

The Bandy Heritage Center for Northwest Georgia
Trail of Tears Driving Tour
Cherokee Removal Forts in Northwest Georgia

Overview

The physical removal of the Cherokees from Northwest Georgia followed a plan designed to allow the governing authorities to expedite the operation quickly and efficiently in an undeveloped and primitive environment challenged by limited transportation and logistical options. Central to this plan was the establishment of removal forts in Cherokee lands. These forts served as barracks for the troops tasked with overseeing the removal, and as collection and provisioning posts for the Cherokees prior to their dispatch to Ross's Landing for eventual transport to the west. Although the plan's intent was to expedite the removal process as humanely as possible, the poor training and inadequate supervision of the troops assigned to the task created problems of control and execution.

In 1802, Georgia ceded control of its western land claims to the Federal government. These lands would eventually become the states of Alabama and Mississippi. In return, Georgia received assurances that the Federal government would remove all native tribes from within the state's boundaries as soon as practical. For three decades, state and federal authorities had sought to acquire all of the southeastern Indian lands and resettle Natives west of the Mississippi River. The conflict between Georgia and the Cherokees was a simple one: Georgia wanted the land to increase white settlement and the tax base, while the Cherokees wanted to retain their land. The Cherokees had already ceded many thousands of square miles of their homeland and declared repeatedly between 1810 and 1822 that they would not cede any more. In January 1827, the Cherokee council established a republican form of government based on a written constitution and declared themselves a sovereign, independent nation within the boundaries of the state of Georgia. To preclude the establishment of a separate government within the state, the Georgia legislature, led by Governor John Forsyth, passed an act on December 26, 1828, which annexed Cherokee lands, dismantled the Cherokee Nation's government, dispossessed its citizens, and gave Georgia courts jurisdiction over all inhabitants in these lands. The 1829 discovery of gold in the Cherokee lands and the ensuing rush of prospectors brought new urgency to Georgia's efforts to secure these lands and hold the Federal government to its pledge of Indian removal. This insistence on removal grew in intensity through the actions of successive Georgia governors and the 1828 election of Andrew Jackson as president. The 1831-1832 survey and distribution of Cherokee lands to white settlers through a public lottery—lands that could not be claimed until the Cherokees were removed—increased the pressure for an accelerated resolution.

As early as 1826, Georgia Congressman Wilson Lumpkin, a member on the Committee on Indian Affairs, had introduced legislation to expedite Cherokee removal and

relocation. Commissioners were appointed to explore a suitable site west of the Mississippi River. The Indian Removal Act was approved by the House of Representatives on May 28, 1830. From 1830 to 1835, removal treaties were signed with the Choctaws, Creeks, Seminoles, and Chickasaws. Federal recognition of the Cherokees' status as a sovereign nation and as owners of the contested lands is demonstrated by the exercise of the government's sole responsibility to negotiate treaties under the terms of the Trade and Intercourse clause of the US Constitution. In December 1835, dissident Cherokee leaders Major Ridge and Elias Boudinot met with treaty commissioners at the Cherokee capital of New Echota and agreed to terms for the removal of their people from the state of Georgia. A two-year time limit was set for the settling of claims, and the date for the beginning of the removal process was set for May 24, 1836. Cherokee law required Council approval for any land sales or treaty negotiations. Neither of the Ridge nor Boudinot were Council members, and their betrayal was paid back with their executions after the Cherokee Nation arrived in the Indian Territory.

In the summer of 1836, U.S. Army General John Wool arrived at New Echota to establish a series of administrative and supply depots within the Cherokee lands. These posts stored provisions and housed state and Federal soldiers assigned to enforce the relocation of the approximately 10,000 Cherokees slated for removal to the designated Indian territories in the West. General Wool was replaced by Colonel William Lindsay in 1837, and Lindsay continued the construction of additional posts throughout the northwest Georgia region. Lindsay designated the encampment at New Echota as Fort Wool, and the fort became the headquarters of removal operations in Georgia.

Using Fort Wool as his base, Lindsay established forts and encampments in Northwest Georgia, all with access to the few improved roads that crossed the region. Forts Gilmer and Hoskins were set up in Murray County. Fort Cumming, in Walker County, was established near the city of LaFayette. Fort Buffington and Camp Sixes were built in Cherokee County, Fort Means in Bartow County, Fort Hetzel in Gilmer County, and Fort Newnan in Pickens County. These forts were occupied by Georgia militia, raised from the surrounding area and federalized for three months service, rather than regular Federal forces. Fort Means was typical of the military presence at these forts. The garrison was led by Captain John Means. Means' command included two lieutenants, four sergeants, and four corporals in addition to the enlisted men. These men served for anywhere between 30 to 60 days. Men serving the full sixty day requirement earned \$56.

