

Dream of a House: The Passions and Preoccupations of Reynolds Price [book review]

By: [Tiffany Henry](#)

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Abstract:

Review of *Dream of a House: The Passions and Preoccupations of Reynolds Price*, Alex Harris and Margaret Sartor, eds. Staunton, VA: George F. Thompson Publishing, 2017. 151 pp. \$40.00. ISBN: 978-1-938086-49-6.

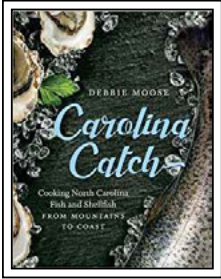
Keywords: book review | Reynolds Price | photography

Article:

*****Note: Full text of article below**

North Carolina Books

Compiled by Al Jones



Carolina Catch: Cooking North Carolina Fish and Shellfish from Mountains to Coast

By Moose, Debbie.

Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018. 185 pp. \$35.00. Hardcover ISBN: 978-1-4696-4050-1. E-book ISBN: 978-1-4696-4051-8.

Debbie Moose is the author of several regionally focused cookbooks, including *Southern Holidays* and *Buttermilk*. *Carolina Catch*, her latest one, celebrates North Carolina fish and shellfish from the coast to the mountains through a series of sections, vignettes, and mouth-watering recipes. Moose advocates that locally sourced fish and shellfish be used for its freshness and availability and encourages the reader to substitute seasonally available, lesser known fish, for more popular ones.

The cookbook begins with a brief historical overview of how seafood has impacted North Carolina's culture and economy, introduces the reader to contemporary issues in the fishing industry, and provides a helpful list of resources for further information. The Best Basics section is a detailed, clearly written guide to selecting, storing, preparing, and cooking fish and shellfish of all types. The Think Seasonal section lists when wild-caught fish and shellfish are most plentiful in the state by season, describes the texture and taste of each

kind of seafood, and frequently recommends cooking methods as well as notes similarities in taste between types of fish. The recipe section is interspersed with six vignettes of local fishermen, fisheries, and organizations that highlight some of the environmental and political issues that North Carolina fishermen and fisheries face today.

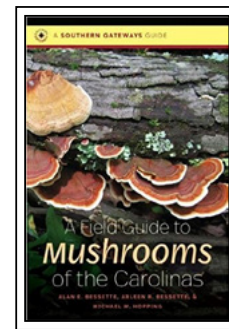
Ninety-six tantalizing recipes are the heart of the cookbook. Recipes are logically organized into appetizers, soups and salads, main dishes, and finally, sides, sauces, and sassy goodies. Each recipe occupies its own page which makes the cookbook easy to use in the kitchen. Recipes include a list of ingredients, easy-to-follow instructions, serving size, and in many cases, a list of alternatives to the main fish or shellfish ingredient to encourage the cook to experiment with seasonally available, local fish and shellfish. Attractively photographed, full-color dishes accompany some of the recipes while the well-organized index leads back to recipes by type of fish or shellfish, category of dish, and recipe name.

Novice cooks will benefit from the carefully written instructions for each recipe, while experienced cooks will enjoy adding the range and variety of fish and shellfish recipes to their repertoire. After all, who could resist recipes like Mini Crab Cakes with Mustard-Caper Sauce, The Asbury's Warm Kale Salad with Mountain Trout, Hatteras-Style Clam Chowder, or Grilled Amberjack Tacos with Summer Corn Salsa and Chipotle Mayo?

This cookbook would be a welcome addition to public libraries from the North Carolina coast to the mountains

because of its geographically wide-ranging fish and shellfish recipes. It would also make a great gift for cooks of all skill levels and for those of us who want to start adding more fish to our diets, but don't know how to begin. Bon Appetit!

Teresa LePors
Elon University



A Field Guide to Mushrooms of the Carolinas

By Alan E. Bessette, Arleen R. Bessette, and Michael W. Hopping.

Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018. 412 pp. \$30.00. Paperback ISBN: 978-1-4696-3853-9. E-book ISBN: 978-1-4696-38.

