

*Frank McWorter by  
Shirley McWorter Moss*

***Marvin J and Thomas Leo Likes  
Memorial Lecture Series***

**Memory and Heart:  
Pasts and Presents of  
African American Communities**

**Summer 2011**



*Mural at Lincoln  
Presidential Library*

These presentations and discussions will focus on the histories, heritage, and planned commemorations of several African American communities that thrived in the 19th and 20th centuries. Our discussions will also address the challenges of understanding the complex pasts of these communities and competing approaches to presenting their historical and humanities lessons to broad public audiences in the present.

Our speakers will lead discussions on particular case studies and how they compare and contrast with one another, including the communities of: New Philadelphia, in western Illinois; Rosewood, Florida; Lincoln Home National Park, in central Illinois; Adorkaville, Florida; and Little Africa in southern Illinois. Each of our speakers will also provide suggestions for important considerations in the way New Philadelphia can be developed into a National Historic and Archaeological Park to convey its lessons and legacies to a broad public audience of site visitors. New Philadelphia was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2009, the bicentennial year of Abraham Lincoln's birth, and is currently under review for transformation into such a National Park with a mission of conservation, stewardship, and education concerning America's entrepreneurial, agricultural, and racial histories.

This speaker series is sponsored by the *New Philadelphia Association*, with the generous cooperation of *Sprague's Kinderhook Lodge* and the *Illinois State Museum*. This series of public presentations and discussions includes the following events, which will be held at Kinderhook Lodge, 22168 State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois 62312 (telephone 217-432-1090) or the Illinois State Museum's Research Collections Center, 1011 East Ash Street, Springfield, Illinois 62703 (217-782-6695). Additional details and driving directions for the Kinderhook Lodge, located between the towns of Kinderhook and Barry on Rt. 106, are available on the internet at: <http://www.kinderhooklodge.com>.

**We greatly appreciate the generous support of the  
*Illinois Humanities Council,*  
*National Endowment for the Humanities,*  
and *Illinois General Assembly.***

**This series commemorates the lives of Marvin J Likes and Thomas Leo Likes, in gratitude for their generosity, professional contributions, and making this world a better place.**



**The Surveyor ~**

***Remove not the ancient landmark which thy Fathers have set.***

**Proverbs 22:28.**

***Social Networks and Social Lives: Examining the Lived Experiences of Free African Americans in Illinois***

**Presented by Annelise Morris**

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**June 7, 2011**, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168 State Highway  
106, Barry, Illinois.



Annelise Morris is an archaeologist and doctoral student specializing on the study of African American communities in the 19th century and facets of African diasporas. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Illinois with highest honors, and her Master of Arts degree from the University of California at Berkeley, where she also holds a fellowship awarded by the National Science Foundation. Her presentation will include an examination of Pinkstaff, Illinois, a community that has much in common with New Philadelphia. Founded in the early 19th century by a small group of free African Americans fleeing prejudice in South Carolina and Kentucky, Pinkstaff soon began to draw settlers. Within a few years, the rural farming community was nicknamed “Little Africa” for the large number of African American families living there. Throughout the 19th century the community continued to grow, boasting a school for African American children, and an African Methodist Episcopal Church. This presentation will explore the historical and archaeological research of this historic area, discussing similarities and differences between this community and New Philadelphia. Particularly, Annelise will focus on how examinations of religious and social networks in these communities can broaden our knowledge of the lived experiences of free African American pioneers in Illinois. She will also discuss how cross-site comparisons of these and other similar sites can greatly contribute to our knowledge of free African American communities during enslavement, shedding light on how they came to settle in Illinois, what their communities may have been like, and how they utilized the economic and social resources around them to create thriving communities in spite of the virulent racism of the times.

*Teaching Histories and Present Aspirations at National, Regional, and Local Scales: How Heritage Sites Can Engage and Educate American Citizens*

**Presented by Dale Philips**

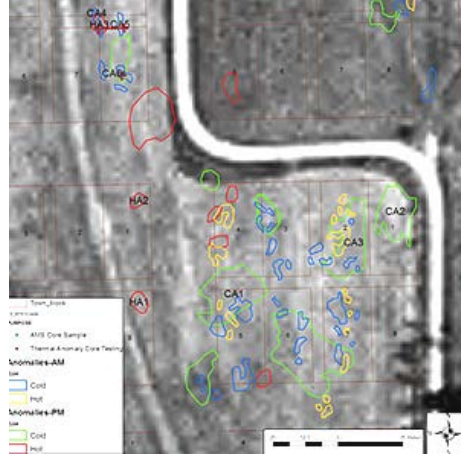
Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**June 14, 2011**, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168  
State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois.



