



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



Volume 28, Issue 12

Newsletter of the Society

April 2003

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Mary Ellen Gray

Mexican Archaeology in the 1900's: The Special Projects, Dr. Harry Iceland

Probably the most significant development in Mexican archaeology in the 1990s was the completion of fourteen "Special Projects." These were archaeological sites located throughout the country, some already well-known and others previously little explored, that were selected by the Mexican government for major excavation and preservation efforts beginning in 1992.

These sites include Chichén Itzá, Dzibilchaltún, Calakmul, Palenque, Toniná, Monte Albán, Filo-Bobos, Cantona, Xochitécatl, Xochicalco, Teotihuacan, Paquimé, the rock paintings of the Sierra de San Francisco in Baja California Sur, and a group of sites in southern Quintana Roo, Dzibanché, Kinichná, and Kohunlich.

Dr. Iceland has visited most of these sites, including several during a recent extended stay in Mexico City. He reports that the sites are now all easier to reach, more comfortable to visit, more spectacular, and more easily understood than they had been previously.

In summary fashion, he will introduce each site, discuss the most significant discoveries of the recent excavations, and suggest how moderately experienced travelers might visit them.

Please mark you calendars to hear Dr. Iceland speak on Thursday, April 10th, at 7:30 p.m.

Location address: Atlantic Radio & Telephone office building, 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue.

Contact Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 for directions.

It's time to register for the...

FAS 55th Annual Meeting

Hosted by: Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee (PAST)

When: May 9 - 11, 2003, **Where:** Museum of Florida History, 500 S. Bronough St. (R.A. Gray Bldg)

Hotel: Holiday Inn Select, 316 W. Tennessee St., Tallahassee, FL 32301, (850) 222-9555 or 1-800-

648-6135 <http://hitallahassee.com> histallahassee@aol.com **Rates:** \$79-single, \$89-double (make

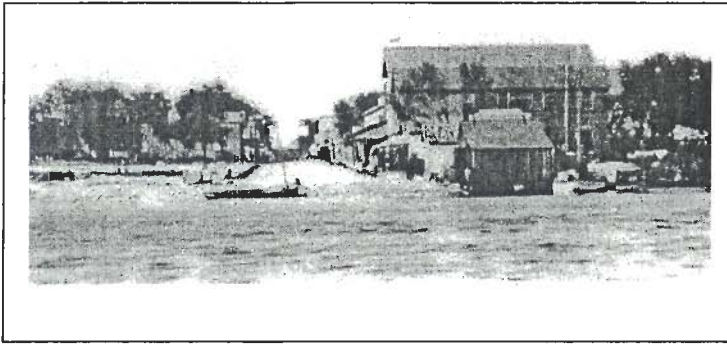
reservations by April 21& mention FAS) This hotel is about a 10 minute walk/ 5 min. drive from the

Museum. **Alternate hotels:** Motel 6: 1027 Apalachee Parkway, 850-877-6171; Comfort Suites: 1026

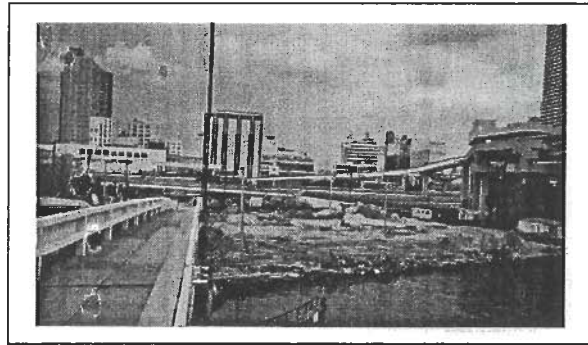
Apalachee Parkway, 850-224-5000; Doubletree Hotel: 101 S. Adams St., (850) 224-3200.

Inside This Issue

1	Mexican Archeology in the 1900's, Dr. Harry Iceland, page 1
2	Miami's First Decade, member article & photos, page 2, 3
3	On-going Digs, Conferences, Publications and News, page 3
4	Membership Information, page 4



1896 view looking North along Avenue D



2002 view looking North showing start of work on One Riverview Square

Miami's First Decade, submitted by ASSF member Brian Conesa

Whereas Brickell Point might just be the most significant location associated with Miami's pre-history, there is no doubt as to where Miami's modern history lies. Just up the river and to the North East Side of what is today's South Miami Ave Bridge, is the location whereby the City Of Miami incorporated in July of 1896. Julia Tuttle, having famously sold much of her land to Flagler, did retain a 13 acre parcel that was bordered to the west by S. Miami Ave (Ave D), to the S. by the Miami River, to the East by today's S. East 2nd Ave, and to the North by today's S. East 3rd St.

