



SUBMISSION AND EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

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We invite new partnerships and contributions. If you would like to contribute, please email us at the Digital Information Management Program, North Carolina Government & Heritage Library: digital.info@ncdcr.gov. We look forward to hearing from you!

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- NCpedia is a digital publication produced and managed by the Government & Heritage Library (GHL) at the State Library of North Carolina, and the GHL is generally unable to pay contributors for accepted submissions.
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- Generally, submissions should be edited and ready for publication (that is, they should be in the specified format, be free of grammatical errors and contain bibliographic citations; all as stated in the submission guidelines below). While program staff may make some editorial decisions and minor changes for publication, submissions should require little staff editing time.
- The Government & Heritage Library reserves the right to reject submissions that do not meet its content, editorial, and publication requirements. However, we are willing to work with contributors if they wish to revise and resubmit articles.
- *Fact checking is conducted for all submissions.*

GENERAL SUBMISSION AND EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

- Submissions may be sent to the Digital Information Management Program, NC Government & Heritage Library: digital.info@ncdcr.gov.
- Articles should generally be encyclopedic in nature and should range from 500 to 1400 words in length, but may go up to 2000 words in length for some topics.
- **Articles should remain neutral and non-partisan in tone.**
- Discrepancies between sources and historical interpretations may be noted in the article text.
- **List of references is required.** Include all resources used in the creation of the article. Submissions should generally have at least 3 reputable bibliographic sources. References should include resources that are considered authorities on the topic submitted. Please format references according to the Chicago Manual of Style.
- Do not include in-text bibliographic citations. Footnotes may be included. They will assist staff in fact-checking articles, although they are not included in the final publication.
- In-text hyperlinks to other NCpedia articles or other *reputable online resources* for more information are strongly encouraged.
- Supporting media credits for images/video/audio: We encourage the inclusion of images and video and audio (where appropriate), provided they are in the public domain, have a Creative Commons License, or if permission is secured to include them in NCpedia. Please provide citation information for supporting media submitted to compliment an article and include its creator, year created, title, owning institution (when applicable), and URL (where applicable).
- Subjects (optional): Suggest subject categories for the article from the list at: <http://ncpedia.org/browse-topic>. Multiple terms may be suggested, but we will categorize the article with the terms considered most relevant to the topic.
- Location (optional): Choose the relevant location categories for the article from the list at: <http://ncpedia.org/topic-location>. List the town(s)/county(s) of importance to the topic. For biographies, list the town(s)/county(s) of birth, death, and/or major life event(s).
- Keywords (optional): Add any suggested keywords not included in the subject or location term lists that you think would help users find the article in a search.

ARTICLE STRUCTURE GUIDELINES

Please adhere to the following guidelines for elements required for encyclopedic entries and articles. Examples of representative entries are included at the end of this document.

Biographical Article

Bibliographic and subject elements: Title, Author, Author Affiliation (where appropriate), Birth Date-Death Date (of subject)

Example: Washington, George
 By Rip Van Winkle, University of Sleepy Hollow
 1 Jan. 1780-31 Dec. 1850

Introductory Paragraph: For a biographical entry, an introductory paragraph should provide a summary of the subject individual, his/her occupations, place of birth, parents, siblings if known, schools attended, any military service, and a summary of other significant areas of work and contribution. Include complete birth and death dates, if known.

Body Text: For a biographical entry, the article should provide a chronological overview of important aspects the individual's life, giving special attention to events occurring in, or of importance to, North Carolina. Community service, memberships, philanthropic contributions, religious affiliations, etc. should be included. Include any marriages and children, as well as date of death and how he/she died (if known). Include place of burial (if known). *Biographical articles should remain neutral in tone.*

Topical Article

Bibliographic and subject elements: Title, Author, Author Affiliation (where appropriate), Year Written/Year of Publication

Example: Old Field Schools of Sleepy Hollow
 By Rip Van Winkle, 1840

Introductory Paragraph:

The introductory paragraph should summarize the topic, its significance to history, and ties to themes in North Carolina.

Body Text:

The article should provide a chronological overview of important aspects the topic, giving special attention to events occurring in, or of importance to, North Carolina. Articles should remain neutral in tone. Discrepancies between sources and interpretations may be noted.

