



# The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



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Newsletter of the Society

September 2001

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Lisa Weier

## Historic Preservation in Miami

Join us for an informative evening of discussion, slides and interesting artifacts with Jorge Zamanillo, Curator of the Object Collections at the Historic Museum of Southern Florida. Jorge will enlighten and update everyone about the preservation of cultural resources in the City of Miami. The slide presentation will include ongoing and future projects in the City of Miami that may have an impact on cultural resources. Jorge will also review what has happened with archaeological and historic sites and their preservation in the past within the City of Miami and throughout Miami-Dade County.

In addition, a selection of objects from the Historical Museum of Southern Florida will be on display, including a variety of complete prehistoric ceramic vessels from Southwest Florida and other artifacts/objects not exhibited before.

For those who may not know, Jorge is also a board member of the City of Miami's Historic and Environmental Preservation Board. Prior to joining the museum staff last Fall, he worked for the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy in Miami. Except for going away to school and working one year outside the country, he has worked in the field of South Florida Archaeology since 1988 when he made the mistake of volunteering at the Joe Robbie Stadium site to "help out for a few weeks".

Jorge is currently working on a total makeover of the prehistoric "First Arrivals" exhibit area of the museum, which will include the interpretation and display of artifacts from the Cutler Fossil Site and Brickell Point/Miami Circle Site.

Anyone wishing to possibly donate artifacts (historic or prehistoric) to the museum should contact Jorge at [objects@historical-museum.org](mailto:objects@historical-museum.org). Please mark your calendars to hear Jorge on Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 N.W. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Call Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 for directions.

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# Curious Spire Holes

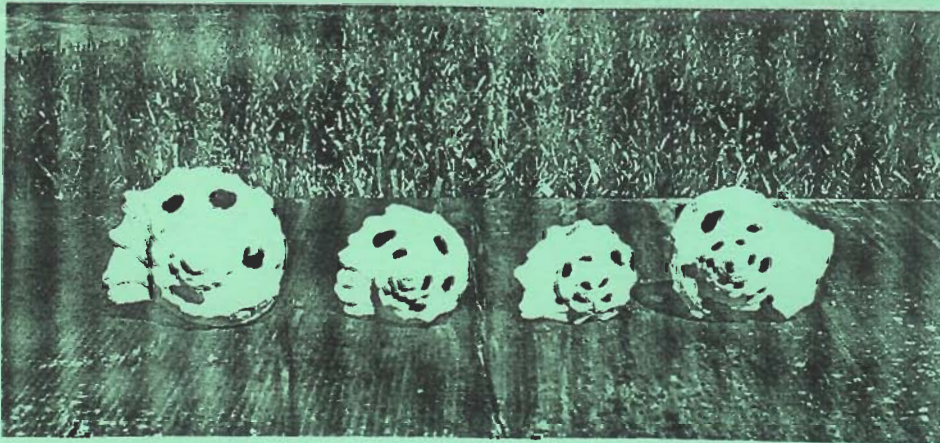
Article submitted ASSF Member by Bill Lyons

Occasionally artifacts turn up that cannot be identified. The four shells in the accompanying photograph fall into that category. They all have numerous holes in the spire area and are all left-handed whelks.

From left to right the first and largest shell was a surface find from Key Largo. It contains 4 large holes in the spire and was definitely a tool, consisting of a large notch in the outer whorl, a hole opposite the notch, and a worked columella.

The next two shells are surface finds from Chokoloskee Island. The larger shell contains 7 holes in the spire. It does not show any signs of being a tool although the outer whorl is chipped back – being one of the first steps in making a tool. The smaller one contains 8 holes in the spire. Although the columella and outer whorl are broken, it was definitely a tool, indicated by a hole opposite of where a notch would have been.

The last shell is a surface find from the keys and was donated by Jim South. If not broken out on the bottom of the spire it would have contained 12 holes. The columella is worked indicating it was a tool.



*From left to right: 1. Key Largo, 2. & 3. Chokoloskee, 4. Keys (Jim South)*

More of these shells have been found but I have never seen a report on them. A collector on the West Coast, some years ago, had shown me one from his collection and remarked that he had a few others.

It would be nice to have a common name for these artifacts and also gather opinions as to what purpose the spire holes served.



Don't forget to checkout:

Dade Heritage Trust's Web Site at  
<http://dadeheritagetrust.org/news.shtml>

For information on their latest preservation projects. Currently presented is the 2<sup>nd</sup> list of the "Ten Most Endangered Sites" in Miami-Dade County. In an effort to educate the community about threats to historic properties and public parks, Dade Heritage Trust has launched a weekly television series on Mondays at 2:00 p.m., Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m., and Fridays at 8:30 a.m., entitled "Speak Up for Preservation," on WLRN-17. Cable-TAP Community Station.



