NCPC Celebrates 25 Years of Preservation

This year we are celebrating the 25th anniversary of the founding of the North Carolina Preservation Consortium (NCPC). The consortium began with a series of meetings of preservation advocates, including: Howard McGinn, State Librarian of North Carolina; David Olsen, State Archivist of North Carolina; Dr. Benjamin F. Speller Jr., Dean of the School of Library and Information Sciences at North Carolina Central University; Susan Nutter, Director of North Carolina State University Libraries; Ashley Jackson, North Carolina Newspaper Project Manager at Duke University Libraries; David Molke-Hansen, Director of the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Don Etherington, President of Etherington Conservation Services. NCPC was officially incorporated as a non-profit in the State of North Carolina on March 12, 1990.

What began as an effort to organize preservation efforts for libraries and archives expanded to encompass collections in museums and historic sites. In recent years the board of directors broadened the NCPC mission further to promote the preservation of monuments, memorials, outdoor art, archaeological sites and collections, and historic and cultural architecture. NCPC also offers assistance to the general public seeking to preserve their collections of family treasures.

One of our most important initiatives is the NCPC Preservation Grants program, which began in 2003. Grants may be used to fund assessments, equipment, supplies, storage, education, conservation and projects. From 2003-2014 our preservation grants have funded 36 institutional requests for a total of $45,428.

NCPC services and programs have made significant contributions to the preservation of tangible and intangible heritage over the past 25 years. We invite you to join us as we embark on our next 25 years. Help us expand institutional and individual memberships. Join an NCPC committee. Make a personal donation. Members, consider sharing your preservation stories by authoring a newsletter article (see page 6 for details). We need you to ensure that this legacy continues. Are you a preservation advocate?

Upcoming 2015 Events and Deadlines

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Support NCPC By Shopping On Amazon

AmazonSmile makes it easy to support NCPC by doing what you probably do already: shop online. When you order items via AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to NCPC. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping and handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. By selecting NCPC as your designated charity, your purchases give back to NCPC at no additional cost to you. You can purchase the same products at the same prices as on the “regular” Amazon website, but when you start your shopping with AmazonSmile you automatically support NCPC.

It’s Easy To Sign Up
To sign up, log in to your Amazon account at http://smile.amazon.com. Search their database for North Carolina Preservation Consortium, and select NCPC as your charitable organization. When you are ready to shop, simply enter the Amazon website through the AmazonSmile URL. You will see in the upper left corner of your browser window that you have selected NCPC as your designated charity. From here, all of your purchases are helping to fund NCPC and its programming.

More information on the AmazonSmile program can be found on their website. Please note that purchases made through AmazonSmile are not tax deductible. You may also change your designated charity at any time, but we hope that you stay with NCPC. AmazonSmile is an easy and cost effective way to help support NCPC and our programs. Why not start today? Let’s go shopping!

Become An NCPC Member Today

NCPC is a 501(C) 3 non-profit organization that supports preservation with educational workshops and conferences, information and consultation services, and preservation grants. We are a volunteer organization whose members believe in the value of preserving cultural heritage.

Members receive discounts on programs and workshops, have opportunities to network with colleagues from across the state, and are eligible to serve on the NCPC Board and committees. You also receive our electronic newsletter that highlights the work NCPC and our members are doing. Know someone who would like to be a member? Is your institution a member? Forward this newsletter and ask them to join NCPC today.
When you think of public records you might think of county court records, government forms, wills, deeds, or other documents created in the course of conducting personal or business transactions.

Other records rise to a transcendent level, affecting the heritage and culture of our state and nation in their importance. Think of the 1663 Carolina Charter, establishing North Carolina’s system of government, or the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution abolishing slavery. These public records are tangible evidence of revolutionary shifts in the status quo.

The State Archives of North Carolina preserves and houses these treasures along with 100 million more “ordinary” items in its collections.

