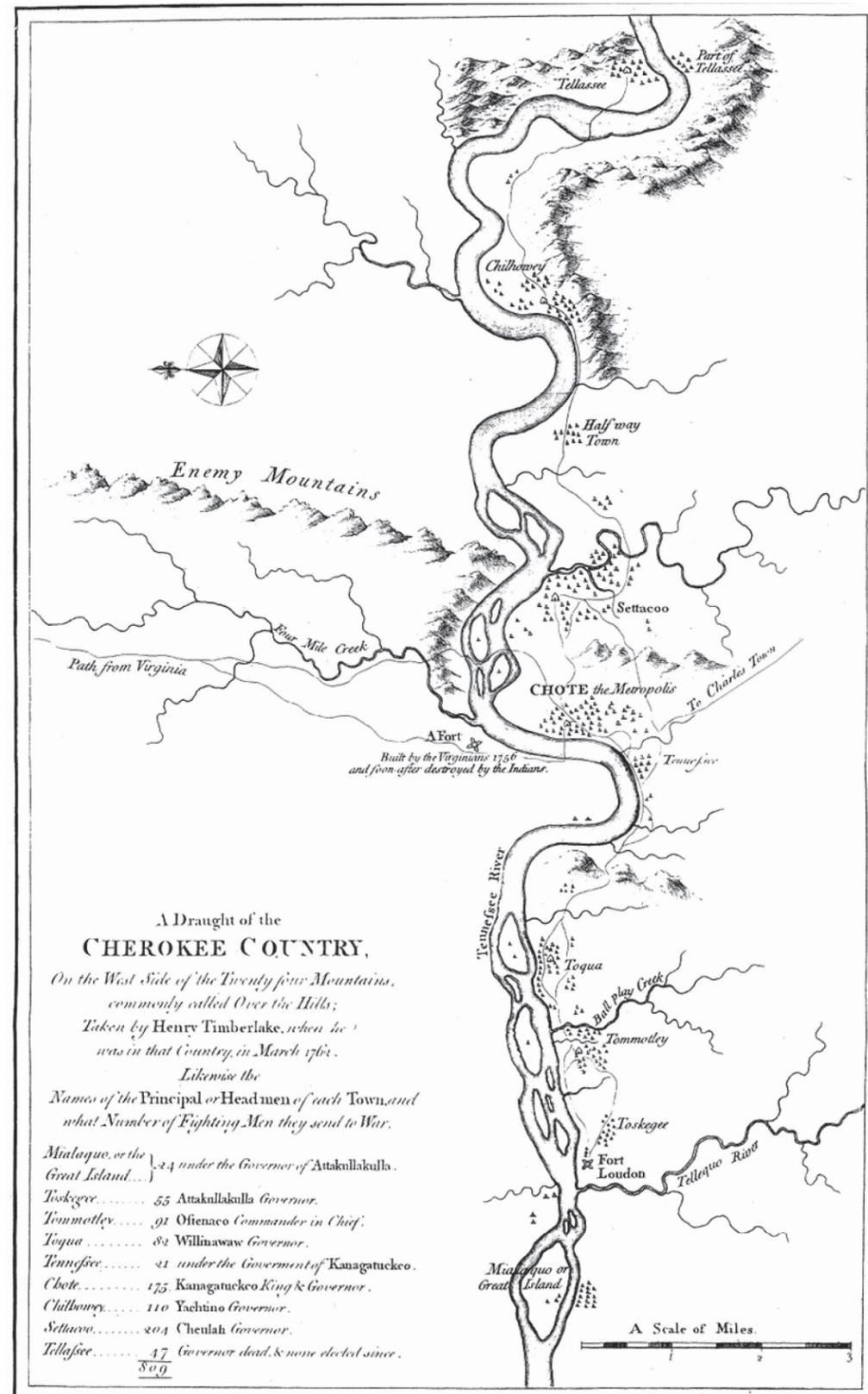


REGIONAL HISTORY

Cherokee History and Present

Cherokee Settlements in 1762



Map of Cherokee Country along the Little Tennessee River (designated as the Tennessee River) as drawn by Henry Timberlake in 1762 from *The Memoirs of Lieut. Henry Timberlake* about his travels as a peaceful emissary from the Virginia.



