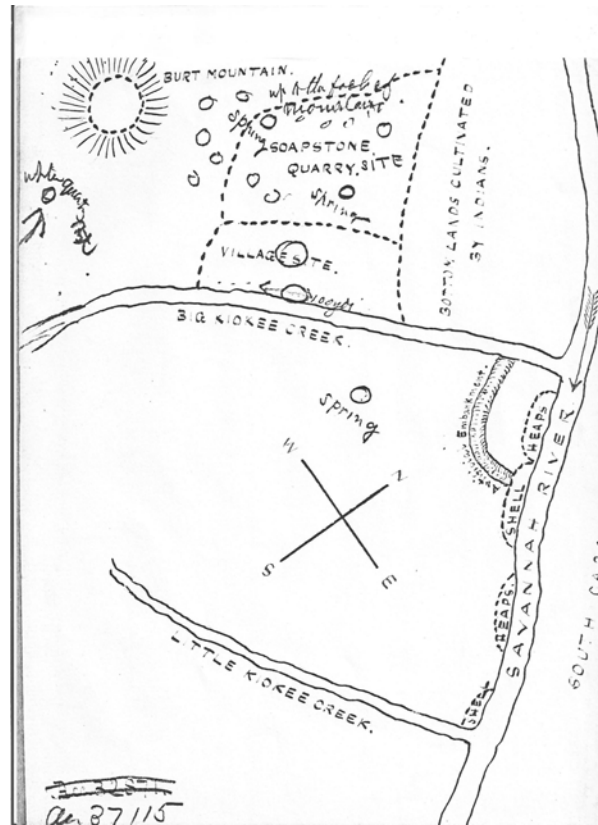


# The Roland Steiner Project, Phase I: Introductory Background and Correspondence



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## Acknowledgments

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Rowe Bowen (Georgia Department of Transportation) inadvertently instigated the entire Roland Steiner research project when he cited Steiner's 1899 article in a DOT report on a site in Augusta, Georgia. I followed up on Bowen's lead and the result is the present monograph.

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## The Blizzard of '93

After waiting alone for nine hours in the cozy, warm station house, a weary archaeologist boarded the northbound train at the station in Toccoa, Georgia. He was on his way to Washington City to meet with the scholars at the Smithsonian Institution. The day after the massive blizzard of '93 had left the East Coast crippled by more than six feet of snow with winds whipping in excess of sixty miles an hour. This northbound train was the first passenger train to test the tracks up the eastern seaboard route. Late evening and the archaeologist took his seat in the nearly empty passenger car and peered out the frosted foggy window at the eerie moonscape illuminated by the street lamps of northern Georgia. As the wheels clicked along the icy steel rails and the train slowly felt its way north, he thought back to the plantation, the tenant hands—many of them former slaves, his prized relic collection, and his family that he left behind to cope with the aftermath of the storm. But this was 1993, not 1893, and for an instant two people's lives, a century apart, merged into one. The man on the train was me, but another archaeologist before me had made that trip many times in the 1890s. His name was Roland Steiner. This is Roland's story, as seen through another archaeologist's eyes—a century apart.

The name Roland Steiner is not exactly a household word in the field of archaeology. For nearly one hundred years Roland Steiner has been an anonymous personage in Georgia history. This book is Roland's song—the biography that should have been written more than 90 years ago. Roland's contributions to Georgia archaeology and anthropology are enormous, although his contributions were never appreciated by subsequent scholars. His large collection of Native American artifacts at the Smithsonian Institution represents the largest collection in the National Museum's holdings acquired from a single individual. Steiner's archaeological collection also has remarkably provenance when compared to the other archaeological collections from the same era. As Steiner's life unfolded additional collections at the American Museum of Natural History in New York and the Field Museum in Chicago were located. Steiner's documentation of Georgia folklore demonstrated another dimension to this remarkable man.

Roland was a man of wealth, who was free to follow his favorite pursuits, forsaking his formal education as a surgeon. He also was a man driven by a quest for knowledge about the past and a desire to acquire the vestiges of early Georgia prehistory. Roland was born in December, 1839 in Pennsylvania to Henry and Susannah Steiner. He died on January 12, 1906 in Augusta, Georgia.

The characters in Roland Steiner's life reads like a Who's Who in American Anthropology, including: Franz Boas, George Dorsey, William Henry Holmes, Charles C. Jones, Jr., Joseph D. McGuire, Otis Mason, Warren K. Moorehead, John Wesley Powell, Frederick Ward Putnam, Henry Rogan, Cyrus Thomas, Thomas Wilson, and Clark Wissler. Other notable archaeologists picked up his trail decades after Steiner's death, including Joseph Ralston Caldwell, Henry Bascom Collins, Jr., William Neil Judd, and Carl Miller. Steiner's exploits on major archaeological sites in Bartow, Burke, Columbia, Floyd, Hancock, and Richmond counties, Georgia represent major stories in Georgia archaeology, which, until now, are largely untold. The list of sites that Steiner explored is also notable and includes: Coosa Mound (9FL3), Etowah Mounds (9BA1), Kiokee Creek (9CB2/9CB23), Hollywood Mound (9RI1), Shoulderbone Mounds (9HK1), and Stallings Island (9CB1). Steiner also made several forays into neighboring South Carolina in Aiken and Hampton counties, including excavation at the historic site of Palachacolas Town (38HA1).

Steiner's association with the Smithsonian Institution began in 1891 and ended around 1904. For more than a decade he sent a steady stream of relics and dozens of letters to the curators at the Smithsonian. His collection differs from many of its day by Steiner's attention to detail and his degree of relative geographic specificity of artifact provenance. Steiner's collection was never described in great detail in any publication, although a draft manuscript, which was a descriptive catalog of Steiner's collection written by Thomas Wilson and E.P. Upham, almost made it to press. Thomas Wilson, a prolific scholar, borrowed objects from Steiner's collection for illustrative purposes in his publications (Wilson 1897).

Steiner made great efforts to provide the Smithsonian Institution with information about the collections, including site descriptions, maps, artifact illustrations and other details. He made several trips to the Museum to sort out the confusion. His transmissions from Georgia took the form of letters describing artifacts being sent and bulk shipments of relics via mail freight and smaller and more delicate objects shipped by registered mail. The purchase of Steiner's collection by the Federal government even involved an act of Congress.

Steiner's collection was not appreciated by all of the staff at the Smithsonian Institution. Part of this "cooling off period" was the result of organizational changes within the Museum. Curator William Henry Holmes wrote to Steiner explaining that budgetary cuts would make any future purchases unlikely and he suggested that Steiner contact other museums, such as the Field Museum in Chicago, for other possible buyers.

By the 1940s the archaeologists and curators at the Smithsonian Institution were largely ignorant of Roland Steiner and his archaeological achievements. They were, however, cognizant of many of the archaeological specimens that had been collected by Steiner. Archaeologist Joseph R. Caldwell, for example, included several Paleoindian fluted points from Kiokee Creek in his contribution to James Griffin's seminal volume, *Archaeology of Eastern North America* (Griffin 1952:Figure 167). Caldwell expressed a curiosity and desire to relocate several of Steiner's sites when he wrote in November, 1951 to Waldo R. Wedel, Curator of the Division of Archaeology, inquiring about the collection. Caldwell wrote,

Since I am occasionally in the Augusta area, I'd like to examine a flint workshop which I believe Roland Steiner located in that area at the beginning of the century. It may be near Evans, or Wrens, or Kiokee Creek. There used to be a map in the map case behind Mr. Judd's old desk, and I wonder if you could send me a rough tracing locating the main points and how to reach it. If my memory is correct, I think Steiner may have picked up a fluted point or two there,

to which Wedel wrote in reply,

We have searched the Steiner files in vain for a map showing the site you plan to hunt out. There are maps, to be sure, but none certainly for the locality you name. The best we can offer is a transcript of a couple of pages of notes concerning the Steiner materials. These may or may not be helpful to you; in any case, they are attached hereto. Perhaps on your next visit to Washington you will wish to look through the Steiner files yourself for such information as is relevant to your research (Caldwell 1951:1; Wedel 1952:1).

Steiner's sites did not receive any serious attention, however, until 1959, when archaeologist, Henry Bascom Collins, Jr. launched an expedition to Burke County, Georgia. Collins, whose main career was as an arctic archaeologist, was curious about Edgefield scrapers and other

unifacial tools in Steiner's collection from the Old Evans place in Burke County. Collins relocated that vicinity to his satisfaction but he never published a report on his work.

By the 1980s a new generation of archaeologists discovered Roland Steiner. As the Smithsonian Institution modernized its records, the vastness and scope of Steiner's legacy began to emerge. The author's first exposure to Roland Steiner was in late 1980, while directing an archaeological field project in Augusta, Georgia. An article by Robert Steiner was brought to his attention and in this article Steiner mentioned that some of the materials that he had gathered were deposited with the Smithsonian Institution. A letter inquiry to the Smithsonian by the author yielded this response:

The results of our record check on the whereabouts of material donated by a Robert Steiner show that we have a collection from the Big Kiokee Creek area of Columbia County, Georgia. The material was donated by a Dr. Roland Steiner who may be the Robert Steiner about whom you have inquired.

The collection contains about 500 to 600 specimens and is available for examination (Brown 1981:1).

So it turned out that Robert Steiner was actually Roland Steiner (his name was misprinted in the 1899 publication). The author entertained the idea of traveling to Washington, D.C. to examine the 500 or 600 specimens, but he opted to delay this investigation.

In 1991, the author returned to the Augusta vicinity to direct another archaeological project. Out of curiosity, he again inquired by writing the Smithsonian Institution about Steiner's collection to see if he could learn more. In the decade between 1981 and 1991, the Smithsonian Institution, Department of Anthropology had experienced great changes by computerization of records. A reply from Jim Krakker indicated that the Steiner collection was extensive and comprised over 30,000 objects. Upon request Krakker sent a summary computer printout of the NMNH Accessions attributed to Roland Steiner. What was naively thought to be a collection of only several hundred relics in 1981, ballooned to many tens of thousands of specimens by the early 1990s. Moreover, Steiner's collection included not only objects from the Kiokee Creek vicinity, but also major collections from Bartow and Burke counties, and many sundry collections from other parts of Georgia and South Carolina. The author made a preliminary reconnaissance from Georgia to Washington to examine the Steiner collection in March, 1992. As the author's attention to the subject became more focused, this large number became even larger. Indeed, the vastness of the Steiner collection has not even been fully assimilated at the time of this writing. In its glory, Steiner's collection numbered well over 100,000 archaeological objects. In 1993, the author visited the Smithsonian Institution to learn more. The author applied for a 1 month Short-Term Visitor appointment to study, "Roland Steiner: Georgia's Lost Archaeologist" in 1993, which was awarded, and the museum research under this appointment was completed in October, 1994 (Elliott 1993).

This volume is the first in a series by the LAMAR Institute on Roland Steiner. It provides the documentary evidence for Steiner's archaeological pursuits. It does not delve into the specific content of the archaeological collections, nor does it exhaustively explore the geographical contexts of the extensive corpus of Native American artifacts assembled by Steiner. The present volume is almost certainly incomplete since many of the museums where Steiner's artifacts were

deposited have not been researched. Nevertheless, this volume presents a wealth of background material that should serve to establish Roland Steiner as one of the more important archaeologists in North American in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

The search for correspondence, maps, and other written records pertaining to Roland Steiner's archaeological collections continues as an ongoing research effort of the LAMAR Institute. This volume contains transcriptions of the documents that have been identified to date. These are presented in three major groups—Smithsonian Institution, American Museum of Natural History, and Field Museum, and in ascending chronological order within each of these three groups. Each of these documents was assigned an item number for easy reference. It is expected that new documents will be revealed that will fill gaps in this paper trail. If such records are found, these will be assigned higher item numbers continuing with the present system, even if their date of origin is early.

As a caveat, this author clearly states that any errors in transcription of the documents rest with him. Many of the documents were fragmented or faint. Most of the hand written specimens by Steiner bespoke the penmanship of a physician with severe arthritis. That is, his cursive writing was extremely difficult to read. Any words, or phrases, that were illegible are indicated by the abbreviation \* in brackets, or [\*]. Steiner's letters have been transcribed and reproduced verbatim with minimal editorial comments. Misspelled words, shortened or hyphenated words have been left unchanged. Editorial comments, enclosed in brackets, were added in situations where some clarification of intent was necessary.



## Biography

### BIG SHOES TO FILL

Roland Steiner's father, Dr. Henry Hegner [or Hagner/Hagnar] Steiner, was a prominent physician whose biography is aptly summarized by Constance Grimaude (1991:3-13). Gordon Smith, a lawyer and Georgia historian who has researched the Steiners, noted that H. H. Steiner was born on January 8, 1816 and died on February 13, 1892. Henry Steiner was a native of Frederick City, Maryland. Henry was appointed to the U.S. Army as an Assistant Surgeon in Pennsylvania on February 16, 1839. He was stationed at the United States Arsenal in Summerville, near Augusta, where he served as the Post Surgeon from 1843 to 1845. Henry served in the Mexican War with General Winfield Scott, and later settled in Augusta as a permanent resident (Grimaude 1991:3). A photograph of Dr. Henry H. Steiner is reproduced in Figure 1 (Lord 1996).



Figure 1. Dr. Henry H. Steiner (n.d., Courtesy of Charles Lord 1995).

Dr. Henry Steiner resigned his commission on January 31, 1852. He settled in Augusta where he was a leading physician in the Augusta community until his death. With the outbreak of Civil War Henry Steiner again saw military service when he served as a General and Staff Surgeon in

the Confederate Army (Hewett 1996:438). Following the war he returned to private practice in Augusta. Dr. Steiner was personal physician to Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the Confederate States of America, and was attending physician at the time of the elder statesman's death. Henry H. Steiner was buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Augusta where his grave is marked by an 8-foot high marble cross with the inscription "*Nearer My God to Thee*" (Cordle 1949:246). His obituary in the Augusta paper, Feb. 1892, proclaimed:

*Dr. Henry Hagner Steiner.*

The death of Dr. Henry H. Steiner, which occurred yesterday, removed from earth one of the most distinguished citizens of this community and State. Dr. Steiner has been a citizen of Augusta for fifty years, and throughout his busy life of half a century has enjoyed the respect and admiration of this entire community. Dr. STEINER had passed the three-score and ten years allotted to man, and his life was one of usefulness and honor. He was distinguished as an army surgeon in the Seminole and Mexican wars, and his ability and success as a practicing physician were remarkable. He was always opposed to administering much physic, and his teaching and practice in this particular had marked influence upon the medical profession of this city. Dr. STEINER was always called into every important medical consultation as long as he was in active practice, and after he was prostrated on his bed his advice was frequently sought by physicians in their critical cases. Dr. STEINER was the warm personal friend of Mr. STEPHENS, Gen. TOOMBS, Governor JENKINS and Mrs. TUBMAN, and was always summoned to the bedside of either wherever they were taken ill, though hundreds of miles distant. When HENRY CLAY visited Augusta and was entertained by Mrs. TUBMAN half a century ago, Dr. STEINER was one of the guests at that notable dinner party. He served on the staff of Gen. TAYLOR in Mexico, and was his intimate personal friend after he became President of the United States. He was the peer in intellect of the great men who were his contemporaries, and Mr. STEPHENS declared of him that "he was a man who would have risen to the first place in any profession which he had chosen."

He was a man of simple and unaffected manners. He declined all overtures to accept public office, and was modest and unassuming in every phase of his life. He was a consistent church man, a devoted husband and father, a patriotic and valued citizen, a staunch friend; a fearless champion of the right, and a gifted physician. Throughout a long and eventful life "he bore without abuse the grand old name of gentleman".

Roland's father married Susannah Wilhelmina [last name undetermined] a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania about 1820. Roland Steiner's mother, Susannah died on April 20, 1871 and was buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Augusta (Lane and Arthur 1985:55). Henry H. and Susannah Steiner had five children, who were: Roland (December, 1839-January 12, 1906), Frank (March 20, 1842-Unknown), Henry Hagner (March 30, 1845-April 1, 1854), Susan W. (October 27, 1853-December, 1855), and Georgia E. (about 1852-Unknown) (Bailie 1983:45; Cartledge et al. 1982:63; Cabell 1907). An H.H. Steiner, according to sexton records at Augusta's Magnolia Cemetery, was buried on February 9, 1876 at the age of 18 years, 5 months and 20 days. This H.H. Steiner was from Texas and he may represent another of H.H. Steiner and Susannah W. Steiner's children (Lane and Arthur 1985:59).

Dr. H. H. Steiner was married a second time to Catherine Alston of Charleston. From that union came several offspring, who were Roland Steiner's step-siblings.

The elder Henry Steiner also adopted a daughter Susan W. Steiner (Kelley 1983:42-43; Carledge et al. 1982: 63). She was from Ohio and was probably a niece or other close relative. Susan W. Steiner married M. J. Branch who was a prominent politician and financier in Georgia.

Newspaper accounts record that Roland Steiner's brother, Murray Steiner, burned to death, supposedly from falling asleep while smoking a cigarette at the home site at the age of 44 during the 1920s, which would place his birth date sometime during the 1870s or 1880s (Charles Lord p.c. 1995). Charles Lord stated that Roland had another brother who was younger than Murray named Henry H. Steiner. Henry was the third child given that name in their family, was born in Georgia and died in 1940 (Charles Lord personal communication 1995).

Dr. Henry H. Steiner was a slave owner. In 1850, H.H. Steiner enslaved three people in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward, Orleans Parish in Louisiana. By 1860, H.H. Steiner enslaved six people, who were kept in Augusta's 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward in Richmond County, Georgia (Ancestry.com 2010). Although Roland Steiner experienced slavery as a member of a slave-owning family, he did not personally own any slaves.

In 1865 H. H. Steiner, M.D., had his office at 136 Reynolds Street in Augusta, which also served as his residence. His son, R. Steiner, a surgeon, and F. Steiner, a student, were listed as boarders in his house (E. H. Pughe 1865:50). By 1882, Henry H. Steiner was living at 844 Greene Street in Augusta but the Augusta city directory for that year contains no listing for Roland Steiner (Sholes and Weatherbe 1882:377). In 1888 and 1889, Henry was listed as a physician, whose residence was at 846 Greene Street (R. L. Polk and Company 1888:400; 1889:377). By 1892 and 1893, no Steiners were listed in the Augusta directory (Howard 1892).

Historian John Seawright noted that Roland Steiner had a son who married a woman later known as Mrs. Jacobs. According to Mrs. Jacobs, whom Seawright interviewed in Athens, Georgia in the 1990s, she had some artifacts in her basement, which he had not seen. Mrs. Jacobs did not know much about her father-in-law since he was dead before she met his son (Seawright 1997). Seawright's early death in 2001 effectively ended this exciting avenue of historical research.

## **ROLAND THE MILITARY BRAT**

Federal Census records note that Roland Steiner was born in Pennsylvania in December, 1839. Roland's parents were living in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1838 and 1839, where his father served as a military surgeon. Roland's father was assigned to Fort Gibson, Arkansas, with the Eighth Infantry Regiment, U.S. Army, which participated in the Seminole War in Florida from 1841 to 1842. His father was stationed in Summerville near Augusta from 1843 to 1845. Roland's early childhood, the years from 1843 to 1845, was probably spent in Summerville, Georgia while his father was stationed in Augusta. In 1846 Dr. Steiner was assigned to service in the Mexican War, where he was a surgeon to General Zachary Taylor's staff. Dr. Steiner was reassigned to Army service in Florida from 1848 to 1851 and he resigned from the army the following year. Soon afterward he returned to Augusta, as Grimaude notes he was a permanent resident of Augusta prior to 1854 (Ancestry.com 2010; Henderson 1960, Volume 5:129; Grimaude 1991:3-5).

An interesting side note, Roland Steiner's uncle, Assistant Surgeon Josephus M. Steiner, also was a U.S. Army major, attained notoriety in 1853, after he killed his superior officer, Major Anderson, at Fort Graham near Waco, Texas. Major Steiner was court-martialed for the offense

but was apparently acquitted when Arnold's death was ruled self defense (*Sun* 1854a:2; 1854b:3).

During his teenage years Roland lived with his family on Reynolds Street in Augusta, near St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Grimaude 1991:5). Roland's earliest letters place him in Burke County. Gordon Smith places Roland living in Burke County by 1870, which is supported by Federal census data for that year.

Roland Steiner enrolled as an undergraduate at Princeton University in New Jersey in 1857 at age 17. He graduated from that institution in 1861 (Princeton University 1859, 1860, 1911). In his sophomore year, Roland's hometown was listed as Augusta, but by his junior and senior years, it was listed as Waynesboro. The Civil War disrupted Roland's studies, although by March 1864, he had graduated with a diploma from the Medical College in Richmond, Virginia.

## **ROLAND THE SOLDIER**

In his early 20s Roland Steiner joined the fight for the Confederacy on February 28, 1862 by enlisting as a private in the newly formed Company C, 48th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry, Army of Northern Virginia, or as they were otherwise known, the Georgia Light Guards. The 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment was brigaded under Generals Ripley, A.R. Wright, and Sorrel. The 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment's commanders were Colonels William Gibson and Matthew R. Hall, Lieutenant Colonel Reuben W. Carswell and Major John R. Whitehead. The 48<sup>th</sup> Regiment fought in many battles in Virginia and Pennsylvania (National Park Service 2007).

Roland Steiner's military service in the 48th Regiment was short-lived, however, for he was discharged due to disability on May 25th that same year. The 48<sup>th</sup> Georgia Infantry Regiment fought in two battles, Richmond and Chancellorsville, Virginia, during the period of Private Roland Steiner's military service (Ancestry.com 2007).

Roland Steiner next served as a private in Company F, 12th Battalion, Georgia Light Artillery. The 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Georgia Light Artillery, also known as the Savannah Siege Train Heavy Artillery Battalion, was organized at Augusta in May, 1862. It was comprised of soldiers from Ramsey's 1<sup>st</sup> Georgia Volunteers Regiment and its commanders were Lieutenant Colonel Henry D. Capers and Major George M. Hanvey. The 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion was originally composed of five companies, but additional companies were later added, as Roland was in Company F. The 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion was assigned to the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida and served at Fort McAllister, Georgia and Fort Sumter and Battery Wagner, South Carolina. In May, 1864 the 12<sup>th</sup> Battalion was transferred to General C.A. Evans' Brigade, Army of Northern Virginia, where they fought at Cold Harbor, the Shenandoah Valley, and at Appomattox, Virginia where they surrendered with six officers and 125 men (National Park Service 2007).

Roland Steiner served as an enlisted Hospital Steward for C.S.A. General and Staff Officers. It was probably in this capacity that Roland was able to pursue his medical studies at the Medical College in Richmond, Virginia (National Park Service 2007).

Another Roland Steiner also served a soldier in the C.S.A. Signal Corps, although his extent of service in this unit remains a mystery (Hewett 1996:438; National Park Service 2007).

Although his stint in the Confederate military was relatively brief and not particularly heroic, it was nevertheless memorable for him, since his letters indicate that in his later life he was involved in several Civil War veteran reunions (Henderson 1960, Volume 5:129). A preliminary review of the journal *Civil War Veteran*, did not contain any references to Roland, however, so his involvement in veteran affairs was probably of a passive nature.

Roland Steiner apparently spent part of the war years engaged in academic study. A March 15, 1864 Augusta newspaper article lists “Roland Steiner, a Resident of Augusta”, as among those Georgians receiving diplomas from the Medical College in Richmond (Work Projects Administration n.d.:42; D.C. and s. March 15, 1864 1/1). Roland apparently moved back to Georgia immediately after graduation, where he practiced medicine with his father, for a very brief period (Robert Pollard, Jr., personal communication, 1984). The city directory for Augusta for 1865 and 1866 lists Roland as a surgeon, and he was most likely working out of his father’s office. Later city directories from the 1880s continue to list Henry H. Steiner as a physician in Augusta, but his son Roland was no longer listed. A review of Medical Association of Georgia membership lists from the 1870s to 1905 yielded no listings for Roland Steiner. His father remained active in the medical association from 1857 to 1892 (Medical Association of Georgia 1900).

## **ROLAND THE PLANTER**

Wedding bells chimed for Roland Steiner in New York City on October 13, 1870, when he married Williamina (Wilhelmina or Wilhelmine) J. Taylor, one of two daughters of Ira H. Taylor and Mary S. Connelly. His new bride was wealthy, perhaps one of the richest women in Georgia in post-war Georgia. The residences of both Roland and Williamina, prior to their marriage, were listed as Georgia in the newspaper announcement of the wedding (Gordon Smith personal communication, Savannah, Georgia, March, 1993; Work Projects Administration n.d.: 315; New York Department of Health, Division of Vital Statistics 1870).

Ira H. Taylor, Wilhelmina’s father, was married to Mary S. Connelly in Jefferson County, Georgia on May 24, 1849. Ira H. Taylor owned many slaves in the 73<sup>rd</sup> District of Burke County, Georgia in 1860, as noted in the Slave Schedule of the Federal Census (Ancestry.com 2010).

The historical record is vague as to whether the Roland and Willhelmina Steiner ever bore offspring. One Burke County deed, dated 1874, refers to Roland’s wife and children, which suggests that Roland did have direct descendants. Roland’s obituary, however, lists no surviving sons or daughters. Historian John Seawright, who interviewed an elderly relative of Roland’s, noted that she stated that Roland had a son who lived to adulthood (John Seawright personal communication, Athens, Georgia, January, 1997).

When it came to politics, Roland was a democrat. Roland Steiner, apparently active in politics, was listed among the delegates to the Democracy of Burke County in July 1882 (*The True Citizen* July 14, 1882, vol. 1(11), p.1). In an 1886 letter to his colleagues at the Smithsonian Roland ends with a quip, “Hurrah for McKinley!” Not long after his re-election in November, 1900, however, President William McKinley was assassinated in 1901.

Historian Robert S. Davis, Jr., who has reconstructed an 1867 voter registration list for Burke County, lists a Rowland Steiner as a white voter registered in the 70th Militia District who was listed as a 27 year resident of Georgia; 6 months resident of Burke County; and 6 months resident in the Militia District. An accompanying map shows the 70th Militia District in the vicinity of Rocky Creek (Davis 1984:57). This documentary evidence would make Roland a resident of Georgia since 1840, which is not entirely accurate.

The 1870 Federal Census for Burke County, Georgia lists Rollie Steiner as a resident of Waynesboro (Series M593, National Archives), while the census for Richmond County for that year lists Henry H. Steiner. Roland was listed in the 1870 census as a native born Georgian, which was incorrect, while his father's birthplace was given as Maryland (Series M593, National Archives Roll 138:258; Family History Library Roll 545637 and Roll 172:65; Family Library Roll 545671).

By 1873, Roland had accumulated many large agricultural tracts in Burke County. Both Roland and his father were listed as planters and farmers in Waynesborough in agricultural directories for the state published in 1879 and 1880 (Norwood 1879:248). Neither are listed in the agricultural directory for 1881, although Mrs. Frank Steiner, of Berzelia in Columbia County is listed as a planter and farmer (Standard Directory Company 1881:849). No Steiner's are listed in a 1904 agricultural directory (Young and Company 1904). Roland's last recorded acquisition of property in Burke County was in 1904. Twenty-two deeds to Roland Steiner were found in the Burke County Grantor-Grantee Index and 23 deeds were located documented where he sold land in Burke County. One deed from his father, dated 1874, lists Roland, his wife, and children.

Figure 2 shows a portion of a 1864 map of Georgia showing Burke County (CVIOG 2010).

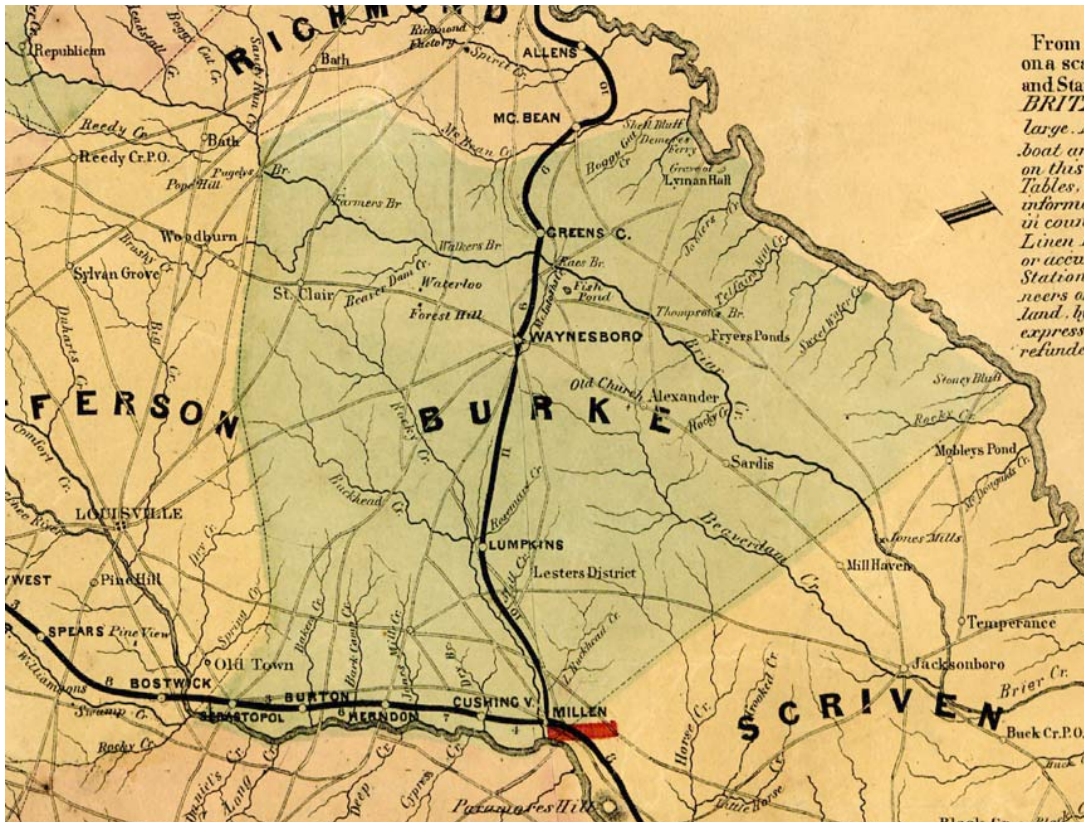


Figure 2. Burke County Portion of Lloyd's 1864 Map of Georgia (CVIOG 2010).

Figure 3 shows an 1865 map of Georgia and Burke County (U.S. War Department 1865; CVIOG 2010).

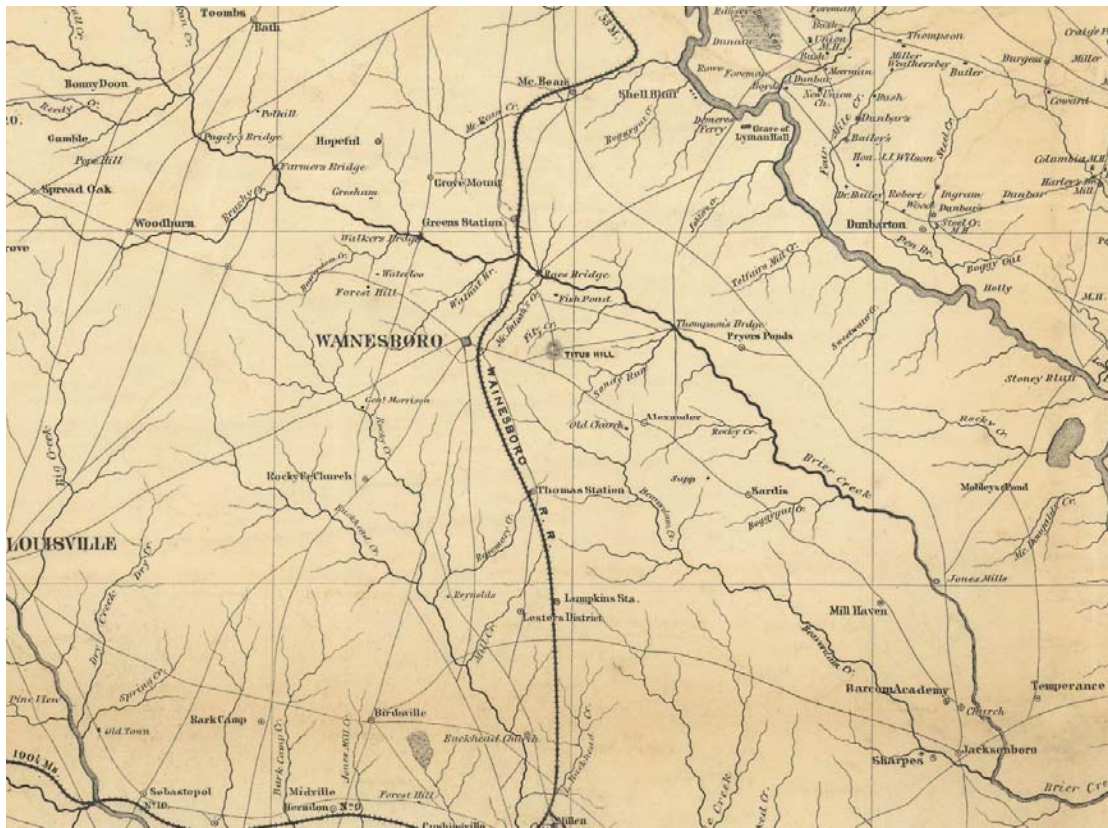


Figure 3. 1865 Map, Showing Burke County, Georgia (U.S. War Department 1865; CVIOG 2010).

Roland and Wilhelmina Steiner are enumerated in the 1880 census for the 5<sup>th</sup> District, Waynesboro, Burke County, Georgia. Roland was listed as a 40 year old white male who was born in Pennsylvania. Roland’s father’s birthplace was listed as Maryland and his mother’s was listed as Pennsylvania. Wilhelmina’s age was listed 30 years old born in Georgia. Her father, Ira Taylor, was a native of New York and her mother, Mary Connelly, was from Jefferson County, Georgia. The Taylors were married in Jefferson County, Georgia in 1849 and Wilhelmina was born the following year (1850). Roland’s occupation was listed as farmer and his wife’s occupation was “keeping house”. A 17 year old white man, named Daniel Nisbet, was living in their household. Nisbet’s occupation was listed as “clerk in store” (Ancestry.com 2010).

On January 9, 1888, the Supreme Court of Georgia decided the case of Carswell versus Lovett, et al. This court case involved the disposition of trusts and it particularly involved Roland Steiner’s deceased mother-in-law, Mary S. Taylor, his wife Wilhelmina J. Steiner, and others. A summary of the case is reproduced below:

R. W. Carswell filed his bill in Burke superior court against Robert O. Lovett, administrator of Mary S. Taylor, Wilhelmina J. Steiner, and Sarah C. Hey ward, in which he alleged that on the ninth of December, 1869, he was appointed trustee for Mary S. Taylor; that the trust-estate then consisted of 2,000 acres of land in Burke county, and certain personal property, mules, corn, fodder, farming utensils, household and kitchen furniture; that the personal property was the accumulation of the trust-estate. Said plantation was bequeathed to Mary S. Taylor by her grandfather, Thomas Street, who died in the year 1848. By the twelfth and fifteenth items of the will of Thomas Street, he gave the plantation to her for her own separate use and benefit, free from



the debts, contracts, and liabilities of her present or any future husband, and after her death to be divided among her children. He appointed her father, Patrick B. Connelly, as trustee of the same. He further alleges that the trustee had died, and" that the trust-estate was without a trustee until 1869, when he was appointed by the court on the application of the said Mary S. Taylor; that after he was appointed he took charge and control of all the property of said trust-estate, and managed, directed, and controlled the same in person, for the use and benefit of his *cestui que trust*; that he managed said property during the years 1870,1871,1872,1873, and 1874, and applied the income derived there from to the payment of the current expenses of said plantation, anil the support and maintenance of the *cestui que trust*; that during these years he purchased and furnished to said trust-estate three mules and one horse, at a cost of \$734, and an ox-cart and wagon at a cost of \$190; built corn-cribs and laborers' houses, and repaired the dwelling at a considerable expense; that he furnished the said Mary S. Taylor other large sums of money for the support of herself and her two daughters, who were at expensive boarding schools,—all of which advances for the benefit of the trust-estate and for the support of Mrs. Taylor and her two daughters, with interest thereon, amounts to \$2,400, or other large sums; that at the close of the year 1874, Mrs. Taylor determined to reside permanently on the plantation; and her daughter, Sarah C. Heyward, and James C. Heyward, the latter's husband, determined to reside with her; and the complainant turned over to Mary S. Taylor the immediate management and control of said plantation and planting interests, which she continued to exercise until the time of her death, in April, 1886; that at the time of her death the personal property on said plantation consisted of two mules, and wagons, carts, plantation tools, household and kitchen furniture, and certain rent-notes which had been taken for rent of part of the plantation for the year 1886. This property, he alleges, was the accumulation from the income derived from said plantation, and is subject to the payment of the debts of said trust-estate; and he claims it to be his duty as trustee to sell said property, and to collect said rent-notes, and apply the proceeds thereof to the payment of the just debts of said trust-estate. he claims also the right to rent out said plantation until a sufficient amount has been realized to pay said indebtedness, and then to turn over the real estate to the remainder-men, to-wit, Mrs. Steiner and Mrs. Heyward. He further alleges that Robert O. Lovett, under some pretended claim of right and authority, had claimed possession of certain rent-notes and other personal property, and declared it his purpose to collect the notes, and refused to turn over said personal property to the complainant, who claims the legal right as trustee to control the same. He prays for an injunction to restrain said Lovett from the collection of said notes, and from interfering with the property of said trust-estate, and from an order compelling said Lovett to deliver the same over to him that ho might sell the same, and collect the notes and apply the proceeds to the payment of his debts.

Lovett answered this bill, and set up in his answer that he had been appointed by the ordinary of Burke county temporary administrator on the estate of Mary S. Taylor, and as administrator had made an inventory or appraisalment of the personal property belonging to said estate; he admitted that lie had the property set out in the bill in his possession, and claimed to hold it as such administrator. He also alleged that the complainant, as trustee, was not entitled to interfere with his administration; that said trust which is set up in said bill has long since been executed, and the legal title to said land had been in Mary S. Taylor since the year 1866, with remainder over to her children; and that if the complainants had any demand against his *cestui que trust*, the said Mary S. Taylor, the cause of action thereon accrued in 1874, and the same was barred by the statute of limitations.

Mrs. Steiner and Mrs. Heyward filed their joint answer, in which they admitted that it was true that by the will of their grandfather, Thomas Street, the land described in the bill was given in trust to their mother during her life, but they deny that they ever were beneficiaries of said trust-estate, but, on the contrary, asserted that said trust-estate, by its terms, ceased at the death of Mary S. Taylor, and said land, after her death, passed to them in fee simple. They also alleged that, although said trust-estate was created for the benefit of said Mary S. Taylor, the same did not so continue, but that by the act of 1866 the trust was executed, and the legal as well as the equitable title to said properly united in said Mary S. Taylor, and she became absolute owner of said property during life; also that her husband, Ira Taylor, died in 1867; and that though the said

Carswell may have been, by order of the chancellor in 1869, appointed as trustee of said property, said order had no force or authority to convert the legal title at that time held by Mary S. Taylor into a beneficial or trust-estate; that upon the death of the husband of Mary S. Taylor, the trust became executed, and no other trustee was necessary to manage or control said property; that therefore the personal property upon said plantation at the time of the death of their mother belonged to her, and now rightly belongs to her legally appointed administrators. They also claim that if the trust was not executed upon the passage of the act of 1866, or at the death of their father, Ira J. Taylor, it was executed when they became of age; that they became of age in 1872 and 1876. They deny the indebtedness set up by Carswell against the estate, and claim that if he has any debt, it is not against them, but against their mother, individually, and is barred by the statute of limitations.

The twelfth and fifteenth items of the will of Thomas Street, as far as concern this property, read as follows:

*Twelfth.* 'After the death of my wife, Mary S., I give and bequeath all my estate, both real and personal, to the children of my step-son, Patrick B. Connelly, and those born and that may hereafter be born to him in wedlock.'

*Fifteenth.* 'I direct that my executor shall, in parceling out that portion of my estate which shall be the share of his female children,...hold the same in trust for the sole and separate use of said female child, and that in no event shall it be subject to the debts, liabilities, or contracts of any husband to whom they shall be married, but that said female child shall have the use of said property during their natural lives, and at their death it is my wish that it be divided between her children and their representatives.'

Upon the hearing of this case by the chancellor, upon the bill and the answers thereto, he refused the injunction prayed for. The complainant excepted and brings the case here for review. The main question argued before us was whether, at the time Carswell was appointed trustee by the judge of the superior court, the trust had become executed. If the trust was executed at that time, there was no necessity for the appointment of a trustee. If the trust had served its purpose and was executed, the legal title merged immediately into the equitable interest; and the perfect title vested in her according to the terms and limitations of the trust. If it was executed, she was capable of taking and managing her own property, and there was no necessity for the appointment of a trustee, and the order of court appointing him was void, and of no effect, although Mrs. Taylor may have applied for his appointment and consented thereto. Was the trust executed in the year 1869, when Carswell was appointed by the court? It will be observed that this trust in the will of Street was for the purpose of protecting this property against the debts and liabilities and contracts of her husband. Her husband died in 1867. Upon his death the reason for the trust ceased; there was nothing left for the trustee to do, as he was to hold it only to protect it against the debts of the husband. The husband being dead, there was no other duty which the trustee could perform. Everything had been done by the trustee necessary to secure the property. There was nothing more he could do to render certain the interest of the beneficiaries. There was no conveyance for him to make to Mrs. Taylor or to her children. There was no order of court for him to obtain to divide the property. He could do nothing to ascertain the objects of the trust, for they were plain and distinct. There was no specified mode of distribution in the will creating the trust, nor was there any other act which required the trustee to retain the legal estate in him. He was not trustee for the remainder-men. We therefore think that this trust became executed on the death of the husband in 1867, and that the legal title went into the wife during her life, and then to her children after her death; and the appointment of a trustee by the court was void and of no effect. Code, § 2313; *Liptrot v. Holmes*, 1 Kelly, 381; *Jordan v. Thornton*, 7 Ga. 517; *Coughlin v. Seago*, 53 Ga. 250; *Churchill v. Corker*, 25 Ga. 479; *Banks v. Sloat*, 09 Ga. 330. As to remainder-men, see *Russell v. Kearney*, 27 Ga. 96; *Mathews v. Paradise*, 74 Ga. 523.

It was insisted by the defendants in error also that if this trust was not executed upon the death of the husband, it was executed by the act of 1866, commonly known as the 'Woman's Law.'

Counsel for the plaintiff in error contended that that act could not have this effect, because the trustee was an officer of the law, and, as such officer, had a vested right in his commissions as trustee, and had the legal estate in him, and the legislature had no power to divest him of these vested rights. Whether this proposition be sound or not we do not now decide. It is sufficient for us to say upon this point that this court has in four cases decided that where a trust was created before the act of 1866, the trust was executed upon the passage of that act. These cases were decided by a unanimous court, and we do not feel constrained to overrule them, even if we felt so disposed. *See Janks v. Sloat*, 69 Ga.330; *Knorr v. Raymond*, 73 Ga. 749; *Kyle v. Flemming*, — Ga. ; and *Harrold v. Westbrook*, 2 S. E. Rep. 695, (decided at October term, 1886, of this court.) Judgment affirmed (Georgia Supreme Court 1889:37-42).

A partial record of the land holdings of Roland Steiner, as well as relevant holdings of his father, is compiled below.

### **Burke County**

Roland Steiner received property in Burke County, Georgia from 1873 until 1905. His father and wife also held significant real estate in Burke County. Henry H. Steiner owned property in Burke County beginning in 1866 when he acquired the Joseph Saxon place and other property comprising over 1,900 acres (Burke County Deed Book A:553-555).

Deed Book: F:516

Date: June 3, 1873

Grantee: R. Steiner

Grantor: John A. Pierce, by Sheriff

Comments: This is a Fifas sale of 242 acres in the lawsuit of E.A. Man against John A. Pierce.

Deed Book: F:629

Date: June 23, 1873

Grantee: Roland Steiner

Grantor: Executors of M. D. Jones

Deed Book: F:537-538

Date: July 3, 1873

Grantee: R. Steiner

Grantor: Augustus Lewis, by Sheriff

Comments: This was a Fifas sale of 160 acres in the lawsuit of Augustus R. Roberts against Augustus Lewis. This property, identified as the Texas place, was later used by Roland Steiner as partial collateral in a promissory note to the Etowah Phosphate Company of Charleston, South Carolina (Burke County Deed Book M:823-825).

Deed Book: F:572-573

Date: August 7, 1873

Grantee: R. Steiner

Grantor: A. J. Lawson, by Sheriff

Comment: This was a Fifas sale of 907 acres (along Brier Creek) in the lawsuit of Michale Mixon versus E.F. Lawson and others.

Deed Book: F:616

Date: October 28, 1873

Grantee: R. Steiner

Grantor: H. H. Steiner

Comments: This was a deed for 200 acres in the 62<sup>nd</sup> District of Burke County.

Deed Book: F:627-628  
Date: June 17, 1874  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: Executors of Malcom D. Jones  
Comments: This was an auction of 557.5 acres (Lot 1 on Rocky Creek, known as the Spikes place) in the lawsuit of Virginia L. Jones et al. versus Frances A. Jones. A plat on the reverse of the deed shows Lots 1 and 2 (also 557.5 acres) on the north side of Rocky Creek and west of Grays Branch. William Davis is shown as a landowner east of Lot 2. These two tracts were known as the "Malcom D. Jones acres" (Burke County Deed Book F:758-759).

Deed Book: G:36  
Date: June 17, 1874  
Grantee: R. Steiner and wife and children  
Grantor: H. H. Steiner  
Comments: In this deed H.H. Steiner conveyed 1,664 51/100 acres, known as the Henry J. Schley plantation, "out of love and affection for my son Roland Steiner and desire to provide a home for him and family for \$1". This deed is the only reference discovered that mentions Roland Steiner's offspring. The property was bounded on the north by Edmund and John S. Byne and T.H. and E.H. Blount; east by the Estate of Seaborn Jones and E.J. Carter; south by Mrs. L. Skinner and the Estate of E.B. Gresham; and west by John S. Byne and the Estate of Baldwin B. Miller. In 1884 Roland Steiner satisfied a promissory note for this property held by J.J. Mackenzie and Company (Burke County Deed Book N:375-376).

Deed Book: G:498-500  
Date: November 2, 1875  
Grantee: R. Steiner  
Grantor: William Brookins, by Sheriff  
Comments: This was a Fisas sale of 400 acres.

Deed Book: H:576  
Date: November 2, 1875  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: George E. Ratcliff and Company, by Assigners

Deed Book: H:347-348; K:231-232  
Date: June 25, 1877  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: S.A. Gray  
Comment: This document recorded a promissory note owed by Roland Steiner for a 1000 acre tract, known as the Lawson place. This mortgage was paid in full in 1881, when it was recorded as 1,015 acres. The Lawson home tract was deeded by Roland Steiner to P.G. Burum and Company on March 24, 1882 (Burke County Deed Book M:595-596).

Deed Book: H:576-577; G:74-75  
Date: Not noted  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: Sheriff  
Comment: This document recorded a bankruptcy sale of 640 acres to Roland Steiner.

Deed Book: I:514  
Date: December 5, 1879  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: R. M. and J. H. Jowers  
Comment: This was a deed for 104 acres (known as the William Attaway place), which adjoined lands of Roland Steiner, Randolph Ridgely and others in the 70<sup>th</sup> District of Burke County.

Deed Book: K:338-339  
Date: May 8, 1880  
Grantee: Rowland Steiner  
Grantor: Thomas M. M. Tabb  
Comment: This was a deed for 64 acres, known as the Booker Tabb place and located 4 miles from Waynesboro on the public road, adjoining property of Roland Steiner, H.H. Perry, and Frank Phillips.

Deed Book: K:414-415  
Date: May 15, 1880  
Grantee: Rowland Steiner  
Grantor: Jennie J. Redding  
Comment: This was a deed for ¼ interest in the estate of William Attaway, being the William Attaway residence, and adjoining lands of Roland Steiner, Randolph, Ridgely and others in the 70<sup>th</sup> District of Burke County.

Deed Book: L:44-45  
Date: March 1, 1881  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: Guardian of Jack Tabb  
Comment: This was a deed for half interest in the 64 acre tract (See Deed Book K:338-339).

Deed Book: L:373-374  
Date: June 9, 1881  
Grantee: Rowland Steiner  
Grantor: Jethro Thomas  
Comment: This was a deed for 81.75 acres adjoining land of the estate of Oliver Perry, R. Ridgely, H.H. Steiner and others. A plat is attached which shows an unnamed branch on one border of the property.

