

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES' POLICY FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE REMOVAL OF NAMES ON**  
**UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC SPACES**

**I.**

**PREAMBLE**

The names that our University attaches to buildings and public spaces make a statement about the values we wish to lift up for emulation and pass on to successive generations. As the nation's first public institution of higher education, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has a responsibility to promote equal opportunity and equal access for all. To that end, we must endeavor to shape a student body, staff, and professoriate, curriculum and agenda for research, artistic creativity, and civic engagement that reflects and honors the full, rich diversity of human experience and thought. We hold fast to our convictions and we trust that constantly striving to be a more just, tolerant, and equitable institution makes us a stronger University and positions us to build a better future for the people of North Carolina, the nation, and the world.

In order to be a place where inclusive transformation is valued, we must be willing to submit our history and traditions to scrutiny and thoughtful assessment consistent with high standards of integrity and free and open inquiry and debate. Upholding our values includes an openness to changing or otherwise contextualizing names that were attached to campus buildings or public spaces by prior stewards of the University whose values may, in contemporary circumstances, undercut Carolina's mission which is to serve as a center for research, scholarship, and creativity and to teach a diverse community of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students to become the next generation of leaders.

Removing a naming designation is a serious step that cannot be taken lightly or hastily. It should occur only under exceptional and narrow circumstances. This policy is designed to guide that process.

**II.**

**PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR REMOVAL**

The process for deciding whether to remove a naming designation should reflect a consistent set of standards, a careful and deliberate balancing process, and an acknowledgement of the complex intersection between the lessons of our past and present, the lived and learned experiences from that time to present day, and the contemporary mission of the University. The Chancellor or Board of Trustees may begin the process of reconsidering the name on a University building or other public space at their own initiative or in response to a written request to the Chancellor.

A written request to the Chancellor requesting the removal of a name should include:

- The specific conduct by the namesake of the campus building or public space that jeopardizes the University's integrity, mission or values.

- The character of the named individual and the extent of the harm to the University caused by continuing to honor the namesake.
- The sources and strength of the evidence that supports the allegation(s) of the harm.
- Alignment of the allegation with the principles detailed below.

At the Chancellor’s discretion, the Chancellor will refer a written request for removal of a name to a committee appointed by the Chancellor, which shall include members of the Board of Trustees, alumni, faculty, staff and students of the University, to investigate the claims and provide a written report back to the Chancellor in a timely manner that adheres to the standards of free and open inquiry as well as discourse and debate, which are appropriate for an institution of higher education.

As part of the written report, the committee may invite comments from all interested members of the University community, on or off campus, including the original honoree or their heirs, and treat the process as an opportunity for community-wide learning even as the committee addresses wrongdoing. Where helpful, those on the committee should take advantage of the knowledge and methodologies of the social sciences, humanities, law, and other disciplines, and they should ensure that the inquiry itself not exacerbate the harms that are being considered, appropriately considering varying viewpoints within the University community.

The Chancellor will review the report, the strength of the scholarly historical evidence, and the principles outlined below in deciding whether to formally request that the Board of Trustees consider the request for removal.

In the event the Chancellor determines that the request to remove the name does warrant a formal request to the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor will (i) provide a formal request to the Board of Trustees in advance of the meeting during which the Chancellor requests action to be taken; and (ii) provide the Board of Trustees the report supporting the Chancellor’s request.

In the event that the Chancellor determines that the request to remove a name does not warrant a formal request to the Board of Trustees, the Chancellor will: (i) provide a response explaining the decision to the requesting party; and (ii) initiate appropriate action if the University community would benefit from increased contextualization in connection with the campus building or public space.

### III.

#### **PRINCIPLES FOR EVALUATING A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR REMOVAL**

The University must assure that any requests to remove a name from a University building or public space are the result of a consistent approach to weighing and balancing the relevant factors and aforementioned principles. Written requests for removing a name are more compelling when the scholarly historical evidence is clear and convincing and when they satisfy one or more of the following criteria:

- The namesake was found to have committed a serious violation of a state or U.S. law prior to or during that individual's lifetime following the naming recognition.
- The repugnant conduct in question was central to a namesake's career, public persona, or life as a whole.
- Allegations of repugnant behavior are supported by documentary evidence that demonstrates both the extent and the intentionality of a namesake's actions.
- Honoring a namesake demonstrably jeopardizes the University's integrity and materially impedes its mission of teaching, research, and public engagement; or significantly contributes to an environment that excludes some members of the University community from opportunities to learn, thrive, and succeed.
- The removal of the name would not stifle viewpoint diversity or fail to acknowledge the historical complexity or holistic contributions of the individual to the University or the public.

Written requests for removing a name are **weaker** when one or more of the following elements are present:

- The namesake's offensive behavior or viewpoints were conventional at its time and other aspects of the namesake's life and work are especially noteworthy to the University or the greater community.
- Despite the evidence of objectionable behavior or views, there is also evidence of significant level of evolution or moderation of the namesake's behavior and/or views.

Opportunities for contextualization, education, and preservation of historical knowledge to advance the University's mission and values must be considered in any final determination on the potential removal and/or renaming of a University building or public space.

*Adopted by the Board of Trustees on July 16, 2020*

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**OPEN SESSION**

1. Convene Meeting  
*Richard Stevens, Chair, Board of Trustees*
2. Roll Call  
*Teresa Artis Neal, Secretary*
3. Presentation of Agenda  
*Clayton Somers, Assistant Secretary*
4. Statement of Ethics  
*Richard Stevens, Chair*
5. Approval of 2021 Meeting Dates Attachment A  
*Richard Stevens, Chair*
6. Chair's Remarks  
*Richard Stevens, Chair*
7. Chancellor's Remarks  
*Dr. Kevin Guskiewicz, Chancellor*
8. Chancellor's Recommendation to Remove Names from University Buildings Attachment B  
*Dr. Kevin Guskiewicz, Chancellor*

**CLOSED SESSION**

9. Legal Update  
*Charles Marshall, Vice Chancellor and General Counsel*

**OPEN SESSION**

10. Adjournment  
*Richard Stevens, Chair*



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

☎ 919-962-6961

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## MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Trustees

From: Richard Stevens, Chair

Date: July 29, 2020

RE: 2021 Meeting Dates

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Please see below the 2021 meeting dates for approval.

January 27-28

March 24-25

May 19-20

July 21-22

September 22-23

November 17-18



**KEVIN M. GUSKIEWICZ**  
CHANCELLOR

chancellor@unc.edu  
O 919-962-1365 | F 919-962-1647

**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL**  
**OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR**

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200 East Cameron Avenue | Chapel Hill, NC 27599-9100  
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July 23, 2020

Richard Y. Stevens  
Chair, UNC Board of Trustees  
132 Lochwood West Drive  
Cary, North Carolina 27518

Dear Chair Stevens,

As you are aware, on July 10, 2020, the Commission on History, Race, and Way Forward (“The Commission”) voted unanimously to approve a written resolution recommending removal of the names of Charles B. Aycock, Josephus Daniels, Julian S. Carr, Thomas Ruffin, and Thomas Ruffin, Jr. from, respectively, Aycock Residence Hall, the Josephus Daniels Building (Student Stores), Carr Building, and Ruffin Residence Hall. Commission co-Chairs Dr. Patricia Parker and Dr. James Leloudis produced a well-researched, scholarly review recounting the history of those individuals to buttress their recommendations.

During the July 16, 2020 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board adopted a Policy for the Consideration of the Removal of Names on University Buildings and Public Spaces. I was grateful for the Board’s leadership on this matter, as it provides for the first time in our long history a clear path forward on how we are to consider all names brought forward for consideration now and in the future.

Pursuant to the policy on July 17, 2020, I formed a committee to review the resolution and strength of the scholarly historical evidence provided by the Commission. The thirteen-member committee met on July 21, 2020 and applied the criteria to the recommendation and scholarly evidence. On July 23, I received a report from the committee concluding that “the supporting documentation is detailed and comprehensive, and that the rationale is clear and convincing for removing the four names recommended by the Commission.” The committee unanimously recommended that the University remove the four names at issue from University buildings.

I have reviewed the committee’s report, the strength of the scholarly historical evidence, and the principles outlined in the policy and concur with their recommendation. Therefore, I am hereby formally requesting that the Board of Trustees remove the names of Charles B. Aycock, Josephus Daniels, Julian S. Carr, Thomas Ruffin, and Thomas Ruffin, Jr. from, respectively, Aycock Residence Hall, the Josephus Daniels Building (Student Stores), Carr Building, and Ruffin Residence Hall from University buildings.

I look forward to working alongside you to convene a meeting of the Trustees next week. I am hopeful that the Trustees will vote affirmatively to support this recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin M. Guskiewicz". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kevin M. Guskiewicz

**Report of the Chancellor's Committee to Review the History Commission  
Resolution  
July 23, 2020**

## **Summary**

On July 16, 2020, the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees adopted a policy on removing names of buildings and spaces on the UNC campus (“the policy”). The policy provides that a request for the removal of a campus building name may be referred to a committee appointed by the Chancellor, at the Chancellor’s discretion, to investigate the claims and provide a written report.

On July 10, 2020, the Commission on History, Race, and Way Forward (“The Commission”) voted unanimously to approve a written resolution recommending removal of the names of Charles B. Aycock, Josephus Daniels, Julian S. Carr, Thomas Ruffin, and Thomas Ruffin, Jr. from, respectively, Aycock Residence Hall, the Josephus Daniels Building (Student Stores), Carr Building, and Ruffin Residence Hall (see Appendix A for the Commission’s report). That Resolution along with a historical report produced by history scholars within the Carolina community was submitted to the Chancellor as a request for action.

The Chancellor, thereafter, accepted the written resolution from the Commission and the supporting scholarly report as a request pursuant to the UNC Board of Trustees’ recently passed policy. The Chancellor formed a Committee pursuant to the policy, and he sent these documents to the Committee for its consideration.

## **The Committee**

The thirteen-member committee was chaired by Vice Chancellor for Development David Routh. It included faculty, students, senior administrators, academic leaders, alumni, and current and former members of the Board of Trustees. The Committee included members with diverse backgrounds and perspectives. For a complete list of committee members, see Appendix B.

