was implicated in legitimizing and promoting Nazi propaganda. His position and actions were unacceptable then as now. It is inappropriate to honor his memory as a Nazi apologist.	10/14/2023 1:36 AM
341	The current name will forever be a source of issues in the community	10/13/2023 6:24 PM
342	I don't think it's a big deal either way	10/13/2023 8:03 AM
343	The discussion on whether or not Ham Fish was a Nazi sympathizer (which I personally believe he was) is distracting from the library's ability to serve the community effectively. I think as a public library, we should aim to make everyone feel welcome and make sure that we are keeping the mission of a public library as the focus of the institution, not on whatever complex and potentially problematic character may have donated money many decades ago.	10/12/2023 7:21 PM
344	That's the name Why change it Own up to the history And leave name	10/12/2023 3:15 PM
345	There is no reason to remove it. Ham Fish was a patriotic American who selflessly served.	10/12/2023 1:16 PM
346	Hamilton Fish III was a leader in this community and in our Country. He put his life on the line leading intrepid African-American troops in combat in the service of our Country. Moreover, he was a leader in fighting for the Civil Rights of African-Americans. The testimony of those in our community, who knew him personally and are still on our community, attest to the fact that he was a man of great personal integrity and fought anti-semitism.	10/12/2023 10:49 AM
347	The Past is the passband the future of the library is important.	10/12/2023 9:10 AM
348	Everyone's history is complicated. None of us is perfect. Let's not rush to change names.	10/12/2023 8:21 AM

## Name Review Survey

349	They were a generous and supportive of Garrison — no, they were not perfect. Telling their story within the library offers a teaching moment about the complexity of history.	10/12/2023 8:19 AM
350	Time and energy could be focused on other matters unless their is a clear consensus on what to do with the name.	10/12/2023 6:40 AM
351	The positive contributions made by Fish far outweigh the negatives of his isolationist position in the time before the U.S entered WW2. He said he was trying to save American lives by delaying the US entry into the war. He condemned Hitler and supported Jews.	10/12/2023 12:01 AM
352	"Historians have a word for Germans who joined the Nazi party, not because they hated Jews, but out of a hope for restored patriotism, or a sense of economic anxiety, or a hope to preserve their religious values, or dislike of their opponents, or raw political opportunism, or convenience, or ignorance, or greed. That word is "Nazi." Nobody cares about their motives anymore." — A.R. Moxon	10/11/2023 11:38 PM
353	It's delusional to assume that he didn't know. And anyway, it's only his word that he didnt, and what is that worth? Come on. Anyone even half as negligent would never hold a job again. Why does he get a pass for something this bad when no one else would for something far more minor?	10/11/2023 11:28 PM
354	The library serves a large community (which includes the inter-library borrowing system) and is self-perpetuating. The benefactors, Desmond and Fish are important, but no longer the "owners" of the library. The people who use it and support it through gifts and substantial support from taxation are the owners. Of equal importance is Fish's role as a tool for Nazi propaganda. this similar to Trump's and other's roll as tools of Putin, our current autocratic enemy in the world. The name should reflect our community's role as stewards of the store of knowledge at the library.	10/11/2023 10:48 PM
355	why would you change the long used name of a public place	10/11/2023 8:56 PM
356	If we can rename it, why wouldn't we?	10/11/2023 12:30 PM
357	Naming a building after someone is intended to honor them and their contributions (to the organization or society in general). I do not feel good about my local library honoring someone with Nazi affiliations. We can learn and interrogate this part of Garrison's history without celebrating it.	10/11/2023 9:51 AM
358	I don't think we need to celebrate fascists and Nazi sympathizers.	10/11/2023 9:12 AM
359	Possibly it can just leave Hamilton's name off if there are no allegations against Alice. Other wise a new name is preferred.	10/10/2023 9:37 PM
360	Known as Desmond Fish. Why not modify it as that. The Fish family have a long history of service, so make it generic to the family.	10/10/2023 9:12 PM
361	The library's name should reflect local history and the Fish family supports this name change	10/10/2023 8:55 PM
362	Neutrality should be the goal. The Fish family itself is is in favor of changing the name.	10/10/2023 8:41 PM
363	We should not pay homage to a hateful person.	10/10/2023 4:08 PM
364	Nazism = bad	10/10/2023 3:35 PM
365	unacceptable name	10/10/2023 12:41 PM
366	I don't know enough about the issue surrounding this matter, but I know enough to believe it warrants a new name.	10/10/2023 12:08 PM
367	It's history, whether it is good or bad.	10/10/2023 11:12 AM
368	His support of the nazi ideology before the start of World War II, and his alleged sympathies for eugenics, are not sufficient, in my opinion, to outcast him and try to re-write or erase his legacy from our community. That would be radical. I view this issue in its historical framework and the norms of discourse of the period.	10/10/2023 10:50 AM
369	No one with an affiliation to nazis should be acknowledged.	10/10/2023 10:23 AM
370	Alice Desmond seems like she deserves credit for the library. But I just call you "the Garrison Library" since I find the name unwieldy, no matter how good or bad the founders were. I generally prefer it when institutions are not named after people.	10/10/2023 6:34 AM

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371	I think, especially as many have so much to say about "erasing history", that a name that honors the roots of the library but dismisses a problematic character from this honor strikes a good balance.	10/10/2023 5:58 AM
372	The man did so much for area	10/9/2023 11:22 PM
373	Another choice would be to modify the name by removing Fish. An information poster, plaque, or something to present the truth about Hamilton Fish.	10/9/2023 8:43 PM
374	We can't erase history but we can stop commentating unsavory historical figures.	10/9/2023 8:31 PM
375	Any Nazi support by HF makes the current name unacceptable.	10/9/2023 6:22 PM
376	the name is offensive to some groups	10/9/2023 5:40 PM
377	I am not familiar with what happened or the history.	10/9/2023 2:08 PM
378	You are seeing what happens in your own country when YOU mess with free people.	10/9/2023 1:58 PM
379	The Library gets half of its operating funds from the Garrison taxpayers and so should have an elected Board. It will undoubtedly request additional public funds in the future.	10/9/2023 1:22 PM
380	His name should ABSOLUTELY be removed from the library. Keeping his name would be supporting an antisemitic mindset and agenda.	10/9/2023 12:41 PM
381	Because the family donated money for the library and expected it to be named for them. I would be in favor of a display in the library that described both the good and the bad things that the namesakes did.	10/9/2023 10:03 AM
382	NAME IT AFTER HAMILTON FISH - THE SIGNER OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE	10/9/2023 12:41 AM
383	They are responsible for this library existing! No one knows the reason behind why they allegedly sympathized with those horrific people; they could have gained their own freedom through it.	10/8/2023 7:02 PM
384	Because we need a name that better represents the inclusive spirit of the community.	10/8/2023 5:33 PM
385	I believe the issue of whether the United States should have entered WWII or not, was a much muddier issue at the time than it is now with the benefit of hindsight. Furthermore, from the reporting I've read, it's not obvious to me that Fish was in anyway supportive of antisemitic racist policies. I just don't think that this person should be stripped of their legacy in Garrison because they were supportive of different points of view	10/8/2023 3:53 PM
386	I find the connections with Hamilton Fish III and the America First Movement, his association with pro Nazi sympathizers and avowed Nazi's disgraceful. His name on a prominent community and cultural institution in our town is not something that should be tolerated.	10/8/2023 3:36 PM
387	Because we need a name that better represents the inclusive spirit of the community.	10/8/2023 3:35 PM
388	Although removing the names of Nazi sympathizers won't eliminate the contemporary bigots from our local population, it's a step in the right direction. Most people probably don't even know about the sordid history of Desmond Fish and other Hudson Valley politicians, but they should. Changing the name can help educate people AND end the glorification of bigotry in our local area.	10/8/2023 2:59 PM
389	Renaming the library will be a reflection of the change we need in 2023. I hope it will encourage other community associations to not shy away from the good and bad history in our area.	10/8/2023 2:42 PM
390	Despite the many good things he did do, Hamilton Fish should not be honored in this community or any other without acknowledging his negative sides. Naming a building or institution does not allow for nuance and hence the name should be changed. I did not always feel this way, but in our age of polarization these issues have become fraught with danger. Changing the name will antagonize those who are against "wokeness", but not changing the name sends another message. While not quite as controversial as the tearing down of Southern monuments to Civil War veterans, it is the same principle. Why should a black child have to see honored a person who did vile things and condoned slavery? In the same vein, why should we honor someone who despite long years in Congress supported fascism? As we face the growing movement toward fascism that currently threatens the rule of law, we should not honor anyone who did or does not stand for democracy.	10/8/2023 2:03 PM

## Name Review Survey

391	Because it was founded by Fish and his wife, funded by her and named for them, chartered in that name by the State of NY, and no defensibly legal grounds for altering the name have been presented. The name of the founder also honors his father and grandfather and his son, all distinguished elected public servants from the neighborhood (the last serving as the Library's president for many years). There was nothing secret or hidden about Mr. Fish's isolationism in the 1930's; it was well known at the time and among historically literate folks over the past 90 years. He and the world moved on, and no protest was voiced at the Library's naming when the project was first announced. That would have been the time for community concerns to have been expressed.	10/8/2023 6:49 AM
392	Keep the current name because Hamilton Fish III was cofounder of the library. If you don't like him then don't use his library.	10/8/2023 6:29 AM
393	Why not	10/8/2023 1:07 AM
394	Even the alleged assault allegations on the current Hamilton Fish has sullied the Library's name and status in the Garrison community	10/7/2023 11:12 PM
395	Why would any community want a library named after a racist?	10/7/2023 9:10 PM
396	It's the right thing to do!	10/7/2023 8:46 PM
397	I do not think having the name of a Nazi sympathizer creates a safe space for patrons	10/7/2023 8:00 PM
398	We now pay taxes for this library, should have a welcoming and inclusive name for the residents of Philipstown.	10/7/2023 7:41 PM
399	We shouldn't have things in our town named after anti-Semitic people.	10/7/2023 7:38 PM
400	Because he still was a founder of the library	10/7/2023 6:24 PM
401	Not comfortable with the name and what it represents.	10/7/2023 4:33 PM
402	The library can still acknowledge their contributions without bearing the name. There's been so much progress against antisemitism and racism, it seems fitting for where we are now as a society.	10/7/2023 4:05 PM
403	The Fish family has been a prominent name within Philipstown. The family deserve the recognition. The family should make the reparation actions for their sake.	10/7/2023 4:04 PM
404	There is no place in our town for nazi sympathizers... past or present	10/7/2023 3:58 PM
405	This library is a joy to the community. My family and I regularly visit for wonderful events, the amazing gardens, and bountiful books. We love this library. It should not be named after a Nazi supporter, regardless of former monetary support. By taking away his name you take away some of his power. We must rename this wonderful library.	10/7/2023 3:54 PM
406	He did believe he was supporting his country. He was no worse, in his own time, than many of our founders.	10/7/2023 3:22 PM
407	History preservation not erasure	10/7/2023 3:04 PM
408	To recognize and educate the community about historic wrongs.	10/7/2023 2:28 PM
409	I've always thought of the library first as the Garrison library, second as the DesmondFish.	10/7/2023 2:27 PM
410	Fish was a traitor	10/7/2023 2:06 PM
411	Modifying the library's name would help erase its association with a known Nazi sympathizer. Perhaps a name should be chosen to identify the library as a community center i.e. Garrison Public Library or Garrison Free Library.	10/7/2023 1:50 PM
412	The library should not honor a man who promoted fascism and antisemitism in the United States.	10/7/2023 1:47 PM
413	Because it is right.	10/7/2023 1:45 PM
414	Because it is non-inclusive and offensive to maintain a name that is associated with Nazism.	10/7/2023 1:14 PM
415	The name Hamilton Fish was held by many- a Governor and a Congressman, Hamilton Fish IV to name just two of them. As a Congressman, Hamilton Fish IV once told me that the accomplishment he was most proud of was the American's's with Disability Act. To take the	10/7/2023 12:56 PM

## Name Review Survey

Fish name off discredits all of the Fish family, who contributed so much to our state and our country. Even in the case of Hamilton Fish III, his accomplishments were many and the Nazi sympathizer charge unfounded. To take the name off, especially of a library which should be known for researching all of the facts is a knee-jerk reaction and unfounded. It further diminishes all of the accomplishments of him and his family.

416	It should reflect the community who utilize it and pay for it so community.	10/7/2023 12:41 PM
417	Because he is the founder of the library and while he was guilty of using his office to disseminate Nazi Germany provided anti-war literature to promote his isolationist agenda before the US entered the war, his support of integrating the US armed forces seems to support the idea that he wasn't a white supremacist himself.	10/7/2023 12:35 PM
418	We must learn from history and not try and sanitize or change it. The Fish family has been a very huge part of the Hudson Valley as well as our nations history. One mistake ( a common one, Hitler was Time Magazines man of the year) should not be a reason to erase ANYONE	10/7/2023 12:34 PM
419	It's no longer a private library. It is funded by Garrison taxes for half of its operating budget, I believe.	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
420	Desmond supplied the money while Fish supplied his discredited name.	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
421	It is the name and he was a large force in the library's history. That can and should not be erased.	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
422	Don't believe our library should be noted with him	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
423	Modify the name by maintaining Ms. Desmond's name only. She was probably the main proposer for the community to have a library even though in a more quiet manner than her husband.	10/7/2023 12:23 PM
424	I have not done research on the matter and cannot say if Fish was a nazi sympathizer or not. But my feeling is that if there is evidence, keeping the name is divisive. There are so many natural local features in the area. Public building names could focus on neutral, natural beauty and wonder rather than on flawed humans.	10/7/2023 12:23 PM
425	Because we need to put a stand against cancel culture and wokeness.	10/7/2023 12:19 PM
426	We cannot undue history.	10/7/2023 12:15 PM
427	it is a distinctive name, a historical name and most people don't know anything about the two of them. let the good they've done continue.	10/7/2023 12:13 PM
428	I just don't really care. If someone is bothered by it then change it.	10/7/2023 12:08 PM
429	My opinion	10/7/2023 11:57 AM
430	Like I said in 5 we need to learn from the past, Not erase it.	10/7/2023 11:56 AM
431	Desmond Fish took an active and aggressive role in blocking Jewish entry to the U.S. after Hitler's rise to power, and thus, was directly/indirectly responsible for the loss of thousands/millions of lives during the Holocaust.	10/7/2023 11:04 AM
432	Why would we support nazi sympathizers	10/7/2023 10:51 AM
433	Avoid criticism now and in the future	10/7/2023 9:56 AM
434	The library is a center of the community and known by the Fish name. Actions taken by its beneficiary nearly 100 years ago don't impact it's mission, vision, or place in the minds and hearts of community members	10/7/2023 9:55 AM
435	This current fervor to "cancel" American history is both sad and laughable.	10/7/2023 8:53 AM
436	Change is healthy	10/7/2023 8:11 AM
437	It's just a name - better to play it safe and not honor potential nazis, and TBH I don't really think anyone really has positive sentiments around a long dead, little know politicians.	10/6/2023 5:37 PM
438	Please see response to 10 below	10/6/2023 5:09 PM
439	I am tired of the renaming frenzy we are currently experiencing.	10/6/2023 4:23 PM

## Name Review Survey

440	Should we continue to allow this name to be promulgated after what was done? Do we continue to look away and allow 'old boy' networks to still thrive?	10/6/2023 4:12 PM
441	I believe that changing the Library's name would be an over-reaction to a one-sided incomplete news report. Hamilton Fish III was an imperfect man but he wasn't an antisemite. A more complete look at his life reveals a man of extraordinary courage, conviction and patriotism. He's also a role model of inclusiveness given his service with the Harlem Hellfighters and his well documented support of Israel.	10/6/2023 2:57 PM
442	Altering the current name should appease people in the community that are unhappy, while maintaining a form of the original name.	10/6/2023 1:45 PM
443	Stop naming public buildings and spaces after people - In this age of deep internet research and info, skeletons will invariably be found in most any individual's closet.	10/6/2023 12:55 PM
444	I wouldn't want to attend a high school called the "Adolf Hitler High School." When society learns about past wrongs they should be corrected.	10/6/2023 12:35 PM
445	People are complex. The library has acknowledged his disruptive views but he was not alone in holding them and they need to be considered in the context of the time he expressed them. But I'm also not Jewish.	10/6/2023 12:24 PM
446	I think naming buildings and places after people is rarely a good idea. People are messy and complicated and this country was founded on the genocide of the many indigenous nations that lived here peacefully for thousands of years. Libraries should be about the people they serve, not the people that founded it. The best community spaces are founded around principles of mutual aid, not charity. I think there is a space to acknowledge the founders of the library, but it doesn't have to be in the name.	10/6/2023 11:46 AM
447	She has no relevance to the community (lived in Newburgh) and his name is tainted.	10/6/2023 11:30 AM
448	Alice Curtis Desmond's money was also used to fund the library, and her history is not tainted by her association with her husband.	10/6/2023 10:54 AM
449	I think people are overreacting to the media	10/6/2023 10:44 AM
450	I don't think Libraries, or any public place for that matter, should be named after donors, they should be named and identified for the place. Of course, most places are named after people, but if the library is in Garrison, call it the Garrison Library. If the library is in Cold Spring, call it the Cold Spring library.	10/6/2023 8:26 AM
451	Renaming the library would remove the reminder that its founder was a Nazi sympathizer. It won't change history, but instead, direct our attention elsewhere - for example, to Daniel Nimham or Sybil Ludington, or perhaps to Robert Parker Parrott, whose invention, the Parrott Rifle, was instrumental in winning the Civil War for the Union.	10/6/2023 7:50 AM
452	For many people, the only time they hear the name Hamilton Fish is in connection with our library, giving the false impression that we was a generous or honorable man who should be memorialized favorably. We know that is not the case. Further, due to the commonality of his name among his ancestors and descendants, it is murky which of the Hamilton Fishes the library is meant to commemorate. As for Alice Desmond, it appears she was the one who actually left some money to the library, so perhaps only her name should be kept.	10/5/2023 5:51 PM
453	I think looking back with 20/20 hindsight, we lose the perspective of what was actually happening at that time. While support of Hitler in the 1930's was questionable, many high profile Americans, including Henry Ford and Charles Lindberg, were very complimentary of Hitler in the 1930's for rebuilding Germany after WWI. By the late 30's the tide had turned and Hitler was recognized as pure evil. Not everyone made decisions that will stand the test of time. I think Fish did a lot of good work in his career, but made a major mistake here. Leave the name and use it as a teachable moment - maybe include a display at the library that addresses the issue.	10/5/2023 4:39 PM
454	Retain Alice Curtis Desmond name for her role in starting library and for community's familiarity with her name. Remove HF as the flashpoint for the controversy, but perhaps have a commemorative plaque that credits both for their role in formation of the library.	10/5/2023 2:43 PM
455	People should be held accountable for their actions. The untarnished image of a library should not be subject to sale.	10/5/2023 2:34 PM

