

**TIMELINE OF
SMITH COUNTY, TN HISTORY**

-1776 - US Revolutionary War began

-1782 - US Revolutionary War ends

-1787-1789 - Tilman Dixon built Dixona, located in Dixon Springs.

-1789 - William Walton, our first settler, built his home on the north side of the Cumberland River, opposite the mouth of the Caney Fork River.

-1799 - Smith County established from Western District of North Carolina set aside for military grants for service in the Revolutionary War.

October 31, 1800 - Dixon Spring's post office opened.

-1801 - Jackson County was created from part of Smith County and Indian lands.

-1803 - Carthage established from 50 acres of land donated by William Walton.

-1806 - Carthage post office opened.

-1806 - White County was created from parts of Jackson and Smith counties

-1807 - The original Smith County Courthouse was built in the same location as the present day courthouse.

-1807 - The Carthage Gazette began publication.

-1807 - Warren County was created from parts of White, Jackson, Smith counties and Indian lands.

-June 1812 - War of 1812 begins.

-December 1814 - War of 1812 ends.

-January 1815 - Battle of New Orleans. Two companies of Smith County soldiers fought in the battle under the command of Andrew Jackson.

-April 1815 - Round Lick post office opened.

-April 11, 1816 - Free and Accepted Masons Carthage Benevolent Lodge No. 14 organized

-1819 - Montgomery post office opened.

-May 18, 1821 - Lancaster post office opened.

-1821 - Alexander post office opened. In 1838, this became part of Dekalb County.

-August 8, 1823 - Gordonsville post office opened.

-February 1824 - Mulberry Grove post office opened.

-1824 - Montgomery post office closed.

-1827 - Bratton's post office opened. In 1842, this became part of Macon County.

-1827 - Mulberry Grove post office closed.

-May 7, 1830 - Round Lick post office closed.

-1830 - Brevard's post office opened.

-1830 - Rome post office opened.

-1830 - Pleasant Shade post office opened and closed.

-December 1832 - Bagdad post office opened.

-January 10, 1833 - Pleasant Shade post office re-opened.

-January 19, 1833 - Witchers Crossroads (or Wichers Crossroads) post office opened.

-1833 - Salt Lick Creek post office opened. In 1842, this became part of Macon County.

-1834 - New Durham post office opened and closed.

-1834 - Clinton College established by Dr. Francis Gordon in present day New Middleton.

-March 17, 1835 - Clinton College post office opened. Now known as New Middleton.

-1836 - Cannon County was created from parts of Rutherford, Smith and Warren counties.

-1837 - Brevard's post office closed.

-1837 - Meadorville post office opened. This became part of Macon County in 1842 and the post office closed in 1913.

-1838 - Coopers post office opened. This became part of Macon County in 1842 and the post office closed in 1844.

-1840 - William's Mill post office opened.

-1842 - William's Mill post office closed.

-1842 - Macon County was created from parts of Smith and Sumner counties

-October 7, 1843 - Rome was incorporated.

-February 26, 1844 - Convenient post office opened. This area is now called Elmwood.

-1844 - Stone Bridge post office opened.

-May 13, 1846 - Mexican War begins. Four companies of soldiers from Smith County fought in this war.

-April 17, 1848 - Peyton's Creek post office opened.

-July 4, 1848 - Mexican War ends.

-1849 - Stone Bridge post office closed.

-January 1851 - Montrose post office opened.

-January 1854 - Witchers Crossroads (or Wichers Crossroads) post office renamed to Gibbs Crossroads.

-1854 - Clinton College post office renamed to New Middleton.

-1854 - Putnam County was created from parts of Fentress, Jackson, Smith, White and Overton counties

-1855 - Bairdsville post office opened. This area is now called Sykes.

-1855 - Chestnut Mound post office opened.

-October 10, 1856 - New Middleton Masonic Lodge #249 organized.

-January 30, 1857 - Peyton's Creek post office closed.

-December 30, 1857 - Peyton's Creek post office re-opened.

-January 16, 1858 - Jennings Fork post office opened. This town no longer exists and is now known as Grant.

-1860 - Bairdsville post office closed. This area is now called Sykes.

-April 12, 1861 - Civil War begins as Confederate troops attack Fort Sumter in Charleston, SC. An estimated 1200 Smith Countians served in the Confederate Army.

-April 26, 1865 - Civil War ends

-February 14, 1866 - Difficult post office opened.

