

Summer 2015

# The Charter

The State Archives of North Carolina



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# FRIENDS — of the — ARCHIVES

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Closed  
Sunday and Monday  
and all state holidays

**Cover Photo:** *Mr. Marshall, the White-water Guide, is shown fly fishing. The image comes from the Appalachian National Park Association Records, Visual Materials, Box 22, housed at the Western Regional Archives in Asheville.*



## The Charter

The State Archives of North Carolina

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## From 109 East Jones

Sarah E. Koonts  
State Archivist and Director,  
Division of Archives and Records

### *Managing the Public's Records*

**W**ell, it was a trying job at times, complicated to orchestrate, detailed in planning and execution, but it's finished, and it was finished early.

For nearly a year, almost every staff member of the State Archives has packed, moved, lifted, shelved, shifted, re-boxed, labeled, and transported thousands and thousands and thousands of boxed public records from one warehouse to another. Prior to the move, State Records Center staff destroyed more than 18,000 cubic feet of records that had outlived their retention schedule, so there weren't as many boxes as there could have been. Records destruction is no picnic either. It's time consuming, requires meticulous detail, and checking, checking, and rechecking.

Our new space has lots of advantages over the other—improved lighting, climate controls, and office space.

Though we contracted with professional services for the actual move, staff members were always onsite, coordinating the entire move—helping with physical labor and managing a tremendous amount of inventory on several different databases, looking to fill in wherever needed. Because we took the lead, we were able to save the state some money and we ensured that each bar-coded box was in its proper place.

Records management is an unglamorous job; evolving record formats require constant research and the writing and adoption of new standards; records schedules are reworked and updated regularly with input from state and local agencies; training the staffs of state and local agencies is continuous as is meeting with the agencies that create the records; records pick-up requires precise scheduling, a dependable working and fueled vehicle, a competent moving staff able to think quickly on their feet and lift up to 40 pounds in both heat and cold.

I applaud our entire staff for their hard work and commitment to this project, especially those on the planning team whose resourcefulness and flexibility ensured things went as smoothly as they did. Problems were quickly assessed and addressed. Coordination seemed effortless and it's all due to our staff who work selflessly to protect the public records of our state.

## From the President

Jesse R. Lankford Jr.

### Photographic Resources

The well attended March 21st workshop, featuring Maureen Taylor (The Photo Detective) is a reminder of the enduring interest that researchers have in historical photographs. North Carolinians are blessed to have access to the State Archives' comprehensive photographic, iconographic, and audiovisual holdings. There are millions of photographs, hundreds of films and DVDs, and many sound recordings on a variety of formats that are heavily used by researchers across the country and the world. This invaluable historical material is ably managed and cared for by Kim Andersen and Ian Dunn.

Not only are archival photographic resources available in Raleigh, but there are also outstanding photo collections at both the Outer Banks History Center (OBHC) in Manteo and the Western Regional Archives (WRA) in Asheville. KaeLi Schurr, Stuart Parks, and Tama Creef oversee and maintain the photographic holdings at the OBHC. Photographic collections in Manteo illustrate schools, tourism, the fishing industry, beaches, people, public events, parks and memorials, storms, and other topics specific to the coastal areas. Of special historical value are pictures taken by Aycock Brown, the first director of the Dare County Tourist Bureau, and the D. Victor Meekins glass plate photo collection of over 200 images dating from the 1900s to the 1920s.

Heather South and Sarah Downing administer and preserve the Western Regional Archives photographic collections. Significant photographic holdings are found in the renowned Black Mountain College collection and records containing the pictures made by photographers who visited, worked at, or attended Black Mountain College. The Blue Ridge Parkway Photograph Collection,



which documents the initial construction work on the parkway, also is at the WRA.

Of special interest to me are the Appalachian National Park Association Records, 1899–1936. I relied extensively upon this unique collection when writing my master's thesis about the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and became captivated by the spectacular photographs found in the collection.

When I was younger, more than a few Saturdays were well spent fishing for rainbow trout near Cherokee. One of my favorite photos in the Park Association Records depicts Mr. Marshall, the "Whitewater Guide," posing mid-stream with his fly-fishing gear, which graces our cover. Some of the other images I recall show an early roadster on a gravel road stopped for a rattlesnake, and a mountaineer and his dog sitting beneath majestic trees that seem to reach to the clouds. Many other artistic scenes depict the natural splendor of streams, lakes, waterfalls, and forests.

