ANGOLA — Bloodhound Hill, an archaeological site on the Louisiana State Penitentiary grounds here, has been entered into the National Register of Historic Places, according to Robert B. DeBlieux of the state historic preservation division.

The site includes a village and burial area used by the Tunica Indians between 1706 and 1731. An inmate at Angola discovered the Bloodhound Hill site in the summer of 1976, and a team of archaeologists from Harvard University, LSU and the state began extensive excavations in the fall of 1977.

During the 18th century, the Tunica Indians were known as expert traders, according to DeBlieux, and supplied salt and horses to Europeans and to other Indians in the area. In exchange, they received European goods, Indian pottery and other items.

Indians at that time placed valued goods in the graves of important people. In the burial sites which were excavated at Bloodhound Hill were found trade beads, muskets, folding knives, brass bells, native pottery, stone tools and a conch shell necklace.

In the village area, according to DeBlieux, archaeologists found Tunica tribe pottery and pottery from other tribes, food remains, and European items from the late 17th and early 18th centuries.

Careful study of the site and recovered items provided documentation necessary to nominate Bloodhound Hill to the National Register of Historic Places, according to DeBlieux.