



*Where History
Has a Future.*



Deep Roots in Georgia's History



Hampton's historic roots extend back to the early 1820's, when the first white settlers came into the area of Bear Creek. The first mayor was Thomas Griffin Barnett in 1872; in 1873 the town of Bear Creek was renamed Hampton after Gen. Wade Hampton.

The Monroe Railroad Company began rail service between Forsyth and Macon in 1848. The first depot in Hampton was constructed of wood in 1867. In 1881, the current depot was completed to accommodate the growing cotton trade.



The depot was a regular stop for passenger rail service between Atlanta and Savannah by the Nancy Hanks until the train ceased operations in 1971.

The original depot was moved to Griffin, 10 miles away.

With the advent of the railroad, progress followed. Hotels and churches were built; Hampton Cotton Mills, Henderson Manufacturing Company, a foundry as well as a gristmill were all located in Hampton. At one time Hampton had 5 grocery stores, a post office, a pharmacy, and an ice plant with a daily capacity of five tons. It also had a movie theater, a furniture store, and 2 service stations, a hardware store with a funeral parlor on the second floor and a lumberyard.

Hampton continues to be a center of the manufacturing and transportation industries. It is currently home to the Atlanta Motor Speedway and the FAA's Atlanta Air Route Traffic Control Center, monitoring all in flight air

traffic in the Southeast. Southern States Manufacturing, which manufactures transformers and electrical insulators, is located on the site of the original Henderson Cotton Mills on Georgia Avenue.

Many beautiful, old homes remain in the city, as do the stately oak and magnolia trees.

Hampton's historic downtown

has undergone renovations to reflect the original hometown features of pedestrian-friendly streetscapes, landscaping, and a variety of shops and restaurants.



The Hampton Depot Museum

opened in 2010. It houses many pictures and artifacts of life in Hampton throughout the years. Some of the oldest items include tongs from the ice plant and an oak ice box.



The Fortson Library located at 61 McDonough Street is a new building. With ten times the original space, it is now the largest library in Henry County.



Exciting Events All Year Long

• Atlanta Motor Speedway

Events include hands-on "Legends of Racing" Test Drives of 5/8 scale replicas, Friday night "Street Drags," and Georgia's only NASCAR-sanctioned stock car racing. Go to www.atlantamotorspeedway.com.



• Jail House Brewing

One of four microbreweries in Georgia, is located at 8 Cherry Street. Tour a working brewery and sample some of the finest beer around. Contact glenn@jailhousebrewing.com for tour times.



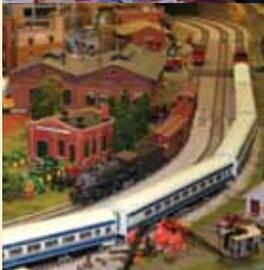
• Bear Creek Festival

For two days in late September, celebrate Hampton's history and the end of summer with live music, arts & crafts, and food vendors. For more information go to: www.bearcreekfestival.com.



• Model Train Display

Visit the display set up by the Middle Georgia Model Train Club in August. The Hampton depot is filled with model trains and the fascinating stories of how they are built.



• Yellow Pollen Street Festival

Hampton's newest festival celebrating the yellow nuisance—pollen. Food and crafts vendors line the Main Street of Hampton. A local beekeeper explains the production of honey to visitors. The third Saturday of March.



Hampton Events

For locations & times please visit: www.mainstreethamptonga.com

February
Chocolate Festival

March
Yellow Pollen Street Festival

Easter Egg Hunt
by HBMA



June - September
Farmer's Market
Every Friday
9 am - 1 pm

July
July Fest

August
Model Train Display



September
Bear Creek Festival

October

- Chili Cook Off
- Haunted Depot
- Trick or Treat



November

- Veterans Day Commemoration
- Tree Lighting

December

- Christmas at Home
- Cookie Decorating With Mrs. Claus
- Gingerbread House Contest
- Holiday Market
- Holiday Tour of Homes



For more, visit www.cityofhampton-ga.gov

Other Hampton Points of Interest

The Arnold-Russell House is a fine example of turn-of-the-century Edwardian architecture. It was built by Robert Johnson Arnold, a local doctor. It is now fully restored and is home to a caterer and restaurant.



Hampton's Cemeteries

date from 1862 and feature many unusual and decorative artifacts, including several examples of rare nineteenth-century cast-iron grave markers. Genealogical researchers can go to www.findagrave.com for a complete online database of Hampton cemeteries.



To get to Hampton

- From I-75, exit 218, go west on Ga 20 for 7.2 miles to E. Main Street. Take a right and go 0.6 miles to the center of Hampton.

- From the Atlanta Motor Speedway, From Speedway Boulevard, go east on Oak Street 1.5 miles to East Main Street.

A walking tour of Hampton's historic sites is available at the Hampton Depot Museum. Contact:

cfranklin@cityofhampton-ga.gov.

For more information about Hampton, call 770-946-4306 or write to 17 East Main Street, Hampton, Georgia 30228.

