

CONFEDERATE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

AGENCY HISTORY

The North Carolina Confederate Centennial Commission was created by the General Assembly of 1959. It was charged with planning and conducting programs to commemorate the one-hundredth anniversary of the Civil War, cooperating when possible with individuals, unofficial organizations, and with agencies of the federal government and other states. Appointed by the governor for terms of two years, the commission consisted of twenty-five members at large and the following ex officio members: superintendent of the Department of Public Instruction; director of the Department of Conservation and Development; and director of the Department of Archives and History. Norman C. Lawson served as executive secretary for the commission.

The Confederate Centennial Commission was continued in 1961 by the General Assembly and was involved in several noteworthy undertakings before it went out of existence on 30 June 1965. These included initiation of projects to prepare and publish a new roster of North Carolina Confederate troops; to mark Civil War sites throughout the state and re-enact battles; and to produce radio and television programs and dramas. The commission also played a major role in the salvaging of thousands of items from sunken Civil War vessels off Fort Fisher. The commission's program gained national attention and was awarded the Centennial Bronze Medallion by the United States Civil War Centennial Commission.

REFERENCES:

S.L., 1959, c. 323.

S.L., 1961, c. 1064.

Department of Archives and History. Thirtieth Biennial Report of the North Carolina State Department of Archives and History, July 1, 1962 Through June 30, 1964. Raleigh, 1964. Pp. 7-8.

---. Thirty-first Biennial Report of the North Carolina State Department of Archives and History, July 1, 1964 Through June 30, 1966. Raleigh, 1966. Pp. 105-106.

SUBJECT TERMS USED FOR CLIPPINGS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

Antietam, Battle of, Md., re-enactment
Averasboro Battleground

Ballard, Bill, illustrations for Front Rank
Baum, Jack; "Albemarle's Historical, Genealogy Researcher," columns
Bennett Place
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Bentonville Battleground
Bethel (Va.), Battle of
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Children of the Confederacy
Civil War, engravings
Civil War, miscellaneous
Civil War battles, re-enactments
Civil War collections
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Fort Branch

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Col. William Lamb Day, and Hebe Skirmish Centennial

Fort Macon

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Guilford "Grays", re-enactors

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Sixth North Carolina Regiment

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Miscellaneous

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"Modern Greece" and "Peterhoff," salvage operations

"Modern Greece" blockade runner

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North Carolina, Civil War sites

North Carolina, Eastern, during the Civil War

North Carolina, Western, during the Civil War

North Carolina authors

North Carolina Railroad, Confederate currency

North Carolinians in the Civil War

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O'Keefe, Herbert, "In Old Raleigh," Raleigh Times

"Old Soldiers Reunion," Catawba County, re-enactors--Franklin Rifles

Orangeburg (S.C.), Battle of

Personalities

Plymouth, Battle of, map (negative only)

Publications

Ram "Neuse" project

Regimental histories

Roanoke Island, Battle of

Ships

Sixth North Carolina Regiment, Burlington

Sixth North Carolina Regiment, re-enactors

Soldiers

Speeches

Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, Band (Moravians)

Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, re-enactors

Twenty-seventh North Carolina Regiment, re-enactors

United Daughters of the Confederacy

Vance Birthplace

Vaughan-Williams, T. J., and flags, etc.

CORRESPONDENCE FILE, 1957-1965

Accession Information: Transferred from the agency to the State Records Center, 7 July 1965;
transferred from the State Records Center to the Archives, 8 January 1974.

Schedule Reference: RS No. 800

Arrangement: Alphabetical by subject or correspondent, then chronological.

Processed by: David B. Chiswell

Date: 19 February 1997

Finding Aid prepared by: Mary Hollis Barnes and David B. Chiswell

Date: 28 February 1997

Correspondence, memoranda, speeches, agreements, lists, and other material from the commission. The correspondence is grouped into the following sub-series: correspondence with commission members, correspondence with committees, and general correspondence.

