

Preserving History Through Archaeology



March 2021
Volume X, Issue 3

GWINNETT ARCHAEOLOGY BULLETIN

Pioneer Tech: Tools that Built Fort Daniel..... 1	Legacy Corner.....6
More Diggin's..... 3	Fort Daniel NRHP Edibility.....8
Hills Mill Site Lab Day..... 4	

Pioneer Tech: Tools that Built Fort Daniel

Article by Frank Perry, Founding Member of Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society and Fort Daniel Foundation

Hello, members and friends of Fort Daniel Foundation (FDF) and Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS). Those members who don't know me, I have been a member of GARS and FDF since their beginnings. The Old Tool Collection in the Fort Daniel Lab was donated by me. We originally used it as a display and brought it out for the Fort Fair every fall (pictured above). Eventually, I donated it as a permanent display and marked every tool with a tag to identify it. I could add more to the collection if we had room to display them. I have been collecting, studying, and using many of



these old tools for most of my life. I feel they are a big part of our history and helped in the building of America.

Axes have been in use in one shape or form since the beginning of time. Different types of axes were used on the frontier and helped to build the frontier forts. Pictured on Page 2, a page from *Early Tools and Equipment* by Elmer L. Smith (photos by Mel Horst. Applied Arts Publishers, Lebanon, PA seventh printing 1983

p3) shows you the different types of axes used on the frontier. This is the best book I have found on

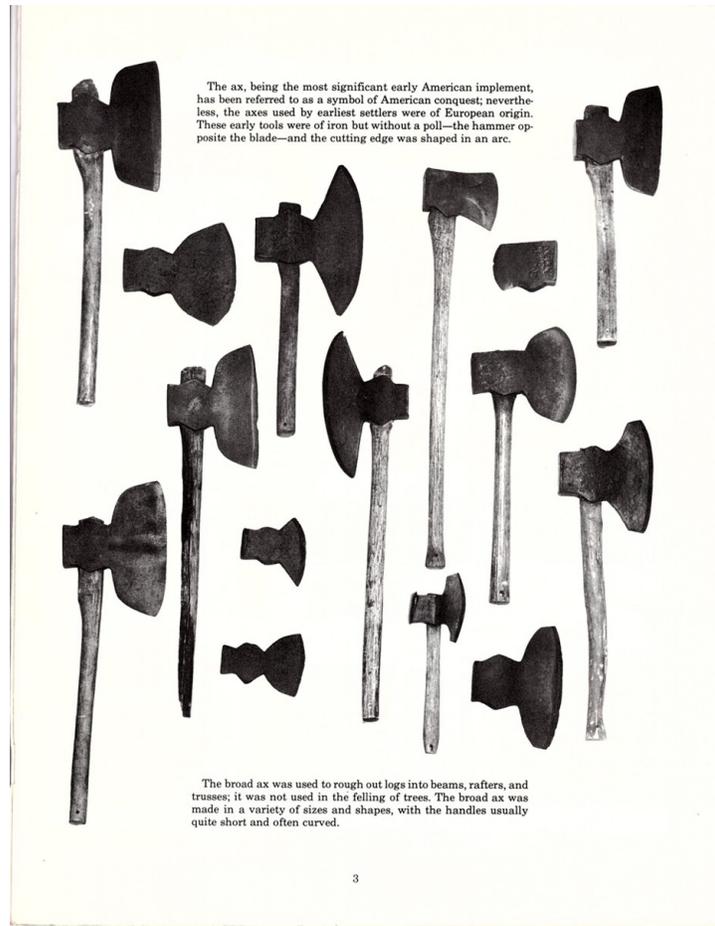
continued on Page 2

EDITOR:

Delana M. Gilmore, MA
Email: gwinnettarchaeology@gmail.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR:

Jim D'Angelo, PhD RPA
Email: 4drdee@bellsouth.net



the subject, and I would recommend it to anyone with an interest in old tools and equipment.

Additionally, I have included a couple of pictures of the past fort display and my personal axes to show style progression from old to new (*pictured below*).



