Duke Energy Collection Comes to Hunter Library

by George Frizzell, Special Collections

Hunter Library is pleased to announce a major donation from Duke Energy. The new collection comprises the records of Nantahala Power & Light Company, which was acquired by Duke Power Company in 1988. The files date from the company's organization in 1929 under a charter from North Carolina and document Nantahala Power’s history and involvement in western North Carolina’s industrial and economic growth. The collection includes both routine operational files on Nantahala’s activities and also details on its response to natural disasters, its philanthropic activities, and community involvement. In addition to office files, there are scrapbooks, videos, and thousands of photographs that highlight corporate and community activities.

Nantahala Power originated as a subsidiary of the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa). With a major plant located in eastern Tennessee, Alcoa became interested in developing hydroelectric resources in North Carolina’s mountain region as aluminum production required large amounts of electricity. Nantahala Power also was to provide electricity to the area’s businesses and homes.

As early as August 1929, an article in the Jackson County newspaper The Ravinite noted that Nantahala Power was planning new hydroelectric projects and services in the region. In Jackson County, for instance, the company constructed a 29-mile wood pole transmission line to Sylva in 1933 to serve the Sylva Paperboard Company. In 1939 a transmission line reached Western Carolina Teachers College, which previously had been dependent on a small power plant located nearby on the Tuckasegee River.

World War II brought a demand for new energy resources. After the fall of France in June 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued a call to American industry to respond to the challenge. In 1940 Nantahala Power began work on the Glenville Project, later named in honor of the company’s first president J.E.S. Thorpe. Over the course of sixteen months, Nantahala employed some 1500 men in round-the-clock shifts to build the 1300 foot long and 150 foot high Glenville Dam. A power line constructed to Glenville

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New Microfilm Set on
Cherokee History Acquired
by Corbett Fitzwill, Special Collections

Hunter Library recently acquired the National Archives microfilm publication Cherokee Applications to the Court of Claims, 1905-1909. This was the last major National Archives set concerning the Eastern Cherokees not held by the library. While there are other microfilm sets concerning the Cherokee Nation in Indian Territory (later Oklahoma) the Applications acquisition provides Hunter Library with a near comprehensive collection of National Archives microfilm publications documenting the Eastern Cherokees.

Eastern Cherokee Applications had its origins in a 1905 decision by the U.S. Court of Claims that ruled in favor of the Eastern Cherokees and provided for compensation based upon treaty obligations with the United States.

The Court of Claims appointed Guion Miller a special commissioner of the court and assigned him the duty of compiling a roll of eligible individuals that would include tribal members living either east or west of the Mississippi River who were alive on May 29, 1906, or their descendants.

The 348 reels that comprise the set contain nearly 46,000 applications that represented 90,000 claimants. The applications are a treasure trove for historical, demographic, and family history. Applicants had to state an English and/or Indian name, place of birth and current residence, age, and genealogical information such as the names of grandparents, parents, siblings, spouse, and children as well as places of birth and place of residence in 1851.

The final Miller enrollment, as approved by the Court in 1910, tallied 30,820 individuals. The enrollment is divided into two groupings and lists 3,436 Cherokees residing east of the Mississippi River and 27,384 living west. Eastern Cherokee Applications may also wish to consult the microfilm set Records Relating to Enrollment of Eastern Cherokees by Guion Miller, 1908-10, M6855 (12 reels).

A Note on Use of the Set

The applications are arranged numerically in the order they were received by Miller’s office, not alphabetically by the applicant’s name. In order to identify and locate a specific application, it is necessary to consult either the index on microfilm, which is arranged alphabetically by name, or one of the published guides that are now available (see below). Some published guides also provide more in-depth indexing of the names than is available on the microfilm set, which lists the claimants but not the thousands of individuals referred to in the applications.

