

Chatham County
Resolution Honoring
James Johnson and Henry K. Blair

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Courthouse, constructed in the 1880's, was originally designed to include clocks; and

WHEREAS, though Mrs. A.A. Jackson and other community members made every effort to raise money for construction of the clocks in the 1880's, the approximately \$400 raised eventually went to benefit education in the County and the clock project was abandoned; and

WHEREAS, Mr. James Johnson and Mr. Henry K. Blair, who were classmates in Pittsboro in the early 1900's, constantly asked each other "What time do you think it is?" because there were few clocks in town at that time; and

WHEREAS, in 1993 Mr. Johnson, influenced by his neighbor Mrs. Jackson and his boyhood recollection of the lack of clocks in his hometown, decided that he wanted to remember Mr. Blair by leaving money for the clocks in his will; and

WHEREAS, encouraged and assisted by Henry Blair's son, John, Mr. Johnson decided to see the clock project achieved in his lifetime and realized this dream in the year 2000 when the clocks were installed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, North Carolina, that we hereby honor Mr. James Johnson for a tremendous gift to Chatham County citizens that will endure for centuries to come;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we do hereby honor and recognize Mr. Henry K. Blair, whose influence and presence has been memorialized in this gift of time.

Adopted this, the 9th day of July, 2001



Gary Phillips, Chair

ATTEST



Sandra B. Lee, Clerk to the Board