



A.S.C. NEWS

Issue No. 256

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut

April 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 15, 2021

Dear Members,

As the pandemic continues to plague our society, I hope that we can now begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel. It is welcome news that over 50% of adults in Connecticut have received at least one dose of a vaccine. This, like the warming spring weather, is most encouraging, and it is my hope that we can all meet together in person this coming fall.

I am saddened to inform members that two long time members and contributors to the ASC, David Starbuck and Dan Cruson passed away this past year. Both were active in the ASC and archaeology of Connecticut, Dan particularly, who served as the society's President for 18 years. Remembrances for both Dan and David are included in this newsletter.

In other news, the ASC is pleased to report the overwhelming success of our joint FOSA/ASC Winter (virtual) lecture series. If you missed any of the lectures or

wish to view them again, recordings will soon be posted to the ASC website. I am happy to report that we have an exciting Spring lecture series planned on a range of archaeological topics, with presentations by Elic Weitzel, Kevin McBride, Nick Bellantoni, and myself. Detailed abstracts of these presentations are included in the newsletter. As with our previous series, these will take place on Wednesdays at 7 pm, starting May 12th and concluding June 2nd. If like me, you find yourself craving more archaeological zoom presentations, I would also encourage members to check out the Gene Winter Chapter of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society's YouTube Channel, where a host of interesting virtual lectures are archived.

Members should have received a copy of the 2020 issue of the *Bulletin*; please contact us if you did not receive your copy. Please also remember that grant applications for the Brian D. Jones grant are due on September 1st; applications can be found on the ASC website and should be submitted electronically to Sarah Sportman at sarah.sportman@uconn.edu.

On behalf of the ASC Board of Directors, we hope that you enjoy this newsletter, and that you will be able to attend our Spring lecture series. Until we meet again in person, be safe and healthy.

David Leslie
President

SPRING VIRTUAL SPEAKER SCHEDULE

Following the well-received fall and winter lecture series, this spring FOSA and ASC will co-sponsor four new virtual talks from Connecticut archaeologists to presenting their latest research.

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As with the fall and winter series, Zoom links will be emailed to ASC and FOSA members a few days before each talk. We will send links to the email addresses used for distribution of this newsletter. **If you receive this newsletter by hard copy and did not receive the previous links, be sure to send your email address ASAP,** to Lee West at lfwest@sbcglobal.net so that we can send them to you for these talks. Or you can check the [website](#) for the links.

See the end of this newsletter for abstracts and speaker biographies.

Here is the schedule:

7:00PM, Wednesday, May 12,
*Elic Weitzel, **The Ecological Consequences of European Colonization in Southern New England.***

7:00PM, Wednesday, May 19,
*Kevin McBride, **Household Variability and Status: Perspectives from Pequot War Era settlement Patterns***

7:00PM, Wednesday, May 26,
Nick Bellantoni,
And So the Tomb Remained

7:00PM, Wednesday, June 2,
*David Leslie, **More than a Quartz Scatter: Gulf of Maine Archaic Tradition Occupations in Plainville, Massachusetts***

Did you miss the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 lecture series?

The Fall series recordings have been posted on our website at this [link](#) and the Winter series will be posted in the near future.

In Memorium

DANIEL JOHN CRUSON III, 1945-2021

This winter the Connecticut archaeological community lost a giant among its ranks. Dan Cruson, who served as the President of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC) for over 18 years, passed after a prolonged illness on February 21 at the age of 76. Dan was a noted educator, historian, author and archaeologist, but to all of us, he was a devoted and loyal friend. His excavations at Israel Putnam State Park brought to light new information on Putnam's Revolutionary War Encampment and the hardships the Patriot soldiers suffered there during the bitter winter of 1778-79. His scholarship was well established; his many students adored him and started careers under his tutorship.

Dan Cruson taught archaeology as well as local history, anthropology economics and East Asian history at Joel Barlow High School for 37 years. He also served as the first official Town Historian for Newtown, CT for over 25 years, delivering talks, leading walking tours and writing many articles and books. Amazon currently describes 11 of his works and this is only a partial list.

At the ASC, we knew Dan as a leader, running 3 board meetings

and two membership meetings a year for decades with steady calm, eloquence and wit. He additionally delivered many presentations on his own research, authored numerous bulletin articles and countless President's letters in ASC News.

When FOSA was formed, Dan was unsure how this new organization that supported the



Leading a tour of Putnam Park 2015

Office of State Archaeology would fit in with the existing ASC. However, before long Dan realized the powerful one-two punch both organizations could bring to the state and the opportunities partnership had for creating awareness about CT archaeology.

