

2023 RI Historical Cemeteries Awareness and Preservation Weeks -

April – May

Events and Proposals listed by community as of 4/10/2023

BARRINGTON-

BLOCK ISLAND-

BRISTOL-

BURRILLVILLE-

2 Events – Clean-up and Gravestone Conservation Demonstration

Saturday, April 15 from 8:00 AM—Noon. Clean-up at the Riverside Cemetery (Harrisville Cemetery) in Harrisville (located opposite the Harrisville Fire Station on Callahan School Street). The event will also feature a gravestone conservation demo and stone cleaning info. Programs presented by the Burrillville Historical Society. For more info contact bmencucci@verizon.net.

3 Events- Talk- Tour- Gravestone Repair Discussion.

Wednesday, May 17 at 6:00 p.m. Come to the Riverside Cemetery (Harrisville Cemetery) in Harrisville (located opposite the Harrisville Fire Station on Callahan School Street) to hear the story of Bathsheba Sherman's headstone Bathsheba was blamed for haunting a house in Harrisville and a movie was made about. All the publicity and lies has resulted in vandalism to her grave site. Learn about gravestone repairs and conservation work on this stone and our project to replace this headstone. We will also walk around the cemetery and discuss gravestone repairs. Programs presented by the Burrillville Historical Society. For more info contact bmencucci@verizon.net

Workshop- Sunday, May 21 from 9-4 p.m. Gravestone Conservation workshop at the Pascoag Cemetery in Burrillville. Betty and Carlo Mencucci will present this hands-on activity for those wishing to learn the proper methods to clean, conserve and reset/repair gravestones. **Registration is required.** You can do this by sending an email to bmencucci@verizon.net.

CENTRAL FALLS-

Walking tour- Sunday- 5/7- 11 am-12:30pm CF001 Moshassuck Cemetery- located at 978 Lonsdale Ave. Central Falls – Central Falls has one cemetery, bearing a Native American name, and having no affiliation with any particular church or culture. Walk with us through the Moshassuck Cemetery as we talk about how Central Falls emerged as a city, who made it happen, and the significance of the city’s cultural diversity. Central Falls may be geographically small but its role in history has been enormous. **Limit:20 | RSVP** contact@heritagepawtucket.org Sponsored by the Heritage Alliance of Pawtucket. <https://www.heritagepawtucket.org/> Contacts- Barbara Zdravesky barabra.zdravesky@gmail.com

CHARLESTOWN- Putting their plan together. Contact Pam Lyons
pam@oceanhousemarina.com

COVENTRY/ WEST WARWICK-

Clean-up -Saturday- 4/1- 9am- (rain date- 4/2- 10am)- CY#135 Maple Root Cemetery and three adjoining cemeteries located on Harney Hill Rd Coventry, RI (across from Maple Root Baptist Church). Bring yourself, some friends, rakes, and other tools needed for cleaning this lot. Contact- coventrycemeteries@gmail.com

Photographing Monuments- Demonstration (using mirror reflection)- Saturday 4/15- 9am (rain date Sunday- 4/16-10am) ... Julie Nathanson will host this demonstration at CY135 Maple Root Cemetery located on Harkney Hill Rd Coventry, RI. Mrs. Nathanson has done extensive work often using reflections from mirrors for illegible monuments. Her work has been used by Cemetery archivist John Sterling and the RI

Historical Cemetery website. Please join us for this unique event. Contact- Maureen Buffi- coventrycemeteries@gmail.com

Tour- Saturday- 4/29- 9am (rain date- Sunday 4/30- 10am)- CY30 Pine Grove Cemetery, located opposite Knotty Oak Baptist Church at intersections of Rt 166 & Rt 117 Coventry, RI. **Parking** available at circular side drive. Come learn about the cemetery used by renown mortician Byron Read who buried the town's notable residents (and not so memorable). Pine Grove is the resting place of numerous war veterans, a local stone carcer, and longtime pres. of Centerville Savings Bank, George Parker. We will also focus on symbolic stone carvings. Contact- Maureen Buffi- coventrycemeteries@gmail.com

Demonstration- Saturday- 5/6- 9am- (rain date Sunday 5/7- 10am)- Monument Repair- CY135 Maple Root Cemetery located on Harkney Hill Rd Coventry, RI. Demonstration will be hosted by Robert Chorney and Colin Parkhurst. Both gentlemen have extensive knowledge and experience in monument repair. Join us and learn from the best! Contact- Maureen Buffi- coventrycemeteries@gmail.com

Demonstration- Saturday 5/20-9am- (rain date Sunday 5/21 10am)- Cleaning Monuments- WW#11 Centerville Methodist Cemetery (Mt. Pleasant Cemetery next to police memorial) located on Main St. West Warwick, RI. Hosted by Colin Parkhurst. He will show us the correct method and safe use of the available cleaning solutions. Join us for this interesting session. Contact- Maureen Buffi- coventrycemeteries@gmail.com

Flagging- Saturday- 5/27- 9am (rain date Sunday 5/28- 10am)- Community flagging of veteran's graves at CY135 Maple Root Cemetery complex located on Harkney Hill Rd

Coventry, RI. This year's statewide event will close out decorating veterans' graves with flags. Let's show our appreciation for those people who fought for our freedoms. Contact- Maureen Buffi- coventrycemeteries@gmail.com

CRANSTON-

Clean-up Sunday 4/2 at CR069 Jeremiah Williams Lot located on Beacon Circle.

