

TASK, TECHNIQUE, TALENT, TREASURE

by Exhibit Project Manager Susan Webster

TASK: Things are Mounting Up

Securing Objects

Creating test exhibition cases sets final placement and graphic elements, reveals challenges and determines what type of artifact mounts are required. Crafting proper mounts involves the patient efforts of the team to create the secure



support system needed for the physical integrity of each object. Making props can involve sewing, bending, soldering, carving and cutting materials that will not harm the object. The largest mount

will be a platform, one shored up under the building, to hold a railroad baggage cart and Cone Mills loom. The tiniest armatures will support the smallest objects including a Revolutionary War button and buckle and Native American points.

TECHNIQUE: Scanning the Archives

Not Just a Look Around

A recent newsletter described the meticulous scanning process used to prepare images for exhibition. But what happens to items too big to scan? The wonderful 1920s lithograph banner advertising Vicks VapoRub is a great example. A reproduction will be displayed in the Voices exhibit, but at 72x34 inches it will not fit on a scanner. So, the original was photographed in four sections with a high-resolution Nikon camera. The images were then brought together as a panorama using Photoshop software, with additional work to align the sections and remove the creases found in the original.



TALENT: Space Exploration

Who's Been Crawling, Climbing, Peering, & Measuring?

Through the guidance of lead architect Ginna Freyaldenhoven an incredibly talented team has plotted out every inch of the project space. Architect Mark Ethun, whose specialty is historic preservation, serves an important liaison role. On one afternoon Mark spoke about the museum's Model T with a bit of authority and knowledge. As it turns out, he owns a 1929 Model A! Joel

Palma of Palma Engineers has been in the museum attic and basement to create a new wiring and electrical plan. Award-winning lighting designer Scott Richardson of Light

Defines Form has created a master plan for fixtures and lighting techniques to meet conservation standards and provide an amazing experience for visitors. Each of these experts plays a critical role in making sure the 2010 exhibition makes visitors say Wow!

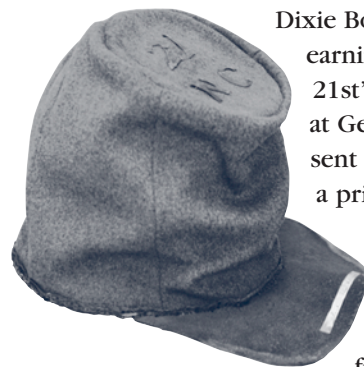
VOICES
of a city
GREENSBORO, NORTH CAROLINA
Opening in 2010

TREASURE: Rankin's Legacy

The Journey of a Cap

In June 1861 William S. Rankin (1834-1899) enlisted with the 21st North Carolina Infantry, Company M, a unit known as the

Dixie Boys. He served with distinction, earning steady promotions to the 21st's Field and Staff command. Injured at Gettysburg, he was captured and sent to Johnson's Island, Ohio until a prisoner exchange in 1865.



Rankin's hand-made forage cap is made of wool with a simple leather brim and metallic braid trim. The term forage cap comes from its shape—tall like a sack, it could hold food or supplies gathered at camp or taken during a raid. Hand-cut tin numbers and letters make it unique. Rankin may have worn the cap during the war or perhaps at veteran events; in 2010 it will help tell the story of local Civil War soldiers.

Jane



Staff Disappears Staff moves offices as renovations begin

General Receives Museum Keys

General Contractor gets keys and begins work



Don't Mock Us Shane, Kat and Susan mock-up cases and platforms

Graphic Details Leave Nothing to the Imagination

Graphic Designer begins to produce banners, panels and labels



Interaction Lift-Off Education staff completes plans for hands-on interactives

July

Visitors from Other Places

On-site meetings with fabricators, designers and contractors abound



Did You Hear Something? See Anything?

Audio and Video production gets underway



Greensboro sponsored its first Very Special Arts Festival project for individuals with disabilities in 1986. It now takes place each May at Gateway Education Center. *photo credit: United Arts Council*

"We'd go out in the fields after harvest time and hit for hours," Wes Ferrell recalled of his Guilford County boyhood. The major league careers of Hall of Famer Rick (left) and Wes Ferrell, shown here with their father Lonnie, stand as ones to envy.



Taking a BREAK!

Art, Leisure and Sports

The desire and need for fun runs strong in all of us. Leisure activities can bond families and communities together, and also lift one's spirits. Visitors to our upcoming Voices of a City exhibition will have their own spirits raised when they come face-to-face with objects and images all in the name of fun.



Today we bring the world into our homes through television and computers. Many years ago that could happen with a magic lantern, which projected images onto a screen or wall. Popular slide sets featured natural wonders, tourist attractions, famous people, and comedic stories.



WEAL signed on the air in 1962, and many a local teenager turned their transistor radio dial to listen to Motown tunes. "Everywhere we went, people told us they were glad to know they were going to have their first black station," retired WEAL radio personality Alfred G. Richard told a reporter.



Joseph Smith recalled that "once in a while a fellow would come along and walk the rope ... A rope would be stretched across Court square from the top of the buildings, and with the assistance of a long pole for balance, he would walk, from one side to the other. He always took up a collection before walking, for if he didn't, before he would get down to the ground, the crowd would walk off and leave him."

