

BURIAL SITES FROM THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Presented by: Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.

Saturday, March 29, 2025 at 2:45 p.m.

2:00 p.m. FOSA Annual Meeting

Farmington High School Auditorium

10 Monteith Drive, Farmington, CT

Speakers



Sarah Sportman
Connecticut State
Archaeologist

OSA UPDATE ON POSSIBLE BATTLEFIELD BURIALS FROM RIDGEFIELD, CT.

2019 construction activities uncovered burials under the cellar of a private residence in Ridgefield, CT. Excavations by the State Archaeologist yielded remains of five adult males, four of whom were hastily buried together in a common shallow grave within the Battle of Ridgefield (April 27, 1777) battlefield. Recovered buttons dated the remains to the last quarter of the 18th-century. The working hypothesis is that these men were victims of the battle. This presentation provides a brief overview of the discovery, and an update on the analysis of the burial site skeletal remains and material culture.



Wade P. Catts
President, South
River Heritage
Consulting



Jennifer Janofsky
Prof. of Public History
Rowan University

“NAKED AND TORN BY THE GRAPESHOT”:

THE RED BANK BATTLEFIELD ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

During the summer of 2022, a mass burial space was discovered at Red Bank Battlefield Park in Gloucester County, New Jersey. The burial is believed to contain remains of Hessian soldiers who died during the October 22, 1777 attack on Fort Mercer. This presentation summarizes Park and battle history, and the archaeological fieldwork and forensic research. The multi-disciplinary project team's work is continuing, and we will highlight some of the team's analyses.



Lisa Anderson
Curator of Bioarchaeology
New York State Museum

“SMALLPOX IN OUR NORTHERN ARMY CARRIES WITH IT MUCH GREATER DREAD THAN OUR ENEMIES”: THE QUEBEC CAMPAIGN & COURTLAND STREET BURYING GROUND

In 1776, Governor Jonathan Trumbull wrote about smallpox plaguing troops returning from a failed campaign to invade Quebec. The army established a general hospital at Fort George to isolate the sick. In 2019, unmarked graves believed to be associated with the general hospital were disturbed by construction in the Village of Lake George, NY. A major salvage effort recovered the fragmentary and scattered remains of over 40 individuals. Subsequent work has focused on reconstructing and interpreting the lives of soldiers and plans to honor them in 2026.

Directions to Farmington High School

From I-84 East or West:

- 1) Take Exit 39, proceed west on Route 4/Farmington Avenue for 3.9 miles, crossing Route 10 at about 1.5 miles.
- 2) Approximately 2.4 miles past Route 10, turn right on Monteith Drive.
- 3) Drive to top of hill and park in lots accessed to immediate right or left. Follow signs to school entrance and auditorium.

From Route 4 East

Drive 1.25 miles east of Route 177, turn left on Monteith Drive. Follow step 3 directions above.

General Admission - \$10.00

Non-Farmington Students with ID - \$5.00

FOSA, ASC, Connecticut State Museum of Natural History, Farmington students & faculty admitted free with ID

Co-Sponsored by: *Archaeological Society of Connecticut*

EVENT IS RAIN OR SHINE



**FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE FOR 2025**

Greetings FOSA Members:

I hope your winter has been safe and warm! For those of you who have not renewed in 2024 or 2025, it's membership renewal time. Thank you all for your past (and future) support! Your membership will help FOSA continue to support the field, laboratory, and research efforts of the State Archaeologist. Please be sure to check off your interests below, or on-line at https://www.fosa-ct.org/FOSA_JoinDonate.html, so we can inform you of upcoming opportunities to get involved. We will be assisting the Office of State Archaeology in the 2025 season on a variety of projects. In addition to fieldwork, you will have opportunities to work in the lab at UConn and help us share the importance of archaeology and preservation with the public through our outreach activities.

We will continue to offer our Newsletter digitally. Newsletters will be e-mailed to members, with color photos and live hyperlinks if you want more information. This option saves FOSA money in printing and shipping costs so we can offer more financial support to the Office of State Archaeology. Of course, if you prefer to receive a hard copy of the Newsletter we will be happy to mail you one.

I look forward to seeing you all at FOSA's Annual Meeting on March 29th.

Thanks for all you do!

Glenda Rose, FOSA President

You can renew on-line at https://www.fosa-ct.org/FOSA_JoinDonate.html or use this form to mail.

If using this form, please make all checks payable to:

Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.

P. O. Box 380845, East Hartford, CT 06138-0845

FOSA has 501(c) 3 tax-exempt status. Dues and donations are fully tax deductible

**2025 FOSA MEMBERSHIP AND
DONATIONS**

VOLUNTEER INTEREST CATEGORIES

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