1939 Image of Cherokee in Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Cherokee Heritage Day at Fort White



Burial Mound at University of Tennessee Agricultural Campus



Sculpture of the Holston Treaty of the Holston at Volunteer Landing in downtown Knoxville

Some of the best archaeological documentation of human inhabitation and settlement patterns in North America were uncovered during the construction of the Tellico Dam and Reservoir on the Little Tennessee River. Likely, similar settlement patterns occurred along the Tennessee River near Knoxville. As early as 14000 years ago there was human activity in the area. Throughout the Archaic Period (10,000-3200 years ago) human occupation fluctuated with evidence of base camps for a hunter-gatherer population during the early Archaic, a decline in the Middle Archaic, and a more sedentary population in the Late Archaic.

More artifacts are found in the geologic record from the Woodland Period (3200-1500 years ago) where there is evidence of more intensive resource use, such as burning and horticulture. Indigenous populations in the region constructed elaborate systems of burial mounds

in settlements and stand-alone mounds in less densely populated areas. These sacred earthworks, including one now surrounded by the University of Tennessee, remain as cultural markers in the landscape. In the Mississippian period more distinct homesteads, hamlets and community centers were established. While most Cherokee were forcibly removed from the Eastern U.S. during the trail of tears, an indigenous population remains. The Eastern Band of the Cherokee Nation live on sovereign land in Cherokee, North Carolina.

In 1939 the Department of Conservation did an extensive photographic series on the Arts, Crafts and Folklife of Cherokees in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. James White's Fort in downtown Knoxville Indian Creek Productions host an annual Cherokee Heritage Day, engaging community members in the on-going indigenous life of Eastern Tennessee.

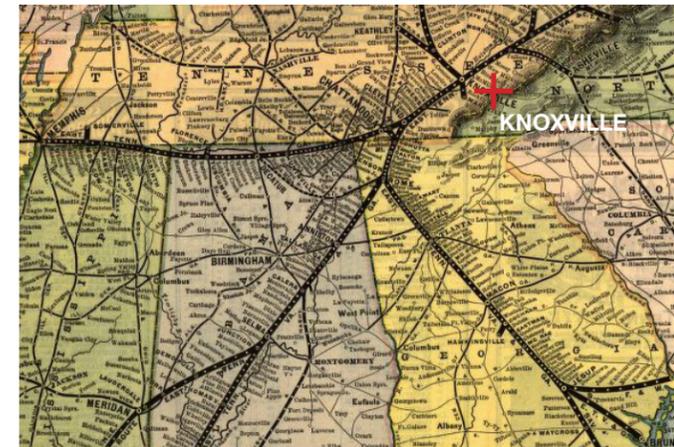
REGIONAL HISTORY

Settler Colonial Inhabitation

European Urban Development



1886 Bird's eye rendering of Knoxville



1890 map of the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railway



Map of the Siege of Knoxville, 1863

When European settlers arrived in the 18th Century, the Creek, Shawnee and Cherokee all inhabited East Tennessee, the Cherokee being predominant. In 1786 White's Fort was established near First Creek. Charles McClung, White's son-in-law, surveyed the area between First and Second Creek for the development of a town in 1790. William Blount was appointed governor of this new territory in the same year and he negotiated with the local Cherokee chief to create the Treaty of Holston. Due to disputes over the terms of the treaty, the Cherokee and European settlers had violent encounters culminating in the death of the Chief Hanging Maw's wife in 1793 and a renegotiation of peace the following year. The U.S. government's policy of removal of Native Americans known as the Trail of Tears led to a sharp decline in the Cherokee population in East Tennessee in 1838.

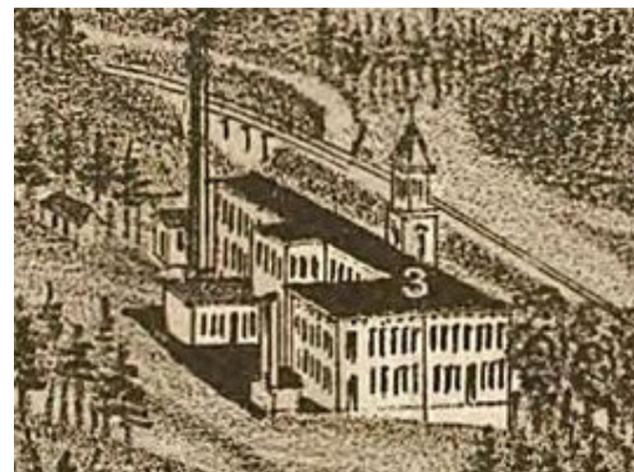
Knoxville served as an early capitol of the Southwest Territory and the state of Tennessee until 1817. As a port city situated between the industry of the North and agricultural production of the South, Knoxville found early success in wholesale markets, particularly buying cotton from plantations downstream and serving as a hub for travellers heading West. Due to Knoxville's trade relationship with Southern cotton growers, the city voted to secede from the Union during the Civil War despite strong anti-secession and anti-slavery sentiment. Knoxville was occupied by Union troops from August 1863 until the end of the war. In

