



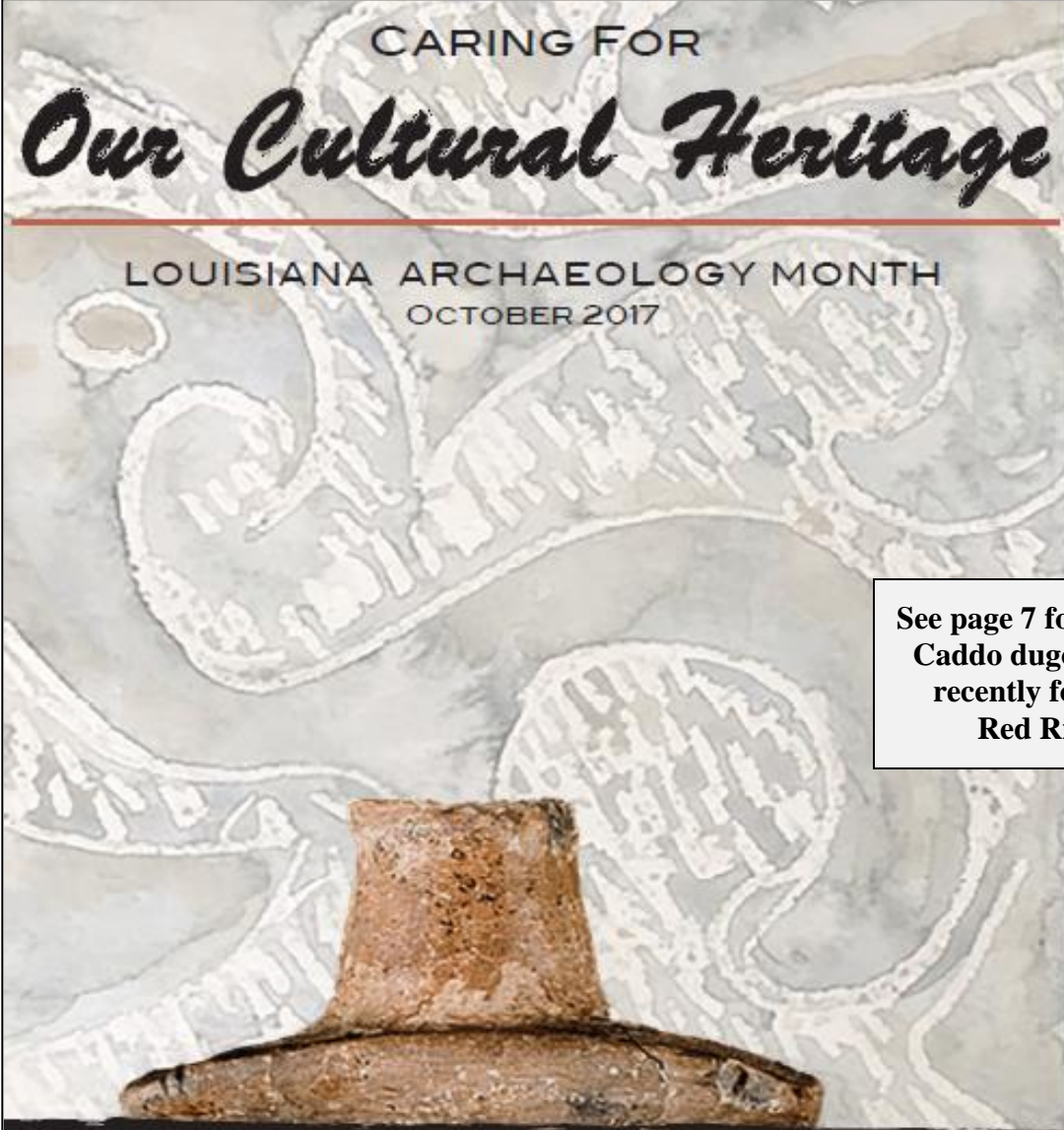
NEWSLETTER OF THE LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2017

Vol. 45, No.2

CARING FOR
Our Cultural Heritage

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH
OCTOBER 2017



Participate in any of the archaeological and cultural events happening throughout Louisiana.
Calendar of events: <https://www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/archaeology/discover-archaeology/archaeology-month/index>
* The pipe pictured above is from the Marksville culture. The smoky design rising from it is adapted from a Marksville pot.

See page 7 for latest on
Caddo dugout canoe
recently found on
Red River!

LAS Newsletter printed courtesy of
R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., New Orleans, Louisiana



Louisiana Archaeology Month - October 2017

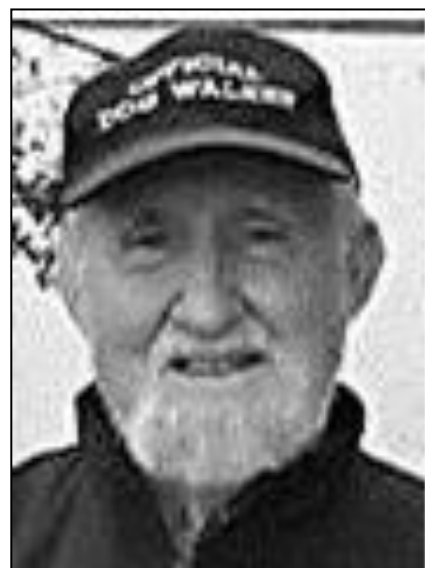
Louisiana Archaeology Month 2017 is taking place throughout October and the Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) encourages you to find an event near you! Louisiana Archaeology Month strives to promote interest in our state's archaeological past, as well as educate communities on the wonderful historic and prehistoric remains found in our very own communities. We like to encourage everyone to check the Louisiana Division of Archaeology website www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/archaeology for a calendar of events taking place throughout the state in celebration of Archaeology Month. The LAS website: www.laarchaeologicalsociety.org will also post the schedule.

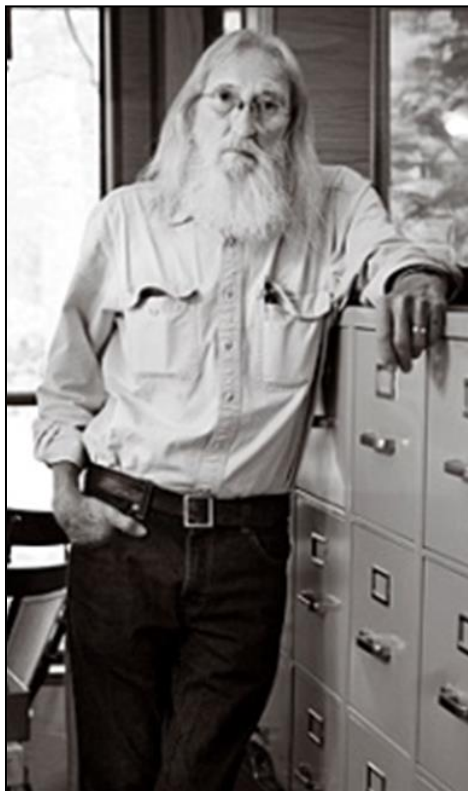
LAS CHAPTER AND MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Raymond Fredlund, 91, died May 15, 2017, at Baton Rouge, following a long illness. Ray was born July 31, 1925, to Nils Victor and Alice (Mason) Fredlund in Valley Stream, New York. Ray graduated from Valley Stream (NY) High School in 1943. As a teenager, he served as an aircraft "spotter," learning to identify and report enemy aircraft should the East Coast come under attack as World War II broke out. He put his interest in flying to work in the European theater in World War II as a navigator in the Army Air Corps 487th Bomb Group. He married Lorene Jesse in 1947 and completed a degree in chemical engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, in 1950. Not long after graduation the couple and their eldest child moved to Lake Jackson, Texas, where Ray began a life-long career at Dow Chemical. In 1957, the growing family relocated to Plaquemine, where Ray became the Supervisor of a new plant producing caustic soda and other products.

Ray was active in various civic organizations during his working years. He served as a state and national delegate for the Republican Party of Louisiana from 1968 through 1980. He was active in the **Louisiana and Texas Archaeological Societies** and volunteered on many research projects. In retirement, Ray volunteered on the Ashkelon excavations in Israel, ending his archaeology "career" as a field supervisor. He participated in community theater, sometimes playing Scrooge in Dickens's A Christmas Carol. He served as chair of the Louisiana Department of Labor Board of Review and volunteered as a literacy coach. He and his second wife, Jo, traveled the world through the Elder Hostel program.

His most recent home was St. James Place in Baton Rouge, where he enjoyed many friendships. Ray will be fondly remembered for his intellectual curiosity, quirky sense of humor, and dedication to family, friends, and community.





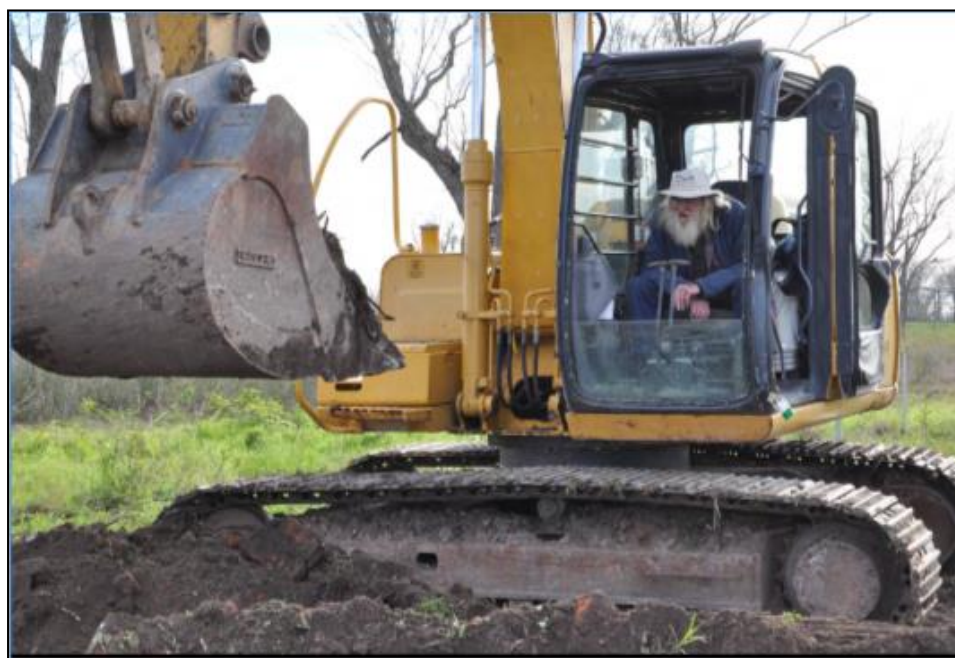
Carl Kuttruff, age 73, died Sunday, July 23, 2017 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is survived by his wife of almost 50 years Jenna Tedrick Kuttruff, his 97 year old father Louis Carl Kuttruff Sr.; sisters Gail Kuttruff, Alma Kuttruff, Katty Albers; brothers Kirby Kuttruff, Claude Kuttruff. His mother Elizabeth Ricks Kuttruff preceded him in death in 1975. He was baptized in St. Paul's Lutheran Church in New Orleans and confirmed at First Lutheran Church in Baton Rouge. In his youth Carl was active in Scouting and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He attended the 1959 Boy Scout World Jamboree in the Philippine Islands and participated in a round-the-world tour following the Jamboree, which had a major influence on him both personally and professionally.

