

# 1700s PEQUOT FARMSTEAD GUIDE

## 01 Skeehch (oo) "Herb"

Small herb gardens were often right outside of native farmstead houses. This is a garden people would visit daily for cooking herbs and medicines.

## 02 Pakeetam "To Throw Away/Midden Pile"

Midden piles are trash pits that were used by Pequots long before the arrival of Europeans. These refuse pits are valuable archaeology sites to learn about the past.

## 03 Skaneesâ (w) "Lamb's Quarter"

In the spring and early summer, the leaves of this plant were boiled and eaten like spinach. This plant is commonly found in disturbed areas like agricultural fields and middens.

## 04 Ahshapuhtuq "Fiber Stem"

Milkweed (meeqanskanuhtuq) and dogbane (ahshapuhtuq) are common cordage plants for Southern New England Algonquin (S.N.E.A.) people. Milkweed, being silkier, would be used for more finely twined bags and woven belts, where dogbane would be used for more utilitarian purposes.

## 05 Muneesh "Berries"

Blackberries, raspberries and strawberries are not only great food for S.N.E.A. people but are also used as traditional medicines.

## 06 Moosuman (ee) "Shagbark Hickory," Wusqatumun (ee) "Black Walnut" and Showeemun (ee) "Beech Nut"

These trees produce abundant quantities of mast (nuts). These nuts make for fantastic natural dyes.

Pequot farmstead circa 1700-1800. The farmstead is about two acres in size and includes a vegetable garden, an herb garden, an orchard, a root cellar and a small outbuilding that may have been an animal pen. Surrounding the property are wild plants, shrubs and trees that provide a glimpse into this Pequot family's sources of food and useful materials for crafts and other lifestyle needs.

The tour is self-guided. Just follow the paths and look for the numbered markers listed in the brochure. You will also find descriptive panels along the way.

We hope you enjoy your visit. For your safety, please stay on the paths that lead throughout the farmstead. All of the points of interest are accessible from the paths. Please do not touch the plants, shrubs or trees, or pick any part of them. Nuts and other plant products that may be on the ground should be left there.

So that others may enjoy their visit,  
please do not run or shout.

