

# Preserving History Through Archaeology



November 2018  
Volume VII, Issue 9

## GWINNETT ARCHAEOLOGY BULLETIN

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### Public Archaeology at the Frontier Faire

The excellent turnout at the 10th Annual Frontier Faire resulted in an excellent showing for the public archaeology component of the Faire. Dr. Jeff Glover and his Georgia State University (GSU) archaeology undergraduate and graduate students again worked in and around the Southwest Blockhouse on Friday and Saturday. They continued excavation within the blockhouse's root or cold cellar (*Figure 1 pictured on Page 2*) and also completed a unit that exposes a cross section or profile of the South Wall trench near where it ends at the blockhouse (*Figure 2 and inset pictured on Page 2*) [Profile B, Unit 31b].



Georgia State University and young students screening near the Southwest Blockhouse

with New South Associates, supervised excavation of a new plow zone unit [#57] working with several young students, some of whom can be seen in background in *Figure 1*.

Fort Daniel Foundation (FDF) Vice President and Georgia Archaeologist, Catherine Long, supervised removal of the last unit within the NE Blockhouse [#47] (*Figure 3 pictured on Page 2*). Assisted by archaeologist Les Perry and William Chapman, who earned a Boy Scout Archaeology Merit Badge here a couple of years ago, Catherine introduced several young and older students and adults to archaeological methods.

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In the same area Scot Keith, a senior archaeologist

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISER:

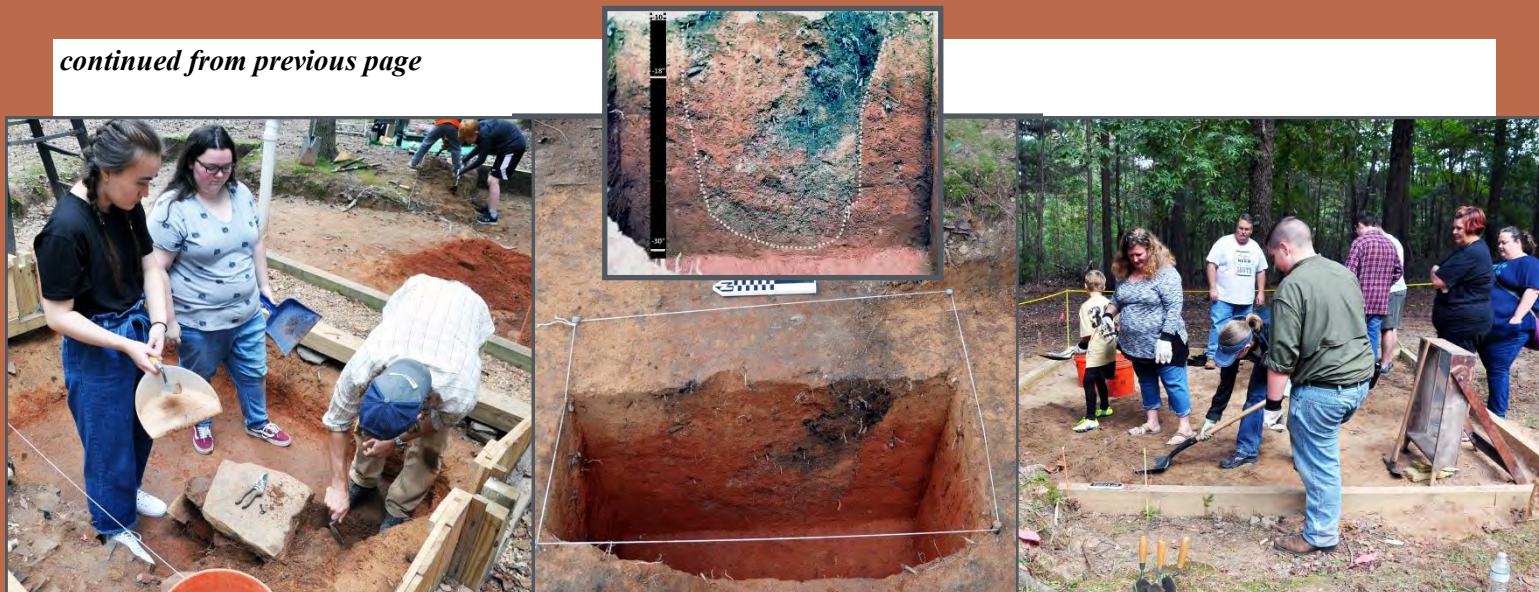
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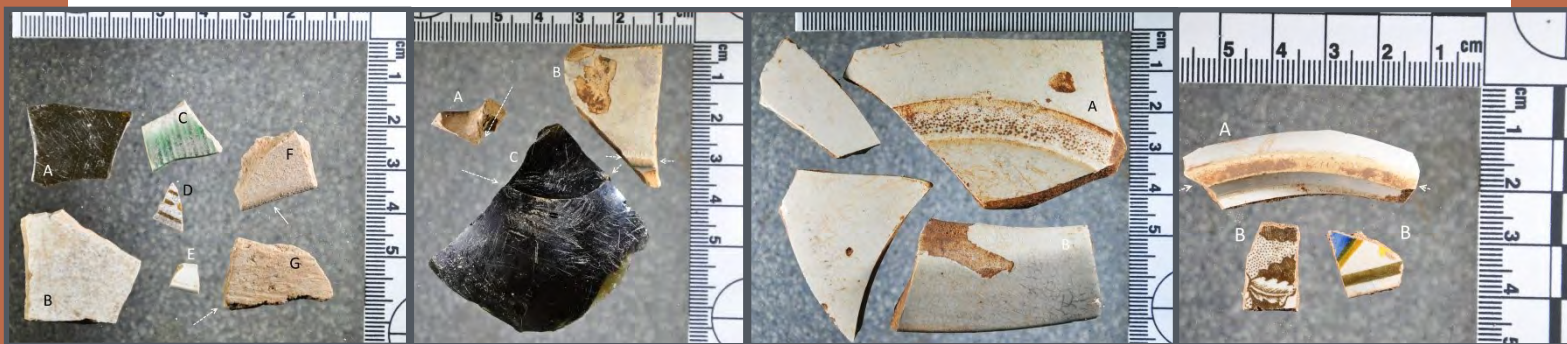


