

## Tracking Miami's Growth - Introduction

Tequesta Indians lived close to Biscayne Bay and the Miami River near what is present-day Miami. They were mainly hunters and gathers living off the coastal fish and shellfish and gathering wild plants, nuts and berries. The Tequesta all but vanished due to war and disease following the arrival of the Europeans in the 1500s.



In 1998, during excavations for a new high rise, a stone circle was found on the bank of the Miami River. Scientists believe that the circle was created by Tequesta Indians and site artifacts indicate that humans lived on both sides of the river for some 2,000 years.

Ponce de León was the first to encounter the Miami River Tequesta during his 1513 expedition to "La Florida." In 1566, Pedro Menendez de Aviles and his men attempted to build a mission and establish a garrison near the site. The mission was abandoned after fighting broke out with the Indians. In 1743, the Spanish again attempted to establish a mission. It too failed.



For many years, very few people lived in south-eastern Florida. Although the climate was generally mild, much of the land just beyond the coast was swampy. Mosquitoes spread disease to people and cattle alike.

It wasn't until the late 1830s that a plantation and trading post were established on the banks of the Miami River at Fort Dallas. Fort Dallas became the first permanent settlement of a non-native community in this area.

# Tracking Miami's Growth

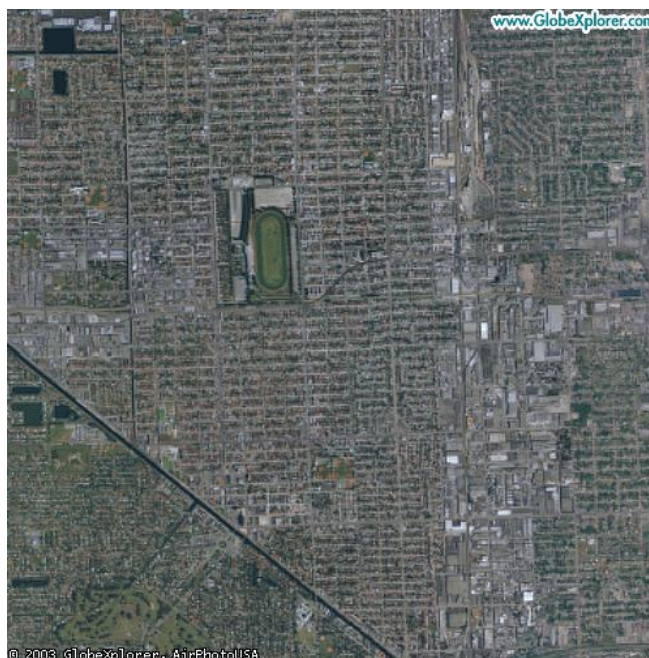
Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete the activities and answer the questions below using the online introduction to this topic to guide you.

- 1) If you look at a map of this area, you will see that Route 27, The Okeechobee Road, runs south-west of the track. That is the dark line on the modern photo. Can you find that road on the 1938 photos of the area?



Miami from the air in 1938



Modern-day Miami (2003)

- 2) Follow the steps below to create a photomosaic index from 1938 aerials captured by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and compare it to current U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle maps.
  - a) Print out the relevant tiles:
    - i) Go to the University of Florida's [Aerial Photography: Florida](#) website.
    - ii) Select Dade County, select the year 1938, Flight 1.
    - iii) You will print out tiles number 8, 10, 34, 32, 50 and 52. View each one at 25% zoom and then print each.
    - iv) Go back to Flight 2, also in 1938, and print out tiles 11 and 13.

