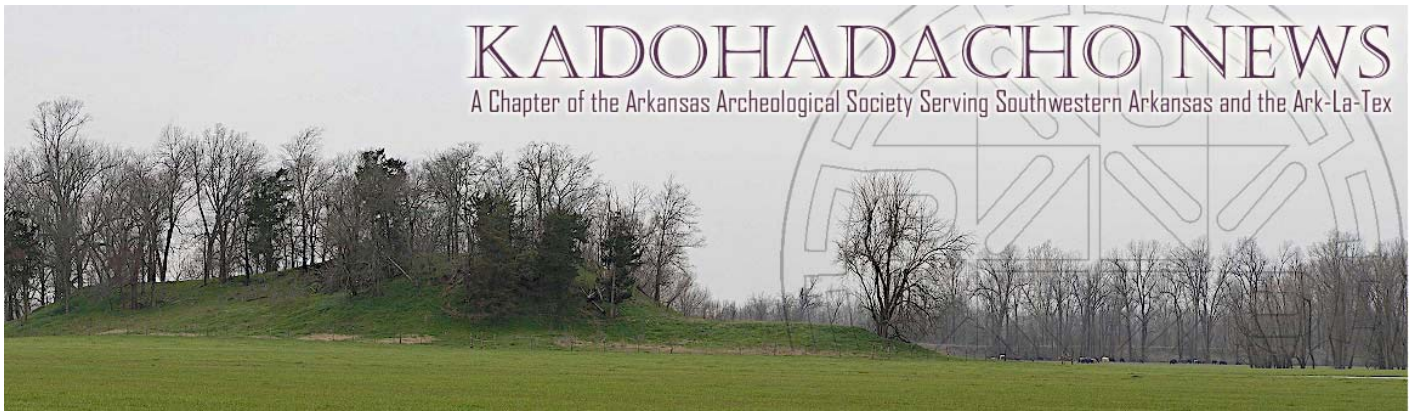


Celebrate March as Arkansas Archeology Month!!!



New Series, Volume 4, Issue 2

March 2009



*A view of the tabby slave quarters still standing at Kingsley Plantation—now a National Park. Come find out what Dr. Brandon has been doing on his “vacations” on **Tuesday, March 10th, 7:00pm.***

March 10 Program: Archeology at Kingsley Plantation and Mission San Juan del Puerto, Florida

Dr. Jamie Brandon, the AAS-SAU Research Station Archeologist, has a secret life. Early every summer for the last three years he has disappeared for three weeks before the Arkansas Archeological Society Summer Training Program. This month you'll get to find out what he's been up to...

Dr. Brandon has been helping an old colleague excavate an important site on a sea island in northern Florida—Fort George Island. Fort George Island is the home to many archeological sites including Kingsley Plantation (1792-1890) and the Spanish Mission San Juan del Puerto (1587-1703).

Although it was occupied as early as 1792, the plantation derives its name from Zephaniah Kingsley, who occupied the site between 1814 and 1839. Kingsley was a slave trader and ship's captain. Defying convention, he took as a wife Anna Madgigine Jai Kingsley, an enslaved girl from Senegal. The site is now a National Park and Dr. Brandon has been helping with excavations in the arc of tabby slave quarters (see picture above), areas near the Kingsley Mansion and the plantation's sugar mill.

The Spanish Mission del Puerto was established by Franciscans missionaries in 1587 within the pre-contact Timucuan Indian village of Alimacani and it was in continuous use until Florida's missions were attacked and destroyed by the English and their native allies in 1702. The recent excavations at the Mission have focused on identifying the core mission area and Native American occupation areas around that core.

