



Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS)

OUR 44th YEAR

November 2024 Newsletter

<https://swflarchaeology.org/>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER By *John F. Furey M.A., RPA*, jffurey@charter.net



Scientists around the world continue to find new evidence that is continually pushing human and geological timelines further and further back. A recent find in central Germany reported in the *Journal Nature* finds that *Homo Sapiens* were in Europe thousands of years earlier than was thought possible. Evidence from a cave in Ranis, Germany by French paleoanthropologist Professor Jean-Jaques Hublin concluded bones and stone tools indicate a much earlier European presence. Another discovery by Dr. Abderrazzat El Abani of the University du Poitiers, France found fossils in Gabon, Central Africa 2.1 million years older than previously thought. It appears that the area was a shallow nutrient-rich marine inland sea. These findings, and others,

continue to question the validity of many of our other timelines such as *Homo Sapiens* in Europe and the settlement of the New World. The September issue of the 2024 SWFAS Newsletter that was dedicated to the settlement of the New World questions the current dating of this population movement as currently held dating is in question from several directions and a much earlier date appears necessary for the establishment of the population of the Americas.

The 1970 book by Dee Brown, *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*, written 54 years ago, appears to have finally been read by the Pentagon. The December 29, 1890 massacre by the U.S. Army of mostly Lakota women and children at Wounded Knee, South Dakota who had gathered to dance the "Ghost Dance" because an Indian shaman named Wovoka had prophesized that by dancing the "Ghost Dance", the whites would disappear and the buffalo would return. The 7th Cavalry under command of Colonel James W. Forsyth surrounded the group and, in the morning when a scuffle broke out, began firing into the group using Hotchkiss machine guns. An unknown number of the Lakota were killed, estimated at 150-300, and 28 soldiers were killed, mostly by friendly fire. A total of twenty Medals of Honor were awarded to the soldiers that participated in the massacre and now, in 2024, the validity of the award of these medals is being questioned and reviewed. Please see the article below.

RECENT RESEARCH

HUNTER-GATHERERS OR SHOULD IT BE GATHERER-HUNTERS?



Recent research by a large team from the University of Wyoming, Penn State, University of California-Merced and Davis, Binghamton University and the National Register of Peruvian Archaeologists, investigated the remains of 24 individuals from Wilamaya Patjxa and Soro Mik'aya burial sites in Peru. Stable isotope analysis indicates that the diet of these 'hunter-gatherers' was 80 percent plant matter and 20 percent meat. Conventional wisdom holds that early human economies focused on hunting meat, the so called 'paleo diet'. New isotopic compositions and

analysis of the upper incisors indicate plants, and tubers that grew underground were the principal food source. See: *Stable Isotope Chemistry Reveals Plant-Dominant Diet Among Early Foragers on the Andean Altiplano*, PLOS ONE (2024). DOI: 10.1371/Journal.pone.0296420.

Another related study of the 6,000 years-old Trypillia civilization located in Ukraine and Moldova, sponsored by the University of Kiel, found that the inhabitants of their settlements seldom consumed meat. Meat was

about 10 percent of their diet but their main staples came from farming cereals and legumes. They raised cattle in fenced fields, but they were raised not for their meat but for their dung to fertilize their pastures and gardens. The study called their methods “sophisticated dung management ... and sophisticated food and pasture management”. Source, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

SCANDINAVIA’S FIRST FARMERS SLAUGHTERED THE HUNTER-GATHERER POPULATION, DNA ANALYSIS SUGGESTS



What happens when hunter-gatherers and farmers encounter each other? Recent DNA studies from skeletons and teeth from prehistoric people indicate that the transition was not peaceful. This study shows that Denmark has experienced two complete population turnovers. The initial turnover at about 5900 years ago happened within a few generations and that the hunter-gatherers met violent deaths and that new pathogens from livestock finished off much of the population. The second population turnover happened about 4850 years ago and another population with South Russian roots, who were animal herders, replaced the farmers and

the vegetation in the area changed due to widespread herding. Sweden seems to have experienced similar population turnovers. Source Nature 2024.

ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF THE POPULATION TURNOVER IN DENMARK BY THE VITTRUP MAN BOG BURIAL

A bog burial ritual sacrifice provides DNA evidence that corroborates the population changes in Scandinavia from foraging to farming and then to herding between 3300 B.C. to 3100 B.C. in Mesolithic and Neolithic societies. Source *Journal PLOS ONE*.

