

## Hardman Farm

This beautiful estate was owned by the family of Dr. Lamartine Hardman (hence the name) who was governor of Georgia from 1927 to 1931. It was built, however, in 1870 by Captain James Nichols. The State of Georgia owns it now and refers to it as "...a grand example of Italianate architecture." Fourteen of the twenty-three structures on the property were built by the original owner in the period 1869 to 1890. You will get a guided tour of the entire farm (including the remarkable dairy barn from the 1920's) for an entrance fee of \$12 per adult. Reservations suggested: 706/878-1077. Across the roadway is the much-photographed Nacoochee Mound, an Indian burial site.



Notes for the photographer: There are hundreds of great photographic opportunities on the grounds and in the buildings (don't miss the huge barn) but I liked this view -- from just inside the fence below the parking area -- because it captures the Italianate house and the famous Nacoochee Indian mound across State Highway 17.

Directions: From the bridge in Helen travel 1.7 miles south on Georgia 17. Stay on 17 (it turns left) and then make the left onto Hardman Farm Road. If you are coming from the south, turn right onto Georgia 17 (just past the Indian mound) and then left onto Hardman Farm Road. GPS coordinates to the turn onto Hardman Farm Road: 34.68470706813877, -83.7050815244972

Interesting fact: Hardman Farm was originally called "West End" because it rests on the west end of the beautiful (and largely unspoiled) Nacoochee Valley.