

University of South Alabama

JagWorks@USA

Archaeology Museum Newsletters

Archaeology Museum

3-10-2024

USA Archaeology Museum Newsletter - March 2024

Jennifer Knutson

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In this edition of the museum's newsletter,

Upcoming Free Public Talks:

- Alabama Archaeological Society, SW Chapter Spring Speaker Series featuring African American Cemetery Preservation
 - **Alabama Archaeology Society Southwest Chapter Meeting and Public Talk:**
 - "WPA Cemeteries in Florida," Maranda Kles, Ph.D., Archaeological Consultants, Inc., Mar. 12 at 3:30 pm
 -
- "Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile" Speaker Series

On Exhibit at the Archaeology Museum:

- "Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile"

Upcoming Local Archaeology Conferences

- Florida Anthropological Society 76th Annual Meeting cohosting the Alabama Archaeological Society Summer Meeting: May 10 -12, Pensacola, Florida

Who's Ready For Field Trips?

- Last Available Field Trip Friday Dates: March 22 & April 5

Project Archaeology Investigating Rock Art Professional Development Workshop

- Discover the past through evidence from a rock art site in Alabama! \$300 stipends available.

Giving to the Archaeology Museum

- Your support is needed more than ever!

Happy Women's History Month!

Current Events and Happenings at the USA Archaeology Museum

Free Public Talks

Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter

Monthly Meeting and Free Public Talk

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

What: "Works Progress Administration Cemeteries in Florida," an Alabama Archaeological Society, SW Chapter Monthly Lecture

When: Tues., Mar. 12 at 3:30 pm

Where: USA Archaeology Museum

6050 USA South Drive

Mobile, Alabama 36688

(251) 460-6106

Admission: Free & open to the public!

In the 1930s under President Franklin D. Roosevelt the Work Progress Administration took on a wide variety of projects to employ Americans through the Great Depression. One of the later projects was an effort to locate the resting place for all American Veterans, from the Revolutionary War, Civil War, and World War I. This project relied on a variety of veteran organizations and military branches to located cemeteries in each state and then determine if there were any veterans buried in those cemeteries and develop a list. Some states have used this list in various ways and many have made it available publicly through a variety of means. However, Florida has not followed suit and several years ago an unmarked cemetery was accidentally excavated and dumped on the side of I-10 as roadway fill for construction. For the last two years Maranda, along with co-workers, have been reviewing the WPA records for Florida in order to map out the various cemetery locations. Many are still known cemeteries, however many have been forgotten over time. This talk will review some of the methods used to locate these cemeteries and review a few examples of directions that were recorded in the 1940s leading directly to a cemetery that was forgotten and later found. It is hoped that this work will help the state protect more of these forgotten cemeteries from unintentional destruction.

Maranda Kles, Ph.D. is a bioarchaeologist and forensic anthropologist. She earned her PhD from the University of Florida and focused on an examination of the biological relationship of past Native American peoples in relation to their material culture. Dr. Kles taught at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for several years and the University of Florida. She is currently the President of Archaeological Consultants, Inc. a Florida-based Cultural Resource Management firm. While at ACI she has focused on helping clients evaluate and protect cultural resources throughout Florida. This work lead to her interest in locating unmarked or forgotten cemeteries.

Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Meeting



WPA Cemeteries in Florida

Tuesday, Mar. 12 | 3:30 pm



Maranda Kles, Ph.D.
President
Archaeological Consultants, Inc.

University of South Alabama
Archaeology Museum
6050 USA South Drive

Research presentation free and open to the public.



Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Speaker Series

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

Save the dates for upcoming talks, many featuring African American Cemetery Preservation happening this spring!

Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Speaker Series Spring 2024 Schedule



FREE Public Events!

Feb. 27: "They Are Not Forgotten: Working With Historic Cemeteries," by Jennifer Melcher, **UWF Archaeology Institute** at 4 pm

Mar. 12, : "WPA Cemeteries in Florida," by Maranda Kles, Ph.D., **Archaeological Consultants, Inc.** at 4 pm

Apr. 9: "Documenting the Historic Africatown Cemetery," by Alexandra Jones, Ph.D., **Archaeology in the Community** at 6 pm

Apr. 30: "Black History Under Ground," by Tracy Neely, **Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance** at 3:30 pm



USA Archaeology Museum

6050 USA South Drive

(251) 460-6106

Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile Speaker Series

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH
ALABAMA
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

Save the dates for
upcoming talks for the
last month in April of the

Unwritten Exhibit!

Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

Speaker Series

April 2: "Archaeology & Oral History of Down The Bay" by Philip Carr, Ph.D., Rachel Hines, & Ryan Morini, Ph.D., USA Center for Archaeological Studies and McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library at 3:30 p.m.

April 3: "Where is the parity: Exploring the gap between health disparities and health equities" by Franklin Trimm, M.D. & Tiquera Hall, USA Whiddon College of Medicine at 3:30 p.m.

April 9: "Documenting the Historic Africatown Cemetery" by Alexandra Jones, Ph.D., Archaeology in the Community at 6 p.m.

April 10: "Memory of the Civil Rights Movement in Mobile" by David Messenger, Ph.D., USA Department of History at 3:30 p.m.

April 30: "Black History Under Ground" by Tracy Neely, Alabama Cemetery Preservation Alliance at 3:30 p.m.



USA Archaeology Museum | 6050 USA South Drive | (251) 460-6106

FREE Public Events!

Now On Exhibit

Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

[USA Hosting Special Exhibit on Archaeology and Oral History.](#)

A new special exhibit, "Unwritten: Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile," highlighting the lives of the Lewis, Owens, and Griffin families is open at the University of South Alabama [Archaeology Museum](#). The exhibit can be viewed now, during Black History Month, and until the end of April. The museum is open Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at 6050 USA

South Drive. Admission is free and open to the public.

The exhibit will be on view exclusively at the USA Archaeology Museum, where people can view the amazing and inspiring stories and artifacts of these African-American families during segregation. “We are excited to offer a broader audience to these stories. The exhibit introduces three families who lived in different parts of Mobile but who shared much in common. As Black families, they endured Jim Crow segregation,” said Jennifer Knutson, assistant director of the USA Archaeology Museum. “They all owned homes at a time when many African Americans did not. And, archaeologists have excavated their homes. In the mid-20th century, development transformed their neighborhood, erasing homes, schools, and shops from the landscape. Although their homes are no longer standing, we can learn about their stories through Archaeology and Oral History in this exhibit.”

This exhibit is built on decades of past and current work by South scholars. USA Professor of Anthropology and the Chief Calvin McGhee Professor of Native American Studies, Dr. Philip Carr, also director of the USA Center for Archaeological Studies which also uncovered the home of the Owens Family, as part of the Down the Bay excavations during the Mobile I-10 River Bridge Project. The USA McCall Archives [Down the Bay Oral History Project](#) continues to record the stories of the community.

In the 1990s, South archaeologists excavated the Griffin Family's home before the Calloway-Smith Middle School construction near historic Davis Avenue. Their story is also featured in the “Unwritten” exhibit. The Lewis Family in Africatown is another family whose story is also highlighted. The College of William & Mary excavated the Africatown home site of Peter Lee as well as Lewis Quarters in 2010. Artifacts from these excavations can be seen by the public for the first time after their transfer to USA in 2021. South's Director of the African American Studies Program Dr. Kern Jackson, whose work documenting the stories of the Africatown community for decades also made this exhibit possible.

“[Part of a larger project funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities](#) includes the in-person exhibit at the museum and an online one for virtual visitors,” noted Knutson. “People will be able to see the exhibit in their local communities as a traveling exhibit in addition to the virtual one, which will be available later this spring.” “Unwritten: Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow in Mobile” will be on exhibit until the end of April at the USA Archaeology Museum.



Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

Free Admission

On Exhibit Now

Until April 2024

Meet the Lewis, Owens, and Griffin families from Africatown, Down the Bay, and Davis Avenue in Mobile, Alabama.

In the mid-20th century, development transformed their neighborhoods, erasing homes, schools, and shops from the landscape. Though their houses are no longer standing, we can learn their stories through **Archaeology & Oral History.**

USA Archaeology Museum
 6050 USA South Drive (251) 460-6106
southalabama.edu/org/archaeology/museum

Ernest Horton Collection: The Day Lewis McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of South Alabama.

