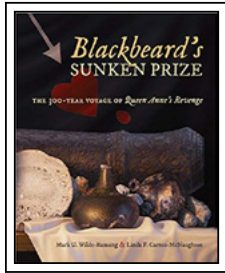


# North Carolina Books

Compiled by Al Jones



## ***Blackbeard's Sunken Prize: The 300-Year Voyage of Queen Anne's Revenge***

Wilde-Ramsing, Mark U. and Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018. 224 pp. \$28.00. Paperback ISBN: 978-1-4696-4052-5. E-book ISBN: 978-1-4696-4053-2.

**B**lackbeard. Edward Thache (Teach). Three hundred years after the notorious pirate's death in a bloody battle on Ocracoke Island in November 1718, the name still evokes a frisson of fear. Now imagine the terror felt by eighteenth-century Atlantic seafarers and coastal dwellers as Blackbeard seized ships and plundered coastal towns in his quest for treasure and pirate riches.

*Blackbeard's Sunken Prize: The 300-Year Voyage of Queen Anne's Revenge* recounts the discovery of Blackbeard's flagship near Beaufort, North Carolina, and uses recovered artifacts to identify the ship and place it in historical context. The authors, Wilde-Ramsing and Carnes-McNaughton, are archaeologists who have been intimately involved in the *Queen Anne's Revenge* (QAR) Shipwreck Project and write from first-hand experience of the project's activities and discoveries over the past twenty years. With sixty-percent of the site excavated and hundreds of thousands of items recovered, including 29 iron cannons, 250,000 pieces of lead

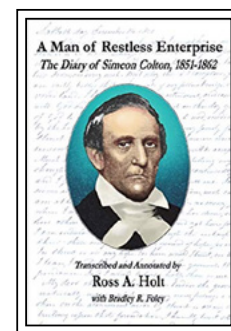
shot, and other items left behind during the ship's abandonment, the authors' recounting of the archaeological expedition, recovery of concretions, and conservation of recovered artifacts makes for a fascinating look at life on an eighteenth-century pirate ship.

The book consists of eight chapters interspersed with vignettes, each of which explains a project activity or recovered item in more detail. The first chapter uses historical accounts to examine pirate lore and known facts about Blackbeard's life, while the second chapter uses historical records to show how the French privateer turned slave ship, *La Concorde de Nantes*, became Blackbeard's flagship, *Queen Anne's Revenge*, in 1717. Less than six months later in early June 1718, the QAR ran aground in Beaufort Inlet and its pirate crew abandoned ship. The next two chapters discuss the evolution of the North Carolina coastline over the last three centuries, the discovery of the shipwreck's remains on November 21, 1996, and the recovery of sample artifacts from the wreckage that identified the site as the resting place of the QAR. Conservation of the recovered artifacts is the focus of chapter five; the longest chapter (chapter six) is devoted to classifying, cataloging, and discussing groups of artifacts from the wreckage. The final two chapters delineate how the archaeological record confirmed the identity of the QAR and discuss how the *Queen Anne's Revenge* Shipwreck Project has captured the imagination of today's public. Beautiful, full-color art reproductions, illustrations, and photographs appear on nearly every page and add wonderful detail to the

book's rich content and conversational style. Detailed endnotes support the text and lead the reader to relevant primary and secondary sources while the index is well-organized and complete.

This book is a superb addition to North Carolina libraries of all types, especially public and academic libraries. While the subject matter is useful for undergraduates in many disciplines (history, archaeology, and American Studies, for example), the text is accessible to general readers and the subject matter would definitely appeal to arm-chair historians. Updates on the QAR Shipwreck Project are available at [www.qaronline.org](http://www.qaronline.org). Blackbeard's notoriety continues to fascinate three hundred years later!

*Teresa LePors*  
Elon University



## ***A Man of Restless Enterprise: The Diary of Simeon Colton, 1851-1862***

Holt, Ross A., ed. and Foley, Bradley R.  
Self-Published, 2018. 277 pp.  
\$15.00. ISBN 978-1-7268-3293-9.

**S**imeon Colton (1785-1868) began his career in the Boston area as a minister and educator. After a

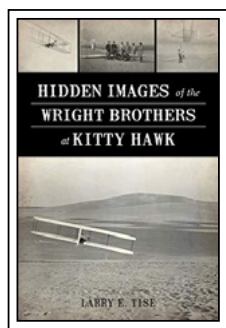
transition to warmer climes in North Carolina, Colton's work in religion and education had a lasting influence on 19th c. North Carolina. In his new book on Colton, Ross Holt, Asheboro native, Director of the Randolph County Public Library and member of the Randolph County Historic Landmark Preservation Commission, has given us a snapshot into that transition as well as a unique look at mid 19th century North Carolina history. *The Man of Restless Enterprise* as Holt calls Colton certainly lives up to his name. Over the course of the book, a selection of diary entries from 1851-1862, we see Colton speak on a number of topics from his observations of his courtship of Catherine Fuller, "I found her apparently a pleasant women of ardent piety" (p.68), to more pointed observations on his new neighbors in Asheboro, "Asheboro is divided into family feuds and a great deal of bitterness between them" (p.136). he also reports on the activities of friends such as Charles Merriam, of Merriam-Webster fame, and Elisha Mitchell, primarily known as the first to measure the mountain soon to be named Mt. Mitchell. These observations are book-ended with warm memories of his children as well as a melancholic view on where he sees himself at that point in time.

Writing as a widower and minister, Colton is very aware that time is slipping away from him. This very human attitude toward mortality brings Colton's words into an entirely different light and Holt has done a masterful job of selecting entries that paint a full picture of Colton's time in North Carolina. His last entry in fact highlights the duality of his physical situation. His observation on his failing health, "Infant children and very old men are inclined to sleep much of their time (p.188) is followed by a pointed analysis that certain authors "embrace a great variety stile [sic] from

"not clear in expression" to "one draws so much from the depths of human depravity" (ibid).

