

Preserving history

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The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center (DHC) is located at the Wilson Library at UNC Chapel Hill. In October, the center announced that it would provide information about its collections to the Digital Public Library of America. DPL provides a single point of access for millions of books, photographs, documents, sound recordings and moving images from some of the leading libraries and archives across the country.



NCDHC

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center is a statewide digitization and digital publishing program. The DHC works with cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historical materials online. DHC provides libraries, archives, museums, historical societies and other cultural heritage institutions the opportunity to promote and increase access to their collections through digitization.

The Center is supported by the State Library of North Carolina with funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, and by the UNC Chapel Hill University Library.

Since its founding in 2010, DHC has digitized more than 2 million pages. These collections are online at <http://digitalnc.org>. The images are high resolution and can be downloaded at no cost.

UNC students in the Library Science program use several methods to preserve the records. Flat plate digital scanners, book scanners, overhead color scanners, high-quality digital camera are used to capture everything from photos, documents, framed items, yearbooks and even stuffed animals and dresses.

By digitizing records, future generations can learn about life in the past, from old photographs, to civic societies, to the price of meat in old newspaper ads, to details of a historic basketball game.