



Living & Arts

Genealogy

New book traces evolution of Georgia's boundaries

By **Kenneth H. Thomas Jr.**
For the AJC

Georgia's evolution into its current size and dimensions is the subject of a new book, "The Story of Georgia's Boundaries, A Meeting of History and Geography," by William J. Morton, a medical doctor, lawyer and judge.

He begins with several chapters that set the stage of the founding of this country eventually leading to the establishment of the Georgia colony and its original ocean-to-ocean boundary by the 1732 charter. The next several chapters take one through all the convoluted happenings as Georgia's boundaries were changed by treaties, land cessions and the Yazoo

Fraud.

The chapter "Georgia's Boundary Disputes" is perhaps most interesting as it takes each of Georgia's five boundaries with other states and covers how they were set, the various disputes that have arisen, the many court cases that have refined them and the laws that define them now.

While there are no footnotes, a bibliography and full-name index are included. The book is a good and interesting story about how Georgia got to its present configuration and gives just enough information in each area and era to keep one's attention without being overwhelming. Many fresh illustrations help tell the story.

The book is available online at Amazon.com and other online book retailers, and by mail, in soft-cover for \$19 post-paid including tax from Georgia History Press, P. O. Box 190632, Atlanta, GA 31119. The author can be contacted at www.wjmortonmdjd.com, where one can see the table of contents.

Genealogy classes

Life Enrichment Services in Decatur will be the location for three afternoon classes this winter by Susan Sloan, professional genealogist. They will be offered at 3340 McConnell Dr., Decatur. The cost is \$20 for each session, with the deadline a week before classes start. To

register, contact Marie Cape at 404-321-6960 or mcape@srconn.org.

The Web site is www.srconn.org. Go to Services, then Life Enrichment and Education. The classes are: Jan. 25 "Genealogical Proof Standard: Harnessing the Power of Indirect Evidence," to teach students how to evaluate and use indirect evidence to solve family relationship problems; Feb. 22 "Order in the Court: Family Research at the Courthouse," which introduces resources available at a county courthouse; March 22 "War is Help ... For Genealogists (Military Records Research)," a seminar on military records available at the National Archives and their

value in research.

Online magazines

To learn about some of the best online magazines, go to www.genealogyintime.com and then to Genealogy Resources and then Articles. The top-10 article is a link on the left margin. No doubt you will

find a lot more interesting articles on this site. One of the best is that by Dick Eastman, at <http://blog.eogn.com/> or by searching on Google for "Dick Eastman."

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