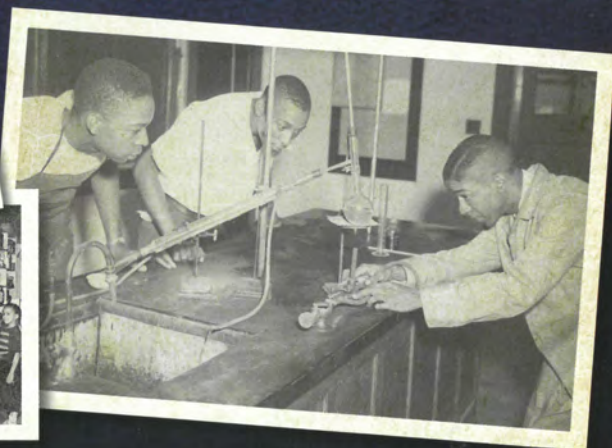


Salisbury-Rowan County, North Carolina



African-American
heritage trail





THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE TRAIL has many sites where visitors can experience the rich and diversified heritage of Salisbury and Rowan County. The trail highlights historic places, leaders, and experiences in the lives of people of color who resided here.

In 2000, Salisbury's African-American Heritage Trail was initiated by Livingstone College and developed as a joint project with the Rowan County Convention and Visitors Bureau. Under the auspices of the RCCVB, the trail has been expanded and includes new sites in both the city and county. Many people have contributed their time and talents to the creation of this booklet.

Hopefully the trail instills a greater appreciation for the contributions of a **PROUD PEOPLE** to the framework and fabric of Salisbury and Rowan County.

Enjoy your visit!



ANNUAL EVENTS

Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

3rd weekend in January and MLK Day

African-American Exhibit

Mid-February – May

Rowan Museum • 202 North Main Street • Salisbury

Children's Book Festival

Last Saturday in April • Front lawn of Livingstone College

Annual Memorial Week Celebration

Sponsored by J. C. Price American Legion Post 107
Legion Field • 1433 Old Wilkesboro Road • Salisbury

Juneteenth Festival

Celebrating the emancipation of American slaves
Kelsey-Scott Park • 1800 Old Wilkesboro Road • Salisbury

Jackie Torrence Storytelling Festival

Sponsored by the Rowan Public Library
Granite Lake Park • 514 North Salisbury Avenue • Granite Quarry

Rowan Blues & Jazz Festival

Downtown Salisbury
www.rowanbluesandjazz.org

Kwanzaa Celebration

December 26 – January 1

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

ROWAN COUNTY CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU
204 EAST INNES STREET • SALISBURY, N.C. 28144
Toll Free: 800.332.2343 • Local: 704.638.3100 • www.visitsalisburync.com



Exploring the trail...



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DOWNTOWN SALISBURY & VICINITY SITES

D-1 OFFICE OF LEE CLARENCE JONES, D.D.S.

118 NORTH LEE • ORIGINALLY ROSEMAN'S GROCERY

Is one of the few remaining structures that once housed thriving African-American enterprises of the North Lee-East Council business district. A World War I veteran, DR. JONES graduated from Howard University College of Dentistry, Washington, D.C. He practiced in Salisbury from 1930 until 1960.



D-2 COMING OF THE RAILROAD MARKER

SOUTHEAST CORNER COUNCIL & DEPOT

Commemorates the completion of the North Carolina Railway in 1855 which brought sweeping changes and boosted Salisbury's economy. Following the Civil War, the railroad afforded former slaves an opportunity for employment and decent wages.



D-3 JOSEPH BALLARD MARKER • 116-18 EAST COUNCIL

Recites the achievements of a man born into slavery and freed with Emancipation. A blacksmith and politician, he was featured on three postcards published by Theodore Buerbaum.



D-4 HARRY COWAN MARKER • 402 NORTH MAIN



Dedicated in 2007, it recognizes the legendary Baptist minister (1810–1904) who established 49 churches in North Carolina. Although he was a slave, his master, Thomas Lincoln Cowan, acknowledged his God-given gifts and legally granted him permission to preach, marry, baptize, and use the four Cowan plantations as a *field* for his ministry.



D-5 HISTORIC MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH – 1906

413 NORTH CHURCH

Founded in 1867 by THE REVEREND HARRY COWAN(D-4), it is the only church in Salisbury with an individual listing (added 1985) on the National Register of Historic Places.



D-6 SOLDIERS MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH – 1892

306 NORTH CHURCH

Was founded in 1865. Known as Salisbury Station and Mount Zion Society, the name was changed to honor the Union soldiers who fought for the freedom of slaves. In 1873 the church purchased this property. The first church building housed the office of JOSEPH C. PRICE while he was president of Livingstone College. The cornerstone for the present sanctuary was laid in September 1892.



D-7 OAK GROVE-FREEDMAN'S CEMETERY
SOUTHWEST CORNER CHURCH & LIBERTY

Was an early burial site of African Americans. The memorial, dedicated in 2006, was designed by Seattle artist Maggie Smith as a compassionate symbol to acknowledge the past, challenge visitors to think about the present, and offer hope for the future. The sidewalk and intersection are paved with bricks laid as African textile patterns which symbolize *ancestry and protection*.



