

NEWSLETTER

Representing Nassau & Suffolk Counties

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East Hampton Town Allows Historic Montaukett House to Decay



George Fowler home moved from Indian Fields, Montauk to 97 Springs Fireplace Rd., Freetown.

Despite several articles in the *East Hampton Star*-- July 16, 2014 - "Tumbledown House a Rare Montaukett Survivor," Irene Silverman;

March 12, 2015 - "Montaukett House Slated for Preservation," Joanne Pilgrim

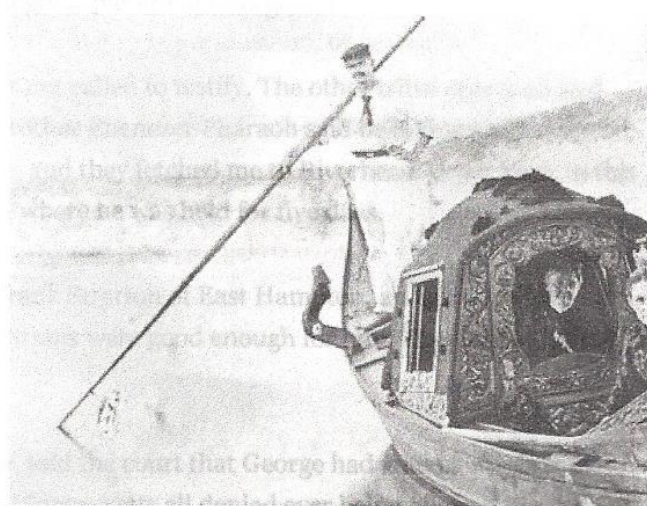
July 14, 2016 - "Memories of Montauketts and Freetown," as well as "In East Hampton, Former Montaukett Home Gets A Second Chance" - 27 *East*, Joanne Pilgrim

May 13, 2016 "Preservation Postponed - A Year After Agreement, Historic House Still in Disrepair" in *Newsday*.-

The historic George L. Fowler, Sr. (died 1933) saltbox house on Springs Fireplace Rd. stands decrepit. Even Town boarding up of windows has been ripped off on the north side, windows broken, the furniture inside open to the elements. Some bracing has been installed, and tarps placed over roofs now caving in.

George Fowler was a gardener and gondolier for the Thomas Moran family, noted painters, whose home facing Town Pond is currently being restored. Fowler also tended the gardens at Home Sweet Home. His Freetown home was one of two that were moved from the Montaukett land at Montauk's Indian Field to Freetown by Erastus Dominy in 1885, after developer Arthur Benson

secured the land rights from the Montaukett, who were told they could return to Indian Fields in the summer, only to find their houses and records burned when they returned. See *The History & Archaeology of the Montauk*, Gaynell Stone, Ph.D., editor, 1993, p. 368 ff for details.



FGeorge L. Fowler, gardener and gondolier for the Thomass Moran family. Pictured are wife Mary Nimmo Moran and daughter Ruth. Mariner's Museum, Newport News, VA and the *East Hampton Star*.

There had long been a schism between the Fowler and Pharaoh families at Indian Field; the marriage between Maria Fowler and David Pharaoh was hoped to bridge that.



Pharaoh and Fowler families at Indian Town before David's death in 1878

Edward Johannemann's archaeological excavations at now Montauk County Park revealed the foundations of five potential house structures as well as 'barns' and other storage spaces. The largest one, c. 24 feet square, was labeled the Charles Fowler house, in use from c.1800-1885, based on artifactual information. The Maria Pharaoh house was also moved to Freetown; this picture on page 455 of *The History & Archaeology of the Montauk* shows how it was allowed to deteriorate. The 1993 caption reads – "Maria Pharaoh's house in 1990... These folk houses of Native Americans are the rarest form of vernacular architecture in the country today. It is shameful that they are not protected and preserved."



