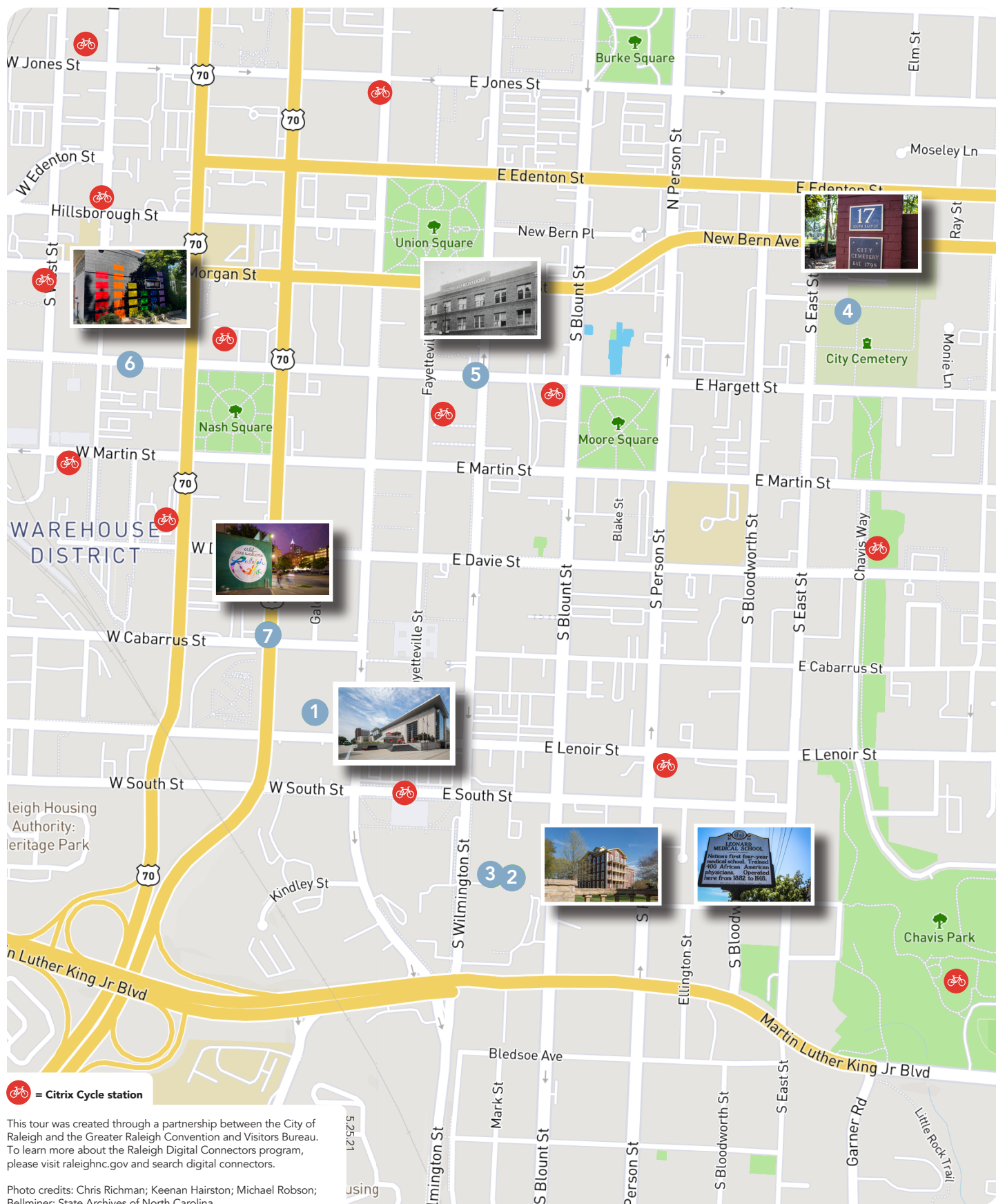


A self-guided tour of downtown Raleigh

This tour was developed and narrated by the **Raleigh Digital Connectors** program, a nationally-renowned program providing technology and leadership training for youth ages 14-18.





