

# North Carolina HISTORIC SITES



## Field Trip Planner



Dear Educators,

Welcome to North Carolina's State Historic Sites! Comprising a system of historic places of statewide and often national significance, these sites, located in all areas of the state from the mountains to the sea, interpret eight centuries and all facets of history. Each has an important role in our state's history and a unique story to share with visitors.

We invite you, in preparing your plans for the school year, to consider visiting one or more of these unique sites. These visits allow students to experience history where it happened, and our programming complements your classroom curriculum. All sites offer a variety of in-person and virtual educational activities including tours, exhibits, living history demonstrations, and interactive programs. Subject offerings are as rich and diverse as the state itself and include such topics as American Indian, African American, women's, civil rights, agricultural, cultural, political, and military history.

We appreciate your efforts in educating North Carolina's children, who will be the history-makers of tomorrow, and hope that this planner may be helpful.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at North Carolina's Historic Sites!

Sincerely,

Michelle Lanier, Director

North Carolina Division of State Historic Sites and Properties



## **Scheduling Your Visit**

Please contact the [historic site](#) you wish to visit directly. It is recommended that you make arrangements with them at least one month prior to the desired field trip date(s). Please be prepared to provide them with the following information when make contact:

1. School name
2. Contact person (person to call if there is a change in scheduling)
3. Phone number of school
4. Address of school
5. Date of field trip and arrival time (please have an alternate date and time)
6. Number of students and chaperones

You will receive a confirmation letter and other necessary information once the trip is scheduled. Please bring this with you on the field trip.

If the trip needs to be rescheduled, please contact the site as soon as possible.

## **Preparing for Your Visit**

Many of the tours, activities, and demonstrations occur outdoors at historic sites. Please remind students to dress according to the weather. Unfavorable weather may force cancellation of some activities. Should this occur, the site may offer alternative activities. Please contact the site for its inclement weather plan.

Groups should be prepared for walking and standing during the visit. We recommend that students and teachers wear comfortable walking shoes and avoid open-toed footwear.

Picnic areas are available at most sites. They can be used on a first-come, first-served basis.

## **Rules for a Safe and Enjoyable Visit**

For the comfort and safety of all our visitors, and for the protection of our artifacts, we ask that these guidelines be followed:

1. Groups must stay together unless instructed to do otherwise.
2. Visitors should not touch artifacts.
3. Student behavior is the responsibility of the teachers and chaperones.
4. No gum, food, or open drink containers allowed inside visitor centers or historic structures.
5. We request two chaperones for each class of students.
6. Be sure to ask about individual historic site-specific rules when scheduling your visit.

## Hours of Operation

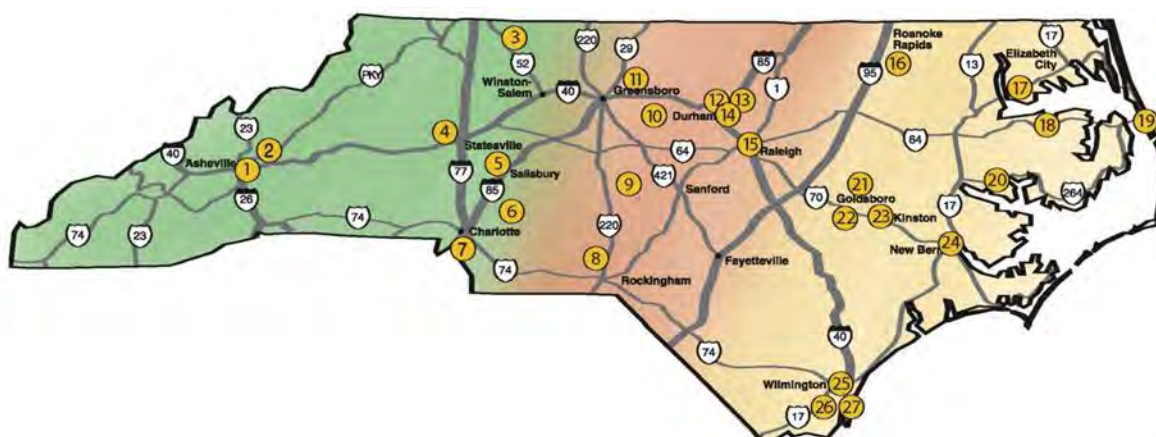
Because hours may change throughout the year and vary from site to site, please call individual sites for their specific hours and days of operation.

## Admission

Some sites have minimal admission or material fees to cover cost of programming. Be sure to ask about pricing when you make contact with a site to arrange a tour.

## What to Do Before the Visit

Please review these rules and any others provided by specific sites before arrival. It is also helpful to educate students on the history of the site in advance and what they should expect upon arrival. If the site has provided any worksheets, videos, or brochures, these will be helpful. Every site also has a website with additional information. Careful preparation will make your visit more enjoyable and educational for all. Encourage the children to ask any questions prior to the visit or along the way.



