



Legacy Commission

Streets Named in Honor of Slavery, Slave Owners, Confederate Veterans, and Supporters of White Supremacy

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As announced by *The Charlotte Observer*, on June 24, 2020, amid a nationwide movement to remove monuments of the Confederacy, Mayor Vi Lyles, through a memorandum, announced plans to create the 15-member commission that would review monuments and street names tied to the Confederacy and the legacy of Jim Crow. This commission will then make recommendations for how to contextualize the history properly around these monuments and street names by December.

The following streets are named for leaders of the Confederacy and white supremacists who actively fought to defend slavery and against racial equality. The Commission has recommended these streets for name changes.

1) Jefferson Davis Street (City Street)

During the Civil War, Jefferson Davis served as President of the Confederate States from 1861 to 1865. At the war's end, he encouraged reconciliation and implored Southerners to be loyal to the Union. However, by the 1880s, former Confederates saw him as a hero of the Lost Cause of the Confederacy. Jefferson Davis was born in Fairview, Kentucky, and died in New Orleans, Louisiana. He had no extensive ties to Charlotte, beyond retreating to the city during the last days of the Civil War and holding his final executive cabinet meeting at William Phifer's home.¹ There is a Jefferson Davis Street located in the Druid Hill community in West Charlotte. The street is dead-ended at both ends and has only one cross street, Moretz Avenue.

2) W. Hill Street (City Street)

Daniel H. Hill was a Confederate officer who spent time before and after the Civil War in Charlotte. He was born in York County, South Carolina, on July 12, 1821, and died in Charlotte on September 24, 1889. Hill served on the faculties of Washington College (later Washington and Lee University) from 1849 to 1854 and Davidson College from 1854 through 1859, when he became principal of the North Carolina Military Academy in Charlotte. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he was commissioned as a colonel and led The Charlotte Greys, a local regiment, in usurping the city's branch of the U.S. Mint. He quickly rose to brigadier general to major

¹ See Jefferson Davis entry in North Carolina Encyclopedia: <https://www.ncpedia.org/jefferson-davis>



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general and commander of the Army of Northern Virginia. Hill is remembered for his college textbook, *Elements of Algebra*, and for leading critical strategic victories during the war, and finally for editing a Charlotte-based magazine, *The Land We Love*, which was influential throughout the South from 1866 through 1869. Hill eventually became a prominent educator in the South, serving as presidents of Arkansas Industrial University, Middle Georgia Military and Agricultural College. Hill was also instrumental in writing several Civil War histories.² West Hill Street is named in his honor. The street is located in uptown Charlotte and extends east from McNinch Street to Eldridge Street, just outside Bank of America Stadium. The street again picks up on the east side of the stadium, stretching from South Church Street across South Tryon and becomes East Hill for one city block ending at South College Street.

3) Stonewall Street (City Street)

4) Jackson Avenue (City Street)

Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson was born in Clarksburg, Virginia, in 1824 and died in Guinea, Virginia, in 1863. As an 1846 graduate of West Point, he sided with the Confederacy at the start of the Civil War and quickly rose in prominence. Military historians regard him as the most gifted tactical commander in the Confederacy, and his military exploits became legendary and were an essential element of the ideology of the Lost Cause. There are several streets named in honor of Stonewall Jackson. The most prominent is East Stonewall Street, located in uptown Charlotte. The street extends from South Mint and South Graham, at Bank of America Stadium, east to Kenilworth Avenue. For many years, local defenders of Jackson’s legacy claimed the street was named to honor his second wife, Mary Anna Morrison, whom he married in 1857. She was from North Carolina, where her father was President of Davidson College. Following their marriage, the couple lived in Lexington, Virginia, where Jackson was a Virginia Military Institute professor. Following Jackson’s death, she moved to Charlotte into a home was located on East Third Street, which is now East Stonewall Street. There is a Stonewall Jackson Homes Drive located in a private low-income rental community at 5751 Airport Drive off West Boulevard. According to a 1947 *Charlotte News* article, Jackson Avenue, located off East 10th Street, directly across from Piedmont Open IB Middle School, is also named in honor of Stonewall Jackson.³

