

STONE FORT MUSEUM PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Co-Sponsored by the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture
& the East Texas Research Center, Ralph W. Steen Library

ROLONDA TEAL

Nacogdoches: A Destination Site Along the Underground Railroad

Monday, February 15, 2010 ✂ 12 noon to 1:30pm
SFA Forestry Building Room 117 ✂ Corner of East College and Raguet Streets

Light lunch fare will be available at no charge with reservations.

To reserve your seat, contact Carolyn Spears:

Phone: 936-468-2408

Email: stonefort@sfasu.edu

Itinerary

12 noon	Luncheon buffet & Welcome
12:15 p.m.	Speaker Introductions, Dr. Shirley Dickerson, Director, Steen Library
12:30 – 1:30p.m.	Speaker, Rolonda Teal

In 1999 the National Park Service established the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program (NURNFP) whose mission is to promote programs and partnerships that preserve sites and resources associated with the historic Underground Railroad movement. To qualify for designation as an official component of these historic routes to freedom, the nominated sites must have an association to the Underground Railroad movement that is documented in a verifiable way using professional methods of historical research.

The Old Stone Fort in Nacogdoches, built by Colonel Antonio Gil Y'Barbo, was used as part of his trading business. However, fugitive slaves also went to the Stone Fort seeking protection from servitude in French Louisiana, thus making Nacogdoches a desirable destination. This presentation will discuss qualifiers for inclusion in the NURNFP, provide examples of fugitive escapes to Nacogdoches, and highlight the potential for tourism development as a nationally recognized site.

Rolonda Teal is an anthropologist with expertise in plantation systems and the African Diaspora. As the Co-Founder of Cultural Lore, an anthropological consulting agency, she has worked with numerous cultural groups, nonprofit organizations, and local and government entities in project planning and development, grant writing, and grass-roots organization, including Cane River National Heritage Area, Cane River Creole National Historical Park, and Louisiana Regional Folklife Center.

Ms. Teal submitted the successful nomination of the Cammie G. Henry Research Center at Northwestern State University at Louisiana for inclusion on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program. She published *African Americans in Natchitoches Parish* (2007), and has writings in *The Encyclopedia of Slave Resistance and Rebellions* (2007), and *Southern Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of the South* (2002). Teal received her B.A. in Anthropology from Northwestern State University at Louisiana and her M.A. in Anthropology from the University of Houston.