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Mission San Luis

During the past six months, all of the programs at the Mission have been moving in a very positive direction. One major infrastructural improvement was the installation of Mission San Luis signage on I-10, on Capital Circle and Tennessee (U.S. 90), and at the site entrance on Tennessee. We are very grateful to the Florida Department of Transportation for their assistance with this matter.

We also hired a part-time public information specialist, Lauren Van Lierop, to develop a marketing strategy and facilitate the astonishing increase in media requests. She has been doing a terrific job and since December 2004, Mission San Luis has been featured in 58 publications with a cumulative circulation of 13,885,387 and on Web sites with a total of 17,233,487 users each month.



Florida's First Lady Columba Bush talking with visitors in the Apalachee council house.

Reconstruction

Final environmental and construction plans for El Castillo de San Luis have been submitted to the City of Tallahassee for permitting. If all goes as expected, site work will commence on November 1. The official groundbreaking will take place on December 11, the same as our next holiday commemorative Mass at the Mission.

Research

In September, the National Geographic's *Fossil Hunter* program filmed a segment at the Mission. The show explored the fossil horses of North America, their extinction, and their reintroduction by Spaniards. Horse remains from San Luis were compared with their four million year old Pliocene counterparts.

In our attempts to further clarify town planning at San Luis, we have undertaken a very focused excavation supervised by Jerry Lee. At the time of this writing, we are halfway through a 10-week field season near the northeastern edge of the central plaza. A number of large posts, wall

trenches, burned clay, and hardware suggest that these are the remains of one very large Spanish structure, or perhaps multiple structures.

Interpretation & Education

Under the supervision of our new museum programs supervisor, Dick Ehrlich, the interpretation and education programs are undergoing a significant transformation. A number of new staff members have been recruited, and are being provided with enhanced training. New policies and procedures have also been implemented to make the program run more smoothly, predictably, and efficiently. Camp offerings throughout the year have doubled, and a new slate of programs designed for delivery in classrooms has been created. Also notable are the launching of an animal program to complement living history, the consolidation of interpretive activity around the plaza, and the further development of living history through additional craft activities and the construction of appropriate outbuildings and fencing. Considerable effort to recruit and train volunteers is also beginning to pay off handsomely.

Events

Mission San Luis was selected by the Governor's office to host a series of events throughout Hispanic Heritage Month. Every Wednesday from September 15 through October 15, various groups of children came to the Mission for special tours and presentations by accomplished Hispanic leaders. On October 5, the program welcomed children from adoptive and foster homes. Mrs. Bush, along with Secretary Lucy Hadi from the Department of Children and Families, attended the program.



The Honorable Raoul Cantero, III, Florida Supreme Court Justice, with children from Kate Sullivan Elementary

San Luis also hosted a very successful *Blessing of Animals* event on October 1. More than 500 visitors and their beloved pets visited the Mission to be blessed by Father Robert Young who is the only Franciscan in Tallahassee. Other participants included the St. Francis Wildlife Association with their injured and orphaned wild animals and the Boxer Aid and Rescue Coalition. We also offered on site adoption of animals abandoned during Hurricane Katrina through the Tallahassee Big Dog Rescue. Staples Office Supplies provided a digital camera, printer and photo paper for pet photos, and PetSmart donated dog and cat treats for the event.

Based on the overwhelming response, we have already decided that this will become an annual event.



*Blessing of the Animals
Ceremony, October 1*

Endowment Campaign

The Friends of Mission San Luis, Inc. have been engaged in the endowment campaign with a \$1.25 million fundraising goal before them. Several tools have been developed to advance this effort: a new Friends of Mission San Luis newsletter, *La Pluma* (copy included), and a new website, www.missionsanluis.org, to accept contributions online. An article on San Luis was also published in the September issue of *Florida Banking* as a way of tapping into the banking sector and making them aware of the endowment campaign.

