# What if you encounter artifacts on the trails?

Leave the artifacts in place!





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Take a picture and note the location.

Send pictures and any information about the artifacts to artifacts@gtmnerr.org



Indigenous ceramic



Shark vertebra



Whiteware ceramic



Redware ceramic



Glass bottle lip

#### What is archaeology?

Archaeology is the study of people in the past through the things they left behind.

#### What is an archaeological site?

An archaeological site is made up of artifacts and other features such as building remains, that serve as evidence of people living, working, or doing other activities in a specific place.

### What is an artifact?

An artifact is anything 50 years or older that was made, used, touched, or eaten by people.

## Why is it important to leave things in place?

It is unlawful to dig or take artifacts from stateowned or controlled lands, including submerged lands. Digging and removing artifacts from their place can destroy important information that helps us to learn about the past.



Archaeological sites like shell middens can contain evidence of people living in an area for thousands of years!



Questions about archaeology? Contact the Florida Public Archaeology Network www.fpan.us



Scan here to learn more, including help with identifying common types of artifacts.