



THE PROFILE

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These stories and articles were originally posted online on the SGA's website, and can be found in their complete form at <http://thesga.org>. To make this printable PDF version, some photographs and graphic elements have been removed.

ONLINE NEWS • PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE • SGA NOTICES ONLINE

Spring 2014 President's Message

Submitted by **Tammy Herron, President**

Spring is finally in the air, and the warmer temperatures have me yearning to be outside working in the field rather than tied to a desk and computer. I hope this message finds everyone well! If you have not already done so, please take a moment to renew your chapter and SGA memberships by [clicking here](#). On behalf of the Board of Directors, we appreciate your continued support of the SGA and wish to convey to you that the SGA could not provide many of the services of the organization without your contributions.

On that note, I am elated to announce the debut of our new research grant program. This year, the SGA will be sponsoring three student research grants in tandem with the Georgia Council of Professional Archaeologists (GCPA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR). During the Fall meeting, two grants of \$375.00 will be awarded to support undergraduate research projects, and one grant of \$2,000.00 will be awarded for thesis or dissertation research. These research grants are competitive awards to support undergraduate and graduate student research that focuses on the archaeology of Georgia. Please see Tom Lewis' article on the website regarding the research grants, requirements, and submission instructions by [clicking here](#). Please consider making a donation to the Endowment Fund so that we may continue to encourage the study and preservation of Georgia's rich cultural heritage. To read more about the Endowment Fund [click here](#).

Plans are underway for the 21st Annual Georgia Archaeology Awareness celebration. The theme this year is Site Destruction: Pieces of Our Past Lost Forever. Poster design and compilation of the lesson plan are in the works. A number of interesting events that will be taking place around the state during the month of May have been submitted for the brochure of archaeology-related events. Preparations are also being made for SGA's annual Spring Meeting at Red Top Mountain near Cartersville, Georgia to be held on Saturday, May 10th. Joseph Roberts has organized an interesting lineup of speakers, including representatives from the archaeological community, law enforcement groups, amateur archaeologists and hobbyist groups, cemetery preservationists, and state and national parks. The presentations will be followed by a time of group discussion from which we hope to garner input for forming a public message regarding site destruction. The group discussion will be followed by the organization's business meeting. We will enjoy a boxed lunch from Subway; then, head over to Etowah Indian Mounds State Historic Site for a special tour by Dr. Adam King, Research Associate Professor at the University of South Carolina. Invite a friend to learn more about archaeology in Georgia! I encourage you to pre-register for this educational and entertaining event and look forward to seeing you at the meeting! Visit the [website](#) to keep apprised of the Archaeology Month events and Spring Meeting registration that will be posted very soon.

Speaking of Etowah, my husband and I recently assisted Adam with a little metal detecting at the site in an attempt to find remnant nails and pin flags marking previously excavated units. This exercise was conducted in anticipation of a gradiometer survey to be completed soon by Dr. Chet Walker that will look for buried features by measuring subtle variations in magnetism across the site. The SGA looks forward to receiving an update regarding this project.

The staff of New South Associates (NSA) in Stone Mountain has agreed to continue sponsoring Abby the ArchaeoBus through the Spring/Summer of 2014. Mary Beth Reed and Joe Joseph are to be commended for their support of Abby the ArchaeoBus—please thank them the next time you see them! The SGA continues to receive a number of requests for Abby which is very exciting! Nick Joseph serves as Coordinator for Abby's schedule and is assisted in delivering programs by Lain Graham and Scott Morris, as well as

other NSA staff members. In Rita Elliott's report to the Board, she stated that programming from mid-May through mid-October 2013 included public outreach at 35 venues consisting primarily of libraries and public schools. The bulk of the outreach occurred during the summer at libraries and early Fall at schools. Library outreach was particularly appropriate given the 2013 summer reading themes of "Digging Into Reading" and "Diving Into Reading" that tied in nicely with the theme for Archaeology Month. You can keep track of Abby's adventures and efforts to educate the public about Georgia archaeology by reading her diary on the website by [clicking here](#).