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1	<p>Correspondence with commission members Correspondence, 1959-1965 Correspondence on specific requests or projects, 1959-1965</p>
2	<p>Correspondence with commission members Speeches and engagements, 1960-1961</p> <p>Correspondence with committees Andrew Johnson and Bennett Place committee, 1962-1965 Audiovisual committee (film services), 1960-1964 copyright agreement, 1961 Copyright and right-of-use committee, 1961-1965</p>
3	<p>Correspondence with committees County committees form letters no county committee formed Alamance, 1960-1963 Anson, 1960 Beaufort, 1960-1962 Bertie, 1961 Bladen, 1961 Buncombe, 1961-1962 Burke, 1961 Cabarrus, 1961-1963 Camden, 1961 Carteret, 1960-1964 Catawba, 1961, n.d. Chatham, 1961-1962 Cherokee, n.d. Chowan, 1960 Cleveland, 1961 Columbus, 1960</p>

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4	<p>Correspondence with committees</p> <p>County committees (cont.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jackson, 1960 Johnston, 1961 Lenoir, 1960-1962, 1964 Lincoln, 1961 Madison, 1962 Martin, 1961 McDowell, 1960-1961 Mecklenburg, 1963-1964 Moore, 1962 Nash, 1961 New Hanover, 1960-1965 Northampton, 1960 Onslow, 1960-1962 (for Orange, see Durham) Pasquotank, 1961-1962 Pender, 1961 Pitt, 1961 Randolph, 1962 Richmond, 1960 Robeson, 1960-1961

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5	<p>Correspondence with committees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local committees throughout the state, 1960-1961 Local commemorations committee, 1960 Publications committee, 1960-1965 School education committee, 1960-1962, 1964 Speakers bureau committee, 1961 Writers committee, 1961 <p>General correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil War Centennial conference, Chapel Hill, 1958-1959 Civil War sites, 1960
6	<p>General correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confederate Corporation, 1960-1965 Confederate States Centennial Commission, 1960-1965 Crittenden, Christopher, 1960-1961, 1963-1965 Dortch, Hugh, 1960-1961, 1963-1964 Formation of the proposed commission, 1957-1959 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> answers to letters requesting support, 1960 budget and legislation, 1960-1961 Forrest, Lionel, 1964-1965

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8	General correspondence Staff, 1963-1965 interoffice memoranda, 1961, 1965 miscellaneous, 1961, 1964-1965 U.S. Civil War Centennial Commission, 1958-1965 Ladies Commission of, 1960 Vaughan-Williams, Trevor J., 1960-1965

SUBJECT FILE, 1958-1965

Accession Information: Transferred from the agency to the State Records Center, 7 July 1965;
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Arrangement: Alphabetical by subject.

Processed by: David B. Chiswell

Date: 19 February 1997

Finding Aid prepared by: Mary Hollis Barnes and David B. Chiswell

Date: 28 February 1997

Subject file including minutes, reports, lists, correspondence, articles of incorporation, bylaws, newsletters, press releases, and other material concerning activities, events, projects, re-enactments, and publications of the commission, the N.C. Confederate Corporation, the U.S. Civil War Centennial Commission, and similar commissions in other states.

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9	Allstate Insurance--Civil War ceremony, 1961-1962 "Andersonville Trial" (play), 1962 Avasboro Battleground Commemoration correspondence, 1964-1965 participants, 1965 Battlefield stompers, 1960-1961 Bentonville Battleground Chicora Country Club luncheon, 1965 Commemoration correspondence, 1961, 1964-1965 "Emphasis Bentonville" program, 1961 Hastings House ball correspondence, 1965 invitations declined, 1965 Bennett Place Ceremony, Governor's invitations declined, 1965 Ceremony, Governor's Office correspondence, 1965
10	Carolina Charter and Confederate Memorial Building, 1960 Centennial medallion program, U.S. Navy, 1963 Civil War roster project, 1960-1965 Civil War Round Table, 1959-1961, 1963-1965 Civil War sites, 1962-1963, n.d. Commercial Services Flags and uniforms, 1960-1962, 1964 Maps and prints, 1961, n.d. Military equipment, 1961, 1964 Miscellaneous, 1960-1962, 1965

