

Names on the Landscape

UNC Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward

The UNC Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward has identified the following list of buildings and spaces named for individuals who made the university party to the theft of American Indian lands, the perpetuation and defense of racial slavery, and the promotion of a white supremacist ideology that justified lynching and other forms of racial violence, Black disenfranchisement, and Jim Crow segregation.

The commission is conducting research on the life and public career of each namesake, and on the basis of that work will make recommendations to the Chancellor on the removal of names or other appropriate methods of historical contextualization.

Slaveholders (chronological by year of naming)

Thomas Person, Person Hall, 1797
Charles Gerrard, Gerrard Hall, 1837
Benjamin Smith, Smith Hall (now Old Playmakers), 1851
Paul Cameron, Cameron Avenue, early 1880s
Joseph Caldwell, Caldwell Monument, 1837 and 1904
 Caldwell Hall, 1912
William R. Davie, Davie Hall, 1901 and 1967
Mary Ann Smith, Smith Hall, 1901
Kemp P. Battle, Battle Hall, 1912
James Johnston Pettigrew, Pettigrew Hall, 1912
Zebulon B. Vance, Vance Hall, 1912
David L. Swain, Swain Hall, 1914
James Phillips, Charles Phillips, William B. Phillips; Phillips Hall, 1919
Walter L. Steele, Steele Building, 1921
Bryan Grimes, Grimes Residence Hall, 1922
Willie P. Mangum, Adolphus W. Mangum, and Willie P. Mangum Jr.; Mangum Residence Hall, 1922
Charles Manly and Mattias Manly, Manly Residence Hall, 1922
John Manning Jr., Manning Hall, 1922
Thomas Ruffin and Thomas Ruffin, Jr., Ruffin Residence Hall, 1922
Archibald DeBow Murphey, Murphey Hall, 1924
Cornelia Phillips Spencer, Spencer Residence Hall, 1927
William Lenoir, Lenoir Hall, 1939
William H. Ackland,* Ackland Art Museum, 1958
William Waightsill Avery, Avery Residence Hall, 1958
Francis Burton Craige, Craige Residence Hall, 1960
Elisha P. Mitchell, Mitchell Hall, 1964

* Ackland (b. 1855) was not a slaveholder, but through his mother he inherited the fortune of Isaac Franklin, co-owner of Franklin and Armfield, one of the largest slave-trading firms in the antebellum South.

Hinton James, Hinton James Residence Hall, 1968

Kemp P. Battle (and other Battle family members?), Battle Park, date unknown

Samuel E. McCorkle, McCorkle Place, date unknown

James K. Polk, Polk Place, early 1920s

Memorial Hall (roster of UNC's Confederate dead and tablets honoring notable alumni, nearly all of whom were slaveholders), 1885 and 1930

White Supremacy: Reconstruction and 1898-1900 White Supremacy Campaigns (chronological by year of naming)

Paul Cameron, Cameron Avenue, early 1880s

Carr Building, Julian Shakespeare Carr, 1900

Kemp P. Battle, Battle Hall, 1912

Zebulon B. Vance, Vance Hall, 1912

Walter L. Steele, Steele Building, 1921

Bryan Grimes, Grimes Residence Hall, 1922

Aycock Residence Hall, Charles B. Aycock, 1924

John W. Graham, Graham Residence Hall, 1924

Cornelia Phillips, Spencer Residence Hall, 1924

William R. Kenan Sr., Kenan Stadium, 1927

Robert H. Bingham, Bingham Hall, 1929

Cameron A. Morrison, Morrison Residence Hall, 1964

Josephus Daniels, Student Stores, 1967

Scholar-Advocates of White Supremacy

Robert D. W. Connor, Connor Residence Hall, 1948

George T. Winston, Winston Residence Hall, 1948

Joseph G. de Roulhac Hamilton, Hamilton Hall, 1972

African American Names

Blyden and Roberta Jackson, Jackson Hall (U.S. Navy Pre-flight School, 1942), 1992

Kennon Cheek and Rebecca Clark, Cheek-Clark Building (University Laundry, 1925), 1998

George Moses Horton, Horton Residence Hall (Hinton James extension, 2002), 2007