

Unit **IV**

Georgia from Constitution to Civil War and Reconstruction



In 1789, the states united under the Constitution as a nation. By 1861, just seven decades later, they had divided into two warring sections. The years between are periods of economic growth and depression, nationalism and sectionalism. For American Indians east of the Mississippi River, it is a time of loss of homeland and removal to the West. For African Americans, it is a period where the institution of slavery became entrenched in Georgia and the southern states. At the same time, a movement to abolish the institution began and grew in the North. The issue became increasingly divisive between the North and South.

In 1860, after the election of Abraham Lincoln, South Carolina voted to withdraw from the Union, followed by six other states in early 1861, including Georgia. Georgia had been more moderate than her neighboring states, but in the end, those favoring withdrawal won out. Georgia joined with the others to form the Confederate States of America. A bloody civil war began in April 1861. The conflict lasted for four long years. By the end of the war, slavery had ended, the South had been economically and physically devastated, and the Union had been preserved, but with great bitterness.

From 1865 to 1877, the nation worked to reconstruct itself. Politically, that meant bringing the southern states back into the national government and rebuilding the state governments. Economically, that meant getting the southern states back on their feet, replacing slavery with a different labor system and determining the economic direction the states would take. Socially, that meant building the religious and educational institutions of the South as well as the structure of the southern society.

These are complicated years in American history. By the end of them, the foundations were laid for modernization of the United States in some ways. In other ways, the nation continued to fail to live up to its ideals of justice, liberty, and equality.

General William Tecumseh Sherman's famous "March to the Sea" started in Atlanta, where many battles were fought. These Union drummers are part of a reenactment of the Battle of Lovejoy Station.

Focus on Reading Skills

Cause and Effect

Defining the Skill

Everything that happens does so because something makes it happen. What happens is the *effect*. The person, condition, or event that makes it happen is the *cause*. The connection between what happens and what makes it happen is called the *cause/effect relationship*.

Not all cause/effect relationships are clearly defined. As a result, it is sometimes difficult to determine the actual relationship. Often a cause may have more than one effect, and an effect may have more than one cause. At other times, an effect may not even appear in a reading for a long time.

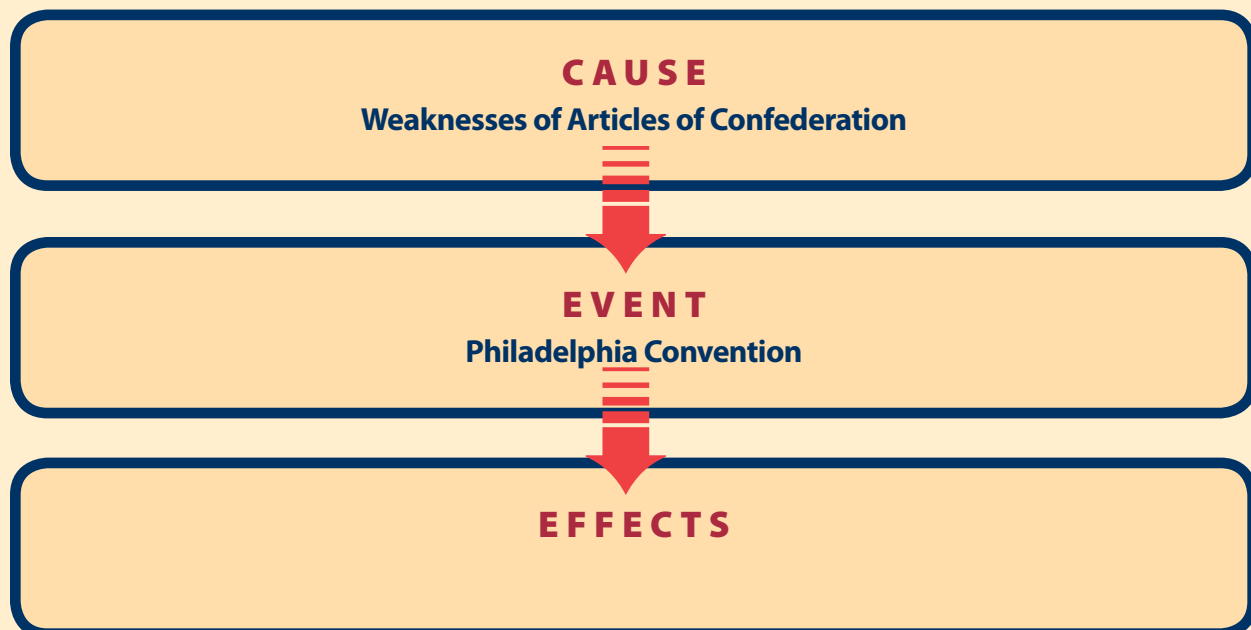
To help you recognize cause and effect, look for

- cue words or phrases such as *because, as a result of, in order to, effects of, consequently, for this reason, since, as a consequence, therefore;*

- the word *and* or a comma instead of one or more cue words;
- a longer text passage to read, because it may take several paragraphs to illustrate a cause/effect relationship.

Practicing the Skill

Copy the following graphic organizer onto a separate sheet of paper. In Chapter 13, you learned that the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation caused problems for the new United States and for the states. The result was that the states called for a convention to be held in Philadelphia to address those weaknesses. Now, find at least two effects that were brought about because of the Philadelphia convention. Record your findings in the appropriate box.



Signs of the Times

POPULATION

Georgia's population in 1830 was 516,823. In 1850, it was 906,185. And by 1880, the population was 1,542,180.

EDUCATION

The first U.S. school for the blind was chartered in Boston in 1829. The U.S. Naval Academy opened in Annapolis in 1845. The first school of nursing opened in New York in 1873.

SCIENCE/INVENTIONS

The stethoscope was invented in 1816. In 1831, Cyrus McCormick invented the reaper, which he patented in 1849. Elias Howe patented the sewing machine in 1846. The safety pin was patented in 1849. Baking powder was invented in 1859.

LITERATURE

In 1813, Jane Austen wrote *Pride and Prejudice*. In 1851, Herman Melville published *Moby Dick* and Nathaniel Hawthorne published *The House of the Seven Gables*. Lewis Carroll published *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* in 1865.

MUSIC

In 1810, the first regular orchestra in America, the Boston Philharmonic Society, formed. Francis Scott Key wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner" in 1814. In 1862, "Taps" was composed.

A visitor examines the wooden machinery at the heart of the massive 1851 Johnson cotton baling press at Westville, a recreation of a small Georgia town of 1850.

Chapter 14

Expansion and Growth: 1789-1850

Chapter Preview

TERMS

Yazoo land fraud, lottery, cotton gin, subsistence, canal, depression, factor, impressment, syllabary, Trail of Tears

PEOPLE

Benjamin Hawkins, Eli Whitney, Tecumseh, William McIntosh, Andrew Jackson, Major Ridge, John Ross, Sequoyah, Elias Boudinot

PLACES

Fort Defiance, New Echota, Dahlonega, Indian Territory



Under new federal and state constitutions, the United States and Georgia began to grow. Like other Americans, Georgians welcomed the election of George Washington as president. In fact, every Georgia elector in the Electoral College had voted for this hero of the American Revolution. Washington's appointment of Alexander Hamilton as the first secretary of the treasury led to a new economic policy for the country. That policy included having the national government assume the Revolutionary War debts of the state. The new U.S. Congress established America's first national bank and the federal court system.

Under its new state government and constitution, Georgia also moved forward. Plans for the University of Georgia led to its opening in 1801, and academies continued to be founded in Georgia's towns. In 1796, Georgia moved to its new planned capital of Louisville. The travel distance for some Georgia's senators and representatives was far less after that move.

Religious groups in Georgia also continued to grow as many groups, Methodists and Baptists especially, founded new churches in the countryside. Presbyterians also established churches throughout the state. Roman Catholics migrated into the backcountry, where they founded the community of Locust Grove and soon built a church. Savannah granted Catholics a church lot in town three years later. Jews in Savannah got a charter officially establishing their congregation in 1790. Georgia was a religiously diverse state from the beginning. Eventually, the churches got involved in higher education. By the late 1830s, Methodists had established what was later called Wesleyan College for girls and Emory for boys, Baptists had founded Mercer College, and Presbyterians had started Oglethorpe College.

Perhaps most spectacular over the next few decades was the growth of Georgia's population and economy. By the 1840s, Georgia was becoming the "Empire State of the South."

In 1804, the Georgia legislature voted to move the capital once again, this time to a new town to be called Milledgeville in honor of the sitting governor. Milledgeville remained the capital for the next sixty years. The old capitol, above, now houses Georgia Military College.

Section 1

Georgia's Land and Economic Growth

As you read, look for

- changing relations with the Creek,
- problems caused by the Yazoo land fraud,
- methods of granting land,
- increases and improvements in agriculture,
- improvements in transportation,
- terms: **Yazoo land fraud, lottery, cotton gin, subsistence, canal, depression, factor.**

Figure 26 Timeline: 1790 to 1850



The key to Georgia's prosperity was still its land. Acquiring land from the Native Americans and distributing land to settlers became major political and economic issues in the period from the Constitution until 1840. With the exception of the fraudulent efforts of some Georgia leaders in the scandal known as the Yazoo land fraud, most of Georgia's policies gave land to farmers in a fair way. Until 1803, the headright system was the major way the government transferred land to its citizens. In 1803, a new lottery system began, and the lands given up by the Creek and the Cherokee became farms for new settlers to the state.

Georgia remained an agricultural state, but new inventions and new methods of transportation played a major role in making agriculture profitable. While some crops from the colonial and revolutionary periods remained important, cotton was becoming king by the 1800s, especially in the rich fertile belt of soil that ran through the central part of the state. Although most Georgians supported themselves directly from the land, the towns and villages supported craftspeople, professionals, and some early industry.