A NEW SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT STAGE HAS BEEN DISCOVERED

Archaeologists and anthropologists have identified a new stage in social advancement from earlier Hunter stages and Gather stages and are currently studying the social and economic implications of this latest socioeconomic stage. (Source: *American Legion Magazine* 022024: 44.)



CLIMATE CHANGE IS IMPACTING FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

Archaeology and Climate Change in Florida: Looking to our Resilient Past to Build the Future, Climate change is impacting archaeological sites throughout the state. Attend our November presentation by Archaeologist Sarah Ayers-Rigsby to find out what the impact of hurricanes, erosion and human activity is having on our precious archaeological heritage.

2024 FALL AND 2025 SWFAS SPEAKER SCHEDULE

NOVEMBER 20, 2024, 7:00 PM, NAPLES, COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM AT GOVERNMENT CENTER
Sara Ayers Rigsby, MA, RPA, Director, Southeast/Southwest Regions Florida Public Archaeology Network, Florida Atlantic University Anthropology Department
Looking to our resilient past to build the future: Archaeology and Climate Change in Florida

DECEMBER 7, 2024, 10:00 AM Field Trip - Koreshan State Park: SWFAS will have a private tour by a Koreshan docent and followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Preregistration for the field trip and lunch reservation are required. Contact John Furey at jffurey@charter.net to preregister.

JANUARY 15, 2025, 7:00 PM, FT. MYERS, IMAGINARIUM MUSEUM
Pat McKeown, Ph.D., Author
The Mound House

FEBRUARY 19, 2025, 7:00 PM, FT. MYERS, IMAGINARIUM MUSEUM
Ron Westcott, Koreshan State Park Docent
The Koreshans

MARCH 19, 2025, 7:00 PM, FT. MYERS, IMAGINARIUM MUSEUM
Theresa Schober, Archaeologist & SWFAS Member
Archaeology of Mt. Elizabeth
John Furey, RPA, Archaeologist & SWFAS Member
Shark Tooth Tools at Mt. Elizabeth

APRIL 16, 2025, 7:00 PM, NAPLES, COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM AT GOVERNMENT CENTER
Bob Carr, Executive Director, The Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.
The Miami Circles and the Rise of the Tequesta Chiefdom

MAY 9-11, 2025, GAINESVILLE
Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) 77th Annual Meeting Meeting & Conference

NOVEMBER 20, 2024 PRESENTATION - NAPLES, COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM AT GOVERNMENT CENTER

Looking to our resilient past to build the future: Archaeology and Climate Change in Florida



On November 20, 2024, 7:00 pm, Sara Ayers Rigsby, MA, RPA, will provide an informative lecture on Archaeology and Climate Change in Florida. Climate change is impacting archaeological sites throughout the state. Sites are impacted by increased flooding, which can limit access to areas, and more frequent and intense hurricanes. What action can be taken to document and mitigate these impacts to archaeological sites? How can archaeologists and those interested in archaeology mobilize to support efforts of resiliency professionals and other planners?

This presentation will cover statewide programs like Resilient Florida, which define cultural sites as a critical asset. We will also delve into current resiliency efforts by local municipalities to create a resilient future.

Our past is being rapidly destroyed. This presentation will also discuss citizen science efforts, like FPAN's Heritage Monitoring Scouts Florida program, that document the threats to archaeological sites and how these efforts can help support documenting the threats to archaeologists. It is up to all of us to protect these sites!

Sara Ayers-Rigsby specializes in cultural resources management and historic preservation. As the Director for the Florida Public Archaeology Network's Southeast/Southwest Regions, Ayers-Rigsby is responsible for designing educational outreach and programming for Florida's southernmost 9 counties which comprise half of the state's population. Prior to beginning her role as Southeast/Southwest Regional Director for the Florida Public Archaeology Network, she spent 10 years working as an archaeologist throughout the United States, with a regional focus on the archaeology of the southeast and Mid Atlantic. She earned her M.A. in Archaeology for Screen Media from the University of Bristol, UK, and her B.A. in Classical Archaeology from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland. She is certified as a member of the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA). Her research interests include public outreach and archaeology, resiliency, archaeological compliance legislation, and industrial archaeology in Florida.

