



# RESEARCH ROUND-UP

## INSTRUCTIONS

Imagine you are an archivist working at the Georgia Historical Society helping four different researchers. In the folder, you will find eight sources. It is your job to select one primary source and one secondary source for each researcher based on their topics (listed below).

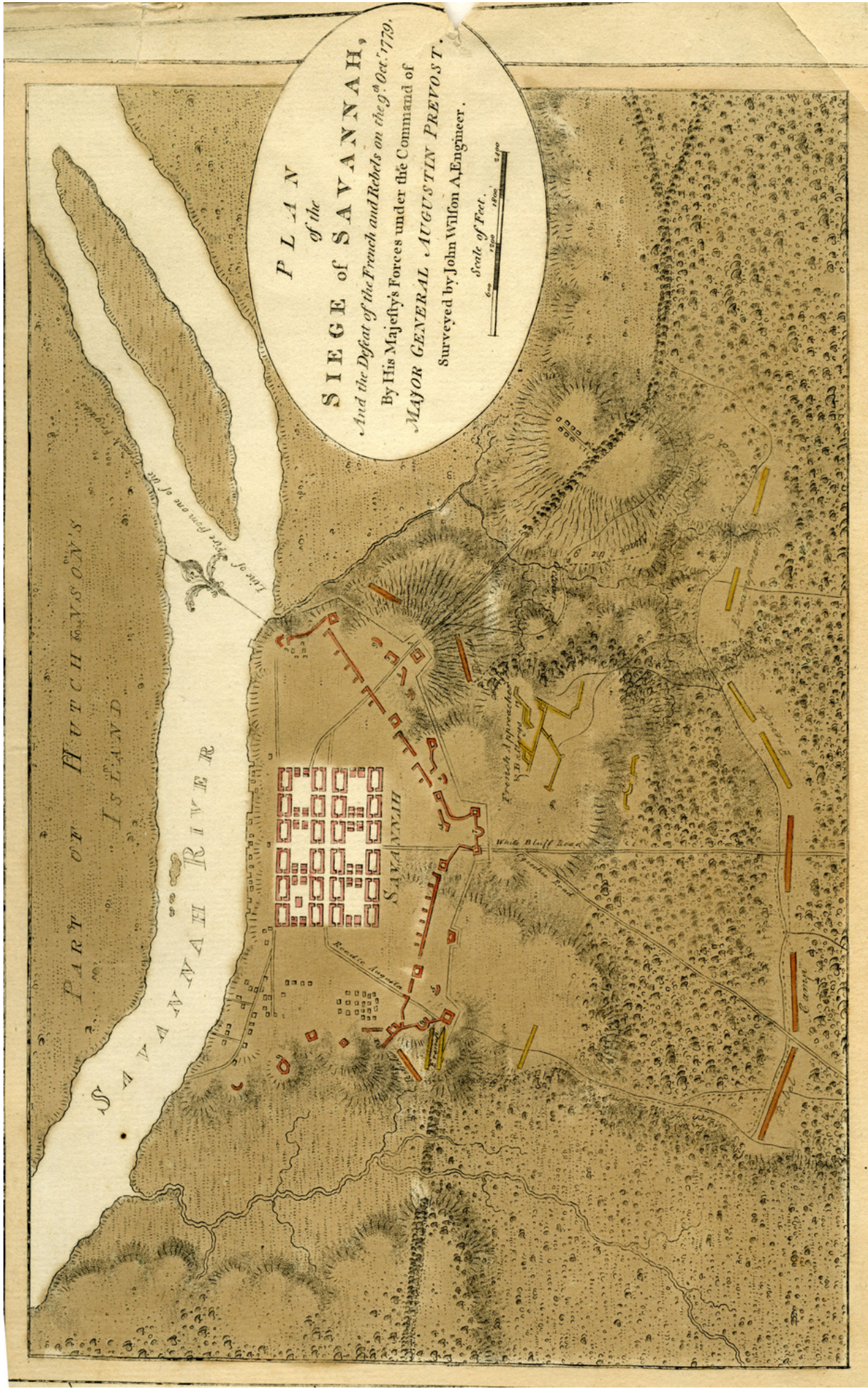
**Researcher #1** is studying the experience of enslaved people in Georgia during the American Revolution.

