

THE PROJECT

This year the archaeological excavation on the Fenton History Center grounds will continue in an area where an early structure associated with the mansion once stood. This area is under the pine trees near the steamboat propeller. We will continue to attempt to determine the size and use of this structure. We will also investigate the location of the carriage house and west side house addition.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Dig days will be Tuesdays and Wednesdays throughout the summer beginning in June. We will also excavate some Saturdays. Days we aren't digging, we will be washing artifacts. Due to the confined space and small scale of the project, the number of participants is limited. If you would like to join us call the Fenton History Center at (716) 664-6256.

WHAT TO EXPECT

You will be working on an actual active archaeological excavation. Work can be hard and dirty. Those wishing to participate on a less strenuous level can wash artifacts. On your scheduled day please arrive at the Fenton History Center by 9:00 AM. We will begin with an introduction to the site, general archaeological technique and artifact identification. We will then take turns digging and screening for artifacts. The local director of the excavation is Thomas Greer, M.D. (Tom). Often there will be a Jamestown Community College Anthropology professor with students on site. We will take a lunch break and other breaks as necessary. The day will wrap up by 4:00 PM although you may leave whenever you wish.



WHAT TO WEAR

Wear comfortable clothes appropriate for the weather. Keep in mind you will get dirty. (Real archaeologists don't wear shorts). Heavy shoes or sneakers are best. NO open toes or sandals permitted. Some type of hat is recommended on sunny days.

WHAT TO BRING

If you have leather work gloves, please bring them. Otherwise, we will have gloves for you to use. All other necessary equipment will be provided. Bring a lunch if you are staying for the full day. A water container is a must. Sunscreen is a good idea for sunny days. Water, restrooms and a refrigerator are available in the mansion.

COST

There is no fee to participate in the excavation. However, we strongly encourage purchasing a Fenton History Center membership and/or making a cash donation to offset our equipment costs so we can continue the dig in the future.

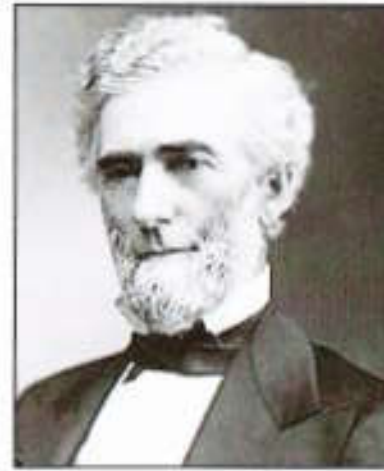


Above: The excavation to date.

Left: Variety of artifacts found in the site shown.

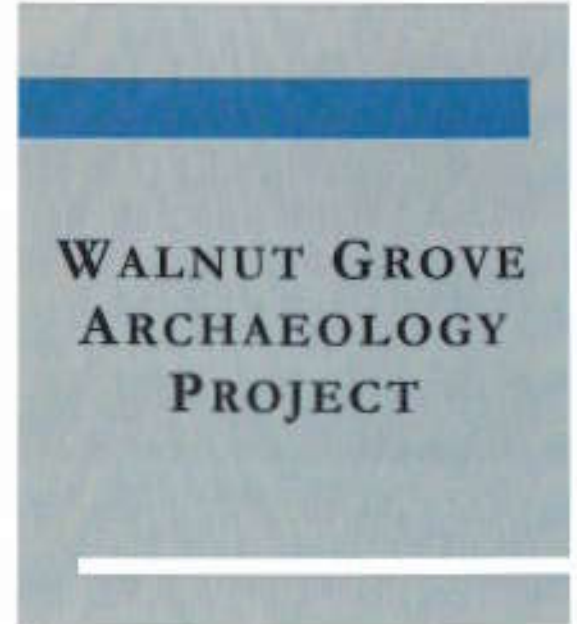


Please Check Out
the other events and tours sponsored
by the Fenton History Center
throughout the remainder of the year
at www.fentonhistorycenter.org



Reuben E. Fenton
(1819-1885)

1846-1852 Town of Carroll Supervisor
1852-1853, 1854-1864 U.S. Congressman
1865-1868 NYS's 25th Governor
1869-1875 U. S. Senator
1878 Co-Chair of International Finance
committee in Paris, France



2017



The Reuben E. Fenton Mansion
ca. 1863