



Living In A Landmark



A Guide to Tifton's
Historic Buildings
and Districts

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City of Tifton

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Councilmember Roosevelt Russell

City Manager Mike Vollmer

Assistant to the City Manager Larry Riner

Main Street Manager Lequrica Gaskins

Former City Manager Charlie Howell

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Herb Pilcher

Bonnie Sayles

Tyron Spearman

Angela Moore

Charles H. Styer, Ph.D.

Bill Wells

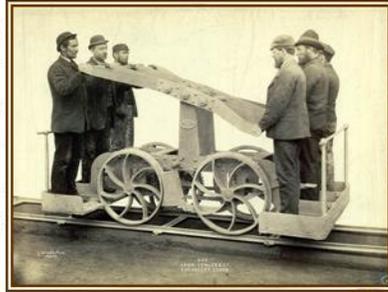


History of Tifton

Hello and welcome to Tifton!

Tifton is a vibrant city that defines sophisticated southern culture. Our hope is that the information presented to you in this guide will help educate you about Tifton's history and architecture. Enjoy this *Living in a Landmark* guide, as you journey through Tifton's past and present. Before you begin, please allow us an opportunity to tell you a little bit about our City's heritage.

In the mid 1800s, a Connecticut gentleman named Captain Henry Harding Tift ventured from his home in Mystic, Connecticut to South Georgia with a harvest of timber on his mind. As a family of shipbuilders, the Tifts could use the soaring pines as masts for their ships. The sawmill and train tracks that Captain Tift had built to prepare the lumber for shipping would soon be the beginning of the city of Tifton.



Tifton is similar to many rural communities, and yet unique in many ways. As "Tift's Town" grew, Captain Tift and his associates followed the same town layout that Mystic, Connecticut, followed, with even numbered streets running east and west as one traveled north from the center of town, and odd numbered streets following the same suit as one traveled south. In 1890, the town's name was changed to Tifton. Tifton had no town square and the city

was crisscrossed with rail lines all heading from the center of town like spokes on a wagon wheel. The town boasted the same grand facilities as many small South Georgia towns— a courthouse, a town hotel, and commercial buildings. Many of these buildings featured

interesting interior and exterior architectural embellishments of the times. As the town grew, Tifton built an opera house, several silent movie theatres, churches, and saloons. Evolving from the dense pine forests, Tifton was a thriving community at the turn of the twentieth century. Electric lighting was the rage in those days. Lighted by the new technology, the Myon Hotel, built in 1906



(Main Street looking South,
Tifton, Ga.)



History of Tifton

and billed as the grandest hotel south of Atlanta, entertained many guests and travelers in splendid surroundings.

The town grew and so did the opportunity for commerce. Paved roads began replacing the dirt roads. Captain Tift set aside land for a public park. Governmental offices were created and filled. Tifton now had its own telephone system, and indoor plumbing was the norm. A grand movie theatre was planned and built at the center of town. Business at the Myon Hotel was booming, as were nearly all of the businesses within the twelve-block community surrounding it. The town streets were the setting for pa-



rades, tobacco balls, pageants, and community activities. Men and women returned home from the Second World War and enjoyed the air-conditioned comfort of the Tift Theatre complete with Technicolor movies and stereo sound. Further progress came to the South when President Eisenhower proposed a new road system that would allow travelers to get from point A to point B in record time. He called it the Interstate.

That began the demise of many of America's downtowns. As the Interstate system was built, the new "hot spots" of development formed along the roadways. Since WWII, many women had joined the workforce and did not have the time or luxury of staying home with children while their husbands were at work. Slowly, the community's focus on town activities shifted from the town center to the new suburbs. With more income for families, automobiles that were once extravagant luxuries were in every driveway, ready to travel on the newly-built Interstate highways for destinations far beyond home. Tifton was growing and changing.

Motels were built along the Interstate to accommodate the increasing number of travelers. Service stations and shopping plazas sprouted where the action was— the Interstate.



History of Tifton

In the 1970s, people in Tifton realized that they had lost the sense of community in their town. Granted, thousands of cars were driving through daily on the Interstate, but where was the corner drug store that had served those great hot dogs just a few years ago? Even the Post Office had moved away from downtown, and with its new drive-through, drop-off service, one did not need to leave his automobile to mail a letter, much less speak to one's neighbor about local news. Slowly but surely, many of the stores



that lined Main Street in Downtown Tifton were closing. The opening of a new mall near the Interstate lured the last remaining stores away. The once grand Myon Hotel was now a boarding house, home to vagrants and flocks of pigeons. The grand

buildings that once were the pride of Downtown stood vacant and were deteriorating. Many had been passed on to the next generation of owners who did not live in Tifton, adding apathetic, absentee landowners to the problem. Though the change did not happen overnight, the end result was the same. Downtown Tifton was dying.

Fortunately, several community "old timers" who had fond memories of Downtown Tifton and still had a spark of hope for its resurgence came to the rescue. A bold step was made when City leaders decided to look at the once grand Myon Hotel as a future home. Leaders realized reinvestment in the old structure could set an example for the rest of the community. The infrastructure was in place to support the move, and private support was generated for the project.

The City investigated all funding sources including Historic Preservation incentives offered by the state and federal government, and grant and foundation dollars. Partnering with a local developer who purchased one half of the building, the City

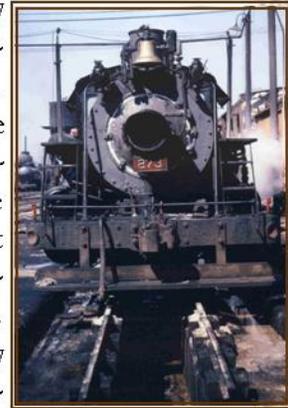


began the Myon project. Completed in 1990, the Myon is once again one of the finest buildings south of Atlanta. Now serving as the home of the City of Tifton, the building also houses apartments, professional offices, and retail space.



History of Tifton

Following the Myon restoration, many other projects sprang to life, including the purchase and renovation of the Golden Building, the Tift Theatre, and others. Since 1986, the tax base of Downtown Tifton has shown tremendous growth, averaging a 13% increase from year to year. With the redevelopment and rehabilitation of buildings, new and existing businesses began to return to Downtown. The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) was formed in 1986 to oversee the revitalization process. Pledging to make Downtown the center of community activity that it once was, the DDA has been instrumental in recruiting residential life, commercial life, cultural life, and governmental life for Downtown.



With the return of thriving businesses to the district, Downtown once again is the location for community celebrations. Special events, parades, concerts, and festivals draw families to Tifton's Downtown. These events create memories for the next generation of Tiftonites, who will be responsible for guiding Downtown preservation and promotion one day.



The following guide is designed for a leisurely walk or ride through some of Tifton's older streets. Both newcomers and longtime residents alike will find interesting facts about the history of these structures. Of course, any history is incomplete without some mention of the people who built these homes and commercial buildings, as well as those who helped to restore them. Thus, readers

will also find information about some of Tifton's residents, past and present.

