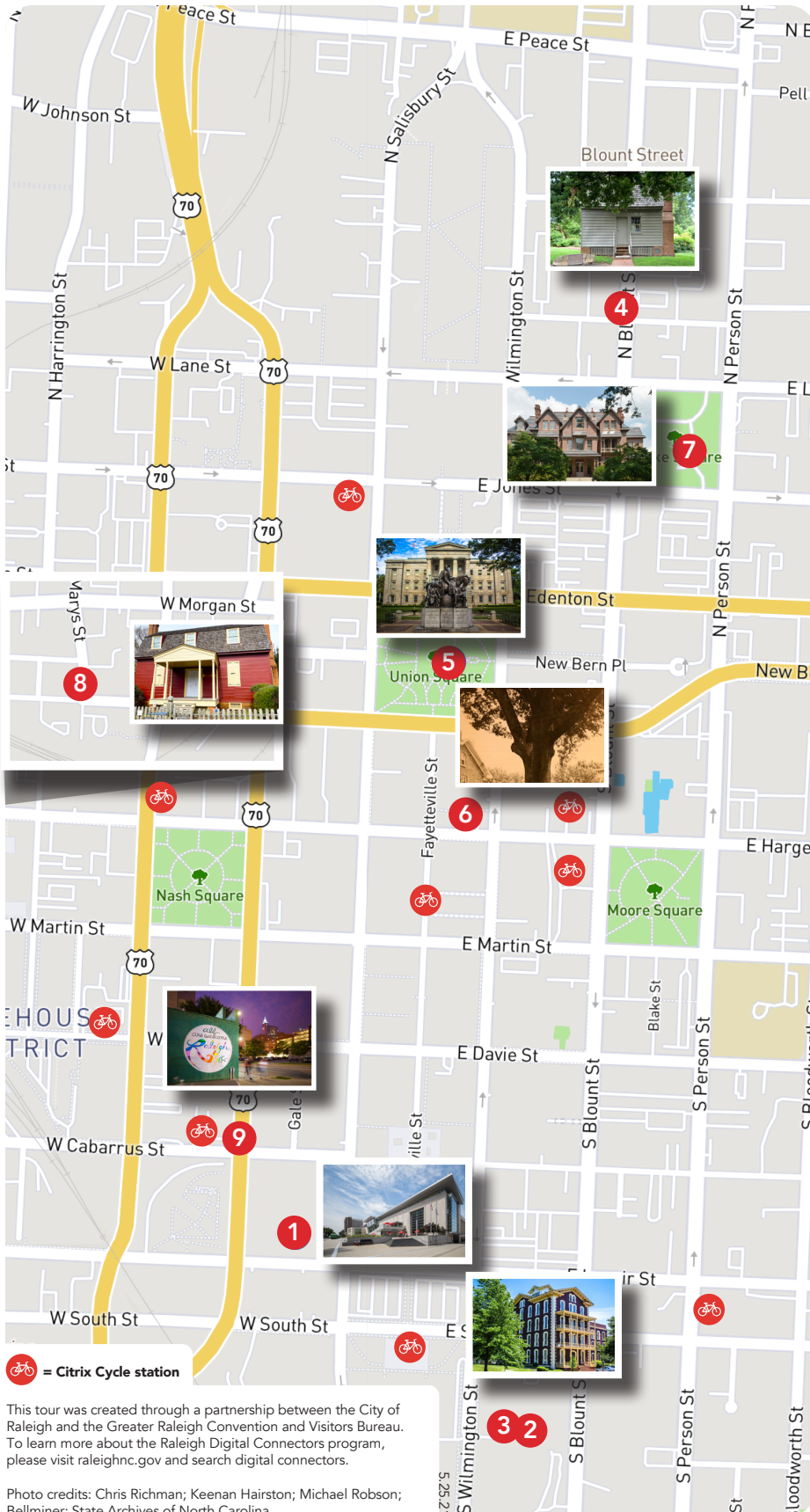


Leaders of Raleigh

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 youths ages 14-18.



1 RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER

500 S. Salisbury St.
—Introduction

Welcome to the Leaders of Raleigh Tour, where you will get to know leaders who have made an impact here in the City of Oaks.



2 JUDSON WADE LEONARD AND THE LEONARD MEDICAL CENTER

118 E. South St.

The Leonard Medical Center, constructed in 1881, is located at Shaw University. The building is named after Judson Wade Leonard, a successful Connecticut businessman and key early benefactor of the university. He was also the brother-in-law of Shaw University's founder, Henry Martin Tupper. Leonard Medical School was the fifth African-American medical school but the first to offer a four-year curriculum. 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. Leonard's first graduates included six doctors, all of whom passed their licensing board examinations. Two of them were North Carolinians, and the others were from Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. Two of the six began their medical practice in the state. One of these, class valedictorian Lawson Andrew Scruggs, was a resident physician at Leonard Hospital for several years.



Leonard Medical Center

This tour was created through a partnership between the City of Raleigh and the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau. To learn more about the Raleigh Digital Connectors program, please visit raleighnc.gov and search digital connectors.

