



Past Times

Published by The Little Compton Historical Society ~ Summer 2026

Exhibit Preview Party & Book Launch—July 3



Visit our New Special Exhibit

Join us at the Exhibit Preview Party, July 3, (pg. 6) and Family Day, July 4 (pg. 7) to celebrate the opening of our newest special exhibit, “Revolutionary Little Compton.” This outdoor exhibit explores the Revolutionary War in Little Compton through the eyes, and in the words, of the men and women who experienced it. Curated by Steven Lubar, LCHS President of the Board of Directors and the George L. Littlefield Professor of American History emeritus at Brown University, the exhibit uses testimonies preserved in veterans’ and their widows’ pension applications, along with newspapers, military reports, and other primary sources, to remember and share the surprising and often harrowing histories of Little Compton’s Liberty Men and Women.

Book

A book, *Remembering the Revolution: Little Compton, Rhode Island*, will be available in late summer. (pg. 10)

Free & Open to the Public at LCHS & Other Locations

This outdoor exhibit is free to the public, sunrise to sunset, from July 4 through October 12. Forty banners will hang on the Historical Society grounds and others will be placed at sites important to Little Compton’s revolutionary history, including the Quaker Meeting House and the town Commons. Beginning in July, these stories will also be available on our Bloomberg Connects Digital Guide. (pg. 3.)

RECONNECTIONS

A NEW HISTORY OF THE
SAKONNET WAMPANOAG PEOPLE

Book Launch

The Preview Party will also celebrate the publication of the second volume in the *Reconnections* series, and several of the authors will be present to sign your copy!

A New History of the Sakonnet Wampanoag People

Written by a team of five authors including two local historians, a history and public humanities professor, a Wampanoag educator, and an archaeologist, *Reconnections: A New History of the Sakonnet Wampanoag People* is a local history that focuses on Sakonnet and the Indigenous people who have lived here for 13,000 years. Based on primary source research, archaeological evidence, and Wampanoag traditions, the book shares the history of the Sakonnet Wampanoag people from the time of the last ice age to the present day in an accurate and respectful way. It is the companion book to *Reconnections: Essays and Artwork by Wampanoag & Narragansett Knowledge Keepers* which was published in 2025. Both books are part of the Historical Society’s Sakonnet History Project.

Available July 3 & 4

Guests at the Preview Party will be able to purchase their copies that evening. Beginning July 4, both *Reconnections* books will be available in our museum shop, online at www.littlecompton.org, and at a variety of local retailers. We will also have a booth at the Congregational Church Fair on July 11.

Join Us!

Exhibit Preview Party
Family Day

Native-Led Tours of Awashonks’ Garden

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Annual Meeting

Tavern Night

A Visit From the First RI Regiment

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Little Compton

Historical Society

&

Wilbor House Museum

548 West Main Road

PO Box 577

Little Compton, RI 02837

(401) 635-4035

lchistory@littlecompton.org

www.littlecompton.org

WANTED AS GIFTS OR LOANS!

Antique Items with Little Compton Histories

For possible inclusion in our permanent collection. The Collections Committee will review each item.

Obituaries, Funeral and Memorial Service Programs, Copies of Eulogies

Help us document the lives of our residents by sharing information about your loved ones with us.

Revolutionary War Histories

For our website and archives. Send them to
lchistory@littlecompton.org

Paid Weekend Positions Available

Share your love of Little Compton history with visitors to the Wilbor House Museum!

Docents deliver a scripted tour with enthusiasm and accuracy.

Throughout the tour, docents engage visitors of all ages and backgrounds in the inquiry of historical places and objects, helping them to understand why we know what we know.

Receptionists welcome visitors, give directions to buildings on our campus, and handle sales for the museum shop.

Call 401-635-4035 or
programs@littlecompton.org

Successful candidates should expect to work
1-2 shifts per week,
Saturday and Sunday, 10 AM-5 PM.

Corporate Members

Local businesses play an important role in the preservation and presentation of Little Compton's history. Additional Corporate Members are always welcome. Please call 635-4035 or complete the membership form on page 12.

SEASON SPONSORS

BayCoast Bank

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Treaty Rock Farm

EVENT SPONSORS

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Sayles Livingston Home

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Wishing Stone Farm

**Order your tickets
for our Exhibit
Preview Party
now at
littlecompton.org!**

**For more
information and
other ticket
purchasing
options,
see page 6.**

Visit Us!

