

Abbreviated Time Line Of DeKalb County, Ga. History

- 6000-2000 B. C. Ice Age closes. Archaic Period begins. Small camp sites found in DeKalb. Soapstone bowl forms were carved by these Indians.
- 2000 B. C.- 500 A. D. Woodland Period begins. Indians build stone wall on top of Stone Mountain.
- 500 A. D.-1500 A. D. Mississippian Period. More permanent Indian villages appear at creek bottoms of DeKalb.
- 1550 A. D.- 1840 A. D. Historic Period. Europeans infringe on native culture of Indians. DeKalb becomes hunting grounds of Creek and Cherokee Indians.

1700s

- 1732 England's King George II grants charter to Oglethorpe for founding of Colony of Georgia.
- 1790 Alexander McGillivray, half-breed chief of the Creek Indians, meets on Stone Mountain with subordinate chiefs who were to accompany him to New York to discuss a treaty with the U. S. government.
- 1790 Col. Marinus Willett, personal friend of George Washington, in *A Narrative of Military Action* writes "while encamped at Stoney Mountain where I ascended the summit."

1800s

- 1802 U. S. agrees to remove Creeks and Cherokees from North and Northwest Georgia for cession of Alabama and Mississippi lands plus \$1,250,000.
- 1813 George Gilmer leads state militia to put down raids of Creek Indians at Standing Peachtree.
- 1820 James McC. Montgomery establishes DeKalb County's first settlement, at Standing Peachtree on the Chattahoochee River.
- 1821 Creek Indians cede territory that will become DeKalb County. Henry County created.
- 1822 DeKalb with population of 2,500 created from Henry, Fayette and Gwinnett counties, December 9.
- 1823 Decatur named county seat, December 10.
- 1823 First academy established by legislature, located at Decatur.
- 1823 Macedonia Baptist Church constituted, oldest church in county.
- 1824 Nance's (Nancy) Creek Primitive Baptist Church organized.
- 1824 Utoy Baptist Church organized in what is now Fulton County.
- 1825 Decatur Presbyterian Church organized as Westminister Presbyterian Church.
- 1825 Rock Chapel Methodist Church organized.
- 1825 Hardman Primitive Baptist constituted, mother of Indian Creek and Decatur churches.
- 1825 J. McC. Montgomery named postmaster at the Standing Peachtree, DeKalb's first post office.
- 1829 "Neat brick courthouse" replaces small log courthouse on Decatur Square.
- 1829 Sherwood's Gazetteer reports Decatur contained a courthouse, jail, academy and about 50 houses and stores.
- 1830 First DeKalb census in the county records 8,388 whites, 1,669 slaves and 17 free Negroes. Territory surveyed includes Cherokee Indian lands across the Chattahoochee River.
- 1832 Legislature provides for creation of Decatur Burial Ground.
- 1833 Meteor shower prompts local preacher to warn "the end of the world is at hand," November 13.
- 1839 Town of New Gibraltar [sic] incorporated. Name changed to Stone Mountain in

