



GWINNETT ARCHAEOLOGY BULLETIN

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War of 1812 Bicentennial

- **Georgia Archaeology Month:** The theme for Archaeology Month this year is the celebration of the *Bicentennial of the War of 1812*. On May 19 the SGA Annual Spring Meeting will be at Georgia Gwinnett College (in the morning) and Fort Daniel (in the afternoon). GARS will be hosting an Expo at the site that will include: the Fort Daniel museum in our 1812 War-era walled tent; SGA, GARS, and FDF booths in our Hog Mountain Trading Post tent; a display that features plans for creating a historic and archaeological research park at the Fort Daniel site; the **SGA Archaeobus** (Georgia's Mobile Archaeology Classroom); actual excavations at the site conducted by local students under the supervision of Georgia archaeologists; and tours by the site archaeologist, Jim D'Angelo. See the [GARS Web site](#) and the May newsletter for more details.
- **Fort Daniel at Stone Mountain:** On May 12 GARS members will participate in an Archaeology Month event sponsored by New South Associates, a CRM firm in Stone Mountain, Georgia. GARS participation will feature the Fort Daniel 1812 War wall tent museum, artifacts from Fort Daniel, a poster board display, and GARS and FDF members in 1812-era costume.
- SGA is a statewide organization of professional and avocational archaeologists. The purpose of Archaeology Month is to help raise public awareness of Georgia's historic and cultural resources and archaeology's contribution to understanding and preserving that past.

GARS Monthly Meeting

The GARS monthly meeting, which is open to the public, is held on the second Thursday at the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Building located at 75 Langley Road in Lawrenceville. Gathering at 7PM with program starting at 7:30PM.

Due to a scheduling conflict, the April meeting will be on TUESDAY, April 10 in Conference Room A. Because of the two Archaeology Month events in May cited above, there will be no monthly meeting in May.

Our speaker for April is **Marion Blackwell** who will talk about his new book, *Blue Locusts*. Mr. Blackwell is a lifelong resident of Atlanta and has written a cross section of short stories about the Civil War, his passion for hiking, and other topics. Copies of his book will be available for purchase and signing by the author. Proceeds go to Atlanta-area charities. ■

GARS Activity Notes

In preparation for the May Expo at Fort Daniel, several work days are being scheduled. This information will be sent *via* email to GARS and FDF members by mid-April and again in May. Activities will include limited excavations in April, and cleanup of existing excavation units as well as additional preservation measures for the SW block-house in May.

The week preceding the May 19 Expo will be devoted to site cleanup and related chores. *In the week preceding the Expo please do not do any rain dances.* ■



Cartersville Check Stamped
Potsherd



Swift Creek Potsherd

Cultural Resource Management: Site 9GW4

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.

The Georgia Archaeological Site File (GASF) at UGA is the official repository for information about known archaeological sites of all periods in the state of Georgia. It was founded in 1976. One of the first sites recorded at GASF was 9 (Georgia) GW (Gwinnett) 4 (fourth site assigned a number), a prehistoric “Village and Campsite.” This site was actually first recorded by Roy Dickens as part of 1962 Georgia State University survey; thus some of the early site numbers at GSAF refer to sites recorded prior 1976.

The site was situated on a terrace at the confluence of the Yellow River and a small branch. Based on the presence of Cartersville Check Stamped (*pictured below top left*) and Simple Stamped pottery, Dickens ascribed a Middle Woodland cultural affinity to the site, and, based on “old quartz,” an Archaic component. No other details were given.

In 1994 David Chase, a member of the Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society (GAAS), a (elder) sister society of GARS, revisited the site and completed an site form update. According to Chase the site appeared to be an extensively vandalized Woodland settlement. He wrote, “Artifacts found in looter holes.” He also identified a midden stain in one of the “pothunter holes.” Chase found six potsherds: one of which was Swift Creek Stamped and the rest plain, with sand temper and “almost” burnished surfaces. Swift Creek is also ascribed to the Woodland period. (I would add that the presence of quartz that Dickens reported could also be ascribed to the Woodland period.)

Swift Creek (pictured bottom left) like *Cartersville Check Stamped* is a name (often derived from where that type of artifacts was first found—Swift Creek is near Macon) given to a particular kind of pottery with certain characteristics. Particular types of artifacts (pottery, projectile points, etc.) belong to “archaeological cultures” such as Early Archaic, Late Woodland, Mississippian, Lamar, Cherokee, etc. An archaeological culture is an “assemblage” of artifacts that constitute the “material culture” of a past human society.

By checking 9GW4 on Google Earth, it appears not to have been further disturbed, although there are many houses in the vicinity that may have not been there in 1962 or 1994. In a future issue we will look at another of Dicken’s sites and the 6,000-plus glass beads he excavated near 9GW4—including 5,895 small blue beads like the one GARS found Creekside Rock Shelter!

