



Thomson-McDuffie

— COUNTY, GA —  
Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Elizabeth Vance - Executive Director**

111 Railroad Street

Thomson, GA 30824

706-597-1000

[www.thomson-mcduffie.net](http://www.thomson-mcduffie.net)

[evance@thomson-mcduffie.net](mailto:evance@thomson-mcduffie.net)

# Georgia's Quakers



McDuffie County's roots go back to the 1768 settlement of Wrightsboro, Georgia's only Quaker settlement and the southernmost point of Quaker migration in North America.

Wrightsboro survived as a village until the 1920s, but all that remains of the settlement is the Wrightsboro church (c. 1810) and the adjoining cemetery.

The Wrightsboro Methodist Church of the Thomson Circuit, on the site of the defunct town of Wrightsboro, has been an active organization for over 125 years.

Several veterans of the Revolutionary War and some who died at Gettysburg, Shiloh and Fredericksburg in the War Between the States are buried in its historic churchyard.

The founders of some of the oldest and most prominent families are also buried in the churchyard. Among them are Theodosius Erwin Massengale, grandfather of St. Elmo Massengale, and the ancestors of Bishop Warren A. Candler, Judge John S. Candler and Asa G. Candler.

## *other stories:*

### The Rock House

The Rock House, ancestral home of U.S. president Jimmy Carter, was built near present day Thomson in 1785 making it one of the oldest houses in Georgia.

The design and construction are typical of the New Jersey area from which the Quakers, who settled in Wrightsboro, came.

### Hickory Hill

U.S. Senator Thomas E. Watson was a giant political leader of the late 19th century and the father of Rural Free Delivery, which set up rural mail service for the nation

Senator Watson's estate, Hickory Hill, is on Hickory Hill Drive in Thomson, Ga. His early home, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is also located on Hickory Hill Drive.