Cynthia Redman writes that "shortly after I became President of FOSA in 2009, Dan approached me to see if I was interested in developing collaborations between the two

organizations, the purpose being to increase the footprint of archaeology in Connecticut and membership activity across both organizations. I was. Although there were differences of purpose for each organization, there were also areas of mutual concern and interest. So, Mike Raber and I sat down with Lee West and Dan and developed the following areas of collaboration: an appointed ex-officio member to sit on the opposite group's board; yearly reports by FOSA and ASC at the annual meetings of each organization; co-sponsorship of the FOSA annual meeting speaker; sharing expenses/profits and working together on events and activities for Archaeology Awareness month.”

After 10 years at the helm of the ASC, the longest tenure in that position in the history of the organization, Dan had more than earned a comfortable retirement. In 2006 he found an able successor in the late Harold Juli, a well-respected educator and archaeologist who had many ideas for new directions for the organization. However, no sooner had Harold stepped into his new role than he was tragically stricken with an aggressive form of prostate cancer, and within a year filled with debilitating treatments he was gone. On that somber occasion Dan stepped up again and led the organization for another 8 years.

Finally, in 2014, our long-serving State Archaeologist Nick Bellantoni made the difficult decision to retire from that position, and Brian Jones was appointed to take his place. Nick quickly agreed to serve as president of the ASC in a very gradual unwinding of his role in



Connecticut Archaeology, so Dan had finally found a successor. Nick was feted in a retirement part at UConn on September 4, and it was that happy moment for him, Brian and Dan that is captured in the photo above.

Nevertheless, Dan continued to serve as a Director of ASC until illness made travel impossible for him in recent years.

Nick Bellantoni recalls that Dan was a natural leader, whose style was soft-spoken, but expressed with determination and vision. We will not only miss his smile, humor, dedication, hard work, perseverance, leadership, and of course, the twinkle in his eyes when he found something new to consider, but we also truly understand that he could never be replaced in the many roles Dan Cruson played in the history of our state's archaeology. ASC and the Connecticut archaeological community are all the better due to Dan Cruson's leadership and personality. We are sincerely saddened by his loss and our hearts are extended to his family.

Dan leaves his three sons, Daniel, Thomas and Benjamin, two grandsons Danny and Nick, his daughter-in-law Bethany and his ex-wife Carolyn. Online remembrances or photos can be left at dancrusonmemory@gmail.com and a celebration of Dan's life is planned at a later date.

David Roger Starbuck, PhD, Archaeologist

1949-2020

David Starbuck was my quarterly nudge for over 25 years. With gentle but persistent reminders he would induce me to seek the latest Connecticut news of historical archaeology sites from the field, the classroom, and agencies. Yes, so I nudged many of you – David Poirier, Cathy Labadia, and Meg Harper for those articles but we owe a debt to David Starbuck; he loved the state and wanted to make sure our digs and successes were written, compiled, and shared with members of the Society for Industrial Archaeology and the Council for Northeast Historical

Archaeology. In reviewing all that he did for the field of archaeology, it is amazing, nay remarkable that he had the time to care so much for so many aspects of our shared passion.

Before his passing in late December of 2020, David Starbuck had authored/edited 22 books and over 130 articles/reviews, presented nearly 500 papers and talks at conferences and meetings, and was a professor at Plymouth State University in New Hampshire from 1992 – 2020. David was the archaeologist on the New Hampshire Historical Resources Council from 1980-2020 and at the time of his death served as its Chair. He was Editor of the New Hampshire Archeological Society and of the New York State Archeological Association; President of the Adirondack Chapter of the New York State Archaeological Association; Newsletter Editor for the Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology; Newsletter Editor of the New England Chapters of the Society for Industrial Archeology; Research Editor: Northeast, for the Society for Historical Archaeology; and past editor of *IA*, The Journal of the Society for Industrial Archeology (for 13 years).

He was recognized by the archaeological community for his many contributions and awarded numerous accolades. But from David's perspective, his most important legacy was the fact that during the course of his career he taught thousands of students and led thousands of students and volunteers at 70 archaeological field schools. It all started in Connecticut.

Early in his career, as a grad student at Yale, Starbuck

conducted research at the Lewis-Walpole site in Farmington, near the confluence of the Farmington and Pequabuck Rivers. Working with Dr. Michael Coe on what is now Yale's 14-acre archive center for the eighteenth-century British author, Horace Walpole, David led student excavations in the late 1960s (and, again in the 1990s). They uncovered evidence of primarily Middle Archaic occupations and Starbuck later focused his published efforts on untangling the Middle Archaic site use, although the site was intermittently occupied from 10,000 years ago until the contact period. Sherds of Woodland pottery have been unearthed, as have stone axes. Due to the recovery of unworked, non-local stone from the site, David posited that the site was a center of stone trading. He stated – "The whole range of prehistoric history is represented in these fields."

As noted recently by Sarah Sportman, many time periods were represented at the Lewis-Walpole site, including tantalizing evidence of a partially fluted point, which may represent the earliest published reference to Paleoindian activity in the Farmington/Pequabuck River Valleys. The artifacts are currently held at the Yale Peabody Museum.