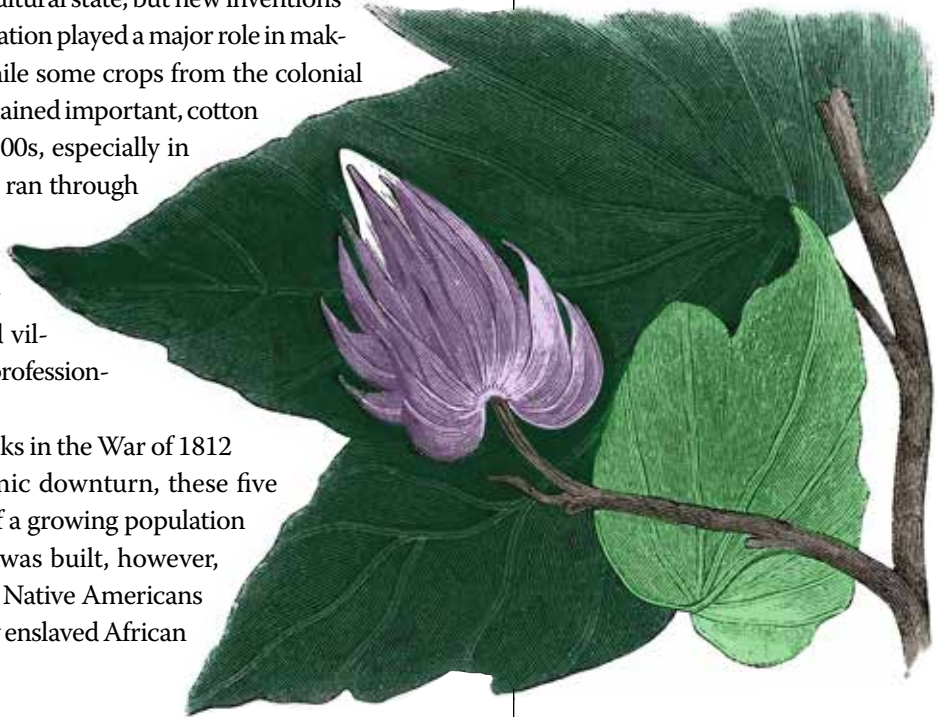
In spite of economic setbacks in the War of 1812 and some periods of economic downturn, these five decades were mainly a time of a growing population and a flowering economy. It was built, however, on the sacrifice of land by the Native Americans and the sacrifice of freedom by enslaved African Americans.

The Creek and Their Land

One of the main reasons that Georgians had supported the new Constitution was their desire for more of the land that Native Americans held inside the state's borders. While they had gotten the Cherokee and some Creek to agree to an additional grant of land to Georgia, Creek Chief Alexander McGillivray had refused to sign any treaties. In 1790, President George Washington invited McGillivray to come for talks in New York City, at that time the capital of the country. New York was impressive, a big and busy port city. In his talks with Washington, McGillivray signed the Treaty of New York, which gave the Georgians the land they wanted between the Ogeechee and Oconee rivers. This treaty followed a familiar pattern in Indian-white relations, which continued until the Indians were totally gone. The Indians gave up a piece of land, whites filled that up and then wanted more, resulting in another treaty to give up more land. In the early 1800s, the Creek signed two more treaties, Fort Wilkinson (1802) and Washington (1805) by which they ceded all their land between the Oconee and Ocmulgee rivers.

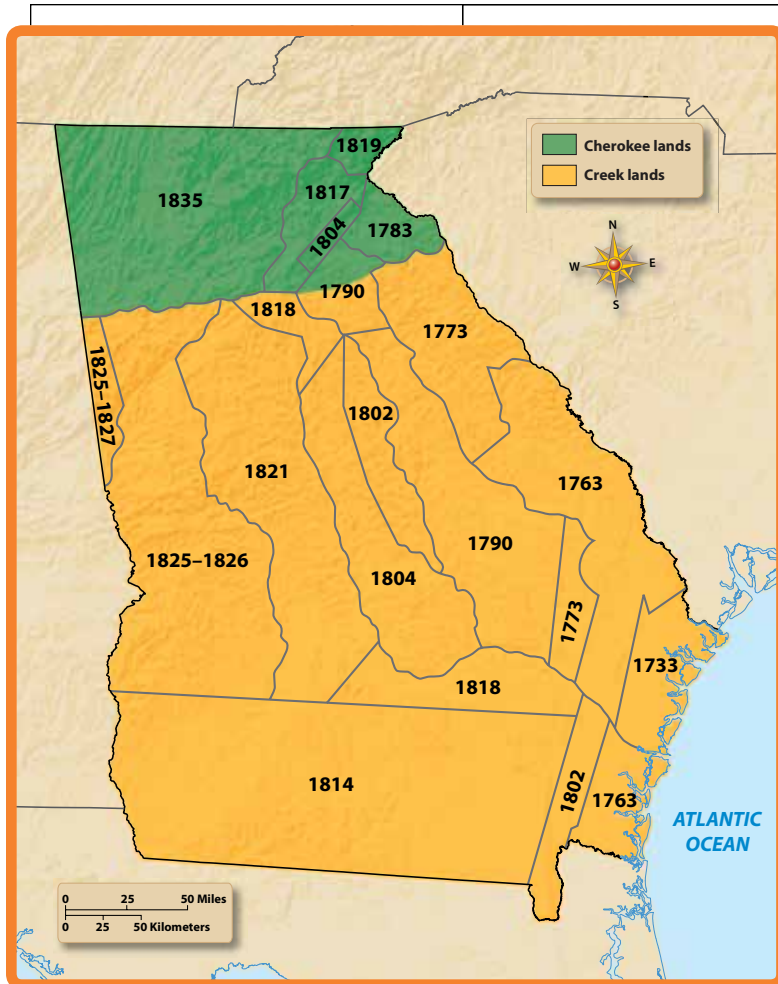
In 1796, George Washington appointed North Carolina Senator Benjamin Hawkins to be the Agent for Indian Affairs in the South. As a senator,

Below: Pictured is a cotton boll before it has bloomed. Cotton became king in the South during the first half of the nineteenth century as the cotton gin made it an economically viable crop. Another new invention, the steamboat, made the large-scale transportation of cotton to its markets much easier.



Something Extra!

As a secret part of the Treaty of New York, Alexander McGillivray was made a brigadier general in the U.S. Army.



Hawkins had been interested in the Indians and had a reputation for being fair. It was his job to carry out a new government policy to “civilize” the Indians. The goal was to make the Indians into farmers who would eventually settle onto individual farms and give up their tribal lands. Hawkins encouraged the men to grow corn and wheat and to raise cattle and pigs; the women were encouraged to spin thread and weave cloth. This was a major cultural change for a society in which women had taken care of the crops. These ideas led to a growing conflict within the Creek Nation between those who were willing to accept the new ways and those who wanted to keep their traditional lifestyle. Hawkins supported this plan of civilization because he feared the alternative was to remove the Indians from their homeland entirely. After the War of 1812, that option became the reality.

The Yazoo Land Fraud

Although the United States government had a policy that required treaties with the Indians before others could move into those lands, eager settlers often crossed the

boundaries into land that still belonged to the natives. In Georgia, the government itself got involved in illegal land dealings in what became known as the **Yazoo land fraud**.

As early as 1789, the year before the Treaty of New York, three land companies had tried to buy a huge piece of Georgia’s land. The land they wanted was in the far western part of the state around the Yazoo River, which today is part of Mississippi. That sale fell through. However, in 1794 and 1795, four new companies bribed members of the Georgia legislature to pass a bill selling them between 35 and 50 million acres of land. They paid the state about \$500,000, or pennies per acre. Governor George Mathews signed this Yazoo Act. Many of the legislators who voted for the sale had stock in the land companies. Voting for something from which they were going to benefit personally is what is known as a *conflict of interest*. It is unethical and illegal.

Many citizens and honest legislators were outraged. Senator James Jackson, who had received the surrender of Savannah from the British, resigned from the U.S. Senate so he could come home to Georgia and fight the Yazoo Act. In the state election of 1795, many of the corrupt state legislators were not reelected, and men such as James Jackson were. When the new Georgia legislature met in 1796, it repealed the Yazoo Act as a fraud. (*Fraud* is the

Map 24 Indian Land Cessions

Map Skill: According to the map, in what year did the Cherokee make the largest land cession?

intentional deception made for personal gain or to damage another person.)

In a dramatic demonstration of their anger over the act, the assembly members burned the act using a magnifying glass to focus the sun's rays and start the fire. They called it a "fire brought down from heaven." The state refunded to the companies all the money they had paid Georgia. They thought that was the end of the Yazoo land issue.

But there was a problem. The companies had already sold some of the land. Some of these buyers would not take a refund, insisting instead on keeping the land. Georgia argued that because the act had been repealed, the buyers had no right to the land. These disputes ended up in the courts.

In 1798, Georgia officials began to negotiate with the national government to do what the other states had all done by this time—give up its western lands. In 1802, Georgia's western land, which eventually became the states of Alabama and Mississippi, became the territory of the United States. In return for giving up the land, Georgia got \$1.25 million and the government's promise to make additional treaties to get the rest of the Indians' land. Georgia's western border was now the Chattahoochee River.



Something Extra!

Jackson County in northeast Georgia is named for James Jackson.

Left: Members of the new state legislature of 1796 gather in front of the state capitol in Louisville to burn the Yazoo Act. **Above:** James Jackson left his seat in the U.S. Senate to come back to Georgia to fight the Yazoo land fraud. Two years later, he was rewarded for his efforts with the governorship.

Something Extra!

The new United States was acquiring land in other ways. In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson bought land from France in what became known as the Louisiana Purchase.



Above: Governor John Milledge devised a land lottery as a better way to distribute land to settlers. The first lottery gave away land acquired from the Creeks in the Treaty of New York.

When the U.S. government got Georgia's western land, it inherited the problem of the claims resulting from the Yazoo land fraud. In 1810, the U.S. Supreme Court declared that the repeal of the Yazoo Act was unconstitutional because the citizens who bought the land from the companies had a contract, and contracts could not be swept aside. But since the land was now the U.S. government's property, it had to settle the claims of these buyers.

His fight against the Yazoo Act made a hero of James Jackson, and he remained a major leader in Georgia for several years. From 1798 to 1801, he was governor. In 1798, he led the writing of a new state constitution. It followed the basic outline of the 1789 document, but was twice as long. To prevent another embarrassing event like the Yazoo fraud, the 1798 constitution said that no public land could be sold until the Indians had given up their claims to it and the Georgia government had established counties in it. Although Georgians had lost their western lands, they were eagerly filling up the land already ceded by the Indians and beginning to look at other Indian lands within their borders. Georgia's leaders looked for new ways to give land in smaller grants in order to discourage schemes such as Yazoo.

