

The Charter

May 2017

The State Archives of North Carolina



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partnership with the Friends of the Archives

FRIENDS of the ARCHIVES

State Archives of North Carolina

4614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-4614
919-807-7310
www.archives.ncdcr.gov/

Physical Location:

109 E. Jones St.
Raleigh, NC 27601

Hours:

Tuesday–Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday, Monday, and all
state holidays

Cover photo:

The Solkoff family. Photograph by Albert Barden. Read about this collection of photographs on page 7.

The Charter

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From 109 East Jones

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

Finding Family Connections

Spring is a busy time of year here. The State Archives is involved with ongoing projects—working out the final technical details for our new catalog system, revamping the government records scheduling process; giving public presentations, workshops, and tours; processing collections; responding to hundreds of requests; digitizing documents; and carrying out the work of a couple of grants. We are preparing also for a grand event in May.

The National Genealogical Society holds its annual meeting May 10–13 in Raleigh and if their last conference here is any indication, hundreds of genealogists will converge at the Raleigh Convention Center to attend dozens of sessions; fill local hotel rooms, eateries, and shops; and tour local sites and venues throughout the Triangle. Nearly 100 vendors will exhibit their products. The North Carolina Genealogical Society will host a Society Night at the Museum of History for the state’s historical and genealogical societies.

This means an influx of patrons into our Search Room. We welcome them and will extend our public hours during that week.

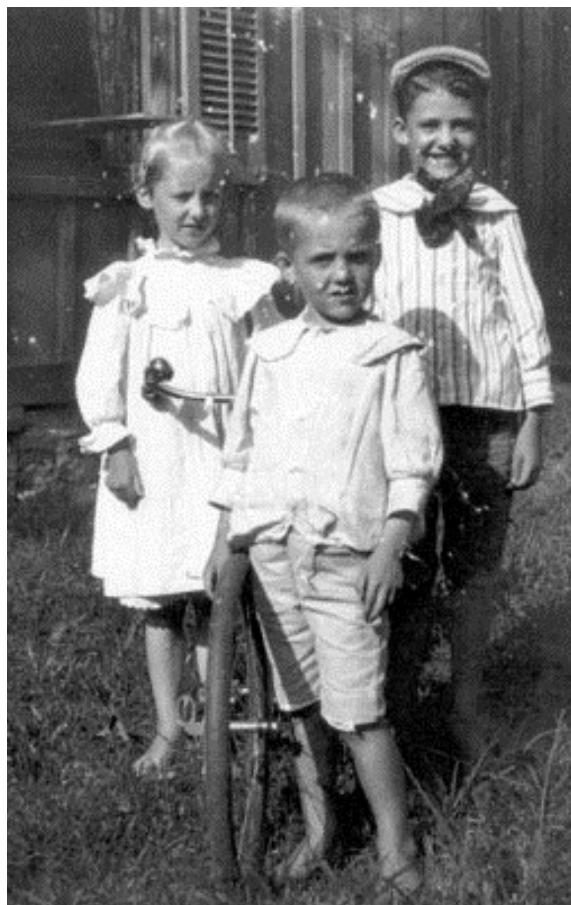
While many, many types of researchers access and use our collections—students, academic scholars, historians, documentarians, writers, attorneys, businesses, government staffs, and public officials—genealogists remain our largest user base. Patrons come seeking family history and proof of lineage for all sorts of reasons, all of them meaningful. Professional genealogists access our collections for their clients. Often the work of patrons and professionals results in published books, lists, compilations, transcriptions, or indexes that others can use.

The feature article of this issue of *The Charter* describes some of the basic record types that are used in genealogical research, as well as those digital collections that have relevance to genealogists. As many of you are aware, we work closely with librarians in the State Library to assist patrons in their genealogical research and conference participants will benefit from their extended hours too, the same as ours.

I hope you’ll consider attending the conference to explore your own family history. Read more about the conference and view the full agenda at the NGS website, <http://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>.

State Archives/State Library Extended Hours

Sunday, May 7: Closed
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, May 8, 9, 10:
8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 11: 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Friday, May 12: 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 13: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



Two boys and one girl with bicycle, unidentified, ca. 1900s. General Negative Collection, State Archives of North Carolina.

From the President

Jo Ann Williford



Several years ago, while preparing to teach an adult enrichment course on World War II, I discovered that a nurse with North Carolina connections was the first African American to be inducted into the Army nursing corps. From time to time I have tried to find additional information about her, and I recently had one of those serendipitous finds so gratifying for researchers. Some details about her are readily available on the Internet. Her name was Della Hayden Raney. A native of Virginia, she graduated from Lincoln School of Nursing in Durham, N.C. and following graduation worked at Lincoln Hospital until she reported for duty at Fort Bragg in 1941.

