The Bill of Rights Comes Home

On August 4, North Carolina’s original copy of the Bill of Rights returned to its rightful place in the State Capitol, 140 years after it had been removed from the building by a Union soldier. A federal district court judge in Raleigh ruled that the State of North Carolina should possess the priceless document, but did not determine who is its lawful owner.

The manuscript is one of fourteen original copies of the Bill of Rights, one for the governor of each state and one for the central government, drafted by federal clerks in 1789. North Carolina’s copy was stored for safekeeping in the State Capitol under the watchful eye of the secretary of state. But during the occupation of Raleigh by Union troops in the waning days of the Civil War, a soldier of an Ohio regiment carried away the document as a spoil of war. Soon after his return home, the unidentified thief sold the invaluable relic to Charles A. Shotwell. The State of North Carolina became aware of the location of its copy of the Bill of Rights by means of an article in an Indianapolis newspaper in 1897, but refused to pay for the return of stolen public property. The state consistently

North Carolina’s original copy of the Bill of Rights was returned to state officials in a ceremony at the State Capitol on August 4. United States Attorney Frank Whitney (at podium) presents the long-lost document to Gov. Michael F. Easley (left), Marc Basnight, president pro temp of the Senate (second from right), and James B. Black, Speaker of the House (right). All images by the Office of Archives and History.
A Message from the Deputy Secretary

After 140 years North Carolina’s copy of the Bill of Rights has returned home. That epic journey has been detailed in this and earlier issues of Carolina Comments. While the legal battle to determine “ownership” may not be over, federal judge Terrence Boyle’s August 4 decision gave the State of North Carolina “possession” of the priceless document. Governor Mike Easley, U.S. Attorney Frank Whitney, and Attorney General Roy Cooper deserve the thanks of all North Carolinians for restoring to its rightful owners this long-lost piece of the state’s patrimony.

The Bill of Rights now is safely secured in the State Archives. Recently, the Archives received another document—a gift of John Eady Simmons Jr. of Maryville, Tennessee—that is less famous but illustrative of the struggle between the property rights of slaveholders and the human rights of runaway slaves. In a lengthy letter dated February 17, 1843, Augustus Wattles, an Ohio abolitionist, warned former North Carolina slave David, alias William Smith, of Branch County, Michigan, of threats to his freedom and that of his son. Wattles received training at Lane Theological Seminary in Cincinnati, renowned for its fiery abolitionist teachings. Presbyterian minister Lyman Beecher, father of Henry Ward Beecher and Harriet Beecher Stowe, presided over the seminary. Wattles, a friend of John Brown, later became embroiled in the bloody conflicts between proslavery and antislavery forces in Kansas during the late 1850s.

Less is known about William Smith, a blacksmith by trade. He was one of seventy-one slaves owned by Presley Nelms of Anson County in 1840. Smith’s family consisted of wife Lucy, daughter Charlotte, and son Andrew. Nelms’s 1841 will intended to free William Smith’s family, but Smith had already defected by the time Nelms died. Evidently, Simeon Pemberton of Richmond County assisted Smith’s escape, but for a price. Having saved perhaps two or three thousand dollars through his blacksmithing and “industry,” Smith paid an undisclosed fee to Pemberton, who in turn used the money to pay his own debts. When the Nelms family discovered that Pemberton had been “tampering with the colored people,” he signed a promissory note to repay them $1,500. To obtain those funds, Pemberton tried to force Andrew Smith, by then also a runaway in Michigan, to buy his freedom for $2,000. In case Andrew and his father declined to pay that sum with a “joint note,” Pemberton went to Michigan to capture Andrew, who briefly fled to Canada. Both William Smith and Andrew Smith, also a blacksmith, appear in the 1850 census for Michigan, so it is unlikely that Pemberton ever realized his scheme.

The Wattles-Smith letter offers a tantalizing glimpse of how the Underground Railroad may have operated in North Carolina. It would be impossible to reconstruct how Smith and his family escaped from Anson County to Ohio and Michigan. Clearly, Wattles played a key role. But who were the other “conductors” on this invisible railway?

Congress enacted the first Fugitive Slave Act in 1793, two years after the ratification of the Bill of Rights. The juxtaposition of North Carolina’s copy of the Bill of Rights with the Wattles-Smith letter in the State Archives offers a fascinating tale of political rights for free citizens but treachery and danger for slaves who, as the Dred Scott decision affirmed in 1857, remained property, could never be citizens of the United States, and consequently had no rights.

Jeffrey J. Crow
maintained this principled stance when the manuscript was offered for sale in 1925 and again in 1995. Finally, when state and federal authorities learned in March 2003 that a sale and transfer of the North Carolina copy was imminent, they conducted a successful seizure action in Philadelphia to achieve physical possession of the document (see Carolina Comments, April 2004).

The ongoing legal battle for ownership of the manuscript began on March 13, 2003, when Charles R. Reavis, U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina, filed an application in federal district court for a seizure warrant for an “Original copy of Bill of Rights (North Carolina’s copy).” The warrant was duly signed by District Court Judge Terrence W. Boyle, providing the legal mechanism for the seizure procedure in Philadelphia on March 18. Two days later, the federal government filed a complaint in the district court, a civil forfeiture action for the arrest of the Bill of Rights, which the government averred was stolen property. Over the next several weeks, various parties to the action filed statements concerning their claims to ownership. Antiques dealer Wayne E. Pratt’s statement claimed sole ownership, without reference to investor Robert V. Matthews’s purported interest. The United States entered a stipulation of interest, indicating that the State of North Carolina was the true owner of the document.

On May 7, 2003, attorneys for the state and federal governments moved that the civil forfeiture suit be transformed into a replevin action, to which Pratt and Matthews objected, as the burden of proof in civil forfeiture cases was on the government. Matthews filed a motion on August 8 to dismiss the case, asserting that North Carolina was an improper venue for a hearing on property seized in Pennsylvania. At a status conference, the court expressed concern over the legitimacy of the warrant issued in North Carolina and allowed the parties to proceed with depositions from those involved in the seizure. The United States challenged Matthews’s status as a claimant, but the court set a date of September 11 for an evidentiary hearing on his motion to dismiss.

The day before the scheduled hearing, the United States filed a motion for summary judgment. Pratt then withdrew his claim, conveying all of his interest in the Bill of Rights to the State of North Carolina. He declared that Wayne Pratt, Inc., was the sole purchaser of the document with exclusive authority to convey its interests, and stipulated that all of the actions by the federal government, including the seizure operation, were legal and proper. The United States withdrew its motion for judgment and filed notice of voluntary dismissal. At the hearing on September 11, Judge Boyle indicated that because of the dismissal, there were no longer any motions to be adjudicated. Both parties, however, agreed that the court was compelled to issue an order to dispose of the Bill of Rights by returning it to its proper owner. Matthews filed a motion for the return of property under the civil forfeiture statute, an objection to the notice of voluntary dismissal, and a demand for trial by jury. On the last day of October, he also filed a complaint in the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut against the United States, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Attorney’s Office, the U.S. Marshal, and numerous federal officials individually, for continued “illegal” possession of the Bill of Rights.

On November 21, 2003, Judge Boyle issued an order of inquiry into the remaining claims of ownership, allowing Matthews twenty days to declare and show cause for any outstanding claims he had against Wayne Pratt, Inc. The order also contained speculative language that the Bill of Rights and all parties might revert to the status quo ante, and that the document might properly be returned to attorney John L. Richardson, Pratt’s agent at the time the manuscript was seized, as prior possessor. Matthews then filed additional complaints in the District of Columbia (where Richardson practiced law) and in his home state of Connecticut against Richardson and his law firm, Pratt, and Wayne Pratt, Inc., alleging breach of contract, civil conspiracy, and conversion, and to enjoin Richardson
from conveying the Bill of Rights if it were returned to him. On December 11, Matthews responded to Judge Boyle’s order, arguing that the North Carolina district court had lost jurisdiction over additional issues by disposing of the case, and avowing that he would take appropriate action in a court competent to hear the matter once the document had been released to Richardson; he ignored the directive to state his claim against Pratt. The following day, the State of North Carolina filed a motion in Wake County Superior Court for a restraining order to prevent Richardson or anyone else from removing the manuscript out of state, and also requested a declaratory judgment proclaiming the Bill of Rights a public record and ordering the return of that record to its proper custodians.

On December 15, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of North Carolina reasserted its jurisdiction over the case and attempted to clarify the confusing language in the November 21 order. Judge Boyle indicated that the earlier ruling was not intended to be a final order, but rather the means of providing a forum within which to hear and conclude all remaining claims and disputes before issuing a final ruling. That order came on January 23, 2004. Judge Boyle rejected Matthews’s request for a jury trial and summarily concluded that North Carolina was the legal owner of the Bill of Rights as a public record “over which the State had never voluntarily relinquished control.” He found that all parties had conceded that the document in dispute was North Carolina’s original copy of the Bill of Rights. Judge Boyle also concluded that the theft and subsequent retention by other parties had not altered its status as a public record, and that the State had diligently attempted to locate and recover the document from the moment it was stolen. The judge ordered that the Bill of Rights be delivered to the State, but stayed judgment pending appeal.

The attorney for Robert V. Matthews immediately filed notice of appeal, and on February 23 submitted his case on appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in Richmond, Virginia. Matthews contended that the district court violated the civil forfeiture statute with its voluntary dismissal of the action without returning the seized property to its previous possessor; that the court then erred by continuing to adjudicate the claim rather than revert to the status quo ante; and that Judge Boyle erred in awarding title to North Carolina without due process of law and by reliance upon a state ruling in a replevin action (State v. West) for authority. Matthews requested a reversal of the judgment, with the case remanded to district court for a full hearing and a jury trial. North Carolina and the United States replied on July 9, asserting that the court had ruled correctly in dismissing the forfeiture action and retaining jurisdiction until competing claims were adjudicated, that Judge Boyle had correctly applied state property law, and that the judge had aptly ruled Matthews’s claim to the property to be defective.

The appeal was argued before Chief Judge William W. Wilkins, Circuit Judge Karen J. Williams, and U.S. District Judge Glen E. Conrad, sitting by designation, on October 26, 2004. Among the issues discussed were two possible variances of the point in time defining the status quo ante. The United States asserted that the proper moment in this case was the two days in March 2003 after the document had been seized but before the complaint had been filed. Matthews countered that the court should regard conditions at the time immediately prior to the seizure as the preexisting state of affairs.