In April 1838, Major General Winfield Scott replaced Colonel Lindsay and arrived at Fort Wool on May 24, 1838, to oversee the removal's commencement. He returned to Tennessee soon after. Georgia militia, commanded by General Charles Floyd, began the detention of all Cherokees in the region who had not voluntarily moved west. Floyd ordered the commanders at each fort to arrest all Cherokees in proximity to their commands and detain them at the forts until sufficient numbers had been gathered to begin the march to Ross's Landing. By June 15, General Floyd reported to his superior, General Winfield Scott, that all Cherokees in Georgia had been removed from the state. The Georgia militia units

that had engaged in the round-up were mustered out of service by the end of July.

Cherokee Removal Forts driving tour

Through a joint effort of the National Parks Service and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the names of the commanders, length of occupation, garrison strength, and general construction of the Georgia removal forts have been determined. What is lacking in this research is the exact location of the forts, since no physical evidence of them remains. Archaeological investigation combined with local lore have given us a close approximation of each fort's location.

This tour is divided into an eastern and western route to optimize the driving experience. The forts along each route are not necessarily related in construction date or chronological use. Each tour is designed to end at Ross's Landing, the embarkation depot for the final journey to the Indian territories.

Tour 1 (Western Route)

Cedartown to Ross's Landing

Entering Cedartown from either the north or south on US Highway 27 (Main Street), turn west on East Avenue. Turn right on College Street then left on Wissahickon Avenue. Turn left on Biggers Street. A park designated as the Cherokee Removal Camp is on the left.

Cedar Town Station (Polk County)

On May 13, 1838, Georgia militia captain Isaac C. Vincent and his eighty-man company were dispatched from Clark County to Cedartown with orders to arrest and confine all Cherokees in the immediate region. There is no evidence that a stockade was ever built to contain the captives, but the camp did contain a hospital. Captain Vincent's provisions receipts indicate that between May 28 and June 26, 3,000 rations of bacon and 2,000 rations of hard bread were issued for the captives. On June 21, 199 prisoners were escorted to New Echota. At General Floyd's order, those deemed too sick to walk were transported in wagons.

Reports indicate that the post was located south of Big Spring and east of Cedar Creek in present-day downtown Cedartown. Big Spring is the largest limestone spring in the Southeast—producing four million gallons of water per day. Based on this slight information, the most likely setting for the encampment is the area enclosed by Wissahickon Avenue, Bradford Street and Prior Street.

Returning to US Highway 27 (Main Street) in Cedartown, turn left and travel north to Rome. Within the city limits of Rome, Highway 27 is designated Turner McCall Blvd. Stay on Highway 27 till the intersection of Georgia Hwy 53 (Broad Street). Turn left on Broad Street. Turn left on East 5th Avenue. Turn right on East 2nd Street. Most likely location for Camp Scott is on East

2nd Street between East 5th Avenue and East 4th Avenue. This hilltop area is now a residential neighborhood.

Camp Scott (Rome)

In 1836, Georgia governor William Schley ordered 200 men from the Georgia Guard and Highland Mounted Battalion under the command of Major Charles H. Nelson to establish a post in Rome. Nelson's assignment was to prevent any of the Creek Indians that had previously immigrated to the Indian territories west of the Mississippi River from returning to Georgia and to keep an eye on the Cherokees. The post, named Camp Scott for General Winfield Scott, was never fortified. The militia troops were discharged and the camp was abandoned in September of 1836, after the last of the Creeks still remaining in the area were escorted to Gunter's Landing, Alabama, for removal west. In April 1838, the camp was reactivated with the arrival of 150 Georgia militia, commanded by Captain Charles Campbell. No fortifications other than stables and storehouses were constructed during this new occupation.

In May 1838, Captain C. W. Campbell reported the arrest of seventy Cherokees in the vicinity of Rome; their removal was completed by June 9. Records are not clear as to the destination of this group. Their most likely route would have either been west to Fort Payne, Alabama, or north to Fort Cumming in LaFayette, Georgia.

Return to Broad Street. Turn right on Broad Street to intersection with US Hwy 27. Turn right on Hwy 27 and proceed south to interchange with US Hwy 411 SE (Cartersville Highway SE). Go east on Hwy 411 to Bartow County. After crossing into Bartow County turn left on Reynolds Bend Road (approx. 3 miles from county line). Fort Means may have been located one mile north of Hwy 411 in an area enclosed by a bend in the Etowah River.

