

# Gateway Family

## HISTORIAN

Spring 2005

A Publication of the St. Louis Public Library

Vol. 5 No. 2

### New Arrivals

Items recently added to the St. Louis Public Library's collection:

1. Appleton, William S., ed. *Boston Births, Baptisms, Marriages & Deaths, 1630-1699; Boston Births, 1700-1800*. Baltimore: Clearfield, 1994 (1883 & 1894).  
929.3744.

Boston vital records.

2. *Black Families of the Ozarks*. Vols. 3-4. Springfield, MO: Greene County Archives & Records Center, 1999.  
929.3778

Extensive information on African-American families. Counties included in Volume Three are Barry, Cedar, Christian, Dallas, Dade, and Greene. Counties included in Volume Four are Jasper, Laclede, Lawrence, Newton, Polk, St. Clair, Taney, Webster, and Wright.

3. Dorman, Sue & Lisa Ballard. *More Lincoln Co. MS Cemeteries*. Carrollton, MS: Pioneer Publishing, 2005.  
929.3762.

Transcribed cemetery records from Lincoln County, Mississippi.

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elcome to the eighteenth issue of *Gateway Family Historian*. This issue's focus is a state that has furnished many immigrants to Missouri – Georgia.

### Site-Seeing!

# A

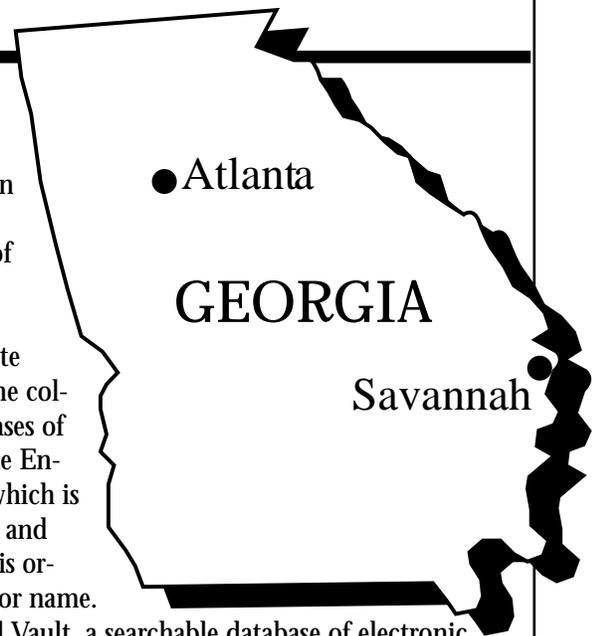
good place to begin researching your Georgia ancestors is the website of the Georgia Secretary of State, Archives and History Division ([www.sos.state.ga.us](http://www.sos.state.ga.us)). The website includes a guide to materials in the collection, plus several online databases of interest including the Confederate Enlistment Oaths and Discharges, which is searchable by name of the soldier and Confederate Muster Rolls, which is organized by military unit number or name.

Also on this website is the Virtual Vault, a searchable database of electronic images relating to the history of Georgia. The database can be also browsed by category: city or county, historical period, or record type.

Georgia ancestor researchers will doubtless be interested in the website of the National Archives, Southeast Region (<http://www.archives.gov/facilities/ga/atlanta.html>). The site includes a guide to services offered and a guide to archival holdings at NARA's Southeast Region Branch. This facility holds some records that are national in scope, plus some census, court, military, and passenger records and other materials of specific interest to persons researching ancestors who lived in the service region (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, and TN).

Another website likely to be of interest to genealogists researching Georgia ancestors is The Digital Library of Georgia (<http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/?Welcome>). This site provides users with 500,000 images and pages of text from books, manuscripts, government documents, maps, photographs, and other resources. There is also a link on the welcome page to Vanishing Georgia, a collection of 18,000 photographs documenting 100 years of Georgia history and life.

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## New Arrivals

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- Hollingsworth, Bess. *Land Records of Newton County, Mississippi, 1883*. Carrollton, MS: Pioneer Publishing, 2004. 929.3762.

Land descriptions and ownership from Newton County, Mississippi in 1883.

- Macklin, Melvin LeRoy Green. *Traces in the Dust: Carbondale's Black Heritage 1852-1964*. Magnolia, TX: Ingenuity Press, 2001. 929.3773.

History of the African-American families of Carbondale. Includes extensive biographical material and photos.

- Memorials of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati*. Boston: The Society, 2004. 929.3744.

