



North Carolina

DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2017

This quarter the Digital Heritage Center conducted another successful on-location scanning visit, co-hosted a local history professionals conference in Wilson Library, and worked on accessibility improvements to DigitalNC.org.

New Partners

ARTS COUNCIL OF FAYETTEVILLE / CUMBERLAND COUNTY

We were first approached by the Arts Council of Fayetteville / Cumberland County in the fall of 2016 about digitizing materials in their collection. We were excited they selected materials from the creation of the Veteran's Park in Fayetteville as their priority for digitization. The Veteran's Park opened to the public in 2011. The materials digitized include information on the design process that the city of Fayetteville underwent for the park, as well as information about all the veterans and artists from each county in North Carolina that is featured at the park. As a result, not only is Cumberland County represented but all 100 counties in North Carolina.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/arts-council-of-fayettevillecumberland-county/>

THE FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY

The Forest History Society is a nonprofit organization located in Durham, North Carolina, that is dedicated to the collection and preservation of materials concerning forest history and conservation. The Forest History Society represents information about forestry around the world, but the materials now up on DigitalNC are specific to North Carolina. In our first project with the FHS, we digitized fantastic photographs of North Carolina forests that date back to 1923 and vertical files that cover many topics related to North Carolina's forests. Most of the materials feature areas in the mountains of North Carolina.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/the-forest-history-society/>

GREENE COUNTY MUSEUM

Greene County Museum is an exciting partner for us to add this quarter as we had not worked with anyone in Greene County previously. The museum is in Snow Hill, NC and operates because of the tireless work of an all-volunteer staff. Thanks to the museum, there are now 47 yearbooks from high schools in Hookerton, Maury, Snow Hill, and Walstonburg on DigitalNC.

<http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/greene-county-museum/>

Ongoing Projects

Jessica Serrao, Julia Gootzeit, Spencer Bevis, and Kayla Richardson-Piche digitized and published online materials from many of the Center's current partners, including:

- photographs from **Benson Museum of Local History, Central Carolina Community College, and Edgecombe County Memorial Library**
- scrapbooks from **Central Piedmont Community College, the Heritage Research Center at High Point Public Library and Southeastern Community College**
- yearbooks and campus publications from **Cape Fear Community College, Johnston County Heritage Center, Olivia Raney Local History Library, and South Piedmont Community College**
- yearbooks and scrapbooks from the **Granville County Public Library**
- school newspapers from **Belmont Abbey College**
- early Baptist newspapers from **Wake Forest University**
- funeral programs from **Durham County Library**
- photographs, published materials, and ephemera documenting African American and Hispanic communities from **Forsyth County Public Library, Randolph County Public Library, and Watauga County Public Library**

- a film from **Davie County Public Library**
- slides, architectural drawings, and ephemera from the **Gaston Museum of Art and History** (more information below)
- scrapbooks, letters, and minutes from the **Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina**
- photographs and scrapbooks from **Braswell Memorial Library**
- microfilmed newspapers nominated by **Forsyth County Public Library; Margaret and James Harper, Jr. Library; Pasquotank Public Library; and UNC-Pembroke**

The Center worked with a total of **27 different partners** during this quarter.

On the Road

Both conferences and partner visits kept us busy during this quarter. Lisa Gregory presented on working with under-represented institutions at the Digital Library Federation Annual Forum, and on the Digital Summit and the North Carolina Community College Archives Association at NCLA's biannual conference. Stephanie Williams attended All Things Open in Raleigh, a web development conference focusing on open source solutions. Kristen Merryman presented at the North Carolina School Library Media Association's annual conference, and spoke about newspapers and DigitalNC during the State Library's Virtual Family History Fair.

We took our first trip to the **Henderson Memorial Institute**, and received a warm welcome and tour while picking up materials for digitization. **Kings Mountain Historical Museum** and the **Mauney Memorial Library**, recipients of an LSTA digitization grant, held a kickoff meeting that Lisa attended and where she discussed metadata creation for the items they'll be digitizing. During that trip, she picked up partner materials in Lexington and Gastonia.