It is also important to realize that the Miller roll is not a definitive enrollment of the Cherokee Nation. While it does contain the names of members of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, it does not include the Old Settler Cherokees or their descendants who emigrated west prior to the 1836 Treaty of New Echota and, consequently, were not parties to that treaty.

Eastern Cherokee Applications and the set, Records Relating to Enrollment of Eastern Cherokees by Guion Miller, 1908-10, are cataloged in the library’s “numbered” microfilm collection as numbers 536 and 427 respectively.

For additional information, see


...from the University Librarian

by Bil Stahl

The 2002 - 2003 academic year is off to a blazing start. However, the library never really slowed down much during the summer. Long gone are the days when the summers consisted of blocks of unscheduled time when the library could undertake major projects. While there are still fewer students on campus during the summer, demands for librarians to provide sessions on how to use the library as part of a class and for research assistance do not decrease much anymore from the academic year. The library staff still try to use the summer to update webpages, prepare new guides in support of academic programs and to take care of the numerous housekeeping chores necessary to maintain the library in good order. There is an inside joke about people not familiar with the workings of an academic library thinking that all the staff do during the summer is sit around and read books. How we wish that were true!

While we may grumble about not having enough time, the library stuff is really delighted to be so much in demand. A mantra in many library schools in the 1970s was "relevance." Back then that often meant expanding the role of the library to try to be all things to all people. This was the era when some public libraries circulated rotoscopers and other garden and construction tools along with books. These libraries have since regained their focus on providing information services and gotten out of the hardware business. We don't hear the term "relevance" applied to libraries as much anymore, but it still is relevant. A recent survey done for the Digital Library Federation indicated that the large majority of students and faculty trusted the information provided by the library more than what they found on the Internet. However, not surprisingly the majority of students and faculty go to the Internet first because it is more convenient. Another study may moderate the division indicated in the Digital Library Federation study. This study was published within the past two years that indicated that often students who used Internet-based library resources did not identify them as being library resources.

Hunter Library saw a 17% increase in both people coming in the door as well as in materials checked out last year as compared with the previous year. From the statistics for the first two months of this year, it appears we may be heading for another banner year. It is great to see both the entrance numbers and the circulation counts going up. We have been receiving a steady stream of compliments about how the changes we have made in the library have made the library a very inviting place to be. However, the data indicates also that people are really using the library collections. As any competent store manager knows, having people in close proximity to the merchandise increases the probability that they will make a purchase. While the faculty expectations of students and faculty research are still the major drivers of academic library collection use, enhancing the library's physical environment has also helped increase collection use.

There has been a disturbing trend in some libraries to push the physical books and journals further and further away from the library users to accommodate technology. This seems to me to be a terrible mistake. Technology can coexist with the physical collections. Most people today are adequately comfortable with online catalogs, so the PCs do not need to be all clustered together for easier staff support. We will always keep some public PCs by the Reference Desk for people who might need assistance. Inter-spersing PCs in smaller clusters with the books and journals can create interesting and useful study and research spaces. Working amidst the books and journals of one's discipline can often lead to serendipitous discoveries of important written works. Our goal is to create the best, most user-friendly library possible. That means that we will continue to seek ways to effectively mix the old and new technologies and services so that Hunter Library is an inviting, comfortable, and relevant place for students and faculty!
Hunter Library's
Nan Watkins
Publishes New Book

Nan Watkins with Claudio Fialer

Nan Watkins, one of our reference librarians, had a very interesting month of April this year. In April she celebrated her 20th anniversary of service to Hunter Library and had her first book published. Stepping outside of traditional roles, Nan has taken an around-the-world trip and written a book relating her experiences. Nan has graciously agreed to share her travel experiences and how they led to the writing of her book, East Toward Dawn, Seal Press, 2002.

Nan, could you tell us how you came to take a trip around the world?
As I was approaching my sixtieth birthday, I longed for a break from my workaday life. I had just completed a difficult decade and wanted time to myself to reflect on my past and consider the future. I have always loved to travel, so I planned a trip around the world that took me, in sixty days, from Tuckasegee to New York, then east through countries in Europe and Asia. Sometimes I was alone; other times I lived with natives, often former international students at WCU.

