

Documenting the American South and the Public Library User: A Proposal to Improve Access for the General Public to a Database of Southern and North Carolina Materials

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Databases of historical primary sources such as the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Documenting the American South are highly used and appreciated by members of the general public as well as scholars. North Carolina public library users could benefit greatly if links to such resources were made available to them through public library Web sites. The most convenient solution would be for a central cultural resource institution to take charge of such a project.

Documenting the American South and Public Users

Documenting the American South (DAS) at <http://docsouth.unc.edu>, is an electronic publishing program of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Library that provides free public access to primary source materials related to southern history, literature, and culture from the colonial period through the first decades of the twentieth century. DAS is a highly regarded project, having received the SOLINET Outstanding Library Program award in 2000 and the prestigious Electronic Lincoln prize in 2006.¹ DAS has received widespread publicity in the state, regional, and national press, including articles in the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the French newspaper *Le Monde*. A large number of academic libraries and southern studies organizations link to DAS as a recommended Internet resource. Two DAS segments are included in the Library of Congress' *American Memory Project*. DAS is widely viewed as one of the preeminent Internet Web sites related to the history of the American South. Users may freely print out DAS texts for personal use.

DAS is a full-text database organized into ten thematic collections of primary sources. While the collections cover the South as a whole, they contain a high concentration of content related to North Carolina. The ten collections are:

North American Slave Narratives, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/neh/> – books and articles that document the individual and collective story of African Americans struggling for freedom and human rights in the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries.

First-Person Narratives of the American South, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/fpn/> – a collection of diaries, autobiographies, memoirs, travel accounts, and ex-slave narratives written by Southerners.

Library of Southern Literature, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/southlit/> – a wide range of literary works of the American South published before 1924.

The Southern Homefront, 1861-1865, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/>

[imls/](#) – documents related to all aspects of southern life during the Civil War, including era maps, broadsides, photographs, printed works, Confederate currency, and manuscript letters and diaries.

The Church in the Southern Black Community, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/church/> – autobiographies, biographies, church documents, sermons, histories, encyclopedias, and other published materials that present a collected history of the way southern African Americans experienced and transformed Protestant Christianity into the central institution of community life.

The North Carolina Experience, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/nc/> – a wide variety of print and manuscript materials that tell the story of the Tar Heel State as seen through representative histories, descriptive accounts, institutional reports, fiction, and other writing.

Oral Histories of the American South, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/sohp/> – selected oral history interviews gathered by the Southern Oral History Program.

North Carolinians and the Great War, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/wwi/> – a collection that illustrates how World War I shaped the lives of different North Carolinians on the battlefield and on the home front as well as how the state and federal government responded to war-time demands.

The First Century of the First State University, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/unc/> – materials that document the creation and growth of the University of North Carolina during the period 1776-1875.

True and Candid Compositions: The Lives and Writings of Antebellum Students at the University of North Carolina, <http://docsouth.unc.edu/true/> – documents written primarily by students attending the University of North Carolina between 1795 and 1868.

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A primary goal for DAS is to provide access to personal narratives of men and women from the southern states that represent a wide cross-section of socioeconomic levels, political perspectives, and life experiences. DAS attempts to go beyond the views of the southern social and economic elite that dominated print culture of the period and focus on the narratives of relatively inaccessible populations such as women, African Americans, enlisted men, and laborers. In DAS, accounts of life on the farm, in cotton mills, or in slave quarters take priority over accounts of battles or public lives. The digitized collections selected with these criteria have been extraordinarily popular with the general public.

DAS is a heavily used database.² Originally, DAS was conceived as a database that would provide texts primarily for the use of faculty, students, and researchers in the field of southern studies. While interest from the general public and K-12 populations was anticipated, the overwhelming interest on the part of the public at large came as a surprise. Of 3,281 user comments sent to DAS by e-mail prior to April 2006, 78 percent came from the “general public,” a broad category that includes all users not associated with higher education or K-12. Forty-four percent of all comments pose reference questions, and thirteen percent request permissions of various kinds. The breadth and diversity of the general public user base, as revealed in the e-mails, has led DAS to think of the project not primarily as a service to scholarship but, perhaps even more importantly, as a public good serving the citizens of North Carolina and beyond.