**Researcher #2** is studying how the American Revolution impacted Georgia's economy.

**Researcher #3** is studying the major battles that took place in Georgia during the American Revolution.

**Researcher #4** is studying the experience of Loyalists (also called Tories) in Georgia during the American Revolution.



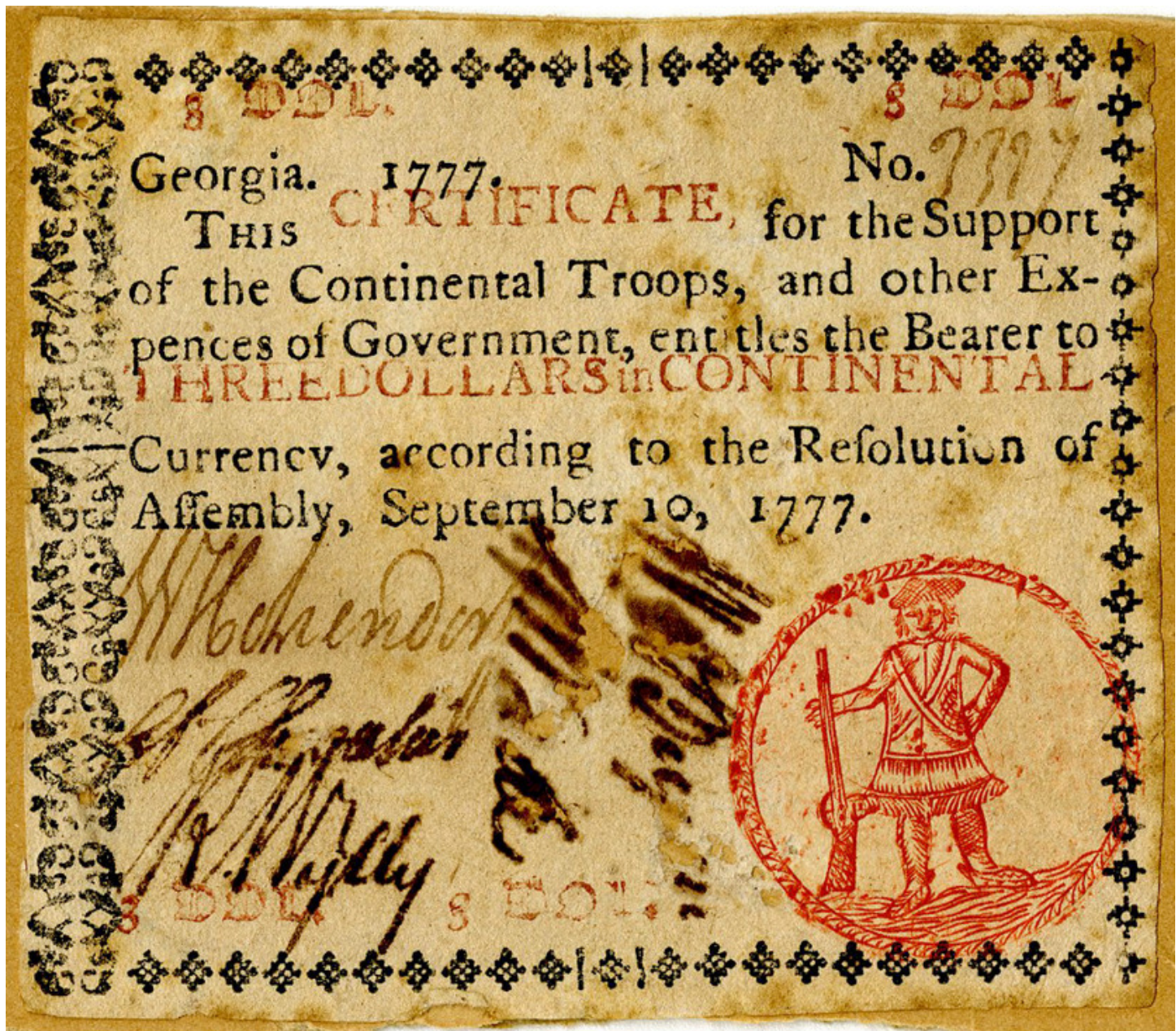


Plan of the Siege of Savannah Map. From the Georgia  
Historical Society Map Collection, MS 1361MP



*The obstinate & determined Spirit of Rebellion which neither harsh nor lenient measure could conquer will be largely insisted on & painted in the strongest colours; how far this hath operated in So. Carolina it is not our business particularly to inquire into...But whatever may be alleged with respect to them, general disaffection cannot with even a shadow of Justice be imputed to the People of Georgia who have given the strongest & most unequivocal Proofs in the power of Men to give of their firm attachment to the British Government, witness the great number who have submitted to every species distress the most shocking to human nature rather than depart from their Loyalty.*

Statement of the Georgia Loyalists. From the Loyalist Papers, MS 506.  
Courtesy of the Georgia Historical Society.



Military Scrip from the Revolutionary War, 1770s. Georgia Historical Society Collection of Objects, A-1361-362c.





**A**BSENTED themselves from the subscriber, and supposed to have followed the army into Georgia in 1779, the following

## Negroes:

*Edinburgh*, a tall slim fellow, formerly the property of Mr. Herriot, a cooper by trade.

*Simon*, a tall stout made fellow, formerly the property of George Palmer, deceased; he is rendered remarkable by having the end of his nose cut off.

These two had the smallpox before they went away, and are a good deal marked with it.

*Cuffee*, a tall slim fellow, about 20 years old.

*Tork*, a short thick fellow, about 25 years old.

*Primus*, a short thick fellow, about 30 years old.

*Billy*, a short thick fellow, about 35 years old.

*Johnny*, a well made fellow, about 20 years old.

