

**FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF
STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.**

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The mission of the **Friends of the Office of State Archaeology, Inc.**, is to enhance the ability of the **Connecticut Office of State Archaeology (OSA)** to carry out its state-mandated responsibilities through:

Encouraging and facilitating educational activities that enhance public awareness of OSA and archaeological issues in general

Encouraging participation by communities, corporations, institutions, cultural organizations and individuals in support of the OSA

Encouraging partnerships between OSA and local communities in supporting scientific research initiatives related to archaeology

And **developing financial resources** and other support for OSA and its activities.

Visit www.fosa-ct.org for more information

Our Partners:

FOSA welcomes co-sponsorship of the speaker by the Archaeological Society of Connecticut

For more information on FOSA and ASC, including how to become a member, please visit:

www.fosa-ct.org
www.ctarchaeology.org

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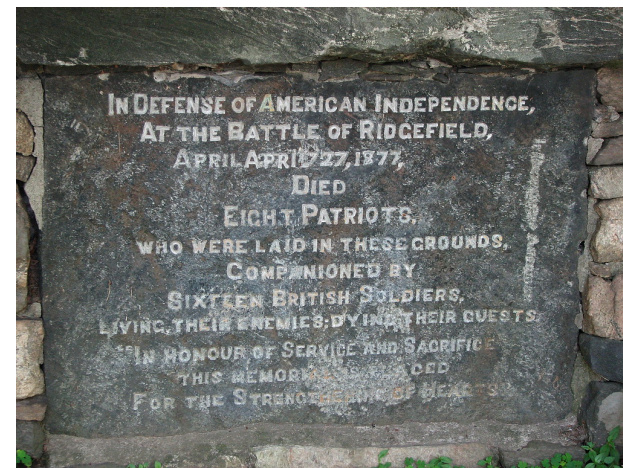
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**FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF
STATE ARCHAEOLOGY, INC.
PRESENTS**

**Burial Sites from the
American Revolution**



Plaque Near Battle of Ridgefield Site,
Memorializing Soldiers on Both Sides

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

SARAH SPORTMAN, Connecticut State Archaeologist
WADE P. CATTS, President,
South River Heritage Consulting
JENNIFER JANOFISKY, Rowan University
LISA ANDERSON, New York State Museum

**Friends of the Office of State Archaeology
28th Annual Meeting
March 29, 2025, 2:00 PM**

FRIENDS OF THE OFFICE OF STATE ARCHAEOLOGY— 27th ANNUAL MEETING

2:00 PM: FOSA Annual Meeting

Welcome and Call to Order:	Glenda Rose
Treasurer's Report:	Jim Trocchi
Secretary's Report:	Scott Brady
2024 OSA Report:	Sarah Sportman
Cooke Scholarship Report:	Glenda Rose
ASC Report:	Lee West
Officer/Director Elections:	Deanna Rhodes
Awards:	Jim Trocchi

Adjournment

2:45 PM: Feature Presentations

Speaker: Sarah Sportman

**OSA Update on Possible Battlefield Burials
from Ridgefield, Connecticut**



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

Speakers: Wade P. Catts and Jennifer Janofsky
"Naked and Torn by the Grapeshot":
The Red Bank Battlefield Archaeology Project



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

Speaker: Lisa Anderson

**"Smallpox in our Northern Army carries with it
Greater Dread than our Enemies": The Quebec
Campaign & Courtland Street Burying Ground**



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

A question and answer period follows the presentation.

Sarah Sportman holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Connecticut. She has worked as an archaeologist for 20 years, studying the archaeology and history of Euro-American and pre-colonial Native American groups in New England and New York. She held the position of Senior Archaeologist for AHS, Inc./PAST, Inc. for five-and-a-half years, working primarily in Connecticut and Massachusetts. She became CT State Archaeologist in 2020.

Wade P. Catts is President of South River Heritage Consulting (Newark, Delaware) and adjunct professor in history at Rowan University. He is co-director of the Red Bank Battlefield Archaeology Project, and has undertaken historical/archaeological studies at Revolutionary War sites in Delaware, New York, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and Virginia over more than 40 years. He earned a graduate degree in American History from the University of Delaware. He received the Archibald Crozier Award for Distinguished Achievement in Archaeology from the Archaeological Society of Delaware in 2016, and the Daughters of the American Revolution History Award Medal in 2021.

Jennifer Janofsky is Professor of Public History at Rowan University, Director of Red Bank Battlefield Park, and co-director of the Red Bank Archaeology Project. She earned her Ph.D. from Temple University. She is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. At Red Bank Battlefield Park she directs public programs, tours, preservation, exhibition, and grants management. The New Jersey Historical Commission recognized the Red Bank Battlefield Archaeology Project for its significant contribution to New Jersey history in 2023. In 2024, Rowan University awarded Janofsky the Rowan University Engagement Award.

Lisa Anderson is Curator of Bioarchaeology and coordinator for repatriation at the New York State Museum. She has a graduate degree in anthropology from the University at Albany. She received a NYS Historic Preservation Award for work on the Schuyler Flatts African Burial Ground in 2016, and the Founders Award from the New York Archaeological Council in 2023. She currently serves on the NYS Native American Burial Site Review Committee and is on the boards of the New York Archaeological Council and the Iroquois Museum in Howes Cave, NY.