Hilary Perez, Project Archivist
www.ncecho.org
Site visit and needs assessment survey
Definition of cultural institutions

Any cultural institution (library, archive, museum, historic site, or organization), which maintains a permanent, non-living collection of unique materials held for research and/or exhibit purposes and open for the use of the public will be surveyed. Denominational/associational collections will be surveyed, but individual church collections will not. Art museums will be surveyed but galleries will not. Zoos, arboreta, and parks will not be surveyed, unless as a part of their mission, they hold collections described above.
North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh
Bahaktivedanta Archives for the International Society of Krishna Consciousness in Sandy Ridge, Stokes County
950+ institutions identified
850+ institutions visited

761 institutions responded to the survey
80% survey response rate
Library Special Collections, 236
Museums, 458

Art Museums and Arts Councils, 68

Historic House Museums, 104

Children’s Museums, 8
More Museums...

History Museums, 235

Science Museums, 43
State Historic Sites, 26

State Parks, 10
5 Boy Scout museums

14 jailhouse museums

5 taxidermy museums

11 fire station museums
5 Harley-Davidson museums

16 military museums and archives
There are 34 depot museums!
Tuba Exchange

Topsail Island Museum, Missiles and More
Antiquities Vending Soda Machine Museum
Marvin Johnson’s Gourd Museum
Vollis Simpson’s Whirligig Park
Taxidermy Hall of Fame of North Carolina Creation Museum and Antique Tool Museum
Clay County Historical and Arts Museum

Edwards Franklin House

C.S. Brown Cultural Arts Center

Cherryville Historical Museum

Clay County Historical and Arts Museum

Red Springs Historical Museum
Airborne and Special Operations Museum

Airborne and Special Operations Museum Foundation
Airborne and Special Operations Museum

The Airborne & Special Operations Museum preserves, interprets, and recognizes U.S. Army airborne and special operations history, equipment, technology, legend, art, and weaponry. The lobby exhibit features two fully-deployed parachutes, a WWII era T-5 round chute and a modern MC-4 square chute. The main exhibit gallery moves the visitor through time, starting in 1940 with the conception of the U.S. Army Parachute Test Platoon and ending with today's airborne and special operations units. There is a smaller exhibit gallery that allows for the presentation of stories not told in the main gallery and changes from time to time. The 235 seat Yarborough-Bank large-screen theater provides the viewer with an opportunity to be in the center of the action. A 24-seat motion simulator also shows military operations in a way. Filmed in Vistascope, a high-speed 8/35 mm process that presents a huge, stunningly clear image, the movie is designed to put the viewer into the exciting military action and to show military operations in a way never before experienced by the public. The Airborne & Special Operations Museum is part of the U.S. Army Museum System and functions in partnership with a non-profit foundation.

Location:
100 Bragg Boulevard
Fayetteville NC 28301

Mailing Address:
PO Box 89
Fayetteville NC 28302-0089

Phone: (919) 643-ASOM
Fax: (910) 643-2793
Contact: Paul Galloway

View photographs from NC ECHO’s visit to this institution
### Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass

**Location:**
472 Chestnut Street, Highlands NC 28741

**Phone:** (828) 526-3415
**Fax:**
**Contact:** [George Saik](mailto:george.saik@unc.edu)

A beautiful turquoise ewer. This type of cut glass is created by coloring the outer layer of crystal, and then cutting the design.

### Gallery

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass Highlands, Macon County&lt;br&gt;This museum building is a log cabin built approximately thirty years ago, and contains quite nicely with the elegant collection inside.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass Highlands, Macon County&lt;br&gt;The museum sign is next to the road.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass Highlands, Macon County&lt;br&gt;A beautiful cut glass punch bowl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image4.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass Highlands, Macon County&lt;br&gt;A beautiful and very expensive cut glass punch bowl cut by J.C. (Chester) and Company of Cincinnati, OH. In this new punch pattern, and featured on the cover of “Identifying American Brilliant Cut Glass” by Bill and Karen Baggins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass Highlands, Macon County&lt;br&gt;On the counter&lt;br&gt;One piece of a unique set of fish plates. The set consists of twelve different engraved glass plates, each with a representation of a fish. The museum owns the entire set - the only complete set known to exist.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td>Museum of American Cut and Engraved Glass Highlands, Macon County&lt;br&gt;A beautiful turquoise ewer. This type of cut glass is created by coloring the outer layer of crystal, and then cutting the design.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Disaster plan, 27.3%

No disaster plan, 72.7%
Tweetsie Railroad Museum fire

Hurricane Floyd flooding in Princeville

Thomas Wolfe House fire
59.8% of institutions consider their storage inadequate
10.9% report outdated media as an impediment to use of collections

4.1% of institutions have collections deteriorated beyond use
ACCESS TO COLLECTIONS

13,545,926
Annual visitors & researchers

Comments from survey respondents regarding use of collections

- Attendance has dropped because
  - small collections have fewer days open
  - 1,800 visitors a day is overwhelmed by 10,000 visitors a day
  - 5,000 visitors a day is overwhelmed by 50,000 visitors a day
- Many respondents mention that
  - they have too few staff
  - their collections are too expensive
  - their collections are too small
  - they have to travel too far
- Many respondents mention that
  - they have too few resources
  - their collections are too small
  - they have too few staff

Which of your specific collections
get the most use?

- Manuscripts
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

- Photographs
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

- Maps
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

- Prints
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

- Drawings
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

- Books
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

- Audio-visual
  - 75%
  - 30%
  - 10%
  - 5%

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  - 5%

In-house digitization 90.5%
Outreach digitization 9.5%
Documentation of digitization efforts? Yes 65.9%
No 34.1%
N/A 0%

Archival images digital web access and search tool? Yes 56.4%
No 43.6%
N/A 0%

Do you digitize digital image or video? Yes 56.4%
No 43.6%
N/A 0%

In-house digitization 57.2%
Outreach digitization 4.3%
Documentation of digitization efforts? Yes 65.9%
No 34.1%
N/A 0%

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