



NYAC Fall 2018
Afternoon Program

October 27th, 3-5 PM

Huguenot Historical Society
Deyo Hall, 6 Broadhead Avenue
New Platz, NY

Research in Dutch and English Colonial Archaeology

Please join NYAC for an afternoon of presentations on current research on Dutch and English colonial issues. The afternoon program will be followed by a walking tour of Historic Huguenot Street by Joe Diamond. Refreshments will be served.

Driving directions can be found at: <https://www.huguenotstreet.org/directions/> The bus from NYC stops Corner at Prospect Street and Main Street 4 blocks from the venue. The nearest train station is in Poughkeepsie. Questions? Contact Sissie Pipes pipes@geneseo.edu.

Craig Lukezic, Archaeologist at Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs

The Fall of Fort Casimir, the Last Stand of New Netherland. Around 350 years ago, a British task force of over one hundred men in two armed ships stormed Fort Casimir (New Castle, Delaware). The military event ended the official presence of New Netherland in North America. While Peter Stuyvesant agreed to surrender terms for New Amsterdam, none were agreed to for New Amstel. This led to widespread looting and the destruction of the Ploekhoy Colony in Whorenkill (Lewes, Delaware). The unauthorized British attack resulted in the conflict between the Calvert and Penn families, and ultimately the Mason-Dixon Line. How did the defense of Fort Casimir fail? This paper will review the chain of events and conditions that led to the fall of New Amstel, and the archaeological evidence it left.

Meta Janowitz, AECOM

17th-Century Cooking, 21st-Century Science. Earthenware cooking pots with three feet and distinctive rims are hallmarks of Dutch-American 17th-century households. Their forms are Dutch but were they imported from the Netherlands or made here by European-trained potters--how can we determine their uses and origins?

Matt Kirk, Hartgen Archaeological Associates, Inc.

Excavations on Van Schaick Island, Evidence of a Native American Settlement and 17th Century Dutch Trading Post. In April 2012, Hartgen Archeological Associates, Inc. was provided the opportunity to complete an archeological study of a 1.4 acre parcel near the circa 1740s Van Schaick Mansion in the City of Cohoes. Currently, we interpret the features and deposits unearthed there as representing a 17th-century Native American

settlement with a Dutch trading outpost at its flank near the river. Archeological features include two palisade lines, a cellar hole, and various hearths. The assemblage includes a cloth bale seal dated 1662, Dutch tobacco pipes, a Native tobacco pipe, red trade bead and wampum fragment, as well as Westerwald fragments with an Amsterdam coat of arms and parts of a Dutch yellowware grapen. The archeology at Quamhemsicos or Van Schaick Island suggests that the Mahican occupied the island from about the mid-1600s to perhaps as late as the 1670s. At the same time, Philip Schuyler and Goosen Van Schaick may have started a trading outpost on the northeast side of the island. The historical record indicates that the Dutch partners did not seek formal title to the island and surrounding mainland, just north of the Van Rensselaer Patroonship, until 1664.

Mike Lucas, New York State Museum

Persistence of Dutch Material Culture in New York During the Eighteenth Century.

Dutch cultural traditions survived long after the first English takeover of New Netherland in 1664. Late seventeenth century archaeological assemblages from Maryland look very different from those in New York. By the revolution these assemblages look quite similar. My talk will briefly review and compare material culture assemblages from New York and Maryland at the beginning of the eighteenth century to those at the middle and end of the eighteenth century to suggest some avenues for research on the persistence of Dutch material culture in eighteenth century New York.

Joan Geismar, Consultant

Land Construction by British Colonials. 18th-century British Colonials created much of land that today defines Lower Manhattan. More than 200 years later, archaeology documented a vernacular take on the ancient principles used to create this land and enrich the coffers of New York City's elite merchant class. 175 Water Street was, and continues to be, a prime example of this undertaking.

Diana Carter, SUNY Schenectady County Community College

109 Union Street: Building a Relationship. In 2016, SUNY Schenectady County Community College's Community Archaeology Program began to build a relationship with Kevin Decker, who bought 109 Union Street in 2014, and Vernon Decker, his father. In 2017, the Deckers decided to excavate under the kitchen at 109 Union Street. Although we were not notified until the excavation was complete, we now have 12 boxes of artifacts that are shedding additional light on our initial excavation from 2002 to 2008. This year, we had the opportunity to plan and execute an archaeological excavation prior to the renovation of an enclosed porch at the back of the house.

Vivian James, SUNY Albany

Does What we Know Hurt Us? Ground-truthing History with Archaeology. Abstract: This presentation will describe the development of an initial course in zooarchaeology and faunal analysis at the Schenectady County Community College Community Archaeology Program to investigate 18th century diet at the Yates House in Schenectady, New York, and explain why the research is important to New York archaeology.