Because of the SGA event on May 19, in the next issue we will focus on the Fort Hawkins archaeological site comparing and contrasting it with the Fort Daniel site. ■ JJD

NANYEHI: Beloved Woman of the Cherokee

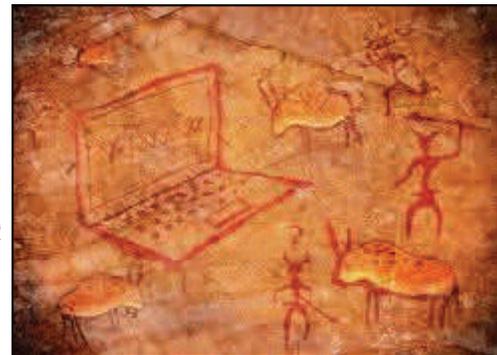
This new musical follows the life of Nancy Ward, a Cherokee *Ghigau* who served as a peacemaker and diplomat on behalf of the Cherokee people. *NANYEHI* highlights everyday Cherokee activities from a marriage ceremony to a simple game of stick ball (known today as *lacrosse*). The two-act musical features 17 upbeat Cherokee-style music and heartfelt ballads. For more information about the musical you can visit the official [NANYEHI Web site](#) or visit [Savannah River Production's Web site](#).



GARS has reserved a block of ten seats (though that number can be adjusted) to attend the musical drama on April 29 beginning at 3PM. The ticket price is \$12, and the play is at the Lonnie Burns Fine Art Center on the campus of Hart County High School (59 Fifth Street, Hartwell, GA 30643). If you are interested, place contact [Wayne Waldrip](#) by April 10. He will be at the GARS meeting on April 10 if you wish to let him know at that time. ■

More Diggin's

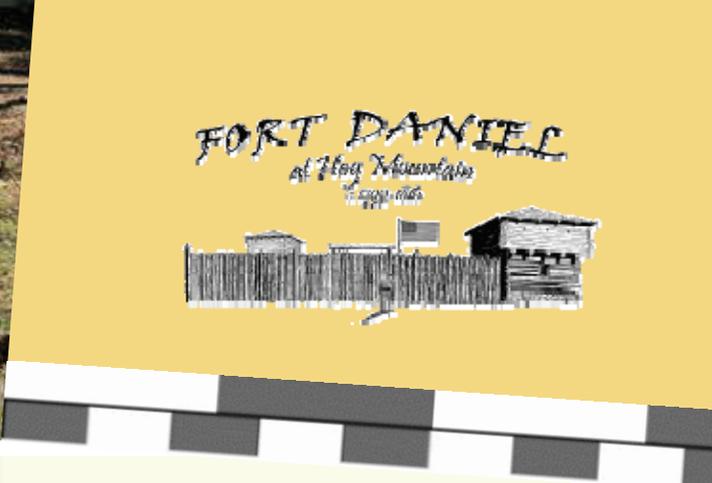
- For great archaeology videos from the USA and around the world go to [The Archaeology Channel](#).
- Past and current GARS and FDF articles published on the SGA Web site can be seen at the [site archives](#).
- Back issues of the GAB will be on the new GARS Web site—**soon to be posted**.
- A Virginia man convicted of taking more than 9,000 artifacts from a Civil War battlefield was engaged in “heartbreaking” destruction of American history, experts say. John Jeffrey Santo, 52, has been sentenced to 366 days in prison and must also pay \$7,346. See: [Civil War relic thief engaged in ‘heartbreaking’ destruction](#)
- Modern-day surveyors, using computers and GPS systems, redrew the NC, SC border to narrow it down to the centimeter, which put the new line about 150 feet south of the old one. Some folks are not happy! See: [NC, SC state line isn't where folks thought it was](#)
- **2012 Legislative Update from [The Georgia Trust](#)—Regarding Historic Preservation Division (HPD) funding:** As you may be aware, the Governor's initial budget included \$220,000 of *devastating* cuts to the Department of Natural Resources Historic Preservation Division's operating budget. An agency response by DNR proved that the analysis used for this cut was flawed, and the Appropriations Committee has restored \$110,000 of funding to HPD. However, not all news from the current legislative session is good. Go to GT [Web site](#) for more info.



CALL for T-SHIRT DESIGNS!!!

Recently, a new T-shirt design contest was announced for the upcoming War of 1812 Bicentennial celebration. The T-shirt should have a War of 1812/Creek War (1813-1814) theme. Some of the rules mentioned (in the email) were: open to FDF and GARS members *only*; War of 1812 and Creek War 1813–1814 dates must appear in the design; region covered is Georgia and other Southern states. The winner will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card, and the T-shirt will be ready for Archaeology Month events. ***Please email design submissions to [Karen Lee](#) by on SUNDAY, April 15.*** ■





Pictured right is the 2012 SGA Archaeology Month Poster. It was designed by New South Associates. This goes out to all schools in Georgia.

