



North Carolina: Change and Tradition in a Southern State

By William A. Link

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In this long-awaited survey history, William Link examines the fascinating history of North Carolina through the lens of strong but seemingly contradictory historical patterns: powerful forces of traditionalism punctuated by hierarchies of class, race relations, and gender that seemingly clashed, especially during the last century, with potent forces of modernization and a “progressive” element that welcomed, even embraced, change. The result answers meaningful questions that all Tar Heels ask about the history and the future of the unique and quickly growing state they call home.

Taking the North Carolina story from moments before first contact all the way to the elections of 2008, this book provides a great new resource for all college-level instructors and students of North Carolina history.

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Editorial Review

Review

"We badly need a scholarly history of North Carolina. William Link's volume is sound in conception, research, and analysis. It is especially penetrating on the related subjects of slavery and race, but also deals well with politics and social history more broadly."

—Harry Watson, UNC-Chapel Hill

"Bill Link has written a valuable contribution for college-level classes in North Carolina history. His well-written text is balanced in terms of chronology and topic selection. North Carolina: Change and Tradition in a Southern State is a significant and welcome addition to current North Carolina history texts."

—L. Scott Philyaw, Western Carolina University

About the Author

William A. Link, was born in Evanston, Illinois, and grew up in Princeton, New Jersey, where he attended local public schools. Graduating from Davidson College in 1976, he received the Ph.D. in history from the University of Virginia in 1981.

For the next twenty-three years, he taught at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro; the courses he taught included North Carolina History, the history of the American South, twentieth-century American history.

Between 1995 and 1998, he served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and between 1998 and 2004 as head of the UNCG History Department. In 2004, he moved to the University of Florida to occupy the Richard J. Milbauer chair in history, replacing longtime chairholder Bertram Wyatt-Brown. He currently teaches courses in southern history at Florida, and supervises or co-supervise seven doctoral students.

Link's publications include five books about various topics in the history of the 19th and 20th century south. He lives in Gainesville, Florida with his wife, Susannah, daughter Josie, four cats, and one border collie.

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