



North Carolina

DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2022

This quarter the Digital Heritage Center launched a website redesign and received a warm welcome in Hertford County for a day-long tour of the Winton Triangle.

New Partners

CENTRAL CHILDREN'S HOME OF NORTH CAROLINA

The Central Children's Home of North Carolina has been an important institution for North Carolina children for over 130 years. In August 1882, the Colored Orphanage Association was formed in Henderson, North Carolina by members of the Shiloh and Wake Missionary Baptist Associations. The idea of a home was presented by Dr. Augustus Shepard, who had become familiar with the large number of homeless and neglected children by traveling throughout the state. Today, the Home continues this work serving as a residential child care facility for children who are dependent, neglected, or abused. They maintain a small historical collection of materials relating to the history of the home that they would like digitized. Our first batch for them includes Board of Directors reports dating from the 1940s through 1970s.

[https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/
central-childrens-home-of-north-carolina/](https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/central-childrens-home-of-north-carolina/)

ROANOKE ISLAND HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Paul Greene's play, *The Lost Colony*, is perhaps the most famous theater production in North Carolina. The Roanoke Island Historical Association sponsors its annual production on Roanoke Island. Founded on January 8, 1932, the Association's mission statement is: "The mission of the Roanoke Island Historical Association (RIHA) is to commemorate the history of the first English colonies in

North America on Roanoke Island, North Carolina. This mission is primarily accomplished by the annual production of the symphonic outdoor drama *The Lost Colony*, and through educationally engaging events and programs." Our first batch for them involved scanning the annual programs from the play, from the earliest in 1937 through 2019.

[https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/
roanoke-island-historical-association/](https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/roanoke-island-historical-association/)

Ongoing Projects

Ashlie Brewer, Zaina Goggins, Sophie Hollis, Sophia Hutchens, Kristen Merryman, JoCora Moore, Geoff Schilling, Akyla Simms, and Vicky Tillett digitized and published online materials from many of the Center's current partners, including:

- Four videos of Washington, N.C. filmed in 1939 from the **George H. and Laura E. Brown Library**
- Community newspapers from or nominated by **Carteret County Public Libraries, Granville County Public Library, Jackson County Public Library, Person County Public Library, Outer Banks History Center, Randolph County Public Library, UNC-Chapel Hill, and Yadkin County Public Library**
- High school yearbooks from **Harnett County Public Library, Haywood County Public Library, McDowell County Public Library, and Page-Walker Arts & History Center**
- Architecture materials and magazine club minutes from **Edgecombe County Memorial Library**
- Campus publications including catalogs, handbooks, and student magazines from **Dare County Library, Mitchell Community College, Pitt Community College, Stanly Community College, and UNC-Pembroke**

- Church minutes and newsletters, furniture company catalogs, and student newspapers from two Black high schools from the **High Point Museum**
- Genealogical society newsletters from the **Wilson County Genealogical Society**
- Seaboard Coast Line Railroad photographs from **Braswell Memorial Library (Rocky Mount, N.C.)**
- Student newspapers, student boycott materials, *Ex Umbra* literary magazines, photographs, and Hillside High materials from **North Carolina Central University**

The Center worked with a total of **25 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.

On the Road

Digital Heritage Center staff met up with Marvin Tupper Jones, Executive Director of the **Chowan Discovery Group**, for a day-long tour of the Winton Triangle in Hertford County. The Winton Triangle is “a 280-year-old landowning community of people of color.” Jones took staff to sites in the area and recounted community history dating back to the Chowanoke people up through the present day. The Chowan Discovery Group sent materials about residents in the Triangle back with NCDHC staff for scanning and we’ll have more information about this collection in our next report.

Staff also visited a few partners closer to home, including the **Wake Forest Historical Museum** and the **Page-Walker Arts & History Center** in Cary.

Project Highlight

FILMS OF WASHINGTON, NC

We love hearing how items we digitize are used by our partners. A small batch of films that we digitized for the **George E. and Laura H. Brown Library** in Washington, NC has had an outsize impact on the community they feature. The four films are all from the late 1930s, with two of them focused on Washington, NC’s annual Tulip Festival, which is no longer held. The festival always included a large parade through downtown Washington. Our partner told us that the film has been used to initiate a project to recreate the painted advertisements that used to be on buildings downtown. Some of the other films include footage of recreation around the town, and are helping inspire efforts for revitalization of tourism promotions for Washington. There are also plans to splice the films together and hold a viewing for the town in one of the movie theaters. We look forward to hearing other ways that the library and Washington use these treasures!

TOP RIGHT Still from *Tulip Fest* film, 1939.

BOTTOM RIGHT Still from *Patrician Inn* film.

<https://bit.ly/washington-films>



Conferences and Events

In November, Kristen Merryman presented at the first annual North Carolina Community College Archives Association annual conference in Statesville, NC. Ashlie Brewer was also able to attend. Lisa Gregory attended the Digital Library Federation annual forum. She also spent a few hours showcasing the work we do with partners at the UNC-Chapel Hill University Libraries annual Friends of the Library luncheon.

In December, NCDHC staff in Chapel Hill participated in the annual Wilson Work Day. This library-wide event gathers staff from different departments to work together and complete discrete projects in a short period of time. We offered a transcription project and had a number of volunteers join us to transcribe names from school census cards shared by the **Henderson Institute Historical Museum**. Dating from the very late nineteenth and early to mid twentieth centuries, these cards document students' basic demographic information as well as their school attendance and some additional school-related details. Thanks to this effort, handwritten names on these cards will now appear when our users search DigitalNC.org.

Technology Update

This quarter, Stephanie focused primarily on completing the redesign of DigitalNC.org, made available to the public during the first week in December. The new website is more accessible on both desktop and mobile devices, features our partners' contributions more prominently, and provides additional search and browse options tailored to the types of materials found on DigitalNC. As part of the redesign, Stephanie overhauled back-end data utilities to better support the current size and expected growth of DigitalNC collections.

Regular maintenance activities this quarter included a major PHP software upgrade for all library servers. Stephanie also processed 19 batches of locally-scanned newspapers for ingest into North Carolina Newspapers, improved NCDHC's desktop upload assistant tool, participated in discussions with the Open-ONI development team around a bug with the software's image viewer, and expanded newspaper processing tools to better attribute materials scanned and processed by NCDHC-East in Elizabeth City.

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 consultations with partners about scanners, talking with a midwest university about TIND, and connecting a partner to a conservator regarding rare photo conservation.

TOTAL CONSULTATIONS: 8

Statistics

ITEMS PUBLISHED ONLINE TO DATE

Collection	Number of Objects	Number of Files
Images of North Carolina	26,875	47,152
North Carolina Memory <i>Includes Urban Renewal Collection</i>	10,961	406,894
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	4,561	847,880
Other Campus Publications	6,299	851,414
High School Yearbooks	4,828	555,212
North Carolina City Directories	1,050	563,302
North Carolina Sights & Sounds	1,130	1,450
Total	54,704	3,273,304

Collection	Titles	Issues	Number of Pages (Scans)
North Carolina Newspapers	1,813	583,060	4,252,725

VISITORS TO DIGITALNC.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

Unique visitors	123,275
Average sessions per day	2,318
Total number of sessions	213,289
Sessions from North Carolina	97,657
Total number of page views	1,374,425

VIEWS OF DIGITIZED MATERIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH ARCHIVE.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

273,373

NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

<https://www.digitalnc.org>

digitalnc@unc.edu

(919) 962-4836