Land Lotteries

Throughout the 1790s, Georgia continued to grant land to settlers through the headright system. Even though the most one household could receive in headright was one thousand acres, several Georgia governors signed grants for more than that. In the 1790s, Revolutionary War soldiers also continued to get their bounty grants. About two thousand Patriots received these grants. Veterans could also claim headright grants in addition to the bounty grants.

After the Yazoo land fraud, Georgia decided to change the way it granted land. In 1803, Governor John Milledge called the legislature into a special session to pass a new land policy. All new land was to be surveyed (measured) into lots of 202½ acres if it was very good land or 490 acres if it was not as fertile. Each white male who had lived in Georgia at least a year and every family of orphans under twenty-one years of age got one chance in a lottery. (A **lottery** is a plan to award something—in this case, land—on the basis of chance.) Every family of a husband, wife, and at least one child, as well as every widow with children, got two chances.

Applicants applied to the state; if they met the above requirements, their names were written on sheets of paper. All names went into one drum, and all pieces of paper with the land lot written on them went into another drum. Then a drawing was held. Those with one chance got one land parcel; those with two chances got two parcels. Those lucky enough to get the land they wanted paid a fee of 4 cents an acre.

The first land lottery took place in 1805 for land given away in the new counties of Baldwin, Wilkinson, and Wayne. All three counties were created from the Creek land acquired in the Treaty of New York. By 1833, seven

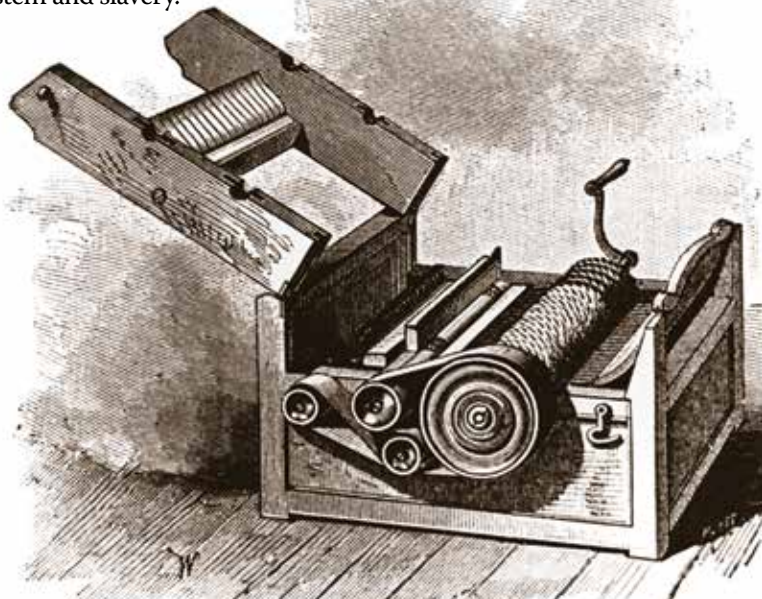
more lotteries had been held, granting away the rest of Georgia's public lands. The land lottery meant that the state lost the money it could have made by selling the land at a market price. But it also resulted in very quick population growth, as people moved into the state so they would be eligible for the lotteries. It also meant that small farmers originally got much of the land in the backcountry. What they grew in the backcountry and how they got that produce to market began to change by the 1800s.

Agriculture

Most Georgians made their living by growing crops. In the 1790s, the backcountry prospered with the production of tobacco, which grew well in the soil of the Piedmont. Small farmers could grow a few acres for extra income, while those with slaves could produce huge quantities as the major source of their income.

Georgia had rewarded General Nathanael Greene with a plantation at the end of the American Revolution. He, his wife Catherine, and their children settled in Georgia at Mulberry Grove plantation outside Savannah. Greene died in 1786 of sunstroke, but Catherine stayed on. In 1792, she hosted a young Connecticut gentleman, Eli Whitney, as a guest in her home. While there, Whitney heard planters discussing the problem of growing upland cotton. The flower of the cotton plant is called the *boll*, and it is a white fiber. In the middle of that flower are the seeds. Removing the seeds from the fiber so it could be made into cotton thread was very difficult because they stuck to the fiber. Having to pick the seeds out by hand took so long that it was not profitable to grow upland cotton.

Whitney had an inventive mind. In 1793 he designed a simple device called a **cotton gin** (short for "engine") to remove the seeds by brushing the fiber through slits too small for the seeds to go through. Fast seed removal made the production of upland cotton profitable and led to its rise as Georgia's major cash crop. His invention put the lower South on the road to becoming the "land of cotton" and ensured the survival of the plantation system and slavery.



Something Extra!

Eli Whitney earned virtually nothing from his invention. Because so much cotton was planted, the planters "pirated" the gin before Whitney could register his patent. He had to appeal to Congress to save him from financial ruin.

Above: A visit to Mulberry Grove plantation near Savannah inspired Eli Whitney to invent the cotton gin.

Left: By making the removal of seeds from upland cotton easy, the cotton gin made a marginally profitable crop into the major cash crop of the South.



Above: Robert Toombs' mansion in Washington is an example of the home of a wealthy planter, who was also a powerful politician, before, during, and after the Civil War.

Opposite page: The home of Rufus T. Smith, preserved at the Thomas County Museum of History, is an example of a yeoman farmer's home. Smith owned no slaves; his 13 children provided labor for the farm.

After the invention of the cotton gin, tobacco production decreased as more and more planters turned to cotton. The white fluffy fiber grew especially well in the rich area of land that ran through the Deep South from South Carolina to east Texas. This "Cotton Belt," as it was called, ran through Georgia below the mountains and above the less-fertile pine barrens in the south. Most cotton was grown on plantations.

Rice continued to be grown in the coastal plantations once they recovered from the Revolutionary War and slave labor became available again. Indigo production, however, declined. Great Britain had paid farmers to grow indigo when Georgia was a part of the British Empire, but that disappeared after the war. In some areas of the coast, planters grew sugar cane. Thomas Spalding of Sapelo Island had a thriving sugar plantation. But even though sugar cane grew well, most Georgia coastal planters stuck with rice, and planters on the islands grew some sea island cotton, which has a long fiber.

Agricultural Class System

These crops—tobacco, cotton, sugar cane, and rice—all required a considerable amount of labor to produce. Those who had slaves could produce large enough quantities of cash crops to become wealthy. At the top of the economic and social ladder were *planters*, those who owned twenty or more slaves. They were a small percentage of the population. However, because their money allowed them to pay overseers to supervise their plantations, planters were the men who could spend their time serving in government. They had much of the political power. Some planters also practiced a profession, such as law or medicine. Below them on the economic scale were farmers who owned fewer than twenty slaves. Most of these farmers owned 1-5 slaves. On their farms, the owners worked in the fields with their slaves. This group made up about half of the slave owners in Georgia.



Small farmers and their families, who owned no slaves, made up most of the middle class in Georgia. They produced food crops and, depending on family size, an acre to a few acres of tobacco or cotton. These small farmers owned their own land, built houses for themselves, chopped wood from their land for heating and cooking, and produced most of their own food.

The poorest whites in Georgia were landless. They worked as laborers or settled on poor land that they did not own, where they could raise only a little food and perhaps a few animals.

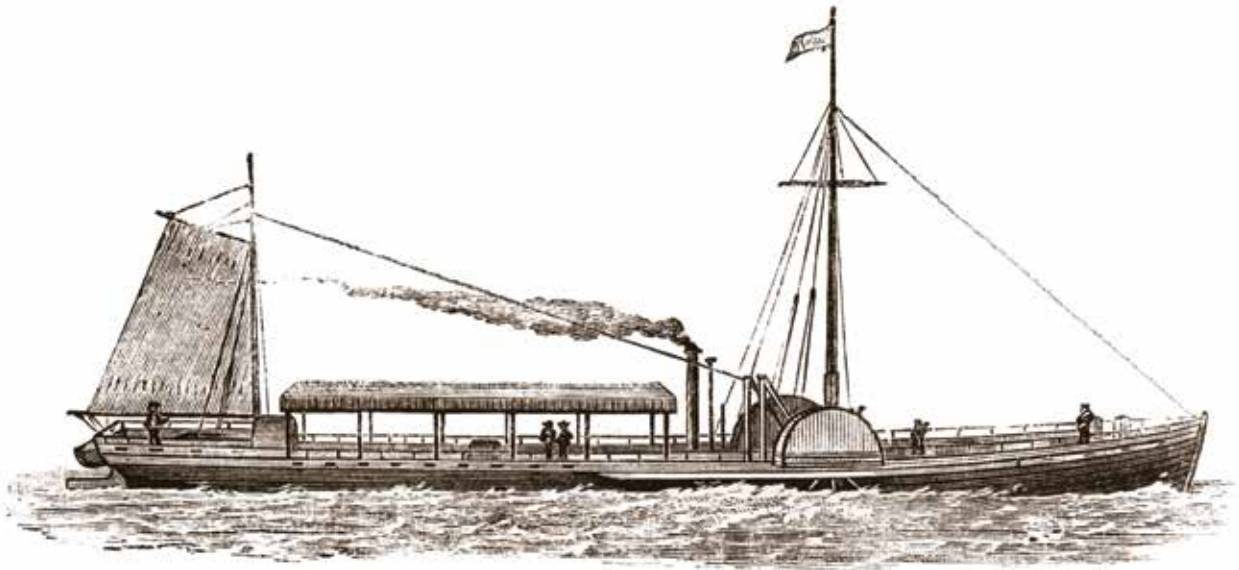
Subsistence Farming

While cotton was the major cash crop in Georgia, corn was an equally important crop for the vast majority of Georgians. It was raised on all middle-class farms, as well as by poor whites, and sometimes by planters. Planters who did not raise their own corn had to buy it from farmers who did. Corn fed Georgia's people and sometimes its farm animals. In the northeast mountains, farmers grew their own food and sometimes produced apples. In the northwest hills, farmers produced mainly corn and some wheat. This northern Georgia area—east and west—had fewer plantations and few slaves. Many of its farmers were living at the **subsistence** level, that is, they were able to produce just enough to survive.