### West

1. Thomas Wolfe Memorial
2. Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace
3. Horne Creek Farm
4. Fort Dobbs
5. N.C. Transportation Museum
6. Reed Gold Mine
7. President James K. Polk Site

### Piedmont

8. Town Creek Indian Mound
9. House in the Horseshoe
10. Alamance Battleground
11. Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum
12. Bennett Place
13. Historic Stagville
14. Duke Homestead
15. State Capitol

### East

16. Historic Halifax
17. Historic Edenton
18. Somerset Place
19. Roanoke Island Festival Park
20. Historic Bath
21. Gov. Charles B. Aycock Birthplace
22. Bentonville Battlefield
23. CSS *Neuse* and Gov. Richard Caswell Memorial
24. Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens
25. USS *North Carolina*
26. Brunswick Town/Ft. Anderson
27. Fort Fisher



## Table of Contents

Please click on the site you wish to visit below

### WEST

<a href="#"><u>Thomas Wolfe Memorial .....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>6</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>7</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Horne Creek Farm.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>8</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Fort Dobbs.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>9</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Reed Gold Mine.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>10</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>President James K. Polk Site.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>11</u></a>

### PIEDMONT

<a href="#"><u>Town Creek Indian Mound.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>12</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>House in the Horseshoe.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>13</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Alamance Battleground.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>14</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>15</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Bennett Place.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>16</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Historic Stagville.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>17</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Duke Homestead.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>18</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>State Capitol.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>19</u></a>

### EAST

<a href="#"><u>Historic Halifax.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>20</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Historic Edenton.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>21</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Somerset Place.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>22</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Historic Bath.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>23</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>24</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Bentonville Battlefield.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>25</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>CSS Neuse and Gov Richard Caswell Memorial.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>26</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>27</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Fort Fisher.....</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>28</u></a>



## North Carolina Historic Sites – West

### Thomas Wolfe Memorial

**52 N. Market Street**

**Asheville, NC 28801**

**(828) 253-8304**

**Website:** [www.wolfememorial.com](http://www.wolfememorial.com)

**Email:** [wolfe@ncdcr.gov](mailto:wolfe@ncdcr.gov)

Considered by many as one of the giants of 20th-century American literature, Thomas Wolfe immortalized his childhood home in his epic autobiographical novel, *Look Homeward, Angel* (1929). Wolfe wrote colorfully of his youth growing up in the boardinghouse his mother owned and portrayed his family and friends as characters while using his hometown of Asheville to create “Altamont.” Today the historic, sprawling Victorian house is a famous literary landmark.

Thomas Wolfe lived in the Old Kentucky Home boardinghouse from 1906 at age six until he left for college in 1916 at age 15. The historic home interior is much like Wolfe would have remembered it as a child. Today it provides an excellent opportunity for students of all ages to learn about Asheville history, early 20th century household technologies, and a giant of American literature- Thomas Wolfe. Please call or email for more information and availability. Explore our website to view program offerings and teacher resources, pre- and post-visit activities, and accompanying lesson plans which can easily be adapted to a number of age groups and courses.



#### Facilities:

Exhibits

Audiovisual Program

Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center

Limited Handicapped-accessibility in Historic House

Restrooms

Gift Shop

On-site Bus Parking

Numerous Nearby Restaurants

Within Walking Distance of Other Downtown Attractions

## Zebulon B. Vance Birthplace



**911 Reems Creek Road**

**Weaverville, NC 28787**

**(828) 645-6706**

**Website:** [www.nchistoricsites.org/vance](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/vance)

**Email:** [vance@ncdcr.gov](mailto:vance@ncdcr.gov)

Zebulon Baird Vance was born in 1830 on the family homestead in the Reems Creek valley of the Blue Ridge Mountains. His family, which included veterans of the American Revolution and the War of 1812, state representatives, United States congressmen, physicians, lawyers, merchants, and farmers, raised Zeb to be a resolute, highly principled leader with a quick wit and sharp tongue. Vance's rural mountain heritage instilled in

him a belief in self-government, individual liberty, and public service. Vance held positions of state representative, United States congressman, three-term governor, and United States senator. As NC Governor during the turbulent Civil War years, he motivated North Carolina to commit the greatest contribution of men and spirit to the Southern cause, earning him the title "War Governor of the South."

Students visiting Governor Vance's home place can experience many of the daily activities that went on at the family farm, from weaving cloth to cooking over an open fire. Guided tour of historic Vance homestead includes 6 outbuildings: corn crib, smokehouse, spring house, loom house, enslaved servant cabin, tool shed. The site offers various demonstrations either onsite or in the classrooms. Please call for information and availability.

### Facilities:

- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Covered Picnic Area
- On-site Bus Parking
- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Limited Handicapped-accessibility in Historic Area
- Civil War Trails Marker
- Gift Shop
- Limited Nearby Restaurants & Lodging
- 6 miles from the Blue Ridge Parkway
- Vance Cemetery is located across the street from the site.



## Horne Creek Farm

308 Horne Creek Farm Road

Pinnacle, NC 27043

(336) 325-2298

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/horne](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/horne)

Email: [hornecreek@ncdcr.gov](mailto:hornecreek@ncdcr.gov)

The land now comprising Horne Creek Living Historical Farm was farmed by the Hauser family for nearly 200 years. By 1900, through good farm management and sheer hard work, the Hauser's farm was increased in size to 450 acres. Thomas Hauser, his wife Charlotte, their family of eleven boys and one girl, and several hired hands raised crops which had been grown in the region for decades—fruit, corn, wheat, oats, rye, hay, and vegetables. In addition, they began growing tobacco, a new cash crop that was rapidly becoming more and more important to the state's economy.



Today Horne Creek Farm offers students a glimpse into agricultural life about 1900. Students can learn how to play the site's pump organ or listen as an elderly member of the community recounts the lives of farmers in earlier times. Boys and girls can grind corn, preserve fruits and vegetables, make a corn shuck doll, or tackle children's chores of that era. Please call the site to find out more about tours and hands-on activities available.



### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center and Restrooms
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings
- On-site Bus Parking
- Picnic Area (not covered)
- Vending
- Nearby Restaurants



## Fort Dobbs State Historic Site



**438 Fort Dobbs Road**  
**Statesville, NC 28625**  
**(704) 873-5882**

Website: [www.fortdobbs.org](http://www.fortdobbs.org)

Email: [info@fortdobbs.org](mailto:info@fortdobbs.org)

The French and Indian War was fought over nine years and five continents. North Carolina was among the first colonies to contribute troops to the British cause when the war began. In 1756, North Carolina Provincial soldiers constructed Fort Dobbs in what was then the westernmost part of the colony and named it after Royal Governor Arthur Dobbs.

