

# W

**WACO**, Haralson County. The WACOVILLE post office opened February 8, 1883 and the post office name was changed to WACO, November 26, 1884. Incorporated as a town September 23, 1885. This place was originally called DEAN. *Waco* is a Muskogean Indian word meaning "heron."

**WADLEY**, Jefferson County. Incorporated as a town February 21, 1876, it was previously named SHAKE RAG (q.v.) and earlier yet known as BETHANY. Its present name, suggested by William Donovan, is for a native of New Hampshire, William Morrill Wadley (1813-1882). He began work as a blacksmith in Georgia, after which he eventually rose to be president of the Central of Georgia Railroad, as well as many other railroad and steamship companies. During the Civil War, Wadley was appointed by President Davis to serve as Superintendent of Transportation for the Confederacy. The magnificent bronze WADLEY STATUE, at the intersection of Third and Magnolia streets in Macon, was erected in 1886 by the employees of the railroad. *See also* Bolingbroke.

**WAHA(T)CHEE CREEK**, Elbert County. Rises five miles southeast of Elberton and flows southerly by Nancy Hart State Park and into the Broad River. William Read said it was probably named for a chief of the Lower Towns, Wauhatchie, derived from the Muskogean word *Wayachi*, "Mighty Wolf."

**WAHOO**, Lumpkin County. A rural community which was located ten miles east of Dahlonega on Wahoo Creek. The WAHOO CHURCH is located on Georgia 52 at the Hall County line. WAHOO CREEK rises in southwest White County, flows through the southeast corner of Lumpkin County, then continues southward into Hall County to enter Lake Sidney Lanier. Various spellings of the name have included. WAWHOO, WARHOO, WAUGHOO, etc. Another WAHOO CREEK is located in Coweta County. It rises above Newnan, and flows westerly to the Chattahoochee River. WAHOO ISLAND of McIntosh County was originally named WAWHOO ISLAND. It is located east of U.S. highway 17, off the south bank of the South Newport River. WAHOO RIVER is a tidal stream that leads into the South Newport River. The derivation is believed to be from the Creek Indian word *uhawhu*, which means "cork" or "winged elm."

**WAINWRIGHT**, Charlton County. A former community which was located seven miles north-

east of Traders Hill. The postmaster here in 1882 was F.D. Wainright who also had a general store. The place was later renamed UPTONVILLE.

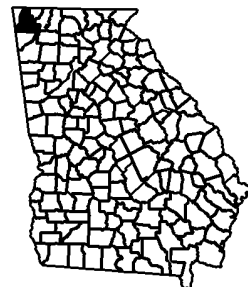
**WAKOFUDSKY CREEK**, Clay County. A tributary to Cemocheckobee Creek. Read thought it to mean "Heron Point," from the Creek, *wako*, the "Little Blue Heron," and *fudsky* or *faski*, "sharp (or pointed)." A recent county map labels the stream WAUKEEFRISKEE CREEK.

**WALASIYI INN**, Vogel State Park. This lodge was named after the legendary great frog that the Cherokees called Walasiyi, which was described as being "as big as a house and would hop across the valleys."

**WALDEN**, Bibb County. A small community located nine miles south of Macon on Echeconnee Creek. WALDENS CREEK is a tributary of the Ochlocknee River, and rises in Mitchell County, then flows into Thomas County. The name was possibly derived from Walden Pond, south of Concord in Massachusetts, publicized by Thoreau in his book *Walden* of 1854.

**WALESKA**, Cherokee County. Incorporated as the town of WALESKA November 13, 1889. First settled in 1835 by the Lewis W. Reinhardt family, the place was named for Warluskee, the daughter of an Indian chieftain who lived in this section. Brinkley says it was named from the Cherokee, *Walasi'yi* (*see* Walasiyi Inn).

**WALLS CROSSING**, Schley County. A community three miles west of Ellaville where Henry Wall had a cotton gin in the late 1800's.



**WALKER COUNTY**. Created December 18, 1833 with 445 square miles taken from part of Murray County. Named for Virginia-born Major Freeman Walker (1780-1827) of Augusta, attorney who later served as U.S. senator from Georgia (1819-1821). The county seat is LaFayette (q.v.). The court house was destroyed by fire in 1883.

**WALKER, LAKE**, Ware County. Located in Laura S. Walker State Park (q.v.)

**WALKER MONUMENT**, Atlanta. This memorial features a cannon barrel aimed skyward, located at the corner of Wilkinson Drive and Glenwood Avenue, the spot where General W.H.T. Walker, CSA (b. 1816) was killed July 22, 1864. *See also* Fort Walker.

**WALKER MOUNTAIN**, White County. With an elevation of 2,585 feet, it is located six miles southwest of Cleveland. Named for early settler, Richard Walker.

**WALKER(S)VILLE**, Pierce County. Was located nine miles north of Blackshear. Established about 1885 by Jackson Walker, a large landowner here. His son, Lander Walker, opened the post office in 1895 and was postmaster until it closed in 1910.

**WALK-IKEY CREEK**, Terrell County. Flows into Ichawaynochaway Creek southwest of Dawson. Goff said it is probably "Cow Creek," from *waca*, "cow."

**WALLACE DAM**, Putnam and Greene counties. Located 15 miles east of Eatonton. Construction of the 2,400-foot long dam on the Oconee River was begun in 1972. It was built by the Georgia Power Company to create LAKE WALLACE, a 35-mile long reservoir covering 18,000 acres.

**WALLACE STATION**, DeKalb County. A former station on the Seaboard Railroad, northwest of Decatur. Named for J. F. Wallace (1840-1902) who operated a water-powered sawmill here.

**WALLEGONY BAY**, Glynn County. An early name of SAINT SIMONS SOUND (q.v.).

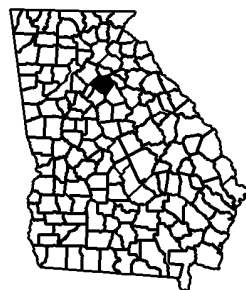
**WALLEND A POINT**, Habersham County. *See* Tallulah Gorge.

**WALNUT**. The existence of walnut trees, genus *Juglans*, has been responsible for several place-names in Georgia. WALNUT was the name of a hamlet which was located ten miles north of Dahlonega in Lumpkin County. WALNUT CREEK rises in southeast Hall County and flows easterly into Jackson County until it reaches the Oconee River four miles west of Jefferson. It runs near the WALNUT CHURCH, three miles east of Braselton in Jackson County. This is the site of a former town of WALNUT, in which a post office was established from 1878 to 1890. Another WALNUT CREEK is found in Jones County. It

rises 4 1/2 miles northwest of Gray, and flows southerly until it enters the Ocmulgee River at Macon in Bibb County. The early Indian names for the stream were OKENCHULGA, OCHUNCOOLGA, OKENCHULGEE, OKENCHULGO and OAKCHUNCOOLGAU. Goff explained that this would actually translate, "Stream where rock moss abounds," and would have been better called Moss Creek. A Civil War skirmish occurred by this stream in Bibb County, November 20, 1864. The town of WALNUT GROVE in western Walton County was incorporated August 23, 1905. It was named by early settler, Thomas Evans, because of an inviting group of walnut trees here. An early community of WALNUT HILL in Franklin County was located six miles southwest of Carnesville.