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1) Jeff Glover instructs two GSU archaeology students on correct “troweling” and “pillaring” technique in cold cellar; 2) Exposure of a trench profile [# 31b] near the Southwest Blockhouse with depth below bottom of plow zone of about 2.6’ and profile inset shows soil and debris backfill including burned wood from fort debris—total original depth was about 3’ as ordered by General Daniel; and 3) Young and old learning archaeological methods in the Northeast Blockhouse.

Some of the artifacts recovered by participants included (*pictured below from left to right*): Unit 47 fragments of A) brandy bottle, B) porcelain plate or platter, C) green shell edge ware, D & E) polychrome ware, and F & G) Indian pottery (probably Woodland); Unit 57 fragments of A) clay pipe, B) white ware plate base, and C) dark green (“black”) glass bowl base; Unit 31b seven (more) fragments of the chamber pot including A) a base fragment and B) a rim or lip fragment; and from the Cold Cellar feature fragments of A) porcelain plate base, B) printed ware, and C) polychrome ware.



The removal of that last unit has made it possible to now complete the timber outline and pea gravel floor of the area as was done in the Southwest Blockhouse several years ago. Work on that project as been carried out by Lenard Cruz, Tyler Holman, Korey Puckett, Wayne Stancel, Jim D’Angelo, and others. ■ JJD