## Name Review Survey

456	I feel that it would separate the library from the allegations, and it would be a clean slate	10/5/2023 1:39 PM
457	Because all this PC rewriting of history has to stop.	10/5/2023 1:25 PM
458	The choice of a name should be in the hands of the board and the family.	10/5/2023 11:26 AM
459	I think it's important to publicly take a stand against antisemitism in whatever way it pops up, especially in this current climate.	10/5/2023 11:25 AM
460	It makes more sense to me to call it the Garrison Public Library	10/5/2023 10:33 AM
461	Desmond and Fish divorced acrimoniously. It's odd that their names are paired for eternity on library letterhead. Also, while HF III did many good things and is a member of a family that has deep roots in the area, he, for a time, cozied up to Nazis. I think that's a disqualifier.	10/5/2023 8:22 AM
462	I'm split between a new name and a name modification. But either way, I don't believe it is right for an entity supported with public funding and that is intended to serve people of all backgrounds to honor a founder with this type of background. Additionally, I think it is unnecessary baggage for the library, staff, board and community. Although HF3's list of positive accomplishments is lengthy, he did play a role in a very dark part of American history. And for some in our community, that role is difficult to deal with. Why force people to contend with it every time they interact with their local library?	10/4/2023 7:45 PM
463	Alice Desmond and Ham Fish have made a significant contribution to the community and to deny them recognition as a result of applying contemporary standards to reconsider the merit of past activity is inappropriate	10/4/2023 3:06 PM
464	It would be a shame for Philipstown residents to have the knowledge of the history of Ham Fish III and continue to continue to uplift his name after the history we have learned.	10/4/2023 3:01 PM
465	We cannot change our history by hiding it — better to be honest about it and to explore why it might be better.	10/4/2023 2:16 PM
466	We could try a new name. However, no one at the time of The war knew what Hitler was doing to the Jewish people. We didn't know until after the war. They could have felt awful once they new and these people founded the library and it is a pretty special place. It also sounds like the descendants of the family had no idea so why would be punish them.	10/4/2023 12:28 PM
467	not the kind of american that you should celebrate	10/4/2023 11:29 AM
468	I agree with the statement that our name review is not a character judgement committee. We're not here to say whether Hamilton Fish III was a good guy or a bad guy. I think ultimately it comes down to welcoming everyone to the library. The Garrison Public Library is a name that welcomes everyone. It's not a punishment or repudiation. It's just a change that better reflects who we are. I think we wouldn't be changing the name if the Ultra podcast hadn't brought the past into the present, but think it's actually given us a great opportunity to achieve one of our most fundamental goals. The Garrison Public Library does not sound in any way like a private institution. The Desmond-Fish Public Library (even with the word public in there) still has an intimidating, upperclass ring to it.	10/4/2023 10:36 AM
469	The library is a wonderful place where people of any colour or creed can read and find a home place in our town. That is not compatible with Fish's actions and attitudes.	10/4/2023 10:30 AM
470	HF founded dfpl	10/4/2023 8:58 AM
471	History Acknowledge it and move on	10/4/2023 8:36 AM
472	It is important modeling for our community and kids to show that we have an active role in eradicating hate and legacy of hate	10/4/2023 7:31 AM
473	Historical figures, as all people, are not fully good or bad. We should praise the good in people and learn from the bad.	10/3/2023 7:53 PM
474	I believe history requires a nuanced view and it would be premature to take significant action at this time	10/3/2023 7:34 PM
475	It does not reflect Garrison residents	10/3/2023 6:38 PM
476	Because there is not reprimand for what Fish did, said and for his open support of the Nazi regime, no matter what he did later in his life. Because a library that positions itself as a beacon against racism cannot be named after a racist.	10/3/2023 5:38 PM

## Name Review Survey

477	We rename buildings all the time when that building's past needs to be reconned with. There are many members of our community past and present that we can honor in the renaming. Also, a historical plaque on the grounds of the library acknowledging and explaining the reason for renaming is also advised. Full erasure of uncomfortable history is not a lesson learned. The reason for the name change must remain transparent for the education of our community and for our historical record.	10/3/2023 5:31 PM
478	We can do better to support a diverse and inclusive committee.	10/3/2023 5:30 PM
479	This man's views are not representative of our community and it's ideals	10/3/2023 5:23 PM
480	The only constant in life is change, there is nothing wrong with the library changing its name to better represent the current community and not honor someone who actively sought to discriminate against others. The library's name should be one that is inclusive to all and represents who we currently are.	10/3/2023 5:15 PM
481	A fresh start. Don't erase the history of the founders, but put distance between the library and the negativity. The library doesn't represent it's founders values. Changing the name will make the library feel like a more open, friendly place to the Jewish community.	10/3/2023 2:55 PM
482	Because those who are removing flags, statues, symbols of wrongful people/events are so inspirational. When i asked a museum director when she planned to remove Confederate paraphernalia from the children's section of the gift shop, she was rightfully abashed and agreed to do so immediately, after too many other such complaints. In answer to a congregant at my place of religion, my "hurt feelings" are as important to me and my peers as her imagined ones are to a name change.	10/3/2023 2:17 PM
483	Because those who remove Confederate flags and statues, etc, from public view are right to do so. I once asked a museum director when she planned to remove a confederate flag from a children's display of historical costumes; she said she has had so many requests for the same that she knows that she is overdue to do so.	10/3/2023 1:45 PM
484	Because those who remove Confederate flags and statues, etc, from public view are right to do so. I once asked a museum director when she planned to remove a confederate flag from a children's display of historical costumes; she said she has had so many requests for the same that she knows that she is overdue to do so.	10/3/2023 1:43 PM
485	The Desmond/Fish family provided support for the library beyond the bad deeds of the patriarch. Reparative actions should also be taken.	10/3/2023 1:04 PM
486	To end the madness.	10/3/2023 10:53 AM
487	I believe that he and the other congressmen were only guilty of gross naivete in believing that these Germans meant no harm. I think that his experiences in the previous war had convinced him that the United States should avoid sending young men to war in Europe at all costs. This was not contrary to most Americans thinking at that time. Although my association with the library didn't begin until 1985, I have always been under the impression that the senior Hamilton Fish had very little to do with the management of the library. His son, however who bears the same name helped guide the library through a contentious law suit that threatened the endowment. His son, the current Ham Fish started the process of receiving public funds to supplement that endowment. I think it would be a disservice to Fish family who have contributed so much to the library to erase the name. I know Alice Desmond provided the funds for the library to be built but if she hadn't married the elder Hamilton Fish, I doubt the library would b in Garrison.	10/3/2023 10:13 AM
488	I do not have enough information	10/3/2023 10:09 AM
489	Political ideology at a historic period in America/Europe was unfortunate, but historical perspective needs to be accounted for. In later years, perhaps with perspective on eroneous earlier choices, the contribution and endowment to this community needs to be accepted as the positive choice of a man who recognized the good that would come from this donation.	10/3/2023 9:19 AM
490	I believe that history, good or bad, should not be erased and that keeping the name, but teaching about these issues will help people learn more.	10/3/2023 9:06 AM
491	I think the Fish family name should not be struck from the records because of the actions of one of their ancestors. There are a few Hamilton Fish so removing 'III' should be sufficient.	10/2/2023 8:08 PM

## Name Review Survey

492	He was an important figure in American political history and we should respect different positions. There is no evidence that he engaged in anti-semitic activities. I heard Rachel Maddow's pod cast and was turned off by the lack of evidence to support the claims. He may not have been someone that always showed good judgement with the people he associated with, but most politicians in my opinion behave in a similar fashion-especially when trying to please their constituency.	10/2/2023 8:02 PM
493	These decisions are subjective, and this is one man's opinion. Since the library is private institution, the actual decision belongs to the board of trustees, which I think must decide between memorializing Hamilton Fish and deciding that he should not be memorialized given his views and actions during his lifetime. I come down on the latter side, but I also recognize that he and his wife founded and named the library, and any decision to reverse his/their actions are problematic.	10/2/2023 3:53 PM
494	I don't believe a complete rename is in order. If any. And context is in order about the individual more than a an erasure.	10/2/2023 3:24 PM
495	Alice Curtis-Desmond provided the seed money to create the Library. I'm not completely well-versed in her potential actions which might preclude her name from remaining on the Library. If there aren't any actionable issues then it would be unfair to erase her completely from the narrative/name.	10/2/2023 1:31 PM
496	Not sure.	10/2/2023 12:26 PM
497	We're all flawed. There's plenty of reasons to honor them despite their/his flaws. (I also feel this way about other historical figures.)	10/2/2023 11:01 AM
498	Because if I am to believe what I have heard, it was Alice who had the money to actually help build the library. Not Hamilton. Give credit where credit is due. I am not opposed to rename Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library, if that is indeed the case. However, if she was supportive of her husband's actions, then I would reconsider this answer and suggest be renamed.	10/2/2023 8:57 AM
499	It should be changed with respect to all in the community but especially to the Jewish Community that let ves hear and worldwide. It would be a disgrace with the information known, to keep the current name	10/2/2023 8:43 AM
500	Some feel very strongly on changing the name.	10/2/2023 8:42 AM
501	I'm not aware of his history and I'm not sure where I stand on the wider issue (remove the now-offending name/statue/film etc or add an explainer?) but I think these are the right questions to ask.	10/2/2023 8:24 AM
502	I think that we do a disservice to our kids and future generations by cancelling people and their history. What Hamilton Fish III did was despicable, but it happened. My feeling is that the best way forward is to acknowledge the good he did for the community and also educate people on his past. The only way to stop repeating the past is to learn from it and you can't do that if its been erased.	10/2/2023 8:10 AM
503	It is essentially meaningless to change the name. Societal change will only occur with education, intention and real action. Words and names do matter, but actions matter more. If you do vote to change the name, please have the moral constancy to return all funding with links to the family. You can't have it both ways!	10/2/2023 8:03 AM
504	It is known by that name, which honors the original patrons, for decades throughout the state and beyond. Don't confuse people or bring attention to the issue.	10/2/2023 8:00 AM
505	In the current world environment there is too much evidence of hate and bigotry, and it is important to remove any vestiges of that from our public buildings and structures. Just as the statues of confederate leaders are being removed we can follow that example locally.	10/2/2023 7:51 AM
506	I attended the seminar with the Rutgers professor who knew him and has 1000s of pages of documentation - never once made a remark as well as Jewish people who stood up and said they were friends with him and he never remarked	10/2/2023 6:53 AM
507	The benefit of the Garrison library is in enriching our community with learning and community, supporting learners of all ages, bringing people together and connecting them with materials they would not otherwise have access to. I don't think HF's name should impede this.	10/2/2023 6:36 AM
508	Historical atrocities	10/2/2023 1:33 AM

## Name Review Survey

509	I don't know enough about it or how true it is	10/2/2023 12:48 AM
510	Why retain and honor the names of those whose history has become clear and is hurtful to people of the community they are said to support?	10/1/2023 10:44 PM
511	Fish family gave money to create library.	10/1/2023 8:22 PM
512	There is no place in current society for even a whisper of antisemitism - even if it's antisemitism adjacent	10/1/2023 5:48 PM
513	We should not judge actions of the past based on today's standards. Some of HFIII actions may have been misguided but the responses may have been skewed by reporting. He was not an antisemite. Also his and his wife's gift to create the library is in no way related to activities before the war or after.	10/1/2023 4:47 PM
514	I think people will still call it by it's old name even after it's changed	10/1/2023 4:15 PM
515	Why have a name that brings potential controversy. Local Libraries are a place to bring the community tighter.	10/1/2023 4:00 PM
516	I believe that ever naming any public institution or indeed any institution however it is governed that aspires to serve the public should never be named anything after a living donor. It adds to the overall idea that money is king. Gives entirely too Much attention to wealth. Raises interesting and challenging questions like this one. It's a bad American habit. What's wrong with Garrison Public Library? I find the whole thing distasteful. His wife's Money. Their divorce. His name first. I know we are all three dimensional with at times warring sides but being a key nite speaker For Germany????	10/1/2023 3:58 PM
517	Not a priority for me.	10/1/2023 2:50 PM
518	It's a familiar name and hasn't seemed to caused any harm	10/1/2023 2:39 PM
519	Much positive history of the Fish and Desmond families and their contributions should not be discarded	10/1/2023 1:35 PM
520	HFIII was, in fact, a co-founder. He also, on balance, seems to have lived a constructive and fair-minded life, motivated by positive values including patriotism. However, it is unquestionable that the country as a whole (not just Garrison or the DFPL community) could use some thoughtful (not knee-jerk) conversation and action around issues of racism, intolerance, et cetera.	10/1/2023 8:12 AM
521	Desmond provided initial funding to create the Library and continued to fund it through the remainder of her life and after she passed. While she did not require the naming, she saw it with her name during her many gifts. She deserves to be remembered.	10/1/2023 7:19 AM

Name Review Survey

Q9 Please suggest any names that you think would be acceptable for the library. You can write in as many as you like.

Answered: 302 Skipped: 219

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Keep the current name.	11/6/2023 12:18 PM
2	The Garrison Library	11/6/2023 11:54 AM
3	Garrison Public Library	11/6/2023 11:51 AM
4	Change name.	11/6/2023 11:47 AM
5	Desmond Fish Public Library	11/4/2023 4:31 PM
6	- Alice Curtis Desmond Library - Garrison Public Library (keep it simple)	11/4/2023 3:40 PM
7	My daughter suggests 'The Magical Books Library.' I'd suggest the 'Cat Rock Library' or simply 'The Garrison Library'	11/4/2023 1:11 PM
8	Alice Desmond Public Library	11/4/2023 12:03 PM
9	People's Community Library Longmeadow Library Garrison Public Library Hudson Highlands Public Library (I don't believe in naming things after individuals and so do not put forth the Alice Curtis Desmond Library, but would not argue against it. And I make a blurry distinction between things named after individuals and things named after places named after individuals, like Garrison — though it still feels a little gross. And I think if we were to use an Indigenous name, it should be after consultation with tribal leadership and so do not suggest an idea here.)	11/3/2023 11:24 PM
10	Keep it the same and don't be swayed by attempts to cancel history. The people criticizing and wanting to change the name are products of their time as well. Respect and appreciation are timeless; we should be cautious about not appreciating people's good intentions.	11/3/2023 7:52 PM
11	I will be no use here, but there are local heroes to choose from, of both newer and older minting. I am sure. I just do not know my Garrison history. I'll nominate the Seeger Library, because he seems worth honoring and honoring and honoring.	11/2/2023 6:59 PM
12	Garrison Public Library	11/2/2023 6:52 PM
13	I vote for keeping his name but if I lose, it should, at the very least, be called the Alice Curtis Desmond Library or the Garrison Library, (founded by Alice C. Desmond and Hamilton Fish III)	11/2/2023 5:57 PM
14	NO---UNBELIEVABLE---HOW ARROGANT YOU ARE!!!	11/2/2023 4:57 PM
15	_____	11/2/2023 3:10 PM
16	Alice Curtis Desmond - Fish Library	11/2/2023 2:18 PM
17	None.	11/2/2023 1:28 PM
18	Garrison Public Library	11/2/2023 10:58 AM
19	Leave as is	11/2/2023 10:40 AM
20	None	11/2/2023 9:51 AM
21	Alice Desmond Fish Library	11/2/2023 9:08 AM
22	Alison Curtis Desmond The Garrison Highlands Library Garrison Library	11/2/2023 9:08 AM
23	If it is determined that a name change is best I would say Garrison Library	11/2/2023 9:07 AM
24	I think something simple like "The Garrison Library"	11/2/2023 9:06 AM
25	Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library Garrison Public Library	11/2/2023 9:00 AM

