The *Traveller*

A Newsletter of the Bartram Trail Conference Spring, 2026

Fire and the Shaping of Vegetation along Bartram's Route in the Southern Appalachian Mountains

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On dry ridgetops and upper slopes of the Appalachian Mountains from Pennsylvania to northeast Georgia, grow patches of forest dominated by Table Mountain Pine and Pitch Pine trees (Figure 1). These tree species are fire-dependent (Lafon 2010). Their seedlings thrive where fires burn the leaf litter from the forest floor and expose bare mineral soil into which the seedlings can take root. The seedlings also need the sunny environment that is created after the competing vegetation is burned away. As the seedlings grow into larger trees, they develop thick bark that insulates them from the heat of fires. The Table Mountain pine produces serotinous cones that remain closed, storing seeds for years before opening and releasing seeds *en masse* after they are heated by a fire. This ensures the seeds fall on exposed mineral soil in an open, sunny environment.

Figure 1

Table Mountain and Pitch Pine are two among many fire-dependent plant species in the Appalachian Mountains. Other examples include blueberries, oak and chestnut trees, and bunchgrasses such as Little Bluestem and Broomsedge. Many wildlife species inhabit the open vegetation shaped by fire—for example, Golden-winged Warblers, Indiana Bats, many species of bees, and game animals like turkey and White-tailed Deer. The presence of these fire-dependent species and ecological communities implies a long history of fire, but this history is obscured by land-use changes of the past century or so. Various types of evidence can illuminate the historical role of fire before these changes, and Bartram's observations recorded in the *Travels* (Bartram 1791) constitute some of this evidence.

Before we explore the evidence, however, let's consider how land-use changes have obscured the history of fire. In the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries, vast tracts of land were logged—mountain lands that had not been cleared for agriculture (Lafon 2010). Tree limbs were strewn over the landscape. After this logging slash had dried, it fueled wildfires that favored the recruitment of fire-dependent species and probably enabled them to expand over the landscape. The expansion was short-lived, however. Fire prevention and suppression campaigns that began around the 1920s–1940s, in the aftermath of the fires, have allowed competing, less fire-tolerant species to establish. These are trees and shrubs such as Red Maple and Mountain Laurel, and they are crowding out the fire-dependent species. The damp, dark forests and shrub thickets that are emerging over time are less valuable economically and ecologically than oak or pine woodlands. For example, maple seeds are vastly inferior to acorns as a wildlife food source.

With my students and collaborators, I have used multiple forms of evidence to extend our understanding of fire and fire-dependent vegetation further back in time, beyond the changes of the past century (Lafon et al. 2017). For example, we have sawn cross-sections from fire-scarred pine trees and, using the trees' annual growth rings to date the fire scars embedded in the wood, have reconstructed several centuries of fire history at sites in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee (Figure 2). These and similar studies conducted elsewhere in the Appalachian region indicate that fires occurred frequently, at intervals of about 2–10 years, and promoted fire-dependent communities like oak and pine woodlands. Even longer records of fire can be obtained from radiocarbon-dated charcoal fragments recovered from pond and bog sediments or from soil. Charcoal records from several Appalachian sites demonstrate the occurrence of fire for thousands of years, although precise dating and fire inter-

Figure 2a

Figure 2b

vals cannot be calculated as with fire scars.

Neither fire scars nor charcoal gives a full picture of fire as a landscape phenomenon: as a type of process that originates at certain points and spreads across the land until stopped by barriers like streams, moist north-facing slopes, or rock outcrops. We would like to know how fire spread across the landscape. How extensive was it and how widespread was fire-dependent vegetation? Were fire and fire-dependent vegetation limited to dry ridgetops or the vicinity of human settlements? Or were they widespread? What parts of the landscape were sheltered from fire? These questions are important both for gaining a better scientific understanding of historical landscapes and for restoring species and habitats through controlled burning. Recently, we have turned to historical evidence, including Bartram's descriptions, to shed some light on these questions (Siskind et al. 2026).

Bartram is one of several explorers of the southeastern U.S. whose writings give evidence about the historical extent of fire-dependent vegetation, especially grasslands. Most of these writings pertain to the lowland areas of the South, not the mountains. For example, John Lederer traversed a belt of savanna (grassland) inhabited by elk and deer on the western Piedmont near the foot of the Blue Ridge in Virginia and North Carolina in 1669–1670 (Lederer 1672). In 1701, John Lawson journeyed through the Coastal Plain and Piedmont of the Carolinas where he found landscapes such as this one on the North Carolina Piedmont, "We traveled this day about twenty-five Miles over pleasant Savanna Ground, high and dry, having very few Trees upon it, and those standing at a great distance" (Lawson 1714). Bartram himself traveled primarily in the lowland South. He encountered vegetation such as a 70-mile-wide belt of longleaf pine woodland and savanna (grassland) on the Coastal Plain of Georgia and South Carolina: "This plain is mostly a forest of the great Long-leaved Pine (*P. palustris* Linn.) the earth covered with grass, interspersed with an infinite variety of herbaceous plants, and embellished with extensive savannas" (Figure 3; Bartram 1791).

