

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN GEORGIA

LESSON ONE

History

SS8H5 The student will explain significant factors that affected the development of Georgia as part of the growth of the United States between 1789 and 1840.

- a. Explain the establishment of the University of Georgia, Louisville, and the spread of Baptist and Methodist churches.
- b. Evaluate the impact of land policies pursued by Georgia; include the headright system, land lotteries, and the Yazoo land fraud.
- c. Explain how technological developments, including the cotton gin and railroads, had an impact on Georgia's growth.
- d. Analyze the events that led to the removal of Creeks and Cherokees; include the roles of Alexander McGillivray, William McIntosh, Sequoyah, John Ross, Dahlonega Gold Rush, Worcester v. Georgia, Andrew Jackson, John Marshall, and the Trail of Tears.



Essential Questions

1. How would a larger population increase Georgia's strength in the national government?
2. Give examples of how Georgia's new legislation encouraged growth and development. Explain the establishment of the University of Georgia, Louisville, and the spread of Baptist and Methodist churches.
3. Explain how the Chattahoochee River came to be Georgia's western boundary and which native groups ceded land to Georgia.
4. Why was it important for the state capital to be centrally located and list the five capital cities of Georgia?
5. Evaluate the impact of land policies pursued by Georgia; by comparing the headright and lottery systems of land distribution. How did the state's lottery system solve the problem of land speculation?
6. Describe the reaction of Georgia citizens when they learned of the Yazoo Land Fraud and what Georgia lost in this fraudulent transaction?
7. Explain how technological developments, including the cotton gin and railroads, had an impact on Georgia's growth.
8. Analyze the events that led to the removal of Creeks and Cherokees; include the roles of Alexander McGillivray, William McIntosh, Sequoyah, John Ross, Dahlonega Gold Rush, Worcester v. Georgia, Andrew Jackson, John Marshall, and the Trail of Tears.



Georgia Grows and Expands

In Georgia, years of hardship and change followed the Revolutionary War.

The war showed that the state government was poorly equipped to deal with many of its problems.

- The war ruined the state's economy and divided its people.
- Many of Georgia's men had left their farms to fight; because of this, food was limited. The new state government had to ensure that families in need received such basic items as flour and corn meal until they could plant and harvest their own crops.
- The state also had to honor its commitments to those who had served in the war by making good on its promise to provide them with land.
- State Government encouraged Georgia's growing prosperity. Towns and communities were slowly built and population began to rise.

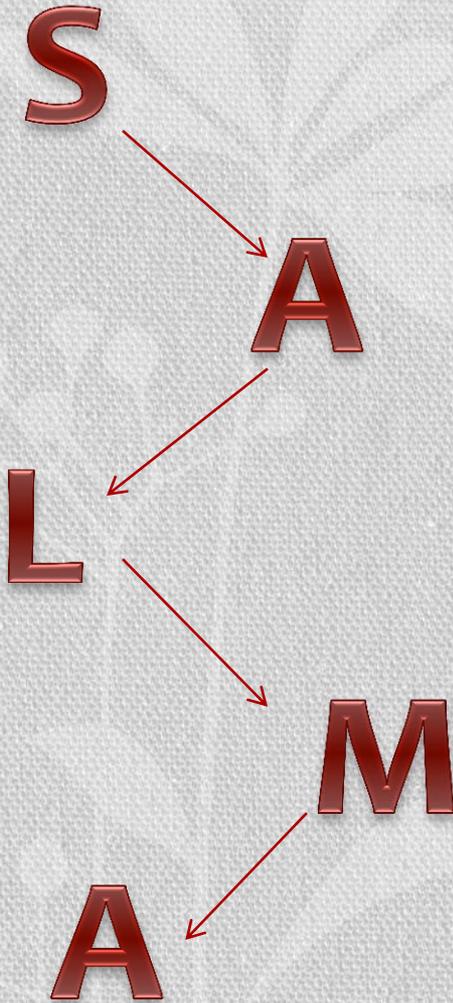
Native Americans Cede Western Lands

During the
Revolutionary War
Native Americans
had went heavily
into debt from
dealing with white
traders.