**WALTER F. GEORGE RESERVOIR**. Created by the construction of the WALTER F. GEORGE LOCK AND DAM on the Chattahoochee River at Fort Gaines, Clay County. Named for distinguished U.S. senator from Georgia, Walter Franklin George (1878-1957), who served in that office from 1922 to 1957. (*See also* Mercer University). The reservoir is also called LAKE GEORGE, LAKE CHATTAHOOCHEE, LAKE FORT GAINES, and particularly by Alabamans, LAKE EUFALA (q.v.). The lake has never been officially named by Congress, but the U.S. Corps of Engineers refers to it as Walter F. George Reservoir.

**WALTHOURVILLE**, Liberty County. Pronounced "Wall'ti-ville." Incorporated as a town in 1974. Established as an early resort community and a stop on the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad. The post office was named for rich planter, Andrew Walthour. He donated property here for WALTHOURVILLE ACADEMY, which was incorporated November 21, 1823.

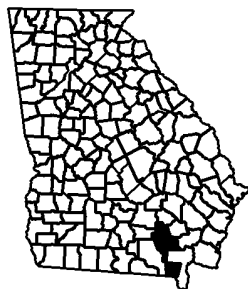


**WALTON COUNTY**. Created December 15 and 19, 1818 with 333 square miles acquired by Creek cession of January 22, 1818. This was an original county which was named for Virginia-born George Walton (1749-1804) of Augusta, in which city the street WALTON WAY was named in his honor.

He was a delegate to the Continental Congress, and one of the three Georgians who signed the Declaration of Independence. Walton also served as U.S. representative from Georgia, and was the first governor of this state to serve after the Republic was established. He was made judge of the superior court in 1793 and elected to the U.S. senate in 1795. The county seat is Monroe (q.v.), earlier called WALTON COURT HOUSE (*see also* Cowpens).

**WALTON COUNTY** (extinct). Created by Act No. 106 of the Georgia General Assembly, April 24, 1802. It was located in what is now Transylvania and Jackson counties, North Carolina, due to a dispute as to the location of the state line. It was in the territory referred to as the "Orphan Strip." This county is shown on Wofford's map of c. 1808 (Georgia Surveyor General Department). The state line was established at its true latitude in 1811, after which the county ceased to exist. *See also* Ellicott's Rock Scenic Area.

**WARD**, Randolph County. Settled in 1837 when it was known as NOTCHWAY. Established as WARDS STATION in 1858, named for rail agent John Ward. Incorporated as a town September 5, 1883. The name was changed to SCHELLMAN (now SHELLMAN, q.v.), October 6, 1885.



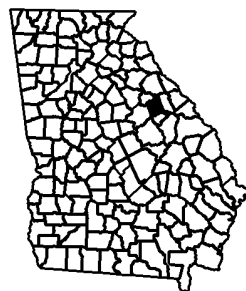
**WARE COUNTY**. Created December 15, 1824 with 912 square miles taken from part of Appling County. Ware is the largest in area of any county in the state, and was named for Nicholas Ware (1769-1824), Virginia-born Georgia legislator, who served as mayor of Augusta and was elected to the U.S. senate, serving from 1821-24. The county seat is Waycross (q.v.). The home of Nicholas Ware in Augusta was called WARE'S FOLLY. WARESBORO(UGH) in Ware County, pronounced "Wuz'boro," was also named for Nicholas Ware. Settled in 1824, it was incorporated as a town December 11, 1858. In 1849 George White showed this to be the county seat and the only post office in the county. There is also a community of WARES CROSSROADS located near LaGrange in Troup County, and a community of WARESVILLE in Heard County.

**WAR HILL**, Wilkes County. A 12 1/2 acre site on a steep bluff located on the south side of Kettle Creek (q.v.), eight miles west of Washington. It was so named because of the famous battle of Kettle Creek, resulting in a decisive victory for the American patriots here on February 14, 1779.

**WARM SPRINGS**, Meriwether County. First incorporated as BULLOCHVILLE (q.v.) in 1893 and as the city of Warm Springs August 6, 1924. The name is derived from the warm (87 degrees F.) spring mineral water of famous curative powers. The water is heated by the inner earth in a pocket of rocks 3,800 feet deep, and the springs produce 800 gallons per minute. Franklin D. Roosevelt first made use of the pools here as treatment for his polio in 1924, and this became a favorite second home for him after he became president and established his "Little White House" here. He died while at Warm Springs in 1945. The WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, a 900-acre facility was established here in 1927 to battle polio. It was purchased by the state of Georgia in 1973.

**WARNER, LAKE**, Hall County. Named for General A.J. Warner. This former Lake was created by Dunlap Dam on the Chattahoochee River, which was completed in 1908 and went out in 1936. This area was covered by Lake Lanier in 1957.

**WARNER ROBINS**, Houston County. "The International City" The original community here was for many years known as WELLSTON (q.v.). The municipality of Warner Robins was incorporated March 5, 1943, named for General Augustine Warner Robins (1882-1940), a pioneer officer of the U.S. Army Air Force, and designer of the USAF Material system. The Robins Air Force Base (q.v.) is located here.



**WARREN COUNTY**. Created December 19, 1793 with 284 square miles taken from Columbus, Hancock, Richmond and Wilkes counties. Named

in honor of Major General Joseph Warren (1741-1775) of Massachusetts, who fell in the battle of Bunker Hill. The county seat is Warrenton (q.v.). The court house was destroyed by fire in 1909.

**WARRENTON**, CS Warren County. Incorporated as a town December 8, 1810. Named for General Joseph Warren (*see* Warren County).

**WARRIOR CREEK**, Worth and Colquitt counties. It empties into the Little River. An upper tributary is called Indian Creek, and like Warrior is named in reference to the early inhabitants of the region. Brinkley said it was named for Long John or Warrior John, a Seminole Indian. **WARRIOR** was also the early name of **LIZELLA** (q.v.) in Bibb County.

**WARSAW**, Fulton County. This former community was located seven miles southeast of Alpharetta. It was the third post office to be established in Forsyth County, and was approved January 13, 1834. The **WARSAW CAMP GROUND** here was incorporated December 27, 1842. The community was later brought into Milton County when it was formed in 1857, and afterwards into Fulton County. The name is believed corrupted from the Indian word *wiso*, meaning "sassafras," which was also the derivation of Wassaw Island (q.v.) on the Georgia coast, and Wassau in Florida. Some have thought the name was transferred from the capital of Poland, during a time of revolutionary fervor. There is also a community of **WARSAW** located in northwest McIntosh County. The town of **THUNDERBOLT** (q.v.) was incorporated with the name of **WARSAW** March 5, 1856.

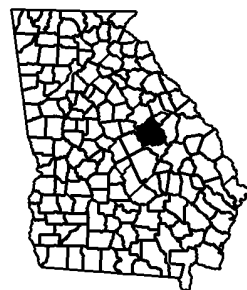
**WARTHEN**, Washington County. Pronounced "Wur'-then." Incorporated in 1812. This is the oldest community in the county, located eight miles north of Sandersville. Named for the George D. Warthen family, whose grandfather Robert Wicker from Maryland was given grant to the land here in 1787.

