

WILASTIHACHI, or "Water Black Stream." A community of BLACK CREEK was once located twelve miles southeast of Sylvania on the stream of that name in Screven County.

BLACK HALL, Fulton County. *See* White Hall.

BLACK JACK ISLAND, Ware County. This island is five miles long, and is located in the south central section of Okefenokee Swamp. It got its name on account of the abundance of "black-jack" oak growing on the island.

BLACKJACK MOUNTAIN, Carroll County. With an elevation of 1,550 feet, it is located about eight miles south of Bowdon. It is so named because of all the blackjack oak growing on this mountain.

BLACKSHEAR, CS Pierce County. Named in honor of General David Blackshear (1764-1837), who commanded the troops who constructed BLACKSHEAR ROAD (or BLACKSHEAR TRAIL) in 1814 between Hartford and the Flint River. Fort Early (q.v.) was then built at this latter terminal of the road, and many years later a dam was constructed here on the Flint River to create the 8,000-acre LAKE BLACKSHEAR of Lee and Sumter counties. BLACKSHEAR'S FERRY in Laurens County was located four and one-half miles north of Dublin on the Oconee River. It was previously called TRAMBLE AND BATEY FERRY for the prior owners. The name was changed after General David Blackshear took over the ferry while he was assigned to drive out the Indians and to survey the lands. General Blackshear later built his home, "Springfield Plantation," one half mile eastward from the site of the ferry. BLACKSHEAR'S MILL was the name of the post office near here from July 5, 1878 to December 17, 1879.

BLAINE, Gilmer County. This dead town was named for James Gillespie Blaine (1830-1893), who was a U.S. Senator from Maine, Secretary of State, and presidential nominee in 1884. This town was originally called TALKING ROCK (q.v.) and was named Blaine after the name Talking Rock was transferred to the community of Loves (q.v.). *See also* Cornelia.

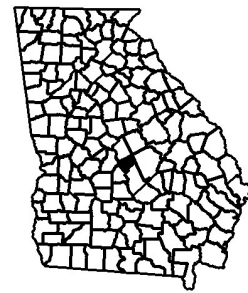
BLAIR LINE. Surveyed in the early 1800's by James Blair as the boundary between Georgia and the Cherokee Nation. It is described by a marker in Habersham County at the junction of Georgia highways 115 and 105.

BLAIRSVILLE, CS Union County. Incorporated December 26, 1835. Named for Francis Preston Blair, Sr. (1791-1876) from Kentucky, editor of

the newspaper, *Washington Globe*, which was established to promote Andrew Jackson's re-election. His Washington D.C. home, Blair House, is now government property. The county seat was established in Blairsville in 1835.

BLAKELY, CS, Early County. Established as the county seat in 1825 and incorporated October 24, 1870. This town is called "The Peanut Capital of the World." It was named in honor of Captain Johnson Blakely (1781-1841) from North Carolina, who was lost at sea aboard the sloop, *U.S.S. Wasp* in the War of 1812.

BLANTON, Lowndes County. A rural community in the southeast corner of the county. Established in 1896, and named for local landowner, J.N. Blanton.



BLECKLEY COUNTY. Created July 30, 1912 with 219 square miles taken from Pulaski County. It was named in honor of Logan Edwin Bleckley (1827-1907), a philosopher and poet, who became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia. The county seat is Cochran (q.v.). Also named in his honor is the LOGAN E. BLECKLEY HIGHWAY, that portion of U.S. Highway 23-441 (formerly Georgia Highway 15) which extends from the North Carolina State line in Rabun County to the Habersham County line.

BLECKLEY MOUNTAIN, Rabun County. *See* Old Screamer Mountain.

BLITCH, Bullock County. This early community was believed named for its postmaster, W.H. Blicht, who owned a general store here. It is at a "five points" intersection, nine miles north of Statesboro.

BLOOD MOUNTAIN, Union County. A legend relates that before the white men came, a savage Indian war was fought at Slaughter Gap (q.v.) near here between the Cherokee and Creek nations. It is said that blood ran down the mountain sides and colored the waters, which is the reason for the name. The top of the 4,458-foot mountain is within Vogel State Park (q.v.).