

This year's New Sweden History Conference will explore the migration of Swedish colonists from the original landing point of Wilmington, Delaware, to the greater Delaware Valley and east coast region. Through material culture and the science of DNA, speakers will examine how members of the New Sweden Colony and subsequent generations were able to maintain their sense of culture and community while assimilating into the shifting political power structures around them. Evidence of cultural preservation will be traced through language records, personal case studies, use of mapping systems to locate Swedish settlements, and DNA evidence supporting records of Swedish diaspora from the original colony.



Sponsored by the
New Sweden Alliance.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

American Swedish Historical Museum, The Swedish Colonial Society, Delaware Swedish Colonial Society, Kalmar Nyckel Foundation, Old Swedes Historic Site, The McNeil Center for Early American Studies, The New Sweden Centre, Trinity Episcopal (Old Swedes) Church, Swedesboro, NJ.

SCHEDULE

- 8:30 AM **Registration Opens**
Breakfast Available
- 9:30 AM **Welcome Address**
- 9:45 AM **Brian Crane:** *Language, Church, Material Culture and Identity among 18th Century Swedish Descendent Communities in the Delaware Valley Region*
- 10:30 AM **Sean Moir:** *Discovering New Sweden*
- 11:15 AM **Break**
- 11:30 AM **Laurie Fitzpatrick:** *After New Sweden, Three Early Transnational Actors: The Transformation of Sven Skute, Jonas Nilsson, and Morton Mortensen*
- 12:15 PM **Lunch**
- 1:00 PM **Catherine Dann Roeber:** *Working through the Middlemen: Swedes and their Neighbors in the 17th/early 18th c. Delaware River Region*
- 1:45 PM **Becky Griswold:** *DNA - The Invisible Possession: What We Learn from Genes Inherited from our New Sweden Ancestors*
- 2:30 PM **Closing Remarks**

*Announcing the 17th Annual
New Sweden History Conference*

New Sweden Beyond the Delaware, 1638-1776

Saturday, November 4

8:30 am-3:00 pm

The Lazaretto Ballroom
99 Wanamaker Avenue
Essington, PA 19029

SPEAKERS

Brian Crane, PhD, professional archaeologist and senior project manager for engineering firm Versar: *Language, Church, Material Culture and Identity among 18th-Century Swedish Descendent Communities in the Delaware Valley Region*

The descendant Swedish community in the Delaware Valley strove to reinforce ties to Swedish identity and language and culture through expressions of material culture and a rejuvenated Swedish Lutheran church in the 18th century. Surveys of Swedish and English language proficiency recorded by ministers of the Swedish Lutheran Churches in 1753 and 1760 provide a unique opportunity to study the efforts of the community to retain the language and teach it to their children. Estate inventories and archaeological excavations provide an additional window into the material culture choices of second generation Swedes in Pennsylvania.

Sean Moir, owner and president of Western Heritage Mapping: *Discovering New Sweden*

This program will look at the geographic extent of New Sweden on the Delaware River in terms of the 17th century landscape, as well identifying the location of these settlements and boundaries in the 21st century. With the use of his unique animated map technology, Sean will show how New Sweden developed and declined over time in relation to competing Dutch and British settlements.

Laurie Fitzpatrick, PhD, Assistant Professor, Business Communications, Fox School of Business, Temple University: *After New Sweden, Three Early Transnational Actors: The Transformations of Sven Skute, Jonas Nilsson, and Morton Mortenson*

This presentation explores the period of great change experienced by three New Sweden colonists, Sven Skute, Jonas Nilsson, and Morton Mortenson, beginning with the surrender of New Sweden to the Dutch in 1655, through the early English period (Duke of York and William Penn), to the arrival of the Lutheran ministers in 1697. According to New Sweden scholar Magdalena Naum, these early ministers found a congregation who lived daily with “newly created bonds with other colonists sharing [a] similar cultural vocabulary,” while experiencing “real and

imagined connections with the old country [that] made this community think of itself and be seen as a coherent “Swedish Nation.” I consider the lives of these three colonists -- not as biography that asserts one unique life can represent the lives of others -- but instead to illustrate the transnational milieu of the Atlantic world in which these three lives were intertwined politically, culturally, and geographically.

Catharine Dann Roeber, PhD, Brock W. Jobe Assistant Professor, Decorative Arts and Material Culture, Winterthur Museum: *Working through the Middlemen: Swedes and their Neighbors in the 17th/early 18th c. Delaware River Region*

This paper uses an interdisciplinary approach to focus on the interactions of Delaware River region Swedes with middlemen like colonial Deputy Governor William Markham in negotiating cultural, social, ethnic and religious relevance under the new leadership of William Penn. Like their neighbors of Lenape, English, and Dutch ancestry, Swedes had to maneuver between different leaders and different rules of sovereignty multiple times in the 17th century...and often did so with representatives rather than leaders like the Duke of York or Penn. This paper aims to examine the broader context for understanding how multiple groups, Swedes included, crafted a space for themselves in Penn’s Holy Experiment.

Becky Griswold, Genetic Genealogist: *DNA – The Invisible Possession: What We Learn from Genes Inherited from our New Sweden Ancestors*

This presentation will describe the three types of DNA we are studying in the Swedish Colonial Society (SCS) DNA Project: Y-DNA, Mitochondrial DNA and Autosomal DNA. Then it will go in depth into the Y-DNA test results and show how they are used to learn more about our New Sweden ancestors. Finally, the presentation will explain how Y-DNA results prove the paper trail lineages of some of the SCS Forefathers whose descendants have participated in the SCS DNA Project. Within the scope of the conference theme the Forefathers highlighted will be those whose descendants migrated to the states listed and within the time frame established in the topic description.

REGISTRATION

Please register early—space is limited! Use the form below, or register online at www.americanswedish.org

Conference registration, breakfast, and lunch costs \$60 per person (\$35 for students and teachers with ID).

Early bird registration by October 13th, \$50.

Registration deadline is Monday, October 30th.

Please print; use a separate form for each person registering.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address (city, state & zip) _____

Daytime telephone: (____) _____

Mail payment and form to American Swedish Historical Museum 1900 Pattison Avenue, Philadelphia PA. 19145

For registration questions, please call ASHM at (215) 389-1776

Make check payable to ASHM and write NSHC 2017 on the memo line.

You may also pay by credit card:

- Mastercard
- Visa
- Discover
- AMEX

Account #: _____

Expiration: _____

Name on card: _____

Conference fee: _____

Signature: _____