Civil Rights Greensboro and other community-based collaborations at UNCG

The African American Studies Program's 23rd
Conference on African American Culture and
Experience and 30th Year Anniversary Celebration

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro 18 October 2012



Background





The concept

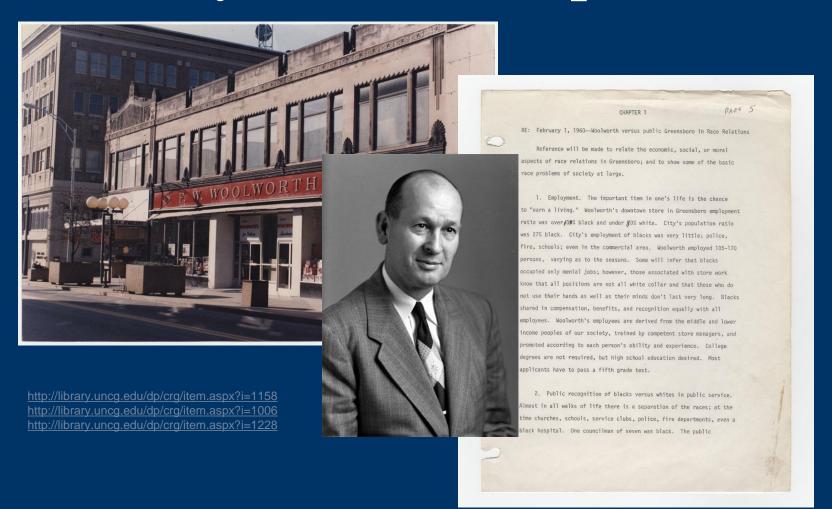
- Document the role of Greensboro and of the partner institutions in the postwar Civil Rights Movement.
- Mix photos, archival materials, clippings, scrapbooks, and oral histories to tell the story.



http://library.uncg.edu/dp/crg/item.aspx?i=471



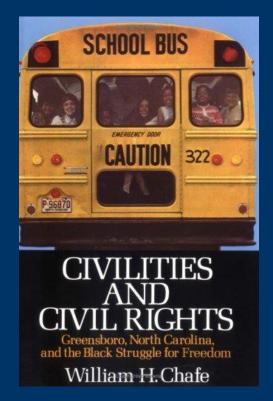
"Curly" Harris scrapbooks



William Chafe interviews

Approximately 70, including:

- Ezell Blair
- Jibreel Khazan
- William Snider
- Nelson Johnson
- David Richmond



http://www.worldcat.org/title/civilities-and-civil-rightsgreensboro-north-carolina-and-the-black-strugglefor-freedom/oclc/4957224



Greensboro Voices

Approximately 135 including:

- Ezell Blair
- Jibreel Khazan and Franklin McCain
- Willa Player
- Floyd McKissick
- Vance Chavis
- Otis Hairston, Jr. and Otis Hairston, Sr.
- Geneva Tisdale

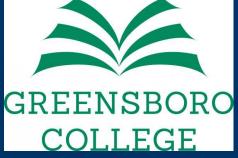


The partners

- UNCG
- Duke University
- Greensboro College
- Guilford College
- Greensboro Historical Museum





