The Hopewell Treaties were the first formal treaties after the battles between the United States and the Southern Native American tribes. Gen. Andrew Pickens, (also known as “Skyagunsta” or “Border Wizard Owl”) negotiated the treaties with Benjamin Hawkins, Joseph Martin and Lachlan McIntosh.

Conditions of the treaty included:
1. Indians to restore prisoners, and prisoners property. 2. Acknowledge the protection of United States. 3. Boundaries defined. 4. No citizen of United States shall settle on Indian lands, and Chickasaws may punish them as they please. 5. Indians to deliver up criminals. 6. Citizens of United States committing crimes against Indians to be punished. 7. Restitution restrained. 8. United States to regulate trade. 9. Special provision for trade. 10. Indians to give notice of designs against United States. 11. Peace and friendship.

The treaties opened up western territories to settlement, provided for prisoner exchanges, established boundaries, and facilitated peace and perpetual friendship between the two sides.

The Cherokee negotiations took place with Great Chief Corn Tassel; 36 other chiefs; and nearly 1,000 men, women and children — including Nanye-hi (aka Nancy Ward), a beloved Cherokee woman — under the Treaty Oak on the Hopewell property. The treaty was signed on November 28, 1785. The Choctaw treaty was signed January 3, 1786 with Chief Yockenahoma and 30 other chiefs. The Chickasaw treaty was last, concluding several days later on January 10 with Chief Head Warrior Piomingo, who shared white beads as a token of peace and friendship.

Each treaty ended with the same sentence. It begins, "The hatchet shall be forever buried, and peace given by the United States of America."