One striking image of Chase P. Ambler, secretary of the Appalachian National Park Association, standing on a jagged precipice admiring the splendor of the mountain vista before him, will be prominently displayed in the upcoming State Archives exhibit opening October 24 at the North Carolina Museum of History.

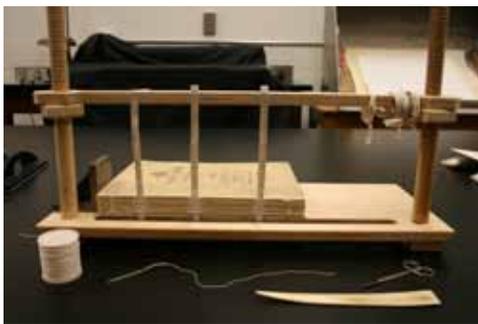
# The Conservation Corner

By Emily Rainwater, State Archives Conservator

## CSS Shenandoah Log Book

The CSS *Shenandoah* was a Confederate cruiser responsible for capturing 38 Union merchant ships, most of which were taken after the end of the Civil War. Though Confederate forces began surrendering in April of 1865 and Confederate president Jefferson Davis was captured in May, the captain of the *Shenandoah*, James I. Waddell, did not receive credible news of the South's defeat until August 2, 1865. Because of this delay, the *Shenandoah* fired the "last shot" of the Civil War. Captain Waddell then made his way to England and surrendered to British officers in Liverpool on November 6 where the last Confederate ensign was struck. The CSS *Shenandoah* was the only Confederate ship to circumvent the globe.

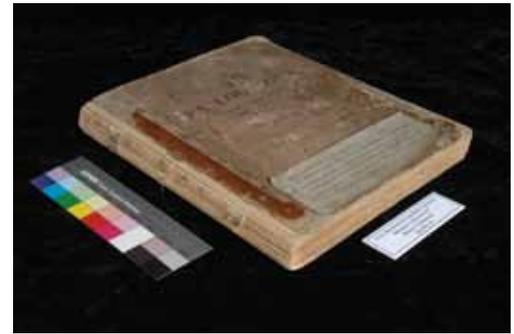
The State Archives possesses two ship's log books from the CSS *Shenandoah*. The first log book, covering the period October 20, 1864–July 22, 1865, was in need of repair. The bound volume no longer had any sort of spine, and both the front and back boards were separated from the text paper. However, the original boards with their artifactual paper cover remained viable. The goal of this conservation treatment was to preserve the look of the volume by reusing as much original material as possible, while returning functionality to the book.



*This image shows the text block being re-sewn before the spine is added.*

I began the conservation treatment by removing the remaining sewing thread and sewing supports; these pieces cannot be reused, but would be retained with the object for future scholars. I then repaired any tears to the text paper using a light-weight tissue custom toned to match the pages of the volume. I re-sewed the text using new thread and new linen sewing supports before lining the spine with overhanging layers of new material. I picked out a piece of leather that best matched the original leather spine. This was difficult as prior light damage had caused the leather on the front of the book to fade to a different color than the leather on the back of the book!

To reattach the boards to the text, I needed to insert the new material underneath the original paper and board. Using a knife, I lifted a very thin layer of material on both the front and back of each board near the spine. The overhanging spine linings on the text block were inserted into the lifted board on the inside. The new leather spine was inserted into the lifted board on the outside of the cover. Everything was pasted down and allowed to dry. Finally, the book opens properly once again! I finished the project by creating a custom fit cloth covered box to house both the volume and the saved pieces of the original binding. This will help protect a valuable piece of history from further wear and tear, as well as future light damage.



*The spine on the CSS Shenandoah log book was missing when it came to the State Archives.*



*Using leather, matched as closely as possible to the original, the CSS Shenandoah log book has a new spine.*

## State Archives Completes Digitization of 1901 Confederate Pensions

The Digital Access Branch is completing the digitization of the 1901 Confederate Pensions. The project was begun in June 2014 and to date 35,984 application folders have been made available through the North Carolina Digital Collections <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/>. The pension applications provide useful information about North Carolina Confederate veterans, such as the name of the soldier (and his wife in the case of widows' applications); age at the time of application; place of residence; service information, which often includes regiment, length of service, and wound or medical status; the names of witnesses; and date of the application. Frequently the files include verification from the county pension board regarding an applicant's claim and whether the application was approved or disallowed by the state-level board of inquiry.