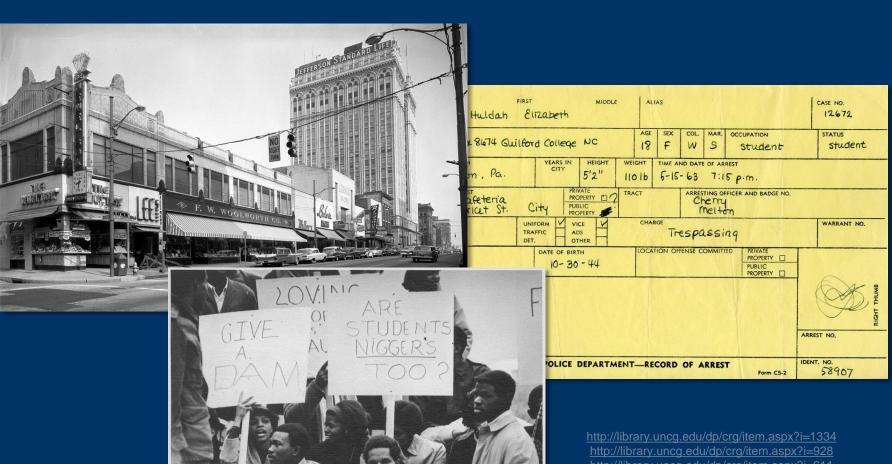








The result





Greensboro Massacre, 1979

Death to the Klan flyer

Date: circa November 1979

Author: Workers Viewpoint Organization

Biographical/Historical abstract: See Communist Workers

Party, U.S.A.

Additional contributor:

Description: This flyer announces the November 3, 1979 Death to the Klan march and conference to be held in Greensboro. The events were sponsored by the Workers Viewpoint Organization (later known as the Communist Workers Party) in response to recent overt Ku Klux Klan (KKK) activities held in China Grove, N.C. The march was violently confrontational between the Workers Viewpoint activists and KKK/Nazi members, resulting in the shooting deaths of five anti-Klan protestors. The event is known as the Greensboro Massacre.

Subjects:

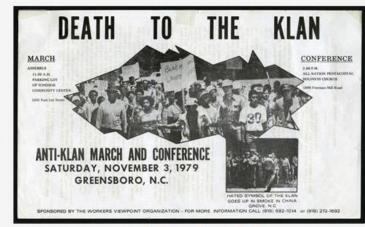
Greensboro Massacre

Format of original: Printed Materials

Collection: Miscellaneous Collection - J.A. Armfield Papers

Repository: Greensboro Historical Museum

Item#: 9.69.1223



Jump to complete document



Greensboro Massacre, 1979



They Defied Automatic Weapons with Bare Fists and Sticks

LONG LIVE THE INVINCIBLE **COMMUNIST SPIRIT** OF THE COMMUNIST **WORKERS PARTY 5!**











Espring 19807 FREE **NELSON JOHNSON THE GREENSBORO 3**

Nelson The Target

in Greensboro. Known, loved and respected in Greensboro, Nelson has the bourgeoisie and organizing black and white people leader. And people who Greensboro recognize that," says Ben Chavis.



On May 5th, 1980 Nelson Johnson, Rand Mazella and Willena Cannon will go on trial in Greensboro, N.C. The very off any 3th, 1300 Neston Jones. Name hazens and which a Cannon win go of that in Oriensoro, N.C. The very trial of the Greensboro-3 is upside down justice; it is an attempt to blame the victim for the crime. But more than that, the trial of Nelson, Rand, and Willena is part of a national cover up of one of the most brutal, vicious government organized mass murders in the history of this country. Every justice loving person must act now to stop this cover up and Free the Greensboro-3.

· COME TO GREENSBORO 3 RALLY ON MAY 3

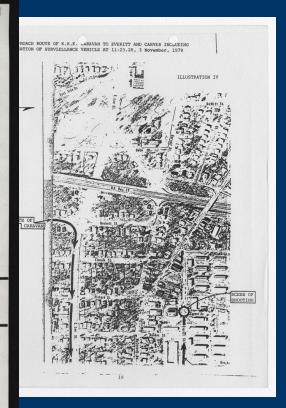
COME TO THE TRIAL OF GREENSBORO 3 ON MAY 5

THE GREENSBORO MASSACRE - WHAT HAPPENED?

On November 3rd in broad day light nine car loads of Klan and Nazis drove into Morningside Homes where about 100 people were On November 3rd in troad day light nine car loads of Klain and Nazis drove into Morningside Homes where about 100 people were singing and peacefully preparing for an anti-Klain march. The Klain and Nazi unuderency pulled semi automatic rifles and pump shot gaus from their vehicles and with deadly accuracy murdered five people, wounded nine others and terrorized the entire community. The five people unudered were members of the Communist Workers Party (CWP) and were recognized and effective leaders. What happened in Greensboro on November 3rd was cold blooded, pre-planned political murder.