Fort Means (Kingston)

In April 1838, Georgia governor George Gilmer directed Seminole war veteran Captain John Means of Walton County to establish a post near the border of Floyd and Cass County in the vicinity of the Etowah River. Cass County was renamed Bartow County in 1861. By mid-May, Means reported that the garrison had completed construction of a blockhouse and stables. The garrison consisted of an infantry company commanded by Captain Frederick Cook, while Captain Means commanded a company of mounted troops. Two hundred and sixty prisoners had been detained at Fort Means by May 30. Further arrests continued until June 9, when Means arrived at Ross's Landing with 467 Cherokees.

Return to US Hwy 411. Turn left on Hwy 411 and proceed east to the intersection of US Hwy 41. Turn north on Hwy 41 to Adairsville. At Adairsville proceed North on I-75 to Exit 317 (Georgia Highway 225). Proceed north on Hwy 225 to New Echota Historic Site.

Fort Wool (New Echota Historic Site, Gordon County)

In July 1836, a company of Tennessee volunteer militia was dispatched from Athens, Tennessee, under the command of Captain Vernon. Vernon's orders were to establish a military post adjacent to the Cherokee capital of New Echota to administer and coordinate the removal process. The post became the headquarters of the Middle Military District. By December 1836, storehouses and barracks to accommodate two companies of Georgia militia were completed. Continued construction added a parade ground, hospital, brick ovens, and a blacksmith's forge. A wooden blockhouse was constructed in March 1838, at which time the post was named Fort Wool in honor of General John Wool. During its existence, Fort Wool became the central military outpost for the organization and dispatch of Georgia militia to other forts and camps in northwest Georgia. Twenty-nine companies of troops were assembled and deployed from Fort Wool between September 1836 and May 1838.

When the final removal process began, approximately 316 Cherokees remained within a ten-mile radius of Fort Wool. On May 26, 1838, General Charles Floyd, commander of the Georgia militia, led nine companies from Fort Wool, captured almost 300 Cherokees throughout northwest Georgia, and sent them to the collection depot at Ross's Landing. General Floyd reported on June 19 that no Cherokees remained in the region. With the removal completed, Fort Wool was abandoned in July, and all remaining supplies and property were sold at public auction.

Despite the presence of a blockhouse and storage buildings, no definitive remnants of Fort Wool have been discovered. The site of the blockhouse is believed to be on private property, south of the Worcester House, but this location has never been fully explored or excavated.

Leaving New Echota, proceed to Calhoun on Hwy 225. Merge into US Hwy 41 (N. Wall St.). Continue south into Calhoun and turn right on Court Street and then turn right on GA Hwy 136 (N. River Street). After approximately 25 miles, turn left on to GA Hwy 151 and then turn right in approximately two miles, to pick up Hwy 136 again. Continue on to LaFayette and turn right on North Main Street (US 27-Bus.). Turn left on West Indiana Street and continue on West Indiana to the confluence of Bradley Avenue and Probasco Street. Fort Cumming was located near the site of Big Spring Park on your right.

Fort Cumming (LaFayette)

Fort Cumming was established in March, 1838, and named for either Major William Cumming, a Major in the 8th Infantry during the War of 1812, or the Reverend David Cumming, a Methodist minister and missionary to the Cherokees. In April 1838, Captain Samuel Farris took command with a company of seventy-five Georgia militia. On June 7, 1838, while absent without leave, Farris was temporarily replaced as commander by Captain Benjamin Watkins. On June 9, Georgia militia commander General Charles Floyd recorded that 469 Cherokees had been

escorted from Fort Cumming to Ross's Landing. An additional seventy prisoners were sent on to Ross's Landing, and Watkins and the men of his command were mustered out of service on June 17.

Return to North Main Street and turn left. Proceed north on US Hwy 27 approximately 30 miles to Chattanooga. Exit on the 4th Street Exit and turn left on Chestnut Street. Go south three blocks to Riverfront Parkway.

Ross's Landing

In 1816, John Ross, son of a Cherokee mother and Scottish father, established a trading post, warehouse, and ferry crossing on the northern border of the Cherokee Nation along a bend in the Tennessee River. In 1826, Ross sold his land holdings to Methodist minister Nicholas Scales and moved to Rome, Georgia, to be nearer to the Cherokee capital of New Echota. In 1839, the community growing around the landing was incorporated into the city of Chattanooga.

