

North Carolina Bicentennial Outline

1967

[SL1967-70](#) established the North Carolina American Revolution Bicentennial Commission (NCARBC)

1969

[SL1969-1151](#) appropriated funds to Historic Halifax State Historic Site to prepare for the bicentennial of the Halifax Resolves

1971

[1971, Res. 45](#) (SR415) A joint resolution commemorating the 195th anniversary of the Halifax Resolves

[1971, Res. 47](#) (HR695) A joint resolution commemorating the bicentennial celebration of the Battle of Alamance

[1971, Res. 60](#) (SR262) A joint resolution welcoming and encouraging bicentennial representatives of the original thirteen states

January 1971, first issue of *The North Carolina Bicentennial Gazette* was published by the NCARBC. Named after the first newspaper in the colony, founded in 1751(?) by James Davis. This current iteration contains “news about how their neighbors in North Carolina and across the nation are planning and carrying out bicentennial programs; news about programs of statewide and national significance and participation; biographical sketches of people of the Revolutionary period; articles about Revolutionary sites and landmarks; articles about the ordinary, and not so ordinary, life of North Carolinians and Americans during the formative days of the Republic; articles about the politics and religion of the times; about the philosophy and attitudes of the people who founded our state and nation.” (North Carolina Bicentennial Gazette, Vol. 1, No. 1: January 1971). There are 10 issues scanned and available to read.

May 1971, *Carolina Comments* - Newsletter by the North Carolina Department of Archives and History, reports on historical activities in the department and around the state. There may be other issues of this newsletter with comments on the bicentennial as well.

1972

American Revolution II: a living commemoration published by the NCARBC

- This is an initial master plan recommended by the commission on commemorating the bicentennial

1973

[SL1973-476](#), sec. 68-70 created the North Carolina American Revolution Bicentennial Committee within the Department of Cultural Resources to advise the Secretary of Cultural Resources on plans and programs for the observance of the bicentennial. This committee replaced the North Carolina American Revolutionary Bicentennial Commission, which this act repeals in section 70.

[1973, Res. 67](#) (SR729) A joint resolution commemorating the 197th anniversary of the Halifax Resolves

October 1973, first issue of the *North Carolina Bicentennial Newsletter* was published by the North Carolina Bicentennial. Not only does this publication discuss events and activities but also the people involved in the organization of it all. There are articles about everything from film productions, funding, town/city preliminary plans, and fashion during the time of our Founding Fathers. There are 12 issues plus a special edition scanned and available to read.

1974

[1973, Res. 179](#) (SR1506) A joint resolution commemorating the 198th anniversary of the Halifax Resolves

1975

[1975, Res. 28](#) (SR380) A joint resolution designating April 9, 1975, as Bataan Day and May 6, 1975, as Corregidor Day

[1975, Res. 37](#) (SR573) A joint resolution commemorating the Halifax Resolves of April 12, 1776, which authorized North Carolina delegates in the Continental Congress to vote for independence

[1975, Res. 38](#) (HR507) A joint resolution calling for a state-wide cleanup program in connection with the bicentennial celebration

[1975, Res. 41](#) (SR37) A joint resolution respectfully petitioning the Post Office of the United States to issue a commemorative stamp depicting the Nash-Hooper Home, located in Historic Hillsborough, North Carolina, in observance and respect for the bicentennial celebration of the American Revolution

[1975, Res. 58](#) (SR596) A joint resolution commending the Armed Forces and urging Congress to preserve the defenses of this nation

[1975, Res. 96](#) (HR1161) A joint resolution commemorating the bicentenary anniversary of the Cumberland County Association, signers of the Liberty Point Resolves, of June 20, 1775

Fall 1975 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem Scene '76 community mini-festivals

September 1-6 – Iredell County – Iredell County Fair

September 3-6 – Forsyth County – Travel Exposition/Winston-Salem Hanes Mall

September 6-14 – Guilford County – Guilford County Fair

September 10-13 – Nash County – Travel Exposition/Rocky Mount Tarrytown Mall

September 13 – Durham County – Arts America Street Celebration Durham

September 13-14 – Forsyth County – Early American Arts and Crafts Winston-Salem Fairgrounds

