

organized collection of villages. There were about 80 villages, there are differences, some people say there were 64 villages, others say there were X number and so on. They were scattered over several hundred square miles in the Southern Appalachian Mountains when the White Man came in the foothills and high valleys. There was a principal tribal chief and except in great emergencies, the various settlement groups were more or less independent. And then well, in fact, the differences in the dialect were examples of this independence for example, because if they had been close in contact, they would have had much more tendency to speak the same dialect as we do now. Originally, it was thought that the Cherokees actually occupied all of Georgia, that they were driven out by the Creeks. Also, a conjurer of Tugaloo claimed that the Yamasee were once a part of the Cherokee tribe. If they were, they then had to remain on the coast when the rest of the tribe moved up into the mountains. These were Indians that were along the Atlantic coast.

The first White Men who came into the area, other than De Soto roughly in the 1670's. There is no exact time here, although there is a record of a treaty signed with the English as early as 1670. There are a number of interesting names in the Cherokee. I'm going to read from an old report, the Cherokee-Iroquois symposium that discusses some of these eighteenth century Cherokee counties. "The territory occupied by the Cherokee in the beginning of the eighteenth century and later could be divided conveniently into four major areas, three of which possess the distinctive, though mutually and colorful dialect." I will skip some of this here. "These four areas formed a settlement core of the nation, but in addition, the Cherokee claimed dominion over much wider areas extending to parts of Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Alabama, and Georgia. These wider extensions were used primarily as hunting lands, and served as mutual buffer area separating