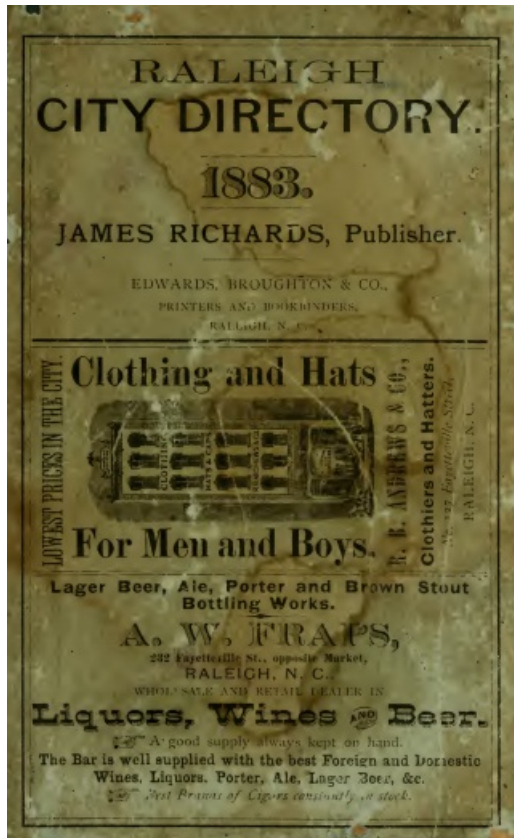


Business Directories ^[1]

Business Directories

by Wiley J. Williams, 2006

Additional research provided by Robert C. Kenzer.



Cover of the 1883 Raleigh City Directory ^[2]Business directories have been published in North Carolina since the beginning of the nineteenth century. Many extant directories provide a valuable contemporary portrait of the business community ^[3] of the entire state as well as other interesting county and municipal information. One of the earliest examples of a directory of North Carolina businesses is the Commercial Directory ^[4], published by J. C. Kayer & Company (Philadelphia) in 1823. This publication, based on the 1820 U.S. census, lists businesses in three of the state's largest towns: New Bern, Fayetteville ^[5], and Wilmington ^[6]. Pre-1900 city directories also exist for Wilmington (1860-61 edition) ^[7], Asheville (1883) ^[8], Charlotte (1875) ^[9], Durham (1887) ^[10], Greensboro (1879) ^[11], New Bern (1880) ^[12], Raleigh (1880) ^[13], and the Winston-Salem area ^[11] (including Greensboro, 1879). Typically, these volumes have an alphabetical list of the names and addresses of residents and businesses, a street address directory, and a classified business directory. These directories usually include a numerical list of telephone subscribers.

Asheville, North Carolina CITY DIRECTORY

THE PIEDMONT SERIES

VOL. IX.

1910

VOL. IX.

Including Asheville, South Asheville, Biltmore, South Biltmore,
Woolsey, Kenilworth and Grace

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS WORK.

ab—above.	cor—corner.	manfg—manufacturing.	R. R.—Railroad
adv—advertisement.	ct—court.	manfr—manufacturer.	Ry—Railway.
agt—agent.	ctr—cutter.	mgr—manager.	s—south.
al—alley.	dep—deputy.	mgr—messenger.	sec—secretary.
appr—apprentice.	dept—department.	mstr—master.	ship—shipping.
assn—association.	dir—dealer.	mlnr—milliner.	slsmn—salesman.
asst—assistant.	e—east.	n—north.	Sou—Southern.
atty—attorney.	emp—employment.	nr—near.	solr—solicitor.
av—avenue.	engnr—engineer.	of—office.	sp—space.
bds—boards.	fgmn—flagman.	opp—opposite.	spl—special.
bkkpr—bookkeeper.	flr—floor.	opr—operator.	sq—square.
Bldg—building.	frt—freight.	paperhng—paperhanger.	stng—stenographer.
bldr—builder.	genl—general.	passgr—passenger.	smstr—seamstress.
bksmth—blacksmith.	ft—fitter.	photog—photographer.	supt—superintendent.
cabmkr—cabinetmaker.	h—house.	pl—place.	tchr—teacher.
carp—carpenter.	ins—insurance.	plstr—plasterer.	tel opr—telegraph
chf—chief.	inspr—inspector.	plmbr—plumber.	operator.
clk—clerk.	int rev—internal revenue	P O—post office.	trav—traveling.
colr—collector.	la—lane.	pres—president.	treas—treasurer.
co—county.	lab—laborer.	prin—principal.	uphr—upholsterer.
comr—commissioner.	lyr—layer.	prop—proprietor.	v-pres—vice-president.
com mer—commission	mchst—machinist.	(r)—rear.	w—west.
merchant.	mdse—merchandise.	R M S—railroad mail ser	whol—wholesale.
condr—conductor.	mkr—maker.	vice.	wid—widow.
confr—confectioner.	mkt—market.	rms—rooms.	wkr—worker.
contr—contractor.	mldr—moulder.	rd—road.	wks—works.

