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TOUR CHARLOTTE'S BEAUTIFUL HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS THIS SPRING

The Charlotte Museum of History Invites the Public to a Series of Free Walking Tours Featuring Historic Charlotte Neighborhoods

CHARLOTTE, N.C., April 4, 2016 – This spring, [The Charlotte Museum of History](http://www.charlottemuseum.org) is offering a series of free neighborhood walking tours in historic areas of the city, including Elizabeth and NoDa.

Kickoff Lecture: Charlotte Then and Now

The series kicks off with a special lecture and reception on Thursday, April 7, from 6-7:30 pm, at The Charlotte Museum of History, 3500 Shamrock Drive.

The lecture will feature Brandon Lunsford, archivist at Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU) and author of "Charlotte Then and Now," a book that uses vintage photos to chronicle Charlotte's journey from a small crossroads village in the 1800s to today's city of skyscrapers and construction cranes. Lunsford has a master's degree in public history from UNC-Charlotte and worked at The Charlotte Museum of History and the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Historic Landmarks Commission before joining JCSU.

Lunsford will discuss the evolution of Charlotte's historic built environment through photos and stories. A reception will follow. The event is open to the public. Tickets are \$5 or free for Museum members. [Registration is at charlottemuseum.org](http://www.charlottemuseum.org).

"The Charlotte Museum of History exists to engage people with our region's history through the stories of its people, places and events. As a result of our merger with Historic Charlotte in January, we are more focused than ever on preservation and education around the built environment," said Kay Peninger, president and CEO of The Charlotte Museum of History. "By taking our programs out into the city, we believe we can engage more people with our city's history and help create a sense of shared community."

Free Walking Tours

Neighborhood walking tours in The Charlotte Museum of History's series are free and open to the public. [Registration is required](http://www.charlottemuseum.org). Each tour is one hour long and will be led by a neighborhood resident or other expert on the area. A reception will follow each tour at a local restaurant or bar. Attendees are encouraged to wear comfortable walking shoes.



Elizabeth – Friday, April 22, at 6 p.m.

[The historic Elizabeth neighborhood](#) is Charlotte's second streetcar suburb and the location of the city's first public park. The tour begins at [Earl's Grocery](#), 1609 Elizabeth Ave., and a reception will follow at Earl's immediately after the tour.

NoDa – Saturday, May 7, at 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

[NoDa is an eclectic arts district and community](#) that began as a mill village. The tour begins at [Heist Brewery](#), 2909 N. Davidson St. A reception will follow at Heist immediately after the tour.

Additional neighborhood tours will be added for this spring. Check [the Museum's Web site](#) for the latest dates and tours.

To register for the "Charlotte Then and Now" lecture or a neighborhood walking tour, visit [charlottemuseum.org](#).

The neighborhood tours in May are part of the City Walks initiative, led by UNC-Charlotte's Urban Institute. City Walks are a series of free neighborhood walks that put people in touch with their community and their neighbors. City Walks will take place throughout May 2016. People are encouraged to organize and lead walks in neighborhoods where they live, work or hang out. Visit [plancharlotte.org](#) for more information.

NoDa Drinks & Thinks – Thursday, April 21, at 6 p.m.

In addition to the lecture and neighborhood tours, a Drinks & Thinks event will be held at [The Evening Muse in NoDa](#), 3227 N. Davidson St., on Thursday, April 21, at 6 p.m. The event is produced by the NoDa Neighborhood & Business Association's Back in the Day History Committee. It will feature John Howard of Charlotte's Historic District Commission and Mary Newsom of UNC-Charlotte's Urban Institute. They will discuss how a city's built environment makes it livable and vibrant, ideas that were pioneered by author and activist Jane Jacobs. This event is free. No registration needed.

About The Charlotte Museum of History

Founded in 1969, The Charlotte Museum of History and Hezekiah Alexander Home (built circa 1774) and Home Site comprise multiple venues on an eight-acre wooded campus in east Charlotte. The Museum offers educational programming on site and throughout the community that explores the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, events, ideas, built environment and artifacts.

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