In its ruling on January 26, 2005, the appeals court agreed with Matthews’s argument that the district court erred in determining that it retained authority to resolve claims of ownership of stolen property after dismissing the underlying action, as the civil forfeiture suit was terminated when the United States filed notice of dismissal. The court ruled, “We vacate the district court order granting ownership and possession of the document to the State and remand with instructions for the district court to restore the parties, as closely as possible, to the status quo ante as it determines that phrase to mean.” The judges cautioned the lower court that if it decided that the status quo ante referred to the pre-seizure state of
affairs, it must also decide whether the Bill of Rights should be returned to Richardson or to North Carolina, considering Pratt’s subsequent conveyance of interests in the document. Finally, the appeals court acknowledged the justice of Matthews’s contention that his claims to an interest in the document had yet to be heard.

On March 30, 2005, the State of North Carolina filed a motion in the Eastern District Court for the return of its property, arguing that the Bill of Rights could not be restored to Richardson because he had no possessory interest, having acted simply by authority of a power of attorney from Pratt, who had since conveyed all his interest to the state. Nor could the document revert to Matthews who, by his own admission early in the legal proceedings, was a “passive investor.” In April, Matthews filed a similar motion in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and a memorandum of opposition in the North Carolina court in response to the state’s request. In both filings, Matthews argued that the Pennsylvania court should have jurisdiction because “his” property had been seized in that domain. He also contended that Pratt’s conveyance to North Carolina did not transfer his interest in the manuscript. In its reply to Matthews’s memorandum, the State argued for North Carolina jurisdiction on the grounds that the seizure warrant had been issued there, and because Matthews had effectively waived his right to a Pennsylvania venue by having filed a motion for return of property in a North Carolina court. The State also noted that the district court’s instruction upon remand was to determine who possessed the Bill of Rights in the status quo ante, not who owned it, and reminded Matthews that his initial agreement with Pratt provided that the latter alone would possess the document.

Judge Boyle heard arguments from parties on May 17. On August 4, he issued his order on the remanded case. He rejected Matthews’s arguments concerning venue and jurisdiction, and the federal government’s contention for a post-seizure, pre-complaint status quo ante, noting that no seizure warrant would have been issued unless a forfeiture proceeding had been intended. The judge accepted the variant of the preexisting condition that held John L. Richardson as prior possessor, but because he and his clients had conveyed their interest to North Carolina, “the State now stands in
their position, holding the superior possessory interest in the Bill of Rights.” But he added, significantly, “This Order does not affect the parties’ ownership claims.”

Judge Boyle ordered the federal marshal to return possession of the Bill of Rights to North Carolina by “immediately delivering” it to the governor or his designee. That same afternoon, in a hastily convened ceremony at the State Capitol, the very building from which it had been stolen 140 years before, the peripatetic document was presented to Gov. Michael F. Easley by Marshal Charles Reavis and U.S. Attorney Frank Whitney. Also in attendance were other members of the state and federal legal teams who had shepherded the state’s claim through the courtroom battles; Marc Basnight, president pro tempore of the Senate, James B. Black, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and other members of the General Assembly; Dr. Jeff Crow and Staci Meyer, deputy secretaries of the Department of Cultural Resources; staff members of the State Archives and the State Capitol; and representatives from the media. After the ceremony, the Bill of Rights was transported to the security vault of the State Archives for safekeeping.

The invaluable 216-year-old document was in surprisingly good condition to have been in less-than-ideal environments since 1865. But it did require some conservation before it could be displayed for public inspection. On August 24, State Archivist Dick Lankford and preservation officer Sarah Koonts transported the Bill of Rights, with a Highway Patrol escort, to the Etherington Conservation laboratory in Greensboro. Document conservators repaired the fragile upper left corner and removed a bit of adhesive residue on the back. After the repairs were completed, the manuscript was mounted in a Chicago string mat “sandwich,” sealed along the edges, with a sheet of plexiglass behind to provide stability. It was then framed with archival quality materials, including another sheet of plexiglass on top; the gold gilded frame closely matches the ones used for the Carolina Charter. The conservators also custom built a clamshell box for transporting the framed document. The work was completed on September 7, and the Bill of Rights was returned to the State Archives.

Nominees for North Carolina Book Awards Announced

The following titles have been entered in the North Carolina Book Awards competitions, sponsored by the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association (NCLHA) in cooperation with the Historical Book Club of North Carolina, the Roanoke-Chowan Group of Writers and Allied Artists, and the North Carolina Division of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). Winning entries in each category will be announced during the joint annual meeting of the NCLHA and the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies that will take place in Raleigh on November 18. More about the awards can be found at: http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/affiliates/lit-hist/awards/awards.htm.
RAGAN OLD NORTH STATE AWARD (nonfiction)


**SIR WALTER RALEIGH AWARD (fiction)**


**ROANOKE-CHOWAN AWARD (poetry)**


**AAUW AWARD (juvenile literature)**


A Passing of the Guard at Historic Sites and the State Archives

In the space of two months, nearly a century of combined experience was lost to the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties and the Archives and Records Section with the retirement of three longtime employees. Rick Knapp, Steve Massengill, and Ed Morris all reached the end of productive careers this summer.

After more than thirty-three years of service, Dr. Richard F. “Rick” Knapp retired on July 31. Rick holds degrees from Stetson University and Duke University. He began working with the (then) Department of Archives and History in December 1971. His first assignment was as special projects officer in the office of the director, Dr. H. G. Jones. In this position, Rick was instrumental in getting two new state historic sites, Reed Gold Mine and Duke Homestead, off the ground. He also helped develop several other nascent sites, especially Fort Dobbs and Historic Halifax.

In 1974, Rick moved from the director’s office to the Historic Sites Section, where he continued his work on site development. His considerable efforts culminated in the opening of three new state historic sites in 1977—Reed Gold Mine, Historic Stagville, and Duke Homestead. He also became actively involved in the acquisition and development of another site that year, Historic Spencer Shops, now the North Carolina Transportation Museum.

Over time Rick focused more on teacher training, historical research, and writing. His article in the winter 1975 issue of the North Carolina Historical Review, “Golden Promise in the Piedmont: The Story of John Reed’s Mine,” was subsequently published as a pamphlet by the department’s Historical Publications Section. In the early 1980s, his particular interest was the development of teacher workshops and other educational programs at state historic sites, and he worked closely with staff members at a number of sites to develop these programs. Rick became a regular contributor to Carolina Comments, providing news from all the historic sites for each issue, and wrote numerous book reviews for the North Carolina Historical Review. He served as editor of the Historic Sites newsletter for more than twenty years. He also helped edit publications on the history of mining, tobacco, and transportation in the Tar Heel State.

His interest in site development continued unabated as well. Rick worked in the 1990s on research for the development of Historic Spencer Shops, a project that culminated in 1996 in the dedication of the North Carolina Transportation Museum and the opening of major new exhibits in the Robert Julian Roundhouse. Many exhibits at the museum today are based upon research conducted by Rick and the team of historians that he supervised.

As the bicentennial of gold’s discovery in the United States in 1799 approached, Rick returned to a subject with which he had become familiar as a new employee of Archives and History. He was active in leading the research efforts for that commemoration and coauthored two books on the history of gold in North Carolina. In 1999, Gold Mining in North Carolina: A Bicentennial History, with Brent D. Glass, was published, followed two years later by Gold in History, Geology, and Culture: Collected Essays, with Robert M. Topkins. During that time, he also coauthored a third volume, Charlotte Hawkins Brown and Palmer Memorial Institute: What One Young African American Woman Could Do, with Charles W. Wadlington.

Rick Knapp’s long and distinguished career with Archives and History was celebrated at a retirement dinner and program at the State Capitol on August 14. More than sixty-five friends and coworkers gathered to see him presented with gifts and awards, including the Order of the Long Leaf Pine. Many colleagues remembered Rick with stories, and Walter Turner of the Transportation Museum delivered a PowerPoint presentation on Rick’s life. At the conclusion of the ceremony, Rick himself spoke about his career and the historic sites program he worked so hard to develop. He noted two especially important years—1977 and 1996—in the development of the program, the first when three new sites opened and Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. accepted the gift of Historic Spencer Shops from Southern Railway; and the latter when an immense amount of work was accomplished to...
open the North Carolina Transportation Museum. Rick noted several recent positive developments, including the transfer of Historic Stagville back to the division, the return of the Armstrong cannon to Fort Fisher, renewed efforts to develop Fort Dobbs and finally reconstruct the fort there, and the remarkable strides in developing Somerset Place. Rick also had words of caution, noting that, in general, history seems to be less important to our society today. He speculated that declining visitation at historic sites across the country was a symptom of that waning interest. He challenged present staff members and leaders of the sites program to find innovative ways to reverse that trend.

Stephen E. Massengill, iconographics archivist at the State Archives and a renowned authority on Tar Heel photographers and postcards, retired on August 31. A native of Durham, Steve received an undergraduate degree in history from St. Andrews Presbyterian College in 1972, and a master’s degree in history from North Carolina State University in 1976. While in graduate school, he began working as a part-time researcher in the Historic Sites Section. One of his first assignments was to assist Rick Knapp in researching the history of tobacco in North Carolina, particularly as it related to Duke Homestead, then being developed as a state historic site. He also coauthored with Jerry C. Cashion a study of Fort Dobbs, published by the Iredell County Bicentennial Commission in 1976.

In 1977, the General Assembly mandated the establishment of a program in the State Archives to prepare a biographical directory of all who had served as state legislators. On September 1, 1977, Steve Massengill was hired as project director. He began compiling data on more than ten thousand legislators, using archival sources, secondary works, and first-hand accounts; whenever a new member was elected, he would receive a questionnaire from Steve. In 1979, the first volume of biographies was published, but funding for the project soon evaporated. By 1982, Steve had compiled an eight-volume biographical directory of legislators, 1929-1980, for in-house reference use. He then devoted several years to the rearrangement and description of previously processed General Assembly records, 1689-1900.

His work with the biographical directory and the legislative papers resulted in a number of publications. In 1985, he prepared an article for the North Carolina Historical Review on “The Detectives of William W. Holden, 1869-1870.” He coedited a brochure titled, “In Order to Form a More Perfect Union: North Carolina and the Ratification of the United States Constitution,” in 1987, followed the next year by a booklet, North Carolina Votes on the Constitution: A Roster of Delegates to the State Ratification Conventions of 1788 and 1789. He also coordinated a special traveling exhibit on the state’s role in the ratification of the Constitution. By the late eighties, his position had evolved into a special projects archivist.

Early in his archival career, Steve developed an interest in historical postcards and photographs and, by extension, the photographers who created them. In 1988, he coauthored, with Robert M. Topkins, A North Carolina Postcard Album, 1905-1925, which received an Award of Excellence from the Printing Industry of the Carolinas. The following year, he...
completed a book about Frank Marchant, a photographer from Hamlet who was active during the early decades of the twentieth century.

