

Ecce Homo ^[1]

Ecce Homo



Ecce Homo. North Carolina
Collection, University of North

by [William S. Powell](#) ^[2], 2006 Carolina at Chapel Hill Library.

Ecce Homo (Behold the Man), a famous oil painting by [Francisco Pacheco](#) ^[3] measuring about 30 by 40 inches in size and depicting Christ wearing a crown of thorns, hangs in [St. James Episcopal Church](#) ^[4] in [Wilmington](#) ^[5]. Three Spanish ships attacked and occupied the town of [Brunswick](#) ^[6] in 1747, driving out the inhabitants. Three days later, men of the area gathered to drive out the Spanish. A carefully aimed or unusually lucky shot lobbed a shell onto the [Spanish privateer *Fortuna*](#) ^[7], still anchored in the [Cape Fear River](#) ^[8] beside the town. The *Fortuna* exploded and the other two ships sailed down river, where they paused to exchange prisoners. *Ecce Homo* was among the goods removed from the sinking ship. The colonial assembly in May 1751 voted to present the painting to [St. Philip's Church](#) ^[9] in Brunswick. When Brunswick was abandoned after the American Revolution, the painting was moved to St. James Church.

Reference:

Louis T. Moore, "Ecce Homo," *Uplift* 32 (4 Mar. 1944).

Additional Resources:

Spanish Attack, NC Historical Marker D-16: <https://www.ncdcr.gov/about/history/division-historical-resources/nc-highway-historical-marker-program/Markers.aspx?ct=ddl&sp=search&k=Markers&sv=D-16%20-%20SPANISH%20ATTACK> ^[7]

Subjects:

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[Colonial period \(1600-1763\)](#) ^[11]

[Fine arts](#) ^[12]

Authors:

[Powell, William S.](#) ^[13]

Origin - location:

[Wilmington](#) ^[14]

From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) ^[15]

1 January 2006 | Powell, William S.

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