



GLOBAL MARINE EXPLORATION, INC. NEWSLETTER

Global Marine Exploration Inc. President & CEO Robert H Pritchett is proud to announce the discovery of three ornate bronze cannon, two of which are 10 feet long and the other 7.5 feet long, what is believed to be a marble monument with the Coat of Arms of France from the early colonial period, as well as scattered ballast, munitions and many large encrusted objects.

The dive team discovered the three bronze cannon, and marble monument in May but kept the find a secret for security reasons.

An official press release will occur this week.

The artifacts have been diver verified, mapped and examined *in-situ* by GME investigators. Underwater video and photographs have also been taken and detailed drawings have been made of select artifacts on site.



Initial findings suggested the possibility that these were part of the remains of the lost French ships commanded by Jean Ribault in 1565, but subsequent physical evidence and historical research by the GME archaeological team have ruled out that possibility, the identity of the sunken vessel or vessels may never be known.





GME chief archaeologist Jim Sinclair, suggested “the historical and archaeological significance of these artifacts cannot be overstated”. One of the bronze cannon has markings linking it to the reign of Henry II and was likely cast in the 1540’s. The monument appears to be hand carved marble and could have possibly been connected to the first French attempts at new world colonization, the Protestant Huguenots and the founding of Spanish Florida at St. Augustine.



Florida Secretary of State Ken Detzner has stated that his office would like to look at a partnership with GME to continue this investigation to a successful completion. Global Marine Exploration has now successfully completed 14 permits with both the Florida Bureau of Historical Resources and the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research.

We hope to begin further in-situ analysis as well as rescue and recovery, and attempt identification of these important items soon. The harsh undersea conditions they remain in are further deteriorating and damaging them. Conservation, cleaning and further study of recovered materials would take place in the GME conservation laboratory in Tampa, Florida.