Native American History in North Carolina

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Years covered by this guide: 1830-2007

Native American history in North Carolina predates that of any group, and since the earliest settlement of Europeans, the two groups have been inextricably linked. As North Carolina has evolved, so has the relationship between Native Americans and the government of the state. This study guide records this ever changing relationship from political adversaries, to the Trail of Tears, to their current position as active citizens of North Carolina. The featured documents showcase Native Americans' changing legal rights, as well as records their health and culture over time. This study guide is designed to give a comprehensive picture of the lives of Native Americans in North Carolina.

- Davis, James. *Collection of all the Public Acts of Assembly, of the Province of North Carolina, Now in Force and Use: Together with all the Titles of all Such Laws as are Obsolete, Expir'd, Repeal'd: and also an Exact Table of the Titles of the Acts in Force*, New Bern, NC: James Davis, 1751-1752.
  
  This set of documents includes laws passed by the colonial government, designed to regulate the interaction between the Anglo-American colonists and native populations. The laws deal with issues such as land ownership and regulation of commerce. The laws passed showcase the nature of the relationship between the early North Carolinian government and the Native American tribes of the region.

  - **Categories:** This set of documents includes laws passed by the colonial government, designed to regulate the interaction between the Anglo-American colonists and native populations. The laws deal with issues such as land ownership and regulation of commerce. The laws passed showcase the nature of the relationship between the early North Carolinian government and the Native American tribes of the region.
  - **Significant Dates:** 1751, 1752
  - **Alternate Names:** Laws, etc.

- Davis, James. *Complete Revival of all the Acts of Assembly, of the Province of North Carolina, Now in Force and Use: Together with the Titles of all Such Laws as are Obsolete, Expired, or Repealed: with Marginal Notes and References, and an Exact Table to the Whole*, New Bern, NC: James Davis, Printer for the Honourable the House of Assembly, 1773.
  
  This document helps to set up the legal relationship between the government of North Carolina and the Native American tribes in the state. The laws regulate all aspects of life, including trade regulations, land demarcations, and laws designed to protect Native Americans and Europeans from one another.

This document includes the laws that were passed by the General Assembly of North Carolina to regulate land disputes between Native Americans and Anglo-Americans and the issues that arose from them.

- **Categories:** Late 18th Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Land and Artifact Ownership, Meherrin Nation, Tuscarora, Economics, Cherokee
- **Alternate Names:** Laws, etc. (Compiled Statutes: 1773)


This set of documents includes summaries of Native American involvement with the military. These mentions include both military engagements against Native Americans, as well as their later inclusion in military units in North Carolina.

- **Categories:** Early 19th Century, Late 19th Century, Early 20th Century, Warfare, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Rights of Tribes, Land and Artifact Ownership, Military Action, Cherokee
- **Significant Dates:** 1878, 1921-1922, 1923-1924, 1938-1940
- **Alternate Names:** Biennial Report of the Adjutant General of North Carolina


This set of documents contains the laws that were passed by the General Assembly of North Carolina regarding Native Americans. These laws showcase the changing relationship of the government and citizens of North Carolina with the native tribes living in the state, as well as illustrate famous events, such as the Trail of Tears.

- **Categories:** Antebellum Era, Civil War, Late 19th Century, Early 20th Century, WWI Era, Economics, Rights of Tribes, Education, Public Institutions and Services, Citizenship, History, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Reservations, Removal, Military Action, Crime and Violence, Propaganda, Land and Artifact Ownership, Warfare, Culture and Customs, Religion, Health, Croatan, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Research and Preservation
- **Significant Dates:** 1827, 1828, 1829,1831-1832, 1832-1833, 1833-1834, 1835, 1835-1839, 1840-1841, 1842-1843, 1844-1845, 1846-1847, 1848-1849, 1850-1851, 1852 (v.1 and 2), 1854-1855, 1856-1857, 1858-1859, 1862-1863, 1864-1866, 1868-1869, 1871-1872, 1872-1873, 1874-1875, 1885, 1893, 1895, 1897,
Battle, William H. *Digest of all the Reported Cases, both in Law and Equity, Determined in the Courts of North Carolina from the Earliest Period to the Present Year, Together with a Table of the Names of the Cases.* Raleigh, NC: Nichols, Gorman, & Neathery, Printers (1866), 1866-1874.

