

Time Sifters

May 2013



A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society

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NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, May 15, 2013, 6:00 PM
Selby Library, Downtown Sarasota

Maranda Almy Kles, PhD BioArchaeology in Sarasota and Beyond



Bioarchaeology has become a more frequently used tool in archaeological interpretation. This is because the human skeleton records everything about us: age, sex, stature, diet, health, cause of death, etc. This information combined with archaeological and historical information can help us better understand the people that created, lived in, and changed the sites and cultures we seek to understand. This talk will highlight the different aspects of the biological profile of a human skeleton and will review an archaeological case from the Sarasota area and show how a combination of forensic techniques, archaeology, and historical analysis can reveal some interesting information about Florida's past peoples.



About Maranda Almy Kles:

“I recently earned my PhD from the University of Florida. I study forensics and bioarchaeology. My current research looks at biological distance in the Native American populations that inhabited pre-Contact Florida comparing biological and cultural variation. I have also worked as a Death Investigator for a medical examiner's office and as an archaeological technician for the National Park Service.”

Notes from a Time Sifter

Thinking about taking a summer vacation looking at Roman ruins? Well, you have lots of choices on where to find them. The magnificent city of Rome in Italy would be the first choice for most of us, but the prolific Romans left ruins all over the Mediterranean area. The Romans began expanding into territories beyond their homeland beginning about 500 b.c.e. and continued for the next ten centuries, building massive structures that are still there today. 2000 years later, they can be found from the eastern Atlantic shore to Iraq. Amphitheatres, temples and aqueducts can be found in France, and in



Roman fort at Masada. Picture by Ted Chi



Segovia, Spain. Encyclopedia Britannica.com

One of the most popular Roman sites is in England where, in 122 c.e., Emperor Hadrian designed and built the 73 mile long wall across Britain, separating Roman controlled England from “the wretched little Britons” (the Vindolanda tablets). It was, in its heyday, 14 feet high and 10 feet wide and was protected by stakes driven in the side of a moat that was 9 feet deep. Forts built south of the wall could house up to 1000 soldiers. This site has turned up many artifacts that tell of the life of these soldiers who must have longed for Italy’s sunshine. There are several more Roman forts in England, an entire Roman town has been uncovered near Bristol, and many Roman villas are scattered around the countryside.

The most awesome of the Roman aqueducts is in Segovia, Spain. It was built of granite blocks by Emperor Domitian in the 1st century to import water from the mountains 21 miles away from town. It is immense, 93 feet high with 166 arches. It was used until the Moors destroyed a part of it in the 11th century but was rebuilt in the 15th century during the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella at the same time Christopher Columbus was sailing the Atlantic.

One of the most interesting Roman forts is the one found at Masada in Israel built for the Roman soldiers during the siege of Masada in 73 c.e. From the top, 300 feet above the Dead Sea, you can look down from the fortress and feel the drama felt by 1st century Judaeans as they waited for the Romans to finish the ramp to the top of the plateau. The ramp is also a ruin, supposedly built with Judaeans labor because the Romans knew that the people on top would not injure their countrymen.

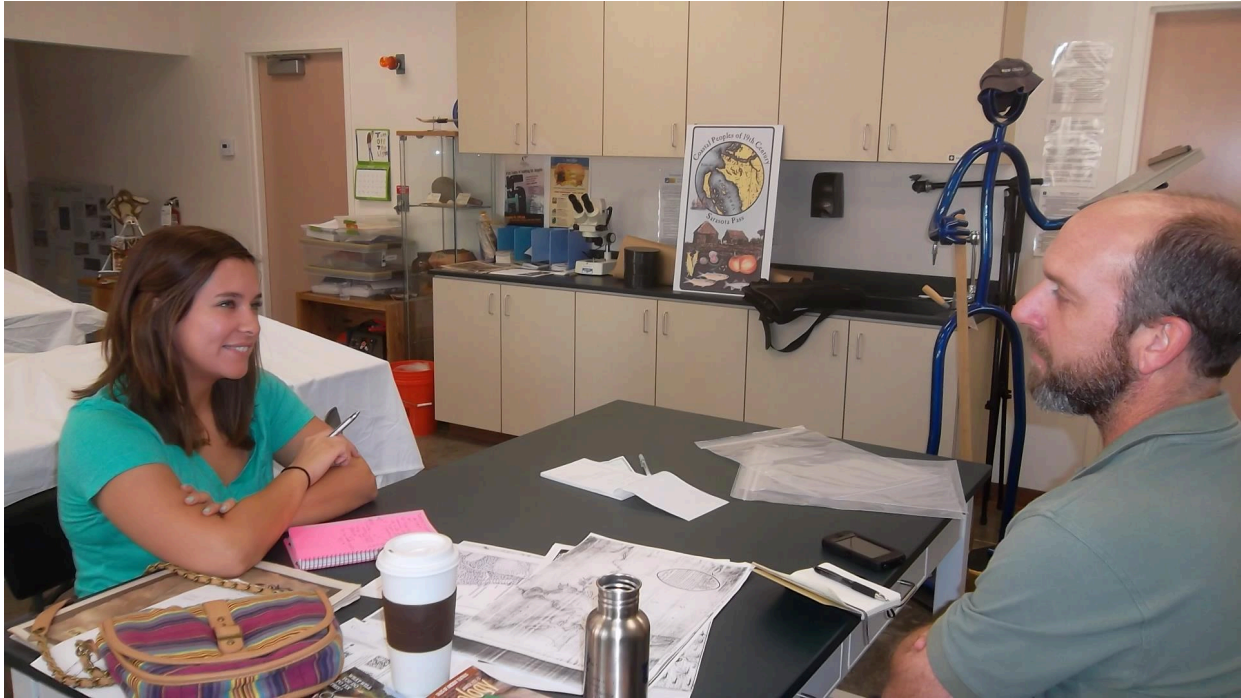
Before you go, see www.historvius.com/foman-sites-uk/fr241 for a guide to all of these Roman ruins.