Her first assignment after Fort Bragg was as supervisor of nurses at Tuskegee Army Air Field. She would rise through the ranks to become a major before her retirement in 1978. However, I have never been able to find an exact induction date for her. Searches of newspapers have not yet turned up an article about this historic event. But the other day I was in the Archives with some time to spare between meetings, so I started leafing through the collection guide for the World War II collection. One of the entries caught my eye. It was a private collection for a woman named Gladys I. Giles. The guide indicated that she was an African American who served as an army nurse in World War II, so I requested the box.

The files contained a scrapbook with several interesting articles. In the front of the book was written her induction date: May 2, 1941. Elsewhere was an article that indicated she was the fifth nurse inducted into the army. And on yet another page I found a document indicating that Negro nurses would be inducted "on or about" April 25, 1941. While this did not give me the exact date of Della Raney's induction, it did narrow the time frame and confirm that Raney's induction date was most likely between April 25 and May 2.

Of course, along with the excitement of discovery came some of the usual frustrations of research as well. Lt. Giles' scrapbook was filled with several very interesting articles related to African Americans in the war; but these often raised more questions than they answered. For instance, the African American nurses were first assigned to Fort Bragg and Camp Livingston in Louisiana. Why were these installations chosen? As is often the case with scrapbooks, she did not include the dates of the articles or the names of the papers from which they came. Nor is there much information about Lt. Giles after she left the army in 1942. What brought her to Raleigh to live? But at least I now have another few pieces of this particular research project to pursue, thanks to the collection in the State Archives of North Carolina.



This photograph of Della Raney was taken from the Major Della Hayden Raney Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/DellaRaneyJackson/>

The Conservation Corner

Emily Rainwater, State Archives Conservator

The Currituck Shooting Club

The Currituck Shooting Club was founded in 1857 as a private hunting club in Corolla, N.C. The main clubhouse was rebuilt after the Civil War between 1879 and 1882, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980, but the complex burned down in March 2003 along with many historical documents, artifacts, and furniture that were inside the club.

In 2013, the Outer Banks History Center was gifted an album of hand-drawn maps in memory of Murray Chappell Sr., the caretaker of the Currituck Shooting Club, 1959–1977. It contained 34 hand-colored maps from 1974 of the club's ponds, creeks, and leads. The album itself was a mass-produced photograph album with “magnetic” self-stick pages and non-archival plastic page protectors. These types of albums age extremely poorly, and can cause permanent damage to the contents. The lines of adhesive had yellowed, causing the drawings to become stuck to the album pages. In addition, the plastic page covers were brittle, yellowed, and cracking, and the structure of the entire album was compromised.



The scrapbook as it looked upon arrival (left). Each page was encapsulated into individual enclosures. A new binding (right) enables easy and protected access.

I began by carefully removing the drawings from the album pages, using an extremely thin micro-spatula, a specialty lifting bone folder, and a long piece of sewing thread. This is the most vulnerable step, since paper can easily remain stuck to the album page and tear, especially if the paper is thin, brittle, or weak. I could see that the line of adhesive had permanently stained the paper, which was also tacky due to an adhesive residue that remained despite my efforts to reduce it. I decided to encapsulate each drawing separately in an archival polyester enclosure that will prevent the papers from sticking to each other. This enclosure contains no adhesive, will not degrade or leech plasticizers as it ages, and can easily be undone without damage if the original artwork needs to be accessed. Finally, I created a new, custom post-binding to house the encapsulated pages. The drawings can be viewed as an album again and screws can be undone and each page removed separately if needed.

There are many reputable sources about caring for scrapbooks and photo albums. There is also a lot of misinformation and confusion, especially surrounding what materials are appropriate for use. One of the biggest myths is the idea that anything marked “acid free” or “archival” is acceptable to use with original materials. Acid free simply indicates that the product was pH neutral at the time of manufacture but does not guarantee how the product will age and whether it will contribute to the deterioration of an artifact as it ages. For an informative presentation on preserving scrapbooks, see [“Preserving Historic Scrapbooks & Making New Ones That Last”](#) created by Melisa Tedone for the Association for Library Collections & Technical Services.

State Archives/Department News

New Leadership in Department

Susi H. Hamilton was confirmed as the new Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in March. Prior to her appointment, she served as a state representative from Brunswick and New Hanover counties since 2011 where she focused efforts on economic development—encouraging companies to bring well-paying jobs to southeastern N.C., increasing funding for teachers and classrooms, and providing more healthcare options for families and underserved individuals. She is a strong advocate for preserving Wilmington’s historic district and one of her early jobs was working for the Historic Preservation Office in this department.