If you get some extra time, please head to the Fort Daniel lab and spend some time with the old tool display. If you have any questions about old tools that I might answer or could identify for you, contact me at dago101p@netscape.net. ■ FP

More Diggin's

- **BRAG Meeting:** Sister Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA) Chapter Blue Ridge Archaeology Guild (BRAG) will be meeting through Zoom on Wednesday, March 10 beginning at 7PM. The guest speaker will be Dr. John E. Worth. His talk is entitled *Exploring the Tristán de Luna Settlement on Pensacola Bay*. Join BRAG a few minutes before 7PM at <https://ung.zoom.us/j/91793147662?pwd=WmE2ZjNMZFFtSGIEemhrRUQwWUs4dz09>. This meeting will be recorded and available soon after the presentation at the BRAG [YouTube Channel](#). Dr. Worth will present an illustrated overview of archaeological investigations at the 1559–1561 settlement of Tristán de Luna, discovered in 2015 on Pensacola Bay near three of the wrecks of his colonizing fleet. The 31-acre site is the earliest multi-year European settlement in the continental United States, and the largest 16th-century European site in the Southeast. The site was continuously occupied for two years, despite the relocation of most of the army inland to central Alabama during 1560, including a 200-man detachment sent to live at the chiefdom of Coosa in north Georgia for four months. Archaeological remains at the Pensacola Bay settlement provide a much clearer portrait of mid-16th century European material culture in Mexico and Spain, including trade goods intended for distribution to Native Americans. Dr. Worth is professor of historical archaeology in the Department of Anthropology at the University of West Florida in Pensacola. He has conducted archaeological and ethnohistorical research for more than three decades in the Southeastern US—primarily focusing on interactions between Native Americans and Spaniards during the colonial era in Florida and Georgia. He is author of *Discovering Florida: First-Contact Narratives of Spanish Expeditions along the Lower Gulf Coast* (2014), *The Timucuan Chiefdoms of Spanish Florida* (1998), *The Struggle for the Georgia Coast* (1995 & 2007), and more than two hundred other professional and lay publications and presented papers. Here are links to suggested reading that discuss the project and the Luna expedition in general and will enhance your enjoyment of Dr. Worth's presentation: https://pages.uwf.edu/jworth/jw_spanfla_luna.html and <http://lunasettlement.blogspot.com>.
- **Downtown Lawrenceville Historic Walking Tour:** Join historical interpreters on a casual stroll through historic downtown Lawrenceville on Saturday, March 6 beginning at 4PM. This tour is perfect for anyone ready to discover the rich history of Gwinnett County. Registration must be received two days prior to the event date. For more information visit [Gwinnett County Web site](#).



MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE:

If you would like to join or renew your GARS membership, please contact [Delana Gilmore](#); and for FDF membership please contact [Cindy Horsley](#).



Hills Mill Site Lab Day

Article by Anne Dorland, President of Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society

Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) members and volunteers gathered on Saturday, February 20 to wash and analyze artifacts recovered during the 2020 GARS investigations of the Hills Mill site (9BW86).

It was a fun day where professional archaeologists guided community members through the process of cleaning and examining cultural material to discover new information about the history of Gwinnett County. We learned that the historic inhabitants of Hills Mill played musical instruments like harmonicas, consumed Phillips' Milk of Magnesia, cooked with stoneware vessels, and more! (Some of the artifacts that were analyzed are pictured on Page 5.)

Thank you to everyone who participated! ■ AD



GARS Members cleaning Hills Mill artifacts and doing some archaeology at Fort Daniel





Glass bottles found at Hills Mill Site (9BW86)



Part of a harmonica and a pocket watch and some nails found at Hills Mill Site (9BW86)



Brick fragments found at Hills Mill Site (9BW86)

Legacy Corner

Stories of the people who were stationed at Fort Daniel and their descendants

Article by Tyler Holman, Member of Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society and Fort Daniel Foundation

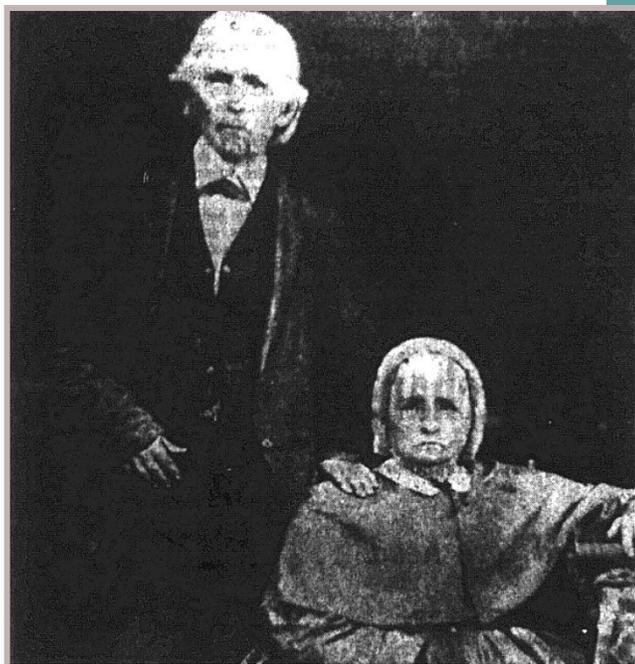
My name is Tyler Holman, and I have been involved with Fort Daniel for several years. I worked for several years with Dr. Jim D'Angelo to locate Fort Harrison, a sister fort to Fort Daniel. We finally narrowed the location down to near the intersection of Falcon Parkway and Martin Road (along the old Federal Road) in Hall County. Before that, I was already a member of the Gwinnett Historical Society and aware of my ancestors' connections with the Hog Mountain community and other Red Stick War forts.