## **The Process**

The Committee met virtually in a publicly-noticed, live-streamed meeting on July 21, 2020 from 12:30pm-1:45pm. The Committee received and reviewed the Commission’s report and the policy in advance of the meeting.

The Committee had read and studied the report produced by the Commission. During the meeting, Committee members engaged in a serious and robust discussion regarding the request to remove the four names. All members of the Committee substantively contributed to the discussion, and through the discussion format, applied the policy’s criteria required to remove a name to each of the individuals whose names would be removed.

## Committee's Findings

The Committee finds that substantial scholarly evidence supports the recommendation, and the evidence is clear and convincing that the following criteria are satisfied for each of the names recommended for removal by the Commission:

- The repugnant conduct in question was central to a namesake's career, public persona, or life as a whole.
- Allegations of repugnant behavior are supported by documentary evidence that demonstrates both the extent and the intentionality of a namesake's actions.
- Honoring a namesake demonstrably jeopardizes the University's integrity and materially impedes its mission of teaching, research, and public engagement; or significantly contributes to an environment that excludes some members of the University community from opportunities to learn, thrive, and succeed.
- The removal of the name would not stifle viewpoint diversity or fail to acknowledge the historical complexity or holistic contributions of the individual to the University or the public.

Moreover, the Committee further finds, that the following mitigating criteria are not met for the names recommended for removal by the Commission:

- The namesake's offensive behavior or viewpoints were conventional at its time and other aspects of the namesake's life and work are especially noteworthy to the University or the greater community.
- Despite the evidence of objectionable behavior or views, there is also evidence of significant level of evolution or moderation of the namesake's behavior and/or views.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

The Committee concludes that the supporting documentation is detailed and comprehensive, and that the rationale is clear and convincing for removing the four names recommended by the Commission. **The Committee therefore recommends to Chancellor Guskiewicz that the University remove the names of Charles B. Aycock, Josephus Daniels, Julian S. Carr, Thomas Ruffin, and Thomas Ruffin, Jr. from, respectively, Aycock Residence Hall, the Josephus Daniels Building (Student Stores), Carr Building, and Ruffin Residence Hall.** The Committee incorporates the Commission's report by reference as a part of the Committee's own report in support of its recommendation to the Chancellor (Appendix A).

Approved by unanimous vote, 13-0.

## Additional Observations

The Committee recognizes the need to take swift and deliberate action on these four unnamings. While beyond its specific charge, it recommends that any action taken to rename buildings on the UNC campus be taken with great care and only after thoughtful research and wide consultation.



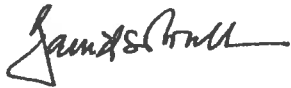
The Committee further observes the need for careful and intentional communication around these un-namings should they be approved by the Chancellor and the UNC Board of Trustees.

Additionally, the Commission's report is compelling, and the Committee has incorporated it by reference with the hope that people will learn the details that support its recommendation to the Chancellor.

The Committee affirms that it is crucial for the University to curate, preserve, and teach the full history of the University.

Finally, the Committee notes that many members of the Carolina community have advocated for the removal of these names, and we collectively agree with the History, Race, and a Way Forward Commission to no longer honor these men. As a University, we should be committed to continuous learning, and we believe that this recommendation is an important step in the understanding of our University's history and our moving toward a more inclusive future.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David S. Routh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

David S. Routh  
Vice Chancellor for Development  
Chair of the Committee

**Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward**  
**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

**Resolution 001: To Recommend to Chancellor Kevin Guskiewicz the removal of the names of Charles B. Aycock, Josephus Daniels, Julian S. Carr, Thomas Ruffin, and Thomas Ruffin Jr. from, respectively, Aycock Residence Hall, the Josephus Daniels Building (Student Stores), Carr Building, and Ruffin Residence Hall.**

We believe that these names warrant immediate action. The elder Ruffin, Aycock, Daniels, and Carr occupied high positions of influence and public trust. Ruffin served on the North Carolina Supreme Court from 1829 to 1852, and again from 1858 to 1859. For all but four of those years, he presided as chief justice. Among legal scholars, his ruling in *State v. Mann* (1829) is known as “the coldest and starkest defense of the physical violence inherent in slavery that ever appeared in an American judicial opinion.” Aycock, Daniels, and Carr led the Democratic Party’s white supremacy campaigns of 1898 and 1900. Aycock was a key strategist in both campaigns and ran as the party’s gubernatorial candidate in 1900; Daniels, editor and publisher of the *Raleigh News and Observer*, served as chief propagandist; and Carr, a Durham industrialist and leader of the United Confederate Veterans in North Carolina, provided financial backing. Together, they fought to disenfranchise black men and to establish the regime of Jim Crow, which for more than half a century denied black North Carolinians equal justice and the fundamental rights of citizenship.

Thomas Ruffin Jr. was a lawyer, one-term legislator, and former Confederate officer. He served briefly as an associate justice on the North Carolina Supreme Court (1881-1883) but otherwise left no distinctive mark on jurisprudence.

Aycock, Carr, Daniels, and the elder Ruffin were not simply men of their times. Instead, they wielded power, wealth, and influence to define the historical moments in which they lived.

Evidentiary support for this recommendation is attached herewith.

We believe that other names on the landscape warrant action. We will make additional recommendations based on archival research and engagement with stakeholders on campus and in the broader community.

Approved by unanimous vote, July 10, 2020

For the Commission,



Patricia S. Parker



James Leloudis

## Commission Members

James Leloudis (co-chair), Professor of History; Peter T. Grauer Associate Dean for Honors Carolina; Director, Johnston Center for Undergraduate Excellence

Patricia Parker (co-chair), Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Communication; Director, Graduate Certificate for Participatory Research

Ariana Avila, PhD Student, Department of Anthropology (2020-2021)

Delores Bailey, Executive Director, EmPOWERment Inc.; and Chapel Hill community member

Larry Chavis, Clinical Associate Professor of Strategy and Entrepreneurship, Kenan-Flagler Business School; Director, UNC American Indian Center

Giselle Corbie-Smith, Kenan Distinguished Professor of Social Medicine; Director, Center for Health Equity Research; Professor, Internal Medicine, UNC School of Medicine

Nicholas Graham, University Archivist, University Archives and Records Management Services, University Libraries

Ronald Harris, UNC Alum; Student, School of Medicine, Duke University

Amy Locklear Hertel, Chief of Staff to the Chancellor; Clinical Assistant Professor, UNC School of Social Work

Danita Horton, Graduate Student, School of Social Work (2020-2021)

Sherick Hughes, Professor, UNC School of Education; Founder and Director, Interpretive Research Suite & Carter Qualitative Thought Lab; Founder and Co-Director, Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Studies

Kenneth Janken, Professor, African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

Dawna Jones, Assistant Dean of Students, Student Affairs; Chair, Carolina Black Caucus

Joseph Jordan, Director, Sonja H. Stone Center for Black Culture and History; Adjunct Associate Professor, African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

Seth Kotch, Associate Professor, American Studies; Director, Southern Oral History Program

Danita Mason-Hogans, Project Coordinator, Critical Oral Histories, Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University; and Chapel Hill community member

Josmell Pérez, Director, The Carolina Latinx Center

Sydni Janell Walker, Undergraduate Student (2020-2021)

Graham Watkins, Undergraduate Student (2020-2021)

## Aycock Residence Hall

The Board of Trustees named this building in 1928 to honor Governor Charles Brantley Aycock, Class of 1880.<sup>1</sup>

Aycock:

- Spearheaded the Democratic Party's white supremacy campaign of 1898
- Condoned the use of violence to terrorize black voters and their white allies
- Campaigned for governor in 1900 on a platform of white supremacy and black disenfranchisement
- Embraced "White supremacy and Its Perpetuation" as the guiding principle of his political career

Charles Brantley Aycock was born in 1859, the youngest of Benjamin and Serena Aycock's ten children. His parents owned a farm that sprawled across more than one thousand acres in Wayne County. They were made prosperous by the labor of thirteen enslaved men, women, and children who cultivated that land. Benjamin was a fervid Confederate who served in the state senate through the end of the Civil War and into the early years of Reconstruction. In 1866, he supported passage of a Black Code that severely restricted the freedom of North Carolinians who were newly emancipated from slavery.<sup>2</sup>

Charles graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1880 and soon after established a legal practice in Goldsboro. He became an influential figure in state politics, and between 1893 and 1897 served by presidential appointment as U.S. attorney for the eastern district of North Carolina. In 1898, Aycock and UNC classmate Locke Craig – described in newspaper reports as "young apostles" of "white supremacy" – appeared together at a rally in Laurinburg, where they launched the Democratic Party's campaign to unseat a biracial, Fusion alliance of black Republicans and white third-party Populists who had won control of the state legislature and the governor's office in the elections of 1894 and 1896.<sup>3</sup>

On the campaign trail, Aycock denounced "negro domination," complained of the "curse of negro jurymen" who sat in judgment of whites in the state's courts, and whipped up fear of black men's alleged lust for white women. He and other party leaders encouraged loyal Democrats to organize "White Government" clubs in communities across the state and to muster squads of vigilantes known as Red Shirts for the purpose of terrorizing black voters and their white allies. The worst violence occurred in Wilmington, where a white mob took up arms

