

# Growing Georgia



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

- a. Explain the establishment of the University of Georgia, Louisville, and the spread of Baptist and Methodist churches.
- c. Explain how technological developments, including the cotton gin and railroads, had an impact on Georgia's growth.

# Georgia



Though it began as the smallest and poorest colony, after the American Revolution, Georgia quickly expanded.



# Lack of College Opportunity



- ❧ The opportunity to receive a college education was almost impossible for anyone living in Georgia during the colonial period.
- ❧ Colleges in the United States were private, which means that they are NOT operated by the government and were very expensive.
- ❧ The closest college to Georgia was William and Mary College located in Williamsburg, Virginia.





<http://www.todayingeorgiahistory.org/content/university-georgia-chartered>

# Establishment of the University of Georgia

---

- ❧ The future signer of the U.S. Constitution, Abraham Baldwin, was chosen by Governor Lyman Hall (a signer of the Declaration of Independence) to draft the charter for the University.
- ❧ In 1783, Baldwin wrote the charter that established the University of Georgia.
- ❧ In the preamble to the Charter, Baldwin stated that for a democracy to succeed, the people must be educated. He referred to youth as "the rising hope of our land." Baldwin said Georgia must "place the youth under the forming hand of Society, that by instruction they may be molded in the love of virtue and good Order."

# UGA



☞ On the 27<sup>th</sup> of January in 1785 the Georgia state government accepted the charter making the University of Georgia the first to be created by and supported by a state government.

☞ Baldwin was president of the University from 1785 until 1801.



# UGA



- ❧ Unfortunately, many other events in the state caused UGA to exist on paper only.
- ❧ Georgia's leaders were occupied with creating a state and skirmishes with Native Americans. The land designated for the college was used for other purposes or sold.
- ❧ Though the University of Georgia was the first public university to be chartered, the University of North Carolina actually held classes first. Today there is a spirited debate between the two institutions about which one is actually the Nation's first state sponsored University.

# UGA



- ❧ The university had its first class in 1801 after John Milledge purchased and donated 633 acres to the university.
- ❧ However, it wasn't until 1803 that the first building was built on the campus. It was named the Franklin building after Benjamin Franklin. It remained the only building on campus until 1821.
- ❧ After the Civil War, the University was designated as a "land grant institution" under the Morrill Act of 1872.
  - ❧ The federal government gave federally controlled land to develop or sell to raise funds to establish a college.



# Significance



- ✧ UGA was the first university in America to be created by a state government, and served as a model for the American system of publicly supported colleges and universities. This meant that it received funds from the state which helped keep the cost of a college education down and providing more people with the access to an advanced education.



What two cities have served as Georgia's capitals during the Colonial period and Revolution?

# Georgia's 1<sup>st</sup> Capital- Savannah

- ☞ Savannah was Georgia's first capital because it was the 1<sup>st</sup> permanent settlement in Georgia.
- ☞ Savannah was not technically the capital. Power resided with the Trustees in England.
- ☞ In 1754, when Georgia transitioned from a trustee to a royal colony, it was officially declared as the state's capital.



# Georgia's 2<sup>nd</sup> Capital- Augusta

- ⌘ During the American Revolution in 1778, Savannah fell to British forces.
- ⌘ Georgia's government was relocated to Augusta.
- ⌘ Following the end of the Revolution, the capital rotated between Savannah and Augusta.



# Georgia's Population Moves

---

- ❧ Georgia's population began to move inland (away from the coast... West).
- ❧ It was difficult for Georgia's citizens to travel to the coast for state business.
- ❧ In 1786, the legislature appointed a commission to find a site for a permanent, centrally located capital.



# Georgia's Capital



- ❧ *Louisville* (pronounced *Lewisville*) became Georgia's third state capital following Savannah and Augusta.
- ❧ The city, named after French King Louis XVI for his support during the American Revolution, was the capital from 1796-1807.
- ❧ Located in Jefferson County, Louisville was selected as the capital due to, what at the time was its location as the center of Georgia's population. This was driven by the state's westward expansion.



