EASTERN SHORE DURING THE COLONIAL PERIOD
Interview with Donnie Barret by Michael Titford
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There were a couple of things I wanted to ask you about, about the Indians on the Eastern Shore. When we spoke about Fort Mims, you can understand the white folk were inside the fort, and they were with half-blooded people inside the fort, and the full-blooded were like outside. Would that be right?

Well, actually, it's just the other way around. It was the half-blooded, a large percentage of them were half-blooded on the outside that attacked the Indians and a lot of the full-blooded Indians didn't join the red stick movement it was what was going on was a Creek Civil War and in the Creek Civil War they had a you know I keep escaping that word and I've got somebody reading that book I can't find that book out you pick up that word I was going to pick up is that described half-bloods at the time and be sure get that work from us. And a lot of the full-blooded peaceful Creeks didn't join that movement, and so they were inside the fort.

Oh, okay. I heard that on the tape, and I thought, "How did that make sense?" How did that make sense? That's what happened. And you mentioned Bear Point. Where is Bear Point? Bear Point is you would go down, you would go to Gulf Shores. As soon as you cross the canal you would go east and when it the that the whole land out there by Orange Beach . Orange Beach dead ends - where orange beach dead ends you don't go to the beach but it dead ends to the east you're at Wolf Bay oh okay and Bear Point sticks out in the Wolf Bay and Ono Island is right to the south okay just this past last Saturday they found another effigy head and a and a tail they found the head and the tail to the bowl. All right. Good. Good. And then what is paddle stamped? You said it was like a pattern on a paper towel. Paddle stamp. Yeah, paddle stamp. It's like a square stamp. I've got some of it right there.

So they did it by hand on the--? No, they'd take a paddle and they just cut grooves this way and then grooves that way. And when you paddle it on there, it made a relief, a square relief pattern. It like a paper towel. Oh, okay. It's a real common thing. Depressions and rises in depression. Yeah, in a square pattern.

And how do you think that pottery was fired if there were Native Americans living all these days? How did they fire their pottery? In a campfire, you just take that pot that is to the touch field, that it is dry, you know, it's dry but it's not fired, and you set it mouth open toward the fire, and it will sit there and the outside of it will sweat and you'll see the outside of it sweat and they would just watch it and when the outside of it had quit sweating then they would just kick it in the fire and then by the next morning it was fired and it would be black on one side, tan on one side and brownish on another. It would be

different colors. But if you're going to fire by themselves you will take the open jug and just put little sticks in it and you'll start a small fire of just little sticks in the mouth of the pot. And you slowly build it up, slowly build it up, slowly build it up, and then you build up a pretty good stick fire and let that burn down. And you let them--give them the moisture a chance to escape. You give them the moisture a chance to escape.

And you mentioned an Indian named Tawasa, but he's not the same as Sequoia, right? Is that different?

No. He was one of the Indians that had--he was the brother of Tecumseh, and they were trying to excite the red sticks to go to war, And they were successful in starting the Creek Indian War in 1811, 1812.

And then you mentioned tempered, fibered pottery. Was there like fibers in the clay? Yeah, what they did, they would mix like straw and grass in the clay. And it would make for a real good pot, but then when you'd fire it, it'd be quite porous. So that would be just a good one to get your portion and eat out of, or that would be a good one just to pick berries in, or that would be one just to clean your oysters in, and then pick them up and string them and dry them. You know, just a non-permanent useful container. Just to hold something. Yeah.

And when you go through there, you notice some misspellings because there's some words that I've never came across. Like, you mentioned rangier clam. Yeah, it's a type of clam. R-A-N-G-I-R, something like that. It looks like R-A-N -G-I-A.

And then there was another word that I came across, "Wedon." "Wedon." And I misspelled it all the way through, but-- I think it's W-E-E-T-E-N, "Wedon." Yeah, but I put i at the end. If there's some big corrections to make, just let me have it back and I'll type it up and give you a correction.

Okay, so I will take time later. I can't believe I splattered out all this stuff. Well, no, it's all good stuff, because it's all good stuff that you know and I didn't know.

Well, I'm hoping you find it useful. It is very interesting.

And we're moving on now to the colonial period, And I guess the first people were the Spanish explorers, so I guess probably didn't leave much behind them.

The Spanish weren't builders and the Spanish were more takers. And the first period in occupation, I can't-- I don't know of anything but just a few scant relics. They have found

some coins, they have found some rosary stuff, they have found some things they claim were the DeSotos, but there's very little from the early occupation.

