

North Carolina Historical Commission Report-June 21, 2023 Division of Archives and Records

On behalf of the staff of the Division of Archives and Records, it is my pleasure to provide updates on some ongoing projects, recent programming, and division outreach since the March 22 meeting. This year we are experiencing an increase in requests for division staff to present programs, tours, and collaborate with departmental and external partners on valuable projects to preserve the documentary heritage of the state. This quarter we resumed some in-person meetings and helped host our first large hybrid conference with the assistance of the State Library and the NC Genealogical Society. In addition to the information in this report, we are always pleased to provide extra details on any division program and project.

Tours of our facilities and collections continue to be popular. About a decade ago we provided an occasional tour upon request. Now we are busy providing tours for a wide variety of groups, including several for school groups. In May the number of tour participants nearly reached that of our in-person researcher visitation in the Raleigh search room. Groups on tour in the last quarter included the Society of NC Archivists, NC Association of Registers of Deeds (and staff), a Daughters of the American Revolution chapter, students from Davie County, three Advanced Placement classes from Nash County High School, Cary Academy students, members of the General Assembly, and visitors with the Raleigh Sister Cities program. That program included a group from the British Overseas Territory of Gibraltar. While visiting the Archives, the delegation was presented with copies of some materials in our Military Collections. These collections included pictures and letters from US servicemen passing through or stationed in Gibraltar. June 19 the John Hope Franklin Young Scholars participants visited for an extended tour and exploration of our collections. This program has visited the Archives each summer for several years.



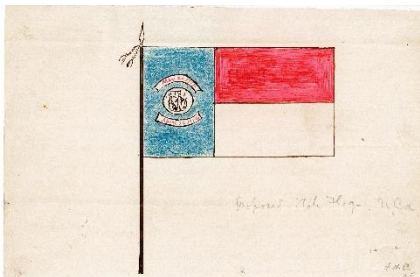
Gibraltar Garrison Library Director, Dr. Jennifer Perera, and Sarah Koonts exchange commemorative books after reviewing Gibraltar-related collections at the State Archives of NC

Our regular NC trivia night program, normally held virtually, moved to an in-person setting on March 29 at the Raleigh Times. This restaurant is located in the old *Raleigh Times* newspaper building and features images from our collections as part of their décor, including the 1915 iconic *Raleigh Times* newsboys picture. Division staff partnered with the State Library to present multiple rounds of NC trivia that included links to collection images or documents. It proved to be a fun event that we hope to recreate again soon. Additional recent outreach highlights include Ian Dunn of the audio-visual unit presenting a program on images from Oberlin Village (Raleigh) to the

Friends of Oberlin Village. John Horan worked with teachers in Rockingham County and Fayetteville to highlight the usefulness of primary sources to high school and college aged students. The Outer Banks History Center welcomed a group from the US Marine Corps Expeditionary Training Unit for a tour and program on archival materials related to the Battle of Roanoke during the Civil War. This battle is used as part of the program's study on how to capture an island.

The annual chief records officers meeting for state agencies returned to an in-person format April 27. The program featured discussions on records management best practices for state agencies preparing to move offices. A high number of agencies have divisions or entire programs relocating soon, so the meeting provided an excellent opportunity to cover some practical tips on how to effectively manage agency records before and during a move. May 17 the chief records officers for schools in the University of North Carolina system met virtually to discuss potential schedule updates, strategies for effective email management and preservation, and strategies for working with campus information technology offices on management of employee drives.

May 20 the division, in partnership with the State Library and the NC Genealogical Society, hosted a hybrid workshop called "The People of North Carolina in the American Revolution." Approximately 112 people attended either on site or virtually, and two division staff members were part of the program. Alison Thurman and Josh Hager presented the "Documenting the World of *Outlander*" session. June 8 the Federation of NC Historical Societies, administered by Adrienne Berney, held their annual board meeting. On Flag Day (June 14) the division hosted a program about the state flag featuring two researchers from NC State University. They are engineering students who have been using our collections to research the history of the flag.



House Bill 427 (1887)-proposed flag sketch

As part of the Capitol City Juneteenth Celebration (CCJC), the State Archives and State Library hosted a hybrid program "Untangling Our Roots: Experiences with African American Genealogy." It featured a panel of veteran family history researchers offering strategies for untangling the intersected knots of history, memory, and surviving records. The June 15 program was a part of the CCJC's week-long calendar of programs, events, and celebrations connected to the Juneteenth holiday.

Despite one-third of the unit's positions being vacant, the Records Analysis Unit, assisted by other division staff, continued to provide an impressive number of workshops to public records custodians. These included standard content, such as "Managing Public Records," as well as custom workshops created for a particular office or topic. In March they provided 11 workshops for 347 participants. In April, in addition to planning the annual chief records officers' program,

they provided a local records workshop. During May they delivered 8 workshops for 250 participants. These included two of the two-part essential records identification and protection series. In May our collections manager and outreach coordinator created some hands-on disaster training for our division's emergency response team. The training included some practice recovery techniques for water damaged materials. But do not worry, no original materials were damaged in the training!

By May the series of 5 regional workshops hosted by the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB) were completed with the final workshop held May 8 in Raleigh. Over 130 participants representing 70 cultural heritage institutions and 10 community organizations or collecting projects participated in the Community Collection & Storytelling workshops. Workshop sessions included presentations on community scanning programs, low-cost digital exhibits, and oral history program tips. The speakers have recorded their presentations for on-demand use on our division's YouTube channel. These workshops were funded by a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Another component of the grant is the development of oral history recording kits for community groups to check out regionally. Kits are not available to borrow in Raleigh, New Bern, and Asheville.

Another major component of the SHRAB grant includes another round of Traveling Archivist Program (TAP) visits. After a record number of applications was received, 6 organizations were selected for a TAP visit that included remote and onsite consultation as well as some modest preservation supplies. In partnership with another division staff member and archivists from the UNC system schools (including one who serves on the SHRAB board), four additional organizations will receive onsite consultations or staff training. The regular TAP program participants this cycle include the AMY Regional Library System (Avery, Mitchell, Yancey), Cape Fear Community College, Cleveland Public Library, Dun Area History Museum, Historic Turner House (Raleigh), and Louisburg College. All of these organizations have started their TAP consultations to identify the most pressing issues facing their archival collections. Erin Lawrimore, University Archivist at UNC Greensboro and SHRAB member, will provide training for selected library staff at Johnson C. Smith University later this year. Partnering with Erin, Katie Howell (University Archivist at UNC Charlotte), and Tammy Woodward (our head of the Outer Banks History Center), Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville Community College and Southwestern Community College archives will receive on-site consultations designed to build capacity for the preservation of and access to their original collections.