When the position of iconographics archivist was vacated by retirement in 1990, Steve Massengill was the obvious choice to fill the job. During his fifteen years of service in that position, he continued to publish books and articles about photographers, early iconographic media, and postcards, including *Durham, North Carolina: A Postcard History* (1997); *Around Southern Pines: A Sandhills Album* (1998); *Western North Carolina: A Visual Journey through Stereo Views and Photographs* (1999); and *Richmond County and the Seaboard Air Line Railway* (2005). He also coedited two volumes of death notices from Raleigh newspapers of the late nineteenth century.

Over the years, Steve compiled a wealth of information about photographers active in North Carolina, research that was reflected in articles in *Carolina Comments* in 1993 and 1996. Finally, in 2004, the Historical Publications Section published the capstone of his career, *Photographers in North Carolina: The First Century, 1842-1941*, an impressive directory of all known photographers in the state with examples of many of their works.

In addition to his numerous publications, Steve Massengill leaves a legacy of helpful service to thousands of researchers, authors, publishers, television producers, and countless others who benefited from his keen interest in North Carolina photographs and personal knowledge of the State Archives iconographic collection. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure to work with him.

Charles Edward Morris, who worked for both the State Archives and Historic Sites over the course of his lengthy career, retired on September 30. A native of Wilson County, Ed earned undergraduate degrees from Mount Olive College and Campbell University. He received an M.A. in history from North Carolina State University. While in graduate school, Ed took courses taught by Dr. Thornton W. Mitchell, state archivist of North Carolina. These courses and Dr. Mitchell himself stirred Ed’s interest in archives and records management, and this area became his minor field of study. Ed gained the distinction of being the first student taking these courses at the university to be hired in the archival field.

Ed began part-time temporary employment doing contract research and working in the Archives Search Room in October 1973. He rose to a half-time permanent position in the Archives in September 1974. His duties included housekeeping, shelving records, and helping at the reference desk. Ed was promoted to archivist in December 1974. While employed in the Archives, he met coworker Catherine Jackson. They would marry on September 27, 1980.

Ed worked as an arrangement and description archivist for several years, first with state agency records and later with private manuscript collections. On January 3, 1989, he and George Stevenson Jr. switched positions, Ed assuming charge of the Search Room and George taking over private collections. Ed headed the Archives Reference Unit for almost a dozen years before moving to the Historic Sites Section in April 2000 to become curator of education. Upon refinement of the organization of the Division of State Historic Sites (created in 2001), Ed was promoted to chief of the new Museum and Visitor Services Section on March 1, 2004. In this position, he oversaw the State Capitol and the Capital Area Visitor Center.


Throughout his career, Ed was very active in both his profession and the community. He was a founding member of the Society of North Carolina Archivists, served as the society’s president in 1999-2000, and held other positions on its board for nearly twenty years. In addition, he is a life patron of the Friends of the Archives and a member of the North Carolina Museums Council. To better his community, Ed has served as chairman.
of the Wake County Historic Preservation Commission and as a member of the board of
Historic Oak View County Park.

On October 3, friends and coworkers will gather at the State Capitol to extend best
wishes to Ed in his retirement and to remember a long career of service to the people of
North Carolina.

North Carolina Students Place in National History Day Finals

Forty-five North Carolina students represented their state at the National History Day
competition in College Park, Maryland, on June 11-16. The students were chosen to
advance from the state competition held at the North Carolina Museum of History on
April 30. In College Park, they joined 2,200 other students from around the country to
present their projects related to the theme, “Communication in History: The Key to
Understanding.” Several North Carolina students received special recognition. Alyssa
Torres of St. Peters School in Greenville and Lizette Lopez of A. C. Reynolds High
School in Asheville were chosen to receive the outstanding state entry awards. Alyssa’s
junior historical paper, titled “A Fi Wi Language,” placed sixth in the nation; Lizette cre-
ated an individual documentary, “Dancing Cheek to Cheek: Fred and Ginger’s
Communication through Music and Dance.” Emma Childs of A. C. Reynolds
Middle School in Asheville finished tenth in the nation in junior individual documenta-
tories, with her project about carrier pigeons, “The Flying Telegraph.”

Four state students were selected to display their pro-
jects at Washington area muse-
uins. Stephen Gordon II of
Four Oaks Christian Home School in Asheville showed his junior individual document-
title, “Telling Tales: the Appalachian Oral Tradition,” at the Renwick Gallery of the
Smithsonian American Art Museum. Will Payne and Edward Farley of St. Peters School
in Greenville were chosen to display their junior group exhibit at the Museum of Air and
Space. The title of their project was “The Navajo Code Talkers: Communicating the
Importance of Cultural Diversity.” Nathan Przestrzelski of Charles D. Owen High School
in Black Mountain presented his senior individual exhibit, “The History of Spring Train-
ing: Communication Key to Understanding the Merger of Athletic Preparation with Mar-

At the national meeting, Jo Ann Williford of the Office of Archives and History, state
coordinator of the National History Day program in North Carolina, was named chair of
the Executive Council of State Coordinators. Composed of nine regional representa-
tives and two at-large members, the executive council advises the national office and the board
of trustees on program matters. As chair, Ms. Williford will preside over meetings of the
executive council and the larger Council of State Coordinators, and serve on the board of
trustees. She has been National History Day coordinator for North Carolina since 1996
and was named an at-large member of the executive council in 2002.
Museum Cooperative Formed in Western North Carolina

Staff members from the Western Office of Archives and History, the Thomas Wolfe Memorial State Historic Site, and the Mountain Gateway Museum, have assisted in the creation of Museums in Partnership, a volunteer cooperative of museums and heritage organizations in the western part of the state. Formed as a program under the auspices of the Friends of Mountain History, Museums in Partnership will work to provide regional museums and heritage organizations with a resource network for marketing and promotion, exhibit and program development, and professional staff training. Membership is open to any museum or organization in the twenty-five counties served by the Friends of Mountain History and the Blue Ridge National Heritage Area that is involved in the collection, preservation, and exhibition of artifacts relating to the heritage of western North Carolina. Jeff Futch of the Western Office of Archives and History, Kim Hewitt of the Thomas Wolfe Memorial, and Kaye Myers of the Friends of Mountain History were among the twenty-three participants in an organizational meeting held at the Historic Johnson Farm in Hendersonville on July 19. Initial plans call for monthly meetings featuring educational programs, the site to be rotated among member institutions. The cooperative is currently compiling a directory of member organizations, and welcomes inquiries to Leesa Brandon, a Department of Commerce heritage officer, at lutton@smokeymountains.net. Kim Hewitt serves as editor of a monthly newsletter for the consortium.

Statewide Archives Week to be Celebrated in October

The Society of North Carolina Archivists (SNCA) and the Department of Cultural Resources have designated the second week of October as the first statewide Archives Week, and have adopted the theme, “Celebrating the Treasures from the Tar Heel State.” The society will kick off the commemoration at its annual fall meeting, to be held in Wilmington on October 6–7, during which the second Thornton W. Mitchell Service Award will be presented in honor of outstanding individual contributions to the archival profession in North Carolina. SNCA has published a guide to facilitate the planning of events during the week of October 8–14 and is serving as an information clearinghouse.

This attractive poster for the advertisement of Archives Week in North Carolina was designed by Chris Black of the Archives and Records Section.
Archives Week is designed to acknowledge the work of archivists and their organizations and to promote public awareness of the importance of the profession to society. Organizers anticipate a varied slate of workshops, lectures, exhibit openings, open houses, and behind-the-scenes tours at archival institutions across the state. For further information, visit the North Carolina Archives Week website at www.ncarchivists.org/archivesweek.

The Archives and Records Section will participate in this inaugural celebration with several events during the week. Numerous exhibits will be displayed in the Search Room and vicinity: facsimiles of World War I posters, an exhibit on the life cycle of records, and a history of the State Archives. Different subjects will be featured each day of the week, with a complementary virtual exhibit on the section’s website. On Monday the Carolina Charter and other “treasures” will be displayed, and on Tuesday records from the Black Mountain College collection will be showcased. Maps are to be the focus of Wednesday’s display, women’s records will be featured on Thursday, and items from the World War I collections on Friday. In addition to the rotating display, behind-the-scenes tours of the Archives’ stacks will be offered on October 10 and 13. On October 12, Sarah Koonts will present a workshop on the care and handling of family papers.

News from Historical Resources

Archives and Records Section

Section staff members attended and participated in several professional meetings during the summer. On June 27, Debbi Blake, Earl Ijames, Chris Meekins, and Tom Vincent of the Public Services Branch provided an introduction to and tour of the State Archives for teachers participating in the North Carolina Museum of History’s “Crafting Freedom” workshops. During the week of July 17-22, Kelly Eubank participated in the Digital Preservation Management workshop at Cornell University. Druscie Simpson attended the Collaborative Digitization Program meeting sponsored by the University of Denver, in Denver, Colorado, on July 19. The purpose of the meeting was to present various funding opportunities, software options, and issues relating to the digitization of historic newspapers. Sarah Koonts, Dick Lankford, Becky McGee-Lankford, Druscie Simpson, and Ed Southern attended the annual meeting of the National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators in Richmond, Virginia, July 20-23. Kelly Eubank, Gwen Mays, and Druscie Simpson attended the Society of American Archivists meeting in New Orleans, August 17-21, just days before the city was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. Mrs. Simpson made two presentations at the conference: a paper to the Confidential Records Roundtable concerning eugenics records in North Carolina; and a status report as a National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) research fellow on her project concerning the preservation of e-mail.

In September Archives and Records began participation in a pilot project with the Internet Archive to capture selected North Carolina state agency websites. The Internet Archive...
Archive is a nonprofit organization founded in 1996 to build an “Internet library” that will offer permanent access for researchers and scholars to historical collections in digital format. Kelly Eubank, electronic records archivist in the Government Records Branch, is leading this initiative for the section.

An exciting new exhibit, The Elizabethan Gardens: Crown Jewel of the Outer Banks, debuted on September 2 at the Outer Banks History Center (OBHC) in Manteo. The OBHC and the Elizabethan Gardens collaborated to produce the display. The opening reception for the exhibit kicked off the inaugural “First Friday,” a monthly celebration on the Manteo waterfront featuring live music and open shops and galleries. The exhibit highlights the gardens’ development and design. The Elizabethan Gardens combine antiquity, mystery, and beauty to create a living reminder of America’s original English colonists. The unique design elements of knots, terraces, walks, and alleys create the look and feel of an “Elizabethan” pleasure garden. The gardens are also home to a five-hundred-year-old “Ancient Oak,” a rose garden dedicated to Queen Elizabeth II, a Shakespearean herb garden, and a large collection of classical statuary. Longtime superintendent Louis Midgette is profiled in the exhibit, as are famous people who have strolled the gardens’ pathways, such as England’s Princess Ann and “Lady Bird” Johnson. One special feature is a wedding album of photos, invitations, and other memorabilia from couples that were married there. The Elizabethan Gardens: Crown Jewel of the Outer Banks will be on display through May 15, 2006.