This book would be a great addition to any North Carolina collection in the state. The narrative contained within and expertly edited by Holt and Bradley Foley keep the reader engaged. Public and academic libraries would benefit from having this title in their collection. Even for those outside of Colton's geographical reach would find his words both entertaining and comforting.

Lucas Berrini  
East Carolina University



### ***Hidden Images of the Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk***

Larry E. Tise  
Charleston, SC: History Press, 2019.  
164 pp. \$21.99. ISBN 978-1-4671-4243-4.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to live in a primitive wooden shed on the windy sand dunes of Kitty Hawk in 1903 while trying to solve one of the great engineering challenges of modern times--powered human flight? What would your kitchen and sleeping cots look like, what tools would you use to repair your aircraft, and what people would you meet living in such an isolated location? Historian, author, and East Carolina University professor Dr. Larry E. Tise helps put you there with Wilbur and Orville at Kill Devil Hills in North Carolina through a close analysis of the photographs taken by the Wrights in this new edition of *Hidden Images of the Wright Brothers at Kitty*

*Hawk*.

The brothers traveled to Kitty Hawk to perform glider and powered flight tests in 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1908, and 1911, with members of the Wright party photographing their activities. Drawing on his familiarity with the Wrights' North Carolina correspondence and knowledge of Outer Banks geography and history, Tise selected images from their photographic output and has identified specific people, buildings, locations, equipment, and flight tests. The book has a chapter for each year spent in North Carolina, with a short essay that places the visit within the broader context of their research, followed by the selected images with captions.

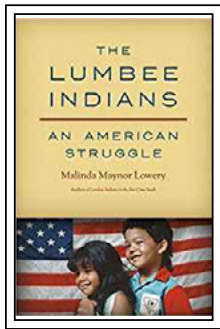
As the photographs are from known collections in the Library of Congress and Wright State University, the "hidden images" of the title refers to Tise's enlargements of small details in the photographs, sometimes off to the side or in the distant background. With these close-ups, Tise is able to identify visitors to their encampment, name members of the local U.S. Coast Guard Life Saving Unit who helped with flight tests, highlight equipment like the magneto used to start the engine, and show clothing details like the ornate suspenders worn by the men.

For the new edition, Tise includes an epilogue with additional information that has come to light since the original publication in 2005, including authenticating a handmade table documented by the photographs. In addition to research in other areas, Tise has written two more Wrights-related books: *Conquering the Sky: The Secret Flights of the Wright Brothers at Kitty Hawk* (2009), which focuses on the Wrights in North Carolina in 1908, and, *Circa 1903: North Carolina's Outer Banks at the Dawn of Flight* (2019), which explores

in more detail the society, businesses, and transportation of the area.

Given the book's focus on the Wrights' activities in Kitty Hawk as documented in their photographs, it may not be the first choice as a general history of flight or biography of the brothers, but it will be very useful for those interested in North Carolina history, the Outer Banks, the Wright Brothers, or aviation, and will be a helpful guide for those doing research with the Wright Photographs in the Library of Congress or at Wright State University.

Chip Larkin  
North Carolina Wesleyan College



### ***The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle***

Lowery, Malinda Maynor  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press,  
2018. 304 pp. \$30.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-4637-4.

What do the song, "Proud To Be a Lumbee" by Willie French Lowery, the Battle of Hayes Pond (1958), Lumbee Homecoming, the Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA), Julian Pierce, federal recognition process (FAP), and the outdoor drama, *Strike at the Wind!*, have in common? Throughout the pages of the book, *The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle*, Malinda Maynor Lowery introduces readers to some of these significant events and people who have shaped the history of the Lumbee Indian tribe in North Carolina. From their

earliest days of existence, Lumbee Indians have endeavored to preserve their distinct culture while striving to achieve the same advantages enjoyed by their white neighbors. Unlike the Cherokee Indians, the Lumbee Indians only have state recognition, but federal recognition has always been an elusive goal. To this day, Lumbee Indians try to maintain kinship bonds in order to keep their culture and history alive for both present and future generations. The term, "who's your people" has special meaning for Lumbee Indians who wish to trace their family lineage and preserve their distinctive heritage.

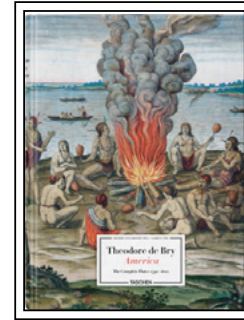
Lowery divides her book into seven chapters, and includes an "Interlude" section at the end of each. Essentially, the interludes contain the author's personal recollections or experiences during her lifetime which relate to the chapter themes. Additionally, the book has several maps, and an index. Perhaps the greatest feature of the book is the photograph on the book jacket showing Lumbee children against the backdrop of the American flag. By using this technique, the author depicts the ongoing struggles of the Lumbee Indians to enjoy total freedom in the United States.

Malinda Maynor Lowery is Associate Professor of History at UNC Chapel Hill and is Director of the Center for the Study of the American South. Besides *The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle* (2018), the author also wrote *Lumbee Indians in the Jim Crow South: Race, Identity, and the Making of a Nation* (2010).

This book is intended to help readers gain a glimpse into the myriad number of challenges which Lumbee Indians have had to face over the years. Moving forward, the Lumbee Indians will continue to advocate for federal recognition so that they can gain access to complete health care, educational reform, and benefits of economic progress. Because of its specific scope and subject matter,

*The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle* would be suitable for inclusion in any public or academic library with a focus on Lumbee Indian history.