Avenue D became the focal point for early development as Miami moved toward Incorporation. Captain Vails' Rockledge houseboat was one of the first to setup where Avenue D met the river. It is believed that Sewell (charged with laying out the city for Flagler) lived on the boat for a short period of time in March of 1896. Other Saloon boats would also begin to setup shop at the foot of Avenue D. An early picture shows long wood planks laid over cut red mangrove leading to these commerce boats. One could get Oysters to go along with their drink of choice.

Recently, I had the opportunity to work on a project for Janus Research. The One Riverview Square development, which is nearly complete, lies on the most S.W. corner of the original Tuttle parcel. During this last year, monitoring of this construction project has yielded quite a trove of historical artifacts dating to Miami's earliest days.

Just a matter of feet North of today's One Riverview development was the location of Miami's Incorporation. By May of 1899, A building sitting on this current development parcel served as the "Miami Fish Market" with its secondary floor in use for County Courthouse proceedings up until 1904. By 1906, a stone manufacturing company also took residence next to the Miami Fish Company. Donald Gaby's book on the Miami River offers a great timeline showing this parcel's use. In 1912 the Crosland Steamship Company bought this property and filled in the most S.W. corner of this parcel as to provide more footage for its liners to dock. Although much of this property's mangroves had previously been filled over, Crosland's work would play the most significant role in creating this artifact time Capsule.

The timeline for the artifacts collected was interesting. Some ninety- percent of all the artifacts collected appear between 1890 and 1910. Most all the bottles fall within this range, but, the range did widen for the bottles to include those as early as the 1870's and as late as the mid -1920's. These later date bottles were mostly collected while work was being done to replace the seawall. The bottle count is in the hundreds. Probably 80% of those collected were complete – including a large number that had their original stoppers and corks. The range of bottle types included: early water bottles, round bottoms, black glass beer bottles, gins, wines, whiskeys, inks, many different food bottles, soda and other's of medicinal use. A fine collection of early Miami bottle companies is represented which included Acme Bottling, Magic City, Miami Steam, and early Coca Colas. Bottles representing Key West, Palatka, Orlando, and many other Florida locations were present. Many Bottles also came from along the Eastern U.S. – Atlanta, Spartenburg, Baltimore, and many others from Ohio and Illinois.

Many of the pieces of pottery and porcelain were represented by New Jersey, as well as, English potters – most of which predate 1900. Two clay pipe stems from the 1890's were collected. Mason jars and bits of crockery were found. A complete "pot lid" and porcelain bottom was saved from a backhoe with hardly a chip. The lid reads: Purified Charcoal Toothpaste by Philadelphia. An 1890's advertisement for this toothpaste was located. A horseshoe was collected. Early electrical porcelain pieces with copyright dates to the 1890's. Many large Conch shells were found which had food holes. There is a great early picture along Avenue D showing equipment and barrels in the street – on top to the barrels are these large conch shells. Three large round batteries produced by Gladstone and Lalande were found. Both men had worked for Edison, broke away with this battery in 1903 and were -next page

Continued from page 2...

immediately challenged by Edison over its copyright in 1904. This battery only existed that one year out of Edison's grasp.

Perhaps the most interesting artifacts that were collected were those associated with Julia Tuttle's Hotel Miami which burnt down and destroyed much of its surroundings in November of 1899. Found in the digging of the construction pads and footers, was exposed a very consistent and thick layering of broken hotelware just above the red mangrove. Burnt marks appeared on this ware, as well as, burnt wood mixed about. A serving spoon and fork were found here in expected shape, as well as, parts of creamers, mugs, and other food serving items. However, one amazing little tea spoon did survive – on it, are the words "Hotel Miami." It is quite clear that Julia Tuttle, after the fire, had workers dump the remains of her hotel (which stood only a few yards to the North of this present day development) onto this low lying mangrove parcel. This location would have already had much trash from the earlier saloon boats and commerce that drove the construction of early Miami.



Photo: Artifact Group shot. Left to right : large Hotelware creamer, an early Miami Pepsi bottle, An early Miami Coca Cola, "Miami Steam Bottling Works" bottle, Hotel Biscayne druggist Bottle, "Acme Bottling Works" bottle, X. Bazin pot lid – charcoal toothpaste, "Rough on Skeeters" Poison Bottle, Porcelain pieces from a Royal Palm Hotel vase. "Hotel Miami" spoon .Hopefully One Riverview Development will have a display of these artifacts in their future lobby. Eventually the artifacts may be donated to the Historical Museum.

FLORIDA PIONEER MUSEUM

≡LECTURE SERIES≡

Lectures will be held in Homestead's Historic District, at the Old Town Hall Museum, 41 N. Krome Avenue. Scheduled Dates: Apr. 9 - The Seminole Wars: America's First Vietnam by Joe Crankshaw. Lectures are **free**, open to the public, preceded by a short business mtg at 7:00 pm.



ASSF monthly meetings are held the second Thursday of each month. Location: Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Avenue, 7:30 pm. Call Barbara at 305-633-9636 for directions and information.