September 18 – Guilford County – Fall Fashion Concert/Greensboro

September 18-27 – Guilford County – Travel Exposition/Greensboro Four Seasons Mall

September 21-28 – Carteret County – Heritage Week

September 23-28 – Guilford County – Community Fair/Greensboro

September 24 – Carteret County – Religious music choral concert Morehead City

September 25 – Orange County – Chapel Hill/University of NC Experience of Revolution in the South Symposium

September 28 – Duplin County – Bicentennial concert

October 2 – Wake County – Raleigh/NC State University Experience of Revolution in the South Symposium

October 2-4 – Madison County – Mars Hill/Bascom Lamar Lunsford Music Festival

October 2-11 – Wake County – Travel Exposition/Raleigh North Hills Mall

October 3-5 – Robeson County – Red Springs/Colonial Muster and Arts Festival

October 3-11 – Forsyth County – Dixie Classic Fair “In the Shade of the Liberty Tree”/Winston-Salem

October 8-17 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/NC School of the Arts contemporary music, dance

October 9 – Durham County – Durham/Duke University Experience of Revolution in the South Symposium

October 9-12 – Carteret County – Beaufort Fall Fishing Festival

October 10-12 – Surry County – Autumn Leaves Festival/Mt. Airy

October 17-25 – Wake County – North Carolina State Fair/Raleigh

October 25-26 – Randolph County – Fall Festival/Asheboro

November 7 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/NC School of the Arts choral concert

November 8 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/exhibit 200 Years of American Crafts

December 1 – Washington, DC – North Carolina Day in the Nation’s Capital

December 13-14 – Wake County – Candlelight Tour of Historic Oakwood/Raleigh

December 14 – Randolph County – Tour of homes/Asheboro

1976

Junior Tar Heel Historian, Tar Hell Junior Historian Association, Spring-Summer 1976

North Carolina Bicentennial: calendar of events. Department of Cultural Resources. Raleigh, NC, 1976?

The American Revolution Bicentennial: four great events in North Carolina. North Carolina American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Raleigh, NC, 1976? Pamphlet

Many other print resources are available at the State Library of North Carolina such as pamphlets produced by the NCARBC and the Dept. of Cultural Resources. Some examples include:

- Commemoration of a Revolution – citizens asked to submit suggestions and actively participate

- Festival for the Fourth – some of the major events, their times and locations, plus a map of NC with the event locations and major highways
- Bicentennial Mountain Festival – events and activities in the counties of western NC
- Student Initiated Bicentennial Projects Program – for college students
- Plan for Government Participation
- Reading selections booklet of American history topics

Bicentennial Wall Calendar 1976 – months represented by images of 12 historic sites from the Revolutionary War, important Revolutionary War dates are also included

Many July 4th parades throughout the state (example in Cary, home video – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSZn_ia1-ps)

Mobile Museum “Celebration 1776-1976” – toured throughout the state with reproductions of state documents and exhibits of Revolutionary War artifacts, audiovisual slide presentation explaining how and why Americans celebrate July 4th

Museum of History exhibit on 200 years of fashion

NC Symphony and other music groups played selections throughout the year – a symphony and opera were composed and performed specifically for the bicentennial celebration

January – Beaufort County – Washington/Religious Month

January – Orange County – Ackland Gallery/Chapel Hill exhibit “Being American”

February 1 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/Symphony concert of American composers

February 6-7 – Wake County – Raleigh/British Black Watch and Royal Marines regiment

February 8 – Mecklenburg County – Charlotte/British Black Watch and Royal Marines regiment

February 8-14 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/exhibit Currier and Ives prints

February 26 – Cumberland County – Fayetteville/Paul Green’s drama The Highland Call opens

February 26 – Cumberland County – Fayetteville/re-enactment of marching out of Scots to Battle of Moore’s Creek Bridge

February 26 – Pender County – Battle of Moore’s Creek Bridge

February 28 – Pender County – Currie/Moore’s Creek National Military Park commemorative ceremonies

