

ETOWAH VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Promoting and enhancing the awareness and preservation of the heritage and traditions of Bartow County

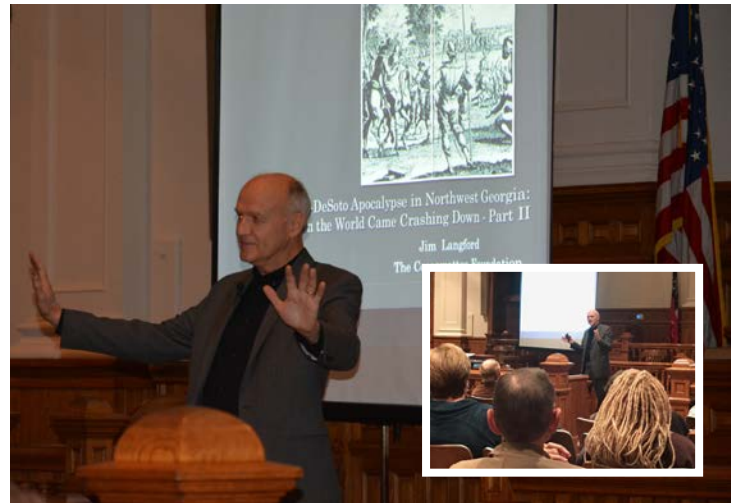
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P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, GA 30120

Phone: 770-606-8862

When the World Came Crashing Down: Post DeSoto in North Georgia. Part 2

Jim Langford, lectured in the Gold Dome Court Room November 9, on the second Spanish Expedition 20 years after Hernando De Soto's 1540's first visit to northwest Georgia. Over 100 people attended the lecture and enjoyed a reception of Native American foods, EVHS Office open house and a deep discussion by Jim Langford on an expedition led by Tristan de Luna. The journey departed from Mexico City on a dozen ships with a mission to establish a settlement in northwest Georgia in order to counter suspected French expansion from the north. The mission consisted of 1500 people, but encountered a devastating hurricane upon arrival to the Florida panhandle losing all, but two ships. The remainder of the expedition was fought with misguided directions, battles, disease, starvation and eventually failed in its settlement objective after reaching the Coosa Kingdom in northwest Georgia.





Etowah Valley Historical Society
115 West Cherokee Avenue
Cartersville, Georgia 30120

Email: evhs@evhsonline.org
Website: www.evhsonline.org

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SAVE THE DATE

Upcoming Events for EVHS

December 1, 2017 – Annual Christmas Dinner at 6:00 PM at
Roselawn (Members only)

Note: Some dates are subject to change.

Events for 2018 will be announced after the first of the year.
Keep an eye out here in our next newsletter or visit the website
at www.evhsonline.org for event updates.



Rolling dues are due

EVHS reminds members that dues are now due according to the anniversary month that you joined. Notices are being mailed out or emailed to individuals. If you have received a notice and not yet renewed, please do so now by mailing your check or going online.

PO Box 1886 Cartersville GA 30120

www.evhsonline.org/membership

Give a book for a special occasion

Members are encouraged to consider the collection of books we have at the EVHS office for special gifts. J. B. Tate's recent *Sketches of Bartow County* has been a popular item this past year. Also others such as *In and Out of the Lines*, *The General – The Great Locomotive Dispute*, *Allatoona Pass: A Needless Effusion of Blood*, *Mattie Lee Price – The Georgia Wonder*, and many more. You may purchase online or go by the office.



EVHS COMMITTEES

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Allatoona Pass Battlefield Re-enactment



EVHS board member Guy Parmenter serves as Cannoneer number 4 as he pulls the lanyard to fire a Union field piece during the Allatoona Pass Battlefield re-enactment Saturday October 7.



Re-enactors explain camp life, perform drills and sound taps at Allatoona Pass Memorial Field.



The Ancient Rock Walls of Bartow County

By William Phillips

Bartow County has remarkable ancient stone structures that have a history every bit as exciting as the far more recognized mound sites (Etowah and Leake), and numerous ancient village sites scattered across the county. However, stone features are almost always sidelined for investigation due to many archaeologists having been indoctrinated that in North America, "Native tribes never built with stone" - and therefore investigation of stone features is useless. This has caused the destruction of great numbers of rock features because they were misidentified as being built by early settlers, therefore not important to preserve. This article will consider the complexity of design and precise construction behind these features.

