



Frank McWorter by Shirley McWorter Moss

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

**Navigating Landscapes of
Struggle and Freedom**

Summer 2010



Mural at Lincoln Presidential Library

These presentations and discussions will focus on our society's commitment to struggles for freedom in the past and present, efforts to achieve the unattained promises of democracy, and the heritage of social networks and communities in the 19th and 20th centuries shaped by the same challenges that Frank McWorter and Abraham Lincoln confronted in their lifetimes.

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. New Philadelphia was designated a National Historic Landmark in the bicentennial year of Lincoln's birth.

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>.

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.

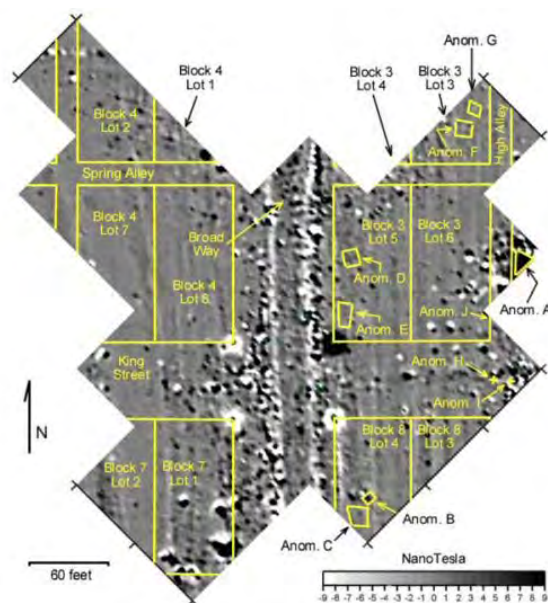
Geophysics Reveals the Remains of New Philadelphia's Past

Presented by Michael Hargrave

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
May 25, 2010, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168
State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois.



Dr. Michael L. Hargrave is an archaeologist and geophysical specialist with the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, in Champaign, Illinois. The author of numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals and books, Dr. Hargrave has also been incredibly generous in volunteering his expertise to conduct geophysical investigations at sites such as New Philadelphia and Cahokia. The investigations at New Philadelphia have yielded a wealth of new information, from the existence of early occupations for which the available archival records provided no hints, to household variation in dietary, discard, and consumer practices. The project was also successful in that the lives of many individuals -- members of the local and descendant communities, student excavators, university and museum researchers, local historians, landowners, and casual visitors -- have been enriched by opportunities to examine the remains of the actual homes and possessions of New Philadelphia's early residents. This presentation focuses on how remote sensing and geophysical methods provide highly valuable data for archaeologists, and how those techniques were used to locate subsurface remains of New Philadelphia's houses and businesses and develop a better understanding of the cultural landscape of the community.



*African-American Industry and Traditions in
South Carolina: Case Studies from the
Lowcountry to Highlands*

Presented by Andrew Agha

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
June 1, 2010, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168
State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois.



Andrew Agha is a senior archaeologist with Brockington and Associates, Cultural Resource Consultants. Recent excavations at Dean Hall Plantation, located on the Cooper River outside of Charleston, SC, uncovered 127,000 artifacts. Of these, 57,000 are colonoware sherds -- a low fired, hand built earthenware associated with the living and work spaces of enslaved African Americans dating in the early 18th through the mid-19th centuries. Archaeologists of the African diaspora have analyzed colonoware to explore facets of foodways, ethnicity, status, market interaction, and religion in ways that help us to better understand how individuals, families, and communities negotiated the hardships of bondage. The investigation and interpretations of symbolic markings on colonoware vessels over the past 30 years has also opened debates and insights into the religious realms of enslaved African Americans. Among the various symbols identified on such pottery, one particular mark has never been seen on colonowares until now -- however, it has been associated with pottery from the Edgefield district of the highlands of South Carolina. This presentation explores and defines colonoware production at Dean Hall, and how the marks found at this lowcountry plantation relate to the stoneware potter Dave Drake's marks in Edgefield, 165 miles away. The lives of many African Americans at these low- and highcountry sites in the Carolinas paralleled the hardships endured and surmounted by Frank McWorter and his mother Juda.



Chains, Rods, and Traverses: How a Former Slave Platted New Philadelphia, Illinois

Presented by Norman D. Ellerbrock, PLS

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
June 8, 2010, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168
State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois.