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Listening to the Voices of a City

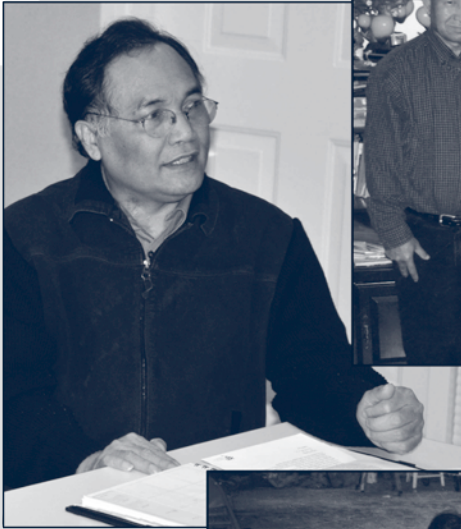
By Linda Evans, Community Historian

I love researching and sharing Greensboro's history. It's as simple as that. Some of the most rewarding times in developing our 2010 exhibition have been talking with people who have fascinating life stories. The following are just a few examples:



Last summer I attended one of the best neighborhood reunions you could imagine. Hundreds gathered for fellowship and reminiscences of the southwest neighborhood known as Terra Cotta. A huge wall of photos grabbed my attention and I left that day having learned so much. A few months later Gail Williams, Dennis Waddell, James Pressley, Wilhelmina Waddell, and Thomas Waddell came to the museum to share photos and memories.

Rev. Y'Hin Nie of the United Montagnard Christian Church, 2009



The Eban family, Christmas 2008



Sharing Terra Cotta history, 2009



One of Greensboro's largest refugee communities traces its origins to the highlands of Viet Nam. Nicknamed Montagnard, they do not consider themselves Vietnamese. During the Vietnam War many Montagnard men aided American forces and afterwards they suffered persecution. Rev. Y'Hin Nie and Colonel Thomas Eban, who spent years in the jungle and later in refugee camps, moved to North Carolina. Later Mr. Eban brought his wife Hju Nie and their two surviving children. These remarkable people have shared their new-comer experiences and donated objects to share their culture so it can be appreciated and flourish in their new hometown of Greensboro.

Hju Nie teaching traditional weaving, 2003



Partnering with UNCG public history professor Benjamin Filene and his students' mill village research project has brought new oral histories for the exhibition. Pat Costner Smith lived in the Proximity village from 1928-1948. "My parents worked in the mill," she told us. "My dad was a loomfixer and my mother worked in the cloth room, picking the kinky filling out of the cloth." She vividly recalls a fire at an empty school building. "The window panes on our house got so hot we could feel the heat inside. It was daylight outside. We had to leave for fear of our house burning."



Pat Costner Smith (r), with mother Nell and sister Carolyn, at Cone Court around 1939



130 Summit Avenue
Greensboro, NC 27401
www.greensborohistory.org
336 373 2043

FREE ADMISSION

Museum Hours

Tuesday - Saturday 10 - 5
Sunday 2 - 5

Museum Shop Hours

Tuesday - Friday 11 - 4
Saturday 10 - 5
Sunday 2 - 5

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Greensboro, NC
Permit 330



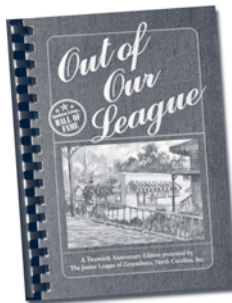
by Shop Manager Michele Hale

The Museum Shop is preparing for an upcoming renovation! As the Shop Manager, it is my pleasure to share some exciting news with you. In preparation for the temporary closure we are reducing our inventory, which means great savings to our customers!

Receive 20% off full-priced merchandise, including pottery and books, and browse the sale section for items up to 50% off!

(some exceptions, see store for details)

- Our delicious cookies, jams, jellies and preserves are BUY TWO, GET ONE FREE
- With every purchase over \$50 receive a complimentary copy of the award-winning Out of Our League cookbook by the Junior League of Greensboro



We are hopeful to have a small sales area available for your shopping convenience during the renovation and construction. We are anticipating closing in late June, but stop in, or call for more information as the date gets closer. In the meantime, be sure to visit us and take advantage of the super savings every Tuesday-Friday 11-4, Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 2-5.



Exciting news! As of March 30, 2009, David Caldwell Historic Park at Bicentennial Gardens has become a division of the Historical Museum.

CALENDAR

June-August

Tuesdays & Thursdays

Colonial Crafts & Games at David Caldwell Historic Park

Call 373-3681 for details

Friday, July 3

Museum Closed Friday, July 3

Saturday, July 4

Crafts and Music Stage

Museum Open 10-5

1976 Revisited: How Did We Celebrate America's 200th Birthday in Guilford County?

Exhibition at David Caldwell Historic Park

July 27-31

Blast From the Past Day Camp

9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Call 272-5003 for details

August 27-29

Smithsonian Affiliate Music Series

Sponsored by the Cemala Foundation

Featuring the Carolina Chocolate Drops and more

Watch the media for details

Sunday, August 30

5 by O. Henry Singers at Center City Park

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.