5) Phifer Avenue (City Street)

William Phifer was from Catawba and came to Charlotte in 1852. He inherited a great deal of land, money, and enslaved Africans. Phifer owned approximately 28 enslaved people, making him one of the two largest slave owners in the city. The Phifer home occupied an entire block,

² See Daniel Harvey Hill entry in North Carolina Encyclopedia: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/hill-daniel-harvey>; For a deeper analysis of his legacy and contributions see: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=a3853c2282164732aee79017ef5b3d71>

³ See Wikipedia entry for Stonewall Jackson: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stonewall_Jackson ; Also see *Charlotte News*, September 11, 1947, pg. 32



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from Phifer Avenue to College Street to Eleventh Street, and included a well-designed garden, a sixty-foot well, a springhouse, a carriage house, a garden house, and smokehouse. It was part of his larger four- thousand-acre estate. In early 1865, Phifer’s property served as the headquarters for General Pierre G.T. Beauregard, and two weeks after the Confederacy officially surrendered at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, the Confederate Cabinet met for the last time in Phifer’s home.⁴ Today, Phifer Avenue connects North Tryon to North College between East 9th and East 11th Streets. The street runs perpendicular to the Hal Marshall Center.

6) Aycock Lane (City Street?)

Beyond Charles Brantley Aycock (Wayne County) and William Brantley Aycock (Wilson County), there are no other famous or influential persons from North Carolina who carry the Aycock name. William was a longtime law professor at UNC School of Law and served as chancellor of UNC from 1957 until 1964. Aycock Lane is most likely named in honor of Charles Aycock, who, beginning in 1900, served as the state’s 50th governor. According to historian H. Leon Prather, Aycock was the “king of oratory” and the “Democratic Moses who led North Carolina out of the darkness and chaos of Negro domination.” Aycock is remembered as the primary architect of the state’s White Supremacy Movement, which fully emerged in 1898 and was responsible for disfranchising African Americans in 1901.⁵ He is fondly referred to as North Carolina’s “education governor.” The street is located in a subdivision just south of Dilworth, off of Scaleybark Road.

7) Barringer Drive (City Street)

Barringer is a prominent family name in the Mecklenburg and Cabarrus County region. John Paul Barringer and his eldest son, John Sr., were members of the Mecklenburg Militia during the Revolutionary War. When John Paul died in 1807, he was 86 years old and owned 13 slaves and hundreds of acres of land in Cabarrus County. By 1838, John Sr. owned three plantations, two stores, a tannery, and a cotton mill around Concord. Although he owned as many as 15 slaves, he eventually reached the point where he was no longer in favor of the institution. But instead of granting them freedom, he deeded them to his son, Paul Brandon, who took them further south to Mississippi. His three other sons, Rufus, Moreau, and Victor, were all lawyers

⁴ Mary Kratt, *Charlotte, NC: A Brief History*, (Charleston, SC: The History Press, 2009); Also see William Phifer House entry at: <https://www.cmstory.org/exhibits/robinson-spangler-north-carolina-room-image-collection-charlotte-postcard-collection-415> ; and North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources essay on Last Cabinet Meeting: <http://www.ncmarkers.com/Markers.aspx?MarkerId=L-3>

⁵ The best scholarly works that explore Aycock’s role in disfranchising black North Carolinians are James L. Leloudis’ *Schooling the New South: Pedagogy, Self, and Society in North Carolina, 1880-1920*; Glenda E. Gilmore’s *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920*; *Democracy Betrayed: The Wilmington Race Riot of 1898 and Its Legacy*, edited by David S. Cecelski and Timothy B. Tyson. Some good websites and links to newspaper articles include: <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/governor-aycock-negro> ; <https://media2.newsobserver.com/content/media/2010/5/3/ghostsof1898.pdf>



