

October 28, 2025 v2

# **Blue Utopias: Utopian Dreams on Sea and Shore**

## **The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Society for Utopian Studies**



View of Atlantic Ocean from Wrightsville Beach Copyright: Brownie Harris Productions

**October 30 to November 1, 2025**

**Trailborn Surf and Sound Resort  
Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, USA**

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## Keynote Speaker

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Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Hester Blum, Lynne Cooper Harvey Distinguished Professor of English at Washington University in St. Louis.

Her keynote address is entitled: “Polar Erratics: In and Out of Place in Circumpolar Seas.” She is the author of *The News at the Ends of the Earth: The Print Culture of Polar Exploration* (Duke 2019) and *The View from the Masthead: Maritime Imagination and Antebellum American Sea Narratives* (UNC 2008), as well as the editor of the Oxford edition of Herman Melville’s *Moby-Dick* (2022), among other volumes.

She has participated in several research expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctica, and her awards include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation.

# Welcome to SUS 2025!

Utopian visions of the oceans and shores of our planet and beyond have long excited the human imagination. These “Blue Utopias” include the myth of Atlantis, tales of castaways, the dream of the sea as a garden, modern proposals for undersea living, current plans for floating cities of capitalist freedom, and more. Since the work of Thomas More, whose utopia is an island, the sea and the shore have provided a canvas for new spaces, new places and new people. Oceans are highways of purposeful movement that bring dreamers to those new places and new peoples. Space, once called the “final frontier,” provides an unlimited ocean and limitless shores on which to project utopian dreams. Of course, historically these dreams have often been dystopian for indigenous peoples, who have their own visions of blue utopias whether in Oceania, the Arctic, or elsewhere.

The far and distant shore lends itself to utopian aspiration. Dreams of colonial settlement reflect utopian aspiration even if the reality of such settlements usually belies such visions. Modern migration and the desperate efforts of refugees to escape violence and privation have been couched in dystopian terms for political gain. Popular culture and modern capitalist tourism position the “beach” as a place of liberation, and the vacation resort or cruise ship as a little utopia while ignoring the conditions of exploitation that make these personal utopias possible.

We will reflect on utopian themes that arose in the fertile soil North Carolina and the American Southeast. This region has long been a cradle for utopian dreaming and mythmaking, educational experiments, intentional communities, and planned cities, such as the Lost Colony, “Soul City,” and Black Mountain College.

2025 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Society for Utopian Studies, and we will celebrate! In doing so we will critically address the history, development, and future of the discipline of utopian studies. Today we must ask if the “three faces of utopianism,” seen in literary/cultural works, intentional communities, and social/political theory, can thrive in the face of a reactionary culture and politics?

Be sure to join us Friday afternoon at 3:15 for a special roundtable celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Society for Utopian Studies.

Please note that panels with four presenters are extended by 15 minutes to allow time for discussion.

Remember to visit the conference website (and this program) for information on restaurants and entertainment within walking distance of the Trailborn Resort and in the Wrightsville Beach/Wilmington Area. [Utopian Studies Conference 2025](#). Happy Conferencing!

Peter Stillman  
Local Chair

Mark S. Jendrysik  
Program Chair

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# Conference Schedule

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## Thursday, October 30

<b>Registration</b>	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Lobby
<b>Utopian Studies Editorial Board Meeting</b>	10:00-11:00 a.m. Sunset Room
<b>Steering Committee Meeting</b>	11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Sunset Room
<b>Session 1</b>	<b>12:45-2:30 pm</b>
<b>1.1 Radical Futures</b>	
Chair: Mark Jendrysik, University of North Dakota	Sunrise 2 (AV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jared Rusnak, University of Pennsylvania <i>Mars Has Already Been Colonized: Critically Examining Extraterrestrial "Island" Utopias</i></li><li>• Matthew Hodgetts, Case Western Reserve University <i>The Conservatopia of Project 2025's America</i></li><li>• Adam Goldsmith, Northwestern University <i>The Right-Wing Has No Future: A Politico-Aesthetic Contrast of Utopian Horizons</i></li><li>• Hailey Gilles, Temple University Beasley School of Law <i>There is No [Useful] Right-Wing Utopia: Justice as a Dispositive Factor in the Disciplined Use of Utopian Language</i></li></ul>	
<b>1.2 Roundtable: Fragility and Resilience: Libraries as Eutopian Spaces</b>	
Chair: Toby Widdicombe, University of Alaska Anchorage	Sunrise 1 (AV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Page Brannon, University of Alaska Anchorage</li><li>• Taylor Keister, University of Alaska Anchorage</li><li>• Toby Widdicombe, University of Alaska Anchorage</li><li>• Elizabeth Schreiber-Byers, Library of Congress</li></ul>	
<b>Break</b>	<b>2:30-2:45 p.m.</b>