**WARWICK**, Worth County. Incorporated as a town August 22, 1905. The northernmost town of the county, which was moved from its original location after the coming of the railroad. Named after Warwick, Rhode Island, which was the birthplace of Nathanael Greene (*see* Greene County).

**WAR WOMAN'S CREEK**, Rabun County. Starts three miles east of Clayton and flows easterly to the Chattooga River. Reportedly given

its name during the Revolution, as this was the stream near which Benjamin Hart lived, with his wife Nancy, who was known as the "War Woman" among the Indians of this section (*see* Hart County). Another source has explained that the name was adopted in reference to a female dignitary among the Cherokee, with the authority to decide the fate of prisoners of war. She was reportedly friendly with whites, and once saved some early settlers from a raid.

**WASHINGTON**, CS Wilkes County. "City of Ante-Bellum Homes" Is frequently referred to as **WASHINGTON-WILKES**, to differentiate it from Washington D.C. Incorporated as a town in 1804. Washington is said to have more ante-bellum homes than any city in the state for its size. This was previously the site of **FORT WASHINGTON** or **HEARD'S FORT** (q.v.), and the name of the place was changed to Washington in 1780 when the town was laid out. The Stephen Heard family was the first to settle here, having arrived December 31, 1773. They named the place after George Washington who had been their neighbor in Virginia. This is said to be the first town in the nation to be incorporated in the name of George Washington, and is one of 36 Washington's in the United States. In this town was the first cotton mill in the South (1810), the first Southern woman newspaper editor (Sarah Hillhouse), and the first woman hanged in Georgia (Polly Barclay in 1806). Located here is the Cooper-Sanders-Wickersham house, where Jefferson Davis dissolved the Confederate Government, May 5, 1865.



**WASHINGTON COUNTY**. Created February 25, 1784 with 674 square miles acquired by Creek cession of November 1, 1783. Named for General George Washington (1732-1799). The county seat is Sandersville (q.v.).

**WASSAW ISLAND**, Chatham County. The name is derived from the Creek word *wiso*, pronounced "wee'-so," meaning "sassafras." Variations in spelling have included **WESSO**, **WARSAW** (q.v.), **WASSA** and **WASSAU**. **GREAT WASSAW ISLAND** is actually the eastern section of Skida

way Island. **LITTLE WASSAW ISLAND** lies southwest of the large Wassaw Island. **WASSAW RIVER** empties into **WASSAW SOUND**. The Spanish name for this sound on the early charts was **BARRA DE AGUADULCE**, meaning "Sweetwater Inlet (or Bar)," or **BAHIA DE LA CRUZ**, "Bay of the Cross."

**WATERLOO**, Irwin County. A rural community near the western boundary line of the county. Supposedly named by Joe Young who bought up property here, and afterwards his business deals went bad and he "met his Waterloo."

**WATERMELON CREEK**, Tattnall County. Flows southward into Bluff Lake which is located in swamplands along the Altamaha River. So named as this is in a melon-growing region (nearby is Mushmellon Creek, q.v.).

**WATKINSVILLE**, CS Oconee County. The post office was established in 1814 and the town was incorporated December 14, 1815. Was made county seat of Clarke County in 1802, and became the county seat of Oconee County when it was formed in 1875. The town was named either after Colonel Robert Watkins, attorney of Augusta, or for Revolutionary soldier, Major John Watkins of Augusta.

**WATSONBURGH**, (Chatham County?). A place which was previously called **YAMACRAW**, mentioned in the 1758 will of Joseph Watson.

**WATSON MILL STATE PARK**, Oglethorpe County. This 140-acre park is located on a country road off of Georgia highway 22, eight miles north of Lexington. The longest covered bridge in Georgia, **WATSON MILL BRIDGE**, is on park property. The bridge spans Big Clouds Creek.

**WATSON SPRINGS**, Greene County. Located 11 miles northwest of Greensboro on Georgia highway 15. Named for Douglas Watson who purchased the spring in 1786 from Jesse Sanders. *See also* Indian Springs.

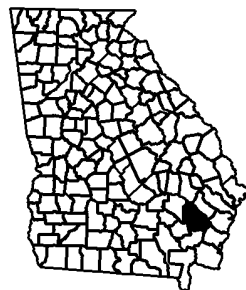
**WAUHATCHIE BRANCH**, Dade County. An affluent of Lookout Creek, located in the northeast corner of the county. Nearby is **WAUHATCHIE SPRING**. Both are named for Cherokee chief, Wauhatchie, who fought the Creeks in the War of 1812, serving under Major General Andrew Jackson's command. The name means "terrible wolf," from the Cherokee, *way achie*.

**WAUKEEFRISKEE CREEK**, Clay County. Earlier known as **WAKAFUDSKY CREEK** (q.v.).

**WAVERLY**, Camden County. A community located 16 miles southwest of Brunswick, which took its name from the old Waverly Plantation on which it was located. The plantation took its name from Sir Walter Scott's historical novels, which characterized its hero Captain Edward Waverly of Waverly Honor.

**WAVERLY HALL**, Harris County. The post office was established here February 2, 1829, and was given this name by the first postmaster, William Osborne, because of his appreciation of Scott's novels (*see* Waverly).

**WAYCROSS**, CS Ware County. Incorporated as the town of "Way Cross" March 3, 1874. Was first settled about 1820 after the land here was acquired from the Indians in 1814 and 1818. There was at one time a post office here called **YANKEE TOWN** (q.v.). This was for many years a small railroad stop called **OLD NINE** or **NUMBER NINE**, the railroad station number. It was afterwards called **PENDELTON** after an early settler, Philip C. Pendleton, and later in 1857 to **TEBEAUVILLE** in honor of Captain F.E. Tebeau (incorporated under this name in 1866). The present name of the city was chosen by three local leaders because of the many roads crossing here. **WAYCROSS COLLEGE** here is part of the University System of Georgia. [It has been pointed out that Waycross (population 19,300) has the distinction of being the largest city - in the largest county - in the largest state - east of the Mississippi.]



**WAYNE COUNTY**. Created May 11, 1803 with 646 square miles acquired by Creek cession of June 16, 1802. This was an original county and was named for General Anthony "Mad Anthony" Wayne (1745-1796) from Pennsylvania, who was a famous Revolutionary soldier, built Fort Wayne in Indiana, and settled in Georgia after the war, to

the place where he had successfully defeated the British forces. He was subsequently made commander in chief of the western army to settle the Indian disputes in the plains states. The county seat is Jesup (q.v.), its originally having been at Waynesville (q.v.).

**WAYNESBORO**, CS Burke County. "Bird Dog Capital of the World" Laid out in 1783 and incorporated as a town December 10, 1803. Named in honor of Anthony Wayne (*see* Wayne County).

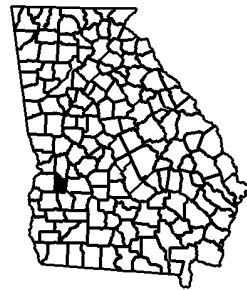
**WAYNESVILLE**, Brantley County. A community located 35 miles east of Waycross on U.S. 84. This was the first county seat of Wayne County. The seat was moved to Jesup (q.v.) after Charlton County was cut off in 1854.

**WAYSIDE**, Jones County. A community located six miles northwest of Gray. Was first named LOUSY LEVEL and after that BLACK ANKLE. When the Central of Georgia Railroad came through in the 1880's, a more attractive name was desired, so the present one was adopted.

