



CENTER FOR  
FRENCH COLONIAL STUDIES  
*Centre pour l'étude du pays des Illinois*

**ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 4-6, 2019  
MACKINAW CITY, MICHIGAN**

The Center for French Colonial Studies will hold its annual conference for the first time in Mackinaw City, Michigan. The Center is devoted to the study of the French presence in the Illinois Country and surrounding area, and its annual conference is an excellent opportunity to explore those regions originally settled by the French, and learn more about the rich French heritage in the American mid-west.

The 2019 conference will include numerous possibilities for visiting the historic sites in and around Mackinaw City, both through group tours and on one's own. The main conference will take place on Saturday October 5, with the papers covering a wide range of topics that should appeal to anyone with an interest in the Pays d'en Haut and French heritage in the United States.

**Friday, October 4**

Archaeologist Dr. Lynn Evans will give a tour of Fort Michilimackinac. A Friday night reception for attendees will be held at Audie's Restaurant.

**Saturday, October 5**

The main conference will be held at the Mackinaw Reception and Conference Center, Mackinaw City. The evening banquet with music by Métis fiddler Ruby John and guest speaker Timothy Kent will be held at the same location.

List of Speakers:

Dr. Lynn Evans (Fort Michilimackinac archaeologist)  
Dr. Michael Nassaney (Western Michigan University)  
Dr. Jose Antonio Brandao (Western Michigan University)  
Dr. Brian Leigh Dunnigan (Author, Associate Director and Curator of Maps, William L. Clements Library, U of Michigan)  
Timothy Kent (Author; banquet speaker)  
Suzanne Sommerville (French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan)  
Lorraine DiCerbo (French-Canadian Heritage Society of Michigan)  
Dr. Claiborne Skinner (Instructor of History and Social Science, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy)  
Gabrielle Guillerm (Recipient of the Carl Ekberg Grant, Ph.D. Candidate, Northwestern University)

**Sunday, October 6**

Attendees will be able to visit historic sites around the Straits area including St. Ignace and Mackinac Island

**For more information, visit: [www.frenchcolonialstudies.org](http://www.frenchcolonialstudies.org)**