
CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
MARCH, 2017



39 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

THURSDAY, MARCH 16, 2017, 7:00 PM

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



Jeff Moates, MA

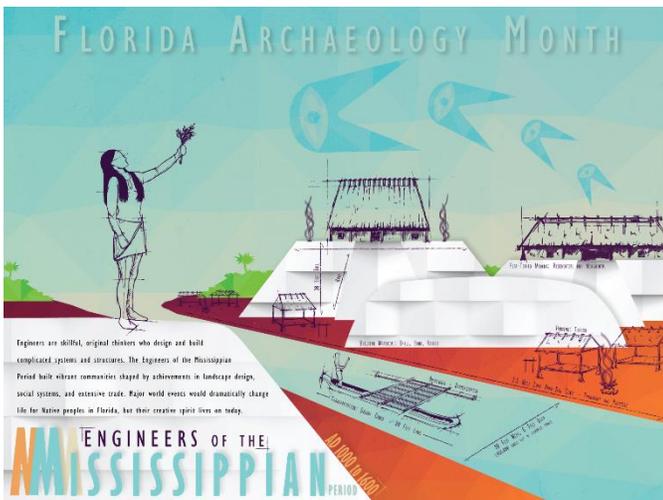
Florida Public Archaeology Network – West Central Regional Center

Heritage at Risk - A Call for Action

Jeff Moates, West Central Region Director, Florida Public Archaeology Network, will discuss the Heritage Monitoring Scouts, or HMS, citizen science program focused on tracking changes to archaeological sites at risk, particularly those effected by storms, erosion, and sea level rise. Come and learn how you can get involved in protecting Florida's heritage.

These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting <https://goo.gl/wd4wff> . You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.

MARCH IS FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH



Every year in March, Florida celebrates its diverse heritage and buried (or submerged) past through Archaeology Month. Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) chapters, archaeologists, heritage professionals, museums, historical societies, and interested members of the public come together to promote and celebrate archaeological sites and knowledge about the past through events, workshops, lectures, and public archaeology days. Another highlight of this month of archaeological celebration is the new poster that is developed every year to highlight a unique theme within Florida archaeology. Building on the timeline poster series established over the last few years, this year we will be highlighting the Mississippian Period in Florida.

If Florida's first people, the Paleoindians, were explorers who blazed new trails and settled a new land, the people who came after them (known as the Archaic People to archaeologists) were innovators who faced changes with new technological advancements, and the people of the Woodland Period were artisans who we can celebrate for their craft and creativity, then the people of the Mississippian Period were engineers who shaped every aspect of their world to fit their view of how life should be.

Engineers are skillful, original thinkers who design and build complicated systems and structures. The Engineers of the Mississippian Period built vibrant communities shaped by achievements in landscape design, social systems, and extensive trade. Major world events would

dramatically change life for Native peoples in Florida, but their creative spirit lives on today.

This year's poster highlights different aspects of engineering during the Mississippian Period whether it was the engineering of mounds and waterways at Calusa sites in southwest Florida, social networks and extensive trade evidenced in exotic materials found at sites like Mill Cove near Jacksonville, or even religious and social systems reflected in iconography like the "Falcon Warrior". To learn more about Mississippian Period sites in your area you can visit go to the "Explore" page at www.fpan.us/werc or check out the Florida Archaeology Month website for events near you at www.FLarchmonth.org.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR — CGCAS FIELDTRIP TO EMERSON POINT



View up to the top of the Portavant Mound at Emerson Point Preserve.

WHEN: Sunday, March 19th at 11am
WHERE: Emerson Point Preserve
5801 17th St W, Palmetto, FL

In honor of Florida Archaeology Month, join us for a fun tour of one of the Tampa Bay Area's most interesting sites: Emerson Point! The Portavant Mound within this site complex is the tallest in the area and dates to the Mississippian Period. We will tour the mound, as well as some of the less well known components of the site, and enjoy some beautiful views of the Manatee River. After the tour, we'll grab some lunch at a local sea food spot. Hope you can make it out for this fun, local fieldtrip!

For those of you interested in carpooling, meet at the Publix parking lot in Bay Pointe Plaza at

5295 34th St S, St. Petersburg, FL at 10:30am. For questions about carpooling get in touch with Chris at kasotagirl@yahoo.com.



