

Holdings of the North Carolina Collection in the University of North Carolina Library at Chapel Hill*

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The origins of the North Carolina Collection (NCC) can be traced to the founding of the Historical Society of the University of North Carolina in 1844. During the next eighty years activities of numerous individuals served to increase interest in the preservation of Caroliniana, until in 1918 the Collection was founded under the guidance of Louis Round Wilson, UNC's first librarian from 1901-1932. Throughout its history the Collection's growth has been guided by individuals whose dedication has made its holdings of Caroliniana notable for their excellence and an indispensable resource for public and academic librarians in North Carolina. This introduction to those resources is a synopsis of the fuller "A Guide to Research in the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill."

Holdings — General

The acquisitions policy of the NCC is determined to a great extent by its archival function. As stated in the acquisitions policy, "the primary aim of the North Carolina Collection, so far as acquisitions are concerned, is to bring together everything possible in the way of library materials

relating to North Carolina or by North Carolinians." A North Carolinian for this purpose is described as one born in the colony or state, or a resident at the time of the appearance of his work.

University Publications

As far as printed material is concerned the NCC is the archival agency for the University. This results in the attempt to acquire all University publications. The NCC also acquires publications of the faculty and staff of UNC and all publications relating to the University regardless of their origins. At the same time, the NCC maintains the archives of theses, dissertations, and honors essays written by students of the University. These materials are fully cataloged in the main catalog of the Wilson Library. It should be noted that the North Carolina Collection serves the University as an archives only in regard to printed materials; the formal University Archives, consisting of the records of the University, is a branch of the Southern Historical Collection in the Library.

Carolina Authors and Fiction

Two types of materials comprise this collection. First, the NCC collects works of fiction and non-fiction by North Carolina authors the subject of which is not North Carolina. In addition, the many fictional

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works with a North Carolina setting or characters are acquired by the NCC. Both types are entered in the main catalog. Researchers in North Carolina authors and fiction should make note of *North Carolina Fiction 1734-1957, an Annotated Bibliography* (Chapel Hill, 1958). William S. Powell (ed.). In addition, the April number of the *NORTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL REVIEW* has supplemented this work each year since 1957.

State and Local Documents of North Carolina

The NCC is a major repository for all state publications in whatever form issued. For instance, all serial materials issued by the state and colony are sought. An effort is also made to maintain the same acquisition policy for county and municipal governments of North Carolina. The major bibliographical source for state documents, begun in 1952, was the monthly *Checklist of North Carolina Publications*, initially the joint effort of the Collection and the State Library. It has been superseded by *North Carolina Publications; a Checklist of Official State Publications*, solely the work of the State Library. An indispensable guide to earlier government documents is Mary L. Thornton's *Official Publications of the Colony and State of North Carolina, 1749-1939; a Bibliography*. The NCC also acquires all federal documents which deal completely or in part with North Carolina.

Miscellaneous Archival Holdings

The faculties of North Carolina's numerous institutions of higher learning produce scholarly works on a continuing basis as part of the function of college and university professors. These materials are acquired under the aegis of the acquisition policy. For instance, a researcher may expect to find the monographic works of professors at Duke and North Carolina State Universities represented in the hold-

ings of the Collection. However, these materials are not strictly archival since the NCC's holdings have many gaps which are not systematically filled.

The NCC also acquires books used in the schools and colleges of North Carolina in the period prior to about 1901.

Institute of Statistics Mimeo Series

This body of literature is increasingly cited in the professional and scholarly literature of the field. The Institute is the result of the joint efforts of the departments of Statistics and Bio-Statistics at the University of North Carolina and the Department of Statistics of North Carolina State University. These materials, because of their specialized nature, are not entered in the main catalog, but the NCC has the complete series.

Collections

Reference Collection

The reference materials are as complete as possible for North Carolina and contain substantial materials on Virginia and South Carolina during colonial times. The non-circulating reference materials are frequently duplicated in the main collection and are fully cataloged. Besides bibliographies, the reference collection includes an array of sources: state and local records and other North Carolina government publications; historical and biographical materials including published documents and papers; geographic and natural history materials; and numerous other reference tools such as directories, statistical sources, dictionaries, handbooks, manuals, atlases, guides, yearbooks, almanacs, gazetteers, and indexes.

