



County Technical Assistance Service
INSTITUTE for PUBLIC SERVICE

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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,

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Chapter IV - Boundaries

Creation of the County

Act of 1823 Chapter 112

SECTION 1. That a new county, to be called and known by the name of Weakley county, shall be, and is hereby, established west of Henry county; 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 two, fractional section ten, in the thirteenth district; thence south to the fourth sectional line in said district, running parallel with the range line; thence east with the fourth sectional line, to the second range line in the twelfth surveyor's district; thence north with said range line, to the beginning.

SECTION 2. That for the due administration of justice, the court of Pleas and Quarter- Sessions and circuit courts of said county, until otherwise provided for by law, shall be holden at the house of John Tyrrell, under the same regulations and restrictions, and shall have and exercise the same powers and jurisdiction, as are or shall hereafter be prescribed for the several counties in this state.

SECTION 3. That it shall be the duty of the sheriff of said county to hold an election at the place of holding courts in said county, on the first Thursday and Friday in February next, for the purpose of electing field officers for said county, which shall be conducted under the same rules and regulations as are prescribed by law in similar cases; and the militia of said county shall compose the _____ regiment, and be attached to the _____ brigade.

SECTION 4. That the election of company officers for said county shall be held at such places as the commandant of the militia of said county may think proper to appoint, which said election shall be held on the _____ Monday in _____ next, under the same rules, regulations and restrictions as are prescribed in like cases.

SECTION 5. That the sheriff of said county, in the days prescribed by law, shall hold an election at the place of holding court, for the purpose of electing a Governor, members of the State Legislature, members of Congress, and electors to elect a President and Vice President of the United States, under the same rules and regulations as are prescribed by law.

Passed: October 21, 1823.

Change of Boundary Lines

Acts of 1837-38 Chapter 245

SECTION 1. That all that portion of Weakley county, which lies south of the South Fork of Obion river, shall hereafter be attached to and constitute a part of the county of Gibson, and that all that portion of Gibson county, which lies north of the South Fork of Obion river, shall be attached to and constitute a part of the county of Weakley, and that said river shall hereafter be the dividing line between said counties.

SECTION 2. That that part of Weakley county hereby attached to the county of Gibson, shall be attached to and compose a part of civil district number fourteen in said county of Gibson, and that portion of Gibson county attached to Weakley county, shall be attached to and compose a part of civil district number twelve in said county of Weakley.

As amended by: Private Acts of 1837-38, Chapter 265

SECTION 3. That the citizens living in that part of Weakley county hereby attached to Gibson county, and that the citizens living in that part of Gibson, which is by this act attached to Weakley county, shall vote with the county to which they are by this act attached, for electors of president and vice president, for members of congress, for governor of the state, for members of the general assembly of the state, and for all county officers both civil and military.

Passed: November 4, 1837.

Chapter 1870 Chapter 103

SECTION 1. That the boundary line between the counties of Weakley and Obion, be, and the same is hereby so changed as to run and be established as follows: The said dividing or boundary line shall run northwardly, as at present established, to a stake in the middle of the channel of the north fork of Obion

river; thence up said north fork of Obion river along the middle of the channel of the same, eight miles and ten poles, to a stake in the middle of the said channel; thence northwardly four miles and fifty-one poles, to a stake in the Clinton road; thence north sixteen degrees, west two miles one hundred and eighty-eight poles, with said road to a stake in the line which separates the States of Kentucky and Tennessee; and that portion of Weakley County lying north and west of the line hereby established, is hereby detached from the county of Weakley and attached to the county of Obion, and shall hereafter form a part of said county of Obion, and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the County Court of Obion County, and to the jurisdiction of the Common Law and Chancery Courts, at Union City, from and after the passage of this Act; but the Chancery and Circuit Courts of Weakley County, respectively, shall have jurisdiction to try, hear and determine all suits now pending in either of said courts, as fully in all respects as if this Act had not been passed.

SECTION 2. That the Revenue Collector of Weakley county shall collect the State and county taxes in that part of Weakley county which is hereby attached to Obion County, for the year 1870, and pay the same over to the same authority, and in the same manner as if this Act had not been passed; and this Act shall take effect from and after its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed: June 18, 1870.

Boundaries - Historical Notes

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

1. Acts of 1824, Chapter 167, appointed Race Williams as the Surveyor to run and mark the line between Weakley County and Obion County and Williams would be allowed and paid a reasonable compensation for his services which would be paid equally by the two counties.
2. Acts of 1849-50, Chapter 83, declared that all the citizens in Carroll County adjacent to Weakley County bounded as follows: "Beginning at the north west corner of Carroll county, running with said county line east, to a distance of two miles, thence south to the Obion river, thence down said river as it meanders to the west boundary line of said county, thence with said line to the beginning", are permitted to vote on whether they would like to become a part of Weakley County, or not. The County Court of Carroll County was directed to hold an election for that purpose.
3. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 13, changed the boundaries between Weakley County and Obion County beginning on the county line where it crosses the North Fork of the Obion River, running up the said River with its meanderings to Davis' Mills; thence north with the road leading from the mill with the line of the Civil District to the State line; thence west with the State line to the Obion County line; thence south to the beginning.
4. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 20, amended Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 13, so that the line would run up the North Fork of the Obion River with its meanders to a point one mile above Davis' Mill; thence north to the Clinton Road; thence with the Clinton Road to the State line. This section was repealed by Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 5.
5. Acts of 1867-68, Chapter 82, changed the lines between Obion and Weakley Counties to start from the north bank of the North Fork of the Obion River, the east bank of Davis' Mill, running a north direction so as to leave the land of A. H. Walker in Obion County, thence in a north direction so as to strike the Clinton Road opposite G. W. Cannon's gate; thence with the Clinton Road to the State line. This section was repealed by Acts of 1868-69, Chapter 5.
6. Acts of 1889, Chapter 76, changed the boundaries between Weakley and Obion Counties so as to include the lands of J. W. Boyd and Company in Obion County, beginning at a point where the present county line road strikes the J. W. Boyd and Company's north boundary line; running thence north with the Boyd's north boundary line one-half mile to the State Line Road separating Tennessee and Kentucky; thence with the said State Line Road one-fourth of a mile to where the present County line now strikes the State line.
7. Private Acts of 1931, Chapter 445, moved the lines between Weakley and Obion Counties which run between the 16th Civil District of Obion County and the Second and Third Civil Districts of Weakley County from the meanderings of the North Fork of the Obion River to the canal recently cut therein to straighten the said River, the said canal to be and constitute the north boundary of Weakley County and the south boundary of Obion County.

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