**WAYS (STATION)**, Bryan County. The county seat was moved here from Hardwick (q.v.) in 1797 at which time this community was named CROSS ROADS. The later railroad stop was named for one of the Ways families, of which many inhabit this section. A model community was later developed by Henry Ford of Detroit. He began operations here with the purchase of several plantations in 1925, finally acquiring a total 70,000 acres in Bryan and Chatham counties. His own winter home was built at nearby Richmond Plantation. The town is now named RICHMOND HILL (q.v.).

**WEBB**, Newton County. Located about nine miles south of Covington, this was a former post office which existed from 1832 to 1902. Named for the first postmaster here, John Webb. Later called WEBBVILLE, it was incorporated as a village in February of 1854 to July 1, 1995. Among the first five commissioners of the village were John Webb and Augustus J. Webb.

**WEBSTER**, Lee County. Located 3 1/2 miles northeast of Leesburg. This was first county seat after the creation of Lee County in 1826. In 1852 county seat was moved to Starkville (q.v.). Webster had a population of about 400 but is now extinct.



**WEBSTER COUNTY**. Created December 16, 1853 with 195 square miles taken from part of Stewart County. Residents had at first named their county KINCHAFOONEE (q.v.) which brought laughter across the state, so the name was changed in 1856 in honor of the U.S. representative from New Hampshire, Daniel Webster (1782-1852), the Secretary of State who supported Clay's Compromise of 1850. The county seat is Preston (q.v.). The court house was destroyed by fire in 1914.

**WE(E)LUSTEE CREEK**, Bulloch and Bryan Counties. Early Indian name for BLACK CREEK (q.v.).

**WEHADKEE CREEK**. Flows southward from Randolph County in Alabama and joins the Chattahoochee River in Troup County, Georgia. The name means, "White Water Creek," from the Creek, *wi*, "water," and *hatki*, "white." It was labeled HOITHLE TIGUA by Benjamin Hawkins in 1798.

**WELBORN (Militia) DISTRICT**, Franklin County. The name is believed corrupted from Wilburn (q.v.).

**WELCOME**, Coweta County. A community located about one mile west of Newnan on the Franklin Road. Named by J.B. Hutchens after his friend, Welcome Carter, a farmer who was one of the original settlers of this section. A resident here recently explained that the name came about because the Indians were friendly to the early settlers and made them feel welcome here. The post office was established in 1890.

**WELLBORN'S MILLS**, Houston County. Named for William Wellborn, who was a prominent resident of the county. The place was later known as FEAGIN SETTLEMENT, after an early postmaster, G.T. Feagin. The present FEAGIN ROAD is located three miles south of Warner Robins.

**WELLSTON**, Houston County. Until 1943, this was the name of the community that became WARNER ROBINS (q.v.). It was named for a Mr. Wells (initials unknown), an engineer for the Georgia Southern & Florida Railway, who was a friend of R.H. Watson and Henry S. Feagin, Jr. Before the railroad name Wellston, the community had a post office named YORK, about one mile from Wellston station.

**WERACOBA CREEK**, Muscogee County. Flows southerly through Columbus to the Chattahoochee River. Goff said it could mean "big water," from *wewa*, "water," and *rakketa*, "very large."

**WESLEY**, Emanuel County. A community located nine miles south of Swainsboro. Incorporated as a town August 18, 1913 to July 1, 1995, and believed named after John Wesley (*see* Wesleyan College).

**WESLEYAN COLLEGE**, Macon. Incorporated December 23, 1836 as GEORGIA FEMALE COLLEGE, which opened in Macon, January 7, 1839. It is the first chartered college in the world to grant degrees exclusively to women. The Methodist Church assumed supervision of the college December 19, 1839, and changed its name to WESLEYAN FEMALE COLLEGE in honor of John Wesley (1703-1791), the founder of Methodism. Wesley was brought to the Georgia Colony in 1735 by General Oglethorpe to minister to the colonies, although his personal interest was to Christianize the Indians. The present name of the college was adopted in 1919, and it was moved from its College Street location to its present 240-acre campus at suburban Rivoli in September 1928. The CANDLER MEMORIAL LIBRARY here was built in 1928 as a gift of Atlanta judge, John Slaughter Candler, in honor of his father and mother. The former railroad station name of Rivoli by the Wesleyan College campus was changed to WESLEYAN STATION. WESLEY(S) OAK on Saint Simons Island is a water oak under which John Wesley preached before Christ Church was built here. Emory University's WESLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL was named in honor of John Wesley, and opened in 1922. The magnificent bronze WESLEY STATUE, sculptured by the late Marshall Dougherty of Mercer University, is located in the center of Reynolds Square in Savannah.

**WEST BROW (Militia) DISTRICT**, Dade County. Descriptively named in reference to its location on Lookout Mountain.

**WEST END**, Fulton County. Incorporated as a town October 10, 1868. Now part of Atlanta, this early suburban community was named because of its relationship to downtown Atlanta. It was established at the site of WHITE HALL (q.v.), at the intersection of Newnan and Sandtown roads. The descriptive name WEST END is also applied to a part of the city of Rome, Floyd County.

**WESTFIELD ROAD**, Gilmer County. A 25 mile section of the present U.S. highway 76 from Chatsworth across the Cohutta Mountains to Ellijay. Named after the man who built the original road, David Westfield (1786-1865), an Irishman from South Carolina.

**WEST GEORGIA COLLEGE**, Carrollton. First organized in 1907 as the FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL SCHOOL, this college is now a part of the University System of Georgia. It became a junior college in 1933, and a senior college in 1957. The oldest building on campus is the THOMAS BONNER HOUSE (alumni office) which was erected in 1843. ADAMSON HALL (women's residence) was named for U.S. congressman, William C. Adamson, while AYCOCK HALL (men's residents) honors one of the founders of the college, Colonel J.A. Aycock. The MARTHA MONRO BUILDING (classrooms) was named for the wife of former college president, Dr. David S. Ingram, and the SANFORD BUILDING (administration) was named to honor the late chancellor, Steadman V. Sanford. The CASON CALLAWAY SCIENCE BUILDING was completed in 1962 and was named for Cason J. Callaway, one of the original members of the Board of Regents (*see* Callaway Gardens).

**WEST GREEN**, Coffee County. Incorporated as a town July 29, 1914 to July 1, 1995. This community was first called THE TWENTY when it was established about 1900, being 20 miles south of Hazlehurst. Some years later the name was changed to GARRANT, and finally adopted its present name to honor a member of the Westbrook Company.

**WESTLAKE**, Twiggs County. Located in the southwest corner of the county, this old community was originally called BUZZARD ROOST (q.v.). The present name was adopted in 1885 because of its relationship to a lake to the west of the settlement.

**WESTMINSTER**, Fulton County. Incorporated as a town July 26, 1904 to July 1, 1995. Believed

named for a Presbyterian church of the former community here.

**WESTOBOU.** An early name of the SAVANNAH RIVER (q.v.).

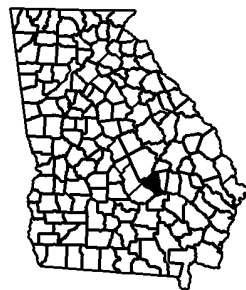
**WESTON,** Webster County. Previously called HARD MONEY, the present name was adopted when it was incorporated March 6, 1856. It was either named to honor one of the original commissioners, Joseph L. Weston, or because of its location in the western part of the county as well as of the state.