Mushroom lovers and collectors in North and South Carolina will eagerly adopt this new field guide as a trusted companion. The localized information allows readers to learn about and identify mushrooms from all of our states' regions, including the Blue Ridge Mountains, Piedmont, Southeastern Plain, Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain, South Atlantic Coastal Plain, and Cities, Towns, and Farmsteads.

Labeled drawings are useful in refreshing our knowledge of mushroom structure, and beautiful color photographs illustrate every specimen. Identification begins by using a color key,

followed by subgroups and mugshots. Identification keys guide users through questions that clarify fungal characteristics. A fascinating variety of mushroom groups includes the gilled mushrooms that most of us know, as well as stranger varieties like crust and parchment fungi, jelly fungi, stinkhorns, puffballs, morels, truffles, fungal plant pathogens, and many others. Scientific and common names are included. A glossary defines fungal colors and characteristics. The importance of using spore printing for mushroom identification is emphasized, including step-by-step instructions for this patience-requiring exercise.

In the company of a 6-year-old, I took this field guide for test run on my 25-acre farm in southern Alamance County. Summer is not peak mushroom season, but several rainy weeks seemed promising for a mushroom crop. The “Getting Oriented” and “Mushrooming Gear” sections of the book heightened my awareness for “seeing” and gave me a plan for transporting whatever we found. The 6-year-old, closer to the ground, was a better mushroom hunter! We found a brown and a red bolete and a colony of tiny, frail gilled mushrooms. The brown bolete yielded a fantastic overnight spore print, and I believe I correctly identified both boletes (though not the gilled mushrooms). A good time was had by all.

Though this guide offers information about the edibility of mushrooms, the publisher issues a disclaimer that information in this book should not guide mushroom consumption. Those who are looking for a culinary guide might choose instead *The Complete Mushroom Hunter: An Illustrated Guide to Finding, Harvesting, and Enjoying Wild Mushrooms*, 2015, by Gary Lincoff.

The Bessettes are professional mycologists and Hopping is an amateur mycologist and a member of the Asheville Mushroom Club. The book’s extensive references include seven earlier

books by A.E. Bessette, including his 2007 *Mushrooms of the Southeastern United States*.

This field guide would be popular on a “new books” display in public libraries, and content is technical enough to serve as a valuable reference in academic and botanical-garden libraries in both North and South Carolina.

Dianne Ford
Elon University



Print News and Raise Hell: The “Daily Tar Heel” and the Evolution of a Modern University

By Kenneth Joel Zogry.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press,
2018. 350 pp. \$39.95. ISBN 978-1-4696-0829-7.

This absorbing chronicle of the history of the Daily Tar Heel, the student newspaper of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, captures the cultural, social, political, and historical events that influenced the campus from the newspaper’s start in 1893 as a publication of the Athletic Association through its next 100 years, with an epilogue that briefly brings the story to contemporary times. Zogry, a public historian with two published books on Vermont furniture and the history of the Carolina Inn, presents a striking look at how the Daily Tar Heel reported news and had an impact not simply on campus but also reached out to alumni, the state, and even the nation through its articles and editorials.

The text highlights the perspectives of editors throughout the

decades as they responded to events. Themes that run throughout the narrative are freedom of the press and free speech, academic freedom, and the influence of big-time athletics at a public university. The book emphasizes the role of the newspaper as it looked at how students were affected by local issues, such as growth of the campus, sports, and the impact of the university’s presidents and chancellors. Zogry’s engrossing description of broader statewide factors included the tension between liberal and conservative ideals and how they factored into legislation and funding concerns. Nationwide issues appear in decades of news coverage regarding war, McCarthyism, desegregation, civil rights activism, gender roles and identities, and calling out intolerance. Zogry aptly details the efforts of editors in addressing social and cultural issues in a public forum, and he acknowledges that perspectives varied and were not always consistent. Even knowing the outcome of events, the tension in Zogry’s writing makes the stakes feel current, as when he describes the experiences and articles by staff reporters and photographers on site in Birmingham during civil rights protests in 1963. News about sports and the athletics programs is a continuing topic throughout the coverage period with stories on scandals, alumni involvement, amateur status, and the shift from football to basketball as the preeminent sport on campus.

