

NORTH CAROLINA

STATEHOOD

November 21, 1789

NICKNAME(S)

Old North State
Tar Heel State

MOTTO

Esse Quam Videri

"To Be Rather Than to Seem"



“
WE THE PEOPLE
OF THE
UNITED STATES,
IN ORDER TO
FORM A MORE
PERFECT UNION,
ESTABLISH JUSTICE
...AND SECURE
THE BLESSINGS
OF LIBERTY...
”

— PREAMBLE TO THE
UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS THAT SHAPED OUR HISTORY

FLAG

May 20, 1775 — Mecklenburg Declaration (*April 19, 1775 • Battles of Lexington and Concord*)

April 12, 1776 — Halifax Resolves (*February 27, 1776 • Moore's Creek Bridge*)

CONSTITUTION

July 4, 1776 — United States Declaration of Independence

December 17, 1776 — State Declaration of Rights

December 18, 1776 — North Carolina's first Constitution *ratified*

September 17, 1787 — Federal Constitution *proposed*

July 21 - August 4, 1788 — North Carolina's first Constitutional Convention (*no ratification because no bill of rights*)

September 25, 1789 — Bill of Rights *proposed*

November 1789 — North Carolina *ratified* U.S. Constitution

November 21, 1789 — North Carolina became 12th state of the United States of America

December 1789 — North Carolina *ratified* U.S. Bill of Rights

December 15, 1791 — Federal Bill of Rights *ratified* (*Articles 3 to 12*)

May 20, 1861 — North Carolina seceded from the Union

December 6, 1865 — 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution *ratified* (*abolition of slavery*)

April 23, 1868 — North Carolina's 1868 Constitution *adopted by popular vote*

July 4, 1868 — North Carolina is readmitted to the Union

February 3, 1870 — 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution *ratified* (*ensuring the African-American right to vote*)

August 18, 1920 — 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution *ratified* (*ensuring women the right to vote*)

November 3, 1970 — North Carolina's 1971 Constitution *adopted by popular vote*

COURT

1767 — First courthouse in North Carolina • Chowan County, Edenton

November 15, 1777 — Founding of the Superior Court through passage of the North Carolina Judicial Act

November 5, 1787 — First reported case of judicial review (*Bayard v. Singleton*)

November 1818 — North Carolina General Assembly creates Supreme Court of North Carolina

January 1, 1819 — Founding of the Supreme Court of North Carolina

January 9, 1878 — Tabatha A. Holton became the first female licensed attorney in North Carolina

March 9, 1962 — Susie Sharp became the first woman justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina

1962 — Samuel S. Mitchell became the first African-American judge in North Carolina

December 1966 — Founding of the District Court

October 1, 1967 — Founding of the Court of Appeals

January 2, 1975 — Susie Sharp became the first woman chief justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina

February 3, 1983 — Henry Frye became the first African-American justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina

September 7, 1999 — Henry Frye became the first African-American chief justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS CONTINUED

SOURCES
www.nccourts.org
www.ncdcr.gov
www.ncmuseumofhistory.org
www.ncmarkers.com
www.referenceask.com
www.sosnc.gov

GENERAL

1584 - 1585 — Sir Walter Raleigh sends ships to establish the first English colony on Roanoke Island
April 27, 1584 — First of the Roanoke Colonies (*Lost Colony*)
1586 — Roanoke colonists are forced to return to England due to hardships
July 2, 1587 — John White established a second English colony at Roanoke
August 18, 1587 — Virginia Dare was born and became the first English child christened on American soil
March 8, 1705 — Bath became North Carolina's first incorporated town
July 25, 1729 — North Carolina became a royal colony
May 16, 1771 — Battle of Alamance County (*War of the Regulation*)
May 31, 1775 — Mecklenburg Resolves
October 7, 1780 — Battle of Kings Mountain (*turning point • Revolutionary War*)
March 15, 1781 — Battle of Guilford Courthouse (*pivotal • Revolutionary War*)
1794 — Capital of North Carolina was moved from New Bern to Raleigh
February 12, 1795 — University of North Carolina became the nation's first state university
1799 — First gold nugget found in the United States at Reed Gold Mine in Cabarrus County
March 4, 1829 — North Carolina native Andrew Jackson became the 7th president of the United States
1830s — North Carolina became a major producer of tobacco because of its bright leaf tobacco production method
March 4, 1845 — North Carolina native James Polk became the 11th president of the United States
April 12, 1861 - May 13, 1865 — American Civil War
April 15, 1865 — Andrew Johnson, Vice President and North Carolina native, became the 17th president of the United States after the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln
April 26, 1865 — Bennett Place surrender (*the largest troop surrender of the American Civil War*)
March 4, 1875 — John Adams Hyman became the first African-American representing North Carolina in the U.S. House of Representatives
1898 — First Pepsi was created and served in New Bern
December 17, 1903 — Wright brothers complete the first successful flight at Kitty Hawk
April 6, 1917 — United States enters World War I (*declaring war on Germany*)
October 29, 1929 — Stock Market crash ushering in the Great Depression
June 13, 1940 — USS North Carolina launched (*battleship*)
December 7, 1941 — United States enters World War II
May 25, 1946 — Eliza Jane Pratt became the first woman representing North Carolina in the U.S. House of Representatives
April 6, 1956 — First state art museum in the country is located in Raleigh
February 1, 1960 — Landmark lunch counter protest in Greensboro
May 6, 1969 — Howard Lee became the first African-American mayor of a predominately white city (*Chapel Hill*) in North Carolina, and the first in the South since Reconstruction
October 1977 — Isabella Cannon became the first woman mayor of a major North Carolina city (*Raleigh*)
August 2, 1990 - February 28, 1991 — United States fights the Persian Gulf War
November 5, 1996 — Elaine F. Marshall became the first woman Secretary of State in North Carolina
November 2002 — Elizabeth Dole became the first woman representing North Carolina in the U.S. Senate
January 10, 2009 — Beverly Perdue was sworn-in as the first woman to be elected Governor of North Carolina

NORTH CAROLINA

3 BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT

LEGISLATIVE

Makes laws

SENATE — 50 elected senators total, one each from 50 districts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES — 120 elected representatives total, one each from 120 districts

EXECUTIVE

Carries out laws

GOVERNOR — the elected head of the Executive Branch

CABINET SECRETARIES — chosen by the Governor to oversee the Executive Branch agencies

JUDICIAL

Interprets laws and constitution

SUPREME COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA — 1 chief justice (head of the Judicial Branch) and 6 associate justices elected to 8-year terms by North Carolina citizens

COURT OF APPEALS — 15 elected judges sit in rotating panels of 3

SUPERIOR COURTS — divided into 50 districts and empanels juries and hears all felony criminal cases, big civil cases, and appeals from district courts

DISTRICT COURTS — divided into four categories (criminal, civil, juvenile, and magistrate) and are located in the county seat of each of North Carolina's 100 counties



PREPARED BY
Speakers Bureau Program and the Communications Office of the
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