This summer the SHRAB coordinator will have the assistance of a summer intern from the UNC School of Library and Information Sciences, Jenna Lloyd, to work on draft exhibit panels for the "When Are We US?" theme for the America250NC commemoration. The work will involve surveying NC digitized primary sources from a variety of repositories, researching the State Archives collections, selecting visuals, securing permissions for external collection items, and drafting text blocks. These exhibit panels will be available as part of the toolkit being created as a part of the SHRAB Community Collecting & Storytelling grant.

The division has welcomed additional interns over the last quarter. The Western Regional Archives hosted three Warren Wilson College interns during the spring semester. Meredith Ahmed and Emily Chibli worked on the Jennerjahn Papers. The Jennerjahns were former Black Mountain College students who later returned as part of the faculty. Maddy Tkach assisted with the processing of the Western North Carolina Communities Papers and the Six Associates collection. Jennifer Steinhauer served as another recent division intern based in the Government Records Section. Jennifer is a Master's student from UNC CH specializing in archives and records management. Her work assisted the appraisal archivist with reappraisals of state agency records through series sampling and drafting appraisal reports. She shadowed the archivist and records analysts on agency consultations, attended records management workshops, and the annual chief records officers' meeting in April.

The Friends of the Archives is funding a paid summer internship this year, and Hannah Nicholson was awarded the internship. Her work will focus on increasing the visibility of women, people of color, and other underrepresented populations within North Carolina's early General Assembly records. She will create a collection guide (or guides) that highlight the contributions of these groups. Her work is being overseen by the Records Description Unit of the Government Records Section. Hannah is currently pursuing a Master of Library Science degree from UNC CH. Summer interns are working across the Special Collections Section. Isabel Bossing, who recently graduated from NCSU with degrees in sociology and anthropology, is working on processing military collections and veterans oral histories. Kimberly Kresica, a recent graduate of UNC CH School of Information and Library Science, is working with private collections and organization records. She is processing private collections. The oral history program hosts multiple interns this summer. Sabrina Berndt, a student at UNC Greensboro in the Master of Library and Information Science program, is working on processing oral histories. Chloe Lanham, also a UNC Greensboro Library and Information Science student, is working with the African American Oral History Project of Greensboro. Annabeth Poe, Master of Arts in Public History student at NCSU, is assisting with the division's podcast production. Khortney Hamlin, a NC Central Master of Library Science student and member of the department's HBCU intern cohort for 2023, is working on the African American Oral History Project of Greensboro. The Outer Banks History Center's summer David Stick Intern comes from California. Jamie Orozco is a student at San Jose State University's Library and Information Sciences program. She will be processing a large collection of architectural and map materials.

In updates on major division projects, the reboxing of the Treasurer's and Controller's Papers was completed, and work reprocessing the collection to create a more detailed finding aid is ongoing. The Records Description Unit also completed the barcoding of two large counties of original records (Buncombe and Mecklenburg). This work, along with additional location information entered into our online catalog, will assist researchers with more accurate box data in catalog searches. Unit staff also completed a project to finish processing and redaction of confidential information in the Dorthea Dix correspondence series, which is now available for research.

Most division staff will participate in large projects to remove the older manuscript style boxes from private collections, state agency collections, and the modern governors papers. The boxes

will be replaced with modern archival boxes. While working on these reboxing projects, it will also provide staff with an opportunity to review any major conservation concerns and to gather some data about the collections for the online catalog.

The big project from the Digital Services Section, the migration of the NC Digital Collections (NCDC), should be ready for public launch on June 30. A joint program of the State Archives and State Library, the NCDC is migrating to a new hosted platform that will provide increased functionality, including improved image viewing, ability to bookmark images and searches to a researcher account, ability to connect related digital collections, and the ability to view a transcription of a document beside the image. Watch for the formal launch announcement, and congratulations to everyone who has worked hard over the last few months to migrate all our images and metadata, as well as work on the design for the collection pages.



Preview of NCDC main landing page-top portion

The Covid-19 Government Employee Oral History Project has collected 56 interviews with staff from 13 state government agencies, with members of the judicial branch, local agencies, the community college system, and the UNC system. The project is scheduled to conclude soon with five more interviews all with the Board of Elections bringing the total to 61 interviews. From the start of the pandemic, the State Archives worked with state agencies to capture public records with an inherent interest arising from an unprecedented event in NC history. These records, such as new policies and procedures, were designed to rapidly deal with an elusive and dynamic disease. At the same time, the Archives also recognized that it was important to capture the personal experiences of state employees dealing with the COVID-19 State of Emergency, to ensure their efforts were fully documented for future generations, and that oral histories were the best way to achieve this. As the pandemic is still evolving and outlooks have changed noticeably since March 2021 when the project began collecting, staff may have opportunities to revisit the interviewees in several years to gauge the lasting implications of COVID-19 and record change over time. Key agency leaders contributing interviews for the project include The Honorable Dale

Folwell, State Treasurer; Mike Sprayberry, who retired as N.C. Emergency Response Director; D. Reid Wilson, Secretary of the Department of Natural & Cultural Resources; and the former and current Secretaries of the Department of Health and Human Services: Dr. Mandy Cohen and Kody Kinsley, respectively. But the program has also recorded the experiences of many workers in non-leadership roles, each with a unique perspective on living and working through a pandemic. Of the project interviews, 47 are from state agencies, 6 from judiciary, 2 from local government, and 6 from higher education institutions. Other major oral history projects underway include a project with the Historic Preservation Office in Greensboro to process their oral history collection surrounding African American experiences in southeastern Greensboro. The unit continues to collaborate with the NC American Indian Heritage Commission to collect oral history interviews prioritized by Commission members.