Carl was a 1962 graduate of Baton Rouge High School and a 1965 graduate of Louisiana State University with a B.A. in Geography and Anthropology. He attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale, and received his M.A. in Anthropology in 1970 and his Ph.D. in Anthropology in 1974. He worked in the field as an archaeologist for over 51 years in Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin in the United States. Outside the country, he worked in Oaxaca Mexico, Philippine Islands, Wake Island, Kwajalein Atoll, and Marshall Islands. He was considered by some to be a modern "Renaissance Man" because of his multiple interests and talents and the fact that he was such an avid reader. Carl's cremated ashes will be scattered at many places of importance to his life. When the family gathers to celebrate his life, his cousin Chris Kuttruff will read original poetry written in Carl's honor. Memorial contributions may be made to the Baton Rouge Food Bank or the American Cancer Society.

– *Baton Rouge Morning Advocate*, July 30, 2017

I knew Carl Kuttruff for over 30 years and had the honor of working with him on several projects. I learned something new or important from him every time. I have never seen excavation profiles as well executed as those done by Carl. Those of you who may have seen one troweled out by him know exactly what I'm talking about!

Additionally, Carl's skills as a backhoe operator were without peer. I doubt that his combination of careful mechanical excavation technique and archaeological knowledge will ever be duplicated. I worked with him most recently in late 2014 at the Chatsworth Plantation site (16EBR192) and I am sorry that the opportunity to work with him again is now gone. Archaeologists in Louisiana, the Southeast, and the world (considering all the places he worked!) have lost a unique colleague. –*Dennis Jones*



Carl Kuttruff at the controls of backhoe, Chatsworth Plantation site, December 2014.

Joe Saunders, 69, retired Northeast Regional Archaeologist for Louisiana, died September 4, 2017. He received his undergraduate degree in Anthropology from the University of Arkansas in 1970. His interests in archaeology began as he participated in the 1968 summer field school and worked on another project the following summer. While at Arkansas he gained a measure of renown as one of several students who “occupied” a tree on the campus for several weeks in protest of the Vietnam War. During 1974-75 he took graduate classes in Sociology at the University, and served as a teaching assistant in several classes, while also working on two archaeology projects in eastern Arkansas.

In the late 1970s, Joe participated in a number of archaeological projects in Texas and Oklahoma. By 1979, he began the MA program at Southern Methodist University. While there, he worked as a graduate assistant on a major survey project in the Republic of South Africa. He received his MA in 1982, worked for a contract firm, and then began the PhD program at SMU, graduating in 1986. While at SMU he worked in the library at the Institute for the Study of Earth and Man and provided significant assistance to both students and faculty. His dissertation is titled *The Economy of Hinds Cave*, based upon survey and excavation that he undertook by himself at Hinds Ranch and Blue Hills Ranch in Val Verde County, Texas.

Between 1986 and 1989, Joe worked on a variety of projects doing survey and testing across Texas for the Archaeological Research Laboratory at Texas A & M University. He also had the opportunity to participate in a project surveying and testing Middle Paleolithic sites in Bir Tarfawi, Egypt, with Dr. Fred Wendorf.

In November 1989, Joe Saunders was hired as the first Louisiana Regional Archaeologist, based at the University of Louisiana at Monroe (then known as Northeast Louisiana University), a position he would hold for the rest of his career. Over the next 21 years, he recorded 335 sites and updated the information on an additional 176 sites. He prepared National Register of Historic Places nomination forms for 12 sites; seven of which have been listed on the Register at this time. Joe also directed the Ancient Mounds Initiative that documented 39 sites in northeast Louisiana for inclusion on the Ancient Mounds Driving Trail. In addition to conducting the fieldwork, he prepared the site maps, wrote the guidebook, the historical marker text, and prepared a detailed guidebook for each of the mound site property owners.

Joe’s most significant contribution to the archaeology of Louisiana and the southeastern US was the identification, documentation, and interpretation of the Middle Archaic mound building tradition. Although a few mound sites had been known, Joe’s work



Dr. Joe Saunders explaining stratigraphy while working at the Watson Brake site

demonstrated their abundance, complexity, and significance. Work at Watson Brake (16OU175), Frenchman’s Bend (16OU259), Caney Bayou (16MO69), Hedgepeth (16LI7), Lower Jackson (16WC10), and Nolan (16RI191) in northeast Louisiana defined this tradition. The results of this work has led archaeologists working in the Southeast to reassess the development of social organization among prehistoric fishing, hunting, and gathering cultures. The results of his investigations were presented at state, regional, and national conferences, and published in *Science*, *American Antiquity*, *Southeastern Archaeology*, *Journal of Field Archaeology*, and *Louisiana Archaeology*. He also contributed articles to *The Louisiana and Arkansas Expeditions of Clarence Bloomfield Moore* and *Signs of Power*, both published by the University of Alabama Press; the *Archaeology of Louisiana*, published by LSU Press; and in *Trend, Tradition, and Turmoil: What Happened to the Southeastern Archaic*, published by the American Museum of Natural History.

Joe was a passionate advocate for science and archaeology. He worked with landowners and preservation organizations to protect sites. In part through his advocacy, The Archaeological Conservancy has purchased all or parts of 13 sites in northeast Louisiana. He also served as president of the Louisiana Archaeological Conservancy and the Louisiana Archaeological Society. The Southeastern Archaeological Conference awarded Joe the C. B. Moore award in 1996, which recognizes the contributions of a distinguished younger scholar. In 2010, the Louisiana Archaeological Society honored Joe with the James A. Ford award, the highest award of the society.

Joe was a delightful person to know and work with—he had an infectious enthusiasm, a great sense of humor, and was a kind and thoughtful human being.

—Chip McGimsey, Nancy Hawkins, and Jeff Girard

CARING FOR
Our Cultural Heritage

LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH
 OCTOBER 2017

SITE CLEANUP DAY!
 OCTOBER 22, 2017 • 10AM-4PM
 MARKSVILLE STATE HISTORIC SITE
 MARKSVILLE, LA



A day of outdoor cleanup work,
 removing tree limbs & general “green” debris from the site area.

- Bring: hand-held gardening tools, gloves, hats, long pants, & good closed-toe shoes
 - Food and drinks available for volunteers.
- For details & contact information visit LAS website:
www.laarchaeologicalsociety.org/

The Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS), in conjunction with LA State Parks, Kisatchie National Forest, and the LA Office of Cultural Development have arranged a special Archaeological Clean-Up Day at the Marksville State Historic Site that is currently closed. The clean-up day is scheduled to take place on October 22, 2017 from 10am-4pm. During the Marksville site clean-up day we will be removing and clearing up all sorts of green debris from the site. You are encouraged to bring a hat, a pair of gloves, wear proper outdoor clothes and closed-toe shoes, and even your favorite gardening shears to help us clean up Marksville! There will be food and refreshments available for volunteers, but feel free to pack your own lunch and beverages of choice. You can find more information about the day’s event by visiting the LAS website: laarchaeologicalsociety.org. The point of contact for the Clean Up day is the LAS Treasurer, Beverly Clement, the 2017 LA Archaeology Month coordinator for LAS.

Plan of the Marksville site



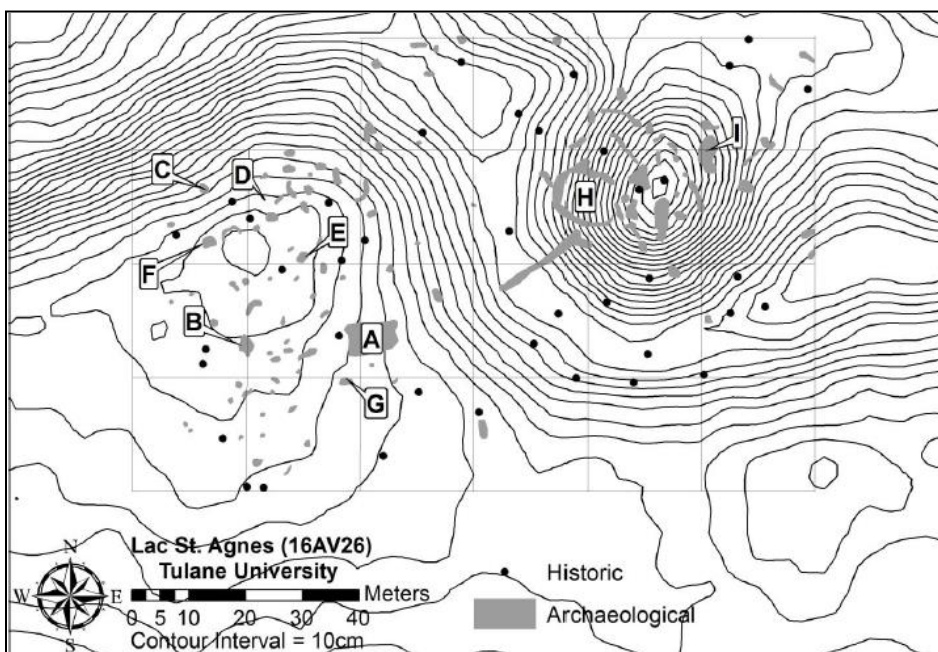
LAS Field Project at the Lac St Agnes site (16AV26)

The Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) seeks volunteers for a field project at the Lac St Agnes site (16AV26) in Avoyelles Parish. Work will begin October 16, 2017 and will involve shovel testing and excavation phases. The shovel testing phase is expected to take 3-5 days. Excavation units and schedule will be determined following the results of the testing phase. For more information about the Lac St. Agnes site, see LAS bulletins No. 29 (2002) and No. 36 (2009).

On site accommodations provide space for 10 volunteers. Applicants will be taken on a first come first served basis. Most equipment and supplies will be provided. Contact outreach@laarchaeologicalsociety.org for details.

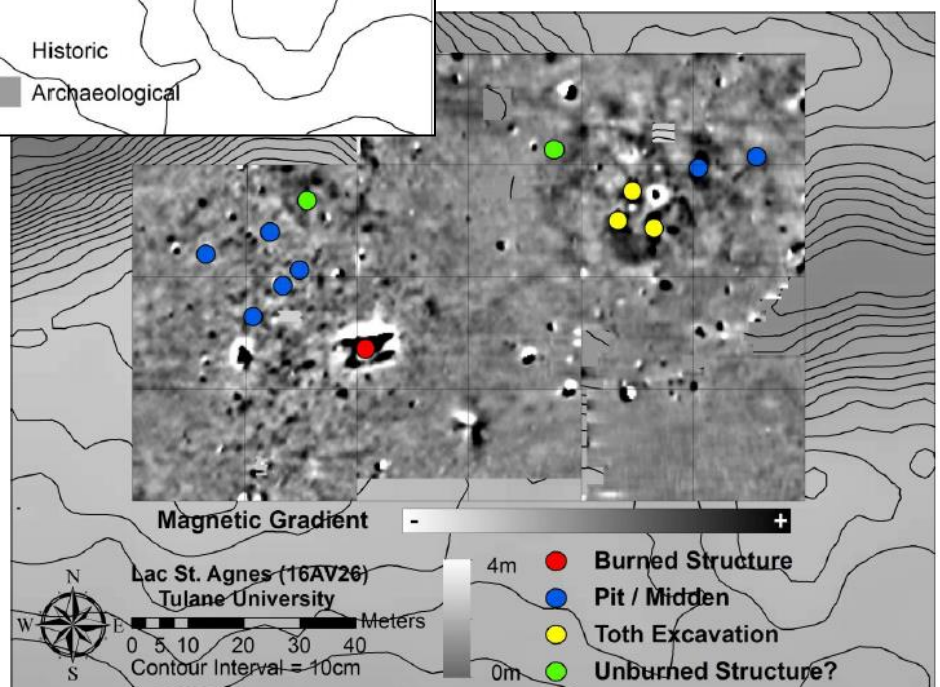


Mound at Lac St. Agnes site in February 2017



Contour map of the Lac St. Agnes site showing the locations of possible archaeological features and historic debris: (A-B) possible structures, (C-I) possible midden deposits or pit features. Source: Rodning et. al. in LAS bulletin No. 36 (2009).

