



hello,  
WE ARE RALEIGH!

EXHIBIT  
GUIDE  
BOOK

For navigation  
through Raleigh's  
rich history

# FOUNDATION

- 1 Isaac Hunter's tavern was instrumental in the founding of Raleigh. This tavern was popular among the local elite and government officials who declared the capital of the state must be no further than 10 miles from this establishment. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina

Cherry Bounce, a concoction of brandy or whiskey infused with cherries, was served at Isaac Hunter's Tavern. Though not created in Raleigh, this popular beverage became associated with the legend behind the city's founding. The non-alcoholic re-creation here was designed for Raleigh's Bicentennial Celebration in 1992.

These iron nails were used in the original construction of Isaac Hunter's tavern in 1769.

- 2 Stews and soups in the mid- to late-1800s were prepared in cast iron pots like this one. This pot has three legs so it could rest steadily above the coals allowing the food to cook evenly.

- 3 These ladies and mens shoes are part of the Mordecai family collection. The women's shoes were purchased from A.J. Cammeyer's, one of the largest shoe stores in New York. The gold leather was a progressive stylistic choice for the time, since metallic colors weren't popular until the 1920s.

- 4 Jane Hunter, the wife of Theophilus Hunter, and her son, Theophilus Hunter Jr. [left], were members of one of Raleigh's founding families. Their plantation home, Spring Hill built in 1816, still stands today. The Hunters sold their land to the state of North Carolina use for as a mental hospital.

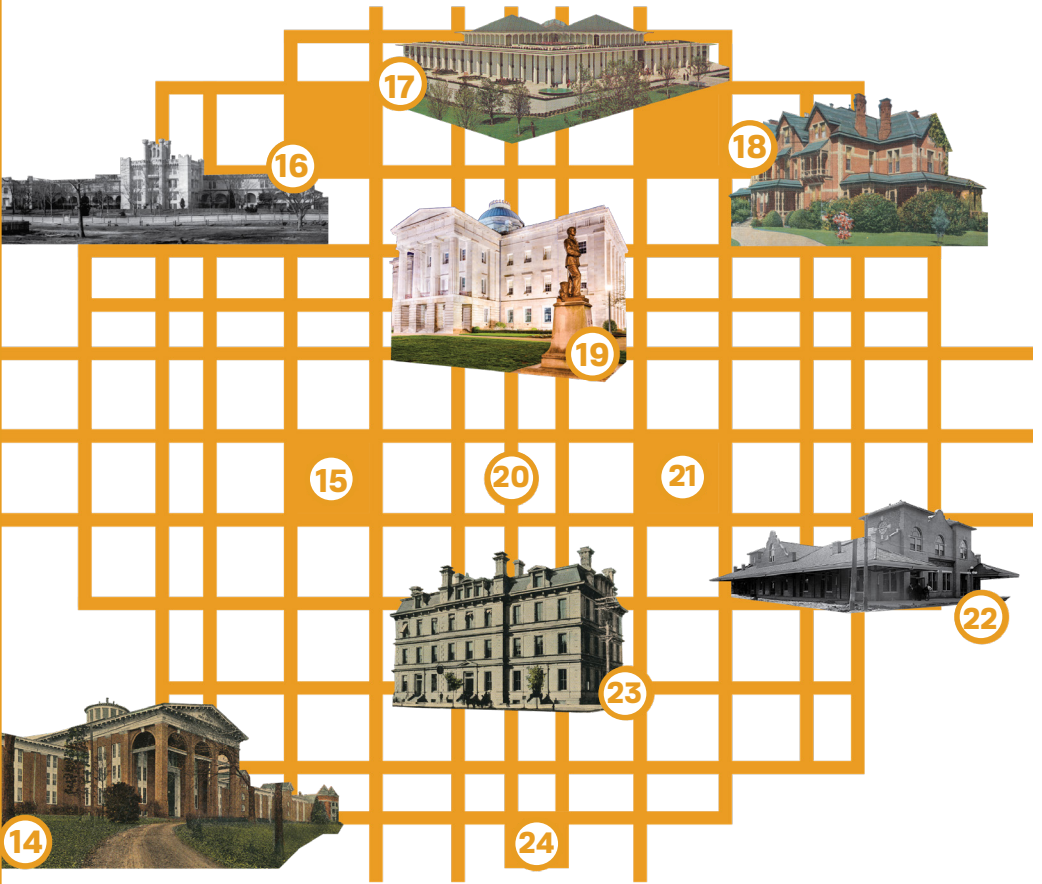
- 5 *Raleigh Register's* article, "Fire Destroys State Capitol." The 1831 fire destroyed the original State Capitol Building, which was built of brick with a stone foundation.