**Session 2 (Thursday)**

**2:45-4:15 p.m.**

**2.1 Serious Games**

Chair: Thomas Horan, The Citadel

Sunrise 1 (AV)

- Brian Greenspan, Carleton University  
*“Why Chase the Past?: Educating Desire with Extended Reality*
- Robert Seguin, Hartwick College  
*Inside or Outside?: Ambiguities of the Enclave in Playground and Severance*
- Haoze Guan, Columbia University  
*Counter Non-places: Playtime Beyond Abstraction and Control*

**2.2 Roundtable: Collaborative Writing and Utopia in Dark Times**

Sunrise 2 (AV)

- Edward Chan, Waseda University
- Patricia Ventura, Spelman College
- Grace Chubb, Notre Dame of Maryland University

**Break**

**4:15-4:30 p.m.**

**Session 3**

**4:30-6:00 p.m.**

**3.1 Roundtable: Utopia in Dark Times: Responses to Phillip Wegner’s 2020 book *Invoking Hope***

Chair: Kate Haffey, University of Mary Washington

Sunrise 1 (AV)

Sean Grattan, Quincy University  
Robert Tally, Texas State University  
Jason James, University of Mary Washington

Respondent: Phillip Wegner, University of Florida

**Reception and Cash Bar**

**6:00-8:00 p.m.**  
**Event Lawn**

# Friday, October 31

<b>Breakfast</b>	<b>7:30-8:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Registration</b>	<b>8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.</b> <b>Lobby</b>
<b>Session 4</b>	<b>8:30-10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>4.1 Seeking Utopia/Dystopia in Popular Culture (1)</b>	
Chair: Maria Rippon, Furman University	Sunrise 1 (AV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cassandra Luca, Duke University <i>Laura Aguilar, extractive capital, and the landscapes of digital archives in Yxta Maya Murray's Art is Everything</i></li><li>• Amy Taylor, University of Auckland <i>The Breakfast Buffet at the End of the World: The White Lotus and the Leisure Dystopia</i></li><li>• L. Lamar Wilson, Florida State University <i>"Somebody Take Me in Your Arms Tonight?": On Sinners, Sula and the Embrace of Jukin Madness in the Black Bottom</i></li></ul>	
<b>4.2 Utopian Islands?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair: Ashley Moser, Universität Konstanz</li></ul>	Sunrise 2 (AV)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anupama Pilbrow, University of New South Wales <i>Tidal Technologies in Thomas More's Utopia: A Surprising Voyage on the River Anydrus</i></li><li>• Carie Schneider, Cameron University <i>Dreams of Lemuria</i></li><li>• Rosemary Millar, University of North Carolina School of the Arts <i>Two Views of the Island in the Sun: Utopia/nism in the Colonial Imagination</i></li></ul>	
<b>4.3 Belonging in Utopia and Dystopia</b>	<b>8:30-10:00 a.m.</b>
Chair: Jeana DelRosso, Notre Dame of Maryland University	Sunset
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grace Chubb, Notre Dame of Maryland University <i>Fighting Against the Current(s): New Baptisms, Old Rituals in Naomi Alderman's The Power</i></li><li>• Clint Jones, Capital University <i>Is Batman an Utopian or Dystopian Agent in Gotham City?</i></li></ul>	
<b>Break</b>	<b>10:00-10:15 a.m.</b>

## Session 5 (Friday)

10:15-12:00 p.m.

