

**NORTH CAROLINA  
STATE HISTORIC SITES:  
THE EASTERN TO CENTRAL  
PIEDMONT REGION  
ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES**

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NORTH CAROLINA

**MUSEUM OF HISTORY**

# ***North Carolina State Historic Sites: The Eastern to Central Piedmont Region***

*Activities are designed to supplement and reinforce information presented in North Carolina State Historic Sites: The Eastern to Central Piedmont Region. To borrow the video, go to <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org/collateral/OrderVideos.pdf>. Some activities may be used without viewing the video. Not all activities are appropriate for all grade levels, but with some adjustments, most activities can be adapted to meet the needs of your students.*

## **Video Description**

Students will learn about historic sites in the Piedmont region of North Carolina.

## **Curriculum Goals**

**Grade 4:** Social Studies Goals 2, 3, 4

**Grade 8:** Social Studies Goals 1, 2, 4, 5, and 9

## **Preview Activities**

### **Vocabulary**

Please review the following words with your class before showing the video.

*archaeology* – the systematic recovery and study of material evidence remaining from past human life and culture, such as graves, buildings, tools, and pottery.

*artifact* – any object made or modified by humans, such as a tool or weapon, that survives from the past.

*backcountry* – a remote, undeveloped rural area; a term for the area of early North Carolina lying west of the fall line. The fall line divides the Coastal Plain from the Piedmont. It runs in an irregular north/south direction west of Wilson in Wilson County and east of Sanford in Lee County.

*ceremonial center* – a place to perform a formal act or sets of acts on special occasions such as weddings, funerals, or holidays.

*draft* – a system of selecting individuals from a group for military service.

*encampment* – a temporary military camp near a battle site.

*field hospital* – a temporary hospital on or near a battlefield.

*flue curing* – a method of curing tobacco in which the leaves are hung in a barn and dried with heat that circulates in flues or pipes. As the leaves dry, or cure, their color turns from green to golden brown.

*heirloom variety* – old, often nearly extinct, types of vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Historic farms and houses often grow heirloom varieties of plants to show how the garden or farm looked in the past.

*interpreter* – a person who explains a historic site to the public.

*navigable river* – a waterway that is deep or wide enough for boat travel.

*oral history* – an account of a past event by the person who experienced it. Oral history is gained through personal interviews and usually recorded on tape and transcribed.

*photomosaic* – an aerial image made up of individual photographs of neighboring or nearby regions placed side by side.

*planter* – a person who owns or runs a plantation.

*preparatory school* – a private school that prepares students for college.

*reconstruct* – to establish or assemble again.

*stockade* – a defensive wall or fence of large, strong posts fixed upright in the ground.

*yeoman farmer* – in the period before the Civil War, a farmer who owned and worked a small piece of land, usually without slaves.

## **As You Watch**

Introduce the video using the following important points as a guide.

- North Carolina's historic sites offer visitors a look at places important to the state as they once were.
- Keeping up sites is no easy task. Notice how the sites have been excavated, restored, preserved, and reused.
- The Piedmont region has several sites that focus on influential figures in North Carolina history.
- Historic homes interpret the lives of the individuals who once lived there.

## **History Comes Alive**

### **Learning as a Group**

Use these questions in a class discussion to assess your students' understanding of the information presented in the video and to encourage original and critical thinking about the topic.

- Where did the Creek Indians come from?
- In what state did the Great Wagon Road originate? Who used it to migrate to North Carolina?
- Who were the Regulators? In what part of the state did they live?
- How was the Harper house used during the Battle of Bentonville?
- What kind of tobacco did the Dukes sell? What event spurred Washington Duke to start manufacturing smoking tobacco?
- Who was Charles B. Aycock? What is he famous for?
- After whom did Charlotte Hawkins Brown name her school?

### Map Study

Find the following counties on a map of North Carolina. Give the name of the historic site(s) found in each county. Answers on page 9.