Merged Collections

Over the years the NCC has acquired ten distinct collections which have added measurably to the holdings of Caroliniana. These have not been maintained as unique collections but have been merged to form the heart of the NCC's holdings.

The Stephen B. Weeks Library of Caroliniana warrants special mention, for its acquisition by the University of North Carolina was the cornerstone of the NCC and made it a significant research collection from the moment of the purchase. The purchase of the Weeks collection was by action of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees in 1918. Weeks' private collection was comprised of 10,000 books, pamphlets, and maps, and was recognized as the most complete body of printed material relating to the state at the time it was purchased. Mary L. Thornton's description of the Weeks' library, "Collection of North Caroliniana," appears in *Library Resources of the University of North Carolina*, (Chapel Hill, 1945) Charles E. Rush (ed.).

The Weeks Collection had other values. It became a model for the future collecting of North Carolina and Southern material, which followed its emphasis on sources, pamphlets, bulletins, catalogs, and periodicals, as well as books; and it served as a magnet to other collections, attracted by its excellence. In the years following its purchase, a number of collections came by gift. Among them were the Kemp Plummer Battle Collection, thirteen hundred titles, notable for Confederate, University, and political material; the Alexander Boyd Andrews Collection, seven hundred titles, including files of early railroad reports, invaluable source for the history or transportation; the James Sprunt Collection of Wilmington newspapers, files of dailies and weeklies for the period when that port attained great importance as the last refuge of Confederate blockade runners; the Pettigrew Collection of rare books and pamphlets; the Rowan Historical Society files of Salisbury newspapers; the William Richardson Davie Collection of rare books illustrative of the early history of the Carolinas, the gift of Preston Davie; and others. Valuable collections were also added by purchase. Among them were the John

McDowell Collection of railroad, educational, and agricultural pamphlets, mainly of the period from 1840 to 1860; the William Lenoir Collection, rich in political pamphlets and broadsides of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries; and the Nathan Wilson Walker Collection, one of the finest North Caroliniana libraries, particularly strong in literature by North Carolinians.

Distinct Collections

There are four collections housed in the NCC which are maintained separately from the other holdings. The cataloging procedures for each of these groups of materials varies.

The Sir Walter Raleigh Collection consists of books, pamphlets, articles, and manuscripts by and about the famous British explorer who in 1585 sent out the Roanoke colony. The initial purchase of the materials was made possible in August, 1939 by funds from the Roanoke Colony Memorial Association. The collection now totals over 900 items which have been purchased with RCMA funds and funds from other sources. It is expanded as new works are published and older ones become available. Its holdings emphasize works about Raleigh that have been published during the last half century, but it contains a large number of seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth century imprints. Books by Raleigh include modern reprints and most of the first editions of his writings. Two particularly noteworthy items in the group are the first edition of his *History of the World* (1614) in original boards, and a 1596 edition of *The Discoverie of the Large, Rich and Bevvtyful Empyre of Gviana*. The collection also contains a complete file of the *Reports and Transactions* of the Devonshire Association for the Advancement of Science, Literature, and Art, beginning with volume one in 1862 and extending to the present. These works and the manuscript materials

which are part of the Raleigh Collection are fully cataloged in a separate drawer of the NCC catalog.

The NCC acquires all materials by and about Thomas Wolfe, including foreign language publications. The Wolfe collection includes also family letters and pictures, some personal objects, an extensive clipping file from newspapers and magazines arranged chronologically, and a few fragments of manuscript plays. The manuscript letters were deposited on perpetual loan by the author's family in 1950, and can be used only by permission of the executor of the Wolfe Estate. All materials are fully cataloged in the NCC shelf list. There are several unpublished bibliographies which are part of the Wolfe Collection. Most of the published works about and by Wolfe are also in the general collection and are entered in the main catalog.

Description of manuscripts: Papers of Wolfe and his family, including letters (1908-1938), from Wolfe at school in Asheville and Chapel Hill, traveling in Europe, and writing and teaching in New York, to his family; letters to Wolfe from his parents, brothers, and sisters, especially Mabel and Fred, from his literary friends, especially Edward Aswell, Elizabeth Nowell, and Maxwell Perkins, and from other friends and admirers, particularly during Wolfe's illness (1938); estate papers and family correspondence, chiefly of Mabel, Fred, and their mother, with each other and Wolfe's old friends (1938-1957); and clippings, pictures, and manuscript fragments of plays. Also papers of John Skally Terry, Wolfe's biographer and friend, concerning a Thomas Wolfe Memorial; notes and correspondence (1938-1953), while gathering material on Wolfe; and transcripts of interviews with Wolfe's mother.

