

History of Jasper, Tennessee

Jasper is named for William Jasper, a Revolutionary War hero from South Carolina. Jasper was formed in 1820 from land leased for one dollar from Elizabeth aka "Betsy" Pack (1770 – 1851), daughter of Chief John Lowery and beloved Cherokee Woman Nannie Watts. The town has a total area of 9.2 square miles which is located in the southwestern Sequatchie Valley surrounded by the



Cumberland Plateau on the north and west. The The Sequatchie River flows just east of the town, and empties into the Tennessee River at the town's southeastern boundary. Jasper is the county seat of Marion County Tennessee whose courthouse square lies at the intersection of Main Street (U. S. Route 72) and Betsy Pack Drive (U.S. Route 41).

Descendants and family friends of Betsy Pack gather on a semi-annual basis to place flowers at the courthouse marker. The town's primary north-south street, Betsy Pack Drive, has been named in her honor.

For more historical information local historian Nonie Webb has published two historical books, available now.