

4-10-2015

Eastern Band Cherokee Women: Cultural Persistence in Their Letters and Speeches

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Recommended Citation

Jordan, Carol Walker (2015) "Eastern Band Cherokee Women: Cultural Persistence in Their Letters and Speeches," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 63 : Iss. 2 , Article 10.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol63/iss2/10>

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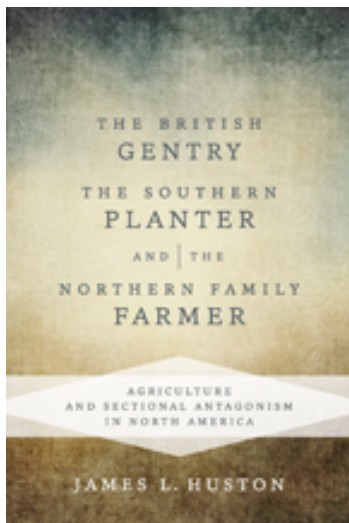
intelligence officers asked Sullivan to photograph a Soviet naval vessel *Aurora* if he could do so without risk; he narrowly escaped serious repercussions when his photographic foray was observed by Soviet officials.

A talented high school athlete and student, Sullivan had dreams of going to college on a basketball scholarship and becoming a doctor. It was an infection and freak accident at the age of seventeen that forced him to give up those dreams and turn his love of the sports into a new career. Despite the accidental calling, Sullivan thrived as a sportscaster and received numerous awards and accolades for his achievements, including eight Kentucky Sportscaster of the Year awards. Sadly, Sullivan's life and career were cut short by throat cancer; he was just forty-two when he died in 1967.

This book is recommended for high school and public libraries and for academic libraries with journalism programs.

Karen J. Cook
State Library of Louisiana

The British Gentry, the Southern Planter and the Northern Family Farmer: Agriculture and Sectional Antagonism in North America James L. Huston. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2015. ISBN 9780807159187. 376 p. \$47.50



Why does a reader select a book that contains 345 pages, 105 of them featuring data, charts, and lists, a section of Notes, a Bibliography and an Index? Usually my selection as a reader has a personal dimension to it—something emotional springs out at me. And often my choice is based upon the hope of finding primary source materials related to the topic that might provide more clues for research purposes.

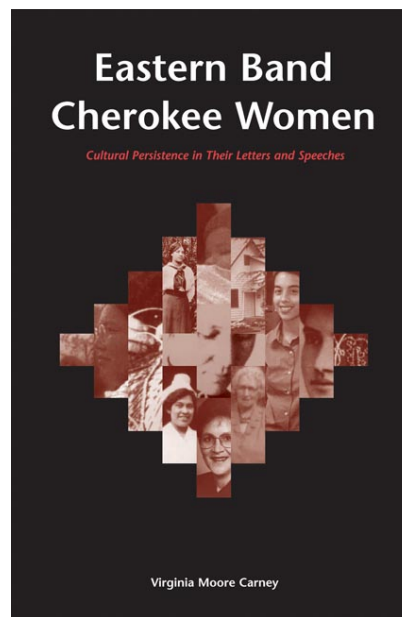
James Huston's newest book on US history captured my attention due to the title, "The British Gentry The Southern Planter and the Northern Family Farmer". I hold a fascination with plantations in the South. Additionally I hoped to learn more about the British Gentry and I knew nothing of the Northern Family Farmer. Flipping through the book, I saw some hot topics-- land ownership, Civil War causes and complications, slavery, tenancy, the rise and fall of political affiliations—and all seemed to be areas Huston explores in his research.

To a librarian or university faculty member, student or graduate student, I recommend Huston's research. I found an interview Huston provided and have given the link below for "Author's Corner" which features Huston providing some insights into his research and conclusions from the book.

See the Interview in the "Author's Corner" below
<http://www.philipvickersfithian.com/2015/05/the-authors-corner-with-james-l-huston.html>

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Eastern Band Cherokee Women: Cultural Persistence in Their Letters and Speeches Virginia Moore Carney. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2015. ISBN 1572333324. \$34.95.



Virginia Moore Carney begins her fascinating research by describing a letter she read "...written by a Cherokee school girl in 1838". Carney explains that her family members told stories of Cherokee women who held strong desires to tell about their lives and family history. Without the means to write in traditional ways in the 19th century, those women jotted notes on wallpaper, kept diaries, and told stories to share what they knew of their experiences.

