

Time Sifters

September 2015



A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society

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NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, September 16, 2015, 6:00 PM

Selby Library, Downtown Sarasota

Bernice Jones, Ph.D.

Haute Couture in Ancient Greece: The Spectacular World of Ariadne and Helen of Troy

This power point lecture brings to life the fabulous world of the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations of 2000-1200 B.C.E. immortalized by Homer. By stepping through time into their splendid palaces decorated with scenes of courtly life, their special rituals are reconstructed along with the magnificent costumes worn to carry them out. Of the utmost luxury and decorated with exquisite patterns and appliqués of gold and precious gems and topped with exquisite jewelry, the costumes are the royal regalia of queens and goddesses. No longer preserved, the costumes are replicated through detailed analysis of art and texts and draped on live models posed as in art and juxtaposed with the sculptures and wall paintings they imitate. Fragments of frescoes found out of context are digitally reassembled and reconstructed to restore once lost, spectacular scenes of palatial and everyday life. Ultimately the reconstructed costumes and wall paintings virtually bring Homer's heroes and heroines to life and emphasize their concurrent ancient, contemporary and eternal significance.

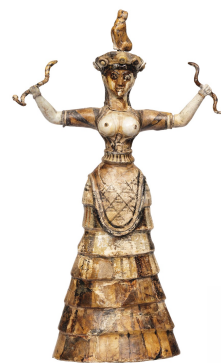
Dr. Jones received her Ph.D. from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University, in the Art and Archaeology of Greece, Rome and the ancient Near East, specializing on costumes and interconnections in the Bronze Age Aegean. Dr. Jones has taught at Queens College, Parsons School of Design, Temple University, Ringling College of Art and Design, and Manhattanville College's Summer in Greece Program. She has lectured nationally and internationally on Minoan and Mycenaean dress and on her digital reconstructions of Aegean frescoes. Her costume replicas have been the subject of exhibitions both here and abroad.



Dr. Bernice Jones



House of Ladies Fresco;
reconstruction by Jones



"SNAKE GODDESS" from Knossos, ca. 1550 BCE



"SNAKE GODDESS" COSTUME REPLICATION BY B. JONES

Snake Goddess, Knossos, and its replica costume

Notes from a Time Sifter

Archaeologists love to solve mysteries, and one of the most interesting American mysteries is the disappearance of the men, women and children who vanished from the Roanoke Island colony between 1587 and 1590. They were the third group of England's first attempts to establish a presence in North America. We know what happened to the first group of 107 men that landed on Roanoke Island in 1585. They were all soldiers and adventurers sent by Sir Walter Raleigh who had a charter from Queen Elizabeth to explore and draw maps while the ships returned to England for supplies. Within a year the explorers had angered their Native American neighbors, so when Sir Francis Drake stopped at Roanoke on his way back to England after his attack on Spanish St. Augustine, they eagerly took the opportunity to sail home. When Raleigh's supply ships returned to the settlement, they found it deserted and sailed back to England, but left 15 men behind to protect Raleigh's claim. In 1587, Raleigh sent a third group, not soldiers this time, but 115 men, women and children who arrived to find only a skeleton (probably the remains of one of the 15 men). In spite of these frightful circumstances, the colonists agreed to stay and promised to leave a coded instruction if they left the settlement before the ships returned with reinforcements. Part of the message was to be a Maltese cross, a code meaning that they had been attacked. The ships were delayed in England by a war with Spain, and did not return to the colony until 1590 when they found the colony abandoned and houses were taken down. Only the cryptic messages, "Croatoan" carved on one of the wooden posts of the palisade surrounding the tiny settlement, and "CRO" scratched on a tree, remained (Richard Hakluyt, *The Principal Navigations, Voyages, Traffiques, and Discoveries of the English Nation*, 1590). There was no Maltese cross, but the word "Croatoan" was the name of the Native American Indians on an island 50 miles south. However, a search could not be conducted at that time because of bad weather, and the ships returned to England without any information about the settlers.