## Name Review Survey

26	Desmond Library Garrison Library	11/2/2023 8:34 AM
27	N/A	11/2/2023 8:17 AM
28	I think adding a I or IV to the end of "Hamilton Fish" would be an easy way to settle the tension. I don't think it's worth trying to justify his actions against a hostile public even if much of what Rachel Maddow said wasn't true. I haven't read the librarian's research paper yet, but through my own research it became pretty clear that he was heavily involved with the Nazis. And it was probably more about advancing his anti-communist cause than it was about the Jews specifically, but the fact that he directed so much attention against any ethnic/religious group to advance his own cause tells me that on some level he was quite insecure and underdeveloped. One need only watch videos of the man to see that he was a bit of an extremist and fairly narcissistic.	11/1/2023 10:55 PM
29	Garrison Public Library Daniel Nimham Public Library Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library Philipstown Public Library Hudson Highlands Public Library Munsee Lenape Public Library (and many other names that do not have Fish III in them would be acceptable to me)	11/1/2023 4:37 PM
30	vhsfstuhdftjsfygyjsd	11/1/2023 1:55 PM
31	The Garrison Library. That's what everyone calls it anyway.	11/1/2023 12:54 PM
32	"Some Local Indigenous Peoples Name" Memorial Library (with a plaque beside the front door explaining that the library sits on stolen land). Sounds too strident? Maybe we could soften the language somehow. How about; The Garrison Open Mind Free Library The People's Free Library Democracy Project Library No Banned Books Library Pete Seeger Free Library Eleanor Roosevelt Memorial Library	11/1/2023 12:33 AM
33	I wouldn't change the name. Please don't give in to pressure from a few individuals with an extreme Agenda, don't let them rewrite history with these false accusations.	10/31/2023 8:59 PM
34	Maintain the current names.	10/31/2023 7:28 PM
35	N/A	10/31/2023 6:45 PM
36	Its current name is historically appropriate.	10/31/2023 4:56 PM
37	Garrison Library	10/31/2023 2:16 PM
38	No change to the name.	10/31/2023 1:16 PM
39	Garrison Public Library	10/31/2023 10:18 AM
40	I have no specific names in mind but think a name reflecting the indigenous people who originally lived here would be appropriate, or perhaps the name of an abolitionist who came from this area.	10/31/2023 6:38 AM
41	No name change is needed	10/30/2023 8:39 PM
42	N/A	10/30/2023 8:37 PM
43	Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Fish Library	10/30/2023 6:37 PM
44	DO NOT CHANGE IT	10/30/2023 5:47 PM
45	DESMOND-FISH PUBLIC LIBRARY (keep it short) WHILE FISH III'S ACTIONS were REPREHENSIBLE, LIBRARY SHOULD NOTE THAT THE FOUNDERS OR FISH FAMILY TOTALLY SUPPORTED THE MISSION OF THE LIBRARY "provide access to the world of social and cultural ideas to the Community by offering a wide variety of materials and programs." AND IN NO WAY ALLOWED THERE PERSONAL PHILOSOPHIES OR POLITICAL LEANINGS TO INFLUENCE THE CHOICE OF PROGRAMS, MEDIA, BOOKS	10/30/2023 5:22 PM
46	Alice Curtis Desmond Library	10/30/2023 3:16 PM
47	Garrison Library, Garrison Public Library, Hudson Highlands Library, Castle Rock Library. Name the library for an inspiring local figure.	10/30/2023 3:08 PM
48	The Social Justice Utopia Library	10/30/2023 2:52 PM
49	no opinion	10/30/2023 2:30 PM
50	None	10/30/2023 10:13 AM

## Name Review Survey

51	Desmond-Fish Library	10/30/2023 7:54 AM
52	Current name.	10/29/2023 10:54 PM
53	garrison public library	10/29/2023 3:24 PM
54	None; keep it as is.	10/29/2023 1:41 PM
55	None!!! Keep as is.	10/29/2023 11:25 AM
56	Garrison Library	10/28/2023 9:24 PM
57	Leave it the same	10/28/2023 2:16 PM
58	NA	10/27/2023 7:44 PM
59	Keep it as is.	10/27/2023 1:21 PM
60	Desmond Fish Library	10/27/2023 9:15 AM
61	If the Library name must be changed, I would offer Garrison Library.	10/27/2023 9:10 AM
62	Retain name	10/26/2023 10:47 PM
63	Desmond Library	10/26/2023 7:46 PM
64	The Library of Garrison.	10/26/2023 6:39 PM
65	If there were to be a name change, I would suggest the Alice Curtis Desmond Library	10/26/2023 4:49 PM
66	1. The Governor Hamilton Fish Library (out of respect to the Fish family – he was well-regarded public servant as NY Governor and Sec’y of State. 2. Alice Curtis Desmond Library 3. Garrison Library 4. Hudson Valley Library Also, consider not just “library” but also ...Library and Information Center ...Library and Cultural Center ...Library and Learning Commons ...Library and Center for Study of American Values	10/26/2023 12:30 PM
67	Cold Spring Library	10/26/2023 12:10 PM
68	The Garrison Public Library	10/26/2023 11:06 AM
69	Current name is good.	10/26/2023 10:38 AM
70	Keep the name as is.	10/25/2023 3:33 PM
71	Many of the names that might be suggested, will only serve to homogenize ideas. Names like the Garrison library...is that the only group who use it? Garrison...too military? The Philipstown library...the entire history of how the town came to be might be confrontational. Life is not without confrontation. It will be difficult to find an name without any controversy.	10/25/2023 9:17 AM
72	Alice Curtis Desmond Fish Public Library	10/25/2023 3:40 AM
73	Garrison Public Library Garrison Library	10/24/2023 9:29 PM
74	The Garrison Library.	10/24/2023 8:45 PM
75	There is only one option. keep it as is.	10/24/2023 8:23 PM
76	Alice Desmond Library.	10/24/2023 5:17 PM
77	Garrison Library	10/23/2023 10:29 PM
78	The Garrison Library	10/23/2023 7:39 PM
79	If you decide to drop the "Fish" part of the name, then I would call the library the "Desmond Library" to avoid confusion.	10/23/2023 4:12 PM
80	Any other name that honors significant people in the history of Garrison or our larger area or New York.	10/23/2023 12:25 PM
81	Use the town name or Hudson Valley or both,	10/23/2023 9:18 AM
82	The Garrison Public Library seems simple and to the point and follows suit for most Libraries. Makes the google search easy...everyone I know searches it up as the library in garrison..because who can remember his name anyway.	10/22/2023 9:48 PM

## Name Review Survey

83	Alice Desmond Library.	10/22/2023 6:51 PM
84	Alice Beardsley Desmond Public Library.	10/22/2023 4:09 PM
85	Whatever you think best.	10/22/2023 11:07 AM
86	I recommend keeping the name as it is. In the current economic climate marked by inflation and high energy prices, it seems impractical to allocate funds from the library and taxpayers. If the library has available resources, I suggest considering investments in valuable community assets such as 3D printers and emerging technologies.	10/22/2023 6:42 AM
87	The Alice Desmond Library	10/21/2023 3:41 PM
88	Hudson Highlands Library Philipstown Library	10/21/2023 3:10 PM
89	Garrison Free Public Library	10/21/2023 2:49 PM
90	N/A	10/21/2023 2:45 PM
91	Garrison Public Library Hudson Highlands Public Library Fish Public Library	10/21/2023 1:25 PM
92	Why does it need to be named after anyone? If someone or some organization is going to make a historical financial contribution to the library, then perhaps using that donor's name is something to consider. If not, what is wrong with "Garrison Public Library," or "Philipstown Public Library"?	10/21/2023 11:02 AM
93	Same	10/20/2023 12:13 PM
94	Garrison Library Alice Desmond Library Redoubt Library	10/20/2023 12:07 PM
95	Alice Desmond Library (if with research it's proven that she didn't take part in this neo-Nazi propaganda as well).	10/20/2023 10:45 AM
96	If you had to change it due to public support for it, I would recommend Garrison Public Library.	10/20/2023 10:18 AM
97	Garrison Community Library Keep it simple and names off	10/20/2023 7:37 AM
98	The Garrison Library, Garrison Library	10/20/2023 5:45 AM
99	Keep the current name	10/20/2023 12:11 AM
100	Honor local veteran	10/19/2023 11:37 PM
101	Garrison Public Library	10/19/2023 10:29 PM
102	Garrison Public library	10/19/2023 8:48 PM
103	THE GARRISON LIBRARY	10/19/2023 7:16 PM
104	Same one it now has	10/19/2023 7:12 PM
105	Rename to honor Alice Desmond, and remove Fish's name. Maybe install a plaque that recognizes Fish's contributions to the library, Philipstown community, and his work to end discrimination and segregations in the armed forces.	10/19/2023 4:18 PM
106	Absolutely no names because it doesn't need to be changed.	10/19/2023 4:17 PM
107	Hudson highlands library Benedict Arnold library (just kidding)	10/19/2023 1:04 PM
108	I really do not care, other than that his name not be there!	10/19/2023 12:30 PM
109	Keep the name as it is...	10/19/2023 12:08 PM
110	The Garrison Library	10/19/2023 11:43 AM
111	Lenape library Freedom Library The Peoples Library	10/19/2023 10:09 AM
112	There are plenty of people of good will who could be acknowledged by the library name.	10/19/2023 9:05 AM
113	Desmond Fish Public Library	10/19/2023 8:56 AM
114	If the community strongly prefers a name change (I'm not advocating for one) - the. Keep it simple! Garrison Library. Let's not name after other wealthy patrons!!	10/19/2023 8:04 AM

## Name Review Survey

115	If the community strongly prefers a name change (I'm not advocating for one) - the. Keep it simple! Garrison Library. Let's not name after other wealthy patrons!!	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
116	Garrison Library	10/18/2023 7:23 PM
117	Only the current one.	10/18/2023 6:43 PM
118	The Alice Curtis Desmond Library The Garrison Library The Highlands Library	10/18/2023 6:22 PM
119	Garrison Public Library	10/18/2023 6:17 PM
120	Stay as it is	10/18/2023 6:12 PM
121	Maintain as is.	10/18/2023 5:41 PM
122	None	10/18/2023 5:19 PM
123	Keep the existing name.	10/18/2023 4:33 PM
124	Philipstown public library	10/18/2023 4:32 PM
125	Garrison Public Library	10/18/2023 4:31 PM
126	Garrison Public Library	10/18/2023 4:25 PM
127	N/A	10/18/2023 4:00 PM
128	No cange	10/18/2023 12:10 PM
129	Let's call it: The Library That way we stay out of harms way in case someone has an issue with it being named after a person or a place that might have an issue associated with the name. The Library sounds creative and current. It's like The Storage Place, or The Corner Drug Store, or the Bar. Take your pick, and I hope it doesn't offend anyone.	10/18/2023 11:41 AM
130	The Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Fish Public Library (same name as now)	10/18/2023 10:25 AM
131	Garrison Library	10/18/2023 9:37 AM
132	Garrison Library	10/18/2023 8:51 AM
133	The Garrison Library	10/18/2023 8:32 AM
134	The Garrison Public Library	10/18/2023 8:31 AM
135	Garrison Library	10/18/2023 8:16 AM
136	Alice Curtis Library Garrison Public Library	10/17/2023 8:59 PM
137	How about "The Ungrateful, Overfunded Garrison Public Library" .	10/17/2023 8:42 PM
138	Garrison Library	10/17/2023 8:20 PM
139	Ridiculous	10/17/2023 8:17 PM
140	Don't change name	10/17/2023 8:12 PM
141	Garrison Library	10/17/2023 7:52 PM
142	Keep the current name	10/17/2023 6:51 PM
143	Keep it	10/17/2023 5:09 PM
144	No other name	10/17/2023 4:39 PM
145	Library	10/17/2023 3:34 PM
146	Garrison Library	10/17/2023 3:32 PM
147	Don't name it after a person. Name it after something regional, maybe native flora & fauna, wildlife, etc.	10/17/2023 3:24 PM
148	Snowflake	10/17/2023 3:06 PM
149	Garrison Public Library	10/17/2023 2:55 PM

## Name Review Survey

150	Garrison Free Public Library	10/17/2023 2:50 PM
151	Hamilton Fish IV served in Congress honorably. You will be able to recognize the contribution of the Fish family to the Library, while honoring one more deserving.	10/17/2023 2:35 PM
152	Hamilton Fish IV served in Congress honorably. You will be able to recognize the contribution of the Fish family to the Library, while honoring one more deserving.	10/17/2023 2:33 PM
153	The Garrison Library	10/17/2023 2:07 PM
154	Keep the name the same.	10/17/2023 1:52 PM
155	Garrison Public Library and Learning Center	10/17/2023 1:50 PM
156	None	10/17/2023 1:28 PM
157	It's so sad to watch a historical figure become erased . Who will be next . A man and a family built a political dynasty by serving OUR community and you want him gone. How brave.	10/17/2023 1:01 PM
158	Governor George Pataki	10/17/2023 1:01 PM
159	The Garrison Library; Garrison Public Library; Alice Desmond Library; Alice Desmond Library, Garrison; Wonderland Library	10/17/2023 12:30 PM
160	Desmond Fish Public Library Desmond Fish Private Library	10/17/2023 12:22 PM
161	Desmond Fish Library!	10/17/2023 11:35 AM
162	Library of the Hudson	10/17/2023 10:58 AM
163	No opinion, I've only been a member of this community for 3 years so i would imagine that those with a deeper knowledge of the history would be better sources for naming the library.	10/17/2023 9:56 AM
164	I would love to see the building named after the people who lived on this land for centuries, the Wappinger tribe. But that name is a bastardized version. It's probable the original name in Munster was Wapinkw. I realize this is a tough sell, so you could go with Algonquin, which is the larger tribal confederacy name.	10/17/2023 9:12 AM
165	Either keep it as-is or at least retain Alice Curtis Desmond.	10/17/2023 9:09 AM
166	Garrison Public Library.	10/17/2023 8:58 AM
167	I don't believe it should change. You could reference only Alice Curtis Desmond or use	10/17/2023 7:51 AM
168	Garrison Free Public Library or Alice Curtis Desmond Fish	10/17/2023 7:40 AM
169	The Garrison Public Library	10/17/2023 7:22 AM
170	Desmond Fish Public Library	10/16/2023 11:07 PM
171	I think the name should contain Alice Curtis Desmond, or part of that name.	10/16/2023 10:36 PM
172	The John Brown Public Library, The Garrison Public Library	10/16/2023 8:11 PM
173	Alice Desmond	10/16/2023 7:23 PM
174	The Garrison Library	10/16/2023 7:00 PM
175	Garrison Public Library	10/16/2023 6:40 PM
176	Mickey Mouse...oh, sorry... Walt Disney had his own problems Dr Seuss....whoops George Washington... rut roh Thomas Jefferson...double rut roh Christopher Columbus...yeah, I know Billy Graham...You know, he really would be a good choice, but you'd never pick the name of a real Christian	10/16/2023 6:29 PM
177	The Garrison Community Library	10/16/2023 6:02 PM
178	NONE	10/16/2023 5:58 PM
179	The name can remain the same as long as the full actions of Mr. Fish are acknowledged, both the good and the bad.	10/16/2023 4:32 PM
180	Alice Curtis Desmond's name should be retained.	10/16/2023 4:18 PM

## Name Review Survey

181	Garrison Free Library Garrison Muhheakantuck Library Alice Desmond Library Lenape Library or maybe find some other local native names....	10/16/2023 4:10 PM
182	Leave it as it is	10/16/2023 11:43 AM
183	No other name would be respectful.	10/15/2023 10:12 PM
184	Alice Curtis Desmond Library	10/15/2023 4:41 PM
185	Alice Desmond Library	10/15/2023 3:46 PM
186	Garrison Community Library	10/15/2023 2:43 PM
187	Keep the name	10/15/2023 12:45 PM
188	I have no quarrel with retaining the name of Alice Curtis Desmond, whose apolitical history and photography are worthy of respect and admiration.	10/14/2023 1:36 AM
189	Garrison Library, Hudson Highlands Library	10/13/2023 8:03 AM
190	Garrison Public Library	10/12/2023 7:21 PM
191	Keep as is.	10/12/2023 1:16 PM
192	Maintain the same name	10/12/2023 10:49 AM
193	Keep it the same!	10/12/2023 8:19 AM
194	Garrison Library Garrison Community Library	10/12/2023 6:40 AM
195	Garrison Public Library Dolly Parton Public Library Blueberry Raspberry Liberry	10/11/2023 11:38 PM
196	Let the Garrison school children pick a name	10/11/2023 11:28 PM
197	The Hudson River Library The Mountain Laurel Library The Daniel Nimham Library	10/11/2023 10:48 PM
198	Shad Library (like the fish), Hudson Highlands Library, the name of a native plant that grows on or near the library grounds, like, Bergamot Library, Pitch Pine Library, or something similar, Muhheakunnuk Library, Library McLibraryface	10/11/2023 12:30 PM
199	I don't have suggestions at this time but would be happy to take another survey to vet options or learn more about others' ideas on the table. Honoring a local woman writer or person of color feels appropriate.	10/11/2023 9:51 AM
200	Desmond Library, or whatever else	10/11/2023 9:12 AM
201	Nochpeem Library to reflect and honor the indigenous people of this region of the Hudson Valley.	10/10/2023 8:55 PM
202	Garrison Library, Redoubt Library	10/10/2023 8:41 PM
203	N/A	10/10/2023 12:08 PM
204	Keep the same name.	10/10/2023 11:12 AM
205	The Garrison Library	10/10/2023 6:34 AM
206	Alice Desmond - Fish Family Library. ( need to know about other Fish family members) Alice Desmond Library.	10/9/2023 8:43 PM
207	The Garrison Library	10/9/2023 6:22 PM
208	Hudson Highlanda Library	10/9/2023 2:08 PM
209	Hamilton Fish Library	10/9/2023 1:58 PM
210	Garrison Public Library	10/9/2023 1:22 PM
211	Garrison Public Library	10/9/2023 12:41 PM
212	Pete Seeger	10/8/2023 5:33 PM
213	Pete Seeger	10/8/2023 3:35 PM
214	The Susie Barstow Public Library - named after the highly successful Hudson River school	10/8/2023 2:59 PM

## Name Review Survey

painter who was erased from the canon after her death by patriarchal art historians  
 The Sojourner Truth Public Library - named after famous female abolitionist and former slave  
 The Jane Bolin Public Library - named after first black female judge in Hudson Valley  
 Aileen Osborn Webb Public Library - created a shop to sell local farm produce and handmade products based on previous models of women's exchanges and farm cooperatives.