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and served the state as elected politicians.⁶ In the 1850s, Rufus was a prominent Whig, a forerunner of the Republican Party, who favored African American suffrage. Initially, he was against secession, but after the state seceded, he was among the first to volunteer. Rufus rose to the brigadier general's rank, but he served as a Republican after the war.⁷ Rufus was the father of Warren C. Coleman, who was perhaps the wealthiest African American in North Carolina from Reconstruction through the turn of the twentieth century. Barringer advocated for African American rights following the Civil War, yet his sons, Paul B. Barringer and Osmond M. Barringer, espoused white supremacy ideals. Paul became a leader in the field of "scientific" racism at the University of Virginia in the late 1800s, and Osmond was a leader in the local white supremacy club movement in Charlotte at the turn of the twentieth century. Osmond also fought against the desegregation of public facilities in Charlotte in the 1950s.⁸ According to Osmond, Barringer Drive was named in his honor. The street is located in West Charlotte. It extends south from West Boulevard, snaking across Remount Road and Clanton Road before coming to an end at Pressley Road.

8) Morrison Boulevard (City Street)

Cameron A. Morrison was a prominent leader of the 'Red Shirts,' the paramilitary wing of the state Democratic Party's White Supremacy campaign that worked to suppress and terrorize black voters in North Carolina in the late 1890s. In 1920, Morrison successfully ran for Governor of North Carolina on the platform that he fought gloriously for the cause of White Supremacy. Morrison served as the state's 55th governor and is commonly referred to as the "Good Roads Governor." Under his leadership, the government systematically made use of black convict labor to help build state roads. In the mid-1920s, Morrison purchased upwards of 3000 acres in what is now South Charlotte to build his Morrocroft Estate. Over the years, most of the land surrounding his home was sold to local developers. Today, the area comprises Barclay Downs and South Park. Morrison Boulevard and Governor Morrison Street are named in his honor. There are several other prominent buildings and apartments named in Morrison's memory, including Southpark Morrison, Morrison Condos, Morrison Family YMCA, and Morrison Library.⁹

⁶ Sheridan R. Barringer, *Fighting for General Lee: Confederate General Rufus Barringer and the North Carolina Calvary Brigade*, (El Dorado, CA: Savas Beatie Publishing, 2015)

⁷ <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/barringer-rufus-clay>

⁸ See "Eugenics, Medical Education, and the Public Health Service: Another Perspective on the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment," by Paul A. Lombardo and Gregory M. Dorr, <http://antimicrobe.org/h04c.files/history/BullHxMed-Lombardo-PublicHealthServ-06.pdf>; University of Virginia Doctoral Dissertation by Gregory Michael Dorr (2000) <https://libraetd.lib.virginia.edu/downloads/8g84mm67t?filename=X004481159.pdf>; See *Recreation Commission v. Barringer* case file: <https://casetext.com/case/recreation-commission-v-barringer> The Charlotte Parks and Recreation Commission filed an action against Osmond Barringer to obtain a judicial ruling allowing African Americans to use the golf course because of the reverter provisions and the restrictions in the deeds. *Charlotte News*, September 11, 1947, pg. 32.

⁹ James L. Leloudis and Robert R. Korstad's *Fragile Democracy: The Struggle over Race and Voting Rights in North Carolina* briefly discusses Morrison's gubernational campaign. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library's North



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The name of the Morrison Library was recently changed to the South Park Library because of the association of Morrison with white supremacy.

9) Zebulon Avenue (City Street)

Zebulon Baird Vance entered politics in North Carolina in the 1850s. In 1854 he was elected to Congress and again in 1859. In 1861, after the South succeeded from the Union, Vance refused to serve on the Confederate Congress, instead choosing to fight. He eventually rose to the rank of colonel of the Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment. In 1862, he accepted the Conservative party nomination for Governor and handily defeated Democratic candidate, William Johnston of Mecklenburg County. Vance was North Carolina's Confederate Governor from 1862 through 1865. His re-election as Governor in 1877 symbolized the return to power of slavery-era leaders.¹⁰ Zebulon Avenue is located in the Smallwood community off of Rozzelles Ferry Road.

The following streets are named for slave owners, government officials of the Confederacy, and low-ranking officers and soldiers in the Confederacy. These street names have not been recommended for change at this time and require further historical analysis and input from the public.