Formally referred to as "Pension Bureau: Act of 1901 Pension Applications," these materials are part of the State Auditor's records and were created as a part of a 1901 law passed by the General Assembly (P.L. 1901, c. 332) to provide relief for: "every Person who has been for twelve months immediately preceding his or her application for a pension a 'bona fide' resident of the State, and who is incapacitated for manual labor and was a soldier or a sailor in the service of the State of North Carolina or of the Confederate States of America, during the war

between the States, and to the widow remaining unmarried of any deceased officer, soldier or sailor who was in the service of the State of North Carolina or of the Confederate States of America during the war between the States (provided said widow was married to said soldier or sailor before the first day of April 1865)."

To learn more about the 1901 pensions visit the collection page located at: <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/search/collection/p16062coll21>.

## Staff Notes

### Staff Spotlight

Victoria Montgomery, Processing Assistant, Government Records Section



I have been employed for three years as a processing assistant IV and two years as a processing assistant V with the Government Records Section. I am responsible for creating and organizing the destruction of records for the State of North Carolina. I also manage inventory holding problems that have arisen over the decades.

I have been a member of the hiring panel alongside upper management assisting with the hiring decision of new employees. I express great passion in all my endeavors, as I participate, train, and lead in many functional

projects that management entrusts me to conduct.

Recently I led multiple teams and shifts in the department's major move of one of its offsite facilities. (See the feature article on pages 8-9.) I had the opportunity to manage teams and oversee various duties that were essential to the ease of the massive move of over 64,000 cubic feet of state government records.

I am currently working to earn my business administration degree. This past January I had the honor of being invited into The National Society of Leadership and Success. As I may seem to have a substantial amount of things to keep me busy, I also take my hobby of baking very seriously. With the support and help of a great friend of mine we launched Sweet Cravings Bakery here in Raleigh this past fall. Currently we are an online entity but we hope to utilize all of our skills that we have obtained over the years to open our own store front one day.

### Staff Transitions

**Kim Andersen** has been appointed Communications Coordinator for the Society of American Archivists Visual Materials Section. This position manages the dissemination of section news and information via a variety of media including a newsletter, website, social media, and e-mail listservs.

**Olivia Carlisle** joined the staff as digitization archivist in January. Olivia worked on the "Planning Atlanta" project at Georgia State University prior to starting her position with the State Archives. In her position in the Digital Access Branch she will work on digitization and metadata projects.

**Matthew Crain** joined the staff as the new correspondence assistant in March. Matthew has worked at J. Y. Joyner Library at East Carolina University in special collections and the St. Charles County Historical Society as an archival assistant. In his new position in the Correspondence Unit, Matthew will be working on replying to research requests, locating, duplicating, and mailing copies of records.

**Sarah Downing**, longtime archivist and assistant curator at the Outer Banks History Center in Manteo, transferred to the Western Regional Archives in March.

**Rashida Felder** was hired in March as the new analyst for the Records Analysis Unit in the Government Records Section. Rashida was

employed as a librarian at William Peace University and also worked as a records technician for the Department of Commerce and as a records administrator for a business in New York City.

**Josh Hager** was promoted to reference archivist with the Public Services Unit in January.

**Kevin Klesta** started in February as the new metadata archivist. In addition to doing digitization projects as part of the Digital Access Branch, Kevin will be working with the Arrangement/Description Unit of the Government Records Section on indexing state agency records.

**Tiffanie Mazanek**, processing assistant and designer of *The Charter*, resigned in December

to take a position with the city of Raleigh.

**Kat Milbrodt** became the new metadata and digitization assistant in March. Kat has worked at the Niels Bohr Library and Archives at the American Institute of Physics in Maryland as a library digitization and preservation assistant. In her new position, Kat will be working on scanning and indexing projects with the Digital Access Branch.

**Camille Tyndall Watson** joined the Digital Services Section in June 2015. Camille has a Master's degree in both English and Library Science and has worked at UNC's Southern Folklife Collection and most recently at the North Carolina Railroad Company.

## ~ In Memoriam ~

The Friends recognizes the passing of two monumental historians who impacted generations of scholars, lay historians, and those with a love and interest in North Carolina history.

**William S. Powell**, professor emeritus of history at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was a prolific writer and editor. Among his edited works are the *Dictionary of North Carolina Biography*, the *Encyclopedia of North Carolina*, and the *North Carolina Gazetteer*, three staples in any reference library. He began his career as a researcher in this department before becoming a librarian and within a few years Curator of the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill. He left the library to teach history at UNC while he continued to publish and edit numerous articles and books. His wife, Virginia, was his close collaborator in much of his work.