- To settle these debts, the Creeks and Cherokees in 1773 gave up more than 2 million acres of land in the backcountry region. Surveyors marked off tracts of land and colonial officials distributed them.
- Creek (Muskogee) Indians were forced to give up (Cede) lands beyond the Oconee River so that settlers could move further inland.
- Georgia State Officials continued to encourage new settlers to come to Georgia. A growing population would mean more representatives in Congress, thus giving Georgia a greater influence in the national government.
- Settlers began to move further west and inland.

Georgia's Capital Changes

- From the colony's founding, **Savannah** had served as Georgia's capital.
- After the revolution, the General Assembly alternated meeting in Savannah and Augusta. But Georgia's real growth was taking place in the **backcountry**—not along the coast.
- In 1785, the capital of Georgia moved from Savannah to Augusta. During 1788 and 1789, delegates met there to make changes in the state constitution.
- After those changes were made, the Georgia constitution was very much like the national one.



Georgia's Capital Changes

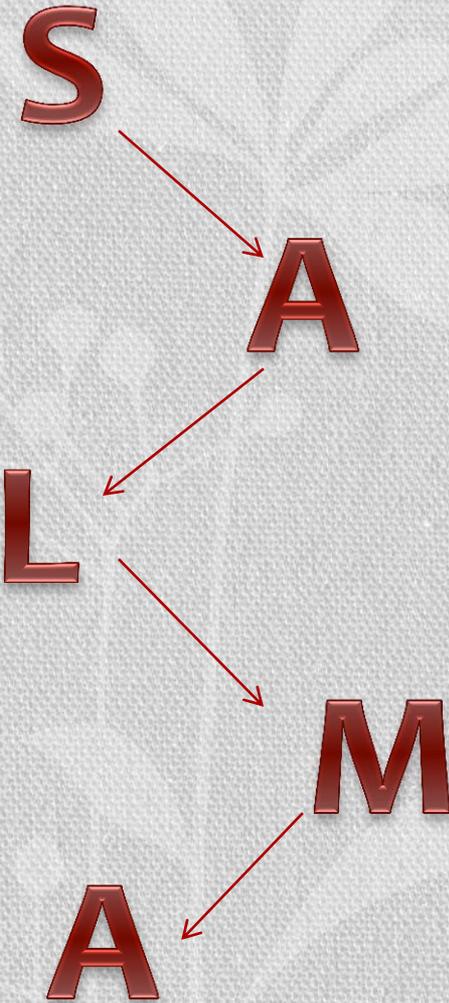
As more
people moved
inland
Georgia's
Capitol moved
many times.

The General Assembly

- Georgia's Legislative Branch of government was bicameral that included a senate and a house of representatives. Members were elected by popular vote.
- Legislators in the General Assembly selected the governor and other state officials, including the judges.
- These legislators determined both how money was to be raised and how it was to be spent.
- Many supported distribution of funds that encouraged the Growth and Development of Georgia.