My fourth great-grandfather, William Giddens, was a member of the Giddens family that settled in Wilkes County during the late 1700s. The family name is frequently spelled as *Gideon* or *Gideons* (along with many other variations), but the spelling *Giddens* was typically used in documents signed by family members. This family was closely tied to the Green and Lindsey families of Wilkes County. Circumstantial evidence and family names indicate that William's wife, Elizabeth, was probably a Green. Members of the Giddens, Green, and Lindsey families migrated to newly created Jackson County during the 1790s. William settled somewhere in the Walnut Fork/Mulberry River watershed. Roger Green was a close neighbor and is frequently mentioned alongside William in legal records.

From January 3, 1814 to March 5, 1814 William Giddens served as a Private in Captain Joseph Whorton's detachment of the Jackson County militia and was stationed at Fort Harrison. He would have been present during the construction of the fort. To date what is known, service at Fort Harrison was relatively uneventful. James Green, a son of Roger Green and probable nephew of William Giddens, was also serving at Fort Harrison. John Lindsey, another relative of the Green family, had been granted a land lot adjacent to the probable location of Fort Harrison in 1808. William Giddens and John Green (Roger's brother) served as chain carriers during the survey.

William Giddens and Elizabeth had 4 known children:

- Martha Patsy Giddens (1804–1871), married Ambrose Kennedy (*pictured right*)
- Margaret Giddens (1809–after 1880), married James M. Wallis
- Roger Giddens (1810–after 1880), married Margaret Gillam
- John Giddens (1811–1875), married Martha J. Duke (my ancestor through his daughter Idalia H. Giddens who married William Henry Holman in 1896)



William died in 1823. Women needed a male “guardian” for legal purposes, and since Elizabeth's sons John and Roger were still minors, Curtis Green is listed as Elizabeth's guardian in 1826. Curtis was the son of John Green, a brother of the Roger Green that lived beside the Giddens and therefore probably Elizabeth's nephew. Curtis later moved to Forsyth County and represented it in the State Legislature. Elizabeth died sometime after 1840.

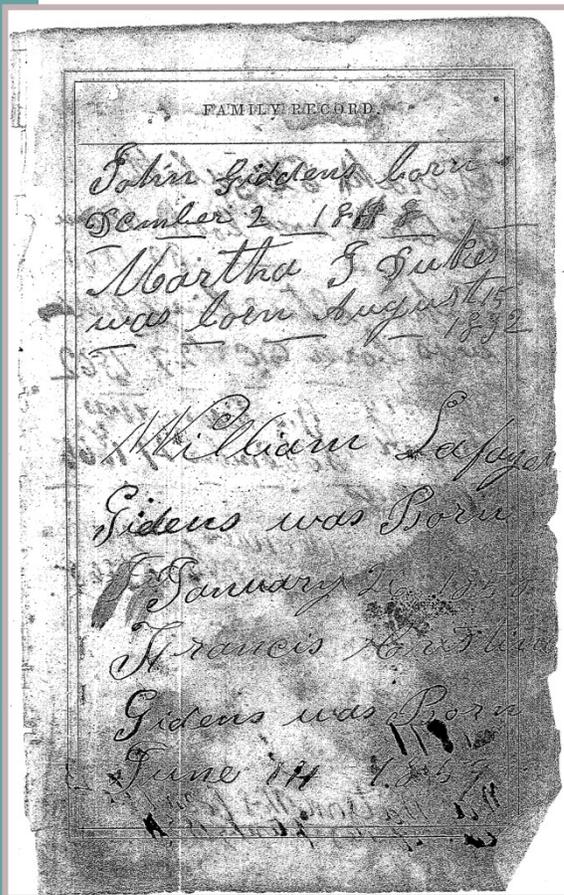
continued on next page

continued from previous page

Researching the Giddens family is very difficult due to a lack of documentation. Jackson and Wilkes