CUMBERLAND-

Workshop – Saturday 4/15- 10am- **Drone photography** / Elder Ballou Meeting House Cemetery located on Elder Ballou Meeting House Rd. Cumberland. Join Dave Lawlor and Julia Kaplin for a demonstration of drone photography and conversation about how to use it to document historic sites. Contact Julia Kaplin-

julia@runofthemill.shop

Walking tour- Date/time TBA- CU027 Elder Ballou Meeting House Cemetery located on Elder Ballou Meeting House Rd. Organized by the National Park Service... More information to follow. Contact- Allison Horrocks- allison_horrocks@nps.gov

-Demonstration Saturday 4/29- 10:30am – Hotchkiss Cemetery- located at the far-left side of Union Cemetery on Smithfield Rd in North Smithfield. This will be a hands-on stone conservation/cleaning workshop hosted by Ed Walker- North Smithfield Heritage Association - Contact- Joyce Hindle- Koutsogiane -

jhindlekoutsogiane@gmail.com

Cleaning Gravestones -Saturday- 5/6- 8am- 12 noon- The Beacon Pole Hill Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, welcomes volunteers to help with cleaning

gravestones at the Old Diamond Hill Cemetery, CU024 located on Reservoir Rd Cumberland, RI- Pole#14- Drive south to the far end of the cemetery. This cemetery has burials from 1740s through late 1900s. The chapter will supply D2 cleaner and other approved tools. Wear clothing you don't mind getting 'really' dirty (rain gear works well). We will also work on mapping the cemetery and probing for missing stones. Contact Laurie Greaney with questions – lauriegreaneydar@gmail.com

-Saturday- 5/13- **Clean-up**- More information to follow

-Saturday- 5/20- **Clean-up**- More information to follow

-Saturday- 5/27- **Clean-up**- More information to follow

EAST GREENWICH-

Lecture- Tuesday, 5/ 2- 6:30 PM- The East Greenwich Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission is hosting a Cemetery Weeks lecture by John Kelly, RPA of The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL) at the Academy Science Center, 60 Church St., East Greenwich, RI. The title of the discussion is: Examining Nineteenth-Century Cemetery Relocations in Boston and Providence. There will be a short afterward highlighting a couple burying grounds in East Greenwich that appear on 19th century maps but have been possibly relocated (or possibly not). We hope that you will be able to join us for this information discussion. Please RSVP to egcemeteryvolunteer@gmail.com to let us know if you will be attending this event. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

-Presentation- May-Municipal planning and management of historic cemeteries, taking the perspective from East Greenwich. More information to follow – Contact- Greg Dubell gdubell@palinc.com

EAST PROVIDENCE-

Gravestone cleaning demonstration and self-guided tour – Wednesday- 4/12- 10am- 11am- EP003 Newman Cemetery located on the corner of Newman and Pawtucket Ave Rumford, RI - Contact- Sandra Turgeon – friendsofnewmancemetery@gmail.com

Cemetery clean-up and self-guided tour Saturday- 4/29- 10am- 12 noon- EP003

Newman Cemetery located on the corner of Newman and Pawtucket Ave Rumford,

RI – Please bring rakes, loppers, trimmers if possible -Contact- Sandra Turgeon –

friendsofnewmancemetery@gmail.com

Gravestone cleaning demonstration and self-guided tour Wednesday- 5/10- 10am- 11am

EP005 Littleneck Cemetery located on Littleneck Ave Riverside, RI - Contact- Sandra Turgeon –

friendsofnewmancemetery@gmail.com

Cemetery clean-up and self-guided tour Saturday- 5/20- 10am- 12 noon- EP005

Littleneck Cemetery located on Littleneck Ave Riverside, RI – Please bring rakes,

lopers, trimmers if possible -Contact- Sandra Turgeon –

friendsofnewmancemetery@gmail.com

EXETER-

Flagging- Friday- 4/7- 10AM -Flagging Veteran's Exeter Historic Cemeteries -Meet at the parking lot of Exeter Library on Route 102 Exeter. -Rain or Shine. Plan for 3-4 hours. We will car pool. Wear boots and tick protection. Some walking is off trails. Bring water. Wear Orange. - Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

Flagging- Saturday- 4/15- 10AM -Flagging Veteran's Exeter Historic Cemeteries - Meet at the parking lot of Little Country Kitchen at junction of Route 165 and Route 3 Exeter. -Rain or Shine. Plan for 3-4 hours. We will car pool. Wear boots and tick protection. Some walking is off trails. Bring water. Wear Orange. -Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

Walking tour- Saturday- 4/22 or 4/29 or weekdays- Organized by the Audubon Society of RI...

More information to follow- Contact- Laura Carberry- lcarberry@asri.org -Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

Stone restoration- Sunday- 4/23- 1PM- EX#93 John Gardner Lot. -We will be cleaning, straightening, and lifting small headstones. -Meet at parking lot for Fisherville Brook Wildlife Refuge, 99 Pardon Joslin Rd. Exeter. -Bring soft bristled brush, spray bottle of water, shovels, small garden trowel, kneeling pad, gloves, water to drink, sunscreen. There is a 15 min trail walk to reach the cemetery Ex#93 Gardner Lot with one Revolutionary War soldier Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com.

Cleanup- Saturday- 4/29- 10AM- Cleaning EX#1 Congdon Hoxie Cemetery located on Old Voluntown Rd off Escoheag Hill Rd. – Meet at the West end of Old Voluntown Rd (where it turns to dirt). -Wear boots. Bring gloves, drinking water, and any cutters/pruners/rakes. Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

4 Mile Hike- Saturday- 5/13- 10AM- The Exeter Historic Cemetery Committee will lead a 4-mile circle hike to visit 5 cemeteries in the Arcadia management area, Exeter. Meet on Escoheag Hill Rd at the Red Log DEM building. From Route 165 drive 1 mile north on Escoheag Hill Road to the parking lot on the right. We will be on trails and dirt roads with some ups and downs. Moderately difficult. Wear sturdy shoes. Bring water and tick protection. This is a fun hike. We'll see the Falls River, a cute old homestead pond, and old cellar holes. Contact Dory Wagner dorwagg@aol.com

FOSTER-

GLOCESTER- Will participate Contact- Bill Brown billbrown8686@gmail.com or heritagesociety1181@gmail.com