Biographical Article Format**MUSE, WILLIAM T.**

By Kelly Agan, Government & Heritage Library, 2014

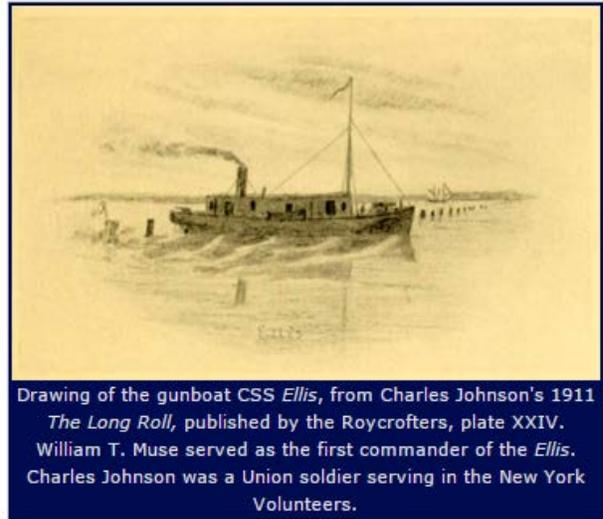
D. 27 SEPT. 1864

William T. Muse, United States Navy commander and later Confederate States Navy commander, was born likely around 1800 in the northern coastal plain of North Carolina, in either Edenton in Chowan County or Pasquotank County, the son of William T. Muse, Sr. and Mary Blount. Mary Blount, born in 1779, was a daughter of Joseph Blount II of Chowan, born 1755, and Lydia Bonner. John Wheeler reports in *Reminiscences* that Joseph Blount II was the son of Joseph I, born 1715, and Sarah Durant, a descendent of George Durant. Wheeler recounts George Durant as the first English settler of North Carolina; he may be more accurately considered one of the first settlers of the Albemarle region, purchasing land in Virginia around 1661 or 1662. While Muse appears to have been a relatively minor figure in North Carolina history, he is significant for his role as commander of the Confederate North Carolina naval post at Wilmington and defense of the Cape Fear River and his role in the defense of Cape Hatteras during the [Civil War](#).

Little is known about his education prior to embarking on a military career in the antebellum United States Navy. Muse began his career in the U.S. Navy on June 1, 1828 as a midshipman and had attained the rank of commander at the time of his resignation at the secession of North Carolina to join the Confederacy. While serving in the U.S. Navy, he was promoted to lieutenant in 1841 by an order of the U.S. Congress to fill a post vacated by a Lieutenant John C. Sharpe following his court martial. In 1857 he participated the United States Coast Survey mapping of the Hatteras and Ocracoke Inlets as commander of the party conducting the hydrography of the survey. He appears to have commanded the Coast Survey steamer *Hetzel* during these efforts.

Upon entry into the Confederate States Navy, he was commissioned as Commander on June 24, 1861 and given charge of fitting out gun boats from the Confederate Navy yard at Norfolk, Virginia. He was given command of the gunboat C.S.S. *Ellis* in 1861, sailing from Norfolk on August 2 and arriving at Ocracoke Inlet on August 4, 1861. He was present with the ship in the [defense of Hatteras](#) on August 29, 1861. In October 1861, he was given command of the naval station at [Wilmington](#) until 1863. In 1863 he was given command of the ironclad C.S.S. *North Carolina*, serving on the boat in its defense of the [Cape Fear River](#) until his death on September 27, 1864 when it sank in the river after running aground from leaks resulting from teredo (shipworm) infestation in the wood of her hull.

Although Muse's connection to the [University of North Carolina](#) is unclear, he was listed in the 1852 *Catalogue of the Philanthropic Society* as an honorary member. Muse was also included in a number of North Carolina histories due to his discovery of a painted depiction of the "Edenton Tea Party." He was reportedly on the Island of Minorca when he discovered a painting on glass, possibly in the barbershop where he was having his hair cut, that appeared to be a "caricature" of the [Edenton Tea Party](#). He bought the picture and presented it to the ladies of Edenton on his return. [J.R.B. Hathaway](#) recalled the painting being on display in the court house in Edenton during his own lifetime and that sometime later the glass was broken at which point Dr. Richard Dillard had a replica produced on canvas which he donated to the North Carolina State Library.



