



THE QUARTERLY READER

FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK - CENTRAL REGIONAL CENTER

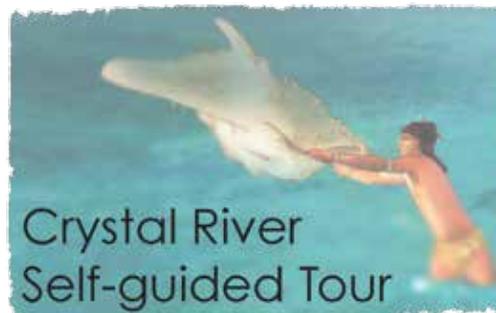
FALL 2015

Crystal River - Self Guided Tour

By: Nigel Rudolph

FPAN's Central Region is the only FPAN regional center located at a National Historic Landmark prehistoric mound complex. This location provides the center with a unique opportunity for outreach and education.

One opportunity we offer to the public to promote the Crystal River Archaeological State Park is guided tours. With a busy outreach schedule in and around the other counties within the Central Region, we are not always available to provide personnel to lead these tours. Working closely with Crystal River State Park staff, we have developed a self-guided tour for park visitors to use as a reference guide as they walk the paths at the Archaeological State Park.



Mound K

2

Mound K is a platform mound that researchers believed once had a building on top but no evidence of this has been found. Excavations show that this mound is made up of dirt and oyster shell mixed with broken tools, pottery and other food remains.



Mound K may have looked like this in the past.



If you look closely you can see remnants of a ramp that once ran up the side of the mound that now faces the sidewalk.

Midden B

4

Midden B is a large trash pile that is spread across the site. Not only did people throw away their trash here, but they also lived right on top of it.



Outline of location of Midden B



The midden is filled with artifacts leftover from people preparing, cooking, and storing food. We also find remnants of the tools they used to perform these activities such as broken pottery and remains of stone and shell tools.

Page from Crystal River Self-Guided Tour Flipbook

The flipbook provides a standardized history of the site and its fascinating archaeology. Presenting the most up-to-date archaeological findings, dates, and research in an easily digestible and graphically informative flipbook. Within the flipbook you will find a map of the site with each mound feature labeled, a brief yet thorough description of each of those features, a glossary of important terms, and a timeline of the site's prehistoric occupation. Images from the mural, Ancient Sunset, found inside the Crystal River Archaeological State Park Museum, unites the site in its current state with artistic and archaeological interpretations of life at the site during the first millennium AD.

Crystal River Self-Guided Tour flipbook are available now for visitors to borrow during their visit very soon, and we

are confident they will provide an enhanced experience at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DEC 19: History Bike Gainesville. First Magnitude Brewery. 4 - 6pm.

JAN 22: Moon Over the Mounds. Crystal River Archaeological State Park. 8 - 10pm.

JAN 26: Crystal River Culture and History Talk. Lake Region Library, Inverness. 10:30am - 11:30am.

JAN 27: Crystal River Culture and History Talk. Homosassa Regional Library, Homosassa. 10:30am - 11:30am.

FEB 19: Moon Over the Mounds. Crystal River Archaeological State Park.

FEB 28: Archaeology Works! SHELLS! Florida Museum of Natural History. Gainesville. 2 - 4pm.

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Focusing in on Crystal River - Docent Tours

By: Nigel Rudolph

In addition to the flipbook that is now available for visitors to borrow from the Crystal River Archaeological State Park, FPAN Central is working on several docent-led tours that focus on specific aspects of the Crystal River site.

These guided, interpretive tours will concentrate on aspects such as foodways of the prehistoric inhabitants, mortuary and ceremony activities, and ongoing protection and preservation of the archaeological site. Delving into specific facets of the site, we hope to provide the visitor with a comprehensive perspective of prehistoric life at Crystal River

and along the Nature Coast. The tours will be more concise than the standard park tour, running approximately 45 minutes and regularly scheduled in hopes of fostering return visits to the park.

