

NOVEMBER LECTURE:

Saturday November 18 at 2 PM –

Summit Branch of the Palm Beach County Library

3650 Summit Blvd. West Palm Beach

The Archaeology of Everglades Tree Islands – by Palm Beach County Historic Preservation Research Intern

Jessica Baker

During this presentation, we will be exploring the archaeology of Everglades tree islands through time, with particular focus on the genesis and prehistoric occupation of this network of islands which spans ~12,000 square miles of wetlands. Everglades tree islands have potentially been inhabited since the formation of Lake Okeechobee, and throughout this presentation, light will be shed on the material culture that was left behind on this vast network of islands.

It has long been held that Belle Glade and the surrounding Everglades area was largely a series of short-term occupational areas of those travelling from coast to coast; this discussion will illuminate the incredible amount of potential habitation area and the resources available, which have the potential for permanent, year-round occupation.

In an ever-changing network of environments, fluctuating climate, and natural disasters, how would the prehistoric peoples of Florida adapt to live in one of the largest networks of islands in the Southeast? How do we begin to locate the material culture within an area that has largely been developed and utilized for agriculture?

Lectures will take place on the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2 pm at the Summit (Main) Branch of the Palm Beach County Public Library. The season will begin in November and end in April.