To keep Georgia's land producing, some Georgia farmers began to encourage better farming methods by the 1830s. Many of them formed clubs to talk about new ideas in farming such as changing or rotating crops, using fertilizer, plowing fields in ways that kept the soil from washing away. The best known of these groups in Georgia was the Planters Club of Hancock County, founded in 1837. An agricultural magazine read throughout the South was the *Southern Cultivator* published in Augusta. These ideas had little effect on subsistence farmers in this time period.

Something Extra!

According to the 1860 census, there were 118,000 white families in Georgia. Of these, only 41,084 families (or 35 percent) owned slaves.



Above: Robert Fulton invented the first practical steamboat, the *Clermont* (top) in 1807. By using a steam engine to power a pair of paddle wheels, Fulton created the first machine-powered boat.

Developments in Transportation

While Georgia's land was the key to Georgia's economy, the state's quick economic growth would not have been possible without new inventions that made transportation faster and easier. The idea of using steam engines to power boats in the water and cars on rails on land revolutionized how goods got to market. These new technologies meant more profit for Georgia's planters and farmers. They could then buy more goods and services from Georgia's artisans, merchants, and professionals.

Steamboats

Whitney's was not the only invention to have a major impact on the economy. Crucial to making money is being able to get goods to market. Until the twentieth century, that was done either by land or by water. Horses and carts were the major methods of transportation by land. The fastest way to move people and goods was on the water—that is, if one was going in the direction the water was flowing. The most valuable land was along rivers and streams deep and wide enough for boats. During the headright system of land granting, this was the land requested first. Towns grew at natural places for water transportation, such as the Fall Line. The Fall Line was as far as a boat could navigate up the river before having to stop because of the rocks in the river.

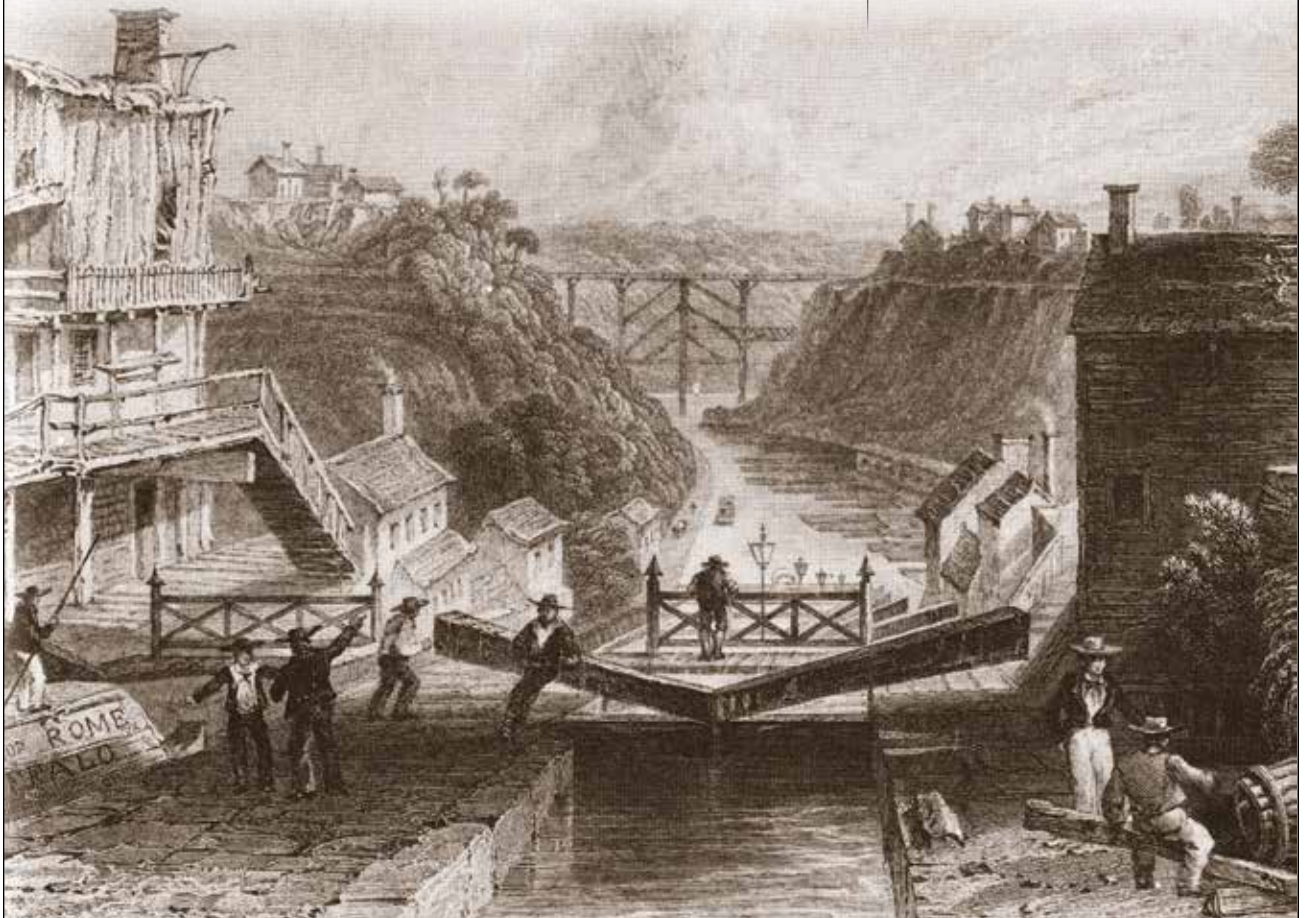
Until the 1800s, river boats were human-powered, with people poling or rowing. In 1807, in New York's Hudson River, inventor Robert Fulton successfully used a steam engine to power paddle wheels on the sides of a boat. A year before, Georgian William Longstreet had experimented with powering a boat by steam on the Savannah River in Augusta. He was familiar with the pole boats on the river and tried to use steam to power a wheel of poles. Unfortunately for Longstreet, the Fulton paddle wheel was more

practical, and it became the new method of river transportation. By 1816, the first steamboats were on the Savannah River. By the 1820s, steamboat transportation grew as did the Fall Line cities, including Augusta, Milledgeville, Macon, and Columbus. Paddle wheel boats could be piled high with farm products going to the ports at the mouths of rivers. From Savannah, they could be put on ocean-going ships to be sold in the northern states or overseas. Manufactured goods and other products from faraway places could be easily shipped upriver under steam power for sale in the Fall Line towns. Being able to carry so much in one trip lowered the cost of transporting of goods and, therefore, the prices of them.

Canals

Because water transportation was faster and cheaper, many states became interested in building canals. **Canals** are manmade waterways that connect one body of water to another, such as a river to a river or a lake to a lake. In 1825, New York State finished building the first major canal—the Erie Canal—which connected Lake Erie with the Hudson River over three hundred miles away. The Hudson River flows from northern New York down to the port of New York City. Transportation time was cut by two weeks, and shipping costs became much lower. With the success of the Erie, other states including Georgia thought about canals. But a new method of transportation came into being, and it became Georgia’s main method of shipping.

Below: The success of the Erie Canal inspired a canal-building boom all over the country in the 1830s and 1840s. The federal and state governments poured millions of dollars into canal networks, many of which were unfinished when a new mode of powered transportation, the railroad, proved cheaper and more versatile.



Something Extra!

Atlanta began as a railroad town because it was where several railroads met.

Below: The small settlement that grew up around the terminal point of the Georgia Railroad was named "Terminus" by Stephen Long, a civil engineer. In 1843, it was renamed Marthasville, then given its current name, Atlanta, in 1845. As the railroads grew, so did Atlanta, which had become an important railroad center by the start of the Civil War.

Railroads

In England, steam power was being used on land to haul cars along rails. In Maryland, the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad (B & O) had begun building a line. With so many goods to get to market, the South immediately began to build railroads. By 1833, South Carolina built a railroad from Charleston to Hamburg, South Carolina, which was right across the Savannah River from Augusta. The owners hoped to get the business of farmers on both sides of the river. Georgians could bring their goods across the river to Hamburg for shipment directly to the major port of Charleston.

