

MEAG POWER

Current

COMMUNITIES

Jackson, Georgia

Charlie Brown – Mayor

770-775-7535

www.cityofjacksonga.com



JACKSON

POSITIONED FOR THE FUTURE

*Jackson is a city
with attractive
financial solvency.*

Rerouting traffic and building rail overpasses are expensive decisions, but Jackson leadership knows such infrastructure improvements are important to downtown prosperity and citizen safety. “Highways 36, 16, and 42 all dead end downtown,” says Jackson Mayor Charlie Brown. “Plus, we have numerous railroad crossings in town that stop traffic every 30 minutes. Public safety becomes an issue when emergency vehicles can’t get through.”

Today, Jackson is addressing these concerns and doing it without using city funds as the community’s officials have garnered a \$35-million U.S. Department of Transportation grant to fund the improvements. “This project, slated to be completed in 2014, will encourage redevelopment downtown,” explains Brown.

The local Industrial Development Authority also has a vision for future progress. The Authority owns 300 acres adjacent to I-75, a coveted tract for any community. It has engaged a real estate marketing firm to assist in recruiting businesses which will create jobs for its citizens. And finally, Jackson is a city with attractive financial solvency and yearly balanced budgets. As local bank president, Bruce Bartholomew, notes, “the mayor and city council have done a good job in positioning the city for the future.”



Fast FACTS JACKSON

POPULATION: 4,411

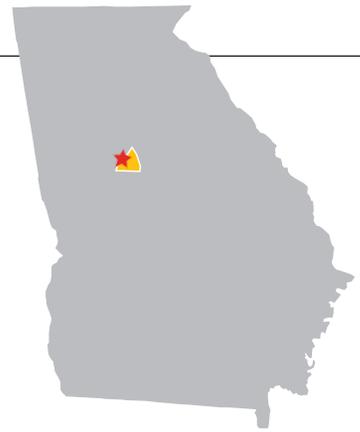
COUNTY: Butts – Population 23,759

UTILITIES: Electric, water and solid waste

TRANSPORTATION: Jackson is located on Georgia State Routes 16 and 36 with close proximity to Interstate 75. Norfolk Southern provides rail service through Jackson.

NOTABLE EMPLOYERS:

- Butts County Board of Education
- Butts County Housing Authority
- Collins Industries
- Quality Tire Recycling, Inc.
- Westbury Medical Care Home, Inc.



“We are invested in the success of the whole county.”

Mayor Charlie Brown

History Founded in 1826, the city of Jackson is the county seat for Butts County and was named after U.S. President Andrew Jackson. The President, according to records, had spent a few weeks in the area as a soldier in 1818. Jackson began as a 303-acre plot purchased for the purpose of starting the town and was then divided into squares and each square into lots.

Recreation Jackson is close to Indian Springs State Park, thought to be the oldest state park in the nation. It was acquired by the state in 1825 and became an official “State Forest Park” in 1927. Today, visitors can still sample the

spring water while enjoying the park’s cottages, camping, swimming, fishing and boating. Many structures within the park, such as the spring-house, were built during the Great Depression by members of FDR’s Civilian Conservation Corps.

Historic Places The Carmichael House, just off the square in Jackson, was built in 1897 by J.R. Carmichael, a prosperous manufacturer of buggies and carriages. The house is a grand example of the Queen Anne Victorian style with over 8,000 square feet of living space. The Carmichael House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Beauty of JACKSON

The city of Jackson is an area rich in history and populated with a mix of locals and newcomers who bring their talents and ingenuity to this unique community. It is also a city that has its own brand of beauty.

Jackson's beginnings are steeped in the lore of Native Americans. Originally, the area was inhabited by mound builders and Creek Indians, many who camped at the springs that are now a part of beautiful Indian Springs State Park. The reputed restorative powers of the springs were sought for centuries by Native Americans. Today, they continue to attract those who believe the waters to be beneficial. Jackson supports Indian Springs tourism initiatives through funding for the Butts County Historical Society.

As well as proximity to the beauty of Indian Springs State Park, the city is located just minutes from other naturally lovely places. The placid waters of Lake Jackson are great for swimming, fishing or boating, and at High Falls State Park, one can view the cascading waterfall on the Towaliga River. Visitors can also explore the abundant wildlife and hike or bike the pathways at the Dauset Trails Nature Center. These scenic destinations offer recreational and tourist opportunities for Jackson and Butts County.

In addition to an abundance of natural beauty, Jackson also enjoys the artistic beauty of some noted city residents.

Author Jane Anne Mallet Settle penned *The Women of the House*, the story of three generations of women in her family. Settle herself grew up in the house built by her great grandparents.

Artist Scott Coleman also lives in Jackson and maintains a permanent studio in the community. Coleman is recognized for his watercolors of rural settings and sells his work nationwide. While conducting a workshop in France, he married Canadian artist Katherine Allen, who also now calls Jackson home. She is best known for her mixed-media pieces.

And finally, Jackson is a city with a beautiful heart. Each year, the city works hard to make its Salvation Army Can-a-thon and Christmas Empty Stocking Fund drives a huge success. And each year, the city succeeds in raising thousands of dollars for needy families.



The Butts County Courthouse captured in watercolor by local artist, Scott Coleman.



The Carmichael House is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Left: A mainstay of the community since 1929. Below: Jackson's Electric Utility Department employees do an outstanding job of servicing the city's residents and businesses.



More About **HOMETOWN JACKSON**

- During the Civil War, the right wing of General William Tecumseh Sherman's army camped at Indian Springs before crossing the Ocmulgee River on its fiery March to the Sea. Unfortunately, Sherman's troops burned much of Jackson before they moved on.
- The Dauset Trails Nature Center's spring Bluebirds and Bluegrass Festival is an annual fun-filled event that offers something for the entire family. There's live bluegrass music, educational booths represented by wildlife and outdoor recreation organizations, as well as a special appearance by the Easter Bunny.
- Among the most famous Creeks who resided in the lands that now include Jackson was Chief William McIntosh, who made the decision in 1825 to give all the Creek lands in Georgia to the United States government.
- Jackson's Fresh Air Bar-B-Que, in business since 1929, has held the title of Georgia's Best Barbecue for many years and remains a favorite food stop for city residents.