10) Bragg Street (Private Street)

A native of Warrenton, North Carolina, Braxton Bragg was a noted major general in the Confederate Army who led numerous battles during the Civil War in Louisiana, Florida, and Mississippi. Most of the battles that he led ended in defeat and eventually resulted in his demotion as Commander of the Army of Mississippi. Because of his friendship with Jefferson Davis, he was appointed as his advisor.¹¹ Despite his poor military record, there are several prominent places named in his honor across the country including, Bragg, Texas (1902), Fort Bragg, California (1889), and Fort Bragg, North Carolina (1918). There is a Bragg Street in Charlotte located in the Bennington Place Neighborhood off of South Tryon Street, just south of Carowinds Boulevard. The streets in this neighborhood are all named in honor of some aspect of the Civil War.

Carolina Room has a Morrison file that contains a poster from his 1920 gubernational campaign, with the subheading, "Cameron Morrison Fought a Glorious Fight for the Cause of White Supremacy in North Carolina in 1898-1900." Also see Red Shirt entry in North Carolina Encyclopedia: <https://www.ncpedia.org/red-shirts>. See National Register of Historic Places Application: <https://files.nc.gov/ncdcr/nr/MK0198.pdf>

¹⁰ This link provides primary documents related to Vance's ownership of slaves and his support of White Supremacy: <https://notesfromthechalkboard.com/2020/06/13/meet-north-carolinas-favorite-white-supremacist-zebulon-vance/>

¹¹ See Ohio State University's Department of History E History biographical entry for Bragg: <https://ehistory.osu.edu/biographies/braxton-bragg>; Also see North Carolina Encyclopedia entry for Braxton Bragg: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/bragg-braxton>



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11) Mosby Lane (Private Street)

John Mosby was a lawyer from Powhatan, Virginia, who joined the Confederate Army when the state seceded from the Union. Mosby became a scout for General Jeb Stuart, earning himself both a high-ranking command and the nickname “Gray Ghost.” He was so valuable to the Confederacy that many Union officers tried and failed to capture him. Robert E. Lee, Commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, is said to have remarked, “I wish I had 100 men like Mosby.” At the end of the war, Mosby was a fugitive with a bounty on his head but received a pardon from President Ulysses S. Grant. A friendship based on mutual admiration rose between the two, and Mosby became a Republican who worked to repair the fractured Union.¹² Mosby Lane is located in the Bennington Place Neighborhood off of South Tryon Street, just south of Carowinds Boulevard.

12) Deshler Court (Private Street)

James Deshler was born on February 18, 1833, in Tuscumbia, Alabama. He graduated from West Point in 1854. During the sectionalism crisis, he was heavily influenced by his father, who took the position that the South existed in a state of unrest because of agitation over the “negro question” by the North. As a result, with the Civil War outbreak, Deshler abandoned his United States Army Commission and was instead commissioned as a captain in the Confederate Army. He eventually rose through the ranks to Brigadier General. He died during an artillery inspection accident in 1863.¹³ Deshler Court is located in the Bennington Place Neighborhood off of South Tryon Street, just south of Carowinds Boulevard.

13) Stonewall Jackson Homes Drive

Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson was born in Clarksburg, Virginia, in 1824 and died in Guinea, Virginia, in 1863. As an 1846 graduate of West Point, he sided with the Confederacy at the start of the Civil War and quickly rose in prominence. Military historians regard him as the most gifted tactical commander in the Confederacy, and his military exploits became legendary and were an essential element of the ideology of the Lost Cause. There are several streets named in honor of Stonewall Jackson. The most prominent is East Stonewall Street, located in uptown Charlotte. The street extends from South Mint and South Graham, at Bank of America Stadium, east to Kenilworth Avenue. For many years, local defenders of Jackson’s legacy claimed the street was named to honor his second wife, Mary Anna Morrison, whom he married in 1857. She was from North Carolina, where her father was President of Davidson College. Following their marriage, the couple lived in Lexington, Virginia, where Jackson was a Virginia Military Institute professor. Following Jackson’s death, she moved to Charlotte into a home was located

¹² See 2013 article written by Kathleen Golden, curator at National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.: <https://americanhistory.si.edu/blog/2013/12/meet-john-s-mosby-the-gray-ghost-of-the-confederacy.html>; Mosby legend inspired a short-lived television series called *The Grey Ghost* that aired from October 1957 through July 1958.

