

Big Fires, 1965-1985

08/21/10 1899 W - + 8 - 9

Since we're talking about big fires of the 1960s and 1970s, let's look at some data. For some time now, Yours Truly has been working on a master list of the city's major fires. What's most challenging-- apart from the numerous and inconsistent sources that must be ferreted out, from fire records to newspaper accounts-- is the evolving definition of "major fire." This is easiest to see in alarm levels. Two alarms in the 1960s brought fewer units than two alarms in the 1980s. Keep that in mind while reviewing the below list. There are a couple mutual aid calls included. And the whole thing is subject to repeated revision, as History Guy learns more and determines better. Someday we'll get the master list finished. For now, enjoy some abbreviated excerpts.

- 1/21/1965 - 1018 E. Davie Street - Lucille Hunter School - \$283,000
E2, E3, T1, E10, R1, E1, T7, E4 & T5 at 1, E5 at 1, T5, E4, E5, E10, T7 clean-up
- 2/22/1965 - State College - Pullen Hall - \$169,000
E1, E5, T5, E6, T6
- 3/14/1965 - 310 S. Harrington Street - Britt Co. - \$161,500
E1, E2, T1, E6 / R1, E5 / E3 / E4 standing by
- 4/21/1965 - 1522 N. Blount Street - Pender Mfg. & Supply Co. - \$86,200
E6, E4, T6, R1 / E1 / T7 / E3 / E7 stand by for sparks at Mayview Home / E9 stand by / E5 stand by / E4 smoldering - Old Pender warehouse.
- 5/6/1965 - 423 Daniels Street - Cameron Village - \$14,606 - Electric and gas explosion.
E5, E6, T5 / R1 / T1 / Foam 1
- 7/28/1965 - 1625 Louisburg Road - Steer Steak House - \$136,416
E7, E3, T7/ E4, foam / R1 / T1 / T5 fill in at 1 / E7 wet down next day
- 9/29/1965 - State Fairgrounds - Concession stands
E5 mutual aid
- 10/11/1965 - 313 W. Martin Street - Capital Mercantile Co. - \$83,213
E1, E3, R1, E2, E4, T1 / E6, T7 both at 1
- 10/12/1965 - 3625 Hillsboro Street - Capri Restaurant - \$21,000
E5, E6, T6 / E1
- 12/8/1965 - 220 West Davie Street - Walker-Sizer Dental Company warehouse - \$88,000
E2, E1, T1, R1 / T7
- 2/22/1966 - 800 N. Person Street - A&P Food Store - \$205,000
E3, E7, T7 / E4 / T1 / R1 / E1 / E5 at 1 / T5 at 1 / T7 clean-up
- 4/2/1966 - 220 E. Martin Street - Joys Grill / Taylor Radio Shop - \$31,250
E3, E2, T7 / E1, T1, R1 / E4 at 1 / Foam 1 / E5 at 1
- 4/14/1966 - 1115 W. Lenoir - White Oil Co. - \$18,000
E1, E2, T6 / E4, T1, R1 / E5, T5 at 1 / E4 at 1

