

University of South Alabama

**JagWorks@USA**

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Archaeology Museum Newsletters

Archaeology Museum

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2-2025

## **USA Archaeology Museum Newsletter - February 2025**

Jennifer Knutson

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*In this edition of the museum's newsletter,*

***USA Archaeology Museum Spring Semester Exhibition:***

- *INTO LIGHT Project Alabama: Drug Addiction, Real People-Real Stories*

***Alabama Archaeological Society, Southwest Chapter Presents:***

***The Archaeology of France on the Gulf Coast Lecture Series***

- **Feb. 04:** "Fort Tombecbe: On the Louisiana Frontier," by Sarah Coffey, US Army Corps of Engineers, at 4:30 pm
- **Feb. 11:** "Old Mobile and the Archaeology of French Colonial Louisiane," by Gregory Waselkov, Ph.D., USA Anthropology, at 4 pm
- **Mar. 18:** "La Trinité and French Colonization in the New World," by Wendy Weaver, US Army Corps of Engineers, at 4:30 pm
- **Apr. 15:** "Overlapping Economies and Cultures: The Trade Economy Between Europeans and Native Americans in the Gulf South Region," by Kyle Williams, History Museum of Mobile, at 4:30 pm

***Upcoming Free and Mostly Online Talks:***

- Find links in the newsletter to upcoming online talks hosted by the Archaeological Conservancy, Archaeological Institute of America, AARP Alabama, and USA's Dept. of Biology.

***Legacies of Slavery & the Shared History of the South***

- If you missed the video launch last semester at the Museum, you can still watch it online!

***Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler!***

- Thanks to the Alliance Française of Mobile, this newsletter contains the history of the King Cake and a traditional *Galette des Rois* recipe!

### ***Museum Spring Break Closure:***

- Tues. Mar. 4 - Fri. Mar. 7, Spring Break

### ***Giving to the Archaeology Museum***

- Thank you for your support, please help us to continue our to [mission](#).
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### **Dear Museum Supporters,**

To all the K-12 educator's, there are several dates still available this spring to reserve a field trip for your students. Please get in touch soon!

This spring, the Museum's temporary exhibition space features an exhibit that's a little different than our usual offering for visitors but no less important. The INTO Light Project Alabama: Real People, Real Stories has taken two years to come to fruition in our state and around 450 people attended the its opening at the University of South Alabama Student Center last fall where it was hosted until its move to the Museum this January 2025.

The [INTO Light Project](#) is a national non-profit that creates public exhibitions of original portraits and individual stories of people who have died from the disease of drug addiction in locations around the country. Their mission is to change the conversation about drug addiction through the power of original art and story. The INTO Light selects one public academic museum or gallery in each state based on its ability to engage the community and it is an honor to be the primary location at the University of South Alabama. The original, professionally framed portrait and a catalog of the narratives of each of the individuals in the exhibit are gifted to the family of the deceased at the end of the exhibition. At the Archaeology Museum this spring, memorabilia from some of the families is also included in the exhibit. The Museum thanks the families and friends of all the loved ones in the INTO Light Project Alabama. Because of the importance of spreading the message of the exhibition, USA is proud to have lent support for the INTO Light Project Alabama exhibition to continue at other museums and universities around the state, included at Government Plaza this summer.

You're invited to visit the Museum this spring or attend one or all of the excellent talks that are planned, I hope you can join us!

Jen

Jen Knutson, Archaeology Museum Assistant Director

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## ***Now On Exhibit***

JANUARY 14 - APRIL 30, 2025

### **INTO Light Project Alabama Drug Addiction: Real People, Real Stories**

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

The University of South Alabama is collaborating with the [INTO LIGHT Project](#) to host the exhibition, "Drug Addiction: Real People, Real Stories."

A national nonprofit, the INTO LIGHT Project works to destigmatize the topic of addiction by bringing to light the stories of individuals who lost their lives to a drug overdose/drug poisoning or drug-related causes. Educational programming will be held throughout the eleven months of the exhibition. Through the 41 original graphite portraits, the discussion of substance use disorder (SUD) addiction, and overdose, helps provide some relief for families who have lost loved ones to the overdose epidemic, as well as encouraging those battling SUD to seek help.