The Bruce Cotten Collection of North Caroliniana was received by legacy of Major Bruce Cotten of Baltimore, Maryland, after his death in 1954. With the

collection came an endowment for its expansion. This superb collection, consisting at the time of the legacy of 2,372 volumes and 42 maps, was widely known as the best private collection of its type. It is remarkable for hundreds of books of rarity, from the sixteenth to the eighteenth century, which include Thomas Ash's *Carolina or a Description of That Country* (London, 1682), John Lawson's *A New Voyage to Carolina* (London, 1709), and other early Carolina historical sources. Imprints from the early period of North Carolina printing are well represented. Each item of this important group is cataloged in the main catalog. A description of the original collection is given in *Housed on the Third Floor* (Baltimore, 1941) by Bruce Cotten.

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Rare books and pamphlets are isolated in a set of locked cages in the reading room. North Carolina "incunabula" are well represented in this group. It includes also a group of "association volumes" with autographs and book plates. The rare materials which are part of the Cotten Collection are housed elsewhere. The NCC is principally a collection of printed materials, but also has some manuscript holdings.

The Author's Manuscript Collection includes various drafts of writings by over 150 recent twentieth century North Carolina Authors, which appear only in the shelf list. The William Byrd II (1674-1744) Books include the coded diary, (1739-1741) and notebook (1717-1724) with letters and essays in longhand of the colonial Virginia planter. The Simpson and Bryan Family Papers, 1733-1925 begin with manuscripts of John Simpson (1728-1788) and run through the generations of two North Carolina families until the eve of the Depression. The Vault Collection Manuscripts include the diary of 1782 published in 1927 under the title *Journal of a Lady of Quality . . . 1774-1776*, E. W. and C. M. Andrews (eds.).

The Cotten Collection includes a num-

ber of unrelated manuscript groups. The *Forty-fifth North Carolina Regiment Order Book, 1862-1865* contains the regiment's orders while serving in Virginia, eastern North Carolina, and in the Gettysburg Campaign (June, 1862-December, 1863). The *Morris Family Papers, 1764-1827* contain manuscripts related to fifty years of litigation over property in Chatham and Cumberland counties, the John Willcox Deep River iron forge and coal mine, the Regulator movement, and letters of important North Carolinians from the Revolutionary and early national period. The *North Carolina Miscellaneous Autograph Letters, 1808-1925* are unrelated and chiefly of interest for the autographs of notable North Carolinians. The *Richard Brice Paper (1663)* is an affidavit to Maryland's governor, Richard Bellingham, concerning the Cape Fear dissenters. The *Henry Talbot (1563?-1595?) Letter, 1585* discusses the Roanoke colony venture and important persons and events of the period.

Non-Book Materials

The NCC collects maps of the state, its counties, and towns. These include maritime charts, air navigations charts, soil survey maps, geological maps, road maps, and the like. Maps of historical interest are also collected. The NCC holds a portion of the William P. Jacocks Collection, and the remainder is housed elsewhere at the University. These materials include principally rare prints and maps relating to the South drawn by many seventeenth century cartographers, but most are about North Carolina from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries. All maps are fully cataloged in the main catalog. The remainder of the NCC's approximately 3,000 maps are important for the light they throw on changing boundaries, geographical names long discarded, and the location of early towns, forts, churches, and even plantations. Some of the older maps are of great artistic beauty, and the Collection



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has a number of rare maps among which are *A New Map of Carolina* by John Thornton (London, ca. 1689) and *Carte Particuliere de la Carolina dressees sur les memoires le plus nouveaux* [Nicholas Sanson] (Amsterdam, 1693). The largest and most detailed of the old maps are Henry Mouzon's *An Accurate Map of North and South Carolina* (London, 1775), and Captain Collet's *A Compleat Map of North Carolina from an Actual Survey* (London, 1770).

