

About Revolution Park

Revolution Park began as three separate single family developments between 1945 and 1948. The first was, *Beech Nut Acres*, the land was owned and developed by Osmond L. Barringer. *Beech Nut Acres* subdivision boundaries are West Boulevard and Barringer Drive along the primary street of Beech Nut Road. The second, *Scotland Hills*, was developed by the Jacksonville Housing Company. It is the subdivision bound by Beech Nut Road, West Boulevard, Remount Road (formerly Shuman Avenue) and Barringer Drive. The *West Boulevard* subdivision was developed by Marsh Realty. It is bound by West Boulevard, Remount Road, Barringer Drive and I-77.

The name *Revolution Park* is believed to have origins to Osmond L. Barringer's familial connection to the Revolutionary War.

People, Places and Events

- ❖ Part of the land for Revolution Park was donated by Osmond L. Barringer. For a time it was the largest public park in the city.
- ❖ Mr. Barringer was quite a local icon: First to own a car in the county; first to take an X-ray photo as a student at Davidson College; was a driver for four presidents when they visited the area; and first automobile dealer in Charlotte.
- ❖ The Revolution Golf Course, formerly Bonnie Brae golf course, was desegregated in 1957. It is the city's first public course.
- ❖ The park and golf course had reversionary clauses in the deed. If the property was allowed for use by African Americans the land would revert to the Osmond L Barringer family.
- ❖ The old Revolution Pool was funded by the Works Progress Administration (WPA), a federal program designed in the administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression. This program aimed specifically to put people to work on public works projects ranging from bridges to public buildings to highways to swimming pools. The pool cost \$120,000 and opened in 1938.
- ❖ The Revolution Pool was the first public swimming facility in Charlotte. It was desegregated in 1960 and demolished in 2006.