



March 14, 2025

Chapter IV - Boundaries

Dear Reader:

The following document was created from the CTAS website (ctas.tennessee.edu). This website is maintained by CTAS staff and seeks to represent the most current information regarding issues relative to Tennessee county government.

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,

The University of Tennessee
County Technical Assistance Service
226 Anne Dallas Dudley Boulevard, Suite 400
Nashville, Tennessee 37219
615.532.3555 phone
615.532.3699 fax
www.ctas.tennessee.edu

Table of Contents

Chapter IV - Boundaries	3
Creation of the County	3
Public Acts of 1821 Chapter 32	3
Change of Boundary Lines	5
Private Acts of 1835-36 Chapter 70	5
Boundaries - Historical Notes	5

Chapter IV - Boundaries

Creation of the County

Public Acts of 1821 Chapter 32

SECTION 1. That a new county to be called and known by the name of Henry county, be, and is hereby established, on the west side of Tennessee river, and shall be bounded as follows, to wit: Beginning on the west bank of Tennessee river, where the north boundary of the state leaves the same, running thence with said boundary west to the second range line in the 13th surveyor's district; thence south to a point, two miles and a half south of the 6th sectional line in said district; thence east parallel with the said sectional line to the west boundary of Humphreys county; thence with said county line northwardly to the Tennessee river; thence down the said river with its various meanders to the beginning.

SECTION 2. That the following described lines shall be the bounds of two other counties, which may hereafter be established west of Henry county; the first one beginning at the north west corner of Henry county, running west with the state line to a point four miles west of the north west corner of range 2, fractional section 10 in the 13th district; thence south to the fourth sectional line in said district running parallel with the range lines; thence east on the fourth sectional line to the second range line in the 12th surveyors district; thence north with said range line to the beginning. The second, beginning on the north west corner of the last mentioned bounds, and running thence south with the west line of said bounds to the fifth sectional line in the 13th district; thence west with said sectional line to the middle of the Mississippi river; thence up the main channel of said river to the north west corner of the state; thence east with the north boundary line of the state to the beginning; which two last described bounds shall be attached to, and remain a part of Henry county until otherwise provided for by law, and shall enjoy all the privileges, and be subject to all the duties as citizens of Henry county, with this exception, that no tax shall be laid or collected in said bounds for the purpose of erecting public buildings in Henry county.

SECTION 3. That all the territory included in the lines hereafter mentioned shall constitute a county by the name of Carroll county: Beginning on West boundary of Humphreys at the south east corner of Henry county; running thence west with the south boundary of said county to the south west corner of Henry county; thence south parallel with the range lines to a point two and a half miles south of the line dividing the 9th and 12th districts; thence east parallel with the sectional line to the second range line in the 9th district; thence north to the north east corner of range 2, section 11, in said 9th district; thence east with the district line to the west boundary of Perry county; thence northwardly with the west boundary of Perry and Humphreys counties to the beginning.

SECTION 4. That the following described lines shall be bounds of two other counties which may hereafter be established west of Carroll county; the first one beginning at the northwest corner of Carroll county, running thence west on the fourth sectional line, to a point four miles west of the second range line in the 13th district; thence north to the fifth sectional line; thence west on said fifth sectional line to the fifth range line; thence south with said range line to a point two and a half miles south of the line separating the 18th and 13th districts; thence east parallel with said line to a point directly south of the south west corner of Carroll county; thence north to the beginning; the second beginning on the north west corner of the last mentioned bounds; thence south on the 5th range line to the district line; thence west on the said district line to the middle of the Mississippi river; thence up the main channel of said river to the 5th sectional line of the 13th district; thence east with said sectional line to the beginning; which two last bounds shall be attached to, and remain a part of Carroll county until otherwise provided for by law, and shall enjoy all the privileges and be subject to all the duties as citizens of Carroll county, with this exception that no tax shall be laid or collected in said bounds for the purpose of erecting public buildings for Carroll county.