The Greensboro Police Department knew the Klan and Nazis were armed. The police gave a known Klansman information about where the march would start and the route we planned to march. The police knew that this armed basch of markness were headed to Morningside Homes where 100 people were preparing to march. But the police did not tell the anti-Klan demonstrators one word about the armed approaching Klan and Nazi murderers. The police deliberately stayed away until the Klan and Nazi had murdered the

As five of the most capable and dedicated organizers in this country - Jim Waller, Sandy Smith, Bill Sampson, Cesar Cauce and Mike Nathan Isy dying from the Kian and Nazi bullen, the Greensboro police dashed on the scene and arrested Nelson, Rand and Willena and Sender of the Greensboro Police Department reliable to the Company of the Sender of the Greensboro Police Department reliable to the Sender of the Greensboro Police Police Police work of the Sender of the Greensboro Police Police work of the Sender of the S





1960 sit-ins

<u>UNCG Home</u> > <u>The University Libraries</u> > <u>Civil Rights Greensboro Home</u> > Oral history interview with Jibreel Khazan and Franklin McCain by Eugene Pfaff

Oral history interview with Jibreel Khazan and Franklin McCain by Eugene Pfaff

Date: October 20, 1979

Interviewee: Franklin Eugene McCain

Biographical abstract: Franklin Eugene McCain (1942-) was one of four students from North Carolina A&T State University to stage a sit-in for desegregation at the F. W. Woolworth store in Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1960.

Interviewer: Eugene E Pfaff

Description:

In this transcript of an October 20, 1979, interview conducted by Eugene Pfaff with Jibreel Khazan and Franklin McCain primarily discuss the motivations, planning, strategies, participants, and activities of the 1960 sit-ins. The describe many of the specific community leaders, protest participants, negotiators, supporters, civil rights organizations, attorneys, and high school students involved on both sides of the desegregation issue in Greensboro. Khazan and McCain describe the formation of SNCC and their plans for urban renewal in Greensboro; they also comment on the backgrounds and personalities of themselves and the other two members of the "Greensboro Four," especially the pressures and effects of their February 1, 1960 sit-in at Woolworth's.

Subjects:

Business desegregation/sit-ins, 1960

Format of original: Oral History

Collection: GreensboroVOICES Collection

Repository: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Item#: 1.10.607

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1960 sit-ins

Oral history interview with Jibreel Khazan and Franklin McCain by Eugene Pfaff

EUGENE PFAFF:

We are continuing in our discussion with Franklin McCain and Jibreel Khazan concerning the sit-ins in the Woolworth and Kress in Greensboro in the spring of 1960. And I'd like to ask you now, how extensive were the protests? Were they focused on Woolworth and Kress, or did they include other stores, other types of establishments that also practiced segregation?

JIBREEL KHAZAN:

Well, as I can recall, the protests were originally designed—Joe calls it—we call it—I call it the sit-down movement, you know, in equal rights. It was really designed to be carried out at the Woolworth lunch counter originally. But I remember Frank making a statement as the protest developed during the week. We didn't want to put the world on fire, we just wanted to eat. But behind it, we, I feel, did have the idea that this would catch on. We were hoping it would catch on and it would spread throughout the country, but it went even beyond our wildest imagination.

But the main instance was upon Woolworth's. And I think, during the third day, on Wednesday, the Woolworth lunch counters became—they were filled to capacity. And there were people walking throughout the store. Woolworth's may have had over three hundred people in that store, and that store was only designed to hold a hundred. [laughter]

FRANKLIN MCCAIN:

In order to accommodate the enthusiasm, we had to go someplace else. So, we elected to go to Kresge [sic—Kress] which was some one or two stores down the street. After going to Kresge—or Kress, I think at that time it was called—the thinking was we ought not just to single out these two stores and let everyone else go as though they'd gotten off clean. And thereafter, we went to places like the hamburger drive-ins, where, in fact, you didn't go in to sit down or anything. You just got curb service to your car. But you still couldn't get service. We went to places like that.

We went to what was called The Hot Shoppe on Summit Avenue. We went to Eckerd's Drugs that had a counter as well, and also the O. Henry Hotel, which, I think, is torn now in Greensboro. We went there.

