

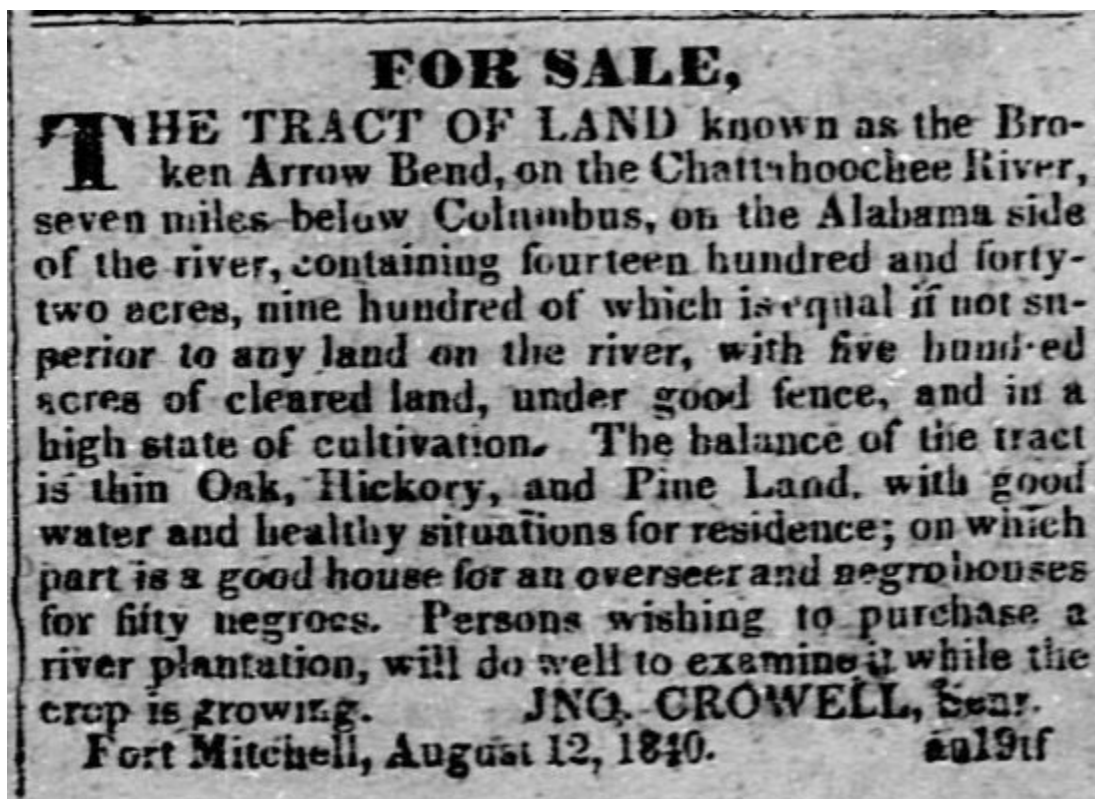
Today in Columbus History: On August 19, 1840, an ad appeared in *The Columbus Enquirer* announcing the sale of 1442 acres of land in Alabama by John Crowell, former Creek Indian Agent, who lived at Fort Mitchell, AL. The land Crowell was selling was on the Alabama side of the Chattahoochee in an area called Broken Arrow Bend. Broken Arrow itself was a Lower Creek town that had been located in this area of Alabama. It was the home of Little Prince, a noted Creek leader and orator, who lived from 1748 till 1832; he is supposedly buried at Broken Arrow (now located on private property).

Compiled by Callie McGinnis, Muscogee Genealogical Society

Our snippets of Columbus history are usually based on a few days-worth of searching through the most popular sources for Muscogee County history. Meant to inspire readers to explore more about Columbus history, they are not exhaustive dissertations on the topic and may contain mistakes. If you have corrections or additional information, feel free to share them with the group.

Clipping from Georgia Historic Newspapers (GALILEO).

<https://gahistoricnewspapers.galileo.usg.edu>

A historical newspaper clipping with a dark border. The text is in a serif font. At the top, it says "FOR SALE," in large, bold letters. Below that, the main text describes a tract of land on the Chattahoochee River, mentioning its size (1442 acres), location (Broken Arrow Bend), and features like cleared land and a house. The text ends with the name "JNO. CROWELL, Secy." and the date "Fort Mitchell, August 12, 1840." There is a small number "20191f" in the bottom right corner of the clipping.

FOR SALE,
THE TRACT OF LAND known as the Broken Arrow Bend, on the Chattahoochee River, seven miles below Columbus, on the Alabama side of the river, containing fourteen hundred and forty-two acres, nine hundred of which is equal if not superior to any land on the river, with five hundred acres of cleared land, under good fence, and in a high state of cultivation. The balance of the tract is thin Oak, Hickory, and Pine Land, with good water and healthy situations for residence; on which part is a good house for an overseer and negro houses for fifty negroes. Persons wishing to purchase a river plantation, will do well to examine it while the crop is growing.
JNO. CROWELL, Secy.
Fort Mitchell, August 12, 1840. 20191f



Indian agent John Crowell represented the new Alabama Territory in Washington. (Alabama Department of Archives and History)

John Crowell (1780-1846) was an Indian agent and legislator during the territorial period of Alabama and its first years as a state. Crowell served as agent to the Creek Nation until their removal in 1836 and was the first delegate to the U.S. Congress from the Alabama Territory and the first U.S. representative from Alabama after it achieved statehood in 1819. He was also a notable breeder of thoroughbreds and a successful horse racer. From: Encyclopedia of Alabama.



William W. Barker, 1795, "Georgia, from the latest authorities" (Philadelphia: M. Carey)/ From Library of Congress.



Broken Arrow Bend is a small eastern point of the Chattahoochee River, about one mile south of where Uptoi Creek merges with the Chattahoochee. Crowell's land was probably located north of Broken Arrow Creek.



Little Prince, cropped from "Two Chiefs of the Creek Nation and a Georgian Squatter" Mar. 31, 1820," sketch by Captain Basil Hall. Sketch No. 91; Hall, Basil Mus; Lilly Library, Indiana University.

Photograph of sketch used courtesy of The Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

A rendering of Little Prince, done by Scottish travel writer Basil Hall, who used a camera lucida to make the sketch. From "Rare Artifacts Belonging to the Oglethorpe Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Women Who Donated Them," Louise "Biddy" Barfield Hammett with Callie B. McGinnis, *Muscogiana* 23, 1(2012): 32-54. <https://csuepress.columbusstate.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi...> Starts on page 32.