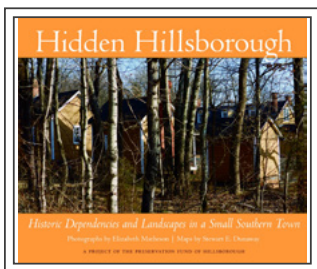
While the book concentrates on events as they unfolded, Zogry makes reference to the later professional lives of the editors, photographers, cartoonists, and staff, many of whom went on to careers with national newspapers and successful businesses, administrative and academic roles in higher education, and public lives as politicians. The influence of

the experiences of the students while serving on the paper extended well beyond their years on campus.

Photographs of newspaper content and key figures and events add context to the account of the newspaper.

This title is highly recommended for libraries with readers interested in North Carolina history, journalism, or the history of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Christine Fischer
University of North Carolina at Greensboro



Hidden Hillsborough: Historic Dependencies and Landscapes in a Small Southern Town

By Elizabeth Matheson and Stewart E. Dunaway.
Hillsborough: Eno Publishers, 2017. 194 pp.
\$27.50. ISBN 9780997314434

Histories have been published for numerous towns in North Carolina, but few, if any, have their sole focus on historic dependencies and landscapes that have made up a town over time. *Hidden Hillsborough* presents readers with an exploration of these dependencies and how they were used and viewed during the early history of one of North Carolina's most storied and well-known towns.

A project of the Hidden Hillsborough Committee and sponsored by the Preservation Fund of Hillsborough, *Hidden Hillsborough* was created to interpret, provide documentation for and educate current and future generations on the dependencies that are scattered around

Hillsborough. The scope of work is from 1754 – when Hillsborough was founded – to 1915, and includes dependencies located in the National Register Historic District along with the adjacent National Register properties on the immediate outskirts of the town. This book contains 123 photographs captured by photographer and Hillsborough native, Elizabeth Matheson, and is accompanied by maps by Stewart E. Dunaway and informative essays on the dependencies by various contributors.

A brief history and explanation of the historical importance of the town of Hillsborough in the first chapter is a thoughtful segue to the next six chapters, which explore dependencies pertaining to daily life in one's own dwelling. These include kitchens, slave houses, smokehouses, spring and well houses, barns, as well as a chapter compiling icehouses, dining rooms, laundries and outhouses. Readers will begin to understand the thought behind creating these outbuildings, such as constructing a separate kitchen facility from the main living quarters to "lessen the danger of a cooking fire spreading to the main house," as well as to "accentuate the divide between those who were served and those who did the serving" (p. 19).

The remainder of the book explores the community and public dependencies that relate to public life: trees and gardens, streets and pathways, offices, school buildings, and cemeteries. Readers will discover that the trees and gardens were planned at the time of Hillsborough's founding to "evoke a gracious setting for a new town" (p. 92), the well-known "Dark Walk" path along the Eno River that was depicted on postcards during the twentieth century, and the high number of prestigious schools that attracted children of state officials, doctors and lawyers.

Also of note were the law offices that were located on residential properties as an addition to many homes – many of

which played a part in American history. For example, Chief Justice Thomas Ruffin prepared many landmark opinions in his law office, such as those on the treatment of slaves and of judicial independence. In addition, two former North Carolina governors, William Graham and David Swain, met in Graham's law office to discuss the arrangement of an early surrender of Raleigh to General Sherman.

Hidden Hillsborough, a unique historical look at southern life, is an excellent addition to any libraries wishing to add to its North Carolina history collections.

David Miller
Farmville Public Library



Redemption: Carolina Basketball's 2016-2017 Journey from Heartbreak to History

By Adam Lucas, Steve Kirschner & Matt Bowers.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2017. 214 pp. \$35.00. ISBN 978-1-4696-3211-7.

When the final whistle blew on the basketball court in Houston, Texas, in April 2016, Justin Jackson, Joel Berry II, and Theo Pinson felt heartbreak, but also made a collective vow that they would return to the national championship game in 2017 and win a championship for the UNC Tar Heels. In *Redemption: Carolina Basketball's 2016-2017 Journey from Heartbreak to History*, Adam Lucas, Steve Kirschner, and Matt Bowers chronicle the UNC Tar Heel basketball team's effort to turn "defeat into victory" by winning

the championship in 2017, one year after suffering a heartbreaking loss in the 2016 campaign to Villanova University. By doing so, they accomplished the same feat as UNC (1982 and 2017), Duke (1991), and Kentucky (1998).

