



OCTOBER - 2023

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

This month we continue our series on Florida history with Time Sifters Board Member, Mary Maisel, who will tell us about her work at **Gamble Plantation**. Next month we have Dr. Maranda Almy Kles who will tell us about **the Cuban Fishing Rancheros in Sarasota and SW Florida**. Please come join us at the Selby Library at 6:00 pm. The lectures are free to the public.

We continue our series on page 3 of the work our local Colleges/ Universities are doing training the next generation of Archaeologists with a story by Ana Maria Navas-Mendez, about the New College Lab.

Darwin "Smitty" Smith, President
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Bradenton Train Depot 1902
Photo: Flickr

October 18 - at 6:00 PM at the Selby Library in downtown Sarasota

Food and Foodways at Gamble Plantation Historic State Park

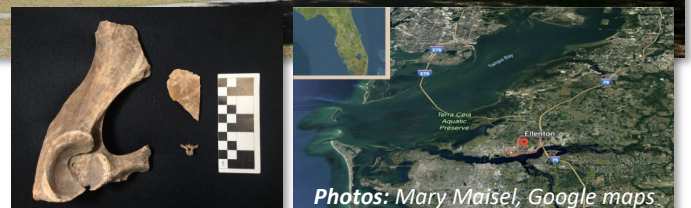
Mary Maisel, MA in Applied Archaeology
Archaeological Consultants Inc.



The Gamble Plantation sits on the banks of the Manatee River in Ellenton, FL and has been home to many different occupants since its construction in 1844. Archaeological research at the site has recovered material culture spanning the entire occupation of the estate. One of the most universal aspects of life that these many residents shared is that they all prepared, consumed, and disposed of food and food waste in the same midden on the property. This presentation will discuss the examination of the faunal remains recovered at the site to offer a snapshot of non-native foodways on the Florida frontier.

Mary S. Maisel is an archaeologist living and working in Tampa. Mary holds a Master's in Applied Anthropology from USEF, specializing in zooarchaeology with additional skills in human skeletal excavation and analysis. Mary currently works with Archaeological Consultants Inc. In south Florida, Mary has worked on the Fort Brooke estuary cemetery, Reflections of Manatee's "Archaeology of Freedom" at Manatee Mineral Springs Park, and several sites featured on 60 Minutes (Grave Injustice). She has previously been employed by the Smithsonian Institution's

Arctic Studies Center where she worked as a field tech and administrative associate. During her time with the Smithsonian, she worked at archaeological sites in Newfoundland, Labrador and Quebec, Canada as well as Smith Mountain Lake, VA.



Photos: Mary Maisel, Google maps

Notes from a Time Sifter

Hurricanes that Affected History

By Evelyn Mangie, Time Sifters Board Member

Hurricanes are tropical storms that have winds of more than 74 miles per hour. They originate in the equatorial regions of the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, and the Pacific Ocean. They usually cause great property damage as well as loss of life, but they can also affect the way history unravels.

For example, in the 16th century, the Spanish and the French were fighting to control the area that is now Florida. The French built **Fort Caroline** (Jacksonville) less than 40 miles north of the Spanish colony, **St. Augustine**. In 1565, the French sent their fleet from Ft Caroline to attack the Spanish at St. Augustine but a **hurricane blew the French fleet south** where they wrecked off of what is now Cape Canaveral.

That left Fort Caroline unprotected, so the Spanish went back and attacked the unprotected Fort Caroline and slaughtered the French settlers as well as the survivors of the French fleet. That ended French attempts to colonize Florida.

Had the French been able to defeat the Spanish and take Florida, they could have joined it with their territories in Canada and claimed the entire east coast. That would have kept the English off of the north Atlantic coast. Instead, their defeat left the coast open to



Photos: leeduigon.com, Encyclopedia Britannica, Getty Images, Wikipedia, Seafarer Exploration, Alani Maritime Museum.