# GARS Update

- **MEETING:** The Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) will meet on Tuesday, November 13 at Fort Daniel beginning at 7pm. GARS President Delana Gilmore will be speaking on “The Cherokee and Thanksgiving.” Refreshments made from Cherokee recipes will be served. Open to the public!
- **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OPPORTUNITIES:** In the next couple months GARS members will have opportunities to participate in archaeological projects: surveys at the Hill Mill site and supposed location of Fort Harrison in Jackson County. Future projects might include returning to previously recorded sites: Graves Soapstone and Fort Peachtree!
- **ARCHAEOLOGY LAB:** Work on the Fort Daniel artifacts will continue through the fall and winter, but there will also be opportunities to work on other archaeological sites’ artifacts. If you are interested in helping with working in the Fort Daniel Archaeology Lab, please [email Delana Gilmore](#).
- **NEW MEMBER:** At the Frontier Faire GARS welcomed a new member, James King, from Athens, Georgia. *Welcome James!*
- **CONGRATULATIONS:** We are happy and proud to announce that GARS President and *Gwinnett Archaeology Bulletin* editor, Delana Gilmore, has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA). *Congratulations Delana!*
- **OFFICER ELECTIONS:** It is that time of the year again to elect new officers. Positions that will be vacant next year are Treasurer and Secretary. If you are interested in serving, [email Delana Gilmore](#) as soon as possible. The names will be presented at the next GARS meeting.

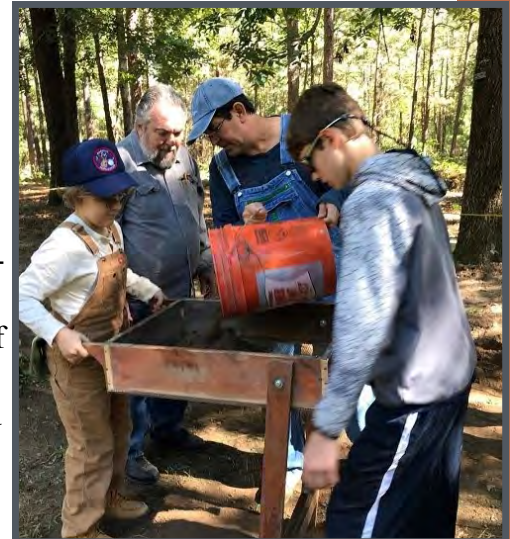
## MEMBERSHIP FEES:

If you would like to join or renew your GARS membership, please contact [John Hopkins](#); and for FDF membership please contact [Betty Warbington](#).



