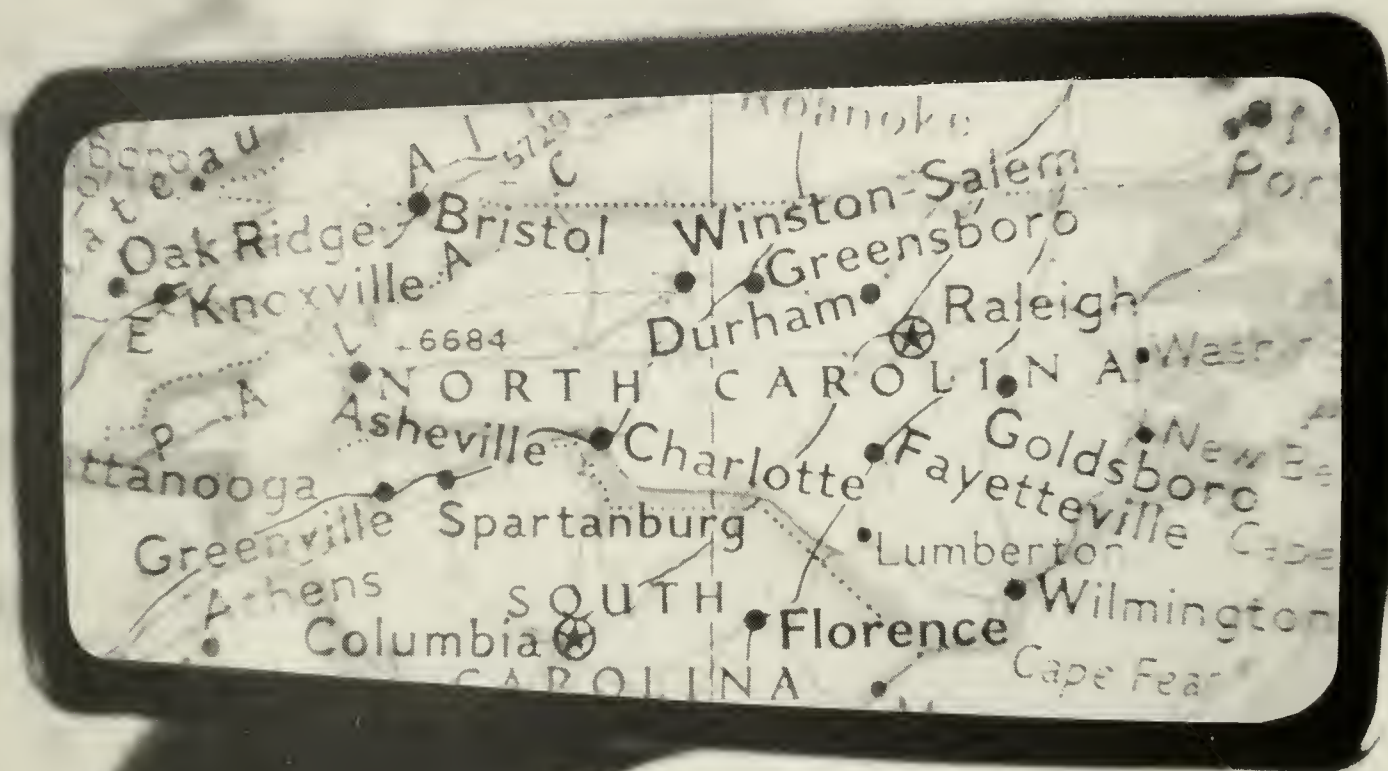


Carolina Planning

Vol. 14, No. 2, Fall 1988





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Carolina Planning

A Student-run Publication of the University of North Carolina
Department of City and Regional Planning

Volume 14
Number 2
Fall 1988

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Graphic contributions by Paul M. Kron, Stephen J. Walsh, Triangle J Council of Governments, Catawba County, and Facts on File, Inc.

Editor's Note

North Carolina stands at a crossroads. As its cities experience continued economic growth, its rural areas lag far behind. Decisionmakers face profound choices concerning the allocation of resources among education, industrial recruitment, and infrastructure improvements. Should the state concentrate its resources on developing a "World Class Region" in the Research Triangle or should it reallocate them to bring renewed life into its rural counties?

In this issue, *Carolina Planning* focuses on the direction of economic development in North Carolina. The unique perspectives of both planners and politicians show a state working to meet the needs of its extremes. Jesse White's keynote address explores the growing disparity between "two Souths": one rural and poor; the other urban and wealthy. Representative Josephus Mavretic highlights this juxtaposition in his critique of North Carolina's policy of "balanced growth", calling for a more equitable distribution of the state's infrastructure resources.

In the first of three articles on development strategies, Professor Dick Levin describes the role of small enterprises in the future of state economic development. Following Levin's broad perspective, Robert Atkinson examines the value of incubators as one tool for small business creation. County Manager Thomas Lundy documents Catawba County's development efforts in strategic planning.

Two articles detail activities in the prosperous Triangle area. The work of the Triangle J Council of Governments reports on regional planning initiatives; Professor Edward Bergman argues for a refocusing of the Triangle's development strategies to meet its new responsibilities as a metropolitan region.

Included in this issue is a special addition: papers illustrating the breadth and variety of current research in the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Thomas Wolfe said, "North Carolina needs honest criticism — rather than the false, shallow 'we are the finest-state-and-greatest-people-in-the-country'. . . An artist who refuses to accept fair criticism of his work will never go far. What of a state?" This issue records both criticism and praise for a state facing rapid change and a call for directed leadership to guide it into a healthy future for the 1990s.

Lynn A. Favour
Editor

Carolina Planning welcomes comments and suggestions on the articles published and will be happy to accept new material for future editions from interested persons. Such material should be submitted to the Editor typewritten and double spaced.

Carolina Planning is published biannually by students in the Department of City and Regional Planning, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with the assistance of funds from the John A. Parker Trust Fund, Department of City and Regional Planning.

Subscriptions to Carolina Planning are available at an annual rate of \$8.00, or \$15.00 for two years.

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