



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Old State House 150 Benefit Street Providence, RI 02903

Telephone 401-222-2678  
TTY 401-222-3700

Fax 401-222-2968  
[www.preservation.ri.gov](http://www.preservation.ri.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE / September 22, 2016**

**Contact:** Timothy Ives, [timothy.ives@preservation.ri.gov](mailto:timothy.ives@preservation.ri.gov) (401)222-4139

**RHODE ISLAND CELEBRATES ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH IN OCTOBER**

In Rhode Island, October is Archaeology Month. The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission has organized eight free events, providing the public with opportunities to learn about our state's rich archeological heritage directly from the professional and academic researchers who are making the latest discoveries. The public is invited to participate in an archaeological dig in Providence, observe the use of remote sensing technology in Charlestown, walk and talk through a historic landscape in Middletown, and attend lectures and open houses from Block Island to Warwick.

All of the events are free and open to the public. Visit <http://www.preservation.ri.gov/archaeology/16october.php> to confirm all dates and times.

## Events

In chronological order

---

### Block Island Archaeology Day

**SATURDAY**  
**October 1**  
**11:00 AM-4:00 PM**  
**Block Island**

*Visit Block Island for the day to learn about the archaeological heritage of the Manissee, the island's original Native American residents. Based at the Block Island Historical Society, this event features lectures by archaeologists Joseph Waller of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (11:00 AM) and Kevin McBride of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center (1:00 PM), and includes a stone tool making demonstration by R.I. State Archaeologist Timothy Ives (2:30 PM). View a display by University of Connecticut archaeologist Dawn Beamer on southern Rhode Island's cultural landscape, and enjoy a brand new exhibit on Block Island archaeology. This event is sponsored by the Block Island Historical Society, the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., and the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center.*

**Location:** **Block Island Historical Society**, 18 Old Town Road, Block Island (at the 4-way intersection in Old Harbor across from the Old Post Office Bagel Shop)

**Contact:** [jwaller@palinc.com](mailto:jwaller@palinc.com) or 401-288-6311

## Remote Sensing at Fort Ninigret

**SATURDAY**  
**October 8**  
**11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**  
**Charlestown**

*Salve Regina University archaeologist Jon Marcoux will use remote sensing technology to examine the embankments outlining the former coastal stronghold of Ninigret, the famed seventeenth-century Niantic sachem. He will be joined by RIHPHC archaeologist Charlotte Taylor, who will discuss the site's history and archaeology, as well as a staff member from the Tomaquag Museum, who will discuss the importance of Ninigret's legacy to contemporary Native people. This event is sponsored by the Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Salve Regina University, and the Tomaquag Museum.*

Location: **Fort Ninigret State Park**, Charlestown (at the end of Fort Ninigret Road)

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

## The Archaeology of Children at the Rhode Island State Home and School

**SATURDAY**  
**October 15**  
**5:00 - 6:30 PM**  
**7:00 - 8:00 PM**  
**Providence**

*Rhode Island College professor Pierre Morenon will discuss the archaeology of children at the Rhode Island State Home and School, which housed dependent and neglected children from 1885-1979. His research provides nuanced and intimate glimpses of daily life in this state institution, which shaped generations of young Rhode Islanders. Join him for an outdoor walking tour of the former State Home property (5:00-6:30 PM) and/or attend his follow-up lecture and slideshow (7:00-8:00 PM). This event is sponsored by Rhode Island College.*

Location: **Yellow Cottage**, Rhode Island College, Providence (Yellow Cottage is on the west side of Salisbury Drive, between the Forman Center and the Recreation Center)

Contact: 401-456-9724 or [emorenon@ric.edu](mailto:emorenon@ric.edu)

## Archaeology of College Hill Community Archaeology Day

**SATURDAY**  
**October 22**  
**11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**  
**Providence**

*Watch or join 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 nearby Moses Brown School. Stop by this family-friendly event any time between 11:00 AM and 3:00 PM to see what we're up to or try your hand at digging. All are welcome! This free event is sponsored by Moses Brown School and Brown University's Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World.*

Location: **Moses Brown School**, Providence (go to the corner of Hope St. and Lloyd Ave. where you'll see us digging – wave to us and we'll direct you around the fence to our site!)

Contact: [joukowsky\\_institute@brown.edu](mailto:joukowsky_institute@brown.edu) or (401) 863-3188

## Joukowsky Institute Archaeology Open House: Archaeology in Action

**SATURDAY**  
**October 22**  
**11:00 AM - 3:00**  
**PM**

*At the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World on Brown University's Main Green, faculty and students will provide tours and 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.*

Location: **Joukowsky Institute for Arch.**, R.I. Hall (60 George St.), Brown Univ., Prov.  
Contact: [joukowsky\\_institute@brown.edu](mailto:joukowsky_institute@brown.edu) or (401) 863-3188

## East Providence Cemetery Archaeological Investigation

**WEDNESDAY**  
**October 26**  
**5:30 - 7:00 PM**  
**Providence**

*From 1887 to the 1930s any East Providence resident could purchase a burial plot in the East Providence Cemetery. But after falling into a state of neglect, the property reverted to non-cemetery status, and the deceased were exhumed and reburied elsewhere. To ensure that the 1961 cemetery relocation work was thorough, professional archaeologist Craig Chartier was hired to conduct an investigation in 2013. He found that work to have been incomplete, and reconstructed life histories and fascinating stories for each of the burials left behind. Hosted by Preserve Rhode Island and the Lippitt House Museum, this event will feature a Wine & Cheese reception followed by a lecture by Mr. Chartier.*

Location: **Lippitt House Museum**, 199 Hope Street, Providence  
Contact: [craig@plymoutharch.com](mailto:craig@plymoutharch.com) or 401-728-8780

## A Geological Walking Tour of Paradise Valley

**SATURDAY**  
**October 29**  
**12:00 - 1:30 PM**  
**Middletown**

*Explore the distinctive geology and historical landscape of Middletown's Paradise Valley. This walking tour will be led by geologist and stone wall expert Robert Thorson, with R.I. State Archaeologist Timothy Ives. This event is sponsored by the Norman Bird Sanctuary, the Preservation Society of Newport County, Whitehall, and St. Columba's Chapel. Because space is limited, pre-registration is required.*

Location: **Norman Bird Sanctuary Welcome Center**, 583 Third Beach Road, Middletown  
Pre-registration contact: [kryan2@psnc.org](mailto:kryan2@psnc.org) or 401-487-1000 ext. 132

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

**SUNDAY**  
**October 30**  
**2:00 - 3:00 PM**  
**Warwick**

*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. Join archaeologist Alan Leveillee of the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. as he shares some amazing stories about past and present history in Warwick. This event is sponsored by the Warwick Public Library and the Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.*

Location: **Warwick Public Library**, Central Library, 600 Sandy Lane, Warwick  
Contact: [aleveillee@palinc.com](mailto:aleveillee@palinc.com) or 401-288-6315