And then after that came the French and D'Iberville in 1698.

Okay, when the French, they first, in 1699, 1702, they built Fort St. Louis up at 27 Mile Bluff, and then they moved down in 1711. And in 1711 is when they, that's when the first French came over here. They -- well, first thing they did is they found the clay that was here, and -- which was just right there on the shores, and then by 1717, when they built Fort Conde, they pulled the clay out of the banks over here to build the clay.

On this side of the bay? Yeah, right there at Montrose. Okay. Oh, from -- Right there north of Fly Creek, right there, barely north of Fly Creek. Red Bluff. Red Bluff area. Okay.

Also what they did in 1711 when they came down, they started a creosote factory here where the American Legion and the Elks Club is.

You mentioned that on the tour, I went on that bus tour you gave me. You said it was like a fig and laurel around there.

Yeah, that's right. And you said there were French families and there were slaves. Yeah, and they built houses, they built buildings, they had a processing plant. they would make they would they would drain the sap out of the pine trees and then scorch it they would do a little more scorching and what they did they were driving off the turpentine and they didn't know to like distill and catch the turpentine they were just driving it off and they were burning and scorching that and condensing it and putting it in barrels and that's what they were making caulking out of and caulking at that time was uh it would be like a cotton rope and they and they would soak this cotton rope into that pitch, and then take what's called a caulking hammer, and then drive that rope into the crack of a boat. And it would remain-- it would give and take. You know, it remains flexible. Explained. OK.

And were there-- are there interest French around here on this part of the eastern shore that-- There were-- You mentioned that one there. There was a Juzang family that were like French Creole, but they probably came from the New Orleans area. And that was about right after 1800. They had a small plantation on the north side of Big Head Gulley. Or Big Head. And Cathy Donelson said, "There's still just hangs here and in Mobile." But I've never known him. And they're Creole people.

I walked on that bus tour when we drove around Gambino's. you said, "Oh, Gambino's is a big archaeological site." Yeah, that's what the, when I first became the director of

this museum, I had a representative of the Alabama Historical Commission to say, "Now that's a real important site. You've got to help us protect that. It's almost secretive. We don't want people to know that it's an important site." So first thing I did is go around and around the trees and on the ground and the surface And I picked up several pieces of lead-glazed earthenware, you know, would be colonial period pottery there. I mean, just little giblets of it, like a little eighth-inch square, little tiny little pieces of it. But I kind of knew what I was looking at and found a little bit of that there.

And then when the city made a small parking lot for the Elks Club there, I told the city, "Hey, we got a place here. We got to watch out for archaeology there." So as they scraped it off little by little, I had them just, you know, not dig right into it, but just scrape it off little by little.

It turned out that that was a parking lot for the La Corona Club. And so in the 1930s, you know, kids just slid in and slid out of there and slid in and slid out of there. And all the surface, oh, that was gone. Okay. You know, so when they made that parking lot, there was no archaeology there.

So when it was colonial period stuff, from your glaze, lead glaze, did you know which group were there?

No, I didn't know. It was just, you know, during that time they would bring in Fiance, they would bring in Pueblo Ware from New Mexico. They would bring in different ones from different places. So I didn't really have enough to really know what I had. I could just look at it and tell it was unventrified clay with the lead glaze on it. From that period? From that period. I just knew it was just generally, you know.

And then also on the bus tour you mentioned on Molokai Lane, you said that was like a pre-colonial site. Yeah. What happened on Mount Molokai Lane? Actually, that wasn't pre-Columbian, pre, that wasn't really colonial, that was in about the 1850s. Oh, okay. Yeah, that was in the 1850s. That was in Fort Civil War, that was called Stapleton Station.

Okay. Another interesting site, you want me to tell you about Stapleton Station? Yeah. There was a Davy Crockett Stapleton. Okay, yeah, you mentioned him on the tour. Yeah. He was, in 1859, he was the tax collector for Baldwin County as well as the Baldwin County Sheriff. And there at Stapleton Station he had a stagecoach stop and a telegraph office. And that made him a very important site there. And that cemetery was the family cemetery there. It later became known as Tatumville and later became known as the Tatumville Cemetery. And then it was discontinued like in the 1920s and they supposedly moved the bodies and started the Twin Beech Road Cemetery.

So the turpentine was probably the only thing going on in this part of the Eastern Shore during the French period.

