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**RABBIT**, Taylor County. This former community was located ten miles west of Butler. All names suggested for the post office were found to be in use, so this name was chosen in desperation when a rabbit ran in front of the postmaster.

**RABBIT HILL**, Bryan County. A community located about three miles southeast of Richmond Hill. The name is said to have been adopted because residents had to rely on rabbit meat as a food in order to "get by."

**RABUN BALD**, Rabun County. This is the second highest point in Georgia, with an elevation of 4,784 feet, and was named "Bald" because of its being bare of trees on the top.



**RABUN COUNTY**. Pronounced "Ray'bun." Created December 21, 1819 with 369 square miles acquired by Cherokee cession of February 27, 1819. Named in honor of William Rabun (1771-1819), a native of North Carolina, who served as governor of Georgia (1817-1819). The county seat is Clayton (q.v.).

**RABUN GAP**, Rabun County. This small settlement is in a narrow pass at an altitude of 2,100 feet, and is three miles from the North Carolina line. It was sometimes called HEAD OF TENNESSEE as it is on the Little Tennessee River. This is the location of the RABUN GAP-NACOOCHEE SCHOOL, a five-year boarding high school for vocational and academic training, and has gained fame with its publication of the *Fox fire Books*.

**RABUN GAP JUNCTION**, Habersham County. This was the former name of CORNELIA (q.v.).

**RABUN LAKE**, Rabun County. Located on the White County line, it was created with the construction of Mathis Dam on the Tallulah River. In the upper end is RABUN BEACH RECREATION AREA, maintained by the U.S. Forest Service.

**RACCOON**. Several place-names in Georgia were given the longer and literary form for "coon." In some cases it is a translation from the Creek, as in *Sowhatchee* (q.v.), to signify "Raccoon Creek." There was formerly a town of RACCOON located on RACCOON CREEK in Chattooga County, with its corporate limits defined November 22, 1899. This site was originally the Cherokee village of RACCOON TOWN. Located three miles southwest of Summerville, the post office called RACCOON MILLS existed here from January 17, 1877 to June 15, 1908 and was incorporated as a town September 4, 1883 to July 1, 1995. The Raccoon Manufacturing Company here manufactured cotton goods. There is also a RACCOON CREEK in Early County and another in Paulding County. RACCOON ISLAND lies in Ossabaw Sound of Chatham County.

**RACEPATH CREEK**, Rabun County. An affluent of Persimmon Creek, thought to have been named from a mill race once constructed along the stream.

**RACEPOND**, Charlton County. A community located 13 miles northwest of Folkston on U.S. 1-23. Established as a station on the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad, and was named after RACEPOND, a round cypress pond two miles distant.

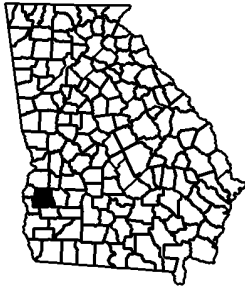
**RADIUM SPRINGS**, Dougherty County. This resort is located four miles south of Albany, and its springs produce more water than any in the state. The main spring yields at the rate of 70,000 gallons a minute of clear 68 degree water. The Creek Indians had called the area SKYWATER and it was later referred to as SKYWATER PARK, and the springs were called BLUE SPRINGS. The name was changed to Radium Springs in 1925 when the present facilities were developed, because the water tested was found to contain 7.12 mache units of radium emanation "radron" per liter.

**RALEIGH**, Meriwether County. Settled in the mid 1800's and Incorporated as a city August 17, 1925 to July 1, 1995. This small community was named by Ben Hill Bowden for his brother Raleigh Bowden.

**RALSTON LAKE**, Stephens County. Former name of Yonah, Lake (q.v.).

**RAMHURST**, Murray County. A small community located five miles south of Chatsworth. The

place was formerly named RAMSEY. Estille and Weatherbe record that the postmaster, A.K. Ramsey, was a cattle raiser, and had a general store and grist mill here.



**RANDOLPH COUNTY.** Created December 20, 1828 with 436 square miles taken from part of Lee County. Named for John Randolph (1773-1833) of Virginia, Republican congressman, and descendant of Pocahontas. His name had previously been given to what is now Jasper County during the period 1807-1812, and had been changed because of his dovish attitude regarding the War of 1812. The county seat is Cuthbert (q.v.).

**RANGER,** Gordon County. Incorporated as a town August 15, 1910. Lulie Pitts wrote that the name was selected in 1895 by the new postmaster, Mr. J.W. Ashworth. It has also been reported that the name was chosen by the post office department from several names suggested by a Mrs. Horton when this was put on the Star Route from Calhoun. Her sister lived in Ranger, North Carolina.

**RATHERWOOD,** Carroll County. Later spelling of ROTHERWOOD (q.v.). *See also* Rutherford.

**RAY CITY,** Berrien County. Established about 1863 as RAYS POND, on the Lanier County line. Incorporated as a city, originally called RAY'S MILL, August 16, 1909. It was later moved to the railroad, and the present name was adopted August 6, 1915.

**RAYMOND,** Coweta County. Established in 1908 by Mr. and Mrs. R.F. Shedden. Mrs. Shedden named the community in honor of her mother, Mrs. John (Mary) Ray. In 1901 a dam was built here to create the present 60-acre LAKE RAYMOND, five miles southeast of Newnan.

**RAYSVILLE,** Lincoln and McDuffie counties. This former settlement was located on both sides of Little River, and was named for Joseph Ray who settled here January 7, 1793. He built and operated mills here. A post office for the community was established in the 1830's.

**RAYTOWN,** Taliaferro County. Located eight miles east of Crawfordville. This is the oldest community in the county, and was originally called RAY'S PLACE, after a Ray family from New York who lived in Washington, Georgia.

**REBECCA,** Turner County. Incorporated as a town August 15, 1904 when this was in Wilcox County. Hal Brinkley says it was named for Rebecca Clark, daughter of Zach H. Clark, a prominent Turner County family.

**RECOVERY,** Decatur County. The southwesternmost community in the state, located on the east side of the Flint River, 21 miles southwest of Bainbridge. First established during the First Seminole Indian War as a hospital base for soldiers sent from Fort Scott to recover, and used during hostilities of 1817. Originally called FORT RECOVERY, it was also said to have been the site of a Confederate hospital during the Civil War.

**REDAN,** DeKalb County. A community located four miles northwest of Lithonia. A coined word, named after original residents, Mr. N.M. Reid and Mrs. Annie (John) Alford.

**RED BLUFF,** Effingham County. This was the ridge on which the Salzburgers established their second Ebenezer (q.v.) settlement. It was named from the peculiar color of the soil.

**RED BLUFF CREEK,** Clinch and Atkinson counties. Descriptively named, it rises at the south border of Atkinson County and flows southeasterly to the Satilla River.

**RED BONE,** Talbot County. This early community was located at the site of the present YPSILANTI (q.v.). The name is taken from an old Indian chief, Red Bone, who was born here.

**REDBUD,** Gordon County. Originally called CRANE EATER (q.v.), this community is located on Pine Log Creek. The name was adopted because of the presence here of the redbud, genus *Cercis*, a small ornamental tree.

**RED CLAY,** Whitfield County. This descriptively named community was the site of a former Indian council ground, (1832-38), which the Cherokee called ELAWA'-DIYI which means "Red-earth place." Located 15 miles north of Dalton, it has also been called COUNCIL GROUND, COUNTY LINE and STATE LINE.

**REDDISH,** Wayne County. This former community was located near the Altamaha River, 12 miles

northwest of Jesup. Also called REDDISHVILLE, it was believed named after early postmaster, G.R. Reddish.

**RED HILLS REGION or SOUTHERN RED HILLS.** This is an area that extends southwestward from Houston County, and downward into Alabama. The name was applied by the Indians, years before the white men came; they called the region ECIMNA CHATE, which signifies "Red Earth."

**RED HOLLOW ROAD.** An early trail from Savannah to Augusta and beyond, passing "Red Hollow House" which was located in what is now Martin, Stephens County. This inn was named from a red hollow stump close by.

**RED HOUSE FORD,** Catoosa County. This early crossing of the Old Federal Road on West Chickamauga Creek was descriptively named for the distillery that formerly operated on the west bank.

**RED OAK,** McDuffie County. An early post office established in 1833 when this was part of Columbia County. There is also a community in lower Fulton County called RED OAK. These names are for the common red oak tree found in the state.

**RED OAK CREEK,** Meriwether County. This stream, in the northern section of the county, flows into the Flint River. Named for the red oak trees here.

**RED TOP MOUNTAIN STATE PARK,** Bartow County. Located six miles southeast of Cartersville on the shore of Lake Allatoona (q.v.). This 1,246-acre park was an old Indian meeting and play area, as well as the site of a Civil War battleground. It was named for REDTOP MOUNTAIN here, which was named from an Indian war town, RED TOWN.

**REED BINGHAM STATE PARK,** Colquitt County. Located about eight miles west of Adel. Designated a state park March 3, 1962, when it was named in honor of Mr. Reed Bingham who was the driving force responsible for the establishment of this 1,605-acre park. He also created the Colquitt County Rural Electric Cooperative, the second such cooperative to be established in the United States. A dam was constructed across Little River here to create BINGHAM LAKE. The dam broke in 1966 and was later rebuilt.

**REED BLUFF CREEK,** Clinch and Atkinson counties. Enters the Satilla River in eastern Atkinson County. The name came about because of the tall bamboo-like grasses commonly found along the streams.

**REED CREEK,** Hart County. Located six miles north of Hartwell on Georgia route 51. This community was named from the stream called REED CREEK, which flows into Hartwell Reservoir here. Another creek by this name is in Irwin County and flows southeasterly to the Willacoochee River. REEDY CREEK rises in southeast Warren County and flows easterly through upper Jefferson County to enter Brier Creek at Keysville.

**REEVES,** Gordon County. Originally called REEVES STATION, it is a community located four miles southwest of Calhoun. Named for Osborne Reeves, local landowner who gave property for the railroad right-of-way.

**REEVES CREEK,** Henry County. A tributary of the Cotton River, named for an old settler who lived on the stream.

**REGISTER,** Bulloch County. An old community located eight miles southwest of Statesboro on Georgia highway 46. Derivation is probably from a family name.

**REGISTERVILLE,** Lanier County. Named after Samuel Register, Sr. The community is now called STOCKTON (q.v.).

**REHOBOTH,** DeKalb County. A community located about three miles northeast of Decatur. Named from Rehovoth, a city of north central Israel. This is a Hebrew word which is thought to mean "wide places." Another community named REHOBOTH is in Harris County, about seven miles northeast of Columbus which was incorporated until July 1, 1995. There was formerly a community of REHOBOTH in southeastern Oglethorpe County. REHOBOTH CEMETERY in Madison is 12 miles north of Madison in Morgan County, at the site of the early community of REHOBOTHVILLE.