- 6 Traveling artist J. S. Glennie painted this watercolor of the original State Capitol in 1811. Planned and constructed by local carpenter Rhodham Atkins with local materials and labor, the building opened in 1794. A fire in 1831 destroyed the capitol and the state's prize statue of George Washington by Antonio Canova. Image used with permission of the Princeton University Library

- 7 Jacob Marling's painting captured Raleigh's original capitol as it appeared after renovation in late 1820s. English Architect William Nichols dramatically transformed the building by added a third floor, two massive porticos and a distinctive dome. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina

- 8 The Yarborough House was Raleigh's most popular hotel between 1852 until it burned in 1928. The menu and creamer date from the early 1900s and 1926. Soon after, the Sir Walter Hotel, built in 1922, was able to fill the void as the premier gathering place on Fayetteville Street. The menu and teaspoon/bottle opener are from the 1950s. Today, the hotel serves as subsidized apartments after it was converted in 1979.
- 9 Italian artist, Antonio Canova, created a marble statue of George Washington. Depicted as a Roman general, the statue stood in the North Carolina State Capitol building since 1821. Unfortunately, the original statue was destroyed in the fire of 1831. A replica now stands in the Capitol Building rotunda, but a chunk of the original is located here. Quote from a letter written by William Chase to Liet. James Monroe in 1825, "when finding myself within less than two days travel of Raleigh, I determined not to forego the opportunity of beholding the statue of Washington. I proceeded [further] accordingly: Savior of his country and the Benefactor of Mankind with in all probability, he exhibited for centuries to come, millions will look upon it with Respect and Admiration: Respect for the illustrious original and admiration for him who could make the "marble speak." The other works of his art may perish and be destroyed but so long as the statue of Washington remains, the name of Canova can never be forgotten. ---" Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina and letter courtesy of the James Monroe Project, Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library, College of William and Mary.
- 10 Willimantic Linen Company made this spool chest in the late 1800s to hold equipment for sewing and tailoring. The Willimantic Linen Company, based in Connecticut, was one of the first companies to sell colored cotton thread on spools instead of bulk skeins. At a time when most women made or mended their own clothes, it would have been common for the average Raleigh citizen to have a spool chest in their home. Spool chest courtesy of Capital Area Preservation, Inc.
- 11 In a true sign of a growing city, you never know who or what might become well known enough to spark the printing and distribution of postcards of everyday people. Betsy Holmes was a formerly enslaved woman who became a successful merchant. With her bull, Joe, Holmes was a popular sight at Raleigh's City Market where she sold vegetables and other produce.
- 12 Joel Lane is known as the "Father of Raleigh" due to his sale of land to locate the new state capital. Lane built his family home in 1769. Lane remodeled the house in c. 1793 to expand the second story. In 1970, the house was restored to its mid-1790s appearance under the direction of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in the State of North Carolina. Image courtesy of Joel Lane Museum House
- 13 Raleigh was designed by William Christmas, a local surveyor and legislator. Christmas drew up this original plan for the city of Raleigh, with the Capitol Building in the center surrounded by five public squares. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina

# FOUNDATION



- 14** Dorothea Dix, was an activist who fought for better treatment of those with mental illnesses. Dorothea Dix Hospital opened in 1856 as the North Carolina Insane Asylum. The hospital served patients until 2012.
- 15** Nash Square is one of the five original public squares designed by William Christmas. It was named after North Carolina's second governor Abner Nash.
- 16** The North Carolina Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb, and the Blind opened on Hillsborough Street in Raleigh in 1845. Between 1848-1850, a new building was designed and built by local architect, Dabney Cosby, on Caswell Square. Classes focused on preparing students with life skills. Today, the school, now called The Governor Morehead School, is located across the street from Pullen Park. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina

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- 17 The State General Assembly moved out of the Capitol Building into this State Legislative Building in 1963.
  - 18 Completed in 1891 by prison laborers using local materials, this Executive Mansion is the third official home to the North Carolina governors in Raleigh. The first was located at the corner of Fayetteville and Hargett Streets; the second was constructed in 1816 at the end of Fayetteville Street, opposite the State Capitol Building.
  - 19 The first Capitol building was destroyed by fire in 1831, and the current one, depicted here, was completed in 1840. It originally housed all three branches of government until 1888 when the Supreme Court of North Carolina moved into its own building and it is now a state historic site.
  - 20 Fayetteville Street is a major street that runs north-south. These six blocks were an artery for the city even in its earliest days.
  - 21 Moore Square, one of the five original squares in the city plan, was named for Alfred Moore, a judge who became a justice on the Supreme Court of the United States. The space was multifunctional throughout the years, today it is a park.
  - 22 Raleigh's City Market opened on October 1, 1914 as a place for farmers, from the piedmont and eastern part of the state, to come and sell their produce, fish, flowers, and homemade goods. City Market thrived until the mid-1940s when supermarkets began taking over the industry. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
  - 23 The Century Station Post Office, formerly the Federal Building, was the first federal government project in the South post-Civil War. The building opened in 1878 and housed the post office and the U.S. District Court. Renovations in 1913 and 1939 expanded the building. After almost being shut down in 2011, the Century Station Post Office continues to serve local Raleigh residents.
  - 24 Completed in 1932, Memorial Auditorium stands on the place of the first governor's mansion and commemorates the fallen soldiers of World War I. The building serves as an event and theatre space for the citizens of Raleigh, and its first public event was the 1932 Democratic Party Convention.

# BUSINESS

- 1 The sick and injured in the early 1900s would have used wooden and cane wheelchairs, like this one that belonged to Dr. M. T. Pope, a prominent African American doctor in Raleigh. Pope's home is now a City of Raleigh historic site.
- 2 Willie Otey Kay and Mildred Otey Taylor well-known African American dressmakers in Raleigh, made this ivory-colored wedding dress, which was worn by two generations of women in the 1950s and '80s.
- 3 A prescription pad belonging to Dr. Manassa T. Pope, one of the first licensed African American doctors in North Carolina, was found inside of this book. Dr. Pope would have used the magnifying glass, spectacles, and ink bottle to diagnose patients and write prescriptions for them to fill at Hamlin's Drug Store.
- 4 These medicine vials were used by Hamlin Drug Company, formerly located on Hargett Street, which was the oldest African American-owned pharmacy in the United States. After being open for 107 years, the company closed in 2017.
- 5 Once a popular candy store, Royster's Candy Store opened after the Civil War and closed in 1960. Situated at 207 Fayetteville Street, it became one of the city's longest-running businesses.
- 6 Circular paper fans with wooden handles were popular means of keeping cool during the hot and humid Raleigh summers. This one features an advertisement for Lightner's Funeral Parlor and Mutual Burial Association. Located on East Hargett Street, Calvin E. Lightner, a successful African American businessman, owned many establishments in the South Park neighborhood of Raleigh.
- 7 This large, wooden, traveling trunk was owned and used by Jesse Montague Lowe, an engineer for the Seaboard Air Line Railroad Company in the early 1900s.
- 8 One popular mode of traveling in the early 1900s was via train. At that time, Mr. J.M. Lowe used these 1912 and 1926 Seaboard Air Line Railway passes to travel his routes throughout North Carolina and Virginia.
- 9 Hotel guests in the mid-1900s would have received keys like these for their reserved rooms. These keys were from two popular places: Hotel Sir Walter and Hotel Nash. The Sir Walter Hotel was so popular among legislators that it became known as "Raleigh's third house of government."