Please keep in mind that the term of four of the SGA's Board Members will end in October: Matt Newberry, Lyn Kirkland, Don Thieme, and Inger Wood. If you are interested in serving as a Board Member or have someone in mind for the job, please contact Catherine Long or myself. We look forward to hearing from you and greatly appreciate those who are willing to volunteer their time and talents to make SGA an even better organization.

It is with heavy heart that I report that Pam Baughman resigned a few months ago as Secretary of the organization, but she found a replacement for the job — Melissa McKay. Melissa received a BA in Anthropology from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a MS in Archaeological Resource Management from the University of Georgia. After graduation, she spent time in the field working on archaeological surveys and excavations in various states in the Southeast. Melissa is a colleague of Pam's at the Georgia Department of Transportation, which has made the transition easier since they see each other on a daily basis. Pam, we thank you for your dedication and service to the organization—in particular your three years of service as Secretary. We also thank you for providing leadership in a number of other areas including Archaeology Month, the Membership Committee, Public Relations, and assisting with arranging SGA meetings. We will miss you as Secretary, but we know that you are just a phone call or an email away!

Your comments and suggestions aimed at making the SGA the best it can be are always welcome. But, more than that, we need your time and efforts! Please submit archaeology news and chapter information to Ben Steere, Editor of *The Profile*, so that our membership will be aware of the great things that are happening in the field of Georgia archaeology! Remember, the SGA cannot operate without the support of both the public and private sectors, and it is imperative that we continue to strive to establish communication and collaboration with other organizations to further our mission—to unite all persons interested in the archaeology of Georgia and to work actively to preserve, study, and interpret Georgia's historic and prehistoric remains.

Lastly, there are two bits of exciting news with regard to Georgia archaeology—but I can't tell you about them until the end of April! So stay tuned!

Sincerely,

Tammy F. Herron, President

P.S. – Just received word that Governor Nathan Deal has proclaimed May 2014 as Archaeology Month in Georgia!

Archaeological documentation

Submitted by **Tammy Herron, President**

An important aspect of conducting archaeology is documentation. Much of an archaeologist's time is spent taking notes regarding observations in the field, filling out forms to document what is found in excavation units, taking photographs to document findings, drawing detailed maps, recording soils, completing artifact analysis forms, recording conservation treatments used on certain artifacts in the lab, and so forth. Researchers also spend time in the archives trying to reconstruct the ownership history and use of a site through time. I have included a paragraph from the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and [Guidelines](#) regarding archaeological documentation:

Archaeological documentation is a series of actions applied to properties of archaeological interest. Documentation of such properties may occur at any or all levels of planning, identification, evaluation or treatment. The nature and level of documentation is dictated by each specific set of circumstances. Archaeological documentation consists of activities such as archival research, observation and recording of above-ground remains, and observation (directly, through excavation, or indirectly, through remote sensing) of below-ground remains. Archaeological documentation is employed for the purpose of gathering information on individual historic properties or groups of properties. It is guided by a framework of objectives and methods derived from the planning process, and makes use of previous planning decisions, such as those on evaluation of significance. Archaeological documentation may be undertaken as an aid to various treatment activities, including research, interpretation, reconstruction, stabilization and data recovery when mitigating archaeological losses resulting from construction. Care should be taken to assure that documentation efforts do not duplicate previous efforts.



I was in Statesboro, Georgia the other day running some errands when this plaque on the ground in front of the AgSouth Farm Credit building caught my eye. Wouldn't it be nice if all historic sites were documented with a marker like this to direct our way! It would definitely cut down on the amount of time spent "digging" in the archives trying to document the ownership of a given site.

SGA NOTICES ONLINE

Joint Research Grants debut

Submitted by **Tom Lewis** (researchgrant@thesga.org)

The Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA), Georgia Council of Professional Archaeologists (GCPA), and Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are sponsoring student research grants for 2014. These research grants are competitive awards given to support undergraduate and graduate student research that focuses on the archaeology of Georgia.

This grant program has been established by the SGA, GCPA, and DNR in order to encourage the study and preservation of Georgia's cultural heritage and to encourage the study of such by new generations of potential scholars. Recognizing that funding for the study of Georgia's cultural resources for both undergraduate and graduate students is increasingly becoming a limiting factor in the ability of students to study Georgia's past, this research grant program was established.

