

Arkansas National Guard Museum

History Roundtable

Finding the French Rock: de la Harpe (and a few other Frenchmen)

Presented by: David Ware
Arkansas State Archives

David Ware has served as state historian and director of the Arkansas State Archives since January 2021. Before this, he spent over 18 years as historian of the Arkansas State Capitol. He is a native of Washington DC, grew up in Nebraska and earned his Ph.D. in American history from Arizona State University. His career has included both academic and public history, as well as busking, rough carpentry and an extended stretch in the oil patch. He lives in Little Rock with his librarian-turned-archivist-turned-librarian wife, daughter (when she is home from college) and their elderly Airedale in a small house filled with model trains, musical instruments, old cameras, clocks and many books. David Ware has served as state historian and director of the Arkansas State Archives since January 2021; previously, he spent over eighteen years as historian of the Arkansas State Capitol.



Harpe is interesting on his own but he was part of something bigger. And just about every French entry had some military aspect since, of course, this continent was part of a developing global game. We can't really call it "the Great Game," since that is associated with international intriguing of the 19th century between the Brits and the Russians, but it was certainly a very *large* game, at least. And, of course, de la Harpe had his own game to play—he was, like LaSalle, like DeTonti, like the Sieur d'Iberville, a man on the make.

Thursday, April 28, 2022
1130 hrs.—1230 hrs.

Arkansas National Guard Museum
Lloyd England Hall
Camp J.T. Robinson, North Little Rock



We will be streaming live on Facebook from
our *Arkansas National Guard Museum* page.