County	Historic Site(s)
Montgomery	
Alamance	
Moore	
Johnston	
Durham	
Wayne	
Guilford	

### Primary Sources

Rachel Allen was known as a backcountry doctor. Below is the transcription of a remedy from her book of herbal remedies. Read the excerpt aloud and answer the questions. Answers on page 9.

*To make ointment to cure a burn or Scald take of the tender tops of high RatleSnake in the Spring of the year & fresh may Butter & poind them well together then make it up in Balls let it lie about Six weeks then put it in a cettle over the fire let them Simmer Well then Strain them out keep it for use*

- What ailment does this remedy cure?
- How is this ailment cured today?
- What surprises you about this excerpt?

Below is the transcription of an excerpt from the will of John Allen, the husband of Rachel Allen. Read the excerpt aloud and answer the questions. Answers on page 8.

*Be it known that I John Alan of the county of orange and state of North Carolina being of sound and perfect mind and memory do make and publish this my last will and testament Which is as follows. I will that all my just debts and funeral charges be paid as soon as may be by my Executors hereafter named*  
*Item I give and bequeath Unto my loving wife Rachel her living on Each or Either of the forementioned lots of land as She may Choose and if Shee lives to need help that Each of my Sons Shall pay Equal Share towards her maintainence While my widow*

- D. Where was the will written?
- E. How did John Allen make sure that his wife would be provided for until her death?
- F. What surprises you about this excerpt?

Charlotte Hawkins Brown wrote a book called *The Correct Thing to Do, to Say, to Wear* in 1941. All students attending Palmer Memorial Institute were expected to read and follow Brown's book. Below are several rules of behavior from the book. On a separate sheet of paper, describe the proper way to behave in each situation today.

### **AT THE DANCE**

- 1. A girl should always be ready when her escort arrives.
- 4. In asking for a dance, the boy says, "May I have this dance?" The girl replies, "Yes, you may," or "I am sorry, but this dance is taken."
- 8. Excessive movements of the body are very ungraceful. Remember that dancing should be done with the feet, not the torso.

### **AT SCHOOL**

- 1. Always greet the teacher when meeting for the first time, whether it be morning or not.
- 2. Be sure that you have everything you need—text, paper, pen, etc. Don't be a carpenter without tools.
- 3. When called on to recite, always make some sort of reply. Don't sit dumbly in the seat and say nothing. Don't even think too long. Valuable minutes are wasted thus.
- 8. Don't cheat. You will never learn by "copying" from your neighbor or from the book.

### **AT THE CONCERT, THEATER OR MOVIES**

- 1. If there is no usher to direct you, stand in the back of the house a minute or so until your eyes become adjusted to the darkness. This will avoid stumbling over other persons in an effort to locate a seat.
- 4. Sit still in your seat. Constant moving about disturbs others.
- 5. Do not monopolize the arm of the seat. It is to be used by persons on either side of it.

## Game

Take a trip through North Carolina's Piedmont region as you play a game. The questions that follow relate to the historic sites featured in the video. Ask a student to cut apart the questions (you may first want to glue the question sheets to lightweight cardboard). Students are to devise their own game pieces, such as four paper clips with different colors of paper attached; four coins—penny, nickel, dime, and quarter; or four buttons of different colors or shapes. Copy the question sheets and game board (provided on page 8) for each set of players.