Results of the gradiometer survey superimposed over the contour map of the Lac St. Agnes site (16AV26). Source: Rodning et. al. in LAS bulletin No. 36 (2009).



PRESERVATION NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
APRIL 6, 2017**

**CANE RIVER NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA TO OPERATE
LOS ADAES STATE HISTORIC SITE**

Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser, the Office of State Parks and Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. (CRNHA) announce a cooperative agreement to operate Los Adaes State Historic Site in Natchitoches Parish. Under the new agreement, CRNHA will manage visitor services, create community outreach and educational programs, improve interpretive services and enhance the marketing and heritage tourism initiatives of the site.

The site will reopen to the public on Wednesday, April 26, and will operate from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays – Saturdays. CRNHA will hold a grand reopening celebration on Saturday, May 6.

“We appreciate the opportunity to work with the Cane River National Heritage Area, and have this historic site available to the public,” said Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser. “Los Adaes is one of Louisiana’s many hidden treasures, and represents a key time in the state’s early colonial history.”

Los Adaes, the symbol of New Spain in Louisiana, was once the capital of the Spanish Province of Tejas (present-day Texas) and the scene of a unique cooperation among the French, the Spanish and the indigenous Native Americans. An area rich in archaeological finds, it thrives today as one of Louisiana’s most intriguing State Historic Sites.

“We are pleased to embark upon this new partnership with the State,” remarked Cynthia Sutton, CRNHA President. “As a National Historic Landmark, Los Adaes is an essential component to telling the story of Louisiana’s past and we are delighted to make it more accessible to the public.”

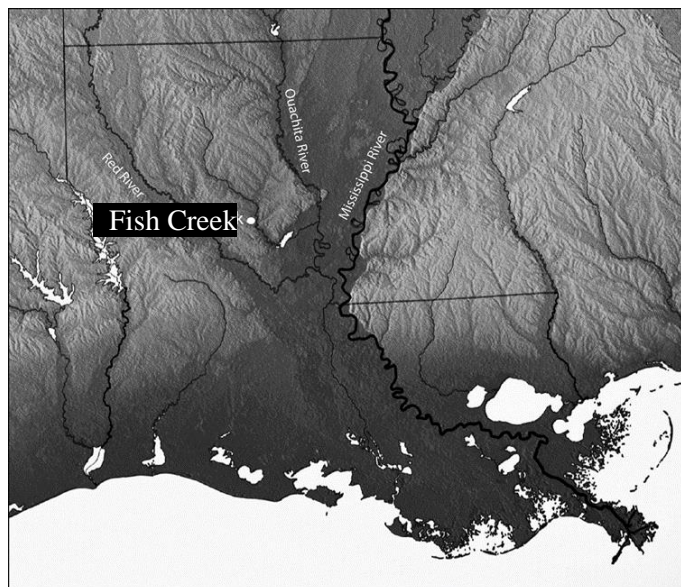
Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that specializes in public-private partnerships to preserve and promote the cultural and natural resources of the Cane River region. Premier partnerships include the National Park Service, the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, the City of Natchitoches, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association, and community partners throughout the Cane River National Heritage Area.

Los Adaes State Historic Site is located just off La. Hwy. 6, near Robeline. The site was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a National Historic Landmark in 1978, and became a Louisiana State Parks property in 1979. For more information about the site or about Louisiana State Parks visit LaStateParks.com.

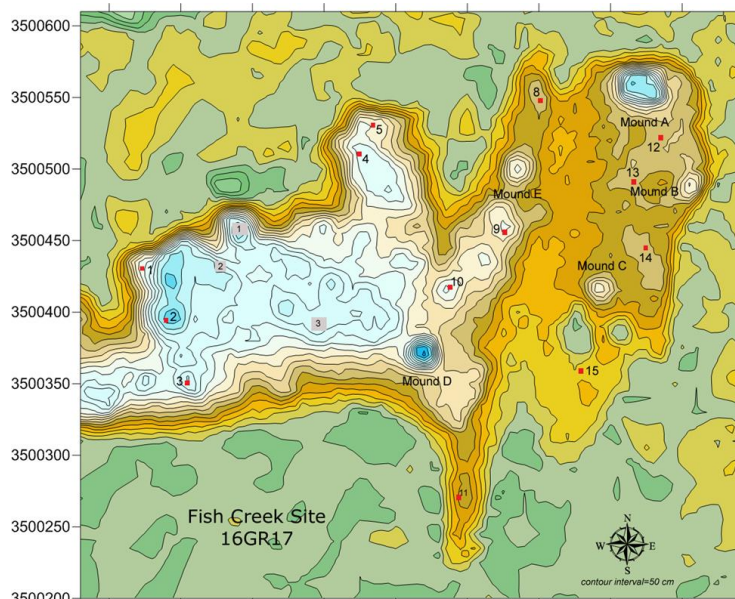


The front entrance to Los Adaes State Historic Site, soon to be operated by the Cane River National Heritage Area (photo credit: Rebecca Blakenbaker/CRNHA)

Fish Creek site (16GR17) Listed on the National Register of Historic Places



General location of the Fish Creek.



Contour map of 16GR17 showing locations of mounds and shovel tests

On August 7, 2017, Louisiana gained another archaeological site on the National Register of Historic Places: the Fish Creek site (16GR17).

Fish Creek is a late prehistoric mound center that includes at least five constructed earthen mounds and extensive habitation areas. The site is comprised of two recorded archaeological sites: 16GR17 and 16GR447. The total area encompasses approximately 18 ha (45 acres) stretching about 1 km east-west by 250 m north-south on a rise in the floodplain of Little River.

Fish Creek is one of two large sites with multiple mounds situated along Little River on the border between Grant and LaSalle parishes in central Louisiana. Several other prehistoric sites in this region contain smaller and fewer mounds, and numerous habitation sites are dispersed in the floodplain and adjoining hills.

The Fish Creek site dates primarily to the Coles Creek period (ca. A.D. 800 to 1200), but also was occupied during the Late Woodland (ca. A.D. 400-800), Middle Woodland (ca. 100 B.C. to A.D. 400), Early Woodland (ca. 800 B.C. to 100 B.C.) and Late Archaic (ca. 3000 B.C. to 800 B.C.) periods.

Fish Creek has excellent physical integrity. The site has undergone only minimal impacts from scraping of surface deposits in a limited area, and from shallow treasure hunter's pits. Deposits have not been disturbed from plowing or significant modern residential or commercial developments.

In July 1977, the Louisiana Archaeological Society held a summer field workshop at 16GR17. Three test pits reportedly were opened, but their locations were not reported. A small collection of artifacts resulting from this work is at the repository of the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, but no analysis of this material has been conducted. Adjacent site 16GR447 was recorded in 1991 by regional archaeologist Jeffrey Girard after a local resident reported finding numerous artifacts in the backdirt of a looter's excavations. Major portions of both sites, including the mounds, were acquired by the State of Louisiana and incorporated within the Little River Wildlife Management Area (WMA).

In July 2011, Girard, along with Steve Smith of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, re-located each of the five mounds at 16GR17 and, using a GPS and LIDAR elevation data, produced a general topographic map of the site. Girard and several members of the Louisiana Archaeological Society made systematic surface collections, excavated 15 shovel tests, and placed auger tests in four of the five mounds in 2012.

Trevor Fry, an Alexandria attorney and president of the Grant Parish Historical Society, and his associate Rachel Barnes submitted the final nomination form for the Fish Creek site to the National Register. Jeff Girard provided the archaeological and cartographic information contained in the submission. *—Jeff Girard*

FIELD NOTES AND CURRENT RESEARCH

Discovery and Recovery of a Prehistoric Dugout Canoe at Site 16CD383

By Chip McGimsey, Jeff Girard, Jeanna Bradley, Robert Cornett, Paul Dickson, Sharon Kavanaugh, Robin Kavanaugh, and Kay McKneely

On June 7th, while boating down the Red River looking for artifacts that had washed out along the riverbank, Jeanna Bradley and Robert Cornett found something much bigger than a point or sherd. Noticing a log on the bank that didn't look like a normal tree, they began uncovering it and quickly realized they had found a dugout canoe (Figure 1). The following day, they contacted the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to report their discovery, who in turn reported it to Chip McGimsey.

McGimsey spoke with them that afternoon, and requested they immediately cover it back up to prevent it from drying out and cracking. Jeff Girard and Jameel Damlouji of the Louisiana Archaeological Society visited and recorded the site the following day. Thus began an intense and complicated effort involving many people to recover the canoe and get it to a safe place.

The first step was determining who owned the canoe. It lay high enough on the bank that it was outside the state-owned river bottom. Jeff contacted Tommy Stinson who farmed the adjacent field, and he led us to Robin and Sharon Kavanaugh of Baton Rouge, who together with Kay and Roy McKneely of Houston, TX, through Kavanaugh LLC and McKneely Family Partnership own that stretch of riverbank. They were very excited to hear of the discovery and immediately agreed to donate the canoe to the State. The donation papers were actually signed the same day they were drawn up.

The next step was figuring out where it was going to go (assuming we could get it off the riverbank). This question was also surprisingly easy to answer. The Conservation Research Lab at Texas A & M University was contacted as they are one of the very few labs in the US that have the expertise and facility to conserve wet wooden artifacts. They conserved *La Belle*, LaSalle's ship found in Galveston Bay some years ago, along with shipwreck materials from around the world. They immediately agreed to accept the canoe and even agreed to store it for up to a year to give us time to raise the funds for conservation. So, two big steps had been taken: the State owned it, and we knew where it was going to go.

The third issue was figuring out how we could get the canoe to the Lab. Solving this was also extremely easy. Paul Dickson of Shreveport graciously offered the use of a semi-trailer truck and a driver from his company. So, now we knew how to get it to Texas.



Figure 1. Canoe lying on the riverbank.

This left the largest technical problem – how to get a 34 foot long, three foot diameter tree trunk off the riverbank and to Texas A & M without breaking it. Over the next two weeks, numerous discussions were held to try and answer this question. Jeff Girard took the lead in this effort, and we were optimistically thinking that a crew of volunteers could use slings to drag it up the bank and then several hundred feet to the levee where it could be loaded on a trailer. In hindsight, it is very good that we did not try this!

On June 19th, Tropical Storm Cindy was approaching and there was the prospect of significant rain in the Shreveport area. The rain could easily raise the Red River enough to refloat the canoe and carry it off. Suddenly, moving the canoe became imperative. At this point, Paul Dickson again stepped up and made things happen. On Wednesday the 21st, the day before the rains were to hit, he arranged for home builder Michael Crager and a 10-man carpentry crew to come to the site with lumber and equipment. Working together, Michael, Paul, his sons Paul Jr. and Jacob, devised and built a wooden frame platform to put the canoe on (Figure 2). They used blankets and packing materials provided by Paul Dickson to wrap the canoe and protect it during its journey (Figure 3).