- 4/23/1966 - South of Wake Forest - Eight railroad freight cars derail and burn
Raleigh as mutual aid
- 5/27/1966 - 108 E. Martin Street - R. E. Quinn furniture store - \$180,500
E1, E3, T1, T7, R1 / E2 / E4 / E5 at 1 / T5 / T6 at 1 / E5 / E6 at 1 / E6 / E7 at 1 / T7 clean up / E3 rekindle
- 12/12/1967 - 2921 Brentwood Road - \$60,528
E4, E7, T7, T6 assist removing smoke
- 4/4/1968 - 217 Lee Street - Raleigh Rescue Mission Warehouse - \$55,500 - E2, E3, T7, E1 stand by, E4 stand by as fill in.
- 4/5/1968 - 902 S. Wilmington Street - Dixie Motor Parts - \$1,000 - During riots
E1, E4
- 4/7/1968 - 1431 S. Blount Street - Green Brothers Seed Company - \$450,000 - During riots
E2, E3, T7, E1, E4 at 1, E5, E4 to relieve T7, E6 to relieve, E7 to relieve E4 and T6, E2 to water down debris next day, E2 for flare up
one day later
- 4/9/1968 - 700 block Street Mary's Street - Shamrock Apartments - \$100,000
- 4/17/1968 - 835 W. Morgan Street - Central Prison - \$123,000 - During prison riot
E1, T1
- 5/20/1968 - 1827 North Boulevard - Sportland Bowling Center - \$400,000
E7, E3, T7, E4, R1, E1 relieve E3, T6 relieve T7, R3 pull down wall, E2 relieve E1, E7 wet down debris next day
- 12/13/1968 - Shaw University - Esty Hall - \$115,000
E1, E2, T1, T7, R1, E4, E5, E3, E7 at Sta 1, T5
- 2/10/1969 - 226 Fayetteville Street - McCrory & Co - \$225,521
T1, T7, E1, E3, R1 / E2, E4 / E6, T6 both at 1 / T5 / T6 / E5 at 1 / E8 at 5 / E4 at 1
- 2/20/1969 - 723 Saint Mary's Street - Broughton High School - \$230,724
E5, E1, T5, T6, R1 / T7, E4
- 3/15/1969 - 5 Glenwood Avenue - Jimmy's Upholstering Company - \$37,255
E1, E5, T5, T6, R1 / T1 / E1 next day for embers
- 5/5/1969 - South Blount Street - Statesville Flour Mills Company warehouse - \$108,500 - During firebombing
E2, E10, T7
- 5/5/1970 - Falls of Neuse & Millbrook roads - Quail Corners Shopping Center - \$41,949
E4, E9, T6 / E6 / R1, T7 / E10 at 4 / T6 overhaul
- 6/24/1970 - 122 E. Hargett Street - Peebles Hotel - \$110,220 - Five alarms (as it was called)
R1, E3, E1, T1 / E10 / E5 / T6, T7 / E5 / 4 at 1 / T5 relief / E4 relief
- 7/20/1970 - 2042 Garner Road - K&L Scrap Yard
E3 / E1 / E2 / E5 at 1 / E10 / E7
- 9/6/1970 - 4343 Lassiter Mill Road - North Valley Apartments - \$28,750
R1, E9, E4, T6 / T7 / E10 at 4 / E9 attic ladder for investigation
- 12/7/1970 - 1643 North Boulevard - Tillery Millworks (and Capital City Oil Co.?) - \$95,510

E3 / E1 / E5 / E9 / E6 relieve E9 / E10 relieve E1 / T7 / E5 to 1

- 12/7/1970 - 2815 North Boulevard - Holiday Inn North restaurant on US 1 - \$60,000 - Three alarms
E4, E7, T7 / E9 / E10 to 4 / T6 / R1 / T1 overhaul / T5 to fill in
- 2/10/1971 - 100 W. Martin Street - Andrew Johnson Hotel Annex - \$166,000
E1, E3, T1, R1 / E10 / E5 and T5 at 1 / T5 / T6, T7 / E1 take up hose
- 6/25/1971 - 123 E. Cabarrus Street - \$68,000
E3, E1, T7 / E15, R1 / E5 at 1 / T7 in clean-up
- 7/20/1971 - 117 East Martin Street - Woods 5&10 store - \$120,560
E1, E3, T1 / R1 , E15, T5 / E5 at 1 / E5 / E4 at 1 / T7/ E4, T6 / E6 stand by / E7 to stand by / T1 salvage covers
- 7/21/1971 - 1001 Glenwood Avenue - Methodist Orphanage gym - \$22,004
T6, R1, E5, E15, T5
- 12/27/1971 - 119 W. Parsons - \$350,000
R1, E1, E3, T1 / E15 / E5 at 1 / E4 at 1 / T1 with clean-up
- 5/12/1972 - 434 Woodburn Road - Connecticut Life Ins. Co. - \$245,291
E5, E6, T5, R1 / T6
- 8/7/1972 - 327 Blake Street - Blake Street Garage - \$18,198
E3, E1, T1, R1 / E5 / T7 / E4 at 1/ E1 for rekindle / T7 for overhaul
- 1/31/1974 - Hargett Street - Hargett Street Apartments
- 2/13/1974 - 505 W. Johnson Street - \$68,500
E15, E5, T5, R1 / E1, T6 / E4 at 1
- 11/1/1974 - 400 Downtown Boulevard - Dark Side of the Moon - Two alarms
- 2/5/1975 - 1000 Harp Street - Grocery store (first floor)
- 3/8/1975 - 624 W. Jones Street - Pittman Printing Co.
- 3/15/1975 - 400 Fayetteville Street Mall - Sir Walter Hotel
- 3/26/1975 - 113 Wilmington Street - Nowell's Southern Furniture Store - \$100,000
- 4/17/1975 - 3401 Old Lassiter Mill Road
- 5/27/1975 - Highway 70 & Highway 401 South - Kings Shopping Center
- 7/10/1975 - 1114-1115 West Lenoir Street - White Oil Company
- 11/15/1975 - 202 1/2 S. Salisbury Street - Troutman's College of Hair Styling
- 12/2/1975 - 222 E. Martin Street - Billy's Bargains, Dolphin Rest., Market Barber, basement barber
- 1/19/1976 - 505 Hillsborough Street - Chez Michael
- 2/8/1976 - 1117, 1119 Crab Orchard Drive - Orchards Apartments