Maria Pharaoh house in Freetown in 1990

Town Planning Director Marguerite Wolffsohn in a report to the Town Board – "The house and its property are a valued part of the cultural, historic, economic, and social history of the town. History tends to record the wealthy and powerful. George Fowler was neither, and we have much less information about the ordinary and poor people in our history. Yet the people who lived in Freetown were the workers who supported the wealthier households in East Hampton Village, Gardiner's Island, and elsewhere in town.

His house and property have the potential to teach us about the lifeways of the Montauketts after they were dispossessed of their homes in Montauk and detribalized by the New York State government. It is a potential interpretive tool for understanding the history of Freetown, which is minimally understood by historians. With its connection to the former Indian Field site in Montauk (now Montauk County Park) and its archaeological resources, the Fowler house is also likely eligible for a listing on the National Register of Historic Places." – which could access Federal funds for its restoration, as in the Second House preservation project underway..

After jurisdiction battles between the County and the Town kept it in limbo for many years, East Hampton Town got ownership in March 2015 to designate the George Fowler house as historic and to preserve it – more than a year and a half ago. At that time Tom Rühle, director of the Town's housing office, said in the East Hampton Star – "Who should own it? The town's not going to run a museum, or

restore it. The Town feels a non-profit should do the work." They feel grants should be secured to restore it.

***The Town recently restored the Pond House for local inhabitants to have a nice place to party overlooking Lake Montauk.

***The Town is now seeking \$500,000 from the Feds to restore Second House in Montauk as a Town museum,

***The Town restored and runs the North End Windmill as one of the Town's charming assets for tourists

***The Town interprets its maritime history at the Town Marine Museum in Amagansett.
No non-profits required...

Current Town officials do not seem to recognize the historic value of the Fowler house nor its touristic value for a tourist-based Town. Many Americans are interested in the Native American story and visit such sites. East Hampton Town is missing the chance to be even more attractive to the sought after visitors.



East Hampton Montauks in 1924 - left to right:
Charles Fowler John Fowler Pocahontas Pharaoh Sam Pharaoh
Marguerite Fowler George Fowler Maria Fowler Pharaoh Banks
John & Marguerite children of George Fowler
Photo from Pharaoh Family Collection
Print courtesy L.I. Collection, East Hampton Free Library.



William Walter Fowler son of George Fowler, Jr. and Sarah Horton. Died 1963, age 69. Native American have served out of proportion to their numbers in the population in all U.S. wars.

Resources

Fifty Years – it is still the law

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1996

*The key Federal law that protects and preserves archaeological and historic sites

*Requires Federal agencies to consider the effect of their actions on sites

*Actions are "...a project, activity, or program funded in whole or in part under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a Federal agency, including:

- Those carried out by or on behalf of the Federal agency;

- Those carried out with Federal financial assistance; and

- Those requiring a Federal permit, license, or approval"
36 CFR - 800

Archaeological Institute of America - Long Island Society

Lecture Series at Breslin Hall, Hofstra U.

2:00 PM – Room 215

November 6, 2016 -- Dr. David Lee (AIA) Indep. Researcher

"In Search of the HMS Sylph and Other Shipwrecks in the Waters Off of Long Island"

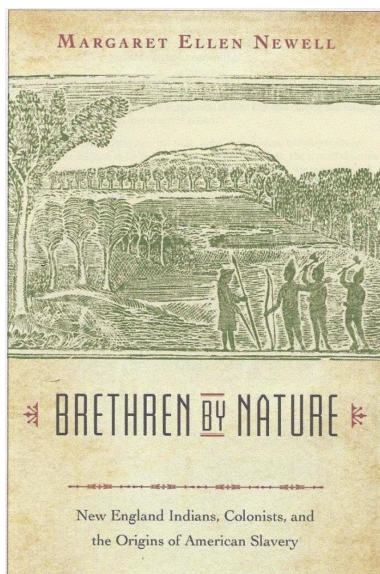
December 4, 2016 – Dr. Jenna Coplin, CUNY Grad Center

"Thinking about 19th century Household Collections on Long Island: Residence and Economic Choice at Rock Hall, Lawrence, N.Y.

