

The logo for Han-Ack Publishing is enclosed in a rectangular frame with a thin black border. The background of the frame is a sepia-toned photograph of a wooded area with trees and a path. The text "Han-Ack Publishing" is written in a black, ornate, gothic-style script font across the center of the image.

# Han-Ack Publishing

Visit our eBay store online for more rare genealogy items!

**Copyright © 2005 Han-Ack Publishing. All Rights Reserved.**

# Historical Sketches OF Wilkes County

*By*

JOHN CROUCH.

*The principal office of history I take to be this: to prevent  
virtuous actions from being forgotten.—Tacitus.*

Printed and Bound by John Crouch at  
THE CHRONICLE JOB OFFICE,  
WILKESBORO, N. C.,  
1902.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	Page.
Introduction	
Formation	1
Early Settlers	4
The Moravians in Wilkes	9
Benjamin Cleveland	11
First Will Probated	36
General Wm. Lenoir	36
Zebulon Baird, Grandfather of Zeb Vance,	48
First Church in the County	44
Early Schools	45
"To Thumb the Notch"	46
Daniel Boone	47
Kings Mountain	56
The Siamese Twins	59
The Show Fight	61
James Henry Spainhour	68
Col. W. H. H. Cowles	64
Rev. Geo. W. Greene	68
Doctor Tyre York	69
Montford Stokes	71
C. C. Petty (col.)	74
The Cleveland Oak	74
Rufus A. Spainhour	75
Lovers' Leap	76
Courthouses and Jails	77
Harry Holland	80
Agricultural Possibilities	81
Fort Hamby	85
Simmons' Gang of Robbers	91
Stoneman's Raid	98

80450

Montford Sidney Stokes	95
Gen. John Sevier	97
Chas. Gordon	99
Gen. John B. Gordon	100
The "Buzzard Roost"	105
Gen. James Wellborn	106
Hon. Anderson Mitchell	107
Col. Wm. M. Barber	108
Lee Carmichael	108
Col. Thomas C. Land	109
Rev. W. R. Bradshaw	110
Newspapers	112
Lawyers	119
Physicians	133
Schools of Wilkes County	137
James Gordon Hackett	139
Calvin J. Cowles	139