Invitation to Collectors

Have you collected Native American artifacts you found anywhere on Cape Ann (Gloucester, Rockport, Essex, Manchester-by-the-Sea)? Would you like to know what they are, how old they are, who made them, and how they were used? Would you like others to see them, and to see what others have found? Would you like to talk to archaeologists about your collection and learn more about the archaeology and Indigenous history of Cape Ann?

The Manchester Historical Museum (on April 30, 2022) and the Sandy Bay Historical Society (on June 25, 2022) are hosting "Bring Your Own Artifacts" events for collectors in connection with programs by avocational and professional archaeologists for the public. The Sandy Bay Historical Society and Manchester Museum will also have exhibitions of their own artifact collections.

To participate, here is what to do:

1. Register
Register your intentions to bring your collection to either or both "Bring Your Own Artifacts" events. Register via email at the following addresses:

Manchester Historical Museum (for April 30 between 10am and 1pm):
info@manchesterhistoricalmuseum.org

Sandy Bay Historical Society (for June 25 between 10am and 1pm):
info@rockporthistory.org

Registration Information:

- Your name and contact information.
- A list or inventory of the number and kinds of items you will be bringing.
- A general description of when and where you found each piece.
  (For example, maybe you found it on a beach in the Lanesville area, on a trail in the Manchester-Essex Woods, along Sawmill Brook in Rockport, in your backyard in Annisquam, etc., or perhaps it was collected locally by a friend or relative or ancestor of yours and passed on to you)

If you have more than 10 objects and would like assistance in choosing what ones to bring, contact Mary Ellen Lepionka, melepionka@comcast.net, 978-491-1017.

2. Bring Your Artifacts
On the specified date(s), bring your collection to show--a selection of up to ten artifacts--to the Manchester Historical Museum and/or the Sandy Bay Historical Society. Other collectors and experts will be present to see and talk about your finds, which may be photo-documented for the record.

Manchester Historical Museum
Bring Your Own Artifacts Event: Saturday, April 30 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
10 Union Street, Manchester by The Sea, MA 01944

Sandy Bay Historical Society and Museums
Bring Your Own Artifacts Event: Saturday, June 25 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm
40 King Street, Rockport, MA 01966

3. Attend other events planned for this program, which involves a collaboration of historical institutions presenting programs and displays on the Indigenous History of Cape Ann:

Manchester Historical Museum
Exhibition of Indigenous Artifacts Found in Manchester and around Cape Ann
On view Tuesday – Fridays, 10:00 – 3:00 pm
April 30 – June 10, 2022

Slide lecture:
Indigenous Presence in Manchester with Mary Ellen Lepionka
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm
at Sacred Heart Parish Hall, School Street, Manchester By The Sea
Free for MHM Members, $10 for guests

Sandy Bay Historical Society
Exhibition of Indigenous Artifacts Found in Rockport and around Cape Ann
On view Tuesday, Friday, & Saturday from 2:00 – 5:00 pm
June 25 - July 31, 2022

Slide lecture:
Indigenous Peoples of Sandy Bay with Mary Ellen Lepionka
Saturday, July 28, 2022 at 7:00 pm
at Spiran Hall, 18 Broadway, Rockport, MA
[insert cost information]

Cape Ann Museum
Indigenous Artifacts from Cape Ann
expanded display on view starting April 16, 2022
On view Tuesday – Saturday, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm and Sunday, 1:00 – 4:00 pm
Downtown Campus, 27 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA 01930
The display will also include selections from the Annisquam Historical Society.

CAMTalks: Indigenous Perspectives on Archaeology
Presented with the Massachusetts Archaeological Society
Saturday, April 16, 2022 at 1:00 pm
Downtown Campus, 27 Pleasant Street, Gloucester, MA 01930

Free for CAM and MAS members, $10 for non-members
Livestreamed on Facebook and Vimeo

With Linda Coombs, author and historian from the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah); David Weeden, Tribal Councilman for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe and Director of the Tribal Historic Preservation Office; Eric Lott, archaeologist and Board Member of the Massachusetts Archaeological Society at the Robbins Museum of Archaeology.