**REIDSVILLE,** CS Tattnall County. Incorporated as a town December 31, 1838. When the post office was opened here at the county seat in 1832, it was named Reidsville in honor of Robert Raymond Reid (1789-1841) of Augusta, judge of the Superior Court, later territorial governor (1839-1841) of Florida. REIDSVILLE STATE PENI

TENTIARY (or GEORGIA STATE PRISON) is located seven miles south of town. It was completed in 1936 at a cost of \$1 1/2 million. REIDSVILLE STATE PARK, just west of town is now called GORDONIA ALTAMAHA STATE PARK (q.v.).

**REINHARDT COLLEGE**, Waleska. Founded in 1883 by Captain A.M. Reinhardt of Atlanta, and first named REINHARDT NORMAL SCHOOL in honor of pioneer settler, Lewis Warlick Reinhardt. Chartered in 1891 and given its present name in 1909.

**RELEE**, Coffee County. A community located 18 miles northwest of Douglas on Georgia 107. Named for Robert E. Lee.

**REMERTON**, Lowndes County. Located northwest of Valdosta, and incorporated as a town February 19, 1951.

**REMUS**, Paulding County. A former post office located seven miles northwest of Dallas. Named from the *Uncle Remus* stories of Joel Candler Harris.

**RENO**, Grady County. A community located ten miles southwest of Cairo. Incorporated as a town April 18, 1913 to July 1, 1995. Derivation believed to be from a personal name.

**RENWICK**, Lee County. Listed as a post office in 1859-71, but previously called BRANCHVILLE (q.v.). The name was changed to SMITHVILLE (q.v.) April 18, 1863.

**RENTZ**, Laurens County. Incorporated as a town August 21, 1905. Named for E.P. Rentz of the Rentz Lumber Company here.

**REPOSE**, Haralson County. This was the original settlement on the Little River at the site of the present BREMEN (q.v.), and was named to suggest the peace and quiet of this locale.

**REPPARD'S MILL**, Clinch County. Former community located four miles northwest of Homerville. Named for Aaron Reppard, owner of a large steam mill, whose son was the distinguished Robert Blair Reppard of Savannah.

**REPUBLICAN**, McDuffie County. Also known as REPUBLICAN COURTHOUSE, this was a post office established August 17, 1839 when this was in Columbia County. It existed until 1868 when it was discontinued. Was *not* named for the

Republican political party, which was not organized until 1854, but more likely for the philosophy of representative government.

**RESACA**, Gordon County. Pronounced "Reesac'a." Incorporated as the town of RESACCA February 15, 1854 and as the town of "Resaca" December 13, 1871. Originally called DUBLIN when first established in the 1840's. The soldiers returning from the Mexican War renamed it in honor of their great victory at Resaca de la Palma, which in Spanish means, "Dry River Bed of the Palm." An absurd legend has related how a young brave was to select an Indian maiden for his bride from several who were brought before him with sacks over their heads. After making a choice, her face was revealed to him, whereupon he commanded, "Resaca!" In the Civil War Battle of Resaca, May 14-15, 1864, General John B. Hood's corps attacked the Confederate forces in the first major battle of the Atlanta Campaign.

**REST HAVEN**, Gwinnett County. A community 3 miles east of Buford which was incorporated as a town in 1938.

**REX**, Clayton County. Incorporated as a city August 16, 1912 to August 11, 1922. The name of this community is the Latin word meaning "King."

**REYNOLDS**, Taylor County. Incorporated as a town September 26, 1883. Founded in 1853 by a Dr. Coleman and was named for L.C. Reynolds, chief engineer of the Central of Georgia Railroad.

**REYNOLDS SQUARE**, Savannah. Laid out in 1733, and named in honor of John Reynolds (1700-1776), sea captain and first provincial governor of Georgia (1754-56).

**REYNOLDSVILLE STATE PARK**, Seminole County. This 100-acre park is located on the shores of Jim Woodruff Reservoir, 16 miles west of Bainbridge on Georgia highway 253. Named after the nearby community of REYNOLDSVILLE.

**RHINE**, Dodge County. The post office was established in 1889 when it was moved from nearby Copeland. The town was incorporated September 1, 1891. Early settlers were German and named the place for their native country's Rhine River.

**RICEBORO**, Liberty County. A stop on the Seaboard Airline Railroad, 15 miles southeast of Hinesville. The place was first known as GRAVE

SEND (q.v.). The town was laid out February 1, 1797 and the county seat was moved here from Sunbury (q.v.) in 1798. Incorporated with the name of RICEBOROUGH December 21, 1819, and as the city of Riceboro August 20, 1927. The court house was moved to ZOUCK'S OLD FIELD (q.v.) in 1836. The name was derived from the fact that the early community was active in the rice trade.

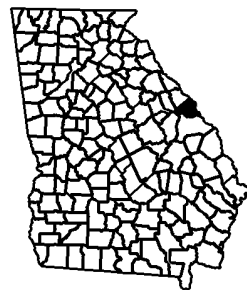
**RICHARD B. RUSSELL BRIDGE.** Crosses Lake George from Georgetown, Quitman County to Eufala, Alabama. Named March 28, 1961 "...to perpetuate the stature of Senator Richard B. Russell, a great patriot, leader, public servant, and faithful son of the State of Georgia." Also named in honor of Senator Russell (1897-1971) is RICHARD B. RUSSELL SCENIC HIGHWAY, Union and White counties. A 15-mile stretch of winding mountain road (Georgia 348) east of Vogel State Park. RICHARD B. RUSSELL DAM was authorized in 1966 and named in 1973. It was completed in June 1978, and created the 25,000-acre LAKE RUSSELL, and is located on the Savannah River between Hartwell Dam and Lake, and Clark Hill Reservoir. *See also* Russell.

