Wis. archaeologists ID 16 ancient canoes in lake

MADISON, Wis. (AP) Archaeologists have identified more than a dozen ancient canoes that Indigenous people apparently left behind in a sort of prehistoric parking lot along a Wisconsin lakeshore.

The Wisconsin Historical Society announced Wednesday that archaeologists have mapped the location of 16 canoes submerged in the lake bed of Lake Mendota in Madison. Tamara Thomsen, the state's maritime archaeologist, said that the site lies near a network of what were once indigenous trails, suggesting ancient people left the canoes there for anyone to use as they traveled, much like a modern-day e-bike rack.

"It's a parking spot that's been used for millennia, over and over," Thomsen said.

Lake Mendota is a sprawling, 15-square-mile body of water on Madison's west side. The state Capitol building and the University of Wisconsin-Madison are located

on an isthmus that runs between it and Lake Monona, a 5-square-mile lake to the east.

The discoveries began in 2021 when archaeologists uncovered the remains of a 1,200-yearold canoe submerged in 24 feet of water in Lake Mendota. The following year they found the remains of a 3,000-year-old canoe, a 4,500-year-old canoe under it and a 2,000-year-old canoe next to it, alerting researchers that there was probably more to the site than they expected.

Working with Sissel Schroeder, a UW-Madison professor who specializes in Native American cultures, and preservation officers with the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Thomsen has now located the remains of 12 additional canoes, Thomsen said

Radiocarbon dating shows the oldest of the 16 canoes dates back to 5,200 years ago, making it the third oldest canoe



TAMARA THOMSEN | WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This photo shows the remains of an ancient canoe sitting on the bottom of Lake Mendota, in Madison, Wis., in June 2025.

discovered in eastern North America, she said. The two oldest were found in Florida, with the oldest of them dating back 7,000 years, Thomsen said.

Wisconsin experienced

a drought beginning about 7,500 years ago and lasting to around 1000 B.C., Thomsen said. The lake in the area where the canoes were found was probably only 4 feet deep over that

period, she said, making it a good place to disembark for foot travel. The canoes likely were shared among community members and stored at designated points like the Lake Mendota site. Users would typically bury the canoes in sediment in waist- to chest-deep water so they wouldn't dry out or prevent them from freezing, Thomsen said.

Travelers may have been headed to Lake Wingra, a 321-acre lake on Madison's south side, Dr. Amy Rosebrough, the state archaeologist, said. The Madison area is part of the ancestral homeland of the Ho-Chunk Nation, which views one of the springs that feeds Lake Wingra as a portal to the spirit world, she said.

"The canoes remind us how long our people have lived in this region and how deeply connected we remain to these waters and lands,' Bill Quackenbush, the Ho-Chunk's tribal preservation officer, said in a

Thomsen speculated that if the drought did begin 7,500 years and archaeologists are finding canoes beneath other canoes, they may eventually find a 7,000-year-old canoe in the lake. That could mean Indigenous people that predated ma ny of Wisconsin's tribes may have used the lake, she said.

Thomsen spends most of her days uncovering Great Lakes shipwrecks and works on the canoe project only one day per week. But she called that work the most impactful she has ever done as an archaeologist because she engages with Wisconsin tribes, learns their history and tells their stories.

'I think I've shed more tears over this," she said. "Talking with the Indigenous people, sometimes I sit here and just get goose bumps. It just feels like (the work is) making a difference. Each one of these canoes gives us another clue to the story."

Trump signs bill to release Epstein case files

WASHINGTON (AP) President Donald Trump signed legislation Wednesday that compels his administration to release files on convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, bowing to political pressure from his own party after initially resisting those efforts.

Trump could have chosen to release many of the files on his own months ago. "Democrats have

used the 'Epstein' issue, which affects them far more than the Republican Party, in order to try and distract from our AMAZING Victories,' Trump said in a social media post as he announced he had signed

Now, the bill requires the Justice Department to release all files and communications related to Epstein, as well as any information about the investigation into his death in a federal prison in 2019, within 30 days. It allows for redactions about Epstein's victims for ongoing federal investigations, but DOJ cannot withhold information due to "embarrassment, reputa-



Gary Rush, College Park, MD, holds a sign before a news conference on the Epstein files in front of the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday.

tional harm, or political sensitivity."

It was a remarkable turn of events for what was once a farfetched effort to force the disclosure of case files from an odd congressional coalition of Democrats, one GOP antagonist of the president, and a handful of erstwhile Trump loyalists. As recently as last week, the Trump administration even summoned one Republican proponent of releasing the files, Rep. Lauren Boebert of Colorado, to the Situation Room to discuss the matter, although she did not change her

But over the weekend, Trump did a sharp U-turn on the files once it became clear that congressional action was inevitable. He insisted the Epstein matter had become a distraction to the GOP agenda and indicated he wanted to move on.

"I just don't want Re-

NOTES, SERIES 2021-R1,

and BRIAN K. O'NEAL,

Boyd County Clerk's Office)

publicans to take their eyes off all of the Victories that we've had." Trump said in a social media post Tuesday afternoon, explaining the rationale for his abrupt about-face.

