#### MISSISSIPPI ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

# Newsletter



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#### 2019 Annual Meeting Program Abstracts

We want to thank everyone who helped make our 2019 annual meeting in Oxford a success. We especially want to recognize the organizers, Tony Boudreaux, Maureen Meyers, and Jay Johnson for putting together an excellent program. The papers given on Saturday provided a glimpse into the great work being done by our colleagues in Mississippi and elsewhere. The list of abstracts is provided below:

#### Fertilizing the Fields at the Parkin Site in Northeast Arkansas

by Jeffrey M. Mitchem

One of the questions that we are often asked by visitors (especially children!) at Parkin Archeological State Park is "Where did they go to the bathroom?" We estimate that between 1,000 and 2,000 people lived in the 17-acre site at any one time, and with that many people they had to have some sort of rules or customs to regulate sewage disposal. Despite extensive excavations at the site, we have never found any convincing evidence of latrine areas, and to my knowledge, such evidence has not been found at other Mississippian sites in this region. The most logical answer is that excrement was probably used in the agricultural fields as fertilizer. The fields would have also been a good place to dispose of ash from fire hearths, since it would provide needed potassium to the plants.

#### Archaeology at the Carson Mounds Site

by Bo Pitts

John Connaway retired Dec. 31, 2018 after working for over 50 years with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. During this tenure, he worked continuously at the Carson Mounds for over 10 years. This is a report of some of his findings at Carson.

The Austin Site: Changing use of Space in the Early-Middle Mississippian

by Ben Davis

#### President's Letter

Our annual meeting was held this year in Oxford, MS on the campus of the University of Mississippi. I want to take a moment to again thank Tony Boudreaux, Maureen Meyers, and Jay Johnson for coordinating the logistics of the meeting. I also want to thank all the other volunteers who helped over the weekend to make the meeting run smoothly. I think everyone in attendance enjoyed their time there, and we all were able to see some really interesting papers about archaeology in Mississippi. There were even a few papers about archaeology in other parts of the world! It is always encouraging to see and hear about the variety of projects and research that is going on in our state.

On that note, as the weather warms up and the soils dry up (hopefully), many more projects and research will be getting ready to take place. Keep a lookout for opportunities to get involved and learn more about topics and areas that interest you. I know that field schools have been planned, some MAA digs are in the works, and the Archaeology Expo is actively being put together for the fall. There are so many good things coming up that I hope you are able to find your niche and plug-in wherever you can. So let's enjoy the nicer weather and get out there to do what we can to further our understanding of the archaeology of Mississippi!

**Bradley Carlock** 

The Early-Middle Mississippian Austin Site in the upper Yazoo Basin contains the remains of approximately 50 houses, two separate stockade post rows, a single mound, and numerous pit features. It was occupied during a period of transition toward a more institutionalized inequality. I am investigating this transition by creating and analyzing a site map in GIS of these culturally significant features and deposits. This paper will present the preliminary results of this work and allow me to interpret the changing use of space as well as the changing social organization at Austin within the context of the broader Yazoo Basin region.

Finding Their Way: Late Classical Votive Reliefs at Ancient Corinth

by Aileen Ajootian

Over one hundred years of excavation at ancient Corinth have produced quantities of marble sculpture, but Archaic and

Classical material is rare. One exception is a group of Classical votive reliefs. At least 90 examples include whole panels and many pieces. One fragment may date to the late fifth century B.C., but most are probably fourth century or early third. These dedications illuminate a period in Corinth's history underrepresented by buildings and marble sculpture. Types include banquet reliefs, equestrian scenes, cave reliefs, and just a few where devotees approach recognizable divinities. As for findspots, the marbles come from all over the site. Typically sculpture at Corinth is not found in situ but in a secondary or even tertiary setting. Some contexts reveal how marble votive reliefs were not used at Corinth. From the Asklepieion, northeast of the central Forum at Corinth, for example, only three votive reliefs have been recovered, even though they are common offerings at Asklepios sanctuaries elsewhere.