Last Admission 4:30 PM

Outdoor Exhibits

Open every day from sunrise to sunset.

Free and open to the public.

- Revolutionary Little Compton
- Awashonks' Garden
- Colonial Herb Garden

Indoor Exhibits & Wilbor House Tours

\$10 Adults, \$5 Children 13 and up

Free to LCHS Members

Free to Members of Native Communities

Self-Guided Exhibits

- Sakonnet Belongings
- Everyone Was a Farmer
- Terra-Nova, Vida Nova

June–October: Tuesday–Sunday, 10 AM to 5 PM

November–May: Tuesday–Friday, 10 AM to 5 PM

Wilbor House Tours

June: Saturday–Sunday, 10 AM to 5 PM

July–October: Thursday–Sunday, 10 AM to 5 PM

Or Private Tours by Appointment Year Round



Download our Digital Guide!

We are pleased to partner with Bloomberg Connects to present a free digital guide. We will continue to add new material, including tours of *Awashonks' Garden* and *Sakonnet Belongings*.

Bloomberg Connects is a free smartphone app that makes it easy to access and engage with arts and culture from hundreds of museums and cultural institutions on mobile devices, anytime, anywhere.

**Bloomberg
Connects**



★ ★ ★ ★ ★
REVOLUTIONARY
★ ★ ★ ★ ★
LITTLE COMPTON

Thank You Sponsors!



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CHARITIES TRUST

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Juneteenth Pop~Up Exhibit

Stories of Enslavement, Indenture, and Freedom in Little Compton

At the Little Compton Historical Society

June 19–21, 10 AM–5 PM

Admission to this exhibit is free in honor of Juneteenth.

Originally a special exhibition presented in 2016, *If Jane Should Want to Be Sold: Stories of Enslavement, Indenture, and Freedom in Little Compton, Rhode Island* will be displayed in Peaked Top Schoolhouse.



US History Trivia Night

At the Little Compton Community Center

July 9, Doors open at 5:30 PM

\$8 Members, \$10 Non-Members

Member pricing applies to members of either the LCCC or LCHS.

Celebrate America's 250th Birthday with a Night of U.S. History Trivia! Join the Little Compton Community Center and the Little Compton Historical Society for an evening of friendly competition, local pride, and all things American history! Hosted by local historian Marjory O'Toole and LCCC representative Chris Clark, this special trivia night will test your knowledge of the people, moments, and milestones that shaped our nation over the last 250 years.

House History Workshops

At the Little Compton Town Hall

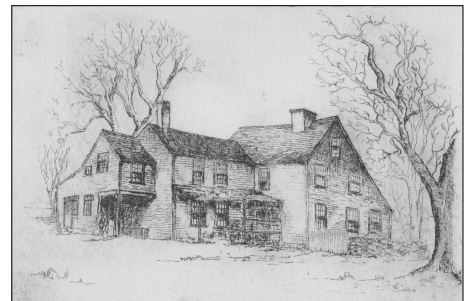
July 17 or August 7

1-4 PM

Facilitated by Marjory O'Toole

Register at 401-635-4035

\$25 LCHS Members, \$40 Non-Members



Amasa Gray House. LCHS Collection.

Learn how to use local land evidence, probate, tax, and other records to research the history of your home. LCHS Executive Director Marjory O'Toole will lead this hands-on workshop demonstrating successful research techniques for Little Compton properties. Come with an address in mind. Group size is limited to eight to ensure each participant receives personalized instruction. This workshop is for Little Compton residents only.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **REVOLUTIONARY** Lecture Series ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ LITTLE COMPTON

Free & Open to All

RI Quakers in the War of Independence

Tuesday, July 14 6 PM

Betsy Cazden, Quaker Historian

Friends Meeting House, 232 West Main Road

Almost from their founding, Quakers refused to participate in military activities. The War of Independence challenged their position of conscience in Rhode Island and forced hard decisions. Learn how the Quaker community coped with the War of Independence, and with changes to civilian life due to the British occupation and disruptions to maritime trade.