Drawing of the gunboat CSS *Ellis*, from Charles Johnson's 1911 *The Long Roll*, published by the Roycrofters, plate XXIV. William T. Muse served as the first commander of the *Ellis*. Charles Johnson was a Union soldier serving in the New York Volunteers.

Wheeler reported in *Reminiscences* that W. T. Muse was married and left children at the time of his death in 1864. According to Wheeler, W. T. Muse had one brother, John B. Muse, who died unmarried.

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Image Credits:

Johnson, Charles F. *The long roll : being a journal of the civil war, as set down during the years 1861-1863*. East Aurora, N. Y : The Roycrofters. 1911. Plate

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Topical Article Format

NORTH CAROLINA LIBRARY HISTORY

By Christie Allen and Steve Case, 2008; updated by Kelly Agan, 2014

Government & Heritage Library

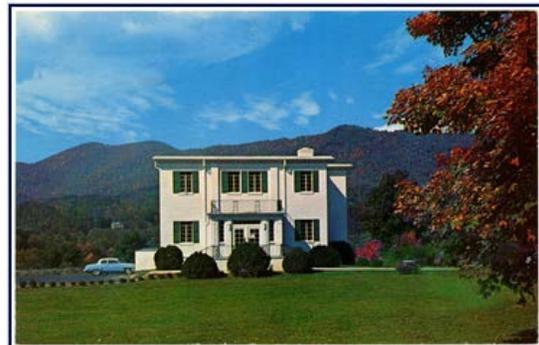
North Carolina has a long and rich history in public library service and in support of education and lifelong learning. Most libraries in the state trace their official beginnings to the early 20th century, with a few notable exceptions. Bath had a circulating library in the 1700s and claims the honor of being the only pre-revolutionary lending library in the state. Statesville had a circulating collection in the 1840s (*Statesville Landmark*, Mar. 31, 1882). Buncombe County, too, can claim with pride that their first subscription library was established in 1879. The Durham Public Library, established in 1897, holds the distinction of being the first free tax-supported library in the State. The success of Durham's public library led to a library boom, with institutions being established in the counties of Wake (1901), Anson (1902), Wayne (1902), Guilford (1902), Mecklenburg (1903), Craven (1906), Cumberland (1907), and Granville (1908).

Libraries were often the product of public service groups within the community. The Thornton Library in Granville County was the outgrowth of the Women's Service Association, while others grew out of local school boards, home demonstration clubs, and church groups.

In the early 1900s, millionaire and business tycoon [Andrew Carnegie](#) began supplying [Library](#)

[Building Grants](#) to communities throughout the country. Many North Carolina communities used these [Carnegie grants to construct library buildings](#) including: Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Andrews, Asheville, Durham, Hickory, Murphy, and Greensboro (which received grants to build two libraries—one for whites, and one for African Americans). Rather uniquely, because Henderson County's population fell below the minimum threshold to receive a Carnegie Foundation grant, Carnegie personally donated \$10,000 to build their library.

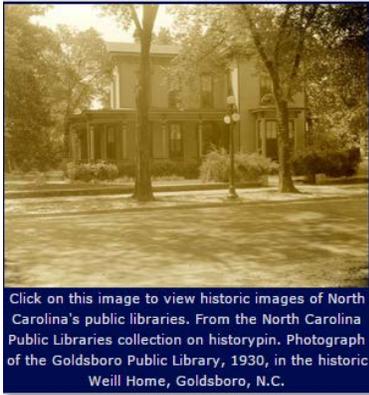
North Carolina libraries, like most in the South, were segregated through much of their history, though efforts were made to offer some services to minority populations. Davidson County received a [Julius Rosenwald](#) grant in the 1920's to offer library services to all citizens of the county, and library systems throughout the state offered either separate African American branches (such as Asheville, Raleigh, Durham, and Greensboro), or offered specific bookmobile service to African American schools, towns, and businesses. Even so, library service to African Americans was woefully inadequate. In 1948, over



Postcard image of the Haywood County Public Library near the eastern entrance to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Waynesville, North Carolina. Image circa 1955. From the *Transforming the Tar Heel State* collection at North Carolina Digital Collections, North Carolina State Library and Archives.