Ultimately, Lucas, Kirschner, and Bowers structure their book by including key victories of the regular season (accompanied by color photographs and player quotes) as well as facts about the 2016-2017 UNC basketball team and Coach Roy Williams. Specifically, readers will encounter the following features: memorable events of the season such as the “Late Night With Roy” program, the team trip to Ft. Bragg to practice in front of the troops (October 2016), and a visit from President Barack Obama to the UNC campus (November 2016). Also, there’s a special section for Coach Roy Williams’s coaching highlights: (2007 Naismith Hall of fame inductee and the first coach to win three NCAA national championships at his alma mater) and UNC player profiles (Justin Jackson becoming the 14th player to win ACC Player of the Year honors and Kennedy Meeks being one of six UNC players to start in two different NCAA title games during the 2016 and 2017 seasons). The authors do not include any index or extensive bibliography in the book, but do include color photographs and mention specific player recollections about the 2016-2017 basketball season.

Adam Lucas is a columnist for *GoHeels.com*, the official website of Carolina Athletics. In addition to *Redemption: Carolina Basketball’s 2016-2017 Journey from Heartbreak to History*, he has written, *Carolina Basketball: A Century of Excellence*. Steve Kirschner is Senior Associate Athletic Director for Communications at the University of North Carolina. Matt Bowers is Associate Director of Athletic Communications at UNC Chapel Hill. Lucas, Kirschner,

and Bowers have co-authored *Led by Their Dreams* and *One Fantastic Ride* which detail the 2005 and 2009 national championship teams, respectively.

This book is intended to help readers gain a glimpse into the emotional journey of the UNC men’s basketball team as they traveled from heartbreak to redemption. Because of its specific scope and subject matter, *Redemption: Carolina Basketball’s 2016-2017 Journey from Heartbreak to History* would be suitable for inclusion in any academic, public, or special library with a collection focusing on North Carolina sports history.

David W. Young
University of North Carolina at Pembroke



Dream of a House: The Passions and Preoccupations of Reynolds Price

Alex Harris and Margaret Sartor, eds.
Staunton, VA: George F. Thompson Publishing,
2017. 151 pp. \$40.00. ISBN: 978-1-938086-49-6.

D*ream of a House: The Passions and Preoccupations of Reynolds Price* is a memorial to and a carefully curated glimpse into the life of the late prolific North Carolina author. Living at the same residence for close to 45 years before his death in 2011, Price amassed an eclectic art collection in his home that the editors Alex Harris and Margaret Sartor meticulously document and pair with excerpts from Price’s writings. Harris is a photographer, writer, and professor at Duke University and his other works include *Why*

We Are Here: Mobile and the Spirit of a Southern City, another documentary/photography based work of non-fiction. Sartor is also a photographer, writer, editor, and Duke University professor whose written works include books about photography (*What Was True: The Photographs and Notebooks of William Gedney*) plus co-editing a memoir (*Miss American Pie: A Diary of Love, Secrets, and Growing up in the 1970s*). Harris and Sartor’s experience shows in the care and craftsmanship seen in *Dream of a House*.

The title *Dream of a House* comes from one of Price’s poems of the same title that appears in its entirety in the book. The poem touches on themes of home and spirituality which are interwoven throughout the entire work. Adding to my initial impression of the book is the effect of the book jacket. The hardback cover is comprised of two photographs taken of some of Price’s art collection — one image on the front and another on the back. The cover jacket is opaque and somewhat obscures the details of the cover photographs, creating an effect like peeking into a window with a sheer curtain. This helps to create a dream-like aura that visually reflects the title of work and aids with setting the overall tone.