February 12, 2017 – Dr. Sonia Harmand, S.B.University

"The Dawn of Technology: 3.3 million year old stone tools from Lake Turkana, Kenya"

New Book on Indian Slavery



Brethren by Nature:

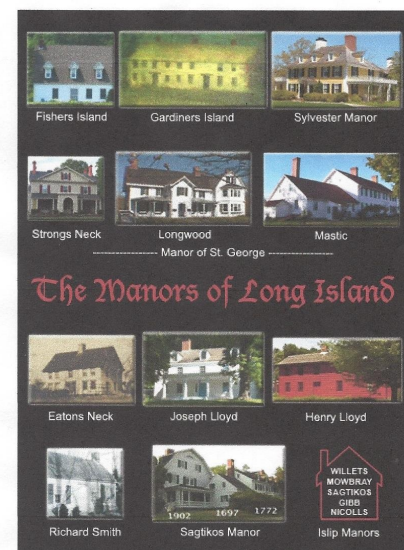
New England Indians, Colonists, and the Origins of American Slavery. U. of North Carolina Press.

Margaret Ellen Newell meticulously researched American Indian Slavery during the Colonial period in New England-- 15 years of research and writing-- after stumbling across a list of American Indian slaves in Massachusetts Bay Colony. She found the

enslavement of the Indigenous Peoples was integral to the very fabric of colonial life. The colonial economy depended on slavery, and the Pequot War and King Philip's war were fought in large measure to perpetuate slavery. The Pequot War of the mid 1630s took place during a time of regional labor shortages. Because they were taken in a "just war" Pequot captives (and some from Long Island) could be enslaved. They could be shipped to the Caribbean, or used as household servants by colonial leaders (such as Cockenoe of Long Island, p.176, *Languages & Lore of the Long Island Indians*, 2d rev. ed., Carl Masthay and Gaynell Stone, Ph.D., editors.)

Indians were also encouraged to bind their children in service to English families and often forced to do so to pay debts and fines. See Philip Wyppensawah, p.429 in *History & Archaeology of the Montauk*. for the Montaukett evidence of this. Of 90 Suffolk County wills probated from 1670 to 1688, 24 listed English, Negro, and Indian servants and slaves. Their value was second only to cattle owned, the highest amount on most probates. Of this 24, 2 or 8% were listed as "Indian captive servant" or "Indian slave girl."

AT LAST!!!



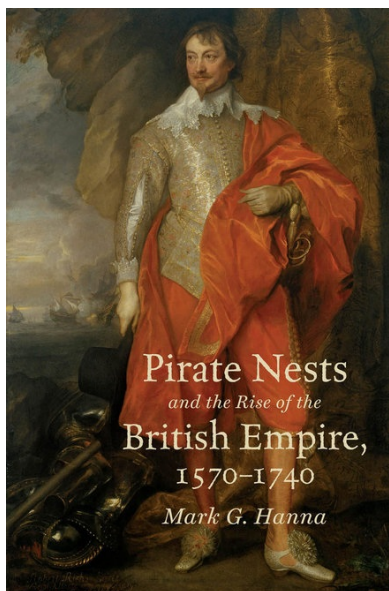
The true unknown story of the Manor of St. George
and Brookhaven Town

A documentary film of the Suffolk County
Archaeological Assn.

Hosted by the Three Village Historical Society

Wednesday, November 2nd at 7 PM

Emma Clark Library



Pirate Nests and the Rise of the British Empire, 1570-1740
Mark G. Hanna, U. Of N. Carolina Press

Mark Hanna analyzes the rise and subsequent fall of international piracy from the perspective of colonial hinterlands and the communities that they serviced. Unregulated privateering flourished because of the merchant elites' active support in the North

American colonies. (See SCAA's upcoming films on *The Manors of Islip Town* and *Gardiner's Island Manor* for evidence of privateering and smuggling on Long Island). This study reveals the full scope of pirates' activities in relation to the communities that they serviced – and their impact on early America and the British Empire.

