

is confusing. A discussion of the problems and pitfalls of early surveying would have been a useful addition as well.

This book has quickly become an essential resource for researchers tracing ancestors in Burke County and nearby areas in both Georgia and South Carolina. Mr. Crumpton is currently compiling a collection of the early plats of Wilkes County, an eagerly awaited volume.

Elizabeth Moyer

Decatur, Georgia

The Story of Georgia's Boundaries: A Meeting of History and Geography. By William J. Morton, M.D., J.D. Published by Georgia History Press; Atlanta, Georgia; 2009. 184 pp. Index. Illustrations and maps. Paperback. \$14.95.

Dr. Morton's goal was to tell a unique story concerning Georgia's changing boundaries from the time of King George II's grant, which created the colony of Georgia in 1732, to the present time. Morton has certainly accomplished that task, providing well-researched details on the numerous boundary changes of the state of Georgia—how the boundaries were measured, the people involved, and the legal maneuvers. Readers may be surprised at the number of changes and conflicts involved in defining Georgia's borders.

Dr. Morton understands that history is more than simple dates and places. As he states, "... boundaries ... are more than mere lines on a map." He provides readers with historic background and anecdotes that are important in understanding the disputes regarding ownership and use of land and rivers between the state of Georgia and her neighbors.

The book is well organized, flowing seamlessly from one era in Georgia's history to the next—the colonial period, early statehood, etc., to the present day. Among the many subjects discussed within this work are: Georgia's birth; the various surveying teams and their methods and personalities; the Yazoo Land Fraud; Georgia's land cession to the federal government; cessions of land by the Creek and Cherokee; and the numerous boundary disputes. The story alone is of great interest, but readers will find that the maps and timelines

provided herein are valuable tools, as they help summarize the activities relating to Georgia's history.

Although an extensive bibliography is provided, this reader was disappointed that footnotes were not used to provide source citations for particular events and legal activities.

The book will be very useful to genealogists and family historians, particularly those with ancestors who settled near the boundaries of Georgia and her neighboring states, e.g. North and South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, and Alabama. This story of Georgia's changing boundaries is a "meeting of history and geography."

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McDuffie County, Georgia, Marriage Records, 1870-1919. Compiled by Fred W. McRee, Jr. Published by Fred W. McRee, Jr.; P.O. Box 128, Dahlonega, Georgia, 30533; <http://fredmcree.com>; 2009. 212 pp. Index. Hardcover. \$29.00.

McDuffie County, Georgia, was created from Columbia and Warren Counties in eastern Georgia, and is considered part of the Augusta Metropolitan area. The marriages in the book, *McDuffie County, Georgia, Marriage Records, 1870-1919*, are from Marriage Books 1-6, still held at the Probate Court, formerly the Court of Ordinary, in Thomson, Georgia. Mr. McRee notes that these books include "White" marriages from 1870 to 1919, and "Colored" marriages from 1870 to 1911. His compilation was prepared from the recorded certificates in each book rather than from the individual indices located at the front of each book. Clerks sometimes omitted a name or two from the index at the front, or even misspelled names, leading researchers to believe that a certain marriage had not been included within the volume.

Providing both a groom and a bride index in an uncluttered format makes this compilation easy to read and use. The date shown is the actual date of marriage rather than the date the license was issued, unless a return is missing. Justices or preachers sometimes forgot