How did your trip lead to publishing a book?
I had published travel essays with Seal Press in Seattle, and before I began my globe-trotting tour, I wrote to my publisher, asking if they would be interested in an essay on my round-the-world trip. Six months later, after I had returned home, I received a letter from Seal, proposing I write a book. I always keep a journal when I travel, but when I began my journey I had no idea I would be using my rice paper notebooks as the basis for a book.

Nan, that is very interesting. Could you tell us how you made the transition from your travel journals to a book?
Seal Press publishes women’s stories, and my editor was clear from the beginning that the book should be a travel memoir. When I was on the road, unfamiliar places would spark memories from my life, and I began to weave those memories and other thoughts into the storyline of the trip. After I signed the contract for the book, I developed a schedule that enabled me to write at least twenty hours a week when I was working in the library and playing organ at St. David’s, and then forty hours a week when I was on vacation. It took a lot of self-discipline to stick to that schedule until the manuscript was finished.

Well, you wrote the book but the next step is promoting the book. What experiences have you encountered in your promotion endeavors?
Avalon Publishing Group in New York, which bought Seal Press the month I finished writing, has distributed the book well, but they left the promotion to me. In May I signed books in the underground mall at L’Enfant Plaza in Washington. In New York I was given a reception at Teachers and Writers on Union Square, and I made a solo recording for a half-hour radio show called “Everything Goes,” which led to a fan letter
from a Manhattan listener. Back in North Carolina I enjoy giving readings and book signings; I also relish the interchange with readers when speaking with writers, women's groups, students, and interviewers. I was especially happy to be honored by my Hunter Library colleagues at a recent reception.

Nan, you are now an accomplished world traveler and author. Looking back, what was the most meaningful thing that you learned from your trip?

As I became immersed in different geographies, climates and cultures, I was struck by the beauty of the earth as a whole and by the universality of human needs and desires. I was also saddened to perceive the immense harm that mankind has inflicted on the planet and fellow beings. The trip made me realize how important it is for each of us to be acutely aware of the consequences of our actions. We have the choice of whether to live positively as compassionate citizens of the world or selfishly in disregard of our environment and human family. My travels clearly confirmed the choice for compassion.

Thank you for taking the time to share your experiences with us. We will be looking forward to book number two.

Jamaican Educators
Find Library a Haven

by Heidi Buchanan, Reference

Would you be willing to sacrifice your summer vacation and a large chunk of your salary to travel to a strange land to spend your days and evenings taking intensive classes in Chemistry, Psychology, and Literature? For the past 30 years, over 3000 teachers and educators from the country of Jamaica have been doing just that. In 1970, the Jamaican Ministry of Education asked WCU to provide a baccalaurate program for Jamaican teachers, counselors and administrators. Since then, Western has offered 30 courses a year to the Jamaicans, and roughly 75% of Western Carolina's faculty members have taught classes in Jamaica, including Hunter Library's distance education librarian, Elizabeth Vihmanek.

Each summer, the Jamaican professional educators become WCU students, leave their families behind, and travel to Cullowhee to complete these requirements. Their long days are filled with science labs, reading literature, and researching trends in education. Many of their assignments involve finding books, articles, and various teaching materials.

The Jamaicans must come to Western's campus for English 209 and Chemistry 101. The English course requires the use of a computer lab; the Chemistry course requires a science lab. These resources are not readily available in Jamaica. Taking the courses on campus also fulfills a residency requirement from the University. In addition to these courses, an Education course is usually provided as well.

Hunter Library has traditionally provided library instruction to the Jamaican students during their first days on campus. In June, Hunter Library provided instruction to Jamaican graduate students who listened to how to research ERIC, the electronic database used by educators across the country. This summer, the first group of Jamaican graduate students received Master's Degrees from Western Carolina.