David W. Young  
University of North Carolina at Pembroke



### ***Theodore de Bry - America: The Complete Plates 1590-1602***

Michiel van Groesen (ed.) Larry E. Tise  
Köln: Taschen, [2019]. 375 pp, illus.,  
41cm. ISBN 978-3-8365-5209-7. \$150.00

Fans of de Bry's *America* series of the *Grand Voyages* will enjoy this outstanding compilation by Michael Van Grossen and Larry Tise. Printed in a format (15 1/2 x 11 inches) that mirrors the size of the 16<sup>th</sup> century originals, the bulk of the plates in his volume are in full color on paper the intended to convey the look and texture of the original. Perhaps among the best known coffee table books the twenty-five volume *voyages* series is divided into two groups: a thirteen volume *America* series that covers the New World, and the *India Orientalis* series of twelve volumes that covers Asia and Africa. Over 600 copper plate engravings illustrate in Euro-centric view the early contacts of the Old World with the New.

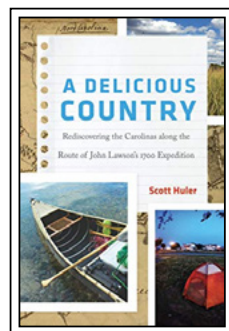
Volume one of the *America* series deals with the experiences of the English colonists on Roanoke Island as related in the Thomas Hariot account. This first volume was issued in four languages: English, French, German and Latin. De Bry hoped to

include several language editions of later volumes but cost became a factor and most of the others are found only in Latin. The illustrations in volume one are based on the watercolor drawings of John White currently in the British Museum. The drawings are shown in exciting two pages folio spreads. Volume two is based on Rene de Laudonnoire's account of the French expedition into Florida. Other volumes in the *America* series cover Central and South America and the Caribbean. The images shown in the book are from the John Hay Library and John Carter Brown libraries and the Staats-Und StadtBibliothek Augsburg.

Michael Van Grossen has written an outstanding essay in the book covering the complicated printing and engraving of the *Grand Voyages*. He describes in detail how the watercolors and drawings were transformed into the engraved plates. He chronicles the artistic and logistic problems associated with the printing firm of de Bry and sons. Van Grossen tells an interesting tale and incorporates the role the book producers played in the times of the era. Larry Tise, in a ground breaking essay on the colorists of the *America* volumes (no colored volumes exits after Volume VI – Peru), relates the complicated story of why various editions are painted differently. Hand colored works cause a special problem in that one can never be sure exactly when the item in hand was colored, however many copies seem to be colored by 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century colorists. The publisher did not retain colorists, but rather copies were colored by the individual purchasers. This results in color variations by language edition. For example, German language copies are colored in dark greens, reds, and blacks, while French copies are usually found colored with lighter more watered down colors. Tise feels that these differences are results of the way

native Americans were perceived by various European cultures. Tise speculates that in the future new methods will become available to aid in determining if a copy was colored in the 16<sup>th</sup> or the 21<sup>st</sup> century. North Carolina libraries will want to add this ground-breaking analysis of our earliest Americans to their collections.

Ralph Scott  
East Carolina University



***A Delicious Country:  
Rediscovering the Carolinas along  
the Route of John Lawson's 1700  
Expedition***

Huler, Scott  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press,  
2019. 264 pp., \$28.00 978-1-4696-4828-6.

John Lawson (1674-1711) helped found North Carolina's first two towns, Bath and New Bern. During a backcountry journey in 1700-1701, he wrote *A New Voyage to Carolina*, containing vivid descriptions of plants, wildlife, people, and the landscape. Printed in several languages, the volume is helpful to today's scientists and historians. Despite numerous achievements, Lawson is primarily remembered in North Carolina for his gruesome end as one of the Tuscarora War's first casualties.

Scott Huler discovered Lawson while doing research for his book *On the Grid: A Plot of Land, an Average Neighborhood, and the Systems that Make Our World Work*, an investigation into modern-day infrastructure. The more he learned

about Lawson, the more surprised Huler became by Lawson's obscurity. In 2014, Huler retraced Lawson's path, canoeing and walking from Charleston, South Carolina, to Bath. *A Delicious Country* chronicles both men's journeys.

Both Lawson and Huler are keen observers of landscape, flora and fauna, and people. Lawson's descriptions of Indian groups are still admired for their detail and sympathy. He realized that European settlers had treated them poorly, and that native peoples understood their risk of extinction. Huler draws ironic comparisons between the native communities visited by Lawson and today's settlements: "Not unlike the native peoples Lawson met, who surely feared that the new arrivals would overwhelm them, current locals fear what the rising tide of retirees, Yankees, and foolish young people might do to the coast they loved." Much as the native communities suffered, so too have some European-established settlements. Abandoned plants, factories and houses show towns and people left behind.

The journeys of both men share similarities. Both Huler and Lawson benefitted from guides familiar with the terrain. Both took advantage of the occasional offer of a wigwam or shelter as a respite from sleeping outside. Descendants of South Carolina Huguenots who hosted Lawson entertained Huler. A humorous writing style characterizes both books at times.

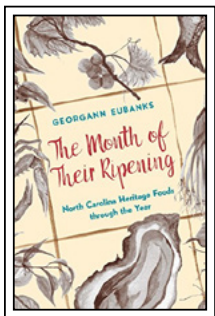
Though Huler delights that the marsh grass Lawson traveled through on South Carolina's coast is still there, much has changed over 300 years. For example, Lawson wrote about the Carolina Parakeet and the Passenger Pigeon, both now extinct. The conveniences and tools Huler enjoys—Pop tarts, fountain drinks, car rides, and a cell phone—were not available in 1700, but Huler argues that Lawson, too, would have used the best tools at his disposal, including knowledgeable Indian guides. However,

Huler's journey of roughly 400 miles was not easy. He recounts paddling a canoe against the current and walking on scorching paved roads meant for cars, not pedestrians.

Huler, a resident of Raleigh, is a gifted storyteller with an intense curiosity about many subjects. Currently a senior writer at *Duke Magazine*, he has written six other books of nonfiction, covering topics from NASCAR racing culture to the *Odyssey*.

This is an engaging book that is of value to readers interested in John Lawson's expedition, early eighteenth-century natural history and Carolina history, and the landscape and communities along Lawson's trail. The book includes photographs, but lacks a detailed map of Huler's stops. Fortunately, Huler's blog, *The Lawson Trek*, provides an interactive map. This book is appropriate for high school libraries and public and academic collections.

Linda Jacobson  
University of North Carolina at  
Chapel Hill



***The Month of Their Ripening:  
North Carolina Heritage Foods  
through the Year***

Eubanks, Georgann  
Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press,  
2018. 262 pp. \$28.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-4082-2.

Eubanks shares a colorful perspective on native North Carolina foods. She identifies one regionally known fruit, vegetable, fish or meat according to the month it is most

available. She delves into a study and description that leaves readers with more than just a taste for the food. Eubanks makes readers want to visit the locales described, meet the people, and try the foods first-hand themselves. Indeed, readers will feel they already know some of the individuals Eubanks interacted with and described in her quest to gain more of the "inside" information about each food.

The chapter on figs, with intimate details of Ocracoke shared by local fig-grower and historian Chester Lynn, entices food lovers to plan to travel to Ocracoke Island during the month of August to experience the mystique and the fig delights of the tiny barrier island Ocracoke.

Yona Wade's description of the delights of April's ramps in the mountains of North Carolina makes one long to go to Cherokee for what is considered a spring tonic, as well as a food that is now becoming a coveted specialty in upscale restaurants.

Part of the value of Eubanks work with this book is not only in drawing attention to the foods, but more so in bringing the beauty and the uniqueness of North Carolina to the attention of readers. She shares a delightful blend of its history, humanity, and culture. Another less obvious benefit to be gained from this work is that by promoting these mostly regional selections and raising public awareness of them, some of these foods may be saved and enjoyed by others for years to come.

Eubanks paints a picture of each food and locale from the perspective of experiencing life with true appreciation. She evokes images from the life and times as they have always been in parts of North Carolina.

*The Month of Their Ripening* is a book to be read at leisure with time for contemplation, thought, and possibly for planning your next vacation! Readers will discover historical fact,

folklore, family recipes, and North Carolina geography, as well as tips to grow each fruit or vegetable shared. This book is recommended for anyone interested in native foods from North Carolina and the culture and history of its regions. Along with individuals, public and academic libraries that collect North Carolina history and culture should definitely have *The Month of Their Ripening* in their collections.

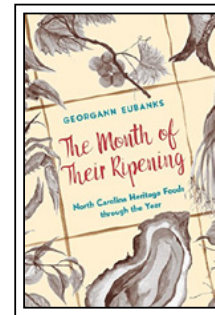
Georgann Eubanks's background as a writer and popular speaker served her well in the composing of this work. The conversations and friendly exchanges and interactions with the people who actually grow, catch or cook these foods make this a rich and charming book.

Kaye Dotson  
East Carolina University

---

*Occasionally we get reviews of the same book from two different reviewers. In this instance, we hope our readers will enjoy the insights of two excellent reviewers.*

---



***The Month of Their Ripening:  
North Carolina Heritage Foods  
through the Year***

Eubanks, Georgann  
Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press,  
2018. 262 pp. \$28.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-4082-2.

Food is always a good topic of conversation, and that informal approach is taken by Eubanks, author of three *Literary Trails* regional guides of

North Carolina, who invites the reader to cross the state on a journey to meet individuals who raise heritage food products. She uncovers the challenges and rewards of the lifestyles they have chosen.

Eubanks structures the book to follow the year month-by-month, highlighting foods available during that time of the year. Her selections range from the popular and ubiquitous apple to the delicate persimmon. The great pleasure in reading the book comes from Eubanks' storytelling. She shares food history, agriculture and aquaculture methods, and life experiences of farmers, foragers, and others.

The year starts with snow! It's a nostalgic look at snow days and whipping up snow cream, a novelty that children consider a treat. Reminiscences by those she interviews of which ingredients to include with the snow and sugar – cream versus milk versus evaporated milk, for instance – bring back the fun and excitement of families and friends preparing this dish. Food memories are a theme throughout the book as people consider what the produce or other agricultural product has meant in their own lives and in their communities.

The reader has the sense of joining Eubanks on her trek to counties across the state. She incorporates the history of the foods and their importance to the local economies and to the families living in the towns and area countryside. The language is lyrical as in her description of persimmons as “orbs suspended high like tiny burnished lanterns, dusky red as if a cloud of smoke had come by and clung to them in patches.”

The chapter on goat's milk provides an in-depth account of how poet Carl Sandburg's wife and daughters established a goat herd at their farm, Conne-mara, in Flat Rock, and weaves in discussions of various goat breeds and

products such as cheese, ice cream, and soap. Typically collected from locations that are not disclosed by foragers, ramps have a long history among the Cherokee, who have special harvesting techniques that Eubanks describes. She discusses a cantaloupe taste test and shares her experience on Ocracoke Island driving around neighborhoods in an electronic golf cart with a friend looking for fig trees. Foods from other months include shad, soft-shell crabs, serviceberries, and scuppernongs.

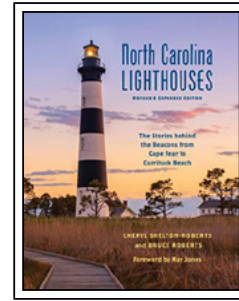
While the descriptions can be beautiful, they also reflect the very real economic hardships and struggles that farmers face. Eubanks is particularly skillful in describing the complexities of oyster farming along the coast, the difficulties in starting a business, and the competition faced from regional and global markets. The weather and natural disasters are factors in the success of crops, and Eubanks takes care in describing the effects of wildfires in the mountains as well as hurricanes in the eastern part of the state.