Norman Ellerbrock is a professional land surveyor with Likes Land Surveyors, Inc. in Barry, Illinois. He is fascinated with the technological history of land surveying and the challenges faced by landowners in the 19th century to chart their visions onto the landscape. Frank McWorter retained the services of surveyors to help him design, plan, and plat New Philadelphia in 1836. He thereafter used the proceeds of sales of town blocks and lots to purchase the freedom of his family members from bondage. Archaeological investigations of the town site started in 2002, after Likes Land Surveyors relocated the town plat onto the existing landscape, marking out McWorter's vision of the community's boundaries, streets, alleys, and lots for houses and businesses. Mr. Ellerbrock will discuss the techniques of 19th century land surveying and of the challenges of interpreting and resurveying the town site in the 21st century.



Local History, National Identity: Why Heritage Matters in the 21st Century

Presented by Paul A. Shackel

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
June 15, 2010, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168
State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois.



Dr. Paul Shackel is Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Maryland-College Park, where he is also the Director of the Center for Heritage Resource Studies, a program that supports the comprehensive approach to the study of heritage. Author of numerous books and articles, including *Memory in Black and White: Race, Commemoration, and the Post-Bellum Landscape* and *New Philadelphia: An Archaeology of Race in the Heartland* (forthcoming in 2010), Dr. Shackel's work addresses what nationally significant sites mean to the American public, and how those heritage resources help to create and maintain concepts of national identity. His presentation and audience discussions will explore how the recovery, celebration, and interpretation of the past are necessary components of sustaining local identities and a sense of place. The question that often arises within many communities is: "which heritage is best to preserve, and will the promotion of heritage have an impact on the local cultural resources, the community, and the environment?" The Center for Heritage Resource Studies has been working with communities, including new Americans and disenfranchised groups, to help foster a sense of place and belonging in rural and urban areas. Heritage development can have a positive effect on communities when people work together to enhance their understanding of the past and the present. Heritage development on a grass-roots level can help foster a form of democracy building that can create many benefits for societies, governments, individuals, and communities.



Putting the Community in “Community Archaeology”

Presented by Anna Agbe-Davies

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
June 22, 2010, 7pm. Kinderhook Lodge, 22168
State Highway 106, Barry, Illinois.



Dr. Anna Agbe-Davies is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She is an historical archaeologist with a particular focus on the African diaspora, and a co-director of the New Philadelphia Archaeology Project. Her research interests focus on towns and cities of the 19th and 20th century Midwest and the plantation societies of the colonial southeastern United States and Caribbean. Dr. Agbe-Davies is author of numerous articles and chapters in peer-reviewed journals and books, including the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* and *The Materiality of Freedom: Archaeologies of Post-Emancipation Life* (U. South Carolina Press, forthcoming). As increasing numbers of archaeologists come to terms with our responsibilities towards people, in addition to the profession and to archaeological resources, we seek a language with which to express this commitment. Whereas previously the entire emphasis was on the past social groups being studied, more and more archaeologists now practice with, in, and for, living “communities.” This presentation explores the ways that the concept of community has been deployed by archaeologists and compares these with the meanings of the term as developed by ethnographers. This presentation will also include a moderated workshop discussion among attending students, researchers, descendants, neighbors, members of the New Philadelphia Association, and others interested in the town founded by Frank McWorter to explore and highlight the important characteristics and interests of that community.



Stealing Away: Ingenuity and Strategy in the Paths from Slavery to Freedom

Presented by Terry Ransom and Christopher Fennell

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
June 29, 2010, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Terry Ransom is the founder and coordinator of the Illinois Underground Railroad Research Network, and has worked to chart the pathways of freedom that traversed Illinois in the period of slavery. Chris Fennell is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Law at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. This presentation addresses the dynamics in which enslaved Africans, African Americans, and Native Americans escaped from plantations and traversed the countryside. Western Illinois was traversed by many persons escaping bondage, as they traveled from more southern locations up through Illinois to points along the Great Lakes and transit into Canada where they could be free of the fear of bounty hunters. Dr. Juliet Walker's excellent study of the history of the McWorter family provides persuasive details of the oral history reports that the McWorters aided escapees in their home, which served as a "safe house." Very likely other residents of the New Philadelphia area participated in these efforts as well. This presentation will provide an overview of these many journeys to cast off bondage, related archaeological investigations, and the heritage of African-American quilting, which has been claimed to be related to communications aiding those escaping slavery.