For the first time, a selection of the state’s historic documents will be exhibited in Treasures of Carolina: Stories from the State Archives of North Carolina at the North Carolina Museum of History in Raleigh, October 24, 2015 through June 19, 2016. Sponsored by the Friends of the Archives, visitors will be able to view records and archival items rarely displayed. These documents, maps, letters, photographs, and other media illustrate the State Archive’s role in documenting government, providing evidence of civil and property rights, and preserving the history and culture of the state.

On display will be the oldest item held by the State Archives from the holdings of the Outer Banks History Center, “La Florida,” a map created under the reign of Phillip II of Spain dating to 1584. A hand-drawn map used in the Tom Dula trial, and North Carolina’s earliest will—that of Mary Fortsen from the mid-1660’s—will be on display along with rotating treasures—the Carolina Charter and the Bill of Rights will briefly be on display, as will several documents bearing the signatures of Albert Einstein, Eleanor Roosevelt, Buckminster Fuller, George Washington, and other prominent figures. Various types of state and county public records will supplement private collections.

An opening reception will take place at the North Carolina Museum of History on the evening of October 23, 2015. More details about the reception will be available in the next few weeks on the website of the State Archives of North Carolina.

The Friends of the Archives is seeking donations for conservation work and framing, creating panels and labels, and digitizing and printing informational materials. Help us bring the documents of the people to the people. Thank you for your support.

By Andrea Gabriel, State Archives of North Carolina
“Fire Destroys Duke Mansion.” That’s how a United Press International reporter described the December 1966 blaze at the landmark mansion and estate in Charlotte. The former home of James “Buck” Duke of Duke Energy and Duke University had been minutes away from complete destruction. Though the mansion was rebuilt, it was close to ruin again years later when it was turned into condos.

But this year, The Duke Mansion celebrates its 100th birthday looking much as it did when architect C.C. Hook designed it and the Duke family lived there. The Colonial Revival Estate is now a thriving, non-profit bed and breakfast inn and meeting place on the National Register of Historic Places. Its value as a community resource will only grow as the mansion’s gardens are expanded this year, connecting them to two public parks.

Zeb Taylor built the original mansion in 1915 in the new streetcar suburb of Myers Park. Four years later he sold it to his boss, Buck Duke. Duke hired Hook, the architect of the original mansion, to design an addition that enlarged his new showplace to 32,000 square feet on three floors. Duke also installed three fountains, one of which shot water ten stories tall. The mansion was the setting for some of Duke’s greatest achievements, including The Duke Endowment, a private foundation which he envisioned in the solarium with his advisors.

Three other prominent families lived in and cared for the mansion, but by 1976, when owner Henry Lineberger died, there were few takers for a home that size. For a decade, the house languished in a failed attempt to sell the partitioned space as condos. Raycom Sports co-founders Rick and Dee Ray looked into buying one of the condos and instead decided to purchase the entire structure. By that point, the mansion “kind of looked like a frat house,” Ray says. Sellers marketing the home had set up a plywood bar in the solarium, and dogs had chewed on the doors. The Rays spent 10 months restoring the space, with 60 to 70 people working full-time.

What does it take to turn an expansive single family home into a historic inn? After the Rays sold the mansion to a non-profit foundation in 1996, Duke Power Company led a capital campaign to give the mansion new life. The mansion opened as a historic inn in 1998, complete with the signature black-and-white marble floor that James Duke had installed.

Today, the kitchen is the same size as in Duke’s time. The most radical changes to the home came on the third floor, which was originally servants’ quarters but later turned into a single open space. The floor is now divided into guest rooms. Maintenance is a big part of the mansion’s annual budget, with monies set aside to care for the original plaster walls and ceilings and repaint every year.

There’s an easy way to get involved in the mansion’s preservation. The board is leading a $5 million fundraising campaign for capital improvements and an endowment to ensure this community treasure is never threatened again. To find out more, visit dukemansion.org and click on “How To Help.”