This set of documents gives summaries of legal episodes in which Native Americans were involved. The narrative reveals contemporary racial judgments and understandings.

- **Categories:** Late 19th Century, Legal, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Land and Artifact Ownership, Race, Religion, Cherokee, Tuscarora, Rights of Tribes
- **Significant Dates:** 1866 (vols. 1, 2, and 3)
- **Alternate Names:** Battle’s Digest


This document gives outlines of the historical development of the state of North Carolina, including the place of Native Americans in its progress.

- **Categories:** Late 19th Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Choctaw, Chickasaw, History, Cherokee, Culture and Customs, Economics
- **Alternate Names:** Handbook of North Carolina


This document gives an overview of a legal dispute. Included in the text of the document are contemporary ideas about Native Americans and their role in society.

- **Categories:** Late 19th Century, Race, Violence, Legal


This set of documents gives an overview of the history of North Carolina, as well as the archaeological and preservation work being done within the state. This overview includes the role that Native Americans have played in North Carolinian history.
- **Categories:** Early 20th Century, Great Depression Era, WWI Era, WWII Era, Late 20th Century, History, Rights of Tribes, Religion, Culture and Customs, Public Institutions and Services, Education, Tuscarora, Removal, Reservations, Economics, Cherokee, Military Action, Warfare, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Research and Preservation, Land and Artifact Ownership, Catawba, Lumbee, Muskogean


- **Alternate Names:** Report of the Historical Commission

  This set of documents records statistics on the health of North Carolinians through the years, broken down by race.

  - **Categories:** Early 20th Century, Great Depression Era, WWI Era, WWII Era, Late 20th Century, Race, Health, Morality, Gender, Economics, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
  - **Alternate Names:** Biennial Report of the Bureau of Vital Statistics of the North Carolina State Board of Health

  This set of documents includes an overview of the prison population in North Carolina over the years, with the statistics broken down by race.

  - **Categories:** Early 20th Century, Great Depression Era, WWII Era, Public Institutions and Services, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
  - **Significant Dates:** 1929-1930, 1932-1934, 1935-1936, 1939-1940, 1941-1942

  This set of documents includes the reports of the North Carolina Eugenics Board, and contains statistics on who was sterilized over the years, broken down by race.

  - **Categories:** Early 20th Century, Late 20th Century, Eugenics, Health, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Health
This document is an overview of the activities and services offered to tourists, including the cultural demonstrations offered by Native Americans.
- **Categories:** Early 20th Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Reservations, Cherokee, Economics, Propaganda, Culture and Customs
- **Significant Dates:** Vol. 1 No. 1, Vol. 1 No. 4

This document is a historical overview of the state of North Carolina, as well as a summary of the contemporary preservation efforts. Included in the narrative are discussions of the role that Native Americans have played since the beginning of North Carolina’s history.
- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Cherokee, Croatan, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Research and Preservation, Tuscarora, Warfare, Culture and Customs, History, Religion, LumbeeS, Muskogeans, Economics
- **Alternate Names:** Historic North Carolina

This document gives an overview of the health of Native Americans living in North Carolina in the second half of the twentieth century. Special attention is paid to birth and mortality rates and the factors that influence them.
- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
- **Alternate Names:** Health Status of American Indians in North Carolina

This document is an updated and expanded version of the earlier Native American health report. In addition to a more in-depth analysis of birth and death rates, more attention is paid to the overall health of Native Americans in North Carolina throughout life.
- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Citizenship, Race

This document gives an overview of the history of Native Americans in North Carolina,
both before and after European contact. It also gives a summary of the contemporary situation of Native Americans in the latter part of the twentieth century.

- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, History, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Culture and Customs, Catawba, Cherokee, Warfare, Military Action, Removal, Rights of Tribes, Education, Race, Economics

- **Surles, Kathryn. North Carolina's Health. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Services, State Center for Health Statistics, 1983.** This document gives a survey of the health of North Carolinians, broken down by race. The details given reveal both past and contemporary ideas about race and Native Americans.