- 2/16/1976 - 500 Glenwood Avenue - Pine State Creamery - Three alarms
- 2/17/1976 - West Street - Pine State Creamery - Another major fire the next day
- 9/24/1976 - The Lakes Drive - The Lakes
- 12/6/1976 - Old Wake Forest Road - Biggs Place Mansion
- 1/3/1977 - Martin Street - Baker Roofing Company warehouse
- 3/12/1977 - 3104 Hillsborough Street - The Keg
- 8/6/1977 - New Bern Avenue & Beltline - Gas tanker on Beltline
- 12/11/1977 - 759 Lunar Drive - Apollo Heights Community Center
- 6/11/1978 - 1727 Gorman Street - Broadmoor Apartments
- 7/31/1978 - Shaw University - Tyler Hall
- 12/30/1978 - 4803 New Hope Road - Fairway Apartments
- 2/10/1979 - 3112 Hillsborough Street - State Sports Center
- 3/14/1979 - 505 Oberlin Road - Office Building / Post Office
- 2/3/1980 - 27 Horne Street - West Raleigh Presbyterian Church
E5, E6, E13, C5, T5, T1
- 3/16/1980 - 215 S. McDowell street - News & Observer building - Three alarms
E1, E13, E3, T1, E5 - 13:02/13:03/15:18
E5 to 1 to fill in - 13:10/13:17
E5, E4 - 13:21/17:39/17:40
E12 to 1 to fill in - 13:43/13:59/18:58
E2 - 14:51/15:18/18:57
E6 to 5 fill in - 17:06/ /17:43
E6 - 17:44/ /21:33
E9 - 17:52/ /22:19
E11 - Relieve E9 - 21:50/ /03:09
E14 - Relive E11 - 02:25/02:48/07:06
- 4/21/1980 - 4130 New Bern Avenue - Weyhauser Recycling Plant - City and county units, over a couple days
E13, E7, E3, Tanker 4, Tanker 8 - 09:35 / 09:38 / 15:52
E12 to Beltline under bridge at railroad track - 12:40 / 12:44 / 13:56
E5 to Sta 7 - 13:13 / 13:44 / 15:52
E11, E6 to relieve E3, E7 - 14:17 / 18:56 / 20:15
E2, E1, E8 for relief - 17:35 / / 00:27
4/23
E1, E14 for relief - 07:44 / 13:52 / 13:53
E7, T16 for smoldering carboard - 08:05 / 13:53 / 13:53
E15, E8 to assist - 13:06 / 14:09 / 14:09
E3, T11 - 13:21 / / 20:18
T7, E9 - 19:31 / / 02:49