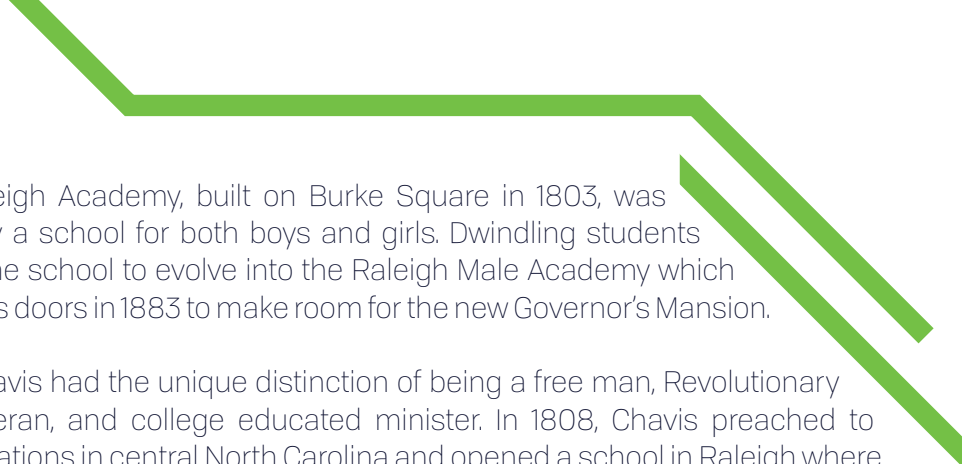
- 10 Many of Raleigh's businesses ran out of buildings that no longer exist. The postcards here display the Yarborough House and Casso's Tavern, both popular establishments for dining and travel accommodations. In addition to historic hotels, Cameron Village was built as Raleigh's first strip mall with a variety of stores convenient to the citizens of Raleigh. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 11 The cleaver and bell were used by Briggs Hardware store, which was located on this spot from 1864-1995. Founder of the store, Thomas H. Briggs, took these items on display boards to trade shows and fairs in the early 1900s.
- 12 John D. Snakenburg inherited his father's tailoring business in the 1930s. His shop operated at several locations in Raleigh until 1980, including, in Briggs Hardware. Snakenburg was one of the few white businesses to openly welcome African American clientele. Snakenburg used these scissors to create and alter clothing for the locals of Raleigh.
- 13 In 1940, Hudson Belk moved onto Fayetteville Street where the Yarborough House once stood. It served downtown Raleigh residents until 1995. This Belk store was locally famous for having the first escalator in the city.
- 14 *The News & Observer* and *Raleigh Times* newspaper companies became local rivals in the 1910s. The photograph featured is an iconic image capturing how newsboys with delivery bags were the primary method of distribution of the *Raleigh Times*. Although John A. Park, owner of the *Raleigh Times*, enjoyed success in the newspaper industry, his company was purchased by *The News & Observer* in 1955. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 15 The Durham Life Insurance company purchased the WRCO radio station in 1927. They changed the call letters to WPTF, which stood for the company's slogan, "We Protect the Family." The station continues to broadcast on 680 AM. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 16 Carolina Power and Light Company (CP&L), founded in 1908, provided electricity to both local residents and the city's electric lights and trolley system. CP&L expanded over its first century, and changed its name to Progress Energy in 2000 after purchasing Florida Progress Corporation. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 17 Born in 1862, Josephus Daniels played an instrumental role in the newspaper industry in Raleigh, NC. He purchased *The News & Observer* in 1895 and merged it with the *North Carolinian* and the *State Chronicle*. Under Daniels, *The News & Observer* prospered and he continued to use it as an influencer in local, national, and global politics. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina



# EDUCATION

- 1 This printed announcement from the Raleigh Male Academy, from 1879, was standard for schools to describe coursework, fees, and rules.
- 2 Nine days after the Greensboro sit-ins, on Feb. 1, 1960 students from Shaw University and St. Augustine's College organized a sit-in at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Raleigh's Cameron Village. Their protest inspired other sit-ins across Raleigh, all with the goal to integrate the city's lunch counters. A few months later, these events spurred on the organization of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). Image courtesy of *The News & Observer*
- 3 The 1950s and early '60s were a crucial time during the Civil Rights Movement in Raleigh. This is just one pamphlet calling for people to boycott several businesses that refused to serve African-Americans at lunch counters. Many of the picket lines and sit-ins were organized by students of St. Augustine's College and Shaw University. After seven months, their protests were successful and Raleigh fully integrated all lunch counters on August 19, 1960.
- 4 The North Carolina State College of Agriculture and Engineering was founded in 1887 to promote higher education among North Carolinians with an agrarian background. While we do not know this 1889 class ring's original owner, it does date to when the first year the college held classes.
- 5 College sports is a cornerstone of leisure life in Raleigh. The rivalry between N.C. State and Wake Forest University is the longest continuous rivalry among Atlantic Coast Conference schools and the third longest in the nation. This ticket from 1934 football game was a great source of entertainment for Raleigh residents during the Great Depression.
- 6 Group of Peace College students are seen posing for a picture. This photograph is from the 1919 Peace College yearbook, *The Lotus*. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 7 Latta University was a school and orphanage for African American children founded in 1892 by a former slave named Reverend Morgan Latta. In addition to a general education, Latta taught trade skills such as carpentry, blacksmithing, and brickmaking. This brick was used in construction of a campus building.
- 8 These early 20th century yearbooks are from local schools and universities, including St. Mary's School, NC State University, Peace College, and Meredith College. William G. Coble owned this 1946 yearbook entitled, *The Agromeck*, from the North Carolina State College.
- 9 NC State University's won its first NCAA National Championship in 1983 by defeating the University of Houston. To celebrate, Coke bottled a special commemorative drink featuring the Wolfpack's mascot, Mr. Wuf.
- 10 Reverend Henry Martin Tupper, D.D. established the state's first four-year medical school, Leonard Medical School, at Shaw University in 1881. Prominent African American, Dr. Manassa T. Pope, graduated from Leonard Medical School with the first graduating class in 1886.



