North Carolina
DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report
APRIL – JUNE 2024

This quarter we completed a project to digitize all of the known extant copies of the *Carolina Times* newspaper and participated in a successful search for the new Associate University Librarian for Special Collections and Director of Wilson Library.

New Partners

BLOWING ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Blowing Rock Historical Society was founded in 1985 to "preserve and protect the historical character and charm of the village" of Blowing Rock. Our first batch for the Society was a set of yearbooks from Blowing Rock High School and a voting registration book from the late 1800s.

https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/blowing-rock-historical-society/

FORSYTH TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Forsyth Tech Community College was established as Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Industrial Education Center in 1960. Today it is one of the largest community colleges in the North Carolina system with 12 locations and over 11,000 students. Our first batch for FTCC was a big one, including most of their course catalogs, yearbooks, and student newspapers.

https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/
forsyth-tech-community-college/

TEMPLE THEATRE (SANFORD, N.C.)

Temple Theatre was a partner we gained due to another partner, Lee County Public Libraries. Temple Theatre was founded in 1925 as a vaudeville theater and has since become a center of arts and culture for Sanford and wider Lee County. They hold a large archive of their own that documents both the history of performances at the Theatre as well as the building itself, which is listed on the Historic Register. Our first batch for the Theatre included several scrapbooks.

https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/temple-theatre-sanford-n-c/

WILLIAM B. UMSTEAD STATE PARK

William B. Umstead State Park, located in Wake County, had its own history documented well in the first batch we did for them. Over 150 sets of maps and architectural drawings that dated back to its start in the 1920s were digitized for the Park. Before it was a recreation area, the Park served as a prison farm for Camp Polk. In the 1930s, under the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Civilian Conservation Corp started converting the farm and surrounding area into a State Park. Many of the original plans for the CCC are included in the first batch we digitized. Today, Umstead State Park is one of the most visited state parks in the North Carolina State Park system.

https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/william-b-umstead-state-park/

Ongoing Projects

Ashlie Brewer, Elizabeth Findley, Hannah Helmey, Kristen Merryman, Abby Martin, Alona Norwood, Abraham Reid, Akyla Simms and Vicky Tillett digitized and published online materials from many of the Center's current partners, including:

- Scrapbooks from the **Burwell School Historic Site/Historic Hillsborough Commission**, the **Museum of Haywood County History**, and **Rowan-Cabarrus Community College**
- Municipal reports, graduation programs, and awards from the **Raleigh Fire Museum**

INSTITUTION TYPES WORKING WITH NCDHC, APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2024	
Public Libraries	10
Historical Societies	4
Private Colleges and Universities	4
Community Colleges	3
Museums	3
Alumni Associations	2
Other	2
Community Groups	1
Historic Sites	1
Public Archives	1
Public Colleges and Universities	1

- Scrapbooks and school newspapers from the **Hendersonville High School Alumni Association**
- Nineteenth century tax books from the **Olivia Raney Local History Library**
- Recipes, cookbooks, class notes, student directories, and newspaper clippings from **Saint Augustine's University**
- High school and college yearbooks from **Campbell University**, **Chapel Hill Historical Society**, **Chatham County Public Libraries**, **Haywood County Public Library**, and **Henderson County Education History Initiative**
- A student newspaper and photographs from the **Person County Museum of History**
- Photographs, business records, church histories, and sports programs from the **Winston Salem African American Archive**
- Student newspapers, catalogs, bulletins and magazines from **North Carolina Wesleyan University**
- A student literary magazine from **Central Piedmont Community College**
- Maps and posters from **Durham County Library**
- Student and community newspapers in print and from microfilm from **Bessemer City History and Arts Society**, **Buncombe County Public Libraries**, **Little River Historical Society**, **New Hanover County Public Library**, **Polk County Public Libraries**, **Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library**, **Transylvania County Library**, **University of North Carolina at Charlotte**, and **Watauga County Public Library**

- Church minutes from the First Presbyterian Church of Mount Holly, one of our **North Carolina Community Contributors**
- Newspapers, yearbooks, Board of Trustees minutes, and a catalog from **Johnson C. Smith University**

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.