Dale Philips is the National Park Service's Superintendent for the Lincoln Home National Park. He has worked in design, management, and stewardship for NPS for 34 years in a diversity of sites and histories, including battlefields, memorials, and the legacies of Lincoln. The heritage of Frank McWorter, who founded the integrated community of New Philadelphia, Illinois, in 1836, and the legacies of the residents of that town, provide important lessons that parallel the challenges confronted by Lincoln at a national scale. Superintendent Phillips will provide his perspectives on New Philadelphia based on his experiences at Lincoln Home and NPS battlefield parks. His presentation will provide excellent insights into the ways in which one can imagine New Philadelphia being developed into a national archaeological and historical park for broad audiences. The site is located in Pike County, which is one of the 42 counties in the Abraham Lincoln National Heritage Area.



**National Science Foundation Research Experiences for Undergraduates (NSF-REU) field school team at New Philadelphia, 2006.**



## *Geosciences Insights into the Past Landscapes of an African American Community in Illinois*

**Presented by Mary Kathryn Rocheford**

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**June 21, 2011**, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168 State Highway 106,  
Barry, Illinois.

Mary Kathryn Rocheford is a doctoral student in Geosciences at the University of Iowa specializing in the geology of archaeological landscapes. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Geology from the University of Minnesota at Duluth and holds a Master of Science degree in Geoscience. With guidance from her PhD advisor, Prof. Art Bettis, Ms. Rocheford has launched a detailed geosciences and landscape history study of the New Philadelphia town site. The geomorphological history of the New Philadelphia town site is complex and has been impacted extensively by both natural and human-made processes (such as the affects of erosion, acid rain, global climate change, and fire). Soil is the medium upon which the interactions of human activities and the environment are imprinted and soils play a critical role in mitigating the impact of these processes. Developing the geochronology of landscape changes of the recent past from soil analyses is important because written records of these changes are often fragmented. For example, human activities on the landscape, such as clearing of forests and small scale farming may or may not be documented. However, they can be identified from careful analyses of biological, physical and chemical remains preserved in soils. These data then enable studies at several different scales; from the impact of a single household to comparisons between households within a site as well as across multiple sites. It is imperative to identify spatial and temporal patterns of these remains to better understand the long term effects of interactions between humans and the landscapes they inhabit and to establish sustainable practices for the future.

*New Archaeological Perspectives on Violence and Inequality: Engaging the 1923 Rosewood Race Riot in Historical Context*

Presented by Edward González-Tennant

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**June 29, 2011**, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,  
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Edward González-Tennant is a doctoral student at the University of Florida, specializing in historical archaeology, cultural heritage and museum studies, and African American studies. His work includes use of cutting-edge computer modeling methods for conveying complex site histories and archaeology. Rosewood, Florida was once home to a prosperous community, one which became increasingly segregated during the Jim Crow period. In 1923, the community was shattered by a week-long episode of racial violence, culminating in the systematic burning of the entire town. Curiously, little scholarly attention has been paid to the site and its history, particularly regarding the community prior to the race riot. This talk presents results of a multi-year project examining the history, life, and community of Rosewood through time. Current theorizations of violence in the social sciences and philosophy situate Rosewood in a broader context, and highlight how changing social patterns connect past episodes of racially charged collective violence to modern social inequalities. Documentary archaeology allows researchers to reconstruct rural property ownership over the span of a half century, and the integration of census data supports a study of the ways in which race, gender, and class were spatially organized through time. This presentation will conclude by exploring how ethnographic work with black descendants and local whites combine with new media technologies (such as virtual world environments and digital storytelling) to extend the scope of this research beyond the traditional boundaries of academic life. Several intersections between the research at Rosewood and New Philadelphia are also highlighted, including an examination of black and white attitudes concerning education and the use of historical documents to delineate the development of a segregated townscape through time.