Between the 1930's and 1970's, over twenty-five fragmentary votive reliefs were recovered from trenches in the center of the site. Depending on the excavator, the findspots bear different names: Agora Southeast, Agora Southwest, Forum Southwest and South Stoa. A closer look at field notebooks reveals that many of these marbles can be located more precisely in late strata-middle Byzantine or later-over the South Stoa, a fourth-century B.C.E. installation on the south side of the Forum. Its construction absorbed the east wall of a little fifth-century precinct, the so-called Stele Shrine, at the west end of the Forum. It was built over an early sixth century structure identified as a storeroom because of transport amphorae in situ beneath its floor. The Stele Shrine continued to function for about a century, going out of use in the late third century B.C.E. While no votive reliefs some from this precinct, many fragments have turned up nearby and it is possibly that along with terracotta banqueters, horse figurines and other material, marble plaques were also dedicated there.

The deposition of fragmentary fourth century votive reliefs chiefly in Byzantine contexts in the Forum at Corinth suggests that the panels were removed from their original settings and broken up, but that the pieces remained available for use in nearby constructions many centuries after their primary use. The later history of some votive reliefs at Corinth may point to their first setting and function, but also to the later story of marble fragments as construction material filtered through a variety of later contexts.

### The Charcoal Graffiti of Campania: New Archival Research

#### by Jacqueline DiBiasie-Sammons

Graffiti in the Roman cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, Italy were typically produced by inscribing into the wall plaster using a sharp instrument like a stylus or nail. In addition to these inscribed graffiti, several others were drawn onto the wall plaster using charcoal. Charcoal inscriptions were likely ubiquitous in ancient Pompeii, Herculaneum, and the villas nearby, although almost none survive today. For example, at Herculaneum, 40 of the nearly 400 graffiti were produced using charcoal, though only one is extant. These inscriptions give us important insights into the people who produced them and the epigraphic habit of ancient Campania.

The delicate nature of charcoal graffiti has left many of these graffiti with uncertain readings as they had already significantly degraded when they were first recorded by archaeologists. Many of them were drawn by early epigraphers, specifically Matteo Della Corte, but never subsequently published. For this reason, the drawings of these graffiti made during the excavations are incredibly valuable.

In this paper, I discuss this unique genre of ancient inscription and analyze the distribution of charcoal graffiti in Herculaneum. These graffiti appear in different spaces than inscribed graffiti, both because of the way they were produced and the preservation of the site since excavation. I analyze the types of messages, which do not differ considerably from inscribed graffiti. I close by discussing my archival research on the field notebooks of Matteo Della Corte, the epigrapher who documented Herculaneum's graffiti. His sketches and drawings provide our only glimpse into the layout, handwriting, design, and visual impact of these charcoal inscriptions. This archival research allows us to reconstruct these charcoal graffiti and understand their place in the urban landscape of Herculaneum.

## Anatomy of a Debitage Flake Feature at the Bob Mallouf Site (22CP858)

#### by Bennie Roberts

The Bob Mallouf Site is an Early Woodland lithic workshop (circa 2170 BP) located in Copiah County, Mississippi. It was discovered in 2014 with some limited excavations being carried out in 2016. In early 2017, numerous debitage flakes were encountered during the digging of a post hole at the site. Now, two years and over 10,000 flakes later, a 3D movie of the feature has been created to show its true shape and extent. This and other findings from the site will be discussed.

#### Disaster Archaeology on the Mississippi Gulf Coast: Post-Katrina FEMA Efforts in the Three Coastal Counties

#### by Cindy Carter-Davis

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina adversely impacted thousands of historic resources on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. As lead Federal Agency, FEMA's response to this disaster was unprecedented and often included developing novel mitigation strategies to address these impacts. This paper briefly presents the Federal response to Katrina and the development of the Secondary Programmatic Agreement between MEMA, FEMA, MDAH, and ACHP to address the adverse effects to historic properties in the region. Results of investigations in fulfillment of that Programmatic Agreement included Phase II CRS investigations on a variety of previously recorded archaeological sites across the Mississippi Gulf Coast. These investigations resulted in advancement of the archaeological record, identification of sites eligible for listing on the National Register, and refined the chronology of those coastal archaeology sites.

#### Old Methods and New Interpretations: Mississippian Mound Center Spatial Organization in the Southern Yazoo Basin

by Nicholas Glass and Jessica Kowalski

Large Mississippian mound centers are diverse in spatial layout and population density. Mound centers in the Southern Yazoo Basin were originally characterized as vacant ceremonial centers because they produced relatively few surface collected artifacts during the 1940s Lower Mississippi Valley Survey. Recent controlled surface collections from two major sites, Arcola (22WS516) and Magee (22SH501), offer a chance to reexamine these ideas about spatial organization and population density in this region. These sites were neither vacant, nor were they the densely occupied Mississippian villages typical of other areas in the southeast.

