



Special Points of Interest:

- George Kinsella, In Remembrance
- Moodus River Mill Sites
- 2016 Dig Season in Pictures

FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.

Member Newsletter

President's Letter



Greetings FOSA Members:

It may not look like it outside, but spring will soon be upon us! And that means our excavation season will begin shortly. If you're interested in volunteering on an upcoming dig make sure you check in with Scott Brady (fosa.ct@gmail.com) and get yourself on the e-mail list for fieldwork notifications. In the meantime I do hope you plan to join us on the 25th at our Annual Meeting. Dr. Baker will be sharing

with us his work on 17th century sites. This topic is of particular interest to Brian and the FOSA volunteers who spent a large portion of last summer working on 17th century sites in Windsor and Glastonbury. We anticipate doing some more work on these early sites this year so please join us at the Meeting. As always, I welcome your suggestions about how FOSA can do more to serve the interests of our volunteers. I can be reached at fosa-ct@archaeologist.com.

Happy Digging!

Mandy

FOSA President

News from the Office of State Archaeology



It has been a time of change here on campus for the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History. Many of you may have heard that the museum lost the exhibit and office space it has held for the past decade. Officially, staff has been shifted from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the Office of Public Engagement, yet the museum maintains a strong degree of autonomy since state statutes very wisely provide direct oversight by the museum's board of directors, rather than a single university division. Nonetheless, it has been a time of significant challenges for Director Leanne Harty, Program Coordinator David Colberg and Exhibit Developers Colin

Harty and myself. One of the positive things to come from the move is a recently drafted strategic plan written to guide museum priorities over its next three years. One of those priorities is the return of permanent exhibit space, since without it, we are ineligible for many federal funding opportunities. Coordination with Public Engagement also has the potential to provide a new impetus for programming and outreach activities, and I am currently developing a number of potential project ideas for the coming summer. For those looking for me, I am temporarily housed with the Math Department faculty in Monteith 408.

I just made a list of over twenty important activities that occurred last fall and early winter, but I'll stick to a summary of just a few. First, I'd like to thank

Inside this issue:

Events & Announcements	3
Whats new on the FOSA Website	3
In Remembrance: George B. Kinsella	4-5
The Mills of the Moodus River	6-9
Dig Season, 2016	9-10
Welcome New Members	11
Officers and Board	11
Membership Application	12

News from the Office of State Archaeology

(continued from page 1)

FOSA President Mandy Ranslow, and members Nick Bellantoni and Gary Nolf for their help running four hands-on programs for kids held at Wood Memorial Library and Museum in South Windsor. OSA now has a thoughtfully packed box of educational materials that make programs like this focused on Native American and Colonial archaeology and history fun for young audiences. Hopefully we'll further develop our core of educational volunteers for future programming opportunities.

FOSA members also had a chance to participate in Ruth Shapleigh-Brown's and Debbie Surabian's GPR survey demonstration at the Old Hebron Cemetery. Afterwards, a number of volunteers went on to help with some additional radar work at the Webb-Deane-Stevens House in Old Wethersfield. That work identified a number of large buried features, and I'm looking forward to hearing what they turn out to be (hopefully at least one buried cellar!) when AHS, Inc. gets back to investigate them this Spring.

Of course, October fifteenth was International Archaeology Day and this year we celebrated with the Connecticut Archaeology Fair at UConn, Storrs. Participation was great, with lots of booths, demonstrations and activities for kids, so my thanks go out to all who helped to coordinate the event. Special thanks go to FOSA's Mandy Ranslow and UConn Department of Anthropology's Daniel Adler. Dan, in particular, managed to rustle up a lot of student support that made the day possible. FOSA's own booth included a new book sale made up of material culled from the OSA library. These books were made available primarily because they were not directly associated with regional archaeology. Visitor's purchased a number of interesting books with all funds donated to FOSA. The meeting also hosted the Archaeology Society of Connecticut's fall meeting and included a variety of excellent talks, including one by Zac Singer summarizing last summer's important work at the Templeton Paleoindian Site that many FOSA members helped with.

