



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** -- November 17, 2017

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## **Forest History Society Building its First Permanent Home**

Durham, NC—The Forest History Society announced that it has broken ground on the construction of a new 16,750-square-foot library, archives, and headquarters. Since moving to Durham in 1984, FHS has been located in a converted office building. The Society purchased 8.6 acres from Duke University in 2015, and anticipates opening the doors to its new home by 2019.



*FHS Board of Directors: Charlie VanOver, Brooks Mendell, Rose-Marie Muzika, Pete Madden, Chip Dillon, Lynn Wilson, Jonathan Prather, Chris Zinkhan, Michael Kelly, Steve Fairweather, Bob Izlar, Henry Barclay, Steve Anderson (president), Hayes Brown, Mac Rhodes, Doug MacCleery, Matthew Booker, Doug Decker, with former board members Carter Fox and Bob Healy.*

According to FHS President Steve Anderson: “Although FHS is 71 years old, this is the first building to be designed specifically to house its unique and extensive collections. This new facility will also include the ability to stream and host events from and for our many partner organizations throughout the United States and the world.”

The Forest History Society, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational institution, provides programs in research, publication, and education that advance and promote the fields of forest, conservation, and environmental history. Its notable collections include the U.S. Forest Service Headquarters History Collection, Weyerhaeuser Company records, and the early records of American Forests, the nation’s oldest forest conservation organization. The FHS website generates seven million page-views annually, with nearly one million unique visitors each year. Its 2016 documentary, *America’s First Forest*, reached over two million viewers on public television and the World Channel. The FHS online research portal offers rich and powerful databases on bibliographical resources, historic photography, oral histories, and archival collections. The Society offers important publishing opportunities, educational outreach, grants, awards, and fellowships.

The Forest History Society is governed by a volunteer board of directors comprised of academic and business leaders nationwide. Through its 800+ supporters, FHS is allied with over 400 colleges and universities nationwide and in 27 countries. Learn more at [www.foresthistor.org](http://www.foresthistor.org).