

Small Historic Towns Across America.

As presented by Mr. Stadt's on-line Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes at:

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Brief History of Dearing, Georgia.



Dearing, Georgia was named after William Dearing who was the President of the Georgia Railroad Banking Company. Dearing was founded on the old stagecoach road when the railroad first went through Dearing in 1837. Dearing appeared on the railroad maps in 1837. In Lombardy County, one mile away from Dearing, the local post office was discontinued and was relocated in Dearing in

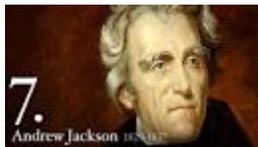
1823. Dearing is now a part of McDuffie County.

The first Methodist church was built in 1899 which was the only church in town until the construction of the First Baptist Church which was built in 1912. Dearing was incorporated in 1910 and the first Mayor was Robert Morgan. The first school was Dearing School which was established in 1938.

Location and Driving Directions from the closest major U.S. airport.

The closest airport to Dearing is the Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport which is 130 miles away. To get there you basically get on Highway 20 and keep going east straight for 120 miles to the Thomson/Washington exit 172 U.S. 78. Turn right toward Thomson and go about 2 miles. Take a left on Harrison Rd. for about 3. Miles. Then take a left on Augusta Rd. and continue for 6 miles to Dearing, GA.

Who was President at the time Dearing was founded.



Dearing, Georgia was founded in 1832. The President during this time was President Andrew Jackson. He was a Democrat from the border regions between the Carolinas. He was the seventh President and was in office from 1829-1837. This was before the civil war.

Oldest businesses/largest businesses today.

The oldest business is Culpepper Lumber Company which was started in 1913 right across from the old school in Dearing and it's still there today. Dearing was mostly a logging community in its early days and Culpepper started during that time. It supplied building lumber for the surrounding community continuously since its beginning. The company still operates the mill in Dearing

plus Ace Hardware stores in nearby Thomson and Evans, Georgia. Culpepper Lumber Company remains one of the largest businesses in Dearing and the surrounding areas today.

McCorkle's Nursery is a landscaping business in Dearing, Georgia. It was founded by Avice and C.S. McCorkle in 1942 in Dearing, Georgia. In the 1950s, both Avice and C.S. McCorkle's sons joined the business. In 1977 they sold the retail business in order to expand the wholesale business. McCorkle's markets over 4 million plants from its multiple growing areas. Their main growing area consists of a 820-acre farm. They also supply all types of trees and plants for residential and commercial projects in Georgia.

Another large business in Dearing is Hillcrest Dairy Farms Inc. which is one of the largest dairies in Georgia. It was established in 1940 by Joseph McGinnis. It's been owned and operated by the Rogers family since 1941. The Rogers family has been farming in the area since the 1800s.

City government.



Dearing has what is called a strong mayor form of government. They have a

mayor and a city council which is made up of four elected members. The mayor's name is Shaun Kelley. There is a town hall located in the center of town. My aunt works there as the secretary.

Historic attractions in the area/festivals and events.

Every year in Thomson, a larger town 6 miles from Dearing, they have the Blind Willie McTell blues festival. Blind Willie was one of the foremost blues entertainers of his time. Each year at the festival, the festival committee lines up a group of performers from around Georgia.



The Masters Golf Tournament is also held in Augusta, GA, about 25 miles away. Every year hundreds of spectators and media crowd Augusta and the surrounding area to witness one of the biggest events that happen in the golf world. Some people in Dearing rent their homes to visitors during this time.

There's also a Laurel and Hardy Museum and Festival every year to celebrate the life of Oliver Hardy, a comedian from Harlem, Georgia. Harlem, is about 3 miles east of Dearing. There is a parade and large arts and crafts fair in conjunction with the festival.

Mayfest is also a big event in Dearing. Mayfest is held every year in May and consists of a parade, performers, rides, and good food. Dearing also has annual Christmas tree lightings at the old school house.

Where you can stay if you visit.

You could stay at Mistletoe State Park which offers Cottages, Campsites and

beach houses.



You could also stay at the Big Heart Campground which offers campsites, a swimming beach, picnic sites and a boat ramp.

If you're not into camping, you also have the option to stay in hotels such as a Scottish Inn, a White Columns Inn, Knox Terrace or a Knights Inn all in nearby Thomson, GA.

Why you might want to visit this historic small town.

If you like going to festivals, like Mayfest, or if you like going to big events, like the Masters, then Dearing is a good place to visit. It's also a good place to visit if you enjoy being around really nice people who treat you like family when you come in their restaurant or if you like being around pleasant people. Everyone's super nice there.

<http://www.exploremcduffiecounty.com>

www.mccorklenurseries.com/history.cf

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