TO GO TO THE COLLIER MUSEUM AT GOVERNMENT CENTER:



Take the I-75 toward Naples, then exit at County Hwy-886 exit, EXIT 105, toward Naples. Go about 1 mile and turn left onto Livingston Rd/County Hwy-881. Go 1.4 miles and turn right onto Radio Rd/County Hwy-856. Then go 1 mile and turn left onto Airport-Pulling Rd S/County Hwy-31. Go about .5 miles and turn left onto Tamiami Trl E/US-41 N. 3331 TAMIAMI TRL E is on the left. It is the large government center complex. Follow the signs for the museum to the rear of the complex.

ARTICLES

WHAT DOES THE SHAPE OF POTTERY VESSELS TELL US?

The shapes of pottery vessels coupled with DNA testing of the residue in the pots tells us what crops were utilized, the culinary traditions practiced, and the direction the diffusion of these crops. Interestingly, the culinary traditions and cooking methods where these crops originated did not necessarily go with the crops but were integrated into the traditional cooking methods as exhibited by the shapes of the pottery utilized. See below.

PREHISTORIC CHEFS RETAINED STRONG COOKING TRADITIONS, ANCIENT POTTERY AND DNA ANALYSIS REVEALS

By Antiquity

January 24, 2024

From PhysOrg at <https://phys.org/news/2024-01-prehistoric-chefs-retained-strong-cooking.html#:~:text=Archaeologists%20have%20combined%20DNA%20analysis%20with%20the%20study%20of%20pottery>



Credit: Hongen Jiang for the Xinjiang Institute

Archaeologists have combined DNA analysis with the study of pottery to examine the spread of broomcorn millet across Eurasia, revealing how regional culinary traditions persisted even as new crops were introduced. Broomcorn millet was domesticated in China and was cooked through boiling and steaming, producing a wet and sticky end product. In Central Asia, however, grains were typically ground and baked into bread. When millet was introduced, people simply applied their pre-existing cooking techniques to the new grain. "It was already known that staple crops had moved long distances across the Old World in prehistory, at the same time that regional cuisines had persisted in a conservative

fashion," states author Dr. Hongen Jiang from The University of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. "We didn't know how those two opposing trends interconnected."

To tackle this, a team of researchers from several Chinese, U.K. and U.S. institutions analyzed the DNA of preserved millet remains from 1700 BC–AD 700 Xinjiang in north-west China and compared them with cooking vessels to reconstruct prehistoric cooking methods. Their results are published in the journal *Antiquity*. "Just as remarkable as the vast journeys staple crops made across prehistoric Eurasia is the enduring persistence of the regional culinary cultures that received those crops," says Dr. Jiang. "Conventional studies of ancient pottery can be combined with novel DNA science to reveal how they interconnect."

The stickiness of broomcorn millet is controlled by certain gene variations. By analyzing the DNA of grain samples, Drs. Harriet Hunt and Diane Lister from Kew Gardens and Cambridge University were able to determine that none of the millet grains from Xinjiang had the genes to make them sticky. This suggests that, as millet moved west, it retained a non-sticky consistency, despite the fact that sticky millet was already widely distributed in eastern China. This means that crops spread further west than the culinary traditions with which they were associated.

This is also supported by ceramic evidence. While eastern Chinese ceramic vessels have a tripod base to facilitate boiling, those in Central Asia have rounded bottoms, a design originating in the Altai mountains. Importantly, this means that while millet was introduced to Xinjiang from the east, the vessels used to cook it came from the north. This further indicates that cooking traditions survived the introduction of new ingredients.

The western spread of staple crops fundamentally changed the diets of those it reached, but culturally ingrained cooking traditions likely remained the same. Dr. Xinyi Liu from Washington University in St. Louis draws attention to a corresponding pattern in the reverse. Wheat traveled eastward to ancient China about 4,000 years ago, but the western grinding-and-baking tradition did not.

LIDAR CONTINUES TO REVEAL NEW SETTLEMENTS IN SOUTH AMERICA

A LIDAR survey of the foothills of the Amazon rainforest in the Upano Valley in Ecuador have revealed a 300-square-kilometer area that was densely populated and dates to 2500 BC. The area contains platforms, plazas, streets, terraces, and long straight roads that connected the various urban sites. Based on this we are forced to review our paradigm of the date of settlement of this tropical region. Source: Prof. Stephen Rostain et al. *Science*, 2024. See below.