HOPKINTON-

JAMESTOWN-

WEBINAR VIDEO- Wednesday, April 26, 7 pm - The Jamestown Historical Society will be showing the video of our very successful "Cemetery Tour - Stories in Stone", which took place in October 2021. This 60-minute video features eight costumed interpreters telling the stories of Jamestowners buried in three historic cemeteries, Cedar, Friends, and the

Hazard Family Cemeteries. The oldest person represented is Abel Franklin, born in 1690. This project was the culmination of two years of research, writing, planning, recruiting interpreters, and designing and sewing costumes. The weather was perfect and the 90 people lucky enough to obtain tickets to the sold-out event gave it rave reviews. To attend the webinar, register in advance

at: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xDS8cnMIT5WR73yU_hixeg After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. Contact- Betsy Baldwin betsybaldwin0107@gmail.com

JOHNSTON-

-Clean-up Saturday- 4/22- 9am- 12 noon, JN#21 Governor King Lot located on Hartford Pike Johnston, RI. Contact- Steve Merolla- smerolla1@cox.net

LINCOLN-

LITTLE COMPTON-

MIDDLETOWN-

Walking tour Tuesday- April 4- 10am- noon (rain date 4/6) Repeats 4/20– Norman Bird Sanctuary- located at 583 Third 3rd Beach Rd. Join naturalist Jay Manni for a Birds and Burials walking tour. Visit the Norman Bird sanctuary's three burying grounds MT027, MT072, MT073 to learn about their history and take in the sights and sound of the Sanctuary's spring birds <https://www.normanbirdsanctuary.org>
Contact- Jay Manning- jmanning@normanbirdsanctuary.org

Walking tour- Thursday 4/20 (rain date 4/25) 10am-noon- Norman Bird Sanctuary
See April 4 tour for information

NARRAGANSETT-

1. **History Hike Tour**- Sunday 5/21- time TBA- Druids Dream (Gibson Ave)

Narragansett, RI – See **South Kingstown** for details and contact information

NEWPORT-

Walking tour- Saturday- 4/1- 10AM- NT010 Trinity Churchyard located on Spring/Church Sts- Organized by Trinity Church- Most of Trinity Churchyard's 250 graves date to the 18th century, representing the fine work of stone carvers from John Steven Shop (still open today) and John Bull. If you miss the cemetery tour, you can visit the church 10am-4pm on Saturdays- **tour limit 8**. Tour repeats Saturdays in April-May - Contact- TrinityTours100@gmail.com <https://www.trinitynewport.org/>

Walking tour- Saturday- 4/8- 10AM...See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 4/15- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 4/22- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 4/29- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 5/6- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 5/13- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 5/20- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Walking tour - Saturday 5/27- 10AM... See 4/1 Trinity Churchyard tour for information-

Contact- TrinityTours100@gmail.com <https://www.trinitynewport.org/>

Walking tour- Saturday- 4/15- 11am-12:30pm- NT003 God's Little Acre section of Newport Common Burying Ground located on Farewell St. Historian Kieth Stokes will lead a walking tour of God's Little Acre, the nation's oldest documented and extant burying ground for people of African heritage. Its many 18th- and early 19th century gravestones illustrate the creative survival of Africans and African Americans in colonial Newport. **Limit: 20** Registration required:

npthistoriccemeteries@gmail.com - Contact- Keith Stokes keithstokes@gmail.com -

<https://www.colonialcemetery.com/> - Parking available at the Newport Gateway Center, a 10-minute walk to the site.

Walking tour- Sunday- 4/16- 12:30pm- NT019 Saint Joseph Cemetery (known locally as the Barney Street Cemetery). Located at the corner of Barney and Mt. Vernon Streets in Newport, is the oldest Catholic cemetery in RI, and the site of the state's first Catholic church (1828), which served Newport's growing Irish immigrant community. The outdoor tour of approximately 30 minutes, given by historian and guide Steve Marino and is sponsored by the Newport Museum of Irish History. **Reservations requested** –

<https://newportirishhistory.org/historic-cemetery-tours/>

Walking tour- Sunday- 4/23- 12:30pm-NT006 St. Mary's Cemetery located on 12 William St. Newport, the final resting place of more than 1,000 souls. Many were Irish immigrants who arrived in Newport to build the city and serve the people living here. They were the first generation Irish-Americans! The 45-minute tour will be presented by guide and researcher Steve Marino and is sponsored by the Newport Museum of Irish History. **Reservations**

requested - <https://newportirishhistory.org/historic-cemetery-tours/>

Walking tour- Saturday 4/29- 11am-12:30pm NT003 God's Little Acre tour... **SEE** 4/15 tour for information.

Open House- Saturday- 4/29 (rain date 4/30) 11am- 1pm -NT015 Jonathan Easton Burial Ground Open House located east of Annandale Rd. and the Weaver St. intersection. This small but significant site is the final resting place of some members of one of the founding families of Newport. Gravestones carved by John Stevens II, John Stevens III, and John Bull show case the talent of Newport's colonial artisans. Members of the commission will be available to answer questions and provide information. A number of stones will be labeled with family and carver information.

Parking is encouraged on Weaver St., Lowndes St., or East Bowery Street. Contact - NewportIrishHistory@gmail.com

Walking tour- Saturday- 5/6 10am-noon- NT017 Fort Adams Old Post Cemetery located on Ocean Dr. – Historic Music of Newport and Fort Adams Trust have partnered to provide guided tours of Fort Adams Old Post Cemetery. Tours will highlight the many musicians who once called Fort Adams home. **Limit:20 per tour...**

Registration required: <https://historicmusicnewport.com/event/musicians-of-fort-adams-cemetery/> Contact- Robert McCormack mccormack@fortadams.org

-Work Session- Saturday- 5/6- 11 am- Volunteer work sessions at Newport's Common Burying Ground Join us at 11 am at the Common Burying Ground on Saturdays in May (6th, 13th, 20th) to enhance the site. Stone cleaning, stone straightening and fencing painting are likely projects to be undertaken. No experience or supplies needed. Simply bring your energy and dress for mess. Contact the Newport cemetery commission at nphistoriccemeteries@gmail.com for questions or more information.

