
CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER, 2017

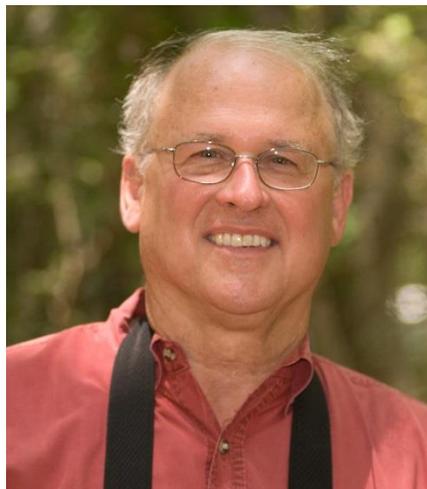


39 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2017, 7:00 PM

WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY CENTER
1800 WEEDON DR. NE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33702



Albert C. Goodyear, Ph.D

*Research Affiliate, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina
and Director of the Southeastern Paleoamerican Survey*

Recent Advances in Paleoamerican Research in Florida

Florida has long been a place of exciting finds in what can be called Paleoamerican archaeology. This term includes the traditional expression "Paleoindian" but now includes evidences of earlier occupations before Clovis (13,000 cal. yrs). Historically, the study of Paleoindian points such as Clovis, Simpson and Suwannee recovered in large numbers by amateur collectors in the rivers of Florida, has resulted in a prominent statement about the density and richness of the Paleoindian record in Florida. Current research by Dr. Goodyear on the extensive Ike Rainey collection in Ocala is aiding immensely in developing a fluted point survey for the State of Florida. One of goals of the Southeastern Paleoindian Survey (SEPAS) is to record the distribution of Clovis and other fluted points from the Tampa Bay region up to and including North Carolina.

These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting <https://goo.gl/fWpuuZ> . You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.

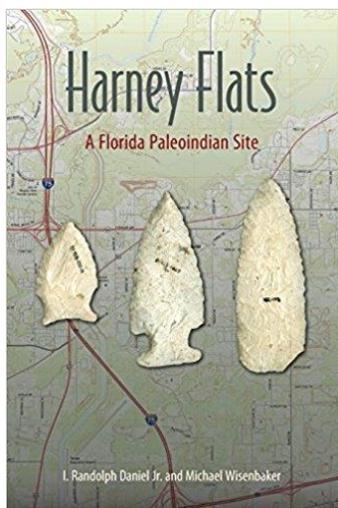
BACK IN PRINT — HARNEY FLATS, A FLORIDA PALEOINDIAN SITE

Harney Flats A Florida Paleoindian Site

I. Randolph Daniel Jr. and Michael Wisenbaker
AVAILABLE AGAIN

Discovered during construction of the I-75 corridor northeast of Tampa, the site of Harney Flats in Hillsborough County, was a turning point in the archaeology of the southeastern United States. Beneath evidence of human settlement from the Middle Archaic period, researchers unearthed Paleoindian stone tools--representing a rare example of a stratified site in the Southeast with a Paleoindian occupation. The expansive excavations at Harney Flats demonstrated that significant land-based sites of early human settlement exist in Florida and are worth exploring.

Harney Flats describes the excavation, which was praised for its state-of-the-art strategy and interpretive methods despite its sandy environment, and details the objects uncovered--projectile points, scrapers, adzes--and what they reveal about the lives of the people who used them. Including an update on relevant research since its first publication, this volume is the definitive account of a critical finding in the study of early human history.



Discount Price:
\$24.00

Click [here](#) and use code **AU917** at checkout to get the discount

HURRICANE IRMA DREDGES UP HISTORIC CANOE FROM THE INDIAN RIVER

Have you seen pictures of this canoe floating around your Facebook feed post Hurricane Irma? Below is some information from the Florida Division of Historical Resources about this wonderful find and what we know about it so far! Remember, if you find a dugout canoe in one of Florida's waterways be sure to contact archaeologist Julia Duggins (julia.duggins@dos.myflorida.com) at the Florida Division of Historical Resources so that it can be properly recorded and conserved.



• **Who found the canoe?** A dugout canoe reportedly washed ashore during Hurricane Irma on the north side of Cocoa, Florida. A local resident reports that he was riding his bicycle after the storm and spotted the canoe by the shore. Familiar with state laws, he suspected the canoe came from Sovereign Submerged Lands and reported it to the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, Division of Historical Resources, Department of State.

• **What do we know about the canoe?** The canoe was evaluated by a professional archeologist based in Canaveral on Thursday, September 14. The canoe is approximately 15 feet long and weighs hundreds of pounds. It is waterlogged and has a very small number of barnacles on it. The construction is atypical, with not only a squared off form commonly seen in the historic period, but compartments and what appears to be a seat.

• **How old is it?** Initial assessments suggest the canoe is over fifty years old, which makes it historic in age, but the approximate age of the canoe is not yet confirmed. The Department is having the canoe carbon-dated and should receive results within a few weeks. Overall, its appearance and the presence of a cut nail suggests it is not a pre-contact canoe. In other words, it is maximum several hundred years old and minimum probably several decades old.



• **Is it unique?** Florida has the highest concentration of archaeological dugouts in the world with more than 400 from the state. Wooden artifacts like canoes are only preserved in constantly wet environments or constantly dry environments. Because Florida is so wet, it has an environment conducive to preservation of wood. There are several uncommon but not unique things about this particular canoe: 1) its overall shape, construction and paint, 2) the nature of the find, and 3) the location of the find adjacent to the Indian River and the probable association with saltwater.

