GARS Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings, open to the public, are held on the second Thursday at the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Building, located at 75 Langley Road in Lawrenceville. Gathering at 7PM, the program begins at 7:30PM.

GARS will NOT be meeting in June, July or August. The next monthly meeting will be in September. There is, however, a special artifact workshop scheduled for June 15 led by Siska Williams. The workshop will include lab curation procedures and how to clean, write on, care, package, and catalog artifacts according to accepted (36CFR79) guidelines. Those attending should download and bring with them copies of the following documents: http://waring.westga.edu/CollectionsStandards.pdf and http://waring.westga.edu/guide.pdf. (Extra copies will be available.) This is a great opportunity for those who would like to help Siska work with the Fort Daniel artifacts—or even work with artifacts from GARS excavations as such sites as the Graves Soapstone Site. The time will be 1–2:30PM following a BBQ! (See notice below about BBQ.)

Fort Daniel Foundation Board Meeting

The Fort Daniel Foundation Board of Directors and Officers will be holding their first meeting at the Fort Daniel site since its purchase and subsequent turn-over to the Foundation by Gwinnett County. Directors will be voting on a number of important items and will have the opportunity to see the Grant House following remodeling as well as see plans for finishing of the Lab, storage, and meeting rooms in the Grant House basement. The meeting has been called for 10AM and will end at 12NOON in time for the…

Northern Style BBQ—June 15 from 12–1:00

“Northern Style BBQ” means anything prepared on the grill—just no BBQ! There will be smoked ribs and chicken, BBQ beans and slaw. Invited are all FDF members and GARS members and those attending the artifact workshop.
Cultural Resource Management

Archaeological sites are being discovered and recorded all the time here in Gwinnett County. Of course, sites are being destroyed as well (See Georgia Heritage Loss). In each issue we focus on site discoveries in recent years and the context of those discoveries.

In order to manage cultural resources we need to know, precisely, where they are. This is true if we are reporting the location of a newly discovered site or trying to revisit a previously recorded site—particularly if the site is buried and not visible to the eye. Often, archaeological surveys involve investigation of land where previously recorded sites exist, and survey standards require that these sites be relocated and rerecorded, if at all possible. There are several reasons for this requirement—among which is that fact that improved methods may result in new information about the site. For example, the advent of Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) now makes it possible to nonintrusively gather information about buried sites. The same evolution in technology is true for how we determine the location of sites.

Eratosthenes in the 3rd century BC first proposed a system of latitude and longitude for a map of the world [see http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History_of_longitude]. Using “Lat/Lons,” you could know where in the world you were but only with accuracy measured in miles. Synchronization by radio followed in the early 20th century. In the 1970s the use of satellites was developed to more precisely measure geographic coordinates (GPS), and this has been refined to accuracy measured in centimeters and even fractions of a centimeter!

Sometimes previously recorded sites can’t be relocated. Usually the problem is that their location was not properly determined or recorded in the first place. This error may clerical, as when the official site form is completed, or it can happen in the field, even using GPS. If the site has buried features and you have some idea where to look, this is where GPR may be useful. However, I remember one site in Nevada that a single misplaced digit in its “northing” coordinate, placing it in Canada! It is best to get the location correct the first time. ■ JJDC

Global Positioning System

When you need to get from here to there, you may not always be able to rely on satellite signals like GPS to guide you. This incredibly tiny chip (pictured left) allows position to be tracked and determined, and can be embedded in the smallest of devices. The chip takes up just 10 cubic millimeters and, as the picture shows, fits neatly into the Lincoln Memorial on the back of a penny. It contains three gyroscopes and three accelerometers (one of both for each directional axis) and a highly accurate master clock. Combined, these tools can track what direction the chip is moving and how fast, and its tiny size means it can be put on just about anything without much effect on its weight or shape. This is useful for creating small drones and robots, ordnance that adjusts its own trajectory, and, of course, as a backup when more powerful positioning systems go down. This TIMU, or timing and inertial measurement unit, was created by DARPA-funded researchers at the University of Michigan, as part of their Micro-PNT project. ■ Devin Coldewey, NBC News

Nota Bene: In Volume II Issue 3 (March 2013) I wrote about the recordation of the Gwinnett portion of Suwannee Old Town. After seeing the article, Pam Baughman, Archaeologist at the Georgia Department of Transportation, emailed me: I read the most recent issue of the GAB with interest as it discussed the Suwannee River site in Gwinnett Co. This rang some bells for me, and when I returned to work today, I realized why...GDOT has the collection made by Betty Smith and KSU for this site as well as one made by Nain Anderson in 1976 during a GDOT project. I can’t say I know how GDOT came about the KSU collection, but it is stored in our lab, both collections comprising 2 Hollinger boxes, with documents.

