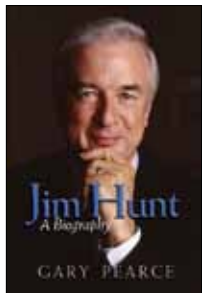




Jim Hunt: A Biography



Gary Pearce. Winston-Salem: John F. Blair Publisher, 2010. 316 pp. \$23.95. ISBN 978-0-89587-388-0.

If any one North Carolina politician can be said to have reshaped the state over the last quarter of the twentieth century, that man is four-term governor, James B. Hunt, Jr. To know Hunt close up, one only needs to read this authorized biography by his long time press secretary and political advisor, Gary Pearce. Pearce, a former reporter for the *News and Observer*, structures Hunt's political life as a three-act play. The section entitled "Rise" chronicles Hunt's climb through the state's political world to his first two terms as governor (1977-1985), a feat that was possible because Hunt and his forces won a state constitutional amendment to allow consecutive gubernatorial terms. "Fall" details Hunt's defeat in the bitter 1984 United States Senate campaign against Jesse Helms. "Comeback" shows Hunt reemerging politically to win two more terms as governor (1993-2001).

On this dramatic skeleton, Pearce hangs several themes. Two of the most important are Hunt's self-identification as an education governor and as "CEO Governor." Both were rooted in Hunt's recognition that the old mainstays of tobacco, textiles, and furniture would decline. To recruit newer, more sophisticated industries, the state needed better educated people, and improving education would help draw even more new industries.

A third theme is that Hunt is a North Carolina progressive in the mold of Frank Porter Graham, Terry Sanford, and Kerr Scott. All were politicians who sought to use government to improve conditions for the state's people while remaining largely pro-business. For Hunt, this meant building coalitions and adapting to changed conditions, which leads to a fourth theme. Fair or not, Hunt has been portrayed as a "weathervane" or "flip-flopper." Pearce acknowledges this reputation, but gives Hunt leeway, portraying him as struggling to balance a more liberal heart with a more conservative mind. A final theme involves the issue of race but is more comprehensive,

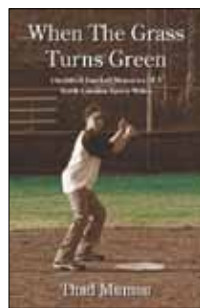
covering the nature of mainstream politics in the state. After detailing the Frank Porter Graham – Willis Smith campaign for the United States Senate in 1950, Pearce reflects on its legacy for North Carolina politics: "Like some ancient feuding tribes, the descendants of the Graham forces and the Smith forces battled again and again for political supremacy in North Carolina."

Fittingly, Pearce writes in a journalistic fashion, drawing mostly on interviews with Hunt and over fifty others. Unavoidably, Pearce references himself, maybe too often. To the author's credit, he acknowledges that he is not unbiased; nonetheless, the book is not uncritical. Future researchers will produce more scholarly analyses of Jim Hunt, but Pearce's portrayal will be a starting point. A detailed index is provided but the arrangement of sub-entries is less than felicitous. These are not listed alphabetically but by order of the number of the page on which the item is first mentioned.

Because this is a very readable book and because of Hunt's importance, all academic and public libraries in North Carolina should acquire it, and community college and high school libraries should consider it.

Robert S. Dalton
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

When the Grass Turns Green: Cherished Baseball Memories of a North Carolina Sports Writer



Thad Mumau. Boone, NC: Parkway Publishers, 2010. 186 pp. \$19.95. ISBN 978-1-59712-407-2.

Is baseball completely American? You bet. It's the first thing referenced when describing things American – baseball, mom, and apple pie. Talk to baseball fans and they'll gladly tell you stories of their favorite player, game, or team and many can rattle off baseball statistics faster than Rickey Henderson can steal a base (which was 1,406 times in his career, best in the Major Leagues). Ask them about when

they became a baseball fan and they'll usually describe when their parent or grandparent spent time with them either having a game of catch in the backyard or taking them to their first baseball game. Baseball has a way of evoking memories of the past in a way no other game can.

When the Grass Turns Green by Thad Mumau provides a number of nostalgic stories of baseball heroes, ballparks and great games. The author also weaves in stories of growing up in Fayetteville in the 1950s and 1960s. Mumau tells of his experience of getting a 1-A classification from Selective Service (which turned out to be an error) and his experiences dealing with racial inequality in the 1950s, all behind the veil of stories involving baseball.

The author reminds us that baseball can be an equalizer in bringing people from disparate backgrounds together during times of racial and economic inequality. In one particularly enjoyable essay, Mumau recalls trying out for and making the previously all-Black semi-pro baseball team, the Fayetteville Cardinals. Mumau had grown up in the segregated South and therefore had never had the opportunity to play with African Americans in organized baseball, but that all changed when he was chosen as one of only three white players who made the team in the summer of 1964. He goes on to provide insight into how baseball made barriers that had once been seen insurmountable crumble as each person on the team was seen as a player and not a color.

