



Assisting Local Governments; It's Just Part of the Job

By: Jeff Moates

When people ask me what we do here at FPAN West Central it's easy to show a few pictures from one of our great educational programs or talk about classroom visits and tabling events. But some of the most important work we do toward preserving archaeological sites often goes under the radar. One of our core work areas has always been assisting local governments in archaeological preservation efforts, and while these projects take much more time their results are perhaps the most fruitful. FPAN staff try to build relationships with local

decision makers in order to share our knowledge and experience in archaeology. In the coming months we hope to celebrate two more accomplishments on the local government front with the completion of these projects: the first phase of the online Florida Preservation Atlas and an archaeology training program for land managers and park staff in the City of St Petersburg.

Florida Preservation Atlas

The Florida Preservation Atlas is being designed to meet the needs of Certified Local Governments (CLGs) by providing a mapping



The Florida Preservation Atlas even has a snazzy new logo!

interface that connects multiple stakeholders in historic and archaeological protection and preservation with land use data and information related to preservation programs and ordinances.

The Florida Preservation
(Cont. on pg 5)

Inside this Issue:

Assisting Local Governments; It's Just Part of the Job	1, 5
Upcoming Events	2
Pine Level Makes it to the National Register of Historic Places; Let's Celebrate!	1, 3
What Makes Pine Level Special? An Interview with Carol Mahler	3
Junior Archaeologist Summer Camp Recap	4, 5

Pine Level Makes it to the National Register of Historic Places; Let's Celebrate!

By: Becky O'Sullivan

In the winter of 2009-2010 FPAN staff assisted with a public archaeology project led by USF graduate student Jana Futch as part of her Masters



The efforts of USF graduate Jana Futch led to Pine Level's listing.

Thesis work. The goal was to try to locate any remains of Old Pine Level in what is now an empty field and orange grove, and engage the public in its history by seeing what they knew about this long lost town.

From the DeSoto County Historical Society "Pine Level was established in 1866 as the new county seat of old Manatee County (formed in 1855). Although located at the geographical center of the 5,000-acre county, the

new town also moved the government from ... the Village of Manatee. Pine Level may have been considered a freedmen's town--as one of the first three families to settle there was African-American. As Reconstruction ended and Democrats gained control in 1876, the town gained businesses and population. When the county was divided in May 1887, Pine Level became the seat of the

newly formed DeSoto County until Arcadia was chosen in November 1888. The town gradually declined, and when the
(Cont. on pg 3)



TOP: Metal button or disk with a side-wheel steamer motif

*LEFT: Fragment from a circa 1880 Budweiser bottle
Images courtesy of Jana Futch*

Upcoming Events

Tampa Bay Shipwrecks of the Civil War

MONDAY 8/18, 6-7PM

Manatee Central Library
1301 Barcarrota Ave
Bradenton

The maritime battles of the Civil War employed a greater diversity of ships than any previous sustained naval action. Join FPAN West Central Director and underwater archaeologist Jeff Moates as he discusses these vessels and highlights the effort to control paths of trade and communication in the South during the Civil War... and what remains of these ships today.

Using Historical Maps in your Genealogy Research

SATURDAY 9/20, 11-Noon

Largo Public Library
120 Central Park Dr
Largo

FPAN West Central Public Archaeology Coordinator Becky O'Sullivan will discuss the ways different historical

maps such as Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, Plat maps, and Coastal Survey maps can be used in your research, as well as the many digital and paper sources for these maps, how to locate the map you need, and the possible information about your ancestors it might contain.

Dr. Geek's Science Fair!

SATURDAY 9/27, 10AM-5PM

South Florida Museum
201 10th St W
Bradenton

Come experience man's technology of past, present, and future! Travel back in time in H.G. Well's Time Machine to explore technology of the past with archaeologists from FPAN West Central, then tour the futuristic technology with exhibitors such as NASA and USF Robotics. For more information go to: <http://goo.gl/ojXwuo>

Archaeology Works: Bones

SATURDAY 10/11, 10-Noon

Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

Skeletons aren't just spooky decorations to put up around your house at Halloween; to archaeologists they are also important windows into the past. Just like other artifacts that archaeologists find, bones can say a lot about past people's diets, activities, and general health. Learn to identify different bones from the human body, as well as how archaeologists study them to learn about people in the past. For more information go to: <http://goo.gl/0vluvN>

Pine Level Public Art & Archaeology Day

SATURDAY 10/18, 11-2PM

Pine Level Church
9596 NW Pine Level St
Arcadia

The DeSoto County Histori-

cal Society and FPAN West Central will host the Pine Level Public Art and Archaeology Day on October 18, 2014 to learn more about the community and the people who lived there between 1866 and 1888 and to celebrate its listing on the National Register of Historic Places. In conjunction with the event, DeSoto Arts and Humanities Council is inviting artists to submit images of what they believe the community of Pine Level looked like during the years 1866 to 1900 as part of an art contest. For more information go to: <http://goo.gl/90QwR9>

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: SHIPWRECKS



FEATURED EVENT!