A student of Professor Powell's, **Dr. Jerry Cashion**, taught at UNC-Chapel Hill and at North Carolina State University and became head of research at the Division of Archives and History where he served until his retirement. From 2001 to 2013, he served as chairman of the North Carolina Historical Commission. Among



Dr. Jerry Cashion (left) and William S. Powell (right) were avid supporters of the Friends. Photograph courtesy of the N.C. Division of Archives and Records.

the many honors that Dr. Cashion received were the Order of the Longleaf Pine, presented by Gov. Michael Easley, and the North Carolina Award received in 2007.

Both men were avid advocates of the State Archives and loyal supporters of the Friends.

# How Did We Move a Warehouse Full of Records?

by Becky McGee-Lankford, Section Head, Government Records Section

One of the primary functions of the Government Records Section, Division of Archives and Records (State Archives of North Carolina) is to provide state agencies with storage facilities for their inactive records. We operate three storage facilities to accomplish this goal. Because the lease for one of our storage facilities ended, the Division of Archives and Records staff engaged in a massive storage facility relocation project that took place from May 2014 to March 2015.

This project started almost a year ago in April 2014 when we began to work with the State Property Office to seek new leased space. Once the bid process was completed and the proper contracts were signed, we obtained a new leased space in September 2014.

The staff of the State Archives worked in three phases to transition the records from the former storage facility, Blount Street Annex (BSA) to the new warehouse on Front Street in Raleigh.

## Phase 1: Preparation and Planning

During the preparation stage we worked to minimize the cost of moving the records from one facility to the new

warehouse. From May through October 2014 we destroyed 18,229.55 cubic feet of materials scheduled for destruction and moved 8,776 cubic feet of records from the BSA to one of our other two storage facilities. This initial work was crucial to the success of the overall move. During this same time period, we hired a structural engineer to design a shelving plan for the new warehouse facility, prepared the scope of work for the contractor, and received and evaluated bids from contractors to: 1) remove the records from the warehouse; 2) store the records in a temporary location; 3) disassemble and move shelving from the first warehouse and rebuild it in the new facility; and 4) return the records to the shelves in the new facility. The contractor was secured in early November 2014.

In the planning stage the Government Records Section staff developed the workflow for records relocation, creating documentation to track the movement of the boxes from the shelf to the pallet, the pallet storage in the



*These empty shelves at the Blount Street Annex (BSA) represent many hours of hard work by division staff to move boxes to the new facility.*



Once the records were removed from the Blount Street Annex, they were stored temporarily in a storage facility in Morrisville. Each pallet was numbered to help in the re-shelving process.

temporary location, and placement of the boxes in their new location at the new facility. Detailed documentation of individual series of records (including the pallet where they were stored) was important to capture, since the clear chain of custody for the records needed to be identifiable through all stages of the process.

## Phase 2: Removal of Records and Disassembly and Reassembly of Shelves

From November through December 2014 contract workers and division staff worked to palletize and remove records from the BSA storage facility. Record pulls were completed in 15 days. From late December through February 2015 contract workers disassembled and reassembled the shelving at the new storage facility at Front Street. A lighting engineer was hired to design and install supplemental lighting for the new storage facility.

## Phase 3: Re-shelving of Records and Lighting

In March 2015 contract workers and division staff began re-shelving records in the new warehouse. The final boxes were placed on the shelves on March 16, meaning that work was completed in 10 ½ days.

Now that the hard part is done we will focus our attention on ensuring that all box locations in

our box tracking database have been updated to reflect their new location. This should take a minimal amount of time since we did a majority of the data entry in real time as the boxes were being placed on the shelves.

The State Records Center has resumed normal operations. We are now servicing records requests for records stored in all three of our facilities, destroying records that have met retention requirements, and picking up records from agencies for storage at the State Records Center. After almost 11 months, it is nice to get back to routine operations.

## Final Results

We moved **37,116 cubic feet** of records on 696 pallets from the BSA to the Front Street facility. We had a handful of boxes that were damaged in transport, but for the most part the boxes arrived in their new home in good condition.

In total we touched approximately 64,122 cubic feet of records during this project. As a result of all the planning and preparation work done in the first phase of the move, as well as the relocation and destruction of records stored at the BSA, the overall cost of the project was reduced. This project was a major undertaking requiring the commitment of all State Archives staff to complete. All members of the Archives staff worked tirelessly to transition the records to the new storage facility. The result is a fully operational storage facility.



Division staff helped take boxes off pallets, place them on carts, and transfer them to the shelves. In this photo, from left to right, are Jeremy Gibson (foreground), Ashley Yandle and Debbi Blake (background), and Jennifer Blomberg (with cart).