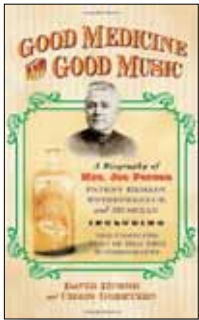
Baseball is a fun game and there are several humorous and endearing recollections, but it is the stories of Mumau's past and his personal experiences that are the most absorbing. They provide an interesting, but brief, glimpse into growing up in small town North Carolina, leaving the reader wishing for more.

Thad Mumau has spent over forty years writing about sports. His previous books include a biography of legendary University of North Carolina head coach Dean Smith. He has also written extensively about Atlantic Coast Conference basketball and was a pioneer in writing about basketball recruiting.

This book is recommended for public libraries.

Calvin Craig
Gaston College

Good Medicine and Good Music: A Biography of Mrs. Joe Person, Patent Remedy Entrepreneur and Musician, including the Complete Text of Her 1903 Autobiography



David Hursh and Chris Goertzen. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland, 2009. 208 pp. \$39.95. ISBN 978-0-7864-3459-6.

It sounds like a made for TV movie: a young mother of three, with a disabled husband, a family farm that cannot be worked, a sick child, a miracle cure, and devious

business partners becomes a success. Image the setting to be post-Civil War North Carolina when women did not go into business and needed special permission of a father or husband to make business deals.

Good Medicine and Good Music is the story of Alice Morgan Person, whose life is described above. *Good Medicine and Good Music* is actually two books in one. The first is the autobiography of Alice Morgan Person entitled “The Chivalry of Man as Exemplified in the Life of Mrs. Joe Person: Alice Morgan Person’s Story in Her Own Words 1858-1892.” This autobiography provides a glimpse into the plight of an early business woman in the patent medicine industry in the late nineteenth century.

The second half of the book examines Alice’s career after 1892 and makes the connection between music and medicine. Alice Morgan Person published two collections of sheet music in the late 1890s and early 1900s. These collections of old southern folk tunes harkened back to the days before the Civil War. The sale of these song collections enabled Alice to fund her patent medicine business. The final chapters discuss the patent medicine business and the history of Mrs. Joe Person’s Remedy.

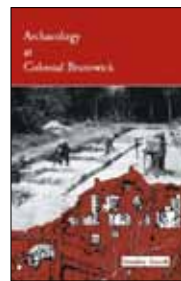
Co-author David Hursh, Head Music Librarian at East Carolina University, became intrigued with the story of Alice Person when her great-great grandson donated two collections of Alice’s arrangements of southern folk tunes to East Carolina University. His curiosity about Alice led him to a meeting with Alice’s great-granddaughter, Louise Scott Stephenson. Louise had earlier donated material on Alice to the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Louise produced a typed manuscript of Alice’s handwritten unpublished autobiography before donating the material to UNC. She included the autobiography with the arrangements she donated to East Carolina; that typescript is the basis for the text in part one of this book.

Co-author Chris Goertzen, Professor of Musicology at Southern Mississippi University, has previously taught at the University of North Carolina. He has published articles on the history of America folk fiddling and several books, one of which is *Southern Fiddlers and Fiddle Contests* (published in 2008).

This book would be of value to any North Carolina library as it provides insights into the cultural and social history of the state after the Civil War. *Good Medicine and Good Music* would also be a wise addition to any academic library supporting programs in women’s history, southern history, business, or cultural music.

Robert Arndt
University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Archaeology at Colonial Brunswick



Stanley South. Raleigh: Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, 2010. 308 pp. \$20.00. ISBN 978-0-86526-343-7.

Archaeology at Colonial Brunswick is filled with interesting facts and illustrations about the history and locations of the town of Brunswick. Building upon the work of E. Lawrence Lee Jr., who began the initial excavation of Brunswick Town in 1955, Stanley South has compiled a great wealth of information about the historical site, starting in 1725 with the town’s founding by Maurice Moore through the fall of Fort Anderson in 1865. Dr. South has documented the people, places, and everyday life in the historic colonial town of Brunswick using photographs of excavated buildings, artifacts information, archaeological site plans, and interpretive drawings.

This book is of value not only to the professional archaeologist but the amateur as well. The timelines and in-depth descriptions of buildings and artifacts in the book can help those researching other sites. Genealogy and history buffs alike will find that the detailed description of life in the colonial period and the stories South includes give insight into the era and the people who made the history of Brunswick. He also gives details of items found at the site that will be of interest to anyone who is a collector of antiques. They can use this information to assist in dating items in their collections. Public and research libraries will find an audience for this book, making it a worthy purchase for them.

Stanley South is a research professor and archaeologist at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of South Carolina. His other works include *Method and Theory in Historical Archaeology* (1977) and *Historical Archaeology in Wachovia* (1999). In the 1950s Dr. South conducted the initial archaeological investigations at Town Creek Indian Mound, in addition to his work at Brunswick. He wrote this report in 1961 as part of his duties at the Department of Archives and History, but, due to budget issues, it was not published. Dr. South brought the report to the attention of the department several years ago and thankfully they decided to publish it.