Food producers are the focus, but Eubanks also interviews scientists, anthropologists, researchers, and experts affiliated with the North Carolina Cooperative Extension and state agencies, such as the Division of Marine Fisheries. She visits food festivals, restaurants, country stores, farmers markets and fish markets, and she shares histories and cooking techniques described by the people she consults.

Readers interested in food, agriculture, fishing, history, and the people of North Carolina will enjoy this book.

*Christine Fischer*  
*University of North Carolina at Greensboro*

---



### ***North Carolina Lighthouses: The Stories Behind the Beacons from Cape Fear to Currituck Beach***

Shelton-Roberts, Cheryl and Bruce Roberts  
Rev. and expanded ed. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019. 264 pp. \$22.00 Paperback ISBN: 978-1-4696-4148-5. E-book ISBN: 978-1-4696-4149-2.

North Carolina's 300-mile coastline attracts thousands of vacationers annually to enjoy the beaches, local seafood, and recreational activities such as surfing, sailing, and fishing. Some of the most popular tourist attractions in the eastern part of the state are the nine distinctive lighthouses that dot the coastline from Wilmington to Ocracoke. These beacons, built to alert sailors to the dangerous off-shore shoals and to guide them to safe inlets, are now destination points for the summer influx of tourists.

Authors Cheryl Shelton-Roberts and Bruce Roberts have written several books about North Carolina's lighthouses including *Lighthouse Families* and *North Carolina Lighthouses: Stories of History and Hope*. Their latest book is a lavishly illustrated, meticulously researched historical overview of North Carolina lighthouses which is sure to please history buffs and armchair explorers alike. The book focuses broadly on the areas of Cape Fear, Cape Lookout, and Cape Hatteras and their dangerous shoals as the authors guide the reader chronologically and geographically from south to north along the aptly named Graveyard of the Atlantic.

The Founding Fathers recognized the importance of shipping to the

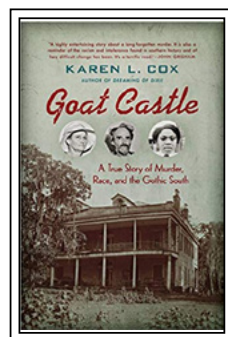
economy of the fledgling colonies and authorized North Carolina's first federally funded lighthouse in 1794 near the mouth of the Cape Fear River. Over the next one hundred years a series of lighthouses was built to light the North Carolina coastline and guide seafarers to safer waters and inlets. Using archival records, the authors describe the architectural and technical knowledge needed to build, run, and maintain these lighthouses and their Fresnel lens. Architectural drawings, paintings, and photographs provide nuanced detail to the descriptive text and help the reader visualize each lighthouse and understand unfamiliar technical aspects. Information sidebars provide specifications for each lighthouse, including height, elevation, and the lighthouse's flash characteristics, identify public accessibility, and list websites and mailing addresses for additional information.

The book is strengthened by the inclusion of a chapter on the importance of the lighthouses during the Civil War as Confederate blockade runners tried to slip goods into and out of the state's ports and rivers. Descriptions of everyday life for the lighthouse keepers and their families allow the reader to visualize life in an isolated location and they reinforce the importance of the keeper in maintaining the lighthouse daily. The book concludes by describing other types of light vessels used to light and protect the coastline through the years, the 1999 moving of the Cape Hatteras lighthouse 2,900 feet further inland to protect it from coastal erosion, and measures undertaken to restore and preserve the surviving lighthouses for another century.

*North Carolina Lighthouses* would be a welcome addition to all public and academic libraries in North Carolina and beyond. The text is accessible to both high school and undergraduate

students, while armchair historians will enjoy the technical details that are included. It also makes a wonderful gift for North Carolinians living on the coast or lighthouse enthusiasts planning to visit the state's lighthouses.

Teresa LePors  
 Elon University Library



***Goat Castle: A True Story of Murder, Race, and the Gothic South***

Cox, Karen L.  
 Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press, 2017. ISBN: 9781469635033. 227 pages with illustrations, maps, and portraits. \$26.00

Karen Cox, Professor of History at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte, uses this riveting tale as a vehicle to look at Southern justice under Jim Crow, and as a springboard to consider racial justice in American today.

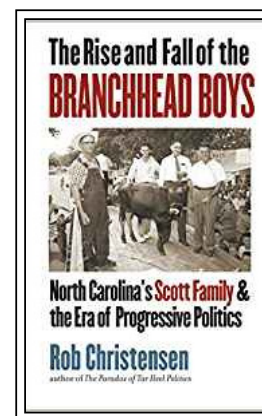
In August of 1932, the daughter of a former ambassador, one-time host to the president, and heir to southern aristocracy was murdered in her home in the Jim Crow South town of Natchez, Mississippi. The burglar came for her money, and left with only blood on his hands. The persons responsible were from plantation-owner dynasties. They say that truth is stranger than fiction, and this true story reads like an Edgar Allen Poe Tale.

Professor Cox has written an unblinking look at the people and events surrounding this murder that riveted

and obsessed the country almost daily from the moment it happened through the trial. During the depths of the Great Depression thousands came on pilgrimage to the site.

This is an exceptionally well-written account bringing new insight to everyday life in the Jim Crow South. With appeal for nonfiction, historical fiction, true crime and mystery fans, this is a book that every college student should read. Highly recommended for all public and academic libraries.

Laurie Baumgardner  
 Gardner-Webb University



***The Rise and Fall of the Branchhead Boys: North Carolina's Scott Family & the Era of Progressive Politics***

Christensen, Rob  
 Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019. 323 pp. \$30.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-5104-0.