*Naac*, a tall fellow, about 20 years old, disabled in his hands by being burnt when a child, but not so much but he can handle an axe or a hoe.

One Guinea will be given for each of the above Negroes, and all reasonable charges, on their being delivered to Mr. John Charles Lucena at Savannah, or to the subscriber in Beaufort. If they will return to their duty they will be forgiven.

**JANE GROVE.**

Beaufort, January 6, 1781.

Slavery in Revolutionary Georgia

www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/slavery-revolutionary-georgia

EXPLORE THIS ARTICLE

Contents

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End of the Revolution



Lachlan McIntosh

The [American Revolution](#) (1775-83) probably affected both the system of slavery and the lives of enslaved individuals more in Georgia than in any other British colony. The disruption of the war offered the prospect of freedom to many thousands of slaves, but ultimately the reestablishment of the plantation economy after 1782 ensured that general [emancipation](#) remained a hope rather than a reality.

### The War and Its Effect

Early in 1776 Georgia's last royal governor, Sir James [Wright](#), in effect surrendered the colony to Continental forces and left for London. England, along with many Loyalists. Hopes that the war in Georgia was over proved premature, however, as within weeks of Governor Wright's departure, British raiding parties from east Florida crossed into Georgia to destroy property and seize slaves as spoils of war. Retaliatory raids led by [Lachlan McIntosh](#), commander of Georgia's Continental troops, set the wartime pattern that slaves would be taken, first by one side and then the other, as legitimate plunder.

The British saw Georgia as the key to restoring control over the southern colonies. Not only did Georgia have a large population of Loyalists, which many other colonies lacked, but also it was poorly defended. When the British landed near [Savannah](#) in late 1778, it took only a few months for them to restore Georgia to royal control.