Georgia's Capital Changes

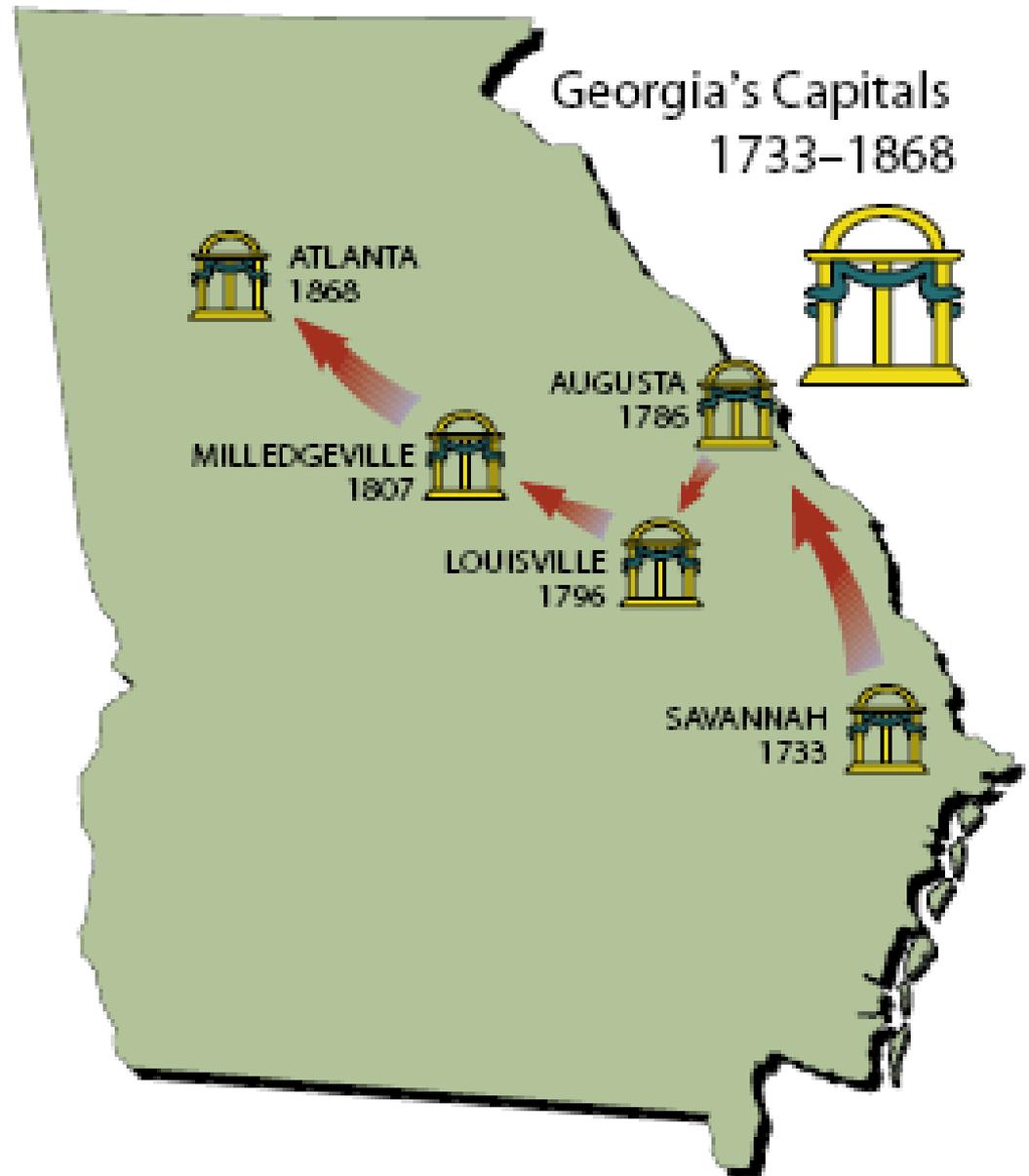
- In 1786, the General Assembly chose a site on the Ogeechee River as capital, and named it Louisville. After many delays, state government moved, in 1796, to the new two-story brick statehouse at **Louisville**.
- After only a decade, in 1807 there was pressure to move the state capital yet again. This time a site on the Oconee River to the west was selected. Here the town of **Milledgeville** was laid out and a new capitol building erected.
- In 1868, Georgia will finally move its capital for the last time to the town of **Atlanta**.



Georgia's Capital Changes

Between 1786-1868 Georgia's capitol will move many times.

Use page 53 in the CRCT Coachbook to help you fill out the chart.



Creeks are Forced to Cede More Land

- After 1802, Georgia's boundaries were pretty much what they are today. Now state lawmakers in Louisville wanted to gain control over all territory belonging to Georgia.
- This meant getting the Indians to cede their lands. Slowly but surely, the Indians moved out.
- Since the American Revolution, the Oconee had served as the Creek boundary with Georgia.

In 1802, fighting broke out between the Creeks and Georgians along the Oconee River.

- In June 1802, the Creeks signed a treaty at Fort Wilkinson ceding a stretch of land west of the Oconee River to Georgia.
- Three years later, another treaty gave up a large area of land as far west as the Ocmulgee River.



Georgia's government helped to plan City Growth.

State government encouraged Georgia's growing prosperity. To have a strong economy, Georgia needed a better way to distribute goods and move people. Georgia government officials worked with business people to develop a transportation system. As people moved into unsettled areas, cities and towns developed.

- In the North, more roads, railroads, and canals signaled greater industrialization of that region.
- Finished goods could be shipped to all parts of the country.
- For the South, transportation improvements meant that cotton could be grown inland and shipped to markets at a profit.
- Roads and railroads pushing into the West opened the area for even greater settlement.
- A growing population in the West helped fuel the nation's growth as the exchange of farm and manufactured goods increased.