215	Garrison Library	10/8/2023 2:03 PM
216	No name is legally or historically more defensible than the one it has had for forty years.	10/8/2023 6:49 AM
217	Really?	10/8/2023 1:07 AM
218	The Garrison On Hudson Free Library I never liked the recent name change to "Public" Library	10/7/2023 11:12 PM
219	Not after a person. Pick a town name or landmark.	10/7/2023 9:10 PM
220	none	10/7/2023 6:24 PM
221	Garrison Public Library	10/7/2023 4:05 PM
222	Garrison public library	10/7/2023 3:58 PM
223	The Garrison Library, The Garrison Public Library, the Alice Desmond Library	10/7/2023 3:54 PM
224	Alice Desmond Garrison Community Library Some new major donor.	10/7/2023 2:28 PM
225	Garrison Community Library	10/7/2023 2:27 PM
226	Garrison Public Library	10/7/2023 2:06 PM
227	Garrison Public Library Garrison Free Library Garrison-Nelsonville Public Library	10/7/2023 1:50 PM
228	Garrison Library Hudson Highlands Library Garrison Hamlet Library	10/7/2023 1:14 PM
229	Garrison Community Public Library	10/7/2023 12:41 PM
230	The Garrison Library.	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
231	Desmond Library	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
232	Leave as is	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
233	Garrison library	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
234	Garrison Community Library ** Desmond Memorial **	10/7/2023 12:23 PM
235	The Garrison library	10/7/2023 12:08 PM
236	The Garrison Public Library	10/7/2023 11:04 AM
237	The Desmond garrison library	10/7/2023 10:51 AM
238	Garrison public library	10/7/2023 9:56 AM
239	Library McBookson	10/7/2023 9:55 AM
240	no	10/7/2023 8:53 AM
241	Fishy McFishface	10/6/2023 5:09 PM
242	Keep what ya got	10/6/2023 4:23 PM
243	Alice Curtis Desmond Library	10/6/2023 4:12 PM
244	Desmond-Fish Family Public Library	10/6/2023 2:57 PM
245	ADF Public Library DF Public Library ADF Garrison Library	10/6/2023 1:45 PM
246	Garrison Library Philipstown Library	10/6/2023 12:55 PM
247	Call it the "Garrison Public Library." If others don't like that vet Alice Desmond. If she's without ANY questionable issue consider call it by her name.	10/6/2023 12:35 PM
248	One solution would be to modify the name to honor the two families, which have many distinguished members, rather than the individuals who happened to long ago provide the seed	10/6/2023 12:24 PM

## Name Review Survey

money. That is, the official name would become the Desmond-Fish Public Library.

249	-The Munsee-Lenape Wappinger Library -The Red Maple Library -The People's Library (of the Lower Hudson Valley) -Community First Public Library -Desmond-Fish Public Library (with a plaque disclaimer acknowledging harm perpetuated by founders) -Valley Gardens Public Library	10/6/2023 11:46 AM
250	The Garrison Public Library	10/6/2023 11:30 AM
251	Garrison Library	10/6/2023 10:54 AM
252	Alice Curtis Desmond Fish Library	10/6/2023 10:44 AM
253	Garrison Public Library.	10/6/2023 8:26 AM
254	See above.	10/6/2023 7:50 AM
255	The organization itself should have a name inspired by local geography, as simple as "The Garrison Public Library" or a name derived from early, pre-colonial local history. Further, an additional honorific could get bestowed on the building itself, and I'd suggest naming it for our friend, Dr. Frank Lucente.	10/5/2023 5:51 PM
256	The Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library. The Desmond Public Library.	10/5/2023 2:43 PM
257	The Garrison People's Library	10/5/2023 2:34 PM
258	Philipstown Public Library Philipstown Free Library Garrison Public Library	10/5/2023 1:39 PM
259	How about "The Library".	10/5/2023 1:25 PM
260	The Garrison Library	10/5/2023 11:25 AM
261	(Above)	10/5/2023 10:33 AM
262	The Garrison Library	10/5/2023 8:22 AM
263	The Alice Library The Library The Desmond Library (assuming the Desmond name is ok) The Garrison Library	10/4/2023 7:45 PM
264	No change warranted	10/4/2023 3:06 PM
265	The Garrison Public Library Hudson Valley Library	10/4/2023 12:28 PM
266	garrison library	10/4/2023 11:29 AM
267	The Garrison Public Library The Garrison Free Library The Philipstown Public Library The Philipstown Free Library The Hudson Highlands Library The Hudson Highlands Free Library The Highlands Public Library The Highlands Free Library	10/4/2023 10:36 AM
268	Garrison Public Library Garrison Free Library Sandy Galef Public Library Hudson Highlands Public Library	10/4/2023 10:30 AM
269	The Garrison Public Library	10/4/2023 7:31 AM
270	Garrison Library	10/3/2023 6:38 PM
271	The Garrison library	10/3/2023 5:38 PM
272	I will think on it. Can there please be a suggestion box at the library front desk?	10/3/2023 5:31 PM
273	The Desmond Library The Desmond-Pataki library The Garrison Community Library	10/3/2023 5:23 PM
274	Garrison Library	10/3/2023 5:15 PM
275	Garrison Public Library Garrison Free Library Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library	10/3/2023 2:55 PM
276	The Alice C. Desmond Public Library, or anything that leaves HF's name off the entry way.	10/3/2023 2:17 PM
277	The A. Curtis Desmond Public Library, or anything that removes a Nazi sympathizer's name from the title above the entry.	10/3/2023 1:45 PM
278	The A. Curtis Desmond Public Library, or anything that removes a Nazi sympathizer's name from the title above the entry.	10/3/2023 1:43 PM
279	Desmond-Fish Family Library.	10/3/2023 1:04 PM

## Name Review Survey

280	Desmond-Fish Public Library	10/3/2023 10:53 AM
281	Desmond Library / Desmond - Fish Library /	10/2/2023 8:08 PM
282	Garrison Free Public Library Founded 1960 by Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Fish	10/2/2023 3:53 PM
283	But maybe a broadening of the families vs the individuals. The Desmond Fish family library.	10/2/2023 3:24 PM
284	Alice Curtis-Desmond Public Library, and if there's a rationale for removing her name as well, - Garrison Public Library,	10/2/2023 1:31 PM
285	Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library Garrison Public Library Philipstown Public Library	10/2/2023 8:57 AM
286	Garrison Library	10/2/2023 8:43 AM
287	Garrison Library or a modification	10/2/2023 8:42 AM
288	LEAVE IT AS IS	10/2/2023 8:03 AM
289	Alice Curtis Desmond Public Library Garrison Public Library	10/2/2023 7:51 AM
290	With that said - I am indifferent and would not be upset with the name Alice Curtis Desmond public library	10/2/2023 6:53 AM
291	The Garrison Public Library simple is best	10/2/2023 6:36 AM
292	Garrison Library	10/2/2023 1:33 AM
293	Garrison Public Library	10/2/2023 12:48 AM
294	Garrison Public Library	10/1/2023 10:44 PM
295	Garrison Public Library	10/1/2023 5:48 PM
296	No change in the name	10/1/2023 4:47 PM
297	Alice Curtis Desmond Library	10/1/2023 4:00 PM
298	Garrison Public Library	10/1/2023 3:58 PM
299	Garrison Library	10/1/2023 2:50 PM
300	No opinion	10/1/2023 1:35 PM
301	Although I have suggested keeping the current name, I do not have strong feelings about it.	10/1/2023 8:12 AM
302	Desmond Public Library	10/1/2023 7:19 AM

## Q10 Please suggest any reparative actions that you think would be helpful. You can write in as many as you like.

Answered: 270 Skipped: 251

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Instead of changing the name, I propose that the library be closed, the building, land, and collections be sold, and the proceeds be returned, along with paintings and personal items, to the Desmond and Fish heirs. Let the bellyachers and oh so sensitive souls start from scratch and raise money for a new library, and then they can name it whatever they please.	11/6/2023 12:34 PM
2	What would these be? I'd recommend caution. these could look silly and do you, a truly wonderful library, no favors.	11/6/2023 12:25 PM
3	Don't change the name of the library. Help people learn th epositive and negative qualities of our leaders. Considering the times they lived in to understand why they thought or took action that wouldn't be excitable in today's society.	11/6/2023 12:18 PM
4	Education	11/6/2023 12:07 PM
5	Conduct public education programs. Rename the library.	11/6/2023 11:51 AM
6	The best reparative action is to support the community — and in particular those in the community most in need — to the greatest extent possible. I believe a full and sincere disavowal of Fish would be warranted, but I think our focus should be in improving the lives of people in our community — and beyond — who find themselves at the margins, or under threats to their safety and well-being. While I do hope that we will lift up Jewish members of the community, I do not think we need to focus exclusively on groups that were harmed as a result of Fish's actions — regardless of the oppressor or the oppressed group, we can make reparative actions by aiding all those in need. I would like to suggest expanding our collection of communist and socialist material, as we have done with Jewish authors, in order to address the harm toward those groups to which Fish contributed.	11/3/2023 11:24 PM
7	If we want people to continue to be philanthropic and civid-minded, we need to accept people with their strengths, weaknesses and missteps. We need to honor one's journey through life. If not, people will hesitate to venture into that realm and civic generosity will be canceled along with history. Individuals will just keep their wealth to themselves and their families. We should not be apologizing for history. Let's appreciate how far we have come and look forward to doing good things instead of looking backward.	11/3/2023 7:52 PM
8	I do not feel reparation is necessary.	11/2/2023 6:59 PM
9	I don't think it is possible to apologize for someone else's behavior, especially if it hasn't been proven. He's not here to defend himself. We have to acknowledge the good that he did and nothing can "fix" what the Nazis did, just like we can't undo slavery by paying off all the African Americans whose ancestors have been wronged. Just how much exactly, will fix it. Only our behavior and treatment of people will make the horrors of the past fade. It will take a very long time. It can't be done all at once. Maybe the library can help maintain an awareness of discrimination of Jews by special presentations, especially for children. Only an awareness of the mistakes of our past will prevent them in the future. The younger the audience, the better. A wonderful resource for kids is Anne Frank.	11/2/2023 5:57 PM
10	Nothing, not one red cent!!!	11/2/2023 4:57 PM
11	_____	11/2/2023 3:10 PM
12	If indeed he was NOT what he was accused of, then there is no reason for reparations! Modifying the name slightly might be the compromise.	11/2/2023 2:18 PM
13	The best outcome in my view would be for society to learn from its past mistakes.	11/2/2023 2:09 PM
14	Better to leave this alone	11/2/2023 1:28 PM

## Name Review Survey

15	Establish a fellowship, sponsored by the Hamilton Fish Library to do MORE RESEARCH about the period.	11/2/2023 12:06 PM
16	None!!	11/2/2023 9:51 AM
17	Ask Jewish members of Philipstown their ideas, if haven't done already	11/2/2023 9:35 AM
18	Nothing	11/2/2023 9:08 AM
19	I think being an open and open minded resource to all communities is the best a library can do. Stay open and inviting to neighbors and neighboring towns.	11/2/2023 9:07 AM
20	Have a plaque inside stating the facts. I'd be sure to point out if this was an isolated incident or a pattern of behavior.	11/2/2023 8:55 AM
21	Not really. Continuing education on these matters is important.	11/2/2023 8:34 AM
22	The library is a beautiful community center for Garrison. What they offer now is reparative.	11/2/2023 8:17 AM
23	I think at the very least a public statement denouncing and apologizing for his actions (whichever you've found to be true) would go a long way.	11/1/2023 10:55 PM
24	There should be a section of the library and events aimed at educating the public about Fish III and this time in history. However, I don't think there should be a room named after him.	11/1/2023 4:37 PM
25	The community conversations have been illustrative and beneficial. Continued examination of the issues will provide needed education.	11/1/2023 2:55 PM
26	dfghdfghdffghsdffg	11/1/2023 1:55 PM
27	Some kind of permanent historical display documenting American Congressmen's collaboration with Nazi propagandists during the 1930s into the early 40s Document how Fish and others disseminated pro Nazi racist propaganda at the American taxpayers expense.	11/1/2023 12:33 AM
28	None justified based on current allegations which I feel are politically-motivated and biased.	10/31/2023 7:28 PM
29	N/A	10/31/2023 6:45 PM
30	I would suggest that those such as Rachel Maddow who have misrepresented the life, work and words of Hamilton Fish may want to improve their scholarship and delve more fully into the myriad reliable sources about this great man who was pro-Israel and anti-Hitler. They may also want to ask themselves if the aspersions they have cast lack integrity, journalistic or otherwise. To strike the Fish name from that of the Library would be to besmirch the identity of this worthy institution.	10/31/2023 4:56 PM
31	The library should have a collection or programs on African American soldiers in WWI, or in the US to 1948, or black soldiers in the colonies and the US from the 17th Century to 1948, or with a focus on black soldiers and the Hudson Valley. The library has a convenient proximity to West Point, which could give it access to information and specialists for its programs. There's no need to use Fish's extraordinary actions in the war to excuse his shameful behavior as a congressman. But simply to remove his name and sweep the matter under the rug would be to miss an opportunity for the library to make a contribution to one of the most important issues in American society and one in which Fish distinguished heroically.	10/31/2023 1:16 PM
32	Rachel Maddow should be requested to publicly retract her negative comments in Ultra. A public statement should be made listing the many contributions HF made to the US	10/31/2023 11:48 AM
33	I think given the facts and circumstances, changing the name of the library would be a very important reparative action. The library's actions to date have been truly outstanding.	10/31/2023 10:18 AM
34	Perhaps a series of monthly lectures addressing racism and antisemitism. I would love to see the library invite Palestinian historians like Rashid Khalidi and Israeli scholars or rabbis to discuss the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. Perhaps the library could feature books addressing the history of the conflict as well as the Holocaust. And books that address the history of racism in America. You might ask members to recommend books on these issues and then come up with a recommended reading list.	10/31/2023 6:38 AM
35	None needed	10/30/2023 8:39 PM
36	N/A	10/30/2023 8:37 PM

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37	COMMITTEE SHOULD REVIEW RESPONSES AND PREPARE A STATEMENT TO BE MADE PUBLIC IN THE LIBRARY AND POSSIBLY ALONG WITH COMMENTS FROM THIS SURVEY. ALSO FISH LIBRARY INCLUDE THE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS DETAILING THE PRO NAZI, ISOLATIONIST ACTIVITIES OF THE 1920-60 PERIOD STARTING WITH THE LOST GENERATION AFTER WW I AND ITS EFFECTS, THE GROWTH OF FACISM IN US. ETC. BEAR IN MIND FISH, AS FAR AS I KNOW, NEVER ACCUSED OR NEVER SUPPORTED GROUPS THAT CHARGED MARTIN LUTHER KING, AND BLACK NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BEING COMMUNISTS.	10/30/2023 5:22 PM
38	We also feel that the tablet built into the brick wall at the library entrance "In Honor of Alice and Hamilton Fish by their neighbors in Garrison" has a particularly bad vibe to it, and should be removed, especially in terms of our proposed name change.	10/30/2023 3:16 PM
39	n/a	10/30/2023 3:08 PM
40	Stop using preferred pronouns that are not supported by the English language	10/30/2023 2:52 PM
41	Meeting with residents and descendants/family of Desmond-Fish would be a good start.	10/30/2023 2:30 PM
42	"Reparative actions," to me, implies a debt owed. It would be nice to be able to identify to whom the debt is owed and for what actions. The library offers many programs that serve to educate and broaden understanding on a wide variety of subjects. It seems to me that offering a program that focuses on the 1930s and 40s in the U.S. and the world to give some perspective of the time in which Hamilton Fish III lived and worked.	10/30/2023 12:42 PM
43	None	10/30/2023 10:13 AM
44	1) a proper study in essay form that examines the legacy of the Fish family objectively. 2) a plaque in the entry that summarizes it	10/30/2023 7:54 AM
45	Lincoln accepted slavery in his attempt to prevent the United States from becoming a "House Divided." A few years later, he came to regret this very deeply. Should we cancel Abraham Lincoln? Should there be some reparative steps to correct this? Hamilton Fish was no more in favor of institutionalizing antisemitism in Germany than was Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Fish wanted to avoid a war between Germany and the United States. Was that possible? With hindsight, it does not seem so. He was mistaken. When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Fish volunteered to return to military service. He lost his Congressional seat because of his anti-war stance. A powerful speaker, a person with remarkable insights, and surprising kindness to those who knew him well, and who possessed a deep love for America, he spent the remainder of his life speaking at fairs, and American Legion Lodges. The political career of a man with great aspirations had ended although he lived another forty-six years. Should those years in exile figure into the restorative steps?	10/30/2023 1:27 AM
46	Inclusive education, exhibits and events.	10/29/2023 10:54 PM
47	I don't think any reparations are in order and think renaming shows a willingness to consider the feelings of everyone in our community.	10/29/2023 3:24 PM
48	None	10/29/2023 1:41 PM
49	At this time both Israel and Palestine are going to need financial help. Maybe a small donation wouldn't hurt. Or could books be sent?	10/29/2023 1:00 PM
50	None	10/29/2023 11:25 AM
51	A thorough scholarly review of the events. Marshal the facts and deliver our narrative. Continue making materials available to visitors. A recognition of this effort with public summary in the foyer or lobby. Plaque or glass case with suggested references.	10/29/2023 10:56 AM
52	Use this to educate that history is messy particularly this country's...we can't erase it but must confront and attempt to be as factual as possible....do the research before making accusations.	10/28/2023 3:30 PM
53	None	10/28/2023 2:16 PM
54	NA	10/27/2023 7:44 PM
55	My understanding is that some of this was initiated by Rachel Maddow who, in my opinion is typical left wing media types who are currently flooding our airwaves.	10/27/2023 7:39 PM

