ncpreserves

an electronic newsletter from the north carolina preservation consortium

Preserving collections in libraries, museums, archives and historic sites.

July 2014

Save The Date

The NCPC Annual
Conference will take place
on November 7, 2014, at
the Ida and William Friday
Center for Continuing
Education at
UNC-Chapel Hill.

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

August 10-16	SAA Annual Meeting
	(Washington D.C.)

September 27 <u>NCPC Workshop:</u> <u>Preserving Historic</u>

<u>Houses</u>

October 2014 NC Archives Month.

<u>"North Carolina at</u> <u>Play: Health and</u>

Leisure in Our State"

October 6 <u>NEH Grant Deadline.</u>

"Documenting Endangered Languages"

October 27 NCPC Workshop:

<u>Preserving</u> <u>Indigenous Artifacts</u>

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News You May Have Missed

Saving North Carolina's Most Endangered Artifacts

NCPC has launched a public awareness and fundraising campaign to save artifacts in desperate need of conservation. Other states, such as Virginia and Pennsylvania, have similar programs that have helped to raise donations for caretakers with limited resources. Eligible artifacts may be paintings, sculpture, ceramics, furniture, textiles, rare books, manuscripts, documents, maps, photographs, films, sound recordings, natural history specimens, archaeological objects, monuments, and historic structures. We are striving to spotlight more endangered artifacts from every region of our state. You can nominate an endangered artifact with our <u>online application</u> in the hope of adding your endangered artifact to this list:



A *Bride's Two Piece Wedding Suit* at the Museum of the Albemarle in Elizabeth City was worn by Ida Patrick Weston when she married William Timothy Berry on February 27, 1884. This artifact cannot be displayed on exhibit without conservation work. The skirt and jacket are very fragile and

both are deteriorating with numerous tears and holes throughout. The estimated cost for conservation is \$3,200.

The *Caswell Family Bible* at the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh once belonged to North Carolina Governor Richard Caswell. Published in England in 1740, this Bible contains a record of Caswell family history. The text blocks are separated into multiple sections with numerous damaged



leaves. The board of the binding is also severely damaged. The estimated cost for conservation is \$14,305.

Story continues on page 2

Saving North Carolina's Most Endangered Artifacts, continued



The *Orange Guard Civil War Flag* at the Orange County Historical Museum in Hillsborough is the only Civil War Era flag from the county known to still exist. This flag helps interpret the history of the Orange Guard, the young and old left behind to guard the region. The flag needs conservation to save the silk fibers that have deteriorated from light exposure and physical stress. The estimated cost for conservation is \$20,157.

The *Philomathesian Literary Society Banner* at the Z. Smith Reynolds Library in Winston-Salem connects Wake Forest University with the Wake Forest College Birthplace Society and the Wake Forest Historical Museum in the town of Wake Forest. The Philomathesian Literary Society was established in 1835 to encourage students to study and debate historical, political, and philosophical questions of the day. This artifact needs conservation to save the emblem painting which has separated from the silk foundation. The estimated cost for conservation is \$1,500.





The *Vance Monument* in Asheville is a seventy-five foot tall granite obelisk completed in 1898 that honors Zebulon Baird Vance, North Carolina legislator and Governor, U.S. Congressman, and U.S. Senator. Conservation is needed to stabilize deteriorating mortar, remove soils and stains from the granite, replace materials that have caused loss, clean the bronze plaques, and seal them with a protective coating. If internal iron pins have been corroded the entire monument may require re-pointing. The Society for the Historical Preservation of the 26th

Regiment North Carolina Troops, Inc. (26^{th} N.C.) and the Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Arts Department of the City of Asheville have established a partnership to raise funds. The estimated cost of conservation is \$115,000.00.

Help us spread the word about this campaign to save endangered artifacts in North Carolina. Send a letter or email to colleagues, friends, and family with this <u>link</u>. Post the link to your social media sites. To discuss opportunities for giving contact the <u>NCPC Executive Director</u>.

How are North Carolina's Most Endangered Artifacts Selected?

Archives, historic sites, libraries, museums and other institutions with cultural, historical, educational, or research collections in North Carolina are eligible to <u>nominate one artifact</u> in need of professional conservation treatment. The nominator must be an official representative of the institution owning the artifact. If you are not affiliated with the institution you can participate in the nomination process with a letter of support. A strong case for conservation should include the context for the artifact's significance and commentary of its value to the community the institution serves. A committee of preservation professionals will review all nominations and present recommendations to the North Carolina Preservation Consortium Board of Directors for approval.

NCPC Seeks Award Nominations

The North Carolina Preservation Consortium (NCPC) is accepting nominations for the annual Award for Preservation Excellence. Libraries, museums, archives, and historic sites, and other organizations in North Carolina with a mission to preserve tangible heritage of enduring value are eligible for nomination.

Movable and immovable tangible heritage includes art, artifacts, library and archival collections, natural history specimens, musical instruments, textiles, technology, monuments, memorials, archaeological sites, and historic and cultural architecture.



