

University of South Alabama

JagWorks@USA

Archaeology Museum Newsletters

Archaeology Museum

9-10-2023

USA Archaeology Museum Newsletter - September 2023

Jennifer Knutson

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In this edition of the Archaeology Museum's newsletter,

- ***Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile Exhibit***
 - September 2023 - April 2024

- ***Unwritten: Archaeology & Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile Exhibit Speaker Series Schedule***
 - 5:30 pm, Tuesday, Sept. 12, "Africatown Archaeology By Land & Sea"
 - 4 pm, Wednesday, Sept. 20, *Africatown* Author Nick Tabor
 - 4 pm, Tuesday, Sept. 26, Africatown Heritage House Manager, Jessica Fairley

- **Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Fall Speaker Series**
 - 5:30 pm, Tuesday, Oct. 3, "Defining Heaven & Hell in the Ancient Mediterranean"
 - 5:30 pm, Tuesday, Nov. 14, "We are the land, and the land is mother to us all: Native American and Environmental Justice in the Work of Four Contemporary Diné Artists"

- **Alabama Archaeology Day**, 10 am - 3 pm, Saturday, Oct. 7

- **Halloween at the Museum**, 10 am - 3 pm, Saturday, Oct. 21

- **Native Plants Garden Update**

- **[Giving to the Archaeology Museum](#)**

[Archaeology Museum Upcoming Events Calendar](#)

Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

A National Endowment for the Humanities Funded Exhibit

Meet the Lewis, Owens, and Griffin families. They lived in different parts of Mobile, but they shared much in common. As Black families, they navigated Jim Crow segregation. They all owned homes at a time when many Black Americans did not, and their homes were excavated by archaeologists. In the mid-20th century, development transformed their neighborhood, erasing homes, schools, and shops from the landscape. Though their houses are no longer standing, we can learn their stories through archaeology & oral history.

September 1, 2023 - April 30, 2024

Museum Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10 am - 4 pm

Free Admission

USA Archaeology Museum
6050 USA Drive South
Mobile, Alabama 36688
(251) 460-6106

No parking pass is needed in Lot 303. From there, please use the crosswalk to get to the museum.

Unwritten:
Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

Free Admission

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

Special Exhibit:
September 2023
—
April 2024

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES

Meet the Lewis, Owens, and Griffin families. They lived in different parts of Mobile, but they shared much in common. As Black families, they navigated Jim Crow segregation. They all owned homes at a time when many Black Americans did not, and their homes were excavated by archaeologists.

In the mid-20th century, development transformed their neighborhood, erasing homes, schools, and shops from the landscape. Though their houses are no longer standing, we can learn their stories through archaeology & oral history.

Open Tuesday-Friday, 10 am - 4 pm

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

Unwritten Exhibit Collection - The Day Lewis, Owens, Griffin Families and Archaeologists Lived, University of South Alabama

Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile Speaker Series in September

Free & Open to the Public!

- **5:30 pm, Tuesday, Sept. 12, "Africatown Archaeology By Land & Sea," Two Speakers, One Evening**
 - "Maritime Archaeology in the 21st Century: Exploring the History and Heritage of our Underwater World" by Dr. Justin Dunnivant, UCLA Anthropology Faculty," &
 - "Positioning Africatown in Post-Emancipation Black Mobile," by Madison Aubey, UCLA Ph.D. Student
 - **4 pm, Wednesday, Sept. 20, "We Have Not Had One White Friend: The Forgotten 1980s Battle for Africatown"** by Author and Journalist, Nick Tabor.
 - **4 pm, Tuesday, Sept. 26, "Clotilda: the Exhibition at the Africatown Heritage House,"** by Jessica Fairley, Manager, Africatown Heritage House
-

Unwritten:

Archaeology and Oral History of Jim Crow Mobile

Speaker Series

FREE Public Events!

Sept. 12: Africatown Archaeology By Land & Sea at 5 p.m.