Deed Book: N:233  
Date: November 18, 1882  
Grantee: Roland W. Steiner  
Grantor: Samuel W. Wynn, by Executor

Deed Book: N:235  
Date: December 11, 1882  
Grantee: H. Steiner  
Grantor: R. Steiner

Deed Book: N:596  
Date: April 27, 1883  
Grantee: R. Steiner  
Grantor: H. H. Steiner

Deed Book: N:739  
Date: January 17, 1884  
Grantee: R. Steiner  
Grantor: W. I. Steiner  
Comments: Power of Attorney

Deed Book: V:120  
Date: June 27, 1890  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: American Freehold and Mortgage Company by Attorney

Deed Book: V:120  
Date: June 27, 1890  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: American Freehold and Mortgage Company

Deed Book: 9:67  
Date: October 7, 1904  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: Jonathan P. Gibson

Deed Book: 9:578-579  
Date: October 12, 1905  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: R. C. Neely

Deed Book: 9:579-580  
Date: October 14, 1905  
Grantee: Roland Steiner  
Grantor: William E. Jones, Executor

Deed Book: Not noted  
Grantee: Sarah Rangely (Mary Skinner administrator of estate)  
Tract Description: 887 acres  
Comments: This is likely the Old Evans Place shown on Steiners maps.

In addition to the aforementioned list of properties where Roland Steiner was the Grantee, the Burke County land records contain 23 listings for Roland Steiner or R. Steiner as Grantors. The earliest of these was a March 3, 1871 lease agreement between H.H. Steiner and Roland Steiner, who served as attorney for his father, and John Attaway (Burke County Deed Book E:491). The most recent was dated December 2, 1890 when a parcel of Roland Steiner's land was deeded by the Burke County Sheriff to Fred Cook (Burke County Deed Book V225). A court judgement against Roland Steiner was recorded on February 11, 1889 (Burke County Minutes Book K:273).

A 1909 map of Burke County contains no mention of the Steiner family (Hudgins Company 1909). The portion of this map where the Steiner's were focused is shown below. This map suggests that the Steiner influence in Burke County had quickly waned following Roland Steiner's death. Neither are any Steiner place names shown on 1947 or 1950 maps of the region (Soil Conservation Service 1947; U.S. Army 1950). It should be noted, however, that the Steiner legacy in Burke County, did not entirely disappear. Current road maps and topographic maps of the county reveal a Steiner Branch and a Steiner Place Road (GNIS 2010).

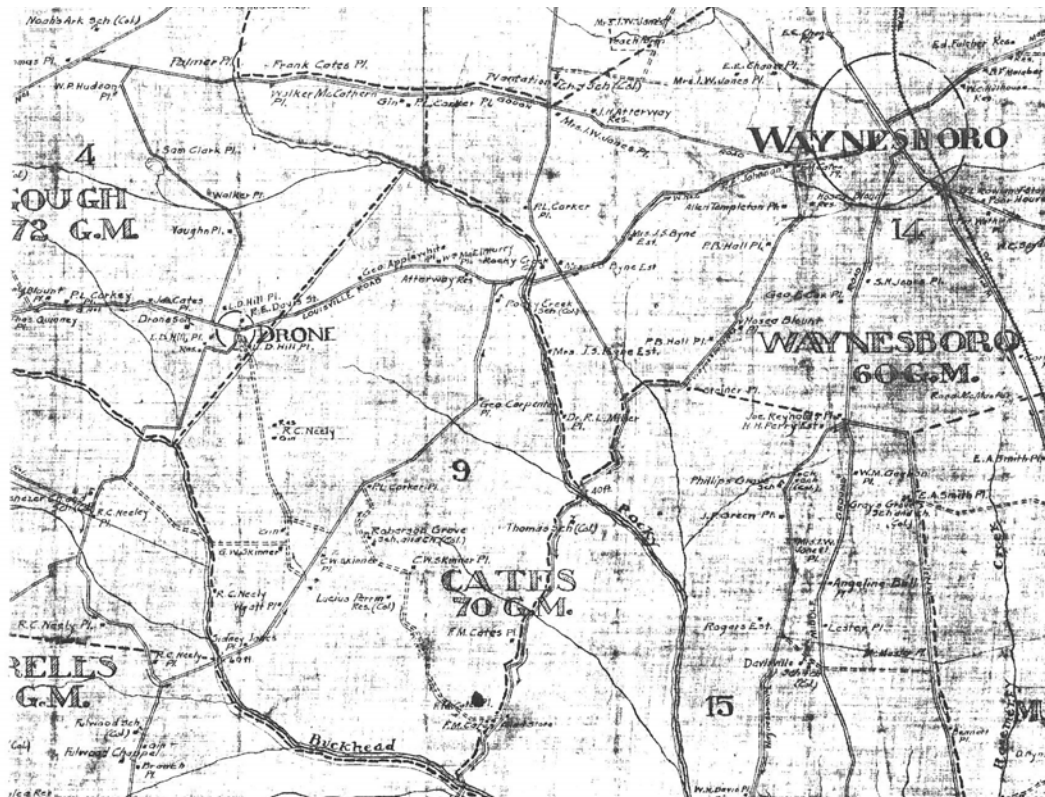


Figure 4. Portion of a 1909 Map of Burke County, Georgia (Hudgins Co. 1909).

From the early 1890s until his death in January 1906, Roland's residence can be surmised from the byline on his correspondence, which was principally Grovetown. Grovetown is a small community in Columbia County, Georgia. Roland Steiner appears to have spent most of the 1870s and 1880s operating a cotton plantation in rural Burke County, Georgia. It is ironic that Roland Steiner chose to live a period of his life in Burke County, Georgia.

Figure 4 shows the Columbia County portion of Lloyd's 1864 map of Georgia (CVIOG 2010).

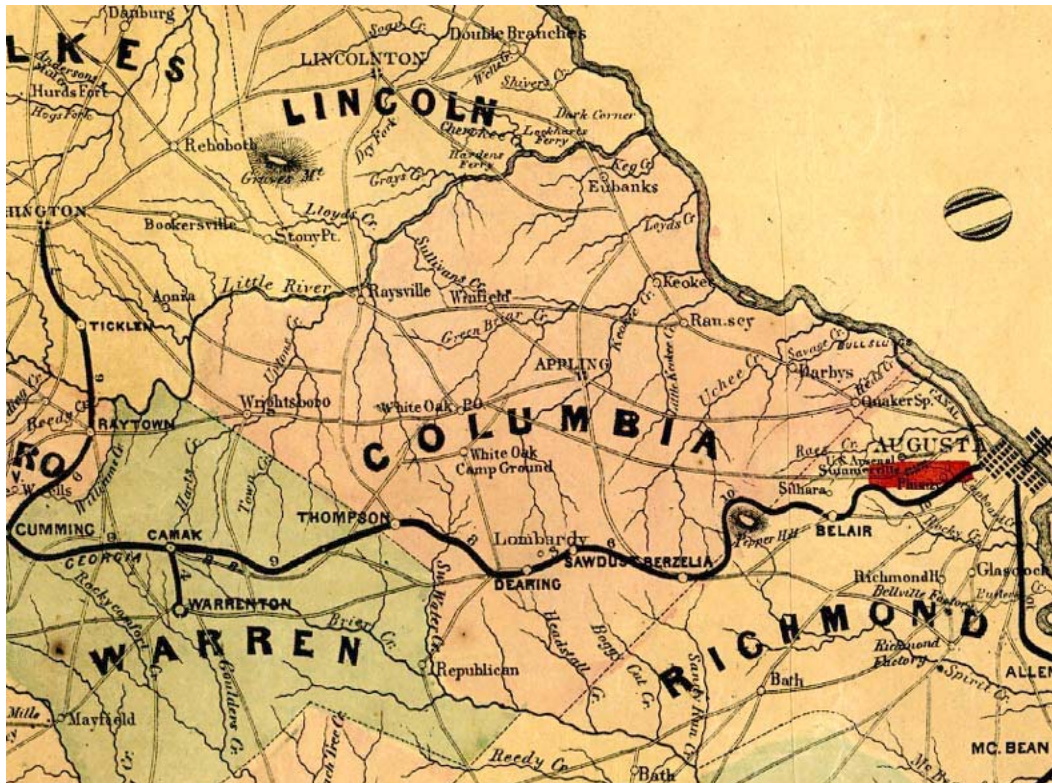


Figure 5. Portion of Lloyd's 1864 Map of Georgia (CUIOG 2010).

Figure 6 shows the Columbia County portion of an 1865 map of Georgia (U.S. Coast Survey 1865; CUIOG 2010). In 1865 the Steiners were living in Augusta and had not established their plantation in Columbia County.



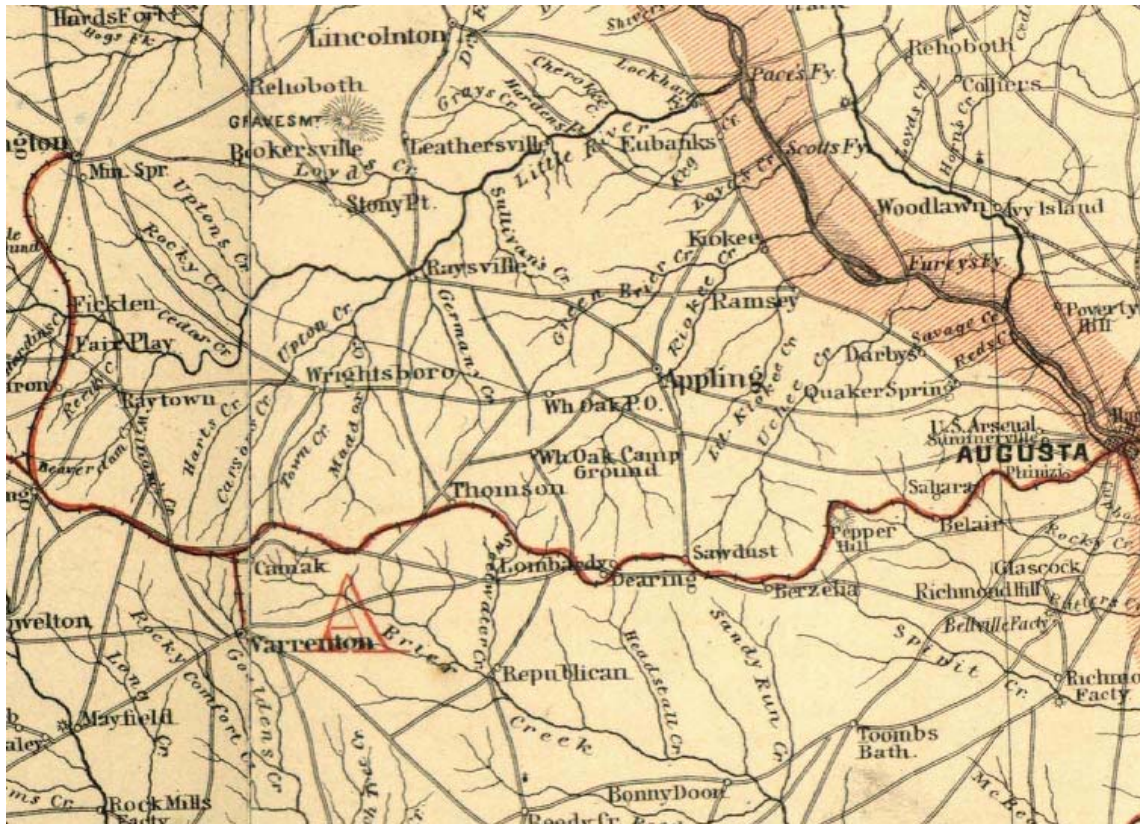


Figure 6. Columbia County Portion of 1865 Map of Georgia (U.S. Coast Survey 1865; CVIOG 2010).

A 1910 map of Columbia County shows the location of the H.H. Steiner place, as well as many other relevant residents and cultural features in the county (Hudgins Company 1910). Portions of this map are reproduced below. Figure 7 shows the location of H.H. Steiner’s place. Several other Steiners are shown in this part of the county. It should be noted that Dr. Henry H. Steiner had been dead for about 12 years when this map was published so this particular H.H. Steiner may refer to Henry H. Steiner, Roland Steiner’s step-brother.

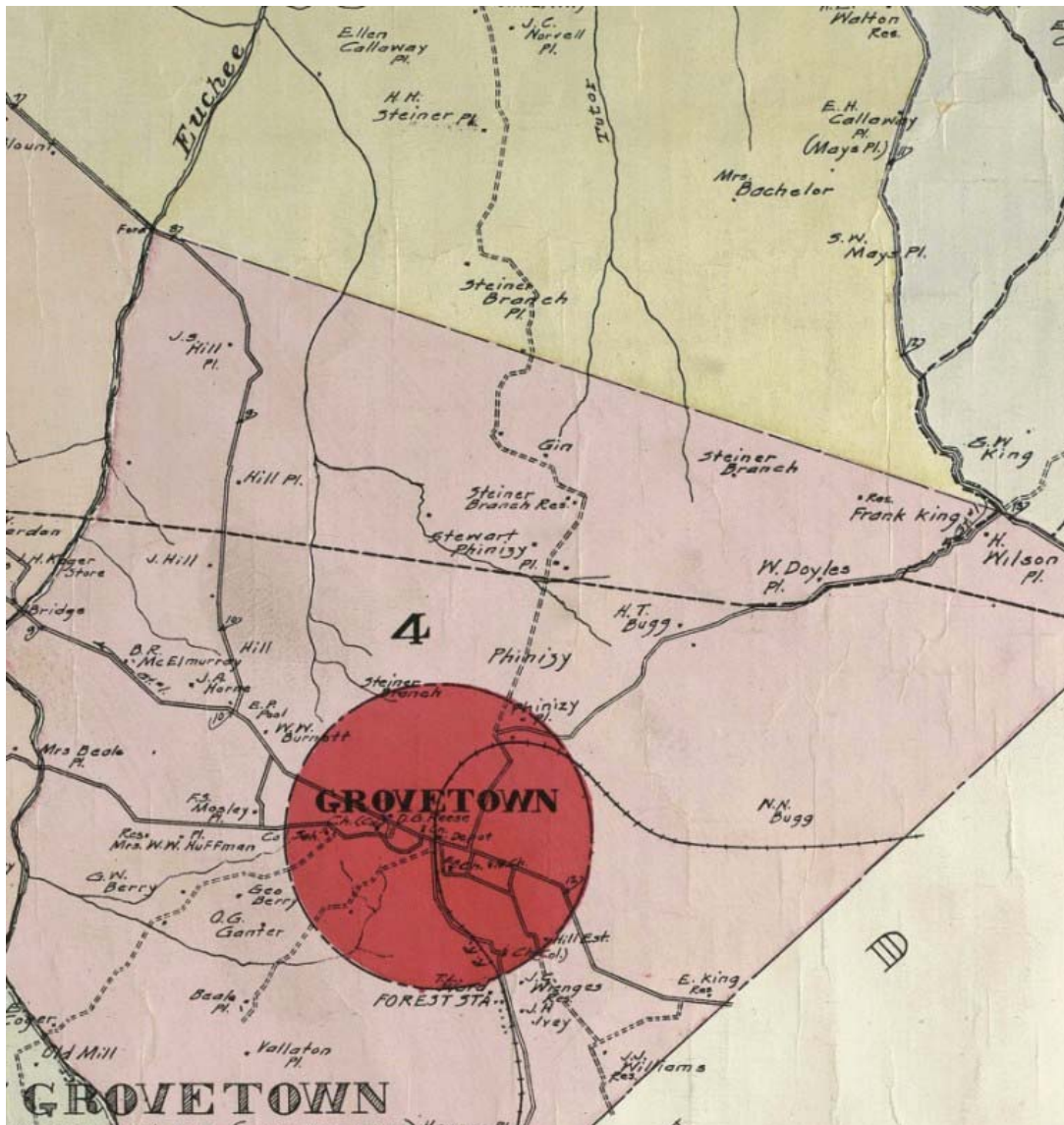


Figure 7. Portion of 1910 Map Showing H.H. Steiner Place (Hudgins Company 1910).

Figure 7 shows the vicinity of Columbia County at the confluence of Big Kiokee Creek and the Savannah River. The Burts Mountain locale is erroneously spelled “Burch Mtn” on this map (Hudgins Company 1910).

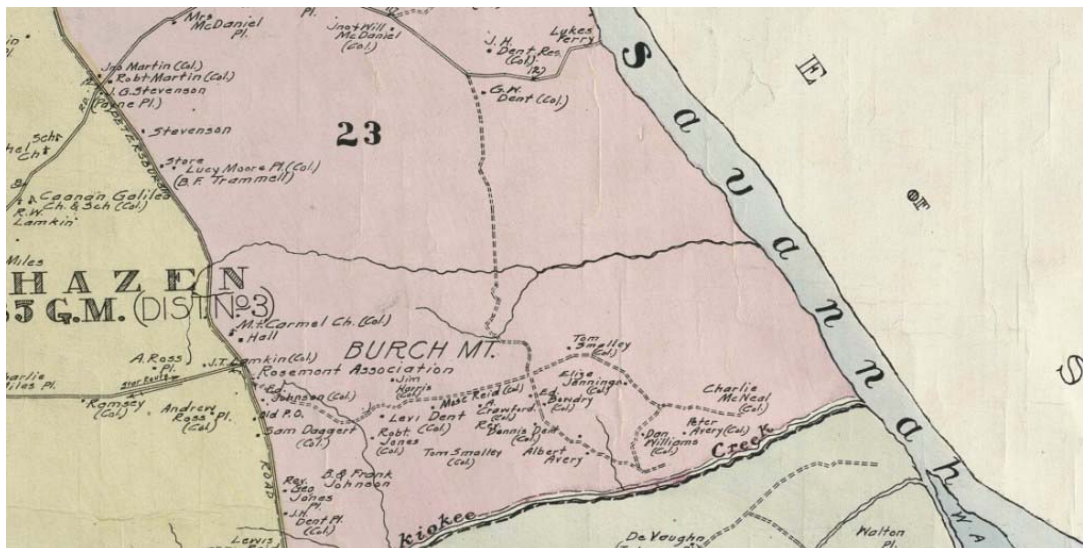


Figure 8. Portion of 1910 Map Showing Kiokee Creek Confluence (Hudgins Company 1910).

While Roland’s archaeological activity was heavily concentrated in Columbia and Burke counties, his primary land holdings were in Burke County. The deed books in the Burke County Superior Court, however, contain extensive entries for Roland Steiner and R. Steiner. The August 4, 1882 edition of *The True Citizen*, published in Waynesboro, Georgia, provided a brief description of Dr. Steiner’s plantation and house. It was listed as greater than 1,000 acres and worked by 23 hands, who used the latest agricultural implements (*The True Citizen* 1882:1).

In addition to his activities as a planter, Roland Steiner also bred trotter horses. He registered a horse named Everglade, who was born on his Waynesboro farm in 1889 and one horse named Yamasee who was born in 1890. Other notable trotter horses on his farm were Humming Bird and Sparkle (1890) (Wallace 1891:180, 382, 593).

No record was found in the Columbia County Superior Court to show that Roland Steiner owned any land in Columbia County, Georgia. In his letters, Roland Steiner refers to the Steiner plantation in Columbia County, which was likely that formerly owned by his father. His father, H. H. Steiner owned considerable amount of land in Columbia County. Roland’s father Henry Steiner had a spacious summer home in Grovetown, Georgia by 1881. Roland shared a smaller home with his father, which was used as a study and for entertaining guests (Grimaude 1991:6). The Henry H. Steiner family home at Grovetown burned prior to the early 1980s and with it went many family records (Robert Pollard, Jr. personal communication, May, 1984). According to local historian, Charles Lord, it was a two-story wooden structure (Lord 1995b:2).

Roland Steiner is enumerated in the Federal Census for 1900 as a resident of Grovetown village, District 8, Columbia County, Georgia. He was living in the home of his younger step-brother, Henry H. Steiner. In the 1900 census Roland was listed as a widower (Ancestry.com 2010). Roland’s wife Wilhelmina died in Burke County, Georgia sometime between 1893 and 1995 (Burke County Deed Books X511, Z338). The 1905 Tax Digest for Columbia County lists no land owned by Roland Steiner, but he was taxed a total of \$2202. He is listed as a taxed citizen of Kiokee District 2, Columbia County.

A partial listing of the Steiner family land holdings in Columbia County, Georgia is presented below.

### Columbia County

Deed Book 1

Date: Deed dated June 7, 1890; Plat dated April 21, 1890

Grantee: Ramey S. Dunbar, Joseph B. Cumming, and John M. Walton, Trustees

Grantor: Erasmus J. Dozier, Trustee as aforesaid individually, Ophelia B. Dozier, Thomas Beale Dozier, William Wils[on?] Dozier and Joseph Henry Dozier

Amount: \$6,288

Tract Description: 838 and 40/100s acres on South side of the Appling road adjoining other lands of the said Steiner trust and bounded by land of J. A. Walton, Doyle, George Hill and Shanklin land being of the land belonging to the said trust.

Comments: deed (trust) from Henry H. Steiner

Deed Book 1:194

Date: Deed dated May 6, 1890; Plat dated April 25, 1890

Grantee: John M. Walton, et. al.

Grantor: H. H. Steiner

Tract Description: 552 acres on Little Kiokee Creek; bounded by Connell, Munday, Harris and Johns[on?]

Deed Book R, pp 224-225

Date: Deed dated September 16, 1869; Recorded in Richmond County July 5, 1870

Grantee: H. H. Steiner

Grantor: Geo. T. Jackson

Amount: \$6,065.66

Tract Description: 1155 acres on big Kiokee Creek bounded by Robert Bell, Mrs Trippe, William Anthony deceased John Megahee, Jesse Evans, Mrs. Leonard Williams, Mrs. Williams; 1/2 acre exception of Miller family burial ground

Comments: the plantation occupied by Thomas W. Miller, deceased

Deed: Alexander Eady to George Knox, Columbia County Book LL folio 387

Deed: George Knox and Peter Knox to Thomas W. Miller, Book OO Folios 203 and 204

Deed: Richard H Jones, Sheriff to Thomas W. Miller, Book PP, page 541

Deed: Mill Tract, Jesse Evans to Thomas W. Miller, Book O folios 107 and 108

Deed: January 1, 1867, Frank H. Miller, Executor of Thomas W. Miller to James M. Dye, Trustee, Book O folio 444, 445, and 446

Deed: January 1, 1867, James M. Dye Trustee to Newnan Hicks, Book O folio 447

Deed: October 31, 1868, Newnan Hicks to George T. Jackson, Book R, folio 59

Deed Book: R:649

Date: Registered July 11, 1874

Grantee: Georgia Steiner

Grantor: Henry H. Steiner

Amount: \$100

Tract Description: 1155 acres on Big Kiokee Creek, bounded by Robert Bell, Ily Evelina Trippe, William Anthony, John Megohee, Jesse Evans, Leonard Williams and others; reservation of 1/2 acre burial ground

Comments: plantation formerly owned by Thomas W. Williams

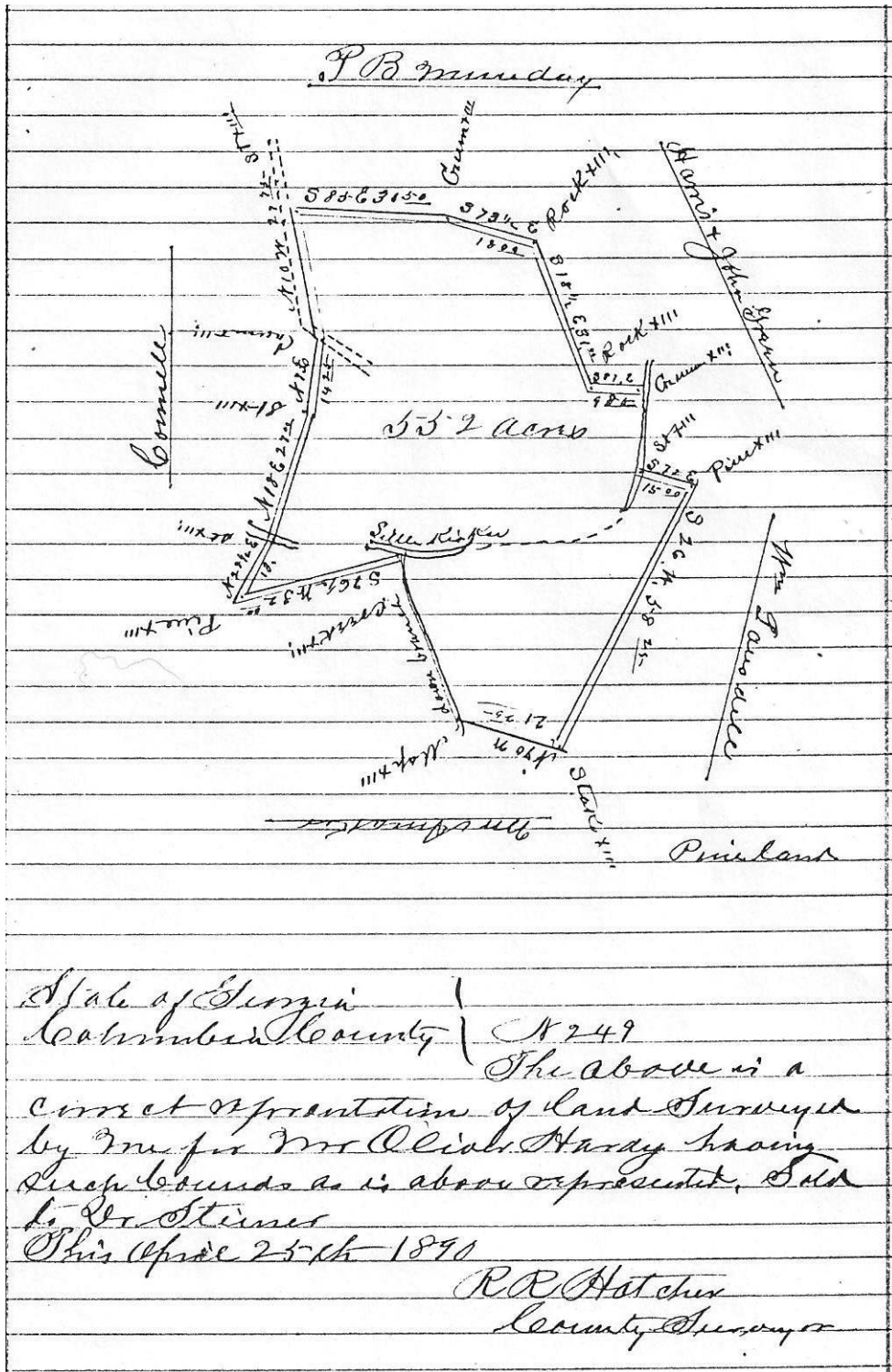
Deed Book: 1:194-196

Date: Registered May 6, 1890

Grantee: Barney S. Dunbar, Joseph B Comming and John U. Walton, Trustees

Grantor: Henry H. Steiner

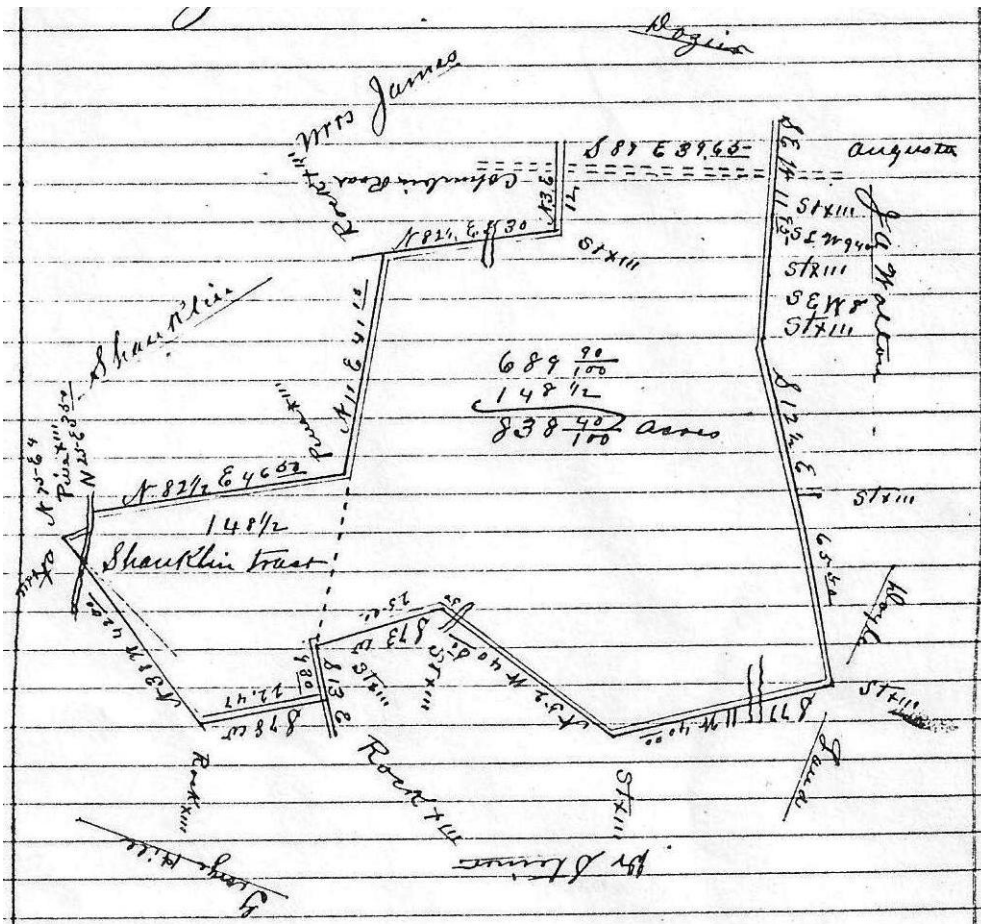
Comment: This is a deed for 552 acres owned by Henry H. Steiner. The property was held in trust for the use of Henry H. Steiner during his natural life and at his death for the use of his children (Richmond County Deed Book AAAA:774-778). A plat of the property is attached and it is reproduced below (RR Hatcher Plat Book: 234-235). Little Kiokee Creek is shown flowing through the middle of this property.



State of Georgia  
Columbia County } N 249

The above is a correct representation of land surveyed by me for Mrs. Oliver Hardy having deep bounds as is above represented, sold to Dr. Steiner  
This April 25th 1890

Plat Book: RR Hatcher Plat Book:240  
Date: June 7, 1890  
Comment: This is a plat for 838.40 acres from E.J. Dozier Trustees and others to B.S. Dunbar and others, Trustees of H.H. Steiner and his children. The plat shows the property bounded by the Augusta-Columbia Road. It is reproduced below.



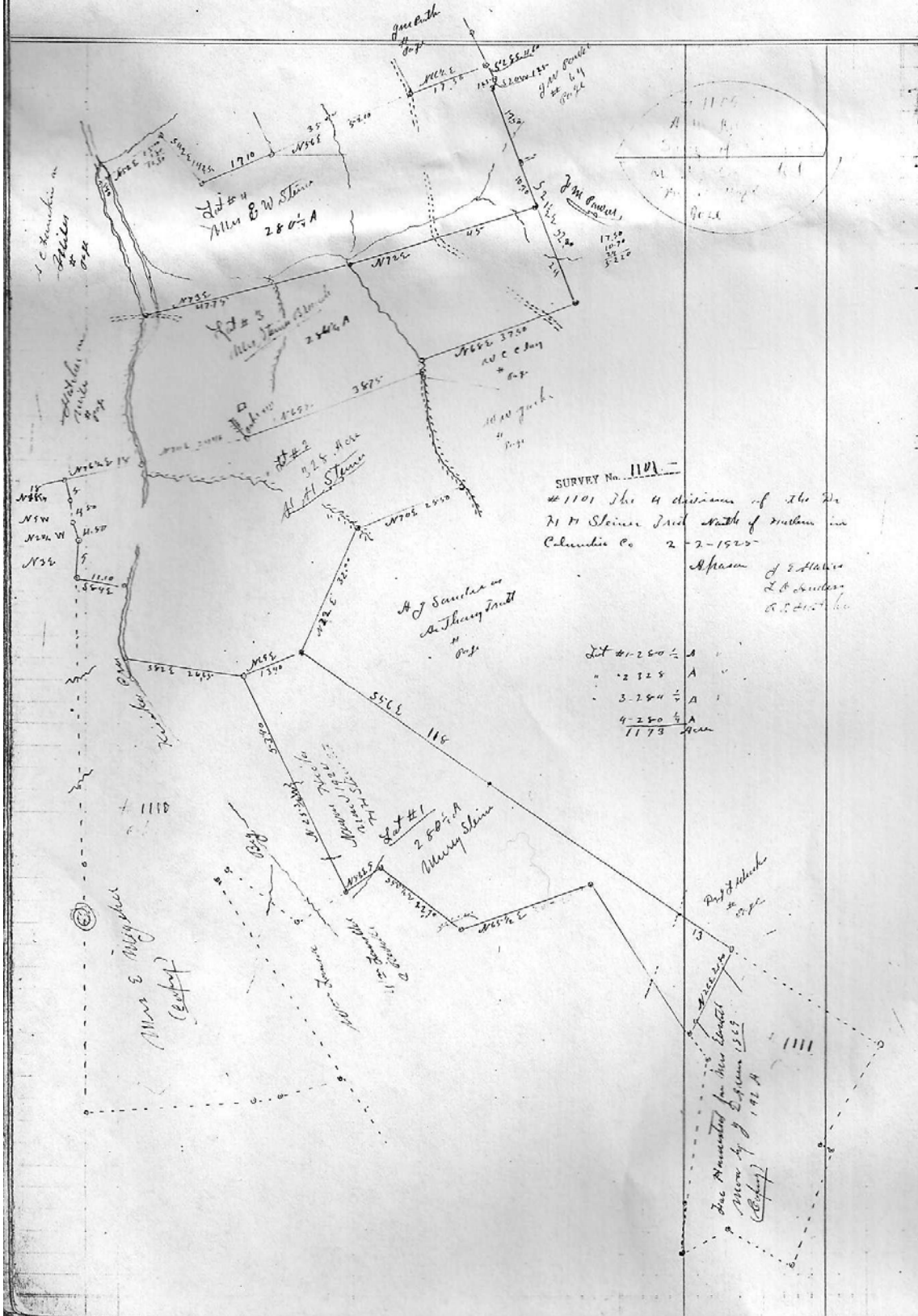
Scale of 20 to inch

State of Georgia } No 247  
 Columbia County }

The above is a correct representation of land surveyed by me for Mr. G. J. Dozier having such bounds as is above represented, sold to Dr. Steiner This April 21<sup>st</sup> 1890

R. R. Hatcher  
 County Surveyor

Plat Book: RR Hatcher Plat Book  
 Date: February 2, 1925  
 Comment: This is a plat showing the division of the Dr. H.H. Steiner tract, north of Harlem in Columbia County. The property, which totals 1,173 acres, is bounded by Big Kiokee Creek. It is reproduced below.





Administrators Deed Book: 22:82  
Date: October 22, 1941  
Grantee: E. D. Clary, Jr.  
Grantor: H. H. Steiner (by Administrator)  
Tract Description: 858 acres, known as Steiner place

Warranty Deed Book: 92:13-15  
Plat Book: B:141  
Date: September 28, 1967  
Grantee: Anne H. Blanchard  
Grantor: Alice Rowland Steiner, et al. (wife of Pinckney Steiner)  
Tract Description: 227.7 Acres, known as Tract A, bounded by Columbia Road, James E. Baldwin, Steiner Branch, L.A. Kelly  
Comments: see also testament of Pinckney A. Steiner, Warranty Deed Book 92:11

### Credit Review

The R. G. Dun & Company's historical files, which are housed at the Baker Library, Harvard University, Boston, Massachusetts, were consulted for relevant information about Roland Steiner and his immediate family. Entries were located for both Roland Steiner and his father Henry H. Steiner. The content of these entries is reproduced courtesy of Dun & Bradstreet. Special thanks are extended to Brent Sverdloff, Reference Archivist, and Albert Bartovics, Curator of the Historical Collections Department, Baker Library. This credit review for both Roland and Henry Steiner is transcribed in the following.

Roland Stiner    Waynesboro    Hotel

#J. B. July 74 Aged abt 30 married  
is a man of excellent char stands high m.  
dz well & makes \$ owns R. E. & is E wor 50 m/cautious safe & prudent.  
#J. S. Belry 75. Reports R. S. as a Planter, Stands high as to char &c. is honest & reliable Prompt  
pay consid get for purchases Though in [?] he has but small means, is father is wealthy, backs him  
& at his death will leave the greater portion of his means to his son.

H. H. Steiner    M.D. & Planter

#11488 Jan 19/69 Alopapist-the best in town wor. 75 m \$ in R. E. &c. 1D. 1 1/2  
#J. M. S. Mar 6/69 R. E. good wor 75 m \$ (D 1 1/2) " 114 88 Mch 2/70 man of means  
in excellent standing # A. K. mar. 7.71. In wo. bus. owns a plantation in Burke Co. & is E. W. 75  
m\$ ad. char & habs & worthy of confidence. C. LY June/7[?] wor 85 to 100 m/ cr. A1  
#H Apl 73 Been practicing many years man of high char & connect worth 75 to 100 m/  
# J. S. July 74. Safe reliable man in high standing & Credit owns R. & E. W. 100 m/ #J.S. Jan 75  
Safe reliable man of excellt Char &c. EW 100 @ 150 m & standg & cr high (prev est too low)  
504[?]. H. I.S. July 75 No chge. #IS Dec 75 N. C. perfectly safe has large mns prompt & reliable.  
#IS June 76 No change wealthy man, Stands high in every respect. #P. Jan 77 Perfly gun[?] and  
safe All right #P. July 77. Safe sound & reliable Dy well & wi good credit for all demands. #J.  
A.D. Jan 78, Responsible & safe Owns R. E. & E/W 125 @150 m/\$ #J. S. D. June 78 E/W 125 @  
150 m/ Credit & standing very high. # D. Jany 79 Responsible & in high credit Ret[?] R. E.  
43,550 \$ Good accts 12c/\$ P.P. 3,250\$ & E/W p[?] 50 @75 m/ Previous Ests too high +J.A.D.

Aug 79 Responsible & in high Cr. & standing E. W. \$100 to 125,000. (Prev Est too low.) #P. Jan 80 One of the largest planters in the county & perfectly responsible. Owns a large amt of R. E. & E. W. \$75,000 clear. Consid<sup>d</sup> good for all he wants.

(Source: R. G. Dun & Co. GA 1B/p.30., Baker Library, Historical Collections Department)

## LIFE'S END

Roland Steiner died in the hospital at Augusta at 7:45 P.M. on January 12, 1906 after a two-week illness. His last will and testament, written in October 1905, was probated March 13, 1906 where he was listed as a resident of Columbia County, Georgia. Roland's obituary in the *Augusta Chronicle* stated:

### DR. STEINER DEAD

Eldest Son of Late Dr. H. H. Steiner, Resident of Grovetown, Ga.- Archaeologist of Renown

Dr. Roland Steiner eldest son of the late H. H. Steiner, M. D. of this city (Augusta) died at the city hospital last night at 7:45 o'clock, after an illness of two weeks in his 66th year. He was a resident of Grovetown, Ga. owning considerable property there and in Waynesboro, Ga. but was born and lived in this city for about forty years.

The funeral will occur tomorrow afternoon in Waynesboro, Ga. Rev. C. C. Williams of this city, St. Paul's Episcopal church officiating. Dr. Steiner's wife is buried in Waynesboro, and it was his request that he be interred beside her.

Surviving the deceased are three brothers and two sisters: Mr. Pinckney Steiner of this city; Mr. Henry H. Steiner of Roanoke, Va.; Mr. Murray C. Steiner and Miss Katherine Steiner; Mrs. Steiner Branch of Berzelia, Ga.

Dr. Roland Steiner was a physician by profession, though he gave up practice many years ago to become a planter. He changed his residence to Grovetown, Ga. and acquired much valuable land during his life there. His farms are reputed to be the most valuable in this section of the country.

It was as an archaeologist that Dr. Steiner became famous. He was considered a most learned man on this subject, and was for a long while collector for the Smithsonian institute. He was considered by authorities to be the best informed man on Indian antiquities in the United States, and his works on the subject are considered standard, and occupy a prominent place in every library of importance. His private museum is one of the best of its kind in the south, and his collection of Indian antiquities is probably the most complete in the country, except of course those of the national museums. His library is also a most excellent one, he being a great reader. Of late years he devoted much of his time to writing and to study.

Dr. Steiner was well known in Augusta, and was admired and respected by all. He was an interesting conversationalist and conversed with most any subject. His character was above reproach, and he possessed the esteem and high regard of his fellow man. He was a member of the Elks and other local lodges; delegation from which will probably attend the funeral in Waynesboro. (*Augusta Chronicle* January 12, 1906).

Another obituary for Roland Steiner was published in *American Anthropologist*, the journal of the American Anthropological Association:

Dr Roland B. Steiner, of Grovetown, Georgia, a founder of the American Anthropological Association and well known for his work in local archeology and folk-lore, died at the City Hospital of Augusta, Georgia, January 13, aged sixty-six years. Dr Steiner's collection of archeologic objects was well known throughout the country, and many specimens collected by him have gone to enrich our larger museums. He wrote little or nothing on archeologic topics, but

was an occasional writer on the folk-lore of the Southern negro, of whom, being a planter, he became a close observer (*American Anthropologist* 1906:204).

Other newspapers, including the *New York Time* and the *Macon Telegraph*, picked up the story of Roland Steiner's death. The *New York Times* reported:

Dr. Roland Steiner.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Jan. 13—Dr. Roland Steiner of Grovetown, Ga., died at the City Hospital here last night after a brief illness in his sixty-seventh year. He was well known as an archaeologist. One of his collections is in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He was an agent of the Smithsonian Institution, and his private collection of rare Indian antiquities and relics of pre-historic North American races is said to be among the best in the country (*The New York Times* 1906:9).

As noted in his obituary, Roland and his wife, Williamina, were buried in Waynesboro, Georgia. A review of published information on Burke County grave markers yielded no Steiners (Powell and Hillhouse 1974). Charles Lord (personal communication April 16, 2010) recalled visiting an old Methodist church cemetery in rural Burke County in 1967 or 1968, where the remains of Roland and his wife were buried. He located their graves and noted that each was marked with a formal tombstone. He did not recall any other marked stones in the graveyard, nor did he remember the exact location of the cemetery. As previously mentioned, Roland's parents and several of his siblings, who were members of St. Pauls Episcopal Church in Augusta, were buried in Magnolia Cemetery in Augusta, Georgia.

The U.S.G.S. Grovetown, Georgia 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle shows a Steiner Cemetery located at Latitude 332845N 0821059W (USGS 1957). An internet search of the U.S.G.S. GNIS database revealed no other Steiner cemeteries in Georgia. The Steiner Grove Church was formerly located a short distance southwest of this cemetery that is indicated on the Grovetown quad. This church is no longer extant but is mapped as a historical feature. No inventory of the Steiner cemetery in Columbia County is available and its current status is undetermined. A local historian in Columbia County, Charles Lord, stated that the Steiner cemetery that was located on the Steiner home place property was intended for the African-American workers on the plantation (Lord 1995b:2).

The Columbia County Probate Court recorded the Last Will and Testament of Roland Steiner. The will was recorded about two months after Steiner's death. It is transcribed below.

<p>Last Will and Testament of Roland Steiner Deceased Recorded March, 13, 1906</p>
<p>State of Georgia Richmond County<sup>1</sup> I, Roland Steiner of Columbia County Georgia But temporarily Sojourning in Richmond County Georgia Being of Sound and disposing mind and memory do make, publish, and declare this instrument as my last will and Testament hereby revoking all wills hertofore made by me. I wish my Executors as soon as possible after my death to pay all of my just debts. Item 2. I give to my sister Kate Alston Steiner the sum of one dollar</p>

Item 3. I give to my sister Mary Steiner Branch the sum of one dollar

Item 4. I give to my Brother Murry O. Steiner the sum of one dollar

Item 5. All the rest and residue of my estate real and personal and mixed I give to my Brothers Henry H. Steiner and Pinckney A. Steiner Share and Share-alike.

Item 6. In the Event my Executors should find among my papers any note or notes made in my favor by my Brother Henry H. Steiner. I direct my Executors to cancel said notes and deliver them to my Brother Henry H. Steiner without requiring him to pay the same. It is my last wish that said notes be treated as if they were void and of no effect.

Item 7.

I hereby appoint my Brother Pinckney A. Steiner and my friend Geo. M. Beasley the Executors of this my will and I hereby Authorize and Empower my Executors to sell any portion of my Estate at Public or private sale as they may deem best without the order from any court to make said sale for the purpose of paying debts or making a division of my Estate and I further relieve my Executors from making and filing an inventory of my Estate and from filing any returns of any kind in the Court of Ordinary of Courts of any kind.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 23rd day of October 1905

Roland Steiner

(Columbia County Will Book J:340-342)

## ROLAND THE ANTHROPOLOGIST

Roland Steiner attended Princeton University where he graduated in 1861 (Princeton University 1859:13; 1860:11; 1911:16). He graduated with a degree in medicine in 1864. His most significant academic achievements, however, were in the fields of anthropology, archaeology and folklore.

Roland Steiner of Waynesboro, Georgia was elected to the membership of the Georgia Historical Society on July 7, 1886 (Georgia Historical Society Members List 1839-1903). The Georgia Historical Society met in Hodgson Hall in Savannah, Georgia. Many prominent Georgians were members of this society, including fellow archaeologist C. C. Jones, Jr. Steiner's participation in the Georgia Historical Society appears to have been low key, since he published no articles on his work in the society's journal, *The Georgia Historical Quarterly*.

By 1891, Roland Steiner had gained respect among southern scholars for his activities. W.P. Trent, a professor at the University of the South, wrote in a summary of the state of historical research in the South, "Passing to Georgia, we see that her historical work is still chiefly connected with one name, that of Colonel Charles C. Jones, Jr., who has recently found time to publish a volume of biographical sketches. Georgia has, also, what is perhaps the most valuable archaeological collection in the Southern States, that of Dr. Roland Steiner of Waynesboro" (Trent 1891:56).

In 1899, Roland joined the American Association for the Advancement of Science and was an active member of that scholarly organization until 1905. He presented several papers at their annual meetings on archaeology, anthropology, and folklore (Steiner 1899a, 1899b, 1900, 1903). Although the titles of his papers are intriguing and allow insight into the intellect of Roland Steiner, the text of only one paper on the subject of archaeology, entitled, "Prehistoric Settlement, Big Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia", was published (McGee 1899).

Roland was a early member of the Society for American Folk-lore in 1899. He remained an active member of that society until 1905, neglecting to send in his dues for only one year, 1904. He published four articles on Georgia folklore in their *Journal of American Folk-Lore*. The first was in Volume 1 in 1899, and was entitled, "Superstitions and Beliefs from Central Georgia" (Steiner 1899b). Steiner produced another article for the journal in early 1900, entitled, "Soil Lockheart's Call" (1900c), followed later that year by another article entitled, "Braziel Robinson Possessed of Two Spirits" (Steiner 1900d). Steiner published two articles in the journal in 1901, which were, "'Seeking Jesus' A Religious Rite of Negroes in Georgia" (Steiner 1901a) and "Observations on the Practice of Conjuring in Georgia" (Steiner 1901b). Steiner also gave a paper on Georgia folklore entitled, "Allan Stevenson's Trance", at their 1899 meeting in Columbus, Ohio, but the text of that presentation has not been located. Steiner presented a paper in 1903, entitled, "Negro Burial Ceremonies and Societies", at a joint meeting of the newly founded American Anthropological Association and American Folk-Lore Society but the text of this paper has not been located (Steiner 1903; Mac Curdy 1903).

While several of his writings pertaining to Georgia folklore were published, Roland's apparent first love, however, was for the archaeology and antiquities of Georgia. He was quite active in archaeology throughout the last quarter of the 1800s and first few years of the 1900s. His

exploits include work at Etowah Mounds in Bartow County, Shoulderbone Mounds in Hancock County, and a variety of sites in Burke and Columbia Counties, Georgia. Although he wrote only brief accounts of his work (Steiner 1899, 1900), Steiner wrote many letters spanning the period from 1891 to 1902 to the Smithsonian Museum curators and these unpublished letters contain numerous details of his activities. The most noteworthy feature of his collection is its excellent provenience, relative to professional and amateur archaeological investigations of its day. Nearly all of the collection can be traced to the county of origin and most can be linked with specific sites or narrow geographic areas of less than 500 acres. The bulk of Steiner's collections was received by the Smithsonian Institution in shipments of various size ranging from small boxes to barrels. By the time of Steiner's death on January 12, 1906, his collection at the Smithsonian numbered over 78,000 artifacts, making it the largest private archaeological collections in the museum. His collection contains a full range of prehistoric material culture including many exotic or ornate items that are rarely encountered in modern excavations in the region such as copper axes, copper headdresses, conch shell cups and gorgets, pearl beads, pottery vessels, pottery statuettes, stone statue fragments, and many beautiful objects of polished stone and chipped stone. Aside from its aesthetic value as *objects d'art*, the collection is useful for the settlement data it contains. The collections include material from several specific village sites, numerous mounded (and politically important) sites, a soapstone quarry, and a chert quarry, and it is important for what it tells about archaeological sites of a caliber rarely found in Georgia today. Scholars at the Smithsonian Institution have used many objects from Steiner's collection for display and illustrative purposes, and Thomas Wilson, William Henry Holmes, Henry B. Collins, Joseph R. Caldwell, and possibly others, have dabbled with the Steiner material at the Smithsonian, but no comprehensive study of Steiner and his works exists.

Another major collection of artifacts from the Steiner collection were located at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. This collection was first brought to the author's attention by Dr. Stephen Kowalewski. In the AMNH accession files, Steiner's collection is mostly attributed to philanthropist George Foster Peabody, who purchased the collection from Steiner and then donated it to the museum.

