Resources at Risk: Defending Georgia's Hidden Heritage

What is archaeology?
Why is it important?
Sprawl and the destruction of Georgia's archaeological resources
A prehistory of the Southeast
Transforming citizens into Defenders
Resources at Risk:
Defending Georgia’s Hidden Heritage

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The Society for Georgia Archaeology
The Society for Georgia Archaeology
President: Elizabeth Shirk, 1805 Oak Tree Hollow, Alpharetta, GA 30202
Vice President/President Elect: Patrick Garrow, TRC Garrow, 3772 Pleasantdale Road, Suite 200, Atlanta, GA 30340
Secretary-Treasurer: JoLee Gardner, 419 Angier Court, Atlanta, GA 30312
Ex-Offico: Rita Fose Elliott, PO Box 337, Box Springs, GA 31801
Early Georgia Editor: Adam King, Savannah River Archaeological Research Program, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, PO Box 400, New Ellenton, SC 29809
Early Georgia Managing Editor: David J. Hally, Department of Anthropology, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-1619
The Profile Editor: Thomas Gresham, Southeastern Archeological Services, PO Drawer 8086, Athens, GA 30603

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Information for Authors
Early Georgia publishes papers on the archaeology of Georgia and closely related subjects. Submissions are welcome from avocational and professional archaeologists, educators, and students, written on any topic that will further education, conservation, and research having to do with the archaeology of Georgia. All manuscripts submitted should be formatted following the style guidelines published in American Antiquity (and on the world wide web), vol. 57, no. 4 (October 1992), except that first-level headings should be typed in lower case with major words capitalized. Manuscripts should be on 8.5 by 11 inch paper, on one side only, with double spacing between sentences, and at least a one-inch margin on all sides. Submit both a paper copy and digital copy on a floppy disk. Set text citations in parentheses, e.g., (Smith 1975). Footnotes are not permitted. Illustrations can be submitted digitally or as original line drawings and glossy prints. Include a caption with each illustration and number them consecutively. Print tables on separate pages, number them in sequence, and give them titles. The editor will gladly assist authors in preparing manuscripts for publication.

While all submissions are subject to editorial review, authors may request to have their papers reviewed through a formal peer review process. Papers accepted for publication through the peer review process will be designated as Peer Reviewed Articles. All articles submitted for publication should be sent directly to the Editor. Submissions for the Peer Reviewed Article should include four copies of the manuscript, including tables and figures.

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Editor’s Introduction

Early Georgia: A New Look for a New Millennium

As I begin my tenure as editor of Early Georgia, I take on a journal that has a long and distinguished history and has a wide readership that reaches far beyond the borders of Georgia. While Early Georgia is healthy and well supported by the membership of the Society for Georgia Archaeology, there is still the need to encourage greater submission rates and increase subscriptions. The Society’s Board of Directors and I have devised a strategy that we hope will take Early Georgia toward those goals, and it involves some changes to the appearance of the journal, as well as to its content.

Regular Early Georgia readers will surely notice that this issue looks different from previous issues. True, it is a Special Issue, so its content is slightly different from the normal research articles. Most of the basic formatting in this issue, however, will remain the same for all future issues. These changes were instituted to update the appearance of the journal, as well as make it more graphic friendly and easier to read.

In terms of content, Early Georgia, as a policy, will now accept manuscripts dealing with the archaeology of adjoining states. Such papers have not been excluded in the past, but this policy change makes it more explicit that Early Georgia will accept material from the broader region when it has a bearing on understanding the history and prehistory of Georgia. Acceptance of such papers will be at the discretion of the Editor.

Another slight change that will affect content is the creation of a new category of paper to be published in Early Georgia. These will be called the Peer Reviewed Articles, and, as the name suggests, will be subjected to a formal review by selected peers from the broader archaeological community. Submitting authors may suggest appropriate reviewers, but the Editor will not be bound by those suggestions. The Editor will take into account the comments of peer reviewers, but will make the final decision regarding manuscripts. The creation of the Peer Reviewed Article category is designed to encourage graduate students and professionals, who are concerned with building publication records, to consider Early Georgia as a publication outlet for their manuscripts.