County tax registers have been very helpful—including telling me the date of William’s death and tying him to John and Roger. My reconstruction of the wider family tree, as well as William’s parentage, remains somewhat speculative. One very special source that I have used was the John Giddens family Bible. When John’s widow, Martha, applied in 1892 for a pension for his service during the Cherokee Removal, she sent the “family record” pages of the family Bible as documentation (*pictured left*). These pages are still held at the National Archives and copies were sent to me when I ordered Martha’s pension application, which was a truly remarkable surprise. They document the birthdates of their children, as well as their complete middle names.

Thanks to the research efforts of Eli Stancel, I now know that another one of my ancestors was peripherally associated with Fort Daniel. My fifth great-grandfather, Benjamin Ivie, served as a witness for the pension of James Kidd, who ran a store at Hog Mountain (see article *The Curious Mr. Kidd* in GAB VI.6 and VI.7, 2017). Benjamin Ivie is known to have lived off of the Old Peachtree Road during this time, so he may have visited Kidd’s store at Hog Mountain for trading purposes. He later served as Gwinnett County’s first jailer and operated the county’s first hotel—providing lodgings for every occasion.



If you are a Fort Daniel Legacy member and would like for your story to be featured, please email [Cindy Horsley](mailto:Cindy.Horsley@fortdaniel.org). Your family stories are a part of the legacy of Fort Daniel. ■ TH

13th Annual Frontier Faire

Saturday, October 16

10AM-4PM

Fort Daniel Historic Site

(2505 Braselton Highway/GA 124, Buford)



Preserving History Through Archaeology



March 2021
Volume X, Issue 3

Fort Daniel NRHP Eligibility

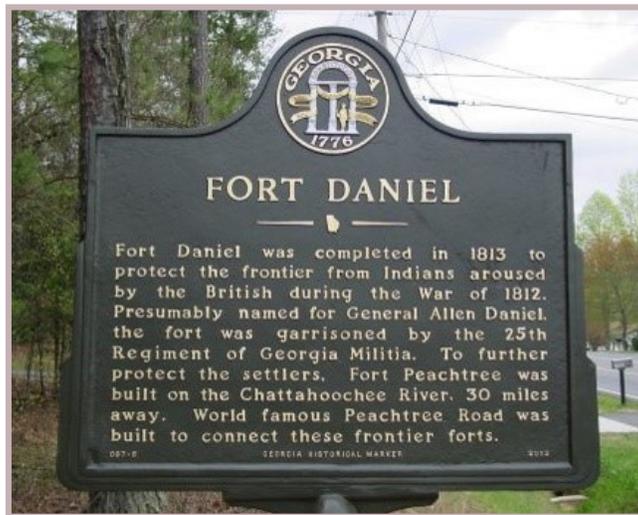
The Georgia Department of Natural Resources, which oversees the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) applications for Georgia sites, has determined that while the Fort Daniel Site still appears to be NRHP-eligible the original application must be updated due to the change in property ownership and increased size of the original parcel.

As the author of the original application, Dr. Jim D'Angelo will oversee the reworking of that document and its submission for review to the GA-DNR but would welcome some help in putting together the new application. This is a project for one or more persons that will entail some typing, cutting and pasting from the "old" application, and editing of the final draft. No new

research will be required.

The process involves submission of this draft to our DNR representative, any revisions that they may

require, their submission of the final draft to the National Park Service and, waiting for the Park Service's final determination. In the meantime, Gwinnett County (as owner of the site) will be kept in the loop and will actually need to sign-off on the application. Any Fort Daniel Foundation (FDF) or Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) member wishing to help



with this project should contact Dr. D'Angelo at 4drdee@bellsouth.net. ■ JJD

GARS OFFICERS

www.thegars.org

President: Anne Dorland
Vice President: Jenna Tran
Secretary/Treasurer: Delana Gilmore

To keep up with the latest digs and activities from GARS follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

FDF OFFICERS

www.thefortdanielfoundation.org

President: Eli Stancel
Secretary: Cindy Horsley
Vice President: Leslie Perry
Treasurer: Betty Warbington

To stay up to date with the latest news from FDF follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).