

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



## Bureau of Archaeological Research

High-Density Storage Solution Helps the State of Florida Celebrate its Past

### CHALLENGE

After moving into a new building in 2012, the State of Florida's Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR) Collections – part of the State's Division of Historical Resources and one of three BAR locations across the state – was faced with a storage conundrum. Charged with curating a massive collection of items that represent the entirety of Florida's history – from lithic tools to 500-year-old gold and silver to pieces from a famed local author's homestead – the new space didn't properly address the BAR Collection's need for organized storage or expandability. Initially required to share the building with other organizations, it had some

of its historic items stored on static shelving on one floor. Other items were kept in two other nearby facilities.

In 2014, the BAR took over the rest of the building, allowing it to bring the entire collection in-house. This presented a new opportunity.

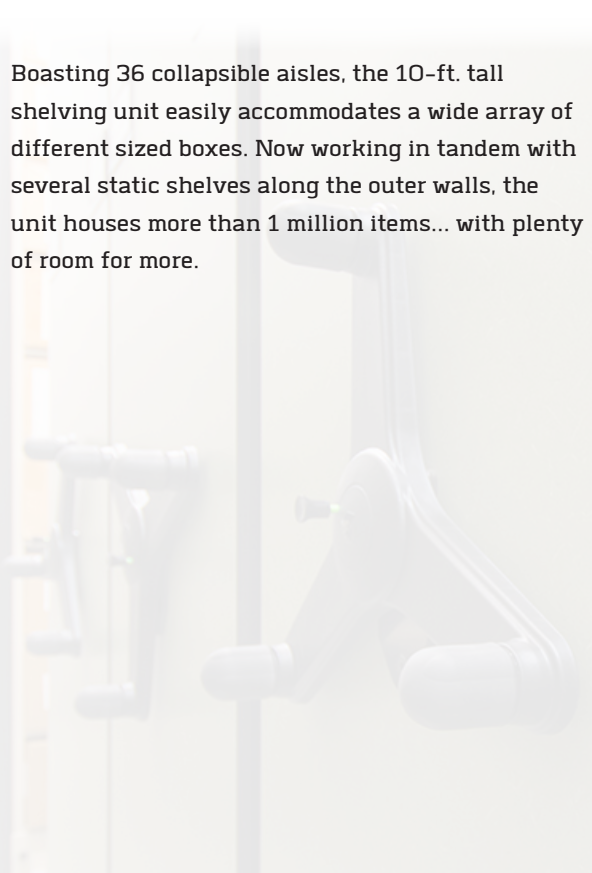
*"They have a unique mission,"* said Patterson Pope Sales Representative Robin Knuppel of the BAR. *"Their collection contains so many amazing pieces. It became apparent pretty quickly that, based on what they had, a high-density system was the ideal solution."*

### SOLUTION

Once the BAR took over the entire building on state-owned land next to the Mission of San Luis in Tallahassee, it needed to find an organized way to store its smaller items, including pottery, bone fragments and glass. What's more, given the inevitable growth rate of the collection, several years' worth of expandability was also imperative.

*"After speaking with everyone there and seeing the space, it became apparent rather quickly that a compact shelving solution would be ideal,"* said Knuppel. *"The system we eventually installed covers two rooms, and more than 2,160 square feet."*

Boasting 36 collapsible aisles, the 10-ft. tall shelving unit easily accommodates a wide array of different sized boxes. Now working in tandem with several static shelves along the outer walls, the unit houses more than 1 million items... with plenty of room for more.



**"I cannot impress enough upon you just how much the added space means to us. We're very thankful. Working with Patterson Pope was such a rewarding experience."**

Marie Prentice  
Senior Archaeologist  
Bureau of Archaeological Research

## ACHIEVEMENT

BAR Senior Archaeologist Marie Prentice is thrilled with the way the new manual-assist high-density unit has changed her work life.

*"It's really made a huge difference. It's allowed us to take advantage of all of the square footage we have down there," she said. "It's so easy to turn; you really can move it with the touch of a finger. I really, really love our compact shelving. I'm a big fan."*

Prentice, who has a special affection for studying historic pottery and glass, appreciated the system's workability – for both today and so many tomorrows.

*"I cannot impress enough upon you just how much the added space means to us. We're very*

*thankful. Working with Patterson Pope was such a rewarding experience. For both myself and the other members of our small team who use the system on a regular basis, it's been a real treat."*

Not only does the system easily accommodate the entirety of the BAR's current collection, but it also boasts room for several years' worth of growth.

*"We're a behind-the-scenes facility, not generally open to the public," said Prentice. "I love being able to assist researchers and getting these items out in front of the public. We've had so many master's theses and dissertations done on some of the pieces in our collection. The new compact shelving literally gives us more room to do what we love."*

Talk about history in the making.

