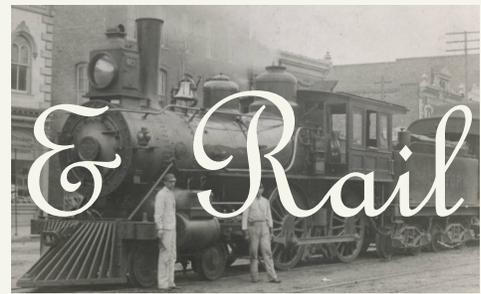




River,

Road,



& Rail

W A Y N E C O U N T Y H I S T O R I C A L A S S O C I A T I O N

**SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:**

- Rotating Exhibits
- Speakers
- Volunteer opportunities
- Webpage: waynemuseum.org
- Visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/waynecomuseum>
- Coming attractions

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**REORGANIZING THE MUSEUM**

Shortly after the resignation of the Museum Director the Executive Board of the Wayne County Historical Association voted to close the museum for six weeks to determine the contents and status of items in the collection.

A team of members worked every afternoon at the Museum during that time. Groups of members numbering three to twelve emptied all shelves, cabinets, files, and piles of artifacts placing them into major groups in the middle of the auditorium floor. The tables were labeled: Keep, Evaluate, and Surplus.

The teams attacked the second floor first. This process took four weeks. Additional shelving was needed and a Boy Scout proposed

construction of new shelving and cabinets for his Eagle Scout project. The project was approved and begun. Minor repairs to walls, ceilings, and floors were addressed and repairs are continuing.

At this time, each storage space was given a name as a location to help in the final placement of objects and files. As the artifacts are being evaluated, they are entered into a new museum program, *PastPerfect*. This process is continuing with Collection Evaluation teams being formed depending upon the type of artifact. As each item is being evaluated, those added to the collect are assigned a location for permanent housing.

During this process,

Betty Duncan, Emily Weil, Diane Kester with assistance from Janice Whisenhunt envisioned and began to mount five new exhibits on the second floor. These include: Toys and Dolls, Early Farm Life, The USO, Medical Implements and History, and Communication Equipment Through the Years.

Another new addition to the Museum is a wall-mounted large display containing the picture and biography of each who have been selected to be on the "Wayne County Wall of Fame." This display features page numbers and an alphabetical index so they can be easily located.

The Woman's Club Room has been restored to  
*(Continued on page 2)*



EARLY FARM LIFE IN WAYNE COUNTY

**FEBRUARY – APRIL ROTATING EXHIBITS & PROGRAMMING**

In recognition of Black History Month, one rotating exhibit featured local Black History coordinated by Shirley Edwards and assisted by Chris Lawson and Roy White. Persons recognized by the Wayne County Wall of Fame were featured as well as displays from communities such as Little Washington and Parkstown. An Open House was held on the afternoon and evening, of February

26th. And the Black History Quiz Bowl was held on March 19th.

The Black History theme continued over to the history of the Underground Railroad. A video slide show and brochures were available.

The third theme featured the railroad and its history in Wayne County. The Waynesborough Model Railroad Club assisted in the display. (Learn more about this contribution on page 6).



**REORGANIZING THE MUSEUM – CONT.**

*Long term and Rotating Exhibits have been added to the Wayne County Museum*

*(Continued from page 1)* its original purpose and has been updated to be more appealing and attractive.

After the second floor was in order, the same procedure was followed downstairs. The current rotating exhibits are described elsewhere in this newsletter.

All items judged to be duplicates or surplus in this process were returned

to their original owners or offered to other museums whenever possible.

The process of evaluating items, labeling items, and filing will be an continuing process. If you would like to participate in these activities, please email at [info@waynemuseum.org](mailto:info@waynemuseum.org).

- Exhibit planning and preparation
- Evaluation of items for permanent collection



- Development of multimedia and interactive displays

**MUSEUM SEEKS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Wayne County Historical Association is actively seeking letters of application and resumes for the position of Executive Director of the Wayne County Museum.

The Museum preserves, collects, researches, catalogs, and exhibits our

county's history and that of the area. The Director would be responsible for planning, programming, and other operational aspects of the Museum.