¹³ See National Park Service entry for James Deshler: <https://www.nps.gov/people/james-deshler.htm>



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on East Third Street, which is now East Stonewall Street. There is a Stonewall Jackson Homes Drive located in a private low-income rental community at 5751 Airport Drive off West Boulevard. According to a 1947 *Charlotte News* article, Jackson Avenue, located off East 10th Street, directly across from Piedmont Open IB Middle School, is also named in honor of Stonewall Jackson.¹⁴

14) Governor Morrison Street (Private Street)

Cameron A. Morrison was a prominent leader of the ‘Red Shirts,’ the paramilitary wing of the state Democratic Party’s White Supremacy campaign that worked to suppress and terrorize black voters in North Carolina in the late 1890s. In 1920, Morrison successfully ran for Governor of North Carolina on the platform that he fought gloriously for the cause of White Supremacy. Morrison served as the state’s 55th governor and is commonly referred to as the “Good Roads Governor.” Under his leadership, the government systematically made use of black convict labor to help build state roads. In the mid-1920s, Morrison purchased upwards of 3000 acres in what is now South Charlotte to build his Morrocroft Estate. Over the years, most of the land surrounding his home was sold to local developers. Today, the area comprises Barclay Downs and South Park. Morrison Boulevard and Governor Morrison Street are named in his honor. There are several other prominent buildings and apartments named in Morrison’s memory, including Southpark Morrison, Morrison Condos, Morrison Family YMCA, and Morrison Library.¹⁵

15) South Clarkson Street (Clarkson Green Place, Clarkson Mill Court)

The Clarkson name gained prominence in Charlotte beginning in 1871 when Walter Beaumont Clarkson leased the buildings of the former North Carolina Military Institute to re-establish the school. The *Charlotte Democrat*, a local newspaper, identified Clarkson as a colonel in the Confederate Army, and further research revealed that he came from a prominent slaveholding family on the outskirts of Columbia. Walter served as “principal” of the school until he died in 1875. According to his September 26, 1892, *Charlotte Observer* obituary William Clarkson, Walter’s brother, was also an influential member of Charlotte’s community. Like his brother, William served in the Confederate Army, reaching the rank of captain. His obituary asserts that throughout his service, he was accompanied by his slave, William DeSaussure, who remained by his side until he died in 1892. Following the war, William Clarkson was employed by the

¹⁴ See Wikipedia entry for Stonewall Jackson: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stonewall_Jackson ; Also see *Charlotte News*, September 11, 1947, pg. 32

¹⁵ James L. Leloudis and Robert R. Korstad’s *Fragile Democracy: The Struggle over Race and Voting Rights in North Carolina* briefly discusses Morrison’s gubernational campaign. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library’s North Carolina Room has a Morrison file that contains a poster from his 1920 gubernational campaign, with the subheading, “Cameron Morrison Fought a Glorious Fight for the Cause of White Supremacy in North Carolina in 1898-1900.” Also see Red Shirt entry in North Carolina Encyclopedia: <https://www.ncpedia.org/red-shirts>. See National Register of Historic Places Application: <https://files.nc.gov/ncdcr/nr/MK0198.pdf>



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Charlotte, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad, eventually rising to the conductor's position. He served for 15 years before assuming the same role on the Atlantic, Tennessee, and Ohio Railroad. William was the father of Heriot Clarkson, who was born during the Civil War in 1863. In 1873, Heriot enrolled at North Carolina Military Institute in Charlotte, where his uncle was the principal. Heriot later studied law at the University of North Carolina in 1884.