Underwater Archaeology Program

The DEP Coastal Management subgrant for interpretation of the 1733 fleet in the Florida Keys has resulted in a 1733 Spanish Galleon Trail booklet and web site (<http://flheritage.com/archaeology/underwater/galleontrail/>). 25,000 copies of the 24-page color booklet were printed with an insert letter signed by Governor Bush and Secretary Hood to coincide with Hispanic Heritage Month. The booklet explains the history of the fleet disaster and describes the thirteen shipwrecks along the trail, and how to visit and enjoy them. 15,000 copies were delivered to the Department of Education for mailings to Florida schools. The remaining copies will be distributed to the Division of Historical Resources, Florida Park Service, and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The thirteen sites are being nominated as a multiple listing to the National Register of Historic Places.



Underwater staff worked with Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary staff to inspect and record the “Mystery Wreck” (8MO143) off Marathon in the Florida Keys. Briefly worked under a salvage contract 33 years ago, the site was never adequately mapped or recorded. Based on artifacts in BAR collections and

the site inspection, the shipwreck appears to have been a small Spanish ship that ran aground on a shallow coral mount in Hawk Channel sometime in the 17th century. The ship broke its back on the mount, could not be refloated, and was salvaged. The site is of biological importance, since it is an early artificial reef with thriving corals and fish. It is of archaeological importance because the hull contains an early form of cement ballast.

After several discussions and meetings, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Division of Historical Resources and the Florida Aquarium in Tampa. The Aquarium has agreed to assist the Division with the inventory and recording of shipwrecks in and around Tampa Bay with its staff and volunteers. The Division has agreed to assist the Aquarium with the design and installation of a Shipwreck Exhibit to be installed in and around the Shark Tank, and help to interpret it to the public.



Two new Underwater Archaeological Preserves were established, bringing the number statewide to ten. (<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/archaeology/underwater/preserves/>)



Vamar, a steamship that sank under mysterious circumstances off Mexico Beach in 1942, was a former British patrol boat *Kilmarnock*, and a support vessel *Eleanor Bolling* for Admiral Richard Byrd's first expedition to Antarctica, 1928-1930. The vessel's history recently was the subject of the *Deep Sea Detectives* show on The History Channel.

Regina, a tanker barge carrying molasses from Cuba that came ashore at Bradenton Beach in 1940 was dedicated as a Preserve in April, 2005 with a seaside ceremony that was attended by many residents of Manatee County.



An eleventh site, the wreck of *Georges Valentine*, an Italian barkentine that sank in a 1904 storm off Stuart, was nominated to become a Preserve by the dive team of the Martin County Sheriff's Office. The site has been researched, mapped, and a proposal for the preserve developed in conjunction with the Martin County Historical Society.

The Underwater Archaeology team has a new member, Arden Newsom, who was hired in July to help with administrative tasks and office management. In addition, FSU student Irina Franklin was selected as the program's first intern.

Miami Circle at Brickell Point

Seawall Project

The replacement seawall project is coming along slowly. Shoreline Foundation, Inc. was selected by DMS to serve as the marine contractor. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permits are in place, Miami-Dade County permits have been paid for and tentatively secured, the City of Miami building permit fees have been paid, but we are still waiting issuance of the building permit. The project is designed to be built from a barge, so there will be a minimal amount of work from the archaeological site. We have an occasional employee in the Miami area who will provide monitoring as needed. We are keeping our fingers crossed that construction will begin soon.



National Park Service Special Resources Study

In June the National Park Service sent us their Preliminary Determination of Significance, Suitability, and Feasibility. The document was very positive and favors long term management of the 2.2-acre Miami Circle property by the National Park Service. This document will be reviewed by the federal government and the general public before final recommendations are made and forwarded through channels to Congress. Ultimately, Congress will decide if the Miami Circle should become part of Biscayne National Park.

Re-development of Sheraton Hotel/Brickell Park Parcels

We have been working closely with The Related Group on several fronts related to their re-development of the Sheraton Hotel and Brickell Park parcels next to the Miami Circle, known as the IconBrickell. One aspect of this relates to the potential for disturbance of unmarked human burials, and the developer has been conscientious in developing a plan for dealing with this issue. The Related Group responded favorable to our request that they donate space for a visitor's center and have offered several alternatives, including construction of a visitor's center on the Miami Circle parcel or on the IconBrickell parcel.