Submitted by Duke Mansion
Heritage Preservation Programs Move to FAIC—Press Release

Throughout its 33-year history, first as the National Institute for the Conservation of Cultural Property and then under its current name, Heritage Preservation has fulfilled its mission to preserve the nation’s heritage for future generations through innovative leadership and educational agendas. It has steadily advocated for the protection of cultural heritage by creating programs, publications, and easily accessed products that advance the field of conservation and serve the needs of allied preservation professions.

Heritage Preservation’s programs have been tested and proven. Hence, they are trusted and highly valued. Their loss would be severely felt throughout the cultural heritage community. Research undertaken over the past six months indicates that several synergies exist between the programs of the DC-based Foundation of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (FAIC) and Heritage Preservation. For this reason, following the recent vote by Heritage Preservation members approving its dissolution as of June 30, 2015, several popular Heritage Preservation programs will transition to FAIC, thus ensuring their continuation.

Programs That Will Move to FAIC

FAIC will administer and lead three primary emergency planning, preparedness, and response programs currently offered by Heritage Preservation: Alliance for Response (AFR), State Heritage Emergency Partnership (SHEP), and Risk Evaluation and Planning Program (REPP). FAIC will also promote the annual MayDay campaign in 2015 and into the future. Heritage Preservation’s plan to develop an app called the Disaster Assessment Reporting Tool (DART) is on hold until funding is obtained to develop a prototype.

Transfer of the Connecting to Collections (C2C) Online Community program, and other activities related to the statewide preservation planning and implementation program developed and funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), with programmatic assistance from Heritage Preservation, began in December 2014, and has been fully implemented as C2C Care.

FAIC is in the process of hiring additional programmatic and support staff, as well as part-time contractors, to ensure that former Heritage Preservation activities will thrive. Four key Heritage Preservation staff members will be retained, allowing uninterrupted access to their expertise.

What Does This Mean for the State Heritage Emergency Partnership?

The State Heritage Emergency Partnership (SHEP) program will continue under the new Emergency Programs umbrella at FAIC. Lori Foley will become FAIC’s Director of Emergency Programs, effective May 1, 2015. Joining her as Emergency Programs Coordinator will be Jessica Unger, whom many of you may remember as Lori’s former assistant. Katelin Lee, Lori’s current assistant, will move to AIC as the Meetings Associate.

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Heritage Preservation, continued

Lori and Jessica will continue to support SHEP by posting blog entries and resources to the SHEP website, participating in state conference calls when invited, and providing advice, encouragement, and guidance to foster the relationships established. We will continue to explore funding opportunities in order to strengthen existing partnerships as well as expand the network of partnerships.

Lori’s new email address will be lfoley@conservation-us.org. She will continue to work remotely from Massachusetts; her phone number will remain 781.259.8652. Jessica’s email will be junger@conservation-us.org, and her phone number will be 202.661.8069. Both Lori and Jessica look forward to working with each of you to strengthen your state partnership.

To learn more about the disposition of Heritage Preservation’s programs – including Heritage Health Information 2014, Alliance for Response, the Conservation Assessment Program, and Heritage Preservation’s joint awards – visit the websites of Heritage Preservation or FAIC.

Press release by Heritage Preservation
Distributed April 27, 2015

Save the Date!
Monuments and Memorials—Preserving, Protecting, and Documenting Our Collective Memory
North Carolina Preservation Consortium Annual Conference
November 20, 2015

Monuments and memorials allow people to personally engage in maintaining our collective memory with organized public ceremonies and quite personal reflections. They surround many of our public buildings and the landscapes of historic sites, battlefields, cemeteries, and parks across our state. Made from many materials in various forms, preserving them can be a challenge. Some institutions are also charged with preserving offerings placed at monuments and memorials including letters, photographs, and mementoes of all sizes and shapes.

The NCPC annual conference will be held on November 20th at the Friday Center in Chapel Hill. Speakers will focus on effective strategies for preserving monuments, memorials, and the often spontaneous collections of offerings. Reserve your seat today with an email to the NCPC executive director.