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Submitted by Paul Farnsworth, Louisiana State University

The River Road African American Museum & Gallery opened earlier this year at Tezcuco Plantation in Burnside, Louisiana. The museum is the creation of the Hambrick family, and is directed by Kathe Hambrick. It is dedicated to collecting, preserving and interpreting artifacts related to the history and culture of African-Americans. The museum pays tribute to the hundreds of slaves who were purchased and brought to Burnside, Louisiana, and their descendants who continue to live in the rural communities along the Mississippi. It is a much needed attempt to redress the balance of history as presented at most of the antebellum plantation houses along the river. The museum houses African-American art and memorabilia collected from the surrounding parishes, as well as artifacts, photographs and historical documents. Artifacts from recent archaeological excavations at Oakley and Ashland-Belle Helene plantations are included in the exhibits. The museum's hours are Wednesday-Sunday 1-5 p.m. For more information contact Kathe Hambrick at (504) 644-7955.