**WESTONIA,** Atkinson County. An early settlement of old Coffee County, located six miles west of Pearson. Believed named after early postmaster, J.O. Weston, who was the local railroad and express agent, and also had a saw mill here.

**WEST POINT,** Troup County. "The Home of Textiles" The original settlement began here with the building of the first store about 1829. The place was called FRANKLIN at the suggestion of Dr. G.W. Hill. In 1831 the new county seat of Heard County was given the name Franklin (q.v.), so Franklin in Troup County changed its name to West Point, December 24, 1832. This present name was adopted because of the town being the westernmost community on the Chattahoochee River in Georgia. It later became the western terminal of the Atlanta and West Point Railroad which ran from East Point near Atlanta.

**WEST POINT LAKE,** Troup and Heard counties. A 26,900-acre reservoir completed in 1974, with a 525-mile shoreline and extending 34 miles up the Chattahoochee River. The 7,000-foot long WEST POINT DAM was built by the U.S. Corps of Engineers at a total project cost of \$115 million. Its generators have a capacity of producing 193,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity annually.

**WESTVILLE,** Stewart County. This is a living history museum representing an 1850 Georgia town. It is located on 58 acres of land on the southeast edge of Lumpkin, which was donated by the Sam Singer family. Named for Colonel John Word West, history professor and former president of North Georgia College, whose extensive collection was purchased when this venture was begun. The idea for the town was conceived by director, Joseph B. Mahan. Westville Village was founded in 1866 and the first historic building was brought here in January 1968.



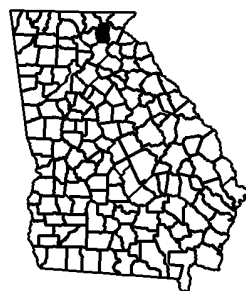
**WHEELER COUNTY.** Created August 14, 1912 with 306 square miles taken from part of Montgomery County. Named for General Joseph Wheeler (1836-1906), illustrious soldier of two wars. He was a Confederate cavalry leader, and later was commander of a cavalry division in the Spanish American War. The county seat is Alamo (q.v.). Its court house was destroyed by fire in 1916. *See also* Camp Wheeler.

**WHELCHER DISTRICT,** Hall County. This militia district was claimed by some to have been named for early postmaster, William P. Whelchel, who was also a farmer, legislator and justice of the peace. Others have said it was named after John and David Whelchel, who settled on the Little River here.

**WHIGHAM,** Grady County. Originally called HARRELL'S STATION (q.v.), the name Whigham was adopted in 1880 for Robert Whigham, who had established a big mercantile store here. The town was incorporated December 23, 1896 when this was still part of Decatur County.

**WHITE,** Bartow County. Incorporated August 7, 1919. Named for James A. White who came from the vicinity of Pine Log (q.v.), and from North Carolina before that. He settled here about 1870 and established a store, a cotton gin, and was the first postmaster of the town.

**WHITE BLUFF,** Chatham County. *See* Vernonburgh.



**WHITE COUNTY.** Created December 22, 1857 with 243 square miles taken from part of Habers



ham County. Derivation of the name is not certain, but it is believed to have been named by State Representative William H. Shelton in honor of David Thomas White (1812-1871), a native of Davidson, North Carolina, and representative from Newton County, who backed the bill to form White County. Lucian Lamar Knight, and Candler and Evans had earlier claimed that the county was named for Colonel John White of Chatham County, who was a hero of the Revolution. The original court house in Cleveland (q.v.) was built in 1857, constructed of handmade brick, laid by slave labor and paid for in Confederate currency.

**WHITE HALL**, Chatham County. A plantation, six miles south of Savannah on the Savannah River. Previously known as COWPENS (q.v.) this was the estate of attorney and statesman, Thomas Gibbons.

**WHITEHALL**, Clarke County. Incorporated as a town October 15, 1891. Now a rural community, it is located south of Athens. At this site, John White from Ireland built in 1827 the first cotton mill south of the Potomac to take the raw product and manufacture it into clothing.

**WHITE HALL**, Fulton County. The post office existed here from 1835 to 1840, when Charner Humphries (1795-1855) was the postmaster. This was at the present intersection of Lee and Gordon streets, and was a suburban community of Atlanta at a section called WEST END (q.v.). White Hall was the first established name of present ATLANTA (q.v.) and was given this name because Humphries' place was the first structure to be painted white in this region. After the railroad was established, the community south of the tracks was sometimes referred to as BLACK HALL, as contrasted to White Hall on the opposite side of the tracks. The 530th militia district which included White Hall, became known as the BLACK HALL DISTRICT in the 1830's and 1840's.

**WHITE HOUSE**, Henry County. A community located six miles north of McDonough at the forks of Georgia 155 and the road to Kelleytown. The settlement was established around the Silas Moseley place and was named after the white house of his daughter, Martha Moseley, who married Rufus W. Love. A post office existed here in the 1850's.

**WHITE OAK**, Camden County. A community about four miles north of Woodbine on U.S. 17 and on WHITE OAK CREEK, a tributary of the

Satilla River. This is the birthplace of novelist, Erskine Preston Caldwell (1903-1987).

**WHITEPATH**, Gilmer County. An early post office, located about five miles northeast of Ellijay. Named after the noted Cherokee chief, White Path (c.1768-1838) of the Turniptown region. Also named for this chief is nearby WHITEPATH SPRINGS.

**WHITE PLAINS**, Greene County. Incorporated as the town of "White-plains" March 3, 1856. This town adopted its name because of the sandy white soil here in the "white land section," originally occupied by small poor white owners. The place was previously called FORT NELL.

**WHITESBURG**, Carroll County. Incorporated as a town March 2, 1874. The Coweta chief, William McIntosh (*see* McIntosh Old Place), had previously owned a vast plantation near here which was called LOCKCHAU TALOFAU (q.v.). McIntosh was killed here and his estate was destroyed May 1, 1825 with a reported property loss of \$40,000. Mr. J.A. McMullen was the first white settler, who came in 1872 and built the first store and a house. The town was laid out about 1873-74 when the Savannah, Griffin and North Alabama Railroad came through, and was named for Mr. A.J. White, who was then president of the railroad.

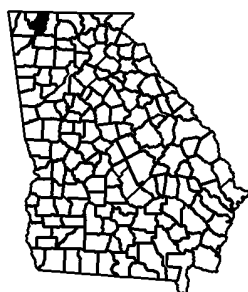
**WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS**, Hall County. Also known as OCONEE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS. Was incorporated until July 1, 1995. This was once a noted health resort located six miles northeast of Gainesville near Lula. The waters were found to be rich in sulphur and magnesia. A railroad station of WHITE SULPHUR was located on the Southern Railroad, two miles northwest of the spring.

**WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS**, Meriwether County. Incorporated as a town August 22, 1907 to July 1, 1995. Located on Mountain Creek, five miles northeast of Pine Mountain. This was once a popular summer resort. It adopted its name because the mineral springs here were found to be strongly impregnated with sulphur.