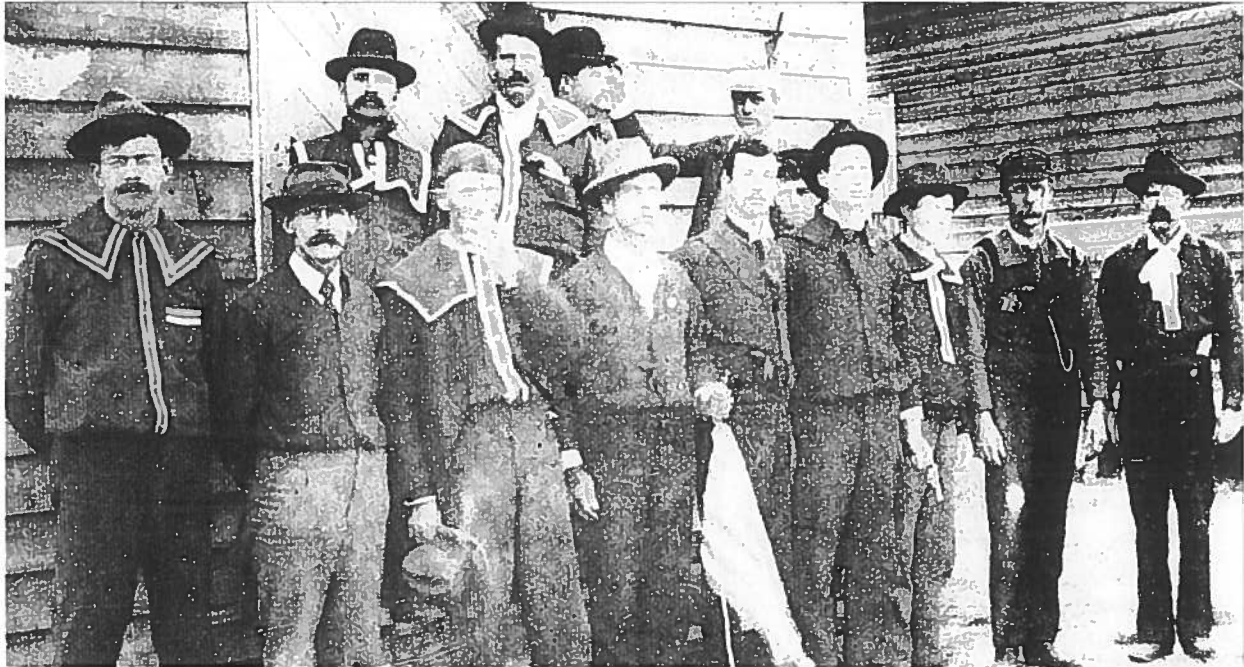
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<sup>1</sup> Minutes, June 11, 1928, oversize volume 13, Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina Records, 1789-1932, #40001, University Archives, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

<sup>2</sup> Oliver H. Orr, Jr., *Charles Brantley Aycock* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1961), 5, 11, 14-16.

<sup>3</sup> Orr, *Charles Brantley Aycock*, 33, 36-85, 111-14; R.D.W. Connor and Clarence H. Poe, eds., *Life and Speeches of Charles Brantley Aycock* (New York: Doubleday, Page and Company, 1912), xii, 70; "White Men to the Front," *Wilmington Messenger*, May 13, 1898.

in the only municipal coup d'état in American history. They marauded through black neighborhoods, killing wantonly along the way; burned the offices of Wilmington's black newspaper; and forced the resignation of the city's black and white Fusion board of aldermen.<sup>4</sup>



Red Shirts were the paramilitary arm of the state Democratic Party. Laurinburg, N.C., 1898. Courtesy of the North Carolina Office of Archives and History.

On Election Day, Democrats regained control of state government. They then moved to consolidate their hold on power and to lock black North Carolinians into permanent subjugation. In the 1899 legislative session, they passed the state's first Jim Crow law, which required that train passengers be segregated by race, and drafted an amendment to the state constitution that, once approved by popular referendum in the next election, would impose a literacy test designed to strip black men of the right to vote. As the Democrats' gubernatorial nominee in 1900, Aycock made ratification of the amendment the centerpiece of his campaign.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Orr, *Charles Brantley Aycock*, 114, 123-24, 131-32; H. Leon Prather, Sr., "The Red Shirt Movement in North Carolina, 1898-1900," *Journal of Negro History* 62 (April 1977): 174-84; LeRae Umfleet, *The 1898 Wilmington Race Riot Report*, 1898 Race Riot Commission, Research Branch, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, May 31, 2006, <https://bit.ly/3dLwkRg>; David Zucchino, *Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy* (New York: Grove Atlantic, 2020). The red shirt was a symbol of the bloody sacrifice of Confederate soldiers who gave their lives to defend white rule and racial slavery.

<sup>5</sup> Paul D. Escott, *Many Excellent People: Power and Privilege in North Carolina, 1850-1900* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 259-60; Orr, *Charles Brantley Aycock*, 146-53, 157-160, 167-71. The amendment stipulated that in order to register to vote, male citizens would be required to prove their ability to "read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language." That gave Democratic registrars wide latitude to exclude black men from the polls. The amendment also included a grandfather clause that exempted from the literacy test adult males who had been eligible to vote or were lineal descendants of men who had been

As in 1898, Red Shirts turned up at many of Aycock's rallies. More than one thousand white men, armed and on horseback, welcomed him to Hillsborough; in Clinton, a band of twelve hundred formed an honor guard that escorted him into town. The vigilantes reinforced Aycock's message: He and his party had given fair warning of their willingness – in Aycock's words – to “rule by force”; only a vote for white supremacy and black disenfranchisement would restore peace and good order. For a majority of whites, Aycock's appeals to race hatred and threats of violence were persuasive. When ballots were counted, he and the constitutional amendment won by a margin of 59 to 41 percent.<sup>6</sup>

## The Fraud and Force Candidate.



Aycock's opponents used his own words to label him the “Fraud and Force Candidate” in the 1900 gubernatorial election. *The Caucasian* (Clinton, N.C.), June 21, 1900.

eligible to vote before January 1, 1867. That was a magic date, because it preceded the limited right to vote given to black men under the Military Reconstruction Act, passed in March 1867. The literacy test was thus designed to achieve the very thing the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution expressly outlawed – voter exclusion based on race. See *Laws and Resolutions of the State of North Carolina, Adjourned Session 1900* (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, and E.M. Uzzell, 1900), chap 2.

<sup>6</sup> Orr, *Charles Brantley Aycock*, 174-77; Prather, “Red Shirt Movement,” 181-83; “Aycock at Snow Hill,” *Morning Post* (Raleigh, N.C.), March 1, 1900; Connor and Poe, eds., *Life and Speeches*, 81, 218-19, 262-63; J. Morgan Kousser, *The Shaping of Southern Politics: Suffrage Restriction and the Establishment of the One-Party South* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1974), 193.



Aycock in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall. Courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol.

After his death in 1912, state leaders memorialized Aycock as North Carolina's "Education Governor." They noted that he significantly increased school spending during his time in office, opposed lawmakers who tried to prohibit the use of white tax receipts for black education, and launched a program to build hundreds of rural schoolhouses. For admirers, these accomplishments were reason enough to disregard the deadly price of white supremacy and to crown Aycock with what one devotee described as "a halo of justice and idealism." The Aycock Memorial Association erected a statue of the governor on the state capitol grounds in Raleigh in 1924. Eight years later, the state placed another likeness of Aycock in the U.S. Capitol's Statuary Hall, where it stands alongside the marble form of North Carolina's Confederate governor, Zebulon B. Vance.<sup>7</sup>

But there was more to the historical record, even on the narrow question of education. The Fusion lawmakers Aycock opposed in 1898 also valued North Carolina's public schools, and during their brief time in power, they funded instruction for black and white children on an equal per capita basis. That contrasted with sharp disparities under Aycock's administration. By the end of his term in 1904, construction of new schoolhouses for whites was outpacing that for blacks eight-to-one and per capita spending on the education of black children was half that for whites.<sup>8</sup>

These figures are a reminder that Charles Aycock was a principal architect of the regime of Jim Crow, which denied black North Carolinians equal justice and the basic rights of citizenship for more than half a century. As Aycock assured delegates to the Democratic state convention in 1900, "White Supremacy and Its Perpetuation" was the guiding principle of his political life.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Rupert B. Vance, "Aycock of North Carolina," *Southwest Review* 18 (April 1933), 288-306, quotation at 306; "Aycock Statue Unveiled Before Admiring Throng in State's Capital City," *Goldsboro News*, March 14, 1924; "Aycock Memorial Presented to State in Simple Ceremony," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.), March 14, 1924; "Keck to Design Aycock's Statue," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.), November 18, 1930; *Acceptance and Unveiling of the Statue of Charles Brantley Aycock* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1932).

<sup>8</sup> *Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the Scholastic Years 1894-95 and 1895-96* (Winston: M.I. and J.C. Stewart, 1897), 45-46; *A Decade of Educational Progress in North Carolina, 1901-1910* (Raleigh: Office of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, 1912), 12; *Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction of North Carolina, Scholastic Years 1904-1905 and 1905-1906* (Raleigh: E.M. Uzzell and Co., 1907), part II: 97, 104, 131.

<sup>9</sup> "Address Accepting the Democratic Nomination for Governor," April 11, 1900, in Connor and Poe, eds., *Life and Speeches*, 224.

Since 2014, Aycock's name has been removed from campus buildings at Duke University, East Carolina University, and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.<sup>10</sup>

UNC Commission on History, Race, and a Way Forward – July 10, 2020

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<sup>10</sup> "This Duke Dorm Is No Longer Named After a White Supremacist Former Governor," *Washington Post*, June 17, 2014; "ECU to Remove Gov. Charles B. Aycock's Name from Dorm," *News and Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.), February 20, 2015; "UNCG Drops Aycock's Name from Auditorium," *News and Record* (Greensboro, N.C.), February 18, 2016.



