

Raleigh: An eclectic blend of attractions

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Raleigh is a capital capital. The seat of North Carolina government since 1792, Raleigh is both a modern, bustling center of commerce and politics, as well as a city with a fascinating past. Located about three hours straight up I-85 from Gaston and Cleveland counties, Raleigh is full of things to see and do for kids as well as adults.

Top on the list of sights in Raleigh is the N.C. State Capitol. Constructed between 1833 and 1840, the Capitol is in the Greek Revival style of architecture. Cost to build the structure in 1840 was just over \$500,000. This figure represented three times the entire state budget at the time. On the Capitol grounds are statues of the U.S. Presidents from North Carolina, several cannon, and a Confederate monument. The Capitol has just undergone much restoration work and can be toured from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturdays, and 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Sunday.

Locate near the Capitol at 109 E. Jones Street, the new N.C. Museum of History contains everything from the original 1663 Carolina Charter to exhibits on Tar Heel aviation. Other attractions at the museum include a large collection of Civil War uniforms and equipment, displays of clothing from earlier times, and exhibits tracing the history of agriculture in our state. The N.C. Museum of History is closed on Mondays, but open Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

For a look at the flora and fauna of our state past and present, a trip to the N.C. Museum of Natural Science is in order. Located in a new 200,000 square building at 5 E. Edenton Street, the museum is the largest of its type in the Southeast. Exhibits in the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences include a dinosaur skeleton, gemstones, live snakes, all types of stuffed animals, birds, and profiles of the state's ecosys-

tems. There's also a neat gift shop. The museum's website is www.naturalsciences.org.

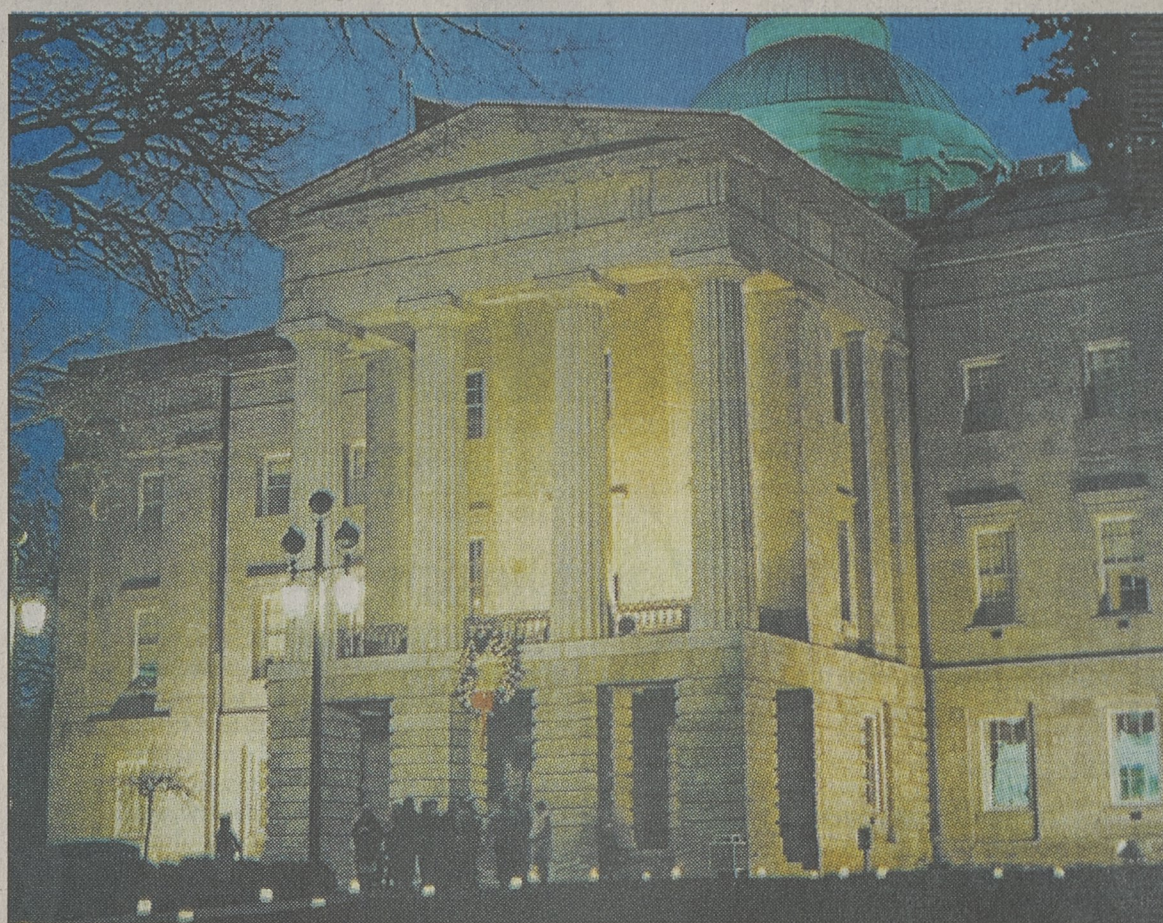
For folks with a love of things visual, the North Carolina Museum of Art at 2110 Blue Ridge Road will provide a feast for the eyes. Built in 1983, the 181,000 square foot museum features not only painting and sculpture by artists from this country, but also an extensive collection of works by European artists in the Dutch, Flemish, and Italian styles. Admission to the museum is free. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, and 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Sunday.