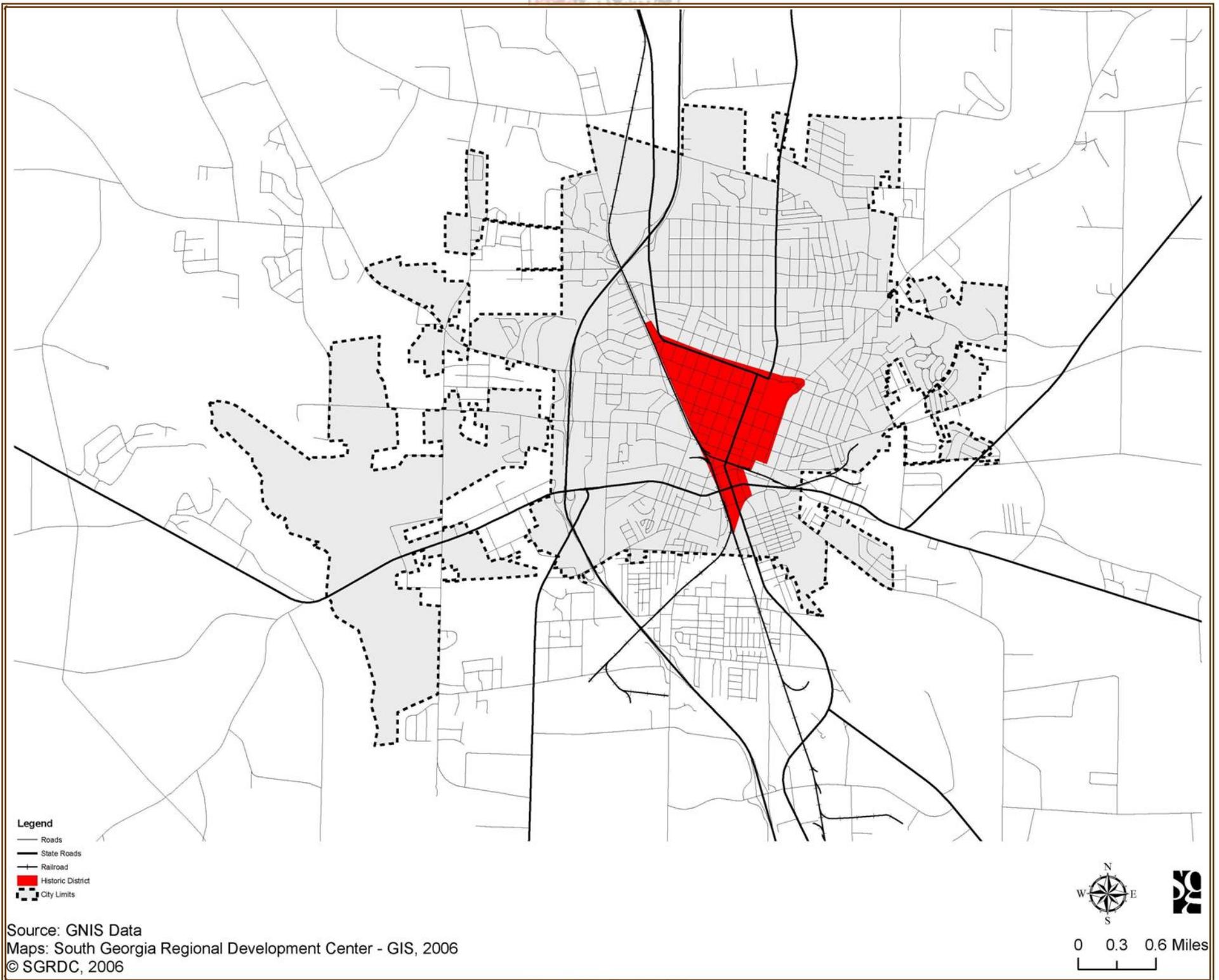
Tifton has a vibrant historic district. Many buildings of a bygone era have been renovated to serve the needs of 21st Century Tifton, while retaining significant historic elements.

Indeed, history is alive and well along the streets of Tifton.



Tifton's Historic District

Tifton's Historic District



Tifton Today

Today, the City of Tifton is a growing community in the heart of charming South Georgia. Here you will find the perfect combination of welcoming hometown appeal and exciting cultural chic. Strategically located just two and a half hours south of Atlanta, Tifton can be reached easily by I-75, U.S. 319, U.S. 82, and U.S. 41 – it is central to all that is spectacular in Georgia and North Florida. Whether you are here for a conference or a concert, an expo or an exhibition, you're in for a delight in The Friendly City.

Tifton has its roots in modern agriculture. Discover scenic, sprawling farmlands that use state-of-the-art agricultural technology, and relish an authentic historic working farmstead. But just because we value heritage, doesn't mean we're old fashioned. Today, there is a perfect collection of museums, art galleries, shopping venues, historic sites, restaurants, and outdoor recreational activities to please a variety of tastes.



Tifton also hosts a myriad of diverse artistic, educational, and business events throughout the year. As a Celebration of the Arts city, Tifton's contemporary cultural arts are certainly alive – and thriving! Annual celebrations including the springtime Love Affair Fine Arts Festival and December's Hometown Holidays Celebration have grown into wonderfully popular regional favorites. Gifted artists, musicians, performers, and craftspeople from around the globe bring their talents and traditions to Tifton.

Our idyllic geographic location and high quality of life have attracted major companies and educational institutions to the area, resulting in a diverse industrial base that includes manufacturing, distribution, agriculture, healthcare, and tourism. As the agents for economic development in Tifton, the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce, Tift County Development Authority, and Downtown Development Authority are dedicated to providing a positive environment for existing businesses, as well as businesses considering locating here.



Tifton Today

Besides its ideal location, rich history, and Southern “small-town” charm, Tifton also:

- Leads the Southeastern United States in agricultural research, education, and industry.
- Is privileged to have several major educational institutions and one of the best public school systems in the state.
- Is a prime meeting place. In order to accommodate more conferences, special events, and expositions, an \$11 million expansion at the University of Georgia Tifton Campus Conference Center was recently completed that includes a magnificent 83,000-square-foot facility.
- Provides excellent healthcare to the region. With a reputation as an innovative provider of quality care, Tifton Regional Medical Center is a not-for-profit, 191-bed regional hospital serving 12 counties in South Central Georgia. The hospital's medical staff includes more than 95 physicians with the majority board-certified in over 30 specialties. TRMC provides a wide-range of services, including six Centers of Excellence offering advanced, expert care in oncology, cardiology, neurology, surgery, women's health, and emergency medicine. TRMC is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, and is a member of the American Hospital Association, Georgia Hospital Association, Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals, and VHA Georgia, Inc.
- Enhances quality of life. The Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce promotes community and economic development by business networking, publicity, and legislative involvement. The Chamber is a volunteer-driven organization committed to growing Tifton's economic base and community well-being.

Tifton's diversity is its strength. With a unique balance of historical, professional, social, educational, and recreational resources, Tifton provides a wealth of opportunities to its citizens and visitors alike.



Walking Tour Map

Walking Tour Map

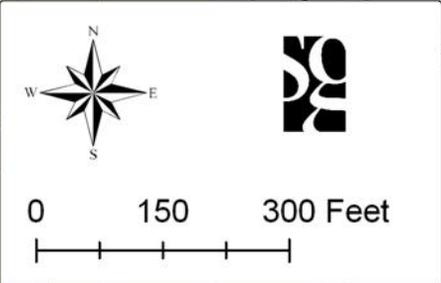
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1. Veterans' Park
2. Bank of Tifton
3. The Parker Building
4. Myon Hotel
5. Tift Theatre
6. Underground Jail
7. Tifton Terminal Railway Depot & Museum
8. Atlantic Coastline Artists Station
9. Clay Wall
10. Time Capsule
11. Tifton Gardens
12. Tifton-Tift County Public Library
13. Tifton Museum of Arts & Heritage

Tifton Historic Walking Tour

Legend

- 33 Walking Tour Stops
- Roads
- Railroad
- Parcels
- Historic District



Stop 1

Veterans' Memorial Park

Located on Central Avenue across from the Tifton-Tift County Chamber of Commerce is Veterans Memorial Park, which features a garden, mini-amphitheatre, and several monuments. The park is dedicated to the men and women who have defended our country by serving in the military.

The park features an M60AS tank weighing 105,060 lbs., which was designed to function as one of the main assault vehicles of an Armor/Mechanized Infantry Division. This tank had a continental Diesel Engine that had an allowable speed of 30 mph. It had a cruising range of 280 miles. The main armament was capable of defeating enemy armored vehicles and was suitable as an assault weapon in offensive operations. The vehicle could be employed at night and under conditions of limited visibility. This tank is dedicated to the memory of the men and women of Tift County who served in the armed forces so that we may live in peace and freedom.



Next to the tank is a multiple flagpole monument honoring members of the Reverend Lyman Banks Allen family who served in World War II and the Korean War.

Beyond this is a granite wall



monument dedicated to "the memory of those who gave so much that we may live in peace and freedom." Names of Tifton's servicemen and women are inscribed on this wall on the front, and the back features a Biblical verse, Psalm 23.



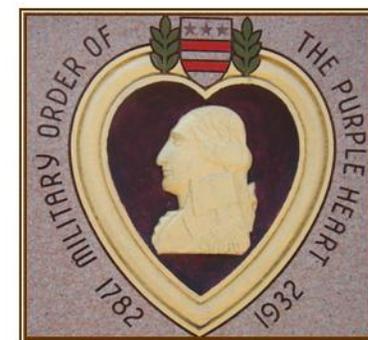
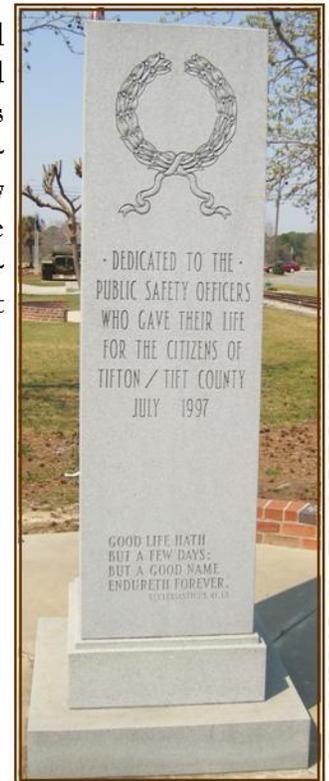
A brick wall memorial stating "All gave some, some gave all" is a tribute to the Armed Forces of America by the Azalea Garden Club and dedicated by the American Legion and Auxiliary, Posts #559 and #21.



