

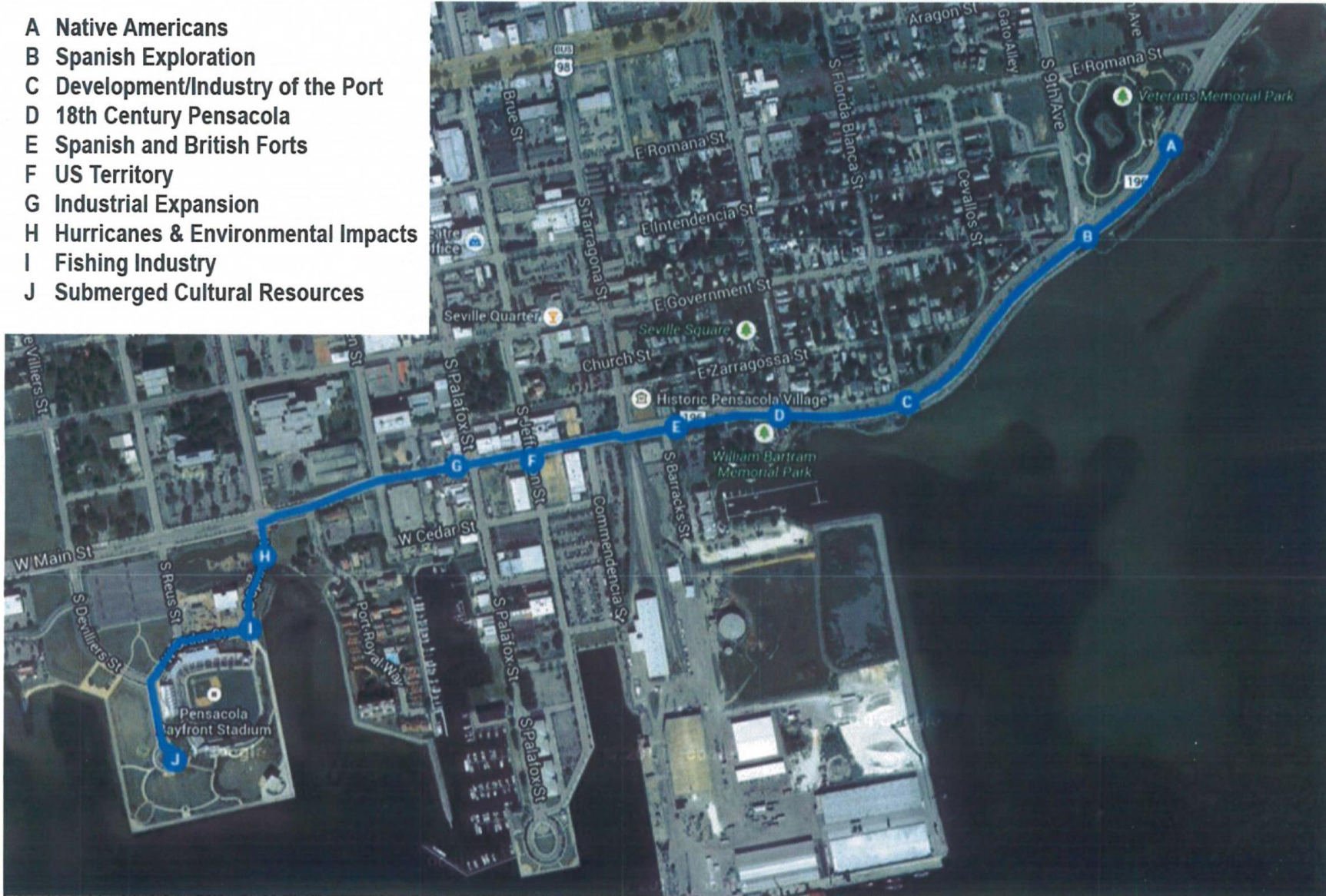
Pensacola Maritime Heritage Trail

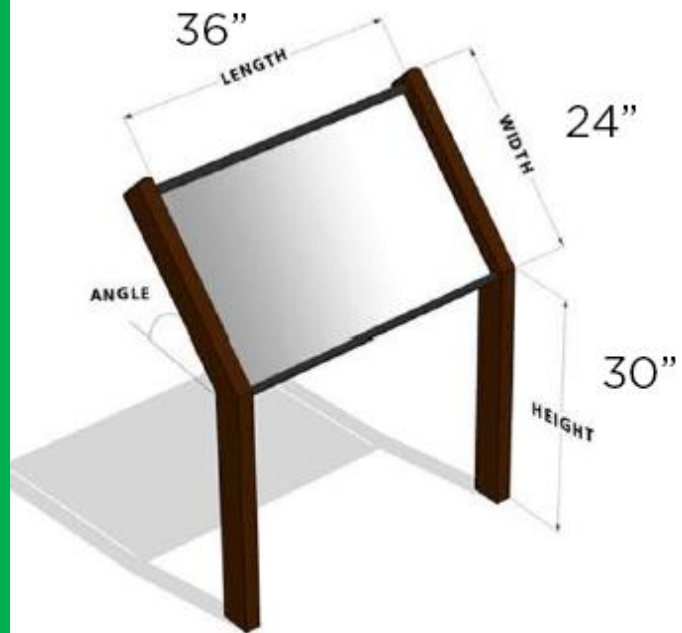
Presented to the Community Maritime Park
Associates, Inc.
April 20, 2016



Pensacola Maritime Trail

- A Native Americans
- B Spanish Exploration
- C Development/Industry of the Port
- D 18th Century Pensacola
- E Spanish and British Forts
- F US Territory
- G Industrial Expansion
- H Hurricanes & Environmental Impacts
- I Fishing Industry
- J Submerged Cultural Resources





