**Historical and Cultural Affairs**

The historic preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

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**News**

**Burial ground identified at John Dickinson Plantation**
Site likely holds the enslaved individuals and other African Americans who lived, worked and died on land owned by the Dickinson family.
[Read more …](#)

![Field staked out as part of the search for the burial ground at the John Dickinson Plantation.](#)

**Division to sponsor seven programs during April 2021**
Programs help to tell the story of the First State’s contributions to the history and culture of the United States.
[Read more …](#)

**Zwaanendael Museum’s “Museum Madness” photo contest in April 2021**
Contest open between April 19 and 24, 2021.
[Read more …](#)

**Division opens four positions focused on diversity, equity, accessibility and inclusion**
Positions to assist in fulfilling the pledge made in the division’s 2020 Race and Equity Statement.
[Read more …](#)

**Zwaanendael Museum seeks historic-site interpreter**
Application deadline: **March 30, 2021**
[Read more …](#)

**Division names James Scott as chief of maintenance operations**
Long-time employee is responsible for the overall management of the division’s facilities, grounds and custodial operations.
[Read more …](#)
History organizations urged to complete national visitation survey
American Association for State and Local History seeks data for 2020 report. Deadline: March 31, 2021
Read more …

Division museums open with tours by appointment
Tours allow visitors to experience the history of the First State while continuing to take all recommended steps to safeguard public health.
Read more …

Help Save Delaware History
Statement from the National Trust Condemning Race-Based Hatred, Violence, and Misinformation
National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C. — March 22, 2021
Support declared for Asian and Pacific Islander Americans in the wake of recent attacks.
Read more …

Document outlines six broad goals for preserving Delaware’s heritage for the future.
Read more …

Media Roundup
The following Delaware history-related articles have recently appeared in the media:

Tough, touching stories of human rights at Dickinson Plantation
Delaware Live, online — March 11, 2021
Museum programs include an exploration of the lives of enslaved people, indentured servants and free Blacks.

13 Best Things To Do In Charming New Castle, Delaware
Travel Awaits, online — March 1, 2021
Article includes a spotlight on the New Castle Court House Museum.

Articles on burial ground identified at John Dickinson Plantation
Site likely to hold the remains of enslaved African Americans.

Graves of Enslaved People Discovered on Founding Father’s Delaware Plantation
Smithsonian Magazine, Washington, D.C. — March 26, 2021

Burial Ground Discovered on John Dickinson Plantation
WBOC TV, Salisbury, Md. — March 25, 2021

How historic burial ground at Dickinson plantation was found; what’s next
Delaware Live, online — March 25, 2021

Human remains found on John Dickinson Plantation, believed to be from formerly enslaved people
WMDT-TV 47, Salisbury, Md. — March 24, 2021

‘This is sacred ground’: Archaeologists find likely burial ground for enslaved people at Dover plantation
WHYY-TV 12, Philadelphia, Pa. — March 24, 2021

Unearthing history: Graveyard found at Dickinson Plantation
Bay to Bay News, Dover, Del. — March 24, 2021
**Events**

**Thursday, April 1**
The Wreck of the DeBraak — Virtual program from the Zwaanendael Museum

**Friday–Saturday, April 2–11**
Lewes Tulip Celebration — Downtown Lewes

**Tuesday, April 6**
Trivia Night — Virtual program from the John Dickinson Plantation

**Saturday, April 10**
Samuel Francis du Pont and the Civil War Navy — Virtual program from the Zwaanendael Museum

Captain Diel Rockefeller, Veteran of the Victories at Saratoga and Klock's Field — Virtual program from Hale-Byrnes House

**Sunday, April 11**
Harriet Tubman: From Slavery to the $20 Bill — Virtual program from Hale-Byrnes House

**Saturday, April 17**
Dutch-American Friendship Day — Virtual program from the Zwaanendael Museum

Running of the Mill — Abbott’s Mill Nature Center

**Tuesday, April 27**
King’s Day — Facebook activities from the Zwaanendael Museum

**Saturday, April 30**
Across the Atlantic to Appalachia — Virtual program from the Johnson Victrola Museum

For a long-term calendar of division-sponsored events, go here.

**Exhibits and Displays**
The five museums of the State of Delaware are currently presenting the following exhibits and displays. In keeping with Gov. Carney’s guidance for reopening the state in wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the museums are open for self-guided tours via reservation only.

**Ongoing**

**Delaware Railroads: Elegant Travel and Timely Transport** — Zwaanendael Museum

**Drawing America to Victory: The Persuasive Power of the Arts in World War I** — Online

**Five Stories** — John Dickinson Plantation

**Letters From a Farmer in Pennsylvania** — Online

**New Castle: Three Forts, One Community** — New Castle Court House Museum

**The Old State House: A True Restoration 1976-2016** — The Old State House

**The Path to Freedom: A History of the Underground Railroad in Delaware** — New Castle Court House Museum

**Sculpture by Charles Parks** — New Castle Court House Museum
For additional opportunities to explore Delaware history online, go to the Delaware Digital History Museum.