

# Hopewell Treaty Site

## *The Hatchet Shall be Buried*



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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.

**ARTICLES of a TREATY,**  
 Concluded at HOPEWELL; on the Keowee, near Seneca old Town, between Benjamin Hawkins, Andrew Pickens and Joseph Martin, COMMISSIONERS PLENIPOTENTIARY of the United States of America of the one part, and Piomingo, HEAD WARRIOR and FIRST MINISTER of the Chickasaw Nation, Mingatufhka; one of the leading Chiefs, and Latopola, first beloved Man of the said Nation, COMMISSIONERS PLENIPOTENTIARY of all the Chickasaws of the other Part:

**T**HE commissioners plenipotentiary of the United States of America give peace to the Chickasaw nation, and receive them into the favour and protection of the said States, on the following conditions.

**Article 1.** The commissioners plenipotentiary of the Chickasaw nation, shall restore all the prisoners, citizens of the United States, to their entire liberty, if any there be in the Chickasaw nation.—They shall also release all the negroes, and all other property taken during the late war, from the citizens: if any there be in the Chickasaw nation, to such person, and at such time and place, as the commissioners of the United States of America shall appoint.

**Art. 2.** The commissioners plenipotentiary of the Chickasaws, do hereby acknowledge the tribes and the towns of the Chickasaw nation, to be under the protection of the United States of America, and of no other sovereign whatsoever:

**Art. 3.** The boundary of the lands hereby allotted to the Chickasaw nation to live and hunt on, within the limits of the United States of America, is, and shall be the followi; g, viz.

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. Retaliation 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.

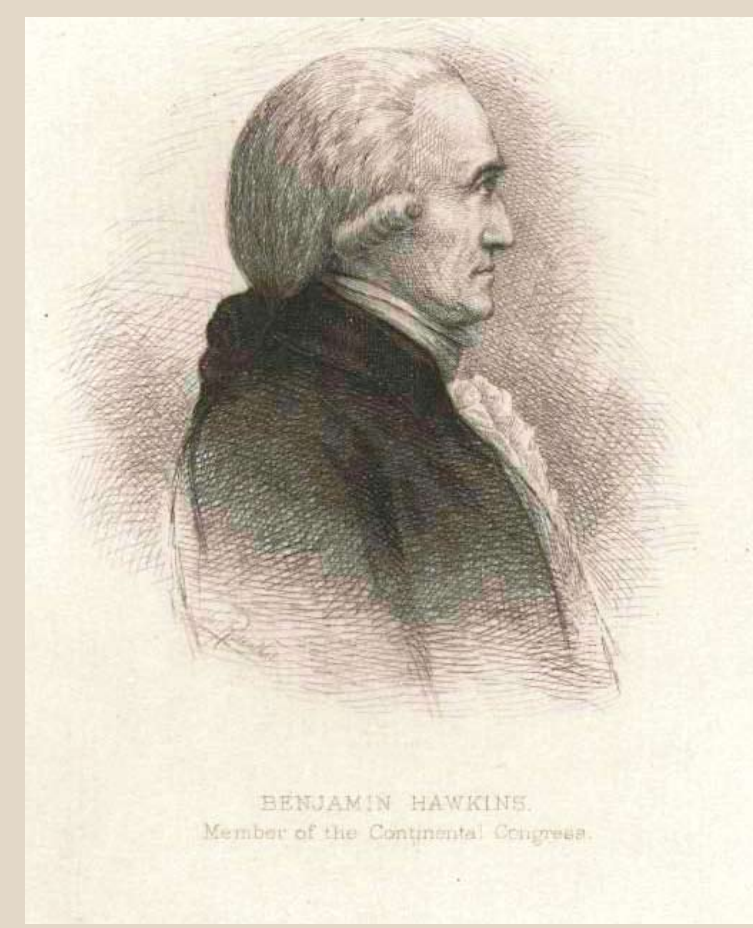
The treaties opened up western territories to settlement, provided for prisoner exchanges, established boundaries, and facilitated peace and perpetual friendship between the two sides.

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."



Left: Known as "The Treaty Oak" this was the site where the Cherokee Treaty was negotiated. The Treaty Oak is no longer living. Right: The site of the negotiation of the Cherokee Treaty is marked today by this stone and is protected by a wrought iron fence.



Left: General Joseph Martin, Indian Agent for the Cherokee Nation. According to legend, Martin had up to five wives in his life — two white and three Indian. Betsy Ward, Martin's wife, was Princess of the Cherokee Nation and daughter of Nancy Ward. Right: Colonel Benjamin Hawkins was agent for the Creek Nation and Superintendent of all tribes South of the Ohio River.



Left: General Lachlan McIntosh was the son of the head of the Scottish McIntosh clan for whom McIntosh County in Georgia was named. Right: General Andrew Pickens was the father of 12 children, including South Carolina's 46th Governor and was uncle of Floride Calhoun, Vice President John C. Calhoun's wife.