HUGE NETWORK OF ANCIENT CITIES UNCOVERED IN THE AMAZON

By Amarachi Orie, CNN

January 14, 2024

From CNN at <https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/12/americas/ancient-city-uncovered-amazon-upano-intl-scli-scn/index.html>



Credit: Stéphen Rostain

Archaeologists working deep in the Amazon rainforest have discovered an extensive network of cities dating back 2,500 years. The highly structured pre-Hispanic settlements, with wide streets and long, straight roads, plazas and clusters of monumental platforms were found in the Upano Valley of Amazonian Ecuador, in the eastern foothills of the Andes, according to a study published in the journal *Science* on Thursday. The discovery of the earliest and largest urban network of built and dug features in the Amazon so far was the result of more than two decades of investigations in the region by the team from France, Germany, Ecuador and Puerto Rico. The

research began with fieldwork before deploying a remote sensing method called light detection and ranging, or lidar, which used laser light to detect structures below the thick tree canopies. Lead study author Stéphen Rostain, an archeologist and director of Research at France’s National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS), described the discovery as “incredible.”

Advanced engineering

“The lidar gave us an overview of the region and we could appreciate greatly the size of the sites,” he told CNN Friday, adding that it showed them a “complete web” of dug roads. “The lidar was the cherry on the cake.”

Rostain said the first people who lived there, 3,000 years ago, had small, dispersed houses. However, between approximately 500 BCE and 300 to 600 CE, the Kilamope and later Upano cultures began to build mounds and set their houses on earthen platforms, according to the study authors. These platforms would be organized around a low, square plaza. Data from LiDAR revealed more than 6,000 platforms within the southern half of the 600-square-kilometer (232-square-mile) area surveyed. The platforms were mostly rectangular, although a few were circular, and measured about 20 meters by 10 meters (66 feet by 33 feet), according to the study. They were typically built around a plaza in groups of three or six. The plazas also often had a central platform.

The team also discovered monumental complexes with much larger platforms, which, they said, probably had a civic or ceremonial function. At least 15 clusters of complexes identified as settlements were discovered. Some settlements were protected by ditches, while there were obstructions to roads near some of the large complexes. This suggests the settlements were exposed to threats, either external or resulting from tension between groups, the researchers said. Even the most isolated complexes were linked by pathways and an extensive network of larger, straight roads with curbs.

In the empty buffer zones between complexes, the team found features of land cultivation, such as drainage fields and terraces. These were linked to a network of footpaths, according to the study. “For that reason, I call this garden cities,” said Rostain, who added: “It’s a complete revolution in our paradigm about the Amazon.” “We have to think that all the Indigenous (people) in the rainforest were not semi-nomadic tribes lost in the

forest, looking for food. They're a big variety, diversity of cases and some were also with (an) urbanistic system, with (a) stratified society," he said.

The overall organization of the cities suggests "the existence of advanced engineering" at the time, according to the study authors, who concluded that the garden urbanism of the Upano Valley "provides further proof that Amazonia is not the pristine forest once depicted." Rostain said we should imagine pre-Columbian Amazonia "like a nest of ants," with everybody busy with activities.

Similar sites found across the Americas

This newly discovered urban network aligns closely with other sites that have been found across the tropical forests of Panama, Guatemala, Belize, Brazil and Mexico, according to landscape archeologist Carlos Morales-Aguilar, a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Texas at Austin, who was not involved in the study. He called the study "groundbreaking," telling CNN it not only "provides concrete evidence of early, advanced urban planning in the Amazon but also contributes significantly to our understanding of the cultural and environmental legacy of Indigenous societies in this region."

In 2022, Morales-Aguilar was part of a team of researchers that used LiDAR to uncover a vast site in northern Guatemala, with hundreds of ancient, interconnected Mayan cities, towns and villages, as well as a 110-mile (177-kilometer) network of raised stone trails connecting communities. He said the findings in this latest study mirror the advanced techniques in agriculture and urban planning that he observed in northern Guatemala and "offer new insights into the complexities of these early societies."