## Carr Building

The Board of Trustees named this building in 1900 to honor Julian Shakespeare Carr, who studied at UNC in the mid 1860s and served as a trustee from 1877 until his death in 1924. Carr Building was a residence hall until the 1980s, when it was converted to office space. Carr provided the funds for its construction.<sup>1</sup>

Carr:

- **Provided financial underwriting for the Democratic Party's white supremacy campaign of 1898**
- **Used violence and condoned its use by others to suppress black claims to equal citizenship**
- **Labored to legitimize the regime of Jim Crow by promulgating a false history of the Civil War and its aftermath**

Julian Shakespeare Carr was born in 1845, the third of seven children in the household of John W. and Eliza P. Carr. His father was a wealthy Chapel Hill merchant, who in 1860 owned \$6,000 worth of real estate and \$30,000 worth of personal property. Roughly a third of the latter sum derived from the value of nine enslaved men, women, and children who ranged in age from four months to forty years. Today, the combined value of John Carr's holdings would be \$1.1 million, \$390,000 of which would be represented by the people he held in bondage.<sup>2</sup>

The younger Carr studied at the University of North Carolina from 1862 to 1864, when he left to serve in the Confederate army. He returned for the 1865-66 academic year and then departed again in 1868, this time for Little Rock, Arkansas, where he worked in an uncle's business. A remembrance of him written many years after his death ascribed the move to

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<sup>1</sup> Minutes, October 6, 1967, oversize vol. 11, Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina (System) Records, 1932-1972, #40002, University Archives, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Kemp P. Battle, *History of the University of North Carolina*, vol. 2 (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton Printing Company, 1912), 588-89. The building was named on the recommendation of the Board of Trustees' Committee on Memorials and Naming Buildings. Carr received a B.A. in 1911, when the university bestowed degrees on alumni, living and dead, who left their studies to fight for the Confederacy. See J.G.de R. Hamilton, "Return of the War Classes," *University of North Carolina Magazine*, New Series, 29 (October 1911), 16-24.

<sup>2</sup> Louise L. Queen, "Julian Shakespeare Carr," William S. Powell, ed., *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*, vol. 1 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1979), 330; 1860 U.S. Federal Census, Population Schedule, Chapel Hill, Orange County, North Carolina; 1860 U.S. Federal Census, Slave Schedule, Chapel Hill, Orange County, North Carolina. Census records are available online at Ancestry.com. The estimated value of John Carr's human property is based on an average individual value of \$800 for the South's four million enslaved people in 1860. See Samuel H. Williamson, "Measuring Slavery in 2016 Dollars," <https://bit.ly/2VX5H5L>.

“wanderlust,” but there is evidence to suggest that more serious considerations may have been at play.<sup>3</sup>

On September 12, 1865, Carr and a number of other students broke up a political meeting organized by newly emancipated black residents of Chapel Hill. Newspaper accounts reported that “a general fight ensued, in which some of the students were pretty badly injured and the negroes roughly handled, pistols and sticks being freely used.” Carr was arrested and then released on bail, secured by university president David L. Swain. We do not know how the case concluded, but three years later, in August 1868, Carr was involved in another assault. In this instance, he and his brothers – “on slight provocation,” according to one witness – flogged a black woman near the university campus. She subsequently took her case to Freedmen’s Bureau officials headquartered in nearby Hillsborough. Again, the archival record goes cold, but it is clear that Carr was in danger of prosecution before a military tribunal. That may well be the explanation for his move to Little Rock. Such speculation is supported by Carr’s public acknowledgment in 1921 and again in 1923 that he had been a Klansman. “Back . . . when there was need of the Ku Klux Klan, I was one of them,” he confessed, “and I am proud of that fact.” So, it seems that the flogging incident was not a one-off act of violence but rather an expression of what a Raleigh newspaper described as the “intense rebel spirit” that prevailed in Chapel Hill. Over the course of the following year, surrounding Orange County and nearby Alamance and Caswell Counties became sites of some of the most intense Klan activity in the state. Had Carr not fled, he would have faced the very real prospect of imprisonment, or worse.<sup>4</sup>

Carr returned to Chapel Hill in 1870, and with his father’s financial backing purchased a third interest in the W.T. Blackwell Tobacco Company in Durham. Carr had a genius for marketing. By the early 1880s, he had made Blackwell’s “Bull Durham” tobacco an internationally recognized brand. The company shipped its product worldwide and had offices in Bombay and Shanghai. Carr took a special interest in China, where he supported the work of Methodist missionaries and later became a financier of the Chinese Nationalist revolution. Spreading the Gospel and dethroning China’s last emperor were, for him, elements of a singular project to open the country’s vast market to American commerce. With similar shrewdness, Carr maneuvered to buy out other Blackwell investors and establish a majority stake in the firm.

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<sup>3</sup> Queen, “Julian Shakespeare Carr,” 330; *Representative Men of the South* (Philadelphia: Chas. Robson and Co., 1880), 506-8; “Julian S. Carr Remembered for His Activities as Civil War General,” *Daily Times-News* (Burlington, N.C.), October 24, 1962.

<sup>4</sup> “A Difficulty at Chapel Hill,” *Sentinel* (Raleigh, N.C.), September 20, 1865; bail bond, Julian S. Carr, September 13, 1865, Records Relating to Civil Affairs, Raleigh Post, Records of U.S. Army Continental Commands, Record Group 393, National Archives, Washington, D.C.; Solomon Pool to John Pool, August 19, 1868, in Horace Raper ed., and Memory W. Mitchell, assoc. ed., *The Papers of William Woods Holden*, vol. 1 (Raleigh: Division of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 2000), 355; “General Jule Carr on the Ku Klux Klan,” *The Independent* (Elizabeth City, N.C.), November 4, 1921; “Sons of Veterans also Pick Klan Member as Chief,” *Waco News-Tribune* (Waco, Tex.), April 13, 1923; untitled news item, *Daily Standard* (Raleigh, N.C.), August 14, 1868. On Klan violence, see Carole Watterson Troxler, “To Look More Closely at the Man’: Wyatt Outlaw, a Nexus of National, Local, and Personal History,” *North Carolina Historical Review* 77 (October 2000), 403-33; Luther M. Carlton, “The Assassination of John Walter Stephens,” *Annual Publication of Historical Papers*, series 2 (Durham, N.C.: Historical Society of Trinity College, 1898), 1-12.

Then, in 1898, he sold the business to James B. Duke's American Tobacco Company for the remarkable sum of \$3,000,000. In the decades that followed, Carr used the profit from that sale to expand a business empire that included textile and hosiery mills, railroads, banks, and electric and telephone companies.<sup>5</sup>

Carr's wealth made him an influential figure in state politics. He was heavily involved in the Democratic Party's white supremacy campaigns in 1898 and 1900, which stripped black men of the right to vote and institutionalized racial segregation. Carr provided the financial backing that newspaperman Josephus Daniels needed to acquire a failing Raleigh daily, the *News and Observer*, and transform it into the party's semi-official mouthpiece. Daniels filled the

paper with stories and political cartoons that stoked fears of "negro domination" and black men's purported lust for white women. To amplify the message, Carr and a small circle of associates paid to send the *News and Observer* and other loyal Democratic papers to more than 40,000 white households that otherwise had no subscriptions.<sup>6</sup>

On Election Day, Democrats took command of the state legislature, which had been controlled since 1894 by a biracial, Fusion alliance of black Republicans and white third-party Populists. Elated, Carr sent a note of gratitude to fellow industrialist Bennehan Cameron, whose cash donations had helped to finance the victory for "Anglo-Saxon manhood" and "WHITE SUPREMACY." To mark the occasion, he enclosed a souvenir badge adorned with his own image.<sup>7</sup>

Men like Carr and Cameron understood white supremacy as something more than an expression of racial prejudice and discrimination. It



<sup>5</sup> Queen, "Julian Shakespeare Carr," 330; *Representative Men of the South*, 509-10; Mena Webb, *Julie Carr: General Without an Army* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1987), 236. On Carr's financial support for the Chinese Nationalist revolution, see Sterling Seagrave, *The Soong Dynasty* (London: Lume Books, 2018), 39-158; E.A. Haag, *Charlie Soong: North Carolina's Link to the Fall of the Last Emperor of China* (Greensboro, N.C.: Jaan Publishing, 2015); Bangnee Liu, "China's Role in the Postwar World," and Costen J. Harrell, "General Carr and the Education of Charlie Soong," in C. Sylvester Green, ed., *General Julian S. Carr: Greathearted Citizen* (Durham, N.C.: The Seeman Printery, 1946), 56-73.

<sup>6</sup> LeRae Umfleet, *The 1898 Wilmington Race Riot Report*, 1898 Race Riot Commission, Research Branch, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, May 31, 2006, 62, <https://bit.ly/3dLwkRg>.

<sup>7</sup> Carr to Bennehan Cameron, December 30, 1898, series 1.2, folder 275, Bennehan Cameron Papers, 1866-1962, #03623, Southern Historical Collection, and mementos of the 1898 white supremacy campaign, North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The badge is adorned with a profile image of Julian Carr, chairman of the executive committee of the Durham County Democratic Party.

constituted, as well, a system of power and plunder that drove black earnings down to near subsistence levels, reduced white wages by devaluing labor in general, and sustained itself through one-party politics and a racial ideology that persuaded even the poorest whites to see their economic interests as opposed to those of blacks beneath them. The end effect was to trap the vast majority of black North Carolinians on the land as a semi-bound labor force of sharecroppers and tenant farmers, and to make the wages paid in North Carolina's textile mills and tobacco factories some of the lowest in the nation. This was the regime of Jim Crow that made Carr, Cameron, and others of their class wealthy men.<sup>8</sup>

The economic logic of white supremacy helps to explain why Carr devoted himself to the Lost Cause and a version of history in which racial slavery was remembered, in his words, as "the gentlest and the most beneficent servitude mankind has ever known." He led the United Confederate Veterans in North Carolina and proudly bore the title of 'General,' which the organization bestowed on him despite the fact that he never served above the rank of private. That position of honor and respect made Carr a regular and much-sought-after speaker at the dedication of Confederate monuments erected in the years following the white supremacy campaigns. At such an event in Chapel Hill in 1913, he delivered the now infamous speech in which he boasted of having "horse-whipped a negro wench until her skirts hung in shreds, because on the streets of this quiet village she had publicly insulted and maligned a [white] Southern lady." Carr appears to have been recalling the assault he committed in 1868.<sup>9</sup>

Carr told the story to underscore the purpose of UNC's newly installed Confederate monument and others of its kind. The statue honored all university men who fought for the Confederacy – the *living* as well as the dead, and most especially the veterans who, like Carr, enlisted in the postwar battle to restore white rule. For those men, service to the Confederate cause "did not end at Appomattox." In peacetime, they answered demands for racial equality with acts of terror. They "saved the very life of the Anglo-Saxon race," Carr declared. "Praise God." In his fevered imagination, the alternative could not have been worse: Carr believed with certainty that had he and other "heroes" shirked their duty, the South would have become "a Black Republic."<sup>10</sup>

As the stories of Carr's youth suggest, he had few qualms about the use of violence to enforce racial order. He made that clear in an 1899 speech on the subject of lynching. Carr linked vigilante killing to what he characterized as black men's bestial sexuality and declared

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<sup>8</sup> Robert R. Korstad and James L. Leloudis, *To Right These Wrongs: The North Carolina Fund and the Battle to End Poverty and Inequality in 1960s America* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010), 16-17. On white supremacy as a system of plunder, see Coates, "The Case for Reparations," *The Atlantic*, June 2014.