The several changes of government had a great effect on Georgia's enslaved population. Loyalist slave owners fleeing in 1776 were replaced by patriot slave owners, who themselves fled in 1778. In the confusion white authorities often either did not notice slaves leaving plantations or could not prevent them from doing so. It is estimated that perhaps 5,000 of Georgia's 15,000 slaves escaped from



*New Georgia Encyclopedia* article. "Slavery in Revolutionary Georgia."  
Written by Timothy J. Lockley. Published Online Jan. 23, 2004. Last Edited  
Mar. 10, 2016.

“The British saw Georgia as the key to restoring control over the southern colonies. Not only did Georgia have a large population of Loyalists, which many other colonies lacked, but also it was poorly defended. When the British landed near Savannah in late 1778, it took only a few months for them to restore Georgia to royal control.

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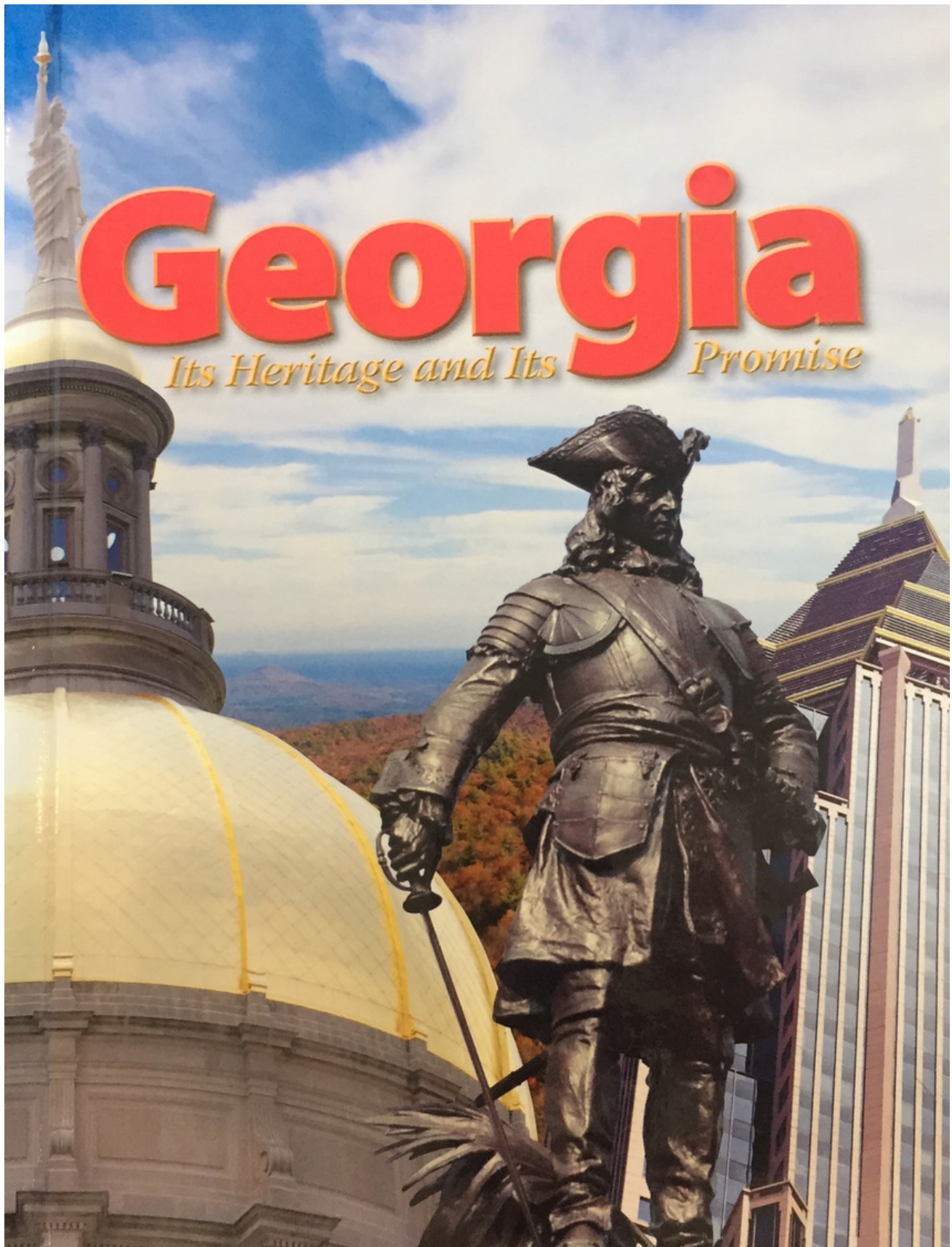
SUMMER, 1984