Research

We are currently planning a third special issue of *The Florida Anthropologist* to showcase research reports on the Miami Circle. Topics will include studies of pumice and galena artifacts, zooarchaeology, ceramics, the results of 3D laser scanning and analysis, the historic period occupation of the site and more. That issue is scheduled for mid-2006.

Conservation Lab and Collections

The Bureau of Archaeological Research's Conservation Research Laboratory (including collections) is currently working on the processing of its 175th accession for the year, marking a fairly brisk rate of artifact processing, reflected by an increase in 1A-32 permitted projects coming to a conclusion. Several major loans of artifacts have been arranged, two out of state

(Houston, Texas and Oshkosh, Wisconsin). Artifacts loans for exhibits carry a message about Florida History and Archaeology to potential seasonal visitors interested in historic tourism. Currently over 10,000 items from the archaeological collections are on loan for exhibit and/or research.



The conservation laboratory has helped conserve and prepare for exhibit a wide range of artifacts ranging from an owl carved from wood nearly 1000 years ago in central Florida, to large gun emplacements from historic Fort Taylor in Key West, to a small 'pikeman' figurine from a Spanish 1715 shipwreck. A planned move to a newer facility, discussed in an earlier report, has not been funded, but the conservation lab is functioning well in its usual location.

Unmarked Human Burial Cases

The State Archaeologist's office continues to work with private individuals, developers, archaeologists, law enforcement authorities, tribes, local preservation groups and others who are involved in the discovery and reporting of unmarked human burials under Chapter 872.05, Florida Statutes.

The State Archaeologist receives numerous calls, letters and e-mails requesting assistance with protection and preservation of abandoned and historic marked cemeteries, as does other Division staff. While s. 872.02 and s. 872.05, Florida Statutes assigns no responsibility or authority to our office for marked cemeteries, we recognize the lack of information available to help concerned individuals. To this end we have developed, in concert with consultants Jim Miller and Sharyn Thompson, an on-line guide to historic and abandoned cemeteries in order to answer typical questions and provide a resource for those interested in marked cemetery preservation. The website can be accessed at: <http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/cemeteries/>.

Conservation and Recreation Lands (CARL) Archaeological Program

Since March 2005 the CARL Archaeological Program completed four major projects in which more than 76,000 acres of land were surveyed. Twenty-nine new sites and forty-seven previously recorded sites were documented on lands in Glades, Hendry, Marion and Franklin counties. The resulting survey reports have been distributed to the respective land managers to facilitate culture resource management of these properties. These survey reports detail the culture histories of the property areas, describe and graphically locate the culture resources present, indicate areas of site potential, and offer recommendations for management of recorded archaeological sites and historic structures. Additionally, the three CARL staff members concluded fieldwork for three projects in Monroe, Putnam, and Volusia counties, totaling more than 30,000 acres, and soon will be completing their reports. They also assisted BAR staff in surveying the Letchworth Addition in Jefferson County by conducting fieldwork, providing site documentation, and generating maps.

CARL archaeologists were involved in the review of state management plans, assisted BHP's Compliance and Review staff in assessing the impact of cultural resources on state land, and served on federal, state, and local advisory committees. They participated in one BAR sponsored Archaeological Resource Management (ARM) training program for state land managers and will be involved in another this month.



Volunteers, DEP staff, and CARL archaeologist Jim Dunbar discuss results of a shovel test at Dunns Creek State Park in Volusia County.

They also provided assistance to numerous individuals who contact the BAR for information on Florida archaeology. Further regarding public outreach, the Ripley P. Bullen Award for meritorious service in working with avocational archaeologists was given to the CARL staff supervisor at the Florida Anthropological Society meetings this year. Moreover, CARL staff archaeologists have been involved in the development of two interpretative projects, Fort Center and Guana Tolomoto Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, in which archaeology related to these properties will be presented to the public.



Drying kiln (8FR954) at the newly recorded Tilton Industrial Area Site (8FR945) on the Box-R Wildlife Management Area in Franklin County. This site is recorded both individually and as part of a Cultural Resource Group.

