



March 15, 2025

Change of Boundary Lines

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

Change of Boundary Lines 3
Acts of 1797 Chapter 13 3
Acts of 1801 Chapter 46 3
Acts of 1806 Chapter 53 3
Acts of 1809 (First Session) Chapter 29 3
Private Acts of 1824 Chapter 121 3
Acts of 1851 - 52 Chapter 302 4
Acts of 1853 - 54 Chapter 130 4
Public Acts of 1870 - 71 Chapter 92 4
Public Acts of 1871 Chapter 19 4
Public Acts of 1877 Chapter 140 5
Public Acts of 1879 Chapter 161 5
Public Acts of 1889 Chapter 203 5
Private Acts of 1897 Chapter 193 5

Change of Boundary Lines

Acts of 1797 Chapter 13

COMPILER'S NOTE: Section 4 of this act is the only section which affects Hawkins County.

SEC. 4. That the line dividing the aforesaid counties, shall be extended as follows, viz. Beginning at a marked tree, near the dwelling house of James Blair, senior, on the line from Felps Reed's to Thomas Henderson's, thence to the said Henderson's and Joel Dyer's south west corner, thence a north course with said Henderson and Dyers line, so as to leave the house of Robert Patterson ten poles in Grainger county, thence a direct line to the upper end of the first island below the mouth of Big War creek, thence to the Black Lick, leaving the house of William Hord in Hawkins county, thence with the last mentioned course to the top of Powell's Mountain, thence north, thirty west to the Virginia line.

October 28, 1797.

Acts of 1801 Chapter 46

COMPILER'S NOTE: Section 1 of this act is the only section which affects Hawkins County.

SECTION 1. That Hawkins and Grainger counties be divided by the following lines, (to wit.) Beginning on the north bank of Clinch river where the Hawkins and Grainger line crosses the same, thence down the north bank of said river Clinch, to a point opposite where the Knox and Grainger line strikes the said river, thence north, forty five degrees west, to the line which divides this state from the state of Kentucky, thence east with said line, to where it intersects with the line which divides this state from the state of Virginia, thence due east with the said line to a point from which a direct line of the beginning will leave six hundred and twenty five square miles in the county of Hawkins, and all that part of the aforesaid counties of Hawkins and Grainger contained within the lines before described, shall be a separate and distinct county by the name of Claiborne.

PASSED: October 29, 1801.

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.

SEC. 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.

Acts of 1809 (First Session) Chapter 29

That the lines hereafter described, shall be the dividing lines between the counties of Hawkins and Grainger, to wit: Beginning at or near the house of John Mossatt, esquire, where the original line between said counties began, running thence with the road leading from Haynes' Iron- Works to Cheeks Cross Roads to where John Mossatt's line crosses said road, then with said line to the road leading from Cheeks Cross Roads to Marshall's ferry on Holston River, then with said road to where it crosses the present line between said counties, and all that part lying westwardly of said line, shall be added to and make a part of Grainger county, any law to the contrary notwithstanding: *Provided*, That nothing herein contained, shall be so construed as to prevent any collector or other officer of Hawkins county from collecting any arrearages of taxes or other demands which may be due.

2nd Nov. 1809.

Private Acts of 1824 Chapter 121

SECTION 1. That the line between said counties, from the mouth of Greasy-rock creek to the Virginia line, shall hereafter be as follows: beginning at the mouth of Greasy-rock creek, and thence to run northwardly along a road of the third class, to Mulberry gap in Powel's mountain, so as to include a six

hundred and forty acre tract of land, granted by the state of North Carolina, to Matthew Willeby, so as to leave said tract of land in Hawkins county, and thence along the extreme height of said Powel's mountain eastwardly to the Virginia line.

October 15, 1824.

Acts of 1851 - 52 Chapter 302

COMPILER'S NOTE: Section 1 of the Acts of 1851-52, Chapter 302 is the only section that pertains to Hawkins county.

SECTION 1. That the line between the counties of Hancock and Hawkins be altered and changed as follows - beginning where the line of said counties now cross the fords of Turkey creek below C.A. Manis's and running a due north course to the top of the river ridge, and with said ridge, eastwardly to George Herd's line, then with said Herd's line, eastwardly crossing the dry branch to two marked sugar trees, thence south, so as to intersect the present line, at the branch by John Smith's and to include Lewis Anderson in the county of Hawkins.

Passed: February 27, 1852.

Acts of 1853 - 54 Chapter 130

COMPILER'S NOTE: Sections 3 and 4 of this act are the only sections which affect Hawkins County.