INTO LIGHT Project will be on exhibit at the USA Archaeology Museum until April 30, 2025.

#### ***Find out more and see media coverage about INTO LIGHT Project Alabama:***

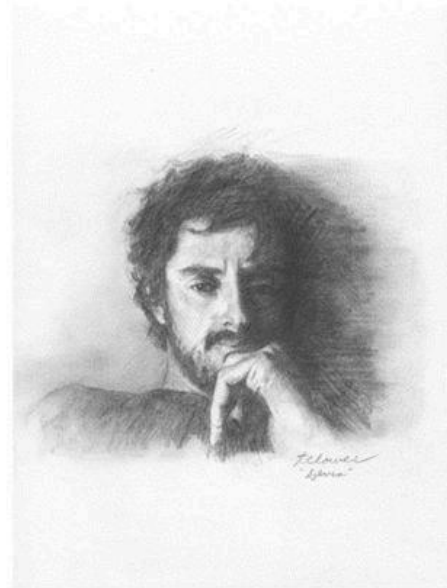
- FOX 10 News, ["INTO LIGHT Project Alabama Exhibition Profiles Faces Lost to Drug Addiction"](#)
- FOX 10 News, ["Exhibit Shines Light on Those Lost to Drug Addiction"](#)
- WKRG, ["INTO LIGHT Exhibit at University of South Alabama to Raise Awareness of Drug Addiction"](#)



# INTO LIGHT PROJECT

## **Alabama**

Drug Addiction:  
Real People, Real Stories



Now on Exhibit at the University of South Alabama Archaeology Museum  
Spring 2025



# INTO LIGHT PROJECT



Thank you for your support!



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

*The Archaeology of France on the Gulf Coast Lecture Series*

- **Feb. 04:** "Fort Tombecbe: On the Louisiana Frontier," by Sarah Coffey, US Army Corps of Engineers, at 4:30 pm
- **Feb. 11:** "Old Mobile and the Archaeology of French Colonial Louisiane," by Gregory Waselkov, Ph.D., USA Anthropology, at 4 pm
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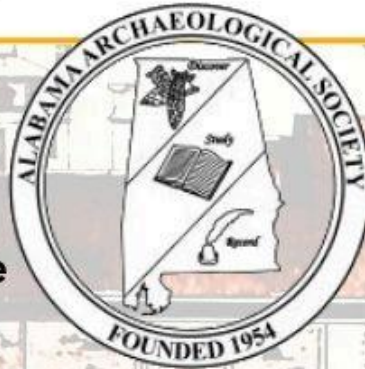
# Alabama Archaeological Society

## SW Chapter Speaker Series

### Spring 2025 Schedule



Featuring the  
Archaeology of France  
on the Gulf Coast!



**FREE Public  
Events!**

**Feb. 04:** "Fort Tombecbe: On the Louisiana Frontier," by Sarah Coffey, US Army Corps of Engineers, at **4:30 pm**

**Feb. 11:** "Old Mobile and the Archaeology of French Colonial Louisiane," by Gregory Waselkov, Ph.D., USA Anthropology, at **4 pm**

**Mar. 18:** "*La Trinité* and French Colonization in the New World," by Wendy Weaver, US Army Corps of Engineers, at **4:30 pm**

**Apr. 15:** "Overlapping Economies and Cultures: The Trade Economy Between Europeans and Native Americans in the Gulf South Region," by Kyle Williams, History Museum of Mobile, at **4:30 pm**

