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August 6, 2008

**TRYON PALACE WELCOMES
GRANTS COORDINATOR AND EDITOR, TIFFANY BROOKS**

NEW BERN, NC---Tiffany Yecke Brooks joined the staff of Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens in August as the new Grants Coordinator and Editor.

As a writer with a broad range of interests, her new position combines a number of her talents and experiences. "I'm thrilled to be here," Tiffany says. "The careful museum preservation and living history that intersect at Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens create an amazing example of what makes eastern North Carolina so unique."

Tiffany's education and career path reveal the eclectic mix she brings to her new position. As an undergraduate at Harding University, she majored in English and theatre, working with several professional companies and historical re-enactment groups. She completed her master's degree in 2002 at the University of Bristol in Bristol, England, where she studied Classics and Ancient History. In 2007, she graduated with her Ph.D. in English from Florida State University.

Coming to the palace in the middle of the season with summer programs and construction on the North Carolina History Education Center already underway, Tiffany has jumped into the thick of things. Besides being involved with planning and seeking support of future Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens projects, she will be using her publishing skills as she takes over the editing and compiling of the Tryon Palace Council of Friends' publication, *The Palace*.

Prior to joining the Tryon Palace staff, Tiffany taught literature and writing at the university level at Abilene Christian University, McMurry University, the University of South Carolina – Beaufort, and most recently, at Florida State University. She has also worked as a sports writer and research assistant on seven books (including one New York Time's Best Seller), as well as publishing scholarly articles, plays, and other writing.

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Tiffany also taught English and drama at Pamlico County High School from 2003-2004, so returning to this area was a kind of homecoming. She and her husband, a Marine stationed at Cherry Point, are members of and were married at the historic First Baptist Church in New Bern. “We’re so excited to move back after being gone for four years,” she says. “It’s amazing how quickly this area gets to feeling like home.” ###

Tryon Palace Historic Sites & Gardens, located in New Bern, N.C., is an agency of the division of State Historic Sites, N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, a state agency dedicated to the promotion and protection of North Carolina’s arts, history, and culture through such programs as “Telling our Stories,” a yearlong celebration that showcases North Carolina’s arts, heritage, and cultural life. For more information, visit www.ncculture.com

Buildings currently open to the public include the reconstructed Tryon Palace, the John Wright Stanly House, the Robert Hay House and the New Bern Academy Museum. The visitor center and the first floor of Tryon Palace are accessible to visitors with disabilities. For directions and further information about special events, programs or group tours, phone 800-767-1560 or 252-514-4900 or check our web site: <http://www.tryonpalace.org/>



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