We are fortunate to have walls that are still in good condition and must strive to insure their conservation. This year, as information on the walls has been compiled, additional walls were discovered, and many adjacent features documented (often, archaeological investigations would make no mention of these "associated" stone features within the surrounding area).

Types of Stone Features

There are so many stone features to study but we will focus on walls in this article - and focus upon other features in future articles. Because different types of features are encountered together, listing the types of stone constructions will help with understanding what is present at a site.

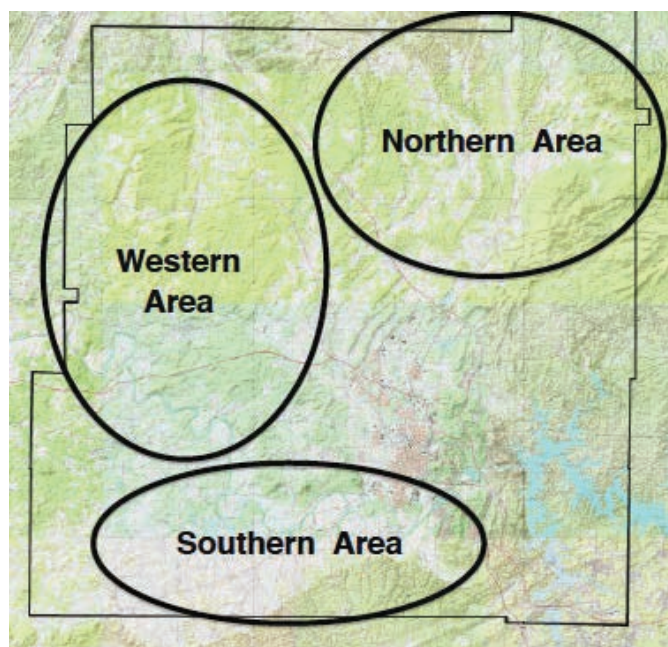
Wall - perhaps straight, circular, or other shapes - Indian walls are: 1- dry stacked (no mortar used), 2- often incorporate astronomical alignments, 3- usually have a prominent cultural context, 4- are built at a place of importance (such as mountain summits), 5a- align with other Indian sites, and 5b- align with local geological and topographic details.

Cairn - a "stonepile"; either carefully stacked or a loose assembly. Often mistaken for "graves", the vast majority are, instead, important components of the site .

Pavements - a rock "veneer" layer over an area; flat or very low profile.

Marker - placed to indicate a significant spot; stones of all sizes are used; prone or standing; often quartz or imported stone is often utilized.

For purposes of property owner anonymity precise wall locations are generically plotted.



*Remains of an old Indian Stone wall or fort on the F. H. Shaw (Cartersville) property on the Middle Knob of Quarry Mountain
Photo - R. W. Smith, 8/20/36*

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Annual Meeting



EVHS members enjoyed dinner and learned of year in review Society updates at Grand Oaks. Among other activities the Society has been very busy with book signings, field trips, interns, fund raisers, web site improvements, Quiz Bowl and book restorations.



Susan Tumlin and Joanne Pugh announce the EVHS Cookbook kickoff project at the Annual Membership Dinner. The committee is requesting recipes from members. Pre-orders are being taken now for \$25.00. Publication date is anticipated December 2018, just in time for Santa.

Make your reservations now for the annual Christmas Dinner at Roselawn scheduled for Friday December 1 at 6:00.



Sugar Hill Hik



EVHS members were welcomed to the former northeast Bartow County by Bob and Janet Neel, a lecturer who aptly described the former thriving ruins, abandoned mining cuts and learned about the golden age of mining, Bartow County produced 10 percent of that ore was extracted from Sugar Hill.



Field trip guide Tony Ross assisting members viewing a mining cut at Sugar Hill.



ke and Lecture



mining community of Sugar Hill near Rydal in
l. Above Joe Head introduces Vicki Crowe, guest
village of Sugar Hill, Georgia. Members saw the
ut the legendary Iron Belt Railroad. During the
l over 10,000,000 tons of iron ore of which sixty
ll.



s EVHS members returning from
Hill.



Janet Neel points out Sugar Hill features at the Overlook Stop facing Pinelog Mountain.

African American Quilt Documentation Project



The African American Quilt Documentation Project is the effort of a steering committee made up of representatives of participating historical groups in the county and chaired by EVHS Board member, Mina Harper. The idea for the project is an outgrowth of Memories Day at George Washington Carver Park. Those quilts found will be documented, and many of them, will be put on display for Memories Day, February 24th, 2018 at George Washington Carver Park.

