Etched in Stone?
Governor Charles Aycock and the Power of Commemoration

History/Museum Studies Presentation
Board of Trustees Meeting: May 11, 2017
The Aycock Public Memory Project will create an exhibition about Governor Aycock and Aycock Auditorium that illustrates the governor’s complex legacies and the history of commemoration on campus, showing that whom we memorialize matters. Encouraging public dialogue among students, faculty, and alumni, the project will help empower the UNCG community to pursue diversity and inclusion with understanding and purpose.
EXHIBITION “BIG IDEA”

Our Heroes Change: even as Governor Aycock advanced public education in North Carolina, he designed the legal framework of white supremacy—a legacy that was hailed in the decades after his death but raises troubling questions today.
Second Floor

Projection Space

- to auditorium
- restroom
- 9 x 20'
- 3.5' x 5'
- water fountain
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 1
- 2
- 3
- four booths

Exhibit Components

1. Etched in Stone: Intro Graphic Panels and Wallpaper Treatment
2. The Final Cut: Interactive Light Board, Graphic Panels, and Interactive Flipbook
3. Legalizing Racism: Graphic Panels, Wallpaper Treatment, Audio Rail
4. Long Division: Jars of Inequality, Graphic Panels, Interactive Light Board Chart with Rail Graphic
5. Constructing the Education Governor:
   5a) Graphic Panels, Wallpaper Treatment, Rail Graphics
   5b) Word Cloud Projection (2 random graphics)
6. Our Heroes Change: Touchscreen Map with Rail Graphic, Graphic Panels, Flipbook or iPad, Magnetic Facade
7. Identities Across Time: "(4) Sidebar Panels across the exhibit"
Etched in Stone?

• What’s in a Name? (mural)
• Our Heroes Change (main introductory panel)
• The Man behind the Name (graphic panel)

The Finale of Fusionism

• Shedding Light on Party Platforms (interactive light board)
• Coup D’État (graphic panel)
• Lives Changed (interactive flip book)
Legalizing Racism: Governor Aycock and the Launch of Jim Crow in North Carolina

- The Campaign Trail: Aycock’s Party Platform (graphic panel)
- Aycock and Disenfranchisement in North Carolina (graphic panel and audio)
- Aycock’s Legal Legacy at the Ballot Box (graphic panel)
Long Division: Aycock and the Rise of Segregated Education

• Jars of Inequality (pictured)
• Mapping the Education Gap (graphic panel)
• Divided Learning (graphic panel)
• Preparing for the Future (light-up interactive)
• Man of his Time (graphic panel)
Constructing the Education Governor

- Governor Aycock Comes to UNCG? (graphic panel)
- In Their Eyes: Aycock Auditorium, 1928-2016 (graphic panel)
- Finding the Words (word-cloud projection)
- Writing Governor Aycock (pictured)
Our Heroes Change: Understanding Our Commemorative Landscapes

- UNCG’s Commemorative Landscape (pictured above)
- Who’s Next? (graphic panel)
- North Carolina and Memorialization (iPad interactive)
- Look Beyond the Name (pictured below)
- Keep the Conversation Going (conversation tables)
“Identities Across Time” consists of sidebar-style graphic panels. Each has a unique graphic cue that ties the components together and allows visitors to easily identify them.
THANK YOU—
QUESTIONS?

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