NCBHIO

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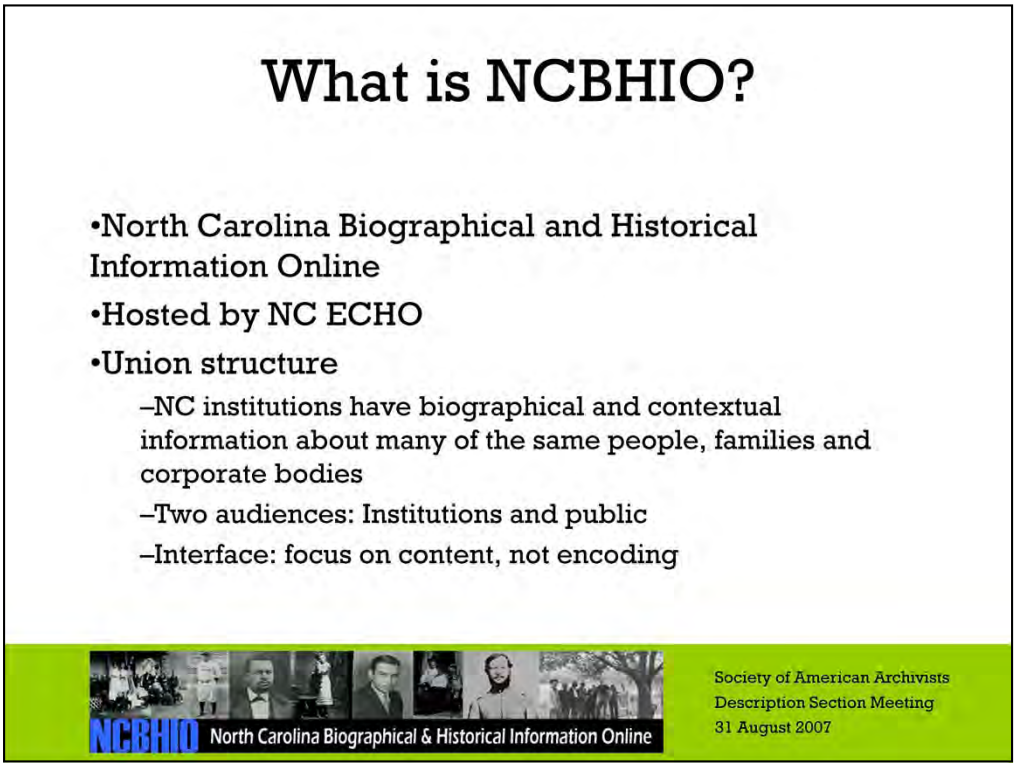


What is NCBHIO? The acronym stands for North Carolina Biographical and Historical Information Online. First, an aside about our acronym. It's not quite as elegant an acronym as NCBIO (our first choice), but unfortunately somebody already had dibs on that: North Carolina's state-level affiliate of the national Biotechnology Industry Organization. We weren't in a position to argue or bargain, so NCBHIO with the silent H it is…

NCBHIO is hosted by my department at the State Library of North Carolina: NC ECHO.

It's a union structure predicated on 3 assumptions:

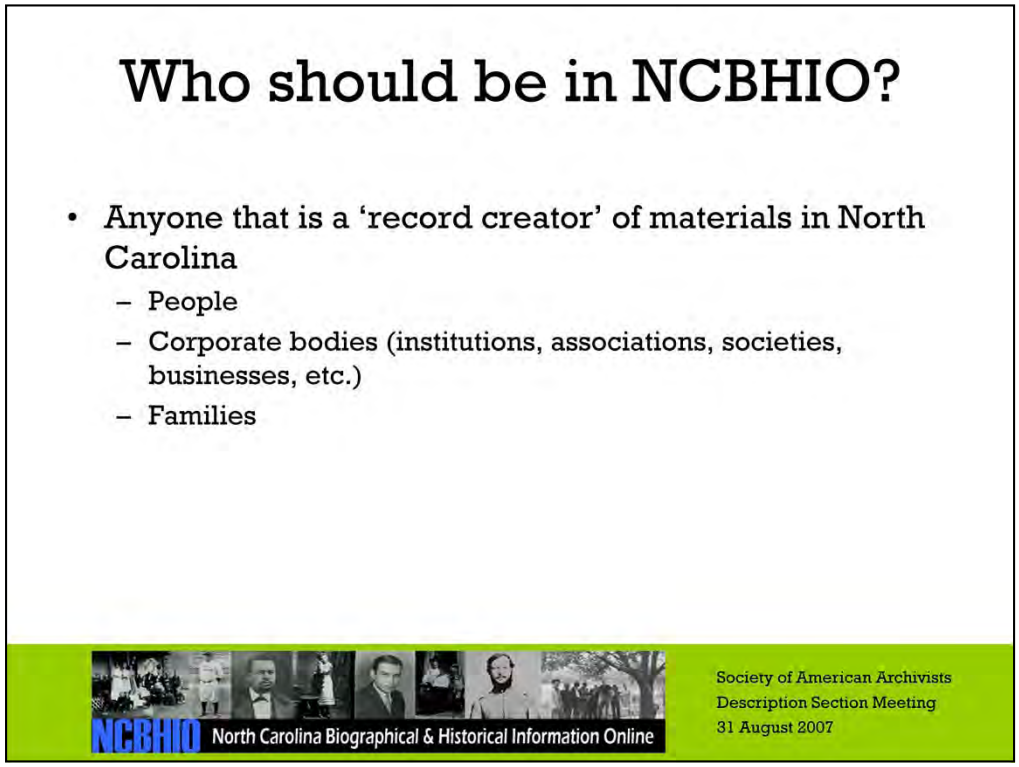
1) That our NC ECHO partner institutions (any institution with a non-living, permanent special collection that is open to the public) have biographical and contextual information about many of the same people, families, and corporate bodies

2) There are two separate audiences for these EAC records. Partner institutions will be searching these records to discover whether or not a record exists, to edit or provide additional information, and to make connections from their record descriptions to the descriptions about creators of records. The public will use the EAC information to enhance their understanding of the context of cultural heritage materials in the state. EAC records will provide a new gateway to materials that is based upon the creators rather than the materials held in various institutions.

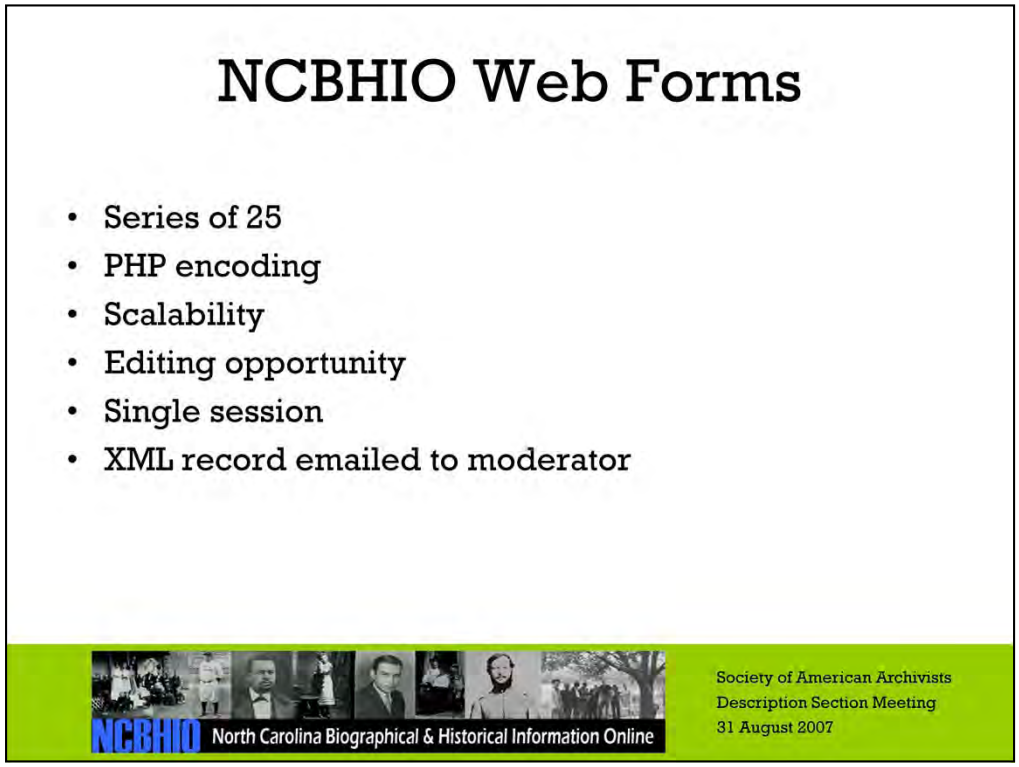
3) NC ECHO partner institutions need an interface that allows them to focus on content rather than encoding. This provides the best means for generating EAC records throughout the state. Outreach and training efforts will be focused on using web forms as input mechanisms and on the creation of quality content. The XML will be standardized so that input through a web form is possible.