Not far from the Capitol Building, the Governor's Mansion at 200 N. Blount Street is not only home to our state's chief executive and his family, but also has its first floor open for tours.

Constructed in the Queen Anne style, the executive mansion was started in 1883 and completed in 1891. It is built of native North Carolina materials. Many of the bricks that form the sidewalks bear the initials of the craftsmen who made them. The home is decorated with many antiques and other items from different areas of our state.

Two other historic Raleigh homes are the Joel Lane House and the Mordecai House. The Lane House is on the corner of Hargett and St. Mary's streets, and is the former residence of the guy who sold the state part of his plantation to start the town of Raleigh. It dates back to 1760. The Mordecai House is at 1 Mimosa St. and was built in 1785. The grounds of the Mordecai House also contain the birthplace of Andrew Johnson, the 17th President of the United States.

Located in one of Raleigh's oldest and most elegant neighborhoods, Oakwood Cemetery is the final resting place for many famous North Carolinians. Bounded by Person, Franklin, and Edenton streets, Oakwood Cemetery is also the site of many Civil War-era graves. Interred at Oakwood are dozens of North Carolina Confederate soldiers who were killed at



Capitol Building in Raleigh PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY NC DIVISION OF TOURISM, FILM AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Gettysburg.

No visit to Raleigh would be complete without a tour of the Legislative Building on Jones Street. Designed by Edward Stone, the 206,000 square foot structure opened in 1963 to great acclaim or its modern architecture. During weekdays, the building is open to the public.

One of Raleigh's biggest attractions comes every autumn. A blockbuster of rides, exhibits, contests, food, and people watching, the N.C. State Fair is a 10-day jamboree held starting on the third Friday in October. To illustrate how

popular the State Fair really is, over 700,000 folks attend the event in a typical year. Transportation to the State Fairgrounds can be by rail- Amtrak will drop you off right out front- or by shuttles from downtown. If you decide to drive, then be prepared for quite a hike from your car to the entrance.

An eclectic blend of attractions, Raleigh is a showcase of many things that makes North Carolina great.

For more information, call the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-849-8499.

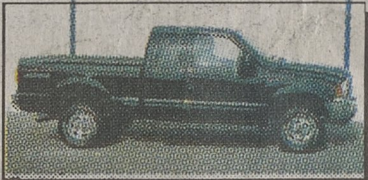
LARGEST PRE-OWNED TRUCK & SUV INVENTORY IN GASTON COUNTY!



