

EDITOR'S NOTE

Scholarly articles and book reviews are the principle ingredients of the *JBS*. Periodically, we offer other materials to our readers. In 2007 we inaugurated "Book Chapters and Progress" to make available chapters from forthcoming books on the backcountry. With this issue, we begin three more special features. *Historiographical Conversations about the Backcountry* will amplify our reviews of new books through thematic essays ranging back over the past two decades. The first of these essays, by Professor Lynn Nelson of Middle Tennessee State University, is about politics. Valuable material on the backcountry appears in family and local histories, some of it preserved in libraries or private collections and some in privately printed books. Michael Moore, professor emeritus of History at Bowling Green University, presents in this issue a chapter from his own family history, "The Moores of Route 23." Finally, Backcountry history is closely bound up with Public History. Kendall Edwards (MA in Public History, UNCG, 2007) provides the first *JBS* report, "Presenting Backcountry History to the Public."

Robert M. Calhoon, Editor

TABLE OF CONTENTS

William Preston: Origins of a Backcountry Political Career RICHARD OSBORN

Moderation and the Revolutionary Settlement in North CarolinaJOHN MAASS

Historiographical Conversations about the Backcountry: Politics LYNN NELSON

Family and Neighborhood Documents from the Backcountry: The Moores of Route 23
 MICHAEL MOORE

The Backcountry and Public History: Presenting Backcountry History to the Public
 KENDALL EDWARDS

Book Reviews

The Backcountry Towns of Colonial Virginia, by Christopher E. Hendricks
 ELLEN ESLINGER

American Leviathan: Empire, Nation, and Revolutionary Frontier, by Patrick Griffin
 H. TYLER BLETHEN