

HISTORY PART 2

SS8H4 The student will describe the impact of events that led to the ratification of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

- Analyze the strengths and weaknesses of both the Georgia Constitution of 1777 and the Articles of Confederation and explain how weaknesses in the Articles of Confederation led to a need to revise the Articles.
- Describe the role of Georgia at the Constitutional Convention of 1787; include the role of Abraham Baldwin and William Few, and reasons why Georgia ratified the new constitution.

The Articles of Confederation was the United States' first constitution. A constitution is a written plan of government. The AoC had many problems.

Powers that are not handled by the national government are handled by the states. Just like the nation, each state has a constitution, too. Georgia has had TEN! Georgia's 1777 Constitution was written after the Declaration of Independence.

Articles of Confederation	
Strengths	Weaknesses
States' rights	Too much states' rights
Each colony represented	No money system
Regulated the postal service	No president
	Limited powers of Congress
	No income taxes

Georgia's Constitution of 1777	
Strengths	Weaknesses
Helped GA become a state	Governor only served one year - weak governor
Gave citizens freedoms	Legislature had all the power
	Only white, male protestants could hold office

Because the Articles of Confederation were so weak, delegates (representatives) from the states met to change the AoC in a meeting called the **Constitutional Convention of 1787**. The two delegates from Georgia who signed the Constitution were **William Few and Abraham Baldwin**.



William Few



WILLIAM FEW AND ABRAHAM BALDWIN, GEORGIA'S TWO DELEGATES WHO SIGNED THE U.S. CONSTITUTION.



The Articles of Confederation changed and became the U.S. Constitution after the Constitutional Convention of 1787. This U.S. Constitution is still the law in the United States today.

Georgia was the FOURTH state to ratify (or approve) the U.S. Constitution. Georgia thought it needed help with its "Native American Question" (meaning it wanted to get rid of Native Americans on its land), so it was anxious to get federal help for this.

The U.S. Constitution has three branches, checks and balances, and can be amended (or changed or added to) with the approval of Congress and states. The flexibility and timelessness of the Constitution is what makes it such a good Constitution.

STATEHOOD

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.

- Explain the establishment of the University of Georgia, Louisville, and the spread of Baptist and Methodist churches.
- Evaluate the impact of land policies pursued by Georgia; include the headright system, land lotteries, and the Yazoo land fraud.
- Explain how technological developments, including the cotton gin and railroads, had an impact on Georgia's growth.
- 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 had much to deal with after it became a state. It experienced enormous growth, but because of this growth white settlers wanted Native American land. The result was the Trail of Tears, one of the saddest events in Georgia's history.

Georgia made many advancements during this time...

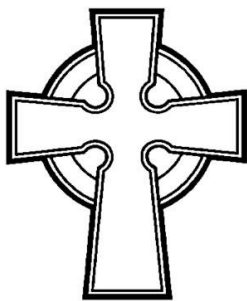
The University of Georgia was established in 1785. It was the first public university (first established for males only) of its kind.



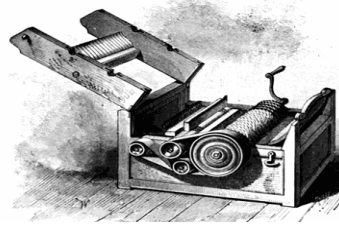
Georgia's first capital was Savannah. It moved its capital to a more central location, Augusta, and then **it built a capital in a city called Louisville.** Louisville was very unsuccessful. The land around it was swampy and full of mosquitoes, so the capital did not function well. The capital moved to Milledgeville less than ten years later.

Two Protestant church denominations became the most popular in Georgia, and these two are still the most popular today.

They are the **Baptist and Methodist** churches. Both of these branches used different methods to spread their faith – such as camp meetings and circuit riders.



The cotton gin was invented by Eli Whitney in 1793. This invention separated cotton from its seed much faster than could be done by hand. This invention led to a large increase in cotton production in Georgia. **In fact, Georgia's new nickname became "King Cotton."**



Georgia's **railroad industry flourished during this time period.** Georgia began shipping cotton out through the railroads, and the city Terminus (later Atlanta) was developed through the railroad use.

Traditionally, when it was a colony, Georgia gave money to settlers through the **headright system**, which is where heads of households were given 1000 acres (or less). Some land was distributed this way after the Revolution.



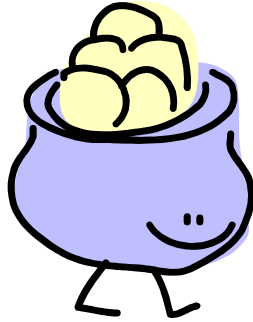
Another way settlers could get land was to win it in a **land lottery.** The **land lottery** was where people purchased tickets in hopes of winning land. The land settlers won, however, was **Native American land.**

NATIVE AMERICAN REMOVAL

The land lotteries, the Yazoo Land Fraud, the discovery of gold, and the expansion of slavery and agriculture in the South led to the removal of the Native Americans in Georgia. The Native Americans were removed due to a series of events.

THE EVENTS

The discovery of gold in Dahlonega by a man named Benjamin Parks led to a massive gold rush in the area – the first in the United States. Unfortunately, this gold rush also drove more Georgians to desire Native American land.



