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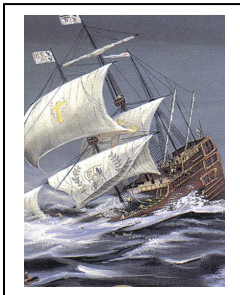
## Urca de Lima Monitoring Day Project

May 19 and 20, 2008

Stuart and Ft. Pierce, Florida

The Urca de Lima Underwater Archaeology Monitoring Day Project will involve a public presentation on May 19 at 7:00 p.m. and a Georges Valentine Picture Party & Project Aware Volunteer recognition from 8:00 to 8:30 pm at the Susan H. Johnson Auditorium in the Wolf High Technology center the Indian River Community College, Chastain campus, 2400 Se Salerno Rd, Stuart, Martin County, FL (772) 283-6550. It will also involve two SCUBA dives on May 20, 2008, upon the Urca de Lima Preserve in Ft. Pierce, St. Lucie County for the purpose of monitoring Florida's first Underwater Archaeological Preserve.

History: The Urca de Lima, also known as *Nao de Refuerzo*, was part of a Spanish Merchant convoy of eleven ships. It was designed as a flat bottomed, round-bellied ship that was transporting hundreds of uncured cow hides, chocolate, vanilla, sassafras, incense, and other exotic products from the New World back to Spain. The Urca de Lima survived the hurricane of 1715 relatively intact but was burned to the water line by the Spanish after salvage. The ship was later salvaged by a British surveyor about fifty years after sinking. The Urca de Lima was rediscovered in 1928 and salvaged additionally, mostly for cannons and anchors. Salvage on the Urca de Lima continued until 1984.



Research Questions: Research Questions that will be addressed are: What is the status of this preserve with regard to the integrity of the wreck that was documented by the Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR) in 1985? Does the landscape of the debris field appear similar or much changed? What is the ecological health of the wreck debris field and surrounding reef? Is there much modern debris or disturbance to the Preserve? Can recent impacts from weather or humans be observed?

Fieldwork Strategy: The fieldwork that will be conducted will consist of observation, digital underwater photo documentation, digital underwater video documentation, and measurements taken by reel tapes. The location of fieldwork activities will be in the wreck debris approximately 120 by 80 feet. There will be no disturbance to the wreck or preserve site area. There will be no artifact disturbance or removal. Volunteers will be asked to make observations, take pictures, video, or measurements.

Volunteer Diver information: Volunteers are asked to bring all their own personal SCUBA equipment, including tanks and weights. These will be a shore dives from the beach to the Urca de Lima Wreck, weather permitting. Volunteer divers will need to sign waiver forms that can be e-mailed or will be provided at the beach on May 20. Waivers can also be obtained by clicking on the following link: <http://www.underwaterpublicarchaeology.org/events.htm>.

**Please download all five forms** (offsite form, diving-boating appendix, emergency contact, PADI special event, and PADI safe diving). Divers will be asked to meet at the beach on the east side of A1A, across from the Bauman Apartments at 3707 N A1A, Ft. Pierce, FL 34949 by 9:00 a.m. Parking is by the showers or at the north end of the Pepper Beach parking lot (Cross to the ocean using dune walk-over and walk north on beach). The Urca de Lima project will last approximately 5 hours from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you would like to participate, or need additional information, please contact Dr. Kira Kaufmann.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Florida Public Archaeology Network, 111 East Las Olas Blvd., Suite AT817, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 3330. Or [kaufmann@fau.edu](mailto:kaufmann@fau.edu) AND (954) 762-5183