THURSDAY

October

29

4p.m.

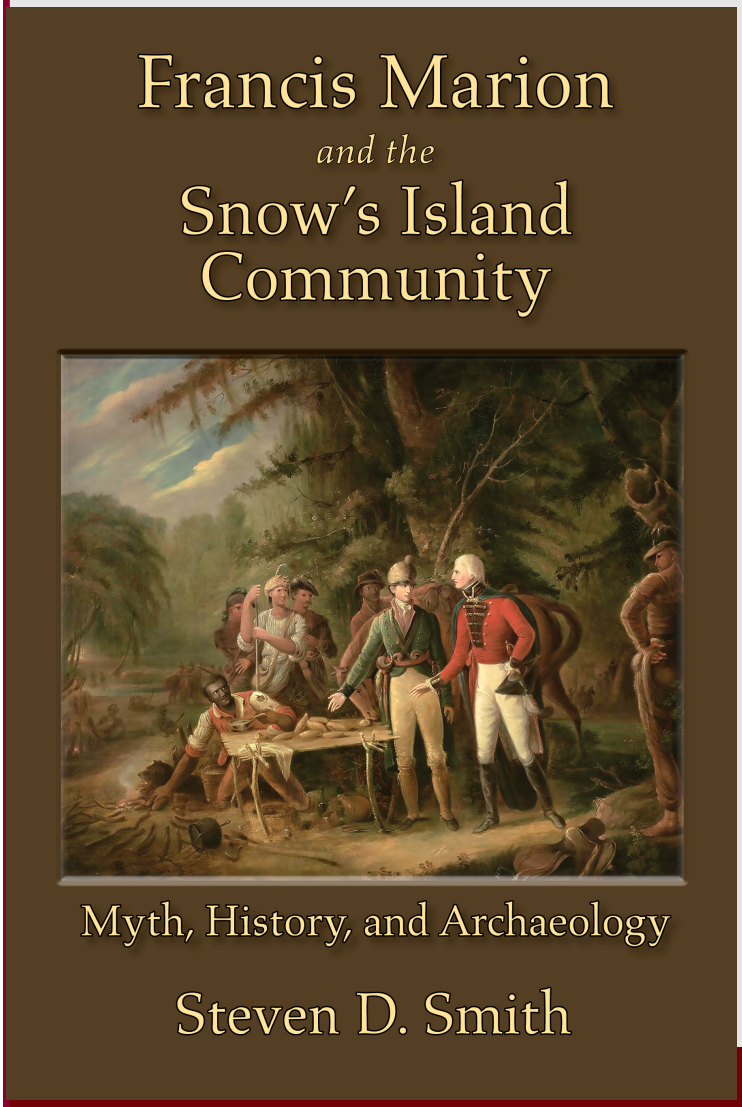
Virtual via Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84721523985

Virtual ANTHROPOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

Francis Marion and the Snow's Island Community: Myth, History, and Archaeology

Dr. Steven D. Smith, *University of South Carolina*



Abstract: During the American Revolution the region around Snow's Island, South Carolina, contained a close-knit colonial community that strongly supported the American Whig resistance against the British. In August of 1780 Francis Marion took command of this community of resistance, or partisan community, consisting of both partisan warriors and civilians, and the region became Marion's base of operations until late March 1781. At that time the British destroyed Marion's base, however, the community continued to support Marion and the American cause until the end of the war. This presentation examines Marion's partisan community from the anthropological perspective of community theory. It also examines the archaeological landscape of the partisan community around Snow's Island. Finally it discusses how this partisan community was remembered or re-imagined in Antebellum Period literature and history. The presentation summarizes a forthcoming book with the same title.

Bio: Steven D. Smith is the director of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology and Research Professor in the College of Arts and Sciences. He is an historical archaeologist with over 30 years' experience in Conflict Archaeology especially the American Revolution and Civil War. He teaches Conflict Archaeology in the University of South Carolina, Department of Anthropology.