The **Yazoo Land Fraud** was an event that changed Georgia forever. Georgia, along with South Carolina and Spain, claimed land near the Mississippi River. Members of Georgia's General Assembly were bribed by land companies to sell the land (even though they technically didn't own it). Georgia got in big trouble for doing this. It's border changed to the Chattahoochee River and it lost any claims past it. This made white settlers more greedy for Native American land.

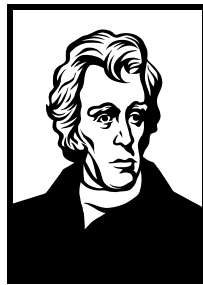
Many fights took place over Native American land – some were actual wars (such as the wars fought with the Creek like the Oconee War), and some were legal battles. A man named Samuel Worcester went to the US Supreme Court with a case called **Worcester v. Georgia**. In this case, the Supreme Court ruled that **Native American land had to obey US law – but not state law**. (This is, in part, why Native Americans can have casinos on reservations). Andrew Jackson refused to honor the Supreme Court's decision.



A CAST OF CHARACTERS:



Alexander McGillivray was a Creek Chief who fought in the Oconee War to keep his people's land. Eventually, some of that land was given away in the Treaty of New York.



Andrew Jackson was the president during Native American removal. He refused to honor the Supreme Court Case *Worcester v. Georgia*. He signed the Indian Removal Act, which eventually placed Native American tribes out west in Indian Territory (modern-day Oklahoma).



John Marshall was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court who ruled in *Worcester v. Georgia*. Andrew Jackson ignored his order.



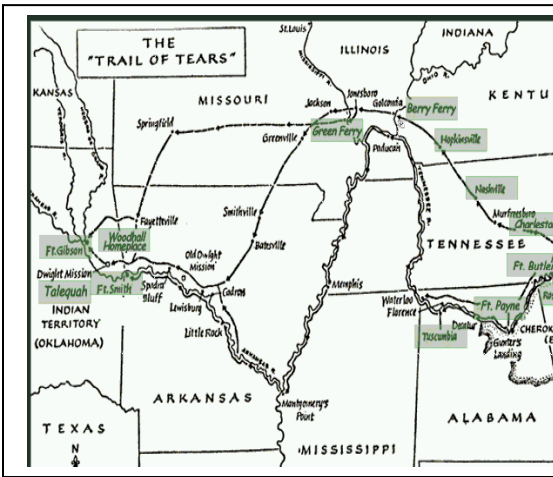
William McIntosh was the Creek chief who sold the last of his people's land when he signed the Treaty of Indian Springs. He was executed by the Creek for doing this.



John Ross was the chief of the Cherokee during the Trail of Tears. Ross fought to help protect the land of the Cherokee by appealing to the US Congress.



Sequoyah was a Cherokee man who created the Cherokee syllabary (similar to an alphabet). The syllabary was a written form of the Cherokee language. This allowed the Cherokee to read and write in their native tongue.



The Treaty of Indian Springs removed the Creek from southern and middle Georgia. Andrew Jackson’s refusal to follow Worcester v. Georgia, coupled with the Indian Removal Act, sealed the fate of the Cherokee. **The Trail of Tears was the forced removal of the Cherokee from Georgia.** The Cherokee were rounded up, forced into stockades (concentration camps), and then forced to march to Oklahoma in the wintertime. Some Cherokee were forced to make the journey by boat. This move devastated the Cherokee. It killed one third of their people, and remains one of the most terrible events in Georgia’s history.

THE CIVIL WAR

SS8H6 The student will analyze the impact of the Civil War and Reconstruction on Georgia.

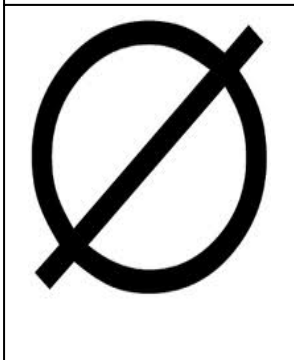
a. Explain the importance of key issues and events that led to the Civil War; include slavery, states’ rights, nullification, Missouri Compromise, Compromise of 1850 and the Georgia Platform, Kansas-Nebraska Act, Dred Scott case, election of 1860, the debate over secession in Georgia, and the role of Alexander Stephens.

b. State the importance of key events of the Civil War; include Antietam, the Emancipation Proclamation, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, the Union blockade of Georgia’s coast, Sherman’s Atlanta Campaign, Sherman’s March to the Sea, and Andersonville.

The Civil War quite possibly affected Georgia more than any other event in its history. This event left the state in complete ruins and killed thousands of its people. Let’s look at what caused the Civil War:

Remember North = Union. South = Confederacy.

States’ rights is the belief that the interests of the state are more important than the interests of the nation. The South believed that they should have states’ rights (they didn’t think the nation should tell them what to do about slavery or tariffs). The North thought that the nation’s interests were more important.

