



Figure 1. UNF excavations at the Caracasi site.

End Notes:

1. Caracasi is a Timucua Indian word for a specific species of fish. Early Spanish translate it as corvina (Aaron Broadwell 2016, personal communication), a fish of the Sciaenidae family, commonly called croakers or drums.
2. Atosi is a Timucuan word for owl (Aaron Broadwell 2016, personal communication).

Reference Cited

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University of Florida's St. Johns Archaeological Field School 2016

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After a two-year hiatus, the St. Johns Archaeological Field School returned to Silver Glen Run in 2016 to explore places below, between, and beyond locations of prior investigation. Silver Glen (8LA1) was the location of one of the largest deposits of freshwater shell when it was visited in the 1870s by

Jeffries Wyman of Harvard University. Although the site was mined for shell in the early twentieth century, remnants are preserved on property of the field school host, the Juniper Club of Louisville, Kentucky. Moreover, subterranean deposits not observed by Wyman and escaping mining are distributed along the full extent of Silver Glen Run and beyond. Over six prior field schools, starting in 2007, centered on the most prominent deposits; efforts in 2016 aimed to fill gaps in coverage.

Among the gaps was the lack of definitive evidence for the basal component of the largest shell deposit, the one that impressed Wyman most, at the mouth of Silver Glen Run. We learned in 2007 that the south ridge of this massive U-shaped mound was constructed about 4,000 years ago. We also knew from earlier work that the opposite, north ridge housed abundant pottery of comparable age, and Zack Gilmore (2016) determined that much of it was nonlocal, evidently brought to Silver Glen at times of regional gathering. But we had good reason to believe that older deposits existed beneath the mined surface of the north ridge. Subsurface tests in prior years failed to locate intact deposits, owing to the fact that mining actually extended well below the present-day surface and was later infilled to reclaim the land. One portion that escaped such impact was at the west end of the north ridge, where concreted shell impeded mining operations. Wielding chisels, hammers, and pry bars, field school students managed to cut through the hardened fill to reach the bottom, just at the top of the present-

day water table (Figure 1). A single AMS assay on charcoal at the base of the profile provided a two-sigma calibrated age estimate of 10,500–10,260 B.P. This is the oldest age estimate for archaeological deposits along Silver Glen and although it does not signal the onset of shell mounding at the site, it is consistent with the onset of spring flow and the beginning of an enduring, if intermittent land-use pattern that culminated in the construction of massive shell mounds.

Shell mounding along Silver Glen Run actually predates the early pottery period by at least 2,000 years. Since its start, the field school has investigated the remnants of what we call Locus A, a 200-m-long shell ridge that was also mined for shell. Stratigraphic testing showed that the ridge went up after about 6,000 years ago, and below the ridge are large pit features dating as old as 9,000 cal B.P. Our University of Oklahoma field school partner, Asa Randall, determined that the older pits extended the full length of the shell ridge, lending credence to his idea that later mound builders were creating



Figure 1. Graduate Teaching Assistant Terry Barbour (in test unit) and a field school student record the profile of unit that reached the base of mined shell deposit at Silver Glen. Other TAs for the 2016 field school included Anthony Boucher and Josh Goodwin of the University of Florida, and Nicole Cerimele of the University of Oklahoma.

tangible citations to ancient times (Randall 2015). Continuing this line of research, field school students excavated test units just outside the margins of the shell ridge (Figure 2). More pits were found, some evidently old, some clearly not so old. On balance, it would appear that the spatial conformity between the oldest pits and the shell ridge at Locus A holds. Nonetheless, at least one large pit to the west of the shell ridge may prove to be the exception to the rule. An age estimate for this feature is pending.



Figure 2. Field school students exploring the margins of mined shell ridge at Locus A of Silver Glen. The large shell-filled pit in the far corner is typical of many of the subsurface features of the site.