From 1887-1889 and 1891-1893, Heriot served as Alderman and Vice-Mayor of Charlotte, and in 1888 he started a local law practice. In the mid-1890s, Clarkson organized a local white supremacy club and, from 1923 through 1942, served as an Associate Justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court.¹⁶ He was also the campaign manager for Cameron Morrison during his run for Governor in the 1920s. Clarkson Street was first mentioned as a street name in the *Charlotte Observer* in 1888. Osmond Barringer asserted in a September 11, 1947, *Charlotte News* article that the street was named in honor of Heriot. However, Heriot had not achieved much prominence in his professional career in 1888 beyond his election to the Alderman Board and starting a law firm. Thus, it is unclear for which Clarkson the street was named. In addition to South Clarkson Street, located in Third Ward, there is a Clarkson Green Place and Clarkson Mill Court in the same vicinity.

16) Morehead Street (State Road)

Morehead was a prominent family name in North Carolina. Both John Motley Morehead and his brother James Motley Morehead were influential state politicians in the mid-19th century. John was the more successful of the two; from 1841 through 1845, he served as the 29th Governor of the state. In 1861, John represented North Carolina at a conference to avoid war and express opposition against secession. With the failure of the meeting and the subsequent secession of North Carolina, Morehead served in the Confederate Congress representing North Carolina. He later served as president of the North Carolina Railroad and became widely remembered as the "father of modern North Carolina." Morehead had six daughters and three sons who carried his last name, James Turner, John Lindsay, and Eugene Lindsay. James, the older of the two, was an entrepreneur and served as a second lieutenant in the Confederate Army. The younger son, Eugene, was a banker and industrialist who founded Morehead Banking Company in Durham. John Lindsey was also a Confederate officer who owned a large home on South Tryon at Morehead Street and was a leading citizen in Charlotte for many years. It is unclear whether the street is named in honor of the former Governor or his son.¹⁷ Morehead Street is located just outside the John Belk Freeway in Uptown Charlotte. The street extends east to South Kings Drive and west to Wilkerson Boulevard.

¹⁶ Janette T. Greenwood's *Bittersweet Legacy: The Black and White 'Better Classes' in Charlotte, 1850-1910* is the only scholarly book that mentions Heriot Clarkson's role in Governor Morrison's campaign and the local White Supremacy Movement. Also see *Charlotte News*, September 11, 1947, pg. 32.

¹⁷ Samuel A. Ashe, *Biographical History of North Carolina, From Colonial Times to Present*, (Greensboro, N.C.: C.L. Van Noppen, 1905), pg. 250-281.: <https://archive.org/details/cu31924092215445/page/n357/mode/2up>



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17) N Alexander Street

Hezekiah Alexander was one of the few people of considerable wealth living in Mecklenburg County in the Colonial era. In 1767, Alexander, a blacksmith by trade, sold his property in Pennsylvania and moved to Mecklenburg County, where he already owned land and had influential relatives. It was a time when more settlers were moving into the Yadkin-Catawba territory, and when he arrived, he erected an imposing rock house in 1774. Alexander took his Mecklenburg cash crops, mainly flour, cattle, furs, and pinkroot, to Philadelphia, where he traded them for manufactured goods and slaves. Alexander owned as many as thirteen slaves, which placed him in the top 1 percent of Mecklenburg's slaveholders. His slaves were essential to his business enterprises.¹⁸

18) North Myers Street (Myers Mill Lane, Myers Park Drive)

At the outbreak of the Civil War, William R. Myers was an organizer of a vigilance committee assembled to protect the community from incendiary fires. Although he was a wealthy businessman, he volunteered for military service and supplied the necessary equipment for Company G, Thirty-fourth North Carolina Infantry. Myers was commissioned as a captain of the company in September 1861 and remained in the Confederate Army until April 1862, when the regiment was reorganized. Likely due to his lack of military training, he was not reelected to his position. Nevertheless, according to the widespread custom for those who had been commissioned Confederate officers, he was referred to as "colonel" for the remainder of his life. Following the Civil War, Myers was a Republican who advocated for African American voting and educational rights. He donated land for both the founding of Myers Street Graded School and future Johnson C. Smith University.¹⁹

19) Ardrey Kell Road (Ardrey Crest Drive, Ardrey Stead Court...)