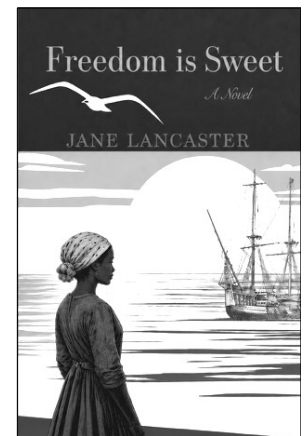
Black Loyalists in Newport, Talk & Book Signing

Thursday, September 10 7 PM

Jane Lancaster, Historian

Little Compton Community Center

Historian Jane Lancaster has released her first novel based on the true experiences of Black Loyalists in Newport, Rhode Island. Jane's talk on both her novel and the history that inspired it will be followed by a book signing.



Historical Book Club

At the Brownell Library

4-5 PM

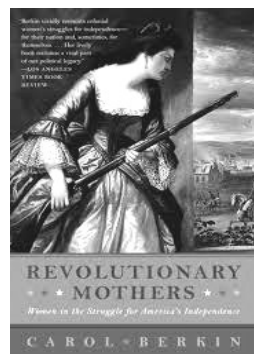
Facilitated by Grace Leary

Free and Open to All

Join our monthly discussions under the pavilion. All are welcome, and we encourage you to stop by even if you have not finished the book.

June 24

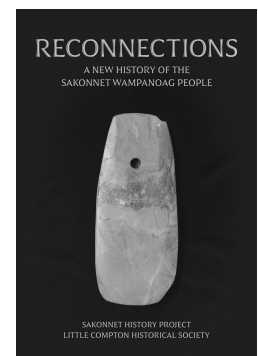
Revolutionary Mothers
by Carol Berkin



July 22

*Reconnections:
A New History of
the Sakonnet
Wampanoag People*

Discuss the Historical
Society's latest book with
some of its authors!



Opening

THE 2026 EXHIBIT PREVIEW PARTY

*Celebrating
The Opening of A New Special Exhibit*



The Publication of
RECONNECTIONS
A NEW HISTORY OF THE
SAKONNET WAMPANOAG PEOPLE



Light Supper by Sakonnet Events
Complimentary Wine, Beer & Soft Drinks

Friday, July 3, 2026
6-8 PM
Little Compton Historical Society

RSVP by June 26

2026 EXHIBIT PREVIEW PARTY

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

_____ Tickets at \$50 per person

ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIP

_____ \$100

_____ \$250

_____ \$500

_____ \$1,000

*Please send card and your payment to LCHS, PO Box 577, Little Compton, RI 02837,
or call 401-635-4035, or purchase your tickets at www.littlecompton.org*

Weekend

FAMILY DAY

 Saturday, July 4, 2026 Free and
Noon-4 PM Open to the Public

*Celebrating
The Opening of A New Special Exhibit*

 **REVOLUTIONARY**
LITTLE COMPTON



The Publication of

RECONNECTIONS

A NEW HISTORY OF THE
SAKONNET WAMPANOAG PEOPLE



TROPHIES FOR
THE BEST:
SKILLET THROW
SEED SPITTING
PIE EATING

FREE Admission
Special Exhibition
Wilbor House Tours
Refreshments
Crafts and activities for all ages
Contests for kids & adults



Little Compton Historical Society

ANNUAL MEETING

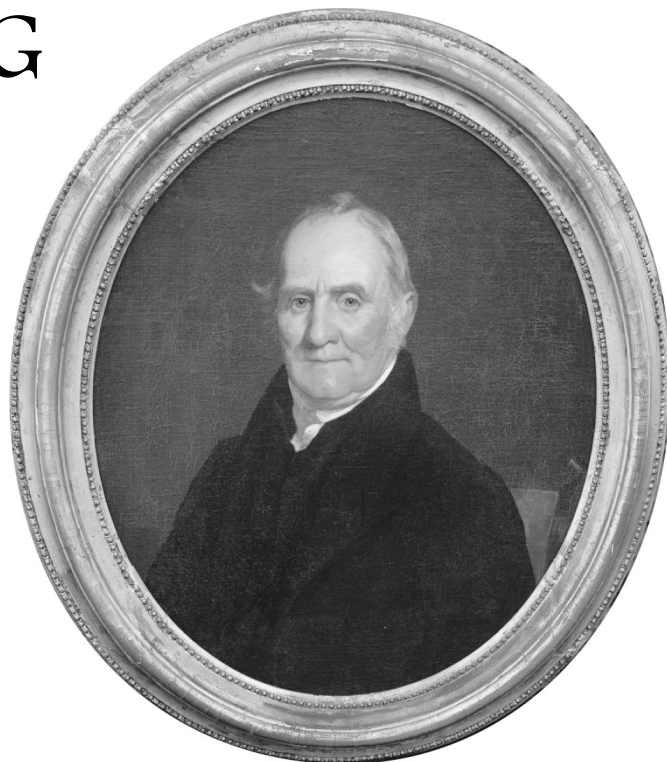
Wednesday, August 12
United Congregational Church
Free & Open to the Public

