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# North Carolina

## DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

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### **Quarterly Report, January – March 2013**

During the fourth quarter of 2012, the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center worked with twenty different partner institutions, nine of which completed their first projects with the Center. Digitization and digital publishing efforts continued throughout the quarter, even as the Center dealt the departure of a full-time staff member.

#### ***New Partners***

Nine different cultural heritage organizations had materials published through the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center for the first time this quarter.

Five of the member libraries in the **Northwestern Regional Library System** worked with the Digital Heritage Center to digitize selected materials from their local and family history collections.

#### **Elkin Public Library**

The Elkin Public Library holds a large scrapbook prepared in 1943 by the Junior Chamber of Commerce. The scrapbook includes photographs, newspaper clippings, and programs documenting many aspects of life in Elkin.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/elkin-public-library>

**King Public Library**

The King Public Library contributed two scrapbooks to be digitized: a volume containing clippings and other information about World War II veterans from King, and a scrapbook containing memories of King High School, which operated from 1909-1964.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/king-public-library>

**Mount Airy Public Library**

The Digital Heritage Center worked with the Mount Airy Public Library to digitize two clipping files and a city directory. The clipping files document an infamous 1912 shoot-out at the courthouse in nearby Hillsville, Virginia, and other topics related to people and industries in Mount Airy.

<http://digitalnc.org/institutions/mount-airy-public-library>

**Yadkin County Public Library**

The Yadkin County Public Library contributed several scrapbooks to be digitized, including two each from the Yadkinville Women's Club and the Windsor's Cross Roads Grange in the 1950s and one documenting the restoration of a well-known historic home in the 1960s.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/yadkin-county-public-library>

**Alleghany County Public Library**

The Digital Heritage Center digitized three scrapbooks from the Alleghany County Public Library. Two of these document World War II veterans from the county, and the third contains historic photos of churches.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/alleghany-county-public-library>

**NC LIVE**

In preparation for its fifteenth anniversary celebration, NC LIVE worked with the Digital Heritage Center to digitize and present online a scrapbook containing clippings and photographs documenting the launch of the statewide library service in 1998.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/nc-live>

### **Mitchell Community College**

Mitchell Community College contributed 68 yearbooks to the college and university yearbook collection. The earliest is from the Statesville Female College in 1908, one of the predecessor schools of the current community college.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/mitchell-community-college>

### **Granville County Public Library**

The Granville County Public Library holds a large collection of local yearbooks and materials related to the Oxford Female College. The Digital Heritage Center digitized 67 volumes this quarter, primarily high school yearbooks from Oxford.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/granville-county-public-library>

### **Stokes County Historical Society**

The Digital Heritage Center worked with the Stokes County Historical Society to publish online ten early photographs from 19th century local photographer James Madison Tesh. These photographs were donated to the Historical Society on the condition that the Society work with the Digital Heritage Center to make them available online.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/stokes-county-historical-society>

## **Ongoing Projects**

The Digital Heritage Center worked with existing partners on many different projects this quarter. Colleges and universities continue to contribute materials from their archives and local history collections: **Salem College** contributed a large selection of course catalogs and other early campus publications; the Center digitized and published online more than fifty years' worth of

student newspapers and newsletters from **North Carolina Wesleyan College** in Rocky Mount; **Elizabeth City State University** sent two recently-acquired class photos from the 1920s to be published on DigitalNC; the libraries at **UNC-Chapel Hill** and **North Carolina A&T** contributed historic campus publications for digitization; and **UNC-Charlotte** sent several drawers from a card index to be digitized using the high-speed sheet scanner in the Digital Production Center in Wilson Library.

The number of public libraries working with the Digital Heritage Center is growing, and many of these libraries return after completing their initial projects to contribute more materials from their local history collections. The **Davie County Public Library**, one of the first to work with the Center, brought a collection of local folk art and early documents and artifacts to be digitized in March. By arrangement, these materials were digitized in a single day, enabling the library director to pick them up and bring them back to Mocksville just a few hours after dropping them off. The **Forsyth County Public Library** contributed a large collection of early Winston-Salem high school yearbooks, a collection that has already received a large number of visits from online users. The **Braswell Memorial Library** in Rocky Mount sent a copy of the 1963 student yearbook from Hickory High School, a special request from graduates celebrating their 50th class reunion this year. The **Pender County Public Library** facilitated the delivery and digitization of a set of early railroad maps from the **Wilmington Railroad Museum**. And finally, the Digital Heritage Center added many early years from *The Pilot*, the local newspaper in Southern Pines, which was nominated for digitization by the **Southern Pines Public Library**.