The North Carolina Collection has rather large holdings of pictures and portraits, including thousands of different photographs, engravings, and prints, and oil portraits. The photographs include historic sites, buildings, monuments, and other subjects of interest. The collection of picture post cards, comprised of similar materials, is arranged by county. Finally the NCC holds a number of oil portraits and maintains the records of others at the University of North Carolina. These materials are accessible through two index card files. For the photographs and post cards there is a single alphabetical subject card file index. The Collection also maintains a UNC portrait index. This card file describes nearly two hundred original oil portraits.

Indexes Prepared In The NCC

The staff and friends of the Collection have over the years compiled card indexes which are helpful to researchers in a variety of ways. Each of these has unique features and it would, therefore, be difficult to discuss them generally.

The County History Index prepared by Mrs. Lyman Cotten includes cards for principally eighty un-indexed county and regional histories, but has not been updated since 1959.

The Powell Biographical Index compiled under the direction of the former curator of the Collection became avail-

able for use in 1974. It benefits greatly from William S. Powell's depth of knowledge and experience with North Carolina bio-bibliography. He emphasized difficult to use and little known materials which are important biographical sources on North Carolinians for the state's entire history. Due to this policy, some important biographical sources, such as Saunders' and Clark's *Colonial and State Records* are not included. On the other hand, the researcher should be aware of the fact that titles such as the DAB and various *Who's Who* publications are included. There is a bibliography of all indexed works with the file.

The North Carolina Imprint File indexes North Carolina imprints by year from 1749 to 1880 and by place from Asheboro to Winston, including a "No Place" category. The file includes a group of Confederate imprints. The emphasis of the Imprint File is on the history of printing and publishing in the colony and state. The file tells the researcher everything held in the Collection printed in a given year or place, and is a useful reference tool for the political scientist, historian, and student of the history of printing.

The Marriage and Obituary Indexes may be located under the subject heading GENEALOGY in the NCC catalog. There are a goodly number.

Non-Print Media

These materials are acquired under the general guidelines of the acquisition policy and are fully cataloged.

Various microforms are usually acquired when the material which they represent is not available in print or, as in the case of newspapers, to save space. Facsimiles of rare books and manuscripts or theses and dissertations on North Carolina are examples. All microforms are cataloged fully.

Performances by North Carolina composers and musicians, recordings of inter-

views and public events, films concerned with North Carolina are stored on disc, tape, and film. All non-print materials are brought together in the shelf list.

Ephemera

Pamphlets, clippings, broadsides, and similar materials which at the time of their publication seem to be only of temporary interest often attain a historical significance. The NCC acquires and catalogs many items in this category.

A collection of more than 62,000 pamphlets relating to the state and its people, covering all subjects and periods from the earliest times to the present, is housed in the NCC. Each pamphlet is entered in the main card catalog of the Collection. Pamphlets include long runs of annual reports of religious, patriotic, business, civic, and professional organizations within the state. Reports of railroads and fraternal groups, catalogs of businesses, schools, and colleges, and similar material are also to be found.

Under the heading N. C. — Scrapbooks in the Collection's main catalog are found over 150 entries. These scrapbooks take a wide variety of forms—for instance, photographs or newspaper and magazine clippings. They relate to people and organizations of the widest variety of interest to a researcher of North Carolina.

The NCC's clipping file contains approximately 113,000 clippings, most dating from the 1920's to the present. Currently four newspapers (*NEWS AND OBSERVER* [Raleigh], *DURHAM HERALD*, *DURHAM SUN*, *CHAPEL HILL NEWSPAPER*) are clipped daily, and the Sunday issues of several other major state dailies are clipped for stories about North Carolina events, issues, places and people. This collection of mounted clippings is arranged alphabetically by subject in vertical files and is for building use only. In 1965 Susan Zarr prepared *Subject Headings in the Clipping File of the North Carolina Collection*. The

Zarr list is kept up to date with the addition of new subject headings as they are created. However, the list does not include the many personal and proper name entries in the clipping file.

The Literary Scrapbook series, numbering 57 volumes by 1974, includes book reviews, notices, dust jackets, blurbs, and newspaper and magazine clippings related to North Carolina authors or books about North Carolina. There is a staff-prepared author-title index to the whole. These volumes, compiled since 1932, bring together materials invaluable to the researcher interested in the literature of North Carolina.

The Harriet Laura Herring Clipping File is an important addition to the growing mass of material related to the textile industry in the twentieth century South. Covering the period from 1925-1937, the file provides the researcher with valuable material on economic life emphasizing industrial relations in the era of the Great Depression.