#### Late Mississippian Ceramics, Ceremonialism, and Tradition: A Ceramic Functional Analysis

by Jessica Kowalski

Recent archaeological work in the Southern Yazoo Basin has produced ceramics from primary contexts with radiocarbon dates allowing for an overdue examination of activity patterning. A ceramic vessel functional analysis of discrete assemblages from fifteenth and sixteenth-century contexts at the mound centers of Arcola (22WS516) and Rolling Fork (22SH506) is employed in an attempt to understand what activities went on at these sites, tackling the murky line between domestic and ritual refuse.

Using Refuse Disposal Patterning Methods to Discern Site Structure on an Antebellum Backwoods Plantation Site in Mississippi's Pine Hills

by Brian Flynt

Archaeologists investigating historic backwoods sites of ephemeral log construction in Mississippi, from farmsteads to plantations, face unique challenges when confronting issues of site structure. Scant documentary evidence, lack of structural foundations, and the removal of structural elements all encumber attempts to discern site structure. This paper examines the site formation processes at work within the various stages of systemic development of a historic backwoods house lot, and seeks to combine various refuse disposal patterning methods into an archaeological model for use in Mississippi's Pine Hills.

#### Archaeological Research at Rowan Oak

by Hannah Zechman, Arianna Kitchens, and Tony Boudreaux

Students from the University of Mississippi conducted archaeological investigations in 2018 at Rowan Oak, a historic house museum that was once the home of William Faulkner. This paper reviews the investigations conducted at the home as well as a Public Archaeology Day that was open to the general public. Students sought to use archaeological methods to better understand the historical context of the enslaved people living at Rowan Oak during the time the home was built and occupied by Robert Sheegog (1840 – 1872). Results of the survey were presented to the public, serving to create a larger conversation of slavery research between the university and the city of Oxford.

#### Archaeology of the Batesville Mounds

by Jay Johnson

This paper presents an overview of archaeological research at the Batesville Mounds, a multiple-mound, Early and Middle Woodland site located near Batesville, Mississippi. The site was investigated over the course of several seasons by the author and the late Janet Ford. Part of the site was recently preserved as a park by the City of Batesville.

## Community Connections: Public Outreach and Education at the Batesville Mounds Site

by Nikki Mattson

This presentation is the result of a master's thesis project that assisted the City of Batesville, Mississippi in the opening of the Batesville Mounds site as a public park on November 21, 2017. The goals of this project were to provide park planners with historical information on the pre-contact Native American occupation, as well as past archaeological investigations at the site and to make recommendations for the future of the park. In order to facilitate the City in this capacity, comparable mounds sites were visited, surveys and interviews were conducted, an inventory of Batesville Mounds artifacts curated at the University of Mississippi was created, and outreach to target audiences was administered. Analysis of the surveys assessed the public's interest in visiting a mound park as well as the probability that present and future amenities would be utilized. The preliminary artifact inventory consisted of 21,555 individually counted items and 2300 bags of artifacts needing further analysis. Combining these results with information collected through site visits, interviews, and past research, allowed for the development of informed recommendations for public outreach and education at the Batesville Mounds Park.

#### Highlights of the 2017 and 2018 Seasons at the Feltus Mounds

by John W. O'Hear, Vincas P. Steponaitis, and Ashley A. Peles

The past two summers at the Feltus Mounds in Jefferson County represented our fifth and sixth full field seasons since 2006. The focus of both recent seasons has been on the summit of Mound B, with the goal of uncovering features associated with both the uppermost (Stage 5) and penultimate (Stage 4) summits. In 2018, the crew was large enough that everyone wouldn't fit on the summit of B, so we decided to excavate more of Feature 4. This is a 5-m diameter, middenfilled, basin-shaped pit that is part of a complex of large features at the south end of the Plaza near just east of where Mound D once stood. This paper reviews what was found, how the work increased our understanding of the site's construction history, and how it is informing plans for upcoming work in 2019.

## Efforts to Preserve the Last of One of the First Plantations in Mississippi

by Jessica Fleming Crawford

This presentation will discuss the importance of the Terre Blanche Concession, one of the first two plantations established by the French in Natchez, during the early 1700's. I will also review the research that has been done at the site and The Archaeological Conservancy's effort to ensure its preservation.







