

Proposer

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Academic classification 3LS
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Experience or training related to proposed project

- Current undergraduate history major interested in land-use research. AP credited in American History.
- Experienced amateur photographer
- Currently enrolled in local flora botany class (BOT 2800C) and interested in previous flora of NATL
- Completed Florida geology lab at University of Florida (GLY 1150L)

Sponsor

Name Curator Charlotte M. Porter PhD
Department Florida Museum of Natural History Department of Natural History
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Title of project

Historical Context of the NATL

Project summary

To enhance the NATL, this project will research and catalogue the previous owners and usage of the NATL from the first known records until the land was acquired by the University of Florida (UF). Besides historical accounts of Native American peoples and early Spanish ranches, we will use:

- Alachua County Courthouse land records.
- UF Marston Library map records.
- Relevant secondary records in the UF PK Young Library of Florida History.
- State of Florida photographic image databases.
- Relevant in the UF Samuel Proctor Oral history collection.
- Relevant works of art (paintings, graphics) concerning the NATL area.

We will compile information and images into sections by time-period for use in signage along NATL trails to give historical context to NATL habitats. The data can further be used to prepare for historical archaeological digs.

Starting date

February 9, 2009

Completion date

June 9, 2009

Description of project

The ultimate objective of this project is to provide the end-user of the NATL a historical context in which to understand the purpose of the NATL. Alachua County Courthouse records should provide names of the previous owners of the land and provide clues as to its use. The Florida State image database likely contains images of the NATL area or at the very least images of North Florida land being used in the same manner as the NATL. Added together with maps of the area provided by the Marston Map library, a comprehensive public history of the NATL's use and what it would have looked like during specific times can be provided for interpretation to end users. If possible, we would also like to collaborate with other projects concerning the flora and fauna of the NATL to build a record of things living in the area as well and provide them with any history they may need. Using the information this project intends to compile, it will be possible to assess quality locations for future historical archaeological digs.

Signatures

Student David Munroe Date _____

Sponsor Curator Charlotte M. Porter PhD Date _____