Walking tour- Sunday- May 7- 10AM – Tour four burying grounds. Meet at the Museum of Newport History 127 Thames St. Join historian Mary Jo Valdes for an exploration of how colonial burying practices are reflected in the landscape. Tour should take about 1 ¼ hours and cover 1 mile in easy urban walking. Ample parking is available in several City lots and on the street.

Walking tour- Saturday- 5/13- 10:30am - NT003 Coddington Burial Ground located on 34 Farewell St. Architectural historian Ron Onorato will lead a walking tour of the oldest grounds in the state, the 17th and 18th century Coddington Burial Ground as well as two little known nearby burial sites related to the 1699 Great Friends Meeting House. **Limit 12 attendees- Registration** required nphistoriccemeteries@gmail.com - Contact- Ron Onorato ronorato@uri.edu

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Walking tour- Sunday- 5/21- 12 noon- 1pm- NT001 Island Cemetery located at 30 Warner Street is one of Newport's Gilded-Age treasures. The tour will provide a glimpse of the many notable people buried in this site. Naval hero Oliver Hazard Perry, Civil Rights Advocate George Downing, Governor and RI Senator George Peabody Wetmore, and internationally famous architect Richard Morris are a few of the people included in the tour. Cemetery historians Trudy and Lew Keen will lead the tour. **Reservation requested** islandcemeterytours@gmail.com

Open House tour- Sunday- 5/21- 1pm -3 pm -BELMONT CHAPEL at Island Cemetery open house- located at 67 Farewell Street Newport. This multi-year restoration of Belmont Chapel has made incredible progress as the chapel prepares for the final phase of the project. Visitors will be able to see the work in progress and the photos of the earlier condition of the building. Originally designed by George Champlin Mason and Son, the building was updated in 1891 by Richard Morris Hunt. Members of the Belmont Chapel Foundation will be available to answer questions.

NORTH KINGSTOWN-

-Virtual illustrated talk – Wednesday- 4/19- 5:30pm Local author Robert Geake will survey RI cemeteries and their differences from the rest of New England, using the remarkable family cemetery at Casey Farm as a case study. Advance registration required.

Contact 401-295-1030 X5 <https://my.historicnewengland.org/17425/rhode-island-cemeteries>
[my.historicnewengland.org] -Contact- Jane Hennedy jhennedy@historicnewengland.org

Presentation- Thursday- 4/27- 6:30pm- At the North Kingstown Library located at 100 Boone St. North Kingstown, RI 02852. Living with the Dead in Rhode Island: from Cemetery Destruction to Cemetery Preservation... Rhode Island State Archaeologist Charlotte Taylor presents a talk on Rhode Island cemetery law. Before 1990, it wasn't safe to be dead in RI. Although the destruction of graves has been a felony in RI since 1896, this did not stop property developers and road builders from destroying cemeteries that got in the way of their plans, including the burial places of Native Americans some thousands of years old. And it did not stop antiquarians and curious property owners from digging up bodies. Explore this dark history into today's era of stronger laws and more engaged advocacy for RI's who can no longer speak for themselves. Charlotte will present both atrocities and stories of successful, respectful preservation, drawing on her experiences as one of the first people in the state to be called when (old) skeletal remains are found. Contact- Charlotte Taylor- charlotte.taylor@preservation.ri.gov

Walking tour- Saturday- 5/6- 1pm - NK026 Elm Grove Cemetery located at 960 Tower Hill Rd. NK... North Kingstown's Town Historian Tim Cranston will lead a guided walking tour sponsored by Historic Wickford Inc. **Meet** at Cranston family plot near southernmost entrance. **Limit: 40** <https://histwick.org/> Contact- Tim Cranston gcranston@northkingstownri.gov

Walking tour- Saturday- 5/20 - 11am at NK065 Silas Casey Cemetery located on 2325 Boston Neck Rd Rt 1A. **MEET** at Casey Farm Market information table. Visit the Silas Casey Burial

Ground, where 32 members of the Cassey family were interred from the early 18th century through the mid-20th century. The small family burying ground is a significant feature of Casey Farm's landscape, stewarded and interpreted by Historic New England. **Limit: 40**

www.historicnewengland.org/property/casey-farm/ - Sponsored by Historic Wickford Inc.

Contact- Jane Hennedy jhennedy@historicnewengland.org

Walking tour- Saturday- 5/27 -1pm **Limit: 40**... See Walking tour on 5/20 for details

NORTH PROVIDENCE-

NORTH SMITHFIELD-

Workshop- Saturday 4/29- 10:30am– Edward Walker will demonstrate the proper ways to repair and clean headstones in this hands-on workshop at the Hotchkiss Cemetery located at the far-left side of Union Cemetery on Smithfield Rd in North Smithfield. It will be sponsored by the NS Heritage Association and is open to the public. - Contact- NSHA-

nsha@nsheritageassn.org or Denis Chamberlin- denis.p.chamberland@gmail.com

3 Events- Sunday- 5/7- 1PM -The North Smithfield Heritage Association & the Woonsocket Historical Society will host a **Talk-Tour- and a Stone Restoration Class** at the Friends Meeting House and Cemetery located at 108 Smithfield Rd. in Woonsocket (across from Union Cemetery in North Smithfield) ... The events include a brief talk about the Meeting House that was built in 1821, a tour of the historic cemetery, and lastly a stone restoration class hosted by Edward Walker. Contacts- NSHA nsha@nsheritageassn.org Denis Chamberlin- denis.p.chamberland@gmail.com - Irene Blais iblais198@aol.com - Christopher Carcifero- cvchockey@gmail.com –