Photographs from the 2019 MAA annual meeting in Oxford (courtesy of Richard Weinstein): MAA members enjoying the Saturday night banquet (top), Ed Jackson giving his keynote presentation entitled "One Archaeological Journey" (bottom left), and Jay Johnson leading the Sunday site tour along the newly developed interpretive path at the Batesville Mounds site (bottom right).

#### Prehistoric Utilization of Ferrugenous Orthoguartzite in Southeast Mississippi

#### by James Starnes, Geologist Mississippi Dept. of Environmental Quality

Limonite, goethite, and siderite cemented ferruginous sandstones and claystones are earthy, sedimentary ironstones common throughout Mississippi. Ironstones are typically soft and easy to work materials that saw widespread cultural utilization by prehistoric peoples as peck, ground, and even polished artifacts. A goethite-cemented quartzite (ferruginous orthoquartzite) was extensively quarried for its knapping qualities in southeast Mississippi from stream terraces along the lower Leaf and Chickasawhay River watershed. Ferrugenous orthoquartzite is sufficiently cemented to break preferentially across the quartz grains to exhibit pre-

dictable subconchoidal fracture. Ferrugenous orthoquartzite has a concentration of occurrence on prehistoric sites in Wayne, Greene, Jones, and Perry counties in southeast Mississippi. The utilization of ferrugenous orthoquartzite had a long history that began as early as the Dalton projectile point tradition (ca. 10,500 to 8,500 years ago), and likely ended during the Woodland cultural period (ca. 3,000 to 1,000 years ago), as more suitable material was necessary for production of ever smaller projectile Ferrugenous orthoquartzite was utilized because local sources of high-quality chert gravel is lacking in southeast Mississippi. The dominant lithic material on archaeological sites in southeast Mississippi is typically Tallahatta Quartzite from Basic City outcrops well to the north of this region, and limited resources can also be found locally as float in the alluvium of the Chickasawhay River. Also common, are lithics made from higher-quality chert gravel derived from terrace outcrops further to the west, and milky quartz from terrace gravel from piedmont-derived resources further east in south Alabama.

For more information visit the Office of Geology's website at www.mdeq.ms.gov/geology/.

#### **University News**

#### Mississippi State University

MSU Hosts Prominent Archaeologist

As part of the Distinguished Lecture Series organized by MSU's Institute for the Humanities, the Cobb Institute was honored to host Dr. Robert Kelly of the University of Wyoming in March. During his visit to Starkville, Dr. Kelly was able to tour the institute and university and meet with faculty, staff, and students before presenting his talk, which derived from his recent book, *The Fifth Beginning: What Six Million Years of Human History Can Tell Us about Our Future*.

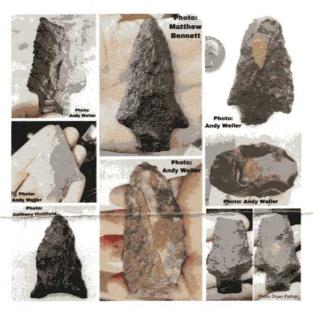
A professor of anthropology at the University of Wyoming, Kelly's research interests include evolutionary ecology of hunting and gathering societies, archaeological method and

theory, paleoindian colonization of the New World, human evolution and stone tool technology. Kelly has authored more than 100 articles, books and reviews relating to archaeology. He is a past president of the Society for American Archaeology and past secretary of the Archaeology Division of the American Anthropological Association. He has been a dislecturer tinguished University of California, Los Angeles, Washington State University, University Colorado, and the University of Tennessee, as well as the of University Leiden (Netherlands) and the Universities of La Plata and Cordoba (Argentina). He has served on both the National Foundation Wenner-Gren proposal review panels.

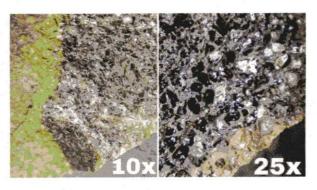
New Leadership at Cobb Institute

Archaeologist and long-time MSU professor, Jimmy Hardin, was named the new interim director of the Cobb Institute of Archaeology in January.

A native of Greenwood, Mississippi, Hardin earned his Ph.D. and Master's degree, both in Near Eastern archaeology, from the University of Arizona, after receiving his bachelor's degree in anthropology from MSU. He is an active member of the American Schools of Oriental Research, serving as an elected member of the agenda



Examples of ferrugenous orthoquartzite artifacts from Wayne and Perry County Mississippi.



