**Original territory**

[A map of the indian nation

Description automatically generated](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Cherokee1822.jpg)

An 1822 map of Cherokee lands in Georgia

Cherokee County was created by an act of the [Georgia General Assembly](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_General_Assembly) on December 26, 1831, covering a vast area northwest of the [Chattahoochee River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chattahoochee_River) and [Chestatee River](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chestatee_River) (except for [Carroll County](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carroll_County,_Georgia)). It was named after the [Cherokee people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherokee) who lived in the area at that time.[[4]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherokee_County,_Georgia#cite_note-4)

The discovery of gold in local streams accelerated the push of European Americans to expel the Cherokee from their land.

In 1832, the State of Georgia implemented the [Cherokee Land Lottery](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Georgia_Land_Lotteries), which gave deeds of land that had previously belonged to the Cherokee people to white male citizens.[[5]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cherokee_County,_Georgia#cite_note-5) The forcible [removal of the Cherokee people](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_removal) to [Indian Territory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indian_Territory) west of the Mississippi River began during this year.