**USA Archaeology Museum**

6050 USA South Drive

(251) 460-6106

## Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Presents

"Fort Tombeche: On the Louisiana Frontier"

by Sarah Coffey, Mobile District US Army Corps of Engineers

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

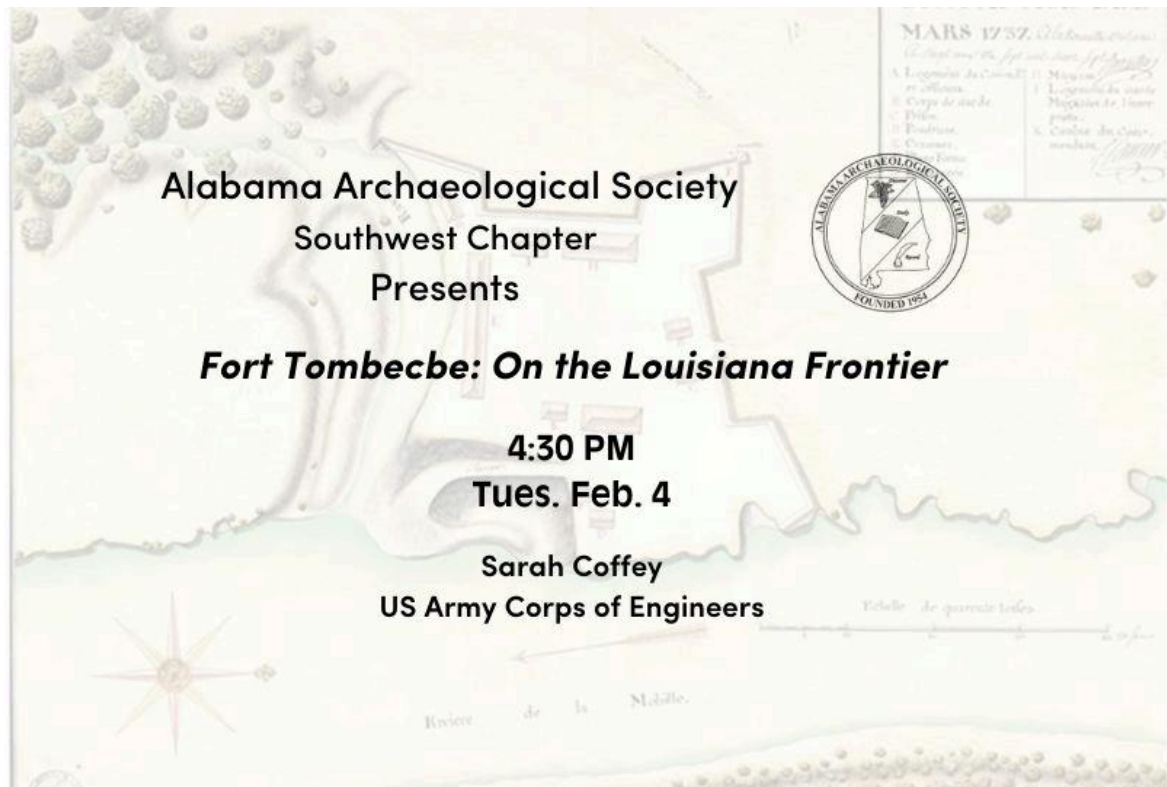
**When:** 4:30 pm, Tues. Feb. 4

**Where:** USA Archaeology Museum

6050 USA Drive South

Mobile, Alabama 36688

**Admission:** Free & open to the public!



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## Alabama Archaeological Society Southwest Chapter Presents

"Old Mobile and the Archaeology of French Colonial Louisiane"

