

GEORGIA FACTS

Size: 58,876 sq. miles (152,488 sq. km.)

- Slightly larger than England and Wales combined
58,382 sq. miles (151,207 sq. km.)
- Largest state east of the Mississippi River
- Twenty-first largest state in the U.S.
- North to South - 318 miles (512 km.)
- East to West - 278 miles (447 km.)

Statehood: 1788. Fourth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

Namesake: King George II of England

Capital: Atlanta

Counties: 159 independent governing "regions"

Nickname: The Peach State

Georgia "P's": Peanuts - Peaches - Pecans

Population: 9 million people

- 40% of population lives in the metropolitan Atlanta area.

Elevation:

- Lowest - Sea level - Atlantic Ocean coast
- Highest - Brasstown Bald - 4784 feet (1458 meters)

Annual Rainfall: 44 to 50 inches (112 to 127 centimeters)

Largest Cities: Atlanta, Columbus, Savannah, Macon, Albany, Augusta

Airports: 150 state-wide. Atlanta's Hartsfield International is the second busiest in the world.

Forest: 70% of entire state

Leading Producer:

- Poultry "Capital of the World"
- Carpet "Capital of the World"
- Third in the world in bauxite production
- Tenth largest world producer of wood pulp and paper
- First in the U.S. in production of peanuts
- Largest U.S. supplier of kaolin clay for paper production
- Largest supplier of granite in the U.S.

- Second largest U.S. supplier of marble

Revenue (State Gross Product):

- Service Industries (71%)
- Manufacturing (21%)
 - Textiles, transportation equipment, food products, paper products, chemicals, electrical equipment, clothing.
- Agriculture (2%)
 - Poultry, peanuts, eggs, cattle, hogs, soybeans, corn, tobacco, hay, wheat, pecans.
- Mining (1%)
- All Others (6%)

General Information:

- Atlantic Ocean Coastline -100 miles (161 km.)
- Coastal Marshlands - 475,000 acres (192,233 hectare)
- Rivers - 17
- Inland Waterways - 500 miles (805 km.)
- Man-made Reservoirs - 23
- Lakes & Ponds - 80,000
- Streams - 20,000 miles (32,180 km.)
- Interstate Highways - 1242 miles (1999 km.)
- Additional Highways - 105,000 miles (168,945 km.)
- Rail Line - 5500 miles (8850 km.)
- Colleges & Universities - 44
- State & Historic Parks - 56

HISTORICAL CHRONOLOGY

1540 DeSoto explores region today called Georgia.

1562 French explorer Jean Ribaut explores the St. Mary River.

1565 The Spanish King sends Pedro Menendez de Aviles to expel the French. But with the French and Indians against them, the Spanish soldiers are forced back to the islands along the coast.

1679 Spanish friars, led by Father Juan Ocon, visit the Cherokee town of Coweta.

1681 Franciscans pass through Coweta.

1715 South Carolinian Thomas Nairne is the first to suggest England colonize the area which is now Georgia. The Indians, not liking his idea, burn him at the stake.

1732 King George II of England grants a royal charter to establish Georgia.

The *Queen Anne* with 114 settlers on board, led by General James Oglethorpe, sails from England on

November 17.

- 1733** On February 12, the *Queen Anne* lands at the site of Savannah with the settlers who will establish Georgia.
- 1734** By March, Oglethorpe's followers build 91 log houses facing the Savannah River.
- 1736** Oglethorpe brings many more settlers to Georgia from England, among them John and Charles Wesley.

John Wesley, founder of Methodism, comes to Georgia as a missionary for the Church of England. He begins the world's first Protestant Sunday School.

Fort Frederica is built on St. Simon Island.

First golf course in Georgia (and possibly the U.S.) is built at the present site of Darien.

