

## **An Independent People, North Carolina 1770-1820** <sup>[1]</sup>

### **An Independent People: North Carolina 1770-1820**

By Elizabeth A. Fenn, Peter H. Wood, Harry L. Watson, Thomas H. Clayton, Sydney Nathans, Thomas C. Parramore, and Jean B. Anderson; Maps by Mark Anderson Moore. Edited by Joe A. Mobley. From *The Way We Lived in North Carolina*, 2003. Published by the North Carolina Office of Research and History in association with the University of North Carolina Press. Republished in NCpedia by permission.

**See also:** Part I: Natives and Newcomers, North Carolina before 1770; Part II: An Independent People, North Carolina, 1770-1820; Part III: Close to the Land, North Carolina, 1820-1870; Part IV: The Quest for Progress, North Carolina 1920-2001

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#### **Part II: An Independent People: North Carolina 1770-1820**

When the shooting of the American Revolution died away, North Carolinians continued to work out the meaning of independence in the fabric of their daily lives. An Independent People describes how these efforts toward independence left their marks on public and private life.

Early republican North Carolina was no egalitarian utopia. Most African Americans were slaves, Indians were more threatened than before the war, and all women remained subordinate to men. In the years after the Revolution, however, free North Carolinians wrote their first constitution, opened the first state university, and transformed their churches in a stirring revival of religion.

By 1820, North Carolinians were facing the insistent reality that one cycle of adjustment would not be enough. The demands of independence would call for repeated bursts of wrenching transformations.

#### **Chapter Contents:**

First European Settlers: Overview  
The Forest, the Indians, and the Yeoman Family  
Planters and Slaves  
Towns in a Rural Society  
The Culture of the Republic

**Keep reading** >> **Part II: First European Settlers: Overview**  <sup>[2]</sup>

#### **References:**

Fenn, Elizabeth Anne, and Joe A. Mobley. 2003. *The way we lived in North Carolina* Chapel Hill, NC [u.a.]: Published in association with the Office of Archives and History, North Carolina Dept. of Cultural Resources, by the University of North Carolina Press.

#### **Subjects:**

[Social Conditions](#) <sup>[3]</sup>

[Social History](#) <sup>[4]</sup>

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[The Way We Lived in North Carolina, NC Office of Archives and History and UNC Press](#)<sup>[6]</sup>

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