by Gregory Waselkov, Ph.D. USA Professor Emeritus of Anthropology

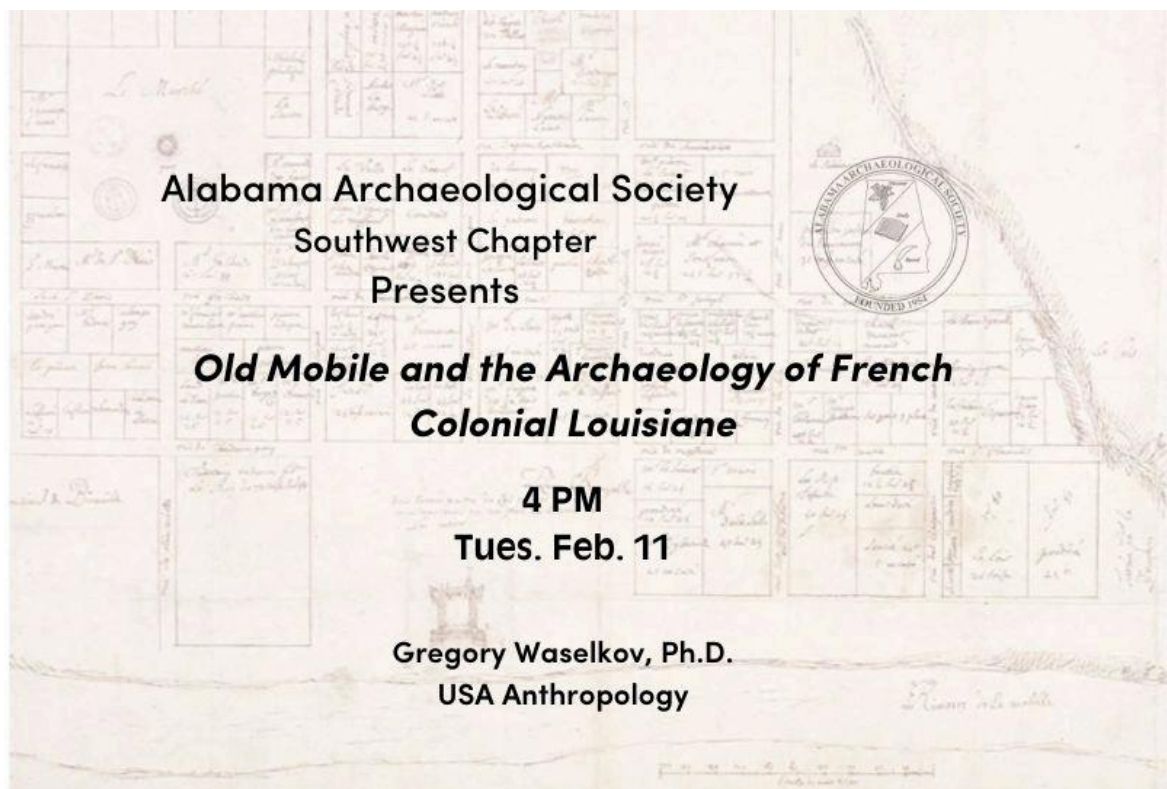


UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM

**When:** 4:0 pm, Tues. Feb. 11

**Where:** USA Archaeology Museum  
6050 USA Drive South  
Mobile, Alabama 36688

**Admission:** Free and open to the public!



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## ***Upcoming Free & Mostly Online Talks***

### **Archaeological Institute of America New Orleans Chapter**

To find more lectures online, see the [Archaeological Institute of America's](#) webpage.

1) **February 11, 5:00 PM CST (6:00 PM EST)**, is by NOLA Society member and Tulane professor, **Emilia Oddo**: The next meeting of the New York Aegean Bronze Age Colloquium will be on Tuesday, February 11th at 6:00 pm EST (US & Canada), when Emilia Oddo will give a talk titled "My Precious! Bronze Hoards and Other Buried Treasures of Minoan Crete." The lecture will

be held online as a Zoom meeting. Zoom registration is required. To register, please click here <[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/jfii0j0NQgW8Ru9U\\_d-Few#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/jfii0j0NQgW8Ru9U_d-Few#/registration)>

2) **Feb 26, 2025 07:00 PM CST** : the next AIA Archaeology Hour talk by Zainab Bahrani on "Towards an Archaeology of Preservation". [Registration](#) for the Zoom meeting is required.