**WHITESVILLE**, Harris County. Incorporated as a town from December 25, 1837 to December 27, 1842, and then again incorporated February 10, 1854 to July 1, 1995. The post office was established here in 1835, after having been trans

ferred from Mountain Creek (q.v.). Was named in honor of the wealthy and influential White family who once lived here. Wiley White was one of the town's commissioners when it was first incorporated.

**WHITEWATER CREEK.** Rises in the southwestern section of Heard County, and flows southeasterly into Troup County and then southward to the Chattahoochee River. Derivation is from an early name of the stream, WEHUTKEE, a Creek word meaning "white water," apparently because of the frothy appearance from the numerous shoals in the stream. It was labeled HATCHE SOOF KEE by Benjamin Hawkins in 1798 (for derivation, *see* Hachasofkee Creek). Another WHITEWATER CREEK is found in Laurens County. It enters the Oconee River near the southeast corner of the county. There is also a WHITEWATER CREEK which rises in southeast Talbot County and flows through Taylor County and into Macon County where it enters the Flint River. It is a translation from the former name OKAUHUTKEE CREEK. Named for it is the new WHITEWATER CREEK STATE PARK in Macon County. This 426-acre park is located four miles north of Oglethorpe on Georgia highway 128, and was sold by the state to the Macon County Recreation Commission in 1976. And lastly, a WHITEWATER CREEK rises at Fairburn and Union City in Fulton County, flows southward, entering the northwest corner of Fayette County and continues southerly to enter Line Creek at the southwest corner of Fayette County.



**WHITFIELD COUNTY.** Created December 30, 1851 with 281 square miles taken from part of Murray County. Named after the celebrated evangelist, Reverend George Whitefield (1714-1770), who established the famous orphanage at Bethesda (q.v.) near Savannah. The county seat is Dalton (q.v.). An early community named WHITFIELD in Pulaski County was located eight miles southwest of Hawkinsville. Also named for Reverend Whitefield (sic) is WHITFIELD SQUARE in Savannah.

**WHITLEY BRANCH,** Laurens County. A tributary of Stitchihatchie Creek, located southeast of Dexter. It is not known when or why this name was given to this stream, which was formerly called MILLER'S BRANCH (q.v.). An early community of WHITLEY was located on the present Ben Hill-Irwin county line.

**WHITNEY,** Calhoun County. A community located four miles northwest of Morgan. Incorporated as a town December 14, 1871 to July 1, 1995. Incorporated as DICKEY in 1900.

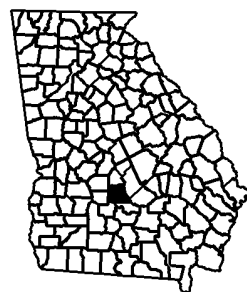
**WHITTINGTON,** Worth County. An early settlement in the southeast section of the county located on TyTy Creek, and believed named for the Whittington family. S.C. Whittington was an early postmaster and N.B. Whittington had a general store here.

**WHOOPIING CREEK,** Carroll County. Rises below Carrollton and flows southward into the Chattahoochee River. Bonnet wrote that the name of this stream was translated from the Creek Indian word *weturncau*, meaning "rumbling water."

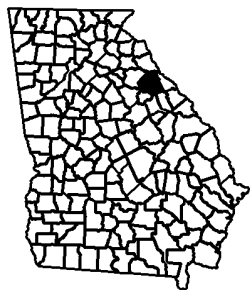
**WICKED(S) CREEK,** Hall County. A westbank affluent of the Chattahoochee River, named for a Cherokee family of Wickeds. Variations in spelling have been WICKET and WICKETT.

**WIGHT, ISLE OF,** Liberty County. Located two miles east of Midway. Was undoubtedly named for the island off Hampshire in southern England.

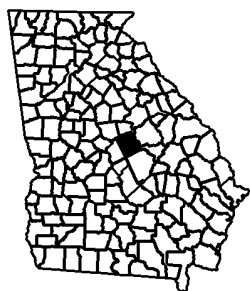
**WILBURN,** Franklin County. Was established as a station on the Southern Railroad, located four miles northwest of Lavonia. Incorporated as a town from August 8, 1910 to August 4, 1914. It is within WELBORN (sic) MILITIA DISTRICT.



**WILCOX COUNTY.** Created December 22, 1857 with 383 square miles taken from Dooly, Irwin and Pulaski counties. Named for Major General Mark Wilcox (1800-1850) of Telfair County, who was a soldier, railroad pioneer and legislator. The county seat is Abbeville (q.v.).



**WILKES COUNTY.** Created February 5, 1777 with 470 square miles acquired by Cherokee cession and Creek cession, both of June 1, 1773. Named in honor of John Wilkes (1727-1797), a distinguished member of the British Parliament, who strenuously opposed those harsh and unjust measures towards the colonies which finally led to the Revolution. The county seat is Washington (q.v.). *See also* New Purchase.



**WILKINSON COUNTY.** Created May 11, 1803 and June 26, 1806 with 428 square miles acquired by Creek cessions of June 16, 1802 and November 14, 1805. This was an original county which was named for General James Marion Wilkinson (1757-1825), a soldier of the Revolution and the War of 1812, noted Valdosta attorney at law, railroad president and was the first governor of the Louisiana Territory (1805-07) (*see also* Fort Wilkinson). The county seat is Irwinton (q.v.). The court house was destroyed by fires in 1829, 1854, 1864 and 1924.

**WILLACOOCHEE RIVER,** Irwin County. Sometimes called WILLACOOCHEE CREEK. The name is derived from the Creek word, *Wihlakuchi*, meaning "Little River." It has also been interpreted as being from the Creek word for wildcat. The town of WILLACOOCHEE in Atkinson County was incorporated November 12, 1889.

**WILL-A-WAY RECREATION AREA,** Bartow County. Also called CAMP WILLAWAY. This is a section of Fort Yargo State Park (q.v.) which was completed in 1970 and dedicated June 20, 1971. It was designed as a park area for disabled

persons. The Department of State Parks conducted a contest for the naming of the recreation area. The winning suggestion was submitted by Mrs. Bascom S. Deaver of Macon, who condensed the phrase, "Where there's a will there's a way."

**WILLIAM B. HARTSFIELD ATLANTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.** *See* HARTSFIELD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

**WILLIAM C. CRAWFORD HIGHWAY.** A state route (now U.S. 78) between Atlanta and Augusta, through Athens, named in honor of Senator Crawford (*see* Crawford County).

**WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT HIGHWAY,** Chattooga and Walker counties. Runs parallel and west of U.S. 27 between Summerville and LaFayette. Named in honor of President Taft (1857-1930), who was also Secretary of War and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

**WILLIAMSBURG(H),** Calhoun County. Incorporated as a town August 4, 1887 to July 1, 1995. This is now a vanished Georgia town, which was once called "the sickliest place in Georgia" due to the prevalence of malaria here. Was located on the Central of Georgia Railroad, six miles south of Morgan.

**WILLIAMSBURG,** Clinch County. A former community which was located on the west side of the Suwanee River. Derivation of the name is unknown.

**WILLIAMSBURG,** Wayne County. Incorporated in 1792. This place was first called SAINT SAVILLA (q.v.) and then Williamsburg, after which it reverted to its original name before it disappeared to become a ghost town. It was believed named after the incorporators, who were William Williams, Farr Williams, John William Lambert, William Cook and the last commissioner, Roswell King, on whose land the town was partially laid out.

