# ncores et l'est et l'

Preserving tangible and intangible heritage of enduring value.

**July 2017** 

Annual Report

## Save the Date— NCPC Annual Conference

Our Annual Conference will be on November 13, 2017. The topic will be managing mold in collections.

## **Upcoming 2017 Events** and **Deadlines**

July 20, NCPTT Preserving
2017 African American
Historic Properties

July 28, NCPC Boxmaking 2017 Workshop

Aug. 18, <u>NCPC Condition</u>
2017 <u>Reporting Workshop</u>

Sept. 11, SEMC Annual 2017 Conference

Sept. 28-30, Preservation North
2017 Carolina Annual
Conference

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Workshop

Thank you!

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## President's Letter: NCPC Executive Director to Retire

Dear Members and Friends of NCPC,

I am excited to become the next President of NCPC this month, and I look forward to working with a wonderful group of Board and Committee members. However, I am likewise equally sad to report that Robert James announced to the Board his plans to step down as Executive Director effective November 14<sup>th</sup>. It's difficult to follow news of this kind. Like many of you, when I think of NCPC I automatically think of Robert. Over the past 20 years, the two have become synonymous. Whenever



Robert James, NCPC Executive Director.

NCPC is mentioned, Robert's name is not far behind or, more likely, Robert is the one talking up NCPC in the first place! Robert has been an outstanding Executive Director and, honestly, if without his leadership and dedication to the organization, it's very possible NCPC would not be here today.

The Consortium developed from a series of meetings in 1989, and on March 12, 1990, was incorporated in the State of North Carolina. Four years later in August of 1994, NCPC received permanent non-profit status from the Internal

Revenue Service. During these early years, the organization was ably lead by Harlan Greene. Greene returned to his native Charleston, South Carolina in the late 1990's. The torch then passed to Robert, who had been an active member from the beginning. While NCPC has been blessed with many devoted and hardworking Board and committee members during his tenure, Robert has been the steady leader that a non-profit, volunteer organization like ours needs. It's impossible to list the numerous NCPC meetings, conferences, and workshops Robert has played a part in organizing, or that he attended on behalf of our organization to make sure our collective voice was heard. As he has for many years, Robert will attend the annual conference in Raleigh on November 13th.

## President's Letter, continued from page 1

I hope many of our members and friends will attend what we know will be a great conference as well as an opportunity to congratulate and thank Robert for a job well done!

The NCPC Board of Directors and Executive Committee have had several meetings since Robert's announcement, and a succession plan for the Executive Director's position should be ready by early 2018. I want to thank all the past and current Board members for their time and energy they've put into this process. Announcing this news isn't the way I envisioned my start as President, but let us not forget NCPC is in its  $27^{th}$  year of delivering on its mission to help preserve our state's tangible and intangible heritage. Much has been done, and much remains to be accomplished. I am confident NCPC will continue to have a bright future thanks to the many dedicated individuals who work in the libraries, museums, archives and historic sites across North Carolina, and who share in this mission.

Jeff Futch NCPC President

## **2017 NCPC Preservation Grant Recipients**

NCPC received five Preservation Grant applications this year. The following two grants were approved by the Board of Directors in May, 2017. The winners' stories will be in a future newsletter.

## \$1,224.87 to Elizabeth City State University for the project "University Archives Support

**Training."** The Elizabeth City State University has been awarded \$1,2224.87 to help fund a library staff member's attendance at the 2017 Georgia Archives Institute, where they will receive training in archives management and support. "Originally a teacher training school, ECSU's archives document the only public teacher training program for non-whites in North Carolina until the desegregation of the University of North Carolina system." These institutional archives are a valuable resource not only for students and alumni, but also for researchers interested in the development of civil rights. This grant for education and training will give the university a much-needed trained library staff member to assist with the care of their historical collections and guarantee continued access for the community they serve.