Tour 2 (Eastern Route)

Fort Floyd to Ross's Landing

Since no evidence exists to locate the exact position of Fort Floyd, this route of the tour will begin on the campus of the University of North Georgia and continue on to Fort Campbell.

Fort Floyd (Dahlonega)

The first record of military occupation in the Dahlonega area dates to December 1837, when Georgia governor George Gilmer called for a company of Georgia militia to be stationed at Dahlonega. Apparently these troops never arrived, and General Winfield Scott ordered a Tennessee company, commanded by Captain Peake, to the area in February 1838. By mid-March, this company had left Dahlonega, and Captain Benjamin Cleveland of Franklin County was assigned to command the post. Quartermaster reports indicate that Fort Floyd's primary use was as a repository for arms and supplies that were distributed to other posts. Construction of a stockade along with a barracks for the men and stables for the horses was begun on April 16. Captain Cleveland communicated to General Scott his plans for leading patrols to Tensawattee and Big Savannah Town to commence the capture of Cherokees still living in the area, but there is no correspondence indicating the numbers actually captured and transported from Fort Floyd. In 1954, a Georgia state historical marker placed the fort near the town of Auraria, five miles south of Dahlonega. New research by the National Park Service refutes that location and places the fort somewhere close to the U.S. Mint on the present campus of the University of North Georgia in Dahlonega.

From the University of North Georgia campus, go south on West Main Street. Turn right on to Morrison Moore Parkway. Follow Morrison Moore Parkway to the junction of Georgia Highway 52 (Dawsonville Highway). Continue on Highway 52 for two miles and merge on to Georgia Highway 9 (Dawsonville Highway) and proceed on to Dawsonville. Continue through Dawsonville on Highway 9 for approximately seven miles and turn right on Bannister Road and cross into Forsyth County. Remain on Bannister Road to the intersection with Georgia Highway 369 in the Matt community. Turn right on Highway 369 and continue eight miles to the Hightower community and turn right on the Old Federal Road. The most likely site of Fort Campbell will be on the right side of Old Federal Highway at the intersection with Nicholson Road close to the Etowah River.

Fort Campbell (Forsyth County)

In May 1830, Georgia governor George Gilmer requested assistance from the federal government to protect the gold mines that had begun operating in the Cherokee Nation in 1829. Two companies of the 4th Regiment, commanded by Captain Francis Brady, were dispatched with orders to establish a post in the Cherokee Nation. A military post was established on the Federal Road near a trading post and inn owned by Jacob Scudder. The federal garrison was withdrawn in October 1830. In January 1831, the post was reactivated with the arrival of militia of the Georgia Guard and was renamed Camp Eaton. Their first task was repairing the dilapidated barracks, blacksmith shop, and stables. Jacob Scudder was contracted to supply provisions for the garrison until its deactivation in October 1831. In anticipation of the removal of the Cherokees, the area was reoccupied in May 1838 by a mounted company of 74 men commanded by Captain James A. Word. A new fort was constructed and named Fort Campbell for Duncan G. Campbell, who negotiated the 1825 Treaty of Indian Springs that ceded all remaining Creek land in Georgia. In mid-June Word reported that his command had captured 200 Cherokees in five days and had sent them on to Ross's Landing.

Return to Highway 369 via Old Federal Highway and turn right. Continue east on Highway 369 for approximately six miles to the intersection with Georgia Highway 20. Turn right on Highway 20 and go ten miles to Harmony Drive. One of the possible sites for Fort Buffington is a stream-fed pasture adjacent to the parking lot of Harmony Primitive Baptist Church. The other site is a field one-half mile north of the Georgia Historical Marker in front of Buffington Elementary School a little further east of Harmony Road.

Fort Buffington (Cherokee County)

In the winter of 1836, Captain Ezekial Buffington of Gainesville raised a company of volunteers that was posted to New Echota. In October 1837, Buffington's command was ordered to erect a stockade near Canton. Private John H. Wood was appointed as quartermaster of the new post, a

position he held until the removal campaign ended. Buffington's soldiers began building huts and stables to accommodate sixty soldiers and their mounts. Correspondence to the Quartermaster's Department at Fort Cass, Tennessee, indicate that Buffington supplied corn and fodder for the post at his own expense. By the first of March 1838, the fort's stockade was completed along with a barracks, wagon sheds, blockhouse, and storage houses. Due to its secure stockade and proximity to a large settlement, Fort Buffington was designated as a munitions depot for other posts. Militia companies drawing arms from Fort Buffington typically received sixty muskets, cartridge boxes, cartridge belts, bayonets with scabbards, 150 flints, three kegs of powder, and 300 pounds of lead balls. Captain Buffington remained in command until May 1838 when Major Robert Pope of the Georgia militia was given command of the region surrounding Canton. On June 9, 1838, Major Pope recorded the capture of 479 prisoners who were then escorted to Ross's Landing by Captain Cox. The fort was abandoned in July 1838.

