



Trowel Bytes

FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK, NORTHEAST REGION

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FPAN, NE Center
Flagler College
74 King St.
St. Augustine, FL
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Our Mission is

"...to promote and facilitate the conservation, study, and public understanding of Florida's archaeological heritage through regional centers."

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Professionals with HART

In December, the center helped to bring archaeology awareness training to our region. The Amelia Island Museum hosted the event. Kevin Porter, from Florida's Department of State, came from Tallahassee to train participants.

Historical and Archaeological Resource Training (HART) is a free training workshop designed to help protect cultural resources. It teaches trainees about Florida's past and the materials left behind by people who lived here long ago. Participants also learn about laws that protect these

resources and how to determine if the laws have



Kevin Porter traces Florida's past for HART participants.

been broken. Finally, they find out about government agencies that work to protect cultural resources.

The one-day training brought together planners, park rangers, museum staff, and others. Twenty-five professionals came from four counties in the Northeast Region to learn about protecting Florida's past. FPAN staff was excited to continue working with local governments to preserve archaeological resources, and enjoyed meeting people from all over the region.

If you are interested in bringing this training to your community, please contact us.

Celebrate Florida Archaeology Month with FPAN!

Are you in a pickle trying to figure out what to do for Florida Public Archaeology Month? Join FPAN, Kingsley Plantation, and the University of Florida (UF) as we start the celebration on February 28!

Twice a year we work with UF and the rangers at Kingsley to share the plantation's interesting past with the public. This time, rangers will walk the grounds and share some of the plantation's history. Also, James Davidson will lead a tour and tell about the latest finds from the slave

quarters, the sugar mill, and Cedar Avenue structures.



Onlookers enjoy a ranger tour.

There is even more excitement in store on Kingsley Public Day. FPAN will reveal a brand new

activity for kids! The new Kingsley tarp helps children see a slave cabin through the eyes of an archaeologist. They can even "find" artifacts like the ones that the UF field school has found.

Bring the whole family to Kingsley Plantation and find out what life was like there nearly 200 years ago. The event lasts from noon to 4pm on Saturday, February 28. You can catch James Davidson's archaeology tour at 1pm and the guided ranger tour at 3pm.

Did You Know...

...that the Union transport *Maple Leaf* was destroyed by a Confederate torpedo during the early morning hours of April 1, 1864? The *Maple Leaf* sank to the bottom of the St. Johns River after hitting one of twelve Confederate mines along Mandarin Point. The steamship was carrying 400 pounds of cargo, mostly the equipment of three Union regiments and two brigade headquarters. In 1981, the *Maple Leaf* was located by St. Johns Archaeological Expeditions, Inc. Thousands of artifacts have been recovered and conserved from the site, which is now a National Landmark.



A painting of the *Maple Leaf* steamship.

We've Got Archaeology Covered

The center has developed two brand new hands-on activities for kids. Thanks to one of our student interns, we have two new archaeology tarps! Each tarp shows a bird's-eye view of a site that has been excavated and images of artifacts that were found there.

One tarp depicts the *Maple Leaf*, the Civil War steamship that sank near Jacksonville. We tested the tarp in the fall, along with a Boy Scout troop and the staff at the Mandarin Museum. Equipped with SCUBA masks, the boys got to "dive" on the *Maple Leaf* tarp. They worked together

to create maps of the site and find the artifacts that were left behind. Then they considered



Boy Scouts try out the tarp.

what could be learned about the people aboard the ship based on the objects found.

Our second tarp shows the layout of a slave cabin from Kingsley Plantation. Kids will have a great time learning about the artifacts that have been found there. They can see how some of the objects and building practices trace back to west African cultures. We will debut this tarp at our kickoff to Florida Archaeology Month on February 28th.

Would your children or students like to explore sites using our tarps? Let us know! The tarps are available to teachers for check out or for use in FPAN staff-led activities.

What is Public Archaeology?

Archaeologists study people of the past.

Public Archaeology focuses on increasing people's awareness of archaeology.

How can we help you?

The **Florida Public Archaeology Network** is a statewide effort to assist communities, local governments, and the Division of Historical Resources with outreach, education, and management of archaeological resources.



Upcoming Programs and Events

February 28, noon-4pm: Florida Archaeology Month Kickoff!! Kingsley Plantation
Public Archaeology Day in Jacksonville

March 14 & 15, 9am-6pm: Azalea Festival at Ravine Gardens
in Palatka

March 17, 6-8pm: Archaeology Night at St. Augustine
Southeast Branch Library

March 21, 11am-6pm: Lighthouse Festival at the St.
Augustine Lighthouse

March 21, 2-3:30pm: Timucua! Native American Program at
Faver-Dykes State Park

March 21-22, 9am-4pm: A Walk Back in Time at the Florida
Agricultural Museum in Flagler County

March 25-27: Underwater Symposium at the St. Augustine
Lighthouse

March 25, 7-9pm: Keynote Speaker for Underwater Symposium
Speaker: Russ Skowronek, author of *HMS Fowey Lost and Found*

March 28, 11am-4pm: *Maple Leaf Day* at the Mandarin Museum



Visitors explore the grounds during the St. Augustine Lighthouse Festival.

Contact us

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Northeast Center Advisory Board

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- Chuck Meide, Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program
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- Robin Moore, St. John's County Planning and Development
- Robin (Shorty) Robbins, City of Jacksonville
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