The Digital Heritage Center has worked with a total of **119 different partners** to date.

### ***City Directories***

The North Carolina City Directories collection grew substantially this quarter with the addition of more than 300 newly digitized titles. The collection now includes 931 titles representing 108 different cities and towns. The majority of the titles are from the North Carolina Collection at

UNC-Chapel Hill, but several other college and public libraries have contributed directories to be digitized, and the Center is actively reaching out to libraries who might have directories that would fill gaps in the online collection with the goal of digitizing and sharing online every directory published through 1963 (more recent volumes have a different copyright status).

## **Publicity**

The Digital Heritage Center received a few mentions in publications and blogs this quarter. The *Winston-Salem Journal* reported on the Center's digitization of high school yearbooks from the Forsyth County Public Library; a newspaper editorial in Little Rock, Arkansas, mentioned the Center in a piece about yearbooks; and the blog of the New England Historic Genealogical Society ran a "Spotlight" on the resources available on DigitalNC.org in its weekly newsletter.

## **Digitization**

This quarter, the Digital Heritage Center worked on materials from twenty different partner institutions. The materials digitized included yearbooks, city directories and other monographs that were digitized by the Internet Archive staff based in Wilson Library. During this quarter, **582 volumes** containing a total of **94,229 pages** were digitized by the Internet Archive for North Carolina Digital Heritage Center partners. This is a decrease from previous quarters, due largely to the departure of one of the Internet Archive staff members who was responsible for book digitization.

Digital Heritage Center staff and students also continued work on digitizing materials in the Digital Production Center in Wilson Library. During this quarter Digital Heritage Center students captured **17,128 digital images** of content provided by the Center's partner institutions.

## **Technical Notes**

Digital Heritage Center staff finished a major update to the organization of the North Carolina City Directories collection this quarter. By moving from one large collection to many smaller collections, the Center hopes to avoid performance issues that had appeared several months ago. This was a labor-intensive process, but was ultimately necessary in order to improve the usability of this popular collection.

Digital Heritage Center programmer Stephanie Williams continued to make adjustments to the tools she has developed that enable the Center to create valid METS/ALTO files for digitized newspapers. Marking up digitized newspapers using these standards, developed and maintained by the Library of Congress, will ensure that the papers digitized by the Center can be easily shared and preserved. These processes were tested this quarter during the markup and publication of several reels of *The Pilot*, a newspaper from Southern Pines. The successful publication of *The Pilot* is a very promising development, an important first step in a more efficient and sustainable method of digitizing and publishing historic newspapers online.

## **Staff Changes**

At the end of February, Digital Projects Librarian Maggie Dickson left her position with the Digital Heritage Center to move to New York. Maggie was responsible for much of the day-to-day management of the Center's work, overseeing digitization, metadata creation, digital publishing, and preservation of digitized materials. Maggie played an essential role in the growth and success of the Center to date. The Digital Projects Librarian position has been posted and a search committee is actively reviewing applications, hoping to fill the job by late Spring or early Summer.

There was also some turnover this quarter among the graduate students working for the Digital Heritage Center. Two of the students left their positions at the end of the 2012 calendar year.

One new student, Amber Sherman, was hired to begin in January, and two students who worked with the Center last fall, Nathalie Baudrand and Rachel Mundstock, were hired to work additional hours in the Spring semester. Amber, Nathalie, and Rachel are students in the School of Information and Library Science at UNC-Chapel Hill.

## Items Online by Project

Project	Number of Objects	Number of Pages (Scans)
Images of North Carolina	4,693	5,120
North Carolina Memory	2,128	54,973
North Carolina Newspapers (number of issues)	25,070	164,122
Durham Urban Renewal Records	1,799	4,293
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	3,904	660,767
Other Campus Publications	2,415	419,234
High School Yearbooks	606	64,797
North Carolina City Directories	931	532,848
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,747</b>	<b>1,905,974</b>

## Visitors to DigitalNC.org, January 1 through March 31, 2013

Unique visitors	55,434
Average visits per day	616
Visits from North Carolina	38,526
Total number of visits	69,794
Total number of pageviews	347,926