- 1737** John Wesley is so disliked that he is forced to return to England and is replaced by George Whitefield, who establishes Bethesda Orphanage. He also establishes the first English-speaking school in the state.
 - 1739** Tomochichi, the Indian leader who helped get the Georgia colony on its feet, dies at age 97.
 - 1742** The British defeat the Spanish in the Battle of Bloody Marsh. Spanish influence wanes.
 - 1751** Henry Parker organizes Georgia's first militia.
 - 1752** Forty-three Puritan families and their 536 slaves arrive in Georgia.
 - 1754** The first of three royal governors from England arrives in Georgia after the colony's original trustees relinquish their charter.
 - 1773** Slave population swells to over 15,000.
 - 1774** The First Continental Congress meets in Philadelphia without representation from Georgia.
 - 1775** Georgia holds its first Provincial Congress.
 - 1776** British warships arrive in Savannah Harbor.
- Button Gwinnett, George Walton, and Lyman Hall sign the Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia.
- 1777** The Georgia Legislature adopts the state's first constitution.
 - 1778** Savannah falls to British forces.
 - 1779** Americans defeat the British at Kettle Creek near Washington, Ga. British defeat Americans at Brier Creek.

- 1781** Americans under the command of General "Light Horse Harry" Lee recapture Augusta which has been occupied by the British since 1779.
- 1782** British forces surrender at Savannah.
- 1785** The University of Georgia is chartered.
- 1788** Georgia becomes the fourth state of the new United States of America by unanimously ratifying the Federal Constitution.
- 1790** Georgia's population is 82,548.

The first Georgia game law is passed by the State Assembly to conserve wildlife.

- 1793** Eli Whitney invents the cotton gin near Savannah.
- 1799** The Great Seal is authorized by the Legislature.
- 1801** Georgia's first divorce is granted. The State Constitution requires the Superior Court to authorize and both Houses of Legislature to agree by a two-thirds majority.
- 1802** Jekyll Island is purchased by Poulain DuBignon and becomes a haven for French Royalists who are fleeing the Revolution in their homeland.
- 1819** The steamship *Savannah* becomes the first such ship to cross the Atlantic Ocean.
- 1820** Population of the state is 340,985.
- 1821** Creek Indians relinquish to Georgia the land between the Flint and the Ocmulgee Rivers.
- 1825** Creek Chief William McIntosh is murdered.

General LaFayette visits Georgia.

- 1828** The nation's first gold rush takes place at Dahlonega in north Georgia.
- 1829** Gold is discovered at Duke's Creek in today's White County.
- Augustine S. Clayton sets up the first cotton mill near Athens and it operates with waterpower from the Oconee River.
- 1830** State's population is 516,823.
- 1831** United States Supreme Court rejects Cherokee plea against federal removal law.
- 1832** Georgia charters its first railroad.
- 1834** Georgian Mirabeau Lamar migrates to Texas; he will become Texas's second president.
- 1835** Oglethorpe University is founded in Atlanta.

- 1836** Emory University is founded in Atlanta. Wesleyan College (first woman's college with authority to confer degrees) is founded in Macon.
- 1838** Cherokee Indian's "Trail of Tears" begins.
- 1839** The lot for the first residence in Atlanta is purchased.
- 1840** Georgia's population climbs to 691,392.
- 1842** Dr. Crawford Long, a Jefferson physician, becomes the first doctor to administer ether to kill pain during surgery.
- 1842** Author and poet Sidney Lanier is born in Macon.
- 1846** Georgia Supreme Court meets for the first time.
- 1851** The Georgia Military Institute is founded at Marietta.
- 1860** Juliette Gordon Low, founder of the Girl Scouts, is born in Savannah.
- 1861** Georgia secedes from the Union on January 19.
- Governor Joseph Brown orders the State Militia to occupy Fort Pulaski.
- 1863** Nathan Bedford Forrest captures 1,500 Union soldiers near Rome.
- Battle of Chickamauga is fought.
- 1864** The Battle of Atlanta begins. In November, Union General Sherman and his troops set fire to Atlanta.
- 1865** Georgia outlaws slavery when it adopts the 13th Amendment.
- 1867** The first Rich's Department Store opens in Atlanta.
- 1868** Georgia is readmitted to the Union.
- 1874** Georgia becomes the first state in the Union to establish a Department of Agriculture.
- 1875** Postwar population of Georgia is 1,184,068.
- 1877** Atlanta becomes the permanent capital.
- 1878** Senator/ambassador Walter George is born near Preston.
- 1886** Baseball's legendary Ty Cobb is born in Banks County.
- 1888** The Atlanta Bar Association is organized.

