

**Pinellas Point Mound**  
**Designated March 2003/HPC#02-01**



The Pinellas Point Mound was identified in the 1987 Piper archaeological survey as a landmark eligible site. The survey revealed that this and other similar sites are considered to be of "such obvious importance that no further assessment is necessary and should be preserved if at all possible. If site integrity is to be adversely impacted in any way, then data recovery procedures should be instituted."

This site is significant for its association with the development of the Weeden Island and Safety Harbor cultures, which inhabited Pinellas County from AD 700 to 1500. Both cultures are noteworthy for their construction of elaborate ceremonial and burial mound systems and for their ceramic designs. The Pinellas Point Mound is important because it is likely to contribute information on the life-ways of these two cultures which lived in Pinellas County and the Tampa Bay area for nearly a millennium prior to contact with Europeans in the 1500s. The site may also help determine whether or not early Spanish explorers Panfilo de Narvaez and Hernando de Soto visited Pinellas County as local lore suggests or if the Mound was occupied during the sixteenth century.