Yeah, there was--across the gully from there was in 1763 when the French and Indian War was over, the British--it became British Mobile. That stopped the turpentine plant there and it brought in the British agent in charge of British Mobile was Edmund Weggs. Edmund Weggs looked around and saw the Eastern Shore and really admired the Eastern Shore and set a plantation. Now he doesn't mean he actually had to live there. Plantation means you plant it to make money. And so he made a plantation at the Blakely site and he made a plantation down here on the Big Head Gully. And it was the Edmund Weggs plantation and that was for mostly cattle. It was a cattle plantation.

Yeah, I think I read somewhere that, no? How was sort of plantation you think about, you know, growing cotton or crops? Yeah. But often it was cattle. Yeah. Plantation means it's actually planted. somebody who has money is actually planting the plantation. Now in our concept from our watching Gone with the Wind, we think it's a rich family, just grew themselves richer and richer and richer by being successful at farming, whereas the actual concept of plantation means that a person is investing money by setting up a farm.

And they had to work the land to be able to keep it, I think, or they had to show some improvement on the land to be able to hang on.

In early times, if it's successful, it's successful. Okay. Like there was a big one in Spanish Fort called the Rochon Plantation. It was also-- Yeah. It was also-- Just some maps. Well, first of all, the British, I guess. So this is from that major Robert Farmer book. And they talk about Croftown. And then-- Yeah. And they said there was like a fort in Montrose or Fort Croftown. It was called the Village. and the site of that village moved from one place to another. With that little point there, this is a pretty good map, and this little point right there is where they found the Rochon plantation all around here and the original Spanish fort to be right along there. Now their Spanish word, La Aldea, that sounds as French as a word can be, but that was the Spanish word for La Aldea was this village.

Now, South Alabama, and see, this almost been those Daphne's. South Alabama found a place where Village Point Park is. That's right about where it is. Right there on the bluff there, and the bluffs are only about five feet high there, about six years ago they found a French village there with French pottery around it, and it had a Palisade wall around it.

That's near where that new parkland is. Village Point Park is. Yeah. It's right when you get to the Village Boat Park where the restrooms are. Here where there's property and personal houses there, right through there on the beach here where they've cleared up, that's where we did the dig.

Sure. But what was this Fort Crofton that they found? I don't know about that. Because I mentioned, I heard that in some talk somewhere, and then on this map here they talk about Croft Town, which is— Oh, yeah. I can't tell you that. Sure.

I know that Farmer was actually up Fish River. He was up Fish River almost where Potter's Bend is, which is right about—and from that point there, seven miles west, right about there—of those farmers.

And on the bus tour, you mentioned that further down 98, there were two more cemeteries. You said one was like 1776. Did I hear you right? When we were taking the bus tour around Fairhope you said there were a couple more cemeteries because you showed us the one like the state.

Yeah, there's the one down there in Point Clear but it's not that old. Okay. I thought you said there were two down there, one an early one like from the Civil War period and then one from 1812. It was established before the Civil War in the 1830s and 1840s and then they built graves that were added to it they added to it with it with a civil war grave and what might be the other one I've been talking about I don't know might have been a pilot town down here in St. Andrew's Bay there was a cemetery.

And then you mentioned already Edmund Weggs and he had a place like around Paddock Drive and yeah and yeah we've had people to bring us stuff from down there, cut nails and forged nails and a really nice horse bridle that is a colonial construction. I even photographed it and sent it to the archaeologist at South Alabama and they said, "This is nice."

Okay. Okay. And he was there a long time, right, because he got there like when the priest was here and he stayed there like to the 1800s, so he must have been like in residence or there must have been activity there.

Yeah, there would be anything to run them off until they were not businesses successful. Our family died away.

And when I went to that talk in 2000, you know, Centennial Hall, and that Holland lady was giving a talk. She showed, I think you have a copy here of the Admiral Team map of the Eastern Shore. I think you have it on the wall outside here, don't you? The British Admiralty map of the Eastern Shore from that period?

I don't think so. Where did I see that? I don't have one of those. I have that map here, but I don't… I thought there was one like a topographical… Oh, yes I do. Yes I do. Yes, it's downstairs.

Oh, right. I call that before, before Pharrell was Pharrell. That has the Edmund Weggs on it. That has the encampment of the detachment of the, what, 61st regulars. They were starting an encampment over there, but here came the American Revolution that So where would that have been? That would have been at Red Bluff. Red Bluff, yeah. Yeah, that would have been at Red Bluff. Detachment of the encampment. Encampment of the detachment. So the British like had a—

And that's one where I thought it was very clever how our southwest wind is the prevailing wind here. And so they had the blocks were diamond shaped so that every-- the blocks would catch that southwest wind so that helpful breezes would roll up the streets. I read somewhere they thought they were high enough to avoid any more. Yeah, yeah. Okay.