Whelk shells litter the ground near the Portavant Mound at Emerson Point Preserve.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR – CGCAS PICNIC



WHEN: Sunday, June 25th at 11am
WHERE: Maximo Point Park
34th St & Pinellas Point Dr. S
St. Petersburg, FL

More information on the picnic pavilion we will be in, as well as what to bring, will be in the next newsletter. Please mark your calendar, and hope to see you there!

DATE CHANGE FOR TALLAHASSEE FIELDTRIP

Our planned fieldtrip to visits several archaeological sites in Tallahassee has been rescheduled to June 9th – 11th. Look for more details in the next newsletter, but if you are interested in joining us please contact Marcie at tjconnors@verizon.net

FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY STATEMENT ON 2017 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

By: Theresa Schober, FAS President

Lawmakers from the around the state of Florida have descended upon Tallahassee for the 2017 legislative session. There are a couple of introduced bills affecting cultural resources and heritage tourism in Florida that we would like to bring to your attention.

You may recall during the 2016 legislative session, House and Senate bills aimed at creating a citizen permit program staled in committee. These bills were heavily lobbied by known artifact trafficking groups and sought to authorize unsupervised removal and ownership of archaeological resources on state-owned submerged lands. FAS, among many other organizations and units of government, opposed this legislation; the proposal violated other state law, posed risks for disruption of American Indian burials and intact archaeological sites, and privatized public heritage, among other impacts.

The current legislative session convened on March 7. Two companion bills (HB 6019/SB 214) seek to remove language in Florida's historic preservation law, *F. S. Chapter 267*, that provides a path for an "isolated finds" or citizen permit program. While law-abiding citizens participated in the former Isolated Finds program, retired in 2005, the program was also used as a front for illicit artifact recovery and sale. The FAS Board of Directors unanimously supports the bills introduced this session. These bills preserve and protect cultural heritage by eliminating obsolete language that offers the potential for programs that profiteer from Florida's unique, non-renewable historical and archaeological resources. Currently, the house

version of the bill has been forwarded to the Government Accountability Committee. We urge you to support the bill being heard in committee by contacting the committee chair via tweet @mattcaldwell_fl and email Matt.caldwell@myfloridahouse.gov.

We are also monitoring the status of proposed legislation to terminate the Division of Tourism Marketing of Enterprise Florida, Inc., aka VISIT Florida (HB9). While a series of amendments are being filed, the proposed compromise bill creates a complex legal structure that would limit the effectiveness and efficiency of this valuable tourism organization. Tourism, including heritage tourism, offers strong protection and raises awareness of Florida's archaeological and historical resources.

Please forward this information to other groups and individuals concerned with Florida's archaeological and historical resources. Please email or tweet your legislators, particularly those on the committees hearing bills of interest. This information can be found for the house at: <https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Bills/bills.aspx?SessionId=83&HouseChamber=B> by entering the bill number of interest. The state legislature also has online tools for finding your district representatives. These tools and links to additional information can be found below.

Sincerely,
Theresa Schober
FAS President

Link for HB 6019/SB 214:

http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2017/214/BillText/_/PDF

Link for HB 9:

http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2017/9/BillText/_/PDF

Find your Legislators Tools at:

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Senators/Find> (Senate)

<http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Sections/Representatives/representatives.aspx> (House of Representatives)

Information on communicating with your legislators:

<https://www.flsenate.gov/About/EffectiveCommunication>

Other resources:

Florida Archaeological Preservation Association – <http://www.floridaapa.com>

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGY EVENTS

Native American Experience at Emerson Point Preserve

Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 9:00 – 11:00am

Step back in time as we explore Florida's past and discover what life was like for Native Americans that once lived here. We will learn about many of the skills practiced by Florida's early inhabitants and their way of life during a walk through the site of an early Native American settlement. We will also discuss the transformation the state has experienced throughout the years and gain a new perspective about the place where we live.

Please meet at the Pavilion by the Ranger's Station

Program suitable for participants ages 6 and older. FREE! Register by calling (941) 748-4501 X6035 or email michelle.leahy@mymanatee.org

WHERE: Emerson Point Preserve
5801 17th street W
Palmetto, FL 34221

Heritage Monitoring Scout Training

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 from 9:00 – 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: Emerson Point Preserve
5801 17th St W
Palmetto, FL 34221

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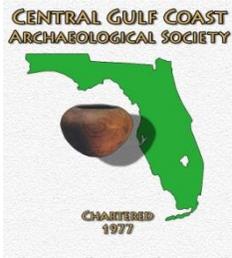
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THE SOCIETY

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 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

MEMBERSHIP

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