North Carolina has had a colorful political history, featuring many interesting characters both nationally known and more obscure. *The Rise and Fall of the Branchhead Boys* follows the story of three generations of North Carolina politicians of the Scott family – W. Kerr Scott, Robert Scott, and Meg Scott Phipps (primarily Kerr and Robert, who spent considerably more time in various political roles). Between them they served in multiple offices from Agriculture Commissioner to Governor to

U.S. Senate, and the history of the family is covered as well as their political careers. While the Scott family is interesting in their own right, the book also provides significant insight on North Carolina politics throughout the 20th century, and how the policies and priorities of the Democratic and Republican parties and their voters have changed over time, thus making it a chronicle of North Carolina political history as well as a biography of a family of politicians.

The needs of rural farmers, attitudes towards race and civil rights, and the effects of national politics all played a role in the rise and ultimate end of the Scott family's political machine, and the role of each is well covered. Christensen, a political columnist and author of *The Paradox of Tar Heel Politics*, is well-versed in the state's political history, and brings it to life with excellent writing infused with quotations from both his main subjects and others who were involved at the time. While the book doesn't read like a novel, it does draw the reader in to find out "what happened next" and flows smoothly. It is clearly well-researched with copious references, and an extensive index is quite helpful for anyone wanting to use this book in their own research. Pictures scattered throughout the book help bring both the Scott family and the world of early to mid-20th century North Carolina to life.

*The Rise and Fall of the Branchhead Boys* is highly recommended to anyone interested in North Carolina politics or history, and will appeal to those with a general interest in politics as well. It is essential for all libraries with a North Carolina collection, and would be an excellent purchase for any library outside the state with a strong political science collection.

Lara B. Little  
Pfeiffer University



***Where we find ourselves:  
The photographs of Hugh  
Mangum, 1897-1922***

Hugh Mangum, with Margaret Sartor and Alex Harris, eds.  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019. 166 pp. ISBN 9781469648316.

The book *Where we find ourselves: The photographs of Hugh Mangum* is a curated collection and exploration of Hugh Mangum, a photographer and North Carolina native who worked during the early decades of the 20th century. Although Mangum did not achieve the same level of fame during his lifetime as some of his contemporaries, the editors of this collection make a strong case for why Mangum's surviving works should be celebrated and studied more closely.

Similar to their previous collaboration, *Dream of a house: The passions and preoccupations of Reynolds Price*, Margaret Sartor and Alex Harris arrange the photographs taken by Hugh Mangum in a way that helps to illustrate the story of his career. Both Sartor and Harris are writers, photographers, and professors at Duke University's Center for Documentary Studies, making them well-suited to tell the story of Mangum's photography. The foreword and introduction to the book, written by Deborah Willis and Michael Lesy respectively, set the scene by providing some historical and social context for Mangum's photography. As discussed in the introduction, the early years of the 20th century were filled with racial strife and legally enforced segregation; Mangum's studio seems to be one of the few racially

integrated spaces. Accompanied by a selection of some of the portraits of both black and white, wealthy and working-class, Southerners, the text and images illustrate the kind of person and artist Mangum was. His ability to capture everyone from any walk of life in an engaged, captivating manner is one thing that makes Hugh Mangum's photography distinct and exceptional.

Following the introduction is the section showcasing portraits taken by Hugh Mangum. Aside from the diversity among the subjects of these portraits, what is noteworthy is the wide variety of poses and backgrounds. This collection of prints includes some visual flourishes such as double exposed images and the inclusion of prints that have sustained some damage, which makes the passage of time very apparent. The double exposed prints provide an interesting juxtaposition between images. For example, there is one image of a young woman posing alone intermingled with a portrait of a family with three infants. This image, like some of the others, almost begs to start a dialogue with the viewer and that makes the double exposures visually compelling.

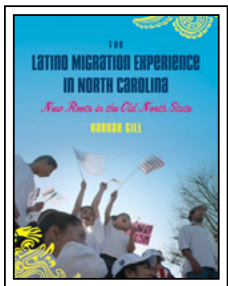
Sartor's essay provides biographical details that paint a picture of Mangum as the kind person that does not neatly fit a modern reader's idea of a middle-class white man from that era. For example, Mangum attended Salem College (which is a Moravian Church-affiliated women's college that admitted people of color), to continue his studies of the fine arts. This allows the reader to infer that Mangum held an egalitarian viewpoint regarding gender and race, usually in a point in history when it is presumed many white men did not. Intertwined in this essay is the history of Durham, North Carolina, and the ways that the city grew and evolved around the turn of the 20th century. The historical and cultural



complexities around race and class are key to understanding the ways Mangum's portraiture stands apart from other artists working in the same medium. Sartor explores the ways Mangum's hometown influenced his approach to his work. Additionally, the essay includes discussion of some of Mangum's contemporaries, further emphasizing the uniqueness of his photography. The book concludes with the tale of how Sartor and Harris began working on the project that resulted in the associated museum exhibit and the work in hand.

*Where we find ourselves now: The photographs of Hugh Mangum* can be of interest to a general audience but will most likely appeal to audiences with an interest in visual arts and photography. This book would be ideal for libraries collecting titles about North Carolina history — specifically the history of Durham, photography, and art.

Tiffany Henry  
University of North Carolina  
Greensboro



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

Gill, Hannah E.  
2nd ed., rev. and exp. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press. ISBN: 9781469646411.  
\$27.95 pbk. 228 pp. 12 halftones, 1 map.

Hannah E. Gill's *The Latino Migration Experience in North Carolina: New Roots in the Old North State* is the

revised and expanded second edition of a classic text on the Latino migration experience between North Carolina and Mexico primarily, but also other Latin American countries. The first edition was reviewed insightfully by Elizabeth Dunn of Duke University in the Fall/Winter 2010 issue of *North Carolina Libraries* (pp. 23-24).