**RICHLAND,** Stewart County. The area was first settled in 1827 by Henry Audulf from Germany, who named the place CHISHOLM. Its post office was established May 6, 1839 and it was incorporated as a town September 28, 1889. The present name was derived from the Richland Baptist church here, which probably got its name from Richland District, South Carolina, where many of the settlers of Stewart County originated. The post office name was changed by postmaster John Audulf to Richland, December 16, 1899. In early times the settlement was nicknamed "Box Ankle" after a drunk broke his ankle when falling over a box.

**RICHLAND CREEK,** Greene County. Rises at the edge of Greensboro and flows southerly to the Oconee River. Was so named because of the rich land through which the creek runs.

**RICHLAND CREEK,** Twiggs County. Goff reports that this was first called SCUFFLE CREEK when the area was surveyed in 1806, but the residents apparently desired an antonym of its original poor mouthing name.

**RICHMOND BATHS,** Richmond County. The early name of the present community of BATH (q.v.).



**RICHMOND COUNTY.** Created February 5, 1777 with 325 square miles acquired by Creek cession of May 20, 1733. This was an original county previously organized in 1758 as the Parish of ST. PAUL. Named for Charles Lennox (1735-1806), the third Duke of Richmond, a military officer, ambassador, secretary of state, and a warm friend of American liberty. The county seat is Augusta (q.v.). RICHMOND ACADEMY (or ACADEMY OF RICHMOND COUNTY) in Augusta was the first public school in Georgia. Chartered in 1783, it opened April 12, 1785, in a building erected on Bay Street. *See also* Augusta College.

**RICHMOND HILL,** Bryan County. Incorporated as a city May 3, 1962. Previously here was the community named WAYS STATION (q.v.). Henry Ford (1863-1947) acquired property here in 1925 and built a winter house at the nearby Richmond Plantation. He developed a model community and gave the town its present name. RICHMOND HILL STATE PARK comprises 191 acres, and is located on the Ogeechee River about ten miles east of Richmond Hill, adjacent to Fort McAllister (q.v.).

**RICHWOOD,** Dooly County. This community on the Crisp County line may have been named for the rich pine forests in this section. Believed established before 1900 when the Parrott Lumber Company moved into the area to cut the rich timber lands.

**RIDDLEVILLE,** Washington County. Incorporated as a town December 17, 1859. Located in the southeast section of the county and named for pioneer, Anderson Riddle, who came to Georgia in 1815 and gave land for the village.

**RIDGE VALLEY,** Floyd County. This valley is twelve miles long, extending northeasterly from Rome to Plainville. Named for Indian chief, Major Ridge, whose English name probably derived from his military rank in the Creek War of 1814.

**RIDGEVILLE**, McIntosh County. Community located three miles northeast of Darien on Georgia highway 99, earlier known as THE RIDGE. During the Civil War, the inhabitants from Darien fled to this settlement for refuge.

**RIDGEWAY**, Harris County. This former settlement was established about 1829 on the highest ridge, near the edge of the Harris and Talbot county line. The old Federal Wire Road (q.v.) passed through here.

**RIDGEWAY (Militia) DISTRICT**, Gilmer County. Located in the west section of the county, and named for an old Indian community here formerly.

**RINCON**, Effingham County. Pronounced "Rink'on." Incorporated August 3, 1927. This town was established in the early 1890's and has a Spanish name meaning "Corner" or "Nook."

**RINGER'S CROSS ROAD**, Carroll County. *See* Temple.

**RINGGOLD**, CS Catoosa County. Incorporated December 23, 1847, and designated county seat March 16, 1854. The town bears the name of Major Samuel Ringgold, who died of wounds received in the Mexican War, when engaged in the battle of Palo Alto in 1846.

**RINGGOLD**, Spalding County. Was located five and one-half miles northeast of Griffin on Georgia route 16. An early community, older than the county, settled around the Ringgold Masonic Lodge 90, which was established near here October 31, 1849.

**RINGGOLD GAP**, Catoosa County. Located east of the town of Ringgold, from which it was named. This was the site of a Civil War engagement on November 27, 1863.

**RIO**, Spalding County. A rural community located by the Flint River, about six miles west of Griffin. *Rio* is the Spanish word for "river."

**RIO DULCE**. An early name of the SAVANNAH RIVER (q.v.).

**RIO VISTA**, Dougherty County. Community near Albany overlooking the Flint River. *Rio vista* is a Spanish term meaning "River View."

**RIPLEY**, Twiggs County. A former community which was located six miles north of Jeffersonville. Was originally named RIPLING June 11,

1892, by leading citizen John Walker Jones. The name was changed to Ripley August 6, 1892, and the post office continued to serve here until July 16, 1921.