- 1847.
- 1840 County's second census shows 10,466 inhabitants -- 8,456 whites, 2,004 slaves and 2 free persons of color.
- 1842 DeKalb's "neat brick" courthouse burns, replaced by similar structure.
- 1842 First train from Atlanta, then Terminus, runs on December 24, 20 miles to Marietta.
- 1843 Marthasville, later named Atlanta, incorporated.
- 1846 Southern Central Agricultural Association holds first Georgia Fair at Stone Mountain.
- 1847 Marthasville becomes Atlanta.
- 1847 Third courthouse is completed, identical to the second, except for addition of a portico, two granite columns on the east side and exterior steps to the second floor.
- 1850 Census records 14,398 residents, including 2,994 slaves and 32 free persons of color.
- 1853 Fulton County carved from DeKalb.
- 1856 Lithonia incorporated, formerly little settlement of Crossroads.
- 1857 Hannah Moore Female Academy incorporated in Decatur, county's institution of higher learning.
- 1860 The first census after Fulton is cut off from DeKalb records a total population of 6318, including 464 slaves, less than half of the 1850 population.
- 1861 DeKalb sends two pro-Union delegates to Secession Convention. Delegate Charles Murphey dies on opening day of session.
- 1861 "War, the unthinkable, war!" — Diary of Benjamin T. Hunter, principal of Lithonia Academy.
- 1861 First four DeKalb Confederate army companies leave for battle.
- 1864 Union soldiers invade DeKalb.
- 1865 James Johnson appointed provisional governor for territory of Georgia.
- 1870 State of Georgia readmitted to Union, July 15.
- 1870 Census reports 10,014 inhabitants in DeKalb, including 2682 Negroes, half the number living in Atlanta.
- 1871 December 15 Doraville incorporated, December 15.
- 1871 Methodist Children's Home for war orphans founded.
- 1873 First public schools, now known as Scottdale, Bouldercrest and Southwest DeKalb opened for children in grades one-eight.
- 1880 DeKalb emerges from Reconstruction into prosperous era.
- 1880 Census records 14,497 residents, a 45 percent increase over 1870.
- 1882 Clarkston, incorporated, December 12.
- 1886 DeKalb is fifth in Georgia in manufacturing.
- 1890 No census data exists for DeKalb. Postal service records show 17,189 persons living in the county.
- 1890 Decatur Female Seminary is renamed in honor of Agnes Scott, mother of George W. Scott.
- 1896 Campaign fails to move county seat from Decatur to Stone Mountain.
- 1898 Cornerstone laid for new granite courthouse.
- 1898 Edgewood incorporated, becomes part of Atlanta in 1909.
- 1899 Kirkwood incorporated, becomes part of Atlanta, 1922.
- 1900s**
- 1908 Atlanta Athletic Club (East Lake Golf Club) completed. East Lake incorporated, becomes part of Atlanta in 1924.

1913	DeKalb's first Boy Scout troop (first in the South) organized.
1915	Emory University opens in Druid Hills on land donated by Asa Candler.
1915	Oglethorpe University opens in Brookhaven. Scottish Rite Crippled Children's Home opens in Decatur; hospital followed in 1919.
1915	United Daughters of the Confederacy hires sculptor Gutzon Borglum to begin carving memorial on Stone Mountain.
1916	Courthouse fire guts interior of granite courthouse. Building, except for cupola rebuilt.
1917	Camp Gordon built in Chamblee to train World War I soldiers.
1920	Campaign begins to build hospital on Emory University campus.
1925	Avondale Estates incorporated.
1930s	Dairies replace cotton farms; DeKalb begins rise to biggest milk-producing county in the South.
1939	George Scott Candler began his unprecedented tenure as sole DeKalb commissioner, retiring in 1955.
1945	Housing boom accommodates returning World War II soldiers.
1948	General Motors opens in Doraville. Superintendent Jim Cherry consolidates county's 15 independent school districts into one system.
1957	DeKalb replaces one-man county commissioner with five-man board.
1956	Communicable Disease Center begins construction of facility on property once owned by DeKalb's first doctor, Chapmon Powell.
1959	DeKalb Peachtree Airport opens on site of old Camp Gordon.
1961	DeKalb General Hospital opens.
1967	New DeKalb Courthouse opens.
1970	Memorial carving on Stone Mountain completed.
1973	Betty Clark becomes first African-American woman in state House of Representatives.
1974	Liane Levetan becomes first woman on DeKalb Board of Commissioners.
1983	DeKalb elects first African-American commissioner, John Evans.
1989	Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit rail service opens in DeKalb.
1990-2000	DeKalb's population becomes majority African-American, with a large increase in Hispanic residents.
1998	Alvin T. Wong elected State Court judge, first Asian-American judge in the Southeast.
2000	Vernon Jones elected first African-American Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb.