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IN THIS ISSUE
War of 1812 Bicentennial ........... 1
GARS Meeting ................................ 1
CRM ............................................. 2
GARS Notes ..................................... 2
GARS Helping Out ..................... 3
More Diggin’s .............................. 3
Fort Daniel Update ...................... 4

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVISER:
Jim D’Angelo, Ph.D. R.P.A.
451 Thornbush Trace
Lawrenceville, GA 30046
Email: 4drdee@bellsouth.net

GAB NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
Delana Gilmore
Email: dgilmore@wordsmithquill.com

A Gwinnett County Celebration of
The Bicentennial of the War of 1812

- The Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA) Spring Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 19 at Georgia Gwinnett College and Fort Daniel. This meeting is in conjunction with 2012 Archaeology Month. The Archaeology Month theme this year is Commemorating the Bicentennial of the War of 1812. The meeting, attended by State-wide members of SGA and the public, will begin at the Student Center (Level 1, LVIS Room). Registration will be at GGC beginning at 8AM. Registration fees for the meeting will be $10 for members, $15 for nonmembers, and $5 for students. Invited Gwinnett educators who attend only the afternoon session (1:30–5PM) at Fort Daniel will not be required to register.

- The preliminary meeting schedule is available on the SGA Meeting Web page. 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. You can also find out more about Archaeology Month activities around the State of Georgia on the SGA Archaeology Month Web page.

GARS Monthly Meeting
Due to the Archaeology Month activities cited above, there will be NO May monthly meeting. However, the GARS officers are pleased to announce that there will be a joint dinner meeting in June with the Barrow County Historical Society that will include a visit to Fort Yargo and the Barrow County Museum. Details will be sent to GARS members and included in the June issue of GAB.
GARS Notes

In preparation for the May Expo at Fort Daniel, several work days are being scheduled. This information has been sent via email to GARS and FDF members.

Past and current GARS and FDF articles published on the SGA Web site can be seen at the [SGA Web site archives](#). Back issues of the GAB will be on the new GARS Web site, which will be posted soon.

Several field trips and archaeology projects have been planned for GARS. Many of these are open only to GARS members, so join and be part of the fun! ■

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Cultural Resource Management

Archaeological sites are being discovered and recorded all the time 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.

For this issue we step outside of Gwinnett County to focus on a site tied to Fort Daniel by the War of 1812 and the Western Frontier in Georgia: Fort Hawkins, established in 1806 by President Thomas Jefferson and Indian Agent Col. Benjamin Hawkins, was US Army Fort and trading post. We think this is about the same time that the original “fort at Hog Mountain” was constructed to be replaced by Fort Daniel in 1813. Both forts were situated on the western edge of the frontier at that time. Fort Hawkins was located on the Federal Road connecting Milledgeville with points west in Alabama Territory. Another Federal Road went north through Athens to Flowery Branch, and a cut-off led to Fort Daniel.

It would be from Fort Hawkins and along that road (originally a Creek Pathway) that General John Floyd would lead two expeditions against the Creek Red Sticks in 1813 and 1814. Difficulties in supplying Floyd during those expeditions led to the plan to channel supplies through Fort Daniel to Fort Peachtree where they would be rafted down the Chattahoochee to Fort Mitchell. However, that is another story, for another time. General Andrew Jackson used Fort Hawkins as a staging area for the Battle of New Orleans as well as the later Creek and Seminole Wars.

Unlike Fort Daniel, which was a militia fort, Fort Hawkins was a Federal US Army fort, that also served the State militia. Unlike the many frontier forts of which Fort Daniel is an example, Fort Hawkins was a major troop garrison as well as a major trade factory. Occupied continuously for some 15 years, the numbers of artifacts and built features at this site presents a much more complex and robust archaeological record than what we see at Fort Daniel.

The first archaeological investigation of the site was in 1936 by Gordan Wiley. A student at the time, Wiley went on to become one of the most influential of American archaeologists. Other famous archaeologists associated with the site were Stanley South and Richard F. Carillo in the 1970s. Recent excavations under the direction of Dan Elliot began in 2002 and continue. For more information on Fort Hawkins see the links under the photo of Fort Hawkins. ■ JJD

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**Excavation Opportunity: Search for Blockhouse at Fort Hawkins**

**Date:** May 3–5, 2012 from 9AM–4PM

**Location:** Fort Hawkins Archaeological Park, 750 Woolfolk Street, Macon, GA

**Contact:** Dan Elliott at (706) 341-7796

**Description:** The LAMAR Institute will conduct a small archaeological dig in search of vestiges of the northwestern corner blockhouse at Fort Hawkins, circa 1809-1824. The excavation will be open for public viewing. **There are no fees or limits.**

**Sponsors:** The LAMAR Institute and the Fort Hawkins Commission

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**Archaeological dig at Fort Hawkins**