All applications should be submitted in PDF format to Tom Lewis [by clicking here](#). The deadline for submission is September 1, 2014.

For grant requirements, submission instructions, and a downloadable application, please [follow this link](#).

ONLINE NEWS AND RESEARCH

Camp Sumter at Andersonville: The notorious Civil War prison

Submitted by **Amanda Morrow**

Camp Sumter, now [Andersonville National Historic Site](#), located near Americus in western Georgia, opened for the first time to prisoners captured from Union forces on February 24, 1864 — 150 years ago today. Many of the first prisoners of war (POWs) traveled from Richmond, over the often-unreliable railway system of the Confederate interior. The prison was an open stockade; originally comprising 16.5 acres it was later enlarged by POW labor to 26.5 acres. The original stockade was only meant to accommodate 6,000 men, but at the height of its population (after stockade expansion) it held about 33,000. When the first POWs arrived, the stockade was not even fully enclosed (Marvel 1994).



Almost 13,000 men died at Andersonville. Malnutrition, exposure, and disease were the primary culprits. Surprisingly, the majority of the graves at Andersonville National Cemetery are [properly identified](#). This is almost unique among Civil War Prison cemeteries. By October of 1864, Andersonville was being emptied of all but the sickest prisoners. The Confederacy recognized that the Andersonville site was no longer suitable for a prison, especially one of that magnitude. Many of the surviving POWs were transported to another Georgia prison site, [Camp Lawton](#) in Millen.

Many POWs published memoirs after their incarceration. The

writings of John Ransom, John McElroy, and Robert Sneden are available in print, but other less-commonly known memoirs are now available to read [online](#).

Review of Archaeology at the Camp Sumter

Congress established Andersonville National Historic Site (ANHS) under National Park Service (NPS) jurisdiction on June 30, 1971 (Bearss 1970). The first result of the NPS proposal ANDE-H-1 was a report on the history of the camp by NPS historian Edwin Bearss. He gathered all the documentary evidence available including maps, photographs, and primary accounts of prison life (Bearss 1970). The report mainly focused on loci that might leave archeological features behind, such as the stockade itself, other support structures, and prisoner huts (Bearss 1970). Bearss's report also covers events that took place after the Civil War era occupation that might have left archaeological evidence behind, and even includes eyewitness descriptions of the condition of the site through the end of the nineteenth century.

Following Bearss's report, University of West Georgia archeologists Lewis Larson and Ray Crook conducted the first archaeological investigations at the camp in 1973 and 1974. They determined that ANHS contained both historic and prehistoric remains with the historic remains dating primarily to the Civil War (Larson and Crook 1975). Larson and Crook recorded several potential archaeological features including portions of the outer and inner stockade walls and the north gate. In 1978, Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) archaeologist Ellen Ehrenhard began investigations which uncovered additional stockade features in the southern

portion of the prison along with the south gate, a hospital, and Captain Wirz's office (Paglione 1984). A report was never completed for this fieldwork (Prentice, personal communication, 2012). Ehrenhard also tested one prehistoric site on ANHS property. The assemblage included artifacts ranging from the Paleoindian through the late Woodland periods (Paglione 1984).

In 1984, SEAC archeologist Teresa Paglione conducted an archeological survey on a tract of land adjacent to the prison site that NPS was considering for disposal. She recommended that NPS retain the parcel (Paglione 1984). In July of 1985, SEAC archaeologists conducted a soil resistivity survey of the potential hospital area delineated by Ehrenhard in 1978 (Marrinan and Wild 1985). Projections for the location of the hospital came from Bearss's original report (1970) and from the recommendations of Ehrenhard (Marrinan and Wild 1985). They concluded that resistivity was not the ideal remote sensing technique for the sandy soils inherent to ANHS (Marrinan and Wild 1985).