- 1888** Georgia Tech begins classes.
 - 1889** State Capitol building is completed.
 - 1892** The Coca-Cola Company is granted its first charter by the Fulton Superior Court.
 - 1895** A "moving picture show" at the Cotton States Exposition in Atlanta is believed to be the first before a paid audience.
 - 1897** Political leader Richard Russell is born in Winder.
- The National Congress of Mothers, an idea conceived by teacher Mrs. Theodore Birney, is organized in Washington, D.C. Later, the name will be changed to National Parent-Teacher Association.
- 1900** Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone With the Wind*, is born in Atlanta.
 - 1902** Golfer Bobby Jones is born in Atlanta.
 - 1909** Political leader Dean Rusk is born in Cherokee County.
 - 1912** In Savannah, Juliette Gordon Low organizes the first Girl Scout Troop in the United States.
 - 1915** "Nat" Harris becomes Georgia's last "Confederate Veteran" governor.
 - 1922** Rebecca Felton becomes the nation's first female United States Senator.
 - 1924** Jimmy Carter is born in Plains.
 - 1925** The holly bush is developed by Atlanta botanist Thomas W. Burford.
 - 1929** Martin Luther King, Jr. is born in Atlanta.
 - 1930** Population climbs to 2,908,521.
 - 1935** The Brown Thrasher becomes Georgia's state bird.
 - 1936** *Gone With the Wind* is published.
 - 1937** Okefenokee Swamp becomes a National Wildlife Refuge.
 - 1939** The movie, *Gone With the Wind*, premieres in Atlanta.
 - 1943** Georgia becomes the first state to allow 18-year-olds to vote.
 - 1945** President Franklin Roosevelt dies at Warm Springs.
 - 1947** The state purchases Jekyll Island for \$650,000.
 - 1961** Baseball great Ty Cobb dies.

- 1962** Members of the Atlanta Symphony are killed in a Paris plane crash.
- 1964** Georgia voters go Republican in the presidential election.
- 1973** Maynard Jackson, Jr. becomes Atlanta's first black mayor.
- 1974** Hank Aaron hits his 715th home run in Atlanta.
- 1976** James (Jimmy) Earl Carter is elected 39th President of the United States.
- 1977** Toccoa Dam bursts, causing much property damage.
- 1979** "Georgia on My Mind" is adopted as the state song.
- 1980** Population of the state is 5,463,105.
- 1981** University of Georgia wins the national football championship.
- 1984** Georgia gives Ronald Reagan 60.1 percent of the vote in the presidential election.
- 1985** Robert Woodruff, empire-building president of Coca-Cola Company, dies at age 95.
- 1987** Football coach Pat Dye is inducted into the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.
- 1990** Atlanta is selected to host the 1996 Summer Olympics.
Georgia Tech wins the National College Football Championship.
- 1991** Atlanta Braves win the National League's Baseball Championship. But loose the World Series.
- 1992** Atlanta Braves win the National League's Baseball Championship. But, again loose the World Series.
- 1993** Hue Thomas, Chairman Emeritus of the Georgia Rotary Student Program, who served as Chairman for 35 years, dies at age 86.
- 1995** Atlanta Braves win the National League's Baseball Championship as well as the World Series.
Finally... Yeah!!!
- 1996** Atlanta hosts the World for the 1996 Centennial Summer Olympiad.
The Georgia Rotary Student Program celebrates it's 50th Anniversary.

Note: Excerpts from James A. Crutchfield's "Chronology", The Georgia Almanac and Book of Facts 1989-1990, Rutledge Hill Press, Nashville, Tennessee, 1988, Pages 242-247.

FAMOUS GEORGIANS

The following abbreviated list is merely representative of the many hundreds of Georgians -- native-born or "transplanted" -- who have made their mark on the development of Georgia, the United States, and the World.

Aaron, Henry Louis "Hank" (1934-). Born in Mobile, Alabama. Baseball player, holder of 21 Major League records, including Most Home Runs. Member of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Aiken, Conrad Potter (1889-1973). Born in Savannah. Poet, novelist, short story writer, and critic. Educated at Harvard University. Works include *Selected Poems* (for which he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1930), *Blue Voyage*, *The Short Stories of Conrad Aiken*, and his autobiography, *U shant*.

Alexander, Edward P. (1835-1910). Born in Washington, Ga; died in Savannah. Before the War Between the States, this future Confederate general, while in the U.S. Army, co-developed the semaphore communications system.

