

NA Native American Studies Center

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA LANCASTER

W. Brent Burgin Lunch and Learn Lecture Series 2024

“Identifying South Island John Doe, and the Archaeology of a Gullah Geechee Fishing Village: An Osteobiography”

Friday, June 28
2024
Noon

Jodi A. Barnes, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources



This program will be held virtually and in person at 119 South Main St. in downtown Lancaster. To attend via Zoom, scan the QR code or register via the link in upcoming events on nativeamericanstudies.org. Please direct any questions or comments to the Center at 803-313-7172 or usclnasp@mailbox.sc.edu.



In 2017, the storm surge and high tides from Hurricane Irma uncovered a human skeleton near a Gullah Geechee Fishing Village site in Georgetown County, South Carolina. Dr. Barnes will provide an overview of the efforts to identify South Island John Doe and excavate the late 19th to early 20th century village where he was found. Her research prioritizes community involvement and incorporates archival documents and material culture with skeletal analysis, genetic genealogy, and stable isotope analysis to create an osteobiography, or life history, of South Island John Doe. The project brings fishing into research on the archaeology of the African diaspora, while working to tell South Island John Doe’s story and hopefully say his name.



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