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: SHIPWRECKS

WHEN: Saturday, September 13th
10:00 AM - Noon

WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St Petersburg

Archaeologists don't just look for sites on land, sometimes they look beneath the waves for clues. When a ship sinks it becomes a sort of time capsule that archaeologists can use to answer important questions about past technologies and ways of life. Learn to identify different parts of a ship, as well as how archaeologists study their contents to learn about people in the past.

Registration is requested but not required. For more information go to: <http://goo.gl/Hc9Sux>

Pine Level Makes it to the National Register of Historic Places (Continued from pg 1)



USF students and volunteers help survey the grove where Pine Level once stood.

East and West Railroad was built two miles to the north in 1914, businesses shifted to that location." This economic shift meant the end for Pine

Level. Today the only structure that remains is the two-story Pine Level School, now part of the Pine Level Methodist Church.

As part of her fieldwork, Jana partnered with FPAN staff to lead a group of USF students and local volunteers in a survey of the area where Pine Level used to be. With only a visual surface survey and a few shovel tests she was able to find some tantaliz-

ing clues to the once thriving settlement (see artifacts on pg. 1). To find out more about Jana's work at Pine Level check out her Thesis at this link: <http://goo.gl/zz7t6r>

After graduation, Ms. Futch continued her work with the DeSoto County Historical Society and Pine Level by writing a nomination for the site to the National Register of Historic Places. Now that Pine Level has been deemed significant enough to list on the Nation-

al Register, FPAN staff and the DeSoto County Historical Society are teaming up to celebrate with a Public Art and Archaeology Day out at the site on Saturday, October 18th from 11AM-2PM. Archaeology exhibits and activities are planned, as well as several art competitions related to Old Pine Level.

For more information on the event or the art contests go to: <http://goo.gl/IHEqBH>

What Makes Pine Level Special? An Interview with Carol Mahler

By: Becky O'Sullivan

Below is an interview with Carol Mahler, an author of two books, educator, historian, and preservationist living in DeSoto County. Carol is a member of the DeSoto County Historical Society, an advocate for the preservation of Old Pine Level.

What do you think archaeology added to the established history of Pine Level? Has it helped us learn anything new or different from what you expected?

The artifacts discovered in Pine Level surprised us—especially the small metal disk with the steamboat on front and the Chinese symbol for "double happiness" on the back. It suggests connections with Pine Level not found in the historical chronicles. I was amazed at how concentrations of artifacts paired with historical data located the places where people lived and worked—and suggested information about them or raised additional questions.

What was the most challenging part of the NR nomination process, in your opinion? Did the fact that Pine Level is an archaeological site, as opposed to a standing structure or district, make it more or less difficult to show its importance?

Jana Futch deserves the credit for researching and writing the National Register Nomination for Pine Level. Her fieldwork and master's thesis demonstrated the wealth of artifacts and the conclusions that could be drawn from them. The

Florida National Review Board noted that Pine Level is one of only seven sites from the Reconstruction Era on the Florida Master Site File.

What are the short and long-term plans for informing the public about this site and its history? Any ideas for what you would like to see done in future?

The DeSoto County Historical Society hopes to add a new monument—acknowledging the National Register listing—to the Florida Historic Marker already in place. We are planning an exhibit of some of the Pine Level artifacts at the Pine Level Public Art and Archaeology Day on October 18, and we would like to install that exhibit in our Historical Research Library or Ingraham House Museum. Of course, Pine Level was the county seat of both Manatee and then DeSoto counties, so I would like to mark the routes that folks traveled and link historical sites throughout the region with Pine Level.



Carol (in red) helps out with the survey, looking for clues of Pine Level.

How can FPAN help with these goals (beyond the Public Day in October)?

The Florida Public Archaeology Network is an invaluable resource for historical societies like ours in rural counties. We are looking forward to working with FPAN on more research into Pine Level and its relationship to the rest of the region as well as our county's other historical sites.

For more information about the history of Pine Level check out this link: <http://goo.gl/cBfdq3>



Letter from Pine Level in 1898 showing the house of Eliza Green.

Junior Archaeologist Summer Camp Recap

By: Kassie Kemp

As summer comes to an end so do two weeks of fun in the sun with our Junior Archaeologist summer campers. For the past three years FPAN staff have partnered with the Alliance for Weedon Island Research and Education (AWIARE) to offer two week-long camps at the Weedon Island Cultural and Natural History Center in St. Pete. The beautiful Weedon Island Preserve is always the perfect setting for campers to learn about the past residents of Florida, how they interacted with their environment, and the techniques archaeologists use to study them. Each day, campers learned about a different aspect of archaeology through hands-on activities, experiments, and hikes.

Campers started the week off with archaeology basics: learning how to record an archaeology site



Kassie talks about the stages of making stone tools.

