



North Carolina

DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report, July - September 2010

During this quarter, the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center made significant progress on existing collections, enacted new outreach tools, and established new relationships with several institutions.

Staff

Two new students were hired to work on Digital Heritage Center projects this quarter. Liz Johns, a graduate student in the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill, began work in September and began contributing to a number of projects right away. Liz has made especially good progress on the Durham Urban Renewal Records. Also in September, Abby Moore, a UNC undergraduate, began work in the Digital Production Center. Abby will work primarily on digitizing large-format materials for Digital Heritage Center partner institutions.

DigitalNC.org

The web portal for the NC Digital Heritage Center, DigitalNC.org, was available throughout this quarter, and saw a steady increase in traffic from users in North Carolina and beyond.

Projects

During this quarter, the NC Digital Heritage Center has made significant progress on six of the initial pilot projects, all of which now have materials available online.

"Digital Davie"

<http://digitalInc.org/collections/digital-davie>

This collection of historic photographs from the Davie County Public Library now includes over 400 images, with more to be added soon. In addition to the images and descriptive information, the project home page includes introductory text prepared by the local history librarian at the Davie County Library. "Digital Davie" could serve as a model for future local history projects to be developed with Digital Heritage Center.

Masonic Home for Children at Oxford

<http://digitalInc.org/institutions/sallie-mae-ligon-museum-archives-masonic-home-children-oxford>

Thirty-six items from the Sallie Mae Ligon Museum and Archives at the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford are now available online. The materials include early photo albums, architectural drawings, and a very impressive panoramic photo of the campus. This project is completed.

Wilson County's Greatest Generation: The Memories of the World War II Veterans of Wilson County, N.C.

<http://digitalInc.org/collections/wilson-wwii>

The Digital Production Center at UNC-Chapel Hill made great progress in the digitization of these scrapbooks, which were compiled by the Wilson County Historical Association. To date over 3,000 pages have been digitized. These comprise files for 260 veterans, which are now accessible online. This project is completed.

Durham County Urban Renewal Records

<http://digitalInc.org/collections/durham>

Digitization of this important collection has been completed. Nearly 6,000 pages have been digitized and are now being processed and uploaded by NC Digital Heritage Center staff. There are currently 378 photographs and 206 property appraisals available on the project website, with more added on a regular basis.

Orange County Historical Museum

<http://digitalnc.org/institutions/orange-county-historical-museum>

There are 41 items from the Orange County Historical Museum now available on DigitalNC.org. These represent a wide variety of materials from the collection, including quilts, historic clothing, currency, weights and measures, and a handwritten diary. Several items were photographed at the museum by Digital Production Center staff, including an old adding machine, a desk that belonged to Governor Thomas Burke, and a Civil War rifle.

Elizabeth City State University

<http://digitalnc.org/institutions/elizabeth-city-state-university>

Over 100 historic photos from the Elizabeth City State University Archives have been added to the Images of North Carolina project. These images were scanned by the Elizabeth City State University Archives, and the archivist provided all of the metadata. This project can serve as an example of how the NC Digital Heritage Center can work with organizations that have the capacity to digitize and describe their materials, but could still look to the Center to publish the collections online.

North Carolina College and University Yearbooks

<http://digitalnc.org/collections/nc-yearbooks>

The college and university yearbook collection continues to be one of the most popular and most visible projects developed by the NC Digital Heritage Center. We have now heard from a majority of the public and accredited private colleges and universities in the state, and have yearbook digitization scheduled through September 2011.

Yearbooks Currently Available Online

Appalachian State University

Campbell University

Chowan University

East Carolina University

Elizabeth City State University

Elon University
Greensboro College
Guilford College
High Point University
Johnson C. Smith University
Louisburg College

Meredith College
North Carolina Central University
Surry Community College
UNC-Chapel Hill
UNC-Greensboro

Yearbooks to be Digitized

Fayetteville State University
Wake Forest University
Belmont Abbey
Brevard College
St. Andrews Presbyterian College

Gardner-Webb University
North Carolina A&T
Winston-Salem State University
UNC-Asheville
UNC-Charlotte

North Carolina Newspapers

During this quarter we began planning a pilot project to investigate the feasibility of digitizing newspapers from both print and microfilm. Student newspapers from Elizabeth City State University in print format were delivered to the Digital Heritage Center in September and digitization and metadata capture had begun by the end of the reporting period. Reels of *The News-Journal*, a weekly paper from Raeford, N.C. have been selected to assess outsourcing as a possible method of microfilm digitization. Permission has been received from the newspaper publisher.

Outreach

In order to share news about the NC Digital Heritage Center and feature materials from contributing institutions, two new outreach tools were added this quarter. Program staff now post regularly on a blog called "Digital North Carolina," available on the DigitalNC.org website. Blog entries

announce new projects and contributors and feature fun and interesting materials from the online collections. Users can also access information about the Digital Heritage Center through Facebook. Project staff members were finding, through analyzing web statistics, that there were many visitors who were referred DigitalNC.org from links on other Facebook posts and profiles. On the NC Digital Heritage Center Facebook page

<http://digitalnc.org/blog>

<http://www.facebook.com/NCDigitalHeritageCenter>

New Partnerships

The Digital Heritage Center continues to hear from institutions interested in collaborating on digital projects. During this quarter, Digital Heritage Center staff had discussions with the Ashe County Public Library, the Braswell Memorial Library in Rocky Mount, the Tufts Archive in Pinehurst, UNC-Charlotte, the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library in Charlotte, the Southport Maritime Museum, and the Mooresville Public Library. We hope to develop new projects with these organizations and others very soon.

Technology

The Applications Analyst worked to maintain the DigitalNC website as collections continue to grow—expanding functionality, helping Systems staff keep server software up-to-date, assessing storage concerns, and assisting Digital Heritage Center staff in organizing and adding new items.

End-user Development

The Applications Analyst continued to adjust interfaces to aid in discovery and use of collections and objects. Front-end DigitalNC.org Drupal templates as well as the original CONTENTdm templates were edited based on both Google Analytics feedback and responses received from the site-wide contact form added in the previous quarter. Brand-new site components include the DigitalNC Blog, browse pages, RSS feeds for collections, and MediaRSS/CoolIris support for viewing images.

Administrative Development

DigitalNC Drupal and CONTENTdm software installations as well as DigitalNC server components underwent significant upgrades this quarter. The Applications Analyst continued to assist Library Systems staff with upgrades and provided feedback while troubleshooting changes in the software and its environment. The Applications Analyst also assessed server storage and performance as new collections and media types were added.

Statistics

Items Online by Project and Contributor

Project / Contributor	Number of Items
Images of North Carolina	
Davie County Public Library	382
Masonic Home, Oxford	36
Elizabeth City State	110
Orange County Museum	34
UNC-Chapel Hill	19
Wilson County Library	316
Wilson County World War II	278
Durham Urban Renewal Records	1,292
NC College and University Yearbooks (all schools)	1,097
Total	3,248

Scans Available Online (an item can contain many scans)

Project	Number of Scans
Images of North Carolina	1,047
Wilson County World War II	4,252
Durham Urban Renewal Records	2,352
NC College and University Yearbooks	250,473

Visitors to DigitalNC.org, July 1 through September 30

Unique visitors	11,119
Average visits per day	178.4
Visits from North Carolina	11,161
Total number of visits	16,415