Photomicrographs of ferrugenous orthoquartzite from a terrace deposit near the Chickasawhay River near Waynesboro Mississippi. The fracture of the stone's light-colored, limonite-cemented cortex disaggregates around the quartz sand grains but preferentially across the quartz sand grains in the core where it is better cemented with dark-colored goethite, exhibiting a predictable fracture.

committee and committee on archaeological policy. He serves on the board of directors for the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem, America's oldest overseas research center, and was recognized by the Mississippi Humanities Council as teacher of the year in 2013.

In 2002 Hardin was named assistant professor of religion in the Department of Philosophy and Religion before joining in 2008 the newly created Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures as an associate professor. He is considered an expert in ceramic analysis with wider interests including early and secondary state formation, household archaeology, multi-disciplinary approaches to understanding the archaeological record, and the use of archaeology, anthropology, biblical texts and other historical documents for understanding Old Testament history and the broader cultures of the ancient Near East.

Hardin has participated in archaeological fieldwork in the southeastern and southwestern United States and at numerous sites in Cyprus, Israel and Jordan. He has been involved with the Lahav research project at Tel Halif in Israel since 1986. He also is co-directing excavations and survey at Khirbet Summeily, a small Iron Age site in southern Israel in the border region of ancient Philistia and Judah.

#### 2019 Summer Field Schools

The Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures will be offering two field schools during the summer of 2019. These will include a bioarchaeology field school in Croatia (May 13 to July 15) and an archaeological survey field school in South Carolina and Mississippi (May 13 to June 12). The bioarchaeology field school will be taught by Dr. Anna Osterholtz and will begin with an intensive lab and lecture course that provides an overview of the methods used in biological anthropology for studying human remains as well as the techniques to develop biological profiles used in forensic case work. The second half of the program is an excavation-based field methods course held at the site of Sošice located in Durdevac, Croatia. The church and cemetery at the center of the excavations was in use between the 16-19th centuries. We will be working with the museum and several Croatian students to complete excavation of burials interred in the church foundations. Students will gain experience in the methods of archaeological field excavation, burial excavation, and will have a special focus on GIS mapping and photogrammetry.

The archaeological survey field school will be taught by Dr. Shane Miller at Pockoy Island, South Carolina and at the Hester archaeological site outside Amory, Mississippi. Students will learn the basics of conducting archaeological survey, using and creating spatial data, artifact identification, and learning basic geoarchaeological methods.

For more information on the field schools please visit https://www.amec.msstate.edu/ugrad/field-schools/

#### University of Mississippi

Mississippi Archaeology Association Annual Meeting

The University of Mississippi was pleased to host the 2019

MAA meetings. Thanks to everyone who came out to the Friday evening reception at Burns-Belfry and all who turned up on Saturday for the great papers and banquet that evening honoring Ed Jackson. We also appreciate all who donated to the Silent Auction, which was very successful. Thanks to all our student volunteers for staffing the registration table and the artifact display table, and assisting with the reception and coffee and food on Saturday. Finally, thank you to Nikki Matson and Jay Johnson for the tour of the Batesville Mounds on Saturday.

#### Behind the Big House

The Behind the Big House program is in its eigth year. This year, from April 4th-6th, Historical Archaeology course students created and presented archaeology displays on historic ceramics and antebellum foodways. With guidance from Dr. Carolyn Freiwald and bioarcheology graduate student Rachel Smith, these University of Mississippi students engaged with over 200 Marshall County elementary and secondary school students, as well as other program visitors. Students in the course also spent time with Afro-culinary historian Michael Twitty, learning African diaspora and southern foodways, which informed their displays created for the program.

#### **Publications**

Tony Boudreaux, Maureen Meyers and Jay Johnson recently signed a contract with the University Press of Florida for the publication of the edited volume "Contact, Colonialism, and Native Communities in the Southeastern United States." This volume of 14 chapters explores the early contact period of the Southeast and is based on the 2017 Midsouth Conference held at the University of Mississippi.

#### Graduate Students

First-year students Dakota Street and Wilson Utley will begin fieldwork and analyses in Mississippi for their master's thesis research. Dakota is studying the Carson Mound site burials, and Wilson will be examining late pre-contact and early contact settlement near Starkville. Both are working under the direction of Dr. Tony Boudreaux.

