

EXPERIENCE ARCHAEOLOGY

FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK
West Central Regional Center

WINTER EDITION

FEBRUARY 2016

House Bill 803, Senate Bill 1054: Historic and Archaeological Artifacts

By: Jeff Moates

We continue to watch closely the process of these companion Bills as they make way through their respective houses in the Florida legislature. Back in December, FPAN dedicated space in the frequently asked questions section of our website to the issues surrounding the proposed legislation. We tried to compile just about everything that has been put together or published in recent years concerning the issue of collecting artifacts from Florida rivers and other submerged lands. Go to www.fpan.us and click on the FAQ tab at the top, there you will find the pertinent information at the top of that



LEFT: People of all ages and backgrounds appreciate archaeology. Be sure to let your elected officials know what you think about HB803 and SBI054.

list.

HB803/SBI054 proposes a small change to State law (Florida Statute Ch. 267) in order to reinstitute a program similar to the Isolated Finds Policy of 1994-2005. Essentially, the proposed legislation replaces the word "may" with "shall" [Ch. 267.115(9)(a)] thus requiring the Division of Historical Resources to administer a permit system

allowing folks to obtain artifacts from state bottomlands as long as location information of the finds is reported to the Division within a certain amount of time.

At this point, the Bills have been analyzed for congruency with state law and policy. They have each been amended once. Up to sixteen Representatives are identified as (Continued on pg. 3)

Inside this Issue:

House Bill 803, Senate Bill 1054: Historic and Archaeological Artifacts	1,3
Florida Archaeology Month is Almost Here!	1,4
Upcoming Events	2
What's in a Name Hillsborough River	3
"Re-Placing" Fort Brooke through Maps and Archaeology at the Tampa Bay History Center	3,4
"Re-Placing" Fort Brook Public Archaeology Day	5
Florida Comprehensive Preservation Plan Meetings	5

Florida Archaeology Month is Almost Here!

By: Becky O'Sullivan

Every year in March, Florida celebrates its diverse heritage and buried (or submerged) past through Archaeology Month. Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) chapters, archaeologists, heritage professionals, museums, historical societies, and interested members of the public come together to promote and celebrate archaeological sites and knowledge about the past

through events, workshops, lectures, and public archaeology days. Another highlight of this month of archaeological celebration is the new poster that is developed every year to highlight a unique theme within Florida archaeology. Building on the timeline poster series established over the last few years, this year we will be highlighting the Woodland Period in Florida.

(Continued on pg. 4)

Carved shell ornament



Crystal plummet



Replica Woodland Period pots with bird imagery.



Upcoming Events

Archaeology Lecture - *Discovering Bayira- The First Ancient African Genome from SW Ethiopia*

THURSDAY 2/18, 7-8PM
Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

In 2012 an archaeological team funded by the National Science Foundation excavated Mota Cave in the Gamo Highlands of Southwestern Ethiopia and recovered a 4,500-year-old male human skeleton that has provided the first complete ancient human (*Homo sapiens*) genome sequenced from the African continent. The researchers named the skeleton, Bayira (by-*raa*) meaning "first born" in the Gamo language where Bayira was found. The discovery provides new insights into population interactions in the Southern Red Sea area and in Northeast Africa and has given us a new perspective

on prehistoric adaptations to life in the Ethiopian highlands. To register go to: <http://goo.gl/45qz9L>

Hands-On Archaeology - Volunteer Archaeology Lab

FRIDAY 2/26, 10-Noon
Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

At the FPAN Volunteer Lab, you can come find out what archaeologists do with all those artifacts from archaeological sites. You will get the chance to sort through, identify, and wash artifacts and other material from real archaeological sites! All ages are welcome, children 12 with an adult. To register go to: <https://goo.gl/YxBg9Z>

Hands-On Workshop - Archaeology Works: Maps

SATURDAY 2/27, 10-Noon
Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

Archaeologists use maps,


both old and new, in every aspect of what they do. Maps can reveal the location of a long-lost building, show hidden features of a prehistoric landscape, or even create a record for future researchers. Join archaeologists from FPAN as they reveal some map mysteries from throughout the Tampa Bay area, then learn some compass skills so you can make a map of your own! Recommended for all ages. To register go to: <http://goo.gl/C-uowt5>