Recent Accessions by the North Carolina State Archives

During the months of June, July, and August 2005, the Archives and Records Section made 374 accession entries. The Archives accessioned original records from Duplin, Durham, Greene, Johnston, Polk, Scotland, and Union Counties. The Archives received security microfilm of records for Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Anson, Ashe, Beaufort, Brunswick, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Catawba, Chatham, Cherokee, Cleveland, Dare, Davidson, Davie, Durham, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gaston, Granville, Greene, Guilford, Halifax, Haywood, Henderson, Hertford, Hyde, Iredell, Jackson, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, Martin, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Montgomery, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Orange, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Person, Pitt, Rowan, Sampson, Scotland, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Tyrrell, Union, Wake, Watauga, Wayne, and Yadkin Counties; and for the municipalities of Burlington, Durham, Emerald Isle, Farmville, Hillsborough, Kannapolis, Manteo, Marvin, Nags Head, Oak Ridge, Salisbury, Taylorsville, Weddington, White Lake, and Wilmington.

The section also accessioned records from the following state agencies: Department of Community Colleges, 372 fiche cards and 4 reels; Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 3 reels; Department of Health and Human Services, 104 reels and 15 cubic feet; Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, 10 reels; Department of Revenue, 21 cubic feet; Eugenics Board, 29 reels; General Assembly, 13 reels; Governor’s Office, 40.7 cubic feet and 1 DVD; North Carolina Transportation Museum (Department of Cultural Resources), 9 reels; Secretary of State, 50 reels; and Supreme Court, 76 reels. Two compact discs with digital images of the North Carolina copy of the Bill of Rights were also accessioned.

The John K. Hoyt Papers, the Granville Ejectment Papers, and the William P. Saunders Scrapbooks (microfilmed) were accessioned as new private collections; additions were made to the Samuel A. Ashe Papers, the Ruth Barbour Papers, the William B. Little Papers, and the Betty Wiser Papers. Account books of the Mann-Arrington Gold Mine and the Argo Mining Company were added to the collection of account books.
Other records accessioned included papers of the Biggs family and the MacKethan-Robeson families, added to the collection of Bible Records; records for Chatham County, the Biggs family, and the MacKethan-Robeson families, added to the Cemetery Records; 191 maps added to the Map Collection; 46 additions to the Military Collection, consisting of 21 private collections (13.3 cubic feet and 3,227 items) and 33 audio tapes, video tapes, and compact discs of veterans’ interviews; 4 additions to the Non-textual Materials Collection, including 143 photographs and photographic prints, 67 negatives, 50 postcards, 1 lithograph, 5 manuscript pages, and 8 printed pages; 4 additions to the Organization Records, consisting of records of the Farmers’ Cooperative Exchange and the American Ex-POWS of North Carolina, and additions to the records of the Women’s Forum of North Carolina and the Federation of North Carolina Historical Societies; and 2 additions to the vault collection: a letter from Thomas Jefferson to Gov. Alexander Martin, January 26, 1791; and the wax pendant originally attached to the 1663 Carolina Charter.

**Historical Publications Section**

The Historical Publications Section is conducting a sale on nearly one-third of its inventory. Discounts on individual titles are as much as 80 percent off the retail price. Subjects covered in these books include coastal North Carolina, the state at war, historic sites and markers, agriculture and technology, life and culture, the Constitution and government, Sir Walter Raleigh and the first colonists, colonial North Carolina, poetry, literature and music, and the Great Depression and the New Deal. Other items on sale include research guides, maps, posters, and facsimiles of historical documents. Quantities are limited, and no other discounts apply. For more information on specific titles, visit the section’s online store under the category, “Clearance Sale,” at [http://store.yahoo.com/nc-historical-publications](http://store.yahoo.com/nc-historical-publications); call (919) 733-7442; or visit the section’s office in downtown Raleigh at 120 West Lane Street, Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

In early July, Donna Kelly, section administrator, received word that fifteen pallets of governors’ books of the James B. Hunt Jr. and James G. Martin administrations had to be moved out of the old textbook warehouse (now a computer equipment storage facility) on the North Carolina Museum of Art property. Because of a continual lack of space in the Old State Records Center, these books had been stored at the textbook warehouse for several years. Faced with the recurring dilemma of no room for storage, Ms. Kelly scrambled to find space. It just so happened that the
North Carolina Museum of History was featuring an exhibit about governors, titled *A State of Change*. She therefore approached Bill McCrea, associate director for the museum, about the possibility of distributing the books free of charge to anyone who visited the exhibit. McCrea agreed to take six pallets of books for this purpose. With the cooperation of several agencies, 5,400 books were relocated in two days. What initially seemed to be a major problem turned out to be a huge success with the public and a win/win situation for Historical Publications and the Museum of History. All of the published governors’ papers will continue to be available while supplies last, with the payment of shipping costs only. See the section website, [www.ncpublications.com](http://www.ncpublications.com), for more information about ordering copies of the books still in print.

Marketing specialist Frances Kunstling attended the annual meeting of the Publishers Association of the South and the Southeast Booksellers Association in Winston-Salem on September 15-18. She exhibited the section’s books at the trade show and took orders from booksellers. In addition she attended a session concerning the types of books and subjects that sell well, and talked to various booksellers about the section’s policies and discounts, which resulted in several new accounts being established.

Donna Kelly will attend the annual meeting of the Association for Documentary Editing in Denver, Colorado, on October 6-8. She serves on the Local Arrangements Committee by virtue of her experience in co-chairing that committee when the meeting was held in Raleigh in 2001. In addition, she will chair a panel titled, “The Fun and Foibles of Documentary Editing,” in which she will recount her exhilarating and exasperating experiences co-editing with Lang Baradell, *The Papers of James Iredell, 1784-1789*, volume III.

Lang Baradell’s article, “Mushroom Cloud at Vicksburg,” was published in the October 2005 issue of *Civil War Times*. During the 1863 siege of Vicksburg, Federal forces tunneled beneath the Confederate fortifications and exploded a large hole in their lines, nearly two years before the more famous crater near Petersburg, Virginia, was created by similar means.

Elna C. Green of Florida State University has been appointed to a five-year term on the Advisory Editorial Committee for the *North Carolina Historical Review*. She replaces Lu Ann Jones of the University of South Florida. Dr. Green is a native of North Carolina and a former archivist with the Office of Archives and History. She specializes in twentieth-century and women’s history.

**News from State Historic Sites and Properties**

**Museum and Visitor Services Section**

The State Capitol and the North Carolina Museum of History co-hosted a popular annual celebration on the Fourth of July. Approximately four thousand people enjoyed the day’s activities with patriotic ceremonies, exhibits, food, and tours of the two facilities. The Capitol grounds provided shade for family picnics and exhibitors, while visitors...
enjoyed hours of lively music by the Raleigh Concert Band and the St. Mark’s Jazz Band. Long lines formed for guided tours of the building. At noon, Capitol historian Raymond Beck read excerpts from the Declaration of Independence and delivered a stirring address, telling of the high price that signers of the declaration paid for their audacity. “They valued their security, but they valued liberty more,” Beck noted. Military reenactors commemorated North Carolina’s war veterans by placing wreaths at various monuments on the grounds. Dr. Henry Brown, a reenactor in the Sixth North Carolina Regiment (Revolutionary War), led the crowd in a rousing “Hip, hip, huzzah!” at the end of the ceremony.

Three Raleigh Heritage Trail museums contributed to the program: Historic Oak View County Park provided a rope-making activity; the Raleigh City Museum offered a flag-making demonstration; and a staff member from Mordecai Historic Park discussed North Carolina’s three presidents near their statue on the grounds. Visitors to the Museum of History lined up early for a hat-making activity and stayed late to appreciate the fancy footwork of the “Wolfpack Cloggers.” In between, they enjoyed games, exhibits, a square dance performance by the Magic Squares, and a chair-caning demonstration by Elizabeth Faison of the House in the Horseshoe State Historic Site.

North Carolina Transportation Museum

The museum continued to make significant progress in its efforts to restore a Piedmont Airlines DC-3, as a result of a partnership with Guilford Technical Community College. In mid-August, the control surfaces of the plane were transported to the school’s campus in the T. H. Davis Aviation Center at Piedmont Triad International Airport, where students and instructors in the college’s aviation maintenance program began restoring the ailerons, elevators, and rudder as an instructional project for the fall semester.

Veterans of Piedmont Airlines serve on the museum’s active DC-3 committee. Members include Capt. Howard Miller, who flew DC-3s early in his career, and Ronnie Macklin, who maintained the planes. The committee plans to purchase a missing landing gear, including two wheels, for the museum’s aircraft, and to re-create the plane’s trademark insignia, “Douglas Around the World.” The restored plane eventually will be displayed in the museum’s Back Shop exhibit hall.

By virtue of a grant from the Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, middle-school students in the Piedmont are benefiting from a history of Southern Railway’s Spencer Shops, which now houses the North Carolina Transportation Museum. The story of the massive railroad complex, once used to repair giant steam locomotives and other rolling stock, is told in *Southern Railway’s Spencer Shops: 1896-1996*, by Duane Galloway and Jim Wrinn. Underwritten by the $3,500 grant, 223 copies of the book are now available in middle-school media centers in twenty-five counties.
Northeastern Historic Sites Section

As part of Historic Bath’s ongoing tercentenary celebration, the Town of Bath hosted a three-day event, Maritime Heritage Days, on September 23-25. The Elizabeth II sailed across the Pamlico Sound from Manteo by way of Ocracoke and, with a number of smaller vessels, including the Perianger, the skipjack Ada Mae, and the privateer Meka II, visited the town’s waterways. Program offerings included tours of the boats, a colonial children’s parade, a pirate encampment on Bonner’s Point, sword-fighting demonstrations, a performance of sea chanties by Simon Spalding, old-time string band music by the Back Creek Band, sailboat rides, a book sale hosted by the Bath Community Library, a reenactment of Gov. Charles Eden’s pardon of Blackbeard, lectures by archaeologist David Moore of the North Carolina Maritime Museum, and a parade of boats, which culminated in the blessing of the fleet.

Seattle native Christopher Collins, a direct descendant of Josiah Collins III, in July generously returned to Somerset Place a number of pieces of furniture that had been in the Collins family plantation home prior to the Civil War. Returned to the site were the original fourteen-feet-long dining-room table, chairs, a family portrait, and other valuable pieces. The articles had been taken to the State of Washington by Josiah Collins V, after the death of his mother, Sarah R. Jones Collins, in 1892.

Historic Halifax received a generous grant of $10,000 from Dominion North Carolina Power Company in August. The funding will enable an expansion of the site’s interpretive program, including guest lecturers for presentations on various topics; the acquisition of new costumes to replace well-worn garments; the development of hands-on living history demonstrations and activities; and the hire and training of temporary employees to assist with many of these programs.

