

## **Northwest Region & North Central Region Quarterly Report**

October/November/December 2021

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Nicole Grinnan, RPA, Public Archaeologist  
Tristan Harrenstein, RPA, Public Archaeologist  
Megan Ashbrook, Public Archaeology Assistant  
Abby Stone, Public Archaeology Assistant  
Bria Brooks, Public Archaeology Assistant  
Caroline Peacock, Milton High School Special Project Assistant

A reprieve from the summer heat and rain this fall meant that FPAN staff could get back outside to offer plenty of safety-conscious in-person programming! Nicole and Mike Thomin (FPAN Destination Archaeology Resource Center) hosted several kayak tours this quarter, bringing kayakers to archaeologically-rich places like Deadman's Island (Gulf Breeze, FL) and Blackwater River (Bagdad, FL). Limited tour spots continue to fill up fast and, in most instances, participants have been very generous in their donations to FPAN afterward. In November, Nicole and Mike hosted another "Heritage Hikes" tour along the south loop trail on Garcon Point in Santa Rosa County. In December, Nicole, Mike, and partners at the UWF Historic Trust teamed up with local Pensacola businesses Ride More Bicycles and Pensacola Bay Brewery to host the first holiday-themed history bicycling tour of downtown Pensacola. Like the kayak tours, turnout was excellent, and spots filled very quickly. The tour was a unique opportunity to collaborate with new and longstanding partners, highlighting diverse local heritage and adding some winter solstice/holiday elements to the mix for a festive event. As with the kayak tours, post-tour reviews were very positive, and many participants made donations to FPAN. Barbara and Tristan have also been expanding in-person events in the North Central Region and hosted a "Heritage Monitoring Hike", in partnership with the Wildwood Preservation Society. As the weather continues to cool off, both regions have begun filling their schedule with festivals and other outdoor heritage celebrations as well. The North Central Region hosted an educational booth at several festivals, including those at our host, Maclay Gardens State Park. Additionally, North Central participated in festivals at the Tallahassee Museum and San Marcos de Apalachee Historic State Park.

Tristan and Barbara have been fielding numerous requests from DHR regarding historic African American cemeteries that have had public inquiries submitted via the Florida Historic Cemetery Inventory, a joint effort between FPAN and DHR to get more historic cemeteries listed on the Florida Master Site File. During this quarter, North Central staff visited a total of seven cemeteries and are still working on researching, documenting, and listing them accordingly. Both the North Central and Northwest Regions will continue to field these requests as they come in.

FPAN Northwest's Public Archaeology Lab successfully continued operations this quarter, with all volunteers and staff dedicated to keeping the lab space safe for all volunteers. For a change of pace, lab manager Megan Ashbrook coordinated with the UWF Archaeology graduate student Emily Talbert and the UWF Collections Manager Meghan Mumford to sort the precontact "Head Collection" (featured in Emily's thesis research). The collection is on permanent loan to the

university from a local archaeology avocational who excavated the collection in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Emily and Megan worked together with the UWF Archaeology Institute to draft special procedures for rough sorting the collection in the FPAN Public Archaeology Lab. In addition to the usual volunteer hours, Emily's time spent in the lab working with our volunteers has also provided additional service time to FPAN.

In October and November, Nicole and Della Scott-Ireton (FPAN Associate Director) helped facilitate *two* virtual Heritage Awareness Diving Seminars (HADS). The October HADS was well attended, with several dive instructor participants and a large delegation of divers from the Diving With A Purpose (DWP) organization. DWP hopes to incorporate the HADS curriculum into its summer citizen science work with the Youth Diving With A Purpose group in Biscayne National Park and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. FPAN also opened the October HADS to all previous HADS participants; several sat in to reinforce what they had learned in previous years. The November HADS was geared toward a group of dive instructors in Iceland who are working with a doctoral student on whose committee Della currently sits. While the group was smaller than the October HADS group, half of Iceland's dive instructors were represented!

In addition, Caroline Peacock continued her work with Milton High School's Anthropology class; Nicole was able to schedule and provide several in-person archaeology presentations to local civic organizations; "[Zoom into Archaeology](#)" virtual presentations continued every two weeks; graduate assistants Abby Stone and Bria Brooks represented FPAN at the very first Pensacola OAR Fest (a celebration of outdoor recreation); and graduate assistants Megan Ashbrook, Abby Stone, and Caroline Peacock represented FPAN at the first Florida Caverns State Park Caverns Cultural Celebration since the devastating 2018 Hurricane Michael. Tristan and Mike have also continued with the virtual "Archaeology Arcade" program. All of our virtual programs, along with other content videos, continue to be put on our YouTube page, which continues to experience an increase in subscribers.