Archaeology at Colonial Brunswick is a great book to add to your collection and can be purchased through the North Carolina Office of Archives and History for \$20.00—a small price to pay for the wealth of information available within its binding.

Tommy Cifers
South Granville High School

The Latino Migration Experience in North Carolina: New Roots in the Old North State



Hannah Gill. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010. 201 pp. \$45.95, ISBN 978-0-8078-3428-2 (cloth). \$18.95, ISBN 978-0-8078-7163-8 (paper).

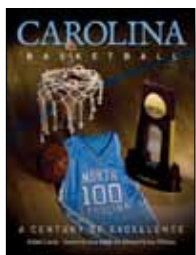
During the past three decades, North Carolina has experienced the most dramatic increase in its Latino population of any state in the country (p. 4). Despite providing crucial labor in many areas—particularly agriculture, construction, food services, and manufacturing—migrant workers and their families have been the targets of harassment and discrimination and the focus of an enormous amount of heated political rhetoric. Hannah Gill, assistant director of the Institute for the Study of the Americas and research associate at the Center for Global Initiatives at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, has written an extraordinarily detailed analysis of this phenomenon. She has also co-authored two short books on related topics: *Going to Carolina del Norte: Narrating Mexican Migrant Experiences*, with Todd Drake (2006) and *The 287(g) Program: the Costs and Consequences of Local Immigration Enforcement in North Carolina Communities*, with Mai Thi Nguyen (2010).

Gill draws from a wide range of print sources, extensive interviews, and numerous visits to the Mexican provinces from which the majority of our Latino immigrants hail. She details the experiences of individual immigrants, cites statistical analyses, outlines the history of migration since our country's founding, and examines the economic impact of workers and their tax dollars on the United States. Turning to the countries of origin, she explores the economic, political, environmental, and personal factors that make life untenable for poor workers in Mexico and Central America. Critiquing U.S. public policy, Gill notes that it often has unintended consequences. For example, restrictions on immigration have made it so dangerous to recross the border that undocumented workers choose to remain in this country and help their families join them rather than coming and going cyclically, as was the case during most of the past century (p. 103). Gill asserts that Latino immigrants make a tremendous contribution to North Carolina, and she advocates humanitarian policies such as allowing Latinos who graduate from North Carolina high schools to qualify for in-state tuition at public colleges and universities and eliminating unnecessary incarceration of undocumented workers for minor offenses such as traffic violations (p. 89).

The Latino Migration Experience in North Carolina is a valuable contribution to the public discourse. Gill's sympathies clearly lie with the immigrants rather than with leaders who strive to restrict immigration and create an inhospitable climate, and her research amply supports her views. The extensive bibliography, footnotes, and index make this book invaluable for student researchers and a fine starting point for college students. Gill's work deserves a place in every high school, public, and academic library in the state.

Elizabeth Dunn
Duke University Libraries

Carolina Basketball: A Century of Excellence



Adam Lucas. Foreword by Dean Smith. Afterword by Roy Williams. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010. 246 pp. \$30.00. ISBN 978-0-8078-3410-7.

College basketball in North Carolina has had an exciting one-hundred-year history, beginning almost simultaneously at what are now the major universities. Adam Lucas views the past century through a Tar Heel lens.

The book takes a chronological approach, with many chapters covering particular periods. The earliest history, from 1910 to the 1940s, is compressed into just twenty-seven pages. The book primarily covers the period of living memory, from the 1950s, when North Carolina and UNC basketball became so dominant, through to the program's recent successes. Lucas devotes a chapter each to the five NCAA championship seasons: 1957, 1982, 1993, 2005, and 2009.

Interspersed within the chronology are thematic chapters exploring such topics as rivalries with North Carolina State, Maryland, Virginia, and, especially, Duke; connections former players have to Carolina; and facilities where the team played over the years. One chapter highlights superstar players Jack Cobb, George Glamack, Lennie Rosenbluth, Phil Ford, James Worthy, Michael Jordan, Antawn Jamison, and Tyler Hansbrough.

Sidebars pepper the book with nearly two dozen personal accounts. These include pieces by former players, such as Phil Ford, Marvin Williams, and Michael Jordan. Roy Williams does not talk about coaching at Carolina but rather about being beaten by the team in 1993 when he coached at the University of Kansas. ACC Commissioner John Swofford recounts growing up in North Carolina during the exciting basketball climate of the 1950s. Alexander Julian describes designing the argyle pattern on the uniforms.

Carolina Basketball: A Century of Excellence is almost a picture book, coming alive through 195 illustrations. Most images are well described, coming from UNC's Athletics Communications, North Carolina Collection, student newspapers, and yearbooks. A few images are from outside sources, such as *Sports Illustrated* and Getty Images. The book begins with fifteen pages of images, many iconic, but unfortunately none described or dated. The back of the book has numerous statistics for hardcore fans, including team records by year, individual players' records, lettermen, and players associated with particular jersey numbers. The book lacks an index, however.

