



North Carolina

DIGITAL HERITAGE CENTER

Quarterly Report

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2024

Digital Heritage Center staff finished 2024 with our highest production numbers ever—122 batches of materials! We visited **Queens University of Charlotte** for an on-site scanning day, created six new primary source sets, and welcomed Carly Jensen as our new part-time Digitization Technician.

New Partners

FRANKLIN COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Franklin County Library System's main location is in Louisburg, North Carolina, with three branch libraries across the county. Our first batch for Franklin County was a set of funeral programs and obituaries dating from 1944 through 2022; these represent generations of history for many African American families from—or associated with—Franklin County. The full text of these programs are indexed on DigitalNC, making it easy for those researching their genealogy to find relatives by name.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/franklin-county-library-system/>

FRIENDS OF HYDE COUNTYS HISTORIC 1854 COURTHOUSE

Like many of our Digital Heritage Center partners, Friends of Hyde Countys Historic 1854 Courthouse came to us via an existing partner, the **Hyde County Historical and Genealogical Society**. The Friends of Hyde Countys Historic 1854 Courthouse was organized in 2010 by community members interested in saving the courthouse in Swan Quarter, North Carolina, which was abandoned following Hurricane Isabel in September 2003. The organization's stated mission is "to develop and implement a sound economic strategy for the preservation and utilization of the old courthouse in order to promote community, cultural,

educational, ecological, and economic development." Our first project digitized a 2011 report on the history of the building, placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, and the court that presided there.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/friends-of-hyde-countys-1854-courthouse/>

NORTH CAROLINA SOCIETY DAUGHTERS OF 1812

According to their website, the North Carolina Society Daughters of 1812 is "a non-profit, non-political, women's service organization for descendants of patriots who aided the American cause during the War of 1812. We were founded on March 25, 1912 and continue to focus on the original purpose 'to promote patriotism, to preserve and increase knowledge of the history of the American people.'" The Daughters have five chapters across the state. Our first batch for them was a set of six scrapbooks documenting the activities of those chapters from as early as 1940.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/institutions/north-carolina-society-daughters-of-1812/>

Ongoing Projects

Ashlie Brewer, Carly Jensen, Abby Martin, Kristen Merryman, and Summer Stevens digitized and published online materials from many of the Center's current partners, including:

- Slides, photographs, and a scrapbook from the **Temple Theatre (Sanford, N.C.)**
- Scrapbooks from **Alamance County Public Libraries**, **Queens University of Charlotte**, and **Sanford Woman's Club**
- Steamboat logs, photographs, newspapers, and yearbooks from **Person County Museum of History**

- Administrative records and campus publications from **Rowan-Cabarrus Community College** and **Southwestern Community College**
- Guilford County maps, booklets, and programs from **High Point Museum** and the **Heritage Research Center at High Point Public Library**
- Student newspapers from **Sandhills Community College** and **UNC-Charlotte**
- High school yearbooks from **Hickory Public Library**, **New Bern-Craven County Public Library**, and **Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library**
- Community newspapers from the **Bessemer City History and Arts Society**, **Perquimans County Library**, **Pettigrew Regional Library**, and **Transylvania County Library**
- Maps, photographs, tax books, and *Festival for the Eno* posters from **Durham County Library**

The Center worked with a total of **22 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

Several presentations, partner visits, a training, and an on-site scanning day kept Digital Heritage Center staff busy this quarter. Kristen Merryman joined State Library of North Carolina staff for a webinar about Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants. Lisa spoke about DigitalNC services at a North Carolina Public Library Directors meeting in Winston-Salem.

Kristen made stops at **Rowan-Cabarrus Community College** and **UNC-Charlotte**, returning and picking up materials for digitization. Kristen has also been active with two advisory boards—**UNC-Greensboro's** Library and Information Science Advisory Board and the North Carolina Community College Archives Association.

Ashile Brewer, Abby Martin, Kristen Merryman, and Summer Stevens traveled to **Queens University of Charlotte** for an on-site scanning day. The archivist at Queens pulled photographs and slides from their collection that are of high interest to their users for us to scan. Photographed subjects included visits to campus from presidents and other dignitaries, as well as student clubs' activities dating back to

INSTITUTION TYPES WORKING WITH NCDHC, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

Public Libraries	10
Community Colleges	3
Community Groups	3
Historical Societies	2
Museums	2
Private Colleges and Universities	1
Public Colleges and Universities	1

the 1940s. In total, Center staff scanned over 300 images. One highlight was a photograph of President Jimmy Carter visiting students on campus, which our partner was thrilled to have digitally available for honoring President Carter when he passed in December.