D-8 ROWAN MUSEUM • 202 NORTH MAIN

Is housed in the old courthouse built in 1855. On permanent display are many items related to the African-American history of this area, and personal belongings of J. C. PRICE. Each year, in celebration of Black History Month, a special African-American exhibit is featured.



D-9 WILEY IMMANUEL LASH MARKER
SOUTHWEST CORNER MAIN & COUNCIL

Recognizes the achievements of an outstanding leader, political activist, and humanitarian (L-1). The marker is on the building which was City Hall when LASH was mayor (1979–81). His grocery store was located in the 100 block of East Council Street.



D-10 WILLIAM VALENTINE MARKER
INNES-ST. SIDE OF BUILDING AT 101 NORTH MAIN

Is located in the sidewalk near the entrance of the barber shop he operated. The building, erected in 1858, is Salisbury's oldest extant commercial structure. WILLIAM VALENTINE was a free man of color and purchased a home (D-15) before the Civil War. In the 1870s, he served as a trustee of the colored cemetery (D-18) and A.M.E. Zion Church (D-6).



D-11 INTEGRATION MARKER • 121-129 WEST INNES

Is located in the park adjacent to the Salisbury Post building where the Capitol Theatre once stood. Here the days of segregated seating in Salisbury's movie houses came to a quiet end following a protest by Livingstone College students in 1962.



D-12 CROSSROADS: PAST AND PRESENT • 100 BLOCK WEST FISHER

Commissioned in 1979 by the Rowan Art Guild, the mural was painted by Salisbury artist Cynvia Arthur-Rankin. African Americans portrayed in the mural are CRAIG A. ALDRICH, MARVETTE PRATT ALDRICH (MRS. BOBBY), CHERIE DAWN ALDRICH, TROY BRAWLEY, DAVID JOSEPH BUTLER, FANNIE BUTLER (MRS. DAVID), ROBERT COWAN, IDA DUNCAN (MRS. SAMUEL EDWARD), GARLAND GAITHER, DARRELL HANCOCK, GEORGE KNOX, WILEY I. LASH, and SELENA P. SILER.



D-13 MOWERY BLOCK • 113-119 EAST FISHER

Was erected in 1902 by JOHN "JACK" MOWERY (1836-1902), a tailor and prominent businessman, who is buried in Dixonville Cemetery (D-18). Some black businesses that operated here through the years were Noble and Kelsey Funeral Home on the 2nd floor, W. F. KELSEY'S barber and umbrella repair shop, Mowery Tailor Shop, Union Drug Store, and doctors' offices.



D-14 THE NEGRO CENTER - 1953 • 223 EAST FISHER

Housed the Negro Branch (1953-67) of the Rowan Public Library and other offices. The building is now occupied by Noble and Kelsey Funeral Home. In 1911 LULA SPAULDING KELSEY became the first licensed female mortician in North Carolina.



Left: Noble and Kelsey Funeral Home circa 1930. The building is situated left of the present-day funeral home and is used for storage.

Right: Present-day Noble and Kelsey Funeral Home was originally The Negro Center. In the rear can be seen the Quonset building which was once the black community auditorium. It seated 250 people.

D-15 WILLIAM VALENTINE HOUSE • 224 EAST BANK

Was purchased in 1858 at the estate sale of Horace Beard. BILL VALENTINE (D-10) lived here until he moved in 1886 to Sableton near Union Hill on the west side of town. When he died on January 22, 1893, the local newspaper said that "he was the only barber here before the war—was free then; but conducted himself so as to secure the confidence and patronage of whites." The entrance gate to the Confederate States Military Prison was located across the tracks from this dwelling which is now an antiques shop.



D-16 SITE OF FRIENDS SCHOOL AND DIXONVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH SOUTHEAST CORNER OF HORAH & RAILROAD

In 1866 the Friends of Philadelphia and Vicinity for the Relief of Colored Freedmen purchased this property from Joseph Horah and opened a school. The Baptist Freedmen's Church, which became Dixonville Baptist and renamed First Calvary in 1926, was established the same year by the REVEREND HARRY COWAN (D-4) and shared facilities with the Quaker school. In 1881 the State Colored Normal School of Salisbury was located here. The 1910 church building (right), was razed during urban renewal.



D-17 CROWN IN GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH
517 EAST BANK AT SHAVER

Is the result of five Lutheran African-American congregations of the city and county merging and building a sanctuary which was dedicated in 1971. Represented in the merger were the congregations of St. John's organized in 1866, and St. Paul's organized in the 1930s, both of Salisbury; Zion of Gold Hill, Concordia of Rockwell, and Mount Zion located near Bostian Crossroads, each organized in the 1890s.



D-18 DIXONVILLE CEMETERY • 210 OLD CONCORD ROAD

Was officially established in 1874 by the city fathers as a cemetery "to be used by the colored people perpetually." The earliest extant tombstone is dated 1851. There are no recorded death certificates for those who died before 1912; since that time, 449 burials are documented.



the colored people perpetually." The earliest extant tombstone is dated 1851. There are no recorded death certificates for those who died before 1912; since that time, 449 burials are documented.