Barbara and Tristan have started to work with various partners to do in-person indoor programs while maintaining a safe environment. This has included several hybrid programs in partnership with the Tallahassee Senior Center. These programs were conducted in-person with an option for participants to Zoom in if they preferred to participate remotely. Barbara also presented in-person programs to the Live Oak Gardening Club and at Maclay Gardens. To maintain a safe environment staff has been requesting that the audience present wear masks.

Finally, Nicole was able to work with Coco Design to roll out the new FPAN website in time for the November FPAN Board of Directors meeting. The new website provides more streamlined backend capabilities, allows for editor access to all FPAN staff, and better reflects FPAN's mission in the modern digital environment. While some aspects of the new website are still a work in progress at the end of this quarter, it serves as a much-needed update. Along with the website, Nicole also rolled out updated FPAN logos and identity standards.

## Current projects in-progress:

- Nicole Grinnan, Mike Thomin, and Della Scott-Ireton in conversations with Teniade Broughton (2020 Pensacola City Council District 5 nominee) and Les Burke of Junior Scientists in the Sea to help create an ongoing program that would certify underserved young people in the Pensacola community to SCUBA and then engage them with scientific projects, focusing on maritime archaeology. FPAN would work in an assistive capacity, potentially providing training to already-certified divers and coming up with archaeology-related curriculum aspects. \*
- Jeffery Robinson continues to collect and analyze 3D scan data for both his Master's thesis and for the Heritage Monitoring Scouts Grant.
- Nicole has co-authored an open source paper titled "[Getting Your Feet Wet: Barriers to Inclusivity in Underwater Archaeology](#)" that was published in December 2021 by *Advances in Archaeological Practice*.\*
- Nicole is overseeing the development of a new FPAN-managed "Museums in the Sea" website for Florida's Underwater Archaeological Preserves.\*
- Nicole Grinnan continues to work on a Ph.D. in Cultural Heritage with the University of Birmingham (UK)
- Barbara Clark is working with FSU Professor, Dr. Robert Cvornyek to document historic African American cemeteries in Panama City and track down the location of burials that were reinterred elsewhere as part of a legal agreement in the 1960s. \*
- Tristan Harrenstein continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Trail of Florida's Indian Heritage, working to rebrand the organization and meet their strategic goals.

*\*This project aligns with our regional diversity and inclusion goals and objectives*



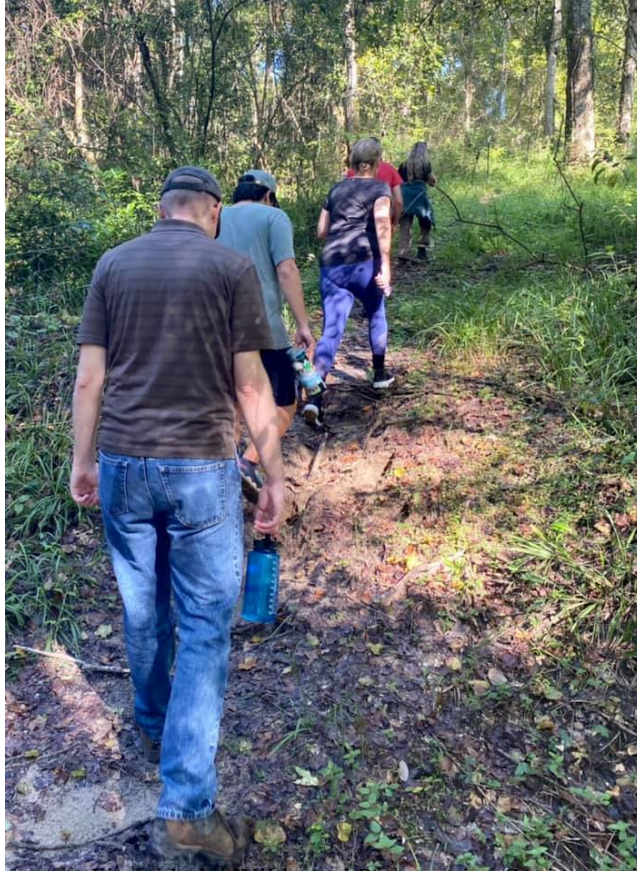
Mike and Nicole lead a small hiking group along the south loop trail in the Garcon Point Water Management Area. In recognition of Native American Heritage Month in November, the tour explored bigger themes related to Native American history in Northwest Florida and talked about the significance of several archaeological sites near the trail.



Graduate assistants Caroline Peacock, Abby Stone, and Megan Ashbrook (left to right) hosted an information booth about local history and archaeology at the Florida Caverns State Park's Cavern's Cultural Celebration in December 2021. The Park experienced severe damage during Hurricane Michael in 2018 and recently reopened to visitors.



Barbara took to social media to promote the Historic Cemetery Inventory form and website.



Tristan and Barbara, in partnership with the Wildwood Preservation Society, guided hikers through Fred George Greenway and Park to monitor archaeological sites, experience the unique geography of this location, and learn about local Native American culture.