David's enthusiasm for local history, anchored in his love for his family's 400-acre upstate New York farm, often focused on the French and Indian War. He conducted countless archeological digs in northern New York, including Fort William Henry (ASC board member Dawn Brown dug with him at this site) and Battleground Park in Lake George, Rogers

Island and the Sutler's (merchant's) House at Fort Edward, and Saratoga National Historical Park in Saratoga. David finished his last dig at Fort Edward in November 2020 while fighting stage four pancreatic cancer.



David Starbuck excavating at Fort William Henry in 2012.

Another local history focus for David was the Shaker communities of New Hampshire – first in Canterbury and more recently in Enfield, founded in 1793. Brian Jones traveled to Enfield with FOSA members to have the opportunity to work at the Shaker site with David. At both sites, the archaeological work focused on locating long forgotten structures and understanding the interactions within the community landscape. The Enfield Shaker Museum exhibits and teaching tools have relied on the results of these archaeological field schools (120 boxes of artifacts!). David's major contribution was to allow the excavation results to tell the truth of how the residents of Canterbury and Enfield lived day-to-day, both within and outside the Shaker doctrine. ASC

Treasurer Ernie Wiegand shared David's interest in Shaker archaeology (Ernie excavating at the Mt. Lebanon Shaker Village in New York) and they both discussed their respective finds and interpretations at a session chaired by David at a Society of Historical Archaeology conference.

David's gift to the future are the hundreds of students and colleagues he taught, nudged, and enthused with a love for seeking the truth through archaeology.

Cece Saunders

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY

As we come up on the one-year anniversary of the pandemic shutdown and reflect back on the last year in Connecticut archaeology, it's clear that it was a year of many disappointments, most notably the loss of communal gatherings and fieldwork. While the personal and in-person connections we feel while working side-by-side on a site or chatting about a presentation cannot be replaced by virtual events, it was exciting to see how many people tuned in to the virtual lectures hosted by ASC and FOSA. Now that spring is here and the current rate of vaccinations in Connecticut is strong, I'm hopeful that we can resume some of that in-person work this summer and perhaps even gather in person for a meeting in the fall.

In the year since the pandemic shut us all down, OSA had stayed busy. With the support of FOSA and iCRV Radio, Scott Brady and I have continued the radio shown

on the *Archaeology of Connecticut* initiated by Brian Jones. We've now been on the air each month for over two years. We covered some great topics in 2020 and early 2021 including GPR, battlefield archaeology, underwater archaeology, plants in archaeology, the archaeology of WWII plane crash sites in CT, and New England Vampires, and we've covered past archaeological research at several major historic sites in the state including the Henry Whitfield House, Old New-Gate Prison, and the Prudence Crandall Museum. In April we spoke with the ASC's newest Board Member, Elic Weitzel, about his research using white-tailed deer remains from archaeological sites to better understand ecological changes in New England brought about by European colonization in the 17th century. I hope you will join us for the May show, when we'll be speaking with James Bailey, a historian and metal detectorist from RI. Jim will discuss his research tying late 17th-century Arabic coins that have been found across southern New England to the crew of the notorious pirate Henry Every. If you missed a past show and want to catch up, they are all archived on the FOSA website at https://www.fosa-ct.org/iCRV_Slideshow_1.htm.

We did manage to do some interesting fieldwork this year, although with limited volunteer participation for safety. We began to venture out into the field last summer and did a number of small test pit surveys this summer and fall. We completed two surveys in Norwich – one at the Carpenter Silversmith Shop on the Norwich Green, and another in the back yard of 2 Town Street,

a historic house undergoing extensive renovations. In August we did a small survey for an electrical conduit at the Stanton-Davis homestead Museum in Pawcatuck, where we found array of materials from the 17th-19th centuries, including ceramics, animal bone, kaolin pipes, glass, nails, and other materials; and we did a small survey for a land trust parking area in Old Lyme. In August and September, we did a larger excavation at the Freeman Houses, the last standing structures from the 19th-century African American settlement of Little Liberia in Bridgeport, this time with a few FOSA members. We excavated around the former porch area of one of the Freeman Houses. Our goal was to help the Mary and Eliza Freeman Center figure out how the original porch was constructed, as there are no photos. We were able to determine the original configuration of the porch, and we found a few 19th century artifacts in the fill around the porch, including buttons, pipe stems, and some ceramic sherds, but these were mixed a lot of late 20th century materials.