In November, the Digital Heritage Center co-hosted "Share & Learn," a Conference for Local History Professionals at Wilson Library. This conference brought together a group of around 40 local history librarians and historians to share best practices and to give them an opportunity to meet and talk about their challenges and successes. Many current partners attended this event and the feedback was

Project Highlight

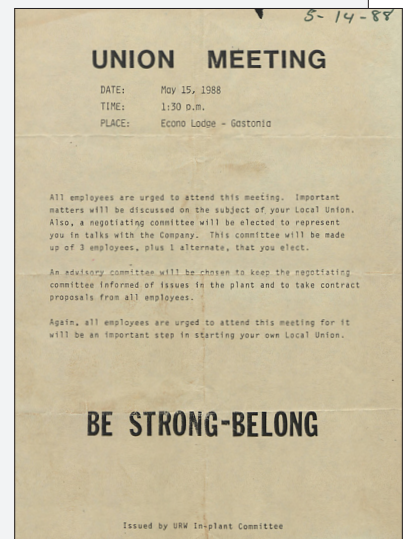
DOCUMENTING COMMUNITIES

This summer the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center staff was approached by Dr. Robert Allen and Lucas Kelley from the Department of American Studies and the Community Histories Workshop at **UNC-Chapel Hill** to partner with them on a class project for their fall semester class, "Documenting Communities." They wanted students to see the full process of a digitization project and assist with one. We happily agreed to work with them and it was decided the students would digitize materials that had been provided by our partner the **Gaston Museum of Art and History**¹ relating to union efforts at the Firestone Mill in Gastonia.

The Loray/Firestone Mill is one of the mill communities that the Community Histories Workshop has been working to document, so it was a good fit for the class and us. The students came to our office for a class session focused on metadata creation and were split into groups to scan and assign metadata to the materials from Gaston Museum. The result was 26 objects, including brochures, newsletters, and correspondence added to the site with description and a guest blog post from the class to the DigitalNC blog.² We were excited to support student learning on the UNC-Chapel Hill campus and hope to build more collaborations in the future.

¹ <http://www.digitalnc.org/blog/loray-digital-archive-expanded-to-include-1980s-union-efforts-at-firestone-mill/>

² <http://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/gaston-county-museum-of-art-history/>



Advertisement for a union meeting in Gastonia, May 15, 1988.

overwhelmingly positive. Kristen, Stephanie, and Lisa all presented and attended portions of the conference.

We had our second on-location scanning trip in December at the **Johnston County Heritage Center**. This day-long trip allowed us to scan over 150 photographs from their extensive collection. Students and staff set up in the conference room and spent the day hard at work scanning and creating metadata. We were also able to meet with the Center's staff and volunteers. It was such a successful visit we may make it an annual event.

Web Technology Update

This quarter, Stephanie Williams began work to make DigitalNC web sites accessible under the W3C Web Accessibility Initiative's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines. The Digital Heritage Center is pursuing level AA compliance, as recommended by peers. This work is ongoing, and will make DigitalNC content more accessible to people with disabilities.

The Digital Heritage Center also piloted a new file sharing procedure this quarter. The new system utilizes Amazon S3 to provide a convenient means of transferring scanned files between institutions. Thank you to **High Point Museum** and **Central Piedmont Community College** for helping us test and refine the process!

Content Migration

The Center continued to evaluate digital library software toward migrating all digital content out of CONTENTdm in 2018. This quarter, over twenty potential software solutions were narrowed to nine for hands-on testing. Of those nine, three frontrunners were identified: LIMB gallery, Orange Logic's Cortex, and the Invenio Digital Library Framework.

Final testing and vendor communication took place in December. Pending contract negotiations, the Center's decision will be announced in the first quarter of 2018. In the meantime, NCDHC staff have begun preparing for migration: several weeks in December were devoted to cleaning up and streamlining metadata for import into a new system.

As soon as a timeline is finalized, partners can expect to receive communication concerning potential service interruptions as a result of the migration process.

Consultations

For this statistic, we're counting NCDHC full-time staff consulting on NCDHC services, digitization, digital publication or another related topic. These consultations are substantive, last at least 10-15 minutes, can take place virtually or in person, and do not include presentations or workshops.

Examples this quarter include talking with Piedmont International University, a prospective partner, about digitization and our digitization services, and with the Marian Cheek Jackson Center in Chapel Hill about their Oral History Trust project.

TOTAL CONSULTATIONS: 5

Statistics

ITEMS PUBLISHED ONLINE TO DATE

Collection	Number of Objects	Number of Pages (Scans)
Images of North Carolina	18,288	30,717
North Carolina Memory	9,466	313,556
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	4,383	728,611
Other Campus Publications	4,497	661,737
High School Yearbooks	3,078	322,002
North Carolina City Directories	1,016	570,976
North Carolina Sights & Sounds	341	1,115
Total	41,069	2,628,714

Collection	Titles	Issues	Number of Pages (Scans)
North Carolina Newspapers	328	115,604	959,000

VISITORS TO DIGITALNC.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2017

Unique visitors	99,280
Average sessions per day	1,676
Total number of sessions	154,233
Sessions from North Carolina	91,968
Total number of page views	965,978

VIEWS OF DIGITIZED MATERIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH ARCHIVE.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2017

350,326

NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

<http://www.digitalnc.org>

digitalnc@unc.edu

(919) 962-4836