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ARCHEOLOGY IN FLORIDA

For more than half a century archeologists from outside the State carried on virtually all of the excavations with accompanying studies done in Florida. Mostly they were scientists representing and supported by the Smithsonian Institution and other scientific institutions in the North who published the results of their work.

But during the past three years archeology in Florida has come into its own. We now have four trained professionals who devote much of their time to investigation, excavation, study, and writing. The Florida State government has taken a large part in this work with John W. Griffin as Florida State Archeologist, and Ripley P. Bullen as Assistant State Archeologist, both located in the Florida State Museum at the University of Florida. Florida State University has established a Department of Anthropology and Archeology with Hale G. Smith teaching several courses and carrying on field work with the help of his students. The University of Florida in its Department of Sociology and Anthropology is offering several undergraduate and graduate courses -in archeology taught by John M. Goggin, who with his students has been excavating at several sites and studying and writing of their finds.

This interest extends, too, to the other universities in Florida; and an Anthropological Conference held last year at Rollins College is told of below.

The Florida Anthropological Society has been organized and has published two volumes of *The Florida Anthropologist*, and *Number One* of its *Publications*.

Hence, in archeology Florida is now far in the lead of all of the Southeastern States.

Florida's prehistory is as much a part of its history as that of any other era, so the Florida Historical Society is cooperating with their association. Papers have been published in our *Quarterly* by several of the above mentioned workers. Also, many of our members are members of that organization and we urge others to join with them. The dues are \$3 a year, and *The Florida Anthro-*

pologist is sent to all members as issued. The treasurer is Ripley P. Bullen, Florida Park Service, Seagle Building, Gainesville.

Reviews of recent publications relating to Florida archeology follow.

John W. Griffin, Editor, *The Florida Indian and His Neighbors: Papers Delivered at an Anthropological Conference Held at Rollins College, April 9 and 10, 1949.* (Winter Park : Inter-American Center, Rollins College, 1949.) 168 pp. 9 maps and tables, \$1.00.

The Conference on the Florida Indian and his neighbors held at Rollins College last year was attended by forty-six students of Indian history from more than thirteen states. The papers presented there have recently been published. The Conference was held in recognition of the age-old political, economical, and spiritual unity of the American nations. The conferees were "intent upon establishing more clearly, by means of their combined knowledge and experience the role which the Florida Indian and his neighbors played in the history of the native civilizations of the New World." Thus, in collecting and studying artifacts and other objects left behind by the aborigines, the archeologist and anthropologist may interpret the way of life of prehistoric and early historic peoples.

For over a century Floridians and visitors to Florida have been intrigued with the archeological records buried in the earth, whether in mounds, or middens, or housing foundations, or cemeteries. In his Introduction to this published series of seven papers, Carl E. Guthe, Director of the New York State Museum, noted that (p. 11): "The archeological records of Florida have been studied for a half-century. They indicate, on the basis of a few isolated finds, that Indians were in Florida three to four thousand years ago. But the more definite earliest records are of a hunting and fishing people who lived on the seacoast and along the rivers about a thousand years before the Spaniards came in the Sixteenth Century."

The first paper, "Cultural Traditions in Florida Prehistory," by John M. Goggin, Associate Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Florida, is an excellent synthesis of state-wide data (p. 15) which clothes "the bare archeological temporal and areal skeleton in cultural flesh" and thus delineates "the broader configurations of culture." On the basis of the exhaustive bibliography of almost a thousand citations and a long period of work begun in 1931, Goggin has chosen to discuss Florida archeology in terms in which these cultural patterns are used as units called "Traditions." He recognizes ten traditions, distinctive ways of life, showing individually a basic consistent unity: Paleo-Indian, before 2000 B.C.—300 A.D.? Archaic, 300 A.D.?—750-800 A.D. ; St. Johns, 800-1600; Glades, 750-1800; Malabar, 800-1750 ; Gulf, 800-1725 ; Florida Mississippian, 1450-1625 ; Alachua, 1175-1625 ; Spanish-Indian, 1615-1715; and Seminole, 1725 to the present.

