North Carolina
DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report, July - September 2011

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center staff spent the summer developing projects with new partners, adding to existing projects, reaching out to new communities for the yearbook digitization project, preparing a large collection of digitized city directories, and selecting newspapers to be digitized in the coming year.

New Partners

Several new organizations had materials published through the North Carolina Digital Heritage Center for the first time this quarter.

Rockingham Community College

The Digital Heritage Center worked with the library at Rockingham Community College to digitize 137 historic images of the county. This collection has already been used in the community and was featured in an article in the Greensboro *News and Record*.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/rockingham-community-college

Fort Bragg Cultural Resources Management Program

The Cultural Resources Management Program at Fort Bragg collects historic materials related to the Fort Bragg area prior to its acquisition by the U.S. Army. The Digital Heritage Center digitized a 19th-century scrapbook and an early 20th-century ledger from businesses in Hoke County, as well as a panoramic photograph showing the congregation at Long Street Presbyterian Church in 1922.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/fort-bragg-cultural-resources-management-program

Pender County Public Library

The Pender County Public Library brought a large scrapbook compiled by the Burgaw Jaycees in 1953 to the Digital Heritage Center to be digitized. The scrapbook contains newspaper clippings and a terrific collection of before-and-after photos showing street improvement projects in Burgaw led by the Jaycees.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/pender-county-public-library

Wilmington Railroad Museum

The Digital Heritage Center digitized 23 large, fragile maps showing the land ownership along the route of the Wilmington & Weldon Railroad in the early 20th-century, primarily in Duplin and Pender Counties. These maps will be of great interest to railroad enthusiasts, genealogists, and local historians.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/wilmington-railroad-museum

The Crossnore School

The archives at The Crossnore School in Avery County brought a selection of historic photos to the Digital Heritage Center to be digitized. These images document highlights from the history of the school, especially Mary Martin and Eustace Sloop, the founders of The Crossnore School, and also include a number of great images of students and the Crossnore community.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/crossnore-school

Gaston County Public Library

The Gaston County Public Library had over 100 historic photographs digitized by the Digital Heritage Center. These are primarily images of historic buildings in the county. The Center also digitized a few early maps of downtown Gastonia, including a detailed, hand-drawn map listing residents and businesses in 1895.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/gaston-county-public-library

Wake County Public Libraries

The Digital Heritage Center worked with the Wake County Public Library to publish online a selection of historic images from the Richard B. Harrison Library in Raleigh. These photos document the history of what was for many years the African American library in Raleigh, and include several images of longtime librarian Mollie Huston Lee. The Digital Heritage Center will continue to work with the Wake County Public Libraries in the future, focusing next on the vertical files from the Harrison Library.

http://digitalnc.org/institutions/wake-county-public-libraries

Continuing Projects

In addition to the projects described above, the Digital Heritage Center continued to add to existing collections. New additions during this quarter included:

- Thirty-eight scrapbooks from Bennett College in Greensboro, documenting student life and campus activities, including a visit to the campus by Eleanor Roosevelt in 1945

- Several needlepoint samplers from the North Carolina Collection Gallery, photographed as part of a larger project in which the Digital Heritage Center will invite museums across the state to contribute.

- Student newspapers from Winston-Salem State University, the fourth historically African American college to have its newspapers digitized with the Center.

- A scrapbook from Elon University, compiled by an Elon student in the early 1920s.

North Carolina College and University 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. This quarter, yearbooks from **Salem College**, **Winston-Salem State University**, **Wake Forest Medical School**, **Mars Hill**

College, **Queens University**, and **North Carolina Wesleyan College** were digitized. Yearbooks from 44 different schools are now available through DigitalNC.org.

The program was expanded this summer to include community college yearbooks. As of the end of September, yearbooks from **Central Carolina Community College**, **Cleveland Community College**, **College of the Albemarle** had been completed, with several additional schools scheduled for later in the fall. Over the course of the whole project, 562,761 yearbook pages have been digitized and made available online.
http://digitalnc.org/collections/nc-yearbooks

North Carolina Newspapers

The Digital Heritage Center increased its commitment to newspaper digitization this summer by asking public library directors around the state to nominate titles from their communities to be digitized. There was an excellent response from libraries across the state, suggesting titles spanning a wide variety of time periods and locations. Of the many different papers suggested, 23 titles were chosen. Over the next year these papers will be digitized from microfilm by a vendor, Digital Heritage Center staff and students will gather metadata, and the papers will be loaded to the North Carolina Newspapers collection on DigitalNC.org. This is a major commitment of both staff and technological resources, and represents a significant step toward expanding access to these important and popular resources.
http://digitalnc.org/newspapers-selected-digitization-2011-2012

In addition to the community newspaper digitization, the Center continued to work on digitizing student newspapers from North Carolina's historically black colleges and universities. Papers from Winston-Salem State University were digitized from print, joining online the student papers from North Carolina Central University, Bennett College, and Elizabeth City State University. To date the Center has digitized over 25,000 pages of student and community newspapers.

North Carolina City Directories

The Digital Heritage Center launched a new project this summer: North Carolina City Directories. City directories are an invaluable resource for the study of local and family history, containing names, addresses, occupations, and in some cases even the race of the residents of towns throughout North Carolina in the early- to mid-20th century. Around 200 pre-1923 city directories from the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill, the Durham County Library, and the Forsyth County Library had been digitized as part of an earlier project. The Digital Heritage Center has begun digitizing directories from the remainder of the 1920s and the 1930s. These directories will be published on DigitalNC.org and will be presented so that users can do a keyword search across all of the directories.

http://digitalnc.org/collections/north-carolina-city-directories

Technology

End-user Development

The Applications Analyst continued to adjust interfaces toward the discovery and use of collections and objects, and to better reflect their content. New content inspired ideas for new interfaces, in addition to input from users received via the site-wide contact form and comments. The Applications Analyst is working to further improve the user experience with the upgrades of DigitalNC's two web systems, Drupal and CONTENTdm.

Administrative Development

The Applications Analyst continued to assist Library Systems staff with the ongoing maintenance and troubleshooting of DigitalNC's servers and software and further assisted in the development of plans for major upgrades. The Applications Analyst also developed and assisted in the use of batch scripts, processes, and workflows to prepare and upload growing numbers of digital files.

Statistics

Items Online by Project

Project / Contributor	Number of Items
Images of North Carolina	3,861
North Carolina Memory	586
North Carolina Newspapers (number of issues)	2,446
Durham Urban Renewal Records	1,535
NC College and University Yearbooks (all schools)	2,922
North Carolina City Directories	202
Total	**11,552**

Visitors to DigitalNC.org, July 1 through September 30

Unique visitors	21,475
Average visits per day	350
Visits from North Carolina	20,600
Total number of visits	32,216