EP.

Did you receive service at any of these places?

FM:

Not any of those places did we receive service.



1960 sit-ins

Letter from parent of a WCUNC student about her daughter's participation in the Greensboro sit-ins

Date: June 3, 1960

Author: Frank L. B. Seaman, Mrs.

Biographical/Historical abstract: Mrs. Frank L. B. Seaman was the parent of a student enrolled at Woman's College in 1960.

Additional contributor:

Description: This three-page handwritten letter, dated June 3, 1960, is a response to an earlier letter from Gordon Willam Blackwell, chancellor of Woman's College of the University of North Carolina (WCUNC, now The University of North Carolina at Greensboro), from Mrs. Frank L.B. Seaman, the mother of a student at WCUNC. In the letter, Seaman discusses her daughter's maturity and religious convictions with respect to race relations, and states that she is certain that her daughter would not behave in a manner that would bring "undesirable repercussions" to the university.

Subjects:

- Business desegregation/sit-ins, 1960
- · Race relations at UNCG

Format of original: Correspondence

Collection: Chancellor Gordon William Blackwell Records

Repository: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

altamente Spring, Florida Oldse 7 the Chancellar Hu Woman's College . The University & Worth Carolina greenstors, North Carolina atten Gordon W Blackwell In reply to your letter of May 25th regarding my daughter Eugenia, 2 find it must difficult to believe That She had not headed ador a given to her gener, has been tempet up in The religious teaching of the trotherhood I rusu and in a home atmosphere that helped her along to maturity; action in any field as soon as she was capable i assuming it . to my Knowledge she has never defred adult advice from teacher, leaders we purposely those WC as

Jump to complete document



1960/1963 sit-ins

Action Provoked In Local Strike

Four students from Scott Hall at A & T College walked into . W. Woolworth & Co. in Greensboro on Monday, Feb. 1, and asked to be served at the lunch counter. When they were not served, they sat there for many hours, thus precipitating the sitdown strike at the Woolworth's unch counter.

Strikers Incr The movement c Fuesday with growi About twenty A & T down at the lunch ing. Also, on Tuesd was written by the St ive Committee for J president of F. W.

irm stand to elimin crimination. Wednesday

Wednesday, the obtain service at the ter at Woolworth's growing. At one th from A & T and Ber occupied 63 of the 66 counter. Waitresses other three seats. Be pearance of Bennett dents, three students boro College, Lowe Washington, D. C., I Richmond, Va., and of Greensboro, car moral support in th students from other 1 might back the idea.

"Local Cust A spokesman from in New York said t

company's policy t local custom" but that if the group of students succeeds in changing custom, the policy will change.

Seawell Speaks

State Attorney General Maicolm Seawell said that there is no North Carolina lew that prohibits serving members of both races but, on the other hand,, ther is no law, that he knew of, that would force private businesses to (Continued On Page Three)

The following is an account by Beth Taylor of her recent experiences in connection with desegregation activities in Greensboro, N.C. Beth will probably be in Meeting June 2, if anyone wishes to discuss this further after Meeting for Worship.

I have just received a letter from Larry Miller suggesting that I relay to you the recent happenings in my life. I don't really know quite what to flay, but shall first give the details of the incident and then the reactions of this inname-only Quaker institution.

On Thursday, May 9, Bill Thomas, local chairman of CORE in Greensboro, called to notify me of a stand-in demonstration at McDonald's -- a drive-in hamburger placethat Saturday. Two other freshmen and I went in. The turn-out was small because

leaders, negroes, were manager in the presence

out being served To FUZZYMINDED PREACHER





INFILTRATION IN OUR CHURCHES



and Stanley, minister ak Ransey, AFSC College ak to Guilford students. id not assured, Aldean that night that McDonald's idents, as well as and it prom pted a

mass meeting preceding .p. Six or so negro ia. Negotiations ing on since September, we were all white and and managers and anager's attention nd left. This was all iging "We Shall Over-

I was first and was ich when they served my "The negro demonstraien told the others in ect. We demanded seredure involved, asked reminded him that we in the presence of a i newspapermen. We up to each of us as

girl chose to leave. re finger-printed, had We called two people. has proved to be of . We asked Mr. Pitts led Pete Moore, who in

turn carred the frestaent of the correge, the usan of stadents, and dean of college, and came himself to get us out, much to our dismay. We would have preferred not to have been given special attention.