Local Archaeology Conferences

Alabama Archaeological Society Summer Meeting
Florida Anthropological Society 76th Annual Meeting

CALL FOR PAPERS IS NOW OPEN!

Student Submissions welcome!

The [Pensacola Archaeological Society](https://us8.campaign-archive.com/?u=618dda9a39fe089bd7f5d0da7&id=5e6ef4db95) invites the submission of abstracts for paper and poster presentations at the FAS 76th Annual Meeting in Pensacola. We encourage submissions on a broad range of topics pertaining to Florida and Alabama

anthropology, archaeology, history, and other related disciplines. Presentations will occur on **Saturday, May 11, 2024**. You must agree to the FAS code of ethics to present at the conference. An abstract of no more than 100 words is required from each presenter. Individuals may submit only one paper or poster as first author for consideration. All presenters must register and pay the appropriate registration fee at the time they submit their abstract. A 20-minute time limit for each paper presentation will be strictly enforced.

Conference registration and abstract submission is available through the FAS website. Abstracts submission deadline is **Monday, April 1, 2024**. The deadline for proposing an organized session, panel discussion, or other special programs associated with the conference is **Monday, March 18, 2024**.

Email questions and organized session submissions to Maranda Kles at 1vp@fasweb.org.

Register: <https://fasweb.org/annual-meeting/>

THE 76th ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

Pensacola, Florida – May 10-12, 2024



By Land & Sea

This year's conference will be held at the University of West Florida's Downtown Campus in historic Pensacola. Participants can enjoy a free Friday reception and Saturday night's award banquet at Apple Annie's, in the Seville Quarter entertainment complex, which includes historic structures and architectural features from across the Gulf coast. Sunday morning tours will highlight the unique archaeology of Pensacola.

The FAS 76th Annual Meeting will have special co-hosts, the Pensacola Archaeological Society, Florida Public Archaeology Network, University of West Florida, and Alabama Archaeological Society (AAS). This year AAS will combine their summer meeting with the FAS annual meeting.



Field Trip Friday: Reservations Still Available

The following Fridays are still open for field trip reservations:

- March 22
- April 12

Please email archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu to make a reservation for your class!

WHO'S READY FOR FIELD TRIPS?



**NOW TAKING RESERVATIONS FOR FRIDAYS
ALL GRADE LEVELS
\$6 PER STUDENT
TEACHERS & CHAPERONES FREE**

PLEASE EMAIL:

ArchaeologyMuseum

@SOUTHALABAMA.EDU



Project Archaeology Investigating Rock Art Professional Development Workshop

Discover the past through evidence from a rock art site in Alabama!

Join us for a FREE three-day teacher workshop to explore the intersections of art, culture, and the past. The *Project Archaeology: Investigating Rock Art* curriculum engages upper-elementary teachers and their students. The curriculum guides students through a complete archaeological investigation of Painted Bluff, a Native American rock art site that overlooks Lake Gunterville near Huntsville, Alabama. The course and curriculum will teach integrative, inquiry-based methods for social studies and art instruction. Teachers working in upper elementary settings are especially encouraged to apply.

Only 16 spots available! The application deadline is April 10, 2024. [APPLY HERE](#)

- Receive a stipend -- up to \$300 -- for attending
- Curriculum guide that aligns to state standards
- Lunches, snacks, water, and field trip transportation from Ditto Landing to Painted Bluff via boat
- Cultural presentation by LaDonna Brown, a member of the Chickasaw Tribe
- Guest speakers: TBA
- One graduate university credit for \$23 (optional)