Memorial book of a venerated hereditary organization. Includes biographies of members and their descent from the original members.

- Pictorial Narrative 150 Year History of Our City & Families: 1853-2003 Litchfield, Illinois*. Paducah, KY: Turner Publishing, 2002. 929.3773.

Extensive town history and biographical materials on the families of Litchfield.

- Warren County, Illinois History & Families*. Paducah, KY: Turner Publications, 2003. 929.3773.

History and family information for Warren County, including lots of photographs.

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## Did You Know?

### *Georgia's Land Lotteries, 1805-1833*

Georgia is the only state to have distributed land in lotteries. The lottery system was designed to correct widespread abuses that had occurred in the earlier "headright system" of land grants employed in Georgia. Eight such land lotteries were held between 1805 and 1833: 1805, 1807, 1820, 1821, 1827, 1832, 1832 (so-called Gold lottery), and 1833. These lotteries distributed  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the land in the present-day state of Georgia. The Georgia General Assembly authorized each lottery with an act that established who would be eligible to participate, the grant fees that would apply, and the rules for each drawing. Grant fees varied by size of the lot awarded, but covered only the cost of running that particular lottery.

Typically, eligible persons would register for the drawing in their home county. Eligible persons included white males 21 years of age and older (18 in some lotteries), widows, and orphans. Land to be distributed was surveyed and laid out in lots. Size of lots awarded varied widely – the largest lots awarded were 490 acres in the 1805 and 1820 lotteries, but only 40 acres in the 1832 Gold Lottery. The drawing was done using two drums: one contained the names of persons desiring a land grant, while the second contained slips of paper with land lot numbers. Persons in certain categories were entitled to have two or three slips placed in the name drum. Commissioners appointed by the governor would draw one slip from each drum, and the person whose name was drawn would then be eligible to claim that lot. Some of the paper slips in the land drum were blank, since each drawing always had more persons eligible than it had lots available – a person whose name slip was matched with a blank slip got nothing. If a person for some reason decided not to claim his or her lot, it was then sold to the highest bidder. Persons awarded land were barred from participating in subsequent drawings.

Lands distributed in the first five lotteries were part of cessions of Creek Confederation lands to the state of Georgia. Lands distributed in later lotteries were part of cessions by the Cherokee Nation. Lands distributed in the 1832 Gold Lottery were in an area where gold had been discovered, but lots awarded in that drawing were not warranted to contain gold or other precious metals. The 1833 lottery distributed lots not yet claimed or sold at that point.

Further information about Georgia land lotteries, and sources of information on lottery awardees may be found on the Georgia State Archives website (<http://sos.ga.us/>).



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## Site-Seeing!

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Also of possible interest to the Georgia ancestor researcher is The New Georgia Encyclopedia (<http://georgiaencyclopedia.org/nge/Home.jsp>). This site provides articles and images on a wide variety of topics: The Arts; Business and Industry; Cities and Counties; Education; Government and Politics; History and Archaeology; Land and Resources; Literature; Media; Religion; Science and Medicine; Sports and Recreation; and Transportation. The site can be browsed by topic or searched by keyword.

Useful for discovering if a particular area in Georgia has a library with a genealogy collection is Public Libraries.com (<http://www.publiclibraries.com/georgia.htm>). The site provides a list of Georgia municipal, county, and regional public libraries, with hot links for those libraries having websites. The list also provides the names of member libraries for the regional libraries.

Other Georgia sites containing information of interest to genealogists can be discovered by checking Cyndi's List: U.S.-Georgia (<http://www.cyndislist.com/ga.htm>). A Category Index includes subjects like Immigration; Libraries, Archives & Museums; Maps, Gazetteers & Geographical Information; and Military.

## Did You Know?

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### *Slavery in Colonial Georgia*

An attempt was made in colonial Georgia during the period 1735-1750 to ban slavery from the colony. Concern for the welfare of slaves was not what motivated the colonial trustees, led by James Oglethorpe, to make the attempt, however. The trustees wanted a majority of settlers in the colony to be able to make a good living, and felt that a slavery economy would tend to concentrate wealth in the hands of a few large plantation owners. Georgia also shared a border with Spanish Florida, and Spain had promised freedom to any escaped slaves who agreed to serve in the Spanish army. The trustees felt that allowing slavery in Georgia would wind up furnishing Spain with a large pool of potential soldiers that could be used to wrest Georgia from Britain's grasp.