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56	If this issue must be addressed, the Library can explain about the popularity of Nazi Germany as it rose to power in the 1930s and early 1940s and how countless people around the world once held Adolf Hitler in high esteem. It is only in this rich context that the activities of Mr. Fish (and many, many others) to initially support Germany's main political party can be properly presented. Of course, Mr. Fish's subsequent rejection of Nazism can be presented, as well as his political punishment at the polls in 1944. Note: I am told Mr. Fish said and wrote nothing that was anti-Semitic. His passion was to preserve peace for all people.	10/27/2023 1:21 PM
57	Be certain that all sides of stories are represented fairly and without accusation in all that the library offers and presents.	10/27/2023 9:15 AM
58	Set aside an area in the library that material about Desmond Fish III is available for review - include positive and negative information.	10/26/2023 7:46 PM
59	Would highly recommend an ongoing exhibit on the life and events surrounding the life of Hamilton Fish III.....including the historical background that shaped his actions.	10/26/2023 4:49 PM
60	The story of the importance of actual history, not to judge, not to react. To research and balance with care.	10/26/2023 12:31 PM
61	1. Much to DFPL's credit, many proactive reparative actions have already been taken addressing issues related to anti-Semitism, discrimination and hate (e.g. assembling resources related to these issues; lectures, introspective review) This can be expanded with branded YouTube videos on related topics; working with educators to develop age appropriate model curricula/syllabi; exhibiting at professional conventions (e.g. librarians, teachers); Utilize "state of the art" methods and develop innovative methods and social media to "unteach" hate and prejudice partnering with other groups (e.g. Urban League, ADL, NAACP); position library to be resource schools in the Hudson Valley and expand NY State and beyond. Assembling these resources could be a major initiative that would have the potential to generate significant foundation support. (All of the elements described above can be scaled per budget requirements and funding that may or may not be secured) 2. Create a Desmond Fish Founder's Room with tributes to Desmond and Fish III (including an honest representation/exhibit of the controversy just like the Nixon Library has an honest exhibit of the Watergate scandal). 3 . If Desmond name is removed from library, commission a sculpture of Desmond to be placed at library entrance. 4. Initiate an annual library event (2-3 days) putting a spotlight on tolerance and combatting racism, anti-Semitism with a (TBD name) Library "report card" card on progress in our community, state and nation with guest speakers, programs, workshops, films.	10/26/2023 12:30 PM
62	Just change the name!	10/25/2023 10:37 PM
63	I don't think reparations are necessary but do think it's important to acknowledge facts.	10/25/2023 5:59 PM
64	I don't think any "reparative" actions are needed.	10/25/2023 3:33 PM
65	Lectures, i.e., stories, on historical figures who lived in area (please, as many women as men...they can be wives) that appeal to adults and some to children. History in schools sometimes focus on themes, facts, and dates. PHM doesn't generally do stories about individuals.	10/25/2023 11:54 AM
66	Reparations? For what? The library is not responsible for the actions of Hamilton Fish. If people or groups believe they have a case, the need to talk to the family and his heirs. The Desmond Fish Library continues to be a place of healing, support, knowledge, and sharing of ideas. I have attended MANY civilized discussion about ideas that might have been considered confrontational. The library continues to be a place to come together, agree and disagree, no find solutions. I think we should continue to do so,	10/25/2023 9:17 AM
67	This I have to think about.	10/24/2023 9:29 PM
68	A good permanent exhibit acknowledging the founders' gifts, especially Alice's. It seems to me that when a man gives the major portion of the founding & endowment money, his wife is not included in the fanfare. But when it's a woman's cash the man has to be the co-founder. She may have insisted because that was the tenor of the times. Fish was present at the huge 1938 (I think) rally and spoke alongside Nazis. I consider him stupid to do this when people like Congressmen were supposed to know what was going on in Germany. Stupidity is no defense. I consider Lindsay Graham stupid to associate the way he does with Trump. He does not escape being tarred with the same brush.	10/24/2023 8:45 PM

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69	We can't hide from history, or someones interpretation of it. We all live with mistakes from our past but when making decisions such as this we should examine the entity as a whole, not in a vacuum. I do not have any suggestions for this request.	10/24/2023 8:23 PM
70	"History Day" with focus on the Fish family who have made many fine contributions to American history Moral Dilemma type exercises could be done with middle and high school students Town meeting to explain the decision	10/24/2023 5:17 PM
71	Educational programs on why Fish and others supported the Nazis. An opportunity to discuss and educate on why people make choices like that and the parallels with today's issues.	10/24/2023 2:08 PM
72	A dedicated part of the library to fascism and antisemitism and its history within the United States government..	10/24/2023 11:16 AM
73	I have read the information your board has published on the history of Hamilton Fish III and it is excellent. I believe that is all you need to put into context the service of Congressman Fish.	10/23/2023 11:09 PM
74	Education on the library founders and local history in how regional people have shaped it.	10/23/2023 10:29 PM
75	I really feel like you guys have already done enough.	10/23/2023 4:12 PM
76	The fact that the DF Library is enabling a discussion, providing educational resources, and is open to feedback on this matter is impressive and sufficient reparative actions for me. If the library were to be renamed, I'd welcome an exhibit and/or section on the website devoted to Desmond Fish III and this controversy. It is important for people to understand that any one of us can do both good and harm - we're not all good or all bad. It is also important to role model how the library addressed this controversy - by listening to various points of views and, together, deciding how to move forward.	10/23/2023 12:25 PM
77	Providing a fuller picture of Fish than that presented by Maddow would be appropriate. Because Fish was on record supporting the Jewish State and opposing violence against Jews, these could be highlighted. A library section on anti-semitism would certainly be welcome under any circumstances, though "reparative" doesn't seem like the right word.	10/23/2023 9:47 AM
78	Create a permanent display in Library recounting why the name was changed.	10/23/2023 9:18 AM
79	I don't think we need to make any reparative measures. Just change the name.	10/22/2023 9:48 PM
80	Visible exhibit explaining the history	10/22/2023 5:50 PM
81	Cultivate the library's openness to surrounding areas starting with an open house.	10/22/2023 4:09 PM
82	Ridiculous idea.	10/22/2023 3:45 PM
83	A simple plaque explaining who the donors were and how they, or at least Fish, might be viewed negatively.	10/22/2023 2:49 PM
84	Whatever you think best.	10/22/2023 11:07 AM
85	I hope this does not happen.	10/22/2023 6:42 AM
86	A display inside the library that frankly addresses who Hamilton Fish was as a person.	10/21/2023 3:41 PM
87	That is a ridiculous question.	10/21/2023 3:23 PM
88	If the name or some variation remains, description of his actions clearly visible at the library and on the website. A public apology and recognition of his actions offered to the community.	10/21/2023 2:49 PM
89	None if it involves giving money to the offended descendants of the man's deeds. As mentioned above, list his faults along with his achievements so the offended can have a measure of justice.	10/21/2023 2:45 PM
90	None. Nada. See question 8 above.	10/21/2023 2:40 PM
91	None	10/21/2023 11:02 AM
92	You could strive to highlight the achievements of women and minorities in your displays and when you consider guest lectures etc. From the Hudson Valley but also from the entire country. Not just " Women's Month" or "African American Month". Just expand your scope and attempt to group books, reading material about a topic (what is democracy?) that include a wide variety of groups and opinions. Expand your scope...don't limit it.	10/20/2023 5:33 PM

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93	None	10/20/2023 12:13 PM
94	Events to celebrate Jewish heritage and teach about the atrocities of anti-semitism. Celebrate some fun Jewish holiday traditions. Anti-semitism book clubs. Learning events.	10/20/2023 10:45 AM
95	Have a history of the founders room/corner. Both founders.	10/20/2023 10:41 AM
96	I think the work that has been done internally at the library and with the community since the expose (for example, even opening up this survey) has been reparative.	10/20/2023 10:18 AM
97	Content to be truth tellers and educators	10/20/2023 7:37 AM
98	None	10/20/2023 12:11 AM
99	NA	10/19/2023 11:37 PM
100	I think it should be totally changed	10/19/2023 7:24 PM
101	Educational Series	10/19/2023 7:12 PM
102	At most, make available to library patrons and users materials that discuss all aspects of Fish's life and career in historical context and -- for God's sake -- just let sleeping dogs lie. We've had far too much of pearl-clutching virtue signalling for far too long in this country. What we need is reason, realism, compassion.	10/19/2023 5:06 PM
103	None. Let's Worry about the poor people in other parts of the world, Not a non- existent scenario of persecution.	10/19/2023 4:17 PM
104	When Benedict Arnold's wife (with newborn) feared for the retribution that might follow, George Washington climbed the stairs at Beverly House in Garrison and told her that in the republic they were trying to build, the sins of the father would not be visited on the child. The idea that the descendants of those who history shows to have been on the wrong side should owe society "reparations" for the errors of their ancestors is deeply un-American. The library was founded/funded by Fish - that is a fact that you cannot change or erase. To do so smacks to me of obscuring an instructive historical truth. Instead of reparations, you should put all your energy into defending freedom of expression and the sanctity of the book and the public library against those who would censor, ban and decide what books are fit to buy, hold and read. If you do this with vigor, history will judge you kindly. (Of course you should state positively and publicly that the name simply reflects the identify of the founders/donors, and did not at the time and does not now, reflect an endorsement of any of their political or social views or values. You can and should state that as part of your mission to educate and empower people to be good citizens, you will actively feature programming and books that examine the historical and current dangers of fascism and antisemitism, the enduring role of demagogues and authoritarian fascism, and highlight the continuing risk that otherwise admirable and public-service minded individuals become infatuated with populist demagogues and endorse the false promises of authoritarian fascism.)	10/19/2023 3:03 PM
105	Make mention of the controversy, in the context of Hamilton Fish III, and not his wife, and add to the body of historical knowledge base. The facts of this controversy and his total views on history are still to be researched. and written. It is still far too early to form a definitive judgment on this event or his involvement. American History correctly sides with the victory of Allied Forces in Europe during 1939-1945. Mr. Fish was exonerated after the War in Europe by the State of Israel.	10/19/2023 1:15 PM
106	Make sure to have a section regarding Womens issues	10/19/2023 1:04 PM
107	I think the library should erect a semi-permanent bulletin board describing the issue and why the library has been re-named.	10/19/2023 12:30 PM
108	None	10/19/2023 12:08 PM
109	Changing the name is sufficient	10/19/2023 11:43 AM
110	Invite Rachel Maddow for a Q & A, fundraiser, to unveil new name.	10/19/2023 11:41 AM
111	If the name stays - or the Family names stay (just Desmond Fish Library) a statement on the website and on an informational permanent sign at the library addressing this change	10/19/2023 10:31 AM
112	I see no need for reparations.	10/19/2023 10:09 AM
113	1) All DFPL employees must take mandatory weekly mental health counseling. 2) All	10/19/2023 8:56 AM

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Mercedes ( a German vehicle with direct connection to the Nazi regime ) should be banned from the parking lot of the DFPL and all employees, as well as, Board Members of the DFPL must immediate surrender their personal automobiles if the are also Mercedes. 3) All books and materials referencing IBM shall be banned from the DFPL. All DFPL computers will be reprogrammed to censor all browser searches for IBM. Any IBM hardware used by DFPL, it's employees or Board of Directors shall be destroyed. (The 1933 census, with design help and tabulation services provided by IBM through its German subsidiary, proved to be pivotal to the Nazis in their efforts to identify, isolate, and ultimately destroy the country's Jewish minority. - see Atlantic article linked reference below) "Hitler's Willing Business Partners" A shocking account of IBM's complicity with the Nazis is a reminder that people bear moral responsibility for the actions of the corporation a point that critics have failed to grasp. By Jack Beatty <https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2001/04/hitlers-willing-business-partners/303146/>

114	- signage re verified historical concerns about Fish and include in website - public programs about what gave rise to Nazi sympathies in the US, harmful effects and how ever wetr resolved. - ensure a reference list/section for quick public reference - collaborate with Garrison and Haldane schools and the Putnam History Museum on a social studies module around Hamilton Fish - good done as well as bad- capture reality of human flaws in context of historical cross currents at that time and how race/class played into who he was. Provide tools for proactive decison-making in their own lives, drawing on this local history - And keep the name- using for future 'teachable moments'	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
115	- signage re verified historical concerns about Fish and include in website - public programs about what gave rise to Nazi sympathies in the US, harmful effects and how ever wetr resolved. - ensure a reference list/section for quick public reference - collaborate with Garrison and Haldane schools and the Putnam History Museum on a social studies module around Hamilton Fish - good done as well as bad- capture reality of human flaws in context of historical cross currents at that time and how race/class played into who he was. Provide tools for proactive decison-making in their own lives, drawing on this local history - And keep the name- using for future 'teachable moments'	10/19/2023 8:04 AM
116	None	10/18/2023 6:43 PM
117	None necessary.	10/18/2023 5:19 PM
118	There should NOT be any reparative actions. Should I be responsible for reparative actions for slavery that my family history going back 100 years never had anything to do with?	10/18/2023 4:33 PM
119	An apology to those offended and to educate the community who are unaware of Fish's behavior.	10/18/2023 4:31 PM
120	I don't think this is about money. Its about setting an example for our children to learn from.	10/18/2023 4:25 PM
121	N/A	10/18/2023 4:00 PM
122	None	10/18/2023 12:10 PM
123	perhaps more frequent communications with the public about the deliberations of the name review committee.	10/18/2023 10:25 AM
124	The best reparation is for the library to serve the function it was founded for, to make knowledge more widely available.	10/18/2023 10:15 AM
125	Kick all relatives off of the board.	10/18/2023 9:37 AM
126	An area in the library and on the website should be dedicated to explaining the history of the library and its founders with recognition of the reality that life is a greyscale rather than simply good and bad. I do not believe in erasing history (and there is plenty more from this community that could be added into the mix)	10/18/2023 8:51 AM
127	Renaming the library is enough	10/18/2023 8:16 AM
128	I don't see the library as needing to make reparations. The library serves the town to the betterment of the residents. The library has maintained this mission and hasn't done anything they would need to make reparations for.	10/17/2023 9:41 PM
129	Not necessary	10/17/2023 8:59 PM
130	You could make reparations by apologizing for this ridiculous effort to remove his name.	10/17/2023 8:42 PM