The comments reveal that the general public use DAS for a wide variety of purposes, beginning with genealogy and family history. A surprising number are involved in creative projects of various kinds – writing historical novels, plays, or movie scripts – and use the information in DAS for background and context for their creative efforts. Others are independent scholars doing research on a range of southern topics. But by far, the largest number of the public comments come from general readers seeking personal enhancement through a better understanding of and appreciation for the past. They have come to DAS for primary sources that provide a more immediate, authentic, and textured experience of the past than the secondary sources to which they are accustomed. As one reader writes, the *Personal Narratives of the American South* and the *North American Slave Narratives*, along with other first-hand accounts in other sections of DAS, have led him to “a fluent empathy for the everyday lives of the past,” a comment that expresses the reactions of a great many of the general public readers to DAS.

Some readers are deeply touched by DAS texts.³ For example, an African American reader writes,

Just recently found your web site...I have just begun to explore and read the passages; however, I can say that I am thrilled to find it and look forward to exploring all the links. I am hungry for detailed information on the life of slaves and what they endured during their confinement. It disturbs me immensely that our younger generation knows so little of our history and takes our priceless freedom for granted. The cruelty that was imposed on our ancestors cannot be forgotten. Thanks for ensuring that this information be available for all who are searching...

The following somewhat lengthy comment is reproduced in its entirety because it is a recent comment (received as this paper was being written) from a reader in western North Carolina which illustrates how an engagement with DAS can persist over time and have a profound influence on a reader's perspectives on the past. This quote makes many points contained in a number of other e-mail comments.

Dear University of North Carolina DocSouth Staff; as emotional as it may sound, I would like to sincerely thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for the information you've made available to the public in general and to me in particular.

Being Black, I of course was familiar as well as curious about slavery but my view of it was greatly distorted because it was based primarily on the sanitized version put forth by books, television, and movies; so as a consequence, my view of the American slaves was arrogant, reviling, and condescending because I could not only understand why they put up with such treatment but boldly proclaimed in my ignorance 'I would have done!!!'.

As far as my usage, to this day, I don't know how I happened upon your Web site but I know it was around 1996 - 1997 during a particularly tumultuous [sic] period of my life. I had little else to do but entertain myself learning about this new thing called the internet. While 'surfing' I must have come across 'slave narratives' for some reason, I don't remember now. I think the first 'slave narrative' I read was by William Wellman Brown and I messmerized [sic].

I'd heard of the narratives of Frederick Douglas [sic] and Booker T. Washington but these were mild compared to the ones of Charles Ball or William Wellman Brown and I could not stop reading other authors of slave narratives and correspondingly the reality of that time became even more real to me.

I became caught up in their words and the reality of the world of the 19th century became real to me; and then I understood how wrong my sanitized view of slavery was and I understood theirs was DEFINITELY an entirely different perspective and what I take for granted today - simply wasn't available to them.

I then began to think of the people at the University of North Carolina who'd patiently compiled such a wealth of information; and I was grateful to you for your time and effort.

I thought how you may think you're performing a thankless humdrum task - but if my small note has any significance, please know that this is as far from being the truth as was my sanitized view of slavery prior to reading the slave narratives you made available to me.

I'm not particularly inclined to want to search out my ancestors because it might depress me and I'd rather let that go. However, because of your work, I know my past in that I know where I'm from, and who I am, because I understand much better the world in which my ancestors lived.

Although at least 10 years in coming, thank you, very, very much.