# Louisville



- ❧ The state's legislators hoped that the town would also serve as a trading center due to its location on the Ogeechee River.
- ❧ Once it was established, Louisville developed both socially and financially.
- ❧ However, Louisville's time as capital ended in 1807 due several factors including the malaria outbreaks that occurred in the city every year, the difficulty of using the Ogeechee River as a trade route, and most importantly, the continual Northwestern movement of Georgia's population.

# Significance

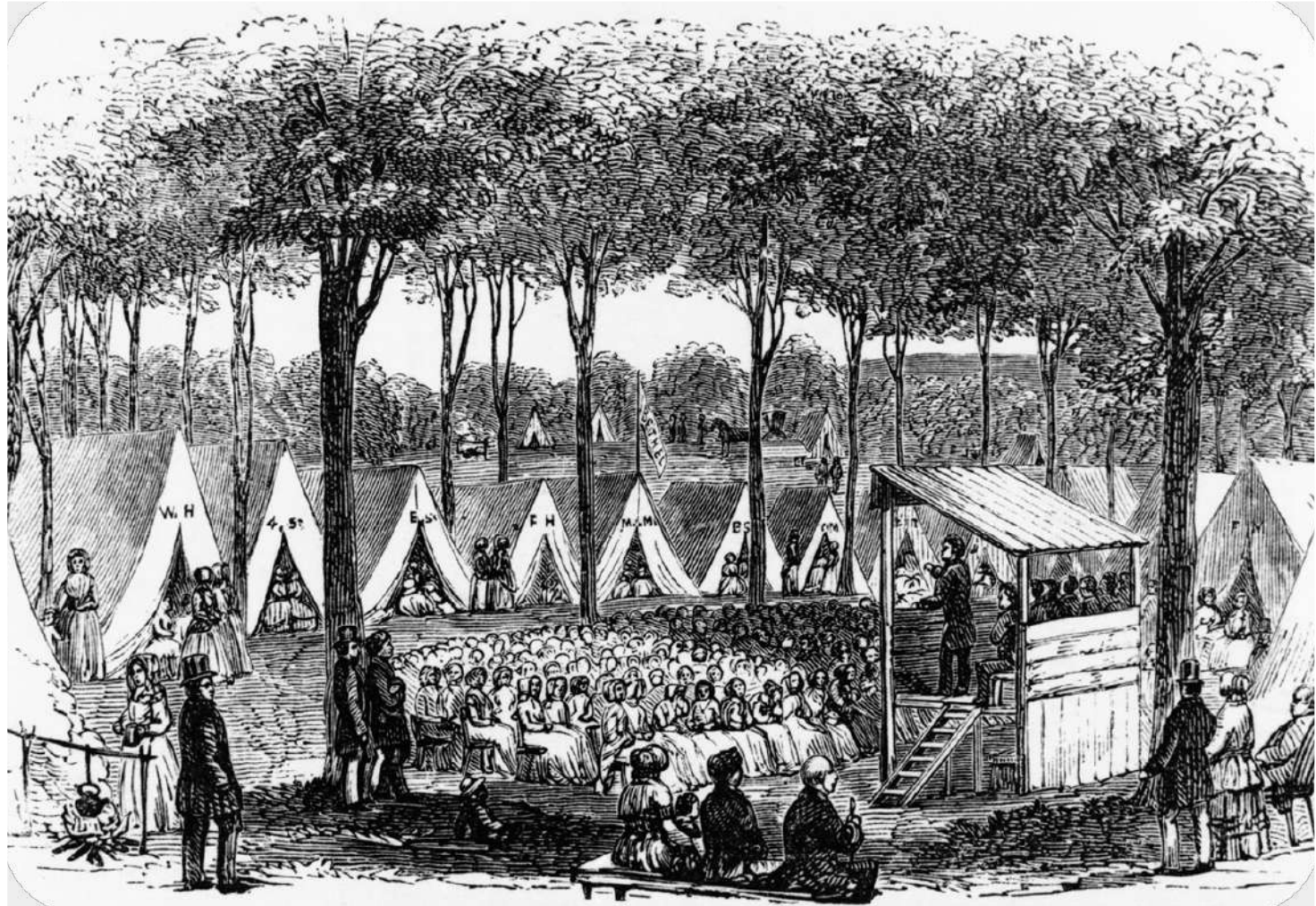


☞ Louisville illustrates Georgia's population growth and movement from the coast to the Northwestern part of the state.