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131	None, except that if the name is changed, the endowment should go back to the heirs of the family.	10/17/2023 8:17 PM
132	Absolutely none	10/17/2023 8:12 PM
133	I think a name change would be fitting and signal a departure from the past ideology of the founder. Other than the truthful telling of history, what reparations would need to be made here?	10/17/2023 7:52 PM
134	Education about a time period. We don't need to make reparations for things that happened before our lifetime....just learn .	10/17/2023 7:05 PM
135	None	10/17/2023 6:51 PM
136	I think acknowledging the truth and stating a separate stance is the best move.	10/17/2023 6:28 PM
137	None	10/17/2023 5:09 PM
138	None	10/17/2023 4:39 PM
139	Put out what he did, good and bad. Maybe have a section about how hurtful antisemitism is and how important to be accepting of everyone.	10/17/2023 4:38 PM
140	No reparative actions should be taken	10/17/2023 4:15 PM
141	Apologize to the Fish family	10/17/2023 3:34 PM
142	I don't have any ideas and not sure it's necessary.	10/17/2023 3:32 PM
143	It should be acknowledged publicly on the building the actions of Fish that required a name change of the library, and why he is not worthy of such an honor.	10/17/2023 3:24 PM
144	Recognize how important libraries are to people in the community and region and reiterate that they are not the house of elites. Illuminate how naming buildings after a family, can make people feel uncomfortable and unwelcome. Be more sensitive to white privilege. We are All privileged to live in this area and don't need to alienate others with constant reminders of a flawed and toxic elite class.	10/17/2023 2:50 PM
145	Keep the Fish name, but name it after Ham Fish IV, not the III.	10/17/2023 2:35 PM
146	Keep the Fish name, but name it after Ham Fish IV, not the III.	10/17/2023 2:33 PM
147	Perhaps a donation to a Holocaust remembrance organization, or aid to a group helping refugees.	10/17/2023 2:31 PM
148	Present a balanced view of the man's life and contrabutions	10/17/2023 1:52 PM
149	A display of Fish's story, including his good works and the context in which he formed his views, but with the explanation of how you decided to rename the library and why it was deemed important to do so. Making the building net-zero: so many wars, always fraught with bigotry, are fought with oil as the literal and figurative fuel.	10/17/2023 1:50 PM
150	None	10/17/2023 1:28 PM
151	Issue a statement in the local press and Apologize to his Family . So brave to attach the indefensible.	10/17/2023 1:01 PM
152	Find a space in the library to explain the founders, their lives, etc. Describe what they achieved in life, what mistakes the made, but also talk about the positive aspects and achievements. There is no reason to erase history, but we need to be open about it, and human. Make their history accessible and let people decide for themselves whether they want to like or dislike their history.	10/17/2023 12:30 PM
153	reparative actions? End the DFPB taxation of all Putnam and Phillipstown residents immediately.	10/17/2023 12:22 PM
154	Not wasting resources things like this would be a great way to keep us focused on things that matter	10/17/2023 12:19 PM
155	We should only repair what we ourselves have damaged.	10/17/2023 11:32 AM
156	I don't think reparative actions are necessary. Focus on the future, not the past. Explain the past for the future.	10/17/2023 10:58 AM

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157	Tell the story the whole story including his retraction. The Library can help make the public aware of history. Hamilton Fish changed his views as a result of the outbreak of the war. He had a wrong idea about Facism and Germany and had to admit it...wouldnt that be also a lesson. Dont be afraid of history tell the whole story.	10/17/2023 10:03 AM
158	I don't really understand the question beyond an absolute explication of his historical connection with the Nazi party, and his political affiliations/commitments. No white washing and just honest and truthful confrontation with who this man was and I guess his family as well.	10/17/2023 9:56 AM
159	You're already doing so much through dialogue. The core issue is hate and divisiveness; Fish simply allied himself with hateful people who came to power through sowing division. The reason this is still relevant is it's still happening. So sponsoring more dialogues about the roots of hate and division would be great. We have to study anti-semitism, Islamophobia, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, etc. - ideally bringing in spirituality and philosophy as well as social science and history.	10/17/2023 9:12 AM
160	Accurate on-site media placement discussing Mr. Fish's support of the Nazis or specific antisemitic actions.	10/17/2023 9:09 AM
161	The library and its Board is dealing with the issues arising from the revelation of Hamilton Fish III legacy.	10/17/2023 8:58 AM
162	I work in graphic design and studied German propaganda and the bauhaus movement. The germans used others to spread false information thus exploiting them. The Bauhaus school was forced to move to another country as a result. Please do education on slander and propaganda. The nazis forced others to by sympathizers or they were killed, so the German soldiers in his country were forced to be nazis and some secretly helped the jews escape. This story needs to be told instead of saying someone is associated with hitler that is not enough to prove someone's loyalty. An individual in the British government was involved with hitler at the time and supported him. In 1932, Fish crossed party lines to privately support Hudson Valley native Franklin D. Roosevelt for President, but he soon became a leading critic of Roosevelt's New Deal legislation and Atlanticist foreign policy. Throughout the 1930s, Fish was the subject of multiple foreign influence campaigns, since he was identified by Nazi Party officials as a natural ally to their international ambitions (though he was on the record criticizing the treatment of Jews in Germany) and by British security organizations as an obstacle to American aid for Great Britain. His chief of staff was convicted of perjury in relation to his involvement with a Nazi spy, George Sylvester Viereck, and agents of the British Security Co-ordination office repeatedly raised money for Fish's opponents and published anti-Fish leaflets in his district.	10/17/2023 7:51 AM
163	Annual events where the personal history of HF is incorporated, elucidating the good and the bad of his views.	10/17/2023 7:22 AM
164	The libraries programs are incredibly useful. Perhaps discussions about this might be useful. Given, Our current political climate, discussions of creeping fascism could be instructed. And if there are other reparative actions, they can come out of some of those discussions.	10/16/2023 10:36 PM
165	? No reason for that!	10/16/2023 7:41 PM
166	The library should present itself honestly as having honored an American agent of NAZI foreign interests.	10/16/2023 7:23 PM
167	Oh, please. What are you going to do...pay people who are insulted when they drive by? Seriously, do you realize how stupid this is?	10/16/2023 6:29 PM
168	There are none. History needs to be taken in context.	10/16/2023 6:23 PM
169	NONE!! This is ridiculous.	10/16/2023 6:02 PM
170	NIONE	10/16/2023 5:58 PM
171	None	10/16/2023 4:57 PM
172	The main reparative action is the full disclosure of the facts, the unvarnished history. Mr. Fish has done many good things, but include the things that are not good. George Washington was a slaveholder but still the father of our country. An accurate documentary, some talks including all the good and bad would be a good project.	10/16/2023 4:32 PM

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173	A session specifically about the accusations with discussion might be helpful. The library could have members vote over a period of time after public discussion.	10/16/2023 4:18 PM
174	A substantial donation from the Fish family to a specific charity that works to combat fascism today.	10/16/2023 4:10 PM
175	None	10/16/2023 11:43 AM
176	There's absolutely no need for any.	10/15/2023 10:12 PM
177	none	10/15/2023 12:45 PM
178	Lets stop trying to justify bad actions with good ones, acknowledge wrongdoing in a clear and concise way, and move on with being a library.	10/12/2023 7:21 PM
179	Leave name alone	10/12/2023 3:15 PM
180	None	10/12/2023 1:16 PM
181	None needed	10/12/2023 10:49 AM
182	Place a permanent display in the foyer.	10/12/2023 8:19 AM
183	A plaque describing whatever can be proven about Fish would be a good idea.	10/12/2023 12:01 AM
184	Art exhibit of art from people of oppressed groups (maybe everyone can do their own interpretive portrait of your Mr. Hamilton?) Panel discussion on restorative justice More diverse books (+ children's books!)	10/11/2023 11:38 PM
185	Philipstown is named after the Philipse family who were important financiers and ship owners of the slave trade. While we are considering a name change for the library we should advocate a new name for the Town.	10/11/2023 10:48 PM
186	Just make the truth available. To educate and use as a teaching tool	10/11/2023 8:56 PM
187	I need to do more research in what reparative actions would be appropriate or wanted by those harmed.	10/11/2023 12:30 PM
188	Educational programs on the subject. I know you've done some of that.	10/10/2023 9:12 PM
189	Absolutely none.	10/10/2023 11:12 AM
190	Keep promoting the research to show the truth behind the name.	10/10/2023 6:34 AM
191	I have more questions than answers.	10/9/2023 8:43 PM
192	at minimum, acknowledgement of the issue is appreciated	10/9/2023 5:40 PM
193	Reparations for globalism	10/9/2023 1:58 PM
194	It's too late to repair the damage done by Fish III	10/9/2023 1:22 PM
195	Community and school discussions about antisemitism	10/9/2023 12:41 PM
196	I would be in favor of a display in the library that described both the good and the bad things that the namesakes did.	10/9/2023 10:03 AM
197	None	10/8/2023 7:02 PM
198	I don't think any reparative actions are appropriate	10/8/2023 3:53 PM
199	I think a full disclosure of the history of one of the library founders with an open and honest discussion on how this impacted American foreign policy, our approach to the lead up to World War 2, and the ramifications of these decisions is something that the library staff and board should look to implement. The library as a center of thought, debate and discussion is a perfect place to educate and inform all of its community and the area at large.	10/8/2023 3:36 PM
200	Educational forums that take place in the community that offer information about the history of Garrison and the Hudson Valley, similar to what the Beacon Historical Society is doing to educate the public about the effect of urban renewal in the 1970s. The KKK was prevalent in Garrison all the way up into the 1970s - most folks think that crap is ancient history; it's not. Knowledge is power.	10/8/2023 2:59 PM

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201	Simply publicizing the name change and the reason for it would be enough, in my opinion	10/8/2023 2:03 PM
202	Individually and institutionally wholeheartedly commit to US support for Ukraine's self-defense.	10/8/2023 6:49 AM
203	this is a joke	10/8/2023 1:07 AM
204	Write a newspaper article supporting learning from our past mistakes. Shout out that becoming better people is what this world is all about, that no one is perfect and we can grow and become better, stronger people. That he has chosen to support our communities to help others learn to become better people and making mistakes does not mean we give up but we fight harder to be better. We must all learn and teach our kids that we can make mistakes and be forgiven, for if not, we are teaching our kids to never do better because there is no forgiveness so why bother. We are better because we forgive and learn.	10/7/2023 8:46 PM
205	A plaque at the library and online links regarding former name	10/7/2023 8:00 PM
206	You can't undo history, change the name and move on.	10/7/2023 7:41 PM
207	Write the facts you have	10/7/2023 6:24 PM
208	The family should if the allegations are correct accept it, and publicly acknowledge it. They should also help with some possible education on the topic of the Holocaust.	10/7/2023 4:04 PM
209	Renaming library!!	10/7/2023 3:58 PM
210	I think the library has been doing a good job with relevant featured displays and book discussions. Removing his name is the most meaningful reparation, in my opinion.	10/7/2023 3:54 PM
211	Education about his history	10/7/2023 3:04 PM
212	Changing the name would be enough.	10/7/2023 1:47 PM
213	creating a fellowship for diversity, incl religious, gender, race etc, for study and programming for community learning creating a funding stream to support community jewish institution(s) Partner with a jewish institution to create ideas for moving forward bring jews onto your board and ensure broader diversity in your board and staff	10/7/2023 1:14 PM
214	Produce a booklet or with an historical perspective that not only speaks of WWII, Congress and Fish's role, but also highlights all of his accomplishments, including some, like the Harlem Hellfighter's story, that receive too little attention.	10/7/2023 12:56 PM
215	None	10/7/2023 12:25 PM
216	let it be. have meditation classes on acceptance and unity.	10/7/2023 12:13 PM
217	Teach about the history. It can be used as a positive tool.	10/7/2023 11:56 AM
218	An annual Holocaust remembrance day at the library. There has been an alarming increase in the number of Holocaust deniers out there and anti-Semitism is on the rise.	10/7/2023 11:04 AM
219	I think Anita and the staff has did enough	10/7/2023 9:56 AM
220	N/A	10/7/2023 9:55 AM
221	We are talking about a library not Germany after WW1. The library needs to make no reparations.	10/7/2023 8:53 AM
222	I don't think you need to do reparations, it's not that damaging of an issue.	10/6/2023 5:37 PM
223	I don't think the library needs to take reparative actions for the possibly unsavory opinions of one of its founders and major donors. The library bears no responsibility for those opinions and there seems no reason to disacknowledge Fish's contributions to the library on those grounds. A simple acknowledgment of the fact that he helps them seems sufficient to me.	10/6/2023 5:09 PM
224	His history should be discussed to aid education. Don't hide it under the proverbial bushel basket but use it as a teaching tool.	10/6/2023 4:23 PM
225	Name change is probably enough	10/6/2023 4:12 PM
226	Public discussions about the Nazis involvement in America before WW2. Why society needs to change memorials to individuals that fought against American democracy.	10/6/2023 12:35 PM

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227	I think the library has done plenty in this department.	10/6/2023 12:24 PM
228	-Take Down HFIII's portrait in the main reading room - Put a plaque under his portrait acknowledging his harm and identifying that we are working to be better. -Change the name - Host more community events intentionally designed as safe spaces for marginalized identities, and discuss why so few POC and other marginalized people live in the Philipstown region and how the community can change that.	10/6/2023 11:46 AM
229	A plaque on the front door explaining. Like central park's explanation of the destruction of the black community. Also please remove the ridiculous, hagiographic room about ham fish's time at Harvard. Waste of space.	10/6/2023 11:30 AM
230	None, unless you can find a way to silence the current Republicans who are mimicking actions of the late 1930's. Today it's pro-Putin, then it was pro-Hitler.	10/6/2023 10:54 AM
231	A plaque with the donor's name on it and mentioning the history of why their names were removed would document and teach the history rather than erase it.	10/6/2023 8:26 AM
232	Host Jewish holiday celebrations with traditional foods and stories. Host exhibits relevant to the Holocaust and American Nazi sympathizers, adding context to their fame: for example, Henry Ford was a terrible anti-Semite and supported the Nazis; Aviation hero Charles Lindbergh was a Nazi supporter. George Herbert Walker Bush's father did business with Nazi Germany, as did IBM. German-American bulbs were involved.	10/6/2023 7:50 AM
233	A sunseting of any naming rights granted in exchange for money.	10/5/2023 5:51 PM
234	Included a permanent display at the library that addresses the issue.	10/5/2023 4:39 PM
235	If there is a name change, have a community gathering or perhaps create a video to explain the change, while also acknowledging the various sides in the debate. See also plaque suggestion above.	10/5/2023 2:43 PM
236	I think you should accept reparations from Hamilton Fish's family on his behalf. They need to acknowledge the deeds of the person who provided for their support while attempting to undermine our democracy. Political hypocrisy is never acceptable. (You may consider this tongue-in-cheek.)	10/5/2023 2:34 PM
237	None required. No one has been injured.	10/5/2023 1:25 PM
238	workshops on-going newsletter campaign.	10/5/2023 11:26 AM
239	I think changing the name is all that is needed. But in the press release about changing the name, antisemitism should be mentioned.	10/5/2023 11:25 AM
240	I don't think reparative actions are necessary	10/5/2023 10:33 AM
241	None	10/4/2023 3:06 PM
242	The creation of the library itself may have been a reparative act. Maybe once they new what they had contributed to they founded the library as a way to give back.	10/4/2023 12:28 PM
243	apology in the newspaper i don't know	10/4/2023 11:29 AM
244	I have a hard time coming up with reparative actions that feel meaningful beyond ongoing library programming. I think we should keep plaques recognizing Alice Curtis Desmond and Hamilton Fish's founding of the library. I think we should keep books about them in a special, accessible location. I think we should continue to plan and promote library programs that combat anti-semitism.	10/4/2023 10:36 AM
245	Use the issue as a learning experience and keep name	10/4/2023 8:36 AM
246	Rename library	10/4/2023 7:31 AM
247	Research and publish all the information acquired	10/3/2023 5:38 PM
248	Support for marginalized communities in the Garrison/Philipstown community	10/3/2023 5:23 PM
249	Reach out to the Museum of Jewish Heritage/Holocaust Museum in NYC and maybe seek suggestions from them. Perhaps some from them. You could also see if there is a want for library programming on the Jewish experience, the holocaust, etc. You could also search to see what other libraries have done as reparative actions. Even a community day where it is	10/3/2023 5:15 PM

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focused on a multicultural experience to encourage folk to learn about different values and cultures.