The division management team continues to refine the draft strategic plan with the goal of having the plan finalized for implementation with the start of the 2023-2024 fiscal year and new staff workplans. The plan includes the following goals:

- **Collect North Carolina**: Diversify all SANC's holdings by expanding community partnerships and broadening our collecting focus to more fully represent North Carolina's evolving history, cultures, and government.
- **Uplift Our Stories**: Strengthen and expand public access to collections using a variety of platforms and partners to meet the needs of North Carolinians and further DNCR's DEAI Mission.
- **Advance Collections Stewardship**: Ensure SANC's foundational activities of collections management and preservation are coordinated across all archives and records management functions. Provide guidance and technical support across the state to assist communities in preserving their history.
- **Facilitate Community Engagement**: Promote the State Archives as a trusted resource for history education, civic engagement, and social connection by providing responsive programming and services grounded in collaboration with diverse communities of records creators and users.
- **Prioritize Staff Development**: Actively assess and develop SANC's human resources to foster learning agility through professional growth and greater internal collaboration and communication; support an inclusive, flexible organizational culture; and ensure that everyone has the information and tools they need to excel in their roles and meet the goals of this plan.

Finally, in staffing updates Tama Creef, archivist at the Outer Banks History Center, retired after 16 years of service with the division. Colin Reeve was promoted to the position of private manuscripts archivist, and Dominique Romero was promoted to reference archivist. Kelly Policelli, who previously served as the head of the records description unit in the Government Records Section, returned to division employment as the electronic records archivist.

Report of Division of Historical Resources To the North Carolina Historical Commission For its June 21, 2023 meeting

**Ramona M. Bartos, Division Director and Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
June 13, 2023**

Division in general

Statewide Preservation Plan. Having started our planning for our next federally-required statewide plan – to be completed by the end of 2024 – we conducted a staff retreat in December 2022 for professional development purposes as well as to inform our planning efforts. As a reminder, this commission is both **stakeholder and approver** for our plan. We are currently preparing a retrospective narrative as to our accomplishments for our last plan's goals between 2013 and 2022, and hope to share with the commission at your fall meeting. Our next step will be to conduct a statewide survey this summer as to constituents' thoughts about where we should be headed as a state for preservation purposes, and we will follow up that survey with listening sessions with constituents later this year. DSHPO Ramona Bartos and Local Government Coordinator Kristi Brantley are our leads for this project.

SE SHPO Regional Meeting. On April 30 through May 2, seven (7) members of the State Historic Preservation Office and Office of State Archaeology represented North Carolina at the first in a decade Southeastern State Historic Preservation Office regional meeting in Franklin, Tennessee, sponsored by the National Park Service. (Florida last hosted, and North Carolina before that in 2012.) We had two days of professional development led by National Park Service staff from their DC headquarters, networking with counterparts in other states, and programmatic roundtables. North Carolina led presentations on recommendations to improve access to the National Register of Historic Places, resiliency measures for historic places, and Geographic Information Systems. We tied with our host state and South Carolina for the largest number of staffers present.

Staff news.

- Following the promotion of Research Historian **Ansley Wegner**, who served long-term as the statewide Highway Historical Marker program coordinator, to **Supervisor of the Historical Research Office**, we hired – just in time for our May 2023 marker meeting – Leslie Leonard for Ansley's former coordinator position. Leslie is an internal promotion who comes to us from the Museum of the Cape Fear.
- We promoted our architectural survey file room assistant **Sharon Hope** to our vacant **National Register assistant position**, which was in turn brought on by the promotion of Julie Smith to a preservation specialist position. We will now start the process of filling the vacancy that was created by Sharon's promotion.
- We also welcomed archaeologist Luan Cao as our new **transportation-project Environmental Review Specialist for our Environmental Review branch**, and will announce soon we hope our

approved candidate for the **Restoration Specialist position for a newly constituted western Piedmont /foothills service territory, who will also serve as our statewide residential historic tax credit program coordinator.**

- The resignation of Dr. Mary Beth Fitts as one of our **archaeologists** created a vacancy, then filled by lateral move by Dr. David Cranford, already on staff; we have since promoted Kimberly Urban into Dr. Cranford's position. We are also in the midst of filling the Western region Archaeologist I position that was vacated by Casey Kirby (who joined the US Forest Service) in late 2022.
- **Tim Simmons' retirement.** At the end of May, we said goodbye to our long-term, valued colleague Senior Preservation Architect Tim Simmons, who retired after 33 years with the State Historic Preservation Office as coordinator of our federal historic tax credit program. We estimate that a great deal of the over \$3 billion of private investment in 91 of North Carolina's counties through this program occurred during Tim's tenure. His collegial nature and national expertise will be hard to replicate. A gathering to celebrate his service and contributions will take place at a later date.
- **Caswell Award.** Our colleague Environmental Review Coordinator Renee Gledhill-Earley received a Caswell Award at the end of April for her 45 years of state service; she was the only member of the DNCR team to reach this milestone for this year. We are very proud of her dedicated service, without par expertise, and conscientiousness to constituent and colleague alike.

Staff needs. Through the biennial budget preparation process, we made a pitch for state funding for **4 new full-time positions** in various sections of our division, acknowledging high constituent demand and need for additional professional and support staff. These “asks” were incorporated into the Governor's Budget, including an Environmental Review Specialist for Section 106 cases, a National Register reviewer, a Cemetery Program assistant, and a full-time NAGPRA specialist, but only one position (environmental review specialist) made it into the House budget, and none in the Senate budget. We eagerly await news of the final state budget.

Vacancies combined with a tight job market and non-competitive state salaries in booming high cost-of-living metro areas are stretching staff thin, and we continue to advocate for attention to these issues and the factors that give rise to these situations. (The National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers is launching a workforce study committee to identify the challenges and success for recruitment and retention of qualified cultural resource professionals on a national basis; this issue is also of concern to other national professional organizations.)

As in my last several reports, I would like to acknowledge for special recognition and sincere thanks the hard work of multiple staff members who have straddled multiple positions because of promotions and vacancies and done excellent work under demanding circumstances – their dedication to public service is bar none.