Piedmont Historic Sites Section

Town Creek Indian Mound hosted its popular annual commemoration of North Carolina’s rich American Indian culture, the Native American Heritage Festival, on June 25-26. Traditional dancing kicked off the program at noon each day. The grand entry ceremony, which featured Native Americans dressed in colorful traditional regalia,
was followed by singing, drumming, and dancing, at the site that was once the center of Pee Dee culture. A program highlight was the appearance of Keith Anderson of the acclaimed dance troupe, Red Crooked Sky. A former professional football player, Anderson now performs with this collaborative group of American Indians dedicated to educating the public and promoting positive cultural awareness through traditional and contemporary dance. The troupe is based in southeastern Virginia, and its membership, which includes parents and their children, represents the Cherokee, Sioux, Meherrin, Osage, Pamunkey, Seneca, Monacan, and other native tribes. A wide variety of Native American crafts and foods was available during the festival program. Unique handcrafted items included baskets and jewelry made from beads, copper, and feathers. One vendor offered tastes of buffalo meat, once a staple in the diet of the native people of the Western Plains. Buffalo were also found in parts of North Carolina prior to the influx of European immigrants.

Two new orientation videos will soon be available at Piedmont sites. A new audio-visual program for visitors at Bennett Place is nearing completion. Produced by Ernest A. Dollar of Hillsborough and funded by the Bennett Place Support Fund, the program will replace the approximately twenty-year-old slide/tape orientation show that airs daily in the site’s auditorium. Dollar is also creating a shorter Civil War-period farm-life program for schoolchildren.

Another new site orientation program has been completed at Alamance Battleground. Chaney Hales and Jim Willard of the State Historic Sites and Properties Division office worked with the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television (UNC-TV) to edit the video program, “Alamance,” into a shorter version for viewing at the historic site. The twenty-one-minute video will replace the outdated 1971 multimedia presentation, “The War of the Regulation.” The project also involves an upgrade of systems and facilities in the auditorium of the visitor center. The General Assembly provided initial funding for the project, but credit is also due to UNC-TV, Video Dialog, Inc., the Alamance County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and the Alamance County Historical Association for generous financial and in-kind support. “It’s About Time,” an annual two-day program at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum, was held on September 26 and 27. The first day of the event featured activities for elementary students, while the next day’s program was designed for middle-school children. Historic Sites staff members from across the state, including those from Fort Fisher, Tryon Palace, Alamance Battleground, Bennett Place, Duke Homestead, House in the Horseshoe, Historic Stagville, and the North Carolina Transportation Museum, were instrumental in presenting a variety of hands-on demonstrations for the schoolchildren.
The museum also received a $1.5 million appropriation from the General Assembly for the restoration of Eliot Hall. The funds will allow design and initial restoration of the historic building, which served as a dormitory for male students attending Palmer Memorial Institute.

The House in the Horseshoe commemorated the 224th anniversary of the Revolutionary War battle fought there with its 26th annual reenactment on August 6 and 7. More than four thousand visitors attended the two-day program, which featured reenactors portraying Tories led by Col. David Fanning attacking Whigs under the command of Philip Alston. One hundred and thirty reenactors staged the battle encircling the Alston House, which still bears marks from the 1781 engagement, and several sutlers sold period wares on the grounds.

New permanent exhibits at the site focus on what the area was like before Europeans arrived in the early 1700s, the crops grown there during colonial times, the life of the house’s post-Revolutionary War owner, Gov. Benjamin Williams, and how planters’ wives in the North Carolina wilderness lived, worked, and kept households like that of the House in the Horseshoe running smoothly.

The Great Barn at Historic Stagville was vandalized by an arsonist on the evening of August 31. A watchful neighbor reported smoke and flames at the historic structure to the Bahama Volunteer Fire Department, and the fire was quickly extinguished. Damage to the barn was minimal. Historic Sites craftsmen have repaired the 1860 structure, and steps have been taken to upgrade security measures at the barn.

On September 17, Historic Stagville hosted a special event, “A Day in the Life: An Antebellum Plantation Experience.” The unique program focused on the social life and activities of the Orange County elite through demonstrations and interactive recreations. Members of a local living history group, the Citizens of the Old North State, provided costumed interpretation of everyday antebellum life. Visitors enjoyed a tea party in the dining hall. Citizens of the Old North State, a group of living-history interpreters, demonstrate antebellum dances in the parlor of the Bennehan House at Historic Stagville.
room of the Bennehan House that included discussions of early-nineteenth-century manners and etiquette, while period games and music were played in the parlor. In the private spaces of the bedrooms, visitors learned the art of dress, and watched needlework and spinning demonstrations. The Triangle Vintage Dance Society was on hand to instruct participants in typical 1850s dances, while musicians Rob Morrison and Friends played period songs.

Approximately one hundred volunteers and their families attended the annual volunteer recognition picnic at Duke Homestead on the evening of August 27. Sponsored by the Duke Homestead Education and History Corporation, the picnic was prepared and served by the site staff. Following the cookout, volunteers were recognized for their valuable service and dedicated support.

Roanoke Island Festival Park

Attendance at Roanoke Island Festival Park (RIFP) has increased by more than 14 percent this summer, attributable in part to a number of special events and several traditional programs that have drawn sell-out crowds. In late June, students, faculty, alumni, and guest artists of the North Carolina School of the Arts brought their summer institute “illuminations” series to the park for the eighth year. Large audiences enjoyed more than fifty different performances that included afternoon chamber concerts, evening performances of music, dance, and drama (including an adaptation of *Twelfth Night* set in a 1930s movie studio) on the lawn of the outdoor pavilion, and a weeklong film festival. The five-week Children’s Summer Performing Arts Series was attended by more than 4,300 visitors of all ages. Eighty young people availed themselves of the Community Sailing Program at the North Carolina Maritime Museum on Roanoke Island to learn how to sail.

On August 6, RIFP hosted the Purple Martin Festival, featuring boat and kayak excursions across Croatan Sound to the William B. Umstead Bridge, which connects Roanoke Island to the mainland. For more than twenty-five summers, the Mann’s Harbor end of the bridge has been utilized as a roost by as many as 100,000 purple martins, a species that depends upon man-made structures for its nests. The Umstead Bridge supports the birds of a 150-mile radius, which begin roosting there in mid-June and procreate through August, when most begin a lengthy winter migration to Brazil. The festival was planned and coordinated by Alisa Esposito, who has been active in educating the Outer Banks community about threats to the martins’ survival. Her work with the Mann’s Harbor roost was acknowledged with a Purple Martin Conservation Association Award in 2003.

A new exhibit of watercolor paintings by North Carolina artist Freeman Beard was unveiled in the park’s art gallery on August 3, with an opening reception on August 7. Beard grew up in the North Carolina foothills, and his rural upbringing gave him an appreciation for the land and the changing seasons that informs his painting style, which he characterizes as realistic impressionism. His subjects range from land- and seascapes to flowers, cows, and beehives, and a series of lighthouses that includes Bodie Island and Bald Head Island lights. He learned his craft at the Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida. Beard is currently art director at WTVD in Durham. The exhibit was displayed through September 27.
A traditional park favorite, Elizabethan Tymes: A Country Faire, returned to RIFP the weekend of October 1-2. As customary, the baronial court arrived at the municipal docks in Manteo to be escorted across the Cora Mae Basnight Bridge to formally open the event. This year, the Guilde of St. George of Richmond, Virginia, joined the usual participants from the Guilde of St. Andrew of Raleigh to provide educational entertainments from the sixteenth century. Children were invited to dress in Elizabethan garb and learn period dances, walk on stilts, roll hoops, and play hoodman’s blind and skittles. Guilde members demonstrated juggling, log hewing, spinning, cloth dyeing, blacksmithing, woodworking, period cooking, pike drills, and the firing of matchlock and swivel guns. A sixteenth-century marketplace offered pottery and jewelry.

Southeastern Historic Sites Section

Brunswick Town/Fort Anderson successfully met its goal to raise the $40,000 necessary to acquire the garrison flag that flew over the fort late in the Civil War. Local supporters, businesses, reenactors, and historical organizations all contributed generously to help purchase the banner from a private collector. The historic flag, which has been authenticated by specialists, was brought back to the fort in August for conservation and ultimate display, as the centerpiece of a new exhibit in the site’s visitor center that will relate the interesting story of its 1865 capture by Union forces.

The Mary Holloway Seasonal Interpreter Program completed its nineteenth year of operation at Fort Fisher. Named for a former employee, the program provides an opportunity for college students considering a museum career to gain actual work experience as a costumed interpreter. Several current employees of the Department of Cultural Resources participated in the program.

Protection of site resources, staff members, and the public continues to be a priority at Fort Fisher. The site’s staff reviewed safety and security measures, working in collaboration with the Division of Parks and Recreation and the North Carolina Aquariums Division of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Ferry and Highway divisions of the Department of Transportation, and the Wildlife Resources Commission, sister agencies that manage state property adjacent to the historic site on Federal Point. Increased visitation, heavy public use, and after-hours activities have made a review of policies and procedures imperative.

The Governor Charles B. Aycock Birthplace recently distributed its 2005 field-trip flyer to schools in eleven eastern counties. Staff members and school personnel designed the flyer to demonstrate how a visit to Aycock Birthplace can meet objectives contained in the standard course of study in North Carolina public schools. More than 66 schools totaling more than 5,500 students responded to the flyer by visiting Aycock Birthplace during the spring school term.

At Bentonville Battlefield, the site’s nonprofit support association worked with staff members to place field artillery at battlefield tour stops constructed and dedicated in early 2005. These stops with wayside exhibits received heavy usage during the summer months, including visits from military groups and national Civil War tours.
Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens

In July, Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens was selected “Best Historic Site” by the readers of both the Raleigh *Metro Magazine* and the New Bern *Sun Journal*. In August, the site learned that its annual Christmas candlelight tours had been named one of the top twenty holiday events in the southeastern United States by the Southeast Tourism Society. These honors were reflected in increased attendance; the annual reading of the Declaration of Independence on July 4 attracted 1,695 visitors, nearly double the previous year.

The growth in visitation was also tied to new programming at Tryon Palace. A generous grant from the Harold Bate Foundation enabled the creation of two exciting student programs. The Punch and Judy Puppet Show, which has been specially adapted for young visitors, has proven extremely popular with its target audience. Box and Cox, a theatrical comedy for everyday people performed as it was in nineteenth-century England, has also been well received.