In front of the brick wall memorial stands a bronze soldier sculpture, which was dedicated by the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5250, and reads, "We honor the dead by helping the living."

Another tall monument located on the park's grounds is that dedicated to public safety officers who gave their life for the citizens of Tifton/Tift

County. It was dedicated on July 1997.



Stop 2

Bank of Tifton



Built in 1917, the Tifton home of Bank of America was originally the Bank of Tifton. The Bank of Tifton was the city's first bank, although the marble building on 1st Street was not its original home. The building was ordered from a catalog for \$10,000, prefabricated in numbered sections. The pieces were unloaded from the railroad behind the building and assembled on site.

The bank is fashioned to be a new-Greek temple with large Doric columns. The building is made almost entirely of white marble. Two symmetrical wings have been added to the building's original design.

The name was changed from the Bank of Tifton to C & S Bank in 1957. The bank has changed names many times throughout the years due to mergers. Since 1957 the bank has been Citizens and Southern National Bank, C & S/Sovran, Nations Bank, and Bank of America.

Stop 3

The Parker Building

The closing months of 1917 marked the completion of another handsome business structure in Tifton, that of the Frank Scarboro Company. The location is an admirable one being in the angle between First and Railroad streets and the Atlantic Coast Line, west of the Bank of Tifton and facing the Myon Hotel entrance. The building is Mediterranean Revival style, and features a tapestry brick base and stucco walls. The entrance, columns and facade are of Indiana limestone. This building is different from any other in Tifton, on its interior and exterior, and in design and finish.

The construction work was done by the Southern Ferro-Concrete Company with Mr. W.M. Henderson, Superintendent, in charge. Complete with fixtures, the building cost \$10,000. The building was and still is equipped for handling a rapidly growing business. Today, the building houses the Cliff Parker and Son Insurance Company.



Stop 4

Myon Hotel

Built by L. W. Myers in 1907, the Myon Hotel was considered “the grandest hotel south of Atlanta.” A landscaped path lined with cherry trees led from the railroad depot (now the Chamber of Commerce office) to the Myon’s front door. From there, guests would come through a three-story lobby into the vast dining room, filled with tall potted palms and tables covered in white linen.



The Myon got its name from a contest held by the owners, Irvine and Pearl Myers. The winner, Judge Raleigh Eve, suggested taking the first letter of the Myers’ name and adding them to the last letters of Tifton.

The hotel was built on the ruins of another hotel, the Sadie, which burned to the ground in 1905.

The Myers family sold the Myon in the 1960s, and by the 1980s it was in need of costly repair. Civic leaders were considering tearing the old hotel down when it was purchased by Harold Harper, who restored it in partnership with the City of Tifton. A portion of the building became the City Hall, and the remainder is used for apartment, office, and restaurant use.



became the City Hall, and the remainder is used for apartment, office, and restaurant use.



Stop 5

Tift Theatre

Built in 1937, the Tift Theatre is listed on the National Register District of Historic Places and is one of only a few intact Art Deco movie theaters in Georgia. The 645-seat theater features bright, bold colors and a recurring theme of diamond-shaped decorations. The Carrera glass front façade, embellished with neon lighting, is a downtown landmark.



Originally a ‘Martin Theatre,’ the building was first painted by an artist that traveled with a circus.

The first movie to be shown there was “Pennies from Heaven” with Bing Crosby and Marge Evans.

The theater was restored and converted into a performing arts theater in the early 1990s and reopened in 1993. Dressing rooms, a stage, and space for scenery were added. The seats were restored and the carpets and stage curtains were replaced in a style appropriate for the era. Most of the original lighting fixtures are still in tact.



Stop 6

Underground Jail

The City's early jail was housed in the basement of the building at 221 Main Street. Most recently, the building featured the Keepsake Bridal Gallery, but for decades before that, it was home to Neel's Department Store and the Nifty Shop.

The building's storefront features a cast iron façade created by the Chattanooga Roofing and Foundry Company. The cast iron facade, which holds the large plate glass windows, is typical of early storefront design along Main Street.

Local legend states that this building's basement used to be a part of a secret underground tunnel system in Tifton. The secret tunnel system allowed gambling and liquor storage during Prohibition in the 1920s. A bricked-in arched opening found in the basement could be proof to this legend.



Stop 7

Tifton Terminal Railway



The Tifton Terminal Railway Depot and Museum is located in the heart of Downtown Tifton. Tifton's long history with the railroad industry and as a major distribution center is showcased here. The restored, early nineteenth century freight depot houses the Tifton Terminal Railway Museum, allowing visitors to experience the city's early days in commerce. Self-guided tours of artifacts and models, combined with hands-on learning through riding in historic railcars provides an educational and memorable experience for museum visitors.

The Tifton Terminal Railway Museum started in 1999 as a project by Jamie Cater and Chris Parrott to use and save the Atlantic Coastline Freight station in downtown Tifton. That idea later turned into the non-profit organization of today. Through state grants, local government participation, and private funds, the museum has grown from an abandoned, run-down train station to a restored, functioning, revitalized piece of downtown Tifton. The museum finished restoration on the depot during the summer of 2006, and completed the vast majority of the interior museum later that year. The museum also works in part with the CaterParrott Railnet which provides railcar excursions in their restored 1963 Seaboard



Air Line caboose for the museum.

Stops 8 and 9

Atlantic Coastline Artists Station

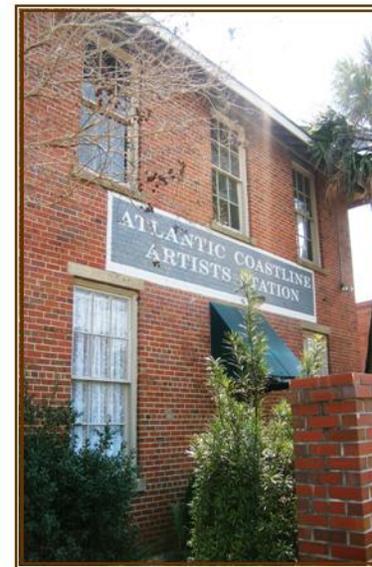
In 1991, the Atlantic Coastline Artists Guild acquired the historic Atlantic Coastline Freight Station from the Tift County Development Authority, and renovated it into a gallery and showplace for local artists. Several organizations cooperated in the formation of the Artists Station, including the Tifton Main Street program, the Tift County Commission and Development Authority, and the Arts Experiment Station at the Abraham Baldwin College. All types of artwork are showcased at the Artists Station, including painting, photography, sculpture, pottery, wood-carving, weaving, and mixed media. The Atlantic Coastline Artists Station is located at 119 Love Avenue, in the heart of Downtown Tifton.

Our Town Tifton Wall

Led by world famous California artist Ruth Asawa and local artist, Vincent Keese, this unique public art project involved hundreds of local children and adults who created the people, places and objects on the panels which tell the Tifton story.

The work reflects the town's early founding and development, including trains and transportation, the Agricultural Experiment Station, ABAC, schools, theater, churches, choirs, Fulwood Park, even our love for hunting, fishing and sports!

The individual pieces and the background for the panels which comprise the artwork were created from a special "baker's clay." The panels were then made into molds and cast in fiberglass reinforced concrete in a color which resembles terra cotta.



Stops 10 and 11

Time Capsule



The official City of Tifton time capsule was buried under this monument on October 1, 1972. The time capsule is to be opened 100 years from its burying— in the year 2072.

Tifton Gardens

Tifton Gardens is built on the old railroad sidetrack that went to the courtyard on East Third Street. The park was a gift from Kanebo Spinning, Incorporated, and was presented to the citizens of Tifton and Tift County in 1990.