Although lacking a bibliography, the book reveals extensive research by the author and his assistants, primarily through UNC athletics publications and the North Carolina Collection, as well as interviews with more than 100 players and coaches. Lucas has covered Carolina sports for many years as publisher of *Tar Heel Monthly* and *Tar Heels Today*, and he is a columnist on TarHeelBlue.com. His previous books include *One Fantastic Ride: The Inside Story of Carolina Basketball's 2009 Championship Season*.

Carolina Basketball: A Century of Excellences is clearly targeted to dedicated Tar Heel fans. Nonetheless, with the popularity of basketball in the state and the fact that so many North Carolinians without connections to the

university have rooted for the team, the book is suitable for the collections of public libraries, as well as academic libraries interested in the state's athletic history.

Todd Kosmerick
North Carolina State University

Native Carolinians: The Indians of North Carolina



Theda Perdue and Christopher Arris Oakley. [Revised ed.] Raleigh: North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, Office of Archives and History, 2010. 101 pp. \$10.00. ISBN 978-0-86526-345-1.

The history of Native Americans in North Carolina is both complex and tragic, encompassing Paleo-Indian hunter-gatherers on through the Trail of Tears to the eventual establishment of today's modern Native American culture. The sources for such a history are necessarily varied, and include archaeological finds, early European accounts, and modern newspaper articles. Dr. Theda Perdue originally assembled such sources into a small book entitled *Native Carolinians: The Indians of North Carolina* for the North Carolina Office of Archives and History in 1985. For this 2010 edition, Dr. Perdue worked with Dr. Christopher Arris Oakley. Both authors are well-versed in the history of Native Americans in North Carolina. Dr. Perdue's other publications include *Slavery and the Evolution of Cherokee Society, 1540-1866* (University of Tennessee Press, 1979) and *Cherokee Editor: The Writings of Elias Boudinot* (University of Tennessee Press, 1983). Dr. Oakley's publications include *Keeping the Circle: American Indian Identity in Eastern North Carolina, 1885-2004* (University of Nebraska Press, 2005).

After a brief outline of the early history of Native Carolinians and Native American culture, the book examines the increasingly difficult interactions between Europeans and Native Carolinians by tracing the major conflicts of the eighteenth century. A full chapter on the Cherokees provides a lengthy discussion of the tragic consequences of continued tension between whites and Native Americans following the American Revolution, including the Trail of Tears and ongoing land disputes. This chapter also details how the Cherokees have adapted to modern life by utilizing industries such as tourism and resort casinos to support their tribe. The history of the Lumbees is discussed at length in another chapter; special attention is paid to their efforts to support the Union during the Civil

War as well as their successful confrontation with the Ku Klux Klan in 1958. The final chapter examines the efforts that Native Carolinians have undertaken to maintain their cultural traditions while also thriving in today's modern world. A list of illustrations, a timeline, and an index make the book's information easy to navigate. Perhaps most useful is a detailed, chapter by chapter listing of sources and additional recommended reading. These tools make the book an excellent resource for students, scholars, and the casual researcher. The text itself is written for a wide audience, supplying definitions of concepts such as ethnocentric perspective that might be unfamiliar to the average reader.

Despite its size, this book contains a wealth of information on the specific history and current conditions of Native Americans in North Carolina. Designed to be used by a variety of audiences, this book is recommended for public libraries as well as academic libraries. High school libraries with a curriculum focus on North Carolina history should also consider this worthwhile purchase.

Laura Gillis
formerly Forsyth County Public Library

Altered Environments: The Outer Banks of North Carolina



Jeffrey Pompe. Columbia, SC: University of South Carolina Press, 2010. 153 pp. \$29.95. ISBN 978-1-57003-923-2.

The summer after my last year of middle school, my family headed south from Virginia to North Carolina for what was the first of many summer vacations in Nags Head. As a teenager vacationing at the Outer Banks I was not much concerned with how geology, history, and economics intervene to shape an environment; I was more concerned with shorter waits at restaurants and better putt-putt scores. Jeffrey Pompe, a professor of economics at Francis Marion University, has written a corrective to that attitude in *Altered Environments*, an account of the forces that converge to alter our state's 175 miles of barrier islands.

Change is a constant at the Outer Banks. Varying in width from one hundred yards to three miles, the barrier islands protect the mainland from sea and storms. At present five inlets separate the islands, but there have been twenty-five named inlets since colonial times. Between the islands

and the mainland are five sounds, protected water that, with their mix of ocean and fresh water, foster marine life. As with all ecosystems, there is a fragile balance. Hurricanes reshape the islands and open and close inlets, while the islands, yielding to natural forces (wind, sand, and wave), migrate toward the mainland.

