

Marion Millender (1859-1963) was one of Asheville's most notable family physicians, practicing for 50 years. He lived to be 104 years old and taught himself to play the violin at age 90. The Millenders lived at 333 Montford Avenue and 240 Pearson Drive. Marion's son Charles lived across the street at 238 Pearson Drive. Photograph courtesy of E.M. Ball Collection (1918-1969), D. H. Ramsey Library Special Collections, UNC Asheville 28804. n.d.



Bessie Rosen (1883? -1970) was the proprietor of the largest grocery store on Lexington Avenue before World War II. Her husband Jake had a chicken butchering business on Chicken Alley, and Bessie ran the grocery below at 88 Lexington Avenue. The family lived at 13 Cumberland Avenue. Photograph courtesy of Jacob Rosen Family Papers, D. H. Ramsey Library Special Collections, UNC Asheville 28804. n.d.



Governor Locke Craig (1860-1924) at the wheel of a Model T parked in front of the Governor's Mansion in Raleigh. Craig was governor 1913-1917. His nephew Thomas Craig is standing beside the car. The Governor owned two houses on Montford Avenue: 327 and 169. 1913



Probably the family of Henry Lamar Gudger and Alice Brown Gudger, gathered on the front steps of their home at 89 Montford Avenue. Mr. Gudger (1850-1901) was a postmaster of Asheville and member of the Board of Aldermen. Henry and Alice had four children: Vonno, Maud, Myrtle, and Esther, and were the grandparents of Congressman Lamar Gudger. n.d.



Stumptown reunion. Even after their homes were demolished, residents felt a strong attachment to the Stumptown community and would meet at the Montford Recreation Center, which was built in Stumptown.

Stumptown reunion photo continued on the right ...



Solomon Lipsky (1856 -1925) founded the Bon Marche Department store, modeled after the great Parisian department store of the same name, in 1891. It was family owned for 70 years, having various locations in downtown Asheville, starting on South Main Street (Biltmore Avenue), moving to Patton Avenue and later to Haywood Street. Solomon lived at 156 Cumberland Avenue, and his son Morris, at 211 Montford Avenue. Photograph courtesy of Lipsky Family Collection, D. H. Ramsey Library Special Collections, UNC Asheville 28804. n.d.



Walter Mapp Sr. (1909-1993) worked to educate and integrate the Asheville community. He was involved in Stephens- Lee High School, French Broad Junior High School, the P.T.A., and the Y.M.I., as well as the New Mt. Olive Baptist Church. For 29 years, he was active with the Daniel Boone Council of Boy Scouts, receiving the Silver Beaver Award, the highest award given to a volunteer. During his scouting career, he led more than 4,000 boys and walked more than 2,000 miles. Photograph courtesy of Heritage of Black Highlanders Collection, D. H. Ramsey Library Special Collections, UNC Asheville 28804. n.d.



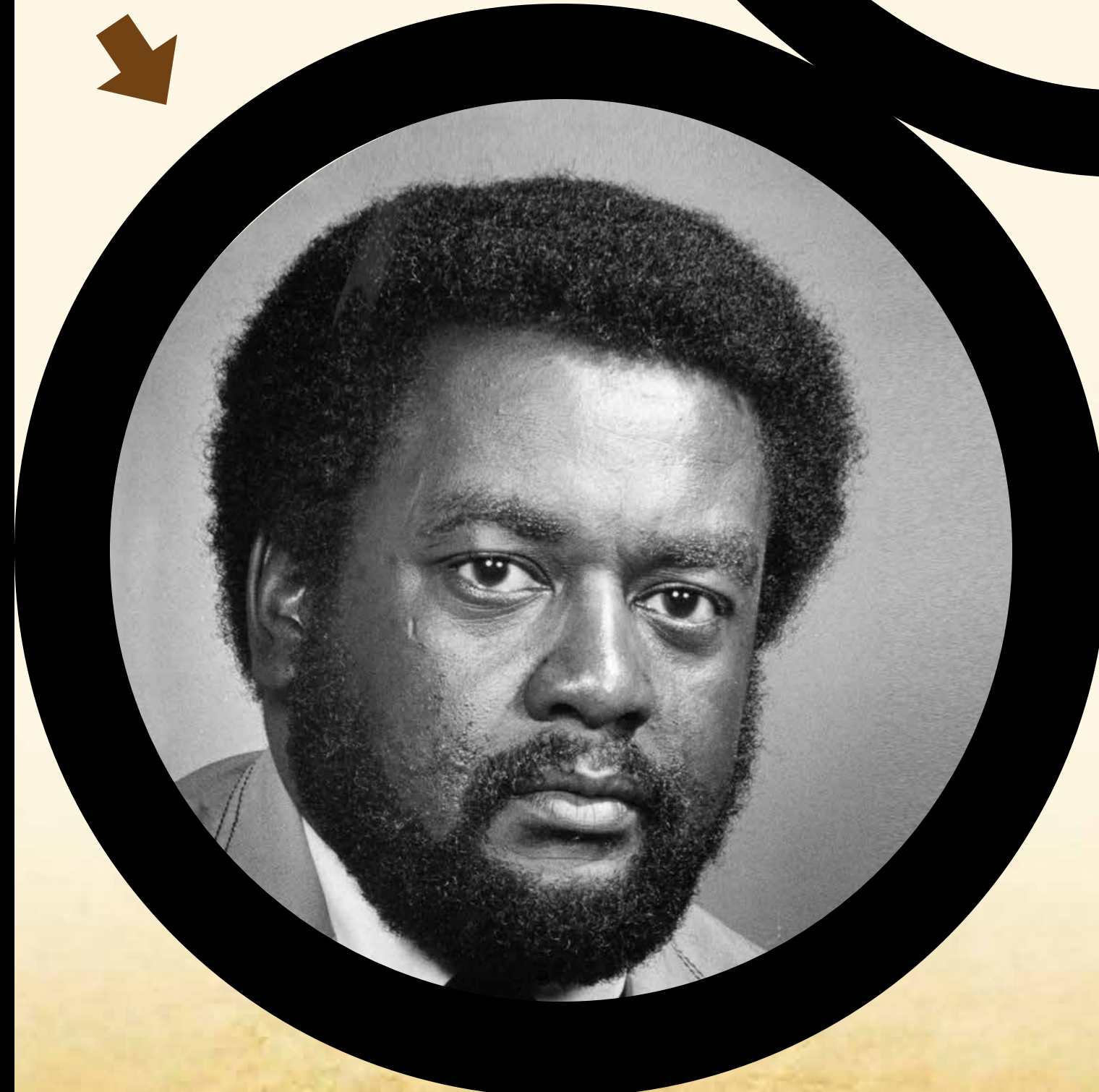
The Bourne sons and their friends growing up in Montford were known as the Boys of Montford. Three of the five sons of Louis and Emily Bourne, who lived at 16 Bearden Avenue, left to right: Francis Churchill Bourne (born 1894), Henry McKenzie Bourne (born 1895), and Louis Milton Bourne Jr. (born 1890). 1900?