# Hidden History in Asheville Unearthed by Western Regional Archives

by Heather South, Supervising Archivist, Western Regional Archives



*This image, taken by F. Mark Combs on July 18, 2013, shows the Vance Monument on Pack Square in Asheville.*

The Vance Monument, erected in 1897, in downtown Asheville has become a fixture of the skyline and cityscape. It is the site for political and social protests, the backdrop for thousands of tourists' photos, and the pinnacle point of Pack Square Park. However, despite all of the dealings and traffic around the historical point, one feature was hidden and lost to time, until now. As the City of Asheville prepared for some restoration work on the monument, the fundraising and research team for the project discovered a newspaper clipping detailing a time capsule placed in the cornerstone.

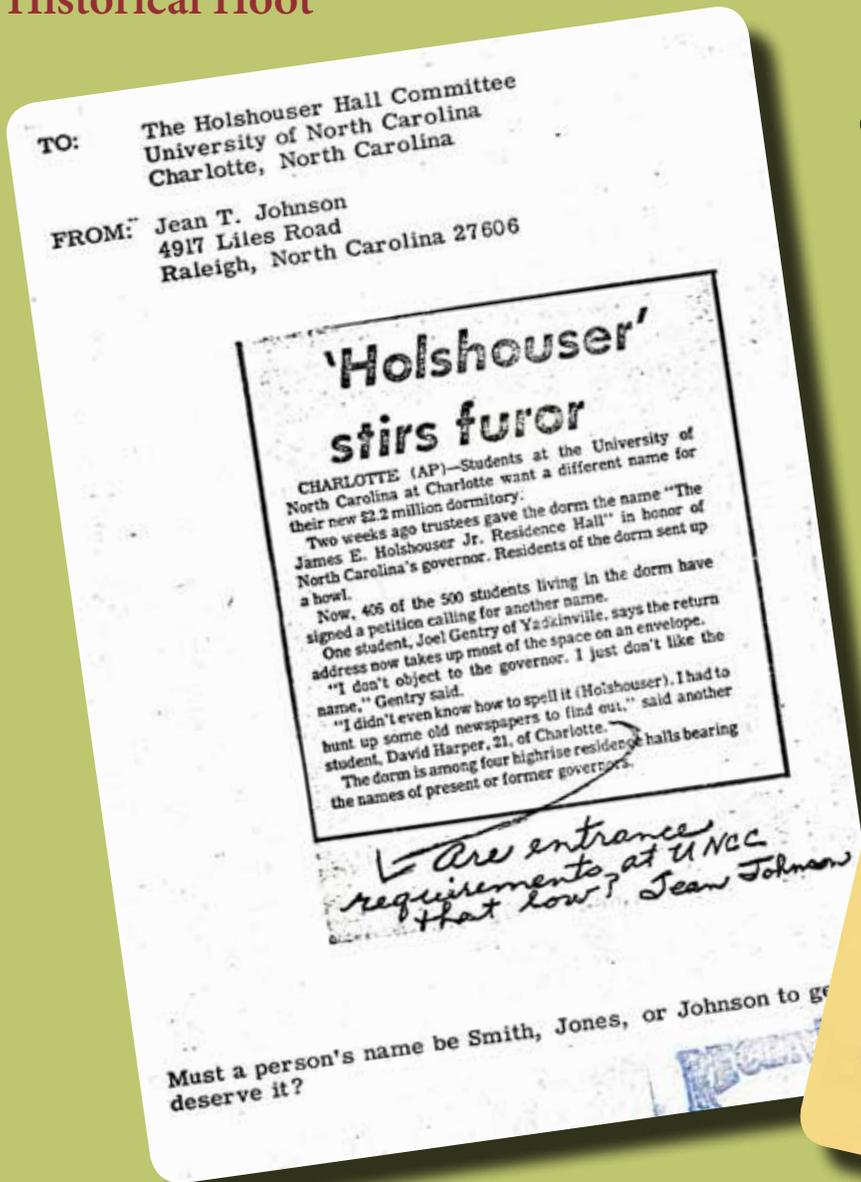
Because the repairs and cleaning of the monument involved a great deal of water, the city became concerned about the contents of the time capsule and