SEC. 3. That the dividing line between the counties of Jefferson and Hawkins be changed as follows: Beginning at or near George Lynch's on the line between said counties of Jefferson and Hawkins; running with said line to the Walnut gap; from thence a direct line to the north-east boundary line of Pleasant Kirkpatrick's plantation, and with said line till it strikes the road leading from Russellville to Bull's Gap; and with said road till it strikes the county line of Greene and Hawkins, below Bull's Gap.

SEC. 4. That the persons and property included in the fraction of Jefferson, lying north-east of said line, as described in the first section of this act, shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the citizens of Hawkins, and subject to all the duties thereof; and the act passed February 7, 16, 1852, entitled "an act to change the line between the counties of Jefferson and Hawkins, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Passed: January 31, 1854.

Public Acts of 1870 - 71 Chapter 92

SECTION 1. That the line between the counties of Hamblen and Hawkins shall be, and the same is hereby change, so as to run as follows: Beginning on the Holston river where the line between said counties now strikes the river; thence up the river with the meanders thereof, to a point on said river where the line extended from Mount Sterling north forty-one degrees west, will strike said river; thence with said line south forty-one degrees east, to Mount Sterling, so as to include all that part of Hawkins county lying south and east of Holston river, and south and west of said line running from Mount Sterling north forty-one degrees west, to the river, in said county of Hamblen.

SECTION 2. That the Tax Collector of Hamblen county shall collect the taxes assessed for the year 1871, in the territory or district taken from Hawkins and attached to Hamblen; and the county revenue collected from the people of said territory or district for the year 1871, shall belong to and constitute a part of the county fund of said Hamblen county.

SECTION 3. That the public welfare requires that this Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Passed: January 20, 1871.

Public Acts of 1871 Chapter 19

COMPILER'S NOTE: Section 6 is the only section of Public Acts of 1871, Chapter 19 that pertains to Hawkins county.

SEC. 6. That the county line between the counties of Hawkins and Hancock be changed so as to include in Hawkins county all that portion of Hancock county lying east and south-east of the following line: Beginning at a point in the south fork of War Creek, where the line of Hawkins and Hancock counties crosses the same; thence a direct line to the north-east corner of Lawrence Drinnon's land, on the top of Copper Ridge; thence westwardly along on the top of said Ridge to a point on the same due north of the west corner of a farm in Lee Valley, owned by the heirs of John Wolfe, deceased; thence due south to said West corner; thence with the line of said farm south-easterly to John J. Wolfe's west corner; thence with said Wolfe's line south-easterly to the top of Clinch Mountain; thence due south to the line of Hawkins and

Hancock counties. The citizens of said fraction of Hancock county hereby attached to Hawkins county having by their written petition made known to this General Assembly their desire to be detached from said county of Hancock and attached to said county of Hawkins.

Passed: December 15, 1871.

Public Acts of 1877 Chapter 140

SECTION 1. That the county line between the counties of Hancock and Hawkins be changed as follows: beginning in the line of said counties on the top of the Middle Ridge; thence eastwardly along on the top of said ridge to the pike road; thence with said road and the line of Wm. J. Davis' farm to the top of War Ridge; thence along on the top of said ridge eastwardly to John Curry's east corner on said ridge; and thence northwardly and eastwardly with said Curry's line to the Hancock and Hawkins line; and all the parts of farms of Wm. J. Davis, Robt. D. Green, Wm. D. Trent, and John Curry, lying on the north and west of this line be included in and constitute a portion of Hancock county, the written assent of the parties by petition having been made to this General Assembly.

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

Passed: March 23, 1877.

Public Acts of 1879 Chapter 161

SECTION 1. That the County Line between the Counties of Hawkins and Hancock, be changed, as follows: Beginning at William J. Davis', and running east with the top of Pine Ridge to Turkey Creek; thence north 45° east to the Hancock County Line.

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

Passed: March 25, 1879.

Public Acts of 1889 Chapter 203

SECTION 1. That the line between the counties of Hawkins and Hancock be so changed as to include all the lands of C.C. Brewer, George Lea, and S.L. Winstead, which now lie in Hancock County, in the county of Hawkins.

SEC. 2. That said line be so changed as to take the following boundary of land, being about forty acres from Hawkins County, and attaching the same to Hancock County, to wit: Beginning in the Virginia and Tennessee State Line, in the Bock Valley at the last foot of Clinch Mountain, on a marked white oak, in said State Line, thence south 60° west forty poles to a stake, thence due west to the top of Clinch Mountain, and thence northeastwardly with the top of said mountain to said State line, and being all the land embraced between this line and the State line between Tennessee and Virginia.

SEC. 3. That this Act take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: March 30, 1889.