PAWTUCKET-

Walking tour- Saturday- 4/29- 11am- Oak Grove Cemetery- located on Cottage St/Central Ave Pawtucket. Oak Grove Cemetery was at one time a beautiful public space where many of the City's prominent citizens now rest. Walk and learn who some of those individuals were, how the Oak Grove Cemetery was created, and how cemeteries in general were utilized by their communities. An archaeologist from the Public Archeology Laboratory will describe how ground penetrating radar was used to discover unmarked graves. Parking is available in the cemetery. **Limit 20/RSVP.** Sponsored by the Heritage Alliance of Pawtucket. <https://heritagepawtucket.org/> | <https://www.palinc.com/> Contacts- Barbara Zdravesky barabra.zdravesky@gmail.com and hhherbster@palinc.com

PORTSMOUTH-

Walking tour- Saturday- 4/15- (rain date 4/16)- 2PM- PO020, PO019, PO064, and PO065 Lawton Valley Cemeteries with historical commentary of (4) seldom seen burial grounds- located on West Main Rd. near the Water Pumps. Sponsored by the Portsmouth Historical Society. There will be sign up for the event posted on the Portsmouth Historical website about 2 weeks prior because space is **limited- 20-25 people**...Link for registration to follow. Contact- Stephen Luce stephen_luce@uri.edu

Presentation- Wednesday- 4/5- 7PM- Portsmouth Free Library located at 268 East Main Rd, Portsmouth. Rhode Island State Archaeologist Charlotte Taylor presents a talk on Rhode Island cemetery law. Before 1990, it wasn't safe to be dead in RI. Although the destruction of graves has been a felony in RI since 1896, this did not stop property developers and road builders from destroying cemeteries that got in the way of their plans, including the burial places of Native Americans some thousands of years old. And it did not stop antiquarians and curious property owners from digging up bodies. Explore this dark history into today's era of stronger

laws and more engaged advocacy for RI's who can no longer speak for themselves. Charlotte will present both atrocities and stories of successful, respectful preservation, drawing on her experiences as one of the first people in the state to be called when (old) skeletal remains are found.

Walking tour- Saturday 5/6 – 1PM – At the Portsmouth Friends Meeting House and cemetery located at 11 Middle Road Portsmouth, RI 02871. The cemetery PO010 is located in back of the Meeting House. There is plenty of **parking** on the north side behind the parsonage. The Meeting House and cemetery are still active. It is one of the oldest in the state, completed by 1701 but, almost destroyed a few years ago for development. Although the oldest standing marker is 1798, dozens, if not hundreds, of burials are also there from the beginning. I will discuss what happened to those lost markers, the history of the Friends in Portsmouth, the history of the Meeting House, and of course, the graveyard. I will also give a basic talk on proper cleaning of the various marker types located there. The Meeting House may be open for those that want to see the interior but, no guarantee at this time. Host and tour guide- Stephen Luce- Portsmouth Historical Society- stephen_luce@uri.edu

PROVIDENCE-

“Cemetery Trails and Tales” (month of May)- Challenge yourself to an extraordinary adventure by walking every road in North Burial Ground located on 5 Branch Ave. Download the Cemetery Trails and Tales map and take a picture at each photo check-in on the map to track your progress. When you complete the challenge, bring your map to NBG to get a prize. You can get an upgraded prize by sending an NBG postcard to your city councilor telling them what NBG means to you! <https://providenceri.gov/providence-parks/north-burial-ground/> -Contact- Annalisa Hepper aheppner@providenceri.gov

April – May -Online Video (ongoing)- North Burial Ground & Swan Point Cemetery Providence- “Funerary Art and Monuments,” an episode of the ArtRI limited series IN PLAIN SIGHT: Art in Unexpected places, highlights aesthetic features of North Burial Ground and Swan Point Cemetery in Providence. Dr. Ronald

Onorato (emeritus professor in Art History at URI), presents museum quality sculpture and architecture “hiding in plain sight” for all to view. <https://networksrhodeisland.org/funerary-art-monuments/>

-Presentation- Charlotte Taylor -More information to follow -PV001 North Burial Ground located on 5 Branch Ave. Women’s history, Black soldiers, etc. More information to follow- Contact- Annalisa Hepper ahheppner@providenceri.gov

-Video - PV001 North Burial Ground & PV003 Swan Point Cemetery. Organized by Water fire Providence
Contact- Vicki Veh vickiveh@yahoo.com

Walking tour of PV011- St. John Episcopal Cemetery located on 271 North Main St.... More information to follow. Contact- Rickie Brightman dlbrightman@aol.com

Moon Hike - Wednesday- April 5- 8:30PM at North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave- Hosted in partnership with the RWP Museum of Natural History & Planetarium. See the cemetery through new (nocturnal) eyes with the RWP Museum director Renee Gamba and NBG director Annalisa Heppner. NBG is a great place for late night star gazing, and the moon over the cemetery creates an amazing atmosphere to learn about NBG history. Park outside the cemetery using the free parking on North Main St., and enter through the Rochambeau Gate. Contact- Annalisa Hepper ahheppner@providenceri.gov

-Clean-up and Data Collection- Sunday- April 16- (time TBA)- Locust Grove Cemetery located at 422 Elmwood Ave. Let’s spend the day together working on a condition assessment that we’ll use for restoration and historic preservation planning. Bring a smart phone or mobile enabled tablet. **No cars** allowed in the cemetery. Please **PARK** in the neighborhood around the cemetery and walk in. We’ll meet in the center of the cemetery. <https://www.providenceri.gov./providence-parks/north-burial-ground/>
Contact- Annalisa Hepper- ahheppner@providenceri.gov

Walking Tour- Sunday- April 16 (rain date April 23) – 2pm - North Burial Ground_5 Branch Ave Providence. Exploring causes of death in early Providence... Fire, water, lightning and plague

EARTH DAY- Saturday- April 22- (time TBA) North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave. NBG is the second biggest park in the city. There is no better way to honor NBG’s role as a greenspace than by celebrating EARTH DAY at the cemetery. Help with our pollinator garden, clean up our ponds from invasive species, and then take a break to see how nature and culture intersect with our Women’s History Tour at 2pm. We’ll

start at the Rochambeau Gate to gather and kick-off EARTH DAY. Contact- Annalisa Heppner

aheppner@providenceri.gov

View North Burial Ground's Archives

Wednesday- April 19 and Monday- May 15 - 9 AM-3 PM- North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI ...Have you ever wanted to peek inside the archives at North Burial Ground? Are you working on family genealogy, academic research, or even just curious? Sign up to spend an hour or two at NBG looking at our historical records and maps! We will be making our records that pre-date 1960 available for researchers in our office.