Pictured from left: Teresa Cook, Etowah Valley Quilt Guild; Mina Harper, Chairman Steering Committee AAQDP and board of EVHS; Rev. Louis Young Harris, Pastor of Queen's Chapel in Kingston and Chairman of the Board of Noble Hill Wheeler Memorial Center; Ellen Archer, Director of Cartersville Bartow CVB; seated, Ann Bridges, representative of Kingston Women's History Club; Elmer Felton, Board Member and Historian of Summer Hill Heritage Museum; Barbara Ford, President of Euharlee Historical Society; Trey Gaines, Director of Bartow History Museum and Sheri Henshaw, Keep Bartow Beautiful.

EVHS Receives Funding from Georgia Farm Bureau

Georgia Farm Bureau presented the Etowah Valley Historical Society and the Bartow History Museum with checks to further research and preserve our Bartow County Heritage. Earlier this year, GFB celebrated its 80th year anniversary with the placement of a granite marker on the 1903 court house lawn. Bartow County Extension Director, Paul Puglese presented a Lunch and Learn program on the impressive agricultural impact farming has had in Bartow County. Pictured above Joe Head, EVHS VP, Andy Lucas, GFB Executive Director, Paul Puglese, Dean Bagwell, GFB and Trey Gaines, BHM Director.





Example of dry stack wall construction running about 500 feet in length.

Western Bartow County

The best preserved, largest, and most beautiful wall in Bartow county is 500 feet long, averages almost 6 feet in height, 2.5 feet thick, and runs exactly East-West (marking the Equinox solar path). It is made of round flint nodules, about the size of a basketball, that are so carefully stacked that the sides and top appear flat and smooth. Other construction traditions of Indian sites include: 1- Premium materials: this wall utilizes quartz blocks and iron nodules; and 2- Relevance to local topography: here, the wall is (directly) connected to a prominent hill, (directly) linked to a huge flint rich area, and (indirectly) associated with several water features located further away.

Adjacent features are numerous, including: many cairns (of various sizes), a small (20' long) snake effigy, a medium sized ceremonial area with a pavement and several cairns, a cursus (a ceremonial walkway with stone curbs), several smaller walls, and a nearby hill whose summit is covered with cairns and an acre-sized pavement. Combining recent field discoveries and recorded archaeological data, this area is found to have: a vast flint outcrop area with many workshops (to make arrowheads, knives, spear points), stone constructions located far from the wall (1 mi South, .5 mi West and East, 2 mi NE... and we are still finding more), and there are several village sites within 5 miles. Rather than being one isolated wall, the remarkable conclusion is that this is a large complex that covers several square miles.

Southern Bartow County

There are two Snake Effigy walls, located in valleys. One wall is 420' long, the height varies from 1.7 to 4 feet, and the width is 2 feet; the downstream end is 6' above the creek bed, then the wall ascends a side of the valley, and stops 15 feet short of the ridge dividing the next valley. The other is 275' long, of equal height and width as the longer wall, and also ascends a hillside, the last 25 feet at the eastern end turns uphill, and connects to a very dramatic head assembled of several standing stones 5 to 7 feet high.

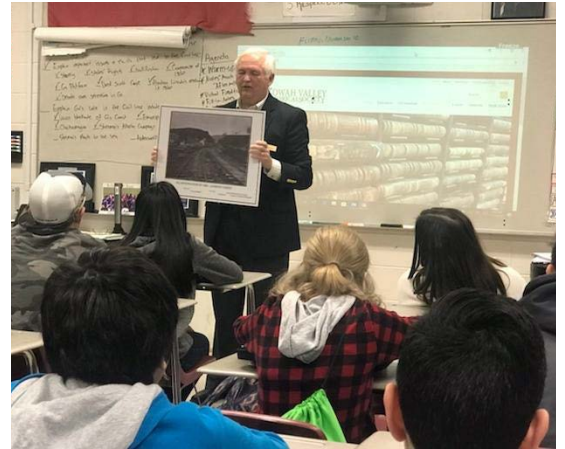
These walls undulate sideways in a serpentine fashion - and have a widened "head" end, and a narrow "tail" end. Both are made of local, flat fieldstone - the flat shape gives an appearance of snakeskin scales that, at a distance, looks remarkably like a snake slithering up the valley.

The premium material in this wall is quartz blocks; and the direct relevance to local topography includes: ties with watercourses, valleys, and the Cartersville fault; and indirect relevance to dramatic stone outcrops nearby.