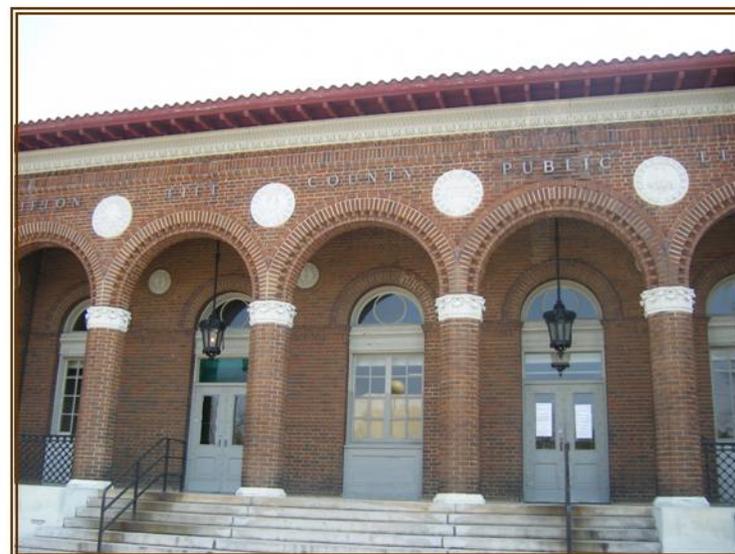
Imprinted on the Kanebo Garden plaque reads, “How good it is to stand, with listening heart, for a sweet pause amid the day’s mad pace in quietude within a world apart, with the hushed and fragrant beauty of new leaf, momentarily from care there us surcease and from troubled ways one finds relief.”



Stop 12

Tifton-Tift County Public Library

The Tifton-Tift County Public Library was originally Tifton’s first post office, built in 1913. In 1964, the building was leased to the Library Board and renovated to serve as a library. In 1982, extensive renovations were done to expand the library from 8,500 square feet to 23,000.



The building is made of red brick in a neo-Italian Renaissance style. Though constructed in two parts, the untrained observer would not likely be able to tell this from the outside. Inside, the older post office portions of the building are more evident although renovations have been planned for those areas.

Outside of the library stands “Joy,” a sculpture of a dancing woman, created by Teen Watson and Don Haugen. On the steps sit two metallic statues of griffins, mythical winged creatures with the head of an eagle and the body of a lion.



Stop 13

Tifton Museum of Arts and Heritage

The Tifton Museum of Arts and Heritage has been part of the Tifton community since its dedication in 1901 as the First Methodist Church. As the first brick church in the community, it brought a refined elegance at the turn-of-the century to the growing rural town.

Built by the town's founder, Captain Henry Harding Tift, the building was constructed from brick to save it from the feisty saloon owners, who consistently set fire to wooden churches.

Once hailed as "the finest church in the South," the 3500 square-foot building's rather simple exterior opens to reveal an expansive octagonal-shaped interior, rich with color and ornamentation. The fine-grained heart pine of the interior walls and ceiling was handcrafted by ship's carpenters, or joiners, retained by Captain Tift.

The vaulted ceiling is supported by massive arched buttresses, while intricate carved medallions and bull's-eye plinth blocks on the door and window moldings serve as a counterpoint to the ceiling's magnificent height and strength. The original bell tower, topped with a brass finial, is still intact.

The true jewels of the building are the twenty-four stained and fired glass windows.

Three triplet ecclesiastical windows each feature unusual designs, glass and color. Many of the rondels and glass décor in the windows were only available in Italy at the time the building was constructed.

In 1952, the First Methodist Church vacated the building



to accommodate a growing congregation, and the building was occupied by various denominations until 1985 when the Tift County Development Authority purchased it.

The building was left empty until 1990, its beauty giving way to the elements, age and termites, when a non-profit organization was founded to raise funds and restore it as a cultural center for the community.

With help from the National Endowment for the Arts, Tift County, The City of Tifton, and many individual donors, a total of nearly \$500,000 was raised for the renovation, and the building was restored to its original beauty.

In 1997, the building was dedicated as the Tifton Museum of Arts and Heritage. Today it serves as a cultural anchor for downtown, providing cultural and educational exhibits and programs, while also offering space for public and private events in a cherished architectural jewel.



**You have reached the end of the
Walking Tour.
Now give your feet a rest, and enjoy
more Tifton historic sites while taking
the Driving Tour.**



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Historic Driving Tour

Historic Driving Tour

Tifton Historic Driving Tour



Stop 1

“The Painted Lady” 315 West 6th Street



This Victorian home is an excellent example of the Queen Anne style, and is referred to as a “the painted lady” because of the style’s historical use of many bold colors. The shade of pink on this home’s exterior is the original color. It was built in 1894, and took two years to build. The house plan was designed by a French architect whose inspiration was a Swiss chalet. The turret on the west side was originally two stories high; however, in the early 1900s, a tornado removed the top story of the turret, leaving the rest of the home undamaged. The top story of the turret was never replaced. Built for its ostentatious design and as a display of wealth, the turret’s interior is inaccessible.

The home was built on what was originally a double lot. A barn once stood on the same lot, but was destroyed by a fire in the late 1900s. The house is built of sturdy heart pine. Its 6-foot by 10-foot foundation beams support a series of columns under the floors. The interior woodwork features curly heart pine with impressed wood trim. The house has fourteen rooms: two parlors, a formal dining area, a kitchen, seven bedrooms, and three bathrooms. In addition, there are two staircases: one initially for servants, and one formal staircase. The home also includes a former butler’s quarters.



Stop 1 (Continued)

Over more than a century, the Painted Lady has had nine owners:

Elias L. and May E. (Goodman) Vickers, 1894-1911

The Vickers were wed on Feb. 6, 1891. Shortly after their honeymoon in Cuba, they began building “The Painted Lady.” Mr. Vickers was a turpentine farmer with a still and distillery near Oakfield, Georgia. They had several children. During an interior renovation, love letters written to a daughter named May were discovered behind a mantelpiece in an upstairs bedroom.

Briggs and Ella Pate Carson, 1911-1970

Mr. Carson, a businessman and real estate developer, purchased this home. Although Mr. Carson favored The Painted Lady, his wife thought it was too old-fashioned and elaborate. To “modernize” the home, Mrs. Carson painted it white, and removed some of the gingerbread. It remained white until 1996 when it was restored to the original pink.

Gilbert and Linda Ann Sewell, 1970-1979

Unfortunately, the Sewells had to move before they were able to sell the house, leaving the home vacant for several years.

Perry Mitchell, January-September 1995

Mr. Mitchell owned the home for only nine months, leaving it vacant for part of the time.

Grace Deshazer Spearnak, 1995-1996

Ms. Spearnak moved from California to Tifton with her two daughters and bought the house sight unseen. She believes the home to be haunted by a gentle female ghost, which awakened her one night. Ms. Spearnak inadvertently ingested a poison, and she believes the ghost saved her life by waking her.

Billy G. and Fran Jackson, 1996-1999

The Jacksons purchased the home, despite being in serious disrepair. Soon after the Jacksons had begun to restore the home, they were forced to sell it due to health concerns and the magnitude of the task.

Fredric and Jalane Anderson, 1999- present

The Andersons moved to Tifton from Arkansas with their youngest two children. They fell in love with the house from a photograph, but were warned against it due to the home’s condition. Undeterred, they continue to restore the home in hopes of reverting it back its original splendor.



Stop 2

315 West 8th Street

J.G. Williams purchased this lot in 1921 and built the home and barn for \$2,500. In March of 1948, Frank and Annette Rigdon bought the seven-room bungalow from J.D. Cofer, who had lived there only two months. The home's address at that time was 801 N. College Ave. The Rigdons had four children—two boys and two girls.

In 1968, Frank Rigdon died, and in 1974 Annette married Howard Swan. Mr. and Mrs. Swan continued to live in this home. They closed the College Avenue entrance to add another bathroom. Because the Eighth Street door was now used, they were required to change the address to 315 W. Eighth Street.

In about 1955, the Rigdons moved the barn up to the house, adding three rooms and a bathroom for the boys, but they were afraid to stay there and never spent a night in the new space. However, the space has served well as an office, storage room and studio.



Stop 3

1002 North Central Avenue



This neoclassic, eclectic-style bungalow was built in 1915 by pharmacist Dr. Jasper L. Brooks. He owned Tifton's first radio station and gasoline filling station. In 1942, it was sold to veterinarian Dr. W.H. White. R. Winton Patrick, the home's namesake, purchased it in 1949. Mr. Patrick is best known as the developer of Patrick's Fishing Paradise and owner of Patrick's Pecan Company. In the 1950s, he was the first to plant the coastal Bermuda grass developed by Dr. Glenn Burton at the Coastal Plain Experiment Station.