In the meantime, FOSA volunteers have been busy prepping and inventorying artifacts from the David Humphreys site (Ansonia) and I am pleased to say Scott Brady and Lee West just completed the data entry work on that interesting assemblage. FOSA volunteers also had a chance to organize a large donated collection from Nicholas Kotula. Nicholas's artifacts came from a variety of sites across New England, New York and Pennsylvania. We have most recently been focused on organizing finds from the 1990 and 1991 UConn field schools at the Oliver Ellsworth House in Windsor because I have hopes of doing follow-up work there this summer. So, volunteers will still have plenty of opportunities to help this Spring in the lab. On campus, inventory work on the Lt. John Hollister site has progressed rapidly as well with the help of my research assistant Megan Willison and five undergraduate interns.

To wrap up, I just want to add how excited I am to have Emerson (Tad) Baker coming to speak to us on March 25 at Farmington High School. Tad has excavated a number of very significant 17th century settlement period sites in southern Maine, and is arguably New England's expert on the material, culture and architecture of this poorly documented period. Having him visit will provide an important opportunity to show him our own artifacts from the Lt. John Hollister site and discuss the potential architectural layout of that site based on the results of two seasons of radar examinations. In that vein, be sure to sign up for the Connecticut State Museum of Natural History's upcoming day trip to Plimoth Plantation scheduled for April 15th. I plan to use part of our time on the bus to discuss our recent finds at the Lt. John Hollister site as well as other important 17th Century topics.

Brian Jones, Ph.D.
State Archaeologist
Office of State Archaeology
brian.jones@uconn.edu



Calendar of Events

March 25, 2017, 1pm, FOSA Annual Meeting, Farmington High School, Farmington, CT

March 29 to April 2, 2017, Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Vancouver, BC

April 5, 2017, Connecticut Preservation Awards, Keeney Memorial Cultural Center, Wethersfield, CT

April 8, 2017, 5:30pm, Connecticut Gravestone Network Symposium, South Senior Center, East Hartford, CT

April 8, 2017, 2pm, Berlin Historical Society hosts a book talk by Kenneth Feder, Berlin, CT

April 13, 2017, Connecticut Preservation Awards, Pequot Library, Southport, CT

April 15, 2017, CT State Museum of Natural History trip to Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth, MA

April 22, 2017, Conference on New England Archaeology Annual Meeting, Portland, ME

May 2, 2017, 7- 8 pm: Windsor Historical Society, State Archaeologist Brian Jones who will talk about recent excavations and what they reveal about 17th century life. Cost: \$6 adults, \$5 seniors and students, WHS and FOSA members \$4. windsorhistoricalsociety.org or 860-688-3813 for information.

May 18, 2017, State Historic Preservation Office Statewide Conference, University of Connecticut, Storrs

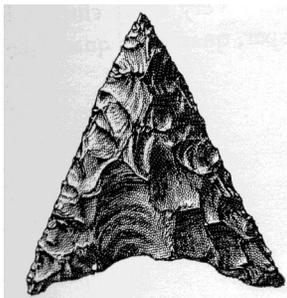
May 20, 2017, Archaeological Society of Connecticut Spring Meeting, Pequot Library, Southport, CT

June 5, 2017, Connecticut League of History Organizations Conference, Four Points Sheraton, Meriden, CT

June 11, 2017, 125th Anniversary Celebration of the New England Hebrew Farmers of the Emmanuel Society, Chesterfield, CT

September 30-October 1, Hammonasset Festival, Guilford Fairgrounds, Guilford, CT

November 2-5, 2017, Eastern States Archaeological Federation Meeting, New London, CT



