News!

LAMAR Institute Releases Archaeological Publications in the Pandemic

From 2020 to 2023 the LAMAR Institute released nine new archaeological reports in its LAMAR Institute Publication Series. Reports 226 through 235 cover a wide range of exciting archaeological topics on its projects in Georgia, Germany, New York, and South Carolina. All of these reports are available for free public download at the LAMAR Institute's website (http://thelamarinstitute.org).

The Struggle for Long Island: Expanding Revolutionary War Studies in New York, LIPS Report 226 is a battlefield survey of three Revolutionary War era battlefields on Long Island, New York. Authored by Daniel Elliott and David Griffin, this study was funded by a National Park Service, American Battlefield Survey research grant. The three battlefields examined were Lloyd's Neck/Fort Franklin, Fort Slongo, and Setauket. Archaeological remains were located at all three battlefields.

"The Work of Today is the History of Tomorrow and We are Its Makers" Archaeology at the Juliette Gordon Low Birthplace, LIPS Report 227 provides a rare glimpse of early to mid-18th through mid-19th century life in urban Savannah, Georgia. Authored by Rita Elliott and Daniel Elliott, these excavations explored two major periods of life in Savannah.

Elemental Analysis of Selected Brass Artifacts from the Adkins Site in Florida, LIPS Report 228 is a nuclear physics study of several early 19th century Seminole brass projectile points recovered from an archaeological site in Florida. Authored by Daniel Elliott, this pXRF analysis of these Native American weapon parts provides insight into the elemental composition of the metal weapons used by the Seminoles in Florida in the early to mid-19th century.

Elemental Analysis of Four Lead Musket Balls from the 1813 Battle of the Nations, Leipzig, Germany, LIPS Report 229 is another elemental analysis of early 19th-century ammunition from a major battlefield in Germany.

Archeological Search for Ruff's Mill Battlefield: Linchpin in Atlanta's Fall, LIPS Report 230 is a slightly-modified version of a battlefield survey report submitted to the American Battlefield Protection Program, National Park Service. The battle of Ruff's Mill took place on July 3 and 4, 1864 in the Nickajack Creek watershed of once-rural Cobb County, Georgia. This detailed report explores the historical documents, the metal underworld, and surviving vestiges of the defensive earthworks built by the Confederate and Union soldiers on this sprawling battlefield. Videographer Mark Albertin produced a short video documentary about the project, which is available at the LAMAR Institute's website and on Youtube (http://youtu.be/z-TRea0-BGE).

Ground Penetrating Radar Survey and Mapping of the Richmond Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery, Port Wentworth, Georgia, LIPS Report 231 is a remote sensing survey of a post-1912 church cemetery in northern Chatham County, Georgia. The suvey includes GPR survey, tombstone mapping, and grave photodocumentation of this historic African-american congregation's resting place.

Archaeological Search for Fort Heard/Fort Washington and Discovery of Washington Town and Gulleytown in Wilkes County, Georgia, LIPS Report 232 is the story of the LAMAR Institute's search for an important Revolutionary War-era Wilkes County militia fort that was located in what would become Washington, Georgia. The study employed historical research, GPR survey, metal detection, limited shovel testing and test excavation in the failed attempt to locate this fort. While the fort was not located by the survey, the search did reveal important archaeological deposits associated with early Washington (ca. 1790-1820s) and the African-american settlement of Gulley Town (ca. 1865-1950s).

Preliminary Investigation of the Rocky Bottom Piled-Stone Complex (38PN126), Pickens County, South Carolina, LIPS Report 233 is a study of a unique archaeological site in the mountains of South Carolina. The LAMAR Institute's team, led by rock art authority Johannes Loubser, documented an extensive complex of stacked rock walls on a moderately steep mountain slope. The project includedd detailed mapping of the rock piles and rock walls, and

closer scrutiny at one location along a well preserved wall section. That area was explored by GPR survey and a small test unit excavation. The test unit was placed in an attempt to determine the age of the rock wall construction. One AMS Carbon 14 date was secured from wood charcoal at the bottom of this test unit, which strongly suggests that the walls may have been built by the Cherokee in early historic times. Two soil samples were submitted from the basal zones of this test unit for Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating and the results of that analysis are expected later in 2023.