Archaeology Lecture - *Middle Woodland Complexity and Culture Change in NW Florida*


THURSDAY 3/17, 7-8PM
Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

Throughout the Eastern U.S., the Middle Woodland was a period of increased cultural complexity. This complexity is

best identified in NW Florida through the presence of different ceramic types along with nonlocal trade items, burial mounds, and evidence of elaborate mortuary ritual. The Otis Hare site (8LI172) is a freshwater shell midden on the Apalachicola River occupied for over 1000 yrs, with the most intensive occupation during the Middle Woodland period (A.D. 300-650). The site is used as a case study to characterize the Middle Woodland and examine culture change in the river valley from a domestic perspective. For more information go to: <http://goo.gl/Wo92il>



© Weedon Island Preserve
Cultural & Natural History Center
MARCH 12th,
10am - 1pm



FLORIDA PUBLIC
ARCHAEOLOGY
NETWORK

FEATURED EVENT! ARCHAEOLOGY ACADEMY

WHEN: Saturday, March 12th
10 AM - 1:00 PM

WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

Come out to the Archaeology Academy to learn about the prehistoric people who made Weedon Island home.

Join us for free presentations from 10 - 10:45 am. Afterwards, and for a small fee, register for one of the following activities:

- Tour Weedon Island by canoe
- Hike to an archaeological site
- Make exciting discoveries in the archaeology lab
- Tour the Preserve and learn about native plants and their uses

Recommended for all ages. For more information go to: <http://goo.gl/KtQVRI>

HB803/SB1054 (Cont. from pg. 1)

sponsoring the House Bill. A smaller number of Senators are co-sponsors for its companion Bill in the Senate. Several legislators have had opportunities to discuss the merits of each Bill in committee hearings and have surely received plenty of calls, letters, and emails of support and opposition. Go to <http://www.myflorida-house.gov/> or <http://www.flsenate.gov/> and search for each Bill to find out more information.

Please continue to provide our elected officials with your thoughts, concerns, and encouragement concerning HB803 and SB1054. It's entirely possible that many of them have not talked this much or thought this intensely about Florida's past and the relics symbolic of long gone daily life.

What's in a Name? Hillsborough River - Acorn Eating Place

By: Brittany Yabczanka Vojnovic

Adapted from "Florida Place Names of Indian Origin and Seminole Personal Names" by William A. Read

The Hillsborough River is a prominent river in Hillsborough County and was called Locksapopka by the Creek people. "Lokcha", meaning acorns, and "popka" meaning eating place, makes it the place where acorns were eaten. Several place names, including Charley Apopka Creek, indicate that places where eating took place were important and need to be remembered. The Hillsborough River began flowing towards the end of the last ice age which means it was a likely resource for the very first Floridians. It would have provided fresh water, food from plants and animals, materials for shelter



ABOVE: A postcard purchased in 1912 of the Hillsborough River. Photo from the State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.

and transportation, and access to the Gulf of Mexico. When the Spanish arrived in Florida, the Tocobaga were living near the river and continued to do so until disease and violence wiped them out. A few years after Florida joined the United States, Fort Brooke was built at the mouth of the Hillsborough River (see the story below for more info on Ft.

Brooke). These more recent occupants recognized the advantage of living on the river just like the Native Americans before them. Today, the Hillsborough River is a place where people from all over can enjoy many of Florida's native plant and animal species and gain an appreciation for what life in Florida was like thousands of years ago.

"Re-Placing" Fort Brooke through Maps and Archaeology at the Tampa Bay History Center

In 1980, construction workers in downtown Tampa made an unexpected discovery: As they dug the foundation of a new parking garage, they uncovered the remains of more than 100 U.S. soldiers and 42 Seminole Indians, dating from the 1830s and 1840s. They all once lived on or near Fort Brooke, arguably the genesis of modern-day Tampa.

Re-Placing Fort Brooke, a new exhibit opening Saturday, Feb. 20, in the Tampa Bay History Center's Touchton Map Gallery, uses cutting-edge technology to uncover the stories of Tampa's earliest residents.