For more information on Fort Hawkins visit their [Web site](#). Be sure to click on “The REAL Fort Hawkins Adventure.” Additionally, you can read Dan Elliot’s published report [online](#).
On Monday, April 2, 2012, Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) members Catherine Long, Leslie Perry, Jim D’Angelo, Frank Perry, and Wayne Waldrip gathered at the offices of the cultural resources firm TRC, Inc. in Norcross to handle the task of rolling and stuffing the SGA Archaeology posters into mailing tubes, sorting, and labeling. The job went smoothly with added assistance from TRC staff Thomas Garrow, Larissa Thomas, Vincent Macek, and SGA Vice President, Tammy Herron. The posters will be mailed to Georgia school districts for inclusion in Social Studies curriculum. Many thanks to TRC for providing the space and extra hands in getting this done and to New South Associates for designing the great 2012 SGA poster. Special thanks to the GARS volunteers for taking the time to assist.

More Diggin’s

- Michael Bunn (of Columbus, Georgia, and the Historic Chattahoochee Commission) will speak at the May Greater Atlanta Archaeological Society (GAAS) meeting on the Creek Wars as they relate to the War of 1812. Of the many conflicts in this nation’s history, the Creek Wars of 1813–1814 and 1836 and the related Southern campaigns of the War of 1812 are the least understood because of their brevity, relatively small military forces engaged and complexity. Nonetheless these conflicts dramatically altered the United States’ history. The date is Tuesday, May 8 beginning at 7:30PM at the Fernbank Museum of Natural History on Clifton Road (just north of Ponce de Leon).

- The Gwinnett County American Indian Festival will be during the Memorial Day weekend (May 26–28) at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds (2405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville). Gates open everyday at 10AM. Admission is $7 for 13 and up, $4 for 5–12, and free for children under four. Step into the past, and celebration of the spirit of the first Americans. For more information visit the Voice in the Wind Web site.

- The Continuing Education Program of the Register of Professional Archaeologists (RPA), the board of American Metal Detectors Assoc. (AMDA), and New South Associates have announced a certification course for Professional Archaeologists. The AMDA course is designed to provide archaeologists with the knowledge and hands-on experience necessary to assure best practices when applying metal detecting in archaeological research. The AMDA instructors include “our own” Dr. Sheldon Skaggs, Patrick Severts, and Garrett Silliman. New South Associates is the institutional sponsor.

- The University of North Florida in Jacksonville invites the general public to participate in the 2012 Public Archaeology Field School. Hands-on experience in archaeological fieldwork, identification, record keeping, screening, mapping, etc. provided. Experts will teach you how to excavate and interpret what you dig up. Open to all individuals 16 years and older. The field school consists of two one-week sessions: Week 1 is June 25–June 29 and week 2 is July 9–July13. Cost is $199 per week. Location is the Cedar Point site along the Southeastern edge of Black Hammock Island, just north of the St. Johns River, in northeastern Florida. For more information visit their Web site or call at (904) 620-1000 for assistance.
Fort Daniel Updates

- On April 16 FDF President Jim D’Angelo gave a presentation to the Gwinnett Historical Restorations and Preservation Board on the history and archaeology of the Fort Daniel Site and the program and goals of the Foundation with regard to education and establishment of an historic site and archaeological research park.

- On April 26 Wayne Waldrip gave a presentation on the Fort Daniel/Fort Peachtree and Peachtree Road connection at a meeting of the Smyrna Historical and Geological Society at the Smyrna Museum. Wayne has done much of the research on the supposed location of Fort Peachtree and has been a prime mover in persuading the City of Atlanta to allow an archaeological survey of the site by Jim D’Angelo and GARS.

- The FDF officers recently voted funds to proceed with three projects that include: purchase of a second “vender’s tent”; graveling over the present ‘garden cloth’ cover of the interior of the southwest blockhouse for preservation and “presentation” purposes; and to build several 6’ long benches for seating at events at the site. Graveling and enclosing the “hearth” feature was completed on April 28 by Frank Perry, Wayne Waldrip, James Kinsaul, and Jim D’Angelo. The finished product is pictured right, and visit the GARS Web site for more photos and information.

- Jeff Glover and three GSU students recently continued work on the ‘brick’ feature within the fort, which was followed by more work by Jim D’Angelo and Frank and Leslie Perry. The feature has turned into a real mystery. The complete story with photos is on the FDF Web site.

- **Fort Daniel on the Road:** On May 12 GARS members will participate in an Archaeology Month event sponsored by New South Associates, a CRM firm in Stone Mountain, Georgia. The event is from 9AM–2PM at New South Associates (6150 East Ponce de Leon Avenue, Stone Mountain). On the same date, Fort Daniel will have a booth at the RiverFest Atlanta from 12NOON–10PM. It will be at the Argos Atlanta plant (2520 Paul Avenue NW, Atlanta) in the Riverside neighborhood.