PENSACOLA MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL



Maritime Prehistory

Paleoindian Period
15,000-7,500 BCE

Archaic Period
7,500-1,000 BCE

Woodland
1,000 BCE - 1,000 CE

Mississippian Period
1,000-1492 BCE

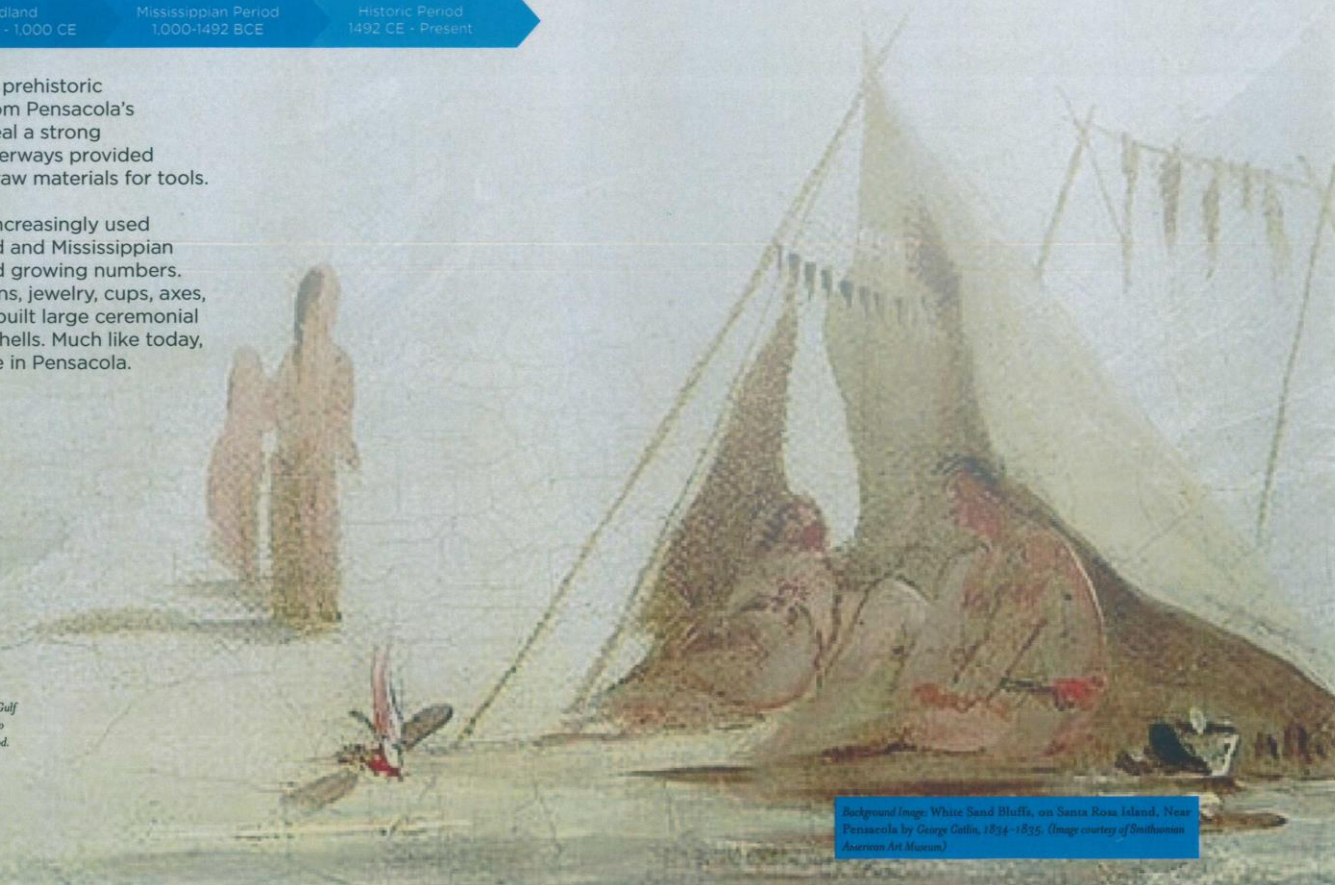
Historic Period
1492 CE - Present

Archaeology has helped us learn a great deal about life in prehistoric Pensacola. Though little archaeological evidence exists from Pensacola's earliest Paleoindian residents, sites from later periods reveal a strong reliance on the marine landscape. Local salt and fresh waterways provided sources of food and water, routes for transportation, and raw materials for tools.

Beginning in the Late Archaic period, prehistoric people increasingly used local waterways to create trade networks. Later Woodland and Mississippian period groups relied on abundant fish and shellfish to feed growing numbers. These groups often modified marine shells to create spoons, jewelry, cups, axes, and other tools. Woodland and Mississippian people also built large ceremonial mounds along the shoreline, constructed with discarded shells. Much like today, marine resources were an important part of prehistoric life in Pensacola.



Archaeologists discovered this cooking pot near the Gulf Power headquarters in Pensacola. The pot belongs to people living in this area during the Woodland period. (Image courtesy of the University of West Florida Archaeology Institute)



Background image: White Sand Bluffs, on Santa Rosa Island, near Pensacola by George Catlin, 1834-1835. (Image courtesy of Smithsonian American Art Museum)

PENSACOLA MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL



FLORIDA PUBLIC
ARCHAEOLOGY
NETWORK
A DIVISION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA



UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA
HISTORIC TRUST



Archaeology Institute
University of West Florida
Division of Anthropology
and Archaeology



Spanish Exploration and Discovery

Pensacola and its waterways held a special significance for early Spanish explorers. Remnants of conquistador Pánfilo de Narváez's expedition sighted Pensacola Bay as early as 1528. In 1539 and 1540, Francisco de Maldonado waited in the bay to resupply Hernando de Soto's conquistadores, though they never arrived.

By the mid 1500s, Spain hoped to lay claim to the area to protect the route of ships sailing back to Spain. Tristán

de Luna y Arellano was charged with establishing a colony on Pensacola Bay, then called Ochuse. In 1559, Luna brought 1500 people, including families, slaves, and Aztec soldiers, to settle the area he renamed Santa María Filipina. A hurricane destroyed the new colony and Luna's ships, causing the settlers to abandon the effort after two years. Spain did not try to settle Pensacola again until 1698 when colonists successfully settled at the present Naval Air Station.

Background Image: 1559 Landing of Tristán de Luna at Pensacola
by Herbert Rulien. (Image courtesy of USF History Trust)

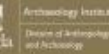


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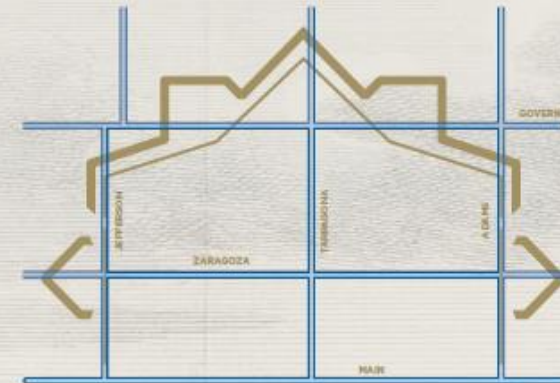
PENSACOLA COLONIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRAIL



Developing the Port of Pensacola

When the Spanish arrived in Pensacola Bay in 1559 and again in 1698, they praised the area's natural resources: the deep-water bay provided a safe harbor for large ships, rivers supplied fresh water, large forests offered a reliable source of timber, and local plants and animals meant an abundant source of food. Of the many bays along the Gulf of Mexico, Pensacola Bay held the most promise for establishing a successful settlement.