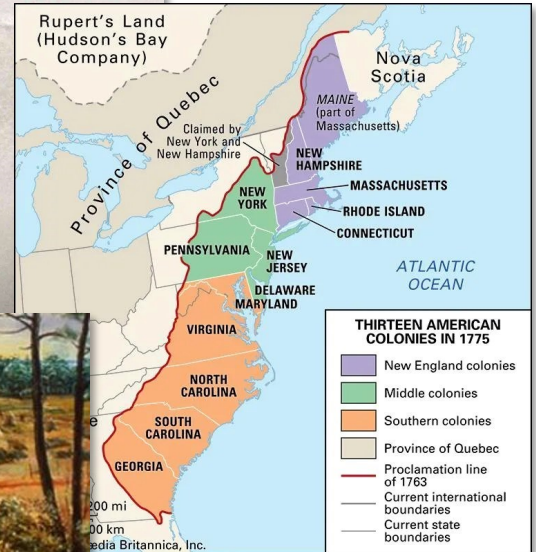


the English to establish settlements in North America.

Another hurricane almost ended British attempts to colonize Virginia. The first settlers

came to Jamestown in 1609. The land was poor and fresh water was scarce, so the settlers sent ships back to England for urgent supplies. On the way back to Jamestown, the supply ships were blown off course by a hurricane that forced them to stop in Bermuda where they spent a year building

two new ships to get supplies to the colony. By the time the ships reached Jamestown, **nearly 90% of**



the colonists had died of starvation and the rest were ready to abandon the colony altogether. A survivor wrote an account of the storm that inspired **William Shakespeare**, in 1611, to write his play, *The Tempest*, about a violent storm that caused a shipwreck, his last but most enjoyable play.

Ships were the major loss from hurricanes in the 18th century,

but the wrecks launched a new enterprise, **piracy on the sea**. It began in 1715 when a hurricane sank 12 ships carrying gold, silver, and jewels as they sailed along the coast of Florida. Thousands of treasure hunters flocked there to search the 30-mile stretch of coast along what is now Vero Beach. Most searchers didn't find any treasure, but they were all seduced by the idea of getting rich

Continued on page 4 ...

In the Lab - Florida Style

Analyzing Panamanian majolica production in the lab.

By Ana Maria Navas-Mendez, Illinois State University, and Ariana Guerin, New College of Florida

The New College of Florida (NCF) students participated in the laboratory analysis of ancient ceramics from Old Panama (1519), Panama. This Spanish colonial town is the oldest European settlement on the Pacific Coast of the Americas and one of the few sites with evidence of majolica (tableware) production. In 1962, John Goggin from the University of Florida and his students conducted archaeological research at Old Panama. Since 1967, the materials collected – including colonial pottery and fragments of the saggars, pins, and cockspurs used in the kilns – have been preserved at the Florida Museum of Natural History. As part of Dr. Ana Navas-Mendez's project focused on ceramic production and distribution in colonial Panama, NCF students contributed to analyzing and reconstructing the saggars. In the lab, students learned about descriptive and scientific methodologies for the study of ceramics. The lab work also included collaborating with the Sarasota Clay Company to build replicas of the materials reconstructed.



New College
THE HONORS COLLEGE of Florida

Photos: Ana Maria Navas-Mendez, and Ariana Guerin.

Continued from page 2 ...

Hurricanes ...

quick, and many mariners began stealing from ships before they wrecked, while still at sea. This became "the Age of Piracy" when pirates like Black Beard and Black Sam robbed more than half of the merchant ships in the Caribbean and the Atlantic. There were more than 5000 active pirates robbing ships during this period.