GREENLAND IS TURNING GREEN AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE MIDEVAL TIMES

By: Doyle Rice

February 13, 2024

From USA Today at <https://www.msn.com/en-us/weather/topstories/greenland-is-turning-green-again-for-the-first-time-since-medieval-times-why-it-matters/ar-BB1icxnj#:~:text=Parts%20of%20Greenland%20are%20becoming%20green%20again%20for%20the%20first>



Credit: Joshua Brown, University of Vermont

We may need to rethink that old expression "Greenland is ice, Iceland is green." New research published Tuesday says that because of global warming, Greenland's ice sheet is melting fast – and being replaced by vegetation. Parts of Greenland are becoming green again for the first time since the Vikings visited nearly 1,000 years ago, according to study co-author Jonathan Carrivick, an Earth scientist at the University of Leeds in the U.K. And where there was once snow and ice just a few decades ago, there are now areas of shrub, along with barren rock and wetlands, the study reports.

How much ice has melted?

An estimated 11,000 square miles of Greenland's ice sheet and glaciers have melted over the past three decades, the study reports. Overall, the total area of ice loss in the past 30 years is slightly greater than the size of Massachusetts and represents about 1.6% of Greenland's total ice and glacier cover. "Warmer temperatures are linked to the land cover changes that we are seeing on Greenland," Carrivick said in a statement. "By analyzing high-resolution satellite images, we have been able to produce a detailed record of the land cover changes that are taking place."

Vikings' records suggest vegetation was 'more extensive then'

The last time Greenland was this green was "possibly during the Medieval Warm Period," (roughly 900 to 1,300 A.D.), Carrivick told USA TODAY. "The ice sheet was less extensive then than today, and it is likely vegetation was more extensive then, too, as the Viking records suggest."

Why does ice on Greenland matter?

Why should we care about what happens in Greenland? In addition to the local effects on people, flora and fauna, "the loss of ice mass in Greenland is a substantial contributor to global sea level rise, a trend that poses significant challenges both now and in the future," said study lead author Michael Grimes, also of the University of Leeds. If all the ice on Greenland melted, global seas would rise by about 23 feet, according to NASA. In addition, freshwater intrusion into the ocean could affect underwater currents that influence climate and weather in the U.S. and around the world.

Will Greenland continue to get greener?

Yes, says Carrivick, who told USA TODAY that "ice is projected to diminish further, and at a faster rate (than recent decades), and in time that will promote greening via vegetation expansion, which this study shows is already well underway."

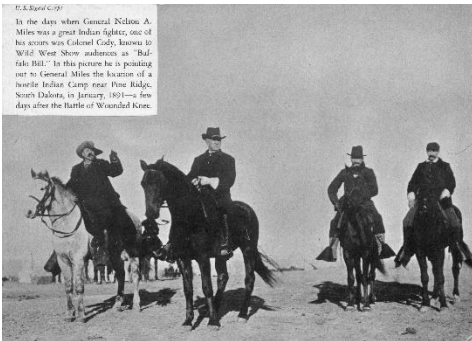
The study was published in the peer-reviewed British journal Scientific Reports.

US ANALYZING MASSACRE AT WOUNDED KNEE

By Tom Vanden Brook

August 2, 2024

From Yahoo News and USA Today at https://news.yahoo.com/news/wounded-knee-medals-honor-come-040241709.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly93d3cuYmluZy5jb20v&guce_referrer_sig=AQA- AAHJnzboonJUZLQz8OT3TGVjpwaDI9ULkxLQQAoqyMKPfdW_xgdOn7lDbnEh46ga4Fqha05H79OHUaizauhC_RKIAfr0T82Lq3U2ozIVnLoT-tXAiIhVtld9Fcq5FVkgENU4Ln6ZP_sjnMyxbrcZka-ID2Noxzlcd2v8CG4egjoA#:~:text=WASHINGTON%20%E2%80%93%20The%20Pentagon%20has%20launched%20a%20review%20that%20could



U.S. Army © 1911
In the days when General Nelson A. Miles was a great Indian fighter, one of his scores was Colonel Cody, known to Wild West Show audiences as "Buffalo Bill." In this picture he is pointing out to General Miles the location of a hostile Indian camp near Pine Ridge, South Dakota, in January, 1891—two days after the Battle of Wounded Knee.

