

## Fairfield History Timeline

- 1856 Fairfield laid out by Capt. Waterman
- 1858 County election results in county seat being transferred from Benicia to Fairfield. Temporary Court House built.
- 1859 Dingley Mill is built.
- 1860 Solano County Court House and Jail completed.
- 1861 Methodist Church on Empire Street completed.
- 1865 Abernathie builds stone houses near Rockville.
- 1866 Fairfield water works built.
- 1868 Suisun City connected to the Central Pacific Railroad
- 1874 Attempt to move the County Seat from Fairfield to Vallejo failed.
- 1878 Hall of Records erected west of the Court House; connected by elevated steel corridor.
- 1880 Wineries established in Green Valley and Cordelia.
- 1887 Addition constructed to join together Court House and Hall of Records, creating one building.
- 1892 Earthquake destroys the Methodist Church, and causes minor damage to the Court House and Jail.
- 1893 New Methodist Church completed, replacing the destroyed 1861 church.
- 1894 The first Armijo High School completed on former County property on Union Avenue, south of Texas Street. Solano County wins \$5,000 gold cup at the 1894 Midwinter Fair in San Francisco.
- 1900 Bell for Fairfield Firehouse on Texas Street installed. Gomer School opens.
- 1901 Fairfield water works burned.
- 1902 The Pacific Portland Cement Company established a quarry, cement factory and company town, Cement, on what is known today as Cement Hill. The company employed more than 500 people.
- 1903 Fairfield was incorporated on December 12.
- 1906 San Francisco earthquake (Richter scale 8) rocks Solano County.
- 1909 Major fire in Fairfield's downtown; burns 10 buildings.
- 1910 Fairfield's first fire engine, a Watrous pumper, arrives.
- 1914 First State Highway (Historic Route 40) through Solano County is completed, bypassing Suisun. Fairfield Chamber of Commerce is organized; women had same privileges as men.

- 1915 Fairfield Firemen incorporated.
- 1918 World-wide influenza epidemic reaches Solano County. WW-I ends.
- 1920 Minimum wage for women in fruit business set at \$16 per week. Mrs. J. E. Wright, first woman juror in Solano County Court sits at a trial. 1924. Peach Growers Association's packing plant destroyed in Fairfield.
- 1924-25 Fairfield sign installed over Texas Street, following a successful campaign by the newly established Lion's Club.
- 1926-29 Julia Morgan, one of California's first female architects, renovated the Samuel Martin House, originally built in 1861. Julia later on designed The Hearst Castle in San Simeon.
- 1927 Cement City closed down.
- 1930 Armijo Auditorium completed.
- 1931 Solano County Free Library & Office Building completed at Texas Street and Union Avenue. California Packing Company closed its dried fruit-packing plant in Fairfield, followed a few years later by the Armsby Plant.
- 1934 Statue of Chief Solano unveiled on a small knoll off of Historic Route 40.
- 1938 "Town of Fairfield" becomes "City of Fairfield."
- 1941 US enters WW II
- 1942-43 The Fairfield-Suisun Army Air Field was established.
- 1942 Construction of Waterman Park, the first large scale housing development in Fairfield, was built to house workers from the Air Field.
- 1946 First annexations to the City of Fairfield since the original plat of 1856.
- 1947 Fairfield-Suisun Chamber of Commerce was incorporated.
- 1960 Interstate 80 opened, bypassing Fairfield.
- 1966 Travis AFB and surrounding residential complex annexed.
- 1970 Old Armijo Union High School reconstructed as the Solano County Hall of Justice.
- 1972 New Fairfield Civic Center completed
- 1976 Hall of Justice II built as south wing of Hall of Justice.
- 1978 Fairfield purchases its first rescue unit.
- 1979-80 Solano Mall completed.

## Population of Fairfield

1870	329
1880	424
1890	505
1903	app 700
1910	834
1920	1,008
1930	1,131
1940	1,312
1950	3,118
1960	14,968
1970	44,146
1980	59,483
1990	78,651
1997	89,049
2003	102,500