March 5-7 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/Fine Arts Festival

March 13-14 – Guilford County – Greensboro/Guilford Courthouse National Military Park/First Maryland Regiment encampment

March 13-April 11 – Guilford County – Historic Guilford Month

March 19 – Duplin County – Arbor Day tree planting

March 20 – Harnett County – Buies Creek/Campbell College Conference of Celtic Studies

March 20 – Guilford County – American Music Festival

March 23-29 Forsyth, Guilford, Mecklenburg, Durham, Wake Counties – London Symphony tour to Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Charlotte, Durham, Raleigh

March 26-April 4 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/Little Theater Bicentennial Play

March 28-29 – Randolph County – Randleman/festival and parade

March 31-April 4 – Guilford County – Greensboro/Greater Greensboro Open Golf Tournament

April – Chowan County – Edenton Symposium

April – Pasquotank County – Elizabeth City State University Spring Festival

April – New Hanover County – Wilmington/Azalea Festival

April 1 – Nash County – Nashville/dedication of monument to Gen. Francis Nash

April 1-8 – Mecklenburg County – Charlotte/Festival of Music

April 9-12 – Halifax County – Halifax Resolves Week arts festival, displays, and commemorative ceremonies at historic Halifax restoration

April 22-24 – Moore County – Village of Yesteryear

April 29 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/pageant The British are Coming

May 2 – Wilson County – Wilson/Sunday in the Park

May 7-8 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/Barbershop Quartets Salute to America

May 30 – Iredell County – Union Grove/Old Time Fiddlers' and Bluegrass Festival

June – Alamance, Dare, Swain, Watauga, Burke, Union Counties – outdoor dramas open – The Sword of Peace/Snow Camp, The Lost Colony/Manteo, Unto These Hills/Cherokee, Horn in the West/Boone, From This Day Forward/Valdese, Listen and Remember/Waxhaw

July 1-10 – Madison County – Heritage Week

July 2-4 – Brunswick County – Southport/North Carolina Fourth of July Festival

July 2-5 – Orange County – Chapel Hill/International Soccer

July 3 – Guilford County – Greensboro/Old Greensborough Fun Fourth Festival

July 3 – Wake County – Raleigh/North Carolina Bicentennial Parade

July 3 – New Hanover County – Wilmington/North Carolina Bicentennial Ball

July 3 – Allegheny County – Pageant and Street Dance

July 3-5 – Durham County – Durham/North Carolina Folklife Festival, Eno River Park dedication

July 3-10 – Surry County – Outdoor Spectacle

July 4 – Guilford County – Jamestown/Old Fashioned Fourth

July 4 – Ashe County – Outdoor Festival

July 4 – Forsyth County – Winston-Salem/1783 Fourt of July Re-staging

July 4 – Pender County – Currie/Picnic

July 4 – Edgecombe County – Battleboro/Open House at Stonewall Mansion

July 4 – Iredell County – Fort Dobbs/Festival

July 4 – Columbus County – Lake Waccamaw/Festival

July 4 – Randolph County – Asheboro/week-long Festival

July 4 – Randolph County – Trinity/Community Festival

July 8 – Moore County – House-in-the-Horseshoe outdoor drama

July 12-16 – Buncombe County – Asheville/Craftsman’s Fair

September – Pender County – Moore’s Creek National Park Colonial Craft Exhibit

September – New Hanover County – opening of Wilmington Waterfront Park

September 21-26 – Mecklenburg County – Festival in the Park

October – Pender County – Moore’s Creek National Park People of 1776 Exhibit

October – Beaufort County – Washington/Harvest Festival

October 7 – Watauga, Rutherford, Cleveland Counties – “Over-The-Mountain-Men” March from Boone to King’s Mountain

October 25 – Randolph County – Asheboro Fall Festival

October 26 – Wake County – Raleigh/Freedom Train

November 5 – Mecklenburg County – Charlotte/Freedom Train

November 18 – establishment of first state constitution: 1776

December 14 – Randolph County – Asheboro/Tour of Homes