The classification by business will be found after the alphabetical arrangement of names. For full indices to the contents of the work, see index, page 7. Names marked * are those of colored persons except where a * is used to denote a certain occupation or special business heading.

ASHEVILLE [1910] DIRECTORY

65

A

A M E Church, College bet 215 and 241; J W Murray, pastor
Abbey Willis P (Lilla), clk R M S, h 44 Clayton
Abbott Fredk A (Kate), mill engnr, h 216 Haywood
*Abbott Isham, lab, h 158 Curve
*Abbott James (Annie), h 21 Hazzard
*Abbott Jessie, h 158 Curve
*Abbott Laura, h 158 Curve
*Abbott Lewis, h 23 Hazzard
*Abbott Lewis (Lillian), cook, h 158 Curve
*Abbott Maggie, h 158 Curve
*Abbott Violet, h 23 Hazzard
Abbott Wm, h 216 Haywood

Abbreviations used in a 1910 Asheville City Directory

[14]Between 1867 and 1897, Levi Branson [15], one of North Carolina's leading publishers [16] and booksellers, compiled and published nine editions of Branson's North Carolina Business Directory [17]. Organized by county, Branson's Directory includes the names of business firms under such headings as blacksmiths, grocers [18], dry goods stores [19], and restaurants. The names of all municipal and county officeholders, as well as U.S. officials who held posts such as customs collectors, are also listed. In addition, the volumes include the names of a wide variety of other professionals and institutions in each county, such as schools [20], attorneys, ministers [21], physicians [22], and postmasters. Importantly, the directories also note if businessmen [23] and other community figures were African American.

Some leading annual directories of modern North Carolina businesses and manufacturers are the North Carolina Business Directory (1988-), North Carolina Manufacturers Directory (1993-), North Carolina Manufacturers Register (1994-), and Regional Industrial Buying Guide: Greater Carolinas (1990-). The 1998-99 edition of the North Carolina Business Directory covers some 300,000 businesses. The North Carolina Manufacturers Directory, covering about 11,000 companies and more than 26,000 personnel, is compiled in cooperation with the N.C. Department of Commerce [24].

Additional Resources:

"Explore and compare and contrast the business environment in Wilmington, North Carolina and Charlotte, North Carolina in the early 1900s by exploring the city directories" Documenting the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. https://docsouth.unc.edu/classroom/lessonplans/gtts/city_directory.html [25]

Manufacturing Directories in the North Carolina Digital Collections:

<http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/search/searchterm/directory%20manufacturing/field/title/mode/all/conn/and/order/nosort/page/1>

[26]

North Carolina City Directories Collection at DigitalNC.org: <http://www.digitalnc.org/collections/city-directories/> [27]

Subjects:

Businesses [3]

Literature [28]

Authors:

Kenzer, Robert C. [29]

Williams, Wiley J. [30]

From:

Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.[31]

1 January 2006 | Kenzer, Robert C.; Williams, Wiley J.

Source URL:<https://www.ncpedia.org/business-directories>

Links

[1] <https://www.ncpedia.org/business-directories> [2] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirwake/id/29343> [3] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/subjects/businesses> [4] <https://archive.org/stream/commercialdirec00unkngoog#page/n37/mode/2up> [5] <https://www.ncpedia.org/fayetteville-0> [6] <https://www.ncpedia.org/geography/wilmington> [7] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirnewhan/id/2031> [8] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirbuncombe/id/2363> [9] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirmeck/id/5342> [10] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/dirdurham/id/5084/rec/2> [11] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirforsyth/id/28670> [12] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dircraven/id/2196> [13] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirwake/id/11686> [14] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirbuncombe/id/11928> [15] <https://www.ncpedia.org/biography/branson-levi> [16] <https://www.ncpedia.org/book-publishing> [17] <http://library.digitalnc.org/cdm/ref/collection/dirnc/id/973> [18] <https://www.ncpedia.org/grocery-stores> [19] <https://www.ncpedia.org/country-stores> [20] <https://www.ncpedia.org/education-public> [21] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/subjects/clergy> [22] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/subjects/physicians> [23] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/subjects/business-leaders> [24] <http://www.ncommerce.com/> [25] https://docsouth.unc.edu/classroom/lessonplans/gtts/city_directory.html [26] <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/search/searchterm/directory%20manufacturing/field/title/mode/all/conn/and/order/nosort/page/1> [27] <http://www.digitalnc.org/collections/city-directories/> [28] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/subjects/literature> [29] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/authors/kenzer-robert-c> [30] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/authors/williams-wiley-j> [31] <https://www.ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/encyclopedia->