Unless it were frequently burned, such vegetation would have been uncommon in the humid Southeastern U.S. The region would have been covered instead with mixed hardwood forests: dense forests that were too shady for the cover of grasses and other herbaceous plants described by Bartram and others. Frequent fires killed tree seedlings and saplings, thwarting the development of forests while maintaining grasses and other herbaceous plants that could reestablish quickly after fire (Lafon 2010). Some trees survived, also, but not in dense forest stands. They were scattered, forming open woodlands or savannas with abundant light for the grassy understory. These scattered trees were those such as oak and pine, which have thick bark or other traits that enabled them to persist under frequent burning. In fact, Bartram's years of travel over the South showed him that fire was woven into the fabric of the region's landscapes. In Florida, for example, he witnessed the "painted vulture," apparently the tropical king vulture which is no longer extant in Florida, scavenging reptiles and amphibians killed by fire, "These birds seldom appear but when the deserts [i.e., wilderness] are set on fire (which happens almost every day throughout the year, in some part or other, by the Indians, for the purpose of rousing the game, as also by lightning)…" (Bartram 1791).

These and other writings leave no room for doubt about the role of fire and the vast extent of pine and oak woodlands and savannas on the original landscape. Fire remained important during and after white settlement for agricultural clearing and maintaining open woodlands for livestock grazing (Lafon 2010). As southern woods-burning persisted into the early twentieth century, it ran afoul of professional foresters who sought to protect tree seedlings from fire. This conflict led to a protracted debate and to ecological research that, by the mid-twentieth century, had conclusively demonstrated the necessity of fire for Longleaf Pine woodlands and other ecosystems.

But what about fire in the mountains? The Appalachians, with their cool, moist climate, dense cover of hardwood forests, and rough terrain broken by barriers to the spread of fire, are less favorable for fire. How extensive were fire and fire-dependent vegetation on Appalachian landscapes?

This is the question that led us to Bartram's descriptions of vegetation in the southern Blue Ridge Mountains (Siskind et al. 2026). Bartram traveled to the Cherokee country of northwestern South Carolina, northeastern Georgia, and southwestern North Carolina in 1775 (Bartram 1791; Sanders 2002). He spent only a few days there, in May, so his descriptions are less detailed than for the lowland South and do not mention fire directly. Nevertheless, Bartram observed vegetation conditions that suggest that parts of the

landscape were burned frequently. First, he found tree species—oaks, pines, and hickories—that would have been uncommon in the absence of fire. But he also observed fire-intolerant species like maple and hemlock, and the spatial extent of the various species is unclear. Second, and more importantly, he observed grassland areas of substantial size. For example (Bartram 1791), "Passed through magnificent high forests, and then came upon the borders of an ample meadow on the left," surrounded by hills with "green turfy [grassy] bases" in present-day Oconee County, South Carolina.

"began to ascend again, first over swelling turfy ridges, varied with groves of stately forest trees; then ascending again more steep grassy hill sides, rested on the top of mount Magnolia." This description of the Blue Ridge, possibly Satulah Mountain above Highlands, North Carolina, suggests that the mountain slopes were covered with a mosaic of forest and grassland, or with open woodlands with scattered trees and a grassy understory.

"approached a charming vale, amidst sublimely high forests" in the Warwoman Dell of Rabun County, Georgia. He took refuge from a thunderstorm in a Cherokee hunting cabin in the valley and let his horse graze "in the sweet meadows adjoining." The next morning, he found that "[t]he swelling bases of the surrounding hills fronting the meadows presented for my acceptance the fragrant red strawberry, in painted beds of many acres surface, indeed I may safely say, many hundreds."

The Little Tennessee River in Rabun County "appears waving through the green plain before me. I continued several miles, pursuing my serpentine path, through and over the meadows and green fields."

