

Small Historic Towns across America.

As presented by Mr. Stadt's online Freedom Project Education U.S. History classes in the Fall and Winter of 2014. You can learn more about our classes by visiting us at: www.fpeusa.org



A Brief History of Rocky Mount, North Carolina

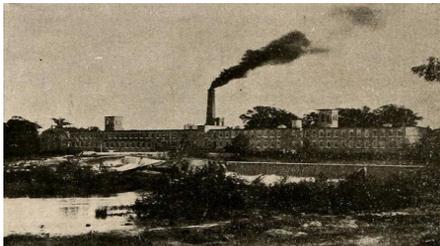
First came aboriginal hunters, armed with crude bows and arrows. They would discover the "Rocky Mound." Warring Tuscarora Indians, who sought the region's rich land, fish and game, would follow them.

Colonization by white settlers began in the late 17th century, but it wasn't until 1712-1713, following years of bloody battles, that the Tuscaroras were defeated and settlement of the area took place.

By the mid-1700's, sufficient settlement existed to support a church and a gristmill...and a "city" was born.

The county of Nash was formed in 1777 and derived its name from War hero, General Francis Nash. In 1816, the term "Rocky Mount" was used for the first time to designate the location of the area's first post office.

The Old and New Battle's Mill, Now known as The Imperial Center for the Arts



Old



New

Located at the "Falls of the Tar" it would soon be joined by the area's first industry, Battle's Mill, later named Rocky Mount Mills. Built at the site of the grist mill, the mill was recognized as the state's second oldest cotton mill. When the mill ceased operation in 1996, it was the oldest operation textile mill in the Southeast. Today, Rocky Mount Mills is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and remains a local landmark for residents and Tourists alike.

Location and Driving Directions from closest major U.S. Airport(s).

Rocky Mount in Nash County anchors the Interstate 95 (I-95) and US Highway 64 (US 64) interchanges, You take route 64 East to Raleigh, Then merging onto Route 40 until you see Raleigh Airport Drive.

Who was President when this town was founded? And, what was the political environment in America at that time.

There was no President in 1777, the colonies were still at war with England and the Continental Congress was in charge. John Hancock was the President of the Continental Congress at the start of 1777.

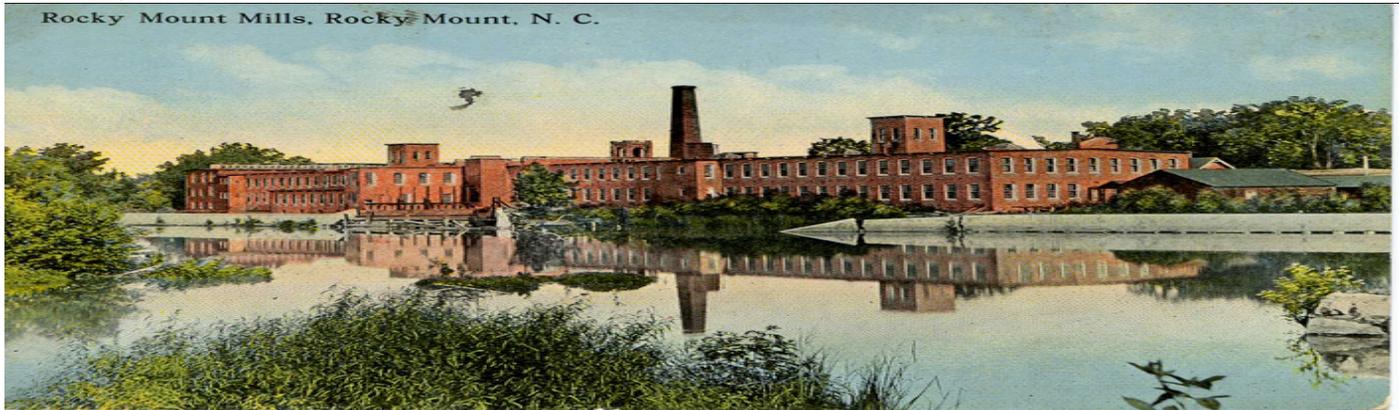
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Oldest businesses/largest businesses today

The oldest business in Rocky Mount was a 140 year old textile business, that is now being reconstructed into the new Rocky Mount Mill Brewery



City government.

The legislative body of the government of the City of Rocky Mount is comprised of a Mayor and seven (7) member City Council. The City is divided into seven (7) wards and each ward is represented by a Council Member who resides in the ward. The Mayor is elected at-large by the citizens and serves a four-year term. Members of the City Council serve four (4) year terms and are elected by the voters of the wards in which they reside. Elections are held every two (2) years in order that the terms of office will be staggered.

Historic attractions in the area. Festivals and Events.

Veterans Memorial at Jack Laughery Park

The City of Rocky Mount worked with a citizen committee to develop plans for a veterans memorial on the site of the former Hardee's #1 at 321 North Church Street. The Rocky Mount Veterans Memorial at Jack Laughery Park is a lasting tribute to all who have served in the United States Armed Forces. The project is a joint effort of the City of Rocky Mount, local veterans, and friends of Jack Laughery.



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Where can we stay if we visit Rocky Mount.

The Bellamy Manor

Nestled in the picture perfect landscape of the gentle northeast North Carolina coastal plain, the four acre Bellamy Manor estate is one of the state's hidden treasures. We invite you to take a step back in time and into the historic Bellamy Manor & Gardens NC Bed and Breakfast. The well-preserved, classically inspired Southern Manor home features elements of the Gothic Revival, Italianate, and late Greek Revival styles

For more information visit their website at <http://www.manorbnb.com>



Why Would I want to visit this historic small town?

I would want to visit this historical small town because it reminds me a lot of when I was growing up the trails you could walk on the history you could see all around you. The people and atmosphere are inviting and fun! and It makes me think of many fun memories of watching the Imperial Center being built then performing many of the most amazing productions in it's state of the art theatre!



This was from one of my last productions of Hercules By Craig Sodaro at the Imperial Center, Where I played the Cowardly Nemean Lion.

Links you may wish to visit

<http://arts.imperialcentre.org/>

<http://www.rockymounttravel.com/>