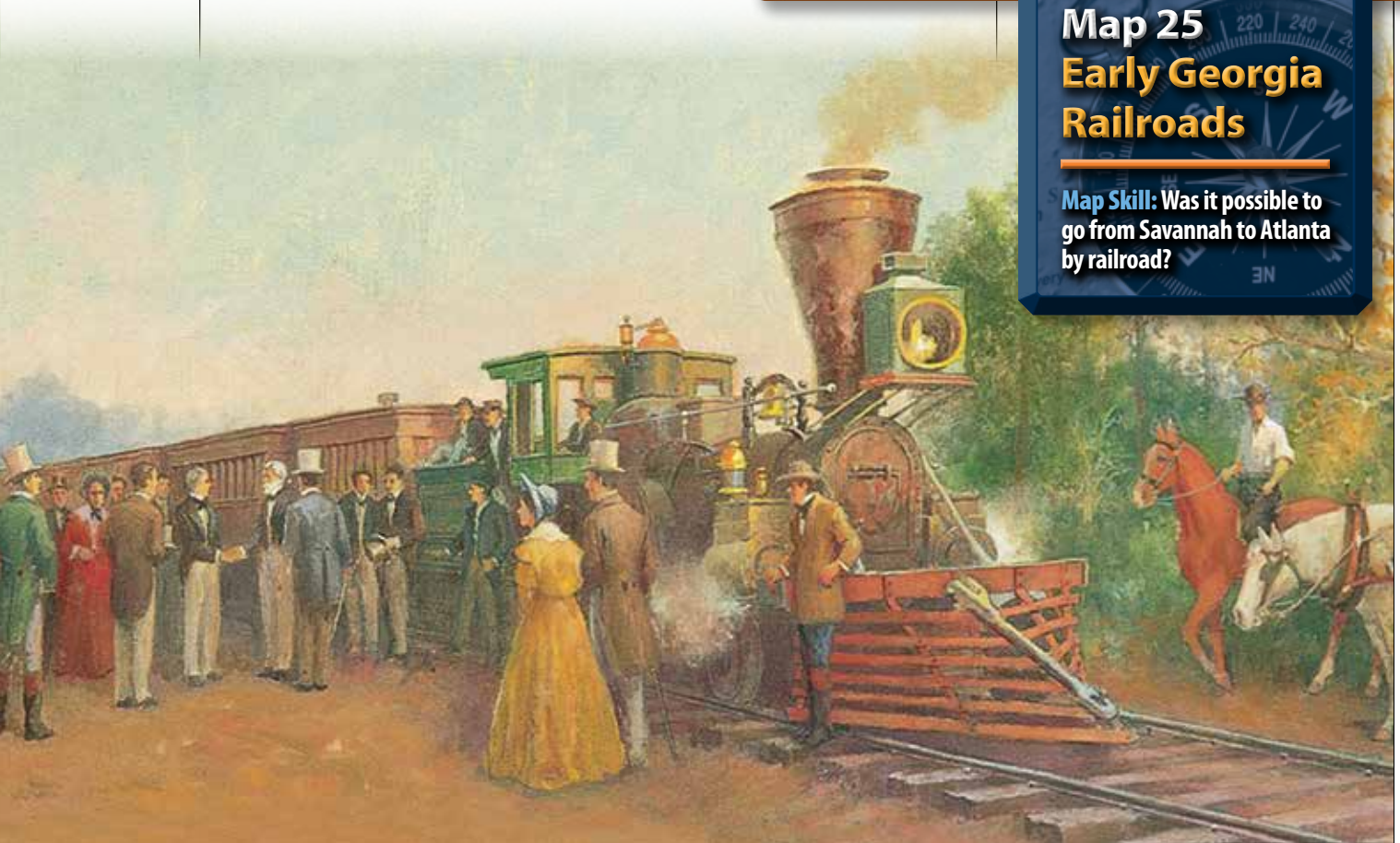
Not to be left behind, Savannahians began a company to build a railroad to Macon, which eventually became the Central of Georgia. Athens businessmen got a charter for the Georgia Railroad in 1833 to be built to Augusta. The Georgia Railroad was the first to start building. Small towns sprang up at the places where the railroad stopped such as Harlem, Thomson, and Camak. By 1845, the line extended all the way to Marthasville, the city now called Atlanta. The Georgia and the Central of Georgia both built feeder lines (branches) to other small towns, such as the one from Macon to the state capital at Milledgeville. What began as the Monroe Railroad became the Macon and Western, reaching Atlanta by 1846. The state of Georgia itself chartered a railroad to Tennessee called the Western and Atlantic. It was part of a grand plan to connect the Atlantic with the West as far as the Tennessee River. Other rail lines were built in the southwestern areas, and by 1860 Georgia had one of the best rail systems in the South.

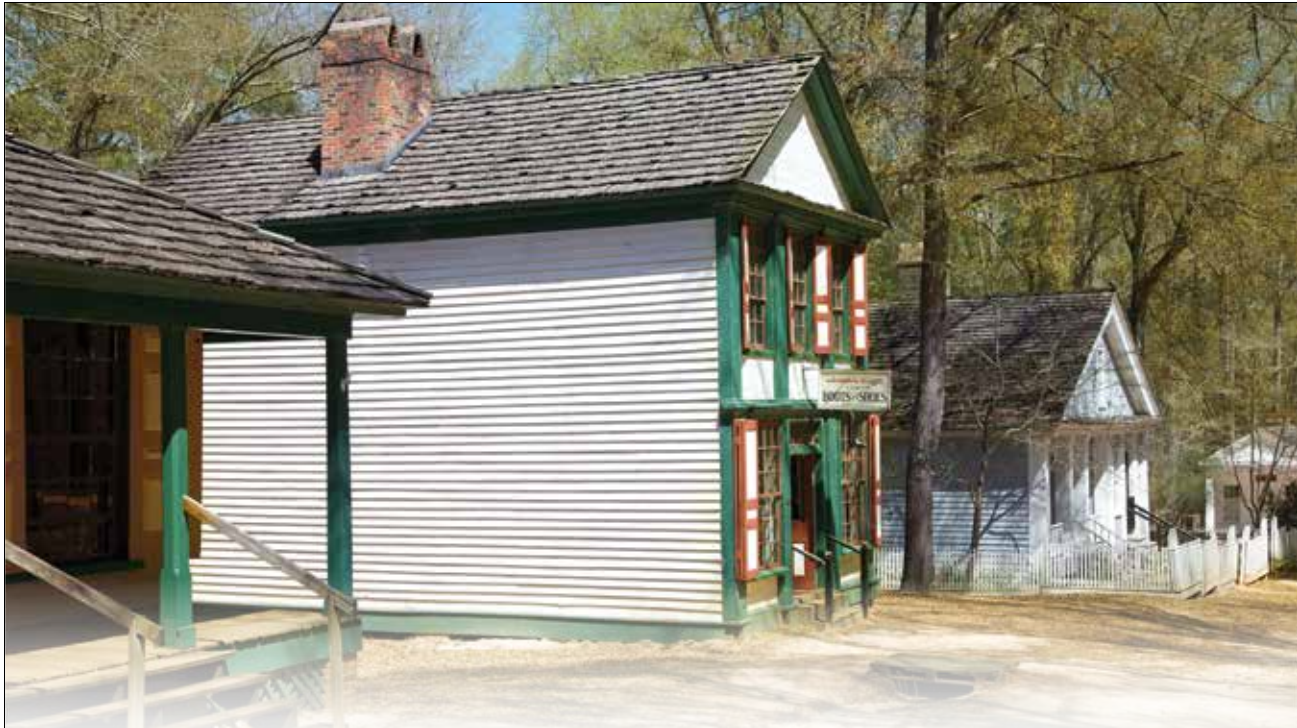


Business and Industry

Although farming occupied most Georgians, some industry did develop. Much of it was related to processing the crops that Georgia grew. For example, most communities had flour mills that ground corn into flour and grits. Sawmills cut logs into boards. Tanneries turned animal hides into leather. In north Georgia, mining gold became an industry, and the national government built a mint in Dahlonega in 1838 to turn raw gold into coins.

By the 1820s, Georgians Augustin Clayton in Athens and William Schley in Augusta began to process cotton in small textile mills using water power. When the country went through a **depression** (a severe economic downturn) in the late 1830s, others were attracted to building mills to help strengthen the economy. In the 1840s, both Columbus and Augusta built much larger mills using water power from canals. When good times returned, mill building declined as agriculture became profitable again. Even so, throughout this period, Georgia led the Lower South in industry.





Top: Westville in Stewart County is a collection of historic buildings from around Georgia assembled into a typical town of 1850. The two-story building is the shop of Johann B. Singer Boots and Shoes. **Above:** This interpreter at Westville is reenacting the role of a free black seamstress.

In Georgia's towns, citizens had other ways of making a living as they had in the colonial period. Blacksmiths, carpenters, coopers, brick masons, and bakers were joined by clockmakers, silversmiths, and cabinet makers. Many, but not all, of those in practical crafts such as blacksmithing were free blacks. Because free blacks could not get work in the countryside where planters relied on slave labor, free blacks lived in the small towns and communities where they could find work as laborers on docks and railroads and as craftsmen. Free black women in Georgia's towns often supported themselves as seamstresses, laundresses, housekeepers, and cooks.

The wealthy in towns were professionals and merchants. Sometimes they were owners of plantations that were managed by overseers. Merchants owned various kinds of retail stores, from general stores to stores that sold special items. Some merchants were **factors**, the men who took a farmer's crops and arranged for their shipment to other places. Both New England and British textile mills bought cotton from the South, and Georgia was one of the major producers.

Reviewing the Section

1. Define: Yazoo land fraud, subsistence, depression.
2. What two methods were used in Georgia to distribute land in the late 1700s and early 1800s?
3. What was Eli Whitney's invention? How did it affect agriculture in Georgia?
4. What technological development replaced canals and steamboats?

Discovering Georgia

George Washington's Tour Through Georgia

When he became president in 1789, George Washington said he wanted to "visit every part of the United States." He thought it was important to see the people and get to know the country. His "Southern Tour" took place in 1791. He left in March in order to complete the trip before the worst of the heat and humidity of the southern summer began. Fortunately, Washington kept a diary of his trip, which tells us where he traveled, what he did, and what his impressions were.

He arrived in Georgia on Thursday, May 12, after crossing the Savannah River in boats from Purrysburg, South Carolina. He was met by several distinguished Savannah leaders who had been active in the Revolution:

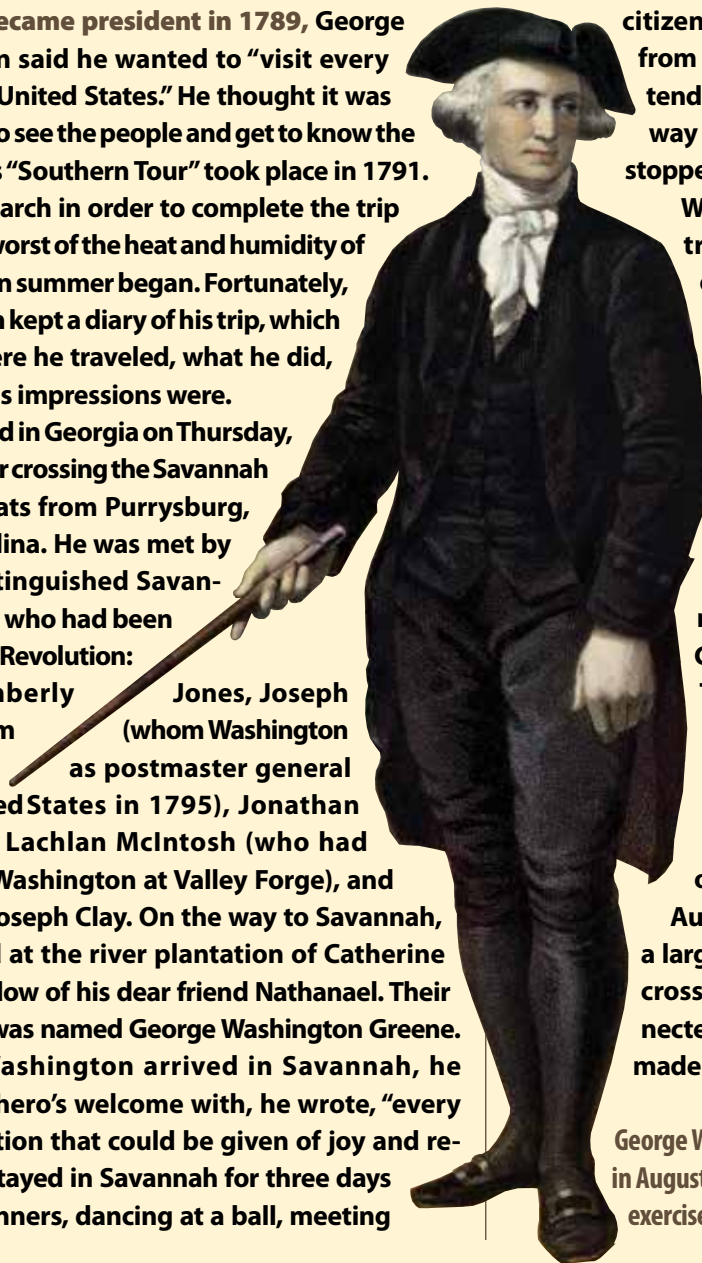
Noble Wimberly Jones, Joseph Habersham (whom Washington appointed as postmaster general of the United States in 1795), Jonathan Hustoun, Lachlan McIntosh (who had been with Washington at Valley Forge), and merchant Joseph Clay. On the way to Savannah, he stopped at the river plantation of Catherine Greene, widow of his dear friend Nathanael. Their oldest son was named George Washington Greene.