In February of 1760, the fort was attacked by Cherokee warriors. By 1763 the war was over and Britain controlled almost all of North America east of the Mississippi River.

Today the three-story log fort has been reconstructed. On field trips, students can tour the fort with costumed guides and learn about the lives of soldiers through demonstrations and hands-on activities. Digital programming available for groups who cannot visit in person. Additionally, Fort Dobbs presents two special school day programs during the year, with a variety of extra historical programming. Contact site for dates. Reservations are required on first come, first serve basis. A teacher packet is available with worksheets and background information that can be used as pre- and post-visit materials.

### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible
- Visitor Center
- Exhibits
- Trails
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Gift Shop
- Covered Picnic Area
- Bus Parking
- Nearby Restaurants



## Reed Gold Mine

9621 Reed Mine Road

Midland, NC 28107

(704) 721-4653

Website:

[www.nchistoricsites.org/reed](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/reed)

Email: [reed@ncdcr.gov](mailto:reed@ncdcr.gov)

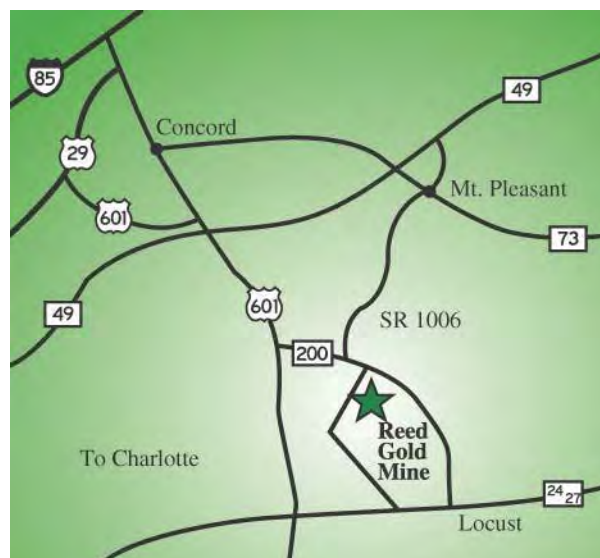
Young Conrad Reed was unaware that the yellow rock he found in Little Meadow Creek in 1799 would launch the nation's first gold rush. In fact, the rock served as the family's doorstep until his father, John Reed, took it to a Fayetteville jeweler in 1802. The jeweler purchased the rock from John Reed for \$3.50, when in reality it was worth \$3,600. Learning from his mistake, John Reed began mining for gold on his Cabarrus County farm. Eventually gold fever spread to other counties and states. During its peak years, gold mining became second only to farming in the state's economy. North Carolina actually led the nation in gold production until California's gold rush in 1848.



On a visit to Reed Gold Mine, students can travel back into time and become a gold miner panning for gold, go on a scavenger hunt and search for clues to gold history in North Carolina, and take a guided underground tour and see firsthand the working conditions of the miners. Exhibits and a film also detail the history of Reed Gold Mine and the mining industry in North Carolina. Teachers' packet available with curriculum in Math, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts.

### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings
- Exhibits
- Trail
- Audiovisual Program
- Picnic Areas (not covered)
- Gift Shop
- Vending
- Restrooms
- On-site Bus Parking
- Limited Restaurants Nearby



## President James K. Polk Historic Site



**12031 Lancaster Highway**

**Pineville, NC 28134**

**(704) 889-7145**

**Website:** [www.nchistoricsites.org/polk](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/polk)

**Email:** [polk@ncdcr.gov](mailto:polk@ncdcr.gov)

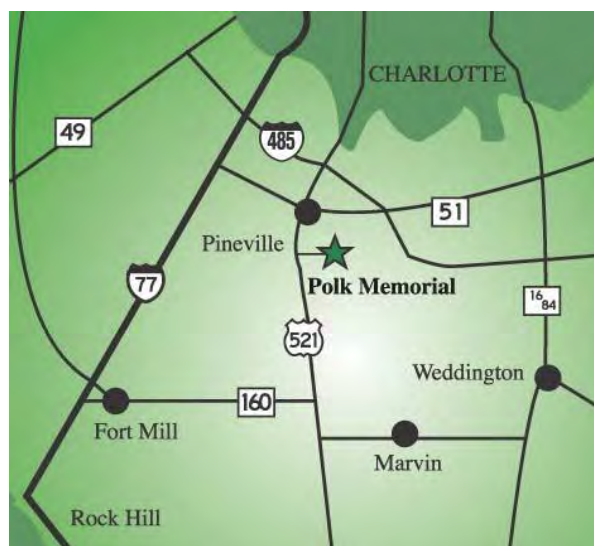
Join us for an in-person field trip to learn what life was like when the future president, James K. Polk, was a child in rural Mecklenburg County at the turn of the 19th century. Polk spent the first decade of his life here with his parents, Samuel and Jane, four siblings, Jane, Lydia, Franklin, and Marshall, and at least four people enslaved by the family, including Lucy, Violet, and Elias. Visit two fully furnished log cabins, a kitchen garden, and historic cemetery.

Using the Polk family's history as a frame, students will engage with topics that had a lasting impact on the history of North Carolina. Students will be asked to compare and contrast their lives with the historic environment they will see on their tour and explore the meanings in the similarities and differences; this gives students a chance to practice their argumentation, observation, and communication skills. All programs are aligned with the latest educational standards set forth by North Carolina's Department of Public Instruction.

Topics covered include: slavery, agricultural life, natural resources, migration, inherited wealth, technological advancements, transportation, historic trades, cultural values, cotton, nutrition, foodways, education, fabric arts, and religious beliefs.

### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area
- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Picnic Area (not covered)
- Numerous Nearby Restaurants
- On-site Bus Parking
- Restrooms
- Gift shop





## North Carolina Historic Sites – Piedmont

### Town Creek Indian Mound

509 Town Creek Indian Mound Road

Mt. Gilead, NC 27306

(910) 439-6802

Website:

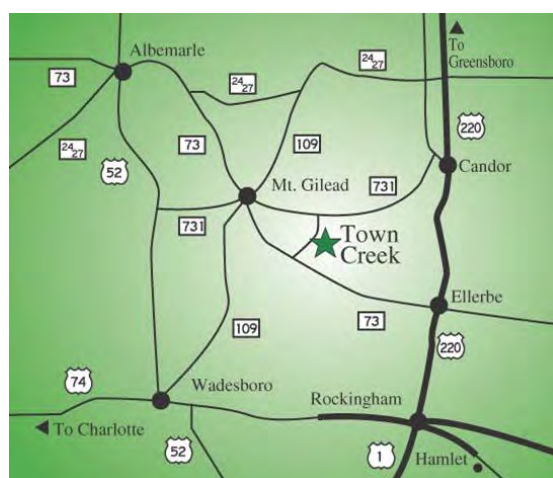
[www.towncreekindianmound.com](http://www.towncreekindianmound.com)

Email: [towncreek@ncdcr.gov](mailto:towncreek@ncdcr.gov)

Town Creek Indian Mound is one of only a handful of reconstructed American Indian historic sites in the Nation and the only State Historic Site exclusively interpreting American Indian history. The Site is dedicated to preserving and sharing the rich traditions of the Mississippian Culture and American Indian people who once lived in villages and farmed the floodplains of North Carolina's Pee Dee River basin.

Since 1937, archaeologists have studied Town Creek in detail, and artifacts recovered from that work help present the story of the people of Town Creek. In addition to the reconstructed village, an accessible visitor center, with restrooms, museum store, exhibits and an orientation video are available, as well as a nature trail and large picnic area.

Guided tours of the village can be scheduled, as well as live video tours and "in the classroom" visits. Groups interested in reserving a tour or program should book in advance to ensure staff are available to meet their needs, and to take advantage of the hands-on activities and other engaging presentations offered. Events and programs are offered throughout the year, ranging from astronomy presentations to experimental archaeology activities. Visit [www.towncreekindianmound.com](http://www.towncreekindianmound.com) and follow the Plan a School or Group Visit heading to schedule a tour, or the Events heading to learn more about upcoming special events and programs.



#### Facilities:

- Nature Trail
- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Handicapped-accessible Historic Site
- Audiovisual Program
- Bus Parking
- Restrooms
- Vending
- Picnic Area
- Gift Shop



## House in the Horseshoe

288 Alston House Road

Sanford, NC 27330

(910) 947-2051

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/horseshoe](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/horseshoe)

Email address: [horseshoe@ncdcr.gov](mailto:horseshoe@ncdcr.gov)

On a rise above a horseshoe-shaped bend of the Deep River sits the 1772 home of Philip Alston, known as the House in the Horseshoe. A colonel in the Patriot forces during the American Revolution, Alston's men were camped around the house when it was attacked by a band of Loyalists led by Colonel David Fanning. The walls of the house still bear the scars and bullet holes from that skirmish in the summer of 1781. Later purchased by Gov. Benjamin Williams, the house was then named "Retreat." Williams

made it the center of a profitable cotton plantation, enlarging it with two wings. By 1803, fifty enslaved servants were working his plantation. The house was later used as a headquarters for mineral exploration along the southern end of the Deep River Coal Field.



On a visit to House in the Horseshoe, students can learn about how early piedmont settlers lived. Hands-on activities include making clay marbles and learning about children's games during the Colonial period. A costumed interpreter provides demonstrations of the weapons and equipment used by Revolutionary War soldiers. A teachers' packet with instructional materials for grades 4 and 8 is available upon request.



### Facilities

- Handicapped-accessible
- Exhibits
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area (not covered)
- Gift Shop
- Bus Parking
- Limited Nearby Restaurants

## Alamance Battleground



5803 South N.C. 62  
 Burlington, NC 27215  
 (336) 227-4785

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/alamance](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/alamance)

Email: [alamance@ncdcr.gov](mailto:alamance@ncdcr.gov)

Before the American Revolution, many North Carolinians became dissatisfied with provincial and local government officials abusing their power. High taxes, illegal fees, and dishonest leaders plagued the everyday life of colonists in the western counties. The Regulators formed in 1768 to oppose such injustices and tried through peaceful attempts to gain reforms. Such attempts soon gave way to armed resistance, exploding into the so-called War of the Regulation. The “war” ended with the Battle of Alamance in May 1771 when Governor Tryon’s militia defeated the Regulators.

At Alamance Battleground students will experience life in the North Carolina backcountry during the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, including foodways, trades, and political activity. They will connect with the daily lives of backcountry farmers by seeing costumed interpreters load and fire a flintlock weapon, prepare food on the open hearth, and show how these settlers dressed. Through tours of the visitor center, Allen House, and battlefield, students will experience inspiring stories of the Regulator movement and learn about North Carolina's grassroots movement against injustice and corruption on the eve of the Revolution.

### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area (no shelter)
- Gift Shop
- Vending
- On-site Bus Parking
- Limited Nearby Restaurants





## Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum

6136 Burlington Rd. (Hwy 70)

Sedalia, NC 27342

(336) 449-4846

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/chb](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/chb)

Email address: [chb@ncdcr.gov](mailto:chb@ncdcr.gov)

From 1902 until shortly before her death in 1961, Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown played a key role in the development of African American education, interracial cooperation, and women's rights in North Carolina and the nation. In 1902 at age 19, she founded the Alice Freeman Palmer Memorial Institute in Sedalia, NC. Over the next 50 years of her presidency, Dr. Brown raised almost \$1.5 million which helped make PMI into one of the most renowned schools for African American youth in the nation. PMI and its graduates came to exemplify Dr. Brown's hard work and dedication to African American achievement. Beginning as a primarily agricultural and industrial school, it evolved into an elite preparatory school equipping its students with a classical education, discipline, high standards, poise and ambition. The school continued to operate under three successive principals and closed in 1971. Located on the former Palmer campus, the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum is North Carolina's first state historic site to commemorate the achievements of an African American and a woman.



Today's students can explore and learn about a unique environment where many African American boys and girls lived and learned during the greater part of the twentieth century. Visitor center exhibits tell the story of this remarkable woman and North Carolina's African American educational heritage. Tours of Dr. Brown's residence and guided walking tours of campus and its wayside exhibits highlight the history of the site. Teacher Resource Packet with historical information and class projects (all grades) is available.



### Facilities:

- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Handicapped-accessible Restrooms
- Picnic Shelter (partially covered)
- Bus Parking
- Gift Shop
- Limited Nearby Restaurants



## Bennett Place

4409 Bennett Memorial Road

Durham, NC 27705

(919) 383-4345

Website: <https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/bennett-place>

Email: [bennett@ncdcr.gov](mailto:bennett@ncdcr.gov)

The largest surrender of the American Civil War took place in the home of James and Nancy Bennett on April 26, 1865. Three times, Union General William Tecumseh Sherman and Confederate General Joseph Eggleston Johnston met inside the Bennett home before they reached an agreement, which surrendered 89,270 Confederate soldiers still fighting in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.



Today, students can walk along the Hillsborough Road on the actual grounds where two of the most prominent generals of the Civil War met to put an end to the four years of war, which cost this nation more than 600,000 American lives. Reconstructions of the main house, kitchen house, smokehouse, dairy house, and vegetable and herb garden are all available for tours. A variety of hands-on activities are available. Teacher Resource Packets are also available.



### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Museum Gallery
- Nature Trails
- Audiovisual Program
- Picnic Area (Not Covered)
- Restrooms (Handicapped Accessible)
- On-site Bus Parking
- Gift Shop
- Nearby Restaurants within 2 miles





## Historic Stagville

5828 Old Oxford Highway

Durham, NC 27712

(919) 620-0120

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/stagville](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/stagville)

Email: [stagville@ncdcr.gov](mailto:stagville@ncdcr.gov)

Formerly one of the largest plantations in North Carolina, Historic Stagville is now a historic site dedicated to teaching about the lives, culture, and labors of enslaved people. Our educators teach the full history of plantation slavery by engaging students with primary sources, artifacts, and oral histories. All Stagville's education programs center the experiences of



enslaved African American families and their descendants. By 1860, the Bennehan-Cameron family owned over 30,000 acres of land and enslaved over 900 people here.

Students will visit four original slave dwellings (c. 1851), a massive barn (c. 1860), and a Bennahan-Cameron family house (c. 1799). A school visit lasts two hours. An educator's guide to the site is available for teachers for pre- or post-visit activities.



### Facilities:

Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area (please call us with any questions about accessibility!)

Restrooms  
Picnic Tables  
Gift Shop  
On-site Bus Parking  
Nearby Restaurants

## Duke Homestead

**2828 Duke Homestead Road**

**Durham, NC 27705**

**(919) 627-6990**

**Website:** [www.dukehomestead.org](http://www.dukehomestead.org)

**Email:** [duke@ncdcr.gov](mailto:duke@ncdcr.gov)

Duke Homestead interprets the history of Washington Duke's home and the powerful North Carolina tobacco industry. Originally farmers, the Duke family switched to manufacturing tobacco after the Civil War. The company the Dukes built here grew to become the largest and richest tobacco manufacturing company in the world, a monopoly eventually broken up by the US Supreme Court.



The Dukes were well known for their generous philanthropic giving, with many famous institutions in Durham still bearing their name.

Today, students at Duke Homestead can learn about the daily lives of people in mid 19th century farms and factories, and discover stories of labor exploitation, prosperity, family bonds, and health. Through interactive exhibits, a film, and hands-on activities, students will learn the many complicated legacies of NC's iconic crop.



### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings
- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Picnic Tables (not covered)
- On-site Bus Parking
- Gift Shop
- Nearby Restaurants



## North Carolina State Capitol

1 E. Edenton St. Raleigh, NC 27601

(919) 733-4994

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/capitol](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/capitol)

Email: [state.capitol@ncdcr.gov](mailto:state.capitol@ncdcr.gov)

**\*scheduling is done through the Capitol Area Visitor Center: toll free (919) 814-6950 (see below for details)**

The North Carolina State Capitol, completed in 1840, is one of the finest and best-preserved examples of a major civic building in the Greek Revival style of architecture and serves as the symbol of North Carolina government. From 1840-1888, the Capitol housed all three branches of the state's government, including offices of the secretary of state, auditor, treasurer, comptroller, and Supreme Court. From 1840 until 1961, the state legislature met and passed laws in the second-floor chambers. Many important decisions were made in the chambers, including North Carolina's decision to enter the Civil War on May 20, 1861, when elected delegates signed the Ordinance of Secession in the House of Commons chamber. The legislative chambers also were



used for state constitutional conventions and served as a 19th century "civic center" for Raleigh's citizens. Today the Governor's principal office is located on the Capitol's first floor while the second and third floors have been restored to their 1840s to 1850s appearances. Today the Capitol is still used for many events including bill signings, swearing-in ceremonies, press conferences, living history programs, and other events related to the history of the Capitol and the functions of state government.