7:00 PM Business Meeting

7:15 PM **Revolutionary
Little Compton:
History in their
Own Words**

A presentation of the experiences
of Little Compton residents during
the Revolution.

8:00 PM Reception &
Book Sales and Signing



Sylvester Brownell is just one of many Little Compton residents whose memories of the Revolution will be shared in his own words.

Native-Led Tours: Awashonks' Garden

Join members of the Wampanoag community for one-hour guided tours of Awashonks' Garden.

Reservations Highly Recommended
Call 401-635-4035

July 11

August 18

September 19

October 3

11 AM

All ages welcome.

Free to LCHS Members.
Free to Members of Native Communities.
General Public—Included in the cost of
LCHS Admission.



Photograph by Rich Castenson.



Invite You to a

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ *REVOLUTIONARY* Tavern Night ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ LITTLE COMPTON

Historical Society Grounds
548 West Main Road

Friday, July 24 5-8 PM

All Ages Welcome—Free Admission

Food & Drink Available to Purchase

Colonial-Era Beverages

Tavern Games—Colonial Crafts

Music

Explore the Revolutionary Little Compton Exhibit & Awashonks' Garden

Revolutionary Dress Encouraged—Prizes for Best Outfits

Bring a Lawn Chair

A Visit from the First RI Regiment

Sunday, August 30

10 AM - 2 PM

Free & Open to All

Learn about the Little Compton men of color who joined the First Rhode Island Regiment and meet reenactors who will bring their stories and experiences to life.

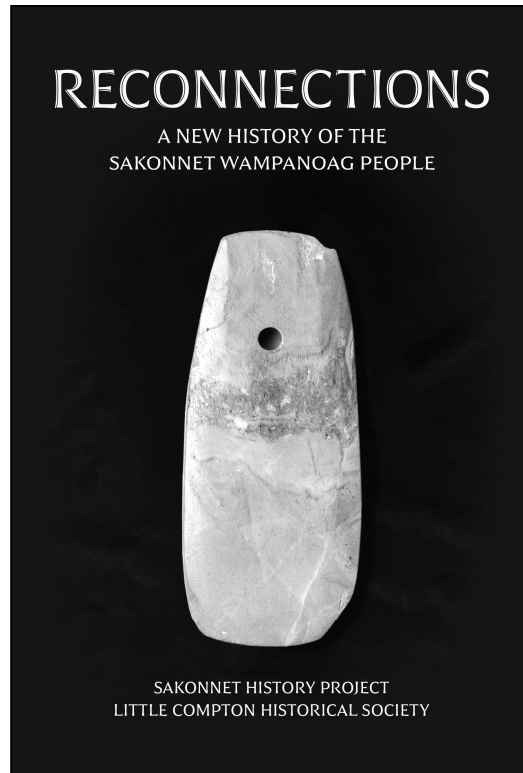
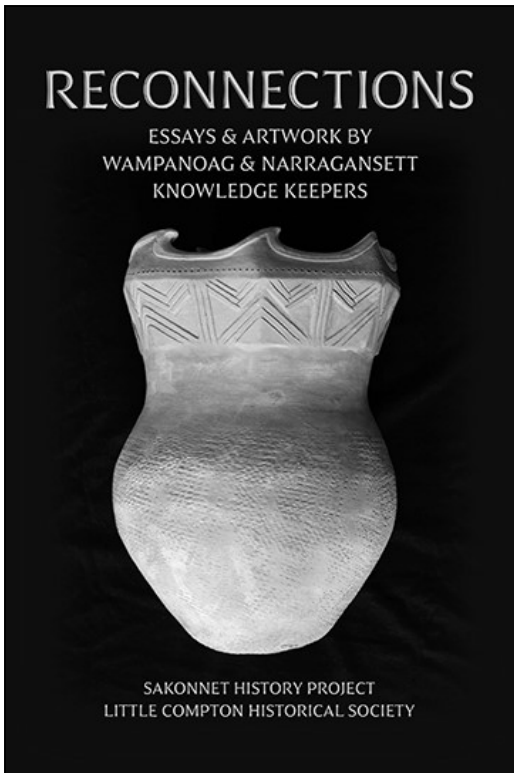
Activities for All Ages

Refreshments

Free Exhibits & House Tours

LCHS' 89th Birthday Celebration





ON
SALE
July 4!

The second volume in the *Reconnections* series will be available beginning July 4! It shares the history of the Sakonnet Wampanoag people from the time of the last ice age to the present day. Authored by: Melinda W. Green, Brad Lopes, Steven Lubar, Marjory O'Toole, and Kevin P. Smith.

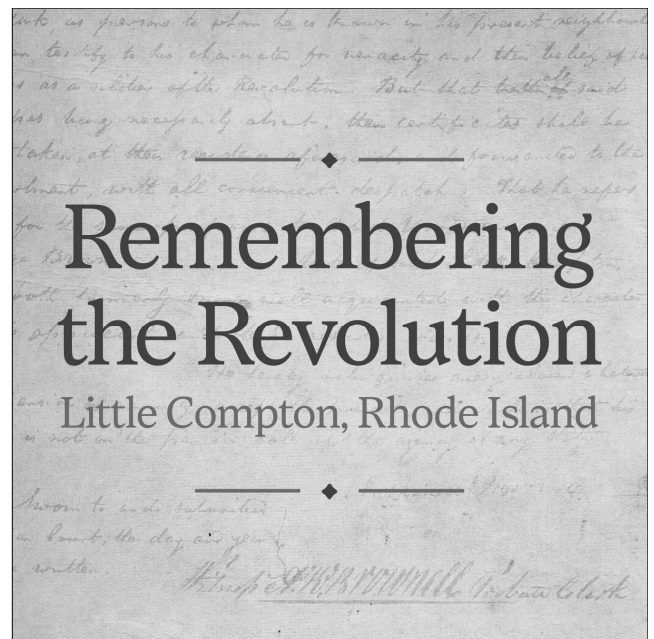
\$20 LCHS Members
\$25 General Public

Purchase your copy in our museum shop or online at www.littlecompton.org.

Coming Soon!

Researched and written by LCHS Board President Steven Lubar, this new book shares the experiences of Little Compton's Revolutionary-era residents in their own words.

Look for an announcement in mid-August!



Wampanoag Experience Powwow



October 17th 2026

Gates Open 10am

Led by Annawon Weeden & Host Committee

Hosted at
Round the Bend Farm
92 Allens Neck Rd.
S. Dartmouth, MA 02748



Tickets \$5

Native Vendors,
Demos &
Performers



Lead Sponsor



LITTLE COMPTON
HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Volunteers Wanted!
For more information reach out to:
info@roundthebendfarm.org



LCHS Membership

- Event Sponsor \$250 & up
- Program Sponsor \$150
- Supporting \$100
- Corporate \$75
- Contributing \$50
- Family \$30
- Individual \$20
- My Company will match my membership or gift. Completed matching form enclosed.

Please make checks payable to:

Little Compton Historical Society
PO Box 577, Little Compton, RI 02837

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership

With Benefits from Coast to Coast

Join or Renew Today!

LCHS participates in the
Time Travelers

reciprocal membership program.



Your Historical Society membership card provides you with **FREE or Discounted Admission to 250 historic sites all across the country!**

For a complete list of participating sites log onto
timetravelers.mohistory.org
or call LCHS at 635-4035.

As always you'll enjoy local membership benefits including free admission to the Wilbor House and our special exhibitions, invitations to special events and advance registration for our most popular programs. Most importantly, your membership gift helps preserve Little Compton's rich history for generations.

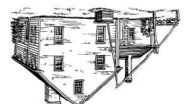
Postal Customer

Enjoy our revolutionary outdoor exhibit,
programs, and events all summer long!

REVOLUTIONARY
LITTLE COMPTON

Return Service Requested

The Little Compton Historical Society
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Little Compton, RI 02837-0577



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