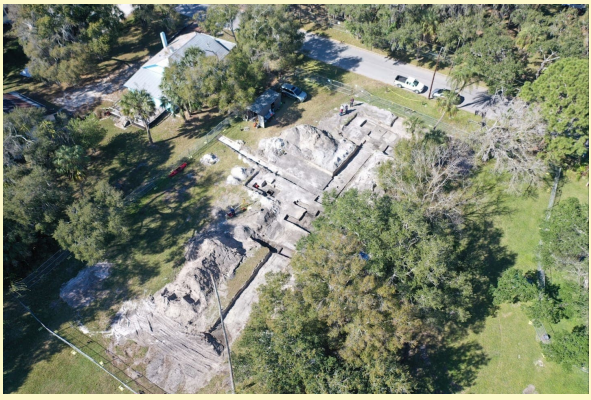
November 17, 2027

I began my archaeology career without imagining I'd find a home at a small museum on the banks of the Manatee River. In January 2020, I answered an ad for archaeologists—and found my place. Archaeology brought me to Bradenton, but the **passion of the Reflections of Manatee board and its commitment to history and preservation convinced me to stay.**



The excavation wasn't the beginning of Reflections' story; it was a turning point. By 2020, **Reflections had preserved the land around Mineral Spring Park, purchased and restored three historic houses, established a historic district, earned recognition as an Underground Railroad Site,** and brought hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants and volunteer labor to bear in **preserving and beautifying this East Bradenton neighborhood**.





The Archaeology of Angola exhibit and expanded interpretation of the post-1842 Manatee settlement to include the Civil War, the Curry family, and the role of the United States Colored Troops. Most recently, we envisioned and coordinated a six-book comic series sharing the story of the Angola Freedom Seekers with children and reluctant readers.





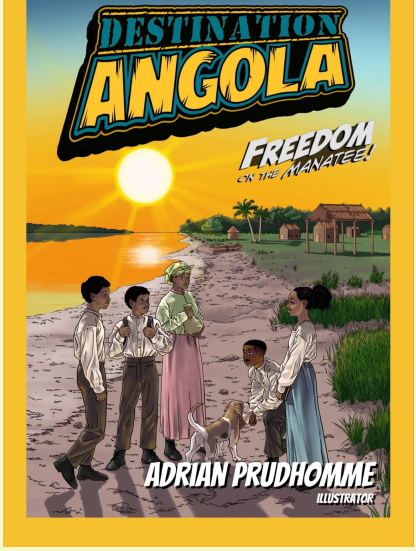


These achievements build on Reflections' ongoing preservation work, keeping history accessible in the neighborhood, offering tours, and promoting Manatee history in the wider community. **Reflections remains committed to representing the voices of all the peoples who settled along the Manatee River.**



State funding cuts to cultural institutions due to anti-DEI legislation have impacted us deeply. As the holidays and new year approach, Reflections of Manatee is asking you to show your support for what we do.





Your contribution to the Annual Campaign does more than help keep the doors open. It helps Reflections continue to offer quality programming, interpretation, and community service to its members and the greater Bradenton community. Click the button below to donate now. You can also call us to establish a legacy gift.

DONATE NOW

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(941) 201-5435

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Bradenton, FL 34208

Reflections of Manatee

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