

Region of Responsibility

We thought you might like to know—The Museum of the Cape is one of seven museums in the Division of State History Museums. We are one of three regional museums and our exhibits reflect a 20 county region. This series focuses on the history of those counties within our region of responsibility.



The 20 Counties in alphabetical order:

1. Anson
2. Bladen
3. Brunswick
4. Columbus
5. Cumberland
6. Duplin
7. Harnett
8. Hoke
9. Lee
10. Montgomery
11. Moore
12. New Hanover
13. Onslow
14. Pender
15. Richmond
16. Robeson
17. Sampson
18. Scotland
19. Stanly
20. Union

A Brief History of Montgomery County

Montgomery County was formed from Anson County in 1779. It is named for General Richard Montgomery who was killed leading an early morning charge into Quebec on December 31, 1775, during the early months of the Revolutionary War. (To fans of Hamilton, the musical, this is the same Gen. Montgomery who "took a bullet in the neck in Quebec." Montgomery was killed by grapeshot and it is not known where he was precisely hit or what wound killed him. However, Aaron Burr was by his side. Furthermore, he was in command because Phillip Schuyler, Hamilton's future father-in-law, took ill and had to step down.)



The county is home to Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site, a sister agency of the Museum of the Cape Fear. The site is an archaeological wonder whose significance cannot be overstated in learning about the American Indian culture, especially in pre-Columbian times in the southern Piedmont. Natives to the area are considered to be a part of the Siouan language family.

In addition to a well-documented history of native peoples, the county's Uwharrie Mountains, give it an impressive natural geographic feature. The Uwharrie Mountain range, geologists have surmised, is one of the oldest mountain ranges in North America at over 500 million years old. The National Forest Service manages the mountain range and has an office there. It offers an array of recreational activities. Gold has also been found there.



Montgomery County can claim another unique attribute. Within its boundaries is the Town of Star, which, according to the Corps of Engineers, is the exact geographic center of North Carolina.