Figure 2. Moving the canoe onto the wooden platform.

The canoe lay on the bottom slope of a 20-25 foot high bank. Initial efforts with nearly 20 people and a four-wheeler with a winch had very little success dragging the canoe onto the platform up the bank. Given that we later estimated the canoe weighed over 1,500 pounds, this probably wasn't surprising. Fortunately, Tony Hale, one of the onlookers was in the business of servicing oil field equipment in the area and had a bulldozer. An hour later, a large bulldozer was knocking the upper 6-7 feet off the top of the bank. It then pulled the platform with the canoe up the slope onto the now flattened bank top (Figure 4). It is a great tribute to the construction crew that as the platform and canoe pivoted from the 30 degree slope to the flat top, and part of the platform/canoe hung out in space, it did not break. The bulldozer then pulled the canoe to a waiting flatbed trailer (Figure 5) - and then had to help pull the truck hauling the trailer up a second slope to the top of the levee.

The final problem was how to get the canoe/platform from the trailer into the semi-trailer. Mr. Stinson, who farmed the Kavanaugh/McNeely land, arranged for us to use the loading dock at the Helena Seed Company a few miles away. There, using the dock and two forklifts provided by the Seed Company, the canoe was lifted above the trailer. The trailer then drove out from under, and the semi simply backed up under the canoe sliding it neatly into the trailer (Figure 6).

The next day, McGimsey accompanied the truck and canoe on its journey to the Lab at Texas A & M. There the loading process was reversed; three forklifts held the canoe up while the semi drove out from under it, and then it was lowered down to the ground (Figure 7). The lab crew immediately placed soaker hoses in the canoe to keep it wet. Over the next week, a vat was constructed especially to hold the canoe. The canoe was placed in the vat and submerged in water (Figure 8). The canoe was finally safe and in its new, temporary home for the next few years.

The Lab is currently developing a conservation plan and cost estimate for the canoe. This will include cleaning the canoe, removing roots and other debris, and undertaking a 3-D scan of the vessel. Once it is ready for conservation, poly ethylene glycol (PEG) will be introduced into the water. The PEG will slowly replace the water in the wood and provides support and stabilization to the structure. Once the PEG has completely impregnated the wood, the canoe will be removed to an enormous freeze-dryer. It will be frozen and then over a period of months, the water will be drawn out of the wood. Once dry it will be ready for display. The entire conservation process is estimated to take three years. The canoe will then be returned to Louisiana and put on display; exactly where it will be on display has not been determined at this time.



Figure 3. Packaged and ready to move.



Figure 4. Bulldozer and many people hauling it up the bank.



Figure 5. Bulldozer dragging platform toward the waiting flatbed trailer in background.



Figure 6. Loading the canoe into the semi-trailer.



Figure 7. Unloading the canoe at the Conservation Research Lab at Texas A&M.



Figure 8. The canoe in its new home at the Lab at Texas A&M, College Station, TX.

Because of the rapid pace of events from discovery, then recovery, and submergence at the Texas Lab, we have not had an opportunity to undertake a detailed analysis of the canoe. It was measured in the field at 10.2 m long (33.4 feet). It is approximately 60 cm (2.0 feet) in diameter. A large portion of one side and part of the bow is broken off. The bow and stern ends are similar, with a platform at the very end and then a step down onto a seat (Figure 9). The wood has not been identified yet, although it is strongly suspected to be cypress. A sample of wood was radiometrically dated to 590 + 30 BP (Beta 467673). This calibrates to a calendar age of 1298 – 1413 A.D. The date indicates when the tree died, but in this case it seems reasonable to assume the tree was cut down to make the canoe. This date indicates the canoe was made and used by the Caddo Indians who lived in this part of Louisiana at this time. The canoe is the largest dugout known from Louisiana, and is one of the largest found in the southeastern US. It is very similar to a slightly smaller dugout canoe found only two miles south of here in 1983 (16CD169) that is on exhibit at the State Museum in Shreveport.

Word of the discovery spread quickly and became a world-wide news item. A brief description and photographs were posted on the Office of Cultural Development's Facebook page the afternoon of the recovery. Five days later, the post had reached over 1.5 million people. Stories were printed in the *Shreveport Times*, and picked up by the *Daily Mail* in England, and *National Geographic Spain*. Stories have or will appear in *Archaeology* magazine, the Louisiana based *Country Roads* magazine, and *Texas A and M Today*, as well as KTBS-TV in Shreveport. Louisiana Public Broadcasting filmed all of the recovery and broadcast some of the highlights on their nightly news program.

This canoe is a remarkable find and one of the more spectacular prehistoric artifacts found in Louisiana. Its discovery and successful recovery was the result of hard work and very generous contributions by many individuals. Over 20 individuals assisted in the actual recovery (Figure 10), and this photo does not include the landowners, representatives of the Helena Seed Co, truck driver or the staff of the Conservation Research Lab. These individuals deserve all the credit for saving this beautiful canoe.

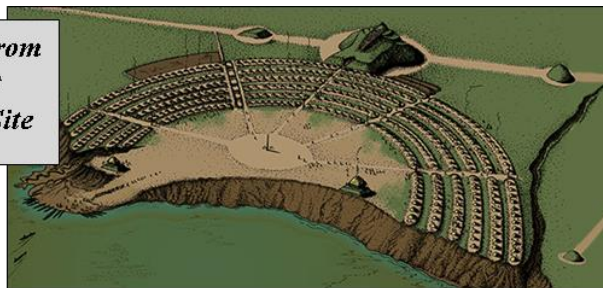


Figure 9. View of the stern with the platform and seat of the dugout canoe.



Figure 10. The recovery crew. Back row, left to right, Jeanna Bradley, Robert Cornett, unknown, unknown, Tommy Stinson, Robert Crager, unknown, Paul Dickson, Paul Dickson Jr., Jacob Dickson, unknown, unknown, Jameel Damlouji. Front row, left to right, unknown, Jeff Girard, Tony Hale, unknown, unknown, unknown, Chip McGimsey, unknown. The unknown individuals include Simon Rios, Jose Alfaro, Jeremy Bissell, Angel Altaro, Juan Luis Bravo, Jose Bravo, Joe Johnson, Kip Carson, John McKinley and Gary Howell.

*Research News from
the Poverty Point
World Heritage Site*



Poverty Point Update for Summer 2017

By Dr. Diana Greenlee

The summer was a busy time for the Poverty Point Station Archaeology Program, both inside and outside of the Poverty Point World Heritage Site (WHS) boundary. Thurman Allen and Diana Greenlee extracted soil cores from several different topographic and magnetic features at Poverty Point WHS (16WC5) to better understand their character and depositional history.

One location of particular interest was the ramp-like extension on the northeast corner of Mound E, a.k.a. “Ballcourt Mound” (Figure 1). The extension is generally regarded as a historic addition to the mound associated with the installation of a nearby gas well. The stratigraphy and soil development within the core, however, are quite similar to the mound itself, and there is no evidence for mixing that would have occurred with recent bulldozer activity. A tiny sample of charred botanical material from a very subtle buried A horizon at the base of the mound has been submitted for radiocarbon dating, and we anxiously await the results. This submound sample is the first attempt to acquire a radiocarbon date for the mound.

The Poverty Point Compatible Use Zone (PPCUZ) survey project, which is investigating archaeological resources on the landscape around Poverty Point WHS, focused on shovel-testing and geophysical survey of properties not in cultivation, primarily grass plots and woodlands. Students from the University of South Alabama, Mississippi State University, and Binghamton University arrived in force to assist Dean Nones and Alesha Marcum-Heiman. The rainy weather restricted access to some of the planned PPCUZ research areas, but we were able to shift the students’ efforts to relatively better-drained areas, including at Poverty Point WHS, when necessary. Although data processing and interpretation are ongoing, we can share some preliminary snippets with the LAS membership.

The Mississippi State University field school dug 119 shovel tests north of Harlin Bayou in the area around the dormitory (Figure 2). Previous testing, conducted by archaeologists associated with park facility construction and by a previous Mississippi State University field school west of this area, has revealed a sporadic and relatively low-level prehistoric use of the area north of

Harlin Bayou. Artifact distributions appear to increase in density as we move eastward toward the edge of Macon Ridge. This is certainly consistent with current understanding about archaeological deposits on Macon Ridge.

The University of South Alabama and Mississippi State University field schools, and archaeologists with the Louisiana Division of Archaeology, excavated some 421 shovel tests in the area around Epps Mound (16EC16). The shovel test pits were placed in a grassy area adjacent to the cultivated fields that had been surface-collected in the spring (Figure 3). Cataloging and analysis are ongoing, but field observation is clear that prehistoric and historic artifacts were abundant in the area. A captured Confederate map (Figure 4) indicates that the original town of Monticello, LA, was also located in this area and some historic artifacts appear to be consistent with that. Monticello was established in 1849 and destroyed by a hurricane (tornado) in 1867; the town was subsequently moved to its current location.

Binghamton University’s field school used geophysical survey instruments and drones to investigate multiple locations both off and on the park. One site studied was Jackson Place Mounds (16WC6). This earthwork complex was visited and mapped by C.B. Moore in 1913. Since then, agricultural activities have significantly impacted most of the earthworks. In addition to aerial imaging of the site, Binghamton University archaeologists used electrical resistivity to examine some areas that were not in crops (Figure 5). Thurman Allen extracted and examined soil cores from one of the mound locales to determine that it has not been completely obliterated and that some portions of the base remain for future analysis.

The Station Archaeology Program hosted “PaleoFest” at Poverty Point WHS on 29 July 2017. Artifact collectors brought their projectile point collections so that Paleoindian and Early Archaic points (Figure 6) could be recorded for the Louisiana Paleoindian and Early Archaic Projectile Point Survey (LPEAPPS). For those unfamiliar with the project, LPEAPPS is “spearheaded” by Dr. Charlotte Pevny. Remarkably, Dr. Pevny and Alesha Marcum-Heiman documented 337 projectile points from 14 Louisiana parishes! (*see page 16-Editor*)



Figure 12. Soil scientist Thurman Allen extracting a soil core from the northeast extension of Mound E.



Figure 3. Mississippi State University field school students excavating shovel test pits at the Epps Mound site (16EC16).

Figure 2. Aerial photograph/LiDAR overlay of the service facility area at Poverty Point north of Harlin Bayou showing results of shovel tests excavated by MSU field school. Red = prehistoric artifacts; purple = prehistoric and historic artifacts; white = no artifacts.

