

AMLS Field Trips

February – May 2025

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday February 23rd

the Patty Pit + **Private** Land dig

Saturday March 8th

Graves Mountain Spring Dig/Rock Swap

Saturday April 28th

Union Chapel Mine **Private** Hunt

Sunday May 18th

Hogg Mine **Private** Machine Dig

Patty Construction Quarry ++

Sunday

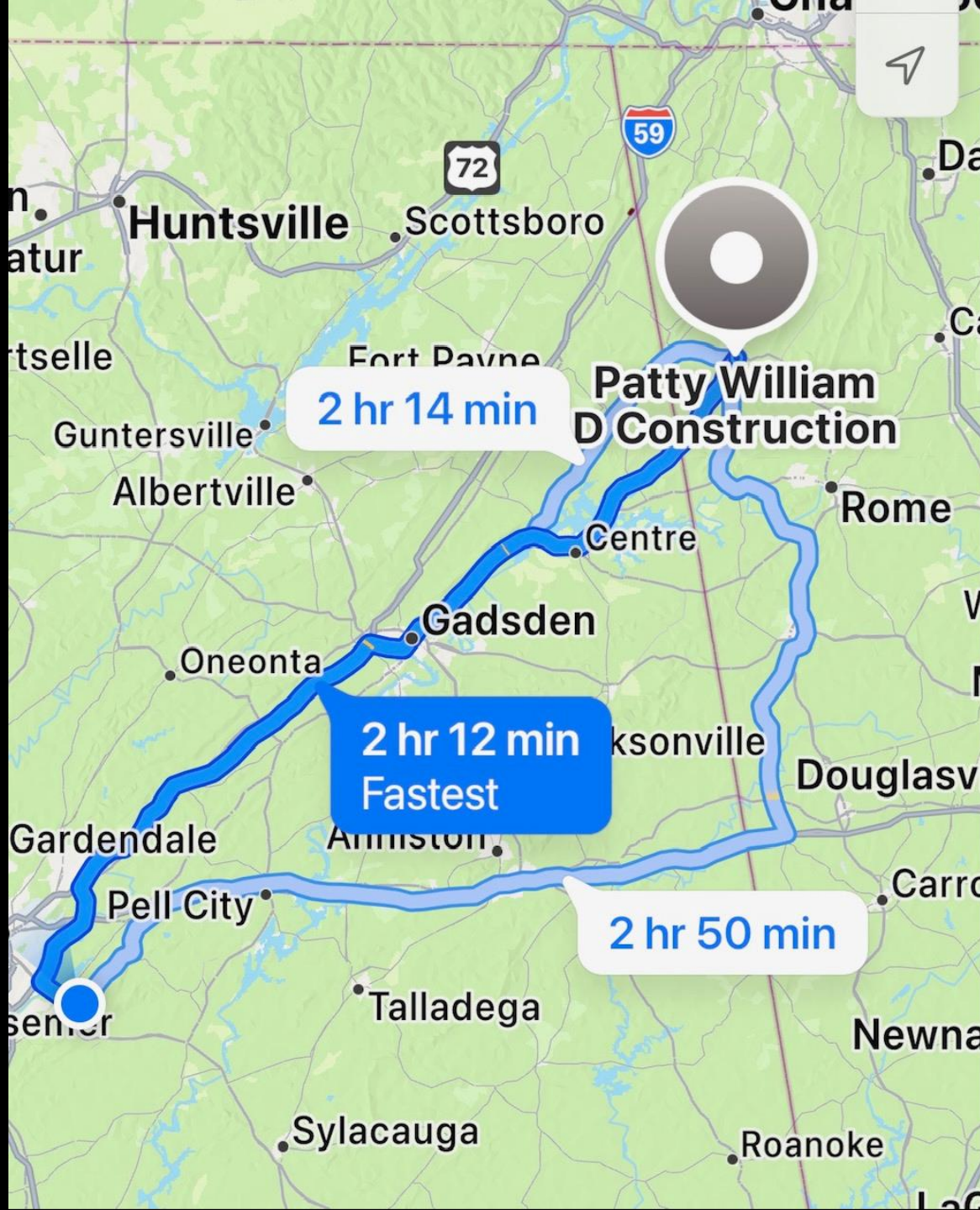
February 23rd

Multi-color Lace Agate, Drusy Quartz, Garnet, etc.

