



North Carolina

DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2020

This quarter the Digital Heritage Center migrated its newspapers to a new system, attended and presented at virtual events, and digitized partner materials in a limited capacity.

Ongoing Projects

Lulu Zilinskas, Ashlie Brewer, and Kristen Merryman digitized and published online materials from many of the Center's current partners, including:

- Yearbooks from **Durham County Library**, **Granville County Public Library**, and **Henderson County Public Library**
- Student newspapers from **Elon University** and **UNC-Charlotte**
- Photographs from **Johnston County Public Library**
- Minute books and scrapbooks from the **Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of North Carolina**
- Scrapbooks from the **Ahoskie Woman's Club**
- Newspaper issues and yearbooks from **Johnson C. Smith University**
- Mill ledgers and business correspondence from the **Lawndale Historical Society**
- A short film from the **Levine Museum of the New South**
- A recorded panel from **Mitchell Community College**
- Yearbooks, scrapbooks, and photographs from **Smithfield High School Alumni Association**
- A Wake County history book from **Olivia Raney Local History Library**

The Center worked with a total of **14 different partners** during this quarter. To learn more about each of these projects, or to keep up with new items added to DigitalNC, check out the DigitalNC blog.

Technology Update

Together with members of UNC Libraries' infrastructure management team, Stephanie completed work this quarter to overhaul DigitalNC's newspaper search and discovery platform. The new system was built using the open source software Open ONI (<https://open-oni.github.io/>), and was made available to the public on December 3. The North Carolina Newspapers collection is now faster and more accessible, with additional notable improvements: full-color page images are not converted to grayscale for display, and the collection will be able to support planned efforts to dramatically increase the amount of digitized newspaper content available through DigitalNC.

Stephanie joined the Open ONI development community as part of this project; NCDHC's experience migrating a large repository and customizing user experience has already led to several improvements to the original software.

Other Activities

This quarter, Digital Heritage Center staff may have been mostly working from home but we were still attending and presenting at virtual events and meetings.

Ashlie Brewer attended workshops on social media accessibility and captioning, tying in directly to the work she mentions in this report's Project Highlight. Stephanie and Kristen attended the Digital Library Federations' annual forum. Stephanie also attended All Things Open, the Charleston Conference, and **UNC-Chapel Hill Libraries' Community Archives Workshop**. Kristen took part in several meetings for the North Carolina African American Archives Survey working group with the **State Library of North Carolina** and **State Archives of North Carolina**. All NCDHC staff have been reading and discussing Ibram X. Kendi's book, *How to be an Antiracist*, in the UNC Libraries' ongoing staff discussion series.

In addition to attending events, Lisa presented at UNC Libraries' AV summit about the Center's collaboration with the Southern Folklife Collection on audiovisual digitization. She presented during the State Library's New Library Director's Orientation and also helped coordinate a Wikipedia edit-a-thon related to North Carolina Arts and Culture. She gave three presentations about the changes we've been making related to equitable metadata workflows and policies. Kristen presented as part of the Digital Records Management, Preservation, and Advocacy Workshop for the NC Community College Archivists Association, and also co-led the "Community Methods" workshop, which was part of the Community Archives Conversations Workshop Series hosted by UNC Libraries' Southern Historical Collection.

Though we haven't been able to travel to any great length, Lisa took advantage of her proximity to **Alamance Community College** to pick up materials there and visit the library. The library is home to a collection donated by Crystal Lee Sutton, a union organizer that made national headlines and whose story was retold through the film *Norma Rae*. Ranging from personal correspondence to union literature, we plan to have these materials online during the next quarter.

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 to a public library about how to digitize vertical files
- discussing DPLA metadata requirements with partner institutions
- providing information about NCDHC's OCR practices to a peer organization
- answering questions about TIND and digital library software assessment for another digital library program
- helping a partner institution troubleshoot their digital library software

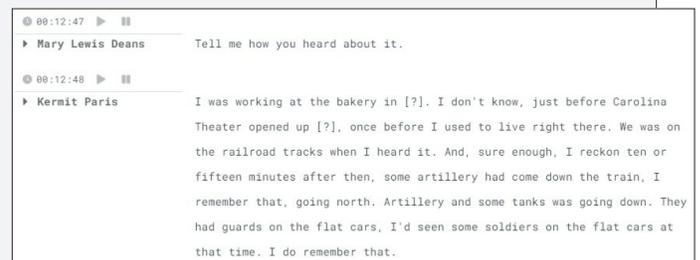
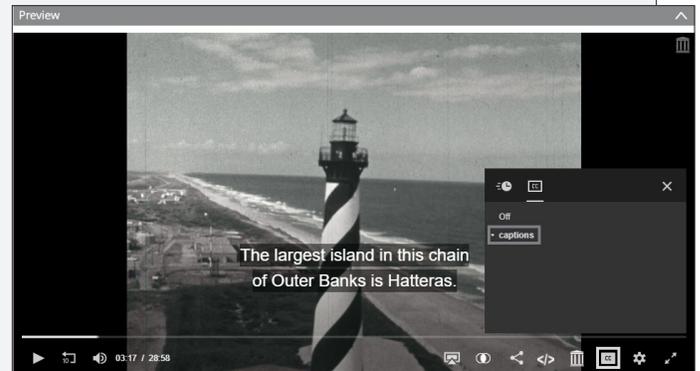
TOTAL CONSULTATIONS: 12

Project Highlight

DIGITALNC WORKS FROM HOME: CLOSED CAPTIONS AND TRANSCRIPTIONS

This quarter's highlight focuses on DigitalNC's increased accessibility. Over the last eight months Ashlie and Lulu have been working on creating closed captions and transcriptions for audiovisual content from the North Carolina Oral Histories and North Carolina Sights and Sounds collections. These additions are not only for those who have difficulty hearing, but for all site visitors who can use them for various reasons such as accessing information quickly from an interview without having to listen to the full audio recording, getting all of the information from a recording when in a sound sensitive environment, having content show up in searches where it normally would not have before, and more. To learn more about their projects, view Ashlie and Lulu's blog posts:

<https://www.digitalnc.org/blog/digitalnc-works-from-home-closed-captions/>
<https://www.digitalnc.org/blog/digitalnc-from-home-oral-history-transcription/>



TOP *Video closed captions in action.*

BOTTOM *Editing an oral history transcript.*

Statistics

ITEMS PUBLISHED ONLINE TO DATE

Collection	Number of Objects	Number of Files
Images of North Carolina	24,529	41,646
North Carolina Memory <i>Includes Urban Renewal Collection</i>	9,284	335,160
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	4,454	837,471
Other Campus Publications	5,737	792,747
High School Yearbooks	4,202	480,754
North Carolina City Directories	1,021	558,332
North Carolina Sights & Sounds	804	1,116
Total	50,031	3,047,226

Collection	Titles	Issues	Number of Pages (Scans)
North Carolina Newspapers	461	151,793	1,335,902

VISITORS TO DIGITALNC.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2020

Unique visitors	84,787
Average sessions per day	1,691
Total number of sessions	155,541
Sessions from North Carolina	89,747
Total number of page views	1,048,096

VIEWS OF DIGITIZED MATERIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH ARCHIVE.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2020

350,495

NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

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