80% of North Carolina's white population had access to library services compared to only 50% of the African American population. During the [Civil Rights Era](#), public libraries throughout North Carolina became truly public for the first time, offering services to all North Carolinians regardless of race.

In the 1930s, the Federal Government was responsible for the founding and maintenance of many North Carolina libraries through the [Works Progress Administration](#) (WPA). The aid supported building new libraries, paying library salaries, repairing old library buildings, running bookmobile service (paying for the bookmobile, driver, and collections), and funding special library programs such as the statewide book



mending program which trained women to repair damaged library books.

At one point, two-thirds of the public libraries in North Carolina were completely staffed by WPA workers. With the advent of [World War II](#), the federal government had to terminate the WPA library project. Even so, it left a profound impact on the state. In 1926 prior to the WPA, only 32% of North Carolinians had access to a library. By 1942, over 80% of the state's population had access to library materials.

Because so much of North Carolina is rural, bookmobiles have always been a vital part of library services. In 1923, Durham Public Library became the owners of the state's first bookmobile. Named "Miss Kiwanis", the blue Ford half-ton truck was a donation from the Durham chapter of the Kiwanis Club. The Durham Public Library bookmobile program was so successful that several other libraries acquired bookmobiles in the years that followed, often using retired school buses and donated pickup trucks to transport the library materials. Some libraries existed solely to run these mobile services, and didn't have permanent homes until fairly recently (Jackson County, 1970; Rutherford County, 1983). By the mid-1950s, North Carolina led the country in bookmobile service, with 101 bookmobiles serving 94 counties.

Housing a collection has always been a challenge, and several communities found novel means by which to provide collections to their populations. Gaston County's library was officially established in 1937, but a collection was available in a local dentist's office as early as 1902 (after which it moved to the [YMCA](#)), and a library in New Bern operated out of what had been the New Bern Yacht Club (and it also rented out row boats). One persistent librarian in the 1930s was able to persuade Pender County officials to house the collection in the Grand Jury Room of the courthouse, with the understanding that it would only be used when court was not in session.

With 77 regional, county, and municipal libraries -- nearly 400 central and branch libraries in all -- plus more than 90 mobile units still covering the state, libraries remain a vibrant and vital part of North Carolina. And in 2010, the State Library of North Carolina's launched a 21st century library program to create a shared state-wide public library consortium that provides a common online library

catalog. Appropriately named after the [State Bird, NC Cardinal](#) provides membership to independent local, county, and regional libraries to add their holdings to the shared catalog. Member libraries and their patrons can search the holdings of the consortium libraries and request items beyond those of their local library. Start-up for the consortium is supported by the State Library of North Carolina with grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The project went live in February 2013 and uses an open-source and customizable integrated library system called [Evergreen](#) developed by the Georgia Public Library System in 2006.

In the summer of 2008, the State Library began a project to collect and document the state's public library history and put out a call to North Carolina's public libraries for participation. Called [Transforming the Tar Heel State](#), the project sought to collect and digitize photographs and other historic items and make them available online through [NC Digital Collections](#). More than thirty libraries responded with postcards, reports, dedications, and other unique materials that are now available online. The core of this collection comes from items at the State Library of North Carolina that are known informally as the *Public Library History Files*. This "collection" was a compilation of photographs, reports, newspaper clippings, and other materials that had been sent over the years from the state's public libraries to the North Carolina Library Commission and date from the 1880s into the 1970s. Photographs from *the Public Library History Files* were included in a display at the North Carolina Library Association's Centennial Conference in 2004. Today what became known as *Transforming the Tar Heel State* can be found online at the [Library History collection in NC Digital Collections](#).

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Image credits:

"Haywood County Public Library, eastern entrance to the Great Smoky [Mountains] National Park." Postcard. ca. 1955. Transforming the Tar Heel State Collection, North Carolina Digital Collections. <http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p249901coll36/id/1769> (accessed December 3, 2014).

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