Other Activities

This quarter Lisa served on the search committee for Associate University Librarian (AUL) for Special Collections and Director of Wilson Library. The Digital Heritage Center reports to the AUL, who heads Wilson Special Collections Library. We are excited to announce that Anna Chen will be starting in this role in September. Chen comes to UNC from the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library, a rare book and manuscript library and historic property at the University of California, Los Angeles.

During June, NCDHC staff paused our typical scanning and uploading workflow to take on "cleanup" tasks. With hundreds of thousands of objects on DigitalNC.org, maintenance is just as vital as new additions. Staff focused on metadata standardization and correction, file de-duplication, and other "back burner" tasks.

Technology Update

In addition to regular maintenance activities, Stephanie participated in NCDHC maintenance and cleanup tasks, extending utilities and tools to better facilitate finding and correcting file and metadata issues across collections. She also attended a practical AI training sponsored by UNC's Renaissance Computing Institute, processed 211 newspaper batches and corrections, and migrated NCDHC infrastructure to use WorldCat's v2 API.

Stephanie worked with UNC's Digital Accessibility Office this quarter to get DigitalNC.org included in UNC's license of SiteImprove, a top-tier automated site assessment product that regularly crawls enabled websites for accessibility issues, as well as things that can negatively affect our users' experience, such as slow loading times, broken links, misspellings, and inappropriate content reading levels.

Project Highlight

THE *CAROLINA TIMES*

This quarter we completed a very exciting milestone: we have now fully digitized all 3,813 known extant issues of the *Carolina Times* newspaper—a total of 65,527 pages! Published in Durham, N.C. from 1937 until 2020, the *Carolina Times* was the premier paper in North Carolina published for and by African Americans. Its founder and first publisher, Louis Austin, was a leading voice in the Civil Rights movement and covered the long struggle for equal rights for all Americans via the *Times*. The newspaper's motto was "The Truth Unbridled," an accurate description of Austin's honest and forthright depiction of racial injustice in North Carolina and beyond. As the 20th century continued, the paper chronicled the changing face of Durham, particularly for the Black community, as tobacco factories shuttered, medical and tech companies moved into the area, and new populations of residents moved in. It is a true loss to the Black community and the wider North Carolina community that the paper has ceased publication, but we are grateful to be able to provide free access to it as a way to preserve its importance and legacy.

We began digitizing the paper in 2011, so making this vital publication fully accessible has been a 12-year journey for NCDHC!

https://www.digitalnc.org/
        newspapers/carolina-times-durham-nc/

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 discussion with another statewide digitization program concerning crowdsourced transcription methods and digital repository software, responding to a partner request for a catalog-specific data export, meeting with a North Carolina university about TIND, and consulting with a religious organization about digitization of their archives.

TOTAL CONSULTATIONS: 7

Statistics

ITEMS PUBLISHED ONLINE TO DATE

Collection	Number of Objects	Number of Files
Images of North Carolina	28,329	55,095
North Carolina Memory *Includes Urban Renewal Collection*	13,386	513,161
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	4,623	856,101
Other Campus Publications	6,422	862,946
High School Yearbooks	5,278	616,000
North Carolina City Directories	1,162	589,120
North Carolina Sights & Sounds	1,251	2,226
Total	**59,243**	**3,461,186**

Collection	Titles	Issues	Number of Pages (Scans)
North Carolina Newspapers	1,954	601,199	4,549,707

VISITORS TO DIGITALNC.ORG, APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2024**

Unique visitors	123,537
Average sessions per day	1,358
Total number of sessions	180,290
Sessions from North Carolina	82,414
Total number of page views	1,386,862

**These counts were compiled by a new analytics reporting system and may appear lower than usual. In addition to honoring users' privacy settings, the new system assesses 'sessions' more strictly.

VIEWS OF DIGITIZED MATERIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH ARCHIVE.ORG, APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2024

200,659

ZOONIVERSE TRANSCRIPTION STATISTICS, APRIL 1 – JUNE 30, 2024

This quarter, **278** unique users on the Zooniverse platform transcribed **2,896** handwritten phrases in **1,162** page scans that were part of **5** digital objects.

NORTH CAROLINA DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

https://www.digitalnc.org

mail@digitalnc.org

(919) 962-4836