State Historic Preservation Office (HPO)

Last decade of Architectural Survey activity. In reviewing our accomplishments for the 2013-2022 statewide preservation plan, we share the following interesting statistics:

*During this period, the HPO oversaw an astounding **68 architectural surveys** in North Carolina in all regions of the state, funded by a wide range of sources and sponsored by local governments and others alike, including a healthy use of our Certified Local Government grant partnership. Nine (9) county surveys allowed us to make great progress on our efforts to survey comprehensively all of North Carolina’s 100 counties.*

<p><i>Surveys started before 2013 but concluded between 2013 and 2022 (3):</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cary Architectural Survey (2011-2014) 2. Flat Rock Historic District Survey Update (1995-2014) 3. Hillsborough Architectural Survey Update (2012-2013)
<p><i>Surveys started and concluded between 2013 and 2022 (41), including 14 surveys covering counties:</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Camden County Comprehensive Architectural Survey 2. Cleveland County Architectural Survey Update 3. Franklin County Comprehensive Architectural Survey 4. Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update, Phase I 5. Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update, Phase II 6. Forsyth County Architectural Survey Update, Phase III 7. Jackson County Architectural Survey Update 8. Orange County Architectural Survey Update 9. Transylvania County African American Historic Resources Survey 10. Wake County Survey Update, Phase III 11. Wake County Survey Update, Phase IV 12. Wake County Survey Update, Phase V 13. Wake County Survey Update (Apex, Fuquay-Varina, and Holly Springs) 14. Washington County Comprehensive Architectural Survey 15. Asheville (Burton Street) Survey Update 16. Burlington West End Historic District Survey Update 17. Chapel Hill Architectural Survey Update 18. Charlotte Comprehensive Architectural Survey, Phase I (Reconnaissance) 19. Charlotte Comprehensive Architectural Survey, Phase II (Reconnaissance) 20. Dallas Architectural Survey Update 21. Dryborough (New Bern) Architectural Survey 22. Fair Bluff Comprehensive Architectural Survey 23. Greensboro Central Business District Survey Update 24. South and Southeast Greensboro Architectural Survey 25. Hickory Architectural Survey Update 26. High Point Industrial Architecture Survey 27. Hillsborough Architectural Survey Update 28. Lenoir Architectural Survey

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29. Mt. Airy Architectural Survey Update 30. Oxford Architectural Survey Update 31. Penderlea Architectural Survey 32. Raleigh Architectural Survey Update 33. Raleigh Non-Residential Survey Update, 1945-1965 34. Robbinsville Comprehensive Architectural Survey 35. Swansboro Architectural Survey Update 36. Tarboro Comprehensive Architectural Survey Update 37. Wake Forest Architectural Survey Update, 1945-1975 38. Warrenton Comprehensive Architectural Survey 39. Waynesville African American Historic Resources Survey 40. Waynesville Architectural Survey Update 41. Whiteville Comprehensive Architectural Survey
<p><i>Surveys started between 2013 and 2022, but not yet concluded because of deadlines outside of reporting period or open-ended deadlines because of local initiation (24) with launch year and/or proposed completion date in parentheses.</i></p>	<p>ESHPP Hurricane Grant Funded Projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cumberland County Architectural Survey Update (2019 - 2024) 2. Hoke County Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2019 - 2024) 3. McDowell County Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2019 - 2024) 4. Montgomery County Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2019 – 2024) 5. Nash County Architectural Survey Update (2022 - 2024) 6. Person County Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2019 - 2024) 7. Polk County Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2019 - 2024) 8. Vance County Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2019 – 2024) 9. Mount Pleasant Architectural Survey Update (2019-2024) <p>Other projects, including CLG-funded and locally-initiated/-funded or 106 mitigation projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Asheville African American Historic Resources Survey (2019 - 2023) (CLG) 11. Boone Architectural Survey (2015) (local) 12. Cashiers Architectural Survey, Phases II and III (2013 - 2023) (local) 13. Davidson Architectural Survey Update (2019) (local) 14. Edgecombe County Architectural Survey Update (2021 - 2024) (Section 106 mitigation)

	<p>15. Fayetteville (Broadell African-American Community) Architectural Survey (2022 -2024) (CLG)</p> <p>16. Montreat Architectural Survey (2021 - 2024) (local)</p> <p>17. Raleigh African American Historic Resources Survey (2021 - 2023) (CLG)</p> <p>18. Rocky Mount Architectural Survey Update (2022 - 2024) (Section 106 mitigation)</p> <p>19. Salisbury Historic District Survey Update (2022 -2024) (CLG)</p> <p>20. Taylorsville Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2020 - 2024) (local)</p> <p>21. Valdese Comprehensive Architectural Survey (2020 - 2024) (local)</p> <p>22. Washington Historic District Survey Update (2014) (local)</p> <p>23. Wilson Architectural Survey Update (2021 - 2024) (CLG / local)</p> <p>24. Wilson County Architectural Survey Update (2022 - 2024) (Section 106 mitigation)</p>
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June 2023 National Register Advisory Committee meeting. The second of 2023's three National Register Advisory Committee meetings took place on Thursday, June 8. Nine nomination proposals were heard along with 15 Study List proposals. This meeting marks the third we have held in person since 2020, and we continue to be glad to gather in person once again.

Nominations heard included the following:

1. Golden Asro and Ruth Holley Frinks House in Edenton;
2. Holt's Chapel School in the Oriental vicinity;
3. Boyce K. and Kitzi McLamb Miller House in Asheville;
4. Walton Street Park and Pool in Asheville;
5. Waldensian Swiss Embroidery Company in Valdese;
6. Wemple-Shelton House in Yanceyville;
7. Jeter and Ethel Neville House in Carrboro;
8. Coan-Gray House in Winston-Salem;
9. Uzzell-Best Farm in La Grange.

All of the properties – save the Walton Street Park and Pool – were recommended for nomination by the State Historic Preservation Officer Dr. Darin Waters. A private owner objection to the park and pool's nomination resulted in the committee recommending an official determination of eligibility by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Office training held since last NCHC meeting.

