

**A CUBAN ORIGIN FOR GLADES POTTERY?  
A PROVOCATIVE HYPOTHESIS REVISITED**

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Archaeological interpretations invoking prehistoric contact or migration between Florida and the Greater Antilles have a long history. Noteworthy early claims of such contacts include those by Fewkes (1904), Harrington (1921), Gower (1927), and Lovén (1935). More recent archaeological evaluations of possible Florida-Antillean contact, including those by such luminaries as Stone (1939), Griffin (1943), Rouse (1949), Willey (1949), and Sears (1977), have continued up to the present, and have involved several time periods and categories of material culture. Sturtevant (1960) has considered the problem from an ethnological point of view.

In this paper we restrict our comments to a highly specific connection first proposed in the 1940s. It is based on an intriguing similarity between geometrically incised pottery of the Glades tradition of southern Florida with the incised pottery of the Cantabria tradition in south-central Cuba. Pertinent similarities between the Glades and Cantabria pottery traditions include open bowls incised near the rim with designs consisting of arches and zigzags. Regarding these similarities, the most profound position offered to date suggests that Glades material culture owes its existence to a northward migration from central Cuba. Our purpose in revisiting this suggested connection is to evaluate it based on improved chronologies in both areas.

#### The Glades and Cantabria Traditions of South Florida and Cuba

Pottery of the Glades tradition was formally defined by John Goggin, expanding on a term first used by Matthew Stirling (1936) and fleshed out by Goggin's own fieldwork (Goggin 1940, 1941, n.d.). Portrayed as an entirely indigenous Florida tradition (Goggin 1949), the Glades chronological sequence was initially developed based in large part on Goggin's 1944 work at Upper Matecumbe Key (Goggin and Sommer 1949). Despite refinements and

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- 1997 The Eastern Creek Frontier: History and Archaeology of the Flint River Towns, ca. 1750-1826. Paper presented in the symposium "Recent Advances in Lower Creek Archaeology" at the annual conference of the Society for American Archaeology, Nashville.
- 1997 The Ethnohistorical Context of Bioarchaeology in Spanish Florida. Paper presented in the symposium "Bioarchaeology in Northern Frontier New Spain" at the annual conference of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists, St. Louis.
- 1995 Upland Occupation at the Raccoon Ridge Site (9Mg271): Three Years of Public Archaeology at Fernbank Museum of Natural History. Paper presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Knoxville.
- 1994 Exploration and Trade in the Deep Frontier of Spanish Florida: Possible Sources for 16th-Century Spanish Artifacts in Western North Carolina. Paper presented in the symposium "A Consideration of Archaeological and Documentary Evidence for 16th- and 17th-Century Spanish and Native Contact in Western North Carolina" at the 51<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington.
- 1992 Timucua and the Colonial System in Florida: The Rebellion of 1656. Paper presented in the symposium "New Perspectives on the Spanish Colonial Experience" at the 25<sup>th</sup> conference of the Society for Historical Archaeology, Kingston, Jamaica.
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- 2008 Sixteenth-Century European Artifact Dispersion in the Southeast. Paper presented at the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Charlotte, North Carolina.
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- 1994 Spanish Missions of the Northern Timucua Province. Paper presented at the 51<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of the Southeastern Archaeological Conference, Lexington.

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