



Artifacts recovered from the shipwrecks

Corps of Engineers discover more cannons in the Savannah River

The Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, has completed maintenance dredging in the Savannah River and recovered additional cannon, bringing the total brought up to 19.

Remote sensing technologies and diver identifications used during recent investigations were unable to identify an additional four cannons due to their placement in the river sediment. These cannons, along with smaller associated artifacts, are now in storage to ensure preservation until decisions can be made regarding conservation efforts.

Analysis confirmed the cannons were manufactured during the mid-1700s. A definitive conclusion on their origins is still pending further analysis and future conservation; however, current archival research points to the HMS Savannah as the origin of all or most of the artifacts. The HMS Savannah, HMS Venus, and others troop transports were sunk with their armaments intact in an area called Five Fathom Hole. These sunken obstructions blocked Savannah from the advance of the French fleet in September 1779, shortly before the Siege of Savannah occurred in October 1779.

Future conservation efforts will seek to identify marks on the cannon and a ship's bell fragment that may tie the artifacts to a specific vessel or wreck. Researchers are attempting to track down the ship's log, which will provide more insights on the number and types of armament present on the HMS Savannah that may help provide a definitive link between these artifacts and that vessel.

Officials with the Savannah District continue to coordinate future actions in accordance with applicable laws. All artifacts removed from the river bottom remain under the care of the Corps of Engineers.

County plans to resurface roads in 2023

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a Constitutional officer.

Moore elaborated on the timber tax, stating that the tax will be reduced. He added that the state has said that they will reimburse the County for the loss of revenue up to a certain percentage. Danny Agan asked what the implications would be for individual property owners. Moore explained that with the new legislation, property owners would pay 40 percent of the mill rate.

Joe Martin of Taliaferro County brought up ISO ratings in Georgia and asked if any more progress had been made on adjusting it. Moore stated that no more progress has been made on the matter since he was last at the Capitol advocating for change. He added that he is more than willing to return to Atlanta and continue pushing to have ISO ratings addressed.

Before closing the meeting, Moore recognized the Wilkes County Board of Registrars for their work on redistricting. He also thanked the Warren County Commission Chairman for loaning their Chief Voter Registrar to help the Wilkes County Registrars with redistricting.

The next regular meeting of the Wilkes County Commission will be April 14 at 2 p.m.

Washington black history tour with Sergeant Major Jenkins

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there, the grandparents of renowned American opera star Jessye Norman.

Jenkins described long-gone neighborhoods, community gathering places (including the occasional juke joint) and homes of prominent Washington citizens, such as Dr. Frederick Douglass Sessoms.

This was the second leg of a tour organized by Ed and Andy Anderson (no relation), both retired US Army officers who are on a mission to expand on the history of African-Americans in Washington and Wilkes County. The tours wound through Baltimore, Whitehall, down Butler



Photo by RICHARD CRABBE

The tour group prepares to board the bus

Street, and around Lincoln Circle. "Hopefully at the end of this, would be a lot of markers at significant places...where significant events happened around Washington and end up with a Black history tour," remarked Col. Andy Anderson.

Edward Shelor to speak on The Mexican American War

Submitted by: Gary Edwards, Publicity Director, Lincoln County Historical Society

Retired Marine Lt. Col. Edward Shelor will present, "The Mexican-American War" in Lincoln County Historical Society's History in the Park Series at 7 p.m. Thursday night, April 7. The event will be held in the pavilion at the Lincoln County Historical Park.

The Mexican American War lasted from 1846 to 1848 and had a major impact on the new nation, giving it much more territory and training a generation of officers who would emerge as leaders in the Civil War 15 years later. Rarely discussed, this was a complex war fought on many fronts, and included the first major U.S. amphibious assault as well as elements of modern urban warfare. It was also the first war covered extensively by news media correspondents, and it was a prime example of U.S. expansionists implementing the "manifest destiny" of the new country. Lt. Col. Shelor will present his perspective on the war from his background as a Marine Officer and a history professor.

Edward Shelor is Georgia native who joined the Marine Corps as a private and retired after 24 years as a Lieutenant Colonel. While in the Marines, he served as a Signals Intelligence/Cryptologic Officer in diverse locations such as South Korea, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, India, Bosnia, Hawaii, and Washington D.C. He and his family moved to Georgia on Lake Sinclair in 2000 and he began a teaching career, which included teaching political science and history for Georgia Military College. He was subsequently selected as Educator of the Year, Employee of the Year, and Character Educator of the Year. He became an Educational Specialist and is now a Professor Emeritus. In his spare time, he is a fire and rescue volunteer, teaches group fitness classes, self-defense classes, and



Edward Shelor

works as a special assistant for 10 District Congressman Jody Hice.

"Edward Shelor's perspective on these important but little-known stories helps us understand the causes, the campaigns and the results in an interesting and memorable way," Lincoln County Historical Society Program Director Gary Edwards stated. "I have really been looking forward to this talk; you won't want to miss it."

The "History in the Park" talks are held at the Lincoln County Historical Park, 147 Lumber Street, Lincolnton, GA on the first Thursday of the month from April through November. Desserts, water, coffee, and tea will be available after the presentation, allowing plenty of time to speak individually with the speaker. There is no admission fee, however the Lincoln County Historical Society is a 501(c)3 organization and donations are gladly accepted. Event updates are posted on facebook at lincolncountyhistoricalsocietyga.org. For questions, contact Don Thomas, President of the Lincoln County Historical Society at dpastro@aol.com or Edwards at (757) 831-9556.



Several cannons, including the one pictured above, were recovered from the wrecks

A public lecture regarding these investigation and recovery efforts was held at the Savannah History Museum.

Footage from that event can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIcgMW0YIrQ>.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District plays a major role in water resource projects throughout the region. The District operates three hydroelectric dam and reservoir projects on the Savannah River (Hartwell, Richard B. Russell, and J. Strom Thurmond); maintains the federal shipping channels at the Savannah and Brunswick harbors; and processes Regulatory (stream/wetland) permits for development projects within the state of Georgia. The District also oversees a multi-million dollar military construction program at 11 Army and Air Force installations in Georgia and North Carolina. The District provides expertise across a wide range of disciplines--from engineering, architecture and design to construction, master planning and environmental services. Learn more at www.sas.usace.army.mil

Notice of Public Hearing

The City of Washington Historic Preservation Commission will have a public hearing at City Hall Council Chambers at 102 E Liberty St. Washington, Georgia on **Thursday March 31, 2022 at 4:00 pm.**

This hearing is a request for a certificate of appropriateness for exterior change at **222 E Robert Toombs Ave.** All that tract or parcel of land lying and being within the City of Washington, Wilkes County, Georgia, owned by Brenda Beggs Youmans.

This public hearing notice is given this 14th day of March, 2022, by order of the Washington Historic Preservation Commission.

3-17-22-2c

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