In all, more than 100 letters were located that were written by Roland Steiner to Smithsonian Institute personnel over a period of slightly more than a decade—from sometime prior to 1891 to 1903. Roland Steiner's colleagues at the Smithsonian Institution included William Henry Holmes, Otis Mason, E. P. Upham, and Thomas Wilson. Other letters to Paul Brockett, R. S. Geare, G. Brown Goode, J. T. Merrill, F. W. True, and Charles Walcott. Other written communication pertaining to Steiner were more administrative and concerned the transmittal of artifact collections to the museum. The bulk of the Smithsonian Institution's correspondence was between Steiner, Wilson, and Upham. The earliest letter in the Smithsonian's collection, dated March 23, 1891, was sent by Steiner from his home at Waynesboro, Georgia to archaeologist Thomas Wilson. The content of this letter indicates that Steiner had already corresponded in some form with staff of the Smithsonian Institution, but one is left with a sense that March 1891 was around the time that Steiner was first introduced to these scholars. The latest was a brief note written by Steiner from his home in Grovetown, Georgia to William Henry Holmes on September 27, 1902. Holmes wrote back to Steiner on February 4, 1903 and in that note Holmes refers to Steiner's previous letter dated February 1, 1903, but that letter was not located. A final anonymous note, perhaps written by Holmes, dated May 2, 1906, which was after Steiner's death, refers to a previous trip with Dr. Steiner to visit sites in Columbia County, Georgia. This

note indirectly suggests that Roland Steiner pursued his archaeological studies up to the final months of his life on earth.

These letters contain a wealth of information concerning the artifacts, archaeological exploits, events, and personal relationships surrounding Roland Steiner. There were also more than half a dozen maps, drafted by Steiner of three loci in Bartow County (Etowah), Burke County (Old Evans Place or Waynesboro), and Columbia County (Kiokee Creek or Grovetown). Steiner's handwriting was nothing short of atrocious, and deciphering his scribbles will take many hours. I hope to submit samples of his writing to a handwriting expert to gain additional insight into Roland Steiner--the man behind the artifacts.

Nearly all of Steiner's letters were found in microfilm records pertaining to the acquisitions of the Smithsonian Institution. One stray letter was found bound into Thomas Wilson's galley proof of one of Wilson's books in the Anthropology Library at the Smithsonian Institution (Wilson 1899). The latter pertained to the provenience of another massive collection held by the Smithsonian--the Jonathan McGlashan collection.

Other records that were transcribed include original catalogue cards and memorandum confirming the transmittal or receipt of collections. The original accession catalogue was photocopied, but these have not been transcribed. The records of the Registrar of the National Museum of Natural History were searched, which resulted in the location of a few records concerning Steiner's contributions of a non-archaeological character to the Smithsonian Institution. The search of the Smithsonian Institution's holdings yielded 165 documents related to Steiner, which are transcribed in the following text.

The letters, memorandum, and other transcribed documents presented in the following are arranged in chronological sequence, as best could be determined. The letters written by those other than Steiner are interspersed in the sequence in order to provide continuity of meaning. It was disappointing not to find many of the letters written by William Henry Holmes, Thomas Wilson, or E. P. Upham in response to Steiner. Only a few notes and memos written by these men to Steiner were located. Most of the correspondence from the Smithsonian Institution to Steiner were found in the archival records of the Smithsonian Institution's administration and were purely related to the transmittal and receipt of collections and payment for the same. A few stray letters were located in the papers of the Department of Anthropology at the National Anthropological Archives. The NAA holdings included three manuscript maps by Steiner, as well as the draft manuscript (with original illustrations) by Thomas Wilson of the Steiner Collection.

Another link in the Roland Steiner paper trail was unearthed at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City. At this museum Steiner communicated with Franz Boas, Frederick Ward Putnam, and Clark Wissler. These scholars were extremely influential in the early development of anthropology. Boas is considered by many to be the, "Father of Anthropology". Boas' students included such notable anthropologists as Margaret Mead.

A third link in this chain of the Steiner Collection was located at the Field Museum in Chicago, Illinois. There Steiner corresponded with archaeology curator George Dorsey.



## **Roland Steiner's Collection at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.**

Roland Steiner's association with the Smithsonian Institution lasted from 1891 to 1903. He was never an employee of that institution. Over a period of years Steiner's collection made its way to Washington and was deposited in the U.S. National Museum. These transactions are recorded in the official documents of the Smithsonian Institution, as well as in many letters, memoranda, catalog cards, and other written information (Smithsonian Institution 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899a-b, 1900a-b, 1901a-c, 1902a-c, 1903). The bulk of the information is contained in the unpublished information and with the exception of the original artifact catalog book, are transcribed in the following section. Each distinct document was issued an Item Number by the author. This notation system is then carried forward in the presentation of Steiner's dealings with other museums in North America.

The cast of characters in these writings include anthropologists, archaeologists, curators, ethnologists, historians and other administrative staff of the Smithsonian Institution. During the period 1891-1903 the Smithsonian Institution underwent considerable organizational changes. The scientific discipline of anthropology, archaeology and folklore were all in their infant stages of development during this era and Roland Steiner's story was part of this scientific evolution. His writings are presented below as they could best be transcribed. We were unable to decipher many words and some short passages of his handwriting and in these cases the gaps are indicated by [\*]. We made no attempt to correct his grammar or writing style. In many instances his letters were interspersed with small sketches showing artifact outlines. Most of these are omitted from the following transcription and their existence is noted by brackets and the word drawing [drawing]. More formal sketch maps, which were originally included with the letters, are presented as distinct numbered items. We attempted to keep editorial comments within these transcriptions to a minimum but when they were necessary these are shown within brackets. The artifact Accession number, where this information was available, is shown in brackets at the beginning of each item. The Accession number is keyed to the Smithsonian Institution's collection should anyone wish to investigate further.

### ***Item 1. Letter, Roland Steiner to Thomas Wilson, 3/23/1891.***

[Acc. 24147]

Waynesboro Ga. Mch. 23rd. 91.

Thomas Wilson Esq.  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington City

Dear Sir:

Your letter of the 3rd. would have been answered earlier but the delay was owing to my looking over and selecting from my collection such specimens that seemed to indicate a paleolithic origin. I send per express a box containing one hundred & fifty-four specimens which compare favorably with such objects as described by yourself & others. These were all surface

finds, true that the locality was near streams, upon the declivity of hills or in ravines. Tho in company with the ordinary Indian relics they show a higher antiquity as undermined by weathering & C. in some cases disintegration. They are not abundant, tho frequent & are never met with far from streams. I fully appreciated their importance as chipped implements when first seen, considering them as waterworn specimens & classing them with chipped flint implements or leaf shaped implement, as their respective outlines would suggest. I find them generally in the subsoil, from which the loose top soils has been washed. I call your attention to No. 12148. It was found in the bed of a creek in my place It seems to have been originally a rude oval shaped knife. It has subsequently been used as a scraper on round wooden objects- the scraper indicates recent use as compared with the knife characteristic of the specimens. The specimen 12149 is unquestionably a knife. The two large flake detachments from either side giving a firm hold for the hand. No. 12146&7 are complete objects, but their use? They were found on a village site. Tho I have numbered sixty three of the specimens & catalogued them, the Institution can retain them. I will substitute others in their places. The geologic formation in this part of Georgia is tertiary, near me is a highland phos-bed. The flint chipping in this locality is the finest I have ever seen, more highly finished & more delicate. The arrow points & knives & pins are particularly beautiful- the material being flint, calcedony & corrugated jasper. Stone daggers similar to those found in California are frequent, tho not so long- seven inches is the longest I have, the knives and scrapers in this section were used with handles, as I have some specimens with the pitch adhering to the object. The majority of small celts were made of flint or jasper, being the material common to the country tho specimens of diorite and serpentine and sandstone are frequent. I also have double edged knives shaped thus [drawing] the attachment of handle been clearly shown thro the middle of the object, hafted it would present this appearance [drawing] I take the liberty of calling your attention to the object commonly called borer. I do not believe all objects of this character should be classed as borers. The long slender specimens I hold to be pins. Either for the hair or for fastening robes together. A pin of this kind inserted into two eyelets and tied with a thong, would affect a secure fastening. Others again resemble as clearly as the material from which they were made- will admit-The shell and steatite hair pins. Those with stout bases may have been used for borers in wood, clay or sandstone. I have one specimen which has a sharp unused point, but along its stem shows abrasions from use. Now why not a pin- many Indians were inaccessible to shell. The flint pin is as useful, as pretty in many instances and more elaborate. Could you examine and compare some specimens in my collection? I believe you would agree with me as to their use, As to the sharks tooth, you misunderstood my letter- it was not found in the shell deposit but in the middle part of the State. I am unable to give locality, as the gentleman who gave it to me is dead. The tooth found with the shells are very small. The peculiarity about the tooth is the point being bent. As to the monkey pipe- its presence in Georgia satisfys me, that an earlier date there was tribal communication from this part of America with Mexico. In evidence of this opinion I have an unfinished specimen of wiker pipe tube or bead of catlinite from a point three miles from my plantation. This stone or mineral clay was brought from the pipe quarry of Wisconsin, a greater distance than from here to Mexico. I shall send you for inspection in a few days some unique specimens upon which I would gladly have your opinion, they are to be returned as I value them very highly. I have not seen their form noted in any book or work on early chipping. I have a spoon scraper that shows the handle attachment. Spoon scrapers are frequently met with here. Hoping I have not worried you with this long letter, I am

Yrs very truly

R. Steiner

**Item 2. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 1/3/1894.**

[28826; 37115]

Grovetown Ga Jan 3rd 94

Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City, D. C.

My Dear Sir

Yours of the 23rd recd You are right in your conjecture about the two areas. they came from the pueblos of New Mexico In regard to the quarry material thought best to send it on- as interesting matter. In the collection of beads, is a specimen of co-l--li found in Burke Co Ga. I send on my catalogue, tho I fear you will not be able to make much headway with it without my presence. When you want me to come in, write me & I will come. Would prefer to come about middle of February. You will find in the collection a pendant of lead & a piece of crude lead. both were found in the Etowah mounds. My catalogue will give locations of all interesting specimens. All the fine terra-cotta pipes, come from the Etowah mounds, & all the finest specimens of stone pipes I would like to be with you when the collection is placed, as I am familiar with every object in the collection. Note a stone anvil shaped [drawing] found at the Etowah Mounds. Ink brown in color & the indentation can be seen an broken surface. A small black pendant, very thin & long in the outline of an animal on either side. I will come in when you wish, & give each its history.

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

The pearl beads in small tan box were dug up with largest plate at Etowah Mound. I forgot to call your attention to the unbroken burial urn with the cremated bones, beads & c in it. When found in Burke Co Ga with the bones & etc in it. The whe[\*] was found in Columbia Co Ga. You will also find in lots to themselves, many unique specimens of arrow points, scrapers & many objects, whose use one can only conjecture. I tried to arrange them in such a way as to be kept separate. I have secured, & will bring on with me a double stem hole pipe. It is the first specimen I have met with. I wish you would note the character of the arrow & spear points the fine quality of chipping. Please send me a few envelopes- as I may have occasion to write you at intervals. I have more postage stamps sent by Mr. Goode

**Item 3. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/3/1894.**

[Acc. 4722]

Waynesboro Ga April 3-94

Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City

My dear Sir-

In our last conversation in regard to my Indian collection you desired me to loan it to the Smithsonian Institution to be placed upon exhibition. I [\*] to sell it you said if I remember rightly, [\*] have [\*] in exhibition for a short term. I do not think I ought to keep here , where only in passing interest is felt in it & would loan it to the Institution Please [\*Editor's note: 1 line of text on photo copy was illegible] how long it would have to remain in the Institution. at whose expense it would be shipped &c. I have added many objects of interest since I saw you. I can't help collecting. I will never give it up- It has taken a hold on me to stay. Please let me hear how to ship. The [\*] specimens could be sent by freight. The more fragile should be sent per express. I would send at once- if desired-

Yrs very Truly

R. Steiner

(SI Archives, Record Unit 189, Incoming Correspondence)

***Item 4. Internal Memo, Wilson to F. W. True.***

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
MEMORANDUM

Mr. True:

The enclosed letter from Dr. Steiner relates to his valuable collection comprising the remainder of the contents of the Etowah Mound, of which we have the rest. It is important we should see it & study it in connection with what we already have

T.W.

(SI Archives, Record Unit 189, Incoming Correspondence)

***Item 5. Steiner to Wilson, 4/6/1894.***

April 6/94

Dr. R. Steiner,  
Waynesboro, Ga.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of April 12th duly received. In reply to your inquiry, the Museum authorities would not be willing to accept your collection and display it in its cases unless it should remain at least one year. I take I this is such a length of time as would not interfere with your making sale thereof in the slightest degree. If you should conclude on this basis to send, your suggestions as to shipment are satisfactory, although I think that if properly packed, it would be only the fewer and extra-fragile pieces which would require to be sent by express. You can understand without a word of caution, the necessity for carefulness in packing to insure against breakage.

The necessary labels, half a dozen, will be sent herewith. May I also ask you to send such catalogue as you may have; together with descriptions of objects, their locality, &c.

Yours truly,  
Thomas Wilson

(SI Archives, Record Unit 189, Incoming Correspondence)

**Item 6. Letter, True to Steiner 4/7/1894**

April 7, 1894

Dr. R. Steiner,  
Waynesboro, Georgia

Dear Sir:

Professor Thomas Wilson, Curator of Prehistoric Anthropology in the National Museum, has handed me your letter of April 3, in which you kindly express your willingness to place on deposit in the National Museum, the collection of Indian objects in your possession taken from the Etowah Mound.

I need hardly say that we shall be pleased to avail ourselves of your offer, provided that you are satisfied that the objects shall remain on exhibition in the National Museum at least one year from the date of their reception.

Before transmitting them, however, I shall be glad if you will kindly inform me as to what portion of the collection would need to be forwarded by express, so that we can form some idea as to the approximate amount of transportation charges. We shall of course expect to defray all expenses in this connection. If the remainder of the collection is not too bulky, it may perhaps be forwarded by mail, and for this purpose franks are sent to you.

I need not say to you that the specimens should be very carefully packed in order to insure against their breakage in transit.

Thanking you for your courtesy in this matter, I am

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True,  
Curator-in-charge

**Item 7. Internal Memo, R.I.G.[Geare] to Wilson, 12/15/[1894?].**

[Acc 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
MEMORANDUM

Dec. 15

Mr. Wilson

As soon as these papers reach you will you kindly let me know what to say in reply to his offer to come here to assist in giving history of the objects.

***Item 8. Internal Memo, Wilson to Geare, undated.***

[Acc 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
MEMORANDUM

Dear Mr. Geare:

I know of no reason why the offer of April 7 may not stand good. We have a portion of the Etowah mound & could use the balance for a complete display at the Atlanta Exposition. Indeed the transport of this might be paid out of that apprn I have not read any letter lately from Dr. Steiner. I have met him personally & we have talked over the benefit to come from having a junction of our two collections both from the same mound & which sho<sup>d</sup> never have been separated.

Respy Thomas Wilson

***Item 9. Letter, Steiner to unknown, 8/21/1894.***

[Acc 28437]

Waynesboro Ga Aug 21 94

Sirs

I send you a [\*] some plants- that feed upon flies & insects even as large insects as crickets. I can send you plant to put in [\*] the insects are found in the stems of the plants [\*] at the base of plant. They [\*] shaped [\*] .

Yrs, R. Steiner

[Note: Acc 28437, which was sent to the Department of Botany was discarded, as noted by F. V. Coville, curator on September 11, 1894: "The specimens are leaves of Sarracenia, and the insects contained in the hollow leaves are made use of by the plant as food, as the writer suggests. The specimens have been thrown away."]

***Item 10. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/12/1894.***

[Acc. 28826; 37115]

Waynesboro Ga. Nov 12th 94  
Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City

Dear Sir:

I have delayed answering your letter of some months ago. Not determining what I would do. Now is I propose leaving this part of State. I will loan my entire archaeological collection to the

Smithsonian Institution to be placed upon Exhibition. The gentleman who answered my letter to you- did not state how I must ship it. The collection is very large, the expense of shipping will be [\*] - About the pottery, pipes, & shell objects do you not think they had best be sent [\*] express? Please answer at your earliest convenience, as I wish to ship at once.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 11. Letter, Steiner to True, 11/26/1894.**

[Acc. 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

Waynesboro Ga Nov 26 94

F. A. True Esq  
Curator in charge-

Dear Sir,

I wrote some days since to Mr. Thomas Wilson in regard to the collection. I propose to place in exhibition in the Smithsonian Institution & have no reply. Supposing him absent I wrote to you. As I need a letter from you in regard to the mailing. In your letter you speak of sending by mail. That would be impossible. The collection is a very large one, & is all arranged & specimens classified too themselves- The [\*] objects could be sent as regular freight & more fragile, such as pots, shell & c. should be send per express. I propose to leave this part of the State in a very short time & will be glad when [\*]

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 12. Letter, Steiner to G. Brown Goode, 12/11/1894.**

[Acc. 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

Waynesboro Ga Dec 11 94

G Brown Goode Esq  
Washington City

Dear Sir,

I today shipped per freight (22) twenty-two boxes & (2) two bbls. You will find the boxes packed in layers, as I intended to separate the specimens, & were trouble in arranging them. I send (4) four boxes by express as they contain very valuable objects. The long box also contains some things from the Etowah Mounds. I will go north after Christmas. If you desire will stop in Washington & assist in giving history of objects. If you wish to write me direct letter to Grovetown Columbia Co. Ga. my future home.

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

There are a great number of objects from Etowah Mounds which I will describe when I come on.  
R. S.

In one cask are two ceremonial or burial urns; in one wrapped [\*]prefer are the burned bones, beads &c of the party cremated.

**Item 13. Letter, Steiner to True, 12/27/1894.**

[Acc 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

Grovetown Columbia Co Ga  
Dec 27th 94

F. A. True Esq.  
Washington City D.C.

Dear Sir,

I hope the 22 boxes & 2 casks reached your safely & no breakage. In packing in boxes, I tried to separate the specimens, putting them in layers, with, [\*] & paper between- The ceremonial urn, or pot contains the cremated remains found in it. The stone [\*] the arrows on either side is a very interesting specimen was found in Burke Co. All the black chert spear & arrow points & knives & scrapers were found at the Etowah Mounds. All the white quartz, & slate arrow points &c were found in Columbia Co. Ga. All the terra-cotta pipes were found at Etowah Mounds- all the copper objects were also found at Etowah Mound. If when you are ready to arrange the collection you should wish it, I can come on, & give history of each specimen, & bring my catalog along. I am in a new territory now, & expect to get some good specimens.

Hoping to hear from you upon arrival of boxes & casks. I am Yrs very truly

R. Steiner

**Item 14. Letter, Steiner to Goode, 1/15/1895.**

[Acc 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

Grovetown Ga.  
Jan 15 th 95

G. Brown Goode, Esq.  
Asst-Sec Smith'n Inst'n  
Washington City D.C.

Dear Sir,

On the 14th of December 95 [sic, 94] I shipped to Smithsonian Institution (22) twenty-two boxes & (2) two casks of Indian relics. Have recd no word of their arrival. I packed them as carefully as possible & hope they reached their destination safely. I wrote some time since, that if my services were needed I would gladly come on & furnish all & any information as to objects. Please let me hear if the collection reached you safely & what you think of it.

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner



**Item 15. Internal Memo, unattributed, 1/17/1895.**

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
MEMORANDUM

Jan 17 95

These came in the midst of our "internal [\*]" caused by the dumping of the entire remains of the Bureau Eth. collections into my department to the number of 100 boxes, which were stacked on the floor of my hall. this has but just been cleared away & we are only just ready to open this collection.

We would have been at them before now but the Secty wanted the basement room in which was stored our plaster moulds & we have been moving arranging & boxing from storage 21 boxes of them (about 500 moulds with 10,000 pieces) This has been this day completed.

TW [Thomas Wilson]

We will have them opened & unpacked in two or three days. But for these untoward circumstances I would have written Dr Steiner myself & will do so when the coll<sup>n</sup> is set up so I can give him information concerning it.

**Item 16. Internal Memo, Geare to Wilson, 1/19/1895.**

[Acc 28826]

U. S. NATIONAL MUSEUM.  
OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.  
DIVISION OF CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS  
MEMORANDUM

January 19, 1895.

To Mr. Thomas Wilson:-

We have written an apologetic letter to Dr. Steiner, and I return the accession papers supposing that you have not yet finished with them.

We have told Dr. Steiner that as soon as you have examined the collection, which will be within the next two or three days, you will doubtless be ready to act upon his offer to come to Washington to give further information regarding the collection.

Yours respectfully,

R. I. Geare  
Chief of Division

**Item 17. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 2/7/1895.**

[Acc 28826]

Grovetown, Ga Feb 7th 95

Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City D.C.

Dear Sir

Your letter of 3rd with catalogue recd. I expect you have received my catalogue in this as it was mailed & registered. In answer to your inquiry, as to [\*] wish Dr Thomas & Mr. Rogan will say. I did not have the pleasure of meeting those gentlemen. I worked the same mound they did but at the opposite side & base. The largest plate copper [\*] pearl beads oval mica plates one large shell pendant, 2 strings of shell beads, copper axe with handle affixed, & large copper axe with hole & part of handle, shell drinking cup, & large shell gorget came from base of same mound worked by Dr T & Mr R. The other copper axe came from one end of same mound with the sandstone mortar, some of the larger beads. The stone trumpet also came from same mound with the platform base pipe, grey in color. In fact all the copper objects came from this mound & its immediate vicinity. I was there after the great freshet of 1888, when part of the mound was washed away. that is, its lower base [\*] , & I got all I got at that visit in the mound or its close vicinity. I got many other things afterwards. From these on the place. When you wish me to come on, I will do so with pleasure. I hardly think, even with my catalogue, you would be able to arrange & classify the collection. I must apologize for the catalogue. I neglected it badly. Tho comprehensible to me, I hardly think you can make much out of it. tho the locality of the most interesting specimens is set down accurately.

I can come after the 20th of this month, write when I must come.

What do you think of my collection?

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

I got a great many things from the Etowah Mounds. I got them from time to time for over a year after my visit. All the pottery, broken in the casks come from there, & most of the pots, & c.

R.S.

The broken pottery in casks are complete vessels, tho broken I endeavored to put them together. They are from Etowah Mounds.

***Item 18. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 2/14/1895.***

[29048, now 37115]

Grovetown Ga Feb 14th 95

Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City D.C.

Dear Sir,

I send you today per mail registered four packages- one containing knives, celt, & steatite sinker, one containing double stem-hole steatite pipe, three tubes, & one ceremonial axe. One made of a stone full of feldspar it [\*] by gas light like studded with diamonds- My postage stamps are out- I have other things to send so please send me some stamps & some envelopes- I am ready to come on when desired-

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

The forwarded specimens are from Columbia Co Ga. I have just recd your letter of Feb 12th I will get in the last of next week, perhaps the [\*] will telegraph you when I start two days ahead.

Yrs  
R.S.

I may be able to get off next Tuesday or Wednesday if so will notify you.

**Item 19. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 2/18/1895.**

[Acc. 28826; 37113, 37114, 37115]

THE ARLINGTON HOTEL  
Augusta, Ga.  
Feb 18th 1895

Thomas Wilson Esq  
`Washington City

Dear Sir,

I will leave for Washington City on the 20th Wednesday next. Hope to be with you on the 21st

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 20. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/22/1895.**

[Acc 29338]

Grovetown Ga April 22nd 95

Dear Mr Wilson,

I have a cache of rhyolite knives & arrow & spear heads numbering sixty-five (65) specimens found in digging a roadway in North Augusta, on the South Carolina side of Savannah River opposite Augusta. the specimens are all perfect, some never to have been used & enable one to compare the weather worn objects with those deposited in the earth. They were found by a Mr Wylds, who gave them to Mr. Brad Merry of Richmond Co. The specimens were found by Mr. Wylds while superintending the construction of the road-way.

The sixty five specimens represent twenty-six (26) varieties of eight (8) types. No 12 is a very interesting specimen- a flake, which [\*] put to itself when [\*] on as it clearly determines one point that flakes were finished objects in the large majority of instances. In this cache we find a primitive hunters complete [\*] & all of the same material. Mr. Wylds states they were found about 2 ft below the surface. [\*] with the longest edge up & side by side. I hope you are enjoying the spring & in fine health. [\*] kindest regards to the ladies of your office & Mr. Upham. I am

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

I enclose the drawings of specimens. The primitive peoples who occupied the opposite banks of the Savannah River above & below Augusta Ga. I am [\*] have the same [\*] the rhyolite is found in Lincoln Co. Ga. some forty miles or more above Augusta, Ga.

**Item 21. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/27/1895.**

[Acc 29338]

Grovetown Ga. April 27th 95

Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I send by mail the cache of ryollite implements found in North Augusta on the South Carolina side of the Savannah River opposite Augusta Ga. I am sure you will find them very interesting. I also send in box with them an arrow-base scraper, an unfinished specimen, which clearly shows that this implement was made, per se, as it were & not always from broken specimens of arrow or spear points. You will see that one half of the specimen is finished; you will also notice that it does not seem to have been made from the base of a spear head. It was found in Columbia County, Ga. God speed you with the Swastika, which I am very curious to see, as it is a [\*] in a masters hand. I am studying a new branch of natural history killing large chicken hawks by giving strychnine to my little chickens- The little fellows eat the drug with no ill effects. The hawk catches the chick & goes at once to hawk-heaven. Strange it does not kill the chicken.

I will [\*] the [\*], sent per mail, your name, so it will not be opened save in your office. Give kindest regards to all

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 22. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 6/1/1895.**

[Acc 29546; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga Jun 1st 95

Thomas Wilson Esq  
Washington City

Dear Mr. Wilson

A very rare & odd collection of objects have been found upon my place here under the following circumstances- one of the negroes, cleared of a piece of original forest, near a large and never-failing spring. Upon a knoll near the spring when he plowed up the land he found a large number of ryollite objects, & strange to say, no objects of [\*] There were large spearheads from 5 to 7 in long, Smaller spear head from 3 to 5 in long, arrowheads of every type, hatchets, arrowpoint & base scrapers. Knives of every shape many of the razor blade type. hair-pins, borers, peircers [sic], 2 green slabs of ryollite, & a large stone for sharpening the ryollite objects- also some rectangular ceremonial objects. They came in a cache on an old village site near the spring. The space containing the specimens is about 40 ft square. None of the objects seem broken, all show use. No sherds of pottery found, nothing but ryollite. A thousand of the specimens have been found. I intend to dig about after the next plowing. If a village site, I am sure we would have found objects of when [\*] was ryollite-Some of the large spearheads are 7 in long 3 in wide. There are some very unique specimens. I have never [\*] like them. The are all weather-worn. Upon the whole, it is the strangest lot I have met up- with kind regards to all, [\*] & hoping this spring has [\*] out Mr Upham's rheumatism.

From yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

Please send me a few stamps

[Catalogue appended]

Catalogue of Ryollite Objects

Worked Flakes	150
Razor blade knives	60
Miscellaneous knives	136
Odd Forms	12
Odder Forms	50
Oddest Forms	57
Curios Forms	53
Spear Heads	118
Arrow Heads	200
Hair pins	21
Odd objects arrowheads & knives	12
Triangular arrowheads	3
Peicers	5
Pitted stones of steatite	6
Oval stones of steatite	5
Pitted stones of Ryollite	4
Broken disk of steatite	1
Steatite pestle	1
Hatchets of diorite	2
Hatchets of Ryollite	36
Curious forms of knives	5
Humpback objects	3
Rubbing stones of Ryollite	10
Ornaments	3
Broken ornaments	5

The pitted stones & oval ones of steatite were found with the ryollite.

**Item 23. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 6/10/1895.**

[Acc 29546; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga June 10th 95

Mr Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I have been very fortunate in securing this stone idols found on a village site at the confluence of Rock Spring Creek with Little Kiokee Creek. A very charming young lady who was my companion in the buggy said my face shone with a resplendent smile when the images came in view. One is a very large oval face 9 x 7 in made of Diorite. In my collection you will find a small terra-cotta face, this one is very like it in general outlines. It is almost 4 in thick in middle, 2 in at edges, shape [drawing] The second idol is 12 in in height 9 in at base, 7 in at head. shape [drawing] The third is on the profile order & seems as if split in two parts. It seems to have had a

head dress, is 6 in high, 4 in wide, shape [drawing] It seems to have been made to represent only a side view. The are all much weatherworn, & must be very aged. The village site where they were found abounds in fine specimens. Some very odd & unique. I note two grooved axes of a type never seen before- two ungrooved hatchets; unlike the usual form in every particular. The site has just been cleared of a [\*] forest, and situate on a hill thus [sketch map]

I was up there yesterday Sunday & made a fine collection. I am the first collector in the neighborhood. The presence of these idols is very suggestive of their worship at some early period. The early travelers describe the Indians found here, did not worship idols. Their presence disproves their statements unless it was an when race or tribe of Indians long passed away.

I have only found one polished hatchet, & it was given to me y a lady. I find a number of chipped hatchets of ryollite & flint & jasper. The polished hatchet is not common. Hope "Swastika" is getting along nicely. Done you want the Idols sent on. If so I'll send. Kind regards to all,

Yr very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 24. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 6/26/1895.**

[Acc 29546; 37115]

Grovetown Ga. June 26 95

Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

Dear Mr. Wilson,

I send you per express today (2) boxes containing the ryollite objects found near the spring on our place. Since writing you I have from the same place (2) two hatchets of diorite, polished at the cutting edge, but chipped on remainder of hatchet. I enclose you a lot of the objects. I am now at work on a map of Columbia county, which I will finish tomorrow.

I will send the idols & other things in a few days as I will go to the place tomorrow & expect to get some other objects. I have from the same place of the idols a primitive looking glass. The stone has been chipped out, [\*] a vein of mica, & the body of the stone chipped off so it will stand on end- I will send next the idols &c The large slab of green slate shows upon it [\*] The evidence of use, & that it was used to sharpen the smaller objects, knives &c. The green small sharpening stones also show evidence of use as I before remember in a letter to you. The strange feature of the whole business is that all the material is of ryolitte. I have sent you almost the entire lot, have only broken ones not worth sending-I consider the collection was of interest. In one of the small boxes you will find three (3) triangular arrow points of ryollite, The only specimens I have ever seen.

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

I thought it best to send per express, as the boxes might get broken.

[note: only 1 box received]

**Item 25. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/2/1895.**

[Acc 29912; 37115]

Grovetown Ga Oct 2nd 95

Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

Dear Mr. Wilson,

The mystery of the Idol has been explained. It was never sent, but found this morning- I send to you a die of steatite found on the Indian village site on Kiokee Creek Columbia Co Ga. It was made by an Indian, & I believe its history to be this. It is supposed De Soto came thro Columbia Co., if so, some of his companions, who when flushed have great problems played at dice. Some Indian saw the dice & perhaps played, & then made one as mine. You can see the work of a novice- It is interesting. I also send on box. The two knives I spoke to you of [\*] a bird stone [\*] Hope you had a nice time at Chickamauga with your old friends. [\*] fought to the [\*] next week only [\*] you have there is my last visit [\*] a pleasant one.

Yrs very sincerely  
R. Steiner

An idol similar to the one I sent was found in the adjoining county of Lincoln-some years ago, mentioned in Col. Jones' History of Southern Indians. All the [\*] sent. Idol & all here found on the large village site in Kiokee & Spring Branch. Tell Mr. Upham of the Indian did not use poker chips, they did use dice.

***Item 26. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/8/1895.***

[Acc 39097]

Grovetown, Ga., Nov. 8/95

Mr. Wilson,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

In regard to the group of mounds on the Etowah River in Bartow Co., Ga, near Cartersville, I have always entertained the opinion that they were erected in memoriam of the dead of the peoples who built them. I am satisfied from personal observation that all the earth within the enclosure of the mounds is artificial and was brought from the surrounding moat and other points. Mr. Tumlin (the owner) assured me that he remembered a road leading from the Etowah River to the largest mound, which impressed me with the idea that the bodies might have been brought down the Etowah River from distant points, landed at the road where they were met by the priests and other officials, and then interred in the mounds or within the enclosure. Another point to be urged in favor of my theory is, that no grooved axe and very few spear- or arrow-heads are found in the enclosure. Hoes for digging out the earth are common, then again the terraces leading up to the largest mound clearly indicate that ceremonies of some kind were usual. The pottery-kiln near the smaller mound suggests that the articles made there were to be interred with the dead. That it is a National Cemetery of a lost people, is beyond doubt. That it was the work of the Indians, is beyond question, but what tribe no one can tell. The bones of animals and birds found within the enclosure point to feasts attendant upon the ceremony of

burial. The summit of the largest mound would be a suitable point from which to address a multitude and deliver orations upon the lives and virtues of the distinguished dead.

Yours truly,  
R. Steiner

***Item 27. Letter, Wilson to L. F. Livingstone, 12/24/1895.***

Washington, Dec. 24, 1895

Hon. L. F. Livingstone, M.C.  
Capitol,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

The Fates have been against my seeing you in regard to the matter of Dr. Steiner. I have been to the Capitol twice and to your lodgings once, for I thought I could explain so much better personally than by writing. I wanted to say to you that we have Dr. Steiner's collection at the National Museum on deposit, to be returned to him on call. It is a most excellent collection, comprising in the neighborhood of thirty-five thousand objects mostly from a single locality. It comprises every kind of implement that was probably used by the prehistoric man, whether Indian or other, and a study of it and comparison, one implement with another, will give, probably, as wide and extended as well as narrow and detailed view of the history of the aborigines as can ever be gotten from any collection from Georgia. It is in drawers and cases in my department, and it will afford me much pleasure to show to you or to any person interested in it at any time which may suit their convenience.

While I am perfectly willing to testify and explain the value of, this collection, yet the question of its purchase is one which is beyond my jurisdiction, and on which I have no right to express an opinion, that matter will belong to my superior officers, and I respectfully refer you to them. I will still make further endeavors to see you, and explain to you in detail the excellencies of this collection.

I return Dr. Steiner's letter as you requested.  
Yours very truly,

Thomas Wilson  
Curator

***Reply, Livingstone to Wilson, undated.***

[handwritten on back]

Dear Doctor:-

This letter explains itself, I will yet have a conference and see what can be done for yr collection.

Yr friend,  
L. Livingston

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 189, Incoming Correspondence)



**Item 28. Letter, S. P. Langley to Joseph G. Cannon, 1/22/1896.**

January 22, 1896

Sir:

I have been requested to ask that the sum of seven thousand dollars be inserted in the Deficiency Bill, for the purchase of the archaeological collection of Doctor Roland Steiner, of Grovetown, Georgia. These collections were sent in 1894 to the National Museum for purposes of study, and they are still in its custody. Their interest and value to science is becoming more highly appreciated the more the collections are being studied. They contain 33, 866 specimens, obtained principally from a locality in Georgia, and the collection is unique in the fact that no locality in America ever explored has yielded even one-tenth as many specimens. It is therefore particularly valuable as illustrating the density of population and the manifold characteristics of the industries of the aborigines. A portion of the collection belongs to the Stone Age; there are also numerous objects of copper, shell, bone and pottery. Part of the collection comes from the celebrated Etowah mound, which is but poorly represented in the National collection, and which is now closed to exploration. A compendium of the catalogue is herewith transmitted.

If this collection were added, it would place in the Museum all the ethnological material from this famous locality, for it would supplement a smaller collection already in our possession.

Believing as I do that the collection would be useful and worth the money, I accordingly respectfully ask that an item of seven thousand dollars be inserted in the Deficiency bill for this purpose, but I wish to say at the same time, that I make the recommendation with considerable hesitation. Unless, indeed, it can be granted without prejudice in the regular appropriations and without danger of reducing the amount to be allowed for regular expenses of the Museum, I greatly prefer that it should not be made.

Yours very respectfully,  
S. P. Langley,  
Secretary.

The Honorable Joseph G. Cannon, M.C.  
Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations,  
House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

[description of the collection appended to letter]

The collection of Dr. Roland Steiner, of Grovetown, Georgia comprises seven accessions and contains 33,866 implements, 157 of them were deposited in the National Museum in 1892; all the rest in 1894, although they were not entered until 1895. A compendium of the collection is as follows:

- Acc. 24147. Rude chipped implements, Burke Co., Ga.
- Acc. 25321. Rude chipped implements, Burke County, Ga.
- Acc. 29048. Arrow and spear-heads, [\*], perforators, hatchets, grooved axes, drilled [\*] objects, stone tube, steatite sinker, [\*] pipe with two stem holes. Columbia Co., Ga. [\*] objects.
- Acc. 29338. Arrow-heads and worked flint found en cache, S.C. in all 66 objects.
- Acc. collection from the Etowah Group of Mounds, Bartow Co., Ga.; Arrow- and spear-heads, polished hatchets and grooved axes, discoidal stones, drilled tablets, bird-shaped objects, boat-shaped objects, drilled ceremonial objects (bannerstones, etc.) chisels, stone plates,

stone beads and tubes, cone-shaped mullers, carved stone pipes, stone pendants, terra-cotta pipes and figurines, clay vessels, carved shell disks, shell beads and pins, pearl beads, copper hatchets, and ornaments, steatite objects, etc.

Polished hatchets, chisels, and grooved axes, Burke and Columbia Cos., Ga.

Hammer-stones, pitted stones, discoidal stones, grooved axes, ceremonial objects (banner-stones, etc.) leaf-shaped blades, arrow- and spear-heads, scrapers, perforators, mortars, pestles, grinding stones, fragments of pottery, etc., Burke Co., Ga.

Polished hatchets and chisels, grooved axes, stone mullers, discoidal stones, drilled tablets, boat-shaped objects, ceremonial objects, shell beads and pins, carved shell gorget, and bone implement, pottery vessels and human skulls and bones. Floyd Co., Ga.

Rude notched implements, arrow- and spear-heads, mullers, polished hatchets, and a large stone metate. Lincoln Co., Ga.

Grooved axes, polished hatchets, discoidal stones, stone mortars and pestles, stone sinkers, etc., Fulton, Jefferson, Richmond, and Milton counties, Ga.

Arrow & spear heads, scrapers, perforators, hammerstones, rude notched axes, grooved axes, drilled tablets, bannerstones, discoidal stones, mortars, large earthenware vessels & fragments of steatite vessels. Columbia Co., Ga.

Drilled tablets. Warren Co., Ohio

Grooved Axe Butler Co., Ohio

Mortars, pestles, grooved mauls & axes, notched implements catlinite pipe, war club, bow case & quiver with arrows. Pueblo Zuni, New Mexico.

Bone handle for scrapers

in all 32, 478 objects

Acc. 29546. Worked flakes knives scrapers, arrow and spear heads, rude notched implements, perforators, hammer & pitted stones, steatite vessels, rude chipped hatchets, polished hatchets, & drilled ceremonial objects. Columbia Co., Ga.

in all 992 objects

Acc. 29912 Leaf shaped implements, spearhead, perforator, small stone carving (human figure), disc for gambling, & a turquoise pendant. Columbia Co., Ga.

in all 6 objects.

(Smithsonian Archives Microfilm L111:482-485)

***Item 29. Letter [extract], Steiner to Wilson, 3/2/1896.***

[Extract of one of Steiner's letters for a paper on agriculture by Wilson, original letter not located]

Grovetown, Ga., Mch. 2/96

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

[missing segment] I have been reading "William Bartram's Travels" thru North & South Carolina, Georgia, East & West Florida, in which he has a great deal to say on the subject of Prehistoric Agriculture showing that large areas were planted in corn & peas, some 200 acres in one case. [missing segment]

Yours very truly,  
R. Steiner

(USNM, Ms. & Pamphlet File, Vertical File, Box 85, Folder, Wilson, Thomas)

**Item 30. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 7/26/1896.**

[Acc 30938; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., July 26, 1896.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

I sent the two packages per registered mail yesterday. Two rectangular objects, one hair-pin and flint knife from the same locality; the small triangular arrow-point is different in shape from any that I have ever seen; the knife like a spearhead is infrequent, and the gouge-shaped object is very rare in this section.

The collection in Ohio is mainly from [\*] This locality & represents the work of [\*] the aborigines from this section. Uchees, part of the Cherokees. You have a map of Columbia County drawn by myself in which the locality is pointed out. The collection from the Evans plantation, Davis Place, was the work of Creek Indians- the Ohio collection, the work of Uchees & Cherokees.

Do let me know what your idea is of the plate with perforations- I think it was for cooking- the plate being heated, the bread was placed upon it, and any water ran through the opening.

Let me hear from you in regard to the Ohio collection [\*] think for one moment you are competing with Mr. Mooreheads interest- he is [\*] for me to place it somewhere in some institution. as the University of Ohio will not purchase.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

Please send me some envelopes and stamps.

R. S.

**Item 31. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 8/5/1896.**

[Acc 30976; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Aug. 5th, 1896.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Wilson:

I send you by registered mail 2 packages containing two remarkable axes, a green serpentine object supposed to resemble a fish (a bouyant imagination is required to see the likeness); 3 small points, one a beautiful crystal quartz; three larger points, one very odd; 2 steatite ornaments, the larger one with incised lines on smooth surface; and one very rough flint flake.

I specially call your attention to the two axes. The rough specimen, as you see, is unfinished, it has been pecked over, but only the edge and one side polished- again it is of rare

material; not used for axes-- the first specimen of the kind I have ever seen. The second axe is finished, tho' also of rare material for an axe, there is also running over one side a vein of quartz. I have never seen their counterparts before.

I am anxious to put in my collection all rare objects I find, to add to its excellence as much as possible. The quartz axe I regard as a ceremonial as it is made of the material used in the manufacture of ceremonial axes, as you will see by looking over the collection from Columbia County.

The Ohio collection [\*] think would [\*] added much to my collection save for number. Send me a few more franks & envelopes [\*] need [\*] at any time. All of these specimens come from the village site on Kiokee Creek, noted in my map of Columbia Co. I feel a great pride in my collection; as you know, & will in everyway add to its archaeological value.

Yrs very sincerely  
R. Steiner

***Item 32. Letter, True to Steiner, 9/11/1896.***

[Acc. 30976]

Sept. 11, 1896.

Doctor Roland Steiner  
Grovetown, Georgia

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of fourteen stone implements, which have recently been received from you, and are referred to in your letter of August 5, addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A27:283)

***Item 33. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 8/10/[1896].***

Grovetown, Ga. Aug 10th

Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

Dear Mr. Wilson-

My collection brought in from the Village site on Kiokee Creek, [\*] objects, in a lot of specimens, which I send you by registered mail. The two perforated steatite objects are [\*] their general character & as evidence to my mind that this class of objects were not used for sinkers. but the larger & more elaborate ones were used in baking plates as the material stands fire better than any other stone- The smaller & rougher could be used for heating water in a pot. The perforation was for a stick to pull them out of the fire- You will find some very odd objects in the package. I send them believing the museum [\*] to have all the small objects possible & this would add interest to my collection. If you talk to Mr. Geare [\*] send some Franks. & a few

envelopes. thanks for the Chickamauga article- it is the first time I have seen Capt Wilson in private [\*] dialogue between friends [\*] capitol- & very Touching- Kind regards to all.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 34. Letter, True to Steiner, 9/12/1896.**

[Acc. 31050]

Sept. 12, 1896.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of seventy-two stone implements, which have recently been received from you, and are referred to in your letter of August 10, addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives Microfilm A27:305)

**Item 35. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/12/1896.**

[Acc 31325; 37114, 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Oct. 12, 1896.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City,

My dear Mr. Wilson:-

I have your two letters upon my return home. I feel with you the loss of Dr. Goode. It seems that when a man becomes almost a necessity, he is called off, but we cannot question the wisdom of our Creator. Your last letter in regard to the absence of Polished Stone Hatchets on the Old Evans' Place, I will state, that none ever were found there, but there are many chipped objects, that I believe were used for hatchets. Mr. Upham may remember, that in going over the objects found at the Old Evans' Place, the absence of Stone Hatchets was commented upon. There were grooved axes, but no hatchets. If you will observe closely the chipped objects resembling Hatchets, you will think, as I do, that they stood in the stead of a Hatchet. The fact still stands that none were found by myself at the Old Evans' Place, though you have some from Jefferson and Columbia Counties, adjoining Burke. The County of Burke was inhabited by the Creek Indians, whilst the Upper part of Jefferson and all of Columbia County was occupied by the Cherokee. In Columbia County Polished Stone Hatchets are very seldom met with, whilst fine grooved axes are frequent. I send you by registered mail, an unfinished grooved axe, some small

objects, and a paint mortar, the first I have ever seen. The stone contains crude paint- I have left one side with the paint produced by rubbing a pebble on the concave surface, after wetting the stone, that is the concavity, a red paint will be produced. Wash the stone and dry it, then take the pebble, and after wetting the stone rub it- and you will get the paint- perhaps, some of the cupstones in my collection from this County are paint mortars. Please let me know what you think of it.

I am glad that you are on the collection, for in a master's hand it will get its full deserts. I hope to drop in upon you in the Winter. With kindest regards to all,

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner

The specimens sent are from the village-site on Kiokee, Columbia County, Ga., where the other objects from Columbia, with you, come from.

***Item 36. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/19/1896.***

[Acc 31237; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga Oct 19th 96

Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

My dear Mr. Wilson

I send you per registered mail a package of specimens obtained from the "Kiokee" village site, Columbia County. You will find the objects very interesting, each possessing an individual interest, in the fact that most are off the general run of such specimens. You will find the chipped hatchet, I wrote to you about in my last letter. I selected the specimens from a lot brought in, as I wish to add to my collection with you, any unusual forms. I shall need some more franks, to forward anything I may have in the future. Trust very much served by next year. & send the proofs of your catalogue of my collection. Please remember me kindly to all.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

***Item 37. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/26/1896.***

[Acc 31258?, now 37115 ?]

Grovetown, Ga., Oct. 26, 1896.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

My dear Mr. Wilson:-

I send you per registered mail a package of objects. One perforated specimen of pot-stone, I am satisfied, was used for moulding bullets, as there is a groove leading to the perforation. One similar was in the collection of Col. C. C. Jones- it evidences the fact that after European communication the Indian could utilize a stone to serve his improved necessities.

I also send you two axes, grooved, from unusual stone, a material rarely met with in areas, there are but a few such specimens in my collection. I send another paint mortar. Do you

not think that many of the pitted stones were paint stones, as I find some I have give, on rubbing, various colored matter that could be used as paint. To fill up box, I send some odd specimens of arrow-points, etc., All these are from Kiokee Village site noted on map of Columbia County. As you only sent me one frank, I expect you do not want much more from this section- if you do, please send me some more, and, as I expect you are much engaged, let Mr. Upham drop me a line about the paint mortars, or pitted stones.

Kind regards to all,

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner

***Item 38. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/4/1896.***

[Acc 31313; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga Nov 4th 96

Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

Dear Mr Wilson,

Mr. Upham advises me that you will give the Kiokee village site a place in your descriptive catalogue. I send you today per registered mail (3) three packages of objects from that place. I received quite a number & selected the best specimens for your inspection. You will notice that there are many objects of ryollite, some very old, that would compare favorably with the "Spring collection" from my place. It evidences to my mind that there were many occupations of the country, & [\*] kind is the work of many different tribes. You will find as fine work as you could wish for, & then as rough & plain. I send you some new objects triangular arrowpoint scrapers- the first I have seen. also some objects shaped thus [drawing] something new. All from the Kiokee place plus look at the ryollite knife [sic] shaped like a fork- on the sole of the foot. I send these specimens to help illustrate the Kiokee village.

Am glad frank money wins [\*]

Kind regards to all  
Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

Notice in the perforated steatite objects the grooves leading to the perforations- They [\*] forms when purpose this net sinkers- I believe them to have been plummets used in weaving rough fabrics.

In sending the ryollite objects, I do so, as they were found with the other better specimens- In the [\*] "spring site" Their was no other material than ryollite.

All the seemingly broken objects, if looked at closely, will be found to be complete specimens & were reworked & rendered useful. Please look at the material the discoidals are made of. [\*] & they show to better advantage. The material is the same as the last grooved [\*] of its up. It being badly disintegrated all from Kiokee village site-  
Hurrah for McKinley!!

**Item 39. Letter, True to Steiner, 11/10/1896.**

[Accs 31235, 31237]

November 10, 1896

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the archaeological objects from aboriginal village sites on Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have recently been transmitted by you, and are referred to in your letters of October 12 and 19, addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives Microfilm A28:9)

**Item 40. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/11/1896.**

[Acc 31313: now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Nov. 11/96.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

I send you today per registered mail, three packages containing specimens from the Kiokee site., Among them is a very fine brown knife compare to the fine white one; also an axe and discoidal of the singular material mentioned in the previous letter. The shape of this axe would indicate use as a hoe.

I also send some long arrow-head scrapers or knives, one saw, and other interesting objects.

Kind regards to all. The objects sent came in on Saturday, and I send the batch, Kiokee is interesting.

Yours very truly,  
R. Steiner.

Have one envelope left.

**Item 41. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/13/1896.**

[Acc 31313; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga Nov 13, 96

My dear Mr. Wilson-

Today I received the enclosed specimens- the perforated object [Cat. No. 173534] has the sign of the "Swastika" upon one side- Such specimens are rarely found in this section, & more



rarely in perfect condition. I also send a small quartz saw, & a cut flint knife- I am entirely out of envelopes- Kind regards to all.

The specimens are from the "Kiokee Site"

Yours truly  
R. Steiner

To Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington City  
D.C.

