

Digging Deeper into Missouri's Past Campaign Video Transcript

Hi, my name's Jack Ray, I'm a research archaeologist at the Center for Archaeological Research at Missouri State University. We are asking for your help to raise funds to continue excavations at an archaeological dig. We thank you for your support!

The Sugar Potato site is located in a highly dissected area called the Pinnacles, in Van Meter State Park in Saline County, Missouri. Preliminary excavations in 2015 discovered multiple workshops associated with Oneonta, Steed-Kisker, Late Woodland, and Middle Woodland Indians in the upper ten feet of the alluvial fan. These workshops date to 500, 1000, 1,500, and 2,000 years old. It was the first time that quarrying had been associated with Steed-Kisker, Late Woodland, Middle Woodland Indians in the state of Missouri.

With our crowdsourcing money, our goal is to go back to the site, dig deeper, and possibly find evidence of the earliest quarry activity ever discovered in Missouri or the Midwest. The only way to know for sure is to go back to the site, and dig deeper.

Missouri State University students are often involved in our projects. They assist with excavation analysis, and the cataloging of artifacts. By helping fund this project, you provide opportunities for students to participate in groundbreaking archaeological research.