What's New on the FOSA Web Site

1. The Fall 2016 Newsletter has been incorporated into the web site. Per request from the Board, we're waiting three months from the time a Newsletter is published until it's added to the site for everyone to read.
2. The 2016 Archaeology Fair has also been added. In this you'll find the Fair flyer, pictures taken at the Fair, including web addresses for all exhibitors, and the Calendar of Events for Archaeology Awareness Month.
3. Added several new items to the "Reference Books" page, including books used as reference by Nick Belantoni on his "Vampire Beliefs" talks and by 2017 Annual Meeting Guest speaker Emerson Baker; and links to the "Related Web Sites", including the [Archaeology Podcast Network](#) where FOSA President Mandy Ranslow recently gave a very interesting interview on FOSA.
4. We're still in need of a backup person to help in the maintenance of the web site and to take over in the event I'm no longer able to do it. Please check the "Help Wanted" section at the top of the "Volunteer Opportunities" page to see what's involved. If you have questions you can call me at 860-531-9023, or email me at the address below.
5. To reiterate from above and from previous "What's New..." articles: While the web site has many things on it, it's very possible that there are dozens of possible things which haven't crossed either my mind or that of the Board which might be included. So, if you have ideas or suggestions for layout changes, or new features, or changes to existing ones, or things we should drop, or even an article we should add, please let me know!
You can email me at jamesh52@comcast.net with your suggestions.
Or if you prefer, contact Mandy at fosa-ct@archaeologist.com

Jim Hall

GEORGE B. "PETE" KINSELLA

IN REMEMBRANCE

Growing up in Hartford's Little Italy neighborhood during the late 1950s and early 1960s, it was impossible not to be familiar with the Kinsella surname since their family seemed to be involved in every aspect of the city's politics. George Kinsella served as mayor of the city in the mid-1960s and though I was aware of him, I never imagined that 40 years later, "Hizzoner" would become a long-standing member of FOSA, one of our office's most ardent supporters and a loyal friend.

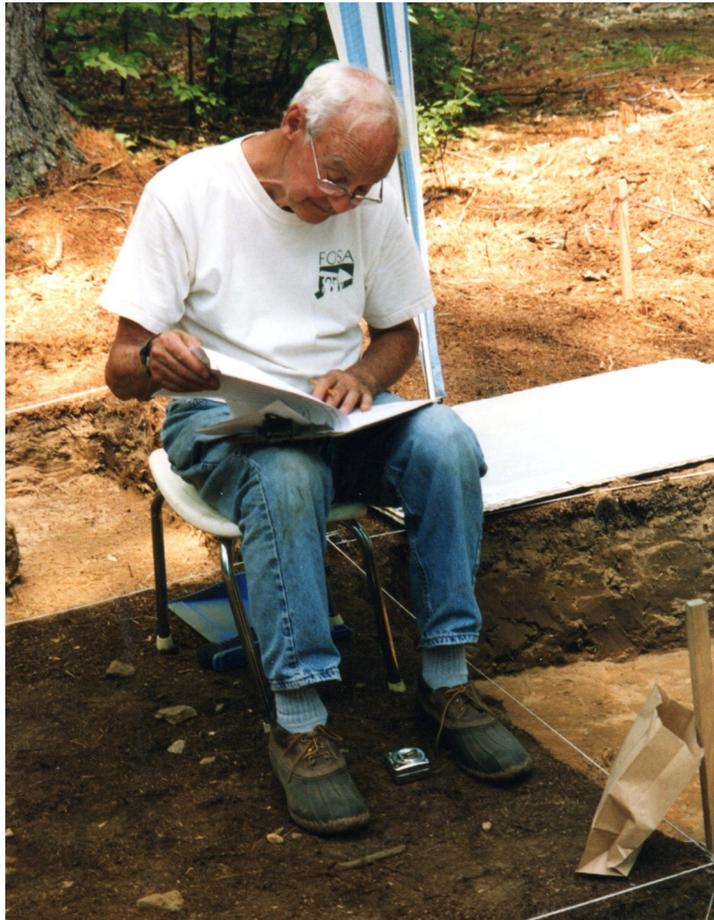
Sadly, George B. Kinsella died in December after 89 productive years of life, only a few months after his FOSA "dig partner" Dr. Henri "Hank" Coppes passed. The two were always together participating in our digs or attending annual meetings. I suppose in some ways it seems fitting that these two very devoted friends would pass away so close in time, inseparable in death as in life.

His friends and family called him "Pete," but we always referred to him as "George." He was born and bred in the City of Hartford, living there for 76 years and dedicating himself to serving the state's capital in many official municipal capacities. His grandfather, father and brother were all involved in city politics and George continued the family tradition first serving as a member of the City Council, elected Deputy Mayor, and finally Mayor in 1965 (when I was in high school). He was also the City Treasurer during the 1980s.

During his time in Hartford politics, George served on various committees overseeing the city's redevelopment and the establishment of a Civic Center to foster urban economic growth. He was a founding member and first President of The Hundred Club, a charitable organization that raises funds for widows and dependents of Hartford's police and firemen who died in the line of duty. All of this vast experience coupled with his fascination and love for archaeology found fruition in the Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc. George joined FOSA soon after it was formed, bringing a business and political sense to the organization that helped us sustain our early growth and development.

George rarely spoke of his time as mayor when he was in the field and one would have never known about his distinguished and charitable background unless told by others. He seldom spoke about himself, but when he did discuss his personal life, it mostly pertained to family and friends.

Above all his accomplishments, George "Pete" Kinsella was first and foremost, a family man. Many were the times during field lunch that George would share stories about his large Irish clan, which included his devoted wife Linda, seven sons and daughters, 3 step-children, 21 grandchildren, and one great granddaughter, all of



George B. "Pete" Kinsella, Lisbon, CT July, 2007

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice

whom he adored and was so very proud of. It was evident to all that they brought him such great joy and happiness simply by the way his face glowed whenever he talked about his family.

I suppose FOSA records could calculate how many hours George and Hank volunteered for our organization, but it isn't necessary, the number is substantial. It is hard to remember a major project we worked on from the late 1990s to 2014 that the two of them had not given their time and energy toward. George's good humor and camaraderie are what we remember most.

You know, it's said that heaven has been around for a very long time. And, if that is the case, Paradise must contain archaeological sites! Hence, it is not hard to imagine George and Hank together again participating in digs, sharing the same unit, uncovering artifacts and features, screening each other's back dirt and laughing at some unpredictable find. We are grateful for the opportunity to have known and to have developed friendships with both of them and we remain indebted for all that they did on our behalf. George Kinsella and Hank Coppes will be greatly missed by our organization, especially by those honored to have worked with the "Mayor" and the "Doctor."

Nicholas F. Bellantoni, PhD
Emeritus State Archaeologist
 Phone: 860-486-6953
 Fax: 860-486-0827
www.cac.uconn.edu

News from ASC

Greetings FOSA Members,

I'm very pleased in this issue to share with you news from the Archaeological Society of Connecticut (ASC) which I'm sure you will find of interest.

You are all invited to our Spring Meeting on Saturday, May 20, 2017, which will be held at the Pequot Library in Southport, CT. In the morning we will have presentations on the Archaeology of Fairfield County by Nick Bellantoni, Ernie Wiegand, David Leslie, Rob Wallace, and Kevin McBride/Dave Naumec. In the afternoon, Dave Naumec will lead us on a walking tour to the site of the Pequot Swamp fight. This will be a great opportunity to

catch up on archaeological research in the southwestern part of the state and we hope that you can join us. For details, you can check the next issue of ASC News or check our web site at:

www.CTarchaeologyASC.org

It's also not too early to ask you to save the dates Nov. 2-5, 2017 because a major regional archaeological meeting is coming to Connecticut! That's when the Eastern States Archaeological Federation (ESAF) will be holding its annual meeting at the Holiday Inn in New London, co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Archaeological Society and the ASC. Thursday, November 2 will include a tour of the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and the site of a 17th century fort nearby. Friday through Sunday will feature papers delivered by archaeologists representing 12 states from Virginia to Maine, and a Saturday night banquet with Kevin McBride as the featured speaker. ESAF has not met in Connecticut since 1989, so this is a rare opportunity to see the very latest in archaeology from around the east. We will update our website with more details when they become available, or you can check ESAF's site at www.esaf-archeology.org

Lee West

ASC Newsletter Editor



Archaeology Fair, UConn, Oct 15, 2016

Photo by Ken Beatrice

The Mighty Moodus River

I remember the words of the late and multi-talented Don Malcarne, ASC Treasurer and a speaker at many archaeological and historical events saying, “you don't have to dig to be an archaeologist.” In essence he was saying that a place such as New England has many abandoned historical features and sites that are exposed on the surface and are waiting for the keen eye to further investigate and possibly reinterpret them. In Connecticut we are fortunate to have many of these features in various stages of decay waiting to be explored. I am constantly running into them as I drive and hike the woodlands of our state. So, for those who like to explore Connecticut's many historical and archaeological features, one suggestion is visit the riparian banks of the Moodus River. It is an interesting place where one can feed this appetite and in the early winter until spring, when the foliage has fallen, sites and features are well exposed. The Moodus River is especially interesting to both those interested in America's Industrial Revolution and in Industrial Archaeology.