1 RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER

500 S. Salisbury St.

—Introduction

Welcome to the Historic Equity Tour where you will learn about various sites and people that have played a part in championing equity for all.



2 LEONARD MEDICAL CENTER

118 E. South St.

Located here at Shaw University, Leonard Medical School was the fifth African-American medical school in the United States but the first to offer a four-year

curriculum. Founded in 1881 and named for benefactor Judson Wade Leonard, brother-in-law to Shaw's founder Dr. Henry Martin Tupper, the school closed in 1918, having trained 400 black physicians, most of whom went on to serve patients in the rural South. The school's 25-bed hospital operated from 1885 to 1914.



3 ESTEY HALL AND SHAW UNIVERSITY

721 S. Wilmington St.

Estey Hall was the first building constructed in the U.S. for the higher education of African-American women. Built in 1874, it is also the oldest building on the Shaw

University campus where, in 1960, Ella Baker who studied in this building was credited for creating the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. Estey Hall is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. When Shaw first opened, women were not allowed to attend the school. After a few years, the school became coeducational, creating a need for a women's facility. School administrators chose G. S. H. Appleget, architect of large homes in Raleigh including the Heck-Andrews House, to design the new building. The result was a four-story brick building with a cross-gable roof topped off with a frame cupola. In 1882, the three-story south annex was added. Estey Hall first contained the university's home economics, music, art and religion classes.



4 CITY CEMETERY

17 S. East St.

Established by an Act of the North Carolina General Assembly, the City Cemetery was established. In 1872 Mt. Hope Cemetery was established as a cemetery for blacks

as a replacement. Records of City Cemetery were destroyed by fire in the 1890s and again in the early 1930s. At one time City Cemetery was the only public burying ground for either blacks or whites in Raleigh. The City Cemetery is surrounded by an iron fence that once was located at the State Capitol. The headstones at the cemetery are often renovated due to vandalism and the stones sinking into the ground. Today many people still come to honor the dead, where many slaves, free slaves, colonists and travelers were buried.



5 BLACK MAIN STREET AND M&F BANK

13 E. Hargett St.

Developed as a commercial district and the black main street of downtown Raleigh in the 1910s and 1920s. Its brick buildings housed the offices of African-American doctors, lawyers, pharmacists and real estate developers as well as barbershops and retailers. The heart of the street was the 1921 Lightner Arcade, and another anchor was the Mechanics and Farmers Bank, an institution that remains today as M&F Bank.



6 THE WAREHOUSE DISTRICT "GAYBORHOOD": LEGENDS NIGHTCLUB

330 W. Hargett St.

The Warehouse District is named after the series of warehouses that surrounded Raleigh's central rail line. Characterized by six blocks of iconic, red-brick, former-industrial buildings, the Warehouse District in downtown Raleigh is a growing concentration of galleries, studios, restaurants, nightlife and innovative businesses located a few blocks west of the Raleigh Convention Center. The area has become to be known as Raleigh's Gayborhood. Legends Nightclub has been a staple for the community and a safe space since the early 1990s along with Flex located just a few blocks away. In the 1950s there were the earliest recorded LGBTQ+ safe spaces in modern Raleigh history. These were two former hotel bars named "The Queen Bee" and "The Teddy Lounge." Both of these spaces were located off of McDowell Street near where the News and Observer newspaper building is.



7 ALL ARE WELCOME RALEIGH MURAL

428 S. McDowell St.

Back in 2015 is this mural had become an unofficial welcome sign to downtown Raleigh and an icon among local community members and visitors. Artist Luke Buchanan was invited back in 2019 to create a new "All Are Welcome" mural after the building itself required a paint job. The mural is painted alongside Poole's Pie which is a restaurant owned by renowned chef Ashley Christensen. Ashley also owns quite a few other restaurants in Downtown Raleigh including Beasley's Chicken and Poole's Diner right next door. This mural not only represents an inclusive feeling for all but represents acceptance of the LGBTQ+ community through its bright rainbow colors that pay homage to the community pride flag.