NCBHIO has its roots in a 6 month grant funded project (January-June 2006) paid for by the Delmas Foundation. The NCEAC working group started here and led to the creation of an XML template from the EAC Beta standard, content guidelines, and a policy framework. I was the project coordinator and was hired full-time by the State Library of North Carolina in September where I was able to continue work on this effort. Six months was far too short a time to implement our vision, and luckily my job description was flexible enough to allow my participation to the present.

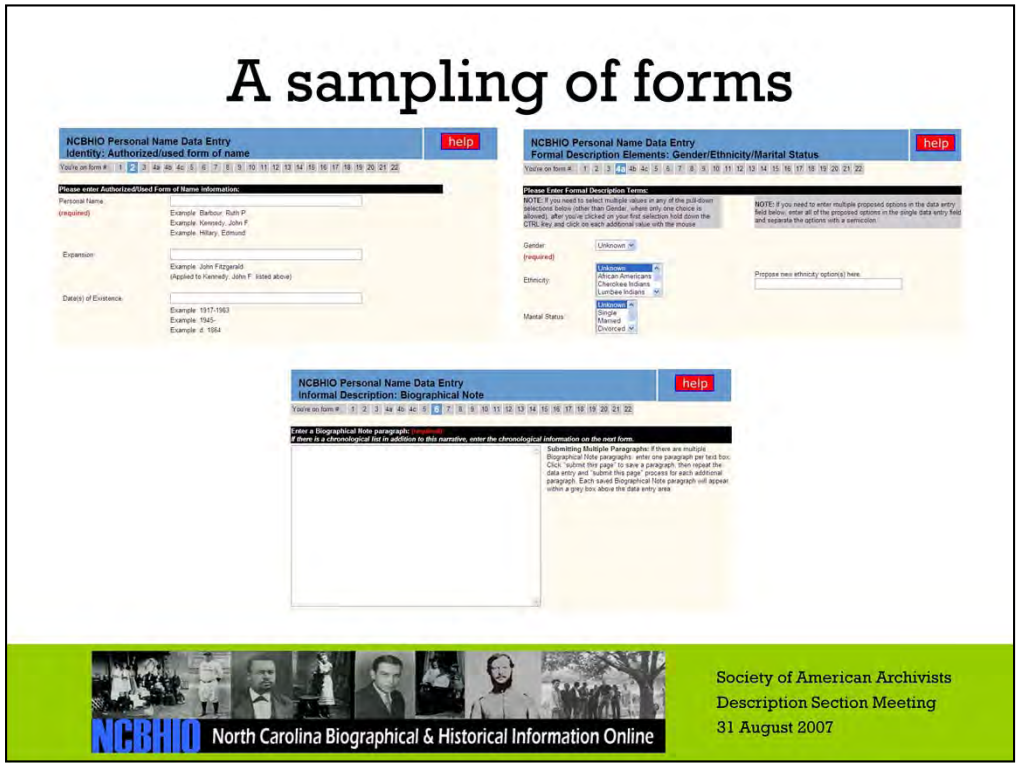
An EAC Editorial Board was created once the content guidelines were ironed out and the web forms were operational and their tasks as stated involve reviewing records and smoothing out any conflicts.



