

Historical and Cultural Affairs

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

March 26, 2021 * Volume 14, Issue 3

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 ...](#)

[Go here for more news items ...](#)

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 ...](#)

“Partners in Preservation: Planning for the Future — Delaware’s Historic Preservation Plan, 2018–2022”

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

[A Seaborne Citizenry: The DeBraak and Its Atlantic World](#) – Zwaanendael Museum

[Simple Machines](#) – John Dickinson Plantation

For additional opportunities to explore Delaware history online, go to the [Delaware Digital History Museum](#).



Historical and Cultural Affairs

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

Historical and Cultural Affairs is designed to stimulate public interest in the division's museums, programs and services, and to increase awareness of the value that history and historic preservation bring to the lives of Delaware's citizens and visitors. The newsletter is distributed during the last week of each month, via e-mail, to division staff members, Delaware's historical- and preservation-related communities and friends. Please submit relevant articles, news items and suggestions to Jim Yurasek, newsletter editor, at jim.yurasek@delaware.gov.

[Non-Discrimination Statement and Acknowledgement of Support](#)

If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the e-newsletter mailing list, please e-mail the editor.

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