

no wood to be seen, and the clay lay on top of the rock. I think there were three or four of these chimney piles. He then showed me the size of the enclosure, which was distinctly marked, and can yet be seen for some distance. A few years since, I showed the same to Ira B. Brunson and B. W. Brisbois, and after telling them where certain trees stood, and other landmarks, they were satisfied I was correct.

I have often heard Col. B. W. Brisbois speak of the old fort, and he always carried the idea to me, that it was the work of the early French traders.

From the northeast corner of the old fortification, the north wall or embankment extends towards the bayou or river, about at right angles, some 200 feet. The locality of the chimneys extended from north to south in a row, and about in the central portion of the enclosure. There were two small mounds, perhaps one hundred and fifty feet apart, one south of the other, also nearly in the center of the enclosure, and hence not near any of the outward walls. The house built in 1836, and repaired by me in 1843, was a little south of the northern mound. These mounds were so small as scarcely to deserve the name. The southernmost of the four chimney remains, was on the locality of the southern mound. Where the southern line of the enclosure extended, is now, and has long been, a plowed field.

After a few years, I bought the Brimmer building, and fitted it up for a dwelling, and lived in it from 1843 till 1857. I used the stone and clay, the remains of the old chimneys, to put around my house. I think there were a few pieces of pottery found about the chimneys—the only marks of civilization I can recall. The whole had the appearance, to me, of a wooden palisade—I could see the depressions made by the decaying of the stockade posts. I think the buildings were burned, and the barricade or picketing became extinct by the ravages of time.

There is no foundation for the theory that this structure was the work of the mound-builders. The remains of those prehistoric people are most distinct to any observing person; there were several of those mounds in the neighborhood of this structure, but they presented a more ancient appearance.