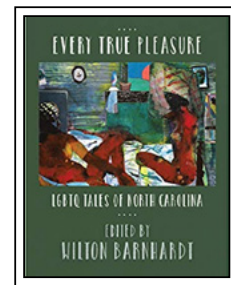
Since 2010, Gill has worked with colleagues and students at UNC-Chapel "to create an accessible bilingual resource for people with experiences of migration to continue sharing their stories" (p. xii). The resulting online initiative, the *New Root/Nuevas Raíces Oral Histories*, now includes audio recordings and full transcripts from interviews with more than two hundred people from fifteen Latin American and Caribbean countries in twenty-one North Carolina counties. Gill emphasizes the importance of these stories for future Latino generations seeking the stories of their immigrant predecessors.

In addition to updated statistics and chronology of legislation affecting Latino immigrants, this second edition contains a new chapter on the Dreamer movement and the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program (DACA) from the Obama years to recent challenges from the Trump administration. Gill reports on successes, notably the South Alamance Elementary (SAE) School in Graham, Alamance County, a county Gill identified as "infamous for its anti-immigrant policy making and policing" (p. 179). Gill concludes with her assessment of the positive effect of the SGE experience on its students: "While these students will continue to encounter challenges outside of school, they may be better prepared to reform the systems they inherit and transform dreams of equality into reality" (p. 179).

Gill is associate 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. Both editions of Gill's monumental work should be in the public, academic, and school libraries where readers can learn about creative and positive ways to welcome Latinos to the Old North State.

Al Jones  
East Carolina University



***Every True Pleasure: LGBTQ Tales of North Carolina***

Wilton Barnhardt  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019.  
232 pp. \$20.00. Paperback. ISBN 978-1-4696-4680-0.

With apologies to the famed poet-critic Robert Pinsky, who wrote "the best anthology is the one each reader compiles, personally," much thanks is due to Wilton Barnhardt for compiling on our behalf the 21 stories and essays in *Every True Pleasure: LGBTQ Tales of North Carolina*. The collection presents varied experiences and unique struggles of LGBTQ persons, while also showing that heterosexual and LGTBQ lives are intertwined and not always so different from each other.

Barnhardt is an author and a professor of creative writing at North Carolina State University. He has amassed entries from "vital, keen, and observant" contributors in this volume. Each contributor, some award-winning and internationally known and some newer voices, has strong ties to or is a native of

North Carolina. Contributors include Jasmine Beach-Ferrara, Brian Blanchfield, Belle Boggs, Emily Chávez, Garrard Conley, John Pierre Craig, Diane Daniel, Allan Gurganus, Minrose Gwin, Aaron Gwyn, Wayne Johns, Randall Kenan, Kelly Link, Zelda Lockhart, Toni Newman, Michael Parker, Penelope Robbins, David Sedaris, Eric Tran, and Alyssa Wong.

Many of the writings have recognizable settings and customs to North Carolina. The stories and essays are all well written and evocative. Each fiction story has believable plots and as well-developed characters as possible for short format writing. The breadth of life is covered, including dynamics of family members and friends, first love, sex, children, loss, and death.

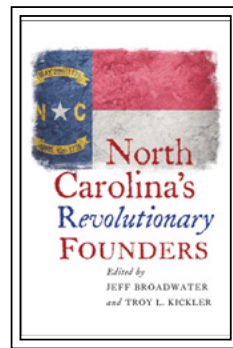
Some stories are enjoyable reads with laughter, or are thought-provoking. Others address difficult situations -- including assault, rejection, and religious damnation -- and present complex viewpoints with relatable, sometimes pitiable or infuriating persons, leading to reflection, sadness, or even anger. Among the most stirring stories are the two of spouses seeking gender confirmation surgery with the many feelings, questions, and perspectives that often arise among all involved with transitioning.

The volume's introduction briefly places this collection within the context of queer literature. Readers will likely reach the end of the volume wanting to read more from these collected authors and their peers. The concluding discussion guide will prove highly useful in prompting group consideration and personal reflection on these varied works and the many issues that they broach.

*Every True Pleasure* is a most welcome addition to Southern and Queer literature and is perhaps unique in its North Carolina focus and breadth of LGBTQ experiences represented. It is most suitable for academic and public libraries that provide LGBTQ literature for their

patrons. Academic libraries that support curricula that draws from minority voices should especially purchase this book. While several stories include high-school-aged individuals or recounted memories of high school, the book should be reviewed carefully for age-appropriateness before being selected for a high school library. Any library seeking to represent the diverse voices and experiences of North Carolina should add this book to its collection.

*C. William Gee*  
*East Carolina University*



***North Carolina  
Revolutionary Founders***

Jeff Broadwater and Troy L. Kickler, eds.  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2019.  
312 pp. \$29.95. ISBN 978-1-4696-5120-0.

Author Jeff Broadwater, a historian and scholar, has written several books on the Founding Fathers and other scholarly history books, including *George Madison: Forgotten Founder*; *Eisenhower and the Anti Communist Crusade*; *James Madison: A Son of Virginia and a Founder of the Nation*; and *Jefferson, Madison and the Making of the Constitution*. Author Troy L. Kickler is a research historian at the State of North Carolina Office of Archives and History, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. The authors skillfully divided this collection of essays into five sections. Each section moves swiftly from one to another, including “The Revolutionaries,” “The West,” “The

Federalists,” “The Anti-Federalists,” and “The Legacies of the Revolution.” The authors highlighted prominent and influential North Carolina political leaders and founders from the Revolutionary era to the ratification of the Constitution of the United States. This collection of essays provides vivid and detailed accounts from the Federal System of the United States to the Declaration of Independence by thirteen North American states from Great Britain in 1776. North Carolina was a part of this Revolutionary period which reflects the political, social, and judicial systems of the state. Revolutionaries were responsible for periods of unrest, but also for prosperity in North Carolina.