Zoe Rhine (left) from the North Carolina Room at the Pack Memorial Library in Asheville, accepts the 2013 NCPC *Award for Collection Preservation Excellence* for its exemplary collection preservation efforts from NCPC President KaeLi Schurr (right).

Anyone may submit a nomination. All nominations must include a letter from the organization's director and at least three external letters of support. Excellence should be demonstrated with descriptions of successful projects and programs that highlight the organization's significant commitment to preservation.

The award winner will be announced at the NCPC annual conference on November 7th at the William and Ida Friday Center for Continuing Education, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Letters must be received by September 1, 2014. Please mail to:

North Carolina Preservation Consortium P. O. Box 2651 Durham, NC 27715-2651

NCPC Election News

The election of North Carolina Preservation Consortium Board of Directors occurred in May 2014. All terms begin July 1, 2014. See the NCPC website for a <u>full list of the Board of Directors</u>. Thank you to all who volunteered to stand for election and to serve.

Returning to the board:

KaeLi Schurr, Curator, Outer Banks History Center, will serve another term as NCPC President.

David Goist, Conservator, Goist Conservation, is the new NCPC Vice President/President Elect.

Alexandrea Pizza, Preservation Specialist, Abbot Vincent Taylor Library, Belmont Abby College, will serve as the NCPC Secretary.

LeRae Umfleet, Supervisor, Education and Outreach Branch, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, will serve another term on the board.

Frank Thomson, Curator, Asheville Art Museum, will continue his service as NCPC Treasurer.

Welcome to our new board members:

Anne Anderson, Curator, The Country Doctor Museum.

Jeff Futch, Western Regional Supervisor, Western Regional Office, North Carolina Office of Archives and History.

Renee Jolly, Objects Conservator, Biltmore Estate.

Paige Myers, Textile Conservator, North Carolina Museum of History .

Kathelene McCarty Smith, Artifacts, Textiles, Digital Projects Archivist, Special Collections and University Archives, UNC Greensboro.

Grant Will Lead to Preservation of Rare Audiovisual Collections at UNC Library

Historic audio and moving image collections at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library will be a step closer to long-term preservation, thanks to a grant of \$187,082 from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

The one-year grant is called "Extending the Reach of Southern Audiovisual Sources." It will help the Library's Southern Folklife Collection (SFC) develop techniques to preserve these materials on a large scale and make them available online for public use.

"Libraries have great expertise in large-scale digitization of books and paper documents, but

audio recordings and moving images present unique challenges that remain to be addressed," said Steve Weiss, curator of the SFC and leader of the grant project.

The SFC will celebrate its 25th anniversary in August. Since its opening in 1989, it has gained recognition as a cornerstone for research into Southern vernacular music, art, and culture. Researchers can tap into more than 250,000 sound recordings, 3,000 video recordings, and 8 million feet of motion picture film.

Collection treasures include the first recording by a young Dolly Parton; the archives of Durham-based Merge Records; and Folkstreams.net, an archive of documentary films on American roots cultures.



John Loy works in the studio of the Southern Folklife Collection at Wilson Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Weiss said that the SFC is uniquely qualified to provide national leadership through the grant. Not only are its collections among the nation's best, according to Weiss, but it is one of the few repositories with a state-of-the-art audio preservation facility and an audio preservation engineer on staff.

"In the past, we have restored and preserved items one-by-one through grants or as researchers request them. Now we want to understand what would be required to address the bulk of our collection, and plan for the work," said Weiss.

The grant will have several parts:

- The SFC, with the help of a consultant, will completely review and re-engineer workflows in order to be able to digitize audiovisual materials on a large scale;
- An advisory group of scholars will meet to guide the Collection's preservation priorities;
- The SFC will audit the condition and preservation needs of all of its collections; and
- Grant personnel will determine how digitized content can be streamed for public access.

The grant follows a model that the University Library and the Mellon Foundation successfully established in 2007. In that year, a grant called "Extending the Reach of Southern Sources" allowed the Southern Historical Collection to assess digitization needs, priorities, and techniques for millions of manuscript items on paper. Findings from that study continue to guide development of the Digital Southern Historical Collection.

Original <u>blog post</u> written by Patrick Dollar. Reprinted with permission courtesy of University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library. UNC-Chapel Hill is an institutional member of NCPC.

Preservation in the News

NC Connecting to Collections: Grant Writing Tutorials

Do you know where to start when researching granting agencies? How about writing grants? The North Carolina Connecting to Collections (C2C) website has two tutorials that can help get you started.

"Grant Writing: Finding Funding" explores different types of granting agencies including local, state, federal and corporate agencies. It also lists common preservation grants and provides the URLs to those sites.

"Grant-Seeking and Grant-Making" covers the rules of writing grants. These include knowing the opportunities, demonstrating need, and shaping your project to fit the grant.

Find these presentations at the <u>C2C</u> website.



Duke Libraries Announces Adopt-A-Book Program

In March 2014, the Duke University Libraries announced a new Adopt-a-Book Program to support the Conservation Services Department.

The program gives donors an opportunity to directly support the conservation of library and archives collections in need of repair. Between ten and fifteen items are available on the website, with new items added frequently.