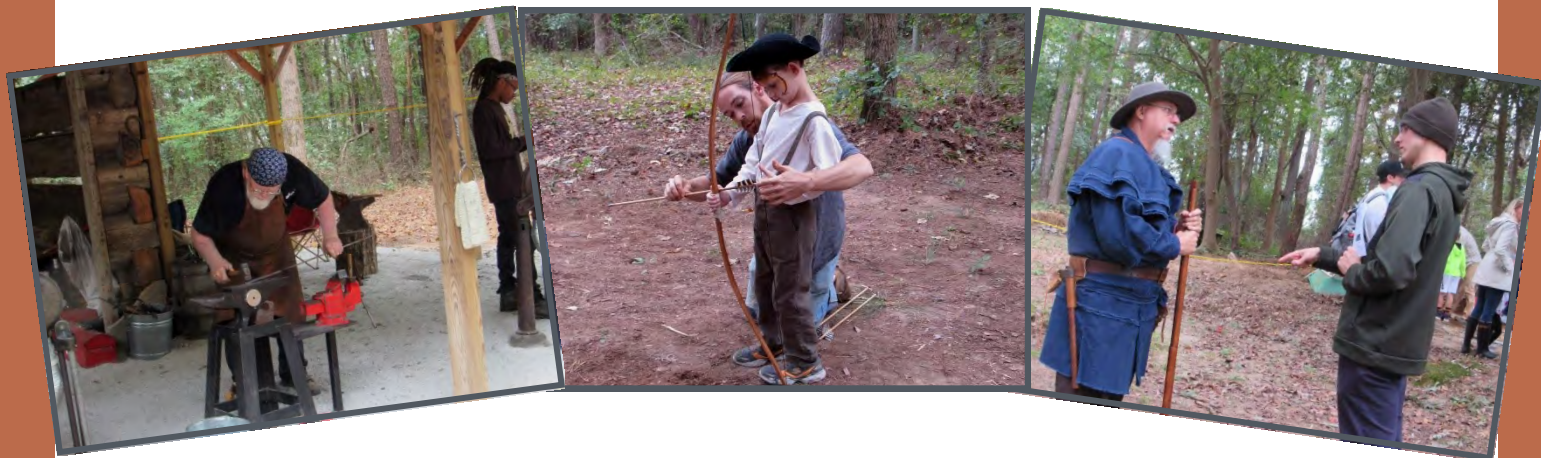
## Fort Daniel News

- As part of the preparation for the Frontier Faire, Scout Pack 597 from Dacula, Georgia, helped with clean up of Fort Daniel, and a Scout parent, Brian Martin, even climbed the big oak tree and cut off some of its dead branches. After the cleanup, the Scouts did have some fun in sifting dirt from the Northeast Blockhouse. They found some creamware and some Native American pottery!
- Recently, there have been several people who have joined FDF. Some have become Legacy members since their ancestors were stationed at Fort Daniel. The new members are: Ben and Gaines Creagar of Birmingham, Alabama (Legacy); Carol Creagar Vonesh of Lakeland, Florida (Legacy); Terrell and Deborah Henry of Buford, Georgia; James King of Athens, Georgia; Rick and Marguerite Culberson of Lawrenceville, Georgia; Kent Puckett of Buford, Georgia (Legacy); Landon, Dawn, and Korey Puckett of Buford, Georgia (Legacy); and John Hyatt of Lawrenceville, Georgia (Legacy). *Welcome to all of the new members!*