We will provide office space and a brief orientation to the records. Please bring your own computer, handheld scanner or camera, and any notetaking material you need. We will be offering time slots in one-hour increments (because of limited space) from 9 AM-3PM. You can sign up for more than one time slot. **To reserve** your time please email northburialground@providenceri.gov or call the office at 401-680-5318 to schedule!

Clean-up- Saturday, April 22nd- 10am – 12 noon will be our annual clean-up day for the historic Tillinghast Burial Ground - #PV013 located at 398 Benefit St. A rake and gloves are all one needs to bring. <https://tillinghastsociety.org/> Contact- Bruce Tillinghast- wbt213@gmail.com

Walking Tour- Saturday- April 22- 2pm North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave. Join Met School intern Alex for a tour of our favorite women at NBG. Learn about the individual women, and about bigger themes around womanhood, death and the cemetery. Wear good shoes and dress for the weather. The tour departs from the Rochambeau pedestrian gate. Please use the PARKING on North Main St. and walk in through the pedestrian gate. Tour will take about 1.5 hours. Leaves from Rochambeau Gate. Contact- Annalisa Heppner- aheppner@providenceri.gov

Walk and talk - Friday- May 5 or Saturday May 6 (time TBA)- St. Patrick's Cemetery located on Douglas Ave, Providence. Join Sarah Zurier (RIHPHC) for a walking conversation at St. Patrick's Cemetery. Let's walk and talk about cemeteries as spaces for mourning and remembrance—and real estate and recreation. This is also a program of Jane's Walk Providence. <http://www.doorsopenri.org/janeswalk/>

Walking Tour- Saturday -May 6- 11am- North Burial Ground – located at 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI. Join NBG Docent Lexie for a walking tour of some of NBG's zinc monuments. Learn about the “white bronze” monuments and the families that chose them as their memorials in North Burial Ground. This tour visits locations at NBG we don't always see during our other tours, so even if you've been on an NBG tour before, you'll see and learn something new! The tour route is about a mile of walking, with some hilly terrain, so wear comfortable shoes for walking. **Meet at** the Rochambeau Gate. The easiest place to park is to use the **free parking** on North Main Street and walk in via the Rochambeau Gate. The tour will last about an hour, and **NO** RSVP is required.

Data Collection Short Program- Wednesday- May 10 – 3pm- Locust Grove Cemetery located at 422 Elmwood Ave– Take advantage of the later sunsets and spend a few hours at the end of the day documenting Locust

Grove. This is a follow up to our April program, but you don't have to have attended the 1st program to participate. Contact- Annalisa Heppner ahheppner@providenceri.gov

America 250 Marker Dedication- Friday, May 12, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI- Join the Rhode Island Daughters of the American Revolution as they dedicate an America 250 marker in honor of the men and women who achieved American independence. The ceremony will include a wreath laying in honor of those who sacrificed so much for our nation's freedom, including the 300 Revolutionary War veterans buried in the North Burial Ground. The marker will serve as a symbol of our gratitude for their sacrifice and a reminder of the courage and resilience that founded our nation. Come be a part of this historic event and pay tribute to our nation's founders and the contributions of Rhode Islanders, such as those that burned the Gaspee or served in the 1st Rhode Island Regiment and fought at the Battle of Rhode Island. This dedication and ceremony are open to all!

Wildlife-walk- Saturday – 5/13 – 8am- PV001 North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave. Greg Gerritt will lead a walking tour of amphibian habitats in North Burial Ground focusing on Ridgeside Lake and a small rainwater pool. Participants will learn how to spot amphibian refuges, and they may also encounter young hawks about to fledge in the cemetery. – **Limit: 40...** Contact- Greg Gerritt to reserve a spot- gerritt@mindspring.com

[View North Burial Ground's Archives](#) – **Monday May 15-** 9am- 3PM. See April 19 for all details

NBG Reads- Wednesday- **May 17th at 6:30** and **Thursday- May 18th at 7:30 PM: NBG Reads Over My Dead Body: Unearthing the Hidden History of America's Cemeteries by Greg Melville.** Read “Over My Dead Body” and then meet up with other readers and cemetery enthusiasts at the NBG office (or at the picnic tables if the weather is nice) for a lively discussion of the book! “Melville’s Over My Dead Body is a lively (pun intended) and wide-ranging history of cemeteries, places that have mirrored the passing eras in history but have also shaped it. Cemeteries have given birth to landscape architecture and famous parks, as well as influenced architectural styles. They’ve inspired and motivated some of our greatest poets and authors—Emerson, Whitman, Dickinson. They’ve been used as political tools to shift the country’s discourse and as important symbols of the United States' ambition and reach.”

Please RSVP for this program to northburialground@providenceri.gov by May 1st. We’re offering this program on two nights and at different times to keep group size manageable and the discussion fun. We can have 10 people max at each night, so please RSVP early! There will also be a virtual option.

Tour and Data Collection -Tuesday- May 21 -12:00- 1:30 for the tour. 1:30- 4:00 for the Data Collection at NBG located at 5 Branch Ave Providence, RI... Cemetery Archaeology and Data Collection Day -Join cemetery director and (former) archaeologist, Annalisa Heppner for an hour and a half introduction and tour about how archaeologists look at cemeteries and highlighting some of the archaeological projects we’ve worked on at NBG. Then, stick around after the tour with your smart phone or mobile enabled tablet to document and assess the conditions of the headstones belonging to NBG’s Revolutionary War history. Meet at the Rochambeau Gate. Use the free parking along North Main Street and walk into the cemetery. No need to RSVP!

