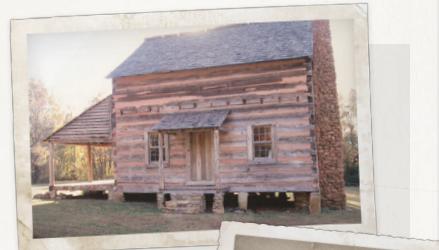




Home and old barn located at the Benjamin Coffey homestead

Church, a historic church founded before the American Revolution. Billy's parents are buried in the old cemetery on the church grounds. From the church driveway, enter the cemetery on the center walkway, follow it approximately to the middle, and then head left on the grass to find the grave marker for Frank and Morrow Graham.



13 Sharon Presbyterian Church—5201 Sharon Rd.

Billy's mother. The small brick house where Morrow grew up, and where Billy as a young boy visited his grandmother, is situated beneath large trees on a sweeping curve on Shopton Road at the corner of Pinecrest Drive. It remains a private home.

12 Burial Place of Billy's Parents—Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, 407 Steele Creek Rd.

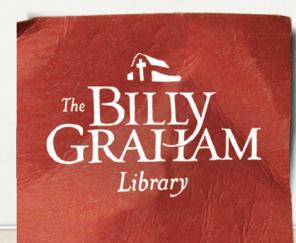
Billy's mother, Morrow Coffey Graham, grew up attending Steele Creek Presbyterian



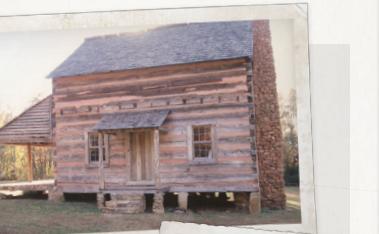
Steele Creek Presbyterian Church



Sharon Presbyterian Church



returned to this church for family reunions, to officiate at a niece's wedding, and to bury his father (Frank Graham's) grave was later moved to the cemetery at Steele Creek Presbyterian Church, where he is interred alongside his wife, Morrow—see 12).



14 Crook Graham Cabin—

Located at the Anne William Crook Graham Springs Close Greenway, 250 Dairy Barn Ln., Fort Mill, S.C. (Location not shown on map) Billy Graham's paternal grandfather, William Crook Graham, lived in a log home in Fort Mill, S.C. The cabin is preserved on the Anne Springs Close Greenway a few miles south of Charlotte and is open to the public. He later acquired acreage nearer Charlotte along a dirt track called Park Road, land that became a dairy farm.

Sharon Presbyterian Church

BILLY GRAHAM'S HOMETOWN

Historic local sites from the life of Billy Graham

1. Billy Graham Library
2. Birthplace—Historical Marker
3. Original Location of Boyhood Home
4. Grazing the Cattle—Park Road Shopping Center
5. The Pasture Prayer Meeting
6. Growing Up at Chalmers Memorial Church
7. Billy Graham's Defining Moment
8. Preaching at Gospel Baptist Church

More inside ...

"Thus says the Lord of hosts, I took you from the pasture, ... and I have been with you wherever you have gone."
—1 Chronicles 17:7-8, ESV

1 Billy Graham Library— 4330 Westmont Dr.

Visitors to the barn-shaped Library experience the *Journey of Faith* tour and exhibits, the Graham family homeplace, Ruth's Attic bookstore, Graham Brothers Dairy Bar, and the memorial prayer garden.



2 Birthplace Marker—4601 Park Rd.

Billy Graham was born November 7, 1918, in a white clapboard farmhouse that no longer exists. The location is four miles east of the Library, on the north side of Park Road between Abbey Place and Mockingbird Lane. President Richard Nixon, while on a visit to Charlotte, was invited by city leaders to unveil a historic marker there in 1971. The president also stopped at the nearby home (see #3) of Billy's mother, Morrow, who served him her trademark Russian iced tea. Access the marker from Abbey Place via the OrthoCarolina parking area or from Mockingbird Lane via the Park Seneca parking lot.

