

## **Timeline of Reconstruction in North Carolina** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **1862**

- Union troops win the [Battle of New Bern](#) <sup>[2]</sup> in March. Thousands African Americans seek freedom behind Union lines in New Bern.
- Vincent Colyer sets up night schools for freed people.

### **1863**

- Lincoln issues the [Emancipation](#) <sup>[3]</sup> Proclamation.
- Recruitment of African American soldiers begins.

### **1864**

- [Abraham Galloway](#) <sup>[4]</sup> and four others visit Abraham Lincoln.

### **1865**

- The Thirteenth Amendment, which [abolishes](#) <sup>[5]</sup> slavery in the United States, is approved in January and [ratified](#) <sup>[6]</sup> in December. Congress establishes the [Freedmen's Bureau](#) <sup>[7]</sup> in March.
- The Civil War effectively ends with Lee's surrender at Appomattox on April 9.
- President Lincoln is assassinated on April 15. Vice President Andrew Johnson becomes president.
- President Johnson presents plans for Reconstruction.
- [Freedmen's Convention](#) <sup>[8]</sup> takes place in Raleigh on September 29.
- North Carolina holds a constitutional convention on October 2.
- Congress refuses to readmit North Carolina in December.
- States enact Black Codes.

### **1866**

- The Ku Klux Klan is created in Tennessee.
- Congress approves the Fourteenth Amendment.
- North Carolina refuses to ratify the Fourteenth Amendment.
- Radical Republicans gain control in Congress.
- Congress expands the Freedmen's Bureau's responsibilities and powers.

### **1867**

- The Reconstruction Acts are passed over Johnson's [veto](#) <sup>[9]</sup>, initiating Congressional Reconstruction.
- [The Union League](#) <sup>[10]</sup> and Abraham Lincoln League become active recruiting black voters in Craven County.

### **1868**

- The Fourteenth Amendment is ratified, entitling all persons born or naturalized <sup>[11]</sup> in the United States to citizenship and equal protection under the laws of the United States.
- North Carolina is readmitted to the Union.
- Andrew Johnson is impeached <sup>[12]</sup> by Congress, but is acquitted by one vote.

## 1869

- Former Union General Ulysses S. Grant becomes president.
- The Freedman's Bureau leaves North Carolina.

## 1870

- Hiram Revels <sup>[13]</sup> of Mississippi (born in Fayetteville, North Carolina) is the first African American elected to the United States Senate.
- The Fifteenth Amendment is ratified, granting the right to vote to all male citizens regardless of color or previous condition of servitude.
- Three African American representatives from Craven County are elected to the General Assembly.
- Conservative government is reestablished in North Carolina, "redeeming" the state.

## 1871

- Governor William Holden <sup>[14]</sup> publishes a list of crimes committed by the Ku Klux Klan.
- Act to Enforce Fourteenth Amendment (Ku Klux Klan Act) is passed in Congress.

## 1876

- Democrat Zebulon Vance is elected Governor of North Carolina.

## 1877

- The last federal troops leave South Carolina, effectively ending the Federal government's presence in the South.

### Source Citation:

Exhibit Text, Claiming Citizenship: Political Activism, *Days of Jubilee*, Tryon Palace, New Bern, N.C.

### User Tags:

history <sup>[15]</sup>

North Carolina <sup>[16]</sup>

North Carolina History <sup>[17]</sup>

Page <sup>[18]</sup>

Reconstruction <sup>[19]</sup>

Students <sup>[20]</sup>

Teachers <sup>[21]</sup>

All Rights Reserved <sup>[22]</sup>

### From:

ANCHOR: A North Carolina History Online Resource <sup>[23]</sup>

### Copyright Date:

2009

### People:

- Andrew Johnson <sup>[24]</sup>

- [Hiram Revels](#) [13]
- [Zebulon Vance](#) [25]

### Related Topics:

- [Battle of New Bern](#) [26]
- [African American Soldiers in the Civil War](#) [27]
- [Louisa Jacobs on Freedmen](#) [28]
- [Freedmen's Schools: The school houses are crowded, and the people are clamorous for more](#) [29]
- [The Thirteenth Amendment](#) [30]
- [The Fourteenth Amendment](#) [31]
- [Black Codes in North Carolina](#) [32], 1866
- [Reconstruction](#) [33]

### Primary Sources:

[13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: Abolition of Slavery \(1865\)](#) [34]

from the National Archives

---

[14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: Civil Rights \(1868\)](#) [35]

from the National Archives

---

[15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution: Voting Rights \(1870\)](#) [36]

from the National Archives

3 January 2018

---

**Source URL:** <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/timeline-reconstruction>

### Links

[1] <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/timeline-reconstruction> [2] <https://www.ncpedia.org/new-bern-battle> [3] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/emancipation> [4] <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/galloway-abraham> [5] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/abolish> [6] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/ratify> [7] <https://www.ncpedia.org/freedmens-bureau> [8] <https://www.ncpedia.org/freedmens-conventions> [9] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/veto> [10] <https://www.ncpedia.org/union-league> [11] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/naturalized> [12] <https://www.ncpedia.org/glossary/impeach> [13] <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/revels> [14] <https://www.ncpedia.org/holden-william-woods-research> [15] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/history> [16] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-5> [17] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/north-carolina-6> [18] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/page> [19] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/reconstruction> [20] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/students> [21] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/teachers> [22] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/user-tags/all-rights> [23] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/anchor-north> [24] <https://www.ncpedia.org/johnson-andrew> [25] <https://www.ncpedia.org/vance-zebulon-baird-research-branch> [26] <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/battle-new-bern> [27] <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/african-american-soldiers> [28] <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/primary-source-louisa-jacobs> [29] <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/primary-source-freedmens> [30] <https://www.ncpedia.org/thirteenth-amendment> [31] <https://www.ncpedia.org/fourteenth-amendment> [32] <https://www.ncpedia.org/anchor/primary-source-black-codes> [33] <https://www.ncpedia.org/reconstruction> [34] <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/13th-amendment> [35] <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/14th-amendment> [36] <https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/15th-amendment>