

Video	Audio
	<p>&gt;&gt; <b>MALE NARRATOR:</b>  <b>ON THIS EPISODE OF GEORGIA OUTDOORS, WE’LL EXPLORE HOW ARCHAEOLOGY HELPS US TO BETTER UNDERSTAND OURSELVES, AND OUR CONNECTION TO THE PAST. WHETHER BY LAND, OR BY WATER, TRACES OF OUR HISTORY ARE EVERYWHERE. JOIN US AS WE FIND OUT MORE ABOUT ARCHAEOLOGY IN GEORGIA, NEXT ON GEORGIA OUTDOORS</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; <b>FEMALE NARRATOR: FUNDING FOR GEORGIA OUTDOORS HAS BEEN MADE POSSIBLE BY A GRANT FROM MARY HALL SINGLETON, AND BY THE IMLAY FOUNDATION</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; <b>MALE NARRATOR:</b>  <b>FROM VAST MONUMENTS LEFT BY LONG VANISHED NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES...TO CIVIL WAR FORTRESSES...TO SHIP WRECKS NESTLED ALONG OUR LAKE BOTTOMS AND RIVERBEDS...RELICS OF GEORGIA’S RICH CULTURAL PAST ARE SCATTERED THROUGHOUT OUR STATE.</b></p> <p><b>MUCH CAN BE LEARNED FROM THESE REMINDERS OF DAYS GONE BY, AND IT’S THE JOB OF THE ARCHAEOLOGIST TO DISCOVER AND UNDERSTAND THE STORIES BEHIND THESE RELICS.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; Crass:  Essentially there are two ways to know about our history. One way is through written records and the other way is through archaeology. When you go to written records, what you’re looking at are what people say they did. When you do archaeology, you’re looking at the results of what they did. What we do in archaeology is examine traces of our own past. We’re telling the story of human development over the last four or five million years.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; Elliott:  Georgia was occupied for a long time and it was a very temperate climate, and lot of resources, a lot of food, a lot of plants and animals here that you don’t have in other parts of the country necessarily. So there’s a lot of people that were here, just a very interesting place to work. There’s no need to go to Egypt, it’s all right here.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; <b>NARRATOR:</b>  <b>THE COAST OF GEORGIA HAS BEEN INHABITED BY MAN FOR CENTURIES, AND IS HOME TO MANY IMPORTANT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES, FROM THE PREHISTORIC TO THE MORE RECENT....</b></p> <p><b>LOCATED ON THE NORTH END OF ST. SIMONS ISLAND, FORT FREDERICA WAS FOUNDED IN 1733. FORT FREDERICA SERVED TO PROTECT GEORGIA FROM ADVANCES BY THE SPANISH, AND IT BECAME A BUSTLING CENTER OF COMMERCE AND COASTAL LIVING BEFORE THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; Burpee:  So much of what we think of as Georgia history, we often overlook some of the earlier aspects of it. In terms of the English settlement of Georgia, I think this and a few other places, best history books you could get. There’s been a lot of effort in preservation of the historic resources here, there are ruins and foundations that are preserved...the other part of the story though, is uncovering the past. The archaeological work that happened here provided a lot of surprises. Stories of individuals, the folks who didn’t leave written records. Today we have thousands upon thousands of artifacts that tell their story. I think the subtleties of the story are captured in the archaeology and the artifacts of the site.</p>

	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR:</b> <b>IN 1994, FORT FREDERICA NATIONAL MONUMENT AND GLYNN COUNTY SCHOOLS STARTED A PROGRAM FOR BUDDING ARCHAEOLOGISTS. THESE FOURTH GRADERS ARE HERE TO GET A HANDS-ON LOOK AT HISTORY.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano: The program started 11 years ago because Ft Frederica found that they had an area of artifacts that didn't have any provenience, which means that they had been left behind by previous archaeological excavations.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Tennent: The very important part of it is that it's an actual required part of the curriculum for the fourth grade. So we have every fourth grader in the county, including the private schools coming through the park, and going through the entire series of curriculums and learning how about archaeologists and history, and they dig here and take the stuff back to the lab, clean it up, and then they write the report, so it's the whole nine yards.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano: When the students come out to the dig site, we talk to them a little bit about the different jobs that they're going to have to do, what their responsibilities are</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano(to class): If we don't record where the artifacts are found this morning, then we're not doing what archaeologists do.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano: It does involve more than just digging, it involves keeping a notebook about where the artifacts were found. It involves screening the dirt to make sure we don't leave any artifacts behind. So every student gets to participate in all those jobs and go through the entire process of an actual excavation.</p>