## **The Archaeological Conservancy**

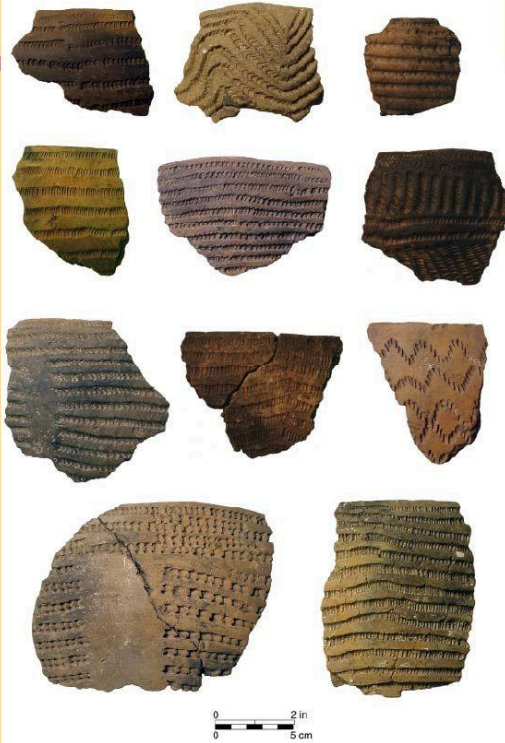
"Stallworth Island Archaeology"

Virtual Lecture on Thursday, **February 6 at 5 pm MST/4 pm CST.**

Dr. Kenneth E. Sassaman is Hyatt and Cici Brown Professor of Florida Archaeology at the University of Florida. He earned a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst in 1991 and has over 40 years of archaeological field experience in the Indigenous history of the American Southeast. His most recent work centers on the challenges of climate change on the gulf coast of Florida over the past 5,000 years. He is the author of over 100 articles and book chapters, and the author or editor of ten books including *People of the Shoals: Stallings Culture of the Savannah River Valley* (University Press of Florida, 2006).

[Register to attend on Zoom Webinars, or watch by Facebook Live!](#)

**VIRTUAL LECTURE**  
**FEB 6**  
**5:00 PM MST**



4,000 years ago a small island in Georgia became a place of heightened ritual and cultural identity.

Join us for a discussion about Stallings Island and how its preservation allows archaeologists to use new technologies to tell us even more about one of our nation's most significant archaeological sites of Indigenous history.

PRESENTED BY  
Dr. Kenneth E. Sassaman  
University of Florida

[HTTPS://THEARCHCONS.ORG](https://thearchcons.org)

## USA Department of Biology Seminars

Dr. Debra Stults, will present a seminar titled "The contributions (25 years) of the University of South Alabama to the Paleobotany of the southeastern United States." Dr. Stults is an affiliated researcher in the Biology Department and has published papers describing new species of plants from the fossil record. One paper was recently highlighted by the [University of South Alabama news](#).

**When:** Friday, February 7th, at 1:15PM

**Where:** USA Earth Life Sciences Building, Room 119

### [Zoom Option](#)

Future USA Department of Biology Seminars:

February 21 at 1:15PM in ELSB 119 - Emmett Carstens - "The Gulf Coast Phenology Trail: Enhancing Community Science Opportunities through the Collection of Phenological Data"

March 14 at 1:15PM in ELSB 119 - Dr. Justin Roberts - "Changing the Paradigm: Role of Alternative Splicing in the Transcriptional Response to Hypoxia"

March 28 at 1:15PM in ELSB 119 - Sam Hirst - Venom evolution in rattlesnakes

April 4 at 1:15PM in ELSB 119 - Dr. Michelle Gaynor - Plant genetics and polyploidy

April 11 at 1:15PM in ELSB 119 - Dr. Matilde Tellaetxe-Isusi - Nature and Health

**USA** UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

**Upcoming Seminar**

Friday, Feb. 7 at 1:15 pm  
Earth Life Sciences Bldg  
Room 119

Zoom option:  
[SouthAlabama.zoom.us/j/95114933043](https://southalabama.zoom.us/j/95114933043)

**"The contributions (25 years) of the University of South Alabama to the Paleobotany of the southeastern United States"**

**Dr. Debra Stults**  
Affiliated Researcher  
Dept. of Biology  
University of South Alabama



## AARP Alabama

[Volunteers with the Mobile chapter of the AARP](#) are highlighting local African-American history. Each week in February they'll host a different, free event to teach others about black history. It's every Monday in February at the Via Health, Fitness and Enrichment Center. The talks continue every Monday at 9:30 in the morning for the rest of the month and will include events that highlight the Society of Clotilda, the African American Archives, and the Doris Franklin Finley African American Heritage Trail. They're all free and open to the public but they ask that you register in advance, [the link is here](#).