WASHINGTON – The Pentagon has launched a review that could revoke 20 Medals of Honor awarded to soldiers involved in the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890, marking the military’s latest effort to acknowledge that some medal recipients and memorials don’t measure up to standards of valor and honor. Since 2020, after the murder of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis, the military has increasingly sought to reckon with vestiges of racism. It has erased the names of treasonous Confederate officers from some of its most iconic bases. Now, the Pentagon is poised to strip the nation’s highest award for valor from soldiers who slaughtered Native American

noncombatants, including women and children at Wounded Knee Creek. Those actions come as the military increasingly diversifies. More than 40% of troops identify as people of color, according to the Pentagon.

On July 19, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin ordered the review by five experts to examine the actions of 20 soldiers involved in the fighting at Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota, on Dec. 29, 1890. Austin directed the panel to present him with recommendations by Oct. 15 on each medal awarded. Austin’s order comes more than three decades after the U.S. Senate declared the battle to be a massacre. The Army killed as many as 375 Native American men, women and children, according to a 1990 Senate resolution. The review follows more recent attempts in Congress that have failed to garner enough support to force the military to account for Medals of Honor issued at Wounded Knee.

Austin’s order is especially significant in part because the Medal of Honor has become imbued over the years with a reverence bordering on the sacred, according to a senior Defense official who was not authorized to speak publicly. “The Medal of Honor is much more than being in combat and doing well,” the official said. “The Medal of Honor goes to those who decide to do much, much more than fight. They display honor, gallantry – a word we don’t use every day. There’s a case to be made that there was no honor present at Wounded Knee that day. That’s why we need this review.”

What happened at Wounded Knee Creek

In 1890, a government Indian Affairs agent misinterpreted a Lakota Sioux religious revival ceremony known as a “Ghost Dance” as a call for insurrection, according to a 2024 University of Oklahoma College of Law paper by Dwight Mears, an Army combat veteran and former professor at West Point. President Benjamin Harrison ordered the Army to prevent an uprising in South Dakota. The 7th Cavalry arrived at Wounded Knee Creek and sought to disarm the Lakota. A gun discharged during that attempt followed by bitter fighting. The battle shifted to a ravine. It ended when soldiers fired cannons at Native Americans seeking shelter.

Allegations of noncombatant deaths soon emerged. Maj. Gen. Nelson Miles relieved the 7th Cavalry commander and ordered an investigation. Miles wrote to his superiors and expressed his “strongest disapproval” over the killing of noncombatants. In a private letter Miles wrote, “I have never heard of a more brutal, cold-blooded massacre than that at Wounded Knee.”

Mears cited the Army’s latest historical account of the day. The first shot fired might have been an accident, the result of a soldier trying to disarm a Lakota. “But whatever the source, it led to indiscriminate firing from soldiers and some return fire from the Lakota. In the ensuing action, many Lakota men, women and children sought to escape via ravines that cut through the area. The soldiers also employed artillery despite the presence of numerous noncombatants.” When it was over, as many as 300 Lakota had been killed, including women and children, according to Army historians. There were 25 soldiers killed, some likely by friendly fire.

The Wounded Knee site became a place of remembrance for Native Americans, and the massacre a rallying cry in struggles for Native American rights, according to the Library of Congress.

Why Medals of Honor were awarded

At the time, the Medal of Honor was the only medal available to award to soldiers. It would be decades before other medals such as the Distinguished Service Cross, Silver Star and Bronze Star were awarded. The guidelines for awarding the medal had evolved from the Civil War when it was established and required soldiers to have faced combat.

By 1916, Congress intervened to establish standards for the Medal of Honor and authorized a board to consider revoking medals from recipients who didn’t measure up. That review resulted in more than 900 Medals of Honor being rescinded. Most of those taken back had been awarded during the Civil War to soldiers who had reenlisted.

What the Pentagon review is trying to accomplish

Austin ordered the panel to look at each soldier’s actions during the engagement at Wounded Knee, according to the memo establishing the review. He tasked the Army with producing each soldier’s personnel file, and reports and investigations into the actions during the battle. The panel will consider the standards that applied when the medal was issued and recommend revocation of medals for soldier who didn't qualify. At the time, Army regulations required soldiers to avoid civilian casualties when possible. Austin identified “disqualifying actions” that would revoke a medal, including intentionally attacking civilians, murder and rape.