Presented in partnership with FPAN, visitors will be

able to see the fort and the evolution of downtown Tampa as never before. In addition to early maps of Tampa's Garrison District and artifacts recovered from the site in the 1970s and 1980s, the exhibit will feature digitally-rectified overlays of the original fort.

"Maps of Fort Brooke and Tampa will be superimposed right on top of modern images of downtown," said Jeff Moates, Director of the West Central Regional Center of FPAN. "With the help of mapping software, we can line them up so they're fairly accurate, and archaeology helps us get the maps even closer together by finding (Continued on pg. 3)



ABOVE: Photo of the garrison at Fort Brooke taken in the 1870s. This building housed troops stationed at the fort for defense. Photo from the State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.

“Re-Placing” Fort Brooke through Maps and Archaeology (Continued from pg. 3)



ABOVE: A formation of soldiers in uniform at Fort Brooke in the late 1800s. Courtesy, Tampa-Hillsborough Co Public Library System.

traces of the original buildings. It gives us even better accuracy,” he said.

Originally known simply as the “camp on the Hillsborough River,” Fort Brooke was established at the mouth of

the Hillsborough River by the U.S. Army in 1824. The City of Tampa would flourish beyond the borders of the fort, at Whiting Street, the fort’s northern boundary.

Visitors will see some of the earliest photos of Tampa’s waterfront, how the shoreline changed, and how Tampa’s modern street grid developed.

“With all the new development happening in downtown Tampa, this is a great time to look back at how we got here and how the city was an outgrowth of Fort Brooke,” said History Center curator,

Rodney Kite-Powell. Re-Placing Fort Brooke is on exhibit at the History Center Feb. 20 through Aug. 28. For more information,

visit TampaBayHistoryCenter.org or, call 813.228.0097.

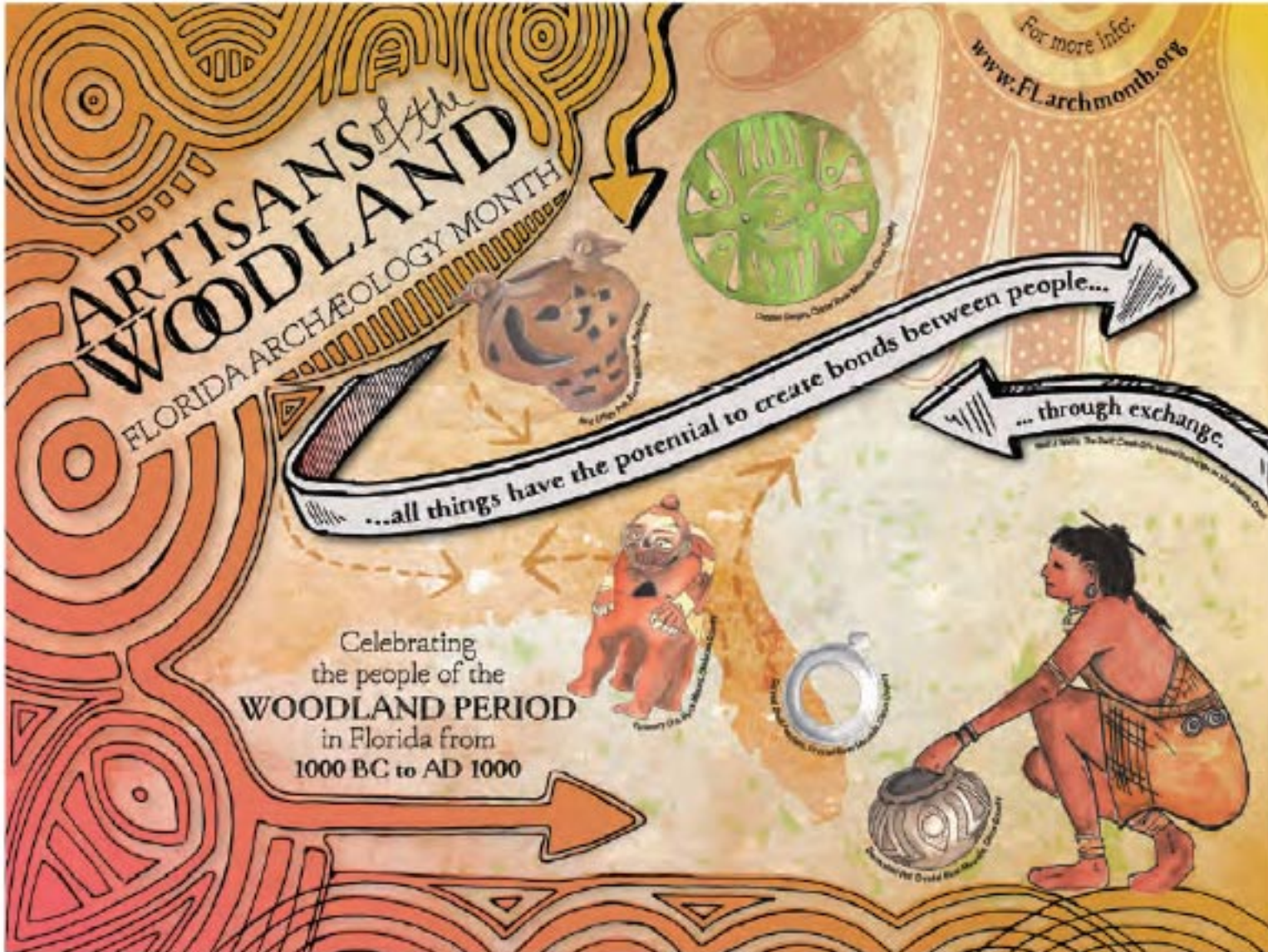
BELOW: Looking in to Tampa from Fort Brooke. Photo from the State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.