When Washington arrived in Savannah, he received a hero's welcome with, he wrote, "every demonstration that could be given of joy and respect." He stayed in Savannah for three days going to dinners, dancing at a ball, meeting

citizens, visiting the old defense works from the 1779 siege. On Sunday, he attended services at Christ Church. On his way out of town after church, he again stopped to dine with Catherine Greene.

Washington noted that he found traveling on the sandy soil of the old Coastal Plain from Savannah to Augusta difficult. "My horses," he wrote, "are much worn down." He spent one night in Effingham County, then went to Screven County. On Tuesday, May 17, he stopped in Waynesboro, the town named for Revolutionary War hero General Anthony Wayne. Four miles from Augusta (at that time, Georgia's capital), Governor Edward Telfair, Judge George Walton, and other prominent men rode out to meet him. While in Augusta, he dined with the governor, went to balls and public dinners, and rode out to the rapids at the Fall Line. Of Augusta, he wrote, "It bids fair to be a large Town." On Saturday, May 21, he crossed over the new bridge that connected Georgia and South Carolina and made his way to Columbia.

George Washington's 1791 tour included a stop in Augusta, where he attended graduation exercises at the Academy of Richmond County.



Section 2

The War of 1812 and Indian Removal

Below: The Shawnee chief Tecumseh traveled to the South in an attempt to convince the Creek and Cherokee to join his confederacy of tribes in opposition to the United States. He was partially successful with the Creek, who split into the Red Sticks, who supported him, and the White Sticks, who did not.



Something Extra!

Those who supported Tecumseh were called Red Sticks because red was the color associated with war.

As you read, look for

- Georgia's role in the War of 1812,
- discovery of gold in Georgia,
- the removal of the Creek and the Cherokee from Georgia,
- terms: **impressment**, **syllabary**, **Trail of Tears**.

Textile mills became an important part of the New England economy after the United States had a second war with England and found itself needing the manufactured goods that England made, including cloth. This War of 1812 did not bypass Georgia, although most of the fighting was in other places.

The war ended in a stalemate, but it had major effects on the country, ushering in a major period of change. In Georgia, the most serious effect was on the Native Americans. The war began the push to remove them from the state's borders. By 1840, the Creek and the Cherokee were gone.

The War of 1812

By the time Thomas Jefferson became president in 1800, the French and the British were once again at odds with the other. In 1805, the two countries were at war. The United States did not want to be involved, but it was trading with both countries. Both Great Britain and France were trying to prevent the United States from trading with the other. So both the French and the British were stopping U.S. ships and sometimes seizing goods that they thought might be going to the enemy. The British were also taking American sailors from the ships, claiming that they were British citizens, and putting them into the British navy. This practice was called **impressment**. Between 1805 and 1812, several thousand were seized.

The British were also still in Canada, and the Americans felt they were stirring up problems with the Indians in the Northwest Territory. There, a Shawnee chief named Tecumseh had begun to form a confederation of Indian groups against the United States. His brother, a religious leader known as the Prophet,



also exerted strong influence on the Native Americans. They were concerned that the Americans wanted more and more territory. The Indians wanted to keep their lands and their traditional way of living. Tecumseh had come south to try to convince the Creek and the Cherokee to join his resistance. Some of the Creek did, but the Cherokee did not. The destruction of his headquarters led Tecumseh to ally with the British in the War of 1812.

The trade conflicts with Great Britain, their taking of American sailors, and the belief that they were supporting the Indians, led President James Madison to ask for a declaration of war in June 1812. The main opposition to war came from New England. The South and West favored it.

The United States had many problems going into the war, including a small navy and small army. They had to rely on their citizens to volunteer as soldiers. The United States also did not make many goods, buying most of those from abroad, especially from Great Britain. The United States did not have a good system of transportation. Roads, where they existed, were often in disrepair. Rivers and streams had few bridges, so getting troops or cannons around was not easy. In spite of these difficulties, the United States went into war with the major superpower of the time—Great Britain. Although France did not become an ally of the United States, it was already fighting Great Britain. This was good for the United States because it meant the British had to pay more attention to the French army and navy than to the weak forces of the United States.

Something Extra!

Live oak timbers were used by the U.S. Navy in the early 1800s to build wooden sailing ships such as the *USS Constitution*. The hard wood made the ships very sturdy.

Above: On August 9, 1812, the *USS Constitution* defeated the British ship *HMS Guerriere* in the first decisive naval battle of the War of 1812, earning herself the nickname “Old Ironsides.” The *USS Constitution* remained in active service until 1881. Still a fully commissioned ship of the U.S. Navy, she is on display in Boston.



Georgia in the War

Georgia was concerned about the Creek Indians and the influence the British might have over the Indians. Georgia also worried about the influence of the Spanish in Florida, who allowed the British to continue to trade with the Creek who came through the Florida colony. Many of the Upper Creek, known as the “Red Sticks,” had joined Tecumseh’s resistance and were receiving guns from the British through the port at Pensacola, Florida. President Madison asked former Georgia Governor George Mathews to stir up a rebellion of former U.S. citizens who lived in East Florida. They were able to take one small town, but St. Augustine held out. After the failure, Madison refused to admit his involvement with Mathews. The angry Mathews was on his way to Washington, supposedly to “horsewhip” Madison, when he died.

Meanwhile, Georgia Governor David Mitchell called out militia to invade Florida. Congress, however, refused to approve his action. The Savannah militia did go to St. Augustine but, as in the past, the fort was unconquerable. In 1813, Georgia worked to improve its defenses including rebuilding the fort in Sunbury, which Georgia renamed Fort Defiance. But Georgia did not have ships and the U.S. Navy did not have enough ships to spare, so the British were able to seize merchant ships trying to leave Georgia.

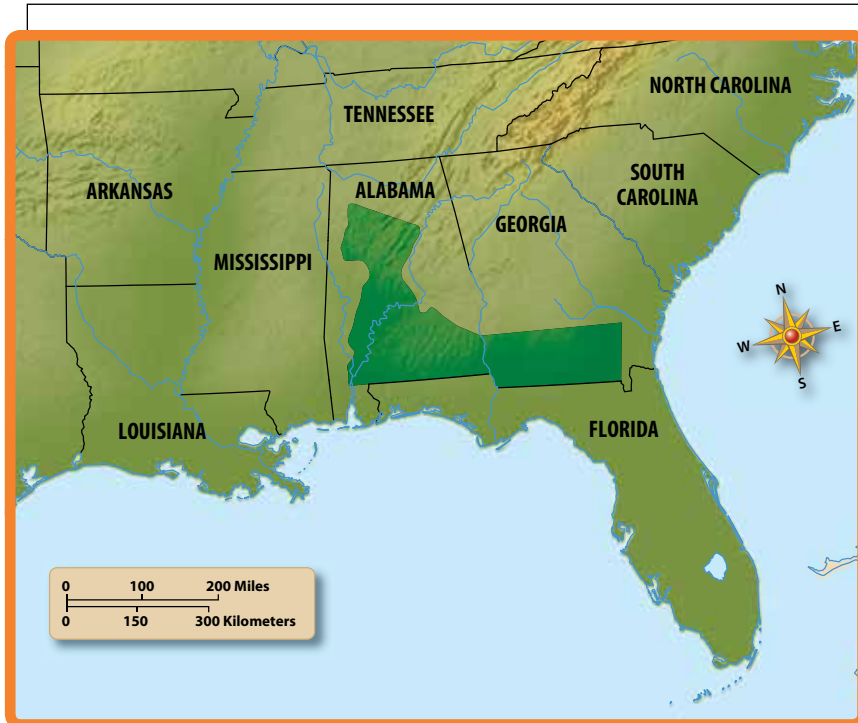
In 1814, the British defeated the French and began sending more troops across the Atlantic. In May 1814, a British fleet raided islands and rivers near St. Marys and the Florida border, but sailed away. A few months later, in January 1815, a fleet commanded by British Admiral Sir George Cochran landed troops on Cumberland Island and at St. Marys. Cochran’s plan was to take Savannah, as the British had been able to do in the American Revolution. Soon, however, news came that peace had been declared; when the treaty was ratified in February, the British left. The threat to Georgia and to Georgia’s trade was over.



The Red Stick (or Creek) War

One of the most frightening events to Georgians happened in the land they had given up in 1802—the Alabama territory. Since the 1790s, a divide had been growing in the Creek Nation. Those Creek opposed to further land cessions and to the “plan of civilization” had supported Tecumseh’s resistance. Many other Creek did not. In August 1813, the Red Stick Creek attacked and killed about four hundred Americans at Fort Mims in Alabama Territory. This led to the conflict called the Red Stick War, part of the War of 1812 in this area.

Alarmed Georgians built Fort Lawrence on the Flint River. The United States government assigned General John Floyd to command Georgia’s troops. They gathered at Fort Hawkins, built at present-day Macon. In November 1813 these troops, with help from friendly Creek and Cherokee, attacked a Red Stick town in Alabama territory, forcing the Red Sticks to flee.



