Recently problems with flooding and stormwater in downtown Pensacola can be attributed to the area's underlying landforms, wetlands, and creeks. Many of these water resources have been filled and paved over and so they are no longer visible to the public. Managing the wetlands and creeks was also a concern for early colonists who developed a variety of ways to use the water resources. Early maps and archaeology reveal the complexity of various colonial approaches. Recently, a plan has been proposed to uncover the primary freshwater creek downtown and expose its related archaeological remains.

To the right you can see George Gauld's 1764 map of Pensacola showing the original Spanish fort and scattered building present when the British arrived. The map also shows the extensive wetlands and creeks draining to the west and east of the dry land that became Pensacola.

Dr. Elizabeth Benchley will share this information with us at the January membership meeting.

Gauld Map 1764

Please join us at 7 pm on Tuesday, Jan. 12 at the Bowden Building, 120 Church Street, for the January PAS membership meeting. Bring a friend.

DON’T FORGET TO VISIT THE PAS FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UP TO DATE INFORMATION AND NEWS.
WORK CONTINUES ON EMANUEL POINT II SHIPWRECK

UWF’s underwater archaeology teams have been working on the Emanuel Point II shipwreck site just east of the Pensacola Bay Bridge. Funded by a Special Category Grant this year from the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR), students from the 2015 field school began the work and now it is continuing into the winter and spring with students and grad students. We will get to see and hear the details about these excavations from Dr. Greg Cook at our bar-b-q in April. We will continue to have updates about the progress and artifacts recovered between now and then. Check out the web site and blog for this information.

NEWS FROM FPAN NORTHWEST REGION

Nicole Grinnan, Outreach Coordinator Northwest Region based at the Florida Public Archaeology Network Center; Dr. William Lees, Executive Director FPAN; and Dr. Della Scott-Ireton, Associate Director FPAN, contribute periodically to this newsletter.

FPAN offers many local and regional activities for the public. Find something to do near you by subscribing to their newsletter or by using the following:

FPAN Website: http://flpublicarchaeology.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/FPANnorthwest
Twitter: www.twitter.com/FPANNorthwest

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

FPAN LAB – Volunteer at the FPAN lab downtown from 10 am to 4 pm Mondays and Wednesdays this semester. No experience is necessary. 595-1500

UWF LAB – Beginning Feb. 5, the UWF lab will be open for volunteers from 10 am to 2 pm on Fridays. Schedules for lab workers will be set by then and there will be room for volunteers to help rough sort artifacts from a number of local sites. Be sure to stop for a parking pass at the Visitor’s Center and please CALL AHEAD to let us know you are coming: 474-2087.

FAS

PAS is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS). Twenty two members of PAS are also FAS members. You must join FAS individually to receive the journal, The Florida Anthropologist, and the FAS Newsletter. See the FAS website or more information: http://www.fasweb.org
Dues are: Regular and Institutional - $30,
Family - $35, Student - $15 (with copy of current student id).
**Applications are available at PAS membership meetings each month. Join us!
AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY:
1559 LUNA LANDING SITE IN PENSACOLA!

For years and years many people have debated, researched the documents, looked for and missed the location of the Tristan de Luna colony’s settlement site in Pensacola. Since 1992, UWF archaeologists and the State of Florida archaeologists have been investigating two of Luna’s ships that sank in Pensacola Bay shortly after the group arrived to settle in the area in 1559. The artifacts from these ships are very different from the later 18th century Spanish and British material recovered in downtown Pensacola. These materials from the Luna shipwrecks have helped in the identification of 16th century artifacts located on a construction site in Pensacola. Luck and knowledge of colonial artifacts alerted Tom Garner, a local historian and previous UWF archaeology student, that he had found what many have been looking for. He alerted UWF archaeologists about his discovery and the rest is history! UWF and the current residents are ready and able to take care of this very important site.

Dr. John Worth, UWF historical archaeologist and expert on the 16th century Spanish, will be in charge of the excavations that will occur for years to come. He will be available at the next PAS meeting to answer questions after the presentation by Dr. Benchley. Soon he will present the story of the discovery of this exciting chapter in Pensacola’s history as well as plans for the site to PAS.

Just remember that this site is the oldest multiyear settlement in North America, 1559-1561. St. Augustine was settled in 1565 and has been continuously occupied since that time and so holds that particular honor. There were a few other settlements in North America before 1559, but these were short lived. Sites like Jamestown (1607) and Plymouth (1620) were not around for another 48 to 60 years.

The press release about the discovery of this site on Dec. 17 was a wonderful moment for Pensacola. The residents now living on the site and Pensacolians are excited and look forward to more info.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DUE

The membership period for PAS is January through December each year. If you have not paid during the last 3 months, it is time to renew your membership. Those who send checks Oct - Dec 2015 have paid their 2016 dues. Send your check to the post office box on this newsletter or pay at the January meeting. Dues: $6 student, $15 individual, $20 family, $200 life.

Through your support PAS is able to fund up to two $400 Student Awards twice each year to UWF students who need to do research or travel to professional meetings to report their findings. We are able to support activities in which UWF participates that may involve field work or working with the public to help educate them about the importance of our local archaeological sites to the history of the area. Each of you is important in this effort.

Thank you for your continued support.

These are the first 16th Century ceramics recently recovered from the 1559 Luna settlement site. (UWF lab photo)

WEBSITE FOR PAS
http://pasfl.org
Things you need to know:

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE  http://pasfl.org  and Facebook

2016
JAN. 12  COLONIAL AND EARLY AMERICAN
WATER MANAGEMENT IN DOWNTOWN PENSACOLA
Dr. Elizabeth Benchley, Director, UWF Archaeology Institute
7 pm, Bowden Building, 120 Church St.
(Board meeting will be held at 5:30 before the meeting)

FEB. 9  A FRENCH HUGUENOT COLONY IN BRITISH WEST FLORIDA:
THE TRAGEDY AT CAMPBELL TOWN
Jennifer Knutson, UWF Graduate Student
(Board meeting will be held at 5:30 before the meeting)

MEETING SPACE SEPTEMBER - MARCH COURTESY OF

PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 13251
PENSACOLA, FL 32591

A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society