

"In this particular case your own definitions, it seems to me, are possibly more appropriate than the suggested alternates.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) ROSS MONTGOMERY." (Architect,
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TREE-RING CHRONOLOGY IN THE SOUTHEAST

I have recently learned that back in 1914, or about that time, there was a lawsuit in Louisiana to get title to the oil rights under Caddo Lake near Shreveport. The geologist employed by the group which claimed title under the assumption that Caddo Lake is a lake, and not a navigable stream under federal jurisdiction, won their suit by establishing the age of the lake as being around 3,000 years. This age, I am told, they established through a study of tree rings of logs taken from the bed of the lake and from ancient log jams on the nearby Red River.

If it is true that these geologists worked up a tree ring calendar for northern Louisiana, reaching back 3,000 years, it should be of great interest to archaeologists. I am unable as yet to learn the title of the suit, but the United States Government and numerous oil companies were parties to it, and it was a very large suit for its time.

In this connection, geologically, Caddo Lake should afford a tree ring calendar reaching back to the beginning of the lake proper, for even now it is so studded with dead trees killed by impounded water that most people think it to be an artificial and not a natural lake. While I personally disagree with the theory that a log jam on Red River was a primary cause for the damming of this lake, and credit its origin to earthquakes which caused the jam, since there is evidence of recent faulting, the logs in this old lake bed and nearby river jams should reach back several hundred, if not thousands of years.

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CHACO CANYON MASONRY

In order that certain errors in the Florence Hawley article on *The Family Tree of Chaco Canyon Masonry* (AMERICAN ANTIQUITY, Vol. 3, No. 3, January, 1938, pp. 247-255), may not become too strongly fixed in the minds of students of Southwestern archaeology, it is advisable to call attention to them at this time. In the diagram on page 250, No. 1 in the chart, the slab masonry is listed as Basket Maker III with the date 777 plus or minus, and on page 254 the discussion refers to Judd's pit house with the 777 plus or minus date as being Bas-