

10 JOE STOCK MEMORIAL PARK
The Joe Stock Memorial Park was dedicated in June 2002. This park represents the long-time dream of Mr. Stock who owned and operated a department store in LaFayette for many years and who contributed much of his time to a variety of community efforts. The LaFayette City Council cleared the way for this park by removing an old prefabricated metal building, which stood on the site. Contributions from the City of LaFayette, Walker County, the State of Georgia, local civic clubs, businesses, and interested citizens helped to make the park possible. The park may be reserved for weddings, wedding receptions, birthday parties, Easter egg hunts, and other special events. This property is available to the public at all other times for walking, picnics, meditation, or visiting with friends. The City of LaFayette owns and maintains the park.



11 CHATTOOGA ACADEMY - (John B. Gordon Hall)
Chattooga Academy is believed to be Georgia's oldest remaining brick schoolhouse. The building was dedicated in 1936 to John B. Gordon, a former academy student who went on to serve as a Confederate general, Georgia governor, and U.S. senator. Completed in 1836 on land donated by Spencer Stewart Marsh, Chattooga Academy derived its name from the name of the area's original settlement and was later called LaFayette Academy. The building served as Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg's headquarters from September 10-17, 1863, as he prepared for the Battle of Chickamauga. During the Battle of LaFayette on June 24, 1864, Confederate Capt. William V. Harrell attacked Union troops using the building to store supplies. In the 1920s, the building was renovated and became a meeting place for the LaFayette Woman's Club. The building later housed the LaFayette Area Chamber of Commerce. In the 1990s, the City of LaFayette used the building as an office and community meeting facility; in 2005, the city began working towards the rehabilitation and restoration of the structure. The building and location are used today to teach military leadership and tactics to officers from Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and the Command and Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. The academy is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



12 MARSH HOUSE
The Marsh House was built in 1836 by Spencer and Ruth Marsh and was constructed with slave labor. The original house had four rooms over four rooms, with wide central halls on the first and second floors. The kitchen was in the basement, and food was brought to the main level of the house by a dumb waiter. It is believed that as a boy John B. Gordon, who later became a Confederate general and Georgia governor, boarded in the house and attended classes at Chattooga Academy. During the Civil War, the family moved south to escape fighting in the area. When they returned after the war, they found blood-soaked floors, hoof prints of calvary horses in the downstairs hall, and bullet holes in the walls and windows. The house remained in the same family for more than 150 years. Today the house is owned by the citizens of Walker County and is managed and maintained by the Marsh House Task Force. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



13 ENLOE - FORTUNE - DUHON HOUSE
This colonial style house, located about one-half mile north of the town square, was built in 1905 by Mr. and Mrs. N.G. Warthen for their daughter and son-in-law. The original house was built by local builders, except for the staircase, which was built in Knoxville, Tennessee, at a cost of \$500. In 1948-49, the owner of the house, Mr. A.R. Fortune, enlarged the structure by adding five feet to the front and constructing north and south wings. In 1971, the house was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Fred Duhon who added an east wing and a second staircase. The land on which the house sits once belonged to Spencer Marsh, one of the pioneer citizens of LaFayette.



OTHER SITES OF INTEREST

14 GEORGIA ROOM (Cherokee Regional Library)
The Cherokee Regional Library System was organized in fall 1944 and has branches in LaFayette, Rossville, Chickamauga, and Trenton. The LaFayette-Walker County Library is the headquarters for the system and has more than 70,000 items in its collection. It is home to the Doris Coulter Hetzler Memorial Georgia History and Genealogy Room. This room houses a special collection of books, microfilm, files, and other materials needed for genealogical and historical research. The library offers its patrons a variety of services including books on tape, DVDs, videos, Internet access, newspaper and magazine browsing, and weekly children's story time.

15 FORTUNE GRAMMAR SCHOOL
Fortune Grammar School was established in September 1936 when construction of the present building was completed on a tract of land just west of South Main Street at Cherokee and Colerain Streets. The land was contributed by Mrs. A.R. Fortune, and the school was named the A.R. Fortune Grammar School in honor of Mrs. Fortune's late husband. Prior to the opening of this school, the elementary grades were located in the high school building.

16 PATTON-REA HOUSE
The Patton-Rea House, at 640 South Main Street, was built in 1860 by James Patton. The original grounds included the area now occupied by the LaFayette recreational complex. During the Civil War, this location was known as the Hitching Post because Confederate cavalymen hitched their horses on the grounds. The house was saved from destruction by one of the women of the family, who persuaded Union officers to spare her home. In 1890, the house was sold to John H. B. Rea. His daughter remodeled the house in 1941, adding three rooms and two halls. Today the building is occupied by CJ's Southern Traditions restaurant.

