



## How did South Carolina get its Shape? Lesson Resources

### **Part One: Video-Guided Lesson (SCHS YouTube channel)**

**Objective:** Students will map the changes to South Carolina's borders over time and explain how attitudes and relationships between Native Americans and new settlers changed.

### **Third Grade Social Studies Standards:**

3.1.2.AG Locate the world's four hemispheres (i.e., northern, southern, eastern, and western) by using the major components of latitude and longitude (i.e., the Equator, the Prime Meridian, lines of latitude (i.e., parallels), lines of longitude (i.e., meridians), and the International Date Line).

3.5.2.AG: Use maps and other geographic representations to identify exploration patterns throughout Earth history.

3.5.4.AG: Use maps and other geographic representations to identify how migration patterns affect people and places.

### **Fourth Grade Social Studies Standards:**

4.1.CO Compare the interactions among cultural groups as a result of European colonization.

4.1.P Explain the development of political institutions and social characteristics that defined the British colonial regions.

4.1.CX Contextualize the experiences of Africans, Europeans, and Native Americans in South Carolina.

### **Eighth Grade Social Studies Standards:**

8.1.P Summarize major events in the development of South Carolina which impacted the economic, political, and social structure of the colony.

8.1.CC Analyze the changes and continuities of the Native Americans' experiences prior to and as a result of settlement and colonization.

### **Procedure:**

Watch the lesson video and read the teaching notes. Determine what parts of the lesson you would like to teach in your classroom and prepare the graphic organizers, maps, and other needed materials before beginning the lessons.

## Part Two: Extension Resources

### 1. Gunter's Chain and Measurements

#### **Fourth Grade Mathematics Standard:**

4.MDA.2: Solve real-world problems involving distance/length, intervals of time within 12 hours, liquid volume, mass, and money using the four operations.

This resource from the New Hampshire Historical Society includes directions for how to build a Gunter's chain with classroom items as well as a table to convert chain measurements to customary measurements. Scroll down to Lesson 7.

[Unit 1 Plan: New Hampshire Geography | Moose on the Loose \(nhhistory.org\)](#)

### 2. Treaties between Native American Nations and South Carolina

#### **Fourth Grade Social Studies Standards:**

4.1.CX: Contextualize the experience of Africans, Europeans, and Native Americans in South Carolina.

4.1.E: Analyze multiple perspectives through primary and secondary sources concerning the economic, political, and social developments of British North America and South Carolina.

#### **Eighth Grade Social Studies Standards:**

8.1.CC: Analyze the changes and continuities of the Native Americans' experiences prior to and as a result of settlement and colonization.

After reading the text of the treaties, students can compare and contrast how the guidelines affected Native Americans and how the relationships between them and the new settlers would have changed over time.

["A Treaty of Peace and Friendship..." Indian Treaty between the Cherokee Nation and South Carolina, 1761 \(scetv.org\)](#)

[Lesson Plan: Trade Trials Treaties \(scetv.org\)](#)

[Treaty of Dewitt's Corner between the Cherokee Nation and South Carolina, 1777 \(scetv.org\)](#)

### 3. Astronomer Dr. George Blackburn's Journal (SCHS collection)

#### **Eighth Grade Language Arts Standards:**

RI:5.1: Ask and answer literal and inferential questions to determine meaning; refer explicitly to the text to support inferences and conclusions.

RI.8.1: Explain how the author uses words and phrases to inform, explain, or describe.

The Fireproof Building/100 Meeting Street/Charleston, SC 29401/843-723-3225/schseducation.org

**Eighth Grade Social Studies Standards:**

8.1.CC: Analyze the changes and continuities of the Native Americans' experiences prior to and as a result of settlement and colonization.

**Sources Included as PDFs**

1. "Indians"
  - a. In this text, Dr. Blackburn describes from his perspective how the Cherokee have been affected by the movement of white settlers further into the state.
2. "Expedition to the Mountains of South Carolina..."
  - a. Vocabulary: encumber, superfluous, sextant, altitude, concurring, relinquishes
  - b. This is Dr. Blackburn's personal account of his experience with surveying the northwestern part of the state boundary.
3. "Segment of Poem Written on Boundary Expedition"
  - a. Students may need some background information about the process behind the determination of the South Carolina/North Carolina boundary before reading this text.





## SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

### How did South Carolina get its Shape? Teaching Notes

#### USA Map

1629 King Charles of England gave land to Sir Robert Heath between 31<sup>st</sup> and 36<sup>th</sup> latitudes

1640s Heath abandoned land

1663 King Charles II granted land to 8 Lords Proprietors

Extended up not 36 degrees, 30 minutes and down to 29 degrees

1670 Charles Town

#### Herman Moll Map (in SCHS collection)

1729 Crown took over governing of colony and Lords Proprietors surrendered their rights to the colony to the Crown

Topographical features had made natural divisions

Ex: rivers separated counties

1730 Official boundary between North and South Carolina decided to be at 35<sup>th</sup> latitude

Border would start 30 miles south of Cape Fear River, north to 35<sup>th</sup>, and west

#### South Carolina Map

May 1, 1735 First group of surveyors completes 65 miles in 7 weeks starting from Boundary House at border, next to Atlantic Ocean, ending at approximately where I-95 crosses today

Used Gunter's chain and other supplies \*New Hampshire resources

1737 Second group of surveyors continued but stopped at 26<sup>th</sup> latitude

1737-1764 No surveying due to French and Indian Wars, Cherokee Wars

Dec. 18, 1761 Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Cherokee Nation and SC \*resources

Ended Cherokee War of 1760-1761

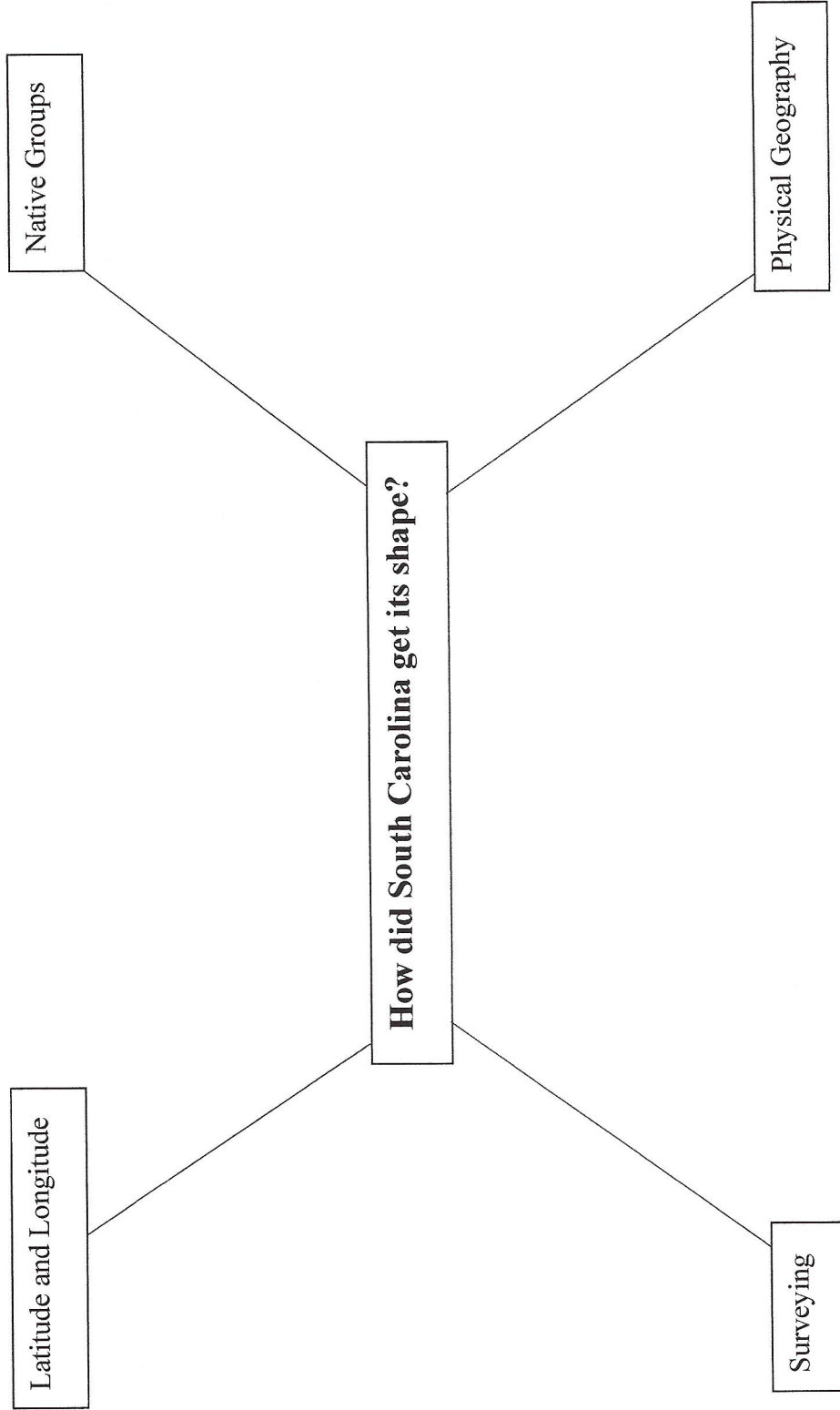
Cherokee Dividing Line a term of the treaty, set at 40 miles south of Keowee