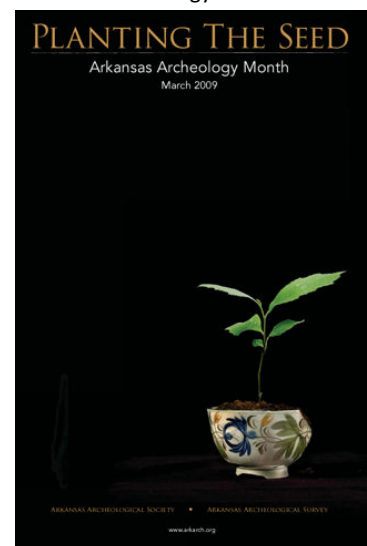
Come hear what Dr. Brandon does with his summer “vacation” on Tuesday, **March 10th, 7:00pm in Bruce Center room 104 on the campus of Southern Arkansas University.** Come early and bring your artifacts for “show and tell.”

Arkansas Archeology Month: March 2009

Arkansas Archeology Month is an annual celebration commemorating Arkansas's cultural heritage as revealed through the archeology of both prehistoric and historic eras. Exhibits, lectures, demonstrations, tours, open houses, workshops, and other activities are scheduled throughout the state at museums, historic sites, state parks, libraries, and colleges.

The event began as “Arkansas Archeology Week” in 1991 and was expanded to cover a month in 2002. It has been held in both the spring and the fall, but since 2003 Arkansas Archeology Month is held in March.

Each year, Arkansas Archeology Month features a different theme to provide ideas for interpreting Arkansas's archeology, prehistory or early history. Programs can be tailored to fit



The 2009 Arkansas Archeology Month poster.

the theme, or may focus on the methods of archeology, information about particular sites, or general information on the state's archeology or history. A colorful poster advertising the event is usually produced each year as well (see this year's illustrated above).

This year's theme is "Planting the Seed" and here in southwest Arkansas you can hear Dr. Brandon, the AAS Research Station Archeologist, speak at the DeQueen Sevier County Historical Museum on March 3 at 5:30 pm (717 North Maple Avenue, DeQueen), at the Barton Library in El Dorado on March 7th at 10:00 am (200 E. 5th St., El Dorado, 870-863-5447), and (of course) our monthly Kadohadacho meeting on March 10th at 7:30pm (Bruce Center 104, Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia). Additionally, David Jeane, the AAS-SAU Research Assistant, will be giving a talk at the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources in Smackover on March 8th at 2:00pm in conjunction with their Mayan exhibit and he will be at a career day at Bradley High School in Lafayette County on March 19th. If getting dirty is more your speed, then you can celebrate Arkansas Archeology Month by helping us out at our "Spring Break Dig" at the Royston House in Historic Washington State Park (see article below).

Elsewhere in the state you might attend the open house of the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Coordinating Office and the University of Arkansas Collections in Fayetteville on March 28 (11:00am to 3:00pm) or listen to Judge Morris Arnold, noted historian and senior judge of the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals, will discuss his research on colonial Arkansas at the Toltec Chapter meeting on March 18th (John Gould Fletcher Library 823 N. Buchanan St., Little Rock, 6:30pm)

Find out more about state-wide events, or download the Archeology Month poster at:

<http://www.uark.edu/campus-resources/archinfo/archmonth.html>

March Fieldwork Opportunities:

Return to the Royston House, March 23-28

We will be returning to Historic Washington State Park this month in order to 1) continue our excavations at the Royston House and 2) celebrate Archeology Month. Our "Spring Break" excavations will begin on Monday March 23rd—immediately following Washington's Jonquil Festival—and will continue until the following Saturday (March 28th).

The Royston house was the home of Grandison D. Royston (1809–1889), who was speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives (1837–1838), member of the Arkansas Senate (1856–1858), Arkansas representative in Confederate Congress (1861–1863), and president of the Arkansas Constitutional Convention of 1874.

We will be returning to continue work along the back porch, to look for other backyard outbuildings, and to conduct further excavations on the refuse pit we discovered in the side yard of the house.

