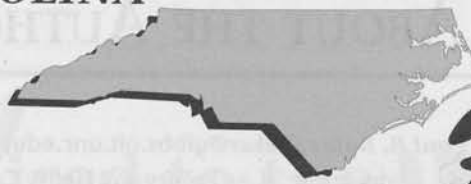


# NORTH CAROLINA



# Books

Dorothy Hodder, Compiler

**R**esidents who have lived in Winston-Salem a number of years and think they possess a fair amount of local historical knowledge may find their knowledge expanded after reading Tursi's book. He provides a wealth of uncommon information about the vibrant history of Forsyth County and Winston-Salem. Although little is known of the Indians that inhabited this region in the 1700s, the early settlers, especially the Moravians, carefully documented their everyday life. The author has used these resources to provide the reader with unique insights. The pictures are plentiful and depict a way of life we may not have seen before.

Frank V. Tursi.  
**Winston-Salem:  
A History.**

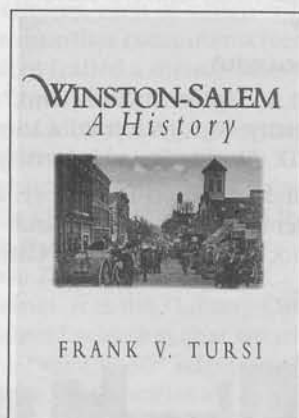
Winston-Salem, N.C.: John F. Blair, Publisher,  
1994. xviii, 310 pp. \$34.95. ISBN 0-89587-115-7.

From the first page, Tursi introduces a pictorial display of early Salem and Winston-Salem that encourages any reader to investigate what lies behind the town's facade. He paints a compelling portrait of the Moravians, a hard-working people who were determined to make a permanent place for themselves in the wilderness. Their primary wish, as stated by Bishop Spangenberg, was to "live together as brethren, without interfering with others and without being disturbed by them." This philosophy allowed them to conquer many obstacles, stay neutral in war times, and build a flourishing community. They eventually sold acreage one mile north of Salem which ultimately became Winston-Salem, hastening Salem's demise as Winston-Salem flourished with a new crop called tobacco.

Although it was initially the Moravians who introduced tobacco to the region, R. J. Reynolds was the visionary who processed and marketed "King Tobacco," which allowed Winston-Salem to prosper for many years. Reynolds joined forces with Hanes, Grey, and Fries, other industrialists representing textiles and banking, and beginning in the 1880s, this group influenced all aspects of life in Winston-Salem for nearly one hundred years. While today their influence still is felt because of past contributions of land, buildings, and trusts, Winston-Salem is a city seeking to become more diverse and attract different types of industry to the community.

The author supplies summaries at the end of each section of the book, with dates to remember and people to know. The book provides a quality bibliography and an adequate index. This publication would be a worthy addition to any collection, but especially to academic or public libraries interested in or possessing a local history collection.

— Dan Swartout  
Wayne County Public Library



**F**rom the first words of the introduction to this little book of mountain folklore, "There is something that loves the night," the reader is caught up in the imagery of ghosts, beginning with the Cherokee belief that creatures came out at night to bring home lost children and protect their people from their enemies, like the horned snake with a flashing crystal in its head. Ambrose Bierce's quote, "Ghost: the outward and visible sign of an inward fear," invokes the idea that man's darkest and most secret yearnings are manifested in the spirits of the night.

Some of the short tales here are of the foreboding and eerie type, while others are full of eccentricity and fun. Some are stories brought down through family histories or found in old newspaper accounts. The authors were allowed access to the historical files of Western Carolina University and had the support of the North Carolina Arts Council. They say they also found out how many people still love to tell a good tale!

At first look, this volume seems to give short shrift to the thirty-seven vignettes packed into its pages. Upon reading, however, the imagination takes over and rich portraits emerge, somehow larger than life, of everyday people overtaken by life's unexpected dramas. Entertaining for all age groups, this volume could easily be adapted for television, enlarging upon the irony, curiosity, and life force so abundant in each story.

— Judy Stoddard  
Sampson County Public Library

Gary Carden and Nina Anderson.