Carney explains that it seemed to her that so much was missing in the way of uncovering, proving and explaining the lives of Cherokee women that she began to seek what she described as “tracing absences”. Carney says, “this study is the result of my ‘tracing absences’ in the lives of Eastern Band Cherokee females in the written history of the United States and attempting to fill in some of the blanks for the record”(p. Preface)

“The completed blanks in this case, are the words of Cherokee women, long neglected and silenced on the pages of history—words that can teach us much about the joys and sorrows of being an Eastern Band Cherokee woman during the past two hundred years.” (p. Preface)

Providing primary documents and resources to intellectual communities that tell the stories Cherokee women wanted to tell are Carney’s mission in this collection of interviews, stories, letters, and personal biographies. She documents the sources and those who spoke and wrote them. Why? She explained “.... so that Cherokee men and women might gain insights into their past as their women ancestors experienced them”. (p. Preface). She wanted those materials she uncovered to be verified as true and valid.

Carney highlighted for the reader many Cherokee girls and women whom she saw as significant contributors to literature, spoken history, political and cultural development during the 1800s and 1900s. Some of these women were/are Catharine Brown (p.48), Nancy Reece (p. 58), Lottie Smith (p. 86), Arizona Swayney (p. 101) Louisiana (Lula) Owl, (p. 107), Maggie Wachacha (p. 129), Edna Chekelelee (p. 130), Shana Bushyhead (p. 131), Marie Junaluska (p. 131), Lynne Harlan (p. 141), and Joyce Conseen Dugan (p. 153).

As readers, we can find a wealth of resources in the Appendix A and B, in the Notes, in Works Cited and in the Index, p. 175 to 227. Carney’s book is recommended to school and university libraries, museums, and cultural centers with particular emphasis on the Cherokee nation’s political and sociological issues, women’s history, and family and educational history of Native Americans.

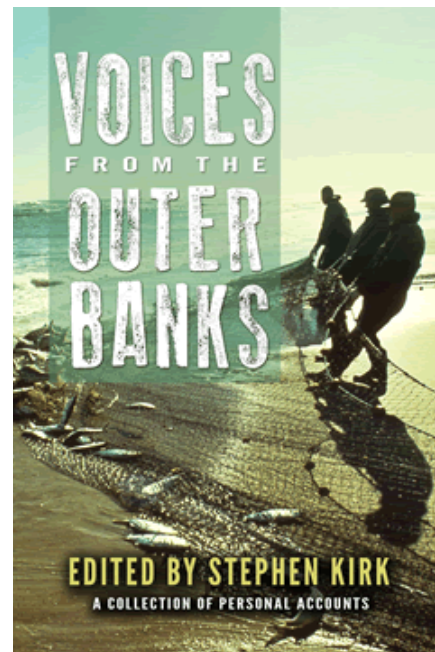
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Voices from the Outer Banks, A Collection of Personal Accounts. Edited by Stephen Kirk. Winston-Salem, NC: John F. Blair Publisher, 2015. ISBN 978-0-89587-644-7. 256 p. \$12.95

Why is a small strip of land off the coast of North Carolina, 391 square miles, with a “year round population of 40,000” residents (Introduction p.1) deserving of a serious research study by Stephen Kirk?

An easy answer once we learn that the in season population “swells to 300,000 and the yearly estimates of beach-goers can rise to 7 million visitors per year... Is it sun, sand, and sea?” (p.1) Stephen Kirk suggests it is the history and

traditions that make the Outer Banks so attractive. He provides fascinating historical reviews and gives us documentary voices from the past spanning the years from July of 1854 to the present day.



Kirk introduces this collection of research and memories by tempting the reader with a fine historical introduction to each of the 14 chapters. He continues by illuminating each historical account with the personal stories he uncovered on the chapter topic.

“Blackbeard and Friends”, “Feral Pony-Sized Horses”, “The Lighthouses”, “The Brothers from Ohio”, “World War Two” and “The National Seashores” quickly became my favorite chapters. Black and white historical photographs, a well-documented map of the North Carolina coastline with each island or significant place identified, followed by Acknowledgements, Notes, General Reading and an Index (p. 140 -254) combine to offer a rich trove for any Outer Banks researcher.

An excellent resource for all libraries—school, college, university and special libraries, Stephen Kirk’s book is also a recommended summer read for anyone visiting the Outer Banks! Take it in your beach bag!

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