Not all these grasslands were maintained by fire. Bartram thought the rich bottomland along the Little Tennessee River had formerly been planting grounds. By the time of his visit, the Cherokee population was reduced and many former habitations were abandoned. But even with a diminished population, the Cherokee farmed, grazed livestock, and hunted over a large region (Siskind et al. 2026). Therefore, Bartram's writings provide a rare and valuable glimpse of southern Appalachian landscapes while they were still occupied by the Cherokee. One can envision Bartram riding his horse through grassy valleys surrounded by mountain slopes covered with open, sunny woodlands and meadows, the mountainsides so sparsely wooded that he could see waterfalls tumbling down their sides. As he followed the Little Tennessee River down-valley through Macon County, North Carolina, he found extant Cherokee villages ringed by fields of beans and corn, set among expansive meadows and towering blue mountains. This valley, though "exhibiting one of the most charming natural mountainous landscapes perhaps anywhere to be seen" (Bartram 1791), was in some ways a humanized landscape, where fire had long been used to tame the prolific forest growth that occurs in so wet a climate.

Figure 3

We find direct evidence of frequent Cherokee burning in other historical descriptions, like Andrew Ritchie's (1948) *Sketches of Rabun County History*. Ritchie, who was born in 1868 and descended from early white settlers of the Little Tennessee valley, remembered that

> *I used to hear from old people in my childhood that when the first white people came [ca. 1820] the Indians had kept the woods burned out so regularly that the trees were scattering and that the woods were so open that a wagon could be driven anywhere.*

Ritchie's statement seems to imply that open, fire-maintained woodlands were extensive. An explicit statement of widespread burning is recorded in surveyor Andrew Ellicott's description of northwestern Oconee County, South Carolina, near the borders of North Carolina and Georgia in 1811 (Mathews 1908):

> *…the greatest inconvenience we experienced arose from the smoke occasioned by the annual custom of the indians in burning the woods. Those fires scattered over a vast extent of country made a beautiful and brilliant appearance at night, particularly when ascending the sides of the mountains.*

These historical descriptions from Bartram and others are augmented by a different type of historical documentation: historical land surveys. The early surveyors marked witness trees at survey corners and recorded them on plat maps from which we have made quantitative estimates of the abundance of fire-dependent tree species before white settlement began. Georgia land surveys are particularly useful because they follow a systematic grid, unlike the irregular metes-and-bounds surveys used in other states of the southern Appalachian Mountains. This means the Georgia witness tree records give a relatively unbiased representation of species abundance. Our analysis (Siskind et al. 2026) of the 599 corners in the original land survey of Rabun County shows that fire-tolerant species—primarily oaks

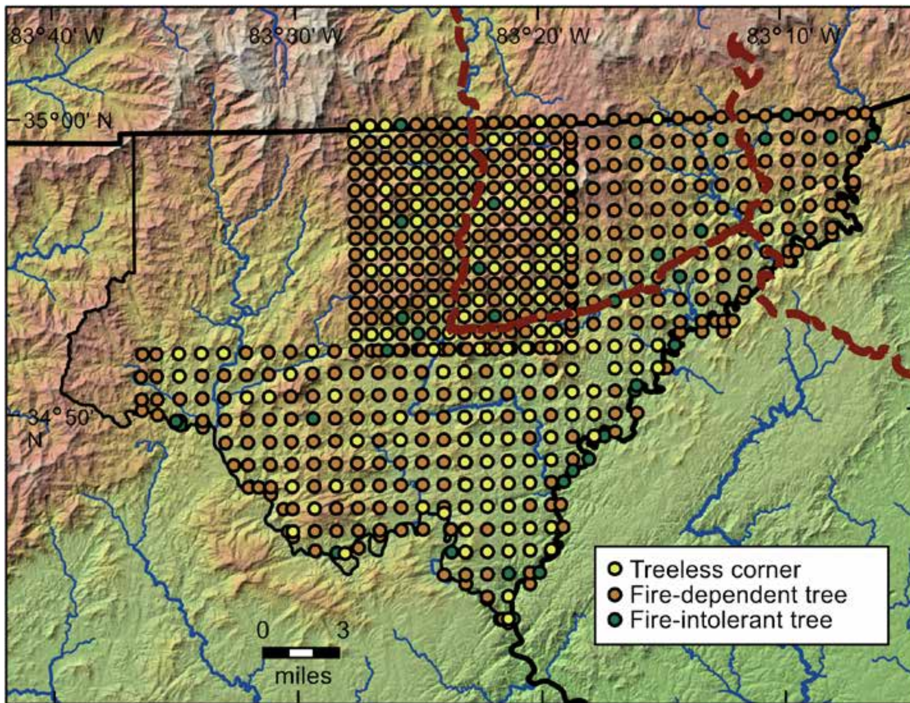

Figure 4

but also American Chestnut, pines, hickories, and a few others—were present at 423 corners (71% of the corners) in 1820. In contrast, fire-sensitive trees, including maple and several other species, occupied only 35 corners (6%). The remaining 23% of corners were treeless: 2 corners were occupied by shrubs while the remaining 139 were marked with a stake or post. These staked/posted corners probably indicate open lands such as grasslands—the meadows, turfy ridges, and grassy hillsides that Bartram had observed 45 years earlier.

