

Upcoming Lecture uses Local Archeology to Examine Slavery in the North

South Berwick, Maine- On Thursday, September 27, Dr. Alexandra Chan will examine the role of material culture, architecture, and landscape in complementing and enhancing traditional documentary histories about what it was like to be black and enslaved in colonial New England. The lecture is hosted by the Old Berwick Historical Society, and begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Arts Center at Berwick Academy in South Berwick. Admission is free and open to the public. Donations are gratefully accepted.

Chan's lecture, "Archaeology and Slavery in the North: Hands-on History Written in Stone and Bone," will present some of the most compelling findings from three years of excavation at the Royall House and Slave Quarters in Medford, MA, home to the largest slave-holding family in the colony. She will also examine the nature of master-slave relationships at this site.

Chan holds a Ph.D. in Historical Archaeology from Boston University. She is currently a principal investigator for Monadnock Archaeological Consulting, LLC, as well as the Academic Advisory Council Member for the Royall House and Slave Quarters. She has also been a Visiting Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Vassar College.

The Counting House Museum, which currently features the exhibit "Forgotten Frontier: Untold Stories of the Piscataqua," will be open through the end of October on Saturdays and Sundays from 1pm-4pm. The Old Berwick Historical Society's 2018 lectures and hikes are generously sponsored by Kennebunk Savings and supported by historical society members and donors. More information is available at www.oldberwick.org.