The Daily News Record series (1947-1948) provides a later summary of economic conditions. Composed primarily of several thousand newspaper clippings, the file includes magazine clippings, extremely scattered correspondence and eyewitness reports, and pamphlets from such diverse organizations as the National Textile Workers Union and the National Association of Manufacturers. The file folders are arranged chronologically and each clipping is identified by source and date. There is also a list of *Subject Headings in the Harriet Laura Herring Clipping Collection* prepared by B. K. White, Jr. in 1971.

The NCC collects broadsides in every available category related to the colony and state. There are well over 1,500 broadsides from the eighteenth century to the present. Each item is entered in the main catalog under personal or corporate author, or title and under appropriate subject headings. Materials variously termed

broad­sides are di­verse: ad­ver­tisements and an­nounce­ments of runaway slaves, state fairs, or­ganizations and com­mercial firms and private per­sons; cir­cu­lars, bul­le­tins, pos­ters, cat­a­logs and rosters; cam­paign pos­ters and pam­phlets, folders, pro­lamations, di­agrams and charts, peti­tions, ad­dresses, and cal­en­dars.

Serials

This term is commonly applied to pub­lica­tions ap­pear­ing at in­ter­vals (regu­lar or not) and in­ten­ded to con­tinue their ex­is­tence in­de­fin­itely. The ex­tensive col­lec­tion of bound news­papers among the hold­ings of the NCC in­cludes pho­to­copies of the NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE, the state's ear­liest news­paper. The North Carolina Col­lec­tion main­tains in hard copy com­plete runs of the DAILY TAR HEEL and the CHAPEL HILL NEWS­PAPER plus broken runs of many other North Carolina news­papers. Cur­rent news­papers ac­quired only in mi­cro­form are the CHARLOTTE OB­SERVER, GREENSBORO DAILY NEWS, Raleigh NEWS AND OBSERVER, and ASHEVILLE CITIZEN (since 1972). These po­licies re­sult from co­op­er­ative agree­ment among sev­eral North Carolina li­braries. Files of ear­lier pa­pers are ac­quired as they be­come avail­able. Most of the news­papers prior to 1900 have been filmed as a mea­sure against de­te­rioration. The re­searcher in­ter­ested in ob­tain­ing a fairly ac­cu­rate idea of the Col­lec­tion's hold­ings of mi­cro­filmed news­papers can re­fer to *North Carolina News­papers on Microfilm* (Raleigh, 4th ed., 1971). The HILLSBOROUGH RECORDER index is a card file pre­pared by Helen D. Allen, which in­dexes the pe­riod 1820-1879. It is titled "Refer­ences to Chapel Hill and the Uni­versity of North Carolina ap­pear­ing in the avail­able issues of the HILLSBOROUGH RECORDER from 1820 to 1879, lo­cated in the North Carolina Room of Wilson Li­brary, UNC." The sum­maries of refer­ences are gen­erally quite de­tailed. The *Durham Herald Index*,

1930-1969, pre­pared at Duke Uni­versity Li­braries is helpful not only for the Dur­ham pa­per, but can also be used as an ap­proximate in­dex for stories of re­gional in­terest ap­pear­ing on in­dexed sub­jects in other North Carolina news­papers.

Periodicals published in the colony or state are ac­quired by the NCC. Like news­papers, the main en­tries for pe­riodicals are dis­persed in the main cat­a­log by title or is­suing agency. Pe­riodicals in­clude not only jour­nals, but also city and other di­rec­tories, church as­so­ciation min­utes, con­fer­ences, in­sti­tu­tional and or­ganizational bul­le­tins, pro­ceedings, news­letters, and the like.

The North Carolina Col­lec­tion in 1975 pub­lished an il­lustrated eight-sided folder titled "North Carolina's Li­terary Her­itage" which de­scribes the his­tory, hold­ings and po­licies of the Col­lec­tion. A free copy is avail­able upon re­quest.

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FLEXIBILITY

We believe what we do for you and how we do it should be determined by your needs. We have suggested procedures and formats. Our order processing and records are computerized, and we are able to employ our computer to service any special requests you may have. In the event you have a request which a computer, for some reason, cannot honor, we keep our typewriters handy and a perfect willingness to do whatever is necessary to suit your needs.

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