

UC History

Union City, Georgia, was born as a result of the coming together of two individuals, Drewry Arthur Carmical and Charles Simon Barrett. Barrett was the newly elected president of the National Farmers Union at a time when the Union was looking for an appropriate location for its headquarters. Carmical not only agreed to provide the land for the Union headquarters, but he also offered to build a headquarters building that would accommodate some thirty offices to house the Farmers Union. Union City got its name because the Farmers Union headquarters was located here.

A charter was drawn up for the new town and signed on August 17, 1908. Since that start in 1908, Union City, Georgia has become a vibrant community known for its quiet neighborhoods and growing business districts. Drewry Carmical became the first mayor of Union City. He was chairman of the town's school board, manager of the implement company, and seemingly, had a hand in everything else that went on in Union City. For many years the Farmers Union thrived in Union City and the Carmicals did very well with real estate promotions. Drewry and Cora built a fancy new home on the site where the Westbrooks' home had stood for fifty years. It had white columns, marble steps, and many other adornments.

Between 1908 and 1910 the Carmical/Green House which is presently known as the upscale restaurant called Green Manor was built and sits today on present-day Watson Street. The Green Manor named after Dr. A.J. Green, among one of the first doctors here in Union City. It is now owned and operated by the grandchildren of Dr. Green. The Green Manor is located in the historical district and will be added to the State and National Historic Registers.

In 1920, electricity came to Union City, brought in by Walter Cowart, Dr. A.J. Green, and C.H. Gullatt. It was later sold to Georgia Power for six thousand dollars. Union City was on the move.

The first school in Union City was above a wooden store building. Later, a two-story building was erected on College Street for pupils of all ages to attend. Mr. Jessie Smith was the first principal and Mrs. Ruby Foster was his assistant. In 1940, a new grade school was built on Dixie Lake Road, where the land was given by C.H. Gullatt. In the 1970s, C.H. Gullatt Elementary School, named for businessman C.H. Gullatt, was built on Dodson Drive to accommodate the influx of new residents.

The South Fulton Municipal Regional Jail, constructed in the late 1990s, is the first regional correctional facility in Georgia to be based on cooperation between cities (Union City and Palmetto) rather than between counties. The Regional Jail and the Union City Justice Center were built at the same time, and the jail was uniquely constructed in a way that connects the facility by tunnel to the Justice Center's police headquarters, court system, 911 Center, and related city services.

In 2006, the Union City Planning Commission embarked on an ambitious venture of land acquisitions made possible by the introduction of Senate Bill 552 in the Georgia legislature. Through this bill Union City was able to nearly double its land mass with the annexation of 5,330 acres of property to the west of the city. This annexation brings the total area of Union City to 10,827.10 acres, and planning for this area will include residential, commercial and industrial development to further enhance the planned, forward-looking growth of Union City.

There is an abundance of rich history and growth in Union City that has been illustrated through more than one hundred pictures and information found in the book, *Union City, Georgia: A Pictorial History: Celebrating 100 Years*, written by Marilyn Singleton McCain and Sally Summers Chapman. The book is available for purchase at City Hall in Union City and through our website at [.unioncityga.org](http://unioncityga.org). Don't miss this opportunity to own a part of the celebration of... YOUR UNION CITY.

**Union City, Georgia: A Pictorial History: Celebrating 100 Years*