  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Health, Race

- **Surles, Kathryn. Update on the Health Status of American Indians in North Carolina. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Department of Human Resources, Division of Health Services, State Center for Health Statistics, 1985.** This document gives an even more comprehensive summary of the health status of Native Americans in North Carolina, with statistics.

  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Economics, Education

- **Schafale, Michael P., Weakley, Alan S., North Carolina Natural Heritage Program. Classification of the Natural Communities of North Carolina: Third Approximation. North Carolina: North Carolina Natural Heritage Program, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, 1990.** This document contains a discussion of communities that can be found in the natural landscape of North Carolina, along with analysis of how both Europeans and Native Americans have affected the development of these communities over the years.

  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, History, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, History, Research and Preservation

- **Blue, Kathryn P. 1990 Health Objectives for the Nation: North Carolina Assessment. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina Department of Environment, Health, and Natural Resources, State Center for Health and Environmental Statistics, 1992.** This document is a report on the ways that health in North Carolina could be improved, including specific goals for the improvement of the health of Native Americans.

  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Public Institutions and Services

- **North Carolina, State Center for Health Statistics. Health Status of Native Americans in North Carolina. Raleigh, NC: Department of Environment, Health, and Natural**
This document revisits the concept of the health of Native Americans in North Carolina. In addition to the statistics and analysis there is an examination of the ways that the subject has been studied in the past.

- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans

  This document is an examination of the health services available to Native Americans in North Carolina, as well as the factors that may keep them from these resources and the ways these obstacles may be overcome.
  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans

  This set of documents includes population figures for North Carolina, broken down by race, including Native American. These figures are then broken down further by other criteria, such as age, region, and county.
  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Early 21st Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
  - **Significant Dates:** 2001, 2006
  - **Alternate Names:** ENC Health Care Atlas; Health Care Atlas; Resource for Healthier Communities; Eastern North Carolina Atlas of Mortality

- **East Carolina University.** *Factbook.* Greenville, NC: East Carolina University, 1995-2010.
  This set of documents contains a statistical profile of different races of students at East Carolina University from 1995-2010, including Native American. The statistics are broken down further by other factors, such as major and residential status.
  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Early 21st Century, Race, Education, Economics
  - **Alternate Names:** Factbook (East Carolina University)

  This document discusses the racial disparities present in the late twentieth century health care system, with a section dedicated to the discussion of Native Americans.
- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Health, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Culture and Customs

- **North Carolina, Department of Community Colleges, Planning and Research Section. Critical Success Factors for the North Carolina Community College System. North Carolina: North Carolina Department of Community College, Planning and Research Section, 1997-2010.**
  This set of documents records the racial statistics for those enrolled in the North Carolina community college system from 1997-2010, with a group dedicated to Native Americans.
  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Early 21st Century, Race, Education, Economics

- **Bridle, Kenneth A. Inventory of Natural Heritage in Forsyth County, North Carolina. North Carolina: N.C. Natural Heritage Program, Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, 1998.**
  This document is an overview of the natural history of Forsyth County, North Carolina, including the ways in which Native Americans have affected the environment of the area.
  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, History, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Warfare, Saura

- **North Carolina General Assembly, Legislative Services Office, Research Division. Summaries of Substantive Ratified Legislation... General Assembly.... North Carolina: Research Division, NC General Assembly, 1999-2008.**
  This set of documents contains laws that were enacted in North Carolina from 2000-2008. These laws include those that deal with Native American jurisdiction and separate funding for tribes.
  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Early 21st Century, Legal, Rights of Tribes, Culture and Customs, Public Institutions and Services, Economics, Military Action, Oceanneechi Band of the Saponi Nation, Education, Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, Health, Cherokee, Relationship with Anglo-Americans

- **North Carolina Department of Revenue, Personal Taxes Division. Individual Income Tax, Gift Tax, Estate Tax, Rule and Bulletins.... North Carolina: Personal Taxes Division, Tax Administration, North Carolina Department of Revenue, 1999-2010.**
  This document is a summary of the tax laws of the state of North Carolina, including those that apply directly to Native Americans.
  - **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Early 21st Century, Rights of Tribes, Economics, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Legal

- **North Carolina State Board of Education and North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Statistical Profile. North Carolina State Board of Education and North
Carolina Department of Public Instruction, 1999-2009.
This document contains a statistical summary of elementary and secondary schools in North Carolina, with the statistics broken down by race.