What is happening in this picture?



# Religion in Georgia



Religion has strongly influenced Georgia's growth...

What are some ways that this can still be seen in Georgia today?

# The Spread of Religion



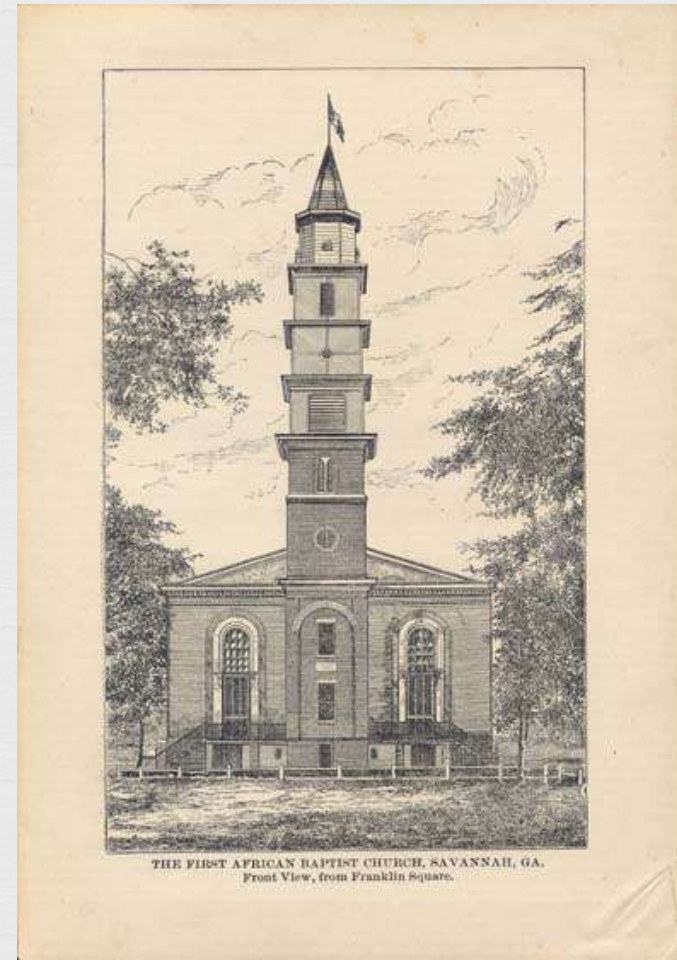
- ❧ Though the founder of the *Methodist* church, John Wesley, preached in colonial Georgia, Georgians did not begin identifying themselves with the denomination until the **Second Great Awakening** (1790-1830- A time when religion began to grow and spread throughout the United States).
- ❧ During the same time period, the Baptist Church also dramatically increased its numbers as well.
- ❧ By the 1830's, these denominations became the largest in the state.



# Religion



- Both churches gained popularity amongst working class Georgians in the frontier and small towns of the state. In addition, due to these denominations' mission work on plantations, many slaves converted to either the Baptist or Methodist churches.
- The First African Baptist Church in Savannah was established December 1777. It is believed to be the oldest African American congregation in the United States.



# Slavery and Religion



- ❧ Few segregated churches existed... most slaves usually attended the same churches as their masters.
- ❧ Slavery caused divisiveness in churches.
  - ❧ Episcopal Church was formed when they split with the Methodist National Organization over the issue of slavery.
  - ❧ The Southern Baptist Convention was formed when Baptists in the South left the American Baptist Union when its foreign mission board would not accept slave owners as missionaries.