**Item 42. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/14/1896.**

[Acc. 31347; part of Acc 31313; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga Nov 14th 96

Mr Thomas Wilson  
Washington City D.C.

Dear Mr. Wilson-

The "Kiokee" village site is becoming a very interesting spot to me. I sent to you on yesterday a small package, & after I had sent them a boy brought me some objects particularly interesting, the long spear head & the saw with [\*] for fastening- I send all he brought, as I wish Kiokee well represented in the catalogue. I went over all your letters to me & found the two envelopes,- "The last bottom on Jobes coat"- so if you want any more objects- from Kiokee please send envelopes, as they [\*] as well as franks. I find upon questioning the negroes, that all most all the objects I have in the collection, come from Kiokee are very near it. Strange no pipes have been found. Have you noticed the quantity of fan-shaped [drawing] scrapers or knives from very small ones to larger sized, & generally of quartz? The Kiokee site must have been a large town or settlement, occupied for ages perhaps, & by many different tribes. Have any new publications been issued by the department, if so I would be glad to get them. Kind regards to all

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 43. Letter, J. T. Merrill to Steiner, 11/21/1896.**

[Accs. 31258, 31311, 31313]

November 21, 1896.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the archaeological objects from aboriginal village sites on Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have recently been transmitted by you and are referred to in your letters of October 26 and November 11 addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
J. T. Merrill  
Acting Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives Microfilm A28:23)

***Item 44. Letter, Merrill to Steiner, 12/2/1896.***

[Acc. 31347]

December 2, 1896.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of thirty-two arrow and spear-heads from an aboriginal village site on Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have recently been transmitted by you, and are referred to in your letter of November 14, addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
J. T. Merrill  
Acting Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives Microfilm A28:63)

***Item 45. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 12/20/1896.***

[Acc. 31484; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Dec. 20/96

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

My dear Mr. Wilson:-

[copy of letter, extracted, portion missing]

I send you by today's registered mail a package of specimens from the Kiokee site. In the Catalogue you speak at some length of banner-stones. I send a rude specimen that has been pitted on the flat surface evidently for a paint mortar. I also send two of the California type blades. One rather odd in having a bifurcated base. The majority of the objects are good. One very fine triangular and some asymmetric knives- I send all nor some badly broken ones, will send them if you wish them. The Kiokee site is near the great trail from the mountains to the seaboard, which accounts, I think, for the commingling of specimens, there being such a variety of material, much foreign to this section. The Rhyolite I find about 12 miles from here in [\*], also the banded slate, I see it cropping out by the side of the public road. I send also a cube-shaped object akin to some in my collection, also some large spear-heads, etc., etc.

[portion of letter missing]

Yours very sincerely,  
R. Steiner

***Item 46. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 12/21/1896.***

[Acc. 31484; 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Dec. 21st '96.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Wilson:-

After writing to you on yesterday, and looking over the drawings of the Catalogue, I resolved to send the other specimens on hand from Kiokee. There are many good objects among them, most of them are but slightly imperfect, a small part of point being broken off; and remembering that my late friend, Col. C. C. Jones, rejected nothing nor called it common, and had a large collection of broken arrow and spear points, I concluded to send on and let yourself and Mr. Upham to the judging as to utility. I am very glad I got the two lance blades sent in large box- they are almost as good as those from the "Evans Place"-

All hands are Xmas frolicking now, as the Negro is a merry-making animal, I will get nothing more till plowing begins.

Wishing you and your staff a merry, merry, Xmas, and many returns, I am as ever,

Yours sincerely,  
R. Steiner.

***Item 47. Letter, Steiner to [William Henry] Holmes, undated [ca. 1897]***

[Accession, unknown]

My dear Mr. Holmes.

I send by freight to day one box containing the two pitted stone objects. The large one I described in a former letter, the smaller one seems to be blocked out pipe with two pits in one side and three in the other. Should I find any other unique pitted stones will send them on. I wish very much some time at your leisure you would throw some light on the pitted stone mortars, as you have every conceivable form at hand. Hope my thousand dollars will come soon in July. I have mapped out new work I think will prove interesting.

Yours very cordially,  
R. Steiner.

Dr. W. H. Holmes,  
U. S. National Museum,  
Washington, D. C.

(National Anthropological Archives, Department of Anthropology, Correspondence Files)

***Item 48. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/19/[1897]***

[Acc. unknown]

Grovetown, Ga. April 19th

Dear Mr. Wilson

I am nearly out of envelopes, please ask Mr. Upham to send me a package, as I will send the best and most fragile portion of the collection per mail. I hope you are pleased with what I have sent. I went over there to the village site- an a Tuesday & spent the day looking around. It must have been at one time a very large town, as there is evidence of habitation over fifty acres of land- there are 26 springs in the fifty acres- it stretches back to the foot of Burt Mountain. I have not been to the top of the mountain yet- but the negros tell me this is the remains of where first were [\*] I shall go there next time. I wish you could see the place.

Yrs very Truly  
R. Steiner

Let Mr. Upham Send the envelopes at once.

***Item 49. Letter, Steiner to E. P. Upham, 4/28/[1897].***

[Acc. unknown]

Grovetown, April 28th

Dear Mr. Upham,

I am sending right along the best specimens per mail. I have not separated the serrated ones, as some are spear heads large, & others small, & I did not know how wish them arranged. Did you get the flints for the gun? I put them in one of the boxes. Mr. Wilson said I must stop finding new places, what does he think of this new place- I shall go on sending the spear points & other arrowpoints. I sent the [\*] arrow pts as I wished [\*]. I shall send you on Monday a new variety of arrow or spear-point, which was not present in the Evans' collection. When you have time, drop me a few lines about the objects I sent to you, I wish I could go to Horacys' for a steam &c. I shall send next week two or three boxes of bevelled-edge.

Kind regards to all

Yrs very truly

R. Steiner

Please send package of envelopes-addressed

***Item 50. Letter, Steiner to Wilson and Upham, 12/29/1896.***

[Acc. 31497; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga. Dec 29th 96

Dear Mr. Wilson and Mr. Upham,

Many thanks for the "Swastika". I read it with the greatest pleasure. [\*] are doing so much, and in so many ways, for us poor mortals here below. that if giving pleasure to others, a greater pleasure is felt, you must be the happiest of men. I wish you would send one to a dear friend of mine, Reve'nd Dr. C. C. Williams, Rector of St. Pauls Church Augusta Ga. He is a highly intellectual gentleman, & will prize the Swastika very highly- I send you by todays registered mail a parcel of very fine specimens. The triangular are particularly interesting, two

with serrated caps, unlike any in the collection. One almost a humpback. Two thicker than any you have. I also send part of a steatite sinker, showing the mode of manufacture, by gouging all other specimens are polished so that the gouge marks are obliterated. The flint hatchet with twig bent around it is odd. The two serrated specimens are unlike any other I have heretofore seen one is of flint, one of quartz [drawing] All the objects are found, save the ryollite which do not show the state of weathering common to those objects. You will find one brown serrated knife or scraper or saw. I am [\*] to believe that many of the serrated objects were saws. One can easily saw a piece of wood an inch in diameter, & in a short time, much shorter [\*] a stone knife would cut it. I have tried the experiment. I send two strange looking objects that may have been used for scrapers. They are large & of a very peculiar shape. I send a small hair-pin it could not have been a perforator. there is one rough perforator in the lot. The varigated serrated triangular specimen is a beauty, but the concave base seems to have been rubbed into shape, as used as a saw & scraper. Please send me some envelopes. Most kind regards to your staff, & again thanking you for the "Swastika" given

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

I wrote to Mr. Upham to send me your paper on Prehistoric Art [\*] to see it. Notice the three specimens stemmed & barbed & their shape [drawing] could they have been knives?

***Item 51. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 1/4/1897.***

[Acc. 31497; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Jan. 4, '97.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

I send you by today's registered mail a package of specimens- two unique in their style- the long leaf-shaped blade is not only beveled, but serrated- the only specimen I have met with. The other a mitre-shaped object, that is cousin german to the egg-shaped objects, in the matter of maintaining an upright position, the base being flat. Now I believe this to be a finished object. I also send a saw with a piece of hard pine, showing with what ease it could have been used. The workman could easily accomplish much more with the saw than with a flint knife- try it, as I have done, with the wood in a green stage, it will do work faster. I send the hardest wood in this section- the yellow-heart pine. [portion of letter missing]

In the package you will find a yellow flint scraper, that has been broken, the broken top has been utilized, not be [sic] re-working, but simply by being used. Perhaps in the matter of serrated edges- all were saws, they would answer admirably in sawing arrowshafts.

I return the Catalogue- I am loth [sic] to let it go, it has been my companion ever since I have had it. [portion of letter missing]

Yours very sincerely,  
R. Steiner

***Item 52. Letter, Steiner to Wilson and Upham, 1/8/1897.***

[Acc. 31541; now 37115]

Grovetown Ga. Jan, 8th 97

Dear Mr. Wilson-

I today send you a parcel by registered mail. As I have sent no objects of pottery from Kiokee, in the parcel you will find some sherds, giving an idea of the character of work. I send a long lance-like object which is serrated. You will also find two other interesting serrated specimens & two unfinished specimens of triangular flints. I noted in catalogue, your remarks on broken arrow-heads used as scrapers-not retouched. You will find two specimens in which the rubbing process has begun at the corners. I send you some fine specimens of quartz spearheads a peculiarly shaped rubbing stone & pitted stone. I wrote a few days since to Mr. True in regard to the collection & hope to have his views about the matter. If the Museum wishes the collection I would like to know it- & then [\*] myself accordingly. Do you notice the number of serrated specimens I am getting from "Kiokee"- More than in Burke. This "Kiokee" is a mystery to me in that all grades of objects from the rudest to the finest are found there. I send two rhyolite knives. Same as found near spring but not so much weathered. We are having bitter cold weather here-but thank goodness we have big fireplaces & plenty of wood. Thanks for your kindness in sending the "Swastika" to Mr. Williams. It will do you both good.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

Among the quartz spear heads you will find one of stemmed, shouldered, & square at end barbs. First I have seen of quartz.

***Item 53. Letter, True to Steiner, 1/11/1897.***

January 11, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the wish conveyed in your letter of December 29, addressed to Doctor Thomas Wilson, a copy of his paper on the "Swastika" from the Report of the National Museum for 1894, has been mailed to the Reverend Doctor C. C. Williams, Rector of St. Paul's Church, Augusta, Georgia.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm L124:65)

***Item 54. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 1/12/1897.***

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga Jan 12th 97  
Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

My dear Sir,

I have a letter from Mr. Upham, in regard to the sending in of objects from Kiokee. He advises to hold till I have a number sufficient for a large package or box. How must the box be sent, by express? I have not collected any mortars (large ones) rough rubbing stones, or hammerstones. I have selected only the best. Do you wish the rude ones? The perforated plate was from "Kiokee" not my place. as are all the specimens I have sent for the last eight months & also the almost entire of objects sent on when I sent the large collection from Burke Co., [\*] & except where the specimens here [\*] to some specified place, as [\*] Green I spoke to Mr. Upham & wrote also about the facts in the [\*] . I send you a map of the "site". there is a large boulder of about 5 tons in the surface of which & on the sides are many mortars, cut on a hill immediately opposite the site, near a spring. I am [\*] belonged to the town. I am endeavoring to get anything from the place have no competitors. I find many, very many, specimens similar to those of Evans Place. but find also much that is not found at Evans Place. That is quartz and ryllite objects. The triangular arrowpoint is found at "Kiokee"- but is not found in the adjoining counties of McDuffie & Warren, & Lincoln. I saw a collection from those counties & not one triangular specimen in it. Now from Kiokee to the Evans Place the distance is 25 miles. You must think the problem out.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

***Item 55. Letter, True to Steiner, 1/14/1897.***

[Acc. 31484]

January 14, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of seven hundred and twenty-seven archaeological objects from an aboriginal village site on Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have recently been transmitted by you, and are referred to in your letters of December 20 and 21 addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A28:191)

***Item 56. Letter, True to Steiner, 1/20/1897.***

[Acc. 31541]

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

January 20, 1897.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of a collection of archaeological [sic] objects from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have recently been transmitted by you, and are referred to in your letter of January 8 addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A28:227)

***Item 57. Letter, Wilson to True, 2/10/1897.***

United States National Museum  
under direction of  
The Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, Feb. 10/97.

Mr. F. W. True,  
Executive Curator,  
U. S. National Museum

My dear Sir:-

Last week I delivered to you the text and figures, complete, of a monograph paper entitled "A Descriptive Catalogue of Dr. Roland Steiner's Collection of Aboriginal Implements." This collection is on deposit in the Museum, and each implement or object has been before our eyes while being described. It comprises 263 + 9=272 pages of manuscript, of these 210 pages are text, typewritten, the balance rude pencil sketches of figures called [\*] with the number and identification marks, by means of which the figures can more easily be inserted. There are, by calculation, 37,800 words, and 191 figures. The figures have been drawn principally in outline, as that was considered by me (and I have no doubt of its correctness) to be quite sufficient. The figures were drawn, partly by Miss Weiser, whose work amounted to \$7.50, and by Miss Gloetzner, whose work is worth \$20.00. If the figures had been shaded in, it would have cost five times as much. The drawings are all made full size and should be reduced to a regular scale of one-half size.

This paper is much more, both in extent and value, than would be indicated by its title or appearance. A very large proportion of the implements came from a single locality greatly restricted. An area less than forty acres furnish sixteen thousand of these objects. It is perfectly evident that there was an extensive population congregated there, and that they occupied it for a long period of time. The objects here found are diverse and furnish extensive series of almost every kind of implement. The combination of implements, their number, and diversity, comprising, as it does, all that have ever been found within the restricted area, afford the best monograph of the history of these prehistoric peoples I have ever seen.

One of the early magazines or journals established in the interest of science of prehistoric anthropology, declared itself not to attempt the history of man, but that it should be only "material gathered to serve for the primitive history of man." So this collection. It contains



objects of nearly every kind used by prehistoric man in that country. They have been arranged into books, pamphlets, sections, finally pages and paragraphs, according as we can read them, they give a general recapitulation of the history of aboriginal man in that locality. It is exactly such purposes as this for which Museums and collections are formed, and that they have not been successful heretofore, is because having come from an extended area, divided by time as well as by space, that our immense collections throughout the United States have been unable thus far to make a complete history of the prehistoric man.

I repeat that this comparatively small collection makes a greater and more successful stride in this direction than any other of which I know.

My recommendation that it be printed is serious. I have been animated by that belief from the beginning and throughout the very considerable labor which I have imposed upon myself in the preparation of this catalogue. I express no opinion as to whether it should go in Proceedings or Bulletins, but I am fully convinced of its monographic form and of its importance as a contribution to Prehistoric Science sufficient to justify its publication in the best form possible.

If the determination should be to publish it I think it well that I should have the privilege of re-reading and, possibly, adding some figures, and re-drawing some others. The figures are not numbered seriatim, but are identified only by their Catalogue Numbers. This is satisfactory to me, and could undoubtedly be arranged in the published volume, but if deemed otherwise, I am satisfied to change them.

I beg leave to remark that this paper is not in lieu of the two or three which I have been preparing for the Annual Report, all of which are now approaching completion.

Yours very truly,  
Thomas Wilson  
Curator, Department of  
Prehistoric Anthropology.

(National Anthropological Archives, Henry B. Collins Papers)

***Item 58. Internal Memo, Geare to True, 2/13/1897.***

U.S. National Museum  
{ covered over }  
Division of Correspondence and Reports  
Memorandum

February 13, 1897.

To Mr. True:-

In regard to the descriptive paper by Mr. Wilson of the Steiner collection, I find that the Secretary wrote to the Honorable J. G. Cannon on January 22, asking that an item of \$7000 be inserted in the Deficiency Bill for the purchase of the archaeological collection of Dr. Steiner (the collection already received containing 33,866 objects), speaking of the value of the collection to the Museum, but specifying that the item be added if at all, without prejudice to the regular appropriations and without danger of reducing the amount to be allowed for the regular expenses of the Museum.

Yours respectfully,  
R D. Geare  
Chief of Division

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Record Unit 189, Incoming Correspondence)

**Item 59. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 3/13/1897.**

[Acc.37115; Cat 174017-100; Cat 195001-2]

Grovetown, Ga., March 13/97.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

I will send per Express a box of objects from the Kiokee site. They are particularly interesting; Note those around which I have tied strings- there are two spear-heads that have a small paint mortar on one side- you can see the abrasion-all with strings tied are unique.

[portion missing]

Yours very truly,  
R. Steiner

**Item 60. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/7/1897.**

[Acc. 31931]

Grovetown, Ga. April 7, 1897.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

I send per express two boxes- those I have tied strings around please look at specially- I send the largest triangular specimen I have ever seen- also a fine lot of the Swiss-spoon-scrappers, fine selection of scrapers. I have some large objects such as mortars, rubbing stones, and soap-stone objects, must I send them as freight?

I have learned a great deal about the surroundings of the village-site, and will write it out in a few days and send.

Notice the spear-heads with mortar on one surface, also the little paint-cups. [drawing] The grooved axe is very old- much disintegrated. There are a number of unique specimens in the box. Tell Mr. Upham to notice closely in the lot of arrow-heads there are some fine specimens.

Next week I shall plow up land near spring and get everything.

We are nearly drowned out down here. Please as a special favor, let me know how you like the specimens, particularly the triangular one.

Kind regards to all.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 61. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/8/1897.**

[Acc. 31931]

Grovetown, Ga., April 8, 1897.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

The Kiokee village-site is situated in Columbia County, Ga., on the Kiokee Creek. Early historians locate in this county the Uchees- who were a large and powerful tribe, were conquered by the Cherokees, though they always held to their own tribal customs and spoke their own language. Though belonging to the Muskogee confederacy, they were always a distinct people.

The Kiokee site was upon the Indian trail from the mountains to the sea, and from the extent of land- about 50 acres- must have been a large and populous town. The types of objects found there are from the rudest to the finest, and seems to have been the work of varied peoples. Some of the objects were from a far remove, as specimens of the black flint from the Etowah mounds are found there, perhaps, being upon the trail, travelers exchanged or lost their weapons and utensils there. The objects found are often counterparts of those found on the Evans Place, Burke County, a distance of 37 miles. Triangular flints are almost as abundant as on the Evans Place. The scrapers are alike, and no polished hatchets are found. To account for the number of rude objects, I believe it is due to this fact, that the Uchees were conquered, and the conquerors introduced their own and better tools and weapons.

[Map]

As will be seen from the map- slate, quartz and soap-stone were in easy reach, the material being easy to work, was utilized for almost any kind of implement. I have heard of no flint quarry, the nearest point being "Old Town," Jefferson Co.

I sent in box one soap-stone object that shows the beginning of the perforation- done with a hollow reed. I forgot to mention that there is no jasper quarries in this locality.

Yrs very truly

R. Steiner

The boulder with mortars on it, is a round rock, weighing about 5 tons. It was the village mill.

I sent two boxes per express- only one got off, through mistakes of express, the other goes today. Please send a few stamp envelopes.

***Item 62. Letter, Chas [Charles] Walcott to Steiner, 5/6/1897.***

[Acc 31931]

May 6, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of a collection of stone implements from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have been transmitted by you, and are referred to in your letter of April 7, addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Yours respectfully,

Chas Walcott

Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A29:90)

**Item 63. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 5/27/1897.**

[Acc. 32670; 37115; Cat. No. 195456-525]

Grovetown, Ga., May 27, 1897.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

My dear Sir:-

I have about wound up the "Kiokee site"- and I will send on what I have to be added to the collection. I also will send two boxes from the spring site- all rhyolite- I did not attempt to assort them- you will recognize the objects- the boxes are also numbered on the outside spring No. 1 & 2. I will send the boxes by freight that contain the spring and Kiokee specimens. I have one box which I will send by express, as it contains very fine and very odd specimens- particularly one arrow-head, beveled on the right side, in a tobacco bag. One long flint hair-pin- could not possible have been a borer or perforator, it is similar to the shell hair-pins from Etowah mounds- also two pitted stones, with three pits on back stone. I send by freight everything I got from Kiokee save the box per express, which objects are also from "Kiokee"- I would like to hear from you, particularly about last boxes sent per express. I have nothing from you in a long time. Would it be convenient to send out the catalogue again- I would like to look over it again- as it would give me much pleasure these long hot days- I would keep only a couple of weeks, and return. The Kiokee site compares favorably with the Evans Place. I forgot to mention one iron tomahawk- a negro tried to grind the edge, but found it was not made of steel, but iron. It is very old. In the six boxes by freight there are many good specimens, some very similar to those from the Evans Place- the material being like that from the Rocky Creek quarry- Just drop me a line to say you are hul and corl. With kind regards to all,

Yrs very truly,

R. Steiner

In the box per express, there are some odd specimens, unlike any I have hitherto seen.

**Item 64. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 6/9/1897.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., June 9/97.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

Dear Mr. Wilson:-

I was very sorry to learn thro' Mr. Upham of your indisposition from which I trust You have entirely recovered- Your trip to Brussels with plenty of salt air and change of scene I hope will make a new man of you.

I send by registered mail a package containing some interesting specimens- two very long hairpins and one cruciform hair-pin of slate which is particularly thin, which plainly proves to me that these objects were ornaments and not implements- the long one of flint is the finest I have ever seen, the other seems to be of bone; also a gunflint and piece of Spanish porcelain pipe

which indicates that the “Kiokee site” was long a place of importance, as far as occupation goes—a large triangular piece of quartz, and some other objects.

I thought these things worth sending on at once to be entered with the boxes per freight and express.

Kind regards to all.

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner.

***Item 65. Letter, Walcott to Steiner, 6/18/1897.***

[Acc. 32214]

June 18, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of a miscellaneous collection of stone implements and objects from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, and also of some additional objects found near the “Spring” on the Steiner Plantation, Grovetown. Reference to the transmission of these specimens is made in your letter of May 27 addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Very respectfully,  
Chas. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A29:259)

***Item 65. Letter, Walcott to Steiner, 6/28/1897.***

[Acc. 31497]

June 28, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of a miscellaneous collection of stone implements, from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia. Reference to the transmission of these objects was made in your letter of January 4, addressed to Mr. Thomas Wilson.

Very respectfully,  
Chas. D. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A29:282)

***Item 66. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 7/2/1897.***

[Acc. 32334; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., July 2nd, 97.

Mr. Thomas Wilson  
Washington City

Dear Sir-

I send by registered mail some odd specimens from "Kiokee Site". One is a soapstone grooved axe, the first seen of shale material- a perforated soapstone object with five perforations- two ceremonial objects [\*] an unfinished one ceremonial that seems to have been used as a paint mortar, there are three pits in it. The other objects are good- there is a pestle or pect with two protuberances on the side- one long edges? also some small turtle-backs, that seem to be unfinished triangular arrow points. Could somebody write to me about last lot sent. Please send some envelopes.

Kind regards to all,

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

***Item 67. Letter, Walcott to Steiner, 7/21/1897.***

[Acc. 32334]

July 21, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of seventy stone implements from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, transmitted by you.

Very respectfully,

Chas. D. Walcott

Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A29:391)

***Item 68. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 8/23/1897.***

[Acc. 32670; now 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., Aug. 23, 1897.

Mr. E. P. Upham:

Washington City.

My dear Sir:

I have wound up the Kiokee matter. I have gotten all- have some strange ones. After the last plowing, rains set in, and I got a lot of hands to gather all they could find- there are many fine specimens in the lot- not as many as in the last lot. There are some odd-shaped spearpoints bend as is here [drawing], and two chipper hatchets shaped like gouges. There are six boxes in all. In one box is a large mortar and pestle from Etowah Mound, plowed up at the base of large mound. I have not gotten anything else from there yet; as soon as I do I will send on.

[Editors note: portion of text missing]  
Kind regards to all.

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner.

I had all the specimens classified and wrapped separately, so you wont have the trouble of looking them over [portion missing] I send the six boxes by freight.

**Item 69. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/16/1897.**

[Acc. 32800; 37115; Cat. No. 195751-794]

Grovetown, Ga., Oct. 16, 1897.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.  
My dear Sir:

I have gotten all the surface finds from the shell heaps on the bank of the Savannah river, near the mouth of Kiokee Creek. There are no shell heaps on Kiokee Creek- they extend along the bank of the Savannah river for a great distance. The heaps are from 25 to 300 feet in length, and from 3 to 10 feet deep. The chipped objects are made, most of them, of schist, and closely resemble the objects from the "spring." There are many flint chips and broken objects of stone as well as pottery to the depth of 3 or 4 feet; an abundance of bones, both human and animal, are found- below the bones disappear, having been decomposed and resolved into dust, judging from the color of the soil and its character. A few soapstone objects are present.

I send next week, the find; will write what boxes contain, as I will pack on Monday. I send four boxes containing earth and shells from heap to depth of nine feet; 1 box will contain earth and shells from the surface; 1 box one foot below surface; 1 box to 3 feet below surface; 1 box to 9 feet below, and 1 box the sand upon which the heap was built up.

I send in this letter diagram of heap, as sent.

I find that the soapstone quarry that I wrote of in a previous letter is located near these shellheaps, on the west bank of Kiokee creek- a mile from its confluence with Savannah river. The quarry is about 1000 yards from the creek, and between it and the creek is an aboriginal village site. I am getting all the objects I can from both places and will send on as soon as I complete work. The quarry is indeed an interesting spot, as I found every object manufactured of soap-stone there with the implements used in getting it out of quarry. The objects so far received are: bowls, mortars of all sizes, scrapers, pipes, ornaments, plates, perforated objects of all types from 30 lbs. to 1 oz., one large pipe blocked out but not bored. I believe when you see the objects, your views as to perforated soapstone objects being always sinkers will change, as all the sinkers found are much water worn. Many nut-stones with a dozen pits on either side are among the objects. I think this find will thoroughly illustrate the manners, customs, tools, etc., of the Indians of Columbia County, taken in connection with the "spring," "Kiokee," "Shell heap," and the county at large. The stone picks are from 5 inches to 24 inches.

I send the objects from the shell heap next week, so the two finds will not be confused.  
Kind regards to all,

Yrs truly,  
R. Steiner

to Mr. Upham.

[profile drawing attached]

**Item 70. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/19/1897.**

[Acc. 32800; 37115; Cat. No. 195751-794]

Grovetown, Ga., Oct. 19/97.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington City.

My dear Sir:

I today send per freight 5 boxes containing the objects from the Fishing-site at the mouth of Kiokee Creek.

In box No. 1, you will find two match-boxes containing shells alone from the surface of the heap- the earth with shells, bones and potsherds etc. is to the depth of one foot.

Box No. 2, contains the portion of heap to 3 feet, or 2 feet from No. 1.

Box No. 3, contains portions of heap to depth of 8 feet, or 5 feet from No. 2.

Box No. 4 contains sand upon which shell heap was made.

Box No. 5 contains all objects, knives, potsherds, arrow- and spear-points, chips of lost flint and rhyolite, and larger broken objects; all the chips indicate use and were no doubt the implements with which the shells were opened. There were some soapstone objects on surface that I also put in. In a glass case the shell heap could be shown to advantage.

Now a word about the soap-stone quarry. I have been there several times since I last wrote and found it an extremely interesting place. It is about 1/8 of a mile on the other side of Kiokee Creek from the Fishing-site- a large village site lies between it and the Creek. There is a quarry workshop near the village site, if not in it. Every variety of object made from soap-stone is found at the quarry or village-site. I am collecting all I can- have many negroes at work for me. I shall soon finish it up as there is no digging, simply finding. Some of the pitted stones have twelve pits on either side, some have less down to one on either side.

When I come on I will own a map of locality. I will not send for about two weeks, as I expect to finish up by that time- and then I shall rest upon my laurels and the glory you wrote of. Kind regards to all,

Yrs truly  
R. Steiner.

Mr. Upham.

**Item 71. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/24/1897.**

[Acc. 32871; 37115; Cat. No. 196996-197102]

Grovetown, Ga., Oct. 24/97.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I spent all day yesterday at the soapstone quarry and secured many specimens of interest. I learned that Col. C. C. Jones was ignorant of the existence of the quarry, as the negro man who was with him when he visited the shell-heaps informs me that he did not go across the creek,



either to the village-site or quarry- so you see I am the first upon the ground. I have forty (40) pitted stones with pits on either side, sometimes on four sides, varying in number from 2 to 20 pits- have two with deep mortar on one side and 12 its on the opposite side- have many smaller stones with a pit on one side or on both sides. Have many sinkers, as well as perforated objects, that I have doubt about being sinkers. Have large blocked out pipes, also bowls, mortars, ceremonial objects, hoes, pot-stone bowls, and plates. There are very many and they would be bulky and weighty, but I cannot see how any one can be left out, either all differ in one respect or another. Many of the bowls or mortars are unfinished as to cavities, leaving small ripples of stone here and there on the surface, some are only partly bored. I shall send all, for if there ever was an opportunity to illustrate the method of manufacture of soapstone objects we have it here.

The village site shows up well. I will not send from it, as I have not finished with it- There are some very large objects of soap-stone perforated that must have been used as anchors to canoes or nets, also large pointed hammers, and many picks. From the village-site I have only finished specimens- from the edge of the creek the sinkers and from Burt Mountain, about one-half mile distant the potstone bowls and plates and stone mortars. I send you a drawing of the sites-which I will fully explain when I come on. The objects from village-site or [\*] to "Kiokee site" and for reference to shell-heap objects. When I found the village-site, I was done, done, done.

With kind remembrances to all,

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner.

To Mr. E. P. Upham,  
Assistant Curator.

***Item 72. Letter, True to Steiner, 10/26/1897.***

[Acc. 32370]

October 26, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

In the absence of the Acting Assistant Secretary, I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the stone implements and other objects from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, recently deposited by you in the National Museum.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A30:226)

***Item 73. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/28/1897.***

Grovetown, Ga, October 28, 1897.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

I have shipped today seven (7) boxes containing all steatite objects from the quarry, village site. The objects from the Mountain (Burt's) comprise only the pot-stone specimens- one large mortar or bowl, one broken bowl and some plates. There are a great many steatite objects, and I hesitated about sending them, but felt if ever a series was to be seen the opportunity was present. There are large and small mortars, small ones, fish-sinkers large and small perforated grooved and notched ornaments- pipes, banner stones, ceremonial axes- I have never seen so many or of so varied types. The rough water-worn sinkers were found near the bank of the creek and there only- The smooth objects were found in the village as well as the pots, etc., etc.- At the quarry were found the tools, picks, etc. I have never seen so many quartz objects in one place. They were undoubtedly used in finishing off the steatite objects.

I send a series of fan-shaped scrapers [two drawing] or knives of quartz found with the steatite objects. The five large blocked out pipes, one with stem-hole drilled, are fine and interesting- also two catlinite objects, one a bead, one incomplete. I have not exhausted the village site, but think the specimens will be about the average of Kiokee site, with here and there extra fine specimens.

I send on some curved knives that are fine. The only thing I fear is that I have overdone the business in sending too many. This closes up my efforts in trying to make my collection complete. You must be the judge. I have a few beautiful points which I shall bring on with me. Let me know when you get them if I acted wisely in sending them on.

Kind regards to all.

Yrs truly,  
R. Steiner

Mr. Upham.  
[map attached]

***Item 74. Letter, Walcott to Steiner, 11/13/1897.***

[Acc. 32800]

November 13, 1897.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the stone implements and other objects obtained from a shell heap on the Savannah River at the mouth of Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, which have been deposited by you in the National Museum.

Yours respectfully,  
Chas. D. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A30:355)

***Item 75. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/22/1897.***

[Acc. 32030; 37115; Cat. No. 196782-800]

Grovetown, Ga., Nov. 22, 1897.

Mr. Thomas Wilson,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wilson-

As I stated in some previous letter to you, that should I come up with any curious or unique specimens, I would send them on. Today I send per express a small box containing some very long steatite grooved axes- I cannot conjecture their use as the cutting edges of two are very thick and do not seem to have seen service- one seems to have been used- also a smaller one with a ball-like handle. A smaller one still seems to have seen much service- Col. C. C. Jones had one similar to the longest of the three, but not so long by 4 or 5 inches.

You will find in the box a discoidal stone of steatite, also some objects, one with handle and 2 with no handle- broken off; also 2 soapstone cones, and one of some slaty material. The object with knob and peculiar body with perforation, I believe to be an implement for twisting thongs- as the oil could be kept in long circular opening and taken up as needed and the implement could be put in fire and the groove heated if necessary.

Also send 3 large crystals of quartz that show use as punches or borers-

I send also by freight a cracker-box containing 3 rough axes- with indistinct grooves- a heart-shaped hammer of sandstone, a large dish with hole through middle [drawing] and a dish with a spout- all very curious and odd. I think at the quarry- all kinds of objects were made for barter. In the series of rough sinkers I sent in last lot, a fact should be noted- that I have never met with them save at this point. After they were taken away they were polished. In Burke County soapstone objects are rarely found. I did not see any at the Etowah mounds, nor were there any in the collection from Rome, Ga.

I wish very much you would drop me a line when you get the axes and other objects and give me your views about them. Just take a minute or two and talk it out to Miss Rosenbusch. I shall answer your last letter in a few days. Kind regards to all.

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner

This sending was found at a high point on Savannah River about 1/4 of a mile above quarry- and but few could occupy the ground, as the space is small. Pottery was plentiful, but no sinkers- some small paint mortars and the large slab with hole in one end. The length of the axes are: 13 1/4 inches, 12 inches, 11 inches [drawing included]

**Item 76. Letter, Walcott to Steiner, 12/20/1897.**

[Acc. 32930]

December 20, 1897.

Doctor R. Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the stone relics from Columbia County, Georgia, which have been deposited by you in the National Museum.

Yours respectfully,  
Chas. D. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A31:17)

**Item 77. Letter, Holmes to Steiner, [undated, ca 1897].**

Dr. Steiner

Dear sir,

I have recommended that your 3rd thousand be paid at once. As to the pitted stones I fear I shall not have time to seriously consider them.

Yours truly

W. H. Holmes

(National Anthropological Archives, Department of Anthropology, Correspondence)

**Item 78. Letter, Walcott to Langley [with H.R. 6357 enclosed], 1/17/1898.**

Smithsonian Institution  
Washington

S. P. Langley.  
Secretary.

Jan. 17th, 1898.

Dear Sir:

I enclose herewith a copy of House Resolution #6357, providing for the purchase of the Steiner collection of Indian objects. As it is probable that I shall be asked to express an opinion concerning its value to the Government, I shall be glad if you will furnish me with data on which to base a reply.

Very respectfully yours,

S. P. Langley

Secretary.

Professor C. D. Walcott

Acting Assistant Secretary, in charge

of the U. S. National Museum,

Washington, D. C.

[copy of resolution]

55th Congress,

2d Session

**H. R. 6357.**

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

January 12, 1898.

Mr. Fleming introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

**A BILL**

To appropriate money to purchase collection of Indian relics and implements for the Smithsonian Institution.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the sum of seven thousand dollars is hereby appropriated to pay to Doctor Roland Steiner, in full satisfaction for his collection of Indian relics and implements, numbering about seventy-five thousand specimens now under offer of sale by him to the Smithsonian Institution, for display in the United States National Museum.*

**Item 79. Letter, Wilson to Holmes, 1/19/1898.**

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

S. P. Langley

Secretary

Chas. D. Walcott

Acting Assistant Secretary

in Charge U. S. National Museum

Washington, D. C. January 19, 1898.

Dr. W. H. Holmes,

Head Curator, Department of Anthropology, U. S. National Museum.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your request for information concerning the number, extent and value of Dr. Roland Steiner's collection now on deposit in the National Museum, I have the honor to make the following report.

Dr. Steiner has been, for about three years, at intervals, making deposits of aboriginal implements and objects in the National Museum. His collection amounts now to approximately 75,000 objects. They have been gathered by him in eastern Georgia, principally in Columbia and Burke Counties, though there is a very important collection made by himself from the Etowah Mounds in Bartow County. The value of this collection is much increased over the usual collections of similar size or number, from the fact that it has been gathered from specific localities. One collection, from Burke County, comprising from between sixteen and seventeen thousand pieces, has been gathered on what is called "The Old Evans Place," about twelve miles west of Waynesboro. The area on which these were found is less than forty acres, on the bank of Little Buckhead Creek. There was a spring and two or three small and insignificant mounds. It was evidently a site of ancient occupation continuing for a long period of time, with an extensive population. The objects found are diverse and furnish an extensive series of almost every kind of implement. The combination of these implements, their number and diversity, comprising as they do, all that has ever been found within this restricted area, afford the best monograph of the history of those prehistoric peoples I have ever seen. Extensive quarries of the various materials used are found in the immediate neighborhood and with these added to the collection, the student is enabled to better understand and trace the history of these peoples, so far as it can be made out from their industry, better than by any other known method. A collection of the same number of objects gathered from different parts of the country, without any known relation to each other, would not be worth one fourth as much.

Another portion of the collection was gathered at another village-site or settlement on Kiokee Creek, and still another at a soapstone quarry and village-site on Burt's Mountain, Columbia County. the two latter present practically the same advantages as exist with regard to the collection from the Old Evans Place.

Not the least inconsiderable portion of Dr. Steiner's collection, nor that of least value, is the result of his own excavation at the Etowah Mounds or, as they have been known, the Tumlin Mounds on the plantation of Col. Tumlin, Etowah Creek, Bartow County. These are probably the most renowned mounds of which we know, and have produced the rarest and most curious objects. They were first excavated under the direction of the Bureau of Ethnology, and a considerable collection of implements and objects obtained from them. Their position, form, and the industry they reveal, are of such importance that they are selected by Prof. Thomas as the type for his "History of a Mound," published in the American Anthropologist, a few years since. The Museum possesses the objects which Prof. Thomas obtained from this group of mounds, and they fill one case in my Division. Dr. Steiner's excavations into the same mounds produced nearly twice as many objects, some of them the rarest and most valuable, - they are also in the Museum by the side of the others, and fill two cases.

The Etowah mounds are far from being exhausted. They have not been thoroughly excavated or examined. We visited them during the Exposition in Atlanta in company with Dr. Steiner, and I formed the opinion that he could better continue this excavation than any other person. He, I believe, can obtain permission better than any one else I know.

It appears to me of the highest necessity that we should retain the objects from this mound that belong to Dr. Steiner, to the end that they may supplement the collection of Prof. Thomas. I would consider it almost an irreparable loss, one not to be calculated in dollars and cents, if the objects belonging to Dr. Steiner should be taken away and the collection from the Etowah Mound broken up. The purchase of this collection from Dr. Steiner will materially facilitate the complete excavation of the Etowah Mounds and insure to the Museum the possession of their riches in its entirety.

A single word in regard to the price: I understand Dr. Steiner has fixed the price at Seven Thousand Dollars (\$7,000.) This makes an average of about ten cents each. The average collection put to sale by auction frequently brings an average of a dollar from each specimen. The Newbold collection of Bordentown, N. J., of 3,000 implements sold in New York for \$3,000. (at auction). While this rate would not hold good for the Steiner collection, you can easily see the possibilities of exceeding the present price asked.

In conclusion, permit me to testify my appreciation of the importance of this collection and the propriety, if not the necessity, of purchasing it. It will be a source of the most profound regret if it should fail. It is of greater value to Science than for display, and the benefits or advantages to be derived from it will become more apparent the more it is studied and understood. I might cite, as an illustration, our poignant regret which increases year by year whenever we remember our failure to procure the great Squier & Davis Collection, although it did not have one-tenth the number of the Steiner collection.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Wilson  
Curator, Division of Prehistoric Anthropology

***Item 80. Internal Memo, Holmes to Walcott, 1/22/1898.***

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

S. P. Langley  
Secretary  
Chas. D. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
in Charge U. S. National Museum

Washington, D. C. January 22, 1898.

Memorandum to Mr. Walcott:

With regard to the Steiner collection of antiquities, referred to in the Secretary's not which I return to you herewith, I have the honor to say that I have examined the collection and find it to be of exceptional value. It consists of a great body of relics representing one of the most important ethnic areas of the Southern States and has this advantage that it is so complete that we are enabled to restore the ancient culture with a completeness not yet made possible in any section of the Country. With the material already on hand from the same district it forms just such a unit as the Museum should have for each of the great American culture areas. I should be exceedingly sorry to miss the opportunity of securing this material and trust that you may find it possible to add it to our collections.

I enclose herewith a somewhat lengthy statement prepared at my request by Doctor Thomas Wilson.

Very respectfully,  
W. H. Holmes  
Head Curator of Anthropology.

***Item 81. Internal Memo, Walcott to Secretary [Langley], 1/25/1898.***

January 25, 1898.

Memorandum to the Secretary:

Regarding the Steiner collection of antiquities, referred to in your note of the 17th. instant, I have the honor to report, after consultation with Mr. Holmes, that it is of exceptional value. It consists of a great body of relics, approximately 75,000 in number, representing one of the most important ethnic areas of the southern states. By its assistance the archaeologist will be enabled to restore the ancient culture with a completeness not yet made possible in any other section of the country. I would add that, with the material already on hand, the Museum would, in the event of the acquisition of this collection, have just such a representation from this region as it should have from each of the great American culture areas. I consider it a very valuable acquisition for the Museum, and hope that the necessary steps may be taken for its purchase.

Very respectfully,  
Chas. D. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

***Item 82. Letter, Walcott to Steiner, 2/2/1898.***

[Acc. 32871]

February 2, 1898.

Doctor Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I hereby acknowledge the receipt of the archaeological objects from an aboriginal quarry and village site near Burt's Mountain, Columbia County, Georgia, which have been deposited by you in the National Museum.

Yours respectfully,  
Chas. D. Walcott  
Acting Assistant Secretary.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A31:133)

**Item 83. Internal Memo, Geare to Walcott, 2/3/1898.**

Office of Assistant Secretary  
DIVISION OF CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS.

MEMORANDUM.

February 3, 1898.

To Mr. Walcott:

In connection with the parts of the Steiner collection deposited at various times, I thought you might like to know that the Museum has paid the following amounts as express and freight charges:

Acc.	28826}	\$8.00	Express freight
"	}	58.04	
"	29546	4.35	
"	31931	6.75	
"	32214	6.31	
"	32670	5.30	
"	32800	2.46	
"	32871	24.61	
"	32930	<u>3.15</u>	
		\$118.97	

Respectfully,  
R.S. Geare  
Chief of Division.

**Item 84. Internal Memo, Geare to Holmes, 3/29/1898.**

[Acc. 24147; 25321; 28437; 28826 (part of Acc. 37113-37114-37115); 29048; 29546; 29338; 29912; 30420; 30938; 39076; 31050; 31235; 31237; 31258; 31311; 31313; 31347; 31484; 31497; 31541; 31931; 32214; 32334; 32670; 32800; 32871; 32930; see papers filed on Acc. 37110]

Office of Assistant Secretary  
DIVISION OF CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS.



MEMORANDUM.

March 29, 1898.

To Mr. Holmes:

I am holding out from the files a very large batch of papers relating to the collection deposited by Mr. Steiner. Can you say whether these are likely to be called for in connection with the contemplated purchase of the collections by Congress for the Government. If not, I will file them.

Yours respectfully,  
R. S. Geare

***Reply, Holmes to Geare***

[written on same memorandum]

Mr. Geare

I do not think they will be called for.

Yours, W. H. Holmes

**1898 ANNUAL REPORT**

In its Annual Report for the year ending June 30, 1898, the U.S. National Museum reported on collection transfers and deposits to the museum:

“*Transfers.*—The Smithsonian Institution, through the agency of its Bureau of American Ethnology, has acquired by purchase and transferred to the Museum two collections of importance—a valuable series of ancient stone and earthenware utensils from graves and mounds in Arkansas, and a collection of antiquities from mounds of the well-known Etowah group of Georgia, made by Dr. Roland Steiner, of Grovetown, Georgia. The latter lot, together with the material previously obtained from the same locality by agents of the Bureau of Ethnology, forms one of the most instructive assemblages of archaeological material ever brought together from the mound region...*Deposits.*—Of the various collections loaned to the Museum during the year, and at the same time offered for sale, two are of more than usual importance. (1) A very extensive series of stone implements and other ancient relics from various parts of Georgia, owned by Dr. Roland Steiner...” (Smithsonian Institution 1900:21).

The new accessions to the museum for the year included:

“Steiner, Dr. Roland, Grovetown, Ga.: Collection of stone implements and archaeological objects from an aboriginal village site, Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Ga. (32334) (32670); archaeological objects from shell-heap on the Savannah River at the mouth of Kiokee Creek (32800); 7 boxes containing archeological objects from an aboriginal quarry and village site near Burts Mountain, Columbia County, Ga. (32871); stone relics from Columbia County, Ga. Deposit. (32930).” (Smithsonian Institution 1900: 115-115).

***Item 85. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 5/24/[1899].***

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga. May 24th

Dear Mr. Upham,

I today ship you by freight the cache of 202 pitted stones, one box not quite full & 9 put in it, 10 mortars, one very large sharpening stone & one object, which I cannot even conjecture. I send the pitted stones in five boxes- 4 large & 1 small one. I will not send the ballance [sic] of pitted stones till last shipment, so there will not be any confusion in shipments- I laughed at Mr. Wilson's remarks about my collection- be only fair, you would have string [\*] for a year- What does he think of the collection from the Quarry site, that I am now sending on.

Kind regards to all

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

Burt Mtn.

***Item 86. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/6/1899.***

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., April 6, 1899.

Mr. Thomas Wilson

Washington City.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I send you today per registered mail two packages containing four grades of crystal quartz objects from the village site near quarry. You can arrange them to suit. I also send other specimens. I shall continue to send best specimens by mail and will send one cache of pitted stones as soon as I can get boxes. Will send the flints belonging to gun in next lot, forgot them until I had sealed. I enclose you history of gun. I tried to pack the specimens so they would not be broken, advise me if they come all aright so I can know what best to do. I think you will like this collection better than the others- I shall send triangular specimens next. I have assorted them to spare Mr. Upham unnecessary trouble. I enjoyed my visit to the North, particularly my stay in Washington, which was made so pleasant to me by you, Mr. Upham, and others. Kind regards to all.

Yours sincerely,

R. Steiner

Will you please have the 12th Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology sent to me, also the publications of the Museum. Mr. Mason spoke to you about.

***Item 87. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/9/1899.***

[Acc. 3614; 38007; 37115]

Grovetown, Ga., April 9, 1899.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

In the large box, sent by registered mail today are the flints and the two pieces of leather to fit them in with. I will continue to send by mail the finishes the best objects, the ballance [sic] will send as freight. The cache of pitted stones was found one hundred yards from Kiokee Creek at village-site near soap-stone quarry, was four (4) feet wide and five (5) feet deep. It was filled in with earth supposed to have washed in or put in, not clay, though the hole was dug in clay. Will ship cache in a few days. I hope you are pleased with the specimens sent, the best are to come. The large pot-stone plates I think best to express, as I fear to send either by mail or by freight. I shall send on some odd objects put in small boxes to themselves, notice the material. I hope you liked the crystal points.

I am doing all I can to save Mr. Upham trouble.

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner

**Item 88. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 4/14/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown, Ga April 14th '99

Dear Mr. Upham,

I hope you think well of the collection I am now sending on. What do you think of the crystal qtz arrowpoints- Do they not [\*] ? I send you today some fine varigated specimens. I know Mr. Wilson is busy all the time. Can't you find time to drop me a line, [\*] you like the specimens I've sent.

Yrs very truly,  
R. Steiner

**Item 89. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 4/11/1899.**

[Acc. unknown]

Grovetown, Ga., April 14, 1899.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am sending right along per registered mail until I finish specimens that would be unsafe to send per freight. I send today four packages containing vari-colored specimens that must have come from a great distance, as there is no material like it in this section. I wish you to look at the spearpoints, they are the finest I ever saw. I will send them when I get to them, which may be in a few days.

I wish very much Mr. Holmes would move my \$1000.00 up a peg or so, so I can get it soon. Please say to Mr. Upham that sometimes I do not get in one box all of one kind and have to put some in another box. I hope the gun flints worked you all right.

With kind regards to all,

Yours truly,  
R. Steiner

I forgot to tell you that I am in a new job, collecting all the signs of bad and good luck all on larger, metrological signs, & &c. - I think if I keep on as I have started, it will fill a book as large as the 12th Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology. I have a great many of their beliefs,

but had no idea of the quantity when I began my enquiries. The lore is confined to the old negroes the young knowing but little. I am writing it over in a blank book.