Who should be in NCBHIO? Our criteria is that the creator, whether person, corporate body, or family must have material housed at a North Carolina cultural heritage institution. The creators could be from anyplace…only the materials relating to them must be found in North Carolina.

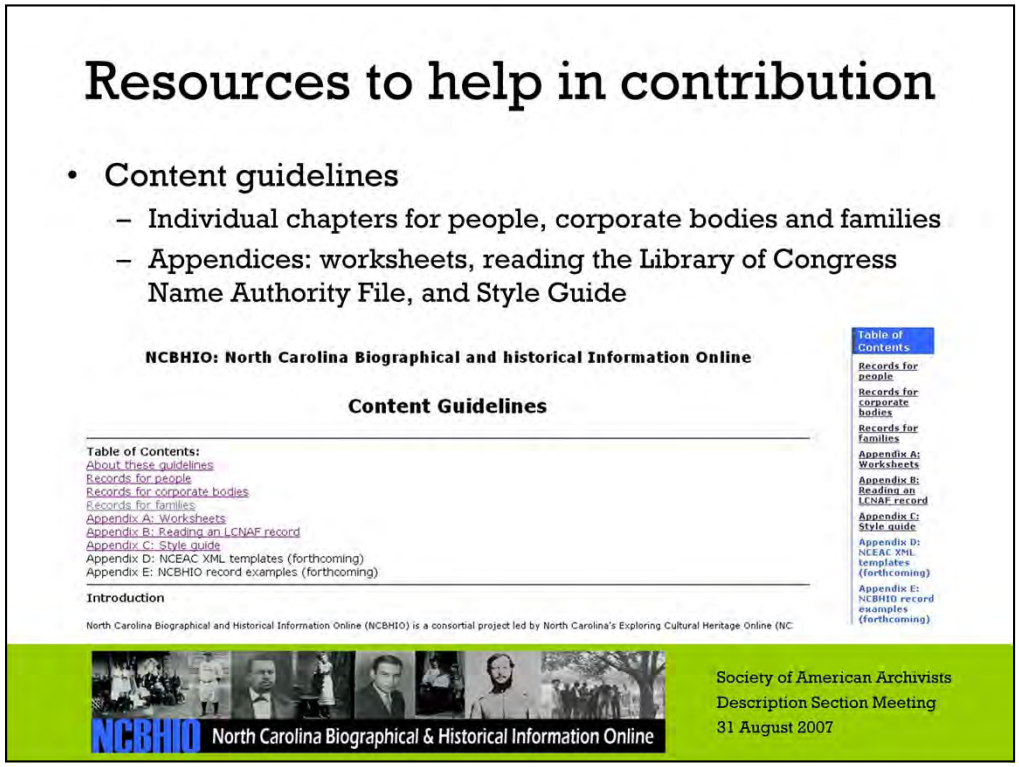


The NCBHIO web forms are the means by which records are created or amended. There are a series of 25 forms (and it's not as daunting as it sounds…the required information is rather minimal…and entire forms can be skipped if there isn't existing information to input.) PHP encoding is the mechanism by which the forms operate. It's free, open source, and was recommended to us by a graduate assistant who worked as a programmer for NC Blue Cross Blue Shield. Part of the appeal was the ability to loop infinite times for certain fields (such as locations, occupations, biographical note paragraphs) which can be repeatable in the EAC code. It can handle records of any scope and size. Once the forms are completed there is an opportunity to edit your inputted content. The forms themselves must be completed in full in a single pass…it's not something you can save and return to. I'll touch on the worksheets in a moment which assist in data collection and preparation. Once the form is completed and edited (if necessary), then an XML record is emailed to the moderator (Kathy Wisser) who initiates the editorial process. It's not an instant gratification upon submittal. People who create records are alerted to the 2-week lag time for the editorial process to take place before the records appears online.