# Bible Belt

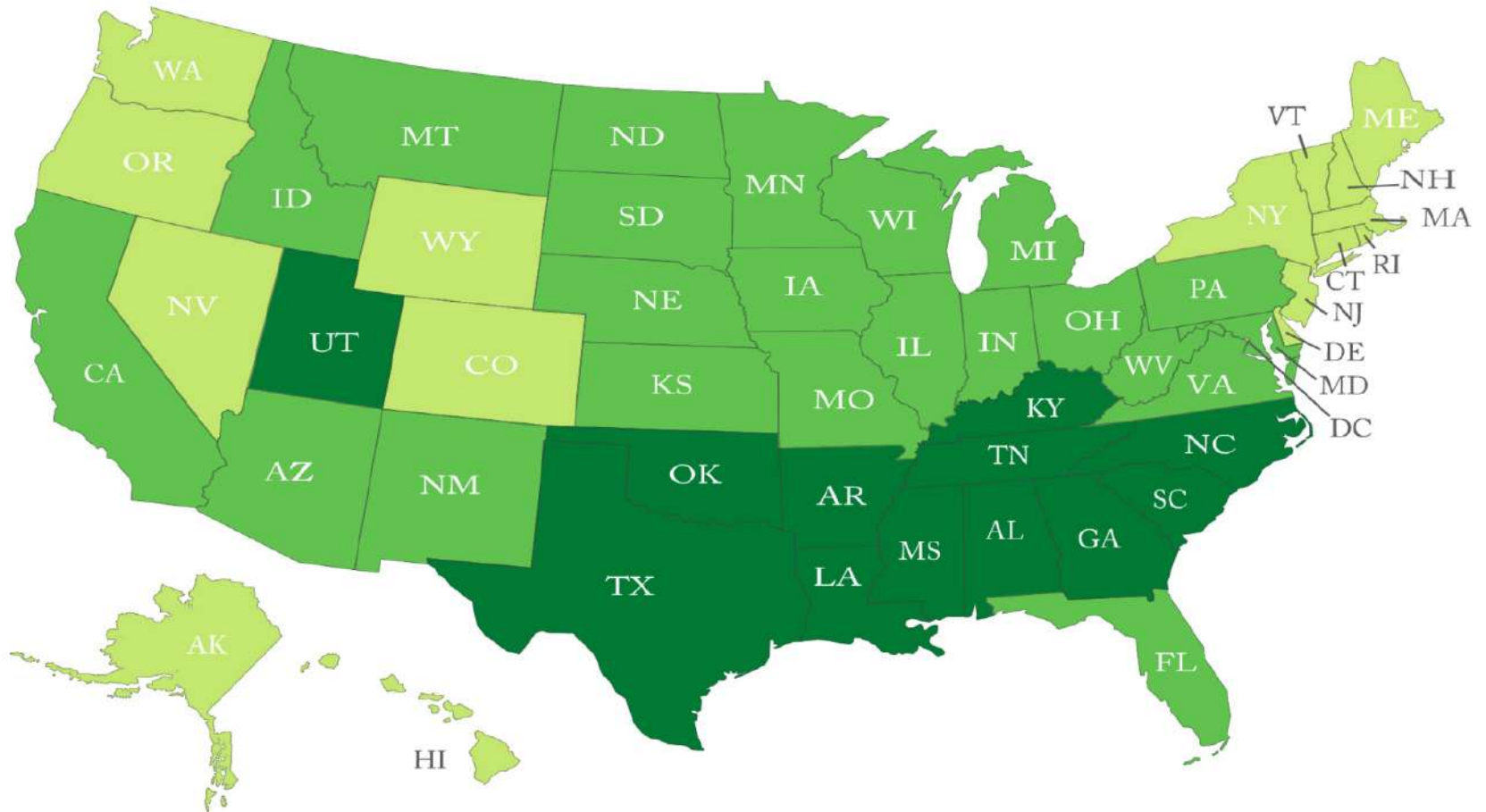


☞ The spread of religion in the South earned it the nickname of the Bible Belt.



