

# Preserving History Through Archaeology



February 2020  
Volume IX, Issue 2

## GWINNETT ARCHAEOLOGY BULLETIN

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### Interesting Glassware Artifacts Can Be Found at Forts

Finding glass bottles and glass sherds is common on archaeological sites. At Fort Daniel we find several different types of glass in a variety of colors. As written in the *Gwinnett Archaeology Bulletin* December 2017 issue, Dr. Jim D'Angelo discussed the different types of glass found but particularly a set of clear glass pieces (pictured right). After much research—even contacting an expert in the United Kingdom—the clear glass sherds probably made up part of an ale tumbler (pictured above) and was used to “wet the whistle” of someone stationed at Fort Daniel. Dr. D'Angelo stated, “The bottle fragments that we have at Fort Daniel are consistent with brandy bottle glass,



and there are several receipts for brandy charged to Fort Daniel in the State Archives. . . . However, as was the custom, homemade beer or ale would have been bottled in used brandy or wine bottles. These bottles

were shades of dark olive green, dark amber, and even deep purple.”

Recently in the news, a different type of bottle has been rediscovered at an archaeological site in Virginia. This particular glass bottle is filled with rusted nails

and dates to the American Civil War. Additionally, this glass bottle might signify a type of talisman commonly used to protect against evil spirits—making it being known as a “witch bottle.”

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## GARS/Fort Daniel News

- **GARS Meeting:** *The next Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) meeting will be on Tuesday, February 18 at Fort Daniel beginning at 7PM. Details about this meeting will be announced soon.*
- **New Members of the Fort Daniel Foundation Board of Directors:** At the Fort Daniel Foundation Annual Meeting new Board members were voted on. The new members are:
  - ⇒ *Anne Dorland, GARS President:* Anne works at New South Associates as an Archaeologist. She received a BA in Anthropology from Auburn University and a Masters in Education with a focus on Public Archaeology from the University of South Alabama. Anne specializes in archaeology education, and while at South Alabama developed an outreach program targeting third and fourth grade school students designed to impassion youth about local history and instill a sense of stewardship. Her research interests include experimental archaeology, lithic analysis, and the origins of agriculture in the Southeastern United States.
  - ⇒ *Amy Stanton:* Amy was born in Atlanta, grew up in nearby Decatur, and moved to Gwinnett in 1987. She attended Georgia State University where she received a bachelor's degree in College of Public and Urban Affairs and later received a Masters of Education. She has worked in the insurance industry and taught elementary school in Gwinnett County. Amy and her husband Jerry have two daughters and own and operate an electrical construction company. Amy is also a descendant of Brigadier General Frederick Beall, who was involved in the construction of Fort Daniel.



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Archaeologists found the “witch bottle” at a site in York County, Virginia, known as Redoubt 9—a fortification built in 1861 by Confederate troops and later occupied by Union forces. The structure remains are located on a highway median on Interstate 64. The bottle (discovered near a hearth) measures roughly 5 inches tall and 3 inches wide. Being made in Pennsylvania, the bottle was probably placed near the hearth by a Union soldier during the time the fort was occupied by the Pennsylvania cavalry.

When archaeologists recovered the bottle, they thought that it was unusual but did not think much about it. William and Mary Center for Archaeological Research Director Joe Jones stated they thought the Union soldiers used the bottle to store nails for repairing the fort after attacks. However, with the bottle’s location near a hearth as well as the nails contained in it, the bottle meant more just as a container but hinted at serving a ritual purpose.

Though approximately 200 witch bottles have been found in the United Kingdom, fewer than a dozen have turned up in the US. The unearthing of a witch bottle in an American Civil War fort gives an insight of traditional superstitions that may have persisted for a soldier who was far from home. ■ DMG



(Photo by Robert Hunter)

Archaeologists found the bottle at an American Civil War-era site on the median of Interstate 64 in York County, Virginia

## MEMBERSHIP FEES ARE DUE:

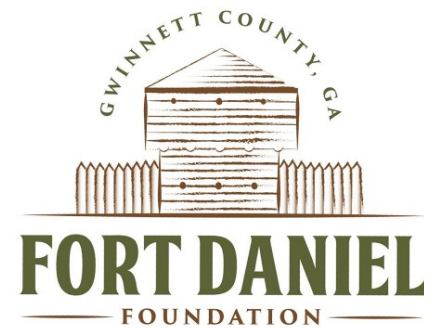
If you would like to join or renew your GARS membership, please contact Delana Gilmore; and for FDF membership please contact Cindy Horsley.



## More Diggin's

- **Elijah Clarke and Heroes of the Hornets' Nest Remembrance Day** will be on **February 7–9** at **Elijah Clark State Park** (Lincolnton). The weekend will be full of living history displays, musket and cannon firing, and much more. You will be able to hear about the results of the recent ground penetrating radar survey. For information visit the [Kettle Creek Battlefield Web site](#).
- **Margaret Sartor and Alex Harris Author Talk** at the **Atlanta History Center** (Buckhead Campus) will be on **Tuesday, February 11 beginning at 7PM**. As editors **Margaret Sartor** and **Alex Harris** show in their book *Where We Find Ourselves*, Hugh Mangum’s photographs are an unparalleled document of life in the turbulent history of the American South at the turn of the 20th century. The price is \$10 for not-yet members, \$5 for members, and free to AHC Insiders unless otherwise noted. For more information visit the [AHC Web site](#).
- **Richard Bell Author Talk at Atlanta History Center Midtown Campus** (Margaret Mitchell House) will be on **Wednesday, February 12 beginning at 7PM**. Richard Bell will be talking about his latest book *Stolen: Five Free Boys Kidnapped into Slavery and their Astonishing Odyssey Home*. Impeccably researched and breathlessly paced, *Stolen* tells the incredible story of five boys whose courage forever changed the fight against slavery in America. The price is \$10 for not-yet members, \$5 for members, and free to AHC Insiders unless otherwise noted. For more information visit the [AHC Web site](#).

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## Call to Action: Historic Preservation Division

When local groups and communities look to work with the state on upcoming historic preservation projects, they will NOT be going to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) anymore. Under Governor Brian Kemp's proposed budget for the fiscal year 2021 the Historic Preservation Division (HPD) will be becoming part of the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). DNR Commissioner Mark Williams stated at a state legislature's joint budget hearing that DNR will retain the archaeology team but DCA will manage the remaining programs. For 26 years DNR guided historic preservation efforts, but after discussions between agencies and Governor's Office of Planning and Budget it was determined that HPD will best serve Georgia citizens under DCA.

While change is sometimes good, this restructure of

agencies comes with a price: The proposed budget has a significant cut of 12% in the HPD's budget. HPD is responsible for big economic boosts across the state—



doling out million of dollars in tax credits representing more millions invested in the Georgia economy! Such investments can be particularly significant in Georgia's smaller cities and towns. Sadly, HPD is used to working within a tight budget, but the Governor Kemp's proposed cut will likely result in layoffs—hobbling of an already overstressed program which is vital to the preservation of historic resources in our State.

At a time when preservation programs like State and Federal rehabilitation tax credits are seeing a surge of interest, these cuts should not be allowed! Contact your [local state legislators](#) and let your voice be heard in favor of preserving Georgia's historic resources. ■ DMG

### GARS OFFICERS

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

President: Vacant  
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](#).