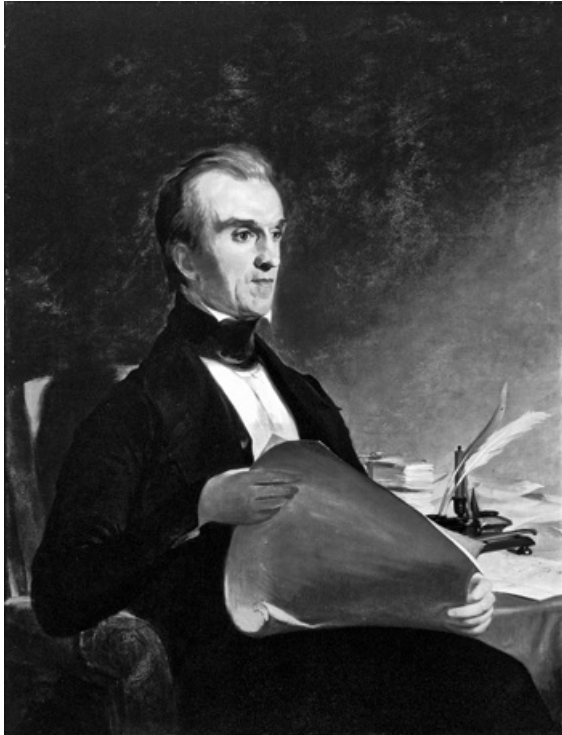


## **Presidents, U.S.** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **Presidents, U.S.**

by Sion Dayson, 2006

See also: [Vice Presidents, U.S.](#) <sup>[2]</sup>



James K. Polk. Painting by Thomas Sully. Original owned by the Dialectic and Philanthropic Literary Society, UNC-Chapel Hill. Dialectic and Philanthropic Societies Foundation, UNC-Chapel Hill.

Three North Carolina natives have served as president of the United States. [Andrew Jackson](#) <sup>[3]</sup>, the seventh president, was reputedly [born in a log cabin](#) <sup>[4]</sup> south of the town of Waxhaw in 1767. This claim continues to be disputed by many who maintain that Jackson was actually born in South Carolina. After a distinguished military and political career, he was elected president in 1828 and again in 1832. His larger-than-life personality and political savvy while in office increased the power of the presidency and inspired the development of a truly unified national identity.

[James K. Polk](#) <sup>[5]</sup>, the eleventh president, was born in [Mecklenburg County](#) <sup>[6]</sup> near the town of [Pineville](#) <sup>[7]</sup> in 1795. Polk was elected in 1844 and served one term, the highlight of which was the acquisition of the western one-third of the modern United States after [war with Mexico](#) <sup>[8]</sup>.

[Andrew Johnson](#) <sup>[9]</sup>, the nation's seventeenth president, was [born in Raleigh](#) <sup>[10]</sup> in 1808 but lived most of his life in [Tennessee](#) <sup>[11]</sup>, from which his political career was launched. He was the only southern U.S. senator to remain loyal to the Union during the [Civil War](#) <sup>[12]</sup>. Johnson was chosen as [Abraham Lincoln](#) <sup>[13]</sup>'s running mate in 1864 and assumed the presidency after Lincoln's assassination the following year. His administration was marred by his 1867 impeachment by the Radical Republican-led House of Representatives, which vigorously disagreed with his handling of southern [Reconstruction](#) <sup>[14]</sup> after the war. He was acquitted in the Senate by one vote.

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#### **Additional Resources:**

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"Old Hickory/Young Hickory." North Carolina Museum of History. 2008.

### **Additional Resources:**

"Visit the Birthplaces of North Carolina's U.S. Presidents," *Our State*, February 2003. <https://digital.ncdcr.gov/Documents/Detail/our-state/1078477> <sup>[16]</sup>

### **Image Citation**

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[Presidents](#) <sup>[18]</sup>

### **Authors:**

[Dayson, Sion](#) <sup>[19]</sup>

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