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15	<p>Fort Fisher activities, 1963-1965 Col. William Lamb Day, correspondence, 1962 salvage operations, correspondence, 1962-1964</p> <p>Gettysburg (Pa.), Battlefield, centennial activities, 1963 Gibson, T. Price, collection, 1961-1963 "Gone With the Wind" program, 1961 Greensboro program, 1964-1965</p> <p>Historical marker program, 1961, 1963-1964</p>
16	<p>Jarrett, Calvin, correspondence on possible publications, 1963-1964 Jefferson Davis Association, correspondence, 1963-1964</p> <p>North Carolina Forklore Society, 1960-1961 North Carolina Literary and Historical Association, 1960-1961, 1963</p> <p>Manassas (Va.), First Battle of, re-enactment, 1959-1961 "Modern Greece," salvage operations, 1962</p> <p>News releases, 1960-1965, n.d. North Carolina Railroad, Confederate currency, 1961</p> <p>Pet projects, correspondence, 1963 Publications <u>Bloody Sixth</u>, correspondence, 1961, 1963-1965</p>
17	<p>Publications (cont.) <u>Bloody Sixth</u>, final proof <u>Front Rank</u>, correspondence, 1961-1964 <u>Johnny Reb Band From Salem</u>, correspondence, 1960-1963 <u>Journal of the Confederate Historical Society</u>, 1963-1965 Miscellaneous correspondence, 1961</p>

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PHOTOGRAPHS FILE, ca. 1958-1965

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Arrangement: Alphabetical by subject.

Processed by: David B. Chiswell

Date: 19 February 1997

Finding Aid prepared by: Mary Hollis Barnes and David B. Chiswell

Date: 21 February 1997

Photographs (and a few negatives and slides) collected by or taken for the commission for publicity purposes, for use in publications, and for documenting events of the commission. On the backs of many of the photographic prints are either the name of the photographer or the collection from which they were duplicated. Included are photographs reproduced by the then Dept. of Archives and History as well as photographs taken by the commission's official photographer, L. A. Lentz. Although most of the photographs' descriptions do not provide a date, it may be possible to match them up with material in the commission's newspaper clippings file, the "Newsletter," or one of the other publications.

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	Confederate Centennial Commission
	Members and meetings
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	Fairgrounds activities
	Memorial service
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NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS FILE, 1958-1965

Microfilm Reel Nos.: S.25.1--S.25.3

Accession Information: Transferred from the agency to the State Records Center, 7 July 1965;
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Processed and prepared for filming by: David B. Chiswell

Date: 4 February 1997

Finding Aid prepared by: Mary Hollis Barnes and David B. Chiswell

Date: 12 February 1997, revised 6 March 1997

Microfilmed: February 1997

Newspaper clippings (and some speeches) concerning the formation of the commission, county activities, and various subjects. The clippings were arranged and microfilmed in the following order:

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Duplin, 1960-1961	Sampson, 1960-1961, 1964
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Forsyth, 1961-1963, 1965	Transylvania, 1960-1961
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Spectators and traffic

Washington visit by Gov. Sanford

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"Modern Greece" blockade runner, 1962

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National Civil War Centennial Conference, Charleston (S.C.), 1961

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Orangeburg (S.C.), Battle of, 1964

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NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS FILE, 1958-1965

Reel No. S.25.3 (cont.)

III. Subject file

Sixth North Carolina Regiment, Burlington, part I, 1960-1964

part II, 1961-1963

part III, 1961-1962

part IV, 1961-1962, n.d.

Speeches, 1961-1964

Twenty-sixth North Carolina Regiment, Band (Moravians), 1961-1963

United Daughters of the Confederacy, 1960-1965, n.d.

Vance Birthplace, 1961-1962