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- 11** The Raleigh Academy, built on Burke Square in 1803, was originally a school for both boys and girls. Dwindling students forced the school to evolve into the Raleigh Male Academy which closed its doors in 1883 to make room for the new Governor's Mansion.
  - 12** John Chavis had the unique distinction of being a free man, Revolutionary War veteran, and college educated minister. In 1808, Chavis preached to congregations in central North Carolina and opened a school in Raleigh where he taught African American children in the evenings and white children during the day. Image of bust is a University Purchase, Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Virginia U2003.3.11
  - 13** North Carolina State University, founded as the North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts in 1887, attempted to bring access to higher education to the masses, not just the elite classes. Over the next century, the college added undergraduate and graduate programs, eventually becoming the teaching and research university it is today that helps drive Raleigh's economy. The Memorial Belltower, on NC State University's campus, was completed in the late 1940s to commemorate the alumni who died fighting in World War I.
  - 14** Commemorative plate from St. Mary's School & Jr. College. St. Mary's School, founded in 1842 by Reverend Aldert Smedes, is the oldest continuously-operating school in Raleigh, and it still stands in its original location. Today, St. Mary's School is an Episcopal, all-girls, college preparatory school, with boarding and day school options. Image courtesy of Saint Mary's School Archives
  - 15** A group of eleven men, including Reverend Aldert Smedes, founded St. Augustine's School in 1867 as a high school, before it became a junior college in 1919 and a four-year college in 1928. Sarah Hunter, wife of St. Augustine's fourth president Aaron Burns Hunter, founded St. Agnes Hospital and Training School for Nurses in 1896, the first nursing school for African Americans in North Carolina.
  - 16** Shaw University officials recognized the need for trained African American doctors and founded the state's oldest four-year medical school in 1880. Leonard Medical School trained over 400 doctors before it closed in 1918.
  - 17** Peace College, formerly Peace Institute, was established in 1857 as a school for elementary boys and girls, but only women from high school through college. Its name changed to Peace College in 1943, and the school maintained its all-women's status until 2012 when William Peace University began accepting men.
  - 18** Chartered in 1891 as the Baptist Female University. The school provided educational opportunities for young women. In 1904, the name was changed to Baptist University for Women and eventually Meredith College in 1909 to honor Thomas Meredith, founder of the *Biblical Recorder* newspaper. Postcard courtesy of Meredith College Formerly Baptist University for Women, Raleigh, N.C. North Carolina Postcards.

# CULTURE

- 1 The first, temporary art exhibit for the NC Museum of Art opened in 1929 and showcased the collection of benefactor and artist Robert Phifer. The museum has since expanded and hosted the works of many artists, including an exhibition of works by Rembrandt in 2011. Books courtesy of the Art Reference Library, North Carolina Museum of Art
- 2 The State Museum, now the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, was established in 1879 in the Briggs Building. Two brothers, Herbert Hutchinson Brimley and Clement Samuel Brimley, created the collections and interpretive exhibits that became the foundation for the Museum of Natural Sciences. Herbert and his brother focused their museum exhibits on the natural and geological history of North Carolina. Co-founder of the State Museum, Herbert Hutchinson Brimley prepared this Glossy Ibis from the Core Banks for exhibit. Image by Louis Wilson, image and taxidermied bird courtesy of North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences.
- 3 The City of Raleigh purchased a carousel manufactured by the Allan Herschell Company for John Chavis Memorial Park Historic Attractions. The park was originally established as a segregated park for African Americans. Installed in 1937, the carousel animals were restored to their original 1913 colors.
- 4 The Carolina Hurricanes are North Carolina's professional ice hockey team. Originally the New England Whalers, the team moved from Connecticut to Raleigh in 1997 and changed their name. This official Hurricanes' helmet is from opening night of the 2000 season.
- 5 The Carousel at Pullen Park Historic Attractions is one of the most popular attractions since its addition to the park around 1921. Made by the Dentzel Carousel Company in Pennsylvania, it is one of 23 remaining still operating in North America. Wouldn't you like to ride the carousel or train for 50¢?
- 6 C.P. Huntington miniature train, a one-third size, near-replica of the famous locomotive of the same name. In the 1970s, the train track at Pullen Park Historic Attractions was extended from only circling the playground to going around whole park, much like today, warranting these crossing signs.

- 7 Raleigh Little Theater was as part of a movement toward intimate live performances. The 300-seat proscenium theater, 2,000-seat outdoor amphitheater, and the Raleigh Rose Garden were originally constructed by the Works Progress Administration in the late-1930s. This Cantey Award, named for Mrs. Cantey Venable Sutton who was the visionary behind the theater and designed in 1955 by NC State student Bill Kaplan, was presented to actors during the 1956-1957 SEASON. Award courtesy of Raleigh Little Theatre
- 8 Raleigh's first museum consisted of items collected by Jacob Marling in the early 1800s. He put his collection on display for the public in 1818, and even though it was short-lived, his museum started an important trend in Raleigh.
- 9 Jacob Marling painted "The May Queen (The Crowning of Flora)" in 1816 to portray the ladies of Raleigh Academy during a May Day ceremony. The first Capitol Building can be seen in the background, and Marling even included himself in profile at the right edge of the painting. Image courtesy of Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk, Virginia, Gift of Edgar William and Bernise Chrysler Garbisch 80.181.20
- 10 J.S. Dorton Arena, originally known as the State Fair Arena, was completed in 1952 as a place for agricultural and industry showcases. In 1961, the building was renamed in honor of Dr. J.S. Dorton, the longtime manager of the State Fair.