# Religiosity, 2011

■ Above average   ■ Average   ■ Below average

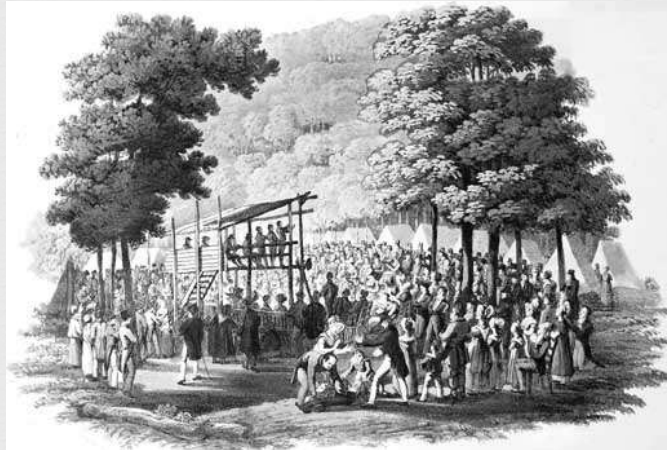


GALLUP®

# Camp Meetings



- Both the Baptists and Methodists used revivals and **camp meetings** to help increase their membership.
- Camp meetings could last for several days
- Farmers, frontiersmen, and townspeople could listen to the sermon but also got together and socialized with their friends and family.
- They were especially popular in the frontier areas because they lacked traditional churches.





# Circuit Riders



☞ The Methodist church also incorporated the use of **circuit riders**, ministers who would ride from small town to small town and preach. These circuit riders were instrumental in bringing new converts to the church.



# Significance



✧ Baptist and Methodist churches became the largest denomination in Georgia.



[http://www.gpb.org/georgiastories/stories/rairoads\\_economic\\_boom](http://www.gpb.org/georgiastories/stories/rairoads_economic_boom)

# Railroads



- ❧ The first Georgia railroad was chartered in 1832.
- ❧ It was created in part by businessmen in Athens, who needed a better way to transport cotton to Augusta due to poor road conditions.

# Railroads in Georgia



- ✧ In the 1840s and 1850s, railroads had spread across so much of the state, Georgia ranked in the top 10 for railroad track millage.
- ✧ Georgia had the most miles of track in the Deep South.

# Atlanta



- ❧ The city of Atlanta was created as a railroad hub for the Western and Atlantic Railroad.
- ❧ This track ran from Chattanooga, Tennessee to a small hub called "Terminus," which means "end of the line."
- ❧ Later, two other railroad lines combined with this point, causing the city to grow even more.

# Atlanta



- ❧ Terminus changed its name in 1843, to Marthasville, after the former governor Wilson Lumpkin's daughter.
- ❧ Its name was changed again in 1845 to Atlanta, which many claim was simply a feminization of the name Atlantic.
- ❧ Due to the invention of the railroad, Atlanta became the first major American city to be built on a location without a navigable river.

# Intended Consequences of the Railroad



- ❧ Improve transportation for people as well as goods.
- ❧ This would make goods more profitable and make more money.
- ❧ It would improve the economy.



# Unintended Consequences of the Railroad



- ❧ When railroads expanded, land was needed to build them.
- ❧ This led to Native Americans being pushed off their land.



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0SMNYivh>

Gsc

# Cotton Gin



- ☞ According to some, the idea for the cotton gin was conceived by Eli Whitney, a northerner who moved to Georgia in 1793.
- ☞ Others say that Whitney simply improved upon other designs that had already existed.

# The Change to Cotton



- ❧ During this time period, tobacco, which at the time was one of Georgia's most important crops, was destroying the soil.
- ❧ As an alternative to tobacco the state was looking for ways to make growing cotton profitable.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6eT4bNx>

kv-c

# Cotton



- ❧ Until that point, cotton had to be, for a lack of a better word, "deseeded" by hand.
- ❧ This process took a long time to accomplish, and most farmers could not "clean" more than one pound of cotton a day.
- ❧ Eli Whitney "invented" a machine that was capable of removing the seeds from up to 50 pounds of cotton a day.

# The Cotton Gin



- ❧ Due to the machine's efficiency the growth of cotton became profitable in Georgia and the rest of the South.
- ❧ This led to westward expansion as farmers began to seek out land capable of producing the crop.
- ❧ With the focus on growing cotton due to its profitability, the South grew a large majority of the world's cotton by the end of the nineteenth century.

# Intended Consequences of the Cotton Gin



- ☞ To make cleaning the seeds out of cotton easier.
- ☞ To make growing cotton more profitable.



# Unintended Consequences of the Cotton Gin



- ❧ Slavery had started to decline before the cotton gin. It increased the demand for slaves and caused slavery to expand rapidly.
- ❧ Increased the need for more land leading to removal of Native Americans.
- ❧ Led to the South being dependent upon on crop.