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/crg/item.aspx?i=927



Food service workers' strike

SGA SUPPORTS WORKERS

Date: March 29, 1969

Author: unknown

Biographical/Historical abstract:

Additional contributor:

Description: This March 29, 1969, article from The Carolinian, the student newspaper of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG), reports that the UNCG Student Government Association (SGA) had voted to support striking food service workers who walked off the job on March 27, 1967. SGA also approved a resolution calling for better food quality and cleanliness standards, more meal pan options, and "considerable reservation" of whether ARA Slater should retain the food service contract. Some twenty-five largely minority workers walked out based on specific complaints related to pay rates, working hours, overtime provisions, wage reviews, breaks, severance requirements, and dismissal requirements, and there was also a student boycott of the cafeteria. Strikers returned to work on April 2, 1967. The strike was resolved with some concessions, and food service contractor ARA Slater retained its contract with UNCG. Two photos of the SGA meeting are included with the article.



Jump to complete document

Subjects:

Food Service Workers' Strike, 1969

Format of original: Newspaper Clippings

Collection: Carolinian

Repository: The University of North Carolina at Greensboro



Additional subject areas

- Black Power Movement
- Dudley High School/A&T protest, 1969
- School desegregation, 1950s
- School integration, 1960s-1970s
- UNCG Neo-Black Society



Context

All partners involved in contextual materials

Race Relations at Guilford College

Although Guilford College never had an official segregation policy per se, its faculty, staff, and trustees made decisions in the past that excluded, segregated, and limited people of color from participation and membership. Examples include exclusionary student admissions policies, inadequate or substandard pay for workers, disparities in staff and faculty hiring, and restrictions on campus lodging for people of color. These realities were at odds with the historic Quaker ideal of equality and with the personal beliefs of specific individuals within the college community.

While the college property includes land once used in the Underground Railroad and North Carolina Friends banned slaveholding by

Race Relations at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Introduction

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) was established in 1891 as the State Normal and Industrial School, a college for women where coursework focused on business, domestic science, and teaching. In 1932, the school became the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina (WCUNC, or "WC" for short), a name that reflected a somewhat broader educational mission. Male students were first admitted in 1964, and in preparation, WC became The University of North Carolina at Greensboro in 1963, the name it retains to this day.¹

Located just west of downtown Greensboro, the university has always been an integral part of the city's civic life, educating many of its citizens and also providing a cultural context and performing arts center for residents. Students have also contributed greatly to the economic vitality of the city as a source of income for retailers, housing providers, and others. There is also a tradition of civic involvement by students, many of whom already have ties to the community upon entering the university.

Desegregation

Edward Kidder Graham, Jr., Chancellor of WCUNC from 1950-1956, has been described as "neither a specialist in race relations nor a visible champion of Negro rights", although his actions paint him as something of a sympathizer. Prior to Graham's tenure, issues of race relations at WC had largely centered on allowing use of the college's facilities, particularly the library, by non-white members of the community. Graham had allowed limited use of these facilities, a procedure instituted by his predecessor, Walter Clinton Jackson. While a faculty council resolution instigated by Professor Warren Ashby had called for it in 1955, desegregation of the student body itself was not really an issue until 1956, when court order required that all three University of North Carolina campuses, including WC, begin desegregating all their facilities. Graham, who had weathered several other race relations controversies during his six years as chancellor, did not see the first black students admitted to WC; he departed to become dean of liberal arts at Boston University several months prior to their entrance.