Local history points to two possible sites in close proximity to each other as the location of Fort Buffington, but no definitive evidence exists to confirm any of the claims.

Camp Sixes (Cherokee County)

Constructed near the Cherokee town of Sixes on the Etowah River near its junction with the Little River, Camp Sixes began as a federal outpost named Camp Hinar. This camp was established in 1830 to protect the gold mine near Sixes, a site that proved to be one of the richest mines in Georgia. While occupying the site, federal troops, commanded by Lieutenant Abram C. Fowler, destroyed nineteen buildings occupied by illegal gold hunters. This federal detachment was withdrawn in early 1831 and was replaced by the Georgia Guard. The mine closed in 1834. On May 11, 1838, five companies of Georgia militia commanded by Colonel Augustus Stokes, were ordered to the area of Sixes town to establish a new camp. These 324 soldiers from Fayette, Henry, Elbert, Gwinnett, and Madison counties constituted the largest garrison of militia at any of the removal forts, possibly due to the large Cherokee population of Sixes town. There are no existing accounts of the physical description of the site, but its designation as a camp rather than a fort leads to the conclusion that there was no stockade. On June 2, 1838, General Floyd sent a staff member to investigate why no prisoners had arrived at Fort Wool. This inquiry produced the desired result as 950 prisoners arrived at Fort Wool on June 9 for transport to Ross's Landing. The camp's site now lies under the waters of Lake Allatoona.

Since the location of Camp Sixes is no longer accessible, the tour will continue from Fort Buffington.

From the Fort Buffington area, continue east on Georgia Highway 20 to its intersection with US Interstate 575 in Canton. Go north on 575. Near the community of Nelson, Interstate 575 becomes Georgia Highway 515. Approximately 25 miles north of Canton, turn left from Highway 515 onto Antioch Church Road near Talking Rock. Proceed two miles to intersection of Antioch Church Road and GA Highway 136. Fort Newnan was located on Antioch Church Road adjacent to the present-day Blaine Masonic Lodge.

Fort Newnan (Pickens County)

At the end of March 1838, militia captain Reverend John Dorsey and a mounted company of sixty-four men were ordered to the post located on the Federal Road near the confluence of Talking Rock Creek and Town Creek in the Hickory Log District of the Cherokee Nation. Dorsey's command built the fort which included a stockade and storage houses. The fort was named for Revolutionary War hero General Daniel Newnan, who also served as Georgia's Secretary of State and as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from 1831 to 1833. The fort was abandoned on July 4, 1838. No documentation has been found to indicate the number of prisoners detained and sent from the fort on to Ross's Landing, but military records list 1,017 Cherokees living in the surrounding area at the time of the removal.

Return to Georgia Highway 515 and go north to East Ellijay. In 1984, local historian Lawrence Stanley placed a stone marker at the intersection of Yukon Road and Highway 515 where his research indicated the fort had been placed. When construction began on this site for Wal-Mart, the marker was moved north to the intersection of Highway 515 and 1st Street adjacent to the parking lot of the Conoco convenience store. The Georgia Department of Transportation has no record of artifacts discovered during the construction of the highway that would pinpoint the location of Fort Hetzel.

Fort Hetzel (Ellijay)

In the fall of 1837, Captain William Derrick, accompanied by a mounted company of militia, was ordered to proceed from New Echota to select a suitable location near Ellijay for the post. Derrick selected a site on the Cartecay River approximately one mile east of the county courthouse and named it Fort Hetzel in honor of supervising quartermaster Lieutenant A.R. Hetzel. Although not an ideal site from a military standpoint, the location had good access to water, wood, and forage. In mid-March 1838, a full infantry company commanded by Captain Donaldson arrived to bring the garrison strength to over one hundred. Derrick's first task was the construction of a stockade, stables, huts for the soldiers, officer's quarters, and forage and munitions storage buildings. By late March, a road had been cut connecting the post to Fort Gilmer. The garrison began receiving supplies from Fort Cass, Tennessee, in December 1837, and by January 1838 orders had been placed for 30,000 rations and 7,500 bushels of corn. Two days after the prisoner roundup began on May 28, 1838, Derrick reported 450 captives detained at the fort and on June 4 reported the dispatch of 500. By the end of June, Derrick had sent a total of 884 Cherokees on to Ross's Landing.