Allman, Gregg (1947-) Rock 'n Roll Hall of Famer Gregg Allman is both a founding member of one of the biggest and most important American bands of all time, the still-active and thriving Allman Brothers Band. Gregg Allman is a survivor, having weathered many tragedies in life-- as well as the occasional pitfalls and detours of a full-tilt rock 'n roll lifestyle-- and continued on to grow both personally and musically. Having searched for blissful simplicity in life as in art, Gregg Allman now lives peacefully in Richmond Hill, Georgia with his wife, his dogs and several "cherry" Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Anderson, James William "Bill" (1937-). Born in Columbia, S. C., grew up in Griffin and Decatur. Country music performer, songwriter, restaurant and music publishing entrepreneur. He holds numerous awards and was elected to the Country Music Songwriter's Hall of Fame before the age of forty.

Arp, Bill pseudonym for **Charles Henry Smith**, (1826-1903). Born in Lawrenceville. Attorney and humorist. Author of several books including *Bill Arp's Peace Papers*.

B52's Rock band formed in Athens, Ga.

Basinger, Kim (1953-) Athens, Ga. Oscar winning blonde star of L.A. Confidential. Also starred in *Never Say Never Again*, *The Natural*, *9 1/2 Weeks*, *8 Mile* and *Cellular*.

Baldwin, Abraham (1754-1807). Born in North Guilford, Conn. One of Georgia's signers of the United States Constitution in 1787. Played a key role in the establishment of the University of Georgia. U.S. representative and senator. College named for him in Tifton, Ga.

Bell, Griffin B. (1918-). Americus. U.S. attorney general, cabinet member of President Jimmy Carter.

Berrien, John McPherson (1781-1856). Graduate of Princeton, four-time U.S. senator, attorney general

in Andrew Jackson's cabinet.

Berry, Martha (1866-1942). Born near Rome, Ga.; died in Atlanta. Educator. Became Georgia's first female member of the Board of Regents. Founder of Berry College.

Birney, Alice McClellan (1858-1907). Born in Marietta. Founder of the National Congress of Mothers, which later became the National Parent-Teacher Association.

Butler, Selena Sloan (1872-1964). Born in Thomasville; died in Los Angeles, Ca. Educator. Founder of the Georgia Colored Parent-Teachers Association and the National Congress of Colored Parents. She fought against racial discrimination.

Caldwell, Erskine Preston (1903-1987). Born in White Oak. Noted novelist. Best known for his stories about hard times in the American South. Author of *Tobacco Road* and *God's Little Acre*.

Carter, James Earl, Jr. "Jimmy" (1924-). Born in Plains. Nuclear physicist, naval officer, peanut farmer, state senator, governor, 39th President of the United States.

Charles, Ray (1932-2004). Born in Albany. Blind pianist and singer. His recordings have been on the charts in country, rhythm and blues, and popular categories. Noted for his recording of "Georgia On My Mind".

Clay, Lucius DuBignon (1879-1978). Born in Marietta. U.S. Army general, author of *Decision in Germany* (1950). Retired in 1949, then served as ambassador in West Berlin during President Kennedy's administration.

Cobb, Thomas Reade Rootes (1823-1862). Born in Jefferson County; died in Virginia. Graduate of University of Georgia, author of the Confederate State Constitution, and co-founder of the first law school in Georgia.

Cobb, Tyrus Raymond "Ty" (1886-1961). Born in Banks County. Baseball player from 1905 to 1928. Until Pete Rose broke his record, Cobb had more hits (4,191) than any other player in history. Member of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Coburn, Charles (1877-1961). Born in Macon. Popular character in movies of the 1930's and 1940's.

Coulter, Ellis Merton (1890-1981). Born in Hickory, N.C.; died in Atlanta. Educator and author. Taught history at the University of Georgia. His works include *The Civil War and Readjustment in Kentucky* (1926), *Georgia -- A Short History* (1933), and the series *The History of the South*.

Crawford, William Harris (1772-1834). Born in Amherst County, Va.; died in Georgia. One of Georgia's most successful national politicians. U.S. senator, president pro tempore of the Senate, U.S. minister to France, secretary of War, secretary of the Treasury, and presidential hopeful.

Dodd, Lamar (1909-1996). Born in Fairburn. Artist and art educator, lecturer, official artist for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

Dodd, Robert Lee "Bobby" (1908-1988). Born in Galax, Va.; died in Atlanta. All-American quarterback for University of Tennessee, 1930. Head coach of Georgia Tech for 22 seasons.