David Carlson and Steve Dickson purchased the home in 1992. Their entire home has been renovated and is furnished almost entirely in antiques. The pine front doors are surrounded with lead and beveled glass. The four skylights in the sunroom are original, as well as the amber-colored skylight above the stairwell. The floors are heart pine. Unique to the exterior of the home are the columns, which are constructed of sheet metal. The porte cochere, designed to accommodate a horse and carriage, now is used as a carport.

Stop 4

807 North Ridge Avenue



This property was originally owned by Captain Henry Harding Tift, for whom Tifton is named. It is believed the property was deeded to Captain Tift sometime after Aug. 16, 1905, when the Georgia Legislature created Tift County. He sold the property for \$300 to his brother E.H. Tift on June 4, 1906.

As Ridge Avenue was developed, E.H. Tift sold the property to E.U. Kendricks on April 1, 1910, for \$2,250. Kendricks was a car salesman in Tifton. He moved to Wayne County, N.C., and sold the property to P.T. Warde on May 3, 1915, for \$3,000. Mr. Warde rented the house to P. Short in 1917, who came to Tifton to establish a building supply company now known as Short & Paulk Supply Company. The Shorts rented the house until construction on their new house at 1010 N. Ridge Avenue was completed.

In 1918, Mr. Warde moved to Pike County and sold the property to W.K. Dominick for \$2,600. The Dominicks lived in the house until 1946, when the property was sold to Kate W. McCaskill for \$4,500. The widow of Dudley D. McCaskill, Mrs. McCaskill served as a clerk with the post office substation in Guy's Drug Store. She sold the property to Mrs. H.D. (Avis Cleo) DuBose and H.D. DuBose. Their daughter Jean recalls that before moving in the house, her mother insisted that the back porch be screened.

Jean DuBose Edwards sold the home to Keeter's Home Furnishings on April 3, 1990. Between April and August of that year, the house was given cosmetic repairs. Virginia Cook then bought the house and established a décor business there until the late 1990s. In June 1997, she sold the property to Colonel and Mrs. Mark H. Petermann, the present owners. In 2000, the Petermanns began an extensive restoration, including a rear addition.



Stop 5

1207 North Ridge Avenue

Clyde Pearson built this home in 1946. The home features a cottage design that was a transitional architectural style between the Colonial and Ranch styles during the late 1940s and early 1950s. It is believed that the home's first owner was Lewis Browne, who sold it to the Gatewood family.

The Gatewoods owned it until 1960, and Bob Adamson's family owned it until 1976. Other owners were Dot English and Joe and Rebecca Carter.

Current owner Jayme Hendricks renovated this home extensively. Her creative and artistic contributions provide an example of updating and restoring without altering the integrity of the original house.



Stop 6

410 North Park Avenue

This home was built in 1915-1916 by Thurston Ellis Phillips, who moved to Tifton from Eldorado so that his children could have better schooling. T.E. Phillips was well-known and respected, serving as the first chairman of the Tift County Commission. His picture is on display in the current commission chambers in the courthouse annex. Mr. Phillips also served as a state legislator.

The house has many design elements that are reminiscent of Frank Lloyd Wright's "Prairie Style," including the design of the beveled, leaded glass around the front door and the roof lines. The downstairs interior is designed in the Arts and Crafts style of the 'Teens and 1920s, and includes original Arts and Crafts brass chandeliers in the living and dining rooms. The upstairs wood work is neoclassical, with door jambs reminiscent of Greek pediments. The floors are rift sawn heart pine.

The tall ceilings (10 1/2 feet downstairs, 9 1/2 feet upstairs) provide for extra air movement. The transom windows are convenient, especially those upstairs. By closing the bedroom door and opening the transom, privacy is maintained and air circulation is guaranteed. The cool, air-conditioned air pools in the room, while hot air, which rises, gets pushed out the transom.

Downstairs, the porch is broad and deep and provides shade, since it faces east. The floor is terrazzo, and is identical to that in the Tift County Courthouse. The porch ceiling is made of reinforced concrete and supported by massive pillars. There also is an upstairs sun porch. It is now the home of Charles, Eloise and David Styer.



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Stop 7

612 North Park Avenue

This quaint bungalow was built in 1930. The Clyatts were the first family to live here until April 1952. Several different families then occupied the house until the Mitcham family bought it in September 1953. It was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Lee Carr in November 1963, and they lived here until June 1994. Again, several different people occupied the house until Trevor and Shannon Perla purchased it in April 1998.

The home features a circular walk-through floor plan with large spacious rooms and tall ceilings. Coal-burning fireplaces heated each bedroom while a larger fireplace heated the front rooms. Opening one or more of the 25 windows and turning on the central house fan cooled the home.



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Stop 8

615 North Ridge Avenue

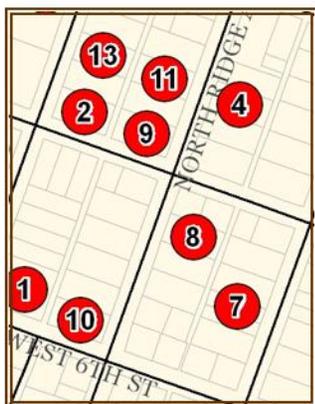
This bungalow home was built in 1920 by newlyweds Harry and Irene Kulbersh. The design was copied from the house at the southeast corner of 10th Street and Central Avenue. The original floor plan had three bedrooms, one bathroom, living room, dining room and kitchen.

The home has plaster walls, oak floors, solid pine doors, windows with diamond shape "lights" in the top half and a custom-made arched front door. Wide moldings are found throughout the house, as well as ten-foot-high ceilings with picture molding.

After Mr. Kulbersh died in 1948, his wife added a sitting room and kitchen to the northeast side of the house. She sealed off the back bedroom and the original bathroom from the rest of the home with access only from the new addition. This changed the main house from three-bedrooms, and two bathrooms to two bedrooms and one bathroom, and made the new addition a separate dwelling. These changes allowed for a renter to share the property and provide a sense of security to the widow, who died in 1977.

No changes were made to the home until Herb and Darlene Pilcher purchased it in September 2003. They reclaimed the main house as a three-bedroom, two-bathroom home by sealing off the wall between the back bedroom and the sitting room that was added about 1949.

In the kitchen they installed some new cabinets and created a laundry area. The few original built-in cabinets remain. The garage is currently being renovated into a small apartment.



Stop 9

802 North Ridge Avenue

This Victorian-era house was built by Eddie Tift as a speculative home in 1895. The first owners are unknown, but in 1919, it was bought by Judge Raleigh and Jewell Eve, who had one child, Robert.



Judge Eve walked to and from work daily. He didn't drive and relied upon his wife to take him out of town when his job demanded it. Mrs. Eve would take him on Mondays and go back on Fridays to get him when he was holding court in neighboring towns. Not wanting his wife to be at home alone with a baby, the judge built an apartment upstairs. Rumor has it that when Judge Eve bought his wife a new car, he also bought himself a new bicycle and pair of shoes.

The Eves expanded the living room about six feet, and also added the accessory building in the backyard. The home has pine floors, high ceilings, solid pine doors, and wide molding, featuring bull's-eye corner blocks.

Originally, the house had a sitting room, dining room, three bedrooms, a kitchen, a lattice-enclosed back porch and open front porch downstairs. The upstairs contained two bedrooms, a kitchen, sitting room and bathroom. A separate entrance to the upstairs apartment is located on the north side of the house. Numerous fireplaces throughout the house still exist.

In 1956, their newly married son, Robert, and his bride, Evelyn Aultman Eve, moved into the upstairs apartment. Judge and Mrs. Eve lived in this home until their deaths in 1958 and 1969, respectively. Robert and Evelyn then moved downstairs. They made few changes to the home. In the 1980s, they lowered the kitchen ceiling and put in cabinets. They altered a closet in the bedroom near the kitchen allowing a direct entry. The back porch was enclosed to make a laundry area. In the 1990s, the outbuilding's roof line was altered, and the side entry to the apartment was removed to create a powder room.



Stop 10

602 North Ridge Avenue

This house was built in 1892 by H.H. Tift for a member of the Tift family. At the turn of the twentieth century, it was sold to the Darnells, who owned a large department store on the corner of Main and Second streets in downtown Tifton. Dr. and Mrs. V.F. Dinsmore purchased the house in 1918. Dr. Dinsmore was one of the early physicians in Tifton and was active in civic affairs, serving on the City Commission. He and other early doctors built and owned the first two hospitals in Tifton.

