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Chapter IV - Boundaries

Dear Reader:

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We hope this information will be useful to you; reference to it will assist you with many of the questions that will arise in your tenure with county government. However, the *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations should always be consulted before any action is taken based upon the contents of this document.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or comments regarding this information or any other CTAS website material.

Sincerely,

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Chapter IV - Boundaries

Creation of County

Acts of North Carolina 1783 Chapter 51

1. WHEREAS, the large extent of the County of Washington renders the attendance of the inhabitants on the extreme parts of the said county to do public duties, extremely difficult and expensive:
2. That from and after the passing of this act, the county of Washington shall be divided into two distinct counties, by a direct line beginning at William Williams' in the fork of Horse Creek, at the foot of Iron Mountain, thence a direct course to George Gallespie's house, at or near the mouth of Big Limestone, thence a north course to the line which divides the counties of Washington and Sullivan, thence with said line to the Chimney Top Mountain, thence a direct course to the mouth of Cloud's Creek, in Holston River; and all that part of Washington County westward of the said line, from and after the passing of this act, shall be and is hereby declared to be a distinct county by the name of Greene.

Acts of the Territory South of the River Ohio

Acts of 1792 Chapter 1

1. That from and after the fifteenth day of the present month of June, the counties of Greene and Hawkins shall be circumscribed by a line beginning on Nolichucky River at the same place where the ridge which divides the waters of Bent and Lick Creek strikes it; thence with that ridge to Bull's Gap of Bay's Mountain; thence a direct line to the place where the road that leads from Dodson's ford to Perkin's iron works crosses the watry fork of Bent creek; thence down the road to the head of Panther creek down the meanders of that creek to the river Holston; thence a northwest course to the river Clinch; again from Nolichucky River where the ridge that divides the waters of Bent and Lick creek strikes it, a direct course to Peter Fine's ferry on French Broad, then south to the ridge that divides the waters of French Broad and Big Pigeon, and with said ridge to the eastern boundary of the territory.

COMPILER'S NOTE: The last three sections of this act established Jefferson County. Therefore, they have not been included.

Done at Knoxville, the 11th day of June, in the year of our Lord 1792.

Acts of 1798 Chapter 13

SECTION 1. That from and after the passing of this act, the line that divides the county of Greene from the county of Cocke, shall begin at the corner of Greene and Jefferson counties, on Nolichucky river, at the end of Bay's mountain, from thence up Nolichucky river to the mouth of Oven creek, from thence a direct line to Major Gragg's so as to leave his plantation in Greene county, from thence a direct line to the Painted Rock on French Broad river, below the Warm Springs; from thence south to the Cocke county line, and all that part lying south of the said line shall be a part of Cocke county.

SECTION 2. That the sheriff of Greene county shall have the same power and lawful authority to collect and receive all his arrearages of taxes, and executions, in that part of Cocke county that was formerly part of Greene county in the same manner as if this act had never been passed.

January 2, 1799.

Acts of 1806 Chapter 53

SECTION 1. That so much of the ordinance aforesaid, as respects the line beginning on Nolichucky River, at the place where the ridge which divides the waters of Bent and Lick creek strikes the same; thence with that ridge to Bull's Gap of Bays Mountain, at the house of William Cross, leaving the same in the county of Greene; thence eastwardly along the main height of Bays Mountain, to the Chimney Top Mountain, be, and the same is hereby declared to be the line between the counties of Greene and Hawkins, so far as leads from William Cross's, in Bull's Gap, to the top of Chimney Top Mountain.

SECTION 2. That all laws and parts of laws coming within the purview of this act, whether published by

the authority of this state, or the state of North Carolina, are declared null and void.

September 11th, 1806.

Public Acts of 1881 Chapter 145

SECTION 1. That the line between the county of Greene and the counties of Washington and Unicoi be and the same is hereby changed as follows: Beginning at a point where said line crosses the road leading from Horn creek to Carset creek in the lane between the farms of Alfred Painter and Thomas Painter and running thence south 25 degrees east 1 mile to the top of Cannon Knob, thence south 25 degrees east 4 miles to the top of Wilson Knob, thence south 25 degrees west to Low Gap in Flint Mountains to the North Carolina line, so as to include in Greene county all that territory lying between said line and the North Carolina line and the line as it now runs.

SECTION 2. That this act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 4, 1881.

Public Acts of 1972 Chapter 450

COMPILER'S NOTE: Although a public rather than private act, this legislation has special effect so that its provisions are not found in Tennessee Code Annotated.