One of the more notable examples of the impact of DAS is the reunion of the descendants and relatives of the slave Moses Grandy in Camden, North Carolina and Chesapeake, Virginia,

which came about as a direct result of the publication of Grandy's autobiography in DAS. Most of the Grandy family, including the organizers of the reunion, had not known about the life narrative of their remarkable ancestor before its publication in DAS. The Grandy family reunion and history celebration drew a large crowd and resulted in plans for a "Moses Grandy Scholarship" program for college students.

With the prominence of the *North American Slave Narratives* and the *Church in the Southern Black Community*, DAS has been especially successful in reaching African American audiences.⁴ DAS has also shown wide appeal to white family historians and other groups such as re-enactors, Civil War and local history buffs, and church historians.⁵ DAS's appeal, it appears, is not primarily in the information it provides but the stories that are conveyed by DAS texts. A characteristic that repeatedly comes through in perusals of the comments is that they come primarily from "readers" rather than researchers or searchers for information, which may in part explain the strong attraction of DAS for the general public. Whatever the reason, it is clear that DAS is providing a useful service to students and scholars while at the same time making available collections that are of great interest to the general public.⁶ Because of the strong North Carolina and southern content in DAS, and the demonstrated strong public interest in DAS texts, the authors became curious about the extent that North Carolina public libraries were referring their users to DAS through Web links and other means, such as NC ECHO (*North Carolina: Exploring Cultural Heritage Online*). We conducted a small-scale study to determine the degree to which the Web sites of public libraries in the state, in their role as portals to external resources, pointed their users to DAS and NC ECHO as two important sites for southern and North Carolina content. The remainder of this paper is a report on this study.

Content of Public Library Web Sites

The State Library of North Carolina maintains a list of the 77 Web sites of North Carolina's public libraries that have a Web presence.⁷ The authors used this list to examine each of the public library Web sites in an effort to determine how many currently provide links to DAS. The search also included an attempt to conclude how many of the public library sites provide a link to NC ECHO, since this digital resource Web site could be a significant option for providing links to DAS and to similar resources.

Finally, this examination provided information about the number of libraries that view themselves as portals to outside resources, about the various categories that contain the links to NC ECHO and to DAS (for instance, "Electronic Resources" or "Genealogy and Local History"), and about the degree of ease of access to the links. The results of this analysis demonstrate that, though many of North Carolina's public libraries cast themselves as portals by providing links to a number of outside resources on their Web sites, the majority of these do not provide access to NC ECHO and almost none link to DAS. Further, the locations of these links differ tremendously among library Web sites.

North Carolina's public libraries have two possible distinct missions in their online presence, and this distinction causes tremendous differences in the Web sites. One possible goal is to provide information regarding only the library itself. This may

include its hours and location, an online catalog, collections information, library event announcements, and perhaps several Web links to local government information. Some of North Carolina's libraries, generally in the less populous regions of the state, maintain Web sites with just this information.

The other, and far more common, mission is for a library to offer a Web site that, along with containing information about the library itself, supplies links to outside resources that could potentially help users with their information needs.⁸ Clearly, if public libraries do not view themselves as portals to outside resources, one would not expect them to provide access to resources such as NC ECHO or DAS. However, the second type of library Web site could potentially greatly assist its users by offering an easily accessible portal to these resources.

In 2001, according to a content evaluation of North Carolina public library Web sites performed by a library student at the University of North Carolina, seven public libraries out of the 66 that then had a Web presence, provided links to NC ECHO.⁹ Six years later, 29 of the 77 libraries have such links. Such an increase may be due to the fact that public libraries are gradually becoming aware of NC ECHO's digitization grant program. However, upon a review of the online resources that NC ECHO has helped to fund, there appears to be very little correlation between the public libraries that have received funding from NC ECHO and those that provide links to it on their Web sites.¹⁰

Of the libraries providing links to NC ECHO, there are several main categories in which the link is located. Five libraries supply prominent links to NC ECHO on their homepages, and several of these are in the form of large logos. Interestingly, none of these libraries have participated in digitization projects receiving funding from NC ECHO.