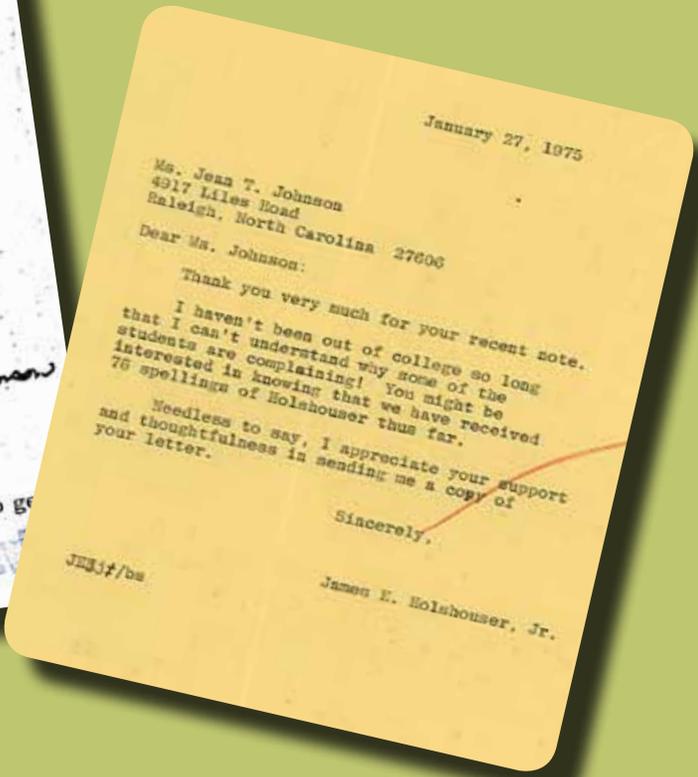
*This image shows the inside of the time capsule when it was retrieved from the base of the Vance Monument on Pack Square in Asheville. Photograph by Heather South.*

made a call to our Western Regional Archives (WRA) seeking advice and guidance. Archivist Heather South provided information and was asked to take the lead in unearthing the copper capsule and revealing its contents. On March 31 Heather, along with WRA volunteer Phil Lane, were on site as the Parks and Recreation Department began the cornerstone removal. Several representatives from the city were on hand along with a good-sized crowd, as the time capsule was wrestled from the monument and the contents whisked away to the Western Regional Archives for stabilization and preservation. To add more intrigue and excitement to the discovery, the removal of the contents was shielded from the crowd. "It allowed us to have some time to assess the contents and see if there was anything left to be salvaged. The majority of time capsules do not survive the exposure to the elements so to find the contents completely soaked but intact was really amazing," said Heather.

The media coverage of the discovery was unprecedented for the WRA, as the *Asheville Citizen Times*, the *Urban News*, and local ABC channel-WLOS all produced stories and posted images and video of the event online. Those articles were picked up across the state and beyond, including clips played on NPR affiliate WNCW (Heather says she is recognized as



Given the recent controversy over naming buildings on college campuses, this is a light-hearted look at one instance from forty years ago.



Jean T. Johnson to Gov. James Holshouser. It is filed in the Gov. James Holshouser Papers; General Correspondence, 1975; Institutions, Educational; Box 395.

that lady with the box of cool stuff all the time). The city is giving the collection to the Western Regional Archives. Parks and Recreation Assistant Director Debbie Ivester said that the city “is delighted to have found such a great partner for this important discovery. We are glad that the contents will be preserved and that the citizens of Buncombe County will be able to access the material for generations to come.”

With the documents secure at the WRA, the restoration work was completed to have the newspapers, handwritten lists, and other city documents stabilized and fully unveiled for the rededication ceremony held in early June. Among the items included in the capsule

were: a small Bible, program of the day, monument history newspaper clipping, Year Book of the city of Asheville, muster roll of Senator Vance’s old company the “Rough and Ready Guards,” copies of Asheville newspapers and publications, etc. The newspapers are all interesting but the *Colored Enterprise* is of particular interest. From preliminary research, it looks like this is the only known copy of the local African American newspaper to exist.

While preservation scans have been created, there is still a great deal of work to do to get the documents completely restored, but the WRA couldn’t resist giving us a sneak peek at this exciting project.

# Coast Guard Exhibit Opens at the Outer Banks History Center

*A Heritage of Heroes: The Coast Guard in North Carolina*

*A Heritage of Heroes: The Coast Guard in North Carolina* opened at the Outer Banks History Center in Manteo on March 6, 2015. This exhibit tells the story of the U.S. Coast Guard's presence on North Carolina's coast during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and its role in maritime safety, mobility, security, national defense, and protection of the state's natural resources. The Coast Guard played an especially critical role on North Carolina's coast during World War II.