Tours include information about the development of Raleigh as the state's capital; the history of the state house, which sat on Capitol Square from 1794 to 1831; construction of the current Capitol; historical significance of the Capitol; and the legislative process. Pre- and post-visit classroom activities that meet 4th and 8th grade curriculum goals are available.



### Facilities:

Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings

Exhibits

Bus Parking (remote location, student drop off area provided near Capitol)

Picnic Area (remote location)

Nearby Restaurants

Scheduling is done by Capital Area Visitor Services online at <http://www.nccapvisit.org/>. CAVS can also be reached at [capitalarea.visitorservices@ncdcr.gov](mailto:capitalarea.visitorservices@ncdcr.gov) and 919-814-6950.

Groups are encouraged to schedule their visit at least a month in advance, but require a minimum of two weeks' notice to schedule a tour of the Capitol.

## North Carolina Historic Sites – East

### Historic Halifax

25 St. David Street

Halifax, NC 27839

(252) 583-7191

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/halifax](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/halifax)

Email: [halifax@ncdcr.gov](mailto:halifax@ncdcr.gov)

The colonial river port town of Halifax, founded in 1760 along the banks of the Roanoke River, quickly grew into a social and political hub. It was here on April 12, 1776, that 83 delegates to the Fourth Provincial Congress, representing virtually all of North Carolina, risked their fortunes, reputations, and indeed, their lives by adopting the Halifax Resolves, which made North Carolina the first colony to officially call for independence from Great Britain. Halifax's golden age followed the American Revolution as the small town became wealthy and influential. Halifax emerged as a hub of Underground Railroad activity where people escaping slavery could blend into the county's large enslaved and free African American communities. Halifax continued to flourish until a new railroad, one of the first built in the state, bypassed the town in the late 1830s.

Students can tour exhibits and historic buildings and learn about the American Revolution, the Underground Railroad, and life in the region during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-centuries. Halifax Day is celebrated annually on April 12<sup>th</sup> with special programming. Teacher Resource Packets available.



### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings
- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Picnic Tables (not covered)
- Gift Shop
- Vending
- On-site Bus Parking



## Historic Edenton

108 North Broad Street

Edenton, NC 27932

(252) 482-2637

Website: [www.edenton.nchistoricsites.org](http://www.edenton.nchistoricsites.org)

Email: [edenton@ncdcr.gov](mailto:edenton@ncdcr.gov)

Revolutionary War events and politically influential people have woven a colorful history in Edenton, North Carolina's first colonial capital. Also North Carolina's second oldest incorporated town (1722), Edenton was the home of such remarkable leaders as governor and U.S. Senator Samuel Johnston; U.S. Supreme Court Justice James Iredell; Justice Iredell's son, James Iredell Jr., a North Carolina Governor; Joseph Hewes, a signer of the Declaration of Independence; and Hugh Williamson, a signer of the United States Constitution. In 1774 Penelope Barker led 51 Edenton women in demonstrating their support of the patriot cause with a political statement supporting the Provincial Assembly. Later, known as the Edenton Tea Party, this declaration is believed to be the first political activity by women in the American colonies. Born into slavery, Harriet Jacobs hid in and then escaped from Edenton to freedom, and became a writer, abolitionist, and educator, publishing her autobiography in 1861. Historic Edenton is also home to one of the most intact and oldest Courthouses in America, and the 1886 Roanoke River Lighthouse.



Students visiting Historic Edenton can learn about its rich colonial history, early American law, or tour a 19<sup>th</sup>-century river lighthouse that protected North Carolina's interior coastal waterways. Trolley tours and hands-on activities are also available. Please call for full listing of available tours and activities.



### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings
- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Nearby Picnic Area (not covered)
- Bus Parking
- Nearby Restaurants

## Somerset Place



**2572 Lake Shore Road**

**Creswell, NC 27928**

**(252) 797-4560**

**Website:** [www.nchistoricsites.org/somerset](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/somerset)

**Email:** [somerset@ncdcr.gov](mailto:somerset@ncdcr.gov)

Somerset Place offers a realistic view of 19th-century life on a large-scale North Carolina plantation. In 1785, Somerset Place became an active plantation and remained active until 1865, when the institution of slavery was ended in the United States. Most programs and exhibits at the site evoke life there in 1843. Originally, the Collins family plantation encompassed more than 100,000 densely wooded and predominantly swampy acres. An enslaved labor force converted

swampland into cultivated fields by digging six large irrigation, drainage, and transportation canals and miles of intersecting cross ditches. The plantation's major cash crops included rice, corn, wheat, and lumber. By 1860, Somerset Place was one of only four North Carolina plantations with over three hundred enslaved people on one property.

Today, this unique historical attraction is one of only a few former plantations in the state preserved as a historic site. Students can learn valuable lessons from the lives of both the free and enslaved inhabitants of Somerset through exhibits, tours of buildings in the slave community and owner's compound, and hands-on activities. Study guide with pre- and post-visit classroom activities available.

### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area
- Exhibits
- Handicapped-accessible restrooms
- Motorcoach/Bus Parking
- Gift Shop
- Vending
- Recreational Trails
- Picnic Area
- Pettigrew State Park adjacent to Site





## Historic Bath



**Box 148/207 Carteret Street**

**Bath, NC 27808**

**(252) 923-0525**

**Website:** [www.historicsites.nc.gov/bath](http://www.historicsites.nc.gov/bath)

**Email:** [bath@ncdcr.gov](mailto:bath@ncdcr.gov)

The village of Bath provides modern-day travelers with a glimpse of the early days in a colonial community. North Carolina's first town, Bath was incorporated in 1705. During the Tuscarora War, Bath was a refuge for settlers caught in the turmoil. The town also became a safe haven for the notorious pirate, Blackbeard.

