



FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK

A PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY *of* WEST FLORIDA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Talking Smack: Northwest Florida's Historical Red Snapper Industry Exhibit on Display

***New Exhibit Explores Rise and Fall of
Northwest Florida's Red Snapper Industry***

PENSACOLA, Fla. – The Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) has opened a new museum exhibit titled *Talking Smack: Northwest Florida's Historical Red Snapper Industry* inside the Destination Archaeology Resource Center. The Destination Archaeology Resource Center is located on the first floor of the Florida Public Archaeology Network headquarters at 207 East Main Street in downtown Pensacola (next to the Fish House restaurant).

Exhibit synopsis:

The end of the American Civil War offered almost limitless possibilities for northerners looking to bring business south. Pensacola, Florida, was one of the many southern port cities to bloom in the years following the war. The growth of the red snapper fishing industry in Pensacola contributed prominently to the city's worldly and unique nature at the beginning of the 20th century.

New Englanders success in founding fish houses and fishing fleets in the city drew fishermen, their families, and a large support network from all reaches of the Atlantic. Due to the huge boom in Pensacola, fish houses were established throughout Northwest Florida to partake in the lucrative red snapper market.

The exhibit features artifacts on display from the shipwrecks of two fishing smacks excavated by University of West Florida archaeologists.

Destination Archaeology's permanent featured exhibit, "A Roadtrip Through Florida Archaeology," showcases heritage sites open to the public within the eight regions of the FPAN and displays artifacts that highlight Florida's unique history. Exhibits also include information about archaeology and a temporary exhibit space that highlights current research by UWF archaeology faculty and graduate students. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is free.

For more information please contact Mike Thomin, mthomin@uwf.edu or 850-595-0050 ext. 107

Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations are requested to advise UWF by contacting the UWF ADA Compliance Office at (850) 474-2694 (voice) or (850) 857-6114 (TTY) at least 48 hours prior to the event.

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