

# Preserving History Through Archaeology



April 2024  
Volume XIII, Issue 4

## GWINNETT ARCHAEOLOGY BULLETIN

Snellville Site.....1	Georgia's Coastal Sites in Danger .....4
More Diggin's .....3	

### Archaeological Investigation at Snellville Site

In March Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) facilitated an archaeological investigation on a private property in Snellville. Approximately 20 volunteers participated in this dig, and this volunteer group was made up of GARS members, professional archaeologists from local cultural resources management (CRM) firms, and college students from Georgia Tech, Kennesaw University, and other local universities. Since oral history depicts that Native people camped along Turkey Creek (which runs through the property) while the area was being settled, this first phase of the archaeological investigation focused along the creek and the surrounding area. Over 40 shovel test pits were dug adjacent to the Creek, and a pedestrian survey of the creek bed was conducted. Additionally, a visual survey of potential Native stone piles was performed. (The stone piles will be investigated at a later date.) GARS members are in the process of analyzing the items found during the dig at the Fort Daniel Archaeological Lab. ■

*More pictures continued on Page 2*



### GARS members and volunteers participating in an archaeological dig in Snellville

EDITOR:

Delana M. Gilmore, MA, RPA

Email: [gwinnettarchaeology@gmail.com](mailto:gwinnettarchaeology@gmail.com)

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR:

Jim D'Angelo, PhD RPA

Email: [4drdee@bellsouth.net](mailto:4drdee@bellsouth.net)

continued from Page 1



GARS members and volunteers participating in an archaeological dig in Snellville



# Exploring Archaeology at Fort Daniel

Saturday, May 18, 2024

10AM–2PM

## Fort Daniel Archaeological Site

(2505 Braselton Highway/GA 124, Buford)

May is Archaeology Month in Georgia! Explore how archaeology reveals the ways people lived on the Georgia frontier during the War of 1812—including tours of the Fort Daniel Museum and Archaeology Lab and active archaeological dig within the Fort!

# More Diggin's

- **William Harris Homestead Archaeology Day:** Visit the William Harris Homestead on April 20 from 10AM to 2PM and watch students from Georgia Gwinnett College under the supervision of Dr. Kate Deeley conduct archaeological excavations. For more information visit the [William Homestead Web Site](#).
- **GARS Meeting:** The next in-person GARS meeting will be on Sunday, April 28 at the Fort Daniel Archaeological Park (2505 Braselton Highway, Buford) beginning at 2PM. The guest speaker will be Fort Daniel Foundation Vice President Tyler Holman. He will give a presentation entitled "Seeing the Past: Experiments in the Archaeology of Light." He will be talking about Roman Egypt and focusing on one particular artifact: a mummy mask!
- **Georgia Archaeology Month:** Every year in May the state of Georgia celebrates and promotes preservation and stewardship of its hidden archaeological heritage. To celebrate Archaeology Month organizations below are upcoming events hosted by New South Associates and the Society for Georgia Archaeology.

## ARCHAEOLOGY DAY!

African American Foodways & Culture



SATURDAY | MAY 4TH | 10AM - 2PM

6150 East Ponce de Leon Ave. Stone Mountain, GA 30083



SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION  
SOCIETY

## Save the Date!

May 9 - 11, 2024



The SGA Spring Meeting will be held jointly with the Georgia chapter of the Soil and Water Conservation Society in Macon, Georgia.

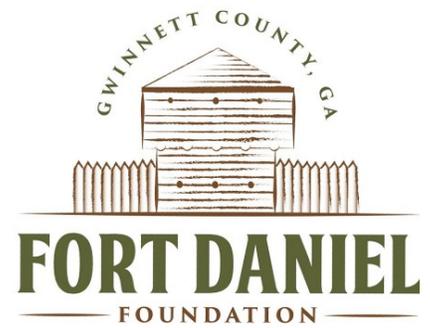
The theme for this meeting is  
*"Rising Together: Collaborative Conservation & Preservation for Georgia"*



Ocmulgee Mounds, Macon, Georgia

If you have ideas for potential speakers please contact Mary Porter Freeman at [sgapresident@thesga.org](mailto:sgapresident@thesga.org) or Gary Hawkins at [ghawkins@uga.edu](mailto:ghawkins@uga.edu).

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## Study Finds Georgia's Archaeological Sites in Danger Due to Rising Sea Levels

Excerpt from an article written by Benjamin Payne featured on the [GPB.org](https://www.gpb.org) on April 1, 2024.

As human-caused climate change intensifies the severity of hurricanes and accelerates the rate of sea level rise, more than 4,000 archaeological sites in Coastal Georgia stand at risk of partial damage—or complete loss, according to a new scientific study.

Publishing their findings in the peer-reviewed journal *PLOS ONE*, archaeology professors Victor Thompson of the University of Georgia and Matthew Howland of Wichita State University used computer modeling to estimate the vulnerability of material cultural heritage along Georgia's Atlantic coastline and nearby inland areas.

“Our analysis projects that the vast majority of archaeological sites within 40 kilometers (about 25 miles) of the Georgia coast are currently at risk of damage through



inundation, erosion, or accretion from storm surge events that, though unpredictable, could occur at any time,” the researchers wrote.

More than 10 times as many sites are at risk than previously thought, Thompson and Howland wrote, since their new study looked at sea level rise (SLR) not in isolation but rather in tandem with storm surge.

To that end, the researchers shared their detailed results with the Georgia Historic Preservation Division, which Thompson hopes will use the data to best allocate the state's limited resources.

The study gives the agency “a sense of how to plan for these kinds of things,” he said. “It gives us a sense of what do we need to target in terms of thinking about preservation and conservation.” ■ **GPB**

### GARS OFFICERS

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

**President:** Vice President:  
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**Secretary/Treasurer:**  
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To keep up with the latest digs and activities from GARS follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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[www.fortdaniel.com](http://www.fortdaniel.com)

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Cindy Horsley Betty Warbington

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