BISHOP JOHN JAMISON MOORE, the founder of the Western North Carolina Conference, A.M.E. Zion Church, was buried here next to his wife in 1893. In 2009, with funds from a HUD grant, major restoration work was done in the cemetery and a historical marker installed.

D-19 LINCOLN SCHOOL – 1920 • 642 SOUTH SHAVER

Was established by 1885 and was the only public school in Salisbury for African Americans until 1922. Replacing an earlier two-story wooden structure, this building was erected in 1920 and spared during urban redevelopment in the 1960s and '70s. When the school closed in 1970, the students transferred to integrated A. T. Allen Elementary.



D-20 HISTORIC SALISBURY NATIONAL CEMETERY
RAILROAD AT 202 GOVERNMENT ROAD

In 1870 the U.S. government bought this property which held the remains of Union soldiers who had died in the nearby Confederate States Military Prison during the Civil War. ROBERT, the son of DR. DAVID LIVINGSTONE for whom the college is named, enlisted in the Union Army using the alias Rupert Vincent. Captured in Virginia, he was brought to the Salisbury prison where he died in 1864. He rests in anonymity in one of the 18 trenches which hold thousands of bodies of black and white Union soldiers. The cemetery became a burial site for all military personnel and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1999.



D-21 LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE MARKER (SEE L-10-19.)
SOUTHEAST CORNER MAIN & MONROE





LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE & UNION HILL SITES

The Livingstone College and Union Hill district includes the college campus and surrounding residential area, all of which were a part of the Frohock plantation established in 1761. In April 1865, when General Stoneman's Union troops invaded Salisbury, a detachment entered the town through what is now the college campus. It is said that the soldiers encamped nearby, and that is why the area is named Union Hill. The remnants of the old Salisbury-Taylorsville Plank Road are also on the campus.

L-1 WILEY IMMANUEL LASH HOME • 526 WEST MONROE

Belonged to Salisbury's first African-American mayor. A proponent of civil rights and equality for all people, MAYOR LASH (D-9) was instrumental in the desegregation of local businesses and public schools. L-2 was his childhood home.



L-2 LASH FAMILY HOME • 530 WEST MONROE

The Lashes moved to Salisbury in the early 1900s and became an integral part of the religious and business community.

THE REVEREND WILEY HEZEKIAH LASH (1880–1950) was the founder of several Lutheran congregations in the county. He was also minister of the black St. John's in Salisbury and operated the church's parochial school. His wife, MAYZONETTA GRUNDY LASH (1884–1967), a successful and popular businesswoman, helped develop and operate the family's chain of grocery stores.



L-3 DUNCAN FAMILY HOME • 423 SOUTH CALDWELL

Was built in 1917 for SAMUEL E. DUNCAN SR., head of the math department of Livingstone College, and his family. The children who grew up in this household became distinguished citizens.



Dr. Samuel
Edward Duncan

SAMUEL EDWARD DUNCAN (1904–68), was the fifth president of Livingstone College from 1958 until his death in 1968.

JULIA BELL DUNCAN (1906–76), was registrar and treasurer of Livingstone College for 50 years.

JOHN BONNER DUNCAN (1910–94), District of Columbia's first black commissioner, was appointed to the three-member governing board of Washington by President Kennedy. He served from 1961–67.

ELIZABETH DUNCAN KOONTZ (1919–89), was elected president of the National Education Association in 1968. She headed the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor during President Nixon's administration. Elizabeth Duncan Koontz Elementary School (C-10) is named for her.

L-4 TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA • 300 SOUTH CALDWELL

Founded as Salisbury Colored Presbyterian Church in 1867, the name changed to Church Street Presbyterian reflecting its location on the east side of the 200 block of North Church. A new sanctuary was erected on Caldwell Street in 1983, and the church renamed Trinity Presbyterian.

Beginning at Caldwell, Monroe was originally a private street built by Livingstone College in 1885 and named College Avenue (Faculty Avenue on old postcards).



Church Street Presbyterian once occupied the present-day site of the Rowan Detention Center.

L-5 WILLIAM O. FERRON HOUSE • 630 W. MONROE

Was bequeathed to Livingstone College by WILLIAM O. FERRON (1871–1943), who had served as superintendent of Buildings and Grounds at the college. The house was used as the president's residence until 1999.



L-6 AGGREY FAMILY HOME • 700 WEST MONROE

Was built in 1912 for JAMES EMMAN KWEGYIR AGGREY and his wife ROSE, and has been continuously occupied by their descendants. The North Carolina Highway Historical Marker, erected in 2004, is the only one which honors both a husband and wife.



JAMES E. K. AGGREY, D.D. (1875–1927) was born in the Gold Coast, West Africa (now Ghana). In 1898 he enrolled in Livingstone College and earned a B.A. degree and then a M.A. degree and a D.D. from Hood Theological Seminary. Professor Aggrey was a member of the college and seminary faculties. He returned to Africa in 1920 where he influenced the course of post-colonialism and was co-founder of Achimota Secondary School in Ghana, West Africa.