Douglas, Melvyn (1901-1981). Born in Macon; died in New York City. Noted movie actor. Won two Academy Awards for his performances in "Hud" in 1963 and "Being There" in 1979.

Felton, Rebecca Latimer (1835-1930). Born near Decatur; died in Atlanta. Was a writer and leader for political and social reform. At the age of 87, she became the nation's first female senator.

Few, William (1748-1828). Born in Maryland; died in New York. One of Georgia's two signers of the U.S. Constitution. U.S. senator and judge.

Fishburn, Laurence (1961-) Lawrenceville. Played the tough, mysterious, leather-clad Morpheus in the box office hit *The Matrix*.

Foxworthy, Jeff (1958-) Born and resides in Atlanta. "Redneck" blue collar comedian. Television and movies.

Freemont, John C. (1813-1890) Savannah. Explorer, Surveyor, Military Man and Politician.

George, Walter Franklin (1878-1957). Born in Webster County. Served in the U.S. Senate for 34 years. Ambassador to NATO and special advisor to President Eisenhower. Law school at Mercer University named in his honor.

Goulding, Dr. Frances Robert (1810-1881). Inventor of the sewing machine, wrote juvenile books *Young Marooners*, 1852, and *Marooner's Island*, 1862.

Grady, Henry Woodfin (1850-1889). Born in Athens; died in Boston, Ma. Newspaperman, editor, and part-owner of the *Atlanta Constitution* in the 1880's.

Grizzard, Lewis (1946-1994) Fort Benning. Writer and comedian. Also achieved national fame as a best-selling author and syndicated columnists.

Gwinnett, Button (1732-1777). Born in England; died in Georgia. He was a merchant and settled in Savannah. Was a delegate to the Second Continental Congress and was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Habersham, James (1713-1775). Born in England; died in Brunswick. Secretary and acting governor of the colony of Georgia. Raised and shipped the first cotton ever shipped from America.

Habersham, Joseph (1751-1815). Died in Savannah. Leader of the Liberty Boys, colonel in the Continental Army. Served in the Continental Congress, speaker of the Georgia House of Representatives, mayor of Savannah, first postmaster general of the United States.

Hadas, Moses (1900-1966). Born in Atlanta; died in Aspen, Co. Classical scholar, educated at Emory University. Edited and translated many Latin, Greek, Hebrew, and German works into English. His works include *A History of Greek Literature* (1950) and *Humanism: The Greek Ideal and Its Survival* (1960).

Hardy, Oliver Norvell (1892-1957). Born in Harlem. Great comedian of Laurel and Hardy fame.

Harris, Joel Chandler (1848-1908). Born in Eatonton. Assisted Henry Grady in running the *Atlanta*

Constitution. Creator and author of the famous *Uncle Remus* stories.

Hayes, Roland (1887-1976). Born in Curyville; died in Boston. International tenor. Son of a former slave, Hayes was the first black singer to get worldwide recognition in classical music.

Herty, Charles (1867-1938). Born in Milledgeville. Taught chemistry at the University of Georgia and the University of North Carolina. Developed process for using pine in making wood pulp for the paper industry.

Hill, Walter Barnard (1851-1905). Born in Talbot County. Lawyer and educator. Founded Georgia Bar Association.

Holliday, John Henry "Doc" (1852-1887). Born in Griffin, Georgia; died in Colorado. Trained as a dentist, Holliday migrated to Texas as a young man for health reasons. Was a friend of lawman Wyatt Earp. Participated in the gunfight at the O.K. Corral.

Holloway, Sterling (1905-1992). Born in Cedartown. Actor, comedian, and recording artist, appeared in numerous commercials and is best known for being the voice of Walt Disney's "Winnie the Pooh" and the narrator of "Jungle Book".

Holyfield, Evander (1962-) Resides in Atlanta. World heavyweight boxing champion.

Holmes, Larry (1949-) Cuthbert, Heavyweight boxing champion.

Hope, John (1868-1936). Born in Augusta; died in Atlanta. Educator and black leader. Educated at Brown University. Became the first black president of Morehouse College. Helped found and presided over Atlanta University. Helped organize the Commission of Interracial Cooperation.