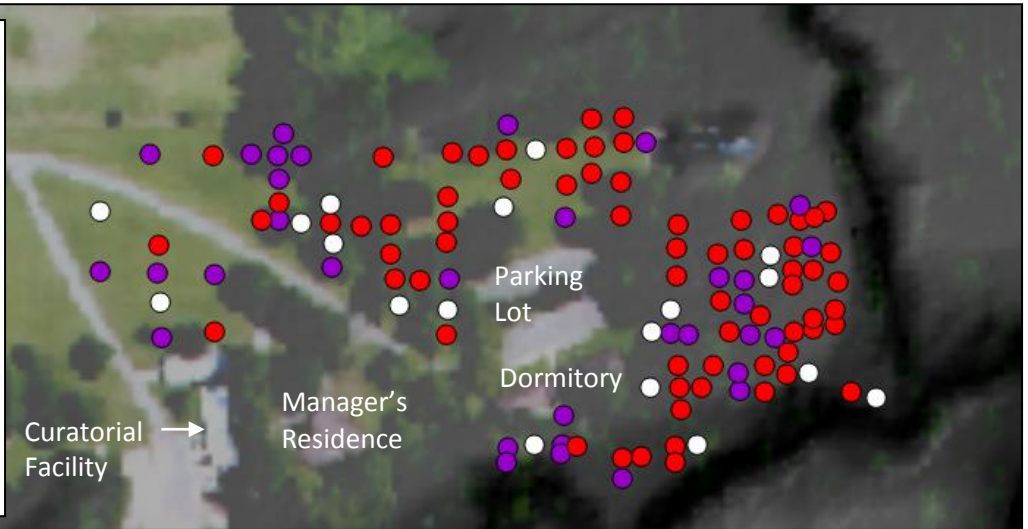


Figure 1. Captured Confederate map showing the original town of Monticello. Source: National Archives, Record Group No. 77, Civil Works Map file Z33-31; available courtesy of Northwestern State University of Louisiana, Watson Memorial Library, Cammie G. Henry Research Center, Map 1353.



Figure 5. Binghamton U. field school students conducting electrical resistivity survey at the Jackson Place Mounds



Figure 6. During PaleoFest archaeologists documented points like this ca. 10,000 year old Dalton point found during the PPCUZ

PaleoFest 2017 at Poverty Point World Heritage Site a Great Success

By Charlotte Pevny

On Saturday, July 29th, the University of Louisiana at Monroe (ULM) Poverty Point Station Archaeology Program hosted its first ever “PaleoFest” at the Poverty Point World Heritage Site. Collectors from around the state were invited to bring their artifacts for identification.

Alesha Marcum-Heiman, Survey Archaeologist for the ULM Poverty Point Station Archaeology Program, led the organization of this hugely successful event and asked if I would like to come up and record projectile points for the Louisiana Paleoindian and Early Archaic Projectile Point Survey (LaPEAPPS) database.

Approximately 40 people attended and eight collections included Paleoindian and Early Archaic points. In nine hours Alesha and I analyzed 337 points originating from 14 Louisiana parishes including: Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Caldwell, DeSoto, Franklin, Morehouse, Red River, Sabine, Union Vernon, Winn and West Carroll. We also recorded a smaller sample of points from Mississippi and Texas.

Points ranged in age from roughly 13,500 to 7,500 years ago and included Clovis, Folsom, Scottsbluff, and San Patrice *vars. Hope, St. John, Leaf River and Keithville*. We also documented a number of Albany scrapers. The LaPEAPPS database now has 579 documented points!



Above: example of projectile point collection analyzed during Paleofest. Right: Charlotte Pevny (right) begins analysis of projectile points as other participants look on.

An Unusual Pot from St. James Parish

By Chip McGimsey, Louisiana State Archaeologist

In July, Chase, Reid, and Dane Bodin were four-wheeling along the Mississippi River shoreline when Chase noticed something sticking up out of the mud. Upon excavation, it turned out to be a small clay pot (Figure 1). Word of the discovery reached Glenn Falgout who contacted James Green and then Chip McGimsey. On 2 August, Chip visited the Bodin family to inspect this unusual vessel.

The pot is small, just a shade over nine cm high and almost nine cm wide at its widest point. It is a pinch pot, with no visible signs of coils. It is 5 mm thick at the lip and is probably 5-6 mm thick over most of the body. It exhibits a well-mixed paste with very abundant very fine to fine sand temper; no other temper is visible on the exterior or interior surfaces. The base is generally circular and the center has been pushed up about 5 mm (like an old French wine bottle). It is well-fired with a distinct smudge mark on one side.

The vessel has well smoothed walls on the interior and exterior, except for the odd ridge or seam around the middle of the bowl (Figure 2). This looks like a seam where the upper portion and the base of the vessel were melded together. The seam is very irregular in shape and size on both the interior and exterior faces. In some places it is nearly smoothed over, while in others it forms a prominent projection that is nearly overhanging on the exterior (Figure 3). There is a 1 cm wide shallow groove immediately above the seam on the outer surface. Along or just below this groove are several indentations but they are irregularly spaced around the pot, and very irregular in shape and size (Figures 2 and 3). The indentations do not appear to be intentional punctates or another decorative treatment.

The Bodin brothers indicated that they did not see any other artifacts in the area of the find. An archaeological site is not recorded in this area, and the origin of the pot is not immediately apparent. It is certainly possible it has been washed down the river some unknown distance. The design of the pot along with the heavy sand temper strongly suggest it is not a Native American vessel. Perhaps it is something made by an African slave on one of the plantations in this area? At this point, we do not have any good ideas what this vessel may represent, or when it was made. If you have any suggestions, please contact Chip McGimsey at cmcgimsey@crt.la.gov or 225-219-4598; we would like to know what this is!



Figure 1. The Bodin brothers with their find. From left to right, Reid, Chase, and Dane Bodin.



Figure 2. A close-up view of the pot.

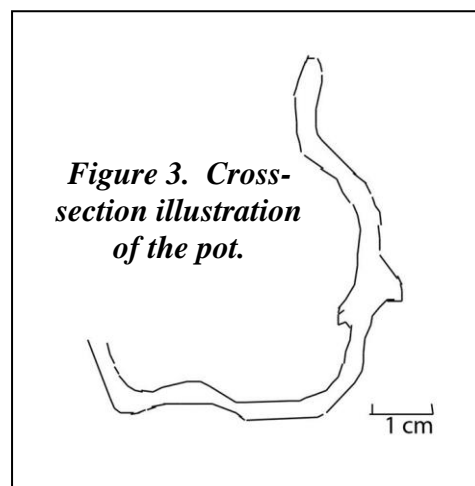


Figure 3. Cross-section illustration of the pot.

This is not a real emergency only a drill!

By James Fogleman

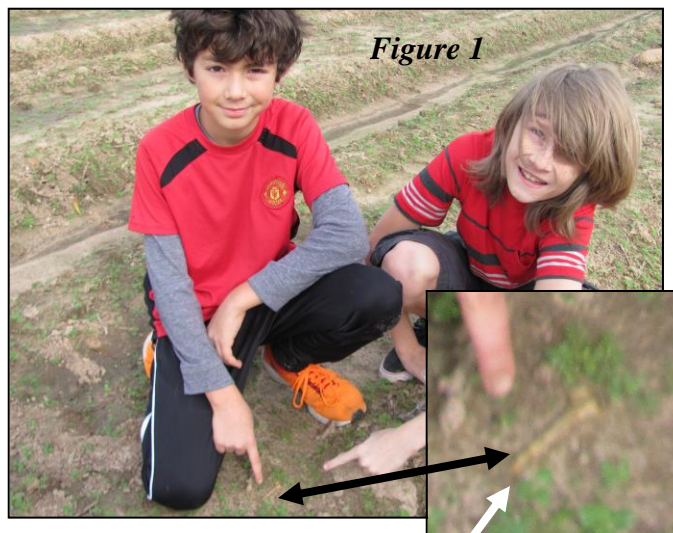
Recently, two of my grand nephews, Ian Wahl from Austin and Harper Elliot from a Houston suburb, came to visit me in Morrow, La. I had promised them I would take them “arrowhead hunting.” The Checkstamp site (16SL142) had been prepared for sweet potato planting and rain had fallen, so I guaranteed them it wouldn’t be a “dry run.” Sure enough, in a short time both boys found dozens of pot sherds. Then Ian hollered, so I figured he had found the first arrowhead. In reality it was an exceptionally nice expanded base drill (Figure 1). I revisited the site later and located yet another expanded base drill as well as a large chunk of sandstone. These drills and a third from the site (Figure 2) that had already made an appearance in *Louisiana Archaeology* (No. 42) do not resemble the thick drills associated with Tchefuncte & Middle Archaic sites (Figure 3) and are the only ones I have seen from central Louisiana. They are more delicate and on average better made.

The large piece of sandstone (Figure 4) was quite a surprise in that it was so large—roughly an equilateral triangle about 20 cm. (8”) on each side and 4 cm. (1.5”) thick. It’s hard to believe that I had not noticed it years earlier. It may well have been exposed as a result of recent land leveling. The presence of only a few “tractor traumas” also indicates a recent exposure. It is shaped like a metate with the used side covered with a thin brownish-black film.

To me, the small well-made drills are additional examples of the sweeping technological changes that occurred between the Middle Archaic to Tchefuncte eras and the Troyville/Coles Creek/Plaquemine times. In technology, Tchefuncte could be considered Archaic, with a “side of crude ceramics.” The end of the Marksville period may be the old lithic tradition’s last gasp. Neuman in *Introduction to Louisiana Archaeology* (1984) states that “artefactual remains suggest a Marksville subsistence base much like that of the Tchefuncte.” Suggesting he feels that there was a great technological break post Marksville. It is interesting and ironic that even though I have studied sites all around the Marksville site (16AV1), good Marksville material is very rare at most of them.

Speaking of non-sequiturs, this past summer my wife and I went to the Shreveport/Bossier area to take her to see a Journey concert. Journey’s lead singer is a Filipino with a true Cinderella story. My part of the deal was a visit the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum. In its Caddoan exhibit, there is an expanded base drill very similar to those at Checkstamp, as well as a rock ‘ball’ and other stone objects nearly identical to the Checkstamp site material.

It is amazing how similar their lithic technology was, but how different their ceramics seem to be. If one considers a “sexist” approach to archaeology, men likely traveled more during prehistory so that their technology and style was not as localized as ceramics, which, if made by women, may have been more “provincial.” Another (less sexist?) option is that there is only so much you can do with stone, but pottery is ideal for female creativity!



LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE MEDIA

The Other Caddo Indian Canoe

Devon Patton, July 8, 2017

KTBS TV Shreveport, LA

Caddo Parish history is still being uncovered to this day. Local historians and archeologist abroad are excited about a canoe found along the banks of the Red River. It is believed to be the largest Native American canoe ever found intact in North America.

Phil Cross lives on the Caddo Indian reservation in Oklahoma and runs a small museum there. He can't wait to see the boat in person. "I'm just really excited to learn about this one," said Cross.

Former NSU Professor and archaeologist Jeff Girard was there when the canoe was unearthed last month and now has the results of radio carbon dating. "It dates to the early 14 century that's between about 1300 and 1370 AD" ...makes it about 700 years old maybe 600 to 700 years old," said Girard.

The discovery harks back to a canoe found in Caddo parish back in 1983 and currently on display at the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum.

When you compare the two canoes, the one found in 1983 is about 31 feet long. The one found this year is 3 feet longer. The newly found canoe is a little bit younger than the one in the museum, which is about 900 years old.

The boats are very similar in structure in how they were made, which is why they are technically called dugouts. Caddo Indians would take a cypress tree and literally dig out the inside of the trunk to make the boat. Historians say these finds tell them a lot about Native American life in Caddo Parish.

"It's a big canoe and would have transported lots of people up and down the river and there is a lot of thought that it was ceremonial," said Cross. "Water transportation was very important. A lot of labor went into these boats and they must have taken a great deal of skill to travel in them," said Girard.

The museum in Shreveport has a wing dedicated to the Caddo Indians. The question is, will the newly found canoe join its smaller counterpart there after preservation efforts are completed at Texas A&M University? If that decision was up to Caddo Indian Phil Cross...it would be yes

"A good place for it would be with the other one found nearby right there in Shreveport. That would be a good place to put it," said Cross.