4/24

E6 to relieve E9 - 02:51 / 08:50 / 08:50

- 7/8/1980 - 1600 Fayetteville Street - Old Eliza Poole School - Three alarms
E2, E13, E3, T1, T7, E6, E7, T5, E1, E3
- 8/9/1980 - 424 S. McDowell Street - Hunt General Tire Company warehouse - \$700,000 - Three alarms
E1, E13, C5, T1, E3, E5, T7, T11, E4, T16, E6
- 11/12/1980 - 5603 A Wake Forest Road
E15, E4, C4, T11, T16, E9 for relief
- 12/27/1980 - 4357 Avent Ferry Road
E8, E5, C6, T5, T11 / E8, C6 for rekindle
- 3/2/1981 - 3026 North Boulevard
E11, E4, C4, T11, E7
- 3/3/1981 - 1123 Crab Orchard Drive
E8, E5, T5, C6, E13, + county? Cary?
- 3/3/1981 - 508 W. Johnson Street - Caudle Sand & Rock
- 3/20/1981 - 6383 New Market Way
E15, E9, C4, T1, E4, T11
- 7/7/1981 - 120 Fayetteville Street Mall - Mangel Building - Four alarms
E1, E3, T1 - 0850 / 0854 / 1737
E2, T5, E5, T12, R12 - 0904 / / 1534 (to 100 S. Salisbury St)
E4, R14 - 0950 / 0953 / 1738 (to Hargett and Fayetteville)
E13, E11, E9, E6, T16, E10, E7, E8, E3? - 1044 / / 1639 (to Fayetteville and Morgan)
T1, E15 - 1433 / 1436 / 1511 (to Wilmington and Hargett)
E7, E14 - 1718 / / 1735 (first responder)
E14, E9 - 2038 / / 2130 (first responder)
E10 - 0043 / 0049 / 0050 (first responder)
- 2/3/1982 - 218 E. Cabarrus Street - Tupper Memorial Church
E3, E1, C2, T5, E13, T1, C3, R7
- 2/22/1982 - 6000 Falls of Neuse Road -
E15, E9, T11, T1 + county?
- 4/24/1982 - 500 Glenwood Avenue - Pine State Creamery
E5, E13, T5, C5, E1, T1, C3, R6; second alarm E3, C3, E6, C5
- 4/29/1982 - 537 E. Jones Street
- 4/30/1982 - 1436 Rock Quarry Road - Feather Processing plant
E10, E3, C5, R7, E1, T12, C2, C7, E1, E11
- 1/25/1983 - 1415 S. Bloodworth Street
E3, E1, C5, R7, T1, E13, E2
- 4/27/1983 - 5315 Dana Drive - Apartments

E8, E5, R6, T8, T1, E13

- 11/10/1983 - 425 Glenwood Avenue - Pine State Creamery?
E6, E13, T5, C3, C53, FU1, FU5, T1, E5, C52, E6
- 12/12/1983 - 13 Heath Street - Lincoln Park Pentecostal Holiness Church
E3, E12, T12, C52, E7, R6, T1
- 3/3/1984 - 1436 Rock Quarry Road - Watson's Seafood & Poultry
- 6/22/1984 - 117 East Hargett Street - Furniture company
- 8/27/1984 - Harrington Street - Old Southern School Supply
- 10/3/1984 - 112 West Lane Street - Howard Building - Three alarms
E1, E3, T1, R7, C52 - 16:22
E7 manpower - 16:25
E4, T5 - manpower - 16:27
E4? - 16:39
Haz-mat - 16:45
E6 to relieve E3 - 23:43
E8 manpower - 23:54
E14, E16, T8, C52 for relief - 02:48
- 2/20/1985 - 900 W. Hodges Street - Sparkles
E14, E11, T11, C51 - 1:17
E9, R7 - 1:24
E7, E6, T1 - 1:58
E13 - 4:26
E4 manpower - 7:54
R7 manpower - 11:02
E13 stand by at Station 4 - 02:11
- 3/16/1985 - 997 & 1104 Harp Street
- 3/28/1985 - 2401 S. Saunders Street
- 4/20/1985 - 1001 Fox Hunt Lane - Hunting Ridge Apartments
E15, E9, T11, T16, C1, C2, C51, R_
- 7/28/1985 - 4400ish Six Forks Road - Damage at least \$100,000 - North Hills Plaza
- 12/10/1985 - 2302 Bernard Street
E4, E6, T11, C51; 2nd: E9, T5

Name: (real name)

Remember personal info?