Some Georgians wanted slavery to be legalized, however, because they felt that black Africans were best suited to work the types of crops commonly grown in the South (rice, indigo, sugar, tobacco, and cotton), and because black Africans were better able to cope with the Southern climate and terrain. Many planters from South Carolina also supported the legalization of slavery in Georgia, as that would allow them to begin to expand their holdings into the new area.

Agitation from persons supporting legalization, plus Spanish military defeat at the Battle of Bloody Marsh in 1742, together with the return of James Oglethorpe to England, resulted in the legalization of slavery in Georgia in 1751. The enabling legislation initially was intended to limit the number of slaves permitted in the colony, but the wealthy planters managed to change that provision by 1755. After only twenty years of legal slavery, Georgia's slave population in 1775 was nearly 18,000. Importation of slaves to Georgia from Africa had begun in the mid-1760s, adding to the initial influx of slaves from South Carolina into the colony.

## New Arrivals

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9. Weant, Kenneth E. *The Mexican War: The Missouri Volunteers of the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment & Their Attached Units (3386 Names); Chronological Index to Select Articles & Unit Rosters.* Columbia, MO: State Historical Society of Missouri, 2004. 973.6242.

Includes regimental rosters and extensive transcriptions from newspapers throughout Missouri.

10. Weant, Kenneth E. *Mexican War Index for Missouri Militia Muster Records: (8981 Records).* Arlington, TX: The author, 2005. 973.6242.

11. Wotawa, Shirley. *History of St. Peter's Cemetery.* N.p.: The author, 1996. 929.3778

A history of the cemetery, with biographical information about many of the people buried there.

## ... And Some Venerated Ancestors

1. Austin, Jeannette Holland. *30,638 Burials in Georgia.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1995. 929.3758

A wonderful resource, including entries from more than 600 cemeteries in most counties of Georgia. Entries include name, dates of birth and death, sometimes name of parents or spouse, and name of cemetery and county.

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## ... And Some Venerated Ancestors

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- Cornell, Nancy J. *1864 Census for Re-organizing the Georgia Militia*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2000. 929.3758

This list is essentially a census taken by act of legislature in Georgia in 1864. The entries include name, age, residence by county, occupation, place of birth, and whether exempt from military service, and why. The lists include adult men only. An exceptional resource.

- Index to English Crown Grants in Georgia 1755-1775*. Spartanburg, South Carolina: The Reprint Company, 1989 for The R. J. Taylor Foundation, Atlanta, GA. 929.3758

Lists names of early Georgia residents who received grants of land from the British crown. Entries include name, volume where the record was originally recorded, parish where the land was located, how many acres were included in the grant, and the date the grant was made.

- Lancaster, Jewel Moats. *Jasper County Georgia Cemetery & Bible Records*. N.p.: the author, 1969. 929.3758

Includes a wide variety of materials including cemetery listings, birth, marriage, and death records, and additional notes. A wonderful collection of genealogical materials.

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## Our Town – Events of Interest

2006 Class Schedule – To register for these classes, and to find out about additional classes that will be scheduled later, please call (314) 539-0385.

March 25

“The Halls of Montezuma: Weapons, Strategy & Tactics of the Mexican-American War.”

April 22

“Location, Location, Location: Extracting Genealogical Information From Newspapers and State, County, and Local Histories”

May 20

“Great Civil War Battles: The Wilderness!”

June 10

“It’s In Your Genes: Genetics 101 for the Genealogist”

July 15

“Plain Clothes Combatants: Guerrilla & Partisan Ranger Weapons, Strategy & Tactics in the American Civil War”

August 12

“Great Civil War Battles: Gettysburg!”

September 9

“Gone With the (Really Big) Wind: Alternate Sources for Destroyed Records”

October 21

“Hells on Earth: Civil War Prisons”

November 18

“Our Other Wars: Researching Your War of 1812, Mexican War & Spanish-American War Ancestors”

December 16

“Horns of the Bull: British Tragedy & Triumph at Isandhlwana & Rorke’s Drift”

On-street parking is free on Saturdays, and the Savvis Center MetroLink stop is only four blocks away. Registration is strongly suggested. Please call 539-0385, or e-mail [tpearson@spl.org](mailto:tpearson@spl.org) to register or for further information.