But those diamond shaped blocks to catch that wind I thought was real clever. Fairhope should have picked up on that. Fairhope should have done that. That would have been. I just thought that was clever how they thought they did that. And then I guess after the British really weren't around too long and … Yeah, Durnford, see he was another agent.

And then the Spanish showed up in 1780 while the American Civil War, the American Revolutionary war was going on. Yeah. So they did that, the battle of Spanish war around the Rochons. So is that when the Spanish built their fort, the Spanish fort in that period?

No, it was because the British were, the Spanish had started in New Orleans and they were moving across the coast going to the east. Well, they had a hurricane that caught the Spanish fleet while they were in Mobile Bay. Spread about all the place so they were stymied for a year and during that year of 1779 they built that encampment there.

They just fortified that place where they're at and because they were staying with the Rochons they gave them the land they built that encampment there waiting for Galvez to gather his fleet back up and during that time that's when the British came over to attack them. They knew that they were digging in so the British came back to attack them.

Now, has the -- has USA Archaeology, had they excavated that site?

Yeah. Okay, because I remember once they were looking for somewhere, something up there, Spanish Fort, they couldn't find it. They dug it. They had to dig up there looking for something.

I helped secure a large grant for that, at the tune of $29,000. And we dug up the world up there. And what we did, we found -- that's where we found the Rochon plantation. We found Grove Chonk Plantation. It was burned during the battle. We found that it was burned with everything in it. We found the kitchen with all the stuff still there, food storage jars all smashed in position, a wad of knives, a wad of spoons, a wad of forks. I myself helped excavate one of the slave houses, and right in the door is one door to the building. Right in the door was a majolica bowl sitting right inside each other, sitting right in the door. If that house had been used for any time, that bowl had been ticked out of the way or it would have never sat there.

But the whole idea was the whole thing burned down. And we found plaster walls with outside intact and inside intact with the foot all intact, burned right down to the ground where the house had burned.

Okay. So that was the Rochon house. The Spanish fort, the fort itself is in-- It was about 50 feet away. Okay. All right. And that's been excavated as well. Yeah, what we found was we had the Confederates talked about taking the old Spanish fort, and they said exactly how they changed it. And those changes that they said were evident. So we thought, yes, that's definitely the place. Now what we did, we excavated across there, almost down to bedrock, and we found bits of Rochon period, pottery and glass and things like that, but we did not find hat plates, bent and broken bayonets, shot bullets, or like broken and bent buttons, things that would indicate a battle. We didn't find that there.

You didn't? We didn't find it. I was extremely disappointed that we didn't. Because it took a lot of effort to get those archaeologists up there. Finally, we're going to tell the story of this. And as they said, if it's not there, you can't find it. That's right. So we didn't find the signs of the valley. Has Red Bluff been excavated at all? No. And the sites there at Red Bluff, you can't-- the surface area has changed so much there.

Even those potters and potteries and kilns and stuff like that, you find no evidence of it. You don't find wasters, you don't find kiln furniture, you don't find any of that stuff. And it's quite amazing that you don't find archaeology, intact archaeology at Red Bluff.

Really? Yeah. Yeah, you don't. And they'd looked. Okay. Was there anything from the Spanish period? Was there anything around Fairhope from the Spanish period or which was up until the War of 1812?

I don't know that there was. Nothing in this immediate area.

Yeah. I read somewhere or heard someone say that the land around here was okay but it wasn't really great for agriculture. It wasn't great.

Now what they did is after the Civil War, a Swedish land company bought about the bottom third of Alabama and the Panhandle of Florida, and they logged the whole South here. And logging it, clear-cut it completely. And then another thing they did is they sublet the contracts to other companies who they would say, you can log this now okay ten years later so okay now you can lock it ten years later they give it sublet somebody else so they got where they were coming through here just looking for a tree and trying to make their money and they would they just cut down everything so our place had been denuded and had been kept in a denuded state for decades which caused immense amount of erosion which would ruin your farm and then

on the map here it shows a Durnford's bluff where Where would that have been? I don't know where that would be. I don't know where that would be. Durnford came in at the time of Weggs and he was one of those British that came in. He was, I think he was in charge and Durnford was given the land over here. It's been a long time since I've read that. I can't quite remember where Durnford came in but their names came up. But anyway, this part of Weggs, this would be like Paddock, Paddock Wood, and then Durnford would be up more towards Duffin.