If the school, the diversity on campus still reflected the dichotomy and underlying racist to African descent are noticeably absent for the institution's first 125 years, except for a few that a significant number of African Americans lived in the area.

ol in the 1830s as the Quaker population in North Carolina faced serious decline. Many tes without slavery and to have access to new land and opportunities. The institution was sic guidelines and expectations considered part of a guarded education, such as plainness protect and encourage dedication to the Quaker faith. While anti-slavery stances often did y school personnel actively practiced their commitment to racial justice through direct uraging use of "free produce" (i.e. purchasing goods not produced through slave labor). Friends, non-Friends were admitted by the end of the school's first decade in an effort to lation was no longer majority Quaker by 1865. The strict rules and regulations associated lally modified, especially as more non-Friends joined the student body, to reflect the wider

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/crg/topicalessays/racereluncg.aspx http://library.uncg.edu/dp/crg/topicalessays/RaceReIGC.aspx



Branding

Website was not UNCG "branded":



http://library.uncg.edu/dp/crg/



What we learned

- Building on each other's collection and infrastructure strengths.
- Collaboration breeds better content.
- Collaborative projects have more credibility.



Going forward: Focus areas

- Priority focus areas:
 - UNCG history
 - Women's history
 - Performing arts
 - Local and regional history



Ad hoc collaboration at UNCG

- City directories project
- Greensboro pictorials project

Greensboro City Directory. 1896-97.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS DIRECTORY.

Agt., agent; ave., avenue; bds., boards; bet, between; bey., beyond; com., commission; com. mer., commission merchant; cor., corner, dep., depot; do., ditto; e, east; emp., employe; ft., freight; fact., factory; Gr., Greensboro; h., house; ins., insurance; mfg., manufacturing; mfrs., manufacturers; mgr., manager; pressident; propr., proprietor; P. O., postoffice; r., rooms; s., south; st., street; w., west; wid., widow; wks., works; tob., tobacco; genl. mdse., general merchandise; supt., superintendent; So. Ry., Souther Railway; C. F. & Y. V. R. R., Cape Fear & Yadkin Yalley Railroad; N. C. R. R., North Carolina Railroad; Gr. B. & T. Co., Greensboro Brick and Tiling Co.; Gr. I. & C. Co., Greensboro Ice and Coal Co.; Gr. Sp. & B. Wks., Greensboro Spoke and Bending Works; Cape Fear M. Co., Cape Fear Manufacturing Co.; Gr. S. & B. Co., Greensboro Sash and Blind Co.; Guilf L. M. Co., Guilford Lumber Manufacturing Co.; So. F. & W. Co., Southern Finishing and Warchouse Co.: Normal, State Normal and Industrial School; Gr. Fu. M. Co., Greensboro Furniture Manufacturing Co.

WHITE DEPARTMENT.

Abbott Miss Carrie B, h 2005 Keogh Abbott Geo (Sula), wks Laundry, r 107½ w Market Abbott J C (Julia C), h 2005 Keogh Abbott J Leslie, wks So F & W Co, h 319 Lindsay

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS DIRECTORY.

Agt., agent; ave., avenue; bds., boards; bet. between; bey., beyond; com., commission; com. mer., commission merchant; cor., corner, dep., depot; do., ditto; e., east; emp., employe; ft., freight; fact., factory; Gr., Greensboro; h., house; ins., insurance; mfg., manufacturing; mfrs., manufacturers; mgr., manager; pres., president; propr., proprietor; P. O., postoffice; r., rooms; s., south; st., street; w., west; wid., widow; wks., works; tob, tobacco; genl. mdse., general merchandise; supt., superintendent; So. Ry., Southern Railway; C. F. & Y. V. R. R., Cape Fear & Yadkin Yallev Railroad; N. C. R. R., North Carolina Railroad; Gr. B. & T. Co., Greensboro Brick and Tiling Co.; Gr. I. & C. Co., Greensboro Ice and Coal Co.; Gr. Sp. & B. Wks., Greensboro Spoke and Bending Works; Cape Fear M. Co., Cape Fear Manufacturing Co.; Gr. S & B. Co., Greensboro Sash and Blind Co.; Guilf. L. M. Co., Guilford Lumber Manufacturing Co.; So. F. & W. Co., Southern Finishing and Warehouse Co.: Normal, State Normal and Industrial School; Gr. Fu. M. Co., Greensboro Furniture Manufacturing Co.