The Moodus River once provided water power for 12 mills along its 3-mile, 300-foot descent to its confluence with the Salmon River. These mills were established as early as 1819, the start of the American Industrial Revolution, and many stayed in operation into the 20th century. The Moodus River begins its journey from the lower Moodus Reservoir to the confluence of the Salmon River, all within the boundaries of East Haddam. Its 300-foot drop and the backing of a large watershed and available land on its banks made it an excellent location for waterpower to propel industrial growth. “The Moodus River empties into the Salmon River at the Cove in Johnsonville. Although it certainly is not a big river (it more closely approximates a stream. The word 'river' is loosely applied in this case), the river bed declines approximately three hundred feet in three miles, and its power was easily harnessed by dams and waterwheels. The land adjoining the river was, at this time, unimproved, and there were many available sites for mill development.” (Sievers 2007:1). The remains of the dams, head races, pen-stocks, turbines and building structures still remain for one to view today,

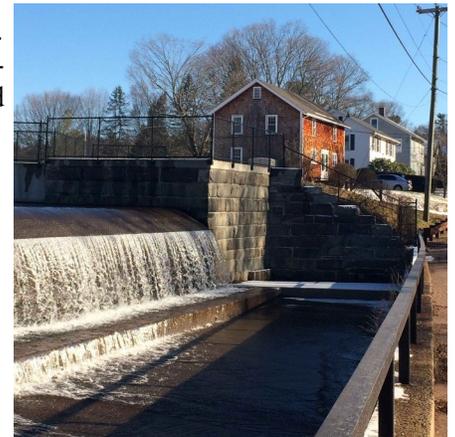
Further, as stated above, its location was close to the Connecticut River for all its transportation needs to import and export goods. “In central Connecticut the Connecticut River was the passageway from local towns to New York City and beyond. Moodus' location as a Connecticut River town meant that raw cotton from New York wharves could be delivered on a regular schedule to Goodspeed Landing, and that the steamboats, on their return voyages, could transport the finished goods from Moodus to selling agents in the City.” (Sievers 2007:1). The raw material that fed the mills was cotton imported from the South. The raw material was then carded and spun to provide their main finished product of twine. Other products these mills were mainly known for were yarn and duck. Duck is sailing cloth which was in high demand during the age of sailing ships (clippers). By a more specific definition, duck is a cotton or linen cloth like canvas, but lighter in weight. “The Moodus cotton mills concentrated primar-

ily on manufacturing three different products: yarn, duck, and twine.” (Sievers 2007:1). “Twine, however, was the major product of Moodus involving, at one time or another, all twelve mills. The twine was sold either as cord or made directly into fish nets.” (Sievers 2007:1). Therefore, for all of the mills on the Moodus River, the main product was cotton twine. It was probably the twine capital of America.

A good place to start your road trip to view what remains of these mills is at the beautiful dam at the Lower Moodus Reservoir; the 300-foot elevation mentioned above. To see this location, at the intersection of Connecticut's Route 149 and Route 16 in the Westchester section of Colchester, drive south on Route 149 for about two miles until you come to Falls Bashan Rd. on the left. Photo 1 shows what is left of the Falls Mill. Though the mill itself has long since been destroyed, three houses remain that were occupied by mill workers.

“Practically all the mills had tenements, multi-family dwellings, which were rented for one to three dollars a month to mill operatives. Some have been destroyed, but a fair number still remain as private, two-family homes.” (Siever 2007:2). Today these former tenements have been updated to single family owners and are in a beautiful recreational area. There are some remains of the Falls Mill and one other mill but they can't be observed because they are on private property.