Future shows are dedicated to the Miami Circle, Miami-Dade County's threatened public

parks, including Brickell Park, Bicentennial Park and The Everglades and Biscayne National Park, the Miami River, Virginia Key beach, the Redland, the Freedom Tower, the Gusman Center, Miami Beach's historic hotels, the Lummus Park neighborhood, the historic Curtiss Mansion in Miami Springs and Little Havana's historic wood frame bungalows.

For more information call (305) 358-9572.

## Screen like a Banshee!

Please come out and help screen artifact-rich dirt rescued from the Bamboo Site, located at the Everglades Outpost just outside of Florida City. Although we've been screening for sometime, there is plenty left to sift. Any help is appreciated and no experience is necessary! Address: 35601 S.W. 192 Ave. Call 305-247--8000 for directions.

### Up-Coming Conference:

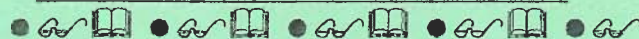
2001 Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC)

November 14-17, 2001

The Marriott Hotel, Chattanooga, Tennessee. For more information contact their website at: <http://www.uark.edu/campus-resources/seac/seac2001.html>

### ASSF CHRISTMAS DINNER

This year's upcoming ASSF Christmas Dinner will be at the newly restored historic Redland Hotel in downtown Homestead. Look for more news to follow in coming newsletters.



**Pop-Up Book Show** by ASSF member Gerrye Robert Lebowitz (Christine Meland's aunt). She will be displaying her collection of pop-up books at the Broward Public Library (Broward Blvd. and Andrews Ave), from Sept. 15 - Jan. 6, from 7-9:00 p.m. Don't miss the Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> Opening Reception which includes an introduction to Folklore of Central America. The show will be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor of the library. Gerrye is a member of the Fontanada Society, whose members collect rare books.



**Florida Anthropological Society**  
**FAS membership application/renewal form**

YES, I want to join FAS. I enclose \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- INDIVIDUAL, \$25    FAMILY, \$30    INSTITUTIONAL, \$25  
 SUSTAINING, \$40 OR MORE    PATRON, \$100    LIFE, \$500

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:      FAS Membership  
                  Terry Simpsons, CGCAS  
                  P.O. Box 82255  
                  Tampa, Florida 33682

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA**  
**ASSF membership application/renewal form**

I have read and will abide by the Objectives and Code of Ethics of ASSF listed below, and I wish to apply for membership.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (w) \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_

- CHECK ONE:**    New Member    Renewal  
**CHECK ONE:**    Individual (\$20)    Family (\$25)

Mail to: Barbara Tansey  
 ASSF Membership  
 2495 N.W. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Miami, FL 33142

**ASSF CODE OF ETHICS:**

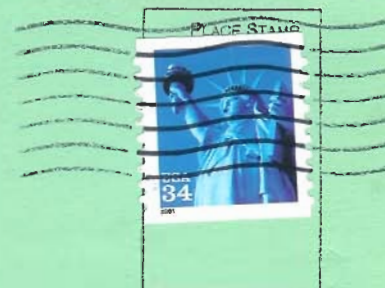
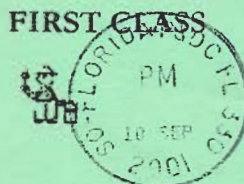
- Members of the Society agree to promote archaeological site preservation and conservation, to excavate only endangered sites as part of a qualified research group, to not excavate archaeological sites for the unscientific collecting of artifacts.
- All artifacts and material recovered from Society projects are the property of the Society.

**ASSF OBJECTIVE:**

To provide a formal means by which individuals and institutions interested in archaeological and anthropological studies in South Florida and related areas may come together for mutual benefit.

**RETURN ADDRESS:**

The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida  
 Barbara Tansey, President  
 2495 NW 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
 Miami, Florida 33142



**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., at 2495 N.W. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**SPEAKER:** Jorge Zamanillo

**OFFICERS:**

Barbara Tansey, President; Jim Lord, Vice President;  
 Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Pat Cervi, Secretary

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Bob Carr, Pat Cervi, George Cummings, Darrell Cunningham, Seth Lefkow, Beth Read, Jim South, Stanley Keim

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Lisa Weier can be reached at (305) 807-8102, or [bigpicture14@e.coolworks.com](mailto:bigpicture14@e.coolworks.com), for questions, comments, submissions or (oops!) corrections.

Address

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 Miami, FL. 33142