The St. Louis Public Library loves being able to help so many genealogists. We are sometimes asked if there is anything you can do to help us. If you would like to help support the Library, you might consider making a Tribute donation through the St. Louis Public Library Foundation. A Tribute allows you to donate tax-deductible funds for the

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# Ethnic Spotlight

## *Black Georgians in the Union Army*



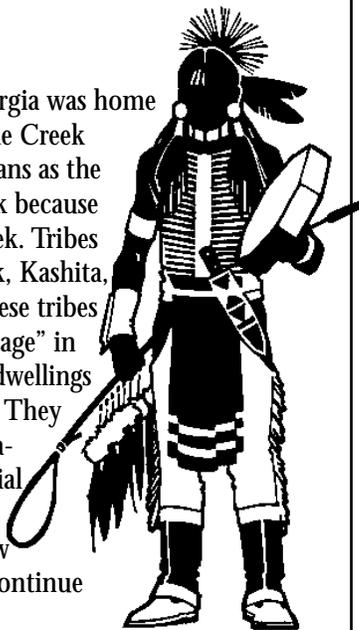
More than 3,500 black Georgians served in the Union army and navy during the period 1862-1865. Enlistments began shortly after federal troops occupied the Sea Islands of Georgia and South Carolina in 1862. General David Hunter organized a regiment of black troops near Hilton Head, South Carolina, which included about 150 former slaves from Savannah, Georgia. General Hunter had not been authorized by Washington to recruit a regiment of black soldiers, however, and the regiment was disbanded by order of the president.

Federal authorization to recruit black soldiers came in November 1862. One of the military units formed in consequence was the 21<sup>st</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment, which consisted of men recruited in Georgia, South Carolina, and Florida. During Sherman's Atlanta Campaign in mid-1864, additional black Georgians were recruited into the Union army, although Sherman himself did not endorse the recruitment of black soldiers. Captured black Union soldiers were sometimes mistreated by their Confederate captors. Some were killed after surrendering, some were put to work as manual laborers for the Confederate army, and some were even sold into slavery. This was the fate suffered by 600 black soldiers of the 44<sup>th</sup> U.S. Colored Infantry Regiment after they were captured by John Bell Hood's men at Dalton, Georgia.

Some recruiting for the Union army also occurred in early 1865 on the Georgia coast, after Savannah fell to Sherman's army. Georgia coastal areas also furnished numerous pilots and sailors for the U.S. Navy during the Civil War.

## *The Creek Nation*

During the colonial period, most of the state of Georgia was home to an alliance of American Indian tribes known as the Creek Confederacy. These tribes were known to other Indians as the Muskogee, but English traders called them the Creek because their villages were concentrated along Ocheese Creek. Tribes in the Confederacy included the Apalachicola, Creek, Kashita, Oconee, Okmulgee, and Yemasee to name a few. These tribes all spoke a common language called the "trade language" in addition to their native languages. They built similar dwellings and performed similar types of religious ceremonies. They lived in large permanent villages that were centered around plazas used for religious ceremonies, ceremonial dancing, and games. When a village reached a certain size, about half its members would move to a new location in the nearby area. The new village would continue to maintain close ties with its parent village.



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# ... And Some Venerated Ancestors

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5. Lucas, Silas Emmett. *Index to the Headright & Bounty Grants of Georgia 1756-1909*. Vidalia, GA: Georgia Genealogical Reprints, 1970. 929.3758

Includes post-Revolutionary land grants. Entries show name, location of land, number of acres in the grant, the year of the grant, and the page and volume in the original records. Another good resource for this state.

6. McCall, Mrs. Howard H., ed. *Roster of Revolutionary Soldiers in Georgia*. Atlanta: John T. Hancock, 1941. 929.3758

Entries include name of soldier, place and date of birth, place and date of death, rank, unit or Continental line, date of marriage, spouse, and names of children. Includes those residing in Georgia, not just those who served from Georgia. A wonderful resource for families with Georgia roots.

7. Payne, Dorothy E. *Georgia Pensioners*. 2 vols. N.p.: Sunbelt Publishing Co., 1985-1986. 929.3758

A listing of Georgia residents who applied for a pension or bounty land grant based on service in the War of 1812 or some earlier wars. Entries include person's name, name of war for which pension is being granted, date, type of service, unit, spouse or widow, residence, and pension or bounty land numbers.

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## ... And Some Venerated Ancestors

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8. Smith, James F.; additional material added, Lucas, Silas Emmett. *The Cherokee Land Lottery: Containing a Numerical List of the Names of the Fortunate Drawers in Said Lottery With an Engraved Map of Each District*. Vidalia, GA: Georgia Genealogical Reprints, 1968 (1838). 929.3758

The lands formerly held by the Cherokee people in Georgia were, in 1832, granted to white citizens in a lottery. This index shows the winners of that land lottery. Entries may include information such as military service, status as a widow or orphan of a veteran, guardianship, or other designations, as well as the location of the land.