Subsequently, I set up a meeting with Pam and Jeff Glover to look over the collection. One of Jeff’s graduate students is working on the Julian Preston 1930s collection from Atlanta area sites, including Standing Peachtree and Suwannee Old Town (including the Fulton side of the river), which is housed at the Atlanta History Center. I stumbled across that unstudied collection when I was down there doing research on Standing Peachtree with Wayne Waldrip. Jeff made the meeting; I didn’t. He emailed me that he and Pam talked about “making the collection available to my students (either an honors thesis or a class project) this fall.” Serendipity abounds. ■
More Diggin’s

- **Artifact Workshop**: On June 15 Siska Williams will be leading an artifact workshop at the Grant House. Members and friends will have the opportunity to learn about the care and treatment of artifacts and work with some of our Fort Daniel artifacts.

- A GARS field trip with picnic is being planned for June 29 at the Hurricane Shoals Park. This picnic trip will include a guided tour by the Tumbling Waters Society of Jackson County and will include the Grist mill and site of the Union Iron Foundry (see Page 7 for interesting facts about early, nearby iron making). Meet at main entrance at 10AM. You can download map of park [here](#). BYO picnic!

- GARS members Catherine Long and Leslie Perry attended the signing of the Proclamation for May 2013 as Archaeology Month in Georgia by Governor Nathan Deal on Tuesday, May 21, 2013. Catherine is Past President of the SGA and a member of the Fort Daniel Foundation Board of Directors, and Leslie is the current SGA Vice President as well as President of GARS and a member of the FDF Board.

- Did you know that this is the ninth year of Haunting, History, and Horror on the Square in downtown Lawrenceville? **Lawrenceville Ghost Tours** begin at the Aurora Theatre every Friday and Saturday at 8:30PM from May thru September. Adults $12 and Children $9. Learn macabre local history as costumed performers lead ghost tour groups on 90-minute adventure. It’s strolling theater! [http://www.scarystroll.com](http://www.scarystroll.com)

- **The SGA Archaeobus is coming to Dacula** Library on Friday June 14 at 10AM. The mobile classroom with be visiting to help educate students from ages 5–10 about archaeology and Georgia history. It is free and you don’t have to be a Dacula resident to attend!

---

**Georgia Archaeology Month Meeting in Macon**

On May 18 five members of GARS/FDF joined SGA members at the annual spring meeting of the Society of Georgia Archaeology in Macon, which was held at the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame. Jim D’Angelo kicked off the morning session of presentations with a report on his research into the construction of Peachtree Road and Fort Peachtree.

The SGA presented the George S. Lewis Archaeological Stewardship Award to Ann Grant, former owner of the Fort Daniel property, “in recognition of outstanding efforts regarding the Archaeological Research and Site Preservation of Fort Daniel.” (See photo below.)

---

*Atop largest Ocmulgee mound, archaeologist Daniel Bigman talks to SGA members about the history of excavations at the site “and our knowledge of the people who lived there.”*

*From left to right: Dick Brunelle, Catherine Long, Tammy Herron (SGA President), Ann Grant, Jim D’Angelo, and Leslie Perry (SGA VP)*
On a recent beautiful spring morning six of our members gathered at Hog Mountain to begin a guided tour of the route of the original Peachtree (military) road in Gwinnett County led by Old Peachtree Road (OPR) enthusiast and GARS and FDF Vice President, Wayne Waldrip.

**A Brief History of the Road**

This road began as an ancient Indian trail tracing the Eastern Continental Divide in northeast Georgia, parallel to the Chattahoochee River, and terminating at the Creek Indian village of Standing Peachtree at the confluence of Peachtree Creek and the Chattahoochee. It is at this point that the river becomes navigable through the Piedmont Plateau to the falls of the Chattahoochee 150 miles to the southwest at the present-day town of Columbus. It was for this reason that this route was chosen as a supply route from the Georgia frontier at Hog Mountain to Fort Mitchell (present day Phenix City, Alabama) to supply the Georgia militia troops of John Floyd and Andrew Jackson of Tennessee, who were fighting the warring Red Stick Creeks in the Tallapoosa River region of the northern Alabama Territory.

