



STOPS

10

HERITAGE TRAILS

Paths, Plank Roads, and Planes

Trail Summary

Ride along the "Paths, Plank Roads, and Planes" trail and track the story of development and progress as written through the necessity of transportation. Beginning with early settlements to present-day troop movements and deployments, transportation is a vital part of our daily lives. As you travel around, listen for the sounds of automobile traffic where horses once clopped and wagons creaked. Listen for the trains that pass through our city daily. Listen for the aircraft, both military and civilian, as they fly overhead in a sky where once only birds flew.



The Stops

1. Fayetteville Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
2. Market House
3. Fayetteville Area Transportation & Local History Museum
4. Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Depot

5. Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex
6. Sandhills Heritage Center/Farmers Market
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 - A. Plank Roads
 - B. Cross Creek



Paths, Plank Roads, and Planes

Situated at the head of navigation on the Cape Fear River, two colonial settlements, Cross Creek and Campbellton, merged to form Fayetteville. Settlers improved and widened the paths created by native peoples. These paths became the roads by which settlers traveled between villages and towns, conducting business and tending to legal matters. Horses, wagons, and carriages eased the burden of traveling by foot. In March 1770, C. J. Sauthier, a French cartographer, surveyed and drew a "Plan of the Town of Cross Creek," showing several major roads, including a "Road to the Court House" in the nearby village of Campbellton.

The Cape Fear River remained, however, the major thoroughfare of its day: ships brought in a variety of cargo, consumable goods, household items, and the settlers themselves. Rivers were important for locating specific landmarks and making main designations. For example, at the confluence of the Lower Little River and the Cape Fear River, Cumberland County established its first county seat. When the State Assembly combined Cross Creek and Campbellton, it pressed town officials to lay out new streets in a "regular and convenient manner." When Fayetteville became incorporated in 1783, a new town plan, with grid-patterned streets, was laid out with three town squares: James Square became the site of a new courthouse, Market Square became the site of the State House (where the Market House currently stands), and St. John's Square became the site of Union Lodge (present-day Phoenix Masonic Lodge #8).

In 1818, steamboats began plying the Cape Fear River between Fayetteville and the coastal port of Wilmington. The *Henrietta*, a side-wheel steamer built north of town, took six days on her maiden voyage to go between the two cities. Eventually, she could make the trip in 10 hours. The first bridge in the area was built in 1819. In 1822, a horse-drawn railway transported cargo from the river up to Market Square. Because the Cape Fear River is the only river in North Carolina that flows directly to the Atlantic Ocean, shipping linked Fayetteville to the rest of the world. While river transportation is credited for the area's growth and development, the lack of railroads hindered the area's growth. As long as waterways provided the main method of transportation, Fayetteville thrived. However, once railroads surpassed water transportation as the preferred method of shipping, a major shift began to take place. Around 1830, North Carolina began to build railroads, but unfortunately, Fayetteville was bypassed. Interestingly, plank roads were introduced into the area and nicknamed the "Farmer's Railroad" because of the ease it afforded farmers for transporting their crops and other sellable goods to market.



STOP

03

Fayetteville Area Transportation &
Local History Museum



Fayetteville Area Convention And Visitors Bureau (FACVB)

245 Person Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

800-255-8217

STOP

01

The Fayetteville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (FACVB) positions Fayetteville and Cumberland County as a destination for conventions, tournaments, and individual travel. Operating as Visitors Center with a drive-through window the FACVB is located just minutes from the heart of downtown. Signs from I-95 provide clear directions to the Visitor Center. Call for information to help plan your visit to the area or stop by when you arrive for maps, brochures and more.

• **HOURS :**

Open to the public
Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

• **NEXT STOP**

Exit the FACVB parking lot; make a right onto Person St. The Market House will be straight in front of you.



Market House

Intersection of Person and Hay Streets with Green and Gillespie Streets
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

800-255-8217

STOP

02

The circa 1832 Market House, which is a designated National Landmark, served as both the Town Hall above and the Market Place below. Commerce, however was not confined to the space under the Town Hall, but included the 200-foot square surrounding it. Goods would arrive from boats on the Cape Fear River as well by wagon from the surrounding back country. The Market House was the hub of antebellum Plank Road construction to include the 129 mile road to Salem. Carts, wagons, and hucksters swarmed into Market Square to buy, sell, and trade goods. In 1982, an archaeological project along Hay Street, near the Market House, revealed portions of the Plank Road, which are included in an exhibit at the Transportation and Local History Museum.

• **HOURS :**

Daily, before dusk.
Open to the public;
Exterior view only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Go right around the traffic circle three quarters and make a right onto Gillespie Street. Make a right on Franklin Street



Fayetteville Area Transportation & Local History Museum

325 Franklin Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

910-483-1457

STOP

03

The museum provides exhibits, media productions, and educational panels that trace Fayetteville/Cumberland County's transportation history from Native Americans to mid-20th century. All forms of transportation are represented, from early trails and river travel, to railroads, cars, aviation, and much more. The museum offers a wide variety of artifacts and archaeological material related to local transportation history. The museum also provides an archive of local history information for researchers. The museum is located in the restored circa-1890 former Cape Fear & Yadkin Valley Railway Depot.

• **HOURS :**

Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fourth Fridays 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Closed Sun. & holidays. Open to the public.

• **NEXT STOP**

Proceed on Franklin Street. Make a right onto Ray Avenue. Make a left onto Hay Street.



Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Depot

The Atlantic Coast Line came to Fayetteville in 1892, and by the turn of the 20th century, the town was included in main north-south passenger and freight services. This depot is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural merit, featuring a Colonial Dutch Revival style.

472 Hay Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-483-2658

04

• **HOURS :**

Daily, before dusk.
Exterior view only.

• **NEXT STOP**

Continue on Hay Street. Proceed through the traffic light, crossing Bragg Blvd. Make a left onto Bradford Avenue. Make a right onto Arsenal Avenue.



Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex

The Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex offers nearly 400 years of history through its exhibits. Ride the trail of history beginning with a 1500-year-old dugout canoe used by American Indians from this area. Discover the many modes of transportation that evolved over time. For example, Europeans first arrived in the Cape Fear region in 1524 by sailing vessels. By 1818, steamboats plied the Cape Fear River between Fayetteville and Wilmington. Visitors to the museum can step aboard our steamboat, push a button to operate a toy train, and learn about the abundance of plank roads that kept Fayetteville a viable economic center in the Tar Heel state. The museum's exhibits provide a larger context by which the visitor will achieve a greater understanding and appreciation for how the wheels of transportation shaped our history.

801 Arsenal Avenue
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

STOP

910-500-4240

05

• **HOURS :**

Sun. 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Tues.-Sat.
10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Closed Mon.
Open to the public.

• **NEXT STOP**

Make a right onto Arsenal Avenue. Make a left onto Bradford Avenue. Make a right onto Hay Street. Make a left onto Bragg Blvd. Make a Left onto Blue Street. Turn left onto Murchison Road. Follow all the way into Spring Lake. It will merge with NC 24, Bragg Blvd. Follow Bragg Blvd. Make a right onto Chapel Hill Road. Location will be on right.



Sandhills Heritage Center/Farmers Market

An exhibit on plank roads exists on the grounds and is used to tell the story of slave labor that helped build them. Formerly called the Spring Lake Civic Center, it 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. Plans are underway to restore the building as an African-American Heritage Center by the Sandhills Family Heritage Association, which frequently hosts events and tours here about African-American heritage.

230 Chapel Hill Road
SPRING LAKE, NC

STOP

910-499-0628

06

- **HOURS :**

Daily, before dusk.
Exterior view only.

- **NEXT STOP**

Turn around on Chapel Hill Road. Make a left onto Bragg Blvd and follow until it merges with NC 210, Murchison Road. Follow Murchison Road. Take I-295 South to All-American Freeway. Take Fort Bragg exit. Note: Only U.S. Citizens may enter the post. All passengers must show photo ID and the car registration. The gate guards will check your vehicle. Once through gates, take immediate exit on the right, Gruber Road. Make right onto Reilly Road. Make left onto Ardennes Street. Museum is on left.



82nd Airborne Division War Memorial Museum

Visit the 82d Airborne Division War Memorial Museum and see the aircraft that carry the 82d's paratroopers to faraway battles, from the World War II C-47 to today's C-130. In the museum, you will see the parachutes that soldiers use to decent from the clouds, and you will see the vehicles and equipment that the paratroops use once they are on the ground.

Ardennes Street
FORT BRAGG, NC

STOP

910-432-3443

07

- **HOURS :**

Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Closed
Sun.-Mon. Open to the public.

- **NEXT STOP**

Turn around on Ardennes Street. Make a left onto Reilly Road. Make a right onto Honeycutt Road to get to All-American Freeway. Follow All-American Freeway to Exit 7, Morganton Road. Make a left onto Morganton Road and follow signs to downtown Fayetteville. Morganton turns into Hay Street. Continue on Hay Street until you reach the round about. Take second right out of roundabout onto Person Street. Continue on Person Street. Campbellton Landing will be on your right.



Campbellton Landing

This modern-day entertainment venue is located on the east bank of the Cape Fear River and is named after the old ferry landing at Campbellton village. Campbellton was one of the first settlements in the area, incorporated in 1762 and located on the west bank of the river. It wasn't until 1819 that the first bridge crossing the river was constructed to bring people over to the east bank. Confederate breastworks are still visible at Campbellton Landing.

1122 Person Street
FAYETTEVILLE, NC

800-255-8217

STOP

08

- **HOURS :**

Hours vary upon activity.
Open to the public.

- **NEXT STOP**

Turn around on Person Street.
Make a right onto North Eastern Blvd. North Eastern Blvd. becomes US-301 North and then I-95 North. From I-95 North exit at #65 for NC 82 toward Falcon and Godwin. Continue on NC-82 following signs for Averagesboro Battlefield Complex.



Averasboro Battlefield Complex

Explore the history of the Battle of Averasboro (March 15-16, 1865) when you visit the museum, the battleground, and cemetery. Also learn about the Smith family who owned the 8,000-acre plantation where the battle was fought. Three plantation houses still stand today.

3300 Highway 82 South
DUNN, NC

910-891-5019

STOP

09

- **HOURS :**

Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Open to the public.

- **NEXT STOP**

Historical Markers.



A) Plank Roads - Green Street at Market Square, Fayetteville

Fayetteville was the focal point for five plank roads, chartered 1849-52.

The longest was built to Bethania, 129 miles northwest.



B) Cross Creek - Bow Street at Person Street, Fayetteville

Colonial village and trading center, merged in 1778 with town of Campbelton and in 1783 renamed Fayetteville.