**Item 90. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 4/31/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga April 31st 99

Dear Mr. Upham,

Am glad you are pleased with the collection I told you it was the best universal collection of all. I have a good many chipped specimens to send yet, some fine knives & hair pins- also some larger ryollite spears- I will send in few days some fine quartz knives fan shaped large and small [drawings] peculiar to this section. I have also some fine jasper arrowpoints to send made of flint of yellow & blue character. Tell Mr. Wilson I have not got the 12th Annual Report nor the papers Mr. Mason spoke of- I will send tomorrow a box of scrapers of the arrow pt, [\*] that is the scraping edge is all the [\*] of the long arrow pt [drawings included] With kind regards to all

Yrs very truly,

R. Steiner

[\*] to fill a box I have to put in some odds & ends & then again I find many specimens have been mislaid-

**Item 91. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 5/2/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga. May 2nd '99

Dear Mr. Upham,

You will have to send me some more envelopes another package as I can send by mail the best of the specimens- I have a fine lot of arrow points, & ryollite (large) spear heads- to send yet. besides a fine lot of knives- I think it best to send all the fine objects per registered mail- I have now about 16 envelopes part of which I will use in sending on the borers & hair-pins. You see I still cling to the hair-pin theory & when you see the lot, you can tell conceive that their profile character would not suggest that they were used to bore into anything but mud- I have divided them into four classes, as the objects are entirely different- I wish you would look particularly at the fan-shaped scraper quartz knives both large & small. I also have a lot of ornaments & small objects to send by mail. I want to finish all I have to send by mail, before packing up axes, hatchets, & & c to go by freight- So please send the envelopes along speedily  
Kind regards to all

Yrs very truly

R. Steiner

Mr. E. P. Upham  
"Smithsonian"

**Item 92. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 5/17/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga May 17th '99

Dear Mr. Upham,

I am back from our reunion, where I had a splendid time meeting old friends & making new ones- I see the old soldiers of last [\*] in preparing a reunion of veterans of both armies. I hope you & I will be able to walk side by side- I am sending right along now & will [\*] more envelopes as I propose to send everything by Mail [\*] - that is the best axes & hatchets, banner stones ornaments, notched hatchets &c &c. leaving only the heaviest & rudest to be sent by freight. I have yet a large number of arrow & spear points to send- Do send the envelopes along as I am sending on the rest of 8 packages [\*] & I have everything laid out & wish to finish up- Drop me a line [\*] the package if you have time I have not yet rec'd the 12th Annual Report nor the thousand dollars-

Kind regards to all

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 93. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 5/31/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga. May 31st '99

Dear Mr. Upham,

Put on your glasses, take a good chew of tobacco, get in the best of humors, seek quiet in the smoking den, where undisturbed you can digest the following theory as to the Quarry & Village site- In the first place, you are right in supposing that the sites were occupied for a long time, & I expect by many peoples- I think the steatite was the capitol upon which they subsisted, for it must have been bartered with other peoples- You will find that the Evan's Place furnished but little steatite. The Etowah Mounds none. You will find that there are many specimens of flint, jasper & other material, that are not native to this section- as ryollite and quartz are the minerals found in this & adjoining counties- Instead of one village site there are many sites in small settlements covering as [\*] the Evans Place an area of about fifty acres- embracing, [\*] including the Quarry & extending to the base of Burt Mountain- there are 26 springs in the area, There is also much potstone as you will see from objects sent- My theory about the place is this spot was occupied long after European occupation- & that the Indians left [\*] that they dropped the stone implements as soon as they got metal ones- & that when they moved, they carried their pots, pipes & best ornaments with them. I was also [\*] that the [\*] aborigines were canibals, as you will find in the boxes of specimens of the shell heaps human bones mingled with other bones- I shall later in thoroughly explore one of the large shell heaps. In the pipes which I will send tomorrow, you will see one odd white clay pipe- European. Some soapstone pipes & one very old pipe- & one very beautiful serpentine pipe- I shall send you also tomorrow a box of miscellaneous specimens, every one of which is of interest- there is in this lot the most beautiful lozenge-shaped crystal pt. that has pitch on the edge- you may be able to get it off- I have failed- You can see the clouds in the sky thro it. Also the finest, longest serrated triangular point- & the delicate serrated triangular- I do not think it necessary to call your attention to the others as your attention will be [\*] by the appearance. I could not arrange [\*] to pack all [\*] together- but did

the best I could- I will have [\*] up the site, where I finish send the few boxes by mail- I send you today by freight (7) seven boxes- I shall go to the site on Saturday next, & prepare my map on the spot, giving the location of all the sites- springs- quarry &c &c. When all are with you I want an impression of Dr. Wilson & yourself upon the collection as compared to the Evans Place- Tell Dr. Wilson I think I will quit hunting up new places- if I can.

The ryollite specimens referred to in your letter- that is the knives were found on the village site. The quarry site seems to have been a primitive kind of factory- heavy mauls, hammers, pestles, & crystals, with stones for polishing- instead of pestles. I should have used the wood pick- I send a good illustration in boxes by freight. The village site or sites is located on a high flat overlooking the Savannah River & Big Kiokee Creek. there is about one hundred acres of low land on River that the Negroes call "old Indian corn lands" The large ryollite objects are found in this bottom.

Village sites, quarry- bottom lands- shell heaps all belonged to one people- at least I think so for the same kind of shells as found in heaps, are found in sites, but not so abundant. I sent by mail a box of material, so you would not have to select out of the best specimens. I found four workshops with plenty of quartz chips few, scarcely any of other material- I think the flint & ryollite were put to use- the quartz does not flake. I hope to see you in July & have that promised day off-

Kind regards to all

Yrs. very truly  
R. Steiner

***Item 94. Letter (note), Steiner to True, 6/10/1899.***

[Acc. 34917]

Mr. R. Steiner  
Grovetoan, Georgia

F. W. True  
June 10, 1899

Weapon formerly used by fugitive slaves of the South to defend themselves from bloodhounds.  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A34:269)

***Item 95. Attribution note, Steiner, undated.***

[Acc. 35157]

History of Double-Barreled Gun.

Bought from W. H. Woodhorn, W. H. Woodhorn bought gun from his brother Edward Woodhorn. Came thro' family of Edward Woodhorn's wife, whose maiden name was Maria Clifton, who lives 15 miles from Greensboro, Ga. in Green County at Comfort P. O. near Liberty Church. Mrs. Maria Woodhorn got gun from her Father's estate at Fort Tooker. Lawson Clifton was 80 years old and died 20 years ago, owned the gun over 60 years. Do not know from whom he got it.

R. Steiner.

**Item 96. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 6/10/[1899].**

[Acc 37115]

Grovetown Ga 10th June

Dear Mr. Upham,

As I have finished up the collection an impression or opinion would be much appreciated. I wish particularly to know how it compares with the Evans Place collection- if there are not finer specimens in this one than the Evans Place. It has been so fearfully hot I have not yet gone to the Quarry site to fix the map- I will in a few days- Have you turned the fun over to the museum, as I have heard nothing from it. I have not gotten the 12th Annual Report or other papers-

Kind regards to all

Yrs very truly,

R. Steiner

**Item 97. Internal Memo, by G. C. M., 6/28/1899.**

[Acc. 35157]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
MEMORANDUM

June 28. 1899.

Accession 35.157.

Description of Gun

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Muzzle-loading, double, removable barrels, 3 feet, 5 1/2 inches long; stock of dark, "curled" wood; brass guard and butt-plate; flint locks, with flints fixed, and operative; rough wooden ramrod. Extreme length of gun 4 feet 9 1/2 inches. Stock has been broken and repaired with two copper straps screwed on under side. "Shorthouse & Pearson" engraved on the side of each lock; under side of barrels stamped SW, with two small designs, apparently English.

G. C. M.

6 Extra flint

[handwritten note below]

Card recd from Head Curator

Aug 16, 1899

[illegible signature]

**Item 98. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 7/21/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga. 21st June '99

Dear Mr. Upham,

Your letter just received thanks. We will wrestle over the merits of the "Quarry Site" when I drop in in July- till then throw up breastworks & fortify, as I shall attack you at all points.

You must not think you have had all the fun & glory of hot weather- I have been writing folklore 98 in shade. I will bring the map of Quarry site on with me.

I sent yesterday to the Zoological Garden Washington City, a young rabbit hawk- they grow to be almost as large as eagles- I was so continually? entertained out at the Park once, [\*] to [\*] where I could so that debt is off my mind-

When you open the boxes you will find some few things. try hard & get the collection in the annual report, it will help me-

When I come, be sure & get a very ? if not [\*] off- & get the cuckles” warmed up-

Kind regards to all

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

I will send the pot-sherds on Saturday, in cigar boxes.

### **Annual Report, 1899**

In the annual report by the Curators of the Division of Prehistoric Archaeology for the year 1899, Thomas Wilson made these comments regarding Roland Steiner:

Dr. Roland Steiner, of Grovetown, Ga., though not in any way attached officially to the museum, has, during the past year, made extensive investigations excavations and searches into the quarries, workshops and village site of his own neighborhood near the mouth of Little Kiokee River, and obtained or found many thousands of specimens of historic artifacts, all of which he has sent to the Museum, directing them to me personally. The smaller objects were sent through the mail in cigar boxes, and were opened and classified as they arrived. The heavier material was sent by freight. The last batches of them are said to have been sent, but have not arrived in sufficient time so that the collection can be accessioned and reported in this fiscal year (Smithsonian Institution 19000b).

### **Item 99. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 7/9/1899.**

[Acc. unknown cut off photocopy]

Grovetown Ga. July 9th 99

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
Washington City

My dear Mr. Holmes-

Many thanks for your kind interest in the matter of the ck. [check] received.

I will send the pottery on tomorrow, which I trust will interest you. The designs & markings on the pottery are from the rudest marks to the almost mathematical drawings-

Yrs very cordially  
R. Steiner

### **Item 100. Internal Memo, Upham to Holmes, 8/3/1899.**

[Acc. 5614; 38007]

Smithsonian Institution.



United States National Museum.

Memorandum.

Mr. Holmes-

The pottery has come into my hands and it is included in Temporary Acc. 5614. I understand from Dr. Steiner that two ore more boxes from the village sites have gone astray and he has begun a search for them. Upon their arrival they also should be included in this Accession as they are from the same locality as the previous sendings.

Yours truly  
E. P. Upham

Aug. 3. 1899

**Item 101. Internal memo, unattributed, 8/19/1899.**

[Acc. 35157]

Noting

August 19, 1899

Double barreled flint-lock gun; and six flints  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A35:65)

**Item 102. Internal memo, unattributed, 9/2/1899.**

[Deposit, no Acc.]

September 2, 1899

Collection of stone implements and objects found at village sites near the mouth of Kiokee Creek, Savannah River, Columbia County, Georgia.

[Signature illegible]

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm A35:91)

**Item 103. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 9/13/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga  
Sept 13th 99

Dear Mr. Upham,

Thanks for Mr. Culins book on "chess &c"- I had an uneventful trip home, without incident or accident weather here cool & balmy. Shall always appreciate you my courtesies to me. Our trips around will always be fresh in my memory.

My trip north done me lots of fun, & made me feel younger & more spry. If anything comes out in Museum give me a whack at it. [\*] Hope Mr. Wilson enjoyed being with the boys again- I hope he kept up with the music--tis the band that always keeps me in line- Kind regards to all.

Yrs. very cordially  
R. Steiner

**Item 104. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 9/16/1899.**

Grovetown Ga Sept 16th 99

Dear Mr. Upham,

I have [\*] an inquiry in [\*] about the two missing boxes- Have you heard anything about them? Cant they be enquired for at freight depot? Please give me all the facts & notify the R. R. that the boxes have not been received.

Yrs. very truly  
R. Steiner

the agt [Agent] here says they left Augusta all right. They may be at Freight depot in Washington, as there is no change between Augusta & Washington.

**Item 105. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 9/[date missing from photocopy]/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga Sept [?] 99

Dear Mr. Upham,

Instead of 9 boxes being sent to the Museum, there were 12 of which 5 have gone astray, & it seems they cannot be found. I will have to go to make a claim at this end of the line- & will have to get from you a catalogue of the objects you received- as I kept at the time of packing a catalogue of the objects I do not know what- boxes you have and am at sea. You can save the ship- I would be glad if you at your earliest convenience send the number & character of objects sent- it would have to be signed by Mr. Wilson- Kindest regards to all.

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 106. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/8/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown Ga Oct 8th 99

My Dear Mr. Wilson-

Thanks for your letter but glad there was an end put to the trouble by the arrival of the boxes. Whose contents I trust you will find interesting. Will you ask Mr. Upham to catalogue the contents of the 5 boxes just received- & send to me. It will not prove a big undertaking as the objects are generally large. The remainder of the cache of pitted stones is one of the boxes. The whole number being 202. Of course you had a good time [\*] . I am always glad when I hear of your taking a few days off- You stick too close to the grindstone- Kind regards to all

Yrs. sincerely  
R. Steiner

**Item 107. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 10/18/1899.**

[Acc. 37115]

Grovetown, Ga. Oct. 18, 1899.

My dear Mr. Wilson,

I have just returned from a visit to the [Shoulderbone] mound near Sparta, Ga, as shown in Col. C. C. Jones' "Antiquities of Southern Indians," page 144- I did some work there, securing some interesting specimens: pots, pipes, beads, etc. The smaller mounds, D. E. and F. have all been plowed over, and their contents broken and lost, that is, the major part of them, but many objects are found in plowing, I have a man on the spot who will get me all (that is) plowed up. The large mound, C. has been encircled by several parties, that is, part of it, and contains no remains so far discovered. I dug into it at 30 feet from summit, and found only one discoidal stone and many pieces of pottery of the Tumlin style. I also dug into Mound G. for 10 feet found pottery and two discoidals. I dug into the small mounds or what remains of them, and found only broken pottery, beads, etc., also found remains, human and lower animal, some pretty well preserved others badly broken. I shall send all on- I shall also send on the objects I got at Tumlin's. Mrs. Tumlin positively refuses to let any one go in the mound; but while there I bought two idols of clay- one in shape of a jug, also two pipes, some discoidals. The discoidals found at Tumlin's and those found at Sparta mounds are alike in all respects. Many clay discs from both places, I shall send on in few days. Must I pack the boxes- I fear to break them up, unless I had something to preserve them with? Let me hear. I shall get anything to be found at Sparta mounds.

Kind regards to all.

Yrs. very sincerely,  
R. Steiner

**Item 108. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 11/4/1899.**

[Acc 39097]

Grovetown, Ga Nov 4th '99

My Dear Mr. Wilson

Many thanks for "Blue Beard"- even tho it in a measure destroys one of childhood's idols- I remember to well an incident that occurred in my nursery history- We had in our household a small negro boy a few years older than myself. My mother said to us- he included fairy tales- among which was Blue Beard. One night we were all assembled to hear stories read before going to bed. Mother started to read Blue Beard- when George the little negro, rose up suddenly & said- "Miss if youse gwine to read Blue Beard to me I'm gwine to bed." Of course Blue Beard was not read- as George had a voice, in the matter of selecting stories- You have not answered my letter about the objects from Shoulderbone Creek- Mr. Holmes told me to send on, as I have a good a chance of selling from the Museum [\*] What I wanted to know, must I wash the bones. they are very fragile, the most of them. Mr. Upham has not sent catalogue of the objects in boxes. With kind regards to all.

[\*] your friend  
R. Steiner

**Item 109. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 11/8/1899.**

[Acc. illegible]

Grovetown Nov 8th '99

Dear Mr. Upham,

I have not heard from Mr. Wilson in regard to the "Shoulderbone Mounds"- Can you throw some light on the matter. I wrote also to Dr. Holmes- but not a word- I wrote to Dr. Wilson to tell you to send me a catalogue of the contents of the last boxes, which you received- Can you do so without giving yourself too much trouble- I wish I was with you today in a joint- I have the bones gotten at the Shoulderbone Creek Mounds still packed in a box, with some of the pottery- I have not packed them or unpacked them they are so frail. I plan to put them in water & subject them to the brush- Two pots, one entire, & one large one broken are fine specimens- I got some fine discoidals of stone [\*] - the stone ones are the smallest I ever saw- some fine beads of stone, clay & shell. Two shell spoons- &c&c.

Kind regards to all.

Yrs very cordially  
R. Steiner

**Item 110. Letter, Upham to Steiner, 11/10/1899.**

[Acc. 39097]

Nov. 10, 1899.

My Dear Doctor [Steiner]:

Your letter of the 8th at hand. I have not had time as yet to open and catalog contents of boxes from the Kiokee sites which went astray. Hope to do so in the near future. I have been very busy with current work and in making storage cards for collections which have been transferred from the sheds south of Smithsonian to a rented building on 9th Street. As to the objects from the Shoulderbone Mounds I am entirely in the dark as I do not know what passed between you and Mr. Holmes in regard to them. Mr. Wilson is very busy just now and is away at the Congressional and other libraries a great deal of the time and referred your letter to me for answer. I hardly know what to say. If Mr. Holmes said "sent the objects on" I suppose he meant it. If he has not answered your letter I should remind him again before sending and ask for instructions. I am now unpacking a box that came the other day (Nov. 4th) This box contains only fragments of pottery. It is evidently your boxing, but it had gone astray and finally arrived at some point in Mexico. What is the trouble with the Transportation Agent at Augusta? It was marked plain enough U. S. National Museum. Before making accession I should like to know the locality from which the specimens came. Are they from the Kiokee site or from the Sparta Mound, referred to in your letter of Oct. 18th (?) I hope to get at the other boxes next week and when finished will send you copy of catalogue. Mr. Wilson is at the Army Medical Library to-

day and I am only sending a line to keep you in good humor, although the facts recorded may have the contrary effect. With a little patience however all will come out right. It is sometimes difficult to keep things straight at such long range.

Hoping for the best, I remain

Yours very truly,  
E. P. Upham

**Item 111. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 11/13/1899.**

[Acc. 38007]

Grovetown Ga Nov 13th 99

Dear Mr. Upham,

The box of pottery referred to in your letter of 10th was from the Village site at mouth of Big Kiokee Creek & belongs to the collection from that point. Received a letter from Mr. Holmes in regard to the bones- will send on the good ones- Hoping all is well, & kind regards.

Yrs very cordially  
R. Steiner

**Item 112. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 11/29/1899.**

[Acc. 39097]

Grovetown Ga Nov 29th 99

Dear Mr. Upham,

Will you be kind eno. to send me two or three copies of "Catalogue of the display from the department of prehistoric anthropology, U. S. National Museum" from the [\*] of the [\*] Comm. by Dr. [\*] - they will go into good hands- I have been so busy on the plantation I have not had time to send on the Shoulderbone Creek objects, will do so in a few days- Kind regards to all

Yrs sincerely  
R. Steiner

**Item 113. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 12/6/1899.**

[Acc. 39097]

Grovetown Ga. Dec 6th 99

Dear Mr. Upham

When you open the boxes, I call our attention to a very large sharpening stone shaped [small outline drawing included] grooved through its long axis- I think the mystery attending the multi- pitted stones will be solved when I send on [\*] long & instead of pits have mortars on each side [drawing]- I have been so busy on the plantation I have not had time to pack & ship- This shipment will wind up the Kiokee, Quarry & village site. Tell Mr. Wilson I don't know whether I will try & find another place or not, as he told me once "I must quit finding them" I

think the Quarry & village site the most interesting spot I ever visited. I have about cleaned it up. I intend to examine the shell heaps thoroughly. I shall in a few days send on per mail the small objects from the Etowah Mounds to be followed by the Shoulderbone Creek objects- I shall send the pots & clay idols in a kerosene cask. Much obliged for the books- I shall drop in upon you in Jan & we will try some steamed oysters.

Kind regards to all

Let me hear from you after you open the boxes-

Yrs very truly  
Roland Steiner

***Item 114. Letter (transmittal receipt), Smithsonian to Steiner, 12/22/1899.***

[Acc.?Deposit]  
Doctor Roland Steiner  
Grovetown, Georgia

December 22, 1899

Collection of archaeological objects from the City of Mexico and vicinity.  
Arrowpoints and ornaments of pottery from Maryland(?).

(Smithsonian Archives Microfilm A35:491)

***Item 115. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 12/25/1899.***

[Acc. 39097]

“Christmas Night”  
Grovetown, Ga.

My Dear Mr. Upham,

[\*] in after my Xmas dinner, which I am glad to say was all the physical man could wish- Wish you had been around the festive board.

Am glad that you have opened the boxes & only wish you had [\*] me in opinion upon the contents. The pitted stones are the remainder of the “cache”. I wished to know, does the museum want me to send in the remainder of the objects-gotten from the Quarry & village site. What I have will wind up the [\*] there. as I don’t think much more will be found. I will ship the Shoulderbone Creek & Etowah Mound objects in a few days- I will be on [\*] you & would like to know if the Museum desires the balance of Quarry and village site objects sent on, [\*] send before I get off & be there when they are opened.

As to the pottery & arrow heads in the Museum collection I don’t know whether they were from Mexico or not. I can only hold the collection was from Mexico- in all probability you are right, as I expect the old Dr. picked them up around Annapolis & added them to the Mexican collection.

Wishing you a happy & merry New Year, & compliments of the season to all in the office.

Yrs very cordially

R. Steiner

Please ask Mr. Wilson to ask Mr. Holmes whether the Quarry site objects are desired- they would make the site collection complete from fine triangular specimens in lot one over 3 inches long, & perfect. Many clear crystal points.

The U.S. National Museum, in their summary of research expeditions conducted by the museum in 1899, "Dr. Roland Steiner, of Grovetown, Georgia, conducted extensive explorations in aboriginal quarries, workshops, and village sites near the mouth of the Little Kiokee River, Georgia, where he obtained many thousands of specimens, which will be included in the collection now being acquired by the Museum" (Smithsonian Institution 1901:66).

***Item 116. Letter, Upham to Steiner, 1/6/1900.***

[Acc. 37115]

Washington,  
Jan. 6, 1900  
Dr. Roland Steiner.

Dear Sir:-

Yesterday I finished cataloguing the contents of boxes which went astray. I enclose copy of list as you requested. As to sending on the remainder of specimens from quarry and village site, I have talked with Mr. Wilson, and as the matter would be finally left entirely in his hands, have said nothing to Dr. Holmes. The truth is we could not place them in our hall- not even in drawers underneath the cases, and I am doubtful whether I can get the last lot (the six boxes) installed even in that way. Both Mr. Wilson and myself are of the opinion that it would not be advisable to send them on at present, as they could not be even unpacked but would have to be stored out of the building for an indefinite period, It is our intention, if possible in the near future to go over our collection and weed out a lot of material which has served its purpose and can just as well be stored, so as to make room for new material. Your collection from the shell heaps and from the site near Burts Mountain although catalogued are still in boxes along the south side of our hall. These by right should be stored in drawers so they could be seen when wanted but it is not possible to do so as yet. Mr. Wilson suggests that you make a sort of descriptive list (something like the one now sent to you) showing in a general way the number and kind of implement. When needed we could give this to Mr. Holmes who would then have all the information and could give such directions concerning its shipment as he might see fit. As to the pitted stones, it is impossible to give any satisfactory expression of opinion as to their use and purpose. They remain one of the problems of prehistoric archeology. They belong to the neolithic epoch or period and are found in every part of the world, where that culture had a place. But so far as we know they have never occurred in such abundance as represented by your locality.

All join in sending kind regards and with hopes that you may soon pay us a visit, I remain

Very truly yours,  
E. P. Upham.

***Item 117. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 1/6/1900.***

[Acc 6165; 39097]

Grovetown, Ga., Jan. 6, 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes,  
U. S. Museum,  
Washington.

My dear Sir:

I shipped to you on yesterday one cask containing one idol vase, one large broken clay idol & one small one, from the Etowah Mounds- one large broken pot & one small perfect one from the Shoulderbone Mounds; one large pot from large Mound at Hollywood, Richmond County, Ga. At same time 2 boxes containing Shoulderbone Creek objects. Today I send per registered mail 2 paper shoe boxes of objects from the Etowah Mounds- so that they would not be mixed by sending with the Shoulderbone Creek objects.

I have finished up the Quarry Site, and I have the specimens here. Is it desirable to have them with the other Quarry objects? Being all from one site, I though perhaps it would be desirable to add them to the others. Would be glad to hear from you on the matter.

Wishing you a happy New Year,  
Yours very cordially,  
R. Steiner.

***Item 118. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 1/6/1900.***

[Acc. 6165; 39097]

Grovetown, Ga. Jan 6th, 1900

Mr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum  
Washington City

Dear Sir:

I forgot to state in my letter of the 5th that the roughly chipped specimens of limestone in box with large mortar are from the rock tumulus near Shoulderbone Creek Mounds- and were taken from the interstices between the large boulders- were filled in nicely- the tumulus I learned was originally 15 feet high but is now torn down- some one had dug into it 3 ft. below surface. I went 3 ft. lower but found nothing. In the collection I now have from the "Quarry Site" is a specimen- large or rather long- on one side there are many pits, on the other three small mortars- also three pitted stones unlike any I have seen. I would prefer it being with the one I now have with you, as it is a part of it, all being from the same site. If you wish it, I shall ship at once.

Yrs very cordially,  
R. Steiner

(National Anthropological Archives, Henry B. Collins Papers; original in Accession microfilm)

***Item 119. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 1/6/1900.***

[Acc. 39097]



Grovetown, Ga. Jan. 6th 1900

My Dear Mr Wilson,

I wish you a very happy New Year & many returns. You told me I would get the transactions of "the Society for the government of [\*]" I have receive nothing so far. [\*] a [\*] of admission to the next meeting. I have sent on the Etowah objects as well as the Shoulderbone Creek ones. which I hope will interest you. Whatever became of the paper on Allen Stephenson. I have written up lots of material on Negro folk-lore, which I sent Miss [\*] to type- [\*] for me, when I come on in Feb. Happy New Year to all.

Yrs [\*] sincerely  
R. Steiner

**Item 120. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 1/18/1900.**

[Acc. 6165; 39097]

Grovetown, Ga. Jan 18th 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Sir:

Some ten days since I sent by registered mail 2 boxes containing specimens from Etowah Mounds. I have no return P. O. receipt as yet. Have they been received, if not let me know so Postmaster at this point can trace them

Yrs very truly  
R. Steiner

**Item 121. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 1/17/1900.**

[Acc 6165; 39097]

*Georgia Railroad,  
Louisville & Nashville Railroad Co. Lessee*

Grovetown Ga.  
Jan 17- 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Nat. Museum  
Washington D. C.

Yours received. I have no statement on cask containing specimen from Etowah Mounds & Etc.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

**Item 122. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 1/22/1900.**

[Acc. 6165; 39097]

Grovetown Ga Jan 22nd 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Sir

In your letter notifying me of receipt of 2 boxes per freight & 2 boxes per mail. You did not mention the cask or barrell- it contained the pottery & idols. I shall in few days begin pack & ship the specimens from Quarry & village site.

Yrs very cordially  
R. Steiner

**Item 123. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 2/1/1900.**

[This handwritten letter from Steiner to Wilson bound into Thomas Wilson's galley proof of his book in the Smithsonian Institution's Department of Anthropology Library (Wilson 1899). It refers to the Jonathan McGlashan collection, which is another major 19<sup>th</sup> century relic collection from Georgia held by the Smithsonian Institution.]

Grovetown, Ga. February 1, 1900

The central Railroad of Georgia running from Savannah to Macon, when first constructed followed clearly the banks of the Ogeechee River for about 140 miles. The frequent overflows of the river & consequent high water necessitated the removal of the railroad back from the river of from 4 to 5 miles as the necessary elevation would require. Mr. McGlashan was in charge of the removal & obtained his collection along the path of the railroad. First order [\*] off [\*] levelling the new path & there when running [\*] from old site so that the collection may [\*] The Aboriginal work of tribes situate upon the banks of the Ogeechee River for a distance of 140 miles & a width of 5 miles. Mr. McGlashan having made in charge large constructing [\*] of negro laborers, with [\*] overseers in charge of 1 squad [\*] in [\*] by [\*] pair, interested the overseers & laborers in giving all Indian objects that might be found of which, gathered & put together without any known note of locations of [\*] objects from the present McGlashan Collection.

(Steiner, bound in Wilson 1899)

**Item 124. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 2/1/1900.**

[Acc 6169; 39097]

Grovetown Ga Feb 1st 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Sir

I wrote some time since about cask of specimens shipped. if it has been received. I learn from the R. R. agent here, that it was held in Washington- as the agent there did not know to whom it was addressed- The agt here wrote to agent at Washington, that it was for the U. S. National Museum. If it has not been received please let me know & I will have agent here attend to it- I will send Kiokee specimens in a few days- will send some per mail others by freight will send as much by mail as possible. please let me hear about cask in bbl.

Yrs very truly  
Roland Steiner

**Item 125. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 2/3/1900.**

[Acc 6969; 39097]

Grovetown Ga Feb 3rd 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Sir

I began today sending on the specimens from the village & Quarry site. I sent per freight (7) seven boxes. I sent per registered mail (31) thirty one packages. I shall send all the fine specimens per mail. I suppose there will be as many more packages to be sent per mail as I have sent. I sent in the boxes 115 pitted stones, that is many pitted. In the smallest box, you will find the large stone with a number of small mortars on either side, also two stones with a mortar on one side, with a pit or two, & many pits on the other side. In the same box are some odd forms of small pitted stones. Different from what I have heretofore seen. In one of the boxes sent per mail you will find some crystals with strings tied around them. One of the crystals has been suspended as an ornament or used as a tool, as a clear cut is made in one side. The other is a double pointed crystal. These crystals are found at the Village site; scattered around, There are none in situ, near the place. were brought from a long distance. Whether used as ornaments or tools, you can determine. You will find an iron Tomahawk, also some pieces of blue [\*] found along with other things. I wrote you in regard to the Bbl [barrels] of pots & c- Has it been received? As to the pitted stones, I think you will have a series that will assist in unraveling the mystery of their use. I think they were used for cracking nuts, large & small, at one blow.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

In one of the boxes per mail you will find the longest triangular arrow or spear Point. I have ever seen- & perfect.

**Item 126. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 2/5/1900.**

[Acc 6169; 39097]

Grovetown Ga Feb 5th 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Sir

I shipped (8) boxes per freight instead of seven. I send 40 boxes per registered mail- which winds up the village & Quarry site. I hope you will be pleased with the collection.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

**Item 127. Letter, Steiner to Holmes [and copied to Paul Brockett], 2/8/1900.**

Grovetown Ga Feb 8th 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Sir-

Letter stating that kerosene cask containing pots idols & c has not been received to hand. In a letter from Dr. Thomas Wilson of late [\*] 8, he wrote that "2 casks had been recd' I only sent one. I have sent your letter to Genl. Freight Agent Augusta to trace the cask.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

To Mr Paul Brockett  
U.S. Museum  
(National Anthropological Archives, Henry B. Collins Papers)

**Item 128. Letter, Steiner to Upham, 2/8/1900.**

[Acc 6169; 39097]

Grovetown Ga Feb 8th 1900

My Dear Mr. Upham

I have just received a letter from Mr. Paul Brocket of the Museum, stating that the cask containing Idols, & pots has not been received- In Mr Wilsons letter to me, he said "the two casks" have arrived I only sent one. A kerosene cask or bbl. I have started an inquiry about the cask thru the R.R. agent. Hoping all is well, & with kind regards

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

I hope Mr Wilson will be with you soon.

**Item 129. Letter, Wilson to Steiner, 2/24/1900.**

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
S. P. LANGLEY  
SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 24, 1900

My dear Doctor Steiner:

I wrote you yesterday, but it was a mere announcement of my safe return home.

I have been over to see Paul Brockett about sendings of yours and this is about the condition in which I find them: The boxes containing the Etowah Mound objects, the broken grooved axes from Burke Co., the rubbing-stones from Burke Co, the pot from Rome, and the idol jug from Stallings Island, eight small pottery vessels principally from Fulton County, three large urns some of which are burial principally from Columbia Co. and the Ogeechee River- these I found all around on Mr. Upham's tables and desk and Mrs. Malone is engaged in marking them. It will be apparent, therefore, that they had arrived and been opened before Mr. Upham left. I have to take them just as they appear and can get no information except what appears on the labels. Mr. U. is still in quarantine and will not be out until March 6th.

There have been received since Mr. Upham went home, either eight or ten boxes, I don't know which, which are stored in the basement unopened. The R. R. reports that there are no boxes there intended for the Museum- that all have been delivered that have been received. I have not yet found any trace of the kerosene cask, but I understand from you that the large burial urns were packed in it. If so, the burial urns has arrived and no account has been taken of the cask in which they were shipped. I give you the description of enough of these vases so that you will understand what they are and know whether they were contained in this cask or not. No. 171,801, large earthen vase found on the edge of the Ogeechee River below Midville, Ga., containing charred bones shell beads and fragments of pottery. No. 171,802, large vase from burial place in Columbia Co, Ga., on Mr. Brad Merry's place. Another large vase or bowl with ornamented with festoons of little rings, it is 14 or 16 inches wide and 7 or 8 inches high. There are half a dozen other pieces of pottery from Rome, Ga., 2 skulls and 2 femurs, 2 small dishes from a burial place Parachuckla, on the S. E. side of the Savannah River. There may be other things of the same style belonging together, but this will be enough to enable you to identify and say whether it is the contents of the kerosene cask. If it is, then I think you may assume that all the sendings that you have made have arrived. This being true, I will take no further steps in this regard until I hear from you.

I have sent the books and papers by the same mail that contains this, that is, another copy of the Swastika complete, the index and addenda for the copy you now have, and a copy of my Columbus address on the beginnings of the history of Prehistory Anthropology.

This attends, I believe, to all the urgent business with which I was charged except the letter about the Universities, and that I will endeavor to write today.

My trip to Georgia, where I rested so well, has, I think, benefited me much. I do not find any ill effects of either it or my disease remaining, thanks to the good air and the many pleasant trips I had under your most hospitable direction.

Yours very truly,  
Thomas Wilson

***Item 130. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 2/25/1900.***

[Acc 6169; 39097]

Grovetown Ga Feb 25th 1900

My Dear Mr Wilson

Am glad you reached home safely & that your trip improved your health. Your visit did me much good in every way. & the only "sorry" part about it was when you got in the buggy for Grovetown. The objects in the (8) boxes sent by freight are from the Quarry & village site on Kiokee where we visited. I have send nothing from Burke County. The object you mention, as broken ground axes from Burke Co. jug from Stalling's Island were sent in 1895- & all the objects you name in your letter were sent at same time. The 8 boxes unpacked are what I sent on Feb 3rd or 5th I sent per freight 2 boxes & 1 cask. In all 10 boxes & 1 cask. January 3rd 2 boxes & 1 cask. The two boxes contained objects from Shoulderbone Creek mounds, Feb 5th 8 boxes from Kiokee- I return your letter [\*] they have been in Museum for (5) five years- We have had terrible weather since you left. hard rains & freezes. Think the cabbages gone. In the kerosene cask were

- 1 [\*] clay idol broken large
- 1 [\*] clay idol broken small
- 1 vase idol whole
- 1 burial urn whole large
- 1 pot whole
- 1 pot broken

I am trying to get back to my lonely life, after you left Thank you for your kind [\*] , what I will accept must plan on next visit to Washington.

Please keep me advised about cask-as for the tracing of it at this end of line-the agent at your end said there was one there for U. S. Museum- it is in all probability the one.

Very truly yrs  
Roland Steiner

Thanks for the books & papers. Tho they haven't come in yet.

***Item 131. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 3/1/[1900]***

[Acc 6169; 39097]

Grovetown Ga March 1st

My Dear Mr. Wilson-

From your statement all I shipped has been received saved the bbl of pots &c I am having it traced. All were sent by the Atlantic Coast line-the agent at Washington wrote the agent here, that there was a bbl there for U. S. Musca or Mura perhaps they will find it. I am having fearful [\*] anything [\*] killed [\*]

Yrs very sincerely  
Roland Steiner

***Item 132. Letter, Steiner to Wilson, 3/11/1900.***

[Acc 6169; 39097]

Grovetown Ga March 11th 1900

My Dear Mr. Wilson

I return the letter [\*] in Augusta yesterday, he says it will be found he is on track of it. When it is found please drop me a line. We are having lovely weather now warm & pleasant. I hope soon to be on. [\*] I think your [\*] at Columbus Ohio. In [\*] to the Swastika. I enjoyed it very much.

I remain

Yrs sincerely

Roland Steiner

**Item 133. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 5/23/1900.**

Grovetown Ga May 23rd 1900

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

My Dear Mr. Holmes

A few days since at the Quarry & village site I found a pitted stone of most eccentric shape. It weighs about 25 lbs & is pointed at both ends with a groove cut around it thus [drawing] with many pits on one side- it is flattened on either surface. As the collections in the Museum contains many unique forms of pitted stones do you not think it best I send this specimen on so that the collection would contain every known form. Did you see the one with the many shallow mortars on it?

If pitted stones had a [\*] function, which I doubt, the one would hardly have been converted into a hammer or net sinker- with kindest regards.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Incoming Correspondence, Record Unit 189)

**Annual Report, 1900.**

The Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1900 contained several mentions of Roland Steiner and his collection. Thomas Wilson reported that Steiner had visited the Smithsonian on July 19, 1899 and that Wilson took a trip to Grovetown, Georgia from February 12-23, 1900 to visit Steiner. The Museum received collections from Kiokee Creek, Etowah and Shoulderbone during that fiscal year. The Etowah and Shoulderbone materials were on deposit (Acc. 5614-6169). The Kiokee Creek material consisted of, "35,2813 stone implements and objects from aboriginal village and quarry site near the mouth of Big Kiokee Creek where it empties into the Savannah River, also 1,945 other objects", and the curators noted, "Dr. Roland Steiner, though not attached officially to the Museum, has during the past year, made extensive investigations, excavations, and searches into the quarries workshops and village sites of his own neighborhood near or at the mouth of Shoulderbone Creek and of Little Kiokee River and has sent many thousand of specimens of prehistoric artefacts all of which he has sent to the museum, loan or deposit" (Smithsonian Institution 1901b:4, 20).

**Item 134. Internal memo, Brockett to S. C. Brown, undated.**

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

MEMORANDUM

Dear Mr. Brown:

Please look out for this box from Dr. Steiner and send papers over when it comes.

Yours  
Brockett

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Incoming Correspondence, Record Unit 189)

**Item 135. Internal memo, Wilson to Holmes, 5/31/1900.**

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

MEMORANDUM

May 31st, 1900

Dear Doctor Holmes:

In answer to Dr. R. Steiner's offer of a 25-pound pitted stone, would say: Yes, send it along. We should have all evidence relating to pitted stones, and Doctor Steiner has furnished more than any person (correspondent) of ours.

Yours very truly,  
Thomas Wilson  
Curator, Division of  
Prehistoric Archaeology

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Incoming Correspondence, Record Unit 189)

**Item 136. Internal memo, Geare to Brown, 6/2/1900.**

[Acc 18877]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
DIVISION OF CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

MEMORANDUM

June 2, 1900.

To

Mr. Brown:

Dr. Roland Steiner, Grovetown, Georgia, has been told that the offer contained in his letter of May 23 is accepted. He has been asked to send the pitted stone here by freight at the expense of the Museum.

*Yours respectfully,*



RS Geare  
*Chief of Division*

Mr. S. C. Brown,  
Registrar,  
U. S. National Museum.  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Incoming Correspondence, Record Unit 189)

***Item 137. Letter, True to Steiner, 6/6/1900.***

June 6, 1900.

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

Mr. Holmes has placed in my hands your letter of May 23, with the recommendation that the offer which it contains be accepted. We shall be glad, therefore, if you will forward your specimen of pitted stone to the National Museum as soon as convenient. It may be sent by freight at our expense.

Yours respectfully,  
F. W. True  
Executive Curator.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel L160:43)

***Item 138. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 6/27/1900.***

June 27, 1900

My dear Mr. Holmes.

I sent by freight to day one box containing the two pitted stone objects. The large one I described in a former letter, the smaller one seems to be a blocked out pipe with two pits in one side and three in the other. Should I find any other unique pitted stones will send them on. I wish very much some time at your leisure you would throw some light on the pitted stone mortars, as you have every conceivable form at hand. Hope my thousand dollars will come soon in July. I have mapped out new work I think will prove interesting.

Yours very cordially,  
Steiner.

Dr. W. H. Holmes,  
U. S. National Museum,  
Washington, D. C.

(National Anthropological Archives, Henry B. Collins Papers; original in Smithsonian Institution Archives, Incoming Correspondence, Record Unit 189)

***Item 139. Internal memo, Richard Rathbun to Langley, 7/3/1900.***

**SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM**

S. P. LANGLEY  
SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 3, 1900

Sir:

I beg leave to call your attention that the third thousand, due Doctor Roland Steiner for his collection purchased two years ago, may now be regarded as due. The allotment was made from the Secretary's Reserve, Bureau of Ethnology.

Very respectfully

Mr. Richard Rathbun,  
Acting Secretary,  
Smithsonian Institution.  
(National Anthropological Archives, Henry B. Collins Papers)

***Item 140. Letter, Holmes to Steiner, 12/5/[1900].***

Dr. Steiner  
Dec 5th

I have recommended that your 3rd thousand be paid at once. As to the pitted stones I fear I shall not have time to seriously consider them

Yours truly  
W. H. Holmes

(National Anthropological Archives, Henry B. Collins Papers)

***Item 141. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 7/9/[1900].***

[Acc 36750]

Grovetown, Ga., July 9th

Dr. W. H. Holmes,  
U. S. Museum

My dear Sir:

I send per express, as the safest way, the two fish baskets promised to Mr. Mason. One has a high compartment for the retention of fish; the other has two compartments. This character of fish basket has been used by the negroes of this section from the earliest times and is supposed to have been gotten from the Indians in early times. The basket is baited with corn or bread and sunk in the river or creek and anchored down with bags of rocks. Some of the largest soapstone objects I sent to the Museum with perforations may have been used as anchors.

The negroes also use a much larger basket, which I can send if you so desire, which is put in an opening in a kind of palisade, thus [drawing] All fish ascending creek are caught.

These baskets will soon be memories of the past, as negroes are now beginning to use those made of wire.

Yours very cordially  
Roland Steiner

The fish are taken out of the mouth end of basket by loosening the meshes.

**Item 142. Letter, Richard Rathbun to Steiner, 7/[\*]/1900.**

[Acc 6165, 6169]

July [\*] 1900.  
Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I desire to acknowledge the receipt of two collections of archaeological objects and stone implements from Etowah Mounds and Shoulderbone Creek Mounds, and from an aboriginal village and quarry site, Big Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia, recently deposited by you in the National Museum.

Yours respectfully,  
Richard Rathbun  
Assistant Secretary.  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel ??:85)

**Item 143. Letter (transmittal receipt), Richard Rathbun to Steiner, 7/30/1900.**

[Acc 36750]

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown,  
Georgia

Richard Rathbun  
July 30, 1900  
Two fish baskets used by negroes in Georgia.

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel A37:68)

**Item 144. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 8/13/1900.**

[Acc ?bad photocopy]

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. Museum

Grovetown Ga Aug 13th 1900

Washington, D. C.

My Dear Dr. Holmes

I send per express today the trunk- in the trunk I put an old time piggin for milking. I enclose key to trunk. The trunk was the property of Miss Francis Morriss who died aged 86. It had passed down to her thru her father, Samuel Blackstine, decd aged 72 & from his father [\*] Blackstine decd aged 86. You will see by proper [\*] in trunk it was made in Newark N. J. by a man who dealt in skin trunks. The skin is that of a deer, not bear.

Yrs very cordially,  
Roland Steiner

***Item 145. Internal memo, Holmes to Geare, undated [1900].***

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Mr. Geare

Please write to Dr. Steiner for the Ass. Secretary saying that the purchase of his collection has been recommended to the Secretary and approved on the condition that he accept \$1000 for it, 500 to be paid this year & 500 early next.

Yrs W. H. Holmes

***Item 146. Letter (transmittal receipt), Richard Rathbun to Steiner, 9/24/1900.***

[Acc 36910]

Dr. Roland Steiner  
Grovetown  
Georgia

Richard Rathbun  
September 24 1900

Old style piggin for milking and a deer-skin trunk.  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel A37:207)

***Item 147. Letter (transmittal receipt), Richard Rathbun to Steiner, 11/8/1900.***

[Acc 37136]

Richard Rathbun  
November 8, 1900  
Wooden mug [\*]  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel A37:350)

***Item 148. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 4/20/1901.***

[Acc 37115]

Grovetown Ga April 20th 01

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
Washington D. C.

My dear Mr. Holmes,

Dr Wilson told me that the Museum had purchased my collection & that I would hear from you soon. Will you please let me know about what time the first payment will be made. Hoping you are in the best of health.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

***Item 149. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 5/6/1901.***

[Acc 37115]

Grovetown Ga. May 6th '01

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
U. S. National Museum  
Washington

My dear Sir,

Dr. Wilson informed me during his visit that the Museum would purchase my collection at the figure offered. Six hundred dollars this year and six hundred dollars next year & that I would be informed of the purchase. I wrote you a letter some weeks since which I suppose has been lost in the shuffle of business asking about what time I can expect the first payment.

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

***Item 150. Internal memo, Holmes to Wilson, undated [1901].***

[Acc 37115]

Dear Dr Wilson,

Is this all correct? I did not intend to pay \$1200. Are we now committed to that amount.

Yours truly  
W. H. Holmes

***Item 151. Internal memo, Wilson to Holmes, 5/8/1901.***

[Acc 37115]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

S. P. LANGLEY  
SECRETARY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8, 1901

Dear Doctor Holmes:

We are surely not committed to Dr. Steiner for the sum of Twelve Hundred Dollars by reason of anything I said to him. To be sure, I may not have told him that you intended to reduce the sum to a Thousand, but I purposely left it for settlement between you and him, as I felt I had no authority in the matter. I simply informed him what you had told me, that you had agreed to take the collection and that you would write him in a few days as to the details. So far as I am concerned, I know of no reason why you may not make your original arrangement just as though I had not been there or had never said anything to Dr. Steiner.

Yours very truly,  
Thomas Wilson  
Curator, Division of  
Prehistoric Archaeology.

Dr. W. H. Holmes,  
Head Curator, Anthropology,  
U. S. National Museum.

***Item 152. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 5/9/1901.***

[Acc 37115]

Grovetown Ga May 9th '01

My Dear Mr Holmes,

Yours of 7th to hand & noted. Will take one thousand dollars for the collection, as offered per your letter. As I have wished my collection should be in the Museum, I would be very glad indeed if it is convenient to have the money at the earliest date. As We Southern farmers thru the disasters of cold & decline of cotton are in the [\*] column.

Yrs very truly  
Roland Steiner

***Item 153. Letter, Steiner to Otis Mason, 6/1/1901.***

[Acc 38146]

Grovetown Ga June 1st [1901]

My dear Doctor Mason,

First let me thank you for your kind offices in my matters[?] which I fully appreciate. The draft for \$500.00 came all right. Now to the baskets.

I have the model of one basket for putting in a creek, also one to throw out into a river with a grape-vine attached. Also a basket to put fish in, to keep alive, I shall when I send the baskets with you fully. Sending along vine attached to throw basket. I shall give you all the articles in the matter I can. I have become much interested in the matter & wish you all success in the study.

Again thanking you for the turn you gave the wheel.

I am yrs very truly  
Roland Steiner

**Item 154. Letter, Steiner to Otis Mason, 6/21/1901.**

[Acc 38146]

Grovetown Ga June 21st '01

My Dear Doctor Mason,

I send you today the fish traps & baskets. The model you must take as my best. I will see you in a few weeks & explain [\*] all.

The two traps you have are what are called set-traps, being fixed to stakes & weighted, baited & set in rivers or large ponds or creeks. the largest of the ones I have sent you is fastened to a vine or rope, & thrown [missing segment] into a river, pond or creek, & [missing segment] when [\*] the one in model [missing segment] in a large creek, not [\*] -the basket is to hold fish after having taken from traps some are 4 x 6 ft- I hope they will [\*] in your work.

The line is in the basket.

Yrs most cordially

Roland Steiner

The legs representing piles to put in [\*]the auger pones are in the trap.

**Annual Report, 1901.**

The curators noted in their annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1901 that they museum had purchased Roland Steiner's collection of 18,907 stone implements from an ancient village site on Big Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Georgia (Smithsonian Institution 1908:53). From March 12-20, 1901, Thomas Wilson was reported on leave to visit Roland Steiner in Grovetown, Georgia (Smithsonian Institution 1902b).

Materials from the Steiner collection comprised the largest single addition to the Department of Anthropology at the Smithsonian Institution. The U.S. National Museum reported for 1901: "In the Department of Anthropology the total number of .specimens received was 31,155, of which 26,644 specimens, or about 85 per cent, belonged to prehistoric; archaeology and were mainly derived from two sources. The largest accession, consisting of over 18,000 stone implements from an ancient village site in Columbia County, Ga., was purchased of the collector, Dr. Roland Steiner" (Smithsonian Institution 1903:17).

The U.S. National Museum further noted, "3,215 relics from the Etowah Mounds and vicinity, Bartow County, Ga. (37113)"; relics comprising 16,756 specimens from mounds on the Davis plantation (old Evans place), Burke County, Ga. (37114)"; relics from mounds in various places, comprising 36,514 objects 37115)", which was accompanied by this note, "These specimens were originally deposited in the National Museum by Dr. Roland Steiner, Grovetown, Georgia,

in previous years and have since been purchased from him by the Bureau of Ethnology”  
(Smithsonian Institution 1903:129).

***Item 155. Letter, Steiner to Otis Mason, 6/24/1901.***

[Acc 37115]

Herald Square Hotel  
EUROPEAN PLAN  
34th Street & Broadway

CHAS. F. WILDEY,  
PROPRIETOR

NEW YORK June 25th, 01

My Dear Dr. Mason,  
I write to advise you to take the line out of the small square fish basket & put it in water, [\*] is to be attached to the hand trap to be thrown. The [\*] I am on my way to Rhode Island for a week will [\*]

Yrs very cordially  
Roland Steiner

***Item 156. Transmittal receipt note, Smithsonian Institution to Steiner, 7/29/1901.***

[Acc. 38146?]