***Belled Buzzards, Hucksters  
& Grieving Specters.***

Asheboro, N.C.: Down Home Press, 1994. 208 pp.  
Paper, \$13.95. ISBN 1-878086-28-6.

**D**avid S. Cecelski, historian and research fellow at the Institute for Southern Studies in Durham, North Carolina, happened upon the opportunity to research and write a book when he attended a homecoming for a high school alumni association in Hyde County, North Carolina in 1983. His book, *Along Freedom Road: Hyde County, North Carolina and the Fate of Black Schools in the South*, details the events and circumstances surrounding the

boycott of Hyde County schools in 1968 and 1969. The black citizens of Hyde County refused to send their children to school for an entire year to protest the Board of Education's decision to close two historically black schools in order to comply with a Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) desegregation plan that failed to incorporate the concerns of the black community. The closing of the black schools meant a loss of educational heritage as well as a loss of community control. With the support of several prominent civil rights leaders and organizations, they marched on Raleigh, staged sit-ins and demonstrations, and persevered in spite of extreme odds. Throughout the year, the black citizens and their children remained focused, though there was obvious retaliation by the local school board, local white merchants, law enforcement officers, and the Ku Klux Klan.

Cecelski credits his book with being one of the few that explores the far-reaching consequences of the closing of black schools in the South in an effort to achieve desegregation. He also refers to his book as the chronicle of an important untold moment in civil rights history and recognizes that many similar stories are waiting and unrecorded. Statistical data relative to the impact of school desegregation on black educational leadership are provided.

The book, which includes notes and a bibliography, is well documented and indexed. It should prove valuable to coastal North Carolina history and to African American historical collections in academic and public libraries.

— Waltrene M. Canada  
Bluford Library, North Carolina A & T State University

David S. Cecelski.

***Along Freedom Road:  
Hyde County, North Carolina,  
and the Fate of Black Schools  
in the South.***

Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press,  
1994. xii, 235 pp. Cloth, \$32.50. ISBN 0-8078-2126-8.  
Paper, \$14.95. ISBN 0-8078-4437-3.



his book is a collection of six "fictions" set at various times in the last forty years with references to places in North Carolina, mostly in the coastal plain where the author grew up. Parker's strength as a writer is clearly his use of language, which is both precise and admirable--and at times very funny. His characters are lovingly drawn, even those who are not particularly lovable. Many, such as the teenagers Walker and Bev in "Cursive," are ripe for (re)institutionalization; most are in some way struggling with the effects of long-ago inflicted wounds and circumstances.

Michael Parker.

***The Geographical Cure:  
Novellas and Stories.***

New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1994. 287 pp.  
\$20.00. ISBN 0-684-19682-4.

The best offering in the collection is the novella, "Golden Hour." Here Parker combines serious issues with the highly amusing observations of three major characters, each describing the events surrounding the breakdown of a funk band bus in front of an isolated technical "college" somewhere between Wilmington and Raleigh. The formal, latinate vocabulary and bearing of Nancy McFadden, Ph.D., co-administrator of the night program with native son Mitchell Register, Ed.D., contrasts markedly with the laid-back Register's frequent reliance on the local vernacular. This difference in temperament and personality reflects a long-standing rivalry, which finally and hilariously explodes when the breakdown delivers to them one Franklin "Cisco" Reed, incorrigible but inconsistent Marxist guitarist

miffed at the band's lead singer. Both "Fancy" and Register are ultimately redeemed by the experience.

Michael Parker's first book was *Hello Down There*, a 1993 *New York Times* Notable Book. *The Geographical Cure* would be a good addition to the North Carolina collections of public and academic libraries.

— Rose Simon

Gramley Library, Salem College



Janette Greenwood's book focuses on the social currents that buffeted the South after the Civil War through the lens of Charlotte's "better classes." Efforts such as Rufus Barringer's organizing of North Carolina's only Civil War peace protest and Louis McAden's founding of NationsBank shaped Charlotte down to the present. The political exploits of Richard Schenck and social observations of J. W. Smith offer two examples of the black "better class" fitting into Charlotte society.

But blacks fit into the community with diminishing success. Despite their emancipation, they were not allowed to invest in post-Civil War industrialization. Black political power under the Republican umbrella disintegrated from fractionalization caused by populism and fusion politics. After a period of cooperation on prohibition and social welfare, racial antagonism increased. Social Darwinism and white supremacy inflamed the enmity. Prominent whites such as Charles Tompkins and Heriot Clarkson cemented Jim Crow and the laws of disenfranchisement firmly in place.

The black response proved ineffectual. The "status" of the black "better class" derived from identification with their white counterparts. This resulted in a lack of support from lower class blacks during the onslaught to black civil rights. The outcome from both black classes became identical: social and political abandonment.

Greenwood's tapestry of social forces and individual anecdotes provides convincing history and compelling story telling. Her epilogue of both races working together during the 1960s' civil rights movement underscores the bitter legacy of a people twice having to regain what should have been theirs all along.

— William Fietzer

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Janette Thomas Greenwood.

***Bittersweet Legacy:  
The Black and White "Better  
Classes" in Charlotte, 1850-1910.***

Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press,  
1994. xiv, 318 pp. \$45.00. ISBN 0-8078-2133-0.





*The Christ-Haunted Landscape: Faith and Doubt in Southern Fiction* is a book about Southern writers, their work, and religion. It delves into the powerful relationship between religion and creativity in Southern fiction.

Author Susan Ketchin is a writer, editor, and musician. She has served as associate editor at Algonquin Books and is fiction editor at *Southern Exposure* magazine. In her introduction, she quotes Flannery O'Connor as saying, "people in the South still conceive of humanity in theological terms. While the South is hardly Christ-centered, it is certainly Christ-haunted." This observation serves as the cornerstone for Ketchin's book.

Ketchin introduces the book by writing about the religious and cultural influences on the writings of twelve contemporary Southern writers. The book is a collection of commentaries, interviews, and selections of fiction from these authors. North Carolina writers include Lee Smith, Reynolds Price, Doris Betts, Clyde Edgerton, Randall Kenan, Harry Crews, and Allan Gurganus. Writers from other Southern states include Larry Brown of Mississippi, Sheila Bosworth of Louisiana, Sandra Hollin Flowers of Georgia, Will Campbell of Tennessee, and Mary Ward Brown of Alabama.

Each short story or excerpt from a novel is followed by an interview with the writer about his or her writing. The interviews were conducted in a variety of informal settings allowing for a relaxed, conversational tone. In several cases, the interviews include glimpses into the writer's life and early religious experiences. Collectively, the interviews mirror a combination of religious faith and doubt.

*The Christ-Haunted Landscape* is a book that can be read on many levels and in different ways. Each selection or interview can be read alone or in combination with other sections.

Taken as a whole, Ketchin captures a rare view into the contemporary world of a current generation of notable Southern writers. Selected references are included for further reading.

Ketchin has succeeded in drawing a profound and fascinating portrait of the relationship of fiction and religion in the modern South through its writers and their words. This book will be of great interest to anyone who is interested in the South and Southern writers. Recommended for academic, public, special, and high school libraries.

— Joan Sherif  
Northwestern Regional Library

Susan Ketchin, ed.

***The Christ-Haunted Landscape:  
Faith and Doubt  
in Southern Fiction.***

Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 1994.  
408 pp. Cloth, \$40.00. ISBN 0-87805-669-6.  
Paper, \$16.95. ISBN 0-87805-670-X.

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The "good ol' days," when education was of prime importance and students worked very hard to achieve academic success and win that all-important championship, when teachers and the community taught civic pride and important lessons that carried through life, is the world recreated in *Unfinished Heaven*. Betsy Holloway fondly recalls the thriving and bustling activity of a growing Durham, North Carolina, from the beginning of the century through 1954. This book traces the histories of Carr Junior High and Durham High School and the teachers, students, and events that made them famous. Most of the emphasis is on Durham High, which was considered the finest high school in the state. *Unfinished Heaven* is illustrated with numerous vintage postcards, pictures, and excerpts from the school's nationally recognized newspaper.

Betsy Holloway.

***Unfinished Heaven:  
Durham, North Carolina,  
A Story of Two Schools***

Orlando, Florida: Persimmon Press,  
1994. x, 324 pp. \$23.95. ISBN 0-9616500-1-X.