3 Original Location of Graham Family Homeplace—4523 Park Rd.

When Billy was in the fourth grade, his father moved the family a few hundred feet up Park Road into a new, \$9,000 brick house with indoor plumbing. This boyhood home was moved to the Billy Graham Library in 2006. An office building named in honor of Frank and Morrow Graham now stands on the site.



Formerly Chalmers Memorial Church,
later known as Chalmers A.R.P.C.

men singing under a grove of trees at the edge of the pasture. His father was hosting an outdoor prayer meeting with a group of local Christian businessmen, men who gathered from time to time in different locations around Charlotte to pray for revival. Billy did not know until years later that on this day, on the Graham dairy farm among the trees on a low ridge, a printing company sales representative named Vernon Patterson led the group in praying that out of Charlotte the Lord would raise up someone to preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth. No one was thinking of 15-year-old Billy, who had not yet even committed his life to Christ, but Vernon Patterson persisted for years in his bold prayer, and God answered.



Charlotte businessman Vernon Patterson

4 Park Road Shopping Center—Park Road at Woodlawn Road.

The Graham dairy farm was located on both sides of Park Road south of Woodlawn Road. Billy's father also leased cattle pastures on the north side of Woodlawn Road, where Billy often went and practiced preaching to the cows. The landowner later developed the site into Charlotte's first shopping center.

5 The Pasture Prayer Meeting—In the fields near what is now the corner of Longwood Drive at Montford Drive. Throughout his boyhood, Billy Graham milked cows daily and helped around the farm. One spring day after school, while pitching hay to the mules, he heard the unusual sound of

6 Boyhood Church— 1800 South Blvd.

Throughout Billy's childhood and well into his teen years, his family attended Chalmers Associate Reformed Presbyterian Church (above left: Billy's third-grade Sunday school graduation). The building today is the home of Grace Covenant Church.

After Billy left for college, his parents were part of a group of families who founded Calvary Presbyterian Church, originally located on East Fourth Street near the present Presbyterian Medical Center. Billy preached one of his early sermons from the pulpit of that church (later renamed simply Calvary Church), and his parents remained active members until their deaths.

temporary wood structure—with sawdust as the floor—on the outskirts of town. Once

Billy heard Dr. Ham preach, he felt drawn to return again and again. About a week before his 16th birthday, during the last verse of the last song of the evening, he walked forward to make a decision for Christ.



Formerly Gospel Baptist Church



Formerly First Baptist Church

8 Gospel Baptist Church— 101 N. McDowell St.

While still a student at Florida Bible College, Billy Graham preached his very first sermon in a small, rural Baptist Church in Bostwick, Florida. He arrived at the church with notes he had prepared for four sermons, but was so nervous that he preached all four in 10 minutes, sat down, and concluded he was a failure. Later, during breaks from college, he was invited to preach at several places in Charlotte, including Calvary Presbyterian Church, Sharon Presbyterian Church, and Gospel Baptist Church (pictured above).



Billy's grandfather Benjamin Coffey

9 Spirit Square— 319 N. Tryon St., former location of First Baptist Church.

Billy Graham, in 1947 at age 29, returned to his hometown to lead his second-ever citywide evangelistic campaign (the first, two months earlier, was in Grand Rapids, Mich.).

The Charlotte meetings started in the auditorium of First Baptist Church (now Spirit Square). As the crowds grew, the

meetings moved to the larger Armory Auditorium (current location of the Grady Cole Center).

10 Bank of America Stadium— 800 S. Mint St.

Billy held the last of his four Crusade events in Charlotte in 1996.

11 Coffey Family Homeplace—3626 Shopton Rd.

Billy's maternal grandfather, Benjamin Coffey, was a Civil War veteran who lost a leg and an eye at Gettysburg. He returned home, married Lucinda Robinson, and raised a family in the Steele Creek community. One of his daughters was Morrow, who became

7 Billy Graham's Defining Moment—Intersection of Central Avenue and Pecan Avenue.

In 1934, local Christian businessmen invited evangelist Mordecai Ham to hold meetings in Charlotte. They erected a



Rev. Billy Graham with Dr. Mordecai Ham