During the 1920s and 1930s, the house was the setting for many social events. The first flower show in Tifton was held in the rear gardens. The gardens included several gold fish ponds and a summer house covered with flowering vines. A wrought iron fence surrounded the house until 1977. Many parties for the Georgia State College for Men (now Abraham Baldwin College) were held here as well as several political events.

Imogene Dinsmore Kennon lived in the house from 1918 until her marriage to Mell Kennon in 1933. Their wedding reception was held in the gardens. She and her husband again lived there from 1945 to 1950 while their new home at 1010 Murray Avenue was completed.

In the late 1930s, Dr. Dinsmore's health deteriorated, and he remodeled the house into three apartments so that his wife would not need to live in the house alone after his death.

Today, the house remains divided into three apartments, as built by Dr. Dinsmore. Most of the original hardwood floors, staircase, and woodwork are still intact. The summer house remains, as does the garage, the gardens, and the outlines of the gold fish ponds. The house is still owned by Imogene Kennon.

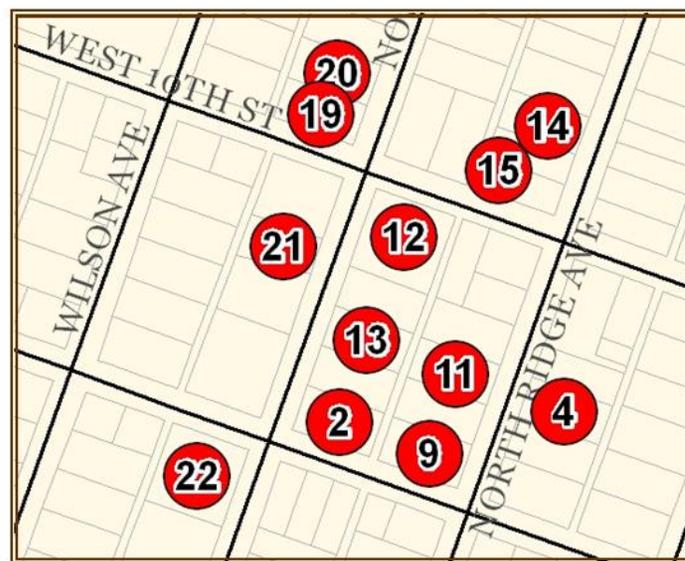


Stop 11

808 North Ridge Avenue

The house is believed to have been built about 1907 by the Brown family. Thomas Elmo Jolly Sr. and Pearl Jolly purchased it after it sat empty for a few years. They lived here with their children, and it was deeded to their daughter, Mary Florida Jolly, in 1939. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Elmo Jolly Jr. and their four children lived with Miss Jolly. In 1992, Harold and Dot Harper purchased it from the family. John and Rebecca Gladden purchased the home in 2002.

A fire damaged the upstairs of the Queen Anne-style home in 1952. The roofline was changed and the floor of the upstairs hall shows a distinct line where repairs were made. The living room and dining room still have the wallpaper put up during the repairs made at this time. The columns were also added then in order to screen the front porch. The home was well maintained by the Jolly family.



Stop 12

310 West 10th Street

Contractor Raleigh B. Pert home built this cottage style in 1939 for Mr. and Mrs. G.L. Bunn. In 1940, the home was sold to Frank and Ruth McClesky who would live here until 1994. Donald and Elizabeth Collins purchased the home from the McClesky estate and sold it to Tom and Jeannie Kraemer in May 1995.

Mr. McClesky, a salesman for the Armour Co., and Mrs. McClesky, a “pink lady” at the hospital, had no children, so their yard and gardens were their passion. The pristine yard would become the backdrop for high school graduation pictures.

Bob Adamson, former city engineer, wanted to purchase the McClesky’s adjacent lot to build a two-story house. Mr. McClesky refused to sell, and to ensure that no further attention was paid to the lot, he had all the “perimeter canopy” virgin pine trees removed from the entire lot. Once the remaining pines were exposed to light, they never achieved any remarkable growth.

This property sits low and has always had drainage problems during heavy rains. Mr. McClesky had devised a drainage system that over time would prove to be more burden than benefit. The problem was finally addressed in 1998. The city received state funds to improve the areas with substantial drainage problems. And while the project was successful, the Kraemers had to remove all vegetation that was planted at the ditch; once grading of the back yard was complete, there was not a single plant or blade of grass remaining.

The lack of shade allows perennials to thrive in the sunny yard. The Kraemers grow drought-tolerant varieties that attract butterflies and hummingbirds.



Stop 13

807 North College Avenue



This lovingly restored bungalow was built in 1908. Before the mid- 1940s, the home was owned by the Garrisons. In 1945, the home was sold to the Varnadoes, who lived here with four daughters, Eloise, Doris, Louise, and Bobbie. Eloise’s husband to be, Eugene Oliver, still overseas, sent his WWII silk parachute to her that was made into her wedding gown by Mrs. Varnadoe. Doris and Louise were also married in that gown. Mrs. Varnadoe enjoyed gardening, and the home was surrounded by lovely pristine gardens.

In 1954, the home was sold to newlyweds Huey and Betty Bowen, and sold again in 1968 to Julius S. Boyd. In 2001, Jeff and Donya Crosby purchased the house and undertook a massive restoration. David and Kim Bridges bought the home in 2002.

The house retains its near original exterior of a large front porch adorned with shingle-clad columns. The interior is period with its original doors, windows and moldings and includes all of the amenities of a modern four-bedroom/three-bath home.

Stop 14

1010 North Ridge Avenue

It is believed that this Queen Anne-style home was built in 1906 or 1907. Actual deeds were not located until Steve Mitchell, a local attorney, purchased it in 1917, and it would become known as the Mitchell Homeplace. In 1966, Ralph and Elizabeth Hughes purchased the home and planted the 66 camellias in the yard.

Changes occurred over the years, and after that sale in 1966, the home would eventually become rental property. Railings and other details were removed from the front porch, as well as other parts of the exterior.

Tom and Judy Call bought the home in 1990 and restored the interior heart pine floors to their original beauty. The Calls also plan to restore the original details to the porch. Both the interior of the home and the outside gardens are lovely.



Stop 15

307 West 10th Street



This home was originally built for Maxwell and Margaret Hines, but was then sold to Martin and Catherine Moody. It was sold again in 1960 to William Meade and Patricia Burns, and in 1965 to Elizabeth M. Bryan.

Bobby and Bonnie Simpson bought the home in 1976 from William P. Bryan Jr. A special note of interest and significance to the Simpsons is that Bobby's maternal grandmother, Nell Wright, at one time resided in the home next door now owned by Glenna Kincaid.

This home had most recently been inhabited by two women. They had reconfigured the house to make two separate living areas and kitchens. The Simpsons remodeled one of the kitchens to a third bedroom. A few years later, they remodeled again and joined the existing den to an enclosed garage and created a large den and utility room.

Finally, in 1992, they added a sunroom and increased the size of their daughter's bedroom and added a walk-in closet. During that construction, they changed the existing exterior surface from asbestos and wood to vinyl siding.

Stop 16

503 West 12th Street

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Spurlin built this cottage in 1936. The Spurlins raised their family here until the Owens family purchased it in 1996. Extensive renovations were done to the interior to include a new kitchen and bath. The Owens also added a



large garage and driveway to the side. At the front of the home, they continued improvements with a brick sidewalk and developed gardens on either side of the walkway. Railings and columns were added to the front porch. These additions have blended nicely with the age of the home.

Stop 17

505 West 12th Street



In 1928, James and Iris Johnson Harvey bought three lots currently known as 505, 507, and 509 W. 12th Street. The Harveys built a home at 507 West 12th Street. Mr. Harvey gave the 505 lot to his sister,

Mary Harvey Dismuke. The 509 lot was purchased and developed at a later time. The Dismuke home was built by Mr. W.A. Hodges of Tifton. Mrs. Dismuke and her two sons, Jimmy and Billy, resided there until 1941. At that time, she moved next door to care for her aging parents. In 1948, Mrs. Dismuke sold her home to her sister, Adele, "Della" Harvey Hatcher, Della's husband, Emmett, and their son Harvey.

