

Rolonda D. Teal
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Education:

- Doctor of Philosophy in Forestry, Stephen F. Austin State University, May 2018, (Human Dimensions)
Dissertation Title: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS FOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CIVIL WAR SITES WORKING WITH AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES
- Master of Arts in Anthropology, University of Houston, May 2006, (Historical Archaeology)
- Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology, Northwestern State University in Louisiana, May 2001

Selected Professional Experience:

- 2017 **Adjunct Professor.** Houston Community College Systems. Taught a 16-week General Anthropology course during the Fall 2017 semester. I was responsible for the development of all aspects of the class.
- 2017 **Principle Investigator.** *Cultural Lore.* Currently working on “In Flight: Freedom Seekers from the Cane River Region” which is a grant funded through the National Park Service Civil Rights Grant Program. This project will identify enslaved peoples who attempted escape, slave traders, and land and water routes associated with Underground Railroad activity.
- 2017 **Co-Investigator.** *Cultural Lore.* Currently working on “Lineal Descent”, which is a project funded through the National Park Service Civil Rights Grant Program, that is designed to document the origins of enslaved peoples and their descendants in Natchitoches Parish.
- 2006- 2017 **Founder.** *Cultural Lore.* This is a consulting agency that specializes in anthropological and archaeological projects. We aid with research, cultural and material management, museum artifact conservation, cemetery preservation, and interpretation techniques at historic sites.
- 2016 **Researcher.** *Cultural Lore.* Submitted two essays for the State of Louisiana, Division of the Arts. The essays focused on night fishing and African American riding clubs in Louisiana.
- 2015-2016 **Ethnographer.** *Cultural Lore.* Sub-contracted with Earth Search, Inc. to document Traditionally Associated Peoples (TAP) in the Cane River area of Natchitoches Parish. I, along with Dr. Dayna Browker-Lee, conducted interviews and recorded oral histories which resulted in a 500-page manuscript.
- 2015 **Graduate Assistant.** *Stephen F. Austin State University.* Worked for the U.S. Forestry Service to collect visitor preference data through surveys. Set infrared red cameras, filed reports, administered surveys.
- 2014 **Graduate Assistant.** *Stephen F. Austin State University.* Worked as a crew leader in Yellowstone National Park conducting visitation trend observations. The information garnered was used to help National Park officials determine best practices for visitor preferences at this site.
- 2014 **Graduate Assistant.** *Stephen F. Austin State University.* Taught a 3-credit course entitled “Environmental Interpretation”. I was responsible for the development of all aspects of the class.

- 2012 -2013 **Researcher/Editor.** *Beyond the Bricks: A History of the Calliope Housing Development.* New Orleans, LA. Provided research materials regarding the Calliope Housing Project. This information was used to create a short film and museum exhibit.
- 2012 **Principle Investigator.** *Cane River National Heritage Area Commission.* Successfully nominated Los Adaes State Historic Site for inclusion on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom. This was the first National Historic Trail identified as having connections with Underground Railroad activity.
- 2010- 2012 **Consultant.** *Earth Search Inc.,* This project was funded through British Petroleum and the National Park Service in response to the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill MC-252 Incident. The project was intended to identify, document and nominate Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) as defined by the federal government. I worked in coastal communities in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama.
- 2009- 2010 **Consultant.** *Myths and Legends Byway Project and Toledo Bend Forest Byway.* Conducted fieldwork and research to document the oral folklore of various cultural groups located in five parishes in Louisiana. Funding for the project was obtained through grants given by Louisiana Division Of the Arts and the five parishes of DeSoto, Sabine, Vernon, Beauregard, and Allen.
- 2009 - 2010 **Consultant.** *Assessment & Plan for Thurgood Marshall's Elementary School (P.S. 103).* Worked with the City of Baltimore and the Baltimore National Heritage Area to provide research, suggest interpretive themes, and develop an educational component that celebrates the life of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and the Civil Rights Era in Baltimore, MD.
- 2008 **Consultant.** *Cane River National Heritage Area Commission.* Successfully nominated the Cammie G. Henry Research Center at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana for inclusion in the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program. The nomination process included original research resulting in a final essay, which is now included as part of the historical reference for Underground Railroad activities.
- 2005 - 2006 **Program Manager.** *Cane River National Heritage Area Commission.* Natchitoches, LA. I assisted in the completion of various projects implemented through the organization including working with various populations as a community liaison. In addition, I created a partnership between the University of Houston's Archaeology Department, the National Park Service, and the Cane River National Heritage Area. This partnership resulted in a four-year field school.
- 2005 **Researcher/Planner.** *Cane River Creole National Historical Park.* Planned and implemented the Grand Opening of the Magnolia Plantation complex. The activities included a multitude of games and learning opportunities for people ranging from ages 3-50+.
- 2001 **Contractor.** *City of Natchitoches.* Responsible for documenting structures to be included in an extended area of an existing Historic District. Prepared forms for nomination as historic buildings. Employer: Randy LaCaze, Director of City Planning.
- 2000 **Field Worker.** *Cultural Resource Office, Northwestern State University.* Assisted in archaeological surveys at Camp Beauregard in Alexandria, LA. Mapped sites, and collected artifacts. Employer: Dr. Tommy Ike Hailey.

Field Schools:

Melrose Plantation (Louisiana) - Volunteer
 Kalapana Cemetery (Hawaii) - Volunteer
 Rutherford B. H. Yates (Texas) - Student
 Rev. Ned P. Pullum House (Texas) - Student
 Ft. Jessup State Historic Site (Louisiana) - Volunteer
 Levi Jordan Plantation (Texas) – Archiving and cataloguing artifacts in the lab.
 Camp Beauregard (Louisiana) - Student

Selected Publications:

- 2016 *“Nacogdoches, Texas: Refuge for Fugitives”* in **The Black Experience in Nacogdoches: 40 Years after Integration**, SFA Press.
- 2012 **“Some Change is Better than No Change: Racism in Anthropology”**. In Racism in the Academy, American Anthropological Association (AAA). Electronic Publication.
- 2007 **Natchitoches** (Black America Series), Arcadia Publishing, Mt. Pleasant, SC.
- 2007 ***The Cane River Insurrection***. The Encyclopedia of Slave Resistance and Rebellions. Greenwood Publishing, Westport, CT.

Selected Speaking Engagements:

- 2017 **The 1804 Insurrection from Riviere aux Cannes**. Houston Community College, Houston, TX (February 13).
- 2016 **The 1804 Insurrection from Riviere aux Cannes**. San Jacinto Symposium, Houston, TX (April 9).
- 2016 **The 1804 Insurrection from Riviere aux Cannes**. Resistance, Escape, and Community: Opposition to Enslavement in North Louisiana Conference, Natchitoches, LA (February 19).
- 2010 **Underground Railroad Activities in Natchitoches Parish**. Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches, TX (February 14).
- 2009 **African American Material Culture in Cemetery Trees**, Nationwide Cemetery Preservation Summit, Nashville, TN (October 20).
- 2008 **We Wear the Mask: Minorities in Academia**, Third Annual Civil Rights Conference, Northwestern State University in Louisiana, (February 8).
- 2006 **Cemetery Studies**, African American Preservation Alliance Conference, Memphis, TN. (August 4).