17 HUGH CAMPBELL MEMORIAL GREENWAY (Rotary Walking Trail)
Since 2004, the LaFayette Rotary Club has been working with the City of LaFayette to establish a walking trail, which will reclaim a run-down area and give the citizens of LaFayette and visitors a section of land that can be used for exercise, as well as a place to enjoy a creek fed by a spring containing the clearest water in the area. Cross ties, cloth for weed control, and crushed rock have been installed, and the outline of the first half of the trail is in fair shape. Soon the trail will stretch from the LaFayette Housing Authority building to the site where Fort Cumming once stood.

18 FORT CUMMING
The site of Fort Cumming is located at the west end of Indiana Street. On this site, stood one of the stockades built throughout the Southeast by the U.S. Government to house the Cherokees until they could be removed to the West during the Trail of Tears. This fort, built about 1836, was a large enclosure of upright logs with a rifle tower in each corner. It is believed to have housed about 500 men, women, and children in the summer of 1838. The structure was built on a hill just above what is now known as Big Spring.

19 LINWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH
Linwood Baptist Church was founded in 1901 and served as a community church for the village of Linwood. People of all denominations joined together and formed a Union Church using Union Sunday School literature. Presbyterian, Methodist, and Baptist pastors from LaFayette provided services. This practice continued until the village grew and became large enough to support two congregations. Thus, the Half Baptist Church was born, half-Baptist and half-Methodist. These two denominations shared the same building, but each had its own sanctuary. The Methodist met on the second floor and the Baptist on the main level. Twenty-two years later the Methodists moved, leaving the building to the Baptists. The brick facade was added in the 1970s, and the interior was remodeled in 2006.

20 SEARS ROEBUCK HOUSE
The Sears Roebuck House, at 1001 North Main Street, was built by Dr. and Mrs. W.D. Ballenger in 1915. It is an early pre-fabricated house, which was brought to LaFayette by rail.

MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE



This bust of Lafayette is on display at LaFayette City Hall, 207 South Duke Street.

Who was the Marquis de Lafayette?

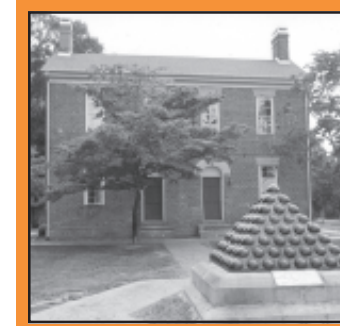
Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier, Lafayette, was born in 1757 in France. He was a French military officer and aristocrat who served in the American and French revolutions. Lafayette championed representative government, the abolition of slavery, religious tolerance, and freedom of the press.

Lafayette came to America in 1777. He volunteered to assist the colonists in their War for Independence without pay. He served as a general and later as a diplomat. An ardent patriot, he spent at least \$200,000 of his personal fortune to support the American Revolution. Lafayette renounced his title, Marquis, in 1790. He died in Paris in 1834.

Lafayette was posthumously named an Honorary Citizen of the United States. To honor his important contributions to the cause of American liberty, the city was renamed LaFayette in 1836.