Secretary Hamilton holds a Master’s Degree in Public Administration from UNC-Wilmington and a B.A. in History from UNC-Chapel Hill. She was the



executive director of Wilmington Downtown, Inc., where she led the effort to redevelop the downtown by encouraging and facilitating investment in real estate and by recruiting new businesses and job opportunities. She is the founder and CEO of Hamilton Planning, a consulting firm that offers marketing, real estate, and business development services.

D. Reid Wilson is the chief deputy secretary of the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. From 2003 to 2017, Wilson was the executive director of the Conservation Trust for North Carolina, a statewide nonprofit that advances land conservation by protecting lands along the Blue Ridge Parkway. He served as a public affairs consultant to national environmental groups as senior vice president with M & R Strategic Services in Washington, D.C. Prior to that, he served for nearly eight years at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a political appointee in the Clinton administration. Wilson was the political director of the Sierra Club from 1989 to 1993, and before that was an environmental advocate for the U.S. Public Interest Research Group in Washington. He has a B.A. in Political Science and Biology from Grinnell College in Iowa.

Staci Meyer returns to the department where she served as Chief Deputy Secretary and General Counsel, with almost a year as Acting Secretary, during the Easley administration. Most recently, she served as Special Deputy Attorney General at the N.C. Department of Justice since June 2013. She also served as a commissioner on the N.C. Industrial Commission from 2009 to 2013, and as chair in early 2013.

Before her service at the department (2009–2013), she provided counsel to several state agencies and had been a research assistant for the N.C. Court of Appeals. She received her B.A. in Economics from Clemson University and her Juris Doctor from N.C. Central University School of Law.

Division Staff Notes

Christine Botta joins the State Archives in mid-May as administrative secretary.

Previously Christine worked at the N.C. Department of Transportation and has served as a campaign manager for statewide political campaigns in North Carolina and Maryland.

T. Mike Childs joined the State Archives as the government records description archivist in April. Formerly with the State Library, where he worked on NCPedia, Mike brings a broad knowledge of North Carolina history. He is a graduate of UNC-CH’s School of Information and Library Science where he earned a Master’s Degree with a concentration in Archives and Records Management.

Ruth Cody was promoted to state agency records archivist within the Records Description Unit. In this new role, Ruth will focus on more complicated state agency description projects, particularly those with confidential information commingled with open records.

Matthew Crain resigned as Correspondence Unit processing assistant in November 2016.

Kelly Eubank, head of the Digital Services Section, resigned in January to accept a position at the State Library.

Rose Fortier joined the State Archives in May. Rose brings ample metadata experience from her time as coordinator of digital programs at Marquette University and as the digital projects librarian at the Milwaukee Public Library. She earned her Master’s of Library Science from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

Erin Fulp was hired as a processing assistant in the Correspondence Unit in March. Erin is a native North Carolinian and a recent graduate of Western Carolina University. Previously, she worked as a researcher at Old Salem and has experience as a genealogical researcher.

Kim Hayes, administrative secretary, resigned in January.

Anna Henrichsen joined the Government Records Section as the digital government records description archivist in May. She is a Lincoln,

Nebraska native and a graduate of the University of British Columbia's Master of Archival Studies program. She has experience processing institutional records in paper and digital formats, including municipal records at the North Vancouver Museum and Archives.

Kyna Herzinger, records management analyst, resigned in October 2016.

Angie Johnson retired in November after 34 years of service. She began her career at the Archives in 1998 as a microfilm clerk. She worked as a data entry control clerk from 1991 to 1996, where she worked on the Secretary of State Land Grant indexing project. In 1996, she was promoted to the archivist position where she worked in the Search Room answering researcher requests and later processed land records, wills, and estates until her 2016 retirement.

Kevin Klesta resigned in March as metadata archivist in the Digital Services Section.

Kat Milbrodt resigned in December 2016 as metadata and digitization assistant in the Digital Services Section.

Victoria Montgomery, processing assistant in the Government Records Section, resigned in February.

Sara Pezzoni joined the Digital Access Branch as the metadata and digitization assistant in April. She is a native North Carolinian earning a Bachelor's degree from UNC-W and a Master's degree from Florida State University. Pezzoni recently finished a grant project as the project photo archivist at the Forest History Society. She also worked at GlaxoSmithKline, NARA, the Smithsonian, and the Kinston Free Press.

Kelly Policelli joined the Records Analysis Unit in January as the appraisal archivist. She is a graduate of the dual Master's in Public History and Library Science program at NCSU and UNC-CH. She most recently was the Assistant Managing Editor and Digital Production Manager at Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill.

KaeLi Schurr retired in April after 16 years as manager of the Outer Banks History Center in Manteo. Highlights from her tenure at the OBHC included overseeing programming around the twentieth and twenty-fifth anniversaries of the Center; collaborating for the First

Flight Centennial; and developing exhibits on topics related to coastal North Carolina.