When an item is adopted, an electronic bookplate is put into the item record, and the donor is listed on the Adopt-a-Book Program website. Donors can also choose to honor someone special or commemorate an important event such as a birthday or graduation.

"It's been an incredibly successful program," says Beth Doyle, Head of Conservation Services. "The best part is hearing the personal connections that our donors have with our collections and the library."

Using FRBR as a Preservation Framework

Jacob Nadal, Executive
Director of the Research
Collections and Preservation
Consortium (ReCAP), gave a
presentation at ALA Annual 2014
on using Functional
Requirements for Bibliographic
Records (FRBR) as a framework
for preservation administration.

In a blog post Nadal says, "This talk proposed a way of using FRBR to coordinate preservation effort across library networks and to clarify the goals and expected outcomes of preservation and conservation efforts. Special attention [in my talk] was paid to two areas where frameworks for this kind of coordination are urgently needed: managing regional print archives and understanding the role of digitization in preservation management."

For his slides and a transcript of his presentation, see his blog post.

Courtesy of Jacob Nadal.

Our Preservation Grants Program Needs Your Support

The <u>NCPC Preservation Grants</u> program has awarded over \$41,000 to 34 institutions since 2006. Every year member institutions seek funds for archival rehousing projects, collection condition surveys, the purchase of environmental monitors, and other qualifying projects. **Our grants program is facing a serious funding crunch.**

The Board would like to establish an endowment for a sustainable grant program. If we are to continue this vital funding opportunity for our member institutions, we need your help in the form of a direct contribution to this effort.



You can <u>donate to the Preservation Grants Program</u> through our website. The Annual Meeting <u>registration form</u> also has a convenient place to earmark a donation for the grants program. Why not donate the \$25 you save on early bird registration to the grant fund? Thank you!

Ask A Conservator

We asked Beth Doyle, Head of Conservation Services at Duke University Libraries, "What do you keep in your disaster go-bag? Where do you keep it? And how often do you check it?"

My bag is at work and I check it each May Day. I also make sure to replace anything after use so it is always ready.

- Extra clothes (Duke t-shirts, cargo pants, socks, disposable poncho, baseball hat).
- PPE: Nitrile gloves, safety goggles, ear plugs, hard hat, steel-toed/shank rubber boots, N95 dust mask.
- Fitted and approved half-mask respirator. Most institutions have guidelines about wearing these; you must be fit tested; and often you must have a note from your doctor saying you are fit to wear one.
- Note pad and pencil, china pencil, or waterproof ink pen, pocket disaster plan.
- Small flashlight and batteries, pocket knife, mini first aid kit.
- My cell phone is always with me. On it are phone numbers for the disaster team, library administrators and vendors, and some useful apps (<u>tracking</u>, <u>Red Cross</u>, <u>Heritage Preservation Disaster Wheel</u>, flashlight, etc).
- What's missing? Maybe a hand-crank cell phone charger and phone charging cord, some basic hand tools such as a heavy duty screwdriver, pliers, and hammer, and I would really like a hard hat-mounted light.

What's in your go-bag? Do you keep yours at work or home? Let us know on Facebook.

News You May Have Missed

The American Library Association (ALA) Preservation and Reformatting Section Book and Paper Interest Group presented "2014: A Library Space Oddity" at ALA Annual 2014. This Ignitestyle program highlighted the weird and wacky items that are in library and archives collections. <u>Slides are available online</u>.

Conservators Converse, the blog of the American Institute for Conservation (AIC), has entries for almost all of the sessions at this year's annual conference. Search the tag <u>"42nd Annual Meeting."</u>

If you are on Twitter, search the hashtags <u>#alaac14</u> and <u>#aicsf</u> for tweets from the ALA and AIC annual conferences.

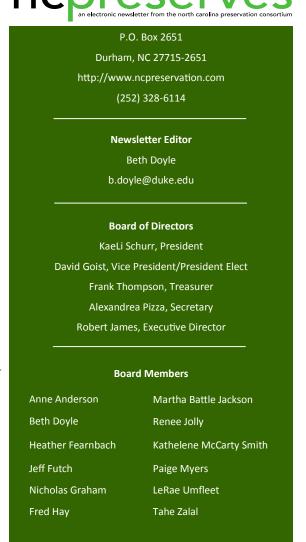
Duke University Libraries Scholarly Communication Officer Kevin Smith explains the victory for libraries in the <u>Hathi Trust case</u>.

<u>Preservation Week 2015</u> is scheduled for April 26-May 2, 2015, and <u>Heritage Preservation May Day</u> is on May 1, 2015.

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NC Preserves is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. If you would like to submit preservation news from your organization, please send content to the <u>Editor</u>. Text should be in a Microsoft Word document. Images should be jpeg with a printable quality of 250dpi or more, please include a caption and photo credit. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submissions may be edited for length/content at the discretion of the editor. Submissions for the next issue should be sent to the Editor by September 15, 2014.



Dr. Benjamin F. Speller, Jr., Board Emeritus