

## **Dr. Adamson's Top 25 Fun Facts**

1. Carroll County was founded in 1826, exactly 50 year after the founding of the United States in 1776
2. The first name for Carrollton was going to be "Troupsville" in honor of Gov. George Troup. When Gov. Gilmer was elected the name was changed to "Carrollton"
3. "Carrollton" was named for the estate home of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Last Living Signer of the Declaration of Independence.
4. Early Carrollton was kind of a wild west-like town with horse thieves, wild animals, and wooden buildings.
5. Carrollton's first Sheriff Giles Boggess also ran a hotel and barroom.
6. During the 1832 Election, the "Slicks" defeated a band of horse thieves known as the "Pony Club" The Pony Club was bad farmers who would steal horses and run them out of the county to sell them.
7. In 1854, Dr. William Edgar Johnson sold Stone Mountain to move to Carrollton to trade with the Creek Indians for roots and medicinal herbs. Five generations of Johnson pharmacists ran Johnson's Drugstore on the Square until 1974 when it closed.
8. For more than a century, "First Tuesday" was a Carrollton tradition. The First Tuesday of each month was trading day in Carrollton when the people could come to barter or trade for things needed. Bales of cotton were brought on first Tuesdays to sell to the buyers.
9. The center of the Carrollton Square has been home to two courthouses, a water tower, and the Carroll County Confederate Monument.
10. Carrollton had a horse racing track at one time on Longview between South Street and Hays Mill Road. Some of the best race-horses came to Carrollton.
11. Carrollton became a center for Cotton Trading during the years surrounding WWI. In 1914, Carroll County produced a record 45,371 bales of cotton.
12. At one time mule barns, wagon yards and cotton warehouses were located behind each quadrant or corner of the Carrollton Square. There were also 4 wells on the square to water the horses.
13. During the Civil War, a small shoe shop was run by Callie Timmons in the southeast corner of the Square.
14. During the Civil War, Sarah Benson and the women of Carrollton prepared an enormous meal for General P.G.T. Beauregard and his staff on their way from Alabama to view the destruction south of Atlanta.
15. Georgia Price was the first free black to own a business in Carrollton; she ran a restaurant and hotel on Depot Street (now Bradley Street).
16. Carrollton once had three silent movie theaters on the square, The Vaudette, The Bonita, and the Stand.
17. Horton's Bookstore established in 1892, is Carrollton's oldest business and Georgia's oldest bookstore. Horton's has located in several places around the Square, but is now back in its original location.

18. Charlie Fong's Ideal Laundry was located on Bradley St from 1900 to 1950. (The empty lot just past McEver's Awards)
19. The Burson's Feed and Seed building was home to a Cotton and Farm Supply Store, Lane Truck and Tractor Showroom, Jackson & Burson's Feed and Seed before becoming Burson's (all agriculture related)
20. WLBB Radio got its start on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the People's Bank building. Local musicians played country bluegrass live on the air.
21. The Squire Shop on Newnan Street is located in the second oldest masonry building on the Square.
22. The oldest masonry building on the square is the Mandeville building where the Empire Grill is now located.
23. The square is numbered like a clock - the one hundred numbers are in the northeast corner, the two hundred numbers in the southeast corner, the three hundred numbers in the southwest corner, and the four hundred numbers in the northwest corner.
24. The Martin and Almon Funeral Parlor was once located where the Frame Shop is today.
25. Adamson Square is named for U.S. Representative W.C. Adamson. He was the first citizen to represent Carroll County in Washington D.C.

### **Extra facts**

The Gold Kist Corporation was founded by D. W. Brooks as the C.P.A. Cotton Producers Association. The C.P.A. Cotton Warehouse still stands today on Bradley Street. Gold Kist is a Wall Street Fortune 500 company.

Susan Hayward lived in Carrollton from 1957 until 1966. In 1959, she won the Academy Award in for Best Actress for her role in "I Want to Live." Her grave is located at the Catholic Church in Carrollton.

In 1897, Asa G. Candler who was born in Villa Rica founded the Coca-Cola Company.

Thomas H. Dorsey, the founder of Gospel Music was born in Villa Rica. He lived most of his life in Chicago.

Villa Rica became the site of the first gold rush in the United State when gold was discovered in Villa Rica "the City of Gold" in 1826.

Col. Charles A. McDaniel co-founder and President of Bowdon College, served as captain of the Bowdon Volunteers and Colonel of the 41<sup>st</sup> Georgia Infantry in the Civil War, and was killed at the Battle of Perryville, KY in 1862 - all by the age of 35.