**WILLIAMSON,** Pike County. Incorporated as a town August 17, 1908. The original name of this place was DRIVER, after innkeeper Giles Driver. It was then called STEARNESVILLE (q.v.) for John Stearns who bought the inn, and finally for Judge Isaac Williamson, slave owner, farmer and money lender.

**WILLIAMSTOWN,** Jackson County. A settlement area of old Harmony Grove (now Commerce), named for early builder and contractor, Harmon Williams.

**WILLIAMSVILLE**, Pike County. The early name of NEAL (q.v.)

**WILLIE**, Liberty County. A former community which was located 12 miles northwest of Hinesville. It was established by G. W. Tuten who named it for his oldest child, Nellie Willie Lee Tuten (1893-1919). The post office was established August 4, 1915.

**WILLINGHAM**, Worth County. Believed to have been the original settlement of the present SYLVESTER (q.v.), named from the pioneer settlers here. This was the location of Hugh Willingham and Company, dealing in naval stores. An early postmaster here was W.B. Willingham.

**WILLOWBROOK**, Oglethorpe County. A residential area between Lexington and Crawford. Established in 1965 by Charles Clifford Brooks.

**WILMINGTON**, Chatham County. A community on WILMINGTON ISLAND which is located below Savannah, east of Skidaway Island and west of Tybee. It was thought to have been named for Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington (1673-1743), who was prominent in English politics and had colonial interests. The WILMINGTON RIVER is the channel that runs beside the island.

**WILMOTS**, Banks County. An early community, located five miles northeast of Homer. In 1882, the postmaster was H.E. Wilmots. It was also known as CHEAP.

**WILSON AIRPORT**, Bibb County. *See* Macon.

**WINCHESTER**, Macon County. A stop on the Georgia Railroad, located two miles southwest of Marshallville. Believed named for the city in England.

**WINDER**, CS Barrow County. "The Work Clothing Center of the World" Pronounced "Winder" or "Wine-duh." This was originally the site of an Indian settlement called SNODON, after which the white men came and called their first community JUG TAVERN (q.v.), which was located at what was then the junction of Jackson, Walton and Gwinnett counties. It was called BRANDON after this. When the Seaboard Air Line Railroad was built through here in 1893, the town was incorporated and its name was changed to honor the president of the railroad, John H. Winder of Raleigh, N.C. He is thought to have been related to General John Henry Winder CSA, who was in charge of all Confederate prisons in Alabama and Georgia during the Civil War.

**WINDSOR**, Walton County. An early settlement which was located four miles northeast of Loganville. All that remains today is WINDSOR CHURCH and CEMETERY. The name was believed transferred from England, from the name of a prominent town there as well as of the royal castle. A section of Savannah is called WINDSOR FOREST, and a part of Columbus is named WINDSOR PARK.

**WINFIELD**, Columbia County. A community located 17 miles northeast of Thomson. First settled on 700 acres granted Leonard Clairborne in 1767 by King George III. This is obviously an English name, but the derivation is unknown. The community is called COBBHAM by a few people, perhaps in relation to the former town in adjoining McDuffie County named Cobbham (q.v.).

**WINFIELD SCOTT LAKE**, Lumpkin County. Located six miles south of Lake Trahlyta, near Dahlonega. Named for "Old Fuss and Feathers," General Scott (1786-1866), who fought in the War of 1812, the Seminole War, Mexican War, and was a United States presidential candidate in 1852.

**WINNEPESAUKAU, LAKE**, Catoosa County. Located within the city of Lakeview. Also spelled WINNEPESAUKAT, it was once known as GREEN'S LAKE. It was then purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Carl O. Dixon, who gave it the present Indian name, which is said to mean, "Beautiful Lake of the Highlands," or "Place of Abundant Waters."

**WINN'S FERRY**, Hall and Forsyth counties. It operated for almost a century on a route from Augusta, Georgia to Nashville, Tennessee. Built by Cherokee chief, James Vann, who had a tavern nearby, and ran VANN'S FERRY (q.v.) until he died. Richard Winn then became the owner and it was afterwards called Winn's Ferry.

**WINSTON**, Douglas County. Incorporated as a town August 20, 1906 and was disincorporated since 1950 and again July 1, 1995. The community is located four miles west of Douglasville. Named for early settler and preacher here, "Uncle Jackie" Winn, originally from South Carolina.

**WINTERVILLE**, Clarke County. Incorporated as a town August 15, 1904. The original railroad name was WINTERS in 1882 when John Winter was the railroad and express agent.

**WIREGRASS REGION**. This is a name that refers to roughly the southern third of the state of Georgia, where the grass *Aristida stricta* abounds.

This wiregrass grows in bunches or tufts in the south Georgia piney woods section, and has long wire-like blades. There was once a community named WIREGRASS, 11 miles south of Homer-ville in Clinch County, which took its name from this region in which it was located.

**WIRE ROAD.** *See* FEDERAL WIRE ROAD.

**WISDOM'S STORE,** Harris County. An early community which was located eight miles north-west of Hamilton, and was the home of William C. Wisdom (1833-1898) from Virginia, who was judge of the county court and a state representative.

**WISO,** Camden County. Pronounced "Wee-so." The Indian name for CUMBERLAND ISLAND (q.v.) and was their name for "sassafras."

**WITHLACOOCHEE RIVER.** The upper section in eastern Tift County is called CAMP CREEK. It flows southeasterly into Berrien County then southerly into Lowndes County and forms part of the boundary with Brooks County, and continues southward into Florida. William Read explains that the name means "Little River" (q.v.) and the derivation is from the Creek Indian word *Wihlakuchi*, from *wi*, "water," *lako*, "big," and *-uchi*, "little." He adds that it is a by-form of Willacoochee (q.v.).

**WOLF CREEK,** Bibb County. Rises northwest of Macon's Wesleyan College, and flows southward about three miles into Rocky Creek. The surveyor who named this stream, probably killed or at least saw a wolf nearby.

**WOLF FORK DISTRICT,** Rabun County. Named from its location in the WOLF FORK VALLEY. WOLFFORK is also the name of a rural community in Rabun County, seven miles northwest of Clayton. WOLF CREEK ROAD is located three miles north of Clayton. WOLF FORK GAP is between Mountain City and Rabun Gap.

**WOLFPEN.** Pens were devices for catching wolves, which were commonly found in early settlement days of Georgia, but have now disappeared. The name "Wolfpen" has been applied to place-names in various sections of the state. A stream called WOLFPEN BRANCH is an upper affluent of Lotus Creek in western Bulloch County. The name of streams called WOLFPEN BRANCH are also found in Bryan, Habersham and McIntosh counties. WOLFPEN GAP is in lower Union County, while WOLFPEN RIDGE

is on the line between Union and Towns counties. WOLFPEN MOUNTAIN is located in Gilmer County. There is also a WOLF PIT (Militia) DISTRICT in Stephens County, which is from another name for a wolf trap.

**WOLFSKIN (Militia) DISTRICT,** Oglethorpe County. Located southwest of Crawford. Named when the last wolf of this region was killed in 1823, and its skin nailed to a door of the trading post.

