



WE'RE GOING

**YO I KNOW YOU'RE DECLARING YOUR
INDEPENDENCE AND IMMA LET YOU FINISH**

**BUT THE MAGNA CARTA WAS
ONE OF THE BEST HISTORICAL
DOCUMENTS OF ALL TIME!**

237 YEARS AGO

**THIS MAN WROTE THE
ULTIMATE BREAKUP
LETTER**

**It's not you,
It's U.S.**

Role of Georgians

In the Revolution

Elijah Clarke

- One of the more well-known Georgia patriots was Lieutenant Colonel *Elijah Clarke* (1742-1799). Clarke was a poor farmer from North Carolina who moved to Georgia around 1773.
- Early on Clarke wanted to remain loyal to the king and even signed his name to a petition to support the King in 1774.
- However, he joined the Georgia militia when the fighting broke out in the colony.
- Early in the war Clarke fought both at Kettle Creek and Cherokee who had sided with the British.

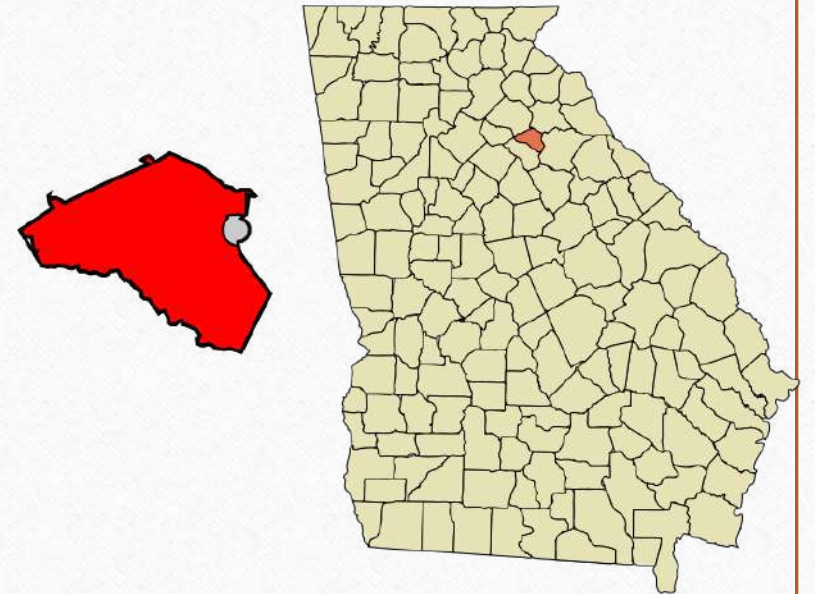
Elijah Clarke at the Battle of Kettle Creek

- Clarke's most famous act was his leadership during the patriot victory at the *Battle of Kettle Creek*. During this battle, Clarke led a charge against loyalist troops that helped win the battle and boost morale for the Georgia patriots.
- After this battle, Clarke continued to fight the British troops in Georgia and South Carolina.



Clarke After the War

- Clarke was wounded several times during the Revolution.
- The state of Georgia rewarded his services with a plantation.
- After the war, he continued to serve in the military and was involved in politics.
- Based on his military accomplishments, Clarke County was named in his honor.



Clarke's Downfall

- Unfortunately, Clarke's heroic legacy was scarred by a bad choices in his later life.
- In 1789, he tried to create his own republic, called the "Trans-Oconee Republic," after defeating the Creek Indians in present day Walton County.
- He was also involved with the Yazoo Land Fraud, and became entangled in two plots to illegally invade East Florida.
- Clarke died in 1799, discredited and almost bankrupt.

POOR

Austin Dabney

- *Austin Dabney* (1765-1830) was a slave who fought under Elijah Clarke during the Battle of Kettle Creek.
- Dabney served in the place of his master Richard Aycock, who used Dabney as a substitute in order not to fight himself.



Austin Dabney at the Battle of Kettle Creek

- Dabney is thought to be the only African American who fought at the Battle of Kettle Creek.
- He was an artilleryman and was severely wounded during the fighting.



Dabney's Road to Recovery

- One of his fellow soldiers, Giles Harris, took Dabney to his home and cared for Dabney while he recovered.
- Harris's kindness led to a close bond between Dabney and the Harris family. Dabney continued to work for Harris after he was granted his freedom.

Dabney After the War

- Due to his bravery during the Battle of Kettle Creek, the state of Georgia paid for Dabney's freedom from his former master.
- The state also gave Dabney a grant for 50 acres of land for his service during the Revolution, the only African-American to receive one.
- Later, Dabney received an additional 112 acres from the state and a federal "invalid pension" of 60 dollars a month (which was increased to 96 dollars a month) due to the wound he received at Kettle Creek.