- **Individual Preservation Commission Training**, Taylorsville and Boone, April 11 and 12;

- **Commission Assistance Mentoring Program (CAMP)** (conducted by trainers from the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions and partially funded by our federal CLG grant program), Asheville, April 21;
- **Historic Windows Workshop, Swansboro**, April 22;
- **Historic Cemetery Workshop**, Beaufort, May 11;
- **National Alliance of Preservation Commissions Resiliency CAMP**, June 9. Funded by the National Park Service, the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions hosted its second all-day Resiliency CAMP training in North Carolina for local preservation commissioners and staff as well as emergency management personnel in Wilmington on June 9. This training is designed to enhance community's resiliency pre- and post-disaster, especially for hurricanes. Training topics included:
 - NAPC Disaster Planning & Recovery for Historic Communities: An Overview
 - Applying Design Review Standards and Guidelines to Disaster Adaptation & Recovery
 - Design Review Exercise: Applying Standards and Guidelines to Disaster Adaptation
 - Pre-Disaster Adaptation & Post-Disaster Rehabilitation
 - Public Engagement in Disaster Adaptation

Historical Research Office

Highway Historical Marker Advisory Committee meeting. The committee's second meeting of this fiscal year took place on May 16. The agenda was again lengthy and rich to assess various topics' statewide significance. Among those proposals that were approved by both the Committee and Secretary Reid Wilson:

- Updated marker for Fort Bragg and Fort Bragg School Integration;
- Updated marker for Frank Porter Graham;
- Final approval with revisions to inscriptions and essays from December 2022 meeting for Pfc. Booker Spicely and the Cowee Tunnel Disaster to focus on the larger subject of incarcerated labor, both of which will feature the term "Jim Crow" in a marker inscription for the first time in program history;
- Markers for multiple state-recognized tribes, including the Coharie, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee, Meherrin, Occaneechi, Sappony, and Waccamaw-Siouan Tribes;
- Markers for the East Carolina Indian School and Buie Mound; and
- Marker for the historically African American Seabreeze Beach.

The Raleigh *News and Observer* covered the Spicely marker:

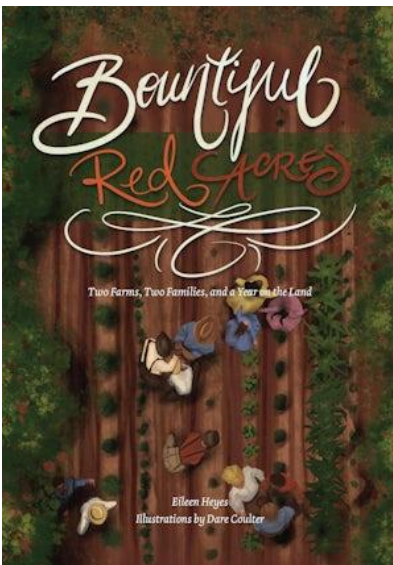
<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/article269988142.html> as well as did the *Sylva Herald* for the "Cowee 19" marker: http://www.thesylvaherald.com/top_stories/article_e6149724-ffcd-11ed-8215-fb8774b29595.html.

We cordially invite you to attend any of these marker dedication ceremonies as they are planned; Leslie Leonard will have details in coming months for the May approved markers following the foundry's fabrication.

Upcoming marker dedications for previously approved markers include:

- Environmental activist Carolista Baum, Nags Head, July 7;
- Thomas Parker, Warsaw, end of July;
- Civil Rights figure Robert F. Williams, Monroe, August 26;
- Comedian and social activist “Moms” Mabley, Brevard, September 7;
- Nicholas Roberts, Seaboard, September 16;
- State v. Mann, Edenton, September 17;
- Justice Susie Sharp, Reidsville, September 29;
- Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, September 30;
- Griggs v. Duke Power, Eden, early October;
- Wallace Brothers Herbarium, Statesville, October 15;
- Allen School, Asheville, October 21;
- WWII paratrooper Lt. Gen. Robert Sink, Lexington, November 11;
- “Human Computers”, Raleigh, TBD;
- Equal Rights League, Edgecombe County, TBD.

Bountiful Red Acres. The newest children's title of the Historical Publications unit of the Historical Research Office, this book has already sold out of its first edition, and a second edition has already been reprinted. Published in partnership with the NC African American Heritage Commission and NC Division of Historic Sites, *Bountiful Red Acres* chronicles a year in the North Carolina Piedmont in the lives of two neighboring families—one Black and one White—moving from season to season through the year 1900. Despite the racial inequalities built into American life by both law and custom, the Sawyers and Hauser families share an abiding friendship as they rear children, tend crops, and build community.



“Author Eileen Heyes and artist Dare Coulter bring these real Surry County families to life for readers, offering a vibrant look at neighbors caring for each other as they force a living out of the red clay soil that is known today as Horne Creek Farm State Historic Site.”

It is available for sale through our distribution partner UNC Press as well as other major book outlets:

<https://uncpress.org/book/9780865265028/bountiful-red-acres/>.

Office of State Archaeology (OSA)

American Indian Dugout Canoe. In cooperation with the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe, NC State Parks, and the American Indian Heritage Commission, the North Carolina Office of State Archaeology led

efforts to recover a 900+ year old, 28-foot American Indian dugout canoe from Lake Waccamaw on April 12. The canoe had been discovered by teenagers swimming in 2021, and its location marked until it could be safely removed. Following recovery, the Office of State Archaeology's conservation lab in Greenville will conserve the canoe to prevent rot and degradation so that it may be stewarded and shared with the public in perpetuity. The story went national, and indeed international, with articles appearing in the Canadian and British press.

- <https://www.archaeology.org/news/11385-230419-north-carolina-canoe>
- <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/asithappens/waccamaw-ancient-canoe-1.6815398>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/apr/21/north-carolina-lake-native-american-canoe>
- <https://www.wunc.org/environment/2023-04-17/a-1-000-year-old-native-american-canoe-was-discovered-in-a-columbus-county-lake>

Underwater Archaeology Conservation Lab Open House. On April 22, in collaboration with East Carolina University, OSA staff hosted a well-attended open house of our conservation lab outside Greenville, who learned about how we conserve and protect our state's underwater archaeological heritage. Over 200 attended: https://www.qaronline.org/news/events/qar-lab-science-archaeology-and-conservation?fbclid=IwAR3yXBdZKftqH_LygnP6fbAOapDlt58KRWSTqO5cscE5zqx7xMGBNnYkgOO

Our deep thanks to the Commission for its support of and engagement with our Division.

North Carolina Historical Commission – June 2023 report

NC Division of State History Museums

The Museums have been very busy for the last three months. School visitation picked up significantly at the Museum of History with general visitation at the other museums picking up as well. We finished May with improved visitation numbers over 2022 at most locations. So far this year, 296,119 people have visited our museums. The total visits per museum year-to-date for calendar year 2023 as of May 31 are as follows:

North Carolina Museum of History – 180,818

Beaufort Maritime Museum – 52,387

Museum of the Albemarle – 44,809

Museum of the Cape Fear – 12,143

Mountain Gateway Museum – 5,962

Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum – closed to the public for exhibit renovation in December 2022

The Division has four capital projects in process:

The Graveyard of the Atlantic is doing some renovation work on the building and installing a completely new exhibit on the history of the Outer Banks and the Graveyard of the Atlantic in their exhibit gallery. The project is expected to be completed by January of 2024.