Western Historic Sites Section

After years of intermittent negotiations, Horne Creek Living Historical Farm is at last a full-fledged state historic site. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) transferred 104 acres to the Department of Cultural Resources in July. The land was formerly managed by DENR as part of Pilot Mountain State Park. Historic site and park staff members have cooperated in managing physical resources since October 1987, when the area was designated a state historic site. Even after both departments agreed to the transfer and revised site boundaries, the reallocation required legislative concurrence (because the land is part of the State Nature and Historic Preserve) and the approval of the Council of State. The new arrangement will streamline everyday operations for the Horne Creek staff and the division.

Ironically, the site was closed at the time the land transfer was finalized. Deterioration of the trailer that had served as the visitor center since 1987 necessitated the temporary closing in March while a replacement was sought. In August a substantial office trailer was placed at the site and a washroom facility constructed to accommodate visitors. The site reopened in time for the popular annual Horne Creek Apple Festival on September 10. Plans were drafted in late September for a permanent multi-use building to serve the growing needs at Horne Creek.

A photo exhibit, *The Faces of Our State*, opened on August 26 at Reed Gold Mine. The traveling exhibit was provided courtesy of *Our State* magazine and will remain on display in the newly renovated auditorium until December 17. Photographs in the exhibit depict the changing demographics of North Carolina’s population and include images by Bruce Roberts, Mark Wagoner, Jill Davis, D. H. Hessell, Kim Fennema, Jack Dalton, and Alan Watson.

Efforts to develop and reopen Fort Dobbs continued. Dr. Lawrence E. Babits, an archaeologist at East Carolina University, presented a report to the Fort Dobbs Alliance and departmental officials in September detailing his findings about the fort’s original design and construction. Babits’s research has included a re-examination of reports and materials from earlier archaeological studies at Fort Dobbs in the light of a much greater body of knowledge about French and Indian War forts today. A reconstruction of the historic fort, built by Capt. Hugh Waddell in 1755, is planned.

Waddell’s Rangers, the Fort Dobbs’s reenactor garrison, was formed and began monthly drills at the site. Fort Dobbs began opening to the public on garrison-training weekends. Visitors were welcomed at the site to watch new recruits being taught the skills
Reenactors of Waddell’s Rangers have been learning the ways of frontier soldiers during weekend drills at Fort Dobbs State Historic Site.

Staff members continued efforts to costume the soldiers in historically accurate attire. They also made final preparations for the North Carolina Great Wagon Festival and the Eighteenth Century Trade Faire on October 1-2, most likely the largest event ever to be held at Fort Dobbs. Many special demonstrations and activities were planned, including sutlers selling merchandise accurately patterned after that of the eighteenth century.

The Thomas Wolfe Memorial assisted in the fall meeting of the North Carolina Historical Commission held in Asheville on September 29-30. Steve Hill, site manager of the Wolfe Memorial, gave a presentation on the restoration of the Old Kentucky Home, the boardinghouse that was Thomas Wolfe’s childhood home.

News From State History Museums

North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport

Since opening in 1992, the North Carolina Maritime Museum at Southport has provided a hurricane forum for the public every few years. The Lower Cape Fear area has seen rapid growth in the past two years, with overwhelming traffic and infrastructure problems becoming more apparent daily. Many newcomers have asked this summer about personal and property protection in the event of a tropical storm landfall, as many are retired seniors from inland states. The museum staff held its 2005 Hurricane Forum on August 16 in the Community Building at Southport, in conjunction with the town’s Department of Tourism. A capacity audience of 250 people attended, anxious to hear expert advice on a topic so important to all coastal citizens.

WECT-TV chief meteorologist George Elliott led a panel of twelve speakers, consisting of Brunswick County’s Emergency Management Services (EMS) coordinator, the county sheriff, Southport’s chief of police and director of public works, Progress Energy’s communications specialist, the public communications director of the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point, the chief of EMS/Fire of the Village of Bald Head Island, the EMS chief of St. James Plantation, the city manager of Oak Island, the mayor of Caswell Beach, and a representative from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. The panel’s presentation encompassed storm formation, multi-community contingency plans for traffic
disbursement and highway safety, emergency shelters, boat preparation, nuclear safety, and ammunition-shipping safety. An enlightened audience stayed after the program to ask additional questions of the panel, and to speak with vendors of home security shutters, shields, and awnings that were on display. Many completed the evening by viewing the museum’s exhibit of photos and memorabilia of past local hurricanes.

North Carolina Museum of History

A fascinating display of unique historical quilts opened at the museum on August 2. The thirty-two pieces in Stitched from the Soul: The Farmer-James Collection of African American Quilts are but a sampling of the unusual collection acquired by Dr. A. Everette James Jr. and his wife, Dr. Nancy Jane Farmer, of Chapel Hill. The couple, noted collectors of southern folk art, bought and restored a 1910 Primitive Baptist church in Robersonville, which they opened in 1993 as the St. James Place Museum, for the display of their collection. The museum received a Gertrude S. Carraway Award from Preservation North Carolina, and the building was recently added to the National Register of Historic Places. Among the objects they sought for display in the St. James Place Museum were North Carolina quilts. Doctors James and Farmer traveled across the state, determined to acquire at least one example from each county. Along the way, they became fascinated with the many varieties of African American quilts they encountered and added to their collection. When they subsequently donated a hundred quilts to the Gallery of Art and Design at North Carolina State University, the couple decided to hold onto the African American creations.

Stitched from the Soul has been displayed in several venues, most recently at the Charlotte Museum of History. The sixty-one quilts in the James-Farmer collection will be exhibited in the North Carolina Museum of History in two rotations, the second to open on January 10, 2006. The exhibit will close on August 2, 2006.

Many of the quilts in the opening rotation reflect African cultural and textile traditions. The use of intense colors, particularly red, large designs, strip patterns, original motifs, and nontraditional fabrics are African-inspired characteristics, according to Louise Benner, curator of costumes and textiles at the museum. Among the unusual pieces in the Farmer-James collection, which dates from the Civil War to World War II, are a 1915 crazy quilt from Camden County embroidered with a family tree spanning more than a century; a strip quilt made in 1935 of recycled neckties; a mosaic quilt created in Columbus County in 1925 that features geometrical designs, reminiscent of the art deco style of the Roaring Twenties; and a 1935 Brunswick County creation with the popular Underground Railroad pattern, perhaps a cultural evolution of the Jacobs Ladder pattern of colonial times.

The museum planned several events and programs to complement the exhibit. On September 25, Dr. James led a gallery tour and explained how he and his wife were able to amass the impressive array of North Carolina quilts. The African American Quilt Circle of Durham demonstrated
their handiwork as the museum's Artists at Work from September 30 through October 2. Consultant Kathy Sullivan presented a workshop on October 1 during which she explained techniques for effectively preserving quilts, including proper storage, cleaning, and display. She also identified individual patterns in quilts brought in by workshop participants.

Staff Notes

In the Archives and Records Section of the Division of Historical Resources, Charles D. Bailey retired after thirty years of service in the State Records Center. Chris Black was promoted from records management analyst I in the State Agency Services Unit of the Government Records Branch to archivist II. Victor Sutton, formerly with the Department of Revenue, joined the branch as a processing assistant IV. Jonathan Foster was hired as an archivist I in the Non-textual Records Unit of the Special Collections Branch. He will be stationed at the School of the Arts in Winston-Salem, where he will help preserve and provide access to the school's extensive collection of motion picture film. Lisa Coombs joined the Information Technology Branch as a processing assistant IV working on digitization projects. Mathew Waehner was employed as a photo laboratory technician II in the Collections Management Branch, while Todd Daughtry joined the Public Services Branch as a processing assistant IV (Search Room security).

In the Division of State Historic Sites and Properties, Lea Walker resigned as site manager of the State Capitol, where Diana Mauney was hired as program assistant/special events coordinator. Elsewhere in the Museum and Visitor Services Section, Carol Chamberlain was hired as curator of collections, and Amy Sawyer as exhibit designer. At Polk Memorial, Courtney Hybarger was promoted from historic site assistant to historic interpreter II. Brian Moffitt was promoted from historic interpreter II to interpreter III at the North Carolina Transportation Museum. Deborah Sliva resigned as historic interpreter II at Historic Edenton, as did Becky Sawyer as historic interpreter I at Bentonville Battlefield. Cheryl Kite is the new development officer at Tryon Palace. Sarah Liles joined the staff of Aycock Birthplace as a historic interpreter II, and Karen Knight began work at Town Creek as a historic interpreter I. Mike Faucette was hired as facility maintenance coordinator at the Charlotte Hawkins Brown Museum. Herman Cabarrus replaced James Sykes, who resigned as maintenance mechanic II at Somerset Place.

In the Division of State History Museums, Spencer Waldron joined the staff of the North Carolina Museum of History as an objects conservator, and Anne Peranteau as a textile conservator. Ann Kaplan resigned as outreach branch supervisor in the Education Section, and Michael Daul resigned his position as multimedia producer. Robert C. Siwers, an exhibits builder at the Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex for seventeen years, passed away on August 6. At the North Carolina Maritime Museum at Beaufort, exhibits designer Jerry Hauser retired after twenty years of service, and natural science curator Patricia Hay resigned to join the National Marine Fisheries Service at Pivers Island. Scott Whitesides resigned as branch manager of the North Carolina Maritime Museum on Roanoke Island.
Upcoming Events

October 7-8 Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens: Heritage Plant Sale. Popular annual event offers the public a chance to purchase rare historic plants. Gardeners will be on hand to answer planting questions. 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

October 7-9 Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens: MUMFest Weekend. Gardens are open free to the public in conjunction with downtown New Bern’s MUMFest. Visitors can enjoy the beauty of thousands of chrysanthemums in the gardens and tour a Civil War encampment on the grounds. Gardens open 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Friday and Saturday, and 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Sunday.

October 8 Bentonville Battlefield: Fall Civilian Living History Program. Costumed interpreters demonstrate nineteenth-century domestic skills, such as open-hearth cooking, sewing, natural dyeing, spinning, and knitting, and discuss the hardships that Southern women endured as they struggled to provide for their families during the Civil War. 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

North Carolina Museum of History: Designs from Antiquity: A Historical Fashion Show. In a dramatic musical performance, area students model the creations of designer Helen Xiney Brown, a North Carolina native who draws inspiration from historical clothing styles. A reception will follow the program, which is funded by the Nationwide Foundation. 2:00 P.M. Register by October 6 at (919) 807-7968.

October 9 North Carolina Museum of History: A. C. Overton. The North Carolina Folk Heritage Award-winning banjoist plays ballads, breakdowns, waltzes, and traditional tunes, as he has done for more than fifty years. Cosponsored by PineCone. 3:00 P.M.

Roanoke Island Festival Park: Carolista Music Festival. Third annual music festival celebrates the diverse achievements of the community of Outer Banks women, and features local and nationally known performers, as well as a marketplace for female artists, organizations, and businesses. Presented by the Outer Banks Hotline. 2:00 P.M. Call (252) 473-5121 for ticket information.