November of 1863 Confederate troops entered the city and a month-long battle ensued but was ultimately unsuccessful.

After the Civil War the pro-union atmosphere in Knoxville brought new residents from North and South alike. In the East Tennessee Historical Society's *Heart of the Valley* Knoxville is described as "[growing] from a town to a city between 1870 and 1900." The Knoxville Iron Company, an iron works and coal mining company, was founded in 1868 and is credited as the city's first large manufacturer of the post-bellum era. The success of Knoxville Iron Company attracted railroad facilities, which in turn expanded the city's manufacturing, textile, and mining industries. In 1879 East Tennessee University, formerly Blount College, was renamed the University of Tennessee, which has grown into one of the city's largest employers. By the late 1880's Knoxville was the third largest wholesale center in the South. Businesses took advantage of Knoxville's surrounding natural resources, mining coal and Tennessee marble, and using hydraulic power to grow the iron and textile industries. In the early 1900s Brookside Mills, a textile company, overtook the iron works as the city's largest employer. Both Knoxville Iron Company and Brookside Mills built industry villages in Knoxville known as McGhee's Addition and Brookside Village, respectively.



1889 drawing of the Knoxville Iron Company complex



Drawing of Brookside Mills on an 1886 map of Knoxville

REGIONAL HISTORY

African American History

Antebellum Period

Knoxville's treatment of enslaved peoples is often described as atypical in the South. Knoxville lacked an established plantation system, so most enslaved workers did housework or tended livestock. Compared to the typical distribution of labor on plantations, this allowed for more close personal relationships between slaverholders and enslaved workers. Furthermore, Tennessee State slave laws were relatively more humane than other southern states. For example, enslaved peoples were guaranteed the right to food, shelter, clothing, and medical attention, could not be sent away when too old to work, and were allowed a trial by jury. By 1856 there were 25 free black families in Knoxville according to census data. Blacks were primarily employed as domestic servants or laborers at this time. This is not to suggest these free black families had equal opportunity to white families, but that circumstances were atypical of other southern states.

Civil War and Reconstruction Eras

By 1860, enslaved people accounted for approximately 20% of the Knoxville's 3,074 citizens. This proportion was higher than the rest of East Tennessee but lower than the South at large, where enslaved people made up one third of the total population. Knoxville's Union occupation drew black people from rural areas to the city seeking freedom. By 1880 32% of Knoxville's population was African American. Black people found work in the city as domestic servants, barbers, drivers, firemen, and laborers.

White business owners viewed African Americans and immigrants as an economic advantage, providing a larger labor

pool as they took advantage of the lack of labor and discrimination laws. Industry villages established by Knoxville Iron Works and Brookside Mills grew into Knoxville's first black neighborhoods. The black community established its own churches, educational institutions, and gained statewide political influence. In 1866 people of color earned the right to vote in Knoxville. Isaac Gammon, was the first African American elected to the city's Board of Alderman in 1868. In 1875 the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church was built on the land of William Loomer, formerly enslaved by William Lyon's uncle, Moses Looney. The site previously operated an African American school. That same year Knoxville College was founded by United Presbyterian Church of North America. In 1876 the first public school offering education to black children opened. Increased interactions between Knoxville's black and white populations led to racial tensions, a late 19th century white flight out of the city, and gerrymandered political mapping.

20th Century

Despite racial discrimination, the black community found success in Knoxville's political and business arenas in the early 20th century. Notably, Calvin Johnson, born into slavery, became one of the wealthiest African-American businessmen in the state through horseracing and saloon businesses. The economic recession after World War I led to a rise in unemployment and heightened racial tensions. During this period both the KKK and the NAACP founded chapters in Knoxville and the Riot of 1919 became a visible representation of the war between white racial prejudice and black activist unrest.