In the 1930s developers sought to create a tourist economy on the Outer Banks. To fulfill that plan, the barrier islands would need passable highways, and for that to happen the movement of sand and water east to west across the narrow islands would need to be halted. In the 1930s the Civilian Conservation Corps carried out a dune stabilization project along 125 miles of island coast. Dune stabilization, based on a faulty understanding of the islands early geography, has precluded the natural overwash of water over land, intensifying wave impact and resulting in increased erosion of shorelines. This intervention is one of many to impact the Outer Banks in a negative way. Pompe points to federally subsidized flood insurance that, he argues, has encouraged development dangerously close to eroding shorelines. The dredging of inlets, which are expensive attempts to stabilize passageways, affects the health of maritime nurseries in the sounds and contributes to beach erosion.

But how does one protect a fragile environment that also has high use demand? Developers and the government have a vested interest in maintaining a tourism-based economy on the Outer Banks. Pompe urges using market incentives for smart development, believing them to be more effective than the traditional command-and-control approach. He also sees an important role for land-use policies that protects the barrier islands' natural defenses, such as dunes and their natural vegetation.

Altered Environments is an excellent primer for much of the science, history, and economics that impact the Outer Banks, providing the most relevant details in an accessible manner. Pompe writes clearly about scientific processes and presents timely information. The book is illustrated with photographs--many taken by Kathleen Pompe, professor of Art at Francis Marion University--as well as a number of maps detailing the islands, inlets, and sounds. It includes an index and endnotes. *Altered Environments* will appeal to readers curious about the history and future of change of the Outer Banks. The book, probably not intended for an expert audience, would be an appropriate addition to collections of public libraries, colleges and universities, and high schools.

Brian Dietz
North Carolina State University

Banktown: The Rise and Struggles of Charlotte's Big Banks



Rick Rothacker. Winston Salem, N.C.: John F Blair, 2010. 249 pp. \$26.95. ISBN 9780895873811.

Charlotte reigned supreme as the economic capital of North Carolina from the middle 1980s until the crash of 2008

when the banking system imploded under the weight of mortgage credit abuse. In this book Rick Rothacker provides a detailed account of the crisis and the decline of North Carolina's two great banking empires. Wachovia, Bank of America, and Merrill Lynch are the names of the institutions Rothacker conjures with, and the story is fascinating.

Rothacker begins his explanation with the political background which allowed North Carolina banks to become regional, and later national, powerhouses. In the early 1980s, First Union and NCBN were distinguished from the pack of local banks by their aggressive quest for growth and positive positioning in the largest city in the state. North Carolina, despite the decline of tobacco, remained a growth state because of population increase and the evolving information economy. The state was ripe for banking growth in a loosened political environment; the Republican rise under Reagan allowed maneuvering room for business people outside the financial centers of New York, San Francisco, and Chicago.

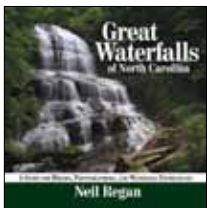
Although *Banktown* is a book which most North Carolina public libraries and all North Carolina academic libraries will need to own, this book is not a definitive work on its topic. Despite a compelling story and some strong writing, this book is neither a readable historical monograph nor a snappy journalistic explanation of the events of the financial collapse that so dramatically changed Charlotte. It is, rather, an account produced at close range by Rothacker who covered the banking industry for the *Charlotte Observer* from 2002 through the period of the crisis. Since Rothacker covered the story on a daily basis some of the detail during the crisis late in the decade seems labored. Email exchanges and minute-by-minute descriptions from late in the period clash with the broad strokes used to portray the advent of the boom. Much of the detail lacks explanation in the text and seems undigested. Perhaps we are still too close to the events to have perspective on them.

Some of the best writing in this book concerns the people who took part in the story. Rothacker argues that from its explosive growth as a banking town in the 1980s, Charlotte was ruled by the strong personalities of individuals such as Hugh McColl, C. D. Spangler, Ed Crutchfield, and others. Surely, he is right, and his portrayals are convincing. Even today, twenty-five years later, these are names known statewide. McColl especially is highlighted as a person unafraid to strive for the highest levels of success in his field despite considerable disadvantages of education and geography. Rothacker's portrayals of Robert Steel, Ken Thompson, Ken Lewis, and others who were key players toward the end of the crisis reveal them to be more like policy operatives as opposed to the titans who dominated the boardrooms before them. Still, the complexity of the large and evolving organizations which the banks became and the people who run them up are well portrayed.

Despite these criticisms, there is sound research and writing in the book and all the topics of key interest about these events are covered well. It may be that subsequent authors with the perspective of time will use Rothacker's book as a valuable resource. In the meantime, Rothacker has provided a superb guide to the events of the period from 2005 to the crash in 2008 which will be of interest both to professional historians and to general readers interested in the recent development of banking in North Carolina.

Carson Holloway
Duke University

Great Waterfalls of North Carolina: A Guide for Hikers, Photographers, and Waterfall Enthusiasts



Neil Regan. Boone, NC: Parkway Publishers, 2010. 149 pp. \$19.95. ISBN 978-1-933251-70-7.

