



PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CIVIL WAR ARCHAEOLOGY IN NORTH FLORIDA

The Civil War is an event of American history that continues to attract incredible public and scholarly attention, yet the role of Florida in this conflict is poorly understood by most people you line in Florida and certainly by most who visit the state. Since coming to UWF in 2005, Dr. William Lees, executive director of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, has been conducting a “scan” of the Florida’s Civil War landscape. He has found that the historic places and archaeological site of the Civil War, despite the fact that many are in public ownership, are a “best kept secret.” Due to his career-long interest in the Civil War, Dr. Lees is intent on reversing this through his work at FPAN and by involving UWF students in research that will make a difference in our knowledge and awareness of these resources.

His presentation at 7 PM on Nov. 10 at the Bowden building will include a brief review of the results of his scan of the Florida landscape and will then focus on current research being conducted by UWF. Current research that will be discussed is a pilot study of the use of portable X-Ray Fluorescence at the Natural Bridge Battlefield State Historic Site and investigation of the Confederate Apalachicola River battery at Torreya State Park currently underway as a graduate thesis project. The battery at Torreya State Park is one of the numerous earthwork fortifications constructed to protect Florida during the Civil War – a surprising number of these resources are preserved in public ownership from Pensacola east to Jacksonville.

Civil War archaeology is often thought of as the archaeology of forts and battlefields, but legitimately also includes a wide range of other resources. In

Florida, for example, the production of salt in coastal estuaries was an industry of major importance for the Confederacy and the site of large scale commercial salt factories and small, expedient facilities are an important source for understanding this important part of history. Likewise, the aftermath of the Civil War is an interesting element of Civil War archaeology as memorial landscapes were constructed that turned battlefields into monuments and main streets into memorials to events that changed lives forever.

Dr. Lees has been actively involved in the archaeology of the Civil War since his work at the Mine Creek Civil War Battlefield for the Kansas State Historical Society in the late 1980s and early 1990s. His battlefield work has included studies of the Honey Springs Battlefield in Oklahoma, and at Indian War sites in Oklahoma (Battle of the Washita) and Colorado (Sand Creek Massacre). He has also done a comprehensive study of Civil War memorial landscapes in Oklahoma.

PAS T-SHIRT SALE

As usual, PAS will be having a pre-Christmas sale on their very popular 450th T-Shirts. Beginning November 4, the S, M, L and LX shirts will be only \$10 and the XXL will be \$12. Get yours at the next meeting. Now is the time to buy if you have put it off or if your original shirt is too ugly to wear in public.

NEWS FROM FPAN PANHANDLE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGIST

Dr. Della Scott-Ireton, FPAN Northwest Region Director based at the FPAN Center here in Pensacola, and Dr. Bill Lees, FPAN Director, contribute monthly to the newsletter (595-0059).

The FPAN Northwest Region is very excited to announce that Irina Franklin has accepted the position as Outreach Coordinator, beginning Nov 1. Irina has worked with FPAN for over two years as recipient of the first Public Archaeology Internship through the University of West Florida. Irina's knowledge of Florida's archaeological resources and her passion for sharing archaeology with the public make her the perfect person for the job. FPAN staff are participating in numerous events this fall, including the Baker Block Museum's Heritage Festival, Rocky Bayou State Park's Pioneer Festival, West Florida Historic Preservation's Historic Pensacola Village Fall Festival, and the Diving Equipment and Marketing Associate trade show. The FPAN lab currently is open for volunteers on Friday afternoons from 1 until 4. Please come by and help sort artifacts from the Scott Site in Milton.

UNDERWATER AND TERRESTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY REPORTS

This fall the underwater team is involved in a survey off Fort Pickens for the Park Service. A new pier is planned and the area is being assessed for shipwrecks and other subsurface structures before work begins. The barge at the Emanuel Point II site will remain in place during the winter months. The hull is in good condition and the new paint job should protect it. It will be in place when diving begins in the spring. UWF grad student Jake Shidner recently participated in a NOAA multidisciplinary project with Minerals Management Survey out of New Orleans. He spent 2 weeks on research vessel that was recovering artifacts from deep water (4000 to 8000 feet) wrecks in the Gulf of Mexico using an ROV. The crew hoped to recover artifacts to help date and identify the wrecks. Artifacts recovered include a ship's lantern, a fog bell, a round brass tin, a large compass, hull sheathing, an ironstone ceramic plate and a porcelaneous stoneware cup. These artifacts are being conserved in the lab at UWF at this time.

