

Northwest and North Central Regions Quarterly Report

January/February/March 2022

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As is tradition, FPAN Northwest and North Central jumped right back into work after taking a reprieve for the winter holidays! January kicked off with our attendance at the annual Society for Historical Archaeology conference, held this year in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Assistants Megan Ashbrook, Abby Stone, and Bria Brooks all represented FPAN well and took part in many excellent professional development opportunities. This past year was Nicole Grinnan's last year on the Society for Historical Archaeology Board and she thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity (and time) to present two papers, participate in two panels, and showcase a poster co-authored with FPAN Destination Archaeology Resource Center Manager Mike Thomin. Tristan Harrenstein and Barbara Clark from the North Central Regional Center also visited Philadelphia for the SHA Conference. Tristan co-authored a poster presentation with Mike Thomin about ethical and unethical archaeology-related videos and viewership on YouTube. Barbara presented a poster on work the North Central Region did in partnership with their local PBS station, WFSU.

FPAN Northwest's Public Archaeology Lab reopened to the public on January 25. Volunteers have continued to work with Lab manager Megan Ashbrook, UWF Archaeology graduate student Emily Talbert, and UWF Collections Manager Meghan Mumford to sort the precontact "Head Collection" (featured in Emily's thesis research). The collection is on permanent loan to the university from a local archaeology avocational who excavated the collection in the mid-20th century. As in Fall 2021, Emily's time spent in the lab working with our volunteers has also provided additional service time to FPAN.

In February, FPAN Northwest was thrilled to welcome FPAN East Central Public Archaeologist Emma Dietrich. Emma stayed for a few days to host an informal workshop for Nicole, Mike, and graduate assistant Jeffery Robinson on her methods for capturing and processing 3D artifact models. The collaboration was an excellent one and a number of the artifacts found in the Destination Archaeology Resource Center were scanned and uploaded to the publicly accessible [FPAN SketchFab account](#). Emma was also able to work with UWF Department of Anthropology's Dr. John Worth to model some of the artifacts from the 1559 Tristán de Luna land settlement site collection.

One of February's highlight events in FPAN Northwest was the "Admiring the Hush Arbor: Inspiring Community Voices" program, co-hosted with the UWF Historic Trust/Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site. The event explored African American culture, resistance, and experience

within the framework of hush arbor practices. In the antebellum period, a hush arbor was an outdoor meeting place, usually a secret, where enslaved people could practice religious traditions. The outdoor, seated program at the Arcadia Homestead in Milton, Florida, included several speakers, artistic demonstrations, and music: Dr. Nzinga Metzger (FAMU), Ayoka Afrikan Drum and Dance Group, and Casimer Rosiecki (NPS). Funding for this program was provided in part through a grant from Florida Humanities with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

February in the North Central Region proved to be a busy prelude to Florida Archaeology Month. From February 26th to April 2nd, we had only a single weekend without an event of some kind. There was an infusion of fresh energy from hosts, vendors, and the public that made this a very pleasant (if exhausting) return to something resembling our pre-Covid activities. Barbara presented her lecture on the turpentine to a packed house in Carrabelle for the Carrabelle History Museum, one of our long-time dedicated partners and supporters. Over 100 people attended and there was standing room only. Tristan and Barbara also attended the Primitive Arts Festival, which has been our Florida Archaeology Month kickoff event for some years now. This year it was held, for the first time in its ten-year history, at Letchworth-Love Archaeological State Park. In previous years it has been held at Ochlockonee State Park. Public attendance was a little low, but we expect that once it gets established it will be an excellent event.

Finally, March meant our schedules started getting crowded with Florida Archaeology Month events. One of the very first events during the month was a roaring success: Mike Thomin and FPAN Northwest hosted an exhibit opening reception for the new [“Maroon Marines: Archaeology at Prospect Bluff” temporary exhibit](#). Funding for the event was provided in part by the City of Pensacola through the support of Councilperson Teniadé Broughton; exhibit collections were provided with the assistance of the U.S. National Forest Service. In attendance were Councilperson Broughton and City of Pensacola Mayor Grover Robinson. In addition to an “Archaeology After School!” program and well-attended kayak tour on the Blackwater River in partnership with the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program, Mike and several graduate student assistants traveled to Port St. Joe, Florida, to meet North Central Region’s Barbara and Tristan to host a very well-received “Maroon Marines: Archaeology at Prospect Bluff” talk and a CRPT workshop at Old St. Joseph Cemetery. Both events attracted attention from attendees throughout the Northwest and North Central regions and made for a very successful trip to an area that staff can’t access as frequently due to distance. Our visit to Port St. Joe resulted in Barbara making a subsequent visit to Apalachicola to meet with a CRPT attendee to discuss issues at the Chestnut Hill Cemetery. This same workshop also resulted in follow up with the Historical Group of Wewahitchka, who are working on documenting and cleaning up cemeteries in that community. Plans are currently in the work to host a future CRPT there as well, which local law enforcement is also interested in attending.

The North Central Region kicked off March and the official start of Florida Archaeology Month with the annual reenactment of the Battle of Natural Bridge. Using new information from former FPAN Graduate Assistant, Janene Johnston, based on her UWF thesis project, North Central staff used artifacts on loan from DHR to provide more up-to-date and accurate information on the battle for the public. Another memorable event was the annual Carrabelle Culture Crawl.

