

## **Manteo to Murphy** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **"Manteo to Murphy"**

by Wiley J. Williams, 2006

"Manteo to Murphy" is a phrase often used in reference to the entire east-west width of North Carolina, particularly when describing a phenomenon that touches all regions of the state. The phrase was famously applied to the 1876 gubernatorial campaign between [Zebulon B. Vance](#) <sup>[2]</sup> and [Supreme Court](#) <sup>[3]</sup> Justice [Thomas Settle Jr.](#) <sup>[4]</sup>, in which Vance's victory set off "rejoicing by [Democrats](#) <sup>[5]</sup> 'from Manteo to Murphy.'" This followed from the fact that Vance and Settle had toured the state in a series of debates that resulted in the largest Democratic majority (over 13,000) in any election between 1868 and 1900. The phrase is actually a symbolic and not literal rendering of the extreme east-west width of North Carolina, since neither Manteo ([Dare County](#) <sup>[6]</sup>) nor Murphy ([Cherokee County](#) <sup>[7]</sup>) is situated precisely at the state's borders.

#### **Additional Resources:**

McFee, Michael. "Back Home." *The Napkin Manuscripts: Selected Essays and an Interview*. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press. 2006. p. 5. <http://books.google.com/books?id=-YMe426WjNkC&lpg=PR9&ots=cxUBXUGhbY&dq=%22Manteo%20to%20Murphy%22&lr&pg=PA5#v=onepage&q=Manteo&f=false> <sup>[8]</sup>

"Thomas Settle, Jr. 1831-1888." North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program. <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?sp=search&k=Markers&sv=J-17> <sup>[9]</sup> (accessed August 17, 2012).

"Zebulon B. Vance 1830-1894." North Carolina Highway Historical Marker Program. <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?sp=search&k=Markers&sv=P-2> <sup>[10]</sup>

#### **Subjects:**

[Geography](#) <sup>[11]</sup>

[Slogans, slang, and sayings](#) <sup>[12]</sup>

#### **Authors:**

[Williams, Wiley J.](#) <sup>[13]</sup>

#### **Origin - location:**

[Dare County](#) <sup>[14]</sup>

[Cherokee County](#) <sup>[15]</sup>

#### **From:**

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) <sup>[16]</sup>

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#### **Links**

<sup>[1]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/manteo-murphy> <sup>[2]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/vance-zebulon-baird-research-branch> <sup>[3]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/supreme-court-north-carolina> <sup>[4]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/biography/settle-thomas-jr> <sup>[5]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/democratic-party> <sup>[6]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/geography/dare> <sup>[7]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/geography/cherokee> <sup>[8]</sup> <http://books.google.com/books?id=-YMe426WjNkC&lpg=PR9&ots=cxUBXUGhbY&dq=%22Manteo%20to%20Murphy%22&lr&pg=PA5#v=onepage&q=Manteo&f=false> <sup>[9]</sup> <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?sp=search&k=Markers&sv=J-17> <sup>[10]</sup> <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?sp=search&k=Markers&sv=P-2> <sup>[11]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/geography> <sup>[12]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/slang> <sup>[13]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/authors/williams-wiley-j> <sup>[14]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/coastal-25> <sup>[15]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/mountains> <sup>[16]</sup> <https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/encyclopedia->