STATE OF GEORGIA.

To the Honourable the *President* and the Members of
Council, now sitting in Augusta for the Purpose of granting
Lands in the two new Counties of Franklin and Washington

The PETITION of *Arthur Dobson* ~~citizen of~~
as a Refugee in the State aforesaid, ~~and to the~~
SHEWETH, ~~that he is entitled to~~

THAT your Petitioner is entitled to *Two hundred and*
fifty Acres of Land, as a Bounty for his
Services, pursuant to the Certificate hereunto annexed: That your
Petitioner is desirous of taking up the said Lands in the County of
Washington

May it therefore please your Honourable Board to grant your
Petitioner *Two hundred and fifty*
Acres of Land in the County of *Washington*
on the Right aforesaid, and on his complying with the
Terms mentioned in the late Land Act; and your Petiti-
oner will pray.

Nancy Hart

- Nancy was a patriot who became famous for her efforts to rid the area where she lived of Tories, English soldiers, and British sympathizers.



Patriot and Spy

- During most of the Revolution, she was left alone to fend for herself and her children while her husband served as a lieutenant under Elijah Clarke.
- She was a spy for the patriots. She often disguised herself as a simpleminded man and wandered amongst Tories and British soldiers to gather information which she would pass along to the patriots.
- It is also believed that she participated at the Battle of Kettle Creek.

The Legend

- One evening, a Tory spy crept up to the family cabin and was spying by looking through a crack. One of her children told her what was going on. Hart, who was making soap around the fireplace, filled her ladle with boiling soap water and flung it through the crack. A scream confirmed her aim. The Tory was hog-tied and taken prisoner to local militia.

The Legend

- Her most famous act was when a group of six (some say five) Tories came to her cabin and demanded information concerning the location of a Whig leader who had stopped by the Hart cabin for help just minutes earlier. Hart told the Tories that no one had passed through her neck of the woods for days. The Tories were convinced that she was lying. One of the Tories shot and killed her prized turkey and demanded that she cook it.



The Legend

- As the Tories entered the cabin, they stacked their weapons in the corner, and demanded something to drink. Hart gave them her jugs of wine. Once the Tories started getting drunk, she sent her daughter Sukey to the spring for a bucket of water. Her daughter was instructed to blow a conch shell. The sound alerted neighbors that Tories were in the cabin. She then began to pass the Tories loaded muskets to her daughter. When the Tories noticed what she was doing, they jumped to their feet. Hart threatened to shoot the first man who moved a foot. Ignoring her warning, one Tory lunged forward, and Hart pulled the trigger, killing him. She also shot a second Tory who made a move toward the stacked weapons. She then held the others until her husband and others arrived.

