

Some Things to Think About



The Cumberland River

The State of Franklin was created because men such Arthur Campbell of Washington County, Virginia and John Sevier and other frontiersmen believed that the "over mountain towns" should be admitted into the United States as a separate state. If you are researching western North Carolina, you should consider the history of the State of Franklin (1784-1788).

Later on, counties such as Burke and Cherokee, fell into Sullivan County, Tennessee. The capitol for the State of Franklin was first Jonesborough (1784) and later Greeneville (1785-1788). The Tennessee counties which need researching are Blount, Carswell, Sullivan, Sevier, Greene, Washington, Wayne and Spencer.

It is interesting to note that a number of early settlers in the State of Franklin came back east. No doubt to avoid the ongoing Indian troubles. During the early 1770s, they took up land grants in Wilkes County, Georgia. To learn these names, see History of Wilkes County by Davidson.