

## A Little Autobiographical Information

As a military brat, I spent my childhood moving from place, beginning in Fort Worth, Texas where I was born to Oklahoma, Alabama, Louisiana, Japan, Texas and back to Alabama where I finished high school. I learned two key things during a nomadic childhood: the ability to assimilate into a new culture quickly and the knack of observing while participating. For me, there was always another social frontier to cope with, whether it was a rural country school in Alabama, a foreign culture during two years in Japan, or a large urban high school in San Antonio, Texas. Small wonder that anthropology appealed to me when I began my undergraduate studies at The University of Texas at Austin in 1971.

Archaeology became my chosen major after my first introductory class with Dr. E. Mott Davis. Employment as a lab technician and later a field archaeologist with the Texas Historical Commission during my undergraduate years exposed me to all kinds of archaeological sites from prehistoric villages and camps to Spanish Colonial missions to Anglo-American residential sites. After graduating with a B.A. in Archaeological Studies in 1974, I continued to work for the Commission until I returned to graduate school at the University of Kansas for a Master's Degree in Anthropology in 1977. Upon completion of my degree in 1979, I was hired by Dr. Michael Collins, then on faculty at the Department of Anthropology at the University of Kentucky and director of the newly organized Program for Cultural Resource Assessment. My job was to conduct an archaeological survey of a systematic sample of the Fort Knox Military Reservation. I thought I would spend a year completing the project and move on. Things didn't turn out that way.

I've spent the last 30+ years studying the archaeology of Kentucky and the Upland South, initially spending equal time in both the prehistoric and historic subdisciplines but eventually focusing my attention on the historic era. My research has been a combination of cultural resource management and grant projects as well as unfunded personal research. Early on in my career at UK, I became affiliated parttime with the William S. Webb Museum of Anthropology and since 1999, I have served fulltime as Assistant Director.