- **Categories:** Late 20th Century, Early 21st Century, Cherokee, Education, Reservations, Race, Legal
- **Alternate Names:** Public Schools of North Carolina; North Carolina Public Schools; North Carolina Public Schools Statistical Profile

This document contains an overview of native populations in the United States, of which Native Americans in North Carolina make up a significant part.

- **Categories:** Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Race, Citizenship, Cherokee, Education, Economics

This document is a summary of the Native American experience in North Carolina. It contains a history that goes back to the pre-Columbian era, as well as an overview of their current situation.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, History, Education, Rights of Tribes

This document is a directory of Cherokee artists and organizations that are helping to preserve the heritage of the tribe in the twenty-first century.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Cherokee, Culture and Customs, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Education

This document is a report to the North Carolina State Board of Education on the status of Native American students in North Carolina, the problems they face, and solutions for these problems.
This document contains lesson plans for elementary and secondary students that include an exploration of Native American customs and history through dance.

This set of documents is a seasonal magazine that reports on activities and news of interest to Native Americans in North Carolina.

This document contains a collection of child support laws and regulations that include provisions regarding the state of North Carolina’s jurisdiction over Native American tribes.
- **Alternate Names:** Child Support Statutes


  This document contains an overview of the findings of the North Carolina Alternate Assessment Portfolio, which includes statistics that are broken down by race and gender, including Native American.

  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Education, Public Institutions and Services, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
  - **Significant Dates:** 2003/2004, 2004/2005
  - **Alternate Names:** Reading, Mathematics, and Writing, Grades 3-8


  This set of documents contains a report on the programs and community endeavors of the Commission of Indian Affairs of North Carolina.

  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Rights of Tribes, Public Institutions and Services, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Economics, Legal, Health, Education, Research and Preservation, Citizenship
  - **Alternate Names:** North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs Annual Report


  This document contains a report on the unique health situation of Native Americans in North Carolina, which includes an explanation of the contributing factors and proposals for reform.

  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Race
  - **Alternate Names:** Health of American Indians

- **North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs. North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, 2005-2010 Strategic Plan. North Carolina: Department of Administration, Commission of Indian Affairs.**

  This document contains the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs’ plan to better serve the Native Americans in the state. The plan includes goals that involve subjects such as the improvement of the health, housing, and education of Native Americans.

  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Rights of Tribes, Citizenship, Culture and Customs, Education, Economics, Race, Legal, Health, Research and Preservation, Religion

This set of documents contains tax expenditure reports for the state of North Carolina and includes specific expenditures that deal with Native Americans and reservations.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Reservations, Cherokee, Legal, Economics, Rights of Tribes
- **Significant Dates:** 2005, 2007, 2009
- **Alternate Names:** Biennial Tax Expenditure Report


This set of documents contains the magazine of Western Carolina University, and gives an overview of the university’s involvement with Native American communities regarding cultural and health initiatives.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Education, Culture and Customs, History, Rights of Tribes, Cherokee, Health, Reservations, Public Institutions and Services, Research and Preservation
- **Alternate Names:** Magazine of Western Carolina University


This document gives an overview of the history of North Carolina and its people, including Native Americans and their history with the government and citizens of the state.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, History, Tuscarora, Warfare, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Removal, Education, Cherokee
- **Alternate Names:** Facts in Brief on North Carolina


This document is a report regarding the 1898 Wilmington Race Riot and examines its political, social, and economic implications. Included within the accounts are 19th century ideas about Native Americans and their relationship to other races.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Race
- **Alternate Names:** Wilmington Race Riot Report
  This document gives a summary of the history, both human and natural, of the Chowan River Basin, as well as its present situation. Included within the summary is the history of the Native Americans who lived in the area.
  
  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Algonquin, History, Meherrin Indians

  This document gives a summary of the history, both human and natural, of the Little Tennessee River Basin, as well as its present situation. Included within the summary is the history of the Native Americans who lived in the area.
  
  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Research and Preservation, Cherokee, Culture and Customs

  This document gives a summary of the history, both human and natural, of the Yadkin-Pee Dee River Basin, as well as its present situation. Included within the summary is the history of the Native Americans who lived in the area.
  
