

McLean Trucking Company ^[1]

McLean Trucking Company



Malcolm McLean,
founder of McLean
Trucking Co. Image

by Robert E. Ireland, 2006 available from PBS. ^[2]



McLean Trucking
Company Patch. Image
available from NC
Historic Sites.

^[3]In 1931, when Malcolm P. McLean ^[4] began working at a service station, North Carolina was rapidly becoming a major east-west transport route. Recognizing the potential for motor freight carrying, the Maxton native bought his first truck in 1934 and began hauling dirt for WPA ^[5] road construction projects. Later, he transported textiles to New York. By the mid-1960s, the McLean Trucking Company had become the fifth-largest trucking company in America, with a fleet of 5,000 trucks and trailers and 65 terminals scattered throughout 20 states. The Winston-Salem ^[6] terminal was considered the largest in the world when it was constructed in 1954.

McLean (who died in 2001 at age 87) sold his company in 1955 for \$6 million and bought a small tanker firm, which he renamed Sea-Land ^[7]. After becoming a pioneer in container shipping, he cashed in those shares for \$160 million in 1969.

Reference:

Thomas C. Parramore, *Express Lanes and Country Roads: The Way We Lived in North Carolina, 1920-1970*(1983).

Additional Resources:

Article in Chicago Tribune: http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1986-01-11/business/8601030755_1_mclean-employees-trucking-filing ^[8]

North Carolina Digital Collections ^[9] search results for McLean Trucking Company

Image Credit:

Malcolm McLean, founder of McLean Trucking Co. Image available from PBS. Available from http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/theymadeamerica/whomade/mclean_hi.html ^[2] (accessed June 18, 2012).

McLean Trucking Company Patch. Image available from NC Historic Sites. Available from <http://collections.ncdcr.gov> ^[3](accessed June 19, 2012).

Subjects:

Businesses ^[10]

Great Depression (1929-1941) ^[11]

Post War 20th Century (1946-2000) ^[12]

Transportation ^[13]

World War II (1941-1945) ^[14]

Authors:

Ireland, Robert E. ^[15]

Origin - location:

Winston-Salem ^[16]

From:

Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press. ^[17]

1 January 2006 | Ireland, Robert E.

Source URL: <https://ncpedia.org/mclean-trucking-company?page=0>

Links

[1] <https://ncpedia.org/mclean-trucking-company> [2] http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/theymadeamerica/whomade/mclean_hi.html [3] <http://collections.ncdcr.gov/RediscoveryProficioPublicSearch/ShowItem.aspx?174760+> [4] <https://ncpedia.org/biography/mclean-malcolm> [5] <https://ncpedia.org/history/20th-Century/wpa> [6] <https://ncpedia.org/geography/winston-salem> [7] http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove/collection/object_969.html [8] http://articles.chicagotribune.com/1986-01-11/business/8601030755_1_mclean-employees-trucking-filing [9] https://digital.ncdcr.gov/documents?adv_all=%22Malcolm%20McLean%22|AND&searchtypes=Full%20text|Metadata&applyState=true [10] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/businesses> [11] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/great-depression-> [12] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/post-war-20th-cen> [13] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/transportation> [14] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/world-war-ii> [15] <https://ncpedia.org/category/authors/ireland-robert-e> [16] <https://ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/piedmon-20> [17] <https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/encyclopedia->