### 5.1 Irish Utopia/Dystopia

- Chair: Rosemary Millar, University of North Carolina School of the Arts Sunrise 1 (AV)
- Patrick Bixby, Arizona State University  
*Dystopia and the Promise of the Sea: Paul Lynch's Irish*
- Miriam Mara, Arizona State University  
*Dystopian Island, Utopian Sea? Sarah Griffin's Spare and Found Parts*
- Jose Francisco Fernandez, Universidad de Almeria  
*The Geography of Despondency: Kevin Barry's City of Bohane*

### 5.2 Intentional and Unintentional Communities

Chair: Rachael Mulvihill, Carnegie Mellon University Sunrise 2 (AV)

- Mark Allison, Ohio Wesleyan University  
*The Peaceful Revolutionist: Josiah Warren and the Story of Utopia, Ohio*
- Elise Poll, Arizona State University  
*With Intention: Three Weeks at Heart-Culture Farm Community in Eugene, Oregon*
- Etta Madden, Missouri State University  
*Biofiction and Lived Communities: Rachel Kushner's Creation Lake (2024)*
- Richard Simpson, University of Maine Presque Isle  
*Infrastructures of Transiency: On the Urbanism of Cruise Ships*

### 5.3 Utopian Theory (1)

Chair: Olivia Conway, Duke University Sunset

- Graeme Pente, Independent Scholar  
*"By means loyal, legal, and pacific": The Impact of the French Revolution on Utopian Socialists' Theories of Change*
- Denis Grele, University of Memphis  
*No Families, No Property, No Gods: A Radical Utopia in 18<sup>th</sup> Century France*
- James Hawthorne, University of Rochester  
*Utopian Bowel Syndrome*

**Lunch on your own**

**12:00-1:30 p.m.**

## Session 6 (Friday)

1:30-3:00 p.m.

### 6.1 Roundtable: Teaching Hope in the Shadow of Dystopia

Chair: Ron Haas, Texas State University

Sunrise 1 (AV)

- Ellen Risby, St. Mary's College of California
- Addison Boozer, University of Arizona
- Claire Corbeaux, University of Rochester

### 6.2 Utopian/Dystopian Transformations

Chair: Phillip Wegner, University of Florida

Sunrise 2 (AV)

- Madeline Belland, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
*"She was a completely new thing": Creating a Utopian Vision in Rivers Solomon's The Deep*
- Jeana DelRosso, Notre Dame of Maryland University  
*"The voice always did have a Biblical way with it": Utopian and Religion in Naomi Alderman's The Power*
- Hannah Rudderham, University of Ottawa  
*"One Immense Deluge": Henry Percy Blanchard's After the Cataclysm: A Romance of the Age to Come (1909) as an Early Work of Canadian Climate Fiction*

### 6.3 The Human Condition in Dystopian Times (1)

Chair: Mark Allison, Ohio Wesleyan University

Sunset

- Jennifer Wagner-Lawlor, Penn State University  
*"No Island is an Island": The Fragile Sovereignty of Home in Paul Harding's This Other Eden*
- Maria Rippon, Furman University  
*From Myopia to Hyperopia: The Search for Acuity in Bueso's Cenital, McCarthy's The Road, and Lynch's Prophet Song*
- Chiara Xausa, University of Bologna/University of Idaho/Ghent University  
*Aquatic Ecotransfeminist and Decolonial Metamorphoses: Rivers Solomon's The Deep and Ada M. Peterson's Broken from the Colony*

## Break

3:00-3:15 p.m.

## Session 7: Special Roundtable

### Looking Backward and Forward: SUS at 50

3:15-4:45

Chair: Edward Chan, Waseda University

Sunrise 1 (AV)

- Kenneth Roemer, University of Texas-Arlington
- Peter Sands, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Lyman Tower Sargent, University of Missouri-St. Louis

## Break

4:45-5:30 p.m.

