



HeardTell, the blog of Buncombe County Special Collections

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

HeardTell submissions are received on a rolling basis and are selected and approved for publication if, at the sole discretion of the staff of Buncombe County Special Collections, the submission furthers the mission of the Buncombe County Library and its Special Collections, which includes:

- connecting and empowering our community;
- collecting, promoting, and providing equal access to the history of Asheville, Buncombe County, and the surrounding area; and
- preserving historic resources for the future through preservation, digitization, and decreasing barriers to public access.

Submissions should be short (approx. 500-1500 words) and focus on the history and culture of Asheville, Buncombe County, and Western North Carolina. We encourage authors to write about topics of importance and interest to them, including the weird, wild, and “woo-woo”. We especially encourage authors to relate their posts back to resources held at Buncombe County Special Collections.

To begin the submission process, prospective authors should send an email to Packnc@buncombecounty.org with a brief personal introduction and description of their project. Emails should lead with the subject heading, “HeardTell Submission Inquiry.”

Emails that do not include “HeardTell Submission Inquiry” may not be received.

HeardTell Submissions will be evaluated by BCSC staff.

Additional criteria

Submissions may be rejected if:

- **The piece contains offensive language.** Authors should not use profane, abusive, or other offensive/outdated language in their posts unless directly quoting from a primary source.
- **The piece is focused on advertising or soliciting services for a private business.** HeardTell posts should not include links to merchandise, coupons, incentives, or other material that promotes a private business and revenue generation.
- **The piece contains false or misleading information.** BCSC is dedicated to sharing clear, factual information. Submissions should strive to avoid assumptions, conjecture, speculation, and over exaggeration. Although blog posts are casual, we encourage authors to cite their sources when appropriate.
- **The piece includes private or confidential information.** Authors should never include personally identifiable information for any living person, including themselves.
- **The piece includes contemporary political content.** HeardTell is not intended to be a political discussion forum. Authors should avoid current political and social commentary. Authors interested in political movements and activism should focus their attention on events that happened at least 25 years ago.
- **The piece contains large amounts of non-original material** (copying and pasting the work of others). HeardTell is intended to be a platform for original work. If you think we should share an extant work, please send a link to the article and we will be happy to share it on social media.
- **The piece is focused on subjects outside of Buncombe County and the immediate surrounding counties** (Madison, Haywood, Henderson, McDowell, etc.). HeardTell is dedicated to sharing the stories of Buncombe and “Old Buncombe” county.

If you have questions about whether or not your topic is appropriate for HeardTell please contact BCSC staff.