

Museum Mission

The Fairhope Museum of History collects artifacts of Fairhope's unique past, preserves them for future generations and educates citizens and visitors through exhibitions and programming about "all things Fairhope."

Museum's History

The Museum, founded in 1992, as the Fairhope Historical Museum, was first located on the original campus of the School of Organic Education in downtown Fairhope (now the location of Faulkner State Community College).



Through the vision and perseverance of the museum founders, and the cooperation and generous resources of the City of Fairhope and the Fairhope Single Tax Corporation, the renamed Fairhope Museum of History opened in 2008. The museum's new home is in what originally served as Fairhope City Hall from 1928 to 1972, and as the Police Station and Town Jail until 2002. The historic Spanish mission-style building was renovated and expanded, and now has approximately 5,000 square feet of exhibit space. The Museum welcomes over 20,000 visitors each year.

Telling Fairhope's Story

The Fairhope Museum of History tells Fairhope's unique story through its rich and ever-expanding permanent collection of artifacts and interpretive information. From Fairhope's earliest residents, the Native American Indians, to the potters who were attracted to the abundant and high-quality clay, to the Single Taxers searching for Utopia, to modern day, the Museum provides an enjoyable and informative cross section of Fairhope's past.

Permanent Exhibits

Among the exhibits on permanent display at the Fairhope Museum of History:

- Fairhope Founders
- Single Tax Colony
- People's Railroad
- Early Fairhope Businesses
- The Town Jail
- Clay City
- Hall of Mayors
- Fairhope People
- FVFD's 1935 Fire Truck
- Town of Fairhope Safe
- Jubilee!
- Fairhope Writers

Special Exhibits

The Museum features changing exhibits and because of the depth of the Museum's collection, many exciting and informative exhibits are anticipated in the coming years. The following special exhibits have been on display in the past:

- Fairhope's First Artist
Della Oswalt Nichols
- Stewart the Picture Man
- "Pop" Dealy, Fairhope Cartoonist
- Fifty Years of the Dogwood Trail
- Emperor Clocks
- Fannie Flagg
- Local National Guard in Iraq
- Craig Sheldon's Critters Wood Sculptures



On the cover: the bay boat Fairhope II, circa, 1915

Plaza and Mullet Run Fountain

The Mullet Run Fountain, on the east side entrance to the Museum, is a beautiful sculptural water feature which captures the essence of mullets “running” in Mobile Bay. The large fountain was commissioned courtesy of the local group, Committee on Public Art, and is one of several public sculptures throughout the City of Fairhope.

The fountain sits in the center of Museum Plaza and serves as a green gateway between the Fairhope Public Library, the Museum and the City’s Welcome Center. Brick pavers made by a local artist from Eastern Shore clay surround the fountain and form sidewalks in the plaza, some with special designs.

Tuesday Tea at Two

Each Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m., the Museum hosts a ‘tea’ where guests enjoy a cup of delicious Baldwin County tea, a cookie and a lecture on an interesting aspect of Fairhope history. These very popular afternoon events are sponsored by the *Friends* group. A \$2 donation is requested; call the Museum for upcoming speakers and topics.

The Museum is available for school field trips and special guided tours.

For information, call 251-929-1471.

Museum Events

The Elderberry Festival, Round-Up (Founder’s) Day, Haunted Halloween at the Museum, Colony Cemetery Tours and tours of the old Fairhope are just some of the events sponsored by the Museum each year. Join us!



Friends of the Museum

Join the Friends of the Fairhope Museum of History to help support the Museum, its programming and its out reach activities. Contact the Museum for more information.

Volunteers

The Museum is an exciting place to volunteer, and docents are always needed. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the Museum Director at 251-929-1474.

Fairhope Museum of History

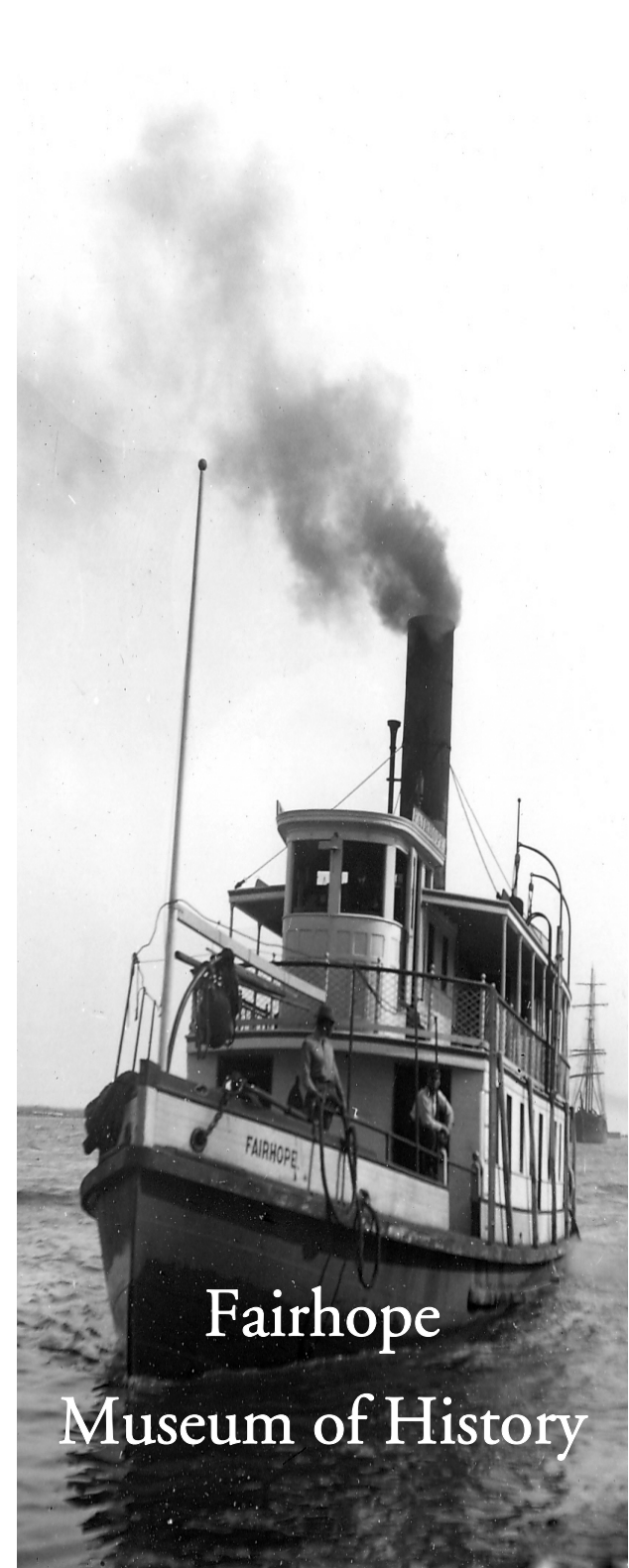
24 North Section Street

Fairhope, Alabama 36532

251-929-1471

Open Tuesday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission is free.



Fairhope
Museum of History