From Falls Mill, continue further south on Route 149 less than a mile, just past some more mill tenements on your left, to the Ber-



1. Falls Mill Dam and Housing

Photo by Jim Trocchi

stein Preserve, also on your left. Caution, the road curves here so be careful for on-coming traffic. You will be driving into someone's shared driveway but not trespassing. “The preserve is accessed via Land Trust property that serves as a driveway for the house on the east side of Route 149/Falls Road, about 100 feet south of Andrews Road. Park off the right of the driveway.” See the following website for more info. [https:// easthaddamland-trust.wildapricot.org](https://easthaddamland-trust.wildapricot.org) Many exciting features still remain of the former Atlantic Mill that existed here. The first feature you'll encounter on the preserve's path is the remains of its turbine, shown in Photo 2. In the background of this photo the foundation remains of the former Mill's building that stood here until 1939 can also be seen.

“As the decade of the 1930's was approaching a close, fire once again claimed the life of a Moodus mill. This time the Atlantic Mill fell victim to the flames. At the end of each workday electric

blowers were used to clean the machines and floor of waste cotton. During this operation the air inside the mill was full of floating fibers of cotton. The fire was caused by exposed wires on an extension cord igniting some cotton on the floor. According to an eyewitness, Joe Wolak, a flash fire erupted because of the quantity of cotton dust in the air. Workers gave the alarm and evacuated the building, some jumping from second floor windows. Miraculously, no one was killed. The local fire department, volunteers, and boys from the nearby Civilian Conservation Corps camp all tried to bring the fire under control, but their efforts were unsuccessful. The mill was a total loss.” (Sievers 2007:3). A 1934 aerial photo, in the Connecticut State Library Digital Collection, has a great view of the Mill building encompassing the turbine. Also, standing here and looking uphill from the turbine, you can see the pen-stock and head race that fed water to power the turbine. Also seen is the tenement housing at the very top, for the mill's operatives. These houses you passed before turning into the Preserve. They look of the same style seen at the Falls Mill. Walk further in on the preserves path and you will encounter a spectacular large dam, shown in Photo 3, that impounded the water supply for the Atlantic Mill.



2. Remains of Turbine at Atlantic Mill

Photo by Jim Trocchi

After leaving this site, heading back further south on Route 149 go to the next road on your right which is North Moodus Rd. Follow it and take a quick left onto Red Mill Lane. Follow it down the hill a short distance and park by a beautiful abandoned stone arch bridge that is an artifact in itself. This area is the back side of the old Moodus downtown that was relocated during government subsidized urban renewal of the 60's and 70's. A short distance downstream from the stone arch bridge, is a large concentration of remains of the busy twine industry that once existed here. Photo 4 is a view from the top of an intact dam with its rack gear operated gate to control the flow of water into the head race. Follow the head race just a little down-stream and you'll see another rack gear operated flow gate that controlled the flow of water to power the turbine.



3. Atlantic Mill Dam

Photo by Jim Trocchi

Downstream you come upon the area behind the Brownell Company, which stayed in business until 1977. “During the 1930's the DuPont Corporation had perfected a new synthetic called nylon which they hoped to market as an alternative product to cotton.” (Sievers 2007:5). Most of the old cotton twine mills weren't willing to change over to nylon. “One mill, however, did refer DuPont representatives to the Brownell Company in Moodus where they were favorably received by Crary Brownell and his son Nathan. The Brownells realized that nylon was to become the fiber of the future; to accept or reject its inevitability could mean the difference between financial success or failure. The Brownells agreed to become the first twine mill to convert from the manufacture of cotton to nylon seine, and to introduce nylon twine to the commercial fishing market. In return, DuPont made Brownell the exclusive manufacturer of nylon seine twine for a period of five years. This would allow Brownell the opportunity to develop the product and to conduct market research. The success of the Brownell mill in manufacturing and selling nylon seine twine ensured the economic survival of the company. The Brownell Company has survived for 140 years as a result of hard work, manufacturing

A short distance to the left and up a small hill you'll see where the dam has been breached and across from it the start of the Mill's head race. Heading south after leaving the Berstein Preserve, drive about a half mile into Moodus Center to Gristmill Rd. on your right and follow it about a quarter of a mile to the Hidden Valley Preserve, also on your right. Follow the preserve's map trail system to view the remains of two dams and a turbine. This is a pleasant one mile

walk on both sides of the Moodus River. As you enter the trail and stay to the right you will come across the remains of a turbine, identical to the one at the Atlantic Mill, with its head and tail race feeding into it. The path on the opposite side of the River takes you to the large dam that impounded the water that was released into the head race and turbine seen earlier. For more information go to: <http://www.courant.com/community/east-haddam/hc-marteka-moodus-river-mills-1127-20161126-story.html> and www.ehit.org.

After leaving this site, heading back further south on Route 149 go to the next road on your right which is North Moodus Rd. Follow it and take a quick left onto Red Mill Lane. Follow it down the hill a short distance and park by a beautiful abandoned stone arch bridge that is an artifact in itself. This area is the back side of the old Moodus downtown that was relocated during government subsidized urban renewal of the 60's and 70's. A short distance downstream from the stone arch bridge, is a large concentration of remains of the busy twine industry that once existed here. Photo 4 is a view from the top of an intact dam with its rack gear operated gate to control the flow of water into the head race. Follow the head race just a little down-stream and you'll see another rack gear operated flow gate that controlled the flow of water to power the turbine.

Downstream you come upon the area behind the Brownell Company, which stayed in business until 1977. “During the 1930's the DuPont Corporation had perfected a new synthetic called nylon which they hoped to market as an alternative product to cotton.” (Sievers 2007:5). Most of the old cotton twine mills weren't willing to change over to nylon. “One mill, however, did refer DuPont representatives to the Brownell Company in Moodus where they were favorably received by Crary Brownell and his son Nathan. The Brownells realized that nylon was to become the fiber of the future; to accept or reject its inevitability could mean the difference between financial success or failure. The Brownells agreed to become the first twine mill to convert from the manufacture of cotton to nylon seine, and to introduce nylon twine to the commercial fishing market. In return, DuPont made Brownell the exclusive manufacturer of nylon seine twine for a period of five years. This would allow Brownell the opportunity to develop the product and to conduct market research. The success of the Brownell mill in manufacturing and selling nylon seine twine ensured the economic survival of the company. The Brownell Company has survived for 140 years as a result of hard work, manufacturing



4. Rack Gear Operated Flow Gate

Photo by Jim Trocchi

and product innovation, market diversification, and good luck.” (Sievers 2007:5). One of the buildings from the Brownell Mill complex is shown in Photo 5. It has been nicely restored and can be viewed from Route 149 as you leave the center of Moodus. On the right hand side of this building is where the pen stock once entered the building but it has since been filled with concrete. Water fed through this pen stock powered the Mill's turbine. Further, Photo 6 shows the trash rack that prevented foreign objects from entering the pen stock and causing damage to the turbine. As you see, all these features have been nicely preserved in the renovation of this building.

Finally, you can reach the last mill on the Moodus River by continuing south on Route 149 for about one mile until you come to Johnsonville Rd. on your right. Proceed down the road to this enchanting abandoned village. This is private property, so please don't trespass. As you head down Johnsonville Rd. and through the Village, you will first come upon a mill pond, dam and tail race on your right that powered the last mill on the Moodus River before its confluence with the Salmon River. In its former days it was home to Neptune Twine and Cord, whose sign shown in Photo 7 has been nicely preserved. This abandoned village was recreated in the 1970's and only a Victorian house is original. Nearly all of the historical buildings here are authentic but were moved here from other places. More can be found about it at: <http://www.damnedct.com/johnsonville-east-haddam>



5. Brownell Mill Bldg.

Photo by Jim Trocchi



6. Brownell Mill Trash Rack

Photo by Jim Trocchi

The following very nicely sums up the stages of twine manufacture in Moodus. “There were three distinct stages in the history of seine twine manufacturing, each characterized by the use of a different fiber in the production process. Twine was first made from linen, a derivative of the



7. Sign at Neptune Twine and Cord Mills

Photo by Jim Trocchi

flax plant. The transition to the second stage of development was initiated by Ebenezer Nichols of Moodus who, in the early 1820's, conceived the idea of substituting cotton for linen in the manufacturing of seine twine. With his invention of the Whirl-A-Gig twister, the production of cotton seine twine began in Moodus. The fishermen soon came to realize that cotton twine was a more economic product than linen, and Moodus' domination of the cotton seine industry was ensured for many years. The third stage in the history of twine production was instituted by the Brownell Company when they became the first seine twine mill in the nation to convert to the manufacture of nylon twine. Today, practically all seine twine used for commercial fishing is made from synthetic fiber. Moodus, Connecticut, can justifiably be nicknamed the 'Twine Capitol of America' for its leading role in initiating the development of cotton and nylon seine twine." (Sievers 2007:5) .

In conclusion, its experiences like these that can so enhance your life in the place you live. As I travel around our rich and scenic region, I've learned to stop and explore. You never run out of places to seek out. Now, when I take my next trip to see a show down at the Goodspeed Opera House and travel down Connecticut Route 149 through this area, it will have ever more meaning to me.

References:

Sievers, Bruce R. 2007. "The Cotton Mills of Moodus: How Moodus Became the 'Twine Capital of America'". *Simon Pure Productions*, www.simonpure.com/moodus_mills01.htm

Dig Season, 2016



Templeton Paleoindian Site, June 2016

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice



Brian Jones and Ken Beatrice, Templeton Site, June 2016

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice



Zac Singer and Jerry Tolchin, Templeton Site, June 2016

Photo by Myra Tolchin

HAMMONASSETT FESTIVAL 2017

The Hammonasset Festival will be held this year on **September 30th and October 1st**. It will be at the Guilford Fairgrounds.

We are happy to announce that we are working with the Redhawk Native American Arts Council to create an exciting and educational lineup of Native American music and dance, including Erin Meeches and the Native Nations Dance Troupe. Since 1994, the Redhawk Council has been dedicated to educating the general public about Native American heritage through song, dance, theater, works of art and other cultural forms of expression. It produces four of the largest Native American heritage celebrations in the Northeast.

Although still in the planning stage, there will be more performers plus vendors and exhibitors, live wildlife shows, storytelling and children’s activities, and the New England Atlatl Championships. So Save the Dates and look for more information in future newsletters, on the FOSA website and the Festival Facebook page.

If you are interested in helping in the planning phase, please email:

HammonassetFestival@gmail.com



Grass Dancer

Photo courtesy of Erin Meeches

Dig Season, 2016, Cont.



Zac Singer, Gary Nolf and Roy Manstan at the Manstan Rock Shelter

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice



Hollister Site, Glastonbury, August 2016

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice



Brian Jones and Scott Brady at the Hollister Site

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice



Clay Pipe-Bowl Fragment, Hollister Site

Photo by Bonnie Beatrice

Welcome New Members (Since Sept. 3, 2016)

FOSA Officers and Board

Mandy Ranslow - President

Jeremy Pilver - Vice President

Mike Cahill - Secretary

Dreda Hendsey - Treasurer

Scott Brady - Board Member

Richard Hughes - Board Member

Lori Kessel - New Board Member

Mike Raber - Board Member

Cynthia Redman - Board Member

Glenda Rose - Board Member

Zachary Singer - Board Member

Jim Trocchi - Board Member

Kathy Walburn - Board Member

Ex Officio Members:

Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni

Dan Cruson (ASC)

Leanne Kennedy Harty

Dr. Brian D. Jones

Jim and Karen Bachman

Laura Berman

Betsy Chittenden

Joseph C. Felix

Katelyn Jaynes

Cheryl U. Jourdan

Phedra Komodromov

Laurie Lamarre

Deanna Rhodes

Rebekah Wallace

FOSA Financial Report

Calendar Year 2016

Beginning Balance 1/1/16		21,322.41
Income	9484.02	
Expenses	5,100.31	
Ending Balance 12/31/16		25,706.12
Donations	135.00	

Note from the editor:

Beginning with this issue, readers of the digital edition will be able to connect to the FOSA website as well as our Facebook, Twitter and Flickr pages. Simply click on any of the images below to get to these sites.



