



REAFFIRM

AMERICA'S HOMETOWN

- FAYETTEVILLE, NC -



HISTORY, HEROES, AND A HOMETOWN FEELING.



WELCOME TO THE

FAYETTEVILLE

- AREA -

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NC
FAYETTEVILLE
AREA
CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

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REAFFIRM

IN AMERICA'S HOMETOWN

- FAYETTEVILLE NC -

What makes your family reunion so important? Does the saying, "the family is our refuge, our springboard...our link to the past, our bridge to the future," ring a bell? At a time when families are pulled in many different directions, no occasion better honors your heritage and celebrates your strong family bonds than a family reunion.

Greater Fayetteville, North Carolina, welcomes you and your family to reaffirm your heritage and strong family bonds in America's Hometown!

We invite family reunion attendees to experience our community that embraces the American spirit – a place where History, Heroes, and a Hometown Feeling bestows a unique opportunity for all ages to come together and commemorate your family's past, present, and future.

The hard labor borne by slaves, the entrepreneurship of free blacks, the devotion to religion and education, service to our country, and the desire to learn and preserve one's history and heritage await to tell your family

a grand story. Providing a historical glimpse into the life of African-Americans who resided in Greater Fayetteville, these unique sites will engage and enlighten family ties and tradition.





REAFFIRM WITH
HISTORY

FIRST STOP

SANDHILLS FAMILY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION

An exhibit on plank roads exists at the center's grounds and is used to tell the story of slave labor that helped build them. The Sandhills Heritage Center was founded by African-Americans as a recreational facility for local black youth in 1951. The center was used for youth and adult social gatherings such as family reunions, birthday parties, and during the 1960s as a civil rights meeting place. The Sandhills Family Heritage Association currently offers tours. The tours

run from Thursday through Sunday between 8 am - 4 pm. Immerse yourself in real, one-of-a-kind ritual African American cultural experience as told by descendants of slaves and local community storytellers. Enjoyable tour activities include the Sandhills Farmers Market (Saturdays only); tasting locally-grown produce and baked goods; learning the importance of local herbs; viewing a replica of the Plank Road and a brush arbor; a captivating outdoor performance by the Sankofa Players; and tour of Bethel AME Zion Church in Spring Lake, NC.





STOP TWO FAYETTEVILLE AREA TRANSPORTATION AND LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The Fayetteville Area Transportation and Local History Museum exhibits contributions made by local African-Americans. The museum also has staff oversight of Fayetteville's Historic Districts and Designated Local Landmark Properties, many of which have strong ties to African-American history. Maintained in the museum archives are all the repository of historical information concerning local African-Americans. Museum staff is available to assist with directed research in the area of local African-American history as well

as give guided Historic Downtown Walking Tours for groups of 20 or more.

STOP THREE FAYETTEVILLE MARKET HOUSE

Previously known as the State House, it was here that North Carolina ratified the U.S. Constitution in 1789 and chartered the University of North Carolina. In 1831, a fire destroyed downtown Fayetteville, including the State House and the Market House was rebuilt on its site. As a marketplace, various peddlers sold cotton and other agricultural products here. In fact, one of the first meat merchants to sell his goods under the Market House in 1832, was a free born African American. Although not built as a slave market, slaves were sold here over the years until slavery was abolished in 1865. Historical debate also circles around the possibility that the structure was built by a local free black man, Thomas Grimes, one of the best brick mason in the area at the time.



FAYETTEVILLE MARKET HOUSE



MUSEUM OF THE CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL COMPLEX: 1897 POE HOUSE

STOP FOUR

MUSEUM OF THE CAPE FEAR HISTORICAL COMPLEX/1897 POE HOUSE

1897 EA Poe House at The Museum of The Cape Fear Historical Complex, artifacts help tell some of the African-American story. The lives of many are told collectively through the museum's exhibits. A guided tour of the 1897 Poe House (part of the historical complex), discusses the roles of African-American women working as domestic servants at the turn of the 20th century. You'll discover a bit of what life was like for

African-Americans in the Jim Crow south. Walking the site of the remains of the U.S. Arsenal in North Carolina, you'll walk the grounds where both free and enslaved African-Americans labored to help construct a federal arsenal prior to the Civil War. Now known as Arsenal Park, the facility manufactured weapons and other Confederacy ordinance goods. In March 1865, Union troops fulfilled an order by General William Sherman to "batter, blast, and burn" the arsenal. Ruins of the building foundations and a modern steel semblance keep vigil for the lives associated with this historic site.