Program responsibilities would include exhibits, educational programs, fundraising, grant writing,

public relations, and marketing. Operations encompass the development and supervision of staff and volunteers and working with the Board of WCHA concerning the Museum's finances and budget.

The WCHA is looking for an individual with mu-

seum and/or public history training and internship.

Application information is available at <http://waynemuseum.org>

## THE ORIGINAL D-E-R-A-I-L-A-B-R-A-T-I-O-N

Originally, Goldsboro came into existence because it was the half way point on the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad. The railroad brought people and goods to the area and encouraged merchants and individuals to move here because of the connection the train gave to the rest of the world. It spelled the end of the town of Waynesborough, because it was down on the river where there were floods and mosquitoes; and travel was primarily on the Neuse River.

After the town grew and prospered, people began to complain

because the trains stopped traffic at times when they were taking on water and more fuel. The engines burned fuel that put out sparks, cinders, smoke and caused fires and dirt on the storefronts. In 1910 a whole block of wood-frame stores burned because of sparks from the train. Only gradually did stores begin to be built of brick.

Citizens began to complain to their Aldermen, and asked that spur track be built around the downtown so that trains didn't go down the middle of the main street (called Center Street.) Petitions were sent to the railroad

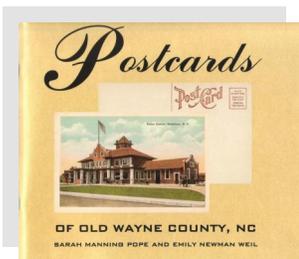
company several times with no response. A train station had been built four blocks west of downtown on the bypass track, but still the trains came down through the center of town.

Finally, in desperation and determination, the merchants of Goldsboro banded together and planned a daring move. During a dark night in April 1926, they brought all their hired help, friends, and anyone who would and removed the tracks overnight. In the morning the tracks were all gone from Center Street and neatly stacked by Elm Street.

Rumors say that moonshine flowed freely. We will never know, because the next day not a person could be found who had seen or heard a thing. The problem was solved. A law suit ensued from the railroad company. The city paid a fine. Nobody knew what had happened, but from that time to this, Goldsboro has had a lovely, wide Center Street.



## E D U C A T I O N A L O U T R E A C H



Available in the  
Gift Shop of Wayne  
County Museum

Learning local history with pictures was a new experience for a class of third grade students at North Drive Elementary School last month.

In response to a teacher's request for information about Goldsboro and Wayne County two WCHA board members, Judith McMillen and Emily Weil brought each student a

copy of the book "Postcards of Old Wayne County" to use as the text while they talked about the beginnings of our communities.

The students were excited to receive their own personalized autographed copy of the book. They promised to become more familiar

with their town and to try and locate the buildings pictured in their new books.

The book is available for \$10 in the Gift Shop of the Wayne County Museum.

## FROM BATTLEFIELD TO MUSEUM

The Wayne County Museum is pleased to announce the acquisition of a large collection of rifles, swords and many other Civil War artifacts. The history of this acquisition began with a meeting at Waynesborough Park about six years ago. At that meeting were Wilbur "Andy" Anderson, Arnold Leder, and Jeff Bockert (East Regional Supervisor, NC Historic Sites). These men met with R. L. Hamilton, who was seeking a home for his large collection of Civil War Artifacts from the Battle of Averasboro. Hamilton had visited several museums in Eastern NC, and Goldsboro was his choice for their home.

### AVERASBORO BATTLE

Averasboro Battle was fought on March 16, 1865 as

*Special thanks to the  
Hamilton family of  
Averasboro and Andy  
Anderson for this addition"*

General W. T. Sherman's troops moved from Fayetteville (via Atlanta and Savannah) toward their final destination at the railroad junction in Goldsboro. Units of the Confederate Army planned to engage Sherman's troops at Bentonville, but needed more time to gather additional troops and supplies. Thus, Averasboro became the site of a delaying action by Southern troops.

General Joseph E. Johnston had been observing Sherman's march and planned to gather 25,000 men in Bentonville to try and stop the General's advance. He ordered General William J. Hardee to dig in and delay and damage the Union troops at Averasboro in order to have time to get ready for the main action at Bentonville. Hardee did an outstanding job, and when his men withdrew from the ac-

tion at the end of the day, it was in an orderly, planned and deliberate manner. The Union had lost 682 men and the South some 500 in this delaying action.