SECTION 1. That a portion of a tract of land of Samuel W. Waddle and wife, Zella M. Waddle, now situated in Washington County, hereunder described, is removed from Washington County in to the 1st Civil District of Greene County, and the county line between Greene County and Washington County at this place shall hereafter run with the boundaries of said tract so as to exclude the said lands from Washington County and include the same in the 1st Civil District of Greene County. The tract of land is generally bounded and described as follows:

"Beginning at a point approximately 1000 feet East of the Horse Creek Road; and running thence North 83 degrees East [sic] 30 rods to a stake; thence North 82 ½ East 31-3/5 rods to a stake corner to Broyles; running thence with the line of Broyles, South 35 ½ East 88-4/5 rods to a stake; thence South 85 ½ East 18 rods to a stake; thence South 4 ½ West 9-2/5 rods to a stake corner to Fillers; thence with the line of Fillers, et al, 35 ½ degrees West 76 ½ rods to a stake corner to Wilhoit; thence North 43 ½ West 76 rods to a stake corner to Wilhoit, North 85 ½ West 135 feet to a stake; thence with the alleged Greene County-Washington County line 64 rods to a stake corner to Fox and Ricker; thence with the line of Ricker, South 89 ¼ East 240 feet to a stake; thence North 5 ¼ West 33.9 rods to the beginning."

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: February 22, 1972.

Public Acts of 1973 Chapter 79

COMPILER'S NOTE: Although a public rather than private act, this legislation has special effect so that its provisions are not found in Tennessee Code Annotated.

SECTION 1. Harold A. Thornburg and wife, Bettie Thornburg own the hereinafter described two tracts of land, one (1) tract containing 12 acres located and situate in the 17th Civil District of Greene County, Tennessee, and one (1) tract containing 1-¾ acres in the 13th Civil District of Washington County, Tennessee, and that these tracts of land hereunder described are removed from Washington County into the 17th Civil District of Greene County, and the county line between Greene County and Washington County at this place shall hereinafter run with the boundaries of said tract so as to exclude the said lands from Washington County and include the same in the 17th Civil District of Greene County. The tracts of land are generally bounded and described as follows:

TRACT NO. 1: Situate in District No. 17 of Greene County, Tennessee, described as follows: BEGINNING at a set stone McAnis' corner running N. 40 E. 13 Poles to a set stone at a right of way; thence with said right of way N. 38 W. 45-¾ Poles to a post on right of way; thence N. 41 W. 16 poles to a set stone in Strickler's line; thence with the Strickler's line; thence S. 3 W. 28 poles to a set stone Strickler's corner; thence with their line S. 86 E. 30 poles to a set stone; thence S. 3 E. 32 poles to a set stone; thence S. 87 E. 27-¾ poles to the BEGINNING, containing Twelve Acres by estimation, more or less.

Being the same property conveyed to Harold A. Thornburg and wife, Bettie Thornburg, by deed of Fred Thornburg, et ux, dated November 15, 1946, and found of record in Deed Book No. 165, page

513, Register's Office for Greene County, Tennessee.

TRACT NO. 2: Situate in the 13th Civil District of Washington County, Tennessee, adjoining the lands of Strickler, Whitaker, and Calhoon and bounded as follows: BEGINNING at a set stone S. 40 W. 29 ½ poles to a set stone in Strickler's line; thence with his line N. 88 E. 18 ½ poles to a set stone, Strickler and Whitaker corner; thence with Whitaker's line N. 8 E. 22 poles to a set stone in said line; thence N. 56 W. 3 ¼ poles to the BEGINNING, containing one and Three fourths (1-¾) acres, more or less. Conveyed with this property is a right of way from the house on this property to the right of way of Lot Calhoon. Being the same property conveyed to Harold Thornburg and wife, Bettie Thornburg, by deed of D. M. Thornburg, et ux, dated March 17, 1952, and found of record in Deed Book No. 188, page 123, Register's Office for Greene County, Tennessee.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 10, 1973.

Public Acts of 1973 Chapter 102

COMPILER'S NOTE: Although this is a public act rather than a private one, its provisions have special effect and cannot be found in Tennessee Code Annotated.

SECTION 1. The tracts of lands, hereunder described, are shown on the tax rolls of Greene and Washington Counties as being divided between the 17th Civil District of Greene County and the 7th Civil District of Washington County after historically being entirely within the 7th Civil District of Washington County and are removed from Greene County into the 7th Civil District of Washington County.