<sup>9</sup> "Address at Lexington, Va.," June 3, 1916, and "Unveiling of Confederate Monument at University," June 2, 1913, series 2.2, folders 26 and 27, Julian Shakespeare Carr Papers, 1892-1923, #00141, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Webb, *Jule Carr*, 196. In 1898, Carr told a black audience that "the wisest providence of a wise and just God, next to the sending of His Only Son to die for a lost world, was the enslaving of the Negro." See speech at the cornerstone laying, Coleman cotton mill, Concord, N.C., February 8, 1898, series 2.2, folder 21, Carr Papers.

<sup>10</sup> "Unveiling of Confederate Monument at University"; untitled address to the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Chattanooga, Tennessee, series 2.2, folder 31a, Carr Papers.

forthrightly, “the black fiend who lays lustful hands upon a [white] woman cannot be killed too soon, and no punishment, legal or illegal, is too severe to be administered speedily.” He went on to explain that Emancipation had bestowed equality upon a race unprepared for its responsibilities – a “blunder” that made slaves-turned-citizens impudent and licentious. The way to end lynching, Carr contended, was for black people to accept white supremacy as Nature’s law and teach lessons of “industry, thrift, and uprightness” in their homes, schools, and sanctuaries.<sup>11</sup>

That reasoning defined what historian Paul Mullins has described as Carr’s “raw paternalistic racism.” He could speak in one moment as a white-robed Klansman and act in the next as a generous philanthropist. In Durham, he provided much-needed funding for the North Carolina College for Negroes (now North Carolina Central University), supported the city’s leading black church, and backed black businessmen such as John Merrick, one of the founders of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company. To Carr’s way of thinking, these institutions offered blacks the means to “make everlasting war upon the brute element of [their] race.” The onus was on black people to *earn* the right to live without fear as free and equal citizens – a right that whites took for granted as an entitlement by birth. “I am and have been a friend of the negro, in the negro’s place,” Carr declared. “Whenever and wherever the negro has behaved himself, and kept himself in his place, my disposition has been to lend him a helping hand.”<sup>12</sup>

Over the course of a lifetime, Carr gave hundreds of speeches to promulgate these understandings of the Civil War, its aftermath, and its implications for black citizenship and American democracy. To that end, he also labored to ensure that white children would be schooled in “the truths of Confederate history.” In 1919, he joined the steering committee for a project undertaken by the United Confederate Veterans and the United Daughters of the Confederacy to censor what was written and taught about the slaveholding South and its war against the United States. The two groups distributed thousands of copies of a pamphlet titled *A Measuring Rod to Test Text Books and Reference Books in Schools, Colleges, and Libraries*. The publication offered a catechism of Confederate principles such as these: “Secession Was Not Rebellion,” “Slaves Were Not Ill-Treated in the South,” and “The War Between the States Was Not Fought to Hold the Slaves.” Carr and the steering committee urged public school and

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<sup>11</sup> “Col. Carr on the Race Problem,” and “Col. Julian S. Carr on Lynching,” *Farmer and Mechanic* (Raleigh, N.C.), May 30, 1899; untitled speech, series 2.2, folder 30b, Carr Papers. In the speech, Carr referred to the April 1899 lynching of Sam Hose in Coweta County, Georgia. Carr lifted the quoted passage from an address by Rebecca Latimer Felton, a zealous champion of lynching as an instrument of racial order. See LeeAnn Whites, “Love, Hate, Rape, Lynching: Rebecca Latimer Felton and the Gender Politics of Racial Violence,” in David S. Cecelski and Timothy B. Tyson, *Democracy Betrayed: The Wilmington Race Riot of 1898 and Its Legacy* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998), 143-62.

<sup>12</sup> Paul Mullins, “A Digital Heritage of Confederate Memorialization: Julian Carr and Silent Sam,” *Archaeology and Material Culture*, August 30, 2018, <https://bit.ly/38YMBul>; Jean Bradley Anderson, *Durham County: A History of Durham County, North Carolina* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1990), 259-60; Walter B. Weare, *Black Business in the New South: A Social History of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 1993), 39-42, 51; undated speech in support of the disenfranchisement amendment to the state constitution, series 2.2, folder 21, Carr Papers.

college officials to reject textbooks that did not teach these truths and implored librarians to mark the title pages of offending scholarly works with the words “*Unjust to the South*” (emphasis in the original). This campaign to teach a false history of slavery, the Confederacy, and the origins of Jim Crow was remarkably effective; even today, its tenets persist in classroom lessons and public memory.<sup>13</sup>

In these many ways, Julian Carr devoted himself to the maintenance of white supremacy. He was not simply “a product of his time,” as one biographer has claimed. He instead labored as a master builder of one of the darkest eras in American history – a time marked by extra-legal violence and legalized injustice that made a mockery of the nation’s professed values.<sup>14</sup>

Duke University’s Board of Trustees removed Carr’s name from a campus office building in December 2018. The structure was named for him in 1930 in recognition of the gift of land on which the university’s East Campus was built.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Mildred Lewis Rutherford, *A Measuring Rod to Test Text Books and Reference Books in Schools, Colleges, and Libraries* (Athens, Georgia: [United Confederate Veterans], [1919]; Karen Cox, *Dixie’s Daughters: The United Daughters of the Confederacy* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2003), chap. 7.

<sup>14</sup> Webb, *Julie Carr*, 193.

<sup>15</sup> “Julian Carr’s Name Will Be Removed from a Duke University Building,” *News and Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.), December 2, 2018. The building had been named for Carr in recognition of the gift of land on which Duke’s East Campus was built. See “Julian S. Carr and the Carr Building,” University Archives, Duke University Libraries, <https://bit.ly/2BGsuMi>.

## Josephus Daniels Building

The Board of Trustees named this building in 1967 to honor Josephus Daniels, who studied law at UNC in 1885 and served as a trustee from 1901 until his death in 1948. The building has housed the Student Stores since its opening in 1968.<sup>1</sup>

Daniels:

- **Shaped strategy for the Democratic Party's white supremacy campaigns of 1898 and 1900**
- **Positioned the *News and Observer* as the propaganda arm of the party and used political cartoons and sensationalist reporting to demonize black voters and politicians as a threat to whites**
- **As Secretary of the Navy, promoted Jim Crow segregation in the federal bureaucracy and racial subjugation in U.S.-occupied Haiti**
- **Opposed President Harry S. Truman's Committee on Civil Rights and its call for an end to Jim Crow segregation**

Josephus Daniels was born in 1862, one of three brothers in the household of Josephus and Mary Daniels. His father died in a military operation near the end of the Civil War, and young Josephus later grew up in Wilson, where his widowed mother moved to be close to her kin. Daniels began his career in journalism as a teenager. By the time he was twenty-three, he owned three newspapers: the *Wilson Advance*, *Kinston Free Press*, and *Raleigh State Chronicle*. In 1894, he purchased the *Raleigh News and Observer* out of bankruptcy, with financial backing from Julian Shakespeare Carr, the son of a Chapel Hill merchant who had made his fortune in tobacco and cotton manufacturing in Durham. Daniels quickly made the paper into one of the most influential publications in the state, largely by positioning it as the semi-official mouthpiece of the Democratic Party in the white supremacy campaigns of 1898 and 1900.<sup>2</sup>

In the elections of 1894 and 1896, a biracial, Fusion alliance of black Republicans and white third-party Populists won control of both the state legislature and the governor's office. In quick succession, they undertook an expansive program of social investment, particularly in the equitable education of black and white children, and enacted reforms that put local government squarely in the hands of voters and safeguarded free and equal access to the ballot box. In March 1898, Daniels and two close friends – Furnifold M. Simmons and Charles B. Aycock, both rising stars in the state Democratic Party – met in New Bern to outline a strategy for defeating their Fusion adversaries in the next election, rolling back reforms that promised

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<sup>1</sup> Memorial resolutions for Josephus Daniels, February 16, 1948, series 1, vol. 3, and October 6, 1967, series 1, vol. 11, Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina (System) Records, 1932-1972, #40002, University Archives, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; "New building is Named for Daniels," *Daily Tar Heel*, October 7, 1967.

<sup>2</sup> Lee A. Craig, *Josephus Daniels: His Life and Times* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013), chaps. 1-5.

political and social equality for black North Carolinians, and establishing the system of racial subjugation that would come to be known as Jim Crow.<sup>3</sup>

What followed was a vitriolic and violent campaign to restore white rule. Day after day, Daniels filled the pages of the *News and Observer* with scurrilous stories – often demonstrably false or at least partially fabricated – that demonized black men as sexual predators, maligned the masculinity of white men who voted for black candidates, and decried rampant corruption among black officeholders. Years later, he confessed that he was “never very careful about winnowing out the stories or running them down.” White voters, frenzied by appeals to their racial fears, “would believe almost any piece of rascality,” Daniels said. “The propaganda was having good effect.”<sup>4</sup>

Daniels used political cartoons to stoke white anger, fear, and resentment. He relied on Norman E. Jennett, a young artist who had joined the *News and Observer’s* staff in 1895, to fashion powerful visual weapons.<sup>5</sup>



**The Vampire That Hovers Over North Carolina.**

The cartoon above, published on September 27, 1898, depicts black political participation as a monster springing from the Fusion ballot box. Historian Glenda Gilmore has noted that the drawing was directly inspired by Furnifold Simmons, who, as chairman of the state Democratic Party, “chose as the central metaphorical figure of the [1898] campaign the

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<sup>3</sup> Glenda E. Gilmore, “Murder, Memory, and the Flight of the Incubus,” in David S. Cecelski and Timothy B. Tyson, eds., *Democracy Betrayed: The Wilmington Race Riot of 1898 and Its Legacies* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998), 74. The classic work on Fusion is Helen G. Edmonds, *The Negro and Fusion Politics: 1894-1901* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1951).