### THE HAMILTON FAMILY

The Hamilton family has lived at the site of this battle for more than 150 years and still farms at the same location. When the battle was over, the Hamiltons and a few others went out and collected all the artifacts they could find. They later acquired other items to add to the collection.

Hamilton became interested in the battlefield from the time he was a young boy, and had been befriended by an old man who had actually watched the battle. The two became great friends, and in this way, R. L. was taught details about the battle from a primary source.

### FINDING A HOME

Because of his passion for the battle and his family's collection, Hamilton sought someone to keep it safe until he found a home for the artifacts. His grandson, Jake, agreed to be caretaker and to help find a suitable home.

Ultimately, Hamilton gave the collection to Waynesborough Park, where a museum was being planned to house the collection. The collection has been catalogued, appraised, and stored in a vault while funds were sought. After more than six years of effort, Waynesborough Park has been unable to obtain enough funding to build a new building. Thus the collection is now on display at the nearby Wayne County Museum.

## NEW CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT

The story of the artifacts from the Averasboro Battle continues and is now on exhibit.

Thanks to Andy Anderson, ten new display cases were acquired and are being altered to fit the needs of the collection. Anderson has designed an appropriate layout, and is personally installing the proper shelves, labels, lighting, and alarms to properly secure and display the artifacts.

### NEW SHOWCASES

Of the ten new showcases now in the Wayne County Museum, two are specifically fitted for long rifles. Many of them are flint-lock, or are the type using flint and powder. These are quite tall, and re-

quire up fitting to stand in the showcases. These date from 1840-1860. One special one has a boar's head prominently carved into the wood stock.

There is a case for rifles, and one for swords. Lynn Bull is helping Anderson complete the labels and to clean the collection. The items must be cleaned and oiled every year. (And of course, only handled with gloves.) Some of the swords are curved, some have elaborate handles, and some are for battle, some for parade. There is even a medieval cast-iron Crusader's sword.

There is a cabinet with buckles of various types. There is one case with copper, bronze, cow-horn, and

leather powder horns. These are said to be especially valuable. Another display features shoe laces, keys, bullets and even a tiny iron pistol.

Another case holds flatware: mostly of silver, some with bone handles, many with initials of their owner. Soldiers at the time carried their own eating implements. Beside this case is a display of shoe horns, razors, locks, binoculars, protractors and other assorted small personal items.

Of great interest is a case with coins that are quite valuable. In the same case are seven wedding bands, thimbles, bells and other small items. Anderson reports that all the artifacts are

extremely valuable. Two items of special interest are the double-barrel shotgun with a boar's head carved on it, and the cast iron medieval sword.

### MAP and BOOKS

Two final unexpected inclusions in the collection are: a map of the actual battle, hand-drawn by Hamilton, signed, framed and hanging on the north wall of the Museum; and a set of antique books describing all the battles of the Civil War. These books can only be examined if they are handled with gloves.

This collection is worth a special trip to the museum. We all owe appreciation to the Hamilton family of Averasboro and to Andy Anderson for carefully mounting the exhibit for our enjoyment.

## WEDDING FASHIONS THROUGH THE AGES: GOWNS FROM 1916-2000



The May-June exhibit will hold the opening reception on Saturday

May 7 at 11 AM. This reception will kick off a new exhibit entitled "Wedding Fashions Through the Ages: Gowns from 1916 – 2000." The exhibit is designed by Betty Duncan and Nancy Delia. It will be on display at the Wayne County Museum from May 7 through the end of June.

Featured in addition to wedding gowns will be vintage wedding photos, headpieces, and wedding shoes. The Arts Council of Wayne County will provide the shoe de-

signs. If you have wedding photos from the period of 1916 through 2000, the museum would appreciate your loaning them to the museum to post on display boards as part of the "Wedding.." exhibit.

Anyone with period pieces suitable for use in this exhibit should call the museum at 919-734-5023. Be sure to plan to come and enjoy the reception and this coming collection at the museum.