We also had the opportunity to work on two possible Paleoindian sites this year. In the spring OSA and a few FOSA volunteers worked with Dave Leslie to survey a private property in Avon, where the landowner had found a thin, parallel-sided lanceolate projectile point while working in her garden. The point, which had clear collateral flaking was made from Normanskill chert and is consistent with Paleoindian stone tools. The property is situated between the Farmington River and a wetland within the confines of an ancient, abandoned river

channel. We excavated 15 test pits and found a relatively large lithic assemblage indicative of a multi-component site, with likely Paleoindian and Early and Late Archaic components. Notable was the range of local and exotic lithic types recovered from the site, which included chert, argillite, basalt, granite, hornfels, Hardyston jasper, quartzite, rhyolite, sandstone, and slate. Dave, along with UCONN Geosciences Dr. Will Ouimet conducted soil coring and GPR at the site to better understand the environmental history and the landform.

We also spent a couple of days excavating at a likely Paleoindian Site in East Haddam, known as the Two Wrasslin' Cats Site. This site, which was identified by a surface find of a chert graver, produced a large chert assemblage. And while there was no "smoking gun" Paleoindian artifact, we did recover 3 graves, characteristic of the period and number of utilized flakes. Preliminary use-wear analysis of the graves indicates that all three were used to carve bone. I expect that research at both of these sites will continue over the next couple of years.

With support and staff from the Connecticut Museum of Natural History, we have made tremendous progress on the new planned database for OSA collections. The draft of the database is almost complete and will soon be sent to UConn IT specialists for construction. The long-term goal is to have the data from the State's archaeological and ethnographic collections viewable and searchable online for researchers and the interested public. I've also been working with the State Historic

Preservation Office to reconcile archaeological site file data, as they work toward digitization of the state's files of archaeological and historic properties.

As I look ahead to the coming field season, I'm especially excited about two projects. First, we will return to the Hollister Site this summer and pick up where we left off in 2019. I'm not yet sure what the fieldwork will look like – how many people will be there at one time, etc. but we will be out in the field excavating there this summer. Second, I'm excited to start a new, and hopefully long-term project at the Cesar and Sym Peters Site in Hebron. This house site was the home of an African-American family that was freed from captivity in 1789. Their story is incredible and I hope to share more about it soon! We'll be going out this spring to do some preliminary clearing, mapping, and testing of the site. Going forward, OSA will work with Peters family descendants, students, and volunteers to conduct excavations and historical research on the site.

I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful spring weather we've had so far! Please stay safe and healthy, and hopefully we can begin to see each in person soon!

Best,

Sarah Sportman
State Archaeologist



Hello ASC friends,

I hope this message finds you well. With any luck, the

beginning of the end to the COVID pandemic is upon us.

FOSA is extremely grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with the ASC and Institute for American Indian Studies (IAIS) on both the Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 virtual presentation series. The presentations have proven extremely popular and we hope to continue to collaborate on additional presentations. We are particularly proud that at least five of the presenters have received support from FOSA via financial support for testing and analysis and/or volunteer labor for onsite work.

FOSA fully expects that we will be in the field this year. With limited participation, masking and appropriate social distancing we are confident supporting the OSA with field work can be done safely.

All my best,

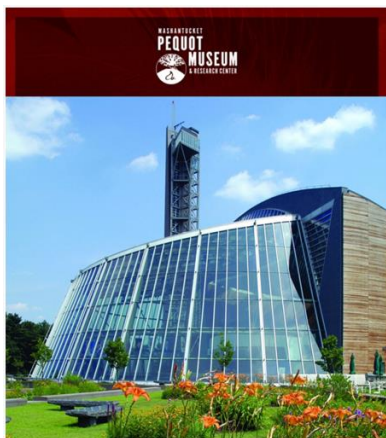
Scott Brady
President-FOSA

NEWS FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Ridgefield Skeletons in the News

State Archaeologist Emeritus Nick Bellantoni is interviewed in the latest issue (April 2021) of CT Magazine on the Ridgefield burials discovered in December 2019, at this [link](#). The article mentions participants from FOSA, OSA Yale and Quinnipiac, and shows some recent diagnostic imaging of the skulls taken at Quinnipiac.

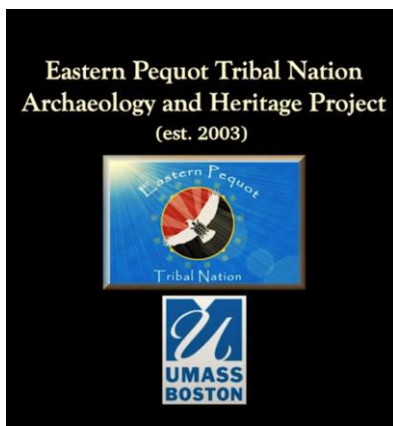
At the Museums



Beginning on May 19th, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center is once again opening its doors to the public.

Come experience the world's largest Native American Museum.