The county line between Greene and Washington Counties at this place shall hereafter run with the boundaries of said tracts so as to exclude said lands from Greene County and include the same in Washington County. The tracts of land are generally bounded and described as follows:

TRACT NO. 1. Lying and being in the 7th Civil District of Washington County, Tennessee adjoining the lands of Moody, Hall, Hooper and Duncan and bounded as follows:

BEGINNING in center of branch below spring, running N 45½ W 14 and 20/25 poles to a stake; thence S. 52 W 4½ poles to a set stone; thence N 46 W 5 and 5/25 poles to a stake; thence S 71 W 3 and 20/25 poles to a stake; thence N 30 W 18 and 10/25 poles to a stake in the road; thence S 62 W 20 and 19/25 poles to a set stone, Bolens Corner; thence S 52 E 11 poles to a stake; thence S 57 W 11 poles to a stake; thence N 39 W 11½ poles to the center of the road; thence S 63 W 94½ poles to a stake Moody's corner; thence S 3 E 87 poles to a set stone Moody's and Hall's corner; thence with Hall's line S 85 E 74 poles to a stake near a white oak stump; thence S 3 W 56 poles to a set stone; thence N 87 E 10½ poles to a stake in the Greene County Line, thence with County line N 5 E 153 poles to Duncan's corner; thence S 76 E 27 poles to corner of Graveyard; thence S 74 E 14 and 5/25 poles to a set stone by the road; thence N 18 E 54 poles to the beginning, containing eighty four acres more or less. Being the same property conveyed to Alvin Dolen and wife, Theora Dolen, by deed of J. E. Nelms and wife Nora B. Nelms, dated July 5, 1919, and appears of record in Deed Book 143, page 252, Register's Office in Washington County.

TRACT NO. 2. Situate in District No. 7 of Washington County, Tennessee: BEGINNING at a stake in the road near a large Hickory tree, thence N. 59 ¾ E 11 poles to a stake in the road. Thence S. 30 ¼ E. 11 poles to a stake. Thence 59 ¾ W. 11 poles to a stake; thence N. 30 ¼ W. 11 poles to the beginning and containing by estimation three fourths of an acre more or less. Being the same property conveyed to Alvin Dolen and wife, T. O. Dolen, by deed of J. E. Barnes and wife, Pearl Barnes, dated July 23, 1920 and appears of record in Deed Book 152, Page 245, Register's Office of Washington County.

TRACT NO. 3. Situated in the 7th Civil District of Washington County, Tennessee, and described as follows:

BEGINNING in old line between Dolen and J.E. Duncan running N W 65 feet to the Greene Co. line, then with the Greene Co. line 143 feet to a post and rock in said Greene Co. line then N E 148 feet to the beginning corner in line between Dolen and J. E. Duncan. Being the same property conveyed to Alvin Dolen and wife, by deed of John E. Duncan and wife, Grace Duncan, dated April 4, 1918 and appears of record in Deed Book 143, Page 251, Register's Office of Washington County.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 17, 1973.

Public Acts of 1980 Chapter 795

SECTION 1. The boundary line between the counties of Greene and Washington is hereby changed by detaching from the county of Greene and attaching to the county of Washington, that part of the hereinafter described territory, which is now lying in Greene County, to wit:

A parcel or tract of land lying partially in the first district of Washington County and partially in Greene County, and beginning at a post in the outside line and corner to tract sold to Roy Brown, thence N 5 ½ E 91 ½ poles to a pine stump; thence S 87 ½ E 109 ½ poles to a stake in the road; thence S 2 W 14 poles to a stake, Foxes corner; thence with his line three courses, N 85 W 12 poles to a post; S 6 ½ W 20 poles to a post; S 87 E 12 ½ poles to a stake in the road; thence S 11 W 28 ¼ poles to a stake in the road; thence N 67 W 9-3/5 poles to a stake in the turn of the road; thence S 5 ½ W 33-4/5 poles to a stake in the forks of the road; thence with another road and Roy Browns's line N 87 W 99 poles to the beginning, containing 59.2 acres, more or less.