The Hatchers owned and operated Harvey's Supermarket in Tifton. In 1957, they added a master bedroom, bath, and air-conditioning to the home. The Hatchers lived in the home until their deaths in 1988. The Cox family and the Hatchers were friends and next-door-neighbors for 50 years. In 1999, Rudy and Frances Cox purchased the home, and in January 2002, their daughter, Gina, moved in and began her own renovations.



Stop 18

609 West 12th Street

This English Cottage style house was built in 1945 for Mary Emma Terry Rigdon. Mary Rigdon was the widow of William Rigdon, who died of pneumonia during the Great Depression. She was left with five children to raise. This courageous woman ran for Tift County Ordinary, which today would be the equivalent of a probate or magistrate judge. She competed against ten men and won. Mrs. Rigdon held that position for eight years and then worked in various jobs until she opened Rigdon's Laundry, which is still owned by her son, Ralph Rigdon.

The Rigdon's home was sold to A.B. and Marie Phillips in 1952. They lived there until 1986, when it was sold to Tom and Brenda Donohue. Tom and Gail Shoup purchased the home as newlyweds in 1987. It was then that updating began to the kitchen, and central heat and air conditioning was installed. A decade later, the Shoups sold the home to the Summerlins, who began extensive renovation to accommodate their growing family. The attic was opened up for an office and play area. A closet was turned into a new master bath, an original bath was remodeled, and the original hardwood floors were refinished.



Stop 19

1002 North College Avenue

This brick home was one of the first built in this neighborhood in the early 1920s. Willard and Mary Beatrice Gaulding were newlyweds when they built the home. Mr. Gaulding was a banker at the Bank of Tifton, and Mrs. Gaulding loved flowers and was president of the Tifton Garden Club. Many of the camellia and azalea bushes that remain in the yard today were planted by Mrs. Gaulding. The Gauldings had two children, Beatrice Cater, who was born in the home, and Willard Gaulding Jr.

In 1954, Mrs. Gaulding passed away and Mr. Gaulding's aunt from Florida, Maida Walthour, came to stay at the house. The master bedroom, bathroom, and sun porch were added to the home in order to accommodate her.

Mr. Gaulding married Lillah Welch, a school teacher, in 1956. They remained in the home and had a son named Gregory. Willard Gaulding, Sr. died in 1972, and his widow remained in the house until she entered a nursing home. Gregory Gaulding inherited the home and sold it to his half-nephew, Jaime Cater, who rented it to other individuals for several years.

In 2000, Celeste Sumner and her father, Ronnie J. Sumner, bought the home to remodel it. They tore down everything to the stud wall, added a hip roof to the garage, additional hardwood floors from a family farm to the master bedroom and kitchen, and a cupola. At that time, the present breezeway was designed. The project took a year, and upon completion, Celeste Sumner moved into the home. The original phone niche, fireplaces, door knobs, tongue and groove ceilings, and hardwood pine floors remain, preserving some of the home's original character.



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Stop 20

1006 North College Avenue

This circa 1921 home is a 2,800 square-foot Craftsman-style bungalow. The home cost approximately \$4,000 then, and took one year to construct. C.R. Choate, his wife Margaret, and their three sons lived here until 1957. The house was then sold to Dr. and Mrs. Frank Pickett, a physician who had his office in the back of the house.

In 1970, Dr. Pickett sold the house to Georgiana Carson, formerly of New York City, who moved back to Tifton to be near her late husband's family. Mrs. Carson had served in the Red Cross during WWII and was decorated by President Roosevelt for having organized the "Baby Lift" during the bombing of England. She was a personal friend of Eleanor Roosevelt and had been a college roommate of Clare Booth Luce.

In 1986, the Cellas bought the home from the Carson Estate. In 82 years, only four families have lived here. Bonnie Cella says that the front porch is everyone's favorite place.



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Stop 21

814 North College Avenue Formerly 810 N. College Avenue

In the early 1900s, 808 and 810 North College Avenues were one parcel of land owned by the Underwood family. A playhouse was built for the Underwood children. Eventually, the properties would be split and the playhouse would become a home. Much of the material used for additions to the playhouse turned home was recycled. For example, the windows of the new living room were plate-glass from an old department store in Waycross that was being razed, as well as the brick used to build the fireplace. And because there was little attention paid to consistency in building materials, such as moldings and flooring, it was easy to tell where each addition occurred.

Steve and Jeannie Rigdon purchased this home in the early 1980s, and subsequently rented it to Tom and Jeannie Kraemer, who purchased it in 1983.

The Kraemers upgraded the plumbing and wiring, and installed new woodwork. They also added a new driveway and installed the home's first heating and cooling system. Additionally, the entire chimney and fireplace was replaced. The project they most enjoyed was building the storage building, fencing, and gates. In 1994, the house was sold to Debra Samples, who added her touches to the exterior.

In 2003, Judy Evans purchased the home. She remodeled one bathroom and three small bedrooms into a guest room with a private bath, and a master suite and bathroom.



Stop 22

620 North College Avenue



This craftsman style bungalow was built in 1913 by Henry Harding Tift, Jr. as his newlywed cottage. Following his wife's death from influenza, it is legend that Tift took his two small children to his parents' house and never returned to this house. The house was sold to the L.E. Bowen family who owned it for 60 years. It is now owned by Dr. and Mrs. Jeff Gibbs.

The Tift family's lumber business accounts for the beautiful oak beams, doors and floors in the dining room and living room. A sun porch has terra-cotta floors that match those of the spacious front porch. Among the unique features are the original fold-down ironing board and the phone cubby located under the stairs. The original wood-burning steam furnace remains in the basement crawl space.

Stop 23

604 Wilson Avenue

This three-bedroom, one bath brick home was built in 1938 by T.M. Freeman on a loan of \$6,000 from the Bank of Adel. Freeman moved in with his wife, Mary, and their six-year-old daughter, Frances. He was plant manager of International Minerals and Chemical Cooperation. Mr. Freeman died in 1971, and Mrs. Freeman moved to Moultrie two years later.

The house became rental property until it was purchased by Shine and Florence Rankin in 1982. The Rankins sold the home in 1985, and it has been rented and owned by several families since then.



Stop 24

The Kate Hill Cottage 818 Murray Avenue



The old pines and English gardens serve as the entryway to this inviting and comfortable home. The idea for this house began when Kate Hill hired well-known Atlanta architect Montgomery Anderson to design not just a house, but a home that would reflect Kate's character and interests. Construction began in 1937, and when the Hills moved in about 1940, the home provided the perfect venue for Kate Hill's gardening talents, a gift she used to found Tifton's first garden club.

As a child in Tifton, Mary Glynn Hendricks came to love both Mrs. Hill and her home. When, near the end of her life, Kate found it necessary to leave her home of nearly 60 years, she sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Hendricks. More than a real estate deal or a new place to live, the purchase of the Hill Cottage represented the continuation of the spirit and ideals that had inspired Kate Hill. As Mrs. Hendricks said, "To me, something owned by someone else has more meaning than something new. It has history and character. This house has the spirit and soul of Kate Hill."

Stop 25

820 Murray Avenue

This home was built in 1938 by Amory and Vivian F. Mellon in the then-popular Colonial Revival style. Reputedly, it was based on house plans in "House Beautiful" from the mid-1930s. The builder was a member of the nationally prominent Mellon family. Amory Mellon was a contractor who lived, for a brief period, in Georgia. He and his wife left the house in 1940. It was then bought by T. E. Phillips, Jr., a member of a pioneering South Georgia family. In 1980, it was purchased by Dr. and Mrs. Steve Rigdon.

Of interest is a small hill in the front yard on which sits an ancient long-leaf pine. In the late 1800s, when the water table was higher, a spring would spontaneously bubble forth at the base of this formation which was called Sand Spit Island. This apparently was on the local stagecoach route. When people passed this formation, they said they knew they were almost to Tifton. Before Tifton's formation, settlers would stop and water their horses and mules at this spring.



Stop 26

1010 Murray Avenue

This house was built in 1950 on land known as McKaskil Square. It was designed by Imogene Dinsmore Kennon. Local architect Charlie Fulwood drew the plans from her design. Mrs. Kennon also acted as the general contractor. The builders were the Clark and Arnold Construction Company.

Constructed of white brick containing marble dust, the bricks were custom made in Tate, Georgia, and were shipped to Tifton in two railroad boxcars. The wood used to build the house is old growth heart pine. The interior walls are constructed of hollow tile, overlaid with plaster or wood paneling, and are eight inches thick. There are no wooden interior walls. The heating system is unique for this area; it has a large boiler that heats water, which is then circulated in pipes in the solid concrete floor and through baseboard radiators.