During the exhibit's opening reception, former members of the Coast Guard and their families shared stories with local supporters, volunteers, Friends of the Outer Banks History Center, and visitors who came from as far away as Raleigh and Virginia Beach.

"For many families in our region, pride in multigenerational service in the Coast Guard is inextricably interwoven into their own family's history," stated KaeLi Schurr, the Center's curator.

Today's Coast Guard was created by merging the U.S. Life-Saving Service with the Revenue Cutter Service early in the last century. This history is traced through archival documents and photographs including images of North Carolina's early life-saving stations. The exhibit also focuses on the modern-day Coast Guard, with the world's largest base in Elizabeth City. In North Carolina nine small Coast Guard boat stations respond to calls, patrol coastal waterways, and provide aid to navigation teams, using buoy tenders and a small fleet of cutters. The Museum of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City maintains a permanent Coast Guard exhibit.

Visitors to the exhibit will learn about the heroes who have exemplified their motto, *Semper Paratus*, "Always Ready," and view footage of actual rescues including the rescue of survivors from the sinking of the HMS *Bounty* during Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

*A Heritage of Heroes* is open daily from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. through December 31 at Roanoke Island Festival Park, located across from the Manteo waterfront. The exhibit is supported in part by the Friends of the OBHC and the Outer Banks Community Foundation.



*A Coast Guard HH60 Jayhawk helicopter conducts helicopter operations with a Coast Guard patrol boat off Nags Head and Cape Hatteras. USCG photo by BM3 Justin Shute.*

# Treasures of Carolina: Stories from the State Archives

The Friends of the Archives is pleased to announce an upcoming exhibit about how, what, and why the Archives collects, preserves, and makes accessible over 100 million treasures chronicling the state's past and present.

*Treasures of Carolina: Stories from the State Archives* will open at the North Carolina Museum of History on October 24, 2015 and run through June 19, 2016. There will be a ticket-only opening reception and preview on the evening of October 23, but the exhibit itself is free. Among the speakers that evening will be David Ferriero, Archivist of the United States.

Displays of documents from the Archives vault, unique letters, historical photographs, county and state agency records, posters, and digital media, will illustrate the ways the State Archives documents government operations, provides evidence of civil rights, and preserves the history and culture of North Carolina.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Archives, *Treasures of Carolina* will highlight rarely displayed archival materials, such as the 1663 Carolina Charter, North Carolina's copy of the Bill of Rights, and a map dating from 1584, the oldest item in the Archives' collection. It will include fascinating glimpses into the lives of famous and not-so-famous North Carolinians through the documents they left behind, such as a hand-drawn map from the Tom Dula murder trial; the 1665 will of Mary Fortsen, the oldest will known to exist in North Carolina; a rare 1903 African American publication created in response to changes in voter registration laws; the naturalization petition for Chang and Eng Bunker; and World War I photographs and oral histories from North Carolina soldiers and sailors. The exhibit will also touch on current initiatives to capture and preserve online resources such as social media, GIS data, e-mail, and government websites.

While most selected materials will be available throughout the duration of the exhibit, some of the rarest items will only be on display for a short time. See the adjacent box to view the rotation schedule.

## Treasure Rotation

**October 24 – October 27, 2015**

North Carolina's copy of the  
Bill of Rights



**October 28, 2015 – February 7, 2016**

James Iredell's diary and the  
Eleventh Amendment



**February 8 – February 14, 2016**

1663 Carolina Charter



**February 15 – June 14, 2016**

Signature documents including items  
signed by George Washington,  
Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln,  
Franklin Roosevelt, and  
Albert Einstein, among others



**June 15 – June 19, 2016**

North Carolina's copy of  
the Bill of Rights

The Friends is accepting donations to help with document conservation and framing, exhibit preparation, and informational materials. If you would like to help support this event through a donation, please visit the Friends exhibit website, <http://www2.ncdcr.gov/archives/GetInvolved/Friends/exhibit.aspx>.

## Friends News

### Board Member Spotlight: Mike Taylor



**B**orn and raised in Burgaw, board member Mike Taylor is the director of Pender County Public Libraries where, in 2013, he oversaw the successful establishment of the W. Dallas Herring Research Center, a heritage research center focused on the genealogy and history of the middle Cape Fear region. Mike has served as director for 29 years, receiving his M.L.S. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is married to the former Alicia Dees and they are the parents of two grown children.

In 2012, he served as president of the N.C. Public Library Directors' Association and was appointed by Governor McCrory to a four-year term as chairman of the N.C. Public Librarian Certification Commission beginning in 2013. Mike currently serves on the advisory board of the N.C. Digital Heritage Center.