Some of the Medal of Honor recipients at Wounded Knee also appear to have failed to meet the requirements of valor of their day, according to Mears. Mears found that two soldiers might have their medals revoked because their actions, while not criminal, failed to meet the standard of distinguished conduct. One of them, Pvt. Matthew Hamilton, was awarded the Medal of Honor for “rounding up and bringing to the skirmish line a stampeded pack mule.”

If a soldier did act honorably at Wounded Knee, rendering medical aid under fire, for instance, he should be allowed to retain his medal, the senior Defense official said. But any dishonorable action should result in revocation, the official said.

“This is tied up in the military’s review of renaming bases and the placement of statues celebrating the Confederacy,” the official said. “Some will view it as trying to rewrite history or being woke. In this case, that’s not a valid concern. Ultimately, nobody can view actions at Wounded Knee as something to be proud of. No reading of history, no historical contextualization, can rationalize actions on that day.”

SWFAS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE 2024 CALENDAR YEAR

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Find us on Facebook at Southwest Florida Archaeological Society!

Check out our website at <http://swflarchaeology.org/>

SWFAS AND FAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

We encourage those interested in Florida archaeology to become members of The Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) and The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS). Annual dues are due in January and membership applications to both organizations are attached. Membership in the FAS provides you with four annual volumes of *The Florida Anthropologist* and occasional newsletters on anthropological events in Florida in addition to the annual statewide meeting. More information on FAS can be found online at: www.fasweb.org. Membership in SWFAS offers you a local series of talks on archaeological and anthropological subjects that you can attend. The SWFAS monthly newsletter keeps you up to date on local events as well as other important archaeological topics. We urge you to support both with your membership. All of the SWFAS Lecture Series are open to the public at no charge.



JOIN US!

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society

<http://swflarchaeology.org/>

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS) was founded in 1980 as a not-for profit corporation to provide a meeting place for people interested in the area's past.

Our goals are to:

- Learn more of the area's history
- Create a place for sharing of this information
- Advocate for preservation of cultural resources

Its members include professional and amateur archaeologists and interested members of the general public. Members come from all walks of life and age groups. They share a lively curiosity, a respect for the people who preceded them here, and a feeling of responsibility for the conservation of the places and objects they left behind.

The Society holds monthly meetings between October and April, attracting speakers who are in the forefront of archaeological and historical research. Occasionally members join in trips to historical and archaeological sites.

A monthly newsletter, Facebook page, and website keep members abreast of our events and happenings.

The organization is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society, a statewide organization that publishes quarterly newsletters and a journal, *The Florida Anthropologist*, and holds an annual conference.

I want to help The Southwest Florida Archaeology Society preserve and interpret Florida's heritage!

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Check One:

Individual (\$20) _____ Sustaining Individual (\$50) _____ Family (\$35) _____

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Donation to Support SWFAS Speakers and Programs _____

Skills, training, interests: _____

I hereby agree to abide by the rules and bylaws of the Southwest Archaeological Society. I further release from any and all liability due to accident and injury to myself, dependents and any property owners cooperating with the society.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Please make your check out to SWFAS and mail to:

Charlie Strader
SWFAS Treasurer
27655 Kent Road
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

REV. 12052017

FAS Membership Categories

Membership in the Society is open to all interested individuals who are willing to abide by the Florida Anthropological Society Statement of Ethical Responsibilities, which can be found on our website fasweb.org. *Membership is for one year.* SELECT LEVEL BELOW.

<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	\$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$40	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining	\$100
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$45		

*Student membership is open to graduate, undergraduate and high school students. A photocopy of your student ID must accompany payment. **Add \$25 for foreign addresses.

Member Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ FAS Chapter: _____

Please choose how you wish to receive the quarterly journal, *The Florida Anthropologist*.

Digital Only (via a password protected web link) Note: Student members only receive digital access.

Both Digital and Printed

This is a Gift Membership from: _____

In addition to this Membership, I also wish to make a donation to:

\$ _____ Dot Moore/FAS Student Grant Fund \$ _____ Florida Archaeology Month Account

\$ _____ Florida Anthropologist Monograph Fund \$ _____ Florida Anthropologist Endowment Fund

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