North Carolina Joins the DPLA

In October of last year, North Carolina joined the Digital Public Library of America (DPLA), with the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center as the state’s DPLA hub. The Digital Public Library of America is a fast growing and high profile effort to bring together digital items from libraries, archives, and museums around the country into a single searchable interface. Institutions like the Smithsonian and the National Archives and Records Administration, as well as hubs from Georgia, Texas, Kentucky and more are represented in the collection of over 5 million records.

As a hub, institutions throughout North Carolina can participate in the DPLA by sharing information about their digital collections with us, and we in turn provide it to the DPLA as a single stream. The list of institutions is growing, and currently includes: East Carolina University, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources (including the State Library and State Archives), UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC-Greensboro, Appalachian State University, Elon University, UNC-Charlotte, Pender County Public Library, Western Carolina University, and the 130+ institutions that have contributed through the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center.

What’s the benefit of the DPLA? For contributing institutions, sharing digital collection metadata through the DPLA gives them yet another access point where new users can discover content. Because the DPLA provides its data through an API, programmers can develop apps or other creative re-uses that include North Carolina content. For users, the DPLA allows them to search across millions of items from all over the country in one place.

You can see all of North Carolina’s content – over 170,000 items – on the DPLA website at the link below.

http://digitalnc.org
In November, the Digital Heritage Center digitized scrapbooks and photographs from the Durham County Library documenting the early life and career of college tennis player, Irwin Holmes. Born in Reidsville, N.C., Holmes enrolled at North Carolina State University in Raleigh in 1956. He made history as the first African American to earn an undergraduate degree from NCSU as well as being the first African American athlete at the University.

Holmes graduated with a degree in engineering in 1960 and went on to work in the technology sector. The scrapbooks were put together by Holmes' mother and include childhood and family photographs, as well as clippings and memorabilia related to Holmes' tennis career.

Keep Up with the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center:

DIGITALNC BLOG
Highlights from the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center collections. Available in RSS format.

VISIT ONLINE
http://digitalnc.org/blog

FACEBOOK
Announcements and featured images.

VISIT ONLINE
http://www.facebook.com/NCDigitalHeritageCenter

FLICKR
Highlights from the yearbook and newspaper projects.

VISIT ONLINE
http://www.flickr.com/photos/digitalnc/

TWITTER
Updates from the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center and colleagues.

VISIT ONLINE
http://twitter.com/ncdhc

TUMBLR
North Carolina Yearbook #POTW.

VISIT ONLINE
http://digitalnc.tumblr.com

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WILLIAMSTON ENTERPRISE

The Enterprise, a weekly newspaper from Williamston, is now available in the North Carolina Newspapers digital collection, featuring issues that cover the years 1901 through 1934. The paper focused mainly on local news during this period, with some coverage of national and international items of interest, including the Titanic, World War I news, and the stock market crash in 1929. Farming interests were also well covered by the paper, important topics in the agricultural community in and around Martin County.

FOREST CITY COURIER

Quoting the U.S. Department of Agriculture Survey reporting that Forest City is “One of the Ten Best Planned and Most Beautiful Cities in the U.S.A.” on its byline, the Courier covers Forest City and surrounding towns in Rutherford County. The issues available on DigitalNC cover the time period of 1919 through 1931. Frequent topics include local issues such as the need for road improvements and the promotion of tourism in North Carolina. During these years, the Courier ran a regular column titled “Important News the World Over: Important Happening of this and Other Nations for Seven Days Given.”

THE ENTERPRISE

Spray Mercantile, 1890.

Staff pose behind the counter in this interior view of Spray Mercantile in Rockingham County. Contributed to the Images of North Carolina collection by Rockingham Community College.
OUR PARTNERS

The following institutions have worked with the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center to share materials from their collections online at DigitalNC.org:

- Alamance County Public Libraries
- Alleghany County Public Library
- Appalachian State University
- Ashe County Public Library
- Barton College
- Belmont Abbey College
- Bennett College
- Braswell Memorial Library, Rocky Mount, N.C.
- Brevard College
- Buncombe County Public Libraries
- Cabarrus College of Health Sciences
- Cabarrus County Public Library
- Campbell University
- Carolinas Aviation Museum
- Carolinas College of Health Sciences
- Catawba College
- Central Carolina Community College
- Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum
- Charlotte Mecklenburg Library
- Chatham County Historical Association
- Chatham County Public Library
- Chowan University
- Cleveland Community College
- College of the Albemarle
- Core Sound Waterfowl Museum & Heritage Center
- Cumberland County Public Library
- Danbury Public Library
- Davidson College
- Davie County Public Library
- Duke University
- Durham County Library
- Durham Technical Community College
- East Carolina University
- Edgecombe Community College
- Elizabeth City State University
- Elon Public Library
- Elon University
- Farmville Public Library
- Fayetteville State University
- Fayetteville Technical Community College
- Forsyth County Public Library
- Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program
- Gardner-Webb University
- Gaston College
- Gaston County Public Library
- Granville County Museum
- Granville County Public Library
- Greensboro College
- Greensboro Historical Museum
- Guilford College
- Halifax County Library System
- Harnett County Public Library
- Haywood County Public Library
- Henderson Institute Historical Museum
- Hickory Public Library
- High Point University
- Hocutt-Ellington Memorial Library (Clayton, N.C.)
- Jewish Historical Society of Greater Charlotte located at the Levine-Sikut Judaic Library and Resource Center
- Johnson C. Smith University
- King Public Library
- Kings Mountain Historical Museum
- Lees-McRae College
- Lenoir-Rhyne University
- Lincoln County Public Library
- Louisburg College
- Madison County Public Library
- Mars Hill College
- Martin Memorial Public Library
- McDowell County Public Library
- Meredith College
- Methodist University
- Mitchell Community College
- Montgomery County Public Library
- Montreat College
- Mount Airy Public Library
- Mount Olive College
- Museum & Archives of Rockingham County
- Museum of the Albemarle
- NC LIVE
- North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
- North Carolina Central University
- North Carolina Division of State Historic Sites and Properties
- North Carolina Humanities Council
- North Carolina Wesleyan College
- Northwestern Regional Library
- Old Salem Museums & Gardens
- Orange County Historical Museum
-Pasquotank County Library
- Peace College
- Pender County Public Library
- Perry Memorial Library, Henderson, N.C.
- Pfeiffer University
- Piedmont Aviation Historical Society
- Pitt Community College
- Queens University of Charlotte
- Randolph Community College
- Randolph County Public Library
- Richmond Community College
- Robeson County Public Library
- Rockingham Community College
- Rockingham County Public Library
- Rowan-Cabarrus Community College
- Rutherford County Library
- Saint Augustine’s University
- Saint Mary’s School
- Salem College
- Salisbury University
- Shepherd Memorial Library (Greenville, N.C.)
- Sisters of Mercy Archives (Belmont, N.C.)
- Southeastern Community College
- Southern Pines Public Library
- St. Andrews University
- Stanly County Museum
- Stokes County Historical Society
- Surry Community College
- The Crossnore School
- Transylvania County Library
- Tufts Archives, Pinehurst, N.C.
- University of North Carolina at Asheville
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- University of North Carolina at Pembroke
- University of North Carolina at Wilmington
- Wake County Public Libraries
- Wake Forest School of Medicine
- Wake Forest University
- Washington County Library
- Wayne Community College
- Wayne County Public Library
- Western Carolina University
- Western Piedmont Community College
- Wilmington Railroad Museum
- Wilson County Public Library
- Wingate University
- Winston-Salem State University
- Yadkin County Public Library

About the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center is a statewide digitization and digital publishing program housed in the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Digital Heritage Center works with cultural heritage institutions across North Carolina to digitize and publish historic materials online. It 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.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center provides digitization and digital publishing services to cultural heritage organizations in North Carolina. Any organization that is open to the public and holds rare or unique materials related to the history and culture of North Carolina is eligible to work with the Digital Heritage Center. We have worked with libraries, archives, museums, and historical societies from around the state, ranging from very small organizations run by a single person to large academic institutions.

If you are interested in sharing selections from your collection online, or if you have questions about digitization in general, contact the Digital Heritage Center at digitalnc@unc.edu or (919) 962-4836. We are especially interested in hearing from smaller organizations who have not done any digitization on their own, as well as from organizations from counties that are not yet represented on DigitalNC.org.