Hours: Wednesday - Saturday • 9 am - 5 pm (last admission at 4 pm)



New Film on Eastern Pequot/UMass Field Schools

Thanks to Cathy Labadia of CT-SHPO for sharing the following news from Steve Silliman of UMass Boston: He writes “We have just finished a new short film, entitled *Listen to Their*

Voices, that focuses on Eastern Pequot reflections on their heritage, land, and the long-term collaborative archae-ology project with UMass Boston. It is available on the UMass Boston Anthropology Department’s YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/CsJ2znR-Wq8>. I thought that some of you might like to see the most recent product of our long-term community colla-boration – one that actively centers the Eastern Pequot in telling their story.”

Archaeology Club of Norwalk Community College



May 13 - Thursday - 7:30 pm
Virtual Via Online Meeting
Sea Level Rise and Its Impact on Coastal Archaeological Sites
David Robinson
Massachusetts State Underwater Archaeologist

We are pleased to welcome back David Robinson, now the State Underwater Archaeologist for Massachusetts. David will speak to us on the topic of Climate Change, Sea Level Rise and Its Impact on Coastal Archaeological Sites. David graduated from URI in 1990 with a dual degree in art and

anthropology and then got his master’s degree in anthropology specializing in shipwreck archaeology—from Texas A&M University. From there, he found work as an underwater archaeologist working for museums and cultural management firms in Vermont, Maryland and, finally, back home in Rhode Island. Over the course of his 29-year career, David has specialized in multi-disciplinary marine archaeological investigations of submerged ship-wrecks, coastal infrastructure, and ancient cultural sites submerged by sea level rise. He has worked extensively with federal and state agencies, Tribes, industry, museums, and academic institutions in the U.S. and abroad.

Please join us on May 13 at 7:30 pm for a virtual lecture. The link to enter into your web browser is <https://meet.google.com/jxe-eckq-oqs>

Scrap Field School 2021!!!

The NH Division of Historical Resources is currently planning to hold the SCRAP field school this summer, pending, of course, the status of the pandemic come July.

Please keep an eye on our website,

<https://www.nh.gov/nhdhr/SCRAP.htm>, for any updates as we move closer to the summer.



Photo provided by Archaeological and Historical Services, Storrs, CT

Spear point, broken during manufacture, recovered at the Brian D. Jones Paleo-Indian site

UNEARTHING HISTORY:

THE DISCOVERY OF A 12,500 YEAR OLD PALEO-INDIAN SITE ALONG THE FARMINGTON RIVER IN AVON, CT

Lecture series will cover the archaeology, geology, and anthropology of life along the Farmington River, with a focus on the Brian D. Jones Paleo-Indian discovery in Avon, Connecticut.

7:00 PM, VIA ZOOM FREE TO ATTEND
REGISTER AT: WWW.AVONCTLIBRARY.INFO

MARCH 4:

Digging into Deep History: Archaeology, Artifacts, and Avocation

Presented by Scott Brady, President, Friends of the State Archaeologist & Paul Wegner, Assistant Director, Institute for American Indian Studies Museum (IAIS), Washington, CT

APRIL 8:

A Rift, not the River, made the Farmington Valley: The Geology of western Connecticut along US RT 44

Presented by Howard Wright, Renbrook School Science Department Head

MAY 6:

Connecticut Before History: The Deep Story of Human Settlement of the Farmington Valley

Presented by Dr. Ken Feder, Archaeologist, Central Connecticut State University, and Founder of the Farmington River Archaeology Project

SEPTEMBER 9:

Connecticut Native American Communities Past and Present

Presented by Dr. Lucianne Lavin, Director of Research and Collections, Institute for American Indian Studies Museum (IAIS), Washington, CT

OCTOBER 7:

Connecticut's Paleo-Indian Sites
October is Connecticut Archaeology Month!

Presented by Dr. Zachary (Zac) Singer, Research Archaeologist, Maryland Historical Trust and Dr. David Leslie, Archaeological and Historical Services, Storrs, CT

2021 Webinar Series created by :
Avon Historical Society
Avon Free Public Library
Avon Senior Center

Sponsored by a grant from:



Focus on FIELD SCHOOLS

Some of the most important archaeological research being done in Connecticut and surrounding states today is in the form of summer field schools sponsored by the State Archaeologist, several universities, Native American tribal governments and other organizations, while additionally training the next generation of archaeologists. In the following column, a feature in each April issue of ASC News, the field school directors describe their programs for the coming year.

Note: These field school schedules were current as of press time. With possible cancellations and postponements due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, be sure to contact the individual field school organizer before making any plans to attend.