This July, a group of librarians including Nan Watkins, Elizabeth Vihmanek, Tim Castner, Heidi Buchanan, and Dana Edge spent three full days teaching 103 Jamaicans how to use the library and its electronic resources. The classes are taught in the library's electronic classroom, and each student sat at a computer learning how to use our catalog to find books and how to find articles using our electronic databases.

The technology skills of the group varied widely. Many of the teachers had limited experience with both computers and the Internet before they came to WCU. Remember the first day you tried to use a mouse or the first time you tried to type an Internet address into a location bar? You know how you get used to one kind of computer product, only to have it change the next day? Imagine having all of those
Document Delivery—An Alternative to Journal Subscriptions

Nancy Newcome, Serials

With the journal inflation rate at around 10% per year, and the library's collection budget not able to keep up with this inflation, it became evident that changes in the way Hunter Library provides access to journal literature had to be made quickly. In 2001, the Library cut subscriptions equal to 14% of the total amount spent on journals. However, because of inflation, the actual savings only amounted to about 5%. Library funded "document delivery" is an option that many academic libraries have adopted in order to offset journal inflation costs, while at the same time avoiding the major negative impact on the information needs of the academic community.

Document delivery in this case refers to a commercial vendor service which provides journal articles either online, via email, or faxed within 24-48 hours. Traditional interlibrary loan continues to be a viable option, although without the same guarantee of quick turn-around.

After much investigation and research, the decision was made to cancel 60% - 70% of the total amount spent in four departments having the highest-priced journals (Biology, Chemistry & Physics, Health Science, and Math & Computer Sciences), and offer subsidized document delivery instead. As a result, 130 journal titles are being canceled as of the beginning of the 2003 subscription year at a savings of about $146,000, and subsidized document delivery through our chosen commercial vendor, Igenius, is being made available to all faculty, staff and students as of fall semester 2002. At an average cost of $12 - $15 per article, document delivery makes sense economically for the high priced science and technology journals, especially if their use is low. However, it is not cost-effective for journal titles in the humanities where journal subscription costs are relatively low.

The Library recognizes that not having the print issues on the shelf takes away the ability to browse and discover important information serendipitously. The trade-off is between providing access to a collection of approximately 26,000 journals versus having far fewer journals immediately available on the shelf. Igenius does provide table of contents of selected journal titles and "saved search alert" service, which help offset the lack of browsing. The saved search alert service does an automatic search the user has defined and sends the results to the user's email on a regular basis. The amount of savings the library will realize from this service will not be fully known until after it has been tried for a year or two. However, it is anticipated that there will be savings that will enable the library to provide additional online services and collections. It is hoped that this approach will enable the library to enhance services to its students and faculty while at the same time minimizing the effects of serials inflation.
Recent Acquisitions
by George Fritzell, Special Collections

Brinkley Properties: This report is a gem for fans of Dr. John R. Brinkley, a Jackson County native who won fame and fortune with his unorthodox medical procedures, his use of radio in advertising, and his political ambitions in Kansas. After achieving financial success, Brinkley returned to Jackson County in the 1930s and purchased a number of properties. This bound report, a gift of Sylvia DuPree, on the economic potential of Brinkley’s holdings in the Plott Balsam range of Jackson County is entitled “Properties of Dr. John R. Brinkley, Sylva, North Carolina” and features twenty-six typescript pages, thirty-five photographs, and two maps.

Doug and Ron Story: This collection of land grants for tracts in Burke County, North Carolina, date from 1754 - 1819 and is a donation of Doug Story and Ron Story. Some of the grants have the description of the land carefully tied to the main body of the page by a ribbon threaded through both sections. The purchaser of one grant paid in BOUNDS and on another in Shillings.