SECTION 5. That all the territory included in the lines hereafter mentioned shall constitute a county to be called and known by the name of Madison county; Beginning two miles and a half south of the north east corner of range 2, section 11, in the 9th district, running thence west parallel with the sectional line to the 3rd range line in the 10th district; thence south on said range line to a point two miles and a half south of the sixth sectional line in said district; thence east parallel with said sectional line to the second range line in the 9th district; thence north on said range line to the beginning.

SECTION 6. That the following described lines shall be the bounds of two other counties which may hereafter be established west and south of Madison county; the first one beginning on the south west corner of Madison county; running thence north with the west boundary of the same, twenty five miles to the north west corner; thence west to the south west corner of the first county west of Carroll county;

thence north to the line dividing the 10th and 13th districts; thence west to a point two miles west of the first range line in the 11th district; thence south parallel with said range line to the 5th sectional line in said district; thence east to a point four miles east of the 5th range line in the 10th district; thence north two and a half miles; thence east to the beginning. The second, beginning on the south west corner of Madison county, running thence west six miles to a point one mile west of the fourth range line in the 10th district; thence south parallel with said line to the south boundary of the State; thence east on said boundary to a point two miles east of the meridian separating the 9th and 10th districts; thence north to Madison county line; thence west with the same to the beginning. Which two last described bounds shall be and remain a part of Madison county until otherwise provided for by law, and shall enjoy all the privileges, and be subject to all the duties as citizens of Madison county, with this exception, that no tax shall be laid or collected in the said bounds for the purpose of erecting public buildings in the county of Madison.

SECTION 7. That the following described lines shall be the bounds of one other county which may hereafter be laid off west of the said last described bounds: Beginning on the south west corner of the last described bounds, running thence north to the 5th sectional line in the 10th district; thence west to a point one mile west of the 3rd range line in said district; thence south parallel with said range running with the south boundary of the state; thence west with said boundary to the beginning. And that the following described lines shall be the bounds of another county which may hereafter be laid off north of Shelby County. Beginning on the line separating the 11th and 13th districts, at a point two miles west of the range line in the 11th district; running thence west on said dividing line to the middle of the Mississippi river; thence down the main channel of the line to the north west corner of Shelby county; thence east with the north boundary of Shelby county, and the last mentioned bounds, to a point three miles east of the 2nd range line in the 11th district; thence north parallel with the said line to the beginning. Which two last described bounds shall be attached to, and be a part of Shelby county until otherwise provided for by law, and shall enjoy all the privileges, and be subject to all the duties as citizens of Shelby county with the exception, that no tax shall be laid or collected in the said bounds for the purpose of erecting public buildings in the county of Shelby.

SECTION 8. That the following described lines shall be the bounds of one other county which may hereafter be established west of Hardin county; beginning at the south west corner of Hardin county; running thence north with the west boundary of the same, twenty seven and a half miles; thence west putting the south east corner of Madison county, to a point three miles west of the first range line in the 9th district; thence south parallel with said range line to the south boundary of the state; thence east on said boundary to the beginning. Which last described bounds shall be attached to, and be a part of Hardin county, until otherwise provided for by law, and shall enjoy all the privileges, and be subject to all the duties as citizens of Hardin county, with this exception, that no tax shall be laid or collected in said bounds for the purpose of erecting public buildings for Hardin county.

SECTION 9. That the following described line shall be the bounds of one other county, which shall be called and known by the name of Henderson county in honor of, and to perpetuate the memory of Col. James Henderson; Beginning at the south east corner of Madison county, running thence east to the west boundary of Hardin county; thence north with Hardin county line to the north west corner of Hardin on the 6th sectional line of the 9th district; thence east on said sectional line to the west boundary of Perry county; thence north with said boundary to the line separating the 9th and 12th districts; thence west with said line to the north east corner of Madison county; thence south with the east boundary line of said county, on the 2nd range line in the 9th Surveyors district to the beginning.