Though colonists did not initially see Pensacola as a source of commercial wealth, they did consider it to be strategically important. Local geography provided Spanish fortifications with full views of ships entering and leaving Pensacola Bay. When they arrived in 1763, British colonists inherited many of these well-situated Spanish fortifications and buildings. The British also utilized local live oak trees to establish a regional center for shipbuilding and repair.



Colonial Archaeological Trail Plan: vel, sit viris denique phaedrum
cu. id alii legere persius sed, at mei maiorum invidunt maiestatis,
per ut alii dicam corrupit. Usu alii officiis intellegebat at, at



Background image: A perspective view of Pensacola by Donato Serri, 1764. (Image courtesy of UNF University Archives and West Florida Library Center)



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PENSACOLA MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL



A History Shaped by Hurricanes

Pensacola's residents have endured more than 450 years of destructive hurricanes. The first historically recorded hurricane overwhelmed Don Tristan de Luna's 1559 colonization attempt, destroying most of the eleven ships in his fleet. In 1752, another hurricane drove a subsequent Spanish settlement from Santa Rosa Island in 1752. Storms continued to plague Pensacola under British rule. During a three-month siege against the British in 1781, a hurricane struck just three days before Spain's victory.

hurricanes also afflicted Pensacola at the turn of the 20th century. Three hurricanes in 1906, 1916, and 1926 shattered the city's waterfront, causing significant damage to ships and local industry. By the 1950s, the familiar system of naming hurricanes was in place and new technology could provide early warnings. Though these warnings help many coastal residents evacuate and save some of their possessions, hurricanes remain a threat. Hurricanes Erin and Opal thrashed Pensacola in the 1995, followed by the devastating Hurricane Ivan in 2004.



Background image: A man views destruction along the Pensacola waterfront following the 1906 hurricane. (Image courtesy of UWF Historic Trust)

PENSACOLA MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL



“Gloucester of the Gulf”

Pensacola became a center for Florida commercial fishing by the 1870s. The industry's primary export was red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*). Pensacola's fish houses, including E.E. Saunders & Co. on the Palafox Street wharf and the Warren Fish Company on the Baylen Street wharf, caught nearly five million pounds of red snapper each year by 1900. These massive catches eventually led to overfishing offshore, forcing fishermen to roam as far as the coast of Mexico to find fish.

The last all-sail fishing fleet in the United States, Pensacola's red snapper fishing schooners were often called “smacks” because of the sound of water and fish splashing inside the vessels' live wells. These fishing smacks were a unique fixture of the city's waterfront until the decline of the industry in the mid-1900s.



Out at sea, a commercial fisherman from Pensacola shows off his recent red snapper catch. (Image courtesy of the UWF Historic Trust)



Red snapper are known for their bright coloration and delicious taste. (Image courtesy of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services)

Background Image: Red Snapper fishing schooners lined up along one of Pensacola's wharves, c. 1910. (Image courtesy of UWF Historic Trust)



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PENSACOLA MARITIME HERITAGE TRAIL



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West Florida

Archaeology Institute
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and Archaeology

Archaeology in a Maritime Community

Pensacola Bay has served as a valuable resource for populations from prehistoric to modern times. The relationship between these people and their environment is often reflected in archaeological sites submerged beneath the bay's waters. In addition to the many shipwrecks in Pensacola Bay, other archaeological sites include wharves, fishing piers, and prehistoric settlements.

Archaeological sites contain cultural materials that help to explain historical events and previous ways

of life. Many of these resources are threatened by erosion, coastal development, and other harmful activities. If these archaeological sites are damaged or destroyed, they cannot be replaced. The University of West Florida and other local heritage organizations strive to raise awareness and protect these fragile and non-renewable resources, but we need your help! Become a steward for your local history by being an advocate for archaeological site protection and preservation.



Students in the University of West Florida's Anthropology Department continue to work on a variety of underwater archaeological sites in Pensacola Bay and nearby rivers every year. (Image courtesy of the UWF Archaeology Institute).



Background image: Local men pose in a staged image for the newspaper. The shipwreck of the cargo vessel Catherine, whose crew had been rescued the night before, is visible in the background. (Image courtesy of the UWF Historic Trust)



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