In many cases, a link to NC ECHO is included somewhere in a functional category of links to external Web sites. The category's name has many variations, some of which are more intuitive than others, and only two categories recur on multiple libraries' Web sites.

Functional Category Names and Frequency (Links to NC ECHO)

Access Databases (1)	Recommended Web sites (2)
Internet Links (1)	Reference (1)
On-line Database Resources (1)	Research Tools (1)
Online Databases (1)	Useful Links (1)
Online Databases and Links (1)	Web Links (3)
Online Resources (1)	Web Resources (1)

The other common location for a link to NC ECHO is not within a functional category such as "Web Links," but within a topical category that relates to history or genealogy, either local or general.

Topical Category Names and Frequency (Links to NC ECHO)

Genealogy and History (1)	Local History and Genealogy (1)
Genealogy and Local History (1)	NC and US Links (1)
History Room (1)	NC Heritage (1)
Local History (1)	Special Collections (1)

Finally, one library placed its link to NC ECHO on the page where users can search the library's online catalog.

The difficulty of locating the link to NC ECHO is variable as well. In some cases, a link to NC ECHO is supplied on the page that the user sees immediately after clicking on the main category heading. However, at times these categories are further divided into subheadings in which the NC ECHO link is located. In some cases, users must click through four pages before arriving at the page where the link to NC ECHO has been placed, which, unless the site is extremely well organized, makes it unlikely that a user will locate the link either purposefully or by stumbling across it while browsing. On library sites such as these, NC ECHO is generally located in a subcategory that is similarly named to the main functional and topical category headings listed above, although the topical subcategories are focused more specifically on North Carolina.

Many libraries that act as portals to outside resources, but that do not link to NC ECHO, use similar names for categories of links; therefore, NC ECHO could easily be incorporated into existing headings. The categories, again, can be divided into functional and topical headings, as shown below.

Topical Category Names and Frequency (no NC ECHO Links)

Genealogy (1)	Local History and Special Collections (1)
Genealogy Collection (1)	Local History Room (2)
Genealogy and History (1)	Local Links (2)
Genealogy and Local History (2)	North Carolina Links (1)
Local and Family History (1)	

Functional Category Names and Frequency (no NC ECHO Links)

Digital Collections (1)	Reference and Databases (1)
E-Resources (1)	Reference Department (1)
Electronic Reference Room (1)	Reference/Online (1)
Electronic Resources (3)	Reference Resources (1)
Helpful Internet Links (1)	Research (1)
Information (1)	Research/Homework (1)
Information Resources (1)	Research Links (1)
Internet Resources (3)	Research Tools (1)
Internet Search (1)	Research Tools and Topics (1)
Library Links (1)	Resource Materials (1)
Links (4)	Resources (1)
Links to Internet Resources (1)	Search the Internet (3)

Online Reference Resources (1)	Suggested Internet Web Links (1)
Online Resources (3)	Useful Links (1)
Other Links (1)	Web Links (1)
Popular Resources (1)	Web Search (1)
Reference (3)	

While over 1/3 of the North Carolina public libraries' Web sites provide links to NC ECHO, just three of them supply a direct path to *Documenting the American South*. All of these links are in a category or subcategory relating to history and genealogy, although the category at one library is named primarily for the physical location of the library's local history collection and many users would not find it particularly intuitive to click on this category heading in an effort to locate external links. Further, two libraries that do not link to DAS as a whole provide links to specific documents or collections within DAS to which their user populations would relate. DAS, as well as NC ECHO, could fit very easily into the categories of online resources listed above. Interestingly, in an informal examination of other Southeastern public library Web sites, nine libraries out of 61 whose Web sites were investigated maintain a link to either all or a section of DAS – a much higher percentage than libraries within the state of North Carolina.¹¹

It may also be the case that many libraries do not have control over either the contents or appearance of their Web sites. For a number of library sites, this information is directed by their county government or other governing agency, and any alterations in the site must be approved by or made by this agency. Of course, it would be much more difficult for such libraries to make the recommended additions or changes to their linking practices.