Walking tour- Thursday- May 25- 7- 7:45PM - Roger Williams National Memorial located at 282 North Main St. Organized by the National Park Service - Roger Williams: Distressed of Conscience. A ranger guided program that begins at the National Memorial and travels up college hill, past his original property, and ending at National Memorial NOTE: It’s a steep climb up College Hill - – Contact- Andrew Schnetzer- andrew_schnetzer@nps.gov

Themed stroll- Saturday- date/time TBA. PV001-North Burial Ground located at 5 Branch Ave. - Exploring causes of death: the ways we remember cause of death, the causes we forget and the tensions between historic "fact" and interpretation. Contact – Traci Picard Tracipicard@gmail.com

RICHMOND-

Clean-up- Sunday April 16- at 12 noon. - Cleanup at RD#30 Simeon Babcock Family Cemetery located at 73 Shannock Hill Rd.in Richmond, RI. - A short distance east of route 112. Go up driveway. Cemetery on the left. We will and clean and straighten up headstones in the cemetery. Bring rakes, clippers, shovel, small garden trowel, gallon of water and a soft bristle brush ...If you own these things. Event hosted by The Richmond Historic Cemetery Committee- Contact- Dory Wagner – dorwagg@aol.com

Flagging- Sunday- May 14- at 12 noon- Please join us to place American flags at the gravesites of all the Richmond veterans. Minus the ones that the American legion takes care of. **Meet** at the Clarke library in Carolina off RT 112.- 12 noon. Bring tick protection and drinking water. Contact- Dory Wagner - 401-480-8188 - Dorwagg@aol.com

SCITUATE-

Clean-Up – Saturday 4/29- 9am-12pm (rain date Sunday 4/30 12pm- 3pm). SC025 Clement Smith Lot- located 600' north of Danielson Pike behind TASCA Field. Helpful items to bring: drinking water, alcohol (possible poison ivy), snacks, gloves, kneepads, sunscreen, hat. Suggested hand tools- clippers, shovels, rakes, and saws. Mark your tools. **PARKING-** Northeast corner of Village Plaza (IGA) parking lot – N41°50.225 W 71°34.395 – Go past Walgreens keeping the building on your left. Cemetery entrance is near the northeast corner and will be marked. Look for the red and white sign. Contact Skye Pechie- tmbgambassador@gmail.com -Fred Faria ftfaria001@gmail.com

Open Studio Event- Saturday- 5/13- 10AM- 12NOON- Karin Sprague, of Karin Sprague Stone Carvers located at 904 Tourtellot Hill Road Scituate, RI will host an open studio event. Visit the studio where hand carved gravestones are designed and made. **RESERVATIONS** are required.

Call 401-934-3105. Attendance is limited. www.karinsprague.com – Sponsored by Volunteers for Scituate’s Historic Cemeteries.

Presentation – Friday- 5/19- 5:30- 7PM (rain date Friday- 5/26- 5:30- 7PM). “A Family’s Vision & Accomplishments to Honor their Ancestors” - SC109 Kimball Atwood Lot. Join Justin Chew and family with Volunteers for Scituate’s Historic Cemeteries for an on-site program to showcase the wonderful work Justin and his family have done. LOCATION: off Battey Meeting House Road, Scituate. Look for the RI Historical Awareness and Preservation signs. Note- There will be some walking to get to the cemetery. Thanks to Justin, his family, Providence Water Supply and Scituate DPW for the SC109 restoration and bringing this event to fruition. Contact Skye Pechie- tmbgambassador@gmail.com -Fred Faria ftfaria001@gmail.com

FLAGGING- Saturday- May TBA- Scituate Post 19 American Legion, flagging Veterans cemeteries and graves to include Scituate’s historic cemeteries and SC058 Grave of Archibald Malbourne Civil War Medal of Honor winner.

SMITHFIELD-

Presentation - Tuesday- 5/23- 6:30PM- East Smithfield Free Library located at 50 Esmond St, Smithfield, RI 02917. Rhode Island State Archaeologist Charlotte Taylor presents a talk on **Living with the in Dead in Rhode Island... RI cemetery law**. Before 1990, it wasn’t safe to be dead in RI. Although the destruction of graves has been a felony in RI since 1896, this did not stop property developers and road builders from destroying cemeteries that got in the way of their plans, including the burial places of Native Americans some thousands of years old. And it did not stop antiquarians and curious property owners from digging up bodies. Explore this dark history into today’s era of stronger laws and more engaged advocacy for RI’s who can no longer speak for themselves. Charlotte will present both atrocities and stories of successful, respectful preservation, drawing on her experiences as one of the first people in the state to be

called when (old) skeletal remains are found. Contact- Charlotte Taylor

charlotte.taylor@preservation.ri.gov

SOUTH KINGSTOWN-

History Hike Tours -The Narragansett-Cooke-Gaspee Chapter of the 'Daughters of the American Revolution', invites you to participate in our history hike series. This spring we will be visiting a few of South County's historic cemeteries. Tours will be held on Sunday afternoons starting at 1PM. Meeting location TBA. Contact- Debb Suggs -

deb1832@gmail.com [Click to pre- register](#)

2. Sunday- 4/23- Tefft Historical Park
3. Sunday- 4/30- Daily Murder Lot (Arcadis Management Area)-Exeter, RI
4. Sunday- 5/14- Quaker West Meeting Ground, Perryville, RI
5. Sunday- 5/21- Druids Dream (Gibson Ave), Narragansett, RI

TIVERTON-

Clean-up- Saturday, April 22 (Rain date April 29) – 1-4 pm: Clean-up at the Stone Church Cemetery #8 on Stone Church Road. BYO gloves and briar/vine cutting tools. **Parking** available at First Baptist Old Stone Church next to the cemetery, 7 Stone Church Road. Contacts: Jim Spears - jim.spears.@cox.net or Sue Anderson - gsriengr@yahoo.com