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# A 1700s PEQUOT FARMSTEAD

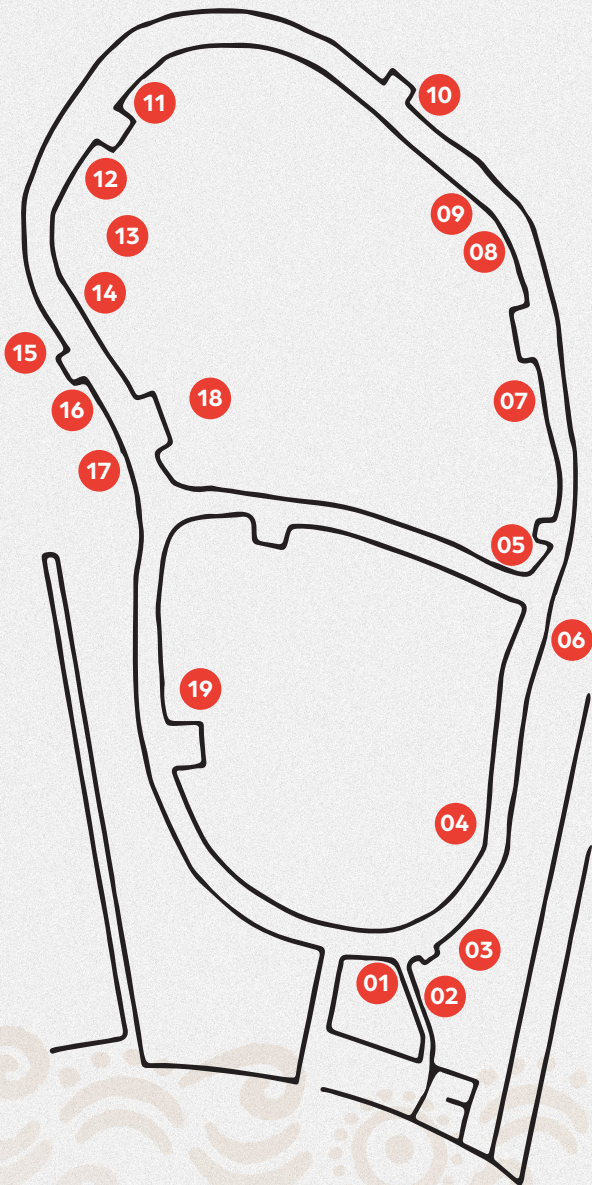


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# KEY TO NUMBERED MARKERS ALONG FOOTPATH



## 07 Tanahkeekcheeôk "Where Planting Ground" (Vegetable Garden)

Our gardens have always been a center of female empowerment, food production and relationships. A staple of our gardens is the three sisters, where corn, beans and squash grow out of a single mound. These plants grow better together and can create a regenerative farming process.

## 08 Sahtumun (ee) "Low Bush Blueberry"

Pequot children were often sent out with berry picking baskets to collect these fruits which were eaten fresh, used for baking, or dried and preserved for use at a later time. The fruits could also be crushed and used to make different colored dyes.

## 09 Koowâh "White Pine"

White and red pine (pahsakoowâh) have always been sacred trees for S.N.E.A. people. These plants have traditional uses in creation stories and funerary practices.

## 10 Pahkutumus (ee) "White Oak"

Oak has many traditional and post-colonial contact uses. During the 1700s–1800s, oak was used for house framing and tool handles on Pequot farmsteads. Other aspects like acorn foraging and burl bowl making have continued since pre-contact.

## 11 Chuhkâshâkoowuhtuq "Fleshy Hawthorn"

Fleshy Hawthorn can be eaten fresh and has very fleshy fruits. Hawthorn seeds have been found in multiple archaeological sites here on the reservation.

## 12 Meechooôkamuq "Root Cellar"

This type of structure has been identified at several Pequot farmsteads on the reservation. The stone foundation was covered with logs and earth creating a cool underground cellar for food storage in the hot summer months.

## 13 Punahk "Ground Nut"

This vine is a common plant that grows in fields and along trails. The swollen underground tuber was boiled or roasted and eaten like a potato. Colonial people even called it Indian potato.

## 14 Skasq "Old Fields/Pasture"

Many native and colonial medicinal plants prefer to grow in open fields. Plants like plantain, mullein, cow-vein, dandelion and clover have many uses.

## 15 Weekansepuhtuq "Sugar Maple"

Sugar maple trees have been tapped by native people for hundreds of years. Traditionally, the sap would have been boiled down to syrup and then processed into maple sugar. This sugar was used as a medicine and sweetener.

## 16 Môyôhqus (ee) "Black Ash Tree"

Black and white ash (ôkumuq) trees are sacred to S.N.E.A. people. This is the tree that would be pounded into splints for baskets. These trees, and pine trees, are linguistically one of the few trees considered animate.

## 17 Muyuhkpâhqâmus (ee) "Hazelnut Tree"

Hazelnuts (Muyuhkpâhqâmun (ee) of this common forest shrub mature in late summer and were eaten raw or stored for later consumption. These nuts could be very sweet!

## 18 Fruit Trees

Apple (Ahpuyôhq (un) and Peach (Peecheesôhq (un) trees, among others, were common place for native peoples after their introduction by Europeans. Many people in our area maintained sizable orchards. This exchange of culture extended into Pequot language with noticeable loan words. English also has Pequot loan words like squash, moose and the town name, Mystic, CT, and even Connecticut.

## 19 Peekeesukamuq "Pigsty/Stone Animal Pen"

Although this version is scaled down, pens of this style are often found at old Pequot farmsteads. These pens held domesticated animals like cows, pigs, goats or sheep.