Meet in the Quarry Building Parking Lot 10:30 am EST

7525 Highway 27 Summerville, GA

Quarry Dig + Private Land Dig + Lunch for \$15 per person



Huntsville

Scottsboro

Patty William
D Construction

2 hr 14 min

Guntersville

Albertville

Centre

Rome

Gadsden

Oneonta

Jacksonville

2 hr 12 min
Fastest

Douglasville

Gardendale

Anniston

Pell City

2 hr 50 min

Carroll

Senior

Talladega

Newnan

Sylacauga

Roanoke











Summerville Lace Agate Slab!
Lapidary Stone Slab!













Graves Mountain

Spring (Family) Dig and Rock Swap

Saturday

March 8th

5.5 miles East of Lincolnton, GA on SR-378

Rutile Crystals, Iridescent Hematite, Lazulite crystals, Kyanite, etc, etc...

Gates open at 8 am and close at 6 pm EST

No charge to participate but donation requested to cover costs

Hot foods available for sale ATVs to transport you to dig areas

MINERALS OF GEORGIA

Graves Mountain

To mineral collectors, Graves Mountain is Georgia's most famous mineral locality. More than thirty-six minerals are found there, some of them considered world-class. The most important is rutile, a titanium mineral, whose lustrous crystals are considered the best in the world. Other outstanding minerals include powder-to-dark blue lazulite crystals, radiating clusters of pyrophyllite, and quartz crystals coated by stalactitic, botryoidal, and indoescent hematite.

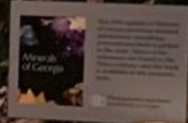
Minerals from Graves Mountain were first collected in 1859 by Georgia prospector Dr. Matthew F. Stephenson. He sent specimens to Professor Charles U. Shepard of Amherst College,

who distributed them to collectors and museums as far away as Russia and Australia. Over the next hundred years, other collectors searched for specimens with varying success.

From 1963 through 1986, the mountain was mined for kyanite, a mineral used in high-temperature ceramics. This exposed more exceptional mineral specimens that were excavated by collectors after the mine closed. They still make significant finds more than 160 years since the time of Stephenson and Shepard. Some collectors now look for microminerals, and new finds may add to the number of minerals found in this classic locality.



Location of Graves Mountain





Kyanite
 Al_2SiO_5
Donated by Jose Santamaría
L2005.11



Lazulite
on Quartz
 $MgAl_2(PO_4)_2(OH)_2$
L2007.11



Iridescent Hematite
on Quartz
 Fe_2O_3
L2006.11



Lazulite
 $MgAl_2(PO_4)_2(OH)_2$
19.10 carats - oval cut
On loan from Chester Karwocki
L2017.1.2

Lazulite
on Quartzite
 $MgAl_2(PO_4)_2(OH)_2$
On loan from Chester Karwocki
L2017.1.1

Lazulite
 $MgAl_2(PO_4)_2(OH)_2$
Formerly the Academy of
Natural Sciences of Philadelphia
L2007.10.1



Rutile
on Pyrophyllite
 TiO_2
L2008.1.2



Rutile
on Quartz & Hematite
 TiO_2
On loan from Chester Karwocki
L2017.1.2



Paragonite
with Quartz
 $NaAl_3Si_3O_{10}(OH)_2$
Donated by Jose Santamaría
L2016.1.2



Iridescent Hematite
on Quartz
 Fe_2O_3
L2008.11.1



Iridescent Hematite
 Fe_2O_3
On loan from Jeff Deere
L2017.1.1



Rutile
with Quartz, Iridoscolar Hematite, Kyanite
TiO₂
Donated by Charlie Hall
L200.008