Betsy Holloway is a native of Durham, North Carolina, and is currently living in Orlando, Florida. She attended school in Durham and graduated from Duke University with a major in English. Her first book taking readers on a stroll through history was *Heaven For Beginners*, published in 1986. *Unfinished Heaven* is recommended for those interested in the history of Durham.

— Lana Taylor  
Randall Library, UNCW



In the chronicles of the War Between the States, irony and contradiction make frequent appearances. Military men who had learned their craft together and swore oaths of loyalty and friendship found themselves staring at one another over the muzzles of cannon.

John Newland Maffitt was one such man. From 1842 to 1885 he worked for the U.S. Coast Survey, mapping, plotting, and taking soundings in the coastal waters from Maine to Florida, intimately gaining the exact knowledge he would soon need to outwit the superior numbers of the Union blockade. A slave owner himself, he spent his final tour of duty with the U.S. Navy in suppression of the slave trade. As Southern states began to secede, rather than deserting to the Confederate cause, he sailed his ship north to New York, having refit at his own expense. His loyalty was repaid by a Federal bureaucracy that refused to reimburse him. He then resigned his commission and embarked on a legendary career with the Confederate navy.

Drawing on the John Newland Maffitt papers in the Southern Historical Collection at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Royce Shingleton traces Maffitt's life and career from his beginnings near Fayetteville, North Carolina, through his U.S. Naval service, his heroic and danger-laden exploits as one of the most successful Confederate commerce raiders while commanding the *C.S.S. Florida*, and later as a dedicated blockade runner, to his postwar retirement near Wilmington, North Carolina.

The author, professor of history at Darton College in Albany, Georgia, has previously written several books of regional interest, including *Rural Life in the Old South* (1971), *John Taylor Wood: Sea Ghost of the Confederacy* (1979), and *Richard Peters: Champion of the New South* (1985).

This is a welcome addition to the naval literature of the Civil War. An appendix details the captures by Maffitt during the *C.S.S. Florida's* first cruise. Also included are a bibliographic note, forty-three pages of chapter-by-chapter notes, eleven pages of halftone illustrations, and an endpaper map. While aimed at an academic audience, it should find a home in the many public libraries where interest in Civil War history is at an all-time high.

— Jeffrey Cannell  
Wayne County Public Library

Royce Shingleton.

***High Seas Confederate:  
The Life and Times of  
John Newland Maffitt.***

Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina Press,  
1994. xii, 160 pp. \$27.95. ISBN 0-87249-986-3.

**P**aul Green (1894-1981) lived an extraordinarily busy and productive life. Fortunately for the scholar interested in his literary accomplishments, the historian studying the social and political movements of his day, or the general reader simply wanting to know more about the creator of *The Lost Colony* drama, Green was also a letter writer. At his death, his files contained copies of nearly ten thousand letters to friends, family members, fellow writers, public officials, literary agents, and business associates.

Such a rich epistolary lode surely gave long pause to editor Laurence G. Avery, chairman of the Department of English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the editor responsible for selecting the 329 letters published in *A Southern Life*.

The earliest letters show a bright young Harnett County, North Carolina, farmboy whose education at the nearby state university at Chapel Hill was interrupted by World War I military service. The horrors of warfront France left a lifelong impression on Green, but in his letters home he valiantly sought not to alarm those left behind. Such a strong sense of responsibility for family and friends is a constant theme in his correspondence.

Many letters, of course, pertain to Green's remarkable literary career, one marked by the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1937; fifteen outdoor historic "symphonic" dramas; production of his plays on Broadway; and Hollywood screenwriting. Others document Green's passionate devotion to social and political causes, including civil rights for black Americans, abolition of capital punishment, and world peace.

Supplementing the letters with concise, informative footnotes, editor Avery offers in *A Southern Life* an intimate look at a remarkable man who through both his literary endeavors and personal life sought to inspire his fellow citizens to better the human condition.