You're looking at, this would be up there above Daphne. That would be, I'd say that'd be like Village Point Park and that little point right there would be the Daphne Point. I'd say Daphne's right there. Daphne, alright. Sure. I think you're a hair above Daphne. Almost you're in Village Point Park.

Okay, yeah. And also their map might be all different. There were doe leaves in there. I'm seeing this as a lot of accuracy. The doe leaves were in that village area almost at this time. It seemed like it had doe leaves on it.

And then one of those speakers in 2000, they said there was like a Spanish tavern in Daphne as well, because people would, when they were given a land grant, they said, "Your land extends from the Spanish tavern here to the creek here." Yeah, okay. Oh, that would do it.

And then in 1813, the Americans took over this area, right, because the Spanish were allies of the British or allowed the British to ship here.

And I want to talk with you about that next time around and just deal with the colonial period here. That's the end of the colonial period, 1813.

During the colonial period, where would roads have been around here? It would be hard pressed to do a road. If you had a logging company, you would make a logging road. As you know, they built small gauge movable railroads. And so there would that be road to be. And then this was such an unpopulated place that it would grow up. So you didn't, these little dots that show all these roads, yeah, the ones coming out of Blakeley, the one going to Stapleton and the one going to Pensacola.

Be like dirt tracks probably. There'll be dirt tracks that maybe have enough trail, enough, you know, horses moving up and down just to keep them intact.

Because I think where Fort Morgan was, there was a fault there like during the colonial period and they might have had a road down this side of the bay together. Yeah, what they did is during World War II they built these roads to move the army up and down in case there was an attack. So they made little bits and pieces of roads down the Fort Morgan Peninsula, there's still some of that intact in the Gulf State Park, and it went on down in the Panhandle of Florida in case the Japanese attacked Gulf Shores.

And so right after the war, they called it the Dixie Graves, the way for the Governor Graves' wife, Dixie. And in 1946, they built the road out to Fort Morgan. Otherwise before that, it was isolated. And you had to cut the hill by both.

And then, Shawn Holland gave a talk in 2000. Is she still around? Yeah, she lives down there by where the Colonial Inn used to be. She mentioned it on her talk, she said there was a place called Yellow Bluff. Does that? Yeah,

I don't know that. I'll admit she is much more brushed up on colonial periods. She had British colonials in Pensacola and she grew up in Pensacola and so she's always kind of focused on the colonial period. So she's much sharper and more knowledgeable.

You mentioned potters, like during the, were there any French potters around here?

Yeah, there was an assortment of them and they were, there was little bits and pieces of the French potters, like in Joey Brackner's book, that large book right there, he mentions how in the newspaper they refer to this potter, and then they refer to this one, and then they refer to that one. It gets kind of sketchy up until you get the three French potters, Marichelle, Lacoste, Lefevre.

Those are really the ones that got to be kind of documented because they were starting to keep tax records.

And where were they located? Right here. Fly Creek? Marischal was in Fly Creek. Lefevre was on the other side and Lacoste was, he moved, well you know Lacoste was

on the other side of the creek a little bit north of that and Lefevre never marked a piece and they can't decide where he was at.

You need to embark on the species. You know, you find wasters. You find a pile of wasters, you go, "Okay, well, that's a pretty good idea." Sure, sure.

And then I noticed on the Spanish map, a lot of these people wanted to live up here, so I guess that land was more fertile in the delta than down.

I don't know if it's so much fertile, but where these two rivers come together, Tensaw comes right up here, and the Mobile River comes up here. it splits into the Alabama River and the Tombigbee River. That little, that area right there was probably the center, right off the map. That's the center of civilization during all this time. Because that's where those big rivers came together. That was like the roads. That's where the interstates came together. And they were like, that's why Fort Mims was there. Fort Mims was a, Samuel Mims had a ferry to ferry people across to get to that area. And it was from there that they went down Mobile Bay to the 13th original, the 14th colony, which had been New Orleans.

So that was an important place there. And so that's why you had more people up there.

And then there was like a spring in Montrose Valley, a village was there, like a freshwater spring for water or?

