

# Weather Bureau/National Weather Service History in North Carolina

Location	Type	Years	Details
<b>Asheville</b>	WBO RDO WBAS WSO	1902-1996	<p>A Weather Bureau office opened in August 1902 at the Drhumor Building, then moved to the library the next year, the Legal Building in 1910, and the Post Office in 1931. The office began issuing river and fire weather forecasts in 1941. The office was relocated to the Asheville airport in 1964. Fire weather forecasts were discontinued in 1972, The office was closed in 1996 during the NWS modernization.</p> <p>The National Weather Records Center (forerunner to the National Centers for Environmental Information) was established in 1951, jointly operated by the Weather Bureau, Air Force, and Navy. It incorporated a tabulation unit that had been in New Orleans; the Radiosonde Verification Unit from the Central Office in Washington in 1952; the Northern Hemisphere Historical Map Unit in Suitland, MD in 1955; and Weather Records Processing Centers in Chattanooga, Kansas City, and San Francisco in 1963. It was renamed the National Climate Center in 1970.</p>
<b><a href="#">Cape Hatteras</a></b>	SigSvc WBO WSO	1874-1995	The Army Signal Service established a local weather office in 1874 at the lighthouse keeper's quarters. The Weather Bureau built a new office in 1901. Operations were moved to a new office in 1946, but the old facility remained in use as living quarters for staff. This facility was restored in 2005 and is currently the Hatteras Island Welcome Center. A WSR-57 radar was installed in the 1960's, and remained operational until 1995.
<b>Charlotte</b>	WBO WBAS WSO	1888-1996	The original Weather Bureau offices were downtown, while a separate office was established in 1948 at what is now Charlotte/Douglas International Airport. The facilities were merged in the 1950's. The Charlotte office closed in 1996 when operations were merged with the Greenville-Spartanburg, SC, office.
<b>Greensboro</b>	WBAS WSO	1928-1995	The Weather Bureau opened an airport station in May 1928, then moved to a new location on the airport grounds in 1974. Upper air observations began in 1943. The office was closed in 1995 during the NWS modernization.
<b>Kitty Hawk</b>	WBO	1893-1904	
<b>Manteo</b>	WBO	1904-1929	
<b>Newport</b>	WFO	1995-present	The Newport/Morehead City office was established in the mid 1990's during the NWS modernization.
<b><a href="#">Raleigh</a></b>	SigSvc WBO WBAS RDO WBFO WSFO WFO WSO	1887-present	The first office in Raleigh was a Signal Service station at the North Carolina Experiment Farm; this moved to the Agriculture Building in late 1887, which is where the Weather Bureau took over operations. After a couple other locations, the office moved to the Raleigh Municipal Airport in 1940, then to North Carolina State College in late 1944, while a separate airport operation remained in place. The city office began river forecast operations in 1944. The two offices merged at the airport in 1954. The office was designated as a forecast office in 1969. A WSR-74C radar was commissioned 5/19/1977. The office was relocated back to North Carolina State University in January 1994 as part of the NWS modernization; the airport operations continued for a short time.
<b>Southport</b>	WBO	1893-1894	

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<b>Wilmington</b>	SigSvc WBO WSO WFO	1870-present	The U.S. Army Signal Corp began sending weather observations in downtown Wilmington, NC on Dec 18, 1870. During 1874 the building was moved to the northwest corner of Front & Princess Street. The building was moved to 19 N. Front Street in 1881, then to Fourth and Chestnut Streets in 1890 with the formation of the Weather Bureau in 1891 under the Dept. of Agriculture. During 1931, the Wilmington Weather Bureau moved to the U.S. Customs House Building on Water Street. The Wilmington Weather Bureau moved to the Air-Passenger Terminal at Blumenthal Field (New Hanover County Airport) in 1951. In 1960, WSR-57 radar observations began at the airport. The Weather Bureau was changed to the National Weather Service in 1967 as part of the Environmental Science and Services Administration (which later became the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). In 1979, the National Weather Service in Wilmington moved from the old airport terminal building to 1739 Hewlett Drive at the airport. In 1994, the office moved to its current location at the airport. In October 1994 the WSR-88D radar observations began in Shallotte, NC.
<b>Winston-Salem</b>	WBAS	1944-1965	An office was established at Smith-Reynolds Airport in February 1944. It was discontinued in March 1965, with the FAA assuming observation responsibility.

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