# 10TH ANNUAL FORT DANIEL FRONTIER FAIRE



Demonstrators enjoying the crisp fall day



Public Archaeology at Fort Daniel



Reenactors helped to tell the story of Fort Daniel

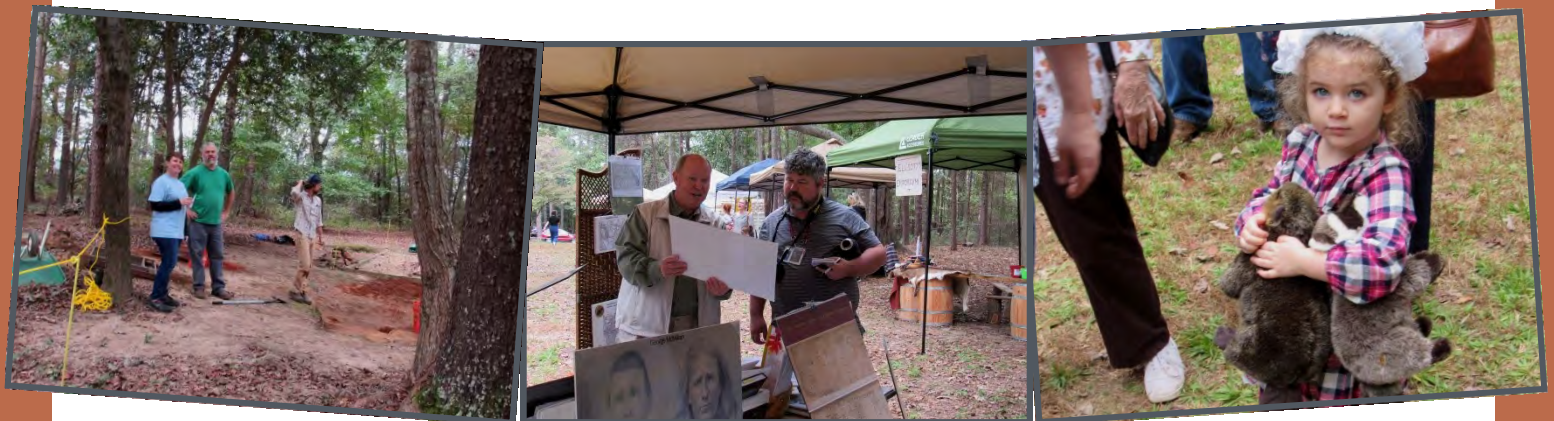




**Flag Rising Ceremony at Fort Daniel's Faire**



**Blacksmith Apprentices at the Tandy Key Blacksmith Shop**



**Visitors young and old enjoying the 10th Annual Frontier Faire**



## More Diggin's

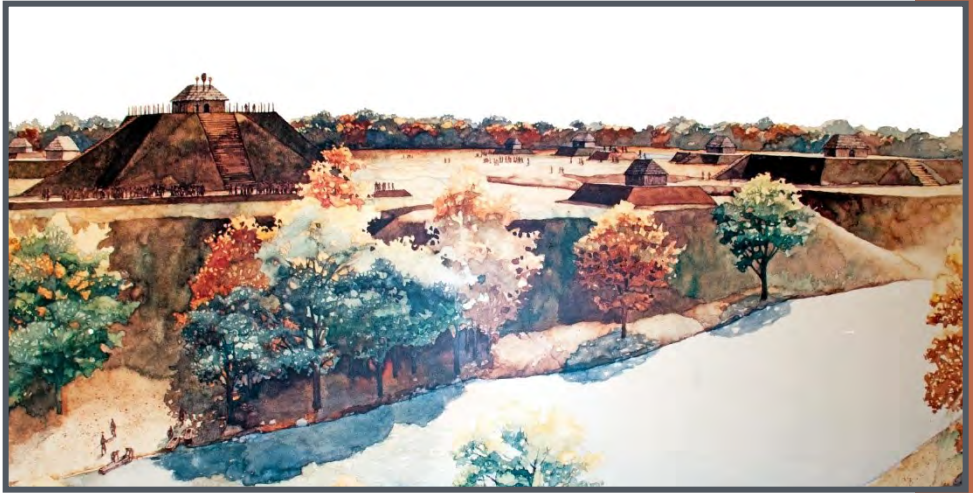
- **November is Native American Heritage Month!** The Library of Congress, National Archives and Records Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Gallery of Art, National Park Service, Smithsonian Institution and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum join in paying tribute to the rich ancestry and traditions of Native Americans. GARS and FDF will be joining in paying tribute at the Native American Heritage Celebration at Fort Daniel (see information below). For information on events or educational program for teachers please visit the official Web site of [Native American Heritage Month](#).
- **Indian Festival and Pow-Wow at Stone Mountain** will be on **November 1–4** at **Stone Mountain Park's Historic Square**. The event showcases Native American culture through dance, music, authentic craft demonstrations, cooking traditions, storytelling, wildlife presentations, and more. For information you may visit the [Stone Mountain Pow-Wow Web site](#).
- **Gwinnett Historical Society** will be **meeting on Monday, November 12** at the **Historic Courthouse** in downtown Lawrenceville **beginning at 7PM**. Guest speaker will be Jim Cofer, who will be speaking about the Snellville area. For more information visit the [GHS Web site](#).
- The **75th Annual Southeastern Archaeological Conference (SEAC)** will be held in **Augusta, Georgia, on November 14–17**. There will be many talks given by people from the Atlanta-metro area. The Annual SGA Fall Meeting will be held on Saturday as part of SEAC. For more information visit the [SEAC Web site](#) and/or the [SGA Web site](#).
- **Atlanta History Center's new exhibit *Locomotion: Railroads and the Making of Atlanta***, which includes the Texas Locomotive, will have its **grand opening on Saturday, November 17**. This exhibition, located in the Rollins Gallery, interprets the major role railroads played in transforming Atlanta into the transportation hub and commercial center it is today. For information on the grand opening and the new exhibit visit the [Atlanta History Center's Web site](#).

O<sup>o</sup> Θ Σ Π ς Ϸ E  
 (u-na-de-ti-yi-s-gv)  
**Native American Heritage  
 Celebration**  
**Saturday, November 10**  
**10AM-5PM**  
**Fort Daniel Historic Site**  
 (2505 Braselton Highway/GA 124, Buford)  
**Admissions:**  
**\$5/person or \$10/family**

# Alabama Indigenous Mound Trail Unveiled

Next year the state of Alabama will be celebrating its bicentennial, and as part of this celebration Alabama has begun to preserve its pre-1819 heritage, which includes the State's Native American history. The Alabama Indigenous Mound Trail (AIMT) celebrates the cultural heritage of the State through highlighting 13 archaeological sites—allowing people to learn more about the native culture that began long before Alabama became the 22nd state.

