

ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

- WHEREAS: Georgia's archaeological sites are important to our state's heritage, marking the arrival of American Indians more than 10,000 years ago and documenting the exploration, colonization and founding of our nation; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's archaeological sites, and the information they contain, lie under forests, farms and cities as well as beneath rivers, streams and coastal waters; and
- WHEREAS: These sites, which hold clues about our state's rich and diverse history, are fragile and endangered by forces such as erosion, uncontrolled development and vandalism; and
- WHEREAS: The study, interpretation and preservation of our archaeological sites offer important educational, cultural and economic benefits to all Georgians if undertaken in a setting of comprehensive planning and responsible stewardship; and
- WHEREAS: Distinguished members of our community seek to increase our citizens' awareness of our state's archaeological history as a means to protect and preserve these irreplaceable links to our past; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia Archaeology Awareness Month offers Georgians an opportunity to "Discover the 13th Colony;" now
- THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2003 as ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22nd day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand three.