— Robert G. Anthony, Jr.  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Paul Green.  
***A Southern Life:  
Letters of Paul Green, 1916-1981.***

Edited by Laurence G. Avery. Chapel Hill, N.C.:  
University of North Carolina Press, 1994. xlix, 735 pp.  
\$49.95. ISBN 0-8078-2105-5.

**M**r. Taft is in the White House, aeroplanes are in the news, the local doctor has bought himself an automobile, and there is talk of giving women the vote. For Medford Henry McGee, the young narrator of Donald Davis's first novel, the way of life that his family has known for generations is fast disappearing, and "the real modern world is just about here now." Written as the Sunday afternoon journal entries of the youngest member of the McGee family, the book depicts life in an Appalachian community from January, 1910, until mid-1913. Medford is only ten years old when his father sets him the task of "riting out my life." At first Med fills his journal with the everyday of farm life, the antics of his older siblings, stories from the newspaper, and things that happen in school. Eventually, when tragedy strikes, that also is detailed within the context of Med's growing awareness. The McGee family, headed by a father who values education and is interested in politics and a mother who recognizes that "you just have to keep on living" even when the sadness of life is overwhelming, is frequently seen in contrast with the Mayfields, a family with an abusive father and troubled children.

Donald Davis.  
***Thirteen Miles from Suncrest.***

Little Rock, Ark.: August House, 1994. 256 pp. \$19.95.  
ISBN 0-87483-379-5.

Readers familiar with Davis's collections of original and traditional stories, *Listening for the Crack of Dawn* and *Barking at a Fox-Fur Coat*, will recognize the author's wry humor and perfect timing. In *Thirteen Miles from Suncrest*, Davis provides a convincing picture of the hardships and joys of rural life in the early 1900s that is both moving and unsentimental. This book is appropriate for any library serving general readers.

— Ann B. Sullivan  
Greenville, N.C.





here's an old country saying that "every time an old man and his memories die, it's like a tree falling in the forest." In this book Kemp Battle Nye has kept the memories alive — memories of the days when Teddy Roosevelt was in Washington; when in the mountains, up where North Carolina touches Virginia, a writer named Taddick came looking for what the city couldn't supply.

Kemp Battle Nye.  
**Ripshin.**

Carrboro, N.C.: Signal Books, 1994. 239 pp.  
Paper, \$12.00. ISBN 0-930095-30-8.

This is a novel that is so full of truth that it's almost not a novel at all but a history. Nye's central character of Old Doc is based on the famous mountain doctor Burgess Cox Waddell, and Taddick is really Sherwood Anderson, who came to the mountains and found a friend in Doc Waddell when Nye was a boy of twelve.

The characters worm their way into the reader's affections in this nonstereotyped view of mountain life. The underlying theme is the harsh exploitation of mountain folk by the logging interests, echoing the exploitation of the Scottish Land Clearances which a century or more before had brought many of these mountain people's ancestors to North Carolina in the first place. Incident follows incident, and tension builds until it comes to a horrific climax at Ripshin Creek.

This is a powerful book which draws the reader into the whirlpool of the characters' lives. Nye has written the book Sherwood Anderson wanted to write about the mountains.

— Grace Ellen McCrann  
NCCU SLIS student

## Other Publications of Interest

All libraries with fiction collections surely will already have purchased two fine novels released earlier this year: Doris Betts's **Souls Raised From the Dead**, a novel about a family living through the death of a child; and Margaret Maron's **Shooting at Loons**, the third adventure of Judge Deborah Knott, in which she investigates competing coastal interests leading to murder on Harkers Island. Another to be aware of is **Inagehi**, Jack Cady's hypnotically told story of a young part-Cherokee woman searching for the reason for her father's mysterious death on a mountain near Cherokee, North Carolina. (1994; Broken Moon Press, PO Box 24585, Seattle, WA, 98124-0585; 258 pp.; paper, \$13.95; ISBN 0-913089-50-8.) Deborah Smith's **Silk and Stone** is a romantic saga set in the wealthy mountain resort of Pandora, North Carolina. (1994; Bantam Books, 1540 Broadway, New York, NY 10036; 518 pp.; paper, \$5.99; ISBN 0-553-29689-2.)