While most waterfall enthusiasts would probably not expect to find great waterfalls in eastern North Carolina, the title of this volume does leave room for the possibility. As it turns out, all of the falls included are in the mountainous western region of the state. This volume by North Carolina historian and photographer Neil Regan is a workmanlike paean to sixty-five of those rugged cascades.

The listings are grouped by geographic area, with each chapter covering one to three counties. Maps showing the general location of each waterfall

within the area are included at the beginning of each chapter, but only major roads are shown. For each waterfall the author provides a beauty rating and description, along with type of fall, location, trail rating and length, directions, and photography hints. There is also a full-page color photograph of the waterfall. Movie buffs will appreciate the notes that indicate which locations appeared in the 1992 movie *The Last of the Mohicans*.

In the foreword Regan admits that he prefers to photograph the waterfalls as he finds them, and as a consequence the images are more representational than creative. Each waterfall has its own personality, but the images in the book are a parade of white water, brown rocks, and green trees. Some of the images have the washed-out aura of aged post cards.

The listing is not comprehensive. The author only included waterfalls which are legally and publicly accessible and have a beauty rating (which he admits must, by nature, be subjective) of at least a five on a scale of one to ten.

This book is recommended for public libraries, travel and tourism collections, natural history collections, and, of course, as the subtitle suggests, hikers, photographers, and waterfall enthusiasts.

Note: The author previously published a book with very similar content as *Spectacular Waterfalls of Western North Carolina: A Guide for Discovery and Photography*. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse. 2008. 123 p. ISBN 9781438901442.

Arleen Fields
Methodist University

Literary Trails of the North Carolina Piedmont: A Guidebook



Georgann Eubanks. Photographs by Donna Campbell. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010. 464 pp. \$37.50. ISBN 978-0-8078-3333-9 (hardback). \$19.95. ISBN 978-0-8078-5979-7 (paper).

Downtown Pittsboro has only one bar, the City Tap, and that means everyone in town sits at the same counter. Black, White, Hispanic—we all chat with each other while the folks behind the bar pour beer and cook sandwiches over in the corner that serves as

the kitchen. But maybe Pittsboro didn't always invite such a jumble. According to writer Duncan Murrell's essay "Pittsboro Haunts," the building that the City Tap is in "once housed the department store that served the black townfolk who gathered one day in front of the lens of the great photographer Dorothea Lange." Then he asks, "Are we all living in one another's stories?"

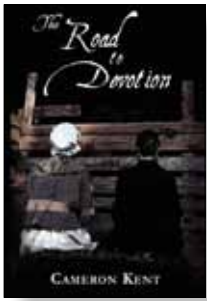
An excerpt of Murrell's essay appears in Tour 15 of *Literary Trails of the North Carolina Piedmont: A Guidebook*, which nudges readers along a rambling, literary road trip through central North Carolina. Author Georgann Eubanks—a founder of the North Carolina Writers' Network and a former chair of the North Carolina Humanities Council—includes eighteen individual tours through towns in twenty-eight North Carolina counties. Inside each tour are poems, stories, and essays from various writers who spent time in or wrote about the places. At the end of each chapter is a short section called "Literary Landscape," which lists some local bookstores, libraries, writers' groups, and literary publications.

Some of the writers featured include Doris Betts, Jill McCorkle, O. Henry, David Sedaris, Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, Patricia Cornwell, Carson McCullers, Maya Angelou, Lee Smith, Reynolds Price, Randall Kenan, Gertrude Stein, William Faulkner, Thomas Wolfe, and Elizabeth Spencer. Eubanks hopes that you'll read the excerpts from Piedmont writers aloud as you tour, take walks, picnic, and spend "a contemplative hour to witness the passing scene." And in fact, the tours are written as if Eubanks is sitting in your passenger seat, pointing out the window and telling you about a poem written in this place, a novel inspired by that place, a play that was first performed right over there. The book is meant to be consumed in a slow, leisurely way, and, unlike most guidebooks, does not accommodate browsing (although the index helps).

This is the second book in Eubanks's *Literary Trails* series. The first, *Literary Trails of the North Carolina Mountains* (published in 2007), covered western North Carolina. The third in the series is not yet published, but it will include North Carolina "trails" east of Raleigh, including the Sandhills. Public and academic libraries in North Carolina should carry the series. Eubanks's books aren't comprehensive, nor do they claim to be. But readers will learn a lot about their favorite hometown haunts, and even find out which writers' stories they might enjoy living in.

Margarite Nathe
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The Road to Devotion



Cameron Kent. Winston-Salem, NC: Press 53, 2009. 231 pp. \$19.95. ISBN 978-0-9825760-2-1.

Cameron Kent, a Winston-Salem NBC news anchor and author of two previous books, *Make Me Disappear* and *When the Ravens Die*, has produced an engaging, historical novel entitled *The Road to Devotion*. As the last chapter blends fiction into fact, we learn that the area featured in the story which served as a safe haven for escaping slaves was in fact named Devotion.

