These presentations and discussions will focus on heritage, histories, and pottery production that flourished in the Edgefield District in the 19th Century. Our discussions will address the challenges to understanding the complex social situations which enslaved and later freed African Americans found themselves in the Edgefield District. Our speakers will inspire the broad public audiences to consider how enslaved Africans learned the pottery trade while in bondage and later used this knowledge as a marketable skill after emancipation. The public audience will be presented this rich history through the multiple disciplines of Art History, Archaeology, History, and Ethnographic analogy.

This speaker series is sponsored by the Edgefield County Historical Society, with the generous cooperation of Joanne T. Rainsford Discovery Center and the McKissick Museum. This project will contribute to a broad, collaborative project of archaeologists, historians, and members of the local and descendant communities to place such topics of the legacies of African American communities in greater focus within our national memory and heritage. Our speakers will lead audience discussions on considerations of ways to commemorate and convey the humanities lessons of such heritage sites to broad populations of U.S. citizens who visit such sites both tangibly and virtually.
Pottersville: 200 years of pottery production in The Edgefield District

Presented by The Edgefield County Historical Society

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion, Every Thursday in June 2011, 6pm.

Joanne T. Rainsford Discovery Center,
405 Main St., Edgefield, SC, 29824

2 June 2011:

Vernon Burton, PhD. Professor of History and Director of the Clemson Cyberinstitute at Clemson University

9 June 2011:

Jill Koverman, M.A. Chief Curator of Collections & Research McKissick Museum University of South Carolina

16 June 2011:

Justin Guy, Professor of Ceramics University of South Carolina-Aiken

23 June 2011:

John Vlach, PhD. Professor of American Studies and of Anthropology George Washington University

30 June 2011:

Bettis Rainsford, J.D. Author The Founding of Edgefield County, and The Story of Edgefield