	<p>They do have to keep careful records about where every artifact is found because artifacts have a context. Where they're found gives you a clue about who could have used them and who might have used them.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Dolan: The students love this program. They come into fourth grade excited, so they're very eager to learn, not only just to come out here and dig, but to learn about the history of our area, our land that we call home.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Tennent: They realize that history didn't just happen in Savannah or St Augustine or Atlanta or Washington DC or places like that, it actually happened in their own backyard. So it brings history home to them so, no it's not just something out of books. It's very important.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano (to class): Now just work all the way around it. It looks like it's pretty close!</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Higgins: Well I found a top of a hammer ...it was pretty cool, I was like "woah!" I'd like to be an archaeologist when I get bigger. It'll be fun.</p>
	<p>Mickey: Well what I like about is, we get to do what real archaeologys-ists were doing, and we're finding all the metal and everything. I like the digging, the sifting, writing everything down, all of it.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Stuckey: I like this class because we get to learn about the history of the old times and what happened. And we like know what happened back then.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR: THERE'S MORE TO ARCHAEOLOGY THAN DIGGING. MOST OF THE WORK TAKES PLACE BACK AT THE LAB, AND THESE KIDS ARE GETTING THE FULL EXPERIENCE...</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano:</p>

	<p>Finding the artifacts is a big part of what the archaeologists do, but if we can't look at the artifacts and identify what they are, then we're really not going to be able to go through the entire archaeological process and learn how the artifacts were used.</p>
	<p>On the second day, the students will come back to the archaeology lab where we do what we consider is the really important part of archaeology, and that's when they look at all the artifacts and figure out what type of object they came from and how somebody actually used that artifact. Because that will help provide them with a better idea of the time period, the history that they're studying, which is really our major goal.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;(to class) That means that this is the type of pottery that you found and this is the date that it was made, so write that on your bag.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano: I really love what I do. I think I have the best teaching job around because I get to work with kids everyday who are so excited about learning.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Mickey (to classmates) We found a musket ball, and part of a canon ball.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Provenzano: And what I see is kids who are becoming sort of like detectives. They're looking at clues in the ground and figuring out how they can learn from those things. And you're watching kids draw conclusions and learning pretty much on their own.</p>
	<p>(teacher and students) &gt;&gt;That's the bottom of a... &gt;&gt;Ooooh a bottle, because they go like this &gt;&gt;Yes, they indent up in the bottom...very good!</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR:</b> <b>OSSABAW ISLAND IS ONE OF THE HIDDEN TREASURES OF THE GEORGIA COAST, AND ARCHAEOLOGY IS HELPING TO UNCOVER SECRETS OF ITS PAST. THESE DWELLINGS WERE ONCE SLAVE QUARTERS AND WORK IS BEING DONE TO RETURN THEM TO THEIR ORIGINAL STATE</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Bitler: Well we have three standing slave tabbies. Tabby is a primitive cement mixture that was very popular here on the coast and the state of preservation is remarkable, and that certainly is what drove us to pursue this project.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>Narrator: When the tabbies are finished they will provide visitors a window to what life was like here over a century ago. To ensure historical accuracy, the Ossabaw foundation enlisted the help of Archaeologists like Dan Elliot to uncover the history beneath this soil.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Elliot: The work that we're doing provides some architectural for the architect. It also provides its own information for the anthropologist. Information about the life ways of the slave will allow interpretation later on when these areas are finished and it's interpreted to the public for educational purposes. We'll have a lot of information about who lived here, what their lives were like.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Bitler: We actually had two experts that were involved in this project: one guy looks up and one guy looks down. So we had the archaeologist who was looking underground, and we had the conservator who was looking pretty much from ground level up.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR: BEYOND DIGGING IN THE DIRT, DAN ELLIOT USES OTHER TECHNOLOGY TO DO HIS WORK.</b></p>