Dr. Roland Steiner  
Grovetown  
Georgia  
Three fish traps  
July 29. 1901

(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel A39:6)

***Item 157. Transmittal receipt note, Smithsonian Institution to Steiner, 4/5/1902.***

[Acc 7421]

Dr. Roland Steiner  
Grovetown  
Georgia  
Archaeological objects from village sites on Big Kiokee Columbia County, Georgia  
April 5, 1902  
(Smithsonian Institution Archives, Microfilm Reel A40:190)



***Annual Report, 1902.***

[Acc. 39,097]

Curator E.P. Upham recorded in the Annual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1902 that the Smithsonian had purchased Accession Number 39,097 from Roland Steiner using the Secretary's Reserve. This accession contained 9,484 specimens from the Etowah Mounds, Shoulderbone Creek Mounds, and village sites near the mouth of Big Kiokee Creek. That collection had been on deposit at the Smithsonian for several years.

***Item 158. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 8/31/1902.***

[Acc 7933]

Grovetown, Ga August 31, 1902

My dear Dr. Holmes

I shall send on in a few days the largest burial urn ever found in Georgia. It was found by a negro plowing in a field adjacent to the big Kiokee village site. The mule stepped upon the lid- I did not get all the pieces of the lid, but the largest part. There was noting but black dust in the pot, as the bones had long ago crumbled into dust, evidencing that the burial was ages ago.

I will also send a broken bannerstone, in which a cane perforation was begun at each end, the ripples showing. Also a beautiful carved soapstone bead and slate ornament, and some other fine specimens. I will not send any more arrowpoints, as you have sufficient to illustrate the class from this parish. Hoping you are in the best of health,

Yours sincerely,  
Roland Steiner.

I will ship the urn with other things in a cask.  
Dr. W. H. Holmes,  
U. S. National Museum.

***Item 159. Internal memo, Holmes to Miss R., 9/2/1902.***

[Acc 7933]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Miss R.

Please notify Mr. Brown that the shipment has been received.

W.H.H.

Notified Mr. Brown  
Sept. 2- 1902

***Item 160. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 9/25/[1902].***

[Acc 7933]

Grovetown Ga Sept 25

My Dear Dr Holmes,

I ship you today a cask containing the burial urn & other objects. The top pot of the urn is in two boxes one in the urn- & the other a long paper box outside. You will find in one box a small bead with a human face cut in it. I put a string in it to call your attention to it. also a banner stone with a perforation at each [\*] other objects which will interest you. When the cask is received please let me know Hoping you are in the best of health

Yrs very truly  
Roland Steiner

To Dr W. H. Holmes  
U. S. National Museum  
Washington D.C.

***Item 161. Letter, Steiner to Holmes, 9/27/[1902].***

[Acc 7933]

Grovetown Ga Sept 27

My Dear Dr Holmes

I forgot to state in my letter of yesterday that all the objects sent are from the village site at the mouth of Big Kiokee Creek Columbia Co Ga

Yrs sincerely  
Roland Steiner

Dr. W. H. Holmes  
Washington  
D.C.

***Item 162. Letter, Holmes to Steiner, 2/4/1903.***

February 4, 1903.

My dear Doctor Steiner:

I have just received your letter of February 1st and am sorry to hear of your troubles in New York, but am glad to know that you are in such good condition that you feel like "tackling" some of the big mounds of Georgia.

I fear that the problem of obtaining additional collections for the Museum will be a serious one for us hereafter. The House Committee has cut down the Bureau appropriation ten thousand, which will affect our power to purchase to the extent of four thousand. Unless we can induce Congress to increase the amount to fifty thousand, the present appropriation, there is little hope that we can make you an offer for your collection. I presume that you have written to Dorsey at the Field Museum, and to other institutions? I will be glad to recommend the collection to any prospective purchaser that you may have in view.

With best wishes for your success and good health, I am,

Yours very truly,  
W. H. Holmes

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

***Annual Reports, 1903 through 1915.***

The Annual Reports of the Smithsonian Institution for the years 1903 through 1915 were searched for any specific reference to Roland Steiner, but none was found. Beginning in 1905, however, the Smithsonian Institution began using materials from its Steiner collection as a source of aboriginal artifacts for exchange with other museums throughout the world. By January 1906 Steiner was dead and was no longer able to keep watch over his precious collection. Furthermore, the death of Thomas Wilson, who was probably Roland Steiner's strongest advocate at the Smithsonian, lessened the museum's grip on Steiner's collection. The curators perceived that this massive collection of Native American relics possessed a great amount of redundancy, so they concluded that it was a good option as a source of exchange items. This attitude regarding Steiner's reservoir of relics was maintained at the Smithsonian for several decades. Writing in the 1912 Annual Report, Curators Holmes and Upham noted that a considerable body of artifacts, undoubtedly including many items gathered by Roland Steiner, and, "especially that from the ancient soapstone and quartzite quarries in the vicinity of Washington [D.C.], and the soapstone quarries in Georgia, sent in during past years as explorations progressed was found to be useless and was condemned and destroyed" (Smithsonian Institution 1913).

***Item 163. Manuscript map, Map Number 1, Etowah Mounds, Bartow County, Georgia by Steiner, n.d. (NAA7747).***

This sketch map is Roland Steiner's rendition of the Etowah Mound group in Bartow County, Georgia (Steiner n.d.a) (Figure 9). It is identified as Map Number I and it may have been extracted from the Accession records for inclusion in the descriptive catalogue of Dr. Roland Steiner's collection, which was being prepared by Thomas Wilson and E.P. Upham. The manuscript map found its way into to the National Anthropological Archives as an isolated map, however, and its direct association with a particular artifact accession has been compromised.

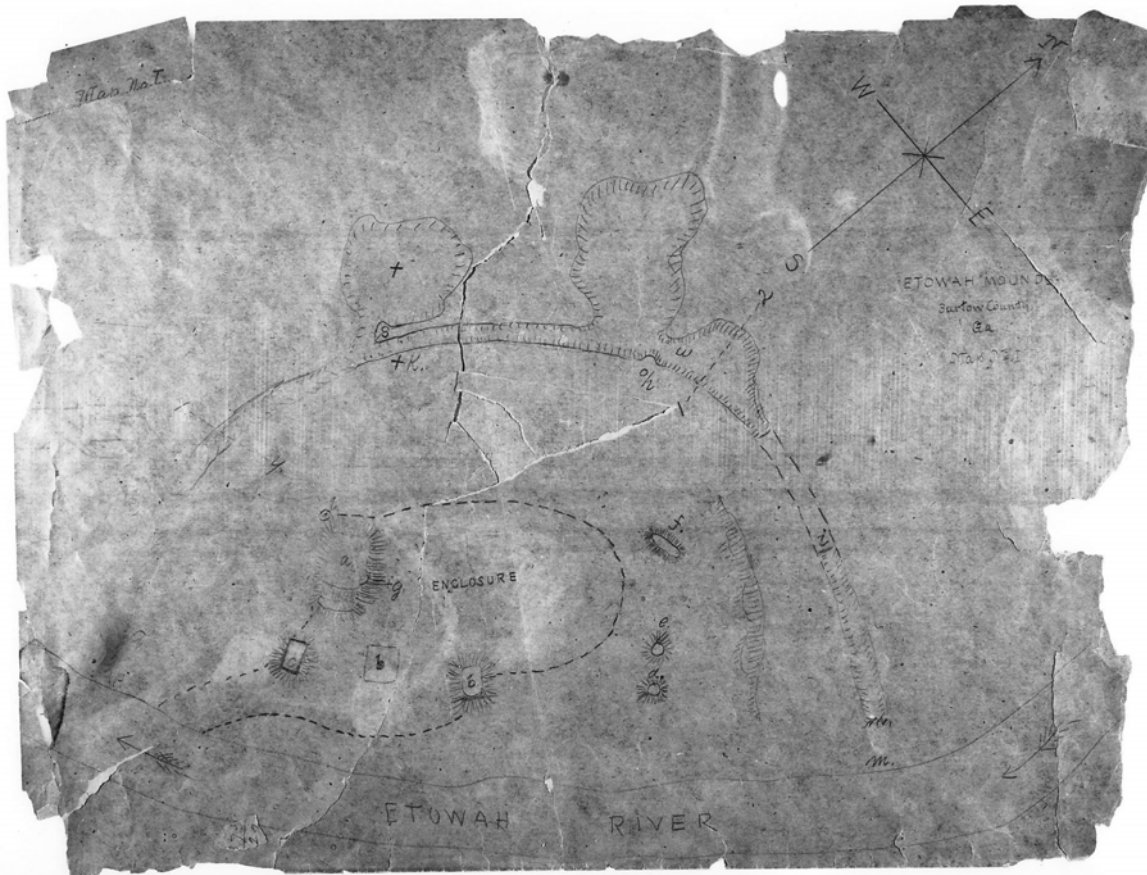


Figure 9. Steiner's Plan of Etowah Mounds.

The original manuscript map is difficult to read and on fragmented and darkened paper. Figure 10 is a tracing made by Rita Folse Elliott from Steiner's original map.

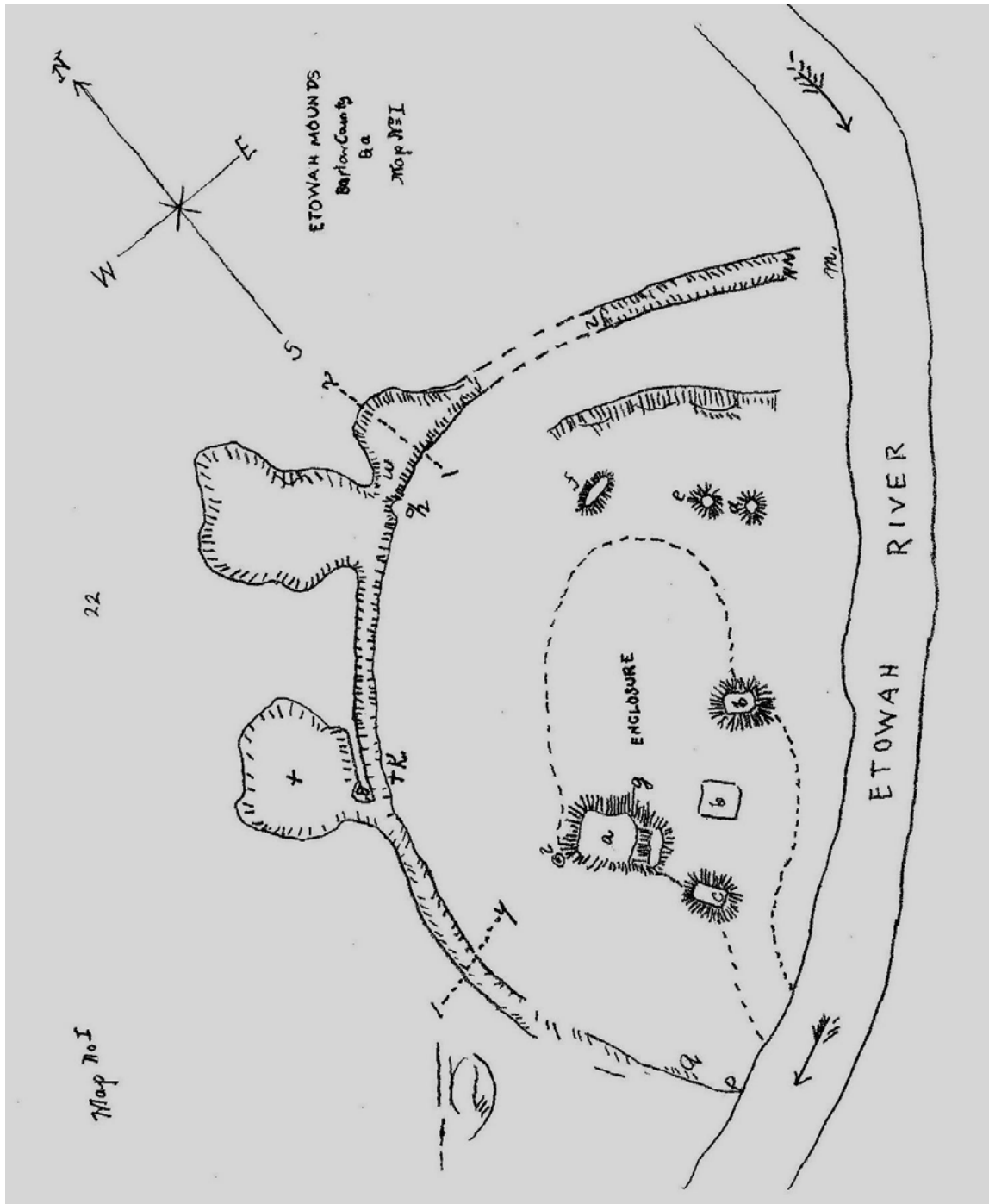


Figure 10. Redraft of Steiner's Plan of Etowah Mounds.

**Item 164. Manuscript map, Etowah Mounds by Steiner (NAA 7477).**

This sketch map shows the location of Steiner's excavations on Mound B at the Etowah Mound group in Bartow County, Georgia (Steiner n.d.b) (Figure 11). It is more of a schematic diagram

than a true representation of Mound B. It contains no scale or orientation arrow. The original sketch is very faint in pencil. A tracing of the original is shown in Figure 10.

An untitled manuscript illustration by Roland Steiner is catalogued as a second map in NAA MS7477. This map was formerly catalogued as 93-7784. It likely depicts a schematic diagram of Steiner's excavations in Mound C at Etowah. Since this map was extracted from its original context in the Accession records without any notation of its associated accession, we rely on other clues in his correspondence for its accurate identification.

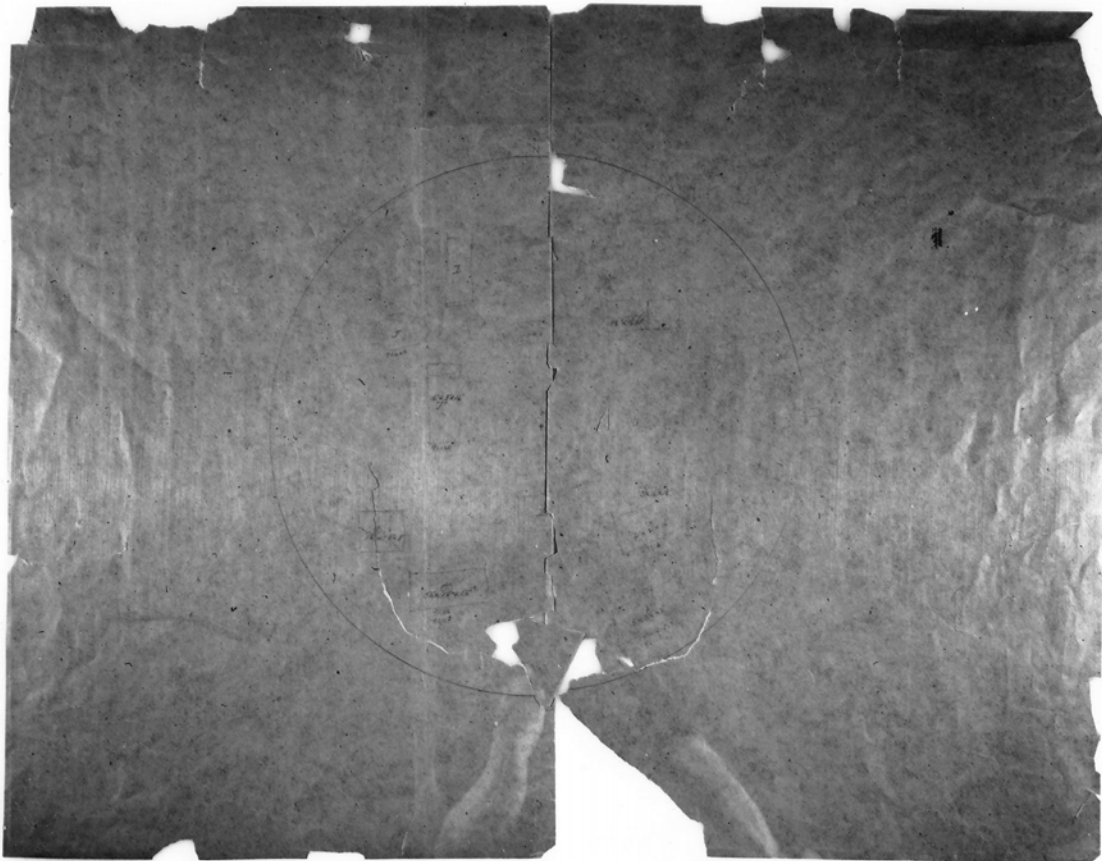


Figure 11. Steiner's Excavation Plan, Mound C, Etowah Mounds.

The original document is drawn in pencil and is badly faded and very difficult to see. A tracing of it is shown in Figure 12. While the map has no scale, it does include approximate locations for the cardinal directions. This image consists of a large circle containing several rectangles within it. Each rectangle is identified by the letter designations "A" through "J". Other information is included for all except "E" and "G", and illegible information is shown for "J". This information is presumably dimensions of Steiner's excavations and is transcribed below:

- A- 8x2'6"x2 [\*]
- B- 4x2x15 [\*]
- C- 3'6" x 1'6" x 1'6" [\*]
- D- 1'6" x 1'6" x 1
- E - [No information]

F- 6 x 3' x 1 ½' [\*]  
 G- [No information]  
 H- 1 ½' x 1 ½' x 1  
 I [No information]  
 J- [\*]

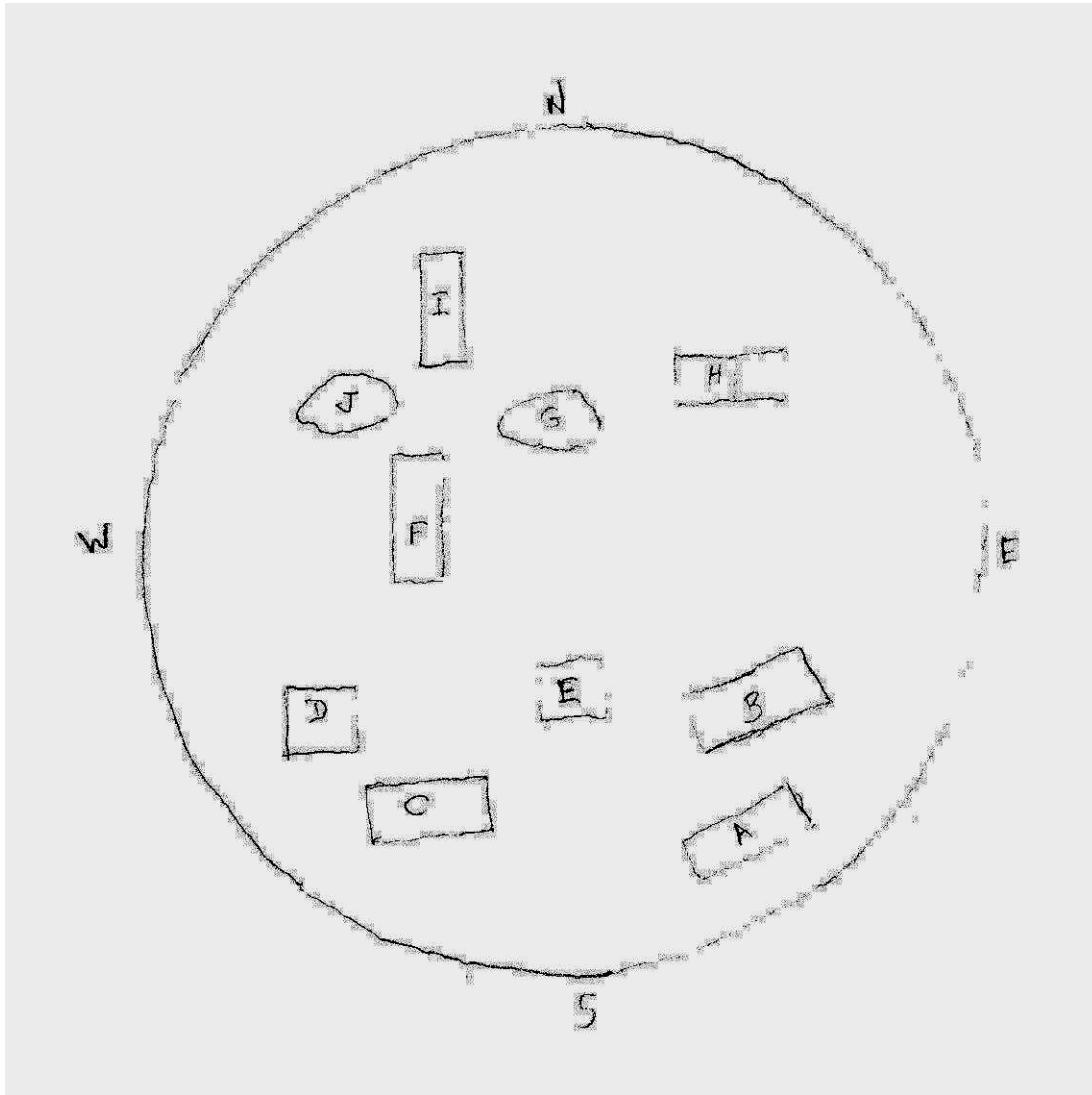


Figure 12. Redraft of a Portion of Steiner's Excavation Plan, Mound C, Etowah Mounds.

**Item 165. Manuscript map, Columbia County, Georgia by Steiner (NAA MS7470).**

This manuscript map is a sketch of Columbia County, Georgia, showing archaeological sites circa 1895 (Steiner n.d.c) (Figure 13). The SIRIS catalogue notes that this item, “is from among a group of materials transferred from the Department of Anthropology in 1973”, and that it, “may have originally been part of the Division of Archeology map collection”, and that “Although USNM ACC 29,546 is stamped on the document, this file has been added to USNM ACC 37,115: (SIRIS 2010).

NAA Ms. #7470

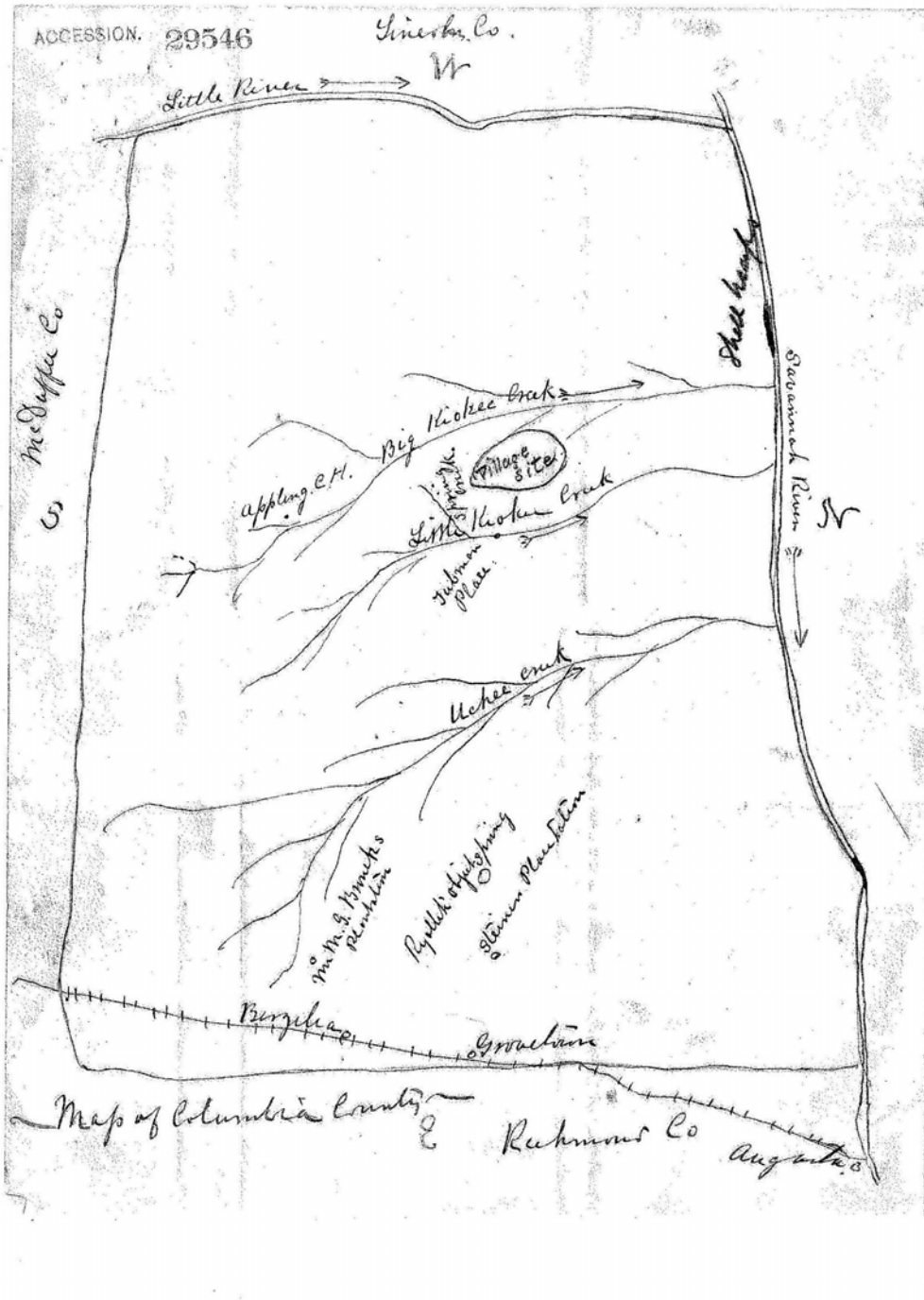


Figure 13. Steiner's Map of Columbia County.

**Item 166. Manuscript map, Kiokoee Creek by Steiner (NAA MS 7478).**

This manuscript map shows the location of selected archaeological resources in the Kiokoee Creek vicinity that were visited by Steiner (n.d.d) (Figure 14). Steiner made extensive surface



collections at sites in the area and excavated in at least one area on the Kiokee Creek midden site. The Kiokee Creek site also was examined by C. C. Jones, Jr. and was described by Jones in his, *Antiquities of the Southern Tribes* (Jones 1878). The SIRIS search engine contains this information for MS7478: “Kiokee Village Site No. 1; Kiokee Village Site No 2 and Soapstone Quarry perhaps ca. 1890s”, and “One of a group of maps transferred to the archives from the Department of Anthropology in 1973. The group may have at one time been part of the Division of Archeology map collection.”

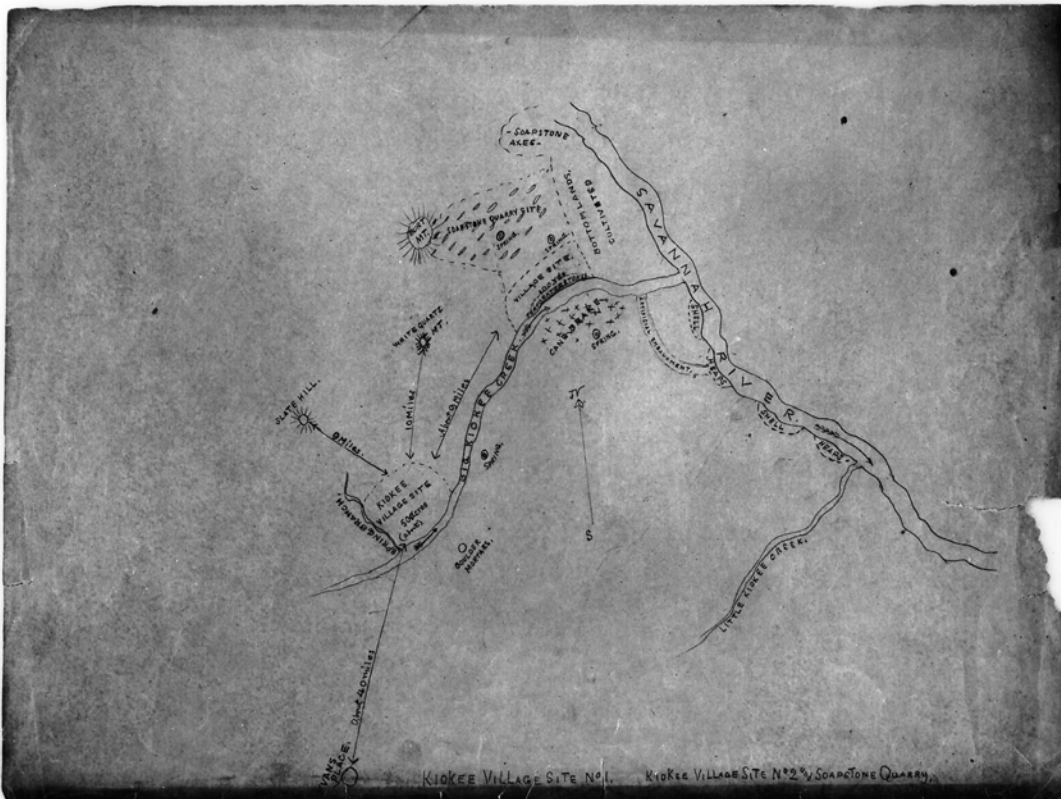


Figure 14. Steiner's Map of Kiokee Creek.

**Item 167. Map in Letter from Steiner to Wilson, January 12, 1897.**

Steiner included an untitled sketch map in a January 12, 1897 letter to Thomas Wilson (Figure 15). It is a simple plan that depicts the Kiokee Village site and adjacent resources.

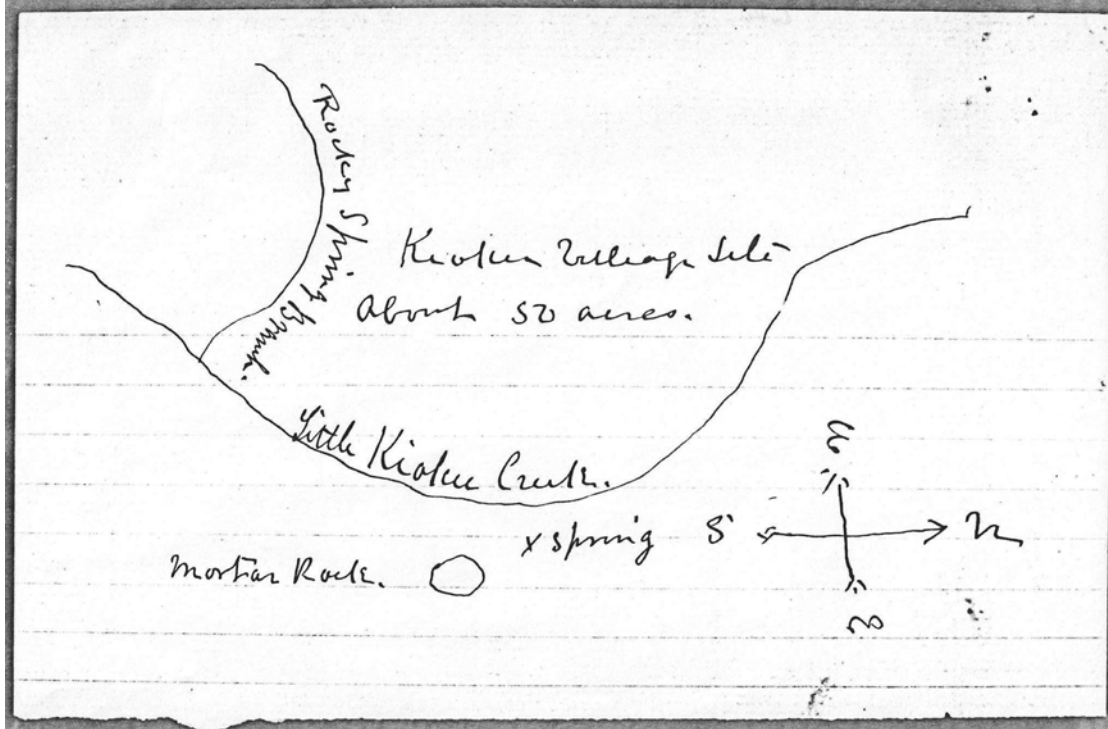


Figure 15. Untitled Sketch of Kiokee Village Site.

**Item 168. Map of Kiokee Village Site, in Letter from Steiner to Wilson, April 8, 1897.**

Steiner included a crude sketch map of the Kiokee Village site in Columbia County in a letter to Thomas Wilson, dated April 8, 1897 (Figure 16). This letter was in reference to Accession 31921. This sketch has numerous “strike-outs”.

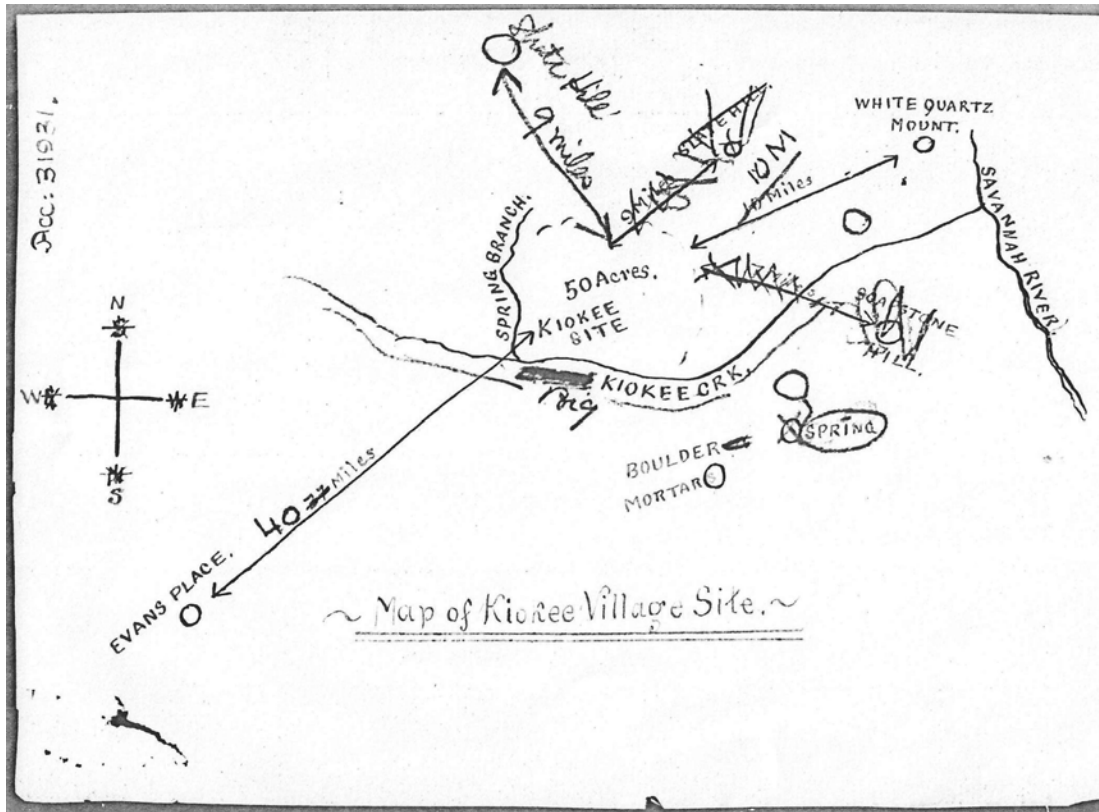


Figure 16. Map of Kiokee Village Site.

**Item 169. Map of Kiokee Village Site, in Letter from Steiner to Wilson, October 24, 1897.**

[Acc. 32311]

Steiner included a crude sketch map of the Kiokee Village site in Columbia County in a October 24, 1897 letter to Thomas Wilson (Figure 17).

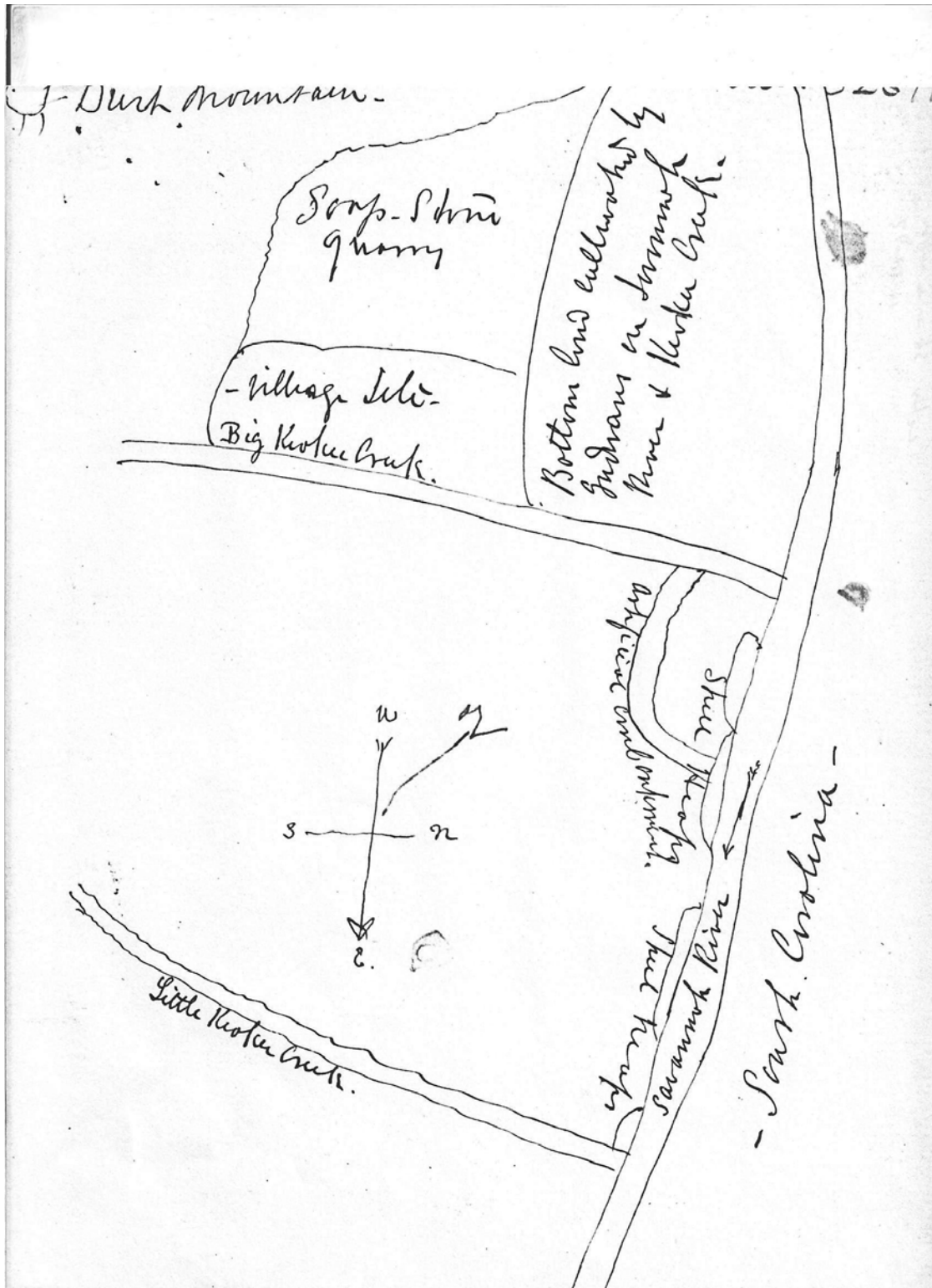


Figure 17. Untitled Map of Kiokee Village Site.

Item 170. Map of Kiokee Village Site, in Letter from Steiner to Wilson.

[Acc. 37115]

Steiner included this crude sketch map of the Kiokee Village site in Columbia County in a letter to Thomas Wilson (Figure 18).

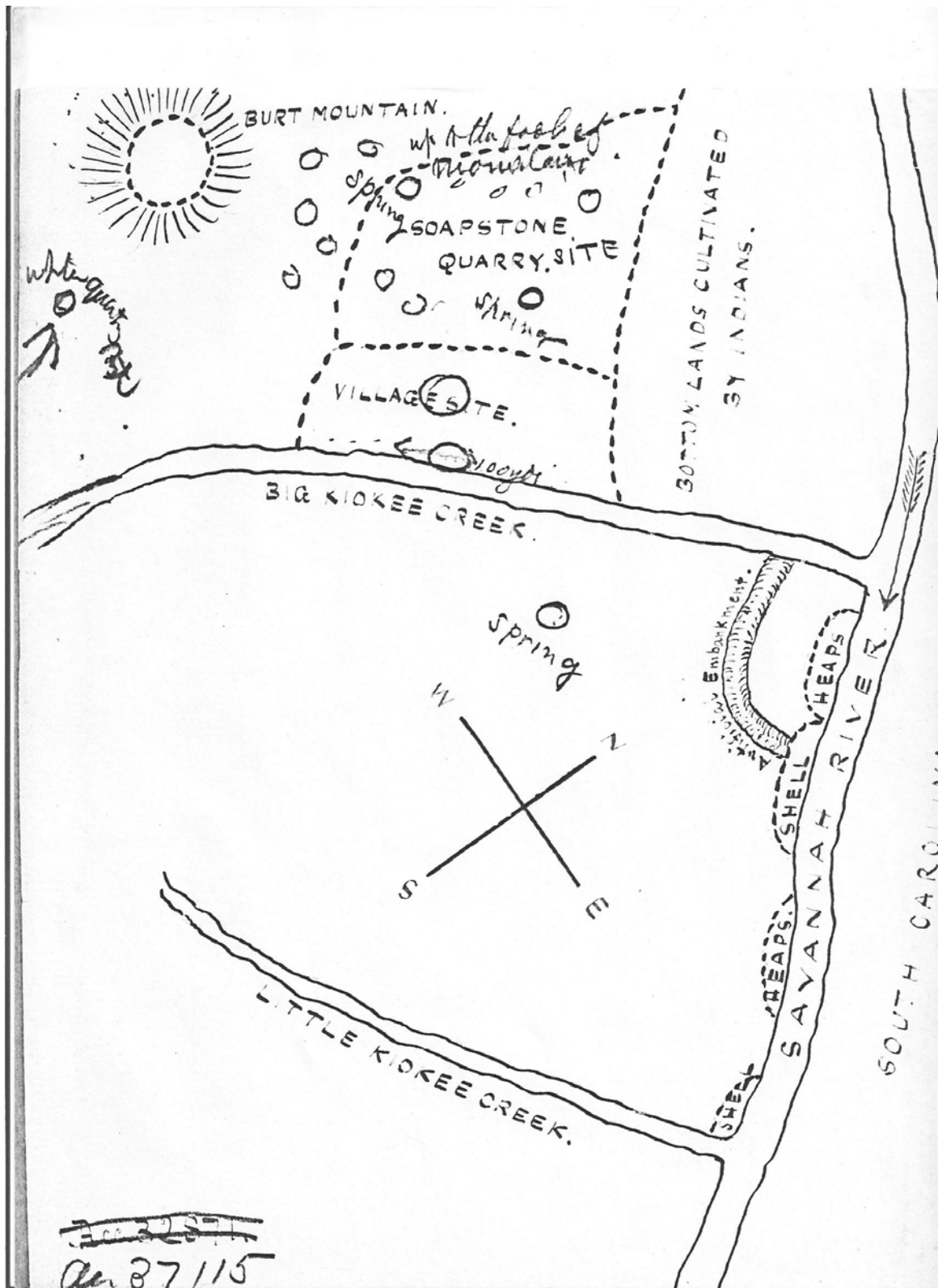


Figure 18. Untitled Map of Kiokee Village Site.

**Item 171. Map of Kiokee Village Site, in Letter from Steiner to Wilson.**

Steiner included this crude sketch map of the Kiokee Village sites in Columbia County was included in a letter to Thomas Wilson (Figure 19).

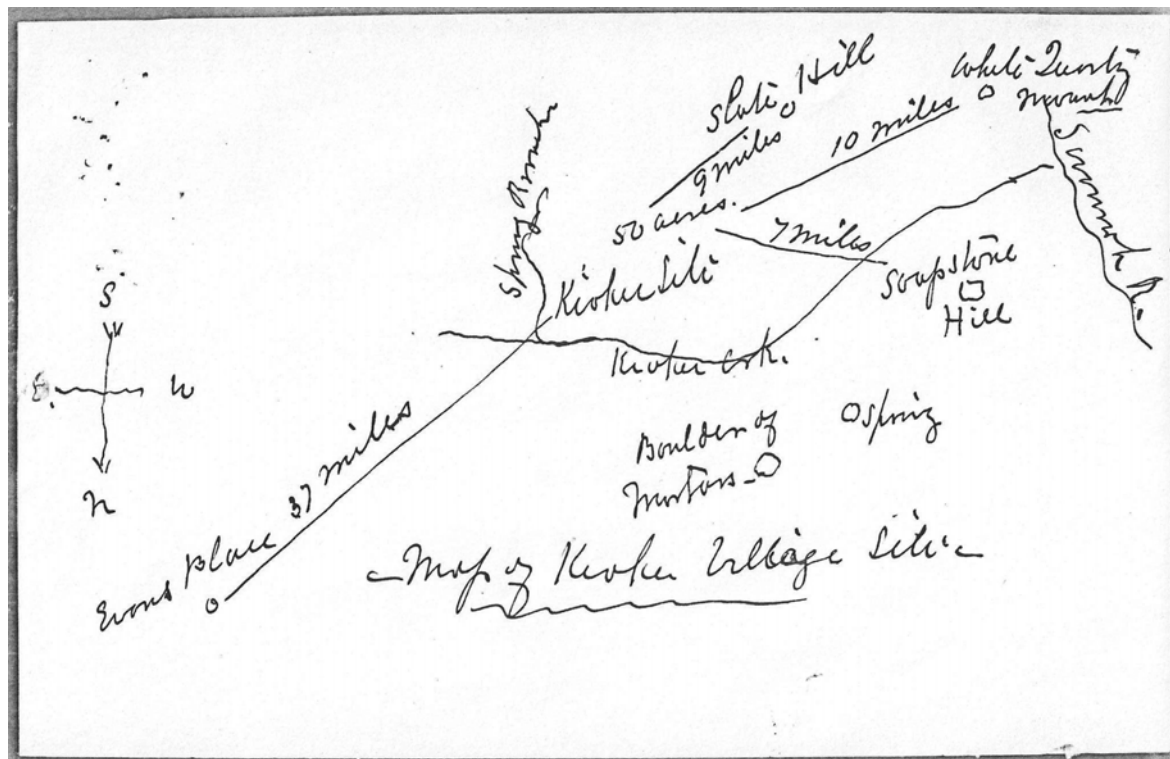


Figure 19. Map of Kiokee Village Sites.

**Item 172. Map of Burke County, Manuscript Map by Roland Steiner (n.d.e).**

While examining the Henry Bascom Collins, Jr. papers in the NAA, the author discovered two sketch maps of sites in Burke County, Georgia drawn by Roland Steiner. The date of these sketches is not indicated. These maps had apparently been extracted from the accession files by Thomas Wilson and E.P. Upham, for inclusion in their unfinished catalogue of the Steiner collection (see entry below). Alternatively, these two maps may have been extracted from the Accession files by Collins, while in preparation for his trip to Georgia to examine the Evans Plantation/Davis Plantation locale in Burke County.

The smaller of the two maps is shown in Figure 20. Interesting features included on this map are the location is the relative location of the Evans Place, shown east of Little Buckhead Creek a short distance above its confluence with Big Buckhead Creek and divided by a county road that leads west from Waynesboro. The Evans Place is indicated downstream from Captain Ridgely's Jasper Quarries are indicated by four Xs along the course of Rocky Creek, about 10 miles east and southeast of the Evans Place. The map also shows the Erin Place, east of Old Town in Jefferson County, which is located along the same county road described for the Evans Place.

Steiner noted at the base of the map, “Yellow & white flint Quarries at Erin & Old Town Jefferson Co. Ga. 10 miles from Evans Place”.

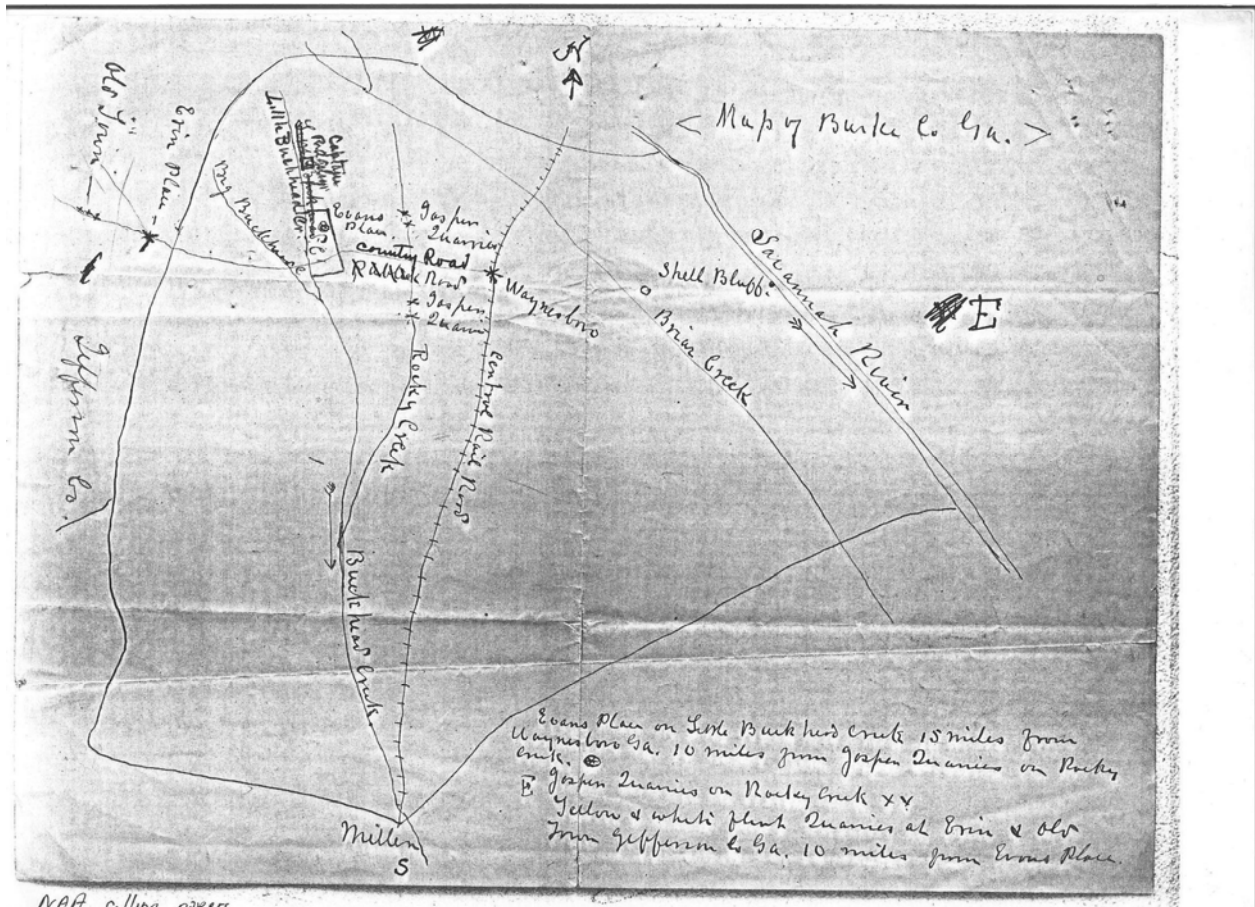


Figure 20. Map of Burke Co., Ga.

