

HINDSIGHT IS 20/20:

Lessons Learned from Successes and Failures in Preservation



NCPC Annual Conference (via Zoom), November 13, 2020.

At the NCPC annual conference, our speakers focused on sharing their experiences of success and/or failure and what we can all learn from that moment or event. The conference created an open and inclusive forum for both sharing what we may view as the “lowlights” of our past performance in a constructive way, as well as learning how to best include these types of dialog into our professional environments.

A failure not shared is a learning opportunity wasted, so in that spirit, we’re sharing some of the presentations with you!

Burwell School Historic Site

Burwell Strong: How a Small Historic Site Rebuilt After Catastrophic Theft by an Employee

[Presentation](#) [Notes to accompany presentation](#)

North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Office of State Archaeology

Sometimes the Simplest Solutions are the Best: Re-conserving the Lake Phelps Canoes

[Presentation](#) [Notes to accompany the presentation](#)

High Point Museum

If I Could Turn Back Time: Time Capsule Creation & Preservation

[Presentation](#) [Notes to accompany the presentation](#)

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NC Humanities Awards COVID-19 Grants

In September 2020 the organization North Carolina Humanities awarded \$636,767 in NC CARES: Humanities Relief Grant funding to cultural institutions throughout the state. Congratulations to the following NCPC institutional members who received grants!

- Mount Airy Museum of Regional History (Mount Airy)
- North Carolina Department of Natural & Cultural Resources – Historic Sites (Raleigh)
- Shelton House – Museum of NC Handcrafts (Waynesville)
- Tobacco Farm Life Museum (Kenly)
- U.S.S. North Carolina Battleship Commission (Wilmington)
- Wayne County Public Library (Goldsboro)

Here's how the two of our member institutions are putting their grants to use.

Tobacco Farm Life Museum

According to their [press release](#), the Tobacco Farm Life Museum received a \$15,000 NC CARES Grant to provide operational support to the museum in order to fund staff and maintain the operation of the museum's gallery building so that the museum can continue to carry out its mission to preserve and present the history of the rural farming community.

The NC CARES grant funding will support staff efforts to adapt the museum's usual in-person programming to virtual or socially distant programs as well as staff's work on continued development of digital resources.

Melody L. Worthington, Executive Director of the Tobacco Farm Life Museum, writes:

"We have been able to continue most of our programs in a modified form. Most programs have been presented virtually. We have provided virtual educational tours, Saturday Series Programs, blog posts and much more.

Most of the items can be accessed on our website at <https://www.tobaccofarmlifemuseum.org/at-home-learning> or on our [YouTube Channel "Sharing our Heritage"](#). "



NC Humanities Awards COVID-19 Grants (continued)

Wayne County Public Library

According to the [press release](#) about the grant,

Wayne County Public Library has received a \$20,000 NC CARES: Humanities Relief Grant from the North Carolina Humanities Council. This emergency grant funding was provided to North Carolina cultural organizations experiencing hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This important funding supports humanities staff by providing a part-time digital media specialist and has allowed the library to implement an innovative new technology, Pass It Down. This virtual storytelling program allows Wayne County Public Library to create digital exhibits on the rich histories of Wayne County for its patrons to interact with. The program is easily accessible in the Goldsboro Library and the Steele Memorial branch in Mount Olive via a large, interactive touchscreen available for patron use. It is also be integrated on the library's website.

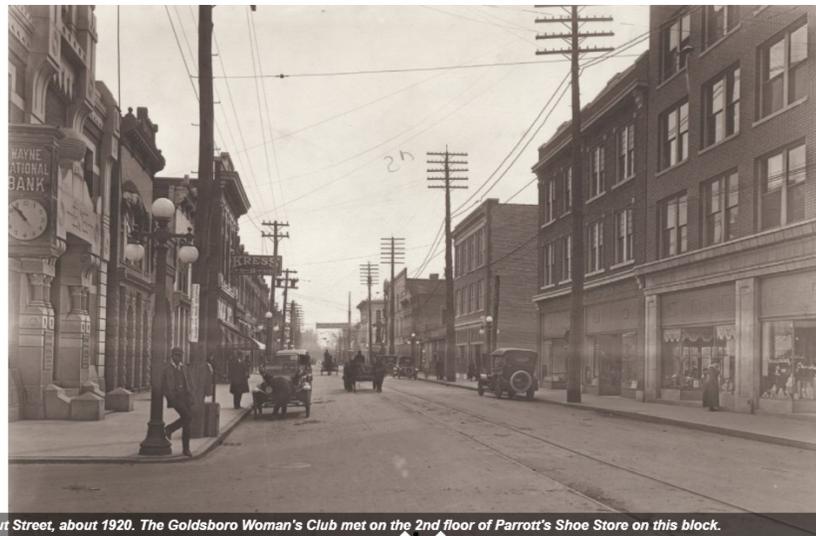
NC CARES: Humanities Relief Grant funding was provided to the North Carolina Humanities Council by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act passed by Congress in late March. The \$2.2 trillion CARES