It is important to note that all articles submitted to Early Georgia do not have to go through the peer review process. That choice is left to the submitting authors. Manuscripts that do not go through the peer review process will be reviewed in a less formal way. Choosing to forego a peer review in no way diminishes the quality of scholarship represented by an article or the importance of the information it contains. The peer review process is simply a more formal review process that allows professionals to advance their careers through publishing in Early Georgia.

Let me make it clear in no uncertain terms that the basic philosophy and content of Early Georgia will not change. The journal is still dedicated to publishing information that is important to Georgia’s archaeological community. More than ever, the journal is committed to providing a publication outlet for both professional and avocational members of our community. I cannot encourage avocational members strongly enough to submit material for publication. What you learn from the
study of Georgia’s past is every bit as important as the research done by other members of the Society for Georgia Archaeology. By keeping it from the pages of Early Georgia, you deny others the chance to learn from you.

As the first issue of Early Georgia to be published under my editorship, I am pleased to offer this Special Issue Resources at Risk: Defending Georgia’s Hidden Heritage, which has been guest-edited by Charlotte A. Smith and Jennifer Freer Harris. As with all scholarly publications, the opinions expressed in this issue do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Society for Georgia Archaeology. As Editor, I recognize, as I hope all concerned with the archaeological record of Georgia will as well, that this issue begins a conversation that is absolutely essential to the future of Georgia archaeology. The guest editors and I hope this issue will serve as an important source of information for Society of Georgia Archaeology members as well as concerned citizens, politicians, and planners as we all look to the future.

—Adam King
Acknowledgements

We are honored that Early Georgia’s new editor, Adam King, consented to let us assemble Resources at Risk: Defending Georgia’s Hidden Heritage, the first issue of the Society for Georgia Archaeology’s newly redesigned journal. Early Georgia has a long and honorable history, and we hope that this issue augments it. We very much appreciate Adam’s sage advice and erudite assistance, which we found immeasurably helpful as we brought this issue from idea to reality.

Archaeological conservationists can find potential partners for their preservation efforts in many places, and sometimes we don’t have to look very hard to find them. We found Allison Smiley, at Sprawlwatch in Washington, DC, a particularly helpful collaborator. We thank her for her speedy replies as we searched for the resources we needed.

We would like to thank the contributors to this volume, Rita Folse Elliott, Scott Jones, Elizabeth Shirk, and Allen Vegotsky. Their involvement strengthened and enhanced this issue tremendously.

We have only been able to bring the diverse topics and data presented in this issue together because of recent and long-ago dialogues with many colleagues and friends. This kind of introspective discussion is only possible after a lengthy gestation period. We owe considerable thanks to many members of SGA, especially Paul Brockington, Daniel T. Elliott, James B. Langford, Stephen A. Kowalewski, John R. (Chip) Morgan, Thomas Pluckhahn, Keith Stephenson, Christine Van Voorhies, Dean Wood, and Karen G. Wood. For assistance and information, we thank Mark Williams and Byron J. (Bud) Freeman. We appreciate the assistance we received from personnel at the Archaeological Services Unit of HPD. We also thank those who helped us and wish to remain anonymous.

For long discussions and excellent suggestions, we extend special thanks to Bill Jurgelski, Maureen Meyers, Carol H. Montgomery, and Gordon R. Smith.

We appreciate, especially, this opportunity to investigate and explicate on a topic we are impassioned about—saving the precious, mind-expanding information that our Southeastern forebearers have left for all of us in the soil. We look forward to continuing this discussion, and labor of love, for many years.

Finally, we thank our spouses, JC Burns and Guy Harris for their love, encouragement, patience, and understanding as we labored to produce this issue.

—Charlotte A. Smith and Jennifer Freer Harris
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