The Jonquil Festival is a three-day festival that heralds the coming of spring to southwest Arkansas. Thousands of yellow jonquils welcome craftspeople, entertainers, and visitors to historic Washington. Unique crafts and delicious foods are available each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The

Festival is free, so if you are planning on coming to Jonquil Festival, come by and see us (we'll be set up near the Southwest Arkansas Regional Archives booth)! If you would like to volunteer for a day or so during the "Spring Break" dig, do not hesitate to contact Dr. Jamie Brandon, at 870-235-449 or jbrando@uark.edu.



Spring 2009 Kadohadacho Speakers

- **March 10**—Dr. Jamie Brandon, AAS-SAU Station archeologist, will talk about recent archeological work at Kingsley Plantation and the Spanish mission San Juan del Puerto on Fort George Island in Florida.
- **April 14**—TBA
- **May 12**—David Jeane, AAS-SAU Station Assistant, will talk about the recent dating of a Native American cremation burial found in a ceramic vessel on Lake Erling near Magnolia.



51st Annual Caddo Conference

The fifty-first annual Caddo Conference will be held March 12-14, 2009 at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History in Norman Oklahoma, sponsored by the Oklahoma Archeological Survey and the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History. They have reserved a block of rooms at a special rate of \$75/night at the Country Inn & Suites in Norman. Mention the "Caddo Conference" when you make your reservations to secure this rate. For reservations, call (405) 360-0240. Click here for a [map of the Country Inn and Suites location](#). A list of additional recommended hotels in Norman is available [here](#) and a map of their locations is [here](#).

<http://www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/CaddoConf/CaddoConference2009Newest.htm>



We'll be excavating in the backyard of the Royston House at Historic Washington State Park this March in order to help reconstruct the back porch and to identify 19th century outbuildings.

TV Series: *Arkansas's First People*

Beginning April 15th, Arkansas Educational Television Network will air a 5-part series featuring unique perspectives on American Indian cultural legacy, archeological data, and interviews with modern tribal representatives of those who had and still have an impact on Arkansas.

For more information see: <http://www.aetn.org>

Join the Southwest Arkansas Archeology E-Mail List

You can keep track with the latest local archeology news by joining the Southwest Arkansas Archeology e-mail list.

The Southwest Arkansas Archeology List [SWAR_ARCH] is meant to help spread information about archeological news and activities in southwestern Arkansas...and, of course, the list will remind members of the Kadohadacho Chapter of the Arkansas Archeological Society about the monthly meetings.

To join simply send an e-mail message to:

SWAR_ARCH-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

You may also join be e-mail list by contacting Jamie Brandon at jcbrandon@saumag.edu



Pic of the Month: A military button recovered from the side-yard of the Royston House excavations last spring. Interestingly, this button significantly pre-dates the 1845 beginning of the Royston House occupation. Additionally, the "E Pluribus Unum" banner above the eagle is not typically found on most military buttons. Some collectors have identified this type of button provisionally as belonging to the diplomatic corps or other state officials. Is this button tied to Royston's service in the war with Mexico (when he was Adjutant General for the Arkansas Militia) or could it be evidence of earlier activity on the site when Washington was still a border town? Come help us solve the mystery, or find something even more mysterious this March when we continue excavations at the Royston House!

Upcoming Conferences & Events

- **March 12-14**—*Caddo Conference*, Norman, OK. Info: <http://www.ou.edu/cas/archsur/CaddoConf/CaddoConference2009Newest.htm>
- **March 31-April 3**—*Arkansas Museums Association*, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, Little Rock. Theme: "Rising from the Ashes, Surviving in the Midst of Change." For info: Stephan McAteer at smcateer@littlerock.org
- **April 22-26**—*Society for American Archaeology*, Atlanta, GA. Info: <http://www.saa.org>
- ★ **April 23-25**—*Arkansas Historical Association*, right here in Magnolia, Arkansas. Theme: "The Arkansas Environment." Info: <http://www.uark.edu/depts/arkhist/home/annual.html>

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