

Media Contacts:

Marcie Gordon, Director, Community Engagement and Marketing
919-814-7056, marcie.gordon@ncdcr.gov
AK Brinson, Marketing and Communications Officer
919-814-7019, ak.brinson@ncdcr.gov



NC Museum of History extends three popular exhibits

Raleigh N.C – Due to popular demand, the North Carolina Museum of History will extend three of its most-loved exhibits.

[*The North Carolina Roots of Artist Ernie Barnes*](#) and [*North Carolina & World War I*](#) will now be on display through May 27, and [*The Green Book Lobby Case*](#) has been extended through March 31.

The North Carolina Roots of Artist Ernie Barnes: Now open through May 27, 2019 (Memorial Day)

[*The North Carolina Roots of Artist Ernie Barnes*](#) showcases many unpublished Ernie Barnes original paintings, as well as artifacts from his life. Barnes was born in Durham and attended Hillside High School and North Carolina College (now NCCU). After five seasons as a lineman in the National Football League, Barnes retired at age 28 to pursue art.

Barnes is the first professional American athlete to become a noted painter. From his sports experience and the study of anatomy, Barnes' unique style of elongation captures the movement, energy and grace of his subjects. In pop culture, the art of Ernie Barnes appears in television, movies and music album covers, including his famous dance hall scene, "The Sugar Shack."

"The family is thrilled with the response of the exhibit," says Luz Rodriguez, Barnes' longtime assistant and estate trustee. "Now more fellow North Carolinians can see firsthand the pride Ernie Barnes had for his home state which is evident in his art."

Open since June 29, 2018, the exhibition has received more than 85,000 visitors.

North Carolina & World War I: Now open through May 27, 2019 (Memorial Day)

[*North Carolina & World War I*](#) is a free, award-winning exhibit commemorating the centennial of U.S. entry into World War I and focuses on North Carolina's role in the War to End All Wars on the western front in France and Belgium. Visitors will experience a re-created trench warfare environment to discover what life was like for Tar Heel soldiers, who entered the war in 1917.

Visitation to the record-breaking *exhibit* has soared since its April 2017 opening—**surpassing half a million visitors in October 2018 and reaching nearly 550,000 by the end of the year**, further cementing *its* status as the most-visited temporary exhibit ever created by the North Carolina Museum of History.

"It's a great privilege to share our *North Carolina & World War I* exhibit with more than half a million visitors from across the state, the country, and the world," said Ken Howard, director of the North

Carolina Museum of History. “The museum staff has done a tremendous job creating an exhibit that is much more of an experience than just artifact cases and text on a wall.”

The Green Book Lobby Case: Now open through March 31, 2019

The powerful [*Green Book Lobby Case*](#) exhibit features a 1959 issue of “*The Negro Travelers' Green Book: The Guide to Travel and Vacations*” – also known as *The Green Book*.

Started by Victor Hugo Green, a New York City-based postal carrier, the Green Book annual travel guide helped African Americans navigate segregation by pointing travelers to businesses that would serve them.

The Green Book was published from 1936 to 1966, during the Jim Crow era of legal racial segregation. It primarily listed locations within the United States. However, several editions included places in other countries such as Canada, Mexico, Haiti, Guatemala, France, and Nigeria.

North Carolina had 326 sites identified during the three decades of the *Green Book*. *The guide* was sold at select service stations across the United States, as well as by civic groups.

About the NC Museum of History

The N.C. Museum of History, a Smithsonian Affiliate, is located at 5 E. Edenton Street in downtown Raleigh. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. The museum collects and preserves artifacts of North Carolina history and educates the public on the history of the state and the nation through exhibits and educational programs. Each year more than 400,000 people visit the museum to see some of the 150,000 artifacts in the museum collection. The Museum of History, within the Division of State History Museums, is part of the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources.

About Smithsonian Affiliations

In association with the Smithsonian since 2006, the North Carolina Museum of History is part of a select group of museums, cultural, educational, and arts organizations that share the Smithsonian's resources with the nation. Smithsonian Affiliations is a national outreach program that develops long-term collaborative partnerships with museums, educational, and cultural organizations to enrich communities with Smithsonian resources. More information is available at www.affiliations.si.edu.

About the NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

The NC Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR) is the state agency with a vision to be the leader in using the state's natural and cultural resources to build the social, cultural, educational and economic future of North Carolina. NCDNCR's mission is to improve the quality of life in our state by creating opportunities to experience excellence in the arts, history, libraries and nature in North Carolina by stimulating learning, inspiring creativity, preserving the state's history, conserving the state's natural heritage, encouraging recreation and cultural tourism, and promoting economic development.

NCDNCR includes 27 historic sites, seven history museums, two art museums, two science museums, three aquariums and Jennette's Pier, 39 state parks and recreation areas, the NC Zoo, the nation's first state-supported Symphony Orchestra, the State Library, the State Archives, the NC Arts Council, State Preservation Office, and the Office of State Archaeology, along with the Division of Land and Water Stewardship. For more information, please call 919-807-7300 or visit www.ncdcr.gov.

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