Line based on where Cherokee villages were

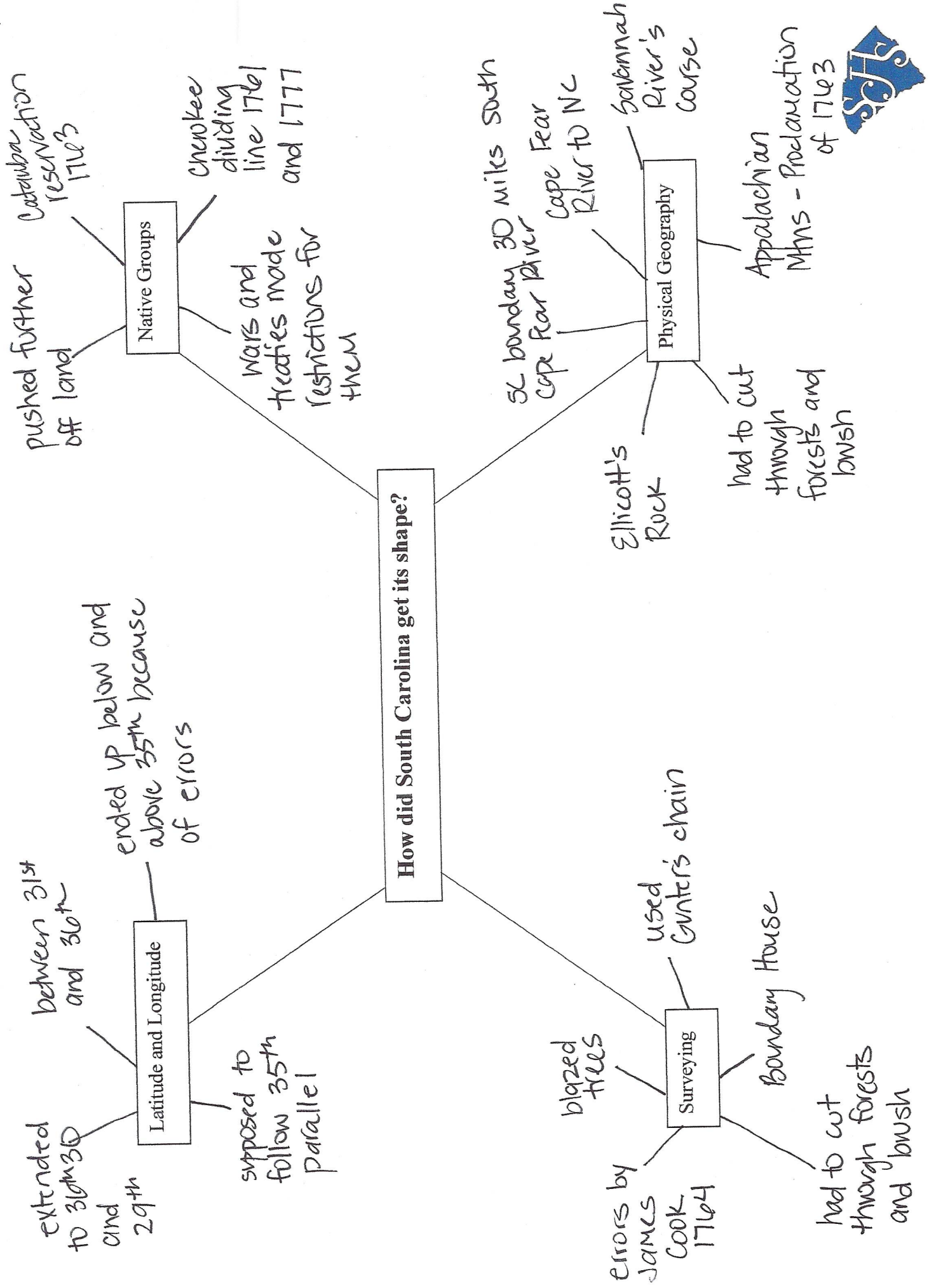


- Oct. 7, 1763 Proclamation by King George III ended French and Indian War  
European settlement not allowed west of Appalachian Mountains
- Nov. 10, 1763 Treaty of Augusta \*resources  
Catawba fought with British in French and Indian War  
144,000 acres
- 1764 Surveyor James Cook continued west from 1737 stopping point at 26<sup>th</sup> parallel  
instead of continuing north to 35<sup>th</sup>  
Surveyed 62 miles and stopped at Camden-Salisbury Road (edge of Catawba land)
- 1771 Request by SC and Catawba to have land fully in SC granted
- May 1772 Survey team including William Moultrie began at Cook's ending point  
Went up and around Catawba, turned north at Catawba River  
Traveled west and stopped at Cherokee Dividing Line  
Surveyed 62 miles in 14 days
- May 20, 1777 Treaty of Dewitt's Corner between Cherokee and SC ended Cherokee War  
Cherokee Dividing Line pushed further back to edge of state  
Cherokee lost almost all their remaining land in SC
- 1787 Treaty of Beaufort set boundary between SC and Georgia in the center of the Savannah River  
All islands went to Georgia  
Boundary extended up the river to the Tugaloo River, Chattooga River, and end at 35<sup>th</sup> parallel
- South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia could not agree on the location of the 35<sup>th</sup> parallel
- 1813 Georgia governor hired surveyor and mathematician Andrew Ellicott to mark the 35<sup>th</sup>  
Dr. George Blackburn joined Ellicott to make astronomical observations  
Chiseled N and G into rock named Ellicott's Rock

- 1815      A Boundary Commission confirmed Ellicott's work  
 Team of surveyors followed the mountain ridgeline west from Cherokee Dividing Line  
 Rock chiseled with LAT 35 AD 1813 NC + SC as official state corner
- Into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.....
- 1928      Survey disputes led to re-surveying from Atlantic Ocean to Lumber River  
 Long leaf pine believed to have stood since the first survey in 1735 cut down and its tree rings examined  
 Determined to be blazed from first survey and location of state boundary
- 1977      GA filed lawsuit against SC to reconfirm possession of Barnwell Island in Savannah River, which had drifted to coast of SC  
 Island awarded to SC in 1990
- 2012      SC/NC Boundary Commission remarked survey  
 Some residents realized they were living in a different state than previously thought  
 Used colonial-era maps to find boundary trees that were marked in past surveys with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) laid on top to find original border



