CHARLOTTE, N.C., Oct. 30, 2018 – Looking for a unique way to celebrate Charlotte’s 250th birthday? Join the Historic Mapping Congress on Saturday, Nov. 3, to learn about recent efforts to create an updated map of the roads that ran through colonial and revolutionary Mecklenburg County in the 1600s and 1700s. Local historians will present their most recent research into historic roads and maps in the county.

The Historic Mapping Congress is a community of historians and others who share a passion for history as revealed through maps. The group works to locate the places and traces of those who forged our world before us. The group’s goals include creating an interactive database of local, historic maps to share with the public, including interactive maps of historic landscapes, roadways, trails and pathways.

“Our ultimate goal is to help share, protect and preserve our collective history as told in our physical spaces,” said Hugh Dussek, secretary of the board of trustees at The Charlotte Museum of History and professor of history at Central Piedmont Community College. “The museum is an ideal spot to host the Congress because we can literally step behind the 1990s-era museum building and see the county’s oldest home, the Hezekiah Alexander House, which integrated into the colonial road system.”

“People might be surprised at some of the roads they drive down in Charlotte every day that are, in fact, built on top of old wagon roads and historic trading paths, including Tryon Street, which was a main trading route; Providence Road, which led to the historic 1767 Providence Presbyterian Church, which still stands today; and Nations Ford Road, which led to a ford across the Catawba River near the main Catawba village.” Dussek said.
How to Go
This public portion of the Congress takes place Saturday, Nov. 3, 1:30-4:00 p.m. at The Charlotte Museum of History, 3500 Shamrock Drive. Admission is free. Registration is required, as seating is limited. More information and registration at charlottemuseum.org/events.

About The Charlotte Museum of History
The Charlotte Museum of History engages a broad audience in the history of the Charlotte region through the stories of its people, places and events to promote dialogue and historical perspective. The museum is the steward of the Hezekiah Alexander House (ca. 1774) and home site, a site listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the oldest home in Mecklenburg County. To learn more, visit charlottemuseum.org and follow the museum on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

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