Private Acts of 1897 Chapter 193

Whereas, the line between the counties of Hawkins and Hancock as originally located and since changed by various Acts of the General Assembly, cannot now in many parts be determined with any certainty, and

Whereas, the two counties have, through their respective county courts, caused such line to be resurveyed and relocated, which resurvey and relocation is embodied in this Act; therefore,

SECTION 1. That the line between the counties of Hawkins and Hancock be relocated and re-established according to the calls, courses, distances, and designated objects as embodied in the survey ordered by the two counties, as follows, to-wit: Beginning on the top of Clinch Mountain on the Grainger County line, at a point where said line touches the top of said mountain in crossing; then with the top of said mountain north 60, E. 8 miles to the southeast corner of a farm, now owned by Barnett Cantwell; then with a line of his and Wm. Davis N. 90 poles to a white oak; thence north 24, east 43½ poles to a white oak; then north 16, W. 27 poles to a stake; then north 39, W. 42½ poles to a stake; then north 28, W. 290 poles to an elm; then N. 74½, E. 57 poles to white oak; then north 27, W. 273 poles to a chestnut; then N. 47 poles to the top of Copper Ridge; then with the top of said ridge 4 courses, N. 60, E. 177 poles, S. 74½, E. 51 poles, N. 80, E. 72 poles, N. 68, E. 44½ poles to a white oak at Green's mill; then N. 16, W. 67½ poles to a planted rock in the edge of the road; then south 89, E. 16 poles to a stake; then N. 79, E. 26 poles to a stake; then N. 55, E. 60 poles to a stake; then N. 39, E. 16 poles to a stake; then N. 49, E. 25 poles to a stake; then N. 54, E. 27 poles to a stake; then north 74, E. 54 poles to a stake; then S. 53, E. 7 poles to a

stake; then south 64, E. 40 poles to a chestnut; then N. 44, E. 74 poles to a hickory on the top of Copper Ridge; then N. 17, W. 68 poles to a stake; then north 24, W. 136 poles to a rock near Trent's mill; then N. 41½, E. 19 poles to a sugar tree at the creek; then with said creek N. 51, E. 93 poles to a planted rock on a line between Berry and Green; then N. 2, W. 98 poles to a rock on the top of Pine Ridge; then with the top of said ridge N. 63, E. 118 poles to a sycamore, in a gap of said ridge; then N. 2, W. 85 poles to a poplar, in the gap of Willis Hill Ridge; then with said ridge N. 54, E. 79½ poles to a gap in said ridge; then with a hollow N. 64, E. 134 poles to a rock in said hollow; then N. 44, E. 67 poles to a rock in the edge of Rogersville and Sneedville pike road; then with said road N. 6, E. 56 poles to a rock near William J. Davis' house on a branch; then with the meanders of said branch N. 60, E. 527 poles to Richardson's creek; then N. 30, W. 86 poles to where the road crosses said creek; then with said creek N. 49, E. 136 poles to where Morgan creek empties into Richardson's creek; then up Morgan creek, as it meanders E. 352 poles passing Geo. DeBoard's house, so as to include said DeBoard's in Hancock County, crossing the valley road at a rock marked thus X; then N. 33, E. 138 poles to a pine on the top of chestnut ridge; then with the top of said ridge as it meanders, N. 60, E. 418 poles to a white oak on said ridge, same course 855 poles to a rock on said ridge; then S. 40, E. 110 poles to the top of Baker's Hill; then N. 60, E. 45 poles down the ridge, to Yellow Spring, at a creek where the Rogersville and Jonesville road crosses the creek; then N. 36, E. 132 poles to a corner of Dick Pearson's land; then with said Pearson's line N. 55, E. 280 poles to a chestnut oak top of big ridge; then with the top of said ridge N. 82, E. 118 poles to a rock; then S. 51, E. 74 poles to a rock; then S. 40, E. 57½ poles to a rock; then N. 63½, E. 42 poles to a rock; then N. 68, E. 144½ poles to a rock, where the creek crosses the road; then S. 90 poles to the top of pine ridge; then S. 26½, E. 65 poles to a rock in Pumpkin Valley road; then the same course 220 poles to the top of copper ridge; then with the top of said ridge, as it meanders N. 60, E. 457 poles to a gap in said ridge at two black oaks and one white oak, marked thus X; then S. 33½, E. 300 poles, crossing the Mountain Valley to the top of Clinch Mountain, at a point west of Looney's Gap; then N. 60, E. with the top of said mountain 8 miles to the Virginia line.

SEC. 2. That the line between the said counties of Hawkins and Hancock, as set out in the first Section of this Act be and the same is established as the true line between said counties, and that former Acts or parts of Acts in conflict to this Act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 3. That this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: January 29, 1897.

Source URL: <https://www.ctas.tennessee.edu/private-acts/change-boundary-lines-32>