## FROM PILLARS TO PAGES

One major feature in The Wayne County Museum is the recognition of local persons on the *Wayne County Wall of Fame*.

Originally featured in individual frames and displayed on tall white pillars, the information is now on a wall-mounted display like pages in a book. Included



together are the photo of each individual and their biography. This display includes an index to easily locate an individual by page. Now, all people on the *Wall of Fame* are located in one central area and are much easier to find and enjoy. It is interesting to see these outstanding citizens together in one place.



## NEW INSIDE AND OUT

The past months have seen several repairs and upgrades at the museum. With the leadership of Judith McMillen, Vice-president for Buildings and Grounds, teams went through the museum and grounds to identify needs for repairs and improvements.

### OUTSIDE

Brick edging has been reset and a new "Open" sign signals to all when the Muse-

um is open. New lights in the parking area provides better security for attendees at evening events.

### INSIDE

The Exhibit Room is also shining brightly with new track lighting with LED bulbs. Many thanks to Roger Smith for his work to highlight the items featured in this area.

### Doll House with protection



have new security barriers installed by Jay Bauer. Soon to come are the Madam Alexander specialty doll collection.

The security system has been upgraded with cameras and new sensors.

The popular doll house and optometrist cabinet

To help protect the upstairs exhibit areas we now have new stanchions, adding a professional emphasis to the museum displays.

## THE TRAINS STOP HERE

### THE CLUB

The Waynesborough Model Railroad Club has been located in downtown Goldsboro, North Carolina since 1982. We reside at 118A W Mulberry St. We offer both individual and family memberships. The club is a non-profit 3C.

Our Officers and Board of Directors are elected from the membership each year. Membership dues are used in the maintenance of the club layout and future projects.

We converted all of our traveling modules and DCC

equipment to a full layout which is on display to the community. The club has a main layout covering nearly 2000 square feet. It includes 2 large main switching yards, several small industrial yards, tunnels, bridges, several local spurs, towns, city and an independent mountain railway.

There is ample area for personal storage, workshops, and railway expansion. We provide a great place to learn the secrets of railroad layout design, modeling, etc. The club meets Tuesday's evenings at 7 PM and Saturday



Center Street Goldsboro

mornings at 10 AM, with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month used as a business meeting. Members' are given a key for additional access to enjoy the club layout and other times.

The club provides on-site presentations during the day by appointment.

~Ron Merrill

## MODEL RAILROADING

*"The club provides on-site presentations during by appointment."*

Model railroading is a past time requiring a combination of skills, talent, fellowship, and mutual enjoyment in developing a simulation of a working railroad. The trains do more than go around in a circle. Hobby crafts are the backbone of this enterprise-model making, electronic, photography and ingenuity. Young or old, the attraction for this pastime had endured over the ag-

es. Although we are looking for new members primarily concerned with the HO scale (the most popular).

### INVITATION

The club is a non-profit. Officers and Board of Directors are elected from the membership each year. Membership dues are used in the maintenance of the club and communications with the memberships.

Goldsboro's history is filled with stories of trains, railways, and the men who worked on them. The Waynesborough Model Railroad Club is currently seeking information photos and money donations to design and build a module of Center Street as it appeared during 1920 and 1930. When completed we would like to donate it to the city or museum.

## MARCH - APRIL DISPLAY

Three of our club members (Ron Merrill, Kevin Slade and Bill Ross) combined our talents and built a 2 feet by 10 foot Intermodal yard. Our plan is to use as a traveling railroad layout in hopes to educate the community of our small interpre-

tation of how a yard serves the railroad and how communities get the required supplies.

Alan Outlaw, Warren Bishop, Shelby Skelton, Mike Kuehn and Patrick Carcieri all combine different scales of train cars and locomotives to show or represent the

different hobby scales. They also put together a display of train cars commonly seen traveling thru Goldsboro.



**S H O P P I N G B A R G A I N S**



As you walk into the

Wayne County Museum, you will notice displays on the left and a little room with colorful items on display. You've discovered the Museum Gift Shop.