Opposite page, above: Governor George Mathews was so incensed that President James Madison had denied having asked him to stir up trouble in East Florida, that he started for Washington with the idea of “horsewhipping” the president. Unfortunately, he died on the journey. **Opposite page, below:** David Mitchell was the last in a long line of Georgia governors who failed in an attempt to take the fort at St. Augustine. **Below:** General Andrew Jackson of Tennessee became a hero to the South following the Battle of Horseshoe Bend, and a hero to the nation after defeating the British at New Orleans in the final battle of the War of 1812.

Map 26
Land Acquired in the War of 1812

Map Skill: Was more land ceded in Georgia or Alabama?

In March 1814, troops led by General Andrew Jackson soundly defeated the Creek at the Battle of Horseshoe Bend in Alabama. Jackson forced the Creek to sign the Treaty of Fort Jackson, in which they gave up a large area in South Georgia all the way to the Florida border. The Indians would no longer be able to trade with the British or Spanish in Florida. The treaty, however, took land from not only the Red Sticks, but also from the Creek who had fought on Jackson’s side. Indian agent Benjamin Hawkins and the friendly Creek thought this was very unfair.





Above: Lower Creek chief William McIntosh was executed for agreeing to the Second Treaty of Indian Springs, giving up the last of the Creek land in Georgia for \$200,000, without the consent of the whole Creek Nation.

Something Extra!

George Troup was a strong supporter of Indian removal, an idea first proposed by Thomas Jefferson in 1803.

The Final Removal of the Native Peoples from Georgia

Those who lost the most in the War of 1812 were the Native Americans. This was true throughout the country. In the Northwest Territory, the defeat of Tecumseh and his followers led to further land cessions. None, however, lost more in the long term than the Creek of Georgia. In a little over a decade after the war ended, the Creek no longer had any homeland in Georgia. The Cherokee's path to removal was different. However, in the end, they too lost their Georgia lands.

Creek Removal

The most immediate loss of land for the Creek as a result of the war was the 1814 tract described in the Treaty of Fort Jackson. That was followed in four years by two smaller pieces in 1818. However, Georgians wanted *all* the Creek land, not small pieces, and that led to further negotiations.

An important leader of the Lower Creek at this time was William McIntosh, Jr. His father was a Scots-Indian trader and his mother Senoya was a member of the powerful Wind Clan. He grew up in the Creek Nation, but he also learned English and English customs. McIntosh had many American connections, including his first cousin George Troup, who was governor of Georgia from 1823 to 1827. In the 1810s, McIntosh had tried to continue Alexander McGillivray's ideas of creating a more central government for the Creek rather than each town having so much power on its own. He helped create a National Council and some national laws for the Creek. McIntosh

was one of the leaders who supported Benjamin Hawkins and the "plan of civilization." McIntosh had even led a group of Lower Creek fighting with Andrew Jackson against the Red Sticks at Horseshoe Bend.

In 1821, McIntosh was one of the negotiators for the Creek in the first Treaty of Indian Springs. In that treaty, the Creek gave up their land between the Ocmulgee and Flint rivers. But Georgians wanted more. In 1825, McIntosh was involved in the Second Treaty of Indian Springs, in which the Creek gave up the rest of their land—all the way to the Chattahoochee River, Georgia's border with Alabama. In return, the Creek received \$200,000. Most Creek did not agree to the treaty, and McIntosh paid for his support of it with his life. He had broken one of the reform laws that he had favored. That law said that any Creek who signed an agreement to give away land without the approval of the whole Creek Nation would be executed. In 1825, an upper Creek chief killed McIntosh at his Acorn Bluff plantation in what is now Carroll County.

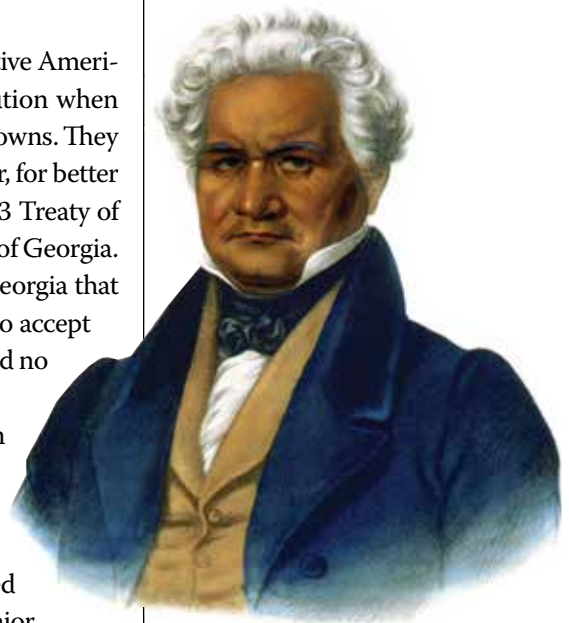
Because of the dispute about the treaty, the government declared it void and negotiated a new treaty called the Treaty of Washington in 1826. While the Creek retained some of their Alabama land in the new treaty, they gave up the Georgia land. This was the beginning of the final removal of the Creek people from Georgia.

Cherokee Removal and the Trail of Tears

The Cherokee were also targets of efforts to “civilize” the Native Americans. They had suffered greatly toward the end of the Revolution when backcountry Patriots had attacked and destroyed many of their towns. They struggled to maintain their way of life. They were ready, however, for better relations with their white neighbors and had agreed to the 1783 Treaty of Augusta. In other treaties, they also gave up land in states north of Georgia. As a result, many Cherokee migrated into the areas of north Georgia that they still controlled. In the 1790s and early 1800s, most began to accept the ideas of farming and cattle-raising. Like the Creek, they could no longer make a living on the trade of deerskins.

A good example of a Cherokee who made this change from hunter to farmer was the man who came to be known as Major Ridge. “Man who walks on the top of the mountain” was his Cherokee name, so the Americans called him “the Ridge.” His brave fighting at Horseshoe Bend with Andrew Jackson earned him the title “Major,” which he then used as his first name. Major Ridge had been born in Tennessee, but he and his wife Susanna moved to Georgia in the 1790s where they became successful planters.

Major Ridge joined with other Cherokee leaders in trying to centralize the Cherokee Nation. Foremost among these leaders was John Ross, whose heritage was Scots and Cherokee. He was well educated at an academy in Tennessee. In 1827, he had established a store and a ferry near Lookout



Above: Major Ridge was a leader of the Cherokee who suffered the same fate as William McIntosh for signing a treaty, in his case the Treaty of New Echota, without the consent of the tribe. **Left:** Chief John Ross opposed without success the removal of his tribe to the west. Once they reached Indian Territory, he was reelected chief and led the Cherokee Nation until his death in 1866.



Something Extra!

Cherokee John Ross took a petition to Congress with 15,000 signatures—90 percent of all Cherokee—to protest the Indian removal.



Mountain in Tennessee. Ross's Landing, as it was called, would later be re-named Chattanooga. Ross became a successful businessman and planter.

By the 1820s, the Cherokee were different from the other Native Americans in a major way. They could read and write in their own language thanks to the work of a Cherokee named Sequoyah. He had been born in Tennessee, but when the Cherokee had given up that land in the 1790s, he had moved to Arkansas. He had been impressed by the ability of whites to “talk” with each other over long distances through their symbols on paper. So, in 1821, he developed a **syllabary**, a set of over eighty written symbols that represented the syllables of the Cherokee language. That made it possible for the Cherokee to write and to translate written English into Cherokee.

The ability to write led to the establishment of a Cherokee newspaper, the *Cherokee Phoenix*, which printed the news in both English and Cherokee. Its founder was Elias Boudinot, a nephew of Major Ridge. Boudinot had been educated in a mission school in north Georgia and later a boarding school in Connecticut. He raised the money to purchase a printing press and have the Cherokee symbols made for the press. The first edition of the newspaper came out in February 1828.

In the 1820s, through the work of Ridge, Ross, and others, the Cherokee had established a representative government, which included a National

Something Extra!

By 1830, over 90 percent of the Cherokee people could read and write.

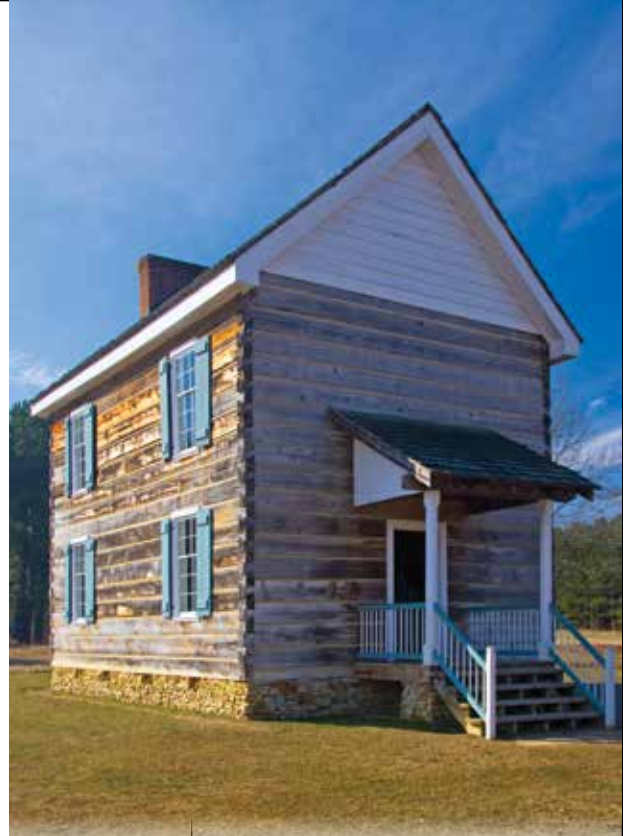
Council. They founded the capital city of New Echota in North Georgia, where, in 1827, they wrote a Cherokee constitution based in part on the U.S. Constitution. John Ross was elected principal chief, the main executive of the nation. He held that position until he died in 1866.

At the same time the Cherokee were adopting so many of the ideas that the federal government had encouraged them to accept, Georgia leaders became more determined to get the rest of the Cherokee land. In 1827, Georgia claimed that its laws extended into Cherokee territory. The situation became worse when gold was discovered near present-day Dahlonega in the hills of North Georgia. The first written news of the gold came in 1829, and fortune seekers soon poured into Cherokee territory. As one man later remembered it, “They came afoot, on horseback and in wagons, acting more like crazy men than anything else.” At first, the gold could be found in the streams, so mining was done on the surface using pans. But soon gold-hungry miners were digging into the rock to uncover the gold. Towns began to form around areas of gold. The Cherokee could do nothing to keep people off their land.