The expansion and renovation of the North Carolina Museum of History is moving forward with exhibits and architectural design. The Museum is currently waiting on the Legislature to approve a budget to determine how much money will be allocated to the project. The work to be completed will depend on the amount of money allocated to the project by the legislature and the amount raised through private fund raising.

The North Carolina History Center for Civil War, Emancipation and Reconstruction in Fayetteville is moving forward with both architectural and exhibit design. The project received approximately \$60M in the last budget, but still needs a little more funding as the original cost estimates have increased significantly.

The Maritime Heritage Foundation of Beaufort received a grant of \$3M in last year's budget for site planning and concept design of the Maritime Education Center at Gallants Channel in Beaufort as well as initial site preparation work. The initial site plan and concept drawings of the Education Center have been approved by State Construction. The architects will now move to do more detailed design drawings for the site and the building. The eventual goal is to build a new Maritime Museum on the Gallants Channel property. There is a provision in the House

budget bill for an additional \$10M for construction of the Education Center and initial museum design.

Monthly activities for each museum for the last two months are as follows:

North Carolina Museum of History:

April Activities

April was an exciting month of museum programs and events, including but not limited to:

THE
POWER OF
WOMEN IN
COUNTRY
MUSIC



The Power of Women in Country Music

exhibition closed on April 2nd with a concert and closing celebrations after a stellar run!

From international superstars, including Emmylou Harris, Dolly Parton, Rosanne Cash, Shania Twain, and Taylor Swift, to contemporary North Carolina artists, such as Rhiannon Giddens, Rissi Palmer, and Kasey Tyndall, *The Power of Women in Country*

Music, came to the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh from the [GRAMMY Museum](#)® in Los Angeles, highlighting the past, present, and future of country music's greatest female trailblazers. The exhibition opened Friday, October 28, 2022, and ran through Sunday, April 2, 2023. This empowering exhibition was amplified with a [Southern Songbirds](#) concert series (3 which ran on PBS NC), author series, family events and activities, and much more!

The accompanying Southern Songbird Series welcomed 5 full houses of concerts with such North Carolina legends as Jim Lauderdale, Rissi Palmer, and Tift Merritt.

Over 10,500 visited the exhibition.

Many thanks to our sponsors, especially NCDCCR. Our marketing sponsors were WQDR, PBS NC, *Walter Magazine* and *Raleigh Magazine*, who offered over \$176,000 in in-kind marketing support.

The promotional digital reach spanned 36 countries and reached over 700,000 on social media. The exhibition earned 91 media placements with a \$10.5 million advertising equivalency.



Environmental justice weighs heavily in our history and current public discourse. On Thursday, April 20, the North Carolina Museum of History hosted a Community Class presentation examining environmental justice in North Carolina.

A panel of distinguished speakers reflected upon North Carolina's role in the origins of the environmental justice movement that began with the 1982 PCB protests in Warren County and on the ongoing efforts to nationally address these issues.

We heard distinguished panelists, including Michael Regan, 16th administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency; Dr. Ben Chavis; the Honorable Eva Clayton, former congresswoman; the Reverend Bill Kearney; and Vernice Miller-Travis discuss the topic.

A 15-minute press Q&A followed the panel discussion. A reception for all guests was held following the presentation. Over 200 people attended the program in person and over 170 people watched the program on live stream.

The event was live-streamed and can be found on the museum's YouTube channel.

2023 THJHA Annual Convention: Friday, April 28th



The museum welcomed 146 students and 56 chaperones from 22 clubs across the state in 14 counties. We also had clubs joining us for the first workshop and the Awards Ceremony through our live stream.

At the event junior historians participated in engaging history-based workshops related to the themes from this school year's *Tar Heel Junior Historian* magazines, both the fall 2022 issue, [Music in NC](#), and the spring 2023 issue, [Legacies of Reconstruction](#). At the afternoon Awards Ceremony, we celebrated the work of the junior historians who submitted 142 entries to our Annual

Contests this year. Winning projects will be displayed in our THJHA Discovery Gallery *History in Every Direction*.

May activities



In May, the museum hosted several exciting programs and events, such as the Longleaf Film Festival, which took place on May 12-13, 2023. The festival screened over 69 films, including more

than two dozen premieres, and had around 1,100 participants. The event was live-streamed for the first time, and 22 awards were given on Saturday evening. Longleaf is renowned throughout the state and beyond. One filmmaker *expressed gratitude for the opportunity to showcase their talent at the festival and hopes to submit films again in the future.*



The weekend kicked off with a musical opening film block, a fun reception, and an enchanting evening for Movies-N-Moonlight. Saturday was eventful and featured an offsite workshop at NC's first Virtual Production studio, 10 more film blocks, two additional workshops, the Awards Program, and a lively Wrap Party.

On Monday, May 15th, PBS NC and the North Carolina Museum of History organized a reception for the



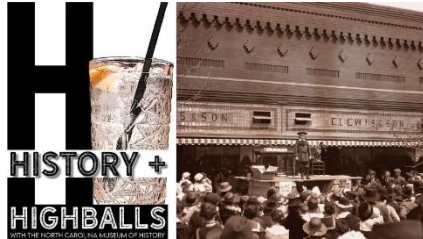
Antique Road Show Appraisers and Producers, where guests enjoyed behind-the-scenes remarks from Antique Roadshow executive producer Marsha Bemko. Attending dignitaries included Secretary Reid Wilson, PBS NC CEO David Crabtree, and Raleigh Mayor Mary-Ann Baldwin. The appraisers also shared their experience on the show and some of their exciting items. On May 16th, many Museum of History staff members volunteered at the North Carolina Museum of Art

with Antiques Roadshow.



In-person and virtual programs remained popular, including:

History at High Noon: Amplifying Asian Voices, with 107 registered attendees on May 24th. The event celebrated Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month and featured speakers Tina Firesheets and Christie Soper, who talked about the storytelling initiative PAVE NC, an initiative to amplify Asian American voices across our area.



Another popular event was **History and Highballs: Missing History- Jewish Life in Western NC**, which had 370 registered attendees on May 18th. The event featured Sharon Fahrner, a historian, author, and co-founder of History@Hand, who spoke about the previously unknown history of Western North Carolina's Jewish community.