"Maritime Archaeology in the 21st Century: Exploring the History and Heritage of our Underwater World" by Dr. Justin Dunnivant and "Positioning Africatown in Post-Emancipation Black Mobile" by Madison Aubey, UCLA Anthropology

Sept. 20: "We Have Not Had One White Friend: The Forgotten 1980s Battle for Africatown" by Nick Tabor, at 4 p.m.

Sept 26: "Clotilda: the Exhibition at the Africatown Heritage House" by Jessica Fairley, Africatown Heritage House, at 4 p.m.

Special thanks to USA Center for Archaeological Studies, USA Department of English and the USA Department of Communication

The National Endowment for the Humanities has generously provided the funding for this speaker series.



USA
Anthropology
Program



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

Africatown Archaeology By Land & Sea

Tuesday, Sept. 12 @ 5 p.m.

University of South Alabama Archaeology Museum
6050 USA South Drive
(251) 460-6106



“Positioning Africatown in Post-Emancipation Black Mobile”

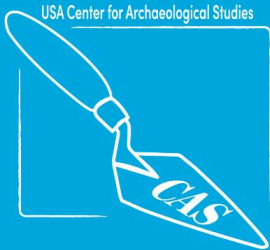
Madison Aubey
University of California, Los Angeles
Doctoral Student



“Maritime Archaeology in the 21st Century: Exploring the History and Heritage of our Underwater World”

Dr. Justin Dunnivant
University of California, Los Angeles
Anthropology Faculty

FREE Public Event!



USA Anthropology Program



Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities

“Africatown” Author Nick Tabor

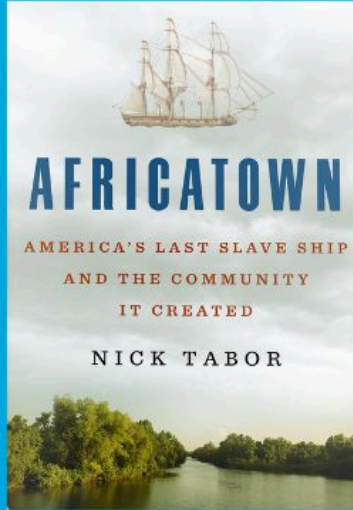
Wednesday, Sept. 20 @ 4 p.m.

University of South Alabama Archaeology Museum
6050 USA South Drive
(251) 460-6106



**“We Have Not Had
One White Friend”
The Forgotten 1980s Battle
for Africatown**

FREE Public Event!



This event is also sponsored by the
University of South Alabama Departments
of English and Communication.

Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities

Special Guest: Jessica Fairley

Tuesday, Sept. 26 @ 4 p.m.

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



Jessica Fairley
USA Alumna and Africatown
Heritage House Manager

FREE Public Event!



**“Clotilda: the
Exhibition at the
Africatown Heritage
House”**



Funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities

Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Meeting



Defining Heaven & Hell in the Ancient Mediterranean



Dr. Kara Burns
University of South Alabama
Art History Faculty

Tuesday, Oct. 3 | 5:30 pm

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 Fall 2024 Schedule

Aug. 1: "Archaeology in Alaska: Investigating a WWII Bomber Crash," by Rachel Hines, USA Center for Archaeological Studies

Sept. 5: "Commingled Ancestors & Deviant Women in Early Bronze Age Tombs in Southeastern Arabia," by Dr. Lesley Gregoricka, USA Anthropology Faculty

Oct. 3: "Defining Heaven & Hell in the Ancient Mediterranean," by Dr. Kara Burns, USA Art History Faculty

Nov. 14: "We are the land, and the land is mother to us all: Native Feminisms and Environmental Justice in the Work of Four Contemporary Diné Artists," by Dr. Betsy Hawley, USA Art History Faculty

Talks start at 5:30 pm at the Archaeology Museum

Alabama Archaeology Day

Free & Open to the Public!

10 am - 3 pm, Saturday, Oct. 7

Featuring Atlatl Throwing, Flintknapping, Living History Demonstrations, I-10 Mobile River Bridge Archaeology Project Open House, Activities, and much more.



Alabama Archaeology Day!