Recommendations

As the situation stands, it appears that the vast majority of DAS users among the North Carolina public are reaching the site via a Google search. While this is certainly a viable method for access, Google searches do have limitations. For instance, Google searches for the phrases "North Carolina history," "Civil War," and "slavery" did not yield DAS Web pages on the first page of results. Further, even if Google searches were entirely fruitful, it is always useful for users to be able to reach resources with a variety of methods. For those North Carolina users who visit the Web sites of their local public libraries, it would be beneficial to have easy access from the libraries' sites to DAS and to similarly useful resources. This would result in a more integrated Internet experience in which external resources are used in the context of locally-held resources.

According to a 2005 study, the vast majority of resources provided on public library Web sites are subscription-based, which indicates that "carefully selected and presented Web resources are not available to library users who only use their own public library Web sites."¹² Since there are, for the majority of public libraries, obstacles to putting a great amount of resources into developing and maintaining links to outside Web sites, we would like to propose two alternatives for public libraries to more easily provide such access. Both options would be collaborative, with a central agency or organization as compiler and provider of the sources to limit as much as possible the staff and financial commitment on

an individual-library level. With the first option, an organization such as NC LIVE or NC ECHO would maintain on its Web site an up-to-date list of freely accessible resources for North Carolina public library users. The links would be included on the Web site of the organization, so that users would access them indirectly from the Web site of their public library.

NC ECHO is one possible option recommended for a central link repository location. NC ECHO has several functions. One of its main purposes is to provide a single, freely available online access point to the state's cultural institutions and to those institutions' resources.¹³ NC ECHO already supplies links to content that is entirely digital, as in the case of collections within *Documenting the American South* (DAS), as well as links to digital finding aids for print resources.

However, for this option to be feasible and useful, it would be necessary for the North Carolina public libraries that do not currently provide a link to NC ECHO but consider themselves to be resource portals to add NC ECHO links to their Web sites. It is further recommended that the NC ECHO link be briefly annotated, so users would know why they should access the site. Further, it would be important for NC ECHO to reorganize and update its current section of links, to make clearer distinctions among types of resources and particularly to differentiate the digitized resources from finding aids for print sources, and, finally, to actively promote its existence to North Carolina's public libraries so that all potential users could receive the fullest benefit possible from freely available digital resources. Currently, a visitor to NC ECHO's Web site can access its resource links by browsing by format, subject, or title. Format categories include Architectural Drawings and Blueprints, Databases, Images, Maps and Plats, Online Exhibits and Publications, Online Finding Aids, Online Object Collection, Online Periodicals Indexes/Clipping File Lists, Online Photographic Resources, Online Sound Exhibits, Paper Records, Photographs, and Text.

The distinctions among these categories are not entirely clear: for instance, what is the difference between Images and Photographs, and what is a database and what is not? Furthermore, the categories are not divided in a way that provides easy access to the collections contained within them, and the lists are certainly missing some key collections. To cite an example with which the authors are most familiar, *Documenting the American South* is not included in its entirety. Rather, specific collections within DAS, such as First-Person Narratives of the American South and North American Slave Narratives, are listed individually, and NC ECHO has not been updated to include DAS's more recent additions. A further potential disadvantage to this option is that since NC ECHO is entirely focused on resources within the state of North Carolina, the list of links could not include outside or broader resources such as those mentioned above.

If NC ECHO is not presently staffed to upgrade its Web services and to keep the information current, its funding body should consider providing additional resources to take on this goal. Funds spent on such a project would no doubt be cost-beneficial for North Carolina public libraries collectively. It is our understanding that NC ECHO is already beginning to address some of the issues mentioned above.