The docent tours will contribute to the existing outreach opportunities the State Park offers for the public including the Eco-Heritage River Tours, Moon Over the Mounds night-time guided tours, and other activities that strengthen public understanding of the Archaeological Park. Keep checking FPAN Central's Facebook and website event page for more information on the docent-led tours at Crystal River Archaeological State Park.



Park visitors ascending Mound A at CRASP



(above) Dense oyster shell midden

New Display at CRASP

By: Nigel Rudolph

Rivers were once the highways of prehistoric Florida, and canoes were the primary mode of transportation for Native Americans living throughout the state. This was most certainly the case for the prehistoric cultures living along the Nature Coast.

FPAN recently had the privilege of helping orchestrate a new acquisition for the Crystal River Archaeological State Park Museum. Working closely with the Florida Division of Historical Resources and the Florida Park Service, FPAN was able to acquire a prehistoric dugout canoe donated to the FDHR by Barbara Basington-Crapps to be on display at Crystal River Archaeological State Park Museum. The canoe was recovered from Lake Geneva outside of Keystone Heights, Florida and was on display in a private home for nearly four decades. Donating the canoe to the State of Florida gave the Crystal River Parks the opportunity to acquire it on loan from DHR.

The 18 foot long vessel is on display in the museum just beneath the Ancient Sunset mural. The mural, which portrays a day in the life of prehistoric Crystal River, has several canoes within the scene along the riverbank. The relic dugout canoe on display just beneath the mural provides the visitor with a physical representation of the boats in the scene and the chance to see a unique artifact of Florida's past.



CRASP Mural Ancient Sunset with dugout canoe below

History Bike Gainesville II: *Heritage In Your Neighborhood*

By: Nigel Rudolph

We had another successful ride around town with History Bike Gainesville II. Progressing down the timeline of Gainesville history, we moved into postbellum Alachua County, with stops at significant sites within three of Gainesville's designated historic districts.

Now known as the "Bed and Breakfast" District, the Southeast Historic District was home to many of Gainesville's founding merchants, industrialists, and politicians. Many of the historic homes are now bed and breakfast inns after being rehabbed and restored to their former prominence. Our second stop during the tour was the 1857 Matheson House, located in what is now Sweetwater Park. Though the home was expanded over the years, it stayed within the Matheson family for nearly 140 years and reflects the growing prosperity of the young community of Gainesville.

From the SE Historic District we peddled our way into the NE Historic District, also known as the Duck Pond neighborhood. Many of the Queen Anne style homes and historic bungalows housed numerous movers and shakers in Gainesville including city



History Bike Gainesville riders in front of Baird House, SE Historic District, Gainesville.

mayors and presidents of the East Florida Seminary and its later manifestation, the University of Florida. Our stop at Roper Park was an opportunity for riders to learn more about the East Florida Seminary and how the military school became UF in 1905.

Crossing Main Street, HBG riders rode west into our final stop, the Pleasant Street Historic District. The traditionally African American neighborhood is one of the most important districts in Alachua County and was the first predominantly African American historic district to be added to the National Register of Historic Places. The neighborhood's origin arose just after the Civil War when former African American Union troops and their families settled on land they purchased and developed with newly emancipated skilled laborers.

Our first stop in the District was at the former location of the Union Academy, a Freedman's Bureau school built with Federal funds in 1867. Union Academy, along with local religious centers such as Mt. Pleasant United Methodist Church and Friendship Baptist Church, was the heart of the district and helped the neighborhood grow and prosper.



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Crystal River Archaeological State Park gets a new ranger

By: Nigel Rudolph and Kirrin Peart

Crystal River State Parks has moved through its first year with Park Manager, John Lakich, at the wheel and the positive momentum continues with new park personnel. We featured new Park Volunteer Coordinator, Marla Chancey in our last newsletter. In this edition, we introduce newest member of the team, Park Ranger Kirrin Peart.