	<p>&gt;&gt;Elliot: ... ground-penetrating radar allows us to look underground without disturbing what's down there, and get a map of the site so that we'll have some planning information for future excavations. Pretty amazing discoveries as to what's down under the ground in this coastal sand. We learned that there's a lot more buildings under the ground. There's a lot more to this plantation than meets the eye at first glance.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Crass: When you put the architectural record together with the archaeological record. I think of it as a story. Archaeology is about telling stories. That's what we are. We're scientists, but we're scientists who are telling the story of our past, and it's a story that you can't get to through the history books only, and this is a very good example of how that system is supposed to work.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR:</b> <b>ARCHAEOLOGISTS AREN'T RESTRICTED TO THE LAND. UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY IS A GROWING FIELD. THESE VOLUNTEERS FROM THE WEST GEORGIA UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ARE HERE TO DISCOVER RELICS OF HISTORY WHICH LIE BENEATH THE WATERS OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE AT WEST POINT, GEORGIA.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Kelly: The West Georgia Underwater Archaeological Society is made up of just about anybody you can imagine. We've got approximately 30-35 members at this time and we're growing. And being a volunteer organization, you never know who's going to show up..</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Debardeleben: I've been with the Society about three hours. I just started today. I drive across that bridge so many times and this is the first time I've been in the river to see the different things that are out there.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Adcock: I wanted to dive my entire life, and just recently in the last year I got certified. I've always been an admirer of history.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Kelly: A group of us had been diving the area for some time. We knew there was a really rich history in the area, and we had started to notice different groups of people coming in here and removing artifacts and removing parts of the site. And another gentleman and I decided that it would be a really good idea if we could come in here and map this out and document what's here before it basically got taken away from us so everybody could share in it</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR: ARCHAEOLOGISTS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ARE HELPING WITH THIS PROJECT AND HAVE PLANS FOR THE AREA.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Burns: We're trying to create the first underwater archaeology trail here in the state of Georgia. Basically what it will be will be an underwater recreational trail where you will be able to have a guidebook and you'll be able to figure out where you are on the site as you get in the water.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Kelly: The site itself has everything from steamboats, to civil war remains, to bridges. Probably the earliest thing we're studying is an 1838 Horace King covered bridge</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR:</b> <b>THESE PLANKS ARE A PART OF THE REMAINS OF THAT COVERED BRIDGE, BUILT BY ONE OF GEORGIA'S MOST ESTEEMED BRIDGE BUILDERS. HORACE KING WAS BORN A SLAVE IN 1807 AND ROSE ABOVE HIS</b></p>

	<p><b>CIRCUMSTANCES, SECURING HIS FREEDOM AND BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS GEORGIA, ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI, AND TENNESSEE. HIS CHILDREN CARRIED ON THIS TRADITION, BUILDING BRIDGES ACROSS THE SOUTHEAST. ONE OF THE BEST PRESERVED OF THESE IS WATSON MILL BRIDGE IN COMER, GEORGIA.</b></p>
	<p><b>THIS STATELY COVERED BRIDGE, BUILT BY HIS SON WASHINGTON KING IN 1885, IS ONE OF ONLY 15 COVERED BRIDGES LEFT IN GEORGIA. FEW EXAMPLES OF KING'S OWN WORK REMAIN. RUINS LIKE THESE FOUND AT WEST POINT ARE SOME OF THE BEST PRESERVED REMNANTS OF KING'S LEGACY. THIS BRIDGE IS JUST ONE OF THE INTERESTING ARTIFACTS THAT CAN BE FOUND ON THE RIVERBED AT WEST POINT.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; Kelly: Well this is a pretty busy area We've had many different bridges and almost anything you can think of has fallen off these bridges.</p> <p>We've been finding some civil war remains, a sword this last year, a union cavalry sword left over from the battle of west point.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: <b>THERE ARE ALSO A NUMBER OF WRECKS HERE AT THE WESTPOINT SITE. STEAMBOATS, RACING BOATS AND OTHER WRECKS CAN BE FOUND WITHIN THIS SMALL AREA.