Alabama is home to one of the densest concentrations of ancient Native American monuments in North America. Thousands of years before European settlement, highly organized indigenous societies began constructing mounds and associated earthworks out of dirt, shell, and stone throughout Alabama. Some sites surpassed in size and complexity only by cities built by the ancient civilizations of Central and South America as well as the contemporary cities of medieval Europe. This massive construction period in Alabama peaked between 1000AD and 1500AD—when the Mississippian mound complexes dominated the landscape. Each complex site was a bustling center of cultural activity with tribute and goods from half a continent away pouring in as part of complex economies and belief systems. (*See drawing pictured right.*)



AIMT provides an opportunity for people to enhance their understanding and appreciation of the ancient mound centers around Alabama. The sites are scattered throughout the State and are either publicly accessible or have public parks nearby that offer opportunities to educate visitors about the site. The sites include:

◇ Florence Indian Mound in Florence, Alabama



◇ Oakville Indian Mounds in Oakville, Alabama

◇ Hamilton Mounds Site in Hamilton, Alabama

◇ Coker Ford Site in Cherokee County, Alabama

◇ Choccolocco Creek Archaeological Complex in Oxford, Alabama (*pictured left*)

◇ Bessemer Site in Bessemer, Alabama

◇ Mound at Fort Toulouse-Fort Jackson Park in Wetumpka, Alabama

◇ Mound at Old Cahawba Archaeological Park in Dallas County, Alabama

◇ Bottle Creek Site in Mobile-Tensaw Delta, Alabama

◇ Fuller Site in Spanish Fort, Alabama

◇ Indian Shell Mound Park in Dauphin Island, Alabama

◇ Gulf State Park Sand and Shell Mounds in Gulf Shores, Alabama

◇ Moundville Archaeological Park in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama

With the exception of mound sites open to public access at local and state-operated parks, these ancient sites are now mostly hidden away in forests and fields, but their story remains a vital part of not only Alabama's collective heritage but the history of Native Americans in the Southeast. ■ **DMG**



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## PBS Docuseries *Native America* Recreates Cultures Pre-1492

Excerpt from an article by Russell Contreras as featured on the [Associated Press Web site](#) on October 22, 2018

The story of Native America taught in US public schools usually begins at contact with European explorers. Children then get lessons about Thanksgiving, maybe the Trail of Tears or the 19th century wars over the removal of tribes in the American West. Rarely discussed is life in the Americas before Columbus' 1492 voyage.

A new four-part PBS docuseries entitled *Native America* seeks to recreate a world in the Americas generations prior to the arrival of Europeans. Using archaeology, Native American oral traditions, and high-tech 3D renditions; viewers are presented images of busy cities connected by networks that span from the present-day United States to South America.

The docuseries shows how Chaco Canyon (pictured above) in New Mexico became a busy spiritual and

commercial center that stood five stories high in the desert sky—centuries before skyscrapers went up in New York. They also discuss the tunnel under a pyramid in Teotihuacán, Mexico, that revealed an intricate belief system that was also found elsewhere. Plus, outside St.



Louis, Missouri, 10,000 people helped erect massive earthwork pyramids into a city now known as *Cahokia* around the time the real-life Macbeth ruled Scotland.

Series executive producer and director Gary Glassman said the project took more than a year to plan because producers wanted to make sure they had agreements from Native American communities the documentaries sought to cover.

Filmmakers wanted to include animated pieces of sacred art and stories to illustrate the importance of the site and wanted to be sensitive, Glassman said.

Episodes have already aired on PBS but can be [streamed](#) for free for a limited time after airings. ■ AP

### GARS OFFICERS

[www.thegars.org](http://www.thegars.org)

|                                 |                                 |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| President:<br>Delana Gilmore    | Secretary:<br>Vicki Watkins     |
| Vice President:<br>Jenna Pirtle | Treasurer:<br>John Hopkins, Jr. |

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

### FDF OFFICERS

[www.thefortdanielfoundation.org](http://www.thefortdanielfoundation.org)

|                                   |                                |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| President:<br>Jim D'Angelo        | Secretary:<br>Vicki Watkins    |
| Vice President:<br>Catherine Long | Treasurer:<br>Betty Warbington |

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