The organizers of this event impressed FPAN staff with how well they handled mitigating poor weather with short notice. Despite a rainy day and a last-minute scramble to get all the vendors indoors, the Culture Crawl went incredibly smoothly and had a superb turnout.

Also in mid-March, Nicole and FPAN Associate Director Dr. Della Scott-Ireton traveled to Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands to assist East Carolina University, the Task Force Dagger Foundation, and the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency with a recovery project on a WWII aircraft that wrecked in Saipan's Tanapag Lagoon. The aircraft wreckage is believed to contain the remains of a lost U.S. servicemember. Nicole and Della have been assisting in the project to serve as archaeologists/trained Scientific Recovery Experts, but more importantly to train the veteran volunteers who are assisting with archaeology on site. Nicole and Della adapted FPAN's Submerged Sites Education and Archaeological Stewardship (SSEAS) program to provide project volunteers with the archaeological expertise to carry out their work.

During this quarter various other events and programs occurred as well. Staff continued to provide lectures to various organizations. Tristan and Mike have continued the Archaeology Arcade series, which has continued to be popular, along with our other virtual programs, such as "Zoom into Archaeology". Staff also continues to contribute to our social media and YouTube Channel, which all continue to grow in both content and followers. We were able to visit the Florida Capitol in person again for our "Archaeology at the Capitol" event. Barbara received positive feedback from our partners (DHR and the Florida Park Service) for this event, and the public and lawmakers were excited to see us back in the rotunda this year. DHR was able to provide tables and chairs, which was a great help to all those involved and made the set-up process seamless. Both the North Central and Northwest regions continue to respond to DHR requests in response to the very successful Historic Cemetery Inventory project as well. Barbara and Tristan had the distinct honor of once again working with Susan Goodhope and her human remain detection dogs to help relocate an African American cemetery on the southern side of Leon County. Barbara is currently working with the family to document it with the FMSF.

Current projects in-progress:

- Jeffery Robinson continues to collect and analyze 3D scan data for both his Master's thesis and for the Heritage Monitoring Scouts Grant.
- Caroline Peacock continues to work with students in Milton High School's anthropology class to excavate several units on their school grounds.
- Nicole and Mike Thomin are planning events related to the City of Pensacola's month-long Juneteenth celebration in May/June 2022.
- Nicole is working with private land managers and Northwest Florida Water Management to record and secure stewardship for the African American section of Old Muscogee Cemetery in Muscogee, Florida (Escambia County).
- Nicole is overseeing the development of a new FPAN-managed "Museums in the Sea" website for Florida's Underwater Archaeological Preserves.
- Nicole is in discussion with St. Andrews University to continue her Ph.D. work after her supervisors at the University of Birmingham retired.

- Barbara and Tristan are working with the Florida Trust to gain access to the Lake Hall Schoolhouse, a historic African American schoolhouse located in Leon County, to aid a preservation group and the Trust in their efforts to document and preserve the structure. FARO scanning is being discussed as a viable possibility.
- Tristan continues to serve as a board member of the Trail of Florida's Indian Heritage. He has been instrumental in their rebranding efforts and in developing programs for their members.
- Barbara continues to serve as Chair of the Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation, as well as the Archaeology member of the Leon County's Advisory Committee for Quality Growth.
- Barbara and Tristan are partnering with DHR for an event during May's Preservation Month. We will have a joint booth at the Tallahassee Downtown Market, which will also feature two tours of Old City Cemetery, including a D-2 cleaning demonstration.
- Barbara continues to advocate for the formation of a citizen support organization for Old City Cemetery in Tallahassee, which may finally be coming to fruition after several years. She will be meeting with the Tallahassee Historical Society, which has expressed an interest in this as well, as Tallahassee approaches its bicentennial in 2024.



Mike and Nicole partnered with UWF Historic Trust/Arcadia Mill Archaeological site to host the “Admiring the Hush Arbor: Inspiring Community Voices” event at the Arcadia Homestead in Milton, FL. The event took place outdoors and invited guest speakers and demonstrators from throughout the region.



Della (left) and Nicole (right) work with Task Force Dagger volunteer Mark Stephens (center) to excavate a portion of the WWII aircraft wreckage in Saipan. Nicole and Della served as initial training facilitators and project archaeologists; Nicole also served as the project photographer. Image courtesy Kotora Yamafune.



Tristan and Barbara, along with our partners at the Florida Division of Historical Resources and the Florida Park Service, met at the state capitol for Archaeology Day at the Capitol. We were unable to plan this event last year due to COVID-19, but all were happy to be back advocating for our state's cultural resources.



Susan Goodhope and her Human Remain Detection Canine, Fletch. They graciously donated their services to help Barbara and Tristan relocated an African American Cemetery in Leon County after they were contacted by concerned descendants. Barbara is currently working with the family to record the cemetery on the FMSF.



As part of our Florida Archaeology Month festivities in Port St. Joe, Mike Thomin gave an “Archaeology on Tap” lecture on the maroon community at Prospect Bluff to a packed house at Scallop RePUBLIC in Cape San Blas.