Today's event focuses on West Jersey, the portion of our State granted to Lord Berkeley and resold to a group of Quakers, including William Penn who determined distribution of shares, land purchases and its constitution, the Concessions and Agreements. West Jersey was the area south of a diagonal line from Little Egg Harbor, Ocean County to the northwest corner of Walpack Township in Sussex County.

In 1675, John Fenwick, a former English civil war captain-turned-Quaker, was granted a 1/10th share of West Jersey. Prior to the completion of the West Jersey Proprietorship, Fenwick convinced a number

of Quaker households to sell their properties in England and begin new lives, far distant from Britain's oppression, in a town he named Salem, where he promised peace, religious independence and prosperity. South Jersey was new to English settlement, but was already home to Swedes and Finns who had been



living in the area for more than a generation. Fenwick renewed treaties with the Lenni Lenape near the towering Salem Oak tree, already a landmark that would become a symbol of his town and be protected as part of the Quaker Meeting Burial Ground.

Two years ago, before it fell, acorns from this iconic white oak were collected by Joseph Bennett to be shared with other parts of New Jersey. The planting of its seedling at Lower Walpack Cemetery will be a continuation of watching over the graves of other West Jersey settlers who lived their lives here and contributed to what would become America's State of New Jersey.

Erik L. Burro

PROGRAM

Don Stieh, PresidentWalpack Historical Society

Jen Wycalek, CommitteewomanTownship of Walpack

Dan Tassey Event Organizer

Bill TruranSussex County Historian

The Honorable Steven V. Oroho
NJ State Senator

Vincent Mann, Chief Lenni Lenape Turtle Clan

John Fenwick

Founder of Salem 1675 West Jersey Proprietorship Erik Burro, Historian

Madison Johnson, Volunteer Lower Walpack Cemetery

Comments and Questions

Sharon Spangenberg Cemetery Guided Tour



For those interested, a tour of the Van Campen Inn and hike to the Great Council Tree, will follow today's program.



Salem Oak Scion's New Home

The Lower Walpack Cemetery is the final resting place of many frontiersmen who settled here in what was once an untamed wilderness. Imagine the hardships they suffered and what they accomplished with their hard work. To remember them in their resting place is to show respect for our ancestors and what they accomplished for future generations.

Although it is not known when the first burial occurred, what can be proven is that on February 1, 1737, Thomas Brink and



his brother-in-law, Nicholas Schoonhoven granted about four acres of land to the inhabitants of Walpack. This property began at the northwest corner of the burying yard, which suggests that this cemetery was already in existence when the land was granted.

In anticipation of the Tocks Island Dam, in 1964, the Federal Government began acquiring nearly all the land in this township. Currently, there are 13 residing in Walpack; some are here today.

After discussion with Walpack's town council, it was agreed that the Salem Oak seedling would be planted within the bounds of this ancient cemetery. As this white oak grows, it will have ample space in the cemetery's open field to spread its branches and eventually stand guard over the final resting place of nearly 350 former inhabitants of Walpack.

INVITED GUESTS

State of New Jersey
Steven V. Oroho, Senator
Parker Space, Assemblyman

Joseph Bennett DEP Assistant Regional Forester

Frank Hennion
Inspecting Forester, Retired

School of Conservation Kerry Kirk Pflugh, President Shayne Russell, Vice President

County of Sussex
Jon Connolly, President
Community College

William Truran, Historian

Wayne McCabe, President Historical Society

Delaware Water Gap
National Recreational Area
Sula Jacobs, Superintendent
Jennifer Palmer, Archaeologist
Jennifer Kavanaugh, Partnership and
Volunteer Coordinator

Marie Liu, 2015/2016 Resident Artist

Lenni Lenape Turtle Clan Vincent Mann, Chief Michaeline Picaro

Township of Walpack Victor Maglio, Mayor Jimmy Heigis, Committeeman Jen Wycalek, Committeewoman

Pennjerdel House

Public History Advocate
Erik L. Burro 856-313-7860
pennjerdel@mac.com

PROGRAMS EXHIBITS TOUR HOST EVENTS

Commemoration – John Fenwick

Walpack Historical Society Trustees and Members

Don and Ruth Stieh Jen Wycalek Tom Ciccarelli **Bob Brandt** Chris Cunningham Dan Curtis Dave Hayes Tom Dust Lori Reich Arne Englund Jeff Stoveken Ernest Hemschot Allyson Schwab Mike Orolowski Audrey and Bill Schwab Joanne Wirths

Lower Walpack Cemetery Volunteers

Madison Johnson Mark Miller

Sharon and Hixon Spangenberg

Eugene Rosenkrans Jeff Stoveken Dan Tassey Bob Williams

Walpack Township Residents

Ken and Julia Bechtold Glenn Fuller Kelly and Chris Happe Tom Luciano

Ken Salazar

WALPACK

historical society

Special thanks to The Trustees, Supporters and Members of Walpack Historical Society The Lower Walpack Cemetery Volunteers Erik L. Burro. Event Planner Invitation design by Tom Dust

For more information on New Jersey's Big and Heritage Tree Program visit, https://tinyurl.com/SalemOakTree

To learn more about the Walpack Historical Society, or to become a member, visit our website WalpackHistory.org, and join us on Facebook and Instagram, or contact us at 973-948-4903.

Salem White Oak Seedling Planting Ceremony



WALPACK Historical Society

October 23, 2021

Lower Walpack Cemetery on the picturesque bend of the Delaware River 18 Old Mine Road, Walpack