Florida Archaeology Month is Almost Here! (Continued from pg. 1)

If Florida’s first people, the Paleoindians, were explorers who blazed new trails and settled a new land, and the people who came after them (known as the Archaic People to archaeologists) were innovators who faced changes with new technological advancements, then the people of the Woodland Period were artisans who we can celebrate for their craft and creativity. From approximately 1000 BC to AD 1000, or from 3,000 to 1,000 years ago, Woodland People lived throughout Florida and shared their ideas and designs with other people throughout the Southeast. This widespread exchange of people, ideas, rituals, craft, and raw materials is a hallmark of the Woodland Period, and an interesting avenue of study for archaeologists today.

This year’s poster highlights different aspects of creativity and exchange during the Woodland Period: pottery and burial goods,



This year’s poster features artifacts from Woodland sites throughout the state of Florida. Here’s a view of the front, but if you’d like to see both sides (and snag one for yourself) be sure to come to one of our events throughout the month of March! As we get closer to March you can find an archaeology month event in your area by visiting www.FLarchmonth.org.

mound centers, trade goods, and the Crystal River archaeological site in Citrus County to name just a few. To

learn more about Woodland Period sites in your area you can visit go to the “Explore” page at www.fpan.us/wcrc or

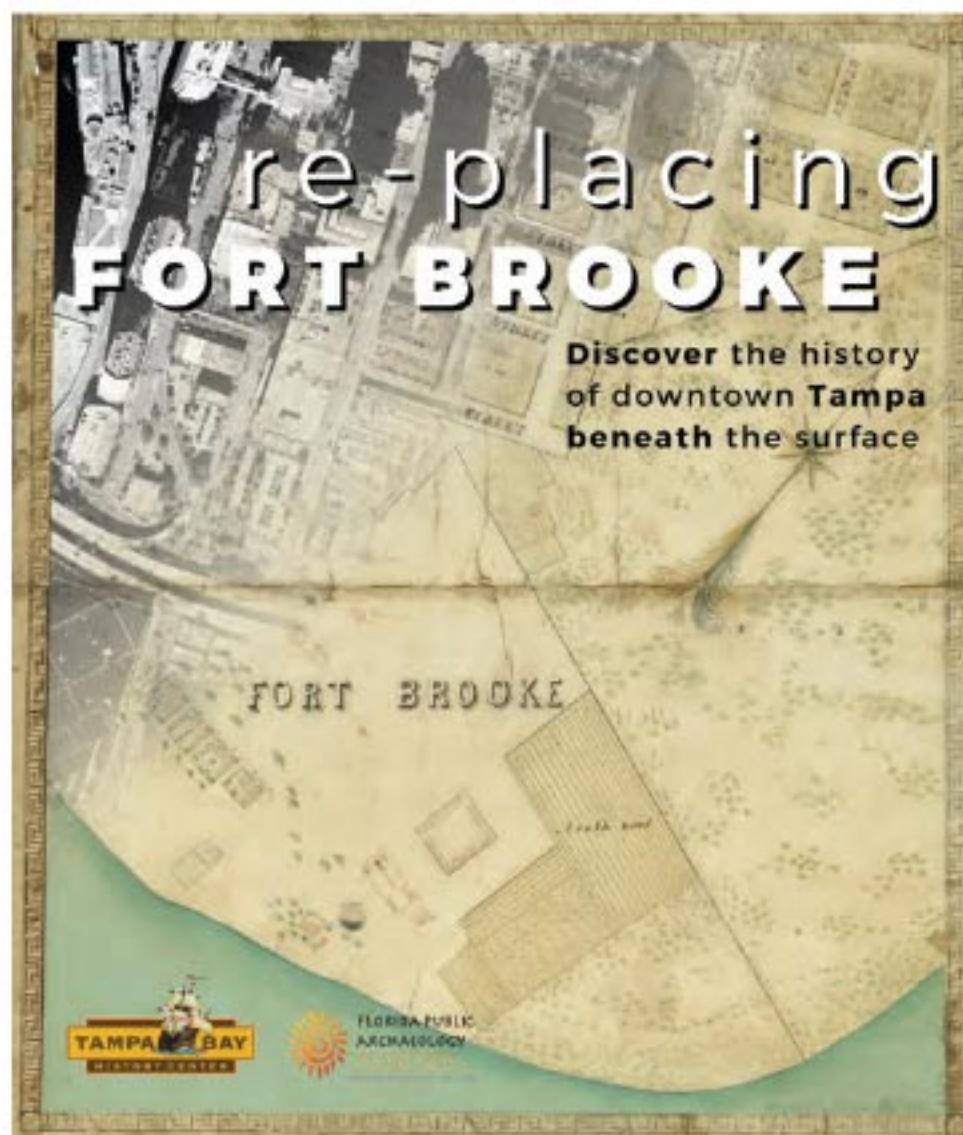
check out the Florida Archaeology Month website starting in March at www.FLarchmonth.org.

"Re-Placing" Fort Brooke Public Archaeology Day

On Saturday, March 5, from 12-2 p.m., the History Center will host archaeologists from FPAN and students from the University of South Florida, who will offer hands-on, family-friendly activities related to urban archaeology in Tampa and the Fort Brooke exhibit.