The House passed the legislation on a 427-1 vote, with Rep. Clay Higgins, R-La., being the sole dissenter. He argued that the bill's language could lead to the release of information on innocent people mentioned in the federal investigation. The Senate later approved it unanimously, skipping a formal vote.

It's long been established that Trump had been friends with Epstein, the disgraced financier who was close to the world's elite. But the president has consistently said he did not know of Epstein's crimes and had cut ties with him long ago.

Before Trump returned to the White House for a second term, some of his closest

PLAINTIFF,

DEFENDANTS.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT

CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00320

ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, AS SUCCESSOR-IN-INTEREST TO U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,

NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY

AS INDENTURE TRUSTEE, FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE CIM TRUST 2021-R1, MORTGAGE-BACKED

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JANAYA HAMMONDS A/K/A JANAYA HAMMONDS

Pursuant to Judgment and Order of Sale entered on Novem-

ber 12, 2025, I shall sell the property described herein below

at public auction in the lobby inside the front door of the old

Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on Friday,

December 12, 2025, at 11:50 a.m., to highest bidder on the

personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash. IF

the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety

and collateral for a bidder's bond, a down payment of ten-

percent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale,

and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of **6.64% per**

annum will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

(For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 587, Page 557,

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from

the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for pay-

Address of Property: 3028 Bath Avenue, Ashland

Map/Parcel ID Number: 038-08-33-017.00

ment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by

U.S. BANK TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL

political allies helped fuel conspiracy theories about the government's handling of the Epstein

case, asserting a cover-up of potentially incriminating information in those files.

PUBLIC NOTICES

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00880

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC,

ADVERTISEMENT

JOHN E. BURTON, III; LISA MARIE BURTON; CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY; COUNTY OF BOYD, KENTUCKY,

DEFENDANTS.

PLAINTIFF,

Pursuant to Order to Judgment and Order of Sale entered on October 24, 2025, I shall sell the property described herein below at public auction in the lobby inside the front oor of the old Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:25 a.m., to highest bidder on the

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash. IF the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety and collateral for a bidder's bond, a down payment of tenpercent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale, and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of 5.125% per **annum** will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Address of Property: 848 39th Street, Ashland (For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 838, Page 685,

Boyd County Clerk's Office) Map/Parcel ID Number: 038-03-05-012.00

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for pay-

ment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter. /s/ Kenneth Williams, Jr. KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR.

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT MASTER COMMISSIONER

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BOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 25-CI-00757

PBT BANCORP.

PLAINTIFF, ADVERTISEMENT

MELVIN H. COCKRELL, KIMBERLY B. COCKRELL, CITY OF ASHLAND, KENTUCKY, COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, DEPARTMENT OF COLLECTIONS and COUNTY OF BOYD,

DEFENDANTS.

Pursuant to Judgment and Order of Sale entered on November 14, 2025, I shall sell the property described herein below at public auction in the lobby inside the front door of the old Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:45 a.m., to highest bidder on the following terms:

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash. IF the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety and collateral for a bidder's bond, a down payment of tenpercent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale, and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of 8.90% per annum will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Address of Property: 316 Ringo Street, Ashland (For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 845, Page 712, Boyd County Clerk's Office)

Map/Parcel ID Number: 038-08-11-022.00

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

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/s/ Kenneth Williams, Jr. KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR. BOYD CIRCUIT COURT MASTER COMMISSIONER

PUBLIC NOTICE

BOYD CIRCUIT COURT CIVIL ACTION NO. 24-CI-00375

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PLAINTIFF,

DONALD W. PURINTON; VICORIA L. PURINTON; KY LIEN HOLDINGS, LLC; COMMUNITY TRUST BANK; FISCAL COURT OF BOYD COUNTY, KENTUCKY; COUNTY OF BOYD, KENTUCKY,

Pursuant to Order to Judgment and Order of Sale entered on October 24, 2025, I shall sell the property described herein below at public auction in the lobby inside the front door of the old Boyd County Courthouse, Catlettsburg, Kentucky, on Friday, December 12, 2025, at 11:20 a.m., to highest bidder on the following terms:

Full purchase price will be due at time of sale, payable by personal, business or official check. We do not accept cash, IF the Master Commissioner has pre-approved the surety and collateral for a bidder's bond, a down payment of tenpercent (10%) of the purchase price will be due at time of sale, and the unpaid balance with interest at the rate of 12% per an**num** will be due within thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

Address of Property: 103 Mary Court, Rush (For Legal Description, see LSOT: Deed Book 777, Page 284,

Boyd County Clerk's Office) Map/Parcel ID Number: 018-00-00-034.03

NOTE - Only delinquent ad valorem taxes shall be paid from the sale proceeds. The Purchaser shall be responsible for payment of the taxes for the current year and thereafter.

> /s/ Kenneth Williams, Jr. KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR. BOYD CIRCUIT COURT MASTER COMMISSIONER

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BOYD CIRCUIT COURT MASTER COMMISSIONER

/s/ Kenneth Williams, Jr.

KENNETH WILLIAMS, JR.

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