

# Rhode Island Archaeology Month

CELEBRATING ARCHAEOLOGICAL HERITAGE THROUGH ENGAGING PROGRAMS

## Events

October 2015

Listed alphabetically by town

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## Throughout Rhode Island

### Bristol

#### **Stones that Speak: A Historical Cemetery Tour**

**Date & Time:** Saturday, October 3 (with a rain date of October 17); 5:00 PM

**Location:** East Burial Ground (east of Bristol Town Common); tour begins at the Wood Street entrance

**Information:** [jacob.begin@dot.ri.gov](mailto:jacob.begin@dot.ri.gov) or 401-222-2023 x4540

**Description:** *Tour a cemetery where the headstones present the most diverse collection of colonial-era stone carving talent in all of Rhode Island. Historic Preservation Specialist Jacob Begin will point out the work of specific carvers and discuss how it reveals the spoken and unspoken beliefs of people in the past. The tour will last one hour and some walking is required. Admission is free.*

#### **The Foundations of Thanksgiving and the Obligations of Place: Defending the Indigenous Homeland and All That It Holds**

**Date & Time:** Sunday, **November** 8 (this event could not be held in October) 2:00 PM

**Location:** The Barn at Mount Hope Farm, 250 Metacom Avenue (Route 136)

**Information:** [www.mounthopefarm.org](http://www.mounthopefarm.org) or 401-254-1745

**Description:** *Explore Native American wisdom and the idea of “thanks” around the event that became the first “Thanksgiving” with Paul Robinson, who served for 30 years as State Archaeologist for Rhode Island. He will also talk about the latest research concerning the conflicts in the decades following, and about recent reconciliation efforts initiated in Canada and New England. This event is sponsored by the Mount Hope Farm. Paul currently teaches in the Anthropology Department at Rhode Island College.*

### East Providence

#### **The Providence Harbor Ship Graveyard**

**Date & Time:** Monday, October 26, 7:00 PM

**Location:** Tockwotton Home, 500 Waterfront Drive

**Information/Pre-registration:** RI Sea Grant at 401-874-6800 or [rhodeislandseagrant@gmail.com](mailto:rhodeislandseagrant@gmail.com)

**Description:** *Rhode Island is home to one of the nation's more interesting “ship graveyards.” David Robinson, an underwater archaeologist from the University of Rhode Island, will discuss the many shipwrecks and floating drydock remains he's identified on Green Jacket Shoal, together comprising the “Providence Harbor Ship Graveyard,” a submerged cultural landscape frozen in time at the height of Providence's prominence as a maritime industrial port. David will also discuss the challenges of studying, managing, and protecting these unique resources, their potential value to local tourism and education, and their importance as a habitat for wildlife returning to the harbor as water quality improves. This event is sponsored by the Rhode Island Sea Grant, the URI Nutrition and Food Services Department, the URI College of the Environment and Life Sciences, and the East Providence Historical Society. Pre-registration is required, though admission is free.*

## Narragansett

### Villages, Maize, and the Narragansett: New Information on the Formation of a Traditional Indian Territory along Rhode Island's Coast

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 PM

**Location:** URI Bay Campus, 215 S. Ferry Road (park in Coastal Institute lot), Coastal Inst. Auditorium

**Information:** [jwaller@palinc.com](mailto:jwaller@palinc.com)

**Description:** *Archaeological survey of a planned residential subdivision in the 1980s found the remains of an ancient coastal Narragansett Indian village, now called the Salt Pond site. Subsequent investigations shed new light on village structure, farming practices, use of natural resources, and the establishment of Narragansett Indian territory before European contact. The site has been preserved through the efforts of state agencies, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Narragansett Indian Tribe. Jay Waller of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. will discuss the site's archaeology, followed by Lorén Spears, Executive Director of the Tomaquag Museum, who will address its value as a place of Native heritage. Co-hosted by the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society and the Tomaquag Museum, this event is free.*

## Pawtucket

### Behind-the-Scenes Tour of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

**Date & Time:** Friday, October 23, tours at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM

**Location:** The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., 26 Main Street

**Information:** [aleveillee@palinc.com](mailto:aleveillee@palinc.com) or 401-728-8780 or visit [www.palinc.com](http://www.palinc.com)

**Description:** *Please join us for a guided tour of The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., one of the largest cultural resource management firms in New England. We will be conducting behind-the-scenes tours of our headquarters located in the former To Kalon Club: a circa-1911 gentlemen's social club building located in Pawtucket. Visit us for a guided look at the offices, the archaeological collections Archive, and our working archaeology laboratory. Admission is free.*

## Providence

### Archaeology of College Hill Community Archaeology Day

**Date & Time:** Saturday, October 17, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** Moses Brown School (corner of Hope St. and Lloyd Ave.)