A Walking Tour of Historic LaFayette, Georgia



LAFAYETTE, GEORGIA

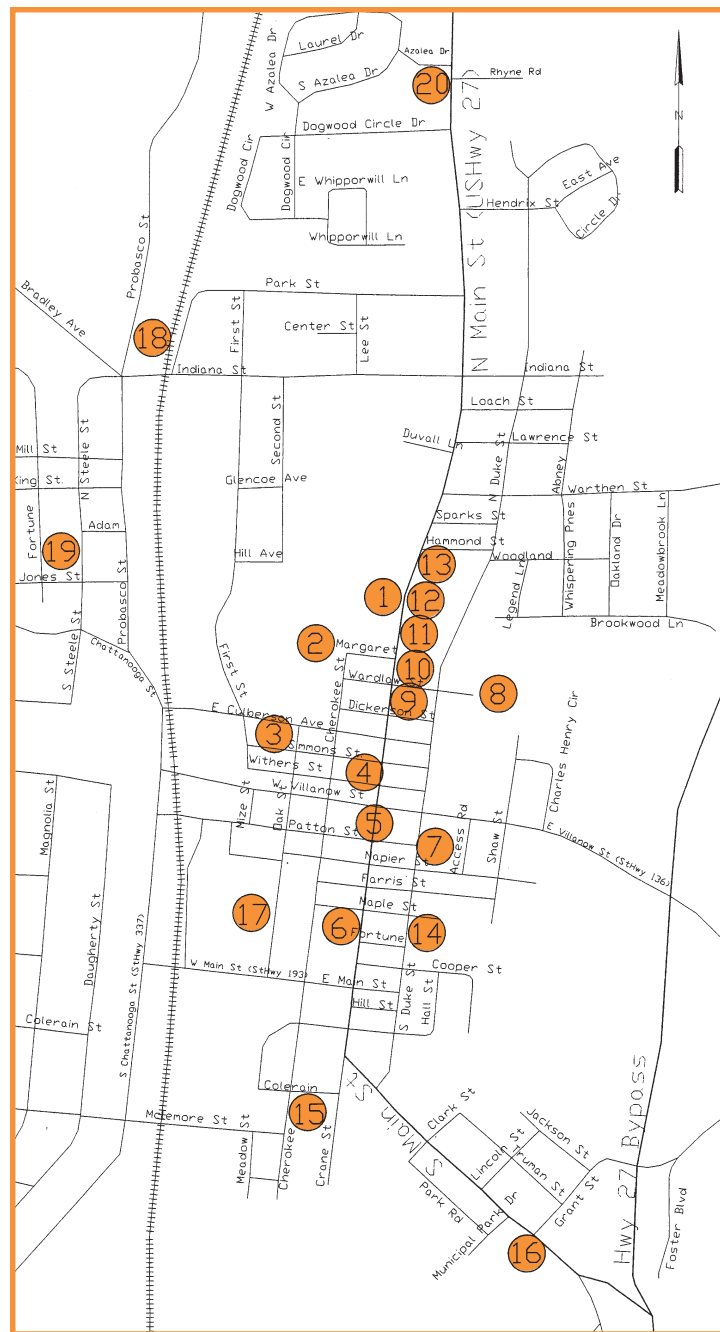
Also known as the “Queen City of the Highlands,” LaFayette retains a number of buildings and sites that allow visitors to experience the area’s rich Native American, Civil War, and African American Heritage.

Older houses along North Main Street - many of which were built in the first half of the 20th Century - welcome visitors to downtown LaFayette. Two houses in downtown are Sears Roebuck houses, including the house at 1001 North Main Street that was delivered to the city by rail car. The city’s historic textile-based economy is evident in the neighborhoods that developed around the cotton mills. The West LaFayette commercial district sprouted along the railroad that promoted economic development.

Chattooga Academy, the Marsh House, and LaFayette Presbyterian Church served as the stage for significant events, including the planning of the Battle of Chickamauga. The monument where Fort Cumming once stood is a reminder that this area opened for white settlement after the Cherokees were removed on the Trail of Tears.

Early settlements at LaFayette were called Chattooga, Chattoogaville, and Benton. The city was incorporated on September 30, 1835, and was renamed in 1836 after the Marquis de Lafayette, the French nobleman who assisted American colonists during the Revolutionary War and later renounced his title. The name has been written frequently as La Fayette, and now LaFayette is generally accepted.

If you follow the map in order, the tour will take about 1-1/2 hours to complete. Unless noted, homes are private residences and can be viewed only from the outside. Select buildings are open to the public during the times indicated.



Walking Tour Sites

1. Wardlaw Building (Long John Silvers)
2. Sixth Grade Academy (LaFayette High School)
3. Phipps - Stiles - Hix House
4. LaFayette Presbyterian Church
5. Town Square
6. Patton - Fortune House
7. Walker County Courthouse
8. LaFayette Cemetery
9. Public Safety Building (Coca Cola)
10. Joe Stock Memorial Park
11. Chattooga Academy (John B. Gordon Hall)
12. Marsh House
13. Enloe-Fortune-Duhon House

Other Sites of Interest

14. Georgia Room (Cherokee Regional Library)
15. Fortune Grammar School
16. Patton-Rea House (CJ's Southern Traditions)
17. Hugh Campbell Memorial Greenway (Rotary Walking Trail)
18. Fort Cumming
19. Linwood Baptist Church
20. Sears Roebuck House

1 WARDLAW BUILDING (Long John Silvers)

The site of the Wardlaw Building was once the home of the Littlefield family whose son became Mayor of the City of Chattanooga. In 1977, a building was constructed and leased to the Long John Silvers Corp. In 2002, Long John Silvers gave up its lease on the property, and owners, Mr. and Mrs. James Wardlaw, donated the building and property to Walker County in memory of their parents. The building is used by the Walker County Historic Preservation Commission. It also houses the Northwest Georgia Art Guild’s Foothills Gallery, which gives Walker, Dade, and Chattooga County artists an opportunity to display their work. The gallery is open from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays.