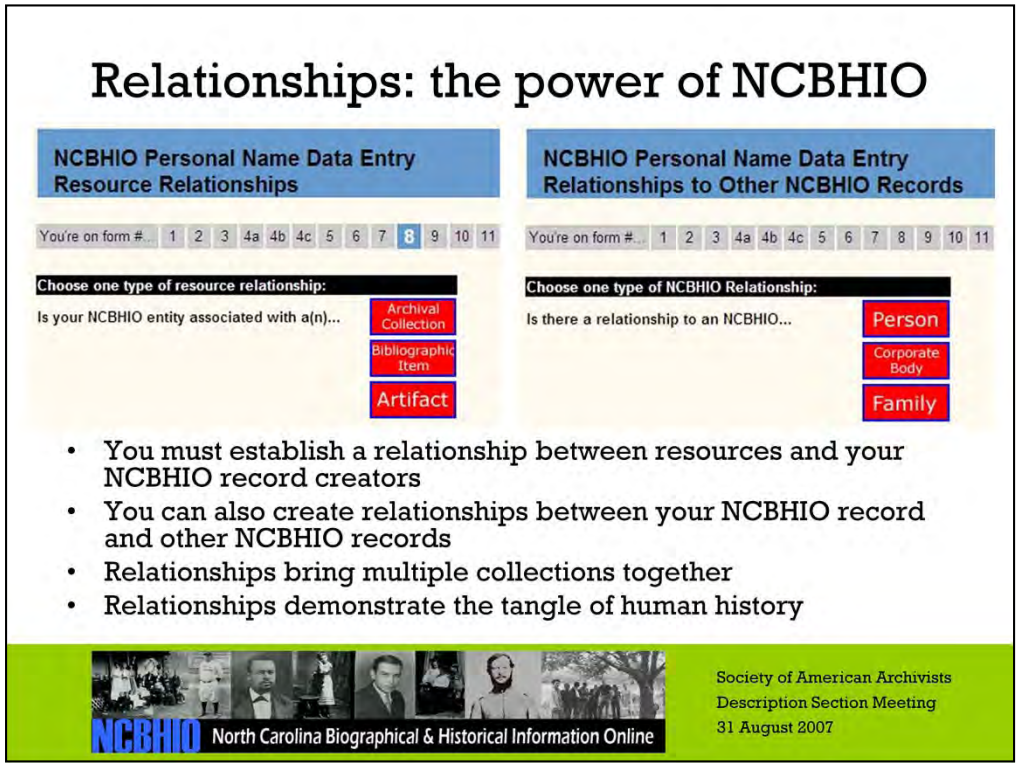


A sampling of the forms represented by screen captures. They're pretty straightforward…mixing text input fields, pull down menus for controlled vocabulary entries, and text boxes for biographical/historical note paragraphs.

Several fields rely on controlled vocabularies and we rely on an organic growth rather than pre-population for content. We seeded them with very obvious candidates from our own experience, but then leave it up to the people creating records to recommend new vocabulary terms if what they're looking for isn't present.