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3 ELLA BAKER AND ESTEY HALL 721 S. Wilmington St.

Ella Baker was an African American civil rights and human rights activist. She was a largely behind-the-scenes organizer whose career spanned more than five decades. In New York City and the South, she worked alongside some of the most noted civil rights leaders of the 20th century. Ella Baker created three different organizations which are known as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC). These organizations played a vital part in the civil rights movement. Baker has been called "one of the most important American leaders of the twentieth century and perhaps the most influential woman in the civil rights movement." She is known for her critiques not only of racism within American culture but also of sexism within the civil rights movement. Ella Baker was an alumna here at Shaw University and studied here in Estey Hall. Estey Hall was built in 1874 and is the nation's first dormitory for women on a co-educational campus, and is Shaw University's oldest surviving building.



4 ANDREW JOHNSON'S BIRTHPLACE 123 Fayetteville St.

President Andrew Johnson was the seventeenth president of the United States. President Johnson's historic marker is located at 123 Fayetteville St. in downtown Raleigh.

The marker is about one block away from the N.C. State Capitol building and reads "President Andrew Jackson 1808-1875, President of the United States, 1865-69. Born near here in a kitchen now located one mile N.E." Andrew Johnson's house still exists and is a very small cabin that has since been moved a mile north to Mordecai Historic Park.



5 NORTH CAROLINA STATE CAPITOL AND THE THREE PRESIDENTS MONUMENT 1 E. Edenton St.

The current N.C. State Capitol Building was fully constructed in 1840 and was used

to house all members of the state government until 1888. The building is a good example of the Greek Revival style of architecture. The Supreme Court and State Library moved into a separate building in 1888, and the General Assembly moved into the State Legislative Building in 1963. The state capitol was made a National Historic Landmark in 1973 and is located in the Capitol Area Historic District. Here at the N.C. Capitol Building, you will find the Three President's Monument. This monument was built by sculptor Charles Keck in 1948. The monument honors three presidents that were born in the state. President Andrew Jackson was the seventh president of the United States from 1829 to 1837. President James Knox Polk was the eleventh president of the United States from 1845 to 1849. President Andrew Johnson was the seventeenth president of the United States from 1865 to 1869.



6 HENRY CLAY AND THE RALEIGH LETTER 407 N. Blount St.

The Henry Clay Oak marker is found near the corner of Blount and North streets in

downtown Raleigh. It's one of more than 50 identified historical resources within the Blount Street Historic District that's only noticeable from the city's sidewalks. The marker was set under an oak tree in 1939 to commemorate a moment in history when, in 1844, aspiring presidential candidate Henry Clay penned a letter called the "Raleigh Letter" to oppose a potential war with Mexico over the annexation of Texas, a position that history books say cost him the election and led to the two-year Mexican-American War. Coincidentally, Clay lost the presidential nomination that year to North Carolina native James K. Polk, who was a relative to Clay's host in Raleigh whose house he was a guest. But while the William Polk house has since been moved, and the majestic Henry Clay Oak fell after succumbing to the disease in 1991, the Henry Clay Oak marker is still there. In the Raleigh Letter, Clay states a quote that became quite famous: "I would rather be right, than president."



7 GOVERNOR'S MANSION 200 N. Blount St.

The North Carolina Executive Mansion is the official residence of the Governor of North Carolina and their family. The building was constructed in 1883, and it was designed by architects Samuel Sloan and A.G. Bauer in the Queen Anne style of architecture. North Carolina's Executive Mansion is not only home to the Governor, it is the "people's house." The building is also a meeting space, historic site and an elegant event location. In addition, thousands of visitors visit during public tour season and the holiday open house. As of 2021, Governor Roy Cooper is the 30th governor to live in the Mansion. He is the 70th person to hold this office in North Carolina since the end of the American Revolution.



8 JOEL LANE HOUSE AND GARDENS, "THE FATHER OF RALEIGH" 160 S. St. Mary's St.

Currently owned by the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of North Carolina, the Joel Lane House was built circa 1769, in what was then a very rural part of North Carolina. Joel Lane, a local statesman, politician, landowner, patriot and slaveholder is called "The Father of Raleigh" because he sold 1,000 acres of his land to the state in 1792, on which to build the new capital. He was the founder and donated land so that Raleigh could become a city. This was land that he originally owned that became the City of Raleigh. Because of this, Raleigh is the only planned capital in the United States.



9 ALL ARE WELCOME MURAL 428 S. McDowell St.

The expansive public art scene in Raleigh is quickly proving that beautiful and awe-inspiring art can easily be found both inside and outside of the area's awesome museums and galleries. Created by artist Luke Buchanan, the "All Are Welcome" mural, which welcomes visitors to downtown Raleigh along a highly trafficked thoroughfare was commissioned and led by chef Ashley Christensen as a way to promote equality for the LGBTQ+ community. The mural received a makeover and a new look in summer 2019 when Christensen opened her newest restaurant, Poole's Pie, in the building that the mural sits on. Ashley continues to be a leader of Raleigh's vibrant downtown scene.