SECTION 10. That for the due administration of justice, the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in said counties shall be held at the following places and times: For the county of Henry, at the house of Henry Wall, on the first Monday in December, March, June and September; for the county of Carroll, on the second Monday in December, March, June and September, at the house of R. E. C. Doherty; for the county of Madison, at the house of Adam R. Alexander, on the third Monday in December, March, June and September; for the county of Henderson, at the house of Samuel Wilson, on the fourth Monday in December, March, June, and September, at which places the said courts shall be holden until otherwise provided for by law, under the same rules, regulations and restrictions, and shall exercise the same power and jurisdiction that is possessed by said courts in other counties of this state.

SECTION 11. That the sheriffs of the counties of Henry, Carroll, Madison and Henderson shall each hold an election at the places appointed for holding courts in said counties on the first Friday and Saturday in March next, for the purpose of electing held officers of the militia for said counties, under the same rules, regulations and restrictions as are pointed out by law in similar cases; and the militia of the county of Henry shall compose the Regiment, and shall be attached to the Brigade; and the militia of the county of Carroll shall compose the _____ Regiment, and be attached as aforesaid; and the militia of the county of Madison shall compose the _____ Regiment, and be attached as aforesaid; and the militia of the county of

Henderson shall compose the ____ Regiment, and be attached as aforesaid.

SECTION 12. That it shall be the duty of the commandants of said -- and ____ Regiments, having first been commissioned and sworn according to law, to divide their regiments into such number of companies as they shall think best for the convenience of said companies, and it shall be the duty of each of said commandants to issue writs of election for company officers according to law.

SECTION 13. That all person who were appointed and are now acting justices of the peace for Stewart county, that live in the bounds of Henry county, be, an they are hereby continued in office with as full power and authority as though they had been appointed for Henry county.

Passed: November 7, 1821.

Change of Boundary Lines

Private Acts of 1835-36 Chapter 70

SECTION 1. That all that portion of the county of Henry, contained within the following boundary, shall hereafter be and the same is hereby attached to the county of Benton, to wit: Beginning on the Tennessee river, on the line that divides the county of Henry and Benton, and thence running down said river with its meanders, so far, to a point, that by running a line due west will include all the inhabitants on Lick creek to Sandy river; thence up the said river with its meanders, to where it intersects with the county line of Benton county.

SECTION 2. That D. P. Henderson, Nicholas Brewer and Charles J. Wheatley, be and they are hereby appointed commissioners to run and mark the boundary as herein prescribed; for which they shall receive a compensation to be allowed them by the county court of Benton county, and they shall make a complete plat of the territory hereby included in said county, and the same shall be spread on the records of the said county.

SECTION 3. That the citizens within the aforesaid boundary shall exercise all the rights and privileges of the citizens of the county of Benton, in electing their county officers for said county; Provided, they shall vote for members of congress, governor, electors for president and vice president, and members of the general assembly, with the county of Henry, until the next enumeration, in pursuance of the fifth section and tenth article of the amended constitution.

SECTION 4. That all taxes and public dues from the citizens within the aforesaid boundary, due to the county of Henry, shall be collected in the same manner as heretofore, and they shall be liable for the same, in as full and ample a manner as if said citizens had never been detached from said county of Henry.

Passed: February 15, 1836.

Boundaries - Historical Notes

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

1. Public Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 20, changed the lines between Henry and Carroll Counties so that the lands of Marion Wood and N. Swift would be included wholly within Carroll County.
2. Public Acts of 1869-70, Chapter 32, repealed Public Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 20, Section 5, above.
3. Public Acts of 1881, Chapter 161, changed the lines between Benton and Henry Counties as follows: Beginning at the McCampbell Ford on the Big Sandy River; thence run a direct line eastward until it strikes the Tennessee River at what is known as Wynn's Ferry, taking in the residence of Mrs. Josiah Askew, at or near the last named ferry; thence with the said Tennessee River northward at its meanders to the corner of Henry County.
4. Public Acts of 1885, Chapter 152, repealed Public Acts of 1881, Chapter 161, above, restoring the cut off territory to Benton County.
5. Public Acts of 1891, Chapter 200, declared that Sandy River be the dividing line between Benton and Henry Counties from the south boundary line of the 23rd Civil District of Henry County up the Sandy River to where the Carroll County line crosses the river.

Source URL: <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/private-acts/chapter-iv-boundaries-89>