

MUSEUM PIECES

The Newsletter of The Peace Dale Museum of Art and Culture

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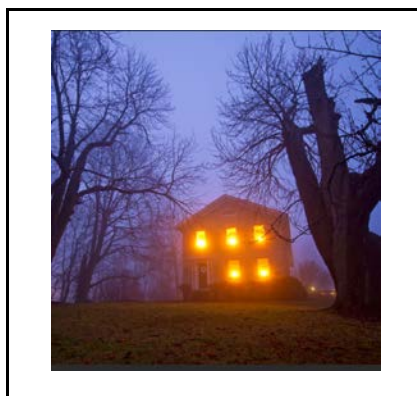
Tales Both Tall and True

One night many years ago, a man traveling by carriage through northern Massachusetts was caught in a blinding snowstorm. Suddenly, the man and his driver saw a light in the distance. Traveling further, they came upon an imposing mansion, brightly lit as if for a party. The man knocked on the door, and it was opened by a beautiful woman in an emerald-green gown.

The woman invited the man to stay until the storm cleared. She served the traveler and his driver a hearty meal. Afterward, the traveler was shown to an elegantly-furnished bed chamber, and the driver was accommodated in a cozy room above the stable. As they were both exhausted from their journey through the storm, each quickly fell into a deep sleep.

The next morning when the traveler awoke, he was shocked at what he saw. Instead of the elegant bedroom to which he had been escorted the previous evening, he found himself in a dusty room full of cobwebs, threadbare furniture, and tattered curtains. His driver awoke to find he had slept on a pile of old hay in an abandoned barn.

The traveler and his driver left



**Thursday
October 24
at 7:00 P.M.**

quickly. At the first town they reached, they asked about the mansion and its beautiful hostess. "We knew that woman you saw," they were told, "but she died many years ago."

Who was that beautiful woman? Where was that mysterious mansion?

On October 24, you will hear the sad tale of the beautiful woman in the emerald-green dress and other

spine-tingling stories when historian Robert A. Geake tells us about Tales Both Tall and True.

Stories about strange or unexplained occurrences often appeared in 19th century New England newspapers, sometimes tailored for a reading public eager for stories of the supernatural. Such stories were reprinted and expanded upon by other newspapers, and in at least one case, serialized so that the story took on a life of its own, with bizarre episode after bizarre episode being added to the original tale. Mr. Geake will explore the fascination early New Englanders had with death and the afterlife, and reveal which astonishing tales were true and which were fictionalized for an enthralled reading public.

Mr. Geake is the author of fourteen books about Rhode Island and New England history. He served two terms as president of the Cocumscussoc Association, which maintains Smith's Castle in North Kingstown, and serves on the advisory board of the Rhode Island Slave History Medallion project. The program will take place in our Museum Gallery and will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel.



Dale Carlia Corners in Times Gone By

Once upon a time not so very long ago, there was a small dairy farm at Dale Carlia Corners. The house on the farm, called Twin Chimneys, was ancient—so old that nobody knew exactly when it was built. It stood by itself, on a gentle rise, with no neighbors close by, for decades. In 1818, when it was already more than one hundred years old, Rowland Hazard bought it. Later, it was occupied by his unmarried daughters Eliza, Isabella, Mary, and Anna. An 1870 map of South Kingstown identifies it as the home of the “Misses Hazard.” In 1895, the house, also known as Dalecarlia House, was the only house in the more-than-fifteen-acre parcel bordered by Kingstown Road, School Street, Oak Street (then called Meadow Street), and Main Street.

When George A. Holley and his wife Lillian moved into Twin Chimneys in 1913, it had been unoccupied for many years. The Holley family undertook extensive renovations, bringing the old



**Thursday,
November 21
at 7:00 p.m.**

house back to life. By 1935, when the dairy was in full operation, there were two barns on the property, one to the west of the house and a larger one with two silos to the north of the house.

George Holley’s granddaughter Audrey married Roscoe Hosley in 1946, and they moved into Twin Chimneys. Audrey and Roscoe’s three eldest daughters—Wendy, Cynthia, and Priscilla—have vivid memories of their childhood years on the farm.

Twin Chimneys is gone now. The place where the house and barns used to stand is now the site of Job Lot and the connected buildings to the south of it. Members of the Holley family once owned a substantial portion of Dale Carlia Corners, but the only trace of the family to be found there now is Holley Street.

Some South County residents remember Twin Chimneys, the Holley Ice and Transportation Co., and other buildings at Dale Carlia Corners that are no longer standing. But for those who do not, the three sisters can show you what it looked like, because Audrey Holley Hosley, their late mother, was an assiduous collector of family history, including photographs.

On Thursday, November 21, Wendy Hosley, Cynthia Hosley, and Priscilla Archambault will share their photographs and their memories of Dale Carlia Corners in times gone by. The program will take place in the Museum Gallery at 7:00 p.m.

Our Fall 2024 Lecture Series will take place in our Museum Gallery. The programs also will be live-streamed so our members and friends will be able to watch the programs live on a computer or other device. To watch, go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQZtR6kJyDMO1v0AKQoYrHA>

The Peace Dale Museum of Art and Culture

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The World Under Our Feet

Millions of years ago, when the earth was still forming, two giant land masses crashed into each other. After they collided, the edges folded, creating the Appalachian Mountain chain. In the place that millions of years later would become Rhode Island, one of the land masses slid on top of part of the other one. As a result, Rhode Island is made up of two distinct geological regions—the western part is made of igneous and metamorphic bedrock, while the eastern part is made of sedimentary bedrock.

In the western part of the state, there are pockets of minerals. Bowenite is found in Lincoln, amethyst quartz is found in Hopkinton and Burrillville, and Cumberlandite is found only in Cumberland. Plant fossils, as well as coal, can be found in the eastern part of the state.

If you want to learn more about the minerals and fossils that might be under your feet, please join us on Thursday, October 10, when we will hear from three people who are passionate about minerals and fossils. Our speakers will bring samples for you to see or buy.

Lou Fazzino is the owner of Apple Valley Minerals in Smithfield. His educational background is in computer technology, but his real love is digging up, showing, collecting, and selling minerals, crystals, and unusual stones. The Rhode Island Mineral Hunters Club meets in his shop.

Steve Emma, specialist in paleobotany, has been collecting carboniferous fossils in Rhode Island and Massachusetts for more than fifteen years. He has a degree in natural resources from URI, and is the co-author of an academic paper on leaf miner insect damage found on a fossilized fern.

Will Nawrocki is a retired molecular biologist. His undergraduate degree is from Harvard and his graduate degree is from the University of Oregon. His career was in developmental biology and human genomics, but he has a passion for local geology and paleontology.

The program will take place in our Museum Gallery and it also will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel.

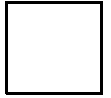
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10 at 7:00 p.m.



A fern fossil from Cranston



Cumberlandite (upper left), amethyst crystal (upper right) and Bowenite



OLLI Visits the Museum



Mary Brown, our Museum Educator, led a tour of the Museum Gallery and Julie Wardwell, our Office Administrator, led a tour of historic sites in Peace Dale on Wednesday, September 18, 2024 for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at URI. Eleven people participated in the program, called "The Hazard Family Legacy to Peace Dale Village."