-September 1866 - Pleasant Shade post office closed.

-September 1866 - Peyton's Creek post office closed.

-September 22, 1866 - Convenient post office closed. This area is now known as Elmwood.

-December 22, 1866 - Lancaster post office closed.

-1866 - New Middleton Royal Arch Masons Chapter No. 55 organized

-August 13, 1867 - Montrose post office closed.

-July 23, 1869 - Snow Creek post office opened. This area is now called Elmwood.

-1870 - Trousdale County was created from parts of Wilson, Macon, Smith and Sumner counties

-April, 1871 - Peyton's Creek post office re-opened.

-February 13, 1871 - Jennings Fork post office renamed to Grant.

-June 7, 1871 - Snow Creek post office closed. This area is now called Elmwood.

-July 10, 1871 - Snow Creek post office re-opened. This area is now called Elmwood.

-October 2, 1871 - Cordell Hull born in Overton County, Tennessee

-November 25, 1871 - Peyton's Creek post office closed.

-May 25, 1872 - Montrose post office re-opened.

-1872 - Peyton's Creek (also known as Buzzard's Roost) renamed to Monoville.

-November 10, 1873 - Difficult Lodge No. 451, Free and Accepted Masons organized

-October, 1874 - Lancaster post office re-opened.

-1875 - Riddleton post office opened.

-October 18, 1875 - Stonewall post office opened.

-July 28, 1876 - Pleasant Shade post office re-opened.

-1876 - Montrose post office closed.

-1878 - Cundall's Mill post office opened.

-1879 - The original Smith County Courthouse was torn down and the current one completed

-July 28, 1879 - Lancaster post office re-closed.

-1879 - Brush Creek post office opened.

-January 5, 1880 - Defeated post office opened. This post office was once named Montrose.

-February 28, 1881 - Rome repealed the incorporation of 1843.

-1881 - Cundall's Mill post office closed.

-May 28, 1882 - Snow Creek post office renamed to Elmwood.

-April 4, 1882 - Enoch post office opened. This town no longer exists and is part of South Carthage.

-December 26, 1882 - Enigma post office opened.

-1883 - Knobton post office opened.

-June 13, 1884 - Monoville post office opened.

-August 12, 1885 - Monoville post office closed.

-August 31, 1885 - Monoville post office re-opened.

-October 27, 1885 - Lancaster post office re-opened.

-April 9, 1886 - Sykes post office opened. The town was renamed from Bairdsville to Sykes.

-1886 - Hickman post office opened.

-1886 - Maggart post office opened.

-May 16, 1887 - Kempville post office opened.

-October 28, 1887 - Lancaster post office closed.

-December 28, 1888 - Lancaster post office re-opened.

-1889 - Bluff Creek post office opened.

-January 28, 1890 - Carthage Royal Arch Masons Chapter No. 128 organized

-1890 - Bridges post office opened.

-1891 - Marada post office opened.

-1892 - Bagdad post office moved to another location in Bagdad that is part of Jackson County.

-November 18, 1892 - Dixon Spring's post office renamed to Dixon Spring.

-1893 - Oliver post office opened.

-1894 - A post office called Hogans was opened and closed.

-1895 - Knobton post office closed.

-1896 - Brush Creek post office renamed to Tuxedo, but only for a couple of months.

-1896 - Spanish-American War begins

-1897 - Tuxedo post office renamed back to Brush Creek.

-December 10, 1898 - Treaty of Paris signed, ending the Spanish-American War

-May 21, 1900 - Punch post office opened. This town was known as Jonesboro prior to 1900 and is also known as Watervale.

-April 1, 1900 - The old Stonewall Bridge completed. This is the first bridge in the county.

-1900 - Cowenville post office opened.

-1901 - Dows post office opened.

-November 11, 1902 - Club Springs post office opened.

-1903 - Maggart post office closed.

-1903 - Dows post office closed.

-December 15, 1904 - Club Springs post office closed.

-1904 - Cowenville post office closed.

-May 18, 1905 - Enigma post office closed.

-April 30, 1906 - Grant post office closed.

-1906 - Bluff Creek post office closed.

-April, 1907 - Kempville post office closed.

-October 31, 1907 - Enoch post office closed. This town no longer exists and is part of South -Carthage.

-October 31, 1907 - Punch post office closed. This town no longer exists and is part of South -Carthage.

-1907 - Marada post office closed.

-1907 - Oliver post office closed.