Finally, field school students this year enjoyed the adventure of reconnaissance work at an unrecorded shell site 4.5 km to the south of Silver Glen, on Little Juniper Run. Two small, adjoining hammocks are located in an extensive swamp where Little Juniper Run drains into Lake George. A short visit years ago to what the Juniper Club calls Kitt's Isle verified the presence of shell deposits across both hammocks. Orange and St. Johns pottery was observed on the surface and in tree throws. We have since been eager to excavate some test units but the logistics of boat travel dissuaded us until this year. The effort proved worthwhile. Shovel tests across the south hammock revealed intact stratified shell midden in excess of 3 m below the surface and about 2 m below the water table. Additional coring is needed to substantiate the depth of the deposit but its age is at least 4,500 years cal B.P. Shovel testing of the north hammock were suspended after multiple encounters with human skeletal remains. Although additional excavation is rightfully prohibited, permission was granted to extract a core from the center of the hammock. The shell deposit proved to be 230-cm thick, the bottom third of which is below the water table. An AMS assay on charcoal from the basal stratum provided a two-sigma calibrated age estimate of 8,595–8,460 B.P. This makes the Kitt's Isle mortuary coeval with the Archaic pond burial tradition of Florida. It remains to be seen, through geoarchaeological work, if the water levels at the outset of human interment at Kitt's Isle were above the elevation of the basal shell deposit. If so, the Kitt's

Isle mortuary program may well be a variation on the pond burial tradition.

The St. Johns Archaeological Field School will reconvene at Silver Glen next year, in 2018, when Asa Randall and students from the University of Oklahoma will join forces with University of Florida students to continue to delve into a history that was severely impacted by mining nearly a century ago but is now under the good stewardship of the Juniper Club. We hope to be able to conduct more extensive testing at Kitt's Isle, provided, that is, we can devise a dewatering operation to draw down the water table enough to reach the basal deposits. Silver Glen and its surroundings still have much to teach us.

References Cited

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2016 *Gathering at Silver Glen: Community and History in Late Archaic Florida*. University Press of Florida, Gainesville.
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University of West Florida 2016 Campus Summer Field School Summary

Courtney Boren, Hillary Jolly-Kinison, Llew Kinison, Jennifer Knutson, Katherine Sims, and Ramie A. Gougeon, Ph.D.

One section of the University of West Florida's (UWF) 10-week-long field schools is divided into two 5-week halves between which the students learn maritime and terrestrial archaeological field methods. This year, students in the Combined Terrestrial/Maritime archaeological field school had the unique experience of excavating on both the land site and shipwrecks of the 1559 Tristán de Luna settlement. We additionally contributed to the thesis research of two graduate students on two other sites in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties. Students gained experience through shovel testing, excavating units and features, mapping, completing proper documentation, and developing research strategies. Graduate supervisory training is also a critical component of the field school experience. Principal Investigator Dr. Ramie Gougeon was assisted by UWF graduate students Courtney Boren, Hillary Jolly, Llew Kinison, Dillon Roy, Michael DuBose, Katherine Sims, and Jennifer Knutson. Adrienne Sams Walker with the UWF Historic Trust coordinated our field operations at Arcadia Mills.

This summer, the combined field school had the opportunity to work on Native American components recently identified by UWF Institute of Archaeology staff within the Luna settlement site. It should be noted that Native American materials have been found in many areas of the settlement site and likely represent small, discrete resource extraction sites and longer-term habitation sites dating from the Archaic

through Historic periods. Research questions regarding the identity of Indians around Pensacola Bay immediately prior to, during, and immediately after Luna's short-lived settlement were addressed by targeting shell middens found across the neighborhood. This work also supported graduate thesis research being undertaken by Courtney Boren. Spoon-auger tests, probing, and shovel tests were used to identify concentrations of shell and Native American materials. Units were then placed to capture data regarding the integrity and structure of the midden deposits, as well as any other associated features and artifacts.

A possible Mississippian component of the site was revealed by two shovel tests excavated a few months prior to the summer field school. Units placed in this area yielded a high concentration of late prehistoric and possibly protohistoric pottery. One unit contained a bell-shaped basin feature with a sand-tempered plain Mississippian partial vessel. A neighboring unit revealed a large shell-filled pit feature. This feature contained Late Mississippian ceramics, various types of shell (mostly oyster), a variety of faunal remains (mammal, bird, fish, and turtle), and a coprolite. Feature excavation photo is presented in Figure 1.



Figure 1. UWF Combined field school student Emily Kovaks excavates a shell feature on 8ES1.

A shallow but expansive Native American shell midden was encountered by the Luna field school and turned over to the Combined section for excavation. After spoon-auger tests