H.T. Hunter: The family of Dr. Hiram T. Hunter honored Hunter Library with a very special donation of papers on the occasion of the library’s 50th Anniversary celebration in April. Miss Mabelou Hunter, daughter of Dr. Hunter, gave a collection of Dr. Hunter’s personal papers. Dr. Hunter (1883-1947) was president of Western Carolina from 1923 – 1947. During his tenure the institution developed from Cullowhee Normal & Industrial School (1905-1924) into Cullowhee State Normal School (1925-1929) and then into Western Carolina Teachers College (1929 – 1953). In 1952 the institution dedicated the newly constructed library in President Hunter’s memory.

The History of Mud Creek Church:
Dr. Linda Guelppey donated a copy of her history of an African-American church in Henderson County to Special Collections. The limited distribution book, Under Their Own Vine and Fig Tree: The History of Mud Creek Missionary Baptist Church, East Flat Rock, Henderson County, North Carolina, 1867-2002, is not only important as a history of the congregation but also a significant contribution to African-American history in western North Carolina.

Jack Frederick Kilpatrick and Anna Gritts Kilpatrick: Jack and Anna Kilpatrick were premier scholars in Cherokee history and, fortunately, left a wealth of publications and research materials. This collection, a gift of Dr. Alan Kilpatrick, contains notes on translations, drafts or proofs of their books and articles, and a variety of publications printed in the Cherokee syllabary. Among the Kilpatricks’ works featured in the collection are The Book of Hagwii, Chronicles of Wolftown, Eastern Cherokee Folktales Reconstructed from the Field Notes of Franz M. Oelbrechts, Friends of Thunder, Folktales of the Oklahoma Cherokee, Muskogian Charm Songs Among the Oklahoma Cherokee, New Ecstatic Letters, Notebook of a Cherokee Shaman, Roll Toward the Nightland: Magic of the Oklahoma Cherokee, Sequoyah of Earth and Intellect, The Shadow of Sequoyah: Social Documents of the Cherokees, 1862-1964, The Wahbunachi Manuscript, and Walk in Your Soul: Lore Incantations of the Oklahoma Cherokee.

William Bryant Carden Civil War letter:
This Civil War letter, written by William Bryant Carden (also Cardin) and dated October 6 and 7, 1861, is both historical and poignant. Carden wrote the letter from Camp Lee, Pocahontas County, Virginia (now West Virginia). In it he comments on recent military engagements, living conditions, a religious sermon, his belief that a negotiated peace was no longer feasible, his longing for news from home, and sent his best wishes to relatives. As he wrote, Carden noted it has begun to rain and wet the paper. The watermarks can still be seen on the paper. In a sad after note, Carden lost his arm in battle after writing this letter. Though he returned home to western North Carolina after his injury, in a final summation of that tragic conflict, raiders murdered him in 1864 because he was wearing his Confederate jacket. Author, playwright, and folklorist Gary Carden donated this letter of his ancestor.
Continued from page 1

allowed work to proceed through the night. In this flow of activity, work progressed on several fronts at once. While some workers cleared the area for the lakebed, others were occupied drilling tunnels to carry the water to the power plant or in actual construction of the dam. The resulting reservoir stretched for 4 ½ miles and covered nearly 1500 acres. After the development’s dedication in October 1941, Alcoa could announce that the new plant provided the electricity necessary to produce two B-17 Flying Fortress bombers every day. In 1974 Nantahala would donate 79 acres on Glenville Lake to Jackson County for use as a park.

During the 1950s, Nantahala Power constructed a series of dams in Jackson County in order to keep up with the rising demand for electricity. Between 1940 and 1950 the demand in kilowatt hours in Jackson County alone more than tripled. In 1950 the company completed a dam downstream from the Thorpe plant that utilized the water discharged by the Thorpe Plant. Other plants completed during this period included Cedar Cliff (1952), Bear Creek (1954), and Tennese Creek/Wolf Creek (1955).