At Historic Bath, students may take guided tours of the 1751 Palmer-Marsh House and the 1830 Bonner House. These buildings represent nearly a century of colonial and early national life in coastal North Carolina. Students can also take a self-guided walking tour of the town, featuring many of the historic locations, including the 1734 St. Thomas Church; the state's oldest church in continuous use, which is open to the public. Students can learn skills from interpreters such as rope making and candle making, as well as some of the leisure activities of the late 18th and early 19th centuries. Visitor services, restrooms, and exhibits are located in the Exhibit Center.

### Facilities:

Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area

Audiovisual Program

Exhibits

Gift shop

Picnic Areas (not covered)

Restrooms

On-site Bus Parking

Limited Nearby Restaurants





## Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace

264 Governor Aycock Road

Fremont, NC 27830

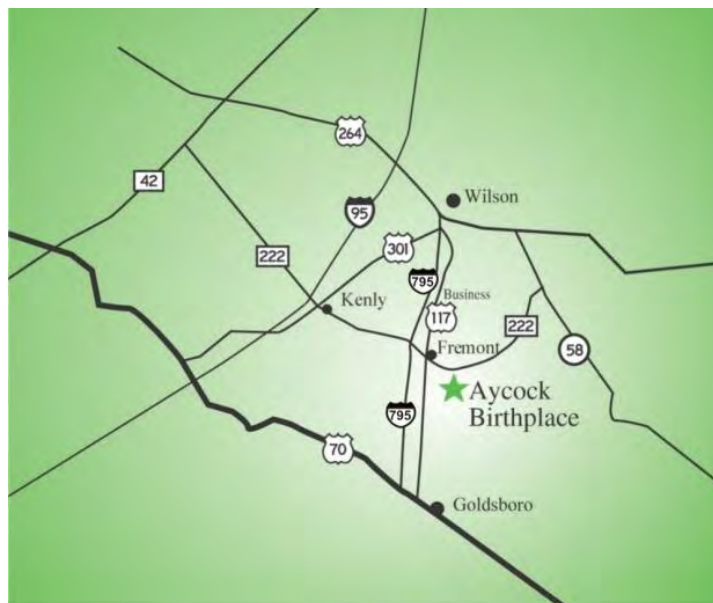
(919) 242-5581

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/aycock](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/aycock)

Email: [aycock@ncdcr.gov](mailto:aycock@ncdcr.gov)

Life for Charles Brantley Aycock began on his family's farm in rural Wayne County on November 1, 1859. Shaped by his family's values of hard work, education, and his father's interest in local politics, Charles grew to become a skilled orator, lawyer, and leader in the Democratic Party. Elected governor of North Carolina in 1900 in an election involving both white supremacy and "universal education" issues, Aycock served until 1905. He earned a reputation as the state's "Education Governor" because of his relentless championing of better school facilities and increased training and pay for teachers.

Today's students can experience farm life as it was for young Charles through tours, hands-on activities, and observing costumed interpreters performing daily chores. Visitor center exhibits trace Aycock's life and political career.



### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area and Buildings
- Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Picnic Area (covered)
- Gift Shop
- On-site Bus Parking
- Limited Nearby Restaurants

## Bentonville Battlefield



5466 Harper House Rd. Four Oaks, NC 27524

(910) 594-0789

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi)

Email: [bentonville@ncdcr.gov](mailto:bentonville@ncdcr.gov)

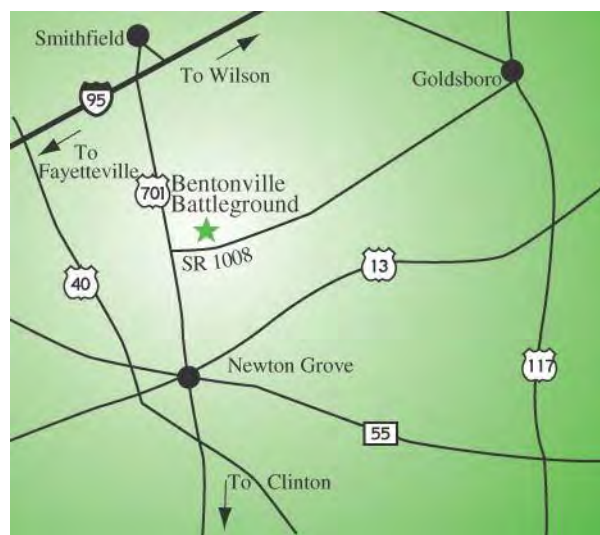
Bentonville Battlefield is the site of the Battle of Bentonville, one of the last major battles of the Civil War and the largest battle ever fought on North Carolina soil. Today, the site interprets the history of the battle, the tactics, the people involved, the broader story of the Civil War in North Carolina, and 19th century farm life. With such broad subject matter, students of all ages can take much away from a planned visit to the site.

Bentonville field trips have many opportunities for experiential learning. We have multiple interactive, hands-on activities including: a STEM activity that takes place in the Harper House (used as a field hospital during the battle), a musket demonstration that allows students a new perspective on the individual soldier's life, and more!

Contact the site for more information on how best to adapt our opportunities to your needs while learning about the past where it actually happened!