The witness trees also provide additional insights. Because the survey points were mapped with reasonable accuracy, we digitized them into a GIS map showing the distribution of tree species over the landscape (Figure 4). Our GIS analysis revealed that the fire-sensitive trees were largely concentrated within about 100–200 meters of large streams (Siskind et al. 2026). This is precisely the pattern to be expected if fires spread over most of the landscape except where they were blocked by streams. Narrow, fire-sheltered zones near streams provided a place where maple, hemlock, yellow-poplar and other fire-sensitive trees could survive and grow. Conversely, the treeless corners were most common at greater distances from streams. The farther from a stream, the more easily a point could be reached by fires and the more frequently it would burn; and, therefore, the greater its likelihood of having open, grassy conditions with no trees nearby.

Frequent burning did not cease with the removal of the Cherokee. The white settlers who colonized the South—both the lowlands and the mountains—retained a cultural heritage of burning that was passed down from their Scotch-Irish and English ancestors, and they may also have absorbed Native American fire practices. There were lightning ignitions, too. A field survey conducted in 1900–1901 by the U.S. Geological Survey (Ayers and Ashe 1905; Siskind et al. 2026) found that fire was widespread and frequent across the southern Blue Ridge Mountains. In Rabun County, the woods were open, thinly timbered, and dominated by the same tree species that had dominated 80 years earlier when White settlement began. The vegetation must have looked similar to the way Bartram saw it in 1775. This began to change after the Tallulah Falls Railroad was completed through the county in 1905, permitting industrial-scale logging. And by 1913, the U.S. Forest Service had initiated fire-prevention and suppression efforts that have led to dense, shady forests with an increasing number of maples and other fire-sensitive species (Figure 5). These species are no longer restricted to fire-sheltered sites as in the past. They are even expanding over the upper slopes and ridges, where they have been gradually crowding out the oaks, pines, grasses, and forbs that need the sunny environments that were historically maintained by fire. And as these habitats change, the wildlife that depended on them are declining, too.

Today, resource managers in the U.S. Forest Service and other agencies are using controlled burns in an attempt to reduce the abundance of red maple, mountain laurel, and the like, and to restore fire-dependent vegetation. These restoration efforts are limited in extent; entire landscapes cannot be made to look as they did before they were fragmented by roads, houses, towns, and farms. However, the southern Blue Ridge Mountains contain some large and fairly remote tracts of national forest where hundreds or thousands of acres can be burned. Some of these are near Bartram's route. One example is the Warwoman Wildlife Management Area that encompasses the mountain slopes above the "sweet meadows" where Bartram sheltered in a hunting cabin and enjoyed hundreds of acres of strawberries. This tract is near the southern range limit of Table Mountain pine and has been an important area for research on the fire ecology of this species and for the use of controlled burning to restore fire-dependent plant and animal species. Although Bartram did not spend enough time in the Warwoman Dell or the greater southern Appalachian landscape to grasp the role of fire as he did for the lowland South, he gave us a glimpse of the primitive landscape that inspires us to cherish and conserve its extensive fire-dependent communities.

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Figure 5

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Dr. Raechel Littman Selected as Executive Director of the Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy

Dr. Raechel Littman will be serving as the new executive director of the Blue Ridge Bartram Trail Conservancy. Dr. Littman has a background in biotechnology, environmental policy-making, veterinary science, and marine disease ecology. She takes over the position from Brent Martin, who has recently retired. She will continue the work of maintaining and expanding the trail but said she and other members are working to add programs to attract people who may not already be connected to it.

"One of the reasons I was brought on here is that we're kind of expanding our membership to include family-oriented experiences, people that might be marginalized, people in the community that have not really accessed the trail for themselves," Littman said. "First-time hikers, visitors. And we really want those people to be brought into this community and have these outdoor experiences. That's how I see my role here and that's what I'm looking forward to."

The conservancy will be expanding its youth groups to get more young people involved in conservation and restoration. The conservancy has created several new opportunities for community engagement, including the Youth Art Month reception at Cowee School Arts & Heritage Center, the "slow hikers club" for those with limited mobility, and new internship programs.

Raechel Littman is, also, an accomplished artist and writer. You can see her work at her Curious Creative web site, www.ralittman.com.