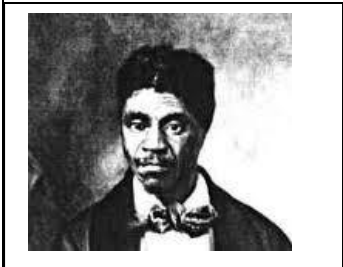


Nullification means to say “no,” to cancel, or to make invalid. During this time period, the North was trying to make the South pay tariffs (or taxes) on imported goods. Since the South imported (brought in) most of their goods.

THE CAUSES

Slavery is one of the most important causes of the Civil War. The South (for the most part) felt that the North was interfering in its way of life. The North felt that slavery was wrong. This caused a lot of tension (anger) between the North and South.

The **Dred Scott Case** was a case that divided the North and South. Dred Scott was a slave who sued for his freedom (since he travelled in free states with his master). The Supreme Court ruled that slaves were property. The South felt that this was the final say-so as to slave ownership and freedom in the United States.



Dred Scott, the slave who sued for his freedom.

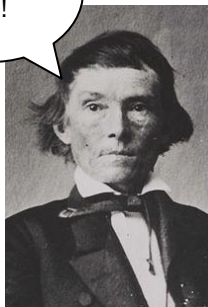
THE COMPROMISES

During this time period, there was a time of expansion out West. People were moving there to begin new lives. There was a question, however, on whether the new territories (and states) should be slave or free. The addition of new states could mean an imbalance of power in the Senate for the North and South.

The **Missouri Compromise** was written to answer the question of imbalance in the Senate. The state of Missouri was added as a free state in exchange for Maine entering as a free state. This also made a line that divided North and South (which was Missouri's southern border).



I'm ugly, yo!



The Compromise of 1850 was another attempt to keep the North and South from splitting. This compromise allowed California to enter the Union in exchange for a Fugitive Slave Act (where the North had to send runaway slaves back to the South). This Compromise was supported by Georgia Platform, a group of Georgians who fought to keep the Union together at all costs. Alexander Stephens was a man who supported the idea of staying in the Union (although he later became the vice president of the Confederacy).

The **Kansas-Nebraska Act** was another cause of the Civil War. This was where the territories of Kansas and Nebraska were fighting over whether they should be slave or free. Even though Congress said they should choose (popular sovereignty), they did not accept Kansas's bid to become a slave state. This showed the South that the North would not support them in Congress.



The **election of 1860** proved to be the final straw between the North and South. Abraham Lincoln was elected president with no single electoral vote from the South. (The North had a much larger population!) After this, **Georgia** had a debate over whether they should **secede** (or break away) from the North and form their own nation. There was a big debate. **Alexander Stephens** argued to stay in the Union, but it didn't do any good. Georgia seceded along with other Southern states to form a new country, the Confederate States of America in December of 1860. Alexander Stephens became the vice president of the Confederacy. War broke out in April of 1861.

THE CIVIL WAR BROKE OUT IN APRIL OF 1861 AT FORT SUMTER, SOUTH CAROLINA...

THE CIVIL WAR

Our standards mention a few isolated events/battles in the Civil War. Remember the terms – Union means North (or the US) and the Confederacy Overall, this war was very devastating for the state of Georgia...

The **Battle of Antietam** was fought in Sharpsburg, Maryland in September of 1862. Although this battle was only one day long, it was the bloodiest one day of the whole war. This battle led both sides (Union and Confederacy) to realize that the war was going to take a long time. Abraham Lincoln, who was the president of the Union, decided to write the **Emancipation Proclamation**. This proclamation basically let the South know that if they ended the war in 1862, Lincoln would let the South keep their slaves. If not, he would free them. This caused more division between the North and South.



The **Battle of Gettysburg** was the most devastating overall battle of the Civil War, and was considered the turning point of the war. The Confederacy suffered a huge loss in **Gettysburg, PA**. After the Battle, Lincoln gave his famous **Gettysburg Address**.

The **Battle of Chickamauga** was fought in Georgia. In this battle, Union General William T. Sherman was trying to take control of Chattanooga, TN (he wanted access to its railroads). The Confederacy was able to stop Sherman at this point, but they did not follow up on the retreat – this was a big mistake for the Confederacy. Sherman came back stronger!

SHERMAN'S WRATH

William T. Sherman was a Union general who was determined to destroy the Confederacy. He was very successful.



Once Sherman regrouped, he was able to begin the **Atlanta Campaign**. This was an attempt to get to Atlanta, Georgia. Sherman was able to capture and encircle the city, and then he burned it to the ground. Sherman then began his **March to the Sea**, a path of destruction in Georgia that was 60 miles wide and 300 miles long. This march totally devastated the state of Georgia.

When Sherman got to Savannah, he was able to take advantage of the fact that the **Union Blockades had prevented supplies from leaving and entering the Confederacy**. Instead of burning Savannah, he cashed in on the supplies that the blockades kept from leaving the South.

After Sherman's **March to the Sea** (which took place in Nov-Dec of 1864), the South surrendered in 1865. The war was very devastating for Georgia – it took years to recover.

Georgia had a very bad prisoner of war camp during the war called **Andersonville**. **Andersonville killed around 18,000 Union soldiers because its conditions were so bad**. The head of the prison was executed for cruelty.