**RISING FAWN**, Dade County. The first white settlers came in the early 1800's. Incorporated as a town September 15, 1881. Romantic and fanciful accounts relate that the name is derived from a beautiful Indian princess called Rising Fawn. According to legend, the Cherokee customarily named their newborn after the first sight they say after a child's birth, which in this case was a fawn which was seen to rise from its mother's side. Dr. John Goff said that the name is actually derived from the Cherokee, *Kunnattetah*, *Kenotetah*, or *Agi-na-gi-li*, which translates literally, "Young He Is Rising." The real significance of the name is not known, but there were half a dozen male Cherokees who had that name. There was also an old Indian town of this name, named after one of these Indians who lived on upper Lookout Creek, near the present site of Rising Fawn. The name of this town was mentioned in Reverend George White's *Statistics of the State of Georgia* (1849) as "Rising Town," and Sherwood in 1860 listed it as "Rising Farm" post office. Here originally was the post office of HANNA (q.v.), later changed to STAUNTON (q.v.).

**RISNER, TUGALOO H., MEMORIAL HIGHWAY and BRIDGE**, Hart County. Named March 13, 1957 to honor Tugaloo Harvey Risner, who served the Georgia General Assembly and Senate, 1947-1954. The bridge is where Georgia 51 spans Lightwood Log Creek, and the highway so designated is that part of Georgia 51 between Hartwell to its end.

**RIVERDALE**, Clayton County. Founded in 1886 as a railhead known as RAPE'S CROSSING on the Atlanta-to-Fort Valley Line. Incorporated as a town July 30, 1908, when it was named for Mr. and Mrs. W. Spratlin Rivers who gave land to the railroad here.

**RIVER ROAD**. One of the first pioneer roads to be established along the Ocmulgee River. It was made by widening the primitive Indian trail following the east bank of the stream from its headwaters down to the seacoast. *See also* Oglethorpe Trail.

**RIVERSIDE**, Colquitt County. Incorporated as a town August 22, 1907. The descriptive name came about because of its location beside the Ochlockonee River.

**RIVERSIDE**, Putnam County. An early post office located on the west bank of the Oconee

River northeast of Eatonton. The original community was called PARK'S BRIDGE, named for settler Richard S. "Dickey" Park. The Park Mill House here was a hiding place for Jefferson Davis shortly before his capture near Irwinville. The town died after the boll weevil came in 1926.

**RIVERSIDE ACADEMY**, Gainesville. Founded in 1907 as a military school, this 250-acre campus was named in reference to its location near the Chattahoochee River.

**THE RIVER STYX**, Charlton County. The headwaters of the St. Marys River in the lower section of the county was so called as it flows through a wild uninhabited tract. In Greek mythology, the Styx was the "River of Hate," that flowed nine times round the infernal regions.

**RIVERTOWN**, Fulton County. A former town located in old Campbell County when first settled. Also known as CROSS ANCHOR, it was about nine miles northwest of Palmetto, and given its name because of its site on the Chattahoochee River. The present RIVERTOWN ROAD (S 698) extends about ten miles west of Fairburn.

**RIVES**, Dougherty County. Also called DUCKER'S STATION, this former community was located 13 miles southwest of Albany. In 1882 the postmaster was A. P Rives, who was also the railroad and express agent.

**RIVOLI**, Bibb County. A suburban community near Macon in the vicinity of Wesleyan College. The name is taken from a town in Italy, near Turin.

**ROANOKE**, Stewart County. Incorporated as the town of ROAN-OAK December 22, 1832. Established in 1831 on fifty acres purchased from Richard Mathias. It was located on the Chattahoochee River at the site of a former Indian village. The name may have been transferred from Roanoke Island of North Carolina where Sir Walter Raleigh's first colony was established in 1585, and then mysteriously disappeared. The derivation of that name is probably from the Algonquian, *Roanoak*, thought to mean "Place of White Shells," or "Indian Shell Money." On Friday May 13, 1836, this Georgia town was attacked by Creek Indians who burned the town and murdered most of the inhabitants. This act ignited a three-year war that eventually ended in Florida in 1842. The town was not rebuilt, but was replaced by Florence (q.v.) about three miles upstream on the Chattahoochee River.

**ROARING CREEK**, Muscogee County. Enters Lake Oliver just above the dam. Named in 1826 by Willis P. Baker, surveyor. The earlier Indian name was CHISSEHULCUH (q.v.).

**ROASTING EAR ISLAND**, Ware County. Located in the Okefenokee Swamp near Soldier Camp Island. This name was adopted after it was discovered that a hill of corn was growing on the island.

**ROBERTA**, Crawford County. The site was first named NEW KNOXVILLE in the spring of 1886 when the Atlanta and Florida Railroad ran tracks through this area, by passing the county seat. Later that year the name was changed to Roberta. Incorporated as a town December 26, 1890. Before long the settlement from Knoxville moved here. Roberta was named for the seven year old daughter of Hiram McCrary, Mrs. Mattie Roberta McCrary Champion (who was in her 90's in 1976). He gave land for the early settlement, "He sold an acre and gave an acre." The BEN HAWKINS MONUMENT was placed here at the city square in 1930 by the U.S. Government to honor Colonel Hawkins, the first white settler in this area (*see also* Hawkinsville).

**ROBERTS (Militia) DISTRICT**, Jones County. The Reuben Roberts (1752-1845) family from Virginia came to Jones County in 1807. The community where he lived was called ROBERTS STATION. A post office named ROBERTS was located south of Clinton.

**ROBERTSTOWN**, White County. Incorporated from August 16, 1913 to August 12, 1921. Was located a few miles above Helen. Established in 1913 by a Mr. Pitnet and named for Englishman, Charles Roberts, who had owned the property on which the town was built.

**ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE**, Houston County. This base covers 6,400 acres, and is located at Warner Robins (q.v.). It employs more people than any other establishment in the State of Georgia, and is the hub of the vast Warner Robins Air Material Area. Was built starting August 20, 1941, with original construction costs of \$15 million. Named for General A.W. Robins.

**ROCHELLE**, Wilcox County. Town was incorporated December 15, 1888. The French name was suggested by the daughter of a railroad president who was touring the area with her father in the late 1800's, after a trip to Europe.

**ROCK, THE.** *See* The Rock.

**ROCK BRANCH,** Elbert County. A rural community located one mile east of ROCK BRANCH CREEK, an affluent of Coldwater Creek, about eight miles northeast of Elberton.

**ROCK CITY (GARDENS),** Dade County. Called the "Eighth Wonder of the World." Advertised as being near Chattanooga, Tennessee, but it actually is in Georgia. This 10-acre site was acquired in 1924 by Mr. and Mrs. Garnett Carter, who developed it into a tourist attraction. The area was named by early settlers because of its remarkable rock formations, which include LOVERS LEAP, 1,700 feet above the valley below.

**ROCKDALE,** Rockdale County. Established as a post office in 1834, 36 years before the county of Rockdale (q.v.) was created. In 1845, this post office was re-established as CONYERS (q.v.).



**ROCKDALE COUNTY.** Created October 18, 1870, it is Georgia's second smallest county (after Clarke County), with 128 square miles taken from Henry and Newton counties. Named for the Rockdale Church here, which was named after the subterranean bed of granite that underlies this region of the state. The first battle for prohibition was fought in Rockdale County. The county seat is Conyers (q.v.).

**ROCK EAGLE 4H CAMP,** Putnam County. Located six miles north of Eatonton, it is also called the STATE 4H CLUB CENTER. First opened in 1955, this is the world's largest 4H camp, and has facilities to host up to 50,000 persons. The 1,200-seat auditorium was named for Senator Herman E. Talmadge of Georgia. The camp was named after a giant (120-foot) white quartz mound here in the form of a large bird, possibly an eagle. It has been described as being the most perfect effigy mound in North America, and is believed by archeologists to have been constructed by pre-Indian people at least 5,000 years ago. Here also is the 110-acre ROCK EA-

GLE LAKE, and on the opposite shore from the 4H camp is ROCK EAGLE PARK.

**ROCK HILL,** Early County. A community in the southwest section of the county, named for a large rock hill. The Rock Hill court house was built here in 1886.

**ROCKINGHAM,** Bacon County. A community located three miles east of Alma. Named after the North Carolina town by settlers from that state.

**ROCK LANDING,** Baldwin County. Descriptively named, this site on the east side of the Oconee River is located four miles southeast of Milledgeville. Three Indian trails converged here, and also this was the official residence of James Seagrove, appointed the first U.S. Indian agent to the Creeks in September 1791. The Creek settlement, Oconee Old Town (q.v.) was located just below Rock Landing.

**ROCKLEDGE,** Laurens County. Incorporated as a town August 17, 1908 to July 1, 1995. The post office was established in 1889. The name of this community is derived from a ledge of rock which crops out along the Dublin and Mount Vernon highway.

**ROCKMART,** Polk County. Called "City on the Move." Incorporated as a town August 26, 1872. Derivation evolved from the original name of the place, ROCK MARKET. This was the offspring of Van Wert (q.v.). Slate deposits here were discovered in 1849, and are world renowned. *See also* Piedmont Institute.

**ROCK MOUNTAIN,** DeKalb County. This was one of the first names used by white men in referring to the present STONE MOUNTAIN (q.v.).

**ROCKTOWN,** Walker County. This name refers to an uninhabited rock formation resembling a town, located on top of Pigeon Mountain near Bronco. It is about 240 million years old.

**ROCKVILLE,** Putnam County. Located 12 miles east of Eatonton. Was an active community and post office in the 19th century.

**ROCKY COMFORT CREEK.** Rises in Warren County and flows down through Glascock and Jefferson counties to enter the Ogeechee River below Louisville. Its name is believed to have been translated from an original Indian name.



**ROCKY CREEK.** Rises in southeast Monroe County and flows easterly across Bibb County to the Ocmulgee River. William Bartram called it STONY CREEK. Benjamin Hawkins called it both STONEY CREEK and ROCKEY CREEK. It is probably an English translation of a Muskogee Indian word, *chattohachi*, from, *chatto*, "rock (or stone)" and *hachi*, "stream." In Greene County, ROCKY CREEK is an affluent of Richland Creek.

**ROCKY FACE,** Whitfield County. A community located five miles northwest of Dalton. Named for a nearby mountain on which a face-like rock formation can be seen on the brow. An earlier name for the community was AXOKA, which was a Cherokee Indian settlement.

**ROCKY FORD,** Screven County. Settled in the late 1760's, this became the county seat December 14, 1793 to February 1, 1797, when it was moved to Jacksonboro. The town was named in reference to a fording place on the Ogeechee River, south of here.

**ROCKY MOUNT,** Meriwether County. Settled in the 1830's with its post office opened in the 1840's. Incorporated as a town February 17, 1877 to July 1, 1995. This community was descriptively named.

**ROCKY TOP,** Union County. A descriptively named mountain with an elevation of 3,075 feet. Located 3 1/2 miles northeast of Ivy Log community.