Students in the lab class this fall continue to work on artifacts from both terrestrial field schools. Your help is needed on Monday and Wednesday each week to rough sort and clean the artifacts before the students complete processing. Come help us and be the first to see what was found! These artifacts from a small village and mission site occupied during the 1700s as well as a prehistoric site from the Molino area include Indian ceramics as well as Spanish artifacts. Artifacts associated with those who lived and worked at the Arcadia Mill site near Milton include household ceramics, glass and metal as well as some machine parts and tools. Both groups plan to return to their respective sites again next summer.

Excavations just east of St. Michael's Cemetery to gather information about a 4000 year old site before a new technology campus will be built have just been completed. The archaeologists recovered many micro-drills of Tallahatta quartzite and chert that were probably used to drill shell, bone and/or leather. Animal bone and shell are scarce, but present. This is a very interesting site.

The proposal submitted to Natural Bridge State Park by the Archeology Institute and FPAN had to be withdrawn because of time constraints.

Archaeologists are still monitoring at the Barkley House as construction continues on a gazebo and concrete pad for the dumpster. Far more excavations than anticipated have occurred.

COMING EVENTS

- NOV. 10 **CIVIL WAR ARCHAEOLOGY IN WEST FLORIDA**
 Dr. William Lees, FPAN Executive Director, Pensacola
- NOV. 21 **HISTORIC VILLAGE OPEN HOUSE**, focus on **SPANISH HERITAGE**,
 10 AM TO 4 PM, FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. **SEE INSERT.**
- Dec. 1 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, FPAN Center, 207 E. Main Street. MEMBERS WELCOME
- DEC. 8 **WAKULLA IN THE SANDHILLS: ANALYSIS OF A LATE WEEDEN ISLAND STIE**
 IN THE NORTHWEST FLORIDA INTERIOR UPLANDS
 Chris Mickwee, UWF graduate student, Pensacola
- Jan. 5 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, FPAN Center, 207 E. Main Street. MEMBERS WELCOME

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**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES –
NOTE NEW HOURS and HOLIDAY HOURS**

-The lab at **UWF** is open for volunteers Monday & Wednesday 9AM-4 PM through October. Processing artifacts from the Barkley House and rough sorting artifacts from the field schools are the projects now. The student and PAS volunteers logged over 300 hours at the building 13 lab during October. THANK YOU!!! Be sure to stop at the information center for a parking hang tag if you come to the UWF lab. The UWF lab will close for the Thanksgiving holidays Nov. 26-27 and semester break after Dec. 11. The lab will reopen for volunteers on January 11. See you in the lab. We need your help!

-The lab at **FPAN** will be open on Friday afternoons 1-4 PM through December 11. The lab will be closed Nov. 26-27 for Thanksgiving. Rough sorting artifacts from the Scott site as well as several sites from the UWF collections will continue. The lab will be closed from Dec. 14 until Jan. 15 for semester break and SHA. Call Irina (595-0059) for more information.

OPEN HOUSE AT HISTORIC PENSACOLA VILLAGE

Historic Pensacola Village has one more open house this year the weekend before Thanksgiving on November 21st. This fall festival will focus on our Spanish Heritage. The Living History presentations and a new Spanish Military Program will be highlighted. The new Spanish Military Program interprets Pensacola after the American Revolution and the late 18th century.

PAS, FPAN and the Archaeology Institute will participate as we have in the past by furnishing volunteers to interpret the T.T. Wentworth archaeological exhibits on the first floor. PAS is organizing two shifts for the day – the first from 10 to 1 and the second from 1-4. Contact Elizabeth Benchley at the Archaeology Institute to volunteer (474-3015). Lunch will be provided for volunteers and during the day volunteers can tour the exhibits and see the presentations. Vendors are often available selling everything from grits to ceramics. PAS members have enjoyed participating in these activities in the past and hope you will join us for the day.