package included \$75 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities, nearly \$30 million, or a total of 40%, of which was sent to the 56 state and jurisdictional humanities councils, including the North Carolina Humanities Council, to distribute to local cultural nonprofits and programming. [The North Carolina Humanities Council](#) is a statewide nonprofit and affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Phase I: 1899-1907

The Goldsboro Woman's Club Mental and Cultural Health Department Library, 1899-1907

1899 to 1907 - West Walnut Street, Goldsboro, NC, USA



West Walnut Street, about 1920. The Goldsboro Woman's Club met on the 2nd floor of Parrott's Shoe Store on this block.

Spotlight: Melissa Timo, Historic Cemetery Specialist

Melissa Timo joined the NC DNCR Office of State Archaeology as Staff Archaeologist and Historic Cemetery Specialist in April 2019. She received her MA in historical archaeology from the University of West Florida in Pensacola, FL. Her master's thesis focused on the maintenance of memory, tradition, and cultural landscape by examining a 19th century African American cemetery in Bay County, Florida.



[Her profile on the OSA website](#) says that “She has a passion for connecting people to their local history, historic cemeteries, and archaeological resources.” We asked Melissa what else she thinks NCPA members should know about her work, and this is what she said:

“We also host workshops and provide helpful materials. I'm available for cemetery questions and guidance.

I encourage folks to be sure their local cemeteries are recorded on the state-level to help with preservation and protection. They can contact me (melissa.timo@ncdcr.gov or 919-814-6562) to see if their cemetery is recorded or visit our website to find a [Citizen Cemetery Form](#) to open a new file.

I'm here to help and glad to have any opportunities to meet/reach new audiences!”

How did she get hooked on archeology? Is she a cat or a dog person? Check out the [OSA Trowel Blazers](#) blog to find out more about Melissa!



The Robert James Award



The North Carolina Preservation Consortium (NCPC) is accepting nominations for the annual Robert James Award for Preservation Excellence. Libraries, museums, archives, historic sites, and other organizations in North Carolina with a mission to preserve tangible heritage of enduring value are eligible for nomination. Tangible heritage includes art, artifacts, library and archival collections, natural history specimens, musical instruments, textiles, technology, monuments, memorials, archaeological sites, and historic and cultural architecture.

At least two external letters of support must be received for consideration.

Excellence should be demonstrated with descriptions of successful projects and programs that highlight the organization's significant commitment to preservation. The award winner will be announced at the NCPC annual conference in November.

All letters must be received by October 11th.

Applications may be emailed to:
Beth Doyle, Executive Director
doylencpc@gmail.com

Printed applications may be sent to the address below. Applications must be postmarked by the deadline.

Robert James Award for Preservation Excellence Committee
North Carolina Preservation Consortium
P. O. Box 2651
Durham, NC 27715-2651

Please note: This award is not for recognizing the preservation accomplishments of individuals.

Visit the NCPC website for a list of [previous award recipients](#).

Support Your NCPC!



Your membership dues support NCPC conferences, workshops, scholarships, and other programs that enable individuals and cultural institutions to preserve North Carolina heritage and culture. But your dues only cover part of the expenses. NCPC is a registered 501c3 organization, so your donations are tax deductible. **When you're completing your membership renewal form, consider adding an additional donation to enhance your contribution!** (Or [donate online right here, right now!](#))

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.

ncpc | North Carolina Preservation Consortium
Preserving collections in libraries, museums, archives, and historic sites

NC Preserves is published quarterly in January, April, July and October. If you would like to submit preservation news from your organization, please send content to the [Editor](#). Text should be in a Microsoft Word document. Images should be jpeg with a printable quality of 250dpi or more. Please include a caption and photo credit. Submission does not guarantee publication. Submissions may be edited for length/content at the discretion of the editor. **Submissions for the July 2021 issue should be sent to the editor by June 15, 2021.**

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P.O. Box 2651

Durham, NC 27715-2651

<http://www.ncpreservation.com>

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