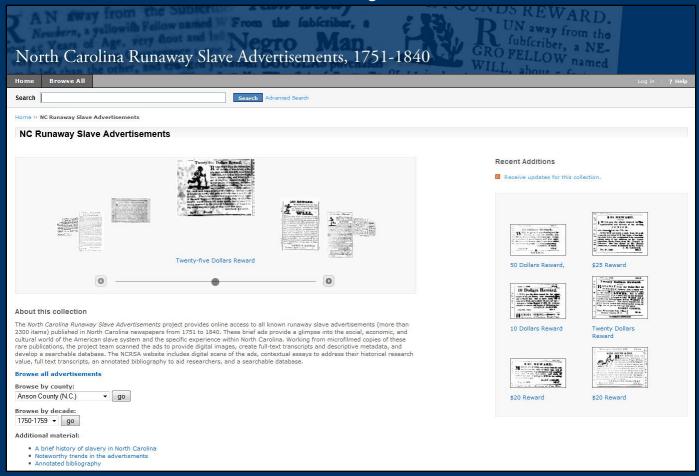
COLORED DEPARTMENT.

Adams Alf, carpenter, h Warnersville, bey lims Adams Annie, washer, h 967 w McCulloch Adams Cordelia, wid, washer, h 522 e Gaston Adams Juo (Delilah) brickmason, h Warnersville, bey lims

http://libcdm1.uncg.edu/cdm/ref/collection/GSOCityDir/id/55



NC Runaway Slave Ads

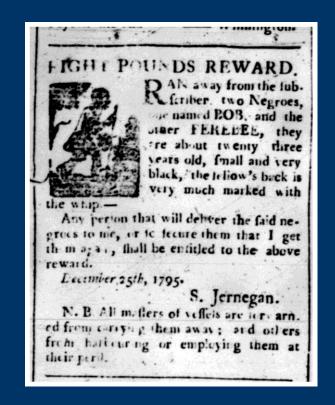


http://libcdm1.uncg.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/RAS



NC Runaway Slave Ads

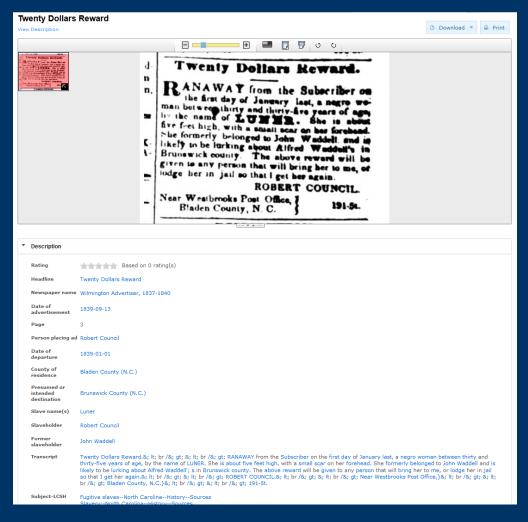
- Collaborative project with NC A&T State
- Placed 2300 runaway slave ads online with transcription and enhanced discovery
- Scanning and metadata work performed at both institutions



http://libcdm1.uncg.edu/cdm/singleitem/collection/RAS/id/838



NC Runaway Slave Ads





Digital Library on American Slavery



http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/



Digital Library on American Slavery



http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/pDetailsNew.aspx?pID=43022&s=2



Textiles, Teachers, and Troops

 Partnership between all five Greensboro universities and colleges plus the local history museum.













Textiles, Teachers, and Troops

- Two-year LSTA-funded project
- Will incorporate preexisting materials and add 175000 scanned images/pages
- Precursor to an even larger collaborative local history portal



http://libcdm1.uncg.edu/cdm/ref/collection/GSOPatriot/id/25290



In summary

- Collaboration with community partners is hard work.
- It involves compromise and considerable extra effort.
- The bureaucratic hurdles can expand exponentially with each new partner.
- There's more wear and tear on your resources.



But it's worth it!



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