Land Grants and Universities



Franklin College

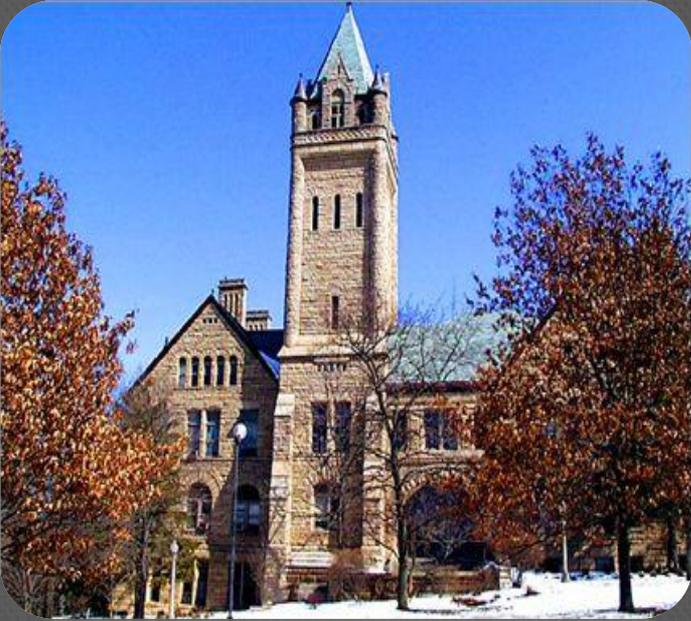
- In 1784, the government set aside twenty thousand acres of land for a state college. In 1785, the University of Georgia was chartered as a *land grant university*.
- **A Land Grant University** was a school for which the federal government donated the land.
- It is the oldest school of its kind in the nation. The university, which was to oversee all public schools in the state, opened for classes in 1801.
- The first building for the all-male, all white student body was Franklin College, and for many years, the University of Georgia was frequently called Franklin College.

Land Grants and Universities



- In 1786, the Georgia legislature passed a law requiring each county to open *academies* (schools).
- Most education was only provided through private academies that required tuition to attend. This meant that only rich whites were able to afford an education.
- In 1820, there were only forty private academies in the state.
- In 1822, some members of the legislature tried unsuccessfully to get money for public schools so all children could be provided an education. Unfortunately, they were unsuccessful. However, they approved “state funds” to pay for the education of poor children known today as a scholarship.

The Georgia Female College, later known as Wesleyan College, opened in Macon in 1836.



- The girls took classes in French, literature, and science education. Tuition was \$50 a year, and lessons in piano, art, or foreign languages were extra. Room and board was \$15 a quarter, and there were extra charges for laundry and candles.
- The cost does not seem great by today's standards, but only wealthier merchants and large landowners had enough money to send their daughters to Wesleyan.
- Many Georgia citizens saw no value in teaching females academic subjects, no matter what it cost. Instead, many young girls were taught sewing, cooking, child care, and music.

Religion Spreads

During the first decade of the 1800s, towns such as Athens, Jefferson, Madison, Milledgeville, Monroe, and Monticello were established. As in Savannah and Augusta, churches in these new communities were an essential part of town life. There were Sunday and weekday worship services, and church buildings were often used for town meetings and social events.

- After the Revolutionary War, many ministers left America for Great Britain. Still, churches in Georgia grew, both in size and in importance to their communities.
- In addition to the Anglicans, Quakers, and Baptists, Methodist ***circuit riders*** (ministers who went from district to district) helped to spread religion to the Georgia frontier region.

Georgians get caught up in great rival movement.

Religion Spreads

In 1845, the Methodists and Baptist Churches split over the issue of **slavery**.

The Southern Baptist Convention was formed by those who supported slavery. The American Baptists Union was formed by those who did not support slavery.

- **In 1787**, free blacks founded the Springfield Baptist Church in **Augusta**. It is still located on the original site.
- **In 1788**, The First African Baptist Church in **Savannah** was founded.
- **By 1789**, Savannah had a Jewish synagogue built which had a small but committed membership.
- **In 1796**, Georgia's first Roman Catholic Church was established in Wilkes County.
- **In 1801**, a second Roman Catholic parish was formed in Savannah.
- **Baptists** and **Methodist** were the two largest church denominations in Georgia.
- **Slavery** caused the greatest division in church organizations. Some churches denounced and spoke against slavery and others supported the institution of slavery and taught slaves to obey their masters.