• **Who owns the canoe?** Per Chapter 267 of Florida Statutes, artifacts from state-owned lands belong to the State with the title vested in the Division of Historical Resources and it is therefore the Division's job to ensure it is preserved and protected for future generations.

• **What will happen to the canoe?** If it is determined to be historic, the canoe will be stabilized, preserved and hopefully it will ultimately be displayed locally for the public to enjoy and learn from.

• **Where is it now?** The canoe is currently being kept wet and is in a safe place. The Division of Historical Resources is working with local museums to provide short-term and long term plans for its conservation, preservation, and ultimate public display in Cocoa.

UPCOMING FALL CGCAS LECTURES

Public Archaeology at Judah P. Benjamin Confederate Memorial, Gamble Plantation Historic State Park

Thursday, October 19, 2017 from 7-8pm

Diane Wallman, Ph.D., University of South Florida

In the mid-19th century, Robert H. Gamble established a sugar plantation along the Manatee River. After selling the plantation to a pair of Louisiana planters in the 1850s, the site was briefly occupied in 1865 by Confederate officer and Confederate Secretary of State, Judah P. Benjamin. In 1873, an attorney, George Patten bought the property, where he and his family lived until the early 20th century. The goal of the archaeology is to increase our understanding of the nuanced history and diverse residents at the site, including the enslaved laborers who lived and labored on the plantation. The project emphasizes community engagement to foster public awareness of the value of cultural resources, archaeological methods, and heritage preservation. During the 2017 field season, we recovered artifacts spanning the various occupations, and identified several features, contributing to our understanding of the transforming landscape and lifeways at the plantation.

The Old Vero Site: Some Recent Findings and Thoughts on Paleoindian Archaeology in Florida

Thursday, November 16, 2017 from 7-8pm

C. Andrew Hemmings, Ph.D., Florida Atlantic University

In 1913 workers dredging a canal near Vero Beach found fossilized bones. State Geologist, Dr. Frank Sellards, visited the site and later began excavations, finding bones of humans and Pleistocene animals. Although convinced his finds confirmed that humans and extinct Late Ice Age animals lived side by side in Florida, his discoveries were dismissed by

the scientific community. In 2008 renewed local interest in the site protected it from destruction and lead to a multi-year excavation. Analysis of this material is well underway and is combined with information gathered from old collections and archives. A wealth of new information regarding the Terminal Pleistocene environment, and how the first humans to arrive adapted and flourished in a rapidly changing Pleistocene Florida.

Florida's Container Revolution: The Historical Consequences of Late Archaic Pottery Adoption
Thursday, December 21, 2017 from 7-8pm

Zachary Gilmore, Ph.D. Rollins College

Traditional accounts suggest that the adoption of pottery technology in Florida approximately 4,700 years ago came with few, if any, discernible impacts on the hunter-gatherer societies involved. Recent research, however, has revealed a number of important cultural transformations that coincided with pottery's appearance, including shifts in settlement, exchange, monument construction, and mortuary traditions. New data from the Silver Glen shell mound complex in the middle St. Johns Valley indicate that the earliest pottery vessels played a significant role in ritual feasting events and long distance exchange networks, which integrated people and communities across peninsular Florida. In this way, the new technology helped to challenge preexisting political structures and usher in truly revolutionary change across the region.

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Archaeology Lab at Weedon Island
Friday, September 22, 2017 from 10am – Noon

Ever wonder what archaeologists do with all that stuff they dig up at archaeological sites once the fieldwork is finished? At the FPAN Volunteer Lab, you can come find out for yourself! Learn all about how artifacts and other archaeological materials get processed in the laboratory so that we can use them to learn about the past. You will get the chance to sort through, identify, and wash artifacts and other material from real archaeological sites! All ages are welcome to participate or observe, children 12 and under should be accompanied by an adult.

WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Drive NE
St Petersburg

Heritage Monitoring Scout Training
Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 10am – Noon

Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS Florida) is a public engagement program focused on tracking changes to archaeological sites at risk, particularly those impacted by climate change in the form of erosion and sea level rise. Join Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) staff for this information session to learn how to become a heritage monitoring scout. We will talk about threats to archaeological sites, how to identify some common site types and artifacts, and the best way to record and monitor them. Following this introductory session, FPAN will organize a number of scout meet ups to visit sites so that you can get involved and protect sites near you!

WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Drive NE
St Petersburg

Gamble Plantation Archaeology Public Lab Day
Saturday, September 23, 2017 from 11am – 3pm



Want to know more about historical archaeology? Come by Gamble Plantation this Saturday to learn about and participate in artifact identification, analysis and cataloguing. We will be inside the park museum! Kid-friendly and open to the general public.

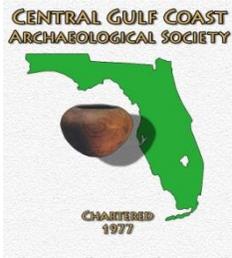
WHERE: Gamble Plantation State Park
3708 Patten Ave
Ellenton, FL

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THE SOCIETY

The Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society (CGCAS) is an association of amateur and professional archaeologists and concerned citizens dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Florida's great cultural heritage. CGCAS is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) and is a state chartered non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.



MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone with a sincere interest in the cultural past of Florida and who is dedicated to the understanding and preservation of that heritage.

Amateurs, professionals and concerned citizens are welcomed as members. Membership is yearly and all dues are payable in January. Contact Cheryl Shaughnessy at P.O. Box 1563 Pinellas Park, FL 33780

| | Dues |
|------------|---------|
| Individual | \$25.00 |
| Student | \$12.00 |
| Family | \$30.00 |

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