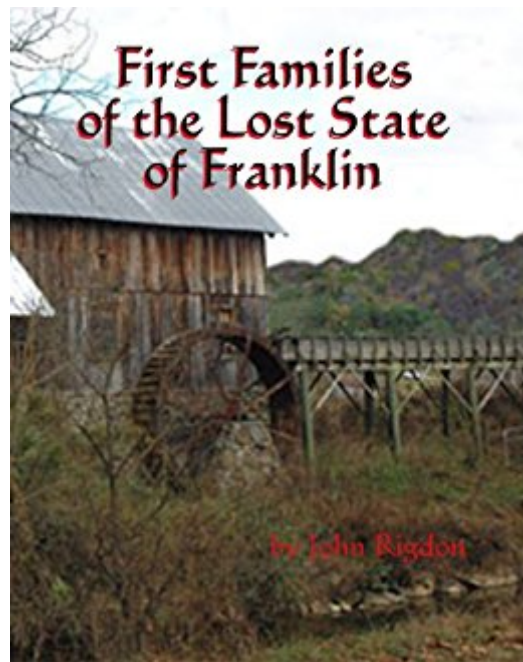


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# First Families Of The Lost State Of Franklin (The First Families Project Book 5)



## Synopsis

By the year 1770, some 70 families had settled in the area bounded by the Watauga, Nolichucky, and Holston river valleys. Most migrated from Virginia via the Great Valley, although a few were believed to have been Regulators fleeing North Carolina after their defeat at the Battle of Alamance. In May 1772, the Watauga and Nolichucky settlers negotiated a 10-year lease with the Cherokee Indians, and being outside the claims of any colony, established the Watauga Association to provide basic government functions. President Theodore Roosevelt wrote that the Watauga settlers were the "first men of American birth to establish a free and independent community on the continent." Modern Counties in Tennessee which made up the State of Franklin: Blount County Carter County Cocke County Greene County Hamblen County Hawkins County Jefferson County Johnson County Sevier County Sullivan County Unicoi County Washington County A convention of delegates (except for Davidson County that sent none) met on August 23, 1784 and after intense debate they declared these western counties independent of North Carolina on a unanimous vote. Several names were offered for the new state. The name Frankland was proposed since it was translatable as "the Land of the Free," however, Franklin was decided upon perhaps for gaining the favor of Benjamin Franklin. North Carolina regained control of the region in 1788 thus ending the existence of the State of Franklin. The extant records for the State of Franklin generally reference the entire region which now covers the 12 counties of East Tennessee. This book focuses on the earliest known families in the area. Alexander, Oliver Atchley, Thomas Baker, Henry B. Blair, Hugh Blair, Samuel Bohanon, Henry E., Sr. Brimer, William Bryant, Peter Cannon, James Cannon, William Catlett, Benjamin Catlett, John Catlett, Richard Clabaugh, William Clack, Spencer Compton, Jeremiah II Cook, John Creswell, Andrew Creswell, Samuel Davies, Zachariah Emert, Frederick Galyon, Gilbert Gist, Joshua Headrick, William Henderson, Samuel Henderson, William, Sr. Henry, Hugh Henry, William Hodges, Henry George Hudson, George Huff, Jacob Huff, William Jenkins, James Kinder, William Large, Joseph Layman, Jacob Lyman, James Marshall, John McCarter, James, Sr. McCroskey, John McCroskey, Robert McMahan, James Newell, Samuel Nichols, Flayle Parsons, George Pitner, John Porter, George W. Porter, John Porter, Mitchell Preston, Alexander Reagan, Timothy Richardson, William Robertson, William Rogers, Henry Rogers, M. C. Rudd, Burlington Runyan, Barefoot Sharp, John Shields, Robert Shults, Martin Smith, Thomas Thomas, Isaac Trotter, William Walker, John, Sr. Wear, John Wear, Samuel Wells, Andrew Whaley, William M. Wood, Richard

## Book Information

File Size: 624 KB

Print Length: 218 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Eastern Digital Resources (August 22, 2011)

Publication Date: August 22, 2011

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B005INYUNW

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #524,057 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #118

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## Customer Reviews

A good history of a little-known segment of American history. But to a family genealogist with a knowledge of the "first families" that settled Eastern Tennessee, including mine, the book was disappointingly superficial. I expected a deeper presentation of the settlers that entered this portion of North Carolina, later to become part of Tennessee. Many of them were squatters, becoming residents of the land before it was legal to settle the area and many of the same families have descendents still living in the area. But the book was all about the political "movers and shakers", most of who are listed in the existing history books. The book is a good history of East Tennessee and the political issues revolving around the formation of the State of Franklin. The prospective reader would be better served if the book had a different title. It is less about the first families and more about the political history of the region. The author could have written the book without leaving the comforts of the library at the University of North Carolina. It is a good history of the area, but with a deceptive title.

Excellent study of a political situation that effected many early families in America

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