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Tumbleson: We're working on a steamboat, it's an 1880s steamboat. This morning when we got in, the visibility very was comparable to some of the places I've worked. Normally the underwater sites that we work on are not the clearest water.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: <b>THIS MAKES THE JOB OF MAPPING THE AREA QUITE A TASK, BUT THESE VOLUNTEERS SEEM TO ENJOY THE WORK.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Debardelebem: I'm going through my second childhood, and so I'm having a great time doing some of the things that I probably should have done when I was a lot younger, and I'm just real happy to be able to do it now, but it's new and exciting.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Knight: Charles Kelly and his group are very, very helpful in teaching as they're letting you experience the whole process.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Mahan: All of us remember being children and being excited about discovering things or adventuring. That's a part that touches me. It's always fun to go in because you never know what you're going to find.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: <b>THOUGH THIS GROUP IS NOT HERE TO RECOVER ARTIFACTS, PIECES OCCASIONALLY WAS ASHORE AND MUST BE COLLECTED. THESE CERAMICS ARE BEING DONATED TO THE CITY OF WEST POINT FOR DISPLAY AT THE LOCAL MUSEUM, BUT ARTIFACTS CAN ONLY BE COLLECTED BY SPECIAL PERMISSION.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Burns: Basically it's take only pictures and leave only bubbles out here. Say you collected artifacts off the bottom here, you're basically taking away the history from the citizens of West Point and the citizens of Georgia for everybody to enjoy. We want to be able to have this experience to be able to go out here and actually see these things as they naturally are on the bottom.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt; Kelly: If anybody wants to get involved with underwater archaeology, we are certainly happy to have them join us. There are some other groups around the state.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Adcock: In diving you get to meet a lot of people. Doing in history you get to meet a lot of people. This brings both of them together.</p>

	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR:  <b>THE BLACK WATER OF THE OGEECHEE RIVER NEAR FORT McALLISTER STATE PARK SOUTH OF SAVANNAH HOLDS ITS OWN SUBMERGED HISTORY. WITH ZERO VISIBILITY, AND A STRONG CURRENT, THIS IS DIFFICULT DIVING, BUT A TEAM OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS IS BRAVING THESE DARK WATERS TO UNLOCK ITS MYSTERIES.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Burns:  This is the location of a very important naval battle that took place here ... We have intact portions of that battlefield out here under the Ogeechee River,</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR:  <b>AMONG THE SUNKEN WARVES, TORPEDOES, AND OTHER ARTIFACTS SCATTERED ALONG THE RIVEBED LIES THE C.S.S. NASHVILLE, A CONFEDERATE BLOCKADE RUNNER THAT’S HELD A SPECIAL INTEREST FOR HISTORIANS AND ARCHAEOLOGISTS FOR YEARS.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Sullivan:  The CSS Nashville was one of the most famous warships and blockade-runners of the civil war period. A confederate ship, originally a blockade runner and made a number of successful trips between the confederate states and Europe. The union navy knew the Nashville was up the Ogeechee river, and that was one of their main missions was to destroy the Nashville. After a bombardment, the Nashville was destroyed.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Brown:  She’s been excavated probably about four or five times, originally by the soldiers themselves here at Ft McAllister. Later on after the war, some of her machinery was taken off for salvage. And then in the 1950s the state of Georgia itself removed some big, large equipment.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR:  <b>AFTER REMOVING PIECES OF THE NASHVILLE IN THE 1950’S, THE STATE OF GEORGIA USED EXPLOSIVES TO PARTIALLY DESTROY THE WRECK BECAUSE IT CREATED A BOATING HAZARD. LATER, WHAT WAS LEFT BEHIND WAS EXCAVATED BY A GROUP OF PRIVATE DIVERS. SOME OF THESE ARTIFACTS CAN BE FOUND IN THE MUSEUM AT FORT McALLISTER. WHAT IS LEFT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OGEECHEE IS NOW PROTECTED UNDER STATE LAW.</b></p>
