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# North Carolina

## DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

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### Quarterly Report

JANUARY – MARCH 2023

This quarter the Center worked with 32 partners, the most we have ever worked with in a single quarter to date! We also held another successful virtual Copyright Open Office Hour.

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## New Partners

### **BURWELL SCHOOL HISTORIC SITE / HISTORIC HILLSBOROUGH COMMISSION**

The Burwell School opened in 1837 and educated young white women in Hillsborough until 1857. Over the intervening years the property served various functions until it was obtained by the Historic Hillsborough Commission, a non-profit organization established by the North Carolina General Assembly in 1965. After acquiring the site, the Commission began to restore the existing buildings including the Burwell home, brick classroom, and “necessary house.” Officially opened to the public since 1977, the Burwell School Historic Site continues to follow its mission to “maintain and preserve the Burwell School Historic Site; to interpret the history of 19th century Hillsborough for the enrichment of the public; and to celebrate and promote the culture and heritage of Hillsborough and Orange County.” Our first batch for the School included materials related to the founder, Margaret Anna Robertson Burwell, and the operation of the school in the first half of the 19th century, including correspondence and diaries.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/burwell-school-historic-site-historic-hillsborough-commission/>

### **CHOWAN DISCOVERY GROUP**

Chowan Discovery Group is a group in Hertford County documenting the lives of those who lived in the Winton Triangle area of North Carolina. The group's organizer,

Marvin Tupper Jones, collects materials and stories from the residents of the area, particularly persons of color. Our first set of materials from him included photographs of a general store site and a ledger from that store, as well as educational notebooks, PTA items, and other daily use documents from the Newsom and Hall families of Ahoskie, N.C.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/chowan-discovery-group/>

### **GRAHAM HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

Graham Historical Museum is a relatively new institution, founded in 2001 to document the history of the town of Graham in Alamance County. Our first batch for them included a set of yearbooks from Graham High School.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/graham-historical-museum/>

### **GREENSBORO FIREFIGHTERS HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE**

The Greensboro Firefighters History Book Committee is dedicated to both the written and audiovisual documentation of the history of the Greensboro, N.C. Fire Department. The committee is made up of active and retired firefighters of the department. Our first batch for them included several scrapbooks documenting the department, particularly in the 1960s-1980s.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/greensboro-firefighters-history-book-committee/>

### **LA GRANGE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

La Grange Public Library is part of the Neuse Regional Library system. Our first batch of materials for them included several written histories of the town, three of the town's churches, and the prominent Croom family.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/la-grange-public-library/>

## MUSEUM OF HAYWOOD COUNTY HISTORY

The Museum of Haywood County History is located in the Historic Shook-Smathers House in Clyde, N.C. According to their website, the museum “preserves and interprets the stories, artifacts, and landscape of Haywood County and its communities, preserving the contributions of the Shook and Smathers families and communicating the rich culture of the region to diverse audiences, thus informing contemporary community building, personal connections, and problem-solving.” Our first batch for them included several very large scrapbooks documenting women’s clubs in Haywood County in the 1950s-1970s.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/museum-of-haywood-county-history/>

## SOUTHWESTERN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Southwestern Community College is located in Sylva, N.C. and was founded in 1964 as the Jackson County Industrial Education Center, a satellite of Asheville-Buncombe Technical Institute. Two years later it became independent and has served students in the western corner of North Carolina ever since. Our first batch for them included several large format items, such as maps, architectural drawings, and posters featuring students’ work, as well as scrapbooks and course catalogs.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/southwestern-community-college/>

## Ongoing Projects

Ashlie Brewer, Hannah Helme, Sophie Hollis, Kristen Merryman, Alona Norwood, Akyla Simms, Vicky Tillett, and Shikyla Williams digitized and published online materials from many of the Center’s current partners, including:

- Catalogs from **Shaw University**
- Photographs, a scrapbook, and genealogy research from **Edgecombe County Memorial Library**
- Genealogy newsletters from the **Wilson County Genealogical Society**
- Girl Scout and Boy Scout materials from the **Chapel Hill Historical Society**
- Student newspapers from the **Person County Museum of History**
- Student handbooks and reports from **Roanoke-Chowan Community College**
- A student literary magazine from **Chowan University**
- Videos and scrapbooks from **Mitchell Community College**
- Yearbooks from **Bennett College, East Carolina University, Lincoln County Historical Association, Rowan Public Library, and Wendell Historical Society**
- An enrollment ledger from the **Central Children’s Home of North Carolina**
- Cemetery records and a library newsletter from **Harnett County Public Library**