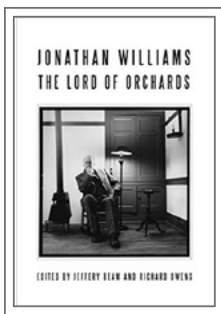
As mentioned above, the main text of the work is comprised of photographs taken by Harris of Price’s home and expertly paired with snippets of Price’s writings and past interviews. Seeing the intimate details of Price’s home, such as his collection of books, music, framed photographs of family and loved ones, the artwork he chose to adorn his walls gives readers a strong impression of what Price held dear. The words chosen beside each image help solidify the sensation of peeking into someone’s life through a window.

After the main text, there is a

concluding essay by Harris and an afterword by Sartor. Both pieces, especially Harris's essay, give context and further insight into Price's life, work, and passions by discussing more of Price's personal history and memories of him. The essay and afterword create a satisfying conclusion to the work.

Dream of a House is good for a general adult audience and would be ideal for those interested in the visual arts and Southern literary history. I would recommend this title for libraries interested in or already collecting works on photography, Southern writers, North Carolina writers, prominent North Carolinians, and any other works by Reynolds Price, since this title serves as an excellent supplement and bookend to his oeuvre.

Tiffany Henry
University of North Carolina at Greensboro



**Jonathan Williams:
The Lord of Orchards**

Jeffery Beam and Richard Owens, eds.
Prospecta Press, 2017. 496 pp. \$30.00.
ISBN 978-1-63226-087-1.

“Grit and vision seems to sum up the career of this strange man,” writes Ronald Johnson of Jonathan Williams, a member of North Carolina’s Literary Hall of Fame. Williams who centered his life in Highlands, North Carolina, was a renaissance man. He was a poet, founder of the Jargon Society,

photographer, cultural anthropologist, collector, and gourmand. Anne Midgette in her selection in this collection described Williams’s method of collection as “He approached the world with the attitude that there was many great things in it [the world] that not enough people knew about, and set about to find them, earning him the epithet, from Hugh Kenner, “The truffle hound of poetry.”

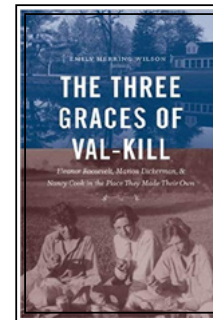
Born in Asheville, Williams attended Black Mountains College after dropping out of Princeton. While at Black Mountain College, he came under the influence of Charles Olsen. Williams started what would become Jargon there. Olsen’s call for his students to go beyond the page with poetry appealed to Williams’s eclectic nature. The Jargon Society published avant-garde poetry and discovered poets such as Denise Levertov, Robert Duncan, Basil Bunting, and others.

The book is a festschrift honoring the work and spirit of Williams. Divided into four sections, “Remembering”, “Responding”, “Reviewing”, and “Recollecting,” the book remembered and discussed Williams’s contribution to poetry, photography, and culture. There are also photographs of Williams, his friends and various scenes. The entries are written by friends, colleagues, and artists Williams assisted and influenced. These entries paint a picture of Williams like he described the Lord of the Orchards in a one of his poems, “The Lord of Orchards/selects his fruit/in the Firmament’s/breast. Williams selected the best from artists he searched out and encountered.

This book should not be read steadily cover to cover. It is a book that inspires and offers a way of looking at the world. Williams once said he wanted “poetry that has whang in it.” Reading and comprehension of such a book takes time. Literary scholars may read it steadily. Artists will read slowly to savor it.

Recommended for all libraries that collect literature about the Black Mountain College literary movement, books about North Carolina writers, members of the North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame, and libraries that want to inspire artists.

Robert Arndt
University of North Carolina at Pembroke



**The Three Graces of Val-Kill:
Eleanor Roosevelt, Marion Dickerman,
and Nancy Cook in the
Place They Made Their Own**

By Emily Herring Wilson.
Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press,
2017. 222 pp. \$25.00. ISBN 978-1-4595-3583-6.

In *The Three Graces of Val-Kill: Eleanor Roosevelt, Marion Dickerman, and Nancy Cook in the Place They Made Their Own*, Emily Herring Wilson provides a fresh perspective on the role of female friendships in shaping Eleanor Roosevelt’s life. The “Three Graces” of the title so dubbed by Franklin D. Roosevelt; and Eleanor Roosevelt’s friendships and working relationships with Dickerman and Cook are central threads of the book.

