

Southeast Region – Quarterly Report

Third Quarter: January 2023 to March 2023

Sara Ayers-Rigsby, MA, RPA, Director
Malachi Fenn, MA, RPA, CIG, Public Archaeology Coordinator
Micheline Hilpert, MA, Archaeology Research Aide/Office Manager
Winston Miller, Graduate Assistant
Oscar Pereira, Graduate Assistant

Highlight-Assistance to Local Governments: Collaboration with the City of Miami

Photo 1: February 8th 2023 Front Page of the *Miami Herald*

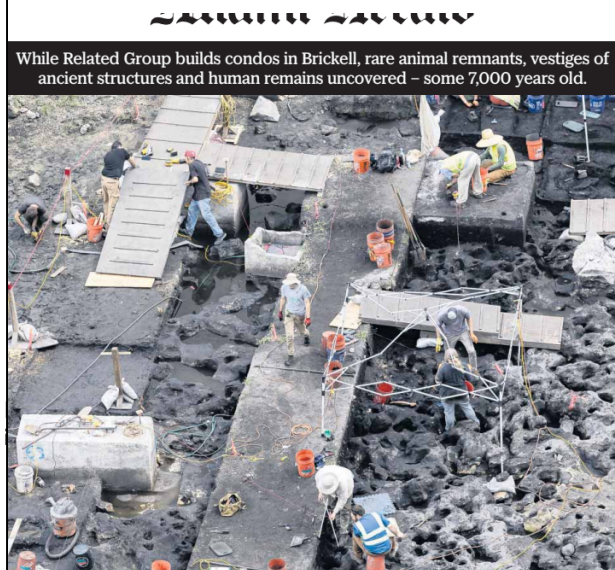


Photo 2: April 2023 HEPB meeting

In February, FPAN SE staff and University of Miami staff visited the City of Miami's Historic Environment Preservation Board (HEPB) meeting to highlight the significance of archaeological work happening in downtown Miami at 444 Brickell and 77 SE 5th Street. This work, which began in the summer of 2022 in conjunction with construction at the site, has resulted in the identification of an extraordinary archaeological site. At the February meeting, the HEPB requested that FPAN assist the City of Miami with developing a plan to facilitate awareness and education about the archaeological material at the site, which staff then presented to the HEPB in April. The project has been extensively covered by the media including numerous articles in [The Miami Herald](#), [Science.org](#), and others, as well

as specialized industry publications like [Law360](#) and [The Commercial Observer](#)

Address the Archaeological Heritage of All Florida Communities-Field School at the Bureau of Land Management



Photo 3: (Clockwise from top) Field school students Miriam Naranjo (UCF), Victoria Pietrowski (FAU), Teresa Velarde (FAU), and Gabriela (FIU) excavating historic feature

From January through April, FPAN SE partnered with the Bureau of Land Management to run an RPA-certified field school at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area. The goal of the field school was to provide a free, accessible field school option for students who are unable to commit to a traditional 6-week course due to caring for children, families, or other obligations. Over the course of the 12-week program, students learned basic field methodology, documentation techniques, sediment analysis, artifact processing, and science communication. Participants in the program range from university students from FAU and other schools, recent graduates, and former archaeology students who transitioned to different careers following a lack of opportunities to attend a field school. One participant explained in their application--“Since I had to work full-time to put myself through college, pay rent, etc. and the job I had at the time provided no paid leave, I was unable to participate

in a field school, leaving me unqualified for every archeological field tech position I've seen posted. I would love the opportunity to participate in a field school close as close to home as this, put my degree to use, learn new skills, and better position myself for a position in a field I love.”



Photo 4: (From Left) Students Lorenza Virulet, and Michaela Candia with Sara Ayers-Rigsby and Dr. Katharine Napora at Research Symposium

In addition to providing training for future archaeologists, the project has two strong research aims. The first was to expose a historic brick foundation located behind the recently renovated classroom and ascertain its integrity for interpretive purposes. The second goal was to identify the presence or absence of shell midden buried in the intertidal zone. Additionally, students organized a public day, and FAU students taking the course as an independent study with FAU Anthropology professor Dr. Katharine Napora presented posters at FAU's Undergraduate Research Symposium.