**ROLAND SPRINGS,** Bartow County. Sometimes called ROWLAND'S MINERAL SPRINGS, it is shown five miles northeast of Cartersville on an 1882 map. Named for John S. Rowland who purchased the land in 1843 to develop a health resort. Today's county map indicates a Rowland Spring Church here now.

**ROLLINS,** Paulding County. A former community that was located six miles southwest of Dallas on Pumpkinvine Creek. The postmaster here in 1881 was W.L. Rollins.

**ROLLO,** Crawford County. A stop on the Southern Railroad, 7 miles south of Roberta, which was sand loading station. Named for Mr. A. M. Rollo who was the first load sand in the county.

**ROME,** CS Floyd County. "City of Seven Hills" Incorporated as a town December 20, 1834 and as a city December 29, 1847. Located in the

ROME VALLEY where the Oostanula and Etowah rivers join to form the Coosa River. The Cherokees originally had a post office here called HEAD OF COOSA. A small village called CHIHABA (q.v.) then grew up on this site. Rome was founded in 1834 when five travelers met at a spring here, agreeing it would be a fine place to start a city. They each tossed a suggested name in a hat, and the one offered by Colonel Daniel R. Mitchell, a lawyer from Canton, was drawn. He had recalled the seven hills of ancient Rome on the Tiber, and therefore proposed this name. The county seat was transferred here from Livingston (q.v.) in 1834. BATTEY GENERAL HOSPITAL in Rome was named for Dr. Robert Halsey Battey (1828-1895) noted physician and surgeon, who was one time president of the A.M.A. The first bauxite (aluminum ore) to be found in the United States was discovered northeast of Rome in 1887.

**ROOPVILLE,** Carroll County. Incorporated as a town October 7, 1885. This community was built around a granite quarry, and was laid out by John K. Roop, farmer and businessman who lived here.

**ROOSEVELT,** Gilmer County. An early community located four miles southwest of Ellijay. Named for Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), 26th president of the U.S.

**ROOSEVELT STATE PARK,** Harris County. See Franklin D. Roosevelt State Park.

**ROOSTERVILLE,** Heard County. Located due east of Ephesus. Bob Harrell reported that, as the community was becoming established in 1905, an early resident Joe Spratlin suggested, "Let's call it Roosterville," because of the many nearby farms and roosters crowing most all of the time.

**ROOTY CREEK,** Putnam County. Rises above Eatonton and flows southeasterly into Lake Sinclair. Descriptively named in reference to the prevalence of roots in the stream banks.

**ROSCOE,** Coweta County. A rural settlement established in the early 1800's. The post office was established February 15, 1882. Believed named after U.S. Senator (1867-81) Roscoe Conkling (1829-88) from New York who was active in reconstruction plans for the Southern States.

**ROSS LAKE,** Turner County. Located near where Deep Creek flows into the Alapaha River. Named for early settler, W.D. Ross, who once owned the land on which the lake is located.

**ROSSVILLE**, Walker County. Incorporated as a city August 24, 1905. The first post office in northwest Georgia was established here April 5, 1817, with John Ross (1790-1866) the postmaster. Brinkley said it was first known as POPULAR SPRINGS. The town was named after Ross, around whose house the place grew. He was of mixed blood, being of Scottish and Indian ancestry, and was for forty years the head chief of the Cherokee Nation. This city is within ROSSVILLE (Militia) DISTRICT.

**ROSWELL**, Fulton County. Pronounced "Roz'-well." Incorporated as a town February 16, 1854. Established at the site of a former Indian village on the Chattahoochee River. The earlier name of the original settlement here was ROSWELL JUNCTION, named for Connecticut-born Roswell King (1765-1844), who had been overseer for Pierce Butler's plantation on St. Simons Island. The place was first colonized in 1837 by King and a few friends who established Roswell Manufacturing Co. here December 11, 1839. This is the location of "Bulloch Hall," the home of Theodore Roosevelt's mother. Union forces entered the town in July 1864. *See also* Chamblee.

**ROTARY LAKE**, Floyd County. Located southwest of Rome. So named after the Rotary Club of Rome donated a dam on Horseleg Creek to create the lake.

**ROTHERWOOD**, Carroll County. A post office was established here February 27, 1829 to 1868. It later reopened as RATHERWOOD until 1897. It was located at a site known to the Creek Indians as LOCKCHAU TALOFAU (q.v.), near the present town of Whitesburg. It was named Rotherwood after this was suggested by an English lady who noted that the countryside here resembled that described in Scott's novels. The Carroll County map shows a Rutherford Church here now.

**ROTTENWOOD CREEK**, Cobb County. Rises at South Marietta and flows southeasterly to the Chattahoochee River. Goff explains that the stream was named for a Cherokee Indian who lived near its banks.

**ROUGH AND READY**, DeKalb County. This post office was established April 5, 1847 to June 24, 1869, in what was then Fayette County, having been moved here from Poolesville (q.v.). Its name was inspired by General Zachary Taylor's famous nickname. An 1893 newspaper clipping reported that the citizens here were "rough and always

ready to fight." The town of MOUNTAIN VIEW (q.v.) later was established in this vicinity.

**ROUGH CREEK**, Murray County. This stream in the eastern part of the county, runs through what John Goff describes as rough territory, then into the Conasauga River.

**ROUL**, Habersham County. A station on the Southern Railway, about 1 1/2 miles south of Alto. This is believed to have been the early name of the present ALTO (q.v.).