Saturday, Oct. 7
10:00 am - 3:00 pm



Featuring Atlatl Throwing, Flintknapping, and Living History Demonstrations!

I-10 Mobile River Bridge Archaeology Project Open House!



FREE Admission!
FUN Activities!

CONTACT US: (251)460-6106
 archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu
 6050 USA Drive South, Mobile, AL 36688

USA Anthropology Program

3rd Annual Creepy Crawley Halloween at the Museum

10 am - 3 pm, Saturday, Oct. 21

Open & Free to the Public of All Ages

**Dr. Jason Strickland, USA Dept. of Biology,
will show & tell creepy crawlies at NOON**

Pumpkin Painting with USA Center for Archaeological Studies

Trick or Treat Trail, Photo Station, Crafts, & More

Third Annual

Creepy Crawley Halloween At the Museum

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023
10:00 AM-2:00 PM
USA Archaeology Museum

Featuring a show and tell at **NOON** by Dr. Jason Strickland with the USA Biology department about our own Gulf Coast “creepy crawlies,” an all day pumpkin painting with the Center for Archaeological Studies, and a walk through the trick or treat trail.

Admission is free and open to the public.



6050 USA South Drive,
Mobile, AL 36608
(251) 460-6106
ArchaeologyMuseum@SouthAlabama.edu



The Native Plant Garden Needs a New Sign!

In the USA Archaeology Museum's Native Plant Garden, visitors can enjoy native plants year round as there are always new native plants and wildlife to observe that change with the seasons. The garden's outdoor interpretive sign needs replacing and USA Alumnus, Chris Peterson, has created a new work that explores the traditional uses of many plants found in the garden (see below). The Museum is looking for a sponsor to replace the sign provide an artist reception at the museum. For corporate sponsors, a logo and credit can be added to the design. Please spread the word and help fund the new sign! Interested in donating to the museum's sign project? Every little bit helps! Please visit <https://giving.southalabama.edu/archaeology> to make a secure, online donation to the museum and make sure you specify the Native Plant Garden Sign Project.

USA ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

Native Plant Garden

Featured Plants and their Traditional Uses





Medicine

The roasted leaves of the Yaupon Holly when brewed make a tea-like caffeinated beverage that is still significant in Native American cultures for its medicinal as well as its ceremonial use.

Transportation

The tall, straight trunk of longleaf pine and cypress trees are the preferred materials for the crafting of dugout canoes. Controlled fires can be used in intervals to burn the wood, which is then gouged out with bone, stone, or wood tools to create the shape of the canoe.

Shelter

Saw palmetto has a variety of traditional uses including basket making and twine, but it was used in the construction of houses as thatching on roofs since the thick, glossy fronds provide a waterproof cover.

Food

Native blueberries are enjoyed by birds and people alike, and of course people in the past also favored this plant. There are a variety of species native to the southeast in the Garden including sparkleberries, Elliot's blueberries, and highbush blueberries.

Art

Yellowroot, as the name suggests, is used in making a bright yellow pigment.

Clothing

Bear grass or yucca is a very versatile plant. The leaf bases and flowers are edible, the flowers and stalk make a good bowdrill, and it even produces saponins which can be used for cleaning or making paint. Bear grass has fibrous leaves that can be pounded out and used for making rope, thread, and cloth.

Birds in Native Culture

Birds have significance to many Native American cultures across the continent.

USA Archaeology Museum Native Plant Garden: Featured Plants and their Tradition Uses. Art by Chris Peterson.

Please do not copy without permission and credit.

Giving to the Archaeology Museum

If you enjoy the Archaeology Museum's free public programs and want to add us to your end of year donations list, 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, exhibit maintenance, and bringing new exhibits to campus.

Admission is Free!

Contact Us:

www.southalabama.edu/org/archaeology/museum/

Open Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 am - 4 pm.

(251) 460-6106

archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu

Facebook: [@TheArchaeologyMuseum](#)

Instagram: [@SouthArchaeology](#)

YouTube: [@USAArchaeology](#)