Over the years, the house has been the scene of numerous parties and social events. Imogene Kennon still owns the house today.



Stop 27

1009 Hall Avenue



Clark and Arnold Construction Co. also built this stone cottage in 1935. Each stone was hand-cut on the property by Mr. Clark. They were then placed on the home one by one according to the size, color and special characteristics of each stone.

The "Lady" that is clearly visible on the chimney and the perfect circle that adorns the garage are examples of what makes this home one-of-a-kind. Mervyn Hughes was the first resident in 1935. In 1939, Ross Pittman, Sr. purchased it for \$6,000.

The Pittmans lived here for many years and it is still referred to as "the Pittman House." Rumor has it that many people were skeptical of the home's construction and said that it would never remain standing. Brad and Renee Sullivan purchased the home in 1998.

Stop 28

Fulwood Garden Center 802 West 12th Street

Paul Fulwood's farmhands built this home in 1914. Ruth Fulwood's cousin, an architect in Atlanta, designed the house. He also made a trip to Tifton to lay out the design on the building site. The Fulwoods had the first home elevator and air conditioner in Tift County. Mr. Fulwood had a heart condition that would not allow him to climb the stairs to the second floor bedrooms.

Mr. Fulwood had developed the one-time largest tomato plant farm in Georgia. Mrs. Fulwood was one of Tifton's first garden club members as well as president of the American Rose Society. A double wedding of the Fulwood children took place in their parents' garden under arbors of roses. The Fulwood gardens became the setting of many weddings to follow.

In 1985, The Garden Club Council bought the home to use as a garden center. The Council is responsible for Tifton's Clean Community program, as well as many other community projects.



Stop 29

1604 Murray Avenue

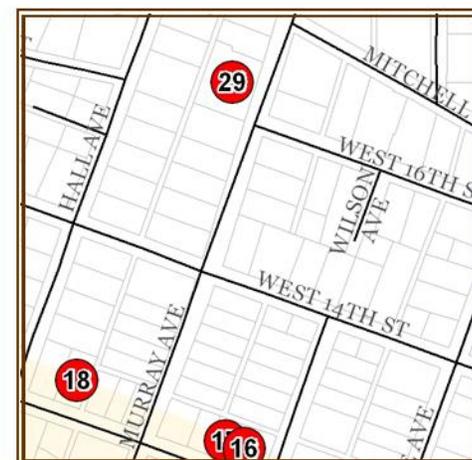
This log cabin was built in 1932 by Otis Jack and Marion Woodard, who named it "Pine Gables." Legend has it that Woodard set up a sawmill on the land and built the home with nearby trees. The cabin floors are oak, and the living and dining room walls are cedar, and pine can be found in other rooms.

Woodard was the second employee at the newly established Coastal Plain Experiment Station and would later become the first horticulture department head. He erected a stable at Pine Gables, and rode his horse to work everyday.

The Woodards had a tennis court and enjoyed it with family and friends who visited on Sundays as well as their outdoor entertainment area with a stone fireplace and stone paths secluded by a wall of bamboo.

As a side business, the Woodards were known to have a nursery and florist shop. Locals remember coming to the yard with buckets and Woodard telling them to dig up any plant they wanted. Some of those plants remain in many yards in Tifton. Also, a carriage house was built in 1932 with a full apartment above.

In 1978, this home would become rental property and fall into major disrepair. Charles and Sally Drexler purchased "Pine Gables" in 1983, and restored the house. In 1995, Daryl and Sherrie Sumner became the latest caretakers of the quaint and much loved little log cabin tucked in the trees on Murray Avenue. Today, Julie Sharpe continues to care for the home and gardens.



Stop 30

706 West 12th Street

This Greek Revival home was built about 1925 by Judge and Mrs. C.A. Christian and designed by an Atlanta architect. The Christians had two daughters, Margaret and Julia, and many dances were held there with young men from nearby South Georgia Agricultural and Mechanical College. They would roll up the rugs and dance on the oak parquet floors. The screened side porch has since been enclosed. Mrs. Christian landscaped the home's yard, and some locals say she was responsible for introducing azaleas to Tifton.



In 1946, Mr. and Mrs. J.N. Carr bought the home. Carr was a tobacco agronomist at the Coastal Plains Experiment Station, and his wife was a teacher. The Carrs moved from the Country to town with their three children, J.M., Robert, and Rita. The family stayed here less than a year.

In late 1946, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Gilmer, an entomologist at the experiment station, purchased the home. They had a daughter JoAnn.

The home changed hands again in 1951 when J.J. and Josie Clyatt took ownership. The Clyatts had a daughter, Betty Jean. Mrs. Clyatt often had garden parties in the backyard.

In 1965, Wright and Betsy Turner bought the home and raised three sons there. The Turners started Turner's Fine Furniture in Tifton. The three sons, Fortson, Austin, and Scott, have continued in the family furniture business.

Ray and Tallulah Rogers moved to Tifton in 1975 as newlyweds and purchased the house from the Turners. The Rogers raised two children, Laura and Ford, at this home where they still reside.



Stop 31

716 West 12th Street

This home was built in 1948 by Mrs. C.B. Holmes (Mrs. Harriet Herring's mother). This Cape Cod Revival style house plan was drawn by J. L. Shepherd as a duplex residence. Each residence had its own private entry, carport, and full kitchen. The builder of this home was W.A. Hodges. Mrs. Holmes moved into the finished residence on September 15, 1948. The home was empty after Mrs. Holmes' death in 1970. In 1972, Mr. and Mrs. J.W. Livezey purchased it. Mr. Livezey was the physical plant director at ABAC. He and his wife, Charlotte, made many changes to the home including the incorporation of the apartment into the main residence as the master suite.

In 1985, the home was purchased by Garth and Kay Webb. Kay and her sons lived in the home until she retired from the Tift County School System in 2002.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy H. Cox purchased the home in July 2002. They are renovating the home along with the help of their sons, Henry and Will.



Stop 32

The Coca-Cola Building Love Avenue & 10th Street

The Coca-Cola Building on the corner of Love Avenue and 10th Street was built in 1937. Originally built by the Coca-Cola Bottling Company to serve as its headquarters, the building now houses the offices of Dr. Clay Dorminey as well as several other smaller offices. Stone Coca-Cola signs still adorn the building complimenting its red brick, Art Deco style. Decorative stonework and intricately designed windows add to the building's beauty.

The building was the third home for Coca-Cola Bottling in Tifton. Originally the Tifton Bottling Works, the company is now located at a larger warehouse on Tift Avenue. The old building was once used for production, bottling, and distribution of Coca-Cola and other beverages.



Stop 33

Kent Administration Building 225 North Tift Avenue

Construction began in 1912 on this building, and was completed in 1917 at a cost of \$100,000. Originally the Tifton High School, grades six through eleven were taught here until 1970.

Tifton has a long history of providing a good education to its young citizens. In an early edition of the school's Talisman Annual, editor Mildred Slack wrote, "This school system, which would be a credit to a larger town, shows how progressive Tifton is. Good schools are the foundation of all programs, and the voters of Tifton, realizing this, let nothing stand in the way of educating their children."

After standing vacant for a few years, the building was renovated into an administration building for the Tift County Commission. It reopened as the Charles Kent Administration Building in 1975.





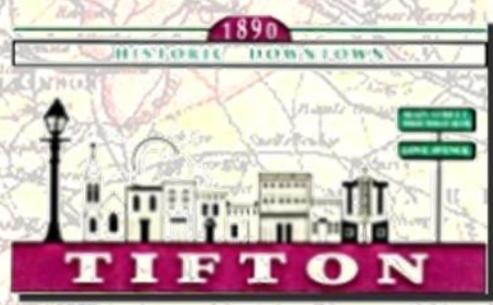
EXPLANATIONS

Rail Roads	—————
Common Roads	—————
State Capital	★ MARIETTAVILLE
Cities	● SAVANNAH
County Seats	■ COLINGTON
Villages P.O. & Landmarks	○

For questions about this guide, or information about the City of Tifton, please contact the Tifton–Tift County Main Street Director:

TIFTON–TIFT COUNTY MAIN STREET
504 MAIN STREET
TIFTON, GEORGIA 31794
(229) 391-3977

Or visit us on the web at:
<http://www.tifton.net/business.html>



South Georgia Regional Development Center
327 West Savannah Avenue
Valdosta, Georgia 31601
(229) 333-5277 Fax (229) 333-5312