NUMBER 2

“The Losses and Compensation of Georgia Loyalists.” Written by Robert G. Mitchell. *Georgia Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 68, No. 2, Summer, 1984.  
Published by the Georgia Historical Society, Pg. 233



“When loyalist refugees evacuated Georgia in the summer 1782, they left behind not only years of hope and commitment, but hundreds of thousands of pounds of real and personal property. Their loyalty had cost most of them everything they owned and with some justice they looked to the mother country for assistance. Unable to restore lost property, the British government in the years following the Revolution did attempt to compensate loyal partisans. The creation of a royal commission in 1783 provided a mechanism to determine loyalist losses and provide compensation. Eventually, over 150 Georgians would apply to the commission for awards. Their claims provide much information about revolutionary Georgia and individual trials and tribulations. More importantly these claims give detailed information about real and personal property losses that represented a significant part of the wealth of colonial Georgia.”

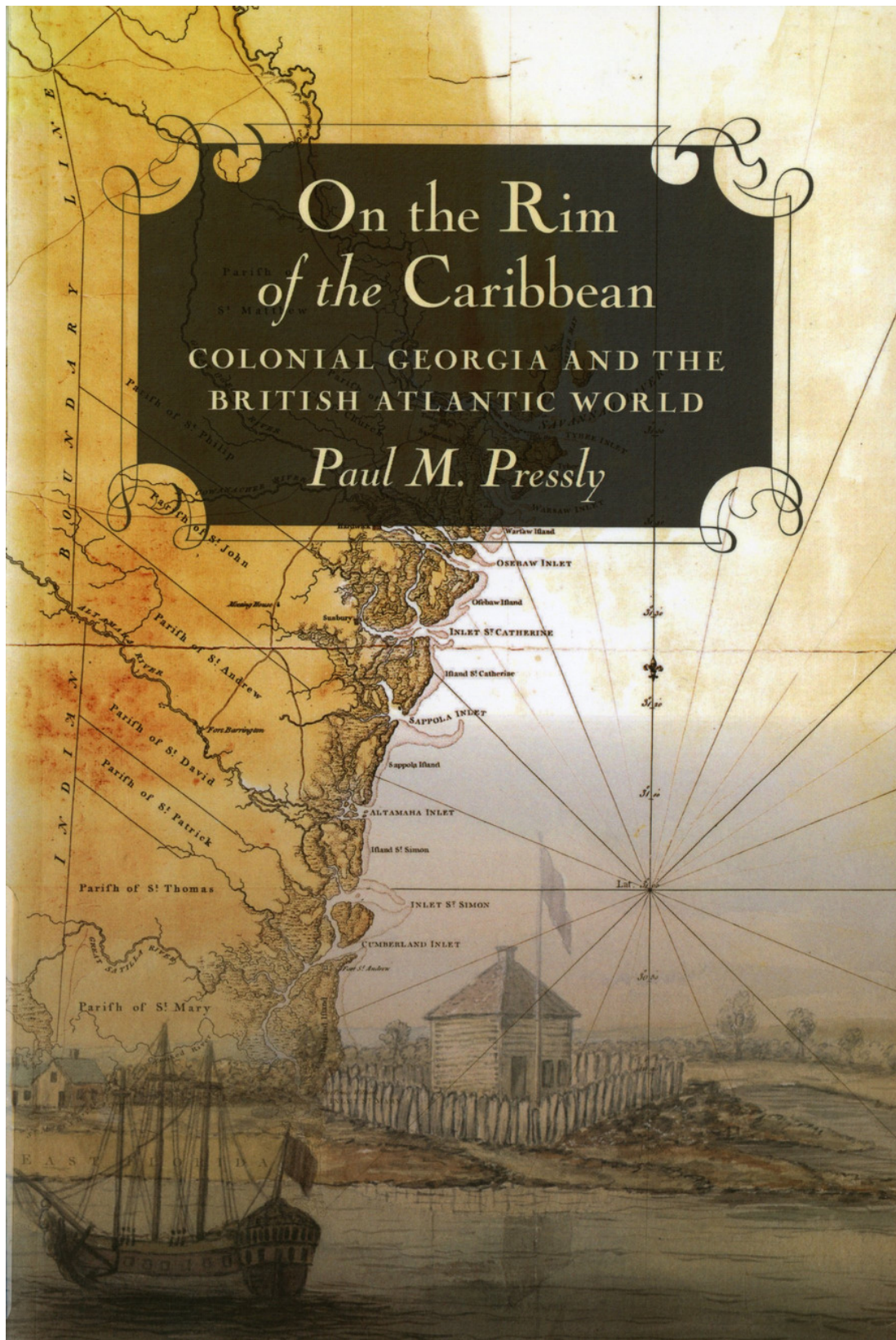


*Georgia: Its Heritage and Its Promise.* “Chapter 12: Georgia in the American Revolution.” Written by Lee Ann Caldwell. Published by Clairmont Press, Atlanta, Georgia in 2011. Pg. 284-285



“In September 1779, Georgia Patriots received some surprise help. The French naval commander Count D’Estaing arrived off the coast with twenty-two ships and four thousand troops to recapture Savannah from the British...The French began bombarding Savannah in early October...The bombardment went on for three weeks, terrorizing the citizens of Savannah, including its many women and children. Meanwhile, the British strengthened the town’s defensive structures.

