



PRESERVATION
NORTH CAROLINA
SAVING PLACES THAT MATTER SINCE 1939

FRANKLIN COUNTY RAMBLE

MAY 16, 2026



10:00-12:00 Pre-Ramble Tours

Perry's School: 2226 Laurel Mill-Centerville Road, Centerville, NC 27549

Woodleaf Plantation: 861 NC-561 Highway, Louisburg, NC 27549

1:00-3:30 Louisburg Ramble

Visit sites in any order you like! This program will serve as your access ticket. Please keep it with you throughout the day.

3:30-5:30 Closing Reception

Close out your day with exclusive access to the Shemuel Kearney House and Jones Cooke House: 1447 Peach Orchard Road, Louisburg, NC 27549

SITES ON TOUR

1A



1B



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9 & 10



SITES ON TOUR


Denotes PNC
Protected Properties



10:00-12:00 PRE-RAMBLE TOURS

1A: Perry's School 2226 Laurel Mill-Centerville Road, Centerville, NC 27549

See *Preservation in Progress* at this rural community landmark. Originally established in 1884, Perry's School partnered with the Rosenwald Fund in 1928. The complex today consists of four historic buildings, including the 1941 Colonial Revival style frame building and the 1963 gable-roofed brick gymnasium.

 **1B: Woodleaf Plantation** 861 NC-561 Highway, Louisburg, NC 27549

Constructed as a one-story Federal cottage, perhaps as early as 1820, the house was expanded with a rear ell and a second floor. The grounds contain a remarkable number of outbuildings.


1:00-3:30 REGISTRATION & RAMBLE [REGISTRATION DESK HOURS 12:30-3:00]

2: St. Paul's Episcopal Church & Rectory 305 N. Church Street, Louisburg, NC 27549

This notable 1901 Gothic Revival-style building was designed by Barrett & Thomson Architects of Raleigh as the congregation's second structure, replacing their 1853 sanctuary.

 **3: Old Methodist Parsonage (The Music House)** 201 N. Church Street, Louisburg, NC 27549

With unusual side-by-side entrances, architectural evidence points to its first iteration as two individual structures. This narrative positions it among the oldest houses in Louisburg.

 **4: Collie-Best-Taylor House** 209 N. Main Street, Louisburg, NC 27549


This house is representative of a symmetrical Neoclassical style, with a central hall, beaded tongue and groove wainscoting, paneled and molded doors, and Victorian mantels.

5: Louisburg Baptist Church 302 N. Main Street, Louisburg, NC 27549

Erected 1901-1904, also by Barrett & Thomson Architects of Raleigh, the facade is a happy jumble of Romanesque details, and stands as a pleasant contrast to the Gothic designs of surrounding churches.

6: Louisburg United Methodist Church 210 N. Church Street, Louisburg, NC 27549

Each window was financed by patrons who dedicated contributions in honor of members - including one dedicated to Nicholas Bryar Massenburg of Woodleaf Plantation from our Pre-Ramble site!

 **7: The Wheless House** 106 John Street, Louisburg, NC 27549

Prolific Raleigh architect G. Milton Small, Jr. - responsible for WRAL Studios among many other Mid-century Modern Triangle masterpieces - was commissioned by Lois and Thomas Wheless in 1954 to build this futuristic private home.

8: Nicholson-Bickett-Taylor House 621 N. Main Street, Louisburg, NC 27549

Built 1897, this handsome home of Italianate and Queen Anne styles was once the residence of NC Governor Thomas Bickett, and later served Louisburg College presidents. The current homeowners have undergone an extensive renovation to bring it lovingly into the 21st century.

3:30-5:30 RECEPTION

 **9 & 10: Shemuel Kearney House & Jones Cooke House**

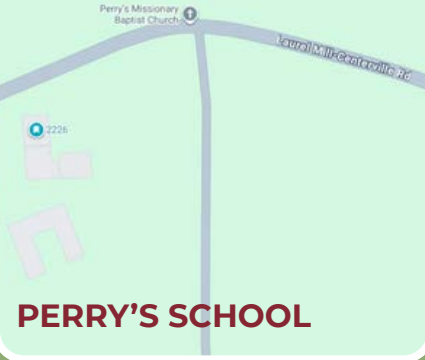
1447 Peach Orchard Road, Louisburg, NC 27549

Drive south of town to close out the day at the spectacular homes of Rod Perry and Gordon Plummer who have carefully preserved not one, but two significant historic properties: the Jones Cooke House (1790/1841) and the Shemuel Kearney House (1758). Tour both houses and enjoy light refreshments with PNC staff and Ramble guests.



SCAN FOR EXPANDED
PROPERTY HISTORIES!

1A

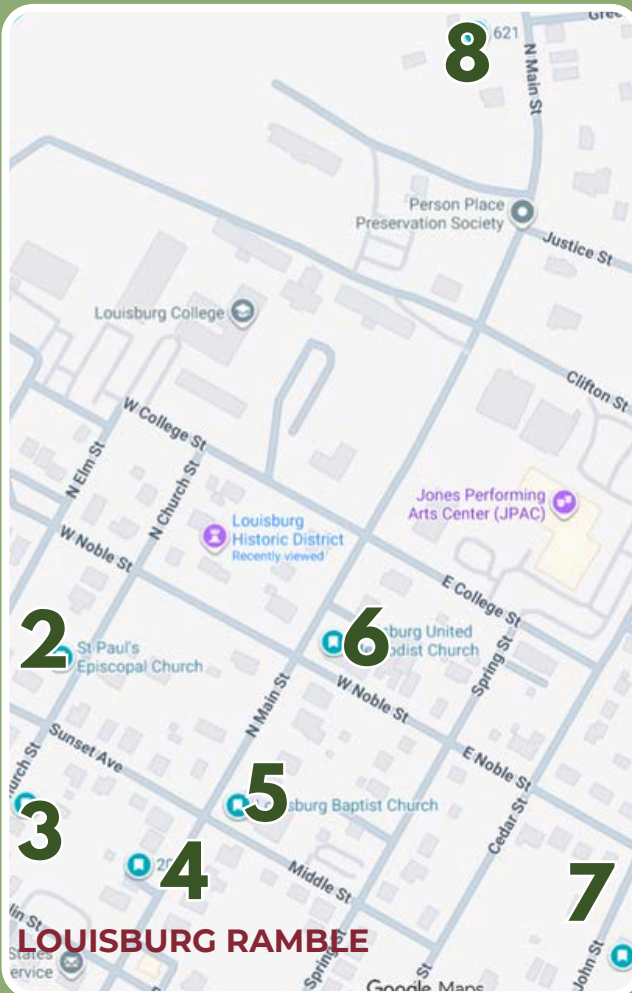


PERRY'S SCHOOL

1B



WOODLEAF PLANTATION



8

2

6

3

5

7

LOUISBURG RAMBLE

9 & 10

CLOSING RECEPTION

PRE-RAMBLE TOURS 10:00-12:00

1A: Perry's School

1B: Woodleaf Plantation

LOUISBURG RAMBLE 1:00-3:30

2: St. Paul's Episcopal Church & Rectory

3: Old Methodist Parsonage/The Music House

4: Collie-Best-Taylor House

5: Louisburg Baptist Church

6: Louisburg United Methodist Church

7: The Wheless House

8: Nicholson-Bickett-Taylor House

CLOSING RECEPTION 3:30-5:30

9: Shemuel Kearney House

10: Jones Cooke House

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

SILVER



BRONZE



FRIEND