Hunter Library would like to extend a special acknowledgement to Mr. Fred Alexandre, Duke Energy’s Nantahala district manager, whose knowledge of the company’s history and recognition of the significance of these records made this collection possible. His love of history and commitment to the region is evident in the careful arrangement of the files and notes he has provided to support their use.

Cherokee Phoenix Now on Hunter Library Homepage

Hunter Library has now posted the first two years of articles from the Cherokee Phoenix newspaper on the library’s home page (www.wcu.edu/library). Frequent readers of the Clarion may recall previous articles tracing the library’s efforts to make articles from the Phoenix more readily available.

Published from 1828 to 1834, the Cherokee Phoenix was the national newspaper of the Cherokee Nation. While its life span of six years and three months was all too short, the wealth of historical details that accumulated in its 260 issues is immeasurable. In addition to the vital information on Cherokee history contained in its pages, the Phoenix stands as a testament to a people’s achievements. Between 1800 and 1835, the Cherokees experienced a cultural revitalization—a “renaissance”—marked by dramatic political, social, and economic changes as they rallied to retain their identity and diminished homelands. Sequoyah, a Cherokee intellectual, capped the Cherokee renaissance by developing a written form of the Cherokee language. The Cherokee Phoenix was part of this revitalization of Cherokee national and cultural vitality.

A bilingual newspaper, the Phoenix contained articles in both the English and Cherokee languages. Within its pages the newspaper’s editors and contributors debated the conflicting policies of assimilation into a larger American society versus removal west of the Mississippi.

During the Phoenix’s brief existence, it addressed the wide spectrum of concerns that affected the Cherokee people, both major and minor. The Cherokee Phoenix’s columns reflect both a unique and yet startlingly familiar portrayal of its era. While readers in any American community would have recognized the news items and features, it offered the viewpoint and concerns of a Native American nation. Found within its columns were editorials that embodied the Cherokee’s determination to retain their lands in what is now Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina and Alabama; news on the activities of the Cherokee national government as well as relations with the federal and state governments; accounts about the Cherokees in Arkansas and other Native American nations; and social and religious activities in the Nation.

The Phoenix did not survive to give an account of the Cherokee Nation’s last days in the east. It had ceased publication with the May 31, 1834 issue. In 1836 the Cherokee Nation suffered through the "Trail of Tears" in a forced removal to Indian Territory. However, within the Phoenix’s columns was related the struggle of a people who had not accepted "manifest destiny" and who had made their choices and lived their lives based on the same convictions and hopes of self-determination as those of their contemporaries.
Come Join Us at the Library Café!

Come to the Java City Café in the Library and see how much we have improved the atmosphere with this addition. The Library Facilities Committee and library staff rearranged the leisure reading and magazine area to surround the café. During fall break a tile floor was added to the café area. Come take a break or have lunch and try out our new Café!
FALL HOURS
Wednesday, Oct. 9 to
Monday, Nov. 25
THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Tuesday, Nov. 26
Wednesday, Nov. 27
Thursday, Nov. 28 to
Saturday, Nov. 30
Sunday, Dec. 1 to
Tuesday, Dec. 10
FINAL EXAMS
Wednesday, Dec. 11 to
Friday, Dec. 13
COMMENCEMENT
Saturday, Dec. 14
FINAL EXAMS
Sunday, Dec. 15 to
Tuesday, Dec. 17
Wednesday, Dec. 18 to
Friday, Dec. 20
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Saturday, Dec. 21 to
Sunday, Dec. 29
Monday, Dec. 30 to
Tuesday, Dec. 31
NEW YEAR’S DAY HOLIDAY
January 1, 2003

*Extended Hours*
7:45 a.m. to 10 p.m.
7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m.
CLOSED
OPEN NOON-CONTINUOUSLY
Close at 9 p.m.
OPEN NOON-CONTINUOUSLY
Close at 6 p.m.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
CLOSED
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
CLOSED

Hunter’s Clarion
http://www.wcu.edu/library/whatsnew/clarion/index.htm