Camille Tyndall Watson was promoted to head of the Digital Services Section in March. She previously served as the digital archivist within the Digital Services Section. In her new role, Camille will oversee the development of digital initiatives for the State Archives, including the continued development and longevity of the N.C. Digital Repository and Digital Collections.

Staff Spotlight

Francesca Evans Information Management Archivist Digital Services Section

I started my tenure at the State Archives as a processing assistant with the Correspondence and Audio Visual Units. In 2010, I was promoted to a local records archivist and worked with



government officials across the state. In that role, I collected, processed, and described county records.

In May 2013, I was promoted to a position in the Digital Services Section as the information management archivist. I enjoy working with the unit to digitize and provide metadata for materials added to the [North Carolina Digital Collections](#). I am very proud of the team's accomplishments, including working on and completing such collections as the 1901 Confederate Pensions, African American Education, Civil Rights,

Governors Papers, Constitutional Materials, N.C. State Parks, Tax Lists, and World War I.

I have been able to coordinate several division-wide projects. As one of the lead organizers for the *Treasures of Carolina* exhibit, I focused on a successful fundraising campaign and coordinated the opening night reception. I also helped to coordinate the annual Southeastern Archives and Records Conference that included more than 30 participants from southeastern state archives. Currently, I am collaborating with the State Library to create a promotional video that highlight both institutions.

Collections News

Karl Larson, AV Materials Unit part-time temporary research assistant, has begun describing more of the *News and Observer* 1960s negatives. The State Archives serves as the repository for this collection of newspaper photographic negatives that date from 1938 to 1999.

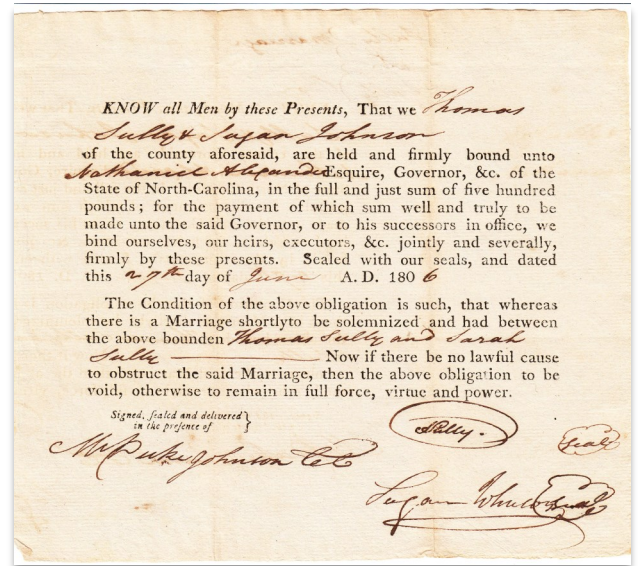
The [finding aid](#) for the Albert Barden Photograph Collection is now available online. The collection consists of over 18,000 individual negatives created by Albert Barden, a commercial photographer in Raleigh, N.C. between 1908 and 1953. This collection includes studio portraiture, advertisements, street scenes, municipal buildings, residential homes, neighborhoods, and editorial work and is one of the most used collections in the State Archives of North Carolina. The finding aid describes three series. The [Albert Barden Collection](#) was the first major mass digitization project undertaken at the State Archives. Nearly 15,000 images from it are available on the [State Archives Flickr](#) site.

Editor's note: The information below is taken largely from the State Archives' genealogical brochure, and has been updated for this article. Special thanks to Debbi Blake, Donna Kelly, and Matthew Peek for their contributions.

Government Records

County records are the most used and arguably, the most helpful group of records for genealogical research. County records are arranged into nine categories, each with its own call number. Except for original deed and will books, the State Archives holds records of almost all the state's 100 current counties and six defunct counties. Though the holdings in each county may differ, records in this series include:

Bonds include apprentice, bastardy, and county official's bonds. Bonds are typically arranged by date.



Marriage bond between Thomas Sully and Susan Johnson, 1806.



Granville County Lists of Taxables

Census records (County copy) are available on microfilm arranged by county. They are available for every decennial federal North Carolina census from 1790 through 1930 (except for the destroyed 1890 census).

Court records include minutes and other dockets of the county courts in addition to the surviving loose original documents in lawsuits. Loose records are arranged roughly by year and can be searched only in the Search Room.

Land records, as a rule, consist of the few original deeds left in the county register's office by the grantee, some records created through disputes and divisions, and entry books. Although the complete series of deed books most often remain in the office of the county register of deeds, the Archives has microfilm copies of deed books for use in the Search Room. Deed indexes are also available on microfilm.