<sup>4</sup> Josephus Daniels, *Editor in Politics* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1941), 254, 295-96.

<sup>5</sup> Rachel Marie-Crain Williams, “A War in Black and White: The Cartoons of Norman Ethre Jennett and the North Carolina Election of 1898,” *Southern Cultures* 19 (Summer 2013), 7-31.



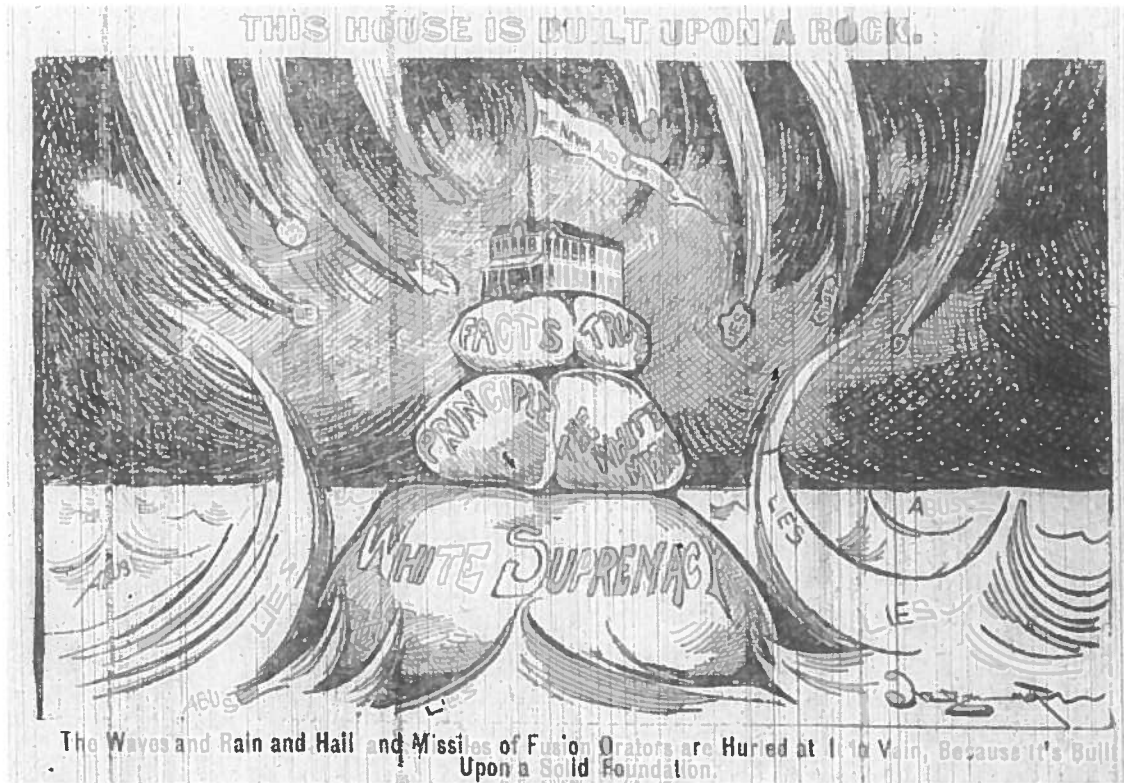
incubus – a winged demon who has sexual intercourse with white women while they sleep. The Democrats charged that while white men slumbered, the incubus of black power visited their beds.”<sup>6</sup>

Published on October 15, the cartoon below warned that Fusion politics would produce a new form of slavery in which black men would make themselves white men’s masters. The white office seeker is literally belittled, and emasculated, by the act of pleading for a black man’s vote.



<sup>6</sup> Glenda E. Gilmore, *Gender and Jim Crow: Women and the Politics of White Supremacy in North Carolina, 1896-1920* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1996), 99.

Throughout the 1898 campaign, the *News and Observer* presented itself as a citadel atop the bedrock of white supremacy. This cartoon was published on October 9.



Daniels and his newspaper were capable of whipping white Democrats into fearsome mobs. At party rallies across eastern North Carolina, vigilantes known as Red Shirts turned out by the hundreds – and in some instances, by the thousands – brandishing weapons to terrorize black voters and their white allies. In Wilmington, acts of intimidation turned deadly when white rioters killed dozens of black citizens and drove the city’s black and white Fusion aldermen from office.<sup>7</sup>

On Election Day, Democrats took back control of state government. In 1899, they passed North Carolina’s first Jim Crow law, and a year later, the party’s gubernatorial candidate, Charles Aycock, campaigned for popular ratification of an amendment to the state constitution that was designed to strip the right to vote from black men and many of their white allies. As in 1898, Daniels committed himself and the *News and Observer* fervently to the cause. When ballots were cast, Aycock and disenfranchisement won the day by a 59 to 41 percent margin.

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<sup>7</sup> “The Red Shirt Movement in North Carolina, 1898-1900,” *Journal of Negro History* 62 (April 1977), 174-84; LeRae Umfleet, *The 1898 Wilmington Race Riot Report*, 1898 Race Riot Commission, Research Branch, Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, May 31, 2006, <https://bit.ly/3dLwkRg>; David Zucchino, *Wilmington’s Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy* (New York: Grove Atlantic, 2020). The red shirt was a symbol of the bloody sacrifice of Confederate soldiers who gave their lives to defend white rule and racial slavery.

That victory marked the beginning of a new era of white rule that for more than half a century denied black North Carolinians equal justice and the fundamental rights of citizenship.<sup>8</sup>

Daniels promoted that racial order not only at home but on a national and a global stage as well. In 1913, President Woodrow Wilson appointed him Secretary of the Navy, and together with Postmaster General Albert Burleson, a Texan, Daniels eagerly promoted the president's efforts to segregate the federal bureaucracy along strict racial lines. That policy, journalist-historian Colin Woodard has noted, was "a direct assault" on Washington, D.C.'s "black middle class, which had grown substantially . . . under the protection of the Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883, a law that ensured that hiring was based on competitive exams, not race."<sup>9</sup>

As navy secretary, Daniels also directed the American invasion and occupation of Haiti in 1915. He tasked white Marine units, mostly from the South, to impose Jim Crow – "replete," Woodard has written, with "forced labor" and "summary executions" – on the world's first black republic, established by slave uprisings in the 1790s. W.E.B. Du Bois described events in Haiti as "a reign of terror . . . and cruelty"; in the first years alone, more than 3,000 Haitians died at the hands of the U.S. military, many of them victims of what a federal report described as "indiscriminate killing."<sup>10</sup>

Daniels supported the presidential candidacy of Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932 and was rewarded with an appointment as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, a position he held until 1941. Over the course of that decade, his son Jonathan began to turn the *News and Observer* in a progressive direction. He supported labor unions and urged white North Carolinians to accept the gradual desegregation of their society. But the elder Daniels remained unreconstructed.

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<sup>8</sup> Paul D. Escott, *Many Excellent People: Power and Privilege in North Carolina, 1850-1900* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1985), 259-60; J. Morgan Kousser, *The Shaping of Southern Politics: Suffrage Restriction and the Establishment of the One-Party South* (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 1974), 193. The amendment stipulated that in order to register to vote, male citizens would be required to prove their ability to "read and write any section of the Constitution in the English language." That gave Democratic registrars wide latitude to exclude black men from the polls. The amendment also included a grandfather clause that exempted from the literacy test adult males who had been eligible to vote or were lineal descendants of men who had been eligible to vote before January 1, 1867. That was a magic date, because it preceded the limited right to vote given to black men under the Military Reconstruction Act, passed in March 1867. The literacy test was thus designed to achieve the very thing the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution expressly outlawed – voter exclusion based on race. See *Laws and Resolutions of the State of North Carolina, Adjourned Session 1900* (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, and E.M. Uzzell, 1900), chap 2.

<sup>9</sup> Colin Underwood, *Union: The Struggle to Forge the Story of United States Nationhood* (New York: Viking, 2020), 308. See also Eric S. Yellin, *Racism in the Nation's Service: Government Workers and the Color Line in Woodrow Wilson's America* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2013).

<sup>10</sup> Underwood, *Union*, 348; W.E.B. Du Bois, "Haiti," *Crisis* 19 (April 1920), 297-98; "The Battle of 1920 and Before," *Crisis* (March 1921), 206; *Inquiry Into Occupation and Administration of Haiti and Santo Domingo, Hearing Before a Select Committee on Haiti and Santo Domingo*, United States Senate, Sixty-Seventh Congress, First and Second Sessions (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1922), 2:1518. For a detailed account of the occupation of Haiti, see Brandon R. Byrd, *Black Republic: African Americans and the Fate of Haiti* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020), chap. 5, and Hans Schmidt, *The United States Occupation of Haiti, 1915-1934* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1971).

In early November 1947, Josephus published one of his last editorials in the family paper. It was a blistering critique of the report recently released by the President's Committee on Civil Rights, which Harry S. Truman had appointed the year before. The report took its title – *To Secure These Rights* – from the Declaration of Independence, and it recommended immediate “elimination of segregation, based on race, color, creed, or national origin, from American life.” Daniels was incensed. He mocked the report, even though a close friend, University of North Carolina president Frank P. Graham, was one of its authors, and he warned that it posed a dangerous threat to the “sovereign power” of the southern states. Daniels also reached back to 1898 and white supremacy's most lethal trope: the black incubus and the sexual vulnerability of white women. He agreed with the committee's denunciation of lynching but questioned why its report included “no word of condemnation of those guilty of the rapes for which the crime has most frequently been resorted to, or the indignation felt by most Southern people who are portrayed as guilty of prejudice against the Negro.” On these grounds, Daniels concluded that the “remedy” proposed by the president's committee – a swift end to Jim Crow, enforced, if necessary, by the federal government – was far worse than the disease it sought to cure.<sup>11</sup>

Two months later, Josephus Daniels died at his Raleigh home.