There was a wall at the summit of Ladd's mountain - although it was destroyed for a source of gravel. Archaeological descriptions describe it as "enclosing 40 acres" - however, this does not match the terrain, as a circle this size would be 1,050 feet in diameter - the most likely situation is that the wall was closer to 500'

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Cass Middle School Launches Bartow History Club



Blake Fallin, history faculty at Cass Middle, greets Joe Head EVHS VP as their inaugural Bartow History Club guest lecturer who spoke on the Great Locomotive Chase in Bartow County. Guy Parmenter conducted the second lecture on November 10 speaking about the Battle of Allatoona Pass. The Bartow History Club is an innovation of Fallin and other instructors at Cass Middle designed to deliver dedicated history about the heritage of Bartow County. Dianne Tate will do Women of Bartow County on February 9 with other speakers scheduled monthly.

At the Annual Membership Dinner Blake Fallin and his wife Constance were presented a copy of *The Great Locomotive Dispute*. EVHS will furnish the Cass Middle School History Club with a collection of books on the history of Bartow County.

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diameter with many acres of "associated areas" (as is typical of other sites) arrayed with many cairns and other artifacts. EHVS is interested in clarification of these details, as misinterpretation of reports confuse the historical record - and confuse the public.

Northern Bartow County

There are a couple of snake effigy walls North of Cartersville, on restricted access land - that are evidently larger than the effigies in the South of the county. They are situated in moderately hilly terrain adjacent to streams, just like the other snake effigies. Existing documentation (photographic, measurement, and cultural interpretation) is available relating to these constructions.

Conclusion

Bartow County holds yet another unexplored treasure related to our Native American heritage. This study has tentatively identified up to 12 rock structures scattered throughout the county most of which are located in the lower county portion of the Etowah River valley.

I would like to acknowledge J. B. Tate and Tommy Hudson for their assistance in field research and interpretive contributions.

Notice to the membership!

The following is an announcement from Kathryn Coker and Jason Wetzel about uncovering information you may have regarding WW II prisoners of war that were once held in Georgia. Your help is requested.

WORLD WAR II PRISONERS OF WAR (POW) AND POW CAMPS IN GEORGIA

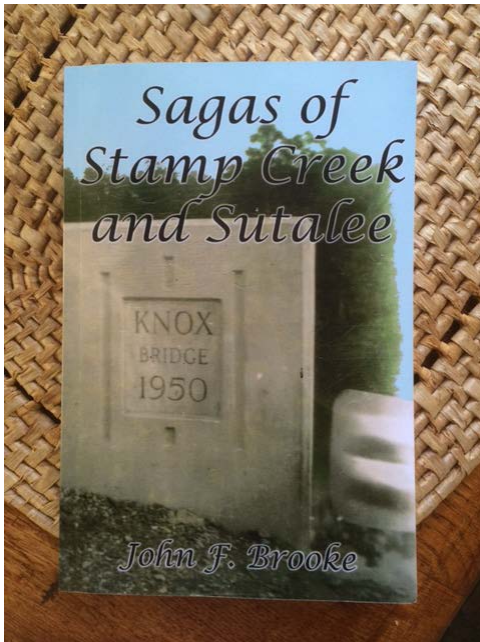
We are researching German and Italian Prisoners of War (POW) and POW camps in Georgia during World War II. We need your help in locating photos, articles, and personal stories of the POWs and camps. Questions like "How did you (or your family) react to having POWs in your backyard?" Your name will appear, if you wish, in the Acknowledgements section of our book. Contact Mr. JW Wetzel, 404-819-2200 (jasonwetzel1962@outlook.com). Thank you for helping to record this significant part of Georgia history.



TLC Book Restoration

Dianne Tate looks over newly restored books with Mike Grimes of TLC Book Restoration. This is the second wave of historic ledgers and books completed by the EVHS book restoration project in cooperation with Bartow County. The EVHS office contains scores of historic books and ledgers that need restoration for the benefit of preserving our county history and assisting with research purposes

John Brooke Releases *Sagas of Stamp Creek and Sutalee*



EVHS and the Downtown Development Authority hosted a joint book signing on Wednesday August 9 at the historic Depot. John autographed books for family and friends. Attendees enjoyed conversation and refreshments prepared by Mina Harper. The book is a collection of stories about the upper Stamp Creek area, including the gins, mills and his family. Copies are available at the EVHS office or Bartow History Museum.



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