## Our Town – Events of Interest

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purchase of books or materials that will be added to the genealogy collection. You can honor the family you are researching, or another person of your choice, with the bookplate that is added to each Tribute item. This program benefits the Library and your fellow genealogists. If you would like to consider making a Tribute gift, please see the Foundation's website at [www.splfoundation.org](http://www.splfoundation.org). Thanks to all of our readers and genealogists for your support of the Library!

## They Came From...Georgia!

Late 1600s – English traders make contact with tribes of the Creek Confederation in the area south of the Carolinas.

1685 – Spanish by this time are driven from Georgia by an alliance of the English and the Creek Confederacy.

1702 – English settlers and Creek Indians turn back a Spanish advance up the Flint River.

1707 – Creek Confederacy enters a formal alliance with the colony of South Carolina.

1715 – Creeks counter English land encroachments and seizures by slavers with widespread attacks on English settlers.

1733 – Creeks grant Governor Oglethorpe permission to allow settlers on Creek land in the Treaty of Savannah.

1755 – Boundary of Creek and Cherokee lands decided by the Battle of Taliwa.

1778 – British capture Savannah during American Revolution.

1782 – British forces evacuate Savannah.

1788 – Georgia becomes the fourth state of the Union.

1803 – Lottery land distribution system is adopted to curtail widespread abuses under the previous "headright" system.

1805 – First Georgia Land Lottery. Largest lots awarded are 490 acres.

1807 – Second Georgia Land Lottery.

1820 – Third Georgia Land Lottery. Largest lots awarded are 490 acres.

1821 – Fourth Georgia Land Lottery.

1827 – Fifth Georgia Land Lottery.

1828 – Gold is discovered near present-day Dahlonega, Georgia, starting a gold rush that culminates in the 1832 Georgia Gold Lottery.

1832 – Sixth Georgia Land Lottery.

1832 – Seventh Georgia Land Lottery (Gold Lottery) is held. Land is awarded in 40-acre lots.

1833 – Eighth Georgia Land Lottery is held.

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# They Came From...Georgia!

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1861 – Georgia secedes from the Union.

1862 – Union Army authorized to recruit black soldiers.

1864 – Black soldiers recruited for the Union Army during Sherman's Atlanta Campaign. Atlanta captured by Sherman's army in September 1864.

1865 – Georgia ratifies 13<sup>th</sup> amendment.

1870 – Georgia readmitted to the Union.

1919 – Georgia Division of Public Health has statewide birth and death records beginning this year (<http://health.state.ga.us/programs/vitalrecords/>). Contact the county courthouse for records prior to this date.

1952 – Georgia Division of Public Health has statewide marriage licenses and applications for the period 1952-1996. For records before and after those dates, contact the county courthouse.

# Help!!

**H**elp!! provides an opportunity for readers to ask for assistance with genealogical queries. We invite our readers to contribute solutions to questions featured in this section. See the Contact section for e-mail and postal addresses. Put GFH-HELP!! in the subject line.

**Q:** In an early will probated in the American colonies, I saw the phrase "natural child." This was after the listing of the children I knew of from the deceased's marriage. It then listed another name, and that person received a smaller share of the estate. What is a natural child?

**A:** That term refers to a child born out of wedlock, but acknowledged by the child's father. In this case, the child born out of wedlock was mentioned in the will, but received a smaller share of the estate than the deceased person's legitimate children.

# Ethnic Spotlight

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Village members lived not in teepees but in huts with wood shingles or grass roofs. By the 1700s, most villages had settled into a decidedly agrarian lifestyle, making use of the axe and plow and raising livestock. Major crops were corn, rice, and potatoes. Each village had a chief, an assistant chief, and a third official whose job was to announce decisions made by the chief (similar in some ways to the president's press secretary).

The Creek Confederacy managed to maintain an uneasy peace with white settlers, which was constantly put to the test by white encroachments on Creek lands, and by the frequent capture of Creeks by white slave traders. The Creeks also resented encroachment on their lands by the Cherokee. The Creeks struck back in 1715, killing numerous traders and beginning what would come to be called the Yemassee Wars. An uneasy alliance of South Carolina militia and Cherokee Indians finally managed to push the Creek south, away from the Savannah River.