250	Take down the paintings and pictures of HF, or add plaques beneath all that state, H. Fish, III, Nazi Sympathizer	10/3/2023 2:17 PM
251	Take down his picture in any room or attach a plaque to them all, stating H. Fish, III, Nazi Sympathyzer.the	10/3/2023 1:45 PM
252	Take down his picture in any room or attach a plaque to them all, stating H. Fish, III, Nazi Sympathyzer.the	10/3/2023 1:43 PM
253	Public denouncement, donations to Holocaust Museum and other Jewish charities.	10/3/2023 1:04 PM
254	The library could host events that look into culture of the time of World War II and focus on Jewish heritage	10/2/2023 8:02 PM
255	Remove any statuary, paintings or other objects memorializing Mr. Fish.	10/2/2023 3:53 PM
256	A thorough academic review of the story and evidence. With the context and detail the podcast and media found uncooperative to their editorial ends. And an encouragement that folks do their own research daily, and not dwell too long in their bubble. An important contribution and role libraries play in contemporary society. Offering viewpoints to inform your own decisions.	10/2/2023 3:24 PM
257	Not sure who these actions would be directed towards? The Library has issued a statement about Hamilton Fish III actions so unclear what additional reparations would look like.	10/2/2023 1:31 PM
258	The library could offer classes on democracy and what that means across all age groups. Books on the horrors of Nazism should be juxtaposed with books on democracy.	10/2/2023 8:10 AM
259	Continue with research and programming to educate the public and foster community.	10/2/2023 8:03 AM
260	Have a paper explaining the historical and political background of the time and a statement that it is not supported by the DFL Board nor by the current prevailing ethos.	10/2/2023 8:00 AM
261	Work in concert with the Peekskill and Poughkeepsie branches of the NAACP to fight hate and injustice. Establish Interfaith programs with local clergy in the program room. Invite leaders from the Southern Poverty Law Center to educate our community about the growing threat of hate groups.	10/2/2023 7:51 AM
262	None needed - let's not get woke	10/2/2023 6:53 AM
263	clear communication in as many publications as would be helpful, and upon being made aware of additional ones, in those as well. there is never harm in making amends. it helps us move forward together. thank you for looking into this and, hopefully, taking action.	10/2/2023 6:36 AM
264	Perhaps remove pictures of him. Be sure to keep historical information about him readily available.	10/1/2023 4:47 PM
265	An exhibit about Nazi propaganda in the USA. Special events rallies. Posters . Fundraising. Lobbying People can draw their own conclusions about foreign interference and compliance these days.	10/1/2023 3:58 PM
266	None	10/1/2023 2:50 PM
267	Full history	10/1/2023 2:39 PM
268	Open to learning from what others recommend	10/1/2023 1:35 PM
269	I am an old white person. I do not feel qualified to make such suggestions. I am, however, interested in learning about and participating in whatever actions are taken.	10/1/2023 8:12 AM
270	Provide details of research about Ham Fish. Let people draw their own conclusions. To me it is obvious he was not pro Nazi, nor anti-Semitic. I believe he was anti-war except for self defense and anti-communist. These are not crimes nor moral failings. Yet the effect of his anti-war positions during the Nazi years are etched in the opinions of many as assisting Nazis that will affect the Library's future.	10/1/2023 7:19 AM

## Q13 Any other thoughts you would like to share?

Answered: 175 Skipped: 346

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	It's sad that we are tearing down our history all over the country. In hindsight we wish things were different but they weren't so let's learn from them and not forget or destroy them.	11/6/2023 12:18 PM
2	Especially now with the rise in antisemitism, Ham Fish's behavior should not be ignored. It should be called out for what it was, unacceptable in today's society, unacceptable in past society and unacceptable in future society. As the old VISTA saying says, if you are not part of the solution (finding Ham Fish's behavior inappropriate) then you are part of the problem. Add to that the concept of evil flourishing when good men do nothing. We have an opportunity to be part of the solution and to do something. Let's take it.	11/6/2023 11:47 AM
3	Don't feel that the scales of justice are fairly weighted in this case.	11/4/2023 11:15 PM
4	I don't, generally, believe that renaming institutions, as an isolated act, does any real good. It is the continued dedication of the institution to justice and liberation that is meaningful. That said, names have meaning, and names express values. It bears differentiating history from commemoration — history is for the past, and commemoration is for the present. It seems to me that it would not be possible to keep Fish's name on the library, for a not-insignificant part of the community, and not send the message that what we value is excusing the actions of a white man of status simply *because* he was a white man of status, no matter how clearly wrong those actions, no matter to whom they brought harm; that harm done to Jews is less important than harm done to a dead man's name; that acknowledging his wife's monetary contribution to the library second-hand by having his name on it is more important than the values of the community and staff that benefit from her gift.	11/3/2023 11:24 PM
5	I strongly suggest you not be swayed by current trends of self-righteousness and take a moment to appreciate history.	11/3/2023 7:52 PM
6	I think it will be a disgrace to remove Hamilton Fish's name.	11/3/2023 5:42 PM
7	My wife and I were intimately connected with the Desmond Fish Library for over twenty years. We love the place and have always thought it to be a resource of exceptional value to the community and to the entire Hudson Valley. The history that is the library was never compromised when these allegations were simply rumored because the overwhelming service to the community and to the country by this man was well known. That service, long, honorable, and displayed to the world, is proof enough that his name deserves its position of honor here.	11/2/2023 10:07 PM
8	Note: adding the letters after my name only to add credibility to my responses	11/2/2023 6:52 PM
9	No, I think that's about it.	11/2/2023 5:57 PM
10	So angry and disappointed that you're even suggesting this, what a sad time for our community.	11/2/2023 4:57 PM
11	"He without sin cast the first stone." Bible; New Testament	11/2/2023 3:10 PM
12	I have stated my view that the library name should stand as it is.	11/2/2023 2:09 PM
13	Thank you to the library for taking the time to care about this complex issue, my answer does not reflect a lack of care or consideration for the people who have been hurt. It is an acknowledgment of all the good work the Library has done, and support for the Fish family to remain a known and appreciated part of our area.	11/2/2023 9:07 AM
14	Our history should never be erased in any way. We were but now we are. We grow by what we know what was wrong before us. Erasing history ends conversation and growth.	11/2/2023 9:04 AM
15	Our history should never be erased in any way. We were but now we are. We grow by what we know what was wrong before us. Erasing history ends conversation and growth.	11/2/2023 9:03 AM

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16	Although I do not live in Garrison, for the last 30+ years my family and I have enjoyed the library and consider ourselves to be constituents thereof. I haven't visited much in recent years, but it has been a vital resource to me in the past. Please do not undervalue those of us who live in greater Philipstown.	11/2/2023 9:00 AM
17	These moments are opportunities for connection if we take advantage of them. I encourage you to engage the community (including the school aged children in the community) to decide what our library represents, what its name should be, and even what its logo should be. Let's start fresh.	11/2/2023 8:52 AM
18	Thank you for your good work on this issue.	11/1/2023 2:55 PM
19	fgsdffgs	11/1/2023 1:55 PM
20	If we want to make the world a better place we MUST teach our history. ALL OF IT. No matter how ugly or painful. We'll get over it and be better. And it won't hurt our children to learn it. It will make them better adults.	11/1/2023 12:33 AM
21	Hamilton Fish III was my great grandfather. I was 7 years old when he passed away and I remember that he would have his Christmas Tree up all year round. My two uncles: Peter Fish and Nick Fish, who are the Grandkids of Hamilton Fish III, both married Jewish women and I have two sets of Jewish cousins. Its really sad to me that Hamilton Fish III is being attacked when this was a very good man who was not a racist at all and definitely not anti-Jewish. This is a political hit job and an extreme version of cancel culture.	10/31/2023 8:59 PM
22	From what I hear your library is worthy of its history. Reviewers write that it is "a fantastic library," "Great local library," and "Beautiful location and views around, great selection of books." It would be regrettable if it abandoned that history because of someone's woke agenda. The proposal to change the library's name is simply the product of shoddy scholarship unworthy of this library.	10/31/2023 4:56 PM
23	The library is a local treasure and resource. It will be the same no matter what it is named because of the building, location and especially the splendid helpful staff. The natural plantings are a lovely new addition to a lively and central corner in Garrison.	10/31/2023 2:16 PM
24	It's hard to be sympathetic to Fish and it's easy to pillory him. If it weren't for his actions during the First World War, there'd be no reason not to remove the offending name from the library. But to focus on his later disgraceful behavior is to miss the extraordinary and principled stand he took on behalf of the African American troops. This is an opportunity for the library to distinguish itself through programs and collections related to its namesake's astonishing war record.	10/31/2023 1:16 PM
25	I'm disgusted by a journalist trying to undermine the tremendous contributions made by a public figure who devoted his entire life to public service and who created a practice and tradition honoring all veterans in the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers. One wonders what is her motive?	10/31/2023 11:48 AM
26	I recognize that other members within the community might have different views on renaming the library. However, at the end of the day, I think it is very important that all of our community feel comfortable with entering the library.	10/31/2023 10:18 AM
27	I love this library, even though I don't visit it often. The site is beautiful, the staff friendly and helpful, and the feeling there warm and welcoming.	10/31/2023 6:38 AM
28	The library wouldn't exist if he hadn't worked to help create it. Removing his name would be an affront to all that he did. He wasn't just the one event. He did much to help protect America and make it what it is. History should be all-inclusive so when telling his story the items brought to light should be included. To paraphrase, by forgetting history we are doomed to repeat. Let us not forget everything a man did by erasing his name.	10/31/2023 12:16 AM
29	The current political divide in America, only serves to benefit those who seek to destroy America and deny all the good this great nation has accomplished. Yes, we are not perfect, but there is no better system of self government in the world.	10/30/2023 8:39 PM
30	I have seen the woke culture try to change the American history by tearing down statues and changing names of streets and buildings. History should not be modified years later after the fact. Not everything has been according to a model true community and world up til now, but that should not change how we view the past and build on it for a stronger and God-loving righteous society and world that America was founded on, as seen in our constitution and laws	10/30/2023 5:47 PM

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of our great nation. Let history be as it was. Look to a brighter nation with freedom and liberty forever.

31	I often wonder if Fish III suffered any trauma from his war experiences. Also he must have been affected by his upbringing and no doubt had a sense of entitlement by his family's history. how strong was service a part of his upbringing. . the class issue of the historic Hudson River land owners and ancestors etc should not be ignored.	10/30/2023 5:22 PM
32	If this is done to a War Hero, a Champion of Civil Rights, a Leader in the efforts to establish a Jewish Homeland (the Lodge-Fish Resolution) and an outspoken opponent to Anti-Semitism because of an imprudent alliance with bad actors who, like him, even if for different reasons, opposed the US involvement in the War, who is next?	10/30/2023 1:27 AM
33	Demond-Fish Library's own records confirmed that Hamilton Fish did not make anti-Semitic remarks, even though at the time both Republicans and Democrats alike had. Hamilton Fish introduced a resolution in the US House of Representatives asking the Roosevelt administration to call upon on the German government to respect the rights of German citizens of Jewish origin. He also introduced legislation to protect the lives of American Black people who were subject to lynching in the South. Hamilton Fish III led the 369th all-Black regiment, AND protected them from violence. I think Rachel Maddow is trying to write a new history, not based on facts, but on a personal agenda!	10/29/2023 1:41 PM
34	Thank you for being concerned and being such a wonderful Library that supports PAAH and the community. I am Jewish, and recently went to Amsterdam and visited the Ann Frank house and still the name of someone from the past should not be reason to change the name of a Library that has done and continues to do such good work.	10/29/2023 1:00 PM
35	I appreciate the leadership of the Desmond Fish Library, especially that of Board Chair, Anita Prentice, as it has worked to address this issue. I think it is very unfortunate that so many Americans are promoting a culture of divisiveness and cancelation at this time. As a nation we are much better than that. This is a time to come together, as well as rise above, for the sake of the country and of future generations.	10/29/2023 9:58 AM
36	enough with the "cancel culture" it's ridiculous	10/28/2023 2:16 PM
37	My Jewish husband has absolutely no problems in supporting the name of Hamilton Fish III	10/27/2023 7:44 PM
38	We live in an amazing time-one where the mayor of Columbus, Ohio authorized the taking down of the Christopher Columbus. I think Garrison should be proud of having a library named after Congressman Fish a proud member of a righteous patriotic American family and lineage	10/27/2023 7:39 PM
39	Thank you for inviting opinion on this.	10/27/2023 1:21 PM
40	I understand why this approach has been taken, but I hope the "tearing down of statues" doesn't happen here. If the name is changed, does that change history or people's understanding of it? Let everyone know Fish was flawed. They are also. His intention to create a library for the people of Garrison was generous (yes, there may have been beneficial taxes for him/his wife). But don't you think the Library leadership knew about him in 1980? And they accepted it. We live in a different climate today and reacting too dramatically isn't the answer. Clarity, education and an honest approach is what's needed.	10/27/2023 9:10 AM
41	I'm grateful that you are asking the public.	10/26/2023 10:47 PM
42	1. Engage a communications expert/firm to develop a communications strategy with clear messages supporting DFPL decision in simple English (and Spanish) explaining the reasons for the DFPL decision and how the decision was made. Special attention should be given how to address those who expressed concerns and/or opposition to the library's decision. 2. Special respect is due to the Fish family for their distinguished service to this community and America for centuries (some suggestions are included in responses above) 3. Failure to change the name will leave a future vulnerability to HFPL – this issue will not go away. On the other hand, changing the name will lead to accusations of "cancel culture," library "wokeness," disparaging a highly regarded Hudson Valley family and loss of some donors. In the long run, but DFPL needs to be bold in making the best decision based on available information. Whatever is decided, it will not satisfy everyone on the Board, the community and elsewhere. It is important that DFPL anticipate opposition and respond in a positive fashion (i.e. not defensive) to those opposed to DFPL Board decision. Again, as per #1, above this requires counsel from communications expert(s).	10/26/2023 12:30 PM

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43	If people today want to judge people of the past for unwise decisions, why not look at FDR for deciding to put hundreds of thousands of Japanese-American citizens in internment camps for four years? Also, why didn't FDR do more to help the Jewish refugees of Europe to enter the USA? There is truly no end to the accusations people of today could make about people of the past. As the saying goes, Hindsight is 20/20.	10/25/2023 3:33 PM
44	Nope	10/25/2023 11:54 AM
45	All white people should not be categorized as prejudiced, no more than all Muslim people should be categorized as terroritsts or all Israelis as hateful of Palestinians.	10/25/2023 10:15 AM
46	A rose by any other name? The Desmond Fish library has demonstrated that it can be better than the people who created it. It is my suggestion, that we seek to embrace discussions that foster the evolution of humanity without shying away from controversy. That we acknowledge that the creator of the library might now have been perfect, but as a community we can do better. It would get helpful to make a transcript of the video (lecture) available. The video is difficult to hear and you cannot hear the audience questions. It could be on-line.	10/25/2023 9:17 AM
47	Thank you for addressing this and reaching out to your users & surrounding community. We really admire you for being brave and sharing this.	10/24/2023 9:29 PM
48	I have lived long enough to learn that everyone is dealing with limited information in times of upheaval. It is very unfair to judge people of the past by all the things we have learned in the present time. I know that many Americans in the 1930s were reluctant to plunge into another European war and they did not recognize the true evils of Hitler until after 1941. I honestly cannot think of anybody who is totally without "sin" or above reproach on every single issue, and I do not believe the mistakes made by Congressman Fish deserve the criticisms leveled by Rachel Maddow. His clear support for the formation of the state of Israel, as well as his multiple statements against the mistreatment of European Jews seem to refute Maddow's charges of "antisemitism."	10/23/2023 11:09 PM
49	This is great that you are taking this seriously and it really does affect its reputation and how locals support this institution.	10/23/2023 10:29 PM
50	I greatly appreciate the Board being willing to explore the matter, provide resources to educate to community, be open to feedback, and only then decide on the best way forward.	10/23/2023 12:25 PM
51	It is critical that the Library correct this wrong.	10/23/2023 9:18 AM
52	I applaud the Library's honest effort to grapple with this difficult challenge.	10/22/2023 11:05 PM
53	This was interesting to research and learn about. Especially in light of all that has gone on recently these past years with MAGA and some of the more extreme forms of Republicanism.. Also linked possibly to fascism.	10/22/2023 9:48 PM
54	End the nonsense.	10/22/2023 3:45 PM
55	If you feel like there has to be some kind of mea culpa, then make a sign and talk about it, make a plaque or a garden or something that you feel will acknowledge and move on. Today's world has so many problems, that if we keep turning around to take care of the problems of an earlier century, We will never focus on taking care of the problems that exist today. Let's focus on today and what we need to do for the future. We cannot do anything about the past. If you want to feel good and change the name, go ahead. That is just so that people today can feel good. I'm sorry you all feel guilt. Guilt is a useless emotion.	10/22/2023 1:51 PM
56	Kudos on navigating this openly and thoughtfully. May it foster more nuanced engagement w/ history and increase the support that you already deserved!	10/22/2023 11:07 AM
57	I disagree with this idea and don't fully support it. The resources and time invested so far have incurred costs. I question why taxpayers should bear this burden.	10/22/2023 6:42 AM
58	Thanks for doing this: modelling how considerate action and community input can intersect for the betterment of all.	10/21/2023 5:24 PM
59	Keep the name and put more effort into events for the disabled.	10/21/2023 3:23 PM
60	I commend you for addressing this issue. As you well know it is a national discussion which triggers great opportunities to explore such questions as "who should be honored with a statue"? ...why? What should it include? how to handle the possible negative aspects of the	10/20/2023 5:33 PM

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person who will be honored with a statue. These times are great for very interesting discussions about history and statues.

61	A GREAT LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE !	10/20/2023 2:33 PM
62	Stand your ground, keep the name unchanged.	10/20/2023 12:13 PM
63	No	10/20/2023 5:45 AM
64	i work at home, so technically i work in garrison	10/20/2023 2:18 AM
65	Libraries are precious to American freedom. This isn't about renaming a Jefferson Davis library, which I would support. This is about redirecting funding and time to an issue that doesn't make any meaningful difference, and taking that funding and time away from issues that are far more important to libraries. Let it go.	10/19/2023 8:07 PM
66	Fish III was not alone in his isolationism in that era. This whole affair seems political, and as a liberal democrat I oppose his demonization.	10/19/2023 7:12 PM
67	If people want to right current injustices, fine. Erasing the past instead of understanding it has zero to do with making our world a better place. I've seen a lot of the world and a lot of human nature, sometimes up close and (a little) dangerous. Political and/or religious quasi-millenarian ideologies are dangerous and destructive. I wish cultural revolutionaries/virtue signallers would pause, take a deep breath and ponder the true lessons to be learned from history, the world's great religions and a study of human psychology.	10/19/2023 5:06 PM
68	I am embarrassed that this has even come up and I think if anyone, that you are hurting the current family members.	10/19/2023 4:17 PM
69	Opinions are wide spread and valuable, but they are not a substitute for more comprehensive research. Today, we are observing a historical phenomenon called social media being interjected into the official dialogue as being factual . This is hardly a way to note history, for librarians and historians alike to give credence to social bloggers. Get the record straight and lift the bar of knowledge from opinion to facts.	10/19/2023 1:15 PM
70	Spend your time on more significant issues...	10/19/2023 12:08 PM
71	We have been active supporters and friends of this library for decades, working at the book sale and making meaningful financial contributions. We will have to reconsider this support going forward if the message from the library is that this is just something to let slide	10/19/2023 11:43 AM
72	thank you for bringing this to the community.	10/19/2023 11:41 AM
73	I choose not to give my name or email. I do not know if my personal information is sold or used against me in social media or cancel culture.	10/19/2023 10:09 AM
74	Thank you for reaching out to the community for our views.	10/19/2023 9:59 AM
75	I would like to commend the committee for taking action on this important matter and including the public.	10/19/2023 9:05 AM
76	Changing the name of the DFPL based on a radical propagandist like Rachel Maddow is destructive to our community and stands against the beliefs of Putnam County. This is a political based witch hunt. Stop it.	10/19/2023 8:56 AM
77	I find it offensive to ask FT/PT resident...1) you live/pay taxes/vote here or you don't, 2) it implies an opportunity to discount a subset of the responses, 3) if one cares enough to complete the survey, isn't that enough?	10/19/2023 8:55 AM
78	Much ado about nothing	10/18/2023 7:23 PM
79	Let sleeping dogs lie; this whole issue is completely unnecessary. Except to a certain group of history revisionists. There are far more important issues to deal with.	10/18/2023 5:41 PM
80	No	10/18/2023 5:19 PM
81	Thank you to Hamilton Fish III and Alice Curtis Desmond for founding a wonderful library and tremendous asset to the community.	10/18/2023 4:33 PM
82	Appreciate the input.	10/18/2023 3:57 PM
83	the DFPL has acted very responsibly to investigate the Rachel Maddow claims, to research	10/18/2023 10:25 AM

## Name Review Survey

HF III's behavior, to offer historical documents and materials, and to regularly explain things to the public.