	<p><b>TO GET A BETTER IDEA OF WHAT LIES ALONG THE RIVER BED, THIS TEAM USES AN ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY TO MAP THE BOTTOM.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Burns:  We use the side-scan sonar for doing survey work. If you can think of an archaeologist running around the woods digging holes, they’re called shovel tests, um, a land archaeologist. Underwater archaeology, we do the same things, except we use these instruments. We’re actually looking for things, and then we’ll go back later to evaluate them or basically do a full-scale excavation.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Jordan:  Sonar’s been around for a while and here recently it’s gotten more fine-tuned. It’s similar to a fish finder that a fisherman would use  A small bit of energy is applied to a transducer, and it sends an ultrasonic sound wave through the water column. And the computer calculates the distance of the sound wave going out and hitting a target and coming back.   And what surprised us today was that the silting and the scouring is changing. Areas that we were able to see a few months back are now filling over with sand.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: <b>BEFORE MAKING THEIR WAY TO THE MUSEUM, ARTIFACTS LIKE THESE FROM THE NASHVILLE MUST UNDERGO A LENGTHY PROCESS TO PRESERVE THEM. SOME OF THAT WORK IS DONE HERE AT THE STATE PARK PRESERVATION LAB.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Headlee</p>

	<p>The most important thing with the preservation of the artifacts from an underwater marine environment is not so much to remove encrustations and to make the artifact look good, it's more important in the long run to remove the salt from the artifact. What we do is electrolysis.</p>
	<p>We generally hook up a battery charger or a power supply unit to an artifact in the water. Every time we change the bath out, the salts that are in the water and on the anode and so forth are removed.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>NARRATOR:</b> <b>IF YOU'VE EVER VISITED A MUSEUM AT A STATE PARK, CHANCES ARE WHAT WAS ON DISPLAY PASSED THROUGH THE CONSERVATION LAB.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Bitley: We deal with everything: photographs, documents of all sorts, guns, lots of civil war stuff, textiles, costumes. We deal with them at one time or another.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Headlee: Really I never know what I'm going to be working with. One day it may be a historic document that FDR's worked on. And the next day it might be a piece of furniture, you never know.</p>
	<p>Stewart: I've been a visual artist for over 30 years. My job here is to work on refabricating, doing restoration. This particular project here that I've been working on is a traveler's bench for New Echota, and on this piece I have to restore the wood. Some of it has been dry rot, some of it has been dealt damage by insects. Personally I think everything I work on is pretty unique. I have fun with it.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Headlee: The way I look at it, the artifacts will last for generations. I've always envisioned that, while working with these artifacts, people of our past, I like to think that they're pleased with what we're doing and that we're remembering their legacy, showing to the world that they aren't forgotten.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>FEMALE NARRATOR: THOUGH FINDING AN ARTIFACT ON THE GROUND CAN BE EXCITING, THERE ARE MANY IN LAWS IN GEORGIA TO CONSIDER. WHILE YOU CAN COLLECT ARTIFACTS ON PRIVATE LAND WITH THE LANDOWNER'S PERMISSION, IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO COLLECT ARTIFACTS OR DIG ON PUBLIC LAND OR WATERWAYS. IN GEORGIA IT IS LEGAL TO OWN A COLLECTION OF ARTIFACTS, BUT ILLEGAL TO DISPLAY BURIAL REMAINS IN PUBLIC. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ARCHAEOLOGY LAWS IN GEORGIA, VISIT THIS WEBSITE.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;<b>MALE NARRATOR:</b> <b>SEVEN AND A HALF MILES OFF GEORGIA'S MAINLAND, SAPELO ISLAND IS A PLACE RICH WITH UNTOUCHED NATURAL BEAUTY. THE ISLAND ALSO HOLDS A DEEP CULTURAL HISTORY SPANNING NEARLY 4,000 YEARS. ON THE NORTH END OF THE ISLAND, LIE THE REMAINS OF A CULTURE CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE EARLIEST POPULATIONS IN THE STATE. THE SAPELO ISLAND SHELL RINGS...</b></p>
	<p><b>THESE RINGS, WHICH MEASURE HUNDREDS OF YARDS IN DIAMETER, WERE FORMED OVER FOUR THOUSAND YEARS AGO. THE RINGS ARE COMPOSED OF MILLIONS OF DISCARDED OYSTER SHELLS AND OTHER MATERIALS, PILED UP TO FORM A WALL-LIKE STRUCTURE. ARCHAEOLOGISTS BELIEVE THAT THIS WALL CIRCLED AROUND A SMALL VILLAGE WITH A CENTRAL PLAZA. MUCH IS UNKNOWN ABOUT THE SHELL</b></p>

	<b>RINGS. DR. VICTOR THOMPSON HAS BEEN STUDYING THE SITE TO FIND OUT MORE.</b>
	>>Thompson: The Sapelo island shell ring site is composed of three distinct shell rings. What you see now with this one here is this is the largest of the three.
	The biggest of the three rings at its tallest point: almost nine feet. Now the other two rings are much less imposing
	<b>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: THERE ARE COMPETING THEORIES TO EXPLAIN HOW AND WHY THESE RINGS WERE CREATED. THE FIRST THEORY SUGGESTS THAT THE SHELL RINGS ARE ESSENTIALLY AN ARCHAIC GARBAGE DUMP.</b>
	>>Thompson: Shell rings represent the gradual accumulation of refuse in a particular form, a circular form. With people living in a circular village formation depositing refuse on the back and keeping it interior clean, a plaza. The second idea is that they are actually intentionally constructed monuments. And so, the idea here is that these are purposely mounded rings of shell.