The state of Louisiana currently has the rights to the canoe found last month but they will seek input from Caddo Nation, local archeologist and the family who owned the property where it was found as to where the canoe will go on display.



Two views of the Caddoan dugout canoe discovered in 1983 and on display in the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport.

In its 4th summer, quest to find Cajun 'lost colony' relies on tiny clues, educated guesses

By Richard Burgess | RBURGESS@THEADVOCATE.COM, May 9, 2017

LOREAUVILLE — Along the banks of the Bayou Teche, researchers are carefully sifting through countless shovelfuls of dirt in search of ceramic shards, bits of old bottles or any other tiny clue that could lead to what's been called the "lost colony" of one the earliest Acadian groups to settle in south Louisiana.

On Wednesday, the team launched the start of its fourth summer of field work in Iberia Parish as they attempt to unravel the mystery.

"It's a painstaking game of going through the haystack for needles," said University of Louisiana at Lafayette professor Mark Rees, an archaeologist who is overseeing the New Acadia Project. A group of roughly 200 Acadians arrived in the area in 1765, led by Joseph "Beausoleil" Broussard after the British kicked them out of their homeland in present-day Nova Scotia.

The group is believed to have settled along the Bayou Teche in the Loreauville area, splitting up into three settlements, but there are scant records to pinpoint where they lived or to shed light on what their lives were like.

The team has used old church, census and land records in an attempt to narrow the search, but deciding where to dig along the miles of bayou where the settlements might have been is still educated guesswork.

The research crew is not certain what they might find. "We don't know for sure what they came with," said independent archaeologist Donny Bourgeois, who has been hired to direct fieldwork for the project.

In general, the researchers are looking for glass, pipe stems, ceramics and other items that, because of the materials or design, can be dated to the 1700s.

Rees said eight sites have been identified with artifacts from the 1700s, and about three of those seem promising, though there has yet to be any extensive excavation. One of the most interesting areas, he said, is at the site where one of Beausoleil's son, Armand Broussard, built a home in the 1790s.

Rees said it could be that the son built his home on land where his family had settled. As the research develops, Rees said, there are plans to further investigate potential sites based on where

artifacts from 1700s have been found, looking for old graves and the remnants of dwellings to help verify early settlements. "Artifacts are clues to the main goal," he said.

How long the search for the Cajun's "lost colony" might last, or whether it will ultimately be successful, is an unknown. Some of the most well-known archaeological searches, like the effort to locate the early North American "lost colony" of Roanoke, have stretched on for decades.

The biggest challenge for the New Acadia Project has been funding, and the project is now competing in national project called A Community Thrives for a chance of winning up to \$100,000. Winners are determined by online voting. The deadline is Friday.

The project has been kept afloat largely with community support, and this summer's research is being paid for with about \$21,000 raised earlier this year at Loreauville's Mayor Al Broussard Memorial 5K & 1 Mile Croc Walk and Family Fun Day.



Paul Bedel and Gabrielle Moreland look for artifacts May 9 along Bayou Teche in New Iberia. Photo-Brad Kemp



Donny Bourgeois recording GPS location of shovel test. Photo-Brad Kemp

Sherd Big Find for Acadia Project

By Corey Vaughn, THE DAILY IBERIAN, July 9, 2017

LOREAUVILLE — There's an old platitude in archaeology that the best things usually are found on the last days of fieldwork.

That couldn't be more applicable Friday to the New Acadia Project as the team of three and Director Mark Rees surveyed a property in Loreauville a few hours before the eight weeks of summer fieldwork came to an end Friday.

The big find? A tin-enameled ceramic called faience, which was a precursor to ceramics like pearlware that the team has been finding for years while researching in Loreauville.

"Just finding a sherd like that isn't in and of itself very important. It's just a sherd," Rees said. "There are thousands of them. But in this area, we have not find a lot. I could put all the ones we've found on one hand. We probably had two or three from the Amand Broussard home site. It's sort of a clue in its location. It raises a red flag and tells us 'Look here more, there was somebody here using earlier ceramics.'"

"This was definitely a site, people were definitely living here," he added. "We were hoping to find more of this tin-enameled stuff in a context which would be a dark soil that would date from the 1765 soil site."

Although there's a lot of science and history behind it, the goal of the New Acadia Project is simple: find the original settlement that Joseph "Beausoleil" Broussard and the other settlers made when they finally arrived in Acadiana.

Despite how much is known about the first Acadians, who would give birth to the Cajun population in southwest Louisiana, the exact location of "New Acadie" has been lost for years,



*Donny Bourgeois hold artifacts found in Loreauville.
Photo by Corey Vaughn*

and is probably one of the most significant archaeological endeavors that could be implemented in the area.

That's where the New Acadia Project has picked up the slack. Although researchers like Rees are affiliated with the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the organization is its own nonprofit motivated in large part to the interest of locals who are excited about the possibility of uncovering history.

That excitement is most palpable in Loreauville, where the late Mayor Al Broussard served as chairman of the organization for years. Since Broussard's untimely death, Loreauville Mayor Brad Clifton and other locals have picked up the slack organizing events and fundraisers to keep the research and excavations going.

Rees and co-researcher Donny Bourgeois have been the mainstays of the project for years, and are assisted by University of Louisiana at Lafayette archaeology. This year they are Paul Bedell, a recently graduated ULL student, and Regina Lowe, an incoming sophomore.

It's been good," Bedell said, reflecting on the past eight works. "Better than some, worse than others." Because project workers only have a handful of people available to work during the summer heat, Rees and the team have tried to work as smartly as possible. Each year, the New Acadia Project looks at history and geography to determine what the most promising locations would be, and conduct research through shovel testing.

That type of work requires holes being dig (after getting the permission form landowners, of course) and lining up any artifacts found with the date of the soil. The team also largely works by surface collection, or finding artifacts on the ground.

A surprising number of artifacts are found that way, especially in nearby sugar cane fields where the ground is continuously plowed. At the private property Friday, however, there was plenty of interesting material simply lying on the ground.

The group worked into the afternoon, gathering as much data as quickly as possible before the fieldwork season was over. At one point, Rees asked Bourgeois if he was satisfied with the amount of shovel testing that had been conducted at the site. "Not really, but we don't have much time," Bourgeois said

OLD JESUIT CHURCH IS EXCAVATED FROM THE CLAY

Lex Talamo, June 20, 2017. Shreveport Times.

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/story/news/2017/06/21/archeology-shreveport-old-jesuit-church-excavated-clay>

The Jesuits staked their claim in Shreveport in 1902, bringing education, religion and a new sense of community to the city.

Now, more than a century later, the remains of one of their first churches is being uncovered from the clay. The excavation of the former St. Johns Church started in May, headed by leadership from the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans and the history department of LSU- Shreveport.

Since then, the archaeology team has uncovered from the Texas Avenue site several artifacts and structural supports – including the cornerstone, a pillar of the eastern foundation and the center aisle of the old church.

Cheryl White, an associate professor of history at LSU-Shreveport, helped determine the site's location using software to compare current and former city maps and old photographs. She said the project coincides with the upcoming publication of a book about the parish's history, planned for this fall. "That was what started the conversation," said White, who also is a parishioner at St. John Berchmans.

One of the earliest tasks was obtaining permission to explore the land from the property's owner, Shreveport resident Jodie Glorioso.

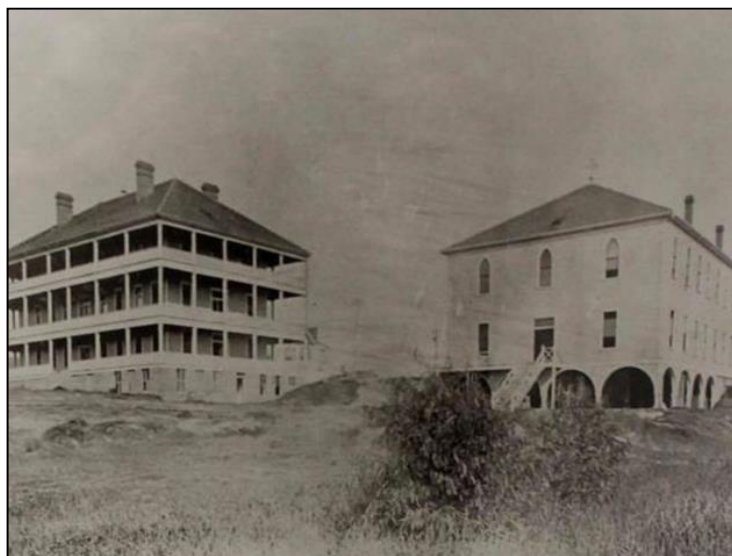
White initially approached Glorioso with the idea of placing an historical marker on the site. But when the history professor pinpointed that the plot might contain the actual foundation of the church, she upgraded her request for permission to dig.

That was fine with Glorioso, whose family has owned the land since the 1940s or the 1950s. She, along with her siblings, had been baptized in and attended the old Jesuit high school.

It was important for us and we really had no idea what would be, so we were as excited about the find as they were," Glorioso said. "I love historical digging. You never know what you might find."

White said she and Marty Loschen, the Spring Street museum curator, headed to the site with a shovel to see if they could find the cornerstone. White had done measurements. She directed the digging. Within minutes, Loschen's shovel hit brick.

"We came within inches of the front door on the first day," White said. "I knew on that first day that we were going to find it."



Historic photos from The Cathedral of St. John Berchmans. (Photo: Courtesy of Cathedral of St. John Berchmans.)

On May 9, the team uncovered the foundations of the original St. John's College and Church on Texas Avenue. Since then, they also have uncovered part of the east foundation and center aisle of the church, part of a chimney and several artifacts, including 19th- and 20th-century ceramics, iron hardware, religious artifacts, coins, bottles and glass.

Members of the excavation team besides White and Loschen: Father Peter Mangum, head rector of the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans; Gary Joiner, associate professor and director of the LSUS history and social sciences department; Jason Brown, a Bossier City attorney and trained archaeologist; and John Michael Giglio, of JMG Plumbing & Contracting.

"The church and college were located on a major thoroughfare from Shreveport to Texas, a route used since before Shreveport was incorporated as a city," Mangum wrote in an emailed statement. "Many people did not know that there was an original site of St. John's and now they realize that their ancestors would have worship at that site and gone to that school."

The team has been working biweekly to see what else they can uncover, White said –with the goal of exposing and preserving the old church's foundations and also placing the historical marker by the site.



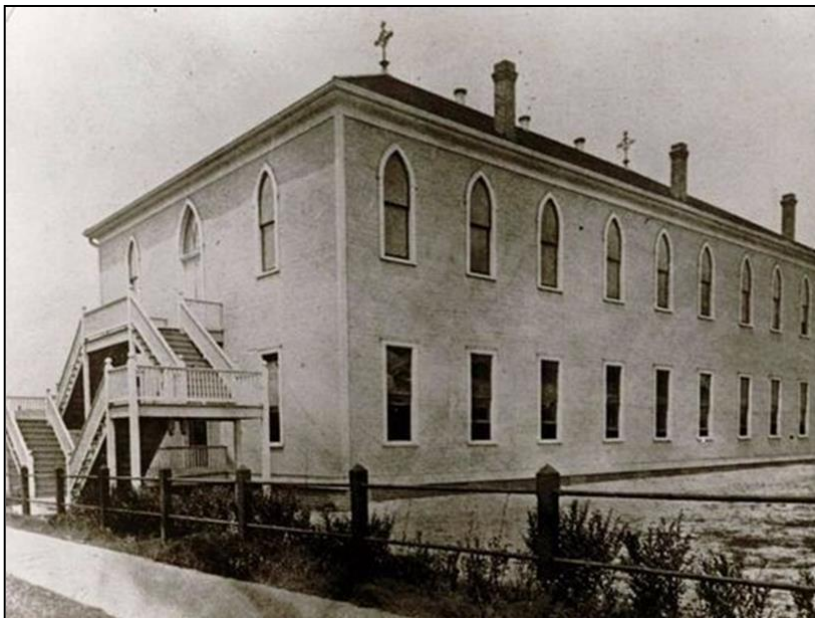
Excavations expose a brick pier at the site of former St. Johns Church. (Photo: Henrietta Wildsmith/The Times).