Hulk Hogan (1953-) Augusta. Professional wrestler, movie star and entertainer.

Hunter, Holly (1958-) Conyers. Oscar winning actress- The Piano.

Jackson, Alan (1958-) Newnan. Widely popular Country music singer and entertainer.

James, Harry (1916-1983). Born in Albany; died in Las Vegas, Nevada. Famed band leader of the 1940's.

John, Elton (1947-) Resides in Atlanta. Renown singer, musician, song writer and entertainer.

Johnson, Nunnally (1897-1977). Born in Georgia; died in Los Angeles, Ca. Was a noted screenwriter, director, and producer. Was responsible for such films as "The Grapes of Wrath", "The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit", and "The Three Faces of Eve".

Jones, Robert Tyre, Jr. "Bobby" (1902-1971). Born in Atlanta. Noted golfer. Won five U.S. Amateur championships and three U.S. Open championships.

Keach, Stacy (1941-). Born in Savannah. Movie actor, enjoyed great success in the television series "Mike Hammer".

King, Martin Luther, Jr. (1929-1968). Born in Atlanta; died in Memphis, Tn. Civil rights leader and

recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Knight, Gladys (1944-). Born in Atlanta. Popular singer and recording artist. Her group is known as "Gladys Knight and the Pips".

Lamar, Lucius Q. C. (1825-1893). Born in Putnam County; died in Washington, D.C. U.S. congressman, Confederate envoy to Russia, U.S. senator, U.S. secretary of the Interior, and associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Lanier, Sidney (1842-1881). Born in Macon; died in North Carolina. One of America's outstanding 19th century poets. Was also a novelist, musician, lawyer, and university professor. Author of *The Marshes of Glynn*.

Lee, Spike (1957-) Atlanta. Director, Producer and Filmmaker.

Lewis, John (1940-) US Representative 1986, 5th District- Atlanta. Called "one of the most courageous persons in civil rights movements". One of the big six leaders with MLK of Civil Rights Movement.

Little Richard (1932-) Macon. R & B singer and musician.

Long, Crawford Williamson (1815-1878). Born in Danielsville; died in Athens. Introduced the use of ether as a surgical anesthetic, an event that has been described as one of the "greatest events in the history of medicine".

Low, Juliette Gordon (1860-1927). Born in Savannah. Organized the first group of Girl Guides, later the Girl Scouts of America.

Ludacris (1977-) Ludacris is the stage name of Chris Bridges, a rapper from Atlanta, Ga. Who became a video and radio star after the success of his 2000 album Back for the First Time. He began his career as a radio DJ in Atlanta, where he was known on the air as Chris Lova Lova.

McCullers, Carson (1917-1967) Columbus. Author of *The Member of the Wedding*.

Melton, James (1904-1961). Born in Moultrie. Was a lead tenor for the Metropolitan Opera Company. Starred on radio's "Texaco Star Theater" and the "Telephone Hour".

Mercer, Johnny (1909-1976). Born in Savannah. Popular music composer. Best known for such tunes as "Jeepers Creepers", "Old Black Magic", and "Moon River".

Miller, Caroline (1903- 1992). Noted writer. Won the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 1934 for *Lamb in His Bosom*.

Miller, Zell (1932-). Educator, author, lieutenant governor, and governor of Georgia. He has been in office longer than any other person in the state's history. Author of *Great Georgians* and *They Heard Georgia Singing*.

Mitchell, Margaret (1900-1949). Born in Atlanta; died in Atlanta. Author of *Gone With the Wind* in 1936. Over one million copies were sold within the first six months of publication. Named Georgia's "most famous person" by legislative action in 1985.

Nunn, Sam (1938-) Perry. Georgia Senator and lawyer.

O'Conner, Mary Flannery (1925-1964). Born in Savannah. Noted novelist and short story writer. Wrote *Wise Blood* (1952), *A Good Man Is Hard to Find and Other Short Stories* (1955), and the acclaimed *The Violent Bear It Away* (1959).

Oglethorpe, James (1696-1785). Born in England. Led an expedition, which arrived in Savannah in 1733.

Parks, Bert (1914-1992). Born in Atlanta. Entertainer, master of ceremonies for the Miss America Pageant from 1956 to 1979.