Mike writes, "I developed a deep interest in family and local history from my father, a genuine country doctor. As a youngster, I would sometimes accompany him on house calls deep in the countryside. He would share stories during the ride and we would explore local historical sites together on

the way back home. I learned of deep paternal roots in Duplin and Sampson counties reaching back before the American Revolution when William Taylor fought at the Battle of Moores Creek [Bridge]. My maternal family roots run as deep in Mecklenburg, Gaston, Cleveland and Catawba counties." He has served with many community organizations including a term as president of the Moores Creek Battleground Association, the Pender County Historical Society, and as chair of the Burgaw Depot Historic Preservation Foundation.

During his tenure with the libraries, Mike has increased outreach through a variety of public programs including exhibits, often in partnership with other organizations such as the UNCW School of Public History, Cape Fear Museum, the N.C. Humanities Council, and the Smithsonian Institution. "Exhibits have an extraordinary power in public libraries to reach so many more people who would have never gone to hear a speaker, or visit a museum." In 2013 he received a Legacy Award from the Pender County NAACP in recognition for the many programs and exhibits he has developed through the years relating to local African American history.

"I admire the staff of the Archives of North Carolina, past and present, for their excellence in preserving the written and audiovisual documentation relating to our state and for their ever growing tradition of excellence in public access and awareness through customer service and digitization."

### Member Research Spotlight

Troy Kickler, Ph.D., is founding director of the North Carolina History Project and editor of [northcarolinahistory.org](http://northcarolinahistory.org), an evolving encyclopedia of the Old North State. He currently is co-editing an anthology tentatively titled *North Carolina Founders: A Reexamination*, and he is editing the papers of Nathaniel Macon, a former U.S. Speaker of the House and leading early-republic statesman from North Carolina. He has used the State Archives for the Macon project and others.

Kickler has written essays and reviews for various publications including academic anthologies and journals, and his columns have appeared in various newspapers across the state. His most recent publication is *The King's Trouble Makers: Edenton's Role in Creating a Nation and State*. Kickler was co-creator of the popular A Citizen's Constitutional Workshop and e-newsletter, *American Founding Era News*. He has also directed, among other events, the State of Our Constitution symposia series, a program created to foster state constitutional literacy, and North Carolina History Project's Living History Event series.



## Upcoming Events

### State Archives' Civil War Sesquicentennial Lecture Series

#### "Soldiers' Artificial Limbs"

Ansley Wegner, Research Historian, N.C. Office of Archives and History.

The war took a terrible toll on the Tar Heel State. This cost was evidenced by the need to generate artificial limbs for the many wounded Tar Heel soldiers. Historian Ansley Wegner will discuss the state's efforts to provide assistance to its growing infirmed veteran population after the war.

**August 10, 2015 12:00-1:00 P.M.,**  
Archives & History Building  
Auditorium, 109 E. Jones St.,  
Raleigh, NC

#### "Presidential Reconstruction in North Carolina"

Christopher Meekins, Head, Imaging Unit, State Archives of North Carolina

After four years of war, North Carolina was now preparing itself to reenter the Union after the failure of the Confederacy. Chris Meekins will discuss the entrance of the Tar Heel State back into the United States.

**November 9, 2015, 12:00-1:00 P.M.,**  
Archives & History Building  
Auditorium, 109 E. Jones St.,  
Raleigh, NC.



#### "Ancestry Day" to be held

**November 6-7**

The annual Family History Fair will be transformed this year as "Ancestry Day" sponsored by Ancestry.com, the Friends, the State Library of North Carolina, and the North Carolina Genealogical Society. Plan now to attend two days of presentations and lectures provided by Ancestry experts and North Carolina genealogists and archivists. Friday's programs will be held at the State Archives and attendance will be limited to those who register for Ancestry.com's events on Saturday at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. There will be a registration fee for the event.

Watch for details about Ancestry Day to be posted later this summer on the State Archives' website and also on [www.ncculture.com](http://www.ncculture.com).

### About the Friends of the Archives

The Friends of the Archives, Inc. was formed in 1977 to provide non-profit support for the State Archives of North Carolina. Through generous donations, the Friends have purchased valuable collections for the Archives, helped conserve documents and maps, and have purchased chairs for the

Archives' Search Room. The Friends also sponsors workshops and other activities, and helps coordinate a volunteer and intern program for the State Archives.

The Friends is a 501(c)(3) organization that receives grants, bequests, and donations from individuals, corporations, foundations, and other organizations in support of the State Archives.

# The Charter

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