The second phase of archaeological investigations at ANHS by SEAC archeologists began in 1989 (Prentice and Mathison 1989). This was required as a result of a 1987 amendment issued by NPS which proposed building reconstructions of certain stockade features, including the gates and walls (Prentice and Mathison 1989). The archaeologists successfully identified the North Gate during this survey and found that it was constructed with squared posts set in a trench that averaged five feet deep (Prentice and Mathison 1989). They also excavated the potential north gate area identified by Larson and Crook (1975), but this instead turned out to be the original wall feature (constructed before the prison was enlarged) along with some non-archaeological features (Prentice and Mathison 1989). The artifact assemblage included 2 iron ax heads and 19 cut nails along with food bone and a number of preserved wooden post samples (Prentice and Mathison 1989). Extremely well-preserved posts were found in situ by the excavations which delineated the stockade wall from the gate (Prentice and Mathison 1989).

SEAC archaeologists also conducted field investigations in 1990 to locate and investigate the southeastern corner of the inner stockade for reconstruction (Prentice and Prentice 1990). Post preservation for this area of the stockade was surprisingly poor, which stood in stark contrast with the excellent post preservation noted the previous season. Two units from Ehrenhard's 1978 excavation were relocated during this field season (Prentice and Prentice 1990). Generally the posts here appeared to be squared off, as in the corresponding northwest corner and main gate area (Prentice and Prentice 1990). Visitors to the park today can enjoy the fruits of these archaeological labors as both the North Gate and the southeastern corner have been fully reconstructed for interpretation.

In June, 2005, the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) conducted a ground penetrating radar survey at ANHS (GPR) as part of a joint effort with NPS (Pomfret 2005). The partnership between NPS and GDOT began in 2003 and a subsequent memorandum of understanding was signed in 2005 before the work at ANHS began (Pomfret 2005). Their goal was to locate the South Gate, the Dead House, and another hospital structure (Pomfret 2005). The survey precisely identified the location of the South Gate but the other test areas provided only inconclusive evidence (Pomfret 2005). The crew also conducted a GPR survey of Andersonville National Cemetery which showed that earlier POW graves at the site were dug individually and that it was only later in the occupation period that mass graves came into use (Pomfret 2005).

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ONLINE NEWS

Henry D. Green Symposium highlights Georgia history

Submitted by **Catherine Long**

The Seventh Biennial Henry D. Green Symposium of the Decorative Arts was held Thursday, January 30 through Saturday, February 1 at the University of Georgia Hotel and Conference Center. The theme of the 2014 program was Connections: Georgia in the World. This program is organized by the Georgia Museum of Art and featured a wonderful slate of presentations from a variety of disciplines. The museum also had many publications by scholars of the decorative arts community for sale and the attendees enjoyed perusing these works and adding them to their libraries.



history.

Although the Keynote Speaker Ronald L. Hurst was delayed due to the winter weather he was able to attend and provide his delightful talk, "Southern Furniture Studies: Where We've Been, Where We're Going," and discussed the timeline of furniture studies and the importance of collaborations with other institutions to preserve furniture and other important decorative arts. By working together these significant parts of Georgia's (and other states) rich material culture can be preserved for further research study and exhibition among diverse organizations. If you have not had the opportunity to attend this symposium it is highly recommended.

Attendees had the opportunity to visit several of Athens historic properties that included the Church-Waddel-Brumby House, the Taylor Grady, House, the T.R.R. Cobb House, and the Ware-Lyndon House. The Georgia Museum of Art hosted an opening reception and invited guests to visit the fine exhibits and collections.

The lectures were presented in the Georgia Center's Mahler Hall and the topics included fashion, textiles, pottery, fashion design, and more. Of specific interest to supporters of Georgia archaeology was Dan Elliott's (President, The Lamar Institute) presentation on utilitarian earthenwares from the Ebenezer settlement in Effingham County, Georgia. He showed different areas where excavations revealed the coarse earthenware and how the percentages differed between the diverse locations. There are three individuals who may be responsible for producing these wares and they hope to learn more about who was producing these wares which features a variety of creampans and other pieces.

Clemson University Associate Professor of Art History, Andrea Feeser presented on Colonial Indigo Culture of South Carolina and the roles of the myriad of groups of people who participated in its production, who wore the blue items and who purchased and or traded the items. Her research is based on her recently published book entitled *Red, White, & Black Make Blue: Indigo in the Fabric of Colonial South Carolina Life*. Using primary documents she highlights the roles of slaves who significantly contributed to the production of indigo and she also includes Eliza Lucas Pinckney and the indigo plantation histories that contributed to this significant part of South Carolina