1886 Map of Mechanicsville



Building built by Cal Johnson in 1898 for a warehouse business. Now in the Gay Street Commercial Historic District but yet to be repurposed



U.S. Colored Troops 1st Heavy Artillery Regiment stationed in Knoxville, TN during the Civil War



First African-American firefighters hired by Knoxville (1952)

REGIONAL HISTORY

Knoxville Industry

Water Power

In *The Heart of the Valley* from the East Tennessee historical society the city's abundant water is credited with its industrial success through the creation of steam power.

"...there were four swift-running streams to turn their water wheels and give them power. And so came the beginning of industry."

In 1942 the Tennessee Valley Authority dammed the Tennessee River, creating Fort Loudoun Lake, one of twelve TVA hydroelectric projects active that year. TVA reach its peak employment in 1942 with 28,000 employees. Abundant electric power led the region to a second industrial boom in the 1950s.

Tennessee Marble

Tennessee marble is a distinctive structural stone with unique geologic formation. The pink-gray stone was used in the construction of notable buildings in Knoxville, including the Ramsey House (1797), the Knoxville Post Office (1934), and the Knoxville Museum of Art (1990), as well as the National Gallery of Art and the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, D.C.

Tennessee marble is not in fact a "true marble" but a crystalline limestone. Found in the ridges of Eastern Tennessee's distinctive Ridge-and-Valley region, Tennessee marble is a sedimentary rock formed 460 million years ago along the beaches of a former continental shelf. Compression from the formation of the Appalachian Mountains transformed these deposits into the dense, structural stone that gave Knoxville the nickname of the Marble City. Tennessee marble became an iconic architectural stone used locally and nationally.

21st Century Industry

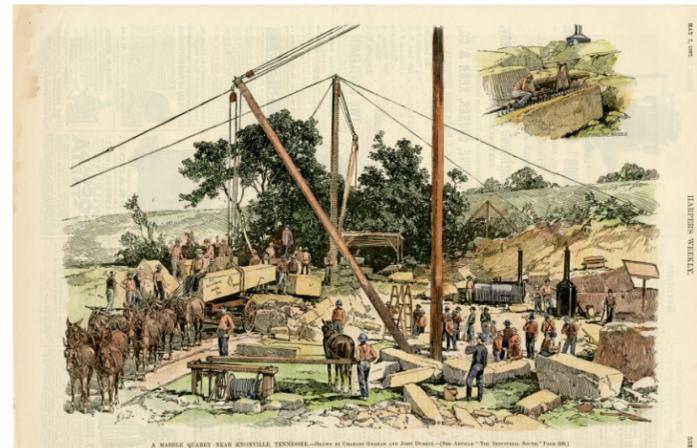
While many quarries and industries have slowed to a close, Tennessee marble remains an iconic architectural stone and new and transformed economies have arisen. The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) continues to harness power from Tennessee's waterways and is the largest public power provider in the U.S. As the headquarters of Regal Entertainment Group and Scripps Network, Knoxville has also found success in the entertainment industry.



Construction of the dam at Fort Loudoun in the 1940s



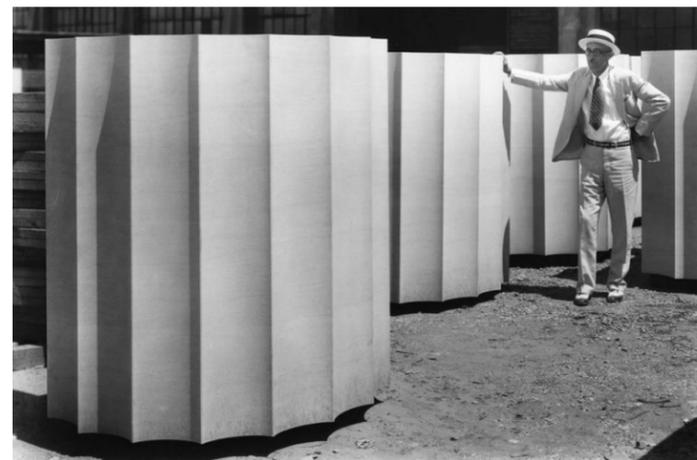
1950s image of a tug boat delivering supplies on Fort Loudoun Lake



1887 drawing of a marble quarry near Knoxville



The Ramsey House in Knoxville, TN - Built 1797



Components of columns for the Knoxville Post Office - Built 1934



Rock formations from ancient coral reefs at Tennessee Marble Quarry