From East Ellijay proceed east on Georgia Highway 282/US Highway 76 to Chatsworth. In approximately 25 miles, Highway 282 intersects with Old US Highway 411. Turn left and proceed one mile to the Georgia State Historical Marker on the left side of the road. Fort Gilmer was located 600 yards east of the marker beyond the woods. Traces of the fort's outline can still be seen, but the site is located on private land.

Fort Gilmer (Murray County)

The Cherokee town of Coosawattee was located at the junction of the Coosawattee River and Talking Rock Creek. The town's population of approximately 600 made it one of the most populous towns in the Cherokee nation and a natural location for the placing of a fort to facilitate the round-up of the Cherokees in the area. In March 1838, Captain Charles W. Bond and a mounted company of sixty-seven men left New Echota for Coosawattee and were encamped at Rock Springs on the Federal Road by March 31. Construction quickly began on supply storage facilities, stables, and a hospital. The post was named in honor of Governor George Gilmer. By late May, three companies of infantry were on hand to take charge of the prisoners being detained near the fort. Two days after the removal began, Fort Gilmer's commander, Major Blueford Venable, reported 254 prisoners detained at the fort, and within the following week an additional 335 had been sent to Ross's Landing.

Return north on Old US 411 to the intersection of US 411 in Ramhurst. Turn north and proceed to Chatsworth. Within the city limits, US 411 becomes South 3rd Avenue. Turn left on West Fort Street (Highway 52A) towards Spring Place. At the intersection of Highway 52A and Highway 225, turn left on to Highway 225. In approximately one-half mile, veer to the right on Highway 225 where it splits from Spring Place Smyrna Church Road. Local lore places Fort Hoskins in the field to the left of Hwy 225 after the split.

Fort Hoskins (Spring Place)

Although a military post known as Camp Benton had been operating in Spring Place since 1835, it had no connection to the eventual Cherokee Removal. In March 1838, Captain John Jones of Newton County arrived at Spring Place with a mounted company of Georgia militia. Although records indicate that stables and a blockhouse were built, there is no evidence of construction of a barracks, so it is assumed that the garrison was quartered in tents. The fort was named for Lieutenant Charles Hoskins of the Fourth Artillery Company. On June 9, in his final report to General Floyd, Jones reported that 122 captives had been sent under guard from Fort Hoskins to Ross's Landing.

Return to Highway 52A and turn west to Dalton. In Dalton go north on Interstate 75 to Chattanooga. At the I-75/I-24 split, take I-24 to downtown Chattanooga. Exit onto US Highway 27 North. Exit Highway 27 at 4th Street and turn left on Chestnut Street. Go south three blocks to Riverfront Parkway.

Ross's Landing

In 1816, John Ross, son of a Cherokee mother and Scottish father, established a trading post, warehouse, and ferry crossing on the northern border of the Cherokee Nation along a bend in the Tennessee River. In 1826, Ross sold his land holdings to Methodist minister Nicholas Scales and

moved to Rome, Georgia, to be nearer to the Cherokee capital of New Echota. In 1839, the community growing around the landing was incorporated into the city of Chattanooga.

To learn more about the Cherokee Removal, the following works are recommended:

Stephen Neal Dennis. *A Proud Little Town: LaFayette, Georgia 1835-1885*. Walker County, Georgia Governing Authority, 2010.

John W. Latty. *Carrying Off the Cherokee: History of Buffington's Company, Georgia Mounted Militia*. Copyright John W. Latty, Copyright, 2011.

Sarah H. Hill. "To Overawe the Indians and Give Confidence to the Whites:" Preparations for the Removal of the Cherokee Nation from Georgia." *The Georgia Historical Quarterly* 95, no. 4 (Winter 2011): 465-97.

_____. "Cherokee Removal Scenes: Ellijay, Georgia, 1838." *Southern Spaces*, on line publication, 23 August, 2012.

_____. "All Roads Led From Rome: Facing the History of Cherokee Expulsion." *Southern Spaces*, on line publication, forthcoming.

Wilson Lumpkin. *The Removal of the Cherokee Indians from Georgia*, 1, 2. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co., 1907.

Don L. Shadburn. *Unhallowed Intrusion*. Saline, MI: McNaughton & Gunn, 1993.