

Park Location

Heritage Park is a public facility open to the public everyday of the week.



The O.I. Floyd advertisement was uncovered when the theater was demolished in 2006. It still remains as a tribute to Fairmont's heritage.

Heritage Park Sponsors

Anonymous Donor	Lumberton Ford
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Barnes Paving Company	Roger Oxendine*
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Fairmont Department Store	Dick Taylor
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First Bank	Time Warner
Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Floyd	Total Solutions
Brian Freeman	Tri-Com Service
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Jim Hodges	Wal-Mart
Melissa Hoggard	Walters Logging Co.
Hobbs, Upchurch & Assoc.	Waste Management
Image Supply	The Wooten Company
Mrs. Alice Lewis	
Lumbree Bank	* Robeson County Commissioners

Heritage Park Dedication Ceremony

"Celebrating Our Heritage...Building Our Future"

**210 SOUTH MAIN STREET
FAIRMONT, NORTH CAROLINA 28340**

**May 1, 2007
5:00 pm**



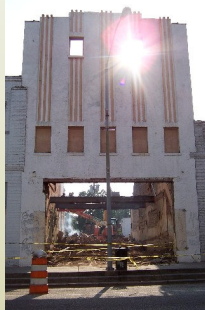
Town of Fairmont
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Heritage Park

The need for the Heritage Park project was based partly on safety concerns and partly as a springboard for the renaissance of the downtown revitalization process which was initiated in the summer of 2006. The old and decaying Capitol Theater located in the core of the downtown commercial district had been vacant and unused since the mid 1960s, a relic of the past glory of a vibrant and successful tobacco community. It had gradually succumbed to gravity and lost its roof, floors and portions of the inner walls. The 85 foot tall front wall and façade posed a legitimate safety concern.

With this knowledge, and the vision projected by Mayor Charles Kemp for a spark to ignite the downtown renaissance plan, the planning of an attractive “pocket” park was undertaken.



Theater demolition started in July 2006.

Downtown Revitalization

There were four (4) primary objectives for Heritage Park. First and foremost was the creation of a very attractive green space in the downtown commercial district to offer an aesthetically pleasing area for passersby and shoppers. Second was the desire to offer a method of attracting shoppers back downtown and instill new enthusiasm to a commercial core which needed a boost. Third was to present a visual display honoring our town’s rich heritage of agriculture, and fourth was, through a coordinated effort, to provide a comfortable setting for leisurely dining and to make available a business opportunity to an aspiring entrepreneur. Johnny’s Hot Dogs, owned by Allen and Rose Tencati will be set up in the parking lot behind the park and will be open on Monday - Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fundraising and Construction

It was determined that to raze the theater and install the park would necessitate the raising of \$30,000, an effort that began January 2006. The ensuing 5 months of intensive fundraising effort resulted in \$20,000 to demolish the theater provided by 10 downtown businesses, 5 individuals, and 5

civic organizations. As a result of this successful fundraising, the demolition of the theater occurred during July 2006. In September, planning began for the implementation of Heritage Park, and has resulted in the acquisition of \$10,000. The combined benefactors of these two projects number 48 businesses located both within and outside of town, 11 individuals, and 10 civic organizations.

In addition, there were generous offerings of donated time and equipment by the park landscapers, Landscape South, who donated the park’s automated irrigation system and other valuable accessories.



Muralist Matt Taylor paints the train mural displayed in the park.



Landscape South plants shrubbery in the park.

Fairmont is a town of 2,800 citizens, and the generosity exhibited for this project exhibits a high proportion of both the business and residential communities’ interest and involvement.

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