#### Etowah Indian Mounds 813 Indian Mound Rd SE Cartersville, Georgia 30120 770-387-3747



<b>Borrow Pits &amp; Defensive Ditch</b> Two large pits (located by the Museum and Nature Trail and a ditch resulted from the removal of thousands of baskets of earth that were "borrowed" from one location and utilized to build the mounds. The bridge crosses over part of the 9-10 ft deep ditch which once encircled the site by stretching from one riverbank to the other. This provided an effective first line of defense along with the embedded 12 foot upright logs	<ul> <li>Elowah Indian Mounds, rising on the north bank of the Elowah River near Cartersville, GA., is the largest Native American settlement in the Elowah Valley. The flat-topped earthen knolls were used from about 900-1550 A.D. as an and temple areas. Elowah was originally known as "Itawa" and is referred to as "Idaba" in the Hermando De Soto chronicles. The site was visited by the Spanish explorer and 1,000 of his men in August of 1540. In a very short time, the town's population drastically decreased in response to European diseases (smallpox and measles) which the furne survivors joined other surrounding groups and eventually became known as the Creeks. Neither the Creeks, who had lost their oral tradition of passing down history to later generations, or the missionary Elias Cornelius mentions this fact in his memoirs after visiting this site in October 1817. In the year 1832 Col. Lewis Turnlin drew a land lot in the Georgia Land Lottery, and then from 1838-1953 the Turnlin family owned and worked the grounds as farmland until they sold a portion of their farm to the state for conservations still maintained by Georgia Department of Natural Resources as Registered National Historic Landmark, which is still maintained by Georgia Department of Natural Resources of mounds and defensive ditch to help control erosion.</li> <li>To not collect any artifacts or natural resources (feathers, rocks, leaves, plants, etc.) as it is prohibited.</li> <li>As a reminder the outside mound area closes at 4:30 pm while the museum is open until 5 pm.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>(or bastions) projecting towards the ditch which allowed willagers to propel their weaponry from a safe vantage point while the attackers were forced to climb in and out of the ditch under intense fire thus not allowing an effective return. This defense made the village almost invulnerable to attacks from the principle weapons of the Southeastern Indians (spears, arrows, and war clubs).</li> <li><b>Central Plaza</b> Just before reaching Mound A there will be a small rise in the path indicating your entrance into the central plaza, which is outlined on the map. Since leaving the bridge you have walked through the village area that was once crowded with waddle and daub huts. Surrounded by a short rock wall, this plaza was created by hand packing red clay for the purpose of being a ceremonial center to the mound complex. It was a clean swept area that was used much like a modern day town square. It was a public gathering space for a variety of activities such as games [stickball and chunkey], ceremonies, and a bazaar for trade goods. To the left of the plaza edge are the small rises of the other Mounds that surround the plaza labeled D, E, and F. Only D and E have been archaeologically tested. <b>Mound A</b> Wound A, which is approximately the height of a six story building (63 ft high). At the top, the plaza outline is visible along with the approximate ditch. On the horizon were forests abounding with wild game. The site lies within the Etowah River Valley, which has sandy soil that could be tilled with primitive stone hoes and digging sticks. To the south lies the Plaza below. Located on the ord of the mound was farmed be abandoned site. The top of the mound was farmed is a lower platform the upinor of the top of the mound is a lower platform the plaza below. Located on the south side of the mound was farmed betwee to clear in a displayed by a modern farmed of the south side of the mound is a lower platform the plaza below.</li></ul>	lining its edge, which created a palisade. There were towers
yaupon holly. Plants you ma Europeans are the privet, ho mimosa. Free onlin Monumental Rema (Chuck) JonesPE (Chuck) JonesPE mounds.pdf	resided on top of Mound I. resided on top of Mound B. <b>Mc</b> This burial Mound has been reconstructed. The 350 burin much about burial and cere people, dress, diet, disease peoples at this site. This mo- changes in temple structure These date from the earlies located in outer layers. Near our famous Georgia marble of the artifacts you will see i Mound C. <b>Shoals a</b> Fish traps were created by the formations in shallow river a (trap) placed at the open po- catfish, freshwater mussels, sources of protein for Etowa Allatoona hydroelectric plan the water level is low and clu- trap may be seen. <b>Etowah River</b> The Nature Trail begins at than along the defensive ditch, we before turning to join the sour where it will lead to the born along the defensive ditch, we back to the museum. Make sassafras along the defensive along this trail you will see a rivercanted cane was used to create arr splits, floor mats, and nume and trees along the river incomes sweetnum sourwood svean	remnants, a large building, I

remnants, a large building, possibly belonging to that of a council house, were found. Most likely a lesser chief or priest resided on top of Mound B.

#### Mound C

This burial Mound has been completely excavated and reconstructed. The 350 burials unearthed here told scientists much about burial and ceremonial practices, classes of people, dress, diet, diseases and trade patterns of the peoples at this site. This mound was built in layers, with changes in temple structures, fences, and burial practices. These date from the earliest, at its center, to the most recent, located in outer layers. Near the edge of the mound is where our famous Georgia marble effigy statues were found. Most of the artifacts you will see in the museum came from

### Shoals and Fish Trap

Fish traps were created by piling stones in V-shaped ormations in shallow river areas, with large woven baskets trap) placed at the open point of the V to catch fish. Bass, trafish, freshwater mussels, and turtles were important sources of protein for Etowah's inhabitants. Today, when the Allatoona hydroelectric plant is not generating electricity and he water level is low and clear, the gravel shoals and fish rap may be seen.

# **Etowah River Walk Nature Trail**

sure to look for the large we ditch! While you are walking ay see that were introduced by ear the entrance to the Nature many trees including: walnut, ow pit overlook. It will take you oneysuckle, paper mulberry, and rous other objects. Other plants ow shafts, thatch roofs, basket simmon that once provided food uth side of the perimeter trail nstream for several hundred feet he trailhead signs near the river more, elm, stinging nettle, and lude river oats, hackberry, e reestablishment area. Riverhich may flood in heavy rain,

## ree online information

Monumental Remains of Georgia-1861C.C. (Chuck) Jones.-PDF files http://cherokeeregistry.com/etowah\_indian