The first chapter provides a sketch of Roosevelt’s life that gives sufficient context to orient those familiar with Roosevelt, while also providing details to pique the interest of those who may be unaware of the breadth of her accomplishments. The following chapter gives an introduction to Dickerman and Cook, with brief biographical backgrounds and the establishment of their

connections to Roosevelt. Together, the three women were heavily involved in activism and politics in the lead-up to Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1928 election as governor of New York State.

In subsequent chapters, Wilson delves further into the three women's work in politics and activism, independence as a factor in their lives (both in thought and action), the complexities of the relationships between the three women, and other female friendships and relationships that helped shape Roosevelt's life. The theme of female agency is a critical force in the story, and it connects directly to the book's title. Desiring a space of their own, Roosevelt, Cook, and Dickerman built Val-Kill cottage on Franklin D. Roosevelt's family land in Hyde Park. The three women paid for the construction of the cottage themselves and contributed equally to the costs.

Wilson doesn't skirt away from the darker sides of Roosevelt's life, such as the difficulties she experienced--and contributed to--in her relationships with her husband, children, other family members, and friends. Wilson notes factors that led to the stereotype of Roosevelt as a "bad mother," and she delves into what is known about the breakdown of Roosevelt's friendships with Cook and Dickerman. But Wilson also provides context and modern perspective, touching on the unrealistic expectations set by society--and by Roosevelt herself--for women to "do it all."

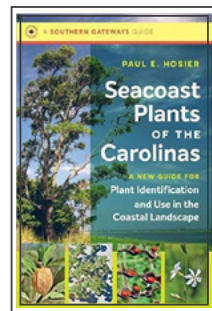
The book includes a timeline and index to help orient readers and a section of black-and-white photographs to provide visual context for people, places, and events. The author relies heavily on primary archival sources and provides notes and a selected bibliography for further reading.

Emily Herring Wilson resides in Winston-Salem and is a graduate of Women's College of the University of North Carolina (now The University of

North Carolina at Greensboro) and Wake Forest University. She is a poet and historian, with previous works that focus on women's lives, friendships, and experiences in the American South. She was the 2007 recipient of the John Tyler Caldwell Award for the Humanities, awarded by the North Carolina Humanities Council.

The *Three Graces of Val-Kill* is a reminder that some of the issues at the forefront of politics today--women's rights, civil rights, world peace, and improved healthcare for all Americans--are things that Roosevelt and her compatriots were fighting for during their time. The book will complement public and academic library collections, and it should appeal to readers with interests in historical views on female friendships and relationships, Eleanor Roosevelt's life, and the roles of women in politics during Roosevelt's time.

Anna Craft
University of North Carolina at Greensboro



Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas: A New Guide for Plant Identification and Use in the Coastal Landscape.

Hosier, Paul E.
Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, in association with North Carolina Sea Grant, 2018.
ISBN: 9781469641430 (pbk) and 9781469641447 (ebook). \$28.00. 504 pp

Paul E. Hosier's *Seacoast Plants of the Carolinas* is an updated version of the classic written by Karl Graetz and first published by

North Carolina Sea Grant in 1973. Hosier, professor emeritus of botany at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, provides essential information on plant life in the coastal zone the Carolinas (North and South).

The handy paperback guide includes detailed profiles of more than 200 plants, with color photographs, information about identification, value to wildlife, relationship to natural communities, propagation, and landscape uses. The guide includes background on coastal plant communities, including the effects of invasive species and the benefits of using native plants in landscaping; a section on the effects of climate change on the coast and its plants; and a list of natural areas and preserves open to visitors interested in observing native plants. The guide has a glossary and index that includes plant names and scientific terms.

This helpful guide should be in the reference as well as the circulating collections of all libraries (school, public, and academic) that serve patrons interested in the conservation of and landscaping with native plants. To quote Katherine Mitchell of the North Carolina Aquarium of Roanoke Island, "this long-awaited new edition will be a valuable resource for all those who love the North Carolina coast."

Al Jones
East Carolina University