ROSE DOUGLASS AGGREY (1882–1961) taught in the high school operated by Livingstone College, served as principal of several high schools in the county and as Jeanes Fund supervisor for Rowan County. She was elected second female president of the North Carolina Negro Teachers Association.

Their son, **ORISON RUDOLPH AGGREY**, born in 1926, has served as U.S. Ambassador to Senegal, Gambia and Romania.

Named in honor of the Aggreys are the Student Union at Livingstone College, the former Aggrey Memorial High School and James E. K. Aggrey Gymnasium, Landis (C-8); a street in Granite Quarry; and two buildings at Achimota in Ghana, West Africa.



James E. K. and Rose Aggrey on their wedding day, November 8, 1905, in Portsmouth, Virginia.

L-7 PINKNEY A. STEVENSON HOUSE—1904 • 714 WEST MONROE

Was the dwelling of Livingstone's industrial arts instructor who taught shoemaking. P. A. STEVENSON (1857–1911) also owned and operated a shoe shop in downtown Salisbury. He bequeathed his home to Church Street Presbyterian Church (now Trinity Presbyterian), and it was used as their manse until 1952. The house was then leased to St. John's Lutheran Church and served as its parsonage.



L-8 JOHN C. DANCY HOUSE—1890 • 814 WEST MONROE

Belonged to Livingstone's first printing instructor. JOHN C. DANCY (1857–1920), a



Republican activist, Register of Deeds of his native Edgecombe County, North Carolina; and Collector of Customs at Wilmington, was editor of the *Star of Zion* when it was published in Salisbury.



L-9 JOSEPH C. & JENNIE S. PRICE HOME—1884 • 828 W. MONROE



Is identified with a North Carolina Highway Historical Marker erected in 1978. The house, built for the first president (1882–93) of Livingstone College and his wife, is a private residence occupied by the third generation of the Price family.



JOSEPH CHARLES PRICE was born February 10, 1854, in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, to **EMILY PAILIN**, a free woman and **CHARLES DOZIER**, a slave. After

DOZIER was sent to Baltimore, Emily moved to New Bern

where she married **DAVID PRICE**, and her son adopted his stepfather's surname. Educated in a normal school, he studied law at Shaw University where he experienced a religious conversion, and transferred to Lincoln University, Oxford, Pennsylvania. While a student there, he was licensed as a preacher and ordained a deacon and elder in the A.M.E. Zion Church.



Following graduation in 1881, he gave a series of temperance lectures in England and was lauded as a brilliant orator. **BISHOP JAMES WALKER HOOD** persuaded him to remain in Great Britain and raise money for fledgling Zion Wesley Institute (later Livingstone College).

In 1882 he returned to the States and married **JENNIE SMALLWOOD** (1862–1945) of Beaufort, North Carolina. He died at an early age of Bright's disease and is buried on the college campus (L-11). **MRS. PRICE** continued to live in the home where she reared their five children. She is buried in Oakdale/Union Hill Cemetery (L-22).

LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE was established as Zion Wesley Institute by ministers of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church during 1879 in Concord, North Carolina. At the invitation of its black and white citizens, the school was moved to Salisbury in 1882. Rechartered as Zion Wesley College in 1885, it was renamed Livingstone College in 1887 in honor of Dr. David Livingstone, British explorer and missionary to Africa. The present-day liberal arts college first offered courses in agriculture, industrial arts, theology, music, and education.



A view of Livingstone College and College Avenue in 1910.

L-10 FOOTBALL MARKER

Commemorates the first Negro inter-collegiate football game played in the United States — Livingstone College vs. Biddle Institute (now Johnson C. Smith University). The marker was erected in honor of DR. WILLIAM JOHNSON TRENT, who was a student and member of the team in December 1892. He later served as the college's fourth president (1925–57).



L-11 PRICE MAUSOLEUM

Was constructed in 1923 to protect the grave of Livingstone's first president, DR. JOSEPH CHARLES PRICE (1854–93), who was only 39 years old when he died (L-9).



L-12 POETS AND DREAMERS GARDEN

Dedicated to literary and historical figures, the garden was conceived by SUE BAILEY THURMAN, an advisor to Mahatma Gandhi on African-American affairs. Her husband, HOWARD THURMAN, world-renowned theologian and civil rights leader, composed litanies and poems for its dedication in 1967.



L-13 PRICE MEMORIAL BUILDING—1943

Was begun in 1930. It took 13 years to complete this edifice named in honor of the college's first president, JOSEPH CHARLES PRICE. Administration offices and classrooms are located here.



L-14 W.J. WALLS HERITAGE HALL—1969

Houses the artifacts and archives of the A.M.E. Zion Church, Livingstone College, and Hood Theological Seminary. The building was a gift from BISHOP WILLIAM JACOB WALLS and wife DOROTHY. A senior bishop of the A.M.E. Zion Church, WALLS was chairman of the college's board of trustees for 44 years.



L-15 JAMES W. HOOD BUILDING—1910

Was the first location of Hood Theological Seminary and named in honor of BISHOP JAMES WALKER HOOD, who played a major role shaping North Carolina's post-Civil War government and public education system before becoming bishop.