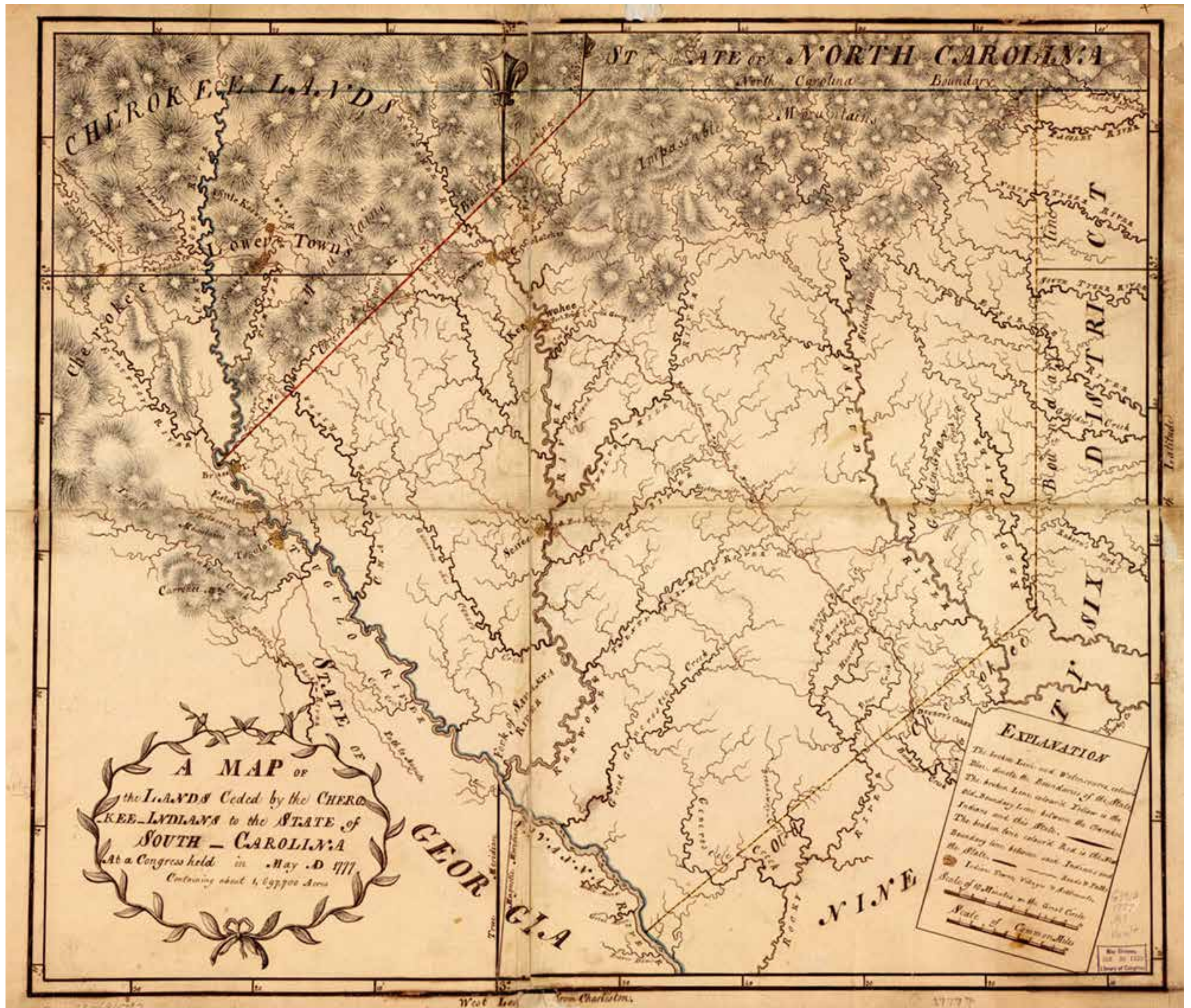
Bartram's Travels in the South Carolina Upcountry