Captain William E. Ardrey was a low-level officer of the Confederacy whose family owned operated a substantial cotton plantation in the southern part of Mecklenburg County. Ardrey was described by a *Charlotte News* article, dated August 14, 1916, as "one of the leading citizens of Mecklenburg County."²⁰ His father, Dr. William A. Ardrey, who died in December 1861, was the Ardrey family's head. Dr. James Kell, a friend of Ardrey, took over his property after he died. Kell owned eight enslaved people in 1860, according to the U.S. Census, and held a considerable amount of land in South Charlotte between Rea and Marvin Roads. In addition to Ardrey Kell Road and Ardrey Kell High School, there is an Ardrey Chase Neighborhood that

¹⁸ <https://www.ncpedia.org/media/hezekiah-alexander-house>

¹⁹ See William R. Myers entry in North Carolina Encyclopedia: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/myers-william-rayford>

²⁰ See Ardrey's Biographical Sketch: <https://davidsonarchivesandspecialcollections.org/archives/digital-collections/ardrey-papers>



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includes **Ardrey Crest Drive, Ardrey Stead Court, Wade Ardrey Road, Captain Ardrey Road, Cotton Press Road, and Cotton Stand Road.**

20) Ben Franklin Court

Benjamin Franklin was one of the founding fathers of this country. Elected as the 6th President of the Council of Pennsylvania, Franklin represented the state at the Constitutional Convention, where he signed both the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Franklin owned two enslaved people but spoke out against slavery later in his life.²¹ Ben Franklin Court is located in South Charlotte in Piper Glen Estates.

(There are a number of other streets in Charlotte named for Founding Fathers who owned slaves, including Washington, Madison, and Van Buren Streets in McCrorey Heights. There is a Jefferson Drive near the Jewish Community Center.)

21) Brevard Street

The Brevard name originates from **John Brevard**, who was the first Brevard in the North Carolina colony. John Brevard married Katherine McKnitt, and to that Union came John Brevard II. John Brevard II married Jane McWhorter, and their first child Ephraim Brevard was born in 1750 and studied medicine at Princeton and began practicing in Charlotte, NC. Ephraim was secretary of the famous Mecklenburg Convention that resolved to reject the British Parliament authority over the colonies on May 31, 1775. Ephraim served in the Revolutionary War, and the Brevard family owned slaves and indentured whites.²² In addition to **Brevard Street**, there is **North Brevard, South Brevard, Brevard Court, and Brevard Apartments** just west of the I-277.

22) Caldwell Street

Caldwell is a prominent name throughout North Carolina and in Charlotte. The Caldwells were well-known educators and ministers in Greensboro. **Joseph Caldwell** (1773-1835) was the first president of the University of North Carolina. Perhaps the most significant Caldwell in Charlotte was **Dr. David T. Caldwell**, one of the town's early doctors. In 1833, he became the owner of the Rosedale Plantation and held at least 30 enslaved laborers.²³ Charlotte has many streets that contain the Caldwell name, including **Caldwell Forest Drive, Caldwell Park Drive, Caldwell Ridge Parkway, Caldwell Road, and Caldwell Williams Road.** (Caldwell Forest Drive, Caldwell Park Drive, Caldwell Ridge Pkwy, Caldwell Ridge Pkwy, Caldwell Road, Caldwell Williams Road)

²¹ See essay by on Benjamin Franklin and Race by Dr. Emma Lapsansky-Werner, "Franklin and the Vexing Question of Race in America,": https://www.ushistory.org/franklin/essays/franklin_race.htm

²² See North Carolina Encyclopedia entry on John Brevard II: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/brevard-john-ii>

²³ See North Carolina Encyclopedia entry on David Caldwell: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/caldwell-david>; also see National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: <https://files.nc.gov/ncdcr/nr/MK0019.pdf>



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23) Davidson Street

Davidson is a prominent family name in Mecklenburg county that dates back to the Revolutionary War period. William Lee Davidson was a Revolutionary War officer and forefather of the Davidson family that relocated from Pennsylvania to the Iredell and Mecklenburg County region of North Carolina in the 1760s. The Davidson family amassed a great deal of land and owned several plantations that used enslaved labor, including Rural Hill, Beaver Dam, and Rosedale.²⁴ Davidson Street runs through uptown Charlotte.