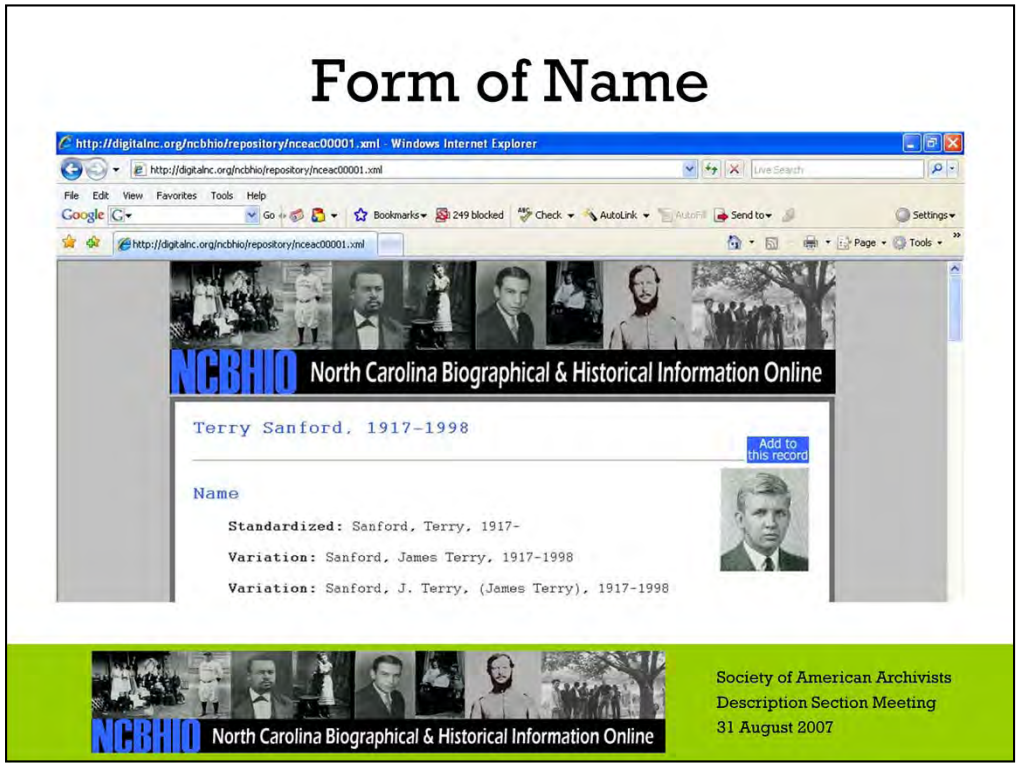


There is extensive documentation to explain content guidelines with separate chapters for persons, corporate bodies, and families. There is plenty of overlap and repetition, but we felt it would be easier to have all the information available for each type rather than just highlight the differences. There are worksheets laid out in the order of data entry which allow you to organize all of your content prior to filling out the forms, there's an appendix about interpreting Library of Congress Name Authority Files so you can populate the correct web form fields if there's an LCNAF entry, and there's also a style guide.



Relationships are the power of EAC:

You must make a connection to material held at a North Carolina cultural heritage institution, plus you're encouraged to make connections with other NCBHIO records. Relationships allow disparate, multiple collections to be brought together and demonstrate the tangle of human history.



The next few slides (slides 10-15) will illustrate the structure of an EAC record in our repository. The series of screen captures show all the components as you'd scroll down the page.

Terry Sanford was given the inaugural identifier of nceac00001, our first record, since he is someone who exemplifies the tangle of human history. Terry Sanford attended UNC-Chapel Hill as an undergrad (that's his yearbook photo), he was a governor of North Carolina, a US Senator from North Carolina, a presidential candidate from North Carolina, and the president of Duke University. He has collections at Duke University's special collections and archives, UNC-Chapel Hill's Southern Historical Collection, and the State Archives of North Carolina.

Formal Description

Search terms

Gender: Male

Marital status: Married

Ethnicity: Whites

Religious affiliation: Methodists

Political affiliation: Democratic Party (U.S.)

Occupation: Politicians

Occupation: Educators

Location: Laurinburg (N.C.)

Location: Scotland County (N.C.)

Location: Chapel Hill (N.C.)