L-16 GOLER HALL—1917

Was dedicated to the memory of WILLIAM HARVEY GOLER, the second president of Livingstone College (1894–1916) and served as a women's dormitory. The building was designed by instructor W. W. SMITH.



L-17 ANDREW CARNEGIE LIBRARY—1908

Was named in honor of its donor, ANDREW CARNEGIE (1835 – 1919), steel magnate and philanthropist. Three sizeable additions were built in 1948, '58, and '68. DR. W. H. GOLER, DR. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, and BISHOP GEORGE C. CLINTON were responsible for securing the initial \$12,500 from CARNEGIE.



L-18 DODGE HALL—1886

The oldest building on campus was constructed for a men's dormitory and named



Circa 1910

in honor of philanthropist WILLIAM EARLE DODGE (1805–83), benefactor to JOSEPH C. PRICE and proponent of temperance. It was built by students with bricks made from the clay pits on the school grounds.



Present day

L-19 BALLARD HALL—1887

Was erected by students with bricks which they had made. It was named in honor of STEPHEN BALLARD, a philanthropist of Brooklyn, New York, who donated the funds to erect this classroom building — the second oldest structure on campus.



L-20 MONROE STREET SCHOOL—1922

1100 WEST MONROE AT LLOYD

Opened in 1922 as J. C. Price School, it consolidated several private and public schools.



LOUICO HAMILTON HALL (1879–1964) was the first

principal. In 1932 a separate secondary school, Price High School (L-23), was built. The original structure continued to house the elementary school and was renamed Monroe Street School. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2004.



L-21 MOORE'S CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH—1892

500 PARTEE

Was the outgrowth of prayer meetings held in Union Hill homes. The church was organized by the REVEREND JOSEPH T. TORRENCE, and named in honor of A.M.E. Zion bishop, the REVEREND JOHN JAMISON MOORE (D-18).



L-22 OAKDALE/UNION HILL CEMETERY

BRENNER AVENUE & OLD WILKESBORO ROAD

Originally part of the Frohock Plantation established in 1761, this hillside site was purchased by the city of Salisbury in 1903 to provide a new burial site for bodies

being disinterred by the extension of West Liberty Street. Oakdale/Union Hill is the the final resting place of many African-American citizens of Salisbury and Rowan County. It was closed for burials in 1995.



L-23 PRICE HIGH SCHOOL—1932 • 1300 WEST BANK

Named for JOSEPH CHARLES PRICE (L-9, L-11), it was the only public school building in Salisbury erected for sole use as a high school for African Americans. In 1967, Price and Boyden high schools integrated at the latter's location. In the 1970–71 school year, the name was changed to Salisbury High School. The Price building is now used for various community programs. Hall Gym, named for LOUICO H. HALL (L-20), was renovated and dedicated as a community recreational facility in 2001. Price High School was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010.

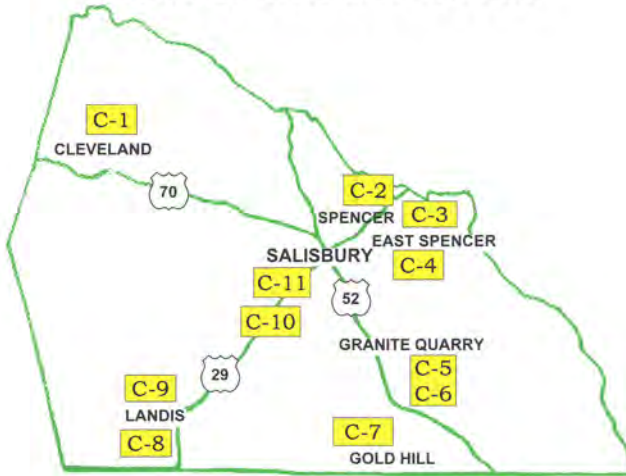


L-24 MILLER RECREATION CENTER—1956 • 1402 WEST BANK

Was named in honor of ISAAC H. MILLER SR., long-time professor at Livingstone College and successful businessman. This facility, the first recreational center for African Americans, was constructed by the city and is the hub of a variety of activities for youth and adults.



ROWAN COUNTY SITES



C-1 R.A. CLEMENT SCHOOL • CLEVELAND

Had its origins in 1880 as a one-room school known as Cleveland Colored School. By 1930 the construction of a brick Rosenwald building consisting of four classrooms and an auditorium was completed. The school was renamed in 1943 for RUFUS A. CLEMENT who donated land, financial aid, and physical labor.



C-2 NORTH CAROLINA TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM

411 SOUTH SALISBURY AVENUE • SPENCER (ENTER AT SAMUEL SPENCER DRIVE)

On the site of the Southern Railway's Spencer Shops (1901–53), visitors can see an authentic train depot, antique automobiles, and a roundhouse with 40 restored locomotives and rail cars. In the roundhouse, an interactive kiosk helps visitors understand African-American work experiences at the Spencer Shops.

The Gandy Dancers Exhibit features African Americans who worked on the railroad's maintenance crews. They acquired their name because they developed a system of rhythmic movements to synchronize their manual labor.