When the British had not surrendered by October 9, D’Estaing, who had not planned to stay in Georgia this long decided to attack. Even though the British were outnumbered two to one, their defenses held. The French and many Americans fought bravely, but hundreds of Frenchmen and Americans died in the unsuccessful assault. Two famous patriots who lost their lives on the attack were Sergeant William Jasper, a South Carolina Patriot hero, and Count Casimir Pulaski, a Polish citizen who had joined the American cause. The French retreated to their ships on October 18...General Lincoln [Patriot Forces] and his American troops retreated back to South Carolina. Savannah remained in British control.”



*On the Rim of the Caribbean: Colonial Georgia and the British Atlantic World.* “Chapter 11: Nationalizing the Lowcountry.” Written by Paul M. Pressly. Published by University of Georgia Press in 2013. Pg. 217-218



“Georgia was very much attached to the benefits of the empire-and the habit of looking to the Caribbean and Britain, rather than to the middle colonies and New England, for sources of inspiration. Led by the coalition of merchants and planters who dominated the colony’s political system, residents of Christ Church Parish attempted to navigate the first eighteenth months of the Revolution in ways that would not jeopardize the continuing economic growth...In an apologetic letter, the three [Georgian] representatives elected to the Continental Congress confessed that Savannah’s merchants flatly opposed the boycott, consumers were divided, most residents remained on the sidelines and if any effort to impose the boycott were made, civil war threatened.

In February, the General Committee of South Carolina resolved to have no further trade, dealings, or ‘intercourse’ with its neighbor, branding Georgians as ‘unworth of the rights of freemen and as inimical to the liberties of their country.’ In May [1775], the Continental Congress forbade all commerce with the province...”