Featured this winter were "notions and lotions" - gifts for him and for her for from France as well as locally made items. Books continue to be a popular items and new DVDs have just been added. One is a reproduction of the television series on 'The Beginning of the Railroad and the Birth of Goldsboro' The other addition is a conversion of Goldsboro 1949. Our thanks are

extended to Jim Hinnant for making these available.

Greetings from Goldsboro post cards feature pictures of historic sites in the area. Recently re-discovered 8 x 10 line drawings are now available for just \$2 each.

Coming soon will be items of interest for shopping for wedding gifts and Mother's Day. The shop is open regularly 11-4, Tuesday through Saturday.

**Y O U R P L A C E I N T H E F U T U R E**

So, how to you become a part of the future for the Wayne County Museum?

First, become a member. Annual dues are only \$25 for individuals and \$40 for families. Business sponsorships are available for \$250 or more.

Second, become a volunteer. Opportunities are open in

several areas: programming committees, exhibit committees, newsletter contributions, web designers, educational programming, gift shop salesperson.

Membership information forms are available in the museum and on the website, <http://waynemuseum.org>

How will you contribute to

the records of the past and the future remembrances of Wayne County and the communities within? Join WCHA and be involved.

*Membership forms are available in the museum, by calling 919-734-5023, and on the web at <http://waynemuseum.org>*



**I N F A M O U S W A Y N E C O U N T Y M U R D E R S**

"Body of a 29 year old woman found;\$2,500 reward offered."

Bodies of a couple ages 84 and 64 found in their bed bludgeoned to death; not enough evidence to justify charges.

Forty year old woman has not been seen for three days—friends found her beaten to death.

Do murder mysteries

spark your interest?

Be sure to watch the announcements for the May and June programs coming to the Wayne County Museum.

Sherwood Williford and David Weil will be presenting the series "infamous Wayne County Murders".

Tentative dates are Monday, May 9 and June 13 both beginning at 7:00 p. m.

Also, watch for the Grand Opening of "A Stroll Down Memory Wayne", featuring art work by local artists depicting the periods of history in Wayne County.

1. Waynesborough
2. Antebellum Goldsboro (1836–1861)
3. The Civil War and Reconstruction (1861-1876)
4. Agriculture, Business and Industry (1877-1914)
5. The Military and Wayne at War (1914-1945)
6. Performing Arts History
7. The struggle for justice-civil rights and the road to equality for all citizens
8. Looking Toward the Future (Wayne in the 21st century)

<http://waynemuseum.org>



**WAYNE COUNTY  
HISTORICAL  
ASSOCIATION**

Wayne County Museum  
116 N. William Street  
Goldsboro, NC 27530

Phone: 919-734-5023  
E-mail: [info@waynemuseum.org](mailto:info@waynemuseum.org)

**Your museum, where history lives.**

**MUSEUM IN THE MIDST OF MAIN STREET**

Goldsboro was the host of the state meeting of the 2016 Main Street Conference on March 16 and 17 and the Wayne County Museum was highly visible.

One of the conference activities was a scavenger hunt for famous quotations. The museum was one of the 16 sites and saw many visitors drop by for verification that they found the quotation.

Two of the tours involved the Museum. Emily Weil, Vice-president for Membership led a bus tour of downtown churches. Thirty-six people from across the state registered to take this tour. WCHA donated a copy of the book "Postcards of Old Wayne County" to each person taking the tour. As the tour approached each site, Mrs. Weil directed the group to the illustration in the book to compare with the current status of each church. She narrated details about the Oheb Shalom Temple, which is now the Community Soup

Kitchen, and the original Presbyterian Church, which is now the Town Meeting Hall, owned by the Wayne County Historical Association. Members from the other churches provided local history for the tourists.

The Ghost Walk was lead by Thomas Bailey, a frequent visitor to the Museum and known for his story telling skills and experiences with the ghosts and unexplained phenomena in Goldsboro. The tour began in the ballroom, lit only in the light of the USO sign. It went on to visit houses on the way to Willowdale Cemetery.

The Wayne County Museum was proud to be included in the activities of this state event which recognized the changes in downtown Goldsboro.



*"Progress is impossible  
without change and those  
who cannot change their  
minds cannot change  
anything."*

~George Bernard  
Shaw