The majority of the narrative is set in Winston, North Carolina from 1858 to 1861. The backdrop of impending external conflict mirrors the personal turmoil faced by the main character, Sarah Talton. Without warning, Sarah's father dies and she is left with little money to care for her younger sister, the family plantation, and a small number of slaves.

Each chapter begins with a Bible verse except for chapter 8 which uses two verses from the African American spiritual "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me." The verses all point to a theme of the chapter and serve as a helpful introduction to the issues that will be addressed. Chapter 21 begins with Psalm 111:10 (verse number was omitted in the book) which reads in part, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments." The conversation that Sarah has with her pastor on the seemingly non-Biblical act of enslaving a fellow human being is a pivotal moment in her development as an independent-minded woman. After this she sheds her last vestige of dependency on tradition and on older, more capable men, and she assumes ultimate responsibility for her life and the lives of those who have become entrusted to her.

The book is broken into thirty-three short chapters which makes the reading very easy to start and stop as necessary. At the end of the book, there are two University of North Carolina Press books and a National Archives website listed for further reading.

The Road to Devotion is highly recommended for public libraries and academic libraries with strong North Carolina author collections.

Crystal D. Holland
Forsyth County Public Library

Girl: A Novel



Bart Bare. Vilas, NC: Canterbury House Publishing, 2010. 184 pp. \$12.95. ISBN 978-0-9825396-4-4.

When Loren Creek, a fourteen year old orphan, leaves Tennessee to avoid placement in yet another foster home, she goes to nearby Boone, North Carolina, where she is reborn as a boy named Lorne Land. A kindly mountain man takes her in and discovers she is really a girl when his bulldog Sugar warms up to her immediately. "That sweet dog you're pettin'"—If you was boy, he'd have a piece of you in his mouth right now. Sugar takes to women and girls, but he won't abide men and boys. Don't know why—it's just his way." Thus begins a tale both charming and heartwarming. Ironically the two daughters of the judge who control Lorne's foster placement help her with her transition. The three girls become close friends and it is with them and her adopted "Grandpa" Fields Graggs that Loren is able to be herself. With others, Loren successfully hides her sexual identity. So successful is this charade that Loren becomes the star kicker for her high school football team; male readers should enjoy the descriptions of these games.

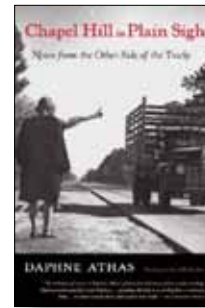
Full of local traditional Boone haunts and landmarks such as Pepper's Restaurant, Boone Drugs, the Black Bear Book Store and, of course, Appalachian State University, the novel contains both social and legal criticism and an appreciation of independent mountain people in the area. *Girl* is reminiscent of Jan Karon's Mitford Series and contains elements of Christian forgiveness and love. Suspense is created by an overly zealous social worker who cannot give up his search for the missing orphan, and by a spurned boyfriend of one of the judge's daughters who thinks Lorne Land has taken his place as the girl's new beau and who is determined to seek revenge. While some may consider the plot a stretch, the story flows and characters are well developed and believable as the author spins his tale.

Bare received an advanced degree from Appalachian State University where he also taught psychology; he currently lives in Blowing Rock. Bare has a broad background that includes community college teaching, military service, community organizing in the mountains, and work in construction, beekeeping, and shrimping. He and his late wife, Caroline, were long-time members of the Watauga Humane Society. The humane society receives a portion of the sales of each book.

Girl is suitable for all age readers from young adults to senior citizens despite one moderately violent scene. It is highly recommended for collections containing North Carolina works and local authors, including high school, public and academic libraries. It would be a fine choice for a group read.

Carol Truett
Appalachian State University

Chapel Hill in Plain Sight: Notes from the Other Side of the Tracks



Daphne Athas. Hillsborough: Eno Publishers, 2010. 243 pp. \$16.95. ISBN 978-0-9820771-3-9.

Chapel Hill in Plain Sight is a captivating collection of stories that weaves

personal memoir and local legends into a vivid tapestry. Athas, who retired from the creative writing program of UNC-CH in 2009, was mentor to several generations of Carolina students. Her fictional account of coming of age in Depression Era Chapel Hill, *Entering Ephesus*, was named one of *Time's* ten best fiction books of the year in 1971.

The Athas family lost its money and beloved Gloucester, Massachusetts home during the Depression. The father, a proud Greek immigrant who had attended Harvard Law, chose to move to Chapel Hill because he had been told it was the "Athens of the South." For seven years the family lived in a falling down dwelling on the edge of Carrboro that they named "the Shack." When the front porch collapsed under the weight of snow, they used it for firewood. Nightly, the family would accompany Mrs. Athas outside the house – there were no inside stairs – and wait anxiously while all 193 pounds of her ascended a rickety ladder up to a window which she would crawl through into the only upstairs bedroom. What a family: eccentric, proud, intellectual, and penniless. "Bite the hand that feeds you," the father told his children.