FACES OF MONTFORD

Montford as a neighborhood is defined by the people who inhabit it. Starting out as a trolley suburb, its larger homes were owned by many of Asheville's prominent residents who were doctors, lawyers, politicians, and business owners. The smaller houses, often on side streets, were home to renters and workers. As its fortunes changed with the times, starting with the Great Depression of 1929, some of the larger homes became boarding houses. Later in the 20th century, Montford had brothels, crack houses and group homes, especially as more affluent families moved to the suburbs. The neighborhood began to rejuvenate as the larger homes were converted to bed and breakfasts, and tax credits became available to help homeowners renovate these older houses. Today, Montford remains a diverse neighborhood covering a broad spectrum of residents of various economic levels, including home owners and renters, students and the elderly. The neighborhood also caters to tourists, with many bed and breakfasts and vacation rentals.

Henry Robinson (1937-2014), native Ashevillean, historian, and community leader, was the first African American journalist and photographer to work for the Asheville Citizen-Times (1969-1990). He championed social causes, while chronicling the history of the city's African American churches and neighborhoods. Photograph courtesy of Heritage of Black Highlanders Collection, D. H. Ramsey Library Special Collections, UNC Asheville 28804. n.d.

Hazel Robinson was a legend in Asheville theater circles. For many of her ninety years, she trod the boards, finding a love for Classical theatre and Shakespeare, in particular. Her dramaturgical mission was always one that veered toward "community," and many of the people you see today, on the Amphitheatre stage that bears her name, and behind the scenes there, are people who might not have otherwise been involved in theater were it not for her infectious zeal. Photograph courtesy of Montford Park Players. n.d.



Meeting of the (Asheville?) Women's Club at the home of Mrs. Martha Stevens (155 Montford Avenue). Shown in the photograph: Sarah R. Carrier (Mrs. A. Heath Carrier), Mary H. McRae (Mrs. John D. McRae), Bertha Ray (Mrs. Edwin L. Ray), unknown, Pearl Scharlie (Mrs. D. Norman), unknown, Mabel Wolfe Wheaton (Mrs. Ralph Harris Wheaton), Louise A. Collins (Mrs. Willis E. Collins), M. Lula Stevens (Mrs. Martin L. Stevens), and Mrs. Smith. 1923?



William Lord (1864-1933) and son Anthony (Tony) Lord (1900-1993) at their home at 267 Flint Street. Both were prominent Asheville architects. William's architectural legacy is characterized by substantial, conservative buildings that formed the solid framework of Asheville's distinctive architectural character. His residential designs were very unique and include 240, 265 and 301 Pearson, 165 and 346 Montford and 62 Cumberland Circle. He was also a leader in organizing North Carolina's professional architects. 1904



Anthony Lord (1900-1993) was many things: an architect, ironworker, community activist, leader of the public library, flutist, lover of nature, water-color painter, photographer, and traveler. Lord Auditorium at Pack Library is named in his honor. He lived in his family home on Flint Street his whole life. n.d.



Sarah Upchurch (1920-2000) was active in preservation efforts, working to create the Montford Historic District and helping to form the Preservation Society. She also became a regular library volunteer at Pack Memorial. "Not only did she voice her opinions, but she worked from her convictions to make events unfold as she felt they should," remembers Zoe Rhine, head of the North Carolina Collection at Pack Library.

Credits: Photographs courtesy of Special Collections, The North Carolina Room, Pack Memorial Library except where noted. Written content by Sharon Fahrer of History@Hand (www.history-at-hand.com). Layout and design by Kelly Ross Terry of KRT Graphic Design. (www.krtedesign.com).



... Stumptown reunion photo continued from the left.

Fourth from the right is Sophie Dixon, longtime worker for the NAACP, 2nd from the right is Phyllis Sherill, Mrs. Stumptown, and the man kneeling in front is H. K. Edgerton. Photograph courtesy of Benjamin Porter Photography. 1997