Walking Tour - Saturday, May 6 - 1 pm: Guided tour of the old Congregational Church Cemetery #11 on Lake Road (near East Road intersection), having 16 Revolutionary War veterans and 2 Civil War veterans, and the most slate gravestones of the 89 known Tiverton burial sites. The public may **park** in the adjacent St Madeleine's Church lot on Lake Road, north of the cemetery. Contact- Sue Anderson - gsriengr@yahoo.com

Demonstration- Saturday, May 6 - 1-3 pm: Hands-on demonstration of gravestone cleaning and repair. Old Congregational Church Cemetery #11 on Lake Road (near East Road intersection). The public may **park** in the adjacent St Madeleine's Church lot on Lake Road, north of the cemetery. Contact Jim Spears - jim.spears.@cox.net

Walking Tour - Saturday, May 20 - 1 pm: Guided tour of the old Congregational Church Cemetery #11 on Lake Road (near East Road intersection), having 16 Revolutionary War

veterans and 2 Civil War veterans, and the most slate gravestones of the 89 known Tiverton burial sites. The public may **park** in the adjacent St Madeleine's Church lot on Lake Road, north of the cemetery. Contact- Sue Anderson - gsriengr@yahoo.com

Demonstration- Saturday, May 20 - 1-3 pm: Hands-on demonstration of gravestone cleaning and repair. Old Congregational Church Cemetery #11 on Lake Road (near East Road intersection). The public may **park** in the adjacent St Madeleine's Church lot on Lake Road, north of the cemetery. Contact Jim Spears - jim.spears@cox.net

WARREN-

Clean-ups- Saturday- April 22nd – 9am- 1pm - Warren Conservation Commission's Earth Day Celebration includes cleanups of the North Burial Ground WR001 located on North Main St. and the Kickemuit Cemetery WR003 located at 56-100 Serpentine Rd. Volunteers are invited to come to Pete Sepe Pavilion, Hugh Cole Road, at 9:00AM to open the celebration and get supplies before heading to the cemeteries and to return to the Pavilion for a thank-you hotdog roast. Prizes for the nip liter pickup contest will be awarded at noon. Contact- Judy Farding- jaf1939@aol.com Jane Harrison – jfharrison17@gmail.com

-Walking tour- Saturday- 5/13- at Burr's Hill Park located at 540 Water St... Burr's Hill was an ancient Pokanoket Royal Burial Ground containing dozens of graves, including the Massasoit Ousamequin who occupied the area in the 1600's. Used as a sand and gravel source for a railroad that was constructed next to the site in 1853 many graves were looted. In 1913, in an effort to protect the remaining 42 graves, librarian and amateur archaeologist Charles Carr exhumed the contents and donated some of them to museums. Dave Weed of Sowams Heritage Area will share the story of how those contents were returned to this site in 2017 and the status and history of the tribe today. MEET at the historic marker across from town Beach
<https://sowamsheritagearea.org/wp> - Contact- Dave Weed- drweed@cox.net Judy Farding jaf1939@aol.com

WARWICK

Clean-up- Saturday- 4/29- 9am- 11:30am- at WK034 Brayton Cemetery located at 3468 Post Rd. Contact – Peggy Malcolm – pmalcolm@cox.net Sue Cabeciras- susan.w.cabeceiras@warwickri.com

-Presentation- Sunday- May 7- 1pm- at WK23 George Sears Green Cemetery- Please join the Warwick Commission on Historical Cemeteries and Civil War specialist Brian Giout at Warwick historical cemetery #23 for a talk about Brigadier General George Sears Greene, Apponaug village where he was born and his accomplishments throughout the Civil War. See his headstone that was delivered by railroad car from Culp's Hill in Gettysburg. We will also discuss other members of his family that are buried there, including his wives, his children, and the last to be buried, a WW1 veteran Mark Tiffany Green in 1966.

-Scavenger Hunt- Saturday- 5/20- 1pm-4pm- WK034 Brayton Cemetery located at 3468 Post Rd. Warwick- Scavenger Hunt (with new headstones to find) Find 25 items in the cemetery. At several of the headstones you'll also find people talking about residents including Judge Brayton, Thomas Vaill, the Budlong family, circus skinny man, and others. Also watch cleaning demonstrations and learn about headstone symbolism.
Contact- pmalcolm@cox.net

WESTERLY-

Walking Tour/ open house – Sunday- 4/23- 2PM – WY008- River Bend Cemetery located at 117 Beach St. Organized by the Babcock- Smith Museum and Riverbend Cemetery.
<https://riverbendcemetery.org/> -Contact- Ellen Madison at the Babcock Smith House
ellenmadison1945@gmail.com

WEST GREENWICH-

WEST WARWICK/ COVENTRY- See Coventry for all events

WOONSOCKET-

Clean- up- Saturday- April 8- 9am- 12pm- WO14 Woodlawn Cemetery (some call it The Bernon St. Cemetery or Hamlet Tombs) located at the corner of Manville Road



Bernon clean-up.jpg

and Bernon St. Woonsocket, RI 02895

-Contact Tim-

cleanupwoonsocket@gmail.com

3 Events- Sunday- 5/7- 1PM - The Woonsocket Historical Society will be hosting and partnering with the North Smithfield Heritage Association offering a **Talk- Tour- and a Stone Restoration Class** at the Friends Meeting house and Cemetery located at 108 Smithfield Rd. in Woonsocket (across from Union Cemetery in North Smithfield) ... The events include a brief talk about the Meeting House that was built in 1719, a 20-minute tour of the historic Friends Cemetery, and lastly a hands-on stone restoration class hosted by Edward Walker. Contacts- Denis Chamberlin- denis.p.chamberland@gmail.com - Irene Blais iblais198@aol.com - Christopher Carcifero- cvchockey@gmail.com –