## \$1,995 to Stagville State Historic Site for the project "Conservation of Cameron Family Bibles."

The Stagville State Historic Site (part of the North Carolina Division of Historic Sites) has been awarded \$1,995 for the treatment and preservation of three Cameron Family Bibles, as well as an Oxford Bible. Historic Stagville belonged to the Bennehan-Cameron family and was one of the largest plantations of the pre-Civil War South. The bibles are an important part of their collection and contain hand-written genealogical records. The conserved bibles will help Historic Stagville tell the story of the Cameron family as well as providing a basis for a deeper narrative about religion, its role in the institution of slavery, and the life of slaves on the Cameron family plantations. All work will be carried out by Etherington Conservation Center.

## NCPC Programs FY 2016-2017

NCPC hosted three workshops and the Annual Conference this fiscal year. Two of the workshops, "Introduction to the Care of Historic Cemeteries" and "Archaeological Collections Care," were presented for the first time.

"Introduction to the care of Historic Cemeteries" was held on July 22, 2016, at the Western Office of the North Carolina Department of Natural & Cultural Resources (Asheville). Class members then moved to Riverside Cemetery to put into practice their newly learned skills. This class will be offered again in the fall of 2017.

"Archaeological Collections Care" took place on March 13, 2016, at the Research Laboratory of Archaeology at UNC-Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill). Students learned about composition, stabilization, and long-term storage of these unique items.

"Preserving Scrapbooks: From Acquisition to Access" was offered for the second time on April 21, 2017. The High Point Museum (High Point) was the perfect location to learn about the composition of scrapbooks, and why they can be complicated to catalog and preserve (see page 6 for more information).

"Unbroken Threads: Preserving Our Textile Heritage" was the theme of the November 7, 2016, Annual Conference. Six presenters, including four from North Carolina, shared their tips on and experiences with working with textiles. NCPC presented the Preservation Excellence Award to the Iredell County Public Library Digitization Project.



NCPC Annual Conference scholarship recipients. Left to right:
Sarah Berlinger, North Carolina State University
Katie Schinabeck, North Carolina State University
Jayd Buteaux, Historic Stagville
Ethan Ley, North Carolina State University
Kathleen Gleditsch, Somerset Place State Historic Site
Mary Kallem, SILS-UNC Chapel Hill



Locations of NCPC FY 2016-2017 programs.

## NCPC Board of Directors FY 2016-2017

NCPC is an all-volunteer organization. Board members give their time because they are dedicated to NCPC's mission and see the value our organization provides its members.

The NCPC Board of Directors represents collecting institutions from across the state. We try to ensure the Board is comprised of a wide range of institutions including museums, archives, libraries, and historic sites. Small, medium and large organizations are well represented.



We also strive for broad geographical representation as seen on this map. For a list of NCPC Board of Directors members, <u>please visit our website</u>.



The NCPC Board of Directors consists of seventeen members. Five people make up the Executive Group, the remaining twelve people serve as At Large members.

Term limits vary depending on the position. At Large members each serve a 3-year term. The Treasurer and Secretary each serve a 2-year term. The President-Elect/President/Immediate Past President is a 3-year term. For more information on these positions, please see our Bylaws.

## **New Board of Directors Members for FY 2018**

We want to thank everyone who stood for election to fill the open positions on the <u>NCPC Board</u>. Your new NCPC Board of Directors members are:

Karen Feeney, Forsyth County Public Library, Treasurer (2017-2019)
Corinne Midgett, High Point Museum, Secretary (2017-2019)
Adrienne Berney, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, At Large Member (2017-2020)
Jamie Bradway, North Carolina State University, At Large Member (2017-2020)
Arleen Fields, Methodist University, At Large Member (2017-2020)
Stormy Harrell, Wake Forest Museum of Anthropology, At Large Member (2017-2020)
Wanda Lassiter, Museum of the Albemarle, At Large Member (2017-2020)

#### Voted in for a second term as At Large Member (2017-2020):

Renee Jolly, Biltmore Estate Kathelene McCarty Smith, UNC-Greensboro Paige Myers, North Carolina Museum of History

## NCPC Board of Directors—Working to Improve our Organization

The NCPC Board of Directors had a busy year in FY 2016-2017 focusing on strategic planning and improving our organization. The Board's major accomplishments this year include:

- In August 2016 NCPC finalized its website migration to Wordpress. Wordpress is far easier to use than the old platform, and it allows multiple people to edit the site.
- Robert James, NCPC Executive Director, represented NCPC at the October 11, 2016, Southeastern Museum Council panel discussion focused on disaster networks.
- In December 2016 the Board held a strategic planning retreat. We focused on four areas: Membership, Organization, Leadership, and Future Directions. As a result of our discussions, the Board has developed a list of potential short-term (1-3 years) and long-term (+3 years) goals. Among the goals are improving the membership experience, reviewing the Bylaws, increasing diversity within the organization, and increasing the visibility of NCPC. The proposed goals will be discussed at the next Board of Directors meeting in August 2017. If you have ideas on improving our organization or wish to discuss volunteering for a task group, please contact Beth Doyle, Immediate Past President with your comments.
- Implemented PayPal to collect online payments in January 2017. This will make paying membership dues and registration fees for workshops and the Annual Conference faster and easier.
- Implemented Formstack in January 2017. Formstack is a web-based software that makes creating and posting online forms quick and easy. To date, NCPC has used Formstack to create forms for workshop registrations, membership dues, and workshop and conference surveys.
- In February 2017, NCPC moved its archival records from a paidstorage unit to Duke University Libraries Conservation Services Department. This temporary move saves NCPC a large monthly storage fee. It will also facilitate a project to better organize the records. This project will continue in FY 2018.
- NCPC updated its Workshop Waitlist, Cancellation, and Refund Policies in February 2017.



NCPC records ready for sorting.

- The Board approved a new <u>Document Retention and Destruction Policy</u> on May 19, 2017.
- In March 2017, Beth Doyle, President, and Jeff Futch, President Elect, had a one hour pro-bono conversation with Meredith Emmett from <u>Third Space Studio</u>. Third Space Studio helps nonprofits with succession planning. This meeting was organized through membership in the <u>North Carolina Center for Nonprofits</u>. The conversation was informative and will help NCPC prepare for the Executive Director's retirement in November 2017.
- At the November 2016 retreat, Board members expressed their desire to have a better orientation to serving on the NCPC Board of Directors. In May 2017, NCPC updated its Board Orientation document to provide more in-depth information to new Board members. This <u>document is now</u> <u>online</u>.

## **NCPC Workshop: Preserving Scrapbooks**

Scrapbooks provide a unique historic perspective on individuals, families, organizations and institutions and hence are actively collected by archives, libraries, museums, and historic societies. Photographs, newspaper clippings, ephemera and three-dimensional memorabilia are all found in albums and can pose complicated accessioning, cataloging and preservation issues.

NCPC hosted "Preserving Scrapbooks: From Acquisition to Access" on April 21, 2017. Workshop participants learned why these objects present unique preservation challenges, and they discussed how to make them more accessible to patrons. Participants were asked to bring one item from their collection for discussion. At the end of the day, everyone had a great time looking at the treasures their colleagues brought with them. Class members put their newly-learned knowledge to use by brainstorming ideas for how best to preserve these wonderful and unique items.

All images courtesy of class member Crystal Williams. To see more images, go to our Flickr page.







## Thank-You to Our NCPC 2017 Annual Conference Sponsors and Supporters

The NCPC Annual Conference in November 2016 was a success. The Board of Directors wishes to thank all of our speakers and attendees for an engaging day.

Several members generously contributed registration fees to support scholarships to attend the conference. Their generosity is greatly appreciated and helped to make the audience more diverse and inclusive.

We would also like to extend a special thank-you to our sponsors. You helped make our conference a success and we are truly grateful for your support.









### From the NCPC Archives



We are finding some gems as we sort through the NCPC archival records.

This image is from the inaugural NCPC newsletter, Preservation Issues (no. 1, Summer 1994; page 3).

Topics include A/V material, tape, "archival" as a marketing term, and workshop announcements.

Some things never change!

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## ncoc North Carolina Preservation Consortium

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

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 Editor. 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 October 2017 issue should be sent to the Editor by September 15, 2017.