## Project Highlight

### COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The North Carolina Digital Heritage Center has increasingly started taking on community partners who perhaps do not have an established physical building where their materials live but have a deep connection to the community they are working to document. One new partner this quarter, the **Chowan Discovery Group**, exemplifies this. Several staff members were invited to Ahoskie, in Hertford County, for the day to meet the founder of the group, Marvin Tupper Jones. Jones has been collecting and writing the history of his community for years; we got an in-depth driving tour of the Winton Triangle area, stopping to see buildings and landmarks that are deeply important to the community. It is an honor to help share this community’s story with a wider audience via DigitalNC.



*Marvin Tupper Jones organizes recovered materials.*

<https://bit.ly/chowan-discovery-group-trip>

- Community newspapers from or nominated by **Dare County Library, Fontana Regional Library, the History Committee of the Town of Pine Knoll Shores, UNC-Chapel Hill, Wake Forest Historical Museum, Western Carolina University, and the Western Regional Archives**
- Yearbooks and NC Firefighters Association meeting minutes from the **Greensboro History Museum**
- A film, mill photographs, and a yearbook from the **Chatham County Historical Association**
- A book from **Braswell Memorial Library (Rocky Mount, N.C.)**

The Center worked with a total of **32 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.

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## Other Activities This Quarter

This quarter, Kristen and Ashlie visited our satellite office at Elizabeth City State University. During that trip they also stopped at the **Northampton County Museum and Martin Community College**. Ashlie, Geoff, Kristen and Lisa traveled to **Wayne County Public Library** for a community digitization day.

We were pleased to once again host a virtual Copyright Open Office Hour in February. Eighteen people attended and had a variety of copyright questions for Anne Gilliland, UNC-Chapel Hill Libraries' Scholarly Communications Officer.

NCDHC staff met with several staff from the **Government and Heritage Library, State Library of North Carolina** to discuss making edits to NCPedia. We received instructions on how to go in and revise broken links and how to add images and other resources from DigitalNC. Over the next few months we'll be trying out the process and seeing if we can share more partner materials through that popular platform.

## Technology Update

Stephanie's main focus this quarter was bringing last Fall's DigitalNC redesign over to the North Carolina Newspapers repository. A completely new set of themed templates was built for our instance of Open-ONI, including a rewrite of the data utilities that pass information between systems. The new interface was made public this quarter, and features accessibility improvements, a larger page image viewing area, and new toolbars to help users better navigate papers, report harmful content, and collect references.

Other activities this quarter include technical support for January's biannual DPLA harvest, processing annotated text from two completed Zooniverse transcription projects to be searched via TIND, and processing or correcting 22 batches of newspaper content. Stephanie also expanded reporting utilities to help Lisa identify geographic areas of the state less represented by newspapers available on DigitalNC.

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## 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 speaking with another State Library about setting up a statewide digitization program, responding to questions about running NCDHC utilities available on Github, and providing advice to other institutions around working with digital library software vendors.

**TOTAL CONSULTATIONS: 8**

## Statistics

### ITEMS PUBLISHED ONLINE TO DATE

Collection	Number of Objects	Number of Files
Images of North Carolina	26,934	48,685
North Carolina Memory <i>Includes Urban Renewal Collection</i>	11,079	412,666
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	4,589	850,694
Other Campus Publications	6,346	853,636
High School Yearbooks	4,928	566,976
North Carolina City Directories	1,050	563,302
North Carolina Sights & Sounds	1,146	1,471
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,072</b>	<b>3,297,430</b>

Collection	Titles	Issues	Number of Pages (Scans)
North Carolina Newspapers	1,833	581,164	4,297,856

### VISITORS TO DIGITALNC.ORG, JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2023

Unique visitors	146,176
Average sessions per day	4,078
Total number of sessions	252,836
Sessions from North Carolina	177,770
Total number of page views	1,675,967

### VIEWS OF DIGITIZED MATERIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH ARCHIVE.ORG, JANUARY 1 – MARCH 31, 2023

182,157

### NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

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