

Archaeological excavation at the historic site of Robidoux Row was conducted by Michael Fisher during the 1970s ahead of the stabilization and restoration of the building into a local museum. The brick building was built by Joseph Robidoux I, founder of St. Joseph. Robidoux had constructed a trading post along the Missouri River and operated a ferry across the river by 1826 (Shoemaker, *Missouri and Missourians* vol. 1, 1943, page 584). Robidoux's trading post was originally known as "Blacksnake Hills" and established in the 1810s (Houck, *A History of Missouri* vol. 2, 1908).

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Michael Fisher (far right), Margaret Fisher (middle) and Bob Bray (far left) examine the stratigraphic profile. All images at the website are digitized slides in the collection of Michael Fisher.

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The brick buildings before excavation.



Excavation in progress during 1970s.



Rock lined mouth of cistern that served the houses.

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Soil sediment and artifacts from the cistern were kept separate in one foot increments.

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Examples of artifacts (glass, gun flints, china) from the Roubidoux Row cistern from a depth of 3.5 to 4.5 ft.



Examples of artifacts (glass, gun flints, china) from the Roubidoux Row excavations.

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Examples of artifacts (glass, gun flints, china) from the Roubidoux Row cistern excavation.

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Corroded andiron that was used in the fireplace; from the Roubidoux Row privy excavation.

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Brickwork uncovered by excavation at Roubidoux Row.



Restored Roubidoux Row using both architectural and archaeological evidence.

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