The title of this book connects well with the contents and the authors presented each section as an anthology, including an individual author to each section and well detailed notes for future reference(s). The reader will certainly relate to the narratives and accounts in this collection of essays while reviewing the retrospective history of North Carolina. The authors give the readers a unique history of the time and a significant contribution to the history of North Carolina, in particular and the United States, in general. The book will certainly be appealing in academia and in the private sector as it will aspire and draw attention among professionals and academics in history.

The book is recommended and will be an invaluable read as a class-adopted textbook in colleges and universities. It is also recommended as a good selection for libraries, in both print and electronic formats, and as an important source for electronic database vendors and digital publishers to add to their collections for more access to readers.

*Esther O. Burgess*  
*North Carolina Wesleyan College*



## ***Blue Muse: Timothy Duffy's Southern Photographs***

Duffy, Timothy  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press,  
2019. 152 pp. \$60.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-  
4826-2. E-book ISBN: 978-1-4696-4827-9.

Duffy's powerful photos introduce the reader to American roots musicians in the South. Using photographs to reflect a moment in time, Duffy presents images that tell a story of the performers of the traditional music of folk, jazz, gospel, rock, and the blues. Russell Lord, in his foreword, discusses the works as Duffy's "attempts to reclaim their subjects' rightful status as the creators, custodians, purveyors, and performers of American music" (p. ix). The photographs are a means that Duffy uses to document the legacies of the artists. He has a deep respect

for his subjects and explains that "they are keenly aware of the treasure of music they inherited from the elders who taught them and feel duty-bound to pass it on to the next generation" (p. 5).

Through the historic photographic technique of the tintype, more precisely known as the ferrotype, Duffy captures the images by using a large special camera in which the plates are directly produced. Duffy explains the process in his artist's introduction which emphasizes the immediacy of the method that produces a single photograph but no negative that would allow for multiple prints. Light and shadow become part of the evocative, striking quality of the photos.

Compelling visuals of his subjects portray the performers with expressions that can be interpreted as ranging from joyful and fearless to poignant and heartbreaking. The clarity of the portraits brings every facial detail into focus. The emotions of eyes in a glance or a bold look give the impression of immediacy and intimacy.

Brief notes provide biographical information about the subject of each

plate, including such individuals as keyboardist Ironing Board Sam, blues singer Pat "Mother Blues" Cohen, and Freeman Vines, a maker of guitars. The settings for the photos are a combination of the studio, interiors of homes or music venues, and exterior shots on lawns or in a meadow. Always it is the person who captures the attention of the reader.

*Blue Muse* was published in association with the New Orleans Museum of Art, where Duffy held a solo exhibition that included thirty of the photographs from the book. UNC Press is the publisher of Duffy's *Music Makers: Portraits and Songs from the Roots of America*, and his title, *We Are the Music Makers! Preserving the Soul of America's Music*, co-authored with Denise Duffy.

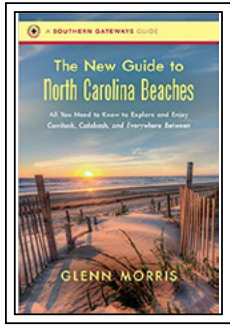
This beautiful book will appeal to all readers interested in photography, roots music, and the culture and peoples of the South.

*Christine Fischer*  
*University of North Carolina at*  
*Greensboro*

## **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://blogs.lib.unc.edu/ncnovels/>).

If your interest in North Caroliniana is more general, the North Carolina Collection at UNC-Chapel Hill regularly posts lists of new additions to their collection at this address: <http://blogs.lib.unc.edu/ncm/index.php/whats-new-in-the-north-carolina-collection/>.



***The New Guide to North Carolina Beaches: All You Need to Know to Explore and Enjoy Currituck, Calabash, and Everywhere Between***

Glenn Morris  
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press,  
2019. Series: A Southern Gateways Guide. 416 pp.,  
21 illus., 39 maps. \$24.00. Paperback. ISBN: 978-  
1-4696-5173-6. E-book ISBN: 978-1-4696-5174-3.

Guiding us along the Carolina coast from north to south, Morris suggests more adventures than we could ever accomplish in a lifetime. His introduction prepares us for beach travel with helpful information about swimming safety, bicycle access, coastal history, fishing permits, and even best routes to the coast. Each chapter then describes one county's beach access, ferries, wildlife refuges, nature preserves, museums,

lighthouses and historic sites. Our two national seashores, Cape Hatteras and Cape Lookout, are included in our north to south journey. Detailed maps keep us oriented to roads and suggested destinations, and URLs embedded in the text guide the reader to further details and current operating schedules. Our diverse islands, sounds and communities are richly celebrated, and I especially appreciate coverage of our coastal habitats and wildlife.

Morris, who works as a writer and journalist, has included many of his short feature articles that add richness, humor, and a personal perspective to each chapter. These articles allow us to slow down and think more deeply about topics like "The Shape of Islands", "Sea Turtles Sandy Crawl Home," and "A Slice of Island Life."

Written as the 4th edition of North Carolina Beaches, this "new guide" updates all we need to know about the rapidly developing coastal area of our state. An essential "keep in the car" resource for those who frequently visit the North Carolina coast, this guide is also an excellent addition to public library collections and to academic libraries that

offer outdoor adventure collections.

From the moment they open this book, readers are magically transported to sand between their toes and sun on their shoulders. From Knott's Island in the north to Bird Island in the south, the long North Carolina coast offers endless exploration for us all.

*Dianne Ford*  
*Elon University*

---



North Carolina  
Library Association