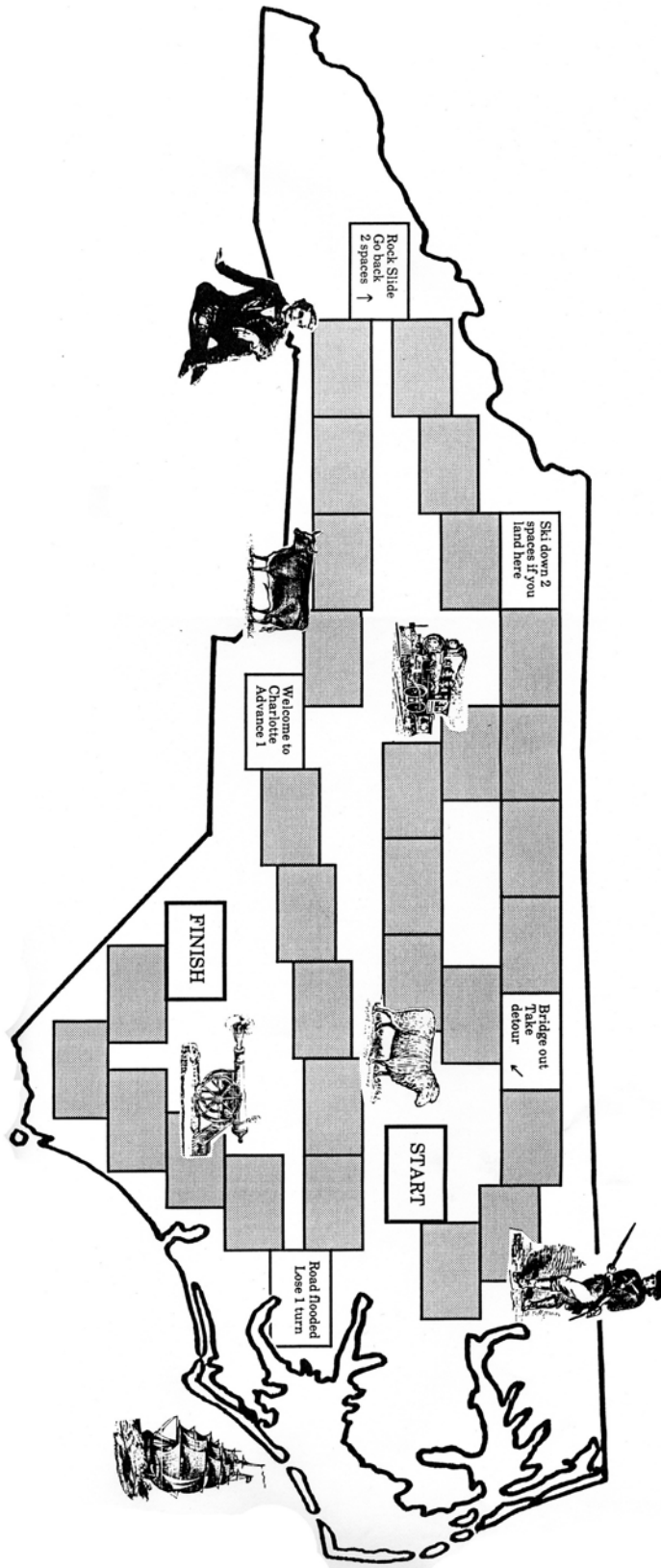
### Game Rules

1. Four players per game board.
2. The youngest player goes first.
3. The person to the right of the first player reads the question. If the player answers the question correctly, he or she moves his or her game piece the number of spaces indicated on the question card. If the player does not answer the question correctly, the person to the player's right (the one who read the question) plays next by trying to answer the question missed. Each player gets one chance to answer a question.
4. More than one player may land on the same space.
5. The first player to reach the end wins the game.

### Questions

What were the people who opposed the policies of Governor Tryon called? Answer: Regulators (1 space)	True or false: History involves only important people. Answer: False (2 spaces)
We have learned about early American Indians through what scientific study? Answer: Archaeology (2 spaces)	What caused the second group of Indians to leave the Town Creek site? Answer: The arrival of European settlers (2 spaces)
True or false: We learn much about the history of American Indians from their written word. Answer: False (2 spaces)	True or false: People in the backcountry had good government and trade routes. Answer: False (1 space)
Who won the Battle of Alamance? Answer: Governor Tryon's forces (2 spaces)	In what war was the House in the Horseshoe important? Answer: American Revolution (3 spaces)
True or false: The House in the Horseshoe was a small house owned by a poor farmer. Answer: False (2 spaces)	Bentonville Battleground was a part of what war? Answer: Civil War (2 spaces)
Name the governor who purchased the House in the Horseshoe. Answer: Governor Benjamin Williams (3 spaces)	Name one of the two men who led the battle at the House in the Horseshoe. Answer: Philip Alston / David Fanning (3 spaces)
Name the Union general at the Battle of Bentonville. Answer: William T. Sherman (1 space)	Name the Confederate general at the Battle of Bentonville. Answer: Joseph E. Johnston (2 spaces)