C-3 DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL – 1925

830 SOUTH LONG STREET • EAST SPENCER

Was named in tribute to poet PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR (1872–1906). With the advent of integration in 1969, it ceased operating as a high school but remained open as North Rowan Middle until a new school replaced it in the 1990s. Shady Grove Baptist Church purchased the property in 2009. It is now known as Paul Laurence Dunbar Business and Community Enrichment Center.



C-4 GILLIAM FAMILY FARM – 1922

1025 LAKE FORK ROAD (OFF GOODMAN LAKE ROAD) • SALISBURY

The farm, located on both sides of the road, is easily visible but is not open to the public.



Coke and Lula Sawyer Gilliam



Ezra and Marian Gilliam

Was purchased by COKE NATHANIEL GILLIAM (1890–1963) in 1922. He moved his family from Salisbury’s Jersey City neighborhood “so the children could learn to work and wouldn’t grow up in the streets.” The 75-acre farm sustained his family of eight children during the Great Depression. They had little money, but there was always food on the table.

In keeping with his father’s desire, EZRA GILLIAM (1917–2010) and wife MARIAN have maintained the property as a working farm. In 2008, with the help of the LandTrust for Central North Carolina, they placed a conservation easement on the acreage. This also protects their cultural heritage and way of life as a small family farm.

C-5 WHITE ROCK COMMUNITY OF GRANITE QUARRY

Prides itself as a group of progressive, proactive individuals who never run from a challenge. WHITE ROCK A.M.E. ZION CHURCH was instrumental in the development of the GENEVA I. OGLESBY COMMUNITY CENTER and WHITE ROCK GARDENS, a resident facility for senior citizens. ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH is also a presence in the community.



White Rock A.M.E. Zion

C-6 SHUFORD MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – 1933

706 DUNNS MOUNTAIN ROAD • GRANITE QUARRY

Was named in 1965 to honor CLARENCE JAY SHUFORD SR., its long-time principal. It was formerly known as Granite Quarry Colored School. The building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 2001.



C-7 VILLAGE OF GOLD HILL

Was a booming mining community where gold and copper were extracted. In 1900, at the peak of its activity, one-third of its inhabitants were African Americans who worked in the mines. For more information on activities in Gold Hill, see: www.historicgoldhill.com.



Work crew at No. 7 Shaft,
Union Copper Mine

C-8 DR. JAMES E. K. AGGREY MEMORIAL GYMTORIUM

LANDIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL • 801 WEST RYDER AVENUE • LANDIS

Named for JAMES E. K. AGGREY (L-6) who encouraged the African-American residents of the communities of Landis, Enochville, Sills Creek, Summerside, Neeley and China Grove to become self-reliant. He helped them organize a credit union, purchase property, and led the development of educational and religious institutions. The present-day school and gymtorium are on the site of the old Aggrey Memorial High School (1933–66).



C-9 SANDY RIDGE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH AND MUSEUM

1425 MOUNT MORIAH CHURCH ROAD • LANDIS

Was established in 1866 by the REVEREND BILL PETHEL. A small museum is housed in the old church building and has a display of local artifacts.



C-10 ELIZABETH DUNCAN KOONTZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – 2006

685 EAST RITCHIE ROAD • SALISBURY

Is named for native Salisburian who was an outstanding educational leader on the local, state and national levels (L-3).



Elizabeth Duncan Koontz when she headed the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor during President Nixon's administration.



C-11 HOOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

1810 LUTHERAN SYNOD DRIVE • SALISBURY

Was initially a part of Livingstone College in 1904 and became a graduate school of the A.M.E. Zion Church in 1912. It is now an independent seminary that prepares men and women of fifteen denominations for the Christian ministry. The "Old Hood" building (L-15) housed the seminary from 1910 to 1965 until a second building (now Walls Center, West Thomas Street) was constructed on property donated by BISHOP and MRS. W. J. WALLS. The seminary moved to its present site in the fall of 2005. Hood was



the first institution in Rowan County to implement a doctoral program.

A.M.E. Zion Bishop James W. Hood (1813–1918), for whom the seminary is named, was one of the founders of Livingstone College.



AFRICAN AMERICANS OF ROWAN COUNTY

BY REGINALD W. BROWN

EARLY SETTLERS

Native Americans occupied much of what became Rowan County. The Scotch-Irish with a few negro slaves, followed by the Palatinate Germans, were the earliest settlers. They arrived via the Great Philadelphia Wagon Road and the Trading Path which was created and used by the Cherokee and Catawba.

By 1753, the influx of settlers was such that a new governmental district was shaped from Anson County and named for acting governor, Matthew Rowan. The town of Salisbury was established in 1755 and became the seat of the newly-formed county which stretched from its current southern borders north to Virginia and west to the Mississippi River. Early court and other records mention Negroes, both slave and free.

ROWAN COUNTY SLAVERY: 1753 -1865



The Reverend
A. G. Kesler

Most Rowan County slave holders had fewer than six slaves. Some slaves were laborers subject to be hired out while others were house servants and field hands. A few slaves such as A. G. KESLER, later a leader in the A.M.E. Zion Church, learned to read and write when it was against the law to educate slaves. Many slaves lived with the constant threat of being sold to the traders who took them into the Deep South.

