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### The Jackson Site Is Back! LiDAR-Based Mound Construction and Viewshed Analysis of the Coles Creek Era Poverty Point Landscape

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# THE JACKSON SITE IS BACK! LiDAR-BASED MOUND CONSTRUCTION AND VIEWSHED ANALYSIS OF THE COLES CREEK ERA POVERTY POINT LANDSCAPE

*Joy Mersmann*

*Mentor: T. R. Kidder*

The area surrounding Poverty Point in northeast Louisiana is a culturally rich archaeological landscape with a deep chronology linking thousands of years. One of the later occupational features, the Coles Creek era Jackson Place mound group (ca. 700-1200 A.D.), was leveled for farming outside of state park boundaries. Using LiDAR basedata, historic aerial imagery, and descriptions by C.B. Moore, topographic relief of the earthworks is reconstructed in GIS. With these new analytical surfaces, a viewshed analysis from the Jackson Place Mounds suggests the earlier Archaic earthworks, here called heritage structures, were part of the visible Coles Creek landscape.