Late 1813 after the massacre of settlers at Fort Mims on the Alabama River war was declared on the Red Sticks, and a series of hastily built forts were erected to defend the Georgia frontier and transfer supplies to the troops fighting in Alabama. This was near the end of the War of 1812, and British agents were encouraging and supplying the Red Sticks in their quest to drive out the American settlers. The lower supply route from Fort Hawkins near present-day Macon to Fort Mitchell was ineffective. So, American General Pinckney devised a plan to use an overland/river route to ferry supplies to the troops in Alabama. He ordered that the fort at Hog Mountain be rebuilt to more secure standards which was accomplished by the troops of General Allen Daniel, and that the trail into Creek Territory to the village of Standing Peachtree on the Chattahoochee be upgraded to a wagon road. Pinckney also ordered that a second fort and a boat yard be built at Standing Peachtree. This was all accomplished in late 1813 to early 1814.

A young lieutenant named George Gilmer (later to become a governor of Georgia) along with his construction sergeant James Montgomery (who would become the area’s first white settler in 1821 after the war) led the construction of the fort at Standing Peachtree. The fort and five river boats were built after a successful trial run down the Chattahoochee in January of 1814; however, Fort Peachtree and the river supply route were never fully utilized after the decisive defeat of the Red Stick warriors at Horseshoe Bend on the Tallapoosa River on March 27, 1814. Montgomery eventually purchased land on both sides of the river at Standing Peachtree and established a ferry to transport people and goods across the Chattahoochee into Cherokee Territory. He became a leading citizen in this community which was the precursor of the City of Atlanta.

**The Field Trip**

The first stop of our field trip was to view the headwaters of the Appalachee River, which form just southwest of Fort Daniel. As pictured below, two donkeys now live in the field that surrounds the spring-fed pond at this strategic spot. This point is referenced in the Indian treaties that ceded Cherokee and Creeks lands to Georgia in 1785 and in 1790. Fort Daniel overlooked the spot.
Next, we proceeded to an early community along the road (now called Rock Springs Road). We visited the old cemetery of the Ivy Primitive Baptist Church and saw markers dating from the early 1800s.

We stopped near the Gwinnett Board of Education facility on Old Peachtree Road south of Lawrenceville-Suwannee Road and walked along a segment of the OPR in a wooded area owned by the county (pictured below). It was exciting to think that we were walking on a road that had been opened in January 1814 in Creek Territory to provide a supply route to the militia troops of John Floyd and Andrew Jackson! Note: This historic road segment owned by Gwinnett County has not been recorded as an historic linear site! A project for GARS in the waiting!

We passed several other early churches and cemeteries along the route and then passed through Duluth, another community on the Old Peachtree Road. Reportedly, the road had already been improved to this point in late 1813 even though this was in Indian Territory!

We stayed on modern-day Old Peachtree Road to where it ends at Medlock Bridge Road. This was the community of Pinckneyville, named in honor of General Pinckney, who served in the Revolutionary War as well as the War of 1812. Remember, he is the one who conceived of this route in 1813. Pinckneyville was the precursor of Norcross which was established in the 1870s when the railroad was built through this part of Gwinnett County.

We had lunch at the Norcross Depot Café where Jim D. had chowder that sent him on a journey down “memory lane” and propelled him on a quest for “sea biscuits” that he enjoyed in his chowder as a young lad.

After lunch we visited the Flint Hill Plantation (today an event venue) whose original structure was built on the OPR in the 1830s.

We concluded our trip at the Harmony-Flint Hill Cemetery about two miles south of Norcross near Best Friend Park. This cemetery has numerous burials from the early settler days of Gwinnett County. The most significant part of the cemetery was the Warbington Section. Charles and Betty’s great-grandfather is buried there: Elemander Warbington (headstone pictured below right). He was an army officer who was stationed at Fort Mitchell. (Remember, this was the
Some Early Iron Making on the Georgia Frontier

When I first started work at Fort Daniel, I was surprised to find machine-made nails alongside wrought nails. I assumed that the wrought nails could be made locally, but that the machine-cut nails were being brought in from quite a distance away—from a more “civilized” part of the State. This was the frontier after all; wasn’t it? As it worked out, they were being brought to Hog Mountain from Augusta*, but the Franklin/Jackson County Frontier was not all that primitive.

A 1792 reconnaissance map located at the Georgia State Archives (known as, “A map of the Defensive Plan of the Western Frontier”) shows the locations of forts and stations in Franklin County (Jackson County would be created in 1794 from the western half of Franklin). A portion of this map (pictured right) identifies Hillhouse Forge Station and Hillhouse Furnace Station (this would be about 45 miles east of Hog Mountain) on the south fork of the Broad River near its confluence with Brushy Creek and south of Danielsville in what would be Madison County in 1801. An ad (pictured below) in a late 1790s Georgia Newspaper (citation misplaced) shows the range of iron products produced at the Hillhouse “frontier” Iron Works.