Price, Eugenia (1916- 1996). Internationally known author whose works include the St. Simon Trilogy: *Lighthouse*, *New Moon Rising*, and *Beloved Invader*, and such best-sellers as *Savannah* and *To See Your Face Again*.

REM- Rock band formed at the University of Georgia on January 1980.

Redding, Otis (1941-1967). Born in Dawson. Writer and singer of soul ballads including "Respect" and "Sitting on the Dock of the Bay".

Reed Jerry (1937-). Born in Atlanta. Country music singer and guitarist. Co-starred with Burt Reynolds in several movies.

Reynolds, Burt (1936-). Born in Waycross. Popular movie actor, including "Smokey and the Bandit".

Roberts, Julia (1962-) Born in Smyrna, Ga. Academy award winning actress. Starred in *Pretty Woman*, *Erin Brockivitch*, *Notting Hill* and *Runaway Bride*.

Robinson, Jackie (1919-1972). Born in Cairo, Ga. First black to play major league baseball in the U.S. Most valuable player in the National League in 1949. Career spanned from 1947 to 1956. Member of the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Rusk, Dean (1909-1994). Born in Canton. Former president of the Rockefeller Foundation. U.S. secretary of state in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

Seacrest, Ryan (1974-) Host of TV's *American Idol: the Search for a Superstar*, the popular talent show that launched pop singers Kelly Clarkson, Clay Aiken, Ruben Studdard and Carrie Underwood.

Smith, Lillian (1897-1966). Born in Jasper, Florida; died in Atlanta. Author and civil rights activist. She co-founded *The North Georgia Review* in 1936. Novels include *Strange Fruit* (1944) and *Killers of the Dream* (1949). Friend of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., she was also on the board of Congress of Racial Equality.

Spaulding, Thomas (1774-1851). Planter and banker. State legislator and U.S. congressman. Helped develop production of Sea Island cotton and sugar along Georgia's coast.

Stanton, Frank Lebby (1857-1927). Journalist who wrote for the *Atlanta Constitution*. Most popular poet of the 1890's. Works include *Songs from Dixie Land* (1900), and a poem which was set to music, "Mighty Lak a Rose".

Stevens, Ray (1939-). Born in Clarksdale. Popular country music recording star. His hit "The Streak" sold over 5 million copies.

Tarkenton, Fran (1940-). Born in Richmond, Va. Moved to Athens in 1951. Was All-American quarterback at the University of Georgia. Played professional football for the Minnesota Vikings and the New York Giants.

Thomas, Clarence (1948-) Pin Point (Savannah). Supreme Court Justice.

Toombs, Robert Augustus (1810-1885). Born in Wilkes County; died in Washington, Ga. U.S. congressman, U.S. senator. Secretary of state in the Confederacy.

Tucker, Chris (1979-) Atlanta. Actor and Comedian.

Turner, Ted (1938-) Atlanta Billionaire. Founder of CNN, TNT and TCM. Owner of Atlanta Hawks basketball and Atlanta Braves baseball.

Walker, Herschel (1962-) Wrightsville. Attended UGA. Set an NCAA Freshman rushing record and helped Georgia win the NCAA College Football Title. Received All-American honors in three consecutive years, established 11 NCAA records, 16 Southeastern Conference records, 41 UGA all-time records and after that , topped off his college career by winning the Heisman Trophy in 1982, in his Junior year.

Wayne, James Moore (1790-1867). Born in Savannah. Graduate of Princeton. Was a U.S. congressman and associate justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

White, Walter Francis (1893-1955). Black leader and author. A leader of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

Whitney, Eli (1765-1825) Inventor of the cotton gin.

Widespread Panic Southern rock band from Atlanta.

Wilson, Woodrow (1856-1924). Born in Virginia; grew up in Georgia. Educator, scholar, writer, governor, and President. Passed several bills including the Child Labor Legislation and the Nineteenth Amendment which gave women the right to vote.

Woodward, Joanne (1930-). Born in Thomasville. Noted film and television actress. Won the Academy Award in 1957 for her role in "Three Faces of Eve".

Yearwood, Tricia (1964-) Monticello. Country Western Singer. Married to Garth Brooks.

Young, Andrew Jackson, Jr. (1932-). U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, civil rights leader, and mayor of Atlanta. Cabinet member of President Jimmy Carter.

Note: Excerpted from James A. Crutchfield's, "Famous Georgians", The Georgia Almanac and Book of

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