Western Connecticut State University Summer Archaeological Field School: ANT 229, Dr. Cosimo Sgarlata, 6 credits, Summer Session I, May 24 to June 26, 2021

Participate in the excavation of the oldest active archaeological dig in Connecticut. The Templeton Paleoindian site



in Washington Depot, CT dates to the final stages of the last Ice Age, 12,300 years ago. Learn about New England's earliest inhabitants. Students will be taught how to carry out detailed excavation, mapping and record keeping. Enjoy beautiful summer days in a lovely setting, as you help us recover thousands of artifacts that have not seen the light day since the last major ice sheet covering North America retreated. Meet some of the most important archae-ologists, and environmental scientists in the northeast. WCSU runs a multi-disciplinary project that includes analysis of soils, geology, pollen, samples for radiocarbon dating, ground penetrating radar, GIS mapping, and analysis of stone tools. The archaeological field

school runs even if threatened by low enrollment because students will be allowed to take the course as an independent study even if the class does not meet enrollment requirements. So, your participation in the summer field school is guaranteed.

Sign up for ANT 229, Summer Session I, a 6-credit course, from Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm. Or contact Cosimo Sgarlata, sgarlatac@wcsu.edu if you can't find the course there. Although students are expected to be in the field as much as possible, there is some flexibility so be sure to talk with me if you want to take the class but have some scheduling conflicts. Students leave from the White Street campus in the morning and are returned in the evening. The Field School has all the amenities, including portable outhouse and tent to cover you from the elements. No need to purchase tools, all will be provided to you.



Southern Connecticut State University

June 28–July 30
ANT 305 Section 02

field & lab techniques
historic & prehistoric sites
artifact identification

Email Prof. William Farley at farleyw@southernct.edu for more details.



APPLICATIONS ARE BEING ACCEPTED FOR THE 2021

UConn CONTACT PERIOD & BATTLEFIELD ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL

May 24 - July 2, 2021

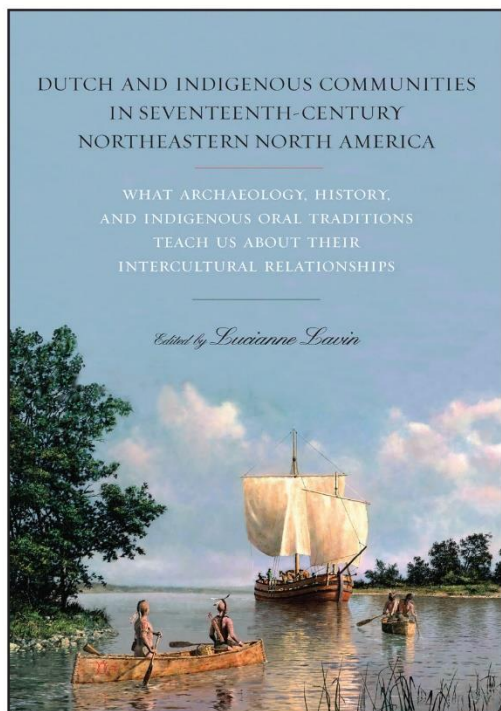
Spend 6 weeks outdoors gaining 6 college credits learning excavation and metal detecting techniques, and become a part of a nationally significant research project.

*Email Dr. Kevin McBride
(kevin.mcbride@uconn.edu) for more info.*

The University of Connecticut will offer a field school in Contact Period & Battlefield Archaeology focused on sites associated with the Pequot War of 1636-1637. The Battle of Mistick Fort: English Withdrawal & Pequot Counterattack took place on May 26, 1637 immediately following the English & allied Native attack on the Pequot fortified village at Mistick. Fieldwork will focus on documenting the intense fighting along the four-mile route of the English withdrawal and on excavating the Calluna Hill site, a Pequot village burned by the English during their withdrawal. This domestic site has remained undisturbed since it was abandoned and provides a unique opportunity to examine Pequot domestic architecture and space, foodways, and material culture. The battlefield project is funded by grants from the National Park Service American Battlefield Protection Program and is part of a long-term effort to document the Battlefields of the Pequot War (Visit www.pequotwar.org for additional information).

NEW PUBLICATIONS

New from SUNY PRESS



May 2021 • 332 pages
63 b/w photos • 20 maps • 2 figures
\$95.00 hc • ISBN 978-1-4384-8317-7



Lucianne Lavin is Director of Research and Collections at the Institute for American Indian Studies in Washington, Connecticut. She is the author of *Connecticut's Indigenous Peoples: What Archaeology, History, and Oral Traditions Teach Us about Their Communities and Cultures*.

This volume of essays by historians and archaeologists offers an introduction to the significant impact of Dutch traders and settlers on the early history of Northeastern North America, as well as their extensive and intensive relationships with its Indigenous peoples. Often associated with the Hudson River Valley, New Netherland actually extended westward into present day New Jersey and Delaware and eastward to Cape Cod. Further, New Netherland was not merely a clutch of Dutch trading posts: settlers accompanied the Dutch traders, and Dutch colonists founded towns and villages along Long Island Sound, the mid-Atlantic coast, and up the Connecticut, Hudson, and Delaware River valleys. Unfortunately, few nonspecialists are aware of this history, especially in what was once eastern and western New Netherland (southern New England and the Delaware River Valley, respectively), and the essays collected here help strengthen the case that the Dutch deserve a more prominent position in future history books, museum exhibits, and school curricula than they have previously enjoyed.