In Montrose? Yeah. Yeah, before they built all the, before they built all over this area, we had multiple springs that burst out of the banks down there because that's the natural thing for the table lands to do is absorb the water and then they don't go down to the aquifers, they go down just shallow and then break out as they float to the bay. And so there the spring will naturally gush out of the bank there.

Even though the land around here is kind of clay, isn't it? It's sandy, but then you get past the sand and then it has that red clay. So even though it was clay, it still has spring. The water would soak into it and then flow downhill, flow into the bay. Well, it would flow into a little creek that would be underground because of the way it's breaking it. The land falls away.

So even down there, they built that--they called it an artesian well, but it wasn't really an artesian well. Artesian wells really come from up deep, and these weren't coming from up deep. They were just coming from draining the land up here. Now it wouldn't be suitable drinking water because it wasn't deep enough. Back then it was. Right there where they built the first water pump was right there at the bottom of the hill and that building is still there.

They built that in 1915 as the town first water pump and they built it over an artesian well there and it really was a little more than just-- Is that like the fireman's hole you mean? Yeah. That was built over what was called an artesian well and then even when I was a little boy there was still a pipe out there draining some of that water.

But then they've learned where that water is coming from and they have done everything to get rid of that. They even caught that water now and they have black pipes that go out to dump it into the bay so that all the beachfront will be solid.

Okay. And it would be just water flowing through. Alright. And then Fly Creek, you reckon that?

Where does Fly Creek water come from? It comes from out where the Auburn Agricultural Experimental Station is. It makes a, well they built out Highway 13. It goes out to where the, it goes kind of south almost to where the Corte land it kind of circles the Auburn Agriculture Experimental Station and then it starts going south and crosses Highway 104 and that's like the headwaters of Fly Creek.

And there's probably a spring out there then somewhere? No, there is a spring out there. In fact that new Highway 13 that goes up toward Malbis, it crosses that big long bridge there that they built across the wetlands is right where it's really gathering into a float type of creek.

You probably know Will Blackburn, do you? Who lives down in the bay? Dr. Will Blackburn. I don't think I don't, his name's not coming to the bay. He's a bit eccentric.

And he told me that it was fed by spring, but he lies, so I didn't know he was telling me the truth of that. He told you what was fed. A fly creek was fed. Spring fed? No, it's watershed. Right, sure.

I think that just about does it for the colonial period, doesn't it? It does. We, uh-- Did I leave anything out?

You know what, just a minute ago before you got here, I scribbled out stuff, and I think we talked about that, and it just sang in the Red Bluff, and the Weggs, and Farmer on Fish River in 1800, and what, 1813, was in the-- The Farmer was, he was given a Spanish land grant during the second Spanish occupation, and Farmer was given this land down on Fish River.

And you see Farmer on here in several places. Well, I read the book about Farmer, and he had holdings here and then on the Mississippi River as well. Yeah, he was the eastern river. So he was quite an entrepreneur. He had a place up going toward

Stockton, too. There's a Farmer place up there. Yeah, so he was quite an entrepreneur. I think he made use of it. All the resources available to government.

Well, Donnie, I'm going to stop there. That's all right. We've covered the colonial period. I'm going to type it up and give you a copy. Sounds like fun. In a couple of weeks, maybe I can come back and talk about it.

You can indeed. I will redo that and write on it with red. If I made any mistake, let me have it back, I'll correct it and then return it to you. I'll be glad to.

That'll be fun to have in years to come. And the next period, the War of 1812 and I guess through the Civil War, that'll be about right.

Yeah. Shawn Holland, when she gave a talk, she showed diagrams or drawings of British soldiers from that period. Where would she have found those drawings? She, you know, because she's been such an enthusiast, she has collected those up. She has a fine collection of maps.

Frank Larraway is a real source of that kind of stuff. Frank Larraway has given us a copy of his maps. And any time you'd like to look through our map, we'll look at ours.

But Frank Laraway was like a surveyor, and he was like a historian, a surveyor, and he was always into where the old road used to be, and where the old that used to be, and where they found the old well, and he was always really into that.

So Frank Laraway could give you some input on that. But where was she found out, though, about what the British soldiers or the Spanish soldiers of that period, what their uniforms were like? She was just well researched, she was well read, and she's somebody like me. she's a historian and she just paid attention.

She paid attention and when she saw a map, she procured a copy. So she was just a real enthusiast and again, she is much more knowledgeable with the colonial period. Good. All right, well thank you Donnie. I'm going to type all this up. I'll email you again if it's convenient. Good. It's been an interesting talk. Grazie. Thank you.