Location: Orange County (N.C.)

Location: Durham (N.C.)

Location: Durham County (N.C.)

Location: Raleigh (N.C.)

Location: Wake County (N.C.)

Location: Washington D.C.

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31 August 2007

Informal Description

Biographical Note

James Terry Sanford was born 20 August 1917 in Laurinburg, N.C., the son of Cecil L. and Elizabeth Martin Sanford. He received the A.B. degree (1939) and the J.D. degree (1946) from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After serving in the military and FBI, and while practicing law in Fayetteville, N.C., Sanford embarked on a political career. He served as North Carolina State Senator from 1953 to 1954. In 1961, he was elected Governor of North Carolina and held the office through 1965. Sanford later served as a United States Senator from 1986 to 1992.

In December 1969, Sanford was elected President of Duke University. He assumed the office in April 1970, and held the position through June 1985. His involvement at Duke continued as President Emeritus, from 1985 to 1998, and as Professor of Public Policy, from 1992 to 1998. Terry Sanford died on April 18, 1998 and is buried in the Duke University Chapel crypt.

Sanford married Margaret Rose Knight in 1942; they had two children.

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Informal Description

Timeline

Date	Event	Place
August 20, 1917	Born	Laurinburg, N.C.
1939	Graduated, University of North Carolina	Chapel Hill, N.C.
1946	Graduated, University of North Carolina Law School	Chapel Hill, N.C.
1941–1942	Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation	–
1942–1945	Parachute Infantry, United States Army	–
1946–1948	Assistant Director, Institute of Government, University of North Carolina	Chapel Hill, N.C.
1948–1960	North Carolina National Guard; Lawyer in private practice	–
1953–1955	North Carolina State senator	–
1961–1965	Governor of North Carolina	–
1965–1969	Lawyer in private practice	–
1969–1985	President of Duke University	Durham, N.C.
1985–1986	Lawyer in private practice	–
4 November 1986	Elected as a Democrat to the United States Senate, for the unexpired term of John East ending 3 January 1987, and for the six-year term ending 3 January 1993, and served from 5 November 1986, to 3 January 1993	–
1992	Chairman, Select Committee on Ethics; unsuccessful candidate for reelection	–
18 April 1998	Died	Durham, N.C.

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Resource Relationships

Suggestions for Further Research

Terry Sanford records and papers, 1945-1998

Duke University. University Archives.

The Terry Sanford Records and Papers include Duke University administrative records, personal papers, manuscripts, photographs, printed matter, memorabilia, and other material created or received by Terry Sanford during his various careers as a lawyer, politician, and President and President Emeritus of Duke University. The bulk of material consists of records from his tenure as President, 1969-1985. Online finding aid available at: http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/rbmscl/uapressanford/inv/.

About 265.5 linear feet

Terry Sanford papers, 1926-1995

Duke University. Rare Book, Manuscript, and Special Collections Library.

The Terry Sanford papers document Sanford's career as a United States Senator from North Carolina from 1986 to 1992. The collection contains papers dated from 1926-1996, with the bulk of material dated between 1986 and 1992. His senatorial campaigns, views on issues, interactions with constituents, and activities in committees of which he was a member are documented throughout the collection. Sanford served on the following U.S. Senate committees: Select Committee on Ethics (Chair); Special Committee on Ageing; Budget; Banking and Monetary Policy and Subcommittee on Securities; and Foreign Relations, including Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs (Chair), Subcommittee on African Affairs, and Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere and Peace Corps Affairs. Online finding aid available at: http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/rbmscl/sanford/inv/.

About 215 linear feet

Terry Sanford Papers, 1946-1993

Southern Historical Collection, The Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

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Record Maintenance

Record Maintenance Information

NCBHIO ID: nceac00001

Record maintenance: Jill Katte, Jan. 17, 2006 (Terry Sanford, 1917-1998)

Record maintenance: Kathy Wisser, Sept. 11, 2006 (Record enhanced for stylesheet display and template testing.)