The archaeological content includes descriptions of both recent excavations and earlier, unpublished archaeological investigations that provide new and exciting insights into Dutch involvement in regional histories, particularly within Long Island Sound and inland New England. Although there were some incidences of cultural conflict, the archaeological and documentary findings clearly show the mutually tolerant, interdependent nature of Dutch-Indigenous relationships through time. One of the essays, by a member of the Kanatsiohareke Mohawk Community's board of directors, provides a thought-provoking Indigenous perspective on Dutch–Native American relationships that complements and supplements the considerations of his fellow writers. The new archaeological and ethnohistoric information in this book sheds light on the motives, strategies, and sociopolitical maneuvers of seventeenth-century Native leadership, and how Indigenous agency helped shape postcontact histories in the American Northeast.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS

Hybrid Methods for Locating and Excavating Early Historical Conflict-Related Domestic Sites

Farley, William A.; McBride, Kevin A.; and Willison, Megan K., *Historical Archaeology* 55(1)

Since 2012, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center in Mashantucket, Connecticut, in collaboration with the University of Connecticut, has carried out a research program to survey and document the battlefields of the Pequot War (1636–1637). The unique nature of the project has required the refinement of the long-standing field methods of battlefield archaeology. In this article, we argue that these techniques, while originally developed to explore sites of conflict, can be operationalized to locate 17th-century indigenous domestic sites. We describe this modified method and provide a site-specific case study to present its efficacy.

CALENDAR

To help members plan their calendars, we post the dates of meetings of interest in Connecticut and neighboring states, not mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. Please contact the editor with any meetings you are aware of which you feel would be of interest to the membership.

April 15-17, 2021, Society for American Archaeology (SAA), Virtual Meeting

November 4-7, 2021, Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology (CNEHA), St. Mary's City, MD

November 5-7, 2021, Eastern States Archaeological Federation 88th Annual Meeting, Virtual Conference

January 5-8, 2022 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology, Philadelphia, PA

ASC OFFICERS

David Leslie – *President*
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Applications Now Being Accepted for the Brian D. Jones Award

To increase the application window for the Brian D. Jones award, (a grant for archaeological research which was formerly known as the Lyent Russell Award), the ASC Board has decided to open to applications for this award earlier this year than in the past. A copy of the application has been included with the distribution of this newsletter and has been posted on the website. As in the past, the deadline for this year's grant is September 1.

ASC ON-LINE RESOURCES

ASC Website

<https://www.ctarchaeology.org/>

ASC Bulletins & Newsletters

CT Digital Archive, UConn

<https://collections.ctdigitalarchive.org/islandora/object/20002%3AArchSocCT>

2021 DUES NOW PAYABLE

It's time to renew your membership for 2021. Check your mailing label if you are unsure if you are current. (The label may not reflect payments received in the last month.) If it reads 20 or earlier, please fill out the form below or the stand-alone form distributed with this issue or posted on the website and mail it back with your check or pay online. Thanks!

ASC Now Accepts Online Payments! Go to the website at www.ctarchaeology.org

I want to apply/renew membership in the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC) to promote archaeological research, conservation and service. Enclosed are my dues for the membership category: (circle one)

<i>Individual</i>	\$25.00
<i>Student*</i>	\$10.00
<i>Institutional</i>	\$40.00
<i>Life</i>	\$300.00

Today's Date _____

Name: _____

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(for students)

The newsletter will be sent to you electronically unless you indicate otherwise below:

I wish to receive ASC News by mail instead of electronic delivery

*Student Membership includes electronic newsletters, hard copy bulletins, and for each new member one back issue of the bulletin of your choice subject to availability.

Send payment to Lee West, ASC Membership Chair, 366 Main St., Wethersfield, CT 06109 or online at [ASC website](http://www.ctarchaeology.org)

Editor's Note: ASC News is published three times a year, in September, January and April. Please address inquiries and contributions to future issues to ASC News, Lee West - Editor, 366 Main St., Wethersfield, CT 06109

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ASC and FOSA Present

2021 SPRING VIRTUAL MEETINGS

Here is the schedule, abstracts and speaker biographies for the Spring Lecture Series. Be sure to check the ASC website for possible changes.

7:00 PM, Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Elic Weitzel *The Ecological Consequences of European Colonization in Southern New England*

European colonization of southern New England in the 17th century AD is known to have profoundly altered the environment of the region. Yet many questions remain about the impacts that European settlers had on the ecology of New England, and old answers to these questions are currently being revisited. Was southern New England an anthropogenic landscape, modified by Native peoples in the millennia prior to European colonization? What exactly happened to the forests, fields, and animals of the region in the years following European arrival? In this talk, I will outline ethnohistorical and archaeological evidence capable of answering these questions. The presently-available data suggest that 17th century southern New England witnessed a dramatic shift from sustainable environmental management and resource use by Native peoples to the unsustainable extraction of resources by Euro-American colonists. I will discuss the implications of these results for the history, archaeology, and ecology of colonial New England, but also for our broader understanding of sustainable environmental policy today.



