

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
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