

ESSENTIAL CIVIL WAR CURRICULUM

The Carolinas Campaign

By Robert M. Dunkerly

Resources

If you can read only one book

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
Smith, Mark Anthony and Wade Sokolosky	<i>“No Such Army Since the days of Julius Caesar”</i> : Sherman’s Carolinas Campaign from Fayetteville to Averasboro. Columbus, OH: Ironclad Publishing, 2006.

Books and Articles

Author	<i>Title</i> . City: Publisher, Year.
Barrett, John G.	<i>Sherman’s March Through the Carolinas</i> . Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1956.
Behrens, Roger	<i>Total War in Carolina: Sherman’s 1865 Carolinas Campaign</i> . Mahomet, IL: BPC Publishers, 1992.
Bradley, Mark	<i>The Battle of Bentonville</i> . El Dorado Hills, CA: Savas Publishing, 1996.
_____.	<i>This Astounding Close</i> . Chapel Hill: UNC Press, 2006.
Dunkerly, Robert M.	<i>The Confederate Surrender at Greensboro</i> . Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2013.
Fonvielle, Chris	<i>The Wilmington Campaign</i> . Mechanicsburg, PA: Stackpole Books, 2001.
Gragg, Rod	<i>Confederate Goliath</i> . New York: Harper Collins, 1991.
Moore, Mark A.	<i>The Wilmington Campaign and the Battles for Fort Fisher</i> . Mason City, IA: Savas Publishing Co., 1999.

Sokolosky, Wade	<i>To Prepare for Sherman's Coming</i> . El Dorado Hills, CA: Savas Publishing, 2015.
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Organizations

Organization Name	Description, Contact information including address, email
Brunswick Civil War Round Table	The mission of the Brunswick Civil War Round Table is to promote interest in and disseminate knowledge of the American Civil War, through various speakers at regular Round Table meetings and other special events and to promote, encourage, and support Civil War Battlefield Preservation. Their website is: http://www.brunswickcivilwarroundtable.com/
Cape Fear Civil War Round Table	The Cape Fear Civil War Round Table is a non-profit organization made up of men and women who have a common interest in the history of the Civil War. The meetings include a speaker each month covering some aspect of the Civil War. This serves our purpose of encouraging education and research into that historical conflict. Their website: http://www.cfcwrt.com/missioncfcwrt.html
Durham Civil War Round Table	The purpose of the Durham Civil War Roundtable is to share the history of the American Civil War through meetings, lectures, and discussion groups. Their website is: https://www.facebook.com/DurhamCivilWarRoundtable/
Raleigh Civil War Round Table	The Mission of the Raleigh Civil War Roundtable is to study the history of the American Civil War, to stimulate interest and promote education in a broad range of topics related to that war, and to aid in the preservation and enhancement of its battlefields, cemeteries, relics, and other historic sites and landmarks. Their website is: http://www.raleighcwrtable.org/about-us/

Web Resources

Other Sources

Name	Description, Contact information including address, email
Averasboro Battlefield and Museum	<p>The Averasboro Battlefield Commission, Inc. (ABCI) is tasked with the responsibility to preserve and present the story of the Battle of Averasboro. ABCI is a non-profit, tax exempt organization formed to lead in the preservation, presentation and promotion of the Averasboro Battlefield, Smithville Plantation and related history. The address and contact information is: 3300 Hwy 82, Dunn, NC 28334 PO Box 1811 Dunn, NC 28335, (910) 891 5019. Email: battle@averasboro.com The hour of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Sunday 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (closed Sundays November-April). Their website is: http://www.averasboro.com/</p>
Bennett Place	<p>Bennett Place is the home of The Bennett family where Generals Sherman and Johnston negotiated the surrender of Confederate forces in the Carolinas. The address and contact information is: 4409 Bennett Memorial Road, Durham, NC 27705. (919) 383-4345 Email: bennett@ncdcr.gov The hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. except most major holidays. Their website is: http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bennett/</p>
Bentonville Battlefield	<p>The Bentonville Battlefield preserves the largest battlefield from the campaign. The site includes a museum, historic house, earthworks, monuments, and a driving tour. The address and contact information is: 5466 Harper House Road, Four Oaks, N.C.</p>

	<p>27524. (910) 594-0789 Email: bentonville@ncdcr.gov The hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. except most major holidays. Their website is: http://www.nchistoricsites.org/bentonvi/bentonvi.htm</p>
Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site	<p>The Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson State Historic Site preserves the remains of the Confederate fort below Wilmington on the Cape Fear River. The address and contact information is: 8884 St. Philip's Road SE, Winnabow, NC 28479. (910) 371-6613. Email: brunswick@ncdcr.gov The hours of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. and from July 12 through Labor Day Sunday noon-5:00 p.m. Their website is: http://www.nchistoricsites.org/brunswic/brunswic.htm</p>
Civil War Trails	<p>Civil War Trails maintains historic markers scattered over 5 states. The North Carolina Civil War Trails website is: http://www.civilwartraveler.com/EAST/NC/</p>
Greensboro Historical Museum	<p>The Greensboro Historical Museum includes exhibits discussing Confederate industry in the city, and the end of the war there. The address and contact information is: 130 Summit Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27401. (336) 373-2043. The hour of operation are Tuesday-Saturday 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Sunday 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Their website is: http://greensborohistory.org/</p>

Scholars

Name	Email
Robert M. Dunkerly	bd1754@yahoo.com

Précis

North Carolina's interior was spared the harsh realities of war until the spring of 1865 when Sherman's two armies moved into the state from Georgia and South Carolina and two other union armies also advanced into the state. Confederate General Joseph E. Johnston was in charge of the defense of North Carolina using troops from various departments and remnants of Confederate armies. The first clash was at the Battle of Averasboro on March 15-16 between forces led by Sherman and General William Hardee. The Confederates withdrew after the battle having delayed but not stopped Sherman's advance. At the Battle of Bentonville on March 19-21 Johnston concentrated all his forces and after heavy fighting the Confederates again withdrew, reorganized and moved ahead of Sherman towards Greensboro where Johnston met with President Jefferson Davis, members of the Confederate Cabinet and Generals P. G. T. Beauregard and John C. Breckinridge. News of Lee's surrender on April 9 at Appomattox and the advice of his generals led Davis to authorize Johnston to meet with Sherman to discuss a truce. On April 17 Sherman and Johnston met at the Bennett farm outside Hillsborough where Johnston learned of the death of Lincoln. Both generals agreed that rather than a truce, an end to the war should be sought. That evening Johnston met with Breckinridge, and others to produce a list of points they wanted in the surrender terms. Meeting the next day with Sherman, Johnston and Breckinridge obtained generous terms including allowing troops to take their weapons home to state arsenals, recognizing existing state governments, and guaranteeing property and political rights to citizens. Sherman had overstepped his authority and Grant arrived on April 25 under instructions to offer the same terms as those given Lee at Appomattox. Sherman and Johnston met again on April 26 and Johnston surrendered over 89,000 men in the Department of the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida. Because the Confederate armies were camped in wide spread locations, there was no formal surrender ceremony and the Confederates essentially policed themselves. Some were paroled in the field, some at home, and some not at all. Some units marched home with weapons and flags flying, others stacked arms and left. The end was so chaotic that the men who participated in the largest troop surrender of the war did not agree on the name of the surrender, calling it Greensboro, Bennet Place, Durham, etc.