Ground Penetrating Radar Survey of the Union United Methodist Church Cemetery, Bulloch County, Georgia, LIPS Report 234 is a remote sensing survey of a post-1912 church cemetery in northern Chatham County, Georgia. The suvey includes GPR survey, tombstone mapping, and grave photodocumentation of this historic African-american congregation's resting place.

Of Patent Medicines and Chinese Laundries: Archaeology at the Kennedy Pharmacy, LIPS Report 235 is a report on archaeological testing on the Historic Savannah Foundation's "Kennedy Pharmacy" grounds in historic Savannah, Georgia. The LAMAR Institute's work included historical research, GPR survey, and two test unit excavations.

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LAMAR Institute Helps Save Kettle Creek Battlefield

From Georgia Public Broadcasting:

“The Kettle Creek Battlefield in Wilkes County is now an “affiliated area” of the National Park Service (NPS), U.S. Rep Jody Hice, R-Greensboro, announced Monday [January 25, 2021]. Then-Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt approved the designation earlier this month, marking a commitment by the federal government to preserve the Revolutionary War site for future generations.“This is an enormous win for all of us who have spent years working toward this goal,” Hice said in a statement. “Kettle Creek Battlefield [will] finally receive the recognition it deserves.”The battle at Kettle Creek on Feb. 14, 1779, was the first major victory for Patriot forces in Georgia, showing conclusively that the British could never pacify the South’s frontier backcountry. Efforts to have Kettle Creek Battlefield designated a national park date back nearly a century. U.S. Sen. Richard Russell of Georgia was among those who pushed for acquisition of the property. Hice introduced legislation directing the Interior Department to conduct a study of the battlefield. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the bill last month.Affiliated areas are a designation within the National Park Service referring to sites that may be recognized by Congress and may receive federal assistance but typically are owned and administered primarily by nonfederal entities.Groups that worked to make the designation a reality for the Kettle Creek Battlefield include the Kettle Creek Battlefield Association, the Georgia Battlefields Association and Georgia Piedmont Land Trust and the Watson-Brown Foundation. Wilkes County also was involved.Supporters hosted NPS Acting Director Dan Smith on a tour of the site back in May 2019.”

NARY A MENTION OF

THE LAMAR INSTITUTE

IN ALL THIS!

The LAMAR Institute considers this recognition by the U.S. Congress and the National Park Service to be a major step forward into the past. Our organization’s involvement in research at Kettle Creek battlefield dates back to 2007 (or maybe 2006, as that was several hard drive crashes ago). Thanks go out to our 2008 Kettle Creek Preserve America (NPS grant funded)

survey team! Daniel E. Battle, Joel Jones, Mark Pollard, Gregory Beavers, Rita Elliott, Mike Benton, Jamie Lynn Folse, Daphne Owens Battle, and volunteers Tom Gresham, Judy Kendrix, Gail Boynton, Francis Hammett, Jay Gordon, Amy Ladewig, and others who encouraged us or added to our discoveries (including Tracy Sargent, David Noble, Shawn Patch, Patrick Severts, David Jenkins, Charles Baxley, Stephen Rausch, David Sherman, Biddy Hammett, Dan Battle's Mom & Robert S. Davis, Jr.). Thanks everybody for helping preserve the important cultural heritage at Kettle Creek battlefield.

Read all about it in:

LAMAR Institute Publication Series, Report Number 131

http://thelamarinstitute.org/images/PDFs/publication_131.pdf

AND

The subsequent Carr's Fort battlefield ABPP (NPS grant funded) Survey team, P. T. Ashlock, Dawn Chapman Ashlock, Michael Jordan, and others.

http://thelamarinstitute.org/images/PDFs/publication_189.pdf

http://youtu.be/sb2FZF8nnTE

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