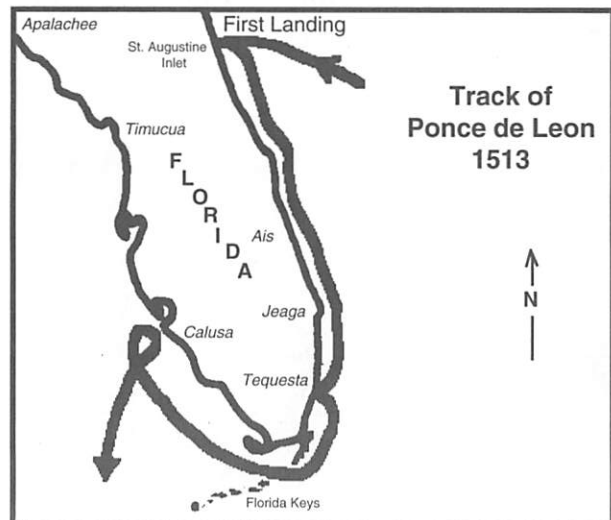


Deer was an important meat source. Using a deer's hide and head as a disguise, they stalked their unsuspecting prey. So skilled were they in imitating a deer's movements, at times disguised hunters were mistakenly attacked by other hunters.

Juan Ponce de Leon landed in Florida in 1513. Contact with the Europeans led to the rapid demise of the Timucuan people and their culture.

Numbering an estimated 40,000 with the coming of the Spanish, the Timucuan were reduced to a handful of survivors who fled with the Spanish when Spain withdrew from Florida in 1763.



There has never been a complete archeological excavation of Turtle Mound. By protecting it for the future, we will be able to gain more insight into the way of life of the Timucuan people.

Archeological sites such as Turtle Mound are the last remaining vestige of the Timucuan people. Other mounds have been leveled to provide roadfill material. Some mounds have been so disturbed that their archeological record was destroyed and their artifacts lost forever.

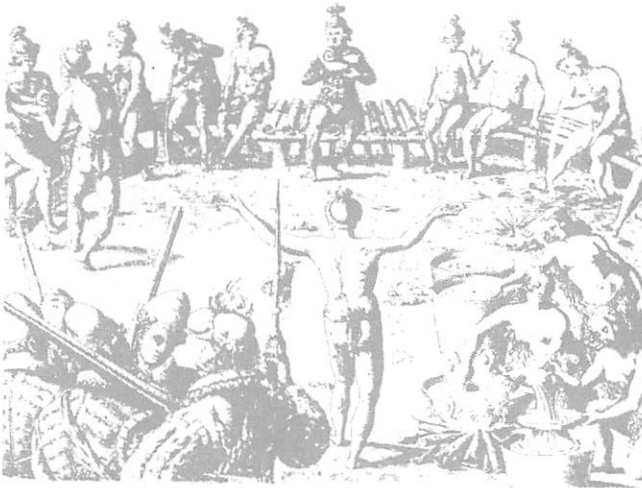
TURTLE MOUND



Canaveral

National Seashore
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Turtle Mound



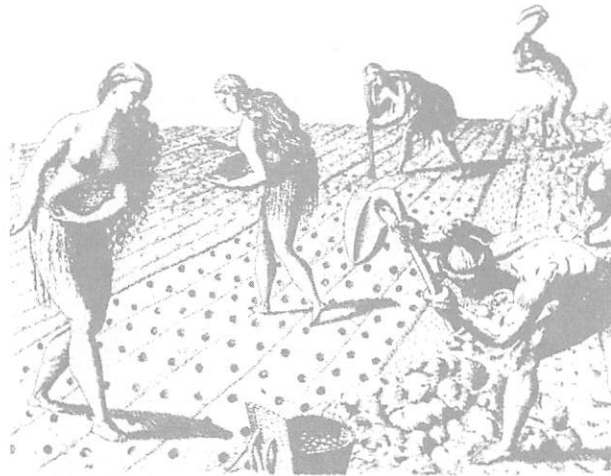
The earliest evidence of man at Canaveral is found in the numerous mounds and middens within its boundaries.

More than 14,000 years ago, small nomadic bands of Indians entered Florida. As time passed, regional cultures evolved in response to local environmental conditions. By the time the Europeans came various distinct Indian groups were distributed throughout Florida. Living in the vicinity of Turtle Mound were the Timucuan people.

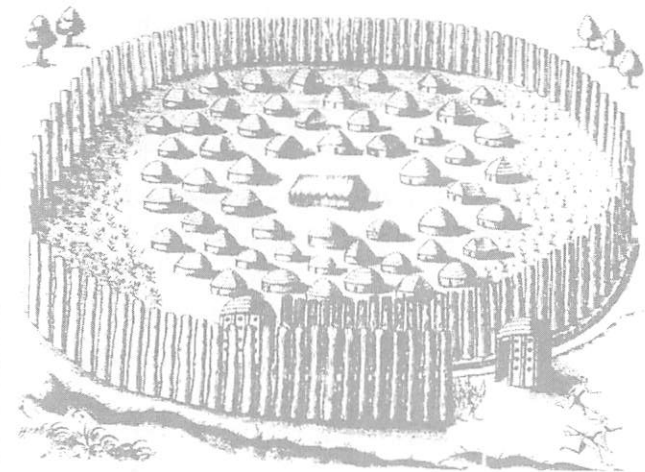
In their 2,000 years of occupation along the coast, the Timucuans did little to alter the natural landscape. Their few

remaining burial mounds and shell middens (Castle Windy) are like an unwritten book about the people who lived here. By protecting it, we are assuring that future generations will learn of the Timucuan people.

The large shell mounds hold undisclosed information to their way of life. From 800 to 1400 A.D., generation after generation left evidence behind to tell of their lifestyle at Turtle Mound.



Winter camps along the coast were small, consisting of one or more families. The chief of the village lived in a structure in the center of the village.



Animal bones uncovered in shell middens revealed the skill of the Timucuan hunters. With bow and arrow, spears and snares, they caught a variety of small mammals and reptiles.