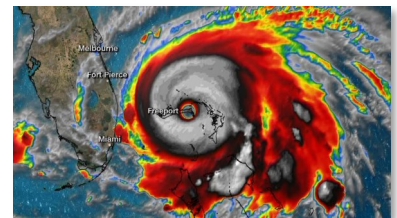
A hurricane in 1772 provided an important opportunity for **Alexander Hamilton**. As a teenager, he lived in St. Croix, an island in the Caribbean, when a fierce hurricane pounded the island. Alexander wrote a news article describing the storm, "The roaring of the sea and wind, fiery meteors flying about it in the air, the prodigious glare of almost perpetual lightning, the crash of the falling houses, and the ear-piercing shrieks of the distressed, were sufficient to strike astonishment into Angels." His writing talent impressed some businessmen in

St. Croix, who contributed enough money to send the young Alexander to the American colonies to continue his education. There, Alexander studied at King's College (Columbia University) where he refined his anti-British views, wrote pamphlets supporting the colonial cause, joined the American Revolution, and became *one of our Founding Fathers*. He was Secretary of the Treasury during George Washington's presidency and established the U.S. financial system.

One of the most important hurricanes to the U.S. was in 1780. It damaged 40 French transport ships that were anchored in the Caribbean. The French had agreed to help the Americans fight the British, so to protect the rest of their ships in the 1781 hurricane season, they moved their fleet from the Caribbean to the Virginia coast. That put

them in a position to block the British from escaping during the Siege of Yorktown (September 28-October 19, 1781). Lord Cornwallis was forced to surrender, a decisive defeat that ended the American Revolution.

At least two major hurricanes hit the United States every year. These are only a few stories about history-changing hurricanes. For an interesting read on the topic, see Eric Jay Dolin's *A Furious Sky: The Five-Hundred Year History of America's Hurricanes*.



What Lies Beneath

A Showcase and Exhibit into the Investigation of Unmarked Burial Grounds in Hillsborough County

USF Department of Anthropology
September 11 at 8:06 PM · 📍

USF's Institute for Forensic Anthropology & Applied Science presents "What Lies Beneath: The Search for Unmarked Burial Grounds in Hillsborough County"

ABOUT THE EVENT

Join us for the grand opening of our captivating exhibit, What Lies Beneath. This exhibit features a multi-year, interdisciplinary investigation into unmarked burial grounds in Hillsborough County, Florida.

The exhibit is open to the public from September 15, 2023 – January 30, 2024, in The Waterman Exhibit Gallery located in the Social Sciences Building (SOC) at the USF Tampa campus.

At the grand opening, hear from those who worked on the investigation as they provide a brief overview of the project and their key findings. Remarks and acknowledgments will be delivered by Executive Director of USF's Institute for Forensic Anthropology & Applied Science, Dr. Erin Kimmerle and the Tampa Bay History Center's first Curator of Black History, Fred Hearn, among others.

Discover the stories behind the exhibit and be a part of this remarkable journey! Light refreshments will be available.

Event Date & Time
Date: Friday, September 15, 2023
Time: 10:00 A.M.

Event Location
University of South Florida
Social Science Building (SOC) Foyer
12320 USF Genshaft Drive, Tampa, FL 33620
The Waterman Exhibit Gallery is located in SOC 111 on the 1st floor.

Register here: <https://www.usf.edu/programs/what-lies-beneath.aspx>



Speakers for 2023/2024

All are at 6:00 PM live at the Selby Library
1331 First St., Sarasota

Time Sifters Archaeology Society is pleased to announce our 2023 - 2024 Fall schedule of presentations. All lectures will start at 6:00 PM and are free. Each presentation will be about one hour with time for questions and answers. Please come and join us.

September 20
Cape Canaveral Archaeological Mitigation Project:
Seven years of Archaeology and Mitigation at
Cape Canaveral Space Force Station
Tom Penders

October 18
Food and Foodways
at Gamble Plantation Historic State Park
Mary Maisel, MA

November 15
Guns, Rum, and Peace Flags:
Cuban Fishing Ranchos in Sarasota and SW Florida
Dr. Maranda Almy Kles

January 17, 2024
The Nine Lives of Florida's Famous Key Marco Cat
Austin Bell



Photos: University of Central Florida, awesomeoc.com, sarasota.com, healthyfly, Wikipedia, Pinterest, Mary Maisel

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