At 2 p.m. on Saturday, Rodney Kite-Powell, Director of the History Center's Touchton Map Library, will offer a tour of the exhibit.

The day will also include a historical bike ride tour of downtown and the original boundaries of Fort Brooke, offered by History Bike Tampa. The ride culminates at Cotanchobee Park, located directly in front of the History Center. More information about the bike ride is at historybiketampa.com.



The "Re-Placing" Fort Brooke exhibit opens February 20th at the Tampa Bay History Center. For more information, visit TampaBayHistoryCenter.org or call 813.228.0097.

FEATURED EVENT!

Want to have a say in how archaeological and historical resources are preserved in Florida?



Florida's Division of Historical Resources is sponsoring a series of regional meetings for residents to provide feedback on preservation-related activity around the state. To provide input, please consider attending a meeting near you:

Historic Carnegie Library
515 10th Avenue West, Palmetto, FL 34221, Feb 16th, 1-5 PM

Former Domestic Science Bldg
440 Second Avenue North, St. Petersburg, FL 33701, Feb 17th, 1-5 PM

For more info on these meetings go to <http://goo.gl/MXj6eU>

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The Florida Public Archaeology Network is dedicated to the protection of cultural resources, both on land and underwater, and to involving the public in the study of their past. Regional centers around Florida serve as clearinghouses for information, institutions for learning and training, and headquarters for public participation in archaeology.

For more information about archaeology and events in your area, check out our website or click on the images to the right to follow us on Facebook or Twitter.



www.flpublicarchaeology.org/wcrc
www.facebook.com/FPANwestcentral

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