Brad Sanders

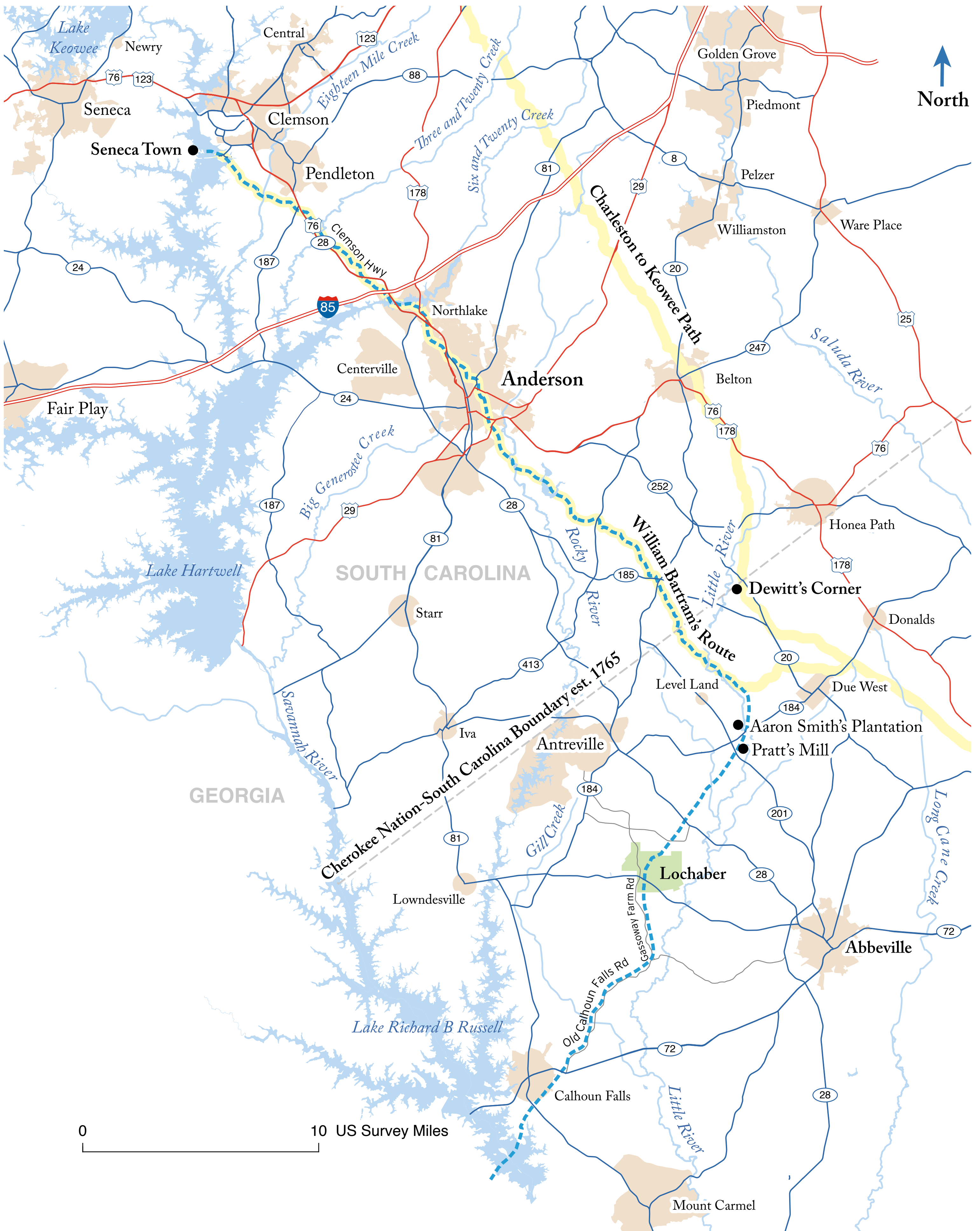
There are several sections of the Bartram trail that have never had much detail attached to them. One of those problematic sections is Bartram's route from Alexander Cameron's plantation near Abbeville, South Carolina, to the Cherokee town of Seneca. Bartram's description of his trip was vague and included such brief detail as to provide no clue as to where he was. Bartram was traveling through an area sparsely settled, without enduring human landmarks and few monumental landscape features that would have helped us recreate his route. This is why we continue to study Bartram's writing, searching for hidden clues.

Bartram set out for Cherokee Country in early May, 1775. Leaving Georgia, he crossed the Savannah River near a place that is now known as Shuck Pen Eddy, just downriver from historic Trotter Shoals. His path took him south of Calhoun Falls, South Carolina, and then along an established road to Lochaber, Alexander Cameron's 2,000-acre plantation in Abbeville County, then Ninety Six District. Cameron's property was located on Penny Creek, near its confluence with Little River in the Long Cane Community. Cameron was a retired British soldier and Deputy Superintendent for Indian Affairs for the Southern Department assigned to Cherokee diplomacy. The nature of his office, and the location of his plantation near South Carolina's border with Cherokee territory, meant that Lochaber would find itself the site of several important conferences and a treaty signed with the Cherokees in 1770.

The weather was rainy and Bartram



A Map of the lands ceded by the Cherokee Indians to the State of South Carolina at a congress held in May, A.D. 1777, containing about 1,697,700 acres..