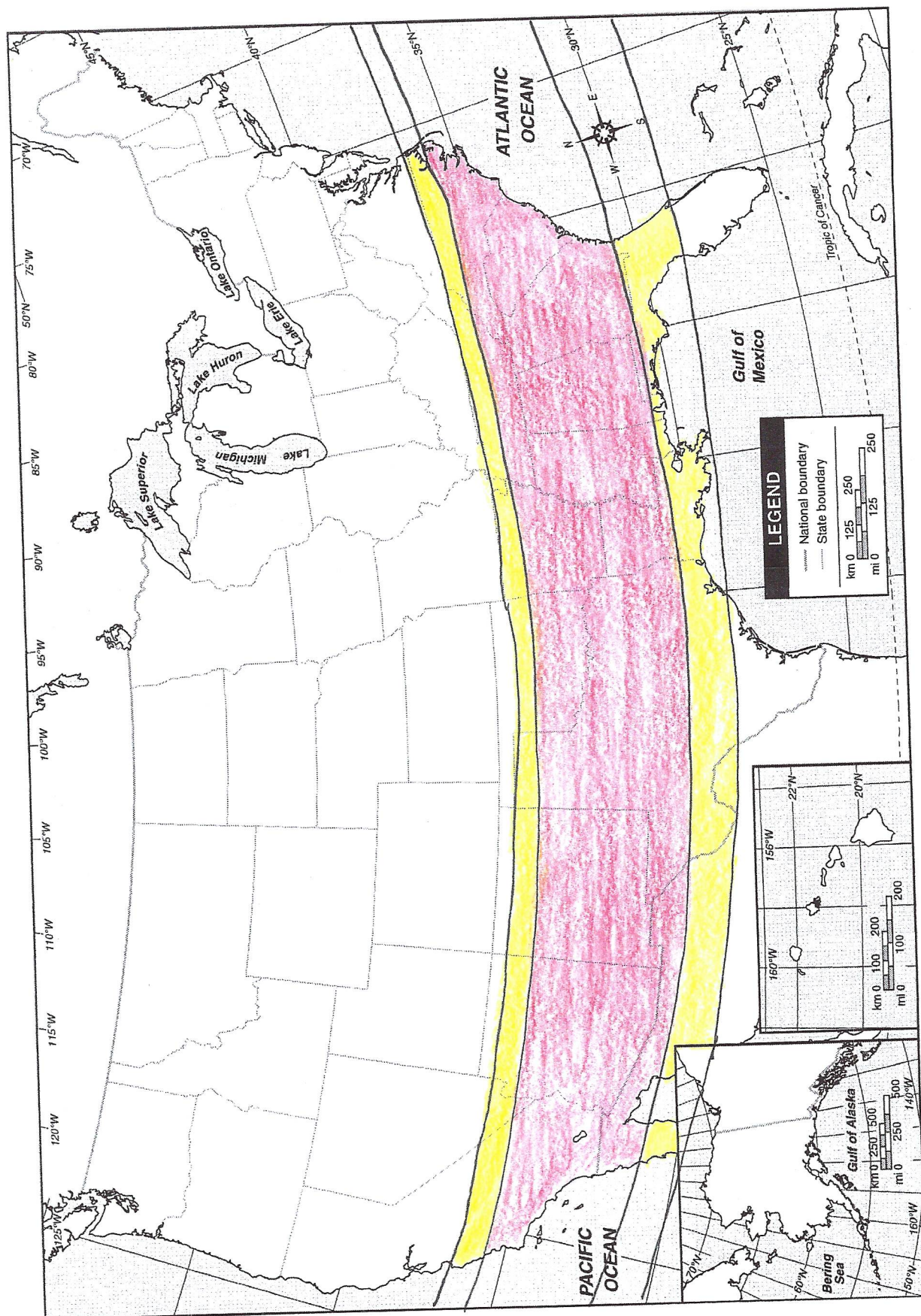




Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# United States of America





The English Claim the Property of Carolina from Lat. 29 &c. Degrees as part of Cabot's Discoveries who set out from Bristol in 1498, at the Charge of King Henry 7<sup>th</sup> but they did not take Possession of that Country till King Charles the II<sup>th</sup>'s time in 1663 who Granted a Patent to divers Persons to plant all the Territories within the North Lat. of 31 to 36 Deg. and so west in a direct line to the South Sea.





### Indians

From *The Astronomer's Journal* by Professor George Blackburn

The Cherokee Indians seldom E. of the Chatuga river, tho' the country belongs to them as far as Pickens' line, - about 20 miles. <sup>1</sup> Many white families have settled within their territory, but the Indians visit them in peace, and only beg a morsel of their bread. They calmly submit to the aggressions of the white men, and suffer all those injuries which the conqueror can inflict- A poor Indian and his wife, half naked, - will carry on their backs a heavy cedar log over these rugged hills and sell it for a little salt, to the very people who have murdered his ancestors, burned their village, and now dwell upon their soil. Some of these poor creatures come annually into the white settlement to dig up Pink Root, a famous vermifuge or anthelmintic (spigelia Marylandie) and other medicinal plants, <sup>2</sup> which they dry under shed, and sell to the traders of their nation, subsisting in the meantime upon the casual produce of the chase, and the pittance they beg amongst the white settlers, - their skins, etc. --- they exchange for homemade cloth- they seem to be an humble and injured race- A small band of Cherokees passing thro' the woods owned by Major M... cut bark from his pines to make their camp covering for the night- and tho' these Indians have left this defenceless planter unmolested for 20 years within 3 miles of their line- in the possession of one of their town lands and in their immediate neighborhood, yet did he murmur at their obtaining a little shelter in his forest. Such is the gratitude of white men, and such the savage must endure. The last act of Indian hostility in this place was an act of

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<sup>1</sup> Pickens' line refers to the Cherokee Boundary Line of 1777 across Oconee Mountain in the NW corner of SC.