**Information:** [sarah\\_sharpe@brown.edu](mailto:sarah_sharpe@brown.edu) or 401-863-9794

**Description:** *Come watch Brown undergraduates digging (yes, really digging). This year, as part of ongoing work on Brown's campus and in the surrounding neighborhoods of College Hill, students will be excavating at the Moses Brown School. Stop by (with your family or on your own) during the dig anytime to see what we're up to or try your hand at digging.*

### Joukowsky Institute Archaeology Open House: Archaeology in Action

**Date & Time:** Saturday, October 17, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Location:** Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology, Rhode Island Hall (60 George St.), Brown University

**Information:** [sarah\\_sharpe@brown.edu](mailto:sarah_sharpe@brown.edu) or 401-863-9794

**Description:** *Come visit the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World in Rhode Island Hall. Faculty and students will be on hand to tour you through the building, as well as to show you artifacts and images, both from some of our current fieldwork (in the Caribbean, Egypt, Italy, Jordan, Turkey, and Rhode Island) and from the Institute's collections.*

## The Art and Science of Making Chipped Stone Tools

**Date & Time:** Saturday, October 10, 2:00 PM

**Location:** Old State House, 150 Benefit Street

**Information:** [timothy.ives@preservation.ri.gov](mailto:timothy.ives@preservation.ri.gov) or 401-222-4139

**Description:** *For millions of years our ancestors relied chipped stone tools, but most of us lack a practical sense of how they made them. Join Rhode Island's State Archaeologist for a lecture on the ancient art and science of flintknapping in the courtroom of the Old State House in Providence. This will be followed by a live tool-making demonstration outside on the parade. This event is hosted by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission. All ages are welcome, and admission is free.*

## South Kingstown

### Reading the Ashes: Forensic Archaeology at a Burned Quaker Meeting House

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, October 20, 6:30 PM

**Location:** Peace Dale Public Library, 1057 Kingstown Rd, Wakefield

**Information:** [washingtoncountyhistory@gmail.com](mailto:washingtoncountyhistory@gmail.com)

**Description:** *South Kingstown's Society of Friends Meeting House burned under mysterious circumstances in 1790. In search of answers, a collaborative team from Rhode Island College, the University of Rhode Island, the Community College of Rhode Island, and the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society recently conducted a forensic archaeological investigation. Please join Rhode Island College archaeologist Pierre Morenon for a discussion on the investigation's findings, the social and political history of local Quakers, the legacy of the Hazard family, and the value of public engagement in archaeology. This event is co-hosted by the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society and the Peace Dale Public Library, and admission is free.*

### Ground Penetrating Radar Demonstration

**Date & Time:** Saturday, October 31, 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM; in case of inclement weather, rain date will be posted at [www.pettaquamscutt.org](http://www.pettaquamscutt.org)

**Location:** Quaker Burial Ground; park next door at Southern RI Chamber of Commerce, 230 Old Tower Hill Road, Wakefield

**Information:** [jon.marcoux@salve.edu](mailto:jon.marcoux@salve.edu)

**Description:** *The historic Quaker Burial Ground, located next to the Society of Friends Meeting House that burned in 1790, contains many well-marked graves, but the locations of some have become obscured because of changing surface conditions. Join Salve Regina University archaeologist Jon Marcoux as he reconnoiters the cemetery boundary, demonstrating how ground penetrating radar can be used to determine the presence or absence of human burials without disturbing the earth. This event is hosted by the Pettaquamscutt Historical Society, and admission is free.*

## Warwick

### Archaeology and History in Warwick: Native American and Early Settlement

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, October 20, 7:00 PM

**Location:** Warwick City Council Chambers, Warwick Town Hall, Apponaug

**Information:** [aleveillee@palinc.com](mailto:aleveillee@palinc.com) or 401-288-6315

**Description:** *When Samuel Gorton came to the western shores of Narragansett Bay in 1642, it was already home for thousands of Native Americans. The English settled amongst three Native villages and the two very different cultures lived side by side for more than thirty years. Please join Alan Leveillee of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. as he shares some amazing stories about past and present history in Warwick. Admission is free.*

## The “Not the Gaspee” Shipwrecks of Warwick’s Occupessatuxet Cove

**Date & Time:** Thursday, October 8, 7:30-8:30 PM

**Location:** Pilgrim Senior Center, 27 Pilgrim Parkway

**Information:** contact Rhode Island Marine Archaeology Project (RIMAP) at [rhodeislandmap@yahoo.com](mailto:rhodeislandmap@yahoo.com) or 401-253-2094

**Description:** *A dozen RIMAP-trained volunteers documented two shipwrecks south of Gaspee Point in Warwick in July 2015. These vessels are not the historic ship attacked in the 1772 event that sparked the Revolution, but they represent important later periods of Rhode Island’s economic history. A slide show, video, and Q&A will share what is known about these “Not the Gaspee” ships and how the public may participate in their future study. This event is sponsored by RIMAP and Friends of Joe McNamara, and admission is free.*

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## In Connecticut

### Mashantucket

#### Archaeological Discoveries at Block Island and Nipsachuck

**Date & Time:** Saturday, October 24, 10:00 AM-12:00 noon

**Location:** Main entrance at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center, 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket, CT 06339

**Information:** [abissonnette@mptn.org](mailto:abissonnette@mptn.org) or 860-396-6803

**Description:** *Visit the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center for a two hour experience. First, archaeologist Kevin McBride will discuss his latest discoveries in Rhode Island, specifically on Block Island and at the Second Battle of Nipsachuck Site, a King Philip’s War Period (1675-6) battlefield in North Smithfield. Next, participants will get a behind-the-scenes tour of the museum’s archeology laboratory and view artifacts recovered from Kevin’s investigations. Afterward, participants are encouraged to explore the museum at their leisure. This event is recommended for those 13 and older, and is free with museum admission.*



Organized by:  
**The Rhode Island  
Historical Preservation  
& Heritage Commission**