**Item 173. Map of Burke County, Manuscript Map by Roland Steiner (n.d.e).**

The larger of the maps of Burke County sites by Roland Steiner (described in the previous entry) is in very poor condition and fragmented. It is reproduced below in four sections by quadrants (Figures 21-24).

The northeast quadrant of the map is shown in Figure 21. Several important cultural features are shown on this portion of Steiner’s map. These include: white flint quarry at Erins and yellow flint quarry at Old Town, both in Jefferson County; Captain Ridgeley’s Place “whit yellow & variegated flint & jasper quarry here”; the Old Evans Place including an enclosure of about 7 acres containing two mounds a workshop, an artificial pond, and a ditch. This enclosure is shown east of Buckhead Creek and north of the road and it is shown west of the Davis house.



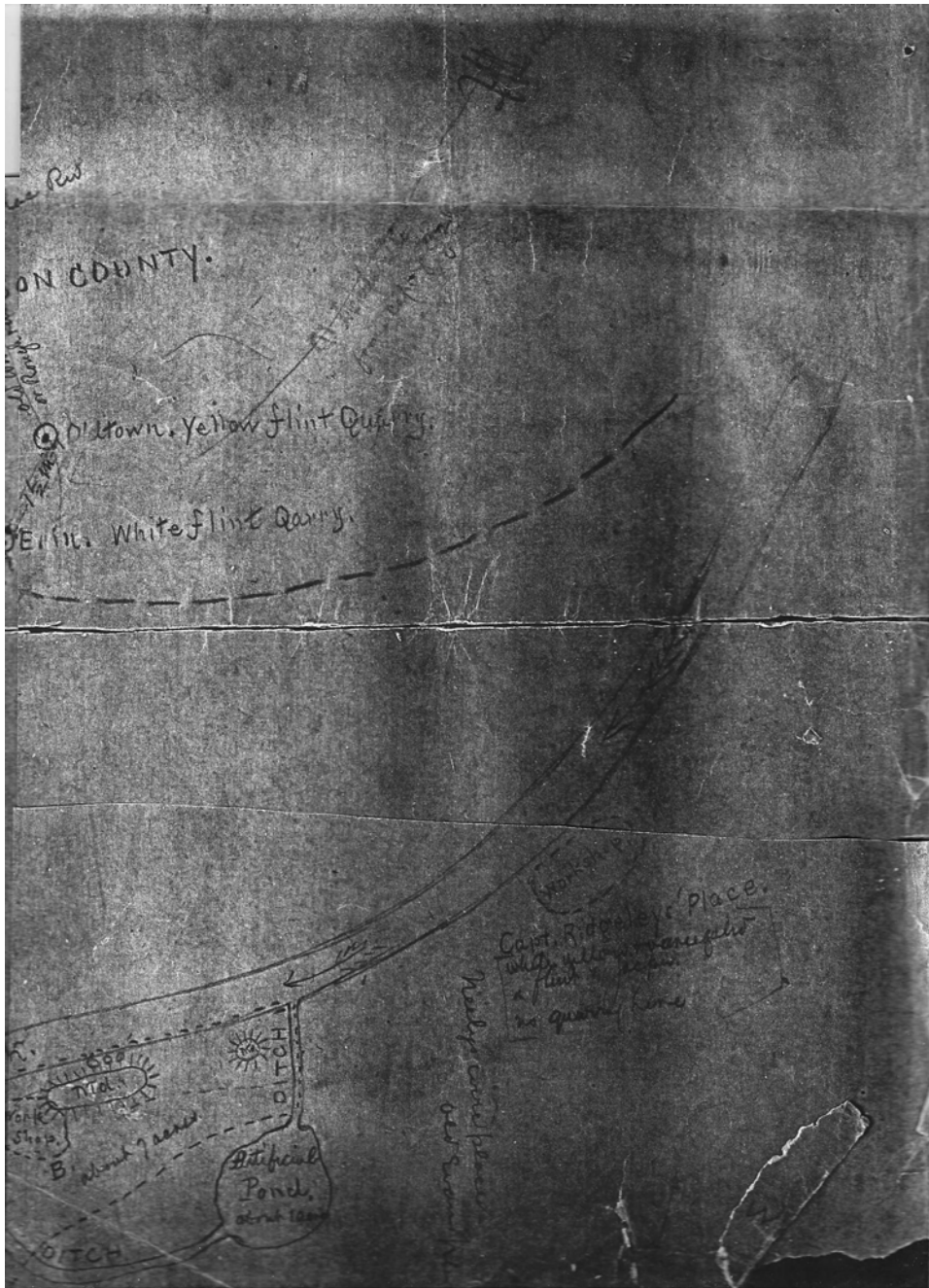


Figure 21. Northeast Quadrant of Evans Place Map.

The northwest quadrant of the map is shown in Figure 22. A spring, dense canebrake, and the road are indicated in this vicinity, east of Buckhead Creek but no other cultural features are indicated. A portion of this area, however, is within a 45 acre area that was heavily collected by Steiner, as indicated by a dashed line on the map. That area was an agricultural field.

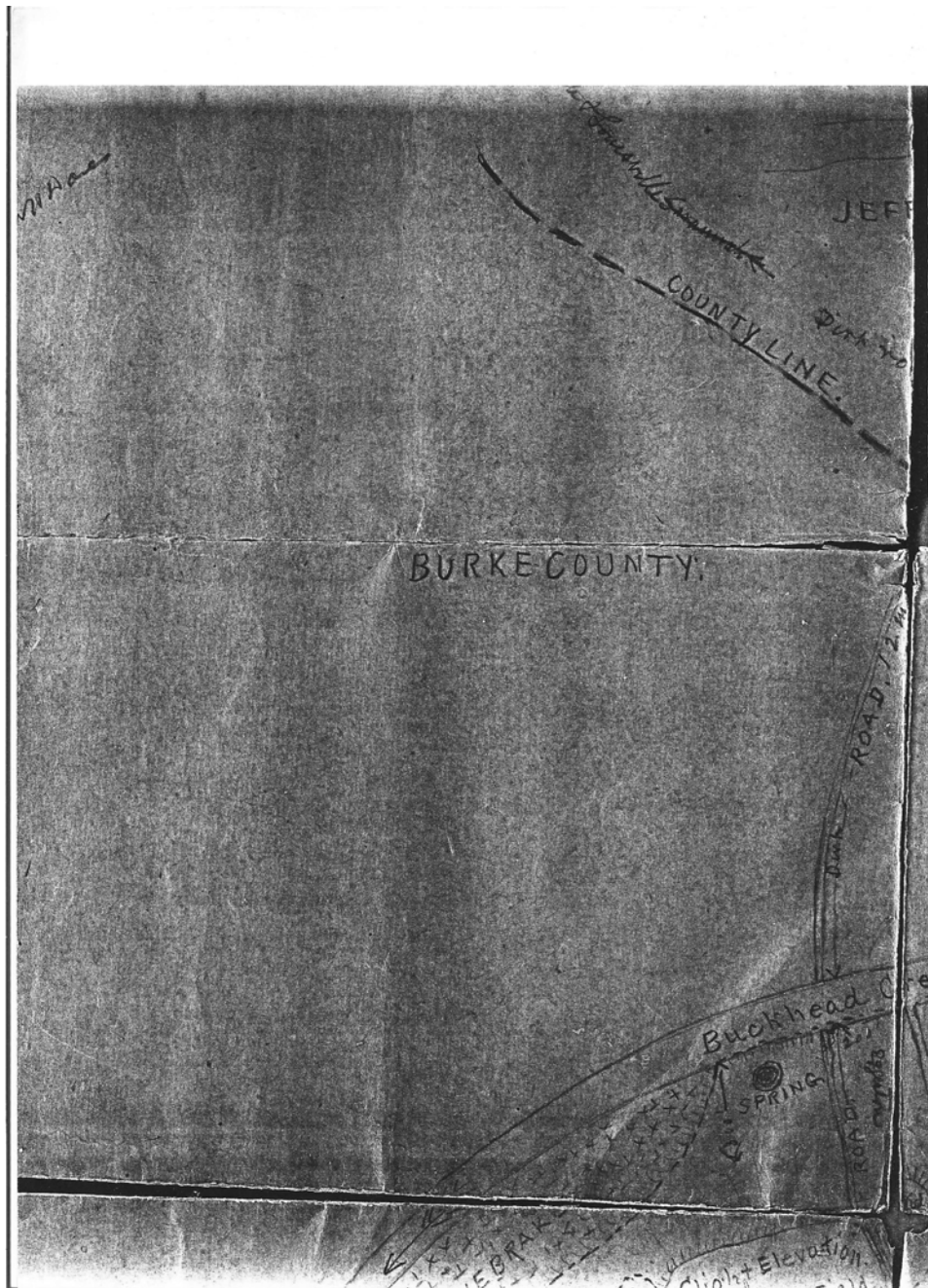


Figure 22. Northwest Quadrant of Evans Place Map.

The southwest quadrant of the map is shown in Figure 23. One mound is shown on this portion of the map. It is a circular mound within a slightly elevated plowed field. This mound is located east of the primary area of Steiner's relic collecting. The Bullard Place is indicated on the map, east of Buckhead Creek and south of the main Evans Plantation vicinity. Notes written on this portion of the map by someone other than Roland Steiner (likely Thomas Wilson or E.P. Upham) states, "Most of the objects from Burke Co., Ga were found by Dr. Steiner within the dotted line Enclosure. Map No. II". These notes suggest that this map was the draft version of a graphic intended for Wilson and Upham's descriptive catalog of the Steiner collection.

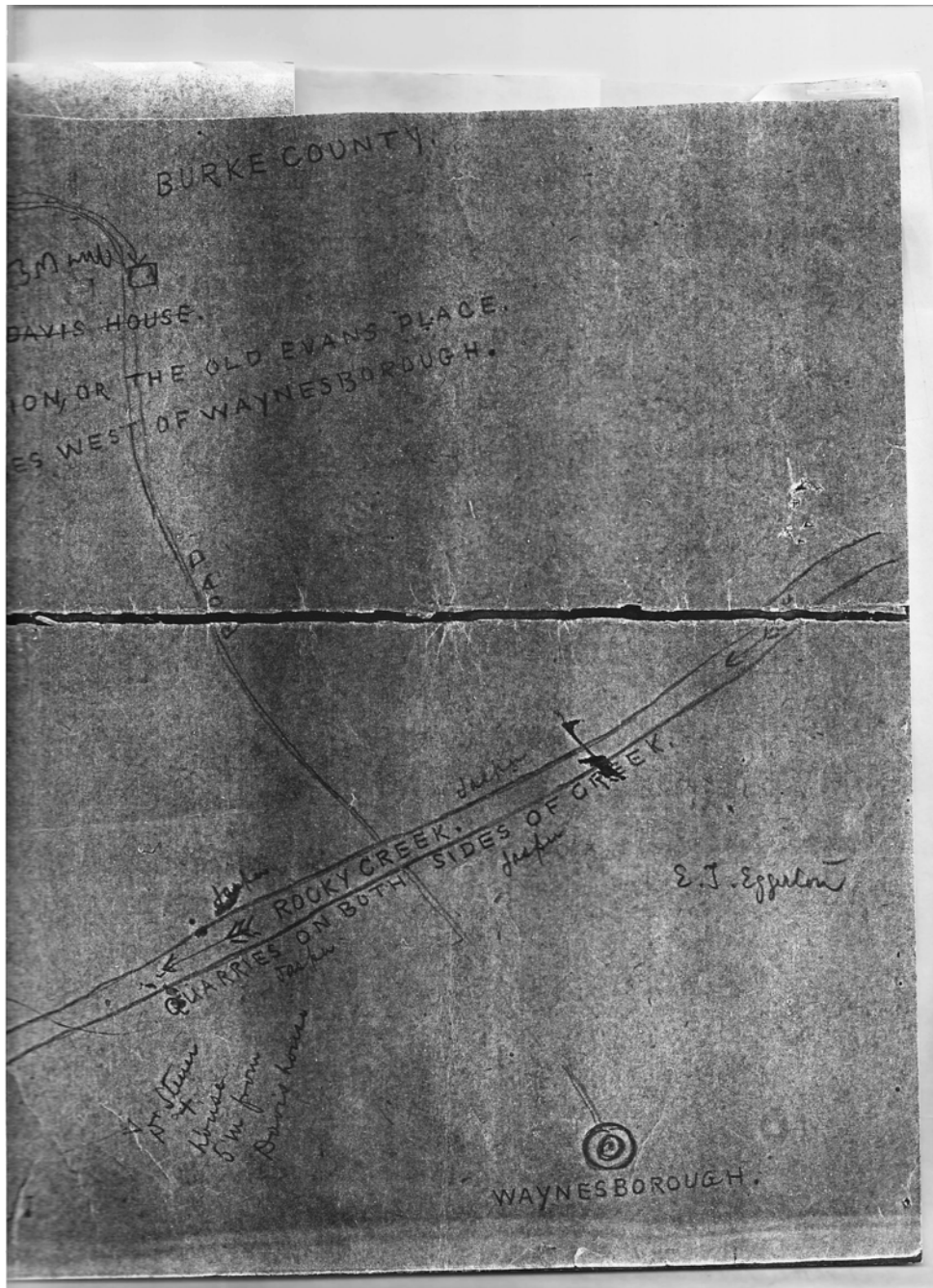


Figure 23. Southwest Quadrant of Evans Place Map.

The southeast quadrant of the map is shown in Figure 24.

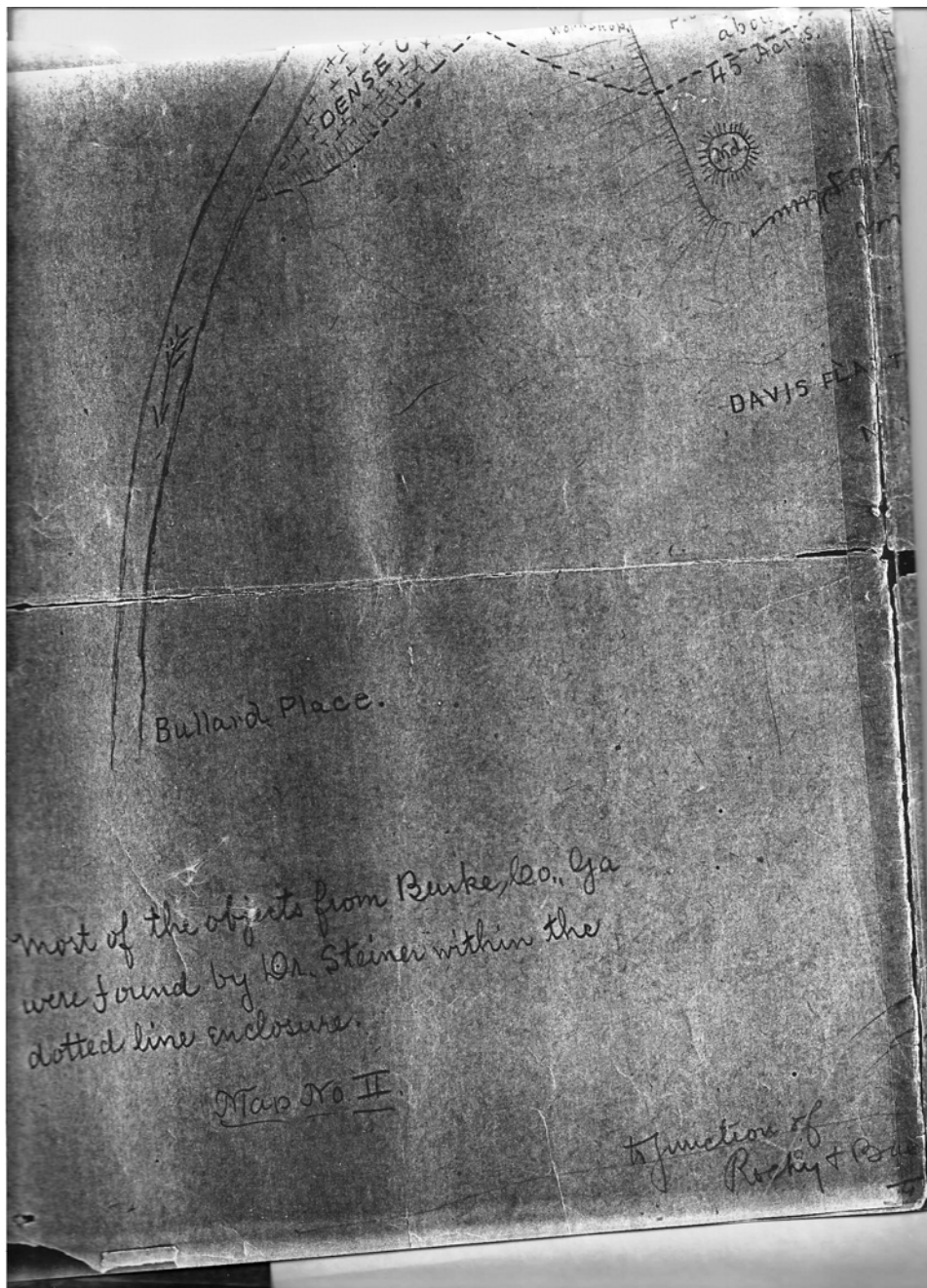


Figure 24. Southeast Quadrant of Evans Place Map.

**Item 174. Descriptive Catalogue of Dr. Roland Steiner's Collection of Aboriginal Implements, Draft Manuscript, by Thomas Wilson and E.P. Upham.**

Curator Thomas Wilson was Roland Steiner's strongest ally among the professional elite archaeologists and anthropologists in the northern states. Professor Wilson compiled this manuscript for publication and submitted it to the Smithsonian Institution's Secretary with this intent. The Institution was undergoing many changes in that period and Dr. Wilson's catalogue

on the Steiner Collection was one casualty of this institutional reorganization. The manuscript languished in the Department of Anthropology's files in unpublished form. It was dusted off briefly in 1959 by archaeologist Henry Bascom Collins, Jr. Collins, whose first contact with the Smithsonian Institution was in 1924 when he was hired as an Aid, had a curious attraction to some of the stone tools he had observed in the Steiner collection. These stone tools from Burke County, Georgia were morphologically similar to stone tools he had observed on his Arctic expeditions (Collins 1962:129-130). He described the tools as, "an asymmetric knife blade or scraper" and he identified 68 examples in Steiner's collection from "the old Davis place" in Burke County, Georgia. Collins was curious enough of these similarities to mount an expedition to Burke County to see for himself the context in which these tools were found. Collins apparently arrived, "too little and too late", however, and his interest in Steiner's work quickly flagged. In a 1980 memo to Bruce Smith, Collins recalled that most of the archaeological materials that he had recovered in his 1959 expedition dated to the Archaic period. Wood (n.d.) catalogued Collins' collection from the Burke County excavations in the early 1990s.

The net effect of Collin's curiosity with Steiner was that Wilson's catalogue on the Steiner Collection was separated from other paperwork related to the collection. Wilson's and Upham's catalogue of Steiner's collection is a lengthy work, which was typed and (at one time) was nearly ready for publication. The catalogue is too lengthy for inclusion in this monograph and will be published in separate form by the LAMAR Institute at a later date. Pen and ink stone artifact illustrations accompanied the typed catalogue, although these drawings were separated from their original context and were not labeled with any identification.

Collins' 1959 excavations in Burke County remain unreported beyond Collins' field notes. A full treatment of this study collection should be undertaken, but it is also beyond the scope of the present effort.

***Item 175. Anonymous notes NMNH, 5/2/1906.***

[These anonymous notes written after Roland Steiner's death, possibly by William Henry Holmes, who had visited Georgia and Dr. Steiner]

May 2nd 1906

Trip with Dr. Steiner from his house to the mouth of Kiokee Creek. The plantation country traversed is typical of central Georgia & cotton field & negro cottages with much dark pine woods & stretches of dark blue distance.

Visited shell deposits below mouth of Kiokee Creek. They are a few feet thick in places & extend down to Uche Creek. They consist of small unio shells 1 1/2 to 3 inches

Chipped quartz & pottery mixed with shells. little not local (National Anthropological Archives, Department of Anthropology).

***Item 176. Two Notes on Mounds 1913 by William Henry Holmes (NAA MS7271).***

William Henry Holmes visited sites in Georgia. These notes, which are on file at the NAA, have not been examined for the present research.

***Item 177. U.S. National Museum, Artifact Catalog.***

The artifact catalogue books for the Smithsonian Institution are filled with important information on the Roland Steiner collection. This document source will be addressed in a future volume in the Roland Steiner/Skeletons in the Closet series of the LAMAR Institute Publications.

***Item 178. Department of Anthropology, Condemnation Book***

By the 1930s the halls of the Smithsonian Institution were literally bulging with North American artifact collections. As a solution to this oversupply and perceived redundancy of relics, in 1932 the administrators of the museum developed a system of condemnation for “surplus” items, and the objects slated for discard were de-accessioned in a Condemnation Book. Smithsonian Institution Assistant Secretary A. Wetmore wrote a letter to Neil M. Judd, Curator of American Archaeology, on April 29, 1932, which included a list of 31,266 artifacts that had been identified for condemnation. Of these, the overwhelming majority, 34,447 artifacts, were from the Roland Steiner collection. On this letter, Judd had added the notation, “Specimens destroyed May 18, 1932 NMJ”. Additional objects from Steiner’s collection were condemned by the museum in 1935, 1937, 1952, 1955, and 1959 (Department of Anthropology, Smithsonian Institution 1965). This letter is reproduced in Figure 25.

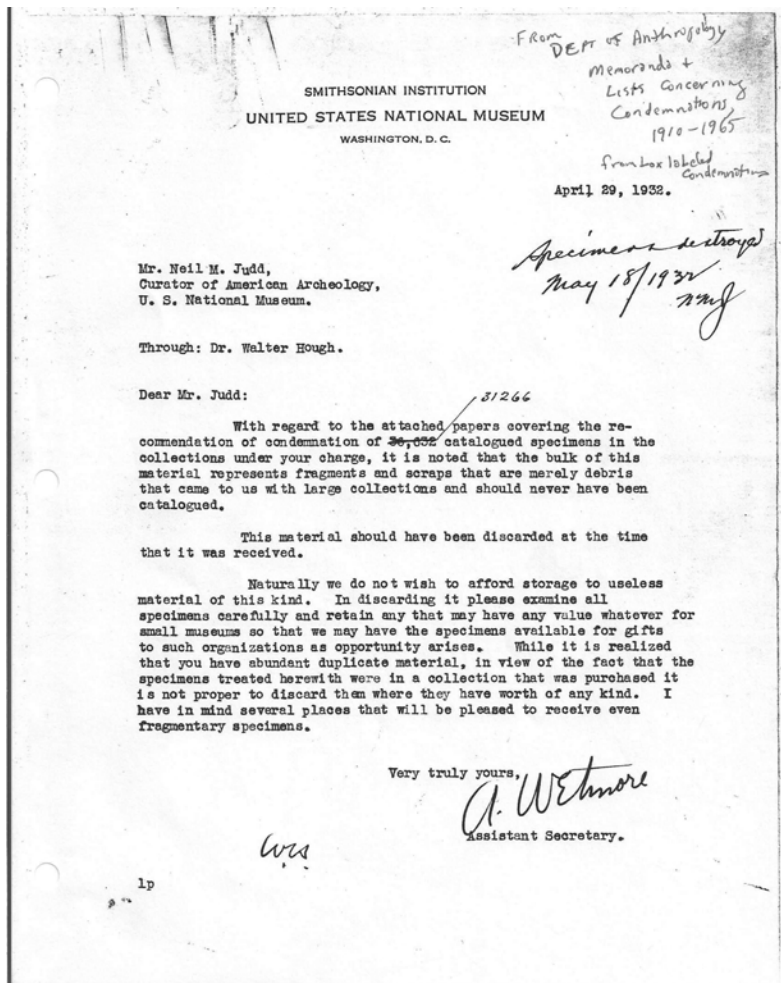


Figure 25. Letter from Wetmore to Judd.

Ironically, at the very time that the author was researching these disheartening condemnation records, he learned of a special curatorial project involving a large artifact collection that had been stored for many decades in the attic of the Smithsonian “Castle”. These artifacts were contaminated with asbestos material and were in the process of being cleaned and stored in the MSC in Suitland, Maryland. This collection of artifacts, known as the “School Collection” was composed primarily of chipped stone artifacts from Georgia in the Steiner and McGlashan collections. This collection, which was in process, was unavailable for study by the author at the time of his 1994 Steiner collection research at the Smithsonian Institution. At present, it has not been determined what portion of Steiner’s collection was truly destroyed or discarded by the Smithsonian Institution. Furthermore, it is unknown to what extent the School Collection was distributed to schools and what portion was “squirreled away” in the Smithsonian’s attic. Resolving this subject would be a major research effort in its own right and it is beyond the scope of the present undertaking. It should be noted, however, that the 1932 list of condemned objects is tallied by catalog number, number of specimens, and associated donor. Subsequent condemnations to 1959 are listed solely by their catalog numbers and the number of specimens. With diligent research, however, the School Collection, particularly the Steiner and McGlashan collections that comprise the bulk of it, could be redeemed for its potential archaeological data.

***Item 179. Field Research by Henry Bascom Collins papers (1959).***

In addition to the draft manuscript on the Steiner collection by Wilson and Upham, described earlier, the Henry Bascom Collins papers at the NAA contain other important data relating to the Roland Steiner story (Collins 1959). The Collins chapter of the Roland Steiner story, which is an extensive body of data, will be a future volume in the LAMAR Institute Publications.





## Roland Steiner's Collection at the American Museum of Natural History, Department of Anthropology, New York

Roland Steiner's interaction with the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) begins in November, 1897, when Steiner wrote to Franz Boas. It ended in 1902, when Steiner's collection was purchased by philanthropist George Foster Peabody and donated to the AMNH. The AMNH wound up acquiring the second largest portion of Steiner's collection for its museum.

### **Item 180. Letter, Steiner to Frans [Franz] Boas, 11/1/1897.**

[Acc. 1899-39]

Grovetown Columbia County Ga Nov 1<sup>st</sup> '97

Dr. Frans Boas  
Museum of Natural History  
New York City

Dear Sir,

I see by *Antiquarian* of Sept. that your North American collection of Indian specimens is incomplete; & that you wish to and complete you have—I have a large collection comprising all objects used by the Aborigines of this section—the Creeks & Cherokees & Uchees—

The collection comprises arrow and spear heads of calcedony, jasper &  
Pipes  
Spear heads  
Arrow points  
Knives of flint  
Knives of slate  
Knives of quartz  
Grooved axes  
Celts or hatchets  
Discoidal stones  
Finely polished rubbing stones  
Mortars  
Ceremonial stones  
Banner stones  
Hammers  
Stone Balls  
Celts or hatchets of flint  
Celts or hatchets of slate  
Hairpins of flint  
Hairpins of slate  
Borers  
Stone slabs or plaster ones  
Daggers

Slate hoes  
Beveled edged spear & arrowpoints  
Steatite objects  
Large slate knives  
Pitted stones  
Bowls—Peculiar forms—  
Sinkers & many other forms difficult of classification  
Heating stones—skin dressers  
Objects of Polished stone &c  
Large spear heads

The number is above 7000—

I will sell at most reasonable. I will send on for inspection & you can exhibit it & if you [\*] it—  
can put it in kinds of some one to sell.

Yrs very truly

R. Steiner

The collection was obtained at the mouth of Kiokee Creek Columbia Co., Ga. A site mentioned  
in Mr. C. C. Jones *History of Southern Indians*—

The steatite objects—[\*] large ollas—resemble clearly those from coast of California noted in  
Leut. Wheeler's U.S. Geographical Survey.

Yrs  
Dr. Roland Steiner  
Grovetown  
Columbia Co.  
Ga.

I have also specimens from shell heap near village site on Savannah River & samples of teeth,  
bones, & shell to depth of 8 ft.

***Item 181. Columbia County Georgia, unattributed and undated manuscript, by Steiner, [1899].***

[Acc. 1899-39]

The files for Acc. 1899-39 at the AMNH include a sketch map, which unattributed but was  
almost certainly, based on his style and penmanship, drafted by Steiner (Figure 26). This map  
(undated, untitled, unattributed map with no scale by Steiner) showing a portion of Columbia  
County, Georgia, including:

Burt Mountain,

Savannah River,  
 Big Kiokee, Little Kiokee, and Uchee creeks;  
 shell heaps [between Little and Big Kiokee creeks];  
 quarry site [North of Burt Mountain and West of Big Kiokee Creek];  
 village site [West of Big Kiokee Creek].

This map includes this additional notation at its base:

Timpooshee Barnard Uchee tribe  
 Cherokee=Cheluttee  
 Conquered by Creeks & incorporated in the lands Muscollogee [sic., Muscogee]

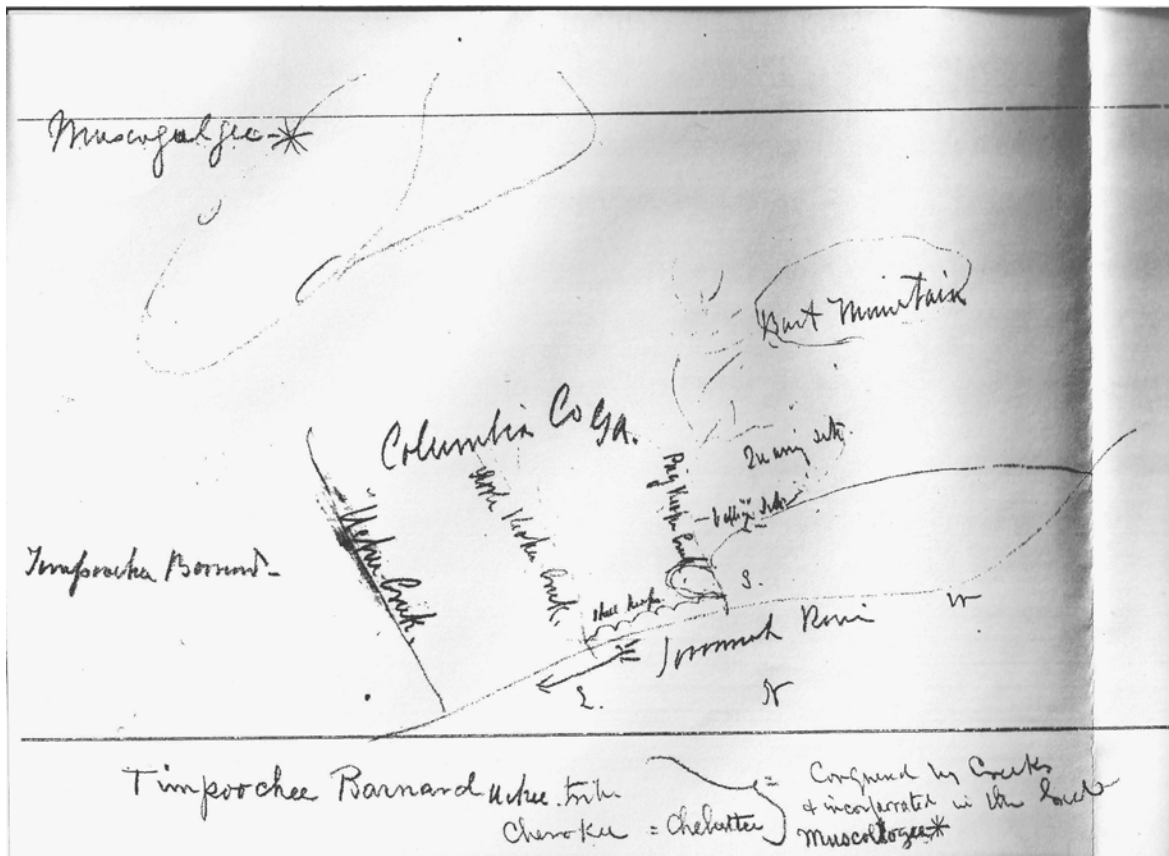


Figure 26. Map of Sites in Columbia County.

**Item 182. Letter, Steiner to the Curator of the Anthropological Department, AMNH, NY, August 8, 1899.**

[Acc. 1899-39]

[Note: curiously, although written by Steiner, it is written on AMNH letterhead]

To the Curator of the Anthropological Department, American Museum of Natural History, New York

Aug. 8, 1899

Dear Sir—

I have been carrying on investigations on Big Kiokee Creek, in Columbia County, Georgia, on which I find several village sites and certain shell-heaps. A collection of 20,000 specimens made on this site is on deposit in the U.S. National Museum, subject to purchase. At the present time I have a collection of 15,000 specimens from these sites, and it is my intention to carry on these investigations. I beg to submit the following proposition to you:--

I will send these specimens that have been found at the site mentioned above and those that may be found at this site during further explorations to the American Museum of Natural History as a deposit for three years, beginning Jan. 1, 1900. It is my intention to sell the collection when completed, and in consideration of the accommodation given to the collection in the American Museum of Natural History, I shall give the same the first option on the collection.

Yours very truly,

Roland Steiner

***Item 183. Letter, Steiner to H. H. Saville, 7/7/1899.***

[Acc. 1899-39]

Grovetown Ga. July 7<sup>th</sup> '99

Mr. H. H. Saville  
New York City

Dear Sir:

I today ship to the American Museum of Natural History the steatite objects I spoke to you of. They were found at a Quarry site on Big Kiokee Creek in Columbia County Ga. Besides the multi-pitted stones. I send single-pitted & other objects, used, I think for nutting stones.

Yrs very truly

Roland Steiner

***Item 184. Letter, Boas to F.W. Putnam, 8/8/1899.***

[Acc. 1899-39]

[AMNH letterhead]

Aug. 8, 1899

Prof. F. W. Putnam  
Peabody Museum,  
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Professor Putnam,--

Dr. Steiner of Grovetown, Georgia, was here to-day, and made a proposition, which I put in the form of a letter, which I enclose. He wishes to have an answer, if possible, by the end of the week. Will you please either send the reply to Grovetown yourself or let me know what to say. Please inform me, anyway, of your decision, because he may be up again in the course of this week.

Yours very truly,

Franz Boas.

Please return his letter for the file.

*Reply, Putnam to Boas, written at bottom of letter.*

I enclose ans. & also his letter for file.

F.W.

***Item 185. Letter, Putnam to Boas, 8/10/1899.***

[Acc. 1899-39]

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Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology,  
Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.

F. W. Putnam, Peabody Professor of Amer. Arch.  
And Ethn. Curator of the Museum

August 10, 1899.

Dr. Franz Boas,

Dear Dr. Boas:--

I have received Dr. Steiner's letter in relation to his proposition to send specimens he may collect in Georgia to the Museum as a deposit subject to our purchase at a future time.

This collection will undoubtedly be an interesting one, and may prove to be a very important one for the Museum, but at the same time I do not think it advisable for us to receive the collection with the intention of making an exhibition of it. We might receive the collection and keep it stored in boxes, provided we were at now expense, until his exploration is completed

and then consider the question of purchase. Will you please confer with Mr. Steiner with this view in mind.

Sincerely yours,

F. W. Putnam

---

**Item 186. Letter, Boas to Steiner, 8/14/1899.**

[Acc. 1899-39]

[AMNH letterhead]

Aug. 14, 1899.

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

Dear Sir—

I am in receipt of your letter of Aug. 8, in which you offer to send to this Museum material collected on village sites and shell heaps on Big Kiokee Creek, the collection to remain a deposit in the American Museum of Natural History for three years, beginning Jan. 1, 1900, and the Museum to have the first option on the collection.

In reply I beg to say that we shall be glad to accept your offer, it being understood, however, that only part of the collection, according to the judgment of the curator, shall be exhibited. I beg to express to you my sincere appreciation of the very kindly interest that you are taking in the work of this institution, which has led you to make your kindly offer.

I am, dear sir,

Yours very truly,

F. Boas

---

**Item 187. Steiner to Boaz, 9/16/1899.**

Grovetown Ga. Sept 16<sup>th</sup> 99

Dr. Franz Boaz  
Curator Museum Nat. Hist'y  
New York City

My Dear Sir.—

I today shipped to the Museum (9) nine boxes of specimens containing objects made from chert, ryollite; & the varieties of quartz. I embraced all objects manufactured from the above materials—so that a case exhibition could be made of the objects according to material. I arranged the specimens according to the Smithsonian classification, which you can change to suite your views—I shall next week ship specimens of flint, jasper, calcedony &c. also pipes—ground and notched axes, hatchets, multi & single pitted stones, [\*], scrapers &c.&c. The collection of arrows, spears & knives run the gamut of taste, being of ever form. I shall also send one box of refuse from outdoor workshops; there is thru upon the site. The collection of spear-heads you will find very fine—also the variety of triangular arrow-heads, some of which are serrated. The bevelled edges are also found, better than the Ohio variety, & they include very small points. Almost one half of the bevelled edges are serated. There are two types which Mr. Thomas Wilson calls the Italian & English types, & he said they were found in this Country only in Georgia—I hope you will be pleased—one point to consider in the collection from this site, is that the material found in situ is quartz & chert. The rest was brought from a far remove—brought I believe to exchange for the soap-stone, abundant at the site. I shall send you some large soap-stone pipes, blocked out but not finished. I do not think the Indians have even movin[?] out by force, but removed by [\*] & that the occupation extended back for many centuries. [\*] I finish shipping objects now are found. I will begin to excavate the shell heaps collecting the skeletons. Please let me know where [\*]

Yrs very cordially

Roland Steiner

***Item 188. Steiner to Boaz, 9/21/1899.***

---

Grovetown Ga. Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 99

Dr. Franz Boas  
New York City

My dear Sir—

I shipped you on the 19<sup>th</sup> (7) seven boxes of specimens, Today I finish up what I have on hand (9) nine boxes—will send one box of potsherds. & one box of many-pitted stones in a few days. I send chips & material from workshops—I think you will find the collection an illustrative one showing the implements & material from one village site—Enclose a schedule of specimens sent

Yrs very truly

Roland Steiner

***Item 189. Steiner to Boaz, 9/22/1899.***

---

Grovetown Ga 22 Sept 99

Dr Franz Boas  
Curator Museum Natural Hist.  
New York City



My dear Sir—

I forgot to call your attention in my letter of yesterday to the crystals which were found scattered over the village site most other objects. Sometimes they are found in a cluster—My impression is that they were used in working the soapstone, as some of the points are much battered. I also neglected to mention picks, which were used in pitting the soapstone & other material out of the [\*]. There are many objects whose use is merely conjectural—others beyond even conjecture—this site was a seat of occupancy by the Indians far back in prehistoric times, & many have been occupied at different periods of time by various peoples—That it was still occupied long after the advent of Europeans is manifested by articles of the white mans manufacture, such as white clay pipes, beads &c. The advantages offered by this particular spot were many. The Savannah River on one side, Big Kiokee Creek on the other abounding with fish, mussel shells, water fowl The swamps producing cane, for the manufacture of pipe stems, arrow-shafts; the [\*] forests with game of all kinds as well as fruits. The Chickasaw plum is also present during [\*] all varieties of berries—In a word it was a perfect heaven of delight & a [\*]. You will see a large assortment of chipped hatchets of chert, flint & quartz, which I think here used, & the polished diorite hatchets—diorite was difficult to procure the other material was at [\*] in situ. The variagated jasper & [\*] stone were brought from a great distance—perhaps in exchange for soapstone, which was a monopoly—the only material found in this section is quartz in its many varieties, & chert or slate. One the site no stone was found but soapstone. The soil is sandy, the quartz is found about two miles, the slate five miles, from the village site, even the simple pebbles, that indicate [\*] were brought there. I shall excavate the shell heaps for skeletons & c.

Yrs very truly

Roland Steiner

**Item 190. Steiner to Boas, 10/7/1899.**

---

Grovetown Ga. Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 99

Dr Franz Boaz  
New York City

My dear Sir—

In sending the objects found at Big Kiokee Village site; do you wish me to send all found, as I sent to the U.S. National Museum from the Evans village site in Burke Co Ga? To make myself more explicit do you wish all the arrow points broken & [\*] & poor specimens? I have gotten everything & am fitting everthing—this being the cotton picking season, I have an advantage of [\*] all the surface objects: as the hands picking cotton, found them as they pick over the field. I have on hand a fine collection of pitted stones, single & double & multi-pitted some beautiful crystal arrow points, beads & pipes—banner stones, & hematite objects. If you wish me to pursue the same method of sending as in U.S. Museum case, please let me know. Of course the greater number will be of greater scientific interest. Since reading your article in the Journal of Anthropology on the Copholee Indians, I feel more interest in securing for the Museum the

skeletons. Your able treatment of the subject was the most interesting contribution to the Journal. I hope to be able to send you some skeletons in the next two weeks & shall [\*]

In case any of the (25) twenty five boxes sent do not arrive [\*] the time, let me know as I can have them traced at once.

Yrs. Very cordially

Roland Steiner

***Item 191. Putnam to Steiner, 10/17/1899.***

[AMNH letterhead]

Oct. 17, 1899

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

Dear Sir,--

There have been several boxes of specimens received from you under the agreement that the Museum should receive the specimens you forward, and hold them for three years: you, if you decide to sell the collection, to give the Museum the first opportunity of purchase. A difficulty has come up in regard to this arrangement. You have sent the specimens by freight without prepaying the freight. The freight bills are as follows:--

Sept. 28 9 boxes.....\$9.48

Sept. 30 7 boxes.....16.80

Sept. 30 7 boxes.....17.41

\$43.69

Now, as these specimens do not belong to the Museum, the treasurer does not see why we should pay freight upon them, and there is no account to which the freight can be advanced for three years. The only way to get over this trouble is to have you send your check for \$48.69 to pay for the freight on the specimens already received, and prepay your freight in the future: or allow the department to select a number of specimens out of every lot received sufficient to cover the cost of freight, in which case the freight would be paid here, and an equivalent number of specimens sold to the Museum. In this case you would have to trust the selection of the specimens at a fair rate to the department. Of course I should see that every thing was fairly done, and we could always send a list of just what we had taken in payment for the freight; the balance of the specimens to be your property, and held here for the three years, subject to our purchase should you decide to sell the lot. I hope that this will meet with your approval, and that you will let me know at once. If you do not agree to our taking out the specimens, please send your check made payable to John H. Winsor, treasurer, for \$43.69 for the freight as already paid.

The boxes have not yet been opened, but I have no doubt that there are many interesting specimens in them, and I hope that some agreement will be eventually made by which a goodly portion will remain here; but all of that is for the by and by.

Very truly yours,

F. W. Putnam

If you agree to our taking out specimens to cover the fgt. [freight] Please send a receipted bill for specimens for \$43.59 FWP.

***Item 192. Steiner to Boas, 11/4/1899.***

---

Grovetown Ga Nov 4<sup>th</sup> 99

Dr Franz Boas,  
New York City

My Dear Sir—

Please excuse my delay in answering your last letter—as I have been absent from home. In the matter of freight, & it [\*] a question of not alluded to in our arrangement, of course I shall do what is apt in this matter. Expect to be in N. Y. the latter part of the month. Where we can [\*] the matter satisfactorily—Please have the specimens laid out, as they will remain under your care for the allotted term—as they are all from one site it would be best to keep them intact—but we will decide that when we meet. The collection is a [\*] one, [\*] in the number of pottery, & multi pitted stones [\*] I will be a few days.

Very truly & cordially yours

Roland Steiner

Kind regards to Messrs [\*] & Saville

---

***Item 193. Untitled manuscript map by Steiner, [1899].***

[Acc. 1899-39]

This is a sketch by Roland Steiner of a portion of Columbia County, Georgia and Edgefield County, South Carolina (undated, untitled, and unattributed map with no scale by Steiner), including:

Big Kiokee, Little Kiokee, and Uchee creeks  
Walton Island

Savannah River  
Publick Road  
Burt Mountain  
Quartz Quarry [west of Burt Mountain]  
Village site (60 acres) [Northeast of Burt Mountain]  
Soapstone Quarry site [West of Big Kiokee Creek]  
Village site [north of Soapstone Quarry]  
Spring [West of Soapstone Quarry]  
Spring [on tributary, Southeast of Big Kiokee Creek]

And this sketch also includes these notations:

Indians occupying territory at time of occupation by Oglethorpe Uchees absorbed by Cherokees or Chelluttees—who have conquered the Creeks & formed the great Musgagulgee confederacy—

Prominent among Uchees was Timpoochee Barnard friend of Genl Jackson in the first red-stick war. Commander 800 Indians—Timpoo-nuggee also great Uchee Chief.--

Low lands of Savannah River. Cultivated by Indians. Chert hoes found here

About 100 acres

This map is reproduced in four quadrants. The Northeast quadrant is shown in Figure 27.

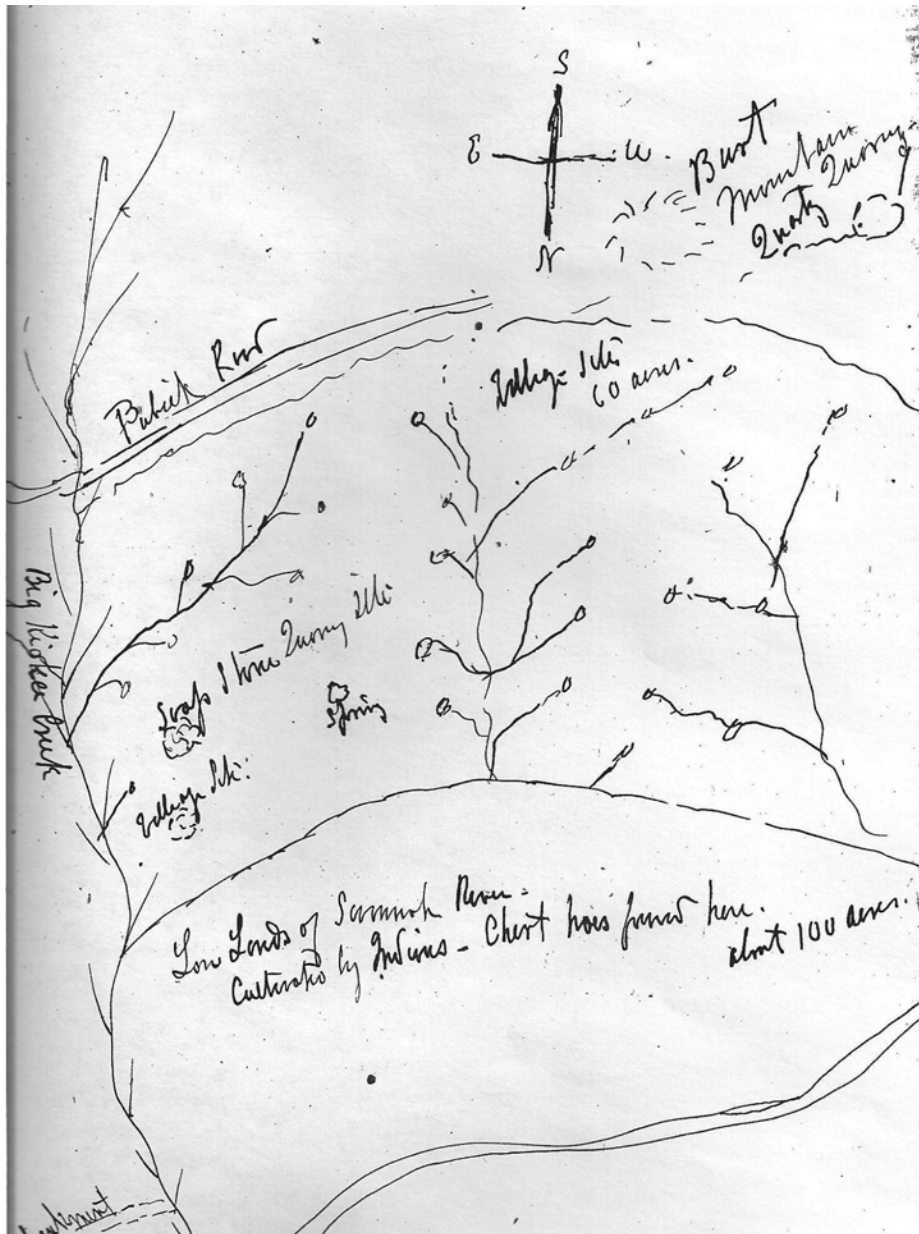


Figure 27. Northeast Quadrant of Columbia County Map.

