Personal Outdoor Adventures Trip Plan
Durham Historic Sites
Historic Stagville
Day Trip

Location Information

5828 Old Oxford Highway | Durham, NC 27712 |
GPS: 36.1199364, -78.8366089

Facilities – Restrooms & Picnic Area
Cost - Free
Contact Info - (919) 620-0120 | stagville@ncdcr.gov
Hours - 9:00am – 5:00pm | Tuesday through Saturday | Guided tours go out at 11am, 1pm, and 3pm. Self-guided tours are also available during opening hours

Area Information

Historic Stagville is a state historic site that includes the remnants of one of the largest plantations in North Carolina. The Bennehan-Cameron family owned approximately 30,000 acres of land, and claimed ownership over about 900 people who were enslaved on this property. Stagville protects a fraction of the land from that plantation, including original slave quarters (1851), a massive barn (1860), and a Bennehan family house (1787-1799). Stagville is dedicated to teaching about the lives and work of enslaved people on the plantation.

Considerations

- To tour Stagville, you must have a car or other vehicle! If you arrive by Uber or Lyft, we cannot guarantee transportation to all parts of the site.
- Due to limited staffing and increased visitation, we are sometimes unable to give a tour on the hour. Please call ahead to ensure that a tour will be given at a particular hour.
- Closed Sunday, Monday, and most major holidays
- $2 donation recommended for guided tours of the site. Admission to the site and self-guided tours are free. Self-guided tour pamphlets and audio tour are available for free.
The following risk management plan outlines potential hazards and how to decrease those hazards. This is only a list of potential hazards and does not include everything. You are responsible for your own safety and use your best judgment when making decisions. It is recommended to carry a first aid kit and inform a friend or family member of your planned location, activity, and when you will return.

### Potential Hazards

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<tr>
<th>Poor weather conditions including but not limited to thunderstorms, lightning, rain, wind, and/or snow</th>
<th>Check the weather forecast before starting the activity and be prepared for changing weather conditions</th>
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| Exposure to the Elements | **Heat/Sun** – Wear sunscreen and reapply frequently. Drink hydrating liquids, get in the water to cool down, and take breaks in the shade  
**Cold** – Wear appropriate clothing, stay hydrated, and warm up in sheltered areas |
| Environmental Hazards | Always check trail conditions and stay on the trail. Be aware of dead branches and tripping hazards such as roots, rocks, and stumps |
| Flora and Fauna | Be aware of poison ivy, wear bug spray to deter mosquitos, chiggers, and ticks, and be conscious of copperhead snakes |

### Nearest Emergency Facilities

- Duke Regional Hospital | 3643 N Roxboro Street | Durham, NC 27704
Historic Information

The plantation holdings of the Bennehan-Cameron families were among the largest in pre-Civil War North Carolina, and among the largest of the entire South. By 1860, the family owned almost 30,000 acres and nearly 900 slaves. Stagville, a plantation of several thousand acres, lay at the center of this enormous estate.

Today, Historic Stagville’s property consists of 71 acres, separated in three tracts. On this land stand numerous original structures including:
- the late 18th-century Bennehan family plantation home
- four two-story, four-room enslaved family dwellings
- a pre-Revolutionary War yeoman farmer’s home
- a massive timber framed barn, known as the Great Barn and,
- the Bennehan Family cemetery

When touring the site it is important to remember that most of the early landscape has been significantly altered over time. Remaining landscape features include:
- the old road bed located to the right of the Bennehan House
- numerous Osage Orange trees and other historic plantings
- the foundation remains of several dependencies
- the foundation remains of an enslaved family dwelling

The Bennehan and Cameron families left immense collections of personal and business papers in two local repositories: The Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the North Carolina State Archives. These surviving family letters and documents provide detailed accounts of activities on the plantation and greatly enhance our understanding of life on Stagville plantation lands in North Carolina, Mississippi and Alabama. We continue to use these resources extensively as we refine the interpretation of Historic Stagville.

Stagville has been nationally recognized as a significant historic resource; the Bennehan House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, and Horton Grove was registered in 1978.
Packing List

This is a suggested packing list. Please use your best judgment and check the weather when deciding what to pack.

- Reusable Water Bottles
- Map of the Area
- First Aid Kit
- Medication if Needed
- Camera
- Sun Hat
- Sunscreen
- Rain Jacket (weather dependent)
- Day Pack
- Sunglasses
- Food/Snacks
- Insulating Layer (weather dependent)

Resources

- [Historic Stagville Site Website](#)
- [Historic Stagville Foundation](#)
- [Historic Stageville Facebook Page](#)
- [Leave No Trace Seven Principles](#)
A land acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous Peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous Peoples and their traditional territories.

To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the long standing history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history.

Therefore

We acknowledge that this space gathers on land that has long served as the site of meeting and exchange amongst a number of Indigenous peoples, historically the Shakori, Eno, and Catawba people.

It is also important to recognize the 8 tribes that currently reside in North Carolina, these include the Coharie, Lumbee, Meherrin, Occaneechi Band of the Saponi, Haliwa Saponi, Waccamaw Siouan, Sappony, and the Eastern Band of Cherokee. We honor and respect the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this territory on which we gather.

For more information please visit Native Land, Whose Land, and the Native Governance Center.