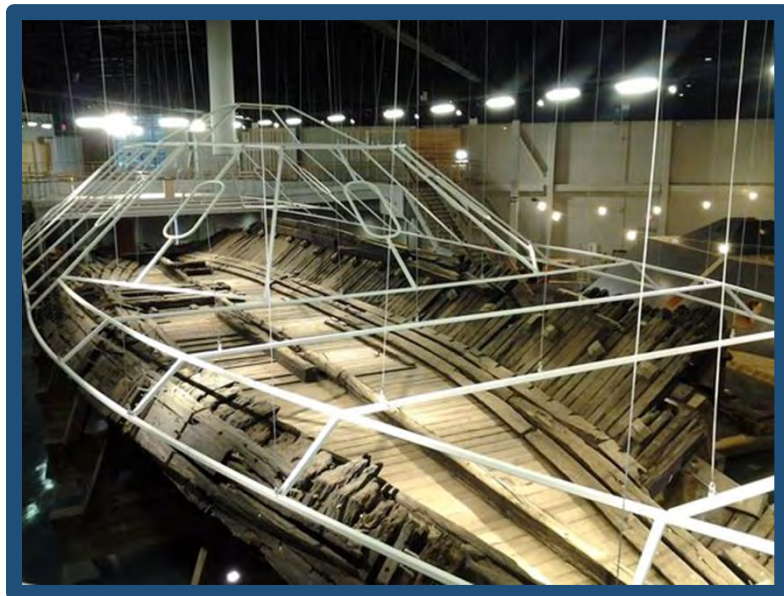
### Facilities:

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center
- Partially Handicapped-accessible Historic Area
- Exhibits – Fiber Optic Battlefield Map
- Audiovisual Program
- Picnic Area (covered)
- Restrooms
- Vending
- Gift Shop
- Limited Nearby Restaurants
- On-site Bus Parking





## CSS *Neuse* Civil War Interpretive Center/ Governor Richard Caswell Memorial



100 N. Queen St.  
Kinston, NC 28501  
(252) 526-9600

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/neuse)

Email: [cssneuse@ncdcr.gov](mailto:cssneuse@ncdcr.gov)

Located in the new CSS *Neuse* Civil War Interpretive Center in downtown Kinston, are the remains of the Civil War ironclad CSS *Neuse*. The *Neuse* was one of 26 ironclad ships commissioned by the Confederacy. During a Union advance on the town of Kinston in 1865, its commander was forced to scuttle the vessel. For nearly a hundred years, the *Neuse* rested on the river bottom before being raised from its watery grave.

On a visit to this historic site, students can learn what life was like for the sailors on the CSS *Neuse* through tours and hands-on activities. The nearby Governor Richard Caswell Memorial is also available for tours and programming upon request and availability. This historic site honors Richard Caswell, the first governor of the independent state of North Carolina. A teachers' packet is available for elementary grades.

### Facilities

Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center  
Exhibits  
Audiovisual Program  
Restrooms  
Gift Shop  
Nearby Restaurants





## Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson

8884 St. Phillips Rd. S.E.

Winnabow, NC 28479

(910) 371-6613

Website: [www.nchistoricsites.org/brunswick](http://www.nchistoricsites.org/brunswick)

Email: [brunswick@ncdcr.gov](mailto:brunswick@ncdcr.gov)

A quiet embankment along the lower Cape Fear River holds many secrets, including the remains of both a colonial town and Civil War fortification. Here under moss-covered branches once stood a lively port town. Brunswick, a bustling community, was home to royal governors and influential colonial citizens. Burned by the British in 1776, Brunswick faded into obscurity. During the Civil War, the Confederacy built Fort Anderson on the remains of the colonial

town as part of the Lower Cape Fear defense system. Union troops attacked the fort in February 1865 and the Confederates abandoned it under the cloak of night.

Today, students can visit the sites of these two conflicts as well as the Visitor Center exhibits detailing their history. Tours and hands-on activities of the sites are available for students on both 18<sup>th</sup>-century and Civil War themes.



### Facilities

- Visitor Center/Museum
- Fully Handicapped-accessible Site
- Wayside Exhibits
- Audiovisual Program
- Restrooms
- Picnic Tables (shaded)
- Gift Shop
- On-site Bus Parking
- Limited Restaurants Nearby

## Fort Fisher

1610 Ft. Fisher Blvd. South

Kure Beach, NC 28449

(910) 251-7351

Website: <https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/fort-fisher>

Email: [fisher@ncdcr.gov](mailto:fisher@ncdcr.gov)

In the Civil War, the agricultural South depended on Europe for manufactured goods and war materials. To stop the importation of these items, President Abraham Lincoln declared a naval blockade of Confederate ports. Wilmington's proximity to Bermuda and the Bahamas, added to its rail connections to Virginia, made it the lifeline of the Confederacy. Nicknamed "the Gibraltar of America," Fort Fisher's massive earthen walls stretched

almost a mile and a half and averaged 30 feet high. The fort also had 30 underground bombproofs and magazines. Under the protection of Fort Fisher's 44 big guns, 4 field pieces, and 3 mortars, tens of millions of dollars' worth of goods and war material came into the Confederacy. After two attacks, Fort Fisher was finally captured in January 1865. The Confederacy's main supply line was severed. Three months later, out of supplies and hope, the Confederacy surrendered and the Civil War ended. The fighting at Fort Fisher was the largest combined operation undertaken by the US Army and Navy of the Civil War.

During World War II, the US Army reactivated Fort Fisher as an Anti-Aircraft Artillery Firing Point. Soldiers from all over the country came to learn the skills necessary to protect installations and troops from enemy aircraft. Civilian female pilots pulled targets across the skies to assist with training prior to the units being shipped overseas.

Through tours, weapons demonstrations, and hands-on activities, students can step back in time and learn what it was like for soldiers on both sides of the fort – those protecting it and those trying to capture it. An Educators' Packet containing information on Fort Fisher, details about on-site activities, off-site programming, and Lesson Guides geared towards elementary or middle school students, and a suggested bibliography is available upon request.



### Facilities

- Handicapped-accessible Visitor Center and ¼ Mile Tour Trail
- Trail Markers describing historical events
- Museum Exhibit Hall
- Map Display depicting the Second Battle
- Audiovisual Program
- Tour Trail Markers
- Restrooms
- Gift Shop
- Drink vending machines
- On-site Bus Parking