### Keynote: Dr. Hester Blum, Washington University in St. Louis

*"Polar Erratics: In and Out of Place in Circumpolar Seas."*

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Dessert & coffee provided

Sunrise 1 (AV)

# Saturday, November 1

- Breakfast** **7:30-8:30 a.m.**
- Registration** **8:30-11:45 a.m.**  
Lobby
- Session 8**
- 8.1 Countercultures as Utopian Spaces** **8:15-10:00 a.m.**  
Chair: Ken Roemer, University of Texas at Arlington  
Sunrise 1 (AV)
- Ron Haas, Texas State University  
*Perspectives on Counterculture and Utopia*
  - Addison Boozer, University of Arizona  
*Tracing Bass Culture Across the Black Atlantic: Or, How I Learned to Love Dubstep*
  - Ashley Garcia, Baker University  
*Utopian Dating: Personal Ads in Nineteenth Century Radical Reform Periodicals*
  - Tamara Swift, Independent Scholar  
*Is an Alternative Governance System Possible or Utopia?*
- 8.2 Techno-Radicalism** **8:30-10:00 a.m.**  
Chair: Mike Kleyman, Duke University  
Sunrise 2 (AV)
- Ellen Rigsby, St. Mary's College of California  
*Anti Human Authoritarianism*
  - Gerry Canavan, Marquette University  
*Butlerian Jihad Now! Generative AI at the End of the World*
  - Olivia Conway, Duke University  
*Futures of Salt and Sea: Imagining Human Potential in a Warming World*
- Break** **10:00-10:15 a.m.**
- Session 9** **10:15-11:45 a.m.**
- 9.1 Utopian/Dystopian Ways of Seeing and Hearing**
- Chair: Claire Corbeaux, University of Rochester  
Sunrise 1 (AV)
  - Katerina Canyon, Mississippi University for Women  
*Speculative Sentience: Storytelling, Empathy, and AI's Emotional Grammar*
  - Megan Gallagher, University of Alabama  
*Silence as Dystopian Technique*
  - Prudence Rees-Lee, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology  
*"Atlantis Anew": Daphne Oram and the Utopian Potential of Electronic Sound*

## 9.2 Enclosing Sea and Shore (Saturday)

Chair: Carie Schneider, Cameron University

Sunrise 2 (AV)

- Abe Walker, Fayetteville State University  
*"A Perfect Line Across the Ocean": Nautical Dystopia in Pynchon's Mason & Dixon*
- Joeri Verbesselt, University of Leuven  
*Floating Between Talking Fish and Images of the Seawilding Utopia*
- Steve Liu, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill  
*Limits and Littorals: (Re)framing Societal Boundaries for Post-Growth Futures*

## 9.3 Debating the Future

Chair: Brian Greenspan, Carleton University

Sunset

- Susan Hegeman, University of Florida  
*Where's my Flying Car?: The Graeber-Thiel Debate and the Politics of Futurity*
- Mindy Cardozo, Santa Fe College  
*Debt as Negative Hallucination: Gold and Rules in Karen Russell's "The Gondoliers"*
- John Mark Robison, Santa Fe College  
*"The World's Unknowns as Precious Possibility": Finding New Futures through Utopian Fiction in Metaphor Refantazio*

## Business Lunch

**11:45am-1:15 p.m.**  
**Tides Ballroom**

## Session 10

**1:30pm-3:15 p.m.**

### 10.1 Theory and Practice in Literary Utopia

- Chair: Jennifer Wagner-Lawlor, Penn State University  
Sunrise 1 (AV)
- Claire Curtis, College of Charleston  
*Realistic Utopia, Rawls, and the Wayfarer Series*
- Csaba Toth, Carlow University  
*North of the Usmacinta River: B. Traven, Logging Companies and Chiapas Utopias*
- Bert Clere, Durham Technical Community College  
*Island Paradise Lost: Voodoo and Disruption in Henry S. Whitehead's Weird Tales*
- Julie Conger, Morgan State University  
*A Distant Shora: The Ocean Utopia of Slonczewski's A Door into Ocean*

### 10.2 Confronting Kim Stanley Robinson

Chair: Katerina Canyon, Mississippi University for Women

Sunrise 2 (AV)

- Ashley Moser, Universität Konstanz  
*Alien Shores: Planetary Dark Ecology and Blue Utopianism in Kim Stanley Robinson's Aurora*
- Michael Larson, Keio University  
*Theorizing the Gap: Problematizing the Utopian Trench in Kim Stanley Robinson's "Mars" Trilogy*
- Mike Kleynman, Duke University  
*Filling The Trench: The Utopian Break in Kim Stanley Robinson's Later Novels*
- Rachael Mulvihill, Carnegie Mellon University  
*Drowned Futures: Littoral Utopias and Capitalist Ruins in New York 2140*

