



— FLORIDA PUBLIC —  
**ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK**

A PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY of WEST FLORIDA

**Northwest & North Central Region Quarterly Report**  
October/November/December 2022

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After a long summer of programming and events, FPAN Northwest staff got back outside this fall to work on some training opportunities and new, exciting projects! Nicole and Mike Thomin (FPAN Destination Archaeology Resource Center) spent Tuesdays in October working toward achieving a Florida Master Naturalist Certification with their next required module: Freshwater Systems. Apart from providing continuing education on Florida's environment and ecosystems, these courses are an excellent opportunity to network with other participating local organizations (e.g., Florida State Parks, UF/IFAS Extension Offices, Florida SeaGrant, and Save our Soundside) and preservation-minded members of the community. Nicole and Mike successfully completed the course at the end of October, sharing their capstone project to look at social media engagement for content produced during weekly classes/field trip visits across several platforms.

Other events Northwest FPAN staff hosted throughout October included a Heritage Hike at Tarkiln Bayou Preserve State Park, co-hosted by Florida State Parks staff; a bicycling tour of downtown Pensacola in partnership with the UWF College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities; an Archaeology After School! program on underwater archaeology; an Archaeology on Tap event featuring a "spooky" talk by UWF Department of Anthropology's Dr. Allysha Winburn; and a kayak tour of Blackwater River with our colleagues at the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program.

North Central's big project this quarter was the launch of our new podcast, "Archaeology Books for Fun." So far, we have released an introductory episode and three full episodes, plus a video version for the FPAN YouTube channel. As of the end of January, these episodes have accrued a total of 236 listens/views which seems like a very solid start. For other events, North Central

FPAN staff were able to attend the Tallahassee Science Festival again, which always has a large number of attendees to engage with. The region also conducted a CRPT for the new historical society in Wewahitchka, and for Suwannee River State Park. Tristan presented “Passing through History: The Tales that Turds Tell” to a class in Jacksonville via Skype a Scientist, which was a hit with the students. Maclay Gardens State Park partnered with us for a storytime program, which unfortunately was not well attended. We are still trying to figure out what time and day of the week works best for youth programming at Maclay during the school year. Barbara accepted the nomination to be a Florida Trust for Historic Preservation ambassador for the Lake Hall School House. In this role, she can act as an intermediary between the parties trying to preserve the building and provide guidance.

Conference season began in earnest with the beginning of November. Nicole and Mike traveled to Orlando, Florida, to host a booth at the annual Diving Equipment and Marketing Association (DEMA) Show to highlight Florida’s underwater heritage and underwater heritage preservation. FPAN’s Rachael Kangas (West Central Region) and Emma Dietrich (East Central Region) also attended to help support our tabling efforts. The DEMA Show was a resounding success this year, with almost 1,200 individuals reached (more than at any other past DEMA Show). One of the results of this effort was increased registration for the virtual Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar (HADS) held toward the end of the month (23 new and returning registrants). These successes provide continued justification for FPAN’s presence at DEMA. In October, Nicole attended the American Academy for Underwater Sciences (AAUS) mid-year Board of Directors meeting in San Francisco, California. Among other discussions, further plans were made to host the AAUS 2023 Annual Diving for Science Symposium at the University of West Florida in April 2023.

Toward the middle of the month, Nicole, Mike, Bria, and UWF Department of Anthropology’s Dr. Greg Cook traveled to Apalachicola, Florida. For the trip, they combined several outreach events and meetings into a compact, three-day schedule. After delivering updated interpretive signage to Torreya State Park (replacing signs damaged during Hurricane Michael in 2018), they visited Prospect Bluff Historic Sites to meet with Andrea Repp (Zone Archaeologist for the National Forest Service) to discuss the possibility of Bria focusing her Master’s thesis on the site, its powerful history, and community engagement efforts. The next day, Nicole met with Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve Coastal Training Program Coordinator Anita Grove to discuss the prospect of completing doctoral research work in partnership with the Reserve. In the afternoon, FPAN Northwest staff were joined by North Central’s Barbara and Tristan to conduct a 3D scan of the Servants Quarters at Orman House Historic State Park (a special request from Park manager Joshua Hodson). Finally, that evening, Mike Thomin provided a special presentation titled “Maroon Marines: Archaeology at Prospect Bluff” for the opening reception of the Northwest Florida African American Corridor Project’s new facility at the Apalachicola Center for History, Culture, and Art. On their return home, Nicole gave an “Archaeology of Northwest Florida” presentation to the Charles Whitehead Public Library in Wewahitchka. Other events in November included several presentations for local civic organizations; an Archaeology After School! program on the science of ceramics; and a Heritage Hike in Oak Tree Nature Park in Navarre. Related, Barbara and Mike, along with the 3D printing assistance from Tristan, were able to arrange for a temporary exhibit loan, “Maroon Marines:

Archaeology at Prospect Bluff”, for the Northwest Florida African American Corridor Project’s museum.

As in the past, requests for events and programs wind down during the month of December as most people prepare for their winter holidays. Some FPAN’s final programs of the year included a kayak tour of Escribano Point with the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program; field trip programs to the FPAN Coordinating Center from Byrneville Elementary; and an Archaeology After School! program on ancient hunting technology. In the background, Nicole, Mike, and other FPAN staff continued to prepare papers, posters, and presentations for the upcoming Society for Historical Archaeology Conference in Lisbon, Portugal, in early January 2023! Additionally, staff from both regions continue to work on plans for a the Public Archaeology Conference to be hosted in Pensacola, with the goal of getting a “Call for Participation” out sometime early in the new year. Barbara and Mike continue to represent FPAN on the board of the Northwest Florida Maritime Landscape Alliance for Preservation. They have submitted a first draft of their feasibility study for the National Heritage Area and are awaiting initial comments from reviewers.

#### **Current projects in-progress:**

- Nicole is overseeing the organization of the 2023 American Academy for Underwater Sciences Annual Symposium at UWF.
- Nicole, Mike, Barbara, and Tristan are working together to organize the first Conference on Public Archaeology in September 2023.
- Nicole and Mike are working in collaboration with the City of Pensacola to provide potential expertise and public engagement related to the discovery of and continued research on archaeological human remains in Miraflores Park, Pensacola.
- Nicole is receiving technical dive training to contribute to a NOAA Ocean Exploration grant awarded to Dr. Jennifer McKinnon (ECU) for continued research in Saipan, CNMI.
- Nicole is overseeing the development of a new FPAN-managed “Museums in the Sea” website for Florida’s Underwater Archaeological Preserves.
- Jeffery Robinson continues analyze 3D scan data for both his Master’s thesis.
- Caroline Peacock continues to work with students in Milton High School’s Anthropology class.
- Nicole continues to work on her PhD research with the St Andrews University.
- Nicole continues to serve as webmaster for the FPAN and Destination Archaeology Resource Center websites.
- Tristan continues to serve as a board member and committee chair for the Florida Trail of Indian Heritage, working diligently on their marketing and programming.
- Barbara continues to serve as the Chair of the Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation, which, under new leadership, is working to reinvigorate the organization.
- Barbara, Tristan, Nicole, along with Mike (and several other FPAN staff) volunteered to work on the Florida Archaeology Month Committee to revitalize and reimagine this annual statewide celebration of Florida archaeology.



FPAN staff led a bicycle tour of downtown Pensacola in partnership with the UWF College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities in October. During the tour, we explored the many ways that the University of West Florida has helped highlight and enhance Pensacola history and culture throughout the downtown area.



FPAN Graduate Student Assistant Bria Brooks assists with the Terrestrial Laser Scanning (TLS) of the Servants Quarters at Orman House Historic State Park in Apalachicola, Florida.





FPAN Northwest staff joined Mike Thomin during his presentation on the history of Prospect Bluff at the opening reception for the Northwest Florida African American Corridor Project's new facility at the Apalachicola Center for History, Culture, and Art.



North Central staff, Barbara Clark and Tristan Harrenstein, traveled to Wewahitchka to conduct a CRPT workshop at one of the many cemeteries in the area that had been impacted by Hurricane Michael.