In 1830, President Andrew Jackson supported and Congress passed the Indian Removal Act, which set aside land west of the Mississippi River as Indian Territory (present-day Oklahoma). The government wanted to give this land to the Native Americans in exchange for their lands east of the Mississippi River. Many Georgians wanted the Cherokee to go west.

In 1831, the Cherokee Nation sued the State of Georgia for intruding on its land, but the Supreme Court ruled that the Cherokee Nation had no power to sue before the court. In 1832, missionaries living in Cherokee territory brought another lawsuit. They were U.S. citizens and had the power to sue. In this *Worcester v. Georgia* case, Chief Justice John Marshall of the U.S. Supreme Court said the land belonged to the Cherokee and their law, not Georgia law, was in force within their boundaries. The Cherokee had won in court.

Unfortunately for the Cherokee, President Jackson refused to enforce the decision. Some Cherokee leaders began to argue that it was best to make a deal with the United States and move. The leader of this removal group was Major Ridge, supported by the writings of Elias Boudinot in the *Phoenix*. John Ross and the majority of Cherokee wanted to stay and try to hold onto their land. The Cherokee people became bitterly divided. In 1835, Ridge and a small group signed the Treaty of New Echota, agreeing to move in return for land in the Indian Territory and \$5 million. They began moving over the next couple of years. John Ross and the other Cherokee tried to fight removal, arguing that the treaty was not legal. Like the Creek, the Cherokee had a law that made giving up land without the agreement of the majority a crime punishable by death.



Above: The Cherokee capital of New Echota has been reconstructed as New Echota Historic Site. This building is a replica of the Cherokee council house. **Opposite page, above:** The building on the left houses the office and printing press of the *Cherokee Phoenix*, the tribe's newspaper, published using the syllabary created by Sequoyah (opposite page below). The white building to the right is the Cherokee Supreme Court.



Map 27 The Trail of Tears

Map Skill: Through how many states did the Cherokee have to travel to reach their new home??





Above: This painting of the Trail of Tears by Robert Lindneux is in the collection of the Woolaroc Museum in Oklahoma, the state that grew from the Indian Territory that became the home of the surviving Cherokee and other tribes that had been removed to the west. It was not many years before white settlers were coveting their new home, as they had in Georgia.

Ross and the remaining Cherokee held out until the government sent army troops to Georgia. In 1838, General Winfield Scott and nearly seven thousand troops arrived in New Echota. The troops first built stockades to house the Cherokee. Then they took the Cherokee from their homes and community buildings and forcibly moved them into the stockades. Hundreds of men, women, and children died of cholera, dysentery, and fever while in the stockades. From the stockades, they were sent to centralized forts, most in Tennessee, to begin the final journey.

In the summer of 1838, the army loaded several thousand Cherokee onto crowded boats and sent them on the Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas rivers to their new homes. The boats were dirty, and the food the government gave them was often not fit to eat. By the time these Cherokee arrived in Indian Territory, nearly one-third of the group had died.

Some Georgia Cherokee ran into the mountains of North Carolina and hid out. They became the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation and still live on a reservation at Cherokee, North Carolina. In late fall, the rest began a 700-800-mile walk to Indian Territory. They endured bad roads, storms, blizzards, sickness, and sorrow. It took some people months to make the trip. Over four thousand died along this **Trail of Tears**. One of those was John Ross's wife, Quatie.

Once they reached Indian Territory, John Ross was reelected principal chief, and he worked to reestablish his people in their new land. Major Ridge, his son John, and Elias Boudinot were killed for their participation in the Treaty of New Echota. For some time, bitterness between the two groups kept the Cherokee divided. But their new land required the work and cooperation of everyone, so they eventually healed their split.

In the six decades after Georgia became the fourth state to ratify the United States Constitution, the state went through great expansion and growth. Much of this growth came at the expense of the Creek and the Cherokee who gave up one after another piece of the lands of their ancestors. By the end of this time, they had been removed to land west of the Mississippi River. Their lands mainly went to Georgia's farmers, who received the land up until 1803 mainly as headright grants or soldier's grants and, after 1805, by lottery. On the land Georgians farmed, which crops they grew depended on the place of their land and the number of workers in their households. Innovations such as the cotton gin and railroads also set the state on its road to prosperity. By the 1840s, Georgia was becoming the "Empire State of the South."

Reviewing the Section

1. Define: impressment, Trail of Tears.
2. What was Sequoyah's great contribution to the Cherokee?
3. Do you think that the Cherokee could have stayed on their land if gold had not been discovered near Dahlonega? Why or why not?

Discovering Georgia

The Chief Vann House

About three miles outside Chatsworth is the Chief Vann House. James Vann was the son of a Scottish trader and a Cherokee mother. In 1804, he built an impressive two-story brick home on the Federal Road. Vann became very wealthy, operating a trading post, ferry, and tavern. He was also a plantation and slave owner. He was one of three principal chiefs of the Cherokee and was instrumental in the Cherokee adopting some of the culture of American society. He helped convince the Moravians to establish a school nearby, where his son Joseph began his education. He was murdered in 1809, probably in

retaliation for a killing he had committed. Although Cherokee culture required that his house and land pass on to his wife, he had written a will leaving the plantation to his son Joseph. The Cherokee Council honored the will.

Below and opposite page, above: Wealthy entrepreneurs, both Chief James Vann and his son Joseph lived a lifestyle that rivaled the white planter class, even entertaining a U.S. president. But wealth was not enough to prevent "Rich Joe" Vann from giving up his property and being forced to move west with the rest of his tribe.





Joseph Vann was a child when his father died, but he too became a talented entrepreneur, increasing the family wealth through the plantation, taverns, and even steamboats. He was even nicknamed "Rich Joe." In 1819, President James Monroe was Joseph's guest at the house.

Joseph became a member of the Cherokee Council, the Cherokee equivalent of the U.S. House of Representatives. In 1834, the Georgia Guard evicted Vann from his home for unknowingly breaking a Georgia law. That law stated it was illegal for an Indian to hire a white person without permission from the state of Georgia. Vann had hired



a white overseer for his plantation. Forced from his home, Vann took his family to a plantation he had in Tennessee before migrating to the Indian Territory of Oklahoma. In Oklahoma, he settled at Webber Falls on the Arkansas River and became a leader of the western Cherokee. He died in 1844 in a steamboat explosion near Louisville, Kentucky. Today, the Chief Vann House has been restored as a house museum where the story of the Vanns and the Cherokee people and their removal is told.

Left: Joseph Vann inherited the house, and a talent for making a lot of money, from his father James.

Chapter Review

Chapter Summary

Section 1 Georgia's Land and Economic Growth

- In the late 1700s and early 1800s, the Creek signed a number of treaties by which they gave up all their land between the Ogeechee and Ocmulgee rivers.
- In the late 1700s, the U.S. government developed a policy to “civilize” the Indians by turning them into farmers.
- The Yazoo land fraud occurred when land companies bribed Georgia legislators to sell them Georgia’s western land at low prices. The Yazoo Act was repealed in 1796.
- In 1802, Georgia ceded its western land to the national government.
- In 1803, Georgia began to grant land by land lotteries.
- Eli Whitney’s invention of the cotton gin in 1793 (patented in 1794) resulted in the rise of cotton as Georgia’s primary cash crop and an increase in slavery to tend the increased acres of cotton.
- The use of steam power on steamboats and on railroads revolutionized how Georgia’s farmers got their crops to market.
- Early railroads in the state were the Central of Georgia and the Georgia Railroad. By 1860, Georgia had one of the best rail systems in the South.

Section 2 The War of 1812 and Indian Removal

- In 1812, the United States declared war on Great Britain because of trade conflicts, impressment of American sailors, and British support for the Indians.
- Georgia’s main involvement with the War of 1812 was in the Red Stick (or Creek) War.
- William McIntosh was the leader of the Creek Nation. He was involved in the two treaties of Indian Springs by which the Creek gave up all their land in Georgia. McIntosh paid for his participation with his life.
- The Cherokee had adopted many of the ideas and customs of whites, including developing a written language and a representative government.
- Gold was discovered near Dahlonega in 1829, and gold-seekers poured onto Cherokee land looking for their fortune.
- In 1830, Congress passed the Indian Removal Act, which called for all Native Americans to be moved to land set aside for them west of the Mississippi River (in present-day Oklahoma).
- Although John Ross and the Cherokee tried to resist removal through legal means, they were gathered up in the summer of 1838 and forced to move to Indian Territory. Their journey was called the Trail of Tears because so many died along the way.



Understanding the Facts

1. Explain the Treaty of New York: Who was involved and what did it accomplish?
2. What was the land lottery and who was eligible to participate?
3. Explain some ways that the steam engine began to impact Georgia during this era.
4. Define the Indian Removal Act, and discuss how it led to the Trail of Tears.



Developing Critical Thinking

As a result of the Yazoo land fraud, Georgia's western boundary was changed significantly. Imagine what Georgia and other states would look like today if this boundary had not changed. Draw a political map of the southeastern portion of the United States if Georgia's boundary extended to the Mississippi River today.



Writing Across the Curriculum

1. Imagine that you just discovered your legislator was involved in the Yazoo land fraud. Write a letter to your local newspaper expressing your opinion and what actions you think should be taken.
2. Many thousand Cherokee were forced from their homeland during the Trail of Tears. Thousands died on the march to Indian Territory. Write a diary entry that describes a day's travel as if your family was on the Trail of Tears.



Extending Reading Skills

On a separate sheet of paper, draw a graphic organizer similar to that on page 322. Under "Event" in the middle box, write "Invention of the cotton gin." In the first box, indicate what *caused* Eli Whitney to invent the cotton gin. In the last box, list at least three *effects* of that invention.



Exploring Technology

Use a search engine to find artwork related to the Trail of Tears. Evaluate the pictures and other objects that you find. What message is the artist relaying with each item?



Practicing Your Skills

Look for maps that show the original tribal land claims of Native Americans in Georgia and the Southeast. Compare these maps to a modern-day map of Indian reservations in the United States. Develop questions and draw conclusions from this comparison.