A parcel or tract of land now lying partially in the first district of Washington County and partially in Greene County and beginning at a planted rock, Ed Treadway line, white oak, Sourwood and Maple pointers and corner to I. W. Brown, thence 83-¾ W 58-3/25 poles to a planted rock in Ira Brown's line, thence with his line S 2-¾ W 28-17/25 poles to a planted rock post oak pointers, thence S 85-2/5 E 62-3/25 poles, thence N 3 E 17-3/5 poles to a planted rock; thence W 4-4/5 poles to a planted rock, Ed Treadway corner, thence N 2-¾ E 9 ½ poles to the place of beginning, containing 10 ½ acres be the same more or less; and a second tract, adjoining the lands of Ira Brown and others, beginning at a planted rock Ira Brown's corner; thence with line N 77 ¼ W 57 poles to a planted rock Sourwood, Black Gum, White Oak pointers, thence N 2-¾ E 29-6/25 poles to a planted rock post oak pointers; thence S 85-2/5 E 57-8/25 poles to a planted rock, Sourwood pointers, thence S 3 W 29-6/25 poles to a place of beginning, containing 10 acres be the same more or less; and a third tract, beginning at a stake in the road, corner to Howser and Corby, then north with Corby's line 168 feet to a rock, then east with Corby's line 51 feet to a rock, at the road, then with the road 175 feet to the beginning.

A parcel or tract of land now lying partially in the first district of Washington County and partially in Greene County, and beginning at a rock on Broyles line, then N 19 poles to a rock in said line, then west 12 poles to a rock near a white oak, then south 20 poles to a rock near Burgners corner in Broyles line, then east 12 poles to the beginning. Containing 1 ½ acres more or less.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 26, 1980.

Public Acts of 1982 Chapter 855

SECTION 1. The boundary line between the counties of Greene and Washington is hereby changed by detaching from the county of Greene and attaching to the county of Washington, all of the hereinafter described territory to wit:

A parcel or tract of land not lying wholly or partially in Greene County adjacent to the existing Washington County boundary line, and beginning at Gent Taylor's corner maple and sourwood pointers, then with his line N. 86 ¾ W. 58 9/25 poles to a planted rock, Taylors corner then with Ira Brown's line S. 2 ¾ W. 25 8/25 poles to a planted rock, Julia S. Painters corner, then with her line S. 83 ¾ E. 58 poles to a planted rock on Harry Birds line, then with his line N. 2 ¾ E. 29 11/25 poles to the beginning. Containing by estimation 10 acres more or less. But there is excepted from the above tract 1.85 acres sold to C. C. Fox, reference to deed made March 20, 1929.

Being the same property conveyed to Charlie Brown by Deed of Laura Brown, dated December 30, 1944, and recorded in the Register's Office for Washington County, Tennessee, in Deed Book No. 226, page 31, to which reference is here made.

SECTION 2. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this Act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: April 8, 1982.

Boundaries - Historical Notes

The following is a summary of acts which authorized boundary changes for Greene County.

1. Acts of 1801, Chapter 53, appointed David Stuart as the commissioner to run the line between Greene and Cocke counties, as set out in an act passed January 2, 1799. Thomas Hollard was to

- act as Mr. Stuart's assistant.
2. Acts of 1801, Chapter 54, appointed James Patterson as surveyor and John Parks as marker for Greene County and Joseph Brown, surveyor and George Davis, marker for Washington County, to run and mark the line between those counties, according to an act passed in 1783 at Hillsborough, North Carolina.
 3. Acts of 1801, Chapter 56, appointed Daniel Carter of Greene County and William Payne of Hawkins County as commissioners to run the line between those two counties, according to an act passed by the North Carolina legislature in 1786.
 4. Private Acts of 1829-30, Chapter 213, authorized citizens of Greene County at their own expense to have the county resurveyed for the purpose of ascertaining the number of square miles in it.
 5. Private Acts of 1832, Chapter 46, authorized the Greene County Court to appoint a surveyor to run the line between Greene and Cocke counties, "as lies between Michael Broyalse's house on Horse Creek and the North Carolina line."
 6. Private Acts of 1835-36, Chapter 29, and Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 192, attempted to establish the county of Powell out of parts of Greene, Sullivan, Hawkins and Washington counties, but neither of these attempts was able to gain voter approval and the county of Powell was never established.
 7. Acts of 1847-48, Chapter 145, placed in Cocke County all the lands and buildings of George Easterly, Junior, south and west of the Nolichucky River in Cocke County, out of Greene County.
 8. Public Acts of 1891, Chapter 142, changed the boundary between Greene and Washington Counties, placing the farms of G. M. Gillespie, A. E. Gillespie, Thomas C. Williams and George T. Harris in Washington County.
 9. Public Acts of 1895, Chapter 176, placed the lands of Benjamin Keebler, lying on "what is known as Limestone Creek" in Washington County, out of Greene County.

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