In November, Stephanie attended a two-session Microsoft Learn for Educators training focused on AI technologies for educational applications. Participation in this training granted access to a suite of Microsoft AI tools and processing credits that the Center can use to experiment with incorporating AI into digitization workflows.

Over the course of several weeks this quarter, Digital Heritage Center staff had the opportunity to work at **Saint Augustine's University** to organize and rehouse materials in their archives. Staff were able to make some headway before the project was indefinitely postponed. Since that time, other cross-agency efforts around working with the archives have come together and our staff will continue to participate as plans move forward.

Student-focused Activities

NEW PRIMARY SOURCE SETS

Primary Source Fellows cal lane and Isabella Walker produced six new primary source sets during this quarter! Aimed at both educators and students, these resources pull together 15-25 items around a particular topic from DigitalNC collections. Historical and contextual information is provided for each subject, along with discussion questions and additional resources. The Primary Source Sets newly available on DigitalNC include:

- *Urban Development and Renewal*
- *Jim Crow South: Life in North Carolina, 1930s-1950s and Post Civil War-1930s*
- *World War II, Part 1: North Carolina before Pearl Harbor and Part 2: North Carolina after Pearl Harbor*
- *Reactions to the Holocaust in North Carolina's Newspapers*
- *Native Americans in North Carolina, 1900 to the Present*
- *The Eugenics Movement in North Carolina*

Find these and our other Primary Source Sets in the Resources section of DigitalNC, or follow the link below. Funding for our Fellows was provided by the North Caroliniana Society; Cal and Isabella will be working on additional sets during the Spring semester.

<https://www.digitalnc.org/primary-source-sets/>

NCDHC IN THE CLASSROOM

Kristen worked with two different student groups this quarter: she joined colleagues in Wilson Library's Research and Instructional Services Department to talk with a Durham Academy class about using primary sources, and hosted a class from the **UNC-Chapel Hill** School of Information and Library Science for an introduction to NCDHC's work and a tour of the Digital Production Center.

Technology Update

In addition to regular maintenance activities, Stephanie processed 58 newspaper batches and corrections for ingest into the North Carolina Newspapers collection, and expanded functionality for Primary Source Sets to better accommodate new materials added by our Primary Source Fellows.

In October, the Internet Archive was the victim of multiple cyberattacks that resulted in a lengthy disruption of services that DigitalNC relies on, from streaming video access to partner statistics. Stephanie worked to mitigate the impact of this disruption for our partners and site visitors.

From October through November, the Zooniverse platform featured DigitalNC's handwriting transcription project, advertising it to new users and highlighting it on their homepage. As a result, interest and participation in the project soared; a record number of handwritten objects were prepared for transcription via Zooniverse this quarter, and a record number of completed transcriptions were processed back into DigitalNC.

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 consulting with partners about oral history projects related to Hurricane Helene and the African American community of Alamance County, and helping a DPLA partner troubleshoot issues with an OAI-PMH endpoint.

TOTAL CONSULTATIONS: 4

Statistics

ITEMS PUBLISHED ONLINE TO DATE

Collection	Number of Objects	Number of Files
Images of North Carolina	29,394	56,795
North Carolina Memory <i>Includes Urban Renewal Collection</i>	13,909	538,253
North Carolina Yearbooks		
College and University Yearbooks	4,622	855,878
Other Campus Publications	6,464	865,037
High School Yearbooks	5,371	630,496
North Carolina City Directories	1,165	589,120
North Carolina Sights & Sounds	1,261	2,238
Total	62,186	3,537,817

Collection	Titles	Issues	Number of Pages (Scans)
North Carolina Newspapers	2,045	606,979	4,645,620

VISITORS TO DIGITALNC.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

Unique visitors	146,529
Average sessions per day	2,239
Total number of sessions	206,031
Sessions from North Carolina	87,731
Total number of page views	1,391,451

VIEWS OF DIGITIZED MATERIAL AVAILABLE THROUGH ARCHIVE.ORG, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

142,377

ZOONIVERSE TRANSCRIPTION STATISTICS, OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

This quarter, 606 unique users on the Zooniverse platform transcribed 66,409 handwritten phrases in 2,613 page scans that were part of 20 digital objects.

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