Struggling for Freedom: Perceptions of the Landscape by the Women, Men, and Children Escaping Bondage

Presented by Rebecca Ginsburg

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
July 6, 2010, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Dr. Rebecca Ginsburg is an Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture, African-American Studies, African Studies, Architecture, and Art History at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Her works include the forthcoming edited book entitled *Landscapes of North American Slavery*, co-edited with Clifton Ellis (Yale University Press). In this presentation, Dr. Ginsburg examines how both academic and popular works acknowledge the importance of hidden trails and secret hiding spots in the lives of enslaved communities on Southern antebellum plantations. However, such “slave landscapes” often celebrated as sites of Black resistance, also contributed to the frequent failure of escape efforts. The landscapes of enslaved African Americans are best understood not simply as networks of sites and passages occupied by them, but also as the cognitive order that enslaved people imposed upon the settings they shared with master-enslavers, non-slaveholding whites, and others. While providing them many advantages on and around the plantation, the geographic understandings of enslaved laborers became a disadvantage once they moved very far away in pursuit of freedom. Nonetheless, the reckoning of a slave landscape still played in an important role in emboldening many to set out for freedom in the first place.



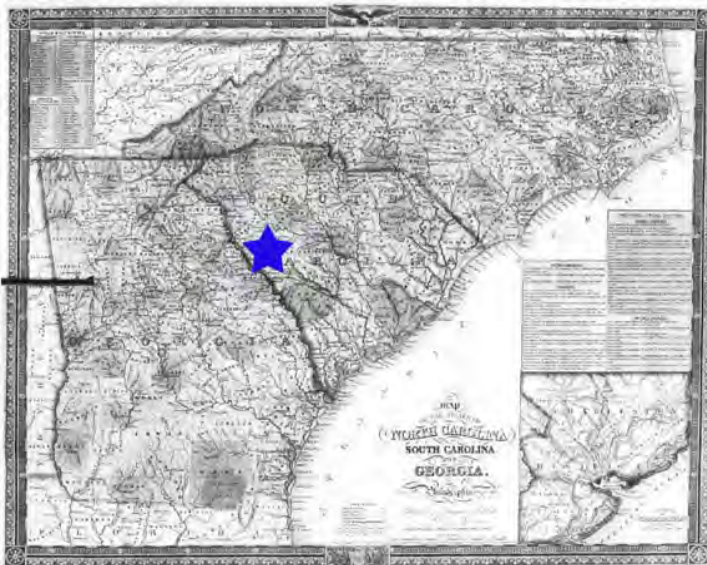
Geological Adventures on the Carolina Frontier: The Search for Kaolin and the Rise of a Heroic African-American Potter

Presented by John Michael Vlach

Public Lecture and Audience Discussion,
July 14, 2010, 7pm. Illinois State Museum RCC,
1011 East Ash St. Springfield, Illinois.



Dr. John Michael Vlach is Professor of American Studies and Anthropology and Director of the Folklife Program at George Washington University. For more than thirty years, he has studied aspects of African diasporas through field research in Africa, the Caribbean, and across the American south. Author of ten books, his titles include *The Afro-American Tradition in Decorative Arts*, and *By the Work of Their Hands: Studies in Afro-American Folklife*. Vlach will discuss the extraordinary life and accomplishments of “Dave the Potter” in Edgefield, South Carolina. Frank McWorter was born and raised in the highlands of South Carolina, as was Dave Drake. The life accomplishments of both individuals were shaped by their extraordinary determination, skill and industry. The technological innovation of alkaline-glazed stoneware pottery was introduced in Edgefield in the first decades of the 19th century. These technological developments by entrepreneurs of Scots-Irish heritage played out in a landscape shaped by racial difference. Numerous enslaved African-American laborers, including Dave, who added inscriptions to his vessels, worked at these production sites. Edgefield pottery presents dynamics in industrial innovations and the impacts of African cultural knowledge and racial ideologies on a craft specialization during the historic period in America. Dr. Vlach’s presentation is sponsored by the Illinois State Museum’s *Paul Mickey Science Series*.



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/>

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>

