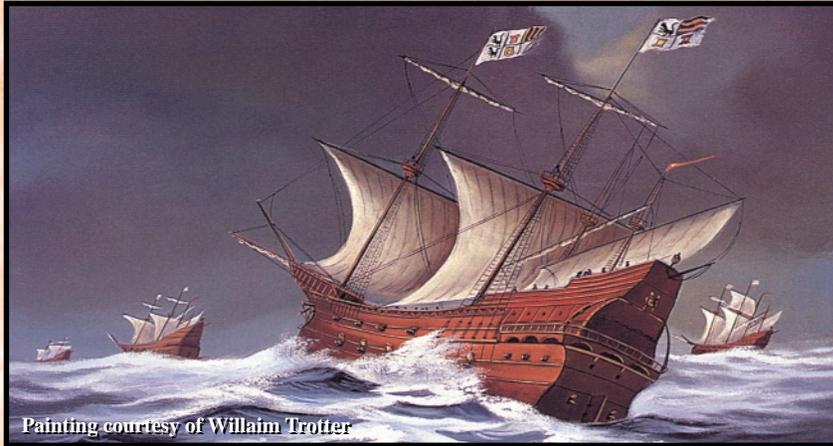


Exploring The

San Pedro

State Underwater Archaeological Preserve
and Florida State Park



A Window to the Past...

The wreck of *San Pedro* offers a hint of the romance and danger of sailing the Spanish Main in an 18th-century merchant galleon. *San Pedro*, Dutch-built of 287 tons, was part of a fleet of 22 vessels that left Cuba on Friday the 13th of July, 1733, bound for Spain. Caught by a hurricane while in the Straits of Florida, the fleet was wrecked along 80 miles of the Florida Keys. Heavily salvaged by the Spanish, the vessels then lay forgotten until the 1960s when treasure hunters removed cannons and anchors.

Location

The wreck of *San Pedro* is located in 18 feet of water in Hawk Channel south of Indian Key at coordinates 24° 51.802' N and 80° 40.795' W. The wreck is marked with six mooring buoys forming a ring around the site.

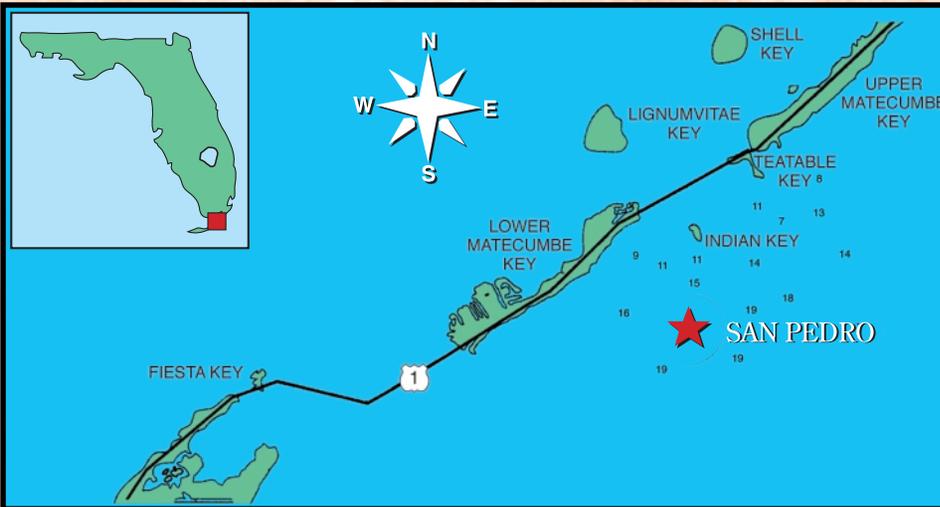
Diving and Snorkeling at San Pedro

- Use safe diving procedures and always display a diver-down flag.
- Please do not anchor on the site; use mooring buoys to prevent damage to the shipwreck and to living corals.

As with all archaeological and historical sites on public uplands and submerged bottomlands, *San Pedro* is protected by Florida laws forbidding unauthorized disturbance, excavation, or removal of artifacts.

Please take only photos and leave only bubbles!!

San Pedro was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.



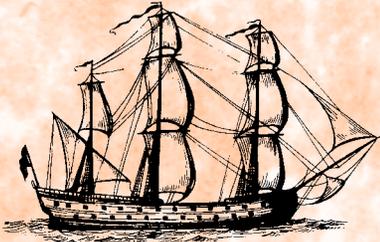
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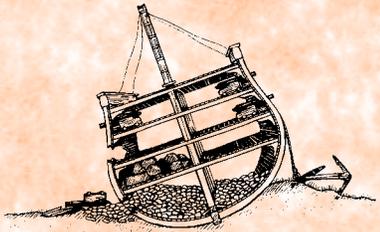


San Pedro



18th Century Merchant Ship

Designed to transport peoples and cargoes across vast oceans, the ship is a complex and highly organized expression of the technology of the time.



