The Georgia Historical Commission
ANNOUNCES
THE FORMAL DEDICATION OF
The Etowah Mounds Museum

AT THE ETOWAH MOUNDS
(Near Cartersville, Ga.)
SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 19, 1958, 3 P. M.

(In the event of rain the exercises will be held in the Cartersville High School Auditorium, East Church Street.)
PROGRAM

PRESIDING Hon. Joseph B. Cumming, Augusta, Ga. Chairman Georgia Historical Commission

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CARTERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL BAND Presenting Musical Program Dale Rush, Director

INVOCATION Rev. J. Howell Perry Pastor First Baptist Church

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NATIONAL ANTHEM Cartersville High School Band

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CHEROKEE INDIAN DANCE Jim Scott With Martha Anne Day Accompanying on Drum

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WELCOME ADDRESSES On Behalf City of Cartersville Hon. Charles A. Cowan, Mayor On Behalf County of Bartow Hon. Griffin Smith, Commissioner

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INTRODUCTION OF GEORGIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

RECOGNITION OF DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

INTRODUCING Hon. Scott Candler, Director, State Department Commerce Presented by W. Clayton Henson

INTRODUCING Congressman Irwin Mitchell Presented by Judge Jefferson L. Davis

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INTRODUCING Gov. Marvin Griffin By Sec. of State Ben W. Fortson, Jr.

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ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR MARVIN GRIFFIN

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BENEDICTION Rev. J. Clyde Plexico, Pastor First Presbyterian Church
GEORGIA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Joseph B. Cumming, Chairman, Augusta, Ga.
Beverly M. Dubose, Jr., Atlanta, Ga.
Milton L. Fleetwood, Cartersville, Ga.
Dr. A. R. Kelly, University of Georgia, Athens
Alexander A. Lawrence, Savannah, Ga.
C. E. Gregory, Atlanta, Ga., Executive Secretary and Director

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SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES COMPOSING MOUNDS COMMITTEE,
CARTERSVILLE-BARTOW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

W. Clayton Henson, Chairman
James T. Davis
G. Warren Jackson
David A. Tillman
J. H. Wofford, Jr.

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Mr. Phillip Windsor, Architect
Mr. Hubert Womack, Contractor

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Mr. Lewis Larson, Resident Archaeologist
Dr. A. R. Kelly, Special Archaeological Consultant
Mr. Henry Tumlin, Resident Custodian

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To Former Governor Herman Talmadge for his initial allocation of funds used in the purchase of the Etowah Mounds.

To Gov. Marvin Griffin for his allocation of funds which have been used in the erection of the Etowah Mounds Museum.

To the Lewis Tumlin Family for their cooperation at all times with the Georgia Historical Commission in the original purchase of the Mounds, and also in the purchase of the site upon which this museum has been erected.

To the officials of Cartersville, Bartow County, and the State Highway Department for their cooperation with every phase of the Etowah Mounds area projects.
THE ETOWAH MOUNDS ARE OF ANCIENT ORIGIN

(Contributed by Dr. A. R. Kelly)

The earthen mounds which today mark the Etowah site, were the dominant features of a large and thriving Indian town during the 12th and 13th centuries of the Christian era. The temples which stood on these mounds were the focal points of an elaborate and complex religion. Functioning as a ceremonial center for a wide area of north Georgia, Etowah attracted Indians from all of the towns in the region on important ritual occasions.

The Georgia Historical Commission’s excavations have produced an abundant amount of detailed information on the religious practices of the Etowah Indians. This information will enable us to shed light on the ceremonial life of the Indians living in the late prehistoric period, not only here in Georgia, but in the entire Eastern United States. The objects recovered from these excavations constitute one of the finest collections of Southeastern aboriginal art in existence.

The ritual paraphernalia found in tombs and graves in Mound C indicated the importance which religion played in the lives of the Etowah Indians along with the high degree of craftsmanship of which these people were capable. Raw materials used in the manufacture of the ceremonial weapons and costumes came from great distances; for example, shells were brought from the Gulf and the Atlantic coast and flint from Tennessee.

After some 1000 years or more, the significance of the Etowah site is still undiminished. Formerly its importance centered on ceremonial activities; today it occupies a position of great importance as a center for archaeological research.