
CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER, 2017



39 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2017, 7:00 PM

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



Diane Wallman, Ph.D

Assistant Professor, University of South Florida

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

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, artifacts spanning the various occupations were recovered and several features were identified, contributing to our understanding of the transforming landscape and lifeways at the plantation.

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

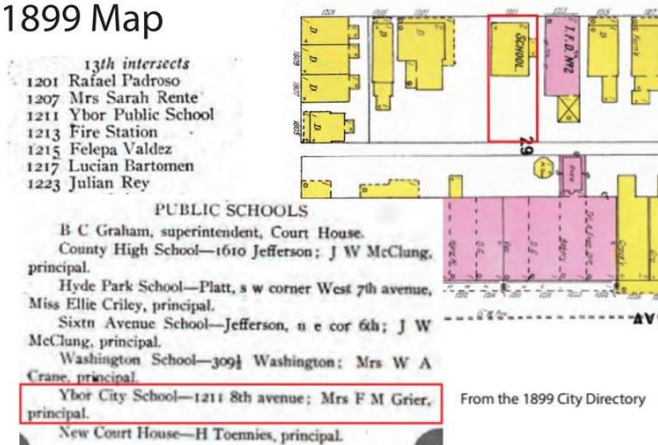
DIGGING UP THE PAST AT NEW WORLD BREWERY



A popular bar/restaurant/entertainment venue closed last month in Ybor City to make way for new construction, but the ground it sits on still has a story to tell. Archaeologists from the University of South Florida (USF) and the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) were invited out by the owner of New World Brewery to survey the property just before it was handed over to the new owner.

Historical research showed that the lot was once the location of the Ybor City School in the late 1800s – perhaps one of the earliest schools established in the neighborhood. The area outlined in red on the map below is the location of New World Brewery. The building there in 1899, just to the west of the Ybor City Fire Station, is labeled “School”.

1899 Map



The survey revealed many artifacts that date to the late 1800s, including glass from bottles, personal items like buttons, and even small embossed metal letters. Now that the excavation is complete, volunteers are needed to help clean, identify, and catalog all the artifacts that were discovered. We will be sending out information on volunteer lab dates and times to CGCAS members in the coming weeks! Hope you can come out and help us.



Metal cube letters and a mother of pearl button.



Molded porcelain face (bottom), metal shirt collar stud (right), a piece of white ceramic vessel (center), and two pieces of milk glass liners (top) for metal jar lids patented in 1869 by Lewis Boyd of New York.

MEET OUR NEWEST CGCAS BOARD MEMBERS



Jaime Rogers is a graduate student at the University of Central Florida and has been a CGCAS member for 3 years. His thesis studies microscale environmental changes of Tampa Bay during the Woodland period, particularly with a focus on the Bayshore Homes hiatus. When not studying or digging, he can be found playing disc golf and racquetball.



Heather Draskovich is a graduate student at the University of South Florida. She is a self-proclaimed aquaphile and an avid fisher, surfer, and shell enthusiast. In addition, she is a history buff, and lover of Florida archaeology in particular.

These interests have definitely influenced her attraction to Florida archaeology, which is why she is so stoked to be a part of CGCAS!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Zachariah Kennison
Ofelia Sanchez
Barron K. Brown
Sarah Porch-Lee
April Min
Jodi Enders

NEW EXHIBIT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF THE FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY IN GAINESVILLE

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS 1917 2017



Rare, Beautiful & Fascinating: 100 Years at the Florida Museum

Exhibit runs from Sept. 23, 2017-Jan. 7, 2018

Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville

“From rare, ancient treasures to cutting-edge technologies, the exhibit showcases the Museum’s 17 collections and research initiatives that address topics from extinction to biodiversity. Visitors may interact with scientists working in the lab from a different collection each week, explore the institution’s rich history and learn how the Museum has affected the lives of students, volunteers, employees and donors.

Objects from the Museum’s 40 million specimens also reveal the stories of everything from coral reefs to human health to prehistoric life. Discover the ways science has changed over time, and how the Florida Museum remains committed to addressing future critical world issues, including biodiversity, climate change, invasive species and more.”

The companion website for the exhibit features some of these wonderful objects, along with stories from researchers about each artifact. You can check it out for yourself at:

<https://www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/100years/>



By Ann Cordell

My story is about the four-headed pot from the McKeithen site in North Florida. Dr. Jerry Milanch, who was our curator of Archaeology here at the Florida Museum, had an NSF grant in the late 1970s to excavate the mounds and midden at the site. In the fall of 1977, Jerry conducted a Field School of UF Anthropology students to excavate mounds B and C. I was a grad student and teaching assistant for the Field School.

We spent the last half of the semester excavating Mound C. This was a ceremonial mound that had been extensively looted and the landowner had recovered several broken Weeden Island pots from the site. Our excavation really consisted of systematically sifting the disturbed soil and sand and we recovered some pottery that cross-mended with the pots that the landowner had found. We didn't have much expectation of finding undisturbed deposits in the mound.

On the one day that Jerry had to be away from the site – and I was in charge – we actually found the four-headed pot. We exposed it carefully and cleared off the sand so we could get a photograph of it in situ. It was almost getting dark by this time but we were able to get a photograph and we didn't want to leave it in the ground overnight, so we carefully removed it and packed it up and then after

the field school was over we brought it back to the lab here at the Museum.