-1907 - Cordell Hull elected to US House of Representatives (first stint). Re-elected for 6 more terms. (1907-1921)

-December 26, 1907 - Al Gore, Sr. born in Jackson County

-February 1908 - Toll bridge crossing Cumberland River was opened ending the need for ferries into Carthage.

-1909 - Gordonsville incorporated. First Mayor was R. M. MacDonald.

-1909 - Bluff Creek post office re-opened.

-1890 - Bridges post office closed.

-1910 - Rome post office closed.

-1910 - Seabowisha post office opened.

-1912 - Seabowisha post office closed.

-1912 - Smith County 4-H Club organized

-February 28, 1913 - Bluff Creek post office closed.

-July 3, 1913 - The Carthage Courier began publication.

-1913 - Gordonsville High School constructed. The first high school in Smith County.

-1914 - Rome post office re-opened.

-1914 - Lancaster school built.

-June 1914 - World War I begins

-March 20, 1917 - US enters World War I conflict

-July 24, 1917 - Order of the Eastern Star, Carthage Chapter No. 190 organized

-November 11, 1918 - The Armistice is signed, ending World War I.

-1920 - Stonewall post office closed.

-1920 - One lane Sykes bridge built.

-September 15, 1921 - Dixon Spring post office renamed to Dixon Springs.

-1923 - Cordell Hull elected to US House of Representatives (second stint). Re-elected for 3 more terms. (1923-1931)

-1923 - Brush Creek post office renamed to North Alexandria.

-1926 - North Alexandria post office renamed back to Brush Creek.

-January 16, 1928 - United Daughters of the Confederacy, Captain Henry W. Hart Chapter organized

-January 31, 1929 - Defeated post office closed.

-1931 - Cordell Hull elected to US Senate (1931-1933)

-December 1932 - Rome post office closed.

-1932 - Lancaster school closed. Consolidated with Gordonsville.

-1932 - New Middleton Royal Arch Masons Chapter No. 55 held their last meeting.

-1933 - Cordell Hull appointed US Secretary of State (1933-1944)

-October 18, 1935 - Carthage Rotary Club organized

-May 3, 1936 - Cordell Hull Bridge opened

-September 1, 1939 - World War II begins

-1939 - Al Gore, Sr. elected to US House of Representatives (1939-1952)

-December 8, 1941 - US enters World War II after Japanese attack Pearl Harbor.

-September 2, 1945 - World War II ends

-1945 - Cordell Hull awarded Nobel Peace Prize for his role in forming the United Nations

-March 31, 1948 - Al Gore, Jr. born in Washington, DC

-June 1950 - Korean War begins

-August 2, 1951 - Carthage Lions Club organized

-1952 - Old Gordonsville High School demolished and new one built.

-1952 - Al Gore, Sr. elected to US Senate (1953-1970)

-July 1953 - Korean War ends

-July 23, 1955 - Cordell Hull died in Bethesda, Maryland at age 83.

-May 1957 - Difficult post office closed.

-August 31, 1957 - Sykes post office closed.

-May 1963 - Cordell Hull Dam construction began

-June 10, 1963 - South Carthage incorporated.

-November 29, 1965 - Smith County Historical and Genealogical Society organized

-1965 - New Middleton post office closed.

-1966 - Construction of Interstate 40 through Smith County was completed.

-November 1968 - US deploys troops to Vietnam War

-1971 - Smith County Chamber of Commerce established

-January 1973 - US involvement in Vietnam War ends

-November 1973 - Cordell Hull Dam construction completed

-April 17, 1976 - Daughters of the American Revolution, Caney Fork Chapter organized

-1976 - Al Gore, Jr. elected to US House of Representatives. Re-elected for 2 more terms. (1977-1982)

-August 1977 - Smith County Shrine Club organized

-1981 - Smith County Industrial Park built.

-1984 - Dana Corporation was the first manufacturer to locate in the Smith County Industrial Park.

-1984 - Al Gore, Jr. elected to US Senate (first stint)

-1988 - Al Gore, Jr. unsuccessful bid for US President Democratic nomination

-1990 - Al Gore, Jr. elected to US Senate (second stint)

-November 1992 - Al Gore, Jr. elected 45th US Vice President (1st term)

-November 1996 - Al Gore, Jr. re-elected US Vice President (2nd term)

-December 5, 1998 - Al Gore, Sr. died

<http://www.smithcountychamber.org/area-historytimeline.htm>

*See History files at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>