Another possible location for such a list of Web links would be on NC LIVE's Web site. In such a case, NC LIVE could simply add resources such as DAS to its already-existing list of free databases. Suggested Web sites similar to DAS, with digitized primary sources focused on the state of North Carolina, include North Carolina State University's *Green 'n' Growing* project, which is a primary source history of 4-H and Home Demonstration in North Carolina; East Carolina University's *Eastern North Carolina Digital Library*, which documents the history of the eastern part of the state; *Beyond Books and Buildings*, which is a history of North Carolina higher education; and Western Carolina University's *Craft Revival*; a site with digitized images and descriptions of the crafts of western North Carolina.¹⁴ It is likely that an analysis of the users of these sites would also reveal strong interest by the general public. The list could also include useful resources less focused on North Carolina but still with local interest, such as the *American Memory Project* run by the Library of Congress; the University of Virginia's *The Valley of the Shadow* project, a site with digitized sources on the American Civil War; the University of Virginia's *Electronic Text Center*, which has digitized a great deal of historic American and world literature; and Duke University's digitized *African American Women* and *Civil War Women* projects.¹⁵

The second of the two options for providing online resource links to North Carolina public libraries would be for a central agency (again, such as NC LIVE or NC ECHO) to similarly maintain a list of active links that would be appropriate for public library users. However, instead of this list being located on the Web site of the agency for direct access by the public, it would be distributed to the public libraries so that they could each place a list directly on their individual Web sites (HTML code could be provided as well). There are several advantages to this option, the first being that libraries could customize the list. If librarians felt that a link did not apply to their particular library, they could easily delete it (or they could add links that would be particularly interesting to their user populations). Since a vast majority of Web links provided by public libraries are not duplicated by any other public library, the ability to customize the list would be a significant advantage.¹⁶ A second advantage to this option is that users would have a more direct connection to the list and would be able to click directly from the library Web site to a specific topic that interested them, rather than having to find the list almost by chance through a link to NC LIVE or NC ECHO. A large disadvantage to this option, however, would be the effort involved in the maintenance of the list of links after it was distributed. It would require a larger effort on the part of the individual libraries, even though it is recommended that an organization at the state level periodically maintain and update the list.

The best possible approach may be to give North Carolina public libraries the opportunity to exercise a combination of options or even all three options simultaneously. That is, public libraries would be able to maintain a locally customized list of links providing direct access to outside resources with the aid of a centrally maintained list from which to select, while at the same time having DAS and selected other free databases listed on NC LIVE and providing access to an upgraded NC ECHO Web site. Such intentional redundancy supports access from a variety of contexts, which is always an advantage in providing services to a diverse user population.

Library users in North Carolina are fortunate to have Web-based access to rich collections of primary sources such as DAS and the other Web sites mentioned in this article. These collections are not only already of demonstrated usefulness, but continuously being improved and enhanced. For example, DAS will bring out the digitized version of the *Colonial and State Records of North Carolina* in 2008, a mainstay for documentary research on the state.¹⁷ As such Web resources grow in interest and usefulness for the public at large, parallel efforts need to be made to ensure convenient access through Web links and statewide portals such as NC ECHO.

References

¹A brief announcement of the SOLINET award can be found here: http://www.solinet.net/resources/resources_templ.cfm?doc_id=2747. A news release regarding the eLincoln prize is located here: http://www.gettysburg.edu/civilwar/prizes_andships/elincoln_prize/index.dot.

²In 2006 DAS tabulated 58,791,745 hits, which converts to 5,394,139 user sessions or 14,738 sessions a day, an average of more than six sessions per day for each title in the database. The conversion to sessions is based on an algorithm that eliminates hits on the introductory pages and indexes as well as image files, so that only uses involving consultation of the texts themselves are counted. In staff parlance at DAS, these sessions are sometimes referred to as “check-outs,” as the measure most closely equivalent to a book circulation. Although they are not truly equivalent, at least the use of this measure avoids the exaggerated “use statistics” resulting from counting “hits.”