REAFFIRM WITH
HEROES

FIRST STOP

AIRBORNE & SPECIAL OPERATIONS MUSEUM

The Airborne and Special Operations Museum preserves the extraordinary feats performed by parachute and glider borne troops and their brothers in arms, the special operations forces. By exploring artifact displays, life-size dioramas, audio and visual displays you will gain a deeper respect and pride for the remarkable achievements of these brave All American Airborne soldiers. There is an exhibit on the Triple Nickels or the 555th Battalion – a historically all black airborne unit. Also enjoy the motion simulator and gift shop.

STOP TWO

NORTH CAROLINA VETERANS PARK

North Carolina Veterans Park (NCVP) follows two themes: The first is a “Veteran’s Journey: life before, during, and after service.” The second is rebirth and healing. NCVP was designed for reflections and celebration with bold, unique, and captivating exhibits. This 21st century

park is a place where every visitor can share the moving tribute of a grateful state, honoring those to whom our nation owes its freedom.

STOP THREE

CROSS CREEK CEMETERY (BROOKSIDE)

Brookside, an area of Cross Creek Cemetery is dedicated to burials for African-Americans post Civil War, contacts the graves of many notable



families of the Greater Fayetteville area. This cemetery was designated by the City Council as a local landmark in September 2003. Some of those notable families and individuals include E.E. Smith, members of the Chesnutt family, Dr. Pal Melchor, Robert Harris, and Bishop Hood. The grounds consist of free blacks buried after the Civil War and others born during the days of slavery.

STOP FOUR

FAYETTEVILLE INDEPENDENT LIGHT INFANTRY PARADE GROUNDS

Established in the late 18th century, the parade ground was the site where the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry (F.I.L.I.) company met for drill since their formation in 1793. The F.I.L.I. is still North Carolina's official historic military command and ceremonies with current members take place on its grounds. At this site, Isaac Hammond, the company's fifer and free black man who served in the Revolutionary War, is buried.





REAFFIRM WITH A
**HOMETOWN
FEELING**

FIRST STOP

MLK PARK

At this time a picnic pavilion and open space are the beginnings for the 13 acres of land commemorating the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. An impressive sculpture of Dr. King reigns high over the park and plans include a fountain, lighted spire, gardens, and walking trail. This park is part of the link of greenways connecting people and places!

STOP TWO

SAINT JOSEPH'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The church was built in 1896 to serve a black congregation that formed in 1873, and represents the second oldest Episcopal congregation in Fayetteville. Most notable are five Resurrection windows from Tiffany & Co. in New York. A pipe organ built in 1857, is one of the oldest still in use in America, and has been powered by hand, water, gas, and now electricity.

STOP THREE

ARNETTE PARK

Located about four miles south of downtown Fayetteville, Arnette Park's amenities include picnic pavilions, nature trails, 18 hole disc golf course, football and soccer fields, softball fields, horseshoe pits, tennis courts, sand volleyball courts and playgrounds. The 100-acre park is a combination of developed facilities and natural woodland. Its picnic pavilions, ball fields and more make this a popular gathering spot for families and large groups.



STOP FOUR

LAFAYETTE LANES

Enjoy a family bowling night at Lafayette Lanes; a perfect location for early-reunion arrivals to host a family fun-filled tournament!

STOP FIVE

**ROUND-A-BOUT
SKATING CENTER**

Roller skating at its best! You're allowed to bring your own skates, as long as they have toe stops, and there's a full shop on site for all your skating needs. Groups and parties are welcome; a perfect location for early-reunion arrivals to host a family fun-filled skate off!



REAFFIRM WITH A HOMETOWN FEELING





CONTACT US TODAY!

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