Lake Keowee
Newry
Central
Eighteen Mile Creek
Seneca
Clemson
Seneca Town
Pendleton
Three and Twenty Creek
Six and Twenty Creek
Golden Grove
Piedmont
Pelzer
Williamston
Ware Place
North
Clemson Hwy
Charleston to Keowee Path
Northlake
Centerville
Anderson
Belton
Saluda River
Fair Play
Big Generostee Creek
Rocky River
Little River
Honea Path
Dewitt's Corner
Donalds
SOUTH CAROLINA
Lake Hartwell
Starr
William Bartram's Route
Level Land
Due West
Aaron Smith's Plantation
Pratt's Mill
Iva
Antreville
Cherokee Nation-South Carolina Boundary est. 1765
Savannah River
GEORGIA
Gill Creek
Lochaber
Gassoway Farm Rd
Long Cane Creek
Lowndesville
Abbeville
Old Calhoun Falls Rd
Lake Richard B Russell
Calhoun Falls
Little River
Mount Carmel
0
10 US Survey Miles

took advantage of Cameron's hospitality to remain at Lochaber for several days. Bartram wrote,

> *THE weather now settled and fair, I prepared to proceed for Fort Prince George Keowe, having obtained of the agreeable and liberal Mr. Cameron, ample testimonials and letters of recommendation to the traders in the nation; this gentleman also very obligingly sent a young Negro slave along, to assist and pilot me as far as Senica.*
>
> *MAY 15th I left Lough-abber, the seat of Mr. Cameron. In the course of this day's journey I crossed several rivers and brooks, all branches of Savanna, now called Keowe, above its confluence with the Tugilo, the West main branch. The face of the country uneven, by means of ridges of hills and water courses; the hills somewhat rocky near their summits and at the banks of rivers and creeks, but very fertile, as there is a good depth of a loose dark and moist vegetative mould, on a stratum of reddish brown tenaceous clay, and sometimes a deep stratum of dusky brown marl.*
>
> *… Arrived at Sinica in the evening, after travelling forty five miles through an uninhabited wilderness.*

Bartram provided little detail as to his route through Upcountry South Carolina and in his edition of *Travels* Francis Harper wrote simply, "The journey of May 15, 1775, from Loughabber to Seneca, was in a general northwesterly direction, probably passing through or near the site of the present Anderson."

The Keowee Path ran from Charles Town to Keowee and was the most important and well traveled route connecting the coast with upper South Carolina. The trail passed through Ninety Six, Due West, Belton, Liberty, Six Mile, then reached Fort Prince George, and Keowee on the Keowee River.

A map titled *A Map of the lands ceded by the Cherokee Indians to the State of South-Carolina at a congress held in May, A.D. 1777; containing about 1,697,700 acres* (page6), shows a trail branching off the Keowee Path close to Due West and going directly to Seneca.[1] It is very likely that this is the path that Bartram followed on his way from Lochaber to Seneca. This

Bartram Trail marker located on SC-71 one half mile east of Gassoway Farm Road in Abbeville County.

branch of the Keowee Path was close to Cameron's plantation and the distance from there to Seneca is 45 miles, just as Bartram wrote. The plat for Cameron's Lochaber property shows that a road marked Cherokee Path passed through his plantation. It ran north along Little River and entered the Keowee Path near the junction of present state highways 20 and 185.[2]

Departing Lochaber, Bartram would have encountered the branch to Seneca near the Level Land community. Along the way he would have passed by Aaron Smith's Plantation. Aaron Smith and his family were among the first casualties of the Cherokee and Tory attacks on frontier settlements in the summer of 1776, the beginning of what became known as the Second Anglo-Cherokee War.

By georeferencing the 1777 Cherokee cession map, I was able, within reason, to place this trail onto the modern landscape. Georeferencing old maps can reveal inaccuracies as distortion, or deformity in the shape of the document. Fortunately, the part of the map where the path to Seneca lies did not show much distortion, so we can trust the result to be within a few miles of Bartram's route. The accompanying map, on page 7, shows where Bartram traveled through Abbeville, Anderson, and Pickens counties.

Within a few weeks of hosting William Bartram, Cameron left his home and sought refuge in Keowee when an incriminating letter he had written to John Stuart was made public. Wording in the letter seemed to indicate that Cameron and Stuart were forming a plan to enlist the Cherokees in an alliance with the Crown and against the Patriots. A year later, on July 1, 1776, combined forces of Cherokees and Loyalists attacked frontier settlements in Georgia, and North and South Carolina. Cameron was reported to have led a regiment in these first raids, which prompted calls for his arrest.

During his time as deputy in charge of Cherokee affairs, Cameron had been an effective diplomat and there was peace on the frontier. But, with the outbreak of the Revolution he chose loyalty to the Crown and used his influence among the Cherokees and position as a captain of a company of Loyalists to instigate several attacks on frontier settlements. Thus, he became one of the most wanted men in the Carolinas.

The Second Anglo-Cherokee War was short-lived and had subsided by the end of fall, 1776, due to Cherokee losses. In the Treaty of DeWitt's Corner on May 20, 1777, the Cherokees gave up claim to most of their land in South Carolina. The map on page 6 is the product of that treaty and it provides us the answer to our question, "Where did William Bartram travel in the South Carolina Upcountry?"