October 10-14 Alamance Battleground: Colonial Living Week. Demonstrations of everyday colonial life for school groups. Reservations required. Call (336) 227-4785 for details. 9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. daily.

October 12 North Carolina Maritime Museum, Beaufort: U-85, A Shadow in the Sea. Author Jim Bunch, a professional oceanographer from Kill Devil Hills, discusses his book about the first German U-boat sunk by the U.S. Navy in World War II. The program includes a slide presentation of images from his more than one thousand dives to the shipwreck and a book signing. Sponsored by the North Carolina Humanities Council Speakers Forum. 2:00 P.M.


October 15 Horne Creek Living Historical Farm: Cornshucking Frolic. Traditional annual event includes demonstrations of shucking, shelling, and grinding of corn; cider making, quilting, woodworking, and cooking; and offers wagon rides, traditional music, and a variety of crafts. A donation is requested. 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Upcoming Events

October 16  Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens: **African American Historic Downtown Walking Tour.** Learn about three hundred years of African American history on a walking tour of sixteen blocks of New Bern’s historic district. The tour lasts approximately ninety minutes. Admission $4 for adults and $2 for students. 2:00 P.M.

October 20  North Carolina Museum of History: **Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South.** Marcie Cohen Ferris, associate director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, discusses her new book about Jewish adaptations to southern cooking. A reception follows the program. 7:00 P.M. Register by October 20 at (919) 807-7968.

October 21  North Carolina Maritime Museum, Beaufort: **Lecture and Concert.** Tom and Chris Kastle of Chicago—sailors, songwriters, musicians, and storytellers—offer two programs. **Great Lakes Scows in New Zealand** is a multimedia presentation about the spread of the Great Lakes maritime heritage to the South Pacific. 2:00 P.M. **Songs and Stories of the Sea** is a concert of sea chanties celebrating maritime traditions. 7:30 P.M.

October 23  Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens: **Lecture: Three Years at the Royal School of Needlework.** Needlework expert and Royal School of Needlework graduate Marion Scoular presents examples of embroidery, artwork, and dressmaking done at the school from 1952 to 1955, and discusses the creation of the coronation robe for Queen Elizabeth II. Lecture will be followed by a tour of embroidered pieces in the palace collection. Admission $4. 2:00 P.M.

October 24  North Carolina Museum of History: **“Woke Up This Morning with My Mind on Freedom”**: The History of SNCC. Former members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, organized in 1960 at Shaw University, discuss the organization’s founding, activities, and legacy. A reception follows the program, which is funded by GlaxoSmithKline. 7:00 P.M. Register by October 17 at (919) 807-7968.

October 28  Historic Stagville: **Stagville Ghost Tours.** Candlelit tours begin at the visitor center and move to the Bennehan House and Horton Grove, where volunteer storytellers engage the imagination. 6:00 to 9:00 P.M.

October 28–29  Reed Gold Mine: **The Bloody Reign of the Mad Miner.** Annual Halloween event offers haunted mine tours, hayrides, ghost stories, children’s games, and performances by Chaz the Magician. $2 fee for mine tours and hayrides. 7:00 to 11:00 P.M.

October 29  North Carolina Museum of History: **Day of the Dead/Dia de los Muertos.** Visitors learn about the Mexican holiday on which families honor their deceased loved ones in this bilingual program that features stories, crafts, and traditional foods. Funding provided by the Nationwide Foundation. 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

October 30  North Carolina Maritime Museum, Beaufort: **Designing Coastal Watercolors.** Opening reception for exhibit of watercolors by Frank Webb of Pittsburgh and his students. 2:00 to 4:00 P.M. Reservations recommended for reception. Call (252) 728-7317 for reservations. Exhibit will run from October 29 to January 15, 2006.

November 5  Historic Bath: **Lecture: “Landfall Expedition: Re-creating Capt. John Smith’s 1608 Chesapeake Voyage.”** Susan Schmidt of Carteret Community College discusses her four-month solo voyage up the Chesapeake Bay, following the route taken by John Smith. Cosponsored by the Historic Bath Book Club. 10:00 A.M.
Upcoming Events

November 5  North Carolina Maritime Museum, Beaufort: Boatshop Bash. Annual fund-raising evening party in the Harvey W. Smith Watercraft Center features great food, musical entertainment, and both a live and silent auction. This year’s event adopts a tall ships theme to honor the museum’s sponsorship of the Pepsi Americas’ Sail in July 2006. 6:30 P.M. Contact the museum at (252) 728-7317 to request an invitation.

Roanoke Island Festival Park: North Carolina Storytelling Festival.  Seventh annual event features six professional storytellers from across the state sharing tall tales and legends for all ages. Stories for young children and the family, 1:00 to 4:00 P.M., tales for older children and adults, 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Admission $5 for adults, $3 for children aged five to twelve, free for children four and under.

November 6  Roanoke Island Festival Park: Pocosin Arts: The First Ten Years.  Opening reception for showing of works by artists associated with Pocosin Arts of Columbia, N.C. Many pieces will be offered for sale. 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. The works will be on display from November 1 to December 30.

November 9  North Carolina Museum of History: History à la Carte. Art of the Powwow. Artist Joe Liles of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, who has created posters for American Indian powwows for more than thirty years, shares a few of his favorites from the exhibit, Powwow: The Heartbeat of a People, which opened at the museum on October 4. 12:10 P.M.

November 11  State Capitol: Veterans’ Day Parade and Ceremony. Traditional parade, wreath-laying ceremony, and patriotic concert honor the state’s veterans. 11:00 A.M.

November 11-13  Historic Bath: Tri-Centennial Veterans’ Celebration: Military through the Ages. Part of the ongoing commemoration of the tercentenary of North Carolina’s oldest town, weekend event will feature reenactment groups from the Revolutionary War through the Vietnam War, lectures, and films. Call (252) 923-3971 for further information.

November 12  North Carolina Museum of History: Entrusted to Protect: The N.C. National Guard and Reserve. Members of the state’s National Guard and Reserve share their experiences in Iraq. 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

November 13  North Carolina Museum of History: Cool John Ferguson. Guitarist Ferguson blends gospel and blues in a selection of painstakingly crafted works. Cosponsored by PineCone. 3:00 P.M.

November 14-20  North Carolina Museum of History: Artist at Work: Arnold Richardson. A Haliwa-Saponi craftsman constructs a traditional longhouse on the grounds of the State Capitol. 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. each afternoon.

November 17  Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex: Arsenal Roundtable. The construction of the North Carolina Arsenal will be the topic for discussion. 7:00 P.M.

November 18  North Carolina Museum of History: American Indian Heritage Education Day for School Groups. Daylong program designed for students K through 12 features teaching stations staffed by members of the state’s eight recognized tribes. American Indian history and culture is illustrated through storytelling, crafts, games, music, dance, and food ways. Teachers receive supplemental materials for the classroom. 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. $5 per person; register by November 4 at (919) 807-7950.
Obituaries

The museum community recently said goodbye to a longtime dedicated and colorful supporter. David Samuel Gray III passed away on August 18, 2005. His life was celebrated on August 27 at Mountain Gateway Museum in Old Fort, where he gave his guidance and efforts for the past fourteen years.

Reared in nearby Marion, Sam Gray received his undergraduate degree in history from Rice University and a master’s degree, also in history, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He held positions at the University of South Carolina and Belmont-Abbey College before settling at the Mountain Heritage Center at Western Carolina University. His strong love for museums surfaced as his exhibit development and dedicated research informed and enlightened thousands of visitors there.

Gray held a myriad of interests throughout his sixty-five years, including botany, geology, poetry, music, and the ways of his fellow mountain natives. His love of plant life led him away from Western Carolina University to pursue a second career in landscaping. There, once again, he found peace in his work, spending the next seven years providing tranquil environments for residents of the mountain region.

Gray’s next life phase brought him to work for the North Carolina Museum of History at the Mountain Gateway Museum, where he lent his hand to exhibit, program, and site development that will endure for years to come. His fondness for history, plants, and the region’s residents and visitors alike allowed his talents to shine. His humor and views of life endeared him to many, many people. His effects on those people and the region will long be remembered. To many he was a friend, a leader, and, in the mountain vernacular he held dear, “a character.”

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Upcoming Events

November 19  North Carolina Museum of History: Tenth Annual American Indian Heritage Celebration. Yearly festival offers dance, music, craft demonstrations, and storytelling presented by members of the eight recognized tribes of North Carolina. Cosponsored by the Nationwide Foundation and the North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs. 11:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

November 19-20  CSS Neuse: Civil War Encampment. Navy, Marine Corps, and artillery reenactors demonstrate period nautical skills, uniforms, artillery, and other weaponry.

November 20  Museum of the Cape Fear Historical Complex: LIVE! At the Arsenal. Guided tours of the arsenal grounds feature a narration about the 1840 Arsenal Guard. 1:00 to 5:00 P.M.

December 10  Museum of the Albemarle: “It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas”: Christmas Designer’s Workshop. Participants learn about holiday decorating traditions while creating their own displays from local materials, including magnolia leaves and fresh fruit. 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. $35 per person. Register by calling (252) 335-1453.

December 11  North Carolina Museum of History: Mishpacha. This local quartet sets the mood for Hanukkah with an uplifting blend of traditional and contemporary Jewish music. Cosponsored by PineCone. 3:00 P.M.

December 14  North Carolina Museum of History: History à la Carte: Moravian Traditions in North Carolina. Craig Atwood, theologian in residence at the Home Moravian Church, discusses the settlement patterns, culture, and beliefs of one of the state’s oldest denominations. 12:10 P.M.
Paul Phillips Hoffman, assistant state archivist of North Carolina for nearly twenty years, died at age sixty-eight in Chester, Pennsylvania, on July 20, 2005.

A native of Pennsylvania, Paul Hoffman graduated from Haverford School in 1954 and Yale University in 1958. He attended the U.S. Naval Academy and served in the navy for several years in the early sixties. In the course of circumnavigating the globe, he taught at the University of Sydney in Australia. His first position in the archival field was project director for the publication of finding aids to microfilmed manuscript collections in the University of Virginia Library. In that capacity, Hoffman edited guides to the papers of the Lee family, 1742-1795; the Carter family, 1659-1797; and John Henry Ingram’s collection of Edgar Allan Poe materials. He also took classes towards a doctorate degree in history while in Charlottesville.