The pot had been broken in situ except for the base, which was knocked out of it before the pot was deposited in the mound, so everything was recovered except for a couple of pieces. We've reconstructed the pot in the lab and this pot has become really the icon for Weeden Island pottery in Florida.

Ann Cordell
Collection Manager
Ceramic Technology Laboratory
Florida Museum of Natural History

ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE ELLENTON AREA – YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!



Have you dug in your garden and found some pieces of ceramic pots or glass? Do you have any local legends or stories about particular places in Ellenton? Have you noticed architectural ruins or structures that might have historical significance? Have you made any archaeological discoveries in the Ellenton area? Do you know of any locations that may have important archaeological remains? If so, please take the time to report these locations at the link below. Please click the view application button to enter information. This application was created for Ellenton community members to report their archaeological knowledge in a manner and format that will be useful for archaeologists as we continue to study the rich heritage of the area. Additionally, this is a space where people can share their connections with history, by identifying historical sites that are important to the community.

<https://goo.gl/ZXdyyz>

Want to help out and get your hands dirty? Follow Dr. Wallman and her students on their Facebook page to find out the latest on upcoming open archaeology lab days, and archaeology events at Gamble Plantation this summer.

<https://www.facebook.com/gamblecommunityarchaeology/>

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – CGCAS HOLIDAY PARTY!

Mark your calendar- Saturday, December 9th at Noon we will be meeting for our annual Holiday Party and White Elephant Gift Exchange! More details to come in the next newsletter.

UPCOMING FALL CGCAS LECTURES

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 led 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

American Indian Arts Celebration
November 3-4, 2017 from 9:30am - 5pm

DANCE! MUSIC! ART! CULTURE! Every year in early November, the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum hosts our annual American Indian Arts Celebration (AIAC) on the Museum grounds on the Big Cypress Seminole Indian Reservation. This year join us November 3rd and 4th. Enjoy traditional and contemporary arts and crafts, dance and music of the Seminole, Southeastern and other Indian tribes from across the country. Enjoy an array of Native American vendors, special presentations, wildlife shows and cultural demonstrations along with our award-winning galleries and boardwalk! The sensational backdrop for this event is the scenic Florida Everglades, just about an hour from Broward, Dade, Collier and Hendry counties. The rich blue skies and verdant fields dotted with cypress domes provide the ultimate setting for this amazing celebration.

WHERE: Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Seminole Museum
34725 W Boundary Rd
Clewiston, FL 33440

**New College Public Archaeology Lab Presents:
The Art of War - Brian M. Zepeda, Seminole Tribal Artist and Historian**
Tuesday, November 14, 2017 from 5:30 – 7pm



Brian Zepeda has been a consultant for the History Channel, Discovery Channel, Nat Geo Wild, WPBT and WGPU, and has been featured in National Geographic magazine, First American Art magazine and Florida World magazine. A featured artist in “Just Above the Water, Florida Folk Art and “Beadwork Storytellers” an exhibit at the Cherokee Nation Museum of Oklahoma, his beautiful art work can be seen in the collections of the Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, the Historical Museum of Southern Florida, the National Museum of the American Indian and the Museum of Florida History as well as in numerous private collections. Zepeda has served on the Florida Governors council of Indian Affairs, American Indian Alaskan Native Tourism Board, the Friends of the Collier County Museum, and currently serves as the Seminole Tribe of Florida’s Naples Liaison Representative.

The lecture is free and open to the public. Please RSVP at <https://donate.ncf.edu/newtopics20172018>

WHERE: Mildred Sainer Pavilion
5313 Bay Shore Rd
Sarasota, FL

Indigenous Lifeways and Spirituality Tour at Weedon Island

Saturday November 25, 2017 at 10am

Join professional Archaeologist, Naturalist, and Science Educator Jungle Jay, Fine Artist and Deep Historian Hermann Trappman and Florida-Forager-Extraordinaire Andy Firk for an insightful examination of daily life, habits, diet and beliefs of the native Manasota Culture of west central Florida

at Pinellas County's jewel, Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center.

This experience will begin at the center's NE parking lot entryway sign with a description of the Education Center building itself and how its orientation, design and decoration reflect the art and spirit of the people that populated the site. On a leisurely guided hike, you will learn how various plants were used as the food, medicine and raw materials of daily life. Along the boardwalk and through the extensive mangrove forest you will see how the abundant animal life was part of the local environment and food supply and was integrated into the spirituality our early inhabitants.

Traveling through subtle changes in elevation, vegetation and habitat we will ascend the 3-story observation tower to view the “big picture” and to delve more deeply into the mysticism and spirituality that can be conjectured from the material finds within the archaeological record.

Finally we will examine the ancient canoe and interactive displays in the Center's “state of the art” museum and facilities with the shared insights and interpretation of your guides.

SUGGESTED DONATION (all proceeds benefit UU of Clearwater / Beacon Community Garden and Food Forest) Adult, \$20; Teens and Students (w/ ID), \$15; Under 6, FREE (but not recommended).

More information at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/events/899096436918340/>

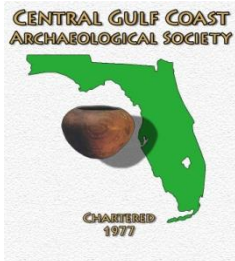
WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg, FL

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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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