Poetry collections will want Fred Chappell's **Plow Naked: Selected Writings on Poetry**, with essays on a wide variety of poetical issues and poets, including Randall Jarrell and Octavio Paz. (1993; The University of Michigan Press, PO Box 1104, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1104; 147 pp.; paper, \$13.95; ISBN 0-472-06542-4.) All North Carolina literature collections should include **The Language They Speak is Things to Eat: Poems by Fifteen Contemporary North Carolina Poets**, edited by Michael McFee (1994; University of North Carolina Press, PO Box 2288; Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2288; 268 pp.; cloth, \$24.95; ISBN 0-8078-2172-1; paper, \$12.95; ISBN 0-8078-4483-7), and Reynolds Price's account of his ordeal with cancer, **A Whole New Life: An Illness and a Healing**. (1994; Atheneum, 866 Third Ave, New York, NY 10022; 213 pp.; \$20.00; ISBN 0-689-12197-0.)

Students of Confederate Naval history will be interested in Robert G. Elliott's well-researched story **Ironclad of the Roanoke: Gilbert Elliott's Albemarle**. Included is the building of the Confederate vessel, as well as her service during the war. Forty-two photographs, maps, and line drawings enhance the text. Recommended for Eastern North Carolina and Civil War collections. (1994; White Mane Publishing Company, 63 West Burd St., PO Box 152, Shippensburg, PA 17257; 388 pp.; \$29.95; ISBN 0-942597-63-X.)

A profusely illustrated history of attempts to save the lives of victims shipwrecked off the coast of North Carolina, the Graveyard of the Atlantic, is Joe A. Mobley's **Ship Ashore! The U.S. Lifesavers of Coastal North Carolina**. (1994; Historical Publications Section, Division of Archives and History, 109 E. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27601-2807; xii, 185 pp.; paper, \$10.00, plus \$2.00 postage and handling; ISBN 0-86526-260-8.)

Libraries serving the sportsman will be happy to see **Freshwater Fishes of the Carolinas, Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware**, by Fred C. Rohde, Rudolf G. Arndt, David G. Lindquist, and James F. Parnell. The book identifies some 260 species, with information on catching and maintaining them in captivity. It includes range maps and 200 color photographs. (1994: University of North Carolina Press, PO Box 2288; Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2288; 222 pp.; \$29.95; ISBN 0-8078-2130-6.) Also for those fishermen interested in finding and catching the most popular salt water game fish, there is Bob Newman's **Inshore Fishing the Carolinas' Coasts**. (1994; Down Home Press, PO Box 4126, Asheboro, NC 27204; 151 pp.; paper, \$13.95; ISBN 1-878086-27-8.) G. Forest writes about rock climbing, motorcycling, kayaking, rafting, fly-fishing, hiking, hot-air ballooning, caving, hang gliding, bungee jumping, cross-country skiing, horseback riding, ORVing, and so on, with advice about how and where the reader may enjoy the same, in **Great Adventures in the Southern Appalachians**. (1994; John F. Blair, 1406 Plaza Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27103; 235 pp.; paper \$12.95; ISBN 0-89587-113-0.) And Lori Finley continues her informative series on mountain biking the Appalachians with **Mountain Biking the Appalachians: Northwest North Carolina / Southwest Virginia**. (1994; John F. Blair, 1406 Plaza Drive, Winston-Salem, NC 27103; 191 pp.; paper \$9.95; ISBN 0-89587-114-9.)

Several favorites newly released in paperback: **Raised in Clay: The Southern Pottery Tradition**, by Nancy Sweezy, first published in 1984, is available in paperback with a new afterword by the author, commenting on recent changes in the potting scene. (1994; University of North Carolina Press, PO Box 2288; Chapel Hill, NC 27515-2288; 284 pp.; paper, \$24.95; ISBN 0-8078-4481-0.)

Finally, a source of book reviews and news, and an opportunity for would-be book reviewers and columnists, is **Southern Book Trade**, a monthly publication for book professionals in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Virginia. It began publication in September 1994, and is distributed free of charge to libraries and bookstores. Write to Jack Fryar, **Southern Book Trade**, 4137 Princess Place Drive, Wilmington, NC 28405, to contribute or request a subscription.

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