A few of Rowan's African Americans were free people of color who owned land, ran businesses, and were skilled craftsmen. WILSON SMITHERS, a free boy of color, was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade in 1855, and WILLIAM VALENTINE ran a barbershop and purchased land in 1858. Some gained freedom when Maxwell Chambers, a prominent landowner, freed eighteen of his slaves in 1854 and provided funds for them to relocate in Oberlin, Ohio. On the eve of the Civil War, about one-fourth of Rowan County's inhabitants and one-half of Salisbury's population were enslaved.

North Carolina was the last of the eleven southern states to secede from the Union. According to tradition, Rowan's mixed sentiments contributed to the state's late secession. However, after the state joined the Confederacy, Rowan became a southern stronghold with the Salisbury Confederate Military Prison, arsenal, distillery, and general supply depot located here. A few slaves became body servants to Confederate officers and some probably worked in the Confederate Prison, but most continued rendering the same services they performed before the war. Others were hired out to assist the war effort. In a letter to Governor Vance, Francis Shober of Salisbury complained about the Confederate government's failure to return his leased slaves in time for the 1863 harvest.



Apprentice bond of Wilson Smithers
Permanent collection of
Edith Clark History Room, Rowan Public Library

In the summer of 1864, a local newspaper reported the arrival of TOM HAWKINS and another soldier of the U.S. Colored Troops from Maryland as prisoners of war. By late 1864, they were among thousands of Union prisoners that included 300 black soldiers in a severely overcrowded enclosure.

According to a journal kept by a captive, some prisoners escaped with the aid of black field hands and sympathetic townspeople. As conditions worsened and the death rate escalated, the dead were buried in trenches. The prison was emptied by March 1865 and destroyed in April by General George Stoneman's troops. In 1870, the federal government purchased this hallowed ground to protect the burial site of the soldiers, and it is now known as Historic Salisbury National Cemetery.

RECONSTRUCTION AND POST RECONSTRUCTION: 1865 -1900

Before the Civil War, a few black ministers such as HARRY COWAN were permitted to preach to blacks. Some churches with white congregations had slaves and free people of color as members. After the war, preachers like A. G. KESLER led an exodus of freedmen from the churches of their former owners. They established their own communions as centers of their communities and began the transition from property to citizen.

Education and land ownership were the keys to self-determination. The Freedmen's Bureau, northern missionaries, and the 1868 North Carolina Constitution helped establish schools. Private and parochial schools were in session as early as 1866, most notably the Friends School in Dixonville. The State Colored Normal School began teacher training in 1881. Zion Wesley Institute, known today as Livingstone College, held its first commencement in 1883. By 1885 the Salisbury Colored Public Graded School (later known as Lincoln School) was operational. Prominent citizens such as DR. HUMPHREY HAINES HALL, who practiced medicine in Salisbury before becoming the first African-American physician in Winston-

Salem, attended these schools.



Dr. W.H. Goler

Land ownership was also achieved during this period, and some former slave owners gave land to their newly emancipated slaves. DR. WILLIAM H. GOLER, the second president of Livingstone College, was also an entrepreneur. He was responsible for building many homes and commercial

buildings in the area. CHARLES E. BARBER owned and operated a grocery and confectionary. JOHN APOSTLE was a successful drayman. Around 1900, there was an influx of African Americans into Rowan County, particularly from South Carolina, who were attracted by job opportunities available with the railroad, quarries, and mills. Black businesses continued to provide goods, services, and entertainment such as motion pictures. The Princess on East Fisher Street opened in 1908 and was the first African-American movie theatre in North Carolina.



Goler's home on West Monroe Street. Razed in the 1970s.

Ad from *Salisbury Evening Post*,
December 3, 1908

NOW OPEN
The Princess
114 East Fisher St.
New Moving Picture
Theatre
For Colored People!
Come and See Us and Enjoy Yourself.
3 Reels Every Night.
OPEN AT 6:30 P. M.

MEMORIAL DAY

The first Memorial Day observance in Salisbury was held in 1868. The local newspaper, *Watchman and Old North State* of June 5, reported:

DECORATING THE GRAVES. —In compliance with the direction of the General of the "Grand Army of the Republic" the graves of the Federal soldiers, interred in the cemetery near this place, were decorated with flowers on Saturday. A large procession consisting mainly of colored persons, headed by a band of music and the national flag was formed on Main Street and marched thence to the cemetery...

For almost 100 years, Memorial Day was a celebration that drew thousands of people from nearby towns and distant cities for the grand parade, the service at the National Cemetery and carnival activities. Today the last vestige of these festivities is the carnival held at J. C. Price American Legion Post.

Salisbury Evening Post,
May 30, 1935: page one.



CIVIL RIGHTS AND BEYOND

Jim Crow was the name given to attitudes and customs that promoted segregation and the denial of civil rights to African Americans. Its effect on Rowan County lacked the sting felt in other parts of the country. Local government, controlled by white citizens, and segregation divided the community with differences in civil liberties and access to resources. However, integration arrived with minor incident. Positive relationships between the African-American community and Rowan's leaders helped to defuse a potentially explosive situation. The Salisbury City Schools, the Capitol Theatre, the Rowan Public Library, and the YMCA were among the places that were calmly desegregated.