³For more information and analysis of the DAS comments, see the *DAS 1000th Title Symposium* remarks, located at <http://docsouth.unc.edu/support/about/jahewitt.html>; and *Keep up the Good Work(s): Readers Comment on Documenting the American South*, located at <http://docsouth.unc.edu/support/about/readers.pdf>.

⁴Melanie Polutta, “Who Are They and Why Are They Here?: A User Analysis of the Digital Library *Documenting the American South: Beginnings to 1920*” (Unpublished masters thesis, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2001), 36. This study demonstrated that a greater percentage of African Americans use DAS, as compared to the percentage of African Americans using the Internet as a whole.

⁵DAS has also been shown to be extremely useful for K-12 educators. For information on DAS’ educational purposes, see Meghan McGlenn, “Using the ‘Documenting the American South’ Digital Library in the Social Studies: A Case Study of the Experiences of Teachers in the Field,” *Contemporary Issues in Technology and Social Studies Teacher Education* 7, no. 1 (2007).

⁶Patricia Buck Dominguez and Joe A. Hewitt, “A Public Good: *Documenting the American South* and Slave Narratives,” *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage* 7, no. 2 (2007). Forthcoming.

⁷This list is located at <http://statelibrary.dcr.state.nc.us/library/publib.htm>. Several of the links in this list were broken at the time of the research, which took place in February 2007. In such cases an Internet search was used to find a more up-to-date link.

⁸A study of the characteristics of the Web presence of North American public libraries can be found at Chandra Prabha and

Raymond D. Irwin, “Characteristics, Uniqueness, and Overlap of Information Sources Linked from North American Public Library Web Sites,” *First Monday* 10, no. 8 (2005).

⁹Naomi A. Parkhurst, “Content, Form, and Currency: The Information Provided on North Carolina Public Library Web Sites” (Unpublished masters thesis, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2001), 20.

¹⁰See NC ECHO’s “Projects Funded by NC ECHO” web site at <http://www.ncecho.org/onlineprojects.asp>.

¹¹This trend seems limited to Southeastern libraries – we examined library Web sites from other parts of the country as well, and none linked to DAS.

¹²Prabha and Irwin, “Characteristics, uniqueness and overlap of information sources linked from North American public library Web sites,” 14.

¹³For more information on NC ECHO, see its Web site at <http://www.ncecho.org>. For a published article describing NC ECHO’s purpose and methodology, see Thomas Kevin B. Cherry, “NC ECHO: More Than a Web Portal: A Comprehensive Access to Special Collections and Digitization Program,” *North Carolina Libraries* 62, no. 4, 225-233.

¹⁴The links to these sites are as follows:

Green ‘n’ Growing - <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/specialcollections/greenngrowing/>
Eastern North Carolina Digital Library - <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/historyfiction/>
Beyond Books and Buildings - <http://www.lib.unc.edu/highered/CraftRevival> - <http://craftrevival.wcu.edu/>

¹⁵The web addresses for these sites are:

American Memory Project - <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/index.html>
Valley of the Shadow - <http://valley.vcdh.virginia.edu/>
Electronic Text Center - <http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/>
African American Women - <http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/collections/african-american-women.html>
Civil War Women - <http://scriptorium.lib.duke.edu/collections/civil-war-women.html>

¹⁶Prabha and Chandra, “Characteristics, uniqueness and overlap of information sources linked from North American public library Web sites,” 10.

¹⁷*Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*, 30 vols. William L. Saunders, ed., *Colonial Records of North Carolina*, v. 1-10; Walter Clark, ed., *State Records of North Carolina*, v. 11-26; Stephen B. Weeks, comp. and ed., *Index to the Colonial and State Records of North Carolina*, 1886-1914.