Upcoming speakers: *May* - Dr. Traci Ardren I
If you have a speaker you'd like to refer , please contact Beth Read at W4YIH@earthlink.net or Pat Cervi at pcervi@msn.com.

News From the Desk Of...

BOB CARR - Director of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy

- The Miami One Project by the Dupont Plaza has not received a start date. Work should begin soon.
- The archaeological investigation being done before development, on the "One Miami Project", by the Dupont Plaza is scheduled to begin in April, continuing 4-6 months. Volunteers will be needed for this project. For more news from the Conservancy check the web page: www.flarchaeology.org

GARY BEITER - Dade County Archaeologist
Work has begun Matheson Hammock. Volunteers are needed for lab assistance. Work will be done on weekdays at one of this location's buildings. Contact Gary at 305 375-3412 for directions.



Membership Dues Reminder...

If your newsletter label is highlighted in yellow - your 2003 ASSF membership dues are now overdue!

Please send a check to ASSF (address on the back page, Attn. Barbara Tansey), or give your payment to Brian Conesa, our Treasurer, at the next meeting.

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: Stacy Hopper
1603 Watrous Drive
Titusville, Florida 32780

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
2495 N.W. 35th Ave.
Miami, Fl 33142

ASSF CODE OF ETHICS:

1. 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.
2. 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 35th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33142

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 10th, 7:30 pm,
at 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

SPEAKER:

Dr. Harry Iceland

OFFICERS: Barbara Tansey, President; Jim South, Vice President; Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Pat Cervi, Secretary.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Gary Beiter, Carter Burrus, Jr., Bob Carr, George Cummings, Darrell Cunningham, Stanley Kiem, Seth Lefkow, Jim Lord, Beth Read and Lisa Weier.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mary Ellen Gray can be reached at Orchid0017@msn.com

ASSF web page: <http://assf.tripod.com>

FIRST CLASS



Address

BARBARA TANSEY/ ROBERT FREER
2495 N.W. 35th AVE.
Miami, FL. 33142

Bios:

Barbara Tansey

President of ASSF for the past 11 years, Barbara works continuously to stay on top of all of the archaeological and anthropological happenings in S. Florida. She works hard to motivate our group, set-up and supervise numerous public presentations and round up volunteers to help on projects. Her leadership skills are only matched by her ability to make everyone feel appreciated.

Jim South

In his 2nd term as Vice President, longtime ASSF member Jim South has brought "key" insights to the society. While growing up in Key Largo, Jim spent his free time combing the sands and sites throughout the Keys and studying the pre-history of the area.

Brian Conesa

As longtime ASSF Treasurer, Brian's field experience and accounting aptitude have combined to give us valued advice on archaeological issues, and up-to-date budget information on the status of our finances. His good humor is appreciated by all.

Pat Cervi

Just back from 13 months living in Berlin, Pat is a long-time society member who has had the distinctive experience of serving at one time or another as Secretary and Newsletter Editor for the society. Her knowledge and expertise is a great asset to the group.

Jim Lord

As former ASSF Vice President, Jim brings his all-encompassing wisdom and vast archaeological expertise to our group. Over the years he has served as FAS Chapter Representative, and manages annual garage sales to raise money for the society. His tangy sense of humor has helped us survive many a long board meeting.

Seth Lefkow

Longtime ASSF board member Seth Lefkow is an invaluable asset to our society. Seth oversees advertising for society events in local newspapers, coordinates interesting fieldtrips for the group, and, most importantly, has the largest collection of obscure postage stamps that he donates for our mailings each year. He is a world traveler who brings back good stories and many laughs.

Gary Beiter

As Dade County Archaeologist, Gary contributes greatly to our overall archaeological knowledge base, and updates us on current sites and happenings all over south Florida.

Mary Ellen Gray

ASSF newsletter editor Mary Ellen is also a Broward County teacher and dedicated wildlife volunteer. Most weekends you will find her immersed in archaeology while sifting through the Bamboo site remains with Brian, Jim South and Bill Lyons at the Everglades Outpost.

Lisa Weier

Longtime ASSF member Lisa Weier is past secretary and newsletter editor for the society. Her steadfastness and extremely sarcastic sense of humor may be considered an asset to this group.

ASSF 2003 Election Ballot

Please put a check next to the name of the candidate or submit a name under "Other," and submit at the April 10th ASSF meeting, or mail to: Attn: Barbara Tansey, Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Avenue, Miami, FL 33142.

Officers

		<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____
President:	Barbara Tansey	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Vice President:	Jim South	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Treasurer:	Brian Conesa	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Secretary:	Pat Cervi	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Board of Directors

Up for election/re-election:

Seth Lefkow	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Gary Beiter	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Jim Lord	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Mary Ellen Gray	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Lisa Weier	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____

Holdover Board Members include Beth Read, Darryl Cunningham, George Cummings, Bob Carr, Stanley Kiem, and Carter Burrus.