NCPC 2017 Conference

Battling the Bloom: Mold Protections for Collections

North Carolina Preservation Consortium’s 2017 annual conference will address preventing, identifying, and remediating mold in archival and object collections. Experts from the fields of conservation, preservation, and industrial hygiene will help participants learn about the risks mold poses for buildings, artifacts, and collections stewards.

The headline speaker for this day-long event will be Susan Duhl, a Baltimore-based conservator with expertise in paper collections and broad knowledge of disaster recovery and collections management. In addition, Dr. Wayne Thomann of Duke University will shed light on mold’s risks to human health. North Carolina conservators David Goist and Corey Riley will add in-depth discussions on paintings and objects, and Reid Thomas of the State Historic Preservation office will discuss mold mitigation in historic buildings.

Don’t wait for mold to strike first. Arm yourself with knowledge and resources to “battle the bloom!”

Registration deadlines:

- Early bird: by October 15
- Standard: by November 12
- Same day: November 13 (day-of registrants are not guaranteed a lunch)

Click here for more information, or to register

Book Repair Workshop

From Craig Fansler’s blog (https://zsr.wfu.edu/2017/intermediate-book-repair-workshop-in-zsr-preservation-lab/):

On Friday, September 29th, I taught a book repair workshop, sponsored by the North Carolina Preservation Consortium (NCPC) in my Preservation Lab. This workshop was an intermediate workshop, so we tackled several complex procedures. The attendees came from east and west: East Tennessee State University (Johnson City, TN), Tryon Palace (New Bern, NC), Appalachian State University, the High Point Museum, Guilford College and the EPA Library in Research Triangle Park. In the morning session, we made a four-flap enclosure and then made a pamphlet binder to hold it. Following this, we made an archival box which held the pamphlet binder inside - so each participant had 3 nested enclosures.

After lunch at The Pit, we had a great tour of Special Collections by Tanya Zanish-Belcher. Everyone enjoyed seeing the WWI exhibit and the unique books Tanya had for us to examine and learn about. During the afternoon, the attendees learned spine replacement, how to apply and use heat-set tissue, and how to tear and use Japanese paper to repair broken joints. This was a good workshop with engaged people who learned useful skills. It gave each person the chance to the practice skills they learned and take-home examples with instructions to have for future reference.
In response to protests involving Confederate monuments on public property, the North Carolina Preservation Consortium (NCPC) Board of Directors offers the following recommendations for the preservation of tangible and intangible heritage.

Regarding Confederate monuments, the Confederate States of America seceded from and declared war on the United States of America to perpetuate the forced labor of enslaved African American people and their descendants. Some Confederate monuments were erected soon after the Civil War to mourn the death of loved ones. However, many Confederate monuments were erected years later, as symbols of white supremacy and the oppression of African Americans and other people of color. All Confederate monuments have thus become tainted with the stain of slavery, bigotry, and racism, and have recently become lightning rods for civil unrest and violence.

To promote truth and reconciliation, ensure public safety, and preserve these challenging commemorative works of art, all monuments on public property in North Carolina that glorify the Confederacy should be relocated to appropriate museums, historic sites and other cultural spaces that interpret American history honestly and completely.

Ultimately, in a democratic society, decisions to relocate, reinterpret, and preserve Confederate monuments should be made by local custodians in dialogue with members of their community. To empower custodians of Confederate monuments to make these decisions, representatives of the people in the North Carolina General Assembly should repeal the law, enacted in 2015, that prevents custodians from removing, relocating, or altering monuments, memorials, plaques and other historical markers on public property without permission from the North Carolina Historical Commission.

If custodians of Confederate monuments decide on relocation they should collaborate with the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources and adhere to best practices for moving and preserving works of monumental art.

Effective security should be deployed to safeguard the relocation of Confederate monuments to protect custodians, work crews, and the public.

If Confederate monuments are damaged before, during, or after relocation, custodians should strive to procure the services of a professional conservator for treatment advice and appropriate restoration.

Preservation and conservation professionals in the North Carolina Preservation Consortium are available to advise and assist custodians of Confederate monuments as decisions regarding relocation and long-term preservation are implemented.

The North Carolina Preservation Consortium (NCPC) is an independent, non-profit, nongovernmental organization dedicated to the preservation of collections in libraries, museums, archives, and historic sites; monuments, memorials, and outdoor art; archaeological sites and collections; historic and cultural architecture; and private collections of family treasures. NCPC supports proper care and handling; storage and environmental control; disaster preparedness; conservation; and collection security. NCPC is committed to preserving tangible and intangible heritage for present and future generations.
NCPC Grants

Do you have treasures in your collection that are deteriorating before your eyes but don’t know how to stop the damage? Do you have volunteers lined up to help organize and rehouse your collection but no funds for archival boxes, folders, or shelving? Do you know that the temperature and humidity fluctuations in your building are threatening your items but the powers that be say “Everything’s fine!”? Then apply for an NCPC grant! Grant funds can be used for:

- Collection assessment
- Preservation consultations
- Preservation project work
- Environmental monitoring equipment
- Tools, equipment, and supplies
- Education and training

The fine print: Applicants must be institutional members of NCPC. No portion of an NCPC grant may be used for any indirect costs (overhead, facilities, administration, etc.) of the collection institution or the parent organization.

The application deadline isn’t until March 15, 2018, so you have plenty of time to develop your proposal. Take a look at the list of previous recipients (at the bottom of the page) to see what kinds of projects have been funded in the past.

Questions? Contact Robert James, NCPC Executive Director. Good luck!

Preserving Historic Cemeteries Workshop

November 3, 2017
9:00 am – 4:00 pm
High Point Museum
Instructor: Jason Church, National Center for Preservation Technology

This workshop will begin with a morning presentation covering the basic steps of documenting historic cemeteries (including survey forms and successful photography), establishing preservation priorities, cleaning stone monuments, and basic cemetery care.

After the presentation, there will be time for questions and answers before moving to High Point’s Oakwood Cemetery in the afternoon for hands-on cleaning of stone markers.

This training is targeted to the nonprofessional, such as church sextons, genealogists, cemetery grounds keepers, and family members. No prior training or experience is required.

Cost: $50 NCPC Member or staff at an NCPC institutional member); $75 non-member
Click here to find out more, or to register (https://ncpreservation.org/workshops/)
New ListServ for Local and Family History

The NC Local and Family History Email listserv is for anyone working at an institution with a publicly accessible local or family history collection who is interested in communicating with their local history colleagues throughout North Carolina. Members can ask questions, seek advice, share information about upcoming events for our colleagues or patrons, and much more.

To join, send an email (localhistory-request@lists.ncmail.net) with “subscribe” in the body of the email, or subscribe here (https://lists.ncmail.net/mailman/listinfo/localhistory). A confirmation email will be sent to you with details on completing your listserv subscription.

Support NCPC With a Smile

In November 2015 NCPC received its first AmazonSmile disbursement. Thanks to all of you who support us through this program. AmazonSmile makes it easy to support NCPC by shopping online. When you order items via AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to NCPC. By selecting NCPC as your designated charity, your purchases give back to NCPC at no additional cost to you. When you start your shopping with AmazonSmile you automatically support NCPC.