Town Square c. 1940

2 SIXTH GRADE ACADEMY (LaFayette High School 1922-1997)

The Sixth Grade Academy on North Cherokee Street stands on the site of the old LaFayette Female Academy, which was chartered in 1837. This frame building was dismantled by Union Troops sometime in 1864. In 1922, a new building was constructed on the property. This brick structure housed elementary and high school students until 1936. After that date, it housed only high school students. In 1997, LaFayette High School moved to a new building, and today, this building houses the LaFayette Sixth Grade Academy.



3 PHIPPS - STILES - HIX HOUSE

This house was built by Thomas Phipps sometime between 1836 and 1864. Its original location was on North Main Street where the Federal Building stands today. During the Battle of LaFayette in June 1864, it served as a shelter for some of the town’s citizens. At the end of the battle, many bullet holes were found in the outer walls. In 1935, J.P. Stiles bought the house for \$100. Using a track made of railroad ties and a team of horses, the house was moved to the Stiles family property on Culberson Street. One of the outstanding features of this house is the Greek-Revival porch. Today the house is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Eric Hix.



4 LAFAYETTE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The LaFayette Presbyterian Church, at 107 North Main Street, was formed in 1836. The congregation met in several locations before constructing a permanent facility in 1848. The original building contained a slave gallery and bell tower. In the spring of 1861, as a company of local men prepared to leave for war, citizens gathered at the church to create a company flag and wish their soldiers well. On June 24, 1864, military action in LaFayette drew the church building into service as a field hospital. In 1883, the slave gallery was removed and the front vestibule added. During 1922-1923, the church was re-bricked with cream color bricks, the bell tower removed and the front federal pediment added. A basement was dug in 1941, and a large annex was constructed in 1972. This historic structure is the oldest building in LaFayette continuing to be used for the purpose for which it was built. One outstanding feature is its stained glass windows.



5 TOWN SQUARE

LaFayette’s town square was laid out in 1835 by Benjamin Wheeler. Until 1918, the county courthouse was located in the middle of the square. At that time, the seat of county government was moved into a new building one block east of the square. The oldest building still standing is on the northeast corner. Today, the buildings are occupied by professional offices, a print shop, a large fitness center, specialty shops, a bank, and restaurants.



6 PATTON - FORTUNE HOUSE

This antebellum home, at 302 South Main Street, was built by Thomas Patton in 1853. The exterior walls are constructed of bricks made on site and are eighteen inches thick. Most of the rooms in this two story brick home have fireplaces. In 1922, a wrap-around front porch, winding staircase in the foyer, and columns into the entrance of the living room were added. Later, a sun porch was added to the second floor. In back of the house are stables, a small stone gardening hut, and a garage. The home sits on three acres of land.



7 WALKER COUNTY COURTHOUSE

The present Walker County Courthouse, one block east of the town square, is the fourth to serve the county. The first was a double log structure built by Cherokee Indians about 1820. It was located at Crawfish Springs (now the town of Chickamauga). The second was built in 1837 of brick and stucco. This building, located in the middle of the town square, was completed shortly before the Cherokee Indian removal in 1838. It survived the Battle of LaFayette in 1864 with many bullet holes in the outside walls, but was destroyed by fire in 1883. Later that year, a red brick courthouse was constructed on the site of the old stucco building. This structure served the county until 1918 when the present courthouse, a three-story, cream brick building, was completed at a cost of \$80,000. It was dedicated on April 23, 1918, and at that time, was considered to be the finest in Georgia. The courthouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



8 LAFAYETTE CEMETERY

This property, two blocks north of the courthouse and just east of North Duke Street, is believed to have once belonged to the Marsh family, one of the pioneer families in the area. The large, stately stones in the oldest part of the cemetery mark the graves of this family. Fifteen unknown Confederate soldiers killed during the Battle of LaFayette in June 1864 are buried on the grounds. In the spring these grounds become a garden of dogwood and azalea blossoms. Today, the property is owned and maintained by the City of LaFayette.



9 LAFAYETTE PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

The Coca-Cola Bottling Works of LaFayette was incorporated in 1914 by James F. Johnston and Robert A. Wardlaw. Mr. Johnston was the first franchised bottler of Coca-Cola in the world, and his franchise included the City of Chattanooga and extended in a 50-mile radius of that city. Robert Wardlaw worked for Mr. Johnston, and in 1915 the two men opened a bottling plant in LaFayette. The first site was in West LaFayette, the second near the Walker County Courthouse, and the third on South Main Street near the Bank of LaFayette. In 1935, plans were made to build a larger facility on North Main Street. The building was constructed at a cost of \$8,500 and had large plate glass windows to enable the public to see Coca-Cola being bottled. This building was first occupied in 1940 and served until 1989. Today the structure is owned by the City of LaFayette and serves the community as the Public Safety Building.