<sup>2</sup> These plants were used as a medical remedy to destroy parasitic worms.

retaliation; - the Indians had stolen a horse, the settlers demanded him, and he was given up to them. On their return they met an Indian coming from the settlement with articles he had purchased- and shot him down- then divided amongst them his property- The Indians found means soon after to surprise a plantation and having murdered two or three men and women, - buried the hatchet. The country between the Chatuga and Picken's line, the state will purchase, as it will soon be very settled. ...

Blackburn, George, and Minerva Wilson Andrews. *The Astronomer's Journal* McLean, Va: Carolina-Virginia Genealogy Publishing Co., 1995.

Questions to consider:

1. What is Dr. Blackburn's attitude toward the Cherokee Indians? How does he feel about the way their lives have changed and how they are treated by the white families?
2. Does Blackburn feel sorry for the Cherokees?
3. How does this document demonstrate how the native population was treated once Europeans began settling Carolina?



## SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Expedition to the Mountains of South Carolina for the purpose of ascertaining the true boundary  
between this State and that of N. Carolina [1813]

From *The Astronomer's Journal* by Professor George Blackburn

In 1813 June 10 I receiv'd orders from Governor Middleton to attend the Commissioners of Boundary on the 20<sup>th</sup> July at the Blockhouse,<sup>1</sup> near Montague Hill. My inexperience in the kind of work reqd to be done, and of local circumstances, induced me to encumber myself with many superfluous instruments. Indeed the instruments most proper for the purpose could not be had in Carolinas. A circle of Borda, a good circumferentor, a small theodolite, a zenith sector are the proper instruments for such work.<sup>2</sup> I only had a sextant of which the short telescope had been mislaid, and which in its perfect state could be of no use in taking the summer altitude at that season of the year in that latitude. In consequence of which all my observations were made in the night. The stars also that passed the meridian during the night were few in number, and of small magnitude, on these mountains too the clouds rise so quickly and spread with such rapidity, that the observations were frequently lost. These and many other concurring circumstances rendered the work much more difficult than it would otherwise had been. It was however executed in a correct and satisfactory manner. I also constructed from my own notes and observations & from the notes of the surveyors whom are employed a map of these mountains for an extent of 40 miles which is said by those who know them well to be a good

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<sup>1</sup> The Blockhouse was a trading post built around 1756. It was at the western end of the Cherokee Dividing Line.

<sup>2</sup> These are surveyor's tools used to measure angles.



one. My work was approved by the governor and the assembly and I received 1000\$ for my trouble with 350\$ for expenses, a reward sufficiently liberal. The Commissioners for South Carolina were the late Governor Middleton, Doctor Blythe, General Blasingame, and those from N. Caro Gen Steele, Gen Stokes and Colonel \_\_\_\_\_. The Astronomer from N. Car. Doctor Caldwell. We found the latitude of the Blockhouse at the west end of the line run in 1772 from the Catawba Nation to be  $35^{\circ}11'36''.9$  N which was supposed to be  $35^{\circ}$  N. By convention between the two States a line was to be run due West from the point where the  $35^{\text{th}}$  degree of lat should intersect the ridge dividing the Eastern from the Western waters.

After two months of attentive observ at many different places in these mountains it was found that this degree lay entirely within the State of So. Car, and that the treaty was of course null. <sup>3</sup> A new treaty was made, provisionally, implying that a line should be run W from the Blockhouse to the Hogback mountain, and thence to run along the ridge of the mountains 'till it met Genl Pickens's Indn Boundary line, <sup>4</sup> at this point a stone was fixed on Pickens's line near Estatoe Mountain, whence a straight line of about 18 miles in length is to be run, to another stone placed on an island in Chatuga river in lat.  $35^{\circ}$  N. <sup>5</sup> This determination has since been confirmed by the two States. <sup>6</sup> Thus has a long and unpleasant dispute between the two States been terminated. So. Car. Gains all she has been 40 years contending for and N.Car. relinquishes her claim.

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<sup>3</sup> A treaty in 1808 declared where the boundary line should go but was not practical once the surveyors were in the area.

<sup>4</sup> This Boundary line is in the NW corner of South Carolina and was created in 1777.

<sup>5</sup> This stone is known as Ellicott's Rock and marks where South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia meet.

<sup>6</sup> The Boundary Commission confirmed their work and made the boundary official in 1815.