24) Johnston Road

Located in South Charlotte, **Johnston Road** runs through in Ballantyne and is named in honor of **William Johnston**, a veteran of the Revolutionary War. He established a 414-acre plantation in the area in 1792. According to census records, in 1790, Johnston owned two slaves. The property remained in the Johnston family until the 1840s, passing from William to son Robert in 1806, to brother Samuel, to brother William, to his son Ezekial, to his daughter Malissa, who married Zebulon Morris. Morris was from a prominent planter family that owned 30 slaves in 1850. He brought with him 12 slaves but was never able to compete with large scale cotton plantations in the county. One of Robert's sons was also named William, who became one of the first prominent railroad developers in the region and served four terms as Mayor of Charlotte.²⁵

25) Osborne Avenue

James Walker Osborne (1811-1869) was born in Salisbury but came to live with relatives in Mecklenburg County at a young age. He practiced law, and from 1836 to 1838, served as a solicitor for Mecklenburg County. In 1840 he ran an unsuccessful campaign for the North Carolina Senate. President Millard Fillmore appointed Osborne superintendent of the Charlotte Mint, a position that he held from 1849-53. In 1853, he ran for U.S. Congress and lost. His financial dealings proved more successful than his early political ambitions. Osborne invested in several area gold mines and became a partner in a salt works. He owned 23 slaves at the start of the Civil War.²⁶

26) Rea Road

The **John Rea** family arrived in Mecklenburg County in 1763 and owned an extensive amount of land in the area around Rea Road. The Rea family mined gold and raised cotton and likely

²⁴ See North Carolina Encyclopedia entry for William Lee Davidson: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/davidson-william-lee>

²⁵ See North Carolina Encyclopedia entry for William Johnson: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/johnston-william-0>

²⁶ See North Carolina Encyclopedia entry for James W. Osborne: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/osborne-james-walker-0>



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owned enslaved labor, but it is unclear how many. John Laney Rae, a descendant of John, served as a farrier in the Confederate Cavalry hauling goods from Virginia to Charleston.²⁷

27) Tryon Street (State Road)

William Tryon was the eighth governor of North Carolina. Tryon Street is perhaps the most recognizable and vital thoroughfare in Charlotte. Tryon was a slave owner but was better known as a ruthless military general in the American Revolution.²⁸

28) Antebellum Drive

Antebellum is a term that references the period before the Civil War when the system of slavery legally thrived throughout the American South. There is an **Antebellum Drive** located in the Griers Fork neighborhood off of Steele Creek Road in South Charlotte. Rice Planters Road intersects Antebellum Drive, and there is also a **Confederate Drive** in the same community.

29) Cotton Planter Lane

Cotton Planter Lane is located in the Providence Plantation community in South Charlotte.

30) Dixie Ann Drive, (Dixie Avenue, Dixie Drive, Dixie Glen Drive, Dixie Hills Drive, Dixie River Road)

Dixie is the nickname for the southern states that seceded from the United States and started the Civil War. There are a handful of streets throughout the city that refer to Dixie.

31) Eli Whitney Court

Eli Whitney is credited with inventing the cotton gin, which was largely responsible for increasing the slave trade within the United States after the turn of the 19th century.²⁹

32) Streets with planter and plantation in their names

(Pawleys Plantation Lane 28278, Plantation Falls Lane 28227, Plantation Park Boulevard 28277, Plantation Place 28209, Plantation Ridge Road 28214, Plantation Road 28270, Plantation Woods Drive 28278, Planters Estates Drive 28278, Planters Knob Lane 28273, Planters Knoll Court 28227, Planters Place 28216, Planters Ridge Road 28270, Planters Row Drive 28278, Planters View Drive 28278, Planters Walk Court 28210, Planters Watch Drive 28278, Planters Wood Lane 28262)

²⁷ See The Reas of Mecklenburg County, NC website: <https://reaclanbook.wordpress.com/>

²⁸ See North Carolina Encyclopedia entry for William Tryon: <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/tryon-william>

²⁹ See History.com's essay on Eli Whitney: <https://www.history.com/topics/inventions/cotton-gin-and-eli-whitney>