**WOLLEY FORD,** Hall County. Located in the western section of the county. This crossing on the Chestatee River was named for Bazel Wolley, who came to this area in 1821.

**WOODBINE,** CS Camden County. Incorporated as a town August 13, 1908, and became the county seat in 1923. Woodbine is the common English name for the honeysuckle, *Lonicera*. A Thiokol plant was established here in the 1970's to build the nation's largest solid-fuel rocket engines.

**WOODBURY,** Meriwether County. Incorporated as a town August 23, 1872. The place was first descriptively named SANDTOWN. The first post office opened in 1845 with the name WOODBERRY, probably for Levi Woodbury, a popular New Hampshire statesman. The present spelling of the town's name was adopted in 1854.

**WOODLAND,** Talbot County. Incorporated as a town July 30, 1908. Named in honor of C.S. Woods of Virginia, who purchased the surrounding land and laid it off into town lots. The post office was opened March 5, 1907. The site was originally known as PLEASANT HILL.

**WOODROW WILSON COLLEGE OF LAW,** Atlanta. Named for the 28th president of the United States, Thomas Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), who practiced law in Atlanta for a short period. He married Ellen Lou Axson of Rome, Georgia, in Savannah in 1885 (*see also* Axson). Wilson's boyhood home was located at Telfair and Seventh streets in Augusta.

**WOODROW WILSON SPRING,** Richmond County. Located adjacent to State Route 25 at McBean Creek. Named by a resolution of the General Assembly of Georgia, January 1960, to perpetuate the memory of President Wilson, who spent his boyhood in Augusta.

**WOOD(S) STATION,** Catoosa County. A rural community located nine miles south of Ringgold. The first post office was in Johnny Wood's store,

and was named **WOODSTATION**. Coincidentally this was a place that did a lively trade in lumber production. The locale is referred to as **WOODSTATION**.

**WOODSTOCK**, Cherokee County. Incorporated as a town December 9, 1897. Named after a novel called *Woodstock* by Sir Walter Scott, which was published in 1826.

**WOODSTOCK**, Oglethorpe County. The name originally proposed for **PHILOMATH** (q.v.).

**WOODSTOWN**, Henry County. Now a dead town, it was located ten miles east of McDonough. The post office was established in July 1893. Named for William Woods the original postmaster and the first settler here, who came directly from Ireland.

**WOODVILLE**, Greene County. Incorporated as a city August 21, 1911. An early settlement which was located five miles north of Union Point, and was first known as **BEEMAN** (q.v.). The later name is said to have been adopted because trains loaded up with wood here.

**WOODY GAP**, Lumpkin County. A mountain pass in the Blue Ridge at an elevation of 3,164 feet, located ten miles north of Dahlonega on U.S. highway 19. It was named for an early postmaster of Dahlonega, John Woody.

**WOOLEY'S BRIDGE**, Bartow County. Located one mile west of Kingston. In 1864 this covered bridge spanned the Etowah River on the plantation of Andrew F. Wooley.

**WOOLSEY**, Fayette County. Incorporated as a town December 15, 1893, this community is seven miles southeast of Fayetteville. Was formerly located on the Southern Railroad. Derivation is unknown.

**WOOSTER**, Meriwether County. The area was first settled in the 1830's but not given this name until about 1870 when George Wooster came from England and established the first post office in his store.

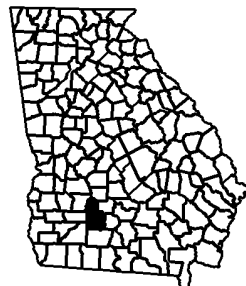
**WOOTEN**, Lee County. In the mid 1800's there was a stage stop here called **SNEED'S STORE**. Henry P. Wooten was named the postmaster of **SNEED**, September 1, 1857. When the railroad came through they changed the name to **WOOTEN'S STATION**. Incorporated as a town August 23, 1872. The name was changed to **LEESBURG** (q.v.), February 28, 1874.

**WOOTTEN'S MILL**, Telfair County. An early community located on the Ocmulgee River, 15 miles south of McRae. The postmaster in 1882 was John Wootten who had a grist mill here.

**WORMSLOE**, Chatham County. A 750-acre tract on the Isle of Hope, below Savannah, which is the oldest estate in Georgia. Noble Jones gave it its name when he gained possession of the property in 1733. Wormsloe was retained by the Craig Barrow family, heirs of Noble Jones, until 1972 when the estate was donated to the state of Georgia. It has been explained that Jones set out mulberry trees here for the culture of silkworms -- hence the name, "Wormsloe."

**WORSE CREEK**, Rabun County. Located in lower Rabun County where it flows into Tugalo Lake. Goff said the name is quite descriptive of the stream flowing in a rugged area, not far from Bad Creek.

**WORTH**, Turner County. A small community located about three miles above Auburn. Incorporated as a town from August 13, 1910 to February 16, 1943.



**WORTH COUNTY**. Created December 20, 1853 with 580 square miles taken from Dooly and Irwin counties. Named by Colonel William Augustus "Bill" Harris in honor of Major General William James Worth (1794-1849) of New York, a distinguished soldier of the Mexican War, and son-in-law of Zachary Taylor. The county seat is Sylvester (q.v.).

**WORTHVILLE**, Butts County. An early community eight miles northeast of Jackson. In 1851 the name was changed from **LOFTON'S STORE**, which was named because of a store operated by John Lofton and his son-in-law John H. McDaniel.

**WRENS**, Jefferson County. Incorporated as a town December 17, 1901. The first election was held at the store of Wren and Phillips. The community was established in 1884 when the Augusta Southern Railroad came through here, and was named after W.J. Wren who then built a home and a store.

**WREN'S NEST**, Atlanta. Located at 1050 Gordon Street, S.W., this former home of Joel Candler Harris (1848-1908) is a memorial to the creator of the Uncle Remus stories. It was given this name when a wren built her nest in the mail box, and Harris built another mail box so as not to disturb her. *See also* Uncle Remus Route.

**WRIGHTSBORO(UGH)**, McDuffie County. Established at the site of the former settlement of Brandon (q.v.). In 1767, Sir James Wright (*see* Wright Square) made a grant of 12,000 acres to the Quakers, who were under the direction of Joseph Maddock, and the area was then called the **QUAKER RESERVE**. Later it was titled **WRIGHTSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP**. The town of Wrightsborough was founded in 1770 and incorporated in 1799. The Quakers all left by 1806 because of their opposition to slavery. The place declined after the coming of the railroad in the 1830's, as the residents refused to allow the road to come through here. *See also* Fort Wrightsboro.

**WRIGHT SQUARE**, Savannah. Laid out in 1733. Originally named **EGMONT SQUARE** for John Percival, Earl of Egmont. The name was changed in 1763 to honor Sir James Wright (c.1714-1785), Georgia's last colonial governor, who served during the period 1760-1776.

**WRIGHTSVILLE**, CS Johnson County. Laid out in 1859 on land donated by William P. Hicks. The post office was established March 10, 1860, and the town was incorporated February 23, 1866. James B. Wright was on the committee which selected the site for the town, and it was named for him. He later was elected to the state legislature.

**WYNN'S MILL**, Henry County. A former community which was located in the southeast corner of the county. In 1882, J.A. C. Wynn owned a grist mill and saw mill here.