**ROUND MOUNTAIN**, Dade County. A hump on the back of Lookout Mountain, a few miles south of Lula Lake. Descriptively named because of its almost circular elevation.

**ROUND OAK**, Jones County. Incorporated as a town August 17, 1914 to July 1, 1995. Was reportedly first called SYLVANIA, and later given its present name for a huge ancient oak tree, under which the Indians held their powwows.

**ROUND TOP**, Gilmer County. A former post office located 11 miles southwest of Ellijay. Named for the nearby mountain which has a rounded appearance at its summit.

**ROUSSEAU CREEK**. Forms the border between Columbia and McDuffie counties before it enters Clark Hill Reservoir. Also in this vicinity was the resort of ROUSSEAU (POINT), located near ROUSSEAU SPRINGS. This latter is a mineral spring, rich in iron, located in the northern part of McDuffie County. It was named for William Rousseau, who purchased the land here from John McMurrin (or McMurrin). The post office of Rousseau Springs was established here January 10, 1833 to April 6, 1839. McMurrin came from South Carolina and acquired 350 acres here on Cane Creek. The five-acre tract including the springs was purchased in 1824 by General John Twiggs for \$100 (*see* Twiggs County).

**ROWENA**, Early County. An unincorporated community four miles south of Arlington on Georgia highway 45. Named for Rowena Collins. A cotton gin here was owned by William A. Carter, grandfather of former President Jimmy Carter. The grandfather was killed in early September 1903, shot in the head, following an argument with Will Talliaferro.

**ROWLAND MINERAL SPRINGS**, Bartow County. *See* Roland Springs.

**ROYAL LODGE**, Harris County. Located on Georgia highway 190 near Warm Springs. Established and incorporated in 1973 by wealthy land developer John B. Amos of Columbus. He named this community after the original hunting lodge on the site, and because of the proposed English village format.

**ROYSTON**, Franklin County. The first settler was William W. Asberry who came about 1850. The town was incorporated in 1879 and December 29, 1890. Believed to have been named for W.A. Royston, who had a general store here when the place was first settled.

**RUBY FALLS**, White County. Also called ANNA RUBY FALLS (q.v.), which are two separate falls, side-by-side. One on Curtis Creek drops 153 feet and on York Creek a drop of 50 feet. The falls were named for the only daughter of James H. "Captain" Nichols, who settled near here soon after the Civil War.

**RUCKERSVILLE**, Elbert County. Commissioners of the village were appointed December 9, 1822 and the place was incorporated until July 1, 1995. Was settled in 1773 by Virginia aristocrats, John Rucker and John White, and named after their home of Ruckersville, Virginia. John Rucker's son Joseph "Squire" Rucker (1788-1865) was a businessman and banker who became Georgia's first millionaire.

**RUM CREEK**, Monroe County. Rises above Forsyth and flows southeasterly to enter the Ocmulgee River below Dames Ferry. Named for an early sugar cane mill, located near present U.S. highway 23, which produced rum as a by-product.

**RUNNING SPRING**, Floyd County. A former community located six miles north of Rome. Translated from the Indian name for the spring located here, TANTATANARA.

**RURAL VALE**, Whitfield County. This was a tiny community, with a commendatory descriptive name, located on Deep Creek, 11 1/2 miles northeast of Dalton.

**RUSKIN**, Ware County. A community located six miles southwest of Waycross. Founded in the 1890's by a group from Tennessee who established a communal type colony here; its school had the first twelfth grade in Georgia. The early town was named for John Ruskin (1819-1900), the English essayist and art critic.

**RUSSELL**, Barrow County. Incorporated as a city December 18, 1902 to July 1, 1995. A station on the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad on the southeast edge of Winder. Believed named for the family of Georgia's Senator Richard Brevard Russell (1897-1971). *See also* Gordon Junior College and Russell Lake.

**RUSSELL LAKE**, Habersham County. Located two miles south of Cornelia. This 100-acre artificial lake was named for the late Senator Richard B. Russell of Georgia. RUSSELL WILDLIFE AREA is also located here. *See also* Richard B. Russell Bridge.

**RUSSELLS CREEK**, Dawson County. Flows southerly into the Etowah River below Dawsonville. This stream was named from a site of Russell's Mill, once located on the waterway. The earlier name of the stream was CHILD TOTERS CREEK (q.v.).

**RUSSELLVILLE**, Monroe County. A community located nine miles south of Forsyth on Georgia highway 42. Believed named for early resident, Alexander Russell. This section was previously (1821) called the 12th DISTRICT.

**RUTH**, Greene County. This early post office was named by the postmaster, Henry Price Williams, for his infant daughter. The post office was located in Mr. Williams' store from 1881 to 1916. and the voting precinct remained here until the store burned in 1970. The place was located near the Oconee River, 11 miles south of Greensboro.

**RUTHERWOOD CHURCH**, Carroll County. Located 2 1/2 miles southwest of Whitesburg at the site of the former Rotherwood (q.v.).

**RUTLEDGE**, Morgan County. Was first called RUTLEDGE STATION when first established. The post office opened in 1855 and the town was incorporated December 13, 1871. It was named for Governor Rutledge of South Carolina by its early settlers from that state. LAKE RUTLEDGE is located north of the town within Hard Labor Creek State Park (q.v.).

**RYONVILLE**, Liberty County. This early post office was located 14 miles northwest of Hinesville, within the present Fort Stewart. It was believed to have been named for early postmaster and store owner, W.H. Ryon.