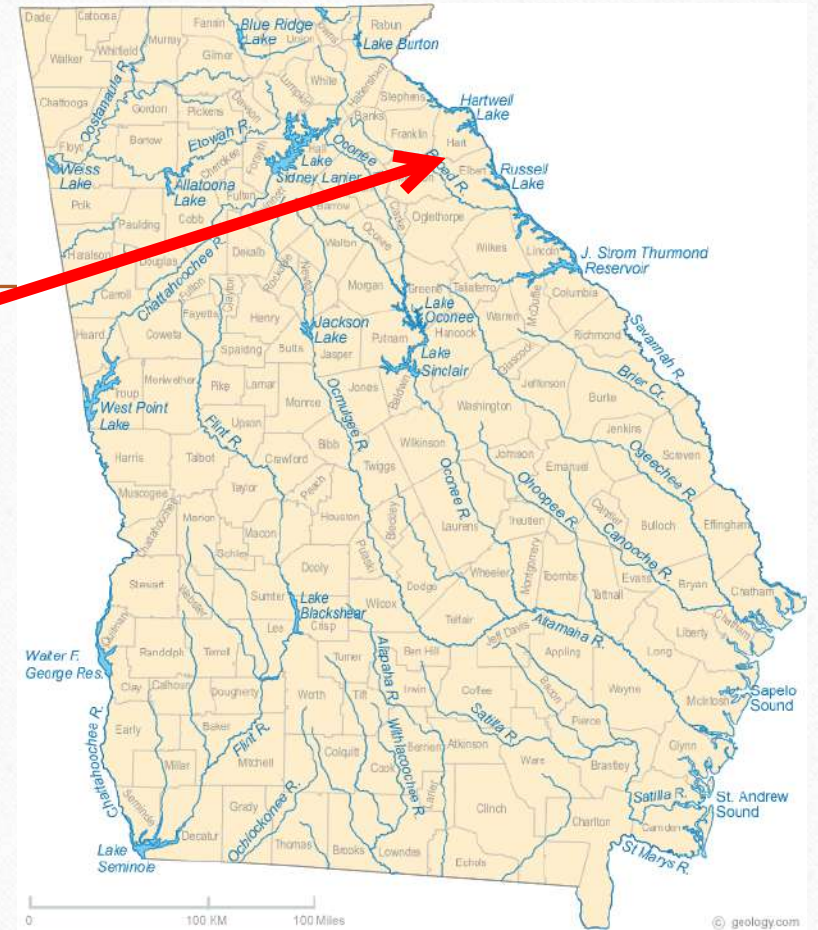
The Legend



- The remaining Tories were hanged from a nearby tree.
- In 1912, railroad workers working near the site of the Hart cabin unearthed a neat row of six skeletons that were estimated to have been buried for at least a century. This discovery is often considered as proof of the Hart legend.

Remembered

- Hart County, the city of Hartwell, a highway, and Lake Hartwell are named in her honor.



Battle of Kettle Creek



- In February of 1779 a group of patriots led by Elijah Clarke and John Dooly attacked some loyalist militia near Augusta, Georgia. The patriots were joined by South Carolina troops. The loyalist were obviously defeated. Only 9 patriots were killed while 70 loyalist were killed and another 70 captured.

Siege of Savannah



- Siege of Savannah the British won☹. So Savannah remained under British control for 3 ½ more years.
- James Wright Remained Royal Governor for three more years.

Siege of Savannah

- Dec 1778, British forces attack and take control of Savannah.
- Sep. 1779, 22 French ships + 4000 soldiers join 15,000 Americans under command of Gen. Benjamin Lincoln.
- Combined armies laid siege to Savannah. A siege occurs when forces try to capture a fort or town by surrounding it and blocking supplies from reaching it.
- Daybreak, Oct. 9, American & French troops attack British position.
- Attack lasted 45 minutes.
- Over 1000 men with American forces died (821 French) & 40 British die. Over 600 wounded.
- Famous patriot, Polish Count Casimir Pulaski gave his life.
- Savannah remains in Br. Control for next 3 ½ years.



Signers of the Declaration

- The patriots who signed this document, including men such as John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin, put their lives on the line. Had Britain won the war, these men would more than likely have been executed as traitors to their country.