Hoffman joined the North Carolina State Archives as assistant archives administrator in September 1970, succeeding Charles F. W. Coker, who had been promoted to archives administrator. As head of the Archives Section, he was responsible for daily operations in the Search Room and the microfilm reading room. During his tenure, the education and outreach components of the State Archives were dramatically expanded, with workshops for teachers and beginning genealogists and, particularly, the Institute for Advanced Researchers, which he planned and directed. In 1974, Hoffman discovered that a 1790 letter from George Washington to North Carolina officials was being offered for sale by a New York manuscripts dealer, and set in motion the process that eventually resulted in the recovery of the document by the Archives. When the State Archives was reorganized in 1981, Hoffman became head of the Arrangement and Description Unit of the Archival Services Branch, with responsibility for the appraisal and processing of all county, state, and private manuscript records. Under his leadership, resources were redirected towards processing the immense backlog of unarranged state agency records, and the MARS finding aid system was designed and implemented as a descriptive tool. Hoffman retired on August 21, 1989, and returned to his native state. He is survived by his wife, Margaret Rabb Hoffman; two sons, Paul Phillips Hoffman II and Preston Rabb Hoffman; and a daughter, Julia Gwenhelen Hoffman.

Armistead Jones Maupin, president of the Carolina Charter Corporation, died July 26, 2005, at the age of ninety. Maupin was graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1936, and in 1940 earned a law degree from George Washington University. As a navy lieutenant, he commanded a minesweeper during the Second World War: first in the Atlantic where, in early 1943, he neutralized a large minefield off Cape Hatteras; and finally in the South Pacific, where he served in the Solomon Islands and Marshall Islands campaigns, and in the attacks on Saipan and Guam. After the war, Maupin returned to Raleigh and resumed a distinguished legal career that lasted more than fifty years. He was senior partner in the firm of Maupin Taylor and, by the time of his death, had been president of both the Wake County Bar Association and the North Carolina State Bar, a member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference, and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation.

In addition to a vigorous professional life, Maupin was a keen observer of and participant in politics. He was manager of Malcolm Sewell’s campaign for governor in 1960, and served as chairman of the Wake County Democratic Party. Finding his conservative principles increasingly at odds with other Democrats, however, he changed his party affiliation to Republican. In 1976, Maupin actively supported Ronald W. Reagan’s unsuccessful bid for the Republican presidential nomination. He was rewarded in 1982 when President Reagan appointed him chairman of the American Battle Monuments Commission.
opening to him a new avenue through which to pursue his longtime interest in history. Prior to that appointment Maupin was president, from 1964 to 1967, of the North Carolina Society of the Cincinnati, a hereditary association of descendants of officers of the Continental Line; and president general of the national General Society of the Cincinnati from 1971 to 1974. For his work with the national society, French president Valéry Giscard d’Estaing awarded him the Legion of Honor.

Maupin was president of the Carolina Charter Corporation from 1993 until his death. The corporation, a private, nonprofit organization, is the support group for the North Carolina Colonial Records Project and the British Records Project of the Historical Publications Section, Office of Archives and History.

 Calls For Papers

The North Carolina Office of Archives and History and East Carolina University, in cooperation with the University of North Carolina (UNC) Press, invite submissions for a projected publication and symposium to commemorate the three hundredth anniversary of the publication of John Lawson’s book, *A New Voyage to Carolina*. Lawson (1674–1711) explored the Carolina backcountry during 1700–1701, and in 1709 produced a narrative remarkable for its descriptions of Native Americans, documentation of flora and fauna, and literary merit. The symposium is scheduled to coincide with an exhibition of Lawson-related materials from U.S. and British repositories. Papers are solicited across a wide range of disciplines, including history, archaeology/anthropology, botany, American studies, Native American studies, and the history of the book.

The theme of the conference and book will be “John Lawson: A Carolinian’s Life and Times,” but the principal focus will remain on *New Voyage*. The book to be published by UNC Press will include eight to twelve essays, and is to be ready for distribution at the symposium in the spring of 2009. The deadline for submission of papers is September 15, 2007. Proposals for papers should be submitted by April 1, 2006, to either Dr. Charles R. Ewen, Department of Anthropology, 267 Flanagan Building, East Carolina University, Greenville, NC, 27858 (ewenc@mail.ecu.edu), or Michael Hill, research supervisor, North Carolina Office of Archives and History, 4610 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC, 27699-4610 (michael.hill@ncmail.net). The proposals, not to exceed three hundred words, should be accompanied by a brief vita.

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The Conference of Quaker Historians and Archivists will hold its sixteenth annual meeting at Guilford College in Greensboro on June 23–25, 2006. The association provides a unique opportunity for archivists and researchers to congregate and discuss records sources and opportunities for collaboration. The conference invites proposals for papers on any aspect of Quaker history. The deadline for submission is January 15, 2006. A one-page abstract and vita, in both paper and electronic formats, should be directed to Christopher Densmore, Friends Historical Library, 500 College Avenue, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa., 18081-1309 (Cdensmo1@swarthmore.edu).

Colleges and Universities

North Carolina State University

The North Carolina State University (NCSU) Libraries’ Special Collections Research Center (SCRC) was recently awarded a $49,992 NC ECHO digitization grant to create a resource-based research and educational website, “ ‘Green ‘N’ Growing’: The History of Home Demonstration and 4-H Youth Development in North Carolina.” The goal of the
website project is to enhance teaching, learning, and research by providing electronic access to primary resource materials. The project team will digitize five thousand unique images, pamphlets, flyers, and other textual documents dating from 1910 to 1970, and create Web-based search tools such as Encoded Archival Description (EAD) finding aids and metadata searchable through Luna Imaging’s “Insight” software. These will be presented in a framework that facilitates research and educational uses at NCSU and around the world. While appropriate for the college level, these resources can also be utilized by teachers and students in grades K through 12. Housed in the SCRC University Archives, the original materials provide valuable information on the history of women, race relations, education, agriculture, and rural life. The 4-H and Home Demonstration Extension programs have had significant impact in North Carolina since their formation in the early 1900s, as part of the agricultural extension movement to transmit new information about “scientific” farming and homemaking practices to the public. By the 1950s, North Carolina had more 4-Hers than any other state. “‘Green ‘N’ Growing’” will draw upon the university libraries’ expertise in developing content for online history resources. The grant was awarded through the State Library of North Carolina under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act.

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

Judith M. Bennett, Martha Nell Hardy Distinguished Professor of medieval history, and Stanley J. Chojnacki, professor of Renaissance history, retired on July 1. On that date, renowned Civil War historian Joseph T. Glatthaar of the University of Houston was appointed Alan Stephenson Distinguished Professor; Karen Hagemann of the University of Glamorgan, Wales, a specialist in modern European history, was named James Kenan III chair; Brett E. Whalen of Stanford University joined the faculty as an assistant professor of medieval history; and Yasmin Saikia, a specialist in South Asian history, was promoted from assistant professor to associate professor. Christopher R. Browning received the 2004 National Jewish Book Award in the “Holocaust” category for his book, *Origins of the Final Solution: The Evolution of Nazi Jewish Policy, September 1939-March 1942*, published in 2004 by the University of Nebraska Press.

**University of North Carolina at Charlotte**

Three members of the history department faculty were promoted and two new assistant professors joined the staff on July 1. Gregory Mixon, Jerry Davila, and James Hogue were named associate professors, while Heather R. Perry and Mark Wilson were added to the faculty. Heather R. Perry presented a paper on “Disability and Medicine: Re-gendering Society in World War I Germany” to a conference at the Center for History of Science, Technology, and Medicine at the University of Manchester on June 18. John M. Flower also addressed a session in England, speaking on “Ecological Engineering on the West China Frontier” at the Conference on Trajectories of Socialism in Asia at Oxford University on June 30. Gregory Mixon spoke at the North Carolina Governor’s School East at Meredith College in Raleigh on July 12. His topic was “The Atlanta Riot: A Question of Urbanization.”

**Wake Forest University**

James Wilson has been named distinguished alumnus by the University of Texas at Austin and will be a visiting professor there during 2005-2006. Professor J. Edwin Hendricks presented a paper titled, “Ben Robertson Saw England during the Battle for Britain and Told America: The Making of an Interventionist,” to a conference on World War II after Sixty Years at Siena College in Loudonville, New York, in October.
State, County, and Local Groups

Lincoln County Historical Association

On August 6, the association hosted a book signing and reception at the Lincoln Cultural Center for author Daniel W. Barefoot, whose tenth book, *Let Us Die Like Brave Men: Behind the Dying Words of Confederate Warriors*, was recently published by John F. Blair. Barefoot examines the lives and deaths of fifty-two soldiers, both officers and privates, famous and obscure, representing every state of the Confederacy. The book is illustrated with images of the soldiers, their graves, or the places where they fell. The author is the city attorney of Lincolnton, a past president of the historical association, past chairman of the Lincoln County Historic Properties Commission, and a former state representative.

Lower Cape Fear Historical Society

For the third consecutive year, the society joined other historical organizations in downtown Wilmington in offering a unique approach to touring historic sites. The Flavor of the Past: Tasting through Time event pairs local restaurants with museums and antebellum homes to create interactive living history settings flavored by historically inspired food samplings. This year’s program on August 27 focused on the century from 1842 to 1942. The tour began with a morning cruise on the Cape Fear River aboard the *Henrietta III*, on which costumed interpreters portrayed the everyday people that tour participants would encounter throughout the day: an 1842 master craftsman; an antebellum family engaged in domestic chores; guests at a turn-of-the-century family reunion; patrons of a Prohibition-era speakeasy; and soldiers and sailors in a World War II USO club. After the riverboat docked, participants toured each of the five sites at their own pace and in the order of their choosing, with the Wilmington Trolley Company providing free shuttle service between locations. The participating sites and their restaurant partners included the DeRosset House (sponsored by the Historic Wilmington Foundation) and City Club; the Bellamy Mansion Museum of History and Design Arts and The Little Dipper; the Latimer House (sponsored by the Lower Cape Fear Historical Society) and Circa 1922; the Cape Fear Museum of History and Science and The Pilot House; and the Community Arts Center (sponsored by the Thalian Association) and the Water Street Restaurant.

Wilkes-Surry Overmountain Victory Trail Association

On September 16-17, the association commemorated the 250th anniversary of the 1780 Battle of Kings Mountain with a parade and living history program. The festivities opened on Friday evening with a “Supper on the Trail,” a light dinner of hunter’s stew, followed by a colonial dance to the tunes of the Hardwood Dusters and the calling of Roberta Kogut. The next morning, a parade from downtown Elkin to the municipal park featured reenactors in uniform, from the Revolutionary War to recent conflicts, marching to the music of the 440th N.C. National Guard Band. At parade’s end, the 1780 muster of patriots from Wilkes and Surry Counties was re-created. The living history program at the park included seventeenth-century craftsmen with wares for sale, storytellers and reenactors in period dress, strolling musicians, and colonial games for children. The commemoration concluded with a formal ceremony featuring guest speakers Lt. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, former U.S. senator James Broyhill, and Rep. Virginia Foxx.