Elic Weitzel is a human ecologist and archaeologist pursuing his PhD at the University of Connecticut. His research focuses on the population and behavioral ecology of humans - both past and present - with special emphasis on resource use and management and anthropogenic environmental modification.

7:00 PM, Wednesday, May 19, 2021

Kevin McBride *Household Variability and Status: Perspectives from Pequot War Era settlement Patterns*

Calluna Hill (Site 59-73) is a small Pequot village attacked and burned by the English during their retreat following the attack on the Pequot fortified village at Mistick on May 26, 1637. Excavations and metal detecting over the last few years have identified seven distinct domestic areas with associated household middens. Differences in artifact assemblages and food remains indicate a high degree of intra-site variability with respect to domestic production, activities and food consumption which may reflect status differences. This presentation will discuss recent research at Calluna Hill within the broader context of Pequot settlement patterns and evolving social and political complexity in the early seventeenth century.

Dr. Kevin A. McBride is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Connecticut. He specializes in pre-contact and historic period Native American archaeology and supervises the Battlefields of the Pequot War project.



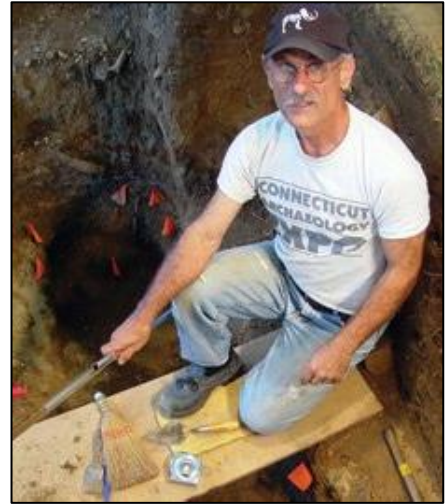
7:00 PM, Wednesday, May 26, 2021

Nick Bellantoni *And So the Tomb Remained*

Stone and brick tombs were repositories for the physical remains of many of Connecticut's wealthiest and influential families. The desire to be interred within burial vaults, rather than have their wooden coffins laid into the earth in direct contact with crushing soil burden, led many prominent families to construct large above-ground and semi-subterranean tombs, usually burrowed into the sides of hills as places of interment for their dead.

This presentation is based on the new book *And So the Tomb Remained*, telling of the former state archaeologist's investigations into five 18/19th century sepulchers while delving into family histories and genealogies, as well as archaeological and forensic sciences that helped identify the entombed.

Dr. Nicholas F. Bellantoni serves as the emeritus state archaeologist with the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History at the University of Connecticut. He received his doctorate in anthropology from UConn in 1987 and was shortly thereafter appointed state archaeologist. His duties primarily included the preservation of archaeological sites in the state. He serves as an Adjunct Associate Research Professor in the Department of Anthropology at UConn, is currently a Director of the Archaeological Society of Connecticut and formerly President of the National Association of State Archeologists. His research background includes the analysis of skeletal remains from eastern North America. He has been excavating in Connecticut for almost 40 years.



7:00 PM, Wednesday, June 2, 2021

David Leslie *More than a Quartz Scatter: Gulf of Maine Archaic Tradition Occupations in Plainville, Massachusetts*

Excavations at the Edgewood Apartments Site (Site 19-NF-792) in Plainville, Massachusetts, recovered evidence for two spatially and temporally separate Gulf of Maine Archaic Tradition (GMAT) occupations during the Early Holocene, as well as a Late Archaic Otter Creek occupation. Lithic artifacts associated with the GMAT occupations include quartz micro-cores and associated flake debitage, while bifacial quartz implements were notably absent. A large selection of these GMAT tools were subjected to microscopic use-wear analyses, indicating that bipolar reduction was the preferred method of flake (or expedient tool) production at the site, and that a range of faunal and plant remains were processed at both loci. Based on macrobotanical analyses, the GMAT occupations most likely occurred during the late summer or early fall. A formal reduction sequence for micro-cores at GMAT sites will be presented, to aid in the identification of other GMAT sites throughout the region and to clarify the differences between these sites and more common Late Archaic Narrow-Stem sites and associated reduction sequences.



David Leslie is a Senior Archaeologist at Archaeological and Historical Services, Inc., who received his PhD from the University of Connecticut in 2016. He has over 15 years of geoarchaeological and environmental archaeological experience, collaborating on archaeological projects in the Northeastern United States, Sub-Saharan Africa, and Europe.