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***Legacies of Slavery and the Shared History of the South***

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

If you missed last semester's release of the Legacies of Slavery video project, it's available to watch online through [USA's Jagworks](#). This video project brings Myra Davis-Branic and Frye Gaillard together for two vibrant discussions about their family histories and a rich dialogue about the shared history of the South. Myra Davis-Branic's ancestors were enslaved by Frye Gaillard's family, and their conversations, facilitated by acclaimed oral historian and folklorist Dr. Kern Jackson, offer a powerful perspective on race, history, and community in the present. In addition, videos featuring USA's Toulmin House and Archaeology Museum are also available as part of the project.

# *Legacies of Slavery*

AND THE  
SHARED HISTORY OF THE SOUTH

This video project brings Myra Davis-Branic and Frye Gaillard together for two vibrant discussions about their family histories and a rich dialogue about the shared history of the South. Myra Davis-Branic's ancestors were enslaved by Frye Gaillard's family, and their conversations, facilitated by acclaimed oral historian and folklorist Dr. Kern Jackson, offer a powerful perspective on race, history, and community in the present. Free public access to these videos and other materials at the QR code and link below.

## VIDEO 1

### **TOULMIN HOUSE CONVERSATION**

A wide-ranging and illuminating conversation between Myra Davis-Branic and Frye Gaillard in historic Toulmin House on the USA Campus. Moderated by Dr. Kern Jackson.

## VIDEO 2

### **PERSPECTIVES ON TOULMIN HOUSE**

Dr. Kern Jackson and Frye Gaillard discuss the history of Toulmin House in a brief video commentary.

## VIDEO 3

### **PUBLIC CONVERSATION IN THE USA ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM**

Myra Davis-Branic and Frye Gaillard discuss their shared history and take

## VIDEO 4

### **PERSPECTIVES ON THE USA ARCHAEOLOGY MUSEUM**

Dr. Kern Jackson talks with Jen Knutson, Assistant Director of the USA Archaeology Museum, about the museum's focus and exhibits in a brief video.

questions in an event at the  
USA Archaeology Museum.  
Moderated by Dr. Kern  
Jackson.



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### ***Laissez Les Bons Temps Rouler!***

Thanks to the [Mobile Chapter of the Alliance Française](#), for the providing the History of the King Cake and a traditional recipe for the King Cake or as its known in France, the Galette des Rois.

- ["The Galette des Rois: A very French Tradition"](#)
- [Kings Cakes Recipe](#)



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### ***Museum Spring Semester Closures:***

- Tues. March 4 - Friday March 7, Spring Break

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### ***Giving to the Archaeology Museum***

Your help is needed more than ever to support the USA Archaeology Museum's free public programs and giving to the museum is now possible online! Please visit <https://giving.southalabama.edu/archaeology> to make a secure, online donation to the museum. Every dollar counts! Some of our ongoing funding needs include K-12 supplies, paying student assistants (each student is about \$3k a semester), exhibit maintenance, and bringing new exhibits to campus.

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### **Admission is Free!**

**Museum Hours: Tuesdays - Fridays, 10 am - 4 pm.**

**Phone: (251) 460-6106**

**Email: [archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu](mailto:archaeologymuseum@southalabama.edu)**

**Facebook: [@TheArchaeologyMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/TheArchaeologyMuseum)**



**Instagram: @SouthArchaeology**

**YouTube: @USAArchaeology**

## Where To Find Us