  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Land and Artifact Ownership, Research and Preservation, Culture and Customs, History, Saura, Pee Dee

  This document gives a summary of the history, both human and natural, of the Pasquotank River Basin, as well as its present situation. Included within the summary is the history of the Native Americans who lived in the area.
  
  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Land and Artifact Ownership, Research and Preservation

  This document records the efforts of the Educational Outreach program of Western Carolina University, which has special initiatives designed to aid the Native Americans in the area.
  
  - **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Education, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Cherokee, Health, History, Culture and Customs Significant Dates: April 2007

This document is an overview of the problem of Native American race being underreported in North Carolina, and includes a discussion of its incidence, the reasons for it, and solutions to the problem.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Health, Cherokee, Public Institutions and Services


This document gives an overview of Native Americans in North Carolina over time, and includes their history, a summary of the different tribes, and an explanation of their present situation.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, History, Culture and Customs, Research and Preservation, Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, Lumbee, Meherrin Indians, Occaneechi Band of the Saponi, Education


This document discusses the problem of Native Americans being racially misidentified in cancer incidence data. The report discusses the extent of the problem, its effects, and the ways it could be remedied.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Health, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans


This document discusses the problem of there being a difference in the way mothers and babies are classified racially on different documents. This report discusses the difficulties that can arise from inaccurate reports, the rate at which they occur in different races, including Native Americans, and suggestions for remedies.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Health


This document contains a report by the North Carolina Department of Transportation on scenic byways in the state and what can be found along them, which includes sites that deal with Native American history and culture.

This document contains an assessment of what affect new highway construction would have on the people and nature of Forsyth County and addresses concerns that Native Americans of the area may have.


This document contains an overview of the resources that are made available to teachers through the North Carolina Museum of History. These resources include ones that help children learn and explore the history of Native Americans in North Carolina.


This document contains an assessment of what affect new highway construction would have on the people and nature of Macon and Swain Counties and addresses concerns that Native Americans of the area may have.
Environmental Analysis Branch, NCDOT, 2010.
This document contains an assessment of what affect new highway construction would have on the people and nature of Cumberland, Sampson, and Duplin Counties and addresses concerns that Native Americans of the area may have.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Legal, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Rights of Tribes
- **Alternate Names:** Final Environment Impact Statement

This document contains an assessment of what affect new highway construction would have on the people and nature of Davidson County and addresses concerns that Native Americans of the area may have.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Legal, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services, Rights of Tribes
- **Alternate Names:** Administrative Action, Finding of No Significant Impact

This document gives an overview of the incidence of cardiovascular disease in North Carolina, going into detail about contributing risk factors and its economic toll upon the state. The report also speaks about the different ways cardiovascular disease affects Native Americans.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Health, Race, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
- **Alternate Names:** Burden of CVD in NC

This document contains a report on the health care situation of different groups of North Carolinian children. The report examines Native American children specifically.

- **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Health, Economics, Relationship with Anglo-Americans
This document gives a comprehensive summary of the health of Native Americans in North Carolina.

  o **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Health, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Public Institutions and Services
  o **Alternate Names:** American Indians

This document gives a summary of the history and culture of Native Americans in North Carolina, as well as their effect on present-day culture.

  o **Categories:** Early 21st Century, History, Culture and Customs

This document contains a manual that is designed to help school systems implement a school health plan, which includes provisions for Native American children.

  o **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Education, Health, Economics, Legal
  o **Alternate Names:** School Health Program Manual

• North Carolina: General Assembly: House Study Committee to Preserve the Culture and Customs of Indian Children. *House Study Committee to Preserve the Culture and Customs of Indian Children: Report to the 2010 Regular Session of the 2009 General Assembly of North Carolina*. North Carolina: House Study Committee to Preserve the Culture and Customs of Indian Children, 2010.
This document contains a report to the North Carolina General Assembly regarding the establishment of a committee to preserve the culture and customs of Native American children. The report goes over the jurisdiction of the committee and its proceeding actions.

  o **Categories:** Early 21st Century, Education, Relationship with Anglo-Americans, Culture and Customs, Research and Preservation, Legal, Public Institutions and Services
  o **Alternate Names:** House Study Committee to Preserve the Culture and Customs of Indian Children