

Northwest & North Central Regions Quarterly Report

July/August/September 2021

Barbara Clark, RPA, Director
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

FPAN's Northwest and North Central Regions were both very excited to ramp up safety-conscious in-person programming this quarter! Over the course of the last three months, Nicole and Mike (FPAN's Destination Archaeological Resource Center) hosted several kayak tours on local waterways like Pensacola Bay, Deadman's Island, and Blackwater River. All tours have been completely booked prior to the tour date and continue to be popular. Tour group sizes are typically restricted to 15 people; with smaller group sizes, FPAN Northwest staff feel that they can be most attentive to participants and make sure that outreach objectives are met. The overwhelmingly positive feedback and generous donations following tours reinforces staff assessment of the tours' success. In addition to hosting at least once-monthly kayak tours, Nicole and Megan worked hard to reopen the Public Archaeology Lab in August. As FPAN's lab space is indoors, staff have decided to limit the number of volunteers in the lab to eight people at one time. Staff are also encouraging frequent handwashing and mask-wearing for volunteers. Volunteers were eager to return and the lab has also had a number of new volunteers. In August and September, the lab totaled 12 individual volunteers contributing 214 hours of their time! Additionally, Caroline Peacock continued her work with Milton High School's Anthropology class. Over the last year, she has worked with the Santa Rosa County School Board in getting permission to open excavation units on the Milton High School grounds. She was successful in these efforts and will be working with students to provide the unique experience of conducting archaeology "in their backyard." During this quarter, Nicole also was able to schedule and provide several in-person archaeology presentations to local civic organizations like the Pensacola Chapter of the Rotary Club, UWF's Leisure Learning group, and the Dogwood Garden Club.

Barbara and Tristan have begun to offer Heritage Monitoring Scouts monthly hikes, which function both as local tours and an opportunity to monitor sites along the route. There has been a lot of interest with the local Tallahassee hiking community and there are plans to continue to offer it in the Tallahassee area, but also expand to neighboring communities as well. The North Central region has also participated in several festivals as the state parks begin to offer more in-person programming. They have participated in two programs at Maclay Gardens and one at San Marcos de Apalache, with several more planned at area state parks in the coming months. The Tallahassee Senior Center is also starting to offer hybrid programs and we have several programs planned with them. Staff has really enjoyed reconnecting with our partners and having the opportunity to see them and their members in person! Barbara was able to offer an in-person lecture to the Friends of Maclay Gardens and the public and will be offering future lectures there

in the coming months. Although the in-person events have picked up, both regions are offering virtual programming as an option and will continue doing so.

In assistance to the UWF Department of History, FPAN Northwest Region and Coordinating Center staff helped welcome the North American Society for Oceanic History (NASOH) during their 2021 annual meeting in Pensacola. Nicole and Mike provided technical support for the hybrid meeting as some attendees came in person and others attended remotely. Della helped coordinate daily logistics and the meeting schedule.

In July and August, Nicole and Mike assisted former FPAN Public Archaeology Assistant Jeffery Robinson with the scanning several local sites at risk with FPAN's FARO 3D laser scanner. The scanned sites were identified by Jeffery as a part of his UWF Master's thesis and include notable archaeological sites at risk like Butcherpen Mound in Gulf Islands National Seashore and Middle Midden on Santa Rosa Island. FPAN staff and Jeffery will continue to create scans of these sites over time to track any changes, particularly those caused by climate impacts. The scans of Butcherpen Mound will also be used to support FPAN's Heritage Monitoring Scouts Florida Special Category Grant. Barbara and Tristan re-scanned the Butler Mill site at Lake Jackson Mounds Archaeological State Park as part of the HMS Special Category Grant. While out there, several hikers and a small home school group happened by and they were able to take time to discuss the scanning process and HMS with them.

After a brief summer hiatus, "Zoom into Archaeology" presentations restarted in September with presentations by FPAN staff (Nicole) and Adrienne Walks at UWF Historic Trust. The Northwest Region's "Zoom into Archaeology" series has been a virtual mainstay with some very well-attended programs over the course of the last year. Recorded versions of "Zoom into Archaeology" also continue to be popular on the [FPAN YouTube channel](#). Additional programs are scheduled twice per month for the rest of the fall semester! Tristan and Mike (with Barbara as chat moderator), have continued their Archaeology Arcade series on Twitch. This quarter one of our most popular Archaeology Arcade programs was with Ardres Garzon, who showed us around his fantastic recreation of an ancient Ecuadorian landscape all built in the popular online game, Minecraft. This recreation features information based on archaeology that has been done in there and is available for educational purposes.

Finally, the Northwest Region was very pleased to welcome Bria Brooks as a new FPAN Graduate Assistant in August! Bria will be working with FPAN's Northwest Region over the next three years as she pursues her Master's with UWF's Department of Anthropology.

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 a paper titled "Getting Your Feet Wet: Barriers to Inclusivity in Underwater Archaeology" that has been accepted by *Advances in Archaeological Practice* as a forthcoming publication.
- Nicole Grinnan is overseeing the development of an updated FPAN website that will increase functionality for FPAN staff and be more user-friendly to website visitors.
- Nicole Grinnan is overseeing updates to the FPAN brand, including a re-imagined logo, that will roll-out with the new website.
- 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)
- Tristan Harrenstein continues to serve on the board of Trail of Florida's Indian Heritage, as Chair of the Marketing Committee and a member of the Programming Committee.
- Barbara Clark continues to serve as Chair of the Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation.
- Barbara Clark continues to serve as the appointed archaeologist for the Leon County/Tallahassee Advisory Committee on Quality Growth.
- Barbara Clark continues to serve as Secretary of the Northwest Florida maritime Landscape Alliance for Preservation, Inc.

Diversity and Inclusion Efforts:

- Northwest Region's efforts to establish a program with the Junior Scientists in the Sea.
- The blog continues to promote and educate readers and followers about different heritage months and celebrations, although, as in-person programs pick up, the blog has gone from weekly posts to twice a month.
- All staff continue to incorporate diversity, social justice, and inclusion messages in programs as appropriate.
- Nicole's upcoming publication, "Getting Your Feet Wet: Barriers to Inclusivity in Underwater Archaeology" and Tristan's upcoming book chapter "Don't Loose Your Head: Tackling the Confederate Monument Debate in the South".
- Archaeology Arcade, Zoom into Archaeology, and other programs seek out guests from diverse backgrounds and try to find themes relating to heritage celebrations as appropriate.



WUWF host Sandra Averhart interviews FPAN Executive Director Dr. William Lees during a 3D-scanning session at Middle Midden on Santa Rosa Island. WUWF is hoping to put together a story on the effects of climate change at archaeological sites and what is being done to preserve them.



UWF Historic Trust's Adrienne Walker helps FPAN Northwest Region staff lead a kayak tour along Blackwater River. During the tour, we explored the interplay between the environment and human habitation in the area.



Barbara takes a crack at learning to use the FARO, with Tristan's instruction. Both Tristan and Barbara went out to Butler Mill to re-scan the site using the FARO laser scanner.



Tristan interactions with visitors to the FPAN booth during Maclay Gardens State Park's Junior Ranger Jamboree.