The Northwest quadrant is shown in Figure 28.

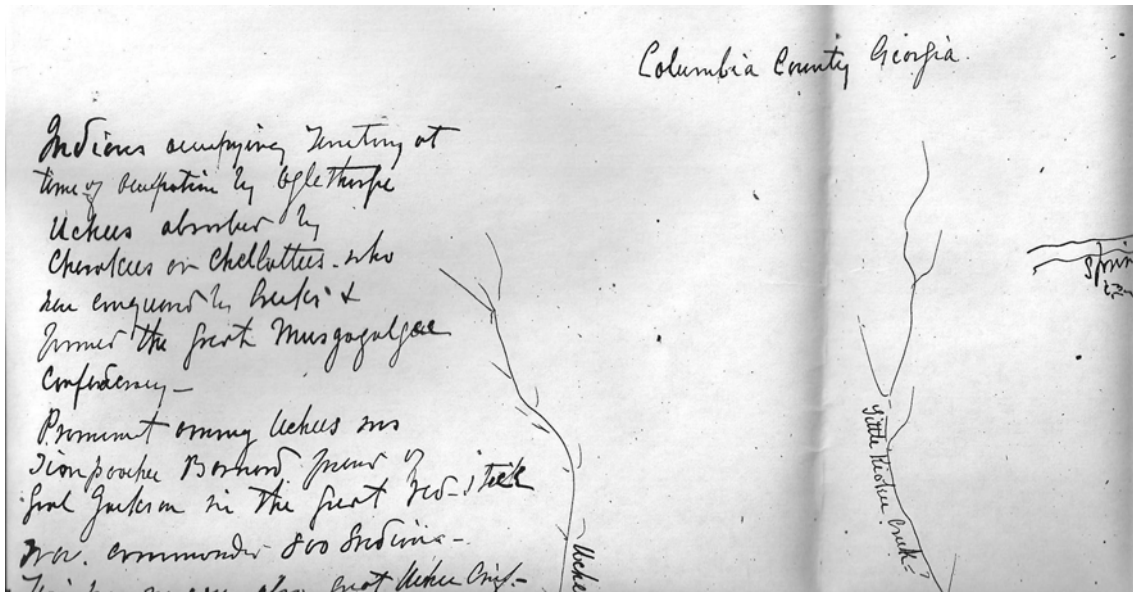


Figure 28. Northwest Quadrant of Columbia County, Map.

The Southwest quadrant is shown in Figure 26.

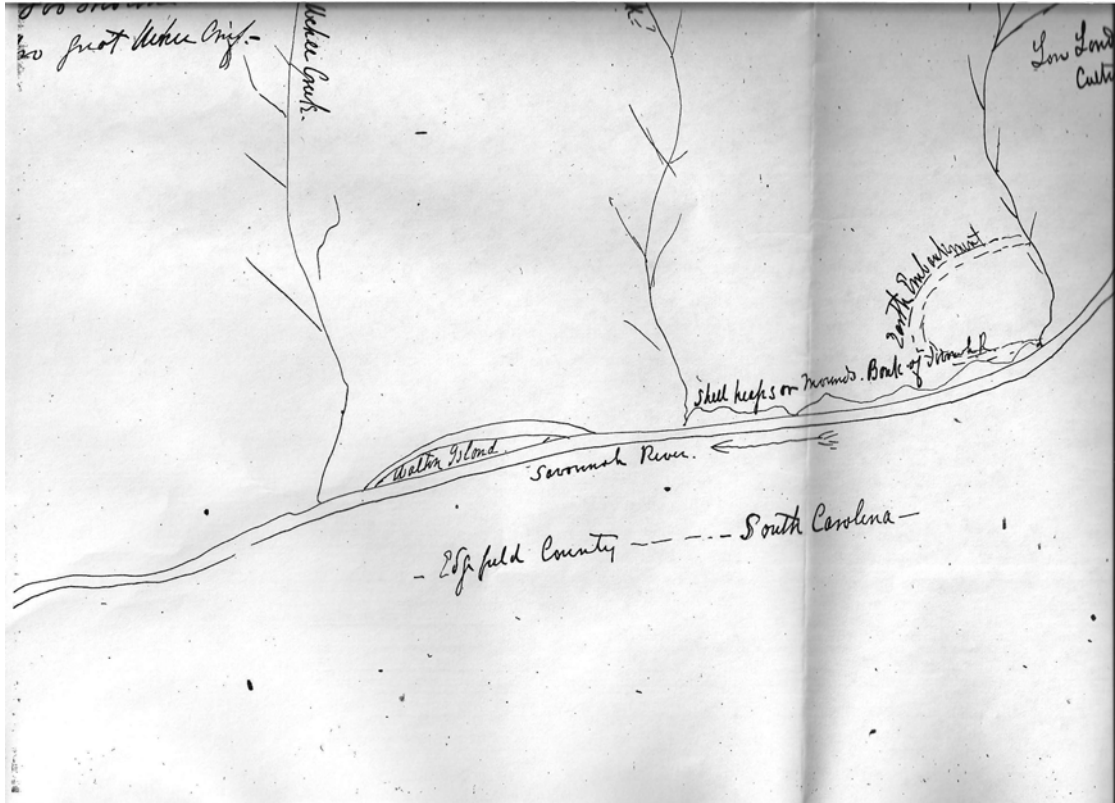


Figure 29. Southwest Quadrant of Columbia County Map.

The southeast quadrant is shown in Figure 30.

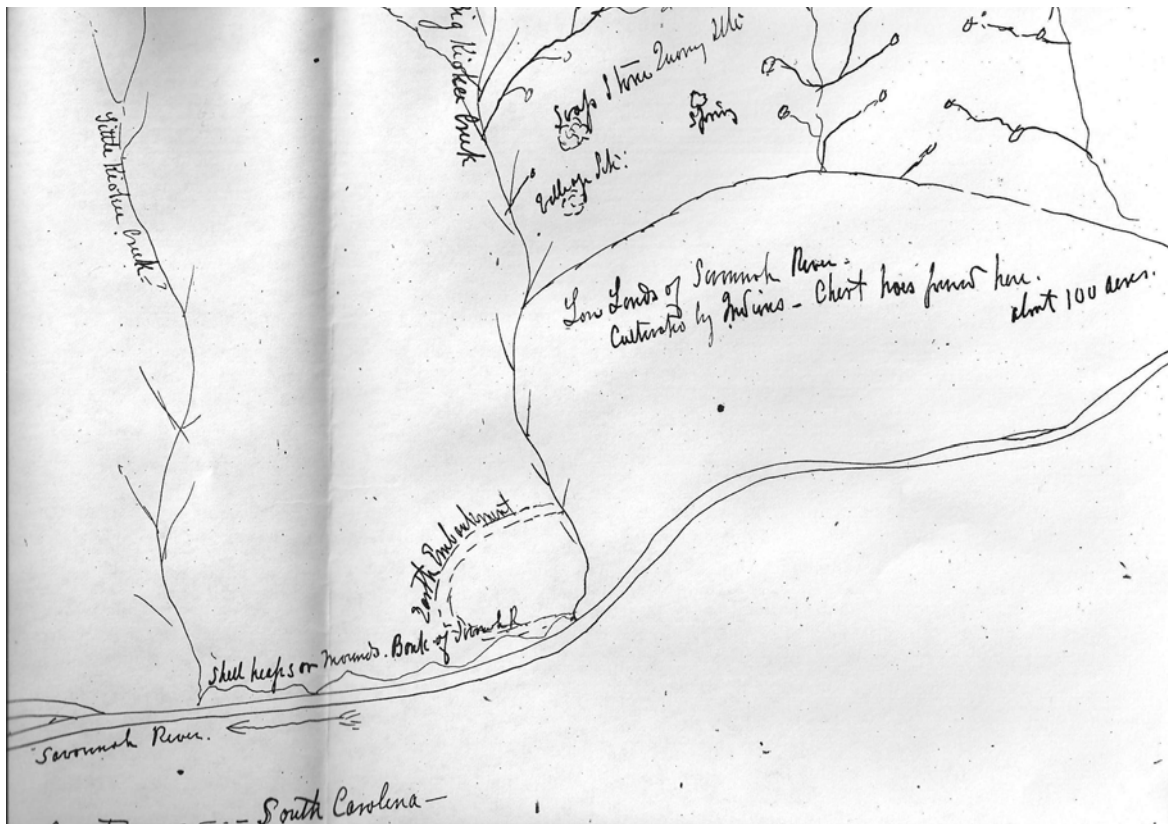


Figure 30. Southeast Quadrant of Columbia County Map.

**Item 194. Steiner to Boaz, 1/7/ 1900.**

[Acc. 1902-30]

Grovetown, Ga. Jan 6th 1900

Dr. Franz Boas  
New York City

My Dear Sir:

I ship you today 2 boxes containing pot-sherds & multi-pitted stones. Would have sent before this, but had to wait til [\*] let them [\*] in New York by the 1<sup>st</sup> of Feb.

Wishing you a very happy New Year.

Yrs very cordially

Roland Steiner

**Item 195. Steiner to Boaz, 1/25/1900.**

[Acc. 1902-30]

Grovetown Ga. Jan 25th 1900

Dr. Franz Boas  
New York City

My Dear Sir

On Jan 6<sup>th</sup> I shipped to Museum of Natural History 2 Boxes one of pottery sherds & one of multi-pitted stones. Having heard nothing of their receipt I am uneasy. if delayed can have them traced. I have been quite sick & will not be able to leave home, until fully restored & able to fair the cold of your city. I hope to see you as soon as possible

Yrs very cordially

Roland Steiner

**Item 196. Boaz to Steiner, 2/9/1900.**

[Acc 1902-30]

[AMNH Letterhead]

New York, Feb. 9, 1900

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

Dear Dr. Steiner,--

I am sorry to hear that you have been ill. I hope that we may have the pleasure of seeing you here at an early date. All the shipments which you made reached the Museum safely.

Yours very truly,

F. Boas

**Item 197. Steiner to Putnam, 2/17/1900.**

[Acc. 1902-30]

Grovetown, Ga Feb 17<sup>th</sup> [1900]

Prof F. W. Putnam  
Cambridge, Mass

My Dear Mr. Putnam,



Yours received- Am sorry the Museum cannot purchase the collection—I will be in the spring & remove it. I need [\*] if you will permit the workman when it is [\*] I get in.

Yrs very sincerely

Roland Steiner

**Item 198. Steiner to Boaz, 2/17/1900.**

[Acc 1902-30]

Grovetown Ga Feb 17<sup>th</sup> [1900]

Dr. Franz Boas  
New York City

My Dear [\*]

Since receiving your letter have one from Prof Putnam stating that it is impossible for the Museum to purchase the collection—Of course I regret the issue, but it can not be helped. I need [\*] if you will allow the collection to remain where it is till I can make some [\*] of it when I come in the Spring. When I will remove it.

Yrs very sincerely

Roland Steiner

**Item 199. Putnam to Unknown, 3/30/1900.**

[Acc. 1902-30]

[AMNH Letterhead]

New York,

March 30, 1900

I agreed with Mr. Roland Steiner to permit me (at his request) to select material from his collection now deposited in the Museum, to the value of \$50 (fifty dollars) to repay the Museum for freight fair in the 27 boxes containing the collection when received at the museum. The amount of these several bills being \$46.80. Should the Museum not take the collection in full from Mr. Steiner, this sum of \$46.80 to be refunded by her Steiner or the specimens selected to the amount of \$50—to be taken by the Museum.

F. W. Putnam

The \$46.80 to be charged off on acct of special appr. for purchase of collections for the Dept. FWP.

The value of the Steiner collection in full now and in the Museum is \$1200, F.W. Putnam

***Item 200. Putnam to Steiner, 4/5/1900.***

[Acc 1902-30]

[AMNH Letterhead]

New York, April 5, 1900

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

Dear Doctor,--

In order to get those freight-bills paid, you will have to sign the enclosed receipt and return it to me, the understanding being that the specimens are to remain just as you left them in the trays. These trays are now stacked and labeled as your collection, with a note to the effect that the whole collection is subject to our purchase here in the future, from which the amount paid for freight would be deducted; or, should any one else purchase the collection, that amount would be refunded to this Museum. The present freight-bills, you see, amount to not quite \$50. I believe the whole thing will be satisfactorily arranged in the future. In the mean while do not forget to send us those things for which you were to be on the special lookout.

I trust you had a pleasant trip, and that you found every thing right on your return to your sunny home, where I sincerely wish I could make you a visit. Who knows but what another winter may bring me there for a flying trip?

Sincerely your friend,

F. W. Putnam

***Item 201. Steiner to Putnam, 4/12/1900.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Annapolis Md.  
April 12, 1900  
Prof. F. W. Putnam  
New York City

My Dear Mr. Putnam

Your letter of April 5<sup>th</sup> was forwarded to me at this [\*] , When I shall stop over for a few days in [\*] . [\*] bill for Egypt is per [\*] memorandum. I [\*] from the things promised is [\*] is possible & supplement the collection. Has the Museum wish my unique in desire the specimens

& may [\*] from some site. It is my [\*] broke the collection as [\*] as the [\*] need [\*] As [\*] shall be very [\*] you [\*] anytime & [\*] your. [\*] will be full of [\*] if [\*] the Archaeological line.

Yrs very cordially

Roland Steiner

***Item 202. Putnam to Steiner, 7/21/1900.***

[.Acc. 1900-54]

(AMNH letterhead)

July 21, 1900

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

Dear Mr. Steiner,--

On my arrival at the Museum I find the two fish-traps which you have been so good to have made for us. They are very interesting, and are evidently the survival of an old form of fish-trap used in africa. I am very much obliged to you for sending them to us.

I trust that all is going well with you, and that you are still finding many implements of interest. You will be interested to know that the cotton-seed that I planted in Cambridge has come up very well, and I have plants that are now about a foot high. I wonder if it will bloom in that latitude.

Sincerely yours,

F. W. Putnam

***Item 203. Steiner to Putnam, 7/14/1900.***

Grovetown Ga. July 14<sup>th</sup> 1900

Prof. F. W. Putnam  
New York City

My Dear Sir—

I send per express the two fish baskets promised—thought best to send per express—These baskets have come down from the Indians & are used by negro fishermen in our section—One basket is single, the other has two compartments. They are weighted with stones, baited with corn or bread & anchored in the streams. The fish are taken into at the small end by loosening the oak withers. In all probability the [\*] soap-stone objects—I sent to the museum played a part in the basket business—I present the baskets to the museum. There is another type of basket that is larger & used at the mouth of creeks and is set up after this fashion poles are driven in the creek bottom from each side leaving an opening at the middle where the basket is fixed. Any fish &

turtle coming up the creek is caught—I can send you one of each kind. I think Dr. Boas will be interested in these baskets; comparing them with the North-west fish weir.

I shall soon send the shell heap deposits—as promised.

I [\*] pray you are well,

Yrs very cordially

Roland Steiner

### **1889 ANNUAL REPORTS AMNH**

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The Annual Report for the year 1889 listed among its donations received by the Department of Anthropology: “DR. ROLAND STEINER, Grovetown, Ga. 2 basket fish-traps made by old negroes on coast of Georgia (supposed to be an African survival)” (AMNH 1900:78).

The Annual Report for the year 1898 listed among its donations received by the Department of Anthropology: “DR. ROLAND STEINER, Grovetown, Ga. Fragments of soapstone pots and other objects of soapstone from an Indian quarry at Grovetown, Ga.” (AMNH 1899:325).

The Annual Report of the American Museum of Natural History for the year 1901 listed donations to the Department of Anthropology. These included: “ROLAND STEINER, Grovetown, Ga.--3 Large models of fish-traps made by the negroes of Georgia.” (AMNH 1902:74).

The Annual Report for 1903 listed donations to the Department of Anthropology. These included: “GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, New York City. 2 Archaeological collections from Georgia, made by Roland Steiner and J. W. T. Jones” (AMNH 1903:55,162). The donated value of Steiner’s Collection of Indian Antiquities” was \$1,000.00.

### **Item 204. Boaz to Steiner, 2/10/1902.**

[Acc. 1902-30]

Feb. 10, 1902

Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

My dear Sir,--

I am in receipt of your letter of Feb. 7. I will call Professor Putnam’s attention to the matter. So far as I can judge, there is little prospect that the Museum will be able to purchase your collection at the present time, but Professor Putnam will undoubtedly attend to the matter at once.

---

Yours very truly,

Franz Boas.

***Item 205. Peabody to Putnam, 3/29/1902.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

George Foster Peabody,  
27 Pine Street,  
New York City.

March 29, 1902.

My Dear Mr. Putnam:

I have to-day received a letter from Mr. [Seaborn] Jones, of Talbotton, the gentleman who wrote to me with reference to his collection of Georgia Indian relics which he desired to sell. This letter is long, but perhaps you will have some one who can glance through it quickly and see whether the articles are of much value. You will notice on the last page that he says, "that he has received a communication from the Director of the Field Columbian Museum of Chicago, telling him to forward the specimens at their charge for inspection—with a view of purchasing." So that if they are not something of value to the American Museum, and are not worth my making an offer for—with a view to their being retained in Columbus, I ought not to delay his dealing with the Field Museum.

Will you, therefore, be good enough to let me hear from you at your earliest convenience, and much oblige,

Yours very truly,

George Foster Peabody

P.S.

Please note that he wishes returned to him the newspaper clipping attached to his letter.

G.F.P.

Prof. F. W. Putnam,  
American Museum of Natural History,  
New York City.

[Notation added at bottom, probably by Mr. Peabody] Please furnish promptly

***Item 206. Peabody to Putnam, 4/1/1902.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

George Foster Peabody  
27 Pine Street,  
New York City.

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April 1, 1902.

My Dear Prof. Putnam:

I have yours of the 31<sup>st</sup> ult. for which I thank you. I assumed that it would be rather difficult for any one to place the valuation with such a description as that given by Mr. Jones.

With reference to your suggestion, that he ship the whole archaeological collection to New York, and omit the other things, it strikes me that he might say it was preferable to ship the entire collection to Chicago as giving him a better chance to sell the whole. If there was any information given him as to what the possible value might be of the important collections that you think probably in his collection that would add to your Georgia collection, it might appeal to him; although I gather from his letter that he is most desirous that the collection, and particularly the important specimens, should be retained at some nearby place in Georgia.

What do you think of my writing him as per enclosed letter—of which I send to you a copy from my dictation, but will not send the original until Thursday hoping to have some suggestions from you by that time in response to this?

With reference to the Steiner collection which you referred to the other day, and with reference to which you enclose a letter from Mr. Steiner, I have to say that if you are quite clear that the price \$1,000 is good value, I will agree to give the \$1,000 to purchase the same for the Museum, on the understanding that you suggest, that from a duplicate collection—properly named and cleaned—should be arranged at some time in the future, in case I desired to have it presented to some suitable building—say the Carnegie Library, if one should be erected in my native city of Columbus, Ga.

I telephoned up to the Museum to-day, but found that you were not in, so suggest that you telephone tomorrow morning to my secretary, if you desire to have the cheque for \$1,000 sent, and give him instructions as to whose order the cheque shall be drawn. I shall be here until April the 19<sup>th</sup> and on that date go South with the Ogden party in connection with the Southern Education Conference. I shall probably go to Columbus, Ga. for a brief visit while there, so that I should not be able to have the pleasure of seeing you until my return—about the 5<sup>th</sup> of May probably.

I enclose herewith letter from Mr. Stiner [sic] which you enclosed to me.

I am

Very truly yours,

George Foster Peabody

P.S.

You will notice I have made very full extracts from your letter in my letter to Mr. Jones, and that I suggest that you will mail to him some two or three pamphlets respecting the American Museum's work in this line. I hope it will not trouble you to give attention to this last suggestion.

G.F.P.

---

Prof. F. W. Putnam,  
American Museum of Natural History,  
77<sup>th</sup> St. & Central Park, West,  
New York City.

[Editors note: This letter contains the handwritten notation at the top: “ [\*] Lelphan Spencer Trunk [sic, Trask, not Trunk] & Co. 2860 John”]

**Item 207. Putnam to Peabody, 4/2/1902.**

[Acc. 1902-30]

[AMNH Letterhead]

Draft

New York, April 2d 1902

My dear Mr. Peabody

Your kind letter and generous gift of the Steiner collection is just received. Acting on your suggestion I have phoned to your secretary asking to have the check for \$1000 made out to the “Treasurer American Museum of Natural History” and to mail it to Prof. H. C. Bumpus, Director Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.—I will let Prof. Bumpus know that it is for the purchase of the Steiner collection and I will write to Steiner at once that he need not come to take his collection away.

I am very glad to have this collection retained for the Museum. I got Dr. Steiner to send it to us in 1899 subject to our purchase, at a much larger figure. A short time ago Dr. Steiner wrote that he required a thousand dollars at once & would let us have the collection for that price. I had to write him that much to my regret the Museum was not able to purchase the collection. Hence the reply which you saw, stating he would come for the collection this spring. Dr. Steiner is a thorough Southern gentleman and I am sure will be pleased to know that part of his collection is likely to be sent to Georgia for the instruction of persons there. I make note on the papers belonging with the collection that at such time as you may wish a good series of duplicate archaeological specimens from Georgia is to be made up, subject to your order, in consideration of what you have given to the Museum. So much for the Steiner collection now about the Jones collection. I have taken the liberty to change your letter to him in a few particulars for the following reasons.—

First—I do not think Dr. Steiner would like to have it known that he sold his collection for \$1000 as he has sold another collection to the Smithsonian Institution for a much larger sum and he considers the collection here worth much more than \$1000—

Second, On looking for letters relating to the Steiner collection I found the enclosed letter from Mr. Jones, written to Mr Jesup (to which I have replied, stating we could not purchase, from lack of funds, etc.). I had forgotten the letter, as we have many such, and when answered are out of

mind. From this letter I should judge that Mr. Jones would probably sell his archaeological collection separately from the other objects. Certainly no large Museum would wish to purchase such a general collection of "curios" and I am sure that the Chicago Museum would not. So it is simply about the archaeological specimens that I advise corresponding. After getting the value of that part of his collection the other portion could be considered if you should desire to do so largely as an act of charity. I will send several pamphlets at once to Mr. Jones as you request.

Sincerely yours

F. W. Putnam

Mr. George Foster Peabody  
New York

***Item 208. Putnam to Steiner, 4/2/1902.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Apr 2 1902

Mister Steiner

That col. was bought by the gift from fund of \$1000 which would be sent to here at once—

Would write further was just leaving town—FWP [Putnam]

***Item 209. Internal memo, AMNH, 1902.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Roland Steiner Collection No. 2 (in 9 trays)

Gift of Geo. Foster Peabody.

to be held for delivery as per his letter of April 1-1902 in 1902-30 envelope. Delivery (to place specified by Peabody). by A.M.N.H.

***Item 210. Putnam to D.J. Smith, 4/9/1902.***

[1902-30]

Peabody Museum of American Archaeology and Ethnology.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

F.W. PUTNAM

---



Peabody Professor of Amer. Arch. and Ethn.

Harv. Univ., Curator of the Museum.

Cambridge, Mass., Apr 9 1902.

Dear Mr. Smith

The Steiner collection has been bought & is ours subject to duplicates to be held for Mr. Peabody. Do nothing about the collection except to have it entered as an accession until I am next in N. Y. when I will explain all conditions and we will catalogue it

Yours sincerely,

F. W. Putnam

Mr. D. J. Smith

Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist.

The photos a test of Geniveau job & recd. I asked Mr. L. & send the test for our coordination W. M. Mallant

---

***Item 211. Internal Memo, AMNH, 2/1937.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

[card]

Roland Steiner, Part placed in dead storage, Feb 1937

Georgia

20/6873-7284

20.0/797-1460

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***Item 212. AMNH Accession Card, 1902-1930.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

[card]

Steiner Coll

20.0

797-1460

20

6873-7284

1902-30  
From Roland Steiner  
Archael Collection from Ga.  
Purchased  
Price \$1000  
Gift G. Foster Peabody

---

***Item 213. Steiner's Annotated Map, n.d.***

[Folding map of Georgia, Steiner's notation]  
Yellow Flint [Northeast of Louisville, east of Duhart's Creek, Jefferson County]  
White Flint [East of Dry Creek, Jefferson County]  
Jasper [Rocky Creek, Burke County]  
Striped Slate, argillite & chist [Southeast of Double Branches, Lincoln County]

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***Item 214. Internal Memo, AMNH, n.d.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Specimens exchanged with Liverpool Museum.

3 perforated stones.  
2 hammer stones.  
1 fragment of hammer stone.  
1 piece of steatite with hole in top.  
3 pieces of pottery from Mississippi Valley.  
3 fragments of pottery.  
30 chipped points.  
Not numbered. From Columbia Valley, Ga. Collected by R. Steiner.

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***Item 215. List of Objects Sent to AMNH (n.d.).***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Objects sent to

American Museum of Natural History

Lozenge shaped arrow pts.  
Fan shaped quartz knives  
Stemmed arrow pts quartz.  
Large & small qtz knives  
Broken points quartz  
Chert points  
Razor blade knives chert  
Broken chert objects  
Rhollite points  
Rude chert knives

Long chert knives  
Large chert spears  
Fine flint knives large  
Turtle backs  
Striped slate objects  
Perforated soapstone sinkers  
Notched hatchets  
Pitted stones, single & many pits  
Large stone hammers  
Varigated flint &c. points  
Pestles  
Flint hatchets  
Broken points flint  
Grooved axes  
Balls  
Blocked out soapstone pipes  
Hair pins & borers  
Large triangular points  
Large triangular points, serrated  
Clear crystal quartz specimens  
Points resembling those from England  
Fine spear pts qtz  
Fine knives qtz  
Small qtz pts  
Varigated qtz.  
Varigated crystal pts.  
Small chert knives  
Rude chert knives  
Fine chert knives  
Ryollite spear heads  
Fish spears (chert, large)  
Fish spears (chert, small)  
Large chert objects  
Fine flint knives (small)  
Banner stones  
Asymmetric knives  
Rough flint objects  
Large chert objects  
Small stone hammers  
Bevelled edges  
Bevelled edges serrated  
Discoidals  
Chert hatchets  
Refuse & chips  
Polished hatchets  
Trowels

Odd forms  
Black flint pts  
Small triangular points  
Flint pins  
Odd triangular pts  
Point resembling those from Italy, some serrated  
Scrapers—  
Mousterian objects  
Spoon scrapers  
Dagger like spear heads  
Clay discoidals  
Mortars  
Pipes  
Pipe stems-European  
Beads  
Ornaments  
Odd forms soapstone  
Potstone plates  
Large slate plaster objects

---

***Item 215. Map by Steiner, n.d.***

Maps by R. Steiner

[Acc. 1902-30]

This is a sketch (not shown) by Roland Steiner of a portion of eastern Georgia (Untitled, undated, no scale) includes:

Quarry and Village site, Columbia County (between Big Kiokee Creek and Little River)  
McDuffie County, quartz and chist (20 miles from Village site)  
Jefferson County, yellow Flint (50 miles from Village site) & white Flint (48 miles from Village site)  
Burke County, Jasper (45 miles from Village site)  
Lincoln County, Striped slate, chist and rhyolite (20 miles from Village site)  
Columbia County, quartz and soapstone  
Big Kiokee Creek  
Savannah River

***Item 216. Map by Steiner, n.d.***

This is a detailed sketch (not shown) by Roland Steiner of a portion of Columbia, Lincoln McDuffie, and Richmond counties (untitled, undated, no scale) includes:

Burt Mountain

Little River  
Dense Cane Brake  
Creek Swamp  
Public Wagon Road  
Ferry (at Little River at Public Wagon Road)  
Lockhearts Ferry (at Little River on Wagon Road)  
Big Kiokee, Little Kiokee, and Uchee creeks  
River bottom lands and River swamp  
Creek swamp  
Price's Island  
Walton's Island  
Savannah River  
Negro houses (4 between Big Kiokee Creek and Little River; one east of Big Kiokee Creek and west of Little Kiokee Creek)  
Dent's House  
Wm. W. Norris  
Georgia Rail Road  
Appling County Seat  
Kiokee P.O.  
Harlem  
Wagon Road  
Knoxville Rail Road  
Road (leading from Wagon Road, by Dent's, to Big Kiokee Creek)  
Village site (large site immediately east of Big Kiokee Creek)  
Village sites (19 between Big Kiokee Creek and Little River and North of Burt Mountain; 2 between Big Kiokee and Little Kiokee creeks; 2 between Little Kiokee and Uchee creeks)  
Circular mound  
Soapstone quarries (18 between Big Kiokee Creek and Little River and north of Burt Mountain)  
Shell heap (within circular mound)  
Shell heaps (along margin of Savannah River between Little Kiokee and Big Kiokee creeks)  
Quartz quarry (Northwest of Burts Mountain)  
Springs (23 between Big Kiokee Creek and Little River)

***Item 217. Internal memo, Smith to Unknown, 9/28/1902.***

Mr. Parker has Steiner's 2 maps & map of Georgia for use in working up the collections. Aug-28-1902-

H.I.S. [Harlan I. Smith]

He Returned them and Oct. 1905 they are herewith.

H.I.S.

***Item 218. Internal memo, C.W. to Unknown, n.d.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Will Mr. Smith take up this correspondence?

C. W.

***Item 219. Internal memo, Anonymous note, n.d.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Mr. Harlan I. Smith says that a collection of duplicates from this accession was sent to the Brooklyn Institute, but that he has no record of the same.

***Item 220. Acting Curator AMNH to Peabody, 10/31/1905.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Oct. 31, 1905

My dear sir:--

Having recently taken charge of the Department of Anthropology at this Museum, I have gone over all the obligations on file and find that we are to hold subject to your order a duplicate collection made up from material presented to us by you in the Steiner Collection. I take this opportunity to inform you that we have this collection ready and stored subject to your call at any future time. We shall be glad to hold it for you as long as it may suit your convenience.

Very truly yours,

Acting Curator.

Mr. Geo. Foster Peabody

27 Pine Street,

N.Y.

***Item 221. Meyers [for Peabody] to Wissler, n.d.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

[undated letter]

George Foster Peabody,  
54 William Street,  
New York City.

Clark Wissler, Esq.,  
Acting Curator,  
American Museum of Natural History,

77<sup>th</sup> Street & Central Park West,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:--

I thank you very much for your letter of October 31, advising Mr. Peabody that a duplicate collection of material comprising part of the Steiner Collection is awaiting his order. Could you advise me as to the amount of room necessary to display this collection, and also how much room is needed to store it? I should like to have this information so that I may arrange for the disposal of the collection at as early date as possible.

Again thanking you, I am  
Yours very truly,  
L. G. Myers  
Secy.

[Notation added at bottom of letter by AMNH staff] trays which now occupies about 10  $\frac{3}{4}$  cubic feet. say 11 cubic feet. on Exhibit crowded= 30 square ft. Exhibit with detail labels & c. = 73 sq. ft.

***Item 222. Meyers [for Peabody to Unknown, 11/20/1905.]***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Nov. 20, 1905.

My dear sir:

Your letter to Mr. Clark Wissler has been referred to me for reply. The duplicate collection of material comprising part of the Steiner collection, is now in trays which occupied about eleven cubic feet. If this material were packed in a box or boxes, the necessary paper and other packing material would be about equivalent to the space at present unoccupied. About the specimens in each tray I estimate would require about ten cubic feet for storage; if on exhibition in piles as might be done, where space was limited and with some labels to show, about thirty square feet of wall, shelf or table space, but if exhibited in detail with many labels where there was plenty of space and every possible use can be made of the various features of the collection, using similar specimens sometimes in different positions to illustrate different subjects, the exhibit would occupy about seventy-three square feet. Of such space I should say that for ordinary Museum purposes, about fifty square feet would be sufficient for the exhibition of this collection.

Of course it somewhat depends upon the sort of museum or institution in which the exhibit is placed, as to how such an exhibit should be used. In some places it would only be a small item among various education exhibits, either where it might be to local interests or used for research and where they were short of specimens.

Trusting this information will serve your purpose and assuring you that we would be glad to do anything in our power to assist you in this matter, I remain

Very truly yours,

Mr. L. G. Meyers,  
Secretary to Geo. F. Peabody,  
54 Williams St.,  
New York City.

***Item 223. Meyers [for Peabody] to Smith, 11/23/1905.***

[1902-30]

George Foster Peabody,  
54 William Street,  
New York City.

November 23, 1905.

Harlan J. Smith, Esq.  
Am. Museum of Nat. History,  
77<sup>th</sup> Street & Central Park West,  
New York City.

Dear Sir:--

I beg to acknowledge your favor of November 20<sup>th</sup>, and thank you most heartily as to your word as to the space required to display the collection comprising part of the Steiner collection. I think I will soon be able to advise you as to the final disposition of this collection in a few days.

Yours very truly,

L. G. Meyers

***Item 224. Meyers [for Peabody] to Wissler, 10/27/1907.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

George Foster Peabody,  
2 Rector Street,  
New York City.

Oct. 26, 1907

[Notation at top of letter] Answered by General H. S. Smith.



Dr. Clark H Wissler  
Am. Museum of Natural History  
77<sup>th</sup> St. & Central Park West

Dear Sir,

Will you be good enough to advise Mr. Peabody whether the duplicate collection made up from the Steiner Collection is still available in case he wishes to send it to the University of Ga?

Mr. Peabody understands that in this duplicate collection there may be a sufficient number of similar specimens to make up a third collection smaller and not so complete as the others of course? Can you advise him as to this?

Respectfully

L. G. Meyers

Secy.

***Item 225. Unknown to Peabody, 10/29/1907.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

Oct. 29, 1907.

George Foster Peabody, Esq.,  
2 Rector Street,  
New York City.

My dear sir:--

Your secretary's letter of Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> addressed to Mr. Clark Wissler has been handed me for reply. Duplicate Collection No. 2 filling nine trays and made up from the Steiner Collection, await your order and will be sent to the University of Georgia if you so desire. There is also more duplicate material in the collection than such an Institution would probably need, so that a smaller and slightly less complete collection could be taken from it by us or by the University of Georgia as you desire, and for such disposal as you see fit.

Thanking you for your interest in these matters, I remain

Yours very sincerely,

[unsigned copy]

***Item 226. Curator AMNH to Dr. F.A. Lucas, 6/12/1912.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

June 12, 1912.

Dear Doctor Lucas:

I send you herewith a letter prepared by Mr. Skinner suitable for transmission to the University of Georgia. By the terms of the agreement we were to furnish information with the collection. The collection was gone over by Mr. Smith in 1905 or 1906 but we had no information of any kind, nor were the specimens numbered or marked by the collector. We understood them all to have come from one place. There is practically nothing we could say that is not obvious from the objects themselves. There are many curious things in the collection concerning which nothing can be said that is not obvious. I feel therefore, that we have fulfilled the obligation to the best of our ability and that the curator of the Georgia Museum has probably done all that can be done.

Very truly yours,

Curator.

Dr. F. A. Lucas,  
Museum.

***Item 227. Unidentified Assistant to Wissler, 6/12/1912.***

[Acc. 1902-30]

June 12, 1912.

My dear Doctor Wissler:

With regard to the series of duplicates from the Steiner collection, in looking the matter up we find that the specimens when received at the Museum from their original owner were accompanied by no data or catalogue whatsoever, with the exception of two maps, tracings of which we enclose, and which, as far as we are able to understand include the entire locality covered by the collection.

As for naming the specimens, particularly the arrow points, according to type and tribe, the former is well nigh impossible, since the American Indian was not bound by convention in his choice of forms, as were savages in some other lands, and chipped flint as his fancy willed; as for the latter, there is no possible criterion, except historic data in regard to the sites by which tribal distribution can be made out, and even this is faulty, for visitors from many places brought in and often lost their implements.

The only thing we can suggest is that the curator of the Museum of the University of Georgia examine Dr. Jones' work on southern antiquities, and Warren K. Moorehead's "Stone Age in America", for a partial identification of forms and type. The former book is by far the best.

As for exhibition of arrow-heads, the American Museum, the Peabody Museum of Harvard, and several others of our best and most experienced institutions have found no better

means of exhibiting arrow points en masse, than by piling them in heaps in the cases. A few specimens, particularly the pitted stones are so unusual as to arouse suspicion as to their authenticity. Very possibly they were made by the Negro assistants of Dr. Steiner.

Hoping that this information may prove of some assistance, I remain

Very truly yours,

Assistant.

Dr. Clark Wissler,  
Museum.

## **Roland Steiner's Collection at the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois**

Roland Steiner's interaction with the Field Museum in Chicago began in April 1903, after Steiner was directed to that institution by William Henry Holmes of the SI. It is clear from Holmes' correspondence that the SI was no longer interested in purchasing more of Steiner's collection. Furthermore, Steiner's connection with the AMNH in New York had ended after that museum acquired a major collection through donation (after it was purchased from Steiner at a greatly reduced price by George Foster Peabody). Consequently, one may expect that the Field Museum's collection represents the dregs of Steiner's collecting activity. This conclusion, however, is not accurate, as a preliminary examination of their collection by the author demonstrated. The collection acquired by the Field Museum was also obtained for a fraction of its value and this must have been a further disappointment to Steiner.

Correspondence in the Field Museum's files pertaining to the Steiner collection was provided to the author by the Field Museum staff. The author made a three-day reconnaissance examination of the Steiner collection in March, 1999, while attending an archaeology conference in Chicago.

The paper trail accompanying the Steiner collection in Chicago was surprisingly scant, when compared with the documents located for the Smithsonian and AMNH collections. No maps were contained in the Field Museum accession files. The level of effort employed at the Field Museum was less than that expended at the other two museums, so it is quite possible that additional records may be contained in the Field Museum files beyond those transcribed here.

### ***Item 228. Steiner to George Dorsey, 4/23/1903.***

[Acc. 923]

Grovetown Ga April 23 '03

Dr. George A. Dorsey  
Chicago Ill.

Dear Sir,

At the suggestion of Dr. W. H. Holmes I write to you in regard a large collection now in the Smithsonian Institution Washington. I had expected to sell it to the Smithsonian but Dr. Holmes wrote me that the appropriation for this year will not permit of its purchase and suggested that I offer it to the Field Columbian Museum. The collection is from one site in Columbia Co. Ga. Numbers nearly 20,000 objects. Dr. Holmes writes me to refer you to him for descriptions &c. I will dispose of it for \$750.00. It comprises all the types- the work of the Uchees, Cherokees & Creeks.

Very truly yours,  
Roland Steiner

I also refer you to Mr. Holm G. Smith of the Museum of Nat. History N. Y. Mr. Warren K. Moorehead of Phillips Academy Andover Mass.

***Item 229. Steiner to Dorsey, 4/24/1903.***

[Acc. 923]

Grovetown GA April 24th 03

Dr. G. A. Dorsey  
Chicago Ill.

My dear sir,

Yours received & [?]. I have asked Mr. Upham in charge of the Smithsonian to have a catalogue made of the collection. Dr. W. H. Holmes can inform you of its value & wrote me to refer you to him. The collection is exclusively from an area of five miles square centering upon a notable village site situated at the confluence of the Big Kiokee Creek & the Savannah River-- where so many multi-pitted stones were found. There are many of them in this collection. The Smithsonian has a collection from the same point. I will forward the catalogue as soon as I receive it. In the meantime you can advise with Dr. Holmes as to its merit.

Yours truly  
Roland Steiner

***Item 230. Steiner to Dorsey, 5/5/1903.***

[Acc. 923]

Grovetown Ga. May 5th 03

Dr. G. A. Dorsey  
Chicago Ill.

Dear Sir: I omit to you the catalogue of the collection I wrote about now in the Smithsonian Institution- Dr. W. H. Holmes who visited me last week spoke of it [?] & said you might want it. He saw the village site from which it was gathered-- there the multi-pitted stones are found [illustration of multi-pitted stone] He will give you all information just [?]

Yours very Truly  
Roland Steiner

***Item 231. Steiner to Dorsey, 5/27/[1903].***

[Acc. 923]

Grovetown Ga. June 27th [1903?]

Dr. George A. Dorsey  
Chicago Ill.

My Dear Sir:

Having heard nothing from you for some time in regard to the collection I offered to you I write hoping you will give it a thought. Dr. Holmes can give you all the facts as the Museum has one from the same locality & he suggested to me the prospects of writing on the subject. I would be very glad to have you [?] in the Field Columbia Museum. I sent you a report on big Kiokee Creek where the specimens were found.

Very truly yours  
Roland Steiner

I will also send you drawings of the village site & quarry site. as I wrote in a previous letter. I will send on the multi-pitted stones I have for purchase.

**Item 232. Steiner to Dorsey, 11/3/1903.**

[Acc. 923]  
Grovetown Ga Nov. 3rd 03

Dr. G. A. Dorsey  
Chicago Ill.

My Dear Sir:

I write in regard to the collection now in the Smithsonian Institution, which I offered to you some time since. Dr. Holmes advised me to communicate with you as he deemed the collection a very valuable one & I thought you would like to have it. The Smithsonian purchased one from the same site and would have purchased this one but had no money to buy with. As you will see from the catalogue I put pitted stones in [\*] from the [\*] I just pulled this that is multi-pitted I trust in [\*] There are none in the collection but I have 56 here I will send. Dr. Holmes says they are the only ones he has seen made of soapstone. He visited the site in the Spring when on a visit to me. I send with this a description of Big Kiokee Creek in a reprint from a paper before the Association that I hope will interest you. Will also send you drawings of the site, &c. should you purchase.

Very cordially yours,  
Roland Steiner

**Item 233. Invoice from SI to Dorsey, 7/30/1904.**

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION                      U.S. National Museum  
[Acc. 923]

INVOICE OF SPECIMENS  
*To:* Dr. George A. Dorsey,

*On what conditions sent,*

At Request of owner,  
Dr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Ga.

Address: Field Columbian Museum

Date: July 30, 1904

*Please sign duplicate Invoice and return in inclosed envelope.*

NAME OF OBJECT	LOCALITY	COLLECTOR	CATALOGUE NUMBER	NO. OF SPECIMENS	NO. OF SPECIES
Archeological Collection. Village site. Big Kiokee Creek, Columbia County, Ga.		Dr. R. Steiner	2,812 to 2,922	7,837	7,421
Archeological Collection.	do. do. do.	do.	-----	15,539	7,568

*Received in good order* Geo. A. Dorsey  
Field Museum

**Item 234. Rathbun to Dorsey, 8/4/1904.**

[Acc. 923]

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION  
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM  
WASHINGTON, D. C. August 4, 1904

Dr. George A. Dorsey,  
Field Columbian Museum,  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the request of Dr. Roland Steiner contained in his letter of July 27th addressed to Prof. O. T. Mason of this Museum, there will be sent to you by freight, ten boxes containing a collection of prehistoric objects deposited by him in the National Museum.

Yours respectfully,

R. Rathbun  
Assistant Secretary  
in charge of National Museum

(7421; 7568)

**Item 235. Steiner to Dorsey, 12/9/1904.**

[Acc. 923]  
Grovetown Ga. Dec 9 '04

Dr. G. A. Dorsey  
Chicago  
My Dear Sir:

Now you have had time to examine the collection I sent to you. I would be very glad if you would confer with Dr. W. H. Holmes about it as he has been on the ground where it was found. I wish you would also remember that the multi-pitted stones [illustration of multi-pitted stone] are not with the collection but here & I will send them on if you determine to purchase. The Indians supposed to have made the objects were the Uchees & Cherokees. As I stated in a previous letter I will send a map as I have same for the Smithsonian of the sites.

Yours very truly  
Roland Steiner

***Item 236. Dorsey to Steiner, 12/17/1904.***

[Acc. 923]

December 17, 1904

Mr. Roland Steiner,  
Grovetown, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

I have only recently found opportunity to unpack and examine your collection of Georgia archeological material. I must confess at once to a feeling of great disappointment- not at the quantity but at the quality of many of the categories. The arrowpoints number from 100 to thousands in each category and a few specimens would suffice. I am greatly surprised that the collection contains practically no objects of unusual interest or importance. It seems to me to be characterized by mediocrity and needless duplication of specimens of a trivial nature. At the same time, we have no collection which represents the archeology of your district and I think I could pick out of this collection material sufficient to fill one case which would fairly represent, perhaps, the archeology of this section of Georgia.

There would remain the greater portion of the collection, so far as bulk is concerned, and that remainder would have no value to us. I would do one of two things, - pack the collection and address it to any destination you may designate, or I will recommend to my Director that the sum of \$350.00 be appropriated for its purchase, with the idea that I will return to you such material as I do not actually place on exhibition.

Regretting that the condition of the collection is such as to compel me to write you in this manner, I am, with respect

Yours truly,  
[George A. Dorsey]



**Item 237. Steiner to Dorsey, 12/22/1904.**

Grovetown Ga. Dec. 22nd. 04

Dr. Geo. A. Dorsey  
Chicago Ill.

Dear Sir:

Perhaps I did not make myself fully understood in my letter of yesterday. The Uchees were a [?] people. very much lower in the scale of barbarism than their conquerers & neighbors. They were the last to yield to the armies of the U. S. the last to [\*] Indian history, & only yielded when their numbers were so reduced they could continue no longer. Dr. Thomas Wilson who visited me some years ago was impressed by the rudeness of the objects found in the village sites.- particularly of the number of knives & points. I feel that to take from the collection would impair its usefulness as a thing. Tho the quantity would [\*] but as the objects of [\*] interest. This is my reason for wishing you to keep the collection intact as the work of the most barbarian of the southeastern Indians. Implements of their w[\*] objects of [\*] seem to have been the ruling idea among the Uchees. As shown Uchee creek- perpetuates their name in this county. The minerals from which the objects are manufactured are all from this county. Quartz, rhyolite & slate being in abundance. Trusting that [\*] I try may be looked at in spirit in which it is intended. I am

Yours most truly  
Roland Steiner

**Item 238. Dorsey to F.J.V. Skiff, 12/27/1904.**

[Acc. 923]  
Chicago, December 27th, 1904

Mr. F. J. V. Skiff,  
Director, Field Columbian Museum

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to hand you herewith correspondence between myself and Mr. Roland Steiner, who has transmitted to this Institution an archaeological collection for our examination. Mr. Steiner's price for this collection was \$700. I have written him that I would recommend an appropriation of \$350. The collection under consideration, which is well catalogued, represents very well that portion of Georgia where Mr. Steiner has collected. In my estimation the collection is very reasonable and would form a valuable and interesting addition to our Archaeological series, and I respectfully recommend that the sum of \$350. be appropriated for this purpose.

Very respectfully  
[George A. Dorsey]  
Curator of Anthropology

***Item 239. Skiff to Dorsey, 3/10/1905.***

[Acc. 923]

FIELD COLUMBIAN MUSEUM  
CHICAGO  
Chicago, March 10, 1905

Dr. George A. Dorsey,  
Curator of Anthropology.

Dear Sir:--

An appropriation of Three Hundred and Fifty (\$350.00) Dollars has been made for the purchase of the archaeological collection from Roland Steiner. I have today written Mr. Steiner for a bill, on receipt of which I will remit to him, providing the collection checks up correctly.

Yours very truly,  
F. J. V. Skiff,  
Director.



## **Roland Steiner's Collections at Other Museums**

### **PEABODY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY**

A portion of Roland Steiner's collection made its way to the Peabody Museum of Archaeology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Several items made of split wood basketry were donated to the museum by Roland Steiner in 1901 (Harvard University 1902). Steiner supplied several museums with fishing baskets, including several examples he commissioned specifically for the museum.

### **UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA MUSEUM**

Roland Steiner made a series of donations to the archaeology museum from 1900 to 1903 (University of Pennsylvania 1900:150; 1902:144). The University of Pennsylvania Museum reported new acquisitions donated by Roland Steiner in its 1901 bulletin:

*Georgia.*—Two fish traps (21,970-71) have been presented by Dr. Roland Steiner, of Grovetown, Ga. One (21,970), a conical basket made of withes of live oak, 29 inches in diameter at base, and 70 inches in length, and the other (21,971) of the same material, but smaller, 13 inches in diameter at base and 49 inches in length. The second trap is contracted at the end next the mouth for a length of 9 inches.

These traps are made and used by the negroes at Grovetown. They are known as " Indian fish traps." The negroes who make them have a mixture of Indian blood. The two traps presented were made by an old negro fisherman named Israel Porter, living on Dr. Steiner's place at Grovetown.

Dr. Steiner states that the material of these traps is always [my version ends abruptly here with no page 48] (Bulletin 1901, v.3:47).

### **MUSEUMS WORLDWIDE**

The trail of Roland Steiner's relic collection does not end in Washington, New York Chicago, Cambridge, or Philadelphia. Examination of the original artifact catalog books at the Smithsonian Institution revealed that his collection was disseminated to dozens of museums and clubs throughout the world. The pages containing the entries of materials received from Roland Steiner are awash with red ink, which denoted de-accessioned collections. Pursuing Roland to these institutions, including Siberia, the Canal Zone, Germany and rural Wisconsin, is another phase of the Roland Steiner project indeed.

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