<p>How is the Harper house used today?          Answer: It is interpreted as a field hospital.          (3 spaces)</p>	<p>For what is Bennett Place best known?          Answer: The largest surrender of Confederate troops (2 spaces)</p>
<p>What new method of smoking became popular during the Civil War?          Answer: Cigarette smoking (2 spaces)</p>	<p>True or false: Washington Duke grew large amounts of tobacco.          Answer: False (3 spaces)</p>
<p>What was the name Washington Duke gave his first brand of smoking tobacco?          Answer: Pro Bono Publico (“for the public good”)          (2 spaces)</p>	<p>What is the company that Washington Duke started called today?          Answer: American Tobacco Company          (2 spaces)</p>
<p>True or false: Washington Duke was considered a well-to-do tobacco farmer.          Answer: False (3 spaces)</p>	<p>What is Trinity College now called?          Answer: Duke University (2 spaces)</p>
<p>Name the book written by Charlotte Hawkins Brown.          Answer: <i>The Correct Thing to Do, to Say, to Wear</i>          (3 spaces)</p>	<p>Name one of the three reasons why Governor Charles Aycock believed children should be educated.          Answer: (1) To know something (2) To be able to do something (3) To be able to be something          (3 spaces)</p>
<p>What was one purpose of Palmer Memorial Institute when it first opened?          Answer: To teach African Americans improved farming methods and industrial arts. (2 spaces)</p>	<p>What special research program is under way at Aycock Birthplace?          Answer: Raising period livestock and heirloom varieties of vegetables and flowers (3 spaces)</p>
<p>In what state was Charlotte Hawkins Brown educated?          Answer: Massachusetts (2 spaces)</p>	<p>What is a normal school?          Answer: A school that trains teachers          (3 spaces)</p>
<p>True or false: Charlotte Hawkins Brown opened a school for all children.          Answer: False (2 spaces)</p>	<p>Who was known as North Carolina’s “Education Governor”?          Answer: Charles B. Aycock (2 spaces)</p>
<p>True or false: Very few people are alive who remember attending Palmer Memorial Institute.          Answer: False (2 spaces)</p>	<p>True or false: Aycock Birthplace has been restored to represent a typical eastern North Carolina family farm in the 1800s.          Answer: True (2 spaces)</p>
<p>What is the full name of the school started by Charlotte Hawkins Brown?          Answer: Alice Freeman Palmer Memorial Institute          (2 spaces)</p>	<p>True or false: The terms of surrender that generals Johnston and Sherman agreed to were accepted right away by both sides.          Answer: False (2 spaces)</p>
<p>True or false: Because his home grew famous, James Bennett became a rich man.          Answer: False (1 space)</p>	<p>How was the Bennett house restored?          Answer: It wasn’t. The house is a reconstruction based on sketches, photographs, and archaeological research. (3 spaces)</p>
<p>What was James Bennett’s occupation after the Civil War?          Answer: Sharecropper (2 spaces)</p>	<p>What structure at Town Creek was used for religious rituals?          Answer: The temple (2 spaces)</p>



## Answers

### Map Study

Montgomery – Town Creek Indian Mound

Alamance – Alamance Battleground

Moore – House in the Horseshoe

Johnston – Bentonville Battlefield

Durham – Bennett Place, Duke Homestead

Wayne – Aycock Birthplace

Guilford – Charlotte Hawkins Brown Memorial (now Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum)

### Primary Sources

A. A burn or scald.

B. By applying ice, cold running water, and commercial salves or ointments (students may have additional answers).

C. Answers will vary.

D. Orange County, or North Carolina, or both.

E. He left her land and required his sons to be equally responsible for helping her if she needed money.

F. Answers will vary.

## Going Further with Resources

### I. Books

Brown, Charlotte H. *The Correct Thing to Do, to Say, to Wear*. Boston: Christopher Publishing House, 1941.