In these stories Athas speaks to us directly of Chapel Hill as she has lived it and uncovered it in her investigations, revealing a Chapel Hill more intriguing and durable than the booster version of "the Southern part of heaven." The book's subtitle, *Notes from the Other Side of the Tracks*, is significant. As a Yankee living in the South, on the "other side of the tracks," she has been

blessed with the outsider's perspective. "I was a proud stranger," she tells us. She doesn't hesitate to lift the veil on the nasty racism surrounding Richard Wright's visit to Chapel Hill, or to reveal the class tensions between Chapel Hillians and Carrbororites when Carrboro was still the mill town. She gives us a portrait of Betty Smith, both before and after she became famous for writing *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*.

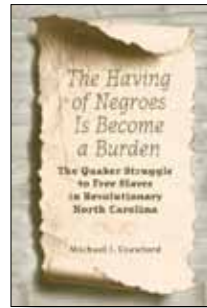
The Chapel Hill legends are all here. We learn of the murderous origins of the Gimghoul Society and its castle. We discover that philosophy professor Horace Williams, whom Thomas Wolfe immortalized as "the Hegel of the Cotton patch," left his estate to the UNC-CH Philosophy Department rather than to the university itself. And there is Milton Abernethy, original proprietor of the Intimate bookstore, that intellectual haven known to all in its day simply as Ab's. In the early 1930s, Abernethy was responsible for the literary magazine *Contempo* that published the likes of Joyce, Faulkner, Stein, and Beckett. Abernethy was rumored to have allowed Communist propaganda to be mimeographed in the back of the Intimate; Athas recounts how he was grilled during the McCarthy years.

In many respects *Chapel Hill in Plain Sight* is about memory. Writes Athas:

"Time makes hermit crabs of us, and we carry the world around on our back as our shell of reality. The tune we first hear is the tune we hear forever." This tune of Chapel Hill is an eloquent, exuberant collection that rings true. Recommended for all libraries.

Tommy Nixon
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The Having of Negroes Is Become a Burden: The Quaker Struggle to Free Slaves in Revolutionary North Carolina



Michael J. Crawford.
Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2010. 237 pp. \$69.95. ISBN 978-0-8130-3470-6.

During the eighteenth century, many Quakers living in North Carolina began to protest the practice of slaveholding and

embarked on a campaign to free the slaves on their plantations through a process known as manumission. Specifically, George Walton, the former captain of a merchant ship, believed that keeping African Americans in bondage denied them a human existence and went against the Golden Rule. *The Having of Negroes Is Become a Burden: The Quaker Struggle to Free Slaves in Revolutionary North Carolina* provides readers with a history of the Quaker manumission movement in North Carolina at the time of the American Revolution. Michael Crawford explains the reasoning behind Quaker opposition to slavery through the use of primary documents, including diaries, petitions, transcripts, and correspondence between members of the North Carolina Society of Friends. Although Quaker slaveholders freed their slaves, many of the newly-released African Americans were re-captured and sold back into bondage. The North Carolina government cited fears of slave uprisings and specific statutes as rationales for continued slavery. The author helps to delineate the impact of the legislature's actions in response to the North Carolina Society of Friends' manumission campaigns by including tables

showing the identities of slaves who were set free and then resold into slavery and the eventual fate of their families.

Crawford divides his book into four sections: George Walton's efforts to combat the practice of slavery by manumitting or releasing from bondage his own slaves; the beliefs of the North Carolina Society of Friends regarding slaveholding; the reactions of the North Carolina legislature to Quaker manumissions; and the national debate. Each chapter begins with specific historical dates which are used to place the content in context for the reader. The author includes an extensive bibliography of both primary and secondary sources, a chronology of key events in the Quaker struggle to free slaves, and biographies of Charles Osborn, Levi Coffin, and Addison Coffin, three notable Society of Friends members who opposed slavery and who made contributions to the manumission effort in North Carolina and to the Underground Railroad.

Michael J. Crawford is employed as senior historian at the Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHHC) which is situated at the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, D.C. In addition to this book, Crawford has also written thirteen other works, including *Seasons of Grace: Colonial New England's Revival Tradition in Its British Context*.

This book is intended to help readers gain a better understanding of North Carolina Quakers' opposition to slavery and their continuing efforts to offer a better existence to former slaves. This book is well-suited for inclusion in any academic, special, or public library with an interest in the history of manumission or abolitionist movements in the South during the time of the American Revolution.

David W. Young
University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Looking for help with collection development?

If you want to expand your library's collection of novels set in North Carolina, you should visit the Read North Carolina Novels blog hosted by the North Carolina Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (<http://www.lib.unc.edu/blogs/nenovels/>).

If your interest in North Carolina is more general, both the North Carolina Collection at East Carolina University and the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill regularly post lists of new additions to their collections.

The addresses for those sites are:

<https://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/ncc/profs.cfm>

<https://www.lib.unc.edu/blogs/ncc/index.php/whats-new-in-the-north-carolina-collection/>