

NEWSLETTER

Lower Altamaha Historical Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 1405
Darien, Georgia 31305

June 1995

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Meetings are held at the Ida Hilton Library, Haynes Auditorium, on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 P.M. The Society extends a hearty welcome to all.

LOWER ALTAMAHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1995-1996

President	Lloyd Y. Flanders	Board of Directors 1994-96
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LAHS Meeting, June 15, 1995, 7:30 P.M. : The program will be "TOPICS IN SOUTHERN RELIGIOUS HISTORY" presented by Dr. Sandy Dwayne Martin, University of Georgia, Department of Religion. Dr. Martin has been made available to LAHS from the Franklin College Outreach Program of the University of Georgia.

Excerpts from *Early Days on the Georgia Tidewater* by Buddy Sullivan : (page 17) January 19, 1736--The Scots also built a small chapel in which the minister who had accompanied them from Scotland, The Rev. John McLeod, would hold regular divine services. Thus was born Presbyterianism in Georgia.

(page 76) Religion in Darien was firmly established by the first decade of the 1800s.

(page 78) The Sunbury Baptist Association was established in Darien in 1820; two years later the city of Darien granted the Baptist a lot upon which to erect a church. -----In 1841 , the Methodist, led by Rev. E. H. Myers, established themselves in Darien and in 1841-42, built a church on Vernon Square on the site of the present-day edifice. -----In 1843, the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church was chartered in Darien and an edifice was built on Vernon Square in 1844.

LAHS Meeting, July 20, 1995, 7:30 P.M. : The program will be THE ORIGIN OF FLOWERING PLANTS', AN EXAMINATION OF DARWIN'S "ABOMINABLE MYSTERY" presented by Dr. William (Ned) Friedman, University of Georgia, Department of Botany. Dr. Friedman has been made available to LAHS from the Franklin College Outreach Program of the University of Georgia.

Excerpts from *Early Days on the Georgia Tidewater* by Buddy Sullivan : (page 55) William Bartram travelled the southern wilderness with much of his time being spent in Georgia from 1773-77.-----McIntosh County's role in his findings is quite significant, for it was here that Bartram discovered the rare and beautiful flowering shrub called the *Franklinia Alatomaha*, named for Benjamin Franklin and the nearby Altamaha River.

FORT KING GEORGE STATE HISTORIC SITE----SUMMER, 1995

Ken Akin, Superintendent of Fort King George Historical Site, and the staff at Fort King George, extend a cordial invitation to the members of LAHS to view the newly restored exhibit in the Interpretation Center at the Fort.

June 3 "Frontier Skills of Colonial Darien" 11 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Using local volunteers, Colonial and Eighteenth Century skills will be demonstrated throughout the day. Some of the skills that will be observed are Candle making, Cooking, Dying, Weaving, Quilting, Children games, Musket Firing and Tomahawk throwing.

July 4 Cannons Across the Marsh 1 P.M. until 4 P.M.

Celebrate the Fourth by visiting Fort King George & observe the firing of 18th century artillery pieces. Visitors can learn of the 18th-century artillery drill & the skills that were involved.

The Site presents CANNON DEMONSTRATIONS, hourly, on the 2nd & 4th Saturday of each month, weather & volunteers permitting, 11:00 A.M. --4:P.M.

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR --DARIEN, McINTOSH COUNTY

Excerpts from Georgia Historical Markers , Kenneth W. Boyd

OLD RIVER ROAD--The River Road has changed but little in location since its beginning as a Military Route in 1739. Scottish Highlanders first marched over it on their way to invade Spanish Florida, and troops have used it in three wars - the War with Spain, the Revolution, and the War Between the States.

As a civilian highway, this served first as the road to Fort Barrington and the Ferry, later as an important link in the old Macon to Darien highway, over which planters in their carriages, stage coaches, and riders carrying the U.S. Mail, travelled during the early 19th century.

[Located on US 17/GA 25 at the junction with GA 251, 1 mile north of Darien. GHM 095-17, 1957.]

FORT BARRINGTON--Fort Barrington, about twelve miles West of here on the Altamaha River, was built in 1751. Lieut. Robert Baillie, in charge of construction, commanded the post for several years.

Named Fort Howe during the Revolution, the fort played a vital part in that War, guarding the most dangerous land pass on the Southern Frontier of Georgia. In constant peril from British forces and their Indian allies, the fort was the scene of several battles and skirmishes.

Confederate troops were stationed on the site during the War Between the States.

[Located on US 17/GA 25 at the junction with GA 251, 1 mile north of Darien. GHM 095-14, 1957.]

ARDOCH--Ardoch, fronting on the old Stage Road from Savannah to Darien were it traversed this Swamp, was the plantation home of the McDonalds from Colonial Days through the early 19th century.

During the Revolutionary War, members of this branch of the McDonald clan were Loyalists, as were many families of Coastal Georgia. In a skirmish fought in his home in Ardoch, only a short distance from this spot, Robert McDonald was killed in the presence of his wife and children, and the Ardoch house burned.

[Located on US 17/GA 25, 6.9 miles north of Darien. GHM 095-16, 1957.]