

Indians of Georgia -- Important dates



Prehistoric times (Paleo-Indians -- Stone Age)

- 40,000-20,000 B.C. The first humans appear in what is now Georgia
8,000-1,000 B.C. People of the "Archaic culture" live and hunt here
1,000 B.C.-1500s A.D. Woodland culture people/Mississippians/Mound Builders
900-1350 A.D. Ocmulgee mounds built (near what is now Macon)

Historic times

- 1539 De Soto lands in Florida -- explores, and brings European diseases
1540 De Soto leads his men into Georgia and neighboring areas, looking for gold and slaves
1565 St. Augustine founded (1st European settlement [Spanish])
1607 Jamestown founded (1st permanent English settlement)
1670 Charles Town founded as capital of the Colony of Carolina (1st English settlement in Cherokee or Creek Indian areas)
1717 Colonial Carolina government declares the Indian slave trade illegal
1733 Colony of Georgia founded
1776-83 During the Revolutionary War Cherokees and Creeks both separately side with the British (Both tribes had separately fought with the British against the Spanish)
1812-14 Cherokees join forces with Gen. Andrew Jackson in the War of 1812 and fight against Creeks
1821 Sequoyah creates the Cherokee alphabet (syllabary), making Cherokee the first written American Indian language
1828 Gold is discovered on Cherokee land in Georgia
1830 U.S. Congress passes the Indian Removal Act
1832 The last Georgia Land Lottery (previous lotteries dated from 1805)
1838-39 "Trail of Tears"; Cherokees relocated, most to Oklahoma Territory; Creeks and others relocated previously
1904 Oil discovered in Indian Territory (now Oklahoma)
1907 Oklahoma becomes a state
1924 U.S. government recognizes all Indians as citizens of U.S.A.
1934 U.S. Congress passes Indian Reorganization Act, which allows the federal government to provide funds for Indian development

This chart was compiled from the encyclopedias and books listed in "The Best Children's Books in Print about the Indians of Georgia, for students in grades K-8" (a 6-page list) compiled by Louise White and members of GLMA (Georgia Library Media Association), the list first printed in 1997 and revised every year since then in August.

To ask for a FREE copy of the book list, you may contact Louise White, 246 Chelsea Circle, Decatur, GA 30030 -- phone (also FAX): 404-371-8072

Anyone is welcome to copy this chart.

Revised in October, 2004