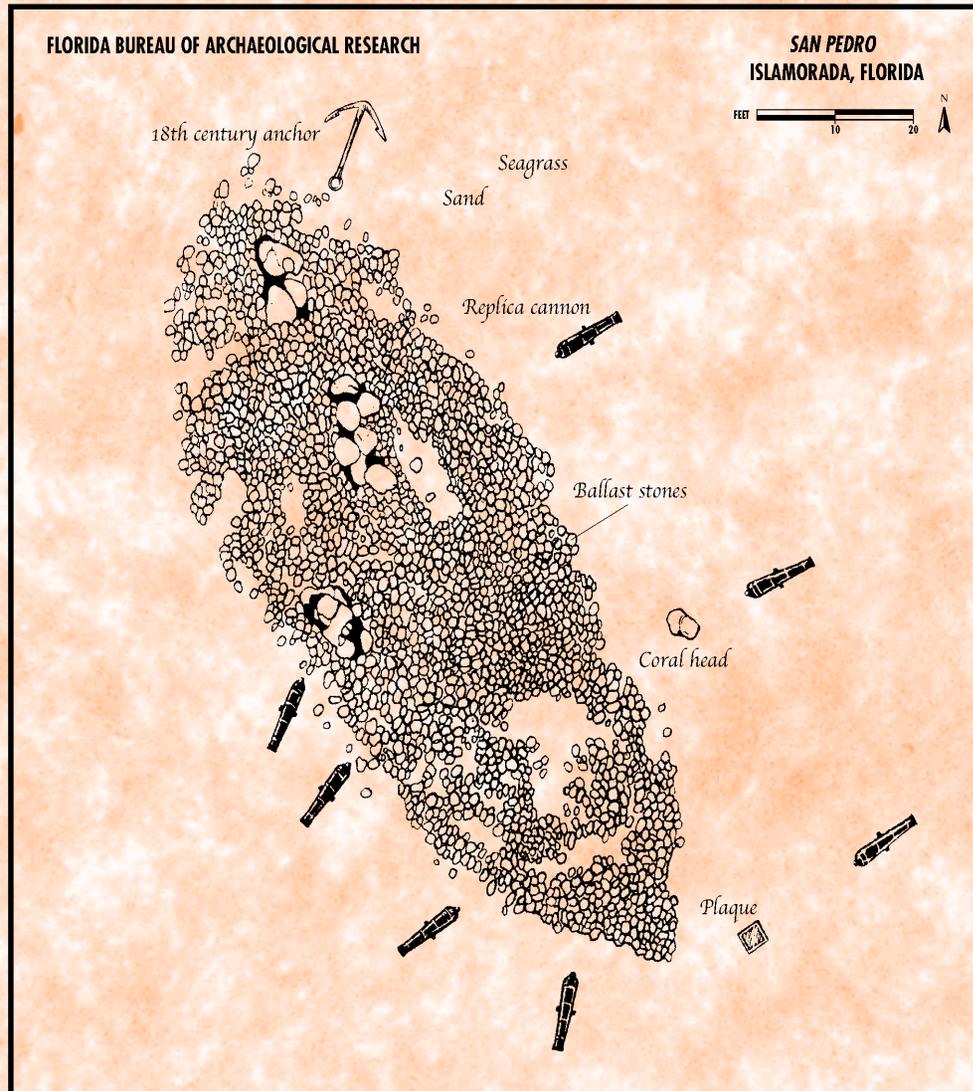
Time of Wrecking

The impact of the wreck damages the ship's structure and scatters parts. Winds, waves, and currents further scramble the remains.



One Hundred Years Later

Diagram courtesy Indiana University
Nature has taken its toll on the exposed part of the wreck. Shifting sands have covered much of the remains, and coral has begun to grow on the exposed ballast stones.



Underwater Archaeological Preserve & Florida State Park Islamorada, Florida

The View from Down Under

Located in a white sand pocket surrounded by turtle grass, the wreck of *San Pedro* is one of the most picturesque of the 1733 fleet wrecks. One of Florida's oldest artificial reefs, *San Pedro* is home to a variety of marine life, including corals, sponges, invertebrates, and fish, that inhabit the ballast stones marking her grave. The main ballast mound is 90 feet long and 30 feet wide; flat, red Spanish *ladrillo* bricks, used to create a safe platform for fire in the ship's galley, are visible among the stones. A 1733 anchor was replaced on the north end of the ballast mound; a sacrificial zinc anode is attached to the anchor shank to provide protection from further corrosion of the iron. Replica cement cannons represent those removed from the site long ago. Please dive this preserve with care and respect.