*Mother Laura Adorkar Kofi: The Female  
Marcus Garvey*

*Adorkaville in Florida and its relationship  
with New Philadelphia*

**Presented by Vibert White**

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**July 6, 2011**, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,  
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Dr. Vibert White is Associate Professor of History and Director of the Public History Program at the University of Central Florida. He was the former chair of the Africana Studies Department at the University of Illinois in Springfield, and played a central role in launching the New Philadelphia project. This presentation will discuss the career of Laura Adorkar Kofi, a native of Ghana, West Africa who arrived in the United States in the early 1920s. Sent by her father, a prominent King of the Gold Coast, to reeducate and reintroduce African Americans to the cultural and political ways of their African relatives, she immediately joined the Universal Negro Improvement Association after her arrival. Marcus Garvey, head of the UNIA was impressed by this West African and quickly introduced her to his followers and ultimately made her a part of his inner circle. Like Garvey, Kofi believed in the goals of Black economic development, self-help enterprises, a Black theology and Pan-Africanism. At the age of 35 Mother Kofi created the largest and most successful Black Nationalist movement that was led by a Black woman. Her story adds a new dimension in the study of Black Nationalism, gender studies, immigration, and Black religion. This presentation provides an introduction of a buried secret of self-determinism by a Black in the United States south that challenged various notions and stereotypes on African American progressive thought and development. In addition, she created Black utopian communities throughout the south, the largest being Adorkaville, located in Jacksonville, Florida. On this 100 acre plot she created an African community in the United States that followed her theology, and African lifestyle that included speaking West African languages, weaving African styled cloth and baskets. The site is filled with remnants of a revisionist story on race relations and American history. Like New Philadelphia, it ushers in new reviews and discussions on gender, race relations, religion, and class in the United States. Ongoing historical research concerning Adorkaville and similar communities lays the groundwork for archeological study and analysis.

*Matters of Heart and Heritage:  
Challenges of Public Engagement,  
Conservation, and Stewardship*

Presented by Paul Gardner

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**July 13, 2011**, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,  
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Dr. Paul Gardner is the Midwest Regional Manager for the Archaeological Conservancy. The Conservancy, established in 1980, is a national non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving the best of our nation's archaeological sites. The Conservancy also works tirelessly to raise public awareness about archaeological sites by conducting outreach programs and publishing the quarterly *American Archaeology* to educate broad audiences on the value of heritage sites throughout the United States. The Conservancy acquired and now handles all conservation and stewardship for nine acres in the north-central portion of the forty-two-acre New Philadelphia National Landmark site. Dr. Gardner's presentation will discuss the challenges of advancing public engagement, research, and conservation in a balanced manner. He will outline possible approaches for future development and presentation of the New Philadelphia National Landmark to broad public audiences, and the accompanying concerns of stewardship and conservation of the town site.

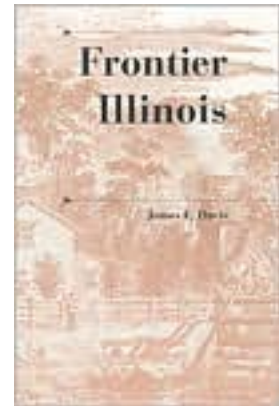


NSF-REU field school students excavating at New Philadelphia, 2004.

*Illinois Frontiers, New Philadelphia, and the Challenges of National Landmark Status*

**Presented by James Davis**

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,  
**July 20, 2011**, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,  
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Dr. James Davis is Professor Emeritus in History at Illinois College, and author of the foundational text *Frontier Illinois*. Prof. Davis' presentation will provide an overview of the frontier and 19th century dynamics of the Illinois frontier. He will also assess the unique character of New Philadelphia within the context of those larger-scale trends in the African American and European American settlement of Illinois. His presentation will also provide Prof. Davis' perspectives and recommendations on the ways in which the New Philadelphia National Landmark site can best be developed to convey lessons to broad public audiences as a national historical and archaeological park. The vital lessons and legacies of Frank McWorter and this integrated community should be presented in an engaging manner that achieves greatest impacts in education and open dialogues concerning the challenges of racism in the past and present.



**NSF-REU field school students greet visitors at New Philadelphia, 2006.**



*For additional information on the New Philadelphia Archaeology Project, please visit:*

Historical Landscapes of New Philadelphia, <http://www.anthro.illinois.edu/faculty/cfennell/NP/>

New Philadelphia Archaeology Project, <http://www.histarch.uiuc.edu/NP/>

The McWorter Family website, <http://www.mcworter.net/>

New Philadelphia Association, <http://www.newphiladelphiail.org/>

The Archaeological Conservancy, <http://www.americanarchaeology.com/>

Center for Cultural Heritage Resources, U. Maryland, <http://www.heritage.umd.edu/>

New Philadelphia NSF-REU Field School, <http://www.histarch.uiuc.edu/NSF/fieldschool.html>



**Prof. Abdul Alkalimat leads a speaker series event in 2008.**