St. John Berchman's Father Peter Mangum, right, works with others to excavate the former site of their first church. (Photo: Henrietta Wildsmith/The Times)



Sample of recovered artifacts from the excavations at former site of St. Johns Church. (Photo: Henrietta Wildsmith/The Times)



*Historic photos from The Cathedral of St. John Berchmans.
(Photo: Courtesy of Cathedral of St. John Berchmans.)*

The digging is classified as an “open excavation of a known location,” White said. The diggers aren’t required to “grid” the location, but White catalogs everything the team finds. “We know anything below a certain point belongs to the church, which helps a lot,” she said.

Glorioso said she trusts the archaeological team to properly uncover and preserve any artifacts they find. She said she was “thrilled” at the team’s interest and how they’re making their findings known to the community through a Facebook site.

Glorioso knows the project’s end date is not yet in sight. “It makes me curious to know what else is under there,” she said. “It would be wonderful for them to do some kind of shrine, and my family would be willing to work with them on that. There’s quite a number of people whose lives have been touched by the Jesuits.”

The archaeological team hopes the uncovered artifacts can be displayed at the Spring Street Museum along with an introduction to the history of the church and the Jesuits' impact on the city.

Mangum said he also has the original journals of the founding priests and their successors, which provide an historical account of the events and people involved in the creation, operation and activities of St. Johns' church and college.

He also has other “documentary evidence,” including correspondence, wills, deeds,

photographic records and newspaper articles from that period.

“Such documentary evidence provides only a limited view of the many past experiences, varied personalities, and dynamics of social and religious life which revolved around this place in times past,” Mangum wrote in an email. “One of my hopes is that we will obtain additional data from other sources and also inspire people to look to their past and discover their roots here in our city.” Mangum said in an early Facebook posting that the excavation is “uncovering the past of our church as well as of our community.”

“It’s been quite an experience. I’ve thoroughly enjoyed it and the interest in our parish and community has been so great,” Mangum said.

White said each day at the dig site is meaningful and inspiring. “This is the sort of thing you hope you get to work on,” she said. “This morphed into something bigger than all of us. This really is a story about the church, their identity and their history.”

But White said there’s also a larger story told by the artifacts. “If we can help people understand we exist on a continuum, that our lives are the result of building on someone else’s work and life, it expands our idea of what it is to be alive,” she said, “to know that my life is connected to something bigger.”

Salvage archaeology: When rising seas threaten to wash away history

By Henry Gass, Staff writer, Christian Science Monitor

AUGUST 4, 2017

ST. TAMMANY PARISH, LA.—The Gulf of Mexico is creeping up over centuries of history south of New Orleans. Inching up through the timeline, Civil War-era forts are now abandoned ruins. Next up for inundation: temporary settlements from around a century ago, along with who knows what else.

The threat of losing long-abandoned settlements may seem minute compared with the millions of people and billions of dollars in economic resources at growing risk as rising seas threaten the Louisiana coast. But to Brian Ostahowski, an archaeologist, the chronicling of Louisiana's disappearing coastal history is one small area – amid the state's sprawling, multipronged coastal protection efforts – where he can make a difference.

"I just want to record this before it's gone," says Mr. Ostahowski on a gray, humid morning in early June, as he surveys a small beach on Rabbit Island, a narrow spit of marshland about an hour's boat-ride northeast of New Orleans. "Maybe not to have all the answers, but at least to have them available, so if somebody has a research question [in the future] we'll have recorded that for them."

His efforts date back 18 months, to when he met Richie Blink. Ostahowski, president of the Louisiana Archaeological Society, wanted to chronicle historical artifacts along the coastline before they disappeared. Mr. Blink had a boat (the New Delta). The rest, as they say, is history.

Their efforts are becoming more urgent. Blink, a native of southern Plaquemines Parish who works on community outreach for the National Wildlife Federation here, has watched as storms and gradual coastal erosion have damaged or destroyed four of the region's centuries-old forts in recent years.

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita damaged Fort Jackson, a battle site during the Civil War, and successive storms have also crippled nearby Forts Livingston and St. Philip. Livingston has since been abandoned and St. Philip rendered inaccessible without a boat. Fort Proctor, a battle site from the

War of 1812, is being "slowly engulfed" by Lake Borgne. "The more disciplines that are clued into what's happening the better. When the water's coming up isn't the time to go out and study these sites," he says, tiptoeing around dozens of bricks scattered along the shoreline – the remnants of a lighthouse that operated from the Civil War until the 1920s.

"Getting people to realize this is happening in their backyard in America and not an obscure island in the Pacific Ocean," he adds, "Anything that can help that out is a good thing."

Later in the morning, Blink steers the New Delta to two more sites: a ruined oyster cannery in the now-nonexistent town of Dunbar, where Eastern European immigrants settled in the early 1900s; and another area of Pearl Island that had been used as a quarantine station during an 1880s yellow fever outbreak.

The only infrastructure from those days still functioning is the railway. Along the tracks, Ostahowski studies a grainy black-and-white photograph of the old town. Where there used to be houses and people going about their lives, there is now only open water.

Ostahowski's mission, he explains, is to try to ensure that communities marginalized when they were alive aren't marginalized in the historical record. "When all that gets destroyed, our ability to understand these groups – where they went, who they interacted with – somewhat softens over time, and eventually we just won't know anything about these people," he says. "We'll just know that they were here." Recording those remains in as much detail as possible, "gives us a fuller perspective of what our own history is."

Imagine, for example, what it would mean for future generations if every remnant of slavery was lost to the sea?

That's not to say that the dead are more worthy of saving than the living, he says. "We need to take care of our current communities" on the Louisiana coast, he adds. "But I think some of these histories are worth mentioning and taking a look at."



In 1911, the settlement of Dunbar, La., was home to Eastern European immigrants and hub of the local oyster industry. Today, rising seas threaten to wash away what little archaeological evidence of the community remains. Lewis Wickes Hine/Library of Congress



Dunbar, La. in 2017, overtaken by marshland and threatened by rising water.



Archaeologist Brian Ostahowski (left) and environmental activist Richie Blink catalog the remnants of a Civil War-era lighthouse on Rabbit Island, a narrow spit of marshland about an hour's boat-ride northeast of New Orleans.

BOOKS OF INTEREST FOR LOUISIANA ARCHAEOLOGY

Caddo Landscapes in the East Texas Forests

By Timothy K. Perttula

Oxbow Books, 2017.

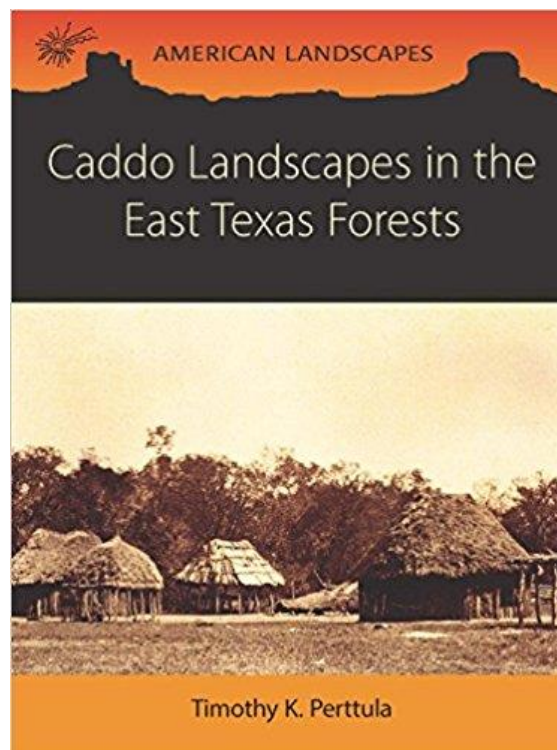
<http://www.oxbowbooks.com>

Reviewed by Jeff Girard

With *Caddo Landscapes in the East Texas Forests* author Tim Perttula and associates have produced an outstanding summary of the archaeology of the Caddo area in East Texas. This book is well written, contains superb maps and other illustrations, and serves as a stimulating and valuable tool for research in the Caddo area and Southeastern U.S.

The book contains eight chapters, the first of which is an overview discussing temporal and spatial parameters, settlements and their distributions across the landscape, subsistence practices, trade, and population parameters. The second chapter is about Caddo pottery, probably the most discussed and interpreted aspect of Caddo studies due to its importance for understanding chronology and social variation within the region. With superb figures and a concise discussion, Perttula conveys the diversity and changes of Caddo ceramic assemblages in East Texas. Chapter 3 presents the environmental setting. Although description of the natural landscape seems rather short given the theme of the book, the summaries of pollen and tree-ring studies and their implications for understanding paleoenvironmental change (particularly rainfall patterns) are well presented and very useful.

The following four chapters are summaries of the archaeological record by time periods. All begin with overviews of settlement configurations and communities, then discuss mound centers, and conclude with descriptions of key non-mound sites. These chapters review much work carried out by Perttula and others that has been published in CRM reports or as papers in the *Journal of Northeast Texas Archeology*. Their inclusion here not only makes the information more accessible, but also presents it in an organized and very useful manner. In most cases, the site descriptions are detailed, and include site maps, artifact illustrations, feature cross sections, and other data such as magnetometry imaging and charts of radiocarbon dates. For some people, the level of detail might make for tedious reading; but the utility for research is immense.



Chapter 4 starts with a discussion of late Woodland period contexts, then treats early Caddo (ca. A.D. 850-1200) sites such as the mound centers at George C. Davis, Boxed Spring, Hale Mound, and Mound Pond. The Davis site (Caddoan Mounds State Historic Site) is open to the public for visitation as noted in an appendix to this volume. In Chapter 5 the Middle Caddo period (ca. AD1200-1400) is described. A significant increase in the number of sites is evident and settlements appear to have become widely dispersed across the landscape. Multiple distinctive ceramic style zones have been recognized, and Perttula interprets this trend to represent increasing local autonomy of communities possibly due to greater reliance on maize horticulture. Mound ceremonial sites continued to be constructed-- many of these not as well-known as the early sites, and the summaries in this volume are particularly useful.

The period from ca. AD 1400 to 1680, the subject of Chapter 6, is the most thoroughly studied in East Texas and includes several large-scale CRM projects such as that carried out by Prewitt and Associates at and around the Pine Tree Mound site in the Sabine River drainage only a few miles west of the Louisiana state line (the discussion of this project in *Caddo Landscapes* is authored by Ross Fields, the principal investigator).

