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During the 1780s the settlers were greatly disturbed with Indian attacks and wars, so the civil affairs were upset, as evidenced by the Tax Lists, Patterned after the military, the Colonel Commandant of the County appointed the various Militia Company Captains to "Take in the List of Taxables" and make returns to the Clerk. Constables were appointed to "warn the people" to turn in their taxables. This was usually done at the April Muster of the militia company. One list for 1780 & 1781 was not taken until 1781. During these years the value of their currency fluctuated greatly. The Minutes of the early 1780s show that sometime the Constables received \$60.00, and once, \$100.00 per day as pay for their services. The 1781 List names Horsekind and "Neat Cattle?" owned by each, Neat Cattle, as defined by an old Webster Dictionary, was Oxen, an animal most useful for the clearing of the wilderness. The Lists of the mid-1780s, and those during the years of the hectic and turbulent State of Franklin, 1784-1788, are missing, with one exception- that for 1787 of Capt. John Fain's Company, taken by John Hammer (the upper Knob Creek area). This interesting List names "widows", "Feme Soles" and "Feme Coverts", which were legal terms used in old documents. The Minutes show that the Court House was ordered to be built in 1784- John Chisolm was appointed to build the building which was to be a square "24 feet by 24 feet and the roof to be joint shingles hung with pegs". "Alexander Greer was to repair and complete the prison and stocks on the same terms as John Chisolm."

In 1790, after the Territory South of the River Ohio was organized, with Governor William Blount's arrival at the home of William Cobb, ROCKY MOUNT, then located in Washington County, one of the very first acts of the newly appointed governor was to take a complete Census of all the inhabitants of all the counties in the Territory. A Circular Letter, sent out on March 7, 1791, ordered "A Schedule of the Whole Number of Persons within the County of Washington in the Territory of the United States of America South of the River Ohio on the last Saturday in July, 1791".

The Census List for Washington County is in the county archives, although it is not found in the published papers of the South West Territory, issued in 1936 by the Department of State, and edited by Clarence E. Carter, Correspondence with Mr. Carter several years ago stated that this list was not found when he did this work= (One was forwarded to him to file in their records in Washington, D.C.)

This 1791 Census shows that the total population for Washington County totaled 5862 persons. (See this list in the year for 1791.) Remember that by 1790, Sullivan in 1779, Greene in 1783, Davidson in 1783, and Hawkins in 1786, had all been formed out of the original mother county of Washington.

All throughout Governor Blount's administration of the Southwest Territory there were still more Indian depredations- with massacres of settlers both in the Watauga region and also in the newly settled Cumberland. Among these were John Sevier's Etowah Campaign in 1793, the Nickajack Expedition in 1794, and others, until the beginning of the Indian Treaties at Tellico Blockhouse, which were not concluded until several years after Tennessee Statehood (1796). All of these