

B-McGowan-John-20050307200003

To: Julie L. Sigall
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 03/07/2005

From: John B. McGowan

Comment:

I am a historian and genealogist in northeastern North Carolina. I often find rare materials which I would like to use on one of my web sites (see below).

At present, I am attempting to locate the copyright holder for "Steam Navigation on the Carolina Sounds and the Chesapeake in 1892" by Samuel Ward Stanton, published by the Steamship Historical Society of America, Peabody Museum, Salem, Massachusetts, however the modern Peabody Museum is unable to locate any current copyright holder.

Also, I have found a diary of a Black soldier located at a North Carolina university. This soldier served in the 1st North Carolina Heavy Artillery, later designated as the 14th U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery, during the Civil War. This regiment was formed in New Bern, NC and surrounding area 1863-1865, composed mainly of recently freed slaves. Therefore finding a diary of one of these men will greatly add to the history of the time and area. The problem is that the university in question requires that I search for descendants of this soldier to get his descendants permission for my use. The soldier settled in Pennsylvania after the Civil War and other than the telephone and the Internet, I don't have the means for further search. Being a disabled veteran, I really don't have the funds to do a thorough search as required. Anything done to make the Orphan Work more readily available to the public would be a great benefit to everyone.

John B. McGowan