Estate records include the records of estates of both testators and intestates and are arranged by family surname for each county. Included may be inventories, accounts of sales, financial reports, divisions among heirs, guardian's records, documents concerning lawsuits, etc.

Marriage records, prior to 1868, have no official public record in North Carolina since they were performed, not by special license, but after banns had been published three times. When performed by a special license, a bond was executed by the groom in the county in which the bride resided; some of these pre-1868 bonds have survived for about half of the counties. The Archives has a microfiche statewide bride and groom index to these bonds. Names of parents, age, or other personal information usually do not appear on the bonds. Certification that a marriage had been performed was not required until 1851. Marriage bonds were in use from 1741 to 1868.

Tax records have no standard arrangement. Each county tax list must be individually searched in the Search Room.

Wills remain in the office of the county clerk of court but some loose, original wills are held in the State Archives where they are alphabetically arranged by surname of the testator. Thornton W. Mitchell's *North Carolina Wills: A Testator Index, 1665–1900* is invaluable for locating original and recorded copies of wills.

Miscellaneous records usually include road, bridge, mill, and ferry records as well as those concerning slaves, county financial accounts, etc.

North Carolina state agency records can contain information of genealogical value. For example, the records of the Secretary of State include several pre-1793 wills, inventories, and administrator's bonds. The records of the Auditor and of the Treasurer and Comptroller include records related to military service. Some eighteenth- and early-nineteenth-century tax lists are included in state agency records.

Military Records

The most extensive holdings of military records are held by the National Archives (www.nara.gov), but several types of military-related information are held at the State Archives of North Carolina. They include:

Revolutionary Army Accounts are indexed alphabetically, usually showing name, amount paid, and by whom. No personal information is given and the accounts do not necessarily prove military service. A statewide index is available on microfiche.

Revolutionary War Pay Vouchers (incomplete) are arranged alphabetically, usually showing name, amount paid, and district in which paid. No personal information is given. These are available on microfilm.

War of 1812 Pay Vouchers are arranged alphabetically, usually showing name, rank, county, and commanding officer. Of the 60 counties in existence during the war years, some vouchers have survived for 28 counties. The *Index to the War of 1812 Vouchers* and the *Index to the Manuscript Muster Rolls of the War of 1812* are available in the Search Room.

Mexican War muster rolls are included in the *Roster of North Carolina Troops in the War with Mexico*. Service records for soldiers in this war are located at the National Archives.

Civil War resources include the multi-volume *North Carolina Troops, 1861–1865*, a roster of troops by regiments, battalions, and companies available in the Search Room

and for sale through Historical Publications. All of the [1901 Confederate pension applications](#) have been scanned and are available online.

Spanish-American War resources include the *Roster of the North Carolina Volunteers in the Spanish-American War* available in the Search Room. Official service records are available at the National Archives.

All ex-Confederate soldiers and sailors who served honorably during the war, and have borne a good character since, are entitled to admission to said "Home" and support and maintenance while there free of charge, if they are indigent and infirm.
All applications for admission to the Home must be made to the Executive Committee, and by them granted or rejected.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION
—TO THE—
NORTH CAROLINA SOLDIERS' HOME,
AT RALEIGH, N. C.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: A. D. MCGILL,
FABIUS H. BUSBEE,
W. C. STRONACH.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: F. H. BUSBEE, J. S. CARR.

SECRETARY: J. B. STRONACH.

LADY MANAGERS: Mrs. T. J. JARVIS, Mrs. J. B. BATCHELOR, Mrs. JOS. P. CALDWELL,
Mrs. V. S. PENDLETON, Mrs. J. TURNER MOREHEAD, Mrs. GEORGE ERWIN,
Mrs. THOS. H. SUTTON, Mrs. A. E. HOLMES, Mrs. H. A. GUDGER.

The Application of John G. Cobble of the County
of Surry State of N.C. sets forth that he, the
said John G. Cobble was regularly enlisted and served, during the late
war between the States, in the Confederate States army or navy, as follows:

WHEN ENLISTED, WITH RANK.	WHERE ENLISTED, TOWN AND STATE.	COMPANY AND REGIMENT SERVED IN.	DATE AND PLACE OF DIS- CHARGE, WITH RANK.	CAUSE OF DISCHARGE.
<u>March 1862</u>	<u>not army</u>	<u>Co. E</u>	<u>Private</u>	<u>Surry Co. N.C.</u>
<u>Private</u>	<u>Surry Co. N.C.</u>	<u>3rd N.C.I.</u>		<u>g. Army</u>

That he served honorably during the war in said army (or navy), and was true and loyal to the government of the Confederate States to the end of the war, and that he has borne a good character ever since; that he is 60 years of age; that he is married; that he is of dark complexion, five 7 feet in height, and is by occupation a Labourer; that his nearest relative is Polly Cobble whose post-office is not army, N.C.; that because of Physical infirmity he, the said John G. Cobble is unable to provide for and support himself, and, therefore, he makes this his application for admission into the "SOLDIERS' HOME"; that he is a person of sobriety and good habits, and, if admitted as an inmate to said Home, he hereby agrees, upon pains of expulsion, to abide

Pension application, 1894. This first page of an "Application for Admission to the North Carolina Soldiers' Home at Raleigh, N.C. was made by John Coble of Surry County in July 1894 when he was sixty years old.