2012 GARS OFFICERS

www.thegars.org

President:

Betty Kinsaul

Vice President:

Wayne Waldrip

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2012 FDF OFFICERS

www.thefortdanielfoundation.org

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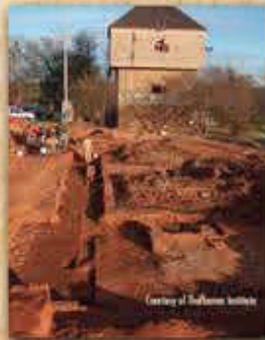
Betty Warbington



DISCOVERING 1812 in 2012

Excavations at Georgia's frontier forts are beginning to unravel the stories.

Fort Hawkins, a U.S. Army headquarters, played a major role in the War of 1812 along Georgia's frontier. Large-scale archaeological study of the Mexican area fort has brought to light its original architecture that once housed more than 1,000 men and boys.



Point Peter Battery, Camden County, was the southernmost fortification in our nation's coastal defense system. British forces overwhelmed U.S. soldiers there during the War of 1812, destroying the fort and barracks. Excavations have yielded over 67,000 artifacts that speak to military life including market bells, awlheads, buttons, pipes, pocketknives, bone dice used for gambling, spoons, forks and pottery.



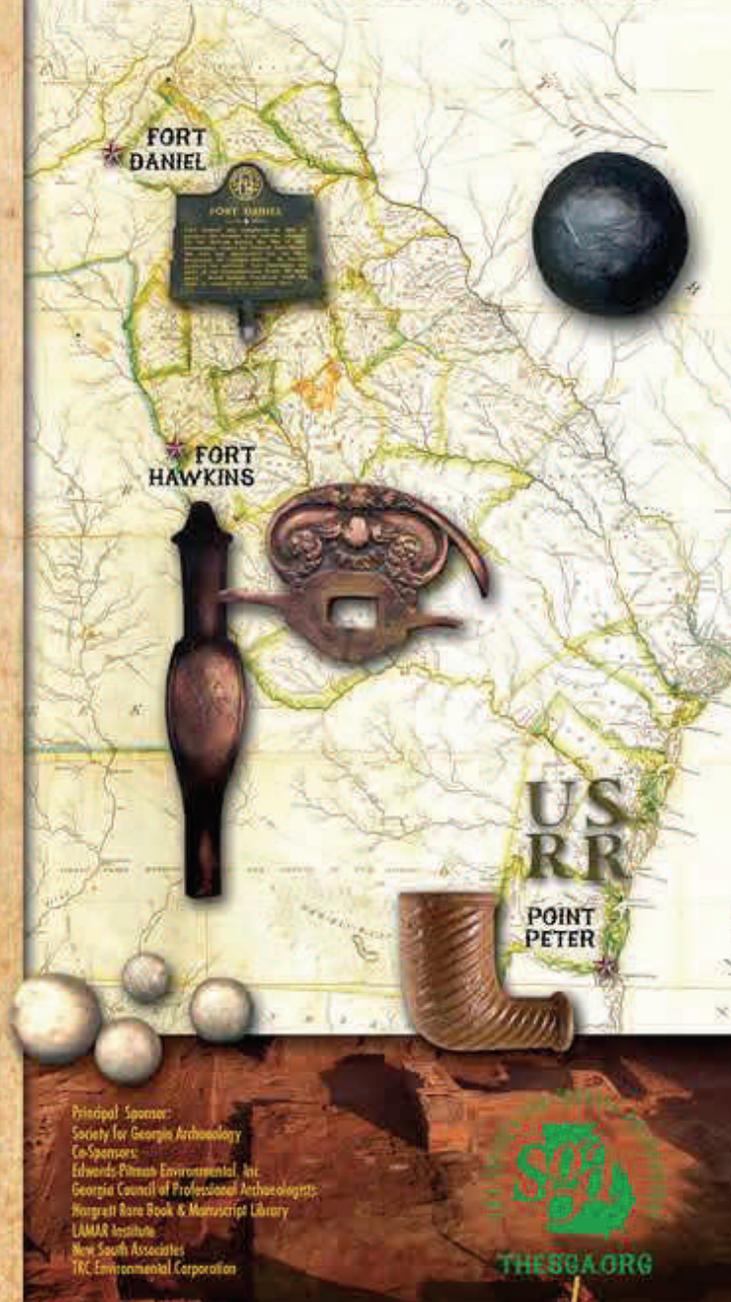
Fort Daniel, located in Coweta County, was one of a chain of small forts constructed during the War of 1812 to protect the frontier from Indian attacks instigated by the British. Our knowledge of the fort and this period is growing as archaeologists work with the public to excavate this important military site.



Photo: Staff photo. May 10, 2012. A group of students and staff members are working on an archaeological excavation site. The photo shows a large earthen structure with a small tower on top. The photo is a color photograph and is a photograph of an archaeological excavation site.

WE WERE THE FRONTIER

GEORGIA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH MAY 2012



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