

Chapel Hill Historical Society Resources

Newspapers, Directories, Yearbooks

- Bound volumes of The Chapel Hill Weekly from 1923 on. Chapel Hill News to 2010. Weekly is not yet digitized. An [inventory](#) of newspaper holdings is available online.
- Index to the Weekly, 1923-1927
- News-Leader newspaper, 1954-58 with gaps
- Daily Tar Heel, two volumes
- Chapel Hill High School yearbooks, also available [online](#) through the Historical Society website--link is under Research Materials.
- Telephone Directories—earliest is 1923-4
- Historical Society Newsletters, 1967 on, also available [online](#) through the Historical Society website
- Historical Society program list, 1967 on

The Books Most Often Used in Research

*Ralph Watkins—Historical Notes, news columns in a bound volume, kept in office

*James Vickers—Chapel Hill, An Illustrated History

*James Vickers—Images of America: Chapel Hill, largely pictures, kept in office

*Steven Stolpen—Chapel Hill, A Pictorial History

*Bicentennial Commission—A Backward Glance, Facts of Life in Chapel Hill

*Bicentennial Commission—Chapel Hill, Two Hundred Years, Close to Magic

*Doug Eyre—Profiles of Chapel Hill Since 1900, news articles in a bound volume, also for sale

*Bill Prouty—Bill Prouty's Chapel Hill, also for sale

*Jane Toy Coolidge—Growing Up With Chapel Hill, The Village from 1900-1925, also for sale

*Cornelia Spencer Love—When Chapel Hill Was A Village

*Richard Ellington, Dave Otto—Images of America: Carrboro in two volumes, also for sale

*Lefler and Wager—Orange County 1752-1952

*Elizabeth Ryan—Orange County Trio

*William Bennett—Orange County series, including Granville and state grants, on loan from Richard Ellington

*William Meade Prince—The Southern Part of Heaven

*Kemp Plummer Battle—History of the University of North Carolina, Vol. I and II, kept in office, also available [online](#).

*Kemp Plummer Battle—Memories of An Old-Time Tarheel

*William Powell—The First State University

*John Allcott—The Campus at Chapel Hill, also for sale

*McVaugh, McVaugh, and Ayers—Chapel Hill and Elisha Mitchell the Botanist, also for sale

*Stewart Dunaway—History of the Town Lots (1790-1930's), one copy kept in office

*Bernard Bryant—Occupants and Structures of Franklin Street, Chapel Hill, North Carolina At Five-Year Intervals, 1793-1998

(Many other books available, and available for check-out. Check-out is with the Historical Society, not the public library.)

Resource Binders in Office

- Charles Blake research
- Chapel Hill history, 3 binders
- Orange County history
- Orange County historic properties
- General resources
- Maps

- Photos—also see categories in photo files and CD inventory
- Research requests, 4 binders to date—useful for sources
- Specific resource lists according to topic, e.g. fire department
- Chapel Hill Museum artifact and program lists

Historical files

- Family, individuals, and groups
- Churches, cemeteries
- Houses, buildings, streets, neighborhoods, historic districts
- Businesses
- University-related
- Local government and agencies
- Chapel Hill history
- Orange County history
- Miscellaneous topics, e.g. Orange County topography, geology, local tours, mines, mills

Photograph files, categories as above

Maps

- Historical
- Topographical
- 20th-21st century maps
- Cemetery plots in Old Cemetery

Artifacts

In general, the Society leaves the collection of artifacts to other organizations. The Patterson Store ledger, the 1920's radio, the album and bottle related to the USS Chapel Hill, and several other items are on exhibit. Look for [images](#) on the CHHS [website](#).

Oral History

Interviews on cassette tapes—being digitized; interviews of Carr Mill workers, community residents and leaders

Past Historical Society programs on VHS, to be digitized

Services

- Monthly programs on 3rd Sundays, Sept.-May
- Exhibits
- Assistance with research requests
- Town Treasures recognition program
- Reading Room available to the public at designated hours
- Website, with links
- Historical Society books for sale

General Office/Reading Room Hours

Tuesday and Wednesday-- 10-2

Thursday—(Hours can vary on Thursday)-- 1-3

Friday— 1-5