

# **Vincas Steponaitis, Ph.D.**

**W.E. Leuchtenburg Distinguished Professor, Department of Anthropology; Adjunct Professor, Archaeology, College of Arts and Sciences at UNC-Chapel Hill**

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Precolonial Indian cultures of the American South, origins of political centralization, ancient art styles, analysis of ancient ceramics.

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Vincas Steponaitis is Professor of Archaeology and Anthropology and Secretary of the Faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill. He was Director of the Research Laboratories of Archaeology for nearly three decades, and Chair of the Curriculum in Archaeology in UNC's College of Arts and Sciences. His archaeological research interests focus on the precolonial Indian cultures of the American South, the origins of political centralization, chiefdoms, studies of ancient art styles, and the analysis of ancient ceramics. He has served as president of the Society for American Archaeology (1997-1999), president of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference (1990-1992), chairman of the board for the Archaeological Conservancy (2003-2007), member of the NAGPRA Review Committee (2004-2008, appointed by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior), editor of the scholarly journal *Southeastern Archaeology* (1984-1987), and on numerous other professional boards and committees. In addition to numerous articles, his books include "Ceramics, Chronology, and Community Patterns: An Archaeological Study at Moundville" (Academic Press 1993; reprinted U. Alabama Press 2009), and "Archaeology of the Moundville Chiefdom" (co-edited with V.J. Knight, Smithsonian Inst. Press 1998; reprinted U. Alabama Press 2007), and "Rethinking Moundville and Its Hinterland" (co-edited with C. Margaret Scarry, U. Press of Florida 2016). He co-created "Excavating Occaneechi Town" (UNC Press 1998), one of the first digital monographs in archaeology, which won the PSP Electronic Product Award from the American Association of Publishers. Other honors include the Faculty Award for Excellence in Doctoral Mentoring (UNC-Chapel Hill), the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching (SUNY system) and the University Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching (SUNY-Binghamton). He has been a principal investigator on grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Geographic Society, the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

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Pre-Colonial Indian cultures of the American South, Origins of political centralization, Chiefdoms, Studies of ancient art styles, Analysis of ancient ceramics, The history of Moundville (Alabama), Digital publications in archaeology

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The Heritage Education Network: Board of Directors, Native American Repatriation Review Committee: Smithsonian Institution, Center for Maya Research : Board of Directors, National Science Foundation Archaeology Program : Advisory Panel, American Anthropological Association: Fellow, Southern Cultures (Magazine) : Editorial Board

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## **Fort Rosalie: A History in Maps**

Grand Village of the Natchez Indians

## **One Hundred Fifty Years of Moundville Archaeology: A Brief Overview**

Moundville Archaeological Park, 75th Anniversary Lecture Series

**Moundville Archaeological Park**  
75th Anniversary Lecture Series

**Mississippian Effigy Pipes: Provenance, Style, and Iconography**  
Friends of Ethnic Art

**Mound Construction and Ritual at Feltus, An Ancient Ceremonial Center in Mississippi**  
Archaeological Institute of America, Central Carolinas Society, Davidson College

**Natchez Archaeology in the 1840s: Montroville Dickeson and the Egan Panorama**  
Grand Village of the Natchez Indians

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**University of Michigan**  
Ph.D. Anthropology

**University of Michigan**  
M.A. Anthropology

**Harvard University**  
A.B. (Magna Cum Laude) Harvard University

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**Faculty Award for Excellence in Doctoral Mentoring (2015)**  
UNC Chapel Hill

**C. Felix Harvey Award (2015)**  
UNC Chapel Hill

**Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecturer (2008)**  
International Science Honor Society

**Circle Award (2002)**  
Carolina Indian Circle, UNC-Chapel Hill

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