Trouble between Creeks and Cherokee continued for some years after this point. This rivalry was encouraged by the English, who felt it better that the Indians be fighting one another than attacking English settlements. The Battle of Taliwa in 1755 finally decided the boundary line between Creek and Cherokee lands: the Creeks got the lands south of the Chattahoochee River.

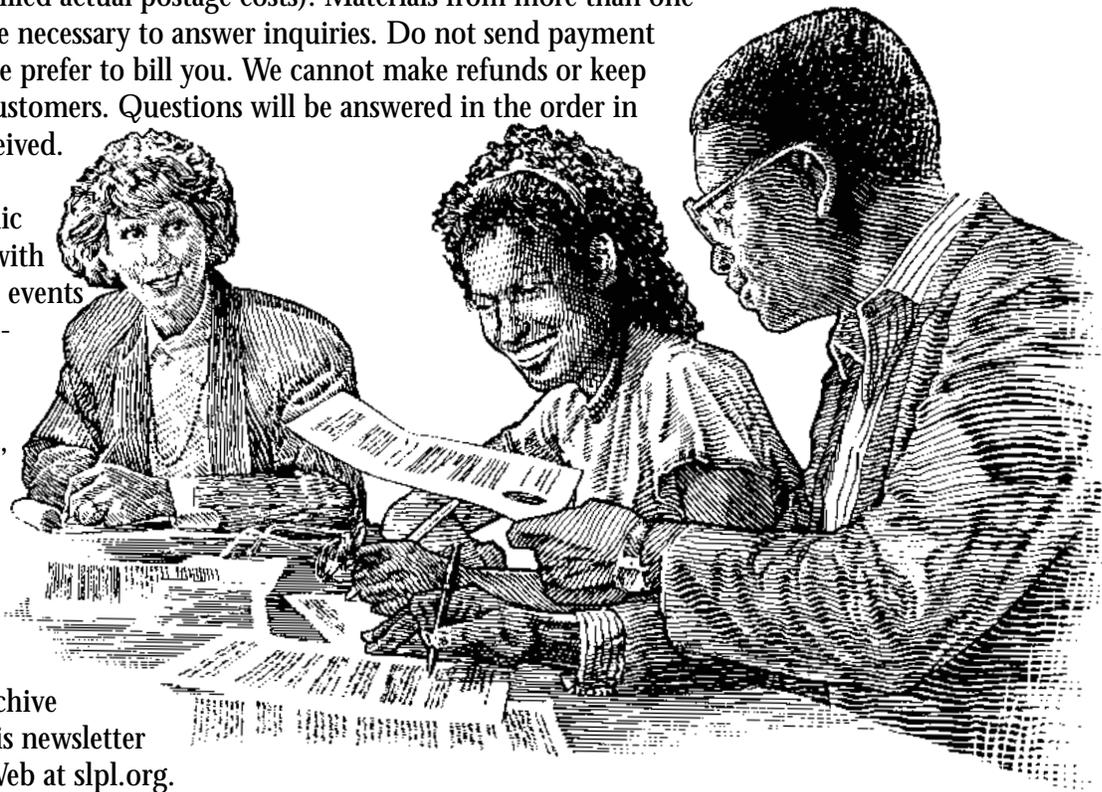
The Creek Confederacy had a problem that would be shared later on by the Confederate States of America – it was a loose confederation with no strong central government to coordinate its efforts and keep errant members in line. Individual tribes did not stand a chance against the advance of white civilization, as numbers and technology were entirely on the side of the white settlers. One land concession after another finally resulted in the removal of the Creeks from their ancestral homelands to Oklahoma in the mid-1830s.



# Contact!!

The staff of our History & Genealogy Department can do limited genealogical research for persons making inquiries. Please be specific about who and what you are looking for. We will search our collection and make copies of any materials that answer your questions. We charge \$.25/page for microfilm copies and \$.15/page for photocopies. There is a postage and handling charge of \$1.00 per inquiry per Library department (non-U.S. requests are billed actual postage costs). Materials from more than one department may be necessary to answer inquiries. Do not send payment with your order: we prefer to bill you. We cannot make refunds or keep accounts for our customers. Questions will be answered in the order in which they are received.

The St. Louis Public Library's website, with our online catalog, events calendar, special indexes for St. Louis historical and biographical materials, an index of selected *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* newspaper obituaries, death notices, and burial permits, and an archive of past issues of this newsletter located on the Web at [spl.org](http://spl.org).



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