First-year graduate students Rachel Smith and Jacob Harris are headed to Belize and Guatemala, respectively, to conduct Master's thesis research at ancient Maya sites that were thriving just as the Classic period Maya sociopolitical system began to collapse. Rachel will use bone chemistry to study migration and Jacob will examine bone tool production, both in collaboration with their advisor Dr. Carolyn Freiwald.

Second-year students Hannah Zechman and Ben Davis are completing their master's theses and will defend in the next few weeks. Hannah's thesis, entitled "Investigations at a Mississippian Platform Mound Site in Lowndes County, Mississippi" is an analysis of mound-construction data and the ceramic assemblage excavated in 2017 from the Butler Mound Site (22LO500), a single-mound site located in Lowndes County, Mississippi. The purpose of this thesis is to determine when construction of the Butler Mound occurred using mound data, ceramic analysis, and radiocarbon dating. This thesis also seeks to understand how Butler, and neighboring sites, relate to one another spatially and temporally to

further define Mississippian settlement patterning in northeast Mississippi and to contribute to the developing regional culture-chronology.

Ben Davis' thesis, entitled "Households and Changing Use of Space at the Transitional Early Mississippian Austin Site" focuses on the rebuilding of houses at Austin. This village site located in Tunica County, Mississippi dates to approximately A.D. 1150-1350, during the terminal Late Woodland to Mississippi Period transition. This study examines the architecture and use of space over time at Austin in order to determine if the house remains display evidence of increasing institutionalized inequality. This resulted in the identification of the oldest households at the site, which appear to have gone on to establish the mound as well as differentiated status at Austin.

Finally, Hamilton Bryant has completed his thesis and will be defending this spring as well. His thesis, entitled "Crafting Discoidals on the Frontier: Production and Identity in Southwestern Virginia" identifies three stages of production of stone discoidals, based on a collection recovered from the 14th-century Mississippian period Carter Robinson site in southwestern Virginia. Bryant's thesis also explores how this production was organized over time at the site, in order to better understand what role this production played in the political economy of this frontier chiefdom.

#### Fieldwork

Maureen Meyers will lead this year's field school at a mound site in southwestern Virginia. The field school (6 credits) will run from May 28 to June 25. Housing is provided. Students will leath basic field methods, including shovel testing, test unit and feature excavation, artifact identification, and mapping. Interested students can contact Dr. Meyers at: memeyer1@olemiss.edu. Cost is tuition (\$2000) plus \$1000 for housing, food and supplies.

**Employment Opportunities** 

The Oxford Historic Properties Commission is in search of new docents for the Burns-Belfry and Lamar House. Docents will be expected to work a minimum of three shifts per month with flexible hours available. Each shift is three hours in duration and paid. If interested, please send cover letter to Hannah Zechman (hzrhodes@go.de.

#### **Obituaries**

#### -John Payne Dyson-

John P. Dyson, 79, passed away on February 23, 2019, at Meadowood, Bloomington, Indiana. He was born in Batesville, Mississippi on April 13, 1939. John was a long-time member of the MAA and had given numerous papers over the years at our annual meeting on the language and culture of the Chickasaw Indians.

John received his B. A. at Kansas State University and his M. A. and Ph. D, from the University of Kansas. He taught language and literature for 38 years in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Indiana University in Bloomington where he established the undergraduate and

graduate Portuguese programs. In the decade before his retirement from IU, spurred by childhood summers spent in Mississippi, John developed a research interest in Chickasaw language and in that nation's ethnohistory prior to its removal from Mississippi to Indian Territory in the 1830s. His publications and conference presentations in those fields drew the notice of officials of the Chickasaw Nation's Division of History and Culture. In 2006, John was accorded the tribe's Heritage Preservation Award, and in 2007 he was invited to join the Department of Chickasaw Language as a participant in its Language Revitalization Program.

John prepared instructional materials and taught adult education courses on Chickasaw grammar for the next six years in Ada, Oklahoma. While there, he and his Chickasaw partner in crime and dear friend, Jerry Imotichey, also conducted classes in the Native American Studies Program at East Central University.

In 2013, John returned to Indiana still under contract with the Chickasaw Nation. He contributed two articles a year to *The Journal of Chickasaw History and Culture*, wrote a definitive book, *The Early Chickasaw Homeland: Origins, Boundaries and Society*, and continued to write for the Chickasaw Press.

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\*For information about contributing to the MAA newsletter please contact Jeffrey Alvey.