(and learning what a 'site' is), how to draw a map, and how to use a compass. The next few days focused on the stuff, or artifacts in archaeologist speak, that archaeologists find and use to learn about the past. The campers learned all about how stone tools were made and used and got to test their skills with the atlatl, a prehistoric hunting tool used by Native Americans thousands of years ago! Shells became known as the prehistoric "Swiss army knife" for all the ways that past peoples used them in their everyday lives. Many campers even came to appreciate the skill that went into making pottery 'the prehistoric way' when they took a stab at making their

own pots, incidentally with adorable results. Hikes got the kiddos outside to enjoy the environment within which Native Americans lived so closely. This allowed campers to get up close and personal with plants past people used that are still around today!

Though visiting the amazing museum exhibit at the Center was a close second, most campers' favorite part of camp was getting to participate in a real archaeological dig out at Weedon Island. Building their own archaeological site in a shoebox, learning about stratigraphy (layers in the soil), and how to dig carefully prepared the kids to help guest experts from AWIARE in excavating a real site. On

the kids got to experience a free-for-all of archaeology fun. Our archae-olympics relay race split the campers into two groups and had them competing in archaeology related tasks at different stages. These tasks including using an atlatl to throw a dart, carrying a "precious" artifact to safety (a water balloon in reality), and identifying which time period certain artifacts belonged to. The kids had a blast running around the Preserve and the winning team got extra water balloons for the end of the day water balloon fight!

The Junior Archaeologist summer camp is meant to be a fun, hands-on experience for the kids, but it is also important to us here at FPAN that *(Cont. on pg. 5)*



Thursday, Dr. Bob Austin showed the campers the proper way to use a trowel and how to sift dirt to discover artifacts in a screen. This rare experience will hopefully turn these Junior Archaeologists into future advocates for the preservation of archaeological sites.

On the final day of camp,

ABOVE: Campers get their hands dirty and experience archaeology first-hand in a real excavation of a small lithic scatter out at the Weedon Island Preserve.



Becky talks to campers about the ways stone tool technology changed through time... and what that might tell us about past people.

Local Governments (Continued from pg 1)

Atlas is an outgrowth of a survey of Florida counties and municipalities completed by FPAN in 2007. FPAN coordinated the survey effort on behalf of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, Inc. and the Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State to collect important data from local

governments related to preservation programs and ordinances. As a next step, FPAN staff is using data from CLGs located in the Tampa Bay area to create an online management tool. The Florida Preservation Atlas could be used by state, regional, and local officials and planners; local historical and preservation societies and groups;

preservation consultants; and the local citizenry to identify existing historic preservation ordinances, financial and tax incentive programs, grant and loan programs, land use data, and public education opportunities.

City of St Petersburg Archaeology Training

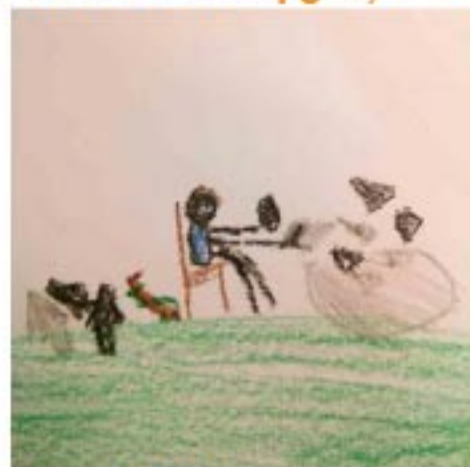
The remains of several archaeological sites exist in a

few City of St Pete parks and are an important part of each park's resource management. To continue to develop a more comprehensive plan of best practices at Maximo, Abercrombie, Pinellas Point Mound, and Jungle Prada parklands, Parks and Recreation department staff asked us to create a workshop to help provide information for on-the-ground care as well as improvements in communication across city departments for different levels of city staff. Once complete, we'll look to offer this training to other municipal departments throughout our regions and add to our ever growing workshop series *Archaeology Works*.

Summer Camp Recap (Continued from pg 4)



We might not find obsidian in Florida but we do find chert! the campers walk away with a better understanding of what archaeology is and why it's important. Every day, the kids were given a topic



Stone tools don't grow on trees, they take careful manufacture. related to what we had learned. Their task was to draw us a picture of what they remembered or thought about that specific topic. For

example, we asked the campers to draw something related to stone tools, showing how they made them or used them. The results were phenomenal, creative, and also absolutely adorable. This activity really showcased how much they learned and helped us to judge how our activities were conveying the information we were trying impart. The moral of this story is, you CAN have fun while learning and archaeology is a great way to do it.



Sign at Maximo Park, St Pete.

FPAN West Central
4202 E Fowler Ave, IIEC 116
Tampa, FL 33620-6758

Phone: 813.396.2325
Fax: 813.396.2326

Director: Jeff Moates
jmoates@usf.edu
Public Archaeology Coordinator:
Becky O'Sullivan
rosulliv@usf.edu

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



FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK
West Central Regional Center



EXPERIENCE ARCHAEOLOGY