Mountain Gateway Museum –

April Activities

The Mountain Gateway Museum (MGM) in Old Fort celebrated its 37th Annual Pioneer Day on



Saturday, April 29, attracting 62 vendors and an estimated 2,800 visitors. Earlier in the month, rangers from Lake Jakes State Park conducted a water-quality program at MGM with fifth-graders from Old Fort

Elementary School as part of Earth Day. Museum staff also hosted fourth-grade students from Black Mountain Elementary School (Buncombe County), gave a presentation to the Sons of the American Revolution (S.A.R.) in Morganton (Burke County), assisted the Western Regional Office

in Oteen with a traveling exhibit, and participated in the NC Transportation Museum’s “Tractors and Trains” event (Rowan County).

May Activities



During May, the Mountain Gateway Museum’s staff participated in two North Carolina Tourism Week events in Madison and Haywood counties, hosted a Roads Scholar group from Montreat College in Buncombe County, fabricated banners for the Town of Old Fort’s upcoming Trails & Trains Festival, attended DNCR’s online Communications Summit, received computer upgrades (thanks to IT), and made plans with the Old Fort Ruritan Club for a “Fun-Filled Family Fourth” event on July 4th.

Museum of the Albemarle

April Activities



MOA Continues to Work on Virtual and In-Person Exhibits and Educational Programming, including but not limited to:

- Two hybrid (both in-person and virtual) History for Lunches: “The Roanoke River Lights: Beacons to a Century of History”, and “Air Quality Relating to Water Quality

Through Purple Air Sensors”.

- Exhibit opening: *Nell Cropsey: 120 Years of Mystery*

- Outreach Through Social and Traditional Media with weekly article submitted to *The Daily Advance* for publication each Sunday.

May Activities

MOA Continues to Work on Virtual and In-Person Exhibits and Educational Programming, including but not limited to:

- Two hybrid (both in-person and virtual) History for Lunches: “Leopold Paul Unger, Itinerant Portrait Artist”, and “Adam Hughes, Pitmaster, Old Colony Smokehouse”.
- Two Tot Times: “National Train Day”, and “Make-It, Take-It Mother’s Day Craft.”
 - PBS North Carolina Rootle Roadster Tour visited with family hands-on events for three days during the NC Potato Festival.
 - Moonshine & Motorsports Trail Marker Dedication with Secretary Reid Wilson of DNCR.
 - Outreach Through Social and Traditional Media with weekly articles submitted to *The Daily Advance* for publication each Sunday.

Museum of The Cape Fear

April Activities



The Repair and Renovation project at the MCFHC continued. The 1897 Poe House was painted and work continues on the front and back porches of the house.

- The North Carolina History Center on the Civil War, Emancipation and Reconstruction held several meetings during the month to discuss building layout and exhibit plans. Vines Architecture continues to work on plans for the main building which will house permanent exhibit space and multi-use areas.

May Activities



The Museum of the Cape Fear staged the **Moonshine Murder Mystery** at the 1897 Poe House. Actors from the Gilbert Theatre (along with museum staff and volunteers) performed this original interactive play set in 1920's Fayetteville. The event took place over three nights, completely selling out with 165 visitors. This was funded by the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County and the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex Foundation.



The museum remains closed to the public due to its extensive gallery retrofit. It is not expected to reopen before the end of the year.

Conservation of the World War I Krupp 8.8 SK L/30 naval gun that had been installed outside the Josephus Daniels house is complete. Arrangements are being made to install it on the Museum porch.



April Activities

With the recent addition of Associate Education Curator Courtney Felton and Maintenance Technician Nicholas Zahradka, the Museum is now fully staffed as we head into our busiest season. We've also welcomed Caitlin Mahnke as the new Museum

Conservation Lab intern. She is in her last semester at Carteret Community College where she

will earn her associate degree in science and continue pursuing a degree in the fields of biology, marine biology, and/or chemistry.

Education staff recorded their first two podcasts as part of the new Salty History program in partnership with the local talk radio station. The first program looked at pirate Stede Bonnet and discussed whether his reputation as worst pirate ever is deserved. The second recording examines the purported healing properties of sea air as touted by early beach marketers. The podcast will start airing on Saturdays and be shared online once the first few are wrapped.

Planning continues for the Annual Wooden Boat Show. We currently have 30 boats registered. The free event will be held May 6 from 10-4 and all are invited to join us in Beaufort for the day.

May Activities

The 47th Annual Wooden Boat Show was held on May 6th. Nearly 50 boats entered, and more than 3,000 attendees joined us for the day (with nearly 1,500 of them also visiting the museum). The next Boat Show will be held on May 4, 2024.

After almost two years, the Education Department received a brand new 15-passenger van. The Friends helped raise funds to support the addition, which is part of the state's vehicle fleet. The new van will allow us to plan off-site group programs, volunteer outings, and staff group travel, which we have been unable to accommodate for the past couple of years (pandemic notwithstanding).



April Activities

The new DNCR Safety Team visited March 31. The safety consultants had never been to Southport and site issues were reviewed to ascertain what they can do to help.

Most recently, staff are developing a History Highlights Collaboration - working with other DNCR sites in the Cape Fear area, sharing stories of people, events, and items that connect the different sites, and developing an opportunity for sites to work with each other.

May Activities

Administrative Specialist I Kyra McCormick has resigned her position to return home to Maryland, so we hope to be able to move forward soon on replacing her.

The La Rosa Cannon has been moved out of the exhibit hall as part of preparations for a new exhibit on commercial fishing.

News from the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties: June 2023

Michelle Lanier

While we still have several days left in the fiscal year, visitation thus far is strong with 1,579,308 visitors from July 1, 2022 through the end of May.

This is a 5 % increase in total fiscal year visitation (up until May of last year) when we experienced a total of 1,502,095 visitors over the course of 11 months.

Division leadership, with the support of the Department's Human Resources team have been working to fill several key vacancies including the following: Director of Curatorial Services, Division Research Historian, and Site Managers at Alamance, Vance Birthplace, and Thomas Wolfe. These vacancies were the result of two retirements, one promotion as a result of a newly-restored and appropriated regional position, as well as two staff finding employment in other sectors.

The Transportation Museum saw over 6,600 visitors during May, an incredible 24% increase over last year.