CARL archaeologists presented two professional papers at the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) annual meeting and assisted in organizing a symposium on South Florida archaeology for the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) annual meeting. They will be presenting a paper at the SAA symposium, which draws on various seasons of fieldwork and perspective on sites in southwest Florida. One CARL staff has been asked to speak this month at the Clovis in the Southeast Conference, which is hosted by the University of South Carolina, the Center for the Study of the First Americans at Texas A&M, the University of Tennessee, and the

Paleoindian and Paleoecology Program at the Smithsonian Institution. The talk will feature Paleoindian archaeological sites located on CARL lands.



CARL archaeologist Mary Glowacki and volunteer Jim Clupper document the Upper Matecumbe site in Monroe County. Formal excavations by John Goggin and Frank Sommer took place at the recently state-purchased site in the 1940s. Railroad ties now fill one of the two trenches dug by the early archaeologists.

BAR Move to the Governor Martin House

The Division of Historical Resources is happy to announce that the administrative offices of the Bureau of Archaeological Research are moving to the historic Martin House, located at the De Soto Winter Encampment site here in Tallahassee. Many of you may recall B. Calvin Jones' discovery of the De Soto site, the subsequent excavations of the site by our office, and the ultimate State of Florida acquisition and preservation of a portion of the site.



We are working closely with the Division of Cultural Affairs (current occupants of the Martin House) to ensure a successful move on December 5 and 6, 2005. Staff of the C.A.R.L. Archaeological Program, Underwater Archaeology Program, the Education and Training/Archaeological Research Section, and Bureau Chief's Office will be housed at the Martin House; the Collections and Conservation Lab will remain in the R.A. Gray Building.

The Bureau of Archaeological Research is looking forward to our move to this beautiful and historic house and hope that Florida's archaeological community will join us in our renewed efforts to highlight this and other important archaeological sites.

Our phones and mailing address will remain the same. Our new physical address will be: 1001 DeSoto Park Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32301. We will keep everyone posted on our progress.

The Bureau has requested that the Martin House be officially renamed the "B. Calvin Jones Center for Archaeology at the Governor Martin House." This recommendation is made in light of Calvin Jones' significant contributions to the archaeology and history of the State of Florida and the Division of Historical Resources.

Isolated Finds Program

The Florida Historical Commission, at its May 21, 2005 meeting, considered three options regarding the Isolated Finds Program currently operated by the Division of Historical Resources. The Commission reviewed input received since its last meeting on April 7, 2005 and heard testimony from interested parties and reviewed correspondence submitted prior to the meeting. The options considered were identified by the Bureau of Archaeological Research, namely: 1) discontinue the Isolated Finds Program, with no substitute program to take its place; 2) formalize the existing Isolated Finds Program guidelines as an agency rule with little or no modification; 3) develop a new permit-based program for river collecting formalized by the rule making process. The Commission, acting in its statutorily constituted role to provide assistance, advice, and recommendations to the Division in establishing priorities for the identification, acquisition, protection, and preservation of historic and archaeological sites and properties (§ 267.0612, *Florida Statutes*), unanimously supported Option 1, and recommended that the Division discontinue the Isolated Finds Program.

The Division and Bureau of Archaeological Research reviewed and accepted the recommendation of the Florida Historical Commission. The Isolated Finds Program was discontinued as of June 1, 2005. Notifications were sent to all Program participants, state land managing agencies and appropriate law enforcement agencies. Removal of artifacts from sovereignty submerged lands will no longer be allowed; removal of artifacts from river bottoms and other sovereign submerged lands will be a first degree misdemeanor under § 267.13(1)(a), *Florida Statutes*. The Division accepted Isolated Finds reporting forms through July 1, 2005. For additional information visit the Isolated Finds Program website at: <http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/underwater/finds/> .

The Bureau and the Florida Master Site File currently are engaged in processing location data from all IF Reports to produce GIS coverage of reported artifacts since the inception of the IF Program in 1996. The results of this project will be added to the data maintained by the Florida Master Site File and will be summarized on our webpage in the near future.