In 2006, the *News and Observer* formally apologized for the role the paper and its editor had played in the 1898 white supremacy campaign. The time had come, the editorial board and publisher explained, to “get on the right side of history.” More recently, the Daniels family removed a statue of Josephus from a park in downtown Raleigh. They had placed it there in 1985 to honor their forbearer's contributions to journalism and service to the nation. The family also endorsed decisions to strip Daniels' name from a local school and a building on the campus of North Carolina State University. Frank Daniels III, Josephus' great grandson, explained these actions with a reference to the racial reckoning ignited by the COVID-19 pandemic and the police killing of George Floyd, both of which exposed deep racial injustices in American life. “The time is right,” he said. “[Josephus Daniels'] legacy of public service does not transcend actions he took to favor white folks over black folks.”<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> “Remedy Worse than Disease,” *News and Observer* (Raleigh N.C.), November 2, 1947; *To Secure These Rights: The Report of the President's Committee on Civil Rights* (Washington D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1947), 166.

<sup>12</sup> “Why North Carolina Papers Apologized for Role in 1898 Race Riots,” *Editor & Publisher*, November 20, 2006, <https://bit.ly/2YYKJFv>; *Dedication Ceremony for the Unveiling of the Statue of Josephus Daniels, September 24, 1985* (Raleigh, N.C.: Josephus Daniels Charitable Foundation, 1985); “Statue of Josephus Daniels, Publisher and White Supremacist, Removed from Raleigh Square,” *News and Observer* (Raleigh, N.C.), June 16, 2020, <https://bit.ly/2C1Zxdo>; “Josephus Daniels' Descendants Wrestle with His Statue and a Legacy of White Supremacy,” *Herald-Sun* (Durham, N.C.), June 20, 2020, <https://bit.ly/2NYSuoA>.

## Ruffin Residence Hall

The Board of Trustees named this building in 1922 to honor Thomas Ruffin, a UNC trustee from 1813 until his death in 1870, and Thomas Ruffin Jr., Class of 1844.<sup>1</sup>

The elder Ruffin:

- Enslaved one hundred and thirty-five men, women, and children in Alamance and Rockingham Counties
- Invested in and profited from the domestic slave trade
- Used his authority as a jurist to normalize the violence inherent in slavery
- Fortified the institution of racial slavery against abolitionists and black insurrectionists

Thomas Ruffin was born in 1787 to Sterling and Alice Ruffin, wealthy slave owners in Essex County, Virginia. He was educated at the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University); practiced law in Orange County, North Carolina; served in the North Carolina state legislature; and in 1829, was appointed by that body to the state supreme court. Ruffin presided as chief justice from 1833 to 1852, and again from 1858 to 1859. His son, Thomas Ruffin Jr., was born in 1824, studied at the University of North Carolina, and made his living as an attorney. He served one term in the North Carolina House of Commons (1850-1851), fought for the Confederacy as a colonel in the North Carolina infantry, and from 1881 to 1883 sat as an associate justice on the state supreme court. The younger Ruffin, in the words of a twentieth-century biographer, had “a reputation as one of the state’s best lawyers” but otherwise left no particular mark on jurisprudence.<sup>2</sup>

In 1860, the elder Ruffin enslaved one hundred black men, women, and children on the Alamance County farm he called the Hermitage and another thirty-five on a smaller property in Rockingham County. He was known by his neighbors for his own cruelty and that of his white overseer. In 1824, Archibald DeBow Murphey, with whom Ruffin had studied law, complained of the overseer’s “barbarous treatment” of the slaves at the Hermitage. He noted that they were “worked to death” and whipped mercilessly – and that one man, Will, had been “literally barbecued, peppered, and salted.” Murphey encouraged his friend to discipline the overseer, lest the man’s cruelty tarnish Ruffin’s own “character” and reputation. The archives offer no record of Ruffin’s reply, though correspondence from his wife and another neighbor suggest that he was aware of the overseer’s behavior and chose not to intervene.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Minutes, June 13, 1922, oversize volume 12, Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina Records, 1789-1932, #40001, University Archives, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Kemp P. Battle, *History of the University of North Carolina*, vol. 1 (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1907), 823.

<sup>2</sup> Blackwell P. Robinson, “Thomas Ruffin,” and Thomas W. Austin Jr., “Thomas Ruffin Jr.,” in William S. Powell, ed., *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*, vol. 5 (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1994), 266-69; “Presentation of the Portrait of Thomas Ruffin Jr., Associate Justice, Supreme Court of North Carolina,” November 17, 2005, <https://bit.ly/3299Ffs>.

<sup>3</sup> 1860 Federal Census, Population Schedule, Orange County, North Carolina, and 1860 Federal Census, Slave Schedule, Orange County, North Carolina, Ancestry.com; Archibald DeBow Murphey to Thomas Ruffin, June

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 SCHEDULE 2—Slave Inhabitants in Rockingham in the County of Rockingham State  
 of N. Carolina, enumerated by me, on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1860. Albin Kinnic Ass't Marshal

NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS	DESCRIPTION					Deaf & dumb, blind, lame, or idiotic	No. of slave laborers	NAMES OF SLAVE OWNERS	DESCRIPTION					Deaf & dumb, blind, lame, or idiotic	No. of slave laborers
	Number of slaves	Age	Sex	Color	Population				Number of slaves	Age	Sex	Color	Population		
	1	9	F	B	1			1	45	M	B				
	1	6	M	B				1	52	F	B				
	1	5	F	B				1	32	F	B				
	1	2	M	B				1	27	F	B				
	1	3	M	B				1	20	M	B				
	1	2	F	B				1	25	M	B				
	1	1	M	B				1	22	F	B				
	1	12	M	B				1	20	M	B				
	1	12	F	B				1	20	M	B				
Thomas Ruffin	1	14	M	B			1	1	45	M	B				
Edwin Lott Ruffin	1	50	M	B	1		1	1	43	M	B				
"	1	25	F	B				1	12	M	B				
"	1	23	M	B				1	12	F	B				
Robert Ruffin	1	60	F	B	1			1	12	M	B				
Braden Whitman's owner								1	23	F	B				
John D'Elvington's owner	1	8	F	B			1	1	12	F	B				
Anna Wall	1	60	F	B	1		2	1	11	M	B				
"	1	29	M	B				1	20	F	B				
"	1	27	F	B				1	18	M	B				
"	1	20	M	B				1	1	F	B				
James Haggood	1	31	M	B	1		1	1	6	F	B				
William Weston	1	17	F	B	1		1	1	11	F	B				
"	1	18	M	B				1	5	M	B				
"	1	11	F	B				1	3	M	B				
"	1	6	M	B				1	2	M	B				
Richard Conner	1	11	M	B	1			1	24	M	B				
"	1	11	M	B				1	1	M	B				
Leahy King's owner	1	12	M	B			1	1	1	M	B				
Braden Whitman's								1	12	M	B				
Barrett's owner	1	17	F	B				1	21	F	B				
Ben Whittington's owner								1	18	F	B				
Carroll's owner	1	26	F	B				1	18	F	B				
Thomas Ruffin's owner								1	27	F	B				
Richard's manager	1	27	M	B	1			1	27	F	B				
"	1	20	M	B				1	27	F	B				
"	1	50	M	B				1	26	F	B				
"	1	45	M	B				1	21	F	B				
"	1	30	M	B				1	9	F	B				
"	1	20	M	B				1	12	F	B				

Enumeration of the people enslaved on Thomas Ruffin's Rockingham County farm. The list begins in the lower left corner – where Ruffin is named as "owner" and R. Abbot, as "manager" – and continues in the right-hand column. 1860 Federal Census, Slave Schedule, Rockingham County, North Carolina.

3, 1824, series 1.3, folder 148, Thomas Ruffin Papers, 1753-1898, #00641, Southern Historical Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Sally Hadden, "Judging Slavery: Thomas Ruffin and State v. Mann," in Christopher Waldrep and Donald G. Newman, eds., *Local Matters: Race, Crime, and Justice in the Nineteenth-Century South* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2001), 5-6.

Between 1821 and 1826, Ruffin also participated in the domestic slave trade. He was the silent partner in an arrangement with a man named Benjamin Chambers. Ruffin provided a substantial cash investment, but Chambers carried on the business of buying and selling slaves in his name only, presumably to shield Ruffin from rebuke by professional associates who disapproved of the trade in human flesh. One such figure was William Gaston, who served with Ruffin on the state supreme court. In 1832, he encouraged young men at the University of North Carolina to commit themselves to the “extirpation of the worst evil” that afflicted the South: racial slavery. “Disguise the truth as we may,” Gaston declared, the institution “poisons morals at the fountain head.”<sup>4</sup>

Ruffin likely earned a handsome profit from slave trading. During the 1820s, a boom in cotton production in the new states of Alabama and Mississippi created an insatiable demand for enslaved laborers, who were shackled together and driven southward in coffles from “exporting” states – North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, and Maryland. Traders conducted their business with extraordinary callousness. They routinely broke families apart in order to maximize profits on the youngest, strongest men and the women of prime childbearing age. Ruffin approved of that practice; indeed, he encouraged it. In *Cannon v. Jenkins*, a case argued before the North Carolina Supreme Court in 1830, he ruled that estate executors had an obligation to break up slave families if separate sales would bring higher prices. “Most commonly . . . articles sell best singly,” Ruffin observed, “and therefore they ought, in general, to be so offered.” An executor was “not to indulge his charities at the expense” of the sellers he represented.<sup>5</sup>

Today, Ruffin is most often remembered for the equally inhumane judgment he rendered in *State v. Mann*, a case heard during his first year on North Carolina’s high court. The case involved John Mann, a widowed sea captain living in Edenton, who had hired an enslaved woman named Lydia from her owner, Elizabeth Jones. Jones, a minor child, had inherited Lydia from her parents. She lived in the household of her brother-in-law, Josiah Small, who paid for her upkeep by hiring Lydia out as a laborer. Lydia defied Mann’s authority over her, and in one instance attempted to run away. Mann picked up his gun and shot her in the back.