11th Annual Native American-Archaeology Roundtable
"Early Encounters: Dutch-Indigenous Relations in 17th Century Northeastern North America"
Saturday, October 29, 2016

The Institute for American Indian Studies (IAIS)
38 Curtis Rd., Washington, CT 06793

Speakers include – Paul Gorgen, Bonney Hartley, Dr. Marshall Becker, Dr. Anne-Marie Cantwell, Dr. Diana diZerega-Wall, Dr. Charles Gehring, Richard Manack, Dr. Kevin McBride, Dr. Lucianne Lavin, Moderator.
llavin@iaismuseum.org.

New Educational Web Site

Digging Into the Past: Exploring Connecticut's Deep History Through Archaeological Sites

diggingintothepast.org

Developed by IAIS and others, the site gives detailed information on a sample of the most significant archaeological sites which have been excavated to date, ranging in time from the Paleo-Indian era to the early nineteenth century.

Uconn maintains an online search index of the Cultural Resource Management (CRM) activity in Connecticut at the SHPO, which shares this important measure of professional archaeological reporting in Connecticut.
<http://chpc.lib.ucon.edu/>

New ASC Website: www.CTarchaeologyASC.org

Publications of the Suffolk County Archaeological Association

Readings in Long Island Archaeology & Ethnohistory
All volumes are \$40. + \$5. Shipping, except Vol. III, 2d ed., which is \$75. + \$8. Shipping, both plus 8.625% sales tax in N.Y. State for individuals. Vol. I is out of print.

- I *Early Paper in Long Island Archaeology*
- II *The Coastal Archaeology Reader*
- III *History & Archaeology of the Montauk, 2d ed.*
- IV *Languages & Lore of the Long Island Indians*
- V *The Second Coastal Archaeology Reader*
- VI *The Shinnecock Indians: A Culture History*
- VII *The Historical Archaeology of L.I.: Part 1 - The Sites*
- VIII *The Native Forts of L.I. Sound*
- DVD - *The Sugar Connection: Holland, Barbados, Shelter Island* - 2 hrs. \$50. + \$4.31 tax + \$6. Shipping = \$60.31

Student Series (Including shipping)

Booklet: *A Way of Life: Prehistoric Natives of L.I.* \$6.
Study Pictures: *Coastal Native Americans* 8.
Wall Chart: *Native Technology* (26x39"-3 colors) 14.
Map: *Native Long Island* (26x39"-3 colors) 14.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership in SCAA includes 3 Newsletters per year and a 10% reduction in workshop and publication costs. All contributions are tax deductible.

Student (to 18)	\$15.	Individual	\$25.
Family	35.	Sustaining	50.
Contributing	100.	Patron	100.
Life Member	400.		

Date:.....

Name:.....

Address:.....

City/State/Zip:.....

Phone No.

Willing to volunteer?

Occupation:

Send check to: Suffolk County Archaeological Association,
P.O. Box 1542, Stony Brook, NY 11790 - Tel: 631-929-8725

Programs of the S.C. Archaeological Association are funded in part by public monies from the New York State Council on the Arts - Decentralization, the Suffolk County Office of Cultural Affairs, The Phillips Foundation, The Gerry Charitable Trust, JP Morgan Chase, RDL Gardner Foundation, Virginia Barath, Harriet Gampier, Margaret and Stanley Wisniewski, and County and State Legislators, especially Steve Englebright.

Douglas DeRenzo, President; Dave Thompson, Vice-President; Tom Hicks, Vice-President, Elena Eritta, VP Marine Archeology; Allison McGovern, Corresponding Sec.; Gaynell Stone, Phd., Recording Sec.; Randi Vogt, Treasurer.

WEB address: www.scaa-ny.org - scarchaeology@gmail.com