

Southeast Region

Quarterly Report –March 2021 Sara Ayers-Rigsby, MA, RPA, Director Malachi Fenn, Public Archaeology Coordinator Micheline Hilpert, MA, Administrative Assistant Diana Hutchison, Graduate Assistant Winston Miller, Graduate Assistant

HIGHLIGHTS

Outreach and Education: Fourth Annual Archaeobootcamp with the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area

This past March, the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) Southeast Office partnered with the Bureau of Land Management and the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse Outstanding Natural Area for their fourth annual Archaeobootcamp.

This program draws students from all over the country to learn about the science of archaeology and Florida's unique past. Typically held in person, the program in 2021 was conducted using a hybrid model combining virtual evening lectures for students across the United States with optional in-person fieldwork for local students. A total of sixteen students participated in the program. The students represented both local universities, like Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, and universities further away, with one student attending from the University of Hawaii.

The virtual portion of the program consisted of interactive evening classes focused on a range of topics. The first highlighted the Bureau of Land Management, featuring Associate Deputy State Director Natural Resources Anthony Bobo and Program Manager for the Jupiter ONA Peter De Witt. Other classes focused on technical skills such as QGIS with guest lecturer Dr. Lindsey Cochrane from the University of Georgia, photogrammetry, and scientific illustration. The final class consisted of a career panel with John Sullivan, State Archaeologist-Tribal Liaision and Deputy Preservation Officer for the Bureau of Land Management's Eastern States Office, Southeastern States District Office and Dr. Alexandra Jones of DC based non-profit Archaeology in the Community.

Students who came to the field had the opportunity to excavate a post-World War II era trash dump and process the artifacts on site. This was a valuable opportunity for many students with no prior field experience to real world skills that will be useful in their

future careers. Students also had the opportunity to interact with BLM and FPAN staff to ask questions about their career path and educational background.

In addition to the program for the students, activities on site were promoted to the general public. Over 50 people came to visit the physical excavation over the course of fieldwork in March, and live events including a guest lecture about the site's history from Josh Liller, Historian for the Jupiter Lighthouse and Museum, and a live Facebook event from the site and a subsequent Facebook live event from processing artifacts in the lab reached a combined total of 2,200 people.

Response to the program from graduates was positive, with one student noting in her final evaluation: "I truly enjoyed this program. I was unsure about getting into the field of archaeology because of how vast it is but now feel that it is way more accessible completely due to this bootcamp. One thing that may be odd but I thought was worth mentioning is that the diversity of the presenters...with the guest speakers both in gender and race made me feel so excited and comfortable about going into the field. As both a female and a person of color it was extremely comforting. I enjoyed learning about everyone's niche in the field (allowing me to see how many things you can specialize in within archaeology)...Thank you so much!"



Outreach and Education: Virtual Classroom

This quarter, FPAN Graduate Assistant Diana Hutchison created a virtual classroom featuring lessons about archaeology in South Florida. Students can navigate the site to learn more about the region, including monumental earthworks, shell tools, the Miami Circle, and many other highlights. Students can also learn more about archaeology through exploring a virtual laboratory and art galleries. Check out the virtual classroom <u>here</u>!



Photo 2-FPAN SE Virtual Classroom

Progress on Strategic Plan Objectives

- Goal 1: Thinking Like a Network By Delivery of Standardized Programs
 - FPAN SE/SW Staff have HMS programs for interested volunteers including a site visit to Bill Baggs State Park