“I am very excited to be working with Florida Park Service, especially having my career start out at Crystal River Archaeological State Park. My interest in Archaeology began many years ago during a ranger led program at Mesa Verde. After that program was finished, I knew I wanted to go into the field of cultural resources and that I wanted to be a Park Ranger. Following high school, I began working for the National Park Service as an interpretive ranger. I spent my summers at various National Parks, including Lassen, Olympic and Yellowstone. Upon returning to college, I attended Western Washington University, where I earned my BA in Anthropology with a concentration in Archaeology.

I came to Florida two years ago working as a ranger at Everglades National Park. Immediately I knew the born and raised Californian would be trading in her winter gear for a canoe. I fell in love with Florida and all it has to offer. Working at Crystal River Archaeological State Park means that each day I get to be doing what I love. I get to work as a park ranger and at a Pre Columbian Site. I am currently working to develop my own interpretive programs to share with the public. When I am not at the park, I can usually be found out on the water, either in a canoe or the keys.”



Moon Over the Mounds



Moon Over the Mounds has geared up again at Crystal River Archaeological State Park. For those unfamiliar with the event, it is a guided, nighttime, interpretive tour of the Crystal River mound complex. Tours are monthly during the full moon and led by knowledgeable park volunteers and archaeologists who guide guests along torch-lit pathways around the park. Walking the mound complex at night helps provide visitors with a different perspective of what prehistoric life might have been like for those living along the Crystal River. Moon Over the Mounds is by far one of the most popular recurring events at CRASP and I encourage everyone to come and enjoy this unique event.



CRASP - Mound A at night

Join the Crystal River State Parks, the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN), the Friends of Crystal River State Parks, and the Florida Coastal Offices to assist in the preservation of the natural and cultural resources of the region. Please contact **Nigel Rudolph** at snrudolph@usf.edu to become a FPAN volunteer.

Become A Volunteer!

Archaeology Works at Florida Museum of Natural History

FPAN Central is continuing to foster our relationship with the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville. Aside from participating in several tabling events throughout the year such as their *Ask A Scientist* event, we regularly present our *Archaeology Works* series at the museum. Our most recent workshop, *Archaeology Works: Bones*, presented this past October, was a hit. Our next workshop, *Archaeology Works: Shells*, is scheduled for Sunday, February 28th, 2016. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn how archaeologists study ancient shells to not only learn about the diets and tools of prehistoric Floridians, but also the environments they lived in.

Digging Up Dishes! Recipes from the Past



Moving into the fall season, the "R" months, it's time again to appreciate yet another delicious Gulf bivalve. Scallop season was over the summer and oyster season begins in the cooler months of the year. The oyster, more than any other shellfish, is symbolic of prehistoric life along the Nature Coast. Native Americans in Florida ate a lot of oysters and the large shell middens at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park are evidence of their appetite.

CHAR-GRILLED GULF OYSTERS

INGREDIENTS

- Two dozen fresh Gulf Oysters, shucked
- 1 stick unsalted butter
- Hot sauce to taste
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley, chopped fine
- 3 lemons
- 1 loaf crusty French style bread
- 1/4 cup parmesan cheese, grated

PREPARATION

- Preheat gas grill or fire up charcoal grill.
- In a small sauce pot, combine butter, hot sauce and lemon juice.
- Season the butter mixture with salt and fresh ground pepper.
- Put the small sauce pot with the butter mixture on the grill to melt. Stir butter mixture to combine.
- Taste butter mixture and adjust seasoning with more lemon or hot sauce if needed.
- Carefully place the half shell oysters directly on the grill.
- Cook for several minutes until the oysters start to bubble in their shell.
- Carefully ladle butter mixture over the oysters paying close attention to any fire created.
- Sprinkle cheese and parsley evenly over oysters.
- Serve oysters hot in the shell with fresh lemon and crusty bread!



ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: SHELLS



February 28th, 2016
2-4 PM

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: CANOES



May 22th, 2016
2-4 PM

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