On Saturday, May 20th, the N.C. Transportation Museum held its annual Historic Spencer Train Show, Antique Truck Show and Member Appreciation Day. Nearly 3,000 attendees participated in events throughout the day. Activities included tours of private rail cars, model train layouts, special train operations, antique truck displays from around the region, and themed tours. In addition to the activities at the site, the museum hosted an outreach and hands-on booth space at the Cheerwine Festival in downtown Salisbury with 100,000 attendees.

In preparation for major construction, the Capitol operated on a regular schedule for just two days this month. The building closed to public visitation on May 3 and site preparation began for the roof and HVAC replacement. Following the public closure, two events did still take place- a State Capitol Foundation quarterly board meeting and the Governor's Volunteer Awards Ceremony. Staff continue to work on site and are planning for a busy June with several outreach programs.

Crews installed a construction fence around the perimeter of the building and installed scaffolding for the roof access. During this time, staff worked over three weeks to clean out two

News from the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties: June 2023

Michelle Lanier

extremely overpacked storage rooms on the third floor that will be impacted by the installation of the new HVAC. One of the rooms is currently used for small collections storage, so staff packed up items to move them to a safe area. Additionally, other artifacts were moved or covered for safekeeping.

Capitol docent/tour coordinator Natalie Rodriguez organized a docent enrichment visit to the Pope House Museum for volunteers on May 22. Seventeen volunteers and the Capitol staff walked to the site and enjoyed a very informative tour. Natalie will host at least one docent enrichment opportunity each month while the building is closed to ensure we stay engaged with our volunteers.

Despite the closure of the Capitol for construction, staff will still host a modified 4th of July event (Tues., July 4 12-1 pm) on the south grounds, which will include the return of the naturalization ceremony for new citizens. This will be the first naturalization ceremony at the Capitol since the pandemic!

Executive Mansion tours have been in demand all season by a variety of groups. In addition to the regular school tours, many agencies in state government have begun requesting tours for their summer interns. House and Senate Pages have also scheduled regular tours for those programs. Plans are underway for an event with Haywood Hall in the fall to outline the connections between the Mansion, former First Ladies, and the Haywood family.

Scott Warren, Site Manager at President James K. Polk State Historic Site, was just honored with the Professional Service Award by the North Carolina Museum's Council (NCMC), which is one of the most significant awards NCMC bestows. The NCMC Professional Service Award is presented to any individual currently employed at a North Carolina museum who has distinguished him/herself in the museum field and/or has professionally advanced the role of museums or that of the North Carolina Museums Council.

News from the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties: June 2023

Michelle Lanier

At Bentonville, the Mountains to Sea Trail project has begun building an additional 1 mile of a trail extension, giving hikers a view of the Union trenches in that area for the first time. Dedication of the trail will take place in the Fall of 2023.

On National Trails Day, June 3rd, 2023, Bentonville Battlefield State Historic Site and support group the Friends of Bentonville Battlefield hosted a Trail Work Day.

Coordinated in conjunction with the Friends of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail and the Friends of Johnston County Parks, this trail day is the first of many community-centered workdays designed to complete the newest section of Mountains-to-Sea Trail at Bentonville Battlefield.

On Saturday, June 10th the life of Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown was celebrated with music, in partnership with the Greensboro Opera. This special event, entitled "Black Heritage Day, an Afro-Classical Celebration," commemorated Dr. Brown's birthday.

Black Heritage Day was also conceived as a celebration of Black history, culture, food, and music. The program, in partnership with Greensboro Opera, also featured international singer Chrystal E. Williams, mezzo-soprano, and Felipe Hostins, accordion.

Fort Dobbs State Historic Site held a special "Highlighted History" event on Saturday, June 3, where visitors learned about the June 1760 invasion of the Cherokee homeland by a British army commanded by Archibald Montgomery. Re-enactors will illustrate life on campaign as experienced by men of the 77th Highland Regiment as well as Carolina militia soldiers. All programming took place outdoors with guided tours of the reconstructed fort throughout the day.

The Historic Sites Collections Branch launched a True Inclusion Cataloging Project, and hosted an informational, DNCR-wide Lunch and Learn about the project on May 23rd. Beginning in June 2022, the Collections Branch began examining the Proficio artifact database to ensure best practices in the use of inclusive terminology. During our examination, we noted room for improvement in two predominant areas:

- a. wording used to describe artifacts in our catalog records

News from the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties: June 2023

Michelle Lanier

- b. lack of context in public catalog records which display harmful wording and imagery

Thus, the Collections Branch began brainstorming ways to implement reparative redescrptions in our catalog records, as well as publicly address the harmful images and attitudes that artifacts convey. This project is influenced by many archives and library professionals who have exemplified the work of critical cataloging and reparative redescription in their records and database search terms. The collections branch has drawn upon many examples of such projects to draft two documents which address the aforementioned issues: an inclusive terminology glossary for use by Historic Sites staff who participate in cataloging artifacts; and records content warnings to appear on the public interface of the Historic Sites collections database.

During the Lunch and Learn staff presented the project, examined the process in drafting the glossary and content warnings, and discussed next steps of refining this project through peer review and community feedback.

Friday, May 12th marked the 14th annual Kidsfest at Roanoke Island Festival Park. It was a free event hosted in partnership with the Children & Youth Partnership for Dare County (DCYP). The mission of DCYP is to connect all children, adolescents, and families with programs and partnerships to ensure they have what they need to thrive. Participants included local, state, and federal organizations all providing activities for children and their families, including Jockey Ridge, the Roanoke Island Aquarium and Jennette's Pier.

The Curatorial Section of the Division of Historic Sites is proud to participate in the Department's HBCU Summer Internship program and is currently hosting Jhatiana McMurrin. Jhatiana recently graduated from Elizabeth City State University with a Bachelor of Science in Graphic Design. McMurrin served as the Art Director of the student literary magazine, *The Legacy*, and became the Creative Manager of 1704 Media Productions. She also won a mentorship with a junior designer with Turner Duckworth, an international consulting agency, which gave her indispensable advice and insights into the graphic design industry.

News from the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties: June 2023

Michelle Lanier

This summer, Jhatiana will work with the Design Branch of NC Historic Sites to produce high-quality digital engagement assets- Including developing educational materials for school groups, working on virtual tours for visitors facing mobility challenges, and utilizing modern technology to provide an inclusive and engaging experience for all our visitors. Additionally, she will assist in creating, Division social media branding for the upcoming 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War.