World War I service cards contain annotated service histories for men and women residents of the state who served in World War I. The cards, arranged alphabetically by last name within two sets based on military branches—Army/Air Force/Marines and Navy/Coast Guard—are available on microfilm in the Search Room. The cards are also in a searchable database through a cooperative partnership with [FamilySearch.org](#).

World War II records include military camp publications (incomplete sets) for numerous North Carolina military installations during World War II. These are organized by base name and date. The publications contain names of those training or stationed at the bases, information on local communities around the bases, and various unit information. The North Carolina WWII County War Records contain records documenting the home front in counties around the state, including Rotary Club newsletters about the communities for service individuals and school wartime scrapbooks.

Other Sources

[North Carolina Family Records Online](#) is a digital collection of North Carolina family history materials from the holdings of the State Archives of North Carolina and the State Library of North Carolina and include Bible Records, newspaper notices of deaths and marriages, some published works, and WPA cemetery records.



Before the Vital Records Act mandated counties to collect pertinent data, family Bibles were sometimes the only source of recorded information about marriages, births, and deaths.

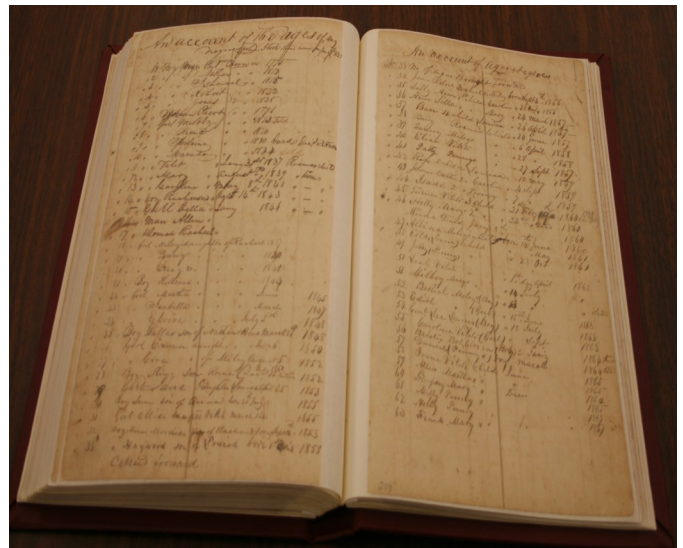
Bible Records contain genealogical data photocopied from family Bibles. The entries are arranged alphabetically by surname.

Cemetery Records were collected from 1936 to 1942 as part of the state's WPA Historical Records Survey and include tombstone inscriptions for more than 268,000 persons buried in over 7,000 cemeteries.

This card file, other cemetery publications and compilations, and information on nearly 12,000 cemeteries are available for use in the Search Room.

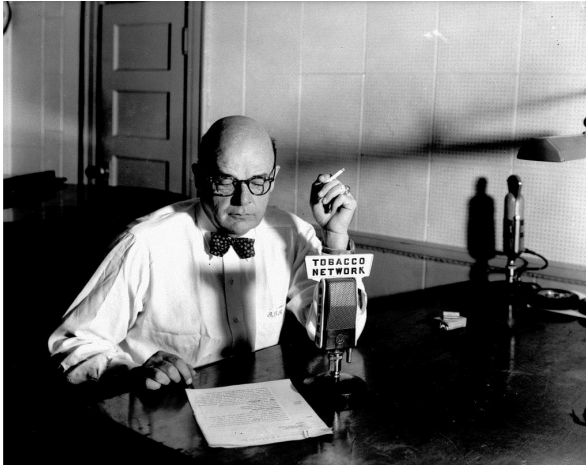
Private Collections number more than 2,000 separate manuscript collections of prominent North Carolinians and their families, as well as records of less well-known individuals. Account books, journals, and diaries found in these collections can be very useful in tracing ancestors.

Vital Statistics such as birth and death records were not kept officially in North Carolina before October 1913. The State Archives holds death certificates from 1913 through 1975. For birth certificates, full names of parents, including mothers' maiden name, must be provided. For all birth certificates, and for death certificates after 1975, contact the North Carolina [Vital Records Section](#) in the North Carolina Public Health Department.