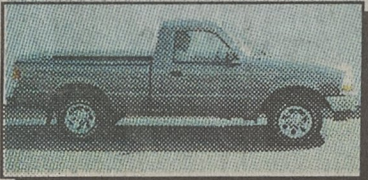
97 Isuzu Rodeo
Power Windows/Locks, V6, 4x4,
Lots More! Ready to Run!
***14,963**



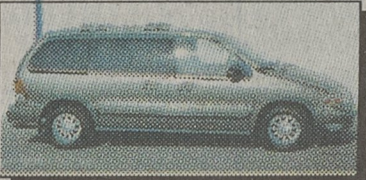
97 Ford Explorer
Auto, Roof, 4 Door, Power Seat,
America's Best Selling SUV!
***18,777**



99 Ford F-250
Quad Cab, Lariat, Leather, 4x4,
Powerstroke Diesel, Too much to list!
***29,743**



2000 Ford Ranger XLT
Chrome Wheels,
Local Trade, Save!
***11,946**



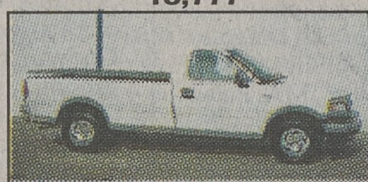
99 Windstar SE
4 Door, Windows/Locks, Tilt, Cruise,
Cassette, Dual Air, Mama's Limol
***17,881**



97 Ford F150 Supercab 4WD
Lariat, bed liner, running boards, Alloys,
Leather, Two-Tone Paint, Cowboy's Caddy
***18,677**



2000 Expedition XLT
4x4, Dual Air, 5.4 V8, Windows/Locks,
Running Boards, Priced to Move!
***28,871**



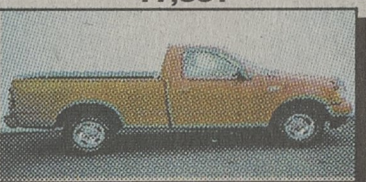
2000 Ford F150 XL
Wheel, 6 Cyl.,
Worker's Special
***14,974**



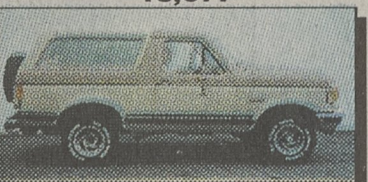
95 Jeep Grand Cherokee
Laredo, Windows, Locks,
Tilt, Cruise, Cassette
***8,888**



**99 Ford Ranger XLT
Supercab**
Auto, V6, Won't Last!
***14,971**



99 Ford F150
Sub, Auto, Sport Package,
Wheels, Local Trade
***14,781**



90 Chevrolet Bronco
4x4, XLT, Auto, V8, A/C,
Just in Time for Hunting Season!
***6,911**



99 Ford Ranger XLT
P/S, Air Condition, Bedliner,
Wheels, Gas Saver!
***10,771**



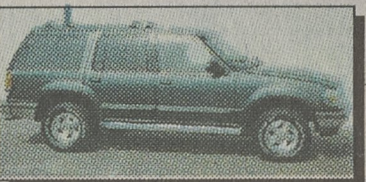
97 Ford F350 Supercab
10688, V8,
Workin' Man's Dream!
***14,949**



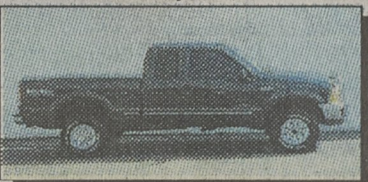
97 Ford Ranger
Auto, V6, XLT, Wheels,
Rare Piece!
***9,987**