	<b>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: THROUGH HIS RESEARCH, VICTOR THOMPSON IS UNLOCKING MANY OF THE QUESTIONS SURROUNDING THESE MYSTERIOUS MONUMENTS.</b>
	>>Thompson: We've defined when people were here at the site. We found that people were here year round. The way in which people use space is very consistent. And what that indicates to us is that this is a place that has particular meaning,
	<b>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: THE EARLY INHABITANTS OF THE SAPELO SHELL RINGS WERE ONE OF THE FIRST NON-NOMADIC GROUPS OF PEOPLE TO SETTLE IN GEORGIA.</b>
	<b>EVIDENCE OF GEORGIA'S EARLIEST PEOPLE CAN BE FOUND THROUGHOUT THE STATE. SOME OF THE MOST RECOGNIZEABLE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES BELONG TO THE MOUNDBUILDER CULTURE. THESE TOWERING MONUMENTS ARE IMPRESSIVE REMINDERS OF WHAT LIFE WAS LIKE BEFORE THE EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT OF GEORGIA.</b>
	Crass: Well there's no <i>one</i> mound builder culture in the southeast. There actually were several periods of time during which Indians built mounds.
	<b>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: JUST A FEW MILES FROM THE MOUNDS OF ETOWAH, AN EXAMPLE OF THE MOUND BUILDER CULTURE EXISTED ONE THOUSAND YEARS EARLIER. THIS AREA, CALLED THE LEAKE SITE IS BEING EXCAVATED IN PREPARATION OF THE EXPANSION OF HIGHWAY 61 NEAR CARTERSVILLE.</b>
	>>Wood: The Leake Site is a fantastic Middle Woodland archaeological site that will be impacted by the construction of a new highway. We work for the Georgia Department of Transportation in recovering the information on this archaeological site before the highway's put in.
	>>Duff: The National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies consider the effects of their undertakings to historic properties.  >>Wood: A lot of the excavation on the site is done by people with shovels and we take the soil that's been excavated by hand and screen it through quarter inch hardware cloth. On this particular site, the soils are very clayey, so we have to use water to separate the artifacts from the soil.
	The Leake site dates to about 2000 years ago, and we think it's a major center in the Eastern United States at this time period.

	<p>Very little is known about these people from 2000 years ago. They did not leave written records. We have no oral tradition. Broken pieces of pottery, arrowheads, stone tools, that's all we have. From that though, we're able to learn a great deal about their culture, even though we don't know really who they were.</p> <p>&gt;&gt; Wood (to group): We have a year and a half of analysis ahead of us, which we're really looking forward to.</p>
	<p><b>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: THE INHABITANTS OF THE LEAKE SITE WERE MOST LIKELY THE ANCESTORS OF THE MUSKOGEE INDIAN TRIBE, PART OF THE CREEK NATION. JOYCE BEAR, A TRIBAL REPRESENTATIVE IS ADVISING THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS ON THIS PROJECT.</b></p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Bear: Our people were removed from this area in the early 1800s on what we now refer to as the Trail of Tears. And so by federal law, our tribe still has input from this ancestral homeland.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Wood (to group): And you can see all the little fleck in here. This is just fragments, very, very small fragments of bone; all these little white pieces in here.</p> <p>&gt;&gt;Duff: Archaeologists, we study the material remains left behind from native American cultures. It's one thing to dig it up and then analyze it and interpret it, but to actually have the native American perspective on what we're doing and have that incorporated into this project means a great deal.</p>
	<p>&gt;&gt;Wood: It's important to look at archaeological sites like the Leake site. The people who lived here 2000 years ago left no records. The prehistoric cultures of the southeastern united states are only studied through archaeology, the ancient ones. I think it will enhance our daily lives as we understand what it might have been for them. Archaeology is the science that can tell us about the ancient past by the material remains, and it's important that we understand all of the people who have lived in this part of the world.</p>
	<p><b>&gt;&gt;NARRATOR: FROM OUR ANCIENT ANCESTORS, TO THE FIRST EUROPEAN SETTLERS, TO THE SCATTERED PIECES OF HISTORY WHICH LIE BENEATH OUR WATERWAYS, PAST RESIDENTS OF OUR STATE LEFT MANY CLUES TO THEIR WAYS OF LIFE. BY LOOKING AT WHAT THEY LEFT BEHIND, WE LEARN MORE ABOUT WHO WE ARE AND WHERE WE MAY BE GOING. THERE IS MUCH TO LEARN, BUT THANKS TO THE SCIENCE OF ARCHAEOLOGY, SECRETS OF GEORGIA'S PAST WILL CONTINUE TO BE UNLOCKED.</b></p>
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