

Southeast Region – Annual Report

July 2022 to June 2023

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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](#)

First Quarter Highlight: Address the Challenges of Archaeological Site Stewardship-GPR Training at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area with the Bureau of Land Management



Photo 3: BLM Staff and FPAN Staff at the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area

FPAN partnered with the Bureau of Land Management to host a GSSI GPR training for FPAN staff from all regions. During the course of this two-day training, staff learned the basics of collecting GPR data, processing it, and interpreting the results. This will allow FPAN staff more flexibility in collaborating with partners across the region. Following the training, FPAN SW and FPAN Central staff assisted Gasparilla Island State Park in searching for a potential historic cemetery. This training was funded through a grant with the BLM.

Second Quarter Highlight: Assisting the State Division of Historical Resources



Photo 4: At the Miami Circle

SE/SW Regional Director Sara Ayers-Rigsby and FPAN staff including FPAN graduate assistant Oscar Pereira were fortunate to host Florida Division of Historical Resources (FL DHR) staff including DHR Director and State Historic Preservation Officer Alissa Slade Lotane (above, right), Bureau Chief for the Bureau of Archaeological research and State Archaeologist Dr. Kathryn O'Donnell-Miyar (second from left) and State Underwater Archaeologist Dr. Ryan Duggins (not pictured) to meet with the City of Miami and tour the development at 77 SE 5th Street.



Photo 5: Dr. Samuel H. Johnson X-Ray Clinic

Additional highlights of the trip included visiting existing DHR grant funded projects like the Dr. Samuel H. Johnson X-Ray Clinic, which is currently undergoing renovations and will re-open as a museum. Dr. Samuel H. Johnson, the first Black radiologist in South Florida, constructed the clinic in 1939 to serve Black residents denied access to x-ray facilities at Miami's City Hospital during segregation. Other sites visited included the Opa Locka City Hall.

Third Quarter Highlight: Address the Archaeological Heritage of All Florida Communities-Field School at the Bureau of Land Management

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



Photo 6: (Clockwise from top) Field school students Miriam Naranjo (UCF), Victoria Pietrowski (FAU), Teresa Velarde (FAU), and Gabriela (FIU) excavating historic feature

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.”

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.



Photo 7: (From Left) Students Lorenza Virulet, and Michaela Candia with Sara Ayers-Rigsby and Dr. Katharine Napora at Research Symposium

Fourth Quarter Highlight: Addressing the Climate Crisis-HMS Workshop with Historic Virginia Key Beach Park

In April, FPAN SE staff led by Malachi Fenn partnered with [Virginia Key Historic Beach Park](#) to lead a Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS) workshop at the site. The park originally opened in 1945 following protests by Black men at the exclusively white-only Haulover Beach. The park remained segregated through the 1950s before closing in 1982. The park was re-opened in 2008.



Photo 8: HMS Training at Virginia Key Historic Beach Park

Hurricane Nicole impacted the foundations of historic structures in the park. These impacts were documented by Fenn and volunteers during the training.