84	If the library changes its name, it should also stop offering the New York Times as a resource, as the New York Times downplayed the holocaust its coverage: <a href="https://teachingamericanhistory.org/blog/silence-in-the-storm-the-new-york-times-coverage-of-the-holocaust-during-wwii/">https://teachingamericanhistory.org/blog/silence-in-the-storm-the-new-york-times-coverage-of-the-holocaust-during-wwii/</a>	10/18/2023 10:15 AM
85	I think it is wonderful that you are taking steps to address people's concerns and not minimize other people's pain. Thank you.	10/18/2023 10:13 AM
86	Why is this taking so long? He was a nazi., change the name. What the hell?	10/18/2023 9:37 AM
87	I'm pleased that this discussion is being had	10/18/2023 8:51 AM
88	Note to board: Local Libraries struggle to stay open nation wide. Please don't spend too much of the community's time debating and figuring out what to do here. It's not complicated and if it is, it has not been outlined in this survey	10/18/2023 8:32 AM
89	The library could and should make clear that they don't support the persecution of anyone on the basis of ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or political beliefs. The library has never been involved in anything like that and has never been accused of anything like that for as long as I have lived here.	10/17/2023 9:41 PM
90	Thank you for taking the time to survey the local library users. And thanks for running such a great library!	10/17/2023 9:18 PM
91	Thank you for addressing this issue. In these times we need to be vigilant against antisemitism.	10/17/2023 8:59 PM
92	Spend more time promoting a STEM agenda and stop trying to be a vehicle for 'progressive' controversy. Your solar array initiative last year was poorly planned and received. How about just being a library that thinks about being a good, agenda neutral, resource?	10/17/2023 8:42 PM
93	I do not think the library should have the name of a Nazi sympathiser or affiliate, regardless of his other virtues.	10/17/2023 8:20 PM
94	Please spend library recourses looking forward.	10/17/2023 7:05 PM
95	It is a grave mistake to sweep away or destroy the roots that give a community its character.	10/17/2023 6:51 PM
96	There was actually an episode of "The Facts of Life" about this (strange but true). Blair's grandfather's estate was to set up a library at the school in his name. She found out he was racist and used his judgeship for pro segregation. She was so upset and thought they shouldn't use his name or money. In the end, she found it was better to use the money with just his last name and a whole section about equal rights to educate people. I mean it is not the same thing but you get my meaning.	10/17/2023 4:38 PM
97	If the founders names must be removed for allegedly questionable political activities, then all names, starting with Roosevelt (who used ethnicity to deprive people of property and rights), should be eliminated	10/17/2023 3:34 PM
98	Thank you for being concerned.	10/17/2023 2:35 PM
99	Thank you for being concerned.	10/17/2023 2:33 PM
100	Nothing is as black and white as the media (on either side of the fence) portrays it.	10/17/2023 2:31 PM
101	Desmond Fish is a gem. I trust the board to make good decisions about this sensitive issue. Thank you.	10/17/2023 1:50 PM
102	Stop the immoral and unethical political agenda's along party lines and hateful racist DEI agenda's and start behaving like American citizens not Marxist / Communists.	10/17/2023 12:22 PM
103	Your time would be better used on library events for the entire community.	10/17/2023 11:35 AM
104	Stop the emotional reactions to loud voices. Decisions should not be based on quick, temporary feelings. Teach the history. It is important.	10/17/2023 11:32 AM
105	This is a very upsetting history and one that does need to be addressed in my opinion. The idea that a library which in my opinion should represent the best of the enlightenment ideal	10/17/2023 9:56 AM

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should be named after someone with Nazi affiliation seems deeply disturbing.

106	It seems unfair to judge a person who is unable to express what may be regret, for their earlier actions. I think we need to keep sight of his lifetime accomplishments or at minimum, not disparage his wife for misdeeds.	10/17/2023 9:09 AM
107	I am having an aversion to see HF III's name on the front library already.	10/17/2023 8:58 AM
108	Please review this again and learn as much as you can about what really happened. Please look at how others were exploited under hitler and Stalin and how they used slander and propaganda to gain control. Fish I don't believe was a jew killer but hitler was. Please understand that we were at war with psychopathological person who was killing people who disagreed with him. We were protecting our country from invasion. Hitler literally walked into the Kaiser of Germany's home and occupied it and took power away from the Kaiser , he raised his flags and forced them to flee. The English did a similar thing to Fish's relative who lived in New Amsterdam and he was forced to give up his farm and New York City was then built and we then under English control. This is how these things work and the leaders have to decide how to handle it, if they publicly shame someone who is known to be a killer they too could be killed so many had to tread very carefully and remember fish had a spy working in his office . Lastly, he is on record criticizing the treatment of jews in Germany. The British government also published false information about Hamilton fish. His chief of staff was convicted of perjury in relation to his involvement with a Nazi spy, George Sylvester Viereck, and agents of the British Security Co-ordination office repeatedly raised money for Fish's opponents and published anti-Fish leaflets in his district. I do not and will not support a person with a media platform who makes statements to the public who only provides a sliver of what happened.	10/17/2023 7:51 AM
109	The perpetuation of this cultural revolution in our society is an unhealthy and damaging exercise. I wish we could rise above it and move on to more productive uses of our short lives.	10/16/2023 11:07 PM
110	No. But I am glad you are taking this survey.	10/16/2023 10:36 PM
111	You should continue to expand your book selection to include more resources and greater diversity.	10/16/2023 8:11 PM
112	Although it clearly seems to me that the name change must happen, has the library considered the future of fund raising or when the next honoree of the Hamilton Fish Award finds out the namesake was a Nazi sympathizer?	10/16/2023 6:40 PM
113	I've been a smart aleck about this, but seriously...where does this end? The United States is a beautiful mosaic. For whatever reason, some forces are trying to smash that mosaic and divide our nation. Are you really going to participate in that?	10/16/2023 6:29 PM
114	I cannot believe reparative action is even up for discussion here. Whoever suggested such a thing seriously needs counselling — and should spend more time in the library, which is one of the best cures for ignorance.	10/16/2023 6:02 PM
115	Those that are pushing this entire narrative need to look at themselves and see who is calling the kettle black.	10/16/2023 5:58 PM
116	In the Highlands Current letters to the editor I was dismayed to read comments which were emotionally for or against renaming the library. Much more important than high emotions is the straight truth. The comments by relatives of Mr. Fish in the paper were vague, perhaps half apologetic, and highlighted Mr. Fish's achievements. This is not a good airing of the actual history. It is a difficult time in the country where polarization and demonization is all too common. If the community really resolves this in a constructive manner, it can be a model for other communities. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views.	10/16/2023 4:32 PM
117	Has the library considered asking if he wants to express his current feelings and perhaps regrets in print or perhaps publicly in person?	10/16/2023 4:18 PM
118	Stop erasing pur past. This man did many great things for pur country and local community.	10/15/2023 10:12 PM
119	keep the name	10/15/2023 12:45 PM
120	This has been a witch hunt spearheaded by Rachel Maddo, a pseudo historian who has no personal knowledge of Ham Fish. She is exploitive and ignorant	10/12/2023 1:16 PM
121	If the contemplated name change is done; it will be done because of a hit piece on one media	10/12/2023 10:49 AM

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	outlet with a predetermined agenda	
122	The mob rule mentality seems to have gotten out of hand. No one is perfect. All in all Hamilton Fish did a lot of good for a lot of people.	10/12/2023 8:21 AM
123	He was a man who on the whole measure did great things in WWI and Congress, especially for our veterans. Don't erase him from our history.	10/12/2023 8:19 AM
124	The library is a brilliant resource for the local community.	10/12/2023 6:40 AM
125	It is not hard to do the obviously right thing	10/11/2023 11:38 PM
126	Why do you keep trying to defend this man? Why are men (white men) constantly given the benefit of the doubt when the nanswer is obvious?	10/11/2023 11:28 PM
127	Have you considered the costs and confusion of changing the name .	10/11/2023 8:56 PM
128	I'm glad you are considering changing the name! Your library feels like a very open and welcoming space, and the current name does not reflect that.	10/11/2023 12:30 PM
129	Thank you for these important efforts to address and repair this situation.	10/10/2023 8:55 PM
130	I'm really glad you're taking this on. It's a thorny issue, and there's no way that everyone is going to be happy. But people who had abhorrent viewpoints - even if they are complex - don't deserve these legacies. But we still have the Dewey decimal system, Carnegie libraries, and places named after Rockefeller. Naming institutions is a way that bad men get to clear their name, and they deserve pushback on that.	10/10/2023 6:34 AM
131	Not at this time.	10/9/2023 8:43 PM
132	I may not live or work in Garrison but I do live and work in the Hudson Valley and it takes a village to effect change.	10/9/2023 8:31 PM
133	1488	10/9/2023 1:58 PM
134	The funds given by Alice Curtis Desmond are tiny compared the funds that will be given by Garrison taxpayers over the many future years of the library's existence. Putting anyone's name on a public building is a mistake as the public's opinion of that person will change over time.	10/9/2023 1:22 PM
135	It is shocking to me that this matter has taken so long to come to the public and that the library board has not acted faster on this. I think the library like many others struggles to stay relevant in the digital age of information. Holding on to this legacy will not help it move forward to a more enlightened role in the community.	10/8/2023 3:36 PM
136	These efforts are long overdue; but there is also a great opportunity here to help build a more just society in the Hudson Valley, as our population increases with people from outside and the NYC area. It's a beautiful and relatively friendly place to live, but there is a dark past to this place, and residents still face class challenges such as wealthy residents voting down public school budgets. The library could team up with organizations in surrounding towns, as well as the public schools, in efforts to not re-live the past mistakes of this region. Rachel Maddow didn't produce the ULTRA podcast just to bash Ham Fish; she did it because his story and the threat it presents is more relevant and frightening than ever.	10/8/2023 2:59 PM
137	Be strong and do not blindly follow the crowd who does not allow for imperfection.	10/7/2023 8:46 PM
138	My children learned to love to read at your library. It's a special way lace. Haven't been there lately except to go to some programs with Kim Eierman or other garden speakers. Bought some books during the pandemic so I haven't needed to go.	10/7/2023 7:41 PM
139	Come on people... you say we are a fair, diverse, peace loving, pro people town? Prove it. You say no racism or anti-semitism...? Make a statement with a name change. If you need to keep anything.. Desmond would be ok if full research and disclosure done, there is just no excuse or good reason to keep his name.. none.	10/7/2023 3:58 PM
140	I greatly appreciate your thoughtful consideration on this matter and thank you for taking it so seriously. I do hope the name will be changed.	10/7/2023 3:54 PM
141	Libraries are CRUCIAL.	10/7/2023 3:22 PM
142	Time to shrug off the yoke of old white rich people .	10/7/2023 2:27 PM

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143	N/A	10/7/2023 1:50 PM
144	The library board should be ashamed of itself	10/7/2023 1:45 PM
145	Philipstown was my area for almost 20 years as an estimator with [REDACTED]	10/7/2023 12:34 PM
146	Do the right thing. If we can remove confederate statues and names of military forts, we can 86 the Fish name.	10/7/2023 12:27 PM
147	As a former school librarian, I frequent other libraries in the area as I travel about and enjoy visiting your library on occasion.	10/7/2023 12:23 PM
148	I love the library. Thanks for caring.	10/7/2023 12:08 PM
149	Every day that passes with the existing name in place is a stain on our community.	10/7/2023 11:04 AM
150	No	10/7/2023 9:56 AM
151	This library has been a wonderful asset for this community. Let's shield it from the current absurd political tantrums.	10/7/2023 8:53 AM
152	I use the only resources daily despite only visiting the library occasionally.	10/7/2023 8:11 AM
153	No thanks	10/6/2023 5:09 PM
154	Thank you for the thoughtfulness and thoroughness of the approach you have taken to address these issues.	10/6/2023 2:57 PM
155	I and my family will never return to the Library if the name "Fish" is not removed! Don't hesitate to call me to discuss further [REDACTED]	10/6/2023 12:35 PM
156	Thank you for asking	10/6/2023 11:30 AM
157	Thank you for reaching out. I hope the library makes the decision to rename. And I envy the fact that you have a wonderful director.	10/6/2023 10:54 AM
158	If the community decides to retain the name as is, place a plaque at every entrance explaining that Mr. Fish was both a library benefactor and a Nazi sympathizer, and invite visitors to consider the complexity of this man.	10/6/2023 7:50 AM
159	Your serious research into and consideration of this issue has been noteworthy.	10/5/2023 2:43 PM
160	After this entire issue is resolved, I suggest that a permanent display be created at the Library presenting the full issue and its resolution to subsequent visitors to the Library. This would be consistent with what "good" libraries do and an affirmation of our decision to resist and not pander to those actors and actions which threaten to weaken or destroy our democracy.	10/5/2023 2:34 PM
161	I think people know that we're all conditioned by the times we live in, and that in a life of public service there are going to be decisions that later prove to be very wrong. It's a long and cumbersome name. Why not just call it what it is — a public library? Tributes to donors can be left inside — maybe in a smaller way.	10/5/2023 10:33 AM
162	I think is is FoxNews making a mountain out of a molehill.	10/4/2023 2:16 PM
163	My husband and I have been supporters of the library for more than twenty years and we are deeply saddened by this stain on our wonderful library.	10/4/2023 10:30 AM
164	Thank you for asking this important question.	10/3/2023 5:15 PM
165	My father's service in WWII included awareness by soldiers that HF was not supportive of them. He had no use for the man, and neither do I.	10/3/2023 2:17 PM
166	I once heard a religious co-congregant lament how hurt people could be should HF's name be removed: She is quite right. I am sick of being slapped in the face by that name. My father risked his life to defeat those who behaved as HF did, and was fortunate that the shrapnel he died with did not kill him in 1942. My father had no use for isolationists and I stand with him aand HF's other opponents.	10/3/2023 1:45 PM
167	I once heard a religious co-congregant lament how hurt people could be should HF's name be removed: She is quite right. I am sick of being slapped in the face by that name. My father risked his life to defeat those who behaved as HF did, and was fortunate that the shrapnel he	10/3/2023 1:43 PM

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died with did not kill him in 1942. My father had no use for isolationists and I stand with him and HF's other opponents.

168	Hamilton Fish is a distant cousin of mine.	10/3/2023 10:53 AM
169	Podcasts like the one Maddow conducted sensationalize without properly investigating and presenting a fair picture of their subject. As a reporter she clearly had an agenda and wanted to push a story that she believed would garnish support.	10/2/2023 8:02 PM
170	Since coming to the area I have found great programs at the library presented in conjunction with outside groups, ex. Cornell Cooperative. It has helped me make connections with other people in the area that I wouldn't have met otherwise. Thank you for that!	10/2/2023 8:10 AM
171	Without a proper tax structure, libraries and other arts institutions are founded and funded by wealthy individuals and companies. To pretend that success in our capitalist culture is possible without some degree of moral turpitude is naïve. Those who see what's wrong in society have a moral obligation to take action. Real action. Re-naming the library is optics and little more.	10/2/2023 8:03 AM
172	Too much time and effort (while admirable) has been spent worrying about DFIII which is not known by most people.	10/2/2023 8:00 AM
173	I love our library and will continue to support it regardless of what the Board decides. Nevertheless my vote, based on the above is to rename our institution thereby disassociating it from the injustices of the past and the present.	10/2/2023 7:51 AM
174	"When you know better do better." Choices and actions make a strong statement in our community. As a lesbian woman engaged to a Jewish woman, our family does not take the support and safety of our community for granted.	10/1/2023 10:44 PM
175	The attack on Fish as anti-Semitic or as a white supremacist is a cheap shot.	10/1/2023 7:19 AM