

KNOW YOUR STATE



Of the 547 North Carolina Highway Markers. There are only two in Transylvania County. One is shown below and the other is on the Greenville highway at the South Carolina line. The latter one reads as follows: North Carolina. Colonized, 1585-1587, by first English settlers in America; permanently settled 1650; first to vote readiness for independence, April 12, 1776. South Carolina, formed in 1712 from part of Carolina, which was chartered in 1663, it was first settled by the English in 1670. One of the 13 original states.

Giovanni da Verrazzano, a Florentine navigator in the service of France, was the first European known to have explored the coast of North Carolina—1524.

The State's most famous motto, by Mrs. H. E. Martin, is as follows:

"Here's to the land of the long leaf pine
The summer land where the sun doth shine;
Where the weak grow strong
And the strong grow great,
Here's to 'down home'
The Old North State."

Carolina is from Carolus—Latin form of Charles.

Approximately 353,000 North Carolinians served in World War II, compared with 89,000 in World War I.

In 1675 the population of the State was 4,000. The 1940 census showed 3,571,623.

The value of North Carolina's mineral industry is \$20,000,000 annually.

Highlands, 45 miles West of Brevard, is the highest town in the State, rising to an altitude of 3835 feet. Roaring Gap, second highest town, is 35 feet lower. Avon, in Dare County, is the lowest, with an altitude of only 3 feet.

We know that you won't believe it, but Macon County has the highest average rainfall of all the 100 counties—over 82 inches. Yancey County is second with 68 inches, and Transylvania with 62 inches is third.

The mean annual temperature since 1902 has never been below 56 degrees.

There are 18,399,800 acres of forest land in the State. 10,000,000 acres are in farm woodlands and 952,000 acres are in National Forests, 467,000 of which is in Pisgah National Forest.

There are 40 common forest trees that grow in North Carolina, and the value of primary forest products annually is \$135,000,000.

There are about 3000 licensed trappers in the State who get approximately \$500,000 from the pelts of Muskrat, Raccoon, Opossum, Mink, Gray Fox, Otter, Skunk, Weasel, Red Fox, Wildcat and Civet.

There is about 800,000 acres of tobacco under cultivation in the State each year with an average yield of over 1100 pounds per acre.