Every December 31st, Raleigh drops a 10 foot by 8 foot steel and copper acorn to symbolize the end of a year and starting anew.

# GROWTH

- 1** By the time of this map in 1909, North Carolina was covered with railroad tracks. Rail companies such Seaboard Airlines and Atlantic Coastline utilized Raleigh's passenger station, repair facilities, and warehouses to help fuel the states economic and cultural growth.
- 2** North Carolina's first self-propelled railroad was the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad, completed in 1840. This line created many new jobs and allowed for easier and faster transportation of goods and people farther into Western North Carolina. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 3** After North Carolina's capitol building burned, leaders constructed an "Experimental Railroad" in 1833. The horse-drawn cars pulled along the iron track allowed builders to haul building materials directly to the site. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 4** Although Raleigh had a horse-drawn trolley system that traveled four miles of track since 1887, the electric trolley system began operations in 1891. The electric streetcar system took people from the railway depot to Fayetteville Street and on to the Oakwood neighborhood. Image courtesy of the State Archives of North Carolina
- 5** At the intersection of Wilmington Street and Tryon Road, the Raleigh Municipal Airport opened in 1929. This airport predated the current Raleigh-Durham International Airport and served the city until 1943 when RDU was completed. Raleigh Municipal Airport continued to serve as an airfield for private aircrafts and flight lessons until 1972.

**DID YOU KNOW:**

- 6 Interstate 440, also referred to as “the Beltline,” opened in segments beginning in 1959, but wasn’t completed until 1984. The highway loop around the heart of Raleigh was widened from 1991-1997 to assist with the increased traffic.
- 7 What is now Raleigh-Durham International Airport was chartered in 1939, but due to federal use during World War II, construction was put on hold. Eastern Airlines began servicing the area with flights from RDU to New York and Miami in 1943, before the first terminal opened in 1955.
- 8 IBM reclaimed its place as a household name in 1990 with this personal computer, the PS-1 with a color photographic display. This model contains a 30 MB fixed disk and has 1 MB of memory.
- 9 In 1965, IBM began building its campus in the Research Triangle Park. IBM’s commitment to RTP sealed its success and helped shape the technology industry in Raleigh.
- 10 Research Triangle Park, or RTP, was founded in 1951 and named in honor of three major cities and research universities that surround it: NC State University in Raleigh, UNC in Chapel Hill, and Duke University in Durham. Pictured are Pearson H. Stewart; an unidentified Durham city official; George L. Simpson, Jr.; Romeo H. Guest and George Watts Hill. Images courtesy of Research Triangle Park
- 11 This aerial of Research Triangle Park shows what an overview of many of the buildings looked like in the early days of the campus. Images courtesy of Research Triangle Park

**Raleigh began as one square mile and has grown to be more than 140 square miles?**

# THANK YOU!

*Hello, We Are Raleigh!*  
would not have been possible without  
the support from these organizations:

Art Reference Library, North Carolina Museum of Art

Capital Area Preservation, Inc.

Chrysler Museum of Art, Norfolk VA

East Carolina Manuscript Collection,

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North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences

Princeton University Library

Raleigh Little Theatre

Research Triangle Park

Saint Mary's School Archives, Raleigh, N.C.

Special Collections Research Center, Swem Library,

College of William and Mary

State Archives of North Carolina

The Louis Round Wilson Special Collections Library.

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The News & Observer

Washington & Lee University, Lexington, Virginia