Rutile
TiO₂
L200.011



Sulfur
on Pyrophyllite
S
On loan from Jim Harger
L200.11



Iridescent Hematite
on Kyanite
Fe₂O₃
Donated by Lewis Lane
L200.012



Iridescent Hematite
Fe₂O₃
L200.010



Lazulite
on Kyanite Quartzite
Mg₃(Al₂PO₄)₂(OH)₂
Collected by Don Hockaday, Jim Mansdaley,
Dave Smith, Mike Galvin, Chester Karwowski
L200.013



Iridescent Hematite
Fe₂O₃
On loan from Jeff Deere
L200.110



Rutile
on Pyrophyllite & Kyanite
L200.014



Gold
Au
On loan from Travis Paris
L200.015







Union Chapel Mine

Saturday

APRIL 26th

Private Fossil Trackway Hunt

Meet at the Sumiton Walmart Parking Lot 9 am CST

Caravan to Fossil Hunt Site

Hunt Lead by a Paleontologist

Cost is \$20 per person



**Walmart
Supercenter**

**51 min
Fastest**

1 hr 3 min

1 hr 6 min

Birmingham

Sardis

78

4

Quinton

West Jefferson

Card

B

Adam

Forestdale

Kimberly

Morris

Mount Olive

Gardendale

Fultondale

Pinson

Center Point

Trussville

59

Irondale

Leeds

20

459

irfield

Var

ons



Gr

wn





From Encyclopedia of Alabama:

"The Steven C. Minkin Paleozoic Footprint Site in Walker County is the most prolific source of vertebrate trackways of its age in the world. It is an important resource for scientists for a number of reasons: the fossils found within it are well-preserved, abundant, and diverse, and thus scientists can study multiple examples of a given species or behavior; the deposit records the footprints of some of the earliest reptiles; and it contains the oldest known examples of fish schooling and group behavior of tetrapods." To read more, visit: encyclopediaofalabama.org





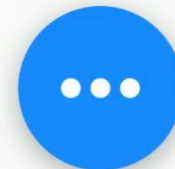


What to Bring

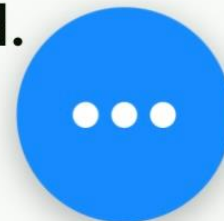


The fossil site is rugged, rocky, and unshaded. It's important that you prepare accordingly. Here's a list of items that will help you get the most out of your trip

1. Sunscreen
2. Water to drink
3. A hat with a wide brim
4. Large umbrella
5. Towel, mat or folding chair to sit on
6. Small first aid kit.
7. Comfortable, sturdy, closed toe shoes or boots
8. Long pants
9. Sunglasses
10. Bug Spray



11. A box (like a a copy paper box) or crate to put your finds in –. Buckets don't work for this.
12. Old newspaper, bubble wrap, or other padding material to transport your finds.
13. Necessary Tools:
 1. Hammer, preferably a rock hammer but a regular claw hammer will do.
 2. Metal putty knife
 3. Flat head screwdriver. (not a good one)
 4. Safety Glasses are always good.
 5. Gloves



Hogg Mine

Private Machine Dig

Sunday

May 18th

In conjunction with the Huntsville Gem & Mineral Society

Rose Quartz, Tourmaline, Beryl, Aquamarine, Smoky Quartz, etc.

Meeting place sent with confirmation email* 9 AM EST start

La Grange, GA

Charge is \$50 per person

***Limited to first 30 members for each club who sign up and pay their dig fee**









Granite
with Schorl
Igneous Rock
Mountain, DeKalb Co., Georgia
formerly the Georgia Capitol
Museum Collection
71.2009.22.1.95



Beryl
variety Aquamarine
 $\text{Be}_3\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{18}$
Hogg Mine, LaGrange, Troup Co., Georgia
In memory of Ann & Jeff Walters of Titusville, Florida
71.2008.16.1



Quartz
variety Amethyst
 SiO_2
Elbert Co., Georgia
Collected & Donated by Chester Karwe
Donald Brodwin, David Smith
71.2008.16.1



Schorl
on Quartz
 $\text{NaFe}^{2+}\text{Al}(\text{Si}_3\text{O}_9)_2\text{BO}_3(\text{OH})_2$
Dandridgeville, Madison Co., Georgia
On loan from Chester Karwe
71.2008.16.1