This account book from Private Collections is from the John Thorp Plantation in Nash County. The books name enslaved persons and their children and include their birth and death dates.

State Archives/Department News *(continued from page 7)*



Ray Reeve by Albert Barden. Reeve (1901–1980) was a pioneering sports broadcaster who worked for WRAL-AM and FM, the Tobacco Sports Network, and WRAL-TV during a career that spanned five decades.

In January, the Digital Access Branch unveiled a new digital collection, [Tax Lists and Records](#) in the North Carolina Digital Collections. The collection draws from General Assembly, Treasurer & Comptroller, and Secretary of State records. The bulk of the records are from the colonial and Revolutionary War eras, but some lists date from as late as 1853. Lists sent to the General Assembly are from various counties and give the names of the heads of households and others who were subject to taxation. Horses, cattle, livestock, and other luxury goods such as carriages and coaches are often referenced. Information about enslaved people also may be present in these lists. Tax records sent to the State Treasurer or Comptroller relate to the settlement of accounts between local officials and the state. These records generally include the names of the heads of households, acreage, valuation, and number of polls (a tax of a fixed amount levied on adult males, female heads of households, and enslaved people) in the household (black and white). Horses, cattle, livestock, and other luxury goods such as carriages and coaches are also frequently referenced. Thirty-four tax lists from the Secretary of State records list households subject to taxation in fifteen counties and generally includes the name of the head of household, acreage, valuation, and number of polls in household (black and white). Counties included in these lists are: Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Caswell, Chowan, Craven, Currituck, Dobbs, Gates, Granville, Halifax, Hertford, Johnston, Jones, Martin, Montgomery, Nash, New Bern District, Northampton, Onslow, Orange, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Richmond, Rutherford, Sampson, Surry, Tyrrell, Warren, and Wilkes.

[Troop Returns](#) include lists, returns, records of prisoners, and records of draftees, from 1747 to 1893. Most records are from the Revolutionary War North Carolina Continental Line. Records dated after the Revolutionary War primarily deal with the county and state militia troops.

[North Carolina State Parks](#) was recently added to honor the centennial anniversary of North Carolina's State Parks in 2016. Hundreds of folders of historical documents from the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation records collection at the State Archives have been digitized and added to the digital collections. The State Archives partnered with the Division of Parks and Recreation to create the State Parks digital collection, which has made available hundreds of historical and modern photographs that feature the natural and cultural history of the parks from the 1910s to the 1980s.

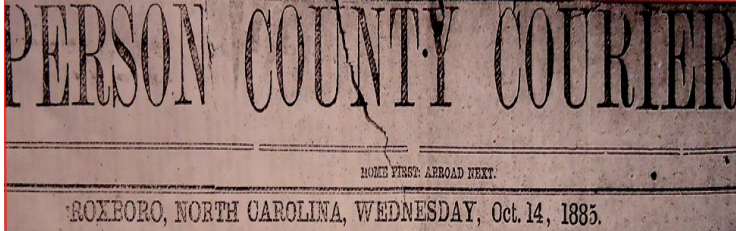
[World War I](#) additions include Earlie W. Smith correspondence, 1917–1918; Lonnie T. Graham correspondence, 1918; Thomas W. Williams, Carnival program, 1919; Charles H. and Thomas L. Warren correspondence, 1917–1919; *History of the North Carolina Council of Defense: 1917–1920*, v.1-3, Joseph Hyde Pratt; John B. Exum Jr. correspondence, 1918–1919; Thomas P. Shinn, war diary, 1917–1918; James G. Lane, correspondence, 1918; Isham B. Hudson, war diary, 1918; and Local Draft Board Records.



Loggerhead turtle hatchling, Hammocks Beach State Park, 2007, from the North Carolina State Parks Collection.

Historical Hoot

Debbi Blake, Head, Collections Services Section



—Robert Perry, of Perquemins county; died and was buried two months ago. His wife not finding any money among the dead man's effects, had the body disinterred the other day, and found \$500 and valuable papers secured inside the coat lining.

State Archives Website Earns Recognition from *Family Tree Magazine*



In November 2016, the North Carolina Digital Collections [website](#) was named to *Family Tree Magazine's* list of 75 Best State Websites for Genealogy in 2016. This list honors the best websites that specialize in genealogy research for each of the 50 U.S. states. These websites represent the go-to online destinations for tracing American ancestors, state by state. The website of the [Digital Heritage Center](#), based at UNC-Chapel Hill, was recognized as well. [View the article](#) in *Family Tree Magazine*.