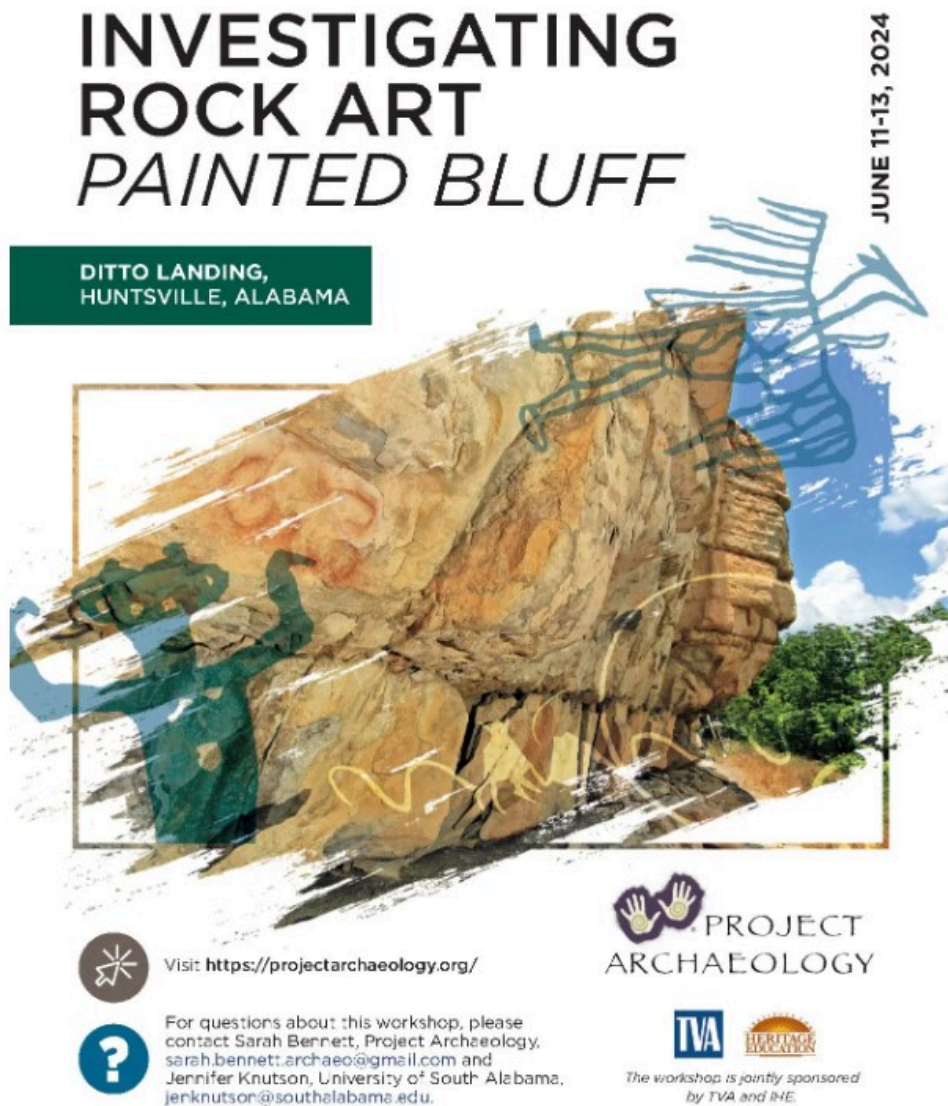
Applicants will choose between two workshop tracks: the traditional two-day teacher workshop (June 11-12) or the two-day teacher workshop as well as an additional day of facilitator training (June 11-13). Workshop participants will learn to use the

curriculum and how to teach archaeological inquiry to other teachers during the two-day workshop. Facilitator training participants will also learn how to lead Project Archaeology workshops, institutes, and other forms of professional development.

[PRINT AND SHARE THE FLYER WITH YOUR FRIENDS](#) (PDF opens in new tab)

Instructors: Sarah Bennett, sarah.bennett@projectarchaeology.org | Jen Knutson, jenknutson@southalabama.edu

The workshop is jointly sponsored through a cooperative agreement between the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and the Institute for Heritage Education (IHE). The TVA is the main financial sponsor of the event.



Giving to the Archaeology Museum

Your help is needed more than ever to support the USA Archaeology Museum's free public programs and giving to the museum is now possible online! Please visit <https://giving.southalabama.edu/archaeology> to make a secure, online donation to the museum. Every dollar counts! Some of our ongoing funding needs include K-12 supplies, paying student assistants (each student is about \$3k a semester), exhibit maintenance, and bringing new exhibits to campus.

Admission is Free!

Museum Hours: Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 am - 4 pm.

Phone: (251) 460-6106

Email: archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu

Facebook: [@TheArchaeologyMuseum](#)

Instagram: @SouthArchaeology

YouTube: @USAArchaeology

[Where To Find Us](#)