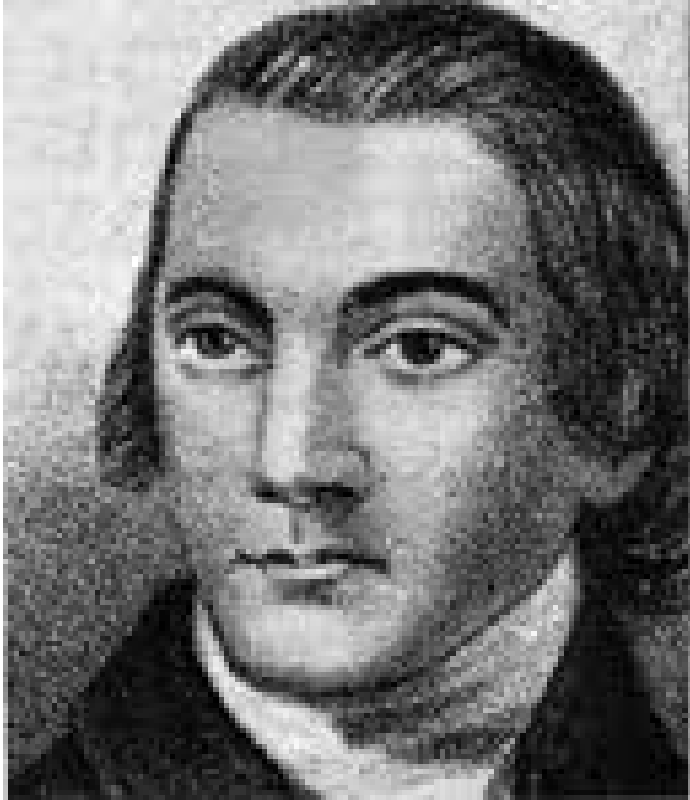


Georgia's Signers of the Declaration of Independence



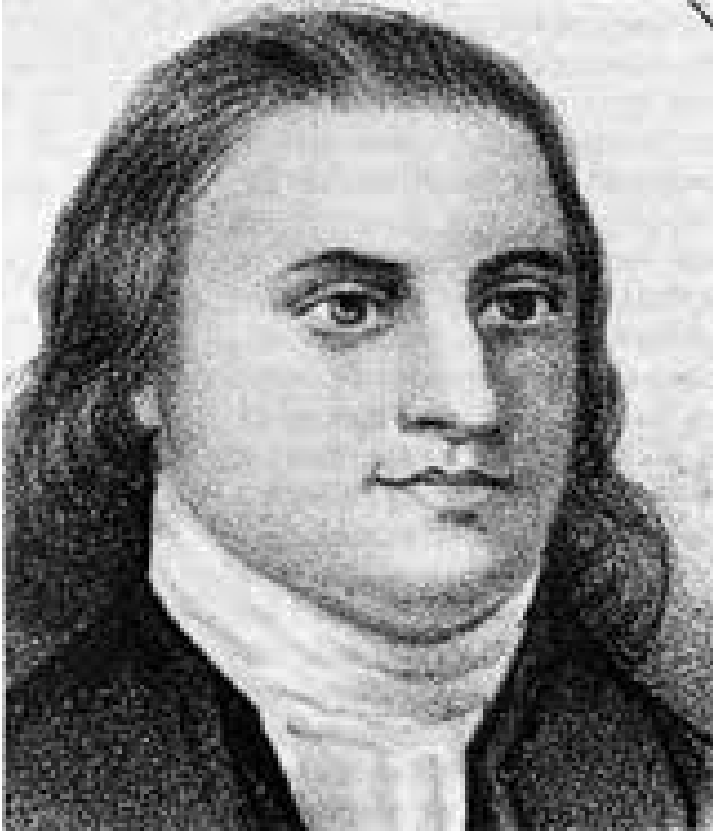
Button Gwinnett *** George Walton *** Lyman Hall

Lyman Hall



Lyman Hall signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th . He changed his profession several times he was first a minister then a farmer then he went to school to be a doctor. He also represented the second continental congress to get British to ease up on Georgia's restrictions. All and all he was a great man.

Button Gwinnett



- Button Gwinnett Gwinnett county's namesake. He wanted to lead troops after signing the Declaration of Independence, and becoming Governor of Georgia. When someone else was picked to lead troops him and the other person (General McIntosh) feuded.
- They dueled Button died from his harsh injuries.

George Walton

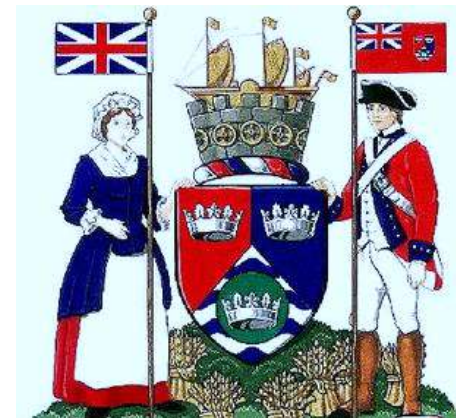
- Served in militia during and was captured by the British.
- After being released in a prisoner exchange, he was elected governor
- His first term was short lived, as he was elected to Congress after serving as governor for two months.
- Following the war, Walton served as Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court, a second term as governor in 1789, as an U.S. Senator, and finally as a superior court judge.
- Walton county was named in his honor.





Colonists Divide... *Loyalists*

- Loyalists were American colonists who remained loyal to Great Britain and the King.
- They were often referred to as Tories, Royalists, King's Friend's, or King's Men.
- Historians estimate that approximately 15-20% of the population were Loyalists.
- Many Loyalists fled to Canada or Great Britain during the Revolution.



Colonists Divide...Patriots

- Patriots were colonists who wanted to gain their independence from Great Britain.
- They were also referred to as Whigs, Liberty Boys, Colonials, or Sons and Daughters of Liberty.
- Historians estimate that approximately 40-45% of the population were Patriots.



Loyalists believed...

- A strong unified British Empire is good for all
- Colonists are British subjects and should obey British law
- Taxes are result of French and Indian War which was fought to protect colonies
- American colonies would be weak without Britain
- Colonies profit from trade with England
- Colonies are too far away from England to have representation in Parliament, it's just not practical

Patriots believed...

- People have rights government can't take away, like property
- Taxation takes away property (money and goods)
- Colonists don't have voice in Parliament, so Parliament can't tax colonies (No taxation without representation)
- There's no way colonies could ever be represented- Parliament's too far
- Many colonist fought in the French and Indian War (we've done our part)
- British personnel are causing violence, riots, and death (Boston Massacre and Boston Tea Party)

Patriots + Loyalists \neq 100%

It's not a 50%/50% split there are about 30% Neutrals

- Often overlooked are the fence-sitters... those that hoped to remain neutral and avoid conflict.
- Many colonists hoped desperately to remain neutral in a battle between Mother Country and rebellious Americans. Their assumption was that, no matter who was in power, they would have to pay taxes—why risk their lives over who that would be?
- As the war progressed many of these neutral colonists did join the Patriot cause. Patriot propaganda (Thomas Paine's *Common Sense*) and badly behaved British army (looting and destroying property) drove colonists to support the Patriots.