

## Coming Soon to the Trail of History!

### Loonis McGlohon

Loonis McGlohon was one of America's most beloved songwriters and jazz pianists. He accompanied several legendary singers including Helen O'Connell, Judy Garland (1964-66), and was musical director for Mabel Mercer (1978-80) and Eileen Farrell (1981-96). Prior to his death from lymphoma in 2002, NationsBank Performance Place in Charlotte's Spirit Square was named the Loonis McGlohon Theatre.

### George and Marie Davis

George Davis was responsible for the Rosenwald School construction program in North Carolina, fundraising to build 787 Schools (26 in Mecklenburg County) for African American children. Marie Davis was the Principal of Charlotte's Fairview Colored School, the first brick African American school in Charlotte, for 32 years until her death in 1945. In 1953 the Marie G. Davis School in Charlotte was named in her honor.

### Romare Bearden

Romare Bearden was born in Charlotte in 1911 and spent summers here with his great grandparents. As an adult artist, much of his art was from his memories of his great-grandparent's house, their store and surrounding neighborhoods. Today many of Romare Bearden's works hang in some of the nation's finest art museums, including the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC.

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO



### Where Is The Trail Of History Located?

The statues are placed along the Little Sugar Creek Greenway between Morehead and 7th Streets running parallel to Kings Drive.



### Where Can You Park?

Public parking is available at 4th Street and South Kings Drive as well as in the Target parking garage on Metropolitan Avenue.

## Additional Artwork on the Little Sugar Creek Greenway

### Artwork Title: *Aquifer*

Artist: Masayuki Nagase

Materials: Granite, Limestone and Marble

Location: Five artworks between Baxter and Morehead streets section of the Little Sugar Creek Greenway

Installed: 2009

For *Aquifer*, Masayuki Nagase created a series of artworks woven throughout the Little Sugar Creek greenway between Baxter and Morehead streets. The sculpture, benches and mosaics that comprise this artwork reference the natural characteristics of the region and focus on themes of Air, Earth and Water.



The centerpiece of Nagase's series is a tall sculpture carved from a granite boulder. The boulder is split into four sections, allowing pedestrians to travel through geologic time. The interiors of the boulder are carved with relief patterns based on the natural phenomena of aquifers, suggesting a body of water that is hidden in the bedrock of the Earth's crust.

### Artwork Title: *Sight Unseen*

Artists: Po Shu Wang and Louise Bertelsen

Materials: Stainless Steel and Music Box Mechanisms

Location: Midtown Park, S. Kings Dr. and Baxter St.

Installed: 2012

*Sight Unseen* is a fusion of art, music and poetry that investigates the universal question of how we all interface with our environment through our senses. The four spherical sculptures were inspired by the similarities between braille and the embossed cylinders found in music box mechanisms. Wang and Bertelsen began their process by writing a poem in response to their experience of Little Sugar Creek Greenway. This poem was translated



into braille and then used to create musical scores for each sculpture. The compositions for each sculpture can be heard by moving the spheres along their railing. The stainless steel sculptures mirror and distort the surrounding landscape, further questioning the role sight plays in our experience of a specific place.

## About the Trail of History

The Trail of History is a privately-funded, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation which receives, identifies, raises funds, selects nationally-recognized bronze sculpturists, and installs life size or larger bronze statues commemorating the lives of important people to the history of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. The statues are dedicated and placed along the Little Sugar Creek Greenway between Morehead and 7th Streets running parallel to Kings Drive. From their locations you can see the City which they helped create. All statues on the Trail of History have been privately funded and represent a diverse and exciting series of individuals. Upon completion, the statues are donated to Mecklenburg County.

This is one of the most creative projects in the entire United States. No others like it exist in other cities. This is a legacy project which our children will visit as part of their education and appreciation for the diversity of people who helped make Charlotte unique.

To learn more or make a donation, visit [charlottetrailofhistory.org](http://charlottetrailofhistory.org).

## Community Sponsors



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100 N Tryon Street, Suite 4700  
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## TOUR MAP & DESCRIPTIONS

[www.charlottetrailofhistory.org](http://www.charlottetrailofhistory.org)

### 1 Thomas Spratt & King Haigler

Thomas “Kanawha” Spratt was among the earliest settlers in this part of the Carolinas. His father, also named Thomas Spratt, purchased land on Twelve Mile Creek, near present-day Fort Mill, SC, in 1750 and later added two plantations. King Haigler was the greatest of the chiefs of the Catawbas and the only one ever called “King.” He presided over his tribe from 1749 until his death in 1763 when he was ambushed and killed by a party of Shawnees. As friends and leaders of their respective peoples, Spratt and Haigler worked together to resolve differences in the Scots-Irish and Indian communities.