Note: Upcountry is a term that was used during the Revolution instead of "backcountry," which was considered disrespectful at a time when the coastal gentry was seeking support for the Patriot cause in the frontier settlements. The Piedmont and mountains of South Carolina are now commonly called "Upstate."

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1. https://www.loc.gov/item/73691572/

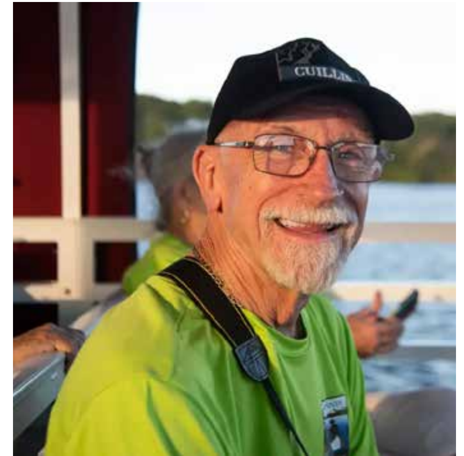
2. https://www.rootsandrecall.com/abbeville/files/2025/08/DW-Environs-Rev-War.pdf

Playing Mr. Bartram

For the past several years, current BTC president Matt Jennings, Professor of History at Middle Georgia State University in Macon, has been portraying William Bartram at the Ocmulgee Mounds Association's Lantern Light Tours. They occur each March, and coincide with Macon's Cherry Blossom Festival. Matt describes the experience as "humbling and surreal," and hopes you'll consider stopping by in the future. Follow the Ocmulgee Mounds Association on facebook to learn more!

Here are some shots from this year's tours.

Beloved Bartram Friend Ken Mahaffey Passes Away



Our dear friend, Ken Mahaffey, passed away on November 5, 2025. Ken was a noted civic leader in Putnam County, Florida, and held several positions in county government. He was a founding member of the Bartram Trail Society of Florida in 1978 and helped revive the organization in 2013 when the Bartram Trail in Putnam County was created. He was the treasurer of the Bartram Trail Conference and a long time board member.

To read memories from his friends in the Bartram Trail Society of Florida please go to https://bartramtrailsociety.com/memories-of-a-true-blue-bartramite/.

New Park Honors Bartram

The Downtown Citronelle, Alabama, Revitalization Corporation is in the final stages of construction on a new downtown park that will be named Bartram Plaza. The park will honor William Bartram, who visited the region in early August, 1775. While he did not explore the Citronelle area proper, Bartram did make an excursion up the Tombigbee River just 17 miles to the east. Bartram Plaza will occupy the site of an abandoned building that had become an eyesore. The plaza is the first project in a larger revitalization plan that will enhance downtown Citronelle.

Bartram Exhibit Begins Tour of Alabama

Auburn University's Caroline Marshall Draughon Center for the Arts and Humanities has produced a traveling exhibition devoted to Bartram's travels through what is now Alabama. The eight panels were debuted at the 2025 Bartram Trail Conference in St. Augustine. The panels explore Bartram's journey through the Southeast and his enduring legacy in science, art, and culture, focusing on his observations and discoveries most closely associated with the state. The final panel features information about the Bartram Trail Conference. The exhibition also features the documentary *Cultivating the Wild*. The exhibit is visiting libraries and historical sites across the state this year. The spring and summer schedule for communities includes Thomas E. McMillan Museum at Coastal Alabama Community College in Brewton (April 13–May 14), Old Alabama Town in Montgomery (May 15–June 26), Greenville-Butler County Public Library (June 26–July 3), and the Kathryn Tucker Windham Museum in Thomasville (August 1–30).

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' State Parks Division is sponsoring a duplicate exhibit that will be showcased at twelve Alabama State Parks. Upcoming park stops include DeSoto State Park (April 29–May 28), Chewacla State Park (June 3–June 24), and Monte Sano State Park (July 1–July 29).

In a news release, Alabama State Parks' Chief Naturalist Renee Raney noted that, "Alabama State Parks are living classrooms. This has been our theme over the past few years as we increase our education outreach and bring more field trips and K-12 teachers into our parks. Bartram's story belongs in the landscape that shapes those discoveries, and I believe our public lands are those landscapes. Hosting this exhibit allows guests to encounter Bartram, not as some distant, historic figure, but as a fellow explorer or naturalist to walk many of our rivers, forests and ridges. I really think our parks provide the perfect settings to connect observations from more than 250 years ago to the living ecosystems you can experience in our state parks today."

For more information, visit https://www.bartramandalabama.org.