### 10.3 The Human Condition in Dystopian Times (2) (Saturday)

Chair: Gerry Canavan, Marquette University

Sunset

- Adam Kesler, Florida State University  
*Barbie, Poor Things, Lisa Frankenstein and the Transhuman Condition: A Personal Essay of Transbodied Care*
- Claire Corbeaux, University of Rochester  
*Queering Reproduction Through the Utopian Horizon of the Shoreline in the Works of Gloria Anzaldúa and Audre Lorde*
- Thomas Horan, The Citadel  
*Artificial Intelligence and Post-Humanism in Morna Pearson's Darklands*

### Break

**3:30-3:45 p.m.**

### Session 11

**3:45-5:15pm**

#### 11.1 Seeking Utopia/Dystopia in Popular Culture (2)

Chair: Megan Gallagher, University of Alabama

Sunrise 1 (AV)

- Nathan Stelari, University of Florida  
*Water and Anti-Utopia in the Films of Rick Alverson*
- Phillip Wegner, University of Florida  
*The Utopian Impulse in "Story of Your Life" and Arrival*
- Eric Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville  
*The Myth of the West and Brechtian Dialectics in Michael Cimino's Heaven's Gate*

#### 11.2 Utopian Theory (2)

Chair: Claire Curtis, College of Charleston

Sunrise 2 (AV)

- Larry Krasnoff, College of Charleston  
*What is Utopian in Rawls' Realistic Utopia?*
- Daniel Conway, Texas A&M University  
*Brown is the new blue: The Rejection of Adaptive Utopia in Dune*
- Kerry Koitzsch, Image as Big Data Systems LLC  
*Utopian, Oceanic and Terrestrial Boundaries in the Works of Johann Reuchlin, Erasmus and Thomas More: A Comparison*

**See you next year in Eugene, Oregon!**

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# Hotel and Area Information

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Conference Hotel: [Trailborn Surf and Sound](#)

Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach Tourist Information:

<https://www.wilmingtonandbeaches.com/about/area-information/vic/>

<https://wrightsville-beach.wilmingtonandbeaches.com/about/island-info/visitor-information-center/>

## Historical Sites in the Greater Wilmington Area:

General website: <https://www.wilmingtonandbeaches.com/things-to-do/attractions-and-activities/history/wilmington/>

## Inside information from our Local Chair:

Wrightsville Beach is a barrier island with the ocean to the east and a bay, called locally 'The Sound' or 'Banks Channel' to the west, with about a mile of marshland and the Intracoastal Waterway before you get to the mainland.

It is primarily a summer beach resort, and swimming should be excellent (and the ocean water warm) at the end of October, whether in the ocean or the Trailborn's pool. The beach is nice and sandy, generally with smooth conditions in the morning and then slightly choppy conditions as the breeze picks up in the afternoon. In addition, you can rent paddleboards, kayaks (it is fun to kayak through the marsh), and sailboats and motorboats.

If you are coming with children, you can e-mail [stillman@vassar.edu](mailto:stillman@vassar.edu) for suggested itineraries.

Walking on the beach is a great pastime. There are also many boat tours available during the day or the evening: I like Wrightsville Beach Scenic Tours.

There is a level sidewalk jogging trail, called The Loop, 2.5 miles long, which you can pick up with a short (less than half-mile) walk up to Breeza's (if you walk along the beach, go inland at Station One condos, tall white buildings whose construction led to new zoning laws); The Loop is not marked, but cross the bridge on the north side and stay on the sidewalk as it completes a circle.

Breeza's is in the TOWB's central business district, such as it is. There are two good restaurants here, Tower 7 (Mexican) and South Beach Grill. Also, a much-loved hot dog stand, The Trolley Stop, which is just boiled dogs and a variety of fun toppings -- it is about the only place, other than Nathan's on the New Jersey Turnpike, where I eat hog dogs. Roberts' Market's deli has the best Southern fried chicken; it is not on display, you have to ask for it.

The best local (not Wilmington) restaurant is the Bridge Tender, about a five-minute drive (but for me a too-long walk) from the Trailborn. I like to sit outside and watch the birds and the boating activity.