Interest in the mysterious disappearance has continued for more than 400 years. Stories of gray or blue-eyed Indians with yellow hair spread, but no definitive evidence was ever found. Now, archaeologists believe they have an answer. New evidence shows that the colonists did have a relationship with the Native American settlement on the island of the Croatoan (Hatteras Island) as well as with another Indian settlement about 50 miles northwest of Roanoke Island at Albemarle Sound near what today is Edenton, North Carolina. These conclusions were reached because of new technology now available to archaeologists (New York Times, Aug. 11, 2015, and National Geographic, Aug. 7, 2015).

The first new evidence comes from a map of the entire area drawn by John White, an artist and cartographer of Raleigh's 1585 and 1586 expeditions. It shows the Virginia and Carolina coasts as well as Indian villages of the area. John White had put patches over two areas on the map. The patches could not be removed without damaging the map so no one knew what the patches covered. But in 2012, archaeologists applied X-ray spectroscopy to the patch covering the Albemarle site that revealed a sketch of a fort underneath.

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Notes from a Time Sifter continued

This was also the site of an Indian village, and a fort would indicate the presence of the English in this area as early as 1586, White's second trip to North America. Tree ring analysis indicates that a severe drought hit the Roanoke area between 1587 and 1589. An English fort at the inland site would have been a logical destination for starving Roanoke colonists. At the very least, it shows that the colonists knew that the site had been explored by the English as a likely place to plant a settlement.

Excavations have not revealed a fort, but using LIDAR, radar that can "see" under the foliage, archaeologists found English artifacts such as ceramics at Roanoke colony that match the ceramics at Albemarle. The ceramics, called Border ware, were made in England at pottery industries on the Surry/Hampshire border during the 16th and 17th centuries. (Pearce, Lakin, and pottery in London, 1500-1700). The Border ware found at Roanoke of the Roanoke settlement. No Border ware has been found at the other English artifacts are there such as a 16th century signet ring (Archaeological Site Collection). These indicate close interactions between both sites. The presence of women and children could have softened the Indians who had initially been friendly to the first group of male explorers at the first landing of explorers at what eventually became Jamestown (National Archives CO 1/1).



Photo Credit: First Colony Foundation

Excavations are ongoing in the search for clues (Associated Press, 6/11/2007) and digging for more answers.

A banner for the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) West Central Regional Center. The banner features a blue background with a stylized orange sun logo on the left. The text reads "EXPERIENCE ARCHAEOLOGY" in large white letters, followed by "FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK" and "West Central Regional Center" in smaller white letters. Below the banner, the text "SUMMER EDITION" is on the left and "AUGUST 2015" is on the right.

The FPAN Newsletter brings you a schedule of area events and lectures.

The Florida Public Archaeology Network – West Central Region has lots of offerings of events and programs you may be interested in. Here is just a sample:

- Saturday, September 12, 9–11am: Cemetery Resource Protection Training at the Old Manatee Burying Grounds
- Saturday, October 3, 10am–noon: Archaeology Works – Canoes, at the Weedon Island Preserve in St. Petersburg. Learn more about the ancient dugout canoes of Florida, and the 1,100 year-old canoe that was found at the Weedon Island Preserve.

Explore these and many more opportunities on the FPAN website:

<http://www.flpublicarchaeology.org/wcrc/>



Meetings and Speakers for 2015-2016

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Individual:	\$20
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Student:	\$10

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- September 16 - Dr. Bernice Jones - *Haute Couture in Ancient Greece: The Spectacular World of Ariadne and Helen of Troy*
- October 21- Dr. Edward Gonzalez-Tennant - *The Future of the Past: How Virtual Technologies Are Changing Archaeology*
- November 18 - Sandra Starr - *The Pre-Columbian Maize Deity: Art Historic Evidence for a Yucatan-Florida-Caribbean Connection*
- December 9 - HOLIDAY PARTY
- January 20 - Darwin Smith - *Archaeology Year in Review*
- February 17 - Michael Jordan - *Recovery of the CSS Georgia from the Savannah River*
- March 16 - Michael Twitty - *Food Justice* (at New College SAINER PAVILION)
- April 13 - Student grant presentations
- May 11 - Uzi Baram - *Rivers of Freedom, Landscapes of Liberty: An Update on "Looking for Angola" and the Archaeology of Maroons in Florida*

All meetings other than March 16th are at Selby Library: downtown Sarasota, Central Ave and 2nd Street

We're on the Web!

www.TimeSifters.org

Your renewal date is above; please remit if due.
Please contact us if you think there is an error.