The Chowan County district attorney charged Mann with assault and battery, and a jury found him guilty. They based that judgment on well-established case law, which held that hirers such as Mann were liable to safeguard the property of another – in this case, Elizabeth Jones’ slave, Lydia – which they held in their possession only temporarily.<sup>6</sup>

Ruffin reversed that verdict on appeal. A slave’s obedience, he wrote, “is the consequence only of uncontrolled authority over the body. There is nothing else that can operate to produce the effect.” Maintaining that authority was, in Ruffin’s mind, imperative to

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<sup>4</sup> Hadden, “Judging Slavery,” 7-8; William Gaston, *Address Delivered Before the Philanthropic and Dialectic Societies at Chapel Hill, June 20, 1832* (Raleigh: Jos. Gales and Son, 1832), 14.

<sup>5</sup> *Cannon v. Jenkins*, 16 N.C. 422 (N.C. 1830). On the domestic slave trade generally, see Steven Deyle, *Carry Me Back: The Domestic Slave Trade in American Life* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005).

<sup>6</sup> For a synopsis of the case, see Sally Greene, “*State v. Mann* Exhumed,” *North Carolina Law Review* 87 (March 2009), 702-03.

safeguarding public order and the economic interests of slave owners. On that account, he treated Mann as Elizabeth Jones' proxy and accorded him full rights of ownership, including the unfettered right to inflict grievous bodily harm. In what legal scholar Eric Muller has described as "the coldest and starkest defense of the physical violence inherent in slavery that ever appeared in an American judicial opinion," Ruffin declared: "the power of the master must be absolute, to render the submission of the slave perfect."<sup>7</sup>

Why did Ruffin depart from established case law in such dramatic fashion? Legal historian Sally Greene suggests that he did so to strengthen the defense of slavery, in part, against abolitionism in the North, which had been gaining support since 1820, when Congress admitted Missouri to the Union as the first slave state west of the Mississippi. Ruffin was also mindful of worsening fears of black insurrection, particularly in the eastern North Carolina counties where whites were outnumbered by the people they held in bondage. In December 1829, at the very time Mann was writing his opinion, nervous slave owners in Lenoir County petitioned the legislature to establish a special police force to suppress the clandestine activities of runaways living in dense forests and swamplands.<sup>8</sup>

In this context, overturning John Mann's conviction was a bold strategic move. As Sally Greene has noted, by eliding the distinction between slave owner and slave hirer, Ruffin created in an instant a vastly enlarged body of white men with "an unqualified right of discipline over slaves." He also attempted – with uneven success – to close the door on juries and judges who, like those in Chowan County, would exercise more nuanced understandings of the relationship between slave and enslaver, and most especially a sense of "moral right" that drew a line between discipline and gross brutality.<sup>9</sup>

On these points, Ruffin remained resolute throughout his judicial career. Twenty years after *State v. Mann*, a majority of justices on the North Carolina Supreme Court ruled in another case that "if a white man wantonly inflicts upon a slave, over whom he has no authority, a severe blow or repeated blows, under unusual circumstances, and the slave, at the instant, strikes and kills, without evincing, by the means used, great wickedness or cruelty, he is only guilty of manslaughter." Ruffin was the lone dissenter. "It is very clear," he wrote, "that the question *turns on the difference in the condition of the free white men and negro slaves* (emphasis added). For, there is no doubt, if all the persons had been white men, that the conduct of the deceased would have palliated the killing by the person assaulted, or by his comrade, to manslaughter." But when the deceased was white and the killer was a slave, the crime was unequivocally murder. Ruffin explained: "the rule for determining what is a mitigating provocation cannot, in the nature of things, be the same between persons who are

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<sup>7</sup> *State v. Mann*, 13 N.C. 263 (N.C. 1829); Eric L. Muller, "Judging Thomas Ruffin and the Hindsight Defense," *North Carolina Law Review* 87 (March 2009), 761-62.

<sup>8</sup> Hadden, "Judging Slavery," 12-13.

<sup>9</sup> Greene, "*State v. Mann* Exhumed," 744, 748.



in equali jure, as two freemen, and those who stand in the very great disparity of free whites and black slaves.”<sup>10</sup>

What, in the end, are we to make of Thomas Ruffin? Was he simply a man of his time, as some have claimed, guided by principles that were commonplace and conventional? The evidence suggests otherwise. As Sally Greene has argued, Ruffin “took an active part in defining” the historical moment in which he lived. In *State v. Mann*, “he chose to elevate the slave hirer . . . to the status of a master,” and by doing so, “created an urgent situation” – a rupture in the authority of white over black – “for which his judicial response became the commanding solution.” For Ruffin, white dominion was totalizing, and the law gave no quarter to the humanity of the enslaved.<sup>11</sup>

The story told here did not figure in the adulation of Thomas Ruffin by UNC’s trustees when they named a campus building for him in 1922, or by the North Carolina Bar Association, which in 1915 placed a bronze statue of him outside the chamber of the North Carolina Supreme Court. Both bodies regarded Ruffin as a “great citizen” and source of “inspiration for the future” – “a man resolved and steady to his trust, inflexible to ill and obstinately just.” Ruffin the brutal slave master, trader in human chattel, and author of the most notorious defense of slaveowners’ authority over the bodies of the enslaved was invisible in such tributes.<sup>12</sup>

That erasure – that silence – was the product of a focused effort to create a falsified, usable past for a neo-Confederate white South that by the early twentieth century had stripped black men of the right to vote, institutionalized Jim Crow segregation, and dismantled much of the promise of Emancipation. White civic leaders, politicians, and scholars labored in the new century to characterize slavery as a benevolent institution, to glorify secession as a principled defense of the Constitution, and to make patriots of the men who went to war against the United States. At UNC, that project found expression in the classroom and in faculty scholarship, in the erection of a Confederate monument and in a scramble during the 1910s and 1920s to name campus buildings for slave owners, Confederate officers, Klansmen, and avowed white supremacists. The list includes:

Battle Hall, 1912, named for Kemp P. Battle  
Pettigrew Hall, 1912, named for James Johnston Pettigrew  
Vance Hall, 1912, named for Zebulon B. Vance  
Swain Hall, 1914, named for David L. Swain

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<sup>10</sup> *State v. Caesar*, 31 N.C. 391 (1849).

<sup>11</sup> Greene, “*State v. Mann* Exhumed,” 751. On Ruffin as a man of his times, see David Lowenthal, “On Arraigning Ancestors: A Critique of Historical Contrition,” *North Carolina Law Review* 87 (March 2009), 901-66. Lowenthal contends that “those who condemn past crimes seem unaware that slavery and other social inequities were acceptable norms from classical times to the nineteenth century.” That argument ignores the fact that moral critiques of slavery were also commonplace in Ruffin’s time, particularly among the four million Americans whose bondage was defined by the color of their skin.

<sup>12</sup> *The Unveiling and Presentation to the State of the Statue of Thomas Ruffin, by the North Carolina Bar Association* (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1915), 7, 23-24.

Phillips Hall, 1919, named for James Phillips, Charles Phillips, and William B. Phillips  
 Steele Building, 1920, named for Walter L. Steele  
 Grimes Residence Hall, 1922, named for Bryan Grimes  
 Mangum Residence Hall, 1922, named for Willie P. Mangum, Adolphus W. Mangum, and William Preston Mangum  
 Manly Residence Hall, 1922, named for Charles Manly and Matthias Manly  
 Manning Hall, 1922, named for John Manning  
 Murphey Hall, 1922, named for Archibald DeBow Murphey  
 Saunders Hall, 1922, named for William L. Saunders, renamed Carolina Hall in 2015  
 Spencer Residence Hall, 1927, named for Cornelia Phillips Spencer  
 Aycock Residence Hall, 1928, named for Charles B. Aycock  
 Bingham Hall, 1928, named for Robert H. Bingham  
 Graham Residence Hall, 1928, named for John W. Graham

Today, the presence of these names on the landscape is a testament to the success of the neo-Confederates' historical project and the ways that it continues to shape what, in public memory, is known and forgotten about slavery, the Confederacy, and the Jim Crow South.



Chief Justices Beasley & Ruffin.  
 Courtesy of Yahoo News.

In January 2020, at the request of Senior Resident Superior Court Judge Carl Fox and James Williams, first vice president of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro NAACP, Orange County officials took down the portrait of Thomas Ruffin that had hung in the Historic Courthouse in Hillsborough. In July, state officials removed the statue of Ruffin that once stood outside the state supreme court chamber and had more recently been located in the State Court of Appeals Building. A commission appointed by the North Carolina Supreme Court is currently considering the disposition of “problematic” portraits in its chamber, including the life-size painting of Ruffin that hangs above the seat of Chief Justice Cheri Beasley, the first black woman to serve in that office.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> “Former N.C. Chief Justice’s Portrait Removed from Courthouse Over Slave Trader Past,” *Daily Tar Heel*, January 29, 2020; “Statue of Former Chief Justice Who Was Slave Owner to be Removed from Court of Appeals Building,” WRAL, July 8, 2020, <https://bit.ly/31WJFDY>; “N.C. Courts Grapple with Monuments to Jurist Who Brutalized Slaves,” *Facing South*, June 30, 2020, <https://bit.ly/2ZSQWlv>.

**Appendix B: Chancellor's Committee to Review the History Commission  
Resolution**

**Membership**

**July 2020**

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Member of the Board of Trustees

David Boliek  
Class of '90  
Member of the Board of Trustees

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Vice Dean for Academic Affairs  
Chief Education Officer  
UNC School of Medicine

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Kira Griffith  
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Roger Perry  
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Barbara Rimer  
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Alumni Distinguished Professor

David Routh  
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Chair of the Committee

Eunice Sahle  
Associate Professor  
Chair, Department of African, African American, and Diaspora Studies

Michael Smith  
Dean, School of Government  
Professor of Public Law and Government