97 Ford F150 XLT
Ext. Cab, V8, Windows/Locks,
All Power! Gotta See!
***16,981**



97 Ford Explorer
XLT, V6, Wheels, Windows/Locks,
Tilt, Cruise, Sporty SUV!
***16,974**



99 Ford F250 Supercab XLT
Powerstroke Diesel, 4x4, Off Road Pkg.,
The Absolute Kind!
***28,767**



98 Ford Explorer Sport
Windows/Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Wheels,
Running Boards Better Hurry!
***16,964**



99 Ford Explorer XLT
4 door, Leather, CD, P. Seat,
Sunroof, Local Trade.
Priced Right! ***22,722**



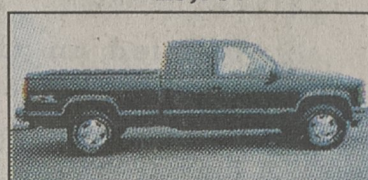
95 Toyota 4 Runner
SR5, V6, Auto, Windows/Locks, Tilt,
Cassette, Wheels, Local Trade!
Nicest in Town! ***16,747**



99 Ford Expedition XLT
4WD, 3rd Seat, Rear Air,
Several in Stock!
Starting at ***27,690**



98 Ford Windstar GL
Auto, Sunscreen Glass, Power
Everything, Rear Air, Mama's Limol
***15,988**

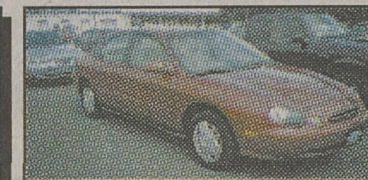


98 Chevrolet 1500
Ext. Cab, 4x4, Bucket Seats, 350 V8,
Silverado, Loaded!
***21,872**

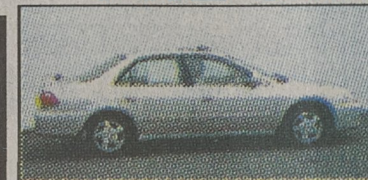
PRE-OWNED CARS



95 Ford Taurus SE
Leather, 6 Speed!, Low Miles,
Local Trade
***12,947**



99 Ford Taurus SE
4 Dr., Auto, Still Under Warranty,
Rainbow of Colors
Starting At ***12,980**



98 Honda Accord
EX, 4 door, Leather, Windows/Locks,
Compact Disc. Save A Ton!
***17,877**



98 Honda Accord EX
V6, Auto, Wheels, Leather, Sunroof,
P/Seats, It's Got Everything!
Save A Ton ***19,747**



96 Ford Mustang
5 speed, A/C, Windows/Locks, Tilt, Cruise,
Spoiler, Great School Car!
***9,641**



99 Crown Victoria LX
Windows/Locks, Tilt, Cruise, Wheels,
Dual Pwr. Seats, Factory Warranty!
Don't Wait! ***17,977**

CARS UNDER \$10,900

98 Ford Taurus GL
4 Door, Automatic, Pwr. Wind./Lks.
Best Selling Car in America!
***10,971**

97 Geo Prism
4 Door, Automatic,
Gas Saver!
***8,460**

**92 F350
Utility Body**
Auto, V6, Workhorse
***6,988**

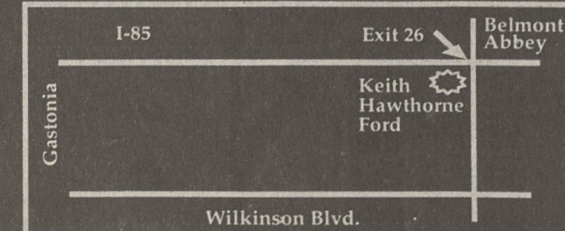
97 Nissan 200 SX
2 Door, Auto, Power Package
Red & Ready!
***9,981**

**99 Ford
Escort SE**
Affordable!
***10,888**

96 Ford Taurus GL
Local Trade,
Low Miles
***8,971**



BIG
ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU,
SMALL
ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU.



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