AV Materials Exhibited at Science Museum

Kim Andersen, Audiovisual Materials archivist, created, assembled, and staffed a pop-up exhibit at the N.C. Museum of Natural Sciences' "[Throwback Thursday '90s](#)" Adult Night in March. The exhibit featured audio recordings (LP record albums) from the T. Mike Childs' Collection and photographs from *The News & Observer* celebrating local North Carolina music and musicians from the storied 1990s grunge rock era. Highlights included LPs, 45s, CDs, and cassette tapes of Southern Culture on the Skids, the Bad Checks, Dish, Flat Duo Jets, Squirrel Nut Zippers, Superchunk, Shark Quest, Ben Folds Five, and many more, and photographs of Raleigh's iconic music store, Schoolkids Records. Over 600 participants stopped by the exhibit.



A sample of the State Archives' AV collection on display during "Throwback Thursday '90s" at the Museum of Natural Sciences.

Friends News and Activities

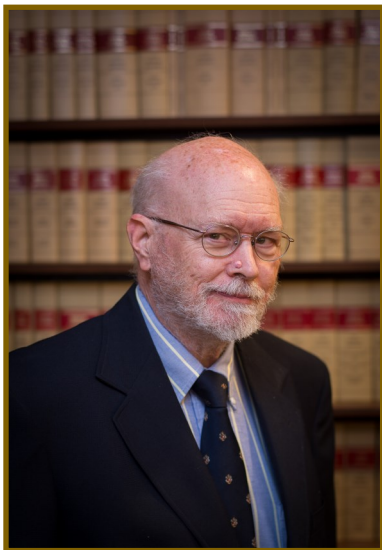


Constitutional scholar and author, Linda Monk, delivered "How North Carolina Saved the Constitution," in a special presentation at the Museum of History in December 2016. After her talk, state archivist Sarah Koonts led a viewing of North Carolina's copy of the Bill of Rights on exhibit for one day. The program was sponsored by the Friends and more than 100 people attended.

Josh Hager discusses Treasurer and Comptroller records at the "Liberty or Death!" workshop in April. Seven archivists delivered presentations covering the types of Revolutionary War era records found at the State Archives. This workshop was sponsored by the Friends .



Please watch your email for notification of the next annual meeting and program to be held in June



Jack McGeachy grew up in a bookish home, one in which his father, a history professor, read Latin and Greek (usually Loeb editions) while soaking in the bath. As a high school junior Jack gained his first work experience in the Davidson College library and later while attending Davidson, Jack organized the library's collection of about 20,000 government documents. He attended the University of Chicago's Graduate Library School, graduating in 1973.

After working a few years in the libraries of Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, and Arkansas State University, Jack became Arkansas' first federal regional depository librarian, and led projects to organize the Arkansas State Library's newly formed collections of federal and state documents. While in Arkansas he enrolled in the business program of the University of Arkansas, Little Rock, graduating with an MBA degree in 1986.

Jack returned to his native state in 1984 and spent 25 years in the documents and reference departments of North Carolina State University's D. H. Hill Library. He retired from that position in 2009. While working at NCSU Jack enrolled in NCSU's Public History Program and received an M.A. degree in 2003.

In a North Carolina history seminar led by Dr. Jeffrey Crow, Jack wrote a paper, "Travelling on the Cape Fear River in the Colonial Period," in an attempt to envision what his immigrant ancestor, Alexander McGeachy, saw as he rafted the Cape Fear during the

1780s. Jack used as a source for that paper a manuscript, "Cape Fear Sketches and Loafer Ramblings by the author of the Wilmington Whistling Society," a copy of which is held in UNC-Chapel Hill's Southern Historical Collection.

The "Cape Fear Sketches," with its tantalizing questions, intrigued him. Who wrote it? How had the original manuscript come to reside in the Alabama Archives? Jack spent ten years researching those questions and answered them. John D. Jones (1790–1854), a Wilmington planter, customs officer, state legislator, and bank president, was the author. Jones had been a long-forgotten, native North Carolina author who wove memorable and humorous tales of antebellum Wilmington personages and events. As to the second question, descendants of South Carolina's governor, Benjamin Franklin Perry, took the manuscript to Alabama. They erroneously thought their ancestor had written it.

In his research of the "[Cape Fear Sketches](#)" Jack made extensive use of New Hanover deeds and court minutes. He transcribed a modest portion of the county's Pleas and Quarter Sessions Court minutes for the period 1809 to 1854. Having this material in hand, Jack decided to transcribe the remainder of the New Hanover P&Q volumes to 1868 when the series ended. Today he can frequently be spotted in a corner of the Archives Search Room typing away on that project, having reached 1866 and approaching the end of the series, June 1868.

The New Hanover P&Q project has been a good return on his investment in a junior high typing class, one which his father—a fast, two-finger hunt-and-peck typist—had been reluctant to approve, as it was not an academic subject.

The Charter

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About the Friends of the Archives

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

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