On the Time Sifters website:

Lost City of Heracleion Gives Up Its Secrets

OUR WEBMASTER, JIM MECKLER, POSTS THE MOST INTERESTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

For centuries it was thought to be a legend, a city of extraordinary wealth mentioned in Homer, visited by Helen of Troy and Paris, her lover, but apparently buried under the sea. In fact, Heracleion was true, and a decade after divers began uncovering its treasures, archaeologists have produced a picture of what life was like in the city in the era of the pharaohs. The city, also called Thonis, disappeared beneath the Mediterranean around 1,200 years ago and was found during a survey of the Egyptian shore at the beginning of the last decade. Now its life at the heart of trade routes in classical times are becoming clear, with researchers forming the view that the city was the main customs hub through which all trade from Greece and elsewhere in the Mediterranean entered Egypt. For more of the story go to www.timesifters.org



This spring, Florida Public Archaeology Network brought an internship to the New College Public Archaeology Lab.

Annie Carter was the first student in this program and she provides some reflections on the experience.

I am originally from Crystal River, Florida, and transferred to New College from Florida State University in 2011. With plans to focus in underwater archaeology since high school, I was completely caught off guard when FSU was forced to terminate its anthropology program. Since coming to New College, I have been able to hone my skill set in underwater archaeology, interning with the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP) in St. Augustine and also attending their field school over the summer. As I approach my fourth year, I have just recently started the research process for my senior thesis, which will focus on the eighteenth century shipwreck that LAMP is currently working on. New College has enabled me to work closely with my professors, who have provided me with endless support and have helped me connect with important scholars in my field of study.

The New College Public Archaeology Lab internship has been made possible through the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN). The internship acts as a sort of liaison between New College and the University of South Florida, creating a connection and enabling all of us to collaborate both academically and in the field. FPAN hosts a series of archaeological workshops at NCF, teaching students important techniques that are not otherwise taught at the school.

It is an honor to be the guinea pig in this trial run of the NCPAL internship. It is my hope that we can foster an even more cohesive relationship with FPAN and USF, and illuminate some of information out there regarding Florida's archaeology.



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST!

65th Annual Florida Anthropological Society Meeting - May 10-11, 2013

The St. Augustine Archaeological Society is pleased to host the 65th Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society in St. Augustine, May 10-11, 2013 in connection with the statewide 500-year celebration of Florida's Spanish history. The theme Ponce to The Ponce has been chosen in recognition of Ponce de Leon's 1513 landing and the location of the meeting this year, the former Ponce de Leon Hotel, now home to Flagler College.

Further details about the events and a registration form are at www.FASWEB.org.

Membership

Individual:	\$20
Family:	\$30
Sustaining:	\$50
Student:	\$10

Pay online at:

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SPRING 2013 MEETING CALENDAR

May 15, 6pm: Maranda Almy Kles, M.A., M.S.: Bioarchaeology in Sarasota and Beyond *Selby Library: downtown Sarasota, Central Ave and 2nd Street*

Go to www.TimeSifters.org
for more information

This is the last meeting until September. Have a good summer!

We're on the Web!

www.TimeSifters.org

First Last Name
Address
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Renewal Date

Your renewal date is above; please remit if due.