Two years following the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, OZELL K. BEATTY became the first African American elected to the Salisbury City Council and was named



George Knox

mayor pro tem in 1971. East Spencer elected its first black mayor, REGINALD H. MASSEY, in 1974. In 1981 WILEY I. LASH became Salisbury's first mayor of African descent. Granite Quarry followed suit in 1998 with MARY S. PONDS. GEORGE KNOX was Rowan's first black county commissioner (1976), and also the first African American to serve as principal of an integrated local school.



Ozell K. Beatty

Jim Crow died in 1971 when North Carolina ratified its third constitution that guaranteed equal rights under the law. Rowan County continues to foster the well-being of all its citizens and to meet new challenges.

AREA CHURCHES & CEMETERIES

- ALLEN TEMPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1885.**
313 EAST MAIN STREET • CLEVELAND
- ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1898.**
968 TRIPLETT ROAD • CLEVELAND
- ANTIOCH BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1913.**
602 SOUTH SALISBURY AVENUE • GRANITE QUARRY • CEMETERY ON DUNNS MOUNTAIN ROAD
- ARDIS CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1869.**
1940 OLD MOCKSVILLE ROAD • SALISBURY
- CEDAR GROVE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1879.**
2430 HILDEBRAND ROAD • SALISBURY
- CHURCH OF CHRIST † ORGANIZED 1946.**
700 WEST THOMAS STREET • SALISBURY
- CROWN IN GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH † DEDICATED 1971.**
517 EAST BANK STREET • SALISBURY
- DORSETT CHAPEL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1913.**
1280 HOLLYWOOD DRIVE • SPENCER
- FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1922.**
704 OLD CONCORD ROAD • SALISBURY
- FIRST CAVALRY BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1866.**
400 SOUTH LONG STREET • SALISBURY
- GETHSEMANE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1926.**
719 SOUTH CALDWELL STREET • SALISBURY
- HALL'S CHAPEL PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1945.**
611 EAST MONROE STREET • SALISBURY
- HENDERSON GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1912.**
HENDERSON GROVE CHURCH ROAD • SALISBURY
- JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1881.**
1570 NORTH LONG STREET AT LONG FERRY ROAD • SPENCER
- KNOX GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1905.**
3500 THIRD CREEK CHURCH ROAD • CLEVELAND
- LILLY'S CHAPEL HOLINESS CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1915.**
618 WEST THOMAS STREET • SALISBURY
- MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1893.**
US 70 HIGHWAY • SALISBURY
- MILLER'S CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1874.**
114 MILLER CHAPEL ROAD • SALISBURY
- MOORE'S CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1902.**
5890 SOUTH RIVER CHURCH ROAD • CLEVELAND
- MOORE'S CHAPEL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1890.**
500 PARTEE STREET • SALISBURY • CEMETERY AT HALL AND STANDISH STREETS (SEE L-21)

AREA CHURCHES & CEMETERIES

- MOUNT TABOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1867.**
935 MOUNT TABOR CHURCH ROAD • CLEVELAND
- MOUNT VERNON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1886.**
430 CARSON ROAD • BARBER
- MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1886.**
BOYDEN QUARTERS & CEMETERY • WHITE ROAD • MOUNT ULLA
- MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1866.**
1920 SHIRLEY AVENUE • SALISBURY (SEE D-5.)
- NEW HOPE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1862.**
1470 NORTH LONG STREET • SALISBURY
- NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1883.**
2785 DUNNS MOUNTAIN ROAD • SALISBURY
- OAK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1895.**
1205 SOUTH MAIN STREET • CHINA GROVE
- PROVIDENCE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1866.**
2415 PROVIDENCE CHURCH ROAD • SALISBURY
- ROSE OF SHARON HOLINESS CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1927.**
255 CAMP ROAD • SALISBURY
- SANDY RIDGE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1877.**
1425 MOUNT MORIAH CHURCH ROAD • LANDIS (SEE C-9.)
- SHADY GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1890.**
532 SOUTH LONG STREET • EAST SPENCER
- SOLDIERS MEMORIAL A.M.E. ZION CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1865.**
306 NORTH CHURCH STREET • SALISBURY (SEE D-6.)
- SOUTHERN CITY TABERNACLE A.M.E. ZION CHURCH † ORGANIZED 1897.**
940 SOUTH LONG STREET • EAST SPENCER
- ST. LUKE'S BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1876.**
410 HAWKINSTOWN ROAD • SALISBURY
- ST. MATTHEW'S BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1899.**
508 WATKINS STREET • ROCKWELL
- THIRD CREEK A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1878.**
415 EAST MAIN • CLEVELAND
- TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, USA † ORGANIZED 1867.**
300 SOUTH CALDWELL STREET • SALISBURY (SEE L-4.)
- UNITED HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE † ORGANIZED 1926.**
501 OLD CONCORD ROAD • SALISBURY
- WHITE ROCK A.M.E. ZION CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1906.**
WHITE ROCK AVENUE • GRANITE QUARRY (SEE C-5.)
- YADKIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH & CEMETERY † ORGANIZED 1869.**
325 LONG FERRY ROAD • SPENCER



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