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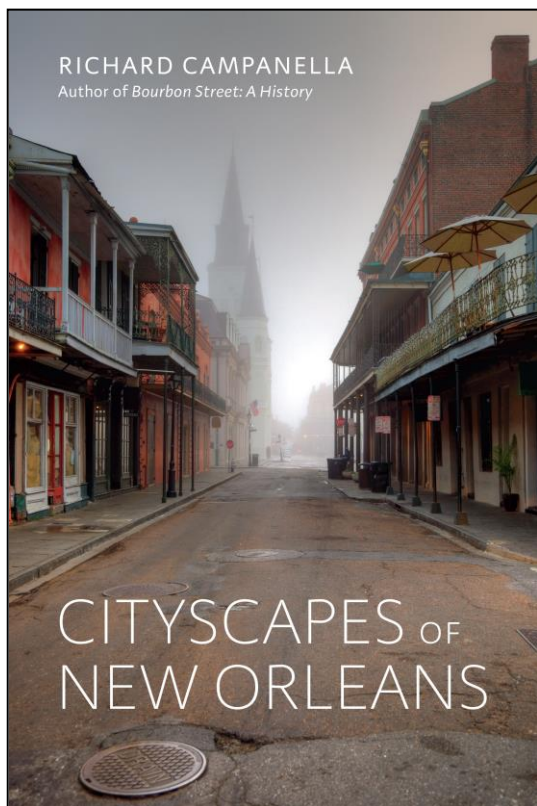
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In my opinion, the information in this chapter summarizes the most extensive and thorough work carried out in the Caddo area, and represents some of the best research in the Southeastern U.S. The chapter contains detailed information about house forms, burials (many in large well-organized cemeteries), individual site configurations, and settlement distributions. Perttula and Fields discuss how communities were structured and linked together into larger sociopolitical units, some of which formed the groups identified in the 17th and 18th century historic accounts of the Caddo of East Texas.

The archaeological record for historic times (A.D. 1680-1838) is the subject of Chapter 7. The chapter includes historic information and descriptions of several key sites that contain European trade goods or are identifiable in historic records. The chapter includes a section written by Tom Middlebrook on the many sites that he has documented in Nacogdoches County. One interesting inclusion in this chapter is a table with demographic data pulled from historic sources that, despite obvious inconsistencies in recording,

documents the dramatic population losses of the Caddo people in 18th century (there was an estimated 75% decline between 1687 and 1790).

The book concludes with a short chapter (Chapter 8) in which Perttula comments about the future of Caddo archaeology. He calls for broader comparative studies and the creation of large data sets that cross cut modern state boundaries. Specifically, the wealth of ceramic stylistic data that has accumulated could be combined with knowledge of ceramic technology acquired from recent petrographic and instrumental neutron activation (INAA) studies to learn about large-scale social networks and patterns that relate to localized community identities. Perttula does not set out specific research topics pertaining to major changes in the Caddo archaeological record, nor does he advocate a distinct theoretical perspective. In some respects, *Caddo Landscapes* is more of a reference book; a book to consult rather than to read cover-to-cover. However, this is not a dull, encyclopedia-like descriptive volume--interpretations are presented throughout, the writing is clear, and the quality of the figures is first rate.



Cityscapes of New Orleans, by Richard Campanella
408 pages / 6.12 x 9.25 inches / 65 halftones, 13 maps
LSU Press, October 2017

Exploring the Crescent City from the ground up, Richard Campanella takes us on a winding journey toward explaining the city's distinct urbanism and eccentricities. In *Cityscapes of New Orleans*, Campanella—a historical geographer and professor at Tulane University—reveals the why behind the where, delving into the historical and cultural forces that have shaped the spaces of New Orleans for over three centuries.

For Campanella, every bewildering street grid and linguistic quirk has a story to tell about the landscape of Louisiana and the geography of its best known city. *Cityscapes of New Orleans* starts with an examination of neighborhoods, from the origins of *faubourgs* and wards to the impact of the slave trade on patterns of residence.

Campanella explains how fragments of New Orleans streets continue to elude Google Maps and why humble Creole cottages sit alongside massive Greek Revival mansions. He considers the roles of modern urban planning, environmentalism, and preservation, all of which continue to influence the layout of the city and its suburbs. In the book's final section, Campanella explores the impact of natural disasters as well-known as Hurricane Katrina and as unfamiliar as "Sauvé's Crevasse," an 1849 levee break that flooded over two hundred city blocks.

Cityscapes of New Orleans offers a wealth of perspectives for uninitiated visitors and transplanted citizens still confounded by terms like "neutral ground," as well as native-born New Orleanians trying to understand the Canal Street Sinkhole. Campanella shows us a vibrant metropolis with stories around every corner.

Fragile Grounds: Louisiana's Endangered Cemeteries

By Jessica H. Schexnayder and Mary H. Manhein
University Press of Mississippi
256 pages (approx.), 10 x 10 inches, 252 color illustrations, appendices, bibliography, index
Cloth \$30.00T

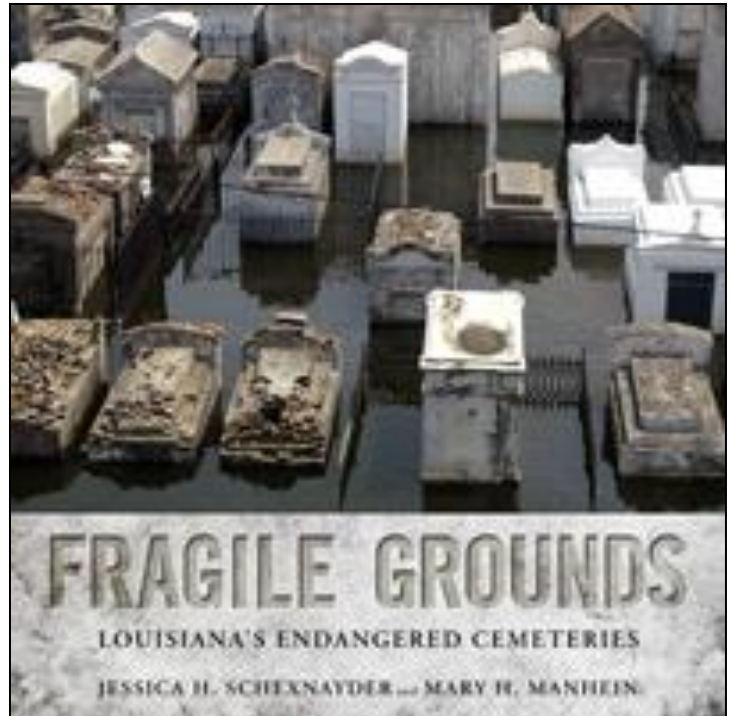
A visual treasury of disappearing cemeteries and a call to preserve and document them.

Fragile Grounds compiles stories and photographs of endangered cemeteries throughout Louisiana's coastal zone and beyond. These burial places link the fragile land to the frailty of the state's threatened community structures. The book highlights the state's vibrant diversity by showing its unique burial customs and traditions, while it also identifies the urgent need for ongoing documentation of cultural elements at risk.

Cemeteries associated with the culturally rich communities of Louisiana reflect the history and global settlement patterns of the state. Yet many are endangered due to recurring natural and man-made events. Nearly 80 percent of the nation's coastal land loss occurs in Louisiana. Coastal erosion, sinking land, flooding, storm surge, and sea-level rise have led to an inland migration that threatens to unravel the fabric of Louisiana and, by association, hastens the demise of its burial places.

As people are forced inland, migrants abandon, neglect, or often overlook cemeteries as part of the cultural landscape. In terms of erosion, when the land goes, the cemetery goes with it. Cemeteries fall prey to inland and coastal flooding. As cities grow outward, urban sprawl takes over the landscape. Cemeteries lose out to forces such as expansion, eminent domain, and urban neglect. Not only do cemeteries give comfort for the living, but they also serve as a vital link to the past. Once lost, that past cannot be recovered.

Jessica H. Schexnayder, Denham Springs, Louisiana, is a Louisiana native and is passionate about documenting the people, history, and culture of south Louisiana. Her writing and photography have been featured by the Louisiana State Archives, Louisiana Cultural Vistas, Country Roads, Heart of Louisiana, and Inside New Orleans.



Mary H. Manhein, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, is author of *The Bone Lady: Life as a Forensic Anthropologist*; *Trail of Bones: More Cases from the Files of a Forensic Anthropologist*; *Bone Remains: Cold Cases in Forensic Anthropology*, and the mystery novel *Floating Souls: The Canal Murders*. She is retired director of the Forensic Anthropology and Computer Enhancement Services (FACES) Laboratory at Louisiana State University.



MEETINGS, FIELDWORK, EXHIBITS, WEBSITES, ETC.



October is Louisiana Archaeology Month 2017

Various activities related to the archaeology of Louisiana take place at various locations around the state. Check the LAS website:

www.laarchaeologicalsociety.org and the Louisiana Division of Archaeology website: www.crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/archaeology

LAS Field Project at the Lac St. Agnes site

The Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS) seeks volunteers for a field project at the Lac St Agnes site (16AV26) in Avoyelles Parish. Work is from October 16 to November 3, 2017. Contact outreach@laarchaeologicalsociety.org for details. For more information about the Lac St. Agnes site, see LAS bulletins No. 29 (2002) and No. 36 (2009).



74th Annual SEAC Meeting in Tulsa, OK

For the first time ever, the Southeastern Archaeology Conference will be in Tulsa, Oklahoma on November 8-11, 2017 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Downtown Tulsa. Modern Tulsa is within the boundaries of the Creek, Osage, and Cherokee Nations, but is surrounded by many of the Nations of the Southeastern Tribes and we are hoping for a greater attendance from those communities. For more information about SEAC 2017 go to www.southeasternarchaeology.org/annual-meeting/details/



Landscapes, Entrepôts, and Global Currents

Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) 2018 New Orleans, Louisiana January 3-7, 2018

The SHA 2018 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology Committee invites you to New Orleans, Louisiana to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the founding of the Crescent City. The 2018 SHA Conference will be held at the New Orleans Marriott, located on Canal Street at the edge of the historic French Quarter.

Go to <https://sha.org/conferences> for more information and to register.

First Announcement!

Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS): Celebrating 300 years of New Orleans

Landmark Hotel & Suites Metairie
2601 Severn Avenue, Metairie, LA 70002

Friday 2/16/2018 - Executive Committee Meeting/Welcome Party
Saturday 2/17/2018 - Conference, Banquet, Keynote Address
Sunday 2/18/2018 - Site tour



**Louisiana Archaeological Society
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Regular.....	\$20.00	_____
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Back Issues of LAS Bulletins are \$8.00, but discounts are available for large orders. Out of print bulletins are available at the LAS website for free download.

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Information for Subscribers

The Newsletter of the Louisiana Archaeological Society is published three times a year for the society. Subscription is by membership in the Louisiana Archaeological Society (LAS). Annual membership dues are \$20 for individuals, libraries, and institutions, \$5.00 for associates (relatives of individual members), and \$12 for students. Life membership dues are \$200 for individuals. Sustaining membership dues for individuals or institutions are \$300. In addition to the newsletter, members receive one issue per year of the LAS bulletin *Louisiana Archaeology*. Membership requests, subscription dues, changes of address, and back issue orders should be directed to the Treasurer. Unless otherwise indicated, opinions stated herein are those of the editor or authors and do not necessarily reflect society policy.

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1801 Ormandy Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70808

archaeoman.jones@gmail.com

Articles should be submitted by email, preferably in Microsoft Word. Digital images are encouraged. Please send in TIF, JPG, or Word format. Contact editor via email with all questions.

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