George III, local patriots reportedly drafted the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence on May 20th. Captain James Jack, a young tavern keeper, volunteered to take these revolutionary documents on the arduous and dangerous journey to Continental Congress in Philadelphia.



### 10 Thompson Orphanage & Training Institute

The Thompson Orphanage and Training Institute was founded on this spot in 1886. Edwin Augustus Osborne, a descendent of original settlers of Mecklenburg County, became the first superintendent of the orphanage. When it was founded, Thompson Orphanage was on the outskirts of Charlotte and took in orphans from across North Carolina. The 40-acre campus included a functioning farm. Tending the vegetable garden and milking the cows were among the children’s daily chores.



### 6 Dr. Annie Alexander

Dr. Annie Lowrie Alexander blazed a new path for future women when she became the first licensed female physician to practice in North Carolina in 1885, going against the cultural and social norms of the time. Dr. Alexander had medical priviledges at both St. Peter’s Hospital and Presbyterian Hospital forerunners of today’s Atrium and Novant Health. She enjoyed a successful practice for nearly 50 years.



### 14 Phillip Lance Van Every

Phil Van Every was a Charlotte native, prominent businessman, mayor, and civic leader. The third of six brothers, he was the grandson and son of Lance Packing Company founders Philip L. Lance (m. Nancy Henning) and Salem A. Van Every (m. Mary Arnold Lance). Phil’s passion for the Carolinas and civic responsibility inspired him to establish the Philip L. Van Every Foundation in 1961.

### 9 Captain James Jack

On May 19, 1775, a rider raced into Charlottetowne with news of the massacre of colonists by the British at the Battles of Concord and Lexington. Angered at this news and already burdened by the oppressive, unjust laws of King

### 15 William Henry Belk

Starting from a small dry goods store in Monroe, North Carolina, William Henry Belk opened retail stores in Charlotte and other communities across the southeastern United States from the end of the 19th century through the mid-20th century. An innovator in retail methods and business partnerships, he led the Charlotte-based Belk stores to become one of the leading retail enterprises in the southeast. Belk, his wife Mary and their five sons — Henry, Jr., John, Irwin, Henderson, Tom — and daughter, Sarah resided in Charlotte. The John M. Belk Endowment was founded by John in 1995.



### 16 Thaddeus Lincoln Tate

A prominent African-American businessman and civic leader, Thaddeus “Thad” Lincoln Tate made a significant contribution to the Charlotte community in the early to mid-20th century. Tate used his friendships with local white leaders to press for improvements to services for African Americans. He helped found the Brevard Street branch of the public library. Opened in 1904, this was the first free branch of the public library for African Americans in the South.



### 20 James B. Duke

James Buchanan “Buck” Duke, partnering with Dr. Gill Wylie and William States Lee Sr., founded the Charlotte-based Southern Power Company, which became the utility giant

Duke Energy, one of the largest energy companies in the United States. Duke also established The Duke Endowment which transformed Trinity College into Duke University, and is now among the largest private foundations in the country.

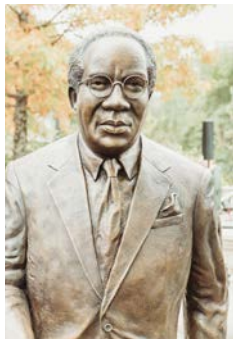
### 21 Jane Renwick Smedberg Wilkes

Jane Renwick Smedberg Wilkes was born on November 22, 1827, in New York City and moved to Charlotte shortly after her marriage to John Wilkes in 1854. During the Civil War, many Confederate wounded were sent to Charlotte, and Jane Wilkes volunteered in the Confederate camp hospitals. After the war, Wilkes led the effort to establish St. Peter’s Hospital and the Good Samaritan Hospital, the state’s first private hospital for African Americans.



### 22 Julius LeVonne Chambers

Julius LeVonne Chambers was born on October 6, 1936, in Mount Gilead, North Carolina. He was an American lawyer, Civil Rights leader, and educator. His desire to pursue a career in law was fueled by a discrimination incident when his father’s auto repair business became a target of racial injustice in 1948. In 1984, Mr. Chambers left his firm to become director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. He won all eight Civil Rights cases that he represented in the Supreme Court. Devoted to education, he returned to his alma mater, North Carolina Central University, to serve as chancellor from 1993 to 2001.



SCAN ME