



Contact Tracey Johnson  
Email Tracey.Johnson@usg.edu  
Website <http://www.georgiaarchives.org/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 22, 2023

“Georgia, Nature, and the Environment”  
Annual History Symposium on April 1, 2023, Hosted by the Georgia Archives

Join us on Saturday, April 1, 2023, from 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m., for the Georgia Archives symposium, “Georgia, Nature, and the Environment.” The free symposium will feature scholarly presentations discussing Georgia’s history of conservation efforts throughout the years, the various environmental changes in the landscape and animal life of Georgia, and the developments that stimulated the economic growth of Georgia, such as the marble industry, the parks system, and the Blue Ridge parkway.

Breaks are sponsored by the Friends of Georgia Archives and History (FOGAH), including a pizza lunch for donation. Otherwise, you may wish to visit a local restaurant or bring your own meal. For more information about our presentations and directions to the Georgia Archives, please see our website, [www.georgiaarchives.org](http://www.georgiaarchives.org).

Below is the schedule of events. A brief Q&A session will follow each presentation.

- 9:00 a.m. Opening and Coffee
- 9:10 a.m. Welcome from Christopher Davidson, JD, State Archivist / Assistant Vice Chancellor USG
- 9:15 a.m. *“You People Don’t Seem to Want a Parkway”*: *The Failure of the Blue Ridge Parkway Extension into Georgia*, Richelle Brown
- 10:20 a.m. Panel: Conservation and Old Growth Forests

*Early Conservation in Georgia: An Overview of the Development of Georgia’s Efforts to Conserve Our State’s Natural Resources from Colonial Times to Early Twentieth Century*, Leah Edwards

*Protecting Old-Growth “Hope Spots” in North Georgia: From Cooper Creek to Grassy Mountain*, Emma Kiser

11:10 a.m. Panel: Race, Class, and Recreation

*Hard Labor Creek State Park: A Case Study in Discriminatory Recreation*, W. Cole Wicker

*Under the Surface of Lake Lanier*, Angela Hronek

11:50 a.m. Poster Session: *Oyster Wars and Bustling Factories: The Georgia Oyster Industry, 1880s – 1940s*, Sadie Ingram

12:10 p.m. Lunch available for a cash donation

1:00 p.m. *Bamboo in Georgia's Landscape: From Native Americans to the USDA*, Dr. Kay Koppedrayer, Dr. Walter E. Campbell, and Dr. Mike Hotchkiss

2:00 p.m. Panel: Nature at Home

*The Introduction, Spread, and Potential Impacts of a Non-native Spider to Georgia*, Dr. Michael Sitvarin

*Imagine the Possibilities of Our Landscapes: How Landscapes Can Fight Climate Change and Grow Green Jobs*, Jamie Rosenthal

*Rethinking Informal Urbanism in Metro-Atlanta*, Dr. Georgeta Connor

3:00 p.m. *Pretty in Pink: Georgia's Marble Industry and the Human Impact on the Land*, Al Connolly, Bill Cagle, Dr. Candy Tate, and Dr. Kathleen Thompson

The Georgia Archives is a unit of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The Georgia Archives identifies, collects, manages, preserves, provides access to, and publicizes records and information of Georgia and its people, and assists state and local government agencies with their records management.

###