I have good reason for asserting that the amicable adjustment of this business is principally owing to the steps which I took in order to prevent any dispute about the observations; in the most important points the difference between Mr. Cs observations and mine, was merely nothing, when a mean of the whole was taken tho I observed a greater disadvantage than he did.

Blackburn, George, and Minerva Wilson Andrews. *The Astronomer's Journal* McLean, Va: Carolina-Virginia Genealogy Publishing Co., 1995.

Questions to Consider:

1. What difficulties did Dr. Blackburn and the surveyors face while performing their duties?
2. Did the men follow the plan exactly as they were told? Why or why not?
3. How does Dr. Blackburn feel about the work he did?



## SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

“Segment of Poem Written on Boundary Expedition”  
From *The Astronomer's Journal* by Professor George Blackburn

1. Now northward from this stood a blockhouse of old
2. Where Indians and white men have bled we are told
3. Which for full forty years a sad bone of contention
4. Had oft been the subject of learned convention.
5. And oft had the wise men of neighboring states
6. Together held many and weighty debates.
7. But debates we all know never settle disputes
8. All anxious to talk, why then none will be mutes
9. And where ev'ryone talks and no mortal will hear
10. It can't be expected that Truth should appear.

The Block House was a trading post built around 1756. It marked the western end of the 1772 Cherokee Dividing Line.

What is Blackburn's opinion of the border debates?

11. The matter was this- for 'tis time to be plain
12. On the South, North and West- ev'ry state had a claim
13. To a huge range of mountains rude, barren and high
14. Whose summits cloud capped seem to lodge in the sky

15. A region devoted to wolves and bears
16. To racoons and possums, to tygers and hares
17. Where panthers eat up all the pigs and calves
18. Or at least with their lowland neighbours go halves.

19. Well, Georgia and both Carolinas fell out
20. And made for these wild hills a terrible rout
21. Some noddles were broken and a few lost their lives
22. And many their noses and many their eyes
23. And still they fought like that obstinate crew
24. Which Milton the poet I think overthrew
25. But power supreme bade their fury surcease
26. And the champions consented pro temp to a peace.
27. While sage necromancers were called to devine
28. Whom for or against did the planets combine.

Rout- panicked, disorderly retreat of troops

Noddles- a person's head

Surcease- to stop

Pro temp- for the time being

Sage- wise through reflection and experience

Necromancers- wizards, magicians



29. A man from the northward devised a machine  
 30. Nothing like it perhaps was before ever seen  
 31. He knew very well that land carriage so far  
 32. Gave London made instruments many a jar,  
 33. And economist like, for the good of the nation  
 34. He made one span new on the Chatuga station.  
 35. He was fifteen miles wrong,- he could hardly be less  
 36. And I think that he made a wonderful guess  
 37. Another more skilful and used to the trade  
 38. An error 'bout half of that quantity made.

What did the man do wrong?

39. The cause I have hear'd, a sad Earthquake had hurl'd  
 40. Most things out of place in that part of the world  
 41. The sasafras knob to the northward was shov'd  
 42. And the huge table rock and bald mountain remov'd  
 43. The towering chimney stack shook to its base  
 44. And the Hogback and Glassy each quitted its place  
 45. The houses wheel'd round as if drill'd on parade  
 46. Nay the stars from their places are said to have stray'd.  
 47. In the town of Columbia a wonderful Seer  
 48. Assembled the people whose wonders to hear  
 49. He proclaimed in the Courthouse what no man could doubt  
 50. That his house in the night had been whirled about  
 51. And the miracle was that no mortal could know  
 52. It had ever attempted a journey to go.

There was an earthquake in 1811  
 that was felt in South Carolina.

53. Indeed some have said, but 'tis surely a shame  
 54. That our sage legislators deserve all the blame  
 55. For they order'd a parallel to thrust in its nose  
 56. Where two mighty rivers near neighbours arose  
 57. But the obstinate parallel held to its place  
 58. And each river as obstinate ran its old race.  
 59. When men are in Earnest 'bout trifles you know  
 60. To wonderful lengths they're accustom'd to go  
 61. So these sturdy conventionists, bout after bout  
 62. With due perseverance on both sides held out  
 63. At length 'twas determined-a peace was proclaim'd  
 64. And to sign it and seal it commissioners nam'd  
 65. Who agreed that the work should be properly done  
 66. And a line be by two universities run.

Which parallel is Blackburn referring  
 to? How can it be obstinate? Which  
 river is obstinate?

Trifles- things of little value or  
 importance