

Webinar from North Carolina, 14 November 2022

On 14 November 2022, Daniel Ackermann, chief curator of the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA), gave a webinar via Zoom, live from the museum's galleries in North Carolina. He talked about "Backcountry not Backwards: Working Wood in the Inland American South," examining the contrast between furniture made by European-born cabinetmakers who settled along the Atlantic coast and cabinetmakers further inland who developed distinctive

accompanied by a decline in the influence of imported styles. Using annotated maps together with many splendid landscape paintings, Daniel showed us the movement of peoples and the drive west along the waggon roads for new land.

This was the first RFS and MESDA joint webinar, attended by 19 members. After Daniel's talk, several MESDA members spoke of their connections with the Museum, giving insight into experiences of the Field Research Program and of early collecting. Daniel's lecture is available on the Society's YouTube channel.

Liz Hancock