Although not depicted on the 1792 map, the Union Iron Foundry was also in operation in the early 1790s producing locally mined ore. This was located at Hurricane Shoals on the North Oconee River (where GARS has a field trip planned for June 29). Apparently, it was still in operation during the Civil War making cannon balls. No primary sources have been found as yet for this site. There were other Iron Works in the vicinity as well—going by the names of “Adelham Iron Works” and “Purgus’s I W.” All that is known about the Purgus Iron Works at this point is that it appears on the early-Sturgis 1818 map of Georgia (fieldwork begun years before). It was located on the North Fork of the Broad River east of Danielsville.

The name “Adelham” only appears in a 1798 “article of agreement” from the US government for 4,000 5.5” cannon balls. (The opening paragraphs of the two-page agreement are seen on the right.) The agreement is addressed to “Buckner Harris, owner of the Adelham Iron Works in Jackson County.” Its location is presently not known. It turns out that Harris was a well known entrepreneur operating in Jackson, Wilkes, and other counties. This may even be the precursor of the Union Iron Works at Hurricane Shoals. More research is needed.

The story of early iron making in Georgia prior to and during the War of 1812 is yet to be told. What was surprising to me was the number of Iron Works on what I assumed was a “primitive” frontier. ■ JJD

* In connection with the building of Fort Peachtree and supplies coming through Fort Daniel to be delivered via the new Peachtree Road on June 29, 1814, Major James Montgomery wrote to Quarter Master Corps’ Col. Huger (at the time probably operating out of Fort Hawkins) about his recent expenses: …the price of one whipsaw, one hand saw, file, the whipsaw file. I actually gave one dollar [unclear] Washington, [for?] the hauling of 300 pounds of spikes from Augusta…

In 1807 Ephraim Welch placed an ad in the Augusta Chronicle announcing the opening of his “cut nail manufactory” in Augusta!
Several hundred people attended a memorial service at the Cherokee Nation capital of New Echota (located in present-day Calhoun, Georgia) on Saturday, May 18 to commemorate the 175th anniversary of the removal of approximately 20,000 Cherokee to Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) in 1838. New Echota was established by the Cherokee National Legislature as its capital in 1825.

At New Echota the Cherokee adopted a republican legislature and established a supreme court. The Cherokee Phoenix (ᏣᎳᎩᏧᎴᎵᎲᏅᏲ) was the first newspaper published by Native Americans in the United States and the first published in a Native American language. In 1835 a treaty between the US government and a few Cherokee leaders was signed in the Cherokee Capital. The Treaty of New Echota generated the gradual removal of the Cherokee to lands west of the Mississippi River and spawned the infamous Trail of Tears a couple of years later.

With the significance of the first Native American language newspaper office, a self-governed tribe, and the Cherokee Removal New Echota was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1973 and a Traditional Cultural Property (1992 amendments to the NHPA allowed for a new designation of property: a cultural and spiritual significance of a specific ethnic group) in 2003.

The recent Trail of Tears memorial service was an opportunity not only for the contemporary Cherokee to know where they came from but to celebrate the resilience that makes them the largest Native American nation in the United States—with a thriving culture of nearly 350,000 citizens spread across the country. For more information about the Trail of Tears celebrations that will be going on throughout the year check the Friends of New Echota Web site. ■ DMG

Fort Daniel $upport

You can support the work of the Fort Daniel Foundation—which includes educational outreach as well as site preservation and development—by your donations of time, talent, and/or treasure. To become a member or to make a donation, visit the FDF Membership Web page. Look for the Google Wallet link on that page for fast and easy payment of dues or contributions. Sorry no tote bags—yet! ■
Fort Daniel News

⇒ **Lease:** On May 13, “in consideration of the mutual benefits to each party,” Jim and Vicki Watkins signed a 25-year Lease Agreement with the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners. Pictured right: While FDF President Jim D’Angelo, Director of Community Services, Phil Hoskins, FDF Corporate Treasurer Betty Warbington, and FDF Corporate Secretary Vicki Watkins look on, Gwinnett Board of Commissioner’s President, Charlotte Nash, places final signature on the Lease Agreement.

⇒ On May 22 an annual subsidy from the County to the Foundation for help with maintaining the site was received.

⇒ **Fort Daniel Artifacts:** As part of the lease agreement, the County and the Foundation have agreed that all Fort Daniel artifacts will be owned by the County but will remain with the Foundation for conservation, study, and display. See notice of artifact workshop on page 1.

⇒ Work continues at the Grant House to get it in shape for our first tenants: Chad, Elaine, and Brody Pilgrim. Chad has been helping with the renovations. Thanks to the efforts of our ‘clerk-of-the-works,’ Chuck Warbington and many others, new carpet has been installed and the new kitchen should be finished during the first week of June. John Hopkins has been instrumental in obtaining and installing the new kitchen.