Language: English in Latin Script.

Rule: *Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, Second Edition.*

Rule: *Describing Archives: A Content Standard.*

Source: Records and papers of Terry Sanford, 1945-1998

Source: Biographical Dictionary of the United States Congress

Photographs provided for the NCBHIO logo are courtesy of the North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Raleigh, North Carolina and The North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. For more information on the photographs in the logo, see About the Logo.

Internet 100%

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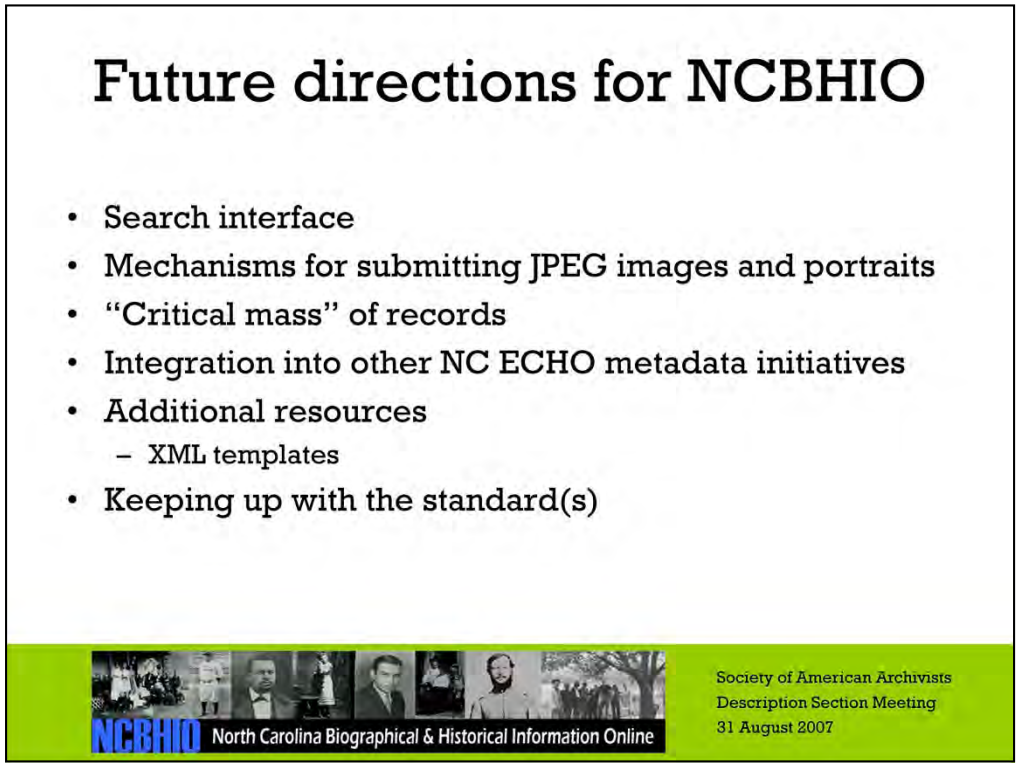

We will implement a search interface…right now there is only a browse feature where the records are organized alphabetically. It will be XTF (extensible text framework), an open source XML application.

Mechanism for submitting jpg images: I've got the code ready, it just needs to be implemented in the very near future

"Critical Mass": We're looking to reach the 300 record point before we really roll out awareness to public service people statewide.

Integration: we'll be exploring how institutions which already implement EAD can incorporate EAC into their workflow

And closely related to that is the creation of tools (XML templates, and a re-structuring of the content guidelines to correspond accordingly) so institutions which have the coding expertise can directly create EAC records rather than utilize the forms.

Keeping up with the standards and making sure we stay compliant.

http://digitalnc.org/ncbhio/index.htm

NORTH CAROLINA ECHO
Exploring Cultural Heritage Online

The URL of NCBHIO.