Daniel, Sadie Iola. *Women Builders*. Washington, D.C.: Associated Publishers, 1931.

Durden, Robert Franklin. *The Dukes of Durham, 1865–1929*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1975.

Edmunds, Pocahontas Wight *Tar Heels Track the Century*. Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Co., 1966.

Funk, Linda, ed. *The Duke Homestead Guidebook*. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1978.

Jenkins, John Wilber. *James B. Duke, Master Builder*. 1927. Reprint. Spartanburg, S.C.: Reprint Company, 1971.

Jordan, Weymouth T., Jr. *The Battle of Bentonville*. Wilmington: Broadfoot Publishing, 1990.

Long, Augustus White. *Son Of Carolina*. Durham: Duke University Press, 1939.

Marteena, Constance Hill. *The Lengthening Shadow of a Woman: A Biography of Charlotte Hawkins Brown*. Hicksville, N.Y.: Exposition Press, 1977.

Orr, Oliver H., Jr. *Charles Brantley Aycock*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1961.

Powell, William S. *The War of the Regulation and the Battle of Alamance, May 16, 1771*. Raleigh: Department of Archives and History, 1965.

Reeves, Linda. *Town Creek Indian Mound Guidebook*. Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, 1976.

Winkler, John K. *Tobacco Tycoon, the Story of James Buchanan Duke*. New York: Random House, 1942.

### II. Articles from *Tar Heel Junior Historian Magazine* (available at <http://nchistoryresources.org/>)

Coats, A. Dale. "Sassafras Sticks, the Bull, and Mr. Bonsack: The Impact of Tobacco Manufacturing." *Tar Heel Junior Historian* 29 (Spring 1990): 36–38.

Clauser, John W., Jr. "How Do You Know It Looked Like That? Archaeology Aids Historic Preservation." *Tar Heel Junior Historian* 29 (Fall 1989): 33–35.

Dixon, Barbara Forte. "Charlotte Hawkins Brown Coverlet." *Tar Heel Junior Historian* 27 (Spring 1988): 19.

Gibbs, Annette. "'Unfailing Courage and Unfaltering Faith': Charlotte Hawkins Brown." *Tar Heel Junior Historian* 23 (Spring 1984): 20–21.

Menius, Art. "James and Nancy Bennett, Yeoman Farmers of the Old South." *Tar Heel Junior Historian* 27 (Fall 1987): 6–7.

### III. Places to Visit

Alamance Battleground  
5803 NC 62 S.  
Burlington, NC 27215  
336-227-4785

Aycock Birthplace  
P.O. Box 207  
Fremont, NC 27830  
919-242-5581

Bennett Place  
4409 Bennett Memorial Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
919-383-4345

Bentonville Battlefield  
5466 Harper House Road  
Four Oaks, NC 27524  
910-594-0789

Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum  
P.O. Box B  
Sedalia, NC 27342  
336-449-4846

Duke Homestead  
2828 Duke Homestead Road  
Durham, NC 27705  
919-477-5498

House in the Horseshoe  
288 Alston House Road  
Sanford, NC 27330  
910-947-2051

Town Creek Indian Mound and Learning Center  
509 Town Creek Mound Road  
Mt. Gilead, NC 27306  
910-439-6802

Visit our Web site at <http://ncmuseumofhistory.org>. Find more North Carolina history resources at <http://nchistoryresources.org>. The North Carolina Museum of History is part of the Division of State History Museums, Office of Archives and History, an agency of the Department of Cultural Resources, [www.ncculture.com](http://www.ncculture.com).