Goggin immediately states (p. 17) that these traditions "have areal and temporal spreads of varying extent—some are localized in a single region and occur only during a brief period of time—others occupy several regions and existed through hundreds of years. . . . For some traditions the data are rich and exhaustive, for others we have only brief indications." These traditions are discussed in the categories of *Definitions*, *Distribution*, *Environmental Relations*, and *History*. As the Florida-Mississippian, Spanish-Indian, and Seminole are historic, the first paper is confined to the seven prehistoric traditions. Twenty pages are devoted to Florida prehistory which the author points out is "in its roughest outline" and "perhaps oversimplified" and "perhaps in part, a too venturesome interpretation," but, to this reviewer, it is compact, informative, and fascinating reading of Florida's little known prehistoric past.

Equally excellent, the synthesis of "The Historic Archeology of Florida" by John W. Griffin, Archeologist of the Florida Park Service, summarizes "the Archeology of late prehistoric and historic horizons in the

areas of the state in which rather sharp breaks with the cultural tradition occurred in late times". (p. 45). These major cultural groupings are analyzed in the order of the late prehistoric and early historic Ft. Walton and Safety Harbor periods of the Gulf coast, the succeeding Leon-Jefferson Period of Spanish mission times on the northwest coast, the St. Augustine Period of a comparable time period on the Florida east coast, and "the as yet somewhat sketchy evidences of Seminole archeology."

Studying and analyzing the archeological surveys of Ripley P. Bullen, John M. Goggin, Hale G. Smith and Gordon R. Willey, as well as his own, Griffin concludes that profound changes in native culture are noticeable in the areas of more intensive Spanish efforts at colonization and missionization. Even in areas of little Spanish contact, Griffin has noted the addition of material items and the eventual decimation of the population.

Before the entrance of Spanish culture into Gulf Florida, the native culture shows evidence of Mississippian influence in the Ft. Walton and Safety Harbor periods. In the Mission periods changes wrought by Spanish-Indian acculturation, migrant Indian influences and northern Indian infiltration "brought about the collapse of the Spanish-Indian Mission period and the eventual emergence of the Seminole as a factor in the Florida scene."

In "A General Survey of Southeastern Prehistory," Charles H. Fairbanks, of the Anthropology Department at the University of Michigan, outlines the parallels that existed in the large region from the Atlantic Coast to the Mississippi river south of Kentucky and Virginia.

In his paper, "Meso-America and the Southeast," James B. Griffin, Director of the Museum of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, finds that many and varied possible or probable connections existed between Mexican and southeastern aboriginal Indian cul-

tures, which, of course, directly or indirectly affected the Florida Indian.

The fifth paper, "The Southeastern United States and South America: A Comparative Statement" by Gordon R. Willey, noted anthropologist of the Smithsonian Institution, traces "the old common resemblances of a pre-agricultural era" between South America and the Southeast down through the influences of the Circum-Caribbean culture.

In the sixth paper, Irving Rouse, of the Peabody Museum at Yale University, notes that of the three groups of Indians in the Antilles in Columbian time, only the Ciboney appear to have had contact with the Southeast. In his paper, "The Southeast and the West Indies," Rouse states "it does not seem to us that relations between the Southeast and the West Indies were very close."

"The Florida Indian and His Neighbors : A Summary" by Gordon R. Willey, the concluding paper, states the case for historical connections between the Southeast and the areas to the south. Willey generalizes by stating that it is most likely that the influence of South America which was exerted indirectly, through the West Indies or Meso-America, was of first rank on the Archaic-early Ciboney levels, and that there is much question as to whether these influences were the result of diffusion of ideas, goods by trade, or migration of peoples.

These papers represent the first attempt to present a scientific survey of Florida archeology for the professional as well as for the layman. For their presentation and publication, students of Florida history should be grateful to these archeologists who have devoted their lives to the study of the Indians of Florida and neighboring regions. To the Conference Committee, A. J. Hanna, General Chairman, John W. Griffin, and I. T. Frary, a hearty vote of thanks for making it possible, as Carl E. Guthe wrote, to strengthen "the thesis of the fundamental unity of native American civilizations."

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