If you wish to travel a little from the beach, I recommend:

Masonboro Island, the barrier island just south of Wrightsville, which is an uninhabited nature preserve. You need to take a boat to get there (see Wrightsville Beach Scenic Tours, among others).

Airlie Gardens can be spectacular, although the end of October must be the low season for a garden (the impressive grounds and trees are nonetheless worthwhile); it is an eight minute drive.

Wilmington is about a 25 minute drive away. Walking or driving around downtown and the historic district is interesting: after 1865, Wilmington became an isolated backwater until intrastate banking and I-40 re-connected it to the rest of the state, and so many older homes and buildings are still standing. Wilmington had an active film industry in this century, and earlier 'Matlock' was produced here. It is now bustling with UNC-Wilmington and high tech industries.

You can also take a trolley tour from Wilmington Trolley Tours (do not believe everything the guides tell you), or a boat trip from Wilmington Water Tours (which I find fascinating: it goes north where you can see the remnants -- the irrigation canals -- of pre-Civil War rice plantations or south where you can see where the port and shipyards were active, especially building Liberty Ships, during World War II). You can visit some fine old houses (including the Bellamy Mansion, completed in 1859-60), and the battleship USS North Carolina. There is a tourist office at the bottom of Market Street, on the river.

Searching the web produces good results: I like <https://wrightsville-beachnc.com/> as well as TripAdvisor.

Arriving into Wrightsville Beach and the Trailborn:

Most will fly into ILM, where you can rent a car or take a taxi (the taxi stand is just outside the Baggage Claim room, just on the left). the airport is undergoing construction, and so just follow the signs. The walk to ground transportation is less than five minutes; there is also a shuttle. In our experience, Ubers work but can be more expensive. A taxi from the airport to the hotel costs about \$40 before tip; if you share a taxi to the same destination, you can split the bill.

The whole conference and your experience can be contained in the Trailborn hotel.

You can also fly into RDU and rent a car there; it is about a 2.5 hour drive, easy driving on I-40, to Wilmington and then following the signs to Wrightsville Beach.

## Some sites of interest to the Program Chair:

### **Bellamy Mansion Museum of History & Design Arts**

One of North Carolina's most spectacular examples of early 1800s architecture, tour the exquisitely restored 10,000-square-foot house and re-created grounds boasting one of the few preserved urban slave quarters in the country. The mansion does not boast a pure architectural style, but shares elements of Greek Revival, Neoclassical and Italianate styles. Originally built in 1861 as a prominent family's residence, this museum now features changing exhibits.

<https://www.bellamymansion.org/>

### **Fort Fisher**

Until the last few months of the Civil War, Fort Fisher kept North Carolina's port of Wilmington open to blockade-runners supplying necessary goods to Confederate armies inland. By 1865, the supply line through Wilmington was the last remaining supply route open to Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia. When Ft. Fisher fell after a massive U.S. amphibious assault on January 15, 1865, its defeat helped seal the fate of the Confederacy

<https://historicsites.nc.gov/all-sites/fort-fisher>

### **1898 Memorial Park**

The 1898 Memorial Park commemorates the coup d'état that took place on November 10, 1898 in which prominent white citizens of Wilmington overthrew the legally elected biracial government of the city. It is the only coup d'etat in U.S. history, and killed an unknown number of black residents. The park was dedicated November 8, 2008.

<https://www.wilmingtonnc.gov/Parks-Recreation/Parks-Trails/1898-Memorial-Park>

### **Moore's Creek National Battlefield**

At Moores Creek Bridge a brief, violent clash at daybreak on February 27, 1776, saw patriots defeat a larger force of loyalists marching toward a rendezvous with a British naval squadron. Brief but important, the battle effectively ended royal authority in the North Carolina colony and stalled a full-scale British invasion of the South. The patriot victory emboldened North Carolina, on April 12, 1775, to instruct its delegation to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia to vote for independence from Britain. It was the first American colony to do so.

<https://npshistory.com/publications/mocr/index.htm>

### **Battleship USS North Carolina**

Battleship *NORTH CAROLINA* participated in every major naval offensive in the Pacific theater of operations during World War II, earning 15 battle stars. This authentically restored National Historic Landmark proudly serves as her State's World War II Memorial to the 11,000+ North Carolinians who made the ultimate sacrifice.

<https://battleshipnc.com/>

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